A Compilation of Baha’u’llah’s Writings — Volume 04 (1872–1873)

Translated Using GPT-4

Baha’u’llah

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A Compilation of Baha'u'llah's Writings

Translated Using GPT-4. Each writing is identified by its BH reference number.

Volume 043: Prior to 1873 1290 A.H., Part I (1 of 4)

BH00821: Tablet of the Divine Springtime

The Divine Springtime is come, O Most Exalted Pen, for the Festival of the All-Merciful is fast approaching. Bestir thyself, and magnify, before the entire creation, the name of God, and celebrate His praise, in such wise that all created things may be regenerated and made new. Speak, and hold not thy peace. The daystar of blissfulness shineth above the horizon of Our name, the Blissful, inasmuch as the kingdom of the names of God hath been adorned with the ornament of the name of thy Lord, the Creator of the heavens. Arise before the nations of the earth, and arm thyself with the power of this Most Great Name, and be not of those who tarry.

Methinks that thou hast halted and movest not upon My Tablet. Could the brightness of the Divine Countenance have bewildered thee, or the idle talk of the froward filled thee with grief and paralyzed thy movement? Take heed lest anything deter thee from extolling the greatness of this Day—the Day whereon the Finger of majesty and power hath opened the seal of the Wine of Reunion, and called all who are in the heavens and all who are on the earth. Preferrest thou to tarry when the breeze announcing the Day of God hath already breathed over thee, or art thou of them that are shut out as by a veil from Him?

No veil whatever have I allowed, O Lord of all names and Creator of the heavens, to shut me from the recognition of the glories of Thy Day—the Day which is the lamp of guidance unto the whole world, and the sign of the Ancient of Days unto all them that dwell therein. My silence is by reason of the veils that have blinded Thy creatures' eyes to Thee, and my muteness is because of the impediments that have hindered Thy people from recognizing Thy truth. Thou knowest what is in me, but I know not what is in Thee. Thou art the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. By Thy name that excelleth all other names! If Thy overruling and all-compelling behest should ever reach me, it would empower me to revive the souls of all men, through Thy most exalted Word, which I have heard uttered by Thy Tongue of power in Thy Kingdom of glory. It would enable me to announce the revelation of Thy effulgent countenance wherethrough that which lay hidden from the eyes of men hath been manifested in Thy name, the Perspicuous, the sovereign Protector, the Self-Subsisting.

Canst thou discover anyone but Me, O Pen, in this Day? What hath become of the creation and the manifestations thereof? What of the names and their kingdom? Whither are gone all created things, whether seen or unseen? What of the hidden secrets of the universe and its revelations? Lo, the entire creation hath passed away! Nothing remaineth except My Face, the Ever-Abiding, the Resplendent, the All-Glorious.

This is the Day whereon naught can be seen except the splendors of the Light that shineth from the face of Thy Lord, the Gracious, the Most Bountiful. Verily, We have caused every soul to expire by virtue of Our irresistible and all-subduing sovereignty. We have, then, called into being a new creation, as a token of Our grace unto men. I am, verily, the All-Bountiful, the Ancient of Days.

This is the Day whereon the unseen world crieth out: "Great is thy blessedness, O earth, for thou hast been made the footstool of thy God, and been chosen as the seat of His mighty throne." The realm of glory exclaimeth: "Would that my life could be sacrificed for thee, for He Who is the Beloved of the All-Merciful hath established His sovereignty upon thee, through the power of His Name that hath been promised unto all things, whether of the past or of the future." This is the Day whereon every sweet smelling thing hath derived its fragrance from the smell of My garment—a garment that hath shed its perfume upon the whole of creation. This is the Day whereon the rushing waters of everlasting life have gushed out of the Will of the All-Merciful. Haste ye, with your hearts and souls, and quaff your fill, O Concourse of the realms above!

Say: He it is Who is the Manifestation of Him Who is the Unknowable, the Invisible of the Invisibles, could ye but perceive it. He it is Who hath laid bare before you the hidden and treasured Gem, were ye to seek it. He it is Who is the one Beloved of all things, whether of the past or of the future. Would that ye might set your hearts and hopes upon Him!

We have heard the voice of thy pleading, O Pen, and excuse thy silence. What is it that hath so sorely bewildered thee?

The inebriation of Thy presence, O Well-Beloved of all worlds, hath seized and possessed me.

Arise, and proclaim unto the entire creation the tidings that He Who is the All-Merciful hath directed His steps towards the Ridvan and entered it. Guide, then, the people unto the garden of delight which God hath made the Throne of His Paradise. We have chosen thee to be Our most mighty Trumpet, whose blast is to signalize the resurrection of all mankind.

Say: This is the Paradise on whose foliage the wine of utterance hath imprinted the testimony: "He that was hidden from the eyes of men is revealed, girded with sovereignty and power!" This is the Paradise the rustling of whose leaves proclaimeth: "O ye that inhabit the heavens and the earth! There hath appeared what hath never previously appeared. He Who, from everlasting, had concealed His Face from the sight of creation is now come." From the whispering breeze that wafteth amidst its branches there cometh the cry: "He Who is the sovereign Lord of all is made manifest. The Kingdom is God's," while from its streaming waters can be heard the murmur: "All eyes are gladdened, for He Whom none hath beheld, Whose secret no one hath discovered, hath lifted the veil of glory, and uncovered the countenance of Beauty."

Within this Paradise, and from the heights of its loftiest chambers, the Maids of Heaven have cried out and shouted:

> "Rejoice, ye dwellers of the realms above, for the fingers of Him Who is the Ancient of Days are ringing, in the name of the All-Glorious, the Most Great Bell, in the midmost heart of the

> heavens. The hands of bounty have borne round the cup of everlasting life. Approach, and quaff your fill. Drink with healthy relish, O ye that are the very incarnations of longing, ye who are the embodiments of vehement desire!"

This is the Day whereon He Who is the Revealer of the names of God hath stepped out of the Tabernacle of glory, and proclaimed unto all who are in the heavens and all who are on the earth:

> "Put away the cups of Paradise and all the life-giving waters they contain, for lo, the people of Baha have entered the blissful abode of the Divine Presence, and quaffed the wine of reunion, from the chalice of the beauty of their Lord, the All-Possessing, the Most High."

Forget the world of creation, O Pen, and turn thou towards the face of thy Lord, the Lord of all names. Adorn, then, the world with the ornament of the favors of thy Lord, the King of everlasting days. For We perceive the fragrance of the Day whereon He Who is the Desire of all nations hath shed upon the kingdoms of the unseen and of the seen the splendor of the light of His most excellent names, and enveloped them with the radiance of the luminaries of His most gracious favors—favors which none can reckon except Him, Who is the omnipotent Protector of the entire creation.

Look not upon the creatures of God except with the eye of kindliness and of mercy, for Our loving providence hath pervaded all created things, and Our grace encompassed the earth and the heavens. This is the Day whereon the true servants of God partake of the life-giving waters of reunion, the Day whereon those that are nigh unto Him are able to drink of the soft-flowing river of immortality, and they who believe in His unity, the wine of His Presence, through their recognition of Him Who is the Highest and Last End of all, in Whom the Tongue of Majesty and Glory voiceth the call:

> "The Kingdom is Mine. I, Myself, am, of Mine own right, its Ruler."

Attract the hearts of men, through the call of Him, the one alone Beloved. Say: This is the Voice of God, if ye do but hearken. This is the Dayspring of the Revelation of God, did ye but know it. This is the Dawning-Place of the Cause of God, were ye to recognize it. This is the Source of the commandment of God, did ye but judge it fairly. This is the manifest and hidden Secret; would that ye might perceive it. O peoples of the world! Cast away, in My name that transcendeth all other names, the things ye possess, and immerse yourselves in this Ocean in whose depths lay hidden the pearls of wisdom and of utterance, an ocean that surgeth in My name, the All-Merciful. Thus instructeth you He with Whom is the Mother Book.

The Best-Beloved is come. In His right hand is the sealed Wine of His name. Happy is the man that turneth unto Him, and drinketh his fill, and exclaimeth: "Praise be to Thee, O Revealer of the signs of God!" By the righteousness of the Almighty! Every hidden thing hath been manifested through the power of truth. All the favors of God have been sent down, as a token of His grace. The waters of everlasting life have, in their fullness, been proffered unto men. Every single cup hath been borne round by the hand of the Well-Beloved. Draw near, and tarry not, though it be for one short moment.

Blessed are they that have soared on the wings of detachment and attained the station which, as ordained by God, overshadoweth the entire creation, whom neither the vain imaginations of the learned, nor the multitude of the hosts of the earth have succeeded in deflecting from His Cause. Who is there

among you, O people, who will renounce the world, and draw nigh unto God, the Lord of all names? Where is he to be found who, through the power of My name that transcendeth all created things, will cast away the things that men possess, and cling, with all his might, to the things which God, the Knower of the unseen and of the seen, hath bidden him observe? Thus hath His bounty been sent down unto men, His testimony fulfilled, and His proof shone forth above the Horizon of mercy. Rich is the prize that shall be won by him who hath believed and exclaimed:

> "Lauded art Thou, O Beloved of all worlds! Magnified be Thy name, O Thou the Desire of every understanding heart!"

Rejoice with exceeding gladness, O people of Baha, as ye call to remembrance the Day of supreme felicity, the Day whereon the Tongue of the Ancient of Days hath spoken, as He departed from His House, proceeding to the Spot from which He shed upon the whole of creation the splendors of His name, the All-Merciful. God is Our witness. Were We to reveal the hidden secrets of that Day, all they that dwell on earth and in the heavens would swoon away and die, except such as will be preserved by God, the Almighty, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

Such is the inebriating effect of the words of God upon Him Who is the Revealer of His undoubted proofs, that His Pen can move no longer. With these words He concludeth His Tablet: No God is there but Me, the Most Exalted, the Most Powerful, the Most Excellent, the All-Knowing.

BH00598: O Lord my God! Whensoever I attempt to unloose…

He is the Manifest, the Hidden, the All-Glorious, the All-Knowing, the Ever-Forbearing

O Lord my God! Whensoever I attempt to unloose my tongue to extol the wondrous expressions of Thy transcendent oneness, or to open my lips to disclose the mystic gems of Thine incomparable handiwork wherewith Thou hast inspired me, I am compelled to recognize that all things sing Thy praise and glorify Thy remembrance—a remembrance which hath so pervaded the heavens and the earth that all things proclaim, in their very being, the wondrous testimonies of Thine exalted praise and bear witness to the marvellous tokens of Thy transcendent unity. Wherefore am I ashamed, as are all who mention Thee, to approach the exalted heights of Thy remembrance, and am powerless, as are all who extol Thee, to ascend unto the lofty summits of Thy praise.

Glorified, immeasurably glorified, art Thou! So exalted are the wonders of Thy bounty unto Thy creatures that Thou hast made all things to serve as a sign unto the mindful amongst Thy servants and as an admonishment unto the heedless amidst Thy people. Thy glory beareth me witness! They that are endued with true understanding can discern naught in all creation save the wondrous tokens of Thy matchless handiwork, nor behold aught else in the world of being but the hidden gems of Thine all-glorious sovereignty.

I swear by Thy glory, O my Best-Beloved! Whensoever I raise mine eyes to the heavens and witness their loftiness, I recognize naught therein but the wondrous heights of Thy supreme power and sovereign authority. And whensoever I turn my gaze towards Thine earth and observe the potentialities wherewith it hath been endowed, I perceive naught but the peerless signs of Thine immutable nature and abiding

constancy. And whensoever, O my God, I behold the sea and its waves, methinks I hear the billowing ocean of Thy wealth and power. In the sun I discern naught but the marvellous splendour of the light of Thy hallowed countenance and presence, and in the wind I sense naught save the stirring breezes of Thy nearness and reunion. In the trees I behold only the revelation of the fruits of Thy wisdom and knowledge, and in their leaves I read but the pages of the books enshrining the mysteries of all that hath been through Thy command or will be through Thy power.

Glorified, then, be Thou, O my God! I am powerless, as are all those who enjoy near access unto Thee, to reckon the least sign of Thy creation, inasmuch as Thou hast made all things to mirror forth the manifestations of Thy handiwork and the revelations of Thy sovereign rule. Such being the bounds of powerlessness and poverty that confine me and all created things, how then can any soul ever hope to approach the portals of the sanctuary of Thy knowledge or conceive the least expectation of attaining the city of Thy transcendent glory? Glorified, immeasurably glorified, art Thou! From everlasting Thou hast been sanctified above the comprehension of Thy creatures, for this comprehension is naught but the product of such idle fancies as pertain to their own selves, while Thou hast remained, in the reality of Thine own Self, exalted above them and all that they possess, and beyond the grasp of all that are in heaven and on earth. There is none other God but Thee, the Almighty, the Incomparable.

Having acknowledged, O my God, with my soul, my tongue, mine essence, and with mine inner and outer being, all my trespasses, whose like mortal eyes have never beheld nor human minds conceived, I implore Thee to pardon me and Thy loved ones for whatsoever we have failed to observe of Thy laws and ordinances. Attire us then with the robe of forgiveness, O my God, in this Day whereon Thou hast assumed the throne of Thy grace and bounty invested with the full glory of Thy names and attributes; the Day whereon the sun of Thy beauty hath dawned above the horizon of Thy grandeur, and the signs of Thy glorious sovereignty have been vouchsafed from the treasury of Thy grace; the Day whereon the sweet savours of reunion have wafted over all who are in Thy heaven and on Thine earth, and the hidden Word hath shone forth from the repository of Thy protection and power.

I bear witness, O my God, that Thou hast ordained this Day to stand unequalled amongst all the days of Thy world and unrivalled amidst all that Thou hast fashioned through Thy creative power. This is that primal Day which Thou hast singled out from among all other days, and exalted over all other times, and appointed as the King of Days unto all peoples, inasmuch as Thou didst manifest on this Day the tokens of Thy transcendent power and the evidences of Thy holy unity. Thou hast caused its radiance to surpass the splendour of the sun, the moon, and the stars, and to transcend the brightness of every lofty and glorious, every shining and brilliant light. Nay, Thou hast illumined this Day, O my Best-Beloved, with the very lights of Thine own inaccessible Being and with the full glory of Thine own exalted Essence.

Magnified, then, be this Day whereon Thou hast revealed unto all things the effulgent lights of Thy glorious unity and cast upon all creation the radiance of Thy sovereign and transcendent oneness, the Day whereon Thou hast lifted the veil of concealment from the countenance of Thy beauty; burned away, through Thy gracious favour, the shrouds of idle fancy blinding the eyes of the people; and summoned all to partake of Thy nearness and reunion. Immensely glorified be this Day whereon the oceans of splendour and grace have surged and the rivers of bounty and justice have flowed, a Day whereon Thy

bounty hath attained such a degree that every stammering tongue hath celebrated Thy praise, every blind eye hath beheld the lights of Thy beauty, and every deaf ear hath hearkened unto the glorious strains of the Dove of Thy oneness.

On this Day the poor have been enriched through the wonders of Thine incomparable wealth, the abased have been exalted through the manifold revelations of Thy majesty and glory, the sinful have partaken of the wine of Thy forgiveness, the sick have quaffed from the waters of Thy gracious healing, the disconsolate have taken refuge beneath the shade of the tree of Thy hope and bestowal, and the destitute have attained the shores of the sea of Thy grace and favour.

Blind is the eye that faileth, on this Day, to behold Thee seated upon the throne of Thy sovereignty, or to witness Thine undisputed authority over all that Thou hast created to be the exponents of Thy names and attributes! Can any of Thy signs and tokens, O my God, be confounded with those that pertain to Thy creatures? Nay, by Thy glory! Whatsoever proceedeth from Thee and from Thy presence shineth as brightly as the noonday sun in the heaven of Thy justice, whilst all else, even though it be among the treasures of Thy creation or of the quintessence of Thy handiwork, fadeth into utter nothingness. And inasmuch as Thou hast assigned no partner unto Thyself, whatsoever is manifested from Thee hath likewise no peer or equal. And even though Thou hast shed upon all created things the effulgent lights of Thy sublime singleness, and nothing proceedeth from anything except it be manifested from Thee and be created at Thy behest, yet that which appeareth from Thine own Self excelleth and surpasseth all else in Thy heavens and on Thine earth, and thus the tokens of Thy glorious sovereignty are revealed before the eyes of men and Thy testimony is fulfilled before all creation.

Since Thy bounty hath suffused the whole universe and the lights of Thy countenance have illumined all created things, I beseech Thee by this Day, and by the hearts which Thou hast made to be the repositories of Thy knowledge and inspiration and the treasuries of Thy revelation and recognition, to grant that the signs of Thine undisputed ascendancy may shine above the horizon of Thy command, that the showers of Thy surpassing mercy may rain from the heaven of Thy grace, and that the tokens of Thy deliverance may appear through the operation of Thy sovereign Will.

Thus may Thy friends be released from the clutches of Thy foes, and Thy loved ones delivered from the hands of the wayward among Thy servants, that they may extol Thee, O Lord, with ringing voices in the supernal realms of Thy names and worship Thee with their entire beings in the kingdom of Thine attributes. And thus may Thy Name be exalted, Thy testimony established, Thy proof vindicated, Thy favour completed, Thy bounty fulfilled, Thy verses promulgated, and Thy signs expounded, in such wise that the entire world may be filled with the light of Thy countenance and all dominion may be Thine alone. No God is there but Thee, the Omnipotent, the Almighty, the All-Powerful, the All-Compelling.

I entreat Thee, moreover, O my God, by Thy Name through which the Bird of the celestial Throne hath warbled in the Realm of the unseen the melodies of Thy transcendent unity, and the Dove of Thy Revelation hath sung forth in the Kingdom of eternity the paeans of Thy sovereign oneness, and the Holy Spirit hath magnified in wondrous tones Thine everlasting glory—I entreat Thee not to withhold from these servants the gentle breezes of the morn of Thy nearness and presence, nor to suffer them to be far removed from the sweet savours of the dawn of Thy reunion and recognition.

Grant, O my God, that this Festival may be a source of blessings for them and for all Thy loved ones. Supply them, then, with all the good Thou didst ordain in the heaven of Thy decree and purpose and in the Tablets of Thy protection and behest. Vanquish, then, O my God, in the course of this year, their enemies through the power of Thy wrath and of Thy resistless might, and ordain for them, O my God, all that I have asked of Thee and all that I have left unasked. Endue them, then, with such constancy in Thy love and in Thy Cause, that they may never break Thy Covenant nor violate Thy Testament to which they pledged themselves ere the creation of the heavens and the earth.

Render them victorious through the most wondrous means that lie hid in the treasuries of Thy power and the repositories of Thy might, and grant them, O my God, to attain the Hour Thou didst promise them in Thy latter Resurrection through the appearance of the Manifestation of Thine all-glorious Self—for this in truth is the very object of their existence and the existence of all things, the cause of their creation and the creation of all things. Suffer them then, O my God, to submit to Thy will under all conditions. Verily, Thou art the Lord of grace and bounty, of endless bestowal and unfettered sovereignty. And Thou art verily the Most Exalted, the Almighty, the All-Bountiful.

I beg Thee moreover, O my God, by all the Exponents of Thy names and all the Revealers of Thine attributes, not to number these Thy servants with those who outwardly observe the Festivals associated with the advent of Thy Manifestation, who honour and glorify these days as beseemeth their means and abilities, and yet who remain shut out as by a veil from the One Who is, through His command and decree, the Author of these observances and of all else, for thus will all their works be rendered vain, even though they perceive it not.

I implore Thee, O my God, by the appearance of Him Whom Thou hast manifested in these days through Thy Name “He Who is Invoked”, and by His beauty, and His majesty, and the afflictions He hath been made to suffer, and His divine fragrances, and His sweet accents, and His grandeur, and His might, to grant that the eyes of Thy loved ones may be freed from the veils of ignorance and blindness and from the obscuring mists of doubt and wretchedness. Perchance they may fix their gaze upon the Tree of Thy Revelation and upon that which appeareth thereon of the wondrous leaves of Thine ancient eternity and the precious fruits of Thy holy unity, may take delight in them and in that which they contain of Thy hidden gifts and concealed knowledge, and may rid themselves thereby of attachment to aught else. This, verily, is but perfect grace and unalloyed blessing, and the very essence, origin, and ultimate abode thereof, for within the compass of Thy knowledge there is naught higher than this grace nor sweeter than this blessing. Thou, verily, art the King, the Omniscient, the Omnipotent, the Almighty, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

BH00769: God testifieth to the unity of His Godhood…

He is the Ever-Living, the Ever-Abiding, the Self-Subsisting.

God testifieth to the unity of His Godhood and to the singleness of His own Being. On the throne of eternity, from the inaccessible heights of His station, His tongue proclaimeth that there is none other God but Him. He Himself, independently of all else, hath ever been a witness unto His own oneness, the

revealer of His own nature, the glorifier of His own essence. He, verily, is the All-Powerful, the Almighty, the Beauteous.

He is supreme over His servants, and standeth over His creatures. In His hand is the source of authority and truth. He maketh men alive by His signs, and causeth them to die through His wrath. He shall not be asked of His doings, and His might is equal unto all things. He is the Potent, the All-Subduing. He holdeth within His grasp the empire of all things, and on His right hand is fixed the Kingdom of His Revelation. His power, verily, embraceth the whole of creation. Victory and overlordship are His; all might and dominion are His; all glory and greatness are His. He, of a truth, is the All-Glorious, the Most Powerful, the Unconditioned.

Praise be to Thee, to Whom the tongues of all created things have, from eternity, called, and yet failed to attain the heaven of Thine eternal holiness and grandeur. The eyes of all beings have been opened to behold the beauty of Thy radiant countenance, yet none hath succeeded in gazing on the brightness of the light of Thy face. The hands of them that are nigh unto Thee have, ever since the foundation of Thy glorious sovereignty and the establishment of Thy holy dominion, been raised suppliantly towards Thee, yet no one hath been able to touch the hem of the robe that clotheth Thy Divine and sovereign Essence. And yet none can deny that Thou hast ever been, through the wonders of Thy generosity and bounty, supreme over all things, art powerful to do all things, and art nearer unto all things than they are unto themselves.

Far be it, then, from Thy glory that anyone should gaze on Thy wondrous beauty with any eye save Thine own eye, or hear the melodies proclaiming Thine almighty sovereignty with any ear except Thine own ear. Too high art Thou exalted for the eye of any creature to behold Thy beauty, or for the understanding of any heart to scale the heights of Thine immeasurable knowledge. For should the birds of the hearts of them that are nigh unto Thee be ever enabled to soar as long as Thine own overpowering sovereignty can endure, or to ascend as long as the empire of Thy Divine holiness can last, they shall, in no wise, be able to transcend the limitations which a contingent world hath imposed upon them, nor pass beyond its confines. How, then, can he whose very creation is restricted by such limitations, attain unto Him Who is the Lord of the Kingdom of all created things, or ascend into the heaven of Him Who ruleth the realms of loftiness and grandeur?

Glorified, immeasurably glorified art Thou, my Best-Beloved! Inasmuch as Thou hast ordained that the utmost limit to which they who lift their hearts to Thee can rise is the confession of their powerlessness to enter the realms of Thy holy and transcendent unity, and that the highest station which they who aspire to know Thee can reach is the acknowledgement of their impotence to attain the retreats of Thy sublime knowledge, I, therefore, beseech Thee, by this very powerlessness which is beloved of Thee, and which Thou hast decreed as the goal of them that have reached and attained Thy court, and by the splendours of Thy countenance that have encompassed all things, and by the energies of Thy Will whereby the entire creation hath been generated, not to deprive them that have set their hopes in Thee of the wonders of Thy mercy, nor to withhold from such as have sought Thee the treasures of Thy grace.

Ignite, then, within their hearts the torch of Thy love, that its flame may consume all else except their wondrous remembrance of Thee, and that no trace may be left in those hearts except the gem-like

evidences of Thy most holy sovereignty, so that from the land wherein they dwell no voice may be heard except the voice that extolleth Thy mercifulness and might, that on the earth on which they walk no light may shine except the light of Thy beauty, and that within every soul naught may be discovered except the revelation of Thy countenance and the tokens of Thy glory, that haply Thy servants may show forth only that which shall please Thee and shall conform wholly unto Thy most potent will.

Glory be to Thee, O my God! The power of Thy might beareth me witness! I can have no doubt that should the holy breaths of Thy loving-kindness and the breeze of Thy bountiful favour cease, for less than the twinkling of an eye, to breathe over all created things, the entire creation would perish, and all that are in heaven and on earth would be reduced to utter nothingness. Magnified, therefore, be the marvellous evidences of Thy transcendent power! Magnified be the potency of Thine exalted might! Magnified be the majesty of Thine all-encompassing greatness, and the energizing influence of Thy will! Such is Thy greatness that wert Thou to concentrate the eyes of all men in the eye of one of Thy servants, and to compress all their hearts within his heart, and wert Thou to enable him to behold within himself all the things Thou hast created through Thy power and fashioned through Thy might, and were he to ponder, throughout eternity, over the realms of Thy creation and the range of Thy handiwork, he would unfailingly discover that there is no created thing but is overshadowed by Thine all-conquering power, and is vitalized through Thine all-embracing sovereignty.

Behold me, then, O my God, fallen prostrate upon the dust before Thee, confessing my powerlessness and Thine omnipotence, my poverty and Thy wealth, mine evanescence and Thine eternity, mine utter abasement and Thine infinite glory. I recognize that there is none other God but Thee, that Thou hast no peer nor partner, none to equal or rival Thee. In Thine unapproachable loftiness Thou hast, from eternity, been exalted above the praise of any one but Thee, and shalt continue for ever, in Thy transcendent singleness and glory, to be sanctified from the glorification of any one except Thine own Self.

I swear by Thy might, O my Beloved! To make mention of any created thing beseemeth not Thy most exalted Self, and to bestow any praise upon any one of Thy creatures would be wholly unworthy of Thy great glory. Nay, such a mention would be but blasphemy uttered within the court of Thy holiness, and such praise would amount to no less than a transgression in the face of the evidences of Thy Divine sovereignty. For the mere mention of any one of Thy creatures would in itself imply an assertion of their existence before the court of Thy singleness and unity. Such an assertion would be naught but open blasphemy, an act of impiety, the essence of profanity and a wanton crime.

Wherefore, I bear witness with my soul, my spirit, my entire being, that should They Who are the Daysprings of Thy most holy unity and the Manifestations of Thy transcendent oneness be able to soar so long as Thine own sovereignty endureth and Thine all-compelling authority can last, they will fail in the end to attain unto even the precincts of the court wherein Thou didst reveal the effulgence of but one of Thy most mighty Names. Glorified, glorified be, therefore, Thy wondrous majesty. Glorified, glorified be Thine unattainable loftiness. Glorified, glorified be the pre-eminence of Thy kingship and the sublimity of Thine authority and power.

The highest faculties which the learned have possessed, and whatsoever truths they, in their search after the gems of Thy knowledge, have discovered; the brightest realities with which the wise have been

endowed, and whatever secrets they, in their attempts to fathom the mysteries of Thy wisdom, have unravelled, have all been created through the generative power of the Spirit that was breathed into the Pen which Thy hands have fashioned. How, then, can the thing which Thy Pen hath created be capable of comprehending those treasures of Thy Faith with which, as decreed by Thee, that Pen hath been invested? How can it ever know of the Fingers that grasp Thy Pen, and of Thy merciful favours with which it hath been endowed? How can it, already unable to reach this station, be made aware of the existence of Thy Hand that controlleth the Fingers of Thy might? How can it attain unto the comprehension of the nature of Thy Will that animateth the movement of Thy Hand?

Glorified, glorified be Thou, O my God! How can I ever hope to ascend into the heaven of Thy most holy will, or gain admittance into the tabernacle of Thy Divine knowledge, knowing as I do that the minds of the wise and learned are impotent to fathom the secrets of Thy handiwork—a handiwork which is itself but a creation of Thy will?

Praise be to Thee, O Lord, my God, my Master, my Possessor, my King. Now that I have confessed unto Thee my powerlessness and the powerlessness of all created things, and have acknowledged my poverty and the poverty of the entire creation, I call unto Thee with my tongue and the tongues of all that are in heaven and on earth, and beseech Thee with my heart and the hearts of all that have entered beneath the shadow of Thy names and Thine attributes, not to shut us from the doors of Thy loving-kindness and grace, nor to suffer the breeze of Thy bountiful care and favour to cease from being wafted over our souls, nor to permit that our hearts be occupied with any one except Thee, or our minds to be busied with any remembrance save remembrance of Thy Self.

By the glory of Thy might, O my God! Wert Thou to set me king over Thy realms, and to establish me upon the throne of Thy sovereignty, and to deliver, through Thy power, the reins of the entire creation into my hands, and wert Thou to cause me, though it be for less than a moment, to be occupied with these things and be oblivious of the wondrous memories associated with Thy most mighty, most perfect, and most exalted Name, my soul would still remain unsatisfied, and the pangs of my heart unstilled. Nay, I would, in that very state, recognize myself as the poorest of the poor, and the most wretched of wretches.

Magnified be Thy name, O my God! Now that Thou hast caused me to apprehend this truth, I beseech Thee by Thy Name which no scroll can bear, which no heart can imagine and no tongue can utter—a Name which will remain concealed so long as Thine own Essence is hidden, and will be glorified so long as Thine own Being is extolled—to unfurl, ere the present year draw to a close, the ensigns of Thine undisputed ascendancy and triumph, that the whole creation may be enriched by Thy wealth, and may be exalted through the ennobling influence of Thy transcendent sovereignty, and that all may arise and promote Thy Cause.

Thou art, verily, the Almighty, the All-Highest, the All-Glorious, the All-Subduing, the All-Possessing.

BH02091: Praise be to God that thou hast traversed…

Praise be to God that thou hast traversed the expansive plain of eloquence, ascended to the heavens of rhetoric, drunk from the wine of utterance at the dawn of certitude, attained the lofty stations of exposition which is the ultimate station of language, and brought forth in their completeness the pearls of speech from the shell of possibility. It seems thou hast gained knowledge of the comprehensive words and the perfect word as they truly are. Well done to thee, again well done!

Yea, the manifestations of action in the world of existence appear through divine destiny and arrangement, but destiny and arrangement do not become the cause of deficiency such that an argument would arise or a flaw would find its way. If thou becomest aware of this subtle point, thou wilt gain knowledge of all the stations of the worlds of destiny, of which the world of compulsion and free will is but a single letter.

Rules and customs are of the characteristics of the world of creation, while the world of command is sanctified and exalted above all such limitations. Therefore one must lift one's foot from the realm of nothingness and step into the realm of eternity, so that we may raise the banner of being in the heaven of non-being and comprehend the meaning of "All things perish save His face," and pass beyond the earthly homeland to return to the original divine homeland, of which "Verily we are God's and to Him we return" is indicative.

O my beloved! After ascending to the heavens of inner meanings, the wayfarers attain to three stations, meaning that the manifest Sun shines and becomes revealed in the mirrors of existing things according to these three ranks, although some consider the ranks of determinations to be five and have named them the five presences. Were I to explain in detail, a book would not suffice and I would not be able to fulfill it, just as that divine mystic and knower of divine mysteries, the lordly Imam, mentioned a drop from these stations in defining the world of the heart, which has surely come to your noble attention—that the final rank of these three stations is the journey from God unto God. In this station and rank, existence is effaced from self and subsists through the Truth. All are from God and unto God shall they return, and "Say: All things are from God" is sufficient witness and adequate proof of this point, as the mystic of Rum has said:

His attributes are annihilated in the attributes of Him While His essence remains through the survival of His essence

This station certainly has no rules and seeks no customs, meaning all His deeds are pure justice even if outwardly they appear as injustice, and pure knowledge even if in form they appear as ignorance. This station needs no explanation—it is manifest and evident. God willing, may we drink of the peerless wine of the Eternal Presence and be sustained by the effulgences of the beauty of the Countenance of the All-Glorious, that we may enter the Egypt of immortality and attain to the honor of the divine presence, so that we may comprehend all meanings without veil or covering. And peace be upon you.

BH00834: The Arabic utterances which were revealed in wondrous Hijazi…

He is the Forgiver! He is the Bestower and the Kind!

The Arabic utterances which were revealed in wondrous Hijazi melodies from the heaven of Divine sovereignty exceed the limits of enumeration and the comprehension of men of understanding. However, due to differences in tongues and perception, some have failed to grasp God's purpose and have remained veiled from the Desired One and deprived of their goal. Therefore, in this Tablet, We shall mention briefly some of the gems of divine counsels and realities of heavenly exhortations in melodious Iraqi and Persian verses, so that God's purpose may become manifest and evident to all the world like the rising sun and the true dawn. This is from the grace which was foreordained for you.

Know ye that the Truth, exalted be His mention, has been and will ever be sanctified above the worship, servitude and remembrance of His servants, for none among created things has had or will have the capacity or ability to know Him as He should be known. The possible can soar as it may in the atmospheres of nearness, reunion, attainment and immortality, yet it can never transcend the point of contingent existence which was created by the Will that pertains to the realm of possibility.

The King Who doeth what He willeth has, in the eternity of eternities, dwelt in the loftiness of His glory and the utmost heights of His beauty. And since all paths to Him were blocked and cut off from all besides Him, He did, through pure bounty and sheer grace, kindness and favor, raise up in every age and epoch a Soul to guide His servants from the valley of heedlessness and passion to the heights of glory and eternity, and to lead them from the realm of poverty and nothingness to the heaven of wealth and existence, that perchance these holy birds might be drawn to their divine homeland, and being sanctified from selfish and earthly allusions, might gather in the shade of the Countenance of God and abide forevermore in the eternity of God.

In all ages and epochs some among His servants have claimed these stations, yet never has mere assertion been accepted. Hence tests and trials have ever descended from the heaven of power that the true might be distinguished from the false. Consider how all these people claim the love of God, which is the greatest, foremost and most precedent of all things, yet even before trials descend they turn away in deed—how much more after afflictions, ordeals, calamities and tribulations! Reflect on what I say, O ye who are endowed with insight!

In brief, it is certain that that Ancient Being dwells in the retreat of transcendence and the treasury of inaccessibility, established upon the throne of sanctification and abstraction. Entry and exit, ascent and descent have no place in that station. After this subtle point is established, it becomes clear to every person of insight that neither does the obedience of created things add to His glory, nor does the disobedience of existing beings detract from His majesty.

Never can the deeds of the finite reach the court of the Eternal, nor can the stain of the transient soil the hem of His everlasting glory. None besides Him is mentioned before Him, and nothing other than Him has any name in His presence. The possible remains within the bounds of contingency, and the Necessary exists in the heights of sanctity and glory.

After these stations are established, there remains no doubt that whatsoever has been sent down from the eternal heaven—whether the purpose is the upliftment of the servants themselves—it is nonetheless far from fairness that they should deprive themselves of the holy fragrances of these days.

Let this much be known: not an atom's weight of the deeds of created things remains hidden or concealed. However, in view of supreme compassion and the all-encompassing mercy upon all things, these have not been and will never be revealed or disclosed. Yet when audacity exceeds the bounds of moderation, He therefore informs certain servants that perchance they might feel ashamed and desist. Otherwise, out of His perfect mercy and grace, He has never been and will never be willing to expose the faults of His servants.

Say at last to the servants of God: those who are given to transgression and lewdness, the heedless and the blind—when they visit visible gardens, strive upon their return to bring back what flowers they can as gifts. You who claim to have entered the holy paradise of divine beauty—what sign or token have you brought back from that sweet realm of the Beloved?

After all, the people of the Bayan should be characterized by the fragrance of the All-Merciful, and the loved ones of the Beloved must possess the gentle breezes of the All-Glorious, that all the peoples of the earth might inhale the divine perfumes from His loved ones, and distinguish the traces of truth from falsehood as clearly as the luminous morn from the dark night.

I swear by God, had this small band moved among humanity with divine attributes, by now all the peoples of the earth would be circling round the Cause of God and turning toward His sanctuary. What was decreed has come to pass. God willing, We hope that hereafter they may be resurrected from the dust of heedlessness by the holy breeze of divine oneness in a new form and wondrous guise, and arise to fulfill what they have neglected.

I swear by God that never have days more delightful than these days appeared in creation, nor will there ever appear a greater season than this season. While time remains, deprive not yourselves of the eternal paradise of the All-Glorious and the garden of beauty of the All-Beauteous, and be not despairing and debarred from the cloud of bounty and the rain of grace.

It is evident that this servant has always kept in view and considered the good, welfare and righteousness of God's loved ones, to such extent that He has shown more consideration for them than they themselves—and God suffices as witness.

It is clear to you what measure of hidden and manifest trials have been poured upon this servant, all of which He has endured that perchance the dead bodies might be quickened by the breezes of God and might arise from the slumber of negligence through the divine morning breeze. Not that We should completely avoid association and prefer concealment to manifestation, as has become common in these days.

In these days when all peoples—Arab and Persian, Turk and Fars, Christian and Jew, learned and ignorant—have risen to oppose this servant, seeking nothing but to extinguish the light of God and quench the fire of God, this servant has stood firm against them all, though aware of what they have concealed in their hearts.

Now at least the loved ones should not become another source of grief and sorrow for such a servant who is encompassed by trials, afflictions and ordeals. Let us see what fairness will accomplish and how God's Cause will unfold.

In all things my trust is in Him, and God is sufficient for us and the best of guardians.

BH00837: Glorified art Thou, O my God! To whom shall…

In the name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Exalted

Glorified art Thou, O my God! To whom shall I complain of what Thou hast done to me through Thy power and sovereignty, and to whom shall I mention what Thou hast caused to descend upon me through Thy might and authority?

Thou art He Who hath taken my heart and left me in the valley of Thy separation, Who hath attracted my soul and cast me into the wilderness of separation from Thee. Thou art He Who, O my God, hath kindled my heart with Thy love, then forbidden me from beholding Thy beauty, and Who hath caused my heart to melt in passion and yearning for Thee, then prevented me from entering the sanctuary of Thy nearness and attaining Thy presence.

I know not toward which direction to turn, nor with what voice to complain and recount what hath befallen me through the wonders of Thy decree in Thy days. O Lord, if I say Thou hearest not the cry of them that long for Thee in their separation and remoteness from Thee, all atoms testify to Thy knowledge and all-encompassing awareness; and if I say Thou knowest but showeth not mercy, my tongue, my reality, my soul and my limbs bear witness that Thou art the Most Merciful of the merciful.

Therefore, O my Beloved, the wonders of Thy Cause, the operations of Thy decree and the manifestations of Thy determination have bewildered me.

This is what a handmaiden among My handmaidens cried out in the tongue of her heart unto her Lord, the Mighty, the Bountiful.

Then her Beloved called unto her from the direction of His mighty throne, saying:

O My handmaiden! Be thou fair in thy judgment regarding thyself and reflect upon that which hath befallen the Beloved of the worlds. Have I taken for Myself a house on My earth wherein I might dwell and summon unto it My loved ones and My handmaidens? Nay, by My grieving and mighty Self! Have I found for Myself a safe refuge whereon I might rest My feet and beneath whose shade Our accepted handmaidens and near servants might take shelter?

I have been wronged at the hands of enemies at all times, and no day hath passed except that there descended upon Me that which causeth the hearts of the sincere ones to burn.

O My handmaiden! The peoples of the earth have risen up against Me in malice, and behind them stand all who wield power. The realm of utterance hath been filled with their deeds. By God! Such harm hath been inflicted upon Me as hath caused the Eye of the All-Merciful to weep in the Ridvan of His Name, the

Self-Subsisting. At this the tears have flowed from the eyes of the denizens of the highest Paradise, and then from the eyes of the sincere ones. This Bird hath been imprisoned in the cage of the horizons, while enemies have sought to harm Him, and even those of Our heedless servants who claim kinship.

O My handmaiden! Reflect upon My Cause and what hath befallen Me in the path of My Beloved, after all the peoples rose up in opposition. My sister hath risen in opposition—she who hath done that which hath caused the letter Ta to weep in the Most Glorious Paradise, and the people of the Ridvan to lament, and then the Maids who dwell in the chambers of thy Lord's protection, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy.

Love of the world hath so seized her that she hath clung to the most degraded of men and turned away from the Beloved of the worlds. By God! She hath done that which hath caused the Most Great Spirit and then the Faithful Spirit to lament. When she entereth the abode of the ungodly, she declareth: "I have disbelieved in God, the Lord of the worlds." And when she entereth the abode of the believers, she saith: "I am the first handmaiden to believe in God, the Beloved of the worlds."

O My sister! Didst thou desire by thy deeds to grieve My heart? By God! Nothing can affect it, for the All-Merciful hath established Himself upon it with manifest sovereignty. Even if all the handmaidens of the earth were to dwell in houses in My name, and thou wert to give them in marriage by thy hand to Mine enemies, this would not grieve My luminous heart. God hath made it the treasury of His revelation, the source of His knowledge, the dawning-place of His Cause, and the seat of His mighty throne.

However, it grieveth Me that thou shouldst take pride in serving the ungodly and in thy association with them. This hath saddened My heart and the hearts of the sincere ones.

O My sister! For what crime didst thou abandon Me and take those who have disbelieved in God, thy Lord, the All-Merciful, the Most Compassionate? I desired thy good, while thou desired My grief. I have resigned My affair unto God, the Mighty, the All-Knowing. Whenever I reflect, nothing hath appeared from Me that would grieve thy heart. I know not what hath deluded thee concerning thy Lord, the Gracious. But yea, by My Lord, I know, and with Me is the knowledge of the heavens and the earth. That which was hidden in thy heart hath been manifested through what thou didst acquire beforehand. Thus doth God reveal the treachery of the eyes and what lieth within the breasts of the deceivers.

O My handmaiden! Thus did My sister act, and the world deluded her until she disbelieved in God, the Mighty, the Wise. We did not oppose her for Our own sake, but when she turned away from God, We turned away from her. Thus were We commanded by the One Who is the Powerful, the Ancient. We severed the ties of kinship between Us and her because she disbelieved in Him Who created her by His command, and God is witness to what I say.

If any of My children should transgress the bounds of God, by God! My glance would never turn to him again—to this every fair-minded and informed one beareth witness.

O My handmaiden! Guard thyself lest kinship prevent thee from God, thy Lord and the Lord of all worlds. Sever the ties of kinship from all who claim kinship, and hold fast to the kinship of God, the Forgiving, the Merciful. By God! Through His kinship, souls become independent of the kinship of all the worlds.

By My life, O My handmaiden! If thou shouldst find the sweetness of detachment, thou wouldst detach thyself in the path of the Beloved, and neither worldly kinship nor its ornaments would prevent thee from turning to the face of God, the King, the Mighty, the Great. Thus it behooveth Our devoted handmaidens and [Our] detached servants.

We have severed the ties of kinship from all who claim kinship, except from those who have believed in God and turned away from the ungodly.

O My servants! Should any one of you hear that his brother or sister hath turned away from God, it behooveth him to turn away from that one and to turn towards the Beloved of the sincere ones.

Glorified art Thou, O my God! Withhold not from my brothers and sisters the breezes through which Thou didst quicken the hearts of them that have recognized Thee, nor the sweet fragrances of Thy days wherein the Sun of Thy beauty hath shone forth upon all mankind. O my God, all Thy servants are in Thy grasp; none can find stability when the winds of trials blow, nor can any find repose when the manifestations of temptation appear. I beseech Thee, O Thou Who art the Healer of the hearts of them that yearn after Thee, to preserve Thy male and female servants from the promptings of self and passion, that all may turn toward the direction of Thy mercy, O Thou in Whose hand is the dominion of decree and the kingdom of ordainment. Verily, Thou doest what Thou willest, and Thou art the Mighty, the All-Wise.

O my God! My sister hath forgotten Thee and turned away from Thee, and the world hath so moved her that she hath spoken concerning the Manifestation of Thyself that which hath caused the tears to flow from the eyes of them that are nigh unto Thee and hath burned the hearts of the Messengers. O Lord! If she hath any good deeds in Thy presence, cause her to return unto Thee and purify the atmosphere of her heart from the clouds of self and desire, and sanctify her from the world and all that hath been created therein, that she may hold fast unto Thee and be severed from them who have disbelieved in God on a day whereon all who are in the heavens and on earth were thunderstruck.

O Lord! I beseech Thee by Thy beauty whereby the earth and the heavens were illumined, and by Thy name through which the verses were sent down and the idols of fancy and allusion were shattered, to preserve Thy male and female servants from all that may withhold them from Thy love and Thy good-pleasure. Then assign unto them a seat of truth in Thy Most Exalted Paradise. Verily Thou art God, the Most High, the Most Exalted. There is none other God but Thee, the Mighty, the Gracious.

BH00848: Praised be Thou, O Lord my God! I supplicate…

Praised be Thou, O Lord my God! I supplicate Thee by Him Whom Thou hast called into being, Whose Revelation Thou hast ordained to be Thine own Revelation and His Concealment Thine own Concealment. Through His Firstness Thou hast confirmed Thine own Firstness, and through His Lastness Thou hast affirmed Thine own Lastness. Through the power of His might and the influence of His sovereignty the mighty have apprehended Thine omnipotence, and through His glory they who are endowed with authority have acknowledged Thy majesty and greatness. Through His supreme ascendancy Thy transcendent sovereignty and all-encompassing dominion have been recognized, and through His will

Thine own will hath been revealed. Through the light of His countenance the splendors of Thine own face have shone forth, and through His Cause Thine own Cause hath been made manifest.

Through the generative power of His utterance the whole earth hath been made the recipient of the wondrous signs and tokens of Thy sovereignty, and the heavens have been filled with the revelations of Thine incomparable majesty, and the seas have been enriched with the sacred pearls of Thine omniscience and wisdom, and the trees adorned with the fruits of Thy knowledge. Through Him all things have sung Thy praise, and all the eyes have been turned in the direction of Thy mercy. Through Him the faces of all have been set towards the splendors of the light of Thy countenance, and the souls of all have been inclined unto the revelations of Thy divine greatness.

How great is Thy power! How exalted Thy sovereignty! How lofty Thy might! How excellent Thy majesty! How supreme is Thy grandeur—a grandeur which He Who is Thy Manifestation hath made known and wherewith Thou hast invested Him as a sign of Thy generosity and bountiful favor. I bear witness, O my God, that through Him Thy most resplendent signs have been uncovered, and Thy mercy hath encompassed the entire creation. But for Him, how could the Celestial Dove have uttered its songs or the Heavenly Nightingale, according to the decree of God, have warbled its melody?

I testify that no sooner had the First Word proceeded, through the potency of Thy will and purpose, out of His mouth, and the First Call gone forth from His lips than the whole creation was revolutionized, and all that are in the heavens and all that are on earth were stirred to the depths. Through that Word the realities of all created things were shaken, were divided, separated, scattered, combined and reunited, disclosing, in both the contingent world and the heavenly kingdom, entities of a new creation, and revealing, in the unseen realms, the signs and tokens of Thy unity and oneness. Through that Call Thou didst announce unto all Thy servants the advent of Thy most great Revelation and the appearance of Thy most perfect Cause.

No sooner had that Revelation been unveiled to men's eyes than the signs of universal discord appeared among the peoples of the world, and commotion seized the dwellers of earth and heaven, and the foundations of all things were shaken. The forces of dissension were released, the meaning of the Word was unfolded, and every several atom in all created things acquired its own distinct and separate character. Hell was made to blaze, and the delights of Paradise were uncovered to men's eyes. Blessed is the man that turneth towards Thee, and woe betide him who standeth aloof from Thee, who denieth Thee and repudiateth Thy signs in this Revelation wherein the faces of the exponents of denial have turned black and the faces of the exponents of truthfulness have turned white, O Thou Who art the Possessor of all names and attributes, Who holdest in Thy grasp the empire of whatever hath been created in heaven and on earth!

Praise be to Thee, therefore, O my God—such praise as Thou didst ascribe to Thine own Self, and which none except Thee can either comprehend or reckon. Thou art He, O my Lord, Who hath made known His own Self unto me, at a time when Thy servants have failed to recognize Thee—servants who, by virtue of the ties that bind them to Thee, have been ruling over all that dwell on earth and have been vaunting themselves over its peoples. Were I, O my God, to exercise from pole to pole supreme dominion over the

earth, and were I to be offered all the treasures it containeth, and were I to expend them in Thy path, I would still be powerless to attain unto this station, unless I were assisted and strengthened by Thee.

And were I to glorify Thee, O my God, so long as the glory of Thy majesty endureth and the influence of Thy sovereignty and power will last, such a glorification could never be compared with any of the praises which Thou, as a token of Thy grace, hast taught me, and wherewith Thou hast bidden me to extol Thy virtues. If such be the excellence of each one of the praises which Thou hast taught me, how immeasurably greater must be the excellence of the station of the One Who hath known Thee, Who hath entered Thy Presence, and pursued steadfastly the path of Thy Cause!

I have clearly perceived, and I am wholly persuaded, that Thou hast from everlasting been immeasurably exalted above the mention of all beings, and wilt continue unto everlasting to remain far above the conception of Thy creatures. None can befittingly praise Thee except Thine own Self and such as are like unto Thee. Thou hast, verily, been at all times, and wilt everlastingly continue to remain, immensely exalted beyond and above all comparison and likeness, above all imagination of parity or resemblance. Having, thus, recognized Thee as One Who is incomparable, and Whose nature none can possess, it becometh incontrovertibly evident that whosoever may praise Thee, his praise can befit only such as are of his own nature, and are subject to his own limitations, and it can in no wise adequately describe the sublimity of Thy sovereignty, nor scale the heights of Thy majesty and holiness. How sweet, therefore, is the praise Thou givest to Thine own Self, and the description Thou givest of Thine own Being!

I testify, O my God, that Thou hast, from eternity, sent down upon Thy servants naught else except that which can cause them to soar up and be drawn near unto Thee, and to ascend into the heaven of Thy transcendent oneness. Thou hast established Thy bounds among them, and ordained them to stand among Thy creatures as evidences of Thy justice and as signs of Thy mercy, and to be the stronghold of Thy protection amongst Thy people, that no man may in Thy realm transgress against his neighbor. How great is the blessedness of him who, for love of Thy beauty and for the sake of Thy pleasure, hath curbed the desires of a corrupt inclination and observed the precepts laid down by Thy most exalted Pen! He, in truth, is to be numbered with them that have attained unto all good, and followed the way of guidance.

I beseech Thee, O my Lord, by Thy Name through which Thou hast enabled Thy servants and Thy people to know Thee, through which Thou hast drawn the hearts of those who have recognized Thee towards the resplendent court of Thy oneness, and the souls of Thy favored ones unto the Day-Spring of Thy unity,—I beseech Thee to grant that I may be assisted to observe the fast wholly for Thy sake, O Thou Who art full of majesty and glory! Empower me, then, O my God, to be reckoned among them that have clung to Thy laws and precepts for the sake of Thee alone, their eyes fixed on Thy face. These, indeed, are they whose wine is all that hath proceeded out of the mouth of Thy primal will, whose pure beverage is Thine enthralling call, whose heavenly River is Thy love, whose Paradise is entrance into Thy presence and reunion with Thee. For Thou hast been their Beginning and their End, and their Highest Hope, and their Supreme Desire. Blinded be the eye that gazeth on whatsoever may displease Thee, and confounded be the soul that seeketh the things that are contrary to Thy will.

Deign, O my God, I implore Thee, by Thy Self and by them, to accept, through Thy grace and Thy loving-kindness, the works we have performed, however much they fall short of the loftiness of Thy state and

the sublimity of Thy station, O Thou Who art most dear to the hearts that long for Thee, and the Healer of the souls that have recognized Thee! Rain down, therefore, upon us from the heaven of Thy mercy and the clouds of Thy gracious providence that which will cleanse us from the faintest trace of evil and corrupt desires, and will draw us nearer unto Him Who is the Manifestation of Thy most exalted and all-glorious Self. Thou art, verily, the Lord of this world and of the next, and art powerful to do all things.

Do Thou bless, O Lord my God, the Primal Point, through Whom the point of creation hath been made to revolve in both the visible and invisible worlds, Whom Thou hast designated as the One whereunto should return whatsoever must return unto Thee, and as the Revealer of whatsoever may be manifested by Thee. Do Thou also bless such of His Letters as have not turned away from Thee, who have been firmly established in Thy love, and clung steadfastly to Thy good-pleasure. Bless Thou, likewise, as long as Thine own Self endureth and Thine own Essence doth last, them that have suffered martyrdom in Thy path. Thou art, verily, the Ever-Forgiving, the Most Merciful.

Moreover, I beseech Thee, O my God, by Him Whom Thou hast announced unto us in all Thy Tablets and Thy Books and Thy Scrolls and Thy Scriptures, through Whom the kingdom of names hath been convulsed, and all that lay hid in the breasts of them that have followed their evil and corrupt desires hath been revealed,—I beseech Thee to strengthen us in our love for Him, to make us steadfast in His Cause, to help us befriend His loved ones and challenge His enemies. Shield us, then, O my God, from the mischief wrought by them that have denied Thy presence, and turned away from Thy face, and resolved to put an end to the life of Him Who is the Manifestation of Thine own Self.

O my God and my Master! Thou knowest how they have disgraced Thy Cause and dishonored Thee among Thy creatures, how they have joined Thine enemies, that they may undermine Thy Revelation and injure Thee. Lay hold on them with the power of Thy wrath and might, O my God, and expose their shameful acts and their wickedness, that whatever is hid in their breasts may be revealed unto the people that dwell within Thy land, O Thou Who art the Inflictor of trials, the Fashioner of nations, and the Bestower of favors! No God is there beside Thee, the All-Glorious, the Most Bountiful.

BH00846: Let thine ear be attentive, O Nabil-i-A'zam…

Let thine ear be attentive, O Nabil-i-A'zam, to the Voice of the Ancient of Days, crying to thee from the Kingdom of His all-glorious Name. He it is Who is now proclaiming from the realms above, and within the inmost essence of all created things:

> "I truly am God, there is none other God but Me. I am He Who, from everlasting, hath been the Source of all sovereignty and power, He Who shall continue, throughout eternity, to exercise His kingship and to extend His protection unto all created things. My proof is the greatness of My might and My sovereignty that embraceth the whole of creation. Bear thou witness, within thine own self, that there is none other God but Me. By a single act of My will, proceeding from My Pen, I have called all things into being, and have caused them to return again unto Mine own Self; thereafter will We bring them forth once more, as a promise from Our presence. Thus hath the command been inscribed by the Pen of Bounty upon the Tablet of Justice in truth."

Give ear unto that which the Spirit of Holiness on that Day intoneth in the Kingdom of all things, declaring:

> "By God! There hath appeared My Well-Beloved and the Beloved of all the Prophets and Messengers. I would sacrifice My very self for him who loveth Him and turneth unto Him. The moments of the Lord of Names and Attributes have been turned away from beholding a Name resplendent in glory."

Blessed art thou, O My name, inasmuch as thou hast entered Mine Ark, and art speeding, through the power of My sovereign and most exalted might, on the ocean of grandeur, and art numbered with My favored ones whose names the Finger of God hath inscribed. Thou hast quaffed the cup which is life indeed from the hands of this Youth, around Whom revolve the Manifestations of the All-Glorious, and the brightness of Whose presence they Who are the Daysprings of Mercy extol in the day time and in the night season.

His glory be with thee, inasmuch as thou hast journeyed from God unto God, and entered within the borders of the Court of unfading splendor—the Spot which mortal man can never describe. Therein hath the breeze of holiness, laden with the love of thy Lord, stirred thy spirit within thee, and the waters of understanding have washed from thee the stains of remoteness and ungodliness. Thou hast gained admittance into the Paradise of God's Remembrance, through thy recognition of Him Who is the Embodiment of that Remembrance amongst men.

Wherefore, be thankful to God, for having strengthened thee to aid His Cause, for having made the flowers of knowledge and understanding to spring forth in the garden of thine heart. Thus hath His grace encompassed thee, and encompassed the whole of creation. Beware, lest thou allow anything whatsoever to grieve thee. Rid thyself of all attachment to the vain allusions of men, and cast behind thy back the idle and subtle disputations of them that are veiled from God. Proclaim, then, that which the Most Great Spirit will inspire thee to utter in the service of the Cause of thy Lord, that thou mayest stir up the souls of all men and incline their hearts unto this most blessed and all-glorious Court.

Convey the messages of thy Lord unto the East of the earth and unto the West thereof, and suffer not thyself to tarry even for the least moment; for this is a command issuing from the presence of One All-Powerful, All-Wise. Shatter the idols of vain imaginings through a power derived from Us and a might bestowed from Our presence, then shine forth from the horizon of knowledge with a wondrous exposition. Cause the loved ones of God and His chosen ones to be united in the Cause, and gather them together upon a river, sweet and mighty. Move thou among men with the dignity of God and His tranquillity, then stand firm in the Cause in such wise that by thy steadfastness every wavering and feeble soul may be made steadfast.

Know then that thy letter hath been presented before the throne, that We have taken it in the hand of bounty and read it with the tongue of holiness, and have turned toward it with glances of mercy, as a favour from Us and a grace from Our presence unto thee. We have decreed for thee in the Mother-Book a goodly portion which, in the sight of the All-Merciful, is great indeed. We have beheld what it contained and that thou didst bear the message of thy Lord unto the regions of the East. Well is it with thee for that

thou hast attained unto a matter recorded in the Mother of Tablets by the Pen of God, and sent down from the precincts of the Throne for every soul whose name thy letter contained, a Tablet which, in truth, is impregnable.

By God! Wert thou to make mention of every name for whom a creation in the kingdom of existence hath been ordained, We would assuredly send down from the clouds of bounty for each one a Tablet, from a single letter of which all the worlds would be satisfied. Thus have We conferred upon thee favour after favour, that thou mayest lead men out of the darkness of illusion and give them the glad-tidings of the lights of certitude, and remind them of the Days of the Spirit. By God! Those days, on that Day, were sent forth in truth in the fairest of forms, wafting the fragrances of God.

Rend asunder the veils of delusion through My Most Great Name, even as the Pen of the Ancient hath commanded thee from the realm of the all-glorious Name, that thou guard thyself with the utmost vigilance lest any harm befall thee. Consort with men with the wisdom that hath been bestowed upon thee from the presence of thy Lord, the All-Choice, that no discord be made manifest amongst His servants and that thou be not afflicted with hurt from every guilty idolater.

Know thou that We have annulled the rule of the sword, as an aid to Our Cause, and substituted for it the power born of the utterance of men. Thus have We irrevocably decreed, by virtue of Our grace. Say: O people! Sow not the seeds of discord among men, and refrain from contending with your neighbor, for your Lord hath committed the world and the cities thereof to the care of the kings of the earth, and made them the emblems of His own power, by virtue of the sovereignty He hath chosen to bestow upon them. He hath refused to reserve for Himself any share whatever of this world's dominion. To this He Who is Himself the Eternal Truth will testify. The things He hath reserved for Himself are the cities of men's hearts, that He may cleanse them from all earthly defilements, and enable them to draw nigh unto the hallowed Spot which the hands of the infidel can never profane. Open, O people, the city of the human heart with the key of your utterance. Thus have We, according to a preordained measure, prescribed unto you your duty.

By the righteousness of God! The world and its vanities, and its glory, and whatever delights it can offer, are all, in the sight of God, as worthless as, nay, even more contemptible than, dust and ashes. Would that the hearts of men could comprehend it! Cleanse yourselves thoroughly, O people of Bahá, from the defilement of the world, and of all that pertaineth unto it. God Himself beareth Me witness. The things of the earth ill beseem you. Cast them away unto such as may desire them, and fasten your eyes upon this most holy and effulgent Vision.

That which beseemeth you is the love of God, and the love of Him Who is the Manifestation of His Essence, and the observance of whatsoever He chooseth to prescribe unto you, did ye but know it.

Say: Let truthfulness and courtesy be your adorning. Suffer not yourselves to be deprived of the robe of forbearance and justice, that the sweet savors of holiness may be wafted from your hearts upon all created things. Say: Beware, O people of Bahá, lest ye walk in the ways of them whose words differ from their deeds. Strive that ye may be enabled to manifest to the peoples of the earth the signs of God, and to mirror forth His commandments. Let your acts be a guide unto all mankind, for the professions of most

men, be they high or low, differ from their conduct. It is through your deeds that ye can distinguish yourselves from others. Through them the brightness of your light can be shed upon the whole earth. Happy is the man that heedeth My counsel, and keepeth the precepts prescribed by Him Who is the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

O Thou, Nabil-i-A'zam! Arise to champion the Cause, then convey My counsel unto those who have believed in God and in His signs, that they may perchance take the counsel of God as a help unto their own souls.

Know thou that We have sent down unto thee certain Tablets: some of these have reached thee, while others, withheld in the realm of God's Will, shall, as a promise from the presence of One All-Powerful, All-Glorious, in due time be delivered into thy hands.

Know, moreover, that the Well-Beloved hath fallen into the hands of Nimrod, and shall find for Himself no helper save God alone. On that Day He shall be imprisoned, through the injustice of these wretched ones, in the dungeon of the hateful; and the idolaters shall have arisen to plot a scheme the like of which hath never been witnessed in the realm of creation. But God, thy Lord, was assuredly mightier in His devising and more severe in His retribution.

Magnify, from the precincts of Baha, those servants who have entered the hosts of God and whose faces He hath purified from turning toward every guilty, iniquitous denier.

BH11698: God testifieth in the midmost heart of eternity…

He is the Most Wondrous, the Most Holy, the All-Glorious

God testifieth in the midmost heart of eternity that there is none other God but Him, the Self-Subsisting, the Gracious, the Sublime, the Omnipotent, and He calleth to witness at the Throne of the Mystic Tabernacle that there is none other God but Him, the All-powerful, the Exalted, the Omniscient, the All-Wise.

God testifieth in the exalted Dominion of Majesty: "I am God, and there is none other God but Me, the All-Glorious, the Inaccessible, the Wondrous." He calleth to witness in the Kingdom of Grandeur: "I am God, and there is no God but Me, the Transcendent, the Sovereign, the Mighty, the Peerless."

God testifieth on the throne of all existence, that there is none other God but Him, and that the Primal Point is His Servant and His Glory.

The days of the Servant have come to pass and He hath ascended to the throne of the Most High, wherefore Baha shone from the horizon of eternity once more with a sovereignty exalted above all creation, and all the kings and the rulers bowed their heads before the splendor of His dominion.

The veils of vain imaginings were cleft, the mantles of concealment were rent asunder and the standards of glory were raised betwixt the heavens and the earth, and God came on the heavenly clouds with hosts of glory, on His left the angels of Revelation and on His right the concourse of the sincere ones.

He rose in the midst of heaven and earth and called unto all created beings with such ascendency that caused the hearts of the denizens of Paradise to tremble and the foundations of all things to quiver, and this is verily that which was sent down upon His well-favored servants as a token of His absolute loving kindness and spoken through his most eloquent, most wondrous, most articulate, and most beauteous tongue.

O ye people of the earth! We have created ye through our behest and have made known unto ye Our Self, the True One, through the Manifestation of My own Self, the Exalted, the Great. We raised Him by the power of truth and endowed Him with Our sovereignty and sent Him to you with a Manifest Book. He came to you from the dawning place of Revelation with signs which attracted the hearts of every fair-minded and knowledgeable soul and every person of high station, but, ye have repudiated Him and denied that which was revealed unto Him of the verses of thy Lord, the All-Powerful, the Most Compassionate.

A few souls amongst you believed in Him-them who had crushed the idols of vain imaginings with My exalted power, and abandoned the bastion of blind imitation and perversity in My Name, the All-Powerful, the All-Subduing, the Almighty. No sooner have ye believed in Me and acknowledged My sovereignty and recognized My book, than We admonished you in all Our Tablets not to act as the infidels amongst our heedless servants had done. And We revealed not the Bayan but to announce unto you Our appearance in the kingdom of all creation. And when the Lord of Divine Decree manifested Himself once again and appeared on the clouds of Divine behest, you denied Him and rejected that which you had believed in, and turned away from that which you had turned unto, and wert of the infidels.

O ye people of the Bayan! By the righteousness of God, this is My beauty with which I pride Myself in My realm, and the denizens of My celestial kingdom seek blessings from My presence. Nay, rather, all else move by His Will, He verily is powerful over all that He willeth and He is the Gracious, the All-Bountiful. He appeared amongst you with such power that astonished them that devoutly worship Him. He rose alone before all that dwell in the heavens and on earth with the power bestowed by Us and I, verily, am the Almighty, the All-Glorious.

Thus calleth the tongue of the Merciful One the people of the Bayan, that perchance they may shake off their slumber and be of them that are attuned to that which God hath counseled them in all the Tablets, and be of them who reflect, and that they may vacillate not in the Cause in which whomsoever hesitateth all his work will come to naught, even if he cometh forth with all pious worship of the former and latter generations. They had hesitated in His Cause, rejected His appearance, gainsaid His signs, and denied that which He did bring to them as bidden by the Omniscient, the All-Informed.

Arise then for the service of thy Lord, and aid Him Who hath sought no support for Himself but God; this is His bounty upon you, He, verily can afford to dispense with all creatures. Say: O people! This is the heavenly Youth amongst you and He hath come to you with Divine Sovereignty and Power and reciteth unto you at all times that which is beyond the power and comprehension of the whole creation. He did succor you whilst you wert destitute on earth until the standards of victory were hoisted upon every lofty and indomitable mountain.

O thou Nabil! Know, verily, that among the froword are those who claim that these verses were not revealed according to true faith. Say: woe betide you and that which flows from your tongues. By God! The true faith of God, the All-Powerful, the Almighty, the All-Subduing, hath appeared through these verses. And there are those who say that this Youth hath slandered God and thus hath repudiated the signs of God and hath denied His proofs and is counted among them who perceived not. They repeat that which the people of the Quran said when Ali came with the truth and they returned to their original seat of denial. By the righteousness of God! I heard from these people that which the ears of creation had not heard. Thus did the Eyes of Grandeur cry behind His most holy and exalted veil.

Say: O people! I believe in the scriptures of God and the tablets of His Cause amongst you, and I was commanded to believe not but in Him and to recite unto you that which the Spirit speaketh in my heart. By God, this is from Myself, rather at the bidding of God, the All-Compelling, the Almighty, the All-Wise. And if this is My crime, then with which proof have ye believed in the prophets of God in the past? Produce it if ye are amongst them who speak the truth. That which befell Me at the hands of these people had not befallen anyone in the whole of creation. To this bear witness the tongues of the worlds.

O Thou the Pen of the Most High! Proclaim Thou unto Nabil the mysteries of God's irrevocable Decree that perchance he may drink of this soft flowing river of immortality that runs on the right side of His Throne, and that he may become cognizant of that which is hidden from the eyes of the heedless. Haply he may pursue steadfastly the path of this Cause which no man hath the strength to withstand except him who fixeth his gaze onto the Most Sublime Vision, and is sanctified from the uncertainties of this ephemeral realm at this time in which all are veiled from beholding the beauty of the All-Merciful but for them whom thy Lord, the Sovereign, the All-Wise, ordaineth.

Say: Nabil-i-Akbar who ascended unto God had hesitated in the Cause of this Youth, hence was not granted admission to visit the city and his breath of life was extinguished by virtue of God's sovereign power as bidden by the Almighty, the Most Powerful. He reached not the shores of God's nearness and acquired no sustenance from the earthly riches he amassed, and returned to dust with great remorse. And yet, none other soul was awakened and those who claimed to believe perceived not and were in manifest error. We disclosed not his doings and concealed them in layers of veil, but now have revealed them unto thee so that thou may be steadfast in the Cause of thy Lord.

In spite of this, God pardoned him and forgave his misdeeds. There is no Lord but Him, His are the kingdoms of Revelation and creation, He ordaineth as He wisheth and doeth as He pleaseth. Thus have We informed thee and recounted unto thee choices from many tales so that thou may find the sweet fragrances of thy Lord from these resistless, all-compelling and mighty words. Know then that we isolated Our Self and departed from amongst Our companions and We remained at home alone relying on God, My Lord and thy Lord and the Lord of the worlds. Ponder then this; perchance God may open thy eyes that thou may perceive that which the eyes of the onlookers have failed to discern. Joy, grandeur and glory rest upon thee and upon every discerning man of insight.

He is God.

A missive requested previously by one of the friends was sent, and a tablet in Persian was revealed for that soul, but it was not sent now, until later as circumstances may require.

BH00853: From Dughabad has been revealed unto the Name…

From Dughabad has been revealed unto the Name of God who was called Muhammad, and who was touched by afflictions in the path of his Lord, and was among those endowed with certitude, from the Pen of God inscribed in the Tablets

In the Name of God, the Luminous, the Most Luminous!

O servant who hast been imprisoned in the path of God, thy Lord and the Lord of the worlds! Hearken unto that which the Tongue of Holiness doth speak in the most exalted Paradise with sacred and sweet melodies.

By God! Whoso entereth beneath the shadow of but one leaf of the leaves of the trees that have been raised up in this Garden which hath appeared in this holy, lofty, inaccessible, most pure, most luminous, most holy and wondrous court, verily around him shall circle the inhabitants of the Supreme Concourse, then the denizens of the realms of eternity, then they that abide upon the Ark of Grandeur, then the sanctified realities and the embodiments of them that are nigh unto God, then the spirits of the Prophets and Messengers.

And thou, ascend thou with the two wings of holiness and soar in this atmosphere wherein no atom moveth but it proclaimeth the Truth, even as the Tree of Eternity proclaimed at the divine Lote-Tree:

> "There is none other God besides Me, the Holy, the Mighty, the All-Praised."

Purify thy sight, O servant! By God, there hath appeared that which hath not appeared in all the worlds, and there hath been uttered the Most Great Word, through one letter of which the suns of past and future generations were raised up, and none hath comprehended it save My All-Knowing, All-Wise Self.

Through it have appeared the words of God and been attracted the hearts of them that have detached themselves from all who are in the heavens and on earth, and drawn nigh unto this Beauty, the Mighty, the Holy, the Luminous. Deprive not thyself of the sanctuary of God, and cut not off thy portion of that which hath been ordained for thee. Therefore, gird up thy loins to exalt His Word, then cry out between the heavens and the earth with the call of them that are enraptured, that thou mayest attract by thy cry the hearts of all created things and turn them to the holy direction, the seat of mighty glory.

However, O thou who believest in God, first recite thou these verses with the melodies of eternity, that thou mayest be attracted within thyself and attract thereby the hearts of them that are endued with understanding. And if thou art not attracted within thyself, thy word will not encompass the servants nor affect the hearts of them that are nigh unto God. Thus have We commanded thee, inspired thee, remembered thee and given thee glad tidings as a bounty from Our presence, and I am the Powerful, the All-Bountiful, the Mighty, the Omnipotent.

By God! These are the words of the Primal Point revealed anew from His tongue in this holy, radiant, most luminous Temple. Strive thou within thyself not to deny that through which thy faith and the faith of them that acknowledged and confessed what was revealed unto Him of the verses of God, the Great, the Firm, the Wondrous, were established. And whoso denieth a single letter of these words hath denied the Primal Point, then His Book, then His proof, then Him Who sent Him with the truth. This is what the tongue of truth hath spoken with knowledge.

Therefore ponder within thyself: can the name of faith be applied to them that have denied these verses? Nay, by My true Self, if thou art of them that know! And shouldst thou find them that have acknowledged the Bayan and all that is therein denying that which is now revealed in truth, beware of them, shun them, and remain safely protected. Neither let thyself be consumed by the fire of their souls, nor sit with them, nor draw nigh unto them, for their likeness is as the likeness of the serpent – should anyone draw nigh unto it, it would instantly bite him. Guard thyself against these and their like. Nay, indeed! Were We to find thee possessed of the power within thyself, We would assuredly enjoin upon thee that thou pass not through their markets, nor enter the city wherein dwelleth any one of them; for by the breath of their own selves is the very air of every exalted land corrupted. Thus doth the Beauty of God counsel thee, out of love for thine own self and for His loved ones, that ye may follow that which ye have been commanded. By God! We enjoin upon you naught but that which is for your own good, if ye be of them that perceive.

Grieve thou not for that which hath befallen thee in the path of thy Lord. By God! Those who are nigh unto Him yearn for tribulations in the paths of God even as the thirsty yearn for the Kawthar of God's mercy, and as the suckling babe yearneth for its mother's breast. Thus have We given thee glad tidings in truth, that thou mayest be of those who rejoice. We verily gave thee glad tidings in the prison and showed thee in thy dream thy release therefrom and thine attainment to the pinnacle of the Cause in those days, if thou hast not forgotten what thou didst see and art of those who remember.

Thus doth God protect whomsoever He willeth through the hosts of the heavens and earth and deliver him from the hands of the idolaters. There is none to protect except Him; He guardeth whom He willeth through His sovereignty. His is the creation and the command, and all things are preserved with Him in tablets of imperishable glory. Beware lest thou forget the favor of thy Lord or deprive thyself of this mercy which hath preceded all created things and which every blind and seeing one who is just may perceive.

Take the love of thy Lord and preserve it in thy heart, and exchange it not for aught else of what hath been or shall be created, that thou mayest profit in thy commerce through the love of God, thy Lord. Otherwise thou shalt be in manifest loss. Arise to serve the Cause, then take this Tablet and enter into the presence of those who have veiled themselves from the Concourse of the Bayan.

Say: O people! I have come to you from the right hand of divine authority with a momentous message which is, in truth, supreme. Then recite unto them the verses of God, the Sovereign, the Revelator, the Mighty, the Wise. And when thou hast recited them unto them say: O people! If ye possess a proof greater than this, bring it forth and be not of those who tarry.

O people! Be fair and deny not this Dayspring which hath shone forth upon the horizons with the lights of God, the Sovereign, the Dawning, the Mighty, the Luminous. By God the Truth! All that ye possess of the signs of God is proof of Him, were ye of those who know. O people! Have mercy upon Him, then upon yourselves. Those who have risen against Him from all religions suffice Him. If ye help Him not, ye will not harm Him. Be not of the oppressors.

Fear God Who created you for His Revelation and took from you His covenant in the atoms of the Bayan, and before that in the atoms of the Furqan, and before that in the atoms of the Gospel, until it reacheth the primal atoms. Thus was the matter, were ye of those who know. And if ye believe not, deny Him not, nor wage war against His person. Fear God, O concourse of believers! Nay, by My life! These will not be content with anything, and will soon rise in discord and emerge from the thicket of hypocrisy with swords of steel.

Thus have We made clear unto thee the matter with manifest proofs and decisive verses, that thou mayest become aware of that which is veiled from the eyes of the world. Preserve thou this Tablet, then read it and take comfort in it, and be of those who remember. Thereby will God resurrect thee on the Day of Resurrection in His presence and protect thee from the earthquake of the Hour. This verily is a great bounty.

Blessed is he who readeth the verses of God and pondereth them and draweth forth from their depths the pearls of a preserving knowledge. And the Spirit be upon thee and upon those who, when the verses of God their Lord are sent down unto them, fall prostrate upon their faces before God, the Omnipotent, the All-Compelling, the Most High, the Most Great, the Most Mighty, the All-Glorious, the All-Subduing, the Almighty, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. And praise be to God, thy Lord and the Lord of all creation.

BH00871: Lawh-i-'Azim

In the Name of God, the Most Unapproachable, the Most Holy, the Most Mighty, the Most Glorious

The evanescent servant hath received thy letter which indicated thy steadfastness in God and thy turning unto Him, and from it I inhaled the fragrance of thy love and caught the sweet savors of thy affection, our Lord, the Mighty, the Bountiful. When I had read and learned of its contents, I brought thy letter before the Most Great Book through which all the books of what was and what shall be were expounded, and I stood before the Throne and presented what thou didst desire of our Lord, the Omnipotent, the All-Bountiful, the Ancient. When my supplications were completed, He commanded me with this conclusive address, His word—exalted and mighty be He:

O My servant! Take up the Pen and write unto Our great servant that which shall quicken every mouldering bone. Verily the breezes of the Most Exalted Pen on this blessed and most glorious Day have been the source of life for all created things, the bestower of existence unto all who dwell in the unseen and the visible realms, and the dispenser of the wine of immortality unto all who are in the heavens and on earth.

O ʿAzim! Hearken in the Persian tongue unto the utterance of thy Lord, the All-Bountiful, that thou mayest attain in manifest clarity unto that which is intended. Concerning what thou didst mention

regarding the commission of deeds that are not pleasing, blessed art thou for having confessed before the Throne, and He hath, through His grace, absolved thee of thy misdeeds. He is verily the All-Forgiving, the All-Bountiful. This year, when the fragrance of thy love wafted by, a Tablet was specifically revealed and sent forth from the Dayspring of divine verses before thy petition and mention. Therefore render thanks and say: Praise be unto Thee, O Thou with Whom lieth the knowledge of all things in a clear Book.

Furthermore, be it known that in this Day whosoever committeth that which causeth souls to be debarred from the sweet-flowing waters of divine knowledge shall be rejected and shall remain rejected. The Cause of God is sanctified above carnal desires and deeds that are not pleasing. All must arise to serve the Cause of God with complete sanctity and detachment, that all people may become aware through the character, deeds, actions and words of these devoted souls, and, awakening from the slumber of heedlessness, may turn toward the sanctuary of oneness. Say: By God! The wine mentioned in the Qur'an is My love, and the Kawthar is My remembrance, and the milk is that which is concealed within My words, and the honey is My sweetest utterance, the mighty, the inaccessible. Say: O people of vain desires! That wine increaseth heedlessness, while this wine bestoweth life everlasting. Which then is more excellent? The latter, by the Lord of the oft-repeated verses and this perspicuous Book! Had the people acted in accordance with Our commandments, assuredly most of the inhabitants of the cities would now be witnessed having attained unto the recognition of the All-Merciful.

In any case, thou must arise to serve the Cause of God with utmost sanctity and strive diligently, to the extent of thy capacity, to promote His Cause with the wisdom revealed in the Books. Blessed art thou for having attained unto this Tablet after what was revealed before. Therefore give thanks and be of those who are grateful.

As for the negligence and laxity shown in serving him who ascended unto God, We have pardoned this. Grieve not therefore, for thy Lord is verily the Omnipotent, the Almighty. He doeth what He willeth through His sovereignty. None can stay His command and none can avert His judgment. He is in truth the All-Compelling, the Omnipotent over all the worlds. However, know thou that this matter was among the gravest of transgressions, for the good-pleasure of parents is mentioned as a weighty matter in the Book of God, especially regarding the one who hath hastened unto the Most Glorious Horizon and attained unto the Supreme Companion. Therefore render thanks that the All-Informed Lord hath forgiven this grievous sin. Give thanks for this and be of those who rejoice.

Concerning the mention of Our Name, the Luminous, upon him be the Glory of God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy, thou hast made mention. We have forgiven thee what thou didst before and after. Avoid that which thou hast been forbidden in the Book of God. This is the command of God, before and after. Blessed are they that act.

And concerning what thou hast submitted about thy claim from the aforementioned souls, forgive them as We have forgiven thee. Verily thy Lord is the All-Forgiving, the Compassionate. It hath been clear and evident to everyone that most of the people of the Bayan were not cognizant of the divine commandments and followed their selfish desires until, through divine grace and infinite bounty, they became somewhat aware of the divine laws in this Most Great Revelation. Henceforth must all appear in

complete sanctity and purity, and not soil the illumined and pure hem of trustworthiness with the dust of treachery.

O ʿAzim! If the servants would observe with pure and penetrating eyes and illumined and sincere hearts the evanescence of things and their transformation and variation, they would assuredly sacrifice their lives and property in the path of God. They would pay no attention whatsoever to the riches of the world, let alone the property of others. Trustworthiness among deeds is as sight in the human temple and as the sun amidst the stars of heaven. The comfort and tranquility of the servants and the glory and wealth of those in the land have depended upon trustworthiness. God willing, all must hold fast unto it and appear among the people with this supreme gift and mighty bounty. Blessed is he who hath attained thereunto, and alas and regret for the treacherous ones!

The basest and most rejected of souls in the sight of God have been and will be the treacherous ones. He who betrayeth shall be betrayed and shall find no blessing even if all the wealth of the world should gather unto him. God will make it the portion of another. Thy Lord knoweth, while those who are heedless know not. Ere long it shall be witnessed that thereafter the servants shall be adorned among the people with the crown of trustworthiness and the ornament of justice. These are the stars of the heaven of detachment, and through them shall the lost ones be guided. Verily thy Lord is the Mighty, the All-Knowing.

That honorable one should not grieve over what is past and perished. God will verily compensate thee in truth. He, verily, is the Bestower, the Munificent, the Generous. All have been commanded to occupy themselves with some affair; therefore that honorable one should engage in some occupation, and blessings shall descend from the heaven of the bounty of thy Lord, the All-Bountiful, the Enriching, the Mighty, the Merciful.

Concerning what thou didst write about not mentioning the treachery of those souls to strangers—this matter was most acceptable. Blessed art thou for having concealed and preserved, for in these days if someone commits a deplorable act and people become aware of it, they attribute it to the Cause itself. That honorable one hath truly preserved the beauty of the Cause. Thy reward is with God Who created thee, fashioned thee, and guided thee to this straight path. Verily, he in whose heart is My love is indeed independent of the worlds, for he possesseth the Most Great Treasure, the Supreme Store, and Absolute Wealth. Thus have We expounded for thee in detail that thou mayest thank thy Lord and be of those who are firm.

Convey to all the friends of God who dwell in that land, one and all, young and old, male and female, from this evanescent servant, infinite greetings and the Most Glorious, Most Holy, Most Exalted, Most Beauteous mention. The Glory be upon you all.

The evanescent servant, the servant

BH00890: Your letter was presented before the face and what…

He is the Most Exalted, the Most High

Your letter was presented before the face and what was written therein was observed. Praise be to God in all conditions, for by His grace He has preserved the devoted servants from the odors of the ungodly and protected the temple of understanding with the armor of spiritual meanings from the arrows of the deniers and the malicious ones. This is among the greatest gifts of the Lord.

Inquiry was made about the established mirrors of this most wondrous and most impregnable Revelation. Today no one is bound by such matters, for the Sun shines forth and radiates by itself, and all must move by the thread of servitude and hold fast to the truth. By Him Who holds my soul in His hand, this station is greater than all stations and is regarded as the most exalted of ranks in the sight of God, for through pure servitude the truth has been and will be established among humanity.

By God, besides Whom there is no other God! Had what was witnessed not been witnessed of the deceit, trickery and corruption of the leaders of the Bayan, and had all been seen united and gathered upon the Cause of the previous Manifestation, nothing would ever have been mentioned except servitude. But God's command is His, both before and after. Today the nearest, most exalted, most detached, most illumined, most God-fearing, most knowledgeable, and purest souls are those from whom nothing is witnessed save pure servitude, as is clear to every person of insight.

If today anyone should act contrary to what has been mentioned, the Cause of God will be wasted among the people, for many enemies from among the Bayan eagerly desire such matters to arise and for souls to arise with claims. By my life! If people were to find and comprehend the sweetness of servitude, they would become detached from all else. Do not consider the Cause of God as vain nor His Manifestation as idle, such that any soul might desire to make claims.

The wondrous Manifestation appeared in the year sixty and gave tidings to the people of this most great Manifestation, as has been explicitly stated throughout the Bayan. And besides Him, whosoever has stood firm in His Cause and followed what was revealed—these are guides unto Him. Thus was the command, if you but knew.

Say: O people! Fear God and waste not His Cause. Gather beneath His shadow and this suffices you above all good, if you but know. There is no greater bounty than this, if you but understand. Beware, then beware, then beware, then beware lest you be veiled by what you possess. Follow God in His commands, then remain steadfast in His remembrance, His praise, and the promotion of His Cause, the Guardian, the Self-Subsisting.

Walk not in the paths of pride and arrogance. Be humble before His countenance, submissive before His beauty, and prostrate before His Self, the Mighty, the Beloved.

Those souls who are known today for their support of this Cause, whose mention has been revealed in the Tablets—respect for these souls is incumbent upon all, so long as they remain firm and steadfast in the love of God and His Cause. This is the word of truth which falsehood does not follow, if you but understand.

If in every day a manifestation were to appear, the Cause of God would never spread throughout the earth, and surely consummate wisdom would be rendered void. Glory be unto Him above this! Beware lest you differ in the Cause of God. Gather upon the law of His love and be not among the dissenters.

In response to that one who associates partners with God—the letter "J"—a servant present before the Face has recorded some divine verses that were revealed regarding this matter. Nevertheless, it is strange that you have asked again. Never pay attention to such matters that cause the Cause of God to be wasted. Let all dwell in repose in one station beneath the shade of the raised heaven which is the Manifestation itself. What is desired today is that all should appear among people with purity, sanctity, humility, submissiveness and pure servitude, so that all people may turn toward God's direction through witnessing the deeds and actions of those assured souls. It is incumbent upon every soul to teach the Cause according to their capacity, but with perfect humility and submissiveness, not through conflict and disputation, for the decree of killing, bloodshed and opposition has been entirely lifted in this Manifestation of the Sun of inner meanings.

We have repeatedly stated this, yet people do not understand. By Him Who holds my soul in His hand, if people had acted according to what they were commanded in this Manifestation, now most of the people of the earth would be seen adorned with the robe of guidance and radiant with the lights of God. But what was destined has come to pass. God willing, henceforth they should move according to God's good-pleasure, not according to their selfish desires. Thus was the command revealed before and now, and God was witness to that.

God is greater than what people imagine! God is greater than what they mention, what they suppose, and what they say! Still no one has comprehended the appearance, encompassing nature, greatness and power of this Manifestation. Therefore they have not arisen to love Him and His Cause as they should. Moreover, they have engaged in corruption and committed what they have committed without God's permission. The harm of everyone's deeds has returned to the Root of the Divine Tree, just as that one who associates partners with God went to the great city and attributed to the Truth all that he, his companion, and the people of the Bayan committed in these numbered years—even though all souls witness and testify that in all days and nights We have been occupied with reforming the affairs of the corrupt ones, and have forbidden all people from everything God detests through decisive proofs, goodly counsels and firm statements, as all servants witnessed and heard during the years of Our sojourn in Iraq.

Nevertheless, what befell Us befell Us. Now the Beauty of Divine Unity sits waiting to see when the ordained trials will descend. May my soul be sacrificed for His soul, my spirit for His spirit, my essence for His essence, and my beauty for His beauty, if you be of those who know!

God willing, may all accept the divine counsels given in loving kindness and gather at the stream of inner meanings. This has been and will be the foundation of victory.

As for what you mentioned regarding your brothers, We beseech God to decree for them what is best for them and to deliver them. With Him is the knowledge of all things in a clear Book, and He has power over all things. The Spirit, glory and splendor be upon you and upon those with you among the loved ones of God, your Lord and the Lord of all worlds. And praise be to God, the Beloved of those who know Him.

BH00899: God beareth witness unto His Own Self by His…

He is the Ever-Abiding, the All-Knowing!

God beareth witness unto His Own Self by His Own Self that verily I am alive in the Most Glorious Horizon. Therefore doth My Self, My Being, and My Essence bear witness even as He hath borne witness unto Himself, and verily He is alive at this moment in this Horizon—He heareth and seeth. And whoso turneth away from that which God hath testified unto, he is of them that have gone astray, have been misguided, have denied His Self, have warred against His signs, and are numbered with those who have joined partners with His Beauty at the time when He came upon the clouds of holiness with the sovereignty of His Most Exalted, His Most High Name.

Say: O people! Deny not the proof whereby ye believed in God's Messengers aforetime and were numbered with them that believed and were guided.

O My Name! Thou knowest what hath befallen Me, for thou wert with Us in Iraq and didst witness My sufferings beyond measure or count. Thou knowest that I fled alone from among these people and migrated unto God, the Lord of the hereafter and of the former times. By God, O My Name! When I raised up the mention of My brother among the people and his cause became renowned, he arose in secret to harm Me, such that none would meet with him but that he would cast hatred of Me into their hearts. And when I became aware of his secret and what was in his heart, I departed from Iraq lest there should arise among the servants that which would compromise the dignity of the Cause. We left them to themselves that perchance the fire of negation and wretchedness might be stilled. I wandered through the lands for two successive years, and none knew of My person save God Who created it and fashioned it. Thou knowest that I sent no word or trace of My pen to My family lest they discover the land wherein I dwelt, while they remained in turmoil, trembling and lamentation. Yet withal they concealed the matter lest there be revealed that which ought to remain hidden.

By God, O My Name! During My first migration there befell Me that which would cause the hearts of all believers to burn at its mention and to fear. How many nights did I spend alone in the wilderness with none to comfort Me as companion, and how many days did I walk on foot. All this I bore, despite My power over those in whose hearts was hatred for this Youth and for Him Who created and established the Throne. When We were made to return, We found that My brother had filled the servants with rancor against Me through his lies and calumnies. We witnessed hearts filled with hatred for this Youth—to this testifieth all who witnessed and saw. I found My brother and those known by this name in profound abasement, such that My brother would leave the city each month in fear for himself, finding no place of rest. When We saw them in such condition, We arose among the servants and associated with the divines of the city morning and evening. I proclaimed the remembrance of God among the people until the Cause became renowned throughout all lands and every heart that God had purified and refined turned toward Him.

Thou knowest how I stood against the enemies with a sovereignty more manifest than the sun in its meridian. Thou wert not in Iraq in the days when nations and governments rose against Me—some saying "Let us seize him and send him to the King of Persia," and others saying "He will surely be taken."

By God, the Truth! I have arisen to the Cause in such wise as to astound the denizens of the Most Exalted, Most Holy, Most Glorious Concourse, until necks were brought low before the sovereignty of thy Lord and every proud and rebellious one submitted, until the decree of departure came and We left the city with supreme power, until We entered this land, this Most Great Prison. When My brother witnessed that My name had become renowned among the servants and that no harm had befallen Me in My manifestation among the people, he regretted his concealment and emerged from behind the veil in ways that cannot be uttered by the tongue. His first act was to secretly decree My death as commanded by self and passion. When the hosts of God's sovereignty descended and protected Me by His sovereignty and prevented him from what he intended, he then arose to calumny and wrote to every soul that his brother intended to kill him. Thou knowest that had I desired such, I would have been capable of it, yet despite My knowledge of his self and what lay in his breast, We protected him from the harm of every harmful one, as they who possess understanding can testify.

By God, O My Name! When I first heard of his affair, it was from Me and none was aware of it save God Who created the heavens and all beneath the earth. By God! He knew not a single letter until We taught him through nights and days that he might aid his Lord. But when the breezes of assurance wafted and the Cause was established, the love of leadership seized him in such wise that, by the True God, all who dwell in the highest heavens are powerless to describe it. I had ever protected him and exalted his mention even in My distress and abasement, but God preserved Me from him by His supreme power. Therefore doth My Pen weep over My state and My heart lamenteth My suffering.

I have been patient and continue to be patient, and complain not of anyone. Unto God do I complain. And thou, arise to the Cause of God, then make mention of Him, then aid Him as thou art able, and He shall protect thee from all who turn away and are averse. Say: O people! Do ye dispute with the Spirit concerning what He hath witnessed and beheld in the Most Glorious Horizon of God's signs, the Most High?

By God, He speaketh not of His own desire, but rather by what the Spirit hath uttered in His most pure and sanctified breast. Say: Every atom testifieth to His supreme sovereignty. Leave behind all that is with the people, then ascend on two holy wings unto the Lote-Tree beyond which there is no passing, that thou mayest witness all created things beneath the furthermost Tree.

Thus do We command thee in this Tablet. Act upon what thou hast been commanded with spirit and fragrance and might and grandeur from God, the Most High. Then remind all those with thee in whom thou findest the radiance of the Most Glorious. Then mention thy family from the tongue of God, then bestow upon thy daughter that which shall gladden thy heart. Thus have We permitted thee in this Tablet, as a mercy from Us unto thee and unto the God-fearing.

Would that thou wert with Us in this land to witness what none hath witnessed save God, from Whom all things have their beginning and unto Whom all shall return. And the Glory be upon thee and upon those who are with thee on God's path in these days wherein the feet of the possessors of knowledge and understanding have slipped.

BH00893: O Joseph! Thou art seen to be deprived…

In the Name of the One True God, the All-Knowing!

O Joseph! Thou art seen to be deprived of the fragrance of the Merciful's garment. Strange it is that Jacob's eyes were illumined by the fragrance of his son's garment, yet the vision of thy recognition, despite the diffusion of the fragrances of the Merciful's raiment throughout all creation, remaineth clouded by the ophthalmia of idle fancies. Art thou dwelling in the valley of hesitation even after the very stones cry out: "Hasten ye to the scene of your Lord, the Chosen One"? This beseemeth thee not, shouldst thou be of them who are endowed with insight.

Beloved is he who rendeth asunder all veils through the name of the Lord of Names and Attributes, and ariseth from the horizon of the heaven of acceptance, turning toward the Kaaba of Beauty. Cast away thy vain imaginings! By Him Who illumined the dawn of utterance through the light of His Name, the Most Merciful, wert thou to ponder on that which We have sent down aforetime unto thee, thou wouldst swoon away, and upon rising, thou wouldst exclaim:

> "I believe in the Dawning-Place of Thy Cause and the Source of Thy Revelation, O God of the worlds!"

Immerse thyself in the oceans of the words of the Most Merciful which flow from the fountainhead of the Pen of Utterance, detached from all else, that perchance thou mayest attain unto its hidden pearls. O Joseph! The Divine Word among human utterances is even as the sun, manifest and resplendent. Deceive not thyself. Consider the revealed Tablets and reflect upon the manifestations of power and the divine conditions that have encompassed the realm of creation, that thou mayest attain unto the Ancient Ocean and the Most Great Name. If thou hast not succeeded in heeding the divine counsels revealed from the Pen of Divine Might in this Revelation, then consider, wholly detached from all else, the Persian Bayan sent down from the heaven of Divine Revelation. By My life! If thou wert to look upon it with the eye of certitude, thou wouldst behold thyself shining forth from the horizon of detachment, hastening unto God, the Lord of Creation.

O Joseph! Awaken at the call of God and say: "Here am I, O Kaaba of the yearning ones!" He saith: "Be not veiled from the Bayan and what hath been revealed therein and its letters from the Dawning-Place of the command of the Most Merciful." Yet thou remainest veiled from the manifest Sovereign by one whom thou hast not seen and of whose cause thou knowest naught. Think not that any benefit or harm returneth unto the Truth from thy acceptance or rejection, or from that of the peoples of the world. By the Truth itself, verily He is independent of all the worlds.

In all times the Ancient Beauty hath been and shall be afflicted in the hands of the oppressors. The arrows of hatred from the direction of the idolaters have at all times rained upon the Manifest Beauty. Nevertheless, purely for the sake of God, He inviteth all else to turn toward the Lord of Power and the Most Great Horizon. If thou shouldst find the sweetness of but one word from among the words of God, thou wouldst forsake the world and all that is therein, and by the power of the Most Great Name soar

above the kingdom of earth and heaven, crying out amongst the servants in the name of thy Lord, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy.

O Joseph! Turn away from the pond and set thy face toward the ocean of My Name, the All-Powerful, each drop whereof proclaimeth: "The Kingdom belongeth unto God, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed!" Turn away from the tree that hath been planted at the gate without right, then turn with thy whole being unto God, the Lord of all worlds. Canst thou find today any refuge or shelter for thyself? Nay, by His very Self, wert thou of them that know! Draw forth the hand of trust from the bosom of detachment, then rend asunder the veils that have held thee back from turning toward the Creator of all things. This is better for thee than all that is in the heavens and earths.

Be not of them who said "God is our Lord," yet when He appeared in truth they disbelieved and turned away until they descended to the lowest of the low. If thou deniest this proof, by what proof wilt thou uphold that which thou believest? And if thou deniest this power, by what power wilt thou hold fast and be of them that turn unto God? Wouldst thou ask the Jews concerning that which the Spirit (Christ) spoke, or the people of the Gospel concerning that which Muhammad, the Apostle of God, brought? This indeed would be a grievous wrong.

If thou art in doubt concerning a matter, ask God, thy Lord and the Lord of all things, to make clear unto thee what thou desirest. He verily is the Unfolder, the Concealer, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. Wert thou to reflect upon this Cause, thou wouldst testify that He is the Originator of the heavens and earth, and that nothing more wondrous than this hath appeared in all creation. To this testify all atoms and beyond them the tongue of God, the True, the Faithful King. Set aside the left and turn unto the right through thy Lord's grace. Say:

> "Aid me, O my God, to recognize Him Who is the Manifestation of Thy Cause, the Dayspring of Thy signs, and the Source of Thy inspiration. O Lord! I am poor and Thou art the All-Possessing, the All-Powerful. O Lord! Deprive me not of the gift that hath shone forth from the horizon of Thy bounty, nor of this cup proffered by the hands of Thy favors. Draw me nigh unto Thee, detached from all else but Thee. I testify that Thou doest what Thou pleasest and ordainest what Thou willest."

O Joseph! Since previously the fragrant breezes of faith were inhaled from thee, therefore this Tablet hath been sent down from the heaven of divine Will, that perchance through the fragrant breeze of the utterance of the All-Merciful thou mayest attain to the kingdom of exposition, and not wander in the wilderness of heedlessness and the valley of bewilderment. Observe thou the consummate wisdom of God, that in that Guidance which was previously revealed and sent forth from the Pen of Command, We concealed two stations, and thou didst enquire about them. Nevertheless, from the Pen of Will there appeared no fitting explanation concerning the mention of those two stations. We concealed them in the divine treasuries of knowledge for these days, that thou mightest become aware of them and ask about the wisdom of their concealment. Yet thou wast so heedless that it never occurred to thee. Ponder thou upon this, that thou mayest comprehend what was decreed aforetime and be assured that with Him is the knowledge of all things in a perspicuous Book.

Although these are not days for questions and answers—it behooveth everyone, when hearing the Call, to turn to the horizon of the Revelation of his Lord, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious, and say:

"Yea, yea! Here am I, here am I, O Beloved of the worlds!"

- yet the purpose is that thou shouldst understand that there was wisdom in the concealment of those two stations, whereof thou wast unaware. We beseech God, should He wish, to assist thee to know Him and draw thee nigh unto a station round which circle the near angels. Praise be to God, the Protecting, the Self-Subsisting.

O Joseph! The Cause is mighty, mighty! Observe how mighty it is when He declareth that the loftiest Tree of affirmation in that Dispensation becometh lower than the most inferior tree of negation. Yet thou hast regarded this mighty Cause as insignificant and hast paid, and continuest to pay, no heed to it. Hearken unto the call of this Wronged One, Who from the horizon of the prison calleth out: Abandon what thou hast heard and return to the direction of the Chosen One.

BH00924: We have returned from Our brother's house and entered…

In the Name of God, the Mighty, the All-Knowing!

We have returned from Our brother's house and entered the dwelling. Then thy letter arrived and was read before Our face in its entirety, and from it We perceived the fragrance of love, faithfulness, and steadfastness in the Cause of thy Lord, the Possessor of all Names. Therefore the Pen of loving-kindness was moved to make mention of unity, that thou mayest be assured that I am with you and you are with Me. We beseech God not to cause separation between Us and you, and to make us the helpers of His Cause in all conditions. Verily, He is the Self-Sufficient, the Most Exalted.

By My life! This is the Day of steadfastness and faithfulness. Blessed is he who hath shone forth from their horizon with power and might. God willing, ye have ever been and will ever remain gazing toward the direction of the Most Great Scene and turning unto the lights of the countenance of the Lord of Power. Praise be to the Beloved of the worlds Who granted success enabling you to arise in His Cause and to drink from the chalice of tribulations in His path. The reward of those who have turned toward the Kaaba of His knowledge hath not been and will never be lost. And if, in association, some displeasure hath arisen for certain ones, it hath never been and is not ever considered, for in frequent association and companionship, sometimes weariness and sadness occur, but this is from the requirements of human nature. How could one look to these things after the atoms themselves bear witness that His mercy hath preceded all things and His grace hath encompassed the worlds?

The True One, exalted be His mention, hath called Himself the Forgiving, the Merciful, the Compassionate, the Generous. How then could He turn away from His loved ones for minor matters or withhold the glance of mercy? O Nabil-i-ʿAli! By My life! He hath ever been, from the Most Exalted Perspective and Most Sublime Station, beholding naught but the good deeds of His loved ones and what hath befallen them in His path, passing over all else. This is what the Supreme Pen hath testified to in most of the Tablets. The Truth hath ever been and is observant of the righteous deeds of creatures, save that soul from whom truly wafteth the odor of turning away, as hath wafted and appeared from that

known person—whereat all things lament. His connection was severed when he openly arose among the people to waste the Cause of God. Thou art aware of his words, deeds, actions and wickedness, and likewise of the kindness, mercy and consideration shown to him over numbered years. Nevertheless, he committed that which beseemed and befitted him, and now he seeketh to mislead some of the loved ones of God and obtain glory for himself.

Thou and the friends of Truth must arise in such wise in divine love and steadfastness in His Cause as to cause the exaltation of God's Word amongst His servants, that the outcast may be assured that they have not followed his vain desires and that loss remaineth for him alone. Verily, He is the Recompenser, the Wise. Observe and give thanks that the Truth hath ever been like unto the sun, manifest and evident, while falsehood hath been clearly revealed as false before it, as all the loved ones of God know that that soul hath never believed in anything nor adhered to any religion nor followed any path. Night and day he spoke to invalidate what the Truth brought forth, and at all times he clung to the vain imaginings of men. Nevertheless, he now claimeth faith while Satan ever accompanieth him. Thus doth God make clear what He willeth.

That which is concealed in the breasts of the fettered ones shall be made manifest. Nevertheless, each day someone is wandering through the marketplaces, having been influenced, spreading words. God willing, you should arise with the utmost joy, gladness, delight and expansiveness to protect God's Cause and His loved ones. You have ever been and continue to be remembered before His presence. You yourself witness that the breezes of loving-kindness have ever wafted upon you from the paradise of the Most Great Mercy, and shall continue to do so. Be not disheartened by the concealment of these days, for it hath come to pass through wisdom and expediency. Strive with the utmost effort to unite hearts and harmonize souls. Soon shall you behold the banners of God's favors and bounties raised upon the hills and valleys.

O Nabil! By Him Who holdeth my soul in His hands! I have desired for My loved ones whatsoever good I have desired for Myself, and I have turned to them only as a lover turneth to his beloved, and I have spoken with them only as a true friend speaketh with his friend. We beseech God to make them stars in the heaven of His steadfastness and stability, and suns in the horizon of His victory and triumph. Verily, He is the Protector of those who love Him, and He is the All-Forgiving, the All-Merciful.

You mentioned the aged musician. Excellent is what you have mentioned, for in this darkness of sorrows, this remembrance brought joy. God willing, you shall tune the spiritual instrument with spiritual fingers in the name of the Luminary of the heaven of inner meanings. We beseech God to aid you and to manifest through you that which shall gladden the hearts of the sincere ones. Convey on behalf of this servant an exalted greeting to all the loved ones, and declare that if at any time something occurred that caused distress to any of the friends, be not saddened by it. Follow the example of the Truth and act as He has acted.

Glorified art Thou, O my God! Thou seest me and Thy loved ones in the hands of Thine enemies, and Thou knowest what hath befallen us in Thy path, and how tribulations have encompassed us for love of Thee and for the promotion of Thy Cause and the exaltation of Thy Word. I beseech Thee, O Lord of eternity and Educator of the nations, to make us of them who have stood firm in Thy Cause, who have

been illumined by the horizon of Thy Will, who have drunk the Salsabil of power from the hands of Thy bounty, and who have appeared through Thy Name and Thy sovereignty in such wise that neither the howling of the enemies hath prevented them from Thy mention and praise, nor the opposition of the wicked from turning to the city of Thy Command and the treasury of Thy names. O Lord! Aid us to remain faithful in Thy days and to manifest that which befitteth Thy greatness and majesty. Thou art He in Whose grasp is the reins of all power. Thou doest what Thou willest and ordainest what Thou pleasest. Verily, Thou art the Mighty, the Unconstrained.

As for what thou hast mentioned regarding the women, they remember thee and glorify thee and beseech God to protect thee from the evil of every evil-doer and deceiver, and to make thee a helper of His religion and one who mentioneth His name among His servants. Verily, He is powerful over all things.

BH00931: O My beloved! Divine grace in its totality hath…

O My beloved! Divine grace in its totality hath been made manifest, and the all-embracing Word hath been made to shine with utmost brilliance. Ancient bounty hath appeared in its most glorious manifestation, and universal munificence hath been revealed in its highest emergence. The greatest sign hath shone forth with most wondrous tokens, and the supreme proof hath become evident through its most mighty testimony. No grace remaineth hidden in the Essence of the Unseen save that which hath been revealed through this exalted Manifestation.

The august Countenance of God had remained concealed for countless ages, cycles, centuries and infinite periods within the pavilion of the beauty and glory of the Unseen, such that all eyes and visions and the pure, hidden, subtle realities of the immortal realms of the Divine Unity were veiled, forbidden and concealed from It. When the resplendent Sun rose from the dawning-place of the fire of Its Own beauty, It consumed with a single revelation all veils and pavilions of the highest horizons through the fire of Its Own sacred Tree, and stunned all the abstract realities of the unseen with a single effulgence from the light of Its holy countenance.

Glory be unto Him, glory be unto Him! What fire is this, that the very essence of the true spirit is prevented from soaring around it, and the pure reality of the Eternal is cut off from ascending into its atmosphere! The Most Great Tree is rent asunder by the call of Its nearness, and the Ancient Essence is thunderstruck by the revelation of Its glory. Resurrections are raised up through Its august arising, and gatherings are prepared through the spreading of Its wondrous Cause. At every moment there issueth from the Most Perspicuous Pen the cry “Verily I am God, the Lord of all worlds,” and the revelation of “Exalted, exalted be God, the Most Manifest of the Manifest” shineth resplendent.

Were I to describe this Manifestation’s praise, A hundred thousand trumpet blasts could not convey;

For in each instant from It a hundred resurrections spring, And in each, the spreading of a Greater Rising doth display.

Were I to attempt describing just one Rising fair, A hundred resurrections would pass, yet still unfinished there.

But how strange, how passing strange! By the utterance of His Holiness the Most Exalted Lord—may the spirit of all creation be His sacrifice—strange upon strange, strange from above strange, strange from the right of strange, strange from the left of strange, and strange beyond all strangeness! Had not His Holiness the Most Exalted Lord pronounced it thus far, I would forever and ever exclaim: How strange, how strange that with this wondrous and transcendent Revelation, not a single soul has yet emerged from the veil of fancy and imitation; and despite all these divine confirmations manifest in the visible world, not one person has attained true certitude.

I swear by the Essence of the Divine Purpose that the sweet-scented breezes of holiness have been cut off from all beings, and the gentle winds of intimacy have been forbidden from all hearts. Exalted spirits have turned to base stations, remaining distant from the most sublime horizon and the Most Glorious Tree. Though twenty years have passed since all were brought forth with a new nature, they have not even imagined the Most Great Ocean of oceans, and have turned away from the Essence of all essences through conjecture and fancy.

They have imagined that all the ascending steps and degrees of this glorious Cycle—around which hundreds of thousands of infinite divine cycles have revolved in the worlds of the unseen and the visible until culminating in this Cycle—are merely the learnings to which these companions have attained. I swear by the Essence of the Purpose and the Educator of the unseen and visible realms that none among those who have attained the heavens of true knowledge and certitude, who stand in the heights of unity and the summit of detachment and abstraction, have understood even this much: what was the fruit of this Cycle and what was the purpose of this Revelation.

Setting aside ascent to the Ultimate Tree and rising to its exalted stations, even those of noble heart have descended to dusty imaginings. How strange, how strange that the people of the Exalted City, who for years have dwelled beneath the shadow of the Supreme Education and have been nurtured by the hand of divine favor, have not yet shown even the measure of one steadfastness in the Cause. Each has clung to a cord and become content with a fancy, remaining utterly deprived of this infinite grace which surges like a billowing sea.

I swear by the truth of the Beloved that the pure holy fragrances have been entirely cut off from that direction. Not a single holy breath can be detected from any of the inhabitants of the earth. I know not in what realm they walk or what path they follow. This much is certain: that despite all the divine counsels bestowed upon each one at every moment, not a single steadfast soul in love can be found—especially in these days which are the time of the supreme trial and the great separation.

Consider with utmost care the sublime Tablet known as the Holy Mariner and its Persian translation, which was revealed in the wilderness of Vashshash seven months before the blessed migration, and was sent because of the hidden events recorded therein. Then the extent of everyone's faithfulness and these loved ones' claims will become clear—at what rank and station they truly stand. Though from what is evident and what can be sensed in the air, even if a hundred thousand such revealed tablets were to be read to these souls, they would never be stirred.

In these wondrous Tablets, newly revealed and sent forth from the Most Holy and Most Glorious Court, observe how during this period all the people of the Bayan, without exception—even unto the most exalted among them—have been heedless of the essence of the Cause. Would that after all this heedlessness shown during this time, they might now become mindful and make amends for the past. Nay! I swear by the Holy and Eternal Being that day by day the veils of existence increase, and the attachment of hearts to this earthly world grows stronger. Glory be to God! This is a strange mystery that not a single soul should in these days attain to the good-pleasure of God, even were that soul to be created from the very essence of all essences. Now that the greatest tumult and the mightiest separation have come to pass, let us see what will appear hereafter. And verily He is the Manifestor of all things and of whatsoever was then hidden.

I make mention of the dwellers of the Sacred Sanctuary and remind them of the Most Glorious Beauty. Each and every inhabitant of the City do I specially mention and remind with the jewels of glorification and the essence of veneration, that they may all, God willing, remain firm and steadfast in the stations of divine love and be gladdened by the glad-tidings of the Spirit from the holy Paradise of grace.

Volume 043: Prior to 1873 1290 A.H., Part I (2 of 4)

BH00936: This is a Book that speaketh the truth, wherein…

He is God, the Mighty, the Beneficent

This is a Book that speaketh the truth, wherein is that which will guide mankind to the shore of divine unity, nourish them with the fruits of knowledge and wisdom, and lead them into the holy and resplendent paradise. Therein is that which will guide men to the court of glory and grace, and sever them from all who dwell in the heavens and the earth.

Say: O people! Hearken unto My words and be not of those who deny the signs of God and turn away. Follow the truth in His days—this is better for you than all who dwell in the kingdom. Say: O people! Answer the call of God's Herald among you and be not heedless of Him, after ye were created for this purpose, as the angels near unto God do testify.

Say: By God! The gates of Paradise have been opened wide, and there hath come the Command of God, the Powerful, the Mighty, the All-Knowing. The Dove hath warbled upon the branches of the Tree of Eternity—thus hath it been ordained by the All-Wise, the All-Informed. The breezes of bounty and grace have wafted, and the gardens of the Cause have been adorned, if ye be of those who perceive. Fear God, and follow not your own desires, neither turn your faces toward the evil ones, for they bid you to transgression and wickedness, while God commandeth righteousness and salvation, if ye be of them that hear.

Say: Have ye not heard what was revealed aforetime unto Muhammad, the Apostle of God, of holy and glorious verses? He said—and His word is the truth—"On the day when thy Lord cometh, or certain of the signs of thy Lord." And these verses were truly revealed, and the heavens and earth were filled thereby.

And have ye not heard “On the day when the heaven shall be cleft asunder by clouds”—these are the clouds whereby the heavens of existence were rent asunder, if ye be of those who understand the signs of God. And it was revealed “On the day when the heaven shall bring a manifest smoke”—this is the smoke that hath blinded your eyes, whereby ye recognized not your Lord and turned away from the Beauty of divine holiness and glory, though ye were promised this in preserved scrolls. This hath been inscribed on the Preserved Tablet, as witnessed by the denizens of the highest Paradise.

Say: O people! Have mercy upon yourselves, then fear the Day wherein ye shall return to a mighty and holy seat, and shall be questioned concerning what ye have wrought in your vain life, and shall be recompensed for your deeds. Thus hath it been inscribed by the Pen of Command upon a clear and glorious Tablet.

And thou, O Breeze of Glory, if thou pass over the land wherein the Name of God is buried, remind thou its people with the cry of this Exile, Who hath severed Himself from all things and hath migrated unto God, the Lord of the worlds. Say: O people of that land! Hearken unto that which the dove of separation warbleth when it taketh flight from the regions of ‘Iraq, through that which the hands of the hypocrites have wrought; and it calleth to your remembrance that which hath escaped you, that haply ye may retrieve somewhat of what hath slipped from your hands, and be numbered among them that turn unto Him.

Then, from Our presence, admonish thou him whose name was renowned among all created things. Say: O servant! Hear thou the call of Him Who calleth thee, and be not of the heedless. Then wipe away from thine heart the signs of limitation, that the tokens of unity may be established therein from thy Lord, the Ancient of Days. Thy days have passed, and thou hast come to the lowest stage of life; wherefore have mercy upon thine own soul, and turn unto the shore of nearness, and be not of them that are patient in heedlessness.

By God! wert thou to become aware of what hath escaped thee, thou wouldst weep and cry aloud at all times, and wouldst flee unto God with thy whole being, and wouldst lament with the lamentation of them that are bereft. This Bird was amongst you for years unnumbered, and yet thou didst not attain His meeting—though His meeting were better for thee than all thou hast wrought in thy days. God is sufficient witness unto what I say. Yet wast thou heedless thereof, and didst busy thyself, in thy days, with words whereof not one letter hath any of the Messengers uttered.

Hearken, then, to My counsel: migrate from your self to God, detach yourself from all that keeps you from knowing Him, and be not of the slumberous ones. Let what your hands have wrought suffice you, and fear God Who created and fashioned you, and be of those who seek forgiveness. You were as one sleeping upon the couch of heedlessness, so deep in slumber that you heard not the cry of the strivers, though that cry had encompassed all who dwell in earth and heaven, and had caused these deniers to swoon away.

How many heads were raised upon spears in the path of God, the Almighty, the All-Powerful! How much blood was shed upon the earth while you remained unmindful thereof and were not among those who remembered! How many bodies were cast upon the dust while you questioned not concerning them, as

though you had never been created to be among the just! You remained seated in your house and aided not your Lord, nor were you among the helpers.

Is one who turns away from God his Lord like unto one who turns toward Him? Glory be to Him, far above what these idolaters imagine! Have you not heard what was revealed aforetime unto Muhammad, the Apostle of God and Seal of the Prophets? “Woe to every sinful impostor who hears the verses of God recited unto him, then continues proudly, as though he heard them not. Announce unto him a painful punishment.” You heard the verses of God, then waxed proud against them, and were not conscious thereof for even a moment.

By God! The eyes of your inner being weep for you, for you turned away from God, the Almighty, the All-Knowing. You answered not God’s Herald, cast His verses behind your back, and were among those submerged in the ocean of heedlessness. Hearken, then, to the words of this servant—this is better for you than the sovereignty of the heavens and earth. Arise from your seat through God’s power, then detach yourself from all else but Him. Fear no one, but put your trust in Him, for unto Him do the affairs of those who trust return. Your days shall pass away and you shall return to dust, and then shall you be in manifest loss.

By God! I desire naught through this epistle save to deliver you from the prison of self and to sanctify you from all that prevents you from entering a seat of sublime glory. Know then that this Dove has offered up Its soul in the path of God. The praise of any praiser adds not to Its worth, nor does the censure of any critic diminish It, for Its whole affair returns to God, the Lord of all worlds. It fears no one, even should all who are in the kingdom combine against It. Say: Verily, It has soared unto God, and unto Him is Its return and resting-place, if you be of those who know. Praise be to God, the Lord of all worlds.

BH00948: Lawh-i-Aqa Siyyid Hasan

Revealed for Siyyid Hasan that he may read it and be numbered among those who remember in the Mother Book.

He is the Most Exalted, the Most High, the Self-Subsisting!

The Call of God hath been raised from the right hand of the Ridvan with a Voice which all things between earth and heaven can hear, proclaiming:

> “I am God, there is no God but Me, the One, the Single, the Unique!”

O peoples of the earth, stop not your ears from hearkening to the Word of God in these days, but turn with pure and sanctified hearts toward the Holy Court. Come ye forth from the city of fancy and imitation, then enter the Ridvan of Divine Unity. This is what ye have been commanded in all the Tablets from God, the All-Knowing, the Single, the Self-Subsisting.

Sanctify yourselves from the veils of desire that ye may hear the Call of God from the Tree raised up at the Gate, that this is the Beauty of Glory and Mystery of the All-Merciful, Who hath appeared in human temple and uttereth what was treasured in the Bayan from the presence of the Mighty, the Trustworthy. Bear witness, O people, that there is no God but Him, and that He is the Chosen One in all that He willeth.

Nothing can prevent Him from that which He hath created between earth and heaven, and He bestoweth mercy upon whomsoever He willeth among His servants without limit or count.

Say: The heaven hath come with the smoke of trial, and the people are covered by the veils of test, and on that day dominion shall be God's alone, in Whose hand is the Kingdom of all things, and Who hath taken neither partner nor offspring.

Say: The essence of knowledge in these days is the knowledge of God and the Manifestation of His Self. Whoso hath attained unto these twain hath attained unto all good, and whoso hath turned away from them shall not be mentioned before God nor be counted. This is of the knowledge that changeth not throughout the eternity of God, while all else changeth according to His Will and His Command. Thus hath the Dove warbled, then trilled:

Beware lest ye be veiled at the time of the Manifestation by anything created between the heavens and earth, and be not of those who are veiled by the veils of limitation and thereby kept from the seat of Divine Unity, and are among those who have deprived themselves of the meeting with God and fled from His mercy.

Then after, O loved ones of God, leave behind all who are in the heavens and earth. Doth not God, Who created all things by His Command, suffice you? There is no God but Him. His is the creation and the command, and in His grasp are the measures of all things, which He sendeth down according to a fixed degree.

Verily those who have denied the signs of God and His proof, and then His grandeur and His sovereignty—these have no station before God, and He shall soon punish them with extended pillars.

O people, preserve yourselves from the touch of Satan and his manifestations, for they have spread throughout the earth and sit in wait on every path and lookout. Hold fast to God's grace and mercy that He may preserve you from the hosts of rejection. There is no preserver but Him. He preserveth whom He willeth by His sovereignty and aideth those who believe with marshalled hosts.

Nothing escapeth His knowledge, and with Him is the knowledge of the heavens and earth, and the knowledge of what was and what will be, in a Book inscribed by the Finger of Destiny. That which is ordained therein neither perisheth nor endeth.

O people! Believe in God and His signs, and when the Sun of Glory dawneth upon you from the horizon of grandeur in the days of your Lord, the Most High, fall prostrate upon your faces before God and be ye among those who have bowed down and prostrated themselves, and know that whatsoever ye have been commanded in the revealed verses of God and His Book concerning the recognition of His Self and obedience to His commandments—this is that which shall profit your souls in the hereafter and in this world. Verily, He is independent of all who are in the heavens and on earth, and sanctified from all that is mentioned and witnessed.

Hath there been created in all possibility aught sweeter than the remembrance of your Lord, the Most High, the Most Exalted? Nay, by the Self of Baha! Therefore, O people, detach yourselves from all things

and find solace in the Most Great Remembrance, and cleave not unto any misbeliever who hath denied God.

Thus have We expounded unto you the truth and detailed the verses, lest ye be of them who have adopted for themselves a cause and clung to it in such wise that were the Spirit to cast upon them that which they possess not, they would arise in opposition and be numbered with them who have denied and turned aside. Say: God teacheth whomsoever He willeth that which shall guard him from the darts of ignorance and draw him nigh unto the wellspring of wisdom and grace, that he may be numbered with them who have known their Lord and then given thanks.

Say: O people, adorn yourselves with the attributes of God, then beautify your beings and your temples with the raiment of knowledge and refinement, and with forgiveness and justice. Be ye united in the Cause of God and His ways, and when anyone is given aught, whether in matters of religion or of the world, be ye content therewith and be not of them who transgress and envy. Verily, envy is a fire that consumeth first the envious one, then those who draw nigh unto him, and there existeth not on earth any fire more intense than this, as would be attested by all who are informed of what hath befallen the Ancient Beauty and have borne witness.

O people, be content with what God hath ordained, then take advantage of the repast of knowledge that hath descended upon you from the clouds of grace, and be not of them who have recognized God's favor and then denied it. By God! There have fallen upon Me from the swords of envy such as none can reckon save God, Who hath numbered all things, and verily He is the All-Knowing, the Truth. He knoweth what occureth to the hearts of His servants and what lieth concealed in the breasts of them who have denied and associated partners with God from all eternity unto all eternity.

O people, purify your hearts from rancor and envy, and your vision from all veils and soreness of eye, that ye may witness the craftsmanship of God Who hath perfected the creation of all things in this Holy, Pure, and Glorious Tablet. Thus hath shone forth from the horizon of exposition the Sun of wisdom and utterance, that ye may know the paths of truth and testify in your hearts and openly that there is none other God but Him, the One, the Single, the Peerless, the Unique, the Self-Subsisting. Spirit, glory and splendor be upon thee and upon them who have taken hold of the Book of God with strength from Him and were among those who have bowed down and prostrated themselves.

BH00947: Glorified art Thou, O my God! Thou beholdest my…

Glorified art Thou, O my God! Thou beholdest my state and hearest my cry, and Thou knowest what Thy servants have wrought against us in Thy dominion—how they have driven us from our homes and native lands after seizing us, plundering our possessions, slaying our loved ones, taking our families captive, violating Thy sanctity in us, increasing in their wickedness and multiplying in their unbelief until they stretched forth their hands against all who believed in Thee and Thy signs. The matter reached such a pass that the cries of the distressed, the lamentations of the sincere, and the wailing of them that are nigh unto Thee ascended to Thee from every city.

Thereafter Thy chosen ones were scattered throughout Thy lands and wandered through Thy realms. Months and years passed thus, until the Sacred City was raised up through the mystery of Thy Most Bountiful Name. Therein was built Thy House, its doors were opened to all in the heavens and earth, and through it Thou didst guide Thy servants until honored servants and righteous men gathered round about it. All occupied themselves with wondrous remembrance of Thee and the promotion of Thy Cause, detaching themselves from all else but Thee, turning unto Thee, shunning all save Thee.

While they were in this most exalted condition and supreme gift, the breezes of Thy decree stirred and the winds of Thy providence were set in motion, until the clouds of trials were raised up and the mists of tribulation poured down novel afflictions and fresh calamities. Thereby were they scattered after having been gathered, their souls were troubled, their hearts effaced, their bodies shaken, their frames agitated, their hearts saddened, their eyes shed tears, their cheeks were bathed in tears, their very beings were consumed, their essence melted away, their pillars crumbled, and their realities were rent asunder.

While they were in this great sorrow and supreme calamity, Thy decisive command came for the departure of Thy Most Great Name from among these peoples and the departure of the Dove from among the loved ones. By Thy might, O my God and my Master! The life of Thy loved ones was thereby transformed and matters became so difficult for them that all power of patience and forbearance was wrested from their hands, and they were brought to such a state that the denizens of the Supreme Paradise and the dwellers of the crimson pavilions in the realms of eternity wept over them, tears flowed from the eyes of the Maids of Heaven in their lofty chambers, and all in earth and heaven grieved in their sorrow.

By Thy might, O my God! The Pen of Creation is powerless to record their state and what befell them in their separation and remoteness from Thee, and utterance fails to describe what they endured in their distance from Thy presence after their yearning to meet Thee, their intimacy with Thy beauty, and their wont to attend the seats of Thy majesty. Alas, alas for what befell them in Thy days and descended upon them in Thy dispensation!

Therefore, O my God, since Thou hast removed them from Thy beauty, remove them not from the sweet-scented breezes of Thy holiness, and since Thou hast deprived them of Thy presence, deprive them not of the stations of Thy revelation and inspiration. I beseech Thee by this Day wherein Thou didst shine upon all contingent things with the lights of Thy Essence and didst transcend all created things through the manifestations of Thy names and attributes—the Day wherein the breezes of Thy grace wafted, the seas of Thy mercy surged, the Dove of Thy love warbled, and the clouds of Thy tender mercy rained down—to clothe their frames in the robe of Thy glorious forgiveness, to provide them with the fruits of Thy bounty and favor, then to inscribe their names among those who fulfilled Thy covenant and responded to all that Thou didst call them to in the morn of Thy Cause.

Accept from them then, O my God, whatsoever they have forsaken in Thy days in the performance of Thy right and the rendering of Thy service. Then raise them up, O my God, unto that station wherein neither the tests that assail them in Thy days, nor the trials that encompass them in Thy presence, shall cause them to waver. Then open their eyes, O my God, that they may know Thee above all else, and purify their

ears, O my Beloved, that they may distinguish Thy holy melodies from all other sounds. Thou, verily, art the Omnipotent over what Thou willest, and Thou art the All-Powerful, the Almighty.

I beseech Thee, O my God, by Thy Most Exalted Name and by this Name which none among all created things hath attained unto the heaven of its knowledge, to make firm our steps in Thy love and Thy Cause. Verily, Thou art the One possessed of great bounty and mighty sovereignty.

Glorified art Thou, O my God and my Beloved! Thou seest what hath befallen me in this journey wherein I have migrated from Thee unto Thee, and what hath transpired in the paths of Thy good-pleasure and the ways that lead to Thy contentment, and how the fire of jealousy and hatred hath been kindled in the hearts of Thy servants, though I desired for them naught save what I desired for myself, and preferred them in all things to mine own self and being. Wherefore, O my God, send down upon them that which may quiet the fire of their souls and hearts, and grant them of the fruits of Thy love from this Garden which Thou hast created for Thine own Self and manifested for Thine own Being, that their breasts and hearts may be illumined thereby and their souls be purified, for they are poor before Thee and possess neither benefit nor harm, neither life nor resurrection for themselves. Verily, Thou art the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

Thou knowest, O my God, that I do not complain of my harm and distress, nor of all that hath befallen me in Thy path, for I swear by Thy might that I yearn for Thy torment and Thy fire because of their relation to Thee, and Thy light for its guidance unto Thee, and in this station these two matters are judged alike due to the manifestation of the signs of Thy glorious oneness and the dawning of the lights of Thy holy uniqueness. Is there, O my God, any ordainer besides Thee that I might complain of him? Is there any illuminator other than Thee that I might rejoice in him? Nay, by Thy might! Rather, all hath appeared from Thee and been originated by Thy command and come to pass by Thy will.

Since this is so, it behooveth not those who have recognized Thy unity among Thy creation and those who are near to Thee among Thy creatures to flee when the winds of Thy decree blow or to be dismayed when the signs of Thy trials appear. Rather, they must witness in all things the signs of the glory of Thy favors and the tokens of the sanctity of Thy bounties. This, verily, is the station of those among Thy servants who know Thee, the seat of those among Thy creation who have attained unto Thee, and the homeland of those among Thy creatures who love Thee.

Glorified art Thou, O my God! I beseech Thee by the lights of the glory of Thy holy Oneness to deprive not Thy servants of this station and withhold them not from this sacred sanctuary. Then grant us the good of this world and the hereafter, and honor us with the presence of Him Whom Thou shalt make manifest on the Day of Judgment. Verily, Thou art the All-Bountiful, the Powerful, the Omnipotent, the Mighty, the Generous.

BH00940: O Ahmad! I swear by the True God…

In the name of God, the Inaccessible, the Most Exalted, the Most Holy, the Most Glorious

O Ahmad! I swear by the True God that His proof has been perfected upon thee and His evidence made complete against thee, wert thou of them that understand. For others have been seized by vain

imaginings from the direction of self and passion, and have not heard a single letter of the Cause, and were of them that fancy on tablets well-preserved. But thou didst attain Our presence and didst witness him who warred against Us after claiming within himself that he was the Mirror of God, the All-Possessing, the Mighty, the All-Knowing. Therefore bring thy presence before God and judge fairly within thyself: Hast thou witnessed from any other what thou hast witnessed from Me? Nay, by My Beauty, the All-Powerful, the Most Exalted, the Most Great! Indeed, wert thou fair, thou wouldst witness all else as non-existent before My holy court, such that none could speak in My presence—to this testify all created things, if thou be of them that deny.

And ponder within thyself: Were the angels of the Cause to bring thee before thy Lord, the Most High, and ask thee:

> "O servant, by what proof didst thou believe in My Self, and by what evidence didst thou turn away from My luminous, radiant Beauty?"

If thou didst believe in Me through what was revealed unto Me of the verses of God, the All-Powerful, the Sovereign, the Most High, the All-Wise—by God, these are My verses, revealed in such wise that were a single note thereof to appear as ordained, all in the heavens and earth would be struck senseless. And thou, O Ahmad—hast thou seen from another what thou hast not seen from Him? Bring thy proof and be not of the patient ones. Then would bewilderment and shame seize thee, such that thou couldst not speak in the presence of God, thy Lord and the Lord of thy forefathers.

By God, O Ahmad, wert thou fair in thyself, thou wouldst find none like unto Me, nor any partner, nor in all that hath appeared from Me, if thou be of the fair-minded. Beware, beware lest thou follow thy passion. Look with the Greatest Vision and say:

> "O people, by God, that which had never appeared in the worlds hath appeared!"

Purify thy heart from the allusions of the people and from all that hath barred thee from thy Lord's path, for today nothing shall profit thee, even shouldst thou cling to all things. Thou wouldst confirm Me wert thou to ponder My Cause and be of them that reflect.

Say: By God, this is the Glory of the Concourse on High, His Light for them in the Kingdom of Eternity, His Word for them in the depths of Names, and His Book for all creation. By God, O Ahmad, the Spirit speaketh not from passion, but speaketh what God hath placed in his pure, crystal heart—that there is no God but He, and that Husayn-ʿAli is His servant, His Glory, His Remembrance and His proof unto all between earth and heaven, if thou be of them that know.

Then know that after thy departure, We left these people and dwelt alone in the house, closing the door, that perchance thereby the fire of hatred might be stilled in the breasts of the deceivers. Thou knowest that I spoke not a word with my brother nor associated with him. When there appeared from him what he desired and God revealed what was hidden in his breast, he arose with mighty calumny and wrote tablets wherein he attributed to My wronged, lonely, estranged Self what he wished within himself.

You know that I was a refuge in my absence from those people, and in my isolation from those who desired to kill me without proof or illuminating Book. You were with Us—did you dispute with him regarding his cause after he was secretly writing in the Tablets that which would set aflame the hearts of those drawn nigh? Apart from this, he arose to shed my blood after We had nurtured him and protected him from the evil of every evil one. And if you deny this, the Tongue of God, the True, the Faithful King bears witness to it. You knew from him what no one else knew, for the people were in doubt and thick veils.

Have you forgotten what was asked of him by one of God's servants named ʿAli [before] Nabil, when he was unable to answer, and God only revealed this to awaken the heedless? Therefore, hear My words and sanctify yourself from all allusions, then reflect on what you witnessed from Me and heard about Me. Then take for yourself a path to God. Speak among the people with pure truth and with what you witnessed and saw, and be not of those who recognize God's favor and then deny it. This is My counsel to you—if you accept it, all good destined for God's righteous servants will return to you. Beware, beware lest you transgress the decree of justice, for through it the servant is raised to a station which none but the just and discerning can reach.

By the True God! I sacrificed My spirit at the time when God made Himself known to Me and caused Me to speak His verses and sent Me with truth to the worlds. There was no hatred in My heart for you nor for any created thing. Rather, I love that you should detach yourself from those who have wronged and return to God, your Lord, with evident humility. We ask God to make you successful in His Cause and to give you to drink from the cup of eternity from the hand of your Lord, the Most High, the Most Exalted, in My Most Glorious Name, that He may purify your heart from the whisperings of Satan and make you sincere for your Lord's sake and sever you from the idolaters.

Know God through God, not through aught else, for all else was created by His Word, if you be of those who know. Beware lest you look upon Me through what is with the people. If you wish to know Me, look with My eye. This is what We have counseled you in all the Tablets, if you be of those who witness. Say: Today, nothing of what exists between the heavens and earth will profit you except that you detach yourselves from what you have and turn towards the direction of God, the Supreme, the Mighty, the All-Knowing. Detach yourself from the world and what is therein, for it will never profit you. What will profit you is what has been ordained in the Kingdom of the Cause by the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

Thus have We counseled and advised you—act according to what you have been commanded and be not of the heedless ones. And if you see your brother, convey to him Our greetings, then remind him of this Great News. And the Spirit and Glory and Eternity be upon you if you board the Ark of Baha which sails upon the crimson sea by God's leave, the Creator of Names, and be of those who are firmly established.

BH00952: Suratu'l-Kifaya

In the Name of God, Who is none other than Him, and He is God and hath been mighty over all things!

O people of Ha! Hearken unto the song of the Crimson Leaf in the atmosphere of the cloud of unknowing, that verily He is Light, the Temple of Glory, Who hath been, from God unto the worlds, a manifest light.

And witness ye the Countenance of Manifestation from the garments of light appearing behind the Qaf on the right side of the Mount, that verily He is the Truth, the Essence of Oneness, the Source of Camphor, Who hath been the Singer. Come ye forth from your dwellings and enter the garden of the heart, the house of light, at the time of heedlessness from the city of jealousy, by God's leave. This is a drop from the oceans of command inscribed in the Tablet of Life around the Fire. If ye desire to meet the Countenance of God, ascend ye to the heaven of the air until ye hear the call of thy Lord, the Almighty, that "There is none other God but Him, the One, the All-Compelling," and He is God Who hath ever encompassed all things.

O people of earth! Hearken to the call of the Leaf of Identity, sprouting from the Tree of Eternity, planted in the soil of eternality, warbling with verses of divine rapture, that verily He is the Truth, there is none other God but Him, and He is God Who hath been independent of all worlds.

O people of the cloud of unknowing! This is the Paradise of Oneness, the Garden of Eternity. Dwell ye therein by leave of God, Who is none other than Him, and He is God Who hath been knowing of all things. Hearken ye to the rapturous melody from the Countenance of Him Who sitteth upon the Throne of Nearness, the Point of Manifestation, the Mystery of Concealment, the Hidden Secret of the Book, that verily He is the Truth, there is none other God but Him, and He is God Who hath been witness unto all things. Thus doth God cause you to turn through the two quiescent letters that ye may know that God hath been powerful over all things.

Search ye in secret for the Temple of the Manifest in your hearts; ye shall find a trust from God that ye may testify that God is indeed the Self-Sufficient, Who hath been the Lord of all the worlds. Enter ye the house of light, the white land, the crimson corner—that abode which is the Hereafter, the mystery of the First, which is indeed the Life recorded in the Mother Book—that ye may find peace therein and be preserved from the veils, the allusions, and the trial of blindness, if ye be knowing of the melody of the Word.

O people of the Concourse! Hearken to the song of the Ant of Eternality [warbling] with verses of Oneness, that He is the Truth, the Point of the cloud of unknowing, the Essence of Identity. Exalted then be God, the True King, Who hath been mighty over all things. This is the call of the Hoopoe of Servitude in the heaven of justice before the Presence of Glory, that He is the Unseen, pure Manifestation, the Mystery of Beauty. Glorified be He! He is God Who hath been witness unto all things.

O people of the cloud of unknowing! Sanctify yourselves from the clouds of allusions, their negation and their rule. That is the decree of justice from the cloud of grace upon the temple of heaven that hath been sent down.

O people of creation! Eat of the fruit borne by the crimson tree planted in the land of accomplishment—the Point of Beginning, the Mystery of the End, the Hidden Secret of Destiny. This indeed is the decisive decree from God in the Mother Book. Come ye forth from your dwellings to attain the presence in the sacred sanctuary, the cloud of intimacy, whose decree in the Tablet of the Heart by leave of God, the Most High, hath been witnessed.

Bear thou witness, O Letter of the Unseen, that the very essence of knowledge is pure manifestation in the Book of God, of which not a single letter can be comprehended by anyone, and this hath been inscribed in the Tablet of Command from God, the Lord of the worlds. With Him is the knowledge of the heavens and the knowledge of the earth. He is God, Who knoweth all things, and is the All-Knowing. He it is Who knoweth whatsoever descendeth from heaven and whatsoever ascendeth from the earth, and whatsoever entereth therein and whatsoever emergeth therefrom, and whatsoever mounteth unto it—all this is encompassed in His knowledge, which is preserved in the Book of Light with God, the Most High.

I testify that the essence of creation is the essence of knowledge in the realm of possibility, but knowledge in the Divine Essence is the Essence Itself—none knoweth how it is save Him, and He is God, the All-Witnessing. He it is Who aideth whomsoever He willeth through the angels of light, through the mystery of that Manifestation which was the Pillar of Praise, the Mystery of Glory in the plane of abstraction, the Cloud of Oneness that was witnessed. With Him is the knowledge of the Tablets and the knowledge of all things in the Book of the Spirit, yet people are unable to perceive even a symbol thereof, and He is God, the All-Knowing. Glorified be He in Whose hand is the Kingdom of verses; He sendeth them down as He willeth by His command, and He is God, the Reckoner of all things.

O people of the earth! If ye desire to know true knowledge, then know ye the Dayspring of Light. Say: Glory be to God! He is God, Who hath ever been sanctified above the knowledge of all who exist from eternity.

O Letter of Bounty! Say: Glory be to God! He is God, Who hath ever been hallowed beyond the description of all who are detached, and He is the Truth, Who hath ever been known through His own Self. Say: Glory be to God! He is God, Whom no thing can know and no soul can comprehend, and He is the Truth, there is no God but Him, and verily His pure creation hath ever been known to all things.

O ye people of the Concourse! Think not evil thoughts about God, nor speak of that which ye know not, even if ye be acquainted with a letter from the Book of the Command. O Manifestation of Bounty! Bear thou witness that the essence of thy bounty hath ever been prostrate before the bounty of God, the Mighty, the One, besides Whom there is no God, and He is God, the All-Witnessing.

Say: Have ye not witnessed what God revealed aforetime unto the First Beloved, the Very Object of Love—that the covenant of God shall never reach the wrongdoers and the proud? He it is before Whom prostrate themselves whosoever is in the heavens and the earth and whatsoever is between them, and He is God, the Preserver of all things. Glorified be He in Whose hand is the Kingdom of the Unseen and the Dominion of the Manifest; He manifesteth whomsoever He willeth by His command, and verily He is the Truth, there is no God but Him, and He is God, independent of all worlds. He it is from Whose knowledge nothing escapeth, whether in the heavens or on the earth or between them, and He is God, Who encompasseth all knowledge.

BH00980: Revealed for he who hath partaken of the wellspring…

Revealed for he who hath partaken of the wellspring of the letter Sad and hath been mentioned by this name amongst the Concourse of eternity in the most glorious horizon.

O thou who art the remnant of Our Most Beautiful Names! Hearken unto that which is revealed unto thee from the Ancient Scene, the seat of thy Lord, the Most High, the Most Great. O thou who art the remnant of what was left of the family of Husayn in the land of Taff! Arise to promote the Cause between the heavens and the earth, then let the herald call out that he may summon the servants in these grievous days to the Manifestation of God, thy Lord and the Lord of all worlds.

Verily, those who today are veiled in heedlessness—these have forgotten the remembrance of their Lord, and their souls have suggested to them a course of action, but thy Lord, the Help in Peril, is independent of them and of all created things.

Say: O people! Fear God and deny not Him through Whom every wise command hath been made manifest, and unto Whom the Cause shall return in the hereafter and the former times—a promise binding upon Us; verily We are they who cause all to return. And whoso is not detached today from all things shall never be able to enter the Kingdom of God, thy Lord. Thus hath the command been sent down from the presence of the Mighty, the All-Knowing.

Say: O people! Follow that which hath been revealed in the Book and be not of the ignorant. Purify yourselves through the remembrance of God and follow not the footsteps of Satan. Say: By God! We have sanctified Our soul from all things and have veiled Our countenance from the gaze of all peoples, and were silent from all remembrances and from every new remembrance, and We witnessed that the people were veiled from the Cause of God, the Sovereign, the Powerful, the Most High, the All-Knowing. And there was none to remind the people and draw them nigh unto Paradise and guide them to the path of God, the Mighty, the All-Praised.

Thereupon We arose to promote the Cause and manifested the Face with clear sovereignty until the Cause reached the East of the earth and its West, and the power of God was made manifest and encompassed all peoples, and the hearts of the troubled were set at rest, and the sun of assurance shone forth from the horizon of might with manifest and glorious lights.

Behold! When the concourse of the Bayan rose up against Me, and denied Me, and rejected Me with whatsoever power they possessed, God was witness thereunto and cognizant thereof. Say: O concourse of the Bayan! Did not God take from you the Covenant in all the Tablets, that should any soul come unto you with the verses of God, the Mighty, the Powerful, ye would not be veiled by aught from that which He hath created, but would hasten unto Him and be of them that make haste? Yet ye have disbelieved in Him and in Him from Whom all verses have been revealed in every age since the generations of old. Ye have clung fast to the verses, yet have denied Him Who revealed them. Woe unto you, O ye heedless ones!

By God, the True One! He Who uttereth today the verses of God in the Bayan—should any soul fail to believe in this Cause, the very verses themselves and their reality shall confound him, and every just and knowing one beareth witness thereunto. And whosoever hath in his house the Tablets of the Bayan, yet remaineth veiled from that which God hath revealed in truth, him do the Tablets themselves belie—nay, all things, were he of them that hear. And they address him in his secret heart, saying:

> "O thou heedless one! By what proof hast thou taken me as thy path unto God, while thou hast left My Revealer behind thee? Remember, then, and be not of the silent ones!"

By God, the True One! Thy likeness is as the likeness of those whose houses were filled with the Books of God and His Scriptures, yet who denied His verses, warred against His very Self, rejected His meeting, and were of them that join partners with God.

Say: O My people! By God, I am naught but a servant who hath believed in God and His verses. Beware lest ye deny Me; then have mercy upon Mine own soul and the souls of the servants, and be not of them that reject.

Did aught avail the people of the Furqan when the Sun of the Name ʿAli shone forth in truth from the horizon of the Will of God, your Lord and the Lord of all the worlds? Nay, by My Beloved! Nothing availed them, nor shall aught ever avail them, and they are indeed in manifest loss.

Say: O people! Turn unto God Who created you and fashioned you and sent down unto you the Tablets of His Cause through His messengers, that they might give you glad tidings of the paradise of His mercy and convey unto you that which would draw you nigh unto a most exalted and holy seat. When the days were fulfilled unto this Day, then did He manifest Me in truth and send Me unto you with all the signs, were ye of those who recognize.

And among the people are those who say that naught hath passed of God's days save a numbered few and certain known years, and therefore it behooveth not that anyone should appear. Thus have they limited God's Cause by their own limitations, even as did those before them, and were among the idolators. They say what the people of the Furqan said when God came in the temple of His name, the Most High, the Most Great. These have left not a letter of what was uttered by the people of the Furqan; nay, We find them more veiled than the peoples of old, as ye would testify were ye among those who ponder the verses of God and what issueth from their mouths.

Such as these have denied all God's bounties and have made His signs into fragments. Thus do We recount unto thee the tale of the idolators, then do We expound unto thee the tale of God, the Protector, the Mighty, the Powerful. Say: O people! Judge fairly within your own selves which of the two parties is nearer unto God and His way. Set forth, O concourse of the Bayanis! And thou, turn aside from those who have openly denied God, even though thine eyes [behold them]. Thus hath the Tongue of the All-Merciful commanded thee when He was encompassed by sorrows from the manifestations of Satan and was in evident grief.

By God, O thou who art assured in God! When the deniers witnessed that the verses had been sent down from the heaven of Command and had encompassed the worlds, they arose to slay Me. When the hosts of victory descended and God preserved Me from their evil, they arose with another plot through what Satan had whispered in their hearts, and thus was the matter, wert thou of them that hear.

They fabricated against Me that which beseemed their own selves and attributed unto Me that which their own souls and hands had committed, that they might cast the fetters of the Youth into the hearts of

the believers. By God, the Truth! Whoso hath drunk from this cup will never turn unto all who are in the heavens and the earth and will be independent of all the worlds.

Thus have We expounded the matter unto thee and bestowed upon thee yet another favor that thou mightest thank God, thy Lord, and be of the thankful ones. And the mercy that hath no beginning and no end be upon thee and upon them that are with thee and upon those who hearken unto thy words concerning God, thy Lord and their Lord and the Lord of all creation.

BH01001: Praise be unto Thee, O Thou Who art…

He is the Most Holy, the Most Mighty, the Most Exalted.

Praise be unto Thee, O Thou Who art the Lord of the world and the Ruler of the nations! I testify that Thou hast from eternity been sanctified above the mention of all created things and exalted beyond the loftiest descriptions of Thy creatures. Whensoever Thy devoted servants sought to ascend unto the station of Thy recognition, the hosts of Thy knowledge barred their way; and whensoever Thy near ones desired to gain admittance to the heaven of Thy nearness, the overpowering majesty of Thine utterance kept them back. We bear witness that the loftiest of the divine names are but servants at Thy door, and that their most glorious manifestations bow down before Thy countenance and are humbled in Thy presence. Thou art, in truth, He Who can neither be described in letters, nor evoked by words, nor even contained within the hidden meanings they conceal. For these are all circumscribed by the inherent limitations of speech which characterize all the utterances of the peoples of the world.

Exalted, immeasurably exalted, art Thou above the mention of every soul and the understanding of every heart! Exalted, immeasurably exalted, art Thou above the description of anyone save Thyself and beyond every conception of Thy creatures! Were Thine own Manifestations to soar upon the wings of the seen and the unseen, yet would they fail to attain unto the first effulgence shining from the horizon of Thy most exalted Countenance and the dawning-place of Thy most sublime Revelation. And were the Exponents of Thy Lordship enabled to ascend for as long as the kingdoms of earth and heaven endure, yet would they be forever powerless to draw nigh unto the Day-Star of Thy beauty.

Blessed be the one who comprehendeth Thine enduring reality and the evanescence of all else but Thee, and who acknowledgeth Thy sovereign authority and the powerlessness of all save Thyself. And as the evanescence of all things is established before the surging ocean of Thy remembrance, O King of all names, it likewise becometh evident that their every mention and description falleth short of Thy might and grandeur and ill beseemeth Thy loftiness and power. And yet in spite of this, O my God, Thou hast, out of the wonders of Thy grace and munificence and as a token of Thy bounty and Thy favour, enjoined upon all to make mention of Thee and to praise Thee, and hast accepted their glorification of Thee out of Thy grace and generosity. Wherefore doth Thine own Self call on Thy Self and Thy very Essence invoke Thine Essence on behalf of Thy lovers who have borne every hardship in Thy path and every adversity out of love for Thee and contentment with Thy good-pleasure, in this blessed day which Thou hast made to be a festival for the inmates of Thy kingdom and for those who have kept the Fast by Thy command and obeyed Thy resistless decree.

Exalted be this blessed and glorious day which Thou hast designated by that beloved Name which is both hidden and manifest, and which, when it shone forth above the horizon of eternity, the Divine Lote-Tree called out, saying: “By God! The Lord of creation hath come, Whom no name can describe.” Whereupon Paradise was set astir and proclaimed with joy and fervour: “O concourse of the world! He hath come, round Whom circle the Daysprings of the All-Merciful, the Manifestations of the All-Praised, and the Dawning-Places of inspiration.” And all things cried aloud: “This is that Tablet with which the kingdom of creation hath been adorned and through which the gate leading unto the Divine Presence hath been flung open unto all who are in heaven and on earth.” Happy the one who hath forsaken every desire and hath drawn nigh unto the One Whose reality no word or utterance can convey.

By God! This is the Day whereon from the murmur of the waters can be heard: “No God is there but Him, the Help in Peril, the Self-Subsisting”, and from the whispering of whose breezes can be heard: “No God is there but Him, the Almighty, the Best-Beloved”, and from the rustling of whose trees can be heard: “No God is there but Him, the Most Powerful, the Ever-Giving, the All-Glorious, the All-Loving”, and beyond them, from the Tongue of Grandeur can be heard: “This is the Day of the appearance of Him Who is manifest yet hidden, Who is visible yet concealed. Hasten unto Him, O ye who are the daysprings of the divine names, and draw nigh unto Him, O ye who dwell in the kingdom of creation, with hearts that have been purified from superstitions and vain imaginings and sanctified from the idle talk of men!”

Immeasurably exalted is the state of Thy loved ones who have clung to the cord of Thy command, held fast to the hem of Thine ordinances, uttered that which hath been permitted unto them in Thy Tablets, transgressed not the bounds ordained in Thy Book, and spoken out in Thy lands with wisdom as decreed in the scrolls of Thy bounty and the epistles of Thy grace. O Lord! Assist them to arise for the triumph of Thy Cause through what Thou hast expounded unto them with Thy most exalted Pen and what Thou hast instructed them in certain of Thy Tablets. O Lord! Leave them not to themselves, but keep them safe through Thy sovereignty and power and assist them through Thy might and bounty.

O Lord! They are Thy servants and bondsmen who have believed in Thee and have drawn nigh unto the heaven of Thy bounty. Suffer them not to be deprived of the tokens of Thy tender mercies in Thy days; neither do thou withhold from them the fragrance of the roses of Thy wisdom. Guide them then, O my God, to the ocean of Thy good-pleasure, that in Thy Name they may immerse themselves therein, and that they may not be saddened by that which their own minds have conceived, nor grieved by all that they have witnessed in Thy path. Verily Thou art the All-Powerful One Whose might every powerful one hath recognized, Whose sovereignty every possessor of majesty hath acknowledged, before the waves of the ocean of Whose knowledge every learned one confesseth his ignorance, and before the evidences of Whose power every soul endued with strength admitteth his helplessness.

Thou art the One, O my God, to Whom every name is abashed to be related, and in Whose presence all things shrink for shame from being mentioned. From eternity Thou hast dwelt in those transcendent heights that are exalted above all mention and description. How great are Thy sovereignty and Thy power and how mighty Thy grandeur!—this, though all things acknowledge that Thou art entirely sanctified from, and immeasurably exalted above, all but Thine own Self. Thou hast subdued the entire world

through a single Word that hath been related to the kingdom of Thine utterance and from which the fragrance of the robe of Thy Command hath been wafted.

O Lord of all being and Educator of all things visible and invisible! Grant us ears that are pure, hearts that are sanctified, and eyes that see, so that we may discover the sweetness of Thine enthralling utterance, may fix our gaze upon Thy supreme horizon, and may come to know whatever hath been sent down through Thy bounty, O Thou Who art the King of Names! Kindle then the fire of Thy love in Thy lands, that the hearts of Thy creatures may be set ablaze thereby, that they may turn towards Thee, may recognize Thy unity and acknowledge Thy oneness. O Lord of all names! Rend asunder before their faces the veils of glory, and make known unto them the excellence of this Day which hath been adorned with Thy Name and illumined with the light of Thy Countenance. Thou, verily, art He Whom the good works of the people can never exalt nor their evil deeds deter, Whom the ascendancy of the rulers cannot humble nor the power of the mighty vanquish. Thou doest through Thy sovereignty whatsoever Thou willest. No God is there but Thee, the All-Powerful, the Most Exalted, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

Send down, then, upon Thy loved ones, O my God, from the heaven of Thy bounty that which will cause them to fix their gaze upon Thee and to act in accordance with Thy will and behest. Ordain for them, then, what will profit them and preserve them, what will draw them nigh and set them free. Verily Thou art their Lord, their Creator, and their Helper. No God is there but Thee, the Ever-Forgiving, the Most Generous.

I beseech Thee, moreover, O my God, to unite the hearts of Thy loved ones and to join them together in harmony and fellowship in Thy Cause, that naught may appear from them that would ill beseem them in Thy days. Thou, verily, art the All-Powerful, the Most Exalted, the Most High, the Most Great. Praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds!

BH01027: Lawh-i-Tabib

This is what hath shone forth from the horizon of utterance: Regarding what ye had mentioned about the upheaval and discord in Iran—this is what We promised in the Tablets.

O physician! Before the sending of Badi', the divine proof was not complete and conclusive for the people of that land, for the ruler had not been fully informed of the details, nor had anyone openly conveyed to him a word of truth. However, after the appearance of Badi', through divine power and the delivery of the divine Word and Book, the proof and evidence became complete and conclusive. When they turned not to the spiritual bounty, they were deprived of outward blessings as well. This tribulation was decreed by God, the Lord of Names. Now one must ponder what caused the drops from the ocean of divine wrath to grant respite to the ruler while seizing the others. With thy Lord is the knowledge of what was and what shall be. He is, verily, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

Had people reflected upon these occurrences and this great calamity, thou wouldst have found all turning toward the shore of divine unity. But that which He willed hath come to pass. He, verily, is the One Who is desired. O physician! Vain imaginings have prevented the people from the Lord of all beings. Observe the People of the Furqan, who through vain and idle fancies were deprived of the King of utterance. Two

matters were established and confirmed among that people, to such extent that they occupied themselves day and night with their mention: one was the mention of the Qa'im, and one the mention of succession. Regarding the Qa'im, thou hast witnessed that what they held was mere fancy. Now leave aside the People of the Furqan and observe certain People of the Bayan who have once again clung to former vain imaginings, even as the evil one of Isfahan mentioned succession to everyone he met, hoping that through reference to former imaginings he might deprive people from the shore of justice—although that evil one himself knew that there was never any mention of succession in the Bayan, and moreover he was not informed about Yahya's cause. Nevertheless, he and his followers, through their whisperings, prevent people from the Countenance of the Chosen One.

This is why people have not yet attained maturity. Were they mature, they would not be prevented from the One mentioned by such mentions, nor would they remain distant from Him through Whose one word a hundred thousand saints are created. Blessed is the soul who rendeth asunder all veils of fancy and with penetrating vision gazeth upon the Dawning-Place of divine oneness.

Although the People of the Bayan witnessed that all they formerly possessed was mere fancy, still they remain veiled from the Lord of creation through the imaginings of the idolaters. Today, if one doth not consider all these stations as non-existent and null, he is not counted as human in God's sight, let alone achieving lofty stations. With the ear of the spirit, hearken to the call of the All-Merciful saying: Verily the wayfarer on the white path and the crimson pillar shall never reach the station of his homeland—that is, the station of meeting his Lord—except by emptying his hands of what is in people's hands, what their tongues speak, and what their hearts imagine. How excellent is he who hath attained unto this most exalted station, this ultimate goal, this highest summit!

The followers of the Bayan have risen up against Me with a cruelty unparalleled in the world. Had they but observed with the eye of equity and turned unto that which God hath desired, the fragrance of the divine Robe would have embraced them all. By Him Who hath caused Me to speak the truth, they are seen to be so bereft of justice and heedless that naught above it can be imagined. I beseech God to assist them to recognize this Manifestation, than Whom the eye of creation hath seen none more wondrous. Say: By God! He is the Originator of the heavens and earth, and He is the Lamp of God unto all the worlds.

As to what thou didst mention concerning the Mim, he hath indeed transgressed. Soon shall he witness his loss for what he hath committed, except he repent and return. He, verily, is the Judge, the Mighty, the All-Knowing. We have withheld the Pen concerning his state, for he hath no opinion of his own but is governed by those around him. Thus hath the matter been decreed in a mighty Tablet. Grieve not over this, for God shall soon render victorious His loved ones and seize those who have wronged. This, verily, is a truth assured.

O Physician! We hear the lamentation of the House. It saith:

> "O Lord! Deliver me from the wrongdoing people. O my God! Send forth one who will take me, free me, and restore me. Thou art, verily, powerful over this, and Thou art the Mighty, the Omnipotent. How long shall I remain in the possession of those who have denied Thee and Thy mighty signs? O Lord! Deliver me from these unbelievers who heard not Thy call nor answered

Thee. Vain imaginings have so seized them that they turned away from Thee and opposed Thee after Thou didst come unto them from the Dayspring of grace with manifest sovereignty."

If someone could be found there who would lease it even temporarily, this would be favored. The matter is in God's hands. He, verily, is the Ruler over whatsoever He willeth. Convey My greetings to My loved ones and give them glad tidings of My remembrance of them. We beseech God to assist them to remain steadfast in His love, for nothing in creation can equal it. Thy Lord, verily, is the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

Convey My greetings to Abdul-Rahim. We beseech God to strengthen him in His love such that he may cast vain imaginings beneath his feet and shatter the idol of idle fancies through the name of his Lord, the Mighty, the Wise, and assist him to serve and obey Him, sanctify him from the whisperings of the corrupters, and make him mindful of Him among His servants. He is the Protector of whosoever turneth unto Him. There is no God but He, the Omnipotent, the All-Powerful. May the glory be upon thee and upon him and upon them from One Mighty and Wise.

BH01052: Thou art the Most Exalted in the Abha horizon

Thou art the Most Exalted in the Abha horizon.

This is a Book wherein is mentioned that which causeth tears to flow from the eyes of them that are nigh unto God. O Pen! Make mention of that which hath befallen the Remembrance of God and His Beauty, that perchance God may thereby raise up one who will regard this Cause with his own eyes and will not be hindered by the clamor of the ungodly, who will ponder this Revelation in the days when He was among the servants, encompassed by the hosts of Satan, who will sanctify himself from all allusions and will consider the proofs of the Prophets and Messengers.

Say: O people! Fear ye God, then be ashamed before Him Who created you and created the heavens and earth, and sent down unto you that which made you independent of all peoples of the past, and made you the evidence of His Self amongst all worlds, and counseled you in all the Tablets not to follow your desires on the Day of Revelation, and not to be veiled by the Primal One of the Bayan nor by what was revealed in My Book. For verily all that appeareth from Me is dependent upon His command and is suspended upon the will of Him Who is with Him. Verily He doeth what He willeth. Not a line remaineth but that He hath counseled you therein concerning this irrevocable and mighty Cause.

Ye recognized Him and believed in Him, as ye claimed, and accepted what was sent down unto you from the heaven of mighty and sublime glory. When those days passed, He appeared with another name and sent down unto you what He had sent down before of the mighty, powerful and wondrous verses of God. Ye witnessed from Him what ye had not witnessed from any other, and none denieth this save every aggressive transgressor. He sacrificed Himself at every moment for the Cause of God, His Lord and the Lord of all worlds. Yet ye believed not in Him and denied after your profession of faith, and were not content with what God had chosen for you. Rather, ye assailed Him each day with fresh attacks and rose up to war against Him after all religions had opposed Him. Ye feared not God Who created you for His

meeting and gave you glad tidings of His Own Self, the Almighty, the All-Compelling, the Mighty, the All-Knowing.

Would that ye had been content with those deeds! Nay, ye increased in your wretchedness until ye purposed to shed this pure and luminous Blood. Say: Away with you! Ye beheld the grace of God and then denied it. Perish, then, ye concourse of the heedless! And when ye found yourselves powerless to accomplish that which ye desired, ye rose up to fabricate calumnies, that ye might cast hatred into the breasts of them who sought the Face at eventide and at morn, and lead them astray from the manifest and straight Path of God. Can the Cause of God be nullified because His servants, the transgressors, speak ill of Him? No, by the Lord of the worlds!

Say: Have ye disbelieved in God, and yet argue with the very proofs whereby the divines of the Furqan contended in those days when the heaven of vain imaginings was rent asunder, and God came down with the lofty heights of His holiness, and the matter was decreed by One Who is Wise, All-Knowing? Then did the divines, one and all, deny Him, and cried out within themselves, and reasoned, saying: "This man hath claimed prophethood for himself," after God had set down in His glorious Book that He had sealed prophethood with Muhammad, the Messenger of God. So did they object with the signs that were in their possession, until at length they slew Him wrongfully. The curse of God be upon the unjust!

Yet ye—though ye possess not the like of those words—while the Text of the Bayan itself hath expressly ordained that He shall come and none can avert Him; yea, it hath announced unto you, and unto all that are in the heavens and on the earth, His Manifestation and His sovereignty; and it hath enjoined upon you that ye do not act as did the people of the Furqan, but be ye of the God-fearing.

It hath moreover declared that He—glorified and exalted be He—cannot be known without Him; and that even should He reveal Himself again in another hour, no one hath the right to object unto Him, for He doeth whatsoever He willeth and ordaineth whatsoever He desireth. Yet, notwithstanding all this, ye have done, O people of the Bayan, that whereat the Spirit of Faithfulness sat upon ashes and wept, and the eyes of the inmates of Paradise wept; then did the dwellers behind the Veil of holiness weep; and even now the Eye of Grandeur weepeth, whilst ye rejoice and are numbered among the rejoicers.

God is My witness, O people! I was asleep on My couch, when lo, the Breeze of God wafting over Me roused Me from My slumber. His quickening Spirit revived Me, and My tongue was unloosed to voice His Call. Accuse Me not of having transgressed against God. Behold Me, not with your eyes but with Mine. Thus admonisheth you He Who is the Gracious, the All-Knowing. Think ye, O people, that I hold within My grasp the control of God's ultimate Will and Purpose? Far be it from Me to advance such claim. To this I testify before God, the Almighty, the Exalted, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. Had the ultimate destiny of God's Faith been in Mine hands, I would have never consented, even though for one moment, to manifest Myself unto you, nor would I have allowed one word to fall from My lips. Of this God Himself is, verily, a witness.

And if my Beloved were to command me to bear stones from the mountains, this would be dearer unto me than to consort with these idolaters. Alone did I withdraw from among the servants, and I journeyed for two years in the wilderness, severed from all that dwell in the kingdom. Then, when the appointed

promise came, He returned me unto the servants once again; and the decree proceeded from Him, not from myself nor from my desire. To this do all the atoms bear witness, would ye but hearken.

Would that men had been informed of the origin of the Cause! By the True One! none became acquainted therewith save myself; yet did We conceal it, and caused the mention of him whom I had reared by my word to be spread abroad, in order to safeguard the Dayspring of the Revelation. And when he beheld his name made renowned, he rose up in warfare against my wronged and peerless self.

And thou, O servant, ponder the Cause of God, for His Cause is too great to be concealed, and His signs too manifest to be veiled by the shrouds of the ungodly. Would that thou wert with Me and knew what hath befallen My soul! But what is decreed hath come to pass. Therefore arise to serve the Cause, then aid God as thou art able, and be not of the patient ones. Forsake the world, then take the cup of eternity and drink therefrom, and be not of them that hesitate. Purify thyself from all allusions, then ascend unto the horizon of God, the Most High, the Most Great. Thus do We command thee out of love for thyself, lest thy feet should slip from the path of God, the Manifest, the Mighty, the Luminous. And glory be upon thee and upon every discerning believer.

BH01049: Blessed art thou, O Samandar of the Fire, inasmuch…

In the name of God, the Most Inaccessible, the Most Holy, the Most Exalted!

Blessed art thou, O Samandar of the Fire, inasmuch as thou hast been enkindled by the fire that hath appeared upon the Temple of the Chosen One in these days wherein veils have enshrouded all who are in the heavens and on earth, save for a number of the letters of Our Most Beautiful Names. By God, the True One! They are, at this hour, among those who dwell in the highest Paradise. Hearken unto that which God hath cast upon thee, and at this moment He casteth upon thee a Book of glorious and noble nature. Verily it is from thy Lord, and it beginneth: In the Name of God, the Most Inaccessible, the Most Exalted, the Most Wondrous, the Most Beauteous.

We have ordained in each letter thereof a paradise wherein thou mayest enter by thy Lord's leave and partake of that which thy Lord, the Mighty, the Merciful, hath ordained of His bounties. And We have caused to flow in each paradise rivers that flow only by virtue of My Name, the All-Flowing, the Mighty, the Inaccessible, the Holy, the Luminous, that thou mayest drink therefrom cup after cup, then goblet after goblet, then bowl after bowl, then pitcher after pitcher, then vessel after vessel, that thou mayest be so transported by thy Lord's choice wine that thy melodies may attract all who are in the heavens and on earth. Thus do We strengthen whom We will, and elevate whom We will, and distinguish with favor from Our presence Our sincere servants.

There hath come before the Throne from thee a letter, then another letter thereafter, and We found them purified from the allusions of them that make allusion, sanctified from the references of them that make reference, and detached from the mention of aught else but Me. Thus it behooveth thee and those who have been raised up by Our Will and a spirit from Our presence—thus were We the Senders. The Hand of Power took thy letter and toward it was directed the gaze of God, thy Lord, as a favor from Him unto thee, that thou mightest be of the thankful. We commanded him who was present before the

Throne to read it, and when he read, there spread from it the fragrance of holiness that wafted from the direction of thy heart. Thus do We teach whom We will and inspire whom We will among Our near-serving servants.

We have heard thy cry in thy longing to meet thy Lord, the Most Merciful, in those days wherein all the peoples of the realms were veiled from His beauty, save those whom the hand of the All-Glorious seized and delivered from the depths of self and passion, and brought nigh unto the shore of a mighty sea. We witnessed the fire of thy love in thy words, as though it were ablaze in every letter of thy letter. Blessed be the loins from which thou didst spring forth and the mother who bore thee! At that moment the Concourse on High take pride in thy noble being. We have indeed raised him up at this hour in the most excellent manner and have accepted from him what escaped him in the former life and have ordained for him an exalted and glorious station. All this is of Our favor unto thee and Our mercy toward thee, for thou hast entered a station which none enter save they whose eyes turn not to what hath been created in the realm of origination and invention, and who turn only to the Manifestation of God, the Mighty, the Sublime, the Great.

Blessed art thou for having attained unto this station and having drunk from the cup of certitude and having detached thyself from all the worlds. Verily, they who have hastened this day to their Lord's grace—these are the most excellent of people and the most distinguished in the sight of thy Lord. By God, the True One! The people of Paradise glory in their presence, and the servants who dwell beyond the pavilions of eternity send their prayers upon them. These are servants whom God hath honored above His creatures and His servants, and made them pure from the defilement of idle fancy, and chosen them for His Own Self, the Supreme, the Mighty, the Glorious, the All-Encompassing. Be thou steadfast, O servant who gazeth upon the Throne, in the Cause, such that all else shall testify that on that Day none amongst them shall be mentioned between the heavens and the earth.

What thou hast mentioned in thy letter was that which We had revealed aforetime in the Best of Stories, which We made a testimony unto all created things. By My life! Thy mention of this verse is better in the sight of thy Lord than the kingdom of the heavens and earth and all that hath been and shall be created. My All-Knowing Self sufficeth as witness to what I say. We have therefore accepted thee in truth, nurtured thee with the hands of grace, and caused thee to drink from the ruby cup of divine dominion the choice wine proffered by this Youth, in Whose praise the denizens of the Kingdom have spoken, saying:

> "By God! This is no mortal. This is none other than a noble angel."

We have arrayed thee with the robes of grace, caused thee to dwell beneath the sacred Lote-Tree, and preserved thee from the mischief of every mischief-maker—they who had believed in My Self aforetime, but when We changed the garment of Names and manifested the Countenance with another name, they denied My Self, the Most Merciful, the Most Compassionate. Thus was their falsehood in the former time made manifest. The curse of God be upon the liars!

Arise to fulfill thy Lord's command, then teach the people with such wisdom as thou art able, for thus have We ordained for every soul, and We are verily powerful to do so. And if thou seest those who turn away from this Beauty, say:

> "O people! Fear God and be fair in your own selves. If ye deny this Beauty Who hath appeared with all signs, by what proof do ye uphold your faith and in your hearts rejoice? Do ye imagine that ye believed in the Bab aforetime? Nay, by My Self! For He hath now appeared with all names and is established upon a mighty and glorious throne, calling you with all signs, yet ye answer Him not. Rather, ye assail Him with the darts of discord and feel no shame before Him Who strengthened you in His Cause, made Himself known to you, and gave you glad tidings of this sacred, mighty, and exalted Manifestation."

Say: "O people! Come, let us take what we have and enter the abode of those who were among the concourse of the Torah and the Gospel. I shall read from God's Tablet, the Almighty, the Glorious, the Powerful, and ye shall read what ye have, and we shall ask them which is greater, that perchance through their confirmation the sun of fairness may shine from your hearts and ye may be numbered with the fair-minded." Thus have We commanded thee, taught thee, inspired thee, imparted to thee, and mentioned thee in the Tablet, that thou mayest rejoice within thyself and be of those who remember and render great thanksgiving.

And the splendor that hath shone forth from the direction of the Throne be upon thee, thy brother, thy sister, and thy kindred who have believed in God and His signs and who are steadfast in a straight and true path.

BH01048: May this evanescent servant be a sacrifice unto…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious!

May this evanescent servant be a sacrifice unto that divine friend! O beloved of my soul and spiritual friend! In the assemblage of the All-Merciful, in the presence of the All-Glorious, in the sacred precincts of the Most Glorious—how we miss your presence, how we miss your presence! Though outwardly that beloved one has become distant from the sacred precincts near the Beloved and from the intimate gathering of the Countenance of the Desired One, in reality you have always been and continue to be present in the most pure presence, and God's gaze from the greatest vista remains fixed upon you. Blessed art thou, blessed art thou!

For months you dwelt in the Seat of Revelation of the Lord of Names and Attributes, circling round the Ancient Beauty, exalted be His glory, and were intimate with the Branches and Twigs of the divine Lote-Tree, magnificent be their station and glorious be their praise. Every night you were blessed with the effulgences of the eternal Sun and heard directly the divine utterances from the Tongue of grandeur and majesty. Were all the tongues of contingent beings and the realities of [existence] to attempt to enumerate but a drop from the oceans of grace that flowed from the Repository, Source and Fountainhead of the Most Great Bounty unto you, they would surely find themselves utterly powerless and wanting. All this is from the grace of our Lord, the Most Exalted, the Mighty, the Inaccessible.

From the right of the Most Great Throne has been revealed, exalted be His glory: "O Hasan! Upon thee be the glory of God, His remembrance and His praise." The Most Ancient Pen declares: The wayfarers have become a barrier between the Sun and Its radiating lights, thus the delivery of divine trusts has been delayed. Grieve not at this, for every matter is dependent upon its appointed time. When its time comes to pass, that which thy Lord, the Possessor of Names and Attributes, hath ordained shall be made manifest. God willing, be in the utmost joy and fragrance and be not saddened by this. The essence of every matter and above every deed has been and shall ever be the love of God. Whosoever attains unto this, it behooveth him to be content with whatsoever God hath decreed for him. Blessed art thou for having attained, heard, seen and known. Be steadfast and be of the thankful ones." Thus endeth what the Tongue of Revelation hath spoken.

Furthermore, convey infinite expressions of devotion and greetings on behalf of this servant to Mulla ʿAbdu'l-Husayn. All his petitions were presented before the Most Holy Throne. We beseech God to assist him in that which He loveth and is pleased with. However, what this evanescent servant deems advisable is that he should turn his face toward the Desired One and attain the presence of the Throne, that is, to accompany you on your return.

Additionally, according to the blessed command, if there be any Huqúqu'lláh available with the aforementioned Haji, fifty […] should be taken and distributed among the loved ones of God and the children of those who were martyred in His path, and the handmaidens who remain without spouse, according to the following details: Baba, upon him be the glory of God […] the sons of Abdu'l-Wahhab Bey who was martyred in the path of God […] the handmaids of God who remain without spouse, the wife of Mirza Khuda-Virdi who left her husband and believed in God […] the wife of Abdu'l-Fattah who was martyred in His path […] the sister of Najaf-Ali Amu who believed in God […] [Mah] Bibi ʿAmmih […] five tumans […]

Furthermore, broadcloth should be purchased and given to Asadu'llah Bey who was a servant of the Cause. They said:

> "O Hasan! Worldly means are not available, otherwise these amounts would not be fitting. That which is worthy and befitting the souls of the believers shall, by My life, before the Truth, remain treasured and preserved, and ere long they shall attain unto it."

End.

A single seal bearing the Greatest Name, may His glory be exalted, which was promised has been sent. However, it is commanded that no one should make a copy of it or reproduce it on paper. This has been forbidden to the believers. After completion, it should be placed in a location and its cover sealed firmly with a seal and sent to the Most Holy Court. God willing, they have been and will be vigilant in all matters [pertaining to the Cause of God] and mindful of [the divine counsels] which they heard without veil or barrier from the tongue of the Lord of Lords, and be ever-mindful of these among His servants. The request and hope of this evanescent servant is that you convey to all the loved ones of God whom you meet in every quarter boundless expressions of devotion and the Most Sublime, Most Mighty, Most Glorious greeting on behalf of this servant.

Furthermore, the Most Great Consort of God and [the Most Great Consort of God], may God sanctify the mention of [their gestures] above the pen, desired to write something special with the pen of loving-kindness and mercy, but an eye ailment prevented Their Honors from expressing what they intended. They instructed this servant to specifically convey Their greetings and glory to your honor. Upon you be the glory and grandeur of God from the dwellers of the pavilion of His might and the domes of His exaltation and the sanctuary of His holiness and the house of His infallibility.

Moreover, if you hear mention of any marriage arrangement regarding the Greater Branch, may his glory and station be exalted, pay no attention to it whatsoever and remain occupied with what you had intended, whether concerning the Most Great Branch or the Greater Branch, exalted be their mention and may the spirit of all worlds be sacrificed for them both. Upon you be the glory of God and the glory of the denizens of all the worlds. Likewise, the blessed Leaf of the divine [Lote-Tree], exalted and mighty be their most glorious glory, conveyed wondrous greetings and mighty, sublime glory. Then upon you be the glory of God from the branches of the Tree of His singleness and the leaves of the Tree of His oneness and the twigs of His majesty and grandeur. The Tablets of Q and T and T and […] have all been sent to your honor to be delivered.

BH01072: Glory be unto Thee, O my God! In this…

In the name of God, the Sanctified, the Mighty, the Beautiful!

Glory be unto Thee, O my God! In this moment I confess and acknowledge my powerlessness to know Thy supreme Self in Thy Most Exalted Name, and my incapacity to comprehend Thy Essence, O Thou in Whose grasp lie the kingdoms of names. For the loftiest hearts of them that are nigh unto Thee, and the highest understanding of them that are devoted to Thy unity, are bound by Thy will, held within Thy grasp, and created by Thy command. How then can the created soar in the atmosphere of nearness to the Essence, or attain unto the Lord of earth and heaven?

Glory be unto Thee! Glory be unto Thee! O my God, I testify in this my station before Thee that the most eloquent have not reached the court of Thy singular glory, and the most learned have not comprehended the wonders of Thy knowledge and understanding. All who are enamoured cry out in the wilderness of separation, yearning for Thy nearness, and all who are longing call forth in the Sinai of longing, seeking reunion with Thee. Some have attained the ultimate of what they sought of the gems of Thy mercy and the essence of Thy bounty, while others have perished in their exile and separation from Thee, never finding the path to Thy nearness and meeting with Thee.

Glory be unto Thee! Glory be unto Thee! Whenever I consider my self and my deeds in Thy kingdom, bewilderment and sorrow seize me to such degree that I become despairing of the sweet fragrances of Thy glorious mercy and deprived of the glances of Thine eye of grace. Yet whenever I turn, O my God, to the wonders of Thy mercy and the gems of Thy bounty, the breezes of assurance waft upon me from the direction of grace and loving-kindness.

Glorified art Thou, O my God, my Beloved, my Lord and my Support! Beseemeth it One like Thee to deprive him who hath placed his whole trust in Thee, who hath detached himself from all in the heavens

and the earth, and who hath taken refuge in the sovereignty of Thy grace? By Thy glory, O my Beloved! Even shouldst Thou give me all that Thou hast created and shalt create, and make me sovereign over all who dwell in the kingdom of Thy Cause and creation, and seat me upon the throne of grandeur and power and the seat of loftiness and independence, yet deny me the sweet fragrances of Thy mercy and the breezes of Thy bounty for less than a moment—by Thy glory, my soul would not be content, my heart would not find peace, and my spirit would find no rest.

Glory be unto Thee! Glory be unto Thee, O my God! Glory be unto Thee! Glory be unto Thee, O my Beloved! How exalted are the stations of Thy sovereign glory, and how abject are the ranks of Thy servant's lowliness in his love for Thee! How resplendent are the manifestations of Thy wealth, and how evident are the expressions of poverty in Thy servant! By Thy beauty, O my God, my abasement and poverty, then my distress and desperation have reached such a state that abasement itself flees from my abasement, and the very essence of adversity takes flight from my adversity.

Hast Thou decreed, O my God, that the glances of Thine eye of mercy shall never again turn to Thy glory? Hast Thou inscribed, O my Beloved, upon the tablet of Thy preservation that Thou wilt not send upon Thy servant the holy winds of Thy grace? Then would weeping itself weep at my weeping, and the secret of fire would burn from my burning. I know not, O my God, in what thing I might find joy in Thy dominion, or by what matter I might find solace in Thy realm, after my shirt has been stained with my blood through what hath befallen me from the swords of hatred and rancor, and my heart has been pierced by the spears of the people of tyranny and wickedness. They have been made happy by Thy irrevocable decree and Thy destined destiny. Yet with all this, O my Most Exalted God and my Most Glorious Beauty, I have nothing wherewith to occupy myself, or find solace in, or trust in, such that I find myself stripped of every praiseworthy attribute and devoid of every acceptable quality.

O my God! Thou hast not given me a pen wherewith I might write the verses of Thy glorious oneness, nor knowledge whereby I might ascend to the sublime heaven of Thy unity, nor wisdom through which I might soar to the holy precincts of Thy singleness, nor certitude by which I might travel through the realms of Thy divine dominion. I have no heart to comprehend the wonders of the signs of Thy sovereignty, no wings to fly in the atmosphere of Thy oneness, no power to enumerate the manifestations of Thy craftsmanship in the horizons of Thy knowledge and the souls of Thy wisdom, no strength to raise the banners of Thy triumph and victory, no eye to witness the radiance of the lights of Thy beauty, no tongue to mention Thee in the paradise of Thy exaltation, no sense of smell to inhale the fragrance of the garment from the Joseph of Thy mercy, no ear to hear the melodies of the dove of Thy rapture and longing, no hand to grasp the scrolls of Thy unity, and no foot to hasten to the shore of the ocean of Thy nearness and reunion.

Therefore, O my God, what wilt Thou do with this poor one who hath confessed all this against himself, and who, despite this utter destitution, hath arisen before the gate of the city of Thy supreme mercy and arrived at the pavilions of Thy mighty grace? Wilt Thou, O my God, turn him away from Thy gate, from which Thou hast never turned away anyone throughout all eternity? Nay, by Thy glory! Thou wilt not disappoint him of the garment of Thy grace, nor wilt Thou deprive him of the sanctuary of Thy reunion and the shelter of Thy mercy, unless he should seek from Thee aught except Thyself—and this can never

be, for Thou wert when naught existed with Thee, and Thou wilt ever be as Thou hast been. There is none other God but Thee, the Mighty, the Beautiful.

Glory be unto Thee, O my God! I beseech Thee by Thy Name through which Thou didst bring the contingent beings into existence and didst manifest all created things, and through which Thou didst rend asunder the veils from the face of all who are in the heavens and on earth, that Thou mayest cause this poor one and these poor ones who have emigrated with him to enter the city of Thy riches within the pavilion of Thy glory and might. Then assist us with the wonders of Thy help, clothe us in the garment of Thy love, and deprive us not, O my God, of what lieth with Thee—and nothing lieth with Thee save Thyself—and my hope is in none save Thee. There is none other God but Thee, the Mighty, the Generous.

BH01071: Lauded be Thy name, O Lord my God! I…

In the name of God, the Most Holy

Lauded be Thy name, O Lord my God! I testify that Thou wast a hidden Treasure wrapped within Thine immemorial Being and an impenetrable Mystery enshrined in Thine own Essence. Wishing to reveal Thyself, Thou didst call into being the Greater and the Lesser Worlds, and didst choose Man above all Thy creatures, and didst make Him a sign of both of these worlds, O Thou Who art our Lord, the Most Compassionate!

Thou didst raise Him up to occupy Thy throne before all the people of Thy creation. Thou didst enable Him to unravel Thy mysteries, and to shine with the lights of Thine inspiration and Thy Revelation, and to manifest Thy names and Thine attributes. Through Him Thou didst adorn the preamble of the book of Thy creation, O Thou Who art the Ruler of the universe Thou hast fashioned!

I bear witness that in His person solidity and fluidity have been joined and combined. Through His immovable constancy in Thy Cause, and His unwavering adherence to whatsoever Thou, in the plentitude of the light of Thy glory, didst unveil to His eyes, throughout the domains of Thy Revelation and creation, the souls of Thy servants were stirred up in their longing for Thy Kingdom, and the dwellers of Thy realms rushed forth to enter into Thy heavenly dominion. Through the restlessness He evinced in Thy path, the feet of all them that are devoted to Thee were steeled and confirmed to manifest Thy Cause amidst Thy creatures, and to demonstrate Thy sovereignty throughout Thy realm.

How great, O my God, is this Thy most excellent handiwork, and how consummate Thy creation, which hath caused every understanding heart and mind to marvel! And when the set time was fulfilled, and what had been preordained came to pass, Thou didst unloose His tongue to praise Thee, and to lay bare Thy mysteries before all Thy creation, O Thou Who art the Possessor of all names, and the Fashioner of earth and heaven! Through Him all created things were made to glorify Thee, and to celebrate Thy praise, and every soul was directed towards the kingdom of Thy revelation and Thy sovereignty.

At one time, Thou didst raise Him up, O my God, and didst attire Him with the ornament of the name of Him Who conversed with Thee (Moses), and didst through Him uncover all that Thy will had decreed and Thine irrevocable purpose ordained. At another time, Thou didst adorn Him with the name of Him Who was Thy Spirit (Jesus), and didst send Him down out of the heaven of Thy will, for the edification of Thy

people, infusing thereby the spirit of life into the hearts of the sincere among Thy servants and the faithful among Thy creatures. Again, Thou didst reveal Him, decked forth by the name of Him Who was Thy Friend (Muhammad), and caused Him to shine brightly above the horizon of Hijaz, as a token of Thy power and an evidence of Thy might. Through Him Thou didst send unto Thy servants what enabled them to scale the heights of Thy unity, and to yearn over the wonders of Thy manifold knowledge and wisdom.

I testify, O Thou Who art the Lord of the whole creation, and the Desire of whosoever hath sought Thee, that, amidst Thy creatures, They resemble the sun which no matter how often it riseth and setteth is still the one and the same sun. Whoso maketh any distinction between any of Them hath truly failed to attain the ultimate purpose, and to reach the highest goal, and hath been deprived of the mysteries of unity and of the lights of sanctity and oneness. I testify, moreover, that Thou hast decreed that none on the face of the earth should equal Them, and none of Thy creatures be able to be compared with any of Them, in order that Thine own singleness and peerlessness might be recognized and established.

Glorified, immeasurably glorified be Thy name, O my God! How can I ever befittingly mention Thee or sufficiently praise Thee, that Thou hast manifested Him by the power of Thy might, and caused Him to shine above the horizon of Thy will, and made Him the Day-Spring of Thy signs, and the Dawning-Place of the revelation of Thy names and Thine attributes? How bewilderingly mysterious, moreover, O my God, is His nature and all that Thou hast infused into Him, through Thy strength and by the power of Thy might! At one time He appeareth as the water which is Life indeed, sent down out of the heaven of Thy grace, and poured forth from the clouds of thy mercy, that Thy creatures may be endued with new life, and live as long as Thine own Kingdom endureth.

Every drop of that water would suffice to quicken the dead, and to set their faces in the direction of Thy favors and Thy gifts, and to rid them of all attachment to aught else except Thee. At another time He revealeth Himself as the Fire which Thou didst kindle in the tree of Thy unity, whose heat melted the hearts of Thine ardent lovers when He Who is the Day-Star of the world shone forth above the horizon of ʿIraq. I testify, O my God, that through Him the veils of human fancy were burnt up, and the hearts of men were set towards the scene of Thy most resplendent glory. I implore Thee, O Thou Who art the Supreme Ordainer, not to suffer me to be deprived of the breezes which are wafted in Thy days, the days whereon the sweet smell of the raiment of Thy mercy hath been shed abroad. Neither do Thou keep me back from Thy most great Ocean, every drop of which crieth out and saith:

> "Great is the blessedness that awaiteth him who hath been awakened from his sleep by the breath of God which, from the source of His mercy, hath blown over all such of His creatures as have set themselves towards Him!"

Thou seest, O my Lord, how Thy servants are held captive by their own selves and desires. Redeem them from their bondage, O my God, by the power of Thy sovereignty and might, that they may turn towards Thee when He Who is the Revealer of Thy names and attributes is manifested unto men.

Cast upon this poor and desolate creature, O my Lord, the glance of Thy wealth, and flood his heart with the beams of Thy knowledge, that he may apprehend the verities of the unseen world, and discover the mysteries of Thy heavenly realm, and perceive the signs and tokens of Thy kingdom, and behold the

manifold revelations of this earthly life all set forth before the face of Him Who is the Revealer of Thine own Self. Direct, then, his eyes, O my God, towards the horizon of Thy loving-kindness, and make steadfast his heart in its attachment to Thee, and unloose his tongue to praise Thee, and make him able to hold fast the cord of Thy love, and to cling to the hem of Thy bounteousness, and to proclaim Thy name amidst Thy creatures, and to recount Thy virtues throughout Thy realm, in such wise that no obstacle will deter him from turning to Thy name, the All-Bountiful, and no veil shut him out from Thee, in Whose hand is the dominion of utterance and the kingdom of all names and attributes!

Hold Thou the hand of this seeker who hath set his face towards Thee, O my Lord, and draw him out of the depths of his vain imaginations, that the light of certainty may shine brightly above the horizon of his heart in the days whereon the sun of the knowledge of Thy creatures hath been darkened through the shining of the Day-Star of Thy glory; the days whereon the moon of the world's wisdom hath been eclipsed through the appearance of Thy hidden knowledge, and the manifestation of Thy well-guarded secret, and the revelation of Thine enshrined mystery; the days whereon the stars of men's doings have fallen through the rising of the orb of Thy unity and the shedding of the radiance of Thy transcendent oneness.

I beg of Thee, O my God, by Thy most exalted Word which Thou hast ordained as the Divine Elixir unto all who are in Thy realm, the Elixir through whose potency the crude metal of human life hath been transmuted into purest gold, O Thou in Whose hands are both the visible and invisible kingdoms, to ordain that my choice be conformed to Thy choice and my wish to Thy wish, that I may be entirely content with that which Thou didst desire, and be wholly satisfied with what Thou didst destine for me by Thy bounteousness and favor. Potent art Thou to do as Thou willest. Thou, in very truth, art the All-Glorious, the All-Wise.

Happy is the man who hath recognized Thee, and discovered the sweetness of Thy fragrance, and set himself towards Thy kingdom, and tasted of the things that have been perfected therein by Thy grace and favor. Great is the blessedness of him who hath acknowledged Thy most excellent majesty, and whom the veils that have shut out the nations from Thee have not hindered from directing his eyes towards Thee, O Thou Who art the King of eternity and the Quickener of every moldering bone! Blessed, also, is he that hath inhaled Thy sweet savors, and been carried away by Thine utterances in Thy days. Blessed, moreover, be the man that hath turned unto Thee, and woe betide him that hath turned his back upon Thee. Praised be Thou, the Lord of the worlds!

BH11700: Glorified be He Who hath sent down the verses…

In the Name of God, the Most Unapproachable, the Most Holy, the Most Exalted, the Most High!

Glorified be He Who hath sent down the verses in truth and made them a proof from Him unto all the worlds, and through them hath caused to descend from the heaven of His command that which draweth men nigh unto the knowledge of His Self, the Help in Peril, the Mighty, the Powerful. And therein hath God testified of Himself by His Self that there is none other God but Him and that He is, in truth, the Mighty, the All-Knowing. He hath created all things out of nothing by His Will, and brought forth all beings out of non-existence by His Word. Blessed, then, be God, the Best of creators!

He hath sent unto them in every age a Messenger to guide them to the court of sublime glory and to draw them nigh unto God and to detach them from all else save Him—a mercy from His presence, for He, verily, is the Most Merciful of the merciful. Among the people were those who believed, and among them were those who turned away and disbelieved, and were among the arrogant ones, until the days culminated in the Day whereon the Sun of Eternity shone forth from the horizon of holy splendor, accompanied by clear proofs, manifest evidences, and consummate wisdom, which all creation proved powerless to comprehend. Most of the servants disbelieved in Him and rose up against Him in opposition until they slew Him unjustly.

The curse of God be upon the wrongdoing people! And by this did the Temples of Names weep in the crimson chambers and the Daysprings of Attributes in the white pavilions, and the hearts of them that are nigh unto God were consumed. Thus did every nation deal with their Messenger, disputing with Him vainly to conceal the beauty of God behind the veils of self and passion. But God destroyed them by His power and made His Cause to triumph through His sovereignty. Verily, there is none other God but Him. His is the creation and the command. He doeth what He willeth and ordaineth what He pleaseth.

And thou, O servant, know that mention of thy name hath been made before Us. When We found in thy heart the love of God and the Manifestation of His Self, We caused to descend from the clouds of grace verses of holy grandeur and sent them unto thee, that thou mightest inhale therefrom the fragrance of Paradise and be of them that are secure. When this reacheth thee, arise from thy place, then place God's tablet and trace upon thy head and say:

O my God, my Lord and my Beloved! I have turned my face toward Thee and held fast to the cord of Thy grace and favor, and clung to the hem of the robe of Thy loving-kindness and bounty. Therefore, O my God, disappoint me not of that which lieth with Thee, then send down upon me that which shall detach me from all else save Thee and remind me of the wonders of Thy remembrance at every morn and eve. O Lord! Deprive me not of the breezes of Thy merciful loving-kindness, nor cause me to despair of the dawning splendors of the lights of Thy grace and favors. O Lord! I am the poor one who hath arrived at the shore of Thy riches, and I am the lowly one who hath been stirred in the atmosphere of Thy glory and power. Take my hand with the hand of Thy power and deliver me from the depths of self and passion, and free me from that which preventeth me from soaring in the atmosphere of Thy nearness and knowledge. Verily, Thou hast power over whatsoever Thou willest, and Thou art, in truth, the All-Forgiving, the Most Bountiful.

Thus have We commanded and taught thee. Act thou according to what thou hast been bidden and be of the thankful. We beseech God to aid thee in His Cause and to establish thee in His love, for verily He is the Protector of them that do good. Know thou that the world and all that is therein shall pass away, and that which shall endure is what hath been ordained for thee in the dominion of God, the Sovereign, the Most High, the Great. Strive then within thyself to attain unto that which hath been ordained for thee by thy Lord, for verily it shall never perish but shall endure as long as thy Lord, thy God, willeth. Then place thy trust in all things in Him, and verily He shall suffice thee above all peoples.

Whoso possesseth the love of God is among the most affluent of men, though he should not have so much as a mustard seed of this world and its ornaments, and whoso is bereft thereof is the poorest of the

poor, though he should possess the treasures of the heavens and the earth. Arise with utmost steadfastness in the Cause, then assist thy Lord, and be not of the patient ones. Verily His assistance is His remembrance amongst His servants and the promotion of His firm, unshakeable, and mighty Cause. Be thou enkindled with this crimson fire of the love of God, which blazeth from the midmost heart of the horizons, that thereby the servants may be set ablaze in their love for their Ancient Master.

Say: O people! Commit not that which is unseemly within yourselves, follow not the footsteps of Satan, speak naught save with pure truthfulness, and do not that which ye have been forbidden in the Book of God, the Sovereign, the Mighty, the Glorious. Strive within yourselves that your stations with God may be elevated day by day, and be not of an evil people, the lost. Say: O people! Answer the call of God that hath been raised amongst you, and cast not His words behind your backs. Fear God and be of the God-fearing. Deprive not yourselves of this bounty which hath shone forth from the horizon of holiness with manifest sovereignty, which commandeth you to righteousness and guidance, and forbiddeth you from that which would remove you far from the good-pleasure of God, your Lord and the Lord of your forefathers.

O people! Purify your hearts that the lights of your Lord's revelation, the Merciful, the Compassionate, may be imprinted thereon. Then purify your tongues that they may move in remembrance of your Creator, for this is better for you than all that hath been created between the heavens and the earth, were ye but to know. Verily, they who have turned away from God in these days, these are they whom their own selves and desires have overcome. Soon shall they return to dust with great sorrow and remorse. They shall find for themselves neither helper nor succourer, nor shall they find any protector to shield them from the punishment of a barren day. And they who have believed in God in these days, these shall God cause to ascend unto the holy place, the seat of mighty glory, and He shall send down upon them at all times from the wonders of His mercy which shall never be exhausted. Thus hath it been inscribed in the Tablets by a holy and luminous Pen. The Spirit, the glory and the splendor be upon thee and upon those who have followed that which hath been sent down unto them from a mighty and wondrous Kingdom.

BH01079: These are the verses of God which have been…

He is the Speaker in the Most Exalted Dominion

These are the verses of God which have been sent down in truth, and verily they are a manifest Book. He hath made them a proof from Him and a remembrance for all the worlds. By them have the measures of the Cause been determined and every wise matter distinguished. He hath made them an enduring testimony for all who are in the heavens and on earth—none shall deny them save every heedless and remote one. Verily they are the living waters whereby the hearts of all created things are quickened. They are the Kawthar of the All-Merciful—whoso drinketh thereof shall never thirst. Blessed are they that drink! By them God distinguished between truth and falsehood, light and darkness in centuries past, and will continue to distinguish thereby unto the end that hath no end. Thus hath the matter been decreed upon tablets of sublime glory.

O servant! Hearken unto that which is revealed unto thee from the direction of thy Lord's throne, the Most High, the Most Great—that there is no God but Him. He created all things for the knowledge of His Own Self, the All-Merciful, the Most Compassionate. He sent to every city a Messenger from His presence to bring them glad tidings of God's good-pleasure and draw them nigh unto the seat of security, the holy and exalted sanctuary. Among the people were those who were guided by God's guidance, attained His presence, and drank from the hands of submission the pure water of life, and were of the assured ones. And among them were those who turned away and denied God's signs, the Almighty, the Powerful, the All-Knowing.

The centuries passed until they culminated in the Lord of Days, the day whereon the Sun of the Bayan shone forth from the horizon of the All-Merciful and the Beauty of the All-Glorious appeared with a mighty name. Then did all arise in opposition. Among them were those who said: "This is naught but a man who hath forged a lie against God, the Ancient of Days." And among them were those who said he was possessed, as did one of the divines declare in My presence—and We are witness to this. And among them were those who said: "He speaketh not from his innate nature, but hath stolen God's words and combined them with his own words." By reason of that which proceeded from their lips, the eyes of Grandeur have wept, whilst they, upon their seats, remained among the rejoicing.

And He said: 'O My people! By God, I have come unto you with the Cause of God, your Lord and the Lord of your fathers of old. O My people! Look not upon that which ye possess, but rather gaze upon that which hath been sent down from God, for this is better for you than all things, if ye be of them that know. O My people! Turn your sight unto that which ye have with you of God's Proof and His testimony, and that which was revealed in that Day, that the truth might be made manifest unto you through clear and perspicuous signs. O My people! Follow not the footsteps of Satan, but follow ye the Faith of the All-Merciful, and be ye of the believers.'

Can aught profit anyone after the appearance of God? Nay, by My Self, the Almighty, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise! The more He counselled them, the more did their hatred increase, until they slew Him through injustice. The curse of God be upon the wrong-doers! And there believed in Him a few of the people, yea, a few of Our servants who render thanks.

And He enjoined these, in all the Tablets—nay, in every beauteous line—that when the Manifestation should appear, they should not cleave unto aught that hath been created between the heavens and the earth. And He said: 'O My people! I have manifested Myself for His sake, and I revealed the Bayan for naught save the establishment of His Cause. Fear ye God, and oppose Him not as the people of the Qur'an opposed Me. And when ye hear mention of Him, hasten ye unto Him and take that which is with Him, for without Him naught shall avail you, though ye lay hold on the proofs of the former and the latter generations."'

When the appointed months and numbered years had elapsed, the heaven of destiny was rent asunder, and the Beauty of the Most High came with the truth upon the clouds of names, clothed in another garment. Thereupon they rose up in hypocrisy against this Light shining from the horizon, broke the Covenant, disbelieved in Him, warred against His person, disputed His verses, denied His evidence, and were numbered among the idolaters until they arose to slay Him. Such was the condition of these

heedless ones. When they found themselves powerless to achieve this, they resorted to craftiness and in every season they bring forth a new plot to destroy thereby the Cause of God. Say: Woe unto you! By God, thereby you destroy yourselves, and verily your Lord, the All-Merciful, is independent of all worlds. Nothing can add to Him nor can any decree diminish Him. If you believe, it is for your own sake, and if you disbelieve, it returns unto you, and His hem is sanctified from the defilement of the idolaters.

O servant who believeth in God! By God, were I to recount to thee what hath befallen Me, souls and minds could not bear it, and God is witness to this. As for thee, guard thyself and follow not these people, and be of those who ponder the Cause of thy Lord. Know thy Lord by His own Self, not by aught else, for naught else will suffice thee in any way, and all things bear witness to this, if thou art of them that hear. Come forth from behind the veil by thy Lord's leave, the Mighty, the Bestower. Then take the chalice of immortality in the name of thy Lord, the Most High, between earth and heaven. Then drink thereof and be not of the patient ones.

By God, at the moment the cup toucheth thy lips, the Concourse on High will exclaim, "Happy art thou, O servant who hath believed in God!", and the denizens of the cities of eternity will cry, "Joy be to thee, O thou who drinketh from the cup of His love!", and the Tongue of Grandeur will proclaim, "Glad tidings to thee, O servant, for thou hast attained unto that which none have attained save those who have detached themselves from all that is in the heavens and the earth and were of them that are detached." Thus have We inspired thee and taught thee that thou mightest rejoice within thyself and follow the command of thy Master, the Ancient of Days. And glory be upon thee and upon those who have believed in God, the Most High, the Most Great.

BH01099: We remind those who drink from the Salsabil…

He is the Most High, the Most Exalted, the Most Supreme!

We remind those who drink from the Salsabil of love and traverse the desert of affection of words that will guide pure hearts to the ocean of oneness, draw assured souls to the eternal paradise, lead the figuratively poor to true wealth, bestow the crown of everlasting glory upon the spiritually abased, and shower divine knowledge and holy wisdom upon all created things, were the people to turn to the wondrous rays of Beauty.

It is clear and evident to every person of insight that the purpose of the creation of beings has been and ever shall be the knowledge of God. It is manifest and certain that this knowledge cannot be perfected through imagination, nor completed through conjecture and words, for in the realm of words all differing sects are partners. As may be observed, all the dwellers of earth, one and all, consider themselves creatures and recipients of sustenance, and deem themselves to be dwelling beneath the shadow of God's names and attributes. Thus in every nation and religion there exist certain names which they consider to be channels of divine grace and means of divine mercy.

In this regard, therefore, all who dwell on earth are alike and similar, differing only in the names they use, just as the tongues of all the earth's inhabitants differ, and likewise the names of their chosen ones and saints differ. In such circumstances, the people of truth must needs have a conclusive proof and an

established evidence and station, that they may be distinguished from all created things and not be content with that to which people cling. For all today walk according to their own desires while attributing these to God, exalted be His mention. All are immersed in error while calling it guidance.

Thus did the Supreme and Most Exalted Sovereign establish for Himself a touchstone and criterion, that it might become known which soul has attained to the knowledge of God and which has remained deprived. The day when this divine touchstone appears is known as the Day of Distinction, for on that day the truthful are distinguished from the false, and the lover from the deceitful. This touchstone is the manifestation of the divine meaning in a new temple and novel attire. Thus, whosoever acknowledges and submits to that absolute meaning in this new and glorious attire is truthful in his cause; otherwise he was and shall remain a worshipper of words and fancies. For the purpose of mention and words has been the knowledge of God, and one who has not recognized the Source in His manifestation—what value or effect could the derivative possibly have?

The acts of God are in themselves proof of His truth, as has been and is observed—what mighty matters and great tribulations have occurred and continue to occur, such that no one had or has the capacity to bear even a drop thereof, yet He alone has borne them all. No testimony has been or is more conclusive than these matters. Furthermore, beyond these stations, the Truth is distinguished from all the world and its peoples by His every movement and stillness, such that any eye that is cleansed of the dust of jealousy will, upon mere encounter and observation, recognize Him, and every heart that is sanctified from the veils will instantly attain unto His knowledge, distinguish truth from aught else save Him, and discern the difference between them.

Today all the mystics who have claimed and still claim to possess mystical knowledge have contented themselves with the knowledge of an imaginary Invisible One, and with a mere word have they satisfied themselves in lieu of the spiritual realms. They have not yet grasped this truth: that every invisible must have a visible manifestation, and every word must possess a meaning. A word bereft of meaning can never yield fruit, and an imaginary invisible can never bestow wealth. Therefore the people of truth who hold fast unto the Truth must recognize the Beloved in His new attire, and hasten with heart and soul to His love, that they may be set ablaze with the fire of His love and return to the Source of His presence, which is the goal of immortal hearts and the dawning-place of the resplendent Sun.

This is the revelation of the Bayan in the heaven of utterance. Therefore, O friends, hearken unto the call of your true Friend, and occupy not yourselves with the things of this world and whatsoever is therein. Deprive not yourselves of attaining the presence of the Beauty of your Beloved, Who desireth for you naught save everlasting dominion and an eternal kingdom. He hath never desired aught for Himself, and hath had no purpose except the manifestation of justice and the attainment of His loved ones to the eternal, holy gathering-places. God sufficeth as a witness, and those who possess the knowledge of the Book.

Now some effort is needed, that the Friend be not seen as a stranger, and the rose be not considered as a thorn. The fragrance of the rose is sufficient witness for it, and the very being of the Friend is adequate proof. I hope, God willing, that a soul from among the people of truth in that land may arise with divine love and gather all the people of that land on the shore of the ocean of oneness, that all the people of

that region may become as one soul, and the coldness of remoteness and separation may be wholly transformed and eliminated by the warmth of nearness and union. All this is from the grace of God, the Most Exalted, the Most High. And peace be upon him who followeth guidance.

BH01126: These are the verses of the Book sent down…

He is the Most Exalted, the Most High!

These are the verses of the Book sent down in truth from God, the Mighty, the Powerful, the Self-Subsisting. It giveth glad tidings to them that believe in the unity of God of His good-pleasure and His presence, and warneth the idolaters of the chastisement of God, the Protector, the Almighty, the All-Compelling.

O concourse of light! Hear ye the call of God from this crimson Tree upraised upon this blessed white spot, that verily there is none other God but Him, and that this is His Manifestation and His sovereignty unto all who are in the heavens and on the earth. None knoweth this save him whom God hath aided in His Cause and made him to be among them that are endued with insight.

O Ali-Naqi! Purify thine ears from all that thou hast heard, that thou mayest hearken unto the melodies of God, the Mighty, the Powerful, the All-Compelling. By My life! If there remaineth in thine ear a single word of all that hath been mentioned in creation, the Word of thy Lord will not enter therein, for it cannot be joined with aught else. None comprehendeth this save Our chosen servants. And should it enter, thou wilt not find its sweetness, nor wilt thou attain unto the treasures of meaning and mysteries that lie concealed therein.

Likewise the heart—if it be not purified from the love of the world and all that is therein, the lights of thy Lord's revelation will never be reflected therein, for they cannot be joined with aught else. None denieth this save every froward denier.

Say: O people! Compare not the words of God with aught else, for they shine forth in the heaven of meaning and utterance even as the sun shineth forth at noontide through the power of My Name, the Mighty, the Effulgent. If after the rising of the sun thou shouldst find any radiance or light in the stars, then after the revelation of God's Word thou wouldst find traces in all else. Nay, by My Self, the Chosen One, if thou be of them that perceive!

Free thyself from the veils of fancy and desire, then turn with thy whole being unto God, thy Lord, the Protector, the All-Forgiving. Blessed art thou, O servant, for having entered the precincts of the Throne and attained the presence of God, thy Lord, at a time when the sun of the beauty of thy Lord was about to shine forth from behind the veils and coverings.

When the promise was fulfilled and the days were accomplished, the Beauty of the Youth appeared more times than can be reckoned. Thereupon every idolatrous unbeliever was thunderstruck. The matter reached such a pass that most of the servants dispersed from around thy Lord, and sovereignty remained with God, the King, the Mighty, the Powerful, the All-Compelling.

Should thou ask them by what reason they believed in Ali [the Bab] before, yet by what cause they turned away from this Manifestation, there would issue from their mouths that which issued from the mouths of them that disbelieved in God on the day He came with the truth upon clouds of light.

Say: O heedless ones! Fie upon you and upon what ye have acquired in your vain life! Soon shall ye find yourselves and your deeds turned to dust. Thus hath the matter been ordained in a Tablet wherefrom escapeth not whatsoever the servants have wrought in secret and in public.

Say: O people! Fear ye God and dispute not with Him Who hath come to you from the Dayspring of the Spirit with sovereignty and power. Deny not God's favor after its revelation, and draw not nigh unto the trees that have grown from the root of hell, whose fruits are naught but association with God on a day wherein most eyes were blinded and backs were broken, save those whose backs God strengthened for the triumph of His Cause and upon whom He sent down tranquility from His presence. Verily, there is no God but Him. His is the creation and the command. He aideth whom He willeth through His command and denieth whomsoever He pleases through His authority, and all things have their measure with Him.

And you, O servant, sever yourself from those who have denied God after being encompassed by the verses from all directions, and who wander in the wilderness of evil to such extent that they have taken their vain imaginings as lord instead of God. Thus do We inform you that you may understand the matter and guard yourself against these evil ones. And if they are asked "Who is your God?" they will surely say "God," yet when God's verses are recited to them or His manifest power is related to them, their faces darken and they turn away. O servant, hold fast to the cord of God and His grace, for He will protect you from their assault and will send down to you that which will make you independent of all else. There is no God but He, the Mighty, the Supreme, the Concealer.

Beware lest you forget God's favor to you when you entered the Garden of Paradise and heard the melody of God, your Lord, and attained to that for which the righteous died in grief. Hold fast to this Tree in such wise that neither the tempests of trials nor the storms of temptation shall move you, and you shall remain steadfast in the Cause of God, your Lord, remembering Him at eventide and dawn.

Say: Those who plot against God's Cause—God shall turn their plots back upon themselves, and the plotting of the idolaters leads only to ruin. Say: O concourse of idolaters, rejoice not within yourselves. Wait until the breezes of chastisement encompass you from all directions and the angels of wrath come upon you from every quarter. Then shall you find no helper or supporter for yourselves, and whenever you cry for help, you shall be helped only with further punishment. Thus has it been ordained by God, the Compeller, the All-Compelling.

O servant, take the tablet of God with power from Him, and be a light and mercy unto His loved ones and a flame of fire unto His enemies. Thus have We commanded you. Act according to what you have been commanded and be not of those who mention God with their tongues while heedless of the Sovereign of remembrance. And glory be upon you and upon every discerning believer.

BH01151: In My Name, the Stranger, the Wronged One

In My Name, the Stranger, the Wronged One

All the days have been honoured, O my God, by the arrival of the days upon which Thou hast conferred the name of Ha, each of which Thou hast made a herald and a messenger announcing unto the people the advent of the days on which Thou didst enjoin Thy creation and Thy people to observe the Fast. Thus may every soul prepare himself to behold these days and appoint a place for them in his heart and purify it by Thy Name, the Lord, for their appearance.

O God of existence, and Sovereign over all that is seen and unseen! I beseech Thee by Thy Most Excellent Names and Thy Most Exalted Attributes, and by the Manifestations of Thy Cause in the Kingdom of Creation and the Daysprings of Thy Revelation in the Realm of Eternity, to rain down upon those who have fasted in Thy love the showers from the clouds of Thy mercy and the effusions from the heaven of Thy grace. O Lord! Withhold not from them the recompense of what they have wrought in Thy love and for Thy pleasure.

I beseech Thee, O Lord of Names, Creator of the heavens, Author of Names, Sovereign of Names, and Raiser and Preserver of the firmament, to open unto the faces of those who have bowed before Thy command the gates of Thy bounty, Thy mercy, and Thy loving-kindness. O Lord! They are the poor, and with Thee are the oceans of wealth; they are the weak, and Thou art the Powerful through Thy might and the Triumphant through Thy sovereignty. O Lord! Thou seest their eyes fixed upon the horizon of Thy bestowals and their hearts turned toward the direction of Thy gifts. Look, O my God, upon the hearts which Thou hast made the thrones of Thy sovereignty and the dawning-places for the manifestation of the lights of Thy love. Sprinkle upon them, O my God, from the ocean of Thy generosity that which shall make them the manifestations of this Name amongst Thy servants.

O Lord! Aid them in that whereby Thy Cause may be exalted in Thy realm. Then make manifest through them that which shall immortalize their names in Thy Kingdom and Thy dominion. O Lord! They are they who have been consumed by the fire of Thy love in Thy lands and have witnessed every hardship in Thy path and have tasted every bitterness, hoping for the honey of bounty from the heaven of Thy generosity. O Lord! They are they who have borne in Thy love what none among Thy servants and creatures have borne. O Lord! The sincere ones are consumed by the fire of separation from Thee—where is the fountain of Thy presence? The near ones have perished in the desert of remoteness from Thee—where then is the sweet water of reunion with Thee?

Hear, O my God, the sighing of Thy lovers, and dost Thou see, O my Beloved, what hath befallen them that long for Thee? By Thy Self! Thou hearest and seest, and Thou art the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing. Thou art He Who, O my God, didst announce unto all my days and my manifestation, and didst make every Book of Thy Books a herald of my Name between earth and heaven, giving glad tidings of the appearance of Thy Most Glorious Beauty. Yet when the world was illumined with the lights of the Most Great Name, each party clung to one of Thy names, and thereby remained heedless of the ocean of Thy knowledge, the sun of Thy wisdom, and the heaven of Thy recognition.

O my God and the God of all things, the Educator of all names! I beseech Thee by Thy Name, the Manifest, the Hidden, and by Thy Beauty, the Shining, the Treasured, to adorn Thy loved ones with the vesture of trustworthiness among all creatures, and deprive them not of this most exalted station and this most holy, most mighty, most glorious attribute. For Thou hast made it a sun in the heaven of Thy

decree and an ornament in the book of Thy laws, and through it is manifested the sanctification of Thy Essence from all surmises and imaginings, and the exaltation of Thy Self above whatsoever hath occurred to the hearts of men. O Lord! Send down upon Thy loved ones from the heaven of Thy grace that which shall purify them from the mention of any one except Thee. Then grant them the chalice of steadfastness from the hands of Thy bounty and generosity, lest intimations debar them from the direction of Thy manifestation.

O Lord! Through Thy name, the All-Bountiful, hath shone forth the luminary of my hope, and through Thy name, the Most Generous, hath been raised the hand of my supplication. By Thy glory, O Beloved of my heart and Goal of my desire! I acknowledge at this moment Thy generosity, even shouldst Thou deny me all that is in Thy earth and Thy heaven. My limbs and members, my blood and flesh, my skin and hair all testify to Thy bounty and favor, even shouldst Thou banish me from Thy realms and lands and render me in need of the meanest thing in Thy kingdom. By Thy might, O Fire of the world and Light of the nations! My tongue and heart cry out and confess Thy pardon and forgiveness, even shouldst Thou torment me throughout the duration of Thy sovereignty. How can one who acknowledgeth not this confess that Thou art the Praised One in Thy deeds and the Obeyed One in Thy command?

O Lord! Thou seest how the fire of Thy love hath encompassed me and taken full possession of my heart and my being. O Lord! Have mercy on him who hath clung to the cord of Thy bounty and held fast to the hem of Thy generosity, who hath found solace in Thy remembrance and circled round Thy will, who hath fasted in Thy love and broken his fast at Thy bidding, and who hath fled from his own self, taking refuge in the stronghold of Thy protection.

O my God, my Lord and my Support! Illumine the hearts of Thy servants with the light of Thy knowledge, aid them to act in accordance with Thy good-pleasure, and acquaint them, O my God, with the reward of their deeds which Thou hast ordained in Thy kingdom and dominion and in the worlds which none knoweth save Thyself and which none can reckon except Thy knowledge.

O Lord! I am he who standeth before Thy gate and gazeth toward Thy most exalted horizon, hoping for Thy grace for Thy loved ones and anticipating Thy favors for Thy chosen ones. Ordain, O my God, for each of Thy servants that which shall make him well-pleased with Thee, turning unto Thee, steadfast in Thy Cause, drinking the choice wine of revelation from the hand of Thy bounty, and soaring in the atmosphere of Thy love and affection in such wise that he shall see all else as non-existent at the dawning of the Sun of Thy Revelation and as null before the manifestations of the lights of Thy countenance.

O Lord! Write down for Thy loved ones, with Thy Most Exalted Pen which no obliteration can touch, the good of the hereafter and of this world. Verily, Thou art the Possessor of the Throne and the dust, the All-Manifest One Who gazeth from Thy most glorious horizon. There is none other God but Thee, the Single, the One, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

BH01180: Praise be to God Who caused the Sun…

He is the All-Conquering, the Mighty, the Omnipotent, the All-Powerful, the Self-Subsisting

Praise be to God Who caused the Sun of Baha to dawn from the Horizon of Eternity, by which were illumined the denizens of the highest Paradise who circle round the Throne. Verily there is none other God but Him. He giveth life and causeth death, then causeth death and giveth life, and all are recorded with Him in a preserving tablet.

O Mir-Qabl-Muhammad! Hearken unto that which the Nightingale of Separation warbleth unto thee at this hour when leg was wrapped around leg, when every covenant was broken save the Covenant of God thy Lord, the Creator, and when every book and page was rendered void save the Tablets of thy Lord, the All-Bountiful. O Mir! Detach thyself from the world and all that is therein, all that lieth between, and all that is upon it. Follow not the steps of the idolaters, but put thy trust in God thy Lord and be of them that are steadfast in the Faith of this Youth, the Divine, the Iraqi, the Manifest One. Through Him have all religions been established since the time when Adam was created from water and clay, and shall continue to be established unto the end that hath no end.

O Mir! Purify the mirror of thine heart from every defilement, that thou mayest discern therein the shadow of this wronged and captive One, fallen beneath the swords of hatred through that which the hands of these idolaters have wrought—these who say with their tongues: "By God! we believed in 'Ali before Nabil." Yet when He came invested with a sovereignty from the Cause, they denied Him and rejected Him, until they pronounced judgment for His slaying, even as the peoples aforetime pronounced judgment against the Prophets and the Messengers. Their own inmost tongue beareth witness to this: that they are they who lie at every hour of every day.

Say: O people! Is he who fixeth his gaze toward the direction of God like unto him that worshippeth idols, or unto him that followeth the idolaters? By God, O Mir! when thou speakest of them, their faces grow dark, and they twist their tongues within their mouths, nor shall they be able to answer thee. This, verily, is the word of truth, wouldst thou but hearken.

O Mir! canst thou rejoice within thy soul after the gladness of Baha hath been changed into a great sorrow? Canst thou exult in thy spirit after the glad tidings of God have vanished and manifest grief hath come? Canst thou drink water when the Beauty of Baha was athirst in the wilderness? God is witness unto what I say.

Say, O Mir: by God, he whose name hath been noised abroad throughout the lands rose up for His slaying, and would deny Him at every moment and in every time, until the matter reached this station wherein thou dost behold and witness what hath befallen this wronged and captive One, Who in the Kingdom of eternity hath been named Baha. This is that which hath descended from the Pen of a sanctified and radiant One. And thou, O Mir—aid Him with the power of God, that thou mayest be numbered among the helpers of the Beauty of Eternity.

Dost thou, O Mir, dwell at ease in houses after Husayn hath fallen beneath the swords of the people of outward devotion? Dost thou sleep upon a couch while the Light of the horizons stood before these profligates? Yet, in the Cause of God, he will not slumber—neither in the beginning that hath no beginning, nor in the end that hath no end. Thus do I tell thee in truth, that thou mayest be informed of that which hath befallen this trustworthy, resplendent Beauty at the hands of these wicked oppressors.

O Mir! Purify thine eye from the bounds of mortal men, and follow not the footsteps of guile and treachery. Then look upon this Most Great Scene, that thou mayest become aware of that which lieth hidden in the treasuries of manifest holiness. Then recite this prayer:

Glory be unto Thee, O my God! I beseech Thee by the lights of Thy Beauty, by the splendours of the Sun of Thy bounty and Thy gifts, to cut me off from all that Thou hast created in the heavens and on the earth, and to make me wholly devoted to Thy luminous, most luminous Countenance, and sincere in Thy exalted, most exalted religion—O Thou Who wast sanctified above all that can be known or spoken, and above all that tongues can testify.

I beseech Thee further, O my God, by the clouds of Thy generosity and Thy munificence, and by the showers of Thy loving-kindness and Thy mercy, to rain upon the soil of my heart the downpours of the glory of Thy tenderness, that there may spring therefrom the plants of Thy knowledge and Thy wisdom, and that Thou mayest make me steadfastly reliant upon the dawning of Thy most glorious Beauty.

O Lord! The idolaters have not known the essence of Thy Being, and have veiled their eyes with the veils of association, until they pronounced judgment for the slaying of the Manifestation of Thine own Self, the luminous, most luminous, and arose to accomplish it, that the people might rise to commit this deed. They caused some to slip from Thy path, through the lying words that issued from their mouths. Wherefore, O my Beloved, seize Thou them with Thy grievous chastisement for that which their hands have wrought. Verily Thou art powerful to do whatsoever Thou willest: Thou doest what Thou pleasest and ordainest what Thou desirest; Thou art, indeed, the Beginning and the Return, and Thou art the Hearer, the Answerer.

Then forgive me, O my Beloved, my trespasses; then cover me, O my Adored One, my faults; and suffer me not, for the twinkling of an eye, to be heedless of the remembrance of Thy Beauty. Verily Thou art the Truth; there is no God but Thee. Unto Thee is the beginning and the end. None possessed of sound reason can comprehend Thy inmost Essence.

And thou, O Mir—before Muhammad—hearken unto My call, and be not of the heedless. Sever thyself from all that is created of dust; it shall perish, but the words of thy Lord shall endure for ever and ever.

And the spirit, and glory, and greatness be upon thee, and upon all who hearken unto My word.

BH01194: O thou who gazeth upon My countenance, who drinketh…

In the Name of Him Who is the Ordainer of Sorrows

O thou who gazeth upon My countenance, who drinketh from the cup of My loving-kindness and the chalice of My mercy and bounty, who dwelleth beneath the shade of My majesty, who inhaleth the fragrance of My raiment, who immerseth himself in the ocean of My remembrance, who ascendeth unto the heights of My Cause, and who celebrateth My praise amidst My servants! Hearken unto My call from the right hand of the Garden of Paradise upon the holy hill from the Divine Lote-Tree: Verily, there is none other God but Me, the Mighty, the Gracious. Beware lest thou allow the fire of thy love to be extinguished. Preserve that which We have kindled within thy breast and be thou of the thankful ones.

Know thou that We have raised up one of Our servants, strengthened his heart, and adorned him with the ornament of certitude amidst all creation, and sent him unto the Sovereign with thy Lord the All-Merciful's Book, wherein We conveyed unto him the messages of the All-Glorious, without veil or concealment. Thus hath the matter been decreed by thy Lord, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise, that perchance he may awaken unto himself, arise from the slumber of passion, turn towards the Most Glorious Vision, and become assured that the might of kings hath not deterred Us from making mention of the King of Kings, nor have tribulations prevented Us from remembering the Lord of Names. Verily thy Lord is the All-Powerful, the Almighty.

In these darknesses that have encompassed Us, We have shone forth from its horizon with the sovereignty of grandeur and power, and We deliver what We will, and those who have wronged Us do not frighten Us, and thy Lord is witness unto all things. By Him Who hath sent down the verses and rent asunder the veils! Should all who are on earth gather together against him who speaketh the truth, with whatsoever of strength and power they possess, thou wouldst witness thy Chosen Lord proclaiming openly amongst them: "O people! Verily, I am your Lord, the Mighty, the All-Praised!"

Though We found not from him any fragrance of acceptance, yet did We deliver it unto him for the exaltation of thy Lord's Word between the heavens and the earth, and that he might know that were We to will it, matters would not be as they are. We have breathed into the heart of one of Our servants the spirit of might and power and sent him unto him. Verily thy Lord is the Mighty, the All-Wise. Aforetime had God's proof not been perfected unto him, nor had anyone conveyed it to him as it ought to have been conveyed. When the appointed time came and the promise was fulfilled, We sent down unto him clear verses and completed thy Lord's proof upon him—the Supreme, the Transcendent, the Mighty, the Beauteous.

Consider those who conceal themselves behind veils and who have clung to them that denied God from time immemorial to harm him who summons mankind unto God without regard to himself. These are assuredly the companions of the fire. Woe unto them who have followed them and taken them as protectors for themselves instead of God. These are the friends of the Evil One, but they understand not. The wonder is not of those who have claimed what was not ordained for them, but rather the wonder is of those who behold the signs of their Lord and deny them, and who pursue him who is, in the sight of God, inferior to them, all the while imagining they are among the doers of good.

Among their leaders is he who was named Ali-Muhammad. He allied himself in Iraq with the oppressors against Our Cause, and when trials came he was seized and declared, "I have denied God, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting." He disavowed his leader, and when he felt secure he called the people to the first one who denied God, the Master of the Day of Judgment. Behold those who follow him even after knowing what was manifested through him. God's curse be upon the wrongdoing people. Likewise did his leader cling to Nimrod, and when judgment came he was seized the first time and found no escape for himself. They deny God openly before those possessed of might, but when alone with their like they summon people to themselves and say "We are among the guides of the Bayan." We testify that the All-Merciful is clear of them, and the angels brought nigh curse them.

Beware lest change prevent thee from the remembrance of thy Lord, the Mighty, the Bestower. Deliver unto the people that which thou wast commanded before, and summon the people of thy land and all others unto God, the Lord of the worlds. Hold fast unto wisdom. Beware lest thou exceed its bounds, lest there occur that which would distress the servants, as thou hast witnessed with thine own eyes. Thus have ye been commanded in most of the Tablets. Thy Lord is indeed the All-Witnessing, the All-Knowing. Gather together the captives there and remind them at all times, lest there occur among them that which would divide their hearts. Thus hath thy Lord, the Mighty, the Peerless, commanded.

Remember what was revealed in the Land of Mystery in the first year to Our servant the Mihdi, wherein We informed him of what would befall the House thereafter, lest he be grieved by what had previously occurred from him who transgressed and stole. With thy Lord is the knowledge of the heavens and the earth. We have spoken, and Our word is the truth. Then know that this is not the first weakness that hath befallen My House. Before this it was afflicted by what the hands of the oppressors had wrought, and there shall descend upon it such humiliation as will cause tears to flow from every seeing eye. Thus have We imparted unto thee that which was hidden behind the veils of the Unseen, which none hath discovered save God, the Mighty, the All-Praised. Then shall pass days wherein God will raise it up in truth and make it a standard in the kingdom, around which shall circle a company of them that know. This is the word of thy Lord from before the day of terror cometh. We have informed thee of it in this Tablet lest thou be saddened by what hath befallen the House through what the hands of the transgressors have wrought. And praise be to God, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

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BH01216: This is what hath been sent down…

This is what hath been sent down from the direction of the mighty throne unto Our servant who hath been named the Merciful, and verily this is better for him than the sovereignty of earth and heaven. Thus hath it been ordained by One Who is the Mighty, the All-Knowing.

He is the Most Holy, the Most Inaccessible, the Most Exalted

Thy letter hath come before the Throne, and the fingers of mercy and power have taken hold of it, and the gaze of thy Lord, the Most Merciful, the Compassionate, hath turned toward it. We found therein the fragrance of sanctity in thy recognition of the Self of God, the Sovereign, the Almighty, the All-Powerful, the Omnipotent. Blessed art thou for having attained unto the breezes of the All-Merciful and for thy soul having been established upon the throne of paradise. This is from God's bounty unto thee, but most of the people are heedless.

Therefore give thanks unto God for having taken thy hand with the hand of power and might, and delivered thee from the hosts of fancy, and established thee beneath the shadow of His grace and favor, and made thee one of the companions of certitude, and enabled thee to stand firm in His love in days wherein intoxication hath overtaken all who are in the heavens and on earth. Rejoice then within thyself that thy letter hath been read before the presence of grace in sanctified and wondrous precincts. Glory

be unto thee and unto him from whose pen flowed that wherewith thou didst call upon God, thy Lord and the Lord of all worlds. Thus doth God bestow His favor upon whomsoever He willeth of His servants and guideth him to the path of His glory and draweth him nigh unto His transcendent grace, the Mighty, the Great.

But thou, O servant, hold fast unto the Tree, then taste of its fruits, then detach thyself from those who have disbelieved and associated partners with God and were among the deniers. Then stand firm in the Cause of thy Lord in such wise that shouldst thine own eye oppose thee therein thou wouldst be detached therefrom, nay, thou wouldst pluck it out from its socket. This is what the Beauty of the Cause commandeth thee from the direction of a mighty throne. By God! Whoso drinketh from this Salsabil shall be detached from every proof from all who are possessed of majesty, and from all who are in the heavens and the earth. His glance shall never return unto them and he shall behold them as children who possess neither reason nor discernment.

Say: O people! Do ye imagine that ye have believed in God after having denied and turned away from the Beauty Who hath shone forth from the horizon of the Unseen, before Whose dawning the faces of grandeur fell prostrate in worship of His exalted, transcendent, sovereign and omnipotent Self? Shut thine eye to all who are in the kingdom, then open it to behold the signs of thy Lord, that thou mayest witness His sovereignty in all things. Thus doth the Pen of sacred knowledge inform thee.

As for those who have fled from the Beauty of the All-Merciful, God hath rendered their deeds void and cast them into the abyss of His wrath as recompense for their actions and they were among the doers thereof. Take heed lest the denial of the deniers grieve thee, for We have found them today isolated in their unbelief, and therefore have We forbidden them from the holy shores with justice from Our presence, and verily We are just.

Say: O people! Be fair unto yourselves—if ye turn away from this Beauty, to what refuge can ye flee this Day? Nay, by My Beauty, there is no refuge for you, no shelter for anyone, and no protector this Day save Mine own Self, the Sovereign, the Most High, the All-Knowing.

Fear ye God and flee not to the right or to the left. Enter ye this straight, manifest and upright Path. Say: Do ye prostrate yourselves before dust while leaving the Lord of Lords behind you? Evil is that which ye have chosen for yourselves. Alas for you, O company of deniers!

Say: Should God desire to send upon you the breezes of His mercy, could anyone prevent them? Nay, by My radiant and mighty Beauty! And should He desire to chastise you with a flame of fire, could any soul deliver you therefrom? Nay, by My manifest, resplendent, all-encompassing sovereignty!

Say: O people! I swear by God the Truth, the Lord of Words hath then come upon clouds of meanings, and around Him are Manifestations of God's wisdom, then Dawning-places of a wondrous knowledge, and the matter hath been decreed from God, your Lord and the Lord of all creation. Thus do We bestow Our favor upon thee once again, O Rahim, that thou mayest be thankful for thy Lord's gifts and be among those who remember the Beauty Whom God hath purified from mention by those who disbelieved and joined partners with God and were among the veiled ones.

Leave the ungodly and what issueth from their mouths, for thy Lord hath exposed their falsity between the heavens and the earth, whereunto every discerning and insightful one doth testify. And when it is said unto them, “O people, by what proof have ye believed in God and the Manifestations of His Cause?” they will surely say, “The verses.” Yet when the most excellent Words are recited unto them from what hath been sent down from the heaven of God’s dominion, the Protector, the Almighty, the Powerful, their faces darken and they return to their seats and retreat to their abode in the nethermost fire, and thus do the guards of wrath encompass them, and verily We are the Subduer.

Say: O people, by God the Truth, ye pass by nothing except that it denounceth you for your deeds in most eloquent and wondrous language, but since ye have veiled yourselves with veils of wrath, ye will never hear its call. Thus hath the matter flowed from the finger of ancient glory. And thou, leave them behind thee, then seek thy Lord’s bounty at all times, for His bounty hath ever been nigh unto the doers of good. And glory be upon thee, O people of glory, that thou mayest remain steadfast in thy Lord’s Cause through love of thy Master, the All-Knowing.

BH11702: This is a Book that speaketh with truth…

He is the Mighty, the Powerful, the Exalted, the All-Glorious!

This is a Book that speaketh with truth and wherein is mentioned that which draweth the people nigh unto God, their Creator, detacheth them from all who are in the heavens and the earth, and causeth them to voice the praise of their Lord at eventide and at dawn. Verily it is the Book of God unto all who are in the Concourse on High, and the holy Scriptures unto all who dwell in the Kingdom of eternity, and the Verses of the Command unto all who abide in the depths of the Names, and the Tablet of Glory unto all who are in the kingdom. Verily it is God’s testimony unto His creation, His proof unto His servants, His evidence unto His creatures, and His signs unto all who are in the heavens and on earth. Thus hath the Sun of wisdom dawned from a holy and wondrous horizon.

Follow ye the religion of God and His Faith, then the laws of God and His command, and follow not your desires in aught. This is better for you than all who dwell on earth together. Answer ye the call of God amongst you and differ not in His Cause. Thus hath the Command been inscribed by the finger of the Spirit in truth. Verily those who have denied the signs of God and associated partners with His Self, these are in an abyss of wrath, and God will not hearken unto their call though they should supplicate Him throughout the duration of His kingdom, for He is independent of all worlds.

Hearken, O people, unto that which the Tongue of God addresseth you, and follow not those who bid you to transgression and wickedness. Follow Him Who commandeth you to righteousness and godliness that ye may find a path to God in these days in truth. And thou, O thou who gazest toward the sanctuary of holiness, take thou the cup of life in this paradise wherein shineth the beauty of the All-Merciful, then drink therefrom and fear no one. Put thy trust in God and He will protect thee from every wicked oppressor. Take thou the tablet of God and His sign, then return unto the servants and give them the glad tidings wherewith the Spirit hath given thee glad tidings at the time when there flowed from His lips the oceans of knowledge and wisdom from the presence of One All-Knowing, All-Wise. Perchance thereby

may be sanctified the hearts of all created things, and they may be detached from all that they possess and draw nigh unto the station which hath been upraised in the name of God from time immemorial.

O thou traveler! Taste of the fruits wherewith the Lote-Tree beyond which there is no passing hath been laden through these words that have been sent down from the King of Names, that thou mayest find thyself independent of all things and stand firm in thy Lord's Cause, remembering His Name which was at that time witnessed as the Most Great Name from the horizon of glory. And when thou seest the loved ones of God, convey to them what hath befallen My Beauty. Say: By God, O people! The Joseph of Eternity hath fallen into the dark pit and findeth no helper save Him Who created Him and sent Him forth with the truth and made Him a bearer of glad tidings unto all the worlds.

Beware lest the world and its ornaments occupy you from the remembrance of God, and lest the affairs of sovereignty turn you away from the direction of Him Who was remembered by the name of God. Beware lest ye commit what God hath forbidden you, and abandon what ye have been commanded by One Who is Mighty and Wise. And if adversity toucheth you, grieve not; rather, remember what hath befallen My wronged Self in this land wherefrom the feet of seekers were cut off. Remember God at eventide and at dawn, and forget Him not for less than a moment. Thus doth the Pen of Command enjoin you at this time. Act according to what ye have been commanded by One Who is Wise and All-Knowing. Neither grieve for what hath escaped you, nor rejoice in what ye are given, for the world and all that is therein shall perish, and sovereignty shall remain with God, in Whose grasp is the kingdom of all things, and He, verily, encompasseth all things.

And thou, O emigrant servant, be thou assured in thyself, then thank God for having strengthened thee in His Cause and honored thee with meeting the Manifestation of His Self, and provided thee with the bounty which was sent down from the heaven of grace, and for His mercy which encompassed thee when thou didst enter the Sacred Precinct and didst hear the melodies of the Spirit, and the lights of the Countenance shone upon thee from the presence of the Self-Subsisting. By God! A single glance from thy Lord excelleth the treasures of the heavens and earth and all that was and will be, if thou be of them that know. And when thou departest from the city wherein the Beauty of the Cause hath established Himself, lay thy face upon the dust and say:

O my Lord! Praise be to Thee for Thy gracious gifts and wondrous bounties, whereby Thou hast caused me to recognize the Manifestation of Thy Self, honored me with His presence, made me hear His melodies, and brought me before Him. By Thy might! Were I to thank Thee for what Thou hast bestowed upon me throughout the duration of Thy sovereignty, it would still fall short of the wonders of Thy favors. But I beseech Thee by the sovereignty of Thy Name that hath encompassed all created things, to make me steadfast in Thy Cause, speaking in praise of Thy Self, and mindful of Thy wondrous gifts. Verily, Thou hast ever been powerful over all things, and by Thy Self art able to do whatsoever Thou willest.

Thus have We taught thee and strengthened thee and aided thee in this Tablet that thou mayest stand firm in thy Lord's Cause. And the Spirit be upon thee and upon those who circle round the House with radiant countenance and pure soul.

BH01239: This is an epistle from this servant…

He is the Mighty!

This is an epistle from this servant to the loved ones of God who have been afflicted with a separation the like of which no eye hath ever witnessed and no parallel hath appeared in creation—such that their hearts were consumed, their souls melted, their breasts were constricted, their eyes wept and their tears flowed, whereby signs of agitation appeared in the pillars of the mighty throne.

Say: By God, the spirit hath departed from all things, every matter hath been overturned, all who are in the heavens and earth were shaken, joy hath been lifted from all things, and the Word of God, the Powerful, the Mighty, the Omnipotent, hath been scattered by what the hands of the idolaters have wrought against God and His loved ones.

Say: The sun hath been darkened from the horizon of Iraq and the moon hath been eclipsed by what these oppressors have done. Say: The eyes of the maidens have been blinded, the dwellers of the chambers have lamented, the temples of luminous holiness have fallen to the dust, the garments of the people of the Kingdom have been rent, and the realities of the denizens of the Realm Above have cried out in this great terror. The eyes of the people of the kingdom have never witnessed the like of what befell in those days the countenances of sublime holiness.

Say: O people of the earth! By God, were ye to perceive in yourselves even as a mustard seed, ye would cast black dust upon your faces and fall prostrate upon the earth for all eternity. Alas for you, O company of the wretched, for what your hands have wrought, your tongues have uttered, and your hearts have imagined, until ye drove from His homeland this Bird that dwelt therein by the command of the All-Wise, the All-Knowing.

Say: By God, the leaf of Paradise hath yellowed by what ye have done to servants who have not associated partners with God for even the twinkling of an eye. Say: The branches of the Lote-Tree of the Utmost Boundary have been broken by your turning away from the Beauty of God after He shone forth upon you like the Spirit from an ancient and holy horizon. The boughs of the Furthermost Tree have been demolished by what befell the Word of God, the Most High, the Most Great.

And when, from behind the clouds of mystery, the people of eternity cry out, addressing the City of God: “O City of God! How canst thou endure this separation, wherefrom the horizons have been set aflame, in that reunion hath been changed into a far-off sundering? O City of God! How can the eyes of them that draw nigh unto God rest upon thee, after thou hast remained empty of a Beauty holy and secure? O City of God! How shall the feet of the knowers move within thee, after the Youth, by that which was decreed in the guarded Tablets of might, hath ceased to tread thy earth? O City of God! How shall we behold thy gates, after the doors of meeting within thee have been shut, through that which the hands of the oppressors have wrought? O City of God! How shall we see within thee the Footstep of God? Alas, alas for this grievous sorrow!

O City of God! By God, we cannot bear to look upon thy markets, nor thy walls, nor thy trees, nor the river-bank that flowed within thee by His Name, the One Who maketh it to flow. This, verily, is the certain

truth. O City of God! Weep for this separation, whereat the hearts of lovers have been consumed. O City of God! Awake within thyself from this sundering, wherefrom the hearts of the sincere have been torn asunder."

O City of God! Cast dust upon thy head because of this remoteness, by reason of which the dwellers behind the veil of clouds have been set far from a station of holy and gracious sanctity. O City of God! By God, the hearts of the denizens of the Kingdom have been consumed at that which hath befallen thee of this manifest injustice; and by God, the souls of them that inhabit the Realm on high have been as though annihilated by what hath descended upon thee at the hands of the enemies of the Name of God, the Most High, the All-Knowing. By God, patience itself hath fled from us, as though it had never been created in the hearts of them that yearn.

O City of God! Can I perceive anything within thee after the departure of that radiant and resplendent Sun? Nay, by God! I can neither perceive thee nor behold the beauty of Him through Whom we were blessed with the fruits of nearness every morn and eve. Alas! Alas! The hearts of the people of eternity have been pierced by the arrows of the idolaters. By God, O City! We take no delight in thy blossoms or thy flowers in any springtime, after we no longer behold within thee the rose of glory from the Beauty of the Beloved.

Therefore, O City of God, inform thy people that the Bird hath taken flight—the Bird whose departure or death was their only desire. This hath been decreed by the Pen of holiness and wisdom. Remain ye, then, in your dwellings and rest upon your seats, for ye have attained what ye desired and achieved all that ye sought. Be ye of them that are at ease. Know with certainty that ye shall never again hear the melodies of God, never draw nigh unto a manifest meeting with Him, never witness the beauty of God among you, and never shall the words of God, the Mighty, the Glorious, the Gracious, be cast upon you. Your seats have been enlarged by the departure of the Bird. Be at ease, then, O company of the heedless!

Then there calleth out from the throne of the spirit a holy and wondrous countenance:

> "Blessed are ye, O company of the loved ones, for your patience in this great terror, for hearkening to the counsel of your Lord, and for your steadfastness in a Cause that hath caused the frames of the concourse of the exalted ones to melt away. God shall soon gather you thereby into a holy and luminous seat, as a reward for your patience. How excellent is the reward of the patient ones!"

BH01228: Praise be to God, the Quickener of all beings…

In the name of God, the Most Merciful, the Most Compassionate!

Praise be to God, the Quickener of all beings, the Creator of light and darkness, Who dispels the gloom of nights with the light of days, Who brings forth fruits from their sheaths, Who hath chosen from among the days eleven—the number of Huva—which is the Hidden Mystery known only to him who is acquainted with the secrets of destiny. In six of these He created the heavens and the earth, and there remained the number of Ha, which was revealed on the Night of Power. Thus doth every person of insight become convinced that whatsoever was created in the six was created for the Manifestations of Ha, who

are the Five People of the Cloak. Then He adorned Ha with the embellishment of Ba, and the authoritative and hidden Word of God was completed—that Word which was the source of the utterance of the Command in the world of creation.

Through it He revealed Himself unto all things, whatsoever hath been created in earth and heaven. Then appeared distinction and detail in every kind among the existent beings and contingent things, which were endowed with elements according to what was ordained by the Lord of Names and Attributes. He that turned toward it believed in the Worshipped One, and he that turned away from it denied prostration and disbelieved in God, the Mighty, the Loving.

When He revealed Himself through it unto the days, certain days turned toward Him, and after the passing of the Vav, He made Ha the festival of Islam and a treasure and honor for all peoples. When the Festival of the Breaking of the Fast was fulfilled, there dawned from the highest horizon the morn of our Festival of Sacrifice. Glorified be He Who ordained it by His irrevocable decree for the people of guidance, and distinguished it for those possessed of understanding who have believed in God, the Lord of the First and the Last.

He made it the brightest star in the brow of days, and the point in the preamble of time's book from which stream forth the mysteries of the Furqan. It hath its manifestation in both creation and legislation. Blessed is he who bringeth forth the pearl of utterance from the shell of the heart bearing clear exposition. God hath made the first day a sign of unity and a manifestation of oneness for all servants, that all atoms might bear witness that there is none other God but Him, the Creator of earth and heavens.

Then He caused other days to dawn and made them days of Tashriq for this community, and through these three the four pillars were completed among creation. We bear witness that there is none other God but Him. He hath ever been, and there hath been nothing beside Him. He shall ever continue to be even as He hath been.

The way to the knowledge of His Essence is barred, and the path to comprehending His Reality is cut off. The way is blocked and the quest forbidden. His proof is His signs, and His Being is His evidence. He is independent of the mention of aught else and is self-sufficient above the description of all else. He hath sent the Messengers and revealed the Books, and made them the manifestations of His signs and the dawning-places of His names and attributes, that all might bear witness to that which He hath testified of His own Self, by His own Self, before the creation of His heaven and His earth: that there is none other God but Him, and that He hath ever been one God, Single, Individual, Alone, Everlasting, Eternal, Self-Subsisting.

The Messengers have, thereby, reached the One Who guideth to the paths; verily He is in the Most Exalted Scene, and speaketh from that most august station and from the most glorious horizon. Blessed are ye, in that ye have attained, in this Most Great Festival, unto the robe of recognition, and have believed in your Lord, the All-Merciful, and in that which hath been brought by the Pride of the worlds and the Sovereign of creation—through Whom the religions were renewed, and the fragrances of forgiveness passed over the people of disobedience—He Who crowned His head with the diadem of "But

for Thee…"; He Who, speaking in the station of sobriety, declared: "Had it not been for Thee, We would not have known Thee," and in the station of effacement: "I am He, and He is I"—yet is He sanctified above the mention of "I" and "thou"; the Beginning Who was adorned with the vesture of the Seal, and the Manifest Who, through Him, disclosed the mystery of the Hidden—the Manifestation of Eternity and the Glory of the nations: Muhammad, the Chosen One—may the prayers and peace of God be upon Him, and upon His kindred and His companions, through whom that which had ebbed did overflow; and God made them the gates of knowledge unto all that come and all that pass away. There is no God but Him, the Bestower, the Giver, the All-Bounteous.

Glorified art Thou, O my God! I beseech Thee by Thy Most Excellent Names and Thy Most Exalted Attributes, and by Thy Greatest Name—whereby the birds of the hearts of the unity-minded have soared in the heaven of Thy nearness and Thy favour, and the hearts of the sincere have ascended unto the heaven of the might of Thy abidingness—to make this Festival blessed for us and for them that have acknowledged Thy oneness and confessed Thy singleness. O Lord! This is a Day which Thou hast ordained a Festival among days, that Thy remembrance may endure among mankind, and that they may attain unto the highest station.

O Lord! We are poor: we have turned unto the shadow of Thy riches. We are weak: we have hastened unto the Ka'bah of Thy bounties and Thy gifts. We are athirst: we have sped unto the Kawthar of Thy generosity and Thy beneficence. I beseech Thee by Thyself, and by Muhammad Whom Thou didst choose, in the world of eternity, above all peoples, that Thou disappoint us not of the wonders of Thy grace and Thy bounty, and that Thou make us not deprived of that which Thou hast ordained for Thy chosen ones.

O Lord! Send down upon us, from the clouds of Thy mercy and the heaven of Thy loving-kindness, that which shall cleanse us from the defilement of the world and draw us nigh unto Thee—O Thou in Whose hand is the dominion of decree and the kingdom of consummation. O Lord! Enlighten our eyes with the light of Thy recognition, and our hearts with the light of Thy knowledge; then draw us unto the court of nearness, holiness, and beauty. Verily Thou art the Mighty, the Exalted; there is no God but Thee, the Possessor of majesty and bounties.

BH01266: Glorified art Thou, O my Lord and my Beloved!…

He is the Mighty, the Witnessed One!

Glorified art Thou, O my Lord and my Beloved! I render thanks unto Thee for the wondrous favors of Thy oneness, which Thou hast caused to flow forth and hast sent down from the heaven of Thy holy Being. And we praise Thee, O my Heart's Desire, for that which Thou hast manifested of the gems of Thy bounty that have filled the pillars of the heavens and have encompassed and embraced all who dwell within the realms of contingent beings. And for that which the Daysprings of Thy power have brought forth from the most exalted station—the station of the throne of Thy grandeur—until its manifestations reached the lands of Thy creation, whereby the waves of the ocean of Thy oneness surged in all things, and from all things flowed forth the streams of Thy singular bounty.

By Thy might, O my God! Thy favors have attained such heights that no point can be seen in Thy kingdom but that from it have been detailed the mysteries of the wisdom of the sovereignty of Thy Lordship, and no speck of dust can be found but that it testifies of itself, by itself, to Thy unity through that which hath shone upon it from the effulgences of the lights of Thy oneness. And since such is the condition of Thy creation, how can anyone attain unto Thee or describe Thy beauty?

Therefore do I bear witness before Thee, and call to witness the denizens of the Supreme Concourse and the dwellers of the pavilions of eternity, that Thou hast ever been sanctified above the description of all contingent beings and wilt ever remain hallowed beyond the mention of all created things. All eyes are fixed upon the dawning of the lights of the beauty of Thy handiwork whereby Thou hast created all beings, all minds are bewildered before the signs of Thy majesty whereby Thou hast encompassed all things visible, all souls are thunderstruck before the manifestations of Thy self-subsistence whereby Thou hast revealed all things mentioned.

All this, O my God, is but of the wondrous gifts Thou hast bestowed upon the people of Thy kingdom and the gems of Thy bounty upon Thy creatures, without being asked. How then, O my God, when one of Thy servants asks of Thee or one of Thy bondsmen seeks from Thee? May the self that would ask of Thee that which befitteth not Thy station be nonexistent, and may the being that would seek from Thee that which is unworthy of Thy presence be no more!

By Thy might, O my Beloved! He who hath drunk the wine of Thy beauty will hope for naught save meeting Thee, and he who hath attained unto the remembrance of Thy love will find no rest save in reunion with Thee, and he who hath tasted the sweetness of Thy nearness, how can he be patient in Thy remoteness and separation? Nay, by Thy might! The hearts of the lovers will find no peace save in the precincts of Thy mercy, and the souls of the yearning ones will find no rest save beneath the shade of Thy providence.

Glorified, glorified art Thou, O my Lord, my God, my Object of worship, my One before Whom I prostrate, the Beloved of my heart and the Physician of my soul! I have ever wished to extol the wondrous praise of Thee, yet have found myself powerless to do so, for I observe that my praise is but a sign of Thy eternal handiwork, no more than the buzzing of a bee in the wilderness of Thy power, or the chirping of an ant in the desert of Thy might and sovereignty. How then can my praise ascend to the heaven of Thy holy mercy whereunto the hearts of none of Thy chosen ones have soared? And how can my description reach that station which the minds of none of Thy near ones have attained?

Yet, O my God, when I observe that the praise which floweth from my pen, or issueth from my tongue, or is manifested in my works, is naught but from the wondrous tokens of Thy supreme power and can only be realized through the gems of Thy most great handiwork, then is my heart assured, my being gladdened, and my reality made joyful, for Thy handiwork is naught but a mirror of Thy beauty, and in Thy deed naught can be seen save the lights of the glory of Thy Being and Thy majesty. For were any imperfection […] from deficiency or flaw must needs return unto its Creator and testifieth to its Originator. Far, far be it from me to behold in Thy handiwork aught save the effulgent splendors of Thine unity, or to see therein aught except the treasuries of Thy holy wisdom.

Whatsoever proceedeth from me or floweth from my pen can only be through Thy power and might, and whatsoever is prompted by Thy will and manifested by Thy strength. How could it be befitting to the sovereignty of Thine essence or worthy of the court of Thy glorious dominion? Nay, by Thy resplendent beauty, all that cometh from Thee befitteth Thy presence and is worthy of Thy beauty. This is of the certitude wherewith Thou didst create me and establish me in the kingdom of Thy creation and the dominion of Thy command. Therefore, O my God, were all that I have mentioned in this luminous, radiant Tablet to be reckoned as a single letter, it would contain all that beseemeth Thy station and glory—a truth beyond all doubt, for verily Thou art its Manifestor, Creator, Originator, Maker, and Fashioner.

Since this is so, I beseech Thee by Thy Name through which Thou didst cool the fire in the hearts of them that love Thee, and through which the breezes of reunion wafted over the hearts of Thy loved ones, to aid those who have sought shelter beneath the Sadratu'l-Muntaha in the vicinity of Thy Most Exalted Name. Then raise them up through Thy most sublime exaltation, and turn them toward the shore of eternity, and sanctify them from all that existeth in the realm of creation. Then gather them, O my God, before Thee at the appearance of Thy beauty in Thy final Manifestation, for verily Thou doest what Thou willest, and Thou art, in truth, the Almighty, the All-Bountiful.

BH01251: This sorrowful servant, seated in the land of grief…

This sorrowful servant, seated in the land of grief, nourished by the essence of sorrow, drinking from the springs of sadness, rained upon by showers of anguish from the clouds of woe, and drenched by torrents of grief from the heavens of tribulation, calls out to you and all who are with you with a mournful voice, bidding you to act upon all that hath been inscribed in the testaments, both past and future. Be not deprived of the outpourings of the boundless breezes of mercy, and remain not distant from the rapturous melodies of the eternal Dove, for whatsoever hath appeared of the wondrous and manifold bounties shall pass away, and whatsoever melodious and delicate songs are heard shall vanish.

Therefore, with pure striving and the essence of endeavor, walk ye upon the path of the exalted and glorious Living One, and thereafter find repose upon the carpet of glory and the throne of power. Ere long shall ye drink the cup of evanescence from the hand of the cupbearer of eternity, and quaff the chalices of love from the hand of the celestial maiden. Make ye ready, that perchance ye may not waste the blessing of life and be accounted among the heedless. Strive then with utmost power, that haply some service may proceed from you that shall win the good-pleasure of the King of the realms of blindness and the Sovereign of light.

I swear by God, Who hath seated this servant upon the throne of sorrow, that this station is greater than whatsoever existeth in the highest heavens and the lowest earth. Strive, while life endureth and ye have not yet departed from this mortal cage, that ye may not commit that which would be a cause of remorse and regret. This servant, despite all the afflictions ye have heard about—and verily none greater than these hath appeared in all creation—passeth not a moment without feeling shame and embarrassment before the holy countenances and the faces of the near ones, for no service hath proceeded from this sorrowful servant that might bring joy to Their presence. How fitting is this verse in this regard:

How can I lift my face in shame before my Friend, When no worthy service from my hand did descend?

But I call upon the Intended One in this state wherein from the clouds of love the drops of yearning pour down as torrential rain, and from the winds of grace the breezes of tenderness flow forth in melting streams, while the cauldron of longing sings its melodies, and the dove of separation warbles its tunes, and the hoopoe of affection takes wing in flight, and the peacock of oneness arrays itself in splendor, and the owl of gloom trills its song, and the salamander burns in the fire of desire, and the fish in the ocean of love's radiance is submerged, while the heavens of union are lifted up and the stars of attainment are obscured, and the sun of manifestation is veiled and the light of emergence is concealed, and the earth of sorrow is spread wide and the tree of despair is planted firm, and the mountains of tranquility are crushed and the seas of concealment overflow, and the brilliance of hope is darkened, and the eye of the beloved waits expectantly—perchance the nightingale of faithfulness might sing upon the branches of the tree of extinction, and the nightingale of radiance might take wing among the boughs of the Lote-Tree of Sinai, and the leaf of the dove might warble upon the leaves of the tree of eternity, that haply the withered tree might bear fruit and the fallen Lote-Tree might be replanted, and the silenced nightingale might burst into song, and the wing-clipped hoopoe might soar to the holy heights, and the extinguished fire might blaze forth, and the stagnant stream might flow again, that we might be nourished from the cups of joy and delight, and taste the fruits of the tree of love, and gaze into the polished mirror.

But God knows that at this moment such tears have rained from my eyes and such drops have streamed down my face like the rain of mercy that the sighs of my eyes have stopped the pen from moving and the flood of tears has prevented ink from marking the page. How excellent are these words:

My weeping makes Noah's flood seem but like my tears, And the fire of Abraham is as my passion's burning;

Were it not for my sighs, my tears would drown me, And were it not for my tears, my sighs would consume me;

Jacob's grief expressed not the least of my sorrow, And all Job's afflictions are but a portion of my tribulation.

And if what afflicts Me were to befall the mountains, and were Mount Sinai to bear them before the Divine Manifestation, verily it would have crumbled to dust. Yet, despite all these tribulations and afflictions, these trials both hidden and manifest, I remain expectant and watchful for successive favors and manifest bounties, that perchance the Cup-Bearer of the Countenance of Glory might, from the crimson chalice, give Me to drink the wine of destiny, so that the hoopoe of sorrow might be gladdened by the fragrances from the city of Sheba, and become enchanted by the cooing of the Dove of Glory. Perchance this darkened mirror might be illumined by the Countenance of Beauty, and this blackened stone might be made to shine by the Face of Majesty. Haply this dejected heart might find solace, and this grieving soul might attain unto glad-tidings. Wherefore I say: There is no power nor strength except through God, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting. We are God's, and unto Him shall we return.

BH01285: These are the verses of God which have been…

He is the Most Wondrous in the All-Glorious Horizon!

These are the verses of God which have been sent down in truth from the presence of the Mighty, the All-Knowing. They are indeed a guidance to those who believe, and a mercy and reminder to another people. We have verily sent down to thee from the heaven of grace a Book before whose contents the hearts of all the world are powerless to comprehend. We have sent it unto thee as a mercy from Our presence upon thee and upon Our near servants. Should God so please, it shall reach thee and bestow upon thee what it containeth of the mysteries of thy Lord, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

When it reacheth thee, take it with the hand of might and power, then act in accordance with what thou hast been commanded therein from the presence of the Mighty, the Most Beautiful. Tarry not in any matter, but make mention of thy Lord in secret and in public, and be of those who are steadfast in the Cause and are among the trusting ones.

Beware lest anything deter thee from the path of thy Lord, or the denial of those who disbelieved after having acknowledged God their Lord at the time when the veils of fancy were rent asunder and the Sun of the name of thy Lord, the Most High, the Most Great, shone forth from the holy horizon. When He once again manifested Himself unto them from the direction of the Throne through His Most Glorious Name, they denied Him, and thereby their falsehood in the former time became evident. They returned to their abode and joined those who had preceded them among Our idolatrous servants. Thus doth God render void the deeds of those who have made a jest of the Cause within themselves and who were in grave doubt and schism.

Know thou then that he whose name correspondeth to that of Nabil hath appeared before the Throne, and upon him hath shone the light of the Sun of the Beauty of thy Lord, the Almighty, the Mighty, the All-Knowing. He attained the presence of God and His verses according to what was ordained for him, and verily thy Lord is the Bestower, the Forgiving, the Bountiful. When the time appointed for his sojourn in the precincts of thy Lord's mercy was fulfilled, We sent him back unto thee with a clear Book, and We favored thee once again and revealed this Tablet and dispatched it unto thee that thou mightest find from it the fragrance of the Beloved and be among the successful ones.

Arise to serve the Cause, then remind the people of the verses of God, the Ancient Sovereign. Grieve not; give glad tidings of what hath appeared and shone forth from the holy horizon. He walketh, and behind Him walk the realities of all things, but the people have veiled themselves from the Revelation of God and His Cause, and are among the heedless. They have taken fancy as their lord besides God. By My life! They are more heedless than the peoples of old, as evidenced by what issueth from their mouths, even as thou hast heard from them and art among those who have heard. Rend asunder their veils by a power from Our presence and a might from Us, that they may ascend unto a holy and gentle atmosphere.

Say: O people! By God, ye were created for this Day, and concerning this hath God taken a covenant from you in the particle of the Bayan, then in the particle of the Furqan, then in the particle of the Gospel, then in the particle of the Torah, then in the particle of every world of His worlds and every page of the pages of His glory. To this do all atoms bear witness, were ye of the fair-minded.

Beware, O people, lest ye break God's covenant and His pledge. Rather, fulfill that which ye pledged in the presence of the near ones and the Messengers. When the deniers are asked, "Who is your God?"

they say “Allah.” And when asked, “By what proof?” they say “The verses.” Yet when God’s verses are recited unto them, they flee therefrom and become among the turn-aways. The eye of creation hath not witnessed any more heedless than these, for they deny that whereby they pride themselves above all the peoples of the earth and whereby their faith is established, yet they perceive not. Say: If ye deny this proof, then by what proof do ye reject the Faith of the Furqan?

If ye say they denied God and His verses after they were sent down in truth, ye too have denied their like and their Revealer. What, then, is the difference between you, O company of the deluded? By thy life! Their likeness is as those who affirm the rays for the stars yet deny the manifestations of the Sun with such brilliant, radiant light; or as those who worship that which neither heareth nor seeth, and when asked “By what proof?” they say “Thus found we it in the books of our forefathers of old.” Know thou that these believed not in the Primal Point, but rather in the idols of their own selves and desires. For had they believed in Him, they would not have denied Him in this Revelation whose lights have encompassed all worlds.

Thus have We detailed unto thee the stories of these people and explained the verses with clear and evident signs. We sent unto those who believed therein Tablets, one of which sufficeth as proof for all the worlds. Do thou bring forth the pearls of knowledge and wisdom from the shells of their words, that perchance they who are detached may discover what lieth therein and be of those who are assured. Thus did We command thee before, and We command thee now, that thou mayest be of those who act. And since We sent thee a Tablet before, We have therefore been brief in this Tablet. Yet were We to will to remain in this transient world, We would assuredly send thee whatsoever God wisheth and desireth, for verily He is the Best of Senders.

BH01289: O Letter Ba’ to Letter Jim! Grieve not at…

He is God, exalted be His glory, to Him belong greatness and majesty!

O Letter Ba’ to Letter Jim! Grieve not at the vicissitudes of the world. Find solace in the remembrance of God and be content therewith above all else. By Him Who made the Letter Ha’ the ornament of His Own Self, and with it adorned His kingdom and His dominion and His holy realms, ye have profited in your trade in such wise as none can reckon save God, your Lord and the Lord of all worlds. He maketh mention of you in His seat, that ye may mention Him amongst the servants with wisdom and utterance, perchance ye may find them lightened from the burden of earth and all that is therein, and ascend unto a station that was highly exalted in the supreme Paradise.

Beware, beware lest ye step forth from the robe of wisdom. They in whose hearts is doubt have appeared in the garments of faith, and thy Lord beareth witness that they are liars. Believe not every claimant who speaketh as his passion biddeth him. Thus doth He Who speaketh the truth command you. He, verily, is the All-Knowing, the Unseen. Rejoice in His days and behold the signs of your Lord, the All-Merciful, and ponder them. By My life! They have encompassed the worlds. Glory and spirit be upon thee and upon those who have chosen the path unto God, the Almighty, the Great.

He is God, exalted be His glory, to Him belong greatness and majesty!

O Letter Ha'! Hear the call of the Letter Ha' that speaketh in the crimson hill, the place wherefrom the decree of destiny was severed, and from which the fragrance of thy Lord, the All-Merciful, was diffused. Grieve not at the world and what occureth therein. By My life! All that is thereon shall perish, and there shall endure the face of thy Lord, the Mighty, the Bestower. Blessed art thou for having urged on the steed of high resolve until the beauty of the Divine Unity was made manifest unto thee. We have accepted what hath passed from thee. Verily thy Lord is the Powerful, the Helper. This is the Day whereon the heaven was cleft asunder and the earth was rent and the path was set up, and this, verily, is the Balance.

Say: The Balance hath appeared in the form of man, and walketh and speaketh and writeth what proceedeth from His lips—the servant in attendance before the Throne, whom the peoples of all worlds from among those who followed Satan could not prevent. We have forsaken the world and its people, and have turned to a station wherein naught is seen save God, the Lord of all religions. By Him Who illumined the dawn and manifested the Night of Power! He speaketh between the heavens and the earth and calleth all unto God, and the might of the oppressors preventeth Him not, though they should all unite against Him with sword and spear. God hath written down for you the reward of them who have attained His presence and heard His call. Be content with what God hath been content with. He, verily, is the Mighty, the Merciful.

He is God, exalted be His glory, to Him belong greatness and majesty!

This is a Book from Us unto him who hath turned towards the Holy Court. Verily his Lord is the Mighty, the Generous. They who follow God's command, by My life, are in My good-pleasure and soar in My atmosphere and hear My call and circle round Me. They are, verily, the companions of paradise. Give thanks unto thy Lord for having wandered from thy homeland until thou drewest nigh unto thy Lord, the All-Merciful. Exalted be this noble and mighty station! Had the people known what lieth beyond the veil, they would have turned unto it with their heads, but they have been prevented from this mighty grace by what they have earned. They who have drawn nigh unto the Dayspring of Revelation are of the people of Baha. Their names have been inscribed by the Most Exalted Pen in a preserved and mighty tablet. Glory be upon thee and upon him who hath drunk the cup of tribulation in the path of his Lord, the Forgiving, the Merciful.

He is God, exalted be His glory, to Him belong greatness and majesty!

By the grace of the All-Merciful, may His Chosen Ones be joyous at all times, content with the good-pleasure of the Friend and thankful. Today, wisdom is beloved for the education of the peoples of the world. All the loved ones must assuredly not transgress it. It has been observed that in every place where actions were taken contrary to that which God hath permitted, naught but sedition was manifested as a result. Hearken unto the call of the Friend, act according to His bidding, and be content. Be not grieved by separation, for afterwards, by His command, that very separation was the essence of nearness, and parting by His leave was the reality of union. These are the pure waters of inner meaning that have flowed from the Wellspring of the Pen of the All-Merciful. Drink thereof and be of the thankful ones.

He is God, exalted be His station, to Him belong all glory and grandeur.

O Sin! The Manifest Truth declareth: This is the Day wherein the chosen ones must fix their gaze upon the command of the Unconstrained One and must efface their own will before the Will of God. That is, after the issuance of the binding decree from the direction of the Fashioner of bones and the Lord of all nations, that very command must become the beloved thing. How blessed, then, is he who ascendeth unto this station! Therefore, ye must observe with perfect wisdom whatsoever is deemed beneficial to the Cause, and act accordingly. Deeds take precedence over words. A goodly deed hath been and shall forever be the distinguishing feature. Be thou never grieved. Verily, He ordaineth for each one that which is best for him. He, verily, is the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

BH01276: He is God. Praise be to God, Who hath…

He is God. Praise be to God, Who hath ever endured through the endurance of His Essence and subsisted through the subsistence of His Being and was exalted through the transcendence of His holy eternity—He Who brought forth all created things through a single word from His Book and clothed them in the garment of existence through His command and will. And I offer prayers and salutations upon the first Tree that brought forth the fruits of knowledge and wisdom, and the first Light that shone forth from the dawn of Oneness, and the first Mirror that reflected all the names and attributes in the sanctified realms—He Who was Muhammad in name and praiseworthy in deed—and upon His family, with abundant and everlasting peace forever.

O My brother! Your letter has reached Us and We have understood all the references and words contained therein. The lamentation of your heart and the cry of your soul have been heard regarding the poverty, need, adversity and distress that encompass you. We beseech God to grant you that which you love and with which you are content, for verily He is the Generous, the Bountiful.

Know thou at the outset that I am not worthy to associate with the servants in the lands after corruption has appeared on land and sea through that which the hands of men have wrought. Dost thou not witness and see how the dogs of the earth from all regions have gathered against Me, attributing to Me that which cannot be uttered in speech nor flow from the pen? How then canst thou be with Me, or sit in My presence, or associate with Me?

From the day God made Himself known to Me and taught Me the wonders of His knowledge and the gems of His wisdom, I have sacrificed My spirit, My soul and My body in His path, and each day I await what God hath ordained for Me through His inevitable decrees and His established judgments. Hast thou not heard how they seized Us and Our possessions, expelled Us from Our homes, and then drew forth against Us the sword of hatred from the sheath of enmity? These transgressors shot at Us the arrows of rancor though We called them to naught but God and desired for them only that which would transform them from the left hand of self and passion to the right hand of glory and eternity. We commanded them only what God had commanded them in the Book. Then they all rose against Me in hypocrisy and slew Me with the swords of discord, as though I were imprisoned in an iron cage, My cries and lamentations unheard, such that I could not utter a single letter of what God had graciously bestowed upon Me and honored Me with through His bounty.

By God! If thou wert to become aware of My secret, thou wouldst weep for the adversity and hardship that have befallen Me. And were the veil to be lifted from the eye of thy heart, thou wouldst flee to the mountain peaks from My sorrow and what hath come upon Me. In these circumstances of tribulation and these calamities that have descended, I have clung to the hem of patience and resignation, held fast to the cord of trust and detachment, and in every moment I say: "There is no power nor strength except in God."

Therefore, consider within thyself: Can anyone accompany this destitute servant, this limited and abased one? Nay, by My Lord, unless he walks in His footsteps—that is, turns with his whole being to his Lord and turns away from all else, hastening to the fields of struggle in his Lord's path as he rushed to the assemblies of glory in pursuit of his desires. He must be steadfast in God's Cause such that his foot does not slip even if all creation opposes him. He must not boast over anyone in anything, nor desire for others what he does not desire for himself. In contentment, he must reach such a station that if he finds means he spends, and if he lacks he gives thanks.

Each day he must increase in his love for his Lord and in his submission to his Creator. In resignation he must reach such a state that were the rains of poverty and abasement to pour upon him, he would not grieve in his soul nor change in his essence. In these days, no one can enter the shore of this ocean, much less its depths. Therefore, it behooveth thee to return to thy place and, if thou findest within thyself My love, beseech God, thy Lord, to protect this lamp from these diverse winds, and this dove from the talons of these reprobates. Verily He is near, ever-ready to answer. And if thou art adorned with these attributes, then it behooveth thee to recite this prayer morning and evening:

Glory be unto Thee, O Lord my God! I beseech Thee by Thy Name through which Thou didst cause the rivers of Thy holy oneness to flow, and didst send down from the clouds of Thy mercy the outpourings of Thine eternal might, to have mercy upon this poor and needy one who hath entered the shore of Thy riches, and this lowly one who hath arrived at the wellspring of Thy glory, and this weak one who hath clung to the cord of Thy power, and this ignorant one who hath hastened from every direction until he entered the city of Thy knowledge. In Thy hand is the dominion of command and the kingdom of creation. Verily, Thou art powerful over all things.

BH01314: Your letter which you sent to this servant, who…

He is the Most Exalted, the All-Glorious!

Your letter which you sent to this servant, who circles round the Throne, was forwarded from the great city and was witnessed, and its contents were understood. God willing, may you ever drink from the incomparable sweet waters of the Lord of Majesty and be sanctified from all who dwell in the heavens and the earth. O thou Phoenix of fire! Conquer hearts through the remembrance of thy Lord, the Mighty, the Unconstrained. Then give the contingent beings to drink from the chalice of divine verses through the hands of maidens who dwell in the chambers of the words of the Revealer of mysteries, whom no strangers or evil ones have touched, and whose presence God has made exclusive to those among His servants possessed of insight, who were among the choicest of creation and held fast to the cord of God,

the Almighty, the Compelling. Soon shall We send down unto thee what We have ordained for thee. Be thou, therefore, at peace within thyself and be of them that are at rest.

For each person mentioned in your letter, a Tablet was revealed and sent down as a token of Our grace upon thee and upon Our devoted servants. Now observe the condition of the people and what proceeds from their mouths. They acknowledge that every light is darkened before His splendor, as was revealed in the Bayan and testified to by the Tongue of the All-Merciful. Likewise do they say that He transforms light into darkness, as was revealed in the prayers by God, the Mighty, the Gracious, the Bestower. Yet when the meaning of what they have confessed and acknowledged becomes manifest, they flee from the Lion of inner meanings and join Satan's hosts, even though they have not understood him whom they have taken as lord instead of God, nor his true nature, nor the origin of his cause—to this do they who are endued with understanding bear witness.

Strange indeed that these people, though they behold with their outward eyes the inexhaustible Kawthar, have nevertheless contented themselves with a mirage. Such hath ever been the way of creation, even as among the peoples of old there are today those who worship the calf instead of God and rejoice in their idol. He Who hath arisen by His own Self would be ashamed to be known by such servants, and were it not for His grace and mercy, He would never have revealed His Cause. But the decree hath been fulfilled, for He is the Almighty, the Unconstrained.

And after the manifestation of God and the establishment of His Temple upon the throne of His Most Great Name, the All-Glorious, these people still make mention of Imamate, succession, and vicegerency. Such is the condition of the leaders of this people, let alone those souls who have followed these insects of the earth. In truth, all are today seen as immature. If a soul attaineth unto this wondrous Cause, by God! the dust of his sandal is, in God's sight, more exalted and distinguished than all who have turned aside among the people of the Bayan, and ever shall be. None shall enter this everlasting City of Oneness save holy souls who are detached from all save God. This cup is not the portion of every heedless ignorant one, nor is this pure wine the share of every stubborn infidel. They who drink from the Abha cup are of another essence and from another realm. Thus hath the matter been decreed, but the people understand not.

God willing, may ye ever be present in the court of the All-Glorious, the Majestic, and be gazers unto His most pure horizon. Convey God's greetings unto the faces of them that are settled upon the cushions of detachment and abstraction among His triumphant servants, then unto thy wife and sister and thy kinsmen and the handmaidens of God, then unto those two women who emigrated unto God and whom the hand of grace returned to their abode. Say unto them: By God! We were with you and walked above your heads and witnessed your love and heard what ye uttered, and We are the Best of hearers. Blessed are ye, and God hath accepted from you and shall surely reward you, for He is the Best of rewarders.

And if thou seest the servant before the Merciful, convey unto his face the greetings from Us, then give him the glad tidings of Our mention of him in this wondrous Tablet. Say: We have heard what thou hast composed in remembrance of thy Lord. God shall soon reward thee with the best of rewards, for He bestoweth upon His remembering servants, and We had sent him a tablet before wherein was recorded that which was a guidance and remembrance for all the worlds. Then convey greetings unto the face of

Nasir, that he may rejoice within himself through God's grace and mercy and be of the assured ones. We have indeed sent down unto him from the heaven of holiness verses of the Cause and sent them to him before, that he may rejoice in God's remembrance, the Mighty, the All-Knowing.

And likewise unto the face of Hasan who hath attained unto God's tablet and its effect, that he may be of the thankful ones. And if thou seest Dhabih, remind him from Us, saying: Beware lest thou be patient in God's Cause. Rend asunder the veils of glory in their entirety in such wise that the denizens of the Supreme Paradise shall hear the sound of their rending. This is better for thee than clinging to the hems of the ascetics. And say: Praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH01315: O Muhammad of Sirjan! In the Name of God…

O Muhammad of Sirjan! In the Name of God, the Most Mighty, the Most Holy, the Most Invincible, the Most Exalted!

This is a Book from the Primal Point Who testifieth and declareth:

> "Verily, I am alive in the Most Glorious Horizon. Therefore, O people, behold ye My beauty, then hearken unto My melodies, then witness My power, My sovereignty and My glory, then My mercy that hath preceded all worlds."

O people! By God, We have indeed informed you aforetime and testified with Our truthful tongue that I have ever existed through the eternity of God and shall manifest Myself unto you through My Most Great, Most Glorious Name. Beware lest ye object thereunto and be counted among the idolaters. By God, this is a mystery more manifest than the sun at high noon, yet when We bestowed the Name apart from Our Self, the servants knew Us not. This mystery was veiled within mystery upon mystery, shrouded by yet another mystery, which none among all created things could fathom.

When the idolaters persisted and thy Lord's appointed time was fulfilled, then did the Hand of Power lift from the face of mystery a veil of mystery. Thereupon all who dwell in the heavens and earth were struck with terror, save those whom God preserved within the fortress of His protection and numbered among the secure ones.

O Muhammad! By God the Truth, whatsoever thou hast heard concerning this Cause hath proceeded from Me, and God knoweth that none besides Me was aware of aught, and this is a wisdom known to none save God, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. When the opposers found assurance within themselves and the breezes of security wafted from this holy, wondrous and blessed right hand side, they came forth with arrows, then spears, then swords of hatred, smiting Me at every moment with all their might. Thus were they recorded among the oppressors in tablets of ancient glory.

Thou knowest well that one who harbors deceit within himself and practices deception in God's Cause can never stand before the enemies between the heavens and earth, nor can he speak God's praise amidst adversaries, nor can he face the opposers in days when all religious sects united against him while he, by himself alone, championed his Lord's Cause, detached from all else. Thus didst thou hear, and they

who were in Iraq witnessed with their own eyes and do now testify thereto, if they be among the fair-minded.

By God, wert thou to ponder within thyself, thou wouldst find My deeds sufficient witness to that which issueth from My mouth and floweth from My pen, requiring no further testimony from these people or from all the worlds.

O Muhammad! Every deed hath its trace and every existence its fragrance. Therefore inhale from all that hath appeared from this Youth and flowed from His pen. If thou perceivest therein the fragrance of the Beloved, then detach thyself from all else and turn thy face toward His holy, transcendent, mighty and wondrous countenance. God's Cause cannot be confounded with aught else. It standeth manifest above all things, shining with the lights of beauty in the heaven of grandeur. None but every remote transgressor shall deny it.

By God, all that hath appeared from Me is proof conclusive for all created things, yet people have confused the matter for themselves. Apart from this, verily thy Lord's Cause is more manifest than can be concealed, and God is witness to what I say. Sufficient is their abasement that they worship one whom We named with a name among names and mentioned among the servants, making him a veil before their eyes through Our wisdom, lest they recognize this luminous and noble Manifestation. When he returned unto God […] He hath waged war against Our Cause by his own self. We commanded the people to rend asunder the veils, whereupon all who are in the heavens and on earth were thunderstruck, except for certain letters that were manifestations of My Name, the All-Merciful, the Most Merciful.

If thou wouldst ponder My Cause and the veiling of My countenance after My manifestation at the axis of all horizons, thou wouldst, by God, become acquainted with a mystery wherewith even the realities of mysteries have not been acquainted—how much less these hypocrites! Thereby will mystery after mystery be unveiled unto thee, then treasure after treasure, then store after store, and thou wilt find thyself enriched through thy Lord's bounty beyond all that hath been created between the heavens and the earth. This, verily, is certain truth. Know thou, moreover, that We loved thee aforetime and have not forgotten thee, and now We bid thee rend asunder the veils through the sovereignty of thy Lord's Name, the Powerful, the Mighty, the Omnipotent, and emerge from behind them with a radiant and shining face.

Take heed that thou fear no one. Then make mention of thy Lord amongst those in whose hearts thou findest the sweet savors of divine good-pleasure. Verily thy Lord will guard thee from the harm of every harmful one. He doeth what He willeth and ordaineth what He pleaseth. Thus have We inspired thee and made mention of thee on this night out of Our love for thee, that thou mayest be of those who remember this lonely Wronged One. And the glory be upon thee and upon those who are with thee on this path wherefrom the feet of most of the servants have slipped, save those whom God hath singled out for the recognition of His exalted, His hallowed, His gracious Self.

BH01340: Revealed for Muhammad Quli of Sabzivar, that he may…

Revealed for Muhammad Quli of Sabzivar, that he may be guided by the guidance of the Spirit and turn unto God, the Mighty, the All-Knowing

He is God, the Help in Peril, there is none other God but Him

The Light hath dawned from the horizon of manifestation and Beauty hath shone forth from the dayspring of glory. Thereupon all things cried out in their inmost essence: "By God, this is a noble King!" Say: O people, deny not the grace of these days and despair not of the Spirit of God and His mercy, for verily His mercy hath preceded all worlds. Arise from the slumber of passion, then turn your faces toward the Sacred Precinct, the House of God, the Mighty, the Gracious. They who have not drunk the wine of certitude from the hand of this Youth, these are they who have lost in this world and the next, and their names are not inscribed upon the preserved tablets of glory.

Say: O people, fear God and contend not with His servant, and be not of the wrongdoers. And whoso disputeth with God and His signs, him do all who dwell in the heavens and earth curse. O people, answer the call of God among you and cast not His proof behind your backs. Fear ye the Day whereon all creatures shall be shaken, save those who have entered beneath the shadow of His countenance—these shall be of those that are secure.

By God the Truth! Whoso wavereth in this Cause, his faith shall not be accepted though he bring the worship of both worlds. Whoso worshippeth God in these days while remaining heedless of His Manifestation and His sovereignty, upon him shall be pronounced the judgment passed upon the followers of former religions, for they made mention of God and worshipped Him yet knew Him not, and thereby their works were rendered vain and they were among the lost. Nay, this is an even greater heedlessness, for he hath recognized God's bounty, then denied it. Thus do We impart unto thee that whereby thou mayest in these days distinguish between the two parties, and choose for thyself that which is best for thee, and be possessed of clear insight.

Purify thy heart for the knowledge of thy Lord, thine ear for hearkening unto that which is sent down from Him, and thine eyes for that which appeareth from the direction of a mighty throne. Were anyone today to possess all the treasures of the heavens and earth and expend them in the path of God, it would not equal a single letter of that which hath been sent down in truth on this day, for by it doth God create creation as He willeth, even as He created in former ages.

And when this Tablet reacheth thee, receive it with hands of contentment, then read it in those times wherein thou findest thyself detached from all that hath been created between the heavens and earth. Thus have We commanded thee through Our grace, that thou mayest be of them that act.

Know thou moreover that in these days, when intoxication hath seized all who dwell in the heavens and earth, it beseemeth not them who have believed to remain seated in their places. Rather, it behooveth every soul to convey the Cause of his Lord unto His servants. Thus hath the sun of divine command dawned from the horizon of wisdom from One Who is knowing, wise. Say: O people, convey God's Cause with wisdom, not disputation, that the people may become aware of that which hath appeared and

shone forth from the direction of the Throne. Whoso believeth, it shall be to his own benefit; and whoso turneth away shall return to his abode—evil indeed is the abode of them that turn away.

O servant! Guard thyself at all times from the arrows of them who have disbelieved in the All-Merciful and were among the idolaters.

Say: Glorified art Thou, O my God! I beseech Thee by Thy Name through which Thou didst cause me to hear Thy Call, and didst make known unto me the Manifestation of Thyself, and didst inspire me with Thy remembrance, and didst strengthen me through Thy Cause, that Thou leave me not to myself in these days, for I have clung to Thy Name, the Most Exalted, the Most Great. O my God! Look upon me, then, with the glances of the eyes of Thy favors, and deprive me not of the wonders of Thy grace and bounties, and make me not of those who believed in Thee one day and disbelieved another day and were among the perished ones.

O Lord! I am he who hath raised the hands of hope toward the heaven of Thy mercy and bounty, and hath fled from all directions and entered beneath the shadow of Thy Cause and Thy generosity. Therefore, O my God, leave me not disappointed of the wonders of Thy grace, nor deprived of the manifestations of Thy tenderness. Verily, Thou hast power over all things. Then make me steadfast, O my God, in Thy Cause wherein none can stand firm save him who hath detached himself from all else except Thee. Then preserve me, O my God, lest I associate any partners with Thee, or dispute Thy signs, or contend against Thy Self. Verily, Thou art the Bestower, the Forgiver, the Merciful.

Then open Thou my eyes, O my God, that I may know Thee through Thyself, not through aught else of what hath been created between the heavens and earth. Thus have We commanded thee and taught thee that thou mayest remember thy Lord thereby and be of them that remember.

And glory be upon thee and upon those who have turned with all their being unto God and have detached themselves from all the worlds.

BH01326: O ʿAli! Thy letter hath been presented before…

In the Name of Him Who is sanctified above all created things, in His Most Exalted Name

O ʿAli! Thy letter hath been presented before the Divine Throne, and We have taken note of the words contained therein, and We have witnessed that thou hast associated God, thy Lord, with another in the beginning of thy tablet. Beware, beware lest thou associate His mention with the mention of anyone else, or His name with the name of aught else that hath been created between the heavens and the earth, and make no allusion to Him, for He is sanctified above the mention of all created things and exalted above being associated with His creation. He hath ever been, and there hath been nothing beside Him, and He shall ever continue to be even as He hath been, if thou be of them that know. All else besides Him is created by His command and brought into being by His will, and is held within the grasp of thy Lord, the Almighty, the Most High, the Most Great.

Verily, He cannot be known except through Himself, nor can He be described save by Himself. Whoso claimeth to know Him through any other than Him hath indeed borne a grievous calumny and sin, and

hath followed his own desires, and what he imagineth in his knowledge is but a fancy that hath encompassed him and veiled him from the knowledge of God, the Sovereign, the Mighty, the All-Knowing. Say: He is one in His essence, one in His attributes, and one in His deeds, and whatsoever proceedeth from Him and appeareth from His presence is that which proceedeth from the Manifestation of His glorious and wise Self. Beyond this, there is no way for anyone to know Him, exalted be He. Thus have We revealed aforetime and now, if thou be of them that know.

They who worship names instead of Me, these are indeed idolaters in the sight of thy Lord, the Almighty, the Powerful. Say: Do ye take names as lords for yourselves besides God and forsake the Most Excellent of Creators? Fear ye God, then sanctify yourselves from the veils of fancy and be ye of them who take none besides God as their helper or protector. Thus doth the Mighty Cause instruct thee through this holy and luminous Pen.

Purify thy soul, thy spirit, and thy heart through My Name, then speak forth My praise and proclaim My Cause. Then will the Spirit strengthen thee and all things will circle round thee, and this is of God's grace upon thee, if thou be of them who know. Beware lest what thou possessest veil thee from the Beauty of the Ancient One Who hath appeared in truth from this resplendent and manifest Horizon. Cast aside what the people possess and take hold of the Book of God with strength and great power. Be not of them who recite the verses of God by night and day, yet when their like is revealed and their Revealer appeareth, deny both them and their Revealer. Thus do their souls entice them to evil, and they are of the idolaters.

Then suffice thyself with thy Lord apart from all else, and He will suffice thee against all who are in the heavens and on earth. Say: O people! Do ye deny Him through Whom the proof of God appeared among you and through Whom your faith in God, the Mighty, the Exalted, the Wise, was established? Woe unto you and unto those who follow you without permission from Our presence, for the truth is what appeareth from Me, and after truth there is naught save manifest error.

Say: After the Manifestation of God, no soul's faith shall profit it except after recognizing Him, and none denieth this save every hostile and hateful denier. Whoso acknowledgeth this Cause today hath indeed attained unto all good, and all his deeds shall be accepted, and God shall clothe him with the robe of forgiveness, for He is the Forgiving, the Merciful. He heareth his call and regardeth him with the glances of mercy, and ordaineth for him the good of this world and the next in preserved tablets of glory. And whoso denieth this Cause and doubteth therein, his works shall be rendered vain, and his cry shall not ascend unto God, and naught shall be accepted from him even should he worship as heavily as both humans and jinn. That which purifieth man is the recognition of the beauty of thy Lord, the All-Merciful. Thus hath the Command flowed from the Pen of the All-Glorious in all tablets, if ye be of them that know.

Whoso maketh mention of God today without being certain of God, his mention shall be struck upon his head while he perceiveth it not, and he shall be of the heedless. And whoso writeth the verses of God without being drawn unto Him, his very fingers curse him, nay, all atoms, if ye be of them that hear. O thou servant! Arise and remind the people of the verses of thy Lord that they may become aware within themselves and seek forgiveness for what they have committed against God, and be of the penitent. Thus have We commanded thee. Follow what thou art commanded, and this is better for thee than the

kingdom of the heavens and earth. And glory be upon thee and upon those who have placed their trust in God and have detached themselves from all else. And praise be to God, thy Lord and the Lord of the Mighty Throne.

BH01328: Lawh-i-Ziyarih

This is the Tablet of Visitation which hath been sent down from the Kingdom of Eternity for the Name of God Who was called Hasan and was related to His Self, the All-Compelling, the Mighty, the Self-Subsisting. Blessed are they who visit him and are among the visitors and draw nigh through him unto God, the Mighty, the Beloved.

In the Name of God, the Most Wondrous, the Most Glorious

The first splendor that appeared and shone forth from the Dayspring of eternity, and the first light that gleamed from the Horizon of glory, and the first mercy that descended from the clouds of grandeur be upon thee, O thou whom God hath sanctified from the allusions of the people of creation, and associated with the Manifestation of His own Self, the Most Exalted, the Most High, and the Dawning-Place of His Cause between earth and heaven, and aided thee with the Most Great Spirit in days wherein the hearts of the men of wisdom were sorely shaken, and the cries of all things ascended to the most remote sanctuaries and the Divine Lote-Tree.

I bear witness before God and the Concourse on High and the dwellers of the Paradise of Refuge and those who abide within the crimson chambers behind the veils of destiny, that thou didst drink the choice wine of faith from the hands of grace vouchsafed by thy Lord, the All-Merciful, and didst enter the precincts of paradise, the spot wherein shone forth the lights of glory, and didst attain unto the bounties of God, the Mighty, the Glorious, the Bestower. And I testify that thou didst believe in God and wert assured of His signs, and didst submit to His sovereignty and acknowledge His oneness and confess His unity and bow before His Cause and humble thyself before the Manifestation of His Self and the Dayspring of His Beauty and the Rising-Place of His Revelation and the Treasury of His inspiration and the Repository of His verses.

And I bear witness that thy spirit ascended to the Supreme Companion, purified from the veils of the people of creation, and entered the most great vision. May God's curse be upon those who wronged thee and invaded thy resting-place and dispersed those who were around thee and violated thy sanctity and took thy kindred captive and were among the oppressors. And I testify that at thy calamity there flowed the tears of the believers and the faces of those near to God turned pale and the hearts of the sincere were consumed.

I bear witness before Thee, O my God, from this station—and those who are seated upon the thrones of eternity, and the angels that circle round the throne of Thy Most Exalted Beauty bear witness likewise—that I have believed in Thee and in Thy greatest signs at the hour when the heaven of destiny was cleft asunder and the Manifestation of Thy Self appeared in the kingdom of names. And I believe in those who preceded Him before the creation of earth and heaven, who entered beneath the shadow of His grace and drank from the chalice of His mercy, who acknowledged His sovereignty and confessed His grandeur

and power, who prostrated themselves at the dawning of the lights of His countenance and were recorded among those who turned unto Him in the tablets of glory by the Pen of Command.

I bear witness, O my God and my Lord, that He Who appeared in those days is indeed Thy Glory, Thy Manifestation, Thy Revelation, Thy Power, and Thy Sovereignty unto all who are in the heavens and on earth. Blessed is he who hath recognized Him, hearkened to His call, responded to His command, circled around Him and sought His gate. Woe unto him who wronged Him, denied His Cause, disputed His signs, warred against His Self, gave the lie to His proof, arose in opposition before His face, waxed proud against Him, and was recorded among the opposers in the Book.

I beseech Thee, O my God, in this noble station, by Thy Most Exalted Self and by this Most Manifest, Most Glorious Revelation whereby the earth and heaven were illumined and the sun of destiny rose from the horizon of beginning, to make firm, O my God, my feet upon this path whereon most feet have slipped. Then cause me to gaze toward the direction of His good-pleasure, to turn unto the sanctuary of His holy grandeur, to remain steadfast in His love, to be certain of whatsoever proceedeth from Him, to be upright in what He willeth. Verily Thou doest what Thou pleasest, and Thou art powerful over all things.

O my God, I adjure Thee by the lights of Thy countenance which have encompassed all created things, and by Thy mercy which hath preceded all existence, not to deprive me of the holy fragrances of Thy grace and favors, nor to make me despair of the outpourings of Thy mercy and gifts. Then raise me up by Thy sovereignty unto Thy love and remembrance, sever me from all else but Thee, and preserve me, O my God, lest I dispute Thy signs at the time of the Manifestations of Thy Cause, the Dawning-Places of Thy revelation, and the Daysprings of Thy grace. Then open my eyes, O my God, that I may know Thee through Thyself and not through aught else, and that I may not cling to anything that hath been created between the heavens and earth. Verily Thou hast knowledge of all things.

Then forgive me, O my God, and my father and mother, and those who are related to me. Then send down upon me of every good thing Thou hast ordained for Thy chosen servants. Then assign me a seat of truth in the vicinity of Thy greatest mercy. Then purify me from all that veils me from Thee. Then prepare me for meeting Thee in the next resurrection. Verily Thou art He in Whose grasp is the kingdom of earth and heaven, and Thou hast ever been merciful unto Thy servants.

BH01335: He is God, exalted be His station! Glory…

He is God, exalted be His station! Glory and majesty! My spirit and soul be a sacrifice unto thee! According to the words of him who said: “The heart is before Thee; ask it about its condition.” The All-Knowing, the All-Informed beareth witness that in most times I am occupied with thy remembrance and am gladdened and rejoiced by thy soul-refreshing utterances. We beseech God to aid thee in all conditions and assist thee in His remembrance and praise and the promotion of His Cause amongst His servants.

My utmost care, from its very source, towards thee is evident and manifest and needeth no mention or explanation. God willing, thou shouldst adorn the loved ones of God and the seekers of the path of unity and detachment with the ornament of divine remembrance. Be not grieved by separation. A nearness

hath been ordained for thee which no remoteness can affect. Verily, He is the Friend of him who hath detached himself in His love and turned to Him with a luminous countenance.

Convey greetings from this evanescent servant to all the loved ones of God. Those who circle round the sanctuary of mystic knowledge all send their greetings. I send boundless greetings to thy honored son. I hope that through divine grace and favor he may be assisted and confirmed in his youth to serve the Cause and to serve thee, for the rights of parents are most great in the sight of the Beloved, especially in this matter wherein they have placed great emphasis. We beseech God to record him among those who circle round His Cause and gaze upon His countenance throughout the duration of His kingdom and dominion. Verily, He is the Most Merciful of the merciful.

They have bidden me write to thee that, God willing, thou shouldst, with complete reliance upon God and detachment from all else, through His might and power, proceed with the utmost joy and fragrance. I beseech God to grant thee such confirmation that thou mayest, through divine assistance, gladden and rejoice those who thirst in the desert of separation with the pure waters of the Friend's remembrance. The Friend is ever occupied with the mention of the friends of the All-Merciful and the seekers of the heaven of the All-Glorious, to such extent that in the extremity of hardship and affliction, or joy and ease, their remembrance is never cut off from His tongue.

All must walk among men with goodly attributes and praiseworthy character, holding fast with complete sincerity and perfect piety. The best garment hath ever been and will ever be the garment of piety. Blessed is the soul that hath attained thereunto and is numbered among the God-fearing. Reprehensible deeds have ever been and will ever be rejected. All must conduct themselves in such wise as to become trusted and reliable to all on earth. This is the station of the people of truth, and after truth there is naught but error.

Say: O friends! Occupy yourselves with the reformation of the world through wisdom and utterance. This is the station of man. Corruption, conflict and contention have never been and are not the station of the people of truth. Rather, ye should purify and illumine hearts with the burnishing of the Beloved's remembrance. Hearken unto the call of the Wronged One and transgress not His counsels. I swear by the Most Great Name that He hath never desired and will never desire for you aught save that which will endure with God.

Furthermore, prevent the friends from turning towards this spot, for the situation in this land is difficult and arduous. Let all be occupied at all times with the service of the Truth. This is the fruit of existence in this promised and appointed Day. Praise the Beloved of the worlds that through His grace and favor He did not deprive thee, and thou didst drink from the waters of nearness and reunion. Thou art among those souls who have ever been and will ever be in His sight. Therefore give thanks and be of the grateful ones.

Say: O My loved ones! Hearken unto My call. Beware lest ye associate partners with God, and beware lest ye follow the cawing of those who are heedless of the Truth and claim what God hath not permitted them. And beware lest ye commit that whereby the sanctity of His Cause would be diminished among His

servants. This is the essence and greatest of counsels—that ye follow God's command and follow not the heedless ones.

Furthermore, it is incumbent upon each of the loved ones to read the Lawh-i-Mallahu'l-Quds [Tablet of the Holy Mariner], which was revealed before the migration from Iraq, and to reflect upon it, that they may understand what hath appeared or will appear thereafter from what was recorded beforehand. Blessed are they who understand. All the tribulations that have befallen were inscribed in that blessed Tablet beforehand. Read it and reflect upon it, O ye who are endued with understanding.

I beseech the True One, exalted be He, not to deprive thee of His eternal holy realms and to ordain for thee in all worlds that which beseemeth His generosity and befitteth His sovereignty. By My life and thine, this is not difficult for God. Therefore praise and be of those who render thanks, and say: All praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH01360: The remembrance of God hath been raised between earth…

In the Name of God, the Most Unapproachable, the Most Wondrous, the Most Holy, the Most Glorious!

The remembrance of God hath been raised between earth and heaven from this Tongue which moveth only in celebration of God's praise, as beareth witness the Concourse on High, and those who abide beneath the pavilions of grandeur beyond the Crimson Sea of Glory—the spot which, in the cities of eternity, hath been named the Mount of Divine Command, in the Kingdom of Names the Blessed Vale, and in the realms of radiance the Paran of the All-Merciful. Thus doth the Pen of Command impart unto thee what God hath revealed in this Tablet, wherein He hath manifested Himself with an authority that is evident and true. Stand firm, through God's power, in His Cause, even if thine eyes should oppose thee therein—pluck them out and cast them behind thee. By God, the True One! He will grant thee such vision as will enable thee to behold all things in their essence, their reality and their innermost being, and to witness the effulgent rays of Beauty from the Sovereign of grandeur and majesty, for He, verily, hath power over all things.

O Kazim! Be fair, by God, and bring thyself into His presence on the Day of Resurrection. Hast thou heard melodies more wondrous than these which have truly been raised? Nay, by My very life, if thou art possessed of true knowledge! Purify thyself from all allusions, cast behind thee every mention, then speak forth amongst the servants concerning this Message which hath been, from time immemorial, supremely great. Say: O people! Were we to deny this Beauty, against Whom all have contended, Who hath arisen by His own authority and appeared with a sovereignty that hath encompassed all worlds, by what proof could we then establish our faith in God Who created us and all things? Be fair therefore, O people of malice, and tarry not even for a moment. By God, the True One!

O thou who art mentioned in the presence of the Throne! Thou shalt find their faces darkened by the fire of hell, uttering that which the followers of the Qur'an uttered at the hour when the heaven of the Cause was cleft asunder and God came in the shadows of the clouds. Be thou enkindled with this fire which hath been ignited in the midmost heart of eternity and which the idolaters have sought to extinguish. Say: By God! Ye shall never succeed in this, even should ye seek the aid of all who are in the heavens and on

earth. Say: O people! The Primal Point crieth out in the highest Paradise, saying: Fie upon you, O people! By God! There hath appeared that which hath never appeared in creation, yet ye have turned away therefrom after We had summoned you unto it in all Our Tablets, nay in every impregnable line.

Then know that your letter has come before Us, and We found from it the fragrance of your love for your Lord. Therefore have We sent down upon you these verses and dispatched them to you, that you may take them and enter the dwelling-place of those who turn away, with an authority that was manifest in truth. And when you enter, say:

> "O people! I have come to you from the Dayspring of the Cause with a message that was mighty in the Mother Book. And if you deny what you have heard and witnessed of God's power—your Lord—and the manifestations of His grandeur and the expressions of His might, then I bring you another proof, which is this Tablet that God has sent to this servant of His. Here I am, reciting it to you—so read what you have, that the truth may be made manifest between us."

Thus does the Pen of the Cause command you to act, and fear not, for your Lord will protect you from every sinful idolater.

O for God's sake, where is one with vision! O for God's sake, where is one with insight! O for God's sake, where is one with fairness who would perceive the fragrance of the Beloved in all that appears from Him, who would judge with truth and detach himself from every stubborn denier, who would purify himself from all allusions and cry out between earth and heaven:

> "I have become independent through God from all that has been created in existence, and I shall remain, through God's might, steadfast in His Cause!"

Thus has the Dove of Eternity spoken in the heaven of glory, out of love for you and mercy upon your being, that you might be transformed from the left of fancy to the exalted station at the right hand.

Then know that We found in the heart of she whom God made your companion a sorrow, which We have changed to joy by Our command, that God might grant you the gladness of the Cause from this Tree which was planted by the hand of the All-Merciful in the highest paradise in truth. And as for what you desired regarding your presence before the Face, We love this and permit you in truth. No harm shall befall you, and what you desire shall not become known among the people. Thus has the matter been decreed from the Pen of Destiny by One who is Mighty and Wise. And should you attain Our presence, you would discover what none in all the worlds has discovered, and witness what has befallen My soul at the hands of those who were created by My word, and you would be possessed of brilliant insight. And glory be upon you and upon those who are with you on a straight path.

BH01363: This is a Book that speaketh with truth, wherein…

In the Name of God, the Most Glorious, the Most Exalted, the Most Luminous!

This is a Book that speaketh with truth, wherein is mentioned that which gladdeneth the hearts of the mystics, and through which the breezes of holiness are wafted over all created things. Say: We have

ordained on this Night joy for Our chosen ones, and thereafter delight for Our near servants. Say: O people of the earth! Hearken unto the call of God from the divine Lote-Tree in this sacred and luminous Valley, that there is none other God but Him, and that ʿAli-before-Nabil is the Sovereign of existence, all are His servants and all shall return unto Him.

Say: O concourse of earth! Be not grieved on this blessed, holy, eternal Night of Oneness, and be not among the sorrowing ones. Celebrate on this Night and its morn, then glorify and magnify and praise your Lord, the Most Merciful, the Compassionate. Say: By God! This is the Night wherein the Temple of God was established upon a mighty holy throne, and through which were illumined the faces of all contingent beings, then the faces of the dwellers of the pavilion of eternity, then the faces of those near unto God. O concourse of earth! Deprive not yourselves of His beauty, seize ye the grace from His presence and be not of the lost.

Say: Hasten ye to the paradise of God and His presence. By God! He hath appeared in such wise as to dazzle eyes from beholding His beauty, if ye be of them that see. Say: The mighty oceans have surged from this tempestuous, foam-flecked, billowing, flowing, great Sea, and the heaven hath been raised from this heaven which was elevated in this Glory. Seek ye shelter in its shade if ye be of them that know. Say: There hath appeared a grace that no grace in creation hath preceded it, if ye be of them that hear.

Say: O people! Dispute not concerning Him and follow not your desires, and be not of the heedless. Follow ye the ways of God in this Cause which hath appeared in truth upon the Temple of the Youth, before whom prostrate themselves the dwellers of the heavens and earth. Say: He hath been named in the most exalted Concourse as Muhammad, then in the canopy of eternity as the Spirit, then from behind the holy pavilion as the Interlocutor, then in the celestial realm of immortality as ʿAli in truth, if ye be of the assured ones. Therefore, celebrate within yourselves, then rejoice in your souls, and say with the melody of your hearts: This is the Beauty of God which hath appeared in truth, blessed be God, the Creator of all beings.

O concourse of the Bayan! Draw ye near unto this Fire which hath been kindled in this wilderness and hath appeared upon the Temple of the Square in the form of the Triangle, and which speaketh forth the truth at every moment that there is none other God but I, the Protector, the Mighty, the Powerful. By God! There is no escape for anyone in these days save by entering beneath My shadow, and this is what hath been inscribed by the Finger of God, the Mighty, the All-Knowing.

O Sadiq! Give thanks to God, thy Lord, inasmuch as He hath singled thee out for that which none among all created things hath been singled out, and hath raised up through thee all who mention within themselves the name of their Lord, though they recognize Him not. Thus hath Our mercy preceded all things, and We are the All-Powerful, the Most Exalted, the Bestower, the Bountiful, the All-Generous. By God! Were We to desire it, We would raise up from thee the creation of the first and the last. However, when We found the people of the Bayan more veiled than the people of the Furqan, We therefore concealed the Cause from them and covered Ourselves with a thick veil. Turn thou away from all else but the face of thy Lord, and remain under mighty protection.

By God! The Sun of eternity hath dawned from the horizon of glory and the mountains have passed away like the passing of clouds, if ye be of them that perceive. Say: O concourse of the loved ones, rejoice within yourselves! Then, O concourse of the hateful ones, perish in your wrath! The Cause hath appeared in truth and there is no escape for anyone in all the worlds. Say: He hath appeared in such wise that were He to take a handful of dust and breathe into it the spirit of life, it would, by God's leave, become everlasting—He, the All-Powerful, the Most Exalted, the All-Knowing. Thus have We made manifest the Cause unto thee and sent down the verses in truth and expounded them for thee, that thine eyes may be solaced thereby and thou mayest be of them that remember.

O Sadiq! We counsel thee at the end of this Tablet to read these verses and preserve them within thyself, that thou mayest be of them that guard. And when thou beholdest in anyone's countenance the radiance of God, the Protector, the Mighty, the Powerful, recite unto him what We have now revealed unto thee, that perchance he may arise from the couches of heedlessness and flee unto a manifest place of security. Thus doth the Dove of Holiness counsel thee and the Pen of the Command instruct thee, lest thou be grieved within thyself for less than a moment, and remember thy Lord at all times, and be of them that are assured. And the Spirit be upon thee and upon those who have turned toward the shore of the Cause on the coast of this surging and mighty ocean.

BH01350: In this day that which is acceptable before…

He is the Everlasting One upon the Throne of Command, in His Most Glorious Name!

In this day that which is acceptable before the Throne is the teaching of God's Cause, and thus hath the Command been ordained by the One Who is the Unconstrained. However, teaching through goodly utterance and exalted mention is acceptable, not through disputation and conflict. Do good even as God hath done good unto you. The triumph of the Cause hath been made to depend upon utterance and mention by the tongue. Thus hath the Command been ordained by the All-Merciful.

O loved ones of Truth! Conduct yourselves in such wise upon the earth that His signs may be made manifest through you, in such manner that all souls may witness the signs of Truth in your deeds, acts and words, and hasten unto the everlasting goal of glory. You have ever been remembered before the Throne. Blessed art thou for having attained unto that which most of the servants have failed to attain.

Furthermore, be it known unto you that ere long Satan will appear in that land in the guise of man, seeking to cause the loved ones of the Glory of the All-Glorious to deviate from the straight path through base suggestions and satanic promptings, and to deprive them of the holy shores of the Divine Unity. This is one of the hidden tidings wherewith We have acquainted the chosen ones, lest they be debarred from the praiseworthy station through association with such embodiments of hatred.

It therefore behooveth all the loved ones of God to shun any soul from whom they perceive the fragrance of hatred for the Most Glorious Beauty, even should that soul speak forth all the verses and lay claim to all the Books, for the purpose of verses and books hath ever been and shall ever be the recognition of the All-Merciful. Let them therefore guard themselves with the utmost vigilance lest they fall into the snare of

guile and craftiness. This is the counsel of the Pen of Destiny which hath been set down. Whoso obeyeth, it shall be for his own good; and whoso turneth away, verily God loveth not those who turn away.

These satans are seen to be of several kinds. Some are souls who appear forthwith in that same land in a satanic spirit in human form. Others come from the lowest hell in the guise of seekers. Yet others are dispatched in utter darkness in the form of a tablet. In short, Satan hath in this day appeared and shall appear in all forms, that perchance he may, through some aspect or another means, veil the people from the Source of the Cause, even as he hath already veiled most through this veil. Were there to be found a penetrating and keen sight, it would perceive the fire of hell in the outward form of the enemies of God.

Strive diligently to safeguard your souls, for the satans shall appear in diverse garments and shall approach each soul in his own way, until having perceived him to be like unto themselves, they shall then leave him to his own devices. And in this day it is inevitable that from among the enemies of the All-Glorious One some shall arise from among the people of the Bayan, for the pure essences of this people who are adorned with the most exalted garment and have quaffed from the Most Glorious Wine have been and shall ever be accounted as the best of creation in the sight of God, while the base elements of this people are recorded before God as the most evil of all created things and the most remote of all souls. Therefore must the evil ones of this people rise up to wage war against this manifest, all-encompassing and perspicuous Revelation, for the more luminous the Revelation, the thicker the veils that are witnessed, and the more radiantly the Sun of the Glory of the All-Glorious shineth forth, the stronger grow those who turn away in their opposition.

Thus have We sent down the Command unto you and related that which was hidden from you, that ye may be informed thereof before and after its occurrence, and may be among those who are aware, that perchance ye may not be touched by the abasement of souls and their falsehoods in the words and traces that proceed from them, and that ye may be among those who are mindful and steadfast in the Cause of your Lord.

Therefore must the loved ones of God in this day manifest themselves in such wise that were all who are in the world to assemble against them with drawn swords, they would pay no heed whatsoever and would, through the power of their Lord, regard them all as a thing unworthy of mention.

Therefore, O faithful servant, hearken unto that which hath been mentioned in this exalted Tablet and convey these revealed Persian words to all the loved ones of God and teach them, that all may become aware. Thus do We counsel you with truth, that ye may be of them that act.

BH01389: O physician, upon thee be the Glory of God…

O physician, upon thee be the Glory of God, the Most Glorious!

In the name of God, the Ever-Abiding, Who perisheth not!

This is a Tablet from Us unto him who hath stood firm in the Cause of his Lord, and through whom the robe of certitude hath been adorned, and who hath been so attracted by the Divine Call that he hath detached himself from all things and turned unto the face of his Lord, the Mighty, the All-Wise, and hath

spoken that which his Lord desired. He is the One through Whom the idols were shaken and the hearts of the ungodly melted. We were with thee when thou didst speak forth from the presence of the Truth amidst the company of the wrongdoers, and We heard thy call and whatsoever thou didst utter in the gathering of the people. Verily thy Lord is witness unto all things. They who have wronged thee shall soon be turned back on their heels, and theirs shall be the torment of hell-fire.

Know thou then, O thou who speaketh My praise and glorification, that We have sent forth one of Our servants after We had raised him up with power from Our presence and dispatched him unto the mouth of the serpent, that all may be assured that thy Lord, the All-Merciful, is the Protector of all worlds. He is verily the Almighty, the Powerful. With him is a Book wherein We have manifested the Cause and perfected the proof unto all who dwell on earth. We have stripped from him the garment of fear and trepidation, and adorned him with the robe of strength and assurance, and kindled him with a word from Our presence, and sent him forth like a sphere of fire in the love of thy Chosen Lord, that he might deliver the Book of his Lord. He shall soon deliver it with a sovereignty from Our presence. Verily thy Lord is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

By My life! Tribulations have not prevented Us from the remembrance of the Lord of Names. We summon the people in all conditions unto God, the Mighty, the Most High. Follow thou the example of thy Lord. He will verily assist thee with the truth and be thy Guardian in this world and the next. There is none other God but He, the Mighty, the All-Wise.

Know thou that those who have entered this City have been afflicted with exhausting air, a troubled life, and tormenting water, such that gladness hath been transformed into sorrow. They have become, in relation to their former state, finer than a needle's thread and more delicate than embroidered silk. On the right is heard naught but the moaning of those who tremble from the thunder's fury through what the hands of the malicious have wrought, and on the left the groaning of those whom persistent affliction hath touched through what hath flowed from the pen of the reckoner. We testify that naught hath been ordained from the Pen of Destiny for His loved ones save that which is best for them. We beseech Him to grant them strength to be patient and steadfast, lest tribulations should debar them from the path of God, the Mighty, the All-Knowing.

Blessed art thou, O thou who gazeth upon the Countenance, for having drunk the cup of tribulation in the love of the Lord of Names. Ye shall soon find yourselves in the heights of glory and wealth. Verily, He is the Ruler over what He willeth. There is none other God but He, the Most High, the Most Glorious.

Should any Christian ask thee about the Beloved, say: It behooveth us not to speak of what is past. Leave what hath been said and hearken unto the call of thy Lord from the direction of the Kingdom, that it may attract thee to the seat of the Throne and sanctify thee from all peoples. By God! A matter hath appeared which, wert thou to become aware of it, would cause thee to soar heavenward in thy longing. Verily, He Who ascended hath come in His great glory, if thou be of them who know.

Be thou sharp of tongue yet sweet of speech in remembering thy Lord, the All-Merciful, amidst the concourse of all worlds. Thus doth the Pen of Destiny teach thee from the presence of One mighty and powerful. Thou art the star of steadfastness, and through thee We have adorned the heaven of certitude

for the followers of all religions. Woe unto them who have wronged thee! God shall soon transform thy abasement into glory for those who are nigh unto Him.

The mercy and glory be upon thee and upon those who have hearkened unto thy word concerning the Cause of thy Lord, the Master of the Day of Judgment. Finally, gather thou My loved ones unto the Cause, lest there should occur among them that which would divide their hearts and minds. There is none other God but He, the Mighty, the All-Bestowing. […] The purpose of mentioning the Christians is that the divines of that community are far removed from the Muhammadan Law—may the spirit of all else be sacrificed for His sake—and in their deficient understanding they have written refutations attempting to invalidate the truth. Therefore, the hearts and ears of that people are filled with unworthy and rejected utterances.

Today it is advisable that if someone from that community should question you about Him, one should not become entangled in yes and no in reply. It is more in keeping with piety to say in response that today is not the time for such discussions. A Cause hath appeared which, shouldst thou become aware of it, would cause thee to soar to heaven out of longing. One must investigate and examine this wondrous Cause, and after turning to the holy court, one will become convinced of and acknowledge the Qur'an, even as some in these parts have, after attaining certitude, affirmed the truth of the Qur'an. Thus doth thy Lord teach thee, and none can inform thee like Him Who is all-aware.

BH01410: God testifieth that there is none other God but…

He is the Mighty, the Everlasting, the Most Holy

God testifieth that there is none other God but Him and that the Point of the Bayan is His servant, His Splendor, His Glory, His Sovereignty, His Exaltation and His Grandeur. All were created by His command and all act by His command. Say: Verily He is the Path of God in the heavens and on earth, and His Light unto all who dwell in the dominions of authority and creation, and all shall return unto Him. Through Him the wayward were guided unto the guidance of God, and the near ones attained unto a station of glorious dignity.

O Nabil! Know thou that We have suffered at the hands of the loved ones that which We suffered not from the enemies. When We departed from Iraq, We commanded them not to leave Iraq except by Our permission, yet they violated what they were commanded, followed their desires, and were among those who trod the path of their own selves. Thereby befell Us what befell Us, and the idolaters drove Us from their lands time and again, and harm touched Us in such wise as cannot be reckoned by any reckoner. Say: O people! Seek forgiveness of God, your Lord, then turn unto Him, and follow not your desires. Follow the decree of God in all things and be not of the doubters in that which ye are commanded. Then remain steadfast upon the Path, fear God as He should be feared, and be not of those who comprehend not.

Say: Whether ye hear or hear not, ye shall never harm God in aught, and verily He ordaineth all things in the Book. In His hand is the dominion of the kingdom of the heavens and the earth. He doeth what He willeth through His sovereignty and decreeth what He desireth by His word "Be" and it is. Those who

have been given spiritual insight from God are they who follow not the dictates of their desires, but hold fast unto that which they are commanded, and cleave to the cord of God and His Cause, and drink at all times from the cup of submission.

No harm hath touched Us save through that which the hands of these people have wrought, if ye bear witness. All this they did after We had taken from them a covenant and confirmed it in the name of God, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting, that they should not turn towards the Holy Land nor depart from the Abode of Peace until the command should reach them from the Pen of Him by Whom all things were ordained in a preserved Tablet. Yet they heeded not God's command and tarried not a day, but left the city, and thereby corrupted and caused corruption in God's wisdom in His Cause, while they perceived it not. Each day a group of them departed from Iraq, whereby those who disbelieved and turned away were troubled, and were among those who associated partners with God.

Then know, O Nabil, that had they not violated God's command, neither affliction nor adversity would have touched Us. But the matter hath been decreed and fulfilled, and We are patient and put Our trust in God, and in Him let those who profess His unity place their trust. Yet they have not awakened in themselves even to the extent of an atom, as though they had made God's decree an object of mockery and made sport of that which they were commanded. This is their transgression against God, the Mighty, the Beloved.

Say: O ye believers! Fear God and transgress not His bounds, nor go beyond God's command. Seek forgiveness, then turn unto Him, for He is verily the Oft-Returning, the Generous, the Forgiving. Say: Glory be unto Thee, O my God! Take us not to task for what our hands have wrought, then forgive our sins, pardon us and have mercy upon us. Thou art verily the Lord of Bounty and Might, the Lord of Grace and Kingdom. Thou knowest the treachery of every soul, and Thou art the Truth, the Knower of the unseen. Deprive us not, O our God, of the fragrances of Thy sanctity, then make us steadfast in Thy Cause, establish for us a truthful station with Thee, and grant us from Thy presence mercy, and join us with those servants of Thine who soar on the wings of glory in the atmosphere of holiness. O Lord! Deprive us not of Thy Cause, nor make us despair of Thy Spirit, then make us successful, O my God, in recognizing Thee in this concealed Word.

And thou, O servant who believeth in God, guard thyself with utmost vigilance. Beware lest thou be heedless of this, for this is God's command upon thee. Associate not with those whose presence giveth rise to sedition and who are among those who cause discord. Let God, thy Lord, suffice thee, and turn unto Him with thy heart. He will suffice thee against all else and will send down upon thee of His grace as He sent down before. There is no God but Him. His is the creation and the command, and all things are with Him in a hidden Tablet.

BH01405: The beloved of God must walk among humanity…

The beloved of God must walk among humanity with divine characteristics. As can be observed, the greater the tribulations and the more severe the calamities that befell us, the more firmly we engaged in teaching the Cause, even as We sent forth the Call in the form of a Tablet and dispatched it to the center of the lands of Iran, and all who are in the heavens and on earth were thunderstruck save whom thy Lord

willed. However, in all circumstances wisdom must be observed, and one must deal with people with kindness and compassion, for they are weak—had they known, they would have circled round the Countenance. The heedless people need wise counselors. This is God's decree. All must be seen in complete humility and must, in truth, gird up the loins of service firmly.

Had people hearkened to the counsels of the Pen of the Cause, you would have beheld all who are on earth illumined with the lights of guidance and adorned with the Most Glorious ornament. As soon as a measure of security was established in the land, certain ignorant ones in every city laid claim to divinity. Thus from the year of the rising of the Most Great Light from the horizon of Iraq until now, numerous souls have abandoned piety and raised the standards of wickedness and rebellion, and these souls have caused upheaval and revolution in the lands. Soon you will witness that again from every land a calf will raise its call.

All this We foretold at the time of Our departure from Iraq. Observe how the previous Manifestation informed all peoples of this Most Great Manifestation, even as the Son of Zachariah heralded the Son of Mary to the people, and they emphasized it to such a degree that they said if anyone should speak a verse, none should deny it. It is most evident that they did not utter such words and their like except after having knowledge of this Most Great Manifestation; otherwise, such words would never have been sent down from the heaven of the Cause, for it is observed that most have uttered words and by the same have walked the path of pride and arrogance, and were not and will never be mentioned before God. They regarded the Cause of God as vain and did not reflect even to this extent: that if God's Cause were of this nature, it would never become established.

In any case, the Primal Point—may the spirit of all else be sacrificed for Him—in view of the existence of this Manifestation and its dawning in those days, completed all the Bayan with this Most Great Remembrance, lest the people of the Bayan be debarred from the All-Merciful. Otherwise, never did a previous Manifestation announce a subsequent Manifestation in such manner. And if the intention of the Point of the Bayan were what people have understood, since most of the servants, according to their own fancy, utter verses, then all should be true. Any person of understanding perceives how far these people are from the stream of knowledge and how they have failed to comprehend the purpose. By My life! The intention of that Point of existence was none other than the exaltation of this divine Word.

Some time ago, the most ignorant of people came with two others like himself from Iran to the great city, and according to his fancy uttered verses and made claims. He is but in evident loss and error. God willing, the beloved of Truth must protect the House of Unity from the heedless hosts of the ungodly and counsel the pretenders. They should study extensively the Kiab-i-Badi', which was revealed from the Source of Revelation through the tongue of one of the beloved, and impart it to the servants, that perchance they may return from passion to guidance and hold fast to humility instead of pride.

It is evident that this Prisoner has foregone comfort, glory, bounty, life, and the like for the life of the world and has shown no compromise with kings in the Cause of God, let alone with others. Now all must unite in raising the comprehensive Word and must, with the utmost striving and effort, engage in teaching God's Cause with wisdom and forbearance. We beseech God to assist them in this. By My life! If they were to become aware of this Manifestation and its sovereignty, they would be thunderstruck, let

alone draw near to it. Most are ignorant to this day—none has become aware of the divine Tree and its sovereignty, grandeur, and power, save whom thy Lord willed. Therefore, an expounder is needed. God willing, you must engage in serving the Cause in a manner that is befitting and appropriate. We beseech God to make you a key to the doors of hearts and minds and to assist you in the victory of His Cause. Verily, He is the Mighty, the Powerful.

BH01442: This is a Book from the presence of Baha…

In the Name of the Most Unapproachable, the Most Holy, the Most Glorious!

This is a Book from the presence of Baha unto Mustafa, that it may create within his soul that which will prevent his eyes from beholding aught save God, and will open them to His countenance, and cause him to voice His praise amongst those who have denied God's favor after it was sent down in such wise that none would deny it except every rejected denier.

O servant! Drink from the Salsabil of life in the name of thy Lord, the Most Merciful, which floweth from the right hand of the Throne. A single drop thereof purifieth all created things from the defilement of allusions and draweth them nigh unto a station which none can enter save he who hath detached himself from all things, if thou be of them that know.

Dost thou find peace within thyself in these days when the swords of hatred have been drawn from their sheaths and the pack of wolves have emerged from their lairs, seeking to shed the blood of Him through Whose word their realities and essences were created, and all that was and shall be?

O servant! Adorn thy tongue with the mention of the Most Great One and say: "In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Glorious!" Then burn away the veils of fancy, fear no one, and doubt not this Remembrance, which is celebrated in every heaven by a different mention and name, in all worlds by a different token, and among the concourse of creation as: "There is no God but He, the Sovereign, the Self-Subsisting."

Verily, those who in these days have stood firm in this Cause are circumambulated by the denizens of the Supreme Paradise, and the maidens of Paradise would sacrifice themselves in their path—yet the people comprehend not.

Say: O people of the Bayan! Be fair within your own selves. If ye deny this grace, in what thing do ye rejoice and upon what seats do ye rest? By My life! None hath a protector this Day save him whom God hath protected from error and delivered from the depths of ignorance, establishing him beneath the shade of the exalted Lote-Tree.

Arise with supreme steadfastness, then remind the people of this News which hath ever been hidden within preserved tablets of glory. By God! All Books have been sent down for My blessed and praiseworthy Name, and all Pages have been inscribed by the finger of My power, would ye but understand. All Scriptures have been revealed by My command, yet the people perceive not.

Say: O people! Do ye follow what your desires command you, while setting aside Him by Whose command the heavens and earth were created, and through Whom the sacred, mighty, and hidden mystery of God was made manifest?

O people! This is God's treasure among you, and these are His pearls manifested in the form of words. How excellent is he who possesseth these hidden pearls! This is God's Most Great Sea, and these are its waves manifested in the form of letters, would ye but know. O people! This is God's sanctuary among you, the Kaaba of your Lord within you, and the Beauty of the Beloved between the heavens and earth. Open your eyes that ye might behold!

Say: If ye turn not your eyes toward the words of God, God will soon raise up a people who will look upon them with Mine eyes, who will read My verses and weep for what hath befallen My Beauty, the Stranger, the Imprisoned, the Distressed. We have worlds beyond worlds, creation beyond creation, remembrance beyond remembrance, command beyond command, books beyond books, and sanctified, self-subsisting pages. We nurture every world by Our command and favor, for I am the Powerful over what I will, the Mighty, the Beloved.

Say: O people! Have mercy upon yourselves and upon the Soul of God that standeth over all things. If ye believe not, oppose Him not. Beware, O people! Fear ye God in His Cause, and cut not off the wafting of the breezes of grace from the right hand of glory and praise. Purify your ears that ye may hear what proceedeth from the mouth of God, your Lord, that perchance the breathings of the Spirit may transform you and draw you nigh unto the station of God, the Powerful, the Mighty, the Witnessed.

O servant! Loose thy tongue in utterance, for the Holy Spirit will assist those who in these days convey unto the people the Cause of their Lord, the Powerful, the Mighty, the All-Knowing. This hath been decreed in truth within sealed tablets of glory. Thus have We taught thee and inspired thee, that thou mayest stand firm in the Cause at which the hearts of those who disbelieved and joined partners with God, the Sovereign, the Self-Subsisting, were perturbed.

And glory be upon thee and upon him who hath detached himself from every direction and turned toward the direction of his Lord, and hath passed along this elevated and extended Path. Praise be to God, the King, the Single, the Mighty, the Transcendent, the Sovereign, the All-Loving.

BH01444: This evanescent atom counsels you at a time when…

This evanescent atom counsels you at a time when he is detached from all who are in the kingdom and relies solely upon the Sovereign of grace and justice, the King of glory and pure beauty. Therefore, hearken unto my call and accept my counsel.

First, my flesh and skin and blood and bones and my inmost reality and being testify that the Sovereign of the Bayan is the mystery of manifestation and pure concealment. He it is Who raised up the heavens of creation through His perfect power and adorned them with the sun of beauty and the point of glory, and established therein brilliant stars and radiant orbs that they might serve as proofs of His oneness and as a way to manifest His power and dominion. He revealed His mighty Book and His supreme decree, and ordained for every soul a portion and share in His Book, and within every letter He ordained a creation

such that were all the peoples of the earth to gather together to prevent even a single one of His creatures, they would be powerless. He breathed the spirits of all created things into the temples of words through the breath of power, and from them will be breathed forth unto infinity the mystery of possibility and existence and they shall be created, even though the idolaters be averse. Can anyone prevent a single letter thereof from reaching those for whom it is intended? Nay, by my Lord, even if all were possessed of power.

Therefore hasten, O people of the Bayan, that perchance ye may enter that garden and partake of the blessings ordained therein. I swear by the God Who caused this Tree of Sorrow to journey through all regions and corners, that were I to describe in detail but one level of the levels of the First Garden concealed in the Bayan, all who dwell on earth would be astounded, save whom my Lord willeth. And now ye say, by the Lord of the heavens and earth, this is naught but a mighty creation—whereas this lowly servant hath not enumerated even a single letter thereof as befitteth the sovereignty of His might and the kingdom of His glory. Therefore make haste, O people of the Bayan, that ye may warm yourselves with what God hath ordained for you, and deprive not yourselves if ye but know.

Furthermore, the outward and inward reality of this Point of Sorrow testifieth that today the Dayspring of Eternity is sovereign over all who are in the heavens and on earth. He is the Lord of all books and the Illuminator of all scriptures. Through Him are established the pillars of the Bayan, and through His name was set firm the throne of Paradise in the essence of creation, and through Him were raised the highest heavens, and through Him was the earth made stable upon the pillar of light. Whoso obeyeth Him is saved and whoso turneth away is lost. It is incumbent and obligatory upon all the peoples of the earth, from its east and its west, its lands and its seas, its plains and its mountains, to obey Him in whatsoever is His good-pleasure. God and His own Self, the Truth, suffice as witness to what I say.

Therefore, recognize the worth of this eternal Dayspring, though true recognition is impossible. Yet according to your capacity and ability, He bestoweth from the ocean of His bounty and maketh Himself known. Therefore, knowing the right of these days, do nothing whereby ye may be deprived of His universal and perfect mercy.

Moreover, I beseech you that in these few remaining days of your life, ye live with one another in utmost kindness and mercy, but resting and reposing in the shade of His special favor, for that is the foundation throughout all cycles and the aim in every age. Hold fast to the glory of His loving-kindness and cling to the cord of His forgiveness. Thereafter, recline in perfect might and joy upon the cushions of glory and repose upon the thrones of loftiness. Never allow gloom to approach you, for it causeth heedlessness. Pass your days in perfect harmony. Remove entirely all causes of sorrow. I counsel you, O people of the household, to learn all that We have counseled you, and be not of those who spread corruption in the earth. And peace be upon you and upon God’s sincere servants.

BH01467: God testifieth that there is none other God but…

He is the Most Exalted, the Most High

God testifieth that there is none other God but Him and that the Point of the Bayan is His servant and His Glory. This is what was revealed concerning the previous Manifestation Who was named ʿAli-before-Nabil, and those who followed the Bayan, according to their claim, bore witness to that which God had testified in this blessed, mighty and glorious verse. However, God did not accept their testimony, for they bore witness only until they reached the Servant, but when they came unto His Glory, their feet slipped and they were among the lost. Say: Today no one's testimony will be accepted except through this Name, by which all who are in the heavens and earth were thunderstruck, save those who have detached themselves from names and their kingdom, and have tasted the sweetness of the fruits from the Lote-Tree of their Chosen Lord in this exalted and lofty Tree. Say: This is the Name whereby God distinguisheth between truth and falsehood. At its mention, the faces of the people of eternity shine forth while the faces of the idolaters are darkened. Verily, it is God's wrath upon those who have disbelieved, and His mercy upon those who have drawn nigh.

Among the idolaters is one who said that a stone progresseth until it attaineth the station of ruby, and having reached this station, how could it descend from its rank? By this he seeketh to prove to himself that which his passion commandeth him, taking it as a friend and protector besides God. Say: Verily thy Lord hath power over all things. He changeth whatsoever He willeth by His word, if thou be of those who understand. Say: O thou who associateth partners with God, dost thou imagine that He is powerless over anything, or that any matter among all that hath been created between the heavens and the earth can defeat Him? Say: Hast thou not witnessed that He created all things from dust and unto it shall He return them—a promise from His presence? And verily He hath power over all things. By God the Truth! There issueth from the mouths of these people that which causeth the hearts of all created things to be consumed, yet they perceive it not and are numbered among those who sport with their own selves.

Say: O people! This is ʿAli Who hath come unto you with all the signs and a wise remembrance. After the Manifestation of God, doth it beseem anyone to cling to a single letter of the Book after the Mother of Tablets hath been sent down from the holy and luminous Finger? After the appearance and shining forth of the Sun, would it be fitting for anyone to ask a blind man whether it hath risen? Nay, by Him Who hath caused the tongues of all created things to speak forth in praise of His mighty and exalted Self! By God the Truth! The Primal Point in the Supreme Horizon is bewildered, and weepeth and lamenteth over that which the hands of those who claimed faith within themselves yet disbelieved in God have wrought, and were counted among the idolaters.

O Hasan! Wert thou to become aware of what hath befallen My Soul, thou wouldst weep for months and years. O Hasan! Be beneficent in the Cause of God, thy Lord, and grieve not over anything. Cast behind thee the kingdom of blind imitation, then speak forth in remembrance of thy Lord among the worlds. Arise to promote the Cause of God and to aid it, and pay no heed to those who have disbelieved and associated partners with God. Unite with those who seek the Countenance at eventide and at dawn, and who call upon God between the heavens and the earth. Do good unto thyself and unto those from whom thou perceivest the fragrance of the love of thy Lord, the Most Merciful. Thus do We command thee in truth, that thou mayest be among those who act.

Purify thy heart from allusions, and be not among the doubtful concerning this Cause, whereat all feet have slipped save those whom God hath preserved through His grace. Verily, He is the Forgiving, the Merciful. Say: O people! Fear God and associate not partners with Him through Whom the Dove hath warbled in the pole of eternity, and the Cock of the Throne hath crowed upon the Lote-Tree of the uttermost boundary, and the Tongue of Grandeur hath spoken forth in the pavilion of supreme majesty. Fear God, O people, and be among the God-fearing.

Do that for which thou hast sought permission from God, thy Lord. The beauty of permission hath now shone forth from the horizon of thy Lord, the Most High, the Most Great. Verily, thy Lord loveth that His handmaidens be joined in marriage to His believing servants. Thus have We cast upon thee the word of truth as a bounty from Our presence, that thou mayest be among the thankful. Know thou moreover that God hath forgiven the handmaiden whom thou didst mention in thy letter. The breezes of forgiveness have wafted upon her from the direction of thy Lord, the Most Merciful. Verily, He forgiveth whom He willeth by His command, and He is indeed the Most Merciful, the Compassionate. And the radiance which hath shone forth from the right hand of eternity be upon thee and upon those with thee, and upon God's assured servants.

BH01459: He is the One established upon this resplendent…

He is the One established upon this resplendent and steadfast Throne. O Most Exalted Pen! Give thou the glad-tidings to the denizens of the Supreme Paradise that the veil of concealment hath been rent asunder and the Beauty of God hath appeared from this Most Great Scene with a radiance whereby the suns of His Command have shone forth from the dawning-place of His Great Name. O joy! This is the Festival of God that hath appeared from the horizon of transcendent grace. This is the Festival wherein all things have been adorned with the robe of names, and bounty hath encompassed all existence, of the former and latter generations. O joy! This is the Festival of God that hath dawned from the holy and gleaming Dayspring.

Bid the Maids of Eternity to emerge from their crimson chambers in the likeness of celestial beings and to appear between earth and heaven in My Most Glorious Beauty. Then grant them leave to offer the chalice of life from the Kawthar of the All-Merciful unto the peoples of the world, both high and lowly. O joy! This is the Festival of God that hath appeared from the holy horizon with wondrous rapture.

Then bid the youth created of divine light to come forth from Paradise in the adornment of the All-Merciful and, with fingers of ruby, to offer the cups of eternity unto the people of might among the companions of Baha, that they may be drawn to the Supreme Beauty from this radiant and resplendent Countenance. How excellent is this Festival of God that hath appeared from the horizon of transcendent glory! By God! This is the Festival wherein the Beauty of the Divine Essence hath appeared without veil or concealment, with such sovereignty as hath humbled the necks of the proud. O joy! This is the Festival of God that hath appeared with mighty sovereignty.

This is the Festival wherein the Pen hath been lifted from all things, for the Sovereign of Eternity hath appeared from behind the [veil of] names. Therefore, O people of creation, rejoice within yourselves, for

the breezes of forgiveness have wafted over all created things, and the spirit of life hath been breathed into the worlds. O joy! This is the Festival of God that hath appeared from a holy and gleaming Dayspring.

Beware lest ye transgress the bounds of propriety, or commit that which your minds and your pleasure would reject. This is that which ye have been commanded by the Finger of God, the Almighty, the All-Powerful. O joy! This is the Festival of God that hath appeared from the horizon of transcendent grace. This is the Festival wherein the Beauty of the All-Glorious hath been exalted above all things, and hath spoken between earth and heaven whatsoever He wished and desired, without veil or concealment. This is of His grace that hath encompassed all creation. In it the Temple of Baha was established upon the Throne of Eternity, and the Face shone forth from the horizon of the Beginning with wondrous and glorious lights. O joy! This is the Festival of God that hath appeared from the horizon of transcendent grace.

O ye dwellers of the pavilion of grandeur! O ye people of the tabernacle of sinlessness! O ye inhabitants of the tent of glory and mercy! Sing and warble the sweetest melodies in the elevated chambers, for the Beauty of the Concealed One hath appeared in this Revelation, and the Sun of the Unseen hath shone forth from the horizon of ancient glory. O joy! This is the Festival of God that hath appeared with magnificent adorning.

Don ye the pilgrim garb, O denizens of the Supreme Paradise and O people of the City of Eternity, for the Sanctuary of the All-Glorious hath appeared in this Sacred Precinct, round which circle the Heights of the House, then the Sacred Monument and the Station. Therefore, circumambulate and visit the Lord of mankind in these days the like of which the eyes of past generations have never witnessed. O glad tidings! This is the Festival of God that hath risen from the horizon of God, the Mighty, the Bountiful.

Drink ye, O people of earth and heaven, from the cup of eternity offered by the hands of Baha in this Most Exalted Paradise. By God! Whosoever attaineth unto a drop thereof shall never change with the passing of time, nor shall Satan's schemes affect him, and God shall raise him up in every Revelation with a holy and mighty beauty. O joy! This is the Festival of God that hath appeared from the scene of thy Lord, the All-Wise.

Sanctify yourselves, O people, from this world, then hasten to the Ultimate Lote-Tree in this Farthest Mosque, that ye may hearken unto the call of your Lord, the All-Merciful, in this Paradise which hath been created by the Kawthar of life from the very Spirit of Glory, and before whose gate the people of the holy and guarded pavilions have fallen prostrate. O joy! This is the Festival of God that hath gleamed from the horizon of transcendent glory.

Beware, O people, lest ye deprive yourselves of the fragrances of these days wherein the sweet-scented breeze of the Divine Youth's raiment wafteth at every moment from a shining and glorious horizon. O joy! This is the Festival of God that hath dawned from the dayspring of My Great Name.

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BH01478: O Ahmad in the city! He is God…

O Ahmad in the city! He is God, the Most Holy, the Most Exalted, the Most High!

O Ahmad! Hearken unto the call of Ali from the Supreme Kingdom, then unto the call of Muhammad from the Divine Lote-Tree, then unto the call of the Spirit from the ultimate station, then unto the call of Moses from the Sinai of Grandeur, that verily there is no God but Him, and He Who is named Baha in the Kingdom of Names is indeed the Manifestation of God between earth and heaven, and the Most Great Word in the Concourse on High, and the Mighty Announcement in the cities of eternity, and the Preserved Tablet concealed from the eyes of the heedless.

O servant! Hesitate not in this Cause wherein, should anyone hesitate, he must needs deny all the Manifestations of Unity throughout all ages, and all the Dawning-Places of Divinity throughout all dispensations, and all the Daysprings of the Command from the first to the last. Cast behind thee all that thou findest among men, then soar with the wings of holiness in this atmosphere which God hath sanctified from mention of aught else, that thou mayest attain the station of sanctity and nearness and beauty, and witness the lights of thy Lord's countenance, the Mighty, the Most High, with the vision which God hath deposited within thee, detached from the sight of all men.

Arise to remember God and praise Him. By God, the Truth! All that thou hast heard concerning him who warred against God hath appeared from Us for a wisdom which none knoweth save God, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. And those who deny today the grace of God—these have not recognized him whom they have taken as their protector besides God, and whosoever maketh such a claim is a lying impostor. To this testifieth the tongue of all creation, if thou be of them that hear.

Beware lest thou be veiled by these from God Who created thee by a command from Him and made thee of the beneficent ones. Fear God and hesitate not in the Cause which hath appeared with manifest sovereignty. Trust in God in all matters, and take this Tablet, then enter the abode of the ungodly. Say: O people! By God, I have come to you from the Orient of the Command with God's momentous announcement, the Mighty, the Most High, the Great. Then recite unto them God's Tablet and chant it with the melodies of them that are detached.

Say: O people! Be fair unto yourselves. If ye possess that which can equal these fragrances sent forth by the Mighty, the Wondrous One, or a proof greater than what We have, then bring it forth and tarry not, O people, and be not of them that slumber. Say: Think ye that the Most Great Ocean can be prevented from its waves, or the Cloud of Grace from its rain, or the Tree of Holiness from its fruits? Nay, by the Lord of the worlds! Nothing can prevent it from what ye possess, and it speaketh the truth from the heaven of eternity in the Most Glorious melody, celebrating His Most Exalted Self, and it feareth no one even if all the peoples of the heavens and earth should oppose it.

Say: Verily, He hath sought help from no one and will aid the Cause of God by Himself, even as He aided it in truth when ye were beneath the veil of women and concealed your faces in fear for yourselves in those

days when your feet were shaken by the might of the Cause, and ye were among the fearful ones. And He stood alone between the heavens until the pavilion of remembrance was raised at the heart of all creation. Then came ye forth from behind the veils and opposed the Beauty of the Chosen One, and were among the opposers.

Say: Be fair, by God! If ye deny this Cause, by what proof was your faith in God, the Mighty, the Wise, established? Say: Do ye occupy yourselves with My mention instead of that which hath descended from My Pen aforetime, and seek to slay My Self? Woe unto you, O company of unbelievers!

And thou, O Ahmad, say: In the Name of God and by God! Then pass over the Bridge as the clouds pass, in the name of thy Lord, the Mighty, the All-Bestowing, and be not of the patient ones. Stand between earth and heaven and call out to the whole creation with this firm, mighty, and wondrous remembrance. Sanctify thyself from all allusions and compromise not in the Cause of thy Lord with those who have disbelieved and associated partners with God, and be of those who have recognized God through God, then detached themselves from all the worlds.

Thus have We cast upon thee the Word of Truth, for My love for thee, that thou mayest remember thy Lord among His servants with the melodies of them that are attracted. The Spirit, glory and splendor be upon thee if thou hearest the call of God and art of those who have purified their vision from the veils of human limitations and turned unto the Most Great Prospect, this hallowed, illumined Station.

BH11711: This is a Book that speaketh the truth, wherein…

In the Name of Him Whom all worship, though they perceive it not!

This is a Book that speaketh the truth, wherein lieth mercy for all the worlds. From but one letter of that which hath been sent down in this sacred, blessed, mighty and wondrous verse, God hath created heavens whose number none can reckon save God, the Lord of all creation. In each heaven He hath ordained clouds bearing His name, the Most Merciful, the Compassionate, raining upon all created things that which purifieth them from the mention of aught else but Him. This, verily, is the truth certain.

By God the Truth! Should all created things turn, in less than a twinkling of an eye, to those clouds raised up by the truth in but one of the heavens created by a single letter of thy Lord's Book, the Mighty, the Powerful, the Most High, the Great, they would be purified from all things and would give voice to that which the Dove hath warbled in the midmost heart of eternity, and to that which reached the ears of Moses in the Sinai of the divine presence, when one of Our most beauteous names was manifested. Thus doth the Pen of Command impart its message, that perchance mankind may find a path unto God.

O Rida! Hearken unto the melodies of eternity from the Pen of Glory, by one note whereof the fire was kindled in the realms of eternity, then in the cities of names, then in the hearts of them that are nigh unto God. Take thou a brand therefrom, that thou mayest kindle all created things and turn them toward the court of God, the All-Possessing, the Most Holy, the Mighty, the Powerful. Perchance thereby warmth may be generated in the hearts of those who have grown cold through the chill of this world and its ornaments, and who have remained heedless of this Sun that hath shone forth from the horizon of grace, its rays encompassing all worlds.

Tarry not for a moment in propagating the Cause of thy Lord, the Most High, the All-Powerful, the Ancient of Days. Detach thyself wholly from all else but God, thy Lord, that thy words may influence the hearts of all creation. Say: O people! Know ye God by God and by that which proceedeth from Him. Thus have We commanded you in all the Tablets and in that which We sent down unto ʿAli before Nabil.

O people! Fear ye God, then be ashamed before Him Who was suspended in the air and sacrificed Himself in the path of God, the Just King, the All-Informed. By God! He sacrificed Himself for naught else but to manifest that which hath been manifested in these days. Yet ye, O people of the Bayan, have remained heedless of that which was intended and have clung to your own idle fancies, without any clear authority or enlightening Book.

Say: Would ye slay the Manifestation of God's Self with your swords while ye make mention of Him with your tongues? What aileth these people that they fail to comprehend even a single utterance from God, the Speaking, the Manifest, the All-Evident? Say: O people! Do ye claim that ye have believed in God and His signs, after ye have turned away from His resplendent, radiant and luminous beauty? Would ye find peace within yourselves after the head of the Youth was raised upon the spears of hatred by these idolaters, crying out "Is there any helper who will help ʿAli who was before, then Muhammad before him, then the Spirit before him, then He Whom We sent in the name of Moses?"

O people! This is indeed ʿAli in truth, who hath appeared with such evidence as hath rendered powerless all who are in the heavens and on the earth. He reciteth unto you at every moment from verses of which a single letter surpasseth all things, were ye of them that know. If ye deny them, by what proof do ye uphold your belief in God? Produce it, if ye be truthful! Nay, by My Self! Every cord hath been severed from you save that ye take hold of this firm and mighty handle.

O people! Act not as did the peoples of former times, nor compare the Self of God with aught else, nor His words with that which people utter, nor what He possesseth with what ye possess, if ye be of those who comprehend. Say: He hath appeared with a sovereignty which no one can dispute except by disbelieving in God and being accounted among the idolaters.

And thou, O servant, know that when We first began this Tablet, We intended to recount unto thee what had befallen Us, but at this moment came the Divine Decree from the realm of the unseen; therefore We stayed Our Pen from its mention lest thou be grieved with a sorrow that would sadden thy heart and the hearts of the seekers. Soon shalt thou hear, if God should will and desire, and verily He shall make mention of His Cause through the tongue of His patient servants.

And the glory be upon thee and upon those who have hearkened unto thy words concerning God, thy Lord and the Lord of the hereafter and of the former times, and the Lord of the mighty throne.

BH02335: O my God! I call upon Thee when calamities…

O my God! I call upon Thee when calamities descend from the clouds of Thy decree and tribulations rain down from the heavens of Thy command. How long wilt Thou make us drink from the cups of joy in Thy dominion, and how long wilt Thou provide us with the chalice of sorrow among Thy servants? Have the

rains of Thy bounty ceased to pour, though I witness them still flowing in Thy lands? Have the gates of Thy mercy and favor been sealed, though I see them still open before Thy creation?

By Thy might, O my Beloved! The drink of Thy lovers has become their hearts' blood, and the food of Thy faithful ones the pieces of their livers. Days pass over them without the breezes of Thy mercy wafting upon them, and nights elapse without the fragrances of Thy loving-kindness reaching them. Dost Thou, O my God, bar them from the shores of Thy mighty ocean after they have confessed Thy oneness? Dost Thou, O my Lord, drive them from the precincts of Thy sanctity after they have acknowledged Thy unity?

Glory be unto Thee! Glory be unto Thee, O my Heart's Desire! Tribulation has reached such a state that it gives us no respite even to draw breath, encompassing us from all directions and seizing us with mighty force. By Thy might, O my God! I am bewildered in mentioning Thy descending trials and falling afflictions. I know not of which tribulation to complain to Thee.

Shall I complain, O my God, of my imprisonment for known months, or of the chains whose weight has broken my neck, or the iron upon my feet? Of what the hands of the wicked have wrought, or how our families were made captive in the hands of enemies, or how they seized our possessions and destroyed our homes? Or shall I recall, O my God, when they took me and led me from village to city, my head bare and my feet unshod, my neck in chains and my hands bound? Then the people gathered around me—some who knew me and some who did not. Those who knew me stood bewildered at my plight, some mocking me, while those who knew me not all cast at me whatever stones and sticks they could find, as though they had never drunk the wine of equity nor caught the fragrance of fellowship.

By Thy Ancient Beauty and the wondrous lights of Thy countenance! They inflicted upon me that which I am ashamed to mention before Thee, which the pen cannot move to describe, nor ink flow to express, nor tablet bear, nor souls endure. Therefore I cease with this, O my God. Or shall I mention how they drove us out with our women and children from our homeland—and Thou hast counted all that befell and descended upon us—or what occurred to us thereafter, or this fresh calamity and unprecedented tribulation that has grieved hearts, disturbed souls, broken backs, and constricted breasts?

Since all this has come to pass through Thy irrevocable decree and decisive command, I beseech Thee by Thy luminous Beauty and Thy manifest Glory to make us patient in the occasions of Thy trials and tranquil in the places of Thy decree. For Thou art the Powerful, the Mighty, the Glorious, the Omnipotent.

Thou knowest, O my God, that my complaint before Thee is but as the yearnings of lovers before their Beloved, for they desire not to complain of what they have witnessed in the paths of love and separation, or of how they have been consumed by the fire of longing. Rather, their purpose and hope is to demonstrate their sincerity before the Beloved and to prove their steadfastness in what has befallen them in the paths of affection and love, that it might serve as testimony for the lovers who will come after them upon this path.

Glory be unto Thee, O my God and my Beloved! By Thy might! I find no sweetness save in the descent of Thy trials, and I behold no glory except in the appearance of Thy tribulations. May necks be deprived that have not been placed in chains of retribution in the paths of Thy good-pleasure, and may hearts perish

that have not tasted the wine of afflictions in the desert of Thy love and favor, after Thou didst promise us all this in Thy inviolable Book, saying—and Thy word is the truth:

> "We shall surely test you with something of fear and hunger, and loss of wealth, lives, and fruits; but give glad tidings to the patient—those who, when affliction strikes them, say: 'Verily, we belong to God and to Him do we return.' These are they upon whom are blessings from their Lord, and mercy; these are they who are guided aright."

BH01480: He is the Mighty One! O Ancient Pen! Set…

He is the Mighty One! O Ancient Pen! Set down upon the Tablet that which God hath cast upon thee in the world of eternity, ere the letter "K" was joined unto its sister, and ere the mysteries of the Cause were revealed in preserved tablets of glory. Beware lest thou fear anyone; then detach thyself from all that hath been created between the heavens and the earth, and hold fast unto this purified and beloved hem. Say: By God, the True One! When the days of sorrow had passed and were sealed by the Day of the Festival, there appeared therein a matter which caused all who dwell in the heaven of Command and Creation to swoon, save the number that correspondeth to Our Most Glorious Name in the heaven of eternity, did ye but know.

Say: The Ancient Being hath appeared in truth, and the Essence of Pre-existence hath dawned from this holy, exalted, mighty and manifest horizon. Thereby hath the Beauty of the Adored One been revealed with all names and attributes, would that ye might perceive. Say: This is a Day wherein God hath transcended all Manifestations, and wherein the Holy Spirit ascendeth at every moment, would that ye might be assured.

Say: By God! No good thing remaineth but it hath appeared on this Day, no matter but it hath been fulfilled, no bounty but it hath been completed, no word but it hath been confirmed, no secret but it hath been revealed, no sovereignty but it hath risen, no power but it hath emerged. Thus do We cast upon you the word of truth from the Pen of God, the Help in Peril, the Self-Subsisting.

O ye dwellers of the Throne! O ye Concourse of Holiness in the Most Exalted Paradise! O ye dwellers of the precincts of intimacy in the most glorious heaven! O ye denizens of the Supreme Concourse in the pavilions of names! Hearken unto the call of God from this enkindled, blazing Fire within this lofty, upraised, blessed, unique, eternal, everlasting Tree upon this visible Mount in this blessed, transcendent Valley, that "Verily, I am God; there is none other God but Me. In truth, I have ever encompassed all worlds. I created all things in the world of the newly-created Will at a station which was sanctified and purified from all limitations and allusions to unity, in truth and by the truth." O concourse of earth! Deprive not yourselves, nor your spirits, nor your eyes from the beauty of this unique, eternal, self-subsisting Youth. Hasten ye unto Him! This indeed is a grace from God unto all the worlds.

Say: By God! Flight shall profit you not on that Day from this Youth, Who hath been named the Great Announcement in the heaven of eternity, the Inscribed Mystery in the most exalted heaven, the Ancient Life in the kingdom of names, and the Ancient Light in this Paradise which hath been raised in truth above the pavilions of glory and grandeur.

Say: By God! At times I behold Him as the sun in the temple of holiness, and at times I witness that He surgeth within His Own Self, by His Own Self, for His Own Self, like the ocean that encompasseth all worlds. At times I behold that He hath risen like the heaven, and all created things dwell beneath His shadow, nay, beneath the shadow of His shadow, inhabited in justice. At times He appeareth with light, then radiance, then effulgence, then manifestation and gleaming that seizeth the eyes of all who are in the heavens and earth from turning to His countenance or gazing upon His beauty.

Thus have We revealed unto you from the mysteries of this Youth, and explained unto you less than the eye of a needle, nay, less than can be numbered, of the wondrous matters of the Command which had been preserved behind the veils of eternity by God's protection in the holy Tablet. O concourse of earth and heaven! Deny not the grace of God and His favor, then the mercy of God and His honor, then the proof of God and His evidence. Distance not yourselves from drawing nigh unto this Garden which hath been spread in the atmosphere of this Spirit by the name of God.

Say: By God! We have bestowed upon all things, then upon all possibilities, from that mercy which hath encompassed all created things, that this bounty might be dispensed from this justice unto all worlds. Whoso willeth, let him hearken unto the melodies of the birds of the Throne upon this Branch which hath been raised in truth and hath encompassed all existence with an authority that was known in truth. And now We say at the end of Our utterance: All praise be to God, my Lord and the Lord of all the worlds together.

BH01520: In the name of God, the Most Holy…

In the name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Invincible, the Most Glorious! The mercy of God from the Primal Point hath verily descended in the form of words in the Tablets by virtue of truth. Well is it with the soul whom God hath not deprived thereof, and who hath tasted the sweetness of the remembrance of God, the Most Great, in these words which have issued from the mouth of God in truth. Verily it is the Most Great Sign in the Concourse on High, and the burning fire in the Tree of Eternity, and the glorious fruits upon the Tree of the Cloud, and the Ark of Eternity upon the Sea of Grandeur, and the Dawning-Place of the Command in the depths of the Names, and the Rising-Place of Light amidst the company of creation. Yet the people have remained heedless thereof and have deprived themselves of the melodies of God.

O servant! Bear thou witness that these are words which the Ancient Beauty hath sent down from the heaven of grace, and through them He maketh mention of thee that thou mayest rejoice within thyself and tread the paths of glory. Cast aside what thou possessest, then take the Book of God with the power that proceedeth from Him and the might that emanateth from His presence, and follow not every rejected satan. Follow thou the way of God and His command, then turn thy face toward the All-Merciful, that the lights of thy Lord, the All-Glorious, may take hold of thee and transform thee unto a station of sanctified love.

When the Tablet of God reacheth thee, place it upon thy head, then read what hath been revealed therein with such melodies as shall attract every praised and receptive soul. Beware lest thou be still in the Cause of thy Lord or remain silent in His remembrance. Aid thy Lord, the Bestower, in these days

wherein the manifestations of Satan have dispersed from around Him. Thus doth the Pen of God instruct thee, through whose melodies were created the hearts of the Concourse on High and the realities of those who dwell in the Kingdom of Names—thus hath the Command been, if thou be of them that know.

Read thou the words of God in thy days and follow not those who have followed their desires in the days wherein the Ancient Beauty was established upon the throne of His Most Glorious Name by the command of Him Who was witnessed from the holy horizon. Then arise in the Cause of God and remind the people to turn unto the court of His grace and His presence. Say: O people! This is the Ancient Mystery that hath appeared in the temple of Him Who speaketh among you with verses that cause all in the kingdom to be thunderstruck. And if thou art capable within thyself, address the dwellers of the Cloud, then remind them of how this Beauty hath shone forth from a manifest horizon of glory.

By My Beauty, the Truth! Should anyone arise in this Cause and desire to subjugate all created things through a word from His presence, he would be empowered to do so. Thus hath the power of thy Lord encompassed all who are in the worlds. Say: In the name of God, the Holy, the Most Mighty, the Most Glorious! Then subjugate what is in thy right hand and what is in thy left hand, then turn thy face toward this Dawning-Place wherefrom the Ancient Beauty was witnessed. Leave the idolaters and what they possess. Verily, We have found some of them upon the hill of turning away, and some upon the hill of questioning, and some upon the hill of hatred, and some upon the hill of ignorance. Thus hath God reckoned their affair in this Tablet which hath been, from time immemorial, sanctified from the touch of the idolaters.

Hold thou fast unto the cord of God, then remain steadfast in His Cause. Take thou no rest in thyself, nor tarry in thy place. Wouldst thou rest while the Temple of God was raised upon the cross of hatred by these idolaters? Oh, what sorrow for the servants who have found rest within themselves while the Ancient Beauty hath been afflicted amidst the company of the hateful ones, and there descendeth upon Him at every moment that which no ear can bear to hear. By this have the hearts of the Concourse on High been consumed, then the hearts of those who dwell within the pavilions of eternity, then what was and what will be, if thou be of them that know.

Guard not thyself in the Cause of God in such wise that the fire of His love should be quenched within thee. Come forth from behind the veils of silence with manifest and glorious utterance. The glory of God be upon thee and upon whosoever hath heard the melodies of God and followed what hath been commanded in truth. Thus hath the sun of wisdom shone forth from the horizon of the mouth of thy Lord, the Most High, if thou be of them that perceive. And praise be to God, the Lord of the heavens and of the earth, and the Lord of all the worlds.

BH01528: This servant's purpose concerning the loved ones of God…

In the name of the one incomparable Beloved!

This servant's purpose concerning the loved ones of God has ever been truthfulness, justice and drawing nigh unto God. Throughout all days and nights I have summoned all, purely for the sake of God, to the holy court. Even in times when there was not a moment's hope of safety outwardly, as you have all seen

and understood, when enemies from all sects lay in ambush for this celestial bird, nevertheless, to the extent possible and even beyond that, there was no negligence in teaching the Cause of God. I swear by His sacred Being that I never had, nor have, any purpose of my own. Rather, the purpose was that a gathering of spiritual birds might assemble in His most glorious and impregnable Paradise, engaging in the remembrance of the Friend, that perchance the fragrances of detachment might waft over the world and its people, causing all to turn toward the Friend and become freed from the abasement of self and passion, and that the edifice of oppression built by the hands of the ungodly and transgressors on earth might be demolished by the hands of justice of holy, detached souls, so that all people might receive their share and portion from the ocean of His bounty and not remain deprived of His all-encompassing mercy.

Tablets have arrived from the land of Sad, and all are certain that that wicked associator has written falsehoods and calumnies. I swear by the Beauty of the Beloved that the mind is bewildered by the craftiness of these souls. Some of you have seen it. Now that associator has become the "leader of women." Observe the power of that Almighty One Who has made manifest the falsehood of these wicked souls through their own actions, such that every person of insight and understanding has recognized and will recognize that "leader of women" as the "leader of men." Therefore take refuge in God, O people, from their deceit and their lies. May God protect us and you from their evil.

Hear the call of this servant and with complete steadfastness protect the Cause of God from the oppression of the ungodly of the Bayan. Say: O people of the Bayan! Judge fairly yourselves. The deeds, actions and words of those souls have become evident and manifest. Is it now permissible for anyone to turn to such souls or speak in praise of such persons? No, by the Lord of the worlds! Whatever is mentioned is for the protection of God's Cause, not for the protection of this prisoner, for it is quite evident that if any days of life remain for this servant, rest will never be attained, just as it was not attained before. Rather, by God, I have never sought nor do I seek rest, for at all times I proclaim:

> "Would that my blood might be shed at this moment in the path of God, my Beloved and the Beloved of the mystics."

In this case, whatever occurs on earth will bring no benefit to this servant. Whatever loving counsels have been and are mentioned in the Tablets are solely for the sake of the loved ones' turning to the holy court of the All-Glorious and All-Bountiful.

O Abdullah! God's favor has ever been and continues to be with you, and you have been in His presence and have become aware of the two parties. The record of the ungodly of this land are those souls who are in that land, and whatever you have observed of deeds, actions and words in those souls is the reflection of these souls that has appeared in those souls. Now ponder on the deeds and actions of Truth and His words, and on what you have observed from others besides Him, that the truth may become clear to you.

Previously two Tablets were sent specifically to you; God willing, they have arrived. Today you must strive and endeavor to the extent possible to teach God's Cause, for this is the greatest bounty and supreme good. Although most people have ever turned to falsehood, as the affinity between them is evident, just as most people on earth today are idol worshippers—what else until the will of the Doer of whatsoever

He willeth decrees, and verily He is powerful over what He willeth. However, you must stand firm in the Cause with perfect steadfastness and teach God's Cause with tongue and pen to the extent possible. This is the fruit of existence, and verily He is the Mighty, the Adored One.

BH01514: O friends of God! In the name…

O friends of God! In the name of the King of the horizons! Praise be to the Beloved in His absolute sovereignty, Who through His all-embracing grace and all-encompassing mercy made His loved ones steadfast in His love, to such a degree that the dissension of the contentious ones did not prevent them from following the path of the All-Merciful, and they have borne hardships in the path of God, and have not remained veiled from the Lord of Lords by the might of the possessed or the veils of kings. However, had the seekers of the Ka'bih of the All-Merciful hearkened with their inner ears to the counsel of God, they would not have been afflicted with these tribulations. Although tribulation in His path is beloved to the soul and the desire of the spirit, this station is reserved for the sincere ones, while the weak are seen to be disturbed and shaken in times of tests and trials. Therefore, all are commanded to observe wisdom, that through divine prudence they may cause immature human realities to ascend to the heights of maturity, so that all may be engaged in His remembrance.

Today, no one should be heedless of wisdom. For example, it is observed that some become so assured by a word of acceptance from someone that they mention all matters without any restraint. This is sheer heedlessness. Never be assured by anyone, and speak not beyond their station and capacity. Many souls have been appointed by satanic souls merely to investigate and spy, that they might, in the guise of friendship, become informed of the secrets of the friends. Even as in certain cities some have feigned friendship and, having learned the details of matters, have informed their kind. Hearken unto the call of the Most Exalted Pen and depart not from wisdom. Permission has not been given for anyone to turn to this direction without leave.

The friends of Truth in all lands must act in unity, in such wise that no trace of disagreement may remain between them. They are neither of Sad nor of Kaf nor of aught else. They are the dwellers of the pavilion of faithfulness and the companions of the Most Glorious Paradise. Let them efface these differing letters and soar in the spiritual atmosphere of unity, and drink from the stream of Sad which floweth from the right hand of the Throne of Unity. The favors of God have been and will be with you. Ere long shall the souls who have oppressed the people of Baha be observed in utter remorse. Verily, the All-Merciful is with you and loss shall be unto them. You are the captives of God in the land. This is a great station; account it not small. Ere long shall your mention and that of the other friends of Truth be spread throughout all regions of the earth, even as now your names are mentioned in the divine Kingdom.

O My friends! You are the foundations of the houses of the Cause. If the foundations be not firm, the houses will not endure. And you are the wellsprings of the earth of knowledge. If the source be muddy, it will spread to all the divergent streams, and all will become turbid. My Son aforetime said to His companions:

> "Ye are the salt of the earth; but if the salt have lost its savor, wherewith shall it be salted? It is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men."

Your acceptance, detachment and orientation should attract those on earth and draw them to the arena of eternal life. And those souls who have become disturbed and anxious in this greatest turmoil, treat them with the utmost kindliness and love, and guide them to the divine pathway through goodly exhortation, for God hath not wished that any soul should remain deprived, especially those who have become the target of vilification and humiliation in the path of God, even though it be for but an hour. Verily, He is the Forgiving, the Merciful.

Assured, powerful and steadfast souls have been and will be rarer than the philosopher's stone. Such souls must not leave these weak ones to themselves, but must draw them anew to eternal life through divine utterances. Blessed are they who keep in mind the service and care of the friends of God, even as some have attained to this station and have shown love to the emigrants and friends according to their means. God willing, may all attain to this exalted station. The reward of no deed shall be lost. Verily, He is aware of what His loved ones do. He is the All-Wise, the All-Informed.

BH01507: O Letter of the Living! The ear of God…

He is the Most Exalted, the Most Powerful, the Most High

O Letter of the Living! The ear of God hath heard thy cry, and His eyes have beheld thy written supplication. He is calling thee from His seat of glory, and is revealing unto thee the verses that have been sent down by Him Who is the Help in Peril, the Self-Subsisting.

Blessed art thou for having utterly abolished the idol of self and of vain imagination, and for having rent asunder the veil of idle fancy, through the power of the might of thy Lord, the Supreme Protector, the Almighty, the one Beloved. Thou art indeed to be numbered with those Letters that have excelled every other Letter. Wherefore thou hast been singled out by God through the tongue of thy Lord, the Bab, the brightness of Whose countenance hath enveloped, and will continue to envelop, the whole of creation. Render thanks unto the Almighty, and magnify His name, inasmuch as He hath aided thee to recognize a Cause that hath made the hearts of the inhabitants of the heavens and of the earth to tremble, that hath caused the denizens of the Kingdoms of creation and of Revelation to cry out, and through which the hidden secrets of men's breasts have been searched out and tested.

Thy Lord, the Most High (the Bab), addresseth thee, from His Realm of glory, these words: Great is the blessedness that awaiteth thee, O Letter of the Living, for thou hast truly believed in Me, hast refused to shame Me before the Concourse on high, hast fulfilled thy pledge, hast cast away the veil of vain imaginings, and hast fixed thy gaze upon the Lord, thy God, the Lord of the unseen and the seen, the Lord of the Frequented Fane. I am well pleased with thee, inasmuch as I have found thy face beaming with light on the Day when faces have been made dismal and turned black.

Say: O people of the Bayan! Did We not admonish you, in all Our Tablets and in all Our hidden Scriptures, not to follow your evil passions and corrupt inclinations, but to keep your eyes directed towards the Scene of transcendent glory, on the Day when the Most Mighty Balance shall be set, the Day when the sweet melodies of the Spirit of God shall be poured out from the right hand of the throne of your Lord, the omnipotent Protector, the All-Powerful, the Holy of Holies? Did We not forbid you to cleave to the

things that would shut you out from the Manifestation of our Beauty, in its subsequent Revelation, be they the embodiments of the names of God and all their glory, or the revealers of His attributes and their dominion? Behold, how, as soon as I revealed Myself, ye have rejected My truth and turned away from Me, and been of them that have regarded the signs of God as a play and pastime!

By My Beauty! Nothing whatsoever shall, in this Day, be accepted from you, though ye continue to worship and prostrate yourselves before God throughout the eternity of His dominion. For all things are dependent upon His Will, and the worth of all acts is conditioned upon His acceptance and pleasure. The whole universe is but a handful of clay in His grasp. Unless one recognize God and love Him, his cry shall not be heard by God in this Day. This is of the essence of His Faith, did ye but know it.

Will ye be content with that which is like the vapor in a plain, and be willing to forgo the Ocean Whose waters refresh, by virtue of the Will of God, the souls of men? Woe unto you, for having repaid the bounty of God with so vain and contemptible a thing! Ye are, indeed, of them that have rejected Me in My previous Revelation. Would that your hearts could comprehend!

Arise, and, under the eyes of God, atone for your failures in duty towards Him. This is My commandment unto you, were ye to incline your ears unto My commandment. By Mine own Self! Neither the people of the Qur'an, nor the followers of either the Torah or the Evangel, nor those of any other Book, have committed that which your hands have wrought. I, Myself, have dedicated My whole life to the vindication of the truth of this Faith. I, Myself, have announced, in all My Tablets, the advent of His Revelation. And yet, no sooner did He manifest Himself, in His subsequent Revelation, clothed in the glory of Baha and arrayed in the robe of His grandeur, than ye rebelled against Him Who is the supreme Protector, the Self-Subsisting.

Beware, O people! Be ye ashamed of that which hath befallen Me at your hands in the path of God. Take heed that ye be not of them that have rejected that which hath been sent down unto them from the Heaven of God's transcendent glory.

Such, O Letter of the Living, are the words which thy Lord hath spoken, and addressed unto thee from the realms above. Proclaim the words of thy Lord unto His servants, that perchance they may shake off their slumber, and ask pardon of God, Who hath formed and fashioned them, and sent down unto them this most effulgent, this most holy, and manifest Revelation of His Beauty.

As for what you wrote regarding Our name "the All-Bountiful," that you have secluded yourself with Him and recognized that His good pleasure is the good pleasure of your Lord—excellent is what you have recognized, and you are among those who know. Remain there, then remind those who come to you, then convey to them what God has conveyed to you, and be among those who speak concerning the Cause of their Lord. Strive within yourself to remain steadfast in the love of your Master, for soon the winds of difference will blow from every direction—then be not disturbed, but take shelter in the shadow of the protection of your Lord.

Thus have We taught you and distinguished you, that you may give thanks to God, your Lord, and be among the thankful ones. And the glory be upon you and upon those who have detached themselves from all else and turned with their hearts to this holy and beloved Scene.

BH01529: This is an epistle from this servant to him…

In the Name of the Most High, the Most Exalted

This is an epistle from this servant to him who hath believed in God and journeyed unto Him until he entered the sacred shore in the vicinity of the mercy of his Lord, the Mighty, the Gracious, and heard the melodies of God and drank from the seas of nearness, then was guided by the guidance of the Spirit and attained unto the lights of a luminous countenance. O servant! We have heard thy call and have answered thee with a reply that transcendeth the minds of the mystics, that thou mayest rejoice within thyself and soar with longing and be of them that have attained unto the lights of Beauty, and be detached from the world and its ornaments to such extent that nothing in the kingdom shall cause thee grief, and be as a fire in thy love that may consume the veils of those who were veiled in the days of God and were among the lost, that perchance they may arise from the couches of their heedlessness and seek forgiveness of God within themselves and return unto the paradise of nearness.

Say: O people! Fear God and believe in Him and differ not concerning His Cause, and be not of the mischief-makers. Follow the command of God and migrate unto Him with your hearts, and when ye hear the verses of the Spirit, fall down in prostration before them, and follow not those who have cast the Book of God behind their backs as though they had never heard it, and who walk in the valley of misbelief.

Say: O people! The Cause of God hath come upon clouds of spirit with angels round about it, and the Sun of Beauty hath shone forth and the Face hath appeared from behind the veil with manifest sovereignty, and the believers at that time rejoice in the joy of God and are attracted by the melodies of the Spirit, while ye lie sleeping upon the couch of heedlessness.

Say: O people! Know ye the value of these days and deprive not yourselves of the fruits of Paradise, and be not of the heedless ones. This is what this servant counseleth you in his epistle and strengtheneth you through the Spirit and conveyeth unto you the messages of his Lord and remindeth you of the remembrance of God, the Mighty, the Luminous.

And thou, fear no one and grieve not for anything, but put thy trust in God. Verily He will protect thee from the hosts of Satan and will aid thee by His command and will provide thee with everlasting bounties and will give thee glad tidings of lights of ancient glory, that thou mayest abide in the Concourse on High and soar with two wings of longing unto the precincts of a mighty nearness.

O servant! the ungodly say there is no spirit in these words. Say: Woe unto you! The spirit of life from this Paradise wafteth upon the worlds. And thereby they turned away and waxed proud before God and the Manifestations of His Cause, and were dead within the veils of their own selves. Thus hath Satan made their deeds seem fair unto them and their hearts have hardened as though they were behind a thick veil, after God had commanded them in all the Tablets not to follow their desires and when they hear the verses of the Spirit to rejoice within themselves and hasten unto a holy and noble seat.

Say: If ye be in doubt concerning what hath been revealed in this Tablet, then bring forth a proof from God or an evidence from His presence, then call your witnesses if ye be steadfast in your words. And if ye

be unable, then fear God and join not partners with Him in His Cause, then follow what hath been revealed unto you and follow not every ignorant multitude, and be not of them that turn aside.

Thus do We recount unto thee the story of those who disbelieved and turned away, though I desired naught save servitude unto God, the True One, and thou art witness unto this, and God behind thee is All-Knowing and All-Witnessing.

Say: Doth not My tribulation among the servants suffice you, wherein We were manifest among them like the sun in the midst of heaven, and there befell Us what hath befallen no one before? Yet withal We desired no help from you and We put Our trust in God, the Mighty, the Exalted. This is the extent of their understanding in this vain life, and in the hereafter they shall have no helper nor supporter.

Convey the Spirit from Our presence unto him whose writing We found in thy letter, and give him glad tidings of the light of a wondrous morn. Then remind him not to make any reference to Us, that God may sanctify him from the veils of heedlessness and make him one of the angels of the highest heaven. And peace be upon thee and upon the women in thy household and upon those who remember God in thy land and who are upon a straight path of certain truth.

BH01548: These are the verses of holiness which have been…

In the Name of God, the Most Inaccessible, the Most Holy!

These are the verses of holiness which have been sent down from the presence of One mighty and wise. He guides the people to the heaven of grace and bestows upon them that which quickens their hearts and draws them nigh unto God, the Mighty, the Inaccessible.

Blessed is he who finds the sweetness of his Lord's remembrance, who detaches himself from the world, and ascends to the station wherein he hears the melodies of God with his ear and beholds the signs of God with his eye, and is possessed of clear vision. When he attains to that station and arrives at this holy, pure and exalted Seat, he becomes so steadfast in the Cause of his Lord that he regards all else as under His shadow, and his gaze never wavers from this Most Great, Most Pure and Wondrous Horizon.

O servant! Hearken unto that which is revealed unto thee from the holy precincts of this Blessed Spot:

> "I am, verily, God, thy Lord and the Lord of thy forefathers of old. Cast away from thyself whatsoever keepeth thee back from God, thy Lord, then enter beneath the shadow of His Name, the All-Merciful, the Most Merciful."

When thou hast sanctified thyself from allusions and purified thyself from intimations, the breezes of the All-Merciful will draw thee to the right hand of Paradise. Then loose thy tongue in remembrance amidst the heavens and earth and convey thy Lord's Cause, for God hath prescribed unto every soul the duty to deliver His Cause. Thus hath the matter been decreed from the presence of One mighty and powerful. Whoso opens his lips today in remembrance of his Lord will be reinforced by the hosts of God's revelation through wondrous inspiration, and God will cause the Kawthar of divine knowledge to flow from his mouth and will make him speak with wisdom and utterance in such wise that none among all created things shall be able to speak in his presence.

By God, O servant who art mentioned before the Throne! Were it not for the opposition of the people of the Bayan against thy Lord, the All-Merciful, I would have manifested, through the power which God granted Me before the creation of all things, that which would have caused all necks to bow before the command of thy Lord, the Almighty, the Powerful. By My life! If what hath befallen Me at their hands were to befall thee, thou wouldst weep for My loneliness, then My solitude, then My tribulation between the claws of those who were created by My command. But We have concealed it lest the cry of the sincere ones be raised.

Thou knowest that the people of the Bayan used to hide their faces behind veils to protect themselves, and were among the heedless. We were manifest between the heavens and earth, speaking in praise of God, the Mighty, the All-Knowing. I did not protect Myself for less than a moment, and was ever shining above the heads of the enemies with the lights of God, the Mighty, the Beautiful, until the Beauty of the Word dawned from the horizon of grandeur and power and the Cause encompassed all the worlds. Then they felt secure in themselves and emerged from behind the veil with swords of hatred and manifest deceit, striking Me at every moment with their blades. By God! There remained no place on My body that was not struck by iron, and they reached such heights of vainglory that they denied the proof whereby their own faith had been established and their mention had been exalted among the servants, both great and small. Such was the condition of these people—they say what they understand not and imagine themselves to be among the doers of good.

Say: Today, whosoever turneth away from this Cause hath turned away from God and His Messengers; his name shall not be mentioned before the Throne and he shall be in manifest loss. As for thee, avoid such as these, then put thy trust in thy Lord. He will protect thee in all conditions and guard thee from the hosts of Satan. Be thou steadfast in thy love for thy Lord and fear not those who have disbelieved and associated partners with God and were among the idolaters. Put them behind thee, then turn thy face toward thy Lord at all times.

Thus have We detailed the remembrance for thee and informed thee of what hath befallen Us, that thou mayest become aware of the harm that hath touched Us from these heedless ones. And the glory be upon thee and upon those who have remained steadfast in the Cause and were among the firm ones.

BH01544: This is a Day in which every soul…

In the Name of God, the Most Unapproachable, the Most Holy, the Most Mighty, the Most Glorious!

This is a Day in which every soul and spirit must arise to promote the Cause of God—that is, to teach His Cause with wisdom and utterance, not through disputation. Such a Cause has appeared that even the pure ones and those near to God have been confounded, let alone the idolatrous and hateful embodiments who have ever been and shall ever be non-existent and unmentioned.

O Mihdi! This is the Day of the Most Great Steadfastness. Stand firm in the Cause and, to the extent possible, do not neglect to promote God's Cause. We are aware of the sorrows that have befallen you, but be patient as We were patient, and be not of the perturbed ones. Salman is departing, as are several others, and after their arrival you will be informed of the details of this land.

The idolatrous embodiments are constantly occupied with new calumnies, and they have surely sent letters to various regions. By My life! If people had insight, they would recognize from these very fabricated calumnies the station, power, measure and falsehood of those who oppose and war against God. Just as these false embodiments are occupied with spreading fabricated words, you too must occupy yourself with spreading words of truth and sincerity, that perchance the people may not be prevented by the narrators of lies and calumnies, and may be confirmed in the path of God, to Whom belongs whatsoever is in the heavens and earth.

Write to Mirza Baqir:

> "Stand firm in the Cause and grieve not for what was taken from you. God will soon give you double what you lost. He is the Powerful over what He willeth, and He is Powerful over all things. Beware lest you grieve over such matters, for all are God's servants—He takes and gives, causes to die and brings to life. Whatever He does to anyone is better for him than the treasures of the heavens and earth. Be patient in what has befallen you, then stand firm in the Cause. Grieve not in the least, for soon He will bestow upon you that which will gladden you in truth. He is the Protector of the doers of good."

And convey to Jinab-i-Rasul that his exposition has reached the Seat of Exposition. Praise God that the favors of the All-Glorious and the Beauty of the All-Merciful have been and will be with you. Sing and warble as you please, and grieve not for anything, for He loves His servants who do good, and will never neglect them for less than a moment. He is near to those who love Him.

Furthermore, the lamentations of Aqa Muhammad-ʿAli were heard. It behooves him to be thus, for he heard God's melody with his own ears and was with Him in prison and witnessed what befell Us of tribulations. Convey to him Our greetings and give him the glad tidings of Our remembrance of him, that he may be of those who rejoice.

Then convey Our greetings to the people of the sanctuary and to all the friends, both Arab and Persian. Then remind them of this wondrous Remembrance. And the Glory be upon you and upon them and upon God's servants, the Mighty, the Powerful, the Sovereign, the Wise.

They commanded to write that God's favors have ever encompassed you and will continue to do so. That you have not yet been summoned has been due to the wisdom of God's Cause, for this Servant has ever sacrificed His life for the good of God's Cause, and I love that God's loved ones should all act likewise. Had you been summoned, given the conflicts in that land, it would not have been advisable; otherwise you would surely have been summoned by now. Now remain in perfect peace and tranquility. God willing, you will be summoned in the hot season. Grieve not at your separation, but be patient and be not of the sorrowful ones. God willing, we hope you will be blessed with attaining Our presence. Rest assured and fear not, then speak forth in praise of God among the worlds.

BH11590: Lawh-i-Haji Muhammad Baqir I

To be typed.

BH11592: Lawh-i-Haji Muhammad Baqir III

To be typed.

BH01560: This is a Book from Us to him who…

In the Name of God, the Most Inaccessible, the Most Holy, the Most Exalted, the Most High!

This is a Book from Us to him who hath turned his face unto God, the Lord of all worlds, and who hath traversed the path until he arrived at the Living Waters which flowed from the finger of the will of his Lord, the Most Merciful, and was numbered among the successful ones. He arrived at the Holy Shore and found companionship with the Beloved of the worlds.

After his arrival, We commanded him to enter the abode of those who wronged themselves and God, the King, the Mighty, the Wise, until he came upon them suddenly like a thunderbolt of chastisement upon a sinful people. He sat and prevailed through what the Most Merciful cast into his heart, until he arose and returned to the Most Great Ocean, detached from the idolaters.

Blessed art thou, O servant, in that God hath made thee as fire unto the idolaters and a spirit and sweet fragrance unto His believing servants. Cast away all that is possible and take what thou art commanded by thy Lord, the Most Merciful. Turn unto His hesitant servants that perchance through thee the withered trees may become verdant and those who are remote may draw nigh unto God in manifest humility.

Arise and say: O people! By God, the Primal Word hath been fulfilled, the Hidden Alif hath appeared, and the sun of thy Lord's authority hath dawned from the horizon of possibility with brilliant, resplendent light. Beware lest ye deprive yourselves of its fragrances. Thus doth the Most Exalted Pen counsel you, and God is, verily, the Witness and the Informed of this.

Say: O people, be fair and then observe: Can darkness persist when the sun shineth forth? Nay, by the Lord of all worlds! When the Most Great Ocean surgeth, the flame of fire cannot endure beside it, and when the winds of might blow, the gnat cannot remain stable, were ye but of those who know.

Say: O people, abandon names and the idols of the idolaters. Turn unto God, the Lord of Names and Attributes, sanctified from all allusions. Thus hath Truth spoken—hearken and be not of the heedless ones.

Say: O people! By God, he whom ye have taken as lord besides God is like the ashes of dogs' bones, nay more despicable, were ye but of the assured ones. Whoso looketh into his words knoweth his worth and findeth from them the exhalations of hell. Those who mention fabricated words when that which hath been sent down from God's dominion hath been revealed are cursed by the denizens of the highest paradise and God's near servants. Say: Today one letter thereof cannot be equaled by all that hath been created in the heavens and earths.

Say: O concourse of idolaters! Die in your wrath! The Luminary of inner meanings hath shone forth and its radiance hath dazzled your eyes. Return to your abode in the depths of hell. He who compareth the

verses of God with his words is like unto Pharaoh when he said “I am your lord, the most high.” Say: This is greater, were ye but possessed of insight.

O Nabil-i-Qabli-ʿAli! Hear the word of thy Lord, the Most High, the Most Glorious, from the Shore of Eternity. Then wash thyself in the waters of sanctity and speak forth His praise amongst His servants, that the words of God may influence the hearts of all peoples. Grieve not over anything, and regard not those who are heedless except as insects driven by the winds of self and passion, carried wheresoever they list. Thus hath it been sent down from God’s dominion—thy Lord and the Lord of the first and the last.

Say: O people! If ye have guaranteed immortality and are secure from the grave, then follow your desires. Otherwise, fear God Who created you by His command. Death is truth and shall come upon you. Then shall ye find yourselves in manifest loss.

Then inform the people of what thou hast seen and known, that they may detach themselves from what they possess and turn with their hearts toward the Holy Court, and not follow Satan. When thou openest the door of utterance, thy Lord, the Lord of lords, shall assist thee with the angels of revelation. Thus hath the Pen of the Most Merciful given thee glad tidings in this Tablet, one letter of which cannot be equaled by all that hath been created in all existence, as every possessor of keen vision doth testify.

Remove the veil from the people and burn their veils with the fire of thy Lord’s love, the Mighty, the All-Knowing. And when thou seest those who have believed, glorify their faces on My behalf and give them the glad tidings of the Youth’s remembrance of them out of His love for God. This, verily, is a great bounty.

The Spirit and Glory be upon thee and upon those whom the cooing of the Dove of Eternity hath attracted to the direction of God, the Mighty, the Generous. And praise be to the Beloved of the worlds.

BH09309: Glorified be He Who hath ordained the measures…

He is the Everlasting upon the Throne of Grandeur and Independence!

Glorified be He Who hath ordained the measures of the Cause as He hath willed and desired, and verily He hath power over all things. He hath sent down verses from the heaven of holiness in wondrous remembrance, and with Him is the knowledge of the heavens and earth. He knoweth what passeth through the hearts of His servants, and verily He hath knowledge of all things.

O Nabil-i-ʿAli! Hearken unto that which We reveal unto thee from the direction of the Throne, the station which God hath raised above the comprehension of the worlds, that He may make thee strong in this Cause wherein every mighty one hath been brought low, and may purify thee from all things and from whatsoever the people utter, and may cause the springs of wisdom and utterance to flow from thy tongue, that all creation may be enriched thereby.

Arise to serve God, then detach thyself wholly from all who are in the heavens and on earth, that the drops of grace may take hold of thee from this cloud which hath been raised in the heaven of holiness. Be thou of such countenance that the faces of the heavens and earth may be illumined thereby. Thus doth command thee the tongue of holy love. Be thou of such manner that should the idolaters behold thee,

their foundations would be shaken, and should the believers see thee, their hearts would surge with the surging of love from this Fire which hath been kindled in the blessed Mount Sinai.

O Muhammad! Know thou the worth of these days, the like of which God hath not created in all creation, wherein the dwellers of the heavens and earth were stirred up, and the pillars of a mighty throne were made to quake. In them the wealthy became poor, the strong became weak, and every renowned scholar became ignorant. Purify thou the hem of thy sanctity from all created things, then ascend by the wings of holiness unto this heaven, that thou mayest witness all beings in the shadow of thy Lord as aged clay.

Stand thou firm in the Cause and turn not unto anyone, though all things rise against thee. Thus did We command thee before, and thus do We command thee now, that thou mayest stand firm in the Cause of thy Lord. Say: O people! Do ye deny Him through Whom God's Cause was exalted, His beauty appeared, His proof dawned, and His evidence was perfected unto all creation assembled? Thus do We make mention of thee in this Tablet in these days wherein the Youth hath desired to veil His face from eyes, by reason of that which the hands of every sinful hypocrite have wrought.

Say: O people! By God, were ye to cut off your ears it would be better for you than to hearken thereby to the words of any rejected idolater, and were ye to sever your heads with your own hands it would be more excellent in God's sight than to associate thereby with any hateful hypocrite. And thou, O Muhammad, cast behind thee all remembrances, then hold fast to the remembrance of thy Lord, the Most Exalted, Who hath appeared with a glorious and radiant beauty. Then give thanks unto God for having made thee a servant to His Most Exalted Self in the kingdom of earth and heaven. By God, this is a bounty which no other bounty in the dominion of creation and the kingdom of eternity can equal, and to this doth testify the Tongue of Grandeur from behind the pavilion of intimate nearness.

We beseech God to recompense thee with the most excellent recompense, to grant thee the best of the hereafter and of the former days, and not to withhold thee from the splendors of the light of His Face for less than what can be counted. Verily, He is wise in all things.

He is.

These are days the like of which no eye in all creation hath ever seen, and no soul among all created things hath ever perceived. At all times must ye take refuge in God, that perchance ye may remain safe beneath the protection of the Lord of the Day of Judgment from the schemes of the schemers and the deceits of the deceivers. For the craft of the plotters hath reached such heights that were all the pens in the universe to attempt to enumerate them, they would surely prove powerless and fall short. And if for a moment they should tire of their deceptions while awake, or find themselves unable to pursue them, they reach into the realm of sleep and make mention of dreams, that perchance they might cause some innocent soul to stray from the straight path. They remain heedless that the Hand of Divine training and the Grasp of the Power of the Eternal doth raise up such servants as will never take their eyes from the Beauty of the Friend, though the arrows of tribulation should rain down from the clouds of destiny, and should regard the world and all that is therein as utter nothingness, as though it had never been mentioned.

BH01545: Hearken unto that which is revealed unto thee…

In the Name of God, the Ever-Abiding, the Imperishable!

Hearken unto that which is revealed unto thee from the Realm of Divine Identity at the Sacred Spot of Oneness by the Tongue of Divinity: Verily, there is none other God but Me, the Almighty, the Mighty, the Unconstrained. Leave behind all creation and turn with thy heart unto God. By God! The heaven hath been cleft asunder and the Lord of the Day of Mutual Calling hath come. Say: O people of hypocrisy! Whither do ye flee? Can ye penetrate the extremities of My grandeur and dominion? Nay, by the Lord of the Day of Separation!

Know thou that We have rent asunder the veils and shattered the idols of vain desire when We raised up one among the servants and adorned his heart with the ornament of strength and certitude, and sent him with a Tablet from thy Lord unto him by whom the dwellers of Paradise lament at eventide and at dawn, that he might know that He is indeed the One Who doeth what He willeth. The tribulations of the world deter Him not from that which He desireth. He is, in truth, the Almighty, the Mighty, the All-Compelling.

When the Tablet was opened, the Great Cry was raised anew, and all who dwell on earth were thunderstruck save whom thy Lord, Who causeth night to succeed day, willed to spare. Can anyone create the like thereof? Nay, by thy Lord! Thus hath the matter been decreed by God, the Mighty, the All-Bountiful.

When thou art honored with God's Tablet, take it with power from Us, then hasten unto her who claimeth faith in God, the Lord of lords. Say: I have come unto thee from the Dawning-Place of verses with thy Lord's clear proofs. Then bring forth the Tablet and recite unto her what hath been sent down from the Supreme Pen. Thus hath the matter been decreed and truth hath come with clear evidence and proof. Say: If thou be fair in God's sight, can any word equal what thou hast witnessed? By God! Wert thou to be fair, thou wouldst find from every word of God's words the sweet fragrances of thy Lord, the All-Merciful. Can any matter of his Lord be obscure to one who is endowed with insight? Nay, by My Self! Be fair, O ye who are possessed of vision.

He hath appeared in such wise that none can speak in His presence. Thy Lord is, verily, the Mighty, the All-Knowing. Say: The Word of God shineth forth among words even as the sun at high noon. Fear God, O people, and follow not every doubting idolater. Hath vain desire withheld thee from thy Most Glorious Lord, or have names prevented thee from turning toward God, the Creator of earth and heaven? Leave behind all who are on earth, for by My life, all that dwelleth thereon shall perish, and the Tongue of Grandeur and Power proclaimeth: The Kingdom belongeth unto God, the One, the Mighty, the All-Forgiving.

Sever not the tie that bindeth thee to Him; hold fast unto it. Thus doth the Lord of eternity command thee at this moment when He is established upon the throne of His Most Great Name, while hosts of evil have surrounded Him. Say: Hearken unto the word of thy Lord and reflect upon him by whom thou wert made to pause in a Cause but for which the Bayan would not have been revealed nor would the Dove

have warbled upon the branches. Hast thou forgotten what thou didst witness from Him after We removed the veils for thee? Can aught be hidden from God Who hath caused all things to proclaim His praise? This is better for thee than all that is hidden or manifest.

Arise through My might and power, then take the cup of detachment in the name of thy Lord, the Creator of all things. Then drink therefrom in remembrance of thy Lord, the Revealer of verses. Wouldst thou dwell in the spider's house after the coming of the Lord of all kingdoms? Leave it to its people, then turn thee toward this House round which circle the Concourse on High at morn and eventide. By Him Who gave Me utterance, I desire naught but good for thee thereby, and remind thee purely for the sake of thy Lord, that thou mayest abandon thy desire and hold fast to the hem of thy Master.

Thereto beareth witness every atom, that thou, O thou who hast turned towards God and gazed upon His countenance, must cast upon them the words of thy Lord. If thou beholdest in their countenance the radiance of the All-Merciful, then draw thou nigh unto them, but if they be veiled by the dust of the fire, then turn away from them. Thus hast thou been commanded by the Lord of all men. Fear not thine own self; be as thy Lord was. Dost thou not see that from the horizon of tribulation, beneath the swords of destiny, He calleth the peoples of creation unto God, the Lord of all names, and the might of the wicked deterreth Him not? We have sent down unto thee a Tablet whereof were but one letter to descend upon every mountain, thou wouldst surely behold it soaring, out of longing, toward the Dawning-Place of Names and Attributes. Gather thou My loved ones together, then make mention of them on My behalf, that they may be drawn unto the station from whose horizon hath shone the Sun of the remembrance of the name of thy Lord, illumining thereby all who dwell in the realms of being.

BH01593: O Mihdi! God willing, be ye ever occupied…

O Mihdi! God willing, be ye ever occupied in the remembrance of God and in His service. I have said: I beseech Him, and I crave an answer from the King of His power, even as one of His servantsâ€“who was reckoned among the people of the Sonâ€”hath called upon Him, that He may make us steadfast in the face of the shocks of aggression; for verily He is powerful, all-powerful; and that He may safeguard us within the stronghold of His providence, His bounties, and His gracious favour, and so forth. Thy Lord, in very truth, hath already answered all this before thy supplication, in such wise that He hath aided thee to serve Him, to proclaim His Cause, and to magnify His Name amongst His servants; hath preserved thee from the insinuations of the guilty and the doubts of the deniers; and hath confirmed thee in seasons of turmoil and of trial. For such a Lord befitteth praise and glorification and thanksgiving. Verily He is the Mighty, the Incomparable.

That which ye wrote concerning the sending of copies of Tablets hath been most acceptable. In truth, the Words of the All-Merciful are like the breezes of the springtime of divine favors for all creation—the more they blow and pass by, the sweeter and more excellent they become. This is of God's grace unto them. Previously certain Tablets were revealed unto you wherein were recorded from the Pen of the Most High explanations of the revelation of certain Quranic verses and some stories of earlier times. Those Tablets, nay rather all that hath been sent unto you, should be dispatched to all lands, for they shall prove most beneficial. Some of the servants are unaware of what hath come to pass and are heedless of what shall

come to pass, therefore such Tablets shall be profitable. Those to whom copies are sent should make copies themselves and send them abroad. Although this wondrous Cause is one that hath had and shall have no likeness before or after it, blessed is he who beholdeth it with his own eyes, detached from all that he hath heard aforetime.

In any case, the service to the Cause rendered by your honor is befitting and meet. All that ye have undertaken hath been and is acceptable. Concerning the letter to the Land of Kh, they had written:

> "By My life! We love to hear their call at all times. We have not forgotten them, rather We remember them as is meet and befitting. Verily thy Lord is the Forgiving, the Merciful."

God willing, after the way is assuredly opened, We shall send unto them that which will cause their spirits to soar and their eyes to be gladdened.

As for what ye wrote concerning Fars, his book was presented at the Most Great Scene, and an answer was revealed and sent. However, they must proceed with the utmost wisdom. They must never speak openly of the Sender or that which is sent. Most people are immature and as infants. When a child is born of its mother, it must be given milk, not meat and heavy foods, so that step by step it may be educated and reach a station wherein it can partake of diverse fruits and manifold bounties. Ye must greatly emphasize concealment of the Cause, wisdom, and forbearance with people. Although the command to teach hath been revealed in the Tablet, yet this is not intended for these days. They must act according to the capacity of the people. The more matters remain concealed in these days, the better it is. Previously a Tablet was specifically revealed for them, but it was not sent.

We beseech God that they may remain firm and steadfast. The ultimate bounty concerning him is that his mention hath been recorded by the Eternal Pen in the Divine Tablet. Blessed is he, and again blessed is he. If at any time he should desire to turn towards this land, ye must surely forbid it. The explicit command is that no one should turn towards this direction except by permission of his Lord.

Convey greetings from the True One to N.S. Say: God hath seized him who cast thee into the well. Verily He is the Deliverer of the loved ones and the Destroyer of the idolaters. Likewise, convey the honor of greetings to Khalil of the land of S, to Darvish, and to other loved ones of God, and especially to Aqa Muhammad-Rida who is consumed in the fire of separation, and to his family convey countless greetings. The Glory be upon thee and upon those with thee and thy family.

BH01572: Hearken unto the Divine Call and with penetrating vision…

He is the One Who gazeth from the All-Glorious Horizon!

Hearken unto the Divine Call and with penetrating vision and illumined heart, consider and ponder His wondrous words. All names have been and shall forever remain within the grasp of His power, and all people of diverse nations are clinging to and holding fast unto the divine names, for no soul hath the power to transgress the Kingdom of Names or to step outside His command. All make mention of His Name and turn toward His direction, and yet concerning some, there hath been revealed and sent down from the Divine Pen that they are worshippers of idols.

Now ponder what hath been and shall be the cause of this. If We were to say they clung to names and remained veiled from the recognition of the Essence, all people share this station, for all besides Him have been and shall ever be veiled from recognizing His exalted Essence. The way is barred and the path is impassable. He was, and there was nothing besides Him that could know Him. Therefore, all recognition from the peoples of the worlds returneth to the ocean of Names, and it is most evident that every nation of the earth calleth upon Him by a name, and none can transgress this station. Yet upon some hath the decree of misbelief been issued from the Ancient Pen, and upon others hath the decree of Divine Unity been sent down, and this is for no other reason save that they are heedless of that which they have been commanded in this Day. Therefore are they reckoned among the people of the fire and are not mentioned in the presence of God.

The ultimate goal and the furthermost Lote-Tree and the most exalted horizon of human existence is that one should not remain veiled from the Truth in the days of God, and should will that which He hath willed, and should not perceive in himself any will, purpose, existence or life. He should see all these as perishing in His will and purpose. These are the essences of existence and the daysprings of the manifest. This is a Day wherein all the denizens of the highest Paradise are gazing upon the sincere ones and are crying out "O Lord, have mercy upon Thy servants," for rarely can be seen one who truly gazeth toward the horizon of God's Cause and is detached from all else. From every direction ariseth the cry of haste, and the manifestations of Satan are occupied with deception, each day calling the people by a different name.

O people of the earth! Alif and Shin! Hearken unto the Call of the Lord of the Worlds and with perfect certitude and assurance, gaze toward the direction of the All-Merciful in such wise that ye behold all the peoples of the earth as non-existent and turn unto the intended Goal. Interpret not the divine Word, and remain not veiled from its outer meaning, for none knoweth its interpretation save God and those who are heedless of the outer meaning of the words and claim to understand their inner meanings—I swear by the Most Great Name that such souls have been and shall ever be liars. Blessed are they who act upon the outer meaning and hope for the inner meaning. The Truth hath ever been one, sanctified from peer or likeness. We have borne all tribulations that perchance the people might enter the realm of sanctity. Strive ye that in these days ye may be adorned with the ornament of the mercy of the spring of the All-Merciful.

Recite ye this prayer morn and eve:

Glory be unto Thee, O my God! I beseech Thee by Thy Most Great Name, through which the sun of Thy Cause hath shone forth from the horizon of Thy Revelation, not to deprive us of the breezes that waft from the direction of Thy grace. Then make us, O my God, purely devoted to Thy Face and detached from all else but Thee. Then gather us, moreover, with those servants of Thine whom the intimations of human nature have not prevented from turning unto the Divine Presence. O Lord, cause us to enter beneath the shadow of Thy most great mercy, then preserve us from those servants who have disbelieved in Thy Most Glorious Name, and give us to drink of the pure wine of Thy providence and the choice wine of Thy bounty and favors. Verily Thou art powerful to do what Thou willest, and verily Thou art the Forgiving, the

Merciful. O Lord! Make us steadfast in Thy love amongst Thy creatures, for this is Thy greatest gift to Thy creation, and verily Thou art the Most Merciful of the merciful ones.

BH01591: The Pen of Revelation exclaimeth: “On this Day…

He is the Eternal, the Most High

The Pen of Revelation exclaimeth: “On this Day the Kingdom is God’s!” The Tongue of Power is calling: “On this Day all sovereignty is, in very deed, with God!” The Phoenix of the realms above crieth out from the immortal Branch: “The glory of all greatness belongeth to God, the Incomparable, the All-Compelling!” The Mystic Dove proclaimeth from its blissful bower, in the everlasting Paradise: “The source of all bounty is derived, in this Day, from God, the One, the Forgiving!” The Bird of the Throne warbleth its melody in its retreats of holiness: “Supreme ascendancy is to be attributed, this Day, to none except God, Him Who hath no peer nor equal, Who is the Most Powerful, the All-Subduing!”

The inmost essence of all things voiceth in all things the testimony: “All forgiveness floweth, in this Day, from God, Him to Whom none can compare, with Whom no partners can be joined, the Sovereign Protector of all men, and the Concealer of their sins!” The Quintessence of Glory hath lifted up its voice above My head, and crieth from such heights as neither pen nor tongue can in any degree describe: “God is my witness! He, the Ancient of everlasting days is come, girded with majesty and power. There is none other God but Him, the All-Glorious, the Almighty, the All-Highest, the All-Wise, the All-Pervading, the All-Seeing, the All-Informed, the Sovereign Protector, the Source of eternal light!”

O My servant, who hast sought the good-pleasure of God and clung to His love on the Day when all except a few who were endued with insight have broken away from Him! May God, through His grace, recompense thee with a generous, an incorruptible and everlasting reward, inasmuch as thou hast sought Him on the Day when eyes were blinded. Know thou that if We reveal to thee but a sprinkling of the showers which, through God’s decree, and at the hands of the envious and the malicious, have rained upon Us, thou wouldst weep with a great weeping, and wouldst bewail day and night Our plight. Oh, would that a discerning and fair-minded soul could be found who would recognize the wonders of this Revelation—wonders that proclaim the sovereignty of God and the greatness of its power. Would that such a man might arise and, wholly for the sake of God, admonish, privately and openly, the people, that haply they may bestir themselves and aid this wronged One Whom the workers of iniquity have so sorely afflicted.

Methinks that I hear the Voice of the Holy Spirit calling from behind Me saying: Vary Thou Thy theme, and alter Thy tone, lest the heart of him who hath fixed his gaze upon Thy face be saddened. Say: I have through the grace of God and His might besought the help of no one in the past, neither will I seek the help of anyone in the future. He it is Who aided Me, through the power of truth, during the days of My banishment in ‘Iráq. He it is Who overshadowed Me with His protection at a time when the kindreds of the earth were contending with Me. He it is Who enabled Me to depart out of the city, clothed with such majesty as none, except the denier and the malicious, can fail to admit.

Say: My army is My reliance on God; My people, the force of My confidence in Him. My love is My standard, and My companion the remembrance of God, the Sovereign Lord of all, the Most Powerful, the All-Glorious, the Unconditioned.

Arise, O wayfarer in the path of the Love of God, and aid thou His Cause. Say: Barter not away this Youth, O people, for the vanities of this world or the delights of heaven. By the righteousness of the one true God! One hair of Him excelleth all that is in the heavens and all that is on the earth. Beware, O men, lest ye be tempted to part with Him in exchange for the gold and silver ye possess. Let His love be a storehouse of treasure for your souls, on the Day when naught else but Him shall profit you, the Day when every pillar shall tremble, when the very skins of men shall creep, when all eyes shall stare up with terror. Say: O people! Fear ye God, and turn not away disdainfully from His Revelation. Fall prostrate on your faces before God, and celebrate His praise in the daytime and in the night season.

Let thy soul glow with the flame of this undying Fire that burneth in the midmost heart of the world, in such wise that the waters of the universe shall be powerless to cool down its ardor. Make, then, mention of thy Lord, that haply the heedless among Our servants may be admonished through thy words, and the hearts of the righteous be gladdened.

Then know that thy letter hath come before Us, and We have heard that wherewith thou didst call upon God thy Lord in that which proceeded from My tongue, and it was read before Us by him who was present before the Throne, and We have answered thee with truth. Soon it shall reach thee, if God should will and desire. Verily there is no God but Him. His is the creation and the command, and all things with Him are according to measure. Give thanks unto God for having delivered thee from thy people and brought thee forth from among them with tranquility and power, and aided thee to recognize the Manifestation of His Self after they all turned away from God. Even thus doth light proceed from fire. Then unite with the loved ones of God and speak among the people with wisdom, for We have lifted the law of disputation and have left the earth to its people. Thy Lord desireth naught but the hearts of the righteous. And the glory be upon thee, and the splendor be upon thee and upon thy sister and upon whoso hath rent asunder the veils.

BH01568: In the Name of God, the Most Holy…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Exalted! Hearken unto the Call of thy Lord from the direction of the Throne, that verily there is none other God but Him, the All-Compelling, the Self-Subsisting.

Say: O people, abandon your desires and set your faces toward the Most Remote Sanctuary—this would be better for you, did ye but know. Say: Verily He standeth at the pivot of tribulation and calleth you to the Ultimate Tree. Fear God and follow not those who have taken their desires and cast aside their God. Thus doth the Pen of Command remind you, would ye but understand.

He hath come for the life of the world and hath sacrificed Himself through that which was ordained by God, the Mighty, the Loving. Say: By the barking of dogs the Most Exalted Pen shall not be silenced. It speaketh between earth and heaven and summoneth you unto God, the Lord of Names, but the people

perceive not. Tribulation deterreth Him not from that which He hath been commanded, even though His very life be in grievous peril. Can the rays of the Sun be prevented by that which the servants have interposed? Nay, by the Lord of creation! But the people are wrapped in thick veils.

Those who have turned away from the Countenance are they who are drowned in the sea of allusions which We have left to previous generations, and with these do they seek to heal the wounds in their hearts. By My life! They have no refuge this Day. Soon shall ye behold them prostrate upon the ground of fancy. By God! They have not understood the melody of utterance in this wondrous Revelation. Thou hearest My words and shunnest these people. Enter, in the name of thy Lord, the All-Glorious, a station which their minds have not attained. Thus doth the Tongue of Ancient Days command thee from thy Lord, the All-Forgiving, the All-Merciful.

Say: This is a Cause with which no other cause can be compared. God hath made it sanctified from the allusions of the worlds. Through it hath shone forth the Sun of wisdom and utterance from the horizon of the will of your Lord, the All-Merciful. How blessed are they who have advanced toward it! Through it hath been established the decree of origination, and by it have been illumined the hearts of the believers. Were it not for it, the degrees of origination would not have been completed. Reflect that ye may know what hath been inscribed by the Most Exalted Pen. Thus hath the Truth come and the matter been decreed from One Who is All-Knowing, All-Wise.

Know then that thy brother hath turned away from the Truth, having followed his desires. He is but in grievous delusion. A letter from him was presented before the Countenance. We found him wandering in the wilderness of error and We left him as a warning to the worlds. He spoke that which even children would not speak. Alas for him! Soon shall he find himself in evident loss.

Say: O people! If ye recognize not the Truth by its own self, then look unto that which hath been revealed from His presence, that perchance the fragrance of the verses may sanctify you from allusions and draw you nigh unto God, the Lord of the Day of Judgment. That which the Tongue of Revelation hath spoken shineth like the sun among the words of the worlds. When the Word issueth forth from the Dayspring of utterance, its fragrances waft between the heavens and earth, yet none perceive it save those who have detached themselves from all that is with the people and have turned toward the countenance of their Lord, the Mighty, the Praised.

Say thou: In the Name of God, and take the cup of certitude in the name of thy Lord, the All-Merciful. By God! Through it thou shalt ascend to an atmosphere wherein thou shalt hear from the rustling of its winds “The Beloved of the worlds hath come!” Leave these people and their fancies, and stand firm in the Cause of thy Lord, the All-Merciful. Then summon the people with wisdom and utterance. This is better for thee than all that hath been created in existence. Verily thy Lord is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

Rend asunder the veils in the name of thy Lord, the Mighty, the Bestower. He shall assist thee in the Cause, and He is the Powerful, the Almighty. Soon shall the world pass away. Strive thou to enter the Kingdom of immortality. By God! Wert thou to discover it, thou wouldst cry out between the heavens and the earth and stand firm in the Cause in such wise that neither the opposition of the divines nor the objections of the learned nor the power of rulers would deter thee.

Choose for thyself what We have chosen for thee and regard not those who have wronged save as an ant that flieth for an hour or less. God shall soon purify the earth of these people and shall raise up His Cause as He pleaseth. Verily He is the Triumphant over all who are in the kingdom of command and creation. There is none other God but Him, the Mighty, the Generous.

We beseech God to give thee to drink of that which floweth from the right hand of the Throne and to make thee among those whom the denial of the ungodly hath not deterred in the Cause of their Lord. Praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH01595: The Divine Call was raised from the Blessed Tree…

The Divine Call was raised from the Blessed Tree of Oneness in the Holy Vale, calling all and giving them the glad tidings of the manifestation of transcendent glory, even as the son of Zacharias gave the glad tidings of the appearance of the Spirit to all. Blessed is the state of those souls who hearkened to the Word of God and attained His recognition, while those who failed to hear the Primal Word are accounted among the dead and shall abide forever in the fire.

This is that Manifestation which in the Book of God was not made contingent upon any matter, nor dependent on anyone's acceptance. The deeds of the doers, the acceptance of those who accept, and the sincerity of the sincere—all are contingent upon His permission and dependent on the will of that True Goal.

Nevertheless, some among the people of the Bayan, following Satan, have been debarred from the path of the All-Merciful, although the previous Manifestation gave tidings, saying that the purpose of the Bayan and all that was revealed therein returns in its primal reality to the subsequent Manifestation, and whatever good mention was made in the Bayan He made it return to and reserved it for that Dawning-Place of Divine revelation and Treasury of heavenly knowledge. O people of the Bayan! On that Day which is the King of Days, God forbid that you should cling to your divines and leaders and thus remain deprived of the Goal.

And further He says: Despite all these firm and established counsels and revealed verses, it is seen that at the time of the Manifestation you will commit that which no people before have committed. God, the Most High, the Most Great, speaks truth. For it was witnessed that some clung to one like themselves and thus remained deprived of the Truth.

I swear by the Sun of the horizon of inner meanings that if today all who are on earth were to claim leadership or more, and were to perform all good deeds, yet hesitate in this Cause, they would never be accepted. For all deeds and stations are verified through recognition of the subsequent Manifestation—whoever remains veiled from Him, no deed will ever profit him. In all times take refuge in the All-Merciful, that you may remain protected from the evil of Satan. Soon will His signs be spread in that land. Leave them behind you with manifest steadfastness.

God willing, all the loved ones should gather together in perfect love and unity at the fountain of the Divine Cause, and conduct themselves among the servants in such wise that all may discover from them the fragrances of the love of the All-Merciful.

Today is the day of assistance, and assistance has never been and is not by the sword, for in this most great Manifestation all have been forbidden from corruption, contention and warfare. In truth, the purpose of holy war in every age has been to guide people to the direction of Divine Unity, even if by force. But in this case it cannot be known who has become intoxicated with the Kawthar of merciful grace and turned toward the divine direction, and who has entered beneath the Tree of grace in chains of force. Moreover, the sword of deeds has been and will be sharper than the outward sword. For if the loved ones of God in this merciful Manifestation had conducted themselves among creation according to His characteristics, assuredly by now all would have turned toward the straight path of glory.

What was destined has come to pass. God willing, henceforth all must act according to goodly deeds, excellent actions and praiseworthy character, so that people may discover the Source through the manners and conduct of these souls. The cause of most people's perplexity and hesitation has been the deeds of some. Furthermore, whatever the divine loved ones do today is attributed to the Source of the Cause. People's vision is not pure, so they cannot perceive the reality of the Cause or discover the Greatest Scene.

We beseech God to assist you in His love and good-pleasure, to detach you from those who have disbelieved in God, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting, and to send down upon you that which is best for you. Verily He is the All-Bountiful, the All-Forgiving.

BH01623: This is an epistle from the Beloved to him…

He is the Most Wondrous in the Supreme Horizon!

This is an epistle from the Beloved to him for whom God hath ordained a station in the Ridvan, and who hath received a portion from the mercy of his Lord in the Tablets. Be patient, O servant, in hardships and in the sorrows that afflict thee from the manifestations of Satan, for He verily recompenseth the patient ones their rewards and sendeth down upon them such wondrous bounties as will establish them in His Cause—and none knoweth this save every discerning sage.

Say: O people, fear God and render not your deeds vain, and follow not every doubtful misbeliever. Say: The thunderbolt of chastisement hath come upon you, and the forces of divine wrath have seized you from every direction. Then there shall be no escape for anyone from God's command save by entering beneath the shadow of this penitent servant. Those who have departed from the shadow of God's mercy—these are they whom all things curse, and every mature and sagacious one beareth witness to this.

Say: O company of the deluded ones! Ye are but a clot of fancy and a morsel of conjecture, and ye have not clothed the bones of your heedlessness with the flesh of understanding from the presence of the Mighty, the Beloved. We behold you between Paradise and the Fire, as though ye had fled from God's bounty and mercy, and warred against His Self and His sovereignty. Soon shall most of you be seized by the angels of the flame.

O people! Hearken unto God's counsel regarding your own selves and transgress not against it. He hath counseled you at all times with clear verses and conclusive proofs, and He desireth naught for you save

what shall deliver you from the darkness of fancy and draw you nigh unto the lights of certitude, near unto God, the Sovereign, the Mighty, the Reckoner.

Say: O people! Do ye follow him who neither heareth nor seeth, and do ye deprive yourselves of God, the All-Hearing, the All-Knowing, the Answerer? And among the people is he who doubteth God, the Originator of the heavens and earth; when the Youth of the Spirit entereth upon him with God's Tablet and His testimony, and reciteth unto him from God's verses, he is at peace within himself, but then he turneth unto those who have disbelieved, turneth within himself, then doubteth.

Say: O people! Fear God and consort not with those who have denied God and His verses. Then shun such as these. Thus have We commanded you before and do We command you now, that perchance ye may purify your souls for God, the Powerful, the Generous, the Bestower.

Say: O people! Are ye not ashamed before God Who sendeth down upon you from the clouds of grace the verses of His Cause even as He sendeth down from the clouds the rains of mercy—nay, greater still, for the mercy We send down from the clouds perisheth, while that mercy can never be cut off or exhausted—and to this every discerning and sagacious one beareth witness.

O My Name! Leave the mention of those who have disbelieved and warred against God, then stand firm in the Cause at a time when the leaves of faith fall from the trees of men, and every ignorant one is disturbed, and every denier fleeth away. Thus have We inspired thee and sent down upon thee the verses of the Cause with clear and decisive evidences, that thou mayest remain steadfast in thy Lord's Cause and in what hath touched Him of harm from those who were created by His word. By God! They are this day behind a veil and barrier.

Rejoice within thyself at the Spirit's glad-tidings and despair not of God's bounty. Soon shall He send down upon thee that which shall make thee independent of all else and shall increase thee in all things if thou remainest firm in the Cause. And verily His bounty unto mankind is nigh. Thus did We give thee glad-tidings before and do We give thee glad-tidings now, as a favor from Our presence and a mercy from Us upon thee and upon every wayfaring stranger who hath taken shelter beneath the shadow of their Lord's mercy, who, when God's verses are recited unto them, are moved in their very foundations with longing for the meeting with God, and from whom waft throughout creation the sweet fragrances of holiness. These are they whom nothing shall prevent from the ultimate retreats, the vista of their Lord, the Most High, the Most Exalted, and they shall hasten through the wilderness of love even upon burning sands.

Say: O people! Turn ye unto God in repentance for what ye have neglected in His presence, then call upon Him secretly and openly that He may forgive you through His grace, for verily He is the Answerer of prayer and the Observer.

BH09306: Blessed art thou, O Hasan, for having entered within…

He is the Most Wondrous, the Most Wonderful

Blessed art thou, O Hasan, for having entered within the fortress of My love, which hath been built up from the tablets of the Cause and is verily the frequented Fane amidst the Concourse of the

Manifestation, and the Sacred Sanctuary in the Most Great Paradise, and the Holy House for all who dwell on earth. Say: O people, take refuge therein that God may protect you from the arrows of Satan in these days wherein the veils of fancy have encompassed both the lowly and the noble. Go forth therefrom by My sovereignty, then witness thyself in such wise that thou beholdest all who are in the heavens and on earth as a coin in thy palm, which thou canst turn as thou pleasest. Thus hath the power of thy Lord encompassed all created things, yet the people are in evident heedlessness.

O Hasan! Take thou this Tablet with the spirit and fragrance of God, then preserve it within thyself, then enter upon those who believed and then denied, and say: By God the True One! I have come to you from the Dayspring of God's Cause with this News which hath been recorded in the Mother of Tablets by the Pen of God. Say: By God! This is the Mother of Tablets and what is mentioned therein is what flowed from the divine Finger on that Day, if ye be informed thereof. Then recite unto them what the Spirit hath cast upon this Tablet. Thereupon thou shalt find the dust of hatred upon their faces. Say: O people! Die in your wrath, for the Sun of the Cause hath dawned from the horizon of a brilliant dawn. O people! By what proof did ye believe, and by what evidence did ye deny? Bring it forth if ye have something more wonderful than what We possess, or the like thereof. Therefore fear ye God and be not tyrannous and wretched.

O servant! Observe with the glance of the beginning what We have ordained for Our servants and what they have chosen for themselves, that thou mayest discover what every remote idolater's soul hath perpetrated. We commanded them in the Tablets and counseled them not to be veiled at the time of the dawning by all that hath been created in the horizons, yet they were veiled by a name among the names which We created by Our command and Our sovereignty, and none were aware of this save a few souls. And thereby they turned away from the Ancient Beauty and spoke as spoke the peoples of old when the Cause came from the heaven of an exalted Name.

O servant! Recount unto them what the Tongue of Grandeur recounteth unto thee, that perchance they may find a way unto the Lord of Majesty. Say: When the hosts of God's revelation descended in the guise of verses upon the Temple of Words, the dwellers of Sinai were thunderstruck upon the Sinai of nearness and the mountain of every learned one was crushed. And thereby were the breasts of the fettered ones constrained, such that they arose to war against His Beauty. Thus have We detailed the matter unto thee in detail, that thou mayest know the state of those who claim faith within themselves and consider themselves among the most exalted of servants, though today not one of them is mentioned before thy Lord.

And thou, give thanks unto God for having confirmed thee in the Cause and made thee among those whom He hath chosen, and provided thee with ripe and holy fruits from the Tree of Knowledge. Be thou steadfast in thy love such that no fettered and obstinate one may cause thee to slip. Then remind those who are with thee from Us, those who have shattered the idols of desire through the power of thy Lord, the Most High, the Most Exalted, and have embarked upon the Crimson Ark through My Most Glorious Name. By God! They are servants whose presence is longed for by those in the heaven of grandeur and all discerning ones besides them. Witness thyself in such a station that were thou to find no helper for thy

Lord on earth, thou wouldst arise by thyself to help thy Lord. Then would thy relation to My Self, which encompasseth the worlds, be confirmed.

Say: The musk of the All-Merciful hath been diffused from the trace of the All-Glorious, and God hath made it a proof from Him unto all who are in the heavens and earth, and no peer hath been ordained for it in the kingdom. Verily those whom the cold of heedlessness and desire hath seized will never find from this Garment the fragrances of a beloved glory. Blessed is he who hath inhaled the divine fragrances from the trace of his Lord and was steadfast on the path. Then remind from Us the handmaidens of God who have believed in God and His signs and were among the devoutly obedient ones inscribed in the Tablet.

BH01617: Say: The verses have been sent down…

He is the All-Knowing in the Most Exalted Horizon!

Say: The verses have been sent down from the Kingdom on high from the presence of the King of Names and Attributes. Through them were rent asunder the veils between earth and heaven, and the maidens of Paradise emerged with their heads from the chambers, crying out with the most beautiful call: “This is none other than a mighty tiding!” And we would sacrifice ourselves as did he who loved Him and was martyred in His path, and who took for himself a station on the shore of nearness that was faithful to the truth.

O servant! Grieve not for thy father. He hath ascended unto God and entered the Most Great Paradise, the seat of thy Lord, the Most High, the Most Great. At every moment he drinketh of the pure water of life before the throne of thy Lord, the All-Merciful, and at every instant there shineth upon him the beauty of the All-Glorious through wondrous manifestations of might. Thus doth God single out whom He willeth through His grace and sendeth down upon him mercy from His presence. There is none other than He who hath power to recompense those who have drawn nigh unto Him and detached themselves from all else with the most excellent reward. He, verily, is the Best of rewarders, the All-Wise.

And thou, walk thou in the footsteps of thy father, then follow his guidance and be steadfast in the Cause at a time when most faces shall turn away and the feet of the mystics shall slip. Preserve thou the words of God in this Tablet, then recite them day and night that the fragrances of the Cause may attract thee to a holy and luminous seat, and bring thee to a station which God hath sanctified from the knowledge of all things save those whose hearts hear the mention of God and in whose movements and stillness is seen the tranquility and dignity of God, and from whose faces shineth the freshness of God, the Sovereign, the Mighty, the Beautiful.

Know thou that thy father was martyred in the path of his Lord through the tribulations and hardships that befell him from those who transgressed against him and were among the wrongdoers. With thy Lord he hath a station that none can attain save those whom thy Lord willeth from among the truthful, the near ones, then the assured ones and the sincere ones. And whosoever dieth while certain of God his Lord, knowing himself, and turning unto Him, hath verily died a martyr. To this doth the tongue of thy Lord now testify from this holy and glorious seat.

And thou, mention from Our presence those servants who loved him and were in his company and took him as a friend to themselves and were among those present before him. Had all who are on earth held fast to the cord of his love, We would have effaced their evil deeds and clothed them in the robe of forgiveness. But when they veiled themselves, their portion was decreed and they were in manifest loss. Thus did the grace of thy Lord precede all created things, and His mercy encompass all beings, and His word excel all the worlds. But the people veiled themselves therefrom and followed the path of error in that they followed every rebellious devil.

Say: O people! Be not of those who name the Point of the Bayan as the Beloved while at the moment this name issueth from their mouths their eyes turn right and left in show of their longing for Him, yet they slay His very self and essence with the swords of rejection and turning away, and are not among those who perceive. Those who have denied this Cause have not believed in the Messengers of God, and their mention shall never ascend unto God, and their names shall never be remembered before the Throne, even should all creation prostrate before them.

Say: O people! Have ye taken fancy as your lord besides God? What then is the difference between you and those who mention the Names but deny their Creator? Consider this, O heedless ones! Those ones are encompassed by the veils of self and passion, and are seized by vain imaginings, and are among the ungodly.

By My life! Whoso reflecteth upon this Revelation for less than a moment will recognize what none recognized before, and will find no likeness for it in creation, and will be among those endowed with certitude. Thus hath the word of thy Lord been fulfilled in truth and justice, and His proof hath been made manifest, and the Face hath shone forth between the heavens and earth. And glory be upon you, O people of the pavilion of majesty, from this Cause, the gleaming, the luminous, the holy, the most mighty, the wondrous!

BH01622: A letter from your honor arrived before this servant…

In the name of God, exalted be His remembrance!

A letter from your honor arrived before this servant indicating excessive anxiety and distress. Nothing was observed therein except the mention that two persons in that land had read a writing which indicated that people should go to Baghdad to render assistance to the Truth. Subsequently your honor, resorting to reason, did not deem it advisable and attributed it to falsehood. In any case, this matter did not warrant lamentation, nor was grieving permissible, for absolutely no one has ever been commanded to do such a thing.

Secondly, several years have passed since these servants were expelled from their homeland and have taken up residence in the land of exile. And now two years have passed during which the enemies have been plotting day and night, lying in ambush. Naturally some writings mention these successive tribulations and calamities that have befallen us. If someone should read such a writing containing these matters, it is no proof that assistance is being sought. It is strange that your honor was not pained and

saddened by such statements, but instead began to complain. We pour out our grief and sorrow unto God.

Is it not evident that these servants are manifestly in the hands of enemies? “Is one who strives in the path of God like one who sits idly at home?” If the servants had tasted but a drop of divine love, by God they would not remain settled in their homes, but would wail in the mountains. This is why all are occupied with wisdom—that is, with whatever preserves the commanding self. If they had drunk a drop from the cup of love, they would surely burn a hundred thousand wisdoms with fire and cast a hundred thousand prudences to the wind.

Surely in your honor’s eyes the deeds of those lovers of the Ka’bah of the Beloved who have laid down their lives in the path of the Friend and freely given up a world for His sake have never been and are not praiseworthy, for the prophet of the body, which is reason, would never confirm such matters. And the Prophets too, in every age and time, when people saw their actions contrary to their own reason, were therefore judged insane and were not believed.

Apart from all this, if someone invites a lover to the land of the Beloved, it becomes cause for him to send letters of complaint to all regions. By God, the fragrance of the love of God has not been inhaled, else you would have sacrificed your life for those very letters and would have been grateful too. A ray cannot be prevented from the sun, and a fish cannot be kept from the sea. Have you not seen how the moth gives up its life around the lamp?

Have you not heard that the nightingales of the divine rose-garden have fallen prey to Satan’s talons, and the spiritual songsters are being barred from the holy and spiritual rose-garden? If you do not wail from your soul, why then complain? If you have no grief for the Beloved, why then rejoice?

All these words are because this year several letters came from that direction expressing longing, and permission was given from here that whoever wishes to journey to the Ka’bah of the Ultimate Goal and the Sanctuary of the Worshipped One is not forbidden, and has never been and will never be forbidden. This decree happened to be contrary to the temperament of some. And God knows the reformer from the corrupter. Now you should forbid all people from ever setting out in this direction. By God, the Truth is beholden to none and He is indeed independent of all worlds. Praise be to God that We have never sought any helper and have desired no assistant besides Him. And God is sufficient as witness.

BH01640: O servant! Thy letter hath come before Us…

He is the Most Holy, the Most Exalted, the Most Inaccessible, the Most High

O servant! Thy letter hath come before Us, and We have understood its contents. God is indeed aware of what is in thy heart. Nothing escapeth His knowledge. He knoweth what is hidden from sight and concealed from minds, and He is independent of all worlds.

And now concerning thy reference to the existence of two Gods. Beware, beware, lest thou be led to join partners with the Lord, thy God. He is, and hath from everlasting been, one and alone, without peer or equal, eternal in the past, eternal in the future, detached from all things, ever-abiding, unchangeable, and

self-subsisting. He hath assigned no associate unto Himself in His Kingdom, no counsellor to counsel Him, none to compare unto Him, none to rival His glory. To this every atom of the universe beareth witness, and beyond it the inmates of the realms on high, they that occupy the most exalted seats, and whose names are remembered before the Throne of Glory.

Bear thou witness in thine inmost heart unto this testimony which God hath Himself and for Himself pronounced, that there is none other God but Him, that all else besides Him have been created by His behest, have been fashioned by His leave, are subject to His law, are as a thing forgotten when compared to the glorious evidences of His oneness, and are as nothing when brought face to face with the mighty revelations of His unity.

He, in truth, hath, throughout eternity, been one in His Essence, one in His attributes, one in His works. Any and every comparison is applicable only to His creatures, and all conceptions of association are conceptions that belong solely to those that serve Him. Immeasurably exalted is His Essence above the descriptions of His creatures. He, alone, occupieth the Seat of transcendent majesty, of supreme and inaccessible glory. The birds of men's hearts, however high they soar, can never hope to attain the heights of His unknowable Essence. It is He Who hath called into being the whole of creation, Who hath caused every created thing to spring forth at His behest. Shall, then, the thing that was born by virtue of the word which His Pen hath revealed, and which the finger of His Will hath directed, be regarded as partner with Him, or an embodiment of His Self? Far be it from His glory that human pen or tongue should hint at His mystery, or that human heart conceive His Essence. All else besides Him stand poor and desolate at His door, all are powerless before the greatness of His might, all are but slaves in His Kingdom. He is rich enough to dispense with all creatures.

Know thou that all things are nurtured under the shadow of one of the names of thy Lord, and He hath created that name through His originating Will which He ordained within the essence of creation itself. Therefore, bear witness to His sovereignty and His power, then to His greatness and His might, then to His loftiness and His transcendence, that thou mayest become aware of that which hath been hidden from the eyes of the world.

Hold thou fast unto God, then detach thyself from all else besides Him, that He may give thee to drink of the wine of understanding from this cup which the fingers of the All-Merciful cause to circulate in this Paradise which hath been raised up, by God's leave, in the highest heaven. Purify thy heart from the defilement of those who believed and then denied the faith, and who are recorded with thy Lord as being among the opposers. Cast the world and all that hath been created therein behind thee, that God may open before thy heart's face the gates of knowledge and meaning, and raise thee to a station wherein thou shalt behold all who are in the heavens and on earth abiding under the shadow of one of thy Lord's names. Thus hath the Sun of Utterance shone forth from the horizon of speech from the All-Compelling, the Self-Subsisting.

Verily, We have answered thee regarding what thou didst mention in thy letter because We loved thee. Otherwise, by Him Who is unique in majesty and glory, such tribulations have befallen Me as none can reckon save God, and thereby hath the Pen been prevented from remembrance, and this wrong hath been recorded as grievous in the Mother Book. By God! He who hath warred against My Self was indeed

created by My Word, and those endowed with keen vision know this to be the truth wherein there is no doubt. But those who are seized by vain imaginings have taken him as their protector instead of Me. Leave thou the people to their selves and their desires, then make mention of thy Lord and fear no one. Place thy trust in God, and verily He will protect thee with manifest sovereignty. And the glory be upon thee and upon every illumined heart.

BH01645: These are the verses of God which have been…

He is the Mighty, the Most Holy, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious!

These are the verses of God which have been sent down in truth from the heaven of a glorious Name. Therein lies that which would sever the peoples of the world from all else beside them, were they to purify their holy ears from the croaking of the idolaters and hearken unto the Word of God which hath been detailed in truth and sent down from a holy and exalted heaven.

O Kazim! Rejoice within thyself and in thine essence, inasmuch as the Pen of God hath moved in thy name. This is a bounty that cannot be equaled by aught that hath been created between earth and heaven, as doth testify the Tongue of truth that knoweth. We had previously sent thee an epistle in the Persian tongue and dispatched it unto thee upon the breezes of holiness—if thou be aware thereof. By God, the True One! Shouldst thou not hold thyself back from that which hath wafted upon thee from the direction of the Ancient One, it would, in less than a moment, cause thee to turn unto a seat of glorious love. The lights of the Spirit would shine upon thee and make thee abide in the eternity of thy Lord. Thus have We detailed the matter unto thee that thou mightest turn in thy innermost heart toward the direction of the Throne and draw nigh unto a praiseworthy shore.

Close thine eyes to all who are in the heavens and on earth, then turn thy face toward the direction of the Cause and be possessed of luminous insight. Then remind the people of that which the Spirit hath cast into thy breast. Deprive not thyself of the breezes of the All-Merciful in these days wherein all are veiled by the veils of their own selves. Arise with divine arising between earth and heaven, then summon the people that they might remember within themselves and take unto the Lord of the Throne a path. Say: By God! Every path hath been cut off, every proof prevented, every learned one confounded, every mystic brought low, and every known name overturned. Beware, beware! Arise thou to the Cause with a steadfastness from Us and a sovereignty from Our presence. Fear no one and place thy trust in His own Self, the Truth. Verily, He will protect thee from every rejected enemy.

Purify thyself through that which We have caused to rain upon thee from this heaven that hath been raised in this atmosphere, that it might sanctify thee from the mention of aught besides God and cause thee to ascend unto a heaven of wondrous remembrance. Thus have We sent down unto thee the Book and inspired thee with that which will make thee independent of all save thy Lord, shouldst thou act upon what is contained therein and be severed from all the worlds entirely.

Know thou that We had previously commanded thee to divide what thou hast of the rights of God into three portions, then spend two-thirds upon thy kindred and upon the poor in that place, for We have heard the cry of those in distress and therefore have We commanded thee thus. Act thou according to

what thou hast been commanded by One All-Wise, All-Knowing. Then inform the wealthy not to be heedless of Our poor servants, for they are God's trust among you. Say: Beware lest ye be unfaithful concerning them. Preserve them from the harm of poverty and desperation. Thus doth command you the Pen of might and blessing.

If thou wouldst purify thyself from the veils of idle fancies, by God, the True One! this would be better in thy Lord's sight than spending the fullness of the heavens and earth in red gold. Thus have We detailed the matter unto thee in detail. What God desireth from His servants is their detachment from all save Him and their entry beneath the shadow of mercy that encompasseth all the worlds. He hath ever been independent of all else beside Him and self-sufficient above all things, and the kingdom of wealth is created by His word, if thou be aware thereof.

Thus have We sent down unto thee the verses as a mercy from Our presence and a light from Our nearness, that the lights of the Countenance might take thee from the direction of a praiseworthy might. Then remind on Our behalf all who have believed in God and sought guidance through the guidance of the days, then taken shelter in the shadow of the Cause at the Ultimate Tree, the spot wherein the fire is kindled and shineth forth from the Chosen Lote-Tree and speaketh the truth with that wherewith the Spirit speaketh in a wondrous holy Lote-Tree.

The Spirit, the glory and the splendor be upon thee and upon those with thee and upon those women who are in thy household and upon every young and old one.

BH01653: O my God! Every night I am consumed…

In the name of God, the Self-Sufficing, the Most High!

O my God! Every night I am consumed by the fire of separation from Thee, and every day I am gladdened by the wondrous tokens of Thy bounty. In the night-time I weep in my despair at being remote from the evidences of Thy triumph and Thy loving-kindness, and in the daytime I laugh with hope at the wondrous manifestations of Thy generosity and benevolence. Glorified art Thou, O my God! All days have passed, yet the tribulations of Thy chosen ones have not ceased; every matter hath ended, yet the afflictions of Thy trusted ones do not end. It is as though adversity hath become eternal through the eternity of Thy Being, and hardship abiding through the permanence of Thy Self, and enduring through the endurance of Thy Countenance, wherein all things in Thy dominion change save the tribulations of Thy loved ones, and all things in Thy realm are transient save the abasement of Thy chosen ones.

By Thy might, O my Beloved! Abasement hath reached its utmost degree, and there hath come from the ignorant that which cannot be recounted in words. O Thou unto Whom all grace and bounty lead, and verily Thou art the Lord of beauty and majesty! Dost Thou not, O my God, look upon Thy loved ones with glances of Thy tender mercy, and dost Thou not, O my Hope, turn toward Thy creatures with looks of Thy loving-kindness? Is there anyone besides Thee to whom they might flee? Is there any sovereign but Thee to whom they might turn? Nay, by Thy might! And I, being among Thy lovers, do testify before Thee now that they have desired none but Thee, have worshipped none but Thee, have known none but Thee, and

have cut themselves off from all directions to turn to Thy face of oneness, and have abandoned all dwellings until they entered the precincts of Thy divine singleness.

How long, O my God, wilt Thou not send upon their hearts the breezes of Thy mercy, and not cause to waft over their souls the gentle winds of Thy grace and loving-kindness? Didst Thou not promise, O my Lord, to gather the detached ones in the shelter of Thy greatest mercy? And didst Thou not promise them a haven of security beneath the shadow of Thy Most Exalted Name? Then fulfill what Thou hast promised, and manifest all that Thou hast covenanted, for verily Thou art the Most Merciful of the merciful and the Fulfiller of the needs of them that seek Thee.

Thou knowest, O my God and my Lord, that I complain not for myself, nor grieve for my own being, nor sorrow for my body, for on the day when Thou didst make Thyself known to me and made me drink the wine of Thy beauty, I sacrificed my spirit for Thy spirit, my being for Thy being, and my body for Thy body. Thou knowest what hath befallen me in Thy path and what hath touched me through the courses of Thy decree. By Thy might! I cannot mention it before Thee, nor can any of Thy loved ones bear to hear it. In all conditions I have been thankful for Thy bounty and content with Thy decree. Nay, I have been waiting for the swords of Thine enemies in Thy path and the arrows of Thy decree in Thy love. I have not preserved myself for even an hour, and I have been as a burning fire among Thy sinful servants, as a shining lamp before Thine enemies, and as the rising sun above the heads of the wretched ones.

Every day they conspire to banish me, and every night they gather to slay me, while I say:

> "O my God! Increase their unbelief and heedlessness, then their misbelief and wretchedness, that thereby my meeting with Thee may draw near, until I return unto Thee and appear before Thee, for this is my hope from Thee and my expectation in Thee."

But O my God! When I witness the agitation of Thy loved ones and the distress of Thy creatures, I am saddened to a degree that cannot be counted in words nor completed by the pen in its task. Verily, if Thou wert to remove from them the veils of the Cause as Thou hast removed them from this Thy servant, they would not be agitated in the places of Thy trials nor confused in the courses of Thy decree. But Thou hast veiled it from them through Thy all-encompassing knowledge and revealed it to Thy perishing servant.

Therefore, I beseech Thee, O my Beloved, by Thy Most Exalted Manifestation, by Thy mirrors that reflect Him, by Thy Most Sublime and Eternal Mirror, and by the tongues that speak of Him, that Thou make us among those who arrive at the shore of Thy detachment, who descend into the city of Thy bounty, who drink from the cup of Thy beauty, and who rest upon the carpet of Thy majesty. For in Thy hand is the kingdom of all things, and verily Thou art the Mighty, the Single, the Most High, the Self-Subsisting.

BH01677: O people of Baha! Raise up the pavilion…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Inaccessible, the Most Exalted!

O people of Baha! Raise up the pavilion of holiness upon the shore of this Sea, unto which all seas flow and upon which sail the ships of the Cause by leave of God, the Mighty, the Powerful, the Unconstrained.

Board these ships, O people, and tarry not, for this is what hath been ordained for you in the heaven of destiny, in the Tablet of the Command which God hath preserved from the gaze of all eyes.

Say: The Tree of Eternity hath been made verdant through the remembrance of God and His glory. Blessed is he who seeketh shelter beneath its shade and tasteth of its fruits which appear at all times by the command of God, the Powerful, the Mighty, the All-Forgiving.

Say: O people, hesitate not in the Cause of God, but look with the eye of fairness. By God! It hath appeared with a sovereignty that hath encompassed all contingent things, and none deny it save every froward denier. Purify yourselves from the defilement of allusions, and cling not unto them as did the people of the Furqan before, and before them the people of the Gospel, and before them the people of the Torah. Thus do We set forth the matter for you now, that ye may take heed, O people of insight.

Say: O people, by God! When the sun ariseth the stars fade, and likewise when the breezes of the All-Merciful blow, the lamp is extinguished of itself. This is not of its own accord, but by leave of One mighty and compelling. Witness ye the breeze—though it extinguisheth the lamp, yet by it are all contingent things given life. Thus observe ye and ponder what issueth from the Pen of Command, O people of understanding.

Beware lest ye doubt Him by Whose command the seas were made to surge, the trees to bear fruit, the suns to shine, the heavens to be raised up, the mountains to be fixed, and the Dove to warble upon the branches of the Tree of Holiness behind the veils and coverings. Is there any doubt concerning God, or concerning His power which hath encompassed all contingent things? Fear God, O people, and be mindful of this Day wherein the breezes of the Command waft from every direction.

Purify yourselves from those who have disbelieved in what they had believed in, and who denied the proof of God and His evidence after He appeared in truth, around Whom circle the suns and moons. Though We find none on earth possessed of insight, yet make thou thy presence the presence of God, then open the eye of thy heart and observe what hath proceeded from the Tongue of Eternity in these days wherein the idolaters have encompassed Him from every side, and the clouds of grandeur rain down in grief for Him. Perchance thou shalt discover the root of the matter and what hath befallen the Youth from those who were created by His word, and thou shalt aid Him to the extent thou art able, though He hath never sought help from anyone save God, the Powerful, the Mighty, the Bountiful.

Were one possessed of insight, he would cry out between earth and heaven saying: “O people! By what proof have ye denied this Beauty Who hath dawned from the horizon of holiness with sovereignty and power? If ye believed in Ali, by God, he weepeth now in the Most Exalted Companion by reason of what hath befallen His Most Glorious Beauty in His latter manifestation, Who hath appeared with all the signs and from Whose Pen flow forth ordinances and mysteries.” And he saith: “O people! Fear God and cling not to the idols of your desires. By God! This is My Beauty, then My Manifestation, and My Power, and My Sovereignty. He hath appeared unto you greater than what I revealed unto you, and this is testified to by the tongues of all created things, and beyond them the Tongue of God, the King, the Mighty, the Unconstrained.”

Thus have We imparted unto thee that thou mayest hear the word of truth, that thou mayest arise to aid Him Who hath no helper and Who hath fallen into the depths of this pit, wherefrom the feet of the righteous and the chosen ones are cut off. And the Glory be upon thee and upon whosoever hath turned unto God and turned away from every disbelieving infidel.

BH01700: The call of God has been raised…

He is the Most High, the Most Great

The call of God has been raised from the right of the Throne: "Verily, I am God, the One, the Single, the Unique! Stop not your ears from hearkening to the Word of God. Turn to Him with pure and sanctified hearts. He who hath sanctified his ear to hear the Call from the luminous Tree raised upon the blessed crimson Spot—by God! The Promised One hath appeared with His name, the All-Loving, from the presence of the Mighty, the Trustworthy. Come ye forth from the cities of fancy! The King of Certitude hath come with the light of the All-Merciful. Thus hath the matter been decreed from the presence of God, the Single, the All-Sufficient.

"Necks have bowed down at the appearance of the Luminary of the horizons, yet veils of hypocrisy have enveloped the people. Thus hath spoken the Tongue of Revelation and warbled. Today all atoms proclaim: 'The King of Names and Attributes hath come, He Who hath taken neither partner nor offspring.' Say: True knowledge is the knowledge of My Self. Whoso attaineth unto it hath attained unto God, and whoso denieth it is of them that have denied the verses of the All-Merciful. Thus doth the Tongue of Grandeur speak and testify. We have adorned the Kingdom with Our names and the Realm of Power with Our signs.

"Fear ye God, O people, and follow not everyone who hath denied and deviated. Verily, the Most Holy Sanctuary is among you, and God's Sacred Precinct is before your faces, and the Sacred House for all people. Beware lest ye deprive yourselves of that which hath been ordained for you and be of them that have turned away from God and then called upon all who are in the heavens and earth. Doth not God suffice you, He Who hath caused all things to speak by His sovereignty? There is no God but Him. His is the greatness and pride, His the power and transcendence. With Him are the treasuries of names which He sendeth down according to a fixed measure. They who have clung to names and turned away from their Creator—these are the worshippers of idols. God shall soon chastise them with an extended chastisement.

"Say: Do trials in the path of God, your Most Glorious Lord, frighten you, or doth fate prevent you from the Lord of Names? Rend ye the veils by the name of your Lord, the Mighty, the Bestower. Then turn ye to the Face before which the Bayan hath bowed down and prostrated. Hold fast unto the cord of God and detach yourselves from all else. The fragrances of sanctity have wafted from this Garment—blessed is he who turneth unto them and findeth. Shun ye, O people, him who hath denied God. He is Satan and hath stood at every path and lookout. Hold fast unto God—He will protect you from the hosts of rejection and aid you with authority from His presence. His are the mobilized hosts.

“Hasten, O people, with your hearts to the Dayspring of proof. By God, He is your Lord, the All-Merciful! Beware lest ye deprive yourselves of this bounty which shall endure for you and never end. Thus hath the Sun of Glory shone forth upon you from the horizon of grandeur. He is your Lord, the Most High, the Most Exalted, unto Whom the atoms have turned and around Whom the verses have circled. He who turneth away from Him is of the people of tyranny and envy. We have today adorned all things with the ornament of names. Thus hath grace encompassed all in the kingdom of creation. Blessed is he who hath known and witnessed.

“O servant! Hearken unto the Call from the Most Glorious Quarter, then deliver unto the servants what We have delivered unto thee. Say: The Lord of creation hath appeared and calleth you unto Him. Beware lest ye follow him who hath denied God. We have sent down from the heaven of utterance the table of wisdom and exposition—blessed is he who turneth unto it, and woe unto him who knoweth and denieth.

> “Arise to mention God and His Cause amongst His creation, then give them the glad tidings of this News which was mighty in the Kingdom of Names and great in the cities of eternity. He whom God hath chosen for Himself shall endure forever. Blessed is he who is illumined by the lights that have shone forth from the horizon of this holy, glorified Tablet. Say: The Spirit hath come as ye were promised and hath stood before the Throne, and this is the glory. Turn with all thy being unto God and be of them who have strived and endeavored in His path.”

BH01678: O Ali! Bear thou witness within thyself that there…

He is the Rememberer and the Remembered.

O Ali! Bear thou witness within thyself that there is none other God but Him, and that He Who appeared with the name Ali before Nabil is verily the Manifestation of His Self, the Dayspring of His Cause, the Treasury of His knowledge, the Rising Place of His Revelation, the Repository of His signs, and the Source of His mercy unto all worlds. And He Who hath appeared and shone forth with His Most Luminous, Most Glorious Name in His latter Manifestation is for His glory, then His might and grandeur over all who are in the heavens and the earth.

Through Him light was distinguished from darkness, and the fortunate from the wretched. Through Him was established the Temple of the Cause upon a throne of mighty glory, and through Him every ignorant one ascended to the Kingdom of knowledge and utterance, while every learned one returned to the nethermost depths. Through Him were the names and their kingdoms transformed, such that darkness was changed into light and light into darkness. Through Him descended the hosts of revelation from the heaven of decree, and the matter was decided by One mighty and powerful.

Thus have We adorned the heavens of the Tablet with the ornament of remembrance and utterance, and sanctified it from the knowledge of every accursed satan. And thou, O servant, hearken unto what God hath revealed unto thee from the direction of pre-existence, then arise to serve the Cause and be among those who arise with such arising whereby all things shall arise to serve and assist God. Without this, it beseemeth not those who are established upon a holy and secure seat.

By God the Truth! Whoso today yieldeth up a breath in love of his Lord and detachment from all else, God shall make him influential among the realities of things—and none shall comprehend this save every detached and discerning one. When thou attainest unto this station, thou shalt seek whatsoever thou willest through My Most Exalted, Most Great Name, and shalt accomplish what thou desirest through the name of thy Lord, the Most Merciful, the Compassionate. By My life! Whoso attaineth unto this maturity shall speak only for God, move only by God, rest only by His command, walk only in the paths of His good-pleasure, witness naught but His beauty, and fear no one even should all creation combine against him.

O thou who believest in God! When thou readest the Tablet of thy Lord and art seized by the breezes of the Spirit that waft from the direction of the verses from the traces of thy Lord, arise to teach by Our command and be not among the patient ones. For the honor of the servant lieth only in his remembrance of his Lord. Thus hath the matter been ordained for the near servants of God.

Deliver unto the people the remembrance of thy Lord, the Most Merciful, and fear not the manifestations of Satan. He will guard thee from the hosts of devils. When thou openest thy tongue in utterance, then shall the Holy Spirit confirm thee, and the Spirit of Glory shall teach thee from the direction of eternity, and the Spirit of Truth shall speak upon thy tongue. Thus have We commanded thee and given thee leave that thy heart may be strengthened and thou mayest be in mighty assurance. Beware lest thou cast the Cause of God behind thee and be among the inactive ones. Remind the people with wisdom and utterance, for this is the station of man, and without this it beseemeth not the sincere servants of God.

Know thou then that thy brother who journeyed unto God hath entered the seat of thy Lord's throne, stood before His presence, was illumined by the lights of God, the Mighty, the Glorious, the Luminous, attained unto the meeting, heard the verses of his Lord, and was among the successful ones. He wrote thy name upon the Tablet and presented it before the Face. When the glances of thy Lord turned unto it, there was sent down for thee from the direction of the throne verses of wondrous glory, and We sent them unto thee as a mercy from Us upon thee and upon Our assured servants.

Glory be upon thee if thou forsakest imitation, ascendest to the heights of unity, and makest thyself purely devoted unto God, the King, the Sovereign, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

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BH01697: He is God! Glorified art Thou, O my God!...

He is God! Glorified art Thou, O my God! I make mention of Thee in this hour when the doves of the sanctity of Thy sovereignty warble, and from the clouds of Thy oneness there rain down wondrous verses of Thy grandeur, and from the clouds of Thy mercy there pour forth the rains of Thy gracious favors, and from the paradise of Thy oneness there waft the breezes of Thy bountiful mercy, whereby the trees of the sanctity of Thy divinity are planted, and the Lote-Tree of Thy singleness puts forth leaves of the knowledge of Thy Being, and the branches of Thy mercy bear the fruits of Thy grace, and all who are in the heavens and earth hasten to the fields of Thy riches, and all who are in the depths of creation dwell near to Thy Lordship, and drink from the cups of Thy beauty, and ascend to the highest horizon of Thy

glory, and the lovers mount up to the pavilion of nearness to Thee, and those who have attained soar in the atmosphere of union with Thee, and those drawn nigh race in the gardens of Thy presence, and the sincere are enshrouded thereby in the heaven of Thy eternity.

Glorified, glorified art Thou above all that those who make mention of Thee mention, or those who describe Thee describe! For all mention returns to its nest in the realities of Thy servants, and all description descends to its place in the hearts of Thy creatures. And since this is so, how can the description of Thy creation reach unto Thee? By Thy glory, O my Beloved! All eyes are bewildered before the wondrous dawning of the lights of Thy beauty, and every tongue falls silent before the melodies of the nightingale of Thy majesty, and all ears are deaf before the manifestations of the dawning-places of Thy wisdom's might, and all minds are as nothing before the modes of Thy novel sovereignty, and all souls vanish before the emergence of the sanctity of Thy knowledge, and all bodies tremble before the signs of Thy creative power, and all bones turn to dust before the shining forth of the mysteries of Thy strength.

Therefore, O my God, since the servant acknowledges all this and confesses to all this, it behooveth the wonders of Thy bounty and the fullness of Thy grace and favor to make him detached from all else but Thee and to cause him to return from all save Thee to the stream of meeting with Thee, that there may flow from his tongue the wondrous oceans of Thy wisdom, and from his heart the signs of Thy mighty power and strength, and from his tongue the embroideries of Thy melody, and from his inmost heart the traces of Thy favor. For Thou, O my God, didst create him by Thy command and teach him the interpretation of Thy Book and make known to him the treasuries of Thy knowledge and inspire him with the jewels of Thy wisdom and teach him what Thou hadst concealed from others by Thy grace.

Dost Thou see within Thyself, O my God, that Thou shouldst drive away a poor one who hath detached himself unto Thee, or turn back a needy one who hath stood before the sanctuary of Thy beauty, or abase a lowly one who hath clung to the cord of Thy glory? Glory be unto Thee! Glory be unto Thee! Thou art too great to disappoint one who hath stood before the pavilions of Thy grandeur or to withhold from one who hath come to the canopies of Thy grace and mercy.

Therefore I beseech Thee, O my God, if my blood be acceptable in Thy path, then shed it by Thy bounty, and if my heart be worthy of Thy knowledge, then burn it with Thy fire, and if my head be fitting for Thy good-pleasure, then raise it upon the spear by Thy power, that I may follow Thy chosen ones in Thy realm and walk in the footsteps of Thy trusted ones in Thy lands. By Thy glory, O my God! My heart yearns for Thee, and mine eyes hope for Thy beauty, and my heart awaits meeting with Thee, and shouldst Thou will to delay in all this, to burn me in these days and torment me in these nights among these transgressors, then accept from me that which Thou didst desire from me in the Most Exalted Concourse before Thy near angels, though none knoweth the knowledge thereof save after its appearance in Thy land, and shouldst Thou change all this to manifest Thy sovereignty—verily Thou art powerful over this, and Thou art the Protector, the Self-Subsisting.

Then I beseech Thee, O my God, by Him Whom Thou didst manifest on the day of Thy arising and by Him Whom Thou wilt manifest in the resurrection of Thy beauty, to make her to whom this Tablet hath been returned one of the dwellers in the chambers of Thy good-pleasure. Then grant her, O my God, that whereby her eyes may be consoled, for Thou art the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous.

BH01699: Glorified art Thou, O my God! Thou art He…

He is the Mighty!

Glorified art Thou, O my God! Thou art He Who hath raised up the heavens by Thy command and established the earth by Thy will, and ordained between them that which befitteth Thy sovereignty and beseemeth Thy glory. Then after this, Thou didst create by Thy will and manifest all beings by Thy wisdom, and didst send unto them Messengers from Thy presence and reveal unto them Books from Thy side, and didst manifest Thyself unto the chosen ones among Thy Messengers through the lights of Thy mighty Self-Subsistence, and didst raise them to the heights of Thy glorious Divinity, such that Thou didst make them the Dawning-Places of Thy oneness and the Manifestations of Thy Self-Sufficiency and the Daysprings of Thy Identity and the repositories of Thy eternal wisdom. And Thou didst give them a proof from Thee and evidence from Thy presence, and didst make Thy greatest proof to be the verses sent down from the heaven of Thy uniqueness, and Thy mightiest evidence to be the melodies appearing from the tones of Thy wondrous Self-Sufficiency.

Then after this, Thou didst command the servants to obey them in Thy dominion and to turn unto them in Thy kingdom, that all might submit to the Manifestations of Thy Self and follow the Dawning-Places of the Sun of Thy Beauty, that they might gather all the servants upon the path of Thy grace and cause them to drink from the oceans of Thy bounty and to enter the paradise of Thy oneness and to dwell in the precincts of Thy mercy. And Thou didst not desire in all this, O my God, save that Thou mightest cause them to enter the eternal, everlasting City and join them to the immortal, sempiternal pavilions.

Despite this, they differed regarding Thy Cause and objected to Thy chosen ones and showed pride before the Manifestations of Thy Self, until they separated themselves from the precincts of Thy mercy and fled from the shadow of Thy loving-kindness. And the days passed and the nights elapsed until the matter reached unto Thy Most Great Manifestation in the beauty of Thy Most High Name. Then was the veil removed from Thy beauty and the sun of Thy grace shone forth and the moons of Thy bestowals appeared and the stars of Thy favors dawned and the seas of Thy power surged and the breezes of Thy might stirred and the paradise of Thy glory was adorned and the dove of Thy meeting warbled. Despite all this, all denied Thy truth and turned away from Thy beauty and showed pride before Thy presence, and none answered Thee in this and none turned to Thy good-pleasure, and they visited upon the Dawning-Place of Thy beauty that which maketh the Pen tremble to recount and the ink to weep for what befell Him and the people of Paradise to lament for what descended upon Him and the dwellers of the heavens to cry out for what was inflicted upon Him.

And after this, when His beauty was concealed from Thy servants and raised to His holy station and returned to His mighty hiding place in the throne of Thy grandeur, then did most of Thy servants claim to love Him and the people of Thy kingdom made mention of Him and Thy creatures prostrated themselves before Him. Glory be unto Thee! Glory be unto Thee! How great is the heedlessness of Thy servants at the manifestation of Thy Being and how mighty their turning unto Thee after the concealment of Thy majesty! By Thy might, O my God, these people walk only in the paths of blind imitation after the setting of the sun of Thy guidance, and they follow Thee only after the disappearance of Thy countenance.

Glory be unto Thee! Glory be unto Thee! The people of the pavilions of the Divine Realm are bewildered by Thy Cause, how much more the people of the Kingdom in the lands of the mortal world! All the mystics are naked of the wonders of Thy wisdom, and all the divines are foolish before the manifestations of Thy knowledge, and all the philosophers are powerless before the tokens of Thy mighty sovereignty, and all the eloquent ones fall short of attaining the arenas of Thy grandeur, and all the wealthy ones are poor before the surging of the seas of Thy riches, and all the learned ones are ignorant before Thee, and all the mighty ones are as nothing before Thee.

By Thy might! The streams of Thy knowledge have ever flowed and the wonders of Thy wisdom have ever been manifest and the gates of Thy paradise have ever been open, yet none can enter therein or drink therefrom or witness its mystery save those who have detached themselves unto Thee and turned with their whole being unto Thee.

I beseech Thee therefore, O my God, by Thy all-encompassing mercy and Thy manifest favors and Thy consummate wisdom, that Thou protect us in the fortress of Thy protection and provide us with the fruits of Thy paradise and give us to drink from the cups of Thy beauty. Then raise us to a station wherein we behold no difference among Thy chosen ones and witness no variation in Thy signs, for verily Thou art the Omnipotent over all things and verily Thou art the Mighty, the Self-Subsisting.

BH01727: The remembrance of God unto the Leaf of Paradise…

In the Name of God, the Most Unapproachable, the Most Holy, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious

The remembrance of God unto the Leaf of Paradise, that she may hear the melodies of the Leaf of Eternity from this Branch which hath been raised up in His Most Glorious Name, that she may be drawn by the breezes of God. O blessed Leaf! Hearken unto the call of thy Lord once again from this most delicate and sweet Voice. By God! Were all things to hear but one note of His melodies with the ear of their inmost nature, they would surely be drawn unto the court of glorified might. Blessed art thou in that thou hast sanctified thyself from all else save God thy Lord and hast taken up thy dwelling beneath the shade of thy Lord's protection in a station that is, in truth, impregnable.

Fear God, then remember Him with thy tongue and thy heart, and turn not unto those who have disbelieved and turned away after having believed, and who were far removed from the shore of grace. Guard thy heart from allusions, then taste of the fruits of this blessed, pure and lofty Tree which hath appeared in truth at the midmost heart of the horizons with lights whereby every percipient soul hath been illumined. Be thou assured within thyself that God is with thee and by thee, and He is indeed nigh unto His servants. He will never deprive thee of the breezes of His holiness and will remember thee in truth, and He doth watch over thee. Grieve not for the adversity and hardship that hath touched thee, for God shall soon transform them through His mercy from His presence, and He hath power over all things.

Say: O my Lord! I beseech Thee by Thy Beauty which Thou hast manifested and raised up in truth and sent unto all the worlds, and which Thou hast named in the Concourse on High as the Most Great Announcement and among the hosts of creation as Ali, then by His latter manifestation in the Most Glorious Name, that Thou deprive me not of the breezes of the might of Thy mercy, and cast me not far

from the shore of the grace of Thy nearness and bounty, for Thou hast ever been the All-Wise over all things. O my Lord! Give me to drink from the Kawthar of Thy favor and the Tasnim of Thy grace and bounty, that it may purify me from all that Thy good-pleasure abhorreth and deliver me from this malady that hath seized me, for Thou hast ever been the All-Forgiving, the All-Merciful unto Thy servants.

O my Lord! Rend asunder the veils that have come between Thee and me, then heal me with the Kawthar of healing from the fingers of Thy mercy which have preceded all things and encompassed all who dwell in the kingdom. O my Lord! Cast me not into despair of Thy wondrous gifts and beauteous bounty, then grant me what Thou hast of the cups of eternity and make me steadfast in Thy Cause, for Thou hast power over all things.

He is God! God willing, may that divine Leaf be ever mindful of this remembrance that hath been revealed, and be assured of God's tender mercies which have ever encompassed that Leaf and, God willing, will continue to do so. Regarding what you mentioned about the mother of His Holiness the Exalted One (may my soul be sacrificed for all else beside Him) desiring that you should turn in that direction—it would be most welcome should you choose to go; no harm shall come to you. God willing, may you ever repose beneath the divine Tree and dwell within the pavilion of the protection of the Cause.

Be not distressed by the tribulations that have befallen you, for trials have ever been and shall ever be the portion of God's chosen ones. How excellent, then, is the state of one who is content and thankful for whatsoever befalleth them, for nothing descendeth upon any soul from God save that which is better for that soul than all that hath been created between the heavens and the earth. Since people are unaware of this mystery and the mystery thereof, they find themselves sorrowful when trials overtake them. God willing, may you ever dwell in the abode of assurance and be nourished by the fruits of understanding, for He is indeed the Best of Providers and the Best of Protectors.

And the Spirit and Glory be upon you and upon those with you and upon every penitent servant, and praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH01737: This is a Book which speaketh with truth…

He is the Most Inaccessible, the Most Holy, the Most Glorious.

This is a Book which speaketh with truth and maketh mention of them that have believed in God and His sovereignty in these days wherein the pillars were shaken and feet did slip, and heedlessness seized all who dwell on earth save them who purified their hearts from all who are in the heavens and on earth and entered beneath the shadow of a mercy that encompasseth all the worlds. By God! They walk in this earthly life with legs of iron upon holy ground, and in the next life they soar with two wings of the Cause unto an atmosphere that hath been raised above the comprehension of the worlds, until they alight upon the thrones of oneness at the right hand of the throne of their Lord, the All-Merciful, and there circle round them the youths of Paradise who were created from the breath of God. Thus doth God single out whom He willeth through His grace, and provide His servants with a bounty that hath been sent down from the heaven of grace.

O Jamal! Bear thou witness within thyself that there is none other God but Him, and that He Who hath appeared with the truth is indeed the Primal Manifestation between earth and heaven, and through Him hath appeared the sovereignty of God and His power, then His greatness and His majesty, and through Him hath shone forth the Sun of Justice from a holy and luminous horizon, and through Him was perfected the proof of God and His evidence, and was exalted the Word of God and His glory, and through Him was established the Beauty of the Ancient of Days upon the throne of manifest might.

Know thou moreover that thy letter came before Us and We became aware of what was therein of thy love for the direction of nearness, the spot wherein all things proclaim that there is none other God but Him and that He is indeed powerful over all things. However, We withheld the Pen and caused it not to flow with a reply, due to a wisdom that had been inscribed in the Mother Book by the Holy Finger. And when the appointed time arrived, We sent down this Tablet from the heaven of command and dispatched it unto thee as a mercy from Us upon thee, and as guidance and remembrance for them that have taken God as their guardian.

We have ordained for thee in the Tablets of destiny a station that was exalted in truth. Beware lest thou deprive thyself of thy portion. Then stand firm in the Cause in such wise that if the idolaters were to gather against thee, thou wouldst not turn unto them, by My sovereignty that encompasseth the worlds.

Say: O people! Fear ye God and sever not the hands of the Cause with the swords of turning away, for this is an injustice that hath been grievous before the Throne. By My life! Whoso in this day findeth the fragrance of his Lord from the garment of these words shall abandon what he possesseth, even were it the kingdoms of the heavens and earth, and shall regard the earth and all that is thereon as the most paltry thing in his sight, and shall take unto himself a path unto God.

Arise in the Cause of thy Lord, then remind the people with wisdom and utterance, and tarry not for less than a moment. Preserve thou this Tablet, then read it with spirit and fragrance that it may attract thee to a holy and exalted court. Thus have We commanded thee and inspired thee and cast upon thee that thou mayest thank God, thy Lord, and be preserved in an impregnable stronghold.

And if thou findest a pure heart, cast upon it what the Spirit hath cast upon thee, and if thou findest one who turneth away, leave him to himself that he may be consumed by his own fire, then turn with a beauteous countenance unto God, thy Lord. Verily He shall suffice thee against all who are in the heavens and on earth, and shall aid thee in the Cause that thou mayest be steadfast on the straight path.

O Jamal! Be thou beautiful in the Cause of thy Lord and turn not unto the world and what hath been created therein, then seek from God, thy Lord, a station that was praiseworthy in truth. And glory be upon thee and upon them that have detached themselves from all things and held fast unto the handle that was manifest in truth.

BH01734: Despair not of the Spirit of God, with us…

He is God In the Name of God, the Most Merciful, the Most Compassionate

Despair not of the Spirit of God, with us art thou familiar and by us art thou perceived.

> "'Attar traversed love's seven cities, While we remain in the bend of a single lane. When thy musk-laden pen remembers us, It earns the reward of freeing two hundred slaves."

This weak servant and frail countenance knows not by what meaningless and obsolete words to express his thoughts, for whatever is presented before that Presence is mere falsehood, and whatever is mentioned is pure misbelief.

> "Were people not veiled and dense, And were throats not constricted and weak, In thy praise I would render justice to meaning, And would open lips with speech other than this."

But as the saying of the great ones goes, "That which cannot be fully attained should not be fully abandoned." Therefore, with a dull tongue and ailing body, I venture to express and submit that the sprinkling which descended from the cloud of thy gracious heaven upon the soil of words, and the outpouring which was bestowed from the rain-laden cloud of thy mercy upon the essences of allusions, became a light and entered the hearts of the yearning ones, and became a joy and descended upon the breasts of the sorrowful ones. Indeed, how can the meadow smile until the cloud weeps?

Glory be to God! Was this musk-laden breeze from Paradise that made all we possessed paradisiacal? Or was this the blast of the trumpet from the Tree of Sinai that made us transcend our very souls and join the Beloved? When I heard mention of the Friend, I immediately arose and said:

> "Whence comes this musician who spoke the Friend's name? That I might sacrifice my soul and garment for the Friend's message. The heart comes alive with hope for the beloved's faithfulness, The soul dances to the melody of the Friend's words."

Not finding the messenger, I sat down and again endeavored to peruse the letter. All the pearls of unity that were hidden in the shell of praise became manifest. Truly it gave fresh spirit to the dejected state and boundless light to the consumed soul, as though the Holy Spirit breathed within it. This is what they meant when they said,

> "The earth has a share from the cup of the noble ones."

It was as if I began life anew and drank the honey-wine of grace from the fountain of the Beloved's mouth.

> "May thy divine realm be intimate with the human realm, Blessed be thy hand and arm."

And if the established carpet-spreader were to lay out the carpet of oneness and spread the blessed cushions of love, perhaps the eyes of the yearning ones would be illumined by the rays of the pure light of Beauty, and the eyes of the enraptured ones would be brightened by the fountain of distinction of the Sovereign of Glory. Although these words will not be pleasing to the lofty taste and discriminating mind of your exalted presence, since we have an excuse for expression, surely you will have forgiveness on your tongue, for "The excuse of the noble ones is accepted."

In the degrees of love and stations of affection, these two verses suffice:

> “O arrow of Thy grief, the lovers’ hearts its target, A world absorbed in Thee, while Thou art absent from their midst. Sometimes in the monastery confined, sometimes in the mosque residing, Meaning I seek Thee, house to house. My purpose in the Ka’bih and the temple is Thou, Thou art my purpose, the Ka’bih and temple but pretexts.”

Alas for this pen, and injustice from this ink and paper that have rendered me helpless! I know not what you will experience upon reading it. Therefore I say: Verily, we are God’s, and verily, unto Him do we return.

BH01785: This is a Book from Us to him who…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious

This is a Book from Us to him who has surpassed all others in the service of God, his Lord, the Mighty, the Loving, and who has arisen to serve his Lord in a manner befitting Him. Verily thy Lord is the Truth, the Knower of things unseen. Sorrow not over anything, for by My Self, the Truth, thou art with Us in the kingdom of earth and heaven. Can anything be hidden from His knowledge? Nay, by His Self, the One Who dominates all that was and shall be. Our trusted servant has appeared before Our presence and mentioned what thou didst desire in thy love for thy Lord, the Mighty, the Beloved. We beseech God to assist thee in all conditions and aid thee in serving His Cause. He, verily, is the Witness of all deeds and transcendent above all that is witnessed.

After the letter Sin, along with all the Tablets and materials, met with trials, and then through divine assistance safely reached the seat of the throne, and when the petitions of the people all fell into the hands of untrustworthy souls and some were lost and did not reach the Most Holy Court, yet that which pertained to your honor arrived safe and sound at the seat of the Cause. This is from God’s bounty to you.

Regarding the aforementioned matter, His Honor Ism-i-Mihdi has written the details, and regarding the land matter, the details were conveyed to Amin. He mentions that at first the intention was for it to be kept in utmost secrecy, but later some of the servants made it public, therefore Amin himself was instructed to keep it in complete secrecy. He will mention it to your honor. A special Tablet was revealed from the heaven of the Divine Will for Aqa Siyyid Muhammad-Rida and was sent. They must act according to the conditions mentioned therein. Review whatever Tablets reach that land and then deliver them. And regarding certain Tablets containing certain mentions, We commanded the Greater Branch—they were written repeatedly and sent to certain places. It would be appreciated if a copy of the Tablet of Aqa Siyyid Muhammad-Rida could be sent to the land of Kha and Nun.

We beseech God to ordain for thee that which shall gladden the eyes of creation. He, verily, is the Almighty, the All-Powerful. And may He make thee a banner of the mention of His name amongst His servants. Thus do We show thee at this hour. Give thanks unto thy Lord for having enabled thee to serve His Cause and ordained for thee that which none knoweth save His all-knowing Self. We beseech Him to send down upon thee from the heaven of His bounty that which shall increase thy love and steadfastness at all times in the Cause of thy Lord, the All-Merciful. He, verily, is the Ruler over whatsoever He willeth.

I am seated and the servant in attendance before Me is before his Lord's face, writing what descends from the heaven of Command on this night from whose horizon hath shone forth the Sun of Certitude. Can anything grieve thee after We have given thee to drink of the choice sealed wine and singled thee out for Our mention among the worlds? By My life! Thy head hath been adorned with the crown of thy Lord's love, the Most High, the Most Great. The denizens of the highest Paradise behold it and send their blessings upon thee. Thy Lord, verily, is the Witness unto all things. He, verily, is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

Say: O my God! Praise be unto Thee for having mentioned me in Thy Tablets and made me turn to Thy will, and become effaced before Thy good-pleasure, and a servant of Thy Cause, and one who speaks Thy praise amongst Thy servants, and one who seeks protection in Thy custody and shelter in Thy presence. I beseech Thee by Thy Name through which all things spoke and the sun of power and might shone forth from the horizon of Thy will, to behold me at all times with the glances of Thy mercy, then send down from the heaven of Thy grace that which will make me soar in the atmosphere of my love and yearning for Thee. Thou art verily the Almighty, the Transcendent, the Single, the Mighty, the All-Wise.

BH01820: Your letter hath reached the dawning-place of grief…

He is the Mighty, the Sorrowful.

Your letter hath reached the dawning-place of grief and arrived at the dayspring of tribulations. May God reward thee with a goodly reward which no alteration shall follow, for He, verily, hath power over all things.

O Ibrahim! The idol of self and desire hath encompassed the world. All have turned away from God and become worshippers of desire. Beseech the True One that He make manifest a Friend who, through the power of the All-Glorious, may shatter and cast down the idols of creation.

Though it hath ever been the custom of men to turn eagerly to vain imaginings while turning away from the Sovereign of certitude, until the Spirit of God appeared manifest and evident among all things, yet all remain occupied with the vain imaginings of their own souls, to such extent that they cling to the cord of fancy while cut off from the Sure Handle.

Consider My first Manifestation: when it appeared from the most holy and exalted Horizon, none turned towards that Essence of Oneness. Yet they would endure countless hardships and become detached from all things that they might attain to circumambulating a stone which, according to some, was created. The Lord of Lords had risen from the horizon of His name, the Mighty, the All-Bestowing, yet all would run through the wilderness that they might be blessed with visiting dust.

Observe this Day, which is the Lord of all days and the most wondrous time before and after. The True One, exalted be His grandeur, hath appeared with complete manifestation and concealment, yet should any soul observe with the slightest fairness, he would testify that the like of this Revelation hath never appeared in creation. Nevertheless, they cling to a name, of whose reality none had any knowledge, while turning away from Him Who brought it into being. Fie upon them and their deeds!

Even though at the time of departure He informed all that the Calf would bellow after the departure of the Ancient Beauty, and the Samiri would appear, and the birds of night would stir after the setting of the Sun, yet though all witnessed this, they recognized it not. Rather, most became worshippers of the Calf and followers of Samiri, turning entirely away from the Truth. Their abode is naught but the fire—how wretched the dwelling-place of the deniers!

O Ibrahim! Walk with perfect steadfastness upon the path of God. Close thine eyes to all else but Him and open them to His beauty, for all today are evanescent and accounted as utter nothingness before God. Fix thy gaze ever upon the essence of the Cause and that whereby the Cause is established.

Seek not to rely upon anyone in thy recognition of the Truth, for that Essence of eternity hath never been and shall never be known except through Itself. It hath never depended upon the acceptance or rejection of anyone. Its proof hath been Its Own Self, and Its evidence that which It hath revealed through Its grace. Were one to observe with illumined vision, all the movements of the Truth—whether standing or sitting, walking or resting, speaking or silent—would be seen as distinguished and sanctified above the deeds of all who are in the heavens and the earth. The Truth hath never been confused with aught else, yet doubt hath ever existed and shall continue to exist in deluded souls.

Purify thy breast from the allusions of the veiled ones and sanctify thy heart from doubt. Strive to the extent of thy capacity to teach the Cause of God. This is the fruit of existence for every existent being today. The eye of God hath ever been and shall be, God willing, fixed upon thee. Moreover, convey to all the friends, both men and women, greetings from the tongue of God. God willing, may thou circle round the Truth as a shadow circles round the sun.

BH01822: Lawh-i-Amr

He is the Most Holy, the Most Great

This is the Tablet of Command which hath been sent down from the presence of Him Who is the Lord of Destiny, that He might draw mankind nigh unto the Most Great Scene, this Most Pure Station, round which circle the angels brought near. Say: The Hour hath passed, and the stars have fallen, and the moon hath been cleft asunder, if ye would but understand. And the Herald hath cried out between earth and heaven: “The Kingdom is God’s, the Almighty, the All-Compelling, the Self-Subsisting!” Every atom beareth witness unto Him Who sendeth down the verses, yet most men do not testify. Their wretchedness hath overcome them, and their desires have held them back, and today they rush headlong in the wilderness of error. When it is said unto them: “Have ye not heard the Call of Truth?” they say: “Yea.” And when it is said unto them: “Have ye not witnessed God’s majesty and power?” they say: “We saw and we disobeyed.” Nay, they are unaware.

There hath appeared in this Revelation what hath never appeared before. As to the infidels that have witnessed what hath been manifested, they murmur and say:

> “Verily, this is a sorcerer who hath devised a lie against God.”

They are indeed an outcast people.

Tell out to the nations, O Pen of the Ancient of Days, the things that have happened in ʿIraq. Tell them of the messenger whom the congregation of the divines of that land had delegated to meet Us, who, when attaining Our presence, questioned Us concerning certain sciences, and whom We answered by virtue of the knowledge We inherently possess. Thy Lord is, verily, the Knower of things unseen. "We testify," said he, "that the knowledge Thou dost possess is such as none can rival. Such a knowledge, however, is insufficient to vindicate the exalted station which the people ascribe to Thee. Produce, if Thou speakest the truth, what the combined forces of the peoples of the earth are powerless to produce." Thus was it irrevocably decreed in the court of the presence of thy Lord, the All-Glorious, the Loving.

"Witness! What is it thou seest?" He was dumbfounded. And when he came to himself, he said: "I truly believe in God, the All-Glorious, the All-Praised." "Go thou to the people, and tell them: Ask whatsoever ye please. Powerful is He to do what He willeth. Nothing whatsoever, be it of the past or of the future, can frustrate His Will.' Say: O ye congregation of the divines! Choose any matter ye desire, and ask your Lord, the God of Mercy, to reveal it unto you. If He fulfill your wish, by virtue of His sovereignty, believe ye then in Him, and be not of those that reject His truth."' "The dawn of understanding hath now broken," said he, "and the testimony of the All-Merciful is fulfilled." He arose and returned unto them that sent him, at the bidding of God, the All-Glorious, the Well-Beloved.

Days passed and he failed to come back to Us. Eventually, there came another messenger who informed Us that the people had given up what they originally had purposed. They are indeed a contemptible people. This is what happened in ʿIraq, and to what I reveal I Myself am witness. This happening was noised abroad, yet none was found to comprehend its meaning. Thus did We ordain it. Would that ye knew this!

By My Self! Whoso hath in bygone ages asked Us to produce the signs of God, hath, no sooner had We revealed them to him, repudiated God's truth. The people, however, have, for the most part, remained heedless. They whose eyes are illumined with the light of understanding will perceive the sweet savors of the All-Merciful, and will embrace His truth. These are they who are truly sincere.

O thou who hast turned to God! Hearken unto that which is revealed unto thee from the Sinai of grandeur and power. Verily, there is no God but Me, the All-Compelling, the Self-Subsisting. I have created all contingent things for Myself and have brought all beings into existence through My command. I am the One Who doeth what He willeth through My word "Be" and it is. Grieve not at anything. Arise to aid thy Lord, detached from all who dwell on earth. A station hath been ordained for thee in a guarded Tablet. Be as God's fire unto all else, that through thee the hearts of creation may be set ablaze. Thus have We commanded thee from the presence of One mighty and wise.

Say: O my Lord! I am he who is content with Thy good-pleasure and who hath desired naught save Thy face, and have caused my will to be extinguished in what Thou hast willed. I beseech Thee by Thy Most Great Name, through which the ocean of eternity surged, to ordain for me what Thou hast ordained for the people of Baha who are established upon the Crimson Ark and who sail upon the sea of grandeur. Thou art the Lord of Names and the Creator of earth and heaven. There is no God but Thee, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

BH01804: O Leaf of Paradise! Bear thou witness within thyself…

He is the Most Exalted, the Resplendent, the All-Glorious

O Leaf of Paradise! Bear thou witness within thyself that there is none other God but Him, and that ʿAli before Muhammad is His Beauty, His Mystery, His Command, His Grace, His Mercy, His Remembrance, His Manifestation and His Concealment to all who are in the heavens and on earth. Through Him were the heavens raised up and from the earth were revealed treasures of transcendent glory. Through Him were the clouds lifted up, the sun did shine, and the moon of the Cause gleamed forth from a holy and luminous dayspring. Through Him did rivers flow, seas surge, and fire appear from the Divine Lote Tree made manifest.

Therefore render thanks unto God that the All-Merciful established Himself upon thee in the form of the name ʿAli, and that thou wert the Throne of God though none among the believers, even the most distinguished, knew thereof. Thou didst commune with God thy Lord and didst enter the depths of union with Him in ancient times. Thy soul was joined to the soul of the All-Merciful and thou wert overtaken by the lights of the daybreak of His presence—a station none hath attained, whether lowly or great. Thou didst experience the Resurrection and enter the highest paradise in His presence, and wert honored with the meeting of God before the creation of the heavens and earth—this hath been sent down from the Pen of the Most Resplendent Name. Thine eyes beheld the Eye through whose movement all created things offered up their souls, as testified by a clear and glorious Tablet. Thou didst hear the melodies of God with thine ears and wert established in the most exalted Paradise. Thou wert a mirror of God as the sun of love shone upon thee in perfect form, and thou wert anointed by thy Lord every morn and eve.

Blessed art thou, O Leaf of Eternity, O Land of Faithfulness, O City on High in the sacred precincts of nearness! Thou art the first Throne to appear in creation, as ordained in a preserved and mighty Book. Thou art the first earth upon which descended the waters of longing, drinking from a sweet and flowing spring. Thou art the first garden wherein sang the Nightingale of Holiness with verses that encompassed all worlds. Thou art the first station whereon shone the Pre-existent Sun, though thou knewest it not. Thus did thy Lord’s mercy precede thee and His grace encompass thee from the presence of One Mighty, Praiseworthy.

All this came upon thee while thou wert heedless thereof. And when thou didst become aware within thyself and turn to God, We revealed unto thee what had been hidden from thee and from all possessed of insight. Thus do We bring forth the earth’s treasures and pearls for whomsoever We wish, for verily We have power over all things. Were We to wish, We could bring forth from every land its pearls and mysteries and whatsoever is treasured therein, but what is decreed is decreed and judgment hath been passed.

Know thou that what indicated thy love for thy Lord hath come before Us, and We have answered thee with verses that would confound the minds of the wise and the understanding of every knower. This is that thy heart might find peace, thy soul be tranquil, and thou rejoice with exceeding joy. Preserve thou this Tablet and recite it every day. Let none prevent thee, even if all on earth should try.

Thou art the best among the women of the world if thou remainest steadfast in love. Recite this Tablet with sweet and manifest melody that thy song may ascend to the Divine Lote Tree and thy fragrance draw thee to a faithful and holy dawning-place. The Spirit, Glory and Great Declaration be upon thee, that thy protection may encompass all worlds.

BH01813: Glorified be He Who hath sent down the verses…

He is the Most Wondrous in the Most Glorious Horizon!

Glorified be He Who hath sent down the verses in truth and made them a guidance and remembrance for all the worlds, and through them hath caused the servants to know His exalted and mighty Self, and through them hath caused all created things to speak forth that which He hath testified of Himself by His own Self, that there is none other God but I, the Powerful, the Mighty, the Omnipotent.

He whose vision God hath made penetrating recognizeth Him by His own Self and by His manifestation between the heavens and the earth. And for him who is powerless to recognize His Self by His Self, He hath made the verses a proof, lest he be deprived of the Sun of Divine knowledge in the days of his Lord, and that His proof may be completed unto all His servants. This is of His grace unto them, that they may be thankful and be numbered among the grateful ones.

Be thou steadfast, O thou who gazest upon God, in the Cause of thy Lord. By God the Truth! There hath appeared a test whereby all who are in the heavens and on earth were thunderstruck, save those whose hands God took within the hands of grace and delivered from the wrongdoing people, and aided them through the truth, and sent down upon their hearts tranquility from His presence, and severed them from the idolaters. But the test is a test for those who are not firm in the Cause. As for him who is established upon the throne of certitude and hath recognized God by His own Self, the tempests of trials shall not move him, nor shall the hurricanes of tests, and they shall not turn their gaze from a holy and gracious scene. These have passed beyond this world and all that is therein, even though outwardly they may be occupied with its bounties, for God hath made their hearts purified from the mention of aught else but Him and hath chosen them for His most wondrous and glorious remembrance.

Be thou steadfast in the Cause in such wise that should all who are in the heavens and on earth oppose thee, thou wouldst not be disturbed within thyself and wouldst be of them that are firmly established. Thus have We imparted unto thee the word of truth that thy heart may be gladdened thereby and thou mayest remember thy Lord amongst His idolatrous servants.

Know thou that thy letter hath come before Us and We have witnessed that wherewith thou didst call upon God, thy Lord and the Lord of all worlds. Blessed art thou, O servant, for having attained unto the recognition of thy Lord. However, strive within thyself to be among the steadfast ones whom no hindrance can hinder, nor the gloating of enemies, nor the turning away of all creation. Rend asunder the veils, then behold thy Lord with thine own eyes, then detach thyself from the eyes of all the worlds, for whoso gazeth upon Him with any eye but His own shall never know Him, and this is an undoubted truth.

Know thou further that God hath accepted from thee what thou hast done and what thou hast not done, as a grace from His presence, for He is indeed the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous. He hath ordained for

thee in the heaven of His Cause that which He hath desired for thyself. Soon shall it descend upon thee—fear not, neither be thou grieved, for He is the Protector of the doers of good. He shall provide thee with the good of this world and the next if thy feet slip not from this Path which hath been raised up in truth from the presence of One mighty and wise. He knoweth what is in thy heart and in His grasp is the kingdom of all things. He giveth what He willeth and taketh what He pleaseth.

Beware lest thou grieve over anything save that which hath befallen My own Self from him who was created by My word, and God is witness unto this. Today the feet have slipped of those who have taken vain imaginings as their lord instead of God and were behind a mighty veil. Beware lest thou consort with those in whose hearts thou perceivest hatred for God, thy Lord and the Lord of all that hath been created between the heavens and the earth. Thus have We instructed thee and made mention of thee at this time when sorrows have encompassed Me from every direction from those who have been heedless of the remembrance of God, the Mighty, the Wise.

The Spirit and Glory be upon thee and upon those who are with thee among those who have been seized by the breezes of the Cause from this exalted Paradise.

BH01814: In the Name of God, the Most Unapproachable…

In the Name of God, the Most Unapproachable, the Most Holy, the Most Exalted, the Most High! God beareth witness that there is no God but Him and that this is indeed ʿAli Who hath appeared from the horizon of the Most Glorious. He heareth and seeth and speaketh in all things saying "I am God, there is no God but Him, the Mighty, the Powerful, the Luminous."

I have sent the Messengers from before which hath no before, and I shall send until an end which none among contingent beings can reckon save My All-Numbering, All-Knowing Self. We have ordained in every name the dawning-places of Our most beautiful names and the manifestations of Our most exalted attributes, and We reveal from it as We wish according to a measured decree, if ye be of those who know. And We have made all things mirrors of My Self that they might face this Sun, the Dawning, the Holy, the Manifest, the Wondrous. Thus hath My mercy encompassed all contingent things and My grace all the worlds.

And thou, O First Pillar of My Name, hear My call from this Tree which hath been raised up in truth and speaketh at the pole of eternity that "There is no God but Him and that this Beauty is His splendor unto all who are in the heavens and the earth." Thy mention hath been made before the Face, therefore have We sent down unto thee the verses and dispatched them to thee as a grace from Us upon thee that thou mayest be of the thankful. We have heard the yearning of thy heart and thy longing for God, thy Lord and the Lord of all worlds. Be thou steadfast in the Cause of thy Lord in these days wherein all souls are disturbed and all feet have slipped save those whom God hath preserved through a power from Him, for He is the Mighty, the Powerful.

Then know thou that he whom We created through a breath from the breaths that appeared from a Pen of ancient glory—when the sweet savors of might wafted forth he emerged from behind the veil and warred against My Supreme, Most Great Self. When God preserved Me from his plot, he then arose with

another plot. By God the Truth! He hath fabricated such words against Me whose falsehood would be recognized by anyone possessed of discernment though it be less than a barley-corn. Were someone to say that the Most Great Sea containeth no water, would any soul accept this? No, by My True Self, save every remote ignorant one. And were it to be said the sun hath no light, would any soul believe it? No, by My True Self, if ye be of the certain ones. By God the Truth! All that he hath attributed to My Holy, Transcendent, Mighty, All-Knowing Self—its falsehood is more obvious than what We have mentioned to thee, were people to look with their eyes and be of those who see.

And thou—purify thyself from all veils then place these ones beneath thy left foot. Put thy trust in God in all matters and be of those who trust. Take care that thou grieve not at anything—rather rejoice in the gladness of the Cause though at this moment the Eye of God weepeth and His heart yearneth and His tongue uttereth this wise remembrance. And were We to detail for thee what hath befallen Us, thou wouldst forget all that thou hast heard from the beginning of creation until now, and God is witness and knowing of this. But We have concealed it, and God shall soon manifest one who will mention it truthfully among all creatures.

Say: O people! By God! These fabricated, false words will never veil the Ancient Beauty nor change the Cause of God though all the worlds should oppose from behind these ones. And thou, O servant, hear My call then be steadfast in My Cause and fear no one, for thy Lord will guard thee from the hosts of devils. And the glory be upon thee and upon those who are steadfast in the Cause through the sovereignty of thy Lord, the Mighty, the Wise.

BH01821: This is a Book sent down in truth…

He is the Most Wondrous, the Most Inaccessible!

This is a Book sent down in truth from the presence of One mighty and beautiful. Therein doth God make mention of one of His servants, that he may be of them that remember, and that He may quicken thereby his heart and his inner being, and that he may give thanks unto God and be of the thankful ones.

O thou who believest in God! Thou hast visited the House of God aforetime and wast among them that made pilgrimage. Therefore, strive within thyself to visit the Most Great House of God which hath appeared in the temple of the Youth. Blessed be God, the best of creators, through Whom every direction was intended, every house confirmed, and every wise matter made manifest.

Say: The sanctuary of God hath appeared and the Most Great House hath been built by the hands of might and power from the presence of One mighty and powerful. Say: By God! This is verily the sanctuary of God and His House, round which circle the denizens of the All-Highest Paradise and the angels drawn nigh. By His command have appeared the Place of Commemoration, the Holy Place, and the Spot of Security for all who are in the heavens and on earth. And verily it is God's perspicuous Book.

Say: O people! Wage not war against Him Who hath come unto you with a proof from God and Who summoneth you unto His Self that standeth over the worlds. He desireth from you no recompense; His reward is with Him Who sent Him with the truth and dispatched Him unto all created things. O people! Make not your deeds null and void, and deny not what hath been sent down in truth from God, the Most

High, the Most Great. And should ye deny it, what proof have ye for your cause? Bring it forth then, and be not among them that tarry.

Beware lest ye dispute concerning God after He hath appeared with all the signs, which none denieth save every hateful enemy. Verily, they who have disbelieved and joined partners with God, were God to come unto them from the heaven of His Cause surrounded by a company of angels, were the earth to be cleft asunder and to yield up its treasures, and were the sky to be rent—they would never believe. Nay, were they to witness every sign their associating of partners would but increase. Thus have their souls enticed them, and they were among the deniers.

And thou, O servant, hearken unto the words of Him Who counseleth thee for the sake of God, and be not of the heedless. Purify thyself, then look into the proof whereby God hath manifested His Cause in every age, then into this firm and mighty proof, that thou mayest be assured in the Cause of God to such degree that were all who are in the heavens and earth to oppose thee, thou wouldst not turn unto them and wouldst remain possessed of clear vision and manifest proof.

Say: God is the Creator of all things and standeth over every soul. He witnesseth what His servants commit and recompenseth them for what they have wrought. And verily He is the Rewarder of the doers of deeds.

Turn thy heart at all times toward the court of God, thy Lord, with sublime humility, that the breezes of grace may waft over thee and the breathings of holiness may take hold of thee from the direction of a mighty throne. By God, besides Whom there is none other God! A single breath thereof excelleth whatsoever hath been created between the heavens and earths.

Shun all that directeth thee unto passion, and draw nigh unto the court of thy Lord, the Most High, the Most Exalted, with a pure and radiant heart. Grieve not for this world and what lieth therein, for it shall perish more quickly than a moment, and there shall endure what hath been ordained for thee by thy Lord, whereby thine eyes shall be solaced, thy soul find rest, thy body repose, and thy heart rejoice. Thus doth the Pen of the Command give thee glad tidings through God's favor unto thee, that thou mayest be of them that are gladdened.

Beware lest thou deprive thyself of the bounty of God, thy Lord and the Lord of all worlds. And glory be upon thee and upon them that have entered beneath the shadow of their Lord, the All-Merciful, the Most Compassionate.

BH01845: God makes mention of one of His handmaidens…

He is God, the Most Holy, the Most Inaccessible, the Most Glorious

God makes mention of one of His handmaidens to establish her in the Cause and turn her wholly toward God, the Protector, the Mighty, the Self-Subsisting, and to detach her from those who have disbelieved and associated partners with God, that her face may be illumined by this Light which has appeared and shone forth from this Dayspring, from whose horizon have risen suns whose number none knows save God, with Whom is the knowledge of all things in a preserved and mighty Tablet.

O handmaiden of God! Thy letter came before the Throne and We learned of its contents and have answered thee with these words which God has made a testimony unto all who are in the heavens and on earth, that thou mayest read them morning and evening and give thanks to thy Lord that the Pen of God, the Protector, the Mighty, the Best-Beloved, has flowed over thy name. And wert thou to be present before the Throne and hear what has been revealed from the mouth of God, thou wouldst swoon away within thyself and be attracted by the raptures of God, the King, the Mighty, the Speaking, the Manifest.

Beware, beware lest thou grieve over anything. Then guard thyself lest the blasts of chastisement from the breaths of those who have disbelieved and associated partners with God and were among the heedless prevent thee. And when it is said unto them, "By what proof have ye believed in God?" they will surely say "The verses." Yet when the verses of thy Lord are recited unto them, their faces turn black and they return to their abodes in a punishment that no device of any schemer, nor plot of any plotter, nor deception of those who have disbelieved and associated partners with God and turned upon their heels, can avert.

Be thou steadfast in the Cause of thy Lord in such wise that should all who are on earth gather against thee, thy feet would not slip from the straight path of God, the manifest, the extended. Take refuge in the protection of thy Lord, then purify thy heart from love of those who have disbelieved in God, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting. Guard thyself in these days wherein relationship with all things has been severed and most of the servants have turned away from God after He appeared with all the signs and every destined matter.

If thou hearest My word, leave the world behind thee, then detach thyself wholly from all save God, thy Lord. This is My counsel unto thee if thou art of those women who have believed in God, the King, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting.

Then mention from Our presence unto him who was named ʿAbdu'llah that he may remember within himself and be of those who remember. O servant! Be thou steadfast in the Path—by God, it is most subtle, most subtle! Then be firm in the Cause—verily it is most mighty, most mighty! Then guard thyself from Satan for he is accursed, accursed! Then turn to the face of God, thy Lord, with humility and submissiveness well-pleasing. Thus doth God command thee in this Tablet that thou mayest act according to what thou hast been commanded and be of those who turn their faces toward their Lord.

Then convey Our greetings unto the handmaiden who was named Sahib. Hearken unto the call of God from this Tree which has been raised up in truth and every leaf of whose leaves doth speak in a world among the endless worlds, saying:

> "There is none other God but I, the One with power over what I will, Who doeth what I desire through His word ʿBe' and it is."

Hear My word, then purify thy heart from all else but Me. This is My command unto thee and unto those women who have believed in God and testify that there is none other God but He—no partner hath He, nor minister, nor likeness, nor similitude, nor equal that can be limited. Thus doth the Ancient Beauty command thee on this eve that thou mayest be among those who remember, inscribed on mighty tablets.

BH01858: O Ni'mat! The greatest divine bounty in the first…

He is the One Who speaks with justice and is manifest through grace.

O Ni'mat! The greatest divine bounty in the first station and primary rank has been and is His recognition, and likewise His verses are counted as bounty. All that has become manifest and apparent to the servants from the realm of His favor is recorded and inscribed as bounty. Blessed are the souls who have attained to this bounty. This is that bounty concerning which it was revealed in the Qur'an: "Our Lord! Send down to us a table from heaven." Beseech the True One not to deprive His loved ones of this bounty. He is the Powerful, the Mighty.

O Hasan! Hear the call from the direction of God, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting. Verily it has been raised in truth. Blessed is he who has attained to hearing it, and woe to every heedless and veiled one. When thou hast attained to the Tablet of God and its influence, say:

> "My God, my God! Praise be to Thee for having given me to drink the Kawthar of Thy utterance from the hand of Thy bounty and for having reared me beneath the canopies of Thy mercy. I beseech Thee, O Illuminator of the horizons and Speaker on the Day of Meeting, by Thy Name through which discord was transformed into concord and difference into unity, to assist me in Thy remembrance in such wise that the wolves of the earth and its wicked ones will not frighten me. Verily Thou art the Powerful, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise."

O Pen! Make mention of him who is named Ahmad that he may rejoice and be of the thankful ones. O Ahmad! Be not grieved at what hath come to pass. Reflect upon what befell the friends of God in former ages and centuries from His enemies. Whenever the Daysprings of God's Cause would shine forth from the horizon of His Will, the people would arise in rejection and denial, and would strive day and night to extinguish the light of His manifestation. They have lost indeed who wished to extinguish the light of God or prevent His firm and mighty Cause. Soon shall the veils be rent asunder, the Cause appear, the light shine forth, the Word become clear, the Manifestation become resplendent, and the Will become manifest. In His grasp is the control of all things and He is the Powerful over what He willeth. There is none other God but Him, the Single, the One, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

O Nuru'llah! Hear My call. There are ranks for hearing, for whosoever attaineth to true hearing—that is, heareth but one word of the divine words as befitteth—he attaineth to a station wherein all the hosts of the world find themselves powerless to prevent him. Blessed is he who hath attained to this most exalted station and supreme rank.

O Nasru'llah! Upon thee and upon thy father be My loving-kindness and mercy. We made mention of him at the time of his ascension with a mention that caused the breezes of thy Lord's mercy to waft, the ocean of His forgiveness to surge, and the fragrance of His pardon and bounty to be diffused. Thy Lord is verily the Mighty, the All-Bountiful. We beseech Him, exalted be He, to assist thee and those who have believed with the means of the heavens and earth, and to aid you to be trustworthy, truthful and faithful. He is verily the Compassionate, the Generous, the Hearing, the Responding. There is none other God but Him, the Powerful over what He willeth through His word, the Mighty, the Wondrous.

We make mention of My handmaiden and give her the glad-tidings of God's loving-kindness, the Lord of the worlds. We beseech God to aid her in that which He loveth and is pleased with, and in that which will draw her nigh unto Him. He is verily the All-Bountiful, the Generous.

And We make mention of My other handmaiden with a mention whereby the hearts of the holy maidens in the Most Exalted Paradise in the crimson chambers and the chaste women in the sublime Garden have been attracted. Give thanks to thy Lord for this and say:

> "Praise be to Thee, O Lord of the Kingdom! I beseech Thee by the breathings of Thy revelation to ordain for Thy handmaidens that which Thou hast ordained for Thy handmaidens who circle round Thy mighty throne. Thou art verily the Powerful, the Mighty, the Great."

BH01847: O Nabil! The Sun of the mention of thy…

He is the Most Holy, the Most Glorious

O Nabil! The Sun of the mention of thy Lord, the All-Merciful, hath risen from the horizon of utterance through My Name, the Mighty, the Impregnable. It hath called out in the wilderness of guidance:

> "The Day hath drawn nigh—the Kingdom is God's, the Almighty, the All-Glorious, the All-Wise!"

Verily, it hath given glad tidings unto all who are in the heavens and on earth of the Kingdom of their Lord. Thus was it sent down in the Bayan from the presence of One mighty and all-knowing. Among the people are those who have followed guidance and turned unto God, the Lord of the Last and the First, and among them are those who have disdained it. Blessed are they who have turned unto Him—these are they who perceive. These are servants who examine all matters and choose the best thereof. These are of the people of Baha, as inscribed in a Tablet by the Pen of God, the Mighty, the Powerful.

Say: Do ye dispute concerning the truth after that which hath come from the heaven of your Lord, the All-Merciful, with manifest authority? Beware lest ye reject the truth through that which ye possess. Cast away your allusions—these are clear signs sent down from the heaven of bounty by your Lord, the All-Forgiving, the All-Merciful. They who have turned away have followed Satan within their souls—these are the companions of the fire. They who have turned their faces unto the Countenance are of them that have attained. These have drunk from the Kawthar of life from the hands of the mercy of their Lord, the All-Merciful, and have turned with their hearts unto the Dawning-Place of Revelation in such wise that neither the hosts of the earth nor the opposition of the oppressors could withhold them.

Say: O people! Spread not corruption in the land, and enter not houses save by permission. This is that which ye have been commanded in the Tablets. He, verily, is witness over all things. Beware lest ye wrongfully consume the substance of others. Follow ye the ways of God and His religion, and be not of them who hold fast to words but cast away deeds—these are in manifest error. Hearken unto the counsel of Our Most Exalted Pen and follow not the steps of Satan. We have commanded you that which draweth you nigh unto God and removeth you from desire. This is of My grace unto you, did ye but know. All that

ye have been commanded benefiteth you, and all that ye have been forbidden harmeth you in this world and the next. He, verily, is the Mighty, the Bountiful.

We have borne hardships for your ease, and tribulation for your deliverance. O ye that sleep! Arise in My Name from the couch of heedlessness and desire, and shatter the idols of wickedness and vice. This is better for you, as doth testify he whose heart hath been illumined with the light of certitude. If a transgressor bring you news, verify it not. How many are the servants who speak from desire and fear not God, the Creator of Names! Their tongues utter that which their souls command them. Thy Lord, verily, is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

O thou who art mentioned before the Throne! Be steadfast through the power of God and convey unto My servants that which hath been sent down from the heaven of My mercy, that they may inhale the fragrance of the Divine Robe and be of them that are guided. Let not tribulation withhold thee from the mention of the Creator of earth and heaven. Be adorned with the characteristics of thy Lord, the Ancient. Verily, as tribulation increased, He increased in that which He desired, and as He was seized with oppression, He loosed the reins of utterance in celebration of thy Lord, the All-Merciful, and called out to all in creation with this momentous News.

Thus have We imparted unto thee that which hath been sent down from the Kingdom of Utterance, that thou mayest remember thy Lord and be of them who have arisen to aid their Lord, the Mighty, the Beautiful. Follow that which We have revealed unto thee, then tread the path of wisdom. Beware lest thou be of them who have transgressed against it after We commanded them thus in a clear Book. If thou findest one ready, cast upon him the verses of thy Lord, that he might take a path unto God, thy Lord and the Lord of thy forebears. Be thou in such wise that sorrows touch thee not in the Cause of thy Lord, the All-Merciful. Trust in Him—He sufficeth thee.

By the Lord of thy forebears of old! Be thou in such wise that sorrows shall not overtake thee in the Cause of thy Lord, the All-Merciful. Put thy trust in Him, for verily He shall suffice thee, and verily He hath power over all things.

BH01828: Then did the Tongue of God speak in all…

In the Name of God, the Most Wondrous, the Most Impregnable, the Most Holy, the Most Glorious!

Then did the Tongue of God speak in all things, saying: “Verily, I am alive in this horizon which hath appeared with truth and hath been named in the Concourse on High by the name of the Most Exalted, then in the cities of names by the name of the Most Glorious, then among the concourse of creation by this Name whereat the cry hath been raised from all who are in the heavens and earth save them whom God preserved through His grace and delivered from the floods of fancy and desire and caused to ascend unto the divine Lote-Tree in this most distant sanctuary round which circle all that was and will be. Yet the people have veiled themselves from that which hath shone forth with truth and manifested itself among the worlds with a sovereignty that encompasseth the truth.

O people! I swear by the one true God! This is the Ocean out of which all seas have proceeded, and with which every one of them will ultimately be united. From Him all the Suns have been generated, and unto

Him they will all return. Through His potency the Trees of Divine Revelation have yielded their fruits, every one of which hath been sent down in the form of a Prophet, bearing a Message to God's creatures in each of the worlds whose number God, alone, in His all-encompassing Knowledge, can reckon. This He hath accomplished through the agency of but one Letter of His Word, revealed by His Pen—a Pen moved by His directing Finger—His Finger itself sustained by the power of God's Truth.

Thus doth the Ancient Beauty intone in these dark and gloomy days. Would that there were someone with hearing to hear His melodies and detach himself from all the worlds!

O servant who gazeth toward the direction of Glory in this Day wherein the souls of every distant misbeliever are agitated! Know thou that what God inspired in thy heart hath come before Our presence and We have witnessed it with the eye of mercy and bounty and have sent down unto thee these words whereby every irrevocable decree and every hidden secret hath been made manifest. Know thou further that God hath forgiven thee through His grace and purified thee from sins at the time when thou didst make mention in thy letter of this remembrance whereby the skin of every base heedless one doth creep, and the breezes of eternity wafted upon thee from the direction of thy Lord, the Most Exalted, and turned thee toward the Ultimate Shore at a time when thou wert heedless of Him. Thus hath God's favor and grace been perfected upon thee that thou mayest be among the thankful in thyself and be content with the truth.

We have verily sent down in this Tablet the table of the Cause from the heaven of grace. By God! Whosoever partaketh thereof shall find himself independent of all who are in the kingdom.

As to what thou hast asked about God thy Lord concerning what We revealed aforetime unto Muhammad in Arabic, know thou that the first one We sent with truth was Ali whom We caused to shine forth from the Persian horizon and sent down upon clouds of the Spirit from an exalted heaven, and the last one We sent was also Ali whom We named in the Supreme Concourse by Our Most Holy Name, if thou be of them that know. And We strengthened them both with this Beauty Who hath appeared with truth and shone forth from the horizon of the Cause with manifest sovereignty. Were We to desire to interpret this verse for thee, all the ink and pens would not suffice, but We have abbreviated what We have explained to thee since We are in those days engaged in a mighty matter and find not the opportunity. Yet should God will and desire, We shall interpret and expound it as a mercy from Us unto thee, for My mercy upon thee is abundant.

Be thou steadfast in the Cause, then remind the people with wisdom and counsel and dispute not with anyone. Thus hath the Tongue of Holiness commanded thee. Act according to what thou hast been commanded and be steadfastly persevering.

BH01876: The Mystery of God hath appeared in truth…

In the name of Him Who is manifest above all things!

The Mystery of God hath appeared in truth from a holy and resplendent horizon. He hath appeared in the temple of the Youth. Blessed be God Who created Him through the sovereignty of His Command and sent Him forth in truth and dispatched Him unto all the worlds.

He lamenteth within Himself at this moment and calleth out between the heavens and the earth: “O people! If ye will not believe in God your Creator, then at least be ashamed before Him and deny not Him Who was promised in all the Tablets and recorded and mentioned in the treasuries of the Sacred Scriptures. He hath come unto you with the Criterion of the Command, and around Him circle the Kingdom of God, and before Him march the hosts of the unseen in mighty array. He hath aided his Lord to the extent of His power, and He will aid Him in truth even though all existence, both seen and unseen, should oppose Him. My proof is My deeds and then My actions, if ye be possessed of knowledge.

Blind are the eyes of those who have denied this bounty, after which, at His bidding, the clouds of grace were raised up and rained down upon all created things showers of mighty glory. Whoso is quickened by Him is quickened by the life of his Lord, and his name is inscribed by the finger of mighty power upon the Tablet. O people! Be fair within yourselves, then look with the eye of justice upon God’s proof and that whereby He hath confirmed your faith and raised your station. Be not of those who denied Him in Whom they had believed and were turned back upon their heels. Fear God and war not against His Self, and dispute not His signs after they have filled both East and West and your own souls bear witness unto what I say.

Take ye the chalice of eternity from the fingers of holiness, then drink therefrom by the leave of your Lord, the Most High, the Most Exalted, and tarry not even for a moment. By God! Whoso turneth unto God in these days, the denizens of the Concourse on High will seek blessings from him, and whoso turneth away, his deeds are rendered vain and he returneth to his abode in the nethermost fire. Thus hath the Command been sent down from the presence of the Mighty, the Powerful.

Say: Have ye heard in all creation the like of what hath appeared in this Announcement, which was promised in the Books of the Command by the Pen of Glory? Nay, by My own Self, the Truth! The eye of creation hath not witnessed its like, yet the people have denied and turned away, and for this reason the breezes of chastisement have seized them from the presence of One All-Knowing, All-Wise. Fear God, O people! Deny not the Sun after its light hath illumined all who dwell in the kingdom of Command and Creation and those who abide behind the ocean of grandeur in an exalted and holy station.

Cast away what ye possess and take what God hath graciously given you, then journey in the wilderness of His knowledge and tarry not even for a moment. Whoso striveth in Our path, We shall cause him to behold Our beauty and shall raise him to a station which was in truth exalted. And glory be upon thee, O servant, if thou remainest firm in the Cause of thy Lord on this Day wherein all the idolaters have dispersed far from Him.

Aid thy Lord in this Beauty and fear no one, but place thy trust in Him. He will verily preserve thee in truth through His grace, and He hath power over all things. Say: In the name of God and by God! Then turn from the north of pause to the right hand of justice and pass by the people as the passing of a cloud. Thus have We commanded thee in truth that thou mayest remain steadfast in the Cause. Then glorify from Our presence the countenance of those who have believed in God and from whose faces shineth the radiance of holy splendor.”

BH01884: Your numerous letters were received in the presence…

He is God, exalted be His glory

Your numerous letters were received in the presence of this Countenance, and the servant in attendance mentioned them all. As to what you wrote describing the friends in that land—We bear witness to what you have witnessed, but We counsel them to fear God, your Lord and the Lord of the worlds. For through fear of God the greatness of the Cause and the sanctification of Truth have been and continue to be made manifest among creation. By My life! If anyone were to taste the sweetness of the fear of God, they would hold fast to it all their days. This is a manifest truth. They have ever been and are before Our gaze, and the glance of Our loving-kindness has been and, God willing, will continue to be directed towards them. Those who have assisted the friends of God will soon receive the rewards of their deeds. Praise be to God that they have been enabled to attain this supreme bounty and greatest gift. Convey greetings to all.

Let Muhammad not be saddened, nor let the lack of outward means grieve him. Verily all affairs are dependent on their means. Convey greetings to Majid and the guest and her sister and their children—they are of Us. Likewise Abdullah and the others—all have been and are before Our gaze. All have been mentioned at the Throne and all are among the loved ones of God, the Mighty, the Powerful. Whatever has reached or reaches some of them should be given with the utmost humility. Verily your Lord will repay what they have spent. He is their Protector. This word suffices them, would that they understood.

Then convey greetings to the servant Rahim from this Wronged One, the Unique. Say: O servant, be steadfast in the Cause. By My life! This is a mighty Cause the like of which has not appeared in creation. Through it the atoms speak:

> "This is the Wonder of the heavens and earth! Through it all mention has been erased and the Tablets adorned with the ornament of the remembrance of the Lord of creation."

But the people are in thick veils. Have you heard anything like what has appeared? No, by the Lord of the worlds! Blessed is he who has rent asunder the veils through the name of his Lord, the Bestower, and who has torn away the shrouds through this wise Remembrance.

Arise in the Cause in such wise that you see yourself ascendant over the servants and what they possess of the words of the opposers. It behooves one who has turned to God in this Day to leave behind all else and say:

> "I believe in God, the Single, the One, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. No soul or mention or description can be associated with Him. Verily He is established upon the throne of His mighty Name."

Read what has been sent down for you and ponder it, that you may find the sweetness of the utterance which has been sent down from the heaven of grace from your Lord, the Mighty, the Generous. Blessed are you for having turned when the Wronged One was in the hands of the oppressors. Be not grieved by the intimations of those who have turned away. Leave them to their vain desires and hold fast to God, the

Single, the All-Informed. We have sent down for you in every instance the verses of your Lord. By My life! They are clear proofs to all in the heavens and earth. Give thanks to your Lord for this bounty and say: “Praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.”

O Tabib! You sent the letter of M and We learned what was in it, and We have sent down verses for each one mentioned in his letter—verses by which the hearts of the sincere are illumined. We sent them to you that you might forward them to him. Verily your Lord is possessed of great bounty. He has not left any name unmentioned—the Supreme Pen has moved to mention each one. Thus does God reward His servants who have turned to Him and His righteous loved ones. Let any soul who has not moved remain still, for this land is in motion and they are preventing. That which was hidden therein has appeared and will appear.

BH01868: We have accepted you in all meanings, and We…

In the name of the meanings, I am the Manifestation of meanings.

We have accepted you in all meanings, and We have given you all meanings in love of these meanings, and We have manifested you with truth at the appearance of meanings, and We have confirmed you with acknowledgment upon the temple of meanings, and We have sent down upon your heart the waters of meanings, and We have quickened you through the breaths of meanings. Thus has spoken the Creator of meanings from the Pen of meanings, and has sent down upon you the Word of meanings, and has sent it to you from the mercy of meanings.

The Supreme Pen declares: O ʿAli-Qabli-Nabil! Stand firm in the Cause of God with such firmness that all who are in the heavens and earth shall be made firm by your steadfastness. Convey to the loved ones of God a wondrous mention from the tongue of God, and then proclaim that until these days the faith of the people of faith and others was not known, for pure and illumined hearts have perceived naught save the subtle essences of the jewels of the words of Divine glory, and purified ears have not been sullied by hostile words. Therefore all souls remained concealed in their own mines, though they were and shall be visible before God. But in these days when the cawing of the ungodly has been raised and the braying of the calumniators has ascended.

O loved ones of God, detach yourselves from all else but God and hold fast unto Him and seek His presence, and stand firm in the Cause of God that ye may be safe from the terror of the Most Great Fear. For those souls who were created by the hand of mercy and were known by the garments of names have disbelieved in God and associated partners with His oneness and warred against His Self and denied His signs whereby their faith had been established. By Him Who is unique in His sovereignty, then in His mercy, then in His singleness—one whom I nurtured throughout all nights and days, and showered upon him the outpourings of the seas of knowledge and wisdom, and preserved him in the fortress of power and grandeur, arose to cut down the Divine Tree.

When God disappointed him in what he desired, he then arose to cause the rancor of God to enter the hearts of His servants. When he found himself disappointed in what he had intended, he opened his tongue of calumny that he might cast doubt in hearts that were not firm, and he wrote words about

which any soul with the least discernment would testify to their falsity. Although all people are aware of the sovereignty of the ocean and are convinced of its outpouring, if someone, out of envy and hatred, should say "I sought to draw near to the Most Great Ocean but it did not bestow its outpouring"—is such a person truthful? Nay, by the Self of God, the Mighty, the Most High, the Great!

O ʿAli-Qabli-Nabil! God willing, through divine grace you shall remain firm in the Divine Cause and speak forth in praise of His Self in these days when most tongues have grown weary and most souls have become sick, even though people had and have no knowledge of the root of this Cause. By God! What has been heard was from this servant, and no one has yet understood. Far be it from the ignorant people! Say: O people! Open the eye of God which is deposited within you and with that deposited sign, contemplate His Cause that perchance ye may attain to its source and fountainhead. Blessed are they that attain! These are the divine melodies that were revealed from the holy tongue of the Eternal. Blessed art thou! Then peace be upon thee! Then contentment be upon thee, for thou hast been content with the good-pleasure of God, the Help in Peril, the Most High, the Great!

BH01887: Mine eyes are cheered, O my God, when I…

In the name of God, the Almighty

Mine eyes are cheered, O my God, when I contemplate the tribulations that descend upon me from the heaven of Thy decree, and which have encompassed me on every side according to what Thy pen hath irrevocably established. I swear by Thy Self! Whatsoever is of Thee is well pleasing unto me, though it involve the bitterness of mine own death.

He Who was Thy Spirit (Jesus), O my God, withdrew all alone in the darkness of the night preceding His last day on earth, and falling on His face to the ground besought Thee saying:

> "If it be Thy will, O my Lord, my Well-Beloved, let this cup, through Thy grace and bounty, pass from me."

By Thy beauty, O Thou Who art the Lord of all names and the Creator of the heavens! I can smell the fragrance of the words which, in His love for Thee, His lips have uttered, and can feel the glow of the fire that had inflamed His soul in its longing to behold Thy face and in its yearning after the Day-Spring of the light of Thy oneness, and the Dawning-Place of Thy transcendent unity.

As to me—and to this Thou art Thyself my witness—I call upon Thee saying:

> "I have no will of mine own, O my Lord, and my Master and my Ruler, before the indications of Thy will, and can have no purpose in the face of the revelation of Thy purpose. I swear by Thy glory! I wish only what Thou wishest, and cherish only what Thou cherishest. What I have chosen for myself is what Thou hast Thyself chosen for me, O Thou the Possessor of my soul!"

Nay, I find myself to be altogether nothing when face to face with the manifold revelations of Thy names, how much less when confronted with the effulgent splendors of the light of Thine own Self.

O miserable me! Were I to attempt merely to describe Thee, such an attempt would itself be an evidence of my impiety, and would attest my heedlessness in the face of the clear and resplendent tokens of Thy oneness. Who else except Thee can claim to be worthy of any notice in the face of Thine own revelation, and who is he that can be deemed sufficiently qualified to adequately praise Thee, or to pride himself on having befittingly described Thy glory? Nay—and to this Thou dost Thyself bear witness—it hath incontrovertibly been made evident that Thou art the one God, the Incomparable, Whose help is implored by all men. From everlasting Thou wert alone, with none to describe Thee, and wilt abide for ever the same with no one else to equal or rival Thee. Were the existence of any co-equal with Thee to be recognized, how could it then be maintained that Thou art the Incomparable, or that Thy Godhead is immeasurably exalted above all peers or likeness?

The contemplation of the highest minds that have recognized Thy unity failed to attain unto the comprehension of the One Thou hast created through the word of Thy commandment, how much more must it be powerless to soar into the atmosphere of the knowledge of Thine own Being. Every praise which any tongue or pen can recount, every imagination which any heart can devise, is debarred from the station which Thy most exalted Pen hath ordained, how much more must it fall short of the heights which Thou hast Thyself immensely exalted above the conception and the description of any creature. For the attempt of the evanescent to conceive the signs of the Uncreated is as the stirring of the drop before the tumult of Thy billowing oceans. Nay, forbid it, O my God, that I should thus venture to describe Thee, for every similitude and comparison must pertain to what is essentially created by Thee. How can then such similitude and comparison ever befit Thee, or reach up unto Thy Self?

By Thy glory, O my God! Though I recognize and firmly believe that no description which any except Thyself can give of Thee can beseem Thy grandeur, and that no glory ascribed to Thee by any save Thyself can ever ascend into the atmosphere of Thy presence, yet were I to hold my peace, and cease to glorify Thee and to recount Thy wondrous glory, my heart would be consumed, and my soul would melt away. My remembrance of Thee, O my God, quencheth my thirst, and quieteth my heart. My soul delighteth in its communion with Thee, as the sucking child delighteth itself in the breasts of Thy mercy; and my heart panteth after Thee even as one sore athirst panteth after the living waters of Thy bounty, O Thou Who art the God of mercy, in Whose hand is the lordship of all things!

I give thanks to Thee, O my God, that Thou hast suffered me to remember Thee. What else but remembrance of Thee can give delight to my soul or gladness to my heart? Communion with Thee enableth me to dispense with the remembrance of all Thy creatures, and my love for Thee empowereth me to endure the harm which my oppressors inflict upon me.

Send, therefore, unto my loved ones, O my God, what will cheer their hearts, and illumine their faces, and delight their souls. Thou knowest, O my Lord, that their joy is to behold the exaltation of Thy Cause and the glorification of Thy word. Do Thou unveil, therefore, O my God, what will gladden their eyes, and ordain for them the good of this world and of the world which is to come. Thou art, verily, the God of power, of strength and of bounty.

BH01875: Glorified art Thou, O my God! Thou seest me…

In the Name of God, the Most Wondrous, the Most Impregnable!

Glorified art Thou, O my God! Thou seest me oppressed amidst the people of the Furqan and those who claim to be of the Bayan. Thou knowest, O my God, that had they drunk the choice wine of inner meanings from the cup of the Bayan and recognized the Manifestation of Thy name, the All-Merciful, they would not have opposed the Beloved of all creation and the King of all worlds, nor would they have denied Him Whose praise and remembrance the Tongue of Grandeur hath ever spoken. Thou knowest, O my God, that I desired through the Bayan naught but the purification of hearts and their preparation for this Revelation, whereby the Dove hath warbled upon the branches of the Divine Lote-Tree, and the Herald hath called out between earth and heaven, and the mysteries of Thy most beautiful names have appeared in the kingdom of creation.

I know not by what countenance they who have turned away from this Revelation shall turn, or to whom they shall go, or in what valley they shall wander. By Thy glory! There is no refuge this Day for anyone save him who flees from his self unto the horizon of Thy most great signs, who forsakes what he hath and turns toward Thy most glorious horizon.

Thou knowest, O my God, that I protected my brother from the vicissitudes of time and called him at all times to Thy name, the All-Merciful. I revealed unto him of Thy verses and sheltered him beneath the wing of Thy mercy, never leaving him exposed to the winds. How then hath he harmed Thy creation and wronged Thy creatures? I protected his life while he, in the most hidden of secrets, sharpened the blade of his dagger to shed my blood. I nurtured him in my days, yet he dug a pit for me. Despite my knowledge of what lay in his heart, I did not confront him until what was in his breast became manifest.

I withdrew from them and departed from their midst lest there occur in Thy realm that which would sully the hem of Thy sanctity among Thy servants. Even after attaining power and authority, I did not oppose them until they plotted against Thy Cause and corruption appeared in the land. Their party in Iraq united with the oppressors who denied Thy Self and turned away from Thy beauty, until they made my family and loved ones captives from Zawra' to Hadba'. By what they have perpetrated, Muhammad Thy Messenger hath lamented in the highest horizon, and ʿAli hath wept at the Divine Lote-Tree.

I know not by what proof they have denied Thee or by what evidence they have turned away from Thee. By Thy glory! Even if the idolaters were to tear my limbs asunder, I would not, through Thy power, cleave unto them or turn to them, nor would I, through Thy grace and favor, unite with them. Thou didst create me, O my God, from Thy nature before the creation of Thy heaven and earth, and I drank the wine of Thy love when I was still drinking milk from my mother's breast through Thy loving-kindness, and it shall never depart from me.

I beseech Thee, O Cleaver of the daybreak and Creator of spirits, by Thy Name through which the tribes have lamented and earthquakes have appeared, to open the eyes of Thy creation that they may behold Thee seated at the right hand of might, power and majesty, and reclining upon the cushion of loftiness, glory and grandeur. Can there be one endowed with smell who cannot detect the fragrance of Thy

merciful robe after its sweet-scented breezes have wafted? Can there be one with taste who cannot find the sweetness of this remembrance in Thy days? Nay, by Thy glory! Such can only be one who hath ever been deprived of Thy presence, veiled from Thy countenance, and forbidden the wine of Thy knowledge.

O Lord! Purify the earth from Thy enemies, that thereby the faces of Thy chosen ones may be illumined and all may hasten to the sea, each wave of which proclaimeth: Praise be unto Thee, O Beloved of the worlds!

BH01908: He is the Wondrous One! This is a leaf…

He is the Wondrous One! This is a leaf that tells of the sighs of my heart and the tears of my eyes and the raptures of my melody and the paleness of my countenance by reason of what the hands of those who disbelieved and associated partners with God have wrought, and who were far removed from the good-pleasure of the Cause. O My loved ones! If you were to hearken with the ear of innate nature to all things and to them, you would hear their wailing and their crying out in My grief. Thus do We inform you, that you may be numbered in the Mother Book among those endowed with knowledge.

O My loved ones! I was under the sword in My days, and none among creation was aware of this, and the True One Himself is witness to what I say. If, then, you desire to help your Lord, the All-Merciful, emerge from the veils of self and passion, then remind the people of what the Most Glorious Beauty has taught you, that your words may influence every pure-hearted hearer. Know that victory consists in preserving yourselves from that which you have been forbidden, your eyes from gazing upon aught but God, your hearts from remembering aught but Him, your faces from turning to anything besides Him, your hands from possessing the property of others, and your feet from walking in any path save His good-pleasure. Thus does the tongue of might teach you with knowledge. By My life! Whosoever is characterized by what We have mentioned in the Tablet will be a helper to his Lord's Self in His Cause, which was decreed in the Mother of Tablets.

Say: O loved ones of God! Have you forgotten the days in which God's melodies were raised up among you and His countenance shone forth upon you with lights that encompassed all the worlds? Beware lest you erase from your hearts the wondrous remembrance of Me, or from your breasts the manifestations of My love, or from your souls that which dawned from the dawning-place of the Most Exalted Name. Be steadfast in the Cause and differ not in your love for the Youth. By God! This is better for you than all that is on earth together.

And if the earthquake of tests and the thunderbolt of trials seize you, be not troubled, but hold fast to the cord of might and glory. Soon you shall find the people fleeing to the right and to the left, and this is what We informed you of in radiant and holy days. When We entered Iraq, We informed some of you of secrets that lay behind the veils of destiny, closely guarded. Among these was what We told Our servant Muhsin and certain other numbered souls—that this station of this Youth is a paradise that has no shade, and were there to be shade therein it would be more exalted than the suns of the former and latter generations. Thus was the decree witnessed from the horizon of the Spirit. Thus have We related to you tidings of the unseen, that you might know the Ancient Beauty and be steadfast in the Cause, and ascend to a station that is raised above recognition.

O Mihdi! Cast this exalted Tablet which has proceeded from the Wondrous Pen upon all the Arabs of the City of God and others who are present. But O Mihdi, recite it with a divine spirit and a merciful melody. This is not possible except through detachment from all that exists among the servants, that perchance some souls may become intimate with the private chamber of divine glory and not be deprived of the divine sanctuary. Otherwise, thy Lord is independent of all that is in the heavens and earths. And if Tablets that have been sent are recited in gatherings to the extent that does not cause weariness, this is beloved, that perchance thereby a fire may be kindled in hearts. And convey to all most holy greetings, sanctified above limitation, from this Lonely Stranger.

BH01903: O Zaynu'l-Muqarrabin! When thy letter came before the Divine…

O Zaynu'l-Muqarrabin! When thy letter came before the Divine Throne wherein thou didst inquire about those who were martyred in the path of God, who fulfilled their Covenant and were among the martyrs, We have answered what thou didst ask of God, thy Lord and the Lord of thy forebears. We have sent down for each one of them decisive verses and radiant words, one letter of which cannot be equaled by all that hath been created in the realm of invention and fashioned in the kingdom of creation, if thou be of them that understand. We have ordained for each one of them in the Supreme Horizon an exalted and glorious station. By God the Truth! The eye of God beholdeth them and there descendeth upon them mercy after mercy, then bounty after bounty. Thus doth God send down wondrous bounties upon those who were martyred in His path, and He shall resurrect them once again in truth and make them leaders over all created things. These are they who shall inherit the kingdom from God, the Almighty, the All-Powerful, the All-Glorious. They shall rule over the earth by the command of God, thy Lord, and shall speak that which the Spirit uttereth in their illumined and crystal hearts.

O Zaynu'l-Baqa! Shouldst thou meet any of their families, magnify God before his face and inform him of that which hath been ordained concerning him by the Pen of God, the Munificent, the Bestower, the Just, the All-Wise. And shouldst thou ask God to forgive all who are in the heavens and on earth, He would answer thee. Thus have We distinguished thee with this bounty that thou mayest thank thy Lord and be of the thankful.

Be thou steadfast in the Cause through the power and might of God, then convey unto the people the message with which We have commanded thee. Rest not within thyself, and be not of them that are at ease. Dost thou wish to take thine ease while the Ancient Beauty is beneath the claws of the hateful ones? Regard the people and what they possess as but a handful of clay which a child fashioneth into the likeness of a seal, then casteth upon it a handful of dust. Thus regard all save God, thy Lord and the Lord of all worlds, except those who have held fast unto the cord of God and turned their faces purely to the face of God, the Almighty, the Most High, the Most Great.

By God the Truth! Those who have remained firm upon the seat of recognition in this Cause which hath appeared from the horizon of thy Lord, the Mighty, the Self-Subsisting—upon them do the realities of the Prophets and Messengers shower their prayers. And were We to find one who hath attained maturity, We would impart unto him that which We have concealed from all who are in the heavens and on earth since the beginning that hath no beginning. But since We found the servants veiled and heedless, then in

weakness and frailty, We have therefore concealed the mysteries and that which is better for them than all that hath been and shall be created, if thou be of them that know.

And thou, on this day, behold naught save My beauty, hear naught save My melodies, and turn to none save My direction which God hath sanctified from all directions and quarters and preserved from the gaze of the idolaters. Were the people to become aware of what they have wrought against their own selves, they would flee from their homes and strike their heads and wail until their spirits depart from their bodies, for they have deprived themselves of a bounty the like of which hath never appeared in creation, yet they perceive it not within themselves and are of them that rejoice. And glory be upon thee and upon them that have believed in God, the Most High, the Most Great.

BH01905: In the Name of the Friend and the Beloved…

In the Name of the Friend and the Beloved of the soul! O divine friends! Having adorned the food of glory and submission with the spices of unity and sanctification, enter into the verdant, joyous shallow waters of the Beloved Lord, veiled with the veil of light. Drink the wine of divine love with the countenance of the holy, eternal Beauty's manifestation. Make your dwelling in the shallow waters of the stream of glorious Paradise and the flowing of the holy Salsabil of submission, so that, intoxicated and bewildered by the exhilaration and rapture of the wine from the vessels of divine knowledge, you may find relief from the vanities of this transient earth and the defilements of this dusty realm.

From the beginning that has no beginning, the lights of the glory of divine unity have shone forth without pause or delay, and the radiant gleams of the divine Sun have ever appeared and will continue to appear without concealment or diminution. The chains of His glorious power have ever been lifted from the branches of created things, until in these days when the Mount of knowledge, by the command of the Creator Who says "Be!" and it is, has appeared raised up beyond measure upon the peaks of contingent being. Through the sprinkling of grace and the outpouring of glorious bounty, it has become adorned and illumined like the garden of divine unity with all manner of flowers of truth through the wondrous plants of knowledge and wisdom.

The precious jewels of mysteries and the holy, exalted pearls have shone forth from that Mount neither of the east nor of the west like the sun, manifest and evident. None among contingent beings has been or ever shall be cut off from the mountain of His consummate wisdom and the pools of His unceasing grace, that eternal Sovereign. Rather, in all successive ages and consecutive days, the entire creation from the beginning that has no beginning has been commanded to turn to this Source of glorious bounty, and the divine Herald has ever called and will continue to call the servants from estrangement in transient, passing homelands to draw near to the glorious, eternal abodes. However, since ears that are not pure have become covered with veils of falsehood and curtains of misbelief, they have therefore been deprived and forbidden from hearkening to the blessed Word of Unity, remaining lost and veiled in the bare wilderness of the heavenly realm and the desert of heedlessness.

O servants! The outpourings of mercy have ever rained down and the showers of grace will continue forever to descend. Therefore, trust in the Truth in all conditions and, turning toward the right hand of divine unity, seek to draw near. Praise be to God that all unceasing effusions culminated in the

comprehensive, transcendent Word in the concealed, known year, and through Its blessed, infinite Name, the chalices of grace and bounty appeared manifest and evident from the wine of unity like wondrous red colors in crystal clear glass, such that every possessor of the sense of smell has discovered through the nostrils of the grace of knowledge the straight path of His flowing Paradise, and every blind one has found the way to that glorious wine-cellar of praise. O servants! If you are blind, enter the divine realm through the fragrance of this sweet scent and the diffusion of this holy, eternal musk, for every lost one who intends it reaches this exalted goal, every deaf one who wills it hears these sweet, beloved melodies, and every mute one becomes speaking.

In brief, O weak servants! From the ruined, transient, limited houses, seek refuge in the mighty pillar of unity, and shunning darknesses above darknesses, hold fast and cling to manifestation above manifestation, radiance above radiance, and light above light.

BH01940: This is a Book from the presence of Baha…

In the Name of God, the Most Mighty, the Most Holy, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious!

This is a Book from the presence of Baha to him whom God hath preserved in these days from the fire of self and passion, and hath aided to recognize His Self, and hath made him to be numbered among those who are assured in the Tablets, and hath detached him from all else save Him, and hath given him to drink of the cup of everlasting life from this Countenance which hath been illumined from all eternity with the lights of God. Blessed art thou, O servant, inasmuch as the breath of God hath quickened thee and the breezes of the Spirit have stirred thee and turned thee from the left hand of fancy to the right hand of certitude, and hath provided thee with the fruits of the Tree which was manifest in the form of man in very truth. Thus doth God preserve whom He willeth of His servants and aid those who seek His help through a sovereignty that encompasseth all worlds.

And thou, O servant, give thanks unto thy Lord for having bestowed upon thee that which made thee independent in His recognition from all who are in the heavens and on earth, and caused the dove of longing to warble in thy breast, and brought thee nigh unto a holy and exalted shore. Know thou that they who opposed God prevented thee from that which thou didst desire in His path, and this was an injustice from their own selves against the Self of the All-Merciful—and My Self, the True One, is witness unto what I say. Grieve not thou at this, but be content with what God hath ordained in His Cause. Then aid Him as thou art able, and tarry not in His aid even for a moment. Place thy trust in all things in God and sorrow not for aught, for He shall manifest whatsoever He willeth and desireth, and He is indeed the Observer of all things.

And when sorrows intensify upon thee, remember My sorrows. By God, the Truth! I have borne what was heavier than the weight of the heavens and earth, yet I did not become impatient in God's Cause but endured according to My power and bore according to My strength. Thus do We impart unto thee the word of truth that thou mayest be informed of what befell the Ancient Beauty from those who disbelieved and associated partners with God, after they had imagined within themselves that they had ascended in faith to a holy and lofty station. By God, the Truth! They committed against their own selves

what none before them had ever committed, wherefore the word of wrath was fulfilled against them from the presence of One mighty and wise.

Were We to mention unto thee what befell Us from him whose mention We had exalted in those days, thou wouldst surely lament and weep within thyself, nay thou wouldst detach thyself from all things and flee unto the summits of lofty mountains. Would that he had been content with what he did! Nay, he attributed unto God that which he witnessed within himself, and by this were consumed the hearts of the Prophets and Messengers, while he rejoiceth within himself as though he had committed no sin. Thus did vain imaginings delude him and drive him from a holy and wondrous paradise, after We had raised him to the kingdom of names to a station beneath which stood the angels of heaven, and We named him in every heaven with one of Our most beautiful names. And after his ascension to the most exalted stations, We commanded him with a command whereupon he waxed proud against God Who created and fashioned him. Therefore did We cast him from the heaven of Command unto the earth of his self and made him a warning unto every discerning one who seeth.

Thus have We acquainted thee and imparted unto thee some of what hath befallen Us. Soon shalt thou know that which We have concealed, and thou shalt be informed of what hath befallen the Truth. And the Glory rest upon thee and upon him who hath believed in God and remained steadfast in the Cause.

BH01949: He is the Glorious, the All-Glorious. O handmaiden…

He is the Glorious, the All-Glorious. O handmaiden of God! Now hear in the Persian tongue, in the most wondrous and sweetest of divine melodies, and know that in this Day naught but My remembrance is acceptable and naught but My love is approved in the sight of God, and ever shall be.

For all that hath been established between earth and heaven—be it the deeds of the doers, the knowledge of the knowers, the diverse religions and infinite laws—all have appeared from and return to the Manifestations of My Self, and all have appeared from God. And the reason that deeds performed in a previous Dispensation are not acceptable in the sight of God is that deeds have ever been and shall ever be dependent upon recognition of God, and this recognition of God dependeth upon recognition of His Manifestation. Should anyone in this Day remain veiled from Him Who is the Manifestation—He round Whom circle all the divine commandments—no deed whatever would benefit him, even were he to perform the deeds of all created things. Just as recognition of a house doth not suffice without recognition of its owner, likewise the deeds of the doers suffice not without recognition of their Revealer and Establisher. And if in this Day one should forsake all deeds but attain unto recognition of the Truth, there remaineth for him hope of salvation; but should he, God forbid, be veiled from the Truth while occupied with all manner of deeds, there is no escape for him and he shall be reckoned by God among the people of hell, negation and fire.

And thou, O handmaiden of God, hearken unto the holy, divine melodies, that through hearing them the Holy Spirit may be raised up in thy heart and the Spirit of Power may speak in thy breast. And when thou attainest unto this station, thou shalt become detached from the world and all therein, and shalt ascend to the most exalted paradise and the most holy horizon, attaining unto the station of “Know God through God” which is the ultimate homeland of the knowers and the final goal of them that are nigh unto God. In

this station thou shalt see no proof save the Self of the Friend and seek no evidence save the beauty of the Beloved. Thou shalt regard His Manifestation as proof of His existence and His dawning as evidence of His Self. Thou shalt behold all created things in the grasp of His power like a handful of clay, and shalt observe all existing things limited and confined within His mighty hand.

Therefore strive thou to purify thy heart from the outpourings of the allusions of them that are veiled, and to sanctify thy breast from the darkness of all else besides God, that thou mayest be illumined by the light of His manifestations in such wise that all who dwell in the heavens shall be illumined by thee. Marvel not at the power of the King of inner meanings Who is established upon the throne of divine eternity. I swear by the Sun of the Most Glorious Horizon that were all upon earth to become sanctified from the darkness of vain imaginings and purified from the veils of idle fancies, thou wouldst behold in all of them the lights of the manifestation of the divine Sun of Glory.

Rend asunder the veils of darkness and abide within the pavilion of holy light. Stand firm in the love of God and strive according to thy capacity to remember God and to spread His remembrance among the handmaidens of God, for in this Day whosoever speaketh in remembrance of the Beloved shall be confirmed by the Holy Spirit. Thus hath the matter been ordained by the All-Wise, the Ancient of Days.

BH04754: God bears witness that there is no God but…

He is the Most Mighty, the Most Holy, the Most Glorious!

God bears witness that there is no God but Him and that this One Who has appeared with the name Husayn-ʿAli is His splendor to those in the Concourse on High, then His radiance to those in the Kingdom of Names, then His power to those in the cities of light, then His manifestation and beauty to all the worlds.

O servant! Preserve what God has testified of Himself, by Himself, to Himself in this Tablet, then recite it nine times each day according to the number of this Name by which the heavens of names were cleft asunder, then the earth of hatred was split, then the hearts of every sinful misbeliever were troubled.

O servant! Arise in the Cause of God with such steadfastness that all who are in the heavens and earth cannot make you slip—thus befits your station if you hear the melodies of your Lord in these days when all ears have been made deaf and were deprived of hearkening to the Word of God, save those who heard the mention of their Lord, the All-Merciful, from this Beauty Who has ascended the throne with a sovereignty that encompasses all the worlds.

And if you wish to know what has befallen your Lord, know that all the evils of the first and the last have been sent forth in one soul, and it has risen against My wronged Self, if you be informed of this.

O servant! When you find yourself alone in your house, then remember My loneliness. And if you find sorrow in yourself, then reflect on My sorrows. And if you journey to other lands, then remember My exile and My tribulation. And if you see a prisoner with chains of iron around his neck, then remember My imprisonment and what I have suffered from those who have denied God and were far from the holy path.

Would that My tribulations were only to the extent that We have mentioned to you! By Him Who holds Baha's soul in His hand, were I to mention what has befallen Me from the enemies in the innermost mystery, the heaven would be rent asunder, the earth would be cleft, the mountains would crumble, the trees would be stripped of fruit, and the seas of their waves. By God the Truth! If you were to clear your vision you would witness the denizens of the Supreme Paradise beating upon their heads, and were you to turn with another vision you would behold the Ancient Beauty having rent from His temple the cloak of patience. Thus does the Pen of the Unconstrained mention to you what has befallen Me from these wicked ones, that you may become seeing of the truth. But We have veiled the matter lest the veil of concealment be rent from all created things and the cry of those near to God be raised in the pavilion of mighty glory.

And you, O servant, be content with Me instead of others and break not God's covenant and His testament, for besides Him nothing will suffice you—none denies this save every wretched misbeliever.

Then know that We have named your son in the Kingdom of Names ʿAbdu'l-Baha. Therefore mention him by this name. By God the Truth! When this name issued from the tongue of your Lord, all who were immersed in the depths of names called out to him with this name, which was mentioned in the Mother Book by God Himself. And the Glory be upon you and upon those with you who have taken God as their Guardian.

Then know, O Baqir, that We have named your son outwardly with the first pillar of My name, which is Husayn, and inwardly with ʿAbdu'l-Baha. Thus was the matter decreed by the Pen of the Spirit.

BH01972: Your letter was present before the Face and was…

In the name of the one loving God.

Your letter was present before the Face and was honored by the glances of the Lord of Names. Blessed is the soul whose letter attained the presence of the Throne after being prevented from turning to it by what the hands of the oppressors had wrought. A word was observed in your letter which is in truth the perfect word, and ever shall be—if one succeeds in acting upon it, they will comprehend all good. And that is: "O my Lord, O Guide of my purposes, Thy good-pleasure." Ask God that you may remain firm in this word. Blessed is the one who drinks from this cup and is of those who know.

The generosity of God is limitless and His grace endless. Never has there been, nor shall there be, any interruption in the outpouring of the All-Bountiful One. He has answered and will answer the needs of all. If in some instances there has been delay, it was for the good of that soul—assuredly they will attain to what is better than what they asked for. However, for those souls who truly hold fast to His good-pleasure, another station is ordained. Blessed are they, again blessed are they.

And in your letter was: "I see the heaven and the earth and the sea" etc. "all of them are signs of Thy power, like writing flowing from Thy pen; therefore there is no need for me to beseech Thee to send Thy writing." End quote.

Yea, in one sense this attribute can be and is applied to all things—that is, in all things the movement of the divine creative Pen is manifest and visible, and those possessed of insight behold it with both outer and inner vision. However, the existence of all things depends upon the movement of the Most Exalted Pen, and the nobility of all things lies in their relationship to it. Therefore all have been and ever shall be in need.

The true believer in divine unity is one who sees all things as manifestations of God's primal sign, and beholds in all things the expressions of His names and attributes, while seeing that sign as sanctified above all things and sovereign over all things—how much more so the Truth Himself, exalted is He above being associated with His creation or known through aught else. If relationship were removed from existence, it would be sheer nothingness—how then could manifestation be attributed to it? All exists through Him and subsists by Him, while He is sanctified and exalted above all. There is no God but Him, the Self-Sufficient, the Most High.

Thou didst make mention of the station of one's parents in the Abode of the Hereafter. One of the special bounties vouchsafed in this Revelation is this: that every soul who turneth in faith toward the Dawning-Place of the Cause—his parents, albeit they have not attained unto faith in this Manifestation—shall yet be encompassed by the rays of the Sun of Divine loving-kindness, and shall be taken into its shelter. This is of His grace unto His loved ones. Render thou thanks, and be thou of the thankful.

We counsel you, O loved ones of God, regarding the Most Great Trust among My servants and My creation. For through it the Cause of God is exalted among all else, and the sanctity of His Cause becomes manifest throughout the worlds. Be trustees among the servants—thus have We counseled them in the Tablets. Verily thy Lord is the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

Say: Place your trust in all matters in the Truth, the All-Forgiving. Verily He gives to whomsoever He wishes whatsoever He wishes, and withholds from whomsoever He wishes what He desires. He is indeed the Powerful, the Mighty. Let not the affairs of the world grieve you. That which has been ordained for you is incomparable to anything else in creation, were you of those who know. Be steadfast in the Cause in such wise that the winds of those who lead astray will not cause you to slip.

BH01975: He is the Mighty! This is the Book…

He is the Mighty! This is the Book of God, the All-Compelling, the Self-Subsisting. It hath been sent down in truth from the presence of One mighty and well-beloved, and it speaketh the truth in the kingdom of eternity and in the heaven of heaven that there is none other God but Him. He quickeneth whom He willeth through His grace, and unto Him shall all return. His is the creation and the command, and all things are preserved with Him in a guarded Book.

O Ha' before Sin! Hearken unto the call of Him Who summoneth thee from the heaven of divine command, and be not of those who are not guided by the signs of God. Say: By God the Truth! The veil of holy garments hath been rent asunder and the Youth of the Spirit hath appeared with the beauty of God, the Mighty, the Well-Beloved. Beware lest thou consort with those from whom thou canst not detect the

fragrance of love from this diffused and manifest musk. Leave them to themselves, for they are blind to the Cause and deaf to the Word, and they perceive not.

Say: By God! Ye have dwelt behind the veils of fancy in your days, such that ye understood not God's purpose in His hidden Tablet. Thus do We expound the verses unto thee lest the opposition of those who have disbelieved and joined partners with God and who have turned back on their heels should turn thee aside from thy Lord's path. And thou, seek refuge in God thy Lord, then suffice thyself with Him apart from all else, for He will suffice thee against all who are in the heavens and the earth and against all that was and will be. He will preserve thee as He preserved thee before, and will provide thee with that wherewith He hath provided none save those who turn toward the holy precincts and who direct themselves to the sacred quarter. Thus doth God exalt whom He willeth and aid whom He willeth through His grace, for He is the Truth, the Knower of things unseen.

And when thou seest the Sacrifice who hath come forth from prison, glorify Him on Our behalf, then give him glad tidings with a remembrance from Us, that he may be of those who rejoice in God's glad tidings. Say: O servant! Give thanks to God thy Creator for having delivered thee from prison, then strive not to enter another prison and be not of those who abide eternally imprisoned within themselves. Say: We observed thee aforetime in mighty delusion such that thou didst appear before God thy Lord yet wast unaware of it and wast among the heedless. Therefore did We veil Our face from thee and conceal it behind a thousand veils lest thou and the eyes of the weak should discover it. Say: O servant! Rend asunder the veils of fancy, then emerge from behind the veil with manifest sovereignty. And if thou art powerless to do this by thyself, then seek help through My Name, the Mighty, the Powerful, the Omnipotent. Then in the beginning of the matter, deliver thyself, then the servants of God, and be God's herald among His creatures and remind them with thy loudest voice and fear no one, but put thy trust in God, the Mighty, the Inaccessible.

Say: O people! Be fair with yourselves before God and be not among the opposers. Then recite unto them what was revealed unto Muhammad the Messenger of God in a clear Arabic tongue. None dispute concerning the signs of God save those who disbelieve. Thus was it sent down in truth from One mighty and beautiful. O people! Fear God and dispute not concerning His verses when they are sent down through grace, and be not among the prodigal. Thus doth the Dove of Holiness teach you and counsel you with truth lest ye be among the heedless.

BH01948: O Husayn! Hear the call of this Wronged One…

He is the Almighty, the Ever-Abiding, the Incomparable

O Husayn! Hear the call of this Wronged One Who hath been afflicted at the hands of the servants, and sought no help from anyone save God, the King, the Almighty, the All-Powerful. He hath detached Himself from all who are in the heavens and on earth, and hath spent His soul in the path of thy Ancient Lord, such that no hour hath passed over Him except there befell Him that which caused the eyes of the Maids of Heaven to weep in their chambers and the hearts of them who are nigh unto God to bleed. He desired naught on earth save what His Lord desired, and preserved not Himself in the face of tribulations—to this

all things bear witness, if thou be of them that hear. He spoke between earth and heaven what the Spirit spoke within His breast, and delivered the Cause of God, His Lord, unto all the worlds.

Among them were those who denied Him and rejected the signs of God, and were of the idolaters. And among them were those who rose up against Him in hostility, who disputed with their own selves, who associated partners with His Being, and who objected to what was sent down from God, the Protector, the Mighty, the Wise. Were We to recount unto thee the tales of what hath befallen Us, thou wouldst detach thyself from thine own self and all that thou hast, and flee unto the mountain peaks, lamenting as lament the bereft. Therefore have We concealed it from thee, lest grief overtake thee in these times, thus protecting thee and those who have believed in God and His signs and were of the faithful.

Beware lest thou forget Our remembrance or occupy thyself with that which would remove thee from the shore of thy Lord, the Most Exalted, and render thee among the heedless. Remember within thyself at all times, then remind the servants of what We have imparted unto thee in truth, and be thou of them who remember. Beware lest thou be impatient within thyself or follow them who have denied and associated partners with God, thy Lord and the Lord of thy forebears of old. Strive within thyself that the signs of God may be made manifest in thy land and thy face may shine with the lights of certitude. Beware, beware lest thou be heedless of thy Lord's Cause. Aid it with what thou art able and be not of the patient ones. His aid is to teach His Cause among the servants with wisdom and utterance, and naught else befitteth any assured seer.

Then remind from Our presence those servants who have detached themselves unto God and who have been seized by the holy fragrances from this hallowed, mighty and luminous Quarter. Say: Fear God and follow not your desires. Follow what the Spirit imparteth unto you—this is better for you than all that hath been created between the heavens and earth. Adorn your tongues with the remembrance of your Lord, the All-Merciful, and turn not unto the world and what is therein, for it shall perish while sovereignty remaineth with God, the Protector, the Almighty, the Mighty, the All-Knowing. Say: Beware lest ye commit that whereby the honor of the Cause would be lost. Be steadfast in the love of your Lord and be not of the heedless. Sanctify yourselves from all that would remove you from God, then draw nigh with your hearts unto the court of sublime glory. Commit not that which would cause the servants to object, for thereby souls are disturbed and the feet of the believers slip. Strive within yourselves that the signs of God may be made manifest in the kingdom such that the servants may find from you the fragrance of God, the Protector, the Mighty, the Powerful.

Thus have We commanded thee—act according to what thou hast been commanded in the Book and be of them that act.

BH01974: Praised be Thou, O my God, that Thou hast…

Praised be Thou, O my God, that Thou hast been true to what the Pen of Thy Revelation hath inscribed upon the Tablets sent down by Thee unto them Whom Thou hast chosen above all Thy creatures, and through Whom Thou hast unlocked the doors of Thy mercy, and shed abroad the radiance of the light of Thy guidance. Glory to Thee that Thou hast laid bare what had from eternity been wrapped up within the

Tabernacle of Thy majesty, Thine omnipotence and glory, and through which Thou hadst decked forth the heaven of Thy Revelation and adorned the pages of the book of Thy testimony.

And when the Pledge was fulfilled and the Promised One appeared, He was rejected by such of Thy servants as profess to have believed in Him in Whom Thy Godhead was manifested, Whom Thou didst ordain to be the Herald of this Revelation, and through Whose advent the eyes of the inmates of the sanctuary of Thy unity were cheered.

I know, O my Lord, neither their reasoning with which they have acknowledged Thee and believed in Thy signs, nor their argument whereby they have repudiated Thy sovereignty. Every time I call them to Thee and say:

> "O people! Consider the utterances of the Lord your God which are in your possession and those that have been sent down from the heaven of His will and power,"

they cavil at Thee, and turn their backs to Thee, though—as Thou art aware—each of the words that have gone out of the mouth of Thy will sheddeth the fragrance of the breaths of Thy mercy.

Some have chosen to cleave to him who is counted unworthy to converse with any of Thy servants that watch at Thy door (Mirza Yahya), how much more to enter into the court in which the Tongue of Thy majesty speaketh. Cleanse Thou their hearts and their eyes, O my Lord, that they may see with their eyes and understand with their hearts, that haply they may be attracted by Thine utterances to the Day-Spring of Thine inspiration, and draw nigh unto the soft-flowing stream of Thy knowledge.

Thou art He, O my Lord, Who hath, in every line of Thy Book, entered into covenant with them for me, and made it so sure that none of Thy creatures can any longer evade it. Thou didst say—and Thy word is the truth:

> "One single letter from Him excelleth all that hath been sent down in the Bayan."

Thou dost consider, therefore, O my God, how they have transgressed against Thy Cause, and beholdest what their hands have wrought in Thy days. They have so grievously wronged me that the Lote-Tree of Thy Revelation moaneth, and the inmates of the Tabernacle of Thy majesty and the dwellers of the cities of Thy names lament. I know not, O my God, for what reason they have risen up to oppress me, and by what proof they have turned aside from Him Who is the Day-Spring of Thy signs. I beseech Thee, O Thou Who art the Lord of all names and the Creator of the heavens, to aid them to act equitably in Thy Cause, that haply they may discover the sweet smell of the robe of Thy mercy, and set their faces towards the horizon that shineth with the brightness of the light of Thy face. Weak are they, O my Lord, and Thou art the Lord of strength and power. They are but paupers, and Thou art the All-Possessing, the Most Generous.

Thou art well aware, O my God, that throughout my life I have sought no advantage for myself. I have offered up my spirit and my whole being for the exaltation of Thy word amidst Thy creatures and the glorification of Thy name among Thy servants. Thou didst send me with such a Testimony that they Who are the Exponents of Thy Revelation and the Day-Springs of Thine inspiration were stirred up with

vehement longing. Through it, Thy proof was established, and Thy bounty fulfilled, and Thy Cause perfected, and Thine utterances released, and Thy clear tokens uncovered.

Thou knowest, O my God, that I have wished only what Thou hast wished, and desire what Thou dost desire. Were I to speak forth before Thy servants the things wherewith Thou didst, through Thy bounty, inspire me and which Thou didst command me to utter amidst Thy creatures, the oppressors among Thy people would cavil at me. And were I to hold my peace and cease to celebrate the wonders of Thy praise, all the limbs of my body would be stirred up to extol Thee. I know not what the water is with which Thou didst create me, or what the fire Thou didst kindle within me. I swear by Thy glory! I shall not cease to mention Thee, though all that are in Thy heaven and on Thy earth rise up against me. Thee will I magnify, in all circumstances, with a heart wholly rid of all attachment to the world and all that is therein.

Praised be Thou, the Well-Beloved of the hearts of all such as have recognized Thee.

BH02017: This is a Book from God to him who…

He is God, the Most Exalted, the Most High

This is a Book from God to him who was guided by the light of the Countenance in days when all took the calf as their lord instead of God and were among the abased ones.

Say: God hath appeared in truth—blessed be those who turn unto Him. Those who have veiled themselves from God, these have been heedless of their Lord's remembrance and the angels near the throne curse them. Say: Do ye deny what your Beloved witnesseth above all things? Fie upon you, O company of the deluded! Those who would purchase women's cloaks with their eyes to cover themselves therewith have now emerged with a strange deadly poison.

Say: Where were ye, O heedless ones, in the days when your souls were agitated by the cry of a weak gnat, when thou didst see the chief of the deniers? Say: O veiled one, how long wilt thou not be fair in the Cause of thy Lord, nor show mercy to thyself, and be of the heedless ones? Say: By God, were it not for My Self, ye would be non-existent upon the earth—and ye bear witness to that which God hath witnessed, if ye be of the fair-minded.

Say: Have you forgotten, O servant, the days when if any among you would enter into the presence, people would drive him away and even curse him with great wrath? Yet when the breezes of security wafted, ye emerged with swords of hatred, turning toward God, the King, the Mighty, the Beautiful. By God, the eye of creation hath not seen anyone more veiled than thee and those who followed thee without My leave and who walked the paths of delusion.

O Husayn, hear the call of this Husayn at the time when Shimr stood at His right, and the spear was held before His head, and the accursed Khawli stood before His face, and He called out among these unbelievers saying: O people, slay Me not with swords of hatred—I am but the Self of Ali among you, and the Spirit of Muhammad within you, and the Beauty of God before you. Fear God and be not of the wrongdoers. Fear God and shed not the blood of Him at Whose spilling the pillars of the Throne shake and the supports of the exalted Seat cease to be.

Say: O people, I have not spoken among you except in truth, and I have not commanded you save what the Spirit hath uttered in My heart with wondrous melodies of glory. Be ashamed before Him Who sacrificed Himself in My path—have mercy on My wronged and lonely Self. Thus was the command of the Youth among these cattle in this prison, and We have related it to thee that thou mayest share in grief with the Prophets.

Hear My words and shun those who have denied God Who created all things and sent the Messengers. Then remind the people with wisdom that they may recognize the Beauty of the Divine Unity and arise from the slumber of the heedless ones.

Know thou that We remembered thee before thou didst remember Me, and We strengthened thee for the victory of My Cause, and We inspired thee with that which would establish My Cause against the ignorant ones, and We ordained for thee in the heaven of destiny abundant good—this is from God's favor unto thee that thou mayest be of the thankful ones.

Convey God's greetings to the faces of those who have believed and to the face of thy wife, then give her glad tidings of her Lord's remembrance. We have made her one of Our successful handmaidens and We have mentioned her name in tablets of mighty glory. Thus doth God single out for His mercy whomsoever He willeth, and He is indeed the Lord of bounty and transcendent mercy.

BH02004: Glorified be He Who hath appeared with the truth…

He is the Most Holy, the Most Inaccessible, the Most Mighty, the Most Glorious!

Glorified be He Who hath appeared with the truth with all the signs and hath spoken between earth and heaven with a call whereby the hearts of the Concourse on High were attracted, yet most of the people hear not. At every moment He saith:

> "O people! We created you for My manifestation and caused you to know the Manifestation of My Self. Yet when He came upon clouds of inner meanings, surrounded by hosts of revelation, ye denied Him and were of those who turned away from God their Lord after the signs had encompassed them from every direction—to this all existence doth testify, as do honored servants."

O people! Hearken unto the call of your Lord and stop not your ears from hearkening to the Word of God, your Lord and the Lord of all things visible and invisible, would that ye might know. Say: God is independent of the faith of His servants and whatsoever He commandeth them. This is of His grace unto them, that He might draw them nigh unto the right hand of the Throne and send down upon them that which shall purify them from the defilement of contingent being and bring them to a station of glorious praise.

Verily those who have disbelieved in these days—every atom doth curse them, as doth all that was and will be. All that was created in creation doth address them saying:

> "O people, your eyes are blind! Do ye witness the Names yet withhold your gaze from Him through one letter from Whom were created the Names and their Kingdom, then the

Attributes and their Dominion? This indeed is a wrong ye have wrought against your own selves, would that ye might understand."

Rend asunder the veils through My Name, the Chosen One, and turn not unto those who have disbelieved in God after their belief and turned away from Him for Whose meeting they were created. Thus doth the Tongue of God, the Sovereign, the Protector, the Mighty, the Self-Subsisting, speak at this moment. O people! Cast away what ye possess and take what is with God. By God the Truth! None hath any protector today save through His Cause. Thus hath the decree been sent down in all the Tablets and in the Torah and the Gospel and the Psalms.

O people! Look ye at God's previous Scriptures. By God! In every word thereof ye were promised this resplendent, dawning, rising, hidden, mighty and manifest Beauty. Whoso today pauseth for less than a moment regarding His Cause hath indeed turned away from God and His Messengers in every age and time. Therefore ponder within yourselves, then choose what is best for you, would that ye might know.

O servant! In these days cleanse thine eyes from the ophthalmia of vain imaginings and hold fast to the cord of certitude. Be not of those who are blind upon the earth yet reckon they can see. By God the Truth! The veils have so encompassed them that they understand nothing, nor do they see. As for thee, emerge from behind the veils through a power from Us and a might from Our presence. Then sanctify thyself from all that existeth in the hands of men, that thou mayest ascend unto an atmosphere wherein thou wilt hear the sounds of the wings of the birds of eternity and witness thyself attracted by the love of thy Lord. Thus do We command thee and inspire thee that thou mayest follow the bidding of thy Lord and be in a praiseworthy protection. And peace be upon thee if thou standest firm in the Cause and upon those who have turned unto God, the King, the Mighty, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting.

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BH02006: Lauded and glorified art Thou, O Lord my God!...

He is God, exalted be His mighty station

Lauded and glorified art Thou, O Lord my God! Thou art He Who from everlasting hath been clothed with majesty, with authority and power, and will continue unto everlasting to be arrayed with honor, with strength and glory. The learned, one and all, stand aghast before the signs and tokens of Thy handiwork, while the wise find themselves, without exception, impotent to unravel the mystery of Them Who are the Manifestations of Thy might and power. Every man of insight hath confessed his powerlessness to scale the heights of Thy knowledge, and every man of learning hath acknowledged his failure to fathom the nature of Thine Essence.

Having barred the way that leadeth unto Thee, Thou hast, by virtue of Thine authority and through the potency of Thy will, called into being Them Who are the Manifestations of Thy Self, and hast entrusted Them with Thy message unto Thy people, and caused Them to become the Daysprings of Thine inspiration, the Exponents of Thy Revelation, the Treasuries of Thy Knowledge and the Repositories of Thy

Faith, that all men may, through Them, turn their faces towards Thee, and may draw nigh unto the kingdom of Thy Revelation and the heaven of Thy grace.

I beseech Thee, therefore, by Thyself and by Them, to send down, from the right hand of the throne of Thy grace, upon all that dwell on earth, that which shall wash them from the stain of their trespasses against Thee, and cause them to become wholly devoted to Thy Self, O Thou in Whose hand is the source of all gifts, that they may all arise to serve Thy Cause, and may detach themselves entirely from all except Thee. Thou art the Almighty, the All-Glorious, the Unrestrained.

O my God, my Master, my Best-Beloved! I am Thy servant and the son of Thy servant. I have held fast the cord of Thy grace, and clung to the hem of the garment of Thy loving providence. I entreat Thee, by Thy Most Great Name, Whom Thou hast appointed as the unerring Balance among the nations, and Thine infallible Proof unto all men, not to forsake me, nor to abandon me to my corrupt desires. Do Thou preserve me beneath the shadow of Thy Supreme Sinlessness, and enable me to magnify Thine own Self amidst the concourse of Thy creatures. Withhold not from me the Divine fragrance of Thy days, and deprive me not of the sweet savors wafting from the Dayspring of Thy Revelation. Bestow on me the good of this world and of the next, through the power of Thy grace that hath encompassed all created things and Thy mercy that hath surpassed the entire creation. Thou art He Who holdeth in His grasp the kingdom of all things. Thou doest what Thou willest through Thy decree, and choosest, through the power of Thy might, whatsoever Thou desirest. None can resist Thy will; naught can exhaust the impelling force of Thy command. There is no God but Thee, the Almighty, the All-Glorious, the Most Bountiful.

O Ali! Blessed art thou for having drunk from the Salsabil of inner meanings from the hands of thy Lord's mercy, the Mighty, the Self-Subsisting. Grieve not over anything, but trust in all matters in God, thy Lord. He is verily with His chosen servants. Say: O people! By God, the Primal Point hath distinguished, and the Divine Alif hath arisen, and the sovereignty of God, the One, the Mighty, the All-Compelling, hath been made manifest. Say: O people! Fear ye God and deprive not yourselves of this bounty which hath dawned from the horizon of His Command. This is better for you than that which ye do in secret and in public. We have loved thee before and We shall love thee, by God's might and power, for having turned to thy Lord, the Mighty, the All-Forgiving.

Be thou steadfast in thy love for the Youth, then convey unto the people the Command of thy Lord with wisdom and utterance, lest the clamor of the heedless and the howling of the wicked be raised. Cast the kingdom behind thee, then turn unto thy Lord. The world and all that is therein shall perish, and sovereignty shall remain with God, the Lord of grandeur and power. Thus have We remembered thee in this Tablet and caused thee to hear the melodies of the Dove upon the branches in various measures, that thou mayest be drawn unto God, the Lord of the Day of Mutual Calling.

Make mention from Our presence unto thy father that We have not forgotten him.

BH02010: He is the Self-Subsisting, the EverlastingGlorified be He Who…

He is the Self-Subsisting, the EverlastingGlorified be He Who possesseth the kingdom of the heavens and earth, and He, verily, hath knowledge of all things. Before Him boweth down whatsoever is in the heavens

and the Throne, and He, verily, is the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. His is the bounty and grace—He quickeneth whom He willeth through His sovereignty, and He, verily, is the Almighty, the Powerful. His is the sovereignty and eternity, the grandeur and glory, the loftiness and splendor, the might and radiance, the majesty and creativity. He forgiveth whom He willeth and chastiseth whom He willeth, and He, verily, is wise in all things.

Say: God is the Creator of all things, and We, verily, are witness unto this. Say: God is the Provider of all things, and We, verily, are cognizant of this. Say: God is the Quickener of all things, their Maker, the Sovereign over all things and their Creator, and He, verily, encompasseth all things.

Say: O people, fear God and believe in Him Who hath come to you with clear sovereignty and authority. Beware lest ye disdain the worship of your Lord or wax proud after the proof hath reached you from every near direction. Follow not the bidding of your desires, but hasten unto a station of transcendent glory.

Say: The test hath come upon you from all directions, and the thunderbolts of the Cause have seized you from every novel quarter. Fear ye God, then stand firm in the Cause, then be steadfast upon the path, and be not tyrannical oppressors in the land. Fear God and drive not away Him Who hath come to you with clear signs—He summoneth you only through a mighty sovereignty. He remembereth you with most excellent remembrance in the Word that hath gleamed from God's horizon. He commandeth you to righteousness and piety, and forbiddeth you transgression and wickedness, and causeth you to hear wondrous and novel verses.

O people, if ye have forgotten God's decree in ages past, the people of the Furqan are not far from you. Have the tidings not reached you of those who lived before, who denied God's signs and mocked His Messengers, whereupon He seized them with manifest wrath? Fear ye God and reflect upon what hath passed, that ye may be guided in these days when signs descend from every direction. Say: Should all who are in the heavens and earth prevent you from this, pay no heed but turn away from them and advance toward a beauteous divine countenance.

Know then that what thou hast written hath come before Us, and We found therein the fragrance of an exalted love. We answer thee with these verses which have descended in truth from an elevated holy heaven. Know that We loved thee before and love thee now, and desire for thee in Paradise a noble and honored station—a station preceded by none save as God, thy Lord and the Lord of all worlds, willeth. And thou, O My loved one, strive within thyself to be steadfast in thy love, firm in thy religion, and holding fast to that handle which is mighty in truth. Thus do We impart unto thee that which is better for thee than all in the heavens and earth, if thou behold with the eye of the spirit. Then remember from Our presence all who have believed in God and the Last Day, and who remain constant in love and steadfast in the Cause.

BH02020: This is a Book sent down in truth, wherein…

He is the Most Inaccessible, the Most Holy, the Most Exalted, the Most High!

This is a Book sent down in truth, wherein is guidance and remembrance for all the worlds. Hearken, O servant, unto that which is revealed unto thee from the direction of the Throne, the Station round which circle the denizens of the Concourse on High, then those who dwell in the depths of Names, then they who move in the atmosphere of holiness, this sacred and luminous Space: that there is none other God but Him, alone with no partner, no minister, no peer and no likeness unto Him. He hath ever been single in His Essence and unique in His Being. He sent forth the Messengers aforetime unto His creation, testifying that there is none other God but Him, the Almighty, the Most High, the Great.

Bear thou witness, even as God hath caused thy heart and tongue to witness, and be thou of them that are assured of the Revelation of God and the Manifestation of His Self, and be of the steadfast. Know thou then that thy name was mentioned before the Face, and therefore were verses of mighty glory sent down from the cloud of holiness, and We sent them unto thee as a mercy from Our presence that thou mayest be of the thankful. When they reach thee, take them with the hand of power and might, then read them with the melodies of them that are nigh. Through them shall be produced in hearts that which shall detach them from contingent things and draw them nigh unto the direction of a mighty throne.

Be thou steadfast in the Cause of God and His love, and there shall descend upon thee from the heaven of the unseen that which shall gladden thy heart, for He is the Rewarder of the steadfast. Beware that thou grieve not over this world, for it shall pass away, and that which remaineth for thee is what hath been ordained in the Most Exalted Kingdom by the Pen of thy Lord, and this is a certain truth. Seek thou, O servant, the grace of God and His mercy, and despair not of His wondrous mercy that hath encompassed all created things. Thus hath the Command been sent down at this moment in truth, that thou mayest be of them that rejoice.

He sendeth down at every moment upon His servants whatsoever He willeth, and with Him is the knowledge of all things that have been created between the heavens and the earth. Not an atom escapeth His knowledge. He ruleth over the kingdom as He pleaseth by His sovereignty, and none can gainsay His irrevocable and wise decree. Remember thou thy Lord in the night season and the days, then at eventide and dawn, and fear thou no one, for He shall guard thee from the hosts of the oppressors. Put thy trust in Him in all matters and be of them that trust. Then be content with whatsoever God hath been pleased with in these days, for this is His Revelation and His sovereignty amongst the worlds.

Say: O my Lord! I beseech Thee by Thy Name through which Thou hast manifested Thyself unto all created things and hast risen above all beings, to detach me from all that Thy good-pleasure abhorreth and to send down upon me that which is best for me, for Thou knowest what profiteth me and I know not, and Thou art the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. O my Lord! Leave me not to myself and my desires, then send down upon me from the cloud of Thy mercy that which shall purify me from the mention of aught else but Thee. Then assign me a seat of truth with Thee, then send down upon me the good of this world and the next. Verily, Thou art powerful over what Thou willest, and Thou art the Munificent, the Generous.

Thus have We remembered thee and commanded thee that thou mayest be of them that act. And glory be upon thee and upon them who are steadfast in the Cause of God and are of the firm ones.

BH02052: Glorified be He Who sendeth down the verses…

He is the Ever-Abiding, the Most Glorious.

Glorified be He Who sendeth down the verses in truth and will continue to send them down as He pleaseth by His command, and verily He hath power over all things. Before Him bow down in adoration all who are in the heavens and on earth, though He is in truth independent of the worship of all creation. All that He commandeth men is from His grace unto them, that He may bring them to the holy habitation, the station which hath been raised in truth above Paradise itself. The worship of all who are in the heavens and on earth profiteth Him not, nor doth the opposition of any in all the worlds harm Him.

O Muhammad! Praise thy Lord in the evening and at dawn, then take Him as thy trustee in truth. Find solace in Him and forget all else—thus doth the Pen of Command bid thee from the presence of the Mighty, the Powerful. Arise in thy love for thy Lord, then detach thyself from all things—this will make thee independent of all who are in the heavens and earth. God is witness to what I say. Would one who harbors in his heart the trust of love for his Ancient Lord exchange it for aught else that hath been created on earth? Nay, by God, besides Whom there is no other God—save he who hath deprived himself of the sweet savors of holiness. Take fast hold of God's command and cast all else behind thee. Thus hath the utterance descended on the clouds of wisdom and the matter been decreed from the presence of the Protector, the Self-Subsisting.

O Rida! Be content with what God hath ordained for thee, then walk in the ways of His good-pleasure. This is better for thee than all that is on earth, though none know this save they who are endowed with insight. Blessed is he who walketh in the paths of his Lord's good-pleasure and severeth himself from every sinful idolater. Shun those who have denied God and His verses, then guard thyself against them and remain under mighty protection. Do not that which thy heart approveth not. Act according to that which thou hast been commanded by the Mighty, the Wise. Thus have We sent down unto thee verses from the heaven of names and attributes, that thou mayest be gladdened in thy soul and stand firm in the eternal Faith, steadfast in thy love for God, thy Lord.

They who have denied God and His verses—their souls have made evil seem fair to them and Satan hath adorned their deeds in their eyes, and they were on that day far removed from the shore of grace upon the path of wrongdoing. Soon will Satan enter therein and forbid you from the love of the Youth. Therefore shun him and remain under impregnable protection. Say: O Satan! By what proof didst thou believe in the Beauty of the All-Merciful and by what evidence didst thou deny? If thou didst believe in Him Who came from the dawning-place of the Command by the name of Ali through what was revealed unto Him of verses—these are His verses that have filled the East and West of the earth, which none deny save every froward wretch. Thus have We informed thee and acquainted thee with what is hidden from the eyes of all the worlds. And the glory rest upon thee, if thou remainest steadfast in thy Lord's command.

BH02060: This is a Book from Us to him who…

He is the Most Holy, the Most Great, the Most Glorious

This is a Book from Us to him who has turned to God, the Lord of the worlds. We mention to him what has befallen Us from the hosts of the oppressors when they brought Us to this place. The matter became so severe it cannot be described in words. Verily thy Lord is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

Each day the affliction increases—one day they prevent people from attaining the presence of this Noble Scene, another day they quarrel with the loved ones of God and prevent them from tending to their needs—these are truly companions of hellfire. Another day they say "You are sending Tablets," and another day they cling to some other pretext—these are truly among those who have wronged throughout the ages and disbelieved in God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy. Verily He Who created the world for Himself—they prevent Him from looking upon any of His loved ones. This is nothing but manifest tyranny.

One said: "Through you the fragrances of revelation have wafted through the lands and transformed the servants unto God, the Mighty, the Wise." Another said: "Through you the lamp of remembrance has been lit and we wished to extinguish it. If this be my crime then I am the most guilty of the two worlds. I am innocent of you and you are innocent of me. The matter between us is decided, and He is the Best of Judges." They said: "You have come with a white hand and radiant scrolls which our souls do not desire. You are but one of the mischief-makers."

If this were so, servants before Me would have preceded Me, reciting unto you the verses of God, the Mighty, the Inaccessible. Whenever We recited clear verses unto them they said "These are forgeries," and when We showed them what their likes were powerless to produce, they said "This is manifest sorcery." We know not by what discourse their souls would be satisfied—they are truly among the drowned ones. They are drowned in the sea of passion yet reckon themselves to be among the guided ones. Thus have their souls seduced them and they are today among the transgressors.

Remember when Nabil entered with his brothers, turning to God, the Lord of the worlds. They were seized at the gate by what the Impostor had inspired in the hearts of the oppressors. When they entered the seat of judgment, it was said: "We perceive from you the fragrance of the Divine Paradise and from your faces the radiance of the All-Merciful. There is no place for you with us—leave at once!" He said: "Have you not heard 'Honor the guest'?" Then he who had wronged was confounded. He said: "Expel him from the city"—thus did the chief of the transgressors command us. There befell Nabil before Ali and those with him what had befallen him. Verily thy Lord is the All-Knowing, the All-Seeing.

We beseech God to suffice thee against the evil of these two—verily He hath power over all things. They plot, but soon shall the fire of their plotting blaze forth. May God extinguish it through His sovereignty and raise up one who will suffice against their evil. He is verily the Ordainer of what He willeth. They have committed that which hath caused the dwellers of the pavilion of sanctity to lament, and their plotting hath seized every young and old.

We have recounted some of what hath befallen Us that thou mayest be informed of what hath transpired and arise to aid this Wronged One and remember thy Lord by this wondrous Name. The breezes of hypocrisy have stirred and the Light of the Cause is in the darkness of the horizons. Be thou not troubled—We love to behold thee among the steadfast ones. Praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH02048: God testifies that there is none other God but…

In the Name of God, the Most Wondrous, the Most Glorious!

God testifies that there is none other God but Him. His is the creation and the command, and all are prostrate before Him. He gives life and causes death, then resurrects as He wishes through His grace. Verily, there is none other God but Him. His is the creation and the command, and all are worshippers before Him.

O Pen of Command! Make mention of the servant who is named Ali, that he may stand firm on the Path and purify himself from those who have denied God, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting. O Ali! Strip thyself from all veils and allusions, and cast behind thee all that they who joined partners with God have clung to, and take fast hold of the cord of God, the Almighty, the Powerful, the Beloved.

Say: O people! Fear God and spread not corruption in God's earth after God hath come from the Orient of Grandeur with manifest sovereignty. Say: This indeed is the Essence of Oneness in the Most Exalted Assembly, and the Reality of Divine Unity in the Kingdom of Eternity, and the Mystery of Divinity in the Kingdom of Names, and the Ancient Beauty in this radiant and noble Temple. He is indeed the One through Whom every Prophet was raised up, every Messenger was sent forth, and every irrevocable decree was revealed.

Say: O people of the Bayan! Fear God and war not against Him through Whom your worth was exalted, your name was made manifest, and your traces became renowned among the worlds. O Ali! Express what We have shown thee in thy soul's journey unto God, then ascend to the atmosphere of nearness and holiness that thou mayest witness what no mystic hath witnessed. Guard thyself lest thou be stirred by the winds of hypocrisy which blow from the direction of the wicked ones who warred against God and turned away from His beauty after He appeared with all verses, scriptures and perspicuous books.

Stand firm in the Cause, then convey unto the people thy Lord's command, and be not of the patient ones. Know thou that those who were given the Bayan seek to invalidate the Truth using the same arguments used by the transgressors of the Qur'an when the Sovereign of the Cause came to them with God's kingdom—the True, the Certain One. They wrote tablets rejecting God just as the people of the Qur'an wrote rejecting Ali before Nabil. We have ordained for whoever is able that he write in support of this Cause that which casts the spirit into his breast, and this is from God's grace upon His steadfast servants.

Arise in the Cause, then drink the cup of life from the hands of the All-Merciful, then detach thyself from every sinful deceiver. Turn not to the right or the left; set thy face toward thy Lord, the Most High, the Great. Hearken unto what is revealed unto thee from the right side of the Throne, the place whose very air proclaims: "This indeed is the Beloved in the heart of Glory," and whose heaven calls out: "This indeed is the One mentioned in the scrolls of mighty glory," and from Whose dust particles is heard: "There is none other God but I, the Powerful over what I wish, and I am the Mighty, the Exalted, the Wise."

Thus do We cast upon thee that thou mayest stand firm in the Cause and convey unto the people what thou art commanded by God, the Most High, the Powerful, the All-Knowing. And glory be upon thee if

thou standest firm in the Cause and detachest thyself from the worlds, and upon those who hear thy words concerning God, thy Lord and the Lord of thy forefathers of old.

BH02033: O Letter of the Living! Hearken to the call…

In the Name of God, the Luminous, the Most Luminous

O Letter of the Living! Hearken to the call of thy Lord once again in this most holy and most luminous Dominion. Then remember what is now being revealed unto thee from the direction of the Throne above the Lote-Tree of the Utmost Boundary, that thou mayest recall within thyself what We previously mentioned to thee by the tongue of God the first time. Therefore reflect on what remaineth thereof, that thou mayest be among the people of the Hereafter in this primary world.

Say: By God! The decree of the Nine hath appeared and the beauty of the Eighty hath shone forth. And verily thou didst not comprehend its beginning, so strive within thyself that thou mayest comprehend its end, that thou mayest be among those possessed of understanding.

Therefore stand firm in the Cause of thy Lord, then remind the people of what the Dove remindeth thee at this moment from God's most sublime Kingdom. Take heed that thou fear nothing, nor hesitate in the Cause of thy Lord, nor be among the blind. Come forth from behind the veil of silence, then loose thy tongue in praise of thy Lord, that thou mayest be among those who are guided, and remind people through thy remembrance, that perchance through thee may be brought about in them what God hath chosen for them. Thus do We bestow Our grace upon thee once again, that thou mayest be assured in the Cause of thy Lord and rend asunder the veils from the face of remembrance.

Say: By God! The Spirit at this moment moveth before His presence, and the Sun deriveth its light from His resplendent brow, and the Beauty of the Unseen speaketh above His head with a call that draweth unto it the hearts of those possessed of understanding:

> "This, verily, is He Who appeared in the year sixty, and this is one of His mighty signs."

And these are the pearls which We have brought forth from the Shell of Holiness and cast from the Ocean of Grandeur, that ye may find what hath been ordained for you by your Lord, the Most Exalted, the Most High. And this, verily, is the Beauty of God which hath dawned from behind the veils with a sovereignty that cannot be concealed nor hidden. And this, verily, is the Sea that surgeth within itself, and these are its waves, if ye be of those possessed of wisdom. And these, verily, are the breezes of God in truth, and this is their wafting in this morning time.

Say: The Noah of eternity hath fashioned the Ark of immortality, and it saileth upon the sea of grandeur—glorified be thy Lord, the Most High! And thou, turn thy face towards it and hold fast unto it, that thou mayest be among the companions of the Garden of Refuge.

And this, verily, is the Voice of God raised between the heavens and the earth. Therefore put off the shoes of vain desire, that thou mayest be turned towards the Sinai of the Spirit in this most distant expanse. Take heed that nothing prevent thee, even should all who are in the kingdom oppose thee. Then hearken unto the call of thy Lord, that thou mayest be of those who have heard and called out. Thus have

We cast upon thee and inspired thee with that which will sever thee unto God, thy Lord, that thou mayest rejoice within thyself and be of those who have believed and are guided.

Say: By God! The Beauty of the First hath appeared in the Point of the Last. By God! This is thy Lord, the Most High, and whoso turneth away from Him and denieth His signs hath indeed gone astray and transgressed. Thus do We call out to thee once again, that thou mayest hear the call of thy Lord in the Dominion of eternity, and be stirred within thyself, and arise in the Cause of thy Lord with supreme steadfastness.

Say: By God! Whoso hesitateth in His Cause, God will surely return him to the lowest depths. Thus have We informed thee and taught thee, that thou mayest be mindful of the remembrance of thy Lord and be of those who drew nigh and approached.

BH02085: In the Name of Him at Whose bidding…

In the Name of Him at Whose bidding the Nightingale warbles in the Realm of Eternity that there is none other God but Me, the Almighty, the All-Wise!

O Tongue of Eternity! Make mention of him who emigrated unto God until he entered the Spot of Immortality, the seat from whose horizon the Sun of Glory shone forth with manifest and brilliant rays, and entered God's precinct where the glances of holy radiance were turned unto him, and tasted the sweetness of remembrance from this Remembrance, Who, were the veil to be lifted from His face, would cause all who are in the heavens and on earth to swoon away, except such as have detached themselves from all created things.

O servant! God the true One is My Witness! This is the Day whereon it is incumbent upon everyone that seeth to behold, and every ear that hearkeneth to hear, and every heart that understandeth to perceive, and every tongue that speaketh to proclaim unto all who are in heaven and on earth, this holy, this exalted, and all-highest Name.

Thus does the Tongue of Holiness speak forth now in the realm of mighty glory.

I swear by the one true God! This is the day of those who have detached themselves from all but Him, the day of those who have recognized His unity, the day whereon God createth, with the hands of His power, divine beings and imperishable essences, every one of whom will cast the world and all that is therein behind him, and will wax so steadfast in the Cause of God that every wise and understanding heart will marvel.

O servant! Hear what issueth from the mouths of those who have disbelieved in God after having believed in Him. By God, they speak as spoke the divines of the Qur'an at the time when ʿAli came upon the clouds of My Name that encompasseth the worlds. O servant, forget not My remembrance, nor the days when thou wert in the presence of My countenance. Remember then My grief and tribulation, that God may raise up one who will help the Youth. Thus hath the Pen of Eternity taught thee, that thou mayest arise to serve His Cause with mighty detachment.

Stand firm in such wise that should all the Manifestations of Our most beauteous Names descend and seek to turn thee from that whereon thou standest in thy Lord's Cause, thou wouldst not turn unto them nor unto what they possess, by My sovereignty that hath dawned from the horizon of holiness with wondrous lights. Know thou that whatsoever thou hast heard regarding this Cause hath, by God, appeared from the direction of My command, and none hath been apprised thereof save God—of this thou art well aware. When We raised up the Cause, they who served Me and circled round Me morning and evening arose to slay Me. Thus mayest thou know the state of these souls and those who followed them and took them as lords for themselves instead of God. By God, they and their idols are in the fire, and naught shall protect them from thy Lord's torment save that they repent and return unto God Who created them by His command. Verily, He hath ever been All-Forgiving, All-Merciful.

Rejoice, O servant, within thyself that God hath accepted thee for love of Himself and honored thee with His presence and inscribed thy name upon tablets which lie before the Throne, sealed with the seal of preservation by the fingers of power, in truth and by the truth. Glory be upon thee and upon them that are with thee and upon them that remember their Lord and are detached from those who know not their right hand from their left and who follow every froward devil.

BH02107: The Supreme Pen speaks in the name…

In the Name of the Beloved of the world

The Supreme Pen speaks in the name of the Beloved of the worlds: Your letter was received before the Countenance, and from its expression was inhaled the fragrance of the love of the Beloved of the worlds. Praise be to God that through divine grace, in this spiritual dawn, you have attained to that which was intended and have been illumined by the effulgences of the Divine Word which has dawned from the Dayspring of Will.

The effulgences of the Word have encompassed all who are on earth, yet most people remain deprived of the Dayspring of divine manifestations due to imaginary veils. Soon all shall turn toward the intended Goal, but alas for those souls who today remain deprived of the shining lights. I swear by the Dawning-Place of the Most Great Name that if people would rend asunder the veils and hearken with the ear of their true nature to the Call of God raised from the right side of the luminous Spot, all would turn with illumined hearts toward the Beloved. The veils have prevented them—soon they shall wail and weep, though now they perceive it not.

Blessed are those souls who today have attained the recognition of God and have turned toward the Most Great Name and the Ancient Ocean. Although today the enkindled and devoted souls have been encompassed by abasement due to their turning to the Word of God, yet soon all on earth shall engage in glorifying their mention with utmost honor.

That which exists and is witnessed shall soon vanish, but any deed performed by any soul for the triumph of God's Cause, even if it be but a sigh breathed forth for the love of God, shall endure forever and its effects shall be manifested in all the divine worlds through wondrous and sublime appearances. This is God's hidden grace of which none is aware. If the divine fingers of power were to rend this veil, you

would witness all turning with complete devotion, perfect hope and supreme steadfastness to sacrifice themselves in the path of the Friend, counting all that exists in the world and whatsoever is related to it as non-existent. Since the preservation of souls for the triumph of God's Cause is observed according to divine wisdom's requirements, therefore this station remains unrevealed and hidden behind the veils of the unseen.

Blessed are you for having attained, arisen, turned, heard and said: "Here am I, here am I, O Beloved of the worlds!" These are pearls and treasures that shall remain preserved in the divine treasuries of the unseen, and the hands of the treacherous and thieves shall be barred from them.

Say: Praise be to Thee, O my God, for having caused me to be present before the Throne, to hear Thy call and be honored with meeting Thee. I beseech Thee by Thy Name that rules over all names to ordain for me to meet Thee in every world of Thy worlds, to cause me to soar at all times in the atmosphere of Thy love, and to turn toward the Kaaba of Thy reunion and meeting. Thou art powerful over what Thou willest, and Thou art the Forgiving, the Merciful.

The Glory be upon thee and upon those with thee. The mentioned Tablets were sent. Verily, He is the best of rememberers. Say: Praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH02077: Praise be to God that thou hast steered…

In the name of the Peerless Beloved!

Praise be to God that thou hast steered the ship of high endeavor upon the sea of detachment and hast been blessed with divine outpourings and merciful bestowals. Thou art he through whom the victory of God's Cause was made manifest, inasmuch as thou didst not fall short in His service. To this testify all atoms, through what hath flowed from the Pen of thy Lord, the Almighty, the Glorious, the All-Wise.

It is most clear and evident that the world hath neither fidelity nor permanence, nor shall it ever have. All shall return to nothingness save the righteous deeds that have appeared from holy souls in the Cause of the King of Oneness. I swear by the Most Great Luminary, whose light shineth resplendent in all worlds, that even in the material realm God, exalted be His mention, causeth every tongue to praise such souls.

Look not upon the power of the enemies and the veiling of the people today. Though outwardly they appear strong, in truth they are the weakest of creatures. Soon shall they all turn with great remorse and supreme regret toward their Lord, the Most High, the All-Glorious. But they have been preceded by servants who have attained unto the days of God. Should God, exalted be His glory, forgive those souls, they would be under the shadow of the assured ones who are manifest today in His Name; otherwise thy Lord is indeed the All-Knowing.

Thou must watch over God's Cause in all matters, but with utmost protection, concealment and wisdom. For whenever the sun of victory in God's Cause hath dawned from the dayspring of detachment of any soul, the envious have inevitably risen up with the fire of hatred. For every light there is fire. In all matters be mindful of wisdom and move with moderation. Remind the people, on behalf of the Dawning-Place of the Divine Word, of godly attributes and spiritual character, lest mischief appear from anyone that might

cause the fire of the Cause to be extinguished among the people. Mischief hath never been and shall never be acceptable. All must walk among the righteous and the wicked with rectitude, steadfastness, dignity and composure, that the number of the righteous may increase and the wicked be called to the Chosen One. A goodly deed is in its essence a promoter of the Cause and a guide to the path of truth.

Convey to the loved ones these hidden words which have shone forth from the Dayspring of the Divine Pen at this spiritual dawn, that all may be illumined by the lights of the Word and hold fast to divine counsels before their faces, lest they become heedless and remain veiled. Blessed art thou and those who are with thee and who hear what thou remindest them of through the remembrance of thy Lord, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy.

Thou art he whom God hath related to Himself and singled out for the service of His Cause. By My life! Soon shall the tablet of creation be adorned with thy name for having turned with thy whole being to the countenance of the Intended One. Thy Lord is indeed the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

Convey My greetings to the faces of those who were with thee, whether female or male, young or old. Praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH11722: This is a Book from the Primal Point unto…

In the Name of the Most Unapproachable, the Most Holy, the Exalted, the Most High

This is a Book from the Primal Point unto him who hath believed in God and His signs, that he may stand firm in the Cause and be detached from all the worlds. Bear thou witness, O servant, unto that which God hath testified of His Own Self unto His Own Self, that there is none other God but Him, and that the Primal Point is the Glory of God unto all who are in the heavens and the earth, His proof unto all who dwell in the kingdoms of Command and creation, and His evidence unto all who are upon the earth. Blessed is he who hath detached himself from all things, turned unto Him, and hearkened unto His melodies which have enraptured the denizens of the most exalted Paradise, then those who dwell in the depths of the Names, then the hearts of every pure soul.

Verily, He is the Hidden Scroll in the unseen realm of the divine cloud, the Treasured Book within the pavilions of the Names, the Tablet of the Spirit in the fields of eternity, and the Scripture of Command in the kingdom of creation. Thus hath the Command been sent down at this hour with truth from the presence of One mighty and powerful. Say: By God! He hath appeared with all the signs, the recognition of which hath proved beyond the capacity of every person of understanding. On His right hand was the Kingdom of God, then on His left the Dominion of Command, and before Him marched the hosts of a wondrous Revelation. Thus were the clouds of idle fancy rent asunder, and God came with the authority of His Cause, while around Him circled the hosts of hidden glory.

Then did they who harbored hatred for this Youth in their hearts deny Him—this Youth at the sight of Whom the eyes of Grandeur were consoled behind pavilions of impregnable glory. They warred against Him, disputed His verses, and denied the grace that encompassed all the worlds. O servant! Cast behind thee all allusions, then burn away the veils of idle fancy through a power from Our presence. Stand firm in the Cause through an authority from Us, and fear no one. Put thy trust in God, thy Lord, and He shall

protect thee from every accursed misbeliever. Then give thanks unto God within thyself, for the glances of God have been directed toward thee, and the fingers of holiness have moved upon thy name with this Pen which hath been fashioned by God's handiwork. Through it the knowledge of all things hath appeared, and the knowledge of what was and what will be, and through it the measures of the Cause have been ordained in the heaven of destiny and sent down in a prescribed measure.

Grieve not over this world, but rejoice in the gladness of the Cause. Choose for thyself a praiseworthy station in the shadow of thy Lord's mercy. Purify thyself from whatsoever hath occurred to thee, and thy breast from the promptings of them who have disbelieved in God and who move about in the wilderness of passion, having deprived themselves of God's mercy. Be thou at peace within thyself, then stand firm in the Cause, for God hath ordained for thee a station that hath been, in truth, elevated. Soon will He send down upon thee the wonders of His mercy and draw thee nigh unto a luminous station of glory. Know thou that We had previously sent down unto thee a Tablet, and before it another Tablet, and We sent them unto thee as a grace from Us, that thou mightest stand firm in the Cause. And the mercy that descendeth from the heaven of the Cause be upon thee, upon those who love thee in God, and upon every discerning believer.

BH02088: To the son of Haji Mirza Musa who has…

To the son of Haji Mirza Musa who has ascended to the Supreme Companion—We have revealed this for Abu-Talib that he may seek through it what God has ordained for him and be mighty in assistance. He is God, the Doer of whatsoever He willeth.

The Beauty of God behind the clouds hath been witnessed from the holy horizon through grace. And verily the clouds are wisdom whereby God manifesteth His Cause among His creatures—were He to lift them, all who are in the heavens and earth would be terrified and every lofty and impregnable mountain would crumble. There is nothing but that its treasuries are in the heaven of destiny, and We send them down only in accordance with a measured decree.

O Pen of Command! Make mention of the servant of God who is named Abu-Talib, that he may rejoice in his soul that his name hath flowed from thee and been mentioned before the Throne.

O servant! We sent thee aforetime a Tablet that cannot be equaled by all that is on earth, and after it We sent this Tablet whereby are attracted the hearts of those who have drawn nigh and been purified from earthly allusions through the hidden mystery.

O servant! Purify thy heart from aught else but Me, then read what hath been revealed unto thee, that it may preserve thee from sorrows in this time when the heaven hath come with manifest smoke. Guard thyself through My Name the Preserver lest the darts of Satan strike thee and make thee far removed from the seat of nearness. Take comfort in My remembrance and abandon all else—this is better in thy Lord's sight than all that hath been created on earth. Thus hath the matter been decreed from One All-Knowing, All-Wise.

Illumine thy heart with My love and thy tongue with My remembrance and the remembrance of My tribulations, for by My Self, wert thou to become aware of them thou wouldst weep for months and years.

Behold then, O servant, how grieved is the Master Who takes a servant and nurtures him with mighty hands of glory, and teaches him what He willeth, and preserves him from hardship and distress, and keeps him safe from all calamities in the protective sanctuary, and mentions him among the servants, and raises his name in the Concourse of Names to a station where all, young and old, make mention of him. Yet when he witnessed the matter thus and became assured in himself, he emerged from behind the veil and denied his Lord and rejected what He had bestowed upon him through His grace, until he arose to slay Him, then cried out among those whom the foolish of the earth had recognized, saying "I have left these people while wronged"—that he might cause doubt to enter the hearts of the believers and cause the rancor of the youth to enter the breasts of his followers. And God is witness to that.

By God! He did this only because he knew the people to be worthless rabble, else how could he deny this grace which was more manifest than the light of the sun in the midst of heaven? By God! None would deny it save every ignorant blind one. Such was My Cause—ponder this in thyself that thou mayest become aware of it and be among the servants with insight into what befell this Wronged One Who was cast into the pit.

Whereupon grief seized My heart and My pen, and it would not flow as desired, therefore We complete the Tablet. Be content with what hath been sent down unto thee from an exalted and uplifted heaven.

BH04645: In the Name of the All-Glorious, the Most Glorious!…

In the Name of the All-Glorious, the Most Glorious! O servant! Hearken unto what the Herald of Sinai calleth out to thee from the Temple of this Revelation, that thou mayest be enraptured by the melodies of thy Lord, flee from thyself, and draw nigh unto the Self of God, the Most High, the Almighty, the Great.

Know thou that We have created within thee a sacred wilderness and have spread it forth through Our sovereignty and power from Our presence. Therefore, cast off the sandals of wickedness and enter therein, that thou mayest hear from the Tree of thine own being what Moses, son of ʿImran, heard from the Sinai of the All-Merciful:

> "Verily, I am God! There is none other God but Me, the Help in Peril, the Gracious, the Almighty, the Powerful, the Omnipotent!"

Therefore, emerge from the shadow of what thou possessest and take shelter in the shade of Our mercy, which We have raised up in truth and have sent forth in the form of a cloud, lest the heat of remoteness harm thee and thou be numbered among those who draw nigh. And this is the Pomegranate Grove which We have sent forth in the form of a Tablet and through which We shine upon the mirror of thy heart, shouldst thou turn it toward the dawning of this Sun through whose light the first and the last have been raised up.

O servant! Lower the bucket of detachment into this Well, that there may gush forth for thee the sweet waters of knowledge and wisdom from this Salsabil which hath been ordained by thy Lord, the Everlasting, the Generous.

Know thou that We have ordained for thee, in the mystery of these words, the Staff of might and power. Therefore, take it by Our leave, then cleave therewith the sea of passion that the sign of thy Lord's revelation within thee may pass beyond it, and that thou mayest traverse the wilderness of heedlessness and extinction and enter, upon the path of immortality, a sacred and resplendent land. Then strike with this Staff We have given thee upon the hearts of thy kindred, that there may gush forth from them the fountains of wisdom and knowledge, that perchance they may recognize Him Who revealeth Himself on Sinai in this luminous raiment.

And if thou hearest My words, abandon the world and whatsoever is therein and thereon of its customs and creeds, for all these are one and the same in judgment, wert thou of them that comprehend. For whatsoever veils man from the recognition of his Lord and from attaining the presence of his Master—this is the world, even though it be the most excellent of deeds. Thus hath it been sent down from the heaven of thy Lord's mighty Pen, the Exalted, the All-Wise. And should anything draw thee near unto God, even though it appear blameworthy outwardly, it is approved in the sight of thy Lord. Therefore ponder what hath been sent down unto thee and be of them that reflect, that thou mayest discover the intent of what hath been outwardly ordained and be of them whom nothing in the heavens or on earth deterreth from that which hath been revealed.

Know thou then that thy letter hath come before Us and We have learned of what it contained of the yearning of them that are drawn to God, and We have answered thee with an answer through one letter of which the hearts of the sanctified are attracted, yet We have not sent it until now. And should God wish, We shall send it through grace, for He is the Protector of the righteous.

And if thou perceivest the fragrance of thy Lord from this Garment which hath been sent in the form of a Tablet, it shall suffice thee and suffice all the worlds. Thus have We sent down upon thee from the cloud of holiness the heavenly table of the manna of grace and the quails of immortality, that thou mayest be sustained thereby and be of them that give thanks unto God Who created thee by a command from Him and sent unto thee that which He hath made a proof unto all created things.

BH02082: O My brother and My loved one! Hearken unto…

He is the Most Wondrous, the Most Exalted, the Most Holy, the Most High!

O My brother and My loved one! Hearken unto the call of Him Who hath loved thee and maketh mention of thee for the sake of God, that thou mayest stand firm in a Cause which hath been recorded in all the Tablets by God's will, and which no veils of contingent beings can obstruct, nor can the opposition of created things impede it, even should they arise against it with swords of steel.

Thou knowest what hath befallen Me at the hands of him whom I protected from the harm of creatures, whom I assisted at all times, and whom I taught by night and by day that he might aid the Cause of God and be God-fearing in His religion. Yet when the sun of certitude dawned upon his back, he shed his skin

like a serpent, and the first thing he decreed was to shed My blood without any proof or illuminating Book. By God, O beloved one, I am not among those who have calumniated the servants, and God is My witness to what I say. Ponder thou his deeds and what proceeded from him, then ponder My deeds and what proceeded from Me. Then shall the sun of certitude shine upon thee and thou shalt be established in that which thy Lord desireth.

Hearken unto that which is revealed unto thee from the holy precincts, a station which God hath raised above the knowledge of the worlds. Follow thou the religion of God and His Faith in this Cause which hath appeared and shone forth from the horizon of the Spirit from the presence of One mighty and powerful.

Hear the words of thy brother and arise to serve the Cause in these days wherein all who are in the heavens and earth were shaken, and the dwellers of the realms of Command and creation were terrified, and all the kindreds of the earth lamented, save only a number of the letters of Our most beautiful Names, who at that time were rejoicing in the highest paradise by thy Lord the All-Merciful's leave, and thus was the matter decreed by God. Rend asunder the veils, then emerge from behind the clouds with resplendent lights. Arise to serve the Cause and detach thyself from all who are in the heavens and earth. Then adorn thy tongue with utterance in remembrance of thy Lord, the Mighty, the Bestower. This is better for thee than all that is on earth.

Grieve not over the world and what hath befallen thee of adversity, but place thy trust in all matters in God, the Most High, the Most Exalted. He will protect thee from whatsoever displeaseth thee, and He is the Observer of all things. By God, O My brother, there hath come upon Me from the malevolent ones arrow after arrow, spear after spear, lance after lance, and sword after sword, whereat the eye of Ali in the Supreme Companion weepeth for Me, and then the eyes of the Messengers in a most holy and exalted station. Were I to detail for thee what hath befallen Me, thou wouldst detach thyself from all things. We have therefore veiled it to protect thee, and have mentioned only what was destined.

Know then that thy letter reached Me and I understood its contents. We beseech God to assist thee and Us in His Cause and to unite Us and thee in a station that was praised in truth. And glory be upon thee and upon those who have believed in God and were steadfast in the straight path.

BH02151: Glorified art Thou, O my God! Praise be unto…

In the Name of God, the Ancient, the Everlasting

Glorified art Thou, O my God! Praise be unto Thee for having drawn Thy near ones through the breaths of Thy oneness and attracted them through the wondrous melodies of Thy voice. Thou hast made them helpers of Thy Cause among Thy creatures and celebrants of Thy name amongst Thy servants. Through them were enkindled the hearts of those who were heedless of Thy remembrance and had strayed from the pathway of nearness unto Thee. Thou hast raised them to a station Thou didst specially ordain for them through Thy grace, and through them Thy signs were spread throughout Thy dominion. Thou hast made them the embodiment of Thy most beautiful names for all who dwell on earth and in heaven.

Among them, O my God, is one who loved Thee and desired Thy presence. When he heard Thy mention and Thy call, he turned toward the horizon of Thy voice. The affairs of the world and the whisperings of

the rebellious and the wayward did not prevent him from Thy remembrance. He hath plucked from the garden of Thy loving-kindness the fruits of the tree of Thy oneness, and beheld from the horizon of Thy favors the lights of Thy countenance and beauty. I beseech Thee, O my God, to assist him in all conditions that he may aid Thy Cause among Thy servants, and to protect him from the people of error that he may be occupied with Thy praise amidst Thy creation. Verily, Thou art powerful over what Thou willest, and Thou art the Mighty, the Powerful.

O thou who soarest in the atmosphere of faithfulness! Know that We have arrived in the fortress of Akka, and the heedless ones have surrounded Us from every direction. They desire to cut off the fragrant breezes of revelation from the universe, but this Youth hath not been deterred by the tribulations that have befallen Him and speaketh at all times that there is no God but Him. Say: Verily this Youth remembereth His Lord, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. Neither the swords of men nor the vicissitudes of days have prevented Him. He calleth out between earth and heaven and summoneth all unto God, unto Whom is His return and dwelling place.

Then know thou that the letter S entered the city, but the oppressors prevented him from attaining the presence before the Throne. They have barred the doors, but God shall open them when He willeth and desireth. Grieve thou not, for soon there shall descend from the clouds of grace that which shall cause people to enter into the religion of God in troops. Verily thy Lord hath power over all things. We beseech God to assist thee in all conditions and to send down upon thee the good of this world and the next. Thus hath it been ordained for thee in the Tablet, and that which hath been inscribed by the Pen of Command shall not be altered. Be thou thankful and among the grateful ones.

We desired to send thee Tablets concerning that which was mentioned before, but the idolaters intervened. We shall send them when God willeth and desireth. Verily, He is with His near servants. When God's loved ones gather together for the Cause, remember them on My behalf. We have sent Tablets wherein no names were mentioned for their protection. Give to each soul one of these Tablets. That which is befitting for each servant hath been sent down. Verily thy Lord is knowing of all things.

Then know that one of My loved ones sent a Tablet there in the name of M. It was not revealed for him and there was a mistake, but perhaps God will bring about some remembrance through it. Thus doth the knowledge of thy Lord encompass all things, but the people are in heedlessness and schism.

BH02129: That which the All-Merciful has spoken: If his honor…

That which the All-Merciful has spoken: If his honor J. departs, a Tablet will be sent specifically for both of them. Today we and they must all be mindful of God's Cause. If they are outwardly prevented from attaining His presence, no matter—God will grant them what He desires. If his honor Muhammad can establish a business in these parts it would be pleasing, however it would be more beloved if his companion, his honor Ali, returns to Iran, as lethargy and torpor have encompassed all regions, that perhaps he may become a cause of enkindlement.

He said the plants of God's garden have withered from lack of water—someone must return to the Euphrates of the All-Merciful's mercy so that all may be refreshed by the sweet fragrances of the mention

of their Chosen Lord. When drought intensifies, the springtime of grace arrives. Although Truth has Its servants under domes who are not distracted from God's remembrance by what was or will be, they are few, and these souls cry out "Are there any more?" For they are created from the breezes of divine love and must receive sustenance both outwardly and inwardly. Therefore if that person returns with the waves of the Most Great Sea, it will cause life, freshness and delicacy in the trees of the All-Merciful's garden. And certain Tablets specifically for the friends in various regions will be sent.

O My Name! By My life, tribulations do not prevent Me from God's remembrance, nor do calamities stop Me from what He desires. In one of the Tablets was revealed: "I passed not by a tree but My heart addressed it saying: 'Would that thou wert cut down in My name and My body were crucified upon thee in God's path.'" By God! If the servants were to drink the wine hidden in this exalted word, it would suffice them and the intoxication of love would seize them to such degree as to detach them from all the worlds. Do they deny after witnessing that each morn the Youth faces tribulations beyond description?

However God's loved ones in different regions must all conduct themselves with perfect wisdom and render assistance. No action should occur that would cause affliction to those souls, for if all are afflicted, who would call people to God? Therefore protection is necessary, and though God is powerful over what He wills, He loves these beloved ones to assist Him. The trials of the Ancient Beauty Himself suffice, and this very wondrous trial is itself assistance. Soon the people will recognize what they are veiled from today. The loved ones must engage in assistance with perfect wisdom.

By God! The world laughs at those who have denied and occupied themselves with it, addressing them saying:

> "Soon will I disavow you. Are you content with that which has never been faithful to anyone like you? Woe unto you! Has anyone seen from me what you desire? Did those before you attain from me what would benefit them? Far from it! I left them all disappointed and at loss. Soon will I join you with the former ones."

But O My Name! The heedless hear not its call and they do not perceive.

BH02154: In the Name of God, the Most Holy…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Glorious! The Call hath been raised from the right of the blessed and luminous Spot, from the Divine Lote-Tree, a Call which the realities of all things hear:

> "Verily, there is none other God but Me, the Mighty, the All-Wise."

O people of the earth! Let not your ears be prevented from hearkening to the Word of God. By God! Through it are hearts drawn to the Station wherein they behold the power of God, their Lord and the Lord of their forebears. Come ye forth from the cities of fancy and idle imagination, then set your faces toward the Sacred House which God hath made the Qiblih of all who are in the heavens and on earth. Shatter the idols of vain desire through the name of your Lord, the Lord of all names. Thus have ye been commanded by the All-Glorious in a preserved Tablet.

Bear ye witness, O people, to that whereunto God hath testified for His Own Self, by His Own Self, before the creation of all things:

> "Verily, there is none other God but Me, the Mighty, the Bountiful."

The heaven hath come with the smoke of destiny, and men are enshrouded by the veils of allusion, save those who have cast the world behind them and turned unto the countenance of God, the Luminous, the Resplendent.

Say: Recognition is My recognition, and the Path is My straight and manifest way. Say: Beware lest ye be veiled by desire from the Lord of all names. Follow that which ye have been commanded in the Book, and be not as those who, when the proof came unto them from the All-Merciful, violated the Covenant and denied God, the Lord of all worlds. Hearken unto the word of Him Who calleth you unto God. Cast behind you all who are on earth. Doth not God suffice you, He Who created all things by His command? There is no God but Him. In His grasp is the dominion of all things. He is, verily, powerful over all things.

Those who have denied the All-Merciful after He came from the heaven of revelation with a mighty proof—these are they whom desire hath overcome, and thus were they debarred from the mercy of their Lord, the Mighty, the Bountiful.

O people! Hold fast unto the cord of God and His mercy. He, verily, will protect you and aid those who have turned unto Him. He is nigh unto the doers of good. Not a thing escapeth His knowledge. With Him is the knowledge of the heavens and the knowledge of what hath been and what shall be, in a Book inscribed by the Most Exalted Pen, whereof none is aware save the Lord of Names, Who hath come with His Most Glorious Name, were ye of them who know.

O people! Adorn yourselves with My qualities and array your temples in the garments of knowledge and refinement, and be ye witnesses among His servants. Thus hath the matter been decreed by your Lord. Blessed is he who hath turned unto Him and is of the successful ones.

O thou who hast turned to God! Give thanks unto thy Lord, for this Most Great Sea hath surged in thy remembrance, and the Lord of Pre-existence hath spoken thy name and sent unto thee this Tablet, from which the fragrance of the garment of thy Lord, the All-Glorious, is wafted between earth and heaven. Blessed is he who perceiveth it and saith:

> "Praise be unto Thee, O God of all who are in the heavens and on earth!"

Make mention of My loved ones on My behalf. We have indeed recorded their names in a perspicuous Tablet, that their names may be confirmed in the Kingdom of creation and their spirits in the Realms of Glory—a bounty from Our presence, and I am verily the Bountiful, the Generous.

BH02215: Glorified art Thou, O Thou before Whose manifestations…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Impregnable, the Most Exalted!

Glorified art Thou, O Thou before Whose manifestations of power every mighty one hath acknowledged powerlessness, and before Whose manifestations of knowledge every possessor of knowledge hath confessed ignorance. Thou art He Who hath adorned the brocade of creation with the ornament of Thy Most Glorious Name, and hath embellished the countenance of existence, both seen and unseen, with the decoration of the Point from which emergeth the letter Ha', that the words revealed by Thee unto the Manifestation of Thine exalted Self might be fulfilled.

When through Thy power and majesty the Point was differentiated by the letter Ba' and established upon the Ha', Thy creatures and creation were struck with terror, save those upon whose foreheads Thy Most Exalted Pen had inscribed:

> "This is the Lord of the kingdoms of eternity and the Ruler over all things, and this indeed is He Who rideth upon the Ark of Glory."

Exalted is this bounty which Thou hast specially reserved for Thy loved ones and ordained for Thy chosen ones.

This was naught but a token of Thy grace, Thy favors, Thy generosity and Thy gifts, with none having any right to claim it, for if Thou, O my God, were to regard us with the glances of Thy justice, we would deserve all Thy wrath and punishment. I beseech Thee to regard us with the glances of Thy grace and beneficence, whereupon we become deserving of Thy mercy, Thy care, Thy generosity and Thy favor.

O Lord! We are powerless and Thou art the Almighty, the All-Powerful. We are poor and Thou art the All-Possessing, of boundless generosity. O Thou Who art the Kawthar for those who thirst in their love and yearning for Thee, and the Refuge for those who wander in the wilderness of separation and remoteness!

I beseech Thee by Thy Name through which all necks have bowed before Thy sovereignty and power, and all faces have submitted to the radiance of the lights of Thy countenance, to preserve us from the evil of Thine enemies who have denied Thy favor and opposed the Manifestation of Thy Self after He came in the shadows of the Bayan for the revelation of the meanings hidden in Thy Tablets, whereby was established what Thou hadst testified of Thyself by Thyself, and was fulfilled what Thou hadst described of Thine Essence by Thine Essence.

O Lord! Purify us from all else but Thee and sanctify us from the mention of aught except Thee, that we may become pure in Thy sight, helpers of Thy Cause, promoters of Thy signs, and utterers of Thy praise. Preserve, O my God, these weak ones beneath the shadow of Thy strength, and these poor ones within the pavilion of Thy wealth.

O Lord! The very essence of power testifieth to its weakness before the manifestations of Thy might, and the very essence of knowledge beareth witness to its ignorance before the revelations of Thy knowledge, and the very essence of loftiness confesseth to its lowliness before the appearances of Thy transcendence and exaltation. Yet despite our knowledge of this, we know not by what remembrance to remember Thee, by what description to describe Thee, or by what power to ascend unto the heaven of Thy Cause. By Thy glory! Our very weakness in its reality beseecheth Thy strength, and our poverty in its essence imploreth Thy wealth.

O Lord! We have come unto Thee detached from all else but Thee, and have hastened to the shore of Thy mercy and bounty and to the ocean of Thy grandeur and power. Deprive us not of that which lieth with Thee. We beseech Thee by Thy Most Glorious Beloved to preserve the Glory from the evil of Thine enemies. By Thy might! He hath been afflicted among them in such wise as cannot be mentioned in words. Verily Thou art the All-Merciful; there is none other God but Thee, the Mighty, the Help in Peril.

BH02199: Write to his honor Zein on my behalf: O…

Write to his honor Zein on my behalf: O Zein! The most great convulsion mentioned in the Tablets of Divine decree from the Pen of the Lord of Creation has shaken the pillars of all lands and perturbed the hearts of the servants. Glory be to God! How many souls cling to their borrowed life and grasp onto this base world. Of what use is a life not sacrificed in the path of the Friend? A body not offered in the way of the Beloved is not worth a mustard seed.

In all Tablets it has been revealed that the victory of God's Cause today has been and will be through wisdom and utterance, not through conflict and contention. Yet they committed that which was forbidden them. What was destined has come to pass. Soon will the words of the deniers and epistles of the ungodly be spread abroad. By the one true God! In the sight of those who gaze upon the Most Glorious Horizon, all that they have written has been and will be devoid of the garment of true meaning, deprived of the robe of acceptance, and bereft of the fragrances of truth. When the veils of fancy were rent asunder by the fingers of divine power, the words of the manifestations of Satan appeared more insignificant than the words of children.

Take thou the Pen of might and power, by the sovereignty of thy Lord, the All-Compelling, the Unconstrained. Then write in response to them, in complete detachment, whatsoever God has cast into thy heart. Thus does He command thee in truth, as a grace from Us upon thee, and I am the Almighty, the Glorious, the All-Compelling.

Tarry not today in the Cause of God, for the clamor has been raised from every quarter. Take thou the most pure wine in My Most Great Name, then pass it round among the people of Baha, that they may drink and become detached from all that hath been created in the realm of existence, and soar unto the station of thy Lord, the Most High, the Most Exalted. Thus hath the Most Glorious Pen inscribed in thy name in these days wherein the hearts of the chosen ones have been sorely troubled.

Say: By God! The Hour itself now wails and smites its head by reason of the severity of the Cause. The Resurrection itself hath arisen bewildered before the Face, turning now to the right, now to the left, as though waiting for that which is hidden from sight. Say: By God! The Trumpet hath not borne this most great blast, and the cords of the Balance have snapped, and the tribes of Names have lamented in the kingdom of destiny, and the seas have dried up, and the lands have been submerged, and the heavens of idle fancies have been rolled up in the grasp of the power of thy Lord, the Mighty, the All-Knowing. Then was spread the carpet of certitude with sovereignty and power.

By God the Truth! A single hair of those servants who have today shattered the greatest idol would be better in God's sight than all that hath been created on earth, and God would prefer it above all things,

for they have borne what none before them have borne, whereunto testifieth the Tongue of God, the Peerless, the Mighty, the All-Forgiving.

Say: Were all the tablets and pages and books and scriptures between earth and heaven to be filled, and were no fragrance of My remembrance to waft from them, by God! The buzzing of a fly would be better than they in thy Lord's sight. Thus hath the Pen of the Unconstrained inscribed wondrous mysteries.

BH02228: He is the One with power over whatsoever He…

He is the One with power over whatsoever He willeth. A glorious Book from the Lord of the worlds unto those who have believed in this Great Announcement. Verily it is a reminder for whoso hath been guided and a remembrance from Us to whoso hath turned unto the Lord of the mystics.

They who have been given insight from God—these do recognize the truth and are not prevented by the veils of the ungodly. They behold the lights of the Kingdom even as they behold the sun in the midst of heaven—these are indeed among those drawn nigh.

Blessed is he who hath cast away the world and mounted the Crimson Ark by the sovereignty of the Names. He is indeed of the people of Baha. Thus hath it been sent down in truth from the One Who revealeth the utterance, as witnesseth whosoever hath judged with fairness in the Cause of God and was of the witnesses.

We sent forth ʿAli who announced to you before Our presence the Kingdom, who called out to you in the wilderness of oneness, and summoned you unto God, the Mighty, the Most High, the Supreme. Were it not for him, it would not befit anyone to object to this Revelation—how much less after We have sent down the Bayan and adorned it with the ornament of My wondrous remembrance.

Say: O people! Do ye cling to names while forsaking their Creator? This is naught but a grievous error. Arise to aid the Cause of God, then call the people to this noble prospect. Say: Do the threats of the oppressors frighten you, after ye behold the power of your Lord, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy? Follow your Lord, the All-Merciful.

Verily He, in the midst of the greatest tribulation, summoneth the people unto truth, and the oppression of the unjust ones hath not hindered Him, nor the harm wrought by the ungodly. Verily your Lord, the All-Merciful, preserveth whomsoever He willeth, though he be in the mouth of the serpent. By My life! Not a leaf stirreth save by His leave. He is indeed the Mighty, the Powerful. And he whose time hath come—death shall overtake him though he be in an impregnable fortress.

Victory lieth not in disputation but in goodly counsel. Thy Lord is verily the Forgiving, the Merciful. His mercy hath preceded His wrath; therefore have We borne hardships from every base one, though within Our grasp lieth the kingdom of the heavens and earth.

Beware lest ye commit that which would cause sedition. Be united in the Cause and be not of those who differ. Through unity shall the back of those who have disbelieved in the Lord of creation be broken. This will profit you, if ye be of the certain ones. We desire for you naught save that which draweth you nigh unto God. Hearken unto the truth and follow not the steps of Satan.

O thou who remembereth Me by My remembrance and gazeth upon My countenance! Deliver unto the people that which We have commanded thee, that perchance the breezes of Paradise may stir them and turn them toward the Qiblih of the worlds. Cleanse the people with the water of inner meanings which We have deposited within the verses. By My life! It is indeed the water of life which the All-Merciful hath sent down from the heaven of grace for the life of the worlds.

The night hath passed wherein God counseled those around Him. Gather ye beneath the shade of what hath been raised up from this divine Lote-Tree. Thus do We counsel you as We counseled before. Blessed are they who attain. Beware lest ye differ in God's Cause and follow the imaginings of the doubters. He is with whosoever remembereth Me and aideth this Cause through which the fragrance of the All-Merciful hath wafted amongst the worlds.

BH02265: Ha. Sin. Nun. The Remembrance of God, upon…

He is the All-Mighty, the All-Subduing, the Self-Subsisting

Ha. Sin. Nun. The Remembrance of God, upon the right side of the Sinai of Nearness, on the Eternal Spot in the Paradise of Glory, has indeed been witnessed. Bear thou witness that no God is there but Him, He who pronounceth at all times that I am God, there is none other God but Me, verily, I am, at all times independent of the entire creation. He revealed Himself unto thee once in the Realm of Glory, then once in the contingent world and the heavenly kingdom, then yet again during these days whence the lights west of the Sacred Realm are aglow, and with their radiance have illumined the denizens of the cities of eternity, and the Concourse of high, and thereafter them who set within themselves their path towards His Countenance. Go thou straight on and persevere in that which the Pen of God, in truth, commandeth thee, and remain upon the straight path of God, steadfast in His Cause.

Say: Verily, this is the straight path of God upon earth and heaven, and His Testimony in the kingdoms of Revelation and creation. He was named "Ali" amongst the people of the Bayan, and then Muhammad amongst the people of the Qur'an, and, in ancient times, was named with each one of the most excellent names of God. Thus does the Tongue of power and might counsel you with Verses that have embraced all mankind, that thou mayest rejoice within thyself and convey unto all people the glad tidings of this Announcement, hitherto concealed from the world, and proclaim unto all men that which we have proclaimed unto thee in this Tablet, and bid them to turn with justice towards the Most Exalted Throne. Say, the Truth proclaimeth; By God! No created thing having His love can ever be harmed. Verily, He is the Spring that floweth from the well-spring of a Name that is great indeed. Whosoever drinketh therefrom shall fear no one, and heaven and earth cannot withstand him. Thus hath the sacred Pen of glory irrevocably decreed.

Be thou steadfast in the Cause of God, and in that which hath been prescribed unto thee, and fear no one. Place thy trust in Him, He verily shall protect thee from every plotting sinful one. By God! Whosoever hath the love of this Youth in his heart, God shall verily render him victorious over all who dwell upon earth and heaven, and verily God shall be the witness thereof. He shall walk upon water as he waketh upon the earth, and shall soar in the realm of the Spirit in the limitless expanse of heaven.

Thou shalt find the infidels fleeing from this Youth as mules flee from the lions of eternity, and they shall turn upon their heels, and shall violate the Covenant of God after It hath been revealed. Verily His knowledge embraceth all things.

It behooveth thee to make firm thy steps in the Cause of God. Admonish then the people with thine loudest voice in this Ridvan that is in truth exalted. May the Spirit of God, His glory and grandeur be upon thee and upon thine consort, and upon them who, whence they heard the announcer call them to God, responded, and held fast unto the chord of glorious splendor.

BH02284: May God reward you, O Mihdi, with a recompense…

He is the Mighty!

May God reward you, O Mihdi, with a recompense not bound by beginning. We testify that you did not harm this Servant during His departure from the Abode of Peace, and you followed God's decree regarding yourself, while all others harmed Him and followed their own desires.

Say: By God, those who did not heed My words are burning in the fire of their own selves, if you but knew, and We are innocent of them. And those who emigrated and traveled without Our leave, by God, they are dead in the veils of their own selves. Soon their news shall reach you, if you be patient.

The baker whom God loved in his heart has come to Us, and We heard from him that which caused the hearts of those who believed in God, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting, to tremble. Say: Have mercy on Me, O concourse of the beloved ones! Be content with the tribulations and trials that have afflicted Us. Say: By God, if similar deeds appear from you, the harm will return to Us.

Say: Do you not reflect within yourselves upon the fruits that will come from the tree of your suspicions after Me? Or do you, following the desires of your souls, do what you know not? Say: Fear God and forget not My counsels—this is better for you, if you but knew. No fruit has come from this tree that has grown in the soil of your selves except the destruction of Myself and those with Me, could you but see with the eye of the spirit.

By God, the harm of this matter is greater than the harm inflicted upon Us by Our enemies. Therefore, O people of the Bayan, have mercy upon Me! I swear by God that the harm of this repugnant matter all returns to this Servant. Say to the people of the Bayan: None has ever heard until today of one who, with the tongue of friendship, would show complete enmity. After all, after the departure of this Servant, what use remains for this matter and what benefit accrues from it? By God, all that they do is vain!

And it has come to pass that I, meaning this Servant, demonstrate with a hundred thousand oaths My powerlessness, showing that these matters and their like are ultimately harmful to the Cause of God, yet still they do not become aware. They must either be false in their love or consider this Servant false. I complain of My grief and sorrow unto God. Verily, we are God's and unto Him do we return. God is witness to the condition that merely hearing of this matter has caused the utmost harm—how much more its occurrence!

In any case, immediately upon receipt of this writing, either summon Haji Abdul-Rahim and Haji Abdul-Majid, or go to them yourselves. Beseech them to forgive Us, to show mercy to these little ones who are with this caravan, not to cause any harm to befall them. By God, this matter will cause divine assistance to be cut off. All should await news of this Servant's arrival and learn what purpose lies in this journey. Say: By God, divine assistance is better than what you desire.

BH02266: O ʿAli before Muhammad! Rejoice within thyself at how…

He is the All-Glorious, the Most Glorious

O ʿAli before Muhammad! Rejoice within thyself at how God hath at this hour magnified thy countenance and sent unto thee the holy fragrances from this Prison which was far removed.

Say: The precincts of sanctification have been purified from nearness and remoteness, and all things are equal in His sight. Distance preventeth Him not from what He willeth, nor do the veils of contingent being conceal Him, for unto whomsoever calleth upon Him, He is near. And at the moment when the glorification issued forth from the mouth of God, thy Lord, the tongues of the Concourse on High were loosed in glorification of thee, and this was a bounty which was great before the Throne.

Blessed art thou in that thou didst attain the presence of God while yet young, and when thou didst grow older the breaths of the All-Merciful took hold of thee from this Paradise which was made manifest through the Word of God at the dawn of time, visible at the right hand of the Throne. Be thou steadfast in the love of God, then enter upon the Ark of eternity which saileth upon the sea of names through My Most Glorious Name. Fear thou no one, but put thy trust in God. Verily He will sanctify thee from the doubts of those who are seized with vain imaginings and idle fancies and who stand arrested in the wilderness of heedlessness by the most great intoxication, turned away from the truth.

Say: O people! Turn not today to the right or to the left, but behold that which hath shone forth from the holy horizon with a sovereignty that encompasseth the worlds. By God! This is the Primal Point Who came to you with all the signs and hath appeared in this final revolution with the Most Great Mystery—secrets beyond reckoning. Thereupon the idolaters dispersed from around Him and cast Him into the well of darkness, and at every moment they hurled upon Him the darts of misery. None was aware of this save God, Who knoweth all things.

And from the depths of the pit He crieth out saying:

> "O people of the Bayan! Be fair, by God, and look upon that which hath been sent down from before the Throne, and be not tyrannous oppressors in the land. O people! This is not from Mine own self, but the Spirit speaketh within My breast, and My proof hath filled the horizons. Besides it, naught hath been sent down from the presence of One powerful and self-subsisting. Say: If ye be in doubt, then present yourselves before the Throne that ye may witness how the verses descend from a mighty and sublime dominion. Say: There hath been sent down the equivalent of what was sent down before, and this is testified to by those servants who have attained the presence of the Throne and who are illumined by the holy lights."

Thus have We informed thee that thou mayest stand firm with manifest steadfastness, for We have loved thee and thy father who was at that time present before the Countenance. And We beseech God that He may enable him to arise to the Cause in such wise that he may rend asunder the greatest veil through a power from Us and may arise to the Cause with a luminous face.

BH02289: The Most Great, the Most Holy. We have sent…

The Most Great, the Most Holy. We have sent down verses at eventide and at dawn, and made them guidance and remembrance for those possessed of understanding. Turn to God with humility and contrition. When the verses of your Lord are recited, prostrate yourselves upon your faces and chins before God, your Lord, the Mighty, the Bestower.

O people! This is the Day of hearing—turn with your hearts and ears toward the Dawning-Place of Revelation. He has appeared in truth—blessed are they who possess insight. The breezes of reunion have wafted, causing bodies and temples to quiver. Rend asunder the veils by the power of your Lord, the Master of all necks.

Do you slumber after the Cry has been raised in truth? This is indeed a wondrous thing. The heaven has been rolled up and the All-Merciful has come with power and sovereignty. Arise and behold—He is above your heads, O ye who have eyes to see. Follow not your desires nor every doubting misbeliever.

Take the chalice of immortality in My Most Glorious Name and pass round the cups—thus has the heaven of Command been adorned by the One Who cleaves the dawn. We have rained down from the heaven of utterance clear verses at morn and eventide. They suffice you above all that exists in secret or manifest. Seize My days—by My life, they are the choicest of all days. Thus has the matter been detailed from God, the Lord of all beings.

This is a Day wherein eyes are transfixed, souls are troubled and feet do slip, save those who have detached themselves from all in the heavens and earth and turned to the Kaaba of knowledge. O people! Hearken to God's call in this Dawn wherefrom lights have shone forth, wherein angels descend with spirit and fragrance. Those who are heedless are indeed remote—they are truly of the people of fire. Soon shall punishment come upon them and they shall find no protector.

The Most Great Ocean has surged through this Name which has shone from the horizon of all regions. The idols have fallen upon their faces, the Jibt has wailed, and the lamp has been lit. Turn to Him—He is truly God's lamp between the heavens and earth, as your Lord, the Mighty, the Chosen One, bears witness.

Does anyone have any excuse left? No, by the Revealer of verses! When the ungodly saw God's power and sovereignty, they said "This is but a lying sorcerer." Such were their words before—We have left them as a reminder for those possessed of understanding. Say: If you were asked about what you say, O people of the veils! The Book has been sent down—take it with strength from Us and follow not those who, when proof came, denied God, the Revealer of verses.

We have subdued the kingdom of verses by Our sovereignty and adorned the heaven and sent the winds. Can anything withstand Our Cause? No, by the Lord of lords! Look at those who disbelieved—they are like children who understand nothing and comprehend not speech. Cast away vain imaginings and take what you are commanded by your Lord, the Mighty, the All-Knowing. He protects whom He wishes even if they be in the fire. In His hand is all power and in His grasp is the kingdom of Command. He is truly the Mighty, the Helper.

BH02349: In the Name of God, the Most Holy…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Exalted, the Most High! This is a Book from Us to all who are on earth. Worship none but Him. Verily, He sufficeth you, and He is the Witness over all things. Follow Him Who asketh no recompense of you and Who summoneth you at all times unto your Lord, the All-Merciful. There hath befallen Him in exile that which no eye hath seen nor ear heard, yet He remaineth content with what God hath decreed for Him and is numbered among the thankful ones. Therein God addresseth one of His servants that he may rejoice in the remembrance of the All-Merciful and be of them that remember Him.

O servant! We have remembered thee on this night and have sent down unto thee clear verses that thou mayest read them and turn through them to thy Ancient Lord. If thou findest comfort for thyself, remember My distress, and if joy overtaketh thee, remember My sorrow and tribulation, and be not of the heedless ones. We have sacrificed Ourself for all who are in the heavens and on earth, that all may enter beneath the shade of thy Lord's mercy, the Mighty, the Great. We have borne hardships that God's loved ones may find rest and be of them that rejoice. Blessed art thou for having been enkindled with the fire of thy Lord's love, and for having been turned toward the right hand side, and for being numbered among the triumphant.

Verses of wondrous glory have been sent down for all the loved ones, but We have withheld them from being dispatched, for Satan lieth in wait, and this is indeed a grievous wrong. We shall send them when God willeth and desireth. Convey thou My greetings unto them and give them the glad-tidings of what hath been sent down for them from the heaven of mighty glory. The Spirit and glory be upon thee and upon God's chosen servants who have rent asunder the greatest veil and turned toward the most pure Manifestation. By God! They are of the denizens of the Supreme Paradise who dwell upon the earth, yet the idolaters are wrapt in thick veils.

Remember Me to thy father and say that thy Lord preserved thee aforetime from grievous tribulation. Thus doth the Ancient Pen inform thee. Turn wholly unto Him and be not of them whom the multiplication of worldly things hath altered and who have turned away. Think upon the one who came before Us in Iraq and whom We promised the good things of this world, yet when he attained unto them he turned away. Soon shall he find himself in manifest loss, unless he return unto God and be of the penitent. We beseech God to grant him success in returning, for He is the Most Merciful of the merciful.

Know thou that with thy Lord is the knowledge of the heavens and earth. Nothing escapeth His knowledge. He encompasseth all things. Soon shall the earth and all that is seen thereon perish, and there shall endure what hath been ordained for thee, which the fires of doubt and suspicion shall not

overtake. Once again have We preserved thee from another tribulation. Beware lest thou forget thy Lord's favor. Cast away vain imaginings and hold fast to the hem of thy Lord's mercy, the Mighty, the All-Knowing. He is with His sincere servants.

BH02361: O thou who seekest My traces! Know thou…

In the Name of God, the Most Glorious!

O thou who seekest My traces! Know thou that My traces encompass the heavens and the earth, and in every station My traces are found, if thou be of them that know. Verily, the heaven is the trace of My exaltation and the earth the trace of My tranquility, and the Hour whose calamity hath seized the servants is the trace of My power that dominateth the worlds. The clouds are the trace of My movement and the winds are sent forth by My Word, and the signs appear by My wondrous command. By God! The sun is the trace of My Face, shining and luminous, and the stupor which thou seest in the people is from the trace of My awe which hath encompassed creation. Thus hath the Truth spoken—hearken and be of the thankful ones.

Creation is the trace of My Will, and for My love for them have I unveiled My Beauty and manifested My sovereignty which hath conquered the worlds. Dost thou see any besides Me, that thou shouldst recognize My nearness unto him? Say: Glory be to God! All is nothingness before the Ancient One. The kingdom belongeth to none save God, the One, the Single, the Peerless, the Mighty. He hath neither nearness nor remoteness, and such mentions are made in the cities of names. Verily thy Lord is sanctified above what the servants know. He is indeed exalted above all creation.

All that hath been created is My trace, not My Self. Know thou this and be of the thankful ones. Beware lest thou mention creation at the manifestation of Truth. Avoid those who take partners with Him and know not that they are among the heedless ones. Are darkness and light equal? Say: Glory be to the Manifestation, that the birds of the hearts of the mystics should ascend unto Him!

Whatsoever appeareth in the kingdom of that which We have explained to thee is created from the trace of thy Lord's Pen, and that which descendeth from it is the sovereign of traces and is better than that upon which the sun shineth. Blessed art thou and blessed is he who seeketh it from God, thy Lord and the Lord of the worlds.

As to what thou hast asked thy Lord, the Great, the Most High, know thou that although We desire not to turn away any who ask, yet wouldst thou be content in thyself that this trace, upon which dependeth the life of the world, should be governed by what any of the servants hath spoken? Say: Glory be to Thee, O my God! Cause me to know what Thou desirest, for I am among the worshippers. I have forsaken what is with me in hope of what is with Thee, for Thou art the Most Merciful of the merciful ones.

And since We behold thee asking thy Lord, We shall not disappoint thee from this mighty gate. Know thou that since it is established that He encompasseth all things and knoweth them, it is established that He is nearer to things than they are to themselves. Dost thou not see how We erase and confirm and inspire in hearts? And verily He is the Truth, the Knower of the unseen. There is no God but Him, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting.

This is the sovereign utterance in this station. If thou knowest, thou wouldst say: Praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds. And this is a word which none denieth, and it is the ornament of knowledge for what thou hast asked. Be content therewith and be of the thankful ones.

BH02321: O accepted servant! It is well known and evident…

He is God, exalted is He!

O accepted servant! It is well known and evident that divine favors have been and will be complete in relation to all creation, and He created all creatures to drink from the wine of oneness. And the meaning of this wine in the view of the Concourse on High has been the presence of the Lord of Names. Therefore, all servants have been created for the meeting and knowledge of God, and have come into being through the Word "Be." This door in the days of God has been open to all else, sometimes outwardly manifest and sometimes inwardly, and never has the decree of prohibition descended from the horizon of the Cause except for the good of the servants and the exigencies of events in different lands. For His grace has preceded and His mercy has encompassed all. And whatever appears from the Source of the Cause of the Lord of Destiny, all must be content and thankful for it. For the decree of prohibition has not been and will not be for those who have accepted, rather it has been due to the turning away of the deniers and the protection of the Cause of the Lord of the Day of Judgment.

Observe that this servant has been among the claimants of love day and night, and at all times has summoned all to the horizon of the All-Merciful. Nevertheless it bore no fruit, as you have seen and heard that the new denier, despite the perfection of grace and favor manifested toward him from the Dawning-Place of the Manifestation, did not appreciate it and finally arose in a sin greater than the creation of the heavens and earth. The more perfect the manifestation of favors, the greater his turning away. He never observed the rights of God, and arose in such wickedness and enmity that nothing above it can be imagined. Fie upon him and his faithfulness! For successive years he was occupied in disbelief and mockery of the Messengers of God. Nevertheless We concealed it until he rent asunder the veil of honor with fingers of hatred. Therefore We banished him from the door. Verily thy Lord is He Who judgeth at the beginning and the end.

Your honor should not be saddened by this new prohibition. In all cases be content with the good-pleasure of God. Although patience is bitter, yet by the command of the Friend it is sweet and blessed. It is incumbent upon those who have accepted to be content with the good-pleasure of the Friend and to be found submissive and obedient at the dawning of the divine Sun of the Cause.

If the outward door is closed, the inward door is open. Verily He is with whomsoever desireth Him and He is the Protector of those who have accepted. We beseech God to remove what hath come between us and to send down from the heaven of His sovereignty that whereby the lights of His countenance may shine forth from the horizon of His mighty and wondrous Cause. Praise be to God that thou dwellest in His vicinity and art at rest in His shadow. Verily He seeth thee in all conditions. Verily He perceiveth all eyes and He is the All-Subtle, the All-Informed.

BH02339: Your noble letter has reached this servant…

In the Name of God, the Most Exalted, the Most Mighty, the Most Holy, the Most Glorious

Your noble letter has reached this servant, from which wafted the fragrance of your love for God, the Mighty, the Inaccessible. I witnessed therein that which brought joy to my eyes, happiness to my soul, delight to my spirit, attraction to my heart, illumination to my sight, and trembling to my limbs. Every member of my body was moved, and longing seized my flesh and bones and blood and every hair, as I found its letters, words and meanings all indicative of the degrees of servitude and sincerity towards God, our Lord, the Mighty, the Worshipped, and reflective of the manifestations of your steadfastness in this Cause whereby the hearts of the servants and the foundations of lands were shaken. We beseech Him, exalted be He, to give us to drink from the cup of recognition of this Revelation as befits, to make us steadfast therein as befits, then to aid us in its service as is worthy and befits. Verily He is the Helper, the Powerful, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

After your letter was visited and read, along with the petition that had been submitted to the Most Holy, Most Exalted Presence, both were presented before the Ancient Beauty. Thereupon the sea of the bounty of our Lord, the Bestower, the All-Bountiful, the Generous surged, and the heaven of utterance of our Lord, the All-Merciful, was upraised with verses whereby the realities of all in the contingent realm and the kingdoms of creation were attracted. He hath sent unto thee, as a grace, bounty and mercy from His presence, then as a light and radiance for the worlds. God willing, they shall attain unto the never-ending divine favors that shine forth like suns from the horizons of that mighty Tablet, and shall be sustained by what hath been ordained therein of divine, eternal, everlasting blessings. From this moment and the moment when thou shall attain unto it and thereafter, I say: “Well is it with thee and pleasant it is to thee,” then I say: “Praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.”

It is hoped that through the wondrous, sublime confirmations of the King of Oneness, you will arise to serve and assist and teach this momentous Cause with such spirit as was breathed by the Pen of the Ancient of Days in that Most Holy, Most Exalted Tablet through His power and mighty breath, in such wise that you will illumine all those regions with the light of recognition of the Countenance of the All-Merciful, and all shall be adorned with the crown of guidance and the robe of sanctification from all else but God. Verily He will assist thee with truth and will send down upon thee from the heaven of His Cause that which will comfort the hearts of the oppressed. He, verily, is the most powerful of the powerful ones.

Convey from this evanescent one most holy greetings, sanctified from the world of creation, to all the masters, servants and friends. The Tablets that were requested specifically for the mentioned souls have been sent, and likewise previously several Tablets were sent specifically for the mentioned names. They will ever make this servant joyous and happy with glad tidings of their well-being. The glory be upon thee and upon the loved ones of God in those parts.

The evanescent servant

BH02377: He is the Most Wondrous! O Hasan! Show excellence…

He is the Most Wondrous! O Hasan! Show excellence even as God has shown excellence unto thee, inasmuch as He hath caused thee to recognize the Manifestation of His Self and brought thee to the shore of grace, a praiseworthy seat of glory, and hath bestowed upon thee that which is better in His sight than all who are in the heavens and earth—and He Himself is witness to this. Therefore arise and show excellence unto thyself and then unto the souls of the servants. Fear no one, but place thy trust in God Who created all things by His command, for verily He hath power over all the worlds.

Verily, thy excellence unto thyself is thy steadfastness in the Cause of God and thy following this Light which hath appeared from the horizon of grace in manifest truth. Well is it with thee for having recognized God thy Lord in days wherein all were far removed from the holy precinct, and for having found solace in Him Who hath attained the presence of God, heard His melodies, beheld His countenance, and remained turned toward Him at every morn and eve. Beware lest thou separate thyself from Him. Hold fast unto Him in these days and take Him as thy friend.

Give thanks unto God thy Lord for having made the fire as light unto thee, whereby He opened before thy face in the prison a gate from the Ridvan and caused the breezes of glorious love to waft upon thee, awakened thee from thy slumber, caused thee to know His Self, and inscribed thy name among the triumphant ones in the preserved tablets of holiness. Thus doth God make imprisonment as paradise for whomsoever He willeth among His servants. There is no God but Him. His is the creation and the command, and verily He encompasseth all things.

Cast behind thee all allusions and take hold of the Tablet of God with strength from Him, and follow not those who have taken Satan as their friend. Beware lest thou forget the grace of God or turn to the world and what is ordained therein, for verily His grace unto thee hath been great. Remember thyself throughout all days lest thou become heedless of the remembrance of thy Lord and remain veiled behind the veils.

For those who claim belief have disbelieved in God and His signs after they came unto them from the Dayspring of the Cause with manifest sovereignty—save him who held fast to the cord of His grace, purified his heart from the dust of blind imitation and passion, and soared in this heaven with the wings of detachment in manifest truth. Thus have We taught thee and informed thee that thou mayest rejoice within thyself and remain steadfast in the Cause of thy Lord.

Grieve not over the world and what hath befallen thee, for it shall perish by a word, and sovereignty shall remain with God, thy Lord and the Lord of all things and the Lord of all the worlds. And the mercy that floweth from the direction of the Throne be upon thee and upon those who have remained firm in the Cause and have held fast in these days to the cord of grace in truth.

BH02407: God beareth witness that there is none other God…

He is the Mighty, the Guide!

God beareth witness that there is none other God but Him, and that the Primal Tree hath spoken upon the branch of God with truth. Verily He was exalted in name, and through Him was revealed the hidden mystery and the joining of the Kaf to the Nun, and there rose the mystery of what was and what shall be from a holy and luminous Dawning-Place.

Say: Verily He is God's testimony and His Cause, and God's treasure and His mystery unto all who are in the kingdom, and through Him was established every truth and nullified every falsehood, and the lamp was lit in an ancient and glorious lamp-niche.

Thus doth the Dove of the Cause warble in the pole of eternity and speak upon the twigs of holy newness, and remind the loved ones of God lest the world and its ornaments and its embellishments should occupy them from the Beauty Who hath shone forth from God's horizon with an impregnable cup, and giveth drink to the believers from the wine that doth kindle and shine and whose color is resplendent. From it arose heat in contingent being and appeared the fire of attraction in the lofty and glorious Tree.

Say: Compare it not with what the people possess, for it floweth from the direction of the Throne with a novel and sweet voice. And whoso drinketh not thereof shall not know it, even should he hear its description from every knowing sage. Say: By God, it is outwardly fire and inwardly light, and in its trace is spirit and mercy to the sinners from the presence of the Mighty, the Powerful. Blessed be he who hath drunk thereof and found its fragrance and tasted its flavor in a glorious and resplendent Name. Thus hath God made Me speak, Who hath made all things speak with truth, that His grace might encompass the worlds.

O My name! The days have passed and the nights have elapsed and the hours have vanished, and no trace hath come to Us from thee, as if thou hadst broken thy covenant and wert not steadfast in the promise. Yet We have not forgotten thee and will never forget thee, God willing, and We remember thee with an exalted remembrance, that thou mayest know We were established upon the cushions of faithfulness with mighty power.

Know then that We traversed the path of land and sea until We entered into a prison which lay behind mighty mountains, and in this We thank God our Lord and praise Him for having made Us a mirror for His decrees in every morn and eve. And thou, forget not My days and My presence, then remind the servants not to spread corruption in the earth nor be far from the beauty of nearness. Say: O people, remember Me that I may remember you in the spot that was upon the elevated musk-mountain.

And the Spirit and the Glory and the Great be upon thee and upon all in thy household, young and old.

BH02405: In the Name of God, the Most Ancient…

In the Name of God, the Most Ancient, the One, the Single, the Unique, the All-Glorious, the Most Glorious!

Glorified be He Who sendeth down whatsoever He willeth through His command, manifesting it at one time in the form of spirit, then in the frame of a body, then as a physical form, and Who hath ordained for each of these a station that none knoweth save him whom God hath taught from the wonders of His

knowledge. With Him is the knowledge of the heavens and earth, and the knowledge of all things in this Speaking and Perspicuous Book.

He hath purified the spirit with waters of its own kind and relation, then dissolved both body and frame with another water that they might become compatible with the spirit. Then He blended them and united them through His power and sovereignty. In this are signs for those who know and clear proofs for those who draw nigh.

He made the spirit manifest from the very essence of the frame, then returned it thereto that they might blend and become as one thing, that He might demonstrate the sovereignty of His oneness throughout all worlds. He deposited these three in a single thing, then made them manifest therefrom, separated and distinguished them, then made them a single pillar. Thus doth His craftsmanship encompass all who are in the heavens and on earth. Ponder then, O ye who know!

And thou, O servant, hearken unto the call of this Spirit, moving and singing in this Temple of Divine Unity and Eternity, that there is no God but Him, and that this is He Whom God hath sanctified beyond all mention or allusion. This indeed is a mighty power.

O servant, rejoice within thyself at what We have remembered thee with on this night, as a mercy from Us unto thee, that thou mayest be of the thankful. Give thanks unto thy Lord and grieve not for the world and what is created thereon, for We have consigned it to its people and purified Our loved ones from turning toward it, that they may be purely devoted to Our exalted and mighty countenance.

Remember thy Lord and convey His Cause with wisdom and utterance, and be of those who remember. We desired to explain in detail for thee what We have set forth through veils and coverings, but finding no opportunity, We have deposited it in the treasuries of My Will until its time shall come. He indeed is the Detailer of every matter in preserved tablets of might.

Follow the religion of God in My love and the way of God in My Cause, and be not of the heedless. Say: O people of the Bayan, hesitate not in this Cause which is more manifest than any manifestation and more wondrous than any wonder. Be not of those who turn away.

Thus have We commanded thee and inspired thee that thou mayest rejoice within thyself and be of those firmly established in the Cause wherefrom have slipped the feet of those who claimed faith within themselves yet were among the liars.

And the Spirit be upon thee that through it thou mayest be made alive with the life of thy Lord, the Ancient of Days.

BH02378: He is the Mighty! O Ali! Hearken unto…

He is the Mighty! O Ali! Hearken unto that which is revealed unto thee from this Fire which shineth forth from this Tree that speaketh the truth that there is none other God but Him, and that Ali-before-Nabil is His eye and His sight and His soul and His tongue amongst His servants, if ye be of them that know.

Through him appeared the Word of Primalness and the Divine Point and the Hidden Beauty and the Standing Alif and the Descended Ha and the Extended Ba, if ye be of them that understand. Through him appeared existence and rose the Beauty of the Worshipped One, and the pure Oneness was bounded by the ornament of a known name, that people might be enabled to draw nigh unto Him—and this verily is a manifest bounty, for were He to appear as He truly is, none would be able to draw nigh unto Him or behold Him or learn from Him the knowledge of what was and what shall be. Thus know thou the mysteries of wisdom through that which We have imparted unto thee, then ponder upon them that God may thereby open unto thy heart the gates of hidden knowledge.

O Ali! Give thanks unto God thy Creator that thou didst attain the presence of the Servant in his final days, and thereby wert among those who were guided by the guidance of His countenance. Blessed be thine eye for what it beheld, and thine ear for what it heard, and thy body for having attained a praiseworthy station of nearness. Happy art thou, O servant, for having emigrated from thy home and journeyed unto God, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting, until thou didst arrive at the city which was named the Abode of Peace aforetime, for it submitted in this holy and renowned Manifestation. Thus doth God blot out what He willeth and confirm what He willeth, and with Him is the Mother Book preserved.

And hadst thou delayed in this, thou wouldst not have attained this triumph which the denizens of Paradise long for, if ye be of them that are certain. It would have passed thee by as it hath passed most people who are now in evident grief and lamentation. Therefore know within thyself that it behooveth no one to delay in pursuing good works when able, and this verily is a truth inscribed in this unfurled scroll.

Say: By God! This is verily the frequented House which hath been raised up in truth from God, the Mighty, the Thankworthy. Around it circle the people of the Supreme Concourse and they who have hearkened unto God's call on this Mount, for it is the source of Revelation and the manifestation of joy from God, the Mighty Sovereign, the Merciful, the Generous, the All-Forgiving.

Thus have We mentioned thee in this Tablet that thine eye might be solaced and thou mightest be certain that We have not forgotten those who have believed in God and His signs, then in His proof and His evidence, then in His glory and His sovereignty, then in His beauty and His majesty, and who were among those who aimed at the goals of glory. And the Spirit be upon [thee] and upon those who have followed God's decree in every matter and ordinance.

BH02413: By My life, O Fath before A'zam! There lieth…

He is the Most Holy, the Most Glorious

By My life, O Fath before A'zam! There lieth concealed within thee a melody which, were We to reveal it in its fullness, would attract the entire world. Yet We have revealed it in measure, with wisdom. Thus hath the Source of Divinity willed, though the people remain heedless and veiled. Were We to reveal it in its fullness, it would attract all. But after being drawn by the detailed word which is engaged in mending and rending among creation, from one direction would rise the cry of lovers in complete attraction and

yearning, while from another the clamor of the people of hatred would be raised in utter rejection and rebellion. In such case the veils of wisdom would be rent asunder. Therefore We revealed it in measure.

Say: Praise be unto Thee, O my Life and Life of the worlds! He teacheth whom He willeth what He willeth, and causeth the tongue of whomsoever He willeth to speak as He desireth. Verily He is the Ruler over what He willeth. Blessed art thou for having been enkindled by the fire of love and having spoken in remembrance of thy Lord's name by the leave of God, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. Knowledge and utterance have been and shall ever be in the grasp of God's power. This station hath no connection with the imaginings of people.

Consider the days of the Messenger: after the appearance of that Most Great Luminary, all the divines and men of learning turned away, while Abu Dharr, who was but a shepherd, turned toward the law of nearness and attainment, and was immersed in the ocean of knowledge and utterance. And now all the divines glory in his name and bow before his mention. O how blessed is the soul that pondereth the traces of God and that which floweth from the Pen of His name, the All-Powerful. Even now, were the divines of the earth to gain the slightest awareness, all would turn to thee in complete sincerity, though thou art not known for outward knowledge. By My life, they shall turn to thee, but today they understand not.

Convey to the friends of God, one and all, greetings from God. Say: Blessed are ye for having turned to the Kaaba of the Desired One, and for having your names inscribed in the Tablet of God, the Almighty, the Mighty, the Inaccessible. God willing, all must manifest themselves with utmost eagerness, yearning, attraction and enkindlement in the love of the Lord of the Day of Reckoning, in such wise that the waters of the utterances of those who fancy themselves learned shall not extinguish their fire. For many have imagined and will imagine, and the croaking of the raven shall be raised from most lands, even as mentioned in Tablets revealed during the migration from Iraq. Blessed is he who casteth creation behind him, turning to the Lord of all creation. God willing, mighty tablets shall be sent hereafter. Verily He is the best of rememberers, and praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH02390: These are the verses of the Book sent down…

He is the Mighty, the Most Holy, the Most Inaccessible, the Most High

These are the verses of the Book sent down from the cloud of mighty mercy, whereby the hearts of all created things are quickened, that they may turn unto God their Creator and detach themselves from all else. Thus have We sent down the Command in this Tablet as a remembrance from Us to all the worlds.

Verily, they who have denied the signs of God in these days have indeed denied the Manifestations of God's Self in every age and dispensation, and their names shall not be mentioned before their Lord, nor shall any holy and mighty glance be turned toward them.

And thou, O leader of the people, hearken unto the call of God from this crimson Tree upon this blessed, most holy, eternal and radiant Spot. God, there is no God but Him. He hath created all things for the knowledge of His Self and brought forth all existence to follow His Command—thus hath it been aforetime and will ever be, if thou be of them that know.

Among the people are those who have drunk the cup of recognition and those who have turned away from God even after verses were sent down unto them morning and evening. Know thou that We have been tried among Our servants who believed not in God from all eternity, in whose breasts the fire of hatred was kindled, who returned upon their heels in rejection with manifest tyranny. Sorrows have encompassed Us to such degree that My tongue is powerless to make mention of My Beloved. Thus hath it befallen the Youth in these days, if thou be of them that are informed.

Were the servants to possess attentive ears, what hath been sent down unto them from the mighty and holy dominion would suffice them. But without this they will not turn to the words of God nor hear His sweet melodies, even were verses of manifest glory to descend upon them at every moment like unto rain.

Say: O people, fear God and war not against His Self, nor dispute His signs after they have been sent down in truth and have encompassed all in the worlds together. Hearken unto the call of God, then detach yourselves from all else—this is better for you than the treasures of the heavens and earth, if ye be of them that know and see.

And thou, be steadfast in the Cause of God thy Lord. Beware lest the promptings of Satan cause thee to slip, for he hath risen against the face of the All-Merciful with a rejection that was grievous in the Mother Book. Be firm in the Cause, then remind thyself throughout all days, and if thou art able, convey the Cause of thy Lord to those whom thou findest today in heedlessness and distant schism. Thus doth the Tongue of Grandeur make mention of thee, that thou mayest follow what thou art commanded and be steadfast in thy Lord's Cause.

And the Glory be upon thee and upon those around thee who have believed and remain firm in the Cause.

BH02391: In the Name of God, the Most Holy…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Glorious! These are the verses of God, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting, which have been sent down in truth, yet most people do not believe. God Who created the heavens by His command and the earth by His sovereignty, and sent forth the winds and made manifest the signs that perchance the people might reflect in His days.

Those who denied their Lord aforetime—We seized them for their sins and made them a lesson for those who perceive. Soon shall We seize those who followed their tyranny. Verily thy Lord is the One with power over whatsoever He willeth, yet the people perceive not. We have detailed all things in the Book as a mercy from Us to people who know. We delivered those who believed and left the idolaters in the abyss of divine wrath. In this are signs for people who understand.

Say: Do ye hasten on the punishment when signs have already come before you and We seized thereby those who denied God, the Mighty, the Loving? Reflect on those who came before you—they were seized for their deeds and they understood not. We seized no people until after God's proof and evidence were perfected against them. Thy Lord is indeed gracious to mankind, yet mankind perceive not. Those who

fabricate lies against God shall never prosper. We shall seize them from every direction, then cast them into the fire for their unbelief.

Say: O people! Do ye shun Him Who draws you nigh unto God and forbids you from following false gods? Break the idols by My sovereignty and turn to the Dawning-Place of My signs—this is better for you, did ye but know. He who calls you to himself instead of God has indeed denied God, the Mighty, the Beloved. We called him from the direction of grandeur: Hasten thou unto Us and be not of those whom passion hath seized and kept back from God, the Creator of names. But he turned away as did those of old. Blessed is he who fulfills God's covenant and His pledge, and takes for himself a path to the praiseworthy station.

Say: Beware lest ye worship images like unto yourselves. Worship ye the one God—We are His worshippers. Remember God's grace when ye were in the wilderness of error—He brought you forth by the truth and made you of the guided ones. We sent down the Bayan and made it glad tidings for mankind lest they stray from the path. But when the promise came to pass and the Promised One appeared, they turned away save those on whose faces thou seest the radiance of divine bounty. When it is said to them "By what proof did ye believe in God?" they say "The Bayan." Yet when its Revealer came to them they denied the All-Merciful. Lo! they are among the lost.

Say: The Bayan was revealed for My sake and was adorned with My remembrance. Were it not for Me, not a single letter thereof would have been revealed, as attesteth he who hath opened his eyes by God's light, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy. Arise to mention thy Lord amongst the servants, then draw them by the signs of God, the Mighty, the All-Knowing. Turn away from what they say and hold fast to this wise Remembrance. He is with those who keep the Covenant and He will help them through the truth. He hath power over all things.

BH02404: The wayfarers upon the path of the Worshipped One…

He is God, exalted be His glory, the Mighty

The wayfarers upon the path of the Worshipped One and those who have attained the way of the Intended One are sanctified above limitations and pure from conventional forms. They dwell upon the cushions of unity and repose in the nest of oneness. They have traversed the Lote Tree of the utmost realm of love at the beginning of their journey and have perceived the ultimate goal of divine knowledge from the Tree of Paradise. They have found the sweet fruits of immortality from the dawning-place of the soul and have chosen solitude with the Beloved in the throne of the placeless realm. How excellent is what was said:

> "Indeed I have been alone with the Beloved, and between us Was a secret more subtle than the breeze when it stirs"

The spirits of these companions are united and their breaths intermingled, even as Rumi, the mystic, says:

> "The souls of wolves and dogs are separate indeed But united are the souls of the lions of God"

For they drink from one cup and are sustained from one chalice, they sit upon one carpet and dwell in one station. They soar with the wing of the might of unity and circle in the heaven of the holiness of detachment. In expressing the degrees of love they need no messenger or missive, and in revealing their purposes they seek no aid from pen or ink. They inhale the fragrances of holiness from the north wind of the spirit and breathe in the sweet scents of intimacy from the pure breaths of the heart. They have grasped the firm cord of "God is the light of the heavens and the earth" and have held fast to the hem of the exception "My earth and My heaven contain Me not." Their remoteness is the essence of nearness and their separation the very spirit of union.

However, since the manifestation of meaning depends upon the world of words, and the emergence of spirits is conditioned and bound to the appearance of bodies—for every inner reality requires an outward form and every beginning demands an end—so that the form of the clot of blood, after ascending the heights of annihilation, might be honored with the robe of everlasting life—"Blessed be God, the best of creators"—and the essence of beginning, after returning from the realm of the divine identity, might appear in the garment of finality—"but he is the Apostle of God and the Seal of the Prophets"—so that the all-embracing word "He is the First and the Last, and the Manifest and the Hidden" might appear in the arena of existence.

Thus have we revealed these inner loves that were concealed in the heart for ages and centuries through these evident words and conventional forms, so that the neighbor might know that thou art in Our house. God willing, through divine grace we shall circle round the sanctuary of Beauty and visit the Ka'bah of the divine Essence, that we might attain the honor of the divine presence in the throne of immortality. And peace be upon you.

BH02428: Then doth the Pen of eternity weep at what…

In the Name of Him Who is alone in His dominion in this remote prison.

Then doth the Pen of eternity weep at what the Tongue of Glory hath spoken concerning what hath befallen Him at the hands of these wretched ones who have denied God's bounty after it was sent down from the clouds of holiness in its mightiest, greatest, most gentle and most delicate form, and who were deprived of this grace. I know not which of My tribulations to mention in this Tablet. By God!

Then doth the Spirit of God speak in the heaven of eternity and lament, saying:

> "O Most Exalted Pen! Have mercy upon the denizens of the Supreme Paradise and mention not what hath befallen Thy Most Glorious Beauty, for through Thy previous mention were consumed the hearts of the people of the Realm of Eternity and of them who dwell nigh the Divine Lote-Tree above the cities of names. And if Thou desirest to make mention, I shall command the angels of the Command to preserve the heavens lest they fall upon the earth, and to preserve the earth lest it sink into the waters."

And Thou, O Pen, fulfill what Thou hast been asked, then conceal the mysteries of destiny. Then make mention of Thy Lord, the Most High, the Most Exalted, in this latter Revelation, for through His

remembrance all who are in the heavens and on earth will be enriched. This is the truth concerning which there is no doubt, and none deny it save every heedless idolator.

Then make mention of Thy servant who hath remembered Thee in his letter and called out to Thee in his inmost heart with a glorious and mighty call. And thou, O servant, know that thy letter came before Us and God's gaze turned toward it out of love for thee, and He was ever watchful over thee.

Blessed art thou for having opened the doors of thy heart in thy recognition of God and for having turned thee to a seat of mighty glory and raised thee to a station where thou didst hear the melody of grandeur from the mouth of Glory and where He gave thee to drink of the sweetest nectar from holy and impregnable chalices. Blessed be thine eye for having beheld the Ancient Beauty and for having turned away from every sightless eye.

Be thou steadfast in the Cause of thy Lord, then aid it to the extent of thy power. He will preserve thee by His command, and He hath power over whatsoever He willeth. Sanctify thyself from whatsoever thy good-pleasure abhorreth, then walk in My footsteps. This is better for thee than all who are in the kingdom together.

Hearken unto what the Ancient Beauty counseleth thee, then be steadfast in the Cause and remind the servants with wisdom and utterance, and tarry not less than a moment. Thus have We imparted unto thee the word of truth. Follow what thou hast been commanded and be in the kingdom a trustworthy upholder of the truth.

And the Glory rest upon thee and upon those who have heard God's call from this Most Glorious Station which hath been, in the eternity of eternities, exalted in the name of God in truth.

BH02459: Glorified be He Who has revealed Himself at high…

He is the Most Holy, the Most Glorious!

Glorified be He Who has revealed Himself at high noon, yet the people recognize Him not. Before He made Himself known, they believed in Him, circled round Him, and prostrated themselves before Him. But when the veil was rent asunder and He shone forth at midday with the lights of God, the Most High, the Most Exalted, they scattered from around Him like locusts dispersed.

Say: O people! He has come with that wherewith came ʿAli, then Muhammad, then the Spirit, then He Who conversed with God, and the Friend of God. Fear ye God and deny not Him by Whose will the Prophets were raised up and through Whom the Kaf was joined with its Nun.

Say: O people, be fair in the name of God! Did We not reveal in all the Tablets that He Who comes with the truth cannot be known by aught else save Himself? Know Him through His own Self and through what appears to you from the proof of God, the Help in Peril, the Mighty, the Self-Subsisting. Did We not proclaim in all the Tablets that all else is known through Him while He is known through His own Self? Yet you have forgotten God's covenant and His testament and become of those who understand not.

You ask the shadow about the sun and its radiance, though the shadow itself has no light—how then could that through which all created things are illumined be known through it? What ails these people that they comprehend not? Say: O people! Can the depths of the ocean be known through a drop remaining in a pond? Nay, by the Self of God, the Powerful, the Help in Peril, the Mighty, the Best-Beloved!

Say: O people! We have journeyed from the Kingdom of Names to the Kingdom of Eternity and witnessed your hearts veiled by allusions and your souls in turmoil and agitation regarding this Cause which has shone forth from the horizon of the worlds with manifest sovereignty. Fear God, O people! Know God through God, then detach yourselves from those who wage war against My Self, though I came to them with all the signs and a destined message.

And thou, O servant who gazest upon the Countenance, let not God's glances upon thy heart cease, nor the breezes of grace upon thy soul, and abide under a praiseworthy protection. Purify thyself and then the souls of men with the waters of inner meanings and utterance, then turn to the face of thy Lord, the Most Merciful, then detach thyself from the manifestations of Satan who bid people to deny God—thus do they command. And forget not God's favor upon thee.

Arise to serve the Cause, then teach the people with wisdom beloved. Thus have We commanded thee in this Tablet as a mercy from Us upon thee. Follow what thou hast been commanded by the Help in Peril, the Self-Subsisting. And the glory be upon thee and upon all who are fair-minded and transgress not the decree of justice in God's Cause and are among the God-fearing.

BH02440: O Qasim! Take thou thy portion of this bounty…

He is the Most Exalted, the Most Great.

O Qasim! Take thou thy portion of this bounty, then be thou content therewith apart from all the worlds. Verily it shall suffice thee above all things and make thee independent of all that are in the heavens and on earth.

Be thou a distributor of that which descendeth from the direction of the Throne upon Our assured servants, and a breaker of the might of them that have disbelieved and turned away and were among the proud ones. That which descendeth from the direction of the Throne is what We have now revealed in this Tablet and sent unto thee, that thou mayest recite it unto thyself and unto the souls of the servants, that perchance the people may become of them that remember.

Know thou moreover that in every letter of the verses are ordained treasuries of bounty, and for every soul there is a portion thereof. Blessed is he who taketh what is ordained for him and rendereth not himself among the deprived ones. Apart from this, none can draw nigh unto the Throne—how then could any be a distributor of that which appeareth from it and descendeth from its direction? Glorified be God, thy Lord, above the understanding of all created things!

Arise to make mention of God and to spread His Cause, and follow not the ways of the corrupt ones. Beware lest thou draw nigh unto them whose hearts thou findest veiled from the mention of the name of

thy Lord, and associate not with them in any place, and be of them who have detached themselves from such as have disbelieved in the signs of God, the Inaccessible, the Mighty, the Wondrous.

Then remember thou the time when thou didst enter the Paradise of the All-Highest, the seat of the throne of thy Lord, the Most High, the Most Great, and didst abide beneath the shadow of His mercy for numbered days, and wert among those upon whom shone the Sun of Beauty from the horizon of the Countenance, and who were among the triumphant ones—they who attained His presence and circled round His house at every morn and eventide. Therefore remind the people of what thou hast seen and known, that they may remember within themselves and be of the assured ones.

Stand thou firm in the Cause at the time when every soul shall raise its cry and the pillars of the idolaters shall quake. Thus have We commanded thee in this Tablet that thou mayest be steadfast in the Cause of thy Ancient Lord, for the people of the Bayan, most of them have disbelieved in Him in Whom they had believed and have returned to the lowest of the low, save him whose hand was taken by the hand of grace and who was delivered from the wrongdoing people—they who wronged their own souls and the souls of the servants, and were not conscious thereof and were among the heedless ones.

And the glory be upon thee and upon them who have not bartered the love of God and His Cause for aught of all that hath been created between the heavens and the earth.

BH02462: Praised be Thou, O my God! Thou beholdest both…

Praised be Thou, O my God! Thou beholdest both the helplessness of Thy dear ones and the ascendancy of Thy foes, both the wretchedness of Thy chosen ones and the glory of them who gainsaid Thy Cause and repudiated Thy signs. The latter deny Thy tokens, and fail to repay Thee for the temporal benefits Thou didst bestow upon them, while the former yield Thee thanks for what hath befallen them in their eagerness to partake of the everlasting gifts Thou dost possess.

How sweet is the thought of Thee in times of adversity and trial, and how delightful to glorify Thee when compassed about with the fierce winds of Thy decree! Thou knowest full well, O my God, that I endure patiently whatsoever toucheth me in Thy path. Nay, I perceive that all the members and limbs of my body long for tribulation, that I may manifest Thy Cause, O Thou Who art the Lord of all names! The waters of Thy love have preserved me in the kingdom of Thy creation, and the fire of my remembrance of Thee hath set me ablaze before all that are in heaven and on earth. Great is my blessedness, and great the blessedness of this fire whose flame crieth out:

> “No God is there save Thee, Who art the Object of my heart’s adoration, and the Source and Center of my soul!”

Thy glory beareth me witness! Were all that are in the heavens and all that are on earth to unite and seek to hinder me from remembering Thee and from celebrating Thy praise, they would assuredly have no power over me, and would fail in their purpose. And were the infidels to slay me, my blood would, at Thy command, lift up its voice and proclaim: “There is no God but Thee, O Thou Who art all my heart’s Desire!” And were my flesh to be boiled in the cauldron of hate, the smell which it would send forth would rise towards Thee and cry out: “Where art Thou, O Lord of the worlds, Thou One Desire of them

that have known Thee!" And were I to be cast into fire, my ashes would—I swear by Thy glory—declare: "The Youth hath, verily, attained that for which he had besought his Lord, the All-Glorious, the Omniscient."

How, then, can such a man be fearful of the combination of the kings to injure him in Thy Cause? No, no, I swear by Thyself, O Thou Who art the King of kings! Such is my love for Thee that I can fear no one, though the powers of all the worlds be arrayed against me. Alone and unaided I have, by the power of Thy might, arisen to proclaim Thy Cause, unafraid of the host of my oppressors.

To all that dwell on earth I cry aloud and say:

> "Fear ye God, O ye servants of God, and suffer not yourselves to be kept back from this pure Wine that hath flowed from the right hand of the throne of the mercy of your Lord, the Most Merciful. I swear by God! Better for you is what He possesseth than the things ye yourselves possess and the things ye have sought and are now seeking in this vain and empty life. Forsake the world, and set your faces towards the all-glorious Horizon. Whoso hath partaken of the wine of His remembrance will forget every other remembrance, and whoso hath recognized Him will rid himself of all attachment to this life and to all that pertaineth unto it."

I implore Thee, O my God and my Master, by Thy word through which they who have believed in Thy unity have soared up into the atmosphere of Thy knowledge, and they who are devoted to Thee have ascended into the heaven of Thy oneness, to inspire Thy loved ones with that which will assure their hearts in Thy Cause. Endue them with such steadfastness that nothing whatsoever will hinder them from turning towards Thee.

Thou art, verily, the Bountiful, the Munificent, the Forgiving, the Compassionate.

BH02468: He is God! Glorified art Thou, O my God!...

He is God! Glorified art Thou, O my God! At that moment, by the sovereignty of Thy might, I ascended to the heaven of Thy exalted glory and traversed the realms of holiness and the stations of intimacy until I reached the repository of glory, attainment and reunion, and the treasury of light, majesty and communion. I journeyed from Thee unto Thee, and by Thee I migrated toward Thee, until I arrived at the unseen Essence and the pure Face of the Self-Subsisting, and I recognized all stations in all that Thou hadst created in the dominion of Thy power and the kingdom of Thy might, and all that Thou hadst caused to flow in the heaven of Thy sovereign glory and the human realm of Thy all-encompassing holiness.

And I knew all things in their places and all that would occur thereafter in their stations, without any notion of "after" appearing or any concept of "before" flowing, until I encompassed within myself all who are in the heavens and on earth, such that I numbered all that grew upon the ground of the Divine Essence in the hairs of my head, and all mountains in the mighty parts of my body, and all suns from the daysprings of my being, and all souls in the degrees of my identity, and all pearls in the teeth of my mouth, and all letters in the lines of my skin and fingertips, and all knowledge in the point of my heart, and all spirits in the dawning-place of my spirit.

And at that moment, with all of this and all that Thou hadst given me through Thy generosity and honored me with through Thy beneficence, I took this holy spirit and this divine light and this lordly essence in the palm of my hands, desiring to sacrifice it at Thy feet. This is the ultimate purpose of my existence in Thy dominion and the final goal of my seeking in Thy lands. By Thy glory! I seek from Thee in this no recompense, neither the perpetuation of my name in Thy earth nor the exaltation of my cause in Thy realm, for my name is non-existent before Thy name and my being is lost before Thy Being. Indeed, if Thou desirest the perpetuation of Thy Being and the preservation of Thy Self and the continuation of Thy Name, then verily Thou art sovereign in Thy will and supreme in Thy purpose. Thou doest whatsoever Thou lovest for Thyself and causest to flow whatsoever pleaseth Thee for Thy Being. Thou art beloved in whatsoever Thou willest, and verily Thou art the Mighty, the Praiseworthy.

Therefore I beseech Thee now, O my God, to embark this servant with me upon this eternal ark and this holy ship. For it is a ship that, were it to sail upon the water, would be sailing through the air, and were it to walk upon the earth, would be walking through fire in the sphere of fire, as though it moved by fire and flowed upon fire and rushed through fire, and by it the fire is kindled in the hearts of the sincere ones. Blessed, then, is he who is warmed by this fire for the sake of God, the Powerful, the Supreme, the Compeller—from the B before the H.

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BH11729: The lamentation of God hath verily been raised…

He is the Most Exalted, the Most Impregnable, the Most Holy, the Most Glorious!

The lamentation of God hath verily been raised in truth from the Manifestation of His Self, Who hath fallen prey to the talons of hatred, with none to help Him except God Who created Him, raised Him up in truth, and sent Him unto all the worlds. By God! There hath befallen Him that which hath caused the hearts of them that are nigh unto God to be consumed in the most exalted chambers, and the hearts of the sanctified ones in the crimson pavilions, and the hearts of the believers in the cities of names, and none hath comprehended this save Mine all-knowing and all-wise Self.

O Mihdi! Hearken unto the call of thy Lord with the ear of thine inmost nature, then turn thy face toward the precincts of the House, this Sanctuary which God hath built with the hands of His power and made it an ornament of His Self between the heavens and the earth. Say: O people! Destroy not the sanctuary of God with hands of rancor and hatred. If ye turn not unto it, oppose it not, for whoso opposeth it shall soon be seized by the chastisement of a barren day.

O people! Dispute not concerning the Cause of God, nor reject what He hath brought in truth, nor deny the grace of Him Who hath encompassed all created things, if ye be of them that know. Remember God in the watches of the night and at the ends of the day, for His remembrance cannot be realized except through this most sublime and mighty Remembrance. Whoso turneth away from this Remembrance hath indeed turned away from all remembrance throughout all ages. Thus hath the matter been ordained in preserved tablets of holiness.

O Mihdi! Be thou guided by the guidance of God, thy Lord, and turn not unto anyone. Place thy trust in Him in all matters, for He is the best of helpers and protectors. Then rejoice within thyself that thy father hath attained unto the presence of God and his spirit hath ascended to a station whereof the knowledge of the knowers is cut off. The maidens of Paradise shall now serve him and the denizens of the Supreme Concourse shall find solace in his company. Walk thou in the footsteps of thy father and be steadfast in the path of God in such wise that thy feet shall not slip through the insinuations of the opposers.

Say: O my Lord! All praise be unto Thee for having made me recognize the Manifestation of Thy Self and cast into my heart the lights of love and sent unto me a Book of glory most bountiful. Praise be unto Thee, O my God, for this great bounty and mighty gift. I beseech Thee, O my God, not to leave me to myself, then preserve me from the evil of Satan and his hosts, and send down upon me that which will sever me from all else save Thee and render me independent of all except Thee. Verily, Thou art powerful to do what Thou willest, and Thou hast power over all things.

Thus have We remembered thee and commanded thee, that thou mayest recite the verses of thy Lord and be of them that remember. And may the light that hath shone forth from the horizon of eternity be upon thee, that thou mayest be of the people of Baha and be of the assured ones.

BH02436: Be patient in the calamities which have befallen you…

He is the Most Exalted in the garments of the All-Glorious

Be patient in the calamities which have befallen you, then give thanks unto God, your Creator, that God may give thanks unto you in His glorious Kingdom. Verily He is the Mighty, the Self-Subsisting.

It hath ever been known that from time immemorial and unto all eternity, the chosen ones of God have been the recipients of trials and tribulations. This is that trust which none was capable of bearing save those whom thy Lord hath willed—they are the loved ones and chosen ones of God who have become the manifestations of His decrees and the dawning-places of His trials. Therefore one must console the heart through patience and trust. Moreover, beyond these afflictions there is the matter of separation which hath entirely blocked the path of attainment and meeting, such that hope hath been transformed into despair, as though this separation and parting shall not be followed by the glad-tidings of the sweet breezes of reunion and nearness. This is among the greatest afflictions of the spirit. In any case, we hope that, God willing, all these sorrows shall be transformed into joy and delight. Verily He is the Guardian of the doers of good.

These are afflictions in which we all share. However, such trials have befallen this servant that none hath the power to bear them—neither the heavens nor the earth, neither the Manifestations of the Divine Unity nor the Dawning-Places of Divine Singleness. O My handmaiden! Give thanks unto God that He hath concealed this from thee, for wert thou to become aware of it, thou wouldst surely lose all patience and composure. Yet despite all this, We remain patient and thankful, and are among the grateful ones.

Furthermore, what can Maryam do about the separation from that nightingale which hath taken flight from the rose-garden? Though in truth the effects of grief are apparent in all things and evident throughout all existence, yet patience hath been and will ever be most beloved, for that nightingale hath

winged its flight to the holy precincts of Paradise. This earthly realm is as thou seest—naught exists therein save sorrow, grief and material troubles. Therefore pure hearts tarry not but return to their own station. God willing, He will graciously bestow an even sweeter and more glorious successor.

At this moment grief hath so encompassed Me that I am unable to write more. Unto God do I commit My affairs and your affairs, and verily He is the Guardian of those who trust in Him. I remember all the members of the household—the elder sister and the sister—I mention them all with wondrous and glorious remembrance. Multiple letters in the envelope are not possible. Finally, I offer boundless mention to the honored and revered mother.

BH02457: The mention of thy Lord's mercy unto His servant…

He is the Most Holy, the Most Inaccessible, the Most Glorious

The mention of thy Lord's mercy unto His servant Kazim, who believed in God and was recorded among the successful ones in the Mother of Tablets, and who was brought forth from the loins of one who ascended unto the heights of holiness and recognized his Lord, then strove in His path with all his might and failed not in the Cause of his Lord until he was martyred in His path and was inscribed among the martyrs in the Mother of the Book. At the moment his spirit ascended, the angels of Paradise received him with radiant banners until he entered the Garden of Meeting, the station wherein the Ancient Beauty shineth with mighty splendors. Blessed is he in that he attained unto the recognition of his Lord and achieved His presence in this earthly life, and in the life to come there hath been ordained for him before the Divine Countenance a station that is truly glorious. The Tongue of Grandeur, through the manifestation of His radiant and most glorious Self, pronounceth his name with pride, and with Him the denizens of the Supreme Paradise and then the hidden hosts of the unseen join in this pronouncement.

And thou, O Kazim, follow in thy father's footsteps and walk not save in his path, for by My life, this is better for thee than all that is on earth. Hold fast to the cord of his love—by God, through his love do the sincere ones enter into the precincts of their Lord's mercy, and this is of the bounty which God hath specially ordained for him and, apart from him, for whomsoever He willeth through His command, and verily He hath power over all things.

Give thanks unto God for having related thee unto him, for thy relationship to him sufficeth thee above all relationships save unto thy Lord Himself, for through the love of God and the Manifestation of His Self are all relationships strengthened, and without this all relationships are severed—and God is witness unto this. Purify thyself from whatsoever is unworthy of thee, then seek bounty from thy Lord every morn and eve. Grieve not for what hath befallen thee, for God shall soon set right thine affairs and make thee well-pleased. Be thou steadfast in the Cause of thy Lord in such wise that thy feet shall not slip at a time when the feet of every person of insight slip.

Thus have We inspired thee and ordained for thee in the Book a station that is truly praiseworthy. Moreover, convey Our remembrance unto all who survive thy father, whether female or male, and unto those who have believed in God and stood firm in the Cause, and are today numbered among those who have shattered the idols of fancy and held fast unto a support that is mighty indeed.

BH02490: This is a leaf which hath sprouted…

He is the Everlasting through the perpetuity of His Own Self, the Self-Subsisting.

This is a leaf which hath sprouted from the Divine Lote-Tree and which We have sent unto him whom afflictions have befallen in the path of his Lord, that he may inhale from it the fragrance of holiness and draw nigh unto God, unto Whom is his return and final abode.

O servant! Grieve not over what hath befallen thee in this world. By God! There have descended upon this Wronged One tribulations which no pen can reckon, and I have been struck by the arrows of destiny at a time whose beginning and end none can know. Forget thy sorrows, then weep for this Youth Whose blood hath been shed at every moment by those who were created by His Word. When they attained unto full strength they rose up against God in opposition, following their own selves and desires. Therefore do all the tribes in the realms of eternity lament My tribulations, and every servant whom God hath aided to recognize the Manifestation of His Self and whose eyes He hath opened doth weep.

Be thou patient in all things except in My tribulations, then put thy trust in God Who created thee by a command from His presence. Cut thyself from all else but Him. Adorn thy heart with My love and thy tongue with My remembrance, and be not dismayed in the face of destiny. Be content with what God hath ordained for thee and follow the paths of His good-pleasure. Give thanks unto thy Lord for having aided thee to recognize His Self, while all others have opposed Him. Soon shall He requite them for what their hands have wrought, their tongues have uttered, and their hearts have harbored. With Him is the knowledge of all things and the knowledge of the heavens and earth, and He knoweth the secret and public doings of every soul.

Strive then with utmost endeavor to remain steadfast in thy Lord's Cause, firm in His love and established in His guidance, for in these days from every pit hath emerged a serpent of misbelief that rusheth forth behind every soul, and when it reacheth that soul it stingeth and destroyeth it instantly, except for one who possesseth the antidote of the name of thy Lord, the Most High. Nothing that thou witnesseth or beholdeth can affect such a one; rather, he affecteth all things and prevaileth over every soul through the triumph of his Lord, and everything witnesseth this in the shadow of Him Who created and nurtured it.

O servant! Taste thou from the Lote-Tree of the Command and its fruits, and approach not aught else even if it should offer thee all manner of fruits, for though it may appear as light it shall be as fire, and none comprehendeth this save one whose heart hath found tranquility through the light of God and His presence.

And the glory be upon thee, O Mustafa, and upon thy wife, if thou remainest steadfast in the Cause and turnest not thy face from the court of His grace and glory.

BH11732: He bears witness, this most abject atom, before…

He bears witness, this most abject atom, before the radiance of Thy Ancient Beauty, and in this darkest night facing the effulgence of the countenance of the Sovereign Lord of Thy Oneness, that there is for Thee no manifestation or concealment whereby I might describe Thy boundless favors.

How then can I venture before the countenance of the King of Thy Attraction, and with what tongue can I chant in praise of the verses of the glory of Thy sanctified majesty, and with what existence can I seclude myself in the cloud of Thy oneness, and with what utterance can I call to mind the letters of Thy sovereignty, after I see myself as naught that I might stand in the arenas of the patient ones, and find in myself no existence that I might take my place in the court of the yearning ones?

Yet, O my Beloved and my Desire, I am not perplexed save by the movement of the cords of Thy loving-kindness, and I ascend not save through the atmosphere of intimacy with the presence of the Sovereign Lord of Thy Self-Subsistence, and I rise not save to the heaven of Thy holy love. I venture forth in the court of Thy glorious bounty, and with plaintive, tender cry I call upon Thee in the inner mysteries of Thy most holy Essence, and I submit that O my Splendor, my Remembrance and my Hope, pour forth upon Thy loved ones from the drops of Thy holy camphor and from the waves of Thy seas of intimacy, that perchance their hearts may find rest like unto Mount Encompassing before the manifestation of Thy Ancient Beauty, and their inner beings may be cooled like unto snow amidst the surging of the seas of the Sovereign Lord of Thy Uniqueness, that they might become radiant through the radiance of the beauty of the Presence of Thy Divinity, and shine forth through the effulgence of the countenance of the Sovereign Lord of Thy Grace, and become detached from all else through the appearance of the countenance of Thy attraction, and stand firm in the establishment of Thy Cause, and find delight in the remembrance of the letters of Thy sovereignty, and speak with Thy utterance before Thee, and journey toward the heaven of infinitude through Thy power, and find tranquility through Thy peace, and do Thou teach them a drop from the drops of knowledge hidden within the treasuries of Thy might, and show them a wave from the waves of that beloved state which lies concealed in the inner mysteries of Thy clemency.

Alas, alas! Then alas, alas! God is Most Great! God is Most Great! God is Most Great!

The tempest of divine jealousy has begun to blow and the Dove of Independence has taken wing, while all the companions have grown cold and remain veiled, whence they perceive not. And verily I say: We are God's and to Him we return, and we are all [returning], and praise be to God, the Desire of the mystics.

BH02516: O Fath-i-A'zam! Be thou, with thy being and reality…

In the name of God, the Most High, the Most Powerful, the Most Exalted!

O Fath-i-A'zam! Be thou, with thy being and reality and essence, an ear that thou mayest hear what thy Lord, the Most High, the Most Exalted, speaketh in the Pole of Immortality.

By God, the Truth! The Fire hath been kindled in the heights of the divine cloud, and by it all who are in the heavens and on earth have been set ablaze, and all are now burning. The pillars of the Throne have been destroyed and its bearers have fled, and now the Spirit of God, thy Lord and the Lord of all that is seen and unseen, and the Lord of what was and what shall be, doth bear it. Intoxication hath seized the dwellers of the heavens and earth, and all now lie dead before thy Lord. The denizens of Sinai have been struck unconscious upon the lofty Mount, and they of the divine cloud have been obliterated upon the exalted Sinai, and everything hath been shaken within itself save certain letters of love for My Name, the All-Compelling, the Self-Subsisting.

Arise thou to the Cause, then detach thyself from all directions and turn not to the right or left. And if thou findest hesitation in thyself, then be patient, yea patient, until God shall bring thee His Command, the irrevocable, the compelling, the mighty, the beloved.

The letters of negation have gathered to prevent the people from the shore of the Cause. Say: Woe unto you for what ye do this Day! Beware lest thou turn unto them or cast thy gaze upon what appeareth from them. Leave them in the dust, then soar in this atmosphere which God hath made sanctified from the gaze of those who have disbelieved and associated partners with God and who mock the signs of God. Thus have We commanded thee that thou mayest arise to that whereunto thou wert commanded, as a grace from Us unto thee and unto those who walk upon the path that hath appeared in truth from the presence of a Compelling, Self-Subsisting One.

Beware lest thou forget what We informed thee before concerning certain letters of hell. Now they have gathered in Iraq and at this moment they plot. Soon the winds of associating partners with God shall spread from the quarter of their hearts to all regions. Therefore seek thou refuge in God lest harm befall thee from these who have disbelieved in God openly and turned away from the Ancient Beauty and were among the deniers in preserved tablets of glory.

Arise with the arising of God to the Cause of thy Lord and turn not unto them nor unto aught else. Say: The Kingdom on that Day is God's, the Truth. Blessed is he who turneth toward the lights of His countenance, and woe unto those who oppose. Thus did We inform thee before and We inform thee now out of My love for thee, lest the veils of glory prevent thee from this exalted, holy and uplifted heaven.

BH02552: This is a Book from the Primal Point unto…

In the Name of God, the Most Unapproachable, the Most Holy

This is a Book from the Primal Point unto him who hath believed in God and turned toward the holy court and hastened within himself, yearning for the presence of the Beloved, until he joined the hosts of God at the time when the Ancient Beauty departed from Iraq—thus was the matter decreed. Blessed art thou, O servant, in that thou didst tread the pathways of God's good-pleasure, and blessed are they who were with thee when ye entered the pavilion of holiness in the Ridvan wherein the Face was radiant. Thus doth God make mention of those who fulfilled their Covenant, turned unto Him, and were detached from all the worlds.

O servant! Hear the call of God from the pole of this heaven which hath been raised above all created things, that there is none other God but Him, and He Who speaketh between earth and heaven is verily the Manifestation of God and hath, in His name the Truth, encompassed all the worlds. Be thou steadfast in the Cause and turn not unto those who have denied the greatest proof whereby they had affirmed their faith in God. Thus did their idle fancies overcome them and kept them far removed from the shore of this grace.

Hearken unto the word of thy Lord, then detach thyself from those who have disbelieved and associated partners with God and have taken the calf as their lord besides God. They are but the most contemptible in station and the most astray in path. Say: O people! Fear God and attach not His Cause to aught else

beside Him. Open your eyes that ye may behold the dawning of the Sun in the midst of heaven and be steadfast in the Cause. Take heed lest thou pause for less than a moment in mentioning the Cause of thy Lord amongst the people. Fear thou no one, for thy Lord shall suffice thee against all the worlds. He, verily, is powerful over whatsoever He willeth.

Thus have We made mention of thee in this Tablet that thou mayest give thanks unto thy Lord and find rest within thyself and be steadfast in the Cause. Convey Our remembrance unto thy two relatives and glorify them on God's behalf, that they may rejoice within themselves. This is of God's grace unto them, that they may serve thee with a submissive and sincere heart, for whoso serveth God his Lord, it behooveth all to serve him out of love for God and sincerely for His sake. He, verily, is merciful unto His servants.

We have sent unto thy sister a Tablet in eloquent Persian. God shall surely give thee and her your reward for having attained unto the presence of God in days wherein all were veiled from His recognition. Then glorify, from God's tongue, thy mother's countenance, that she may rejoice within herself and be mindful of the mention that was recorded in truth in the Book of Mine own Self.

BH02519: May you ever drink from the cup…

He is the Most Exalted, the Most Inaccessible, the Most Holy, the Most Glorious!

May you ever drink from the cup of the eternal Beloved's mercy and remain occupied with the remembrance and praise of God. These are days the like of which the very essence of creation has neither seen nor comprehended. Blessed is the soul that has not been prevented by the whisperings of the deceivers from the Lord of the Day of Judgment, and has not been deprived of the outpourings of divine mercy in these blessed days. Through His existence, it has considered all the world as non-existent, and through His manifestation has witnessed all within the kingdom as void. After hearkening to the blessed divine Word, it has turned to the Friend, detached from all else.

Say: O friends of Truth! Consider these days a precious opportunity and loose not your hold on the hem of His grace and bounty. What existence is there that has not been seized by non-existence? What glory is there that has not been overtaken by abasement? All that is witnessed in the kingdom shall become non-existent and void. What endures is the deed performed by the loved ones of God purely for His sake. Therefore in these spiritual days the friends must not deprive themselves of the lights of the countenance of their Eternal One. The ocean of bounty is surging and the Bestower is the hand of the All-Merciful's favor. O friends! With the power of faith, turn and partake! This is in spite of those who read the Bayan yet deny Him Who revealed and sent it. Thus does your Lord, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise, command you.

Convey to all the loved ones in that land a most glorious greeting from this Wronged One. Say: Praise the Beloved of the worlds that He caused to flow from the Pen of His Command that which shall endure as long as the kingdom and the heavenly kingdom endure. Thus does God mention whom He wishes and singles out for His mercy whom He wishes. He is truly the Mighty, the Generous.

However, beseech God that you may remain firm in His Cause, for thieves lie in wait in ambush. You must, with the utmost steadfastness and assurance, preserve the pearls of the All-Merciful's love in the vessels of your hearts and keep them hidden from the eyes of robbers. Be so enkindled in the love of God that if all the peoples of the earth should arise to turn away, or should argue using the books of the ancients and the moderns according to their desires, you would pay no heed. This is the counsel of Truth, the command of Truth, and the remembrance of Truth. Blessed are you for having been mentioned in the presence of your Lord, the Mighty, the Great. And glory be upon you, O My loved ones, and praise be upon you for having turned to your Lord on the Day of Judgment.

BH02532: Glory be to Him Who hath sent down…

He is the Most Holy, the Most Glorious!

Glory be to Him Who hath sent down the verses in truth and before them the Bayan, that all who are in the heavens and on earth might prepare themselves for this Revelation which hath dawned and shone forth from the horizon of the will of thy Lord, the All-Merciful, and hath come with the kingdom of proof, calling all contingent beings unto God, the Almighty, the All-Wise.

Say: O people of the Bayan! Have ye found in that which was revealed unto ʿAli before Nabil aught that was not adorned with the ornament of My Name? Nay, by the Lord of all worlds! Were it not for My remembrance, the Bayan would not have been revealed, and were it not for My Self, the sun of exposition would not have shone forth from the horizon of meaning and utterance. To this beareth witness every fair-minded one possessed of knowledge. He made the entire Bayan as a gift from Him to My Self and a leaf from My paradise.

Why then have ye turned away from Him Who sacrificed His soul in My straight and manifest path? By God! At the moment when the infidels suspended Him in the air, He inhaled the fragrance of My robe, His gaze fixed upon My countenance, His heart remembering My exalted remembrance.

Say: Do ye make the Cause of God an object of mockery? Why have ye turned away from Him through Whom every thing proclaimeth what the Tree of Divinity proclaimed: "There is none other God besides Me, the Almighty, the Gracious." Say: Moses drew strength from this Great Name, and the Spirit was aided by this Wise Remembrance.

If ye have forgotten the Books of old, then look unto the Bayan, that ye may perchance know what God intended for you, and be not of them who cried out in separation and who, when the breezes of reunion wafted from the direction of God, the Self-Sufficient, the Most High, broke the Covenant and denied the Lord of the Day of Mutual Disillusion, when He came unto them with a manifest sovereignty.

Say: Should anyone read what is in the Bayan, he would surely weep for My suffering and for what hath befallen My soul. By My life! Its Revealer intended naught therein save My Cause, My remembrance, and My praise. Fear ye God, O company of the veiled ones!

Thus have We imparted unto thee that thou mayest remind the people in the days of thy Lord, that they may cast away their idle fancies and take the cup of righteousness through this glorious and wondrous

Name. Forbid the people from that which they have been forbidden in the Book, then bid them to observe that which they have been commanded by thy Lord, the Mighty, the All-Praised.

Say: How long will ye occupy yourselves with the world? Have ye not witnessed its passing? Where are your fathers and your ancestors? All have returned to dust, and ye too shall return as they returned. This is an irrevocable promise, if ye be of them that know.

Blessed is he who hath cast the world behind him out of love for God and hath turned with his heart to the Lord of all worlds. He is worthy of the pavilions of My grandeur, the tabernacle of My glory, and the canopies of My grace. Upon him rest My blessings and My tender mercies, for I am verily the All-Forgiving, the All-Merciful.

And praise be to God, the Lord of this great Day!

BH02539: He is the Mighty, the Beloved! God testifieth…

He is the Mighty, the Beloved! God testifieth that there is none other God but Him and that ʿAli is the Sovereign of His Will, then His Purpose, then His Remembrance and Glory, then His Manifestation and Grandeur, then His Concealment and Mystery. All were sent forth by His command and all through Him are created.

Say: By God! He is verily the Sun of Oneness, and the Emblem of Eternity, and the Essence of Pre-existence, and the Primal Point, and the Self of God standing over all who are in the heavens and on earth—to this we bear witness, if ye be of them that testify. Through Him were the spheres set in motion and the cycles revolved and the Hidden Secret was revealed, and through Him did the Beauty of the Divine Identity don the robe of glory and the Sovereignty of God appeared with evident dominion. Thus doth the Dove warble, and the Cock of the Throne cry out, and this exalted, praiseworthy Tree sing.

O Pen of Glory! Make mention of the servant who hath believed in God and the Manifestation of His Self, and upon whom tribulations descended in the path of God, the All-Compelling, the Self-Subsisting, that he may remember within himself and then make mention to the servants of God who have ascended unto God, the Mighty, the Beloved.

O servant! Give thanks unto God, thy Creator, for having granted thee what He hath not granted to most of His servants from every learned one known and every mystic renowned. Then emerge from behind the veils of concealment with manifest wisdom, and aid thy Lord to the extent of thy power—this is better for thee than all else and every beloved station.

Know thou that this Tablet is the fire of God and His lamp which We have sent unto thee with an extended flame. And verily if thou wert to recite it with the melody of the Dove, there would appear within thee the fire of God, kindled and ablaze, and from it would arise such heat in the hearts of those who have been overtaken by coldness through the sorrows inflicted by such as associate partners with their Lord.

O servant! Arise within thyself above these gales that have blown upon thee from this exalted, mighty Quarter, and rejoice within thyself, then be gladdened in thy being that God hath made thee a knower of

His Self and revealed unto thee what was inscribed in the hidden Tablets of glory. And grieve not for what hath befallen thee and the chosen ones of God, for soon shalt thou find thyself in such a station as shall astound the hearts of men—this is a truth inscribed with truth upon a treasured tablet of glory.

Thus have We made mention of thee on this night and sent down unto thee that which shall draw thee nigh unto God, the Mighty, the Loving. And the Spirit be upon thee and upon those who have heard the melodies of God from this exalted Tree which hath been raised up in truth and speaketh that there is none other God but Him, the Mighty, the Beloved.

BH02536: Lauded be Thy name, O Lord my God! How…

Lauded be Thy name, O Lord my God! How great is Thy might and Thy sovereignty; how vast Thy strength and Thy dominion! Thou hast called into being Him Who speaketh in Thy name before all who are in Thy heaven and on Thy earth, and hast bidden Him cry out amongst Thy creatures.

No sooner had a word gone forth from His lips, however, than the divines among Thy people turned back from Him, and the learned among Thy servants caviled at His signs. Thereby the fire of oppression was kindled in Thy land, until the kings themselves rose up to put out Thy light, O Thou Who art the King of kings!

Hostility waxed so intense that my kindred and my loved ones were made captives in Thy land, and they that are dear to Thee were hindered from gazing on Thy beauty and from turning in the direction of Thy mercy. This hostility failed to cause the fire that burned within them to subside. The enemy finally carried away as captive Him Who is the Manifestation of Thy beauty and the Revealer of Thy signs, and confined Him in the fortress-town of ʿAkka, and sought to hinder Him from remembering Thee and from magnifying Thy name. Thy servant, however, could not be restrained from carrying out what Thou hadst bidden Him fulfill. Above the horizon of tribulation He hath lifted up His voice and He crieth out, summoning all the inmates of heaven and all the inhabitants of the earth to the immensity of Thy mercy and the court of Thy grace. Day and night He sendeth down the signs of Thine omnipotent power and revealeth the clear tokens of Thy majesty, so that the souls of Thy creatures may be drawn towards Thee, that they may forsake themselves and turn unto Thee, and may flee from their misery and seek the tabernacle of Thy riches, and may haste away from their wretchedness into the court of Thy majesty and glory.

This is the Lamp which the light of Thine own Essence hath lit, and whose radiance the winds of discord can never extinguish. This is the Ocean that moveth by the power of Thy sovereign might, and whose waves the influence of the infidels that have disbelieved in the Judgment Day can never still. This is the Sun that shineth in the heaven of Thy will and the splendor of which the veils of the workers of iniquity and the doubts of the evil doers can never cloud.

I yield Thee thanks, O my God, for that Thou hast offered me up as a sacrifice in Thy path, and made me a target for the arrows of afflictions as a token of Thy love for Thy servants, and singled me out for all manner of tribulation for the regeneration of Thy people.

How sweet to my taste is the savor of woes sent by Thee, and how dear to my heart the dispositions of Thy providence! Perish the soul that fleeth from the threats of kings in its attempt to save itself in Thy days! I swear by Thy glory! Whoso hath quaffed the living waters of Thy favors can fear no trouble in Thy path, neither can he be deterred by any tribulation from remembering Thee or from celebrating Thy praise.

I beseech Thee, O Thou Who art my Governor and the Possessor of all names, to protect them that have branched out from me (Afnan), whom Thou hast caused to be related to Thyself, and to whom Thou hast, in this Revelation, shown Thy special favor, and whom Thou hast summoned to draw nigh unto Thee and to turn towards the horizon of Thy Revelation. Withhold not from them, O my Lord, the outpourings of Thy mercy or the effulgence of the Day-Star of Thy grace. Enable them to distinguish themselves amongst Thy people, that they may exalt Thy word and promote Thy Cause. Aid them, O my God, to do Thy will and pleasure.

No God is there but Thee, the All-Powerful, the Most Exalted, the Most High.

BH02553: This is a Book from Us to him whose…

He is the Incomparable, the Most Exalted, the Most High

This is a Book from Us to him whose face hath been illumined by the lights of his Lord's countenance and who hath remained steadfast in the Cause of his Lord in days wherein tears have flowed from the eyes of them that are endued with understanding, that he may hearken unto the call of his Lord time and again, and soar upon His summons in the atmosphere of His love, and arise to promote His Cause amidst all peoples.

Blessed art thou, O thou who walkest in the path of nearness and good-pleasure, inasmuch as thou hast hearkened unto thy Lord's call and responded to Him after most of His servants had turned away, save him whom the hand of divine Will did grasp and deliver from the torment of the burning fire. Thy letter hath come before Us and We have taken note of its contents and granted what thou didst desire of thy Lord's grace, the All-Forgiving, the All-Bountiful. We have ordained for thee, in the precincts of thy Lord's mercy, a station of sublime glory, and have singled thee out for Our own Self. Give thanks unto thy Lord for this supreme favor. Verily, He severeth the cord of relationship from whomsoever He willeth and strengtheneth it for whomsoever He willeth. He, verily, is the All-Powerful, the Almighty.

Grieve not on account of those in whom hatred hath appeared. Leave them to themselves. Thy Lord is indeed well aware of the hypocrites. He shall soon seize them with His might, and they shall find for themselves no escape.

Remind the people of this Most Great Remembrance, and shouldst thou find any among the people of the Bayan turning away from their All-Merciful Lord, say: O thou who associateth partners with God, die in thy wrath! The grievous Day hath come upon thee, and thou hast today no refuge or shelter save God Who created thee by His command. Fear God, and be not of them that join partners with Him. The Ark hath sailed upon the sea—whoso holdeth fast unto it hath indeed been saved, and whoso turneth away is verily of the people of Pharaoh and is among the drowned. Say: Have ye forgotten what ye were

promised in the Tablets? By God! He Who is the Beloved of the worlds hath appeared—He before Whose face all faces have prostrated themselves and unto Whom the hearts of them that are nigh unto God have turned.

Say: Glory be unto Thee, O my God! Praise be unto Thee for having made known unto me the Manifestation of Thyself, and for having caused me to turn unto the sanctuary of Thy beauty and the Kaaba of Thy nearness, and for having singled me out among Thy servants in such wise as to relate me unto Thyself. By Thy glory! Were I to render thanks unto Thee for this throughout the duration of Thy kingdom, it would still fall short of the wondrous tokens of Thy grace and bounties which have encompassed me and all created things. O my Lord! I beseech Thee by Thy signs through which Thy sovereignty hath been manifested unto the people of Thy realm and the throne of Thy mercy hath been established amidst Thy creatures, to make me steadfast in Thy love and firm in Thy Cause. Then send down upon me from the clouds of Thy grace that which shall detach me from all else besides Thee. Thou, verily, hast power to do what Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the Almighty, the All-Wise.

BH02504: O seeker! Though a name indicates…

In the Name, and the Name of the Nameless

O seeker! Though a name indicates that which is named, this applies only to the realm of creation. But the Truth is sanctified above all names—all names end in His Most Exalted Word and all attributes return to His Primal Will. Whoever attains unto Him has attained unto all names, both now and forever. Blessed is he who attains! Woe unto him who turns away!

O seeker! God willing, may you be a finder. The heat of seeking produces the Kawthar of attainment, and the heart's burning brings forth the Salsabil of grace. Yet this Kawthar shows the effects of spirit, for it does not diminish but rather increases. This station belongs exclusively to those who drink the wine of love from the countenance of the All-Merciful. The people of this realm are of different elements and different natures—they are created from the divine element which transcends nature.

Among souls variations are observed: Some neither sought nor found; some sought but found not; some found without seeking yet did not arrive; some arrived but recognized not; some arrived and recognized yet afterwards became unsettled, for the root of the tree of knowledge was not firmly planted in their hearts—with the slightest breeze they were uprooted. But some, by God's grace, remained firm and steadfast. These are the gems of existence—upon them be the glory of God, His remembrance and His praise. You, we hope, are counted and mentioned among these souls.

Great, great is the Cause! The hour approaches when the most great convulsion will appear. I swear by Him Who is the Truth! It shall cause separation to afflict everyone, even those who circle around Me. At all times take refuge in God, that you may be protected from the evil of human devils. Until now the people of the Bayan have not distinguished between the buzzing of a fly and the cooing of a dove—how much more so other peoples! If only people would consider the words of the first to turn away, they would discover his vain imaginings. All are in profound drunkenness save whom your Lord wills.

One whom all know to have been under the shadow—whose highest mention was made to preserve the seat of the Cause while he was afflicted among the ungodly—by God! Nothing was revealed from the Most Exalted Pen except for My own Self, and nothing appeared from him before the Throne except what issued from the mouth of My Will. What is attributed to him befits his own self, but the people are ignorant and perceive not. I pour out My anguish and grief unto God. In Him have I found sufficiency apart from all else, and independence from all the worlds. God willing, may you ever be remembered and remain steadfast on the path of the Cause.

BH02534: Glorified art Thou, O my God! I beseech Thee…

In the Name of God, the Most High, the Most Exalted!

Glorified art Thou, O my God! I beseech Thee by Thy Name through which Thou didst raise up the heaven of Thy Cause, and from whose horizon shone forth the sun of Thy wisdom and decree, and through which all things spoke forth Thy praise and glorification, and through which all faces turned toward that direction wherein appeared the lights of Thy countenance and were manifested the revelations of Thy power and grandeur, that Thou protect Thy servants who have turned unto Thee and believed in Thy mighty signs and who have desired this most exalted station, from those who have disbelieved in the Manifestation of Thy most exalted Self. Verily, Thou art the Lord of the hereafter and of the former times, and in Thy right hand is the dominion of decree and the kingdom of execution.

O Lord! How many heads were raised upon spears in Thy love, and how many breasts were pierced by the arrows of the wicked in Thy path, and how many infants were kept from their mothers' breasts, and how many sisters lamented in separation from their brothers, and how many fathers wept in separation from their sons—all of this befell them because they acknowledged Thy oneness and confessed Thy singleness.

O Lord! I beseech Thee by Thy power which hath encompassed all things, that Thou assist these souls with the wonders of Thy succor, strengthen them through Thy might, and make them victorious over Thine enemies, that thereby the manifestations of Thy power may appear among Thy servants and the revelations of Thy might among Thy creatures.

Then I beseech Thee, O my God, by Thy Name through which the trees of Thy oneness have yielded the fruits of Thy unity, that Thou send down upon me and my sister from the clouds of Thy generosity that which beseemeth Thy presence, and from the heaven of Thy grace that which is worthy of Thy court. O Lord! Withhold not from us that which Thou hast ordained for Thy chosen ones who have arisen to aid Thy Cause, whom neither the might of the oppressors deterred from the sanctuary of Thy nearness, nor did the wrath of the ungodly prevent from turning toward the Kaaba of Thy Cause.

Thou art He through Whose Name "the Protector" Thou didst protect Thy loved ones from Thine enemies, and through Whose Name "the Powerful" Thou didst make them mighty over all who dwell in the kingdom of Thy Cause. All things testify to Thy power, and all who dwell in earth and heaven bow down before the manifestations of Thy might. Blind is the eye that seeth not the evidences of Thy power at all times, and dumb is the tongue that speaketh not Thy praise amidst the concourse of creation. There is no God but Thee, the Mighty, the Merciful.

O Lord! Abandon not Thy servant whom Thou hast brought forth from the loins of one who loved Thee. Aid him, O my God, to remember Thee and praise Thy Self and spread Thy Cause among Thy creatures, and enable him to achieve that which Thou lovest and approvest. Verily, Thou art the Lord of the Throne and of the dust, and the Lord of the visible and the invisible. There is no God but Thee, the Powerful, the Mighty, the All-Compelling, the Exalted, the Sovereign, the Help in Peril.

BH02511: O Aba Basir! Arise and warn those who have…

He is the All-Seeing in the Most Glorious Horizon!

O Aba Basir! Arise and warn those who have denied the verses of the All-Merciful and have deprived themselves of this Paradise. Know thou that We have given the warning in this Tablet for a wisdom that was hidden from the eyes of the servants. Soon We shall reveal it unto thee through Our grace, for verily He encompasseth all the worlds.

Then give glad tidings from Us to the people who have believed in this Cause, which was inscribed by the Finger of God in the Mother Book. Then remind them of what the Spirit hath cast into thy heart, and fear thou no one. Put thy trust in God and remain not concealed behind the veil of silence. Rend asunder the veils through the sovereignty of Our Name, the Powerful, the Bestower, and be thou a herald among the servants of this Most Great Remembrance, which hath been witnessed from the holy horizon with the ornament of God.

Be thou articulate in the praise of thy Lord and mindful of the wondrous expressions of His remembrance which have been recorded in the Tablet. Aid thy Lord with the sword of utterance—thus hath the matter been decreed from the Pen of the All-Merciful in these days wherein sorrows have encompassed Me from all directions, and God is witness unto this. Know thou that in those days God hath ordained the victory of His Cause through exposition rather than through the tongue, and thus hath the sun of wisdom shone forth from the horizon of justice with a radiance that encompasseth all the worlds.

Hearken unto what God hath revealed unto thee from the Fire that hath been kindled in thy heart by the Self-Subsisting, the Self-Existing—that there is no God but Me. I have created all things for My Cause and brought all beings into existence for the knowledge of My Self, that We might bring them to a station of glorious dignity. Verily, this Youth is the sanctuary of holiness among the servants, the Kaaba of the Cause in all lands, the dwelling place of eternity for those in the kingdom of the divine cloud, and the beacon of knowledge for all in the realm.

So sacrifice thy self, thy spirit and thy body for the Cause of thy Lord. Then remind the people at all times with wisdom and utterance, and be not still within thyself—this is better for thee than all that existeth upon the earth. Thus have We commanded thee and taught thee, that thou mightest arise to serve the Cause with a sovereignty that encompasseth all the worlds.

If thou findest one who is receptive, impart unto him what the Spirit hath imparted unto thee, and if thou findest one who turneth away, be not grieved but turn away from him and remain in an impregnable protection. And the glory be upon thee and upon those who have believed in God and who stand firm today upon the path of truth.

BH02550: The letter of friendship arrived at the treasury…

He is God!

The letter of friendship arrived at the treasury of nothingness, and its spiritual meanings bestowed fresh joy and boundless delight. It is evident that spiritual friends who dwell in the divine nest must pass beyond the dust and transcend the spheres, lift their feet from the earth and step into the sacred precincts of the Lord of Lords. For these companions no barrier can intervene and no change can alter them. They are intoxicated with the wine of love and unconscious from the cup of longing. They are drunk with the immortal Beauty and immersed in the matchless crystal stream. Though their outer appearance may manifest as fire, their inner reality betokens light. The realm of words does not prevent them from the lofty stations of meaning, nor do metaphorical veils conceal them from the places of truth. They soar on the wing of trust and fly in the holy atmosphere of detachment on the wing of mighty oneness. Moreover, the movement of the worlds of divine unity relates to the heart, and a pure and subtle heart is not disturbed by coarse tongue and speech.

> "We look within and at the state; We look not without at mere words"

It is clear to you that these well-known companions commit how many disapproved acts. They walk in the valley of self and tread the desert of heedlessness. They speak from desire and journey in the wilderness of error. O Friend of Love! Listen to the words of the spirit with the ear of spirit, that you may sacrifice soul and heart in the path of the Beloved and cast your head in the lane of the Friend, that headless you may lift up your head, and heartless you may cry out, and without wine you may surge, and without tongue you may attain the angel, and from this outward furnace you may turn to the divine rose gardens.

O nightingale, make your home in the garden of the heart and take your place on the rose branch. O hoopoe, return to the city of Sheba. O Joseph, emerge from the prison of the body. O Abraham, pass beyond the fire of self and enter the Paran of love, that in the darkness of these days you may shine like light and gird up the loins of service and circle with heart and soul around the city of roses. This is the fruit of existence. Then will the fragrance of inner meanings be released from spiritual garments, that you may discover the sweet scents of eternity from the right hand of faithfulness and be numbered among the sanctified ones in the Mother Book, written by the Pen of Power upon the Tablet of Glory in truth. And praise be upon you and upon those who follow you in the Cause of your Lord and are recorded among the doers of good in the Book.

BH02562: O thou who gazest upon God and walkest…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Glorious!

O thou who gazest upon God and walkest in His good-pleasure! Know thou that We shall inform thee of what is to come. Affairs in that city must needs undergo change, and the promise shall be fulfilled. Place not thy trust in those who claim to have turned towards God. Soon shall one bear witness against another of that which God hath not permitted, that he might justify himself before thy Lord. The knowledge of all things is in a perspicuous Book. That which shall appear—We behold it even now. The Sifter sifteth at all

times, taking the wheat and casting away the chaff. Thus doth inform thee He Who hath turned towards the All-Merciful while seated beneath the swords of all existence.

We counsel thee, O thou who hast turned towards God, with words that have shone forth and gleamed from the horizon of utterance, that thou mayest become aware of what We possess and be numbered among the successful. Believe not everyone who attributeth himself to Us. They who follow their desires—God is quit of them and We are quit of them. Thy Lord, He is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. Whoso holdeth fast unto pure piety—he is of the people of God, as attesteth that which was sent down in the Furqan and then in the Books of the Prophets.

We have loved ones in most lands who have not met this Servant save for a counted few. Among them are those who attained Our presence but once, and those who beheld Me from afar. Therefore they have not fully grasped the intent, the true intent. And among them are those who caught the fragrance but saw not the garment, and those who attained unto the presence and remained steadfast until they cast aside doubts and witnessed certitude. Each hath a portion from the ocean of thy Lord's grace. He, verily, is the Forgiving, the Bountiful.

We have at all times been a captive in the hands of Our enemies. We found not the opportunity to impart unto them wisdom and explanation to the extent We desired, and thereby they remained distant from the Purpose. Among them are those who clung to one word and interpreted it according to their fancy, and others to another word. Thus do We explain unto thee in detail and inform thee as none other informed can inform.

Verily, I am under countless afflictions, and We have accepted hardships and calamities in the path of God. He, verily, is the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. We have not concealed Our Self but have manifested it as We were commanded, and the hosts of the oppressors prevented Us not. Therefore We love that a number of those who have turned towards God should conceal their Cause, that perchance thereby some matter might arise in their Lord's path. He, verily, is the All-Knowing.

Take care lest thou grieve at what hath occurred or shall occur. When thou hearest the clamor, be not perturbed. Be thou steadfast. He is, verily, witness over all things. Abasement in My Cause is glory. The more tribulations increase, the more doth Our love for God increase. He, verily, is the Ruler over what He willeth.

BH02512: In the Name of God, the Mighty, the All-Wise!...

In the Name of God, the Mighty, the All-Wise! O handmaiden of God! Your letter hath come before Our face and We have taken note of its contents. We beseech God to aid thee to turn unto Him at all times and to strengthen thee in His love and good-pleasure. Verily, He is the Protector of them that do good and the Lord of all the worlds.

He hath ordained for thee a station of glory with thy Lord—preserve it, lest the whispers of the wayward keep thee from it. Verily, thy Lord hath heard thy call and hath ordained for thee in the Tablet of Command whatsoever He willeth. Make His will thy wish. By God! This is better for thee than the dominion of the heavens and earth. Let thy will be dissolved in His Will and grieve not over what hath

befallen thee. God will soon transform hardship into ease and decree for thee what He pleaseth. Verily, He hath power over all things.

Despair not of God's Spirit and mercy, but rejoice in His remembrance of thee and remember Him in all conditions. He is with them that remember Him. Be not dismayed in the days of God. Rather, rejoice in that He hath aided thee to recognize His Self. Be steadfast and find solace in the praise of His Self, the Mighty, the All-Knowing.

Remember: "Glory be unto Thee, O my God! I beseech Thee by Thy power whereby Thou didst subjugate the winds and send down the verses and cause the sun of Thy beauty to shine from the horizon of Thy will—whereby the faces of Thy chosen ones were illumined by its radiance—to send down upon me from the heaven of Thy bounty a mercy from Thee and from the cloud of Thy mercy a blessing from Thy presence. Then set right, O my God, all my affairs, for Thou art the Lord of grandeur and majesty. Ordain for me the good of this world and the next, for Thou hast power to do what Thou willest. There is no God but Thee, the Mighty, the Supreme, the Self-Subsisting."

Convey My greetings to Nasr and mention that though some people are under the delusion—you who have seen Yahya and know full well that he was never worthy to speak in the presence of the Countenance—observe now the same condition. That We mentioned his name was so that the hosts of the oppressors would remain veiled from the Seat of the Cause, lest harm touch him before the Command of thy Lord was delivered. It is incumbent upon you to rend asunder the veils of the people, for most are unaware, even the brothers. We beseech God to aid thee in His Cause and make thee steadfast in His love and bring thee to the station ordained for thee—this truly is a mighty favor. Praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

Convey My greetings to thy sister and gladden her with Our remembrance of her, as a mercy from Us upon her and upon Our steadfast handmaidens.

BH02518: God willing, mayest thou be illumined at all times…

He is the Most Holy

God willing, mayest thou be illumined at all times by the splendors of the Countenance of the All-Merciful and be fixed upon the horizon of His Cause in such wise that nothing shall prevent thee from turning to the Most Great Prospect. This is the most exalted station, as can be observed in that certain souls, though they witnessed the effulgences of the divine Sun from the Dayspring of Light of Oneness, were nevertheless debarred, by some earthly cause, from the Lord of Names and Creator of earth and heaven.

Consider that known handmaiden who, though it was clear and evident to her and others that spiritual perfection and outward beauty were found in the Truth, yet severed the divine connection and clung to the connection of the idolaters, letting slip from her grasp the hem of God and clutching the hem of the deniers. She turned away from the Diamond to cleave unto clay, distancing herself from the Dayspring of perfection and beauty to join with a monkey, content and pleased with his company. If all the kingdom of the world were offered to any person of insight to spend but one night with such as she in bed, he would

surely refuse, yet she remained deprived of the Most Glorious Branch due to the ornaments of the world and its trappings, becoming intimate with the most hideous form in existence.

Yes, the nightingale is intimate with the rose while worms dwell in mud and clay; the dung beetle will not turn to the most pure and fragrant station nor fix its gaze upon the Most Great Prospect, but rather seeks intimacy with its own kind. Such is the nature of the world and its adherents. But verily thy Lord lieth in wait. Assuredly He hath rendered and will render unto each soul its due.

This hath occurred solely that all might be convinced that love of the world maketh the eye blind and the ear deaf, such that man cannot distinguish between the highest heaven and the lowest depths. All must at all times take refuge in God, that He might gather all beneath the shade of the Tree of His grace and deprive no one.

Hearken unto the call of the All-Merciful from the Divine Lote-Tree which is raised up in the wilderness of piety, and be thou neither gladdened by the world's acceptance nor saddened by its rejection, neither by its elevation nor its abasement. By My life! All that is thereon shall perish, and there shall endure the face of thy Lord, the Mighty, the Bestower. Be thou steadfast in the path of Truth and turn away from His enemies. His loving-kindness hath ever been and shall ever be with you, and this, verily, is a mighty favor.

BH02533: Glorified art Thou, O my God! I beseech Thee…

In the Name of God, the Mighty, the All-Bestowing

Glorified art Thou, O my God! I beseech Thee by this Day and by Him Who hath appeared therein through Thy sovereignty, grandeur and power, and by the tears of the lovers in their separation and remoteness from Thee, and by the burning of the hearts of them that yearn in their longing and desire for Thy beauty, to send down upon us in this Day that which befitteth Thy beauty and beseemeth Thy generosity and bounty.

O Lord! We are poor ones who have detached ourselves from all else but Thee and turned toward the treasury of Thy wealth, and have fled from remoteness in hope of nearness to Thee. Send down, therefore, from the heaven of Thy will that which will purify us from the world and its conditions, and adorn us with the ornament of what Thou hast desired for us through Thy grace and bestowal.

Moreover, I beseech Thee, O my God, by Thy Name which Thou hast made the treasury of Thy knowledge and the mine of Thy revelation and the wellspring of Thy inspiration, and whereby Thou hast distinguished between the believers and the ungodly, to clothe us in this Day with the garments of Thy guidance and the robes of Thy generosity. Then cause us to stand firm in Thy Cause, to aid Thy Faith, and to speak forth Thy Name between Thy earth and Thy heaven, that the horizons may be filled with the wonders of Thy remembrance and faces may be illumined by the lights of Thy countenance.

O Lord! We bear witness that Thou art God and there is none other God but Thee. Thou hast ever been in the heights of exaltation at a level beyond which the hearts of the mystics among Thy servants cannot soar, and Thou wilt ever abide in the sublimities of independence at a station unto which the birds of the hearts of the sincere ones among Thy creatures cannot wing their flight.

O Lord! All things testify to Thy oneness, and whatsoever can be described as having existence, whether seen or unseen, beareth witness to Thy singleness. Thou art He Who hath sanctified His Self from the knowledge of all else but Thee and hath purified His Essence from the mention of aught except Thyself. All the meanings and utterances that have been created in the realm of origination return unto the Word that hath flowed from the Pen of Thy Command and the Finger of Thy Decree. Every possessor of greatness is as nothing before Thy greatness, and every possessor of power vanisheth before the manifestations of Thy glorious might.

O Lord! Thou seest Thy loved ones among the wicked ones of Thy creation. I beseech Thee by Thy Name through which the fire of Thy wrath was kindled and the flames of Thy anger were ignited, to seize those who have oppressed Thy loved ones. Then send down upon us that which we hope for from the wonders of Thy grace and favors, and deprive us not of turning toward Thee and drawing nigh unto the sanctuary of Thy glorious oneness.

Verily, Thou art the All-Powerful, to Whose power all atoms have testified from time immemorial and all created things do testify to Thy greatness. Thou art the Lord of grandeur and majesty, and the Sovereign of earth and heaven. There is none other God but Thee, the Almighty, the Self-Subsisting.

BH02535: Glorified art Thou, O Lord my God! My tongue…

Glorified art Thou, O Lord my God! My tongue, both the tongue of my body and the tongue of my heart, my limbs and members, every pulsating vein within me, every hair of my head, all proclaim that Thou art God, and that there is none other God beside Thee. From everlasting Thou hast been immeasurably exalted above all similitudes and comparisons, and sanctified from whatsoever pertaineth to the creation Thou hast created and fashioned. From eternity Thou hast been alone, with none to share the majesty of Thy singleness, and hast remained far above the changes and chances to which all Thy creatures are subjected.

And when Thou didst purpose to demonstrate the power of Thy sovereign might, and to glorify Thy word, and to guide the steps of Thy people, Thou didst raise up from among Thy creatures One of Thy servants, Whom Thou didst send forth with the signs of Thy sovereignty, and Whom Thou didst endue with the clear tokens of Thy oneness, that He might fulfill Thy testimony unto all created things, and perfect Thy proof before all men.

As soon as He revealed Himself, as bidden by Thee, and called Thy servants to turn in the direction of Thy gifts, and to set their faces towards the horizon of Thy knowledge, the signs of dissension appeared amongst them. Some responded to Thy call and, without the least hesitation, obeyed Thy summons. Others turned their backs to Thee, and followed the desires of a corrupt inclination.

I implore Thee, O my God, by Thy Most Great Name, to enrapture the nations through the potency of the Word which Thou didst ordain to be the king of all words, the Word whereby the goodly pearls of Thy hidden wisdom were uncovered, and the gem-like mysteries which were wrapped up within Thee were unraveled. Deprive them not, by Thy grace and bounty, of the things Thou didst desire for them, and suffer them not to be far removed from the shores of the ocean of Thy presence. Every existence,

whether seen or unseen, O my Lord, testifieth that Thy mercy hath surpassed all created things, and Thy loving-kindness embraced the entire creation. Look upon them, I entreat Thee, with the eyes of Thy mercy. Thou art the Ever-Forgiving, the Most Compassionate. Do with them as beseemeth Thy glory, and Thy majesty, and Thy greatness, and Thy bounteousness and Thy grace. Deal not with them according to the limitations imposed upon them, or the manifold vicissitudes of their earthly life.

Thou knowest, O my Lord, that I am but one of Thy servants. I have tasted of the sweetness of Thy speech, and acknowledged Thy unity and Thy singleness, and set my face towards the Source of Thy most excellent names and the Day-Spring of Thy transcendent attributes, and wished to be enabled by Thee to immerse myself beneath the ocean of Thy oneness and to be submerged by the mighty waters of Thy unity.

Assist me, by Thy strengthening grace, O my Lord, to do what Thou didst will, and withhold not from me the things Thou dost possess. So enravish me with the wonders of Thine utterances that the noise and distraction of this world may be powerless to deter me from turning unto Thee, and may fail to shake my constancy in Thy Cause, or to distract my gaze from the horizon of Thy grace. Aid me, then, O my God, to do what pleaseth Thee, and to carry out Thy will. Write down for me, moreover, the good of this world and of the world which is to come, and ordain for me a seat of truth in Thy presence. Potent art Thou to do what Thou willest, and to rule as Thou pleasest. No God is there but Thee, the Inaccessible, the All-Glorious, the Most Great.

All-praise to Thee, O Lord of the worlds and the Object of the adoration of the entire creation!

BH02563: Lawh-i-Rada'r-Ruh

In the Name of God, the Eternal, the Unchanging

O thou who gazest upon the Countenance! Hear thou the call of Him Who, time and again, hath been imprisoned in the path of God, thy Lord and the Lord of all worlds. Know thou that the Ancient Beauty hath departed from the Land of Mystery by reason of what the hands of the oppressors have wrought. And He would pass through the earth and send down at every moment verses that would entrance the denizens of the highest Paradise, and clear proofs that would cause the angels nigh unto God to swoon away.

By God! The breezes of verses have wafted over the East and West of the earth, and this is indeed a mighty bounty. When their fragrance reached the decayed bones, they stirred and arose by God's leave, the Mighty, the Beautiful. In those circumstances, We deposited beneath every stone the virgin verses and unique pearls of exposition. Erelong shall arise from every stone one who will proclaim that He is the Beloved of all worlds.

The days passed until We reached the shore of the sea. Then did the Most Great Ocean take His seat upon the Ark, whereupon the inhabitants of Paradise cried out: "In the Name of God be its course!" Then they addressed the Ark saying: "Blessed art thou, for upon thee hath settled the Hope of all worlds." Then the Ark sailed upon the sea, and We heard from each drop thereof what none can hear, and thy Lord is indeed cognizant of what I say. Until We arrived opposite one of the cities of the earth, We perceived

from it the fragrance of the All-Merciful, and while We were inhaling the holy fragrances, the sea grew calm and the Ark came to rest upon it—though this Sea, by God, its waves shall never be stilled unto all eternity.

Then there came into Our presence one of those who trace their lineage to the Son, bearing a clear book. When We broke its seal, We found therein the sweet scents of holiness from one who had been set ablaze with the fire of thy Lord the All-Merciful's love, and whom the raptures of revelation had seized in such wise that he had detached himself from all things and held fast to this Cord stretched between the heavens and earth. We read what was inscribed therein of his words, and whoso desireth, let him look upon his book that he may know how the fingers of thy Lord's power, the Most High, the Mighty, the Powerful, do transform hearts. Would that thou hadst been present with Us and heard when the Youth recited it with the melody of God, the Almighty, the Glorious, the All-Wise.

Even thus doth thy Lord create what He willeth through His power, yet the people in the veils of their own selves remain heedless. By God! Its creation in God's sight is greater than the creation of the heavens and earth. When thou readest his book, say: Exalted be God Who hath, through His power, given life to whatsoever He willeth, for He is indeed the Quickener of all worlds.

Several Tablets were sent without names—deliver to whomever is deemed suitable.

BH02634: This is an epistle from God, the Most High…

He is the Most High, the Most Great.

This is an epistle from God, the Most High, the All-Powerful, the All-Wise, wherein He maketh mention of the handmaiden of God, the Most Great, whom God hath singled out through His Beloved and made her one of the manifestations of undoubted glory, and given her to drink of the wine of life in the knowledge of His Self, and made her of those endowed with certitude, and honored her with the presence of Him through Whom were opened the gates of Paradise in the name of God, the Most High, the All-Powerful, the Most Great, and related her unto Him—and this is a glory than which there existeth none greater in all creation, and God is witness unto what I say and is All-Knowing.

O handmaiden of God! Give thanks unto thy Lord at eventide and at dawn for having perfected His favor unto thee and manifested unto thee His proof, and aided thee to know His Self, and made thee of those who are devoted to His firm and wondrous Cause, and inscribed thy name in the Mother Book among those who have entered the pavilion of glory through His Name, the All-Powerful, the Almighty.

Remember thy Lord throughout all days and be not heedless of this Youth Who hath been imprisoned in this remote prison through what the hands of the oppressors have wrought, and beyond this prison hath fallen into the well of envy—and God doth behold His own Self. Then from the depths of the well He crieth out saying:

> "O My brother! Fear God and slay Me not with the sword of hatred. By God the Truth, I have come from the heaven of grace with the all-pervading mercy of the Self-Subsisting, which hath

preceded all created things and encompassed all beings—and thus hath thy Lord's grace been all-embracing."

By God, O handmaiden of God, My shirt hath been reddened with the blood of hatred. Weep thou within thyself for this Wronged One, the alone, the unique. Beware lest thou forget My anguish, then My trials, and what hath befallen Me of adversity from the souls of the heedless. Thus have We recounted unto thee a letter from the story of the Youth that thou mayest be informed thereof and be of those who remember in a Book of mighty preservation.

Remember thou on behalf of the Youth those handmaidens of God who are round about thee, that they may remember within themselves and be possessed of clear insight in the Cause. And were We to recount unto thee what hath befallen Us, by God thou wouldst not be able to hear it, and wouldst rend thy garments and flee unto the mountains and be cut off from all who are on earth. But We have concealed it from thee lest sorrow overtake thee and thou be grieved with evident grief.

And the glory be upon thee and upon those who are with thee, whether female or male, whether old or young, and praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH02584: O My Name! Hearken unto My call…

In the name of God, the Manifest, the Most Manifest!

O My Name! Hearken unto My call from the direction where waft the fragrances of My paradise, where shine forth the lights of My countenance, where rain down the clouds of My bounty and mercy, that it may draw thee to the heaven of My loving-kindness and cause thee to speak in praise of My Self and make thee one who tells of My Name among My servants and announces My Cause among My creatures, that thou mayest quicken souls with the waters of My knowledge, and they may be attracted by the raptures of My melodies, and gather at the table of My favor and bounty, and be detached from all else besides Me, and soar in the atmosphere of My nearness, and take shelter in the shade of the Tree which hath been raised up in truth and every leaf of which proclaimeth that there is none other God but Him, the Almighty, the Glorious, the Bountiful.

Stand thou firm in the Cause of God and cast behind thee all else besides Him. And when the tablets of the fabricators and the papers of the idolaters are spread abroad, cast them aside through My power and might and sovereignty, then take up the tablet of God and follow it through a strength from the presence of One mighty and powerful.

Say: O people! Be fair by God—were you not promised this Beauty in all the tablets, and were you not given glad tidings of Him? Yet when He appeared in truth you turned away from Him and denied the signs of God, the Supreme, the Forgiving, the Merciful.

Verily thou wert with Us and art acquainted with certain matters. Remind the people of what thou hast known and seen, and be not of them that remain silent. Know thou that We have heard thy mention and thy call among the servants through this Most Great Name. Blessed art thou for having shattered the idol of vain imaginings through the name of thy Lord, the Mighty, the Inaccessible, the Impregnable.

Arise to serve the Cause, then protect the people from the whisperings of the satans, for they have appeared in these days in every form to lead astray the believers. Say: O people! By God the Truth! The signs of God shine forth amidst the signs of men as the sun shineth forth between the heavens and the earth. Beware lest ye compare them with aught else. Say: Purify your breasts from doubt that the lights of the sun may shine upon them from the dawning-place of My Name, the Most High, the All-Wise.

Gather the people upon the shore of this sea, then impart unto them what God hath imparted unto thy heart, that they may detach themselves from the worlds and turn with their whole being to the direction of God, thy Lord, the Creator of the heavens and the earth. Thus have We cast upon thee the word of truth that thou mayest be assured that We have not forgotten thee, and that thy name may be mentioned before the Throne, whereof testifieth this Tablet that hath been sent down, the mighty, the wondrous, and the Spirit that wafteth from the paradise of thy Lord, the All-Merciful, upon thee and upon thy family and upon those whose hearts are stirred by the breezes of the All-Glorious in their longing for the meeting with their Lord, the All-Merciful, the Most Compassionate.

BH02610: This is My remembrance of My servant, that he…

In the Name of God, the Most Inaccessible, the Most Holy, the Most Glorious!

This is My remembrance of My servant, that he may remember Me by My Name and be detached from all else besides Me—and I am the Best of those who detach. And that he may be assisted in My Cause and speak forth My praise—and I am the Best of those who praise. And that he may witness My Beauty and read My words and reflect upon what hath befallen My sorrowful Self—though no sorrow can match My sorrow, and grief fleeth from My grief, and tribulations bow down before My tribulation, and I am the Lonely, the Grief-Stricken One.

O servant! I desire to make mention of thee, but when meanings are clothed in the garment of every word, it is as though the words are complete in themselves, while in every moment they have manifestations after manifestations, such that they shall never be exhausted throughout the eternity of God, the True, the Great King. Hearken thou unto My words, then ponder My Cause and what hath appeared from Me amongst the worlds, that thou mayest stand firm in the Cause and not follow those who have disbelieved and turned away and were among the idolaters—those who have drawn forth the sword of the tongue to reject God and His Cause, that they might thereby refute the truth and establish falsehood through what they possess of satanic insinuations.

Beware, beware lest thou turn to any besides Me or forget My grace. Place thy trust in My Self, the Almighty, the All-Compelling, the All-Knowing. Thus do We impart unto thee—act thou according to what God hath imparted unto thee in this Tablet of His wondrous words.

Hearken unto My words and grieve not over the world. When sorrows intensify upon thee, find solace in those from whom waft the sweet fragrances of love for My Self, the Gracious, the Ancient. Whoso desireth to sit with God, let him sit with My loved ones—this is a revelation from One Who is Mighty, All-Knowing. And whoso desireth to inhale the fragrance of the garment, let him inhale it from My chosen

ones. And whoso loveth to hear the melodies of God, let him read My verses—the Wondrous, the Revealed One.

O servant! Purify thy face from turning to aught else besides Me, that it may be purely for My luminous, mighty, inaccessible countenance. Sanctify thyself from the world and all that hath been created in and upon it, for We have consigned it to those who are occupied with it and are among the heedless. Thy Lord desireth naught from the world save the hearts of Our sincere servants, for We have made them the repository of My revelation, the dayspring of My remembrance, and the source of My knowledge, the Inaccessible, the Mighty.

Beware, beware lest thou preserve thy heart from all that would veil it from the knowledge of thy Lord. This indeed is a mighty counsel. And the glory rest upon thee and upon those with thee and upon those who have placed their trust in God and were among those who trust.

BH02613: Glorified is He Who hath sent down the verses…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Exalted!

Glorified is He Who hath sent down the verses in truth and ordained for all things that whereby they draw near unto God, the Almighty, the Unconstrained. The Books have been sealed by the Most Great Book wherein is detailed the knowledge of what hath been and what shall be. Blessed is he who hath attained unto it and drawn forth its mysteries.

Say: This is verily the Book of My Self, wherein hath been inscribed by the Most Exalted Pen that which attracteth the hearts of the men of insight unto God, the Mighty, the Most Glorious. Read it, O people, in the watches of night and the ends of day. The preamble of this Book hath been adorned with that which was foretold in the Psalms, the Qur'an, the Gospel and what was revealed in the Holy Books. Unto whom belongeth sovereignty this Day? Unto God, the One, the All-Compelling!

Say: O people, do ye hesitate in a Cause by whose leave every mention hath been made, and of Whose meeting ye were promised in all the Tablets? By God! He is indeed this One—behold then, O ye who are endued with insight! Say: We have ordained all tribulations for the Manifestation of Our Self, that ye may detach yourselves from all else and turn unto God, the Mighty, the All-Forgiving.

Say: O concourse of the heedless! Do ye mock Us? Soon shall We mock you on a day when the breaths of chastisement shall seize you, and ye shall find no place of refuge. O people! This is the Youth of God among you, His manifestation in your midst, and His sovereignty over you. He hath come with that wherewith ʿAli came before. Blessed is he who hath turned unto Him; woe betide him who hath turned away—he is of the companions of the Fire.

Say: I have believed in God and the Manifestations of His Cause. He hath raised Me up in truth and sent Me unto all who are in the heavens and on earth. Is there any escape from His Cause? Nay, by His Self, the Mighty, the All-Compelling! O people, have mercy upon Him Who hath suffered in God's path that which hath caused the eyes of the denizens of Paradise and the Concourse on High to weep, at eventide

and at dawn. Consider what was revealed unto you through the tongue of ʿAli and what hath been revealed in this Revelation. Fear ye the Unconstrained, O ye who are endued with insight!

As for thee, cast away what is with men and take what hath come unto thee from God. He shall make thee independent of all that is hidden and manifest. Grieve not over anything, and be not silent in the remembrance of thy Lord. Remember Him among men at eventide and at dawn. Hold fast unto this Tree though the winds have differed and grown severe, and be thou calm and dignified. Remind from Us those servants who have believed in God, Creator of darkness and light. And the glory be upon thee and upon him who hath held fast unto the Sure Handle and turned away from the wicked ones.

BH02633: This is the Book of God which speaks…

He is God, the Powerful, the Mighty, the Great!

This is the Book of God which speaks with truth. God has made it a guidance and remembrance for all the worlds. It is indeed God's proof amongst His servants, His evidence to His creation, and His authority over all who are in the heavens and earths. O people, fear God and follow not your selfish desires, and be not among the lost. Believe in God and in Him Who has appeared with truth and recites unto you at all times that which attracts the hearts of those who have knowledge.

And you, O servant, hear My call, then remember My imprisonment and exile among the ungodly. By God, the earth has become so straitened for Me that I find no land of safety to which I might flee and be among those who dwell therein. Yet I thank God for what has befallen Me and what He has decreed for Me. Verily there is no Beloved but Him, and I hope for what appears from Him, for whatever pertains to the Beloved is beloved by the lover.

Stand firm then in the Cause of God in such wise that the whisperings of the evil ones will not cause you to slip. Thus have We imparted unto you the word of truth that you may be among those who know. And the glory be upon you and upon those who have stood firm in the Cause and were among the assured ones.

Then remember on Our part your son Hussein who was named after one of these two names, that the joy of the Cause may seize him from this direction which God has illumined from this wondrous countenance. Thus does God remember whom He wishes among His servants, and verily His grace is ever nigh unto the doers of good.

And you, recite this Most Great Remembrance and then call upon God through it, your Lord and the Lord of all worlds:

Glory be unto Thee, O my God! I beseech Thee by Thy Name through which the tongue of all things has been loosened in praise of Thyself and through which the door of Thy knowledge has been opened to every heart—the Name which Thou hast called Thy Most Exalted Name and Thy Later Manifestation in the garment of Thy Most Glorious Beauty—to purify my heart from all allusions, veils and indications that stand between me and the recognition of the Manifestation of Thy Self.

Then send down, O my God, from the heaven of Thy mercy that which will detach me from all else save Thee and will purify my face for Thy face, my heart for Thy knowledge, my tongue for the wonders of Thy remembrance, my hearing for listening to the melodies of the might of Thy oneness, and my inmost being for entering into the depths of the ocean of Thy grandeur. Then send down upon me, O my God, the good of this world and the next, and make me firm upon this path whereon the feet of most of Thy servants have slipped after Thou didst manifest Thyself with all Thy signs. Verily Thou art the Mighty, the Powerful, the Exalted, the All-Dominating, the Unconstrained.

BH02617: Glory be to Thee, Thou in Whose hand are…

Glory be to Thee, Thou in Whose hand are the heaven of omnipotence and the kingdom of creation. Thou doest, by Thy sovereignty, what Thou willest, and ordainest, through the power of Thy might, what Thou pleasest. From eternity Thou hast been exalted above the praise of all created things, and wilt to eternity remain far above the glorification of any one of Thy creatures. Existence itself testifieth to its non-existence when face to face with the manifold revelations of Thy transcendent oneness, and every created thing confesseth, by its very nature, its nothingness when compared with the sacred splendors of the light of Thy unity. Thou hast, in Thyself, been independent of any one besides Thee and rich enough, in Thine own essence, to dispense with any one except Thy Self. Every description by which they who adore Thy unity describe Thee, and every praise wherewith they who are devoted unto Thee praise Thee, are but the traces of the pen which the fingers of Thy strength and power have set in motion—fingers whose movement is controlled by the arm of Thy decree—the arm itself animated by the potency of Thy might.

Thy glory beareth me witness! How can I, aware as I am of this truth, hope to befittingly make mention of Thee and celebrate Thy praise? Howsoever I describe Thee, whichever of Thy virtues I recount, I cannot but blush and feel ashamed of what my tongue hath uttered or my pen written.

The quintessence of knowledge, O my Lord, proclaimeth its powerlessness to know Thee, and perplexity, in its very soul, confesseth its bewilderment in the face of the revelations of Thy sovereign might, and remembrance, in its inmost spirit, acknowledgeth its forgetfulness and effacement before the manifestations of Thy signs and the evidences of Thy praise. What, then, can this poor creature hope to achieve, and to what cord must this wretched soul cling?

I beseech Thee, O Thou Who art the Lord of the worlds, and the Beloved of such as have recognized Thee, and the Desire of all that are in heaven and on earth, by Thy Name through which the cry of every suppliant hath ascended into the heaven of Thy transcendent holiness, through which every seeker hath soared to the sublimities of Thy unity and grandeur, through which the imperfect have been perfected, and the abased exalted, and the tongue of every stammerer unloosed, and the sick made whole, and whatever was unworthy of Thy highness and beseemed not Thy greatness and Thy sovereignty made acceptable unto Thee,—I beseech Thee to aid us by Thine invisible hosts and by a company of the angels of Thy Cause. Do Thou, then, accept the works we have performed for love of Thee, and for the sake of Thy pleasure. Cast us not away, O my God, from the door of Thy mercy, and break not our hopes in the wonders of Thy grace and favors.

Our limbs, our members, O my Lord, bear witness to Thy unity and oneness. Send down upon us Thy strength and power, that we may become steadfast in Thy Faith and may aid Thee among Thy servants. Illumine our eyes, O my Lord, with the effulgence of Thy beauty, and enlighten our hearts with the splendors of Thy knowledge and wisdom. Write us up, then, with those who have fulfilled their pledge to Thy Covenant in Thy days, and who, through their love for Thee, have detached themselves from the world and all that is therein.

Powerful art Thou to do what Thou pleasest. No God is there beside Thee, the All-Powerful, the Omniscient, the Supreme Ruler, the Help in Peril, the Self-Subsisting.

BH02635: In the Name of God, the Most Holy…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Exalted! This is a Book from Us to those who are in the heavens and on earth, that the verses of the Lord of Names and Attributes might draw them to the Dawning-Place of the lights of their Lord's countenance, the Mighty, the Praised One.

Say: Today the grace of your Lord, the All-Merciful, hath encompassed all the worlds, and He hath manifested Himself through His most beautiful names to all who are in earth and heaven. The Tongue of Grandeur calleth from the Kingdom of Glory: Blessed is he who hath turned unto God on this great Day!

Say: I have come from the Orient of the Command to give life to all who are on earth. Fear God, O people, and follow not those who have denied their Lord, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

Say: O concourse of divines! Still your pens, for by God the Most Exalted Pen speaketh in truth and moveth across the Tablet by the command of One powerful and all-knowing. Efface what ye possess of sciences and allusions, for lo, the Tree of the Uttermost End calleth between earth and heaven, and in each word that proceedeth from its mouth are treasured the sciences of the first and the last. Rend asunder the veils in the name of your Lord, the Mighty, the Bestower. Thus doth He command you Who hath sat beneath the sword in the path of God, the King, the Just, the Mighty, the Ancient of Days.

Say: O peoples of religions! Do ye occupy yourselves with that which ye possess after He Who is the Lord of Names hath come with clear sovereignty? Abandon that which your selfish desires command you and turn unto the Most Sublime Horizon. This is better for you than all that hath been created on earth, if ye be of them that know. We have sacrificed Our self to exalt the Word of God above all else. Seek ye the grace of your Lord, the All-Merciful, and be not of the lost.

O servant! When the Tablet of the Command appeareth before thy face, arise and take it with submission and tranquility, then enter the place of those among the people of the Bayan who have denied thy Lord, the All-Merciful. Say: O people! I have come to you from the Orient of your Lord's command, the Most High, the Most Great. This is God's Tablet which hath come from the presence of the Lord of Names. Fear God and be not of the mischief-makers.

Fear God and commit not that which causeth the Primal Point to lament in the Most Glorious Paradise. Read ye what hath been sent down in the Bayan and follow not those who have denied God—verily they are the companions of the Fire. Thus doth the Prisoner command thee at a time when He is surrounded

by the hosts of the oppressors. Be thou steadfast in all conditions in such wise that the veils of the people of error may not prevent thy face from shining among the worlds. The glory be upon thee and upon those who have cast away what they possessed and taken what they were commanded by One mighty and wise.

BH02587: O Rida! May God grant you the best…

He is the Mighty, the Self-Subsisting!

O Rida! May God grant you the best of rewards on Our behalf and enable you to attain that which you love and with which you are content. We bear witness that you have striven to the utmost in seeking God's good-pleasure, your Lord. We beseech God to make you steadfast in His love and in the love of those in whom naught can be seen except the love of God, the Ancient King.

It behooveth thee, therefore, to render thanks unto God, thy Creator, and to remember Him at all times, inasmuch as He hath aided thee in His Cause and hath deposited within thy heart the love of His loved ones, and hath made thee a servant of His servant, and hath brought thee to the shore of nearness, and hath caused thee to enter the pavilion which none entereth save those who gaze upon pure Beauty with the eye of glory and who recline upon the couches of holiness. Therefore, detach thyself from self and desire, and draw nigh in submission and contentment out of love for thy Lord, that God's favor unto thee may be perfected.

Then walk upon the earth with wisdom, speak with wisdom, dispute not except with wisdom, and grieve not over what hath passed thee by. All this is My counsel unto thee and unto those who are detached from all else but God. Make this thy guiding light and be not heedless of it, and be of them that stand firm in love.

Then convey Our remembrance unto thy wife and unto her who was in thy household, and unto those who place their trust in their Lord. Give glad-tidings unto thy wife of God's loving-kindness, then glorify God before her face, for this is a command from the presence of the Mighty, the Self-Subsisting.

Say unto her: When thou didst meet the handmaiden of God who was honored to attain the presence of the Servant in the final year of the Hijra, remember her on Our behalf and give her glad-tidings of God's mercy, the Mighty, the Beloved. And say unto her: Recognize the value of this bounty within thyself and place thy trust in God in all thy affairs, for verily He will protect thee and thy son from the arrows of those who join partners with their Lord. Stand firm in the love of thy Lord and turn not unto those who deny God's favor. The world and all that is therein shall perish, and all affairs shall return unto the Mighty, the Self-Subsisting.

Then protect thy son Mihdi and give him glad-tidings of God's help, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise, the All-Praised. Say unto him: Be patient in what befalleth thee and be not disturbed by anything, but place thy trust in God, for verily He is thy Guardian after Me and will enable thee to attain thy ultimate goal.

And the Spirit and Glory and Splendor be upon thee, O wife of Rida, and upon thy husband, and upon all who dwell in thy household, both female and male. Then know thou the station of thy husband and how he hath attained unto the good-pleasure of the Beloved.

BH02628: Grieve not in thy exile. By God, wert thou…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Glorious

Grieve not in thy exile. By God, wert thou to see with Mine eye, thou wouldst sacrifice thyself in My path, inasmuch as God hath made thee one of the captives in My love. Yet the veil hath prevented thee from recognizing what hath been ordained for thee by One Who is Mighty, Powerful. We behold thee in sorrow because the pain of exile hath touched thee. By God, thy homeland is beneath My shadow—of this thy Lord, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise, doth testify.

Grieve not for thy son; verily, he circleth round his Lord. Call thou to mind the behavior of Ashraf's mother, whose son laid down his life in the Land of Za (Zanjan). He, most certainly, is in the seat of truth, in the presence of One Who is the Most Powerful, the Almighty.

When the infidels, so unjustly, decided to put him to death, they sent and fetched his mother, that perchance she might admonish him, and induce him to recant his faith, and follow in the footsteps of them that have repudiated the truth of God, the Lord of all worlds.

No sooner did she behold the face of her son, than she spoke to him such words as caused the hearts of the lovers of God, and beyond them those of the Concourse on high, to cry out and be sore pained with grief. Truly, thy Lord knoweth what My tongue speaketh. He Himself beareth witness to My words.

And when addressing him she said:

> "My son, mine own son! Fail not to offer up thyself in the path of thy Lord. Beware that thou betray not thy faith in Him before Whose face have bowed down in adoration all who are in the heavens and all who are on the earth. Go thou straight on, O my son, and persevere in the path of the Lord, thy God. Haste thee to attain the presence of Him Who is the Well-Beloved of all worlds."

On her be My blessings, and My mercy, and My praise, and My glory. I Myself shall atone for the loss of her son—a son who now dwelleth within the tabernacle of My majesty and glory, and whose face beameth with a light that envelopeth with its radiance the Maids of Heaven in their celestial chambers, and beyond them the inmates of My Paradise, and the denizens of the Cities of Holiness. Were any eye to gaze on his face, he would exclaim: "Lo, this is no other than a noble angel!"

Beware lest thou commit that which would grieve My servant, for verily he abideth beneath the watchful gaze of thy Lord. Restrain thy tongue, then prostrate thyself and bow down before thy Lord, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy. A station hath been ordained for thee—beware lest thou pursue it through means unbefitting thee. Be thou assured through the bounty of thy Lord, the Ancient One. Say:

> “O my Lord! I am well-pleased with Thy good-pleasure, and I yearn to sacrifice my life and those who are with me in Thy path. Verily, Thou art the Lord of all the worlds.”

O My handmaiden! Reflect, then judge with equity: Are the repositories of bodies beneath the earth more excellent, or within the vessels of the protection of thy Lord, the Forgiving, the Merciful? Be thou assured that death is the inevitable fate of all who dwell upon the earth—all shall perish, yet the Face of thy Lord, the Compassionate, shall endure, He Who hath shone forth from this resplendent Horizon. And after death is assured, if one were to die of maladies, would this be preferable, or to suffer martyrdom in My path? By God! This is the truth, and all things bear witness thereto, and beyond them thy Lord, the Truthful, the Trustworthy.

Grieve thou not save for separation from Me and My tribulations, and rejoice thou not save in My remembrance and My praise. Thus hath thy Lord commanded thee from the precincts of this distant Prison.

BH02594: This is a letter from the servant of God…

In the Name of God, the Most Merciful, the Most Compassionate!

This is a letter from the servant of God to one of His servants who has taken unto God a path. After hearkening to the blessed word “Pilgrimage to the House is a duty unto God for mankind,” he turned toward the divine command until he attained the privilege of visiting the Most Great House of God. He must, God willing, count this enduring bounty as great and never be heedless of the remembrance of the All-Merciful at any time or season. He must ever be occupied with building the house of the heart, which is the throne for the manifestation of the All-Glorious.

Hear with the ear of the spirit the call of Him Who summons to the All-Merciful. His call is today the sweet water of life for the bodies of all beings. By the Lord of all creation, if all who are on earth were to attain but one drop thereof, all would turn, living and enduring, toward the Object of worship. Whosoever remains deprived of this living water today is accounted as dead and as nothing in the sight of God, even as He has said:

> “They have hearts wherewith they understand not, and eyes wherewith they see not, and ears wherewith they hear not.”

We must beseech God, exalted be His remembrance, that He not deprive these servants, through His grace and favor, from the cloud of mercy and the heaven of bounty. This is the ultimate goal of those who seek the presence of the All-Glorious, and naught else is regarded by God. As has been observed, He has given this world and its ornaments to the lowliest of His servants. Surely if it had any worth, He would not have bestowed it upon the heedless. Thus the aim of those who believe in divine unity has been the good-pleasure of the Friend and whatsoever is from Him. As is witnessed, these most great tribulations that have befallen in this year have been sweeter than the choicest honey to the tongue of him who speaks. His is the praise and the bounty. The desire of the people of truth has been martyrdom—that is, their life is in their death. This is the true word. Blessed are they that attain!

Convey mention and greetings from this servant to the loved ones of God wherever you meet them. Say: Today is the day of steadfastness and turning to the Truth. Be not grieved by the tribulations that have befallen. The Cause is in God's hands. Verily He is the Ruler over all else. If absolute power appears in the garment of powerlessness, and the Absolute Sovereign outwardly appears as one ruled and oppressed, there is no harm in this, for whatever appears from the All-Wise contains wisdom which none comprehend save those possessed of understanding. And praise be to God, the Lord of Lords.

BH02605: At the hour when the bride of sorrow lifted…

At the hour when the bride of sorrow lifted from her face the veil of concealment, and the Countenance of Grief raised the banner of anguish; when the spreader of the dawn-wind unfurled the outstretched carpet of gloom, and the attendant of the Countenance of Eternity sank to rest upon the fixed couches; when the cloud of power rained down from the stifled air the showers of separation, and the huris of paradise emerged from the chambers of separation; when the secluded ones of dissension arrayed the visage of hypocrisy, the maidens of Paradise smote their heads, the fair bestowers ran distraught, the holy ones of sanctity clad themselves in robes of darkness, and the forms of intimacy shed crimson tears from the eye of fidelity; when the treasurer of Paradise withdrew behind the veil of hiddenness, and the guide of the community was shrouded in the curtain of extinction—then did the leaves of the Tree of blessedness incline to yellow, and the boughs of the Sidratu'l-Muntaha fall one upon another and were broken.

The cloud of mercy was withheld, the lightning of might was uplifted; the dove of wrath took wing, and the cock of malice melted away the gladness of splendour. The radiance of joy rose from the throne of abasement, and the vengeance of oppression sat upon the carpet of glory. The raven of the city of darkness forbade the parrot of the Egypt of attainment from tasting the sugar of delight; the sparrow of cruelty restrained the nightingale of self-effacement from chanting its lay; the jealous crow hindered the hoopoe of exultation from the Sheba of revelation; and the vanquished Abu-Jahl drove forth the blessed Beauty from the frequented Fane.

The candle of the gathering of light was extinguished, and the bat of blindness became the wanton plaything of the arena; the sovereign of the sanctuary of honour sat upon the point of humiliation, and the base-born one of the mine of wretchedness lodged upon the throne of greatness. The furnace of envy flamed within the breasts of the vainglorious, and the seas of sedition surged within the hearts of those that should have heeded. They cast the eloquent of love from the pulpit of unity, and withheld the discerning of longing from the taste of attainment. The garden of imitation was adorned, and the fruit of praise was cut off.

The beloved of the valley of love were struck dumb with bewilderment, and the veiled ones of the valley of multiplicity became beholders of the desired Witness. Again was the falcon of sovereignty ensnared in the grasp of shameless owls, and Joseph of the realm of being, through the hands of faithless brethren, was hurled into the pit.

The owls commit injustice against the falcon; they beat his guiltless wing and plume, and cry:

"Why dost thou still remember that far land, or that fair palace of the sovereign's arm?"

His crime is this: he is a falcon—naught besides. What fault hath Joseph, save that he is fair?

The peacock's foe is but the peacock's plume: How many a king hath perished through his glory!

BH02708: This is a Book from the Lord of Names…

In the Name of God, the Most Great

This is a Book from the Lord of Names to him who hath held fast unto the Most Great Handle and turned unto God, the Creator of earth and heaven, that the words of his Lord may attract him to the station which hath been, in truth, praised in the Mother Book, and that he may arise amidst the servants to make mention of God, the Lord of the Day of Mutual Calling, that perchance they that slumber may arise from their couches and turn towards the quarter that hath been illumined by the lights of the Countenance.

O servant! Arise from the slumber of stillness, then summon the people unto God, the Almighty, the Self-Subsisting. Thus hath the matter been decreed in the Tablets and the command hath come with a sovereignty that encompasseth all the worlds. That land hath been honored by the advent of thy Chosen Lord, and from every tree is heard: "Verily, there is none other God but Him." This indeed is that which ye were promised in a Tablet that was, in the Mother Book with the All-Bountiful, recorded.

O people! Follow not your desires; rather, follow your God. He, verily, hath dawned from the horizon of the All-Merciful with a proof that hath been, in the Tablet, by the Pen of the Spirit inscribed. Do ye worship names and forsake the Creator of earth and heaven? What aileth you that ye take not unto Him a way? Do the powers of kings frighten you? By My life! The most exalted among them is but a subject, and I am, in truth, the Sovereign. I have come with a Cause that was, in the Tablet, mighty.

We have delivered unto the kings the messages of their Lord, and neither their might nor the tribulations that have befallen Us have deterred Us. Thus was the matter ordained in the Tablet of Destiny by the Most Exalted Pen, in truth, recorded. We have sent down unto them clear verses and dispatched them with a power from Our presence, that they might know that tribulation preventeth not the Beauty from speaking that whereby the hearts of the righteous are gladdened, while he that hath been deprived of the breezes of revelation is sorely troubled.

Blessed art thou for having attained unto the recognition of thy Lord and turned unto the Qiblih of all horizons with a heart that was, in the love of God, steadfast. Let not the words of the idolaters grieve thee. They are as ashes upon which blow tempestuous winds, rendering them scattered dust. Will any endure with his sovereignty? Nay, by thy Lord, the All-Merciful! All in creation shall perish, and sovereignty shall remain with a Sovereign Who hath been, from everlasting, in truth, great.

Remind them that have believed and give them the glad-tidings of that which hath been sent down from before the Throne. Thus have We commanded thee in truth. Verily, He is well aware of and watchful over His servants. That which thou didst send hath reached Our presence. We have accepted it as a token of grace from thy Lord, and We beseech Him to assist thee under all conditions. He, verily, is the All-Powerful, the Almighty.

BH02675: We have sent down from the heaven of [the…

In the name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Exalted!

We have sent down from the heaven of [the Bayan] a luminous water, that there might grow thereby in the soil of hearts the plant of wisdom and utterance. He, verily, is knowing over all things.

Water hath diverse meanings, among them the manifestation of the All-Merciful upon all created things, and among them the dawning of the lights of [the Word], and among them the water We have caused to flow from the Fountainhead of the Divine Will. Thy Lord, verily, is knowing of all things.

Say: The [trees] that have attained unto these waters—from their leaves and fruits can be heard that which bringeth tranquility to the hearts of the servants and speaketh unto men at one time of this Great Announcement and at another of the mystery of My Ancient Name. Blessed is he who knoweth that he hath been mentioned before the Throne as one of the people of Baha.

Say: O people! The Revelations have ended. Beware lest ye differ regarding that which the Pen of [Command] imparteth unto you. Follow the religion of God and His Faith, and follow not every misbeliever who is far removed from the truth. Ere long shall ye hear from most lands the cry of the Calf. Beware lest ye follow every lying sinner who is recorded in the Tablet as guilty.

Say: O people! The Primal Point desired from the Bayan naught save My Self and the manifestation of My Cause. Were anyone to inhale it, he would discover from its every word the fragrance of My raiment. Thus was the Command sent down in the Bayan from the presence of the All-Merciful. He spoke, and His Word is the truth: “Should anyone utter a verse, reject him not.” Ponder then, O people of insight! When He became aware of this Revelation and beheld it upon the throne of grandeur and glory, He therefore spoke this word and others like it. Thy Lord is, verily, the Mighty, the All-Knowing.

Were it not for My Self, He would not have spoken thus, and thy Lord, the Mighty, the Self-Subsisting, beareth witness to this. How many are the servants who utter words and claim for themselves that which God hath not permitted them. Reflect, O people of vision! Even as ye have heard from most cities the cry of one who hath claimed divine revelation and wrongfully taken people’s [wealth]. Thus do We teach thee the way of truth from thy Lord, the Mighty, the Self-Subsisting.

Thinkest thou they are awake? Nay, they sleep, and the tongue of power and might in the kingdom of thy Lord, the Mighty, the Gracious, beareth witness to this. Blessed art thou for having attained unto the recognition of God and turned toward the Dawning-Place of thy Lord’s Will, the All-Merciful. Pay no heed to those who have turned away and objected. We have ordained [for thee] a station in Paradise which is, by My life, among the most exalted of stations. Thy Lord is, verily, the Almighty, the All-Compelling.

BH02691: The Pen of Command mentions His servant Muhammad Kazim…

He is the Most High, the Most Great.

The Pen of Command mentions His servant Muhammad Kazim, the brother in truth who migrated with God, to draw him near to what He has willed for him and to cause him to speak the truth between the heavens and the earth.

O servant! When thy name was mentioned in the holy court, verses of wondrous glory were sent down from the heaven of Command, and We sent them to thee as a favor from Our presence, for verily I am the All-Bountiful, the Ancient of Days.

Take heed lest thou be saddened by those on whose faces thou seest the dust of hell. Seek God's help in all matters, for He will assist thee with the truth. Verily, there is no God but Him. His is the creation and the command. He doeth what He willeth and ordaineth what He pleaseth.

Drink the cup of immortality from the fingers of Glory, then cast aside the cup of mortality and turn thy face toward thy Lord, the Mighty, the Powerful, the All-Knowing. Take heed lest anything sadden thee. Whatever thou seest in the realm of being shall perish, while sovereignty and power shall remain with God, the King, the Transcendent, the Most High, the Most Great.

And if harm befalleth thee, remember My harm and be not saddened by thy harm, for My harm is greater than thy harm and mightier than the harm of all created things combined. By God! There hath come upon Me that which hath come upon no one before, and God is witness to this and is All-Knowing.

Say: O people! This is the Most High among you who hath come to you with God's signs, His power and sovereignty, His grandeur and majesty. Fear God, O people, and be among the God-fearing. Dispute not with Him through what your selves and desires command you, and wage not war against His exalted and mighty Self.

O people! Look with the eye of the beginning at that whereby the Cause of the Prophets and Messengers was established. Fear God and differ not in His Cause, and nullify not your deeds through satanic suggestions. Satan commands you to transgression and indecency, while this Youth commands you to fear God, and this is indeed a mighty bounty. Answer God's summoner among you and follow not those who have disbelieved and associated partners with God and were among the ungodly.

And thou, O servant, convey the Cause of thy Lord to those who are veiled by the veils of idle fancies from the beauty of thy Lord, the Mighty, the Powerful, the All-Knowing, and who were among the veiled ones, that they may detach themselves from what they possess and turn to what hath been ordained for them in the preserved tablets of glory.

And glory be upon thee and upon every insightful believer.

BH02703: Your missive was received in His presence, and regarding…

Your missive was received in His presence, and regarding what you wrote about the division, He said: "Excellent is what the physician has done." We beseech God to confirm him and you.

Blessed art thou, O Abdullah, for thy letter hath been presented before His countenance and We found from it the fragrance of thy love for the Beloved of the worlds. Arise to manifest the love of God and His

Cause among His servants, then reconcile between His loved ones in such wise that We may perceive from them the fragrance of unity. This is the greatest of all deeds in the sight of the Self-Sufficient, the Most High. Grieve not over anything, for He will assist whomsoever He willeth. Soon will He raise you up in truth—verily He is the Almighty, the All-Glorious.

Through unity the face of the Cause becomes illumined and the faces of those who have disbelieved in God, the Lord of the Day of Mutual Calling, are darkened. We have chosen for thee what thy Lord, the Chosen One, hath chosen. Strive in that which thou hast been commanded by the True One, that through them the virtues of God may be spread among His servants. We have desired for them that which is better for them than all that hath been created in secret and in public. They are people who mention the name of God throughout the land. It behooveth them to manifest that which will cause the fragrance of the musk of unity to be diffused throughout all regions. Blessed is he who hath drunk this pure wine from the fingers of the mercy of his Lord, the Creator of all existence.

God willing, you must at all times be engaged in the remembrance of the All-Merciful and expend your complete effort and striving for unity and the gathering of the loved ones, so that the fragrances of unity may become manifest from that city which has become the place of God's captives, among all people, and all the friends in surrounding areas may testify to the unity of those souls. This is better for them than what was and what will be.

Regarding the daughter of Aqa Muhammad Rida, what [you wrote] was noted. His relatives are under the gaze of divine favor. If there has been delay in the manifestation of apparent favors, it has been due to lack of means. God willing, divine favors will encompass them. Let them not be grieved, and let them be happy with what hath been sent down from the direction of the Divine Throne.

And as for what thou didst mention regarding thy dream, We beseech God that there may appear from thee one who will aid the Cause of his Lord and mention Him among His servants in such wise that all created things will remember Him thereby. Verily, He is powerful over all things. Excellent is the name by which thou hast named him. Blessed is he in that We have caused the Pen to move in his mention and the mention of his name in the Tablet of his Lord, the Mighty, the Generous.

Convey My greetings to those who are with thee and to those who have believed in God, the Mighty, the All-Wise. Nothing whatsoever escapeth the knowledge of thy Lord. With Him is the knowledge of all things in a preserved tablet.

BH02704: In the Name of God, the First, without end…

In the Name of God, the First, without end. This is a remembrance from Us to him who hath believed in God, the Mighty, the All-Wise. We guide whom We please among Our servants and chastise the transgressors. In Our hands lie the measures of all things—We send them down according to a measure. Verily, We are the All-Powerful. Nothing whatsoever escapeth Our knowledge, and with Us is a perspicuous Book wherein We have detailed every wise command. Therein is the knowledge of what hath been and what shall be. Verily thy Lord is the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

Say: O people! Are the paths of error better than My straight and manifest path? Say: What aileth you? Have ye turned away from God and followed your own desires? Have ye any refuge besides Him? Nay, by the Lord of all worlds! Whoso followeth My guidance, verily he dwelleth in an exalted station, and whoso turneth away from My face, he is indeed among the companions of the fire.

Say: Beware lest ye lean towards them that have wronged, and follow the ungodly. Say: The guidance of God hath appeared in truth and this is His sovereignty, would ye but perceive. Do ye reject it after it hath come from the heaven of utterance with His Most Great Name? Beware lest ye differ concerning this mighty Cause. Do ye object to Him through Whom was established that which was sent down in the Books of God, the Mighty, the All-Knowing? He calleth you, even under the sword, to draw nigh unto paradise, while ye are in grievous error. He hath indeed come with the waters of life, while ye count yourselves among the dead in manifest loss.

Say: Cast away what ye possess and take what We have commanded you from the presence of One All-Knowing, All-Wise. Have ye found any truth in what the people of the Furqan (Qur'an) say? Nay, by your Lord, the All-Merciful! They are among the liars. Ponder what they say concerning the news of the Qa'im, and thou shalt find them in manifest error. They have clung to their own desires; verily they wander distracted in the valley of idle fancies. Say: With Us is the knowledge of all things, and We possess a preserving Book. Fear God and follow not those whose striving hath been lost in this world's life and who are among the most wretched of evil folk.

As for thee, turn away from them, then turn with all thy being to God, the Most High, the All-Praised. Say: O my Lord! Praise be to Thee for having enabled me to recognize the Manifestation of Thy Self, after all the deceitful and stubborn ones turned away from Him. I beseech Thee by Thy Name through which was revealed that which was hidden, to aid me in Thy remembrance and praise and in teaching Thy Cause among Thy servants. Verily, Thou art powerful over what Thou willest, and Thou art the All-Forgiving, the All-Merciful.

BH02672: O Husayn! Hear the call of the Husayn at…

He is the Most Holy, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious.

O Husayn! Hear the call of the Husayn at the time when He remained alone among the servants and was imprisoned time after time by what the hands of the oppressors had wrought. And besides these, servants who were created by His command rose up against Him—and God is witness to this—and they visited upon Me that which the Pen is ashamed to mention, after I came to them from the heaven of grace with mercy and mighty lights, and recited unto them at all times verses which every knower and learned one was powerless to comprehend, save whom thy Lord, the Mighty, the Powerful, willed.

Remind the servants of the days when thou wert present before the Throne and heard what no ear of men hath heard, except those who attained the presence of thy Lord and were among those who attained. Blessed be thine eye for what it saw, and thine ear for what it heard, and thy face for having turned toward the face of thy Lord, the Most High, the Great.

Know thou that We have not forgotten thee, for thy Lord never cuts off His mercy from His seeking servants. Be thou steadfast in the Cause and turn not to anyone. Then remember thy Lord at all times and turn not to those in whose hearts thou findest rancor toward the Youth, who were among the idolaters. Say: Die in your wrath! By God, that which hath appeared causeth to burn the breast of every sinful idolater and giveth life to the hearts of all who have believed in God and His signs and have drawn nigh unto the Law of grace in this wondrous, sublime Paradise.

Know thou that I have fallen into the pit of hatred and none is aware save God Who hath recorded all things in a preserving and mighty Book. Would that he who cast Me therein would calm his envy and give rest to his soul and not slander Me nor be among the slanderers. By God the Truth, there hath befallen Me what hath befallen no one, then he cried out within himself the cry of the oppressed ones that he might thereby cause doubt among those who believed and might introduce his rancor into the breasts of the sincere ones. Thus have We informed thee of what hath befallen Us that thou mayest be aware of the matter of thy Lord and remember Him with sorrowful verses. Arise to serve the Cause with steadfastness from Us, then remind the people of what thou art able and be not among the patient ones. And glory be upon thee and upon those who have taken unto God a way.

BH02693: All glory be to Thee, O Lord my God!…

All glory be to Thee, O Lord my God! I bear witness for Thee to that whereto Thou Thyself didst bear witness for Thine own Self, ere the day Thou hadst created the creation or made mention thereof, that Thou art God, and that there is none other God beside Thee. From eternity Thou hast, in Thy transcendent oneness, been immeasurably exalted above Thy servants' conception of Thy unity, and wilt to eternity remain, in Thine unapproachable singleness, far above the praise of Thy creatures. No words that any one beside Thee may utter can ever beseem Thee, and no man's description except Thine own description can befit Thy nature. All who adore Thy unity have been sore perplexed to fathom the mystery of Thy oneness, and all have confessed their powerlessness to attain unto the comprehension of Thine essence and to scale the pinnacle of Thy knowledge.

The mighty have all acknowledged their weakness, and the learned recognized their ignorance. They that are possessed of influence are as nothing when compared with the revelations of Thy stupendous sovereignty, and they who are exalted sink into oblivion when brought before the manifestations of Thy great glory. The radiance of the brightest luminaries is eclipsed by the effulgent splendors of Thy face, and the tongues of the most eloquent of speakers falter under the unrestrained effusions of Thy holy utterance, and the foundations of the mightiest structures tremble before the onrushing force of Thy compelling power.

Who is there, O my God, that can be deemed worthy to be remembered when Thou art remembered, and where is he to be found who can be regarded as capable of hinting at Thy nature or worthy of mention in the court of Thy transcendent oneness? From everlasting Thou has been alone with no one else beside Thee, and to everlasting Thou wilt continue to be one and the same. No God is there beside Thee, the God of power, of glory and wisdom.

Glorified be Thy name, O Lord my God! I beseech Thee by Him Who is Thine exalted and supreme Remembrance, Whom Thou hast sent down unto all Thy creatures and invested with Thy name, the All-Glorious, Whose will Thou hast ordained to be Thine own will, Whose self Thou hast decreed to be the revealer of Thine own Self, and His essence the Day-Spring of Thy wisdom, and His heart the treasury of Thine inspiration, and His breast the dawning-place of Thy most excellent attributes and most exalted titles, and His tongue the fountain-head of the waters of Thy praise and the well-spring of the soft-flowing streams of Thy wisdom, to send down upon us that which will enable us to dispense with all else except Thee, and will cause us to direct our steps towards the sanctuary of Thy pleasure and to aspire after the things Thou didst ordain for us according to Thine irrevocable decree.

Empower us, then, O my God, to forsake ourselves and cleave steadfastly to Him Who is the Manifestation of Thy Self, the Most Exalted, the Most High. Supply us also with that which is best for us, and write us down with such of Thy servants as have repudiated the Idol (Mirza Yahya), and firmly believed in Thee, and been so established on the throne of certitude that the whisperings of the Evil One have been powerless to hinder them from turning their faces towards Thy name, the All-Merciful.

Powerful art Thou to do what Thou pleasest and to ordain what Thou willest. No God is there but Thee, the All-Possessing, the All-Highest, the Almighty, the All-Bountiful, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

BH02695: Glorified art Thou, O my God! This is one…

In the Name of our Lord, the Most Exalted!

Glorified art Thou, O my God! This is one of Thy handmaidens and one of Thy dawning-places who hath drawn nigh unto Thee and placed her trust in Thee, until she witnessed the fire of Thy oneness in the Tree of Thine eternity and beheld the lights of holy Lordship from the Tree of Thy identity. The Sun of Eternity shone upon her in what was revealed to her of the mysteries of the Pen through destiny. Through this she desired to enter the gardens of Thy nearness and the paradise of Thy reunion, that she might erase from the tablet of her heart all reference to aught else but Thee, and that there might be kindled in her heart the fire of Thy oneness and there might radiate from her innermost being the light of Thy uniqueness.

When she drew near to the Tree of Thy divinity and sought refuge in its leaves, and held fast to its branches and found shade beneath it and tasted of its fruits, she journeyed unto it and migrated with it toward it until she reached its nearness. At that moment I beseech Thee, O my God, to complete her journeys and strengthen her foundation and comfort her eyes and raise up her spirit that she may journey from her self to Thy Self, and detach herself from her good-pleasure to Thy good-pleasure, and from her remoteness to Thy nearness, and from her separation to Thy presence, that she may return unto Thee and attain unto Thee.

Then create, O my Beloved, within her innermost being the burning flames of Thy love and in her heart the enkindling of Thy attraction, that through the heat of Thy love she may descend to the stream of Thy nearness and return from the surging of Thy fire to the treasury of Thy light. Yet none can attain unto this, O my God, except those who were created from Thy Self and appeared from Thy Beauty and returned unto Thee and entered the chambers of Thy glory and arrived at the mansions of Thy majesty, for Thou

art He Who giveth unto all things their due measure. Despite my recognition of this, I beseech Thee to make her detached from all else but Thee. Then cause her to know Thyself that she may be freed from all else save Thee, for if a servant knoweth Thee he would not be occupied with aught else nor engaged with other than Thee nor turn to any besides Thee, though he be given all that is in the heavens and earth. Verily Thou art of this well-informed, aware, and a wise witness.

And thou, O handmaiden of God, take this Book with thy spirit and present this Trust to thy heart that thou mayest inhale the musk-fragrance from the garment of grandeur and find the sweet scents of identity from the shirt of faithfulness, that thou mayest serve God thy Lord with both thine eyes and prostrate thyself before Him with both thy brows and bow down before Him with both thy cheeks, for He is the Truth, there is no God but Him, and we are all His servants and all bow down before Him.

And peace be upon thee from the letter H after the letter B.

BH02705: This is a clear Book sent down in truth…

He is the Most Holy, the Most Great, the Most Glorious!

This is a clear Book sent down in truth from the dominion of God, the Exalted, the Great. It summons mankind unto the Beloved of the worlds. Were that which is concealed therein of the revelations of his Lord to be unveiled, all who are in the heavens and earth would swoon away, save those who have held fast to the cord of God, the Mighty, the Wise.

Say: O people, be fair before God—does it befit anyone to object to Him Whom Moses begged to meet, Whose beauty the Friend sought, to Whose love the Spirit ascended, and for Whose sake the Point sacrificed Himself? Fear God and follow not every sinful idolator.

Have you found in the Bayan that which you did not find carrying the fragrance of My remembrance? Nay, by your Lord, the All-Merciful, were you but aware. He proclaimed in the wilderness of the Bayan and gave you glad tidings of your Lord, the All-Merciful. Then He came with mighty sovereignty. He testified of Me and informed you of My kingdom and dominion. What ails you that you cling to idle fancies and turn away from your Lord, the Most Glorious? This is naught but manifest loss.

Say: Do you imagine We desire aught for Ourselves, though We be in the hands of Our enemies? Cast aside your imaginings—the Sovereign of certitude has come. They who cling to aught else but Me are in manifest error. Their likeness is as one who casts the Living Waters behind him and hastens to the mirage. He is of those who wander distracted.

We sent unto you aforetime ʿAli with a wise remembrance that he might acquaint you with My Self and prepare you for My meeting. Yet when I unveiled My beauty and came in My glory, you denied My Self. Woe unto you, O company of the heedless!

Say: O peoples of the worlds, have mercy upon yourselves and forsake not the Ancient Beauty. How long will you follow vain desires? This is your Lord, the All-Glorious—turn unto Him and be not of the lost.

O thou who art illumined with the light of Baha! Make mention of My servants with My name and sovereignty, that they might hold fast to the truth and leave those who have disbelieved in God, the Mighty, the Powerful. Recite unto them the verses of thy Lord, that they might be drawn to the Dayspring of Revelation and be numbered with the steadfast.

Say: O people, make up for what you have missed in the Cause of God. Beware lest you be among the heedless. Soon will the messenger of death come unto you—then shall you behold the power of God and His sovereignty, and find no intimate friend. Seize your chance in the days of your Lord—this is better for you, were you but aware.

Thus have We commanded thee and inspired thee that thou mightest convey unto the people that which thou wert bidden by One All-Knowing, All-Wise.

BH02706: This is a Book from the Servant unto him…

He is the Well-Beloved in the Most Exalted Horizon of eternity.

This is a Book from the Servant unto him who hath arisen unto God and is numbered among the guided, whose name is inscribed in the resplendent Books, that he may turn it unto the right hand of immortality and may hearken unto the melodies of the dove upon the boughs of the Sadratu'l-Muntaha, uplifted within the pavilion of nearness.

Say: O people of the earth! Cast away the things ye possess, and lay fast hold on the Cord of God, and differ not concerning that which God hath written with the hands of power upon the Tablet of eternity, and hath recorded behind the pavilion of the Spirit.

Say: Fear God and arise from the couches of heedlessness; then hasten with your hearts unto the seats of holiness, that haply ye may enter the Ridvan of oneness and drink of the Wine of Life from the hands of Him Who is outstretched with mercy.

Say: Have no pity on yourselves; rather, recognize the worth of these days, and keep not far from the bounty of Him Who hath appeared in truth, whom God hath sent forth in the temple of might. Thus do We cast upon thee the mysteries of wisdom and teach thee the paths of nearness along the highway stretched forth in the heaven of the Cause, that thou mayest enjoin upon the people justice and godliness and restrain them from oppression and lewdness, and that thou mayest be numbered among the denizens of Paradise, inscribed in the scrolls of heaven.

Know moreover that God hath not forgotten thee. That which He hath decreed for thee in His path shall enrich thee beyond all besides Him, shall raise thee unto the banners of glory, and shall send down upon thee His mercy which descendeth from the clouds of the Spirit. Thus do We announce unto thee the glad-tidings of holiness and convey unto thee messages which the hearts of men can never attain, and which from everlasting eternity have been preserved in the Mother Book with the seal of God.

Say: O My people! Answer the Summoner of God, and be not of those who have disbelieved in God and His signs, and whom God hath seized for their sins in the fire whose abode is in the nethermost depths of Sijjin. They shall find for themselves no helper to lighten their torment; at every moment God shall

change their skins that they may taste the punishment twice over, and they shall be consumed in the fire of idolatry.

All this hath been ordained from God. We have cast it upon thee in truth, that the melodies of Paradise may draw thee, and that thou mayest circle, like a moth of flame, about the lamp.

Say: This is from a Tablet sent down in truth; falsehood shall not come nigh it, and all upon the earth, were they gathered together, are powerless to produce its likea€"save those who have cut themselves off from all else save God and have, by His leave, drunk from the hands of light.

He is the Mighty, the Wondrous. In the darkness of the earth, after the turning away of souls, He was beheld, like the sun, shining from the horizon of the Spirit, in the dawning-place of holiness, in truth and manifest.

BH02727: We have verily sent forth a fragrant breath…

In the Name of God, the Eternal!

We have verily sent forth a fragrant breath from the holy fragrances of this exalted Paradise that the world may be perfumed in these days when the Temple of Immortality hath been established upon the throne of names and attributes with a new Revelation, and that My sister may obtain from it the sweet savour of My garment, may soar in the atmosphere of nearness, and hearken to the melodies through which the hearts of the near ones have been stirred.

Give ear, O My Leaf, to My call raised from the direction of oneness that the Divine Summons may draw thee to the Heavenly Throne and help thee to hear the melodies of birds singing sweetly upon the twigs in praise of My Mighty and All-Knowing Self. Know thou that thy Brother hath verily quaffed from the cup of calamity at all times. Thus hath it been ordained for Him from the One Who is Mighty and Powerful. By God, the Sidratu'l-Muntaha hath verily been bowed, the Countenance of the One Who hath shone brightly amongst the people of the world hath clouded, and His black hair hath turned white by virtue of that which the host of unbelievers hath inflicted upon Him.

Verily, the intensity of her sorrows maketh Me weep and causeth My heart to address her, saying: Understand thou well the heat which is consuming Me that thou mayest praise God for thy plight, and thy soul may find abundant joy. And My liver addresseth My heart saying: Wert thou to be informed of how I burn and blaze, thou wouldst find the fire thou art in to be light and cold. Thy Lord is a witness to what I say and He is the All-Knowing. And My inner being addresseth them collectively, saying: Be thankful for that of which thou art unaware. Verily, I am consumed silently in a fire one ember of which, should it appear between the heavens and the earth, will consume the inhabitants of the world. Such is the tale of this Youth and such are the circumstances surrounding Him on all sides as a result of that which hath been perpetrated by the hands of them for whose protection We have made Our bosom a shield, that the darts of the envious may not touch them. Verily, thou shouldst remember thy Lord for that which hath been expounded by the Tongue of Revelation in this wondrous Tablet.

Praise be to Thee, O my God and my Desire! I know not whether to make My plaint about Thy forbearance in spite of Thy knowledge of all things, or about Thy patience in spite of Thy power over all things. How long wilt Thou abandon the Manifestation of Thy Self to the hands of the tyrants? I beseech Thee, O my God, by Thy name which hath encompassed all created things, to show forth the signs of Thy power over Thy creatures, and through it to raise up the weak among Thy loved ones during Thy days and to encompass the downfall of the arrogant among Thine enemies. I beseech Thee further, O my God, that Thou prevent me not from recognizing Thee and suffer me not to be deprived of meeting Thee. Ordain for me the good of this world and of the next. Verily, Thou art the Possessor of all existence. No God is there but Thee, the Mighty, the Most Powerful. Praised be God, the Lord of all worlds.

BH11736: O Mihdi! Bear thou witness that there is none...

He is God, the Mighty, the Incomparable

O Mihdi! Bear thou witness that there is none other God but Him. His is the creation and the command, and all were created by His bidding and all are prostrate before Him. His is the bounty and grace—He singles out whom He willeth with His mercy, and unto Him shall return the deeds of the doers. Know thou that thy letter, wherein thou didst call upon God thy Lord and seek protection in His all-compelling, self-subsisting protection, hath come before Us. We heard thy call and answered thee before thy letter reached Us, and We sent it unto thee that thou mayest be of them who are assured of the signs of God. And now We answer thee yet again, as a grace from Us unto thee and unto those who have renounced all that was and shall be, and have turned toward the shore of nearness—the station that the sincere have drawn nigh unto.

O Mihdi! Empty thyself of all else save Him, lest sorrow take hold of thee in the contingent world. Be thou in joy and gladness, for soon shall pass away the world and all that is therein, and the Cause shall return to what it was, and naught shall remain save the Face of God, the All-Compelling, the Self-Subsisting. Stand firm in the Cause. By God! This is the Cause at which every possessor of praiseworthy understanding is thunderstruck, at which all in the heavens and earth are shaken, at which the pillars crumble and covenants are broken—save for those who have clung to the cord of God. Let nothing grieve thee save separation from Me, the Inaccessible, the Forbidden, and complain thou of naught save thy remoteness from My presence, for this is the root of sorrow, which none save those nigh unto God can comprehend. Yet be thou patient in this, then show forth consummate patience as We have commanded thee. Transgress not that which thou art bidden, and be not of those who overstep the bounds of God and His good-pleasure—such as these know nothing and perceive not.

Then remember thou on Our behalf thy sister who was tried with that wherewith she was tried, and also she who was with her. Thus do We command thee that thy soul and their souls may be gladdened, as a mercy from Us unto thee and unto those who hear and act accordingly.

The mention of Tablets revealed to those parts is not permitted, for their publicity would not be free from mischief and controversy. You must absolutely keep them in the utmost preservation and concealment, except from those who are worthy. Strive beyond measure in concealment and exercise the utmost care.

BH02737: O handmaiden of God! Hearken unto the call…

He is the Most Mighty, the Most Wondrous, the Most Glorious!

O handmaiden of God! Hearken unto the call of God from this Tree planted in the holy land, this Spot which God hath sanctified from all eternity as a token that there is none other God but Him, and that ʿAli-Qabli-Nabil is the Manifestation of His Self to all who are in the heavens and on earth, and that this Youth is His Glory unto all who are in the kingdom of Command and Creation. There is none other God but Him, the Almighty, the Exalted, the Most High.

Know thou that thy letter hath come before Us and that the glances of God have been directed towards it. By this thou shouldst take pride in the heaven of might and majesty. God hath ordained for thee in the heaven of His decree that which shall gladden thy heart. Verily He is generous in His actions and great in His favors. Purify thyself from all remembrance, then remember thy Lord at eventide and at dawn, and in the morning and in the evening. Stand firm in thy love for thy Lord and be not like unto her who believed in her Lord and then turned away, and thereby did the word of punishment from God, thy Lord, become binding upon her. Verily He is severe in His chastisement.

Would that thou hadst known her and what was in her heart! By God, the eye of creation hath not witnessed anyone more false than she. She believes and then disbelieves, yet perceiveth not. Were ye to know what she did unto herself, ye would not have associated with her. But God is witness over her. There is none other God but Him. He knoweth every soul and nothing in the hearts of women and men is hidden from Him.

Do thou purify thy soul, thy heart and thy tongue from all who are in the heavens and on earth, then occupy thyself with the remembrance of thy Lord and place thy trust in Him in all matters. Verily He will protect thee from those who follow naught but vain imaginings and error. Thus doth the Mighty One teach thee. Follow what thou art commanded and associate not any partner with God, thy Lord. Verily He is sanctified above all likeness and comparison.

And the Glory rest upon thee and upon those who have believed in God in these days wherein feet have slipped and the earth and all who dwell thereon witness convulsion and earthquake, save those whom God hath caused to abide beneath the shadow of His mercy. Besides these there is no protector today for anyone. This verily is the truth, and after truth there is naught but error. Praise be to God, the Supreme King.

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BH02782: The Command hath come from the unseen realm…

In the Name of Him Who hath appeared with the Most Glorious Beauty!

The Command hath come from the unseen realm of the Divine Identity, from the right side of My heart, that: O Ancient Beauty! Remember Thy servant who hath believed in God and in whose heart hath

entered the love of Thy Supreme and Most Great Self. Then make mention of him in the Tablet, that neither the tempests of those who have disbelieved and associated partners with God, nor the storms of the deniers may move him.

By God, the True One! Whosoever remaineth steadfast in this Cause this day, verily the denizens of the Supreme Concourse shall circle round him, and then the billows of the Names. For this is a Cause the like of which hath never appeared in creation, and to this My tongue now beareth witness. But the people hear not My words and have denied this resplendent and wondrous Beauty by veiling themselves from it.

O servant! Should thine own self oppose thee in My Cause, sever its head and fear not its passing. Place thy trust in God, the Mighty, the Supreme, the Ancient. And shouldst thou see among the people of the Bayan one who denieth this Beauty, draw nigh unto him and stand before his eyes and say:

> "O thou who associateth partners with God! By what proof didst thou believe in ʿAli while denying Him Who sent him with the truth? Alas for thee and for those who have denied God, the Help in Peril, the Mighty, the Peerless!"

Beware lest the pride of the turbans of those who have disbelieved and associated partners with God prevent thee. All that thou hast witnessed among the people of the Furqan (Muslims), witness it in these people, for there is no difference between them. Those denied God when He appeared with the name of ʿAli in truth, and these have denied Him when He appeared once again with this Name, at which all who are in the heavens and earth were struck with terror.

O servant! Leave them and what they possess, then take the Book of God with a strength from Him and recite it with the melodies of the believers, that it may draw thee away from thy self and thy desires and bring thee to this hallowed station whose courtyard the Spirit of Truth sweepeth clean.

And the Glory be upon thee and upon those who are with thee in this Cause and who, when they hear this Name, fall prostrate upon their faces and lay their cheeks in the dust in humility before God, thy Lord and the Lord of thy forefathers of old. And praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH02766: The remembrance of God from the Pen of Command…

He is the Most Holy, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious.

The remembrance of God from the Pen of Command hath at this moment been witnessed in truth, and from it hath flowed the knowledge of what hath been and what shall be, then the hidden sciences of the unseen, and from it hath appeared the Word whereby all contingent things were created, and God is witness unto this.

O servant! Hearken unto the call of the Ancient King from this Pen wherefrom the spirit of life was breathed into the heart of every pure and sanctified one, and whereby God distinguished between the fortunate and the wretched, between darkness and light, and thus was the matter decreed by thy Lord in truth.

Glad tidings unto thee for having remained steadfast in the Cause of thy Lord, unmoved by the tempests of trials or the storms of tribulation, standing firm in the Cause. Verily those who have denied this Beauty and have taken the Calf as their lord besides God are in grievous loss. Leave them to themselves that they may worship their lords besides God; soon shall they be summoned before the seat of justice where the Balance shall be set up by the command of the Mighty, the Wise.

By God! Were they to worship their own selves and desires it would be better in God's sight than what they have taken as partner unto Him and unto which they cleave morning and evening. Thus hath God testified against them while they perceive not, cursing what they possess while imagining they follow a wondrous cause. Say: Fie upon you and upon what ye possess and upon him who biddeth you deny God after He hath come unto you from the dawning-place of the Spirit with manifest sovereignty.

Arise thou in the Cause with such steadfastness that were all who are in the heavens and earth to assemble against thee, thou wouldst not be disturbed by them, remaining immovably steadfast.

Grieve not for thy brother who hath ascended unto God. By God! We have sanctified him from all defilement and raised him to a most exalted station of holiness, causing him to dwell in the highest paradise which God hath brought forth through His Name whereby all names were created and every mighty matter was originated.

Then convey Our greetings unto his wife and remind her of Our remembrance, and unto all those who were with thee, both women and men. The radiance which hath shone forth from the Most Exalted Horizon be upon thee and upon every penitent servant.

BH02750: O Salman! Thou wert commanded by the All-Merciful…

In the Name of God, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed!

O Salman! Thou wert commanded by the All-Merciful to conduct thyself with wisdom and to speak with care, lest harm should befall the perspicuous Tablets from the hosts of Satan. Render thanks unto God that He protected thee by His power, notwithstanding that the chiefs of the idolaters in every land had given orders to seize thee and that which thou didst bear from thy Lord. This was one of the manifest powers of thy Lord, that thou mightest thank Him and be of them that are assured.

However, after having attained thy goal and received the Tablets, rend asunder the veils through the sovereignty of thy Lord, the Mighty, the Bestower, that the fresh and radiant splendor of Baha may shine forth from thy countenance between earth and heaven. The Beloved is one and the heart is one—ponder thou and be of them that know.

And if thou art asked about the Truth, say not "I know not." Say: "Yea, by my Lord! I know and am aware. He, verily, is the Truth. There is none other God but Him. He hath preserved me from the harm of His heedless servants and hath removed from me my veil in the days when I was present before His face, and He made His verses, then His words and His power which hath encompassed the worlds to shine upon me."

Today it is incumbent upon all to strive that perchance through divine grace some deed might appear from them on earth that would become the cause of eternal salvation and enable them to enter the kingdom of true everlasting life. Consider the cooing of the dove and the buzzing of the fly—the former draweth the hearts of men through God's grace and guideth them to the court of the Beloved, while from the latter no effect appears nor is its purpose understood.

Therefore the manifest Word of Truth must needs be uttered with clear explanation. Say: "God is the Truth," then leave the people to their veils and their idle fancies. Fear thou no one but place thy trust in God, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting. Wisdom is beloved, but not to such extent that the Word of God remain hidden. Wisdom is befitting among the righteous but not among the wicked. Hearken unto the counsel of him who counseleth thee in truth and be of them that act accordingly.

And the glory rest upon thee and upon God's sincere servants. Thou hast not been absent from sight all this time—strive thou to be mentioned forever before His face. And peace be upon him who followeth guidance.

BH02797: In the name of God, the Most Wondrous…

In the name of God, the Most Wondrous, the Most Impregnable! This is a Book sent down in truth from the heaven of God, the Powerful, the Mighty, the Wise. Therein He hath ordained the measures of all things through His firm and unshakeable command. No thing escapeth His knowledge, and none in the kingdoms of the heavens and earth can frustrate His power. He quickeneth whom He willeth through His Most Glorious Name, and causeth to perish whom He desireth through His name the Slayer.

Verily, they who have denied the signs of God—these shall have no portion of this grace, even should they come with the scriptures of the ancients and the writings of the latter generations. Soon shall the traces of Satan, who hath denied God, thy Ancient Lord, be spread abroad in that place. Guard thyself from the intimations of them who have joined partners with God and from the souls of men, if thou be of them that are able.

By God! Whoso drinketh the choice wine of His love shall become enabled through the sovereignty of his Lord, Who created all contingent things through His firm and wondrous command. For this is the Day whereon God hath manifested Himself with all names unto all things. Whoso turneth unto Him—from him shall appear the evidences of his Lord, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. And whoso turneth away becometh deprived, and is indeed the most abject of servants, even should he possess great might. Turn not thy gaze from the Most Sublime Vision, but rather be illumined from this shining and luminous horizon.

Say: O people! Change not the blessing of God within yourselves, and be not of the wrongdoers. This, verily, is He Who sent down the Bayan in remembrance of His blessed and wondrous Name, and by Whose name the Spirit crieth out in the Concourse on high, and the Faithful Spirit likewise. He, verily, is the One Who hath rent asunder the veils of names through His transcendent sovereignty, and brought forth the hand of divine favor from the horizon of the Unseen: lo, it is white to them that know.

Say: O people of Baha! Be so steadfast in your love for your Lord, the Most Exalted, that Satan shall not be able to draw breath in your midst. Thus doth your Lord, the All-Merciful, command you aforetime, and now in this perspicuous Tablet. Detach yourselves wholly from all else but Him. Your Lord sufficeth you above all created things.

Blessed art thou for having entered the garden of eternity, and found the fragrance of its flowers, and heard the melodies of its nightingale, the murmur of its waters, and the cooing of its dove, and become of them that have attained. Beseech God, thy Lord, to make thee steadfast in that whereon thou art, and to render thee a helper to His Cause. Verily, He is powerful over all things. Convey my greetings unto thy kindred and relatives who have attained the summit of divine knowledge and detached themselves from the idolaters.

BH02728: Therefore, O my God, I call upon Thee…

Therefore, O my God, I call upon Thee with my tongue and remember Thee with my heart, and I beseech Thee by the Manifestations of the sanctity of Thy eternal sovereignty and the Daysprings of the glory of Thy divine unity, that Thou mayest clothe the temple of Thy loved ones with the garment of the coolness of Thy tender mercy and the robe of Thy loving-kindness. Then cause us to be present, O my Beloved, before the flames of the fire of Thy divine Tree on the Day whereon Thou didst establish Thyself upon the throne of Thy mercy and didst arise to execute Thy command through the power of Thy will. Therefore, O my God, drive us not from Thy holy presence, and remove us not from Thy grace and mercy, and deprive us not of the sanctuary of Thy meeting and the Ka'bah of Thy beauty, for in Thy hand is the kingdom of all things and Thou art, verily, powerful over all things.

Then I beseech Thee, O my God and my Beloved, by Thy Most Beautiful Names and Thy most exalted attributes, and by the Manifestation of Thy Most Great Name, and by Thy resplendent beauty in the heaven of eternity, that Thou forgive me and my parents and my brothers and my kindred, and that Thou absolve them of their misdeeds, and veil them not, O my God, from the effulgence of the lights of Thy countenance, and withhold them not from the showers of the clouds of Thy grace and bounty. Then cause them to enter, O my God, within the precincts of Thy supreme mercy, for verily Thou doest whatsoever Thou willest, and Thou art, in truth, the Mighty, the Generous.

And I beseech Thee, O my God, by Thy bounty through which Thou didst bring existence into being, and by Thy loving-kindness through which Thou didst create the temples of beauty in the heaven of names, and by Thy Spirit through which Thou didst quicken the decayed bones from the graves of heedlessness and passion, that Thou mayest renew my outer and inner garment in this springtime wherein Thou hast renewed the garment of all things from whatsoever was created in the worlds of eternity unto the uttermost point of earth, and deprive me not, O my Beloved, of the robes of Thy guidance, and strip me not of the beauty of Thy raiment in Thy days. Then give me to drink that which will quench the fire of heedlessness and error, and purify my sight, and sanctify my heart, and make firm my feet, and tranquilize my mind, for verily Thou art the Mighty, the Giving, the Bountiful.

Then teach me, O my God, from the wonders of Thy knowledge that which will make me independent of all knowledge but Thine. Then cause to descend upon my heart from the clouds of Thy mercy that which

will cause to grow therefrom the ears of Thy wisdom and the fruits of the sanctity of Thy knowledge, that I may become enriched above all who are in the heavens and the earth through the wonders of Thy riches and the jewels of Thy grace and bestowal, for verily Thou art the Powerful, the Mighty, the Single, the All-Glorious, the Help in Peril.

BH02779: He is the All-Knowing of all things, yet all…

He is the All-Knowing of all things, yet all know Him not. Glorified be He Who created the heavens by His command and blew the trumpet and quickened thereby the hearts of those who have detached themselves unto God and who reclined upon the crimson cushions in the presence of God, and drank from the Salsabil of love, and were enkindled by the fire of God, and perceived the fragrance of the garment from Egypt which was renowned by the name of God in the holy concourse.

Thus do We teach thee from the mysteries of knowledge and cast upon thee that which shall make thee independent of those who imagine they have ascended to the heights of knowledge, that thou mayest know the paths of knowledge and wisdom and stand firm in the Cause and become acquainted with the knowledge which God hath concealed behind the pavilions of glory that it might remain hidden from the eyes of the proud.

Say: O people, fear ye God and walk not in the ways of transgression and wickedness, and think not evil of God lest ye be numbered with those who have turned aside in God's Cause. These are they who, should they behold the path of Paradise, would not choose it for themselves as their path, but should the breezes of the Evil One pass by them, they would take it as their portion. This is because they have disbelieved in God and His signs, and were of those who turned away and showed pride before God in His Cause which hath dawned like the sun from the horizon of the spirit.

Say: O people, do ye not witness how the sun hath risen and the light hath shone forth and the veil hath been rent asunder and God hath stood forth in the holy concourse while the Dove announceth before Him with such melody that all in the kingdom are stunned thereby? Hearken then, O people of the kingdom, that ye may be drawn by the melodies of God. Then have mercy upon yourselves and deprive not your beings. The world and its ornaments shall pass away and ye shall return unto God in a station which hath been raised up by the path of power.

Know thou that We sent thee aforetime a book wherein We made mention of thee with the mention of eternity in such wise that none could produce a single letter thereof save whom thy Lord willeth. Thus do We inform thee of that which hath flowed from the Pen of Creation that thou mayest be convinced that God is potent over all things. And thou, grieve not over anything, neither fear anyone. Then preserve these words and recite them unto those who have believed in God that thou mayest be victorious in His Cause within thyself.

BH02785: God hath heard the call of those who disputed…

He is God, the Most Unapproachable, the Most Holy, the Most Exalted

God hath heard the call of those who disputed His Cause, denied His signs and turned away from the proof whereby in every age, time and wondrous era the Beauty of the Ancient of Days was made manifest. When one said unto another:

> "O servant, fear God and associate not with Him in Whom thou hast believed. Fear God Who created thee, fashioned thee and made thee manifest in these days wherein the Sun of Eternity hath dawned from the horizon of sublime glory. Beware lest thou deny Him Whose praise hath been voiced by the denizens of Paradise and by those who dwell in the lofty chambers of the Ridvan round the throne of thy Lord, the All-Merciful. Fear God and be not of those who doubt concerning the Cause of thy Lord."

And he who disbelieved said: "We find thee not possessed of any proof or evidence."

Say: Blind is thine eye, for verily the Sun hath risen from the horizon of creation and hath illumined all who are in the kingdom. By God! There hath appeared the proof of Ali, then the evidence of Muhammad, then the testimony of the Spirit, then that which the Interlocutor brought from the Sinai of God through this Announcement which was inscribed by the Pen of God in the mystery of the line, concealed from the gaze of the hypocrites. Hearken unto My words and say not what the idolaters said when Ali came unto them with God's Book and a manifest proof. Follow thou God's religion and His way, then seek shelter beneath the shade of this Youth Who, when He appeareth from the horizon of the House, causeth suns to rise from the horizon of the worlds of the unseen and the seen, shining from a station truly exalted. Turn thy sight unto the horizon of the Spirit that thou mayest find the Sun of the remembrance of thy Lord's name with a light truly luminous.

O servant! Purify thy heart, then thine ear, then thy sight from these who have openly denied God and what they possess, then turn thy face toward this Sanctuary round which circle the angels of eternity with hosts of wondrous glory. Thus doth thy Lord God command thee. Follow what thou are commanded and be steadfast in the truth.

And the glory be upon thee and upon him who hath heard God's call from the Sinai of his heart in this Most Great Remembrance and hath detached himself from the idolaters and what they possess. Thus doth God remember His servants who have taken unto the All-Merciful through this Youth a path of truth.

BH11738: Your letter hath reached Our presence, and We have…

He is the Most Holy, the Most Exalted, glorified be His station!

Your letter hath reached Our presence, and We have noted its contents. We shall answer thee with that which God casteth upon the breast of His servant, who is imprisoned in this remote prison. We give thanks unto God for this, and for whatsoever hath befallen Us in His path. We are patient in His decrees, and verily He rewardeth the patient ones. We desire naught save what God hath desired for Us, and We wish for naught save what He hath wished. Verily, He is the One praised in His deeds and obeyed in His command. He shall not be asked of His doings, and He, verily, hath power over all things.

O servant! Grieve not for what hath befallen thee from the decrees of fate. Be content with what God hath ordained for thee, for naught descendeth upon anyone save that which is better for him than all that hath been created between the heavens and the earth. Beware lest thou grieve in the face of destiny. Put thy trust in God in all matters and be of the thankful ones. All affairs are in the grasp of His power. He doeth what He pleaseth and ordaineth what He willeth.

Purify thy heart from the world and its mention, then remember thy Lord at eventide and at dawn, and in every morning and evening. For the world and whatsoever is therein and thereon shall perish, and that which endureth is that which is with thy Lord, the Most Merciful, the Compassionate. Forget every mention and find solace in the Most Great Remembrance. He is the Most High, the Most Great.

Detach thyself from all else but God, thy Lord, then turn thy face toward the sanctuary of His love and good-pleasure, and be of them that are detached. We beseech God to heal thee and cure thee of thy ailment and illness. Verily, He is the Answerer of the prayers of the suppliants. When the appointed time cometh, He will cause the rains of mercy and healing to descend upon thee from the clouds of His grace. He, verily, is the Ever-Forgiving, the Most Merciful.

Beware, beware lest thou be impatient. Be thou patient and hold fast unto God's cord in these days wherein most of the servants have become heedless of the remembrance of their Lord and are numbered among the negligent. Their only concern in this world is to amass its ornaments unto themselves, and thus do they cast themselves into grave peril. Keep thyself away from such as these, for God shall soon return them to dust, and they shall be in manifest loss.

Peace be upon him who followeth guidance and is firm in certain truth. Praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH02865: A remembrance from Us to him who hath believed…

He is the Most Holy, the Most Glorious

A remembrance from Us to him who hath believed in God, the Mighty, the Praised, that he may be assured through God's grace and remember Him amongst His servants. This indeed is a mighty matter.

Hearken unto the Call once again from the shore of guidance in the crimson spot from the Ultimate Lote-Tree:

> "Verily, there is none other God but Me, the Mighty, the Wise. I have created all contingent beings for My knowledge and brought forth all creation for My Cause. I am the Powerful over whatsoever I will. There is none other God but Him, the Omnipotent, the Almighty."

We have nurtured thee for My remembrance and preserved thee for My praise. Be not heedless of that for which thou wast created. Hold fast to the hem of remembrance in mentioning this wise Remembrance. Beware lest those who were created from the dust of hatred prevent thee. They are assuredly the companions of hellfire. Be thou in such wise that thy mention may influence hearts. Thus did We command thee before and in this mighty Book.

The earth hath related before Our face what hath befallen it. Verily thy Lord is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. Arise to serve Me among My servants, then remind them not to follow vain desires. Verily thy Lord desireth to purify the earth and all who dwell thereon. He is verily the Forgiving, the Merciful. Command the handmaidens to the Most Great Chastity from thy Lord, the Most Glorious. Thus have We ordained the matter in the Tablets. Blessed is he who hath attained unto that which was commanded by One All-Knowing, All-Wise.

We have sent down the Tablets unto thee and inscribed thy name by the Most Exalted Pen in a preserved tablet. Preserve what hath been ordained for thee and follow what thou art commanded. This is naught but a great bounty. Turn not unto those who opposed God and turned away from His beauty. Leave them to their vain desires and take what thou hast been given from thy Lord, the Lord of the mighty throne. Forget not thy Lord for He hath not forgotten thee. He hath sent down unto thee in the prison verses decisive and We sent them unto thee that thou mayest rejoice and be of the thankful ones.

The intoxication of desire hath seized the people of creation and they have turned away from God, the Lord of the hereafter and of the first life, save those who have held fast to this luminous Ark. Thus was the matter decreed in the Qayyumu'l-Asma by One mighty and powerful. Those who have turned to the Countenance are in an honored station. Soon shall they find themselves in the Most Great Paradise which was created in My name, the Mighty, the Impregnable.

Grieve not at anything. Verily thy Lord is with thee. He is the Friend of the sincere ones. And praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH02869: Glorified be He in Whose grasp is the dominion…

He is the Wondrous One in the Most Glorious Horizon

Glorified be He in Whose grasp is the dominion of the kingdom of the heavens and earth, and He verily encompasseth all things. He sendeth down upon whomsoever He willeth among His creatures that which draweth him to the holy court, the dawning-place of a mighty Name. Say: His favor hath encompassed all created things, yet the people have been debarred from the court of grace.

Hearken, O servant, unto the call of thy Lord from the right hand of Paradise, that He may draw thee in truth and sever thee from all the worlds, and bring thee to a station wherein thou shalt behold naught except that thou witnessest therein the lights of thy Lord, dawning and radiant. And thou shalt not see a single letter from the words of thy Lord except that thou hearest from it "Verily there is no God but Him," and "He Who appeared with the name of ʿAli is His sovereignty, and He Who speaketh with truth is His glory"—unto all who are in the kingdom of Command and Creation. Sufficient is that which hath appeared from His presence as a witness thereto.

Say: O people, the Primal Point was not as any one among you, nor is this Youth, were ye to know it. Be ye steadfast in the Cause of God and His sovereignty, and be not of those who believe in part of the Book and deny part of it, and are recorded among the idolaters in the Tablets.

Say: The Kawthar of eternity hath flowed from the fountainhead of this Pen, and all who are in the heavens and earth were struck with fear, save a limited number. Upon these do the denizens of the Supreme Paradise call down blessings, and around them circle the angels of the Cause with chalices of wondrous sanctity, from which they drink at all times in the name of their Lord, the All-Merciful, and are made glad with the joy of God.

And thou, O servant, be thou steadfast in that hour wherein the mountains shall crumble and souls shall be agitated and cries shall be raised by the dwellers of earth and heaven, and the skin of every idolatrous rejector shall shiver. Thus have We commanded thee and counseled thee in the Cause of thy Lord, that thou mayest stand firm in that Cause wherefrom every mighty foot hath slipped.

We beseech God to aid thee in His Cause and to send down upon thee that which shall preserve thee from the harm of every harmful one and draw thee nigh unto Him, for verily He is powerful over all things. And glory be upon thee and upon those who are steadfast in the Cause and are endowed with true vision.

BH02873: Glorified art Thou, O my God! All praise be…

In the name of God, the Everlasting, the All-Sufficient, the Eternal!

Glorified art Thou, O my God! All praise be unto Thee for having made me to know Thy Self, and rendered me assured of Thy oneness, and acknowledging of Thy singleness, and submissive to Thy Lordship, and certain of Thy Divinity, and yielding to Thy sovereignty and power. By Thy might, O Thou Who art seen yet cannot be seen! Were I to praise Thee throughout the duration of Thy kingdom and thank Thee throughout the continuance of Thy dominion, it would still be insignificant compared to the wondrous tokens of Thy grace and bounties which Thou hast singled me out to receive despite my unworthiness—nay, rather, due to the manifestation of Thy favors and the emergence of Thy gifts unto this servant who is the most contemptible of Thy servants and the poorest of Thy creatures.

O my Lord! I beseech Thee by Thy Name through which all things have turned to the holy sanctuary of Thy unity and the Ka'bah of Thy detachment, and whereby Thou hast guided the sincere ones to the precincts of Thy most great mercy and illumined the hearts of the mystics to recognize the Manifestation of Thy most exalted and most glorious Self, that Thou mayest assist me to aid Thy Cause and exalt Thy Word and spread Thy verses. O my Lord! I find no helper for myself other than Thee and no supporter besides Thee. I implore Thee by Thy Self and by all that Thou art, that Thou mayest enable me to do what Thou lovest and pleasest. Verily Thou art the Lord of the Last and the First. Within the grasp of Thy power lie the dominion of destiny and the kingdom of its execution. And verily Thou art the Lord of the Throne on high and of the dust below.

Blessed is he who hath heard Thy call and responded to it, and soared in the atmosphere of Thy love and good-pleasure, and detached himself from those who denied Thy presence. O my Lord! Chastise those who denied Thy most great signs and neglected Thy Cause by following their own selves and their desires. O my Lord! Seize them through Thy power and might, and shut before their faces the gates of Thy mercy

and loving-kindness. O my Lord! Make them taste the scourges of Thy wrath and the heat of Thy anger. There is no God but Thee, the Powerful, the Vengeful, the All-Compelling.

O God! Send Thy blessings upon Thy loved ones who have fulfilled their covenant and detached themselves from all else save Thee and turned unto Thee. Then cause to descend upon them, O God of gods, from the clouds of Thy mercy, the good of this world and the next. Then make them wealthy through Thy riches and mighty through Thy might and steadfast in Thy remembrance and victorious in Thy Cause and gazing upon Thy countenance. Verily Thou art God, there is no God but Thee. Every atom beareth witness that Thou art the Creator of names and attributes. Thou doest what Thou willest by Thy command and decreest what Thou desirest by Thy power. Verily Thou art the Mighty, the Unconstrained.

BH02874: God witnesseth that there is no God but Him…

He is the Mighty, the Everlasting

God witnesseth that there is no God but Him, the Gracious, the Best-Beloved. All grace and bounty are His. To whomsoever He will He giveth whatsoever is His wish. He, verily, is the All-Powerful, the Almighty, the Help in Peril, the Self-Subsisting. We, verily, believe in Him Who, in the person of the Báb, hath been sent down by the Will of the one true God, the King of Kings, the All-Praised. We, moreover, swear fealty to the One Who, in the time of Mustagháth, is destined to be made manifest, as well as to those Who shall come after Him till the end that hath no end. We recognize in the manifestation of each one of them, whether outwardly or inwardly, the manifestation of none but God Himself, if ye be of those that comprehend.

Every one of them is a mirror of God, reflecting naught else but His Self, His Beauty, His Might and Glory, if ye will understand. All else besides them are to be regarded as mirrors capable of reflecting the glory of these Manifestations Who are themselves the Primary Mirrors of the Divine Being, if ye be not devoid of understanding. No one hath ever escaped them, neither are they to be hindered from achieving their purpose. These Mirrors will everlastingly succeed each other, and will continue to reflect the light of the Ancient of Days. They that reflect their glory will, in like manner, continue to exist forevermore, for the Grace of God can never cease from flowing. This is a truth that none can disprove.

And whoso saith that the Manifestations have ended in thy land—pay no heed to him, and be of them who with the eye of God regard His Cause.

Say: The Jews claimed that the hand of God is chained up, and likewise do the peoples of latter days say what they said. Say: Woe betide you for what ye utter! His mercy hath preceded all things, and His grace hath encompassed all who are in the heavens and on earth, could ye but know. His outpouring hath not ceased and will never cease, by the everlastingness of God, the All-Compelling, the Self-Subsisting. He manifesteth in the realm whomsoever He willeth, and there is none other God but Him.

All are heedless of His command in these days, save those who behold the Leaf of Paradise with their own eyes and hear the melody of God with their own ears. No hindrance can hinder them, even should all men seek to hinder them. Yet it behooveth the believer to distinguish between truth and falsehood as he

distinguisheth between light and darkness, that he may not follow those who claim what God hath not ordained for them and who walk in the ways of their own desires.

Thus hath crowed the Cock of eternity, thus hath warbled the Dove of glory, and thus hath spoken this Speaking Tongue, would ye but turn unto it. And upon thee be the Spirit, and upon whoso hath turned toward the direction of God in this shining and beloved Countenance.

BH02904: This is an epistle from Us to him who…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Glorious!

This is an epistle from Us to him who hath believed in God, turned his face unto His countenance, and tasted in His love the cup of tribulations, until the heedless drove him out because he followed the command of his Lord, the Mighty, the Wise.

O thou who gazest upon the Face! Hearken once again unto that which the Tongue of Grandeur and Glory calleth unto thee from the direction of the Throne, that the Call of God may so attract thee as to detach thee from all the worlds.

Know thou that thy letter which thou didst send to the One like unto Moses hath come before Us and been read in the presence of the Countenance. Verily thy Lord is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. By My life! Had he who was in Iraq heard from thee and not transgressed what We commanded him, he would surely have found himself in manifest glory. However, he cast away God's command and took what he was commanded by the basest of people. Then he shall find himself in abasement and grievous affliction. But verily he is of those who turn with every voice, and this is from the weakness that hath seized him. God hath pardoned him. Verily thy Lord is the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

We perceive in the inmost secret the fragrance of My love, and We are beholding him. Thy Lord loveth not that the reward of one who hath turned towards Him be lost, even by a single step. Verily He is the Most Merciful, the Compassionate.

Verily he is of those whom the taunts of the people did not prevent, in his first turning toward the Sacred House. Thus was the matter ordained in a guarded Tablet. Therefore it behooveth thee to write unto him that which will remind him. And what thou hast written regarding his affairs is better for him, should he accept it and not be prevented by what the tongues of the ignorant utter.

Say: Glory is in My shadow, and whoso emergeth therefrom is in abasement, even though he possesseth all the treasures of earth. Was Qarun glorified by what he possessed? Nay, by the Lord of all worlds! It behooveth him to cry out in My Name and come forth with you and be detached from all he possesseth. By God, through this his glory shall become manifest, his station shall be exalted, and his position shall be elevated among all creatures.

We counsel Our loved ones not to speak that which would grieve his heart. Verily thy Lord is the Concealer, and verily He is possessed of great bounty.

Grieve not over what hath befallen thee. We know the hardship and distress thou art in. God shall soon change it to ease. Be thou assured and be of the thankful ones. Say: Praise be to God, the Lord of all worlds.

BH02860: The remembrance of God from the Tree of Command…

In the Name of God, the Most Wondrous, the Most Holy, the Most Exalted!

The remembrance of God from the Tree of Command crieth out at this moment, saying: O people! Follow that which the Ancient Beauty commandeth you, and follow not every rebellious satan. Purify yourselves from the veils of idle fancy and your breasts from all doubt. Thus have We commanded you aforetime, and now through a holy and exalted Pen. Then purify your tongues for the remembrance of God, the Most Great, for verily He hath appeared in truth with a sovereignty that encompasseth all the worlds.

Thereupon did the feet of those who disbelieved and joined partners with God slip, and they were in doubt concerning the meeting with their Lord on the day when the veils were rent asunder and the Countenance of the Chosen One appeared with verses of wondrous glory.

Say: O people! Nothing shall profit you this day though ye should cling to all things between earth and heaven, or remember God throughout the duration of His kingdom. Thus hath the command been sent down from the presence of One mighty and wise. Say: Fear ye God and follow not the dictates of your desires. Follow the religion of God for verily it hath appeared in truth in the form of a Youth. Glorified be He Who created Him in truth and sent Him unto all the worlds.

O servant! When the Tablet of God reacheth thee, arise at His command, then take the Tablet and place it upon thy head. Then turn thy face toward the House and say: Glory be unto Thee, O my God! I beseech Thee by this Tablet through which Thou didst raise up the Prophets and Messengers and made it a proof from Thy presence unto them, that Thou deprive me not of the fragrances of these days wherein the Sun of Thy Beauty hath shone forth with illuminating holy rays. Leave me not to myself, O my God, and preserve me lest my feet slip from the path of Thy Cause, for verily Thou art powerful over this. Preserve me, O my God, from the promptings of Satan, then turn me toward Thy beauteous countenance and send down upon me that which Thou hast ordained for Thy near servants. Verily Thou art powerful to do what Thou willest and Thou art wise over all things. O Lord! Make me not despairing of the wondrous lights of Thy Beauty, nor leave me deprived of the sanctuary of Him Who hath appeared in truth. Then purify me from whatsoever Thy good-pleasure abhorreth, for verily Thou hast ever been the Answerer of those who call upon Thee.

BH02849: Tell His Honor Aqa Siyyid Mihdi to meet…

Tell His Honor Aqa Siyyid Mihdi to meet with the letter Jim if he takes heed, otherwise leave him to himself to be consumed by its fires until he enters His habitation. Say: Exchange not thy religion for the world, and behold the Truth with the eye of Truth. Do not compare this Cause with previous ones, and cease mentioning Husayn-ibn-Ruh and the letters of the Qur'an. All have been created by a letter from thy Lord, the Mighty, the Self-Subsisting.

Consider the Letters of the Living of this Dispensation, most of whom you have seen with your own eyes and whom the Exalted One has placed a hundred thousand degrees above the letters of the Qur'an—examine the Bayan if you wish to be of those who understand. Perchance your heart may be cleansed of hearsay evidences and analogical tales, and drink from the incomparable pure water of the All-Bountiful One, becoming free from all else.

Every year you requested medicinal compounds and sought efficacious prayers, and you always acted upon them. Did any fruit ever appear? Nay, by God! No antidote will ever have effect except by My leave. Now purify your heart from aversion to this Youth and from love of His enemies, that healing manifestations may appear from the treasury of mighty oneness. This is the message from my Lord, and the Messenger is only responsible for its delivery.

During this time you have not heeded this clear and manifest proof. Soon all that you have known and understood will be rolled up, and all that is in the hands of the servants, for the world and all that is in it shall perish and sovereignty will remain with God, thy Lord, the Supreme, the Self-Subsisting. Therefore hearken unto the word of thy Lord, then rend asunder the veils of fancy concerning worldly dominion, then ascend beyond it that thou mayest witness the sovereignty of thy Lord and be of those who attain.

By God! There is naught in My heart save compassion for those who turn toward the Throne, and I desire no recompense from them for this, nor do I seek anything from them except that they turn to the face of their Lord, the Mighty, the Beloved. As for certain statements made herein, construe them not as indicating the lowliness of some stations, but rather look to the exaltation of the station of the Cause. Thus do We teach thee that thou mayest be of those who know.

BH02858: Indeed there hath been sent unto thee…

In the Name of God, the Luminous, the Most Luminous!

Indeed there hath been sent unto thee from the right hand of glory that which was revealed for thee from the heaven of the mercy of thy Lord, and from it the fragrance of the All-Merciful is wafted throughout all worlds. Take hold of it in the name of thy Lord, the Most Exalted, the Most Great, and remember when thou didst reach the seashore and didst behold the family of God in the hands of the oppressors. Read thou what hath been revealed in the Tablet. By God! That whereof We informed thee therein shall be made manifest. Verily thy Lord is the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

The heavens and whatsoever hath been created therein may pass away, but that which hath been revealed therein from the presence of One Who is All-Knowing, All-Informed, shall never pass away. This is the day when thy Lord hath aided thee. Move thou through the lands with the breezes of thy Lord, the Lord of all names, that perchance the people may arise from their graves. Thus hast thou been commanded from the presence of One Who is Almighty, Ancient of Days.

We hear the cry of the Calf from certain lands. Say: O people, fear ye God and be not of the mischief-makers. Say: Whoso layeth claim before the completion of a full thousand years, he hath indeed disbelieved in God, the Lord of the mighty throne. By My life! The people are wrapped in heedlessness

and are today numbered among the dead. They have not recognized God, and were they to recognize Him Who hath appeared, their hearts would melt with longing. Thus hath the All-Knowing informed thee.

Verily, the Ta is in concealment, and from the land of Fa My Herald hath appeared—He Who is the Beloved of the worlds. Her light hath appeared therefrom. Ask thou God, thy Lord, to protect her from the fire. Know thou what thy Lord hath intended. He doth encompass all things.

Arise thou for the Cause. Leave the world and all that is therein behind thee, then those on whose faces thou seest the darkness of hell-fire. Thou hast indeed witnessed him who openly denied God. Say: O people! By God, he was in Our presence as but one of those who serve. Fear ye God and say not that which ye know not.

Recount unto the people that which thou hast witnessed of Our Cause, and be thou in such wise that the mention of thy Lord's name may be spread abroad amongst all the worlds. Were the people to discover that which is with thy Lord, the might of the idolaters would not frighten them. Sedition hath seized most of the servants, and they are today struck with terror. Therefore breathe thou upon them the sweet savors of the mention of thy Lord of attributes, by Our command. Verily thy Lord is He Who judgeth as He pleaseth.

Convey My glorification to My loved ones. Say: Be not grieved at what hath befallen Us. We are in great joy. Aid ye Him and be not of them that slumber. And praise be to God, the Lord of all worlds.

BH02902: This is a Book from Us to her who…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Holy.

This is a Book from Us to her who hath believed in her Lord and was among the devout ones in a Tablet of mighty glory.

Blessed art thou, O handmaid of God, for having hearkened unto the call of thy Lord from the direction of the Throne and turned unto Him with a pure and luminous heart. Be thou steadfast in the love of God. He, verily, shall suffice thee apart from all else. Remember Him, then, in the night season and in the days. Through His remembrance the faces of His handmaidens who have turned unto Him and His servants who have turned unto Him are illumined.

Grieve not over what hath befallen thee, for there hath befallen Us what hath befallen no one else in all the worlds. Grieve not over thine afflictions, but weep for Mine afflictions. Thus have We commanded thee in truth from the presence of One All-Knowing, All-Wise.

Know thou that every learned one who hath hesitated in this Cause is the most ignorant among the ignorant, and every person of distinction who hath turned away from this Countenance is among the most wicked and unfortunate people. Verily, true knowledge is bound up with the knowledge of My Self, and all sciences are dependent upon My leave. He who hath not beheld Me with Mine eye knoweth Me not, nor will anything profit him even should he lay hold of the knowledge of the first and the last ones.

Say: Glory be unto Thee, O my God! Praise be unto Thee for having made known unto me the Manifestation of Thy Self, the Dayspring of Thy Cause, the Source of Thy knowledge and the Treasury of Thy verses. By Thy glory! Were I to possess the fullness of the heavens and earth in gold and silver, and were I to spend them in Thy path, I would not have attained unto this station except through Thy grace and favors.

O my Lord! Make me steadfast, then, in Thy love and establish me in Thy Cause in such wise that should Thy servants who are veiled by learning from Thy Self-Subsisting Name oppose me, their opposition to Thee and their turning away from Thee would not disturb me. O my Lord! Bestow upon me that which Thou hast bestowed upon Thy chosen ones and Thy loved ones in Thy days. Then send down upon me that which will purify me from the remembrance of any one except Thee. Make me so steadfast that those of my kindred would not prevent me from turning unto Thee and beholding the direction of Thy bounties and gifts. Verily, Thou art my Beloved and the Beloved of the worlds, my Goal and the Goal of those who are in the heavens and on earth. Then make my desire, O my God, to be extinguished in what Thou hast desired. Behold me, then, with the glances of the eyes of Thy mercy and Thy grace. Verily, Thou art the Powerful over whatsoever Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the Exalted, the Supreme, the Help in Peril.

BH02833: O Sultan, hear the call of the Sovereign…

In the Name of God, the Most Wondrous, the Most Holy, the Most Glorious!

O Sultan, hear the call of the Sovereign from the direction of thy Lord's merciful throne, that it may detach thee from all that hath been created in the worlds and draw thee nigh unto His Beauty, the All-Merciful, a station holy and resplendent. Then rejoice within thyself that the Pen of God, thy Lord and the Lord of all who are in the kingdom, hath moved at the mention of thy name.

Know thou that We have not forgotten thee and Our Arab loved ones, and We have made mention of them in the Tablet which We shall soon send unto them that they may become aware of God's remembrance of them, for He hath ever been merciful to His servants. Know thou further that thy letter hath come before Us and We have read what was therein, and We have answered thee with these words which have shone forth from the horizon of glory with manifest sovereignty.

Take heed that thou assist thy Lord to the extent of thy power and forget not His grace, for His grace hath ever encompassed the worlds. Shun those who have disbelieved and joined partners with God, and draw nigh unto those from whom thou dost inhale the fragrance of love from this Youth whom the idolaters have cast into a deep pit. Blessed art thou for having remained steadfast in the Cause and turned away from those whose essence and reality were created from the fire of opposition and who took the Calf as their beloved.

Say: O people! Did We not inform you at the time of departure that the Samiri would appear among you, that the Calf would cry out and the birds of night would stir? Beware lest ye forget what We previously told you and hold fast to a mighty and manifest handle. Say: Today there is no escape for anyone and no refuge for any soul save God Who created all things by His command and manifested the Manifestation

of His Self with a great proof and testament. Say: O people! Cast not the Cause of God behind your backs and follow not every froward devil.

And thou, O Sultan, by God, wert thou to become aware of what hath befallen Me, thou wouldst weep and lament and cry out every morn and eve. But We have concealed from thee what hath befallen My Beauty, the All-Merciful, lest thou be saddened in thy soul, and this is indeed a mighty grace unto the truth.

And the Glory be upon thee and upon Our Arab loved ones, both male and female, young and old. Then convey My greetings to My handmaiden who hath believed in her Lord, that she may rejoice within herself and be in graceful happiness.

BH02871: Praised be Thou, O Lord my God! Thou seest…

Praised be Thou, O Lord my God! Thou seest my poverty and my misery, my troubles and my needs, my utter helplessness and my extreme lowliness, my lamentations and my bitter wailing, the anguish of my soul and the afflictions which beset me. The power of Thy might beareth me witness! Such is the depth of mine abasement that Thy servants who have strayed far from Thy path deride me. Thou knowest that I am recognized as the bearer of Thy name among Thy creatures. Thou knowest that my station is but an image of Thy station, that my virtues recount Thy virtues, that within mine inmost being naught can be found except the revelations of Thy signs, and that my very essence is but a reflection of the evidences of Thy unity.

All these things Thou hast noised abroad among Thy creatures, in such wise that none can recognize me, except as one who beareth Thy name. I swear by Thy glory! My lamentations are not for the things which have befallen me in Thy path, but are due to my recognition that by reason of mine abasement the hearts of them that love Thee have been sore shaken, and the souls of Thine adversaries have been so filled with joy that they rejoice over those who have detached themselves from all except Thee and have hastened towards the river of Thy remembrance and praise. So great is their waywardness that when meeting Thy loved ones, they shake their heads in derision of Thy Cause and say:

> "Where is your Lord Whom ye mention in the daytime and in the night season? Where is He to be found Whom ye call your Sovereign, to Whom ye summon all men to turn?"

Their pride and haughtiness waxed greater and greater until they denied the power of Thy might and rejected Thy sovereignty and dominion.

Thy glory beareth me witness! I delight in mine own afflictions and in the afflictions which they who love me suffer in Thy path. Neither I nor they, however, are able to bear such affronts and reproaches as are uttered by Thine enemies against Thy Self, the Unrestrained. How long shalt Thou remain seated, O my God, on the throne of Thy forbearance and patience? Speak Thou Thy word of wrath, O Thou Whom no eyes can see! Well-beloved is Thy mercy unto the sincere among Thy servants, and well-beseeming Thy chastisement of the infidels among Thine enemies. Send down upon them, therefore, O my Lord, that which will unmistakably reveal unto them the fury of Thy wrath and the ascendancy of Thy power, and will enable them to recognize the weight of Thy might and the greatness of Thy strength. If Thou refusest,

O my God, to aid them that love Thee, assist Thou, then, Thine own Self and Him Who is Thy Remembrance.

I entreat Thee by Thy name, that hath caused the ocean of Thy wrath to surge, to chastise them who have repudiated Thy truth and disowned Thine utterances. Abase them, then, by Thy might and power, and exalt such as have, wholly for Thy sake, set their faces towards Thee, that through them the ensigns of Thy glorification may be unfurled among all nations, and Thy tokens be spread abroad among all peoples, and that all may testify that Thou art God, that there is none other God beside Thee, the God of power, of majesty and glory.

BH02872: Praised be Thou, O Lord my God! Every time…

Praised be Thou, O Lord my God! Every time I am reminded of Thee and muse on Thy virtues, I am seized with such ecstasies and am so enravished by Thee that I find myself unable to make mention of Thy name and to extol Thee. I am carried back to such heights that I recognize my self to be the same as the remembrance of Thee in Thy realm, and the essence of Thy praise among Thy servants. As long as that self endureth, so long will Thy praise continue to be shed abroad among Thy creatures and Thy remembrance glorified by Thy people.

Every man endued with insight among Thy servants is persuaded that my self liveth eternally and can never perish, inasmuch as remembrance of Thee is eternal and will endure so long as Thine own Self endureth, and Thy praise is everlasting and will last as long as Thine own sovereignty will last. By its means Thou art glorified by such of Thy chosen ones as call upon Thee and by the sincere among Thy servants. Nay, the praise wherewith any one, in the entire creation, praiseth Thee proceedeth from this exalted self and returneth unto it, even as the sun which, while it shineth, sheddeth its splendor upon whatsoever may be exposed to its rays. From this sun is generated, and unto it must return, the light which is shed over all things.

Exalted, immeasurably exalted art Thou above any attempt to measure the greatness of Thy Cause, above any comparison that one may seek to make, above the efforts of the human tongue to utter its import! From everlasting Thou hast existed, alone with no one else beside Thee, and wilt, to everlasting, continue to remain the same, in the sublimity of Thine essence and the inaccessible heights of Thy glory.

And when Thou didst purpose to make Thyself known unto men, Thou didst successively reveal the Manifestations of Thy Cause, and ordained each to be a sign of Thy Revelation among Thy people, and the Day-Spring of Thine invisible Self amidst Thy creatures, until the time when, as decreed by Thee, all Thy previous Revelations culminated in Him Whom Thou hast appointed as the Lord of all who are in the heaven of revelation and the kingdom of creation, Him Whom Thou hast established as the Sovereign Lord of all who are in the heavens and all who are on the earth. He it was Whom Thou hast determined to be the Herald of Thy Most Great Revelation and the Announcer of Thy Most Ancient Splendor. In this Thou hadst no other purpose except to try them who have manifested Thy most excellent titles unto all who are in heaven and on earth. He it was Whom Thou hast commanded to establish His covenant with all created things.

And when Thy promise came to pass and the set time was fulfilled, He Who is the Possessor of all Names and Attributes was made manifest unto men. Thereupon all that were in the heavens and all that were on the earth were terror-stricken save those whom Thou didst keep under Thy protection and preserve within the shelter of Thy power and gracious providence. There befell Him, at the hands of such of Thy creatures as have transgressed against Thee, that which the tongue of no one of Thy servants can recount.

Look down, then, upon Him, O my God, with the eye of Thy tender mercy, and send down upon Him and upon those that love Him all the good Thou didst ordain in the heaven of Thy will and the Tablet of Thy decree. Aid them, then, with Thy succor, for Thou art, verily, the Almighty, the Most Exalted, the All-Glorious, the All-Compelling.

BH09209: O emigrant servant! Your longing and yearning…

In the Name of the Friend

O emigrant servant! Your longing and yearning for the presence of God is evident and clear, and your mention is recorded in the Most Great Scene. Transform the cups of sorrow into cups of joy. Be not grieved, for God is nearer and kinder to you than your own self. Whatever you traversed in the wilderness of separation, yearning for the presence of the Friend—its reward has been written and recorded by the Pen of Destiny in the Kingdom of Divine decree. All that befell you in the path of the Friend is evident and known in the Tablet of Knowledge.

God's curse be upon those who created barriers between us and you! Most difficult is it for the Ancient Beauty that His loved ones should arrive at the shore of the sea of reunion, yet meeting be delayed and they remain distant from the gathering of nearness. However, in all conditions one must be content with the good-pleasure of the Friend and keep one's gaze fixed upon the direction of His Command, for none has been or ever shall be aware of His hidden wisdom. God's curse be upon those who caused your remoteness from the seat of nearness and reunion! Divine grace has been and shall continue to be with you.

Today all the friends of God must keep their gaze upon the welfare of the Cause, for both external and internal enemies have appeared with all their schemes, just as the previous Manifestation foretold, and likewise in the Persian Tablets known as "Istidlaliyyih" these days were foretold by the Pen of Knowledge, including that during the severe days of the Manifestation the Cause would become so difficult that the companions of that King of existence and Essence of Purpose would flee to mountains and deserts, hiding from the oppressors, while some would sacrifice their lives with complete detachment, as all was fulfilled and you witnessed.

And grieve not for what has befallen you, for greater than what has befallen you has befallen My wronged Self. God willing, may you be enkindled with the fire of divine love and be illumined like a lamp in the gathering of servants, in such wise that the seas of heaven and earth shall not extinguish you nor deprive you of light. And the Spirit be upon you and upon those who love you for the sake of God, the One, the Single, the Ancient.

BH02973: The remembrance of God from the direction…

In the Name of God, the Most Unapproachable, the Most Holy, the Most Glorious!

The remembrance of God from the direction of the Abode of Life, the Spot wherein the Tongue of God uttereth the most melodious strains, addresseth His servant, that My remembrance from His presence may encompass all created things, and that He may remind the servants of the remembrance of God, the Most Great, and bid them observe righteousness and piety, and forbid them from transgression and indecency, that they may perchance find a path unto Him Who occupieth the throne.

O servant! Thy name hath been mentioned before the Throne, and We have revealed unto thee clear and holy verses, and have sent them unto thee as a token of Our grace, that thou mayest read them and be possessed of insight into the Cause. Stand firm in the Cause of God and His religion, and be not shaken by the tempests of trials that have blown from the direction of temptation, causing most of the leaves to fall. Thus hath the matter been decreed by One Who is mighty and powerful.

Turn unto God, then turn away from all else besides Him, and fear no one. Place thy trust in all matters in God, thy Lord, and abide under His mighty protection. Remember thyself throughout all days, lest thou be veiled by the veils of idle fancies which have encompassed most of mankind, who remain shut out from the glances of God.

Know thou that God hath accepted from thee what thou didst dedicate specially to Him from the land which He bestowed upon thee. This is of His grace unto thee, and verily His grace is nigh unto the doers of good. Beware lest thou efface from thy heart the love of thy Lord, the All-Merciful. Guard it from the manifestations of Satan who bid people to deny Him Who created them by His command, and who have taken for themselves a partner with God. Shun such as these, neither sit with them nor associate with them. This is My bidding unto thee, if thou be of those who understand.

Preserve the Tablet of God, then read what hath been revealed therein by night and by day, that it may create within thy heart that which will draw thee nigh unto a mighty and exalted station. Let God suffice thee above all else, and take not Satan as thy helper. Thus have We commanded thee in truth as a token of Our grace unto thee, that thou mayest be endowed with true understanding. Glory be upon thee and upon whosoever hath detached himself from those who have disbelieved and hath turned with radiant countenance unto God.

BH02935: O son! Hearken unto the call of this Bird…

In the name of Him Whom all worship yet do not know.

O son! Hearken unto the call of this Bird that warbleth upon the branches of the Tree of Eternity and summoneth the people unto God, the Sovereign, the All-Powerful, the Most Exalted, the Most Great. He aideth them at all times in the Cause of God and assisteth them through His grace from His presence. Verily He is the Truth, there is no God but Him, the Mighty, the Powerful, the All-Knowing.

Bear thou witness unto that whereunto God did testify before the creation of the heavens and earth, that verily I am alive in the Most Glorious Horizon. Be not of the patient ones. Stand thou firm in the Cause with such steadfastness as would stupefy all who dwell in the heavens and on earth. Be thou so enkindled with the love of thy Lord that should anyone encounter thee, the warmth of thy love would influence him. Thus doth this Mourning One counsel thee, if thou be of them that hearken.

Detach thyself from all else but God, thy Lord, then turn thy face unto Him with a countenance pure, sanctified and luminous. Then follow thy father in whatsoever he commandeth thee, for verily he hath, in the sight of thy Lord, a station that is truly great. Let him stand firm in the Cause of God and be not influenced by the hints of the sinful ones.

We beseech God to assist him in His Cause, to enable him to voice His praise, to detach him from the world, and to give him to drink from the Kawthar of life in this Paradise which God hath manifested at the center of heaven, whose trees have been adorned with leaves whereon hath been inscribed by the Finger of God, the Sovereign, the Guardian, the Most Exalted, the All-Conquering, the All-Powerful:

> "By God! He Who hath appeared with His Most Great Name is verily the Beauty of the All-Merciful between the heavens and earth. Around Him circle the denizens of Paradise, then the realities of creation and all that hath been. Yet the people have turned away from Him and become veiled by a name from among the names that were created by His irrevocable and wise command."

Thus have We remembered thee at this time which, by God, causeth sighs of grief to issue forth from the Breath of the All-Merciful, and tears to flow from His eyes, and He lamenteth within Himself and crieth out in His secret heart saying:

> "Is there any helper who will help this wronged, single and lonely One?"

The Spirit that hath appeared from the holy horizon be upon thee and upon every discerning believer.

BH02937: He is the All-Knowing, the All-Wise! O Letter…

He is the All-Knowing, the All-Wise! O Letter of Ba! Hearken unto the call of Him Who summoneth thee at a time when the dogs of the earth from every direction have gathered against Him with claws of strange hatred, while He hath placed His trust in God, His Lord, at all times, and hath feared no one nor will He ever fear any soul, even should all who are in the heavens and on earth deny Him. For this world and whatsoever is therein are in His sight no more than a handful of light dust.

Say: Verily in this exodus are signs for those who remember, and in this movement are evidences for those who perceive. Say: Therein lieth concealed the wisdom of God, if ye be of them that comprehend. And it shall be made manifest in truth, despite the arrogant ones.

Thus do We impart unto thee of the verses of the Spirit that thou mayest be of the guided ones, and stand firm in the Cause and be of them that are steadfast, and find tranquility within thyself such that the hosts of the evil ones shall not cause thee to slip. Beware lest thou forget this counsel from this trusted, all-knowing One. Soon shall Baal roar and the Samiri call out from every nearby place. But ye shall abide

beneath the shade of God, the Almighty, the Glorious, the Best-Beloved. Verily He will assist His loved ones with hosts ye cannot see, and this is easy for God to accomplish.

And thou, O Baqir, grieve not for what hath befallen Us, and be not of them who are distressed in tribulation nor of them who are content therewith. Be thou content with what God hath ordained for Us, then be patient in the Cause of thy Lord and be of the patient ones. Beware lest thou be dismayed in this greatest dismay wherein the minds of the mystics are bewildered. God shall soon transform thy distress into tranquility and thy sorrow into joy. Verily there is no God but He, the Mighty, the Powerful, the Omnipotent.

Say: O people! Hearken unto My call and differ not in God's Cause, and turn not unto them in whose breasts ye find rancor against God, the Mighty, the Supreme, the Bountiful, and from whom the odors of discord are diffused though their tongues may speak with mighty and impregnable words. By God! These are more harmful than all poisons. Fear ye God and draw not nigh unto them, and be not of them that approach them. Thus have We counseled thee in this Tablet with that which shall suffice thee above all else, if thou be of them that act.

And the Spirit and glory rest upon thee and upon the detached servants.

BH03022: Among the people is he who asks about…

He is the Most Holy, the Most Great

Among the people is he who asks about the Promised News. Say: It hath come, by the Lord of the Frequented Fane! Among them is he who saith: If the Hour hath come, where are its signs? Say: They have passed, by the Lord of what was and what shall be! One saith: Where are the earthquakes? Say: The tribes have been seized while ye were slumbering. When the standards of the signs appeared with clear proofs, the earth was shaken and the mountains crumbled, while ye were heedless. Do ye see any light in the sun before the lights of the Countenance? Nay, by My life, it hath darkened and the stars have fallen. Say: Have ye not heard when the Trumpet was blown, and every rejected idolater was thunderstruck? The All-Merciful hath come, and the smoke hath seized all in the worlds, yet they see not, save whom thy Lord, the Mighty, the Loving, willeth.

Say: Do ye see for yourselves any refuge or escape? Nay, by the Lord of the Unseen and the Seen! Rend ye the veils by the sovereignty of your Lord, the Mighty, the Bestower. Beware lest the buzzing of flies prevent you from turning to God, the Self-Subsisting, the Eternal.

Remember when there came in Iraq one who desired to test God. When We manifested unto him, he broke the Covenant and turned back to his kind, even as people turned back in former ages. Among the people is he who came to the Most Great Scene, and We shed upon him the lights of the Countenance, whereupon he was thunderstruck. When he recovered, he believed in God, the Mighty, the Beloved. And among them is he by whom We passed in the marketplace, and who heard a verse from the verses of his Lord, whereupon longing seized him and he turned to the Intended One.

Say: O people! Were ye to look with the purest eye, ye would see in all that hath appeared in this Revelation the sovereignty of God and His power prevailing over every witness and witnessed thing.

O thou who hast turned to the Face! Thy name hath been mentioned before the Throne, and there hath been sent down for thee that which causeth the sincere ones to soar. Seize thou the days of God, then aid Him with that which will awaken those who slumber. Victory hath been confined to utterance in this Revelation wherein the All-Merciful hath manifested Himself to all who are in the worlds. Thus have We commanded the people in the Tablets, yet most of them understand not. And glory be upon him who hath remained steadfast in this Cause whereby eyes have been solaced.

BH03029: This is an epistle from before Baha unto him…

He is the Most Holy, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious!

This is an epistle from before Baha unto him who hath believed in God and stood firm upon the straight path. We beseech God to assist him in His Cause, to confirm him in the truth, and to send down upon him at all times that which shall gladden his heart and sever him from all the peoples of the earth.

O Muhsin! Hear thou the call of God from this Spot which hath been raised up in truth—that there is none other God but Him, and He hath been, in truth, All-Wise over all things. Arise, O Muhsin, to assist the Cause of God with all thy limbs and members, and forget not God's grace and mercy upon you, the people of Baha, and be thou mighty in rendering assistance. Remember thou this Wronged One and fear no one. Put thy trust in God and verily He will protect thee in truth, for He hath ever been the Protector of those who do good, and their Guardian.

Know thou that in all the Tablets We promised the servants this Most Great Revelation. But when its appointed time drew nigh and He manifested Himself with all the signs and tokens, with power, majesty and sovereignty, most of the servants denied Him and turned away from Him, and were recorded in the Tablets as idolaters. And among the deniers was one who said that so-and-so had not believed in this Cause. Say: Woe unto thee! He whom ye made the criterion for God's Cause hath stumbled on the path and returned to his former state, if ye be aware. Say: O people! Fear ye God and link not God's Cause to anyone's will, for all else was created by His will. He is in truth the Ruler Who ordaineth as He pleaseth, and He hath power over all things. Fear God, O people, and make not your desires your god, and wage not war against Him through Whom God's Cause hath been manifested in every age and dispensation.

Thus do We inspire thee, O Muhsin, that thou mayest be gladdened in thyself by this bounty. Then convey Our greetings to Our Arab loved ones and mention to them what thou hast heard of the story of the Youth, that perchance it may create in their hearts that which shall make them steadfast in the Cause.

BH04736: Glorified be He Who created the names and made…

Glorified be He Who created the names and made them the means whereby His servants might attain unto the realms of eternity, that they may come to know that which was concealed from them in the Kingdom of Creation. There is none other God but Him, the Mighty, the Powerful, the Supreme, the Self-Subsisting. He hath ordained for every name an influence and sovereignty over the seen and the unseen,

and hath made the effect of all names dependent upon His Most Great Name, which hath indeed been made manifest through truth, yet most people have turned away from it….

Say: This is the Most Hidden Remembrance which Al-Kazim mentioned after the Hidden One at the end of his renowned book, concluding it with this Remembrance that its ending might be musk, whose fragrance might be inhaled by such servants as God hath purified from the cold of vain desire and attracted through His Most Exalted Word from the left hand of fancy to the right hand of certitude.

Say: O people! The cock hath crowed, the raven hath croaked, the peacock hath spread its wings, and the Dove hath cooed. How long will ye tarry? Say: The Herald hath called out in the Kingdom of Creation and hath given glad tidings to the servants of the Point from which emerges the letter Ha with the Alif, without excess or breach. When it appeared and shone forth, the decree of divorce was pronounced and leg was wound around leg, after the horizons were illumined by the lights of this Dawning. Among the people are those who violated the Covenant and rose up in hypocrisy, and among them are those who turned to God, in Whose grasp lies the Kingdom of the heavens and earth, and with Whom is the knowledge of all things in a preserved Tablet….

Glory be unto Thee, O my God! I beseech Thee by Thy Name through which Thou didst raise up the heavens of exposition and establish the earth of utterance, from which sprouted the ears of wisdom and meaning, that Thou assist me to exalt Thy Word and aid Thy Cause. Withhold me not from the splendors of the lights of Thy countenance, and deprive me not of the fragrances of the garment of Thy Name, the All-Merciful, in Thy days. O Lord! Praise be unto Thee for having caused me to hear Thy call and recognize the Manifestation of Thyself. I have arisen, O my God, before the fountain of Thy mercy and favors. Sever me from all else but Thee and sanctify me from the mention of aught except Thee. Then assign unto me a seat of truth with Thee. Verily, Thou art the One Who hath power over whatsoever Thou willest. There is none other God but He, the Omnipotent, the Most Exalted, the Mighty, the Wise….

BH02939: O Khalil! Thou wilt never know what befell…

He is

O Khalil! Thou wilt never know what befell the Friend of the All-Merciful from the manifestations of Satan. Say: Verily Nimrod and Pharaoh have again rebelled against God, and this hath been decreed in the preserved tablets of glory. Say: By God! Nimrod acknowledged God when he witnessed the Beauty of God and His power, but the Nimrod of today hath not acknowledged and will never acknowledge, if ye be of those who know. Even if God should bring a company of angels, or the treasures of the heavens and earth, or a manifest sovereignty, or knowledge of what was and what shall be—by God, they will never believe, ever. This is a revelation from God, the Protector, the Mighty, the Self-Subsisting.

If thou shouldst know what befell the Friend, thou wouldst detach thyself from thine own self and from all who are in the heavens and earth and from all upon which the name of a thing can fall. This indeed is a known truth. But We have veiled the matter in preserved tablets of glory, lest the cry of all things be raised between earth and heaven, and the hearts of those who dwell in the pavilions of grandeur be disturbed, and those who are nigh fall prostrate upon the limited dust.

O Khalil! The Beloved speaketh with beloved melodies of sorrow: Soon shall ye bite your fingers in remorse when ye find not the Youth, though ye search throughout the heavens and earth. Thus do We inform you that ye may be of those who are aware. By God the Truth! The eye of creation hath never witnessed its like, nor shall it witness hereafter, and to this do honored servants testify.

This Tablet was revealed at a time when the Shirt of God was reddened with blood because one cast upon all created things a letter of the vision he witnessed within himself—He, the Protector, the Mighty, the Self-Subsisting. Preserve thou this Tablet and recite it morning and evening, and in all years and months, that perchance the people of the holy places may arise from the couch of heedlessness and become certain of their Lord's verses. Then remind, from Our presence, those loved ones whom nothing in the heavens or earth can cause to turn aside except what issueth from the mouth of the Spirit in these days wherein most faces are turned away.

BH02944: Thou knowest, O my God, that my lips were…

In His Name, the Lord!

Thou knowest, O my God, that my lips were not opened save by Thy permission, and that the Pen of Pre-existence moved only by Thy command, and was stirred solely by the winds of Thy Will which have encompassed all who dwell in the kingdom of Thy Cause and creation. I summoned Thy servants, as Thou didst command me, unto the holy paradise of Thy oneness and the seat of Thy glorious mercy. No hour hath passed over me except that from the clouds of destiny there rained down upon me the arrows of tribulation. Yet I remained content with what was decreed for me in Thy path and longing for what was ordained for me in the scrolls of Thy decree.

My soul be a sacrifice for Thine arrows, and my spirit be a ransom for Thy decree, O Thou Who art the Beloved of Baha, the Companion of Baha, Who kindled the fire of faithfulness in the breast of Baha, Who speaketh Thy most great verses through the tongue of Baha, Who proclaimeth Thy most exalted Word in the mystery of Baha. The essence of Baha be a sacrifice for Thy grace, and the reality of Baha be a ransom for Thy mercy. By Thy glory, O my Beloved! I find for myself no portion save what was ordained for me by Thy Most Exalted Pen, and nothing is more beloved to me than the tribulations that have touched me in Thy love—the destined afflictions and the decreed calamities.

Therefore, I beseech Thee, O my Beloved, drive not Thy servants from the door of Thy mercy and bounty. Then rend asunder the veils of their hearts and eyes with the fingers of Thy power and might, that they may behold Thee manifest above all things and seated upon the throne of grandeur and glory. Verily, Thou art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest. There is no God but Thee, the Great, the Most Exalted.

Then send down, O my God, from the clouds of Thy mercy upon him who hath been named with the First Name of these two Most Exalted Names that which will purify him from all except Thee, sanctify him from all save Thee, and turn him toward the direction of Thy unity and the seat of Thy glorious singleness, and preserve him from whatsoever is abhorrent to Thy good-pleasure. Then cause him, O my God, to speak Thy praise amidst Thy creation and Thy remembrance among Thy servants, for Thy remembrance is the ladder whereby Thy creation ascendeth to the heaven of the glory of Thy oneness.

Verily, Thou art He Who hath ever been, through Thine Essence, powerful over all who dwell in the kingdoms of the heavens and earth, and Self-Sufficient from all who dwell in the kingdoms of Command and creation. Thou doest what Thou willest and ordainest what Thou pleasest. There is no God but Thee, the Mighty, the Glorious, the Unconstrained.

BH02940: O guest of God! Where is the Host…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Glorious!

O guest of God! Where is the Host and where is His companion? Know thou that He is in the hands of enemies who plot against Him morning and evening. Woe unto him who would shut the door which hath been opened before the face of all who are in the heavens and on earth! Take heed, O ye who are endowed with discernment!

How many houses have We left to the spider, and how many kings have We brought down from their palaces to their graves! Take heed, O ye who are possessed of understanding! Will any upon earth remain as they were? Nay, by my Lord, the Most Merciful! Blessed is he who hath cast away the world and turned with humility and repentance toward the Most Glorious Horizon.

God willing, you must be grateful and content in all conditions. All people have claimed to love God, yet each was barred from the path of the All-Merciful by some test, for the Ancient Beauty hath never accepted any but the sincere, and trials and tests are like a sieve—that which is unacceptable passeth through it. Today is the day of steadfastness. Dissimulation in the Cause of God is not permitted. Hearken unto the voice of the Wronged One. Speak the truth, stand with truth, and utter truth, even if thou shouldst behold all on earth as enemies. For the example of the souls who turn away is like the foam that appear on the surface of water—they have had and shall have no stability or permanence.

God willing, thou must bear hardships for the sake of God and be patient in what hath befallen thee, even as trials greater than those that have befallen all others have befallen the Ancient Beauty, Who even now, in tribulations that cannot be mentioned, is nonetheless occupied with the remembrance of God and His commandments. Thou hast ever been before Our gaze and remembered in the Most Great Scene. Act in a manner befitting this most great station. Remember all handmaidens on behalf of the Wronged One. Remember on My behalf My handmaiden Sakinih and her daughter. Say to them: Grieve not over anything, for your Lord is the Truth. He is with His handmaidens and adorneth whomsoever He willeth with the ornament of His wondrous and matchless remembrance.

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BH02992: Glorified be He Who hath ordained a measure…

He is the Most Wondrous, the Wondrous!

Glorified be He Who hath ordained a measure for all things. Verily He ordaineth whatsoever He willeth by His command, and He, verily, hath power over all things. Before Him bow down in adoration all who are

in the heavens and on earth. The thunder exalteth Him in fear, and the lightning in awe. He createth the clouds as He pleaseth and causeth them to rain upon the earth as a token of His grace, and verily He is wise over all things.

O ʿAli! Hearken unto the call of Him Who calleth thee from the direction of the Throne, that the call of the All-Merciful may draw thee to a sanctified and faithful station, and raise thee to the pinnacle of grace, and bring thee to the shore of luminous glory. Follow thou the religion of God in thy love for Me, and follow not every rebellious Satan—they who, when a herald came unto them from God, denied him and said: "This is naught but a man possessed," and who, when he showed them that which their souls and hearts were powerless to produce, cried out and said: "This is naught but manifest sorcery." Thus did Our heedless servants speak in every age, and thus do they speak now, yet they comprehend not a word. But thou, guard thyself from the depths of vain imaginings in these days, and take fast hold of the Arc of sacred splendor. Say: In the Name of God and by God, then embark upon it and fear no one. Cut thyself off from all the worlds. Whoso holdeth fast unto it this day is indeed saved, and whoso turneth away from it is drowned. Thus hath the decree been inscribed by the Finger of Command upon the Tablet.

Seek thou the grace of thy Lord at all times, for verily His grace is nigh unto the doers of good. They who have denied the verses of the All-Merciful—for them God hath ordained no station of truth, and today they are debarred from the breezes of the spirit. But they who are firm in the Cause—these are encompassed by the breezes of grace, and around them circle the angels of the Cause with chalices from the Kawthar of life. Thus doth the mercy of thy Lord, the All-Merciful, encompass those who are nigh unto Him.

Forsake the earth and all that is therein, then take the Tablet of God with becoming humility and read it. Verily, it will preserve thee from that which thy Lord abhorreth, and will lead thee to His good-pleasure, and cause thee to enter a paradise whose name hath been magnified in truth.

BH11743: Know that thy letter hath been presented before…

In the name of God, the Most Mighty, the Most Holy, the Most Glorious

Know that thy letter hath been presented before the Throne, and the glances of thy Lord and the Lord of all worlds have been directed towards it. He now answereth thee in truth through the tongue of the Spirit that speaketh in this holy, glorious and gracious Presence. O Taqi! Fear God and be of pure piety in thy love for thy Ancient Master. Beware lest thou mingle it with love for anyone else or mix it with the mention of the worlds, for naught else will suffice thee in aught, and all besides Him are poor before Him. He, verily, is the All-Possessing, the Almighty, the Most High, the All-Glorious, the All-Knowing.

Hold fast unto the cord of God and detach thyself from all else. This is better for thee than all thou dost witness and behold. Thy Lord is, in truth, witness to this and well-informed. Blessed art thou, for the fire of love hath been kindled within thy breast. Beware lest thou extinguish it with the waters of idle fancies and vain imaginings. Cast aside all imaginings, then turn thy face toward thy Lord, the Mighty, the All-Knowing. He will verily protect thee in truth beneath the shadow of His protection. There is none other mighty save Him. His is the command and the creation, and all before Him are as a handful of clay.

Taste thou the fruits of the Tree of the Spirit, then detach thyself from aught else. By God! Wert thou to search throughout all regions of the heavens and earth, thou wouldst not find the fragrance of the garment save from this resplendent, holy and luminous Beauty. And wert thou to desire to hear the melodies of God, thou wouldst hear them from none save this Speaking Tongue, the Holy, the All-Knowing.

Know thou furthermore that the idolaters have emerged from the thickets of hypocrisy with swords of dissension. Beware! Avoid them and remain under mighty protection. Thus do We inform thee that thou mayest remain steadfast in the love of thy Lord and be possessed of clear insight. As to thy desire to attain the presence of the Throne, ask God to assist thee in His Cause and make thee firm in that wherein thou art. He, verily, will send down unto thee whatsoever He willeth, and for all there is a portion in the Book. When He willeth, He will grant thee what thou desirest. He accepteth whomsoever He pleaseth and ordaineth what He willeth. And upon thee be glory, and upon whomsoever remaineth firm in God's Cause and turneth toward the direction of glory, this resplendent and wondrous Scene.

BH03028: This is a Book from Us to him who…

He is God, exalted be His glory, the Most Great, the All-Powerful!

This is a Book from Us to him who hath believed in God, the All-Compelling, the Self-Subsisting. Herein is mentioned that which he hath attained unto. He, verily, is the Truth, the Knower of the unseen.

Blessed art thou for having forsaken thy home out of longing for the precincts of God, and for having turned toward that place wherefrom was raised the call in remembrance of thy Lord, the Mighty, the Loving. Thou didst hasten unto the Beloved until thou didst enter the sacred court and circumambulate the House. Thy Lord, verily, encompasseth all things, and with Him is the knowledge of what hath been and what shall be.

Beseech God to make thee steadfast in His love, that the signs of those who judge according to their own understanding without true comprehension may not cause thee to waver. Say: O people! Abandon your desires. This is the Ocean of guidance surging before your faces. Turn ye unto it, and follow not those who are heedless of the signs of God. God willing, thou shalt ever drink from the cup of steadfastness through the bounty of the eternal Sovereign.

O servant! The station of steadfastness is most great. Ask God to enable thee to achieve it. Many are the souls who reached the shore of oneness, yet afterwards were deprived by a single word from the Truth. Today it is observed that certain souls, having clung to one of the cords, have remained far from the Self-Subsisting Lord.

O Hashim! Hold fast to the cord of God's loving-kindness and cling to the hem of His grace, and whatsoever thou hast heard from the Truth, mention it with pure sincerity. Praise be to the Exalted Truth that thou hast attained to a station mention of which shall forever be recorded in the divine Books. This is of God's grace—He bestoweth it upon whomsoever He willeth.

Convey My greetings to the loved ones of God and counsel them with wisdom. Among the commandments is that no one is permitted to turn toward this direction. Say: O people! Follow not your desires. Take what ye are bidden. This is better for you than that which ye imagine. Great is the corruption in this land. Soon shall that which is hidden in its midst be made manifest. Thy Lord, verily, is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

Forget not what thou hast heard and seen. Be thankful and say: Praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH02942: He is the Mighty! O ʿAli! Be patient…

He is the Mighty! O ʿAli! Be patient in My Cause and grieve not within thyself, for though separation is more bitter than any bitterness, yet following Me is sweeter than any sweetness. Therefore seek for thyself that which is acceptable before the Beloved and pleasing, not to be rejected.

Then I counsel thee, O ʿAli, to patience in this greatest terror and to forbearance in this constraint, then to firmness in the love of God and His loved ones. And this indeed is a matter which nothing in the heavens and earth can resist, did ye but know.

Then turn to thy Lord and turn away from all else, and be thou in love at such a station that should thine eye oppose thee in this, thou wouldst pluck it out, for it profiteth thee not, and what profiteth thee is thy Lord, the Mighty, the Self-Subsisting.

Then convey Our remembrance to ʿAbdu'llah who is named Javad, and remind him of My love for him, and this is better for him than all that eyes have beheld. Say unto him: Be thou steadfast in the love of thy Lord. Then remember him in thy days and fear no one, but put thy trust in God, the Mighty, the Powerful, the Ever-Living, the Sublime.

Then convey Our remembrance to Zaynu'l-ʿAbidin and give him the glad tidings of a praiseworthy station in the presence of God, the Mighty, the Beloved.

Then cast upon ar-Rahim from Us the word of glorification, that he may be of those who rejoice in the gladness of the Cause.

Then I counsel you that ye dispute not in the Cause of God, even should the idolaters unite against you, and be ye in the earth as standards of victory from One wise and self-subsisting. And should ye detect from anyone the fragrance of rancor, draw not nigh unto him for an instant—thus hath it been inscribed by the Most Holy Pen on a preserved and mighty tablet. Then speak with wisdom and be among the people as one detached who turneth only toward the right hand of nearness to the Beloved.

Then dwell, O ʿAli, in thy house until there reacheth thee from Our command or a hidden and secret book. Thus do We cast upon thee words of love that thou mayest find from them the fragrance of musk and be of those who return unto God.

Then convey Our remembrance to the women who are in thy house, then cast upon their faces the silk of glorification from this sorrowing Youth. And peace be upon you and upon them until the Day when the trumpet shall be sounded.

BH03034: This is the Tree of the Cause which hath…

He is the Most Inaccessible, the Most Holy, the Most Glorious!

This is the Tree of the Cause which hath put forth leaves through the praise of God and His manifestations, then bore holy and ripe fruits. By God! Whoso tasteth thereof shall never taste aught else, shall be detached from all that is on earth, and shall have his eyes opened to behold the Beauty of the Ancient of Days, his ears to hear His melodies, and his heart to know His Self which hath been, from the holy horizon, even as the sun behind pavilions of glory, in truth visible. By God! Were one to become aware of what is within it and upon it, and what is ordained in its mystery, all created things would be consumed thereby, and all who are in the heavens and earth would be thunderstruck, save those whom God hath protected by a manifest sovereignty.

Say: By God, O concourse of idolaters! This abasement sufficeth you, that the Sun hath appeared behind veils and coverings because ye cannot gaze upon it, as your eyes are clouded by self and passion; therefore hath it risen from the holy horizon according to a fixed measure.

O servant! Hear the call of thy Lord from this Tree which hath been raised up in truth, and whereof every leaf and branch, both outward and inward, proclaimeth that there is none other God but Him, and that He encompasseth all things. Blessed art thou for having drunk the cup of faith from the hands of the youths who abide upon the Ark of Glory and sail upon the sea of grandeur—this is a bounty unequalled in creation, if thou be of them that know.

Follow thy father's command at all times, for he hath a station among stations with thy Lord—this is My counsel unto thee. Act according to what hath been counseled from the tongue of the Cause, for this is better for thee than all that is on earth. Then mention unto thy brother from Us, who was named Nasru'llah, that he may rejoice in his soul at the glad-tidings of the Spirit and be among those gladdened by the joy of the Cause. We beseech God to make thee a helper of His Cause, even as He named thee with this name. Verily He doeth what He willeth by His command, and He hath power over all things.

And the glory be upon you and upon those who have taken unto God a path.

BH02965: The sister of Jinab-i-Haydar-'Ali

The sister of Jinab-i-Haydar-'Ali

He is the Peerless, the Sanctified, the Most Glorious.

Praise be unto the Best-Beloved, the cloud of whose mercy hath ever rained upon all beings, and the sun of whose bounty hath ever shed its radiance upon all created things. Truly destitute is he who hath deprived himself of the showers of God's grace!

O maidservant of God! Strive that thou mayest not be deprived of the effulgent splendours of His lights, nor far removed from the shadow of His mercy. Take thou refuge in His shelter, and abide thou beneath the shadow of His gracious favour, for all that cometh not beneath His shadow hath ever been—and shall remain—within the realm of disbelief. In these days, the operation of two divine names may be witnessed

with the utmost clarity: to wit, the names of “Quickener” and “Destroyer”. These cause on the one hand death, and on the other, life. The one taketh life away from those that turn away from God; the other conferreth everlasting life upon those that turn towards Him.

How great the power of Him Who at a single time hath made two seasons to appear: spring and autumn! How numerous the trees of human souls that have become fresh and verdant in this mystic, holy springtide, and richly laden with the fruits of divine knowledge! And how numerous the trees of human souls that have become parched and withered in this same season, deprived of all God’s manifold bestowals! A single breeze blew forth from out His peerless Paradise: to the believers in the unity of God it was a balm of peace and mercy; to the infidels, a blast of wrath and chastisement. Such is the power of Him Who is the sovereign Lord of all!

O maidservant of God! Please God, thou wilt not be deprived of the gently-stirring breezes of this springtide of supernal holiness, nor remain without a portion of the overflowing bounties of these days of the divine spirit. Pass thou beyond the world and all its peoples, and set thy face towards the one true God. For all else but Him is in its essence poor and needy; and being so, is powerless to satisfy even its own needs, how much less the needs of others!

O maidservant of God! Whenever thou art seated in comfort and tranquillity, do thou call to mind this Captive, and occupy thyself with His remembrance; and if thou beholdest an exile from his native land, do thou recount the banishment and anguish of this Spiritual Youth. I swear by Him Who is the Mover of all beings! Heaven, earth and mountains would be incapable of bearing a single atom of the tribulations that have come to pass. Nay, better were it that the afflictions of this Youth remain concealed. He, verily, hath knowledge of all things. Do ye convey the salutation of Him Who is the Tongue of God unto all His devoted handmaidens.

BH02955: These are the verses of God which have been…

In the Name of God, the Most Wondrous, the Most Exalted, the Most Mighty, the Most Glorious!

These are the verses of God which have been sent down from the heaven of mighty glory, and through them mercy descends upon all created things from the presence of One powerful and mighty. Through them God provides His near servants with the fruits of wisdom and utterance, that He may detach them from all else besides Him and draw them nigh unto the precincts of glorious might.

Say: He is verily the One with power over whatsoever He willeth, such that were He to desire to reveal in every moment proof after proof in establishment of His Cause, He would be able, and He hath ever been wise over all things. Say: Were He to desire to make but a single proof for His Cause and manifest it in every moment in another form, He would be able, and He hath ever had power over whatsoever He willeth. Say: Were He to send down upon a tree the decree of divine authority and upon what is beneath it, He would be able, and it behooveth none to object to Him, for He hath ever been the Doer of what He willeth, and He hath ever been encompassing over all things.

Say: O people, be ye ashamed before Him Who, were He to desire to resurrect all created things through a word from His presence, would be able—and this is easy for Him. Nothing in the heavens or earth that He hath created can frustrate Him, and with Him is the knowledge of all things in a perspicuous Book.

Say: O people, think not within yourselves that which beseemeth you not. Hearken unto the call of God, abandon the calf, and take what hath been sent down from the presence of One mighty and wise. Say: Do ye worship the idol instead of God? Woe unto you for what your passions bid you do. Fear God and take not the idol as your helper.

And thou, O thou who hast turned to God, be steadfast in the Cause, purify thy spirit and body from the influences of those who have disbelieved and associated partners with Him in Whom they had believed, and who were rebellious against God. Sanctify thyself from such as these and consort not with them ever, and be in an impregnable protection. Thus have We commanded thee as a bounty from Our presence upon thee, that thou mayest rejoice within thyself and be steadfast in the Cause.

And the glory be upon thee and upon whoso hath believed in God and taken within the precincts of holiness a mighty station.

BH02977: Ziyarat-Namih for the (later) martyrs of Zanjan

This is a visitation prayer revealed by God, the Lord of Names, for His loved ones (Jinab-i-Ashraf, Basir and Mirza Muhammad-ʿAli) who turned to the place of detachment for martyrdom and were martyred in the path of God in the land of Za. Upon them be the mercy of God, Creator of all things and Fashioner of earth and heaven. Blessed is he who draws near to God, the All-Compelling, the Self-Subsisting, through visiting them. And whoever wishes to visit any one of them should recite this visitation prayer:

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Glorious! May the mercy that appeared and shone forth from the horizon of the grace of the Lord of creation be upon you, O guide of the people and destroyer of idols! I testify that you were, for the bosom of grandeur, the white hand, and for the wilderness of guidance, the Tree of Sinai, and for the people of creation, the greatest sign. You are the one through whom the preamble of the book of existence was adorned with the remembrance of your Lord, the Mighty, the Loving. God's curse be upon those who killed you and wronged you after you had been unto them a sign of remembrance from your Lord, the Most Glorious.

I testify that you did not fall short in the Cause of your Lord and conveyed what you were commanded until you returned to your resting place. You are the one whom the veils did not prevent from the remembrance of your Lord, the Mighty, the Bestower. The assault of the wicked did not cause you to tremble—you called all to God, the Mighty, the Chosen One. Blessed are you, then blessed are you, in that you ascended to the Paradise of Abha and the Supreme Companion, detached from all that was created in the realm of existence, turning to the Most Distant Station and the Lote-Tree of the Uttermost End, and dwelling in the seat of truth with God, the Lord of the last and the first.

O my God and my Master! I beseech You by this martyr who was martyred in Your path, and by this blood which was shed in Your love, that You forgive me and my parents and my relatives from among those who have believed in You and Your verses. And I beseech You, O my God, by this noble dust and this

exalted gate, that You ordain for me what You have ordained for Your chosen ones who were not prevented by the clamor of the wicked from turning to You, O You in Whose hand is the reins of authority. O Lord! Leave me not to myself. Preserve me beneath the shadow of Your greatest mercy, then send down upon him the best of the last and the first. Verily You are powerful over what You will. There is no God but You, the Mighty, the Wise.

BH02982: God beareth witness that there is none other God…

He is the Mighty

God beareth witness that there is none other God but Him, the Mighty, the Self-Subsisting. His is the bounty and grace. He quickeneth whom He willeth through His sovereignty, and He verily is the One, the Most Exalted, the Mighty, the Best-Beloved. Say: O people, fear God and oppose not him who reciteth unto you the verses of God. Fear ye God, then fear His Cause, therefore fear Me. And if ye believe not, deny not, for this is an error in the Tablet, did ye but know.

Say: O people, if ye deny these verses, then by what verses do ye believe? Nay, by Him Who holdeth my soul in His hand, whoso believeth not in these verses hath denied all verses and every Prophet and Messenger. And thou, O servant, fear no one but place thy trust in God and be of them that turn unto the verses of God. Then stand firm in the Cause of God and His love, and turn thy heart toward this sacred and praiseworthy Quarter. Then content thyself with thy Lord to the exclusion of all else and follow not the desires of them who at all times deny the verses of God. And when it is said unto them "Believe in God and in what hath been sent down unto you in truth," they say "We are content with what we have of God's verses." Say: By what right do ye object to those who believed not in God during His manifestation in the name of Ali in truth?

Therefore, O people of the Bayan, be fair, for they said exactly what ye say today. Do ye enjoin righteousness upon men while forgetting for yourselves the melodies of God and then deny them? For they were content just as ye are content with what ye have, and thereby opposed God and His verses just as ye oppose and then mock. Say: By God, nothing will suffice you today, neither what is in the heavens nor what is on earth nor what is between them, except that ye take this Book with power and take what is ordained therein. And this is assuredly the truth in this luminous and hidden Tablet. Thus hath the Dove warbled in this night and God's proof hath been completed unto all who are in the heavens and on earth, would ye but perceive it. And the Spirit be upon thee and upon him who holdeth fast to the sovereignty of Names in this Most Great Name, the Veiled, the Manifest, the Hidden, the Concealed.

BH03005: In the Name of God, the Most Great…

In the Name of God, the Most Great, the Most Glorious! We have sent down the Bayan and made it the herald of this Revelation through which the rivers have flowed. Say: I am the springtime of the All-Merciful for that which was sown in the Bayan, and the rain of grace for that which was planted therein with justice. To this testifieth he who possesseth knowledge of the Tablets. He hath ordained the laws that I might proclaim in all things that there is none other God but Me, the Single, the One, the Help in Peril. This is a mention which God hath specially assigned to Myself.

Read ye the Bayan, that ye may know him whom the followers of all religions have failed to recognize. He wrote the Bayan solely that His Most Exalted Pen might move only to make mention of Him, yet ye have committed that which hath caused the Pen to be restrained from mentioning the mysteries. Therefore doth the Divine Lote-Tree lament for that which ye have wrought, O company of evil ones!

Say: Think ye that ye have any power? Nay, by Him Who controlleth the night and the day! Or suppose ye that ye can find any refuge? Nay, by my Lord, even should ye lay hold of all means! Are they who have acted unjustly at ease while We are in affliction? Nay, they are in the abyss, by Him Who causeth the trees to speak!

And remember when one asked "Where is the Temple of the Kingdom?" He who turned away said "It is in the most ruined of houses." Say: Nay, O dweller in hell, it is in a palace of ruby! Behold, O ye who are endued with insight! He possesseth a Name which, were He to cast it upon poison, would transform it into the Most Great Antidote. Die in thy wrath, O thou idolatrous infidel! Soon shalt thou see what thou hast wrought; then shalt thou lament and find no escape.

Blessed art thou for having rent asunder the veils and turned to God, the Lord of all names. When thou didst drink the choice wine of verses from the cups of the words of thy Lord, the Lord of names and attributes, arise and make good what hath passed. Thus doth He instruct thee Who possesseth knowledge of all things in the Book.

Say: O people, have ye not witnessed the power? By My life, the Cry hath been raised, and these are verses at which the mountains would crumble! I know not by what proof ye have held fast, or by what cause ye have been kept back from Him through Whose remembrance the earth was established and spirits took flight. Arise from the couches of heedlessness and passion, then aid your Lord, the All-Merciful, with wisdom and utterance. Thus hath the matter been decreed in the Tablets from the presence of Him Who cleaveth the dawn.

Glory be upon thee and upon thy son, and upon those who have broken the chains of blind imitation through this Name whereby the gates have been opened.

BH03030: This is a Book from God, the Mighty…

In the Name of God, the Most Wondrous, the Most Inaccessible!

This is a Book from God, the Mighty, the Loving, unto him who hath believed in Me and hath attained unto the lights of God in days wherein every witness and the witnessed were thrown into confusion. Blessed art thou for having quaffed the Most Pure Kawthar from the hand of thy Lord, the Most High, the Most Exalted, and recognized that which was intended. Beseech God to make thee steadfast in His love and to grant thee that which will draw thee nigh unto the Spot round which circle His honored servants. We have not forgotten thee and have been with thee, and thy Lord doth bear witness to what I say.

Say: Glory be unto Thee, O my God! I beseech Thee by the tears of them that know Thee in their separation and remoteness from Thee, and by the lamentations of them that yearn for Thee in their love and attachment to Thee, and by Thy Hidden Name whereby Thou didst separate between what was and

what would be, that Thou assist me through the wonders of Thy help and preserve me from the tyrannous ones among Thy creatures. How many heads, O my God, were raised upon spears in Thy days, and how many breasts were pierced by the arrows of the idolaters in their love and pleasure in Thee, and how many hands were severed in Thy path! How long, O my God, wilt Thou hear the moaning of Thy loved ones and not deliver them from their enemies, and how long wilt Thou hear the cry of Thy chosen ones and not help them amidst Thy servants? How long, O my God, wilt Thou witness and forbear? By Thy might, O my Beloved! The matter hath reached such a pass that they have denied Thy power and made a mockery of the Manifestations of Thy Revelation and the Dawning-Places of Thine inspiration.

Therefore do I beseech Thee by Thy Name through which the veil of fancy was rent asunder and the Beauty of Thy Name, the Self-Subsisting, was manifested, that Thou assist Thy loved ones and abase Thine enemies. O Lord! Deprive us not of the wonders of Thy grace in Thy days, and distance us not from the shores of nearness through Thy bounty and favors.

O Lord! Send down upon me that which will make me rich through Thy riches, and speaking in Thy praise, and mindful in Thy remembrance. Then ordain for me what Thou hast ordained for Thy chosen ones. O Lord! Thou art He Who hath reared me by the hands of Thy grace and guided me to the seat of Thy throne until I entered into Thy presence and heard Thy call and attained unto the lights of Thy countenance and was honored to meet Thee. I beseech Thee, O my God, by Thy Self, since Thou hast guided me through Thy bounty and singled me out for Thy love, to preserve me from the hints of the idolaters among Thy creatures. Verily Thou art powerful over what Thou willest, and verily Thou art the Forgiving, the Bountiful.

BH11744: This is a Book from this Wronged One…

In the Name of God, the Most Unapproachable, the Most Holy

This is a Book from this Wronged One to him who hath migrated in the path of God and was recorded among the emigrants in the Holy Tablet by the Creative Pen, that it may purify him from all contingent things and cause him to ascend unto a station which hath been mentioned by the Pen of God in the Mother Book.

O servant! Hearken unto the call of this servant who weepeth and lamenteth by reason of what hath befallen him, and who, at all times, crieth out between earth and heaven:

> “O people! Fear ye God, and make not His signs an object of mockery amongst yourselves. Be ye afraid of God, and commit not that which ye have been forbidden in the Book. Then follow ye the truth in accordance with what hath been detailed by the All-Compelling, the Self-Subsisting.”

O servant! By God! Were there to descend upon thee what hath descended upon Us, thou wouldst detach thyself from all who are in the heavens and on earth, and wouldst smite thy head, and lament at morn and eventide. Arise to serve God and aid His Cause, then convey unto the people that which hath shone forth from the horizon of the Spirit—the Sun of grandeur and power—with a sovereignty that encompasseth all the worlds. Then remind those who have believed in that place, that perchance they

may detach themselves from whatsoever they possess and turn towards a station which hath been illumined by the truth.

Say: By God, O people! Nothing of what hath been created between the heavens and the earth shall profit you, and that which shall profit you is with God, your Creator. Hasten ye therefore unto Him with your hearts, that ye may find a way unto Him. God shall soon change the earth and whatsoever is upon it, and shall gather together all creatures at a station which hath been irrevocably decreed by the Pen of Destiny from time immemorial. They shall be questioned concerning what they have wrought in their vain life, and shall be rewarded according to their deeds. Thus hath the matter been sent down in truth from the heaven of holiness.

And thou, O servant, forget all else save God, thy Lord, then take comfort in that which hath shone forth from the Dayspring of Sinai and hath been manifested in truth through a Command at which all in the kingdom were thunderstruck, except a number of the Manifestations of Our most beautiful Names, who were at that time soaring on the wings of detachment in the atmosphere of the Spirit. Thus have We cast upon thee the Word of Truth, that thou mayest follow what thou hast been commanded in the Tablet and be of those who are well-pleasing unto God.

And glory be upon thee and upon those who are steadfast in the Cause.

BH03107: Glorified is He Who hath sent down the verses…

He is the Most Exalted, the Most Holy, the Most High

Glorified is He Who hath sent down the verses in truth for people who comprehend. There is no God but Him. His is the creation and the command. All act by His bidding. O servant! Hear the call of this Youth, then help thy Lord to the extent thou art able, and be not of those who understand not.

Say: He hath appeared in truth with a sovereignty before which all in the heavens and earth have bowed down, yet the people perceive not. Say: O people, fear God and wage not war against His Self, and dispute not with His Beauty, the Self-Subsisting, the Supreme.

O Ahmad! Give praise to God, thy Lord, for having rent asunder the veils from thy face and made Himself known to thee in these days wherein most of the servants remain veiled from Him and have turned back on their heels. Beware lest thou forget thy Lord or take any helper other than Him. Abide beneath the shadow of thy Lord in such wise that the breath of no rejected idolater can cause thee to slip. Turn thy heart toward the direction of God, then seek His help in all matters. He will verily help thee in truth, and He doeth what He willeth through His word “Be” and it is.

And if thou wishest to know what hath befallen Us after Our departure from Iraq, know that at every moment We have been afflicted by the irrevocable, firm and ordained decrees, and that the wolves of hatred have encompassed Us in this land after We created them by Our command. Thus hath it been with the Youth, if thou art of those who are informed.

Let nothing cause thee grief, and if sorrows encompass thee, remember My tribulation, then My exile, then My loneliness amidst those who have denied the signs of God, the Supreme, the Mighty, the Beloved.

And if thou wishest to depart from Iraq, depart placing thy trust in God. He will protect thee through His grace and will send down unto thee that which hath been ordained for thee in the preserved tablets of glory. Then convey Our remembrance to those servants who were with thee, and give My greetings to them. This is My command unto thee. Act according to what thou hast been commanded, and be not of those who are patient in the Cause of their Lord.

BH03088: Listen to the call of thy Lord…

In the Name of the Most Unapproachable, the Most Holy, the Most Exalted

Listen to the call of thy Lord from the Pole of Eternity and be not occupied with aught else save His remembrance, the Exalted, the Most Great. He calleth thee at all times with the verses of His love, if thou be of them that hear. Detach thyself from the kingdom, then arise by thyself to promote the Cause of God, thy Lord and the Lord of all worlds. By God, the True One! That which thou beholdest on earth shall perish, and sovereignty shall remain with God, the Single, the One, the Peerless, the All-Wise. Then remind the people of that which God hath cast into thy heart, and tarry not in thy soul less than a moment. And if thou findest one who is receptive, cast upon him the melodies of the Spirit, and if thou findest one who turneth away, turn away from him and turn unto God, and verily He shall suffice thee against all things and against His misbeliever servants.

We have indeed sent down unto thee aforetime verses of wondrous glory and dispatched them by trusted messengers from among Our servants. We beseech God that they may reach thee, that thereby thine eyes may be gladdened and the eyes of the believers. We commanded thee therein to enjoin upon the people in these days what God hath ordained for them and to give them the glad tidings of the paradise of God, the Mighty, the All-Knowing.

Know thou that there hath befallen Us that which cannot be mentioned in words. By God! Then would all who are in the heavens and earth weep—for they who were created by My Word have desired to kill Me and shed My blood. When God frustrated what they intended, they then raised an outcry within themselves, perchance thereby to cast rancor into the hearts of the sanctified ones. Then they fabricated against Me all that befitteth their own selves and that their hands have earned, and thereby the word of chastisement became due them from the presence of One mighty and powerful. They seek to slay the Self of God with the swords of association and hatred, then recite His verses, the Wondrous, the Revealed. Were We to recount unto thee what hath befallen Us, thou wouldst grieve in thy soul and the hearts of them that are certain would grieve with thee. We have therefore concealed it from thee to preserve thy soul, lest thy heart be saddened thereby and thou become of the sorrowful.

And the Glory be upon thee and upon them who hearken unto thy word concerning God, thy Lord and the Lord of the Mighty Throne.

BH03079: O Shaykh Fani! May you be, God willing, forever…

In the Name of the One Friend

O Shaykh Fani! May you be, God willing, forever and always annihilated from self and abiding in the remembrance of Truth, in such wise that from your tongue may be heard at all times the mention of God, and from your heart may be inhaled the love of the Beloved, and from your face may be witnessed the radiance of the All-Merciful. Your letter was presented before the Throne, and in response thereto a Tablet was sent down from the heaven of the Divine Will. Subdue hearts through mention of the Beloved and move all creation by the cord of the love of thy Lord, the Sovereign of all worlds. This is what We have ordained in the Tablets. Let not sorrows overtake thee. Be thou joyful in the days of thy Lord, then remind souls of that which hath been sent down from the presence of the Mighty, the Self-Subsisting.

Specifically for Nabil-i-Baqir, wondrous words have shone forth from the Dayspring of the divine Finger and been dispatched. God willing, may they attain thereunto. Convey My glorification unto him and unto those who have believed in God, the Mighty, the All-Praised. Praise be to the Best-Beloved of the worlds that thy mention hath been and continues to be remembered before the Throne. If thou asketh God thy Lord, He would send down clear verses for every soul. Verily thy Lord loveth him who hath loved Him and desireth him who hath desired Him. He is verily the All-Forgiving, the All-Merciful.

Remind on My behalf Siyyid-i-Kazim. Say: Blessed is he who hath turned to God in this Day wherein the Herald hath proclaimed: The Kingdom belongeth to the Dayspring of the Cause of your Lord, the All-Merciful, the All-Compassionate. Say: Be thou steadfast in the Cause in such wise that vain imaginings shall not withhold thee from the remembrance of thy Lord, the Mighty, the All-Knowing, nor shall the veils of the heedless conceal thee. Adorn thy head with the crown of the mention of the Glory between earth and heaven, and thy tongue with this Name whereby the liver of misbelief was cleft asunder and the countenance of unity shone forth from the horizon of the command of thy Lord, the Most Exalted, the Most Great.

Be as thy Lord was. The calamities never prevented Him from the mention of the Lord of all creation. He summoneth the people at all times unto God, the Mighty, the Peerless. That which thou seest today shall perish, and that which shall endure is His mention of His loved ones and what He hath ordained for them in the Kingdom of God, the Mighty, the Beautiful. Thus have We commanded thee that thou mayest rejoice in the remembrance of thy Lord and be of them that have attained. Say: All praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH03123: Your letter was received wherein you sought to test…

He is the Most Holy, the Most Exalted!

Your letter was received wherein you sought to test your Lord, the Most High, the Great. This is what you have been forbidden in all the Tablets. Read the books of the past, that you may be of those who understand. All that hath been manifested in this Revelation is the proof of God amongst His servants and His testimony unto all who are in the heavens and on earth. None may test his Lord—rather God testeth whomsoever He willeth of His servants. Verily He is the Ruler over whatsoever He pleaseth.

Would you say what the ancients said? Read the Furqan and after it the Bayan, that you may be of those who are informed. We love not what beseemeth thee not—this is of My favor unto thee, that thou mayest be of the thankful. Make not thy faith contingent upon what thou desirest, but rather upon what God, thy Lord and the Lord of all worlds, hath desired.

When the breezes of revelation waft over thee and the attraction of the divine Word draweth thee to the kingdom of thy Lord, the All-Merciful, then shall be made manifest unto thee what thou didst desire, and thou shalt witness God's power and knowledge over all created things. How many servants desired what thou didst desire, yet when We made it manifest unto them, they said: "This is manifest sorcery!" Ask thou Baghdad and its environs, and other lands besides, that thou mayest be assured that thy Lord is verily the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

Is there any excuse left for anyone in this Revelation? No, by God, the Lord of the Mighty Throne! My signs have encompassed the earth, and My power enveloped all mankind, and yet the people are wrapped in a strange sleep!

Glory be unto Thee, O my God! Thou knowest that I have summoned the servants unto naught save the court of Thy gifts and favors, and have manifested unto them, by Thy leave, that which hath no likeness in creation. I beseech Thee, O Possessor of invention, that Thou transmute the base metal of existence into pure gold through the elixir of Thy wisdom and loving-kindness. Then reveal unto them from Thy comprehensive Book of Divination that which will render them independent through Thine independence.

I testify, O my God, that with Thee is the knowledge of all things. I beseech Thee by Thy Self to make known unto the servants the Manifestation of Thy Self and the Dawning-Place of Thy signs, that they may find in His every attribute the fragrances of Thy knowledge and the sweet scents of Thy power. Then cause them to be so detached from all else but Thee that they will choose for themselves what Thou hast chosen for them through the sovereignty of Thy decree. Verily Thou art the Almighty, the Exalted, the Mighty, the Wise.

BH03150: This is the Leaf of Eternity which hath stirred…

In the Name of God, the Most Unapproachable, the Most Holy, the Most Glorious!

This is the Leaf of Eternity which hath stirred in the Paradise of the Tablet in the form of words, and from its movements and behavior a voice is heard whereto turn the faces of them that have recognized divine unity. They hear mention of this name which hath ascended unto God and was afflicted with tribulation in the path of his Lord. Thus hath the grace of God encompassed whomsoever He willeth of His creation, and verily His grace hath ever encompassed all the worlds.

O servant! Rejoice within thyself that thou wast confirmed in the good-pleasure of God and the recognition of His Self, and wast content with His good-pleasure until thou didst sacrifice thy spirit in His path. And verily We were with thee when thou didst ascend unto God with manifest humility and submission. Blessed art thou and blessed are they whom God hath associated with thee. Would that the servants might behold thee in the Most Exalted Paradise and become aware of what God hath ordained

for thee in the sanctuaries of holy and transcendent glory. Thus doth God blot out the names of them that have disbelieved and associated partners with God, and confirmeth them that have believed and turned with pure hearts toward the court of God with an illuminating radiance.

And verily thou, O servant, rejoice within thyself in Paradise, for God hath at this moment magnified thy countenance and ordained for thee such good as none hath comprehended save His Self, Who hath encompassed all things in a Manifest Book. Soar with the two wings We have given thee, then wing thy flight in an atmosphere more subtle than spirit upon the face of a mirror and more delicate than light upon the face of a luminous crystal.

Blessed art thou in that thou hast tasted the sweetness of the love of God, then drunk the cup of life in the life of life, and now drinkest from the chalice of glory at the very heart of Paradise, and art at all times gladdened by the fragrances of the All-Merciful. The mercy of thy Lord, the Most High, the Most Exalted, descendeth upon thee at every moment, and the Tongue of Grandeur calleth out to thee from behind the veils of glory with melodies wondrous and true. And glory be upon thee and upon them that have been martyred in the path of God and upon them that shall be martyred in these days in this Cause, the like of which the eye of creation hath never beheld, and God is witness unto this.

BH03099: In the name of God, the Most Mighty…

In the name of God, the Most Mighty, the Most Exalted, the Most High! The remembrance of God from the Tree of the Command has now been raised in the most wondrous melodies. Verily He is the Most Great Mystery between the heavens and the earth, and the Mighty News in this Mystery which has been witnessed from the holy horizon. Everything speaks forth: “Verily I am God, there is no God but Him,” and verily He encompasses all things.

O servant of God! Hear the call of thy Lord from this Bird which has soared in this heaven that has been spread forth in this atmosphere which has appeared in truth as a Command from Our presence that there is no God but Him. And verily He Who speaks in truth is the Manifestation of God and His Mystery, the Concealment of God and His Command, the Proof of God and His Word unto all who are on earth. Bear thou witness to that which God hath testified in this Tablet. By God! This is better for thee than all that hath been created in the realm of origination and fashioned in the kingdom of invention, and God is witness to this.

Forget not thy Lord, the Most High, the Most Exalted. Verily He hath not forgotten thee, and His favor unto thee hath indeed been abundant. Blessed are ye for having taken hold of the words of God and preserved them from the touch of every rejected misbeliever. Thus doth God single out whom He willeth through His grace, and He rendereth vain the deeds of those who have disbelieved and associated partners with God and have deprived themselves of the holy paradise.

Leave the ungodly to themselves, then make mention of thy Lord throughout all days. Verily He will suffice thee in truth and will aid thee in the Cause with a manifest sovereignty.

Blessed are ye, O people of the Pavilion of Glory, inasmuch as the glances of God have been directed toward you and He hath turned you from the left hand of idle fancy to the blessed right hand. He hath

sent down unto you the Book and caused you to recognize the Manifestation of His Self, and made you to be of those who have found a way unto Him Who occupieth the throne. Be thou thankful unto thy Lord for having aided thee in His Cause and nourished thee from the fruits which have appeared from the Tree of Eternity. Verily He is powerful over all things.

And glory be upon thee and upon those who are with thee and who stand firm in the love of thy Lord.

BH03096: The remembrance of God from the Tree of Paradise…

In the Name of God, the Most Unapproachable, the Most Holy, the Most Glorious

The remembrance of God from the Tree of Paradise hath been and is manifest in the Temple of the Youth, and verily He speaketh in all things that which the ear of the Beloved heard during the night-journey, and that which the Spirit heard in the heaven of eternity, and that which He Who conversed with God heard in the Sinai of the divine presence—that there is none other God but Him and that He hath ever been, through His own Self, independent of all worlds.

O youth! Hearken unto the call of thy Lord from the direction of the Throne, and forget not the days wherein the Sun of the beauty of thy Lord dawned upon thee from this horizon which hath been mentioned in the Tablets by the Pen of God as the Youth. Remember the times when thou wert seated in My presence and didst hear with thine own ears the melodies of God, and in those days We concealed Our face from all who are in the heavens and on earth, according to a wisdom that was hidden in God's mystery. When the appointed time was fulfilled and the Command came forth, We drew aside the veils in Our chosen name and manifested Our Self to all created things with a sovereignty that was witnessed by all worlds. And by this means, he whom We created by Our command and preserved beneath the wings of grace turned against Us, as all beings and beyond them the Tongue of Grandeur in a holy and praiseworthy station do testify.

All that thou hast heard regarding his affair was from Me, and We have written concerning him that which none can reckon save God thy Lord, according to a wisdom that was treasured in the vaults of knowledge. We stood firm against the enemies in days wherein the feet of every mighty soul did slip, and We disputed with the peoples with wisdom and counsel until We made manifest the Cause through My being alone, and God is witness to what I say. And verily when My brother felt secure in himself he contended against My Self and disputed My verses, until he arose to slay Me. Thus did Satan whisper in his breast and made him to be deprived of the holy shore. Thus have We informed thee that thou mayest become aware of some of what hath befallen this Youth and mayest be clear-sighted regarding the Cause. And the Glory be upon thee and upon those who love thee in God and stand firm in the Cause.

BH03080: O handmaiden of God! Hearing is a divine trust…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Glorious!

O handmaiden of God! Hearing is a divine trust. Purify and sanctify it from the words and allusions of them that are on earth, that thou mayest hear the Word of God which hath dawned from the Dayspring of the mouth of the Divine Unity, and attain unto the purpose of the worlds. Today all, whether men or

women, wander bewildered in the wilderness of their desires, save those souls who, through the power of the Most Great Name, have clung to the hem of the Lord of the Ancient Days. These are the gems of creation in the sight of God, and all others are as naught and non-existent.

Strive thou to reach the abode of immortality, which is the station of recognition of the Abha Beauty, and become illumined with the lights of His Cause. Render thanks unto God that thou hast been honored with this supreme distinction and hast directed thyself from thy homeland toward the dwelling-place of thy Beloved. Ere long the mention of this turning shall be spread among the favored servants. Detach thyself from the worlds and attach thyself to the All-Merciful. Be not grieved by outward affairs and the conditions of this base world, for all shall be seized by extinction while permanence belongeth and shall belong to God alone. Soon all shall return to dust, and sovereignty and power and grandeur and dominion shall remain with the Lord of Lords.

Say: Glory be to Thee, O my God! I beseech Thee by Thy Name through which Thou didst distinguish between Thy servants, and from which most of the people of Thy realm took flight, to make me turn toward the sanctuary of Thy good-pleasure and direct myself to the sanctuary of Thy recognition. O Lord! I am one of Thy handmaidens who hath turned to Thee, held fast to the cord of Thy bounty, and clung to the hem of the robe of Thy mercy and favors. O Lord! I am athirst; send down upon me from the clouds of Thy mercy the rain of Thy grace. O Lord! I am poor; send down upon me from the heaven of Thy riches that which will make me independent of all except Thee. Then assist, O my God, my kindred to arise to aid Thy Cause and turn toward the Dayspring of Thy Revelation and Thy glory, and enable them, O my God, to remember Thee and praise Thee amidst Thy creation. Verily, Thou art powerful to do what Thou willest. There is no God but Thee, the Mighty, the Great.

BH03111: Lauded and glorified art Thou, Lord, God Omnipotent! Thou…

In the Name of God, the Most High!

Lauded and glorified art Thou, Lord, God Omnipotent! Thou before Whose wisdom the wise falleth short and faileth, before Whose knowledge the learned confesseth his ignorance, before Whose might the strong waxeth weak, before Whose wealth the rich testifieth to his poverty, before Whose light the enlightened is lost in darkness, toward the shrine of Whose knowledge turneth the essence of all understanding and around the sanctuary of Whose presence circle the souls of all mankind.

How then can I sing and tell of Thine Essence, which the wisdom of the wise and the learning of the learned have failed to comprehend, inasmuch as no man can sing that which he understandeth not, nor recount that unto which he cannot attain, whilst Thou hast been from everlasting the Inaccessible, the Unsearchable. Powerless though I be to rise to the heavens of Thy glory and soar in the realms of Thy knowledge, I can but recount Thy tokens that tell of Thy glorious handiwork.

By Thy Glory! O Beloved of all hearts, Thou that alone canst still the pangs of yearning for Thee! Though all the dwellers of heaven and earth unite to glorify the least of Thy signs, wherein and whereby Thou hast revealed Thyself, yet would they fail, how much more to praise Thy holy Word, the creator of all Thy tokens.

All praise and glory be to Thee, Thou of Whom all things have testified that Thou art one and there is none other God but Thee, Who hast been from everlasting exalted above all peer or likeness and to everlasting shalt remain the same. All kings are but Thy servants and all beings, visible and invisible, as naught before Thee. There is none other God but Thee, the Gracious, the Powerful, the Most High.

O Lord! Send Thy blessings upon those who have shattered the idols of vain desire and turned their faces toward the countenance of their Lord, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious. Then rain down upon them every good thing which Thou hast ordained for Thy chosen ones. Then cause them, O my God, to be steadfast in Thy love and firm in Thy Cause in such wise that neither the tempests of trials nor the storms of tribulation shall move them. Verily Thou art the Almighty, the All-Glorious, the All-Helping. There is no God but Thee, the Omnipotent, the All-Forgiving, the Most Merciful.

BH03148: The Most Great, the Most Great! This…

The Most Great, the Most Great! This is a Book which speaks with truth and commands the people to righteousness and justice from One All-Knowing, All-Wise, that they may know the path of truth and turn with their hearts to the Path of God, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

Say: Verily it is the Path of God for all who dwell in the heaven of command and creation, and the sign of His grandeur for those in the Concourse on High, and the manifestation of His power for those in the Kingdom of Names, and the Dawning-Place of His Cause for those in the supreme heaven, and the sign of His mercy for all in the heavens and earths.

Say: The clouds of generosity rain down upon the peoples of all worlds at all times the showers of grace from the presence of One Mighty, Powerful. He shines forth upon all created things at all times with the lights of His luminous countenance. Among the people are those who have shattered the idols of desire through the power of the Lord of Names and have turned to God, the Beloved of the worlds. And among them are those who have clung to a name among names and have taken it as a helper for themselves without any proof or clear Book.

Say: O people, do not associate partners with God—all atoms testify that He was One from time immemorial and has taken no partner unto Himself in sovereignty. Verily He is the One, the Single, the Mighty, the Beautiful.

Say: O people of the Bayan! Are diverse lords better, or God, the One Powerful, Mighty, Peerless? Hold fast unto God and detach yourselves from all else—this is better for you, if you be of those who know.

Soon you shall hear the call from those who desire to lead the servants astray. Beware lest you follow every remote calf. Soon shall you see one who claims for himself a cause—verily he is of the liars.

At the time of departure from Iraq, a Tablet was revealed wherein We informed the servants of what would appear thereafter—verily your Lord is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. And therein We made clear those who follow their desires and claim for themselves that which was not ordained for them from the presence of One Mighty, Powerful.

Avoid those who are deluded by vain imaginings and idle fancies and are kept back from the remembrance of your Lord, the Lord of all mankind—verily they are among the lost. And be at peace through the grace of your Lord—verily He is with you at all times and ordains for you what He desires. Indeed His grace upon you is great. And praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH03151: The All-Knowing, the All-Wise. Doth the Pen know? Say…

The All-Knowing, the All-Wise. Doth the Pen know? Say: Yea, by the glory of the Ancient Beauty! But most men perceive not. It soareth in the atmosphere of the Tablet through the attraction of revelation from God, the Help in Peril, the Self-Subsisting.

Say: O people! The Day is come and the Spirit proclaimeth in the Tablet: There is no God but Him, the Mighty, the Best-Beloved. Is there doubt about the Manifestation or about His sovereignty? They have lost who denied God's power after it encompassed every witness and witnessed thing. Would ye conceal the sun with the clay of idle fancies? Say: What aileth you that ye understand not? Do ye dispute with Him before Whom the verses have bowed down? Nay, they wander in the wilderness of error.

Remaineth there any excuse for anyone? Nay, by the Book inscribed! Do ye see yourselves in the right? Nay, by the Preserved Tablet! When clear proofs appear they pant, and when verses are recited unto them they turn away. When asked by what evidence they believed in what came before, they cite that which refuteth them, yet comprehend not.

Say: The verses have appeared from Our presence and the signs are fulfilled, when We came in the shadows of the attributes riding upon the clouds—yet most men are asleep. Say: Rend ye the veils, by the Lord of Lords! The Bestower hath come with manifest sovereignty. By My life! Those who answered not "Yea" after the Call was raised are counted as dead. See ye not the lights of this Dawn after it hath encompassed the horizons?

Woe unto you for having cast behind your backs the Covenant and turned away from Him through Whom the eyes of the denizens of Paradise and those who circle round the Throne have been gladdened. Say: He chose tribulations for your ease, yet from Him ye flee. They hasten to the tyrant, turning away from the Kingdom. They are indeed a people in grievous loss.

Blessed art thou, O servant, for thy name hath been mentioned before the Throne and verses have been sent down for thee which, were We to cast them upon the mountains, would transform them into rubies, and were their fragrances to pass over stones, rivers would burst forth from them by thy Lord's permission, the Chosen One. He, verily, hath power over what was and what shall be. Remember thy Lord amongst His servants, that perchance the slumberers may awaken. The Spirit and glory rest upon thee and upon the people of Baha from God, the Help in Peril, the Self-Subsisting.

BH03192: O Servant who gazes upon the Countenance! We have…

He is the Most Holy, the Most Exalted, the Most High

O Servant who gazes upon the Countenance! We have heard your call and become aware of what lies within your heart and breast. Give thanks to your Lord for having aided you to recognize His Self and for causing you to hear His call in these days wherein the hearts of the mystics are bewildered. Were the veil to be lifted, you would soar with longing in this sanctified and luminous atmosphere. Preserve the elixir of your Lord's love within your heart, lest Our faithless servants discover it.

Say: Glory be unto Thee, O my God! Praise be to Thee for having made my heart a treasury of Thy love and for having deposited therein that which Thou hast denied to most of Thy creatures. I beseech Thee by Thy Name through which the Hidden Secret and the Treasured Symbol were revealed, and through which the sun of what was and what shall be shone forth from the horizon of Thy Will, to send down upon me at all times that which will draw me nigh unto the court of Thy Name, the All-Merciful, that I may detach myself from all created things, O Thou in Whose hand is the dominion of possibility!

O Lord! Deprive not this fish from immersion in the sea of Thy oneness, nor this leaf from the Lote-Tree of Thy singleness, nor this bird from soaring in the atmosphere of Thy nearness and good-pleasure. O Lord! Thou art He Who, through a word from Thy presence, distinguished between all created things and through it attracted the hearts of those immersed in the depths of names and attributes. Thou hast ever been the Sustainer of all created things and exalted above all who dwell on earth and in the heavens.

I beseech Thee to render me purified from all allusions, detached from all else save Thee, and turning toward the Kaaba of Thy good-pleasure. O Lord! Clothe me with the robe of forgiveness and purify me from whatsoever prevents me from turning to Thee, O Thou in Whose hand is the dominion of grace and bounty! There is no God but Thee, the Almighty, the Glorious, the Powerful.

Remember on Our part him who was named Nabil before Mihdi, that he may rejoice within himself and be among the steadfast. We beseech God to assist him to attain recognition at all times and to send down upon him that which is better for him than whatsoever hath been created in the realms of existence. Verily, He is the Mighty, the Powerful, the Helper.

BH03256: Say: The Tree of Eternity hath been raised up…

He is God, the Most Inaccessible, the Most Holy

Say: The Tree of Eternity hath been raised up upon the Spot of Command in the Most Exalted Paradise, and crieth out with the loudest voice:

> "O people of Baha, embark upon the Ark of Eternity, then sail upon the Sea of Names!"

Thus hath the command been sent down from God, the Help in Peril, the Self-Subsisting. They who have embarked upon it—these have attained unto all good, and mercy hath descended upon them from every direction, and they are secure from the greatest terror.

And thou, O servant, hearken unto what God hath revealed unto thee, and turn not unto them who are immersed in the depths of vain imaginings and desires, who have turned away from That for which they were created and remain absorbed in their own selves. Arise to fulfill thy Lord's command, and when the lights of the Tablet shine forth upon thee from the horizon of the Finger of the Youth, fall prostrate upon

the dust in adoration before God, the Help in Peril, the Mighty, the Beloved. Beware lest anything prevent thee from reaching the shore of Our Most Great Name. We have made it a remembrance from Us unto thee and unto them that are certain in faith.

Be ye united in the Cause of God and His religion, and be as one soul, for thereby shall the banners of them that have disbelieved and joined partners with God be destroyed, and sovereignty shall remain with thy Lord, the Mighty, the Glorious, the Forgiving. Soon shalt thou hear the clamor of the ungodly regarding thy Lord's Cause. Then stand firm and be not of them that comprehend not.

Say: O people! Sanctify your hearts from the veils of vain imaginings and desires, then look with the eye of fairness upon the signs of your Lord and that which hath been sent down from a heaven of exalted glory. They who have deprived themselves of this bounty—these shall have no seat of truth with their Lord and God will never look upon them. Thus hath the command been sent down that thou mayest be of them that know.

Be steadfast in the Cause, then recite from the verses of thy Lord, for they will assuredly draw thee in truth to a station of praiseworthy holiness. And glory be upon thee and upon them that seek the sanctuary of holiness.

BH03200: O Abdullah! Consider the words of Ansari who said…

He is the Most Holy, the Most Exalted, the Most High

O Abdullah! Consider the words of Ansari who said:

> "My God, if Thou shouldst but once address someone as 'My servant,' his laughter would transcend the Throne."

And now, manifestly and evidently, the King of Creation has addressed thee from the realm of oneness by this name. Through the grace of the All-Merciful, thou must become so intoxicated and attracted by the choice wine of the utterances of the Lord of all creation that the heat of thy love may influence the hearts of men. God willing, mayest thou discover the sweetness of this blessed word as befitteth it, that its delight may endure throughout the kingdom of earth and heaven.

Today every soul is commanded to invite the people of the contingent world to the Truth through wisdom and utterance, and to arise with supreme steadfastness in the Cause of the Lord of Names—an arising that no sitting down shall overtake and no cawing of the ungodly shall disturb. I swear by the Sun of the horizon of the Cause that whosoever today speaks in remembrance and praise of the Truth among the people is recorded among those who have arisen, even if he be resting upon his couch.

O Abdullah! The satans are observed lying in ambush—that is, souls who count themselves among the people of the Bayan are secretly and openly engaged in leading the people astray. Say: O people! Guard yourselves and shun these ones, and when any of them appears among you, be as fire in the Cause of your Lord, the Chosen One. By My life! The Bayan is innocent of them, as attested by what hath been sent down in the Tablets of God, the Mighty, the Powerful, the Great. They make mention of the Bayan while

killing those who connect the Bayan with a word from His presence. Woe unto them and unto those who follow them! Leave them to themselves and turn to God, the Lord of the worlds.

Blessed art thou for having been mentioned before the Throne, and there hath been sent down for thee that which hath spread the fragrance of thy Lord's garment, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. Thus doth the Supreme Pen make mention of thee in this Tablet, with which nothing that hath been created in the heavens and earth can compare. When thou attainest unto it and readest it, say: "I testify that Thy mercy hath preceded all created things."

BH03250: His Holiness the Branch has presented your letter before…

He is God, exalted is He!

His Holiness the Branch has presented your letter before Me, and from it We perceived the fragrances of your love in these days which God has made the dawning-place of trials and tests. We read what flowed from your pen in remembrance of your Lord, the All-Merciful. Blessed art thou, O Ha'i, in what flowed from thy pen and was uttered by thy tongue. By My life! Thou art indeed before the Most Great Scene. Soon shalt thou witness that of which mankind was heedless. We beseech God to aid thee and assist thee in His love and good-pleasure. Verily, He is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

As to what thou didst mention concerning the sincere loved ones—praise and gratitude be unto Him Who cast into the hearts of the pure ones that which preserved them from the whisperings of Satan. Blessed is the land wherein the loved ones of God gather together, engaging in His remembrance. Praise be unto Him in all conditions. Should anyone intend to journey to the land of Nun, convey Our endless greetings to Nabil-i-Qabil-ʿAli. By God! He is from Me. We beseech God to grant him what befits His grace and sovereignty. Verily, He has power over all things. Let him not be sorrowful—he has not been and will not be forgotten. The delay in summoning him has been due to external circumstances, otherwise We testify that he would be present before the Face. Likewise convey greetings from the Face to Jasim. We beseech God to transform remoteness into nearness. Verily, He has power over all things.

And as to what thou didst mention concerning Nabil, upon him be My glory—praise be to God Who has caused His loved ones to abide beneath the shade of His loving-kindness. How blessed are those souls who gather in the assembly of God's loved ones and engage in His remembrance with the utmost joy and attraction. Verily, We are with them and We shall show them the fruits of their deeds. The denizens of Paradise shower their prayers upon them. Thy Lord is, in truth, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. God willing, they shall attain His presence. Permission has been granted for them to proceed to the appointed place. We beseech God to bestow upon all His recognition and presence. Verily, He is the Ruler over whatsoever He willeth. There is no God but Him, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy.

BH03287: Faded now is all that erstwhile flourished…

In the name of God, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious

Faded now is all that erstwhile flourished in the Paradise of Thy transcendent oneness, O my God! Where are the rain-giving clouds of Thy mercy? Shorn are the branches of the Tree of Thy unity of the vesture of

Thy majesty and wisdom; where is the spring-time of Thy gifts and bounties? Motionless lies the Ark of Thy Cause on the sea of Thy creation; where are the winds of Thy grace and favors? Encompassed on every side is Thy Lamp by the tempests of discord blowing from every land; where is the globe of Thy graciousness and protection?

Thou seest, O my God, how the eyes of these poor creatures are bent upon the horizon of Thy riches, how the hearts of these helpless ones are set in the direction of Thy might. I beseech Thee, O Thou Who art the sole Desire of them that have recognized Thee, and the Object of the adoration of the entire creation, not to suffer them, now that Thou hast attracted them by Thy most exalted Word, to be far removed from the Tabernacle which Thou hast reared up by Thy name, the All-Glorious.

They are sore pressed with cares, O my Lord, and are encompassed about by the wicked. Send down, therefore, from the heaven of Thy behest Thine invisible hosts, that, holding aloft the ensigns of Thy victory, they may help them in Thy land, and may shield them against Thine adversaries.

I entreat Thee, O my God, by Thy name through which the clouds have rained down their rain, and the streams have flowed, and the fire of Thy love hath been enkindled throughout Thy dominion, to assist Thy servant who hath turned towards Thee, and hath spoken forth Thy praise, and determined to help Thee. Fortify, then, his heart, O my God, in Thy love and in Thy Faith. Better is this for him than all that hath been created on Thine earth, for the world and whatsoever is therein must perish, and what pertaineth unto Thee must endure as long as Thy most excellent names endure. By Thy Glory! Were the world to last as long as Thine own kingdom will last, to set their affections upon it would still be unseemly for such as have quaffed, from the hands of Thy mercy, the wine of Thy presence; how much more when they recognize its fleetingness and are persuaded of its transience. The chances that overtake it, and the changes to which all things pertaining unto it are continually subjected, attest its impermanence.

Whosoever hath recognized Thee will turn to none save Thee, and will seek from Thee naught else except Thyself. Thou art the sole Desire of the heart of him whose thoughts are fixed on Thee, and the highest Aspiration of whosoever is wholly devoted unto Thee. No God is there beside Thee, the Almighty, the Help in Peril, the All-Glorious, the Most Powerful.

BH03189: O Ahmad! Hearken unto the Call of God…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Exalted!

O Ahmad! Hearken unto the Call of God from the direction of the Divine Decree—verily there is no God but Me, the Mighty, the Wise. Leave this land by Our command; thus have We sent down the decree from the heaven of Divine Justice and confirmed it in truth. Verily thy Lord is He Who ordaineth whatsoever He willeth. Grieve not over anything, but place thy trust in all thy affairs in God, the Powerful, the Mighty, the Omnipotent.

Beware lest thou speak that which may cause harm to the Root of the Tree. Deal with the people, for they are weak and fail to comprehend subtle utterance, and they are in manifest obscurity. If thou findest one who is receptive, rend asunder his veils with wisdom and utterance. Thus doth thy Lord, the All-Merciful, command thee, and the decree hath come from the presence of One mighty and all-knowing.

When thou settest out, say:

> "O my Lord! I have left Thy vicinity by Thy leave. Praise be unto Thee for having enabled me to do this and for having made me one of those who are content with what Thou hast decreed for them. Verily, Thou art the Forgiving, the Merciful."

O Ahmad! Be content with what God hath ordained for thee and be not grieved by those who have denied God and His signs. He is with thee under all conditions; verily He is the Protector of the sincere ones. Thine eyes have been gladdened by gazing upon the countenance of thy Lord. By God, thou hast attained to that which most of the servants have failed to attain, and thou hast heard the Call of thy Lord from the Dawning-Place of His mighty and impregnable utterance. Walk thou in His name, move by His love, and turn thy face toward the direction of His good-pleasure. Thus hath the command been sent down and the decree been fulfilled by thy Lord, the Lord of all worlds.

Rejoice in what hath flowed from the Most Exalted Pen from thy Lord, the Lord of all names. This sufficeth thee above the dominion of the heavens and of the earth. When the Tablet of God and its trace reach thee, place thy right cheek upon the ground in humility and submission and say: "Praise be unto Thee, O God of the worlds!"

Finally, beware lest thou speak that which may impel hearts to deny it, even though thou mayest have justification for it. Speak that which draweth hearts unto the direction of thy Lord. This is My counsel unto thee; make it the object of thy vision. Seize it and be thou of the thankful ones.

BH03185: In the Name of God, the One, the Peerless!…

In the Name of God, the One, the Peerless! Hearken unto that which is being revealed to thee from the right hand of the throne of thy Lord, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. Turn with thy whole being to the Lord of all who turn to Him. By God! Thy faith profiteth Me not, nor doth the denial of them that have turned away harm Me. I summon thee purely for the sake of thy Lord, and He Himself sufficeth as a witness between Me and thee.

Thou hast not yet grasped the root of the matter. We concealed it aforetime to protect it from the harm of the oppressors. Cast aside all that thou hast heard, then look upon the verses themselves, that the sun of the beauty of thy Lord might shine forth upon thee from the horizon of His name, the Most Merciful, the Compassionate. Or reflect upon that which hath appeared in this Revelation and what others have wrought. By God! If thou wouldst be fair, thou wouldst say: "I believe in the Lord of all worlds."

Consider how the people of the Qur'an turned away from the All-Merciful and opposed Him Who called them at all times, that thou mayest perceive who remaineth today veiled by a mighty veil. That which is attributed to the Truth is indeed musk whose fragrance is diffused, yet none can detect it save those who turn to the All-Merciful with radiant countenance.

I desire naught for Myself, but rather for God's sake, were ye of them that know. And I desire naught save ascension unto Him, for He is verily the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. And I love naught except what is

with God, and I summon no one save to that which I am commanded by the Almighty, the Ancient of Days.

In these days I am as one sitting beneath the sword, yet even in this state I summon the servants unto the Dayspring of the mercy of their Lord, the Mighty, the All-Praised. Soon will the messenger of death come; then shall no one find escape. Seest thou any protector save God? Nay, by Him Who came with the truth with manifest sovereignty! Dost thou see any trace of former generations?

Hear My counsel: forsake the world behind thee and turn to God, the Lord of the Day of Judgment. By His leave the breezes of grace pass by; turn to Him and deprive not thyself of them. Beware lest thou be among them that hesitate. With thy Lord is the knowledge of all things, and with Him is a preserving Book.

And glory be upon the people of glory who have detached themselves from all save God and turned with radiant faces to the Dayspring of grace. They are indeed among the triumphant.

BH03205: These are the verses of holiness which have been…

In the name of God, the Most Exalted, the Most Inaccessible, the Most Glorious!

These are the verses of holiness which have been sent down in truth and verily they are the Revelation of God among the worlds. God hath made them the source of His knowledge and the treasury of His Revelation and the dayspring of His recognition between the heavens and the earth. Verily they are the proof of God unto all who are in the kingdom of Command and creation. Through them He giveth and withholdeth and sendeth down mercy upon all created things.

And thou, give thanks unto God that thy name hath flowed from a holy and luminous Pen. Then be thou steadfast in the Cause, for most of the people of the Bayan have turned away from Him in Whom they had believed, and have worshipped the idols of their desires, and were of those who worship idols. Sanctify thyself from these who have disbelieved after having believed and have turned away.

Say: This is ʿAli in truth Who hath appeared with the sovereignty of the Cause and manifest tokens of might. Then take refuge in the fortress of power in this impregnable stronghold. Say: O people! Dispute not concerning the verses of God and reject not the truth by what ye possess and be not of the ignorant. Say: This verily is the sanctuary of God amongst you. Deprive not yourselves thereof. God hath caused suns to shine forth from its right-hand corner which circle round about it and are of those who circle round.

O people! This is the Book of God among you wherein hath been inscribed by the finger of might the knowledge of the former and the latter generations. Take it with power from Us, then read what hath been sent down therein, then ponder what hath been treasured in the repositories of its words of the pearls of knowledge and wisdom that ye may discover that which none besides you hath discovered and be of those who are endued with insight.

Be thou steadfast in the Cause, then consort with people with wisdom lest harm befall thee and the fire of thy heart be quenched. Thus do We command thee. Act according to what thou hast been

commanded by One Who is All-Knowing, All-Wise. Be thou at peace within thyself. God hath ordained for thee abundant good. Verily He is the Powerful over what He willeth and verily He is the Forgiving, the Generous.

And the Glory be upon thee and upon every assured and perceiving one.

BH03234: In the name of God, Who endureth after…

In the name of God, Who endureth after the passing of all things! Glorified art Thou, O my God! I beseech Thee by the Word of Thy command, whereby Thou didst create all contingent beings and bring forth all existing things, and whereby Thou didst raise up the Manifestations of Thy oneness and the Daysprings of Thy divinity.

Then by Thy Name through which Thou didst test all names, and whereby all who are in earth and heaven were dismayed, save those who took the chalice of Baha through Thy sovereignty and power, and drank therefrom through Thy command and will—to purify Thy servants from all that preventeth them from beholding Thy beauty, turning toward Thy direction, and drawing nigh unto the seat of Thy command.

Then send down upon them, O my God, from the wonders of Thy grace that which shall make them steadfast in Thy Cause and firm in Thy love, that they may see naught but therein the manifestations of Thy glorious sovereignty and the revelations of Thy unity.

Then I beseech Thee, O my God, by Thy most beautiful names and the manifestations of Thy oneness in the kingdom of creation, that Thou cast me not out from the door of Thy mercy, nor deprive me of the breezes of Thy loving-kindness. Then preserve me, O my God, from all else but Thee, that I may turn wholly unto Thee and enter beneath the canopy of Thy supreme mercy and abide in Thy precincts, O Thou in Whose hand is the kingdom of names! There is no God but Thee, the King, the Most High, the Mighty, the Unconstrained.

Ever hast Thou, O my God, been mentioned by the tongues of them that are nigh unto Thee among Thy servants, though Thou art independent of them and their mention of Thee; and ever hast Thou been described by the tongue of them that are detached, though Thou art exalted above them and all that is with them. With this knowledge, how can I praise Thee and make mention of Thee? Therefore do I testify, O my God, that I am evanescent, and have no power of mention or praise befitting Thy most exalted Self, nor can there appear from one who is evanescent that which can ascend unto Him Who abideth through His own being.

By Thy glory, O my Beloved! My evanescence is worthy of Thy enduring favors, and my powerlessness seeketh Thy all-encompassing gifts. I beseech Thee by Thy First Word and by Thy Greatest Sign that Thou withhold not from me that which is with Thee. Then send down upon me that which Thou hast ordained for Thy chosen ones. Verily Thou art the Almighty over what Thou willest, and verily Thou art the Protector, the Mighty, the Generous.

BH03269: In the Name of God, the Most Holy…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Exalted! This is a Book from the Unseen to the visible world, that none may witness save what God witnessed before the creation of all things: that there is no God but Him, the Help in Peril, the Self-Subsisting.

O people! Fear God and follow not those who understand not. Those who have heard the verses of God—they are a divine people, around whom circle servants of the realm of oneness. Thus has flowed from the Pen the Kawthar of pre-existence, sprinkling upon all created things that they may turn unto God, the Lord of Lords.

O people! Beware lest the manifestations of glory prevent you from the Dawning-Place of beauty. Break the idols by the power of God, the Mighty, the Help in Peril, the Self-Subsisting. He commands you with truth, but the people understand not.

Say: O people! Names are but creations by His command. Rend asunder the veils and be not of those who join partners with God. Say: This indeed is the Purpose. These are His verses sent down in truth, and at His right hand is the wine of life—happy are they who drink thereof.

O servant! Grieve not at anything, but place thy trust in God. He suffices thee in truth, and He knows what is in the hearts. Those who are debarred from this bounty—they understand not.

Convey the Cause of thy Lord and be not silent in His remembrance. By His remembrance are quickened the hearts of those who turn to the court of God, the Mighty, the Exalted, the Best-Beloved. By His remembrance are set ablaze the hearts of the righteous and the Nightingale of Manifestation warbles. Whoso attains to His remembrance and stands firm in His love has indeed attained to all good. Thus has it been ordained by God, the Mighty, the Loving.

Say: O people of the Bayan! Deny not Him Who has come with the truth from the presence of One mighty, powerful. He has come as Ali came from the heaven of the Cause with manifest sovereignty, and He commands you but what Ali commanded before. Fear God and be not of the deniers. Follow the religion of God and differ not therein. This indeed is a mighty counsel. Whoso heeds thy counsel does so for his own sake, and whoso turns away does so to his own loss. The Messenger's duty is but to deliver the clear Message.

And praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH03270: In the Name of God, the Most Holy…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Exalted! This is a Book from Us to him who has shattered the idols of vain desire through the fear of God, the Lord of all names, and who has not broken His Covenant on this Day whereon the feet of most of the people have slipped, except those who have turned to the Dayspring of the mercy of their Lord, the Most Merciful, the Compassionate. God shall soon assist those who have turned unto Him and shall turn away from those who have denied the signs of God, the King, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

Say: O people! Fear God and make not the world your homeland. Set your faces toward the homeland of the All-Merciful; this is better for you than the kingdoms of the heavens and of the earth. Purify your hearts from envy and hatred that ye may meet your Lord, the All-Merciful, with sanctified hearts. Thus doth the Pen of Command enjoin you from this far-distant Spot.

Say: Sanctify yourselves from that which kindleth the fire. Beware lest ye backbite one another. Be as brothers seated on thrones, facing one another. Verily, those who soar in the atmosphere of My love are not held back by the veils of the oppressors. They drink, at all times, of the wine of the mercy of their Lord, the All-Merciful, from this mighty ocean. Abandon the mention of all created things and turn ye unto the Most Great Remembrance. This, verily, is a manifest triumph.

Verily, when the verses of the All-Merciful are recited unto them that have believed, their eyes are humbled and their faces shine forth like unto pearls resplendent. These are they who have aided their Lord through that which they were enabled to do. God shall soon assist them with a sovereignty from His presence. He, verily, hath power over all things.

Say: O people! Fear ye God and follow the path of truth. This is indeed a straight path. Walk ye in the footsteps of these and follow not your evil passions. He who forsaketh that which he hath been commanded, verily, he is in manifest error. Say: Beware lest ye be like unto them who have turned away from the Face and followed every rebellious devil. Beware lest ye associate partners with God and differ regarding His laws. Fear ye God and be not of the heedless.

Resolve the differences that have arisen amongst you. Be as brothers upon the thrones of unity. Thus doth the All-Informed apprise you in a preserved Tablet. Blessed art thou, O servant who art mentioned before the Throne, and blessed are they who have turned unto God and held fast unto the cord of God, the Strong, the Secure.

BH11749: We have sent unto thee a Book…

He is the Most Holy, the Most Glorious

We have sent unto thee a Book by which the hearts of those endowed with understanding are drawn. Whosoever hath a portion in the eternal life will drink therefrom the living waters and will turn unto this noble prospect. Those who cling to vain imaginings are indeed in manifest loss.

Say: The Glory from the horizon of tribulation calleth mankind unto God, the Almighty, the All-Praised. The oppression of those who have denied the Day of Judgment hath not hindered Him from the remembrance of God. Stand thou firm in the Cause through God's power and might. Verily, He is with those who remember Him and heareth that which proceedeth from their lips. He is, indeed, knowing of all things.

Say: O people! Fear God and associate not any partner with your Lord, the One, the Single, the Mighty, the Wise. Those who claim knowledge yet turn away from the Truth are in remote schism. In every Revelation the divines have turned away and the theologians have objected, save those on whose faces shone the radiance of their Lord, the Most High, the Most Great. Were it not for their turning away, none

on earth would have turned away from the Manifestation. Thus doth the All-Knowing, the All-Informed, inform thee.

Say: Knowledge is the recognition of God and the Manifestation of His Self. Whoso is veiled therefrom is indeed in manifest ignorance.

Say: O people! Do ye hesitate concerning Him by Whom the heaven was cleft asunder, the moon was split, and the Caller called out from the direction of a mighty throne? Have not the signs been sent down? Have not the tokens appeared? By God! The heaven of idle fancies hath been split and the All-Merciful hath come, surrounded by hosts of revelation and inspiration. Blind are the eyes of those who look and recognize not.

Say: The Promise hath come, yet most of the people are playing. The Day hath arrived, yet they turn away from it. This is the Day of Certitude wherein the All-Merciful hath been manifested to all creation, yet the people flee from Him, save those who have detached themselves from all else, seeking that which is with God, the Sovereign, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting.

Grieve thou not over anything. Verily, there is for thee with Him a praiseworthy station. Put thy trust in God and leave those who say that which they know not. Convey My greetings unto My loved ones, that their hearts may be quickened by the remembrance of God, the Mighty, the Loving.

Praise be to God, the Sovereign, the Powerful, the Protector, the Beloved.

BH11750: O Rubabih! Hearken unto the call of the rebab…

He is God, the Single, the One, the Unique!

O Rubabih! Hearken unto the call of the rebab from the direction of thy Lord, the Mighty, the All-Bountiful, that the fragrances of the Lord of lords may draw thee to the holy precincts, the station which God hath sanctified from the mention of names and attributes. Thus doth the Supreme Pen make mention of thee that thou mayest give thanks unto thy Lord and be of the thankful ones.

Remember thy Lord in these days wherein most of the people have turned away from God, denied His signs, warred against His Self, and disputed His sovereignty after He came to them upon the clouds of command with the kingdom of verses. Be thou steadfast in the Cause of God and in His love, for erelong shall the locusts of vain imaginings spread throughout the land, causing the hearts of those who doubt the meeting with their Lord to quake. Thus hath God recorded the knowledge of all things in the Scriptures.

Ascend unto the heaven of the spirit with thy heart, then detach thyself from all allusions. Know thou that We have exempted the handmaidens from directing their footsteps toward the Holy Court—rather should they turn their hearts thereto. Thus have We sent down the command in the Tablets, and the decree hath been fulfilled by the King of Names and Attributes.

Purify thyself from the veils of the people, then guard thyself from that which thy Lord, God, abhorreth. Rejoice in that which hath been mentioned by the Holy Tongue in the most exalted stations. Grieve not

over this world, but rather detach thyself unto God, thy Lord. He will preserve thee as He willeth through His command, and unto Him return all matters in their final end.

Take care that thou grieve not for thy mother, for she hath been raised unto God and abideth in the lofty chambers of Paradise—the station that hath been illumined by the lights of thy Lord's countenance, the Revealer of verses. There shalt thou hear the melodies of the birds of eternity upon the branches of the Divine Lote-Tree, and drink the pure water of holiness from the hands of the heavenly maidens. Thus did the grace of her Lord encompass her, and the mercy of thy Lord preceded her in the highest degrees.

Thus have We sent down unto thee the verses and dispatched them to thee that thou mayest prostrate thyself before the face of thy Lord and be of the devoted ones. And the glory be upon thee, and upon thy father, and upon those who remember God at eventide and at dawn.

BH03333: O Muhammad-ʿAli, by the Essence which hath appeared…

O Muhammad-ʿAli, by the Essence which hath appeared in the garment of the Most Glorious—these are the verses of God, the All-Encompassing, the Self-Subsisting, sent down in truth for people who understand.

And God addresseth therein all who are in the heavens and on earth, and all that hath been and shall be, saying:

> "There is no God but Me, Who created all contingent things from nothing through My Will, and brought all beings into existence from naught through My Purpose. I am the One with power over whatsoever I desire, and I am the All-Encompassing, the Self-Subsisting. Follow, O people, Him Who hath appeared with all the signs, around Whom circle the realities of the Prophets, then the spirits of the chosen ones, then those who dwell behind the pavilions of the Command."

And thou, O servant, remember the time when thou didst enter the Spot of God, the All-Encompassing, the Mighty, the Beloved, and didst attain the presence of the Countenance, and We caused the sun of Beauty to shine upon thy face from the horizon of thy Lord, the Powerful, the Witnessed. Thou didst hear what no ear of creation hath heard and didst see what no eye of contingent beings hath seen. Thus did the grace of thy Lord encompass thee that thou mightest be of those who remember through the remembrance of God, the Most Great. By God, this is He, could ye but know it.

Turn thy face toward God and leave those who have disbelieved and associated partners with God. When they witnessed with their own eyes the sovereignty and power of God, they desired to slay Him. When God prevented them from what they desired, they then rose up in calumny and attributed to the Ancient Beauty that which befitteth their own station. Thus do We impart unto thee that thou mayest be of those who know.

And thou, remain firm in the Cause of God and steadfast upon this Path which hath been raised up in truth, and follow not every rejected misbeliever. Verily those who command people to associate partners with God are of the hosts of Satan, were ye of those who understand. Shun, O people, such as these and

turn toward the right-hand corner of this Throne whereon is seated the Beauty of God, the All-Encompassing, the Mighty, the Self-Subsisting.

And glory be upon thee and upon whoso turneth toward God with befitting humility.

BH03332: These are the verses of God, the King…

In the name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Exalted!

These are the verses of God, the King, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise, sent down from the heaven of your Lord, the All-Merciful. Blessed is he who hath turned unto them and detached himself from those who have disbelieved in God, the Lord of the Day of Judgment.

Say: O people! The Day which ye were promised in the Tablets hath come. Fear ye God and be not of the heedless. This is the Day whereon the Herald calleth out from the right hand of the throne of your Lord, the All-Merciful:

> "The Kingdom is God's, the Almighty, the Most High, the Most Great!"

Blessed is he who hath heard His call and turned with a luminous countenance unto His face.

Say: O people! Do ye doubt Him or that which hath appeared from His presence with a manifest sovereignty? Alas for those who have disbelieved in God after He came with the truth with clear authority.

Say: O people! Have mercy upon yourselves and oppose not Him Who hath sacrificed His soul in the path of God, the King, the Most High, the Most Praiseworthy. Verily, He Who built up the world for Himself now dwelleth in the most desolate of lands through what the hands of the oppressors have wrought. And He Who desired to give the world to drink of the wine of remembrance of their Lord, the Most Merciful, the Most Compassionate, hath been denied the water which even birds and beasts do drink. Woe unto those who have disbelieved in Him for Whom they were created! Soon shall the breezes of chastisement seize them from every direction and they shall find themselves in manifest loss.

Say: The trials that have befallen Baha have not prevented Him from calling all who are in the worlds at all times unto God, their Lord, the All-Merciful. Thus hath it been ordained by One mighty and powerful.

O servant! Make mention of thy Lord amongst His servants that perchance there may be stirred within their hearts that which shall draw them nigh unto the kingdom of thy Lord, the Mighty, the Peerless. There hath been ordained for whomsoever hath desired his Lord in these days that which the pens are powerless to record, and thy Lord, the All-Knowing, beareth witness unto what I say.

And the glory be upon thee and upon those who, when they heard the call from the Dayspring of grandeur, said:

> "We believe in God, the Lord of Names and Creator of the heavens."

They are indeed among the sincere ones. And praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH03317: Hearken unto My Voice from the right hand…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Glorious

Hearken unto My Voice from the right hand of the Throne—the Spot which God hath made the Dawning-place of His Revelation, the Rising-point of His Inspiration, and the Manifestation of the lights of His resplendent Countenance.

By My life! If the Seat of the Throne were to be in prison, verily it would be the Spot wherein every atom proclaimeth: "The Beloved of the worlds hath come!" Say: Through it God hath transformed the prison, making it a plot of Paradise, wherefrom waft the breezes of the mercy of your Lord, the Mighty, the Wise.

Say: Through tribulation hath the Beauty derived comfort even as the Beloved findeth solace in the remembrance of His loved one, the Wondrous, the Peerless. Would that the body of the Beauty were crucified upon every tree in the path of God, the Sovereign Lord of all names! By My life! The more intense groweth the sorrow, the more doth the Ancient Beauty engage in the remembrance of God, the Creator of the nations. Yet the people are wrapped in a mighty veil.

He hath built up the world for Myself and My loved ones, even though they dwell in the most desolate of lands for the sake of their Lord, the Mighty, the Wise. It behooveth thee in such days as these to arise to aid thy Lord, the Mighty, the All-Knowing.

And when the Tablet of the Youth appeareth before thee, take it with the hand of certitude, then enter the gathering-place of the idolaters among the people of the Bayan and say:

> "O people! I have come unto you from the Dawning-place of the Cause of your Lord, the All-Merciful, with a manifest proof. Have ye occupied yourselves with idle fancies while the Sovereign of certitude standeth before your faces? What aileth you, O heedless people! Do ye imagine that what ye possess sufficeth you, or that it can equal even a single letter of that which hath proceeded from the Dayspring of the Will of your Lord, the Almighty, the Powerful? Nay, by Him Who hath taught the Pen the mysteries of eternity! A single letter thereof transcendeth all the books of the heavens and of the earth. Efface what hath proceeded from your pens, for the Supreme Pen speaketh betwixt earth and heaven, that haply ye may be attracted by that which descendeth from One mighty and wise."

Stand thou firm in My Cause in such wise that should all who are on earth rise up against thee, thou wouldst regard them as a handful of dust. Thus doth thy Lord teach thee from this remote station.

And glory be upon thee and upon him who hath turned unto God, the Mighty, the Most Praised.

BH03318: Hearken, O servant, unto that which is revealed unto…

He is the Ever-Abiding, the Ancient of Days.

Hearken, O servant, unto that which is revealed unto thee from the holy precincts, and turn not unto those who have disbelieved and associated partners with God. Let thy Lord suffice thee, then detach

thyself from all the worlds. Verily He will guard thee from the darts of Satan and draw thee nigh unto the holy and praiseworthy shore. Remember thyself at all times lest allusions veil thee, and thus doth command thee the Pen of the divine decree from this Finger which hath emerged from the Vesture of Power with manifest sovereignty.

Unite with the loved ones of God and be thou a helper of His Cause, and neglect it not for less than a moment. We have indeed sent thee aforetime a tablet, and before it another tablet, then this leaf which God hath made to be witnessed from the holy Branch. And when it reacheth thee, receive it with spirit and fragrance, then recite it with wondrous and glorious melodies. Verily it is My garment which We have sent unto thee that thou mayest find from it the sweet-scented savors of a beloved glory.

Arise to serve the Cause with wisdom from Us lest sedition be stirred up and harm return to the root of the Tree. Thus hast thou been commanded from the presence of One mighty and wise. Take the cup of life from the fingers of the All-Merciful and turn not unto the manifestations of Satan in these days wherein he hath arisen with a new craftiness. By God! The dwellers of the heavens and earth were bewildered by his cunning, and God is witness unto this.

Then remind from Us those servants who have believed in God and His signs, whom the whisperings of Satan have not kept back from the beauty of the All-Merciful, and who have remained steadfast in the Cause. And besides these, they have no standing with God—leave thou their mention, for their names are not remembered before thy Lord on this day. Thus have We imparted unto thee the word of truth that thou mayest follow the command of thy Lord and take for thyself a path unto Him.

We have indeed revealed a tablet for thy brother and sent it unto him that his eyes may be consoled thereby and that he may remain steadfast in the Cause.

BH03359: Glorified art Thou, O Lord my God! Thou beholdest…

Glorified art Thou, O Lord my God! Thou beholdest my low estate and the habitation wherein I dwell, and bearest witness unto my perplexity, my crying needs, my troubles, and the afflictions I suffer among Thy servants who recite Thy verses and repudiate their Revealer, who call on Thy names and cavil at their Creator, who seek to draw nigh unto Him Who is Thy Friend and put to death Him who is the Best-Beloved of the worlds.

Open Thou their eyes, O my God, and My Master, that they may gaze on Thy beauty, or cause them to return unto the lowest abyss of the fire. Potent art Thou to do what Thou willest. Thou art, verily, the All-Glorious, the All-Wise.

The glory of Thy might, O my God, beareth me witness! Every time I attempt to remember Thee, I find myself overpowered by the sublimity of Thy station and the immensity of Thy might; and every time I hold my peace, lo, I am impelled by my love for Thee and by the potency of Thy will, to unloose my tongue and mention Thee. He who is poor and needy, O my God, is calling for his Lord, the All-Possessing; and he who is destitute of all strength remembereth his Master, the All-Powerful. If He deign to accept His servant's supplication, He is, verily, of unsurpassed bounteousness; and if He cast him out, He is of those who judge equitably the best. He indeed is acceptable, O my God, who hath set his face towards

Thee, and he is truly deprived who hath been careless of the remembrance of Thee in Thy days. Blessed is he that hath tasted of the sweetness of Thy remembrance and praise. Nothing, not even the arising of all the peoples of the whole world to assail him, can hinder such a man from directing his steps towards the paths of Thy pleasure and the ways of Thy Cause.

Look, then, O Thou Who art the Well-Beloved of Baha, upon the tears he sheddeth before Thee, and behold the sighs which he uttereth, O Thou Who art his heart's Desire! I swear by Thy might, and Thy majesty and Thy glory! Were I to inherit from Thee all the delights of Paradise, and to keep them in my possession as long as Thine own Being endureth, and were I to become, for less than a moment, careless of the remembrance of Thee, I would, of a certainty, cast them away from me and cease to consider them. I am the one, O my God, who for love of Thee hath forsaken the world and all its benefits, and willingly accepted every tribulation for the sake of Thy remembrance.

I entreat Thee, O Thou Who art my Companion and my Best-Beloved, to lift the veil that hath come in between Thee and Thy servants, that they may recognize Thee with Thine own eye and rid themselves of all attachment to any one but Thee. Thou art, verily, the Almighty, the Ever-Forgiving, the Most Compassionate. No God is there beside Thee, the Most Exalted, the Self-Sufficing, the Self-Exalting, the All-Glorious, the All-Wise.

Praise be unto Thee, for Thou art, in truth, the Lord of earth and heaven.

BH03352: Glorified be He Who hath sent down the verses…

In the Name of God, the Most Unapproachable, the Most Holy, the Most Glorious

Glorified be He Who hath sent down the verses in truth from the heaven of mighty and impregnable glory, and hath made them a proof for all who are in the heavens and on earth, for verily He hath power over all things. They are indeed God's proof amidst His creation, His evidence unto His creatures, and His testimony unto all in His kingdom.

Say: O people, dispute not about the verses of God after they have been sent down in truth, and wage not war against Him from Whose heaven of grace the verses have ever been sent down upon all the worlds. Say: By God! My proof is My manifestation and My standing forth amidst the concourse of Mine enemies in days when the feet of the mystics have slipped. And whoso is unable to recognize Me by My manifestation, then by My Self, then by My beauty, let him look upon My traces.

Thus have We sent down the command in this Tablet that it may encompass all the worlds as a proof from God. Whoso denieth Me hath denied God and the Manifestations of His Self, and whoso obeyeth Me hath obeyed God from time immemorial. To this testifieth all created things and beyond them the Tongue of God Who created all things by His command, and verily He hath knowledge of all things.

And thou, O servant, detach thyself from this world and its realm, then from names and their dominion, that thou mayest ascend unto this atmosphere wherein waft the holy and glorious breezes. Beware lest thou be deprived of God's sanctuary which hath appeared in truth, and be veiled from this Beauty which shineth in truth from the horizon of grace. Cast behind thee all intimations, then place beneath thy feet

all allusions, then stand firm in the Cause through My Name which in truth is visible from the holy horizon.

And glory be upon thee if thou remainest steadfast in the love of thy Lord and thy feet slip not from the clamor of the idolaters and thy soul is not troubled by those who have disbelieved in God and His verses and have been powerful in their turning away through injustice.

BH03389: I know not, O my God, whether I should…

I know not, O my God, whether I should speak forth the wonders of Thy praise among Thy servants, and lay bare before them the secrets of Thy mercy and the mysteries of Thy Cause, or keep them wrapped up within the receptacle of my heart. Though the lover be loth to share with any one the intimate conversation of his beloved, yet at whatever time Thine inescapable commandment to declare Thy Cause reacheth me, I will unhesitatingly obey it. I would proclaim Thee, undeterred by the darts of affliction that may rain down upon me from the clouds of Thy decree.

I swear by Thy might! Neither the hosts of the earth nor those of heaven can keep me back from revealing the things I am commanded to manifest. I have no will before Thy will, and can cherish no desire in the face of Thy desire. By Thy grace I am, at all times, ready to serve Thee and am rid of all attachment to any one except Thee.

What I desire, however, O my God, is that Thou shouldst bid me unveil the things which lie hid in Thy knowledge, so that they who are wholly devoted to Thee may, in their longing for Thee, soar up into the atmosphere of Thy oneness, and the infidels may be seized with trembling and may return to the nethermost fire, the abode ordained for them by Thee through the power of Thy sovereign might.

Thou dost consider, O my Lord, how Thy dear ones are sore pressed by Thine enemies, and hearest from all sides their sighing by reason of what hath befallen them in Thy path. Thou knowest, O my Lord, that their one desire was to seek Thy face, and that the sole Object of their adoration was Thee. They who wronged them had no other purpose except to turn them away from Thee, and to extinguish the fire which Thou hadst kindled with the hands of Thine almighty power.

Unseal the lips of Thy will, O my Lord, and let a word proceed therefrom that shall subject unto itself the world and all that is therein. How long shalt Thou behold these things and tarry, O my God? Darkness hath enveloped the whole earth, and Thy tokens are ready to be blotted out throughout Thy realm.

Forgive me, O my God, for what I have spoken, for Thou art the One that knoweth all things, and in Thee are wrapped up the secrets that are hid from all else except Thyself. When Thy promise shall come to pass, Thou wilt manifest what Thou wilt, and subdue as Thou pleasest. We should wish only what Thou hast wished for us. In Thee is the knowledge of all things, and with Thee is the issue of all things. Thou art, verily, the Truth, the Knower of things unseen.

Forgive me, then, my sins and the sins of them that love me, and supply them with the good of this world and of the next.

Thou art, verily, the Ever-Forgiving, the Most Compassionate.

BH03387: The Word of God hath in truth been sent…

In the Name of God, the Most Manifest, the Most Pure, the Most Glorious!

The Word of God hath in truth been sent down from the heaven of grace upon the world. Verily it is the Most Great Mystery in the Concourse on High, the Most Noble Symbol in the heaven of splendor, the Most Hidden Secret in the kingdom of immortality, and the Beauty of Glory amidst the hosts of creation. O people! Hasten ye unto it and tarry not even for a moment. Beware lest ye alter it according to your own imaginings or change it from that which God hath ordained for it in the Mother Book. Thus hath the command been sent down from the heaven of grace upon the world.

O people! Follow what God hath commanded you from the heaven of His Cause and cast it not behind your backs. This is what this Youth, Who hath been mentioned by the name of God amongst the peoples of the world, counseleth you. Beware, O people, lest ye deny Him in Whom ye have believed and turn away from Him unto Whom ye have turned. This is the best counsel, did ye but know it. Sever yourselves from that which draweth you to vain desire and hold fast unto this firm handle, that haply ye may attain unto a station of luminous glory. Say: Today nothing shall profit anyone, even should he remember God while standing, sitting, at dawn or eventide.

O Mihdi! Guide thyself, then guide the people by this Sun which hath dawned from the horizon of holiness with manifest sovereignty, that perchance the people may recognize their Creator, differ not in His Cause, and find unto Him the true path. Say: Your belief profiteth Him not, nor doth your denial harm Him. Whatsoever appeareth from you returneth unto yourselves, while He, at His most exalted station, through His name the All-Knowing, hath ever been sanctified above the worlds. Thus hath the Ancient King commanded thee. Arise and act as thou hast been bidden by the Self-Subsisting, the Self-Compelling. And glory be upon thee and upon its people from this moment until the day when the heavens shall be cleft asunder and God shall come in overshadowing clouds.

BH03400: This is a Tablet that hath been sent down…

In the Name of God, the Most Great, the Most Great!

This is a Tablet that hath been sent down from the presence of the Mighty, the Wise, and giveth glad tidings unto the people on this Day whereon the All-Merciful hath seated Himself upon the throne of His Great Name. When thou dost inhale the fragrance of the garment, arise amidst the servants with wisdom and utterance, and remind them of that which hath shone forth from the horizon of the Ancient of Days with manifest sovereignty.

The land of Syria hath been honored by the advent of thy Lord, the Mighty, the All-Bountiful. This is a land wherein was raised the call of the Prophets and Messengers. We have addressed it saying: “Blessed art thou in that thou hast attained unto the presence of thy Lord! Do they that dwell within thee turn unto God, the Lord of Names, or do they deny Him even as they denied Him aforetime?” Whereupon it cried out saying: “Verily Thou art the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.”

The fragrances of the All-Glorious have seized the land of Batha. It hath stirred and flourished, and said:

> “Praise be unto Thee, O God of the worlds! I perceive the fragrance of Thy reunion as though Thou hadst unveiled Beauty after having concealed it from all mankind. Blessed is the land whereon Thy dominion hath been established, and blessed are the servants who have attained unto the light of Thy resplendent countenance.”

We hear the call of all things declaring that there is none other God but Him, the Forgiving, the Generous. Among them are those who know and glorify His praise, and among them are those who make mention yet remain among the heedless.

Arise thou amidst the people of the Bayan in the name of thy Lord, the All-Merciful. Say: O people! The proof hath come, and this is He to Whom the Bayan hath testified. Fear God and follow not him who hath disbelieved in God, the Mighty, the Powerful. When anyone cometh unto you with tablets of fire and the book of wickedness, cast them behind you and turn unto the Countenance, and say:

> “Praise be unto Thee, O my God, for having made Thyself known unto us and removed from us the veil through Thy sovereignty. Verily Thou art the Mighty, the Wise.”

Thus have We sent down unto thee the verses and made them lamps of guidance for all who are in the heavens and on earth. Take hold of the Tablet with the power of thy Lord. By My life! Nothing shall harm thee through it, even should all who are on earth combine against thee. And praise be unto God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH03368: Know, O people of Baha, that Satan joined forces…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Exalted, the Most High!

Know, O people of Baha, that Satan joined forces with the Persian devil and they both betrayed the Cause of their Lord, the All-Merciful. They wrote letters in the name of one of My loved ones, wherein they wrote whatsoever they wished that would disturb nations and governments. Then they contrived until these letters reached the princes, whereupon the fire of sedition and calamity was kindled and the winds of might and destiny were stirred up. They seized Satan and his companion on Our behalf, and after his ordeal he wrote to the Persian devil saying “I was with you, so protect me from this overwhelming tribulation.” He replied “There is no escape for you. I am innocent of you.” Then shone forth the sun of the word that dawned from the horizon of the mouth of Muhammad, the Messenger of God—His word is the truth—when He said: “When Satan says to man Disbelieve!‘, then when he disbelieves, Satan says I am innocent of you.”’

Judge fairly, by God, O servants of the All-Merciful, regarding the Youth’s Cause. Every person of insight and fairness bears witness that the Youth has never relied upon anyone in God’s Cause, nor sought help from any soul. Through Him the remembrance of God was exalted among all else, the pillars of remembrance and utterance were raised up, the sun of exposition shone forth from the horizon of the will of the All-Merciful, and the breezes of glory wafted from the right hand of certitude. Yet despite this Cause which none deny save those filled with hatred and enmity, the ungodly denied it and took Satan as their lord. Woe unto them and their deeds! And he who was in Iraq among Satan’s hosts united openly there with the Persians and denied God, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting.

Hear thou My words and arise to aid this Wronged One. And verily thy aid to Him is thy remembrance of thy Lord, the Mighty, the Bestower. Thus does the Youth command thee out of love for thyself. Trust thou in all matters in God. Verily He aids whomsoever He willeth through His command, and He is powerful over all things.

BH03360: Glory be to Thee, O my God! Thou hearest…

In the Name of the One God, the Peerless, the Eternal.

Glory be to Thee, O my God! Thou hearest the cries of Thy loved ones from every direction and their lamentations from all regions, and of those whom the idolaters have made captives in Thy path and for Thy good-pleasure. Thou knowest, O my God, that they have no sin except their love for Thee, and no transgression except their turning toward the court of Thy loving-kindness. Were the wrongdoers to be asked by what sin they have committed that which caused the denizens of the pavilions of the Kingdom to weep, they would be bewildered in their answer. All things bear witness that they were seized only for their love of Thee, and afflictions touched them only in Thy path.

By this means did the idolaters desire to turn faces away from turning toward the countenance of Thy oneness, and to prevent the servants from beholding the horizon of Thy unity, that they might thereby extinguish the lamp of Thy oneness amongst Thy creation and quench the fire of Thy love in Thy dominion. Soon shall they witness and see how by their actions the lights of the lamp of Thy oneness have increased.

Praise be to Thee, O my God, for having made my family and loved ones captives in Thy path, that thereby Thou mightest free the necks of Thy creatures; and Thou hast made them abased for the glory of Thy Cause, and sacrificed them for the life of the people of Thy earth. I beseech Thee, O my God, to make them steadfast in Thy love and good-pleasure. Then grant them what Thou hast ordained for Thy chosen ones in the worlds of Thy sanctity. Verily, Thou art the Almighty, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

O My Name! There hath befallen you in the path of God that which hath befallen no other among the servants, to such extent that the pen is powerless to recount it. But since it occurred in the love of God, it is sweeter to the taste of lovers than all the sweetness of the worlds. Convey My greetings and remembrance to My loved ones who have borne hardships in the path of God, the Self-Subsisting, the All-Compelling.

We have sufficed with the mention of your tribulations rather than mentioning My tribulation, and whoever returns shall mention what he hath witnessed and seen, and shall inform you of Our condition. The doors have been closed upon Our faces, but God shall soon open them in truth, for He hath power over all things. And mercy be upon you from the presence of One mighty and wise.

BH11199: He said: “If all the people of the Bayan…

He said: “If all the people of the Bayan were to ponder this dream which We showed in sleep, it would suffice them.” That He said “Ask about the mystery of the question and explain the question” points to this wondrous Revelation—meaning in the first Revelation was the station of the question, but now is the

station of the mystery of the question, which is the One questioned, and that is a mystery which has appeared in this land whose number corresponds to the mystery. And after you asked, They said "Sleep not in the bed," that is, "Rest not within thyself but soar on the wings of certitude in the atmosphere of divine knowledge that thou mayest know thy Lord, the Mighty, the Glorious, the All-Merciful.

By God, were thou to reach that station and hear His lamentation and cry concerning what hath befallen Him from the hosts of Satan, thy tears would flow and thy soul would depart and thy heart would melt and thy being would cease to be. By God, O Kamal, it behooveth those who have loved God to grieve and lament and weep at what hath befallen the Ancient Beauty from those who openly denied the signs of God and wronged and oppressed, and likewise did those like them plot aforetime, and they were an evil and most lost people.

Then know, O Kamal, that We have not completely lifted the veil. We have revealed Our Self to a degree corresponding to the capacity of the people. Otherwise, were the Ancient Beauty to appear in His beauty, none among all who are in the heavens and earth could bear to behold Him. Thus hath it been sent down in truth from God, thy Lord and the Lord of the worlds.

O Kamal, give thanks unto God for having enabled thee to recognize Him. Then be steadfast. Beware lest thou be extinguished by the brackish and fetid waters which flow from the mouths of Our misbelieving servants whenever the ungodly fabricate lies about Me. Reflect and ponder, for thou hast seen Me and associated with Me—their lies will become as evident to thee as the sun at high noon. Thus doth the Most Exalted Pen counsel thee at a time when it is surrounded by dogs and swine. The Spirit and glory and splendor rest upon thee and upon those who are steadfast in the Cause and detached from all else."

BH03325: O Most Exalted Pen! Make mention of him who…

In the Name of God, the Most High, the Most Holy, the Most Glorious!

O Most Exalted Pen! Make mention of him who migrated unto God and journeyed toward Him until he entered the Garden of Paradise, the station round which circle the denizens of the Supreme Concourse, and then those who have sought shelter beneath the shade of the Tree of the Uttermost Boundary in the Most Hidden Retreat, and then all that was and shall be. And when the Sun of Eternity shone upon him from the Most Glorious Horizon, he fell prostrate before God, the King, the Supreme, the Self-Subsisting.

O Hadi! Blessed art thou for having attained unto the presence of God and drunk the cup of faithfulness from the fingers of His good-pleasure and turned thy face unto the countenance of God, the Most High, the Mighty, the Best-Beloved. Grieve not over what hath befallen thee of the tribulations of the world. Rather, be thou assured through the bounty of thy Lord. By the True One! There shall descend upon thee that which shall gladden thy heart and bring tranquility to thy soul, and this is an irrevocable decree. Rejoice in the favors of thy Lord, and make mention of Him in thy waking and thy rest, at eventide and at dawn. Should thou find those from whose hearts waft the sweet savors of the Beloved, associate with them and show humility toward them. This is what the Tongue of God commandeth thee at this moment from this Most Great, Most Perfect, Most Holy Pen. Be thou steadfast in every circumstance in the Cause of thy Lord, and aid Him through thy utterance, and fear no one, for He will protect thee from every

hateful idolater. Leave sovereignty behind thee and ascend on the wings of holiness unto this heaven which hath been raised up in truth by the command of the Supreme, the Self-Subsisting.

Thus have We commanded thee and imparted unto thee that thou mayest find tranquility within thyself and be of those who, when the Sun of Beauty dawned forth from the Horizon of Glory, turned toward it with their hearts, their souls and their innermost beings, and were of those who are well-assured. And the glory that hath dawned from the direction of eternity be upon thee and upon those with thee and upon every praiseworthy believer.

BH03337: Hasan: Give ear—from the horizon…

He is the Most Great

Hasan: Give ear—from the horizon of the Tongue of ancient glory it was revealed to the Pen: "Write upon the Tablet: ʻVerily I am God, there is no God but Me, the Most Great, the Most Great."' The Pen swooned from the sweetness of the Word of God, the Most High. When it recovered, it declared: "Verily, I am the first of the worshippers." This is a Word at which spirits have swooned, stars have fallen, and all upon the earth have been seized by the might of thy Lord, the Powerful, the Unconstrained. Verily, the heavens are folded up by His command and the verses are sent down by His sovereignty. Glorified be He above what every doubtful misbeliever imagines!

Say: Can tribulation prevent the Glory from that which He is commanded? No, by the Lord of Names! From His horizon He speaks the truth and summons the people to the Mighty, the Bestower. Is there doubt about God? Say: Die in your wrath! He is the Most Great Proof and these are the evidences.

Verily tribulation is the water of heaven which God hath sent down from the clouds that there might grow from it the ears of corn in the hearts of those who, when they hear "Unto whom belongeth the Kingdom?" say "Unto God, the One, the Peerless, the Mighty, the All-Forgiving." And by it God distinguisheth between His servants. Verily, there is no God but He. He guideth whom He willeth to the straight path.

Then know that thy Lord hath seized him who pronounced judgment against Us. Soon shall there join him a people whom We have left in the valley of desires. Verily thy Lord is mighty in His grasp and severe in His punishment. Then We seized him whom We had promised chastisement in the Scriptures and Tablets. When the agony of death overtook him, he said: "Is there any protector?" It was said: "There is no protector for thee this day." The angels of wrath cast him face down into the fire. It was said: "This is what was promised thee by God, the Protector, the Powerful, the Subduer." And those whom We have left—this is due to a wisdom which none knoweth save God and those who possess knowledge of the Book.

Arise to aid thy Lord, then remind the people before the punishment cometh upon them. We have sent thee aforetime that which hath diffused the fragrance of the garment throughout all regions. Glorify thy Lord with praise and say:

> "O my Lord! Protect me beneath the pavilion of Thy majesty and deprive me not of what is with Thee. Verily, Thou art the Lord of the earth and the heavens."

BH03361: Lauded be Thy name, O Lord my God! Thou…

Lauded be Thy name, O Lord my God! Thou dost witness that Thy will hath prevailed over all created things, and Thy mercy hath surpassed all who are in heaven and on earth. And when Thou didst purpose to unveil Thy sovereignty, and to glorify Thy word, and to reveal Thy bounteousness and mercy, Thou didst raise up one of Thy servants, and didst choose Him above all Thy creatures, and didst single Him out for Thy purpose, and didst clothe Him with the robe of Thy guidance, and didst immerse Him beneath the seas of Thy majesty and grandeur, and didst sanctify Him from all that beseemeth not the greatness of Thy glory and the power of Thy might, and didst bid Him to cry out before all that are in heaven and on earth, and summon the multitudes to the Manifestation of Thy Self and the Revealer of Thy signs.

No sooner had He proclaimed Thy Cause, and risen up to carry out the things prescribed unto Him in the Tablets of Thy decree, than the Great Terror fell upon Thy creatures. Some turned towards Thee, and detached themselves from all except Thee, and sanctified their souls from the world and all that is therein, and were so enravished by the sweetness of Thy voice that they forsook all Thou hadst created in the kingdom of Thy creation. Others recognized Thee and then hesitated, others allowed the world to come in between them and Thee and to withhold them from recognizing Thee. Others disdained Thee, and turned back from Thee, and wished to prevent Thee from achieving Thy purpose. And yet behold how all of them are calling upon Thee, and are expecting the things they were promised in Thy Tablets. And when the Promised One came unto them, they recognized Him not, and disbelieved in Thy signs, and repudiated Thy clear tokens, and strayed so grievously from Thy path that they slew Thy servants, through the brightness of whose faces the countenances of the Concourse on high have been illumined.

I beseech Thee, O Thou Who art the Lord of all names, to guard Thy loved ones against Thine enemies, and to strengthen them in their love for Thee and in fulfilling Thy pleasure. Do Thou protect them, that their footsteps may slip not, that their hearts may not be shut out as by a veil from Thee, and that their eyes may be restrained from beholding anything that is not of Thee. Cause them to be so enraptured by the sweetness of Thy divine melodies that they will rid themselves of all attachment to any one except Thee, and will turn wholly towards Thee, and extol Thee under all conditions, saying:

> "Praised be Thou, O Lord our God, inasmuch as Thou hast enabled us to recognize Thy most exalted and all-glorious Self. We will, by Thy mercy, cleave to Thee, and will detach ourselves from any one but Thee. We have realized that Thou art the Beloved of the worlds and the Creator of earth and heaven!"

Glorified be God, the Lord of all creation!

BH03441: It hath been a long time since news…

He is God, the Most High!

It hath been a long time since news of thee hath been received. It seemeth that thou hast secluded thyself from the world and its people, choosing solitude.

I swear by the Peerless and Eternal Beloved that this Servant hath ever sought and will continue to seek that state for Himself, for in seclusion one's soul findeth peace whilst through association with others the spirit is consumed.

The former is the attribute of the near ones who believe in God's oneness, the latter is the characteristic of the heedless. However, there are times when solitude is rejected and association desired. Thus hath it been ordained by the One Who is Mighty and Powerful. Nonetheless, I have all My life sought but not attained it.

Upon My arrival in Iraq, detached from all else save God, I withdrew for two years. Singly and alone I departed for the wilderness and severed Myself from the world and its peoples. But during that period of withdrawal solitude was not granted to me. Those joyous days soon passed and came to an end, and it hath not been My portion ever since. Thus hath it been recorded by the Pen of Decree by the Finger of Splendour and Sanctity.

Shouldst thou desire to know My situation, twenty years have passed since I have seen the light of day. I swear by the Sun of the Celestial Beauty that during this time I have not partaken even a glass of water in comfort and have been denied even a moment's rest owing to the venom of the ungodly. Like unto one constantly tormented in the mouth of a dragon, I have ever been confined in the prison of envy and afflicted by the claws of enmity. The tale of this Youth increaseth sorrow, His remembrance a book does not suffice and its end the pen of creation is unable to describe.

O My Sister! By God, I have so blotted out from memory the remembrance of everything that I know not what hath been written down. Sorrow hath so surrounded Me that I have forgotten Mine own Self, how much more the writing of letters. O that My Mother had never given birth to Me!

May thou be always under the protection of God and abide in the shade of His mercy. Convey My sincere wishes to honourable mother.

BH03356: Glorified art Thou, O Lord my God! I beseech…

In the name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Exalted, the Most High

Glorified art Thou, O Lord my God! I beseech Thee by Thy Name, the Restrainer, to withhold from us the maleficence of Thine adversaries who have disbelieved in Thy testimony, and caviled at Thy beauty. Overpower by Thy Name, the All-Subduing, such as have wronged Thy Previous Manifestation Who hath now appeared invested with Thy title, the All-Glorious. Lay hold, by Thy name, the Chastiser, on them that have treated Thy Cause with scorn, have jested at Thy most mighty utterances, and were hindered from attaining this most exalted station. Enable Thy loved ones, by Thy Name, the Victorious, to prevail against Thine enemies and the infidels among Thy creatures. Rend asunder, by Thy Name, the Cleaver, the veil that hideth the doings of them that have besmirched Thine honor and undermined Thy Faith among Thy people.

Bind, by Thy Name, the Restorer, the broken hearts of them that love Thee, and graciously bless them in their affairs. Teach them, by Thy Name, the All-Knowing, the wonders of Thy wisdom, that they may cleave steadfastly to Thy Faith and walk in the ways of Thy pleasure. Keep them safe, by Thy Name, the Withholder, from the tyranny of the oppressor and the wickedness of the evil-doers and the malice of the stirrers of mischief. Shield them, by Thy Name, the Preserver, within the stronghold of Thy might and power, that haply they may be protected from the darts of doubt that are hurled by such as have rebelled against Thee. Sanctify for Thy servants, by Thy Name which Thou hast blessed above all other names, which Thou hast singled out for Thy favor, and by which Thou didst reveal Thy beauty, these days of which the Pen of Thy decree hast distinctly written, and which, according to Thy will and wisdom, have been preordained in Thine irrevocable Tablet.

Subject to Thy rule, by Thy Name, the Conqueror, the people of Thy realm, that all may turn towards Thy face and forsake their all for love of Thee and for the sake of Thy pleasure.

Abase Thou, O my Lord, Thine enemies, and lay hold on them with Thy power and might, and let them be stricken by the blast of Thy wrath. Make them taste, O my God, of Thine awful majesty and vengeance, for they have repudiated the truth of the One in Whom they had believed, Who came unto them with Thy signs and Thy clear tokens and the evidences of Thy power and the manifold revelations of Thy might. Gather, then, together Thy loved ones beneath the shadow of the Tree of Thy oneness, and of the Manifestation of the effulgent light of Thy unity.

Thou art, verily, the One Whose power is immense, Whose vengeance is terrible. No God is there beside Thee, the Almighty, the Most Powerful.

BH03334: In the Name of God, the Mighty, the Most…

In the Name of God, the Mighty, the Most Impregnable, the Most Exalted, the Most Holy, the Most Glorious!

These are verses which have now been sent down in truth from the heaven of mighty splendor, and in all things they speak forth: Open thine eyes! By God, that which the Ancient Being had yearned to encounter, to behold His beauty, and to hear His melodies, hath appeared—yet the people have not understood and remain veiled from Him.

O Sadiq! Hearken thou unto My call at this moment in the Supreme Horizon, then give thanks to thy Lord that We have remembered thee in this Tablet and have raised thee up in truth among the Concourse on High in the form of a well-proportioned human temple. Blessed art thou for having believed in that whereunto thou wert called. When We manifested Our Self amongst the servants, We found not among them one who was truthful, for had there been truthfulness in them, they would not have remained veiled from this Beauty Who hath appeared from every manifestation and hath shone forth from the horizon of the Spirit with evident sovereignty. Verily, truthfulness can only be realized through the recognition by the servant of his Creator at the time of His appearance, and thus hath the matter been recorded in truth in all the Tablets. He who hath not attained unto His beauty hath never been truthful, even should he be deemed truthful among the people or be known for truthfulness among all creation.

O spirit! Joy be unto thee for having believed in the Cause of thy Lord, for having recognized Him and borne witness in His path, for having been attracted by the breezes of rapture from the direction of thy Lord, the Mighty, the Bestower, and for having been drawn by the breaths of the Spirit to a station that was in truth exalted.

Now doth the Pen of God make mention of those servants whom God hath related unto thee, that their eyes may be solaced thereby and they may remember God in their hearts and thank Him with a truthful and trustworthy tongue. And thou, O servant, take thou the cup of life in the Ridvan of the All-Merciful from the fingers of those whose faces God hath honored by turning away from aught else but Him, and whom He hath raised up in truth from the essence of the Spirit by the hands of divine Will. Glory be upon thee and upon those whom God hath related unto thee, and upon those who associated with thee in this world with pure love for the sake of God, thy Lord and the Lord of all creation.

BH03339: God makes mention of His servant at this hour…

In the Name of God, the Most Inaccessible, the Most Holy, the Most Glorious!

God makes mention of His servant at this hour in the Kingdom of Names and Attributes, that he may rejoice within himself at the most exalted station—a station which none among the Letters have attained save those who have believed in this Cause and have outstripped all created things in this Revelation, whereby all who dwell in the kingdom of command and creation were thunderstruck, all in the heavens and earth were dismayed, and all beings were shaken except those whom God preserved from the surges of self and purified their hearts from all allusions.

O Hasan! God makes mention of you at this hour, and before that which has no before, and after that which has no after, inasmuch as you ascended unto God your Lord and sacrificed your body and spirit in His path, and rose to the highest chambers. Glad tidings unto you, for the world prevented you not from entering into the depths of the mercy of your Lord—you entered therein and feared no one in the path of your Master. Thus does God single out whom He wishes through His grace. With Him is the revelation of verses—He sends them down upon whomsoever He wishes among His creation. Verily, there is none mighty save Him. His is the creation and the command, and none among contingent beings has preceded Him in His command.

If all who are in the heavens and earth were to cling to the cord of any one of you who were martyred in God's path and died in His way, God would surely remove from them the garment of rebellion and clothe them in the robes of mercy and forgiveness, and cause them to speak in the highest paradise with the most wondrous melodies. However, when their hearts hardened, they were veiled from this bounty which encompassed you and your kinfolk and those who loved you.

Then, glory be upon you and upon those who were martyred and gave up their spirits in the path of God their Creator, and when the Sun of the horizons dawned from the holy dayspring, they fell prostrate upon their faces before God, the Lord of Names and Attributes.

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BH03354: Glorified be He Whom all things in the heavens…

He is the Ever-Abiding, the Mighty, the Impregnable

Glorified be He Whom all things in the heavens and earth do praise! He createth whatsoever He willeth through His command. He, verily, is the Powerful, the Mighty, the Omnipotent. He aideth whom He willeth through the agencies of the heavens and earth, and He is the Triumphant over all things. He, verily, is the Mighty, the All-Wise.

In the revelation of verses there are indeed manifestations for those who follow the path of truth. Say: O peoples of the earth! Compare not the creation of verses with the creation of aught else, nor their manifestation with the manifestation of other things, if ye be discerning. They are in themselves the mirror of God amidst the worlds, and they reflect God and His most beautiful names, and they guide you to a straight path. Through them God created whatsoever was and will be. Ponder upon them; they will make you independent of the worlds.

Say: They are the form of the Command into which was breathed, causing all in the heavens and earth to swoon, save those whom God preserved through manifest sovereignty. They are the proof whereby His Cause was established and His evidence confirmed. Thus was the matter decreed and the evidence came from the presence of One mighty and knowing. Those who deny the verses of God and make sport of them, these are in manifest loss.

Say: O people! We have ordained for you the laws of recognition and have expounded the verses in truth. They have been sent down from the right hand of a mighty throne. Say: God doth test those who claim to believe. Thus was the matter decreed in a preserved tablet.

O people of Baha! We have adorned the heaven of utterance with the ornament of meaning and exposition, that ye may give thanks unto your Lord, the All-Merciful. He, verily, is the Ruler over what He willeth.

O servant! Remind those who have believed of this Remembrance, whose fragrance hath wafted from the direction of thy Lord, the Mighty, the Praised. Let not the words of those who have denied God grieve thee. Verily, We behold them in the fire. Turn wholly unto God.

Say: O people! Follow him who asketh no recompense of you and who summoneth you to the supreme horizon by what hath been ordained by One All-Knowing, All-Informed. And praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH03373: Say: Glorified art Thou, O my God! I am…

In the name of God, the Most Holy

Say: Glorified art Thou, O my God! I am Thy servant, and the son of Thy servant. I have turned my face towards the Qiblih of Thy Cause, confident of Thy oneness, confessing Thy singleness, submitting to Thy

sovereignty and might, and acknowledging Thy grandeur and Thy majesty. I beseech Thee, by Thy Name through which the heavens were cleft asunder, and the earth was rent, and the mountains were crushed to dust, to withhold me not from the blowing of the winds of Thy mercy in Thy days, and to debar me not from the shore of Thy nearness and Thy bounties.

O Lord! I am athirst—give me to drink of the Kawthar of Thy grace; and I am poor—cause me to behold the outpourings of Thy riches. Is it befitting Thy station that Thou shouldst drive away the hopeful from the court of the door of Thy favor and Thy loving-kindness? Or is it consonant with Thy sovereignty that Thou shouldst deny the yearning ones access unto the Ka'bih of reunion with Thee and of Thy presence? By Thy might! this is not my thought of Thee; for I have been assured that Thou art the All-Bountiful, the Possessor of abundant grace. O Lord! I entreat Thee, by Thy mercy that hath preceded all created things, and by Thy generosity that hath encompassed all beings, to make me one who turneth wholly unto Thee, who seeketh refuge in Thy Presence, and who standeth steadfast in Thy love. Then ordain for me that which Thou hast decreed for Thy loved ones. Verily Thou art potent to do what Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the Forgiving, the Generous. Praise be to God, the Lord of all worlds.

Then know that your namesake has slandered me, and for this God hath seized him by His command, for He is the most severe of avengers. And thou knowest that I have not associated with him nor with any other souls, and only met with him in my brother's house for about an hour after he had sought permission to attain the presence. Thus was the matter and thou art among the witnesses. He hath spoken before the people concerning me that which he hath spoken, out of spite against God, the Protector, the Mighty, the Powerful.

Say: With thy Lord is the knowledge of all things. He knoweth what thy tongue hath uttered and what hath passed through thy heart, and He is knowing of all things. Say: Turn unto God that He may perchance remit thy sins; otherwise He will seize thee with a mighty seizure. Thus have We cast upon thee the word of truth as a mercy from Us unto thee, that thou mayest be among those endowed with certitude.

BH03396: The Most Holy, the Most Glorious! This…

The Most Holy, the Most Glorious! This is a Book from the All-Knowing to those who have believed in God, the Mighty, the Wise, that they may rejoice in what they have been remembered before the Throne. This is naught but a great bounty. Blessed are they who have been given what hath been sent down from the presence of One mighty and powerful.

Turn ye unto the Countenance and turn away from the ignorant who wander in the wilderness of passion. They are indeed in manifest loss. Soon shall the dust of torment encompass them and they shall awaken in remorse. The wrath of thy Lord shall seize them—distant be they who have disbelieved in God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy.

We seized peoples before them, then after them We raised up others. Nothing hath preceded Us. We have ordained for every matter an appointed time. We are indeed powerful.

Arise to remember God amongst His servants and leave those who have disbelieved in their overwhelming ignorance. They are indeed among the heedless. Do they imagine that what they possess will profit them? Nay, by the Lord of all worlds! Did what their fathers amassed benefit them? We have left them in the fire, and thy Lord is indeed the Subduer, possessed of mighty strength. Nothing preventeth Him from what He desireth. He is in truth the Ruler over what He willeth.

Those who have disbelieved in God are deaf—they hear not the call of their Lord. They are indeed among those who slumber. When they awaken they shall find themselves in the depths of the fire. They shall say: "We have wronged ourselves and were among the wrongdoers."

Say: Hearken, O people, to the call of your Lord, then turn unto Him and follow not every doubting idolater. Arise from the couches of passion. This is your Lord, the Most Glorious, Who hath come with a manifest light. Have ye forsaken God and taken vain imaginings as lords for yourselves? This is naught but a grievous wrong. Open your eyes! This is your Lord, the Chosen One, Who calleth you to the most exalted station. He is indeed a witness unto what He saith. Say: Is conjecture better for you, or the light that hath shone forth from the horizon of certitude? Be fair, O people, and follow not every heedless sinner.

Thus have We revealed unto thee that thou mayest remember thy Lord amongst the servants, that perchance Our slumbering servants may be awakened thereby. Say: O my Lord! I am he who hath turned his face toward Thee. Decree for me what Thou desirest. Thou art indeed the Most Merciful of the merciful ones.

BH03455: O handmaiden of God! Thy letter hath come before…

He is the All-Glorious, the Most Glorious!

O handmaiden of God! Thy letter hath come before Us and We have witnessed its contents. We are indeed the All-Witnessing. Stand thou firm in the Cause of God, thy Lord, and detach thyself from all else save Him.

Let not the cawing of the female unbelievers nor the braying of the male unbelievers disturb thee, for most people have turned away from Him Who created them for this Day and gave them glad tidings of this luminous, resplendent Manifestation. Among them are those who openly denied God and warred against Him and pronounced judgment against Him and were numbered among the ungodly. And among them are those who disputed His verses and denied His proof and rose up against Him with swords of hatred that were a thousand times sharper than swords of steel. Thus was the matter decreed by God, thy Lord and the Lord of all worlds.

Pay thou no heed to these people. Be steadfast in thy Lord's Cause and place thy trust in God, thy Lord and the Lord of thy forebears of old. Stand thou firm in such wise that all who are in the heavens and on earth shall not cause thee to slip, nor shall the whisperings of Satan cause thee to waver.

By God the Truth! There hath befallen Me that which hath befallen no one else, as though I were being slain at every moment, and none is aware of this save God and My own Self, the All-Knowing, the All-Encompassing.

Walk thou in the footsteps of thy father, for he witnessed such evidences from thy Creator and beheld such signs from thy Lord as no eye hath ever seen, and attained that which hath shone forth from this holy, mighty and wondrous Scene. Therefore do the denizens of the Supreme Horizon weep for Me, together with the holy angels.

Beware lest thy relationship to her who hath fabricated lies against herself concerning God and disbelieved after having believed and turned away after having advanced—such was her deed if thou be of them that hear—prevent thee. Shun her and turn away from her, then turn to God, the Almighty, the All-Glorious, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

BH03558: This is a Book from the Primal Point unto…

He is the Most Mighty, the Most Holy, the Most Glorious!

This is a Book from the Primal Point unto him who hath believed in God and His signs, that he may call to mind within himself the Most Great Remembrance, Who was visible from the horizon of the Cause, and may detach himself from whatsoever beareth the name of a thing, and be drawn unto a praiseworthy station of holiness. O servant! Hearken unto that which God calleth thee from the direction of the Throne, then remind the people of that which thou art capable, for this is what the Tongue of Ancient Days commandeth thee at a time when sorrows have encompassed Him from every rejected soul.

Say: Verily the Primal Point, in His latter Manifestation, speaketh with the Most Glorious tongue, saying:

> "O people! Did We not give you glad tidings of My appearance after Me? Yet when He appeared with the truth and came unto you with all of God's clear tokens, wherefore did ye disbelieve in Him and turn away from His beauty and wage war against His person? Therefore fear ye God and dispute not against His Self, and be ye steadfast upon the straight path of truth. By My life! Whoso turneth away from Him hath turned away from the beauty of God from all eternity, and whoso turneth unto Him hath ascended unto God and chosen for himself a beloved station beneath the canopy of his Lord's protection."

O people! Fear ye God, then be ye ashamed before Me, and commit not unseemly deeds within your souls, and withhold not yourselves from the Law which hath truly flowed from the right hand of this Throne whereon the Ancient Beauty hath been established, from the presence of the Self-Subsisting, the All-Compelling. And thou, O servant, strive within thyself lest the clamor of the idolaters affect thee. Rather, it behooveth thee to ascend unto a station wherein thy word will influence the hearts of every remote doubter. Purify thyself with the living waters from thy Lord, the Mighty, the Bestower. Verily in the inner meaning of these words flow mysteries, if thou be of them that know. And glory be upon thee and upon those who have turned toward the shore of might nigh at hand.

BH03488: Make mention of thy Lord's mercy unto His servant…

He is the Most Exalted.

Make mention of thy Lord's mercy unto His servant that he may be of those who remember and that his eyes may be consoled by the traces of God his Lord, and be of those who have attained unto the recognition of God and the Manifestation of His Self, and whom the denials of those who disbelieved and associated partners with God and were of the heedless did not hinder.

O servant! Illumine thy sight with the verses of thy Lord and thy heart with the remembrance of His Name, the Most High, the Most Great. Deprive not thyself of the grace which hath preceded all created things and for whose appearance the Temples of the Cause waited in centuries past. Say: He hath appeared in human form. Blessed be God, the Revealer of this noble countenance.

Beware lest anything sadden thee or any matter prevent thee from the upraised and straight path of God. Turn not unto the world and what hath been created therein, but seek what thy Lord hath ordained for thee. Verily He sufficeth thee and sufficeth all worlds.

Drink from the Kawthar of life from the spring which floweth in this paradise, that it may attract thee to the face of thy Lord. Verily He is the Mighty, the Generous. He will never withhold from any soul the wonders of His grace nor cut off from His servants the rains of His mercy. There is no God but Him. He doeth what He willeth and ordaineth what He pleaseth.

Thus hath the Command been sent down from the heaven of eternity that thou mayest follow the command of thy Lord and be of the doers of good. Verily those who were heedless of the meeting with their Lord and turned away from His beauty—these God will never show mercy to in this world, and in the next world they shall have grievous punishment. Soon shall the angels of chastisement return them to their abode—what an evil abode for those who turned away!

Thus have We expounded the verses unto thee and set them forth as a grace from Us upon thee that thou mayest be of the thankful ones. The Spirit and Glory be upon thee and upon God's sincere servants.

BH03549: This is a Book from God unto him who…

He is God, the Most Holy, the Most Inaccessible, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious

This is a Book from God unto him who hath believed and been guided. Hearken, O servant, unto that which God calleth thee from the direction of the Throne, that the fragrances of the All-Merciful may attract thee to the Sadratu'l-Muntaha. Arise and say: By God! He hath appeared through Whose will the Kingdom of Names appeared. Be not proud against Him Who hath appeared with all the signs in days wherein the feet of every learned one did slip and the hearts of those endued with understanding were perturbed.

Say: The clouds of destiny have been rent asunder and your Lord, the Most High, the Most Exalted, hath come once again from the heaven of divine decree with His Most Glorious Name. Say: Is there any doubt about God, or about His power which hath encompassed all created things, or about His signs, one letter

of which all that can be counted cannot equal? O people! If ye deny Him Who hath appeared with the truth, by what proof do ye uphold your faith in God, the Most High, the Most Exalted? Say: This is Ali Who hath come unto you with all the signs and speaketh the truth in the highest heaven that this indeed is the Beloved. Whoso turneth away from Him hath gone astray and been misguided. Say: By God! This is He at Whose walking the Kingdom of God walketh behind Him, and the Spirit proclaimeth before Him, and giveth glad tidings unto the people of this Remembrance Who hath appeared in the temple of the Youth. Glorified be He Who hath appeared in the midst of noon-tide.

O servant! We sent thee aforetime a Tablet that thou mightest find therein the sweet fragrances of thy Lord, the All-Merciful, and become detached from all that hath been created in the contingent world, and utter in the midmost heart of contingency a word whereby the hearts of them that possess understanding would be attracted. Hearken unto the Word of thy Lord and leave all created things behind thee, then arise from the horizon of utterance with the remembrance of thy Lord, the Mighty, the Bountiful. Fear not those who have disbelieved and associated partners with God and were of them that turned away and were wretched. And the Spirit be upon thee and upon those who are steadfast in the Cause and were of them that witnessed and beheld from among the greatest signs of thy Lord.

BH03467: O Ali! Today the Tongue of God speaks…

He is the Grief-Stricken

O Ali! Today the Tongue of God speaks in all things, yet no hearing ear is to be found that might perceive it. The signs of God are manifest in all things, yet no seeing eye is found that might behold them. The Cause of God has ever been manifest and radiant, yet people remain immersed in pure delusion and veiled from the Purpose.

Consider the peoples of the past—though all were engaged in uttering the praise of God throughout all days and nights with utmost desire and longing, yet at the time of His Manifestation all remained veiled from the Sovereign of the Cause by their own imaginings and were deprived of His divine verses. Now observe the people of the Bayan with this same insight—all recite the Bayan, yet remain veiled from its Revealer. Would that they had been content with this much, but rather they have inflicted upon the Ancient Beauty that which no soul has ever inflicted upon another. Such is the measure of these servants.

O Ali! Turn your gaze away from all else but God and sanctify your heart from the mention of aught else. O Ali! Raise up the pavilion of detachment upon the shore of the Most Great Ocean and pitch the tent of trust beneath the shade of the Divine Unity, for there has been and shall be no shelter save His shade. Give thanks to God that the breeze of His grace has ever wafted over you and, God willing, shall never cease.

Today most of the people of the earth have risen to dispute with the Beauty of Divine Unity, though they have witnessed with their own eyes in this Revelation that which was never seen or heard in any previous Revelation. Thus does God distinguish between truth and falsehood through a word from His presence, and He is powerful over all things. Be steadfast in the Cause of God and detached from all else. And the glory be upon you and upon those with you.

BH03474: These are the verses of holiness, set forth…

He is the Mighty.

These are the verses of holiness, set forth with pure nature, and He casts forth remembrance and guidance. Verily, in the remembrance of God do hearts find rest. Nothing escapes His knowledge, and nothing is hidden from God, thy Lord. There is no God but Him. His is the Command and Creation, and all return unto Him.

Is there any god besides God? Say: Glory be to God! There is no God but Him, and all beseech His bounty. His is the dominion of the kingdom of the heavens and earth. He creates what He willeth through His word "Be" and it is.

Say: O people, fear God with true fear, and associate not anything with Him, and call not upon any god besides God, and take not your vain desires as lords unto yourselves, if ye be aware. Verily He sufficeth you against all things, while nothing can suffice against God your Lord, and unto Him do all return. With Him is the knowledge of all things, and the knowledge of the heavens and earth, and He knoweth your final home and resting place, and whatsoever people imagine within themselves.

Say: Fear God, O people, and turn not your faces from the holy sanctuary, then follow what the Spirit casteth upon you, that ye may draw nigh with your hearts to the shore of nearness, and then attain certitude of this Beauty. Thus doth the Dove counsel you with true counsel and remember you with the best remembrance, if ye but hear.

O servant! Remember thyself, then remind the people of what God hath taught thee of His grace, then make thy heart a mirror wherein this hidden and radiant Beauty may be reflected. Grieve not over anything that befalleth thee, but place thy trust in God, then strive in His good-pleasure, and be not of those who in the days of the Spirit are sorrowful. The Spirit and Light be upon thee and upon whosoever hath turned unto God, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting.

BH03487: A remembrance from God, at a time when…

He is the Almighty

A remembrance from God, at a time when the breezes of separation blow upon all who are in the heavens and earths. Verily it is a revelation from God, the Lord of the worlds.

O Baqir! We have heard the cry of thy heart and the lamentation of thy soul, and We were well aware thereof. And by this We were grieved in such wise as none knoweth save God, the Mighty, the All-Knowing. Therefore did We open unto thy face the gates of counsel that thou mightest be counseled by God's counsel and be of the patient ones. Be patient, O servant, in this firmly established and mighty decree. Put thy trust in God, thy Lord, then commit thy affairs unto Him, for He is the best of helpers and protectors. Though in this separation the pillars of the believers be demolished, yet patience therein is nearer unto righteousness, if ye be of those who know.

But O My loved ones! Remember My exile, then My tribulation thereafter, then My migration due to what the hands of the hypocrites have wrought. Then ponder upon My reunion, then upon My melodies, then upon My beauty, then upon My majesty, if ye be of those who know. For in all these nothing is seen save the attributes of God, the Mighty, the Ever-Living, the All-Knowing. Thus do We teach you the ways of wisdom that ye may be among the triumphant.

Then make mention of Abdullah Ahmad and give him the glad tidings of a mighty victory. O Ahmad! Give thanks unto God for having guided thee unto His Self and nourished thee from the freshly-plucked fruits of holiness and brought thee near unto the shore of nearness and caused thee to hear the sweet and holy melodies and accepted thee and thy brother and assisted you both in His service through what ye fashioned with your hands for His servant. And this hath been inscribed in a Tablet wherein the deeds of the doers shall not be omitted by so much as a date-stone's weight or a whit. Soon shall appear in the earth the recompense of what ye have done, and verily He rewardeth His sincere servants.

Then make mention from Us unto those who are in your households, both young and old, and unto those women who were among the devout before God.

BH03468: O Ali, hear the answers to your questions…

O Ali, hear the answers to your questions which flow from the Pen of God.

As to what you asked regarding preserving your love for your Lord—We beseech God to guard you from the evil of Satan and to cause you to enter the seat of security and safety beneath the shadow of His Name, the All-Merciful. There is no God but Him, the Mighty, the All-Glorious.

As to what you asked regarding protection from the evil of the oppressors—do not cause corruption in the land after it has been set in order, lest the tyranny of every stubborn oppressor touch you. For if you become corrupt, you will have wronged your own self. And when you become an oppressor, it behooves God to cause another oppressor to gain dominion over you. This is justice from His presence, if you be of those who understand.

As to your asking God to grant you that whereby people wage war against each other, that you might thereby aid your Lord—hear thou that We have lifted the decree of the sword and spear, and have ordained victory through utterance, through that which proceeds from the tongue. He, verily, is the Help in Peril.

As to what you asked about Our instilling in you the courage of a lion—know that We have made the hearts of those who have detached themselves from the world and turned to the court of My Most Glorious Name like blocks of iron, such that nothing in the heavens or earth can cause them fear. They are like lions in the thickets of power and might. God has bound them with the chains of protection, and were He to will, He would loose them by His command and through them subjugate all who are in the heavens and earth. He, verily, has power over all things.

As to what you asked about Our making you free in your turning to God, such that whenever you wish you could turn to the holy court—know that in this request you have made yourself a partner with your

Lord, for He is the Free, and He has not taken, nor will He ever take, any partner unto Himself. He permits you in this as He wills, by His command. He, verily, is the Mighty, the Free to Choose.

BH03449: Hearken unto the Call from the Divine Lote-Tree…

He is the Most Holy, the Most Glorious

Hearken unto the Call from the Divine Lote-Tree in the luminous and most holy spot: Verily, there is none other God but Me, the Almighty, the All-Wise.

By My life! Wert thou to taste the sweetness wherewith the Supreme Pen hath called thee, thou wouldst cast away the world and all that is therein and would delight in the remembrance of thy Lord, the Most Glorious, in such wise that nothing would prevent thee from His beautiful praise. Then wouldst thou relate unto the earth before the Throne what hath befallen it, and it would speak forth in thy name.

We have sent down unto thee the verses and made them clear evidences for all the worlds. Say: This, verily, is the News of which God took covenant from the Prophets and Messengers, and from those who claimed faith within themselves. Thus hath the matter been decreed from the presence of the Mighty, the Wise.

When thou hast drunk from the Kawthar of eternity and attained unto the lights of guidance which shone forth from the direction of the Tablet, remind the people of the News of their Lord. Say: Verily, it is that which was inscribed by the Supreme Pen, concealed within the veil of grandeur, and mentioned in the heart of thy Lord, the Mighty, the All-Praised.

When the days were fulfilled and the promise came to pass, He came with the truth from the kingdom of thy Lord, the Mighty, the Beautiful. Say: Be fair, O people! If ye deny Him, by what path will ye approach and to what command will ye hold fast? By God! They have no protector save that they repent and return unto God, the Lord of all worlds.

Say: Do ye rejoice in what ye possess while ye behold its passing? Leave it and turn unto the Countenance. This, verily, is the Goal, did ye but know. Verily, those who are heedless are in manifest error. Soon shall they find themselves in the fire—verily, they are the companions of the flame.

And those who have cast away the world and turned unto God, the Lord of Names—these are the people of Baha, upon whom the Concourse on High shall pray, and unto whom the denizens of Paradise shall draw near, and thy Lord is witness to what I say.

Leave the dead to themselves and enter thou the Kingdom of Life in the name of thy Lord, the Mighty, the Peerless. Thus have We bestowed Our grace upon thee, that thou mayest thank thy Lord and be of those who remember.

BH03501: Glorified is He Who sendeth down the verses…

In the Name of our Lord, the Glorious, the All-Glorious!

Glorified is He Who sendeth down the verses in truth and giveth unto whomsoever He willeth whatsoever He willeth through His grace, and verily He encompasseth all things.

O ye who remain of the family of the beloved one on earth! Grieve not for him, for he hath ascended unto the Supreme Companion and now dwelleth in the Most Glorious chambers, companioned by the maidens of paradise. He drinketh from the Kawthar of immortality from the hands of youths whom God hath created from the light of glory, whose faces shine as the sun in spheres of crystal white, illumining all who dwell in paradise. Thus doth God single out whom He willeth through His grace, and verily His grace unto those martyred in the path of truth is exceeding great.

Grieve not for him; rather, if ye must needs grieve, grieve for this lonely one who remaineth in the hands of the idolaters without helper or champion. Remember him at all times and forget him not for a single moment. Thus doth this Youth command you in this Tablet which is a clear book of truth.

Blessed are ye and blessed is he who hath ascended unto God, detached from all the worlds. God hath ordained for you in the Most Glorious Paradise a station that is truly exalted. Strive within yourselves to remain steadfast in the Cause—this is God's counsel unto you and unto every discerning believer. Be not dismayed by what hath befallen you through the decree that is established, but rather rejoice in what God hath ordained for you and inscribed as irrevocable in the Mother Book. He ordaineth for His servants only that which is better for them than all the treasures of the heavens and earth, were ye to know it. Glory be unto him and unto you and unto every faithful and trustworthy believer.

BH03464: O Mahmud! Praise thy Lord in the watches…

He is the Most Wondrous, the Most Holy

O Mahmud! Praise thy Lord in the watches of the night and at the break of day, and sanctify thy countenance for thy Lord, and be steadfast in remembrance. Turn not to the world and what is therein, and deprive not thyself of the sanctuary of holiness. Say: Those who have denied these verses—all atoms curse them, and beyond them a most exalted tongue of truth.

Say: O people, judge fairly within yourselves—if ye deny God's verses and His Manifestation, by what proof can your belief in Ali before Him, and before him the Messengers of God who came from the Dayspring of the Cause with clear sovereignty, be established? Say: By God, none hath any protection today from God's decree except by believing in this Beauty Who hath come upon clouds of holiness, surrounded by hosts of revelation. Beware, O people of the earth, reject not the truth through what ye possess, and deprive not yourselves of the breezes that have been sent from the Ridvan. By God, I speak not from desire—rather the Spirit speaketh within My breast, and My proof is My arising and what floweth from a mighty holy Finger.

Say: Your belief will never increase Us nor will your rejection decrease Us, and all who are in the heavens and earth today are but as a handful of aged clay, save those who have detached themselves from all directions and turned toward the Paradise, the seat of their Lord, the Most High, the Most Exalted, in this Most Glorious Horizon. Thus hath the matter been inscribed by the Holy Pen upon the tablets. And thou—leave sovereignty behind thee, then stand firm in the Cause that thou mayest be praiseworthy in

deed. Thus have We inspired thee and taught thee and sent thee what will comfort thine eyes and draw thee nigh unto a station which God hath preserved from the gaze of the idolaters. And glory be upon you, O people of Baha, from this Beauty Who was promised in all the tablets by the Pen of God.

BH03454: O handmaiden of God! Your letter hath come before…

He is God, the Sanctified, the Exalted, the Mighty, the Most High!

O handmaiden of God! Your letter hath come before God, wherein thou didst call upon thy Lord. Excellent indeed was that wherewith thou called, and that wherewith he called who came before thee. Now doth the Tongue of God, the Sovereign, the Mighty, the Powerful, the Most High, the Most Great, make reply unto thee. Blessed art thou, O leaf, in that thou hast clung to the Branch of God. Strive then within thyself, lest the winds of discord cut thee off, and be thou among those who are steadfast upon the holy and preserved Tablets.

Give thanks unto thy Lord, for He hath drawn thee out from the darkness of fancy and brought thee to the Day wherein the Beauty of the Ancient of Days hath shone forth from a holy and gracious horizon, and hath adorned thy breast with His love, and raised thee to a station wherein thou hast known thy Lord, the Peerless, the Holy, the Mighty, the Beautiful.

Know thou that those who have turned today unto the Manifestation of God, be they male or female, these hath God sanctified from all defilement and doubt, and purified them from the veils of the worlds, and God hath ordained for them a station wherein none hath preceded them save those whom thy Lord hath willed—and this is in truth a revelation from One Who is All-Knowing, All-Wise.

Rejoice within thyself and grieve not over aught, lest sorrow prevent thee from ascending to the heaven which hath been raised up in truth through this Mighty, Powerful Name. Yet wert thou to learn what hath befallen God, thy Lord, sorrow would seize thee; therefore have We concealed from thee in this Tablet what hath befallen Us at the hands of Our idolatrous servants. Weep thou for God, thy Lord, in all matters, then take comfort in His remembrance, for this is better for thee than the kingdom of the heavens and earth.

Rejoice within thyself now, for God hath pronounced from the direction of the Throne His “God is Most Great” upon thee and upon him who called upon God with thy tongue—and this is indeed a mighty favor. And glory be upon thee and upon all who have believed in God among the devout men and women.

BH03585: O Thou Whose remembrance is the delight…

In the name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Exalted, the Most High

O Thou Whose remembrance is the delight of the souls of all them that yearn after Thee, Whose name is the exultation of the hearts of all who are wholly devoted to Thy will, Whose praise is cherished by such as have drawn nigh unto Thy court, Whose face is the ardent desire of all them that have recognized Thy truth, Whose trial is the healer of the sicknesses of them who have embraced Thy Cause. Whose calamity is the highest aspiration of such as are rid of all attachment to any one but Thyself!

Glorified, immeasurably glorified art Thou, in Whose hands is the empire of whatsoever is in the heavens and whatsoever is on earth, Thou, Who through but one word of Thy mouth, caused all things to expire and dissolve asunder, and Who, by yet another word, caused whatever had been separated to be combined and reunited! Magnified be Thy name, O Thou Who hast power over all that are in the heavens and all that are on earth, Whose dominion embraceth whatsoever is in the heaven of Thy Revelation and the kingdom of Thy creation. None can equal Thee in Thy created realms; none can compare with Thee in the universe Thou hast fashioned. The mind of no one hath comprehended Thee, and the aspiration of no soul hath reached Thee. I swear by Thy might! Were any one to soar, on whatever wings, as long as Thine own Being endureth, throughout the immensity of Thy knowledge, he would still be powerless to transgress the bounds which the contingent world hath set for him. How can, then, such a man aspire to wing his flight into the atmosphere of Thy most exalted presence?

He, indeed, is endued with understanding who acknowledgeth his powerlessness and confesseth his sinfulness, for should any created thing lay claim to any existence, when confronted with the infinite wonders of Thy Revelation, so blasphemous a pretension would be more heinous than any other crime in all the domains of Thine invention and creation. Who is there, O my Lord, that, when Thou revealest the first glimmerings of the signs of Thy transcendent sovereignty and might, hath the power to claim for himself any existence whatever? Existence itself is as nothing when brought face to face with the mighty and manifold wonders of Thine incomparable Self.

Far, immeasurably far, art Thou exalted above all things, O Thou Who art the King of Kings! I entreat Thee by Thy Self and by them Who are the Manifestations of Thy Cause and the Day-Springs of Thine authority to write down for us that which Thou hast written down for Thy chosen ones. Withhold not from us that which Thou didst ordain for Thy loved ones, who, as soon as Thy call reached them, hastened unto Thee, and when the splendors of the light of Thy countenance were shed upon them, instantly prostrated themselves in adoration before Thy face.

We are Thy servants, O my Lord, and in the grasp of Thy power. If Thou chastisest us with the chastisement inflicted upon the former and the latter generations, Thy verdict would be assuredly just and Thine act praiseworthy. Powerful art Thou to do what pleaseth Thee. None other God is there beside Thee, the Almighty, the All-Glorious, the Help in Peril, the Self-Subsisting.

BH03680: O My God! Glory be to Thee! Thou seest…

He is the Almighty, the Ever-Abiding

O My God! Glory be to Thee! Thou seest my dwelling place in the serpent's mouth, and hearest my cry in this dark pit, and witnessest what hath befallen me in Thy path at the hands of them that deny Thy Self and turn away from Thy loved ones.

How long, O my God, wilt Thou not rend asunder the veils from before the faces of Thy creation that they may recognize Thee in the temple of Thy beauty and majesty, and may not follow every base one besides Thee, nor take their vain desires as gods other than Thee? Verily Thou art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest, and verily Thou art the Mighty, the Self-Subsisting.

It hath been known to that honorable one that the essence of the Cause and its reality have until now remained concealed, such that none hath become aware of it save those possessed of illumined hearts who have been freed from attachment to all else but God. For this reason the divine Lote-Tree became the object of rejection by the manifestations of negation who have sprouted forth and appeared from the land of Bayan, as thou hast heard. And yet it remained concealed behind a hundred thousand veils of glory and majesty. I swear by the Point of the seen and unseen that were a single letter of the pure Cause and the essence of the Word to be revealed, thou wouldst witness all who are in the kingdom turned away from God.

In any case, now that this most great migration hath taken place, assuredly various groups will arise to make claims, and the satans among men, finding their opportunity, will aspire to Solomon's throne. Thus hath it been ordained by the Mighty, the Ancient. That honorable one must gird up the loins of service firmly and plant his feet in steadfastness, that he may remain preserved from the waves of the seas through the aid of the divine celestial Ark.

And the Spirit be upon thee and upon they that love thee.

BH03715: In the Name of God, the Ever-Abiding, the Changeless!…

In the Name of God, the Ever-Abiding, the Changeless! This is the Book of Bounty which hath shone forth from the horizon of the will of thy Lord, the All-Merciful. We have sent it unto thee that through it the horizons may be illumined. Arise and take it with spirit and fragrance, then recite it with the melody of the heart. By My life! It will draw thee to the heaven of the mercy of thy Lord, the All-Merciful.

When thou art illumined by the lights of the Countenance and art revived by the fragrances of the Robe, arise amidst the servants and say: O people! The Promised Day is come. Blessed is he who hath cast away the world and hath come with the Covenant. Those who have turned away, these are they whom the wine of heedlessness and rebellion hath overtaken, and thereby have they been debarred from this Kawthar which hath flowed from the mouth of the will of thy Lord, the Mighty, the Gracious.

O people! He hath sacrificed Himself for your deliverance. Fear God and follow not those who, when the All-Merciful came, turned away and denied the proof. Say: We have opened the gates of Paradise before your faces—how long will ye flee to the fire? Do ye see for yourselves any place of escape? Nay, by the Lord of the Day of Mutual Disillusion!

Say: Have ye not heard how We sent one among the servants with power from Our presence and dispatched him with a Tablet whereby We blew the trumpet in the heartland of Iran, causing all in the heavens and earth to swoon, save those whom the hand of thy Lord, the Mighty, the Self-Subsisting, did rescue? Say: We have forsaken ease and accepted every hardship that perchance ye may arise from the couch of heedlessness and passion and hasten unto God, the Cleaver of the Dawn. Do ye doubt His Cause? Verily He hath appeared with the truth and everything proclaimeth: The Lord of the Day of Mutual Calling hath come!

When thou findest them not hearing, grieve not. Loose thy tongue in utterance and remind the people in the days of God, the Mighty, the Powerful, the All-Forgiving. Associate with the people, for they know

not—had they known, they would circle round the Cause at eventide and at dawn. And the glory be upon thee and upon him who hath believed in God, the Mighty, the All-Concealing.

BH03717: This is a Book from thy Lord, the All-Merciful…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Glorious

This is a Book from thy Lord, the All-Merciful, that thou mayest find from it the fragrance of His garment and be of them that are thankful. Beware lest anything prevent thee from God, thy Lord and the Lord of all worlds. Take hold of God's Tablet with the power bestowed by Us, then turn with thy heart to the Spot wherein all things proclaim that there is no God but Him, the Mighty, the Generous.

Remind My servants of My command, then give them to drink of the Kawthar of inner meanings and utterance which hath flowed from the finger of thy Lord, the All-Merciful, that they may arise from the slumber of vain desire and turn unto God, the Lord of all names. Thus hast thou been commanded from before the presence of the Glory, around which circle all things, crying out: "By God, the Beloved of all worlds hath come!" Let not the world and its ornaments grieve thee. Be thou content with thy Lord, the Creator of earth and heaven. Within His grasp are the keys to the treasuries of the heavens and earth. Blessed art thou for having turned to the Qiblih of the Messengers, heard His call and turned unto Him. This is of thy Lord's favor—verily His favor to thee is great.

Say: O people! Another cycle hath come and the All-Merciful hath appeared with great sovereignty. Read ye the Bayan that ye may become aware of the mysteries of this Revelation which hath dawned from the horizon of glory and power through a mighty command. This is He Who accepted harm for your deliverance and sacrificed Himself for your life. Fear ye God and follow not every froward devil. Can anyone speak in His presence? Nay, by the Lord of the Throne! But the people are behind a thick veil. Can anyone stand against Him? Nay, by His truth, were ye of them that know! Thus have We sent down the verses unto thee that thou mayest help thy Lord, the Lord of all names and attributes. We desired by this naught save thy exaltation and the elevation of thy station. Verily thy Lord is the Ruler over what He willeth, and praise be to God, the Lord of all worlds.

BH03725: This is the Kawthar of immortality which We have…

He is the Most Holy, the Most Holy

This is the Kawthar of immortality which We have manifested in truth and sent forth in the form of a Tablet, dispatching it unto thee that thou mayest be of the thankful. By My life! In every word thereof lieth concealed the Salsabil of meanings and utterance. Blessed are they that drink thereof.

Be thou in the path of thy Lord in such wise that the ornaments of the world shall not make thee heedless, nor shall the means of the heavens and earth occupy thee. Rise up in My Name and lay thee down in remembrance of Me—this sufficeth thee above all that hath been created in the earth entirely. Hearken unto the word of thy Lord—He is in truth the Counselor, the Faithful.

When thou art enkindled with the fire of the love of thy Lord, the Mighty, the Wise, turn unto those who are heedless of the remembrance of their Lord and say: O company of the veiled ones! I have come unto you from the Dayspring of the Cause with the Tablet of God, the Mighty, the Impregnable, and I summon you unto Him purely for the sake of God—verily He is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

Beware lest thou overstep the bounds of wisdom. Thus have We commanded in the Tablets, and none attain unto this save those whose hearts are illumined with the light of knowledge and whose faces are radiant with the lights of the countenance of thy Lord, the Most High, the Great. Say: He loveth not mischief and hath forbidden you in the Tablets from whatsoever giveth rise to sedition. Verily He is the Ruler over what He willeth.

Say: Beware lest ye enter anyone's house except with his permission, and beware lest ye pride yourselves over any of My servants by reason of what ye have been given of the ornaments of the earth. By My life! Soon shall perish all that ye behold, and sovereignty shall remain with God, the Single, the Mighty, the All-Praised.

Blessed art thou for having attained unto the recognition of the All-Merciful in His days and turned unto Him after His servants who were created by His firm and mighty command had turned away from Him. Be thou thankful in all conditions. Say: Praise be unto Thee, O my God, for having enabled me in Thy days and caused me to know Thy Self. I beseech Thee not to leave me to myself. Aid me in that which Thou desirest, for verily Thou art the Strong, the All-Purposing.

BH03608: O My handmaiden! We have sent unto thee…

In the Name of God, the Most Exalted

O My handmaiden! We have sent unto thee a ray from among the rays of the light of the Countenance, verily it is a mercy from Us upon thee and upon honored servants.

O My handmaiden! Be not grieved by separation, but rather remember thy Lord in the night and the day, for verily His remembrance is beloved of the hearts of those who long for Him and the comfort of the hearts of them that are united with Him. By God! Whenever thou rememberest thy merciful Lord, verily He is present before thy face, and though thou seest Him not, He verily seeth thee. He is indeed the All-Knowing, the All-Encompassing. And whenever thou callest out, verily He heareth thy call and answereth thee from the direction of a mighty throne.

Be thou gladdened by the remembrance of the All-Merciful, then detach thyself from the world and all that hath been created therein, for by it there hath befallen the Beloved that which hath befallen none else in the worlds.

O My handmaiden! Verily My sister desired My presence and claimed My love and recognition, but when worldliness touched her she became occupied with it and turned away from My luminous, resplendent Beauty. She chose the ungodly as a helper for herself instead of God and set aside her Lord, the All-Merciful, the Most Compassionate, and severed her connection with God and clung to relationship with the ungodly. Alas for her in that she exchanged the beauty of the All-Merciful for a son of the world and

sold the Joseph of God for dirhams and dinars. Therefore do the denizens of the Supreme Concourse weep at her deed, then the people of Paradise, then the hosts of revelation and inspiration before the throne of thy Lord, the Mighty, the All-Knowing.

Remember thy Lord with this prayer: Glory be unto Thee, O my God, my Beloved and my Purpose! I beseech Thee by Thy beauty and by Thy call and by Thy remembrance, then by Thy Name through which were rent asunder the veils of idle fancies, that Thou make me detached from the world and its promptings lest I turn unto it and turn away from the Beloved of the worlds. O my Lord! Aid me to forsake it and to shun it and to draw nigh unto Thy wronged Self. Verily Thou art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest and verily Thou art the Protector, the Self-Subsisting.

BH03689: God hath heard thy call and was aware…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Inaccessible!

God hath heard thy call and was aware of what befell thee. He, verily, is the Truth, the Knower of things unseen. Nothing whatsoever escapeth His knowledge, and by the Pen of His command hath been inscribed a preserved Tablet of glory wherein is ordained the knowledge of what was and what will be, and wherein are recorded the mysteries of the Cause by the Pen of God, the Help in Peril, the Self-Subsisting.

Be thou a lamp of the love of thy Lord amongst His servants, that the receptive ones may be illumined thereby. Consider the lamp: though it be but one, yet from it can be lit, as God willeth, lamp after lamp, all drawing their light therefrom. Even so, consider the hearts of them that have detached themselves from all else but God and have turned unto the Mighty, the Well-Beloved. By My life! Should the lamp of any heart be lit with the love of God, from it would be kindled the hearts of all creation. This, verily, is a manifest truth. Yet it behooveth every lamp-bearer to protect it from the winds of self and passion with the glass of the remembrance of the name of thy Lord, the Most Exalted, the All-Glorious. Thus doth the King of Names set forth parables as a bounty from His presence unto thee and unto them that are assured.

Rejoice thou in thy Lord's remembrance of thee and His mention of thee, for His remembrance precedeth all who remember and all who are remembered. Blessed is the man who is steadfast in His Cause, and the tongue that speaketh His praise and glory, and the heart that turneth unto Him in humility and submission. Give thanks unto God for having aided thee in His Cause and made thee a champion of His Faith and one who speaketh His praise. There is no God but He. He chooseth whom He pleaseth for His love, and He, verily, is the Mighty, the All-Loving.

Deliver unto the people the Cause of thy Lord and deal with them with patience, for they have not attained the summit of utterance and are among the weak ones. The glory shining from the horizon of grace be upon thee and upon them that have detached themselves from the world and have turned unto the Lord of Names, whom the rejection of the idolaters hath not deterred.

BH03612: O Rida! Be content with what God hath been…

He is the Most Exalted, the Most Impregnable, the Most Wondrous, the Most High!

O Rida! Be content with what God hath been pleased with, and be not one who doubteth His Cause. Then speak forth between earth and heaven that which the Spirit teacheth thee in this Tablet, which hath been inscribed by the finger of holiness. Purify thyself from the allusions of the people, then thy breast from that which hindereth thee from this bounty which hath encompassed all the worlds. Hast thou not heard of the power of God and His grandeur, then of God's sovereignty and His might? Therefore come forth from behind the veils in the name of thy Lord, the Chosen One, then call the servants unto this Cause which hath been sent down in truth from the heaven of mighty glory. Know thy Lord by His own Self, then detach thyself from all else, for whatsoever is besides Him hath been created by His word, if thou art possessed of true knowledge.

Beware lest thou be one who doubteth the Cause of thy Lord. Remind the people of this Most Great Remembrance and tarry not for even a moment. Then know that whatsoever thou hast heard hath appeared from Us, and We have concealed it lest the servants become aware of it, to which every discerning mystic beareth witness. And this is due to a wisdom which none hath comprehended save God, thy Lord and the Lord of all worlds. Let not thy soul be troubled, and fear no one. Look unto God and what is with Him, not what is with thee. Thus do We command thee in truth that thou mayest be steadfast in the Cause. Take the cup of eternity in My Most Glorious Name, then drink, despite those who have disbelieved in Him in Whom they had believed and denied the proof that encompassed all the worlds.

Thus hath the Tongue of Ancient Days commanded thee out of love for thy soul. Beware lest thou be veiled from it. Then take hold of God's Cause with invincible strength. And the Glory rest upon thee and upon him who heareth thy words concerning God, thy Lord, and remaineth faithful to the Cause and steadfast on the path.

BH03677: Glorified art Thou, O my God! This is Thy…

He is God!

Glorified art Thou, O my God! This is Thy servant who circumambulated the sanctuary of Thy Beauty, visited the House of Thy Majesty and the Ka'bah of Thy Being, ascended to the unseen realm of the Divine Essence and the Cloud, and mounted to the repository of holiness, nearness and eternity, until he sat before Thee and dwelt in Thy presence, drank from the oceans of Thy love and tasted the sweetness of union with and meeting Thee, such that he attained the heights of knowledge regarding the ordinances of Thy Book and discovered the treasuries of meaning in what flowed upon him from the measures of Thy grace through the gems of Thy words and the brilliance of Thy evidences. He remained ever prostrate before the form of the Names in the temple of Thy attributes, and submissive to the countenance of destiny in the vestments of Thy decree.

I beseech Thee, therefore, O my God, to make him praiseworthy in deed as Thou hast made him Muhammad in name. Then raise him up to a praiseworthy station in the precincts of Thy mercy. Verily Thou didst say, and Thy word is the truth:

> "It may be that thy Lord will raise thee to a praiseworthy station."

Then send down upon his heart rapture from Thy love and passion for meeting Thee, that he may find no rest in his love for Thee nor patience in Thy Cause, that he may be detached from all that would veil him from attaining the Presence in the throne of eternity. Verily Thou art the Mighty, the Powerful, the Compeller.

Therefore, O my God, send Thy blessings upon the first Sun that dawned from the horizon of Thy Most Exalted Name and the last Light that shone forth from the Dayspring of glory, and upon those who guided unto Him in the Most Glorious Kingdom. Verily Thou doest what Thou willest, and verily Thou art God, the Most Exalted, the Mighty, the All-Compelling.

And the Spirit be upon thee and upon those who were with thee and upon thy son and upon those who shared in thy Cause and upon those who are guided by the guidance of God and illumined by the light of God.

The letter of this servant known as B before H: What you sent was forwarded.

BH03643: O Friends of God, one and all! If…

In the Name of God, Exalted be He in Greatness and Power

O Friends of God, one and all! If a friend claims friendship with his tongue but commits an act that causes harm to the Beloved, what befits such a soul? Can the word "friend" be applied to him, or can he be mentioned by the name of "beloved" in the presence of the Beloved? No, by the Lord of the Great Throne! The true friend is one who becomes so intoxicated with the sweet wine of the love of the Friend that he desires naught but His good-pleasure—that is, he should have no wish, desire or thought of his own, but should see all things as consumed in the good-pleasure of the Friend. He moves not except by His leave, and desires naught save that wherein lies His good-pleasure. I swear by the Sun of Unity that has dawned from the Horizon of Divine Oneness that the turning of the loved ones to this direction causes harm to the very root of the Tree. Therefore my tongue bears witness that whosoever turns to this direction after what has been inscribed in this Tablet is not of Me, and God is sufficient as Witness.

O friends! How long will you remain heedless? Reflect at last! Consider the end of all matters at their beginning. It is known and evident that We have had and continue to have the utmost love for each one, and if We saw it advisable We would surely have summoned you Ourselves. Hearken unto this loving counsel: Move not without His good-pleasure and be not assured by any soul. Guard your tongue. Be not deceived by two words of seeming affection, and count not such ones among the faithful. The matter of this station is most severe—deem it not light. We beseech God to aid you to do what is right and proper, and to make you among those who choose what God has chosen for them. Verily, He has power over all things.

BH03679: Praise be to Thee, O My God! How can…

He is

Praise be to Thee, O My God! How can I make mention of Thee with the pen after Thou hast sanctified Thy Self above the allusions of eternity? And how can I describe Thee through that which appears from nothingness upon this honored Tablet? If I make mention of Thee, O my God, as the Sovereign of kings—by Thy glory, this befits none but those who are subjects. And if I describe Thee as the Lord of lords, I witness that Thou hast manifested this through the embodiments of dust. And if I point to Thee as the Revealer of the Book, I turn my gaze to what the Dove warbles: "All things have We recorded in a Book." By Thy truth, O Beloved, I have become bewildered within myself.

Therefore I beseech Thee by Thy Self through which Thou hast raised up the banners of Thy guidance, revealed the mysteries of Thy Lordship, and made manifest the wondrous wisdom of Thy Divinity, that Thou make us detached from all else but Thee, turning away from aught except Thee, advancing toward Thee, placing our trust in Thee, and holding fast unto Thee—that I might make mention of Thee as befits and becomes Thee, for in Thy grasp is the kingdom of all things and Thou art, verily, powerful over all that Thou willest.

O Generous One! I desired Thee before and I desire Thee now, and I counsel thee with that wherewith God counsels His servants, that thou mayest remind the people and awaken them from their beds of heedlessness, lest they spread corruption in the earth after its reformation, follow the promptings of their souls, chase after every ignorant rabble who follows every crier, or incline with every wind.

Say unto them: O people! Fear God and follow the paths of truth. Then remove yourselves from the world and its ornaments and place your trust in God, that the winds of God's mercy might blow upon you and the breezes of the Spirit might take hold of you and transform you from the left hand of limitation to the right hand of oneness, and cause you to enter the fortress of guidance and the house of divine authority, that you may abide therein forever. And the Spirit be upon you and upon the sincere servants, and praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH03648: This is a remembrance of the mercy of thy…

In the Name of God, the Most High, the Most Exalted

This is a remembrance of the mercy of thy Lord unto His servant Qasim, that he may give thanks unto God his Creator, and be steadfast in the straight path, and follow the command of his Lord, and choose for himself a way. O servant! Remember what befell Us in the lands of exile through that which the hands of the oppressors have wrought, and God is witness unto this.

By God the Truth! Such afflictions have touched Us as none can reckon save God, thy Lord and the Lord of all the worlds. Twenty years have passed over Us, and none knoweth how they passed save God Who created all things by His command, and He, verily, is wise over all things. Yet We were patient in that which was decreed for Us—and patience is from none but Him, and He, verily, doth recompense the patient and the grateful. We give thanks for that which hath befallen Us, and We praise Him morning and

evening. We have placed Our trust in Him in all matters, and We desire naught save what He desireth, and We will naught save what He willeth, through God's might and His power. He is the best Helper and the best Supporter.

And thou, O servant, walk thou in My footsteps and be content with what God hath ordained for thee. Then remember Him in thy heart and with thy tongue, and He will surely recompense thee with a mercy that encompasseth all the worlds. And if harm touch thee, be patient; and if good touch thee, be grateful. Be thou at all times mindful of the wonders of His remembrance, and forget not His favor unto thee, for He is merciful unto His believing servants. Thus have We made mention of thee out of love for thy soul, that thou mayest speak in praise of God and the Manifestation of His Self. He will verily preserve thee in truth from the harm of all created things. And the Spirit that hath shone forth from the horizon of Glory be upon thee and upon those who have ascended unto God with their souls and were steadfast in the Cause.

BH03616: O Word of Victory! Bear thou witness even…

He is the Sovereign, the King, the Mighty, the Beloved!

O Word of Victory! Bear thou witness even as God hath testified in the heaven of eternity that there is none other God but Him, and that ʿAli is the Manifestation of His Cause unto all created things, and that He hath appeared with the truth through clear signs which have rendered every person of great learning powerless to comprehend them. He hath delivered the messages of His Lord and hath made clear unto the servants that which He was commanded by One Who is All-Wise, All-Knowing. Through Him were made manifest the laws of God and His religion and His proof unto His creation and His grace unto all, whether small or great.

O thou who bearest My name! Hearken unto the call of the Spirit from this blessed, divine and eternal Leaf, Which moveth in this Paradise and causeth the spirits of those near unto God to move with It. And when It moveth, there riseth from It the melody of the Spirit which draweth unto itself the hearts of them that have believed in God and His signs, and who have been illumined by the lights of His countenance. Thus doth the Dove make mention of thee on this night and give thee glad tidings of a holy and luminous paradise.

Know thou that We have heard and understood the afflictions and tribulations that have befallen thee, and that which hath come upon thee according to what was ordained by thy Lord's Pen on a preserved tablet of glory. We have been partners in thy suffering and have grieved for thy sake. Be thou patient, then show forth yet more patience, for He will surely reward every patient and grateful one.

Blessed be they both in that they have drunk of the cup of camphor from the hands of light and have been made joyous in the holy paradise, and have found rest beneath an all-encompassing shade in a garden whose breadth is as the breadth of the heavens and the earth, wherein the Beauty was witnessed from Its horizon. Thus have We imparted unto thee that which will bring tranquility to thy spirit and gladden thy being, and cause thee to remain steadfast upon the path of love.

Then remind, from Us, thy brother and those who were with thee, that the grace from this servant may reach them and all the worlds in abundance. We beseech God at this moment to unite us with thee, for verily He hath power over all things. May the Spirit, glory and splendor rest upon thee and upon all who have believed in God, thy Lord and the Lord of all the worlds.

BH03716: This is an epistle from Him Who remembereth God…

In the Name of God, Who is manifest above all things!

This is an epistle from Him Who remembereth God with His tongue from eventide until dawn, and from dawn His pen moveth upon the tablets until sunset, that perchance faces may turn unto God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy. I have sacrificed my soul in His path and my comfort for His Cause, and I show no patience after His decree even should the oppressors seize me.

And aforetime the verses would descend and the servant in attendance before the Throne would write them down. And in those days, due to the weakness which had overtaken me, no voice would arise from the Ancient Tongue, as ye know. And when it would arise, all my limbs would shake such that the verses of God, the All-Possessing, the Self-Subsisting, would overwhelm me. And at the time of revelation, such longing would seize me that my very members would quiver from the love of God, the Mighty, the Beloved.

And aforetime the verses would descend from dawn unto dawn and from sunset unto sunset, and the Tongue of God would not pause for less than a moment save for another purpose. Thus was the matter ordained, and to this do testify God's sincere servants who were present before His face and heard the verses of God, the Mighty, the Loving.

And in those days if I speak for an hour, weakness preventeth Me in another hour. The melodies of God have been stilled by reason of that which the hands of the oppressors have wrought, yet they perceive not. I summon the people through My pen even as I summoned them through My tongue, and I shall not cease in that which I have been commanded until the spirit ascendeth to its seat of majesty and glory. Thus hath the Youth desired in the path of His Lord, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

O servant! Be thou even as the Youth was. If matters be confined to the remembrance of thy Lord, this is better for thee than what hath been and what shall be. Soon will the present-day order be rolled up, and a new one spread out in its stead. And sovereignty and dominion shall remain with God, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

BH03740: The hearts that yearn after Thee, O my God…

The hearts that yearn after Thee, O my God, are burnt up with the fire of their longing for Thee, and the eyes of them that love Thee weep sore by reason of their crushing separation from Thy court, and the voice of the lamentation of such as have set their hopes on Thee hath gone forth throughout Thy dominions.

Thou hast Thyself, O my God, protected them, by Thy sovereign might, from both extremities. But for the burning of their souls and the sighing of their hearts, they would be drowned in the midst of their tears, and but for the flood of their tears they would be burnt up by the fire of their hearts and the heat of their souls. Methinks, they are like the angels which Thou hast created of snow and of fire. Wilt Thou, despite such vehement longing, O my God, debar them from Thy presence, or drive them away, notwithstanding such fervor, from the door of Thy mercy? All hope is ready to be extinguished in the hearts of Thy chosen ones, O my God! Where are the breezes of Thy grace? They are hemmed in on all sides by their enemies; where are the ensigns of Thy triumph which Thou didst promise in Thy Tablets?

Thy glory is my witness! At each daybreak they who love Thee wake to find the cup of woe set before their faces, because they have believed in Thee and acknowledged Thy signs. Though I firmly believe that Thou hast a greater compassion on them than they have on their own selves, though I recognize that Thou hast afflicted them for no other purpose except to proclaim Thy Cause, and to enable them to ascend into the heaven of Thine eternity and the precincts of Thy court, yet Thou knowest full well the frailty of some of them, and art aware of their impatience in their sufferings.

Help them through Thy strengthening grace, I beseech Thee, O my God, to suffer patiently in their love for Thee, and unveil to their eyes what Thou hast decreed for them behind the Tabernacle of Thine unfailing protection, so that they may rush forward to meet what is preordained for them in Thy path, and may vie in hasting after tribulation in their love towards Thee. And if not, do Thou, then, reveal the standards of Thine ascendancy, and make them to be victorious over Thine adversaries, that Thy sovereignty may be manifested unto all the dwellers of Thy realm, and the power of Thy might demonstrated amidst Thy creatures. Powerful art Thou to do what Thou willest. No God is there but Thee, the Omniscient, the All-Wise.

Make steadfast Thou, O my God, Thy servant who hath believed in Thee to help Thy Cause, and keep him safe from all dangers in the stronghold of Thy care and Thy protection, both in this life and in the life which is to come. Thou, verily, rulest as Thou pleasest. No God is there save Thee, the Ever-Forgiving, the Most Generous.

BH03803: O handmaiden of God and daughter of His handmaiden!...

He is the Ever-Abiding, the Most Glorious

O handmaiden of God and daughter of His handmaiden! Hearken with the ear of thy spirit to the divine call, for outward ears that have hearkened to untrue words are unable to hear the celestial melody. Detach thy heart from the world and occupy thyself with the remembrance of the Friend, for it giveth life to the dead and guideth the living to the city of immortality. Today the decree concerning hearing and sight applieth not to any soul on earth save those who have recognized the truth with their own eyes and heard the revealed verses with their own ears. At all times take refuge in God, lest thou be accounted among the sightless in the holy presence of the All-Merciful. This is the most great bounty that hath flowed from the Ancient Pen, and may thou, God willing, attain unto it.

And then: thy letter was presented before God and its contents were observed. Praise God that thou art enkindled with the fire of His love and heedless of all else. Yet strive that this fire be not extinguished by the coldness of the deniers, for at all times they are occupied with manifest deception. They cut down the Divine Lote-Tree, then raise up their cry and clamor. By the Sun of inner meanings! Such wrong hath been wrought against the Beauty of God as hath not been witnessed from the beginning of creation until now, such that the leaves of the Tree of Eternity have withered and the branches of the Ultimate Tree have been broken. The curse of God be upon the wrongdoers! Convey the mention of this Wronged One's grief to all steadfast women, and likewise to the three exalted daughters, upon them be the Glory of God, the Mighty, the Luminous.

BH03865: In the Name of God, the Most Ancient…

In the Name of God, the Most Ancient, the Eternal! We have sent thee by the hand of S. a noble Book. When Sh. arrived, these verses were once again revealed from the direction of the mighty Throne. Know thou that those who have denied God's verses and united in hatred—the decree will soon scatter them, by the power of One mighty and ancient.

We summon the servants at all times to the Lord of the worlds. Neither the might of the oppressors frightens Us, nor do the hosts of the wrongdoers prevent Us. We make mention of God until the spirit ascends to the highest horizon. Thus have I been commanded by thy Lord, the All-Knowing.

In these days it behooveth thee to help thy Lord, the All-Merciful, and to make mention of Him to His heedless servants. We beseech God to cut off the lineage of the oppressors—verily He hath power over whatsoever He willeth.

Consider the former centuries and those who committed oppression—their tongues were stilled, their traces were erased, and the breezes of chastisement overtook them from all directions, by the power of One mighty and wise. Where are their leadership and their standards, their thrones and their crowns? The messenger of death hath brought them down from their seats to their graves. Thus was the matter decreed in former centuries. Soon these who have waxed proud and committed that which causeth the near ones to lament shall join them.

O My loved one! Blessed art thou, for thou hast been faithful to God's covenant and His testament, and the harm of the corrupt ones prevented thee not from His love. Verily thou hast a station with Me—grieve not over anything. We beseech God not to separate between thee and Him, neither in this world nor in the next, and to cause thee to dwell in all worlds beneath the shadow of His mercy. Verily He encompasseth all things.

Remind all those around thee, male and female, on My behalf and say: Praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH03802: O Abdullah! Praise the Countenance of the Intended One…

O Abdullah! Praise the Countenance of the Intended One, for through His bounty thou hast attained unto the Most Great Sea and time after time hast been honored to attain the presence of the Lord of Eternity.

Thy going was unto God and thy return occurred by His command. However, should anyone venture forth after the supreme prohibition, his deed will never be accepted, and should he enter the Most Great Sanctuary he hath been and shall remain deprived, inasmuch as his harm extendeth to the very Root of the Divine Tree and the Branches of the Lordly Tree. Assuredly, ye must prevent this aforetime.

O Abdullah! The loved ones of the land of Nun, both men and women, are mentioned before the Throne. Upon them be My glory for having fulfilled the Covenant of God, the Sovereign, the Almighty, the Most Exalted, the Most Great. Convey My greetings to all. Whosoever hath drawn a breath for the love of God hath attained unto the precincts of the Throne, and whosoever hath taken a step for the Cause of God, God is aware thereof and he is mentioned with Him.

Some Tablets were previously revealed and sent, and now too some are being sent specifically, and if some do not receive any, let them not be saddened, for their very mention is in the divine Tablets. By My life! Each and every one is recorded in the hidden scrolls. Blessed are they for having sought the goal of the world and the Intended One of all who are in the heavens and on earth. Convey greetings to all from God.

And glory be upon you, O loved ones of God, and upon you, O handmaidens of God! Take pride in what hath flowed from the Pen of your Lord's will concerning you. Then take the cups of joy in My Name, the All-Forgiving, and drink in remembrance of Me, the Mighty, the Inaccessible. Say: Recite My verses with the melodies of the birds of My Throne. By My life! They will draw you to My Kingdom and cause you to soar in the atmosphere of My favors and bounty. He, verily, is the All-Forgiving, the All-Bountiful.

BH03883: Say: The clouds of God have now been raised…

In the Name of God, the Most Mighty, the Most Exalted!

Say: The clouds of God have now been raised up in truth and have encompassed all created things with a sovereignty that encompasses all the worlds. O people, seek shelter beneath its shade that it may protect you from the heat of self and passion on this Day wherein the fire hath encompassed every base idolator.

O servant! Hear the call of God from this upraised White Tree at the heart of this blessed crimson earth, that there is no God but Him, and that this Manifestation is His sovereignty and His glory, then His might and His grandeur, then His greatness and His majesty unto all in the kingdom. At every moment He summons the people to the good-pleasure of God and His love, and draws them nigh unto a station that transcendeth all comprehension.

Say: O people, fear God and answer your Lord, the Most High, the Most Exalted, and follow not every remote idolator. Say: Nothing shall profit you this Day, even if ye remember God through the eternity of His dominion and the perpetuity of His celestial might. What profiteth you is to draw nigh unto this Beauty Who in these days was wronged among the oppressors. And thou, arise to remember God and serve Him, then leave behind the earth and all who dwell thereon, and turn thy face toward Him Who hath been, from the beginning that hath no beginning, illumined by the lights of might and majesty in truth.

O Qasim! Be the destroyer of the power of the transgressors in these days wherein they have opposed God's servants who transgressed against Him and were recorded in the Mother Book by the Pen of God as among the oppressors. And glory be upon thee and upon those who remain steadfast in the Cause and have taken unto God a path and were faithful to the Covenant.

BH03872: Your letter has come before the Countenance…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Great

Your letter has come before the Countenance and the gaze of your Lord, the Powerful, the Mighty, the All-Bountiful, has turned toward it. We found from it the fragrance of your love for your Lord, therefore We answer you with verses which have dawned from the horizon of the favors of your Lord, the Mighty, the Bestower. Blessed art thou for having turned to the Qiblih of existence and for having thy name flow from the Most Exalted Pen, which God has made the Sovereign of all pens. Arise to make mention of God in such wise that the sweet savors of the garment may be wafted among all peoples. We have mentioned thee before and mention thee in this Tablet that it may be a reminder to people of understanding. Hold fast to the cord of thy Lord's loving-kindness, detached from all possibility. We have ordained for thee a station in the Tablets. Grieve not over anything—soon We shall aid thee through the truth. Verily He does not fail in His promise.

Previously a glorious Tablet was sent. Be not sorrowful or distressed about any matter. Praise be to God, through the grace of the All-Merciful and the favors of the All-Glorious, the sea of joy is surging and the rivers of gladness flow from the right hand of the Throne. Draw nigh unto it and drink therefrom at all times. By My life, it shall seize thee and attract thee in such wise that thou shalt see all who are in the realm as more insignificant than ashes. Thus doth thy Lord, the Lord of creation, remember thee.

In all conditions be occupied with serving the Cause and be mindful of wisdom and utterance. Blessed art thou for having arisen and spoken in praise of thy Lord, and blessed are they who hear thy words concerning this Light which hath shone forth from the horizon of the will of thy Lord, the Mighty, the Self-Subsisting.

What rests with you is the teaching of the Cause. As for other matters, they are within the grasp of power. Soon He shall set all things aright. Verily He is the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. Adorn all the loved ones in that land with the ornament of the Most Great Name of the Ancient King, and upon thee and upon them be glory.

BH03790: O Abu-Talib! Hearken unto the call of the Desired…

He is the Most Manifest

O Abu-Talib! Hearken unto the call of the Desired One, then know that which He counseleth thee. He commandeth thee only to that which is better for thee than whatsoever hath been created upon earth, wert thou of them that know. First, associate not any partner with God, nor join with Him anyone besides Him. Then let God suffice thee against all the worlds. Verily, He is with thee in all conditions and will aid thee in whatsoever thou desirest in His path, and will send down unto thee that which He hath ordained

for thee in the preserved Tablets of might. Say: O people! Associate not partners with God, for verily association is a grievous wrong—even should all who are in the heavens and earth oppose thee in this, shun them and turn thy face toward thy Lord, the One, the Peerless.

Say: Should He so desire, He would cause the tongues of all created things to sing His praise. He verily doeth what He willeth. He hath ever been One in His Essence, having taken neither partner nor peer unto Himself. Leave the associators behind thee and hold fast to the hem of ancient glory. Say: O people! Fear ye God and associate not partners with Him Who hath ever been sanctified above all likeness and similitude. His is the most sublime similitude, yet similitude is but His proof and evidence unto the worlds. By God! Nothing that proceedeth from Him hath any likeness—how much less His own Self, the Most Exalted, the Inaccessible, the Most High. Be thou assured by the grace of thy Lord—His grace is ever nigh unto thee. Grieve not at afflictions, for He transformeth them as He pleaseth by His command. He verily is the All-Powerful, the Almighty. Associate with people in wisdom, then seek for thyself a path on the straight way.

And the Glory be upon thee and upon those who have detached themselves unto God, the King, the Sovereign, the Mighty, the Beautiful.

BH03825: In the Name of Him before Whose fear all…

In the Name of Him before Whose fear all are apprehensive! This is a mention of thy Lord's mercy unto His servant ʿAli, that He may establish him in the Cause and draw him nigh unto a mighty shore of holiness. O servant! Rejoice within thyself that the Pen of the Spirit hath remembered thee with hidden holy intimations. Yet He Who giveth thee these glad-tidings is in such sorrow as none can reckon save He Who hath numbered all things in a clear Book.

Know thou that they who believed in ʿAli aforetime have now denied His splendor and His might and sovereignty, and this is an injustice wherewith no injustice in creation can compare, if thou be of them that are well-informed.

Strive thou within thyself lest thou sell the Joseph of eternity for whatsoever hath been created in earth and heaven, for through love of Him thou shalt become independent of all who dwell in the heavens and the earth, even shouldst thou possess not so much as a grain or atom of what is ordained on earth. And were His love not with thee, thou wouldst be poor though there be gathered unto thee the treasures of the heavens and the earth. This is a truth wherein there is no doubt, if thou be of them that know.

Say: O people! Exchange not the favor of God for that which ye possess, and distance not yourselves from a near seat of glory. Say: The Beauty hath dawned from the horizon of holiness with such an adorning as hath bewildered every learned sage. Remember thou thyself, then remind the servants of this Cause at which every sanctified mystic hath been thunderstruck.

Then stand thou firm in the Cause with God's dignity and tranquility, and fear no one but place thy trust in God. Verily He shall suffice thee against every suspicious transgressor. And the glory be upon thee and upon those who are content with what God hath been content with, seeking His presence, and who are possessed of clear vision regarding their Lord's command.

BH03846: He is the Mighty, the Beloved! Glorified is He…

He is the Mighty, the Beloved! Glorified is He Who hath sent down the verses for people who understand. Verily they are a revelation from the presence of the All-Possessing, the Self-Subsisting. Through them God's proof hath been perfected, His evidence made manifest, His beauty hath shone forth, and His words been verified—yet people do not comprehend. Warn those who have veiled themselves from the Face that hath shone forth from the horizon of the Throne that they are as dead.

Say: O people of the Furqan! Do ye bar men from the path of God while ye claim to be Muslims? Do ye read the verses of the Furqan, yet play with the verses of the All-Merciful? Have ye not read what was revealed aforetime unto Muhammad, the Messenger of God: "We have indeed revealed unto thee clear signs, and none reject them save the transgressors"?

Say: If ye possess a proof greater than that which hath been sent down from the clouds of the Command, produce it, if ye be truthful. Is the Book which ye possess greater than this? Glory be to God above what ye imagine! Say: All verses have been revealed from the presence of the All-Possessing, the Self-Subsisting, and all clear proofs have appeared from the horizon of grace—do ye not see? Have ye any evidence greater than that which the All-Merciful hath brought? Nay, by the Lord of eternity, if ye but knew!

Say: The Beauty of knowledge hath appeared in truth, yet ye turn away from it. Have mercy upon yourselves and veil not yourselves from Him by Whose command the heavens were created and for Whose meeting ye were brought into being. Have mercy upon yourselves—this is your Lord, the All-Merciful, Who hath come with manifest sovereignty. Do ye deny His sovereignty while ye witness it? Do ye flee from the Truth while ye behold it? If ye are barred from the gate of grace, to what gate will ye turn?

Thus hath the Salsabil of life flowed from the Pen of the All-Merciful, that all people might know their drinking-place. Drink, O people, and be of those who prosper! And glory be upon thee and upon those who have hearkened to thy call in the Cause of God, the All-Possessing, the Almighty, the Mighty, the Self-Subsisting.

BH03859: It behooveth them that are evanescent in the divine…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Glorious

It behooveth them that are evanescent in the divine Ocean to summon the servants, at all times, to the direction of the All-Merciful, inasmuch as whosoever hath become evanescent from self will attain unto everlasting life in God—that is, he will circle eternally round the Truth in all the worlds. Glorified be He from taking unto Himself a partner! He, verily, is the One, the Single, the Most Exalted, the Most High, the Most Great.

All that hath been manifested from thee in the path of God is known and recorded with Him. Thou must in these days arise to assist the Cause with the utmost steadfastness, inasmuch as this is the Day wherein all the denizens of the Supreme Paradise are crying out "O my Lord! Have mercy upon Thy servants!" and

are gazing upon those souls whom the trials and tribulations that have befallen them have not kept back from the Court of the Divine Unity. Ye have ever been mentioned in the presence of the Throne. Strive ye, that the seedlings of the Bayan may not wither from the poisonous winds of test and trial.

The remembrance of God is like the rain of mercy upon the seeds of inner meaning that have been deposited within hearts. Therefore it is necessary and obligatory to be engaged at all times in the remembrance of the Lord of all worlds, and to follow this servant in all matters. As ye observe, the Ancient Beauty, despite all the afflictions that have befallen Him, hath not been prevented from the divine remembrance, but hath at all times summoned the people to the summit of true understanding, that perchance feeble souls may purpose to ascend the heights of divine oneness and become purified and sanctified from the promptings of self and passion.

In the days of departure from the Land of Mystery, a Tablet was specifically revealed and sent to thee. We beseech God to assist thee in all conditions and to aid thee to mention Him among His servants. Verily, He hath power over all things.

BH03850: All-praise be to Thee, O Lord, my God! I…

All-praise be to Thee, O Lord, my God! I know not how to sing Thy praise, how to describe Thy glory, how to call upon Thy Name. If I call upon Thee by Thy Name, the All-Possessing, I am compelled to recognize that He Who holdeth in His hand the immediate destinies of all created things is but a vassal dependent upon Thee, and is the creation of but a word proceeding from Thy mouth. And if I proclaim Thee by the name of Him Who is the All-Compelling, I readily discover that He is but a suppliant fallen upon the dust, awe-stricken by Thy dreadful might, Thy sovereignty and power. And if I attempt to describe Thee by glorifying the oneness of Thy Being, I soon realize that such a conception is but a notion which mine own fancy hath woven, and that Thou hast ever been immeasurably exalted above the vain imaginations which the hearts of men have devised.

The glory of Thy might beareth me witness! Whoso claimeth to have known Thee hath, by virtue of such a claim, testified to his own ignorance; and whoso believeth himself to have attained unto Thee, all the atoms of the earth would attest his powerlessness and proclaim his failure. Thou hast, however, by virtue of Thy mercy that hath surpassed the kingdoms of earth and heaven, deigned to accept from Thy servants the laud and honor they pay to Thine own exalted Self, and hast bidden them celebrate Thy glory, that the ensigns of Thy guidance may be unfurled in Thy cities and the tokens of Thy mercy be spread abroad among Thy nations, and that each and all may be enabled to attain unto that which Thou hast destined for them by Thy decree, and ordained unto them through Thine irrevocable will and purpose.

Having testified, therefore, unto mine own impotence and the impotence of Thy servants, I beseech Thee, by the brightness of the light of Thy beauty, not to refuse Thy creatures attainment to the shores of Thy most holy ocean. Draw them, then, O my God, through the Divine sweetness of Thy melodies, towards the throne of Thy glory and the seat of Thine eternal holiness. Thou art, verily, the Most Powerful, the Supreme Ruler, the Great Giver, the Most Exalted, the Ever-Desired.

Grant, then, O my God, that Thy servant who hath turned towards Thee, hath fixed his gaze upon Thee, and clung to the cord of Thy mercifulness and favor, may be enabled to partake of the living waters of Thy mercy and grace. Cause him, then, to ascend unto the heights to which he aspireth, and withhold him not from that which Thou dost possess. Thou art, verily, the Ever-Forgiving, the Most Bountiful.

BH03916: This is the Book of God, the Mighty…

He is the Most Holy, the Most Mighty, the Most Glorious

This is the Book of God, the Mighty, the Bountiful, revealed unto the leaf who was stirred by the fragrances of her Lord, the All-Merciful, and was turned from the left hand of fancy to the right hand of certitude, that My Book may attract her and draw her nigh unto My Kingdom, that she may behold My signs, My proof, My testimony and My sovereignty.

O My handmaiden! Know thou the worth of My days, then soar with the wings of love unto the heaven of My tender care, then enter the pavilion of My glory and My favors. Beware lest anything withhold thee from My mention and My praise. Forsake all else out of love for My beauty, then speak forth My Name amongst the handmaidens, then arise with My Cause from the horizon of the heaven of My steadfastness in such wise that neither the veils of My creatures nor the intimations of My creation—whom We created to serve Me but who, when the time was fulfilled, turned away from My beauty and denied My signs—shall hinder thee. Thus have I commanded from the presence of the Mighty, the All-Wise.

Blessed art thou for having cast away all else and taken that which thy Lord, the Most High, the Most Glorious, did desire. Hold thou fast unto this cord, then detach thyself from the worlds. Give thanks unto thy Lord for having made thee a leaf among the leaves of His Ridvan. This is naught but a manifest bounty.

Be thou in such wise that the deeds of him who hath disbelieved in God, the Most High, the Most Great, shall not grieve thee in the Cause of thy Lord. It behooveth every soul to ponder upon the bygone ages. Where are the palaces of those who turned away and warred against God? By My life! We returned them to their graves, and when they entered therein their lamentation was raised and they said: “Verily we were in manifest error!” Soon shall the servants who have violated the Covenant and were among the wrongdoers return thereunto.

Thus have We revealed unto thee that thou mayest rejoice within thyself and be of those women who stood firm in the Cause until they entered within the precincts of the mercy of their Lord, the Forgiving, the Bountiful. Remind My handmaidens who have believed in God and desired what God hath desired that they are assuredly among the people of Paradise. Unto this doth testify this mighty and wondrous Pen.

BH03795: He is the Mighty! O Muhammad! May God reward…

He is the Mighty! O Muhammad! May God reward thee with the best of rewards on Our behalf and enable thee to attain unto that which He loveth and with which He is well-pleased.

I counsel thee to achieve complete detachment and pure fear of God, and to gird up thy loins in this land for the sake of God thy Lord, and to close thine eyes to all else besides Him, such that thou takest not a step except by His leave, nor turnest thy gaze save with His good-pleasure. Aid thy Lord through all thy deeds and conditions, and be not heedless of Him in any moment or instance. Forget thyself but forget not thy Lord; pass beyond thy spirit but pass not beyond the remembrance of thy Creator.

When thou arrivest in the land which God hath ordained for thee, adorn thy head with white cloth that thou mayest be as a standard between the believers and the ungodly. Set not thy foot save in the footsteps of My feet, and be unto others as thou art unto thyself.

Then remind the servants of all that thou hast witnessed in this journey of thine, without addition or diminution, following the straight and upright path. Then make mention of My exile, then My distress, then My poverty and need, then My arrival in a land wherein no voice can be raised from Us and wherein none can hear My cry and lamentation. This is what I desired from God, My Lord, from the intensity of tribulations which descended upon Us through that which the hands of those who love and hate Us have wrought. And God knoweth that which no one else knoweth.

By God! Were My liver and heart to be revealed unto thee, thou wouldst find them pierced by the arrows that have struck and befallen them. Yet in all this, and for all that hath come to pass or will come to pass, We render thanks unto God. We beseech God to aid thee in the Cause of thy Lord and to make thee one of those who are guided.

BH03826: O My Worshipped One! Make mention of a word…

O My Worshipped One! Make mention of a word from the Youth to him who hath believed in God, the Mighty, the Bestower, that he may seize it with power from Us and cast aside that which is with those who have disbelieved in the Lord of Lords. Say: Open your eyes, O people of learning, to behold the Beauty, for verily it hath dawned from the horizon of glory and none opposeth it save every idolatrous doubter. He who hath not attained unto it is not possessed of true vision—thus hath the Revealer of the Book decreed. Say: O people! We created sight for the recognition of this Beauty, and he who hath not recognized it is blind, as they who are endued with understanding do testify. If your sight be weak, then seek illumination from Mine eye and through it behold Me, O ye who are endued with vision. Beware lest ye deprive yourselves of this bounty which hath been vouchsafed unto you without question or answer.

Say: O people! This is He for Whom generations of old died in their yearning, yet when ye found Him without effort, ye turned heedless. Soon shall ye lament and weep, O ye who are veiled. Arise, O people, then address your supplication toward the Gate with humility and contrition. He who hath not attained unto the mention of this Most Great Remembrance is powerless, though he may speak with the tongue of all the worlds—thus doth He with Whom is the decisive Word bear witness. Grieve not at the wickedness of those who have disbelieved in this Revelation, for they are those who disbelieved in God throughout all ages. Say: O Lord! Preserve me through Thy sovereignty and power, then inscribe me with Thy righteous servants. O Lord! Cause me to be as Thou lovest and art pleased with, and leave me not to my passions, for verily Thou art the Almighty, the Unconstrained. And glory be upon thee and upon him who hath believed in God, unto Whom returneth the decree of the beginning and the end.

BH03791: Revealed for Shaykh ʿAbdu'l-Husayn: Verily He is ever watchful

Revealed for Shaykh ʿAbdu'l-Husayn: Verily He is ever watchful.

O Husayn! You visit Husayn yet kill Husayn. O heedless doubter! We desired your presence in Iraq and left the choice to you to appear in whatever place you wished, that We might show you the proof. You accepted, but when the appointed time came, the winds blew and you fled, O fly! We came to a house where the meeting was arranged, but We found you not, O you who associate partners with God, the Sender of winds! When you saw your own powerlessness, you made excuses, O deceiver! We desired to meet you only that God's proof might be completed against you and those around you, that perchance the fire of hatred might be stilled in your breast and in the breasts of those who have denied the Lord of Lords. You turned away from meeting Me, though the dwellers of Paradise and the inmates of the holy retreats long for it. Soon you shall weep and lament and shall find no escape. Wait until God brings His punishment upon you from His presence. Soon shall the breezes of chastisement seize you and return you to the fire.

The All-Merciful has come in the shadows of utterance, and sovereignty belongs to God, the Almighty, the All-Compelling. The wine of passion and desire has intoxicated the dwellers in the wilderness of self and desire, while the sincere have turned with spirit and fragrance to the Dawning-Place of Revelation. The Decisive Word has come, and for the idolaters there is no abode save hell—an evil dwelling place indeed.

Tribulations shall not prevent Us from mentioning the Lord of Names. I summon the people as commanded, and neither the turning away of all on earth nor the might of any proud oppressor shall prevent Me. God has made tribulations like the spring breezes to this Tree which has been raised up in truth, and every leaf thereof proclaims: Sovereignty belongs to God, the Almighty, the Unconstrained. Soon shall death come upon you and you shall see the punishment of your Lord, O you who have turned away from Him by Whom the promise was fulfilled and the Herald has called aloud.

BH03805: O blessed and goodly leaf! If you ask about…

In the name of the Beloved Friend!

O blessed and goodly leaf! If you ask about the body, it is in utmost hardship and tribulation. If you ask about the physical frame, it is afflicted with countless trials. And if you ask about the spirit, it is in the heights of joy and delight. In the path of God, I have never complained of tribulation. Rather, in the love of the All-Merciful, I have grown accustomed to trials and afflictions just as an infant is accustomed to its mother's breast. Yet what benefit is there while life remains and the cup of martyrdom in God's path remains untasted, though in every moment I attain to a martyrdom.

Praise be to the Beloved of the worlds that despite all these hardships and tribulations, we are occupied with the remembrance of the Friend and detached from all else. The world has no permanence that one should attach one's heart to it or be saddened by its events. Soon all will perish and pass away, and what has been and ever shall be is God, mighty be His glory and exalted be His station. Consider affliction in His path as mercy, and tribulation in His way as blessing. In all that we have borne there lies hidden a wisdom that none knoweth save God.

You have always been and will continue to be in my thoughts. Hold fast to truth and turn away from all else. Praise God that the tie of kinship has not been severed and that you dwell secure and at rest beneath the divine Lote-Tree. This is a blessing that is great in the sight of God. The reward of every deed is treasured in the repositories of immunity, and when the time comes it will be manifested in most beauteous array. Verily thy Lord will fully recompense the sincere among His handmaidens and His sincere servants.

Convey my greetings and praise to those who dwell round about, and the Glory be upon thee and upon those with thee.

BH03809: The Most Impregnable, the Most Exalted, the Most High

The Most Impregnable, the Most Exalted, the Most High

These are the verses of God, the True Sovereign, the Manifest One, which We have sent down from the heaven of Command and made them guidance and remembrance for all the worlds. Hearken unto that which is revealed unto thee from the direction of the Throne, the station round which circle the denizens of the Supreme Concourse and then the dwellers of the cities of Names. Verily, there is no God but Me, the Almighty, the All-Powerful.

Say: O people! Do ye behold for your Lord, the All-Merciful, any partner in sovereignty? Nay, by My radiant and luminous Beauty! And do ye see for Him any minister? Nay, by His Self, the Truth, if ye be of them that know! Can anyone be associated with Him? Nay, by my Lord! Blessed is he who draweth nigh unto My Great Name. They who see for Him a peer, these are in manifest veil. Their wretchedness hath overcome them; they are of an evil people, the most lost. By God! The Lord of Power hath appeared with His most great sovereignty, and nothing in the heavens or on earth can withhold Him from that which He hath created. He sendeth down what He willeth by His command, and decreeth what He pleaseth.

O servant! Arise to serve the Cause with such steadfastness as will shake the pillars of them who have denied the Day of Judgment. By your firmness shall the mountains of idle fancies be leveled, the barren lands shall be cleft asunder, and the hearts of the idolaters shall quake. And by your ascension to the Most Glorious Horizon shall the limbs of the doubters be frozen. Beware lest anything prevent thee from that which hath been revealed in truth. Hold fast unto the cord of the Cause and cling to the hem of thy Lord's mercy, the Mighty, the All-Praised. We have created all things for Our remembrance and have explained every wise matter. Be thou a herald of this Name, that perchance by thy call he who is heedless may turn unto his Lord, the All-Forgiving, the All-Merciful. Be silent for God's sake, speak for God's sake, act for God's sake, detached from all else besides Him. Thus have We taught thee and commanded thee as a favor from Us. Be thou grateful and say: Praise be unto Thee, O God of all who are in the heavens and on earth!

BH03860: Praise be to Thee, O Lord my God! This…

He is

Praise be to Thee, O Lord my God! This is Thy servant who hath been heedless of the wonders of Thy remembrance, and whom transgressions have veiled to such degree that he became occupied with what is other than Thee and turned away from Thy beauty, and who did with his feet what Thou didst abhor, and committed with his hands what Thou didst oppose, and uttered with his tongue what beseemeth not Thy loved ones, and harbored in his heart what befitteth not Thy servants. Yet after all this, since he was aforetime among those who believed in Thee and in Thy greatest signs, the breezes of mercy wafted over him such that they awakened him from slumber and brought him forth from heedlessness, until he recognized what he had done and knew wherein he had been engaged, and returned unto Thee as he had fled from Thee in the midst of his affairs, and entered the stronghold of Thy providence as he had departed therefrom in certain of his days.

Therefore, O my God, it behooveth the wonders of Thy mercy and the gems of Thy providence not to deprive him of the rain-showers of Thy generosity and the clouds of Thy tenderness and loving-kindness, that Thou mayest find him abiding by the covenant which he made with Thy loved ones. Then forgive, O my God, his grievous offenses and his grave transgressions. Then wash him, O my Beloved, in the seas of Thy bounty and forgiveness and in the deep waters of Thy grace and favor, and turn him from every direction toward the right hand of Thy holy might, that he may dwell not on earth save through Thy Name, nor move except with Thy good-pleasure, nor walk except by Thy leave, nor eat nor drink except in Thy remembrance, for in Thy hand is the kingdom of all things and Thou art powerful over all things. And send down, O my God, upon those who have detached themselves unto Thee and taken refuge at Thy court and sought sanctuary in Thy presence and dwelt beneath the shadow of Thy loving-kindness, all that is possible in the Most Exalted Paradise and in the lands of Paradise, for verily Thou art the Self-Subsisting, the Most Holy.

BH03887: The Pen of Command calleth out from the Throne…

He is the Most Holy, the Most Holy

The Pen of Command calleth out from the Throne of eternity upon the Crimson Spot of the Lote-Tree beyond which there is no passing: Verily there is no God but Me, the Mighty, the All-Praised.

Blessed is he who hath cast behind him all that he hath heard and turneth unto the Call of God which hath been raised by the command of God, the Lord of Names. He verily sanctifieth him from all else and draweth him unto the horizon of the mercy of his Lord, the Mighty, the Beautiful, and causeth him to speak forth His remembrance amidst His creation in such wise that the clamor of the heedless shall not deter him. Say: Were We to desire it, We would transform all who are in the heavens and on earth by a word from Us, for verily We are the Almighty, the All-Powerful.

Say: O people! Would ye drink brackish water after pure water hath descended from the clouds of My Name, the All-Glorious? This indeed is profound ignorance. Break the idols by My power and sovereignty—thus have ye been commanded by One Mighty, All-Wise. Say: The idols are your vain desires, did ye but know, and then your idle fancies, did ye but perceive. Adorn yourselves with the ornament of faith in the days of your Lord, the All-Merciful. This is better for you than all ye behold, would ye but reflect.

Say: He desireth naught from you. He calleth you, in the midmost heart of tribulation, unto God, your Ancient Lord. Do ye object to Him Who desireth your good? Do ye flee from Him Who summoneth you to the Salsabil? Fear ye God, and be not as those who denied the Proof of the Chosen One in past ages, whereupon the thunderbolt of chastisement seized them and made them to be of those who perished.

Enjoin ye the truth and guidance, then restrain yourselves from desire. Thus have ye been commanded by your Lord, the Most High, the Most Glorious. Take ye what ye have been commanded and lay aside that which ye have been forbidden in a perspicuous Book.

Grieve thou not over anything, for verily thou hast with Us an exalted station at the Throne. Remember thou this and be of the thankful. And praise be to God, the Lord of all the worlds.

BH03931: O my God! A leaf from among the leaves…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Glorious!

O my God! A leaf from among the leaves of Thy earth desired the Tree of Thy singleness, and the fragrances of Thy days so took hold of her that she detached herself from all else but Thee and hastened with her heart to the precinct of Thy nearness and meeting.

O Lord! Purify her heart with the water of Thy knowledge, then cause her and Thy servants to drink of the living waters which flow at the heart of the Ridvan through Thy name, the All-Merciful, that they may stand firm in Thy Cause in such wise that neither tribulations shall prevent them from Thy remembrance, O Lord of all names, nor shall calamities deter them from Thy love, O Creator of the heavens.

O Lord! Send down upon them at all times the sweet fragrances of the robe of Thy mercy, that they may be drawn to the horizon wherefrom shone forth the Sun whereon was inscribed by the finger of Thy power: “By God, the Beloved of the worlds hath come!”

O Lord! Thou knowest that I have not fallen short in Thy Cause. The more tribulations increased, the more I increased in remembrance of Thee and in teaching Thy Cause to all besides Thee, such that no evening or morning, no dawn or dusk passed except that I sent forth the fragrances of Thy revelation to Thy servants and the sweet scents of Thy fragrance to Thy creatures.

O Lord! I beseech Thee by this Youth, Who hath been encompassed by wolves as He calleth the people to Thy name, the Mighty, the All-Bestowing, to unveil for Thy loved ones what Thou didst unveil for those who soared in the atmosphere of Thy nearness and the heaven of Thy will, that they may detach themselves from all else besides Thee and turn with their hearts to the spot wherein appeared that which was hidden in the eternity of eternities.

O Lord! Cause to grow, through what hath flowed from the Most Exalted Pen of the waters of Thy oneness and the rains of the glory of Thy unity, in the hearts of Thy loved ones the ears of wisdom and utterance, that they may hold fast to this hem which Thou hast sanctified from mention and knowledge. Thou hast ever been the bestower to those who have sought Thee and the inspirer of those who have delighted in Thy remembrance. There is none other God but Thee, the Almighty, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

BH03941: O thou that gazest upon the Countenance! Hearken unto…

In the name of God, the Inaccessible, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious

O thou that gazest upon the Countenance! Hearken unto My call, and be not disquieted at that which hath befallen the loved ones of God and His trusted ones. This is the way of God, a way that hath passed in the ages that are gone and the centuries that are past. Consider them whom We sent forth with the truth, whom We made a mercy and a remembrance unto all worlds. By My life! they desired for themselves naught save that which God desired for them, and in every season they summoned the servants unto their Lord, the All-Merciful, seeking from them no recompense. All this is recorded in a Preserved Tablet.

Yet when they manifested that whereunto they had been bidden, the divines turned away from them, and the men of letters rose up against them, and they sought to quench the light of God by the might and dominion wherewith they were invested. But the hands of the power of thy Lord, the Chosen One, laid hold on them, and withheld them from that which they purposed, and made His Cause victorious through His sovereignty, in despite of them. Verily He is powerful over all things.

Say: None can shield any soul from the decree of God. Fear God, O people, and debar not yourselves from that which is better for you than the kingdom of all worlds. The generations that have gone on before you—whither are they fled? And those round whom in life circled the fairest and the loveliest of the land, where now are they? Profit by their example, O people, and be not of them that are gone astray.

Others ere long will lay hands on what ye possess, and enter into your habitations. Incline your ears to My words, and be not numbered among the foolish.

For every one of you his paramount duty is to choose for himself that on which no other may infringe and none usurp from him. Such a thing—and to this the Almighty is My witness—is the love of God, could ye but perceive it.

Build ye for yourselves such houses as the rain and floods can never destroy, which shall protect you from the changes and chances of this life. This is the instruction of him Whom the world hath wronged and forsaken.

Do thou remind the servants of that which is in the Tablet, that haply they may turn unto the Dayspring of bounty and be of them that repent. And praise be to God, the Lord of all worlds.

BH04089: This is a wondrous day. We behold the people…

He is the Most Great, the All-Glorious!

This is a wondrous day. We behold the people struck down and trees uprooted from their foundations. All have been seized by their forelocks through fear of thy Lord, the One, the All-Compelling. This is the day We mentioned in the Qur'an and then in the Bayan—take heed, O people of insight!

The idolaters rush headlong toward the Evil One. Say: He dwelleth in the lowest depths of the fire. We have shown them who led them astray from the straight path that they might recognize him and seek for themselves a way of escape unto God. They have taken him as their lord—the word of chastisement hath been fulfilled against them.

Say: This is the path of God for all who are in the heavens and on earth, and the Cause is in the grasp of power. Say: To whom will ye flee? No protector have ye this day. The Almighty hath come, and sovereignty belongeth unto God, the One, the Unconstrained.

Look not upon what hath befallen Us of tribulations. We foretold what hath appeared in the Scriptures and Tablets, and from the horizon of tribulation do We summon the servants unto the Lord of the Day of Judgment. Through tribulation have We nurtured the Cause in bygone ages. Soon wilt thou find the Cause shining forth from the horizon of glory with power and dominion.

Be thou steadfast in the love of thy Lord and remind the people in this Day wherein intoxication hath seized those in all regions. Say: To whom will ye flee? No defender have ye this day from God. Turn ye unto Him and make not yourselves deserving of chastisement. Say: Are ye content with an hour of this world while depriving yourselves of what hath been ordained for you throughout the duration of God's kingdom? This is naught but error. Fear ye God, then hasten unto Him—with Him is excellent reward.

Glorify thy Lord before those around thee, then remind them with the remembrances of thy Lord, the Self-Sufficing, the Most High.

BH04004: These are the verses of God, the King…

He is the Most Exalted, the Everlasting, the Resplendent, the Most Glorious!

These are the verses of God, the King, the Truth, the Manifest. They have verily been sent down in truth from the heaven of His Name, the Revealer, the Mighty, the Powerful. Verily, they are the mirror of God in the kingdom of His Command wherein is witnessed and beheld the beauty of God, the King, the Most High, the Great. Verily, they are the favor of God whereby the hearts of them that hear are attracted. Verily, they are the wisdom of God and by them every firm command is sent down. Verily, they are God's proof unto all who are on earth, yet most people remain veiled in the darkness of their own selves. Verily, they are the lamp of God amidst His servants, from which the hearts of them that are nigh unto Him receive their light. Verily, they are the magnet of the Cause between the heavens and the earth, for by them are drawn the essences of all created things.

Know thou, O servant, that My Manifestation is My proof, and My standing forth My evidence, and My proof that which floweth from My sacred, transcendent, firm and manifest Pen. When We revealed unto the servants a drop from the oceans of power which We had concealed behind mountains of moist ruby resplendent, thereupon the doubters dispersed from around God and His sovereignty, and the foundations of the idolaters were shaken. Say: Die in your wrath! By God, the Truth, that which had never appeared in the world hath appeared, and the Cause of God hath been made manifest in such wise that His words have become renowned between East and West, as every fair-minded and knowing one doth testify. When the Cause appeared, they who had concealed their faces behind veils felt secure and came

forth against God with tyranny and grievous plotting. Thus did it befall Me, and We have mentioned unto thee a letter thereof that thou mayest be clear-sighted regarding the Cause of thy Lord and remain steadfast in His help and the exaltation of His Cause at all times. And glory be upon thee and upon Our God-fearing servants.

BH04030: Glorified be He Who hath sent down the verses…

In the name of our Lord, the Mighty, the Helper!

Glorified be He Who hath sent down the verses in truth and made them a proof for all who are in the kingdom. Verily they are the cord of God between earth and heaven. Therefore hold fast unto them, O people, and deprive not yourselves of their grace.

And thou, O Asad, hearken unto the call of thy Lord at a time when the dogs of hatred have surrounded Him from every direction, and He seeketh help from none save God, Who created all things by His command and Who hath power over all things. Be thou as a lion in the path of God, such that nothing shall make thee fear in the Cause of thy Lord; rather, let every doubting soul fear thee. Stand firm in the Cause of God and His religion, then aid it with whatsoever thou art able. Verily He aideth whom He willeth through His grace, and He is wise over all things. His aid is the teaching of His Cause among His servants with wisdom that was in the Mother Book unassailable.

Beware lest thou turn unto the world and what is therein. Rather, purify thyself from its defilement, then turn unto the lights of His beautiful countenance. Say: There is no protector today for anyone from God's command, nor shall anything profit a soul except following the verses of God which have been sent down in truth from the heaven of mighty glory.

Remember thy Lord during thy days and nights, and forget not His grace upon thee, for His grace upon thee is abundant. Stand firm in the Cause of God and His love and be detached from all else. Thus hath the command been sent down from the direction of a wondrous throne.

And the glory be upon thee and upon those who follow the Cause of God and have taken for themselves a path unto Him.

BH04084: The Most Holy, the Most Glorious

The Most Holy, the Most Glorious.

This is a Book sent down from the Mighty, the Self-Subsisting unto him who hath believed in the Truth and followed guidance in the days of his Lord, the Mighty, the All-Loving. Know thou that My body endureth trials beyond number, while My tongue uttereth at all times the remembrance of thy Lord, the All-Merciful, that perchance the people of the world may hearken and turn toward the sanctuary of nearness. Neither the oppression of the oppressors nor the hosts of those who have disbelieved in God, the Mighty, the All-Forgiving, have deterred Us from His remembrance.

Say: Verily He hath shone forth from the horizon of glory like the sun at its zenith. The barking and howling of dogs impede Him not, though they continue to pant. Those who have turned away shall soon

behold both right and left, and none shall help them. Power hath conquered all who are in the heavens and on earth, yet the people comprehend not.

Say: Do ye find glory in your riches? Nay, by My Self! Glory is in My hands and none shall inherit it save My honored servants who have cast desire behind their backs and turned with their hearts to the Qiblih of existence.

Say: Would ye refute the Cause of God after everything testifieth that it is the Truth from God, the Mighty, the Best-Beloved? Say: Are ye able to withstand His Cause? Nay, by My life! Even were ye to seek help from all things. Verily He doeth what He willeth and is powerful over what He desireth, would that ye knew.

Say: We shall soon leave your houses to the spider and return you to the graves. Be ye therefore aware, O people, and turn unto God. How long will ye slumber? The sun hath risen, the moon hath been cleft, and the stars have fallen, would that ye perceived.

Thus have We sent down the verses unto thee and dispatched them to thee as a grace from Our presence, that they might draw thee to a praiseworthy station.

BH03966: Thus doth the Most Exalted Pen proclaim: Rejoice, O…

He is God, the Most Holy, the Most Glorious!

Thus doth the Most Exalted Pen proclaim: Rejoice, O people of faithfulness, for the Crimson Ark hath sailed upon the ocean of Names, and the people of Baha have embarked thereon by the leave of God, the Almighty, the All-Compelling, the Self-Subsisting. And ye, O people of God, deprive not yourselves of entering it and clinging fast unto it. By God! Whoso clingeth fast unto it hath indeed attained salvation, and whoso turneth away hath disbelieved in God—thus hath the matter been decreed, if ye be of them that know.

Say: O people, deny not God and His signs, now that the Sun of Beauty hath dawned from the horizon of majesty and standeth at the meridian with sovereign independence, and uttereth at every moment the sweetest melodies, saying: O peoples of the earth, deprive not yourselves of His beauty, nor your eyes from gazing upon His countenance, nor your ears from hearkening unto His verses, nor your hearts from recognizing My Self, the Mighty, the Beloved.

Say: Think ye that what ye possess will profit you? Nay, by the Self of Baha! Soon shall ye find yourselves cut off from it—this is a decree that hath been irrevocably ordained in the preserved Tablets of glory. That which shall profit you is what hath been ordained for you in the heaven of eternity by your Lord, the Most High, the Most Exalted. Deprive not yourselves of that which hath been ordained for you, if ye be of them that are certain.

And thou, O servant, remind the servants of what We have reminded thee, then make mention of what hath befallen My wronged Self, then stand firm in the Cause of thy Lord in such wise that the cawing of them that have disbelieved and associated partners with God and were of them that joined partners with

their Lord shall not cause thee to waver. And the Glory be upon thee if thou dost follow the ways of the Cause as We have taught thee in this concealed and luminous Tablet.

BH04080: The Most Great, the Most Great! This…

The Most Great, the Most Great! This is a Book from Us to those who, in their love for Me, sleep but little and rise from their beds at dawn out of longing for My remembrance. By My life! They are sincere ones. These are they whom nothing can grieve, nor shall the Great Terror dismay them, and they drink from the chalices of success.

O My servant! Hearken unto My call from the precincts of My throne, that it may draw thee to the heaven of My grace and the court of My mercy. By God! It will make thee so steadfast in My Cause that shouldst thou be opposed by all who are on earth, thou wouldst arise by thyself to uphold My Cause and to aid Me. Thus hath the tongue of God, the King, the All-Compelling, the Self-Subsisting, spoken.

Wilt thou be patient in My remembrance after the Remembrance hath sacrificed His soul in My path? Wilt thou remain still in thy place after all those around thy Lord, the Mighty, the Wise, have been stirred into motion? Detach thyself from all else but God and remind the people with wisdom and utterance. Thus have We commanded thee in the Tablet from the presence of One Who is All-Knowing, All-Wise.

Say: O people of the Bayan! Have ye denied your Lord, the All-Merciful, after He came in the shadows of proof with manifest sovereignty? Whither do ye flee this Day? By My life, ye have no place of refuge. Shatter the idols of fancy and vain imaginings in the name of your Lord, the Mighty, the All-Knowing. Beware lest ye follow those who have denied God and have united with the wrongdoers in harming Him.

Know thou that We have stirred the barren earth by Our power. Verily thy Lord is the Almighty, the Powerful. We have raised up one with the power of might and strength and sent him to the object of worship of the ungodly, that he might perchance remember within himself and turn to the Beloved of the worlds. Thus have We cast upon thee the word of truth that thou mayest be informed and be of them that attain. And the glory be upon thee and upon those who have turned to God, the Mighty, the Beautiful.

BH03990: O Hadi! Hearken unto the call of God…

He is God, exalted be He in utterance!

O Hadi! Hearken unto the call of God from the Lote-Tree of Baha: Verily, there is none other God but Me, the All-Subduing, the Mighty, the Unconstrained. I counsel thee, O My Name, with that which We have counseled in the Psalms and Tablets. Be thou steadfast in thy love for thy Lord in such wise that thou hearest not from anyone on earth that which is contrary to the command of thy Lord—turn away from it and turn unto God, the Revealer of verses. The foolish one hath been seized with such pride that he openly uttereth that which [is cursed by] all things. By God! My heart hath grieved thereby, and the hearts of those who have turned towards the Countenance in these days wherein feet have slipped. Associate not with him; rather turn away from him through the sovereignty of thy Lord, the Mighty, the Compelling.

Be as fire to the enemies of God and as light to His loved ones. Thus hath the decisive Word been set forth in the Book. Walk thou in the footsteps of thy Lord. Fear not those who speak according to their desires—they are verily of the wolves. Burn with the fire of the Word the heart of every misbeliever and doubter. Be thou so steadfast that the words of those who have turned away from God, the Lord of Lords, grieve thee not. Grieve not—thou art with Me and beneath the canopy of My greatness. Put thy trust in God, then detach thyself from every denier and deceiver, and be not a helper to one who hath denied the Countenance.

Thus have We sent down the command from thy Lord, the Mighty, the All-Bestowing. To assist the people of tyranny is in no wise permissible, for this would harm the very root of the Tree. In all the Books this decree hath been revealed. In the Qur'an He saith: "Lean not towards those who do wrong." God willing, thou must engage in the triumph of the Cause with utmost power, detached from everyone possessed of manifest rancor.

BH04067: Your letter was presented before the Scene of Transcendent…

He is the most Holy, the Most Great,

Your letter was presented before the Scene of Transcendent Glory and the gaze of God beheld it. Blessed are those souls who have not been prevented by human veils from the Dawning-Place of the Divine Command and who in all conditions are turned toward the All-Glorious. This is a Day that has not had and will never have any likeness or similarity in all creation.

The loved ones of God in these days of the All-Merciful must appear like brilliant stars shining from the horizon of the heaven of His Cause, and must be so radiant and luminous that the clouds of vain imaginings and the veils of the people will not obscure them. Verily, whosoever turns today with an illumined heart toward the Greatest Scene will assuredly be aided by God's unseen grace and confirmations.

O ye birds of the meanings, soar in this pure and spiritual atmosphere! O ye lovers of the All-Glorious Beauty, the Beloved, like the true dawn, has risen from the Divine horizon and is manifest. This is your Day, by the Lord of the worlds! O ye who are intoxicated with the wine of oneness, and O ye horsemen in the arenas of detachment, praise be to the Beloved of the worlds that ye have not been barred from all else save Him and have chosen your abode beneath the pavilion of the Friend.

Your days shall come—be not disheartened. These are days of wisdom and kindness—observe them carefully. When the time comes, that which He has willed shall be made manifest and your hearts shall rejoice thereby, O concourse of lovers and horsemen of all regions! Thus doth your Lord, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed, make mention of you.

Gather ye together as one soul at the divine spiritual table, and drink of the pure wine of the Greatest Remembrance in this Most Great Revelation, in the name of the Lord of all peoples. Happy are they that drink thereof! Blessed are ye, inasmuch as ye have been mentioned before the Throne and your names have been inscribed in a preserved Tablet.

BH04001: That which has shone forth from the Dayspring…

That which has shone forth from the Dayspring of God's Command, which this servant should submit, is this: First, that the letter Shin should occupy themselves with their trade, and whatever they have and had intended to send to the precincts of the Throne should remain with them and they should trade therewith for the sake of God. Today each one of the loved ones of God should be occupied with some pursuit whereby, in the course of their trade, they might be able to convey a word of truth to some soul and deposit a seed of divine love in the hearts of men.

Today all the denizens of the highest Paradise and the cities of eternity are gazing upon the faces that are illumined with the light of the countenance of God, and all atoms of things are voicing this utterance:

> "Blessed is he who has remained steadfast in this Day in the Cause of his Lord and whom the might of the people has failed to frighten."

Therefore the greatest of all deeds is the mention of God amongst His servants, albeit all are commanded to observe wisdom and utterance.

O ʿAli! The evanescence of the world and the impermanence of all that is therein is evident, and had there been perceived in it even an atom's weight of merit, the Ancient Beauty would never have been afflicted with this most great tribulation. Therefore today all must occupy themselves with the Cause of God, that perchance they might deliver a soul from the depths of extinction. By God! This deed is greater than any good deed.

God willing, you will return with wondrous and sublime Tablets the like of which no one before you has ever borne, save whom your Lord pleases. Furthermore, the servant in attendance before the Throne is writing details to your honor, according to which you should act. May you ever be refreshed by the choice wine of the Most Glorious Grace and sustained by the bounties of His favor. And glory be upon you.

BH04092: Thou knowest, O my God, that I am abased…

He is God!

Thou knowest, O my God, that I am abased before him who seeketh might through the power of Thy sovereignty, and am poor before him who findeth riches through the manifestations of Thy strength, and am as nothing before him who attaineth perpetuity through the perpetuity of Thine Essence. I desire him who desireth Thee, and love him who loveth Thee, and follow him who followeth Thy Command, and emulate him who emulath Thy decree, and seek refuge with him who taketh shelter in the house of Thy love, and sacrifice myself for him who sacrificeth in Thy path and offereth himself up in Thy love. Glory be unto Thee! Glory be unto Thee! All these are beloved by me due to their connection with Thee and their relation to Thee; otherwise Thou art sanctified above all glory and pride, and all loftiness and honor. How could it be otherwise, when these are stations Thou hast not loved for Thyself nor ordained for Thine Essence? Glory be unto Thee! I am before Thee among those who repent and worship.

O Ali! Give thanks unto God, thy Lord, in that He hath named thee with His Name, the Most High, and joined it with majesty that thou mayest become great in thy love and steadfast in the Cause of thy Lord. Know thou the value of this, then detach thyself unto Him and place thy trust in God at all times and seasons. Grieve not over anything, and purify thyself from doubts and suspicions that thou mayest become a mirror of His beauty, reflecting His countenance, speaking His praise, and content with His decree.

O my God! Send Thy blessings upon the first Sun that shone from the horizon of Thy sanctity and the last Dawn that rose from the light of Thy countenance, whereby Thy Cause illumined the kingdom of Thy creation after the concealment of Thy countenance, and upon Thy sanctified loved ones and Thy exalted Letters, and upon those who have come unto Thee and descended upon Thee, for Thou art the Doer of what Thou pleasest and the Bestower of what Thou lovest, and Thou art powerful over all things.

BH04127: It behooveth the servant of God to arise…

In the Name of God, the Most Mighty, the Most Holy, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious!

It behooveth the servant of God to arise to promote the Cause of God in the Days of God in such wise that whatsoever exists beside Him shall not withhold him from the Horizon whence hath dawned the Sun of the Most Great Name with the ornament of pre-existence. Thus doth this Pen remind thee on behalf of the Creator of all nations. Hearken thou and be of them that render thanks.

Detach thyself wholly from all who are on earth and turn unto the court of the mercy of thy Lord, the Most Exalted, the Most Great. Take thou the chalice of utterance from My words, then drink therefrom the choice wine of inner meanings and exposition through My Name and My sovereignty. By God! It shall make thee independent of all else save Me, and shall cause thee to turn unto the sanctuary of My glory, to speak My praise, and to be detached from the worlds.

Say: O people! The King of Utterance hath appeared upon the clouds of inner meanings and exposition. Abandon ye the allusions of them who have disbelieved in God—they are in manifest error.

Adorn thou thy head with the crown of the remembrance of thy Lord, the Lord of all names, and thy heart with the praise of thy Master. Thus behooveth him who hath believed today in God, the Mighty, the All-Wise. When thou art seized by the rapture of the verses revealed by the Lord of Names and Attributes, turn thy face toward the Holy Court and say:

O my Lord! I testify that Thou art God and that there is none other God but Thee. Thou hast ever been in the heights of glory, and wilt ever abide in the sublimity of majesty and grandeur. O my Lord! Thou seest me turning unto Thee and detached from all else save Thee. Have mercy upon me, O my God, through the wonders of Thy mercy; then grant me to drink from the Kawthar of Thy bounty. Then enable me, O my God, to remember and praise Thee in such wise that the veils of them who are heedless of the Dayspring of Thy most beautiful names and the Dawning-Place of Thy most exalted attributes shall not prevent me. There is none other God but Thee, the Almighty, the Most Glorious, the All-Powerful.

BH04049: The Dove hath sung, but is there any ear…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Exalted!

The Dove hath sung, but is there any ear to hear? The Peacock hath spread its plumes, but is there any eye to see? He whom the wine of passion hath seized turneth not to the All-Highest Horizon. He who is heedless knoweth not the sweetness of wakefulness, and he whose heart is inscribed knoweth not the delight of effacement. Among men are those who hate the sincere counselor and flee from the agreeable friend. They oppose those who agree with them and deny those who accompany them. They detest those who call them unto God and love those who support them in their desires. They run from the wise to the heedless, and from the learned to the ignorant. They distinguish not between what harmeth them and what profiteth them. They race through the wilderness of error in search of a mirage. Soon shall they find themselves at loss in the end.

Many a seeing one whom passion blindeth, many a knower left to wander in error. Doth the wise one boast, knowing he was created from fetid clay? Or doth he glory, while death lurketh behind him? Say: Awaken, O heedless one, and take heed, O rational one! Blessed is he who awakeneth after his slumber and ariseth after his sleep. Know that barren soil wasteth what is cast therein, while good earth bringeth forth what benefiteth its people. We beseech God that all may be prepared to know Him in His days, that none be shut out from His door nor barred from His presence. Arise in the love of God and His Cause, then stand firm and turn not to those whom passion hath stirred. We hear their call from certain lands—avoid them and turn to the Lord of those who turn unto Him. Praise be to God, the Lord of the heavens and earth, and the Lord of the mighty throne!

BH03984: O Haydar! Hearken to the melody of this Bird…

He is the Almighty

O Haydar! Hearken to the melody of this Bird that warbleth upon all the branches, and be not of the patient ones.

Say: O people of the earth! By God, the Bird of Oneness hath taken flight and hath soared in the atmosphere of holy and subtle grace, yet ye rejoice not thereat. Soon shall the punishment of a mighty day overtake you.

Say: Verily this is the Bird for Whose presence the denizens of Paradise and the Concourse on high yearn, yet ye have not recognized it nor attained unto its presence, and thus ye are an evil and most lost people.

Say: Fie upon you and upon that which your hands have wrought in the days wherein the holy and ancient feast descended from the heaven of glorious and lofty might.

Say: By God, were ye to discover what hath escaped you, ye would drown yourselves in water or sever your heads with your own hands. But ye remain veiled and are among the heedless ones.

And thou, follow My counsel and remember the days of My communion after My exile and separation, and be of the patient ones. Then be content with whatsoever God hath ordained for Us, and be patient in

this separation wherein none among all the worlds hath shown patience, for separation is grievous unto those who have tasted the sweetness of love from a holy and luminous Beauty. But since it hath appeared from the Beloved, therefore it is beloved by Us, and this is an established truth.

Thus do We impart unto thee that which shall remind thee of the Truth and shall turn thee unto God, the Beloved of the mystics, that thou mayest inhale from this Tablet the fragrances of reunion should the heat of separation intensify upon thee, and that thou mayest be of those who dwell in peace.

Then convey Our remembrance unto thy wife and glorify her countenance and give her the glad tidings of an noble eternal station. Then unto those who are with thee and who are among the sincere ones.

And the Spirit be upon thee and upon those who are guided by this resplendent Dawn.

BH04086: He is the Mighty, the Beloved! This…

He is the Mighty, the Beloved! This is a Book which speaks with truth, and in it is every wise command.

Say: O people, believe in God and in Him Whom He has sent with signs at which the worlds are powerless. Say: These are among the evidences which have been sent down in truth, and none attain unto them save those who have soared in the atmosphere of nearness and were among the guided ones. These are they who were men of the Heights, and upon whom the angels drawn nigh would pray.

Say: O people, the world and all that is therein shall pass away, and you shall return to the holy presence before God, the True King, the Manifest One, and shall be questioned concerning what you did in your vain life, and shall be recompensed for what your hands have wrought. This is what you were promised in the holy, luminous Tablets.

Say: By God, if you would reflect upon yourselves for less than an hour, you would return to what you have abandoned and would weep for your deeds as those who have lost weep, and would dwell on mountain peaks and flee unto God, the Mighty, the Beautiful.

And you, O believer in the verses of God and one who has turned to His beauty, know that We have found your love for your Lord and your turning to your Master, and We have sent down to you this Tablet that it may draw you nigh to the shore of nearness and give you glad tidings of a holy, manifest paradise, and that it may create in your heart the warmth of love and bring you to a station wherefrom the hands of the mystics are cut off, and join you to the places of victory such that you would arise from your seat and command the people to what We have mentioned in the Tablet, that the grace may be complete upon you and upon all creation.

Thus have We cast upon you the Word of Truth and given you glad tidings of wondrous verses and mentioned you in the Tablet that you may be of the assured ones. And the Spirit be upon you and upon those who were sleeping in the cradle of the Spirit.

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BH04005: These are the verses of God sent down…

He is the Most Exalted, the Most Great

These are the verses of God sent down from the heaven of grace for people who understand—those who have drunk the water of life in the days of God, the Mighty, the Beloved. Those who have found the sweetness of remembrance are indeed servants drawn nigh, while those who have denied—for them there is no portion of this sealed nectar.

They have taken their divines as their idols. We bear witness that these are the veils of glory—blessed is the noble one who rents them through My Name, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting. And he who rends them reaches the Dawning-Place of Names and beholds the light from this visible horizon. Those who have taken illusion as their beloved are wandering in the wilderness of error.

When asked “By what proof do you cling to him?” they say “Because his name was mentioned.” Say: If We were to accept this from you, why then did you turn away from the One Mentioned? We revealed in the Bayan: “Be not veiled by names from Him Who shall come with the truth.” Read it that you may know. You turned away from Him concerning Whom the Bayan was revealed, and clung to one whom you knew not. They are indeed a people in loss.

That which was revealed in the Bayan circles round Me while you perceive not. Fear God and dispute not with Him but for Whom the sun of revelation would not have shone from the horizon of the will of your Lord, the Mighty, the Loving. Is there anyone with sight in creation who might behold what hath appeared, or with hearing who might hear what hath been revealed in this Revelation? The people are dead save whom your Lord willeth—with Him is the knowledge of the heavens and earth, what was and what shall be.

Your name hath been mentioned before the Face and this Tablet hath been revealed for you that your eyes may be consoled and you may remember your Lord, that perchance the slumberers may awaken. And the glory be upon you and upon those who have believed in God, the Mighty, the Loving.

BH03975: Hearken unto what is revealed unto thee…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Glorious

Hearken unto what is revealed unto thee from the right side of the Divine Spot, the Almighty, the Self-Subsisting. Associate not with Me any partner, nor take unto thyself a protector other than Me. This is better for thee than all that hath been and shall be. Hold fast unto My strong cord, then drink from the choice wine of My Most Glorious Name, whose seal We have broken through My sovereignty and power. Thus have We sent down the command in a preserved tablet.

Turn thine ear toward the Throne, then hearken unto what the Tongue of Revelation speaketh. Verily He saith: These are My days; seize ye their worth. By My life! He who hath recognized their value and tasted

of their sweetness hath soared in the atmosphere of My Most Glorious Name on two wings of faithfulness, and hath seen all creation behind him. Such a one is worthy to be associated with Us. Verily thy Lord is the Truth, the Knower of the unseen. Be thou steadfast in such wise that the whisperings of them that have turned away from the remembrance of their Lord shall not cause thee to slip. Verily they understand not. Say: Are ye secure from God's chastisement, or have ye been guaranteed eternal life in this world? Soon shall the breaths of punishment seize you, then shall ye find no helper.

Say: O people, cast away what ye possess and take what ye are commanded by God, the Mighty, the Beloved. See ye any protector besides Me? Nay, by My Self, if ye but knew. The Hour hath come, yet ye turn away from it. The Awakening hath appeared, yet ye remain heedless of it. The earthquake hath seized all who are on earth save those who have come unto the All-Merciful after drinking the cup of assurance. Thus have We sent down unto thee the verses, but the people perceive not. Be thou assured through God's grace and mercy, then make thy remembrance My remembrance, thy purpose My good-pleasure, thy hope My favor, thy path My path, thy beloved My beautiful praise, and say: Praise be to God, the Mighty, the Wise.

BH04009: He is the Mighty! Praise be unto the Beloved…

He is the Mighty! Praise be unto the Beloved Who cannot be known, Who is worthy and befitting, Who hath created all who are in the heavens and on earth through a single letter from the manifestations proceeding from the Pen, and Who will likewise continue to create unto an end that hath no end. Exalted be His mention above every lofty, sublime and mighty mention, and glorified be He above every perfect and wondrous description.

And then, since the letter of that person indicated burning from separation—by God, it behooveth every lover to weep and lament from separation from the Beloved. Patience is praiseworthy except regarding the Beloved, and crying out is blameworthy except regarding the Intended One.

However, attraction and yearning and longing appear more strongly in separation and parting, for the sweetness of attainment may possibly extinguish the fire of seeking, as hath happened with some who in this journey have drawn nigh unto nearness and meeting, and have remained wholly veiled. Yea, one who hath been and will ever be sustained by the eternal wine of reunion and hath not grown cold—such a being hath been and will be rarer than red sulphur.

However, we hope that you, in the extremity of remoteness, may attain the utmost degree of nearness, and may drink and partake of the cup of the mysteries of God's Cause which until now hath been concealed from all souls, and may become firmly established and steadfast upon the sacred carpet. All this is from the grace of thy Lord.

Tablets have been revealed in these days and mention made of that person, but since no scribe was available to make copies, they were not sent, until we see what divine destiny will require.

And peace and the spirit be upon thee and upon those who are with thee.

BH04033: Praised be Thou, O Lord my God! I implore…

Praised be Thou, O Lord my God! I implore Thee by Them Who are the Tabernacles of Thy Divine holiness, Who are the Manifestations of Thy transcendent unity and the Day-Springs of Thine inspiration and revelation, to grant that Thy servants may not be kept back from this Divine Law which, at Thy will and according to Thy pleasure, hath branched out from Thy most great Ocean. Do Thou, then, ordain for them that which Thou didst ordain for Thy chosen ones and for the righteous among Thy creatures, whose constancy in Thy Cause the tempests of trials have failed to shake, and whom the tumults of tests have been powerless to hinder from magnifying Thy most exalted Word—the Word through Which the heavens of men's idle fancies and vain imaginations have been split asunder. Thou art, verily, the Almighty, the All-Glorious, the All-Knowing.

Enable, then, Thy servants, O my God, to recognize the Day-Star that hath shone forth above the horizon of Thine irrevocable decree and purpose, and suffer them not to be deprived of the Paradise which Thou, by Thy name, the All-Glorious, hast called into being in the heavens of Thine exalted omnipotence. Cause them, moreover, O my God, to hearken to Thy most sweet voice, that they may all hasten to recognize Thy unity and acknowledge Thy oneness, O Thou Who art the Beloved of the hearts of all that yearn after Thee, and the Object of the adoration of such as have known Thee!

I beseech Thee, by them that have cut down all the idols in this Revelation through which the Most Grievous Convulsion and the Great Terror have appeared, to assist, at all times, Thy servants with the signs of Thine almighty power and the evidences of Thy transcendent and all-compelling might. Grant, then, that their hearts may be made as strong as brass, that they may remain unmoved by the overpowering might of such as have transgressed against Him Who is the Manifestation of Thine Essence and the Day-Spring of Thine invisible Self, and that they may all arise to glorify and help Thee, so that through them the ensigns of Thy triumph may be lifted up in Thy realm, and the standards of Thy Cause may be unfurled throughout Thy dominions. Thou art He who from everlasting hath, though the potency of His will, been all-powerful, and will continue to remain the same for ever and ever. Thou art, verily, the All-Glorious, the Most High. No God is there but Thee, the Most Powerful, the Most Exalted, the Help in Peril, the Most Great, the One Being, the Incomparable, the All-Glorious, the Unrestrained.

BH04034: Glorified art Thou, O my God! How can I…

In the Name of God, the Most Powerful

Glorified art Thou, O my God! How can I make mention of Thee after realizing that any remembrance of aught else but Thee befitteth not Thy presence? And how can I fail to make mention of Thee when I find within my heart the love of Thy beauty? Reason saith: Make no mention of Him, for He hath ever been sanctified above the remembrance of all beings and exalted beyond the recognition of all creatures. The wings of comprehension of the sincere ones cannot soar into the atmosphere of His nearness, nor can the hearts of those who draw nigh unto Him approach Him. But Love saith: Make mention of Him howsoever thou pleaseth, for He is nearer to thee than thy life-vein. Withhold not the tongue, even for less than a moment, from the wondrous remembrance of Him, nor the eyes from beholding the lights of His countenance.

I say, O my God, I am a handmaiden among Thy handmaidens. I find no path except toward Thee and no refuge save in Thee. I beseech Thee by Thy Name which Thou hast made as a fire in the hearts of the lovers and the Beloved of the hearts of the yearning ones, that Thou cast me not out from the court of Thy mercy nor prevent me from arriving at the shore of the sea of Thy oneness.

O Lord! All men have confessed their powerlessness to praise and glorify Thee—how much more this handmaiden who is more insignificant than an ant in Thy kingdom! Yet O my God and my Beloved, the wonders of Thy grace have drawn me unto Thee and Thy bounty hath emboldened me. Therefore do I make mention of Thee and say: O Lord! I beseech Thee by Thy Most Exalted Self and by the manifestation of Thy names in the kingdom of creation, that Thou send down upon me that which will remove from me the odors of this world and make me pure for Thy sake and turning toward the sanctuary of Thy Cause. Verily Thou art the Powerful over whatsoever Thou willest. There is no God but Thee, the Giving, the Forgiving, the Generous.

BH04076: Lawh-i-Liqa'

He is the Ever-Abiding

This is a Book We have made as Our presence for those who have turned to God in these days wherein the lands were transformed. Whoso visiteth what hath been sent down from the direction of the Throne in this Tablet and findeth himself in doubt concerning the meeting with his Lord—he is of them that have turned away from God, the Cleaver of the dawn.

O Birds of Paradise! Hearken unto the call of the Beloved in these days wherein feet have slipped. Through your drawing nigh, the Concourse on High rejoiced, and through your withdrawal from the Meeting, and your thirst near the ocean, lamentation was raised by the dwellers of the cities of eternity. How wonderful this joy and grief, as though they embraced each other on this Day of God, the Almighty, the Exalted, the Unconstrained. The hearts of the idolaters were consumed by what We sent before; therefore do they plot against My Self morning and evening. Blessed are ye for having entered the City and attained unto what your Lord, the Mighty, the All-Bestowing, desired. It behooveth you to manifest from your faces gladness and joy that every soul may find in you submission and contentment. Thus hath it been decreed from the Pen of Glory. Verily your Lord, the All-Merciful, is the Knower of what is secret and manifest.

Ye are beneath the shadow of My loving-kindness and within the tabernacles of My mercy. The eye of God is therefore fixed upon you, O ye who are endued with insight! Blessed are ye, and blessed is he who loveth you, and he who turneth unto you, purely for the sake of God, the Mighty, the Compelling. God beareth witness, and they who circle round the Throne, that ye have attained unto His presence and circumambulated the Kaaba of His Cause and appeared before His countenance. He, verily, is powerful over whatsoever He willeth. There is none other God but Him, the Mighty, the Bestower. By My life! We have accepted what ye desired and We shall be with you at all times. And glory be upon you from the presence of a mighty Helper.

BH04129: Glorified art Thou, O my Beloved! Thou seest me…

He is the Most Exalted, the Most High

Glorified art Thou, O my Beloved! Thou seest me, yet I see Thee not; for Thou canst not be apprehended by mortal eyes, while Thou, verily, beholdest all eyes. Thou knowest and bearest witness how I have been afflicted, amidst Thy servants and Thy creatures, with such tribulation that the spirit is like to depart from the body, by reason of what the hands of the hypocrites have wrought in envy. So grievous hath our plight become that they have driven us forth from our homes, despoiled us of our substance, slain our loved ones, and led our kindred captiveâ€“without proof from Thee, and without decree from Thy presence. And I have journeyed from Thee unto Thee, and migrated through Thee unto Thee, until I attained that station which Thou Thyself dost witness and behold.

Praise be to Thee, O My God, for all that hath transpired, for verily this hath been the rule prescribed for Thy Chosen Ones and Thy conduct with those who love Thee. I swear by Thy Might, O My God and My Master, shouldst Thou slay me with the swords of Thy Decree, torment Me with every torment, or burn Me with the fire of Thy justice and vengeance, My soul will not be emptied of its love for Thee, nor My tongue stilled from mentioning Thee, nor My heart busied with anyone save Thyself. My inner being will not cling to anyone but Thee, My feet will not move except towards Thee and My hands will not be raised save unto Thee.

Praised be Thou, praised be Thou! I beseech Thee by Thy Primal Light through which the ocean of Thy Oneness hath surged and the arks of Thy Will and the paths of Thy Guidance have been fashioned, to suffer Me to be pleased with Thy Decree, to seek Thy calamity, and to long for Thy presence, as promised in Thy Book. Cause then My sister to become one of Thy handmaids who believe in Thee and are steadfast in Thy love. Shelter her moreover in the precincts of Thy mercy and grant her to dwell under the shadow of the Tree of Thy bounty, that her heart may be assured, her spirit calmed and her soul at peace. Thou art, verily, the Most Powerful, the Mighty, the Self-Subsisting.

BH04171: O Khurshid!

He is the Most Glorious

O Khurshid!

Thy letter hath come into the presence of God, and attained unto the court wherein His mercy-seat hath been established. Thanks and praise be unto Him. O Khurshid! Strive that thou mayest become in reality like unto thy name—a heavenly luminary shining brilliantly above the horizon of the firmament of love; for a name alone is not sufficient in this day: rather what is requisite and fitting is a matching character, a reality that correspondeth to the name. How many are the souls who, though in name “Beloved” , are in reality detested of the Lord! Please God, thou wilt, both inwardly and outwardly, exemplify thy name.

I swear by the Day-Star of the heaven of Divine Unity! Were the sun of this physical heaven to be acquainted with the sorrows that have afflicted the Beauty of the All-Merciful, it would rise no more above its dawning-place, and would divest itself of the robe of its refulgency and light. Howbeit, We have

concealed Our woes from all created things, lest they that are the embodiments of names in the kingdom of creation should be consumed away.

Be not then afflicted, and occupy thyself at all times with the remembrance of the Well-Beloved. Be not saddened by the sorrows of the world, nor gladdened by its joys, for with the swiftness of lightning both shall pass away and come to naught. Detach thine heart from all that perisheth, and enter thou the imperishable dominion. Render thanks unto the Well-Beloved that thou hast attained unto His love, a love that purifieth the soul of sickness and transgression, and answereth one's wants and needs. Please God, thou wilt remain constant in His love, and wilt not deviate from the straight path of His Cause. The sign of those that love Him, however, is that they should walk in the ways of His good pleasure, and not in the pathway of their evil passions and desires. Abide thou ever neath the shadow of His mercy, and detach thyself from all save Him. Do thou convey Our salutation and blessing to all those handmaidens who are devoted unto Him.

The Glory of God rest upon you.

BH04298: Lawh-i-Mustatab

He is the Mighty, the All-Bestowing!

This is a Book sent down from the presence of One mighty and bestowing to him who hath submitted and turned unto God when the Lord came upon the clouds—verily He is the Lord of lords. This is a sweet and pleasant Tablet, revealed with concision, sanctified from prolixity. Verily it is the decisive Word.

Say: Grace hath encompassed all things and whatsoever else is encompassed. Are ye heedless of this Cause? This is a wondrous thing! Say: O people, will ye not awaken while your feet are in the stirrups? Do ye not see the departure? Have We not informed you of the return on the Day of Return? This is that Day, O ye who are endued with understanding! Say: This is that Day, O People of the Book! This is your Lord, and the angels with goblets and cups!

Rejoice, for thou art at the gate beneath the gaze of the Lord of all men. Drink, O people—this is indeed the drink! Verily it is the Kawthar of life for the companions who have turned to the Face with courtesy. And whoso turneth away, verily he is of the people of torment. Soon shall he find himself in fire and flame, saying on that Day: "Would that I were dust!"

Take pride in His mention among the wise. We have adorned thy head with the crown of remembrance amidst the beloved. This sufficeth thee above all that hath appeared and been concealed. Blessed is he who hath rent asunder the veils and, hearing the Call, hath advanced and responded. Verily He fulfilleth the promise—this is the Day of Reckoning.

The approaching ones draw nigh and the devils are driven away by a shooting star. Grieve not for what hath befallen Us at the hands of the people of the veil. By My life! Those who have turned away are, in the sight of thy Lord, but as bubbles, and what issueth from their mouths but as the buzzing of flies. They shall behold what they have wrought. Verily thy Lord lieth in wait. He seizeth him who hath disbelieved—verily He is severe in punishment.

BH04198: Praise be to the eternal Beloved Who has…

In the name of the Peerless Beloved!

Praise be to the eternal Beloved Who has, from time immemorial and forevermore, reserved the cup of nearness and reunion for His sincere friends—those souls who have had and have no will or desire of their own, whose only purpose has been the good-pleasure of the Friend, and whose heart's beloved is that which proceeds from Him. Tribulations have not prevented them from the Most Great Source, nor have ordeals veiled them from beholding the lights of Beauty. In all conditions they gaze upon the Friend and are detached from all else.

You must, God willing, be occupied with the remembrance of the All-Merciful at all times and be not saddened by what has befallen, for this calamity has in truth befallen Us and the True One Himself is the Bearer of these sorrows. I swear by the Most Great Name—they have ascended to a station that transcends mention, description, and explanation. If you observe with the most pure vision and reflect with the most luminous heart, you will see this is a station of joy, not grief. Intensity in His path has been the sovereign of ease, and tribulation in His love the king of comfort. All that is witnessed in this world will perish and vanish, while for His loved ones are ordained stations that will endure as long as God's kingdom endures. Strive in these fleeting days to attain these lofty, eternal stations.

And may the glory rest upon you, upon those with you, and upon those whom tribulations have not prevented from turning toward the sanctuary of their Lord, the Most High, the Most Exalted, the All-Glorious. Praise be to God, the Sovereign, the Powerful, the Mighty, the All-Bestowing.

BH04285: The chalice of tribulation hath ever been reserved…

In the name of the One, the Incomparable!

The chalice of tribulation hath ever been reserved for the faithful, and through trials and afflictions are the steadfast distinguished from the doubters. Yet every jewel is cherished and valued by those who recognize it. The sun hath no intimacy in the city of the blind, and pearls are counted as pebbles by those lacking discernment.

Those souls who are deprived of the Merciful One's presence by the blowing winds of trials are like autumn leaves that fall from the tree at a single gust. Know thou that trials are like winds which, after their passing, cause weak souls to fall from the divine Tree. Blessed, therefore, are those leaves that have clung so firmly to the Tree that no winds in all the world can prevent them from remaining attached to the divine Tree.

Though outwardly the tribulations endured in the path of God appear as fire, their inner reality hath been and ever shall be light. I swear by the Ancient Beauty that were this blessed word to be fully expounded, all would turn their faces to the horizon of tribulation in the path of the Beloved.

God, exalted be His glory, shall, God willing, aid His loved ones and draw them to the kingdom of His good-pleasure, that all may be content with His will and thankful. Be not grieved at the calamity that hath

occurred, for this is a calamity wherein the Ancient Beauty Himself hath been the chief mourner. How blessed are they, for the Sovereign of grandeur and majesty, and then the angels nearest to God, pray for them.

And upon thee and those with thee be glory, and praise be to God, the Lord of all worlds.

BH04293: This is a Book from the All-Glorious, the Beautiful…

He is by His Own right the Ruler

This is a Book from the All-Glorious, the Beautiful, unto him who hath believed in his Lord, the Sublime, that He may cause him to soar in the atmosphere of his Lord's mercy, the Mighty, the All-Wise, and make him so steadfast that were all who dwell in the realms of creation to oppose him in his Lord's Cause, he would not be perturbed within himself but would aid his Lord, the All-Merciful. Thus hath the matter been decreed by One Who is All-Knowing, All-Informed.

And remember the Bayan, when We created it anew and sent it unto the chief of the oppressors. By My life! We breathed into it a spirit from Our presence and manifested it through might and power, and dispatched it like a mountain of fire, such that neither the hosts nor the might of those who disbelieved in the Lord of the worlds could hold it back. Were We to command it, it would by itself confront all who are in the heavens and on earth.

Say: Verily my Lord ordaineth what He pleaseth and doeth what He willeth. He bestoweth power upon whomsoever He pleaseth among His creation. Verily, He is powerful over all things.

It behooveth every soul to be detached from all that hath been created on earth and to be ready for God's command. He is indeed of the people of Baha, inscribed in a preserved Tablet. Blessed is he who calleth the people unto God and guideth them to the straight path. I am verily the path of God amidst all else and His sovereignty over all who dwell on earth.

Leave those who have turned away from the Cause, and take this wondrous Tablet. Should you find one who is receptive, turn to him and remind him of thy Lord's sovereignty; and should you find one who turneth away, leave him and turn to the Lord of the worlds. Beware lest anyone's rejection sadden thee. Be pure-hearted for thy Lord's sake. He will suffice thee and aid His servants who turn unto Him.

BH04231: Praise be unto Thee, O my God! Thou art…

Praise be unto Thee, O my God! Thou art He Who by a word of His mouth hath revolutionized the entire creation, and by a stroke of His pen hath divided Thy servants one from another. I bear witness, O my God, that through a word spoken by Thee in this Revelation all created things were made to expire, and through yet another word all such as Thou didst wish were, by Thy grace and bounty, endued with new life.

I render Thee thanks, therefore, and extol Thee, in the name of all them that are dear to Thee, for that Thou hast caused them to be born again, by reason of the living waters which have flowed down out of the mouth of Thy will. Since Thou didst quicken them by Thy bounteousness, O my God, make them

steadfastly inclined, through Thy graciousness, towards Thy will; and since Thou didst suffer them to enter into the Tabernacle of Thy Cause, grant by Thy grace that they may not be kept back from Thee.

Unlock, then, to their hearts, O my God, the portals of Thy knowledge, that they may recognize Thee as One Who is far above the reach and ken of the understanding of Thy creatures, and immeasurably exalted above the strivings of Thy people to hint at Thy nature, and may not follow every clamorous impostor that presumeth to speak in Thy name. Enable them, moreover, O my Lord, to cleave so tenaciously to Thy Cause that they may remain unmoved by the perplexing suggestions of them who, prompted by their desires, utter what hath been forbidden unto them in Thy Tablets and Thy Scriptures.

Thou art well aware, O my Lord, that I hear the howling of the wolves which appear in Thy servants' clothing. Keep safe, therefore, Thy loved ones from their mischief, and enable them to cling steadfastly to whatsoever hath been manifested by Thee in this Revelation, which no other Revelation within Thy knowledge hath excelled.

Do Thou destine for them, O my Lord, that which will profit them. Illumine, then, their eyes with the light of Thy knowledge, that they may see Thee visibly supreme over all things, and resplendent amidst Thy creatures, and victorious over all that are in Thy heaven and all that are on Thy earth. Powerful art Thou to do Thy pleasure. No God is there but Thee, the All-Glorious, Whose help is implored by all men.

Praised be Thou, Who art the Lord of all creation.

BH04299: The Most Holy, the Most Great. This…

The Most Holy, the Most Great. This is a Book sent down from the Kingdom of Command unto him who hath taken unto the All-Merciful a way. It speaketh the truth that there is none other God but Him, and He Who hath come is indeed the Promised One in the unseen and the visible, and God sufficeth as a witness.

Hearken unto that which is revealed unto thee from the right Valley in the blessed and hallowed Spot from the Tree. This is a Day wherein God hath established Himself upon the throne of grandeur and power, and calleth mankind unto a path which hath been truly set up. Blessed is he who hath heard the call of the All-Merciful and taken Him as his helper. Woe unto him who hath turned away and remained far from the precincts of nearness.

O people! Fear God and follow not him who hath disbelieved in the All-Merciful. He is indeed a manifest enemy unto you. He speaketh naught but that which leadeth you astray. Leave him behind you and turn your faces toward a countenance that hath been truly illumined.

O people! The Self-Subsisting hath come and saith: Beware, O peoples of the earth, lest ye deprive yourselves. The Beauty hath shone forth from the horizon of glory—turn ye toward Him with your hearts. He is with you and seeth you, and God encompasseth all things.

We have caused to flow the Kawthar of inner meanings and utterance from the wellspring of wisdom and exposition. By My life, whoso drinketh thereof shall find the sweetness of bounties which have existed

from the beginning that hath no beginning and shall continue unto the end that hath no end. Thus hath the matter been inscribed by the Pen of Glory.

Read thou the verses of thy Lord—they shall draw thee to a station that hath been recorded in the Tablet as exalted. Think not that those who disbelieve are alive. Leave them behind thee and hold fast to the hem of thy Lord's mercy. With Him there is reserved for thee a glorious station.

BH04206: The remembrance of God from the Tree of Fire…

He is God, the Most Glorious

The remembrance of God from the Tree of Fire upon the Spot of Paradise: God, there is no God but Him, and verily He has been knowing of all things. He Who manifested ʿAli before Muhammad and caused him to speak with mighty and impregnable verses, and made him a proof from His presence to every unique believer and every insightful mystic.

Therefore hearken, O servant, to what the Spirit calls thee from this planted, upraised, blessed, eternal, everlasting, perpetual, endless Tree, and draw nigh unto it with manifest certitude. Trust in God and fear no one, and withhold not thyself from this Lote-Tree which speaketh at every moment and calleth thee to a wondrous holy paradise. Turn to it with thy whole being and follow not those who have followed every base denier. Be steadfast in the Cause, then aid thy Lord with whatever thou art able, and turn not back upon thy heels. Trust in God, thy Lord, and God Himself sufficeth as thy Reckoner. Detach thyself from all thou hast, then take hold of the cord which shineth between the heavens and the earth and from which every luminous face hath been illumined.

Thus doth God counsel thee on this night and give thee beauteous advice. Beware lest thou grieve at what hath come upon thee, and turn not to the world and its ornaments, but be of an impregnable nature. Should the world approach thee with its ornaments, rejoice not in it, and should it fail to approach thee, grieve not, for thou shalt never find the fragrances of eternity from either of them, and to this every sound heart doth testify. And the spirit and glory be upon thee and upon those who were with thee, steadfast in the religion of God.

BH04157: O Kalim! Have you fled from the Pharaohs…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Glorious!

O Kalim! Have you fled from the Pharaohs of the people after having grasped the cord of God, the Mighty, the All-Knowing? Grieve not, for your Lord is with you. We shall restore you to your former state. Verily, your Lord is the Ruler over whatsoever He willeth in the world to come and in this world. He is, in truth, the Potent, the Mighty.

Beware lest the possessions prevent thee from the remembrance of thy Lord. Consider thy dwelling place. We desire not that thy reward be lost. Verily, thy Lord is the Forgiving, the Merciful. Know thou what hath been ordained for thee and ponder upon it. By My life! Were you to discover it, you would leave your house alone and cry out in My Name and praise between the worlds. Are you content with this

world after We have abandoned it to the dogs? Behold how We adorned those who disbelieved with ornaments and left them wandering in the wilderness of heedlessness. Soon shall We seize them with the power that proceedeth from Us. Verily, thy Lord is the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. Be patient and do not grieve over what hath befallen thee. Soon will God exalt thee in truth. He is the Guardian of the patient ones.

O Kalim! Doth tribulation prevent thee from the path of thy Lord, the Most Glorious? Would you be content with life after Him? Nay, by My life, this beseemeth thee not, if thou be of them that know. Abandon that which preventeth thee from faithfulness, then stand firm in the Cause of thy Lord, the Lord of all names, and say: O my Lord! Praise be unto Thee in all conditions. I testify that Thou art the Lord of all worlds, and praise be unto Thee, O God of all who are in the heavens and on earth. Preserve the House. Beware lest thou be heedless of it. Its matter is momentous. Know thou its worth. This is better for thee than all that hath been created on earth. Verily, thy Lord is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

BH04297: This is a Book sent down in truth…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Glorious

This is a Book sent down in truth from the heaven of My Name, the Compassionate, the Merciful, wherein mention is made of him who was named Muhammad before Ibrahim, that he may remember the holy, mighty and beautiful remembrance of God. Give thanks, O servant, for the breezes of holiness that have wafted upon thee from the direction of Paradise and made thee steadfast in the Cause of thy Lord—this indeed is a great bounty.

Say: O people of the Bayan! Do ye claim faith within yourselves and seek to prove your cause through My verses revealed aforetime, yet deny My Self? Alas for you, O company of unbelievers! By the True One! Ye have committed that which no peoples before you have committed, as doth bear witness the Tongue of God, the True, the Speaking, the Trustworthy King. Fear ye God, and deprive not yourselves of that which hath been ordained for you, nor bar yourselves from that which hath been sent down from the clouds of holiness upon all worlds.

And thou, O servant, shun those who have disbelieved and associated partners with God and turned away after having accepted, and were among the deniers. Purify thyself from all allusions, then arise to serve the Cause of God, the Holy, the Exalted, the All-Knowing, the Wise. Blessed art thou for having attained unto the good-pleasure of God, thy Lord, and for not having associated partners with Him in days wherein most of the servants opposed Him and were among the deniers. Be thou steadfast in the Cause and fear no one, for God sendeth down upon thy heart in every moment a power from His presence and a strength from His own Self—and He ordaineth what He willeth.

And the mercy that descendeth from the clouds of holiness be upon thee and upon all who have stood firm in this Cause, from which every stubborn misbeliever hath turned away.

BH04175: O maidservant of God!

He is the Peerless!

O maidservant of God!

Render thanks unto the One true Beloved for having guided thee to recognize His own Self. Many are the daughters of kings and other notables who, through having been veiled from recognizing the Beauty of the All-Merciful, are not remembered by the Lord. Thou, however, hast been remembered by Him, and thy name set down by the Pen of His Command. Regard not this, that in these days, to outward seeming, they live in luxury and honour. For I swear by Him Who hath made true honour the exclusive portion of His loved ones, that though they repose on jewelled couches, in the eyes of God they dwell upon the dust; and soon shall they all return, in the utmost poverty and abasement, to that place wherein is neither lamp nor couch, neither friend nor comforter.

Thou, however, and other maidservants of God like unto thee, though ye be seated on the dust, are, in the eyes of God, established upon the seats of honour; and when finally ye return unto your Lord, ye shall ascend with matchless glory unto the realms above. Then shall the whole sublime and holy company of the maids of heaven come forth to greet you, and inhale from you the sweet savours of the love of God. Ever hast thou had both wealth and honour, for the love of God hath been with thee, and—God willing—shall remain with thee for evermore; and naught that hath been created in the heaven or the earth is equal to a single atom of this love. Dirhams and dinars are not the measure of true wealth; its measure, rather, is the love of Him Who is the Beauteous, the Unconstrained.

How many are they who, though rich in dinars, are yet the poorest of God's creatures; for, even as is witnessed, each day their greed for gain increaseth, and their avarice waxeth more intense.

O maidservant of God! Hold not cheap the precious gem of love, and remain thou steadfast in His love. Such is Our perspicuous and mighty counsel unto thee.

The Glory of God rest upon thee and upon all His devoted maidservants.

BH04311: Thou beholdest, O my God, how bewildered in their…

Thou beholdest, O my God, how bewildered in their drunkenness are Thy servants who have turned back from Thy beauty and caviled at what hath been sent down from the right hand of the throne of Thy majesty. Thou didst come, O my God, in the clouds of Thy spirit and Thine utterance, and lo, the entire creation shook and trembled, and the limbs of them who repudiated Thy testimonies were made to quiver, O Thou in Whose grasp is the lordship of all things!

Thou art He, O my God, Who hast summoned all men to turn in the direction of Thy mercy, and called them unto the horizon of Thy grace and bounties. None, however, heeded Thy call, except such as have forsaken all things save Thee, and hastened unto the Day-Spring of Thy beauty, and the Dawning-Place of Thine inspiration and Thy revelation.

Thou knowest, O my God, that none can be found on the face of the earth to remember Thee except them. Thou seest how the oppressors among Thy creatures have laid hold on them. Some, O my God, have shed their blood in Thy path, others have abandoned their homes and set their faces towards the

seat of Thy throne, and were hindered from stepping into the court of Thy great glory, while still others have been cast into prison and are at the mercy of the workers of iniquity.

I implore Thee, O Thou Who holdest in Thy hands the reins of unconstrained power, to succor them through the wondrous potency of Thy might. Misery, O my Lord, hath taken hold on them in Thy path, exalt them by the power of Thy sovereignty; and weariness hath afflicted them in their love for Thee, render them victorious, through Thy strength and Thine omnipotence, over Thine enemies.

Aware as I am, O my God, that Thou hast decreed for them that which excelleth whatsoever is in Thy heaven and on Thy earth, I still cherish the desire that Thou mayest behold them in Thy days exalted and honored by Thy creatures. Supreme art Thou over Thy creation. All are held within Thy grasp, and lie prisoned in the hollow of Thy hand. No God is there but Thee, the All-Powerful, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

BH04324: O thou who gazest upon God! Know thou…

In the Name of God, the Most Wondrous, the Most Impregnable

O thou who gazest upon God! Know thou that the idolaters have surrounded Us on every side. They have driven Us from Our homes and brought Us into other lands. Thus hath it been decreed in the Tablet by One Who is powerful and mighty. Grieve not at this, for therein lieth a mighty wisdom. Soon shall that which is today hidden from all eyes be made manifest. Verily thy Lord is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

The cries of the captives have been raised from all regions—some in Mosul al-Hadba', some in Sudan, some in Syria, while the Youth is in a mighty fortress. Through their actions Our love hath increased and the Cause hath become renowned throughout all lands. Soon shall the idolaters behold the banners of victory and hear the name of God from every direction. On that day they shall say "We believe in God." Say: God knoweth what is in the breasts of all men.

Forget not God's favor upon thee. Seek what hath been ordained for thee by One Who is knowing and wise. It behooveth him who desireth the presence of God to aid Him in these days wherein faces have turned black save those who have been illumined by the lights of the countenance of their Lord, the Mighty, the Great.

Rejoice thou in God's remembrance of thee. With Him thou hast a mighty station. In the Tablet there hath been ordained for thee the good of this world and the next. Be thou steadfast and be of the thankful ones.

That which thou didst send hath come before the Throne in this remote prison. Soon shall the prison doors be opened and those around the Youth shall go forth. Thus hath it been inscribed in a preserved Tablet.

Convey My greetings to thy family and My loved ones. Blessed is he who remaineth steadfast and detacheth himself from the doubtful ones. And praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH04328: In the Name of God, the Ever-Abiding, Who perisheth…

In the Name of God, the Ever-Abiding, Who perisheth not! O thou who gazest upon thy Lord, the Most High! We have sent down unto thee aforetime verses manifest and clear, whereof a single word sufficeth all who are in the heavens and on earth, and We have now revealed unto thee this Tablet as a token of Our grace unto thee and unto Our near-serving servants. Blessed art thou, inasmuch as thou hast recognized the path of truth and held fast to the cord of God, the Mighty, the All-Wise. Soon shall the world pass away, and thou shalt find thyself in exaltation. By God! Were those on earth to behold thee, they would fall prostrate upon their faces. This, verily, is the evident truth.

Make mention of thy Lord amongst the servants, that perchance they may inhale the fragrance of the divine garment and turn unto the Qiblih of them that know.

Say: O people! Do ye deny Him Whose countenance hath dawned from the horizon of the will of your Lord, the Most Merciful, and Who hath come from the heaven of utterance with a manifest proof? Would ye slay Him Who hath sacrificed His soul in the path of God and made known unto you what the Most High, the Most Great, hath desired for you? Fear ye God, and make not His Cause a mockery among you. Turn ye unto the Most Merciful with spirit and with fragrance. This is better for you, did ye but know.

Think ye that what ye possess will profit you? Nay, by My resplendent Beauty! Think ye the world will enrich you? Nay, by the Self of Baha, were ye of them that are certain! Open your eyes: verily He is before your faces, and seeth what ye do. He desireth for you naught save that which draweth you nigh unto God, the Help in Peril, the Self-Subsisting.

Thus have We caused to rain down from the clouds of thy Lord's will the waters of meaning and utterance, that there might grow thereby in the hearts of them that turn unto Him the plants of wisdom and exposition. Exalted be this grace that hath encompassed all the worlds!

BH04341: O servant who gazes upon the countenance! We have…

He is the Most Holy, the Most Glorious

O servant who gazes upon the countenance! We have sent unto thee a fragrance from the fragrances of the garment, and We have dispatched it in the form of a Tablet that thou mayest inhale the sweet-scented breeze of the All-Merciful. By My life! It draweth those who are sincere unto a station that transcendeth all comprehension, wherein is that which draweth men nigh unto the Spot from whose horizon hath shone forth the Sun of grandeur and majesty. And God is, verily, witness to what I say.

Blessed is he who hath cast the world behind him and hath arisen to aid My Cause amongst My creatures with wisdom and utterance. Thus hath the matter been decreed in the Tablet. Woe unto those who have denied God after He appeared with the truth with a sovereignty that encompasseth all the worlds. Say: O people! Abandon your vain desires and hold fast unto the Sure Handle. Do ye join partners with Him Who hath been from time immemorial singularly alone in truth? Beware lest the world debar you from Him Who created it. Hasten ye unto the Kawthar of grace. Thus have We expounded the matter in detail. They who in these days have been heedless of God—these shall have no portion, and God is cognizant thereof.

Let the tongue speak forth with utterance in remembrance of thy Lord, the Mighty, the Bountiful. Say: O people! Fear ye God and oppose not Him through Whom God's grace hath been fulfilled, His proof made manifest, and His countenance revealed. Hasten ye unto Him with hearts made pure through the remembrance of God. Thus have We sent down the verses and expounded them unto thee in detail from Our presence, that thou mayest be assured that He remembereth him who is engaged in His remembrance and desireth him who hath desired Him. Verily, He is Ever-Forgiving, Most Merciful. Make mention of them that are round about thee on behalf of thy Lord. Verily, thy Lord doth watch over them.

BH04485: Thy letter hath come before the Throne, and We…

In the name of God, He is the Mighty, the Most Holy, the Most Glorious!

Thy letter hath come before the Throne, and We have taken note of its contents and accepted thee for My exalted and glorious Self. We have recorded thy name in the Tablet wherein are inscribed the names of those who have fulfilled their Covenant and were among those endowed with understanding, and who attained recognition of the Cause on the Day whereon the heavens of holiness were cleft asunder and God came with manifest sovereignty.

Blessed art thou, O servant, inasmuch as thou hast been nourished from the fruits of the Tree of Knowledge on this Day when most of mankind have turned away from the Countenance of the All-Merciful, and disbelieved in God, and were numbered among the deniers. Give thanks unto thy Lord for having enabled thee to recognize the Manifestation of His Self and for having sent down unto thee this mighty and wondrous Tablet. It behooveth thee to glory in this among the heavens and earths.

But hold thou fast unto this Tree, lest the cawing of the idolators move thee, for Satan hath risen up amongst men and at every moment calleth the people unto the nethermost hell. Be thou steadfast in the Cause in such wise that thou shalt regard all else besides God as a handful of clay.

Then remember thou this Wronged One, whom the idolators have cast into the well of envy and hatred—God is verily witness and knowing of this—and upon whom hath descended from His servants that which hath descended upon no one before, if thou be of them that hearken.

And glory be upon thee if thou remainest steadfast in the Cause of thy Lord and art numbered among the steadfast, and upon him through whose pen God hath caused thy letter to flow, and thereby ordained for him a noble and holy station.

BH04537: Your letter was presented before the throne and attained…

In the name of the Beloved of the worlds

Your letter was presented before the throne and attained. What you had written concerning the two martyred brothers was observed with glances of loving-kindness, and an answer is being delivered from the tongue of the Most Merciful on their behalf:

> "Verily, We shall compensate you in their stead, for He is the best Compensator and He is the Forgiving, the Generous. And We have made this a sign of mercy from Us to all the worlds."

O brothers! We attained the most great martyrdom in the atmosphere of the mercy of the Most Merciful and sacrificed our lives in His path. Praise be to the one true God that we attained this supreme gift, for this station has been and ever shall be the most exalted of all stations. Is it better for the body to remain beneath the earth, or in the vessels of the loving-kindness of the King of Oneness? Every soul must inevitably drink from the cup of death, and after the realization of this station, is it more pleasing to die in heedlessness or to attain martyrdom in the path of the Beloved of the worlds?

By the Most Great Name! Death shall not overtake those who are certain of the Cause of the Most Merciful, nor shall mortality comprehend them. Rather it is but a transfer from one world to another, and verily it is greater than the throne and more vast than the divine seat. Its heaven is grace and its earth is loving-kindness. Can anyone enumerate what hath been ordained therein? Nay, by the Lord of the worlds!

May you, God willing, drink at all times from the wine of the remembrance of the Most Merciful and be occupied with the mention of the Intended One of all the worlds. And upon you both be the glory from God, the Mighty, the Wise.

BH04462: The Mystery of God was indeed hidden behind veils…

He is the Most Holy, Most Glorious, Most Great, Most High!

The Mystery of God was indeed hidden behind veils through the Most Great Symbol in this concealed and veiled secret, and was witnessed in truth by the truth. Therefore, behold Him, O people of excellence, and deprive not yourselves of Him. Then hasten unto Him with your hearts that ye may find within yourselves a proof leading to God. O people! Do ye rejoice within yourselves after the Ancient Beauty hath fallen under the claws of hatred? Do ye rest upon your seats after the Spirit of God hath been wrongfully wronged among these wicked ones? And thou, O servant, remember My tribulations, then My sorrows, then weep for My loneliness and My grief and My trials. By God the Truth! Whosoever grieveth at My grief and remaineth steadfast in My love, God will raise him to a station that shall be illumined by the lights of God.

Open thy lips in My remembrance, then move thy tongue in teaching My Cause. Thus doth the Pen of Command bid thee. Arise, then act according to what thou hast been commanded by One All-Knowing, All-Wise. Beware lest thou grieve over the world and what hath befallen thee, but rather grieve for this Wronged One Who hath been surrounded by the dogs of hatred from all directions. And God, thy Lord, is witness to what I say. Thus have We informed thee and acquainted thee that thou mayest become aware of what hath befallen thy Lord and be among those possessed of clear vision. And glory be upon thee and upon those who have turned toward the holy court, this station that hath been, in truth and by truth, lofty and luminous.

BH04494: We have inhaled from thy words the fragrance…

In His name, the Most Holy, the Most Glorious!

We have inhaled from thy words the fragrance of thy love for thy Lord, the All-Merciful. Blessed art thou for having turned toward the Qiblih of the worlds and set thy face toward the Dayspring from which hath shone forth the Sun of the signs of thy Lord, the Mighty, the Great. Thou hast called upon God, thy Lord, with humility and supplication. Verily thy Lord is the Mighty, the Most High. He is, verily, the Forgiving, the Merciful.

Thou hast desired therein to be content with His good-pleasure and to abide beneath the shade of Him Whom God hath made the station of them that are nigh unto Him. Say: O my Lord! Praise be unto Thee for having given me to drink the wine of Thy tender mercy and the Kawthar of Thy favors, and for having caused me to turn toward the Sanctuary which hath ever been the point of adoration of Thy Prophets and Thy chosen ones. O my Lord! Aid me to serve Thee in such wise that the opposition of all who dwell on earth shall not deter me, and to speak forth Thy remembrance in such wise that the servants may arise from the couches of self and passion and turn toward the quarter of Thy Name, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious.

O my Lord! I am the poor one who hath sought to appear before the throne of Thy riches, and I am the thirsty one who hath hastened to the spot wherefrom the Kawthar of life hath gushed forth by Thy leave and power, and I am the ailing one who hath desired the ocean of Thy healing, and I am the lowly one who aspireth toward the dawning-place of Thy glory. Deprive me not of that which lieth with Thee. Enable me, O my God, in such wise that from me may be manifested the spread of Thy remembrance amongst Thy servants and the exaltation of Thy Word amidst Thy creation. I am assured that Thou hast answered for me all that I have desired from the wonders of Thy grace and the heaven of Thy bounty and favor. There is no God but Thee, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

BH04396: O ʿAli! Muhammad, the Apostle of God, weeps at…

He is the Avenger, possessed of mighty vengeance.

O ʿAli! Muhammad, the Apostle of God, weeps at thy tyranny in that thou didst follow thy passions and turn away from guidance. Rejoice not in what thou hast done, for thy Lord lieth in wait. Thou hast pronounced judgment against those who have believed in God on this Day whereon thy face and the faces of those who have broken the Covenant have been darkened.

The Bearer of Glad-Tidings came to you and gave you tidings of this Revelation by which the horizons were illumined. You turned away from it just as those before you turned away when the Sun of Knowledge dawned from the horizon of Hijaz. God seized them for their sin and made them a sign unto those possessed of understanding.

Dost thou imagine that thou art a guide unto the people? Nay, by the Lord of Lords! By thy command was shed the blood of those through whom the winds have blown and rivers have flowed. The Holy Spirit lamented for them, the thunder cried out and the clouds wept. Fear God and be not proud before Him Who created thee by His command. Return unto Him with humility and contrition.

Dost thou rejoice in the tribulations that have befallen Us? We have accepted them in the path of God and from beneath the sword We summon men unto the Lord of the Day of Judgment. None on earth can

prevent Us from that which We have been commanded by thy Lord, the Almighty, the Compeller. Can the power of creation hold Us back? Nay, by the Self of Truth, even if every possessor of might and authority should oppose Us.

Hearken unto the words of one who counseleth thee, if thou wilt listen for thine own sake. And if thou turnest away, verily He is the Self-Sufficient, the Most High.

BH04526: The Word of God hath been revealed in truth…

In the name of God, the Most Ancient, the Most Powerful, the Most Exalted!

The Word of God hath been revealed in truth with such splendor that all who are in the heavens and on earth were thunderstruck thereby, save a numbered few. From it wafted the fragrance of God, thy Lord. Well is it with him who perceiveth the divine fragrances therefrom and is drawn by the holy breezes. By the True God! Were people to discover what radiates therefrom, they would detach themselves from their own selves and from all that hath been created between earth and heaven, and would hasten to the spot which God hath sanctified from the touch of the ungodly.

Say: O people, hasten with your hearts toward the direction of God and tarry not for even a moment. Seize these days, for the eye of creation hath not witnessed their like. Thus do We impart unto you from the wondrous precepts of God's Cause, that ye may turn unto Him with purified and exalted countenances.

And thou, O servant, hearken unto the call of thy Lord, then stand firm in His Cause in such wise that neither the violent winds of hatred nor the tempests of destiny shall move thee. Thus doth He decree for thee in truth, that thou mayest stand firm in the Cause. Remember within thyself, then remind the people of the verses of God, thy Lord, and that which hath appeared from His presence, that they may arise from the slumber of self and passion and drink from this ocean.

Thus have We commanded thee and bestowed upon thee, as a grace from Us, and upon every possessor of luminous vision. And glory be upon thee and upon those who have turned toward the divine paradise with pure and tranquil hearts.

BH04395: O servant! Days have passed and thy letter hath…

He is the All-Knowing in the luminous horizon.

O servant! Days have passed and thy letter hath not appeared before the Throne. It is as though thou hast forgotten thy Lord and remained far from the shore of nearness. Hast thou forgotten the time when thou didst attain the presence of the Beauty and the Sun of Glory shone upon thee from a holy and exalted horizon? Take heed lest thou forget the favor of thy Lord, for His favor towards thee was great.

Arise in the love of God and His Cause, then leave behind all who are in the heavens and earth, save those in whose hearts thou findest the love of thy Lord. Thus doth command thee the holy and luminous Pen. Shun those who have denied the Point of the Bayan in this Revelation which hath appeared from God's

horizon. And sit not with those who have taken vain imaginings as their lord instead of God and who have been deprived of the lights of this Dawn.

Say: The Sun hath risen and the Day of God hath appeared, effacing thereby the light of the stars, if ye be possessed of insight.

When the Tablet of God reacheth thee, take it with such humility as is praiseworthy in the sight of thy Lord. Be not of those who forgot God's covenant and broke His testament, unaware of what they did, and returned to their families rejoicing. Say: Soon shall ye find yourselves in the fire, and whenever ye cry for help therein, ye shall be helped with yet another torment. Thus hath it been decreed on that Day by the All-Knowing, the All-Wise for the idolaters.

And the glory be upon thee if thou remainest steadfast in His love.

BH04384: O Baqir! Listen to the call of God…

He is the Almighty, the Ever-Abiding

O Baqir! Listen to the call of God from behind this blessed leaf, then follow what is therein and be not of those who remain idle. Fear God, then seek His grace from His presence. Verily He will guide you to truth and guidance through this Most Glorious Ridvan. Enter it with peace and great mercy.

Say: O people, follow what the Spirit has cast upon you and make not the Book of God to be forsaken among you, and be not of the heedless ones.

Say: The Beauty of God is hidden from you and thick veils have come between you and Him, and therefore do people differ concerning the Cause of God and devils emerge from their places and cause corruption in God's Cause to the extent they are able, and they are among the corrupters. And you, aid your Lord to the extent you are able and follow not the ways of these people, and hold fast to the cord of your Lord and be among the helpers.

Thus have We taught you the ways of holiness and guided you to the paths of justice that you may thank God, your Lord, with a pure and exalted tongue. Forget not My favor upon you and My love for you, then trust in all affairs to God, the Mighty, the Beautiful.

There has reached Us news of the hardships and harm that have touched you—be patient within yourself and grieve not, for God will soon aid you with a near victory. Be a teacher of your Lord's Cause with wisdom, then conceal it from those who have denied and turned away from God, the Mighty, the Powerful.

Give thanks, O servant, for what the Spirit has cast upon you of these inaccessible and exalted words.

BH04455: Glorified be He Who remembers His handmaid at…

He is the Mighty One in the heaven of eternity!

Glorified be He Who remembers His handmaid at a time when sorrows have encompassed Him from near and far, to such extent that His lips do not open in remembrance—and none knoweth this save God, the Mighty, the All-Knowing—while His fingers move the Pen to make mention of His sorrowful name.

O handmaid of God! Blessed art thou, for thy son hath attained the presence of the Throne and been honored to meet his Lord, and was among those who attained His presence. By God! His visitation is regarded by God as better than those who have visited and do visit in these days the shrines bearing Our names and are counted among the visitors—for they visit mere names while remaining veiled from their Creator and Originator, and are among the heedless ones.

Well is it with thee, O handmaid of God, that God hath brought forth from thee one who hath attained His presence and entered His vicinity and upon whom the lights of God, the Mighty, the Beautiful, have shone. Thus doth God single out whom He willeth through His grace, and verily He is the Forgiving, the Generous.

He hath made mention of thy faith and thy love for thy Lord, the Most High, the Most Great, and hath sent down unto thee these verses, the most wondrous, impregnable and wonderful. We send them to thee that thine eyes may be consoled thereby, thy heart may rejoice, thy being may be gladdened and thy soul may quiver with longing for God, the Beloved of them that know.

Remember thy Lord and what hath befallen Him of tribulations such as have befallen none else in the world. And the Glory rest upon thee and upon the handmaids of God who are steadfast. Remind them on Our behalf, then clothe them with the garments of glorification from thy Lord, the Revealer, the Most Exalted, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

BH04548: He is God, the Most Holy, the Most Exalted!...

He is God, the Most Holy, the Most Exalted! This is a letter from the servant to him who hath believed in God, the All-Protecting, the Self-Subsisting.

Say: Praise be to God Who hath caused me to know His Self and hath brought me back unto Him in days when all were veiled from His beauty, turned away from His presence, denied His signs, and were among those who were heedless. Rejoice within thyself that God hath enabled thee to know Him and hath made thee to be among those who are certain.

Remember thy Lord throughout all days and be not silent regarding the wonders of His remembrance. Whosoever remembereth Him on His earth, He remembereth him in the kingdom of His Cause. Thus hath the matter been decreed in preserved tablets of glory.

We desired to expound unto thee in this Tablet a detailed account of this announcement, but We heard the lamentation of the Concourse on High regarding a matter that was hidden from the eyes of the servants. We therefore stayed the Pen and shortened the Tablet. Be thou content with what hath been ordained for thee and say: Glorified, Sanctified is the Lord of Grandeur and Transcendence, Creator of earth and heaven, Lord of the angels and the Spirit.

We beseech God to assist thee in His Cause and to open before thy face a gate from the gates of Paradise, that His breezes may move thee at all times. Verily He is powerful over what He willeth and He is the Mighty, the Beloved.

And the Spirit be upon thee and upon those who have believed in God and cast behind them all else and who glorify their Creator morn and eve and draw nigh unto Him with faces illumined with the lights of God, the King, the Powerful, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy.

BH04428: These are the holy verses which have been sent…

He is the Most Glorious, the All-Glorious

These are the holy verses which have been sent down in truth from the presence of One mighty and wise for the handmaiden of God whose [son] attained the presence of the Throne and was sustained by the lights of God. Through them mercy hath descended from the heaven of My Name, the Most High, the Supreme. Blessed, then, is he who doth not deprive himself thereof and is numbered among those who have attained. Verily they have preceded all created things, yet none comprehend them save those possessed of keen insight.

And thou, O handmaiden of God, rejoice within thyself that God hath at this time magnified thy countenance from this remote Prison and hath sent unto thee the breezes of His mercy through the hands of them that bear glad-tidings. He, verily, is the Forgiving, the Merciful. He doth not forget His handmaidens who have believed in God their Creator and who have detached themselves from all else. His grace hath encompassed all contingent beings, and He is nigh unto the believing women and then unto the believing men.

Be thou steadfast in the Cause of thy Lord, and turn away from that which occupieth the generality of creatures. Make mention of thy Lord in the watches of the night and at the ends of the day, for this shall suffice thee above all that hath been ordained in the heavens and on earth. Then give thanks unto thy Lord for having granted thee a goodly offspring and made them to be among His assured servants. However, beseech God thy Lord at all times that He may strengthen them in this Cause, for verily it is mighty indeed. And the glory be upon thee and upon the handmaidens of God who are steadfast in the Cause, pure from defilement, preserved from uncleanliness, and have attained unto the command of God, the Almighty, the Most High, the Supreme.

BH04551: Lawh-i-Quds 3

The Most Holy, the Most Exalted

This is the Holy Tablet which hath been sent down in truth from the presence of One mighty and wise. From it the believers inhale the fragrance of the All-Merciful, and by it are stirred the hearts of those who have turned towards this luminous horizon. We have sent down in every matter clear verses and have manifested such power as hath rendered impotent all who are in the heavens and on earth.

When the ungodly beheld God's power they said: "This is sorcery," and when they heard His verses they denied the Lord of all worlds. How many unbelievers have appeared before the Throne—among them were those who desired this world, and those who sought extraordinary things beyond their customs. But when We manifested to them what they sought, it increased them in naught save evident loss.

How many souls have turned toward the Countenance and heard a word from thy Lord's mouth, and gave up their lives in the path of God, the Mighty, the Powerful. They in whose hearts is light desire naught save what God hath desired for them. These, verily, are upon a straight path. Upon them pray the denizens of the Kingdom and they who circle round thy Lord's throne, the Most High, the Most Great.

Blessed art thou for having turned to God, the Lord of all worlds, and recognized Him after Our heedless servants turned away from Him. Be content with God thy Lord. Verily He shall suffice thee, and He is the protector of the sincere ones. And when thou findest from any heart the fragrance of My love, make mention of him with spirit and fragrance from the presence of the All-Merciful, that his eyes may be solaced thereby and he may be among the steadfast.

Blessed is he who hath turned with his heart unto God and cast behind him all who are on earth. And praise be to God, the Lord of all worlds.

BH04471: Blessed art thou, O Sadiq, for thou hast been…

In the name of God, the Most Powerful, the Most Glorious

Blessed art thou, O Sadiq, for thou hast been faithful to My Covenant, and hast not forgotten My pledge, and hast not cast aside My remembrance. Thou didst turn unto My face and didst taste the sweetness of My remembrance and praise until thou becamest a captive in My love and a prisoner in My path and an exile in My atmosphere and a stranger in the lands for My name and the greatness of My Cause. By My Self, all the paradises belong to you—soon shall ye behold yourselves in manifest glory and dominion. By My Self, the Truth! Were anyone among those who circled round My pavilion and were touched by hardships for My name to look with Mine eye, he would see all beings behind him. Thus have We taught thee with truth, and none can inform thee like One Who is All-Aware.

We were with thee when thou wert seized and imprisoned and left thy homeland. Let not what hath befallen thee sadden thee—verily My Cause is mighty, mighty. Say: O My loved ones! Abandon that which causeth the Word to be divided, and take hold of that which uniteth hearts and giveth rest to the breasts of the sincere ones.

And remember when thou didst enter Iraq and God through thee broke the might of the aggressors. Blessed is thy mother when she entered the house of her Lord, whereby the hearts of the female unbelievers and male unbelievers were thrown into commotion. We have informed the servants in the Tablet We revealed to Our servant the Mihdi of what befell the House. Verily thy Lord is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

Say: All that hath appeared and shall appear is in the Book of my Lord—verily my Lord encompasseth all things. And the glory be upon thee and upon whosoever hath heard My call and followed that which was commanded by One mighty and great.

BH04372: Today the greatest of all things is steadfastness…

He is the Mighty, the Everlasting!

Today the greatest of all things is steadfastness in the Cause of God, and ever hath it been so, inasmuch as the satans have appeared from every direction and with utmost cunning are occupied with destroying the fortress of the Cause. It behooveth every assured soul to seek refuge with God the Exalted at all times, that perchance they may remain protected.

It is incumbent upon you to strive to safeguard the Cause to the extent of your power, lest the Pharaohs prevail over the hosts of God. This is said in consideration of your duty, otherwise the hosts of God have been and ever shall be victorious. Stand firm then in the Cause and turn not unto anyone, but place thy trust in God, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting.

O Leaf of Oneness! Hold fast unto this Tree lest thou fall when the winds of dissension blow from every malicious deceiver. In these days Satan summoneth in the name of the All-Merciful, and the Samiri calleth mentioning the Primal One, and Iblis is occupied with the utmost deception. Flee from him, O people of the earth, that ye may be sustained by the presence of God.

We hope, God willing, that through the wondrous favors of the Eternal One and His Most Glorious bestowals thou wilt not slip from the path of the Cause and wilt find repose beneath the protection of God. God speaketh the truth and guideth to the Way.

These few words were inscribed with a broken pen. The Spirit be upon thee and upon those with thee and upon him who was named the Generous One by the All-Wise, the All-Knowing.

BH04536: Your letter was reviewed. We were grieved by its…

He is the All-Glorious

Your letter was reviewed. We were grieved by its contents, but God, exalted and glorified be He, is witness and testimony that We have ever commanded people to unity and love. If humanity had perceived the sweetness of the divine words which descended from the Source of the Command, they would surely have acted according to what they were commanded.

The concealment of God has so prevailed that even if a hundred thousand errors were to be observed from someone, mention of it would never flow from the Pen of the Command; rather it would be forgiven—except for those souls who have turned away from the Truth. This action of God, as all bear witness, were it not that their desires prevent them from truth and sincerity—in such case the servants who are focused on the Most Great Horizon must follow the Truth, let alone speaking of what they have not seen and mentioning what they have not heard.

The Supreme Pen has ever been and continues to be engaged in mention of the loved ones of God. If they would look at the revealed Tablets, it would become evident and manifest to all. Verily thou wert with Us and didst migrate in the path of God. We beseech God to make thee a helper of His Cause in such wise that His signs may be spread by thee throughout all regions. Verily He is powerful over whatsoever He willeth.

God willing, thou hast ever been and wilt ever be reposing beneath the shade of the Divine Lote Tree, focused on Him and detached from all else. Never be saddened by such statements as were mentioned. Verily thy Lord desired for thee what He desired for His sincere servants. Verily He watcheth over thee and He is the Guardian of the doers of good. And praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH04408: O father! The Most Exalted Pen commands: Ponder now…

He is God, the Most High

O father! The Most Exalted Pen commands: Ponder now upon your son and gaze with the most pure vision toward the Greatest Scene. After all, every flower has had its fragrance and every light its radiance and manifestation. Consider what fire has enkindled your son and what light has attracted him. The fragrance of the divine paradise is clearly distinct from all else, and the taste of honey is manifestly different from that of colocynth. The divine Cause has never been confused with aught else, and the Word of God has ever shone bright and radiant like the sun. Yet people have confused themselves and continue to do so.

Bilal was an Abyssinian and had no knowledge of learning—how is it that today you accept and believe in him, while considering all the Jewish and Christian divines who lived in the time of the Messenger of God (may the spirit of all else be sacrificed for Him) to be ignorant, irreligious and infidels? Now that same Cause has appeared and that same Word has shed its radiance. Let not the opposition of the divines and the people prevent you from the truth. In this luminous morn, deprive not yourself of the outpourings of the All-Merciful. Know thou the value of this Tablet. Were it not for consideration of your love for your son, you would not have attained to such a bounty even if you had given away all that is on earth. Though it has been revealed briefly, yet oceans of meaning lie concealed within it. Reflect, that you may know and say:

> “Praise be to God for what I have attained unto, and I am of those who have repented.”

BH04407: O nightingales of the divine rose-garden and O birds…

O nightingales of the divine rose-garden and O birds of the eternal paradise! The morn of divine glad-tidings has dawned from the horizon of the soul, and the fire of Mosaic guidance blazes forth from the Sacred Tree of celestial glory. The divine paradise has been adorned with wondrous spiritual flowers, and the Tree of ancient Life has grown in the highest heaven. The cypress-like form of the Beloved has raised its stature in the gardens of the soul like the cypress of the rose-garden. The nightingales of the true paradise cry out in ecstasy from the radiance of the Rose and the overflow of the wine-vessels, and the lovers of the Friend’s countenance are struck senseless and bewildered by the light of His face and the

melodies of the Nightingale of the rose-garden. They hear with the ear of inner awareness the call of the divine Herald in that life-giving expanse of the Sinai of Oneness.

Therefore, O seekers of the Beauty of the All-Glorious, O wayfarers on the path of the peerless King, gird up the loins of endeavor, that you may take your portion from this universal bounty and all-embracing mercy, and receive your share from this boundless ocean of the grace of the divine King of Oneness, and partake of this table of everlasting favor which has encompassed all regions and been bestowed upon all atoms of existence according to the justice of the Worshipped One. Strive that, God willing, through His grace you may soar like celestial birds in this holy rose-garden, arrive at this shore of the Most Great Sea, and drink from this pure spring and everlasting Kawthar. All this is from the grace which was in the days of God witnessed and from the heaven of holiness sent down.

BH04443: The remembrance of God in the Tree of Spirit…

He is the Mighty

The remembrance of God in the Tree of Spirit: O peoples of the earth, hearken unto Me! Say: Verily in the singing of the Spirit, the dawning of the Sun of Glory, and the warbling of the Dove are signs for a people who understand. Say: Verily in the departure of this Servant are signs for you, did ye but know, and therein lies consummate wisdom which none comprehend save they who have shown patience in God and have hastened to the shores of nearness.

O servant! Give thanks unto God, thy Creator, then be patient in the channels of destiny, for thus should the doers act. Say: Verily the Bird of Nearness hath taken flight of itself unto God, the Mighty, the Powerful, the Self-Subsisting. Ye recognized it not in its days and were heedless of its presence, and God beareth witness to this, if ye do not. Say: Fie upon you, O people, for that which your hands have wrought in these days wherein hearts were consumed and holy temples were struck with fear, if ye do but perceive. Thus doth the Dove admonish you and remind you with verses of mighty glory. Say: It counseleth the loved ones at a time when it taketh flight from the branch of Iraq, that perchance the people may arise from the couches of heedlessness. Say: Beware, O people of the Bayan, lest ye create discord in the Cause and dispute in God’s religion—this is better for you than that which ye do. Fear God and speak not of that which ye know not. Verily the world shall pass away and unto dust shall ye return. Thus do We counsel you in this Tablet, if ye do but know it. And the Spirit be upon thee and upon those who turn unto God.

BH04458: Du’a-yi-Haykal

Glorified art Thou, O my God! I beseech Thee by Thy Name through which Thou hast manifested Thyself unto all things through all names, and through which the signs of Thy power have appeared in earth and heaven and the attributes of Thy oneness in the kingdom of creation, to cleanse Thy servants with the waters which Thou hast caused to flow from the clouds of Thy mercy and the heaven of Thy grace, that they may turn unto Thee with purified hearts, sanctified souls, attentive ears, illumined breasts and submissive necks.

Then gather them, O my God, beneath the shade of Thy tender mercies and bounties, and protect them from the harm of those who have forgotten Thy most exalted remembrance. Bestow upon them the good of this world and the next. Verily, Thou art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest, and Thou art the All-Compelling, the Self-Subsisting.

O my God! Deprive them not of the wondrous dawning-places of the sun of Thy oneness in Thy days, and cast them not out from the precincts of Thy mercy and beneficence. For Thou didst create them for the recognition of Thyself and certitude in the Manifestation of Thy Cause. Therefore, O my God, enable them lest they be deprived of that for which they were created.

Pour forth upon their spirits from the Kawthar of sweet life-giving water, that they may arise from the slumber of heedlessness and passion, and turn toward the sanctuary of Thy Cause, O Thou in Whose hand is the Kingdom of names and the dominion of eternity. May they circle round Thee and drink from the Salsabil of Thy gifts and the Tasnim of Thy bestowals, O Thou Who art the Physician of the hearts of them that yearn, the Companion of them that are lonely, and the Beloved of the hearts of them that know.

O Protector! O Protector! O Helper! O Helper! O Protector! O Protector! O Helper! O Helper! O Protector! O Protector! O Helper! O Helper!

BH04460: Lauded be Thy name, O my God! Thou seest…

Lauded be Thy name, O my God! Thou seest how I have been sorely vexed among Thy servants, and beholdest the things that have befallen me in Thy path. Thou knowest full well that I have not spoken a word but by Thy leave, that my lips have never been opened except at Thy bidding and in accordance with Thy pleasure, that every breath I have breathed hath been animated with Thy praise and Thy remembrance, that I have summoned all men to naught else except that whereunto Thy chosen ones have through all eternity been summoned, and that I have bidden them observe only the things that would draw them nearer unto the Day-Spring of Thy loving-kindness, and the Dawning-Place of Thy favors, and the Horizon of Thy riches, and the Manifestation of Thine inspiration and Thy revelation.

Thou art well aware, O my God, that I have not failed in my duty towards Thy Cause. At all times and under all conditions I have wafted, in every direction, the breezes of Thine inspiration, and shed abroad the sweet smell of the raiment of Thy mercy, that haply Thy servants may discover its fragrance, and through it be enabled to turn towards Thee.

I implore Thee, O my God, by the Lights of Thy unity and the Repositories of Thy revelation, to send down from the clouds of Thy mercy that which will cleanse the hearts of all such as have turned towards Thee. Blot out, then, from their hearts all that may induce Thy servants to cavil at Thy Cause.

Thy will hath overruled my will, O my God, and I have shown forth what hath grievously vexed me. Have mercy, then, upon me, O Thou Who of all those who show mercy art the Most Merciful!

Assist Thou Thy servants, O my God, to help Thy Cause, and give them to drink what will quicken their hearts in Thy realm, lest anything hinder them from remembering Thee and from extolling Thy virtues,

that they may quit their homes in Thy name, and summon all the multitudes unto Thee. Guard their faces, O my God, from turning to any one save Thee, and their ears from hearkening unto the sayings of all such as have turned away from Thy beauty and repudiated Thy signs.

Supreme art Thou over all things. There is none other God save Thee, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

BH04461: Glorified art Thou, O my God! Were it not…

Glorified art Thou, O my God! Were it not for the tribulations endured in Thy path, how could the stations of Thy true lovers be revealed, and were it not for the trials suffered for love of Thee, how could the exalted ranks of those who yearn for Thee be made manifest? By Thy might! The companions of Thy loved ones are the tears of their eyes, and the comforters of Thy devoted servants are the lamentations of their hearts, and the food of them that rush to meet Thee is the fragments of their stricken hearts. How sweet is the deadly poison suffered in Thy path, and how precious are the arrows of Thy enemies when encountered for the exaltation of Thy Word!

O my God! Pour out for me in Thy Cause whatsoever Thou willest, and send down upon me in Thy love all Thou hast ordained. By Thy might! I desire only what Thou desirest, and love only what Thou lovest. In Thee have I placed my complete trust at all times.

I implore Thee, O my God, by causing to appear for the triumph of this Cause one who is worthy of Thy name and sovereignty, that he may remember me amongst Thy creatures and raise the standards of Thy victory in Thy realm. Thou art, verily, powerful to do what Thou pleasest. There is none other God but Thee, the All-Compelling, the Self-Subsisting.

Glorified art Thou, O Lord my God! Strengthen the hearts of Thy loved ones by Thy power and might, lest they be affrighted by those who dwell on earth. Then make them, O my God, to shine forth from the horizon of Thy grandeur and to dawn forth from the dayspring of Thy power. O Lord! Adorn them with the ornament of justice and equity, and illumine their hearts with the lights of bounty and grace. Thou art, verily, the One, the Single, the Mighty, the Great.

I beseech Thee, O Lord of eternity and Sovereign of nations and Goal of all peoples, by Thy Most Great Name, to transform the seat of tyranny into the throne of Thy justice, and the chair of heedlessness and oppression into the seat of submission and equity. Verily, Thou doest what Thou willest, and Thou art, in truth, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

BH04475: Glory be to Thee, O Lord my God! I…

Glory be to Thee, O Lord my God! I beg of Thee by Thy Name through which He Who is Thy Beauty hath been stablished upon the throne of Thy Cause, and by Thy Name through which Thou changest all things, and gatherest together all things, and callest to account all things, and rewardest all things, and preservest all things, and sustainest all things—I beg of Thee to guard this handmaiden who hath fled for refuge to Thee, and hath sought the shelter of Him in Whom Thou Thyself art manifest, and hath put her whole trust and confidence in Thee.

She is sick, O my God, and hath entered beneath the shadow of the Tree of Thy healing; afflicted, and hath fled to the City of Thy protection; diseased, and hath sought the Fountain-Head of Thy favors; sorely vexed, and hath hasted to attain the Well-Spring of Thy tranquillity; burdened with sin, and hath set her face toward the court of Thy forgiveness.

Attire her, by Thy sovereignty and Thy loving-kindness, O my God and my Beloved, with the raiment of Thy balm and Thy healing, and make her quaff of the cup of Thy mercy and Thy favors. Protect her, moreover, from every affliction and ailment, from all pain and sickness, and from whatsoever may be abhorrent unto Thee.

Thou, in truth, art immensely exalted above all else except Thyself. Thou art, verily, the Healer, the All-Sufficing, the Preserver, the Ever-Forgiving, the Most Merciful.

BH04476: Glorified art Thou, O my God! Thou hearest my…

He is the Ever-Living, the Most High, the Most Exalted!

Glorified art Thou, O my God! Thou hearest my cry, and witnessest my lamentation, and knowest my sighing, and the secret anguish of my heart, and the affliction of my being, and the perturbation of my essence, and the dissolution of my identity, and the annihilation of my body, and the confusion of my form, and the trembling of my core. How then can I be worthy of the stations of the glory of Thy nearness, or befitting the pavilions of the majesty of meeting with Thee? For the heart wherein aught else but Thee hath entered can never be a mirror for Thy beauty, and the foot that hath walked in other than Thy good-pleasure can never gain entrance to the garden of Thy love or dwell in the precincts of Thy mercy, and the eye that hath turned to aught besides Thee can never be capable of beholding the lights of Thy countenance or witnessing the mysteries of Thy sovereignty.

Glorified, glorified art Thou! By Thy might and majesty, I have been afflicted with all this and kept from visiting Thy beauty, and I remain upon the face of the earth like unto a sinful transgressor who findeth for himself no helper and no forgiver. And this hath come to pass only through the heedlessness that hath encompassed me from all sides. I beseech Thee now, O my God, by the fire through which Thou didst cause all things to shine forth and by the light through which Thou didst give life to all created things, to make us severed from all else but Thee, and reliant upon Thee, and seeking refuge in Thy presence, and taking shelter at Thy court, and cleaving unto Thee, and imploring Thy mercy, and abiding through Thy perpetuity. For in Thy grasp lie the destinies of all things. Thou doest what Thou willest and ordainest as Thou pleasest. Thou shalt not be asked of what Thou willest and lovest. Verily, Thou art powerful over all things.

BH04486: Your letter has come before Us and We have…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy

Your letter has come before Us and We have learned of its contents and have answered you with this exalted Tablet. We beseech God to assist you to attain His love and good-pleasure and to cause you to soar at all times into the atmosphere wherein you will hear the praise of the denizens of the All-Highest

Paradise unto God, your Lord, the Mighty, the All-Praised. Blessed art thou for having recognized thy Lord, hearkened unto His call, and been of those who have turned towards Him. Place thy trust in God, then detach thyself from all else. Verily He is with His servants who place their trust in Him. Remember Him throughout all days—through His remembrance are illumined the hearts of them that have recognized His oneness.

Grieve not over anything, for there hath been ordained for thee in the Book an exalted station. Say: Glory be unto Thee, O my God! I beseech Thee by Thy power that hath encompassed all who are in the heaven of Command and Creation and the kingdom of the heavens and earth, and by Thy Most Great Name, the All-Glorious, to grant me that which Thou hast ordained for Thy chosen ones and to protect me from every affliction and harm. Thou art, verily, the Almighty, the All-Powerful. O my Lord! Deprive me not of those outpourings which Thou hast sent down upon Thy sincere ones from the clouds of Thy mercy, and remove me not from the shore of the glory of Thy oneness.

Then grant me, O my God, a seat of truth with Thee and join me with Thy sincere servants. O my Lord! I am he who hath clung to Thy gracious Name, and Thou art verily the All-Giving, the Bountiful, the Forgiving, the Merciful. Write down for me, then, with the Most Exalted Pen that which will preserve me from turning to any other than Thee. Thou art, verily, powerful over whatsoever Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the All-Bountiful, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. And praise be to God, the King, the All-Giving, the Most Exalted, the Most Great.

BH04499: In the Name of God, the Most Holy…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Deathless One! Say: O people! By God, We have not come to create corruption in the land, but rather to reform it and to reveal that which lies treasured within it, and to purify you from uncleanliness. We commanded the servants of God in Iraq and other lands not to oppose anyone, and even if they were killed, not to kill. Therefore the people grew bold and made My family and loved ones captives unto Mosul the calamitous. There befell them what had befallen the family of the Apostle, nay worse, would ye but know.

And among the people of the Bayan are those who have united with the Persians and denied God, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting. Such a one is of Satan's hosts and hath ever been a misbeliever, associating partners with God, the Mighty, the Loving. When he appears before the contemptible rabble who claim to be of the Bayan, he says "I have believed in God," but when he sees the ungodly he says "I am with you and have denied God, the Protector, the Mighty, the All-Forgiving." Woe unto those who have taken him and his like as protectors for themselves instead of God. Reflect, then observe how the secrets of hearts have been revealed, yet despite what people see of their deeds and hear of their words, they follow them unawares.

Say: Be fair, O people, concerning the Youth and those with Him. Did He ever rely upon anyone, or seek help from any soul, or unite with those who have denied God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy? Blessed, then, is he who ponders on what hath befallen Us, who in his love for his Lord becomes detached from all else save Him, and who turns his face toward the face of God, the Mighty, the Impregnable. Praise be to the Lord of the Day of Judgment.

BH04532: In the name of the Lord of grandeur…

In the name of the Lord of grandeur and power! To God belongs the dominion of the kingdom of the heavens and earth. Say: All names are My name and whatsoever is created is My proof—blessed are they who know. At times I remember Myself as the Most Exalted, and at other times as the Sovereign of Names Who is remembered as the Most Glorious, were ye of those who understand.

Verily, He Who dawned from the horizon of My heaven and appeared from the Lote-Tree of My Cause—We have caused Him to speak forth My remembrance and praise amongst the worlds. Beware lest ye join partners with God. He hath taken no partner unto Himself—thus hath it been revealed in the Tablets and Books of the Messengers. Can anything stand with Him? Nay, by the Lord of the exalted Throne!

We created the names and their kingdoms through a word from Us. Leave what ye possess and hold fast to this utterance. Say: Nothing shall profit anyone though he cling to the causes of the first and the last. Say: This is your Lord, the All-Merciful. He, verily, is the Almighty, the Powerful.

Say: Beware lest ye interpret God's words according to your desires. Ask, that He may explain to you what He intended. He, verily, is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. Grieve not at what they say. Consider what was said before. Thy Lord distinguisheth between the corrupter and the reformer. With Him is the knowledge of all things in a clear Book.

Remind those who are heedless with wisdom—should they turn to guidance, theirs shall be a reward in this world and the next. And should they turn away, thy Lord is the Mighty Avenger. We beseech God to gather all upon the Most Great Ocean and cause them to speak forth this Remembrance whereby the heaven was raised up, the sun shone forth, and the faces of the sincere were illumined.

BH04544: The Most Holy, the Most Glorious. This…

The Most Holy, the Most Glorious. This is a noble Book from God, the Mighty, the Wise, unto him who hath believed in the Day of Judgment, and turned unto God, and turned away from the idolaters, that he may be assured that his Lord chooseth whom He willeth and loveth whom He loveth. He, verily, is the Forgiving, the Merciful.

Despair not of the Spirit of God and His mercy, neither be thou grieved by the deeds of them that have disbelieved in God, the Mighty, the Wise. We have extended unto the idolaters all the means of earth; therefore have the gates of bounties been opened before their faces. Soon shall We seize them with Our might. Verily thy Lord is the Powerful, the Almighty.

Reflect upon those who have occupied themselves with the world and have turned away from their Lord, the Most Glorious. Can they consume of their wealth more than what God hath ordained? Nay, by thy Lord, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise! Or can they carry it with them after the angel of death hath come from thy Lord, the Mighty, the Praised One? Nay, by thy Lord! They shall abandon what they possess with grief and sorrow and shall return to their abode in the nethermost hell.

Say: O people! Let not the world delude you with its vanities. How many servants above you were deluded by its ornaments, yet when their time came naught thereof profited them. Verily thy Lord is the Ruler over what He willeth.

Leave those who have disbelieved and be manifest among the servants through the name of thy Lord, and call out among them with My remembrance, the Mighty, the Wondrous. He will verily protect thee through the truth and nothing shall prevent Him from what He desireth. But the people are in a mighty veil.

Thus have We inspired thee and taught thee that thou mayest thank thy Lord in thy days and be of those who remember. And praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH04818: A Book sent down in truth unto men…

A Book sent down in truth unto men of insight! It biddeth the people to observe justice and to work righteousness, and forbiddeth them to follow their corrupt inclinations and carnal desires, if perchance the children of men might be roused from their slumber.

Say: Follow, O people, what hath been prescribed unto you in Our Tablets, and walk not after the imaginations which the sowers of mischief have devised, they that commit wickedness and impute it to God, the Most Holy, the All-Glorious, the Most Exalted. Say: We have accepted to be tried by ills and troubles, that ye may sanctify yourselves from all earthly defilements. Why, then, refuse ye to ponder Our purpose in your hearts?

By the righteousness of God! Whoso will reflect upon the tribulations We have suffered, his soul will assuredly melt away with sorrow. Thy Lord Himself beareth witness to the truth of My words. We have sustained the weight of all calamities to sanctify you from all earthly corruption, and ye are yet indifferent.

Say: It behoveth every one that holdeth fast to the hem of Our Robe to be untainted by anything from which the Concourse on high may be averse.

Thus hath it been decreed by thy Lord, the All-Glorious, in this His perspicuous Tablet. Say: Set ye aside My love, and commit what grieveth Mine heart? What is it that hindereth you from comprehending what hath been revealed unto you by Him Who is the All-Knowing, the All-Wise?

We verily behold your actions. If We perceive from them the sweet smelling savor of purity and holiness, We will most certainly bless you.

Then will the tongues of the inmates of Paradise utter your praise and magnify your names amidst them who have drawn nigh unto God.

Cling thou to the hem of the Robe of God, and take thou firm hold on His Cord, a Cord which none can sever. Beware that the clamor of them that have repudiated this Most Great Announcement shall not deter thee from achieving thy purpose.

Proclaim what hath been prescribed unto thee in this Tablet, though all the peoples arise and oppose thee. Thy Lord is, verily, the All-Compelling, the Unfailing Protector. My glory be with thee and with those of My loved ones that asociate with thee. These indeed are they with whom it shall be well.

BH04847: This is a Book from the Youth to those…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious

This is a Book from the Youth to those who have grasped the cord of God, the Protector, the Mighty, the Powerful, that the breezes of revelation might attract them—breezes from which the fragrance of the Intended One is wafted. By My life! These shall detach them from the worlds and draw them nigh unto a station wherein the Tree of the Command doth speak:

> "There is no God but Me, the Powerful, the Exalted, the Mighty, the Beauteous."

O thou who art present! When thou reachest thy land, remind My loved ones on My behalf, that the breezes of My remembrance might waft over them from the paradise of My loving-kindness, and My melodies might attract them to the heaven of My mercy and the atmosphere of My favors, and might make them steadfast in My Cause in such wise that neither the oppression of any oppressor, nor the prevention of any preventer, nor all the hosts of the earth shall turn them aside. Thus hath it been inscribed by the Pen of Revelation at the time when the Ancient Beauty was established upon the throne of His Most Great Name, that it might be glad tidings for you and a remembrance for all the worlds.

Blessed are ye, O My loved ones, in that ye have attained unto the recognition of My Self, and have turned toward My direction, and have advanced toward the Kaaba of My beauty and the sanctuary of My glory. God shall soon make you stars in the horizon of My Cause, inasmuch as your names have been mentioned before the throne of your Lord, the Mighty, the Generous. Be ye steadfast in the Cause, then assist your Lord, the All-Merciful, through remembrance and utterance. Thus doth the Youth command you from the presence of One mighty and all-knowing. And glory be upon you and upon whosoever hath turned toward the Dawning-Place of the Command and hath detached himself from those who have disbelieved—verily they are of the people of Baha in a mighty and glorious tablet.

BH04778: Thy letter hath been presented in Our presence…

In the Name of God, the Most Mighty, the Most Inaccessible, the Most Holy, the Most High

Thy letter hath been presented in Our presence, and We have heard what thou hast cried out unto God, in thy open utterance and in thy secret supplication. Verily thy Lord encompasseth all things. Grieve not over the world and its vanities; for unto every hardship hath been decreed a manifest ease. They who have attained unto those days, and have acknowledged God and the Manifestation of His Self, shall not be dismayed by the Most Great Terror; they are, in truth, of the near ones of God. Say:

Praise be to Thee, O Lord my God! I am the one who hath sought the good pleasure of Thy will, and directed his steps towards the seat of Thy gracious favors. I am he who hath forsaken his all, who hath fled to Thee for shelter, who hath set his face towards the tabernacle of Thy revelation and the adored

sanctuary of Thy glory. I beseech Thee, O my Lord, by Thy call whereby they who recognized Thy unity have sought the shadow of Thy most gracious providence, and the sincere have fled far from themselves unto Thy name, the most exalted, the all-glorious, through which Thy verses were sent down, and Thy word fulfilled, and Thy proof manifested, and the sun of Thy beauty risen, and Thy testimony established, and Thy signs uncovered,—I beseech Thee to grant that I may be numbered with them that have quaffed the wine that is life indeed from the hands of Thy gracious providence, and have rid themselves, in Thy path, of all attachment to Thy creatures, and been so inebriated with Thy manifold wisdom that they hastened to the field of sacrifice with Thy praise on their lips and Thy remembrance in their hearts. Send down, also, upon me, O my God, that which will wash me from anything that is not of Thee, and deliver me from Thine enemies who have disbelieved in Thy signs.

Potent art Thou to do what Thou willest. No God is there beside Thee, the Help in Peril, the Self-Subsisting.

BH04741: Glorified art Thou, O my God! I beseech Thee…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Great!

Glorified art Thou, O my God! I beseech Thee by Thy Name through which Thou didst draw unto Thee the hearts of them that are sincere and the souls of them that are nigh unto Thee, that Thou withhold not Thy servants from entering the gate of Thy mercy and from gaining admission into the tabernacle of Thy grandeur and Thy favors. Make them then, O my God, to be among Thy exalted Letters between earth and heaven, that every soul may recount the Word through which all things were created and whereby arose the lamentation of the denizens of the Kingdom of Names. Then cause them, O my God, to know Thy Most Exalted Self in Thy latter Manifestation through the Name whereby the dark veils were rent asunder, and raise them up unto the heights of nearness and holiness and beauty that they may hear Thy melodies and witness Thy beauty and attain unto Thy presence. Verily, Thou art the Almighty, the All-Glorious, the Most Great.

O Mihdi! Be thou guided by the guidance of God and abandon the cup of extinction. Then take the cup of eternity in the name of thy Lord, the Most Glorious. Give to drink therefrom at times in My Most Exalted Name, and at times in My Name through which were scattered the pillars of the people of rancor and hatred, and again in My Name, the All-Forgiving, and yet again in My Name, the All-Merciful. Fear not those who have disbelieved in God, the Lord of the Beginning and the End. Appear with a radiant countenance between earth and heaven, then summon the people unto God, thy Lord and the Lord of the highest heavens. Thus doth command thee the Youth from before God, the Lord of the seen and the unseen. Praise be to the King of the Throne and of all that lieth beneath the dust, and glory be unto the people of glory.

BH04646: O servant! Hearken unto the call of thy Lord…

In the Name of God, the All-Powerful, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious

O servant! Hearken unto the call of thy Lord, the Most Exalted, the Most High, from the spot whereon is established the throne of thy Lord, the Most High, the Most Great, that this call may draw thee nigh unto the seat of grandeur and glory and cause thee to enter the kingdom of thy Lord, the Mighty, the All-Wise. Dost thou rest content in thy abode while the Ancient Beauty is in grievous affliction? Dost thou drink water while the mouth of holiness is denied the water of meaning and utterance through that which the hands of the idolaters have wrought? Dost thou rejoice while the dwellers of Paradise lament by reason of that which hath befallen the Beauty of Holiness at the hands of the company of the wrongdoers? Cast the world behind thee, then turn unto thy Ancient Lord. By My life! Were the fragrance of the verses to possess thee, it would attract thee in such wise that thou wouldst detach thyself from all things and leave thy home, turning towards the wilderness, crying out therein morn and eve:

> "Where art Thou, O Thou the Desire of the worlds and the Beloved of them that have recognized Thee!"

O Thou Who hast accepted abasement for the glory of Thy servants and affliction for the comfort of all that dwell on earth! Be thou in the days of thy Lord in such wise that the sweet savors of detachment may be wafted from thee among the concourse of creation. Thus doth command thee the Sovereign of creation through Whom the servants were troubled and the lands were shaken, and the hearts of them that are detached were gladdened. Give thanks unto thy Lord for having been mentioned by the Most Exalted Pen in this spot which God hath made the point round which circle all mankind. And praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH04641: In the name of God, the Most Holy! O…

In the name of God, the Most Holy! O My handmaiden! God hath rewarded thee from Us with the best of rewards, and granted thee what He hath ordained of the wonders of His remembrance in both the latter and former times. We have heard thy call, and recognized thy condition, and known that wherewith thou didst call upon God, the Lord of all creation, and We have answered thee with this luminous and brilliant Tablet that thine eye may be consoled thereby, thy heart assured, and thy face illumined. Verily thy Lord is the Mighty, the Generous.

Say: Glory be to Thee, O my God! I am one of Thy handmaidens who hath turned her face toward the court of Thy favors. The breezes of Thy mercy have wafted over me, and from them I have inhaled the fragrance of the garment of Thy grace. O Lord! Cast not Thy handmaiden away from the door of Thy bounty, and grant her that which shall cause her to endure through the endurance of Thy sovereignty.

O Lord! I am she who hath clung to the cord of Thy favors and held fast to the hem of Thy loving-kindness, and hath fled from herself unto Thee, and forsaken all else through longing to meet Thee. Cause me to soar, O my Beloved, in the atmosphere of Thy nearness and the heaven of Thy reunion, that I may thank Thee among Thy handmaidens and make mention of Thee amidst Thy creation. Verily, Thou art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest. There is no God but Thee, the All-Compelling, the Self-Subsisting. Then make mention from Us to all who are in thy household, both female and male, that they may all give thanks unto their Lord, the Mighty, the Loving. And the glory be upon thee and upon those who have turned toward the court of God, the Mighty, the Praised.

BH04643: O Hussein, who art of the people, the Most…

O Hussein, who art of the people, the Most Holy, the Most Inaccessible, the Most Mighty, the Most Glorious! O Hussein, hearken unto the call of this Hussein at a time when the dogs of hatred have encompassed Him in this darksome pit, and He hath no helper nor defender. To His right standeth Shimr with his sword, and to His left Sinan with his spear, and before Him the accursed Khawli. By God! At every moment they desired to slay Me, but God protected Me in truth and destroyed them by their own devices, and the hosts of victory descended with manifest and clear authority. Thus did it befall the Youth, if ye be of them that understand.

Blessed is the eye that weepeth at His tribulations, and the tongue that crieth out at His afflictions, and the heart that yearneth in this supreme calamity. And thou, O servant, make mention of My tribulations and My sorrows among the company of them that know. Beware lest thou forget the time when thou didst attain unto the lights of the Countenance and wert of them that have won. Blessed art thou, again blessed art thou, in that thou hast been nourished by the fruits of the Tree of Eternity when thou didst enter the Holy Precinct, the spot whereon God established Himself upon the throne of His mighty Name.

Be thou steadfast in the Cause, then be firm, and if thou findest one who turneth towards it, turn thou towards him, and if thou findest one who turneth away, turn thou away from him and set thy face toward the holy and inaccessible sanctuary of God, the Mighty, the Wise. Thus hath He commanded thee Who is the Command of all things from a beginning that hath no beginning unto the end of them that are last. And glory be upon thee and upon every fair-minded and discerning believer.

BH04770: A tablet hath been sent down from the direction…

A tablet hath been sent down from the direction of the Throne for him who was named Ibrahim, that he might be mindful through the remembrance of God, the Most High, the All-Wise. He is the Wondrous One in the most glorious horizon. Glorified be He Who sendeth down verses for people who understand! Verily, there is no God but Him. His is the creation and the command, and all return unto Him.

This is a Book wherein a servant of God is remembered, that he might rejoice within himself and be among those who are mindful. O servant! Forget not thy Lord in these days, but remember Him in thy heart and with thy tongue, and be not of those who understand not.

Follow the religion of God, thy Lord—and verily its foundation and origin is this Cause which hath appeared with the truth with manifest sovereignty. Leave the mention of people and what is among them, and take hold of the remembrance of God by His command. Verily, there is no God but Him. He createth what He willeth through His word “Be!” and it is.

Grieve not over the world and what hath befallen thee therein, for it shall soon perish in the coming days, and sovereignty will remain with the countenance of God, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting. Trust in all matters in God, thy Lord, and He will send down for thee what hath been ordained for thee in a preserved and mighty Tablet.

Be steadfast in the love of God and His Cause, and be not troubled in the hour when the feet of the servants are shaken from this exalted and extended Path. Thus have We commanded thee with truth that thou mayest be mindful of what thou hast been commanded in the Book and be among those who remember through the remembrance of God.

BH04648: O Perfumer of Oneness, perfume all contingent beings…

He is the Wondrous One in the Most Glorious horizon.

O Perfumer of Oneness, perfume all contingent beings with the fragrance that was sent from the direction of the Garment. Then stand firm in the love of thy Lord in such wise that the turning away of those who turn away shall never prevent thee, even were all who are on earth to be gathered together.

Take comfort in the remembrance of thy Lord, then forget those who have disbelieved and associated partners with God and were deprived of God's mercy. Leave them to themselves—sufficient for them is what issueth from their mouths, for they say "We have believed in the Bayan," yet when it was sent down once again they denied it and halted upon the heights of rejection without right. Say: O people, dispute not about the verses of God nor deny Him Whom the Spirit of Truth serveth every morn and eve.

And thou, rejoice in the gladness of the Cause and leave the idolaters to burn in the fire of unbelief within their own hell, for thy Lord's punishment of the idolaters was, by the mystery of justice, severe.

Remember thy Lord in the morning and the evening and in the watches of the night and the ends of the day, for by His remembrance hearts are purified and the fire of love surgeth in every pure and luminous breast. Turn thy face each day toward the court of thy Lord and say: O my Lord, I am he who hath turned his face toward the court of Thy grace and bounties. Therefore, O my God, deprive me not of what Thou hast ordained for Thy chosen ones, and make me steadfast in the Cause from which the feet of every rejected idolater have slipped.

BH04743: Praised be Thou, O Lord my God! Thou art…

Praised be Thou, O Lord my God! Thou art He the excellence of Whose glory hath exalted them who are the sources of authority and honor, the potency of Whose might hath empowered them who are the fountain-heads of energy and strength, the dominion of Whose will hath elevated the exponents of Thy Cause above all that are in heaven and on earth, and the life-giving effusions of Whose Pen have quickened the souls of the denizens of the kingdom of creation.

I am he, O my Lord, who, wholly for Thy sake, hath turned his face unto Thee, and who, while acknowledging Thy power and Thy sovereignty, hath directed his steps towards Thy dearly-loved Sanctuary, and Thine adored and hallowed Court. In this state I have reached the City (Baghdad) wherein, in the full glory of Thy names, Thou didst reveal Thy self unto all created things. In it I have communed with Thy loved ones, and from the House within its walls I have inhaled the breaths of Thy holiness and perceived the fragrances of Thy fellowship.

Cast me not from Thy presence, O my Lord, neither do Thou drive me away from the shores of Thy love and Thy good-pleasure. For the poor can find no refuge unless he knocketh at the door of Thy wealth, and the outcast can find no peace until he be admitted to the court of Thy favor.

Magnified be Thy name, O my Lord, for Thou hast enabled me to recognize the Manifestation of Thine own Self, and hast caused me to be assured of the truth of the verses which have descended upon Thee. Empower me, I implore Thee, to cling steadfastly unto whatsoever Thou hast bidden me observe. Help me to guard the pearls of Thy love which, by Thy decree, Thou hast enshrined within my heart. Send down, moreover, every moment of my life, O my God, that which will preserve me from any one but Thee, and will set my feet firm in Thy Cause.

Thou art, verily, the God of glory, the God of power, the God of knowledge and wisdom. No God is there beside Thee, the Great Giver, the All-Bountiful, The Almighty, the Ever-Forgiving.

Praised be God, the All-Glorious, the All-Compelling.

BH04838: In the Name of God, the Most Holy!…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy! The Breath of God is passing by and the Word of God is being revealed. Blessed is he who hath found it and turned unto it with an illumined heart.

Praise be to the Beloved of the worlds Who, through His vast grace and His pre-existent mercy, summoned you to the shore of the glory of oneness and caused you to dwell beneath the holy and everlasting Tree. Your mention floweth from the Pen of the Most Great Name throughout the divine scriptures and tablets. This hath been and shall ever remain the most exalted of stations. Though today, due to consummate wisdom and mankind's lack of capacity, this greatest bounty remaineth concealed, the day shall come when it will shine forth like the sun from the horizon of divine Will.

Consider the people as dead and as naught, save those souls who have in this radiant morn quaffed from the Kawthar of divine favor. These are the gems of creation in the sight of God. Be not grieved by the opposition and objections of the people. Soon shall the people of that land and other lands pride themselves in your names. Today they are as infants, drunk and unconscious from the breast of heedlessness and desire. But after attaining maturity and awareness, they shall bear witness to that which God Himself hath testified. The hand of God is above their hands. All that hath flowed from the Pen of the Ancient of Days shall be made manifest. On that day shall the deniers behold themselves in manifest loss.

In outward matters, observe wisdom. Thus hath it been ordained by the Mighty, the Wise.

BH04663: O Jum'ih! God willing, through the grace…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Great

O Jum'ih! God willing, through the grace of the King of Oneness, mayest thou be ever verdant and flourishing in this divine and spiritual garden. In a former tradition it was mentioned that on the Day of Resurrection God, glorified be His majesty, will raise up Friday. Therefore We have now raised it up in thy

form—praised be God, the best of creators! For whosoever today attains recognition of the Sun of Truth and remains steadfast in His love—all good hath been and will be ordained for him.

The divine worlds are not confined to these limited days. Soon will the people of Baha attain unto the endless divine bounties. For every matter there is an appointed time; when the hour arrives, that which hath been ordained by the Lord of Names and Attributes will be made manifest. Ask thou of God that thou mayest ever circle round the divine Lote-Tree of His Cause in such wise that thou seest naught but Him and countest all else as non-existent and null. Lur and Kurd, Arab and Persian and Turk—all have been and shall ever be equal in the sight of God. Whosoever turns to Him, from whatsoever group he may be, is reckoned among the people of Baha. The denizens of the Supreme Paradise and the dwellers of the Cities of Eternity shower their blessings upon such a one at all times.

BH04606: Lawh-i-Ram

Fear God, O people of the earth, and do not imagine that what We have mentioned in the Tablet by the name of “ram ram” refers to that which people drink and by which their minds are clouded, their nature altered, their light transformed and their purity sullied. Rather, by this “ram ram” We mean that which increases love for God and love for His chosen ones and love for His friends, and which kindles in hearts the fire of God and His love, then His glory and His grandeur.

For it is of that wine which, should anyone drink a drop thereof, would draw him to the precincts of holiness and nearness and bring him to the presence of God, the King, the Mighty, the Beautiful. And verily it is that wine by which the signs of limitation are erased from the hearts of lovers and the verses of unity and detachment are inscribed, admitting them into the pavilion of the Beloved before God, the King, the Protector, the Forgiving, the Generous.

And by this wine We intended the Kawthar of God and His outpouring, and the Salsabil of God and His Tasnim, and the wine of God and His grace, even as was revealed in the Furqan, if you be of those who know. He said—and His word is the truth—“wine delightful to those who drink.” And by this wine He intended naught but what We have mentioned to you, O concourse of the assured ones.

Beware lest you exchange the wine of God for your own wine, for it clouds the mind and turns the face away from the face of God, the Mighty, the Wondrous, the Inaccessible. And you must not approach it, for it hath been forbidden unto you by God, the Exalted, the Great.

BH04673: The Sun of Truth is the Word of God…

He is the Ever-Living, the Self-Subsisting! Blessed and exalted be His station!

The Sun of Truth is the Word of God, upon which dependeth the education of those who are endowed with the power of understanding and of utterance. It is the true spirit and the heavenly water, through whose aid and gracious providence all things have been and will be quickened. Its appearance in every mirror is conditioned by the colour of that mirror. For instance, when its light is cast upon the mirrors of the hearts of the wise, it bringeth forth wisdom. In like manner, when it manifesteth itself in the mirrors of the hearts of craftsmen, it unfoldeth new and unique arts, and when reflected in the hearts of those

that apprehend the truth, it revealeth wondrous tokens of true knowledge and discloseth the verities of God's utterance.

All the people of the world and whatsoever appeareth therein subsist through man, and appear through him, while man himself existeth through the Sun of the Divine Word. The most beautiful names and most exalted attributes have ever circled and will continue to circle round the Word. It is the divine fire which, when kindled in the breasts, consumeth all things besides God. The hearts of the lovers are aflame with this fire. This fire is in truth water appearing in the form of fire—outwardly fire, inwardly light. Through this water all things have had and will have life, for "from water doth all life come." We beseech God that we may drink of this divine sweet water from this spiritual cup and that we may pass beyond the world and all therein for the sake of His love. And glory be upon the people of glory!

BH04713: The remembrance of God from the Tree…

In the Name of God, the Most High, the Most Exalted

The remembrance of God from the Tree of the Command has been raised up in truth. Hearken, O people, and deprive not yourselves of listening to the Word of God which has appeared in the temple of the Youth. Blessed be God Who created all things by His Command which has been witnessed by the worlds. Say: O people, be not of those who have cast the Word of God behind their backs, and deprive not yourselves of this Light which shines forth from the pavilion of glory and whose rays have dawned upon the worlds. Purify your eyes that you may be enabled to behold the holy lights from this Countenance whereon the remembrance of God has been inscribed by the Pen of the Command with the musk of eternity. Beware lest you choose for yourselves that which you have been forbidden, and abandon that which you have been commanded. Fear God and be not deluded by the world which has been rejected from time immemorial. Purify your deeds for God's sake that God may deliver you from the fire which has been kindled in the depths of hell by God's decree for all eternity.

And thou, O servant, arise to remember God and obey Him, then detach thyself from all that prevents thee from attaining the praised sanctuary. Thus does God command thee in this Tablet, and those who have taken refuge in the protecting shadow of their Lord, a secure station. Be grateful to thy Lord for having been mentioned by the Holy Pen in this Tablet which has been sealed with the seal of remembrance. And mercy be upon thee and upon those who remember God morning and evening.

BH04739: Glorified be He Who hath sent down the verses…

He is the Mighty, the Most Holy, the Most Glorious

Glorified be He Who hath sent down the verses in truth, that they may be a guidance and remembrance for all the worlds. O people! Fear God and follow not the footsteps of Satan. Follow that which God hath commanded you in the Book and be ye of them that are assured. Deprive not yourselves of God's bounty in these days. By God! That which was never manifested in the worlds hath now been made manifest.

Beware, O people! Fear God and shun that which ye have been forbidden by One wise and knowing. Do that which draweth you nigh unto God and keepeth you from transgression and wickedness. Thus doth

the Pen of Command enjoin you, that ye may be of them that act. Behold the world and ponder upon it. Do ye find its morning like unto its evening? Nay, by the Lord of the worlds! Rather doth it change every moment, as ye yourselves do witness and are of them that testify. Despite this, doth it beseem the loved ones of God to turn unto it in such wise as to be distracted from the remembrance of God, the Mighty, the Gracious? Say: O people! God hath created you for eternity. Beware lest ye choose extinction for yourselves and be of the lost. And thou, O servant! Arise to serve God and to remember Him, then detach thyself from all created things. God hath ordained in the Tablet for whosoever desireth Him a great good. Remember God, thy Lord, at all times, then turn the face of thy heart toward God, thy Lord and the Lord of the worlds. And the glory rest upon thee if thou remainest steadfast in the love of thy Ancient Lord.

BH04761: Blessed art thou for having attained the presence…

In the Name of God, the Mighty, the All-Knowing!

Blessed art thou for having attained the presence of the Youth at the spot whereon the Most Great Ocean was established upon the Ark—in this are signs for them that are endued with insight—and for having heard with thine ears My call and turned thy face toward this Countenance, from which the faces of men have turned aside, save for a handful who have turned to thy Lord, the Mighty, the Beauteous. Then thou didst enter once again this land, wherein every atom of its atoms lamenteth by reason of what hath befallen the Youth without clear proof or illuminating Book. Grieve not at this, for verily the Youth is in supreme joy and gladness. By God! He yearneth for tribulations in the path of His Lord even as the sinful yearn for the mercy of thy Lord, the All-Merciful, the Most Compassionate. And the more intense the tribulations become, the more doth the fire of His love increase—and thy Lord is witness to what I say.

If thou shouldst meet My loved ones, glorify their countenances on My behalf, then recount unto them what thou hast known and learned and witnessed, that they may soar in the atmosphere of detachment and be severed from all who dwell on earth. Convey My remembrance unto Kamal and say: Be thou steadfast, then hold fast unto the Ark of thy Lord, the All-Merciful, for the waters of heedlessness have encompassed all lands—soon shalt thou find their inhabitants among the drowned, save whom thy Lord willeth, for He preserveth whom He pleaseth, and He is powerful over all things. Then make mention of Jim on My behalf, that the remembrance of the Youth may stir him and raise him to a noble station. Then remember My loved ones and thy kindred, all of them. And praise be to God, the Lord of all worlds.

BH04771: He is God! Glorified art Thou, O my God!…

He is God! Glorified art Thou, O my God! This servant of Thine spent his days heedless of Thy beauty and remote from the holy precincts of Thy oneness, until his days reached the stage where old age overtook him and he returned to the most feeble time of life, such that his hair turned white, his limbs trembled, and his members shook.

However, O my God, since he believed in Thee through Thy First Beauty, whom Thou didst distinguish above Thy servants, making Him the Seal of Thy Prophets, the Beginning of Thy Chosen Ones, a Light in Thy lands, and a treasure and honor for Thy trusted ones—therefore Thou didst make the end of his days

the beginning of Thy days, and the ultimate attainment of his maturity the attainment to the Manifestations of Thy unity and arrival in the precincts of Thy oneness.

Therefore, O my God, waft over him from the Ridvan of Thine eternity the breezes of Thy essence and the winds of Thy oneness, that he may know the mysteries of Thy uniqueness in the temples of Thy detachment and acknowledge Thy Later Beauty just as he acknowledged Thy majesty in Thy First Beauty.

Then raise him up, O my Beloved, from the graves of heedlessness and gather him among the company of the believers in the gardens of Thy exalted spirits, that he may witness with the eye of his heart the lights of the might of Thy sovereignty in the dawning-places of the holiness of Thy eternality, until he becomes certain of Thy greatest signs and the most resplendent garments of Thy Being in Thy Most High, Most Exalted Beauty, and submissive to all that He brought in the kingdom of creation and the dominion below, for in Thy hand is the kingdom of the sovereignty of the heavens and earth, and Thou art He Who doeth what He willeth in the Most Exalted Companion, and Thou art powerful over all things.

BH04844: This is Our tablet to the one who hath…

In the Name of God the Eternal, the Everlasting.

This is Our tablet to the one who hath believed in God, that the call of God may attract him to the throne of his Lord. Verily Thy Lord is the most bountiful. Make mention of thy Lord at all times with such steadfastness that the calamities and the injustice perpetrated by those who disbelieve in God, the All-Glorious, the All-Knowing, will affect thee not. Thinkest thou that their glory or what they possess of earthly treasures will endure? Nay, by the beauty of the All-Sublime! All on earth will pass away except the face of thy Lord, the Almighty, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. Whenever thou are overtaken by sorrows, pass by the graves and meditate upon them, that thou mayest find thyself in manifest detachment. Canst thou distinguish the kings from the downtrodden, or the rich from the poor? Nay, by thy Lord, the All-Forgiving, the Most-Compassionate.

Among the people is he who, when he witnesseth one gazing upon his home, he desireth, in his anger, to kill him. But erelong his enemies shall seize that which is in his home, and he will find himself in manifest loss. And among the people is he who, if he lacks but a single dinar, his face will turn dark with covetousness. When death overtakes him the hand of separation severs him from that which he had avidly amassed.

O my brother! By God, I summon thee but for the sake of God. Incline thy ears to My Words, arise to serve thy Lord, and make mention of Him amongst His servants. He suffices thee with the truth, and He is Powerful over all things. Rely upon Him under all conditions, and say : “O Lord assist me in thy service. Thou art the Most Compassionate. Praise be to the Beloved of the worlds”.

BH11774: Glorified be He Who sendeth down the verses…

He is the Beloved!

Glorified be He Who sendeth down the verses as He willeth. Through them He leadeth some of His servants astray while others are guided aright. This hath ever been God's way, and no change can ye find therein, did ye but know. They who have believed and been guided by God's guidance—these are they who are truly guided. And they who have disbelieved and turned away—these shall be brought forth in the fire. Thus hath it been ordained for this one and that, could ye but perceive with the eye of the spirit in all things.

We do relate unto thee and unto those who were before, that they may be assured of God's signs. Grievous indeed is the utterance of those who forge lies against God and His servant while thinking they do good. Say: We have taken account of all things and encompassed whatsoever is in the heavens and on earth. Nothing is hidden from God thy Lord, if ye would but recognize His signs and be assured thereof.

Say: O women of the earth! Hearken unto that which the Spirit imparteth unto you. Think not ill of God, and be not of those who through false learned ones remain heedless of God's religion and turn not unto the religion of God, the Most High.

Say: O people! Believe in God and associate not aught with Him. Then follow what hath been sent down in the Bayan if ye would rejoice in the paradise of light.

And thou, render thanks unto thy Lord for what He hath bestowed upon thee through His grace, honored thee through His Cause, and provided thee with the fruits of love wherein the near ones glory.

BH05015: In the name of God, the Most Holy…

In the name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Glorious! These are the verses of the Book which have been sent down in truth from the heaven of the grace of your Lord, the Most High, the Great. By them are drawn the hearts of those who have turned towards the Most Great Scene, the Station wherein the Lord of Destiny hath been established with manifest sovereignty. Blessed art thou for having rent asunder the veils of glory and attained unto the lights of Beauty. This is of the bounty of thy Lord, the Mighty, the Most Exalted. He, verily, is nigh unto the doers of good.

Guard thyself lest thy feet slip and thou remain steadfast with a certainty that cannot be shaken by the imaginings of the calumniators who have fabricated lies against God after He came to them with a manifest proof. They were wont to call upon Him night and day, yet when the All-Compelling came, they turned away from Him and followed the wrong-doers. Shun those who have disbelieved, then remember thy Ancient Lord. He, verily, preserveth whom He willeth and aideth those who have turned unto Him. He is, in truth, powerful over all things.

Grieve not because of the wicked ones. They are assuredly the companions of the fire and shall enter their abodes therein. Thy Lord is, in truth, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

Say: O people, fear ye God and follow not the promptings of the ungodly who breathe naught but their own desires and commit that which is unseemly. They are, verily, among the companions of the burning fire.

Arise thou to make mention of Me amongst My servants, that haply the Call may draw them to the Dayspring of Names and bring them nigh unto God, the Beloved of the worlds. Thus have We sent down unto thee this Tablet that thou mayest be assured of thy Lord's grace and make mention of Him as thou hast been mentioned by Him in this perspicuous Tablet.

BH05159: In the Name of God, the Most Holy…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Glorious! This is a Book from Us to him who was stirred by the call of his Lord and perceived the fragrance of the Garment after most of the servants had debarred themselves therefrom. Blessed art thou for having attained unto the recognition of thy Lord, cast away what thou didst possess, and taken what came to thee from the Lord of all creation. Thy name hath been mentioned before the Throne, and there have been sent down unto thee clear verses from thy Lord, the Mighty, the Bestower. Detach thyself from the world and whatsoever is therein, then turn wholly unto God, the Lord of creation.

Say: O people! How long will ye slumber? The heaven hath been cleft asunder and the Lord of the Day of Mutual Calling hath come. How long will ye flee to the right and to the left? Do ye not see that the mountains pass away like clouds?

Say: O people! Fear God and follow not every doubting idolator. Arise from the slumber of heedlessness and passion, then turn your gaze toward your Most Glorious Lord. He calleth you unto God, your Lord, the All-Merciful. Beware lest ye follow the factions who have united in tyranny and denied the proof of the All-Merciful. By My life, this is indeed a wondrous thing!

Recite the verses of thy Lord, then preserve them and shun those who have denied the Lord of lords. Let not the deeds of the wrongdoers grieve thee. God shall soon seize them with His might. Verily He is severe in punishment.

And the glory be upon thee and upon whoso hath cast the world behind him and believed in God, the Mighty, the Most Exalted.

BH05078: O my God! Thou knowest that I love…

In the Name of God, the Most Mighty, the Most Mighty

O my God! Thou knowest that I love the kindred of the Tree of Thy Oneness and the leaves of the Tree of Thy Singleness. Thou hast distinguished them in this Revelation among Thy creation and hast sent down their names in Thy Tablets and dispatched unto them the signs of Thy greatness and the evidences of Thy oneness. Therefore, O Thou Beloved of the worlds, send upon them at all times the breezes of Thy grace that they may make mention of Thee upon this Tree which hath been raised up through Thy Name and uttereth by Thy leave. Withhold them not therefrom through Thy bounty and favor.

And among them, O my God, is he who hath arisen to aid Thy Cause and hath spoken in Thy praise and hath turned toward the horizon of Thy beauty and hastened to the Kawthar of Thy knowledge and drunk from the hands of Thy grace. Ordain for him, O my God, the best of what Thou hast ordained for Thy

chosen ones. Then grant him in Thy days the blessing which Thou hast sent down from the heaven of Thy Will and the atmosphere of Thy decree.

O Lord! Thou seest him turning toward the sanctuary of Thy good-pleasure and circumambulating the Kaaba of Thy Cause. Withhold him not through Thy bounty and cast him not away through Thy grace. Aid him, O my God, at all times in Thy love in such wise that neither trials shall prevent him from the direction of Thy Name, the All-Merciful, nor tests from turning toward Thy Self, O Thou in Whose grasp are the reins of all possibilities and in Whose hand are all who dwell in the earth and heaven. There is none to gainsay Thy Will and none to withstand Thy sovereignty. Verily Thou art the Almighty, the Most Exalted, the All-Glorious, the Self-Subsisting.

BH05054: A mention from the Leaf of Paradise unto His…

He is the Almighty, the Self-Subsisting.

A mention from the Leaf of Paradise unto His servant, that he may be among those who remember God Who created him and created all things, and all unto Him shall return.

O servant! Bear witness within thyself to that whereunto God hath testified concerning His own Self, by His own Self, ere mention was made of any remembrance or names were ordained through the form of a wondrous Temple—that there is none other God but Him, and that the Tree of the Bayan is the first Tree wherein appeared the Fire and spoke forth: "Verily, I am God, the Lord of all worlds," and verily He is the Sovereign of the Messengers, and the mention of Adam and clay was not.

Thus do We cast upon thee of the verses of God, the King, the Mighty, the Generous, that thy soul may find assurance thereby, such that thy feet shall never slip on account of any Baal or ass. Say: By God! Verily Baal shall arise by himself, and the Samiri shall appear in magnificent form, and the calf shall cry out from every nearby quarter. Therefore, O loved ones of God, be steadfast in the Cause and turn not unto them, and be not among the abased ones.

Drink ye from the hand of the Youth cups of sweet water, then a cup from this Salsabil wherefrom floweth forth the creation of the Kawthar of eternity, then the holy waters and Tasnim. Then be content therewith above all else, for it shall suffice you against all the worlds.

And the Spirit and glory and splendor be upon thee and upon every assured believer. And praise be to God, the Lord of all worlds.

BH05155: This is a Book for him who hath been…

He is the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

This is a Book for him who hath been guided by God's guidance and was of those who have drawn nigh, and hath been ordained in the Tablets that which will gladden his soul and his heart, that he may stand firm in His love and be of those who are steadfast.

O servant! There hath come before Our presence from thee a letter, and before it another letter, and We were among the witnesses. We held back the Pen, looking toward the direction of destiny, and when the promise came, We sent down the verses and dispatched them unto thee as a mercy from Us upon thee, that thou mayest be of the thankful.

Rejoice within thyself that God hath forgiven thee through His grace from His presence, and hath sent from the right hand of the divine good-pleasure the fragrances of forgiveness, whereby He hath purified thee and thy father and thy mother and thy son from the dust of disobedience. Exalted then is this bounty, the inaccessible, the glorious!

By God the True One! Were all who are in the heavens and on earth to stand firm today in the love of thy Lord, God would assuredly forgive them in truth and clothe them in the garments of forgiveness. Verily He is the Almighty over whatsoever He willeth, and He is the Most High, the Most Exalted, the Most Great.

Stand ye firm in the Cause lest ye be stirred by the croaking of the idolaters. This is the greatest counsel wherewith We have counseled you, and I am the Best of Counselors. And the Glory be upon you, O concourse of them that are assured.

BH05071: Lauded and glorified art Thou, O my God! I…

Lauded and glorified art Thou, O my God! I entreat Thee by the sighing of Thy lovers and by the tears shed by them that long to behold Thee, not to withhold from me Thy tender mercies in Thy Day, nor to deprive me of the melodies of the Dove that extolleth Thy oneness before the light that shineth from Thy face. I am the one who is in misery, O God! Behold me cleaving fast to Thy Name, the All-Possessing. I am the one who is sure to perish; behold me clinging to Thy Name, the Imperishable. I implore Thee, therefore, by Thy Self, the Exalted, the Most High, not to abandon me unto mine own self and unto the desires of a corrupt inclination. Hold Thou my hand with the hand of Thy power, and deliver me from the depths of my fancies and idle imaginings, and cleanse me of all that is abhorrent unto Thee.

Cause me, then, to turn wholly unto Thee, to put my whole trust in Thee, to seek Thee as my Refuge, and to flee unto Thy face. Thou art, verily, He Who, through the power of His might, doeth whatsoever He desireth, and commandeth, through the potency of His will, whatsoever He chooseth. None can withstand the operation of Thy decree; none can divert the course of Thine appointment. Thou art, in truth, the Almighty, the All-Glorious, the Most Bountiful.

O ‘Ali! Read thou this prayer at morn and at eventide, in yearning and utter detachment. Thereby shall the hearts of the peoples of creation and invention be drawn, that all may bear witness to thy faith in God, thy Lord, to thy turning unto His Presence, and to thy severance from all save Him. There is none other God but He, the Mighty, the All-Glorious.

And the Spirit be upon thee, and upon whoso hath clung to the hem of the All-Merciful and cut himself off from Satan. And praise be to God, the King, the Mighty, the All-Powerful, the Help in Peril, the Self-Subsisting.

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BH05139: The firm words which were adorned with the mention…

He is God, the Most Pure

The firm words which were adorned with the mention of the Lord of Lords were observed, and the fragrances of Paradise were inhaled therefrom. Blessed art thou! And all the hardships and tribulations thou hast borne in the path of God are remembered with Him. Blessed is thy pen by which the words of the Beloved were inscribed! Indeed, in these days most people have arisen to cause harm.

That honored one must engage in service to the Cause with utmost joy and eagerness, and must act with perfect wisdom. Consider vigilance over the Cause from all directions to be essential, for even the ungodly of the Bayan will spread abroad whatever occurs. Now that the leader of that group has exchanged truth for money, you will hear the details. And the reason for your delay in that land during these days has become somewhat apparent, but be not grieved, and in all things be patient and thankful, for whatsoever appears today has been and will be for the good of the Cause. For each of the names mentioned in your Tablet and in the Tablet of Jinab-i-Mihdi, a sublime Tablet was sent specifically. Convey greetings to all the loved ones, and exert utmost effort in protecting and preserving the Cause that no harm may occur. And the Spirit be upon thee and upon those with thee.

BH05192: O my God! Baha has found comfort in tribulation…

In the Name of God, the Most Great, the Great!

O my God! Baha has found comfort in tribulation for love of Thee and Thy good pleasure, even as the Beloved finds comfort in Thy remembrance and praise. He yearns for fate to overtake him in Thy path, O Thou Lord of all names, even as one athirst yearns for the waters of Thy mercy and the fountain of Thy grace. He turns toward it even as lovers turn toward the place wherein shine forth the lights of Thy countenance. Thus hast Thou created me, O Thou Beloved of Baha!

By Thy glory! I complain not of that which hath befallen me in Thy days, nor of that which shall befall me through Thy power and might. I beseech Thee by the waves of the sea of Thy oneness, and by the establishment of the throne of Thy grandeur, and by the remembrances of the leaves of the Tree of Thy singleness, to rain down from the heaven of Thy bounty upon the branches of this Tree that which will make them steadfast in Thy love and cause them to drink at all times the wine of Thy mercy. O my Lord! Verily, he whom I mention is one of them who hath turned toward Thee and turned away from all else.

Ordain for him, O my God, that which Thou hast ordained for the sincere ones among Thy chosen ones. Then send down upon him the good of this world and of the world to come. Thou knowest, O my God, that I perceive from them the fragrance of the love of my Beloved; therefore have I chosen them for Thy remembrance in my days. Sanctify their faces from turning to any save Thee, and their eyes from beholding aught except Thee, and their hearts from mentioning ought beside Thee. Verily, Thou art the Protector of the mystics and the God of all who are in the heavens and on earth.

BH04995: O loved ones of God! May you ever drink…

He is the Most Holy, the Most Glorious

O loved ones of God! May you ever drink from the Kawthar of the peerless Beauty of the Most High, and become so intoxicated from this wine of the Day of Alast that you see none but God and count all else as non-existent. In the emerald Tablets from the Pen of the King of Oneness, the triumph of the Cause through wisdom and utterance hath been recorded. Fix your gaze upon this. The Beloved hath ordained that the conquest of the citadels of hearts be achieved through the sword of the tongue. Thus hath the All-Merciful decreed. He, verily, is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

Your turning to the Ka'bah of Glory and arising to promote His Cause is itself a victory, and God, exalted be His glory, hath accepted it and recorded you among the helpers in the Preserved Tablet. God will soon reward you with a goodly reward. He, verily, is the Protector of the sincere ones. Strive at all times that perchance ye may quicken dead souls through the remembrance of the King of Oneness and bestow the Kawthar of the love of the All-Merciful upon all who dwell within the realm of possibility.

Today, whosoever ariseth to teach will be confirmed by the Spirit of the Cause. Blessed art thou for having turned unto [God] and turned away from those who disbelieved in God, the Lord of all worlds, and for having recognized thy Lord and desired His good-pleasure on a Day whereon the faces of those who turned away were darkened while the faces of those who turned unto Him were illumined. Unite ye in God's Cause and in His love. Through this shall the back of the idolaters be broken. And the glory rest upon thee and upon those who are with thee in the Cause of thy Lord, the Almighty, the All-Powerful.

BH05173: Lawh-i-Quds 6

In the Name of God Who standeth over all things!

This is the Holy Tablet which We have detailed from the Mother Book and sent unto him who hath believed in God, his Lord, the Most Merciful, that the verses may draw him to the horizon of names and attributes and sanctify him from sorrows, that he may speak forth His remembrance amidst the concourse of all worlds. Verily He is the Ruler over whatsoever He willeth. There is none other God but Him, the Mighty, the Wise.

Let not that which hath befallen thee in His path sadden thee. Be thou patient and of those who are thankful. Dost thou find anyone enduring on earth? Nay, by the Lord of all worlds! That which thou seest shall pass away, and might and power shall remain with the Ancient King. Rejoice thou in My remembrance and leave those who have disbelieved in God. They wronged not you but their own selves, yet because they turned away they became heedless of what they did. Soon shall they behold their deeds. Verily thy Lord is the Ruler over what He willeth. By My life! Were they to know, they would weep until they die. They are in naught but manifest error.

Put thy trust in God. Verily He is with thee and saith: "Blessed art thou for having attained unto tribulations in My path and hardships in My love. Thy reward is preserved in the treasuries of My grace." Despair not of My Spirit and say: "Praise be unto Thee, O Lord of the worlds!"

BH04980: O Pen of the Ancient Days! Make mention…

He is the Mighty, the Most High, the Most Holy, the Most Glorious

O Pen of the Ancient Days! Make mention of him who was named Muhammad before Ja'far, that he may be mindful of the remembrance of God, the Most High, the Most Great, and rejoice within himself at the glad-tidings treasured within this blessed, holy and luminous Tablet. O servant! Hearken unto the call of God from this Quarter which God hath sanctified from the indication of every indication and from the knowledge of every knower. Verily, He is God—there is no God but Me, the One with power over all things, and I am the Most High, the Inaccessible, the Most Holy, the Mighty, the Bountiful. Blessed art thou, O servant, in that thou hast attained unto the good-pleasure of God and fulfilled thy Covenant, not forgetting Him throughout these months and years.

Arise, then, to the remembrance of God and fear no one, for verily He will preserve thee within the protection of His mighty and impregnable safekeeping. How excellent it is for you that ye have exchanged the tablets of fire for the light and have taken the traces of God from the hands of the idolaters. Those who altered the Tablets of God—these have lost both this world and the next, and they shall have no portion of this cup. These have sold the traces of God for their own selves and their desires. Soon shall they discover what they have wrought when the angels of wrath seize them with a grievous punishment. Thus doth God distinguish between truth and falsehood, and between the believers and the idolaters. And the glory be upon thee and upon those who are with thee upon a mighty and exalted path.

BH05030: The Most Great, the Most Glorious

The Most Great, the Most Glorious

The remembrance of God hath verily appeared from the horizon of Revelation, visible to all, that He might summon mankind unto a station which hath been exalted in the Tablet. At times thou beholdest Him in the form of fire—from its roaring thou hearest "There is none other God but Him"—and at other times in the form of light, illumining all who dwell on earth. Thus hath the Spirit spoken in this Tablet which hath been preserved before the Throne. And at times thou beholdest Him in human form—blessed be the All-Merciful Who hath sent Him in truth, for verily He hath power over all things. He hath other manifestations which, were We to mention them, would exhaust the ink, for verily He hath knowledge of all things.

Ponder upon the Revelation of God and His sovereignty, and immerse thyself in the oceans of utterance, that thou mayest discover the pearls of knowledge and wisdom that draw thee to a station inscribed in the Book. Let not allusions grieve thee, nor follow thou those who have denied the sovereignty of the verses. Their efforts in this world have gone astray, and they shall find no path to the Cause. They walk in the wilderness of error and rejoice in what their base desires command them. By My life! They are in the depths of wrath and shall find none to help them.

Remind the people of this announcement which hath been sent down in the Tablets. Say: O people! When ye hear the call of the Calf, leave it behind you. This is what God hath counseled you, for verily He

is witness to all things. We have imparted unto thee that which quickeneth souls, and thy Lord sufficeth as a helper.

BH05090: Glorified art Thou, O my God! Thou art He…

Glorified art Thou, O my God! Thou art He Whom none hath ever known, for Thy knowledge can never be associated with the knowledge of Thy creatures, and Thou canst never be described by any description save Thine own, since the description of all else besides Thee is created by Thy command and brought into being by Thy will. I testify at this moment that the ultimate description of those who have attained, and the highest knowledge of those who know, returneth to Thy creation which was created by Thy command and came into being by Thy will. Glorified, glorified art Thou from the hearts of Thy servants reaching unto Thee or the minds of Thy creatures attaining the seat of Thy glory!

By Thy might, I am bewildered in Thy Cause and in that which Thou hast inspired me through Thy bounty and grace. For were I to explain that which Thou hast graciously bestowed upon me through Thy loving-kindness and favor, the clamor of the heedless would be raised thereby. And were I not to mention that which Thou hast given me through Thy generosity, I would be ungrateful for Thy blessing, O Thou in Whose hand is the kingdom of the worlds' dominion.

Therefore, O my God, I beseech Thee by Thy Most Great Name and Thy Most Ancient, Most Perfect Word to purify the hearts of Thy loved ones from the veils of fancy and imitation, that they may know Thee with their own eyes and behold Thy beauty with their own sight. Perchance they may be enabled to draw nigh unto the Tree of Thy nearness which none besides Thee hath known. Verily, Thou art the Mighty, the Glorious, the Bountiful.

I moreover beseech Thee, O my God, by Him Whom Thou hast manifested and by Him Whom Thou wilt manifest, to send down upon us from every good thing its perfection and from every grace its greatest measure, and to withhold not from us all that is with Thee. Verily, Thou art the Sovereign, the Powerful, the Almighty.

BH05195: O My handmaiden! Know that We have sent forth…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy

O My handmaiden! Know that We have sent forth loving-kindness in the form of this Tablet and dispatched it unto thee that thou mayest glory therein amongst the worlds. We visited thy house at a time when thou wast heedless of it, and We found not therein the sweet fragrance of holiness. Thus doth the All-Informed apprise thee.

Cleanse your houses, O people, and wash your garments of whatsoever is abhorrent unto God. Thus doth the All-Knowing counsel you. We love refinement in all conditions. Beware lest ye transgress that whereunto ye have been bidden in the Book of God, the Mighty, the Most Praised.

Adorn your temples with the raiment of piety—this consisteth not of tattered and threadbare cloth, nor of worn wool and cotton, but rather of refinement and wisdom that restraineth you from base desire. This is the truth, did ye but know.

Be ye utterly refined, for whoso lacketh refinement shall never perceive the fragrances of the All-Merciful nor associate with the dwellers of the Ridvan. Fear God and be not of the ignorant ones.

Wash away whatsoever the pure nature abhorreth. Thus have ye been commanded aforetime by One Who is mighty and ancient. Follow that which We have enjoined upon you in the Tablets. Beware lest ye follow the heedless ones. Those who are heedless are among those who wander in the wilderness of error.

O My handmaiden! Drink thou the Kawthar of utterance from the words of thy Lord, then give thanks and prostrate thyself before the face of thy Lord, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. Thus have We imparted unto thee the Word of Truth, after which there is naught but manifest error.

BH04968: The Kingdom on that Day shall belong to God…

The Kingdom on that Day shall belong to God, the Sovereign, the Mighty, the Unconstrained. O My loved ones! This is the Day whereof We gave you tidings in all the Tablets through a most holy and glorious Pen. Stand ye firm in the Cause, then weep for this Wronged One Who hath been slain by the sword of hatred and cast by the idolators into this pit whose depths no rope of possibility can fathom, and whose cry no ear can hear save whom your Lord, the All-Merciful, willeth. Thus hath the decree been fulfilled against the Beauty of the All-Glorious by the embodiments of tyrannous wickedness.

Tear ye asunder the veils of glory, then emerge from behind the veil through My Name that encompasseth all the worlds. Beware lest ye break My Covenant or forget My days or join partners with My Self, for this verily would be a grievous sin.

Unite ye in the Cause of God and His religion, and stand ye firm in love, for the idolators have gathered there and whisper unto men at all times that which Satan hath cast into their hearts, that they may cause them to slip from this Path which hath been raised up in the name of Him Who was exalted in truth. Today is the day of victory—aid ye then the Youth, and follow not every accursed Satan.

Beware lest ye frequent the dwelling-place of those who have disbelieved in God and His signs, and in whose hearts hatred for the Youth lieth concealed. Take ye the cup of Baha with the fingers of faithfulness, then drink thereof that your hearts may be purified thereby. Thus hath the Pen of Destiny inscribed from a luminous and mighty Finger.

BH05018: How many nights and days did all mankind gaze…

He is the Ever-Abiding, the Eternal, the Most Mighty, the Most Holy, the Most Glorious

How many nights and days did all mankind gaze toward the highest horizon, beseeching God that they might attain unto His days. Yet when the veil was rent asunder and the Sun of the Beauty of the Beloved appeared at the point of setting, all remained veiled by the clouds of fancy and through their hypocrisy

were deprived of the Daystar of the horizons, save those souls who quaffed the wine of inner meanings from the chalices of divine utterance. Those souls, through the attraction of God's Word, turned toward the realm of oneness and attained unto the Purpose of all worlds.

Praise be to God that the breezes of the mercy of the All-Merciful passed over that leaf and guided her to the House of Unity and the Divine Ka'bah. This is among God's greatest favors, which He bestoweth specially upon whomsoever He willeth. Most men were seized with trembling and remained deprived of the presence of the Lord of Glory, yet that leaf must, God willing, stand firm with manly courage in the love of the Lord of all creation. Ere long shall the world and whatsoever existeth therein pass away. Those souls who now recline upon the throne of glory and those who dwell upon the dust of abasement—all shall return to the earth. How excellent is the state of those souls from whom the denizens of the Concourse on High inhale the fragrance of divine love. Would that my people knew!

BH05168: This is a Book sent down in truth…

In the Name of God, the Most High, the Most Great!

This is a Book sent down in truth from the Kingdom of God, the Almighty, the Most High, the Most Great. Every word revealed from the Supreme Pen verily calls all to the Beloved of the worlds. Whosoever hath heard its call hath detached himself from all else save God and turned with sincere devotion toward the Court of His Cause. And whosoever hath not heard it is indeed deprived of the paradise of eternity and is truly among the lost. By God! Soon shall he who hath been neglectful of God's Cause know, when he descendeth from his station to his grave with great remorse, and lamenteth over what he hath committed in the days of God, and findeth for himself no intimate friend. Thou dost not look to the world.

By God! My servants who have turned with radiant countenance toward the All-Merciful have divorced it. He in whose heart is found love for aught else beside Me shall never enter the pavilion of My glory and the kingdom of My Cause and the heaven of My bounty, and though he may ascend unto the heaven of My grace, the angels shall cast him down with a flaming dart. Blessed is he who hath cast behind him all else save God and hath emerged from behind the veils, clinging to My Name and holding fast to My cord, and calleth out to the people from My creation: "By God! The Truth hath come with manifest sovereignty!" Neither veils nor the might of those who have made captive the kindred of God in diverse regions can prevent Him. Thus hath the Command been revealed from the Pen of Revelation by One Who is All-Knowing, All-Wise. And praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH05171: This is a Book that speaketh with truth…

He is the Most Holy, the Most Inaccessible, the Most Exalted, the Most Mighty, the Most High

This is a Book that speaketh with truth, and God hath made it a proof unto all who are in the kingdom. Verily it hath been sent down upon the Temple of the Youth in the heaven of immortality, then upon the Temple of the Command in the kingdom of glory, then in the form of a Tablet in this fashion which was witnessed from the direction of God. Even thus do We cast down mysteries with veils and coverings, that the believers might ascend to the heaven of knowledge and the demons be prevented from ascending to

the court of holy recognition. We have set forth therein a matter which none hath discovered, and We have turned therein the verses as a remembrance from Our presence unto those who have believed in God and His signs, and have detached themselves from those who have disbelieved and associated partners with God and who stood at the station of opposition.

O youth! Rejoice within thyself that God hath related thee to thy brother. Then know his worth and take the Book of God which We have sent down unto thee through a grace from Us, and His grace hath ever encompassed the worlds. And when it reacheth thee, take it with the hand of power, for those who have taken the Tablet of God in those days are nobles in the Concourse on High and great ones in the realms of immortality and eloquent ones concerning the Command, even though they be but youths upon the earth. And the glory be upon thee and upon those who are in the household, both female and male.

BH05205: In the Name of God, the Most Holy…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Exalted! O servant! Hearken unto the Call from the direction of the Throne of grandeur and glory. By God! The Call of thy Lord in these days is greater than the creation of the heavens and the earth. It was raised in days when the people of the lands rose up against Us. Verily, thy Lord is powerful over all things. Neither tribulation preventeth Him from His Cause, nor the hosts of the wicked from His decree. He sendeth down what He willeth through His sovereignty. He, verily, is the Ruler over whatsoever He desireth.

Let not this most great terror prevent thee from gazing upon the most great scene. Be thou steadfast in the love of thy Lord, then summon the people unto Him. And whenever thou partakest of the chalices of prosperity, adorn them with the remembrance of the Cleaver of the dawn. And when the wine of the mercy of thy Lord, the All-Merciful, intoxicateth thee, speak forth amidst the concourse of all created things in remembrance of God, the Self-Subsisting, the All-Compelling, that there might be generated in their hearts that which will cause them to be stirred in the love of God and detach them from the worlds.

They who have desired the presence of God, it behooveth them to make their deeds and their remembrances such as will cause the Most Great Remembrance to be exalted among the nations, and to arise for the education of all who dwell in the realms of creation. Thus doth the Most Exalted Pen make mention of thee, that the rapture of thy Lord might seize thee in such wise that thou wilt arise to proclaim and say: “Verily, He is the Beloved of all worlds!”

We have been with thee in all conditions. Nothing whatsoever escapeth the knowledge of thy Lord. He, verily, is the Truth, the Knower of things unseen. Be thou thankful unto Him and say: “Praise be unto God, the Lord of all worlds!”

BH05304: O Nabíl! May God reward thee with the fairest…

He is the Mighty.

O Nabíl! May God reward thee with the fairest reward, and bring thee, in thy return and thy journeying, unto the utmost limit of that which thou desirest. I bear witness that God hath accepted from thee thine obedience in His path, thy visitation of His House, thy turning unto His Sanctuary, thy drawing nigh unto

His sacred precincts, and thy directing of thy face toward His Beauty; and He will recompense thee with the good things which are with Him, both in this world and in the world to come. Verily, He is gracious unto the doers of good.

Yet, O thou believing wayfarer and emigrant! Strive first within thine own self, and then labour with all the power of thy being, that thou mayest know God with thine own eye and in thy inmost soul, and enter the Sanctuary of Him Whose very Manifestation hath ever been the veil of His Face, and be therein numbered with them that are secure, and attain unto a station wherein thy foot shall not slip, nor thy soul be troubled, though the denizens of the Most Exalted Concourse should rise up against thee.

And peace be upon them that strive and them that emigrate.

He is the Hearer.

Hearken unto My call, and be not of the heedless. Turn thou, with thy heart, unto the Path of God, the Most High, the Most Great. This, verily, is a Revelation from the Lord of the worlds, sent down in truth, despite the will of the idolaters.

He is the Ever-Abiding.

The remembrance of the True One hath ever been beloved; and from the creation no other purpose was intended than the knowledge of Him. Whoso hath attained unto this, hath indeed reached unto every good. Thus doth God reward the well-doers. And praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

He is the All-Sufficing.

Praise be to God Who hath revealed Himself through a letter of the letters of His peerless might in the world of eternity, when the temples of the Cause appeared in the Most Exalted Concourse; and Who hath spoken the supreme Word in the Kingdom of the unseen, when the Bayan was made manifest amongst all beings, and made it His Proof unto all that are in the heavens and on the earth, that perchance men may not deny the Proof of God, nor mock at His evidences.

BH05284: Hearken unto what is revealed unto thee…

He is the Ever-Abiding, the All-Sufficing

Hearken unto what is revealed unto thee from the realm of glory and power, the seat of thy Lord, the Mighty, the Chosen One. Verily, there is none other God but Him, and He Who speaketh is indeed the Truth in the heavens and on earth. We have heard thy call and witnessed thy distress. Verily your Lord is with you; He is indeed the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

God's curse be upon those who have wronged you and driven you from your homes—they are assuredly the companions of the fire. Let not what hath befallen thee in the path of God sadden thee. He will surely recompense those who have been touched by tribulation in His path; He is the Protector of the sincere ones. Dost thou see those who committed injustice aforetime? We seized them for their sins. Verily thy Lord is the Mighty, the Powerful. Soon shall We seize these ones and join them with an evil and most

wretched people. Were the veil to be lifted and you were to behold what is ordained for you, you would cast the world and all that is therein behind you. But it hath been concealed through what hath been ordained by One Who is All-Knowing, All-Wise.

Be ye united in this Cause, that no enmity or hatred arise between you. Thus have ye been commanded in the Tablet of Decree. He is verily the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. By My life! All that is on earth shall perish, and glory shall remain with those who have turned to the Dayspring of the Cause and were of them that have attained. And the splendor rest upon thee and upon those who have acted according to what they were commanded by One Who is All-Knowing, All-Wise.

BH05402: Lauded by Thy name, O Lord my God! Thou…

In the Name of God, the Most Mighty, the Most Inaccessible, the Most Holy

Lauded by Thy name, O Lord my God! Thou beholdest how my gaze is fixed toward Thy tender mercies, and how mine eyes are bent upon the horizon of Thy grace, and Thy loving-kindness, and how my hands are stretched out unto the heaven of Thy bestowals. Thy might beareth me witness! Every limb of my body crieth out to Thee and saith:

> "O Thou Who art the Well-Beloved of the worlds, and the Lord of all that are in heaven and on earth, and the one Desire of the hearts which are devoted to Thee! I implore Thee, by Thine Ocean unto which Thou didst summon all the inmates of heaven and all the dwellers of the earth, to help Thy servants who have been kept back from turning unto it and from approaching its shores. Make them, then, O my God, to be detached from all else but Thee, and enable them to speak forth Thy praise and extol Thy virtues. Supply them, moreover, O my God, with the choice Wine of Thy mercy, that it may cause them to be forgetful of any one except Thee, and to arise to serve Thy Cause, and to be steadfast in their love for Thee. Thou art, verily, the Lord of their lives and the Object of their adoration. If they be driven away by Thee, who will then look upon them; and if they be removed far from Thee, who is there that can help them to approach Thy Presence? I swear by Thy might! No refuge is there to flee to except Thee, and no shelter to seek except Thy shelter, and no protection except Thy protection. Woe betide him who hath taken as Lord any one beside Thee, and blessed are the ones who have rid themselves of all attachment to all the dwellers of Thine earth, and clung to the hem of Thy bounteousness. These! the people of Baha, before all that are in heaven and all that are on earth. No God is there but Thee, the Omniscient, the All-Wise."

Praise be to God, the Lord of all worlds.

BH05408: Lauded be Thy name, O my God! I am…

He is the Most Holy, the Most Mighty, the Most Glorious

Lauded be Thy name, O my God! I am so carried away by the breezes blowing from Thy presence that I have forgotten my self and all that I possess. This is but a sign of the wonders of Thy grace and bountiful favors vouchsafed unto me. I give praise to Thee, O my God, that Thou hast chosen me out of all Thy

creatures, and made me to be the Day-Spring of Thy strength and the Manifestation of Thy might, and empowered me to reveal such of Thy signs and such tokens of Thy majesty and power as none, whether in Thy heaven or on Thy earth, can produce.

I beseech Thee, O my Lord, by Thy most effulgent Name, to acquaint my people with the things Thou didst destine for them. Do Thou, then, preserve them within the stronghold of Thy guardianship and the tabernacle of Thine unerring protection, lest through them may appear what will divide Thy servants. Assemble them, O my Lord, on the shores of this Ocean, every drop of which proclaimeth Thee to be God, besides Whom there is none other God, the All-Glorious, the All-Wise.

Uncover before them, O my Lord, the majesty of Thy Cause, lest they be led to doubt Thy sovereignty and the power of Thy might. I swear by Thy glory, O Thou Who art the Beloved of the worlds! Had they been aware of Thy power they would of a certainty have refused to utter what Thou didst not ordain for them in the heaven of Thy will.

Inspire them, O my Lord, with a sense of their own powerlessness before Him Who is the Manifestation of Thy Self, and teach them to recognize the poverty of their own nature in the face of the manifold tokens of Thy self-sufficiency and riches, that they may gather together round Thy Cause, and cling to the hem of Thy mercy, and cleave to the cord of the good-pleasure of Thy will.

Thou art the Lord of the worlds, and of all those who show mercy, art the Most Merciful.

BH05415: God testifieth that there is none other God besides…

He is the Most Holy, the Most Glorious

God testifieth that there is none other God besides Him. His is the creation and the command, and all bow down before Him. His is the glory and the power, and His is the grandeur and might. He quickeneth whom He willeth through a word from His presence. There is none other God but Him, the Almighty, the All-Compelling, the Self-Subsisting.

O handmaiden of God! Hearken unto the call of thy Lord from the right-hand side upon this blessed and divine Spot which God hath created beyond the sea of grandeur, that there is none other God but Him, the Exalted, the Mighty, the Best-Beloved.

Rejoice within thyself that thou hast been mentioned by the Pen of Holiness in this sacred and hidden Tablet. Then remain steadfast in the love of God and turn away from those who have disbelieved and associated partners with God and are among those who understand not.

Say: Glory be unto Thee, O my God! I beseech Thee by Thy Beauty, whose lights have encompassed all that was and shall be, that Thou protect Thy handmaiden from the evil of Satan and his hosts. Then cause her to drink from the Kawthar of Thy forgiveness, that she may be purified from all that veils her from recognizing the Manifestation of Thy Self. Verily, Thou art powerful over what Thou willest. Thou ordainest what Thou desirest through Thy word “Be” and it is. And glory be upon thee and upon whoso holdeth fast unto the Sure Handle and turneth away from every rejected misbeliever.

BH05431: Blessed is he who hath cast away what…

In the Name of God, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise!

Blessed is he who hath cast away what the people possess and taken that which hath been given him from the presence of One mighty and wise.

Grieve not over anything, and be not troubled in this Day wherein most of the servants have been troubled and turned away from God, thy Lord and the Lord of all worlds. It behooveth everyone who hath believed in God to stand firm in His Cause in such wise that naught that happeneth in the earth shall deter him. Verily thy Lord is well aware of what I say. Stand firm in the Cause, then summon the people unto God, thy Lord, and fear not the oppressors. Desire not for thyself save what God hath desired, and love not thyself except for the manifestation of His Cause. Thus doth He command thee Who hath loved thee for the sake of God, thy Lord, the Most Exalted, the Most Great.

Say: O people! By what proof have ye disbelieved in your Lord, the All-Merciful? Fear God and be not of them that turn aside. Hearken unto Him Who calleth you, under the sword, unto God, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. Doth He Who summoneth you amidst the depths of tribulations speak out of His own desire? Nay, by your Lord, the Most Exalted, the Most High! Ponder within yourselves that ye may perchance find a way unto God. Thus hath the Sun of Utterance shone forth upon thee from the horizon of Revelation, that thou mayest be assured through the grace of thy Lord, the All-Merciful, and that the veils of them that deny may not withhold thee from His love.

BH05296: O Husayn! Hearken unto the call of this Husayn…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious

O Husayn! Hearken unto the call of this Husayn once again, and know thou that He hath sacrificed His spirit, His body and His frame for God, the Lord of the first and the last. He it is Who hath stood at the midmost heart of creation and summoned all beings unto their Lord, the All-Merciful. Neither the tyranny of the oppressor nor the opposition of those who have disbelieved in God, the Lord of the Throne on high and of the earth below, could deter Him.

Say: Verily, He dwelleth at the Most Glorious Horizon, and at this moment all things cry out, and He is the One mentioned in the ancient Scriptures. Blessed art thou for having hearkened unto the call of God, for having detached thyself from all else save Him, and for having desired to offer up thy life for God Who hath shattered the might of Lat and ʿUzza. Know thou, moreover, that whatsoever hath flowed from the Pen of Glory is irrevocably ordained in the Tablet of Decree—thereof some is manifest outwardly and some pertaineth to that which is hidden—and thus hath the matter been decreed by God, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious. I have accepted all tribulations for Mine own Self, and he that hath drunk from the cup of My love hath a portion of that which is ordained for Us—to this do they who are endued with understanding testify. Grieve thou not over anything, for verily He is with thee. There is none other God but Him, the Most Exalted, the Most High. And glory be upon thee and upon them that have attained unto the mighty signs of God.

BH05401: Glorified art Thou, O my God! I beseech Thee…

Glorified art Thou, O my God! I beseech Thee by the Most Exalted Word and by the Most Beautiful Names and by the Supreme Manifestation of Thy Self, and by that Name through which Thou didst distinguish between the Manifestations of the Names and didst ordain the measures of all things from Thy Most Exalted Pen, that Thou deprive me not of the breezes of Thy days wherein Thou didst reveal Thyself to all who are in Thy earth and Thy heaven, and that Thou keep me not far from the shore of Thy nearness and good-pleasure.

O Lord! This is a leaf from the leaves of the trees in the garden of Thy Cause and a handmaiden among Thy handmaidens who hath turned unto Thee, directed herself toward the court of Thy bounty and gifts, gazed upon the effulgences of the light of Thy countenance, and drawn nigh unto the sanctuary of Thy glorious oneness and the dawning-place of the manifestations of Thy singleness.

O Lord! I beseech Thee by the Manifestations of Thy Cause and the Daysprings of Thy Names that Thou disappoint me not from the gate of Thy grace and mercy. Then make me steadfast, O my God, in Thy love in such wise that the veils of Thy creatures and the allusions of Thy creation and the denial of those who disbelieved in Thy Self and rejected Thy signs shall not withhold me.

O Lord! Enable me to remember Thee and praise Thee among Thy handmaidens. Then send down upon me from the clouds of Thy mercy that which shall sever me from all else save Thee and draw me nigh unto Thee. Then grant me the good of this world and the world to come. Verily, Thou art the One Who hath power over whatsoever Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the Most Exalted, the Self-Subsisting, the All-Glorious, the Ever-Helping.

BH05549: This is a Book which makes mention with truth…

He is the Most Wondrous!

This is a Book which makes mention with truth, and therein do people drink from a sealed choice wine. Blessed is he who drinks thereof and detaches himself from all who are in the kingdom and becomes of those who are certain.

Say: The cup is the words of God and the choice wine is what is concealed therein of the mysteries of hidden knowledge. God has ordained it for those who have sanctified themselves from doubt and uncertainty and have entered the precincts of Paradise, the station of holy witnessing. Give thanks unto God for having entered therein at a time when thou wast heedless thereof. Thus was it ordained for thee from the presence of the Mighty, the Self-Subsisting.

Be thou steadfast in the Cause and turn not unto what appeareth in the kingdom. Say: All matters end in the Self of God Who hath appeared in truth with supreme sovereignty over all created things, and around Him circle the hosts of revelation, whereby the fire of hatred hath been kindled in the breast of every rejected misbeliever.

Behold with the eye of the Beginning the Cause of God. Say: By God! The Tradition hath returned in the Self of Ali and the Tree hath called out upon the holy Sinai in Hurayth of this Paran, “There is none other God but I, the Guardian, the Self-Subsisting.”

Thus have We imparted unto thee the Word of truth that it may make thee steadfast in the Cause and sever thee from every rejected denier. And glory be upon thee and upon every patient and thankful one.

BH05543: Glorified art Thou, O Lord my God! I give…

Glorified art Thou, O Lord my God! I give Thee thanks inasmuch as Thou hast called me into being in Thy days, and infused into me Thy love and Thy knowledge. I beseech Thee, by Thy name whereby the goodly pearls of Thy wisdom and Thine utterance were brought forth out of the treasuries of the hearts of such of Thy servants as are nigh unto Thee, and through which the Day-Star of Thy name, the Compassionate, hath shed its radiance upon all that are in Thy heaven and on Thy earth, to supply me, by Thy grace and bounty, with Thy wondrous and hidden bounties.

These are the earliest days of my life, O my God, which Thou hast linked with Thine own days. Now that Thou hast conferred upon me so great an honor, withhold not from me the things Thou hast ordained for Thy chosen ones.

I am, O my God, but a tiny seed which Thou hast sown in the soil of Thy love, and caused to spring forth by the hand of Thy bounty. This seed craveth, therefore, in its inmost being, for the waters of Thy mercy and the living fountain of Thy grace. Send down upon it, from the heaven of Thy loving-kindness, that which will enable it to flourish beneath Thy shadow and within the borders of Thy court. Thou art He Who watereth the hearts of all that have recognized Thee from Thy plenteous stream and the fountain of Thy living waters.

Praised be God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH05557: Is the earth adorned with those whom trials cannot…

In the Name of God, the Everlasting, the All-Sufficient

Is the earth adorned with those whom trials cannot prevent from turning to God, the Most High, the Most Exalted? And does there walk upon it one in whom it would take pride, could it boast before heaven? And dost thou see in the heavens any who speak My Name and arise to aid My Cause through wisdom and utterance, forsaking all else out of love for God, the Lord of all worlds?

O servant! Sorrows have touched thee in My path, and hardships in thy love for Me. Though today thou seest them as abasement, soon shalt thou behold them as glory for all who are in the heavens and on earth. Verily, abasement in the path of God is the sovereign of glory, through which those near to God seek blessing. Forget not thy Lord—remember Him amongst the servants and be not of the heedless. Every soul shall taste of death, and after its certainty, who would fear in the love of God? None, by His True Self, save the doubters. Since death is ordained, how wonderful were it to come in the Cause of God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy! Arise by God’s leave and make mention of Him. He will protect thee, and

He hath power over all things. Thus hath the Pen taught thee. Arise and fear not the oppressors. The world and all that is therein shall perish; then shall the sincere find themselves in the highest paradise, while the idolaters shall be in the fire. And praise be to God, the Lord of all worlds.

BH05461: The satans of the Bayan have acted treacherously…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Exalted!

The satans of the Bayan have acted treacherously in the Cause of their Lord, the All-Merciful, and have conspired until the fire of sedition was kindled. By this means they desired to extinguish the light of God in His dominion and to quench the fire of God among His creatures. But their scheming has first recoiled upon themselves, and they have found themselves among the lost. This indeed is the manifest loss.

However, the consuls of that city (Adrianople) gathered in the presence of this Youth at the hour of His departure and expressed their desire to aid Him. They, verily, evinced towards Us manifest affection.

God will soon raise up from among the kings one who will help His Cause, for He is potent over all things.

Grieve not over Our Cause and thine, but make mention of Us throughout all days. Thy Lord will assist thee with truth, for He is the Almighty over all the worlds. Thou knowest that the idolaters have made My family captives from the land of Zawra, and the Youth is in the hands of the oppressors. Yet despite all thou hast heard regarding what hath befallen Us, We remain in a joy that no joy in the heavens or earth can equal, and We remain content with what God hath ordained for Us. Soon will the breezes of glory waft, and the nightingale of gladness will warble in the hearts of the loved ones of thy Lord, the All-Forgiving, the All-Merciful. Praise be to God, the Lord of all worlds.

BH11392: My remembrance of My servant who was imprisoned…

He is the Most Holy, the Most Exalted

My remembrance of My servant who was imprisoned in My path, taken captive for My remembrance, and banished for My love—that My verses may attract him, the winds of My grace stir him, the breezes of My Cause move him, My melodies draw him near, My call raise him to the heights of My bounties, My praise cause him to speak among My creatures, and make him so steadfast that neither calamities shall keep him from My nearness nor tribulations from the heaven of My mercy.

O youth! Hearken unto the call of thy Lord, the Mighty, the All-Knowing. Know thou that We were aware of what befell thee in Our path, and We were with thee in hardship and ease. Beware lest the thorns of the enemies prevent thee from the mention of thy Lord, the Most Glorious. By God! Their glory is abasement and their wealth is poverty, but they understand not. Their portion in this world is as the portion of animals, and their pleasure is as the pleasure of serpents. Woe unto them for what they have wrought! Turn thy face to the Most Great Scene and say:

> “O Lord of destiny and Kindler of fire in hell! I beseech Thee by Thy most pure Face to make torment in Thy love sweet unto me and hardship in Thy path a comfort unto me. Then cause

me, O my God, to circle round Thy Cause until my spirit ascendeth unto Thee. Verily Thou art powerful over what Thou willest, and Thou art the Protector, the Self-Subsisting."

And upon thee be the glory from God, the Sovereign of kings.

BH05383: Thy mention hath been made before the Throne…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Great

Thy mention hath been made before the Throne, and from the Dayspring of Revelation this blessed word hath been inscribed: O Asad! Regard all save God as non-existent, and behold Him as the Ever-Present. The effulgence of the All-Merciful's grace hath never ceased, nor shall it ever cease. If the Ancient Beauty is manifest, His mercy's splendors shine forth outwardly and inwardly without interruption, and if the Ancient Beauty is concealed, the effulgences of His grace have been and shall forever be directed toward those who have turned unto Him. Therefore, the infinite outpourings of divine bounty are present at all times.

Blessed are they who are not deprived of the Sovereign of Oneness by evanescent fancies, nor kept back from the divine court by the whisperings of malicious souls. O Asad! The names descend from heaven. God willing, thou shalt remain steadfast and firm in the Cause of God with the courage of a lion and the might of a fierce beast. Verily all grace is in His hands—He bestoweth it upon whomsoever He willeth through His command. He is, verily, powerful over all things. Verily He calleth unto him who calleth upon Him and answereth him who invoketh Him. His mercy hath indeed preceded all created things and His grace hath encompassed the worlds.

BH05366: The Remembrance of God in the Tree of Eternity…

He is the Most High, the Most Exalted

The Remembrance of God in the Tree of Eternity unto the concourse of Paradise: Hearken ye, that all who are in the heavens and on earth may be reminded thereby and be guided to the sacred seats in a station at which all people are bewildered.

Say: O people! This is the Book of God, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting. Therein is mentioned every matter in such wise that souls would be thunderstruck were ye to hear with the hearing of God. And He bestoweth upon the people of Paradise that which hath been ordained for them by God, the Mighty, the Beloved. And He giveth unto those near unto God that which attracteth them in the kingdom and detacheth them from all who are in the heavens and on the earth. And He granteth unto the people of earth that which will bring them to the precincts of the Throne and draw them nigh unto a holy and praiseworthy station. Thus do We impart unto thee from the verses of justice and give thee glad tidings of the Ridvan of Oneness, that thou mayest be secured in the fortress of God, the Mighty, the Beloved.

Say: O people! Fear ye God and follow not your desires, and be not of them who enlighten not themselves with the light of God. Thus doth the Dove warble unto thee in the midmost heart of eternity with melodies the like of which have never appeared in the kingdom and none shall attain unto save the

sincere ones, that thou mayest give thanks unto God, thy Lord, at all times and follow the Messengers. And upon thee be the Spirit, and upon them that place their trust in God.

BH05291: O Abraham! bear witness within thyself that He…

He is the Mighty!

O Abraham! bear witness within thyself that He is God, there is no God but Him. He hath sent the Messengers with truth and revealed the Books with justice, as a grace from Him to all created things. Among the people are those who have turned toward Him and those who have turned away, remaining far from the shore of nearness. But thou dost not associate partners with God and dost rely upon Him in all matters. He sufficeth thee apart from all else, and He is the best of helpers and sustainers. I counsel thee not to grieve over anything nor turn to anyone. Rather, turn thou toward God, thy Lord, and be of the thankful ones. God will soon grant thee that which will bring peace to thy heart, and this is a certain truth.

Then remember on Our part Husayn who was with thee in the dream, and give him glad tidings of God's bounty, the Mighty, the Generous. He forgiveth His servants and remitteth their sins, and He is possessed of great bounty. Say unto him: O servant, be steadfast in thy love for the loved ones of God and fear no one. Then help him to the extent thou art able and be not of the heedless ones. The world and its ornaments shall pass away, and sovereignty shall remain with God, the Mighty, the Beautiful. Then remember thy wife and thy sister on behalf of this servant, and this is a wondrous remembrance.

BH05442: The trustworthy messenger caused the musk-scented letter to ascend…

The trustworthy messenger caused the musk-scented letter to ascend with one feather from the heavens of existence and descend to the earth of manifestation. This is the journey of the physical messenger who, in one moment, graciously descended from the highest Sadratu'l-Muntaha to the lowest supreme height. What would happen if the spiritual courier were to move with the Buraq of love and display its majesty!

The wine of our pain makes us mad If it were to become pure, I know not what it would do

This is from God's grace which He bestoweth upon whomsoever He willeth. And when I removed the veil of covering from the face of the bride of ink, and with complete love lifted it from her head, immediately a light shone forth from the identity of the essence of the words, such that the mountains of tranquility were crushed and the spirit became detached from its attachments. He fell down in a swoon, and when he recovered he said:

Was it lightning that flashed from the direction of the Mount, Or were the veils lifted from Salma's face?

And from beholding it, the breezes of spirit blew from the north of the soul and bestowed pure victories upon all parts and members, such that the ear received the delight of divine call, and consciousness became unconscious from excess of love, and the mouth drank the wine of reunion, and the tongue

strove to give thanks for this bounty. The sorrowful rejoices, the love-smitten is revived, the yearning one finds solace, and the hearer delights. And peace be upon you.

BH05517: Praise be to Thee, O my God, inasmuch…

Praise be to Thee, O my God, inasmuch as Thou hast turned the faces of Thy servants towards the right-hand of the throne of Thy gifts, and hast caused them to be detached from all else besides Thee, that they may recognize Thy sovereignty and acknowledge Thy glory. I testify to the potency of Thy Cause, the pervasive influence of Thy decree, the immutability of Thy will, the endlessness of Thy purpose. All things lie prisoned within the grasp of Thy might, and the whole creation is destitute when brought face to face with the evidences of Thy wealth.

Deal Thou, therefore, O my God, my Beloved, my supreme Desire, with Thy servants and with all that were created by Thee as would beseem Thy beauty and Thy greatness, and would be worthy of Thy generosity and gifts. Thou art, in truth, He Whose mercy hath encompassed all the worlds, and whose grace hath embraced all that dwell on earth and in heaven. Who is there that hath cried after Thee, and whose prayer hath remained unanswered? Where is he to be found who hath reached forth towards Thee, and whom Thou hast failed to approach? Who is he that can claim to have fixed his gaze upon Thee, and toward whom the eye of Thy loving-kindness hath not been directed? I bear witness that Thou hadst turned toward Thy servants ere they had turned toward Thee, and hadst remembered them ere they had remembered Thee. All grace is Thine, O Thou in Whose hand is the kingdom of Divine gifts and the source of every irrevocable decree.

Send down, therefore, O my God, upon all that seek Thee that which will entirely strip them of all that pertaineth not unto Thee, and will draw them nigh unto Thy Self. Assist them, by Thy grace, to love Thee and to conform unto that which shall please Thee. Grant, then, that they may go straight on in the path of Thy Cause, the path wherein have slipped the footsteps of the doubters among Thy people and the froward among Thy servants. Thou art, verily, the All-Powerful, the Almighty, the Most Great.

BH05298: O Rahim! Depart from that land before the Youth…

He is

O Rahim! Depart from that land before the Youth departeth from your midst. Thus do We command thee, that thou mayest be obedient to the bidding of thy Lord. At the time of departure, carry nothing with thee. Let thy provision be My love, thy purpose My Cause, and thy armor trust in My Self, Who was alone in the land. Beware lest thou consort with the deceitful ones. Turn thy face from their faces and thine ears from their melodies, lest thou shouldst inhale the poisonous fumes from their souls and find thyself far removed from the shore of the sea. Then remind the people of this Most Great Remembrance, that perchance they may arise from heedlessness and recognize their Creator in the garment of a wondrous name. Rend asunder the veils of idle fancy by My sovereignty which encompasseth the worlds.

Say: O people! Exchange not the love of the Youth for aught else, nor sell it for countless coins. By God! Those from whom ye perceive the odor of hatred are worse in character than Nimrod and greater in their

unbelief than Pharaoh. Beware lest ye draw nigh unto them. Be on your guard and maintain an impregnable detachment. Then know thou thyself to be more learned than those who have not entered the stronghold of My Cause, lest the pride of the turbaned ones who have disbelieved and associated partners with God cause thee to slip. For knowledge is My love, and all else is but the whisperings of Satan. Thus have We imparted unto thee from the essence of knowledge, that thou mayest be possessed of true learning.

BH05299: He is the Mighty One! O Rida! We have…

He is the Mighty One! O Rida! We have been pleased with thee and God hath been pleased with thee. Therefore, take pride in thyself. Put thy trust in God, the Mighty, the Beautiful. Then ask of God, thy Lord, whatsoever thou desirest, and He will grant thee what thou wishest. Verily, He is the Sovereign, the Great. Grieve not over anything, but remain steadfast in thy love, and He will suffice thee against all the worlds.

He is the Mighty One! O ʿAli! Hear My words and grieve not over anything. Put thy trust in God, the Mighty, the Powerful. Then know that We have not forgotten thee and We make mention of thee in truth before the concourse of the worlds. Thus have We given thee glad tidings through the Spirit that thou mayest be among those who are at rest.

He is the Mighty One! O Rahim! Remember God, thy Lord, in thy heart and forget Him not, and be not of the heedless ones. Verily, We have loved thee in truth for all eternity.

He is the Mighty One! O Ghulam! Remember Our days, and verily We remember thee even at the time when We could not find opportunity to drink a drop of water, and God is witness to what I say.

He is the Mighty One! O Baqir! Be patient in what God hath ordained for Us and fear no one, and be of the patient ones. God will soon gather you together in a holy and luminous seat.

BH05405: Glory to Thee, O Thou Who art the Lord…

Glory to Thee, O Thou Who art the Lord of all worlds, and the Beloved of all such as have recognized Thee! Thou seest me sitting under a sword hanging on a thread, and art well aware that in such a state I have not fallen short of my duty towards Thy Cause, nor failed to shed abroad Thy praise, and declare Thy virtues, and deliver all Thou hadst prescribed unto me in Thy Tablets. Though the sword be ready to fall on my head, I call Thy loved ones with such a calling that the hearts are carried away towards the horizon of Thy majesty and grandeur.

Purge out thoroughly their ears, O my Lord, that they may hearken unto the sweet melodies that have ascended from the right hand of the throne of Thy glory. I swear by Thy might! Were any one to attune his ears to their harmony he would soar up to the kingdom of Thy revelation, wherein every created thing proclaimeth that Thou art God, and that there is none other God save Thee, the Omnipotent, the Help in Peril, the Self-Subsisting. Cleanse Thou, O my God, the eyes of Thy servants, and so transport them by the sweetness of Thine utterances that calamities will be powerless to hinder them from turning unto Thee, and from directing their eyes towards the horizon of Thy Revelation.

Darkness hath encompassed every land, O my God, and caused most of Thy servants to tremble. I beseech Thee, by Thy Most Great Name, to raise in every city a new creation that shall turn towards Thee, and shall remember Thee amidst Thy servants, and shall unfurl by virtue of their utterances and wisdom the ensigns of Thy victory, and shall detach themselves from all created things.

Potent art Thou to do Thy pleasure. No God is there but Thee, the Most Powerful, He Whose help is implored by all men.

BH05369: A mention of ʿAbdu'llah in a sublime and holy…

He is the Mighty

A mention of ʿAbdu'llah in a sublime and holy Tablet, that he may find solace therein during his days and read it morning and evening, that God may perchance ease for him the burning of separation and cause him to dwell in the vicinity of a wondrous Name.

O Isma'il! Hearken unto the call of this Bird Who hath turned from the City of God toward a holy and exalted City. Then take counsel from what It counseleth thee in truth, that thou mayest stand firm in love. Know thou that God hath accepted thy obedience and what thou hast done to build the House whose name God hath raised to the heaven of sublime glory. Well is it with thee for having attained unto this station which none besides thee hath attained, and God is witness unto this.

Yet We bid thee to be patient and steadfast, calm and dignified, if thou art obedient to God's command. Beware lest thou forget My counsel and dispute with anyone. Rather place thy trust in God in all matters, for He is the best of helpers. Associate with people with wisdom, then speak with wisdom lest anyone cause thee harm. Thus do We impart unto thee words of wisdom that thou mayest be gladdened in thy soul and be at ease in the realm.

Then convey Our remembrance to thy sister and to those who have detached themselves from all directions toward a holy and generous station.

And upon you all be the Spirit and Glory.

BH05305: O My Leaf! When the breezes of My grace…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy!

O My Leaf! When the breezes of My grace waft over thee from the dayspring of My loving-kindness, and there appeareth before thy face the Tablet of My Command, which hath been sent down from the heaven of My Will and the firmament of My Purpose, take it and place it upon thine eyes, then recite it with My melody, that it may draw thee to the horizon of My generosity and bring thee nigh unto the Dawning-Place of My verses and the Source of My Revelation, and cause thee to enter the pavilion of My glory and the tabernacle of My bounty, and enable thee to hear the melodies of the birds of My paradise. By God! It verily causeth them that seek Him to ascend unto the heights of My Kingdom and to enter the portico of My mercy and the sanctuary of My nearness. Then shall they drink the wine of My grace from the hand of My bestowal and the pure beverage of My knowledge from the countenance of My beauty.

O My Leaf! Draw My handmaidens to the remembrance of Me and My Name, lest they be influenced by the croaking of them that have disbelieved and the braying of them that have joined partners with God. Blessed is he who hath soared in the atmosphere of My love, who hath detached himself from all else but Me, who hath recognized My Self, who hath heard My call, and who hath held fast to the hem of the loving-kindness of his Lord, the All-Forgiving, the Most Merciful.

Tablets have been sent down for thee and for them that are in thy land, with any one of which all that hath been created on earth cannot compare. We sent them before the Sovereign of Eternity went forth from the Land of Mystery. We beseech God that He may cause them to reach thee and those that are there, that their eyes may be solaced thereby. Thy Lord, verily, is the All-Powerful, the Almighty.

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BH05400: Say: Glorified art Thou, O my God! I beseech…

Say: Glorified art Thou, O my God! I beseech Thee by Thy Name through which the seas were set in motion, and the trees bore fruit, and the rivers flowed, and the lights shone forth, and the veils were rent asunder, and the mysteries were unveiled, that Thou wilt not keep us from the sweet-scented breezes of Thy might, through which the hearts of Thy chosen ones and the souls of Thy loved ones were attracted.

O Lord! We are Thy servants, in Thy grasp, seeking refuge at Thy threshold and shelter in Thy presence. By Thy beauty, O Beloved of the worlds, we find no path for ourselves except unto Thee, no refuge save Thee, and no haven other than the shelter of Thy supreme mercy. I beseech Thee by Thine own Most Exalted Self not to shut us out from the door of Thy mercy which hath been opened to the face of all worlds. Make us then steadfast in Thy love and walking in the ways of Thy good-pleasure. Verily, Thou art the All-Powerful over what Thou willest, and Thou art the Ever-Forgiving, the Most Merciful.

O Lord! Thou art He Who hath called all unto the seat of the glory of Thy oneness and the court of the sanctity of Thy singleness. We are among Thy servants who have heard Thy call and answered what Thou hast summoned us unto. We have therefore turned our faces toward the sanctuary of Thy mercy and Thy favors, and our eyes are fixed upon the horizon of Thy grace and Thy gifts. I beseech Thee not to deprive us of that which lieth with Thee, and to ordain for us what Thou hast ordained for them that are detached among Thy servants and near unto Thee among Thy creatures. Verily, Thou art the Self-Sufficient, the All-Praised, and praise be unto Thee, for Thou art the Goal of them that seek Thee.

BH05253: Your name was mentioned before the Countenance, therefore these…

He is God, exalted be His glory, the Most Great, the Most Powerful

Your name was mentioned before the Countenance, therefore these sublime and wondrous words have dawned and shone forth from the horizon of the favors of the Lord of creation. God willing, through divine grace in these luminous days you will drink from the immortal wine and, detached from all else, arise to serve the Best Beloved of the worlds. The world has never had, nor will it ever have, permanence. Soon all that is visible will become non-existent and will perish. That which endures is God's loving-

kindness towards His loved ones. Blessed is the soul that has attained to this station and has inhaled the fragrance of the divine raiment in His days. We beseech God to aid you in His service and make you a helper of His loved ones.

Verily He has power over all things. And We beseech the Exalted One to make you among those who have remained steadfast in His love in such wise that neither the idle fancies nor the veils of the people have hindered them. Verily He is the Protector of those who turn unto Him. Hold fast to the Sure Handle that has been suspended between the heavens and the earth. Place your trust in Him—verily He aids whoever turns to the Countenance and ordains for whoever desires that which will profit him in this world and the next. Truly your Lord is the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. Give thanks to God for having been mentioned by the Most Exalted Pen and that this sublime Tablet has been revealed for you. This is better for you than whatsoever you possess and whatsoever the people possess. Verily He is the All-Knowing, the All-Witnessing.

BH05265: Praise be to God Who has adorned the preamble…

In the Name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful

Praise be to God Who has adorned the preamble of the Book of Days with the ornament of the Festival of Islam, and has arrayed the temples of the believers among the peoples of the worlds with the robe of divine knowledge, and has distinguished them with this bounty among the followers of all religions, and has purified them from sin through His mercy which has preceded all contingent being. And by this the Dove of Inner Meanings has cooed upon the branches of the Lote-Tree of Utterance that there is no God but Him, Who is single in His essence, beyond the knowledge of all created things, sanctified above whatsoever the names and attributes may be ascribed to Him by the peoples of earth and heaven.

He has created all contingent beings from nothing by His power. He has ever been in the heights of exaltation, grandeur and glory, and will ever be in the summit of might, power and majesty, even as He was in the beginning that has no beginning. There is no God but Him, the Most Great, the Most High. And blessings and peace be upon the Primal Point, and the upright and curved Alif, and the All-Embracing Word of Power, and the Divine Spirit of the Kingdom, through Whom existence began and the manifestations of the Unseen in the visible world were sealed—Muhammad, the Chosen One, whom God made the Dawning-Place of His most excellent names and the Manifestation of His most exalted attributes—and upon His family and companions from this day until the Day whereon the tongue of might and power shall speak forth [that "the Kingdom on that Day shall be] God's, the One, the All-Compelling."

BH05328: O My handmaiden! Hear thou in this divine Day…

In the Name of God, the Most Great, the Most Glorious!

O My handmaiden! Hear thou in this divine Day the call of the All-Merciful from the Abha Tongue, for verily His call giveth life to the dead, enkindleth that which is extinguished, and transmuteth the brass of existence into pure gold. The transformation of all existence hath been and shall ever be through the Call

of Truth, as hath been and is now witnessed. O My handmaiden! Abdu'llah-i-Ansari—upon him be My glory—hath aforetime said:

> "O God! If Thou shouldst but once say My servant,' I would soar beyond the Throne with joy."

Now thou hast heard with thine own ears, O My handmaiden, from the Dawning-Place of the utterance of the All-Merciful and the horizon of the words of the All-Glorious Lord. By My life! Were thou to be grateful for this station throughout the duration of the kingdom of earth and heaven, it would not equal this most great bounty. Now say thou with utmost joy and delight, gladness and expansion:

O my God and the God of all worlds, my Object of worship and the Object of worship of all who dwell in the realm of possibility! I acknowledge and confess my inability to render thanks to Thee as beseemeth Thy station, but Thou art the All-Bountiful—accept from me that which is worthy and befitting Thy most holy court. Verily Thou art the Mighty, the Bountiful.

Convey My glorification to each one of thy daughters, then gladden them with the mention of My Name, the Mighty, the Inaccessible.

BH05382: This is a mention of the Leaf…

He is the Mighty, the Glorious, the Most Glorious!

This is a mention of the Leaf of the Cause, which was inscribed by the Pen of God. Therein is veiled God's melody in a holy and beloved tune, wherein are chanted the verses of separation morn and eve, by which the hearts of all peoples are consumed. O heedless ones! How have ye veiled yourselves from the Beauty that was visible from the horizon of the Spirit? Soon shall the fruits of your deeds be brought before you in the presence of the sovereign Lord, the Self-Subsisting. Then shall remorse profit you not for what ye acquired in your vain life and for turning away from the Beauty for Whose meeting ye were created, and for depriving your eyes of His beauty.

Thus doth God torment the idolaters in the fire of remoteness and raise up the believers to the holy and exalted court. And thou, despair not of God's grace and grieve not over what the oppressors do in numbered days. Soon shall their souls and deeds perish and they shall enter a fire kindled by God's wrath. Turn away from them, then turn to God that thou mayest be regarded by God's glance in the kingdom. Then deliver unto the servants what God hath cast into thy heart, and fear no one, for herein art thou commanded by Us. The Spirit and glory be upon thee and upon those who soar to the holy and sanctified horizon.

BH05403: Glorified art Thou, O my God! Thou seest my…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Exalted!

Glorified art Thou, O my God! Thou seest my dwelling-place, and hearest my lamentation. I know not for what transgression the breezes of Thy mercy and loving-kindness have been withheld from Thy loved ones, and for what rebellion Thou hast left them in the hands of Thine enemies. Is there any Forgiver besides Thee Who might absolve them of their misdeeds, and is there any Gracious One other than Thee

Who might clothe them in the garment of pardon? Nay, by Thy might! I behold no existence besides Thee and no being other than Thee. Thou hast ever been as Thou art, with nothing else beside Thee, and Thou wilt forever remain as Thou hast been. O Lord! Forgive, then, Thy servants who have taken none but Thee as their Helper, and no friend besides Thee.

I beseech Thee by Thy Name through which the standards of Thy Cause were raised up, and the signs of Thy grandeur were sent down, and the pavilion of Thy glory and the tabernacles of Thy bounty were lifted up for the sincere ones among Thy creatures, that Thou aid those whose faces have been barred from the gates of joy and tranquility. O Thou in Whose hands lie the kingdom of bounty and the dominion of grace and favor! Open Thou unto their faces, O my God, the gates of Thy mercy and the portals of Thy providence. Then send down upon them from the clouds of Thy favor that which will make them independent of all except Thee, and free from all save Thyself. Verily, Thou art the Opener of the gates and the Guide of all souls. There is none other God but Thee, the Judge in both the beginning and the end.

BH05407: Magnified be Thy name, O my God! I testify…

Magnified be Thy name, O my God! I testify that if Thy servants were to turn towards Thee with the eyes Thou didst create in them and with the ears wherewith Thou didst endow them, they would all be carried away by a single word sent down from the right hand of the throne of Thy majesty. That word alone would suffice to brighten their faces, and to assure their hearts, and to cause their souls to soar up to the atmosphere of Thy great glory, and to ascend into the heaven of Thy sovereignty.

I pray Thee, O Thou Who art the Lord of all names and the Ruler of both earth and heaven, to grant that all who are dear to Thee may each become a cup of Thy mercy in Thy days, that they may quicken the hearts of Thy servants. Empower them also, O my God, to be as the rain that poureth down from the clouds of Thy grace, and as the winds that waft the vernal fragrances of Thy loving-kindness, that through them the soil of the hearts of Thy creatures may be clad with verdure, and may bring forth the things that will shed their fragrance over all Thy dominion, so that every one may perceive the sweet smell of the Robe of Thy Revelation. Potent art Thou to do what Thou willest.

The power of Thy might beareth me witness! Whoso hath drunk of the cup which the hand of Thy mercy hath borne round will strip himself of all things except Thee, and will be able, through a word of his mouth, to enrapture the souls of such of Thy servants as have slumbered on the bed of forgetfulness and negligence, and to cause them to turn their faces toward Thy most Great Sign, and seek from Thee naught else except Thyself, and ask of Thee only what Thou hast determined for them by the pen of Thy judgment and hast prescribed in the Tablet of Thy decree.

Send down, then, O my God, through Thy Most Great Name, upon Thy loved ones what will, under all conditions, draw them nearer unto Thee. Thou art, verily, the Almighty, the All-Glorious, Whose help is implored by all men.

BH05525: O Sun of the World! He is the Spirit…

O Sun of the World! He is the Spirit that was breathed into bodies.

No letter arrived from you, yet a reply is being sent. In truth, you were mentioned without mention and beheld without proof, and God willing, you will enter Paradise without deeds and meet the Causer without cause. Glorified be He Who sends down the verses in truth and gives glad tidings to those who hastened to the arenas of Beauty and dwelt before His Face, and heard God's call in the Ridvan of eternity, and drank from the sea of the Divine Essence on the shore of recognition. Then they detached themselves from all in the heavens and earth and turned their faces toward Him to Whom the lights rushed. Therefore, rejoice within yourself and turn not to anyone, but advance toward the pavilion that was cut off from recognition. Then remember your Lord in your heart and with your tongue according to your capacity. And if grief touches you, fear not and grieve not, but place your trust in God in your heart, for verily He removes grief from the hearts of those women who have returned to God and soared in the atmosphere of longing. Thus have We remembered you in truth and made you mentioned in the Tablet.

BH05548: The Most Great, the Most Holy! This…

The Most Great, the Most Holy! This is a Book which summoneth mankind unto God, the Almighty, the All-Wise. They who are endowed with divine insight behold therein the power of their Lord, the Mighty, the Omnipotent, and hear from it what the One on Sinai heard from the Tree: "Verily, there is no God but Me, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed." Blessed is the ear that hath heard the call of God, and the heart that hath turned unto the Kaaba of them that are nigh, and woe betide him whose sense of smell hath prevented him from inhaling the fragrance that wafteth from this Garment, and him whose ear hath been kept from hearing the Call that hath been raised from the direction of a mighty Throne.

Turn with thy whole being unto God and leave the wrongdoers who have taken their idle fancies for lords besides God—these are of the people of the fire and shall find none to protect them from that which is ordained for them in hell. Let nothing frighten thee in thy love for thy Lord. Be detached from all the worlds. Should anyone object to thee concerning thy love for thy Lord, say:

> "I have forsaken your religion and followed the way of God and held fast unto His firm cord."

Thus doth the Pen command thee from the presence of the Ancient King. Follow thou and be not of the prodigal ones.

We have ordained stations in Paradise for everyone who hath desired Us. We have been the Ruler. Beware lest there appear from thee that which would deprive thee of that which hath been ordained for thee. Thus have We inspired thee that thou mayest be convinced that His mercy hath preceded all created things.

BH05906: This is a noble Book sent down…

He is the Most Holy, the Most Glorious

This is a noble Book sent down from the presence of One mighty and all-knowing. Verily it is a mercy from Us and a remembrance for all the worlds.

O people! Answer him who calleth you unto God and follow not every obstinate misbeliever. Prepare yourselves to hearken unto the Word of God. By My life, through it the hearts of those near to God were attracted and the hearts of those who denied the Lord of Lords were thrown into commotion. Verily they are the people of the fire.

The Hour hath come to pass in truth and the moon hath been cleft asunder by the finger of thy Lord's will, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy. The pathway hath been raised up—verily it is the pathway of God, were ye of those who know.

O people! Abandon vain desires. This is your God Who hath come from the heaven of destiny with mighty sovereignty. Those who call you unto the Evil One—their hearts are sealed and they are companions of hellfire. Is there any protector for anyone or any escape for any soul? Nay, by your Lord, the Mighty, the Wise!

Hasten unto Him with your hearts. He will protect you from those who disbelieve and draw you nigh unto a station which, were ye to behold it, would cause you to fall prostrate upon your faces before God, the Mighty, the Beautiful.

Rejoice in that thy name hath flowed from the Most Exalted Pen. This is indeed a great bounty. Glorify thy Lord with praise at all times and say: Praise be unto Thee, O Beloved of the worlds and Goal of all who are in the heavens and on earth.

BH05919: This is a Book sent down in truth…

In the Name of Him Who hath been manifest above all things!

This is a Book sent down in truth from the heaven of God, the Protector, the Mighty, the Powerful. Herein is mentioned what hath befallen the Youth at the hands of those who disbelieved in God and associated partners with His Beauty after He had come unto them from the Dayspring of eternity with manifest sovereignty. He had strengthened them in His Cause and exalted their names in the Kingdom of creation that they might aid their Lord, the All-Merciful, the All-Compassionate. Yet they committed that which causeth the denizens of Paradise to lament and that which made the Faithful Spirit fall prostrate in the dust. Say: O people! I know not by what proof ye have believed in the Glory of the All-Merciful, nor by what evidence ye have recognized the Path. Nay, by My noble Self! Ye have not known God nor followed the ways of His Command, and ye are among the lost. And thou, O servant, purify thyself from such as these, then put thy trust in God, thy Lord. He, verily, shall suffice thee against all the peoples. Say:

Glory be unto Thee, O my God! O my God, strengthen my feet in Thy Cause, then make me a helper of Thy Beauty, the Ancient and Resplendent One. Then preserve me within the shelter of Thy protection, and grant me that which Thou hast ordained for Thy sincere servants.

And glory be upon thee and upon whosoever hath turned with his heart toward the court of God, the Almighty, the Powerful, the All-Wise.

BH05920: This is a Book sent down in truth…

He is the Mighty, the Most Holy, the Most Exalted!

This is a Book sent down in truth from the presence of One mighty and powerful. Verily He speaks the truth at all times, that there is none other God but Him. He created all contingent beings through His power and brought forth all created things through His sovereignty from His presence. Verily He has ever encompassed all worlds. Say: O people, fear God and associate not with Him Who was promised by His beauty, for Whose meeting you were created, and for Whose manifestation you were raised up. Thus has it flowed from the Pen of Command upon preserved tablets of glory. Whosoever turns away today from God and His signs has indeed denied God and His sovereignty and is recorded in the Mother Book by the Pen of the Spirit as among the wrongdoers.

O servant! Leave sovereignty behind you and turn with your heart to this Station which has appeared and shone forth from the holy horizon, whereon the Youth has arisen with manifest sovereignty. Be steadfast in God's Cause and His decree such that your feet slip not from the Path which has been raised up in truth. And the glory be upon you and upon those who have shown patience within themselves seeking God's good pleasure—these are they who are at this moment mentioned before the Throne.

BH05772: Glorified art Thou, O my God! Thou hearest…

He is the Most Holy, the Most Pure

Glorified art Thou, O my God! Thou hearest the moaning of those who have melted away in their separation and remoteness from Thee, and the crying of those who are kept back from attaining Thy presence and are prevented from entering the sanctuary of Thy glory and the pavilion of Thy favors. Among them are those who call upon Thee, O my God, in the wilderness, and those who lament in the desert, finding for themselves no helper except Thee and no supporter besides Thee.

O Lord! Open before the faces of Thy servants the gate which was closed by what the aggressive ones have wrought in Thy days, that through it may enter those who desire to attain the presence of the throne of Thy grandeur and to stand before the dawning-places of the lights of Thy countenance.

O Lord! Their thirst hath intensified in their separation from Thee—give them to drink of the water of Thy meeting; and their grief hath increased in their remoteness from Thee—draw them nigh, O my God, to the Kawthar of Thy reunion.

O Lord! Thou art the Generous One, possessed of great bounty. I beseech Thee by Thy Name through which trembling seized all who are on Thine earth, that Thou gather Thy loved ones beneath the shade of the Tree of Thy singleness and the Lote-Tree of Thy oneness. Then send down upon them from the heaven of Thy generosity that which will bring tranquility to their hearts, that they may arise to help Thy Cause amongst Thy servants in such wise that the oppression of those who have denied Thy signs will not frighten them.

Verily Thou art the Powerful over all who are in Thy earth and Thy heaven. There is no God but Thee, the Mighty, the Help in Peril.

BH05669: O Faraj! Rejoice in the relief from God…

In the Name of God, the Most Invincible, the Most Holy, the Most Glorious!

O Faraj! Rejoice in the relief from God which hath come to thee suddenly like the dawning of His countenance from the horizon of a wondrous Temple. Verily, His relief unto thee is thy recognition of His exalted, mighty and powerful Self. O Faraj! Find relief in thyself through God's relief, which is greater in thy Lord's sight than the kingdom of the heavens and earths. Strengthen thy heart to aid the Cause of God, then turn away from the faces of the idolaters and from him in whose heart is hatred of God. By God! His face shall change and from him shall waft the odors of barrenness. Say: O people! Do ye read what hath been sent down to you from the Pen of God, yet deny His Self?

Woe unto you, O heedless ones! Do ye deny Him by Whose finger's movement the heavens and earth were created, and by another movement shall return to mere nothingness? Be thou thankful unto God for having attained unto His recognition and drunk the Kawthar of certitude from the hands of His bounty, and become of those who have attained. Be thou steadfast in the Cause through God's might and power, then rest assured in God's grace, for verily His grace sufficeth thee above all the worlds. And the Spirit be upon thee and upon him who hath believed in God and turned with a pure and luminous heart toward the holy court. And praise be to God, the Beloved of the mystics.

BH05911: This is a Book from Us to him who…

In the name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Exalted

This is a Book from Us to him who hath believed in God and walked in the path of His good-pleasure. Upon him be the mercy of God and His blessings. The denizens of the highest Paradise will assuredly make mention of him and pray for him. There is none other God but He, the Almighty, the All-Glorious, the All-Wise.

Say: Glory be unto Thee, O my God! This is Thy servant whom Thou hast given to drink of the Kawthar of Thy remembrance and blessed with the wonders of Thy knowledge. The outpourings of Thy grace have so overtaken me that my mention hath flowed from the Pen of Thy Command and my name hath been uttered before the Throne of Thy grandeur. Since Thou hast made me renowned through Thy Name and known through Thy love, deprive me not of steadfastness in Thy Cause and detachment from all else but Thee. Wouldst Thou, O my God, cast out one whom Thou hast sheltered in the shadow of Thy mercy? Wouldst Thou, O my Beloved, forbid one who hath sought Thy presence?

Nay, by Thy glory! This is not what I think of Thee, for I am certain that Thy mercy hath preceded me and Thy grace hath encompassed me. Thou dost not forbid those who turn to Thee, nor dost Thou deny those who seek Thy Self. Therefore, through Thy grace, send down upon me that which will make me a servant of Thy Self and one who speaks Thy praise. Verily Thou art He Who hath ever been independent of all else

but Thyself and will continue to be what Thou hast been from time immemorial. There is none other God but Thee, the Mighty, the Exalted.

BH05665: O Ashraf! Blessed art thou for having attained unto…

In the Name of God, the Most Unapproachable, the Most Holy, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious

O Ashraf! Blessed art thou for having attained unto the recognition of the Manifestation of God's Self and for having become one of those who believe in His unity. By God! This is a station that nothing whatsoever created between the heavens and the earth can equal. Know thou, moreover, that the Truth and whatsoever proceedeth from Him must needs be distinguished from creation and whatsoever emanateth therefrom. This verily is a certain truth. He can never be confused with aught else, and shineth forth from the horizon of the heaven of holiness with manifest sovereignty. Thus must thou witness it in His verses and in all that proceedeth from His presence, and be endued with clear vision. They who follow every ignorant rabble have no portion of this Most Great All-Encompassing Ocean.

Give thanks unto God, thy Lord, for having attained unto His love. By God! It is God's trust deposited within the hearts of the sincere ones. Guard thyself lest the breath of Satan pass over thee, and turn thy heart unto the fragrances of the All-Merciful wafting from this holy and luminous right hand of the All-Glorious. Thus have We made mention of thee out of Our love for thee, that thou mayest stand firm in this Most Great, this Mighty Cause. And glory be upon thee and upon whosoever is steadfast in God's Cause and is numbered among the firm ones. Praise be to God, thy Beloved and the Beloved of them that know.

BH05837: We have read thy letter, and have granted thee…

In the Name of God, the Most Inaccessible, the Most Holy, the Most Exalted.

We have read thy letter, and have granted thee that which thou didst ask of God, thy Lord and the Lord of all worlds. And there hath been inscribed for thee, by the Pen of the Most High, in the Tablet of Decree, that which He hath willed. Render thanks, therefore, and be of them that remember.

Magnified be Thy name, O Lord my God, inasmuch as Thou hast inclined mine ear to Thy voice, and called me to Thyself, and opened mine eyes to gaze on Thy beauty, and illumined my heart with Thy knowledge, and sanctified my breast from the doubts of the infidels in Thy days. I am the one, O my God, who lay fast asleep on his couch, when lo, the messengers of Thy manifold mercies were sent down upon me by Thee, and the gentle winds of Thy loving-kindness blew over me, and roused me up, and caused me to set my face towards the sanctuary of Thy knowledge, and to fix mine eyes upon the splendors of the light of Thy face.

I am but a poor creature, O my Lord! Behold me clinging to the hem of Thy riches. I have fled from darkness and from waywardness unto the brightness of the light of Thy countenance. Were I—and to this Thy glory beareth me witness—to render thanksgiving unto Thee, through the whole continuance of Thy kingdom and the duration of the heaven of Thine omnipotence, I would still have failed to repay Thy manifold bestowals.

I implore Thee, O my Lord, by Thy name, the Ever-Abiding, and by Thy name which Thou didst ordain to be the most great Instrument binding thee to Thy servants, to grant that I may flee for shelter to Thy door, and speak forth Thy praise. Write down, then, for me, in every world of Thine, that which will enable me to enter beneath Thy shadow and within the borders of Thy court.

Thou art, verily, the Almighty, the Most Bountiful, the Most Exalted, the Ever-Forgiving, the Most Generous.

BH05894: I know not, O my God, what the Fire…

In the name of God, the Most Mighty, the Most Mighty

I know not, O my God, what the Fire is with which Thou didst light the Lamp of Thy Cause, or what the Glass wherewith Thou didst preserve it from Thine enemies. By Thy might! I marvel at the wonders of Thy Revelation, and at the tokens of Thy glory. I recognize, O Thou Who art my heart's Desire, that were fire to be touched by water it would instantly be extinguished, whereas the Fire which Thou didst kindle can never go out, though all the seas of the earth be poured upon it. Should water at any time touch it, the hands of Thy power would, as decreed in Thy Tablets, transmute that water into a fuel that would feed its flame.

I, likewise, recognize, O my God, that every lamp, when exposed to the fury of the winds, must cease from burning. As to Thy Lamp, however, O Beloved of the worlds, I cannot think what power except Thy power could have kept it safe for so many years from the tempests that have continually been directed upon it by the rebellious among Thy creatures.

I swear by Thy glory, O my God! Thy Lamp which Thou didst light within the tabernacle of man crieth out to Thee and saith:

> "O Thou the one alone Beloved! How long wilt Thou forsake me? Lift me up to Thee, I pray Thee. Though this wish of mine be the wish of a human creature, yet Thou knowest that my true wish is to sacrifice myself in Thy path. Thou art He Who hath made my desire to be the same as Thy desire, and my will the same as Thy will. Do Thou preserve Thy loved ones, I beseech Thee, in the shelter of Thy shadowing mercy which transcendeth all things, that haply the sufferings they bear may not deter them from turning in the direction of Thy name, the All-Glorious, the Most Bountiful."

BH05721: These are the verses of God which have been…

He is the Most Holy, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious!

These are the verses of God which have been sent down in truth from the precincts of the mighty Throne unto him who hath attained the presence of God and was a servant unto His exalted and glorious Self. O servant! Rejoice within thyself that thou hast attained unto the presence of thy Lord and hast heard His wondrous and incomparable melodies, and hast taken shelter beneath the shade of the House and hast occupied thyself with that which thy Beloved and those faithful servants who were round about Him did

partake. By God! It behooveth thee to glory in the Kingdom of Names that the Sun of Eternity hath shone upon thee from the horizon of glory with manifest and evident sovereignty.

Stand firm in the Cause of thy Lord in such wise that the cawing of the idolaters shall not cause thee to deviate. Know thou that the Cause was in the grasp of My power, and none was aware of this save My All-Knowing, All-Informed Self. And whatsoever We indicated unto others besides Us was out of a wisdom from Our presence which none knoweth save God, thy Lord and the Lord of thy forefathers of old. Be thou steadfast in the Cause with a sovereignty from thy Lord, the Almighty, the All-Powerful. And may glory rest upon thee and upon those who are round about thee among Our believing servants, whether female or male, young or old. And praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH05713: By God! Through tribulation has increased the love…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious

By God! Through tribulation has increased the love of Baha to such an extent that nothing has deterred Him from the remembrance of the Lord of Names and Creator of heaven. At all times He summons the peoples of the worlds to their Lord, the All-Merciful. How wondrous is this fire which, whenever water touches it, grows more intense in its love for its Lord, the Almighty, the Most Exalted, the All-Knowing. He accepted abasement for the glory of all on earth and chose imprisonment for the salvation of the worlds. O thou who wanderest! This is a mighty, mighty Cause which the hosts of earth and heaven cannot withstand. Shouldst thou find the sweetness of thy Lord's remembrance in but one of His verses, thou wouldst swoon away at that moment, and upon arising thou wouldst say:

> "I testify, O my God, that the Daysprings of Revelation and the Dawning-Places of Inspiration came before Thy Manifestation, and in every word that proceedeth from His mouth is concealed that which giveth life to the worlds."

O Lord! He dwelleth in the most desolate of lands, though by His Name the heavens and earth were built up. Thus have Thy wrongdoing servants behaved. If thou art enkindled with the heat of My love as befitteth this Revelation whereby the faces of those near unto God were illumined, then make mention before Me of him who hath sought Me. Then give him to drink from the chalice of My grace held forth by the fingers of My loving-kindness, that it may draw him to the horizon of My mercy and the dawning-place of My names and the seat of My mighty throne. Praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH05653: Tablets were sent with Salman, and in response…

He is

Tablets were sent with Salman, and in response to certain questions, special pages were written and dispatched. Make copies of these and send them to various regions, that perchance the people may remember what was revealed therein and be among those who take heed.

Furthermore, certain matters have arisen in this land that have not occurred from the beginning of creation until now—you will hear of these from those who return. Quickly deliver copies of the Persian

Tablets to His Holiness Ismu'llah-i-Munir and His Holiness Zaynu'l-Muqarrabin. Send as many wondrous verses as possible to Nayriz and the Land of Sultan. Some Tablets in the script of revelation were sent from this servant in attendance before the Throne, as there was no time for finishing. Have Salman return to the cities of the All-Merciful as soon as possible—this is closest to righteousness. Make haste without fail. God willing, may you be occupied at all times with the remembrance of the Beloved of the worlds and be detached from all else.

Some insignificant, unworthy items were sent specially for certain loved ones of God—deliver these to them. However, since they are from God, they will assuredly be more precious than all else. Several unsigned Tablets were sent—give these to whomever they deem appropriate.

BH05823: Thy letter hath been presented before Us, and We…

In the name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious

Thy letter hath been presented before Us, and We have perused that which it containeth. We beseech God to disclose unto thee that which thou hast desired; verily, He is potent over all things. Say:

Unto Thee be praise, O Lord my God! I entreat Thee, by Thy signs that have encompassed the entire creation, and by the light of Thy countenance that hath illuminated all that are in heaven and on earth, and by Thy mercy that hath surpassed all created things, and by Thy grace that hath suffused the whole universe, to rend asunder the veils that shut me out from Thee, that I may hasten unto the Fountain-Head of Thy mighty inspiration, and to the Day-Spring of Thy Revelation and bountiful favors, and may be immersed beneath the ocean of Thy nearness and pleasure.

Suffer me not, O my Lord, to be deprived of the knowledge of Thee in Thy days, and divest me not of the robe of Thy guidance. Give me to drink of the river that is life indeed, whose waters have streamed forth from the Paradise (Ridvan) in which the throne of Thy Name, the All-Merciful, was established, that mine eyes may be opened, and my face be illumined, and my heart be assured, and my soul be enlightened, and my steps be made firm.

Thou art He Who from everlasting was, through the potency of His might, supreme over all things, and, through the operation of His will, was able to ordain all things. Nothing whatsoever, whether in Thy heaven or on Thy earth, can frustrate Thy purpose. Have mercy, then, upon me, O my Lord, through Thy gracious providence and generosity, and incline mine ear to the sweet melodies of the birds that warble their praise of Thee, amidst the branches of the tree of Thy oneness.

Thou art the Great Giver, the Ever-Forgiving, the Most Compassionate.

BH05797: It is the dawn of the Festival…

He is the Almighty

It is the dawn of the Festival, and the wine of divine unity is surging in the hearts of the detached ones. Blessed are they who have attained unto it! We beseech God to graciously aid all the peoples of the world, that they may be adorned with the ornament of love for the Most Great Name. Verily He is the

Forgiving, the Merciful. O servants! By the Lord of creation, the innermost essence unto infinity is the chalice of this pure wine and this choice nectar of manifestation. Strive ye to drink thereof.

O servant who art present before the Throne! Praise the Best-Beloved of the worlds, for thou hast attained His presence at all times and art occupied in His service. Hold fast to the cord of contentment. Thou art observed to be such that even if the tablets of creation were to be adorned with the pen of the Lord of invention, thou wouldst still cry out "Is there more?" In these days, He hath appointed a servant pen and tablet for every direction, that perchance it may be adorned by the Pen of Pre-existence. The pen and ink are nigh to presenting their petition to the Lord of creation: "Increase, O my God, therein Thy love and affection." Glory be unto Him Who created it and strengthened it and made it a servant of His beauty and a companion to Himself among the worlds. Praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH05907: This is a Tablet revealed for the sister…

He is the Most Holy, the Most Glorious

This is a Tablet revealed for the sister of the Shaykh who migrated from his self unto God, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting. This is a Tablet for her who hath believed in her Lord and attained unto His days and was among the devout women. O handmaiden of God! Give thanks unto thy Lord for having caused thee to recognize the Manifestation of His Self through His Most Exalted Name. Arise then to recognize this Beauty through Whom the earth was cleft asunder, the mountains were crushed, and the heavens were rent apart. By God! Through Him the letters were moved from their places and the words from their stations, and from the horizon of grace shone forth the Sun of verses.

Remember thy Lord in His days, then bow down and be devout and be among those who prostrate. Be not perturbed when the bellowing of the Calf is raised and the veils of allusions prevent the people from drawing nigh unto the holy court. Cast behind thee all allusions and take fast hold of the cord of God. Verily He will protect thee from the thunderbolt of those days and draw thee nigh unto the heaven of attributes. Thus doth God make mention of thee in this Tablet and reveal unto thee that which shall sanctify thee from all that keepeth thee back from Him and draw thee nigh unto that which is better for thee than whatsoever hath been created between earth and heaven. And peace be upon thee and upon those women who have believed in God their Lord and were among the pure ones.

BH05752: I make mention of My handmaiden that My call…

In the Name of God, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious

I make mention of My handmaiden that My call may draw thee to My Kingdom, that thou mayest behold what hath been ordained for thee by One All-Knowing, All-Wise. By My life! Were any of My loved ones to discover what hath been ordained for him in the heaven of My bounty, he would soar in his longing toward My atmosphere and find himself independent of all worlds. We have forsaken the world and its people, and desire naught but to ascend above it and depart from it—and thy Lord knoweth what lieth within all breasts, if ye be of them that understand.

O My handmaiden! Grieve not at what hath befallen thee, but hold fast unto purity, that the people of Paradise may inhale from thee the sweet fragrance of holiness. Thus doth the All-Knowing, the All-Informed, command thee. Cling to the hem of thy Lord's mercy, then detach thyself in His love from all the worlds. Hast thou seen permanence in aught that thou hast seen? Nay, by My own Self, the True One! The kingdom shall pass away, and sovereignty shall remain with God, the Mighty, the All-Praised. Cast aside the mention of that which perisheth, and hold fast to the hem of that which endureth. By God! This is the sanctified, mighty, and inaccessible hem—yet it hath been sullied by what the hands of the wicked ones among the people of the Bayan, who denied the All-Merciful after the heavens of religions were cleft asunder and the Kingdom of utterance came with manifest sovereignty, have wrought. Well is it with him who hath detached himself from all things and turned unto the Lord of Names and Creator of the heavens. He, verily, is of those who have attained.

BH05667: O handmaid of God! Bear witness in thy spirit…

He is the Almighty

O handmaid of God! Bear witness in thy spirit that He is God, the Mighty, the Glorious, the Beauteous.

He is the Almighty

O handmaid of God! Bear witness within thyself that there is none other God but Him, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting. Beware lest thou forget My counsels if thou art of the steadfast ones. Be patient within thyself and put thy trust in God, the Mighty, the Powerful. You and the guest must act with utmost friendship and kindness, and remind her on My behalf. Then remember from Us the handmaids of God who have believed in God, the Mighty, the Powerful.

He is the Almighty

O thou who remaineth from Us! Be patient and grieve not within thyself, and be of the patient ones. Say: By God, the eyes of the lovers have wept with thy weeping. Be thou patient in this separation which hath consumed the hearts of the mystics. And thou—hear My words and be patient with what hath been ordained from the presence of One wise and knowing. Soon shall thy cause be exalted and thy name uplifted in truth, and He verily recompenseth the reward of the longing ones. Then convey Our greetings to the one who was in thy house and remind her of a holy and noble station, that she may remain firm in the Cause of God and be of the steadfast ones.

BH05848: Say: By God, the Truth! There hath appeared…

…Say: By God, the Truth! There hath appeared that which hath never appeared like unto it in all creation, and verily it speaketh in all things, at all times, in every tone, saying: 'There is none other God but Me, the All-Compelling, the Mighty, the Beauteous.' Soon shalt thou witness the turning away of those who fancy themselves possessed of knowledge and count themselves among the guided ones. Nay, by My Name, the All-Merciful, the Most Merciful! Counsel thyself, and then the souls of men, to hold fast unto the Tree of Paradise at the time when the breezes of hatred blow from near and far. Say: Forget thyself and all who are in the heavens and on earth, that God may raise thee to a station of holy radiance.

And polish the mirror of thy heart that no love of name or fame remain therein, for this is My command unto thee, that thou mayest be of those who act. Verily, We loved thee before the creation of the heavens and earth, when We raised thee up in the precincts of holiness with a beauty of might and glory. Were We to make known to thee thy true self, thy heart would be at rest and thou wouldst be detached from all the worlds. But since We found the people of the Bayan more veiled than the peoples of former times, We have therefore concealed most matters from them lest they be among those who waver. Otherwise, We would have cast upon them thy name, then thy form, then thy station, that they might be of those who prostrate themselves before God Who created thee and them. And verily this was decreed by a mighty, ancient Pen.

BH05698: O handmaiden of God! The Call of the All-Merciful…

In the Name of the One Friend!

O handmaiden of God! The Call of the All-Merciful is raised high, yet most of the handmaidens remain heedless of it. Beseech God that thou mayest not be deprived of His Word and its sweetness, and that thou mayest stand so firm in the Cause of God that tribulations shall not hold thee back from the Most Glorious Horizon. Tests and trials have ever existed and shall continue to exist, that truth may be distinguished from falsehood and the doubter from the assured one. Observe how those souls who claimed to believe and who prostrated themselves before the All-Merciful in submission and humility—when His Self was made manifest, most of them became veiled from Him and remained far from the seat of nearness.

This is naught but due to the heedlessness of souls, else the sun is far distinct from the shadow, and the flower is clearly evident from its likeness. I swear by the Sun of the horizon of My Cause that were they to open the eye of the heart, all would behold the Truth as existing and all else as non-existent. These are days the like of which have not been seen nor shall be seen. Strive that through the bounty of the Lord of Power thou mayest attain unto the Most Sublime Vision. This is the Truth, and after Truth there is naught save manifest error.

BH05768: Glorified art Thou, O Lord my God! Every time…

Glorified art Thou, O Lord my God! Every time I venture to make mention of Thee, I am held back by my mighty sins and grievous trespasses against Thee, and find myself wholly deprived of Thy grace, and utterly powerless to celebrate Thy praise. My great confidence in Thy bounty, however, reviveth my hope in Thee, and my certitude that Thou wilt bountifully deal with me emboldeneth me to extol Thee, and to ask of Thee the things Thou dost possess.

I implore Thee, O my God, by Thy mercy that hath surpassed all created things, and to which all that are immersed beneath the oceans of Thy names bear witness, not to abandon me unto my self, for my heart is prone to evil. Guard me, then, within the stronghold of Thy protection and the shelter of Thy care. I am he, O my God, whose only wish is what Thou hast determined by the power of Thy might. All I have chosen for myself is to be assisted by Thy gracious appointments and the ruling of Thy will, and to be aided with the tokens of Thy decree and judgment.

I beseech Thee, O Thou Who art the Beloved of the hearts which long for Thee, by the Manifestations of Thy Cause and the Day-Springs of Thine inspiration, and the Exponents of Thy majesty, and the Treasuries of Thy knowledge, not to suffer me to be deprived of Thy holy Habitation, Thy Fane and Thy Tabernacle. Aid me, O my Lord, to attain His hallowed court, and to circle round His person, and to stand humbly at His door.

Thou art He Whose power is from everlasting to everlasting. Nothing escapeth Thy knowledge. Thou art, verily, the God of power, the God of glory and wisdom.

Praised be God, the Lord of the worlds!

BH05771: Praise be unto Thee, O my God! I am…

Praise be unto Thee, O my God! I am one of Thy servants, who hath believed on Thee and on Thy signs. Thou seest how I have set myself towards the door of Thy mercy, and turned my face in the direction of Thy loving-kindness. I beseech Thee, by Thy most excellent titles and Thy most exalted attributes, to open to my face the portals of Thy bestowals. Aid me, then, to do that which is good, O Thou Who art the Possessor of all names and attributes!

I am poor, O my Lord, and Thou art the Rich. I have set my face towards Thee, and detached myself from all but Thee. Deprive me not, I implore Thee, of the breezes of Thy tender mercy, and withhold not from me what Thou didst ordain for the chosen among Thy servants.

Remove the veil from mine eyes, O my Lord, that I may recognize what Thou hast desired for Thy creatures, and discover, in all the manifestations of Thy handiwork, the revelations of Thine almighty power. Enrapture my soul, O my Lord, with Thy most mighty signs, and draw me out of the depths of my corrupt and evil desires. Write down, then, for me the good of this world and of the world to come. Potent art Thou to do what pleaseth Thee. No God is there but Thee, the All-Glorious, Whose help is sought by all men.

I yield Thee thanks, O my Lord, that Thou hast wakened me from my sleep, and stirred me up, and created in me the desire to perceive what most of Thy servants have failed to apprehend. Make me able, therefore, O my Lord, to behold, for love of Thee and for the sake of Thy pleasure, whatsoever Thou hast desired. Thou art He to the power of Whose might and sovereignty all things testify.

There is none other God but Thee, the Almighty, the Beneficent.

BH05798: Glorified be He Who hath sent down the verses…

He is!

Glorified be He Who hath sent down the verses in truth, wherein are that which openeth the gates of Paradise and causeth the breezes of grace to waft upon all who are in the heavens and on earth. And thou, rejoice within thyself and grieve not over anything, but place thy trust in God, thy Lord. This verily will profit thee in truth, and God is witness unto this. Then know thou that the world and its adornments shall pass away and have no permanence, and all things shall return to a holy and radiant seat. And when

thou hearest the call of separation from the Branch of the Cause, grieve not, for in this are ordained mysteries of might and wisdom from a wise and knowing Ordainer, and He shall manifest it if He willeth and desireth.

There is no God but Him, the Mighty, the Beautiful. He doeth what He willeth and shall not be questioned of what He desireth, and He is the All-Wise, the All-Informed. Beware lest thou forget the favour of thy Lord, then thank Him at all times, and this is better for thee than the dominion of the ancients. Then recognize the worth of what God hath bestowed upon you through His grace, in that He hath related you to His servant, and this is from an evident grace. And the Spirit be upon thee and upon those women who circle round the Cause and are detached from all who are in the kingdom of creation.

BH05801: Glorified art Thou, O Lord my God! O Thou…

In His Name, the Exalted, the All-Highest, the Most Sublime!

Glorified art Thou, O Lord my God! O Thou Who art my God, and my Master, and my Lord, and my Support, and my Hope, and my Refuge, and my Light. I ask of Thee, by Thy Hidden and Treasured Name, which none knoweth save Thine own Self, to protect the bearer of this Tablet from every calamity and pestilence, and from every wicked man and woman; from the evil of the evil-doers, and from the scheming of the unbelievers. Preserve him, moreover, O my God, from every pain and vexation, O Thou Who holdest in Thy hand the empire of all things. Thou, truly, art powerful over all things. Thou doest as Thou willest, and ordainest as Thou pleasest.

O Thou King of Kings! O Thou kind Lord! O Thou Source of ancient bounty, of grace, of generosity and bestowal! O Thou Healer of sicknesses! O Thou Sufficer of needs! O Thou Light of Light! O Thou Light above all Lights! O Thou Revealer of every Manifestation! O Thou the Compassionate! O Thou the Merciful! Do Thou have mercy upon the bearer of this Tablet, through Thy most great mercy and Thine abundant grace, O Thou the Gracious, Thou the Bounteous. Guard him, moreover, through Thy protection, from whatsoever his heart and mind may find repugnant. Of those endued with power, Thou, verily, art the most powerful. The Glory of God rest upon thee, O thou rising sun! Do thou testify unto that which God hath testified of His own Self, that there is none other God besides Him, the Almighty, the Best-Beloved.

BH05876: In the name of God, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise!…

In the name of God, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise! This is a Book from the presence of the Self-Subsisting to people who understand. Therein flows the Kawthar of life which hath streamed forth from the finger of your Lord, the All-Merciful. Drink ye, O people, for it is indeed a sealed nectar. God hath broken its seal by the hand of might, as a bounty unto all created things on the Day whereon the All-Merciful established Himself upon the throne of His Most Great Name, did ye but know. The cup is His Words, and what floweth therein hath streamed from His finger, and He giveth it unto you through the hands of His mercy.

Say: Why do ye flee and not drink? Say: The Kingdom of glory hath appeared before your faces, yet ye turn away therefrom, and everlasting life hath come unto your mortal realm, yet ye remain heedless thereof.

Ye have no enemies save your own selves—know them well, O people, and beware lest ye be negligent. They shall never rest: when fed their flames increase, and when denied their greed intensifieth. Well is it with him who purifieth them in the name of his Lord, the Almighty, the Supreme, the Self-Subsisting. Say: Sacrifice them, O people, in My path—this is the true sacrifice in the love of the All-Merciful, which none comprehend save the sincere ones.

Thus hath it been sent down from the Pen of Revelation that the people may be reminded in the days of thy Lord. He, verily, aideth whom He willeth and succoreth him. He is, in truth, the All-Knowing, the Knower of things unseen. And upon thee and thy kindred be the glory from the presence of One mighty, well-beloved.

BH05914: This is a Book from Us to him who…

In His Name, the Most Holy, the Most Great!

This is a Book from Us to him who has taken a path unto the Lord of the Throne, that the Book of his Lord may draw him nigh unto the Most Great Remembrance and render him wholly devoted to the presence of his Lord, the All-Merciful, Who hath ever encompassed all the worlds.

Patience is bitter save in My Cause, and tribulation unwelcome save for love of Me. Thus hath the matter been sent down in truth from the Pen of Revelation.

Follow what We have revealed unto thee and follow not the way of him who hath turned away from the Truth after He came in the shadows of proof with a sovereignty manifest to all the worlds.

Grieve not over what the hands of those who are stirred by the winds of desire have wrought, and who have been kept back from the precincts of My Most Glorious Name. Verily, they have turned away from the Truth and have taken Satan as their helper.

It behooveth every soul to remain steadfast in the Cause in such wise that the wrath of those with whom God is wroth shall not deter him. Soon shall they find themselves in an abode bereft of the mercy of the All-Merciful.

Do they imagine that the will is in their hands? Nay, by the Lord of all creation! The will of thy Lord hath triumphed over all things. Verily, He is aware of His servants.

Be thou assured through the bounty of thy Lord, then take Him as thy Guardian. And glory be upon thee and upon whosoever hath turned toward God with a heart illumined by the lights of the Throne.

BH11785: O Majid, upon thee be the Glory of God!…

O Majid, upon thee be the Glory of God! In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Holy! O Majid! The Spirit hath descended in His glory from My Kingdom, and the Interlocutor with His verses, and the

Beloved in His ascension, and now all are present before the Throne. Say: O people! In what announcement will ye believe? Say: Do ye doubt Him unto Whom the Son of Mary ascended? Fear God, the Lord of all nations, unto Whom ye all shall return.

Thy letter hath come before Us and We have read it after receiving it, and have become aware of what was mentioned and what was not mentioned. Verily thy Lord is the All-Knowing, the Knower of the unseen.

We have heard thy lamentation in hardship and thy sighing in adversity. We have separated you for a reunion of which none is aware save thy Lord, the Mighty, the Loving. Beware lest difficulties in My love make thee sorrowful. Soon shalt thou find thyself in the most exalted station. Verily, He is the Protector of those who do good.

Be patient in thy present hardship. God will soon transform it into ease. Verily, He is the Guardian, the Self-Subsisting.

Remind those women who remained in Iraq from Me, then write to them that which will gladden their hearts. Thus have We commanded thee in this Tablet which We have sent down in truth and detailed from the Preserved Tablet.

And upon thee be glory, and upon them, and upon those who are steadfast in the Cause of their Lord, the Mighty, the Beloved.

BH06144: A mention from Us to people who comprehend…

He is the Most Great, the Most Glorious!

A mention from Us to people who comprehend, that they may taste the sweetness of remembrance and abandon what was and what will be, and hold fast to the Most Great Remembrance Who hath come from the heaven of eternity. By My life! He is indeed the Promised One. But when He came with the truth, the Jews said “He hath fabricated a lie against God, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting.” They denied Him in Whom they had believed, after having called upon Him at eventide and at dawn, at sunset and at morn. Verily, whoso hath turned away from this Revelation hath earned for himself the name of “Jew.” Thus hath the matter been decreed by thy Lord, the Mighty, the All-Loving.

Avoid those who have taken their vain imaginings as lords beside God. They are indeed worshippers of idols, though they perceive it not. Remember thy Lord in thy days and find solace in what hath been sent down from His presence. He, verily, purifieth souls and quickeneth hearts. Should anyone oppose thee in thy love for thy Lord, grieve not. Place thy trust in thy Lord, the Mighty, the Beloved. Say: I have turned toward God and forsaken those who follow the Evil One. The hosts of earth shall not frighten me in my love for Him, nor shall the armies of the oppressors prevent me. Thus have I been commanded by the Lord of the seen and the unseen.

BH06140: God maketh mention of His handmaiden among His handmaidens…

In the Name of God, the Most Unapproachable, the Most Holy

God maketh mention of His handmaiden among His handmaidens, that she may rejoice within herself and be gladdened by the remembrance of God. Yet He Who loveth the gladness of His servants—by God, the Truth!—is in great sorrow from the arrows that have been loosed against Him by the enemies who were created by His Word, and God is witness to this.

O handmaiden of God! Remember thy Lord, then be devoutly obedient and prostrate thyself, that thou mayest be numbered among those handmaidens who are mentioned as devout in the Tablets. Purify thy heart through the love of God, thy Lord, for by it are all worlds purified. Hold fast to the cord of God, then enter beneath the shadow of protection which hath been preserved from all doubt.

Say: Glory be to Thee, O my God! I beseech Thee by Thy Most Great Remembrance to illumine my heart with the light of Thy knowledge and to sanctify me from all that Thy good-pleasure abhorreth. Verily, Thou art the One Who hath power over whatsoever He willeth, and Thou art, of a truth, powerful over all things.

And the glory be upon thee and upon those handmaidens who have believed in God and sanctified their souls from all that God abhorreth, and this is indeed a mighty favor. Then glorify Him who hath remained steadfast upon this straight path.

BH06316: This is a letter from this lowly, humble servant…

He is the Almighty

This is a letter from this lowly, humble servant to him who hath believed in God and was among the guided ones, imparting unto him that which shall tranquilize him in this great terror wherein the Maids of Paradise and the angels drawn nigh have lamented.

O servant! Hearken unto that which the Nightingale of nearness teacheth thee in this wondrous Paradise, that thou mayest detach thyself from the intimations of dominion and sanctify thyself from all that veils thee from the beauty of luminous glory.

Know thou that We have made this Book a remembrance for you that ye may remember Me after Me and be of them that remember. Thus do We impart unto thee that which descendeth upon thy heart—verses of mighty glory—that thou mayest thank God, thy Creator, in these days the like of which the eyes of them of old have never witnessed. Beware lest thou forget God's favor unto thee and be of the heedless ones.

Then remember on Our behalf thy wife and those who were in thy house, and give them glad tidings of the shore of a mighty Name. Then thy brother and those who have believed in God and held fast unto the handle of holy exaltation.

And the Spirit be upon thee and upon him who hath been patient in God and was, in love, among the firmly rooted ones.

BH06201: Magnified be Thy name, O Thou in Whose grasp…

Magnified be Thy name, O Thou in Whose grasp are the reins of the souls of all them that have recognized Thee, and in Whose right hand are the destinies of all that are in heaven and all that are on earth! Thou doest, through the power of Thy might, what Thou willest, and ordainest, by an act of Thy volition, what Thou pleasest. The will of the most resolute of men is as nothing when compared with the compelling evidences of Thy will, and the determination of the most inflexible among Thy creatures is dissipated before the manifold revelations of Thy purpose.

Thou art He Who, through a word of Thy mouth, hath so enravished the hearts of Thy chosen ones that they have, in their love for Thee, detached themselves from all except Thyself, and laid down their lives and sacrificed their souls in Thy path, and borne, for Thy sake, what none of Thy creatures hath borne.

I am one of Thy handmaidens, O my Lord! I have turned my face towards the habitation of Thy mercy, and have sought the wonders of Thy manifold favors, inasmuch as all the members of my body proclaim Thee to be the All-Bounteous, He Whose grace is immense.

O Thou Whose face is the object of my adoration, Whose beauty is my sanctuary, Whose court is my goal, Whose remembrance is my wish, Whose affection is my solace, Whose love is my begetter, Whose praise is my companion, Whose nearness is my hope, Whose presence is my greatest longing and supreme aspiration! Disappoint me not, I entreat Thee, by withholding from me the things Thou didst ordain for the chosen ones among Thy handmaidens, and supply me with the good of this world and of the world to come.

Thou art, verily, the Lord of creation. No God is there beside Thee, the Ever-Forgiving, the Most Bountiful.

BH06231: Your letter has reached Us and We have understood…

In the name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Exalted, the Most High

Your letter has reached Us and We have understood its contents. We beseech God to assist you to love Him and gain His good-pleasure, and to make you so steadfast in His Cause that there may appear from you that which will attract the hearts of His heedless servants. By God! You have been named with a name by which the people of the holy cities take pride. How excellent is this glorious and luminous name! We beseech God to draw you near unto Him in His realms which no one has understood save Him. Verily He doeth what He willeth and ordaineth what He pleaseth.

Say: Glory be unto Thee, O my God! I am he who heard Thy call and hastened unto Thee with my heart, and thus do I stand in the presence of acceptance, and verily Thou art the Lord of grandeur and majesty. Send down upon me that which will keep me from all else but Thee and draw me nigh unto Thee at all times. Then send down upon me that which Thou hast ordained for me in the heaven of Thy bounty and the tablet of Thy decree. Verily Thou are powerful over whatsoever Thou willest. There is no God but Thee, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

O my Lord! Give me to drink from the Kawthar which Thou hast made specially for those of Thy servants who are near unto Thee, that there may flow from my heart the rivers of Thy knowledge. Verily, Thou hast power over all things.

BH06317: This is a Book sent down in truth unto…

He is the Most Holy, the Most Exalted

This is a Book sent down in truth unto people who understand. Verily there is no God but Him, and all shall return unto Him. We have ordained good things for those who, through fear of their Lord, are filled with apprehension. Say: This indeed is the Truth—will ye then turn back upon your heels? By God! That which was promised unto you hath appeared in truth, yet ye deny it. This indeed is the All-Merciful Who hath come with clear proof, yet most of you detest the truth. Soon shall We seize those who have cast the Command of God behind their backs, and when the breezes of the verses reach them, then do they cry out in anguish.

Say: The mercy hath come, yet from it ye flee. Say: Within Our grasp are the destinies of all things, and with Us is a Book that speaketh of what your Lord, the All-Merciful, hath willed, would ye but understand. Say: O people! Leave those who have disbelieved to wallow in their folly, and hold fast unto the cord of your Lord, the Mighty, the Loving. O My servant! Hear My counsel, then detach thyself from all else besides Me. By My life! All that thou seest in My earth shall perish, and the Cause shall remain with My Self. Blessed is he who hath turned unto God and turned away from those who deny. And the glory be upon thee and upon those who act according to My command.

BH11250: O Ghulam! Hearken to the call of this Youth…

O Ghulam! Hearken to the call of this Youth from the direction of the Throne, that the call of the All-Merciful may draw thee to His paradise, the inaccessible, the mighty, the protected.

Know verily that whenever this Youth turneth His eyes towards His own self, he findeth it the most insignificant of all creation. When He contemplates, however, the bright effulgences He hath been empowered to manifest, lo, that self is transfigured before Him into a sovereign Potency permeating the essence of all things visible and invisible. Glory be to Him Who, through the power of truth, hath sent down the Manifestation of His own Self and entrusted Him with His message unto all mankind,

Who hath established Him in His own station and caused Him to speak His praise in such wise that neither the clamor of the nations nor the might of kings hath deterred Him. Say: He is in truth the Possessor of all kings—all are His subjects—and He is the Mighty, the Loving.

Blessed art thou for having believed in God and the Manifestation of His Self, and for having associated with those through whom this blessed Tree was raised up to this praiseworthy station. He shall not suffer thy service to them to be lost, and God shall reward thee with a recompense that cannot be equaled by aught that exists or exists not. Soar then in the atmosphere of thy Lord’s love, and detach thyself from those who have denied God, the Mighty, the Loving.

And the glory be upon thee and upon him who is steadfast in the Cause of his Lord and detached from the world in these numbered days.

BH06102: Where art thou, O thou who journeyest through…

He is the Glorious, the All-Glorious!

Where art thou, O thou who journeyest through the lands? Where art thou, O thou who maketh mention of My Name amongst the servants? Art thou in the hands of the enemies in the path of God, the Lord of all names, or art thou in a place of safety among the loved ones of thy Lord, the Creator of earth and heaven? Grieve not, for verily He is with thee and in all conditions will show thee. Blessed is he who hath turned unto thee, and woe unto him who hath turned away from thee, O thou who calleth in the wilderness of guidance in the name of thy Lord, the All-Glorious.

Know thou that thy letter hath arrived and We have read what was written therein. Verily, He is the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. Blessed is he whose name was mentioned in thy letter. Blessed is the house wherein thou dwelt, for it is the object of thy Lord's glance, the Mighty, the Generous. We have stirred the land of Barhut, therefore We have withheld the Pen from mentioning those whom We desired from among the loved ones of God, and have caused to flow mention of others from Our presence. Verily thy Lord is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. All things bear witness that thou hast fulfilled God's covenant. Rejoice thou and be of those who are thankful. Blessed art thou and blessed is he who hath found comfort in thee through love of thy Ancient Lord. Thou art the Trusted One from the presence of the Truth amongst His creation. Say: Praise be unto Thee, O God of the worlds!

BH06057: O youth! Know that We sent thee a Book…

He is the Most Mighty, the Most Holy!

O youth! Know that We sent thee a Book before—verily it was a manifest Book—but the idolaters prevented it from reaching thee. We beseech God that He may honor thee with it and give thee to drink what is therein of the wine of thy Lord's mercy, the All-Forgiving, the All-Merciful. Then know that there hath come upon Us that which the Bayan is powerless to mention, yet doth the Youth speak at all times in remembrance of thy Lord, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. Let not the words of them that have disbelieved in the verses of the All-Merciful grieve thee. Remember Him and fear not the wrongdoers. Look not upon the earth and those that are thereon save as chaff scattered by the winds from every direction, except for those who have detached themselves from their desires and turned unto their Ancient Lord.

Remember thy Lord by night and by day, then arise from the horizon of certitude. Say: O people! The All-Merciful hath come with manifest sovereignty. Beware lest the cawing of them that have disbelieved prevent thee. Be thou assured in the grace of God. Soon shall come a day wherein the standards of victory and power shall be raised in the name of thy Lord, the Chosen One, and on that day the sincere shall be in great joy. Convey My greetings unto My loved ones, that they may inhale the fragrance of

holiness from the word of their Lord, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy. Praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH06107: This is what has shone forth from the Dayspring…

This is what has shone forth from the Dayspring of divine utterance—exalted be His utterance!

O Rafi'! Confession of thy powerlessness is the essence of worship, and acknowledgment of thy weakness is the very strength of thy heart in the divine Cause. Ask thou of God to be ever adorned with this robe. Powerlessness and contrition have ever been beloved in the most holy court. This is the station of servitude which none have attained save the near ones among the servants of God.

God willing, thou shalt be mentioned among the people through the name of Truth and be accounted among the servants of the divine Cause, in such wise that at all times thou shalt be occupied with the remembrance of the All-Merciful. Praise be to the Beloved of all creation that thy name hath flowed from the tongue of the Divine Unity and thy mention hath been recorded by the Pen of the Divine Command. This is a bounty that shall endure through the perpetuity of God, the Sovereign, the Mighty, the All-Wise.

Although thou hast proven a matter through what was revealed aforetime—"We desire to show favor unto those who were brought low in the land" and so forth—yet this station that now exists is greater than what thou hast mentioned. God willing, thou art of the people of Baha, and above this there is no station in servitude. Know thou its worth and be of the thankful ones.

BH06056: O Ghulam! Hearken unto that which the Pen…

In the Name of God, the Most Sorrowful, the Most Sorrowful!

O Ghulam! Hearken unto that which the Pen of thy All-Knowing Lord calleth out to thee. Then take what floweth therefrom as a lamp unto thyself which verily shineth with truth. Read it throughout thy days and forget not the remembrance of God within thyself, for He is thy Guardian.

Drink of that which hath flowed from the oceans of grandeur in these hidden words, which have appeared in the form of a chalice, for in each letter thereof the waters of inner meanings have been filled from the seas of God's wisdom, if thou be of them that know. Stand firm in the Cause of thy Lord, then fill thy heart with His love to such extent that no space remaineth therein save for the love of God, thy Lord and the Lord of all the worlds.

O servant! Remember this servant who hath fallen into the hands of the wicked ones and findeth no helper for himself. And whenever He seeketh assistance from the people of the Bayan, they hasten toward Him with swords of rejection and hatred. Thus have We reckoned their deeds through this Pen which hath been, in the eternity of eternities, knowing of the truth. And mercy be upon thee if thou remainest steadfast in the Cause.

BH06188: Praise be to Thee, O Lord my God! I…

Praise be to Thee, O Lord my God! I implore Thee by Thy Name that hath caused to surge within every drop the oceans of Thy loving-kindness and mercy, and to shine within every atom the luminaries of Thy bountiful blessings and favors,—I implore Thee to adorn every soul with the ornament of Thy love, that none may remain on Thine earth who hath not turned towards Thee, or hath failed to detach himself from all except Thy Self.

Thou hast, verily, O my God, suffered Him Who is the Manifestation of Thine own Self to be afflicted with all manner of adversity in order that Thy servants may ascend unto the pinnacle of Thy gracious favor, and attain unto that which Thou hast, through Thy providence and tender mercies, ordained for them in the Tablets of Thine irrevocable decree. The glory of Thy might beareth me witness! Were they, every moment of their lives, to offer up themselves as a sacrifice in Thy path, they would still have done but little in comparison with the manifold bestowals vouchsafed unto them by Thee.

Grant, therefore, I beseech Thee, that their hearts may be inclined towards Thee, and that their faces may be turned in the direction of Thy good-pleasure. Powerful art Thou to do what Thou willest. No God is there but Thee, the Inaccessible, the All-Glorious, the Ever-Forgiving.

Deign, then, to accept, O my God, from Thy servant the things which he hath shown forth in his love for Thee. Fortify him, then, that he may cling to Thy most exalted Word, and to unloose his tongue to celebrate Thy praise, and cause him to be gathered unto such of Thy people as are nigh unto Thee. Thou art He within Whose grasp is the empire of all things. There is no God but Thee, the Almighty, the Help in Peril, the All-Glorious, the Unconstrained.

BH06114: We caused the Noble One before ʿAli to speak…

We caused the Noble One before ʿAli to speak in his childhood that the people might witness My power and sovereignty, then My grandeur and majesty. But My ignorant loved ones took him as a partner with My Self, and they wrought corruption in the lands and were among the corruptors. Observe how ignorant the people are! Even souls who were in the presence, despite this, have gone and spread such words.

Say: He is but one of My servants whom We created through Our power and caused to speak in praise of My Self amongst the worlds. And if for a moment he should deviate from the shadow of the Cause, he would be utter nothingness.

Say: O people! All besides Me have been created by My Word. Verily, he and his like are among those whom God hath caused to grow from this Tree. They are the clouds of mercy and the rain-clouds of grace and the lamps of guidance and My guides among all creatures, should they remain firm in My Cause.

And thy Lord hath taken unto Himself no partner, nor any peer, nor any minister, nor any likeness, nor any equal, nor any opposite, nor any similitude. Thus hath the decree shone forth and the matter been ordained from before God, the Most High, the Most Great.

BH06061: O Muhammad-Qabl-Sadiq! Hearken unto the call of thy Lord…

He is God, the Most Holy, the Most Exalted

O Muhammad-Qabl-Sadiq! Hearken unto the call of thy Lord from this Wronged One Who hath been cast into this pit, from Whose robe the hands of them that are severed from Him have been kept back, and Who hath chosen no helper for Himself save God, Who created all contingent beings through His command and Who, verily, hath power over all things. Forget not thou the remembrance of God, and turn not unto them who have disbelieved and associated partners with God and who have been debarred from the shores of this ocean. Detach thyself from all directions and place thy trust in the King of Names and Attributes, for He, verily, is merciful unto His servants. Stand firm in the love of God and His Cause, and say: O my Lord!

Sever me from all that keepeth me back from turning toward Thy beauty, then make me steadfast upon the path of Thy love in such wise that the souls of all the sinful idolaters shall not cause me to slip. Then assign me a seat of security beneath the shadow of Thy loving-kindness, and make mention of my name in the Tablet wherein are recorded the names of them who move not except by Thy leave and command, and who have not been heedless of Thee for less than a moment. And glory be upon thee, and upon thy spouse, and upon every steadfast soul.

BH06253: Say: Glory be to Thee, O my God! I…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Glorious

Say: Glory be to Thee, O my God! I am Thy servant and the son of Thy servant. I have left my homeland out of love for Thy beauty and longing for the seat of the throne of Thy grandeur, until I entered the city wherein Thy melodies were raised and Thy sovereignty was manifested, and wherein Thou didst transcend all created things through Thy most beautiful names and Thy most exalted attributes. O my Lord! Deprive me not of the splendors of the light of Thy countenance, and make me not despairing of the outpourings of the clouds of Thy bounty and Thy gifts. O my Lord! Accept from me what I have done in Thy love and Thy good-pleasure, and what I have left undone in Thy days.

O my Lord! Thou art the Forgiving One and I am the sinner, Thou art the Powerful One and I am the weak one, so have mercy upon me through the wonders of Thy greatest mercy. Then make me sincere in Thy love, O Thou in Whose grasp is the kingdom of names. Then make me steadfast in Thy love in such wise that I may behold all else as nonexistent at the revelations of the lights of the glory of Thy face, and as nothingness before the manifestations of the signs of Thy power and Thy grandeur. Then send down upon me that which will enkindle me with Thy love. Verily Thou art the Powerful, the Exalted, the Mighty, the Help in Peril. And praise be to God, the King, the Kind, the Bestower.

BH06090: O Khudadad! God hath favored thee on the Day…

In the name of God, the Most Holy, the All-Glorious!

O Khudadad! God hath favored thee on the Day of Judgment by enabling thee to attain the garment of the knowledge of the Beloved of the worlds and to set thy face in the direction of the Friend. Happy art thou, and again happy art thou! Drink of this living water in the name of the Sovereign of divine knowledge during this resplendent Dawn-tide. Blessed are those who drink therefrom. All praise be to the Desired One, Who through a single draught of the wine of His love hath so intoxicated the lovers of the world that they have passed by themselves and all else and hastened directly to the goodly city of "but Him," subsequent to their negation of the veils of "No God is there." They are the ones who, through the reviving breath of the Word of God, have attained everlasting and eternal life. These are the people, who as soon as they heard the call issuing from court of grandeur, declared "Yea, verily, yea, verily, O God of the worlds!"

The fragrance of love hath been inhaled. He, verily, is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. God grant that thou mayest be so illumined by the splendor of the Sun of the Word of God, which hath risen above the horizon of the will of the Pen of the Most Great Name, that its effect may appear amongst His servants. Know thou the value of that which God hath attested unto thee and enjoined thee to observe. Say: Praise be to Thee, O Thou Who art the Object of the adoration of all who are in heaven and on earth.

BH06079: This is the night whereon My Pen groaneth over…

He is the Revealer, the Witness, the Faithful

This is the night whereon My Pen groaneth over what hath befallen the letters inscribed upon His sacred scroll from every oppressor who is estranged from God. We enjoined upon all men to be just and fair-minded and to fear God, the Lord of the worlds. Yet the unjust pronounced sentence against Us and against the chosen ones of God with such cruelty as to cause all created things to cry out and every sound heart to lament. We have sent down unto them the food of utterance out of the heaven of understanding and they have cast it behind their backs turning aside from God, the Great Giver, the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous. No one of them that were before Us hath endured the things We have endured.

Unto this testifieth the Pen of God, the All-Glorious, the All-Praised. Let nothing grieve thee, in all thine affairs put thy reliance in Whose grasp are the kingdoms of Revelation and of creation. There is none other God save He, the Almighty, the Most Powerful. Proclaim unto my loved ones the tidings of remembrance of Me and of devotion to Me, and of turning unto Me and of My mercy, My favor and My loving kindness which hath encompassed all who are in heaven and who are on earth. My glory that shineth forth above the horizon of My Bounty be upon thee and upon him who beareth witness unto that whereunto God Himself borne witness, the Lord of this wondrous Day.

BH06047: O My brother! Hearken unto that which thy Lord…

He is the Most Wondrous

O My brother! Hearken unto that which thy Lord counseleth thee through the pen of thy brother, as revealed by God from the pure essence of His holy, exalted and wondrous Revelation. First, worship thy Lord and associate none with Him. Then divest thy sanctified temple from the shirt of the age, that thou

mayest ascend to such a station wherein, shouldst thou find thyself alone between the heavens and the earth, thou wouldst arise to aid thy Lord and wouldst regard the people as though no one had ever been mentioned. If thou findest a bounty from the grace of thy Lord, give freely thereof; and if thou findest not, then be thankful. Be content in all conditions with whatsoever hath been ordained for thee from the presence of the Mighty, the Most High.

Thus doth the Sovereign of Command enjoin thee in this hour, He Who is established upon the throne of glory and hath ordained for thee in the heaven of holiness a station with Me. This is of the grace wherewith He hath specially favored thee, wherein He causeth thee to drink, from the fingers of might, a cup that transcendeth the description of them that are near unto God. Trust thou in God in all matters, then rely upon Him. Verily He will protect thee beneath the shadow of the wing of His grace, even as He guarded thee aforetime. His grace towards thee hath indeed been great in the Mother Book.

BH06218: The Most Great Branch has submitted: "You intend…

He is the All-Wise

The Most Great Branch has submitted:

> "You intend to go to Beirut. Mirza Ja'far says you intend to go to the Mazra'ih, and during his presence there was talk of Yerke. Now it is not known where you truly wish to go and which city and land you intend to visit."

A beloved one said to a lover, "O youth! You have seen many cities in your travels—Which of those cities is the most pleasant?" He replied, "That city wherein dwells the beloved."

Now if the abode of the Beloved is intended, then "In the Name of God," and as the Arabs say, "Please proceed." And if Yerke is desired, then "God be with you." And if Beirut is in mind, the Most Great Branch has submitted, "I will return soon," and it is advisable as has been said. Convey greetings to all. The Light be upon you.

His honor the servant in attendance says you intend to go to the garden. We too must go to the garden these two days according to the Greater Branch. Mirza Ja'far has just now submitted that today you intend to go to Yerke, although previously Monday was mentioned. May these differing views, God willing, come under the shade of one word. The Glory be upon you.

BH06307: This is a Book from the Primal Point unto…

In the Name of the Most High, the Most Exalted

This is a Book from the Primal Point unto her who hath believed in God her Lord, and who hath lamented in His separation and wept at His parting and cried out in His remoteness and held fast to the cord of His love, that the melody of God which hath been raised from the direction of the Throne might draw her unto itself—a melody that hath attracted unto itself the hearts of them that are brought near. By God, the True One! Were all created things to hear but a single word of that which the Lord of Names and

Attributes hath spoken, they would assuredly detach themselves from all who are in the heavens and on earth and would turn unto the face of God, the Mighty, the Luminous.

O My handmaiden! There hath befallen Us that which transcendeth all mention and utterance, as all things do testify, and beyond them the Tongue of Grandeur and Glory in this mighty and exalted station. Grieve thou not over anything, for We have accepted whatsoever hath befallen Us and are content with that which hath been ordained by the Pen of Our Command upon the tablets. And We are, of a truth, witness to what We say. Be thou patient and do not lament, for He hath ordained for the one He desireth a reunion in realms which no one hath known save His Own Self, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. And peace be upon thee and upon every assured handmaiden and every discerning sage.

BH06308: In the name of God, the One, the Single!…

In the name of God, the One, the Single! This is a Book from Us to her who hath believed in her Lord and heard His call on the day when all who are in the heavens and on earth were terrified.

O My handmaiden! Take hold of the hem of thy Lord's mercy, then detach thyself from the idolaters. Should a tablet of fire come to thee from the chief of the wicked ones, cast it behind thee, then turn toward God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy.

Say: I have believed in God, the Most High, the Most Exalted, and have turned my face toward the Most Glorious Horizon. Thereby hath God made me independent of those who have hesitated in His Cause, and of those who have disbelieved in God, the Single, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

Know thou that thy Lord doth from the Most Glorious Outlook behold His handmaidens who have turned unto Him. He shall soon send down unto them that which shall gladden their hearts. Verily, He hath power over all things.

Say: O my Lord! I am one of Thy handmaidens and have turned my face toward the sanctuary of Thy riches. I beseech Thee by Thy beauty not to deprive me of beholding Thy countenance, through whose light the heavens and earth were illumined. O my Lord! Cause me to hear Thy call and let me taste the sweetness of Thy remembrance and grant me the Kawthar of Thy knowledge, then give me to drink from the Salsabil of Thy bounty. Verily, Thou art the Forgiving, the Generous.

BH06320: The Most Holy, Most Great

The Most Holy, Most Great

This is a Tablet revealed in truth from the heaven of God, the Exalted, the Great. Therein is that which distinguisheth between people, for He is the Powerful, the Mighty. Among the people is he who, upon hearing the verses of God, is so seized by the rapture of longing that he forsaketh all who dwell on earth and turneth with his heart unto God, the Mighty, the Wise. When the believers behold him, they perceive the fragrance of the All-Merciful from his countenance. He is indeed of the people of Baha, whose name hath been inscribed by the Pen of the Ancient of Days in a preserved Tablet. And among them is he who, having heard the verses of God, waxeth proud against them and is numbered with the idolaters.

Place thy trust in God in thy affairs, then remain steadfast in such wise that the veils of them that have disbelieved in thy Lord, the Mighty, the Great, shall not hinder thee. We have ordained for everyone who hath believed in God in this Revelation a station in the Kingdom, and their names have been recorded by the Pen of God, the Mighty, the Inaccessible. He shall soon gather them together in the pavilion of grandeur—a promise from His presence. He is indeed the Guardian of the sincere ones. Remember thy Lord by night and by day, and remind the people of this Announcement which hath dawned from the horizon of the will of thy Lord, the All-Merciful, with manifest light. And praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH11790: My remembrance is of those servants who have been…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Glorious.

My remembrance is of those servants who have been attracted by the fragrances of the days of their Lord, the Possessor of Names and Attributes, who have believed in God, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting, whom the Call hath raised to the Supreme Horizon, and who have detached themselves from those who are idolaters. Verily, those who have cast away what they possessed and have taken what hath been sent down from God, the denizens of the immortal cities shall circle round them, though the people perceive it not.

Glorify thy Lord with praise and commune with Him, then detach thyself from all who are on earth. Thus doth this Wronged One counsel thee, He upon Whom hath befallen that which hath befallen none before Him, and thy Lord is witness unto what I say. Hold fast to the hem of the mercy of thy Lord, the Mighty, the Loving. Leave the people and what they possess behind thee and trust in God in all matters. Verily, He is with whosoever desireth Him and aideth those who speak in His praise and remembrance. He is, in truth, the Mighty, the Forgiving.

Convey My Great Glory to those who have believed in God and His signs. They are, verily, in a praiseworthy station. Convey from Us Our Glory to thy two sons and give them the glad-tidings of Our remembrance of them, that they may soar in the atmosphere of the mercy of their Lord, the Mighty, the Beloved.

BH11792: This is a Book which guideth the sincere ones…

In the name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Exalted, the Most High!

This is a Book which guideth the sincere ones to the fountain of the mercy of their Chosen Lord, and preserveth them from the allusions of those who have denied God on this Day whereon the Beauty of the All-Merciful hath been established upon the throne of His Name, the All-Forgiving. Blessed is he who hath turned away from all that the people possess and hath turned unto God, the Lord of the Day of Mutual Calling.

This is the Day whereon the guilty ones are seized by their forelocks and their feet, whilst those who have recognized His unity soar in the atmosphere wherein the Dove of the Cause warbleth that sovereignty belongeth unto God, the Almighty, the All-Compelling, the Omnipotent.

Arise to make mention of God amongst His creatures, that perchance through His remembrance the hearts of every doubting misbeliever may be quickened. Say: O people! Do ye speak according to your idle fancies after the Lote-Tree of the Utmost Boundary hath spoken? Fear ye God and follow not those who have denied God, the Lord of all names.

Hearken unto My call, then detach thyself from all who are on earth, that the servants may be drawn through thy remembrance. Thus hath the All-Merciful desired for thee. Verily His favor hath encompassed both the hidden and the manifest. And the glory be upon thee and upon them that have turned unto the countenance of their Lord on this Day wherein faces have turned black and eyes have become fixed in terror.

BH06744: How can I make mention of Thee, O my…

In the Name of God, the Everlasting, the Eternal!

How can I make mention of Thee, O my God, seeing that all else but Thee I behold as nonexistent in the face of the manifestations of Thy sovereignty and powerless before the warbling of the dove of Thy oneness. By Thy glory! I perceive that the Most Exalted Pen moveth upon the tablet of contingent being and the Tongue of Grandeur speaketh in the paradise of utterance.

Yet how can the shrill voice of Thy servants' pens or the praise of any of Thy creatures befit Thy presence? That Thou hearest them and answereth them is naught but a token of the wonders of Thy grace and the sublimity of Thy generosity and favors, none having deserved this.

I testify, O my God, that it behooveth Thy tongue alone to speak Thy praise and Thy pen alone to move in remembrance and description of Thee. All names fall unconscious at the revelation of Thy Most Great Name, through which Thou hast caused all things to speak forth in Thy days.

Therefore I beseech Thee, O God of Names and Creator of earth and heaven, to behold Thy servants and handmaidens with the glances of the eyes of Thy mercy and not to leave them to themselves for less than a moment. Verily Thou art the Almighty, the Glorious, the Help in Peril.

BH11797: O loved ones of God! Ye are the lamps…

In the Name of God, the Protector over all the worlds!

O loved ones of God! Ye are the lamps in the darkness. Ye have been created for these days wherein darkness hath encompassed all who dwell on earth. It behooveth you to be as lights by which its darkness may be illumined. Beware lest ye be saddened by what hath befallen the chosen ones of God at the hands of those who claim adherence to the Bayan. Verily, the All-Merciful is quit of them, and the Bayan doth curse them. Be ye steadfast in the Cause, then aid it under all conditions. He will assuredly help you as He pleaseth. Verily, He is near unto the sincere ones.

Those who have disbelieved, God will seize them with a mighty vengeance from His presence. Soon shall come a day wherein none shall find for himself any protector. Then shall the believers rejoice in God's

mercy and bounty. Thus hath the matter been decreed by the Most Exalted Pen in a Tablet which lay hidden in the treasuries of thy Lord, the Most High, the Most Great.

Convey My greetings to My loved ones. Say: By God! This is the day of your triumph and the manifestation of your Lord's Cause, that the sun of faith might dawn from the horizon of your foreheads. Thus hath your Lord, the All-Merciful, willed. Blessed are they who act, and praise be to God, the Lord of all worlds.

BH06404: In the name of the One Powerful and Single!…

In the name of the One Powerful and Single! If residence in Iraq is difficult for you, then, trusting in God, return to your own land or other regions, and preserve yourself lest you be deprived of the truth through the whisperings of the hosts of Satan and the Samiri.

By Him Who holds my soul in His hand, all today are lost and unmentioned save those souls who have held fast to the cord of God and become detached from all else. The believer in God has always been and will continue to be rarer than red sulfur. At all times take refuge in the Sovereign of eternity that you may be protected from the evil of the enemies of God.

And if your brother desires to return he is permitted, but if affairs in Iraq proceed according to God's good-pleasure, residence near the House would be more beloved, and failing that, permission to depart is granted. In any case, act according to what is intended. No harm shall come to you.

And God's greatest commandment is that association with those souls known for their hatred of the Truth is never permitted. Therefore shun them that you may prosper.

BH06530: O Khatun in Sad! He is the Most Exalted…

He is the Most Exalted, the Most Holy, the Most Glorious

O Khatun in Sad! He is the Most Exalted, the Most Holy, the Most Glorious! The mention of thy Lord's mercy unto His handmaiden. Verily We have made her to be among the devout ones, and We have sent down upon her mercy from Our presence, and thus hath grace encompassed all things. O handmaiden of God! Rejoice within thyself that thy name hath been mentioned by the Pen of Creation, and this is indeed a mighty grace founded upon truth. Follow thy Lord, then shun all else besides Him. By God, this is the truth, and after truth there is naught save manifest error. Fear God thy Lord, and consort not with those whose faces God hath changed because they disbelieved in God and His verses, and turned away from a Beauty exalted and radiant. Give thanks unto thy Lord, then be steadfast, then bow down and prostrate thyself before God Who created thee by His command, and aided thee to know His Self, and caused the sun of immortality to shine upon thee from the horizon of a wondrous Name. Thus doth God single out whomsoever He willeth of His handmaidens, and ordaineth grace and mercy for every penitent servant. And the glory be upon thee and upon every trustworthy believer.

BH06429: Glorified art Thou, O Lord my God! Thou art…

Glorified art Thou, O Lord my God! Thou art He the fire of Whose love hath set ablaze the hearts of them who have recognized Thy unity, and the splendors of Whose countenance have illuminated the faces of such as have drawn nigh unto Thy court. How plenteous, O my God, is the stream of Thy knowledge! How sweet, O my Beloved, is the injury which, in my love for Thee, and for the sake of Thy pleasure, I suffer from the darts of the wicked doers! How pleasing are the wounds which, in Thy path and in order to proclaim Thy Faith, I sustain from the swords of the infidels!

I beseech Thee, by Thy name through which Thou turnest restlessness into tranquillity, fear into confidence, weakness into strength, and abasement into glory, that Thou of Thy grace wilt aid me and Thy servants to exalt Thy name, to deliver Thy Message, and to proclaim Thy Cause, in such wise that we may remain unmoved by either the assaults of the transgressors or the wrath of the infidels, O Thou Who art my Well-Beloved!

I am, O my Lord, Thy handmaiden, who hath hearkened to Thy call, and hastened unto Thee, fleeing from herself and resting her heart upon Thee. I implore Thee, O my Lord, by Thy name out of which all the treasures of the earth were brought forth, to shield me from the hints of such as have disbelieved in Thee and repudiated Thy truth.

Powerful art Thou to do what Thou pleasest. Thou art, verily, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

BH06536: This mention from Our presence is for Our servant…

He is the Most Wondrous, the Most Wondrous

This mention from Our presence is for Our servant who was imprisoned in My path and whom the ungodly banished for his turning to the Kaaba of My Cause. Let him know that We have not forgotten him and We remember him in the Prison, at a time when the Ancient Beauty walks in His Most Great House. Let him be assured that We love those who have been faithful to Our Covenant and have cast the world behind them out of love for God, the Mighty, the All-Knowing.

Draw thou near to this Fire which hath been kindled at the midmost heart of creation and hear from its roaring flame that the Lord of Divorce hath come. Thus do We command thee, verily thy Lord is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

Be not disturbed by the world and what transpireth therein. By My life, all that is thereon shall perish, and there shall endure the face of thy Lord, the Mighty, the Generous.

Ask thou God to make thy departure from thy homeland a means of entering beneath the shade of thy Lord, the All-Merciful, and thy migration a means of attaining reunion. Verily He is the Most Great, the Most Exalted. There is none other God but Him, the Forgiving, the Merciful.

Be thou happy in all conditions. Verily He is with those who are steadfast in His Cause and who have laid firm hold on His mighty cord. Praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH06428: O My name! Trials and tribulations have touched thee…

O My name! Trials and tribulations have touched thee, and I am more aware than thou art of thyself…

Where, in these days, is this ailing one able to make mention of the Vale of Nabil, when the victim of the wicked hath already been slain? Doth any man hear from the sacrificed one the melodies of the Primal Song, or from him that hath been murdered the cadences of the Best-Beloved? And yetâ€“should God so will and ordainâ€”it shall indeed descend; and He, verily, is potent over all things…

BH06568: In the name of God, the Most Inaccessible! Glorified…

In the name of God, the Most Inaccessible! Glorified art Thou, O my God! I beseech Thee by Thy Name through which Thou didst illumine the hearts of the lovers and light up the faces of the sincere ones, and through which Thou didst attract Thy near servants in such wise that they severed themselves from all else but Thee and ascended to a station wherein they sacrificed their souls and spirits in Thy path, and the blame of the blamers did not hold them back from the sanctuary of Thy holiness and the Kaaba of Thy intimacy—to cause this youth to ascend unto the heaven of the might of Thy Cause and the seat of the sanctity of Thy dominion.

Then give him to drink that which shall open before his heart's face the gates of wisdom and utterance. And as Thou hast named him, O my God, "the Well-Pleased," make him to be of the people of this good-pleasure and well-pleased with what Thou hast ordained for him, O Thou in Whose grasp are the dominion of all possibilities and the kingdoms of creation! Verily Thou art the Almighty, the Glorious, the Help in Peril.

May he attain, beneath the shade of Thy mercy, unto a station wherein he shall arise to make mention of Thee and to praise Thy Self amongst Thy creatures, that he may attract the hearts of Thy servants and creatures in such wise that they shall detach themselves from all else save Thee and turn unto Thy sanctified, transcendent, mighty, resplendent and luminous countenance.

Praise be unto Thee, O Thou in Whose grasp is the kingdom of the heavens and earth!

BH06581: O Thou who seest and art not seen!

O Thou who seest and art not seen!

Glorified art Thou, O my God! When the veils of darkness and the obscuring clouds of gloom had encompassed all created things, Thou didst bring forth from the sleeve of Thy power the fingers of Thy might, wherewith Thou didst rend asunder all veils. Thereupon did trembling seize them that were in Thy earth and perturbation overtake them that dwelt in Thy lands, save those whom Thou didst protect through Thy sovereignty and whom Thou didst deliver from the depths of self and desire, raising them up unto the heaven of Thy most exalted Name. By Thy glory, O Thou Goal of the worlds! If Thou wert to remove the veils from before the faces of Thy servants, they would hasten unto the cities of Thy glory and turn unto that which Thou hast commanded them in Thy tablets, and would circle round Thy loved ones,

by whose countenances are illumined the dwellers of the cities of eternity and the inhabitants of the Lote-Tree beyond which there is no passing.

I beseech Thee, O my God, to assist those who have turned towards Thee and leave them not to themselves for less than the twinkling of an eye. Then raise them up to such heights that the world shall not prevent them from turning unto Thee, from gazing toward Thy direction, and from setting their faces toward Thy Name, which Thou hast made the Sovereign of all names and through which Thou hast ordained the life of all the worlds. Praise be to God, the Lord of all worlds.

BH06432: O Beloved! We have loved thee before, We love…

In the Name of God, the King, the Most High, the Self-Subsisting!

O Beloved! We have loved thee before, We love thee now, and We shall love thee henceforth. Never have We been heedless of thee….

…ascend with the spirit of light within thy heart, then mount up unto God in the inmost secrets of thy being, that neither thy soul, nor thy heart, nor thy body, nor thy mind, nor aught else that is thine may turn away. This is the true meaning of ascension in the stages of journeying and the ultimate bounty of God, the Powerful, the Supreme, the Compelling…

Blessed is he in that he hath drunk from the cup of manifestation and tasted of the sea of oneness that gusheth forth from the mount of camphor….

BH06754: The purpose of writing was to express profound love…

He is God!

The purpose of writing was to express profound love, but both pen and ink are strangers, and moth and candle are outside this tale. Hidden meanings cannot be reached through such tales—how then can mere words suffice? The customs of the spiritual realms have a new pattern and a boundless name. The names of this cycle are limited and the customs of that sanctified cycle are beyond all bounds and measures. Open the spiritual vista and traverse all realms like lightning. Make wide the field of vision and observe the realm of “thou shalt not see.” Cast a flower into water and it sinks; place a flower upon water and it rests like a crown upon the water’s brow. That is, manifestation and permanence are preferable to concealment and evanescence. Another meaning: the weight of limitations causes sinking, therefore one must be freed from material weight, yet like the flower remain in this same form upon the face of the earthly realm. What was written in the text of his honor is not permitted, and by my life, in these days permanence is beloved and evanescence rejected.

BH06571: Glory be unto Thee, O my God! This…

In the Name of God, the Mighty, the Beautiful!

Glory be unto Thee, O my God! This is one of Thy handmaidens—enable her to attain unto that which Thou hast ordained for her in Thy days. I testify that Thou hast created no soul except for the knowledge

of Thyself, and whoso hath attained unto this hath attained unto all good that Thou hast ordained in the tablets of Thy decree and the pages of Thy destiny. Therefore do I beseech Thee, O Thou Who art the Beloved of them that know Thee and the Object of desire of them that love Thee, that this leaf be not made to fall from the Tree of Thy Cause. Draw her, then, through Thy melodies in such wise that she may detach herself from all else save Thee and turn with her whole being toward Thy face, the Mighty, the Most High.

O my God! I beseech Thee by Thy Name through which appeared that which caused all who are in the heavens and on earth to tremble, except them whom Thou didst preserve through Thy power, that Thou deprive her not of the Tasnim of Thy grace and the Salsabil of Thy mercy. Give her to drink, at every moment, from the cup of Thy bounty that which may purify her heart and sanctify her soul, that she may make mention of Thee among Thy handmaidens and rejoice in Thy generosity and favors, and that nothing of the world's adversities may sadden her. Verily, Thou art the Powerful over whatsoever Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the All-Compelling, the Self-Subsisting.

BH06684: Say: Glory be to Thee, O my God! Verily…

He is the Mighty

Say: Glory be to Thee, O my God! Verily Thou art the Sovereign of the heavens and the earth and their Creator, and the King of the kingdom of command and creation and their Maker. In Thy grasp is the control of all created things and in Thy right hand are the realities of all contingent beings. Thou givest to whomsoever Thou willest whatsoever Thou willest and withholdest from whomsoever Thou willest. Thou sendest down from the heaven of Thy decree the measures of Thy mighty oneness and from the clouds of Thy bounty the pearls of Thy holy favors. Thou hast ever been mighty and powerful and wilt ever remain a renowned Sovereign. Nothing can frustrate Thee and no affair can impede Thee.

Verily Thou art the Most High, the Most Exalted, the Powerful, the Mighty, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. Thy letter hath indeed come before Us and We have answered thee with this response that thine eyes may be solaced and thou mayest rejoice in what hath been ordained for thee in the preserved Tablets of holiness. Therefore give thanks unto God, thy Creator, and take hold of His cord and be steadfast in thy love for God and His mercy. This is better for thee than all who are in the heavens and earths. And peace be upon thee and upon thy mother and upon those who have believed in God, the Mighty, the All-Knowing.

BH06474: O Rida! The metaphorical world and the visible world…

He is the All-Knowing, the All-Wise!

O Rida! The metaphorical world and the visible world are both sheer nothingness, though they appear in the garment of existence. The first is the highwayman of the wayfarers, and the second is the trial of those who have arrived. Therefore, mighty effort is needed so that the divine spirit may pass beyond these two ego-centered obstacles through heavenly power and dwell in the hiding place of peerless reunion. I swear by God that a moment's peace in these days beneath the shade of the Tree of this most

great Manifestation is greater than the creation of the heavens and earth. Just as this Revelation and its tokens of affirmation are the most mighty of manifestations, likewise the letters of negation in these days are mightier than all past and future ages, and are more firm and steadfast in their opposition.

Thus have We ordained the matter in a preserved tablet. The meaning of the world of causes is the heedlessness of the servant from the One Who is served, and this has not had and does not have specification to any particular thing. Therefore, strive mightily that today the veils of glory may not prevent thee from the Throne of revelation and independence. Rend asunder the veil, then emerge from behind the clouds and be of those who are firmly established.

BH06435: O Sadiq! Blessed art thou for having attained unto…

He is the All-Glorious

O Sadiq! Blessed art thou for having attained unto the good-pleasure of God, thy Lord, and for having been faithful to the Covenant. After thee there befell Me that which cannot be mentioned in words, and God is witness unto this. Be thou steadfast in the Cause, then make mention and fear no one. Place thy trust in God, thy Lord, and verily He will guard thee in truth from the evil of every distant misbeliever. And the glory be upon thee and upon every discerning believer.

He is the Most Exalted

O My handmaiden! Hearken unto My call, then make mention of thy Lord at morn and eventide. Follow thou the religion of God which is, in this Day, My love, whereby God distinguisheth between the believers and the ungodly, and thus hath the matter been decreed.

He is the Wondrous

God maketh mention of the offspring of His servant Sadiq, that her name may be recorded in the Tablet, and this is from God's grace—and verily His grace upon His near servants is abundant. Give thanks unto your Lord and make mention of Him at morn and eventide. And the glory be upon you both.

BH06531: This is the remembrance of thy Lord's mercy unto…

He is the Mighty, the Self-Subsisting!

This is the remembrance of thy Lord's mercy unto His servant Shafi', when He called out to him from behind the sacred Mount in the Spot of Command from the Tree planted, upraised and blessed, saying:

> "Verily, I am God, Who hath ever been the Witness unto all the worlds. He hath sent forth the Messengers as bearers of glad-tidings and warners, that they might give the people tidings of a holy and resplendent Paradise."

Say: By God! The Spirit hath appeared with manifest lights of glory, and the Light hath dawned with mighty sovereignty, and the Beauty of the Unseen hath come with an impenetrable vesture. Say: By God! Whosoever hath claimed faith hath been tested by My faith, and whosoever hath claimed love hath been tried by My love. This is what hath been inscribed by the Most Exalted Pen upon preserved tablets of

glory. Soon shall appear upon the faces of the sinful the dust of fire, and tribulation shall seize them from every direction nigh at hand, except those who have turned their hearts to God and who, when they hear the verses of God, fall down in prostration and weeping. Thus have We expounded the verses for thee and cast upon thee the Word of Truth, and taught thee that which will draw thee nigh unto the court of an exalted Name. And upon thee be the light, and upon whosoever hath found acceptance with God.

BH06779: This is a Book which speaks with truth…

He is the Almighty

This is a Book which speaks with truth and gives glad tidings to those handmaidens who have believed in God their Lord, who were among those who stood firm on the Day of Resurrection, who remembered their Lord in the morning and evening, and who were among those who abide eternally in the pavilion of holiness. O handmaiden of God! Give thanks to God Who created you for the favor He has bestowed upon you, a favor which no other devoted woman has ever received before, in that He caused you to recognize the Manifestation of His Self on a Day when all countenances were struck with awe. You have attained to a station wherein you journeyed from your homeland and migrated unto God at the throne of nearness, arriving at a station from which all signs and allusions are cut off.

Then did you witness with your own eyes what no eyes, whether of ancient or modern times, have ever seen, and you heard the melodies of Paradise in a place which God had sanctified beyond the knowledge of all created things. Thus does God recompense His handmaidens who hasten in their love for their Lord and who speed with their whole being to the precincts of the chambers. And peace be upon you and upon those handmaidens who are drawn to the love of God.

BH06833: O Thou Who art the Ruler of earth…

O Thou Who art the Ruler of earth and heaven and the Author of all names! Thou hearest the voice of my lamentation which from the fortress-town of ʿAkka ascendeth towards Thee, and beholdest how my captive friends have fallen into the hands of the workers of iniquity.

We render Thee thanks, O our Lord, for all the troubles which have touched us in Thy path. Oh, that the span of my earthly life could be so extended as to embrace the lives of the former and the latter generations, or could even be so lengthened that no man on the face of the earth could measure it, and be afflicted every day and every moment with a fresh tribulation for love of Thee and for Thy pleasure's sake!

Thou well knowest, however, O my God, that my wish is wholly dissolved in Thy wish, and that Thou hast irrevocably decreed that my soul should ascend unto the loftiest mansions of Thy Kingdom, and pass into the presence of my all-glorious Companion.

Hasten, by Thy grace and bounty, my passing, O my Lord, and pour forth upon all them that are dear to Thee what will preserve them from fear and trembling after me. Powerful art Thou to do whatsoever may please Thee. No God is there except Thee, the All-Glorious, the All-Wise.

Thou seest, O my Lord, how Thy servants have left their homes in their longing to meet Thee, and how they have been hindered by the ungodly from looking upon Thy face, and from circumambulating the sanctuary of Thy grandeur. Pour out Thy steadfastness and send down Thy calm upon them, O my Lord! Thou art, in truth, the Ever-Forgiving, the Most Compassionate.

BH06623: Glorified be He Who sendeth down the verses…

He is the Mighty, the Beloved

Glorified be He Who sendeth down the verses with truth and bestoweth upon whomsoever He willeth that which draweth him nigh unto the court from which the minds of the mystics are cut off. Say: O people, fear ye God and believe in Him Who created you and sustained you, then caused you to die and brought you to life on the day whereon the hearts of them that are nigh unto God were thunderstruck. And thou, O handmaiden of God, render thanks unto thy Lord at all times for having made Himself known unto thee and numbered thee among those women who have detached themselves unto God, the Mighty, the Beautiful. This is a station that none hath ever attained before, and all the peoples of the world have died in their longing for it.

Know thou then that God hath forgiven thee all that hath proceeded from thee and hath remitted thy misdeeds and numbered thee among the devout ones, inasmuch as thou didst enter the land round which circle the Concourse on high. This is a glory wherewith the dwellers of the celestial realm pride themselves and unto which the sanctified souls hasten. And upon thee be the Spirit, and upon those women who have hastened in all directions until they entered within the precincts of a mighty and sublime mercy.

BH06403: Most men have remained deprived of the bounty…

In the Name of God, the Most Mighty, the Most Inaccessible, the Most Glorious!

Most men have remained deprived of the bounty of God from the direction of the All-Glorious. Perchance women will arise to promote His Cause, speak forth His praise, and turn towards His direction. O handmaiden of God! Today all are mentioned in one plane before God. Whosoever has turned to the Truth is reckoned among the people of Baha and is mentioned as one of the men of the heights. Beseech God that thou mayest become assured in His mention in these days when the Sun of Beauty hath dawned from the horizon of grandeur and majesty with infinite splendor, and His grace hath encompassed all who are in the heavens and on earth. O handmaiden of God! Drink the water of life from the meanings of the words of the All-Merciful. By the Most Great Name! Whosoever hath been blessed and hath attained unto this spiritual Kawthar, the veils of the people of the world shall not prevent him from the direction of the Ancient Beauty. Rather, he shall behold all creation as nonexistent and shall turn towards the direction of the All-Merciful. With the ear of the spirit, hearken unto the words of the King of inner meanings. This is the counsel of the Ancient Beauty unto His handmaidens.

BH06422: In the Name of God, the Most Holy! Remember…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy! Remember, O my God! Glory be to Thee, O my God! Thou art He through Whose love the intimate ones have soared in the atmosphere of Thy longing and yearning, and the sincere ones have ascended unto the heaven of Thy recognition. Thou hast ever been the Educator of all created things and the Succorer of those in the heavens and on earth. All kings are as vassals before the manifestations of Thy sovereignty, and every possessor of light is as darkness before the effulgences of the lights of Thy countenance, and every possessor of knowledge is as ignorant before the evidences of Thy wisdom.

I beseech Thee, O Thou Who beholdest me from the direction of Thy mighty throne, by Thy Command which hath transcended all who are in Thy earth and heaven, and by the Manifestation of Thy Self Who hath suffered among the idolaters of Thy creation, to enable me to achieve what Thou hast willed and ordained in the tablets of Thy decree.

O my Lord! I am one of Thy handmaidens who hath hastened toward the shore of Thy forgiveness and turned her face to the dawning-place of Thy favors. I beseech Thee by Thyself and by what Thou art, to purify me from whatsoever is abhorrent unto Thy good-pleasure, and to assist me and my kindred to serve and obey Thee. Then cause them, O my God, to drink from the Kawthar of Thy recognition and clothe them with the robes of Thy guidance. Verily Thou art the Mighty, the Powerful, the Helper.

BH06461: In the Name of the One God! May you…

In the Name of the One God! May you ever be illumined by the lights of guidance and enkindled with the fire of the divine Lote-Tree. God's favor has been and shall be with you. Strive that you may remain preserved from satanic suggestions and the foul odors of hell. Be intimate with the Truth and heedless of all else.

Be not grieved by what has befallen you, for since God is with you, all good shall circle round about you. Endeavor each day to attain to a new station and in every moment seek after lofty ranks. Make your resolve great, for divine grace is mighty and great.

Move among the handmaidens with perfect dignity and composure, and persist in reading the verses of God in Persian and Arabic, for this shall be the cause of eternal life. Be not distressed by the tyranny of oppressors. God lies in wait—soon will He cast them all into the flames. Verily He has power over all things.

And the glory be upon you and upon whosoever loves you on the part of One Who is mighty and wise.

BH06570: Glorified art Thou, O my God! Praise be unto…

In the name of God, Who endureth after the passing away of all things!

Glorified art Thou, O my God! Praise be unto Thee for having sent forth Thyself and the Manifestation of Thine Essence and the Source of Thy verses and the Dawning-Place of Thy grandeur amongst Thy servants, and caused Him to speak forth with wondrous melodies between Thy heaven and earth. But, O

my God, I hear Thy melodies at all times, and verily they have ascended until they reached beyond the Sadratu'l-Muntaha and beyond that to realms which none hath known save Thy Most Glorious Self. Yet I find none possessed of hearing to hearken unto them and turn towards them and draw nigh through them, save a few numbered souls. I beseech Thee by Thy Name through which the Most Great Ocean was stirred, to create attentive ears and receptive souls and perceiving eyes and radiant faces that they may hear Thy verses as Thou desirest. Otherwise every soul hath an outward ear that heareth but comprehendeth not.

And thou, O thou who gazest, turn with thine ear and heart toward the direction of the Throne that thou mayest hear what none in all the worlds hath heard, save whom thy Lord, the All-Merciful, willeth. Verily He doeth what He pleaseth. And praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH06576: Lauded be Thy name, O my God! Thou beholdest…

In the name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Holy

Lauded be Thy name, O my God! Thou beholdest me in the clutches of my oppressors. Every time I turn to my right, I hear the voice of the lamentation of them that are dear to Thee, whom the infidels have made captives for having believed in Thee and in Thy signs, and for having set their faces towards the horizon of Thy grace and of Thy loving-kindness. And when I turn to my left, I hear the clamor of the wicked doers who have disbelieved in Thee and in Thy signs, and persistently striven to put out the light of Thy lamp which sheddeth the radiance of Thine own Self over all that are in Thy heaven and all that are on Thy earth.

The hearts of Thy chosen ones, O my Lord, have melted because of their separation from Thee, and the souls of Thy loved ones are burnt up by the fire of their yearning after Thee in Thy days. I implore Thee, O Thou Maker of the heavens and Lord of all names, by Thy most effulgent Self and Thy most exalted and all-glorious Remembrance, to send down upon Thy loved ones that which will draw them nearer unto Thee, and enable them to hearken unto Thine utterances.

Tear asunder with the hand of Thy transcendent power, O my Lord, the veil of vain imaginings, that they who are wholly devoted to Thee may see Thee seated on the throne of Thy majesty, and the eyes of such as adore Thy unity may rejoice at the splendors of the glory of Thy face. The doors of hope have been shut against the hearts that long for Thee, O my Lord! Their keys are in Thy hands; open them by the power of Thy might and Thy sovereignty. Potent art Thou to do as Thou pleasest. Thou art, verily, the Almighty, the Beneficent.

BH06582: Glorified art Thou, O my God! This…

In the Name of God, the Most Powerful, the Most Powerful

Glorified art Thou, O my God! This is a letter from the letters of Thy Creative Pen which the Manifestation of Thy Being and the Revealer of Thy verses desired [to speak as the Most Great Word]. O my God! When he seeketh Thy Self, cast him not away through Thy grace, and when he aimeth at the Goal of the worlds, deprive him not through Thy loving-kindness. O my God! I beseech Thee by Thy servants [whom the

heedless have made captives in Thy path] and whom they have seized from all directions because they turned to the horizon of Thy glory [and] Thy power, that Thou protect him from the harm of every harmful one and [this sedition whereby the feet of most of the servants have slipped]. Then raise him to such a station where the world will not prevent him from Thy remembrance and praise, nor will what is created therein prevent him from turning [toward the court of Thy mercy. Verily, Thou art the Powerful] over what Thou willest and the Ruler over what Thou pleasest. There is no God but Thee, the All-Possessing, the Self-Subsisting.

BH06624: Glorified art Thou, O my God! Verily Thou art…

He is God!

Glorified art Thou, O my God! Verily Thou art the Creator of the heavens and earth, and Thou art knowing of all things. Creator of all things, Sustainer of all things, Fashioner of all things, Maker of all things, and Illuminator of all things, for there is no God but Him. His is the creation and the command, both before and after. He giveth life and causeth death, and causeth death and giveth life, and verily He is the Ever-Living Who dieth not. Within His grasp is the dominion of all things, and in His right hand are all the Prophets, for He is the Mighty, the Beloved. His are the most beautiful names, both before and after. There is no God but Him, the Supremely Powerful, the Self-Subsisting. His are the highest similitudes, the greatest manifestations, and the most exalted revelations, and verily He is knowing of all things. All things were created by His command and by His word "Be!" and it is. For He is God, there is no God but Him, Creator of all things and Maker of all things, for He is the Supreme, the Powerful. Glorified art Thou, O my God! Verily Thou art my Creator and my Sustainer, my Life-Giver and my Death-Bringer, and Thou art the All-Wise, the All-Knowing.

BH06625: Glorified art Thou, O my God! How can I…

He is!

Glorified art Thou, O my God! How can I make mention of Thee when I find no opportunity due to the successive downpour of Thy trials? And how can I fail to make mention of Thee when Thou hast commanded me to do so? By Thy might, O my Beloved! My liver is melted by the fire of separation from Thee, my heart is consumed by remoteness from Thy beauty, my inner being is dissolved by the force of my exile from Thee, and the very essence of my being is destroyed by the setting of the Sun of Thy countenance. Thou knowest within Thyself, O my God, that Thou wouldst never abandon Thy lovers or deprive Thy loved ones from the sanctuary of nearness.

No, by Thy ancient beauty! Such was never my thought of Thee, nor have we found in how Thou hast dealt with Thy chosen ones anything like what Thou hast visited upon Thy servant. Yet despite all this, I beseech Thee by the fire of Thy beauty—if this head be worthy of the sword of Thy enemies in Thy path, delay not Thy grace regarding it; and if this breast be fitting for the arrows of Thy decree in Thy good-pleasure, then hasten this through Thy bounty. And if Thou shouldst transform all this through Thy sovereignty to manifest Thy creative Will, verily Thou hast power over all this, and art supreme in

executing Thy command and fulfilling Thy judgment. Thou art, in truth, the Mighty, the Powerful, the All-Wise.

BH06750: Your letter hath come before Us, yet We possess…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Exalted!

Your letter hath come before Us, yet We possess knowledge of what was written therein, for thy Lord is indeed cognizant of all things. The guardian angels stand in ranks before the Face and present unto Us whatsoever hath transpired in thy land. And beyond them are sciences with thy Lord which none among the peoples of the world hath comprehended.

It behooveth no one to test God, his Lord. Rather, He testeth whomsoever He willeth, for He is the Mighty, the Powerful.

And concerning what thou didst mention of the mercy of God—thus have We decreed the remembrance in a perspicuous Tablet. Ponder upon that which hath been sent down from the Most Exalted Pen, that thou mayest know what was intended thereby by Him Who is the Desire of the worlds.

It behooveth every soul to drink the wine of the mercy of his Lord, the Most Merciful, from the hand of the Youth, by uttering at the first dawn of his faith in God, the Powerful, the Mighty, the Bestower, that which the Friend uttered after the veil was lifted, turning towards God, his Glorious Lord:

> "I have turned my face toward Him Who hath created the heavens and the earth."

Thus have We taught thee and those who have believed, that thou mayest give thanks unto God at all times and be detached from all created things out of love for God, the Mighty, the All-Knowing.

BH06751: Your letter hath been presented before the Throne, yet…

In the Name of God, the Most High, the Most Exalted, the Most Great!

Your letter hath been presented before the Throne, yet We read it at the time it was penned. With thy Lord is the knowledge of what hath been and what shall be. Take and give up—thus doth this Youth command thee on this darksome night. The mercy of thy Lord hath encompassed the worlds. Take what hath come to thee from God and give up all else. By My life! This Day is not like other days. It behooveth every soul to manifest that which is worthy of God, the Most High, the Most Great. He that riseth at one time and falleth at another is not worthy to draw nigh unto this Fire, for by it all things are consumed save him from whom emanateth the fragrance of the love of his Lord, the Gracious, the Bountiful.

By God! The Fire fleeth from him, and the righteous circle round him, and the Chosen One in the highest heaven praiseth him. Thus doth the Tongue of Revelation speak amongst the worlds. Were all the worlds to be sacrificed for a single letter of that which proceedeth from His lips, it would still be little and insignificant. Thus hath the Command been fulfilled by the command of the All-Merciful, and the embroidered vesture of the All-Glorious appeared in the Bayan, if ye be of them that perceive. And praise be to God, the Quickener of the worlds.

BH06772: This is a Book from Us unto thee. Verily…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious!

This is a Book from Us unto thee. Verily it is a glad-tiding from the All-Merciful unto thee and unto all who dwell in the realms of creation. Take hold of it with the hand of certitude and say: Praise be to God, the Lord of all worlds.

O servant! Hearken unto the call of thy Lord from this quarter from whose horizon hath shone forth the Sun of the Beauty of thy Lord, the Most Merciful, the Most Compassionate. Turn thou unto Him and say: Upon Thee, O Beauty of God, be the praise of God, His remembrance, the glory of God and His light. I testify that the eye of creation hath never beheld One wronged like Thee. Throughout Thy days Thou wert immersed in an ocean of tribulations. At one time Thou wert under chains and fetters, at another beneath the swords of the enemy. Yet withal Thou didst enjoin upon all that which Thou wert bidden by One Who is All-Knowing, All-Wise. May my spirit be offered up for Thy hurt, and my soul be a sacrifice for Thy tribulations. I beseech God by Thee and by them whose faces have been illumined by the light of Thy countenance and who have followed that which they were commanded out of love for Thy Self, to rend asunder the veils that have come between Thee and Thy creatures and to grant me the good of this world and of the world to come. Verily Thou art the Almighty, the Most Exalted, the All-Glorious, the All-Forgiving, the Most Merciful.

BH06781: The Most Great, the Most Great

The Most Great, the Most Great

This is a Tablet We have sent down to one of the handmaidens of God, that it may detach her from all else save Him and draw her nigh unto the Dawning-Place of grace. This, verily, is a great bounty. O My handmaiden! Forsake all mention and hold fast to the remembrance of My Name, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. Rise above the horizon of the House through My power and sovereignty, then take with the hand of certitude the chalice of mystic knowledge and drink therefrom by the leave of thy Lord, the Mighty, the Inaccessible. Beware lest the oppressors' might frighten thee. Cast the world behind thee and take hold of that which thy Lord, the Almighty, the Powerful, hath commanded thee.

O My handmaiden! Thou dwellest in the House while the Lord of the House is in the hands of the oppressors, and thou drinkest water while it floweth from His most pure and radiant blood. Know thou that Baha hath accepted all tribulations in the path of God, the Lord of all names. By God! Through them My yearning for God, the Mighty, the Beautiful, hath increased. Aid thou the Cause of thy Lord in all conditions—the hosts of earth and heaven shall not prevent Me. Blessed is the one who followeth the example of his Lord and who is, in His path, detached from all the worlds.

BH06785: This is the Tree of Holiness which hath been…

He is the Most Exalted, the Most High!

This is the Tree of Holiness which hath been raised up in truth, and upon whose branches the Pen of Eternity warbleth with wondrous melodies, and at all times doth it yield the fruits of wisdom and utterance. Yet have the people debarred themselves from these holy and fresh fruits. Such hath ever been the way of My creatures since before that which hath no before, and shall continue until the end which no learned one can reckon. They draw not nigh unto it save by casting stones of idle fancy and vain imaginings, and thus hath the decree been fulfilled. And thou, O servant, keep thyself from such as these, then dwell in the presence of thy Lord, for verily He shall be thy Guardian. Then taste what hath been ordained for thee from the fruits of the Tree, that it may cleanse thee from the defilement of every wretched misbeliever. Put thy trust in God, for verily He shall preserve thee in truth and cause thee to speak with wondrous remembrance. We beseech God to assist thee in all that thou desirest and to send down upon thee that which shall gladden thy heart, for verily He hath power over all things. And the Glory be upon thee and upon whosoever hath believed in God and been strong.

BH06877: O Thou the dread of Whom hath fallen upon…

O Thou the dread of Whom hath fallen upon all things, before the splendors of Whose face the countenances of all men are downcast, at the revelations of Whose sovereignty all necks have humbly bowed, to the ruling of Whose will all hearts have been subdued, the awfulness of Whose majesty hath caused the foundations of all things to tremble, and to the power of Whose authority the winds have been subjected! I beseech Thee by the compelling force of Thy Revelation, and by the power of Thy might, and by the exaltation of Thy word, and by the sublimity of Thy sovereignty, to number us with them whom the world hath been powerless to hinder from turning towards Thee.

Cause me, O my Lord, to be of those who, with their substance and their own selves, have fought valiantly in Thy path. Write down, then, for me the recompense Thou didst ordain for them in the Tablet of Thy decree. Stablish me also on the seat of truth in Thy presence, and join me with the sincere among Thy servants.

I implore Thee, O my Lord, by Thy Messengers, and Thy Chosen Ones, and by Him through Whom Thou hast affixed Thy seal upon the Manifestations of Thy Cause among Thy creatures, and Whom Thou hast adorned with the ornament of Thine acceptance among all that dwell in Thy heaven and on Thy earth, to graciously assist me to attain unto what Thou hast ordained for Thy servants and bidden them observe in Thy Tablets. Wash away, then, my sins, O my God, by Thy grace and bounty, and reckon me among such as are not overtaken by fear nor put to grief.

Thou art, verily, the Almighty, the Help in Peril, the Self-Subsisting.

BH11794: O thou servant who believeth in God! Hearken unto…

In the Name of God, the Most Mighty, the Most Holy, the Most Exalted!

O thou servant who believeth in God! Hearken unto the words of Him Who calleth thee unto God with pure sincerity, and Who desireth for no one save that which God desireth for him. Remove thyself from

all that thy desires command thee and draw nigh unto the Divine Lote-Tree. By God! When thou enterest beneath its shade and turnest with thy whole being unto it, thou shalt hear from each of its leaves:

> "Rejoice, O peoples of creation, for your Lord, the Most High, the Most Exalted, hath come, His countenance luminous between the heavens and the earth! Turn ye unto Him, for He is the Beloved of all worlds. Cast away what ye possess and take hold of that which your Lord, the All-Merciful, the Most Compassionate, hath given you."

O how I long for him who heareth the singing of its leaves! For whoso heareth it shall turn to none other than it, nor direct his steps to aught besides it. By My life! One melody from its melodies excelleth all that hath been created upon the whole earth. We beseech God to assist all to turn unto it and to remain steadfast in their love for it. Verily my Lord, the All-Merciful, doth encompass the peoples of all worlds and knoweth what lieth within the breasts of all mankind. And praise be to God, the Lord of this mighty Day!

BH11798: O servants of the All-Merciful! Sanctify your hearts…

In the Name of God, the Most Wondrous, the Most Holy

O servants of the All-Merciful! Sanctify your hearts from all idle fancies and vain imaginings, that ye may taste the sweetness of the Salsabil of divine utterance.

Verily, it hath flowed from the Pen that was intimate with the holy fingers. Be ye of one heart and one face—thus have ye been commanded in a Tablet that hath been preserved within the pavilion of divine knowledge.

When ye desire to approach the shore of the Most Great Ocean, turn ye unto Him with a countenance illumined by the light of the Throne. He who turneth toward the horizon of the Cause must needs be in such wise that neither the world nor aught created therein shall deter him from that which God hath desired for him. Thus hath the Command been sent down and been decreed in truth in a Book revealed from the presence of the All-Merciful.

Turn ye unto God and turn away from all else. And he who calleth the people unto the idol verily is to be numbered among the denizens of the coffin, and is thus recorded before the Throne. Shun, O My loved ones, those who have denied the truth and have then sought a way unto the All-Merciful.

And glory be upon those who have found intimacy with God and have forgotten all else besides Him. These are servants upon whom the dwellers of Paradise, and they who stand before the Divine Presence, do confer their blessings.

BH11800: This is the Day of Victory. Arise to aid…

In the Name of God, the Most Great, the Most Holy!

This is the Day of Victory. Arise to aid the Cause of thy Lord, the Most High, the Most Great. Say: O servants of the All-Merciful! The Sun of proof hath dawned from the horizon of certitude—in what

utterance, then, do ye believe? The clouds have been rent asunder and your Lord, the Almighty, the All-Bountiful, hath come with the hosts of revelation and inspiration. Fear ye the All-Merciful and be not of them that are veiled.

This is a cup that hath been filled with the mercy of your Lord, the All-Merciful, from this surging ocean, and it is set before your faces. Take it with the hands of certitude, then drink thereof in the name of God, the Supreme, the Self-Subsisting. Through it shall be opened upon your hearts the gates of wisdom and utterance, such that ye shall behold what the eyes of them that ascribe partners unto God have been prevented from seeing.

Grieve not at what thou hast heard. Place thy trust in God in all affairs. Say: O Lord! Deprive me not from gazing toward the horizon of Thy oneness, then number me among such as have taken no partner unto Thee in Thy dominion and have testified that Thou art God, there is no God but Thee, the One, the Single, the Powerful, the Mighty, the Loving.

And praise be to God, the All-Forgiving, the All-Pardoning.

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BH11799: Your letter hath come and been read before…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Glorious!

Your letter hath come and been read before the Throne. Therein didst thou beseech God to number thee among them that circle round His court, that gaze upon His beauty, and that visit the Kaaba of His glory. Know thou that We have answered thee. Verily thy Lord is the All-Merciful unto the peoples of all worlds, the Compassionate unto all creation, the Forgiving unto the concourse of names, and the Kind unto all who dwell on earth and in heaven. We have inscribed thee by the Most Exalted Pen as one of those who have circled round My throne, who have attained My presence and heard My melodies, who have soared in the atmosphere of My nearness and reunion, who have been attracted by My verses, and who have detached themselves from all else besides Me.

By My life! Were that which We have ordained for thee at this hour to be unveiled, thou wouldst be thunderstruck with longing. Verily thy Lord is the Doer of what He willeth. Give thanks unto God for that which He hath ordained for thee. Say: O my Lord! All praise be unto Thee for what Thou hast ordained for me through Thy bounty and prescribed through Thy grace and favors. O my Lord! Make me steadfast in Thy Cause in such wise that neither the oppression of the tyrannical ones nor the whisperings of the idolaters may hold me back. All praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH11803: This is a Book from Us to him who…

In the Name of God, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise!

This is a Book from Us to him who was attracted by the verses of his Lord, who turned his face toward the Ka'bih of his Goal, who attained that which the sincere ones attained, and who was overtaken by tribulations in the path of his Lord. Verily, he occupieth a praiseworthy station.

Whoso hath today turned towards the court of his Lord's mercy is among them that have soared in the atmosphere of My love, found solace in My presence and heard My call from the right hand of My throne. We testify that he is among the most exalted of men. Thus hath it been ordained in the Tablet from God, the Mighty, the All-Loving.

Grieve not for that which hath befallen thee. Verily, He suffereth not to be lost the reward of him who hath been made a captive in His love. He is the Protector of whoso hath loved Him, but the people do not understand.

Gather ye together there and be ye as brothers upon the couches of unity. Thus doth your Lord command you as He hath commanded before. He commandeth you only that which is best for you, did ye but know.

And glory be upon the loved ones of God whom oppression hath not deterred from turning unto God, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting.

BH07021: These are the verses of God which have been…

He is the Wondrous One in the Most Glorious Horizon!

These are the verses of God which have been sent down in truth from the heaven of mighty and exalted glory. For each letter thereof there are eyes that weep for this Wronged One, the Sorrowful Beauty. O servant! If thou seest this ink outwardly appearing black, by God it is inwardly the color of blood, and hath dripped upon the garment of the Tablet to be a sign for all the worlds. Arise then to help thy Lord, and assist Him with whatsoever thou art able, and be not of the patient ones.

Be as a flame of fire to the wicked, or as the wrath of the Almighty against the evil ones—this behooveth thee if thou art of those who act. Ascend to the atmosphere of the spirit, that station from which the hands of the ungodly are cut off, and be so distinguished in love that from thy face may shine forth the lights of God, the Sovereign, the Mighty, the Bountiful. Then adorn thy body with the raiment of equity, which is among the garments of the All-Merciful between His near servants. Thus doth the Tongue of Ancient Days counsel thee—hearken and be of the thankful ones.

BH07052: The remembrance of God from the Divine Tree hath…

In the Name of God, the Most Mighty, the Most Exalted, the Most Invincible, the Most Glorious

The remembrance of God from the Divine Tree hath been raised up in truth, and thou hearest from it what the ear of the Beloved heard on the night of ascension, and what the Spirit heard in the Kingdom of Names, and what He Who conversed with God heard on the Sinai of eternity. Blessed, then, is he who heareth the call of his Lord and is illumined by the lights of His countenance in truth. O Hadi! Hear thou the call of thy Lord, the Most High, at a time when the temples of hatred have surrounded Him. Then guide thou the people unto this Beauty that hath shone forth in the primal eternity with truth. Follow

thou what is revealed unto thee from the precinct of nearness, and tarry not in thy Lord's Cause even for a moment. Guide thou first thine own self, then the souls of the servants, that they may detach themselves from all that they possess and turn unto a holy and mighty precinct. Thus have We commanded thee in truth. Act thou according to what thou art bidden, for this is better for thee than all who dwell in the kingdom, one and all. And may glory rest upon thee, if thou remainest steadfast in the Cause.

BH07117: Praise be to Thee, O Lord my God! I…

Praise be to Thee, O Lord my God! I swear by Thy might! Successive afflictions have withheld the pen of the Most High from laying bare that which is hidden from the eyes of Thy creatures, and incessant trials have hindered the tongue of the Divine Ordainer from proclaiming the wonders of Thy glorification and praise. With a stammering tongue, therefore, I call upon Thee, O my God, and with this my afflicted pen I occupy myself in remembrance of Thy name.

Is there any man of insight, O my God, that can behold Thee with Thine own eye, and where is the thirsty one who can direct his face towards the living waters of Thy love? I am the one, O my God, who hath blotted out from his heart the remembrance of all except Thee, and hath graven upon it the mysteries of Thy love. Thine own might beareth me witness! But for tribulations, how could the assured be distinguished from the doubters among Thy servants? They who have been inebriated with the wine of Thy knowledge, these, verily, hasten to meet every manner of adversity in their longing to pass into Thy presence. I implore Thee, O Beloved of my heart and the Object of my soul's adoration, to shield them that love me from the faintest trace of evil and corrupt desires. Supply them, then, with the good of this world and of the next.

Thou art, verily, He Whose grace hath guided them aright, He Who hath declared Himself to be the All-Merciful. No God is there but Thee, the All-Glorious, the Supreme Helper.

BH07180: That which thou hast composed and chanted in remembrance…

In the Name of God, the Almighty, the Beneficent

That which thou hast composed and chanted in remembrance of God, thy Lord and the Lord of all worlds, hath been brought into Our presence. Blessed art thou, inasmuch as the Fire of God hath been kindled within thy heart, and hath caused thee to utter the praise of His own Self amidst them that proclaim His oneness; and thou hast distinguished His well-beloved from His enemiesâ€“those from whose deeds the inmates of hell-fire seek refuge. Say:

Glorified art Thou, O Lord my God! I yield Thee thanks for having enabled me to recognize the Manifestation of Thyself, and for having severed me from Thine enemies, and laid bare before mine eyes their misdeeds and wicked works in Thy days, and for having rid me of all attachment to them, and caused me to turn wholly towards Thy grace and bountiful favors. I give Thee thanks, also, for having sent down upon me from the clouds of Thy will that which hath so sanctified me from the hints of the infidels and the allusions of the misbelievers that I have fixed my heart firmly on Thee, and fled from such as have

denied the light of Thy countenance. Again I thank Thee for having empowered me to be steadfast in Thy love, and to speak forth Thy praise and to extol Thy virtues, and for having given me to drink of the cup of Thy mercy that hath surpassed all things visible and invisible. Thou art the Almighty, the Most Exalted, the All-Glorious, the All-Loving.

BH07107: Glorified art Thou, O my God! I beseech Thee…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Glorious!

Glorified art Thou, O my God! I beseech Thee by them who hastened to the precincts of Thy nearness yet reached not the dawning-place of Thy signs, who left their homelands out of longing for Thy beauty yet arrived not at the seat of Thy nearness, who were so intoxicated by the wine of Thy love that they sacrificed their spirits in Thy name and perished in the wilderness yearning for reunion with Thee—to aid me to draw nigh unto Thy court and enable me to achieve what Thou hast ordained for Thy handmaidens. O Lord! I am she who hath taken refuge with Thee and hastened unto Thee, detached from all else beside Thee. For Thy call hath seized me and Thy voice hath kindled such fire in all my limbs that should anyone examine my entire frame, they would find no place therein save that which burneth with the flame of Thy love and the fire of Thy affection. O Lord! Grant me reunion with Thee, then sever me from all else save Thee. This is what I have chosen for myself from all that Thou hast created between the heavens and the earth. All praise be unto Thee, O Beloved of the worlds and Goal of them that yearn!

BH07080: This is a mention of the Primal Point unto…

In the Name of God, the Most Unapproachable, the Most Holy, the Most Glorious

This is a mention of the Primal Point unto His servant who hath believed in God and who hath been named with one of Our names, He Who is the Merciful. O servant! Hearken unto the call of thy Lord from the direction of the Throne, and be thou not of them that doubt. Be thou steadfast in the Cause of God and His religion, then aid it according to thy capacity, and take for thyself therein a guide. Grieve thou not for thy brother, for verily he hath attained unto the presence of God, and We have caused his spirit to ascend unto a station of sublime glory. We were present with him at the moment when his spirit ascended to the most exalted horizon, a station of wondrous glory. Thus doth God single out whom He willeth through His grace, and verily He is merciful unto His servants. And thou, walk thou in the footsteps of thy brother, then remember thy Lord at all times, and consort not with them who have disbelieved and associated partners with God and who were far removed from the court of nearness. Thus have We sent down the verses unto thee as a grace from Our presence, that thou mayest remain steadfast in the Cause.

BH07017: These are the verses of the Book. No doubt…

He is the Most Manifest, the Most Glorious!

These are the verses of the Book. No doubt it hath been sent down from the direction of the throne of thy Lord, the Help in Peril, the Self-Subsisting. And therein have been revealed the mysteries of the Cause for people who understand. Tarry not in thy Lord's Cause—arise to mention and expound among the

peoples of the worlds. Say: By God! The All-Merciful hath come with such a proof as all who are in the heavens and on earth cannot withstand, did ye but know. Take hold of God's Tablet and detach thyself from all else. Say: O people! This is a Day wherein the Beauty of the Self-Subsisting hath appeared, the heaven hath been cleft asunder, and the smoke hath enveloped all in the realm of possibility save those who have turned toward the Most Sublime Vision. Thus hath the Cause come to pass and judgment been ordained from God, the Almighty, the Exalted, the All-Loving. Let not what hath befallen Us of tyranny and oppression grieve thee. Verily thy Lord is powerful over whatsoever He willeth. Through tribulation His Cause and sovereignty have been made manifest throughout the ages. Soon shalt thou see the people laid low, and dominion shall be God's, the Help in Peril, the Self-Subsisting.

BH11805: Hearken unto the call of thy Most Glorious Lord…

In the Name of God, the Most High, the Most Exalted!

Hearken unto the call of thy Most Glorious Lord, then detach thyself from the world. These are among the most great signs of thy Lord, sent down from the right hand of the throne of thy Most Exalted Lord. And verily these are the most sublime words which, when they proceed from the Most Exalted Pen, encompass all created things, and from them every soul perceiveth the fragrance of the All-Merciful, drawing him nigh unto the Ultimate Tree. Glory be to thy Most Glorious Lord!

Let nothing grieve thee, but put thy trust in God, the Lord of the Last and the First, and hold fast unto the Sure Handle. Verily, this is the Word that hath shone forth from the horizon of Revelation with a light that shall never be extinguished. Say: O people! This is the Day whereon those endued with understanding were thrown into confusion and those possessed of wisdom trembled with fear. Blessed is he who hath cast away vain desire and turned away from error, and hath taken hold of that which he was bidden by God, the Lord of the Throne above and of the earth below.

On such a Day as this, it behooveth you to aid and remember your Creator, O people of guidance! The Spirit and glory rest upon you and upon him who hath been faithful.

BH07125: Glorified art Thou, O my God! This is one…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Great!

Glorified art Thou, O my God! This is one of Thy servants who hath been attracted by the breaths of Thy Revelation and drawn by the fragrances of Thy love in such wise that he hath turned his face unto the lights of Thy luminous countenance. I beseech Thee, O Cleaver of the Dawn, to assist him at all times and to ordain for him in the kingdom of Thy might that which he loveth and with which he is well-pleased.

O my God! Deprive not those servants of Thine who have hastened to the sanctuary of Thy oneness and who have rushed unto the city of the glory of Thy sanctification. Thou hast ever been supreme in power and might, and wilt ever remain transcendent in strength and majesty. Thou aidest whomsoever Thou willest through the hosts of Thy victory and sendest down upon whomsoever Thou desirest the wonders of Thy favors.

I beseech Thee by those whom the idolaters have made captive in Thy path to send down from the clouds of Thy mercy that which will purify the people of Thy dominion. By Thy Self! Then will they all lament for what they have wrought against the Manifestation of Thine Essence, and the Source of Thy power, and the Treasury of Thy mysteries, O Thou Who art the God of all who are in the heavens and on earth, and in Whose grasp is the dominion of all created things!

BH11809: The Most Exalted Pen desires to make mention…

In the Name of God, the Most Mighty, the Most Impregnable!

The Most Exalted Pen desires to make mention of the male and female servants of God, all of them, but has been prevented by the oppression wrought by the hands of the transgressors. Were the idolaters to know what lies behind the seal, they would surely slay the Youth with manifest tyranny. We, however, have offered up Our soul for the love of God and for the life of the worlds. O handmaiden of God! Turn thou towards the Kaaba of the chosen ones and the goal of the Messengers. From whatsoever direction the servant turneth unto God, he is, verily, before the Truth, even though between us there be a distance as that between the heavens and the earth. And he who draweth breath in the love of God—verily, We behold him in a goodly state and We pray for him with a company of the near-angels. Remember thou thy Lord, then be thou devoutly obedient, and bow down and prostrate thyself before God, the King, the Mighty, the Praised One. Verily, thy Lord is with whosoever remembereth Him. By God! Whosoever findeth solace in My remembrance [heareth] My call from every deep valley. Glorify My handmaidens on My behalf and remind them from One Who is All-Knowing, All-Informed. And praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH07116: Glorified art Thou, O Lord my God! Rain down…

In the name of God, the Most Exalted, the Most High

Glorified art Thou, O Lord my God! Rain down, I beseech Thee, from the clouds of Thine overflowing grace, that which shall cleanse the hearts of Thy servants from whatever may prevent their beholding Thy face, or may prevent them from turning unto Thee, that they may all recognize Him Who is their Fashioner and Creator. Help them, then, O God, to reach forth, through the power of Thy sovereign might, towards such a station that they can readily distinguish every foul smell from the fragrance of the raiment of Him Who is the Bearer of Thy most lofty and exalted name, that they may turn with all their affections toward Thee, and may enjoy such intimate communion with Thee that if all that is in heaven and on earth were given them they would regard it as unworthy of their notice, and would refuse to cease from remembering Thee and from extolling Thy virtues.

Shield, I pray Thee, O my Beloved, my heart's Desire, Thy servant who hath sought Thy face, from the darts of them that have denied Thee and from the shafts of such as have repudiated Thy Truth. Cause him, then, to be wholly devoted to Thee, to declare Thy name, and to fix his gaze upon the sanctuary of Thy Revelation. Thou art, in truth, He Who, at no time, hath turned away those who have set their hopes in Thee from the door of Thy mercy, nor prevented such as have sought Thee from attaining the court of

Thy grace. No God is there but Thee, the Most Powerful, the All-Highest, the Help in Peril, the All-Glorious, the All-Compelling, the Unconditioned.

BH07085: This is My remembrance unto My handmaiden, that My…

In the Name of God, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise!

This is My remembrance unto My handmaiden, that My melodies may attract her and raise her up to the heaven of My nearness and the kingdom of My companionship, and cause her to speak My remembrance and praise among My handmaidens, and sever her from all else besides Me, and give her to drink of the wine of My bounty and the Kawthar of My favor and the Salsabil of My gifts.

O My handmaiden! We have heard thy remembrance of My Self and thy praise of My Beauty, and have witnessed thy turning toward My face and thy being stirred by My call, even though that which thou didst send hath not outwardly come before Us. But it hath indeed come before Us, for thy Lord hath power over all things. The name beginning with S was prevented from appearing, and the veils of the oppressors have come between Us and him. Nevertheless, We have accepted from him that which he bore concerning Our Cause, and We have written down for him the reward of one who hath attained the presence of God in this land. Verily thy Lord is the Mighty, the Generous.

Be thou assured through the grace of God, then make mention of Him in all conditions, and grieve not for what hath befallen Us. Be thou patient, for thy Lord is endowed with mighty patience. And praise be to God, the Lord of all worlds.

BH06954: He is the All-Compelling! O Karim! Hearken unto…

He is the All-Compelling! O Karim! Hearken unto the call of thy Lord, the Most Glorious, from the Divine Lote-Tree, speaking that there is none other God but Him, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting.

Leave the cup, then hasten to the Most Great Ocean. By God! It will not profit thee today if thou shouldst hold fast to whatsoever hath been created by His command “Be, and it is!” Cast aside books and allusions, for the Lord of Names and Attributes hath appeared with power and sovereignty.

Hold thy pen and hearken unto that which is revealed from the Supreme Pen, and glorify thy Lord on this Day whereon feet have slipped. Will those around thee profit thee? Nay, by the Revealer of verses! Soon shall the world pass away and thou shalt find for thyself no protector.

By God! The wings of the Peacock have spread in Paradise and the Dove hath warbled upon the branches with diverse melodies, while We hear from the sinners the croaking of the raven.

Turn thou to the Qiblih of the horizons—verily it is the Most Great Path among the nations. Thus have We informed thee and guided thee to the straight path. If thou hast heard, it is for thine own self, and if thou turnest away—verily He is the Self-Sufficient, the Almighty, the Glorious, the Compelling.

BH07123: Glorified art Thou, O God, O Master of Kings…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Glorious!

Glorified art Thou, O God, O Master of Kings and Merciful unto servants! I beseech Thee by Thy Name through which Thou didst rend asunder the veils and didst come with Thy sovereignty at the final return, that Thou show mercy unto Thy servants who have been oppressed in the earth and make them lamps of guidance unto all who dwell upon Thy earth. O Lord! Thou knowest that we are poor ones who have arisen before the gate of Thy bounty and riches, and helpless ones who have clung to the cords of Thy might and power. O Lord! Have mercy, then, upon our young and old through Thy mercy, and cause us to enter the pavilion of Thy care and favors. O Lord! Thou knowest what hath befallen us in Thy path. Write down, then, our names in Thy tablets and ordain for us what lieth with Thee of the wonders of Thy grace and beneficence. Verily, Thou art the Omnipotent in whatsoever Thou willest, and Thou art the God of the worlds and the Goal of them that know. There is none other God but Thee, the Mighty, the Wise.

BH06945: God is most great!

God is most great!

He is the Most High, the Most Exalted, the Most Sublime!

O Husayn! Bear thou witness within thyself, then within thy spirit, then within thine essence, that verily the Tree of Sinai upon the branch of this Manifestation doth proclaim the truth:

> "Verily, I am God, there is none other God but Me, and He is God, the One Who hath power over all things."

And verily ʿAli-Qabli-Nabil is the Manifestation of His Essence, the Source of His knowledge, and the Dawning-Place of His Cause for all who are in the heavens and on earth. This is what hath been sent down from the Holy and Luminous Pen.

Say: O people! Believe in God and His signs, and deny not this mercy which hath been, in truth, faithful. Thus have We sent down unto thee on this night that which shall solace thine eyes and gladden thee with a joy which hath been recorded as magnificent in the Tablet. Then remind, from Our presence, all those in thy land who have believed in God and in this Cause which hath been, in truth, exalted. And the glory be upon thee and upon all who have drunk the love of God from the cup of a name most glorious.

BH07105: Praised be Thou, O Lord my God! I implore…

Praised be Thou, O Lord my God! I implore Thee, by Thy Most Great Name through Which Thou didst stir up Thy servants and build up Thy cities, and by Thy most excellent titles, and Thy most august attributes, to assist Thy people to turn in the direction of Thy manifold bounties, and set their faces towards the Tabernacle of Thy wisdom. Heal Thou the sicknesses that have assailed the souls on every side, and have deterred them from directing their gaze towards the Paradise that lieth in the shelter of Thy shadowing Name, which Thou didst ordain to be the King of all names unto all who are in heaven and all who are on

earth. Potent art Thou to do as pleaseth Thee. In Thy hands is the empire of all names. There is none other God but Thee, the Mighty, the Wise.

I am but a poor creature, O my Lord; I have clung to the hem of Thy riches. I am sore sick; I have held fast the cord of Thy healing. Deliver me from the ills that have encircled me, and wash me thoroughly with the waters of Thy graciousness and mercy, and attire me with the raiment of wholesomeness, through Thy forgiveness and bounty. Fix, then, mine eyes upon Thee, and rid me of all attachment to aught else except Thyself. Aid me to do what Thou desirest, and to fulfill what Thou pleasest.

Thou art truly the Lord of this life and of the next. Thou art, in truth, the Ever-Forgiving, the Most Merciful.

BH07131: Who can explain the pain of separation, or bring…

Who can explain the pain of separation, or bring to mind the firm binding of the Covenant? Do not let slip away the wondrous decree of meeting, have you not heard the decisive command of divorce? Therefore stand firm in the light of right guidance, and if you are among the people of the covenant, remain not distant from love. That one is the gentle beloved—do not let slip away; that one is the precise mentor—do not forget; that one is the physician of harmony—do not set against opposites. And if you have tasted the honeyed sugar from the lip of dawn, say then: “I have attained unto the Lord of creation.” My beloved, although the meeting of this lowly one is prevented, yet read “He is the One Who opens what He wishes and withholds what He wills.” God willing, all ailments will be removed, just as was continuously manifested and expressed: “We associate none with the worship of thy Lord” and “I am but His servant and sufficient art thou as a witness unto me.” And likewise say whatsoever thou hearest from me, then preserve the Cause of God as befits thy station. I send greetings to all the loved ones.

BH07119: All praise be to Thee, O Lord, my God!…

All praise be to Thee, O Lord, my God! How mysterious the Fire which Thou hast enkindled within my heart! My very limbs testify to the intensity of its heat, and evince the consuming power of its flame. Should my bodily tongue ever attempt to describe Thee as the One Whose strength hath ever excelled the strength of the most mighty amongst men, the tongue of my heart would address me, saying:

> “These are but words which can only be adequate to such things as are of the same likeness and nature as themselves. But He, of a truth, is infinitely exalted above the mention of all His creatures.”

The power of Thy might beareth me witness, O my Well-Beloved! Every limb of my body, methinks, is endowed with a tongue that glorifieth Thee and magnifieth Thy name. Armed with the power of Thy love, the hatred which moveth them that are against Thee can never alarm me; and with Thy praise on my lips, the rulings of Thy decree can in no wise fill me with sorrow. Fortify, therefore, Thy love within my breast, and suffer me to face the assaults which all the peoples of the earth may launch against me. I swear by Thee! Every hair of my head proclaimeth:

> “But for the adversities that befall me in Thy path, how could I ever taste the divine sweetness of Thy tenderness and love?”

Send down, therefore, O my Lord, upon me and upon them that love me, that which will cause us to become steadfast in Thy Faith. Enable them, then, to become the Hands of Thy Cause amongst Thy servants, that they may scatter abroad Thy signs, and show forth Thy sovereignty. There is no God but Thee, Who art powerful to do whatsoever Thou willest. Thou art, in truth, the All-Glorious, the All-Praised.

BH06952: O Pen of Holiness! Move upon the name…

He is the Most Holy, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious!

O Pen of Holiness! Move upon the name of him who hath heard the call of God from the heaven of immortality from the presence of God, the Most High, the Most Exalted, and whom the most sweet melodies have turned from the left hand of heedlessness unto the shore of oneness and brought nigh unto a most holy and exalted station. Be thou steadfast in the Cause. God hath verily ordained for thee a station that was, in truth, sublime. Soon shall be sent down upon thee that whereby thou shalt aid the Cause of thy Lord, for He is, verily, powerful over all things. Be thou assured through the grace of thy Lord and grieve not over anything, for He will guard thee through the sovereign protection from all who are in the heavens and on earth, and He doth, verily, encompass all things. Place thy trust in all matters in Him and turn thy heart toward the holy direction, this Paradise from whose horizon hath shone forth the Sun of Beauty by a command that hath, from time immemorial, encompassed the worlds. And glory be upon thee and upon those who have been faithful to God’s covenant and have remained steadfast in the Cause.

BH07113: Praise be to Thee, O Lord my God! Thou…

Praise be to Thee, O Lord my God! Thou seest and knowest that I have called upon Thy servants to turn nowhere except in the direction of Thy bestowals, and have bidden them observe naught save the things Thou didst prescribe in Thy Perspicuous Book, the Book which hath been sent down according to Thine inscrutable decree and irrevocable purpose.

I can utter no word, O my God, unless I be permitted by Thee, and can move in no direction until I obtain Thy sanction. It is Thou, O my God, Who hast called me into being through the power of Thy might, and hast endued me with Thy grace to manifest Thy Cause. Wherefore I have been subjected to such adversities that my tongue hath been hindered from extolling Thee and from magnifying Thy glory.

All praise be to Thee, O my God, for the things Thou didst ordain for me through Thy decree and by the power of Thy sovereignty. I beseech Thee that Thou wilt fortify both myself and them that love me in our love for Thee, and wilt keep us firm in Thy Cause. I swear by Thy might! O my God! Thy servant’s shame is to be shut out as by a veil from Thee, and his glory is to know Thee. Armed with the power of Thy name nothing can ever hurt me, and with Thy love in my heart all the world’s afflictions can in no wise alarm me.

Send down, therefore, O my Lord, upon me and upon my loved ones that which will protect us from the mischief of those that have repudiated Thy truth and disbelieved in Thy signs.

Thou art, verily, the All-Glorious, the Most Bountiful.

BH07111: Glorified art Thou, O my God! Thou art He…

In the Name of God, the Most Wondrous

Glorified art Thou, O my God! Thou art He Who created me and sustained me until Thou didst honor me with Thy days wherein the Sun of Thy loving-kindness dawned from the horizon of Thy Will and was established upon the throne of Thy mercy, and Thou didst open the gate of attainment unto Thy presence before the face of all who dwell in Thy earth and Thy heaven, and didst call all unto Thyself, and didst attract all through Thy signs. Therefore, O my God, I, one of Thy handmaidens, have desired nearness unto Thee and reunion with Thee and to enter the sanctuary of Thy mighty oneness and to stand before Thy throne. I beseech Thee not to deprive me of that which I have desired from the wonders of Thy grace, nor to prevent me from the Kawthar of meeting with Thee. O Lord! If Thou hast ordained separation and remoteness for me, then write down for me the reward of those who have drawn nigh unto Thee and have attained unto Thy presence, O Thou in Whose grasp lie the dominion of destiny and the kingdom of decree. Verily, Thou art the Almighty, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious, the Peerless One.

BH06982: In the Name of the Beloved of the Worlds!…

In the Name of the Beloved of the Worlds! O handmaiden of God! The home lies in ruins and its owner is captive to the factions. That which has been decreed for the house shall soon be made manifest. He is, verily, the Ruler over whatsoever He pleaseth.

Although most hearts are seen to be withered from the tribulations that have descended and the afflictions that have befallen them, yet the assured souls of the Kingdom will neither falter nor be perturbed by tribulations in the path of the King of Oneness, for such souls repose in the seat of truth, are nourished by the celestial food, and partake of the pure chalice of God. How excellent is the state of those souls from whom, in the days of trial, the sweet savors of certitude wafted over the peoples of the world, and from whom the musk-laden breezes of love were inhaled.

Be not grieved by tribulations. The divine practice hath ever been thus, and ever shall remain thus. Reflect upon the former ages, that thou mayest become aware of thy Lord’s practice, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

Beseech God to adorn the weak and doubting hearts with the powerful robes of certitude. Convey My greetings to the steadfast Arab women. And the glory be upon you all.

BH07147: Tablet of the Hair 1

He is the Eternal!

My hair beareth witness for My Beauty that verily I am God and that there is none other God but Me. In My ancient eternity I have ever been God, the One, the Peerless, the Everlasting, the Ever-Living, the Ever-Abiding, the Self-Subsistent.

O denizens of the everlasting Realm! Let your ears be attentive to the stirrings of this restless and agitated hair, as it moveth upon the Sinai of Fire, within the precincts of Light, this celestial Seat of divine Revelation. Indeed there is no God besides Me. In My most ancient pre-existence I have ever been the King, the Sovereign, the Incomparable, the Eternal, the Single, the Everlasting, the Most Exalted.

O peoples of the heavens and of the earth! Were ye to sanctify your ears ye would hear My hair proclaim that there is none other God except Him, and that He is One in His Essence and in everything that beareth relationship unto Him. And yet how fiercely have you cavilled at this Beauty, notwithstanding that the outpourings of His grace have encompassed all that dwell in the billowing oceans of His Revelation and Creation. Be ye fair therefore in your judgement concerning His upright Religion, for the love of this Youth Who is riding high upon the snow-white She-Camel betwixt earth and heaven; and be ye firm and steadfast in the path of Truth.

BH06431: Tablet of the Hair 3

He is the All-Knowing! O peoples of the heavens and earth! Know ye that We have made all things treasuries of Our power. Then We chose from among them that which We made the ornament of Our countenance, and for it are names beyond counting and attributes beyond reckoning. And in its manifestation in the form of the serpent are signs for those of insight.

Say: Verily it is the serpent of divine decree by which God protecteth His treasuries and preserveth them from the hands of thieves and the gaze of the treacherous. Say: Though it moveth upon the treasury of lights from thy Lord, the Chosen One, yet within itself are concealed treasuries which none hath discovered save God, the Sovereign, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise, and whomso He willeth and desireth.

And verily He is the One Who bestoweth grace upon His servants, teaching whomsoever He willeth that which enricheth him beyond all else. Blessed be God, the Most Generous of the generous! How excellent is he who hath attained unto the knowledge thereof and reached the summit of grace from One wise and informed!

Thus do We impart unto the servants that which was hidden from them, that perchance a soul may understand and there may appear in creation that which would bewilder the minds of the wise, the hearts of the sages, and the souls of all created things.

BH01730: Tablet of the Hair 4

He is the Mover

O my God! I praise Thee for having ordained the Fountain of Life in the Garden of Good-Pleasure, wherein Thou didst join together fire and water and unite them through Thy power, such that they shall never be parted throughout the eternity of Thy might and the perpetuity of Thy sovereignty. Thou didst appoint as

keeper of this Fountain the serpent of Thy power and the snake of Thy protection, and didst breathe into this keeper from the essence of Thy spirit, such that all things die save it, and all things sleep save it, as if it were made a sign of movement, for within it is passion and rapture and agitation.

Therefore I beseech Thee, O my God, by the agitation in the hearts of the lovers, that Thou grant unto Thy chosen ones what Thou hast ordained in this hidden yet manifest Fountain. Then quicken through its water the hearts of Thy loved ones, and through its fire create warmth in the hearts of Thy faithful ones. Thou art He Who, O my God, hath decreed that the disobedient must enter into Thy fire and abide eternally in Thy flames. And I, though formerly among Thy disobedient ones, do now accept to enter into this fire and to abide in these flames. Though Thy servants flee from the serpent and its venom, I, by Thy glory, long for this serpent and its bite and its poison. Verily Thou art the Mighty, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

Glorified art Thou, O my God! I beseech Thee by this serpent that Thou unite the hearts of Thy loved ones and gather them upon a single carpet, even as Thou didst unite this fire and water and gather them in a single place. Verily, Thou art powerful over that.

Glorified art Thou, O my Beloved and my Goal! How can I make mention of the wonders Thou hast created in this dark yet luminous handiwork, and the marvels Thou hast wrought in this most subtle and mighty creation? It is as if Thou didst make it arrows for the hearts of Thy lovers and spears for the breasts of Thy faithful ones. It seemeth, O my Beloved, that Thou didst not create within it any mercy or compassion, for it hath stung the hearts of those who sought Thy nearness and presence, and bitten the hearts of those who turned to Thy reunion and beauty. Therefore, O my Beloved, take the rights and blood of Thy servants from this infidel who hath taken refuge in the Sacred House and sought protection in this Shrine and Station, and made Thy servants forbidden from entering this place. By Thy glory, no hand can reach it save Thy powerful hands, and no soul can attain unto it save Thy conquering sovereignty.

Thou knowest, O my Lord, how many of Thy chosen servants it hath slain, and how many of Thy trusted ones it hath wounded, and how many sacred temples have been cast upon their beds from its wound, and how many pure countenances have fallen upon the dust from its tyranny. Didst Thou not promise, O my Lord and my God, that Thou wouldst cause the doers of good to enter Thy most exalted Paradise and send down the disobedient to the lowest depths? Yet I now witness that this disobedient one hath ascended to the paradise of Thy presence and reunion, and dwelleth in the gardens of Thy face, as if it were the salamander of love disporting itself in the fire of Thy beauty and moving about in the paradise of Thy countenance.

Glorified art Thou, glorified art Thou, for how Thou hast attached the hearts of all created things to this thread and bound the hearts of all beings to this rope! By Thy glory, I am bewildered by the wonders of Thy handiwork in it and upon it, and by the wonders of what it thinketh of itself. It seemeth not to consider itself disobedient even after having shed blood in all religions, but rather knoweth itself to be the creator of goodness and now seeketh from Thy servants recompense for what it hath done to them and against them. It is as if Thou hast ordained for it and decreed upon it that Thou shouldst give, as recompense for its disobedience, every good thing which Thou hast ordained by Thy power and decreed

by Thy might. After this, I know not by what way to flee or through what door to escape. Nay, by Thy light, I shall not flee save unto Thee and shall not escape save unto Thee, and I place my trust in Thee in all that. There is no God but Thee, the Mighty, the Powerful.

BH11127: Tablet of the Hair 5

In His Name Who speaks in all things!

Praise be to Him Who made darkness the ornament of light and thereby adorned the beauty of manifestation. This is from a power that no power in the realm has preceded, as though it were the Pen of Creation moving upon the Holy Tablet in Paradise. When it was circumambulating the Sacred House, God caused it to dwell on the Mount of Station from which the hands of those brought nigh were cut off.

BH08601: Tablet of the Hair 6

He is the Most Exalted, the Most High!

O Thou Who hast made the Point the ornament of Beauty on the Tablet of Manifestation, and suspended the threads of darkness upon the sphere of light, whereby Thou hast adorned the page of light with the darkness of night, and made the fountain of sweet water to flow in the abode of fire, and ordained the spring of life to be in the treasury of flames, and joined them together in such wise that they shall never be separated throughout all ages! Reflect upon the wondrous handiwork of your Creator, O ye who are endued with understanding! Glorified art Thou, O my God! When I beheld this wondrous creation of Thine eternal power, I beseech Thee by Thy Name through which Thou art the Self-Subsisting over the manifestations of Thy names, that Thou unite Thy servants even as Thou hast united light and darkness, and fire and water. Then gather them together on the shore of Thy Most Great Ocean even as Thou hast gathered these upon the shore of the Kawthar of Thy utterance. Verily Thou art the Mighty, the Glorious, the Bountiful.

BH11496: Tablet of the Hair 7

He is God!

My hair is My Veil whereby I conceal My Beauty, that haply the eyes of the non-believers among My servants may not fall upon it. Thus do We conceal from the sight of the ungodly the glorious and sublime beauty of Our Countenance.

BH10832: Tablet of the Hair 8

He is the Almighty!

My hair is My Messenger. It is calling aloud at all times upon the branch of Fire within the hallowed and luminous garden of Paradise, that perchance the inmates of the realm of creation may detach themselves from the world of dust and ascend unto the retreats of nearness—the Spot where the Fire seeketh illumination from the light of the Countenance of God, the Glorious, the Powerful.

O ye that have consecrated yourselves to this Fire! Sing ye melodies, pour out sweet tones, rejoice with exceeding gladness and make haste to attain the presence of Him Who is the Object of adoration, bearing witness that no God is there besides God, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise, the All-Compelling.

BH11265: Tablet of the Hair 9

He is the God of Wisdom!

My hair is My Phoenix. Therefore hath it set itself upon the blazing fire of My Face and receiveth sustenance from the garden of My Countenance. This is the station wherein the Son of ʿImran removed from the feet of selfish desire the coverings of attachment to all else but Him and was illumined by the splendours of the Light of holiness in the undying Fire kindled by God, the Potent, the Gracious, the Ever-Forgiving.

BH11483: Tablet of the Hair 10

He is the Most Excellent, the Best Beloved!

A lock of My hair is My Cord. He who layeth fast hold on it shall never to all eternity go astray, for therein is his guidance to the splendours of the Light of His Beauty.

BH10844: Tablet of the Hair 11

He is the Hidden, the Manifest!

Glorified be God for this fiery thread and this divine cord! At times I behold it as fire, for by it are consumed the hearts of the sincere. At times I behold it as breezes, for by it are stirred the hearts of the believers. And at times there issueth from it a sound like unto melodies that draw unto them the hearts of the lovers. Glorified be God for this moving, gleaming Spirit!

BH11210: Tablet of the Hair 2

He is the Ever-Abiding through the immortality of His own Self

I have caused the living waters to issue from the Kawthar of My mouth, even as I have concealed the living sun behind My hair. In truth, within the darkness of My hair I have hidden the light of My beauty: though dark in its outer being, its inner being is light upon light, upon all light. Thus have the secrets been revealed by the Pen of the Unconstrained.

BH07292: This is a Book from Us to one…

He is the Most Holy, the Most Glorious!

This is a Book from Us to one of Our handmaidens, that My melodies may draw her to the heaven of My knowledge, sever her from all else save Me, and cause her to speak My remembrance and praise among My handmaidens. O My handmaiden! Remember My imprisonment and tribulation, then My exile and estrangement and My affliction. Beware lest the turning away of the people of passion prevent thee from

the Divine Lote-Tree. Free thyself from worldly conditions, then turn with thy heart unto God, the Lord of Names. By God! None shall be protected today save those who have laid hold of the Most Great Handle, which hath appeared in the name of thy Lord, the Most Glorious, between earth and heaven. Exalted be the Ancient One Who hath appeared with this mighty grace! O My handmaiden! Know thou that on this Day a soul's belief shall profit it not, even should it perform the deeds of all creation, except that it lay hold of this firm Cord. Thus hath the Tongue of Grandeur spoken in the heaven of might, as a favor from Him unto thee, that thou mayest be among the thankful ones in a Tablet of manifest glory. And praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH07106: Glorified art Thou, O Lord my God! I beseech…

Glorified art Thou, O Lord my God! I beseech Thee by Thy Chosen Ones, and by the Bearers of Thy Trust, and by Him Whom Thou hast ordained to be the Seal of Thy Prophets and of Thy Messengers, to let Thy remembrance be my companion, and Thy love my aim, and Thy face my goal, and Thy name my lamp, and Thy wish my desire, and Thy pleasure my delight.

I am a sinner, O my Lord, and Thou art the Ever-Forgiving. As soon as I recognized Thee, I hastened to attain the exalted court of Thy loving-kindness. Forgive me, O my Lord, my sins which have hindered me from walking in the ways of Thy good-pleasure, and from attaining the shores of the ocean of Thy oneness.

There is no one, O my Lord, who can deal bountifully with me to whom I can turn my face, and none who can have compassion on me that I may crave his mercy. Cast me not out, I implore Thee, of the presence of Thy grace, neither do Thou withhold from me the outpourings of Thy generosity and bounty. Ordain for me, O my Lord, what Thou hast ordained for them that love Thee, and write down for me what Thou has written down for Thy chosen ones. My gaze hath, at all times, been fixed on the horizon of Thy gracious providence, and mine eyes bent upon the court of Thy tender mercies. Do with me as beseemeth Thee. No God is there but Thee, the God of power, the God of glory, Whose help is implored by all men.

BH07108: Glorified art Thou, O my God! I beseech Thee…

Glorified art Thou, O my God! I beseech Thee by them who hastened to the field of martyrdom, yearning to meet Thee, and by the blood that hath been shed in Thy path, and by the heads that were raised upon spears for love of Thee and in Thy good-pleasure, and by the hearts that were consumed in separation from Thee and remoteness from Thee, and by Thy Most Great Name through which Thou didst distinguish between Thy servants and creatures, that Thou make me steadfast in Thy love and content with Thy good-pleasure and a supporter of Thy Cause. Establish me in such wise that should all mankind oppose Thee, I would arise by myself to exalt Thy Cause and manifest Thy bounty. Then ordain for me, O my God, what Thou hast ordained for Thy chosen ones, and separate me not from Thee in the worlds of Thy Cause. Moreover, grant me the good of this world and the next. I am he who, O my God, hath testified to Thy oneness and confessed Thy singleness and turned toward Thee and advanced toward the sanctuary of Thy nearness. Thou art my Beloved in the hereafter and the former life and my Purpose in all circumstances. There is none other God but Thee, the Mighty, the Exalted.

BH07109: Glorified art Thou, O my God! I beseech Thee…

In the Name of God, the Most Powerful, the Most Inaccessible!

Glorified art Thou, O my God! I beseech Thee by the Word through which the oceans of Thy knowledge surged in the hearts of them that have recognized Thee, and the winds of Thy love and yearning were stirred in the breasts of Thy lovers, that Thou wilt look upon Thy servants with the glances of Thy gracious favors and clothe them with the robes of Thy guidance. O Lord! All are poor at the door of Thy riches, and powerless before the manifestations of Thy might. Send down therefore, O my God, upon them that which will make them mighty through Thy power and exalted through Thy sovereignty, that the oppression of the oppressors may not hold them back from Thy path, nor the clamor of the idolaters prevent them from turning toward the court of Thy oneness.

O Lord! Thou art He before Whose command nothing whatsoever can stand among all that hath been created in the heavens and on earth, and none in the kingdoms of creation and command can frustrate Thee. I beseech Thee by Thy Most Exalted Self and by Thy manifestation once again, to make me radiant with the lights of Thy countenance and turning toward the sanctuary of Thy glory. Then cause me, O my God, to taste the sweetness of Thy remembrance. Verily, Thou art the Omnipotent over what Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the Supremely Mighty, the Self-Subsisting.

BH07160: Glorified be He Who hath sent down the verses…

He is the Mighty, the Beauteous.

Glorified be He Who hath sent down the verses in truth. There is no God but Him. His is the creation and the command. He giveth life and causeth death; again He causeth death and bestoweth life. Verily, He is a Living One Who dieth not, an Ever-Abiding One Who decayeth not; a Manifest One Who is not hidden, a Light that cannot be quenched, a Beauty without a veil, and a sovereignty unshadowed by any covering.

He aideth whomsoever He willeth through the power of His Cause, and withholdeth victory from whomsoever He willeth by the dominion of His will. Verily, He is All-Knowing and forgetteth not; Almighty and is not overcome; the Provider and is not provided for; the Bestower and is not bestowed upon; the Speaker and is not silenced.

Nothing can deter Him from His sovereignty and His rule, nor can anything constrain Him—not in the heavens, nor on the earth, nor in the realms of cloud, nor upon the Throne. He decreeth for whomsoever He willeth whatsoever He willeth, in whatsoever manner He willeth; and He accomplisheth for whomsoever He desireth whatsoever He desireth, as He desireth.

Verily, His sovereignty shall not pass away, His dominion shall not be altered, and His holiness shall not escape the grasp of His power. Nothing can elude His might. He hath ever been powerful over all things—omnipotent, invincible, and supreme.

BH07168: We have been tried in God's path with tribulations…

In the Name of God, the Ancient, the Everlasting!

We have been tried in God's path with tribulations such as none hath been tried with from time immemorial. They made My kindred captives and led them through the lands until they brought them to the Crooked Land. We sought help from no one, nor did We cling to any soul, but God shall raise up a king from among the kings of the earth who will help the Youth. Verily, He is the All-Powerful, the Mighty, the All-Knowing.

O loved ones of God! Aid your Lord in His earth that He may aid you in His heaven. Turn not your gaze to the world and whatsoever is therein, for soon shall perish whosoever walketh upon it, seeth in it, and is stirred by its breezes. Well is it with him who hath cleansed his garment from its dust and meeteth his Lord with a countenance sanctified from turning toward it. By God! He is numbered among the people of the All-Glorious Paradise, and the denizens of the Supreme Concourse shower their prayers upon him night and day. And praise be to God, the Lord of all beings, Who bringeth forth fruits from their shells and servants from the wombs. Verily, He is the All-Powerful, the Mighty, the All-Knowing.

BH07265: The Tongue of Eternity speaks: O My handmaiden…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Glorious!

The Tongue of Eternity speaks: O My handmaiden and daughter of My handmaiden! We have created all servants and handmaidens specifically for this Day, for the Purpose of all worlds is now manifest, established upon the throne of grandeur, and at all times the divine heralds call the people to the direction of the All-Merciful. Blessed are those souls whom the veils of the world have not prevented from the most exalted horizon.

God willing, that handmaiden must become so steadfast in divine love through the attraction of God that the fragrances of the love of the Beloved of the worlds may be diffused from her. Be not grieved by the world and whatsoever occurs therein. The Cause is mighty and the Purpose mighty; therefore the seekers of the sanctuary of the All-Merciful must not be prevented by trials.

Blessed art thou, O My handmaiden, for having attained unto the recognition of thy Lord and believed in God on a Day when most of the servants turned away from Him, save those who drank the water of everlasting life from the hand of the mercy of their Lord, the Mighty, the All-Knowing.

BH07297: In the name of God, the Most High…

In the name of God, the Most High, the Most Glorious! This is a book from God, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting, unto him who hath heard the call of his Lord and taken up his abode beneath His shadow in a praiseworthy station. Hearken, then, unto that which is revealed unto thee from the Quarter wherein hath shone the countenance of the Youth and from which hath been raised the call of thy Lord, the Mighty, the Powerful, the All-Loving.

Say: O my Lord! I beseech Thee by Thy remembrance through which Thou hast quickened all created things and caused all faces to shine, that Thou disappoint me not of what lieth with Thee and admit me, through Thy mercy, beneath Thy extended shadow.

O my Lord! Make Thou my hope to be in Thee, my purpose to be in Thee, my aspiration to be in Thee, my goal to be in Thee, my habitation to be in Thee, my Ka'bih to be in Thee, and the object of my desire to be Thy radiant, mighty and praiseworthy Beauty.

O my Lord! I beseech Thee by what Thou art, to send down from the right hand of Thy power that which shall exalt Thy loved ones and abase Thine enemies. There is no God but Thee. Verily Thou art my Beloved in this world and in the next, and Thou art the Object of desire of them that have recognized Thee. Praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH07301: Lawh-i-Quds 7

He is God, the Most High, the Most Exalted

This is the Tablet of Holiness wherein have been inscribed, by the wondrous holy Pen, the verses of God, the King, the Exalted, the Mighty, the Holy, the Beautiful. Therein He maketh mention of the servant of God who heard the melodies of Paradise from the mouth of God, his Lord and the Lord of all worlds.

O servant! Give thanks unto thy Lord for having enabled thee to attain His presence, inasmuch as thou hast visited the Ancient Beauty when He shone forth from the horizon of Iraq with mighty holy splendors. By God! To hear but one melody from the mouth of God is better than all that hath been treasured in the heavens and earth, and thy entry into the Spot of God is better for thee than whatsoever hath been created on earth—and God is witness unto this. Know thou thy station, for thou hast been honored with that which countless souls have died in their longing for. Yet strive within thyself lest this bounty be changed—and this is indeed a mighty counsel. Preserve the love of God in thy heart lest it be erased by the intimations of the ungodly. And the glory rest upon thee and upon those who have believed in God, the True King, the Manifest.

BH07426: O Thou, at Whose dreadful majesty all things have…

O Thou, at Whose dreadful majesty all things have trembled, in Whose grasp are the affairs of all men, towards Whose grace and mercy are set the faces of all Thy creatures! I entreat Thee, by Thy Name which Thou hast ordained to be the spirit of all names that are in the kingdom of names, to shield us from the whisperings of those who have turned away from Thee, and have repudiated the truth of Thy most august and most exalted Self, in this Revelation that hath caused the kingdom of Thy names to tremble.

I am one of Thy handmaidens, O my Lord! I have turned my face towards the sanctuary of Thy gracious favors and the adored tabernacle of Thy glory. Purify me of all that is not of Thee, and strengthen me to love Thee and to fulfill Thy pleasure, that I may delight myself in the contemplation of Thy beauty, and be rid of all attachment to any of Thy creatures, and may, at every moment, proclaim: "Magnified be God, the Lord of the worlds!"

Let my food, O my Lord, be Thy beauty, and my drink the light of Thy presence, and my hope Thy pleasure, and my work Thy praise, and my companion Thy remembrance, and my aid Thy sovereignty, and my dwelling-place Thy habitation, and my home the seat which Thou hast exalted above the limitations of them that are shut out as by a veil from Thee.

Thou art, in truth, the God of power, of strength and glory.

BH07443: Glorified art Thou, O our Lord, the All-Merciful! This…

He is the Most Holy, the Most Glorious

Glorified art Thou, O our Lord, the All-Merciful! This is a day among the days of Thy Festival which Thou hast named Ridvan, wherein Thou didst manifest Thy sovereignty over all who are in Thy earth and Thy heaven, after which all arose to harm Thee and to extinguish Thy light. And therein did the Sun of Thy oneness shine forth from the horizon of the House upon all who dwell in the unseen and the visible realms. I beseech Thee, O my God, by this Day and by Him Whom Thou hast made the Dawning-Place of Thy revelation and the Dayspring of Thine inspiration, to ordain for Thy loved ones the good of this world and the next, and to make them of those whom nothing besides Thee can occupy from Thy remembrance and praise.

Then strengthen their hearts in such wise that the power of those who have disbelieved in Thee and Thy signs will not frighten them. O Lord! Illumine their eyes with the light of Thy knowledge and their hearts with the splendor of Thy countenance. Then unite their hearts and their souls that through their unity the people of Thy kingdom may be united. Verily Thou art the Powerful over all who are in the kingdom of Thy Command and Thy creation. Thou art, in truth, the Mighty, the Generous. And praise be unto Thee, O God of the worlds.

BH11807: Know, O thou who gazest upon the Countenance…

In the name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Holy!

Know, O thou who gazest upon the Countenance, that tribulations have encompassed Us, and while immersed in their depths, We summon the people with the loudest call to the Most Exalted Horizon. These tribulations do not prevent Us from that which We have been commanded by the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. Emerge from behind the veil in the name of thy Lord, the Mighty, the Bestower, and fear not the idolaters. Know then that the two kings have united to harm Us, though We were not corrupt in the land and called them to the Kingdom of their Lord, the Most Merciful, the Compassionate. God will soon transform their peace into enmity, and the fire of war shall be kindled between them.

Verily thy Lord is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. This is of the tidings of the unseen which We reveal unto thee that thou mayest be of those who are firmly established. Hesitate not in the Cause of thy Lord. Be thou one who remembers Him with His remembrance, assists His Cause, and speaks His praise amongst His creatures. Thus doth the Supreme Pen command thee from the presence of the Mighty, the Powerful. And glory be upon thee and upon those who have turned toward the Dayspring of the divine exposition in this darkness that hath encompassed the worlds, save whom thy Lord, the Forgiving, the Merciful, hath willed.

BH11813: I bear witness that thou hast witnessed the dawn…

He is the All-Possessing, the Self-Subsisting!

I bear witness that thou hast witnessed the dawn of Kufih and the evening of Karbila. Give thanks unto thy Lord, the All-Merciful, for having made thee capable of bearing afflictions in His path and calamities in His love. Verily, those who have been touched by tribulation in the path of the Lord of Names are remembered by all things, and the dwellers of the cities of eternity glorify them. Blessed art thou, O My servant! Thou hast borne harm in My love and been made a captive in thy desire to attain My presence and turn to the Kaaba of My loving-kindness. Behold, then remember what hath been sent down from My Pen in the Tablet of My Command and what hath appeared from the treasuries of My mysteries from the hidden pearls of My knowledge.

We have spoken, and Our word is the truth: Should abasement touch you for the sake of My Name, be not grieved. Thus hath the Sun of the Word shone forth from the horizon of the utterance of the Lord of all created things, would that ye might know. And the splendor be upon you, O My loved ones, throughout the duration of My dominion and My kingdom and the warbling of the birds of My eternity upon the branches of the Tree of My Cause. Verily, there is none other God but Me, the All-Possessing, the Self-Subsisting.

BH11814: O thou who art enkindled with the fire…

In the name of God, the Most Great, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious!

O thou who art enkindled with the fire of My love, who gazest upon My countenance, who traversest the lands for the sake of nearness unto Me and reunion with Me, who art attracted by My verses, who art adorned with My remembrance and praise, who ascendest unto the throne of My grandeur, and who turneth toward My holy sanctuary and the Kaaba of My majesty! Hear thou My call, for verily it is sweeter than whatsoever hath been uttered by My chosen ones, and through it the spirit of life hath been breathed into the bodies of My servants who have detached themselves from all else except Me, who have soared in My atmosphere, and who have turned toward the Dawning-Place of My luminous Cause.

Grieve not at separation, for We have brought thee into the presence of the Throne while thou wert heedless thereof. Ponder, that thou mayest be of them that know. We have written down for thee the reward of one who hath attained unto the pavilion of My grandeur and won the meeting with Me. Verily thy Lord is He Who ordaineth what He pleaseth. Sorrow not at remoteness, for God shall soon draw thee nigh unto Him. He, verily, is the Lord of great bounty. And glory be upon thee and upon the sincere ones.

BH11817: This is a Book from Us to him who…

In the name of God, the Most Great, the Most Glorious!

This is a Book from Us to him who hath inhaled the fragrance of the garment of Our name, the All-Merciful, and thereby attained unto the Ridvan which was made manifest in the name of God, and who hath drawn nigh unto the sacred Sanctuary and taken God as his Beloved. O servant! This is the Day of the Call. The All-Merciful hath called out from amidst sorrows unto all that are on earth that they may take for themselves a path unto Him Who possesseth might and power. Arise, by God’s leave, to promote the Cause, then summon the people unto the Dayspring of the Command. Thus hath the Most Exalted

Pen bidden thee, and He is the Observer of all things. Say: O people! Cast off the garment of self and desire, and turn your faces toward the Dayspring of the mercy of your Lord, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious, and follow not any froward evil-doer. Let not the denial of the unbelievers grieve thee. Soon shalt thou behold the Sun of eternity shining forth from the horizon of glory with a sovereignty supreme over all truth. And the glory rest upon thee and upon those who have turned toward the Countenance that shineth with the light of the Command.

BH07922: O thou who soarest in the atmosphere…

In the Name of God, the Most Great, the Most Glorious!

O thou who soarest in the atmosphere of the love of thy Lord, the Chosen One! Hearken unto that which is revealed unto thee from the direction of thy Lord, the All-Merciful, in the Valley of Expression from the Tree of Explanation. Verily, there is none other God but Him, the Almighty, the All-Compelling. We have previously sent unto thee that which caused the eyes of the people of Paradise to be gladdened and its fragrances to be wafted to all regions. Summon the people with wisdom unto that which hath shone forth from the horizon of the Cause of thy Lord, the Lord of the Day of Judgment. When the promise came to pass, We sent unto the Chief that which caused those around him to swoon and the hearts of every idolatrous unbeliever who denied the Day of the Covenant to be sorely troubled. The power of the Command hath seized the wrongdoers—they are but in manifest error. Blessed art thou and blessed is he who hath turned toward the Countenance with humility and repentance. Those whom thou findest aloof, they are indeed among those who have halted before the face of thy Lord, the Mighty, the Most High. Remember them with wisdom, O ye who are endued with understanding.

BH07756: The Ridvan has appeared in the wonder of time…

In the name of God, the Most Great, the Most Holy, the Most Glorious!

The Ridvan has appeared in the wonder of time from the right hand of thy Lord's throne, the All-Merciful. Glorified be He Who created it by His command, and verily He has power over all things.

Say: O peoples of the earth! Deprive not yourselves thereof, then hasten unto it with pure and illumined hearts. And whosoever entereth therein shall never go forth from it—thus hath the matter been ordained by the One Who is All-Knowing, All-Wise.

Among the people are those who turned away from it and took idols as their objects of worship; and among them are those who turned toward it and were caught up by the breezes of grace from a holy and resplendent direction.

Deprive not thyself, but take for thyself near the throne a station that is faithful to the truth, lest thou be seized by the casting of intimations from every wretched opponent. And the Glory be upon thee if thou remainest steadfast in the Cause.

BH07505: O servant! By God the Truth! If thou wouldst…

In the Name of God, the Most Unapproachable, the Most Holy, the Most Mighty, the Most Glorious!

O servant! By God the Truth! If thou wouldst purify thine ear, thou wouldst hear the praise of the Concourse on High concerning this Youth, and be of them that hear. By My life! They say:

> "By God! Ali was afflicted amidst the people of the Furqan, then Muhammad amidst the people of the Gospel, then the Spirit before the Jews, then Husayn before the idolators."

And they address the people of the Bayan, saying:

> "Woe unto you, O people of loss! Ye have disbelieved in Him through Whose beauty the eye of the All-Merciful was cheered in the midmost heart of Paradise, and ye have cast at Him the darts of rancor both at eventide and at dawn, and ye were not ashamed before His luminous and radiant beauty. By God! The breezes of the All-Merciful have been withheld by reason of what your hands have wrought, and the fragrances of Paradise have been cut off by what ye have perpetrated against Him before Whose grandeur the denizens of the highest Paradise have bowed down in adoration."

Thus do We inform thee, O servant, that thou mayest become aware of My tribulation and weep over My condition and what hath befallen My wronged and lonely Self.

BH07675: Glorified art Thou, O my God! Thou seest what…

In the Name of God, the Most Wondrous, the Most Glorious!

Glorified art Thou, O my God! Thou seest what hath befallen Thy chosen ones in Thy path, and knowest what they have borne for love of Thee and for Thy good-pleasure, and hearest from every quarter the sighing of Thy loved ones and the lamentation of Thy favored ones. I beseech Thee by Thy sovereignty which encompasseth all who are in Thy heaven and on Thy earth, to make them steadfast in Thy Cause and firm in Thy remembrance and praise. O Lord! Since they have drunk from the cup of tribulations for Thy Cause, cast them not away from the precincts of Thy mercy, and rain down upon them from the clouds of Thy decree that which will revive their hearts and tranquilize their souls, lest the oppression of the tyrannical ones prevent them from gazing toward the horizon of Thy bounty and turning to the direction of Thy Cause. Verily Thou hast ever been mighty through Thy power and supreme through Thy sovereignty, and the opposition of Thy servants hath never hindered what Thou hast willed by Thy sovereignty. There is no God but Thee, the Almighty, the Most Exalted, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

BH11424: This is a letter from the Youth to one…

In the Name of God, the Most Manifest

This is a letter from the Youth to one of His handmaidens, that the call of the All-Merciful which hath been raised from the direction of the Throne might attract her, for by His call are drawn the hearts of all worlds. Blessed is she who hath found the fragrance of the garment from the Temple of the Cause and

hath taken for herself a noble station nigh unto the mercy of her Lord. O My handmaiden! Grieve not over separation, but be content with what God hath ordained for thee, for it is better for thee than all that hath been created between the heavens and the earth. By God! He loveth those who love Him, and remembereth those who have arisen to praise His Self amongst His servants, and He is knowing of all things. Remember thy Lord, then prostrate thyself and bow down out of love for God, the Mighty, the Glorious, the Beautiful. He hath ordained for thee a station in the Most Glorious Paradise. Blessed is she who hath attained unto it and entered therein through this Most Great, Most Mighty Name. And the glory be upon thee and upon every handmaiden who hath believed in her Lord, the Mighty, the Generous.

BH07582: These are the verses of the perspicuous Book…

He is the Most Exalted, the Most High!

These are the verses of the perspicuous Book which have been sent down in truth from the heaven of My Name, the Mighty, the Powerful, the Self-Subsisting, the Omnipotent. Therein hath God caused the water of life to flow—blessed are they that drink thereof! And therein hath He ordained the holy fruits—blessed are they that partake thereof! O handmaiden of God! Give thanks that thy name hath been mentioned before the Throne and that the Tongue of God, the Sovereign, the Mighty, the All-Knowing, hath spoken thy name, and there hath been sent down from the clouds of grace that which shall gladden thine eyes. We have sent it unto thee as a mercy from Us upon thee and upon those leaves who are stirred by the breeze upon the branch of the Lote-Tree of Paradise through the love of God, the All-Knowing, the Powerful, the Generous. Thus doth God single out whom He willeth through His grace and maketh mention of such of His handmaidens as He pleaseth and desireth. He, verily, is the Rememberer, the Mighty, the Beautiful. And the mercy which hath descended from the clouds of bounty and grace be upon thee and upon those who have believed in God, their Lord, and who were among the devoutly obedient, inscribed on preserved tablets of glory.

BH07682: Lauded be Thy name, O my God! Aid Thou…

Lauded be Thy name, O my God! Aid Thou by Thy strengthening grace Thy servants and Thy handmaidens to recount Thy virtues and to be steadfast in their love towards Thee. How many the leaves which the tempests of trials have caused to fall, and how many, too, are those which, clinging tenaciously to the tree of Thy Cause, have remained unshaken by the tests that have assailed them, O Thou Who art our Lord, the Most Merciful!

I render Thee thanks that Thou hast made known unto me such servants as have utterly abolished, by the power of Thy might and of Thy sovereignty, the idols of their corrupt desires, and were not kept back by the things which are possessed by Thy creatures from turning in the direction of Thy grace. These have so vehemently rent the veils asunder that the dwellers of the cities of self have wept, and fear and trembling seized the people of envy and wickedness who, adorning their heads and their bodies with the emblems of knowledge, have proudly rejected Thee and turned away from Thy beauty.

I implore Thee, O my Lord, by Thy surpassing majesty and Thine Ancient Name, to enable Thy loved ones to assist Thee. Direct, then, continually their faces towards Thy face, and write down for them what will cause all hearts to exult and all eyes to be gladdened.

Thou, truly, art the Help in peril, the Self-Subsisting.

BH07513: O My leaf and My handmaiden! We have heard…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Glorious

O My leaf and My handmaiden! We have heard the longing of thy heart, the cry of thy inner being, and the lamentation of thine essence in thy love for the Beloved of the worlds. Blessed art thou for having cast away the love of the world and taken the love of God as thy helper, and for having drunk the most pure wine from the hand of the bounty of this Youth, Whom the idolaters sold for their own selfish desires—and this indeed is a grievous wrong. Give thanks to thy Lord for having aided thee in His love, and that the world did not prevent thee from turning toward the face of God, the Mighty, the Generous, even as My sister was veiled thereby from the Beloved of creation, choosing for herself the ornaments of the world and turning away from the good-pleasure of God, the Object of worship of the knowing ones. Every man who believes in God is My brother, and every woman who turns to the Face is My sister, My handmaiden, and a leaf of My paradise among the believers. Thus have We imparted unto thee the word of truth that thou mayest rejoice and be among the thankful ones in a mighty and glorious tablet.

BH07867: This is a tablet from the servant of God…

He is the Almighty

This is a tablet from the servant of God to him who hath been guided by the lights of the Sun of Oneness and who hath migrated from his homeland, then sought refuge in a station of eternal holiness. O Ali! Be patient in what God hath decreed for us and be thou patient in thyself, and grieve not over anything but trust in God in all matters and be thou steadfast in love. Then know that God hath accepted thy obedience and hath raised thy name in a preserved tablet of glory. Thus do We make mention of thee in truth and cast upon thee that which will cause thee to soar to the highest heaven of nearness, that thou mayest be content with thyself and with all that hath been ordained by One Who is All-Wise, All-Knowing. Then convey Our remembrance to thy wife who hath believed in her Lord and who hath been faithful to the Covenant, and to thy brother who hath believed in God and who hath been steadfast in the true religion. And the spirit be upon thee and upon all the sincere ones.

BH07773: O God of Names! Ordain for Thy loved ones…

He is the All-Glorious

O God of Names! Ordain for Thy loved ones in Thy Kingdom that which befitteth Thy generosity, O Creator of earth and heaven!

O my God! These are servants whom the veils of idle fancies have not withheld from knowing Thee and drawing nigh unto the Dawning-Place of Thine inspiration, and whom the veils of mankind have not prevented from beholding the lights of Thy beauty. O Lord! Therefore make manifest their glory amongst Thy creatures and their station before the people of Thy realm.

Praise be unto Thee, O my God, for having raised them to a station wherein the Pen of Thy Command hath traced their names and the tongue of Thy power and grandeur hath spoken their mention. O Lord! Make known unto them this most exalted station and this most mighty, most glorious rank, that they may arise with their souls and spirits to serve Thee, that there may be made manifest from them that for which they were created at the revelation of the lights of Thy countenance.

Verily, Thou art powerful to do what Thou willest. Within Thy grasp is the Kingdom of all things and in Thy hold is the Empire of Command. Verily, Thou art the Mighty, the Peerless.

BH07868: This is a Book from Us to him who…

He is the Most Holy, the Most Exalted

This is a Book from Us to him who hath been named Abdu'llah, that he may be mindful of the remembrance of the All-Merciful and guide the peoples of the world unto God, the Almighty, the Glorious, the Bestower. Be thou steadfast in thy love for thy Lord, then aid Him to the extent of thy power. Verily, He is with those who have stood firm and have not broken the Covenant on the Day when the clouds were cleft asunder and the Beauty of the All-Merciful came with power and sovereignty. Grieve not over anything, but place thy trust in all matters in God, the Almighty, the Glorious, the Bestower. Then make mention from Us unto him who was named Nabil-i-Ali, and unto those who have believed in God, thy Lord, in these days wherein all have turned away from the Beauty of the All-Glorious, save those who have detached themselves from all things. By God! They are in a state of joy and delight, and they are servants who have embarked upon the Crimson Ark in My Most Great Name and have detached themselves from the world. These are they who are accounted as people of the Bayan in the presence of the All-Merciful.

BH07661: Praised be Thou, O Lord my God! Every time…

Praised be Thou, O Lord my God! Every time I attempt to make mention of Thee, I am hindered by the sublimity of Thy station and the overpowering greatness of Thy might. For were I to praise Thee throughout the length of Thy dominion and the duration of Thy sovereignty, I would find that my praise of Thee can befit only such as are like unto me, who are themselves Thy creatures, and who have been generated through the power of Thy decree and been fashioned through the potency of Thy will. And at whatever time my pen ascribeth glory to any one of Thy names, methinks I can hear the voice of its lamentation in its remoteness from Thee, and can recognize its cry because of its separation from Thy Self. I testify that everything other than Thee is but Thy creation and is held in the hollow of Thy hand. To have accepted any act or praise from Thy creatures is but an evidence of the wonders of Thy grace and bountiful favors, and a manifestation of Thy generosity and providence.

I entreat Thee, O my Lord, by Thy Most Great Name whereby Thou didst separate light from fire, and truth from denial, to send down upon me and upon such of my loved ones as are in my company the good of this world and of the next. Supply us, then, with Thy wondrous gifts that are hid from the eyes of men. Thou art, verily, the Fashioner of all creation. No God is there but Thee, the Almighty, the All-Glorious, the Most High.

BH07510: O Majid! In truth We have not forgotten thee…

He is the Almighty

O Majid! In truth We have not forgotten thee for a single moment, and have loved thee at all times. Therefore do We remember thee with these words, that thou mayest be among those who dwell in the gladness of love. Be thou steadfast in thy love, then consort with the people with wisdom and speak unto them with wisdom, for this is a beautiful command. Grieve not over what hath befallen Us, but be patient in God and be of the patient ones. God shall soon exalt thy name in preserved Tablets of glory. Thus have We given thee glad tidings in truth, that thou mayest be of those who rejoice. Then remember on Our behalf Abdullah Baqir and protect him in truth. God shall soon grant him that which shall gladden his heart, for verily He is the Powerful, the Mighty. Then remember thy wife with the most excellent remembrance and glorify her countenance, and likewise the wife of thy brother who is named Hasan. Give them both glad tidings of a mighty paradise. And she whom God hath made thy sister—let her be of the devout ones.

BH07468: O my God! I beseech Thee by the light…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Exalted!

O my God! I beseech Thee by the light of Thy countenance whereby the horizons were illumined, and by Thy splendor whereby the servants who were set ablaze with the fire of longing were amazed, and by Thy sovereignty which hath transcended all created things, and by Thy manifestation whereby all things were adorned with the ornament of names, and by Thy command which hath encompassed all things, that Thou make me detached from all else save Thee, turning toward the sanctuary of Thy knowledge, mindful in Thy remembrance, and speaking in praise of Thy Self. O my Lord! I am a handmaiden among Thy handmaidens who hath turned to Thee, sincere before Thy face. Look upon me, then, with the glances of the eyes of Thy mercy and Thy gifts, and drive me not, O my God, from Thy door which Thou hast opened unto the faces of all who are in Thy earth and Thy heaven. Then send down upon me from the realm of Thy grace that which will make me steadfast in Thy love and walking in the ways of Thy good-pleasure. Verily, Thou art the Powerful over whatsoever Thou willest, and verily, Thou art the All-Compelling, the Self-Subsisting.

BH07671: O Thou Imprisoned One!

O Thou Imprisoned One!

Glorified art Thou O my God! Thou seest Thy loved ones, detached from their homes, turning toward the seat of Thy mighty throne, fleeing from Thy enemies to the shelter of Thy mercy and favors. They have

borne hardships by land and sea, drawing nigh unto Thee and seeking the sweet-scented breezes of Thy nearness and presence. Yet when they drew near, they were prevented from entering the precincts of Thy mighty oneness and from attaining presence before Thy majestic throne.

And among them, O my God, are those who have sought Thee with pure intention. Therefore, O Lord, accept from them what they have desired in Thy love and good-pleasure. Then ordain for them the reward of those who have attained the presence of Thy Beauty. Verily, Thou art the Almighty, the Mighty, the Generous.

Furthermore, I beseech Thee, O my God, by the wronged state of the Manifestation of Thyself, the Dayspring of Thine Essence, the Dawning-Place of Thy Will, and the Source of Thy Purpose—He Who was tried in Thy path among the most wretched of Thy creatures and sat beneath their swords while calling them to the heaven of Thy grace—to aid those who have believed in Thee and in Thy signs. Verily, Thou art the Almighty, the All-Compelling, the Mighty, the Powerful.

BH07657: Praise be to Thee, O Lord my God! I…

Praise be to Thee, O Lord my God! I beseech Thee by this Revelation whereby darkness hath been turned into light, through which the Frequented Fane hath been built, and the Written Tablet revealed, and the Outspread Roll uncovered, to send down upon me and upon them who are in my company that which will enable us to soar into the heavens of Thy transcendent glory, and will wash us from the stain of such doubts as have hindered the suspicious from entering into the tabernacle of Thy unity.

I am the one, O my Lord, who hath held fast the cord of Thy loving-kindness, and clung to the hem of Thy mercy and favors. Do Thou ordain for me and for my loved ones the good of this world and of the world to come. Supply them, then, with the Hidden Gift Thou didst ordain for the choicest among Thy creatures.

These are, O my Lord, the days in which Thou hast bidden Thy servants to observe the fast. Blessed is he that observeth the fast wholly for Thy sake and with absolute detachment from all things except Thee. Assist me and assist them, O my Lord, to obey Thee and to keep Thy precepts. Thou, verily, hast power to do what Thou choosest.

There is no God but Thee, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. All praise be to God, the Lord of all worlds.

BH07898: O my God! This is another Branch which hath…

In the name of God, the Most Wondrous!

O my God! This is another Branch which hath branched from the Tree that hath yielded the fruit of the knowledge of the Manifestation of Thy most exalted Self, and whom Thou hast purified from the dross of self and passion. I beseech Thee, therefore, O my Best-Beloved, by Thy most beautiful names and Thy most exalted Word and the Supreme Pen, that Thou withhold him not from the outpourings of the glory of Thy merciful nature, nor keep him far from the precinct of Thy mercy and favors. Purify his tongue from the praise of any save Thee, and his heart from turning toward aught except Thyself. Then cause him to be stirred, O my God, by the breezes of Thy Will that waft from the right hand of Thy grace, that he

may act according to what Thou hast desired and speak that which Thou lovest, in such wise that his will may be annihilated in Thy will and his purpose in Thy purpose. Verily, Thou art the All-Knowing from Whose knowledge nothing escapeth, and the Almighty Whom nothing frustateth. There is no God but Thee, the Powerful, the Exalted, the Mighty, the Compelling.

BH07722: Glorified art Thou, O my God! This is one…

He is God!

Glorified art Thou, O my God! This is one of Thy handmaidens who hath believed in Thy most wondrous signs in the mystery of Thy most exalted Name, in the garment of the Muhammadan Revelation and the ornament of pre-existence in the temple of eternity. She loved the Manifestation of Thy Self and the Source of Thy Being until she entered the depths of Paradise in the vicinity of Thy greatest mercy under the shade of the Tree of Immortality. She attained unto the presence of Love in the heaven of faithfulness and the kingdom of the divine cloud, and heard the call of God from the Branch of the Divine Essence, the Tree of Splendor, that He is verily God, the Almighty, the All-Powerful, the Compelling.

Therefore I beseech Thee, O my God, to grant her from the good things of Thy provision and cause her to hear the melodies of Thy creation. Send down upon her that which will solace her eyes, calm her heart, gladden her soul and cause her tears to flow in longing for meeting Thee, in seeking Thy good-pleasure, and in joy at attaining Thy presence.

Verily, Thou art the One Who hath power over whatsoever Thou willest, and verily, Thou art the Mighty, the Self-Subsisting.

BH07613: This is a remembrance of Baha'u'llah to His servant…

He is the Most Glorious!

This is a remembrance of Baha'u'llah to His servant, that he may thank his Lord with a tongue that is sanctified from the mention of all else. O youth! Hearken unto the call of this Youth, Whom the ungodly sold for the price of their own vain imaginings—and this verily was recorded in the Tablet as a grievous loss. Through this they deprived themselves in this world and the next, and made themselves far removed from the station of nearness.

Thou, therefore, render thanks unto God, thy Lord, and make mention of Him amidst the concourse of the earth, for verily He is thy Guardian. Strive in thy early days to become assured of Him, for He hath sent down unto thee that which is best for thee, and He is, verily, powerful over all things.

Rejoice within thyself that despite thy tender age thou hast attained unto that which no aged elder hath attained. Thus doth God single out whom He pleaseth through His bounty, and verily His bounty hath been abundant toward you.

And glory be upon thee and upon those who have followed the Cause of God and have remained steadfast in His Cause in this mighty Matter.

BH07509: From this Wronged One, the Peerless One, to Majid

From this Wronged One, the Peerless One, to Majid

The Kingdom on that Day shall be God's, the One, the All-Compelling.

O Majid! Today is your day. Stand firm in the Cause, then aid your Lord to the extent of your ability, that through your name the banner of victory may be raised between earth and heaven. Say "God," then leave those in whose hearts you find rancor against this Youth, even if all who are in the kingdom of Command and Creation were to be illumined by the sanctified and resplendent lights of your countenance. Arise to serve the Cause through My sovereignty and power. We verily nurtured you with the hands of Our mercy at a time when God's Cause was forsaken among all creatures. Beware lest you forget the favor of your Lord. We nurtured you for these days wherein intoxication had overtaken all in the kingdom. And the glory be upon you, and upon your wife, and upon her sister, and upon your daughter and her husband, and upon those who today are illumined by the light that hath shone forth from the horizon of the Countenance with resplendent brilliance.

BH07658: Praised be Thou, O Lord my God! Thou art…

Praised be Thou, O Lord my God! Thou art He Who hath created all things through a word uttered by Thy behest, and fashioned the entire creation through the power of Thy sovereignty and might. The mightiest of men are abased before the revelations of Thy glory, and they who are endued with strength tremble when faced with the evidences of Thy might. Every man of insight is bereft of vision when confronted with the effulgence of the glory of Thy face, and he who is possessed of riches is poor and desolate when beholding the plenteousness of Thy wealth.

I implore Thee by Thine All-Glorious Name, wherewith Thou didst adorn all the denizens of the kingdom of Thy revelation and the inmates of the heaven of Thy will, to grant that my soul may be attracted by the sweetness of the melody of the Bird of Heaven that chanteth amidst the branches of the tree of Thy decree that Thou art God, that there is none other God beside Thee.

Cleanse me with the waters of Thy mercy, O my Lord, and make me wholly Thine, and cause me to approach the Tabernacle of Thy Cause and the adored Sanctuary of Thy Presence. Ordain, then, for me all the things Thou didst ordain for the chosen ones among Thy handmaidens, and rain down upon me that which will illuminate my face and enlighten my heart.

Thou hast power to do what Thou willest, and Thou ordainest what Thou pleasest.

BH07652: Glorified art Thou, O my God! I beseech Thee…

In the Name of God, the Most Unapproachable, the Most Holy!

Glorified art Thou, O my God! I beseech Thee by Thy Name through which Thou hast drawn the hearts of Thy servants to the horizon of Thy Revelation and caused the hearts of Thy chosen ones to soar in the atmosphere of Thy nearness, to raise up in every city those who will arise to exalt Thy Cause and spread abroad the knowledge of Thee. O Lord! Preserve Thy servants from turning their gaze toward any but

Thee and from inclining toward aught except Thyself. Make manifest unto them Thy clear and straight path that they may all attain unto Thee and turn their faces toward the pavilion of Thy nearness. O Lord! Look not upon them and their deeds, but rather look upon Thy mercy and bounty, Thy loving-kindness and Thy favors. Thou hast ever been independent of the worship of Thy creation and self-sufficient above the assistance of Thy servants. I beseech Thee by Thy Self to unite those who have been scattered by the oppression of Thine enemies and dispersed by the rejection of Thy creatures. Then assist them with the hosts of the unseen and the visible. There is no God but Thee, the Almighty, the Most Exalted, the Most Great. And praise be to God, the Lord of all worlds.

BH07744: God hath heard the lamentations of His loved ones…

In the name of God, the First without beginning or end.

God hath heard the lamentations of His loved ones who were wronged though they wronged not, and were seized though they seized not, in most lands including Zawra and Hadba and Fayha and Egypt and the Land of Mystery and from the Great City and Alexandria and Mansuriyyih.

Whoso gazeth toward God and is not prevented by the veils of the world will testify to the truth of these ones by what befell them in the path of God, the Cleaver of Dawn. God will soon open the tongues of the people of the world to their remembrance and praise, and verily in His kingdom of might He praiseth them and prayeth for them.

Thou hearest My word, then turn away from desire and hold fast to the Sure Handle and be of the devout and not of the despairing ones. Under all conditions remember thy Lord and be not with the heedless.

Say: Praise be to God Who created me in truth and verily He is the Most Merciful of the merciful ones.

BH07511: O Muhammad! Hearken unto My call and be not…

He is the Almighty.

O Muhammad! Hearken unto My call and be not of those who were heedless of the fragrances of nearness. Then give thanks unto God for having guided thee unto Himself and provided thee with the knowledge of His verses. This is better for thee than all that thou lovest for thyself or desirest. Beware that thou fear no one. Then stand firm in the Cause of God, the Help in Peril, the Mighty, the Powerful. The world and whatsoever is therein shall perish, and glory shall remain unto thy Ancient Lord. By God! Nothing shall grieve the believer, for he hath detached himself from the worlds, and no troubles of the realm shall touch him save separation from the Beloved. But since this is by God’s decree, he accepteth it, yet remembereth it throughout the months and years. Thus do We impart unto thee the word of truth and teach thee the interpretation of traditions. And peace be upon thee and upon those who are firm in the Cause.

BH07664: Glorified art Thou, O my God! This is one…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Exalted!

Glorified art Thou, O my God! This is one of Thy servants who hath turned toward the horizon of Thy grace and desired the wonders of Thy bounty and favor. He hath attained unto the living waters which were sealed with the seal of Thy might and power. O Lord! Since Thou hast caused me to drink through Thy bounty and sustained me through Thy favor, withhold me not from the wonders of Thy gifts, and keep me not far from the horizon of Thy nearness and grace. O Lord! Make me steadfast in Thy love and Thy Cause, speaking Thy praise and glorification, seeking refuge at Thy threshold. Verily Thou art the One Who hath power over whatsoever He willeth. There is none other God but Thee, the Almighty, the Most Exalted, the All-Glorious, the All-Forgiving. O Lord! Send down upon me from the clouds of Thy mercy that which will open mine eyes, purify my heart, sanctify my soul, and hallow my breast, that I may turn wholly unto Thee and be detached from all else but Thee. Verily, Thou art the Most Exalted, the Mighty, the Wise. All praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH07969: O Thou Who settest aflame the hearts of lovers!...

He is the Most Great, the Most Great!

O Thou Who settest aflame the hearts of lovers! I beseech Thee by the Luminary of the horizons to send down into the hearts of Thy loved ones a tranquility from Thy presence, lest tribulations prevent them from turning to Thee.

How sweet, O my God, are Thy tribulations to the taste of them that are near unto Thee from among Thy servants, and how delectable are Thy decrees to the tongues of them that are sincere from among Thy loved ones!

By Thy glory! The head of Baha, despite all that hath befallen it through trials, doth not rest upon the pillow, nor doth his body find repose upon the couch. Can the eyes of the lovers taste the sweet slumber of sleep, and can the fire of longing which Thou hast kindled in the heart be quenched? Nay, by Thy Self, O Lord of all existence and King of the Day of Mutual Calling!

Blessed, doubly blessed are those servants of Thine through whose tongues Thou callest Thyself and through whom Thou makest mention of Thy sovereignty. By Thy glory! This proceedeth solely from Thy loving-kindness and mercy, Thy bounty and grace, and from their having borne in Thy love what none among Thy creation bore before them. Thou art, in truth, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

BH07482: Give thanks unto thy Lord at all times. Beware...

He is the Most Exalted, the Most Mighty

Give thanks unto thy Lord at all times. Beware lest thou be saddened by what hath befallen thee in His love and good-pleasure. Soon shall the world pass away, and glory and power shall remain for the loved ones of thy Lord, the Mighty, the Chosen One.

Grieve not in thy separation from thy homeland, nor in thy remoteness from the Seat of the All-Merciful. Verily, the homeland of My loved ones is the shadow of My tender care, the pavilions of My grandeur,

and the canopy of My majesty, wheresoever they may be. They abide beneath the shade of My mercy and bounty—eyes apprehend Him not, but He apprehendeth all eyes.

Be not grieved by exile, for God hath made it a means of drawing thee nearer to thy Lord. He desireth for thee naught save that which shall draw thee closer to thy Lord, the Mighty, the All-Forgiving. Beware lest thou neglect the remembrance of God or do that which would sadden the heart of My servant. Thus doth He Who controlleth night and day command thee.

And the glory be upon thee and upon them that have believed in God, the Lord of might and power.

BH07540: O Zaman! In the Name of God, the Luminous…

O Zaman! In the Name of God, the Luminous, the Most Luminous!

It behooveth not them that are endued with justice to engage in contention with the loved ones of God and the seekers of the divine sanctuary who, for the love of God, have quaffed the cup of tribulation. These leaves have been moved from their outward homeland and dwelling by the winds of the divine Will and drawn to the eternal divine homeland.

Therefore, it is more fitting for any opposer to prevent the winds rather than prevent the leaf, for the will and movement of the leaf depends upon this divine breeze and holy, glorious zephyr. And as long as He continues to blow and pass by, this leaf shall remain in motion, attraction and fervor.

Exalted then is this breeze which bloweth from the direction of holiness and payeth no heed to the opposition of them that are in the realm, and exalted is He Who sent it with truth—verily He is the Mighty, the Generous.

God willing, may the loved ones of God ever drink from the wine of His love and remain focused on His direction. And the glory be upon thee.

BH07653: Glory be unto Thee, O my God! I beseech…

Glory be unto Thee, O my God! I beseech Thee by them who hastened to the field of martyrdom, yearning to attain Thy presence, and by the blood that hath been shed in Thy path, and by the heads that were raised upon spears for love of Thee and Thy good-pleasure, and by the hearts that were consumed in separation from Thee, and by Thy Most Great Name through which Thou hast distinguished between Thy servants and Thy creatures, that Thou make me steadfast in Thy love and content with Thy good-pleasure and a helper to Thy Cause. Make me so firm that should all mankind oppose Thee, I would arise by myself to exalt Thy Cause and manifest Thy bounty. Then ordain for me, O my God, what Thou hast ordained for Thy chosen ones, and separate me not from Thee in the worlds of Thy Cause. Grant me moreover the good of this world and the world to come.

I am he who, O my God, hath acknowledged Thy unity and confessed Thy oneness, who hath turned toward Thee and drawn nigh unto the sanctuary of Thy nearness. Thou art my Beloved in both this world and the next, and my Purpose in all conditions. There is none other God but Thee, the Exalted, the Most High.

BH07650: Lawh-i-Munajat

In the name of God, the Most Glorious!

Glorified art Thou, O my God! I beseech Thee by the prayer wherewith Thy Messengers and Thy chosen ones have called upon Thee, and I ask Thee by Thy Name through which those near unto Thee have made their supplications in the past, and I say: O God! I beseech Thee by Thy most glorious Beauty, and all Thy Beauty is indeed glorious. O my God and my Beloved! This is the Name wherewith Thou hast adorned the preamble of the Tablet of Eternity, and made it the ornament of Thine own Self, O Thou Who art the Sovereign of the kingdoms of names. And Thou hast commanded all to recite it at dawn, that none among those endowed with vision might be debarred therefrom. O my God! I beseech Thee by this Most Great Name that Thou make me steadfast in His love and His good-pleasure, in such wise that I turn to none except Him, and hold fast to none but Him, and accept none save Him. Verily, Thou art powerful to do what Thou willest. There is no God but Thee, the Mighty, the Powerful, the Help in Peril. And praise be to God, the Sovereign, the Protector, the Bountiful.

BH07663: Magnified by Thy name, O Lord my God! Behold…

In His Name, the Most Great

Magnified by Thy name, O Lord my God! Behold Thou mine eye expectant to gaze on the wonders of Thy mercy, and mine ear longing to hearken unto Thy sweet melodies, and my heart yearning for the living waters of Thy knowledge. Thou seest Thy handmaiden, O my God, standing before the habitation of Thy mercy, and calling upon Thee by Thy name which Thou hast chosen above all other names and set up over all that are in heaven and on earth. Send down upon her the breaths of Thy mercy, that she may be carried away wholly from herself, and be drawn entirely towards the seat which, resplendent with the glory of Thy face, sheddeth afar the radiance of Thy sovereignty, and is established as Thy throne. Potent art Thou to do what Thou willest. No God is there beside Thee, the All-Glorious, the Most Bountiful.

Cast not out, I entreat Thee, O my Lord, them that have sought Thee, and turn not away such as have directed their steps towards Thee, and deprive not of Thy grace all that love Thee. Thou art He, O my Lord, Who hath called Himself the God of Mercy, the Most Compassionate. Have mercy, then, upon Thy handmaiden who hath sought Thy shelter, and set her face towards Thee. Thou art, verily, the Ever-Forgiving, the Most Merciful.

BH07668: Glorified art Thou, O my God! I testify…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Glorious!

Glorified art Thou, O my God! I testify that every new remembrance is prevented from ascending to the heaven of Thy knowledge, and every beauteous praise is barred from rising to the atmosphere of Thy wisdom. From time immemorial Thou hast been sanctified above the mention of Thy servants and exalted beyond the description of those who are nigh unto Thee. What relation can nothingness have with preexistence? I testify that the unity professed by those who recognize Thy oneness and the ultimate praise of those who know Thee returneth unto that Station which was created by the Pen of Thy

Command and brought into being by Thy Will. By Thy glory, O Beloved of Baha and Creator of Baha! Baha seeth naught in himself save utter impotence to mention or praise Thee as befitteth Thy greatness and glory. Since this is so, I beseech Thee by Thy mercy which hath preceded all created things and by Thy grace which hath encompassed all contingent beings to accept from Thy servants whatsoever appeareth from them in Thy path. Then aid them to exalt Thy Word and to spread Thy remembrance. Verily Thou art powerful to do what Thou willest. There is no God but Thee, the Mighty, the Wise.

BH07669: Glorified art Thou, O my God! Thou knowest…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Exalted!

Glorified art Thou, O my God! Thou knowest that the ungodly have prevented the Pen of the Command from mentioning Thy mysteries, and have occupied the outposts and are hindering Thy servants from turning to the horizon of Thy glory and majesty.

But those who have sought Thy presence, whether male or female, long for the breezes of Thy favors to waft over them and for Thy traces to be sent unto them, even though thereby, O my God, trials from the people of hatred are intensified against us. Yet Thou knowest that I have not sought preservation for myself in Thy path, nor rest in Thy love.

Send down upon every soul that hath turned unto Thee that which Thou hast sent down from the heaven of Thy Will and the atmosphere of Thy Purpose, that Thy melodies may draw them and bring them to the station Thou hast ordained for them.

I beseech Thee, O Lord of the worlds, to assist Thy loved ones with the wonders of Thy assistance, for they have taken no helper besides Thee, and Thou art aware of the love for Thee that dwelleth in their hearts. Verily, Thou art the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

BH07674: Glorified art Thou, O my God! Thou seest how…

In the Name of God, the Most Ancient of the Most Ancient!

Glorified art Thou, O my God! Thou seest how the earth hath become straitened for Thy loved ones, and how the eyes of Thy servants have turned away from them. At all times do they call upon Thee and seek Thy presence, and lament in their separation from Thee. But when Thou didst manifest the Manifestation of Thyself among them through Thy sovereignty and power, they turned away from Thee and denied Thy signs and rejected Thy clear tokens, after Thou hadst desired through the revelation of Thy Cause naught but to admit them into Thy Kingdom and dominion and to make them abide eternally through Thine eternity. And Thou seest, O my God, how after their rejection and denial they killed Thy loved ones and shed their blood in most lands, and persisted in error until they took captive the Manifestation of Thy Beauty and His kindred and loved ones from Baghdad and brought them to Mosul the hunchbacked. Praise be unto Thee, O my God, for what hath befallen us in Thy path at the hands of the oppressors among Thy creatures. I thank Thee in all circumstances, for verily Thou art the Most High, the Most Exalted.

BH07677: He it is Who is seated upon the throne…

He it is Who is seated upon the throne of grandeur and power

Glorified art Thou, O my God! Thou knowest that Baha has desired naught except to exalt Thy Word and to win Thy good-pleasure, and has purposed only what Thou hast purposed through Thy command and what Thou hast revealed in Thy perspicuous Book. At all times doth he drink deep of the cup of tribulation in Thy path.

By Thy glory! If I have turned toward my kindred, it was only because I knew of their afflictions in Thy love and their adversities in Thy Cause and their turning toward the Kaaba of Thy Beauty. And I have loved my branches only for the exaltation of Thy sovereignty and what Thou hast ordained for them in Thy mighty Book. And I have manifested myself only by Thy command and have desired it only for Thy remembrance and praise. Thou art the One Who knoweth what is within my soul, and Thou art the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

O my Lord! Aid Thy loved ones who have tasted the bitterness of tribulations in Thy love to be steadfast in Thy Cause and to turn their gaze toward Thy direction in all conditions. Thou art the Mighty, the Most Exalted.

BH07683: Glory be to Thee, O King of eternity…

In His Name, the Most Mighty

Glory be to Thee, O King of eternity, and the Maker of nations, and the Fashioner of every moldering bone! I pray Thee, by Thy Name through which Thou didst call all mankind unto the horizon of Thy majesty and glory, and didst guide Thy servants to the court of Thy grace and favors, to number me with such as have rid themselves from everything except Thyself, and have set themselves towards Thee, and have not been kept back by such misfortunes as were decreed by Thee, from turning in the direction of Thy gifts.

I have laid hold, O my Lord, on the handle of Thy bounty, and clung steadfastly to the hem of the robe of Thy favor. Send down, then, upon me, out of the clouds of Thy generosity, what will purge out from me the remembrance of any one except Thee, and make me able to turn unto Him Who is the Object of the adoration of all mankind, against Whom have been arrayed the stirrers of sedition, who have broken Thy covenant, and disbelieved in Thee and in Thy signs.

Deny me not, O my Lord, the fragrances of Thy raiment in Thy days, and deprive me not of the breathings of Thy Revelation at the appearance of the splendors of the light of Thy face. Powerful art Thou to do what pleaseth Thee. Naught can resist Thy will, nor frustrate what Thou hast purposed by Thy power.

No God is there but Thee, the Almighty, the All-Wise.

BH07688: Lauded be Thy name, O Thou in Whose hands…

Lauded be Thy name, O Thou in Whose hands is the kingdom of all names, and in the grasp of Whose might are all that are in heaven and all that are on earth! I entreat Thee, by Him Who is Thy Most Effulgent Name Whom Thou hast made a target for the darts of Thy decree in Thy path, O Thou the King of eternity, to rend asunder the veils that have shut off Thy creatures from the horizon of Thy glory, that haply they may turn their faces in the direction of Thy mercy, and draw nigh unto the Day-Spring of Thy loving-kindness.

Leave not Thy servants to themselves, O my Lord! Draw them through the influence of Thine utterances unto the Dawning-Place of Thine inspiration, and to the Fountain of Thy Revelation, and to the Treasury of Thy wisdom. Thou art He to Whose strength and power all things have testified, Whose Purpose nothing whatsoever of all that hath been created in Thy heaven and on Thy earth hath been able to frustrate.

Render, then, victorious, O my God, Thy servants who have set their faces towards Thee, and directed their steps to the seat of Thy grace. Send down, then, upon them what will keep them safe from the danger of turning to any one but Thee, and from fixing their eyes upon aught else except Thyself.

Potent art Thou to do what Thou willest, and to rule as Thou pleasest. There is no God but Thee, the God of glory and wisdom.

BH07689: Lauded be Thy name, O Thou Who beholdest all…

Lauded be Thy name, O Thou Who beholdest all things and art hidden from all things! From every land Thou hearest the lamentations of them that love Thee, and from every direction Thou hearkenest unto the cries of such as have recognized Thy sovereignty. Were their oppressors to be asked:

> “Wherefore have ye oppressed them and held them in bondage in Baghdad and elsewhere? What injustice have they committed? Whom have they betrayed? Whose blood have they spilled, and whose property have they plundered?”

they would know not what to answer.

Thou knowest full well, O my God, that their only crime is to have loved Thee. For this reason have their oppressors laid hold on them, and scattered them abroad. Aware as I am, O my God, that Thou wilt send down upon Thy servants only what is good for them, I nevertheless beseech Thee, by Thy name which overshadoweth all things, to raise up, for their assistance and as a sign of Thy grace and as an evidence of Thy power, those who will keep them safe from all their adversaries.

Potent art Thou to do Thy pleasure. Thou art, verily, the Supreme Ruler, the Almighty, the Help in Peril, the Self-Subsisting.

BH07721: Glory be to Thee, O Lord my God! I…

He is the Healer, Sufficer, the Help in need

Glory be to Thee, O Lord my God! I implore Thee by Thy Name, through which Thou didst lift up the ensigns of Thy guidance, and didst shed the radiance of Thy loving-kindness, and didst reveal the sovereignty of Thy Lordship; through which the lamp of Thy names hath appeared within the niche of Thine attributes, and He Who is the Tabernacle of Thy unity and the Manifestation of detachment hath shone forth; through which the ways of Thy guidance were made known, and the paths of Thy good pleasure were marked out; through which the foundations of error have been made to tremble, and the signs of wickedness have been abolished; through which the fountains of wisdom have burst forth, and the heavenly table hath been sent down; through which Thou didst preserve Thy servants and didst vouchsafe Thy healing; through which Thou didst show forth Thy tender mercies unto Thy servants and revealedst Thy forgiveness amidst Thy creatures—I implore Thee to keep safe him who hath held fast and returned unto Thee, and clung to Thy mercy, and seized the hem of Thy loving providence. Send down, then, upon him Thy healing, and make him whole, and endue him with a constancy vouchsafed by Thee, and a tranquillity bestowed by Thy highness.

Thou art, verily, the Healer, the Preserver, the Helper, the Almighty, the Powerful, the All-Glorious, the All-Knowing.

BH07782: Praised be Thou, O my God! How can I…

Praised be Thou, O my God! How can I thank Thee for having singled me out and chosen me above all Thy servants to reveal Thee, at a time when all had turned away from Thy beauty! I testify, O my God, that if I were given a thousand lives by Thee, and offered them up all in Thy path, I would still have failed to repay the least of the gifts which, by Thy grace, Thou hast bestowed upon me.

I lay asleep on the bed of self when lo, Thou didst waken me with the divine accents of Thy voice, and didst unveil to me Thy beauty, and didst enable me to listen to Thine utterances, and to recognize Thy Self, and to speak forth Thy praise, and to extol Thy virtues, and to be steadfast in Thy love. Finally I fell a captive into the hands of the wayward among Thy servants.

Thou beholdest, therefore, the exile which I suffer in Thy days, and art aware of my vehement longing to look upon Thy face, and of mine irrepressible yearnings to enter the court of Thy glory, and of the stirrings of my heart under the influences of the winds of Thy mercy.

I entreat Thee, O Thou Who art the Ruler of the kingdoms of creation and the Author of all names, to write down my name with the names of them who, from eternity, have circled round the Tabernacle of Thy majesty, and clung to the hem of Thy loving-kindness, and held fast the cord of Thy tender mercy.

Thou art, in truth, the Help in Peril, the Self-Subsisting.

BH07787: There is no God but Him and none besides…

There is no God but Him and none besides Him exists

Say: The sun of the remembrance of our Lord, the Most Merciful, the Most Compassionate, has dawned from the Dayspring of the Cause. Thereupon the ungodly dispersed from around it, and this is naught but

a grievous punishment. And verily it is God's mercy unto the righteous and His vengeance unto the wicked. Thus has the matter been decreed by the finger of might and power. Say: O concourse of unbelievers! Whether you believe or disbelieve, it is all the same in this blessed and luminous presence. Whoso believes in God and His signs, it shall profit his own soul, and whoso turns away, it shall be to his own detriment. Verily He is independent of all the world's wealth. Nothing increases Him and no command diminishes Him. Verily He does what He wishes and ordains what He desires. And you, O believer in God, remind those whom drunkenness has overtaken in these days. Then be steadfast in yourself that through you the troubled servants of God may become steadfast. Thus have We commanded you that you may be among those who act.

BH07795: The Pen of the Most High declareth: O My…

He is the Most Holy, the Most Glorious

The Pen of the Most High declareth: O My handmaiden and daughter of My handmaiden! Praise the Desire of the world that thou hast drunk from the Most Great Ocean and attained unto the love of the Ancient Beauty, and that in these days when the rain of mercy is descending, and the breezes from the garment of the All-Merciful are wafting, and the fruits of the divine Lote-Tree are appearing, and all creation is adorned and illumined with the ornament of the spring of the All-Merciful, thou wast not deprived but wast crowned with His remembrance. Strive thou to drink and to give others to drink from the Kawthar of grace with the utmost steadfastness and constancy. Be thou joyous in the remembrance of God and detached from all else beside Him. The glances of divine favors have been and will continue to be upon you. Know ye the value of this bounty and count it as a precious gift. Verily, He is with His servants who have believed and His handmaidens who have turned with their whole being unto God, the Single, the One, the All-Subduing, the Almighty, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

BH07847: I know not, O my God, what the Fire…

I know not, O my God, what the Fire is which Thou didst kindle in Thy land. Earth can never cloud its splendor, nor water quench its flame. All the peoples of the world are powerless to resist its force. Great is the blessedness of him that hath drawn nigh unto it, and heard its roaring.

Some, O my God, Thou didst, through Thy strengthening grace, enable to approach it, while others Thou didst keep back by reason of what their hands have wrought in Thy days. Whoso hath hasted towards it and attained unto it hath, in his eagerness to gaze on Thy beauty, yielded his life in Thy path, and ascended unto Thee, wholly detached from aught else except Thyself.

I beseech Thee, O my Lord, by this Fire which blazeth and rageth in the world of creation, to rend asunder the veils that have hindered me from appearing before the throne of Thy majesty, and from standing at the door of Thy gate. Do Thou ordain for me, O my Lord, every good thing Thou didst send down in Thy Book, and suffer me not to be far removed from the shelter of Thy mercy.

Powerful art Thou to do what pleaseth Thee. Thou art, verily, the All-Powerful, the Most Generous.

BH11819: These are days the like of which no eye…

He is

These are days the like of which no eye in all creation hath ever seen, and no created being hath ever comprehended. At all times ye must take refuge with God, that perchance ye may remain preserved through the protection of the Lord of the Day of Judgment from the schemes of the schemers and the deceptions of the deceivers. For the schemes of the schemers have reached such a point that if all the pens in the celestial realm were to attempt to enumerate them, they would surely prove powerless and fall short. And if they should grow weary or unable to deceive while people are awake, they resort to the realm of sleep and make mention of dreams, that perchance they might cause some innocent soul to stray from the straight path. They are heedless that the educating hand of the divine Lord and the grasp of the power of the Eternal trains servants who will not take their eyes from the beauty of the Friend even should the arrows of tribulation rain down from the clouds of destiny, and who count all that exists as utter nothingness, as though it had never been mentioned.

BH11822: Days have come wherein souls are agitated and countenances…

In the name of God, the Powerful, the All-Knowing!

Days have come wherein souls are agitated and countenances are changed, except for those who have detached themselves unto God and held fast to the cord of God, the Lord of all worlds. His face is illumined by the lights of the Countenance. We bear witness that he is of those who are drawn nigh. O handmaiden of God! Verily thy Lord remembereth His male and female servants. He is, in truth, possessed of great bounty. His companion hath become the remembrance of His loved ones in this remote prison. This was for naught save the face of God, the King, the Help in Peril, the Almighty, the Powerful. Then know thou that the Youth was commanded to make mention of the servants from the All-Merciful and was forbidden by Satan. He cast aside the latter and took hold of the former, even though He found Himself in manifest peril. We beseech God to influence the hearts of His servants through that which descendeth from His Throne, and to enable them to attain unto the station which He hath ordained for them in His exalted Kingdom. Hold thou fast unto the cord of God and summon all who are in the realm. And praise be to God, the Lord of all worlds.

BH11507: Soon will that which was closed be opened…

In the Name of God, the Most Great, the Most Glorious!

Soon will that which was closed be opened, and that which was joined be separated, and he who was barred will enter, and that which was united will be divided, and that which was difficult will become easy, and that which was hidden will be revealed. Ponder, O ye who are endued with insight, that ye may understand what hath been inscribed of mysteries. O servants of the All-Merciful! Hearken unto the call that hath been raised from the right hand of the throne of your Lord, the Mighty, the Bountiful. Then aid Him amongst all created things, that the dwellers of the cities of eternity may glory in you in the kingdom of names.

Beware lest the world hold you back from the direction of your Lord, the Most Exalted, the Most High. Cast it behind you and turn toward the Lord of Names and Creator of heaven. Thus hath the Pen of Destiny commanded you from the presence of One Who is All-Knowing, All-Wise. Blessed is he who soareth in the atmosphere of the mercy of his Lord, and whom the calumnies of such souls as have turned away from the signs and denied the evidences have not held back. Verily, he is among the most exalted of creatures in the sight of the Truth. Upon him be the mercy of God and His blessings. Verily, he dwelleth in the highest horizon before the throne of his Lord, the Most High, the Most Great.

BH11825: This is a Book from Us to him who…

In the Name of God, the Most Manifest, the Most Manifest

This is a Book from Us to him who hath laid hold on the Most Great Handle in these days wherein eyes are blinded, that the verses of his Lord may attract him in such wise as to detach him from all who are on earth, and cause him to celebrate the praise of the Creator of names, both in private and in public. Arise thou above the horizon of certitude and remind, through wisdom and utterance, them that have forgotten the remembrance of their Lord, the All-Merciful. Thus hath commanded thee the Daystar of the horizons in this dawning. Turn not unto them that say what they understand not. Be thou severed from them and take hold of the hem of thy Lord's mercy, the Almighty, the Unconstrained. Rejoice thou with the glad-tidings of the Spirit, for He dwelleth at the very heart of joy and rapture, after that which befell Him such as hath befallen no one else in all creation, and thy Lord, the Almighty, the All-Bountiful, beareth witness unto this. The world hath no worth in thy Lord's sight. Soon shall perish all that thou beholdest, and there shall endure that which hath been ordained for thee in the kingdom of thy Lord, the Almighty, the All-Forgiving.

BH11827: This letter is from the Lord of Names…

He is the Most Holy, the Most Great

This letter is from the Lord of Names to him who hath drunk the cup of destiny in His path, that he may soar on the wings of detachment in the atmosphere of the love of his Lord, the Creator of all things, the Sovereign of invention. O thou who soarest in Mine atmosphere! Hearken unto My call from the right hand of My throne, that the cry of Him Who is the Chosen One may attract thee in such wise that the oppression of the wicked ones may not grieve thee. Verily, thy Lord is the All-Powerful, the Almighty. Blessed art thou, inasmuch as thou hast remained steadfast in My Cause, and gone forth in My Name, and turned towards My countenance. Soon shalt thou behold thyself in the most exalted station, while the wrongdoers shall be in the fire of torment. Be thou assured through the bounty of thy Lord, then turn thy face towards the Kaaba of thy Quest. Say:

O my Lord, the Mighty, the Loving! I beseech Thee by Thy Name through which the lands were shaken and the servants were troubled and through which Thou didst distinguish between all created things, to protect me beneath the shadow of Thy great mercy. Verily, Thou doest what Thou willest. In Thy grasp is the kingdom of all things. Thou art, in truth, the Ever-Forgiving, the Most Merciful.

BH11828: Say: Baha doth not await deliverance from the tribulations…

He is the Most Great, the Most Holy!

Say: Baha doth not await deliverance from the tribulations ordained for Him, nor doth He seek release, but saith:

> "O my God! Shouldst Thou desire, remove me from these horizons, that the people of hypocrisy—who have denied the Day of Separation and broken the Covenant—may no longer behold me. O Lord! Thou knowest what is within my soul and beholdest my dwelling place. Decree, then, what Thou willest. By Thy glory! What Thou hast purposed is my purpose, and what Thou hast desired is my desire in this world and the next."

Verily thou, O servant, must give thanks for having become a captive in My love and subdued through following My command and turning unto My face. Beware lest thou grieve at this, for by My glory, My majesty, My greatness and My grandeur, We have ordained for you that which shall stupefy minds, and We shall seize those who have wronged with a mighty grasp from Our presence. And I am the All-Compelling, the All-Powerful, the Almighty, the Self-Subsisting.

BH11829: God hath heard thy mention and thy praise, then…

In His Name, the Rememberer

God hath heard thy mention and thy praise, then thy call. Verily, He heareth what proceedeth from the tongues of His loved ones, and He is the Best of Hearers. Make mention of Him in such wise that through thee His mention and praise may be spread abroad. Verily, He is with thee and He is the Guardian of those who do good. Know thou moreover that the Youth hath been forbidden from making mention, else would I have bestowed upon thee that which would set the worlds aflame. My heart lamenteth and Mine eye weepeth, yet the tongue speaketh in praise of the All-Merciful amidst the concourse of all worlds, that thereby may be kindled the hearts of them that have detached themselves from all else but God. Verily, they dwell in the highest paradise though they be dwelling upon the dust among them that abide. O thou who art wondrous in love! Rend asunder the veils of them that are heedless, then set ablaze the hearts of them that are endued with understanding with the fire of the mention of thy Lord, the Mighty, the All-Bestowing. Thus doth the Youth command thee at a time when afflictions have encompassed Him from every direction. And verily thy Lord is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

BH08034: Hearken unto the Call from the direction of Grandeur…

He is the Most Great, the Most Glorious

Hearken unto the Call from the direction of Grandeur in the sacred white spot from the Sidrat'ul-Muntaha—verily there is no God but Him, the Lord of the First and the Last. When thou hast turned and heard from the direction of Glory His sweetest call, arise in the name of thy Lord amongst His servants and remind them of this Cause, by which the hearts of those possessed of understanding have been

sorely troubled. Beware lest what exists in the worlds prevent thee from turning to God, thy Lord, the All-Merciful.

Seize thou His days, then follow what hath been sent down from the right hand of the throne of thy Lord, the Cleaver of the seed and the stone. Thus have We inspired thee that thou mayest rejoice within thyself and be steadfast in the Cause of God, thy Lord, the Most High, the Most Glorious. By My life! Were all who are on earth to turn to the Word which the Tongue of Grandeur and Power doth speak, it would surely draw them unto God. Blessed is he who remembers and fears.

BH08244: Glorified be Thy name, O Lord my God! I…

Glorified be Thy name, O Lord my God! I beseech Thee by Thy power that hath encompassed all created things, and by Thy sovereignty that hath transcended the entire creation, and by Thy Word which was hidden in Thy wisdom and whereby Thou didst create Thy heaven and Thy earth, both to enable us to be steadfast in our love for Thee and in our obedience to Thy pleasure, and to fix our gaze upon Thy face, and celebrate Thy glory. Empower us, then, O my God, to spread abroad Thy signs among Thy creatures, and to guard Thy Faith in Thy realm. Thou hast ever existed independently of the mention of any of Thy creatures, and wilt remain as Thou hast been for ever and ever.

In Thee I have placed my whole confidence, unto Thee I have turned my face, to the cord of Thy loving providence I have clung, and towards the shadow of Thy mercy I have hastened. Cast me not as one disappointed out of Thy door, O my God, and withhold not from me Thy grace, for Thee alone do I seek. No God is there beside Thee, the Ever-Forgiving, the Most Bountiful.

Praise be to Thee, O Thou Who art the Beloved of them that have known Thee!

BH08131: O handmaiden of God! I pray that thou mayest…

He is the Most Great, the Most Great

O handmaiden of God! I pray that thou mayest be engaged with utmost yearning and attraction in the remembrance of the Luminary of the horizons, and remain firm and steadfast in His love with perfect sanctity and detachment, and drink at all times from the living waters which flow from the Finger of the Will of the All-Merciful.

I swear by the Most Great Name that the birds soaring in the atmosphere of longing and attraction regard all who are on earth as more insignificant than the black speck in the eye of a lifeless ant. Therefore, whosoever in these divine days hath turned toward the Most Holy and Most Glorious Horizon must not become saddened by the transient occurrences of this mortal world, and must at all times be attracted and enraptured by the praise of the Beloved Lord, in such wise that the people of the earth may perceive and recognize from him the warmth of divine love.

Blessed art thou for having believed in God and turned toward His Holy and Luminous Horizon.

BH08285: Verily He is living in this Most Glorious Horizon

Verily He is living in this Most Glorious Horizon.

God beareth witness that there is none other God but Him, and that this is indeed ʿAli in the Most Glorious Horizon, then Muhammad in the heaven of grandeur, then the Spirit in the heaven of destiny, then He Who conversed with God in the cities of names, then the Friend in the Supreme Concourse, then Husayn in the fields of origination, then the Wronged One before God, the King, the Mighty, the Great, the All-High. And thou, O servant, bear witness to that which hath flowed from the tongue of God. By God! Whoso attaineth unto this testimony, God shall raise him up on the Day of Resurrection with a mighty sovereignty and shall make him to sit with the Prophets and Messengers, and shall send down upon him at every moment a mercy that no created thing between the heavens and the earth can equal. We beseech God to enable thee to accomplish that which thou hast been commanded. Verily He is the All-Forgiving, the All-Merciful.

BH08305: Glorified be He Who hath sent down the verses…

In the name of our Lord, the Most Exalted, the Most High

Glorified be He Who hath sent down the verses and made them a shining lamp! O people, illumine yourselves with its light and deprive not your souls of the lights of the Cause. Await ye at all times the grace and mercy of God, for His mercy hath ever preceded all creation. Know then, O servant, that those who have believed in God and His verses and have sought His presence—verily We shall raise up their spirits in the most beauteous form before the Throne at the time of their heedlessness thereof, for We have ever been powerful over all things. And We shall manifest unto them from the lights of Beauty and cause them to hear wondrous melodies and provide them with sublime fruits of knowledge. And thou, O servant, recognize thou the grace and mercy of God upon thee and upon those who have held fast to the mighty, unfailing handle.

BH08132: The Most Holy, The Most Glorious

The Most Holy, The Most Glorious

O My handmaiden! Hearken in this luminous morn unto the Divine Call from the Most Glorious Horizon, and with heart and soul occupy thyself with the remembrance of the All-Merciful. Thy remembrance is mentioned before the Throne, and from the Dayspring of the All-Merciful utterance this most holy, most exalted Tablet hath shone forth and been sent unto thee. May it be that thou shalt at all times be occupied with the remembrance of the True One and be detached from all else. Let not the happenings of the world cause thee grief. Soon all shall perish and the True One shall endure. Melt away the darkening clouds of the world through the heat of His remembrance and walk in the expansive atmosphere of His will, in such wise that each of the handmaidens may witness in thee the signs of the love of God. This is the foundation and source of all good. Previously a Tablet was specifically revealed and sent to that handmaiden, and this is yet another time, as a grace from His presence. Verily, He is the Forgiving, the Merciful.

BH08245: Glorified art Thou, O Lord my God! I pray…

In the Name of God, the One, the Incomparable, the Self-Subsisting

Glorified art Thou, O Lord my God! I pray Thee, by Him Who is the Day-Spring of Thy signs and the Manifestation of Thy names, and the Treasury of Thine inspiration, and the Repository of Thy wisdom, to send upon Thy loved ones that which will enable them to cleave steadfastly to Thy Cause, and to recognize Thy unity, and to acknowledge Thy oneness, and to bear witness to Thy divinity. Raise them up, O my God, to such heights that they will recognize in all things the tokens of the power of Him Who is the Manifestation of Thy most august and all-glorious Self.

Thou art He, O my Lord, Who doeth what He willeth, and ordaineth what He pleaseth. Every possessor of power is forlorn before the revelations of Thy might, and every fountain of honor becomes abject when confronted by the manifold evidences of Thy great glory.

I beseech Thee, by Thyself and by whatsoever is of Thee, to grant that I may help Thy Cause and speak of Thy praise, and set my heart on the sanctuary of Thy glory, and detach myself from all that pertaineth not unto Thee. No God is there beside Thee, the God of power, the God of glory and wisdom.

BH08600: O Thou Whose tests are a healing medicine…

In the name of God, the Most Holy

O Thou Whose tests are a healing medicine to such as are nigh unto Thee, Whose sword is the ardent desire of all them that love Thee, Whose dart is the dearest wish of those hearts that yearn after Thee, Whose decree is the sole hope of them that have recognized Thy truth! I implore Thee, by Thy divine sweetness and by the splendors of the glory of Thy face, to send down upon us from Thy retreats on high that which will enable us to draw nigh unto Thee. Set, then, our feet firm, O my God, in Thy Cause, and enlighten our hearts with the effulgence of Thy knowledge, and illumine our breasts with the brightness of Thy names.

I am he, O my Lord, that hath set his face towards Thee, and fixed his hope on the wonders of Thy grace and the revelations of Thy bounty. I pray Thee that Thou wilt not suffer me to turn away disappointed from the door of Thy mercy, nor abandon me to such of Thy creatures as have repudiated Thy Cause.

I am, O my God, Thy servant and the son of Thy servant. I have recognized Thy truth in Thy days, and have directed my steps towards the shores of Thy oneness, confessing Thy singleness, acknowledging Thy unity, and hoping for Thy forgiveness and pardon. Powerful art Thou to do what Thou willest; no God is there beside Thee, the All-Glorious, the Ever-Forgiving.

BH08155: O imprisoned one!

O imprisoned one!

O My God, Thou seest Thy chosen ones under the talons of Thine enemies, and Thy loved ones in the grasp of the wicked among Thy creatures. O Lord, Thou seest their eyes turned toward the Dayspring of

Thy revelation and the Dawning-Place of Thine inspiration, their hearts anticipating the wonders of Thy grace and loving-kindness. How many are the faces that have been changed by the buffetings of the infidels among Thy creatures, and how many the breasts that have been pierced by the arrows of the deniers in Thy path!

I beseech Thee, O King of names and Creator of earth and heaven, by Thy clouds of mercy to send down upon Thy loved ones that which will draw them nigh unto Thee and cause them to dwell near Thy mercy in every world of Thy worlds. Then accept from them what they desired in Thy love and good-pleasure, and ordain for them the good of this world and the world to come through Thy bounty and favors and care and loving-kindness.

Verily Thou art the Powerful over what Thou willest, and Thou art the Forgiving, the Merciful.

BH08602: O Thou Whose mercy hath preceded all created things…

In the Name of God, the Most Wondrous, the Most Impregnable, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious

O Thou Whose mercy hath preceded all created things and Whose grace hath encompassed all who dwell on earth and in heaven! Through Thy Name the Tree of the Bayan hath yielded the fruits of divine knowledge, and through Thy remembrance the hearts of them that are detached have been adorned with the ornament of certitude. I beseech Thee by Thy Name, the Most Merciful, to clothe me with the robes of Thy mercy and loving-kindness, and to number me among such handmaidens as have turned unto Thee and have detached themselves from all else besides Thee, whom neither the intimations of the ungodly nor the words of the wayward have prevented from Thy love and Thy good-pleasure. O Lord! Illumine my heart with the light of Thy knowledge and my eyes with the collyrium of Thy recognition, that I may know Thee through Thine own Self and stand firm in Thy love and good-pleasure. Thou art He Who hath ever been powerful over whatsoever He willeth. There is none other God but Thee, the Most High, the Almighty, the All-Glorious, the All-Bountiful. Praise be unto God, the Lord of all worlds.

BH08181: Two pages arrived on Wednesday. Every word therein testified…

He is God.

Two pages arrived on Wednesday. Every word therein testified to the oneness of the Divine Essence and the sanctification of God's Being from likeness and similitude. Blessed be your pen and ink and the paper honored by your mention. We beseech God to cause His servants through you to enter the depths of the ocean of His oneness, and to give them to drink, through your mention, the Kawthar of life, and through your utterance, the choice wine of divine knowledge, and to aid you with the hosts of knowledge and wisdom in such wise that through you the cities of the horizons and of hearts may be opened. There is no God but Him, the Mighty, the Beloved.

O Thou Who art the apple of Mine eye! My glory, the ocean of My loving-kindness, the sun of My bounty, the heaven of My mercy rest upon Thee. We pray God to illumine the world through Thy knowledge and wisdom, to ordain for Thee that which will gladden Thine heart and impart consolation to Thine eyes. He

is, verily, potent over all things. Glory, mercy and praise be upon Thee, and upon whosoever circleth around Thee.

BH08434: Praise be unto Thee, O my God, for having…

In the name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Glorious!

Praise be unto Thee, O my God, for having kindled the lamp of Thy oneness between Thy heaven and earth, and for having nourished it with the oil of Thy wisdom and Thy command, and protected it with the glass of Thy power and might. O Lord! The lamp, with the tongue of its inner reality, declares:

> "O my God! Thou seest me and knowest what lies within my secret being. I have not revealed myself in all regions except that Thy creation and Thy creatures might be illumined by me, as all those possessed of insight witness the manifestations of my light. Despite this, the winds of discord have surrounded me from every direction, and Thou seest me, O my God, in the hands of the wicked. I know not how long Thou wilt leave me in Thy domains, after which it desires to ascend from Thee to the repository of the glory of Thy oneness and the source of the light of Thy singleness. I beseech Thee, O Sender and Controller of the winds, to illumine the world through it. Verily, Thou art the All-Powerful, the Most Exalted, the Mighty, the Omnipotent."

BH08504: O My maidservant! Hearken unto My call. By My…

He is the Most Holy, the Most Glorious

O My maidservant! Hearken unto My call. By My majesty and glory, the Voice that riseth from the mouth of Baha is not on account of what hath befallen Him at the hands of the wicked ones. Rather, it riseth solely out of His longing and yearning to make mention of thy Lord, the Mighty, the All-Wise.

Be thou patient and grieve not over what hath befallen thee in My path. God hath ordained for thee and His handmaidens the reward of those who have attained His presence and beheld His beauty. He, verily, is the Protector of those who do good, the Lord of the beneficent.

Be thou thankful unto thy Lord in hardship and ease. By My life! All who are on earth shall perish, while sovereignty remaineth with thy Lord, the Almighty, the All-Powerful.

Rejoice thou in My Name, then make mention of thy Lord in the watches of the night and at the break of day. Thus hath thy Lord, the Unconstrained, commanded thee. There is none other God but He, the Mighty, the All-Wise.

And praise be to God, the Lord of all worlds.

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BH08240: Glorified art Thou, O my God! I beseech Thee…

In the name of God, the Most Exalted, the Most High

Glorified art Thou, O my God! I beseech Thee by Thy Name through which the hearts of the sincere have been set aflame, and the souls of them that have drawn nigh have melted away; by which the dove of longing hath lifted up its voice within the breasts of Thy loved ones, and the bird of nearness hath soared in the heaven of reunion with Thee and of meeting with Thee: cleanse Thou me from all that Thy good-pleasure abhorreth, and draw me near unto the wellspring of Thy grace and Thy loving-kindness. Give me to drink of the pure wine of Thy solicitude at the hands of Thy mercy, and of the Tasnam of Thy munificence from the cups of Thy bounty; and bring me unto such a station that I may behold in existence naught save the manifestations of the lights of Thy oneness and the revealings of the glory of Thy singlenessâ€“so that I may be wholly severed from all besides Thee, turned toward Thy Countenance, voicing the praise of Thine own Self, and hastening unto the sanctuary of Thy holiness.

Verily Thou art powerful to do what Thou willest. There is no God but Thee, the All-Exalted, the All-Magnificent, the Mighty, the All-Bountiful.

BH08243: Glory be to Thee, O my God! I beseech…

Glory be to Thee, O my God! I beseech Thee by the yearning of the hearts of the lovers and the sighs of the hearts of the longing ones, and by Thy Name through which the pavilion of misbelief was destroyed and the canopy of divine unity was raised up, to preserve him who hath believed in Thee and in Thy signs, and hath held fast unto the cord of Thy bounty, and hath turned toward the direction of Thy mercy and Thy good-pleasure. O my Lord! Ordain for him, by the Pen of Thy Command and Thy decree, that which Thou hast ordained for Thy chosen ones. Then clothe him in the armor of Thy protection, and preserve him from every disease and hardship and calamity and ailment and pain, that he may aid Thee in Thy dominion and make mention of Thee amidst Thy creatures. Verily, Thou art powerful to do what Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the Mighty, the All-Bountiful. Then preserve him, O my God, and those who are with him, both male and female, and send down upon them the good of this world and the next. Verily, Thou art the Powerful and the Unconstrained.

BH08054: O My handmaid! Be not grieved at what hath…

In the Name of God, the Most Glorious!

O My handmaid! Be not grieved at what hath befallen My Beauty at the hands of the oppressors among My creation and the rebellious ones among My creatures. By God! Tribulation preventeth Me not from My joy, nor doth destiny hold Me back from My delight and My rapture and My yearning. Indeed, the more My tribulation increaseth, the more doth My longing for God, My Beloved, My Purpose and My Lord, increase. Be thou not perturbed by the world and what occurreth therein. Turn thou unto the Most Great Shrine wherein hath been raised the call of the Lord of Eternity and Creator of nations. Then speak

thou of My remembrance and that which hath been revealed from My Pen and uttered by the tongue of My grandeur upon the throne of My glory and majesty. By God! Wert thou to find the sweetness of My remembrance, thou wouldst sacrifice thyself in My path and arise among the handmaidens with My remembrance and praise. Thus doth the Pen of My Command make mention of thee that thou mayest rejoice within thyself and give thanks unto thy Lord, the Most High, the Most Great.

BH08220: Our remembrance of Our servant, that he may follow…

In the name of God, the Ever-Abiding, the All-Sufficient, the Mighty, the Invincible.

Our remembrance of Our servant, that he may follow guidance in the days of his Lord, the King of the throne and earth, and that He may protect him from the intimations of those who have denied God, the Lord of the last and the first. Turn with thy most pure heart unto the Most Great Horizon. Say: I believe in Thee, O Thou Who rememberest me with Thy sweetest utterance. We have commanded the people in the Book not to follow their idle fancies. Among them are those who turned away and resisted, and those who believed and were guided. O people! Follow not your own selves, but follow the ways of God which have been sent down in the Book from your Lord, the Most High, the Most Glorious. Those who commit indecent acts, steal the property of others, and backbite My servants—their deeds shall be rendered vain in this futile life and they are among those who have gone astray and been misguided. Cast away vain imagination and hold fast unto certitude. Verily He is the Truth, there is no God but Him, the Most High, the Most Exalted.

BH08058: O Hasan! Bear thou witness within thyself that He…

He is the Triumphant, the Mighty, the Self-Subsisting!

O Hasan! Bear thou witness within thyself that He is God, the Mighty, the Wise, and that He Whom He hath sent under the name of ʿAli is His proof unto His creatures, His evidence unto His creation, and His link between the heavens and the earth. Whoso cleaveth unto Him hath indeed been guided by the lights of God, and whoso turneth away hath strayed from the straight path. Say: O people! Believe in Him and in that which hath been sent down unto Him, and in this Servant Who speaketh of Him between the heavens and the earth. Say: We were concealed in a mystery that was, in truth, most beautiful, lest anyone should recognize Us and lest the eyes of the treacherous should fall upon Us. But when the idolaters transgressed beyond their bounds, We removed the veil and revealed the Face with radiant lights of sanctity. Thus have We sent down unto thee from the chronicles of truth, that thou mayest become acquainted with God's Cause and be of them that are firmly established in His love.

BH08071: God is supremely great!

God is supremely great!

O Hashim! Hearken unto the call of Him Who hath migrated unto God with His self and His loved ones, until He fell into the claws of the idolaters and there befell Him such trials as none can reckon save God, the Mighty, the Wise. By God! The Spirit hath been shaken by what the hands of the oppressors have wrought, and the Light hath been darkened by this grievous calamity. Yet in all this We render thanks

unto God and remain in resignation and goodly patience. And ye, O concourse of the beloved! Forget not God's covenant, neither break His testament, nor cast the Cause of God behind your backs, nor be of the heedless. Then be patient in what hath befallen Us and you, and verily He shall repay the reward of the patient ones. And the Spirit and the Light and the Glory be upon thee and upon the sincere ones.

BH08257: Praise be to Thee, O Lord my God, my…

In the name of God, the Most Manifest

Praise be to Thee, O Lord my God, my Master! Thou hearest the sighing of those who, though they long to behold Thy face, are yet separated from Thee and far distant from Thy court. Thou testifiest to the lamentations which those who have recognized Thee pour forth because of their exile from Thee and their yearning to meet Thee. I beseech Thee by those hearts which contain naught except the treasures of Thy remembrance and praise, and which show forth only the testimonies of Thy greatness and the evidences of Thy might, to bestow on Thy servants who desire Thee power to approach the seat of the revelation of the splendor of Thy glory and to assist them whose hopes are set on Thee to enter into the tabernacle of Thy transcendent favor and mercy.

Naked am I, O my God! Clothe me with the robe of Thy tender mercies. I am sore athirst; give me to drink of the oceans of Thy bountiful favor. I am a stranger; draw me nearer unto the source of Thy gifts. I am sick; sprinkle upon me the healing waters of Thy grace. I am a captive; rid me of my bondage, by the power of Thy might and through the force of Thy will, that I may soar on the wings of detachment towards the loftiest summits of Thy creation. Thou, verily, doest what Thou choosest. There is no God but Thee, the Help in Peril, the All-Glorious, the Unconstrained.

BH08241: Glory be unto Thee, O my God! I beseech…

In the Name of God, the Most Unapproachable, the Most Holy, the Most Wondrous!

Glory be unto Thee, O my God! I beseech Thee by Thy Name through which the treasuries of Thy knowledge were manifested and the storehouses of Thy Command emerged and the wonders of Thy verses were sent down and Thy beauty appeared and the suns of Thy grace shone forth and the throne of Thy mercy was established amongst Thy creatures, to aid those who have turned toward Thee and detached themselves from all else besides Thee and occupied themselves with Thy remembrance and tasted Thy love.

O my God and my Beloved! Thou seest Thy chosen servants in the hands of the wicked ones, and Thou knowest what hath befallen them at the hands of the oppressors among Thy creation and the transgressors among Thy creatures. O Lord! Protect them through Thy generosity and favors, then cause them to enter the fortress of Thy protection.

O my God! I am one of Thy maidservants who hath turned toward Thee and drawn nigh unto Thy sanctuary. Disappoint me not, O my Beloved, of what lieth with Thee, and drive me not from the door of Thy mercy. Verily, Thou art the Almighty, the Most Exalted, the Mighty, the Helper.

BH08036: O handmaiden of God! Bear thou witness even…

He is the Mighty, the Self-Subsisting

O handmaiden of God! Bear thou witness even as my tongue beareth witness that there is no God but Him, the Mighty, the Best-Beloved. Then bear thou witness even as my heart beareth witness that there is no God but Him, the All-Compelling, the Self-Subsisting. Then bear thou witness even as my spirit beareth witness that there is no God but Him, the Mighty, the Most Holy. Then bear thou witness even as God hath witnessed at the hub of eternity that this is verily the Divine Tree, and this is the Cause of Oneness, and this is the Spirit of Eternal Truth, and this is the divine mystery, and the divine essence, and the pure camphor, and the celestial lamp. Thus hath God borne witness unto us even as we have borne witness unto Him, and thus have We remembered Him with love even as He hath remembered us with affection. And thou, O handmaiden of God, render thanks unto thy Lord for having sent down unto thee this blessed leaf that thou mayest find joy within thyself and be numbered among the devout. And the Spirit be upon thee and upon the women who believe.

BH08594: Praised be Thou, O Lord my God! I bear…

Praised be Thou, O Lord my God! I bear witness that from eternity Thou wert exalted in Thy transcendent majesty and might, and wilt to eternity abide in Thy surpassing power and glory. None in the kingdoms of earth and heaven can frustrate Thy purpose; none throughout the realms of revelation and of creation can prevail against Thee. At Thy command Thou doest what Thou willest, and by the power of Thy sovereignty Thou rulest as Thou pleasest.

I implore Thee, O Thou Who causest the dawn to appear, by Thy Lamp which Thou didst light with the fire of Thy love before all that are in heaven and on earth, and whose flame Thou feedest with the fuel of Thy wisdom in the kingdom of Thy creation, to make me to be of those who have soared in Thine atmosphere, and surrendered their will to Thy decree.

I am all wretchedness, O my Lord, and Thou art the Most Powerful, the Almighty. Have pity upon me by Thy grace and bountiful favor, and graciously aid me to serve Thee and them that are dear to Thee. Potent art Thou to do as Thou willest. No God is there but Thee, the God of strength, of glory and wisdom.

BH08433: Magnified be Thy name, O my God…

In the name of God, the Most Wondrous, the Most Holy

Magnified be Thy name, O my God, for that Thou hast manifested the Day which is the King of Days, the Day which Thou didst announce unto Thy chosen Ones and Thy Prophets in Thy most excellent Tablets, the Day whereon Thou didst shed the splendor of the glory of all Thy names upon all created things. Great is his blessedness whosoever hath set himself towards Thee, and entered Thy presence, and caught the accents of Thy voice.

I beseech Thee, O my Lord, by the name of Him round Whom circleth in adoration the kingdom of Thy names, that Thou wilt graciously assist them that are dear to Thee to glorify Thy word among Thy servants, and to shed abroad Thy praise amidst Thy creatures, so that the ecstasies of Thy revelation may fill the souls of all the dwellers of Thine earth.

Since Thou hast guided them, O my Lord, unto the living waters of Thy grace, grant, by Thy bounty, that they may not be kept back from Thee; and since Thou hast summoned them to the habitation of Thy throne, drive them not out from Thy presence, through Thy loving-kindness. Send down upon them what shall wholly detach them from aught else except Thee, and make them able to soar in the atmosphere of Thy nearness, in such wise that neither the ascendancy of the oppressor nor the suggestions of them that have disbelieved in Thy most august and most mighty Self shall be capable of keeping them back from Thee.

BH08334: Thy letter hath been presented before the Throne…

He is the Most Glorious, the Most Glorious

In the Name of God, the Most Great, the Most Glorious

Thy letter hath been presented before the Throne and We have taken note of its contents. We shall ordain for thee that which shall profit thee. Verily thy Lord is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. Thus have We ordained for thee in the Tablet an exalted station. By My life! If thou didst know, thou wouldst soar with longing and be detached from all the worlds. Blessed is he who hath found the fragrance of the garment and turned unto God, the Mighty, the Wise. Guard thou thy station, then recite the verses of thy Lord whereby the hearts of the sincere ones are attracted. Let nothing grieve thee. Be thou steadfast in the love of thy Lord, then make mention of Him amongst His servants. He maketh mention of thee in His hallowed Kingdom, the Mighty, the Inaccessible. Blessed art thou for having attained unto the recognition of thy Lord in His days and believed in Him after His servants who were created by His transcendent, mighty and wondrous command denied Him.

BH08159: That blessed Leaf, primal and everlasting, speaketh forth…

He is the All-Glorious.

That blessed Leaf, primal and everlasting, speaketh forth the truth, proclaiming: Verily I am God; there is none other God but Me; and He, in truth, hath been, of all things, All-Knowing. O Riḍa! Be thou well-pleased with My good-pleasure, and swerve not from it; and abide within a mighty stronghold. Follow thou the religion of the Spirit in My Cause—and this is My love—and God sufficeth as witness thereof. Then know thou that God hath not decreed, within all creation, a Paradise greater than this Paradise whose gates have been flung open before the face of the heavens and of the earth; and He verily…

The figurative world and the physical world are both pure nonexistence, but they appear in the garb of being. The first is the grief of the wayfarers and the second is the test of those who have attained. Therefore, it is necessary that a supreme effort be made, so that the compassionate spirit might overcome these two spiritual obstacles by the power of the All-Praised…

BH08059: Hear thou the call of this Stranger, this Wanderer…

He is the Almighty

Hear thou the call of this Stranger, this Wanderer, who hath migrated unto God and then detached Himself from all created things, who hath turned to none except God, the Mighty, the Generous, and who hath feared no soul in His days and hath placed His trust in God at all times. And thou, remember thou His days after Him and be not of the heedless ones. Then walk thou in His footsteps and remind the people and be of them that remember. Beware lest thou overstep the bounds of wisdom, for this is the command of God, the Mighty, the Powerful. We beseech God to unite us with you in a seat of truth in the presence of a mighty King. Then remember from Us thy spouse and deal kindly with her with love that she may find tranquility within herself and be of the patient ones. And the Spirit be upon thee and upon the sincere ones.

BH08249: Glorified art Thou, O my God! Thou seest Thy…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Exalted!

Glorified art Thou, O my God! Thou seest Thy loved ones in the land of exile and their abasement among the people, though the abasement of Thy loved ones in Thy path is glory unto them. Nevertheless I beseech Thee, O my God, by the sovereignty of the Names through which Thou hast adorned earth and heaven, to send down upon Thy male and female servants that which will make them signs of Thy glory amongst Thy creation and evidences of Thy power amongst Thy servants. O Lord! Hearts have been inflamed with hatred of Thee, and every soul hath risen up against Thy loved ones. The matter hath grown so grave that the people show no mercy to young or old, and whenever they hear anyone make mention of Thee, they rise up against him. I beseech Thee, O Revealer of verses and Manifestor of clear signs, to purify the earth from these reprobates. Verily Thou art the Almighty, the Unconstrained. There is no God but Thee, the Mighty, the Generous.

BH08247: O Lord my God! Thou art He Who hath…

He is the Most Mighty, the Most Holy

O Lord my God! Thou art He Who hath attracted the hearts of Thy servants and handmaidens through the wondrous melodies and strains of Thy songs, and then left them in the wilderness of separation through what was ordained by the Pen of Thy decree. Thou hast made them drink from the fountain of Thy love and made them to be among those who are kept far from the paradise of Thy presence and are forbidden from entering the sanctuary of Thy nearness and meeting with Thee. I testify, O my God, that whatsoever descendeth from Thee and shineth forth from the horizon of Thy Command and Will is best for Thy servants and creatures. I beseech Thee, O Thou Who causeth the winds to blow and cleaveth the dawn, to make me one who is assisted to remember Thee amongst Thy creation and enabled to praise Thee in Thy lands. Verily Thou art the Almighty Whom nothing can frustrate and the Sovereign Whom no decree can hinder. Thou doest what Thou willest through Thy power and ordainest what Thou pleaseth through Thy Will. Verily Thou art the Almighty, the Most Exalted, the All-Glorious, the All-Wise.

BH08033: I praise God and thank Him for having preserved…

He is the Eternal, the Peerless One

I praise God and thank Him for having preserved thee in truth, and turned thee from the left hand of remoteness to the right hand of nearness, and caused thee to recognize the Manifestation of His Beauty and the Repository of His might and grandeur, and raised thee to a station wherein thou hast known God, thy Lord and the Lord of the first and the last. The barking of dogs, and the grunting of swine, and the howling of wolves, and the mewing of cats, and the yelping of foxes, and the hissing of serpents—they who have denied God and His signs—did not prevent thee. Blessed art thou for having turned toward God thy Lord and turned away from those who disbelieved and turned away. Be thou steadfast and be of those who are firm. Say:

O my Lord! I beseech Thee by Thy Most Great Name to make me steadfast in Thy love and to number me with such of Thy servants as have fulfilled their covenant with Thee and have cast behind them all else save Thee and have borne tribulations in Thy path for love of Thee and have detached themselves from all in Thy way.

BH08110: Many sublime Arabic Tablets have been revealed. Now…

He is the Ever-Abiding, Manifest and Visible from the Most Glorious Horizon

Many sublime Arabic Tablets have been revealed. Now the wondrous holy words of God are being uttered in the Persian tongue. Blessed are they that hear them!

The Truth, exalted be His mention, hath ever been and shall forever remain sanctified above manifestation and appearance—an unknowable Mystery, an unfathomable Concealment, an unrevealed Inner Reality, an unhidden Treasure, and an unwitnessed Secret. For the term “mystery” holdeth true only when it remaineth unwitnessed; in such case it is not manifest and thus cannot be known. And after it becometh witnessed, the designation “mystery” no longer existeth whereby it might be known. Therefore, the Mystery hath been and shall ever remain unknowable. Blessed is the soul that pondereth this perfect, firm and divine Word, and attaineth unto the gem of its meaning treasured within. Should anyone claim to know the Mystery in its essence as Mystery, he hath been and shall ever be among the falsifiers. That Most Ancient Beauty is too exalted to be known except through Himself, and too sublime to be described save through His own holy Being. For whatsoever the created ones comprehend at the utmost degree of their understanding is but a fancy they have themselves conceived for themselves. Exalted is He above being known by that which is contingent!

And since the gates of knowledge and comprehension were closed, and the ultimate degree of the servants’ understanding rejected, the Sovereign of existence, through His grace and bounty, caused the Manifestations of Oneness and Daysprings of Divine glory to appear from the horizon of “Verily, I am He Who is manifest above all things,” so that all people might attain unto the knowledge of God through recognition of these Suns dawning from the horizon of truth, and might be blessed with obedience to God and submission to His will through obedience to these holy Beings. And in accordance with justice and the manifestation of grace, He bestowed upon each of these eternal and glorious Manifestations a

proof and testimony, that no soul might find cause for turning away or making excuses, and that God's proof might be complete and perfect unto all. The purpose of this supreme favor is that they might educate souls so that perchance they may enter the kingdom of the Divine Countenance and attain unto the station wherein "the Face of thy Lord endureth"—which is the ultimate goal of human existence—and may abide forever.

I swear by the Ancient Beauty that if a soul should but once become pure and detached from this world and ascend unto the Supreme Companion, it shall never perish but shall attain from existence unto existence, and neither extinction nor annihilation shall ever find their way unto such existence and immortality. Yet what benefit is there when these people, with their impure hearts, fail to comprehend this divine melody?

These Manifestations of transcendent oneness have appeared from time immemorial until the time culminated in the first wondrous Manifestation in the final Vesture, and the Primal Point—exalted be His grandeur, sublime be His traces, and glorious be His majesty—arose from the Most Exalted Horizon and guided mankind to the pathway of immortality. Yet all the people clung to their religious leaders from among the divines and turned not to that Essence of Divine Unity, although He appeared with such compelling proof that all found themselves powerless to produce the like thereof. Then they arose in opposition and demanded supernatural signs. That Ancient Being composed the treatise of proofs known as the Seven Proofs [Dala'il-i-Sab'ih], wherein He showed that all evidence and proof culminate in verses.

From His sanctified Pen flowed that today these verses which descend from the clouds of glory are a proof to the East and West of the world, and there hath been and shall be no greater proof than this. Thus when the Crown Prince summoned that Essence of Eternity to his court and demanded proof, that Ancient Beauty declared that verses are the proof today. Yet in the end they accepted it not, and all gave verdict for the death of that Essence of Pre-existence, save a few who became assured through the divine verses and turned from the west of unbelief and error to the east of faith and recognition.

And thereafter that Ancient Being gave in all His revealed Tablets the glad tidings of this Most Great Manifestation, such that not a single line was revealed in the Bayan except that this most glorious mention was recorded therein, and He counseled all lest at the time of His appearance they remain veiled from the Beauty of the All-Merciful by the letters of the Bayan and the words revealed therein, as did the people of the Qur'an. Despite these admonitions, and this Most Great Manifestation and Most Holy Dawning which hath appeared with all divine power and with all the proofs of the Manifestations of eternal glory, all have turned away. Would that they had been content with what the people of the Qur'an perpetrated, for the people of the Qur'an merely gave verdict for the death of the Beauty of the All-Merciful, but this people have striven to cut down the Divine Tree. Finding themselves powerless to do so, they loosened their tongues in calumny.

Assuredly by now the clamor of the idolaters hath reached that land. Yet praise be to God that they have attributed to this Most Pure Essence such things that any soul possessing the least grain of discernment or the tiniest particle of insight would perceive that these calumnies have issued from the source of rancor, the treasury of envy, and the mine of hatred. Therefore do the tongues of all atoms proclaim:

> "The curse of God be upon the first oppressor who wronged the Primal Point in His latter Manifestation, who warred against Him, who disputed His verses, who denied His presence, and who slandered Him."

Yea, O servant! Such is the station of these unseemly and immature servants that for twenty years the Ancient Beauty was in the hands of His enemies in such wise that at every moment He was in peril of destruction—now in the prison of His foes, now in chains and fetters, and now at the mercy of the wicked. Yet despite this they have attributed worldliness and love thereof to this Essence of Spirit, even though the whole world and all that is therein were His creation. And if His Temple, the Throne itself, were to rest upon a bed of diamonds, it would be befitting—nay, worthy of His threshold's servants. Yet I swear by the Ancient King that they who circle round His court have been and ever shall be sanctified from the world and all that is therein. Indeed, were one to observe, not a farthing of the world and its trappings would be found with the emigrants. Praise be to the Beloved that He hath created all patient and thankful, and they have uttered not these words and their like save to cast doubt in hearts. They are heedless that the deed of God is manifest and evident as the sun, and every possessor of sight hath perceived and will perceive it.

O servant! With spiritual wings soar to the holy heaven of God, and having purified thyself from the hints of all else but Him, gaze upon the Most Great Scene. I swear by the Truth that My affliction is greater than can be mentioned, and My tribulation mightier than can be recorded by the pen. I do but complain of my grief and sorrow unto God, and verily He is the best Lord and the best Helper. God willing, in these days ye shall not be deprived of the wondrous favors of the eternal King, nor be forbidden the peerless wine of the All-Glorious. And the Glory be upon thee and upon all who are with thee among the steadfast, patient, thankful and assured believers.

BH08218: This is a remembrance of the handmaidens of God…

In the Name of God, the Most Wondrous, the Most Exalted!

This is a remembrance of the handmaidens of God who have believed in God, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting, that they may, through the remembrance of God, detach themselves from all else save Him, and that the call of their Lord may sanctify them from whatsoever is repugnant to His good-pleasure. Verily, He is the One Who has power over whatsoever He willeth, and He, verily, is the Truth, the Knower of things unseen. It behooveth everyone who hath believed in God in this Most Great Revelation to restrain and refine his soul. Thus hath the matter been decreed from the presence of One Who is All-Knowing, All-Wise. And He commandeth all to sanctification that they may enter His Kingdom and stand before His presence. This is of His grace unto His servants, would that they might know. Blessed is the handmaiden who hath believed in God and attained unto that which God hath desired for her, whom the winds of passion have not moved and whom the conditions of self have not overturned. She is indeed of the people of Paradise. Thus hath it been inscribed by the Pen of Command in a mighty and glorious Tablet. And praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH08255: Magnified be Thy name, O Lord my God! I…

Magnified be Thy name, O Lord my God! I know not what the water is with which Thou hast created me, or what the fire Thou hast kindled within me, or the clay wherewith Thou hast kneaded me. The restlessness of every sea hath been stilled, but not the restlessness of this Ocean which moveth at the bidding of the winds of Thy will. The flame of every fire hath been extinguished except the Flame which the hands of Thine omnipotence have kindled, and whose radiance Thou hast, by the power of Thy name, shed abroad before all that are in Thy heaven and all that are on Thy earth. As the tribulations deepen, it waxeth hotter and hotter.

Behold, then, O my God, how Thy Light hath been compassed with the onrushing winds of Thy decree, how the tempests that blow and beat upon it from every side have added to its brightness and increased its splendor. For all this let Thee be praised.

I implore Thee, by Thy Most Great Name, and Thy most ancient sovereignty, to look upon Thy loved ones whose hearts have been sorely shaken by reason of the troubles that have touched Him Who is the Manifestation of Thine own Self. Powerful art Thou to do what pleaseth Thee. Thou art, verily, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

BH08263: Lauded be Thy name, O my God! Thou beholdest…

Lauded be Thy name, O my God! Thou beholdest how the tempestuous winds of tests have caused the steadfast in faith to tremble, and how the breath of trials hath stirred up those whose hearts had been firmly established, except such as have partaken of the Wine that is life indeed from the hands of the Manifestation of Thy name, the Most Merciful. These are the ones whom no word except Thy most exalted word can move, whom nothing whatever save the sweet smelling fragrance of the robe of Thy remembrance can enrapture, O Thou Who art the Possessor of all names and the Maker of earth and heaven!

I implore Thee, O Thou Who art the beloved Companion of Baha, by Thy name, the All-Glorious, to keep safe these Thy servants under the shadow of the wings of Thine all-encompassing mercy, that the darts of the evil suggestions of the wicked doers among Thy creatures, who have disbelieved in Thy signs, may be kept back from them. No one on earth, O my Lord, can withstand Thy power, and none in all the kingdom of Thy names is able to frustrate Thy purpose. Show forth, then, the power of Thy sovereignty and of Thy dominion, and teach Thy loved ones what beseemeth them in Thy days.

Thou art, verily, the Almighty, the Most Exalted, the All-Glorious, the Most Great.

BH08264: Glory be to Thee, O my God! Thou hearest…

Glory be to Thee, O my God! Thou hearest Thine ardent lovers lamenting in their separation from Thee, and such as have recognized Thee wailing because of their remoteness from Thy presence. Open Thou outwardly to their faces, O my Lord, the gates of Thy grace, that they may enter them by Thy leave and in conformity with Thy will, and may stand before the throne of Thy majesty, and catch the accents of Thy voice, and be illumined with the splendors of the light of Thy face.

Potent art Thou to do what pleaseth Thee. None can withstand the power of Thy sovereign might. From everlasting Thou wert alone, with none to equal Thee, and wilt unto everlasting remain far above all thought and every description of Thee. Have mercy, then, upon Thy servants by Thy grace and bounty, and suffer them not to be kept back from the shores of the ocean of Thy nearness. If Thou abandonest them, who is there to befriend them; and if Thou puttest them far from Thee, who is he that can favor them? They have none other Lord beside Thee, none to adore except Thyself. Deal Thou generously with them by Thy bountiful grace.

Thou, in truth, art the Ever-Forgiving, the Most Compassionate.

BH08266: Glorified art Thou, O my God! This is Thy…

In the name of God, the Most High, the Most Exalted!

Glorified art Thou, O my God! This is Thy servant whom Thou hast chosen for the Manifestation of Thyself, and whom Thou hast kindled with the fire of Thy love, and whom Thou hast caused to know the path of Thy good-pleasure, and whose name Thou hast inscribed in the Tablet of Thy decree. I beseech Thee, O my God, by Thy Name through which Thou hast distinguished between all things created between earth and heaven, that Thou preserve him in this world from turning to any but Thee, and in the world to come cause him to dwell nigh unto Thy mercy. Then send down upon him at all times goodness from Thee and a blessing from Thy presence. Illumine his face, O my God, with the lights of Thy countenance, and make him one who remembers Thee amongst Thy creatures and extols Thy Being amidst Thy creation. Verily, Thou art the Powerful over what Thou willest and the Ordainer of all who are in earth and heaven. There is none other God but Thee, the Everlasting, the Powerful, the Most High, the Forgiving, the Generous. And praise be to God, the Lord of the heavens and earths.

BH08298: In the Name of God, the Most High…

In the Name of God, the Most High, the Most Glorious! Blessed is he who hath believed in God and soared in the atmosphere of His good-pleasure and drunk from the cup of His eternity and heard His call with his inner and outer ear and turned wholly unto Him and turned away from all else and was illumined by His lights and stood firm in His love and spoke in His remembrance and was enkindled with the fire of His love and arose to serve His Cause amidst His servants and whom tribulations did not prevent from His path nor calamities from His good-pleasure.

By God! He shall be present in My presence and shall circle round My majesty and shall soar with My Self in the atmosphere of My heavenly dominion and might and the cities of My grandeur and power.

Thus hath it been inscribed by the Most Exalted Pen in this Fortress which hath been built of solid rock. Verily thy Lord is the Doer of what He willeth, and He is, verily, powerful over all things.

And praise be to God, the Lord of all worlds.

BH08303: Know thou that the heedless drove Us…

In the Name of Him at Whose fear the thunder trembleth!

Know thou that the heedless drove Us from the land of mystery, seeking thereby to extinguish God's light amidst all else. But God frustrateth what they desire, and the Youth hath gone forth with such radiance as hath illumined all lands, such that no city among the cities of all peoples remaineth wherein the traces of thy Lord, the Mighty, the All-Knowing, have not been diffused. Can anyone extinguish what the hand of thy Lord's power hath kindled? No, by His very Self, the Truth! Soon shalt thou find the lights of the sun therein. Thus hath the matter been decreed by the Ordainer, the All-Knowing.

Blessed art thou for having attained unto the recognition of thy Lord. Soon shalt thou find thy reward from the Rewarder, the All-Wise.

Grieve not for what hath befallen Us, though afflictions assail Us in their fullness and intensity, and We find Ourselves in evident constraint. Yet We find Our soul in such joy as cannot be equaled by the gladness of all the worlds. And praise be to God, the Lord of all worlds.

BH08423: The more tribulation increases, the more does my yearning…

He is God, exalted is He!

The more tribulation increases, the more does my yearning for God increase. Through it God distinguishes between the assured and the doubtful, between the heedless and the penitent. Through it ever has the garden of steadfastness been made verdant and the fountain of mercy and loving-kindness has overflowed. Whoso regards all things with an eye that is not veiled by displeasure and reflects upon their transience, their transformation and their alteration, will never grieve and will be content with what God has ordained for him. Can anyone distinguish between the bones of kings and subjects, or between the wealthy and the poor? No, by the Lord of kings! Since this is so, it behooveth every person of understanding to take heed, and every heedless one to awaken. We beseech God to aid His loved ones to do what He loveth and is pleased with, to detach them from this world and all that is therein. Verily, He is the Mighty, the Supreme, the All-Glorious.

BH08491: O loved ones of God! Be ye in such…

In the Name of God, the One with power over whatsoever He willeth!

O loved ones of God! Be ye in such a state and condition that the affairs of the world shall not prevent you from the Lord of earth and heaven. We revealed in a Tablet which We sent to one of the servants in Iraq aforetime that which hath been ordained and cannot be altered by change of mind, nor prevented by ransom, nor repelled by the powers of creation. With your Lord is the knowledge of what hath been and what shall be.

Ponder on that which was revealed aforetime from God, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting, and that wherein We are in these days, though they be dark and gloomy. The servants whose gaze is fixed upon

the Most Sublime Horizon and whose faces are turned to the Most Resplendent Vision shall not be grieved thereby.

We beseech God to make you steadfast in His Cause in such wise that the whisperings of the deniers shall not cause you to slip, and to make you mindful of His Cause among the peoples of the world.

BH08604: O Thou Whose nearness is my wish, Whose presence…

O Thou Whose nearness is my wish, Whose presence is my hope, Whose remembrance is my desire, Whose court of glory is my goal, Whose abode is my aim, Whose name is my healing, Whose love is the radiance of my heart, Whose service is my highest aspiration! I beseech Thee by Thy Name, through which Thou hast enabled them that have recognized Thee to soar to the sublimest heights of the knowledge of Thee and empowered such as devoutly worship Thee to ascend into the precincts of the court of Thy holy favors, to aid me to turn my face towards Thy face, to fix mine eyes upon Thee, and to speak of Thy glory.

I am the one, O my Lord, who hath forgotten all else but Thee, and turned towards the Day-Spring of Thy grace, who hath forsaken all save Thyself in the hope of drawing nigh unto Thy court. Behold me, then, with mine eyes lifted up towards the Seat that shineth with the splendors of the light of Thy Face. Send down, then, upon me, O my Beloved, that which will enable me to be steadfast in Thy Cause, so that the doubts of the infidels may not hinder me from turning towards Thee.

Thou art, verily, the God of Power, the Help in Peril, the All-Glorious, the Almighty.

BH11832: Blessed is he who hath turned unto the Most…

In the name of God, the Ever-Abiding, Who perisheth not!

Blessed is he who hath turned unto the Most Great Ocean, whereof every drop proclaimeth that He is the God of the heavens and of the earth. Say: Two gulfs have branched out from it, blessed are they who understand. I counsel you, O people, to observe righteousness and to follow that which ye have been commanded in the Book of God, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. Be thou assured through thy Lord's grace, and take hold of the hem of God, the Protector, the Mighty, the Powerful. If thou findest one who hath turned unto Him, relate unto him the bounties of thy Lord. Thus hath the Pen of thy Ancient Lord commanded thee. When the Tablets of Fire are spread abroad, turn away from them, and suffice thyself with a gracious Book that hath been sent down unto thee from the presence of One mighty and powerful. By God! A single letter thereof is better for thee than all that hath been created on earth, and none deny this save the wicked and the remote. Say: Verily the Word of God is the most exalted, and it is God's testimony unto all the worlds. And praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH11835: This is a Tablet from God, the Guardian…

He is the Glory of Glories

This is a Tablet from God, the Guardian, the Self-Subsisting, to one who has desired his Lord and borne in His path what none before him have borne. Hearken once again to the sweetest call from the direction of thy Most Glorious Lord, that My call may draw thee to My Kingdom and sever thee from all else but Me, and inspire thee with that which will bring rest to thy soul in My days and lighten thee of the burden of the earth and all who dwell thereon. Verily thy Lord is the All-Remembering, the All-Knowing. Those who are heedless shall soon know and shall find no intimate friend for themselves. Say: The bounty today is for one who follows God's command, believes in God and turns away from his own desires. Thus doth God distinguish between the ungodly and the believers. Beware lest trials disturb thee. Remember thy Chosen Lord. Every remembrance shall perish except the remembrance of thy Lord, the Mighty, the Wise. And the glory be upon thee from the presence of One powerful and ancient.

BH11836: Say: O concourse of creation! By God, the Truth!…

In the name of the Most Great!

Say: O concourse of creation! By God, the Truth! The Glory (Baha) hath come unto you to purify you from vain desire and draw you nigh unto God, the Lord of the first and the last. Would ye slay him who calleth you unto everlasting life? Would ye deal unjustly with him who desireth justice amongst you? Would ye drive out him who hath come only to draw you nigh unto God, the Sovereign of all names? Woe unto you, O people! I know not in what valley ye wander or toward what face ye turn. Say:

O my God! Praise be unto Thee for having taken me by the hand of might and power, delivered me from the wicked ones, and caused me to enter among Thy righteous servants. I beseech Thee by Thy chosen Name to make me walk in the paths of Thy good-pleasure, though I be afflicted by the harm of Thine enemies. There is no God but Thee, the Almighty, the Glorious, the All-Bountiful.

BH09064: This is a Book sent down through grace…

He is the Most Inaccessible, the Most Exalted, the Most Holy, the Most Luminous, the Most Glorious.

This is a Book sent down through grace from the heaven of God, the Sublime, the Great. Mentioned therein is that which draws people to the direction of the Throne, the seat of God, the Powerful, the Exalted, the All-Knowing. O Pen of Eternity! Remember Our servant that he may rejoice within himself and be in the religion of God like an immovable and manifest mountain, such that neither the winds of those who have disbelieved nor the whisperings of devils can move him, and that the light of his Lord may shine forth from his face, guiding every doubtful ignorant one. Thus have you been commanded, O Hasan, that you may be beneficent in the Cause of your Lord and stand firm in the Command of God, the King, the Mighty, the Powerful. And the glory be upon you and upon those who have believed in God and whom the opposition of the opposers has not moved. And praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH08678: O Ali! Bear thou witness in thyself, even…

He is the Mighty.

O Ali! Bear thou witness in thyself, even as God did testify before the creation of the heavens and before all things appeared in the vestures of being, that there is none other God but Him, and that He Who hath appeared from the horizon of the Unseen is verily the Sovereign of existence in both the unseen and visible realms. And thou, give thanks unto God for having blessed thee with His presence and caused thee to attain unto a station of praiseworthy nearness, and made thee to hear His melodies, and to know His beauty, and hath sent down upon thee His words that there is none other God but Him, the Mighty, the Loving. Thus doth God cast upon thee that which shall transform thee from thy self and shall bring thee to a shore of manifest glory. And the Spirit be upon thee and upon all who walk upon God's manifest and extended Path.

BH08954: Say: Glory be to Thee, O my God! Thou…

He is God!

Say: Glory be to Thee, O my God! Thou hearest the cry of the yearning ones in their remoteness and separation, and the wailing of the lovers in their distance and longing. I beseech Thee by the hearts wherein are treasured the pearls of Thy hidden knowledge, and which Thou hast made the dawning-places of the mysteries of what was and what will be, to draw Thy seeking servants nigh unto the seat of the glory of Thy oneness, then cause them to enter, O my God, the pavilion of Thy mercy and favors, and the canopy of Thy nearness and kindness. O my God, gaze upon me with the glances of Thy grace, then send down upon me that which will make me detached from all else but Thee and will cause me to speak Thy praise amongst Thy servants. Draw me, O my God, in such wise that there may be manifested from me that whereby the hearts of all the worlds will be attracted. Then grant me that which will make me independent of all else besides Thee. Verily Thou art powerful over all things, and praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH09059: This is a Book from Us to him who…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Glorious!

This is a Book from Us to him who hath believed and been guided, that the call of his Lord may draw him to the ultimate station, round which circle the Sadratu'l-Muntaha. By God! He is verily the supreme Sign, the Most Great Sign, the Lord of the throne and of the dust, the Sovereign of the hereafter and of this world. O servant! If thou art seized by the attraction of the verses and by the fragrance of thy Lord's garment, the Lord of names and attributes, then detach thyself from thyself and from all thou beholdest, and turn with thy heart unto God, thy Lord, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious. Thus have We called out to thee from the shore of eternity in the Crimson Spot. This is of thy Lord's grace unto thee, that thou mayest be of them who remember. Take hold of God's Tablet through His power, and follow not him who hath turned away from guidance.

BH09100: Thy Lord is God; naught is there save Him

Thy Lord is God; naught is there save Him

O people of Baha! Adorn your temples with the ornament of trustworthiness and courtesy, and your heads with the crown of truthfulness and wisdom. Thus have you been commanded by God, the Lord of all beings. Fear God, O people of insight. Say: He commands you that which benefits you. If you follow My way, verily He will guide you to the straight path. Whoso is adorned with the ornament of My character traits verily shines forth in the kingdom and by him the horizons are illumined. Hold fast to My nature. By My life! Through virtuous character your station is elevated and your glory becomes manifest throughout the lands. Those who follow their desires and turn away from guidance, they are but in loss. Through deeds is the station of men made manifest. Blessed is he from whose deeds waft the sweet fragrances of holiness and from whose utterance the perfume of wisdom. He is the lamp of guidance among creation, to which the Mighty, the All-Knowing bears witness.

BH08782: A remembrance from Baha unto His servant, that He…

He is the Most Holy, the Most Exalted

A remembrance from Baha unto His servant, that He might detach him from all who are in the heavens and on earth and draw him nigh unto a Beauty wondrous indeed. O servant! Be thou steadfast in the Cause of thy Lord, and deprive not thyself of the shores of eternity, from whose every sandhill there calleth out:

> “There is none other God but Him, and verily He hath appeared with a mighty sovereignty.”

Leave the kingdom behind thee, then ascend unto this heaven which was, in truth, exalted high. Arise to serve the Cause, then make mention of it to them that have sought the countenance of the All-Merciful, that perchance the breaths of the Cause may attract them to a holy and resplendent spot. And the Spirit be upon thee and upon every faithful soul.

BH08783: God makes mention of His servant in the heaven…

He is the Most Exalted, the Most Holy, the Most Glorious.

God makes mention of His servant in the heaven of eternity, that he may remember through the remembrance of God in these days wherein all have turned away from the Beauty Who hath appeared in the heaven of creation and Who speaketh at every moment saying:

> “There is no God but Me, the Mighty, the Glorious, the All-Forgiving.”

O servant! Bear thou witness even as thy Lord hath borne witness, and turn not unto those who have disbelieved in God and whose souls are veiled by veils and coverings. Be thou steadfast in the Cause and turn not unto anyone, and in all matters place thy trust in God, thy Lord. Verily He will protect thee from the wicked. Beware lest thou forget God’s favor upon thee; rather remember Him in the evening and at dawn.

BH08849: Praised be Thou, O my God! Thou seest how…

Praised be Thou, O my God! Thou seest how Thy righteous servants have fallen into the hands of the wicked doers, who have disbelieved in Thy name, the Unconstrained, and denied Thy majesty, and Thine unrestrained authority, and Thy strength, and Thy sovereign might. Their mouths utter what the mouths of the Jews uttered aforetime.

Put forth, therefore, out of the bosom of Thy glory, O my Lord, the hand of Thine omnipotence, and through it assist Thou Thy loved ones who, though sore-tried in Thy path with such trials as have caused the inmates of the kingdom of Thy Cause to groan, were not deterred from turning towards the horizon of Thy Revelation.

Set, then, the seal of Thine unerring protection on their hearts, O my Lord, lest perchance the remembrance of aught else except Thee enter therein. Make them able, moreover, to proclaim Thy name amidst Thy creatures, and supply them with the best of what Thou hast destined for such of Thy chosen ones as enjoy near access to Thee.

Potent art Thou to do Thy pleasure. Thou truly art the All-Glorious, to whom all cry for help.

BH08822: Glorified art Thou, O Lord my God! I beseech…

Glorified art Thou, O Lord my God! I beseech Thee by Him Who is Thy Most Great Name, Who hath been sorely afflicted by such of Thy creatures as have repudiated Thy truth, and Who hath been hemmed in by sorrows which no tongue can describe, to grant that I may remember Thee and celebrate Thy praise, in these days when all have turned away from Thy beauty, have disputed with Thee, and turned away disdainfully from Him Who is the Revealer of Thy Cause. None is there, O my Lord, to help Thee except Thine own Self, and no power to succor Thee save Thine own power.

I entreat Thee to enable me to cleave steadfastly to Thy Love and Thy remembrance. This is, verily, within my power, and Thou art the One that knoweth all that is in me. Thou, in truth, art knowing, apprised of all. Deprive me not, O my Lord, of the splendors of the light of Thy face, whose brightness hath illuminated the whole world. No God is there beside Thee, the Most Powerful, the All-Glorious, the Ever-Forgiving.

BH08852: Glory to Thee, O my God! One of Thy…

Glory to Thee, O my God! One of Thy handmaidens, who hath believed in Thee and in Thy signs, hath entered beneath the shadow of the tree of Thy oneness. Give her to quaff, O my God, by Thy Name, the Manifest and the Hidden, of Thy choice sealed Wine that it may take her away from her own self, and make her to be entirely devoted to Thy remembrance, and wholly detached from any one beside Thee.

Now that Thou hast revealed unto her the knowledge of Thee, O my Lord, deny her not, by Thy bounty, Thy grace; and now that Thou hast called her unto Thyself, drive her not away from Thee, through Thy favor. Supply her, then, with that which excelleth all that can be found on Thine earth. Thou art, verily, the Most Bountiful, Whose grace is immense.

Wert Thou to bestow on one of Thy creatures what would equal the kingdoms of earth and heaven, it would still not diminish by even as much as an atom the immensity of Thy dominion. Far greater art Thou than the Great One men are wont to call Thee, for such a title is but one of Thy names all of which were created by a mere indication of Thy will.

There is no God but Thee, the God of power, the God of glory, the God of knowledge and wisdom.

BH08736: O divine maidservant! God willing, may you ever be…

He is the Most Holy, the Most Glorious

O divine maidservant! God willing, may you ever be and continue to be occupied with the remembrance of the Beloved of the world. The mention of God is the companion of souls and the quickener of hearts. Strive to become free from mention of aught else through His remembrance, and with perfect steadfastness and detachment find rest beneath the shadow of His mercy. Today the manifestations of Satan are occupied with all manner of schemes to prevent the people from drawing near to the shore of oneness. Hold fast to the hem of the Friend and cling to the Divine Lote Tree, lest contaminated winds sever that leaf from the Tree of the Cause. This is a Day wherein the Beloved speaks "We have known thee" and Moses declares "Verily we have seen thee." Strive that you may not lag behind those who seek the Abha City. This is God's counsel to His male and female servants.

BH09108: O Thou Most Exalted Pen! Make mention of one…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Glorious

O Thou Most Exalted Pen! Make mention of one of the handmaidens, that the call of her Lord, the Most High, may attract her from the direction of ʿAkka and cause her to soar in the atmosphere wherein blow the breezes of the mercy of her Lord, the Mighty, the Bountiful. O My handmaiden! Detach thyself from all else but Me and take comfort in My remembrance. Thus hath the Tongue of My Will commanded thee from within the pavilion of My majesty. Beware lest the veils of idle fancies prevent thee from the Purpose of the worlds. Be thou thankful that the Pen, through which was detailed the knowledge of what hath been and what is to be in the Tablet of thy Lord, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy, hath been moved to make mention of thee. Be thou steadfast in My Cause and grieve thou not over aught save My tribulations, for I testify that I am in manifest joy. And the glory be upon thee and upon those handmaidens who have believed in God, the Single, the One, the Most High, the Great.

BH08848: Praise be unto Thee, O my God! Thou seest…

In the name of God, the Most Holy, the most Glorious

Praise be unto Thee, O my God! Thou seest how He Who is Thy Light hath been shut up in the fortress-town of ʿAkka, and been sore oppressed by reason of what the hands of the wicked doers have wrought, whose corrupt desires have kept them back from turning towards Thee, O Thou Who art the King of all names!

I swear by Thy glory! Tribulations, however woeful, can never hinder me from remembering Thee or from celebrating Thy praise. Every vexation borne for love of Thee is a token of Thy mercy unto Thy creatures, and every ordeal suffered in Thy path is but a gift from Thee bestowed on Thy chosen ones. I testify that my countenance, which shineth above the Day-Spring of eternity, hath been irradiated by adversity, and my body hath been adorned by it before all who are in heaven and all who are on earth.

I pray Thee, by Thy Most Great Name, to aid all them that have believed on Thee and on Thy signs to be steadfast in Thy love and to set themselves towards the Dawning-Place of the Day-Star of Thy loving-kindness. Inspire them, then, O my God, with what will unloose their tongue to praise Thee, and will draw them nigh unto Thee in the life that now is and the life that is to come.

Thou truly art the Almighty, the All-Glorious, the Beneficent.

BH08825: Glorified art Thou, O my God! I beseech Thee…

Glorified art Thou, O my God! I beseech Thee by Thy Name through which Thou hast subdued all who are in the heavens and on earth to preserve the lamp of Thy Cause within the glass of Thy power and bounty, lest the winds of denial blow upon it from the direction of those who have been heedless of the mysteries of Thy chosen Name. Then increase its light through the oil of Thy wisdom. Verily, Thou art the Powerful over those who are in Thy earth and Thy heaven. O Lord! I beseech Thee by the Most Great Word whereby all who are in earth and heaven were seized with terror, save those who held fast to the Sure Handle, that Thou leave me not among Thy creatures, but raise me up unto Thee and cause me to enter beneath the shadow of Thy mercy and give me to drink of the pure wine of Thy bounty, that I may dwell in the pavilion of Thy glory and the canopies of Thy favors. Verily, Thou art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest, and Thou art the All-Compelling, the Self-Subsisting.

BH08834: Glorified art Thou, O Lord, my God! Thou seest…

In the Name of God, the Ever-Abiding.

Glorified art Thou, O Lord, my God! Thou seest me in the hands of Mine enemies, and My son bloodstained before Thy face, O Thou in Whose hands is the kingdom of all names. I have, O my Lord, offered up that which Thou hast given Me, that Thy servants may be quickened and all that dwell on earth be united. I beseech Thee, O Quickener of hearts, by Thy Name whereby the Most Great Distinction hath been made manifest among mankind, to send down from the clouds of Thy mercy upon Thy loved ones that which shall draw them nigh unto Thee. Then rend, O my God, the veil that hath intervened between Thee and Thy servants, that they may recognize Thee in Thy days and turn unto their goal which hath descended from the heaven of Thy Cause. Then ordain, O my God, for them that have set their faces toward the Most Remote Spot and toward Thy Most Glorious Horizon, that which Thou hast ordained for the sincere among Thy creatures, who have attained unto Thy presence and hearkened unto Thy call. Verily Thou art the Omnipotent, the Mighty, the Generous.

BH09162: O Thou Whose face is the object…

O Thou Whose face is the object of the adoration of all that yearn after Thee, Whose presence is the hope of such as are wholly devoted to Thy will, Whose nearness is the desire of all that have drawn nigh unto Thy court, Whose countenance is the companion of those who have recognized Thy truth, Whose name is the mover of the souls that long to behold Thy face, Whose voice is the true life of Thy lovers, the words of Whose mouth are as the waters of life unto all who are in heaven and on earth!

I beseech Thee, by the wrong Thou hast suffered and the ills inflicted upon Thee by the hosts of wrongful doers, to send down upon me from the clouds of Thy mercy that which will purify me of all that is not of Thee, that I may be worthy to praise Thee and fit to love Thee.

Withhold not from me, O my Lord, the things Thou didst ordain for such of Thy handmaidens as circle around Thee, and on whom are poured continually the splendors of the sun of Thy beauty and the beams of the brightness of Thy face. Thou art He Who from everlasting hath succored whosoever hath sought Thee, and bountifully favored him who hath asked Thee.

No God is there beside Thee, the Mighty, the Ever-Abiding, the All-Bounteous, the Most Generous.

BH08837: O my God! Glory be unto Thee! Aid, then…

He is the Most Manifest

O my God! Glory be unto Thee! Aid, then, O my God, him who hath loved Thee and hath sought Thy face. He hath indeed arrived, O my God, upon the shore of Thy Cause and Thy good-pleasure, and hath held fast unto the cord of Thy bounties.

I beseech Thee by Thy Name through which Thou hast guided them that are nigh unto Thee to the dawning-places of the lights of Thy countenance, and hast caused them that love Thee to soar in the atmosphere of Thy nearness and reunion, and hast given to drink unto them that long for Thee from the chalices of Thy love and knowledge—to ordain for him through Thy Most Exalted Pen that which Thou hast ordained for Thy chosen ones and the best among Thy creatures.

Then grant him, through Thy grace and bounty, the good of this world and of the next. Then open through him, O my God, the doors that are shut, then quicken through him the dead hearts, then exalt him through Thy Name in Thy dominion.

Verily, Thou art the Powerful through Thy sovereignty. There is none other God but Thee, the Mighty, the All-Forgiving.

BH11838: O Husayn! This is not a day of sorrow…

In the name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious!

O Husayn! This is not a day of sorrow. Rejoice among the concourse of all worlds, then soar with the wings of certitude into the atmosphere of thy Lord’s mercy, the All-Merciful. Say: O my Lord! All praise be

unto Thee for having adorned my head with the crown of tribulation in Thy path, O Creator of the heavens! By this do I glory amidst the concourse of all names, and verily Thou art the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

Follow My nature in all matters, such that neither grief prevent thee from Him Who is the Sovereign of all nations, nor tribulation veil thee from the Most Exalted Horizon. Soon shall come days when the believers shall remember your names and lament over what ye have borne in the path of your Lord, the Almighty, the All-Powerful. Verily, tribulation hath not prevented him from the remembrance of his Lord. Thy Lord is, in truth, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. Praise be to God, the Mighty, the Great.

BH08686: O Muhammad! Rise to serve God and His Cause…

He is God, exalted is He in might and grandeur

O Muhammad! Rise to serve God and His Cause, and be a crimson flame unto the enemies of My Most Glorious Beauty and a white light unto the manifestations of My Most Exalted Name. Thus hath it been ordained for you from the heaven of mighty glory. Hold fast to a branch of this Tree which hath been raised up in truth, lest thou fall from the storms of days. Be steadfast in the Cause of thy Lord in truth, and be mindful in all thy days of the wondrous remembrance of thy Lord, that thou mayest find in thyself great joy. For the remembrance of God removeth all darkness from the hearts of His servants and rendereth them sanctified from all else besides Him. Thus have We remembered thee and commanded thee in this Tablet which is, in truth, wondrous.

BH08679: O ʿAli! We have learned of thy return…

In the Name of God, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed, the All-Kind, the All-Bountiful!

O ʿAli! We have learned of thy return to the City of God. Say: Glory be to Thee, O my God! All praise be to Thee for having caused me to return unto it.

I beseech Thee by Thy Name which Thou hast made as a fire unto the deniers and a paradise unto them that have recognized Thy unity, to take my hand with the hand of Thy power and sovereignty and deliver me from the depths of the imaginings of them that harbor doubts. Then cause me to be sincere before Thy face and to inhale the fragrance of the garment of Thy Cause, that I may be wholly detached from all else save Thee, and arise to serve Thy Cause, and aid Thy religion. Verily, Thou art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest.

Ordain for me that which Thou hast purposed, then send down upon me that which Thou hast loved and decreed, O Thou Who art the Beloved of the hearts of them that know Thee, and the Object of desire of the hearts of them that love Thee, and the Ultimate Goal of them that long for Thee, and the Hope of them that place their hopes in Thee.

BH08680: O Ghulam! Hearken unto the call of this Youth…

He is the Most Holy, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious

O Ghulam! Hearken unto the call of this Youth, through Whose countenance the heavens and earth were illumined—though, if thou shouldst inquire about Him, by God at this very moment He hath been cast into a pit and speaketh at all times saying:

> "O people of the Bayan! Detach yourselves from whatsoever hindereth you from God and from recognizing the Manifestation of His Self, and turn unto Him with faces radiant and resplendent."

And thou, O servant, arise to serve the Cause and turn not thy face to anyone among all who have been created between the heavens and the earth, for the Cause hath appeared in truth, and every possessor of knowledge, however learned, hath been thunderstruck thereby. Ascend on the wings of holiness to that station which hath been illumined with the lights of sanctity. Thus doth thy Lord command thee, that thou mayest find for thyself a path unto God and remain steadfast in the Cause.

BH08684: O Kalim! Hear My call, then soar…

He is God.

O Kalim! Hear My call, then soar in the atmosphere of the spirit and grieve not over anything. Then assist the Cause with an impregnable steadfastness. Today it is incumbent upon you to remain steadfast in the Cause and to assist it, for the ungodly have stood firm in their dissension and are at all times occupied with new schemes. God willing, you must, through the breaths of glory from the All-Merciful and the holy favors of the Eternal, arise at all times with utmost effort to assist the Cause. Furthermore, a Tablet was sent in reply to Sulayman. Consider it carefully. Thus have We commanded thee in truth, that thou mayest be among them that act. And the spirit and glory and splendor be upon thee and upon those who are with thee and who love thee for the sake of God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH08731: O my Lord! I am he who was heedless…

O my Lord! I am he who was heedless of the revelations of Thy grandeur in Thy days, and was asleep upon the couch of negligence after the exaltation of Thy Word. Praise be unto Thee, O my God, for having rent asunder my veil and guided me unto Thee. I beseech Thee, therefore, by Thy Self, to accept from me that which escaped me when the breezes of Thy grace were wafting. Forgive me, O my God, my grievous trespasses and my grave transgressions. Then make me as the day I was born of my mother, that I may call upon Thee with a pure tongue and an illumined heart. Verily, Thou art the Powerful, the Mighty, the Omnipotent. O my Lord! Make me and my family steadfast in Thy love and praise, that we might make good what hath escaped us in Thy days. Verily, Thou art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest. There is no God but Thee, the Mighty, the Generous.

BH08830: Glorified art Thou, O my God! I beseech Thee…

He is the Most Ancient

Glorified art Thou, O my God! I beseech Thee by Thy Hidden Name, and Thy Manifest Beauty, and by the Manifestation of Thy Supreme Self, Who is visible from this Most Glorious Horizon, to protect me and my

loved ones through Thy Most Great Protection and Thy mercy which hath preceded earth and heaven. Then cause us to be of those who have tasted the sweetness of Thy remembrance and who have detached themselves from all else besides Thee. Then make us, O my God, a mercy unto Thy loved ones and a wrath unto Thine enemies. O my God, we are Thy servants and Thy creation and are in the grasp of Thy power. I beseech Thee by Thy Self and by Him Whom Thou hast manifested as a revelation of Thy sovereignty, to aid us in that which Thou lovest and approvest. Verily Thou art He through Whose power all who possess power have derived their power. There is no God but Thee, the Exalted, the Supreme, the Help in Peril. Praise be to God, the Sovereign, the Omnipotent, the Supreme, the Mighty, the All-Bountiful.

BH08850: All praise be to Thee, O my God! Thou…

He is the Almighty

All praise be to Thee, O my God! Thou beholdest my helplessness and poverty, and bearest witness unto my woes and trials. How long wilt Thou abandon me among Thy servants? Suffer me to ascend into Thy presence. The power of Thy might beareth me witness! Such are the tribulations with which I am encompassed that I am powerless to recount them before Thy face. Thou, alone, verily, hast through Thy knowledge reckoned them.

I beseech Thee, O Thou Who art my Companion in my lowliness, to rain down upon Thy loved ones from the clouds of Thy mercy that which will cause them to be satisfied with Thy pleasure, and will enable them to turn unto Thee and to be detached from all else except Thee. Ordain, then, for them every good conceived by Thee and predestined in Thy Book. Thou art, verily, the All-Powerful, He Whom nothing whatsoever can frustrate. From everlasting Thou hast been clothed with transcendent greatness and power, with unspeakable majesty and glory. There is no God beside Thee, the Almighty, the All-Glorious, the Ever-Forgiving.

Glorified be Thy name, Thou in Whose hand are the kingdoms of earth and heaven.

BH08823: Glory be unto Thee, O my God! I beseech…

He is the Preserver

Glory be unto Thee, O my God! I beseech Thee by Thy Most Great Name, through which whoso hath borne it hath not drowned in the seas, nor been affected by the arrows of the wicked, nor been altered by poisons and denial, and through which every sinner hath attained the robe of Thy forgiveness and every sick one the garment of Thy healing, to make me so steadfast in Thy Cause that association with Thy creatures and fellowship with Thy servants shall not make me heedless, and to preserve me from every affliction and evil and pestilence and malady, and from the arrows of the intimations of the heedless and the swords of the allusions of those who turn away and the denial of the deniers. Then send down upon me, O my God, from the clouds of Thy mercy that which Thou hast promised me. Verily Thou art the best of those who send down and the best of those who fulfill their promise. There is no God but Thee, the Mighty, the Powerful, the Beautiful.

BH08836: Praise be to Thee, O Lord my God! Thou…

Praise be to Thee, O Lord my God! Thou seest my tears and lamentations, and hearest my sighing, my cry and bitter wailing. I am the one, O my Lord, that hath held fast the cord of Thy mercy which hath surpassed the entire creation. I am the one that hath clung to the hem of Thy loving-kindness, O Thou in Whose hand is the empire of all names!

Have mercy upon me and upon them that are in my company, through the wonders of Thy grace and power. Shield us, then, O my God, from the mischief of Thine enemies, and assist us to help Thy Faith, and to protect Thy Cause, and to celebrate Thy glory. Thou art, verily, He Who from everlasting hath inhabited the inaccessible heights of His unity, and will continue to remain the same for ever and ever. Nothing whatsoever escapeth Thy knowledge, nor is there anything that can frustrate Thee. No God is there beside Thee, the Almighty, the Ever-Faithful, the Most Exalted, the All-Glorious, the Best-Beloved.

Lauded and glorified art Thou, in Whose hand is the empire of all things!

BH08824: Magnified, O Lord my God, be Thy Name, whereby…

In the name of God, the Most Holy

Magnified, O Lord my God, be Thy Name, whereby the trees of the garden of Thy Revelation have been clad with verdure, and been made to yield the fruits of holiness during this Springtime when the sweet savors of Thy favors and blessings have been wafted over all things, and caused them to bring forth whatsoever had been preordained for them in the Kingdom of Thine irrevocable decree and the Heaven of Thine immutable purpose. I beseech Thee by this very Name not to suffer me to be far from the court of Thy holiness, nor debarred from the exalted sanctuary of Thy unity and oneness.

Ignite, then, O my God, within my breast the fire of Thy love, that its flame may burn up all else except my remembrance of Thee, that every trace of corrupt desire may be entirely mortified within me, and that naught may remain except the glorification of Thy transcendent and all-glorious Being. This is my highest aspiration, mine ardent desire, O Thou Who rulest all things, and in Whose hand is the kingdom of the entire creation. Thou, verily, doest what Thou choosest. No God is there beside Thee, the Almighty, the All-Glorious, the Ever-Forgiving.

BH09056: This is a Book from God, the Mighty…

He is the Most Holy, the Most Glorious!

This is a Book from God, the Mighty, the Wise. Verily it is the spirit of life unto all the worlds. In every word of thy Lord’s verses is concealed a spirit which, should God permit it to appear, would cause the heavens and earth to be drawn unto it. He who hath found the fragrance of the All-Merciful in this Day will stand firm in the Cause in such wise that those who have disbelieved shall not turn him aside. Verily thy Lord will aid whomsoever hath desired His presence. He is with His sincere servants. O thou who gazest, gaze and thou shalt behold Me. Verily he who hath turned unto Me is of them who have seen Me. Thy Lord is witness to what I say. Leave the dead and hold fast unto the Name through which every

sincere and trustworthy one hath held fast. Aid thy Lord amongst His servants. This is what God hath prescribed for everyone who hath believed in Him in this mighty Revelation.

BH08785: A mention from Us to her who hath believed…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Exalted, the Most High

A mention from Us to her who hath believed in God and hath turned with a luminous countenance toward the Dayspring of grace, that the words of the Lord of Names and Attributes may attract her and may cause her to turn unto the Dawning-Place of verses. Thus hath it been inscribed by the Pen of the Ancient of Days upon a sublime and wondrous Tablet. O My handmaiden! Know thou that We have found in thy heart the love of God, the Manifestation of His Essence, and We have sent unto thee this Tablet that thou mayest find therein that which will rejoice thy heart and solace thine eyes. Verily, the grace of thy Lord hath encompassed the worlds. We have ordained for thee in the All-Glorious Paradise a station such as none have attained among those who have tasted the sweetness of love in this Most Great, this Most Mighty Revelation. Grieve thou not over anything. Verily, thy Lord is with thee. He, verily, sufficeth thee, and He, verily, is powerful over all things.

BH08891: Blessed is he who hath drunk from the Salsabil…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Holy!

Blessed is he who hath drunk from the Salsabil of immortality proffered by the hand of his Lord, the Most High, and stood firm in his love for his Lord in such wise that neither tribulations could hinder him from turning towards the All-Glorious Horizon nor destiny's decree could veil him from beholding the Lord of Names. The world hath passed and shall pass away. Woe unto him who hath turned away from this Ocean through which the life of all worlds was sustained. Blessed is he who hath turned towards it and drunk therefrom and whom the might of the oppressors hath not deterred. Thou, verily, grieve not over anything. Purify thyself from whatsoever hindereth thee from remembering Me. Will anything on earth profit anyone when death overtaketh him? Nay, by the Lord of all worlds! Blessed is he unto whom death is the ultimate annihilation and the beginning of his immortality through God, the Almighty, the Help in Peril, the Self-Subsisting.

BH09060: This is a Book from Us to one…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Glorious!

This is a Book from Us to one of Our handmaidens, that she may rejoice in the remembrance of God and be numbered among the devout. O My handmaiden! Hearken unto My call, then detach thyself from all that hath been created in earth and heaven. Verily, thy Lord is with those among His remembering servants and His pure handmaidens who have turned towards His Countenance. Remember thy Lord with this prayer:

O Thou in Whose hand is the kingdom of earth and heaven, and within Whose grasp is the empire of destiny! I beseech Thee by Thy Name through which the greatest veil was rent asunder and the Most

Pure Manifestation appeared from the horizon of Thy Command, to draw me nigh unto the seat of the throne of Thy oneness in Thy holy court, that I may hearken unto Thy call. Verily, Thou art the Omnipotent over what Thou willest, and Thou art the Ever-Forgiving, the All-Bountiful.

BH09058: This is a Book from Us to her who…

In the Name of God, the Most Wondrous, the Most Holy

This is a Book from Us to her who hath believed in her Lord, that the melodies of her Lord may attract her once again from this Most Exalted Scene, the Spot wherein have shone forth the lights of the countenance of our Most Glorious Lord. O My handmaiden! Grieve not, but rather purify thyself from this world and all that is therein, and thy heart from all that pertaineth thereunto, that the Sun of the remembrance of the name of thy Lord may shine upon it. Know thou that this world shall pass away. Were all the treasures of the earth to be gathered before thee, not one of them would profit thee when the messenger of thy Chosen Lord cometh unto thee. And that which hath been ordained for thee in the Kingdom of thy Lord shall not profit thee. Seek thou, therefore, from the bounty of thy Lord that which He hath ordained for thee. Verily, He is the Best of Givers and the Most Merciful of the merciful. And the Spirit and Glory be upon those handmaidens who have believed in God, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting.

BH08901: Know thou, O wayfarer unto God, that all things…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Glorious!

Know thou, O wayfarer unto God, that all things bear witness that thou hast attained unto the presence of God, the Lord of the worlds to come and of those gone before, and hast entered the spot whereof every atom proclaimeth: “There is none other God but Him, the Most Exalted, the Most High.” Hearken thou unto My call, and grieve not because of them that have disbelieved in God on this Day wherein He hath established Himself upon the throne and calleth from the depths of earth: “Say: Glory be to Thee, O my God! Praise be unto Thee for having destined for me the best of all worlds, inasmuch as Thou hast caused me to appear in a place before which bow down in adoration all who are in the heavens and on earth. I beseech Thee, O my Lord, by Thine own Self, to make me steadfast in Thy Cause, firm in Thy service, and to ordain for me that which is best for me. Thou, verily, art the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.”

BH08638: Although the darkness of oppression hath encompassed all regions…

He is God, the Most Holy, the Most Glorious

Although the darkness of oppression hath encompassed all regions and the hand of tyranny of the oppressors hath been stretched forth against the oppressed, yet praise be to God that from the holy divine horizon the Sun of the Most Great Remembrance hath dawned forth and ere long its radiance shall prevail and consume the veil of darkness. Although today the people are deprived of beholding the lights of the Sun due to the clouds of fancy and imagination, yet ere long the fingers of destiny shall rend asunder the intervening veil and the rays of the Sun shall encompass all. Then shall they say:

> “Would that we had not been negligent in our duty to God, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting!”

O friends of Truth! Today ye must be detached from all save God and, with complete certitude and perfect assurance, turn toward the All-Merciful. And peace be upon you.

BH08761: O Most Holy, Most Great, Most Glorious One!

O Most Holy, Most Great, Most Glorious One!

Thou seest, O my God, Thy loved ones in dire abasement through that which the hands of the wicked have wrought. O Lord! They have turned toward Thee and acknowledged Thy oneness, and for this there hath befallen them that which hath caused the dwellers of the pavilion of Thy grandeur to lament, and those who abide within the tabernacles of Thy glory and majesty to weep. O Lord! Strengthen them through Thy sovereignty; then rend asunder the veils that stand between Thee and Thy creatures, that they may behold what Thou hast ordained for them through Thy bounty and favor. Draw nigh, O my God, unto them that desire Thy reunion and presence, then cause them to enter the precincts of Thy mercy. O Lord! Deprive them not of the fragrant breezes of Thy nearness and the sweet savors of Thy verses. Then preserve them, O my God, beneath the shade of Thy mercy, and illumine their eyes with the light of Thy knowledge and their hearts with the lights of Thy throne. Thou, verily, art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest, and Thou art the Protector, the Self-Subsisting.

BH08826: Glorified art Thou, O my God! I beseech Thee…

In the Name of God, the Exalted, the Most High!

Glorified art Thou, O my God! I beseech Thee by Thy Name through which Thou didst distinguish between Thy lovers and Thine enemies, and through which was manifested Thy sovereignty and Thy power, to send down from the heaven of Thy Will that which will purify the hearts of the doubters among Thy servants and the heedless among Thy creatures, that all may know Thee in the garment of Thy unity and bear witness to Thy oneness. O my God! None hath any refuge save Thee, nor any path except unto Thee. At this moment all journeys have ended in a single journey, which is their turning from all else unto Thee. Therefore, make known to the people of Thy realm this clear and straight path, that they may walk therein and attain unto Thy knowledge and Thy good-pleasure. Verily, Thou art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest. There is no God but Thee, the Mighty, the Powerful, the Self-Subsisting.

BH08829: Glorified art Thou, O my God! I beseech Thee…

In the Name of God, the Mighty, the All-Knowing!

Glorified art Thou, O my God! I beseech Thee by Thy Name, the Self-Subsisting, through which Thou didst give glad tidings to Thy servants and made it the Sustainer of all names and the Guardian over all things, to assist me to love Thee and praise Thee, and to make me detached from those who have denied Thee and Thy signs, who have turned away from Thee and Thy proof, and who have objected to Thee and to the Manifestation of Thy Self Who came from the heaven of inner meanings with Thy revelation and Thy inspiration. Verily, Thou art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest through Thy Will and Purpose. O my God! Drive not this poor one from the door of Thy riches, and remove not this handmaiden from the

paradise of Thy nearness and Thy presence. I have, O my God, acknowledged Thy oneness, therefore accept me through Thy mercy, for verily Thou art the Mighty, the Forgiving, the Generous.

BH08838: Lauded be Thy name, O Lord my God! Darkness…

Lauded be Thy name, O Lord my God! Darkness hath fallen upon every land, and the forces of mischief have encompassed all the nations. Through them, however, I perceive the splendors of Thy wisdom, and discern the brightness of the light of Thy providence.

They that are shut out as by a veil from Thee have imagined that they have the power to put out Thy light, and to quench Thy fire, and to still the winds of Thy grace. Nay, and to this Thy might beareth me witness! Had not every tribulation been made the bearer of Thy wisdom, and every ordeal the vehicle of Thy providence, no one would have dared oppose us, though the powers of earth and heaven were to be leagued against us. Were I to unravel the wondrous mysteries of Thy wisdom which are laid bare before me, the reins of Thine enemies would be cleft asunder.

Glorified be Thou, then, O my God! I beseech Thee by Thy Most Great Name to assemble them that love Thee around the Law that streameth from the good-pleasure of Thy will, and to send down upon them what will assure their hearts.

Potent art Thou to do what pleaseth Thee. Thou art, verily, the Help in Peril, the Self-Subsisting.

BH08839: Glorified art Thou, O my God! This is Thy…

In the Name of Him Who is remembered but not known!

Glorified art Thou, O my God! This is Thy servant who hath been illumined by the lamp of Thy oneness and hath turned toward the seat of the throne of Thy grandeur, and hath found the breezes of Thy name, the All-Glorious, from the right hand of certitude from this direction wherein Thy sovereignty hath been established over all who are in the heavens and on earth, and Thy countenance hath shone forth unto Thy creatures who were not prevented by the veils of glory from turning unto Thy majesty nor by the veils of error from beholding Thy beauty.

I beseech Thee, O Lord of all beings and Cleaver of the dawn, deny him not the wonders of Thy knowledge nor deprive him from the sanctuary of Thy holiness and the Kaaba of Thy unity. Then inspire him with that which will cause him to soar at all times in the atmosphere of Thy might, O Fashioner of the worlds and Creator of all creation!

There is none other God but Thee, the Mighty, the Powerful, the All-Bountiful.

BH08853: Glorified art Thou, O Lord my God! Thou hast…

Glorified art Thou, O Lord my God! Thou hast, in Thine all highest Paradise, assigned unto Thy servants such stations that if any one of them were to be unveiled to men’s eyes all who are in heaven and all who are on earth would be dumbfounded. By Thy might! Were kings to witness so great a glory they would,

assuredly, rid themselves of their dominions and cleave to such of their subjects as have entered beneath the shadow of Thine immeasurable mercy and sought the shelter of Thine all-glorious name.

I implore Thee, O thou Who art the Beloved of the worlds and the Desire of all that have recognized Thee, by Thy name, through which Thou stirrest up whom Thou willest and drawest toward Thee whom Thou pleasest, to open the eyes of all that are dear to Thee, that haply they may not be veiled from Thee as the peoples of the earth are, but may outwardly perceive the signs and tokens of Thy power, and inwardly apprehend the things Thou didst ordain for them in the realms of Thy glory.

Potent art Thou to do Thy pleasure. Thou art the one alone Beloved in both this world and in the next. No God is there but Thee, the Most Exalted, the All-Glorious.

BH08858: The All-Glorious, The Most Holy

The All-Glorious, The Most Holy

Glorified art Thou, O my God! Aid Thy servants to turn towards the Dawning-Place of Thy revelation and inspiration, and Thy handmaidens to the horizon of Thy Cause and the dayspring of Thy guidance. O my God! Thou knowest that my call hath not been raised except for the triumph of Thy Cause and the salvation of Thy creatures. Draw them through it, O my Beloved, to the heaven of Thy bounty and the atmosphere of Thy mercy and the direction of Thy loving-kindness. O Lord! They are asleep and know nothing. I beseech Thee by the Bearer of Thy Cause to make them among those who have detached themselves from all else but Thee and hastened to the fountain of Thy recognition. Then adorn, O my God, their tongues with Thy remembrance and praise, their hearts with Thy love and steadfastness in Thy Cause, and their breasts with the lights of Thy knowledge. Verily Thou art the One Who ruleth as He pleaseth and Who hath power over whatsoever He willeth. There is none other God but Thee, the Mighty, the All-Wise.

BH08920: The clouds have gathered over the face…

In the Name of God, the One, the Incomparable!

The clouds have gathered over the face of the heaven, and though they may come between the sun and its radiance upon all things, yet they pour forth that which causes the earth to bring forth its burden; soon shall it lay down its load and bring forth its treasures and whatever secrets are stored therein. Though tribulations may intervene between Us and Our loved ones, yet there shall be revealed that which lies hidden therein of its mysteries and the wisdom of its Originator, its Sender, and its Ordainer. Grieve not over what hath befallen Us, but put your trust in God under all conditions. Then stand firm in the Cause, for this is better for you if you look to the end. Praise be to God, the All-Powerful, the Mighty, the Supreme, the King, the Sovereign, the All-Knowing, the Most Exalted. And the Spirit be upon him who stands firm in the love of God.

BH08922: Your letter has come before Us in this Station…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious!

Your letter has come before Us in this Station where the Mother Book was witnessed from its horizon. We took it with the hand of loving-kindness and read it, then answered you with this Tablet which was inscribed by the Pen of Command.

Say: Glory be unto Thee, O my God! Draw me, by the wondrous melodies of Thy voice, in such wise that I may detach myself from all else but Thee and stand firm in that which Thou hast commanded me in Thy days. O Lord! Make me one who speaks Thy praise and remains steadfast in Thy love. Then send down upon my heart that which will cause to flow from it the Salsabil of Thy remembrance and knowledge, that I may understand what Thou hast revealed in Thy Tablets. O Lord! Deprive me not of the sweetness of Thy remembrance, nor of the knowledge of what Thou hast sent down of the wondrous verses of Thy Tablets. Verily Thou art the Generous, possessed of great bounty. There is no God but Thee, the Forgiving, the Merciful.

BH11842: God desired your departure from the Land of Mystery…

In the name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Exalted!

God desired your departure from the Land of Mystery lest you hear the great terror in the days when the ungodly seized the gates of the House and the Ancient Beauty departed from it due to what the hands of those who disbelieved in God, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting, had wrought. Do not grieve over what befell you on the path—there befell Us what was far greater than what befell you, and your Lord is witness to what I say. Let not tribulations prevent you from turning to your Lord, the Most High, the Most Glorious. Be steadfast in the Cause and put your trust in God, the Powerful, the Mighty, the Loving. Glorify the praise of your Lord and say:

> "O my Lord! Send down upon me that which is best for me. You know what is within my soul while I know not what is within Your Self. Verily You are the Knower of the consequences of all things."

BH11843: O Dhabih! Forget not the favor of thy Lord…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Glorious!

O Dhabih! Forget not the favor of thy Lord, and turn not unto tribulation. By My life! Through it My Cause was exalted in the ancient centuries. Verily thy Lord is He Who hath power over whatsoever He willeth. Say: O people! We have accepted abasement for your glory. Fear God, and follow not those who have disbelieved in God, the All-Powerful, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. Grieve not over what hath befallen Us. Be patient until the promise cometh to pass. Then shalt thou see the people turning towards the horizon of My luminous and radiant countenance. Be as I am, in such wise that the oppressors' might shall not hold thee back from the remembrance of thy Lord. Leave behind what is with the people, then ascend unto My Kingdom that thou mayest behold Me powerful over all who are in the heavens and on earth.

BH09321: These are the verses of God, the King…

He is the Most Holy, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious.

These are the verses of God, the King, the Truth, the Manifest. We have sent them down upon one of Our servants that he may remember within himself and be of them that remember. O servant! Forget not the time when thou didst enter the Garden of Paradise and didst sit in the presence of God, the Mighty, the Beautiful, and the Tongue of God spoke with thee openly. By My life! This is indeed a mighty favor. Fear God, O servant, and forget not thy Lord's favor, for His favor upon thee hath been abundant. Be thou steadfast in the love of thy Lord, then remember Him in thy heart and be thou of them that remember. Thus doth God command thee. Act thou according to that which thou hast been commanded by the Mighty, the Wise.

BH09338: The Spirit hath made mention of His servant…

He is the Most Holy, the Most Exalted

The Spirit hath made mention of His servant in the Tablet, and he was indeed remembered by the Spirit, that He might cause him to be set ablaze with the fire of the Cause in such wise that he may speak forth in praise of his Lord. Thus hath grace been made manifest. Aid ye your Lord through goodly deeds and then through utterance. Thus have ye been commanded by the All-Merciful, Who hath knowledge of all things. They who spread corruption in the land have indeed gone astray and were far removed from the truth. Cast aside the allusions of the people of idle fancies and then take unto God a path. O My loved ones! Be not grieved by the world and its conditions. By God! There hath been ordained for you in the worlds of eternity that which the Pen is powerless to describe, and God is witness to what I say.

BH09595: This is a Tablet from Us to the one…

He is the Most Holy, the Most Exalted

This is a Tablet from Us to the one who acknowledged God on a Day when tongues were stilled, that he may be assured that He loves those who desire Him and remembers those who turned to His countenance when the Promised One appeared and feet stumbled. Say: O people! Test not your Lord God, for He tests whomsoever He wishes. He is verily the Mighty, the Self-Subsisting. Follow what you have been commanded in the Book. Thus does your All-Knowing Lord counsel you. Those who follow their passions and attribute themselves to Us, these are in heedlessness and error. It behooveth those who have turned to God to manifest that which will diffuse the fragrance of holiness among the servants. Blessed is he who is adorned with the attributes of his Lord—he is of those who fulfilled the Covenant on the Day of Separation.

BH09507: Say: Glorified art Thou, O God of earth…

He is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed

Say: Glorified art Thou, O God of earth and heaven! Aid Thy servants to behold with the Supreme Horizon's gaze, lest the might of fate prevent them from turning to Thy Most Glorious Face. Verily Thou art the Powerful over what Thou willest and the Sovereign over all names. There is no God but Thee, the Omnipotent, the Supreme, the Mighty, the All-Wise. Help ye your Lord, the All-Merciful—soon shall time be rolled up and the Cock of the Throne shall crow upon the branches. Blessed is he who fulfilleth God's

Covenant in days wherein there hath dawned from the horizon of the Bayan the Sun of Wisdom and Exposition, which appeared in His Most Glorious Name in the Kingdom of creation. Thus hath it been ordained by One mighty and great. And praise be to God, the Lord of the Day of Judgment.

BH09375: Glorified art Thou, O my God! I beseech Thee…

He is the Most Holy

Glorified art Thou, O my God! I beseech Thee by Thy Name through which Thou hast made me the Qayyum over all names and the Manifestation of Thy signs between earth and heaven, to make me a servant unto Thyself, one who speaks in Thy remembrance, stands firm in Thy Cause, wields power over Thy servants, and holds sway over those in Thy earth and Thy heaven, that I may remain steadfast in manifesting Thy Cause in such wise that the turning away of Thy servants and the cawing of Thy creatures shall not deter me. Then I beseech Thee, O my God, to make my loved ones branches of this Tree which hath been raised up through Thy command and Thy will. Move them by the winds of Thy will as Thou pleasest. Verily, Thou art the One Who hath power over all things. Thou doest what Thou willest and ordainest what Thou pleasest. There is none other God but Thee, the Almighty, the Mighty, the All-Knowing.

BH09383: Exalted art Thou, O Lord my God! I am…

Exalted art Thou, O Lord my God! I am the one who hath forsaken his all and set his face towards the splendors of the glory of Thy countenance, who hath severed every tie and clung to the cord of Thy love and of Thy good-pleasure. I am he, O my God, who hath embraced Thy love and accepted all the adversities which the world can inflict, who hath offered up himself as a ransom for the sake of Thy loved ones, that they may ascend into the heavens of Thy knowledge and be drawn nearer unto Thee, and may soar in the atmosphere of Thy love and Thy good-pleasure.

Ordain, O my God, for me and for them that which Thou didst decree for such of Thy chosen ones as are wholly devoted unto Thee. Cause them, then, to be numbered among those whose eyes Thou hast cleansed and kept from turning to any one save Thee, and whose eyes Thou hast protected from beholding any face except Thy face.

Thou art, verily, the Almighty, the Most Exalted, the All-Glorious, the Supreme King, the Help in Peril, the All-Pardoner, the Ever-Forgiving.

BH09422: God testifies that there is no God but Him…

He is the One speaking from the Throne of Glory.

God testifies that there is no God but Him and that He Who came upon clouds of light with the name of ʿAli is His Manifestation and His sovereignty over all the worlds. He veiled His face for numbered days, then revealed Beauty once again with His Most Glorious Name. Exalted is this grace, the like of which the eyes of creation have never witnessed, and thus was the matter decreed from the right hand of the Throne. Then the ungodly arose in opposition until they denied Him in Whom they had believed, and thus

did the hand of separation cast them out from the heaven of mighty glory. And you, remain steadfast in the love of your Lord and do not deprive yourself of the holy breezes.

BH09401: All praise, O my God, be to Thee Who…

He is the Most Holy, the Most Glorious

All praise, O my God, be to Thee Who art the Source of all glory and majesty, of greatness and honor, of sovereignty and dominion, of loftiness and grace, of awe and power. Whomsoever Thou willest Thou causest to draw nigh unto the Most Great Ocean, and on whomsoever Thou desirest Thou conferrest the honor of recognizing Thy Most Ancient Name. Of all who are in heaven and on earth, none can withstand the operation of Thy sovereign Will. From all eternity Thou didst rule the entire creation, and Thou wilt continue for evermore to exercise Thy dominion over all created things. There is none other God but Thee, the Almighty, the Most Exalted, the All-Powerful, the All-Wise.

Illumine, O Lord, the faces of Thy servants, that they may behold Thee; and cleanse their hearts that they may turn unto the court of Thy heavenly favors, and recognize Him Who is the Manifestation of Thy Self and the Day-Spring of Thine Essence. Verily, Thou art the Lord of all worlds. There is no God but Thee, the Unconstrained, the All-Subduing.

BH09248: O morning breeze! Go forth with thy Lord's epistle…

In the Name of God, the Most High, the Most Glorious

O morning breeze! Go forth with thy Lord's epistle to all lands, that hearts may be quickened by the showers of the mercy of their Lord, the Mighty, the Chosen One. Should anyone ask thee of the Glory, say: By God, He lieth beneath the swords of His foes through that which the hands of the wicked have wrought. And should anyone inquire about His station, say: In the most desolate of lands. Should anyone ask about His physical frame, say: In grievous weakness, yet His spirit is in joy and delight through the love of God. Nothing can sadden Him, as witnesseth he whose sight hath been illumined by the light of recognition and who is numbered among the people of fairness. Rejoice thou in God's remembrance of thee, then rend asunder the veils in the name of thy Lord, Creator of earth and heaven.

BH09619: O my God and my Lord! How can I…

He is the All-Glorious, the Most High

O my God and my Lord! How can I thank Thee for having made me the dayspring of tribulations in Thy path and the dawning-place of trials in my love for Thee and in my pleasure in Thy good-pleasure? By Thy might, O Thou Who art the Well-Beloved of the worlds and the Goal of them that have recognized Thee! The swords cannot prevent me from turning to the face of Thy oneness, nor can the spears hinder me from walking in the paths of Thy transcendent unity. Can the lover find rest after his heart hath been set aflame with the fire of longing in his love for Thee? And can the sincere seeker find repose after the wafting of the fragrance of the robe of Thy mercy hath passed over him? Nay, by Thy might! The winds of hypocrisy cannot hold back the lovers, nor can the might of the horizons restrain them that yearn after

Thee. Thus hath the matter been decreed by the Pen of transcendent glory, and praise be unto My Self, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

BH09377: Glory be unto Thee, O my God! I beseech…

Glory be unto Thee, O my God! I beseech Thee by Thy Name through which the Bayan was sent down in Thy remembrance and praise, that Thou protect me beneath the shadow of the cloud of Thy supreme mercy and the canopy of Thy bounty that hath encompassed all things. Then make me steadfast in this Cause which hath caused the denizens of the Kingdom of Names to tremble. Then give me to drink, at all times, from the pure wine of immortality that I may detach myself wholly from all else but Thee and turn unto Thee.

O Lord! I have no will save what Thou hast willed, and no desire save what Thou hast desired. O Lord! Protect me within the stronghold of Thy protection and shield from all that may prevent me from Thee. Then send down upon me the good of this world and the next. Verily, Thou art the Sovereign of creation, the Originator of all beings, and the Sender of grace. There is none other God but Thee, the Almighty, the Exalted, the All-Merciful….

BH09295: O Karim

In the name of the Best Beloved of the worlds!

O Karim…

I swear by the Sun of the morn of unity that were the loved ones of God to be slain, it would be more acceptable to this Servant than that they should assail any soul. Say: O servants! The Beauty of the All-Merciful hath appeared for the quickening of the world and the unification of its peoples, not for causing division and the shedding of blood….

In any case, protect thy kinsmen from satanic whisperings, for Satan hath appeared in every form and is occupied with sowing doubts….

Say: O servants! The triumph of this Cause hath depended, and will continue to depend, upon the appearance of holy souls, upon the showing forth of goodly deeds, and the revelation of words of consummate wisdom….

BH09573: Your letter was received and its contents noted…

He is God

Your letter was received and its contents noted. In response to the person mentioned, a sublime Tablet was revealed and sent. By God! Were all who are in the heavens and on earth to reflect upon what was revealed therein, it would suffice them, but people remain veiled by veils as vast as the heavens and earths. Your honor should review it and deliver it, but strongly advise him to act with wisdom, lest any word be uttered that might cause harm to others. Additionally, a brief Tablet was written to Kalim—

review it and send it. And the glory be upon you and upon him who was named with your name, and verily he is My name, and upon those who are with you among the loved ones of God.

BH09387: Glorified art Thou, O my God! Thou seest…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Glorious!

Glorified art Thou, O my God! Thou seest the Desired One of the worlds beneath the swords of the idolaters, and hearest the lamentation of them that yearn for Thee, who have acknowledged Thee and turned towards Thee on the Day of Judgment. I beseech Thee, O Creator of names and Educator of earth and heaven, to give Thy loved ones to drink of that which will make them detached from all else save Thee and steadfast in Thy Cause. O Lord! Open then unto their hearts the gates of Thy bounty that they may behold what Thou hast ordained for them in the Kingdom of Thy might and the realm of Thy grandeur. Then make them, O my God, to abide through Thy perpetuity and to circle round Thy will. O Lord! Withhold not from them that which is with Thee, and grant them Thy nearness and presence. Verily Thou art the One Who hath power over whatsoever Thou pleasest. There is none other God but Thee, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

BH09396: O my God! Glory be to Thee! I beseech…

He is the Most Holy, the Most Holy

O my God! Glory be to Thee! I beseech Thee by the Lamp through which all contingent things were illumined, and by Thy sovereignty which hath encompassed all created things, to send down upon Thy male and female servants from the heaven of Thy bounty and the clouds of Thy mercy that which will make them detached from all else save Thee and steadfast in Thy love and good-pleasure. O Lord! Every tongue beareth witness to Thy sovereignty and power. I beseech Thee by Thy Self not to turn away those who have turned towards Thee and have clung to the hem of Thy mercy. Then gather them, O my God, beneath the shade of the Tree of Thy oneness that they may hear with their ears Thy call and that which hath been sent down from the right hand of the throne of Thy grandeur. Thou art, verily, powerful to do what Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the Mighty, the All-Bountiful.

BH09289: Suffer me, O my God, to draw nigh unto…

Suffer me, O my God, to draw nigh unto Thee, and to abide within the precincts of Thy court, for remoteness from Thee hath well-nigh consumed me. Cause me to rest under the shadow of the wings of Thy grace, for the flame of my separation from Thee hath melted my heart within me. Draw me nearer unto the river that is life indeed, for my soul burneth with thirst in its ceaseless search after Thee. My sighs, O my God, proclaim the bitterness of mine anguish, and the tears I shed attest my love for Thee.

I beseech Thee, by the praise wherewith Thou praisest Thyself and the glory wherewith Thou glorifiest Thine own Essence, to grant that we may be numbered among them that have recognized Thee and acknowledged Thy sovereignty in Thy days. Help us then to quaff, O my God, from the fingers of mercy the living waters of Thy loving-kindness, that we may utterly forget all else except Thee, and be occupied

only with Thy Self. Powerful art Thou to do what Thou willest. No God is there beside Thee, the Mighty, the Help in Peril, the Self-Subsisting.

Glorified be Thy name, O Thou Who art the King of all Kings!

BH09686: O Gulam! Hearken unto the call of this Youth…

In the Name of God, the Mighty, the Exalted

O Gulam! Hearken unto the call of this Youth. By God, He hath never glorified Himself above any of His servants, yet the people remain wrapped in a mighty veil. Say: O people, behold in Him the grandeur of your Lord, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise, and His greatness and His sovereignty, if ye be of them that comprehend. Hearken thou unto My words: Arise to serve the Cause in My Name. Beware lest thou be of the patient ones. Remind the servants with wisdom—thus hath the Sovereign of creation commanded thee—and this is among the greatest of deeds in the sight of thy Lord, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. Turn thy face toward the holy horizon and say:

Praise be to Thee, O my God, for having caused me to turn toward that Quarter from which the lights of Thy face, the Mighty, the Luminous, have shone forth. And glory be upon thee and upon whosoever hath detached himself from the worlds.

BH09242: O Rahim! By God, I have remained alone…

He is God, exalted be His glory, the Power and the Majesty

O Rahim! By God, I have remained alone and solitary, and now I am in the serpent's mouth, as the Tongue of the All-Merciful bears witness to this, if you be of those who know. In every moment there befalls Me that which causes the faces of those near to God to turn pale, and were I to mention it, the Pen would be unable to move, and God is witness to what I say. Stand firm, therefore, in your love for your Lord in such wise that the whisperings of Satan will not cause you to slip, for he has appeared with the hosts of misbelief, and thus was it inscribed in the tablets of destiny by the executing Pen. Arise to serve the Cause by Our leave, then detach thyself from all the worlds.

BH09236: O Ahmad! God hath accepted thy deeds…

He is the Almighty

O Ahmad! God hath accepted thy deeds and is well-pleased with thee. He shall, in truth, exalt thy name and shall give thee the best of this world and of the world to come. Verily, He is the best Protector and the most excellent Helper. Then make mention from Us to Abdullah who asked about the announcement that was in truth most great. Say unto him: We answered thee in the City of Patience with an answer at which all in the kingdom would be powerless, if thou be of those possessed of knowledge. Then make mention of Ghadir who believed in God, and his rib who was recorded among the devout ones in the Book. And the Spirit be upon thee and upon those who were steadfast in the religion of God.

BH09339: This is the mention of thy Lord's mercy unto…

He is God, the Most Mighty, the Most Unapproachable, the Most Holy, the Most Exalted

This is the mention of thy Lord's mercy unto His servant, the Merciful, that he may be drawn by the call of his Lord and turn with his heart toward the quarter of mighty unapproachability. O Merciful One! Be merciful unto thyself in these days wherein the traces of mercy have been effaced from the hearts of most of the servants, who have arisen in manifest tyranny, to such extent that they have severed the head of faithfulness with the sword of hatred, and have thereby debarred themselves from the shore of ancient glory. Verily, thy mercy toward thyself is thy steadfastness in the love of thy Lord and thy firmness in this Cause, at which every base idolater hath been shaken. And the glory be upon thee and upon him who hath believed in God and then remembereth Him at morn and eventide.

BH09195: If the devil hath not waylaid thee, then…

He is God, the True, the Beloved!

If the devil hath not waylaid thee, then by God's leave mayest thou be joyous and glad from the divine springtime.

Glorified art Thou, O my God! This is the garment of glory which Thou hast sent to the city of Thy oneness, and this is the wondrous Book which Thou hast brought forth through the sovereign power of Thy grace, and this is the light of majesty which Thou hast caused to shine forth from the horizon of Thine essence, and this is the camphor tree which Thou hast planted in the meadows of Thy mercy, and this is the trumpet of the Cause into which Thou hast breathed Thy spirit and sent unto those who love Thee. Glorified art Thou, O my God! Perfect then Thy favor upon Thy loved ones through the manifestations of Thy glory, for verily Thou art the All-Powerful, the Self-Subsisting.

Convey My greetings to the companions, that is, your mothers.

BH09705: O Thou Who hearest the cry of the lovers…

In the Name of God, the Most Unapproachable, the Most Holy, the Most Exalted!

O Thou Who hearest the cry of the lovers from all horizons, and the wailing of the yearning ones from all regions, and the lamentation of those who have lost Thee from all lands, and Who seeth what hath befallen each one of them in Thy path—that which never befell Thy chosen ones, how much less Thy creation! Though I know, O my God, that Thou wert with Thy loved ones from all eternity and wilt be with them through Thy sovereignty and majesty, and that what hath befallen them from Thy enemies shall be their recompense with Thee, nevertheless I beseech Thee by Thy Name, the Avenger, to send down upon some of Thy enemies that which shall cause their souls to tremble in this world and in the next. Ordain for them all a grievous punishment. Verily, Thou art the Almighty, the Powerful.

BH09240: O Tanbal-Bashi! Hearken unto the call of Him Who…

He is the Almighty

O Tanbal-Bashi! Hearken unto the call of Him Who loveth thee and remembereth thee at this moment. Know thou that We have remembered thee in places of mighty and impregnable glory. Beware lest thou be saddened by worldly affairs, and be thou of the patient ones. God will soon reward thee with the best of rewards and will fully recompense the patient ones.

He is the Almighty

O Shaykhu'l-Arvah! Verily We have not forgotten thee; therefore rejoice within thyself and be of the patient ones. Then ask of God whatsoever thou desirest. He will verily grant it unto thee in truth, and He hath power over all things. Then convey Our greetings unto thy mother, that she may be gladdened in her soul and be of the devout ones.

BH09416: God testifieth that there is none other God but…

He is the Mighty!

God testifieth that there is none other God but Him. His is the power and the eternality, His is the grandeur and the glory, and His is the dominion and transcendence. He giveth life and causeth death, then causeth death and giveth life, and verily He is the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. He is indeed the Sovereign, the Omnipotent, the Almighty. He doeth what He willeth in His dominion through His power, and ordaineth what He pleaseth through His command. He is indeed the Ruler, the Omnipotent, the Mighty, the Generous. Say: O my God! Thou art the Sovereign of eternity and the King of glory and light in the Most Glorious Horizon, and of manifestation in the heaven of mystery. Thou createst what Thou willest through Thy power and ordainest what Thou desirest through Thy will. Verily Thou art the King, the Transcendent, the Mighty, the Peerless, the Triumphant, the Omnipotent, the All-Sufficient, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

BH09464: Thy letter was presented by the servant who attained…

In the name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Exalted

Thy letter was presented by the servant who attained Our presence…

O Zayn! We praise God for having sanctified thee from the evil of the idolaters…

Joy be unto thee for having kissed the dust of the City, beheld its walls and traces, and walked upon ground that was honored by the footsteps of thy Lord, the Mighty, the Powerful, the Omnipotent. Would that thou hadst brought me a handful of its earth! By My life! It would be dearer to Me than all that hath been created on earth. My heart soars with longing for it at the mere mention of its name—how much more to behold it and arrive therein! Blessed art thou and blessed are We, but woe unto the idolaters who have come between Us and it, and have caused Us to be deprived of the City of God, the Mighty, the Most High, the Most Great….

This deed of thine shines forth among thy works like the sun among the stars, or the beauty of the Beloved in the gathering of lovers, or the radiance of the Beloved's countenance among the concourse of

loved ones. At the moment thou didst achieve this deed, thou didst achieve all deeds, for all deeds are dependent upon His command and leave….

Say: O my God! I beseech Thee by the manifestation of Thy Name, the Qayyum after the Qa'im, that Thou separate me not from Thee, neither in this world nor in the world to come. Verily, Thou art the All-Forgiving, the All-Merciful.

BH09186: The vicissitudes of time, which have appeared through God's…

He is the Mighty!

The vicissitudes of time, which have appeared through God's irrevocable decrees, have separated companions who shared the same nest, and what beloved ones have been separated from their Beloved, and what lovers have been consumed in separation from their Loved One! The fire of love for Layli blazed forth and effaced from existence the maddened and infatuated souls. In brief, heavenly destiny did not grant enough time for us to gather in an assembly or meet together in a dwelling. From exile to fresh exile were we subjected, and from separation to boundless separation were we caught. In any case, we are thankful—you too must be thankful. And peace be upon you.

BH09223: Hearken, O servant, to that which the Spirit imparts…

He is God, who has encompassed the worlds.

Hearken, O servant, to that which the Spirit imparts to thee, then follow what thou hast been commanded, that thou mayest be numbered among those who are near unto God and mentioned in His tablets in truth. Beware lest thou associate any partners with God thy Lord, and do good unto others even as God hath done good unto thee, and be among the people a trustworthy one in truth. Then remember thy Lord throughout all days, for through His remembrance light illumineth the hearts of the righteous and cleanseth them from a hidden association. Thus have We commanded thee that thou mayest act accordingly and be possessed of insight in the Cause. And whoso is adorned with that which We have commanded him, God will raise him up on the Day of Resurrection in the most beauteous form, and God is verily witness unto this.

BH09376: Glorified art Thou, O my God! I beseech Thee…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Exalted!

Glorified art Thou, O my God! I beseech Thee by Thy Name through which Thou hast adorned the heaven of inner meanings with the stars of utterance, through which the seas have surged and the trees have yielded their fruit and faces have been illumined, to draw me nigh unto Thee and to make me detached from all else save Thee. O Lord! Thou art He to Whose grace and bounty all created things have testified, and to Whose favor and loving-kindness all atoms bear witness. My God! I am one of Thy handmaidens who hath desired the wondrous gifts of Thy bounty and hath stood before the tabernacle of Thy glory. I beseech Thee by Thy Self to send down upon me that which Thou hast ordained for me in the Tablet of

Thy decree by the Pen of Thy destiny. Then cause me to drink, at all times, from the Kawthar of Thy love by the hands of Thy mercy. There is no God but Thee, the King, the Munificent, the Mighty, the Loving.

BH09379: Glorified art Thou, O my God! I beseech Thee…

He is the Self-Subsisting

Glorified art Thou, O my God! I beseech Thee by Thy greatness and Thy majesty, then by Thy loftiness and Thy glory, to protect Thy servant into whose hands Thou hast committed the reins of affairs which are attributed to Thee and to Thy Manifestation. Then send down upon him, O my God, that which will preserve his soul and illumine his countenance, and ordain for him what Thou hast ordained for them that are sincere among Thy loved ones. Then cause him to voice Thy praise amongst Thy servants. O Lord! Bestow upon me and upon them that love me that which will draw us nigh unto Thee and remove us far from all else except Thee. Then send down upon me and upon them that which will prevent the harm of those among Thy servants who have forgotten Thy remembrance, denied Thy signs, and turned away from Thy beauty. Verily, Thou art the One Who hath power to do what Thou pleasest, and Thou art the Mighty, the Most Exalted.

BH09386: Lauded be Thy name, O Lord my God! Thou…

Lauded be Thy name, O Lord my God! Thou seest how Thy servants have everywhere been compassed with tribulations, how their adversaries have all risen up against them and grievously wronged them. Thy glory beareth me witness! Were all the wicked doers of the earth to band themselves against us, and to cast us into a fire such as no man hath kindled, they would be powerless to distract our gaze from the horizon of Thy name, the Most Exalted, the Most High, and would fail to turn aside our hearts from the seat of Thine effulgent glory.

I swear by Thy might! The arrows that transfix us in Thy path are the ornaments of our temples, and the spears which pierce us in our love for Thee are as silk unto our bodies. By the glory of Thy might! Nothing whatsoever can beseem Thy servants except what the pen of Thine irrevocable decree hath traced in this priceless and exalted Tablet.

All praise be to Thy Self at all times and under all conditions. Thou art, verily, the God of knowledge and wisdom.

BH09388: Glorified art Thou, O my God! The eyes…

He is the Self-Subsisting, Who hath no peer!

Glorified art Thou, O my God! The eyes of them that are nigh unto Thee have wept in their separation from Thee, and the cry of them that are devoted to Thee hath risen in their yearning for Thee. There remaineth not a city but that there hath been raised therein the lamentation of longing and the cry of separation. At all times hast Thou been a witness unto them, observant of them, and hearing that which proceedeth from their lips. I beseech Thee by Thy Most Great Name to so attract their hearts that the arrows of the enemies and the spears of the wicked ones shall not affect them, nor shall the breezes of

destiny overturn them. Then open before their faces the portals of glory in this world and the next. Verily, Thou doest what Thou willest, and Thou art the Most Exalted, the Most High.

BH09390: Glory be unto Thee, O my God! This…

In the Name of God, the Ancient, the Ever-Abiding!

Glory be unto Thee, O my God! This is Thy servant whom Thou hast called unto Thy most exalted Self, and who responded with "yea" and soared in the atmosphere of yearning and longing in Thy love and good-pleasure until he drank the choice sealed wine from the hands of Thy bounty. I beseech Thee, O God of all who are in earth and heaven and Who gazest upon the horizon of Thy Most Glorious Name, to preserve him through Thy protection and safekeeping from the arrows of Thine enemies. Make him, moreover, so devoted to Thyself that neither the manifestations of trials nor the vicissitudes of destiny shall turn him aside from steadfastness in Thy Cause. Illumine his countenance in this world and the next with the lights of Thy face. Verily, Thou art the One Who hath power to do what Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the Best-Beloved in the heart of Baha.

BH09395: The All-Glorious, The Most Holy

The All-Glorious, The Most Holy

Glorified art Thou, O my God! I beseech Thee by the lights of Thy countenance, the manifestations of Thy sovereignty, and the revelations of Thy grandeur and power, to send down upon them that are sincere among Thy loved ones that which shall deliver them from self and passion and cause them to become purely devoted to Thy most luminous countenance. O Lord! Many years have passed wherein there hath befallen both young and old that which hath caused the dwellers of the pavilion of Thy chastity to lament. O Lord! Aid Thy loved ones through Thy sovereignty, and make them victorious over Thine enemies who have denied Thy signs and who have waged war against the Manifestation of Thy Self and the Dayspring of Thine Essence. Verily Thou art the All-Powerful. Nothing can withstand Thy might nor can any matter resist Thy decree. There is no God but Thee, the All-Knowing, the Almighty, the All-Powerful.

BH09397: Glorified art Thou, O my God! Thou knowest…

Glorified art Thou, O my God! Thou knowest that in my love for Thee I have not sought any rest, that in proclaiming Thy Cause I have denied myself every manner of tranquillity, and that in the observance of whatever Thou hast prescribed in Thy Tablets I have not delayed to do Thy bidding. I have, for this reason, suffered what no man among all the inhabitants of Thy realm hath suffered.

Thy glory beareth me witness! Nothing whatsoever can withhold me from remembering Thee, though all the tribulations of the earth were to assault me from every direction. All the limbs and members of my body proclaim their readiness to be torn asunder in Thy path and for the sake of Thy pleasure, and they yearn to be scattered in the dust before Thee. O would that they who serve Thee could taste what I have tasted of the sweetness of Thy love!

I implore Thee to supply whosoever hath sought Thee with the living waters of Thy bounty, that they may rid him of all attachment to any one but Thee. Thou art, verily, the Omniscient, the All-Glorious, the Almighty.

BH09402: Glorified art Thou, O my God! This is Thy…

In the Name of God, the Eternal, Who perisheth not!

Glorified art Thou, O my God! This is Thy servant who hath turned unto Thee and hath turned away from all else beside Thee, and hath soared in the atmosphere of his longing for Thee, and hath attained unto Thy love, and hath sought the path of Thy good-pleasure, and hath spoken forth Thy praise, and hath uttered Thy remembrance, and hath been set aflame by the fire which Thou didst kindle in Thy kingdom, and hath been illumined by the lamp which Thou didst make the luminary of Thy Cause.

I beseech Thee, O my God, by Thy Name round which circle all names, and by him who hath been afflicted in Thy path amidst the enemies, that Thou aid him through the wonders of Thy succour and leave him not to himself, through Thy bounty and Thy favors. Make him, then, one who circleth round Thee in the realms of Thy sanctification and the cities of Thy detachment and the kingdom of Thy might and the dominion of Thy power.

Thou, verily, art the Almighty, the Glorious, the All-Knowing.

BH09409: Glorified art Thou, O Thou in Whose grasp…

He is the Healer!

Glorified art Thou, O Thou in Whose grasp is the healing of all mankind, and by Whose will is the life of all mankind, and by Whose purpose is the destiny of all mankind. I beseech Thee not to disappoint those who hope, even should all mankind do so. Thou seest, O my God, this sick one who hath sought healing from the ocean of Thy healing, and Thou knowest, O my God, that I do not wish to offer prayer lest it be confused with what the divines practice. Therefore, O my God, do Thou give her to drink from the Kawthar of Thy healing with all speed, for her cries have risen to heaven. O Thou Who removest all ills! Thou knowest that her patience is less than can be counted, and verily Thou doest what Thou willest. Deal with her as befitteth Thee, for Thou art the Generous, the Healer.

BH09441: Glorified be He Who created all things by His…

In the Name of the Mighty, the Luminous!

Glorified be He Who created all things by His command and ordained the measures of every matter in a Preserved Tablet of might, and established therein the laws of the Cause through the tongue of the Messengers aforetime—and this is a known truth—and commanded them in the Book with that which would draw them near to a most praiseworthy sanctuary of holiness, and forbade them from all that would veil them from the beauty of God, the Mighty, the Supreme, the Self-Subsisting. Therefore, O people of the Bayan, forsake all that ye have been forbidden and then act according to that which ye have

been commanded in a preserved Book of might from the Pen of the Beloved of might—this is better for you than all that ye hear. And the Spirit be upon thee and upon those who turn towards the Beauty of Holiness.

BH09442: Glorified art Thou, O my God! I beseech Thee…

He is the Preserver

Glorified art Thou, O my God! I beseech Thee by Thy Beauty that shineth forth in the dominion of grandeur, and by Thy Light that appeareth in the kingdom of eternity, and by Thy Most Exalted Name, to preserve this one who hath believed in Thee and in Thy mighty signs. Aid him, then, with Thy succor, and make firm, O my God, his footsteps upon this […] through Thy power, and teach him through Thy sovereignty, and cause him to enter into the shelter of Thy mercy beneath the shadow of Thy countenance. Then preserve him, O my God, in the depths of the seas and their waves and their billows, for Thou, verily, hast power over all things.

[In the phrase "…make firm, O my God, his footsteps upon this through Thy power…" there is a gap between the word "this" and "through Thy power" in the copied manuscript and no other manuscript is available]

BH09443: Glorified art Thou, O my God! This is Thy…

Glorified art Thou, O my God! This is Thy servant whom Thou hast related unto me, and whom Thou hast made a remnant of the house of David, left by me in Thy land at the time when they cast us forth from Thy habitations. Thou knowest—though I cannot reckon—who hath reared him, who hath sheltered him, and who hath kept him company and been his companion.

I beseech Thee by Thy mighty loving-kindness and by Thy prevailing sovereignty to cause to befall him that which Thou lovest and approvest. Verily, Thou art powerful over all things.

By Thy might, O my God! My love for him hath imprisoned him in Thy path and subjected him to trial in Thy Cause. Aid him, then, O my God; protect him; and raise him unto the stations of Thy holiness, that he may dwell in the neighbourhood of Thy mercy and beneath the shadow of Thy loving care.

Thou art, verily, God—the Mighty, the All-Powerful, the All-Compelling.

BH09445: Glorified art Thou, O my God! I call upon…

He is the Most Generous.

Glorified art Thou, O my God! I call upon Thee at the time when I journey toward Thee, by reason of that which the hands of the hypocrites have wrought. I thank Thee for this, and for all that hath befallen us from the heights of Thine own Self. Verily, Thou art the All-Informed of all things.

I beseech Thee, O my God, by this exile which hath overtaken us in Thy path, and which hath caused tears to flow from the eyes of Thine chosen ones, to bestow upon this handmaid that which shall suffice her

above all else but Thee. Then make her steadfast, O my God, in Thy love—for this is better for her than all who are in Thy heaven and on Thy earth. Then grant her patience in separation and bereavement, and preserve her, O my God, from every affliction and calamity.

Verily, Thou art powerful over all things.

BH09446: Glorified art Thou, O my God! This is Thy…

He is the Mighty!

Glorified art Thou, O my God! This is Thy servant who, when the fragrances of the holy breeze of Thy Sovereign Oneness wafted forth, sought intercession through the Manifestations of the glory of Thy Lordship, and fled from himself and from all else save Thee unto the wondrous grace of the King of Thy forgiveness. He claimeth to have turned away from self and passion unto Thy most glorious, most gracious and most enduring realms, and from his own will unto Thy will, and from his good pleasure unto Thy good pleasure. Therefore, send down upon him that which will preserve him from all that would keep him from the shore of Thy submission and Thy command. Then send upon him that which will purify his heart from the remembrance of aught else besides Thee, that he may become pure in Thy love, sincere in his devotion to Thee, and obedient to Thy decree. Verily Thou art the Mighty, the Forgiving. Verily Thou art the Generous, the Kind.

BH09469: The eye of this Youth hath beheld what no…

In the Name of God, the Self-Subsisting, the Everlasting!

The eye of this Youth hath beheld what no eye hath beheld from time immemorial. His ear hath heard what no ear of the Prophets and Messengers hath heard. Hast thou ever heard of kings gathering together to destroy a single soul? By thy Lord! Were thou to be of them that are assured, I declare that were all who are in the heavens and on earth to gather together to destroy and eliminate Me, yet would I proclaim at all times that I am the Beauty of God unto all who are in the heavens and on earth. The clamor of those on earth who have turned away is to Me but as the buzzing of flies or the braying of donkeys. Erelong will this Youth come forth adorned with the ornament of God, the Sovereign, the Mighty, the Great.

BH09495: The Ancient Beauty hath departed from the Land…

In the Name of God, the Most Unapproachable, the Most Holy, the Most Exalted!

The Ancient Beauty hath departed from the Land of Mystery, even as was decreed in the Tablet, if ye be of them that understand. And when He departed, the horizons were illumined by His countenance. How wondrous is this fragrance that hath been wafted among the worlds! By My life! The breaths of the verses have encompassed all created things, and they have been sent down at all times from the presence of the All-Merciful. Blessed is the soul that hath inhaled them and circled round them! Were the peoples of the East and West to purify their ears, they would hear them, and thy Lord is verily a witness unto what I say. This bounty is not confined to anyone, but hath encompassed all worlds. Blessed is he

who hath turned unto Him, and woe betide them that have turned aside! And praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH09514: Say: O loved ones of God! Be steadfast…

In the Name of God, the Most Ancient, Who has no beginning!

Say: O loved ones of God! Be steadfast in His Cause and His love in such wise that neither calamities can make you waver nor anything created in the world can overcome you. It behooveth every one possessed of certitude to stand firm in the Cause under all conditions, in such manner that should all the dwellers of the earth oppose him, he would arise alone and continue to summon all men unto God, the Lord of all names, neither would the vain imaginings of the servants disturb him nor the opinions of those in the lands weaken him. Grieve not over what hath befallen Us. Under all circumstances place your trust in God, the Almighty, the All-Glorious, the Most High, and soar on the wings of certitude in the atmosphere of the mercy of your Lord, the All-Merciful, and be not of them that hesitate.

BH09563: I know not, O my God, how I should…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Exalted!

I know not, O my God, how I should conduct myself amidst Thy servants. Whenever I remind them of the wonders of Thy remembrance, they rise up against me. Whenever I manifest among them the revelations of Thy sovereignty and might, they gather against me with swords of hatred. Whenever I expound to them the mysteries of Thy knowledge and the gems of Thy wisdom, they say "We find not this in the books of our forefathers." And whenever I seek to illuminate them with the lights of Thy countenance to deliver them from the darkness of their own selves, they flee and conspire to slay me. How long, O my God, wilt Thou forbear them in Thy land? Seize them through Thy power, might, wrath and vengeance. Then send down upon the hearts of Thy loved ones that which will purify them from all else but Thee and cause them to speak Thy praise, that Thy remembrance may be spread through them amongst Thy servants. Verily, Thou art the Almighty, the Most Exalted, the Most Great.

BH09583: This is Thy servant whom the winds…

In the Name of God, the Most Unapproachable, the Most Holy, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious!

This is Thy servant whom the winds of the mercy of Thy name, the All-Merciful, have stirred, and whom Thou hast delivered from the hosts of Satan, and whom the hands of Thy power have taken until Thou didst cause him to enter the stronghold of faith. O my God! Since Thou hast kindled within his heart the lamp of Thy love, do Thou protect him from the winds of tests, and since Thou hast aided him to remember and praise Thee amongst the peoples of the worlds, do Thou preserve him from the whisperings of the followers of religions. O my God! Since Thou hast clothed him with the robe of Thy loving-kindness, do not remove it from him through Thy grace. Then cause him, O my God, in all conditions to gaze upon Thy countenance, to move according to Thy will, to turn toward the Kaaba of Thy sanctification and the sanctuary of Thy detachment. Then bestow upon him that which Thou hast ordained for Thy near servants. Verily, Thou art the All-Forgiving, the All-Merciful.

BH09591: This is a book from this poor, lowly, penitent…

He is the Mighty, the Self-Subsisting

This is a book from this poor, lowly, penitent one at the time when he journeyed from his self unto God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy, addressed to those who have believed in God on the day whereon the heavens and earths were created, and who call all to God and bid them observe that which hath been sent down in the Book from the presence of One Who is wise and informed. O servant! Hearken unto My call in truth and be not of the heedless ones. Remember thy Lord at all times, then glorify Him in the morning and in the evening. Grieve not over anything but place thy trust in God, the Mighty, the Exalted. Verily He will protect thee in truth from those who have disbelieved and joined partners with God, the Powerful, the Mighty, the Generous. And the Spirit be upon thee and upon the sincere ones.

BH09605: O My loved ones! Look not upon the sedition…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Exalted!

O My loved ones! Look not upon the sedition and its darkness, but rather gaze upon the Sun from which nothing has withheld It, and be illumined by Its lights from this Quarter unto which the hearts of those near unto God have been attracted. The Dove warbleth, and nothing between earth and heaven preventeth It from the remembrance of Its Lord, even were It to be caught in the claws of the oppressors. The Youth counseleth you to remain steadfast in the Cause of God in such wise that the happenings of the days will not cause you to waver, nor will the turning away of the deniers prevent you. Aid your Lord, the All-Merciful, at all times. Verily He is with you, and He hath power over all things. And praise be to God, the Lord of the heavens and the Lord of the earth and the Lord of the mighty Throne!

BH09704: O God! The trials Thou sendest are a salve…

O God! The trials Thou sendest are a salve to the sores of all them who are devoted to Thy will; the remembrance of Thee is a healing medicine to the hearts of such as have drawn nigh unto Thy court; nearness to Thee is the true life of them who are Thy lovers; Thy presence is the ardent desire of such as yearn to behold Thy face; remoteness from Thee is a torment to those that have acknowledged Thy oneness, and separation from OAThee is death unto tThee is death unto them that have recognized Thy truth!

I beseech Thee by the sighs which they whose souls pant after Thee have uttered in their remoteness from Thy court, and by the cries of such of Thy lovers as bemoan their separation from Thee, to nourish me with the wine of Thy knowledge and the living waters of Thy love and pleasure. Behold Thy handmaiden, O my Lord, who hath forgotten all else except Thee, and who hath delighted herself with Thy love, and lamented over the things that have befallen Thee at the hands of the wicked doers among Thy creatures. Do Thou ordain for her that which Thou didst ordain for such of Thy handmaidens as circle round the throne of Thy majesty, and gaze, at eventide and at dawn, on Thy beauty.

Thou art, verily, the Lord of the Judgment Day.

BH11849: O My handmaiden! Hearken unto My call…

He is the Most Manifest

O My handmaiden! Hearken unto My call from the direction of My throne, then soar in the atmosphere of My companionship and journey through the realms of My nearness. Then drink from the cup of My favor, then speak forth My praise and be silent regarding the mention of aught else. Then arise from the horizon of holiness adorned with My ornament, My majesty and My light. Then sing with My melody among My handmaidens that they may know the pathways of My Cause and the pavilion of My holiness. By God! Verily My fragrances guide those who are brought near and My handmaidens to the garden of My companionship and the Kawthar of My grace and generosity. And the sweet-scented perfume of My garment guides the yearning ones to the Egypt of My beauty. Then remember, O My handmaiden, My tribulations, then weep for My sorrow and My exile and My trials. And the Glory be upon thee and upon My handmaidens.

BH09871: Glorified art Thou, O my God! Thou knowest…

In His Name, the Qayyum upon the Qa'im

Glorified art Thou, O my God! Thou knowest that amidst these afflictions, the Baha doth not desire ease. Rather, His hope at all times is whatsoever Thou hast ordained for Him, O Thou in Whose hand is the dominion of grace and beneficence. I beseech Thee to send down from the heaven of Thy loving-kindness upon Thy loved ones that which will renew them in Thy love, cause them to speak Thy praise, and preserve them from whatsoever is repugnant to Thy good-pleasure, that they may gather together to remember Thee among Thy creatures. O Lord! Sanctify them from all that befitteth not Thy Cause. Verily, Thou art their Protector in this world and the next. There is none other God but Thee, the Mighty, the Beautiful.

BH09824: The remembrance of God from the Sacred Tree upon…

He is the Powerful in the Heaven of Eternity.

The remembrance of God from the Sacred Tree upon the spot of Paradise is unto him who was witnessed upon the Truth—Mirza Baqir of Qa'in. Soon shall the heaven be cleft asunder and the Youth shall come upon the crimson Buraq, and the matter shall be determined by One mighty and powerful. Then shalt thou find the idolaters fleeing to the right and to the left. Say: Today there is no escape for anyone save he who has detached himself from all who are in the heavens and the earth and has taken shelter beneath a shade that hath been extended from all eternity. Thus do We inspire thee that thou mayest be steadfast in the Cause and turn unto the Sanctuary which hath been raised up from the direction of the Throne.

BH09752: The Most Holy, Most Exalted

The Most Holy, Most Exalted

Verily, the All-Possessing One addresses thee, O ʿAbdu'l-Ghani, saying: This is the Day of Divine Riches, wherein everyone that is poor and distressed shall be enriched, should He so desire. He verily can make all to be wealthy through but a word from His presence. He is, in truth, the All-Compelling, the Mighty, the All-Powerful. Say: The highest form of wealth is your faith in God—whoso hath not attained unto this is indeed the poorest of the poor in the sight of the Lord of all cycles. Blessed is he who hath attained unto the knowledge of his Lord—We testify that he is among the wealthiest of all creation. Soon shall he behold that which hath flowed from the Pen of his Lord, the Mighty, the All-Seeing. Glorify thy Lord with praise, then remember Him in private and in public.

BH09764: Hs is the Most Wondrous, the Most Glorious

Hs is the Most Wondrous, the Most Glorious

O Muhammad-Husayn! The tribulations have returned and Husayn has been afflicted among the wolves. Every day there befalls him that which hath befallen no one before. To this beareth witness whosoever hath observed all things with the eye of fairness. From the horizon of tribulation, We summon the servants unto the Mighty, the Bestower. Make mention of My tribulations amongst My servants. Say: O people! He hath sacrificed himself in the path of God. Fear ye, O people of corruption! He commandeth you to righteousness and piety, and forbiddeth you from that which would render your deeds null and void. Verily, he that followeth his idle fancies hath no protector this Day.

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BH10043: O my God! Illumine the eyes of hearts…

He is the Almighty, the Most Glorious

O my God! Illumine the eyes of hearts with the light of Thy countenance, O Beloved, then make them steadfast in Thy Cause—verily Thou art the Mighty, the All-Forgiving—and firm in such wise that the cawing of those who claim what hath not been ordained for them in the Book will not disturb them. Thou seest, O my God, that I make mention of Thy loved ones purely for Thy sake, that their hearts may be assured thereby in this Day wherein leg is entwined with leg. O my God! Enable Thy servant who was named Muhammad-Husayn to remember and praise Thee, then open his sight with the light of Thy knowledge. O Lord! Thou art the Generous, the Ancient in Bounty. Assist Thy loved ones to whatsoever Thou willest—verily Thou art the Mighty, the Unconstrained.

BH10057: O thou who hast turned towards Me! Hearken unto…

In the name of God, the Most Pure, the Most Manifest, the Most Glorious!

O thou who hast turned towards Me! Hearken unto the call of thy Lord, the All-Glorious, from the blessed, hallowed, crimson Spot, from the Divine Lote-Tree beyond which there is no passing: Verily, there is none other God but Me, the Mighty, the Bountiful. Leave behind thee all created things and turn with thy heart unto God, the Revealer of verses. Say:

O my Lord! I desire to lay down my life in Thy path if Thou accept it from me. Verily, Thou art the Best of those who show mercy. And if Thou deniest me what I seek from the wonders of Thy bounty, assist me in Thy service that there may appear from me the victory of Thy Cause, though it be less than can be counted. Verily, Thou art the God of the throne on high and of the earth below. There is none other God but Thee, the Supreme, the Self-Subsisting.

BH10026: This is My epistle unto My handmaiden, that she…

In the Name of God, the Ever-Abiding, Who perisheth not

This is My epistle unto My handmaiden, that she may rejoice in My verses, soar in the atmosphere of My remembrance, and make mention of Me amongst My handmaidens. Thus hath it been inscribed by the Pen of My decree upon the Tablet of My ordainment. Blessed is the one who hath turned unto God in these days wherein the feet of most of the servants have slipped, save those whom thy Lord, the Most Exalted, the All-Wise, hath willed. Give thanks unto thy Lord and prostrate thyself before His luminous countenance. Grieve not over that which hath befallen the Youth, for verily He is in manifest joy. He hath accepted all the tribulations of the earth and the tyranny of the oppressors in the path of His Lord, the Mighty, the Most Powerful, the Most Mighty. And praise be to God, thy Beloved and the Beloved of the worlds.

BH09854: Glorified art Thou, O Lord my God! I yield…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Glorious

Glorified art Thou, O Lord my God! I yield Thee thanks for that Thou hast made me the target of divers tribulations and the mark of manifold trials, in order that Thy servants may be endued with new life and all Thy creatures may be quickened.

I swear by Thy glory, O Thou the Best Beloved of the worlds and the Desire of all such as have recognized Thee! The one reason I wish to live is that I may reveal Thy Cause, and I seek the continuance of life only that I may be touched by adversity in Thy path.

I implore Thee, O Thou by Whose summons the hearts of all them who were nigh unto Thee have soared into the atmosphere of Thy presence, to send down upon Thy loved ones what will enable them to dispense with all else except Thee. Endue them, then, with such constancy that they will arise to proclaim Thy Cause, and will call on Thy name, before all that are in Thy heaven and on Thy earth, in such wise that the Pharaohic cruelties inflicted by the oppressors among Thy servants will not succeed in keeping them back from Thee.

Thou art, verily, the God of power, the God of glory, the God of strength and wisdom.

BH09866: Glorified art Thou, O my God! Thou art He…

He is the Most Holy, the Most Glorious

Glorified art Thou, O my God! Thou art He Whose mercy hath preceded all created things and Whose loving-kindness hath encompassed all beings. I beseech Thee by Thy Most Great Name, through which Thou hast separated between the nations, that Thou send down from the clouds of Thy mercy that which will purify the people of Thy dominion, that they may draw near unto the Dayspring of Thy Revelation, the Dawning-Place of Thine inspiration, the Treasury of Thy knowledge, and the Repository of Thy Will. O Lord! Send down upon Thy loved ones, both male and female, that which befitteth Thy generosity, O Thou in Whose hand is the Kingdom of Names. Then ordain for every soul that which will draw him nigh unto Thee in this world and the next. Verily, Thou art the All-Giving, the Mighty, the Bountiful.

BH09849: Glorified art Thou, O my God! I am Thy…

He is the Most Pure

Glorified art Thou, O my God! I am Thy servant and the son of Thy servant. I have believed in Thee and in Thy mighty signs, and have arisen, through Thy power, among Thy servants to assist Thy Cause and exalt Thy Word. O Lord! Aid me and those with me through Thy sovereignty and might, for verily Thou art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest. There is no God but Thee, the All-Compelling, the Self-Subsisting. O Lord! I have detached myself from all else save Thee and have turned to Thy face. Deny me not the outpourings which have descended from the clouds of Thy mercy and the heaven of Thy grace. Verily Thou art the All-Powerful, Who hath ever been mighty over all who are in the heavens and on earth. There is no God but Thee, the Mighty, the All-Wise.

BH09943: We have arrived in the land which God hath…

He is the Mighty!

We have arrived in the land which God hath ordained for Us, and We are content with whatsoever God hath been pleased to decree for Us, and submissive to that which He hath destined from His presence, and thankful for that which He hath ordained from His court. But verily thou hast caused Me to remember My days, then the days of meeting with thee, then My exile, then My trials, then My dwelling place behind a thousand mountain peaks and a vast ocean, such that no ear can hear My lamentations nor can My voice be raised unto you. Yet We do not complain of anything, rather We thank God for this and for all that He hath destined for Us from His presence. And verily He is the Mighty, the All-Knowing. And peace be upon every wise and assured one.

BH09761: O Abdullah! Hearken unto the call of this Bird…

He is the Almighty.

O Abdullah! Hearken unto the call of this Bird at the time when it hath severed itself from all who are in the heavens and on earth and sought the nests of exile by reason of that which the hands of those who turned away from God have wrought and were not of those who drew nigh. Thou shouldst render thanks unto God, thy Creator, for having guided thee to a straight and mighty path, and aided thee with the truth, and delivered thee from the hosts of Satan. Beware lest thou forget God’s favor upon thee and be

of the heedless ones. Speak not except with wisdom—this is My counsel unto thee if thou be of them that act.

BH09869: Glorified art Thou, O my God! Thou seest how…

In the Name of God, the Mighty, the Most High!

Glorified art Thou, O my God! Thou seest how I became a captive, before attaining maturity, to teach Thy Cause among Thy servants and spread Thy mention among the inhabitants of Thy earth. I beseech Thee by Thy most exalted Self, and by Thy Most Great Sign, and by Thy Most Beautiful Names, to number me among the people of Thy paradise who have acknowledged Thy oneness and confessed Thy singleness and turned toward the direction of Thy mercy and remained steadfast in Thy remembrance until they were martyred in Thy path and sacrificed themselves in Thy love and good-pleasure. O Lord! Generosity is attributed to Thee and mercy circleth around Thee. Have mercy, then, through Thy grace upon this youth, and accept him in Thy service. Verily Thou art the All-Bountiful, the All-Generous. There is no God but Thee, the Almighty, the All-Powerful.

BH10031: We had previously sent unto thee a mighty Tablet…

In the name of God, the Most High, the Most Exalted!

We had previously sent unto thee a mighty Tablet that thine eyes might be consoled thereby and thy face be illumined, and thus was the grace of thy Lord all-encompassing towards all the worlds. And now We have revealed unto thee clear verses and have sent them down in truth that thou mayest aid thy Lord and remember Him at morn and eventide. Arise and speak, and fear not those who have wronged. Verily thy Lord will assist whomsoever He willeth, and He, verily, hath power over all things. Beware lest the breaths of them that have disbelieved in God cause thee to waver. Thus hath the Pen of Command enjoined thee from the presence of One knowing, wise. And the Spirit be upon thee and upon whosoever hath taken unto the Lord of the Throne a way.

BH09846: Glorified art Thou, O my God! I beseech Thee…

In the Name of God, the Most Wondrous, the Most Glorious!

Glorified art Thou, O my God! I beseech Thee by the leaves of the Tree of Thy Oneness, and the fruits of the Tree of Thy Singleness, and the Manifestations of the glory of Thy Transcendent Unity, and the Daysprings of Thy holy Unity, to send down upon her who hath believed in Thee and in Thy signs every good thing which Thou hast ordained for Thy sanctified handmaidens in the most exalted chambers. Then cause to descend, O my God, upon her heart that which will enable her to soar in the atmosphere of Thy longing and attraction, and will draw her nigh unto the station wherein the lights of Thy countenance have shone forth. Verily, Thou art the One Who hath power over whatsoever He willeth, and in Thy right hand is the Kingdom of Names, and in Thy grasp is the reins of destiny. There is none other God but Thee, the Powerful, the Mighty, the All-Bountiful.

BH10024: This is a book from this Emigrant Who hath…

He is the Almighty

This is a book from this Emigrant Who hath detached Himself from all who are in the heavens and on earth and turned wholly unto God, and Who is among those who at all times bear witness in the path of God, albeit with swords of utterance—for by God, these are sharper than swords of steel. We bear witness that thou hast fulfilled thy covenant and turned toward the shore of a mighty Name, and hast wrought with thine own hands for God that which is better for thee than all the ornaments of earthly dominion. May God reward thee from Us with the most excellent reward and grant thee that which will gladden thy heart, for He is the Best of Givers. And may the glory rest upon thee and upon the sincere ones. 152

BH09848: Glorified art Thou, O Lord my God! I implore…

Glorified art Thou, O Lord my God! I implore Thee by the onrushing winds of Thy grace, and by them Who are the Day-Springs of Thy purpose and the Dawning-Places of Thine inspiration, to send down upon me and upon all that have sought Thy face that which beseemeth Thy generosity and bountiful grace, and is worthy of Thy bestowals and favors. Poor and desolate I am, O my Lord! Immerse me in the ocean of Thy wealth; athirst, suffer me to drink from the living waters of Thy loving-kindness.

I beseech Thee, by Thine own Self and by Him Whom Thou has appointed as the Manifestation of Thine own Being and Thy discriminating Word unto all that are in heaven and on earth, to gather together Thy servants beneath the shade of the Tree of Thy gracious providence. Help them, then, to partake of its fruits, to incline their ears to the rustling of its leaves, and to the sweetness of the voice of the Bird that chanteth upon its branches. Thou art, verily, the Help in Peril, the Inaccessible, the Almighty, the Most Bountiful.

BH09919: O my God! With what remembrance shall I remember…

He is the All-Glorious

O my God! With what remembrance shall I remember Thee, after knowing that remembrance itself is unremembered before the manifestations of the lights of Thy grandeur, and that it weeps of itself at Thy remembrance and what has befallen Thee from Thine enemies, and all the Manifestations of Names lament in their separation and remoteness from Thee. How then can my remembrance ascend to the heaven of Thy oneness and rise to the atmosphere of the glory of Thy mercy and Thy favors? O my Lord! I beseech Thee by this powerlessness to assist my loved ones through Thy grace, then gather them beneath Thy banner in this Day wherein every atom testifies that sovereignty belongs to God, the Omnipotent, the Unconstrained.

BH10025: This is a Book that speaketh with truth…

He is the Mighty.

This is a Book that speaketh with truth, and in it is every wise remembrance from a penitent servant. O Letter of Kaf! We have sent thee a Tablet before this, and now do We send thee this Tablet, that thou mayest rejoice in thy spirit and give thanks unto God, thy Creator, for having bestowed upon thee through His bounty that which shall draw thee unto a luminous and holy paradise. Know thou that he who is named Husayn and who carried the body of thy father—if thou wert to observe him—he is closer to piety, and this is for thee a gracious permission, for poverty and want and harm and distress have touched him, such that afflictions have encompassed him from every distant quarter.

BH10130: Be ye God's manifestations of trustworthiness in every land…

Be ye God's manifestations of trustworthiness in every land. So perfectly should ye mirror forth this quality that even were ye to travel through cities heaped with gold, your gaze would not for a single moment be seduced by its allure. This is the standard required of you, O assemblage of true believers. Assist ye your gracious Lord by your deeds so that in all the worlds of God His servants may perceive from you the sweet savours of the one true God….

BH09748: Here is no God but Him

Here is no God but Him

In His station did the Tongue of Grandeur and Power speak:

> "Had I known that any Christian would believe in Him on the day of His manifestation, I would have made him the apple of Mine eye. Yet there befell Him at the hands of the wicked ones who claim adherence to the Bayan that which the worlds cannot bear. Say: O most remote of all creatures! By what testimony did ye believe in the Bayan, and by what testimony did ye turn away from Him from Whose horizon shone forth the Sun of divine exposition? What aileth you? How do ye judge? Soon shall ye witness that which ye now deny. Fear God and be not among the lowly ones."

And praise be to God, the Lord of the heavens and of the earth.

BH09809: Thou seest, O my God, how Thy loved ones…

In the name of God, the Most Exalted, the Most Holy

Thou seest, O my God, how Thy loved ones have been encompassed by the rebellious amongst Thy creatures and the wicked amidst Thy people. No land remaineth but the lamentation of Thy lovers and the wailing of Thy chosen ones were lifted up therein. I beseech Thee by Thy Most Great Name to draw forth the hand of power from the bosom of Thy might and to assist therewith all them that love Thee.

Thou beholdest, O my God, their eyes turned towards Thee, their gaze fixed upon the Dayspring of Thy might and Thy loving providence. Transmute, O my Lord, their abasement into glory, their poverty into wealth, and their weakness into a strength born of Thee.

Powerful art Thou to do whatsoever Thou willest. No God is there but Thee, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

BH09864: Lauded be Thy name, O my God! I entreat…

Lauded be Thy name, O my God! I entreat Thee by the fragrances of the Raiment of Thy grace which at Thy bidding and in conformity with Thy desire were diffused throughout the entire creation, and by the Day-Star of Thy will that hath shone brightly, through the power of Thy might and of Thy sovereignty, above the horizon of Thy mercy, to blot out from my heart all idle fancies and vain imaginings, that with all my affections I may turn unto Thee, O Thou Lord of all mankind!

I am Thy servant and the son of Thy servant, O my God! I have laid hold on the handle of Thy grace, and clung to the cord of Thy tender mercy. Ordain for me the good things that are with Thee, and nourish me from the Table Thou didst send down out of the clouds of Thy bounty and the heaven of Thy favor.

Thou, in very truth, art the Lord of the worlds, and the God of all that are in heaven and all that are on earth.

BH09867: Glorified art Thou, O my God! Thou seest me…

In the Name of God, the One, the Peerless!

Glorified art Thou, O my God! Thou seest me seated upon the hard rock within the fortress of ʿAkka, cut off from all who are in earth and heaven, and forbidden from beholding all things. Thus have Thy wretched servants sought to heal the wounds of their hearts. By Thy might! Were I to reveal to them what Thou hast revealed to me, they would not have committed that which caused the denizens of the cities of eternity to lament. But Thou hast concealed it from them by reason of what their hands have wrought in the first life before the last. I beseech Thee by Thy most excellent names to assist Thy loved ones with the hosts of power and might. Verily Thou art the All-Powerful, the Unconstrained. There is no God but Thee, the Almighty, the Sovereign, the All-Compelling, the Omnipotent, the All-Powerful, the All-Subduing.

BH09870: Glorified art Thou, O my God! Thou hearest…

In the Name of God, the Most High, the Most Glorious!

Glorified art Thou, O my God! Thou hearest the cries of Thy servants in their separation from Thee, and the lamentations of Thy handmaidens in Thy days. Thou hast kindled in their hearts the fire of Thy love, yet hast veiled Thy face from them through what Thou hast ordained in Thy tablets. Thou didst call all unto the Manifestation of Thy exalted Self, then prevented them from entering the presence of His beauty and arriving at the court of His glory. Praise be unto Thee in all that Thou hast done and wilt do. I beseech Thee by Thy power and might to protect Thy servants and handmaidens, then cause them to abide within the precincts of Thy mercy, and grant them the wine of Thy favors and the Kawthar of Thy gifts. Verily, Thou art the Ever-Forgiving, the Merciful.

BH09872: Praised be Thou, O Lord my God! This…

Praised be Thou, O Lord my God! This is Thy servant who hath quaffed from the hands of Thy grace the wine of Thy tender mercy, and tasted of the savor of Thy love in Thy days. I beseech Thee, by the embodiments of Thy names whom no grief can hinder from rejoicing in Thy love or from gazing on Thy face, and whom all the hosts of the heedless are powerless to cause to turn aside from the path of Thy pleasure, to supply him with the good things Thou dost possess, and to raise him up to such heights that he will regard the world even as a shadow that vanisheth swifter than the twinkling of an eye.

Keep him safe also, O my God, by the power of Thine immeasurable majesty, from all that Thou abhorrest. Thou art, verily, his Lord and the Lord of all worlds.

BH09874: Glorified art Thou, O Lord my God! Every man…

Glorified art Thou, O Lord my God! Every man of insight confesseth Thy sovereignty and Thy dominion, and every discerning eye perceiveth the greatness of Thy majesty and the compelling power of Thy might. The winds of tests are powerless to hold back them that enjoy near access to Thee from setting their faces towards the horizon of Thy glory, and the tempests of trials must fail to draw away and hinder such as are wholly devoted to Thy will from approaching Thy court.

Methinks, the lamp of Thy love is burning in their hearts, and the light of Thy tenderness is lit within their breasts. Adversities are incapable of estranging them from Thy Cause, and the vicissitudes of fortune can never cause them to stray from Thy pleasure.

I beseech Thee, O my God, by them and by the sighs which their hearts utter in their separation from Thee, to keep them safe from the mischief of Thine adversaries, and to nourish their souls with what Thou hast ordained for Thy loved ones on whom shall come no fear and who shall not be put to grief.

BH09920: O my God! This is one of Thy handmaidens…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Exalted!

O my God! This is one of Thy handmaidens who hath turned unto Thee, believed in Thy signs, and sought Thy presence and meeting with Thee. Write down for her, O my God, that which she desireth in Thy path. Then kindle her heart at all times with the fire of Thy love, and give her to drink from the Kawthar of life which floweth from the right hand of the throne of Thy majesty. Then bestow upon her, through Thy grace and bounty, the good of this world and of the world to come. Thou, O my God, didst create her through Thy power and made her to know the Manifestation of Thy Self. I beseech Thee to protect her from the vain imaginings of such as have turned away from the mention of Thy name, the All-Merciful. Verily, Thou art the Almighty, the Mighty, the All-Powerful.

BH09937: The Pen hath been forbidden to mention the mysteries…

In the name of God, who ruleth over whatsoever He willeth!

The Pen hath been forbidden to mention the mysteries of pre-existence, and the doors of entry and exit have been closed before our faces. Therefore We have withheld the Pen from revealing that which was treasured of mysteries, for the dogs among the people of the Bayan have taken up positions of ambush, and inform the people and fabricate against Us that which they have not witnessed. How much worse would it be were they to discover and come to know! Hold fast unto whatsoever ye possess of the holy verses, for verily they suffice mankind during the absence of the Truth. Wheresoever ye may be, verily He is with you. Rejoice then in His grace, and make mention of Him, and be not of the heedless. And praise be to God, the All-Powerful, the Ever-Abiding, the All-Sufficing, the Most Great, the Most Glorious.

BH09960: Magnified be Thy name, O Lord my God! Thou…

Magnified be Thy name, O Lord my God! Thou art He Whom all things worship and Who worshipeth no one, Who is the Lord of all things and is the vassal of none, Who knoweth all things and is known of none. Thou didst wish to make Thyself known unto men; therefore, Thou didst, through a word of Thy mouth, bring creation into being and fashion the universe. There is none other God except Thee, the Fashioner, the Creator, the Almighty, the Most Powerful.

I implore Thee, by this very word that hath shone forth above the horizon of Thy will, to enable me to drink deep of the living waters through which Thou hast vivified the hearts of Thy chosen ones and quickened the souls of them that love Thee, that I may, at all times and under all conditions, turn my face wholly towards Thee.

Thou art the God of power, of glory and bounty. No God is there beside Thee, the Supreme Ruler, the All-Glorious, the Omniscient.

BH09996: You have ever been and will continue to be…

He is God, exalted be His glory, the Mighty!

You have ever been and will continue to be, God willing, abiding and at rest beneath the shade of divine favors and the clouds of heavenly bounty. Strive diligently to acquire both outward and inward perfections, for the fruit of the human tree has ever been outer and inner perfections. A person without knowledge and crafts is not beloved—like trees without fruit have they been and ever shall be. Therefore you must needs adorn, according to your capacity and means, the tree of your being with the fruits of knowledge and wisdom, of meanings and utterance.

And the glory be upon you.

BH10030: Every gathering has its dispersion, every union its separation…

He is God.

Every gathering has its dispersion, every union its separation, and every nearness is followed by remoteness. Such is the decree of the All-Wise, the All-Knowing. However, if these stages occur in the path of divine good-pleasure, they are desirable and beloved, and the true lover is content in all

conditions and grateful in every circumstance—this is the ultimate goal. In such case, one must choose patience and exchange one's own pleasure for the pleasure of the Friend. And God is the All-Sufficient, and He is the best Helper and Guardian.

BH11853: For the holy melodies of the spirit a new…

He is the Mighty, the Most Holy

For the holy melodies of the spirit a new ear is needed, and for the fragrances of the paradise of the soul an exalted heart is required, and for the wondrous divine knowledge an illumined heart is befitting, so that with heavenly assistance through these spiritual means one may perceive the gems of divine wisdom. This is from God's grace, the Mighty, the Powerful. And if a holy fire, sanctified from the divine Tree, free from flame and smoke, appears in a breast, no other cause for existence would be considered. Thus has the time of causation been completed, if you would but witness the Causer in the garment of holiness.

BH10288: O my God! Thou seest Thy Most Great Name…

He is the Almighty, the Most Powerful

O my God! Thou seest Thy Most Great Name and the Ancient Mystery enveloped in the shadows of sorrows while the hosts of Satan have surrounded it. By Thy glory, O my Lord, the All-Merciful! I shall arise from the horizon of tribulation through Thy sovereignty and might, and shine forth from the horizon of utterance with praise of Thy Self. I beseech Thee, O God of Names and Creator of heaven, to send down upon the hearts of the sincere ones that which will draw them near unto Thee and cause them to speak Thy praise amongst Thy creatures with such detachment as to attract the hearts of Thy creation and to cause the mountains of the earth to crumble through Thy power. There is no God but Thee, the Omnipotent, the Exalted, the Most High, the Most Glorious.

BH10333: Praised be Thou, O my God! By Thy might…

He is the All-Glorious

Praised be Thou, O my God! By Thy might, my heart is torn asunder from separation and estrangement from Thee, and my soul is entangled from remoteness from Thy reunion and meeting. Therefore, O my God, I beseech Thee by this Name which hath been encompassed by tribulations through what was ordained in the tablets of Thy decree, that Thou send down upon Thy servants that which shall open their eyes, that they may know Thee from all else and become aware of Thy hidden and most hidden Command in this Most Glorious and Most Splendid Temple. Verily, Thou art the One Who hath power over whatsoever Thou willest, and Thou art, in truth, powerful over all things.

BH10399: The Kingdom on that Day is God's, the True…

The Kingdom on that Day is God's, the True One

A Book sent down in truth, wherein mention is made of a servant whom God has associated with His servant, that he might give thanks to his Lord and detach himself from those who have denied God and warred against His Self and rejected His signs and associated partners with His Being, and that he might turn his face toward Him Who was named the Quarter of Eternity, then the Sinai of the Cloud, then the Horeb of Origination, then the Crimson Paran, then the Sacred Precinct—thus was the command sent down from the Kingdom of Names, from God, the Powerful, the Mighty, the Sovereign, the Unconstrained.

BH10295: All praise be to Thee, O Lord of all…

He is God, exalted is He in might and power

All praise be to Thee, O Lord of all creation and King of the seen and unseen. I beseech Thee by the pearls of the ocean of Thy knowledge, and by the splendors of the light of the Day-Star of Thy loving kindness, to aid me to remember Thee and to praise Thee, and to turn towards the splendors of the Dawning-place of Thy grace. I am Thy maid-servant, O my Lord, and the daughter of Thy maid-servant. I have believed on Thee, and on Thy signs, and I recognize Thy unity and Thy oneness. Deny me not, I implore Thee, what is with Thee. Powerful art Thou to do what Thou choosest. No God is there but Thee, the All-Forgiving, The Most Compassionate.

BH10406: This is a leaf which moveth as moved…

In the name of God, the Mighty, the Best-Beloved!

This is a leaf which moveth as moved the leaf of the Spirit upon the branches of the Manifest Tree. And when the breezes of glory blow upon it, there proceedeth from it the sound that there is no God but Him, the Mighty, the All-Knowing. And it guideth men to the precincts of nearness before the presence of the Mighty, the One. And it remindeth them of the Day wherein the Dove of the Cause warbleth with melodies of wondrous attraction, and giveth glad-tidings unto all created things in the court of mighty glory. This is what hath been inscribed by One All-Wise, All-Informed, that it might serve as a reminder from Him unto all who are in the heavens and on the earth.

BH10230: O my God! Thou seest how the fire…

He is the Most Holy, the Most Glorious

O my God! Thou seest how the fire of oppression hath been kindled and the lamps of justice have been extinguished, until Thy most wretched servants have driven us from our homelands and made us captives in the hands of the rebellious ones, because we turned toward the fountain of Thy good-pleasure and faced the Dayspring of Thy verses and the Dawning-Place of the lights of Thy countenance. Since this was our transgression in their eyes, then by Thy might, we have accepted the harm of all the world for love of Thee and Thy good-pleasure. We beseech Thee not to withhold us for less than the twinkling of an eye from Thy Most Great Horizon. There is no God but Thee, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

BH10213: O handmaiden of God! Ascend from the world…

He is the Most Holy, the Most Glorious

O handmaiden of God! Ascend from the world of creation and enter into the divine realm of sanctification and detachment, until thou beholdest the world and all that is therein as a handful of dust. Whosoever attaineth unto this station is freed from all save the Friend, and soareth on the wings of absolute freedom and detachment in the atmosphere of the love of the Beloved of all horizons. Be not grieved by the world and its hardships, for it was and is transient. Fix thy gaze upon the everlasting Beauty and that which hath been ordained for thee in the Kingdom. Verily, He is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

BH10360: Say: When We journeyed from the Orient of Eternity…

He is the Manifest and the Hidden

Say: When We journeyed from the Orient of Eternity to the Occident of the Cloud, We found a people from among the dwellers of Sinai who were standing upon the land of allusions. Thereupon We revealed unto them from the Most Great Mystery, in this Greatest Word, through the hidden symbol, symbols beyond reckoning. Whereupon they fell unconscious upon the dust as though they had never been created on earth. Thus was the matter decreed by the Omnipotent, the Self-Subsisting. And thou, arise with supreme steadfastness, then aid thy Lord, and He will assist thee with a sovereignty that is powerful in truth.

BH10300: The Divine Lote Tree proclaims: There is none other…

He is the Most Holy, the Most Glorious!

The Divine Lote Tree proclaims: There is none other God but Me, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting. I created you for My recognition, would that ye might know. Say: abandon the cup, for lo, the Most Great Ocean surgeth with His most excellent names and exalted attributes—these are but Its drops, while the people lie dead. Nothing shall profit them this Day though they cling to all that is hidden and visible, save God, the Powerful, the Mighty, the Loving. Be thou assured through thy Lord's grace. Say: O people! The Self-Subsisting is come, and calleth you to a praiseworthy station. Blessed is he who hath turned unto God—he is indeed of the people of eternity inscribed in a preserved Tablet.

BH10401: This is the Living Waters which hath flowed…

He is the Beloved

This is the Living Waters which hath flowed from the Pen of the Most Merciful. Blessed is he who hath drunk thereof and is numbered among those who have attained. Say: By these waters are souls quickened. Drink, O people, and turn neither to the right nor to the left. Thus doth the Most Exalted Pen command you, as a bounty from God, the Most High, the Most Exalted. Act ye according to that which ye have been commanded by One All-Knowing, All-Wise. And whoso hath not drunk, verily he is dead—the

designation of life cannot be applied to him. This is a revelation from God, and verily He is the Ancient Revealer.

BH10329: Glory be unto Thee, O my God! This…

Glory be unto Thee, O my God! This is Thy servant who hath turned towards Thy presence and sought Thy good-pleasure, who hath separated himself from his family out of his longing for Thee and his love of Thee, and hath attained unto that station wherein he hath journeyed in Thy path and reached the summit of glory and love, until he visited the mystery of Thy Beauty and Thy holy Sanctuary. Therefore, O my God, honor him with that which befitteth Thy station and beseemeth Thy sovereignty. Then make him praised in deed even as Thou hast made him Ahmad in name. Verily, Thou art the Mighty, the Supreme, the All-Glorious, the Best-Beloved.

BH10398: This is a letter from this servant to her…

He is the Mighty.

This is a letter from this servant to her whom God has related to His servant, that she may know that We have not forgotten her, and that whatever befalls Us and her comes only from God. Therefore it behooves us to thank God at all times and be content with what He has ordained for us of His firm decrees, and not be anxious about what descends from Him, nor be disturbed by what He has decreed by His command. I counsel thee, O handmaiden of God, to patience and forbearance and calm and dignity. Verily, the patient ones shall be paid their recompense without measure.

BH11854: O My Ghaffar! O thou who art immersed…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Glorious!

O My Ghaffar! O thou who art immersed in the ocean of My love, soaring in the atmosphere of My nearness, and gazing upon My countenance! By Him Who hath caused Me to speak forth His remembrance, by thy deed the hearts of them that are endued with understanding have been amazed, and the birds of intellect have winged their flight unto the Divine Lote-Tree. Blessed art thou, inasmuch as the rapture of thy Lord, the Unconstrained, hath attracted thee to the horizon whence the Sun of grandeur and power hath shone forth. Beware lest sorrows keep thee back from thy Lord, the All-Merciful, or imprisonment turn thee away from the direction of God, the Almighty, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. Praise be unto God, the Lord of the Day of Judgment!

BH10281: Glorified art Thou, O my God! This is Thy…

He is the All-Merciful!

Glorified art Thou, O my God! This is Thy servant who hath believed in Thee and loved Thy loved ones and turned away from Thine enemies and walked in the path of certitude until he reached the pivot of journeys and recognized the Manifestation of Thy Chosen Cause. Therefore, O my God, protect him through Thy bounty, then aid him through Thy grace, and deprive him not from Thy gate. Then send

down upon him, O my God, that which will prosper his affairs in this world and the next. Verily Thou art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the Mighty, the Powerful, the Guardian, the Self-Subsisting. And glory be upon the people of glory.

BH10184: O Mahmud! Do not forget God's favor unto thee…

He is the Almighty

O Mahmud! Do not forget God's favor unto thee, and fear no one. He will assist whomsoever He willeth through His command. None can resist His command and none can prevent His decree. Verily He is the Truth, the Knower of the unseen. I counsel thee to fear God, besides Whom there is no other God, and then to follow the command of God, the Mighty, the Powerful. Beware lest thou turn to anyone or draw near to the faces of Satan. God will suffice thee against all else and will bring thee to the shore of a mighty Name. And the Spirit be upon thee and upon His sincere servants.

BH10395: This is the circle of the Command through…

This is the circle of the Command through which the heaven's sphere doth turn, and this is a truth which hath been irrevocably inscribed by the Pen of God in the Mother Book. By it are the spheres of existence set in motion, and unto everyone is rendered their due right, their proper station, and their befitting grace. Verily, He hath power over all things. He ordaineth the measures of glory for whomsoever He willeth, and clotheth with the garment of love whomsoever He pleaseth, and strippeth it from whomsoever He desireth. Verily He, in His own Self, the Truth, hath ever encompassed all the worlds.

BH10280: God, there is no God but Him, the Protector…

He is the Most Glorious!

God, there is no God but Him, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting

He is the Most Great, the Most Glorious!

Glory be unto Thee, O my God! Do Thou clothe the hearts of Thy loved ones with the armor of steadfastness and assurance, that the arrows of the intimations of those who have disbelieved in the Sovereign of all creation may not affect them. Then adorn their heads with the crown of Thy name, the All-Merciful. Then send down upon them from the clouds of Thy mercy and the heaven of Thy grace that which will make them independent of all else save Thee and detached from all except Thyself. Verily, Thou art the Chosen One in Thy Cause, the Obeyed One in Thy decree, and the Beloved One in what Thou willest. There is no God but Thee, the Mighty, the Powerful, the Helper.

BH10176: O Rida! God was well-pleased with thee and hath…

He is the Almighty, the Most Glorious

O Rida! God was well-pleased with thee and hath ordained for thee in the Tablet a station that was, in truth, exalted. Know thou, moreover, that he whom We reared and taught and protected hath risen

against Me and pronounced the sentence of My death, whereby the life of the Concourse on High was transformed and the eyes of them that are nigh unto God shed tears upon seats of glory most sublime. Blessed art thou, for thou hast recognized thy Lord and purified thyself from turning unto every misbeliever, accursed one. The Glory be upon thee and upon every insightful believer.

BH10174: O thou who gazest upon the Countenance! Know thou…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Exalted

O thou who gazest upon the Countenance! Know thou that We arrived at the fortress of ʿAkka with seventy souls, and it was the most desolate of all lands. When We departed from the City of Mystery, one cut his throat as a sacrifice, and at the time of entry into this land, another cast himself into the sea in his grief at separation. From their acts the most great consternation appeared in both places. Glorified be He Who turneth the servants as He willeth and sanctifieth whom He willeth through His grace. Verily He is the Mighty, the Powerful, the Bestower.

BH10177: O servant! Hear thou the Call that hath been…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Exalted, the Most High!

O servant! Hear thou the Call that hath been raised betwixt earth and heaven. By God! Wert thou to become aware of its greatness and the greatness of the station of Him Who manifesteth it, thou wouldst melt away with the fire of longing even as snow melteth from the heat of the sun. Beseech thou God, thy Lord, that He grant thee to hearken unto this Melody by which the worlds would be quickened, were they to turn towards it. Verily thy Lord is powerful over all things. Be thou consumed by the heat of this Fire, that the horizons may be set ablaze through thee. Say: O concourse of the heedless! Blind are your eyes! If ye deny this Cause, in what word will ye believe?

BH10210: O Shah! Why do you ask about my condition…

He is the Almighty

O Shah! Why do you ask about my condition at this time when this servant dwells upon the throne of uniqueness and stands at the station of holy detachment? I have seen none save those who walk the paths of vain imaginings, for all today are veiled from the Point of Will and the all-embracing Word, and like the peoples of old and new, they cling to their own idle fancies and suppositions, turning away from the Sovereign of certitude. Thus was it before and thus shall it ever be, if ye be of them that know and are assured.

BH10231: Thou seest, O my God, how the wrongs committed…

Thou seest, O my God, how the wrongs committed by such of Thy creatures as have turned their backs to Thee have come in between Him in Whom Thy Godhead is manifest and Thy servants. Send down upon them, O my Lord, what will cause them to be busied with each others' concerns. Let, then, their violence be confined to their own selves, that the land and they that dwell therein may find peace.

One of Thy handmaidens, O my Lord, hath sought Thy face, and soared in the atmosphere of Thy pleasure. Withhold not from her, O my Lord, the things Thou didst ordain for the chosen ones among Thy handmaidens. Enable her, then, to be so attracted by Thine utterances that she will celebrate Thy praise amongst them.

Potent art Thou to do what pleaseth Thee. No God is there but Thee, the Almighty, Whose help is implored by all men.

BH10242: Move, O my God, every leaf of the leaves…

In the Name of God, the Most Unapproachable, the Most Wondrous!

Move, O my God, every leaf of the leaves of the Tree of Thy love in this Ridvan wherein the Dove of Thy oneness warbled with the most wonderful melodies. I beseech Thee, O my God, by the Wronged One Who hath suffered in Thy path what none in Thy dominion hath suffered, to protect Thy leaves from the winds of trials. Make them then pure for Thy face, and cause them to gaze toward the horizon of Thy glory, and to be detached from all else besides Thee. Verily, Thou art the Doer of what Thou willest. There is no God but Thee, the Mighty, the Most Exalted, the Lord of the world to come and of the first.

BH10259: Make mention of thy Lord's favor unto His servant…

He is the Most Holy, the Most Glorious

Make mention of thy Lord's favor unto His servant who took God as his Helper and recognized Him in days when all turned away from Him and took idols for themselves as protectors besides God. Say: Today there is no refuge for anyone from God's command save for those who have entered beneath this shade which hath been exalted in truth. Arise to promote the Cause and fear no one, for verily He will guard thee from the hosts of Satan, and His grace hath ever encompassed all who are in the heavens and on earth.

BH10274: Magnified be Thy name, O God, the Lord…

He is the Glorious, the Most Glorious!

Magnified be Thy name, O God, the Lord of heaven! Attire my head with the crown of martyrdom, even as Thou didst attire my body with the ornament of tribulation before all that dwell in Thy land. Grant, moreover, that they whose hearts yearn over Thee may draw nigh unto the horizon of Thy grace, above which the Day-Star of Thy beauty sheddeth its radiance. Ordain, also, for them what will make them rich enough to dispense with aught else except Thee, and rid them of all attachment to such as have repudiated Thy signs.

There is none other God but Thee, the Guardian, the Self-Subsisting.

BH10275: Glorified art Thou, O my God! I beseech Thee…

In the Name of God, the Mighty, the Great!

Glorified art Thou, O my God! I beseech Thee by Thy Name through which Thou didst adorn the frontispiece of the Book of Creation, to make such of Thy handmaidens as have been touched by tribulations in Thy path to be numbered among the denizens of the Most Glorious Paradise. Then send down upon them at all times that which will preserve them from turning to any one except Thee. O Lord! They have turned to Thee and have migrated in Thy path. Deal with them according to what beseemeth Thy glory and befitteth Thy sovereignty. Verily, Thou art the One Who hath power over all who are in the heavens and on earth. There is none other God but Thee, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

BH10282: Glorified art Thou, O my God! This…

In the Name of God, the Eternal, the Everlasting!

Glorified art Thou, O my God! This is a leaf who hath sought Thy face, who hath been moved by the breezes of Thy grace, who hath been seized with passionate love for Thee, who hath answered Thy call and turned toward Thy countenance. I beseech Thee by Thy mercy which hath preceded all things to make her steadfast in what she was in Thy love. Then grant her what Thou hast ordained in the heaven of Thy grace for the choicest of Thy handmaidens. Then open before her face the doors of bounty in this world and the next. Verily, Thy grace hath preceded Thy justice, and Thy mercy hath preceded Thy wrath. Thou art, in truth, the All-Forgiving, the All-Merciful.

BH10287: Glorified art Thou, O my God! I beseech Thee…

In His Name, the All-Loving!

Glorified art Thou, O my God! I beseech Thee by Thy Most Great Name, through which the ocean of eternity surged, to cause Thy loved ones to drink of the wine of Thy oneness, and enable them to voice Thy praise and glorification amidst Thy creatures. O Lord! Thou knowest that I have desired for them naught save that which will draw them nigh unto the heaven of Thy bounty, and I have commanded them naught save that which Thou hast commanded. O Lord! Open before their faces the portals of Thy mercy, then shelter them within the precincts of Thy grace, and cause them to stand firm in their love for Thee. Verily, Thou art the Almighty, the All-Powerful. There is none other God but Thee, the Almighty, the All-Glorious, the All-Wise.

BH10326: Take God as thy Reckoner, then as thy Guardian…

He is the Mighty One!

Take God as thy Reckoner, then as thy Guardian, then as thy Surety. Verily God sufficeth thee against all else. Whoso findeth intimacy with Him shall never find intimacy with another, and he who knoweth Him shall be content with Him above all others. Whoso entereth beneath His shade shall be enriched above every outstretched shade. Verily He is with thee wheresoever thou mayest be. Be thou patient and grieve not, then be content with what He hath ordained for thee, for this is better for thee than all that thou hast known or shalt know, for the matter hath been decreed and fulfilled, and We are witness to this.

BH10328: Glorified art Thou, O my God! I beseech Thee…

He is the Ever-Abiding, the Mighty, the Inaccessible

Glorified art Thou, O my God! I beseech Thee by this Name, which hath been encompassed by tribulations from all directions and upon which calamities have descended from every quarter, to such extent that it findeth no helper in Thy earth nor any succorer in Thy dominion, that Thou mayest ease for this people the pangs of travail, preserve them therefrom, deliver them from this hardship, and transform it into comfort and tranquility. Verily, Thou art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest and supreme over whatsoever Thou desirest. Verily, Thou art the Mighty, the Beauteous, and verily, Thou art the Forgiving, the Merciful.

BH10331: Glorified art Thou, O my God! I beseech Thee…

He is the Almighty.

Glorified art Thou, O my God! I beseech Thee by this sorrow-laden Name, by this hidden Word—manifest, guarded, treasured up—and by Thy Most Glorious Beauty in this luminous, ruddy countenance, that Thou wouldst heal the heart of this Thy servant from every thing that turneth it away from Thy Face.

Then make him empty of the remembrance of all besides Thee, and filled with Thy remembrance and Thy love. Bestow upon him, O my God, that which shall deliver him from every affliction and every pain; then cut him off from all save Thee, O Thou in Whose hand is the Kingdom of the dominion of Names in the realm of Attributes.

Verily, Thou art the Mighty, the Generous, the Majestic, the Beauteous.

BH10332: Glorified art Thou, O my God! This is one…

He is God!

Glorified art Thou, O my God! This is one of Thy handmaidens, a ray from Thy rays, and a melody from Thy melodies, who was born in Thy days and appeared at the time of the exaltation of the manifestation of Thy supreme sovereignty upon the banners of Thy guidance and the rising of Thy Most Splendid Light in the heaven of Thine eternity. Therefore, O my God, protect her through Thy power, then give her to drink from the cups of Thy loving-kindness, and honor her dwelling place through Thy might, that she may perceive the lights of Thy Beauty from the temples of Thy Glory and be illumined by the dawning splendors of the manifestations of Thy grace in the heaven of Thy holy presence. Verily Thou doest what Thou willest, and verily Thou art the King, the Powerful, the Self-Subsisting.

BH10334: Ere long shall the cry of the calf…

Ere long shall the cry of the calf of the Samiri be lifted up from the region of ʿIráq. Turn thou not toward them, nor toward whatsoever is in the heavens and the earth; then stand thou steadfast in the Cause. Thereupon will the hearts of the disquieted be drawn nigh unto thee.

Say: The sovereignty on that Day is God's. In Him do I seek refuge, apart from all else. I have set my face toward Him Who hath created the heavens and the earth, and have severed myself wholly unto God, the Lord of the unseen and the seen, the Lord of the mighty Throne. And praise be to God, the Lord of all worlds.

BH10343: The winds of destiny have scattered the loved ones…

He is God, exalted is He!

The winds of destiny have scattered the loved ones of God, the Most High, the Most Exalted. Some are in Mosul the hunchbacked, some in Damascus the spacious, and some in other cities, while this Youth is in the fortress of Akka, though tribulations encompass Him from all sides. He counsels you to preserve the Cause and calls you to the Most Great Word, which God has made the mirror of His beauty amidst the worlds. Grieve not over what has befallen Us, but help your Lord, the Most Merciful. The Youth shall soon emerge, and the denizens of the highest paradise and the angels drawn nigh shall welcome Him.

BH10354: The Most Powerful. God, there is no God but…

The Most Powerful. God, there is no God but Him, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting.

In the name of the Peerless Friend!

I swear by the Beloved of hearts and the Object of adoration of all creation that if all the handmaidens of the earth were to hear with the ear of the heart this blessed word which hath dawned forth from the Dayspring of the utterance of the All-Merciful—wherein He addresseth thee saying: "O My handmaiden and daughter of My handmaiden!"—they would all sacrifice their lives in His Name. May they perceive the fragrant breezes of the utterance of the Best-Beloved of the worlds and drink of the wine of inner meanings that is concealed therein. This is the Day of assistance. Blessed are they who have turned unto the Truth and have detached themselves from all else save Him.

BH10422: O my God, the Most Merciful and the All-Powerful…

He is the One with power over whatsoever He willeth, in His Name, the All-Encompassing over all names!

O my God, the Most Merciful and the All-Powerful over all contingent beings! I beseech Thee by Thy Most Exalted Being to protect the Sultan and deliver him from whatsoever affliction and hardship he is in. Then I beseech Thee to deal with him in a manner befitting the ocean of Thy generosity, the heaven of Thy grace, and the sun of Thy favors, by the honor of the Seal of Thy Messengers, the Dawning-Place of Thy Revelation, the Recipient of Thine Inspiration, and the Dayspring of Thy lights. O Lord! Ward off from him the hands of evil through the Hand which Thou hast made to be above all the hands of Thy creation. Verily, Thou art the All-Powerful, the Most Exalted, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

BH10433: O people of Baha! Be not grieved at what…

He is God!

O people of Baha! Be not grieved at what hath befallen Us. He hath soared with the spirit, and We are now in a garden of delight. Sorrow and distress befit those whom ye behold imprisoned in this world. He who hath soared to the Supreme Horizon remaineth beneath the shadow of My Hidden Name and My Resplendent Being. He is in joy and gladness. Be not sorrowful, but remember what hath been revealed in the Tablets. Be patient, for He is the Mighty, the All-Patient. The glory of Baha be upon you, O My loved ones! Then blessed are ye for having been scattered throughout the lands for love of Me.

BH10665: Sovereignty belongeth this day unto God, the One…

Sovereignty belongeth this day unto God, the One, the Unconstrained.

This is the Tablet of Command which hath been sent down in truth from the presence of One Who hath ever been the Ancient. Therein is mentioned one of the handmaidens of God, that she may give thanks unto her Lord and be numbered among the thankful ones in a wondrous Tablet of glory. O handmaiden of God! Hearken unto the call of thy Lord, then stand firm in the love of God, then remember Him with beauteous remembrance. And the glory rest upon thee and upon every handmaiden who hath believed in her Lord and held fast unto a mighty pillar.

BH10583: God, there is no God but He, the Protector…

God, there is no God but He, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting.

He is the Most Glorious!

Glory be unto Thee, O my God! Strengthen the hearts of Thy loved ones through Thy power and sovereignty, lest those on earth strike fear into them. Then cause them, O my God, to shine forth from the horizon of Thy greatness and to rise from the dayspring of Thy might, that the intimations of those who have disbelieved in Thee and Thy signs may not hinder them. Then aid them, O my God, to assist Thy Cause in Thy realm and to make mention of Thee among Thy creation. Verily, Thou art the Powerful, the Exalted, the Mighty, the Omnipotent.

BH10638: Rise and say: O people of the Bayan! Fear…

He is the Most Pure, the Most Glorious

Rise and say: O people of the Bayan! Fear the All-Merciful. Do ye object to Him Whom God hath made the Dawning-Place of His power and sovereignty, and made the Bayan a gift unto His Own Self? Fear God and follow not every doubting idolator. This is He Who hath sent down the Book for His remembrance and God hath made it a leaf for His Paradise, each leaf whereof proclaimeth: The Covenant hath come and the Lord of the Day of Separation hath appeared. Blessed is he who in this Day hath fulfilled the Covenant while the idolators have risen up in hypocrisy.

BH10591: Glorified art Thou, O Creator of names and Fashioner…

In the Name of Him Who is the Most Glorious

Glorified art Thou, O Creator of names and Fashioner of earth and heaven! I beseech Thee by Thy Most Glorious Name, through whose grief the dwellers of Thy most exalted Paradise did lament, to cause Thy handmaidens to drink from the Salsabil of Thy remembrance and the Kawthar of Thy love. Then make them, O my God, bearers of glad tidings in Thy days, celebrators of Thy praise, preserved from all that Thy good-pleasure abhorreth, circumambulating around Thy Will, and turned toward the Dawning-Place of Thy Purpose and the Dayspring of Thy Decree. Verily, Thou art the All-Powerful, the Most Exalted, the All-Compelling, the Almighty, the Sovereign.

BH10605: God testifieth that there is none other God but…

He is the Mighty One

God testifieth that there is none other God but Him and that the Ancient Beauty Who hath come in the name of ʿAli is the Truth of Truth upon Truth, and we are all His worshippers, and unto Him boweth down in adoration whatsoever is in the heavens and on earth, and all are prostrate before Him. Say: O people! This is the servant of God and His bondsman, then His proof and His glory. Fear ye God and ascribe no partners unto Him. Thus doth God counsel you, if ye be of them that hearken.

BH10645: Praise be unto Thee, O my God, for having…

In His Name, the One Who standeth without transition!

Praise be unto Thee, O my God, for having given me to drink, in Thy path, from the cup of tribulation, and for having made me a captive in the hands of the wicked ones. By Thy glory! Were anyone to cut me into pieces, I would not depart from the shadow of Thy mercy, and every limb of my body would proclaim that Thou art God, the Lord of all worlds. I beseech Thee, O Creator of existence, to make me steadfast upon Thy extended path, then cause me to speak Thy praise amongst the people of Thy kingdom in such wise that the veils of those who have disbelieved in Thee, O my Lord, the Mighty, the All-Loving, shall not hinder me.

BH10606: God—there is no God but He…

He is the All-Glorious

God—there is no God but He, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting.

He is the Most Compassionate. In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Impregnable!

God beareth witness that there is none other God but He. He giveth life and causeth death, then causeth death and giveth life. Verily He is the One Who gazeth from the Most Exalted Horizon and speaketh from the Most Glorious Tongue that I am, verily, the One Who is worshipped in the last and in the first, and the people have not prevented Him from that which was ordained by God, the Creator of Names and the Fashioner of earth and heaven.

BH10582: Glorified art Thou, O my God! Send down upon…

He is the All-Glorious.

Glorified art Thou, O my God! Send down upon Javad that which is better for him than the dominion of the kingdoms of the heavens and the earth. Verily, Thou art powerful and mighty to do this.

He is the All-Glorious. Therefore hath God magnified thy countenance from this far-off land; and the Concourse on high hath magnified the glorification of thy Lord—together with those who have taken their seat within the Ark of grandeur in the name of thy Lord, the Most High, the Most Exalted—in this Most Glorious Outlook. And this, indeed, is a great favour.

BH10552: O my Lord! Attract me by the fragrances…

…O my Lord! Attract me by the fragrances of Thy revelation in such wise that I may be set ablaze by Thy Name amidst all the worlds, that every soul may find from me the warmth of Thy love and the radiance of the countenance of Thy Cause. O my Lord! By Thy glory! Life is beloved if it endeth in Thy service and is spent in Thy path; and without this I shall never love it, nay rather, I shall utterly reject it. O my Lord! Make me a servant of Thy Cause, then accept me through Thy grace and loving-kindness. Verily Thou art the Omnipotent over whatsoever Thou willest, and Thou art the All-Compelling, the Self-Subsisting.

BH10588: Praise be to Thee, O my God! Thou didst…

He is the All-Glorious.

Praise be to Thee, O my God! Thou didst call me, and I answered Thee. Thou didst summon me, and I hastened unto Thee, entering beneath the shade of Thy mercy and seeking shelter at the threshold of the door of Thy grace. Thou hast nurtured me, O Lord, through Thy providence, chosen me for Thee alone, created me for Thy service, and appointed me to stand before Thee. I beseech Thee, by Thine all-glorious Name and by Thy beauty that hath dawned above the horizon of Thy most exalted Essence, to cause me to be related to Thee even as Thou hadst done so aforetime, and not to separate me from Thyself. Cause then to appear from me, O my God, that which is worthy of Thee. Thou art, in truth, powerful over all things.

BH10541: O Mihdi! Bear thou witness that there is none…

He is the Almighty

O Mihdi! Bear thou witness that there is none other God but Him. His are Creation and Command. He doeth what He willeth and ordaineth what He pleaseth. Then I counsel thee to walk in My ways and be not of the heedless. Therefore render thanks unto God, thy Lord, for what We have mentioned thee in a glorious Tablet. Then convey My greetings unto all who have believed in God, the Mighty, the Powerful, the All-Knowing. And the Spirit be upon thee and upon those who have been patient.

BH10664: This is a Book sent down from the heaven…

He is the Mighty, the Most Holy, the Most Exalted

This is a Book sent down from the heaven of immortality, calling those who have believed in God and His signs to a station of holy radiance. Blessed is he who hath heard the call and hath ascended on holy wings to an atmosphere that hath been sanctified above the mention of all the worlds. O servant! Leave all things behind thee, then take for thyself a praiseworthy station at the right hand of the Throne. Be thou a sword of judgment to the enemies of thy Lord and a mercy of glory to His loved ones. Thus hast thou been commanded from the presence of One mighty and all-knowing.

BH10587: For that prayer that was attributed to Abu Basir…

For that prayer that was attributed to Abu Basir, upon him be the glory of God, the Mighty, the Powerful:

He is the Most High! Glorified art Thou, O my God! I beseech Thee by the lights of Thy countenance to clothe all created things with the robe of forgiveness, and adorn their temples, O my God, with the garments of mercy and loving-kindness. O Lord! They are weak and Thou art the Mighty, the Powerful. They are poor and Thou art the Ancient of Days, the All-Possessing. O Lord! Draw every heart unto the Dayspring of Thy Revelation and every eye unto the horizon of Thy grace. Thou art verily the Almighty, the All-Compelling, the Self-Subsisting.

BH10579: Glorified art Thou, O my God! I beseech Thee…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy

Glorified art Thou, O my God! I beseech Thee by Thy Pen through which Thou didst give life to all worlds, and by Thy Name through which Thou didst create the heavens and the earth, to aid those who have turned unto Thee and have entered the stronghold of Thy Cause, detached from all who dwell on earth. O Lord! The men are Thy servants and the women are Thy handmaidens, and all else besides them are Thy creation and within the grasp of Thy power. Protect them through Thy grace, then grant them the blessing of meeting Thee, and ordain for them that which shall profit them in this world and the world to come. Verily, Thou art the Mighty, the Great.

BH10514: O My sister! Hearken unto the call of thy…

He is the Mighty, the Most Glorious

O My sister! Hearken unto the call of thy brother at the time when He was afflicted at the hands of those who desired to put Him to death without any clear proof from His Lord, the Merciful, nor any manifest evidence. And there hath befallen Me that which cannot be expressed in words and at which the Eye of Grandeur and Majesty weepeth upon the throne of mighty glory. Thou, verily, grieve not at anything, but rather be thou submissive and bow down low, that thou mayest be numbered among the submissive ones upon the tablets of guarded glory.

BH10527: O my God! Thou seest me in the serpent's…

He is the Mighty

O my God! Thou seest me in the serpent's mouth, and witnessest how it stingeth me at every moment and instant. Wilt Thou not help me, O my God, after I have clung to the hem of Thy bounties? Wilt Thou not have mercy upon me, O my Beloved, after I have held fast to the robe of the glory of Thy favors and decrees? Therefore, O my God, do Thou help me through the sovereignty of Thy help, and preserve me from this affliction, O Thou in Whose hand is the kingdom of creation, and Thou art knowing of all things.

BH10516: When the dust settles, the Divine Spring of thy…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Never-Ending!

When the dust settles, the Divine Spring of thy Lord, the Most Exalted, the All-Glorious, shall come. Soon shall the Hand of Power rend asunder the bosom of this pitch darkness, and the Sun shall rise from its horizon nigh. When the winds of trials blow, be thou as an immovable mountain and an impregnable fortress. Purify thy heart from all allusions, that it may be illumined by the lights of the countenance of thy Lord, the Possessor of Names and Attributes. The days shall pass hereafter as they have passed heretofore. Therefore, seize the moment and hold fast to the Sure Handle. Verily, it shall protect thee from all the worlds.

BH10581: Praise be unto Thee, O Lord my God! We…

Praise be unto Thee, O Lord my God! We have observed the Fast in conformity with Thy bidding and break it now through Thy love and Thy good-pleasure. Deign to accept, O my God, the deeds that we have performed in Thy path wholly for the sake of Thy beauty with our faces set towards Thy Cause, free from aught else but Thee. Bestow, then, Thy forgiveness upon us, upon our forefathers, and upon all such as have believed in Thee and in Thy mighty signs in this most great, this most glorious Revelation. Potent art Thou to do what Thou choosest. Thou art, verily, the Most Exalted, the Almighty, the Unconstrained.

BH10586: Glorified art Thou, O my God, O Master…

He is the Most Manifest, the Most Pure, the Most Glorious

Glorified art Thou, O my God, O Master of the nations and Quickener of moldering bones and King of eternity! I beseech Thee by Thy Most Great Name to lead all souls, even if by chains, unto the path of Thy good-pleasure. O my God, they are a people who comprehend not and know not what is best for them, and verily Thou art the All-Knowing, the All-Forgiving, the Most Merciful. Then establish, O my God, the hearts of Thy loved ones upon the path which hath been raised up through Thy glorious and most glorious Name. Verily Thou art the Ruler over whatsoever Thou willest, and verily Thou art the Most High, the Most Great.

BH10617: Glorified art Thou, O my God! I beseech Thee…

He is the Mighty

Glorified art Thou, O my God! I beseech Thee by Thy Name through which the seas of the glory of Thy singleness were set in motion and the suns of the sanctity of Thy divinity shed their radiance, to aid Thy servants who have turned toward the arenas of Thy nearness, then detached themselves from all directions and turned to Thy countenance. Then preserve, O my God, this servant who hath clung to the handle of Thy love and sought refuge in Thy presence and protection, for in Thy hand is the kingdom of all things and Thou art, verily, powerful over all things.

BH10618: Glorified art Thou, O my God! I beseech Thee…

He is the Mighty!

Glorified art Thou, O my God! I beseech Thee by this Exile who hath been driven from His native land by Thy heedless servants, and by the burning of the hearts of them that are nigh unto Thee in His separation and departure, and by the cry of the hearts of the believers in their yearning for Thee, to make firm the feet of this servant upon the path of Thy love. Then preserve him, O my Beloved, from every tribulation and hardship that might come between him and Thy beauty. Verily, Thou art the Almighty over all things, and verily, Thou art the Mighty, the Self-Subsisting.

BH10623: O my God! Every leaf of the leaves…

In the Name of God, the Most High, the Most Exalted!

O my God! Every leaf of the leaves of the Tree of Thy love desireth that the breezes of Thy mercy might pass over it. Therefore, it behooveth Thy grace and bounty to send upon it that which will attract it through Thy Name and move it through Thy love. I beseech Thee by those whom Thou hast made captives in Thy path and who have been deprived of the comfort of the world in their love for Thee, to bestow upon every leaf that which will preserve it from all else save Thee and sanctify it from aught except Thyself. Verily, Thou art the All-Powerful, the Most Exalted, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. And praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH10624: Darkness hath encompassed all regions, and that which was…

He is God, exalted is He!

Darkness hath encompassed all regions, and that which was inscribed in the Books of God, the Omnipotent, the Mighty, the Unconstrained, hath come to pass. There hath befallen Us, at the hands of the contentious rabble who cannot distinguish between a roar and the braying of a donkey, that which caused the Maid of Heaven to weep in the All-Glorious Paradise and the Holy Spirit to lament at the Lote Tree beyond which there is no passing. Yet We render thanks unto God for whatsoever hath befallen Us in His love and good-pleasure, and We beseech Him to preserve His loved ones from turning unto the world and to make them sincere unto His mighty and transcendent Countenance.

BH10666: This is a Tablet that no books of heaven…

He is God!

This is a Tablet that no books of heaven and earth can equal, for by it faith in God, the Mighty, the Powerful, the Unconstrained, is established. By what is in the hands of people their faith cannot be established. Thus hath the Command been sent down from thy Lord, the Mighty, the All-Forgiving. Take hold of the Book and leave all else. Then stand firm in the Cause and fear not the evil ones. Verily, they who have turned away are those who still suckle at the breast of ignorance though their time of maturity hath come, and the decree of infancy is pronounced upon them.

BH10671: This is a radiant leaf and a snow-white scroll…

He is God, exalted be He.

This is a radiant leaf and a snow-white scroll which We have adorned with My Covenant and My Testament before the faces of the servants—an ordinance from God, the Lord of creation and the Sovereign on the Day of Calling aloud.

O dawning-places of the lights of My trustworthiness and daysprings of the mysteries of My Book! Ye are My witnesses among My creatures and the embodiments of My truth amidst My servants. Know ye, with the knowledge of certitude, that My Covenant changeth not through the abiding of My Kingdom, and that My Testament altereth not through the continuance of My Names and My attributes.

BH10682: O my God! Thou seest and knowest…

In the Name of God, the Ancient, the Ever-Abiding!

O my God! Thou seest and knowest that the oppressors have wronged Thy loved ones who have turned toward the Dayspring of Thy Revelation, the Dawning-Place of Thine inspiration and the Source of Thy Cause, and have driven them, together with their children and their women, from their homeland—though they had manifested naught except that which Thou didst command them through Thy Most Exalted Pen. I beseech Thee, O my Lord, by Thy Most Glorious Name, to send down from the heaven of Thy bounty that which shall exalt the believers and abase the ungodly. There is no God but Thee, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting.

BH10740: Whatsoever is in the heavens and on the earth…

He is the Ever-Abiding

Whatsoever is in the heavens and on the earth and between them boweth down in adoration unto God, for verily there is no sovereign but Him. His is the creation and the command, and all are seized with trembling and convulsion through His might. He it is before Whose fear the thunder doth glorify Him, and the lightning through dread of Him, and He bringeth forth the signs from the kingdom of power and destiny. Say: Verily are all manifestations enshrouded by His bidding, and all winds stirred by His sovereignty, and none denieth this save every denier and vainglorious one.

BH10886: This is a leaf which is stirred…

He is God.

This is a leaf which is stirred by the breezes of holiness that waft from the direction of the divine companionship, the place wherein is made mention of God, so that through its movements may be stirred the hearts of those who have turned with their all unto God and have detached themselves from all else. Blessed is he who in all matters hath placed his trust in God, his Lord, and hath taken Him as his helper in his dwelling and his sojourn. Verily, those who have desired the divine countenance—God will soon requite them with the most excellent requital and will answer whosoever calleth upon Him.

BH10825: Say: Glory be unto Thee, O my God! Praise…

…Say: Glory be unto Thee, O my God! Praise be unto Thee for having enabled me to recognize Thy Cause and to know the Manifestation of Thy Self. I beseech Thee, by Thy Most Great Name, around which circle all names and their dominions and attributes, not to deprive me of that which Thou hast ordained for me. Make me detached from the world and all that is therein, and turned towards the court of Thy good-pleasure. Thou art, verily, the Almighty over what Thou willest. There is no God but Thee, the Mighty, the All-Forgiving.

BH10849: God, and there is none other besides Him

God, and there is none other besides Him.

The Promise has come to pass and the Promised One has appeared, and the Sun of proof and testimony has dawned from the horizon of manifestation. Blessed art thou for having cast away and taken hold, and having arisen and proclaimed: “The Kingdom is God’s, the Almighty, the Glorious, the Bestower!” Be thou steadfast in such wise that through thee every wavering one may become firm and every agitated soul may find tranquility. Thus have We ordained for thee in the Book.

BH10850: That which thou didst send from the heaven…

He is God, the Most High, the Most Exalted!

That which thou didst send from the heaven of thy love hath come before this servant, and I have forwarded it to the place which thou didst desire. We beseech God to accept from thee that which hath proceeded from thee, and to raise thee up unto the canopy of nearness which was, in the Tablet, most exalted. His honor Mirza Muhammad will present the details of affairs, and convey greetings to all the loved ones. Baha.

BH10766: O ʿAli! Thou hast walked with thy feet towards…

He is the Mighty!

O ʿAli! Thou hast walked with thy feet towards God and turned with thy spirit to the shore of an impregnable nearness. May God reward thee, on Our behalf, with such a recompense as none have

attained save those who were among the wayfarers in God's good-pleasure. Then convey Our greetings to the faces of them that are nigh, and the Spirit be upon thee and upon God's sincere servants. Then convey greetings to the women who are in the house, whom God hath made to be among the devout ones.

BH10759: Hearken unto that which is revealed unto thee…

He is the All-Knowing in the Kingdom of the Most Glorious

Hearken unto that which is revealed unto thee from the direction of eternity in this Most Holy, Most Pure, Most Great Spot, that He is the Light in the countenance of the Manifestation, and the One remembered in His heart, and the Beloved in His inner being, and the Speaker in His breast, and the One Who maketh mention upon His tongue, and the Doer through His limbs, and the Beholder through His sight, and the Hearer through His ear, yet the people perceive not and walk in the wilderness of fancy.

BH10807: The True Beauty hath appeared, O friends—acquire…

He is the Mighty!

The True Beauty hath appeared, O friends—acquire ye vision! A spiritual bounty hath descended from the holy divine heaven, O companions—gain ye understanding! And the gates of wondrous paradise have been opened, O loved ones—attain ye awareness! That perchance through the grace of the King of existence, the eye and ear and heart may not remain deprived of the outpourings of the Holy Spirit. Thus hath He ordained through bounty for people who comprehend.

BH10818: The Remembrance of God from the Divine Lote-Tree hath…

He is God!

The Remembrance of God from the Divine Lote-Tree hath been witnessed at the right hand of the Throne. Blessed is the one who draweth nigh unto it, who is nourished by its fruits, and who taketh for himself beneath its shade a station that is faithful to the truth. O handmaiden of God! Give thanks unto thy Lord and forget not His favor, for indeed His favor toward thee hath been great. And the glory rest upon thee and upon every leaf that hath been illumined by the lights of God.

BH10824: Glorified art Thou, O my God! I render Thee…

He is the Most Pure, the Most Manifest, the Most Glorious

Glorified art Thou, O my God! I render Thee thanks for having made me a captive in the hands of the oppressors for Thy sake. I swear by Thy glory that the sweetness of what I have tasted from the cup of destiny in Thy love hath not departed from my palate. O my Lord, cause Thy servants to recognize Thy beauty, and deprive them not of the wine of Thy mercy which hath flowed from the finger of Thy will in Thy days. Thou art, verily, the All-Powerful, the Almighty.

BH10826: Glorified art Thou, O my God! This is Thy…

He is the Glorious, the All-Glorious!

Glorified art Thou, O my God! This is Thy Call which hath been raised from the right hand of the throne of Thy grandeur, whereby it hath drawn unto itself the hearts of Thy servants. O Thou in Whose grasp are all who are in Thy heavens and on Thine earth! Wouldst Thou turn them away, O my God, while Thou art the One Who calleth them? Wouldst Thou deny them while Thou art the Giver? Far be it from Thy great bounty, O Lord of the Day of Judgment! Thou, verily, art the Most Merciful of the merciful ones.

BH10829: Praise be unto thee, O Lord my God, I…

He is the Most Holy

Praise be unto thee, O Lord my God, I beseech Thee by Thy decisive Holy Utterance whereby the root of doubt and misgivings hath been eradicated and the glory of Thy name, the Almighty, the Bountiful, hath shone forth, to protect every child that hath been admitted beneath the shade of Thy loving-kindness, and to have mercy, O my God, on those babes whom the people have banished from their homes while [sic] were still at their mothers' breasts, for no other reason than the love they have cherished for Thee. O Lord! Have pity upon them through Thy bounty. Thou art verily the Most Merciful.

BH10843: Glorified be He Who is established upon the throne…

He is!

Glorified be He Who is established upon the throne and Who rules as He pleases with the sovereignty of His command. And verily He is this and this is He, but the people are in delusion, then in conjecture, then in doubt, then in drunkenness and heedlessness and in a veil thicker than all thick things and heavier than the weight of the heavens and earth—and none knows this save the detached ones.

BH10845: Glorified art Thou, O my God! I beseech Thee…

He is the Mighty

Glorified art Thou, O my God! I beseech Thee by Thy Name through which Thou didst manifest Thy Beauty unto the people of Thy kingdom and didst send upon all created things the breezes of the grace of Thy mercy, to forgive this servant who hath clung to the cord of Thy loving care and held fast to the hem of Thy bounty. Then grant him, O my God, that which will detach him from all else but Thee and enable him to attain unto the shore of Thy nearness, for in Thy hands is the dominion of all things and Thou art, verily, powerful over all things.

BH10847: Glorified art Thou, O my God! Do Thou aid…

He is the Mighty

Glorified art Thou, O my God! Do Thou aid those who have sought no help except through the wondrous aids of Thy triumph and victory, and who have turned to none save Thy gracious countenance, and who have faced none but Thy resplendent beauty. Therefore, O my Beloved, have mercy upon them through the sovereignty of Thy mercy, and deprive them not of Thy grace and bounties, nor of attaining Thy presence and Thy gifts. Verily, Thou art powerful over all things.

BH10848: We have been afflicted with a most grievous calamity…

He is God, exalted is He!

We have been afflicted with a most grievous calamity, and trial and hardship, and darkness of tribulation. Yet through God's grace the Sun has risen from the supreme horizon. Behold, it moves before Us at Our behest. Soon will it transform the darkness of night into the light of day through its effulgence and radiance, and its signs will appear throughout all regions. Blessed is he who remains firm upon the throne of steadfastness and power in the Cause of his Lord, the Mighty, the Chosen One.

BH10889: Although this evil state in which I am, O…

In the Name of God, the Forgiver!

Although this evil state in which I am, O my God, maketh me deserving of Thy wrath and punishment, Thy good pleasure and Thy bounties demand Thy forgiveness to encompass Thy servants and Thy good favour to reach them. I ask Thee by Thy Name which Thou hast made the King of all names to protect me by Thy power and Thine omnipotence from all calamity and all that is repugnant to Thee and all that is contrary to Thy Will. Thou art Supreme over all things.

BH10973: O Thou Whose face is the object of my…

O Thou Whose face is the object of my adoration, Whose beauty is my sanctuary, Whose habitation is my goal, Whose praise is my hope, Whose providence is my companion, Whose love is the cause of my being, Whose mention is my solace, Whose nearness is my desire, Whose presence is my dearest wish and highest aspiration, I entreat Thee not to withhold from me the things Thou didst ordain for the chosen ones among Thy servants. Supply me, then, with the good of this world and of the next.

Thou, truly, art the King of all men. There is no God but Thee, the Ever-Forgiving, the Most Generous.

BH11013: O leaf! The odor of misbelief hath wafted…

He is the Most Holy, the Most Glorious.

O leaf! The odor of misbelief hath wafted from the heart of every base misbeliever. Hold fast to this Tree lest thou fall upon the face of the earth. Thus doth command thee the Pen of sublime justice. Hold fast to the Tree, then taste of the fruits of the Lote-Tree of Paradise and be steadfast in the love of God.

BH11011: O Guest! Bear witness within thyself that He…

He is the Almighty

O Guest! Bear witness within thyself that He is God, alone with no partner. His is the glory and the eternity, His the grandeur and the splendor, His the sovereignty and the cloud of divinity. He doeth whatsoever He willeth through His power, and He, verily, is the Sovereign, the All-Knowing, the Ruler, the Self-Subsisting. Then make mention of Majid and Baqir and Muhsin.

BH11025: O Dhabih! The heart hath been created…

O Dhabih! The heart hath been created for the recognition of the Lord of Lords. Defile it not with the love of any other, and at all times strive with utmost effort to preserve this exalted and sublime essence, lest it be veiled by veils or barred by glory from the Lord of Attributes….

BH11176: O Greatest Branch! By the life of God, thy…

He is the Healer, the Mighty, the All-Wise!

O Greatest Branch! By the life of God, thy afflictions have grieved Me, but God will heal thee and protect thee, for He is the Best, the Gracious, and the Most Excellent Helper. The glory rest upon thee and upon those who serve thee and circle round thee. Woe and torment be upon those who oppose thee and harm thee. Blessed is he who befriendeth thee, and hell-fire be upon him who is thine enemy.

BH11012: O Hadi! Be patient in what hath befallen thee…

He is the Mighty!

O Hadi! Be patient in what hath befallen thee and what hath befallen Us from the irrevocable and manifest decree. Put thy trust in God, for in Him do the sincere ones place their trust. Fear thou no one, then stand firm in love and be of the patient ones. Then remind from Our presence thy son that he may be of the content ones.

BH11007: O Jamshid! Be thou patient in separation and be…

He is the Almighty

O Jamshid! Be thou patient in separation and be not distressed within thyself, and be of them that are patient. Then beseech God that He may bring about a reunion between us and you, for verily He hath power over all things. And the Spirit be upon thee and upon the patient servants of God.

BH11005: O My handmaiden! By God, at all times doth…

He is the Sorrowful

O My handmaiden! By God, at all times doth the Tongue of God give utterance to verses of grief, whereas the oceans of life should be flowing in recognition of My All-Merciful Self. Therefore, the curse of God be

upon those who have wronged Me without clear proof or an illuminating Book. And thou, remember thy Lord, then be devoutly obedient, that thou mayest be accounted among those who remember, recorded by the Pen of God.

BH11046: since the eternal Sovereign is unlimited and unknowable, whatsoever…

…since the eternal Sovereign is unlimited and unknowable, whatsoever proceedeth from the Source of His sanctified glory hath not been and will never be confined to any single soul, but descendeth without limitation. Therefore, any handmaid of God who remaineth steadfast in the path of God and detached from all else besides Him—she is the true handmaid of God.

BH11022: O friends! Come forth from the garden of self…

He is the Mighty, the Self-Subsisting

O friends! Come forth from the garden of self and passion, and enter gracefully into the paradise of the love of Baha. Step out of the realm of fancy into the arena of certitude. Though ere long all shall be deprived of this spiritual revelation and this mighty sovereign dawning, save whom thy Lord willeth, the Mighty, the All-Knowing.

BH11049: Praise be to God Who hath wafted the holy…

He is the Mighty

Praise be to God Who hath wafted the holy breezes from the divine paradise of meaning upon all created things, that all might behold with both outward and inward vision the lights of the Divine Beauty, and that none upon earth might be prevented or held back from the remembrance of the True Object of Worship. Thus hath it been sent down in truth, if ye would but know.

BH11068: Glorified art Thou, O my God! Praise be unto…

In the Name of God, the Most Great, the Most Glorious!

Glorified art Thou, O my God! Praise be unto Thee for having made me the lamp of the worlds and the light of those who know Thee. Thou knowest, O my God, that mine eyes are turned toward Thy servants. Deliver them, O my God, from self and passion, and draw them nigh unto the Most Glorious Horizon in Thy days. Verily, Thou art the Generous. There is no God but Thee, the Great.

BH11069: Glorified art Thou, O my God! Praise be unto…

In the name of God, the Most Great, the Most Glorious!

Glorified art Thou, O my God! Praise be unto Thee for having given Baha the cup of tribulation to drink. By Thy glory, O Thou Who art the Lord of all names! Through his love for Thee, Baha is not dismayed by tribulation, and through it he glories over all who are in earth and heaven. I beseech Thee not to

disappoint those who have set their hopes on the court of Thy mercy. Thou art, verily, the Almighty, the Powerful, the Gracious.

BH11090: Glorified art Thou, O my God! This…

He is the Almighty, the Alone, the Most Bountiful, the Self-Subsisting.

Glorified art Thou, O my God! This is a handmaid from among Thy handmaids who, in the days of her youth, hath come to know Thee, and by night and by day hath lived in Thy companionship. O my God, ordain for her every good and every well-being which Thou dost send down, for, verily, Thou art powerful over all things.

BH11091: Glorified art Thou, O my God and my Beloved!…

Glorified art Thou, O my God and my Beloved! Thou seest my poverty and neediness amidst both the loved ones and the wayward. Praise be unto Thee, O my God, for Thy decree and ordainment, and thanks be unto Thee, O my Lord, for Thy direction and execution thereof. And we bear witness that Thou art the All-Bountiful in Thy deeds and the Sovereign in Thy dominion, and Thou art powerful over all things.

BH11093: We have been afflicted with consuming grief, a troubled…

He is God, exalted is He!

We have been afflicted with consuming grief, a troubled life, and clinging tribulation. We praise God in all these things. Our gaze has ever been fixed upon the Most Exalted Horizon and our face turned toward the Most Glorious Countenance. And we say: Praise be to Thee, O my God, for having singled us out for tribulations in Thy path. Verily Thou art the Lord of the last and the first.

BH11106: In My Name, the Most Holy, the Most Ancient…

In My Name, the Most Holy, the Most Ancient, the Most Great!

Say: O my God! Thou seest me standing before the throne of Thy grandeur, hearing Thy call, gazing upon Thy countenance, holding fast to the cord of Thy bounty, and clinging to the hem of Thy grace. I beseech Thee to assist me in serving Thy Cause, then to unite my scattered affairs that I may become capable of teaching Thy Cause. Verily, Thou art the All-Powerful, the Most Exalted, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

BH11260: Glorified is He Who sends down verses at all…

He is God!

Glorified is He Who sends down verses at all times, and through them the Sun has shone forth from a holy and exalted horizon. O handmaiden of God! Give thanks unto thy Lord that thou mayest be accounted among those who are well-pleasing in the Book. Then be thou devoutly obedient and prostrate thyself before a luminous and glorious Countenance.

BH11255: Fear ye God and commit not oppression and wickedness…

Fear ye God and commit not oppression and wickedness within yourselves, which are to turn away from My Beauty and to oppose My Cause after the horizons have been illumined by the lights of this holy, pure, mighty and gleaming Daybreak….

BH11290: Say: Today, no one will be benefitted by anything…

Say: Today, no one will be benefitted by anything but clinging to the praiseworthy shining Handle. And if they say, He forged it,' reply, then produce forgeries the like of what hath been revealed!'—so that they may witness their own impotence and may be among those who comprehend. Say: By God, were you to gather together with all those on the earth so as to produce a similar verse, they would be unable to accomplish it….

BH11223: O Most Exalted Pen! If thou desirest to ordain…

O Most Exalted Pen! If thou desirest to ordain martyrdom for a servant who is present before the Throne, ordain as he hath wished in the path of God, the King, the Glorious, the Most High, the Great. Say: We have testified to his martyrdom in His love. Verily, He is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

BH11224: O Muhammad! Grieve not over all that We have…

He is the Almighty

O Muhammad! Grieve not over all that We have attributed to thee, for whatsoever appeareth from the Beloved is beloved. Then stand firm in thy love and put thy trust in God, thy Lord. Verily He will fulfill His promise, and God doth not fail in His promise.

BH11261: Glorified art Thou, O my God! Praise be unto…

He is the Most Great, the Most Glorious!

Glorified art Thou, O my God! Praise be unto Thee for having expended me for the quickening of all who are in Thy heaven and on Thy earth, and for having made me a target for the darts of destiny for the exaltation of Thy Word. Do Thou guide, O my God, Thy servants unto the straight path. Verily, Thou art the Mighty, the Bestower.

BH11262: Glorified art Thou, O my God, O Creator…

He is God, the Most Mighty, the Most Glorious

Glorified art Thou, O my God, O Creator of the heavens and Ruler of all names! I beseech Thee by Thy Beauty which hath shone forth from the horizon of glory, to gather together Thy loved ones beneath the canopies of Thy grace and then to make them drink of that which will quicken their hearts in Thy days. Verily, Thou art the All-Powerful, the Supreme, the Mighty, the Self-Subsisting.

BH11276: He is the Mighty, the Beloved! Glory be unto…

He is the Mighty, the Beloved! Glory be unto Thee, O my God! I beseech Thee by Him through Whom Thou didst raise up the standards of Thy guidance and establish the banners of Thy singleness, to aid whosoever seeketh Thine aid and to protect whosoever seeketh Thy protection. Verily, Thou art powerful to do this.

BH11277: Glorified art Thou, O my God! I beseech Thee…

Glorified art Thou, O my God! I beseech Thee by Thy Name through which Thou didst manifest Thy beauty, perfect Thy Cause, strengthen Thy proof, and make known and declare Thy attributes, that Thou mayest cause Thy servants to ascend unto the station wherein Thy friend gazeth from the throne of Thy glory and the seat of Thy majesty. Verily, Thou art powerful over all things and all-wise.

BH11302: The letter reached me today, Thursday. Through the grace…

He is the Great Witness.

The letter reached me today, Thursday. Through the grace of God, your affairs have been, and will continue to be, gathered together and firmly established; for, inasmuch as ye are with us and of us, to turn to His succor need occasion no fear. God willing, after the meeting you will depart. Whenever it becomes possible, set forth and present yourselves. God's blessings be upon you.

BH11307: This is a Book from the presence of Bahá…

This is a Book from the presence of Bahá unto him who hath been named Muhammad in the Book of Names, that he may soar on the wings of longing through this pure, sanctified, mighty and wondrous air.

We beseech God to ordain for thee every good in His manifest Book.

Glory be upon the loved ones of God, the Lord of all the worlds.

BH11357: Know ye O ye inhabitants of the earth! My…

He is the Manifest!

Know ye O ye inhabitants of the earth! My Hair is My sword. It kills the lovers when in separation and then clothes itself in the black garment in their mourning. This is one of its most wonderful attributes from the beginning which has had no beginning. O ye who are strangers, fly away from it, O ye people of disputation.

BH11403: In the days when the chiefs of the Bayan…

In the days when the chiefs of the Bayan would pay dearly for women's veils to conceal and protect themselves from enemies, the Ancient Beauty arose to aid the Cause, although all peoples had risen to oppose Him….

BH11383: Lawh-i-Zaynu'l-Muqarrabin(?)

To be typed.

BH11391: O my handmaiden! You have become aware…

He is I

O my handmaiden! You have become aware of the characteristics of the Beauty of Oneness and have learned of the sanctification of the Ancient Being. Inform the handmaidens of God so that they may purify themselves from that which God does not love.

BH11397: He is the Bestower, the Forgiver. Some must depart…

He is the Bestower, the Forgiver. Some must depart from the blessed city for a specified time period while others must depart forever, unless they repent unto God, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting.

BH11405: Glorified art Thou, O Lord of existence and Sovereign…

He is the Luminous, the All-Glorious, the Most Glorious

Glorified art Thou, O Lord of existence and Sovereign of kings and Merciful One to the servants! This servant hath turned toward Thy gate and desired Thy bounties, and being hungry hath sought Thy favors, and being thirsty hath sought the stream of Thy mercy.

BH11435: When I contemplate, O my God, the relationship…

He is

When I contemplate, O my God, the relationship that bindeth me to Thee, I am moved to proclaim to all created things "verily I am God!"; and when I consider my own self, lo, I find it coarser than clay!

BH11512: We have revealed, for her who hath ascended unto…

We have revealed, for her who hath ascended unto the Supreme Companion, a wondrous abode of nearness. By God! We behold her among the celestial maidens.

BH11493: In the name of God, the Most Unapproachable…

In the name of God, the Most Unapproachable, the Most Holy, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious. O Lord! Bestow upon me mercy from Thy presence, for verily Thou art the Mighty, the All-Bountiful.

BH11521: This is a luminous page which We have caused…

This is a luminous page which We have caused to bear the pearls of wisdom and utterance. Whoso looketh upon it, that one is indeed of the people of Bahá.

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BH00672: O Ali! Give thanks to God for having adorned…

O Ali! Give thanks to God for having adorned your head with the crown of praise in the days of your Lord, the Possessor of Names, and your temple with the ornament of His service throughout all possibility. We have become aware of your journey to certain regions and your migration in the path of God, the Revealer of verses. This befits you and every devoted soul who has detached himself in His love from all else.

O Ali! Under all conditions, exert your utmost effort to unite hearts and gather them together around the Divine Law of God's Cause. Although through God's grace you are adorned with virtuous character, yet the more you add to it the more beloved it is in the sight of God, so that all may turn to the All-Bestowing through your goodly characteristics. Be vigilant regarding the Cause at all times, as has been revealed from the Pen of Command in previous Tablets.

Observe the grace, favor and kindnesses of God. For years one of the servants, whom you know, though he and his followers have secretly been occupied with unseemly words, foul odors and selfish conditions—and God is aware and encompassing of all—We concealed it. As he outwardly spoke the name of God and His mention, We did not oppose him. Over several years, from the Dawning-Place of verses exalted Tablets were specifically revealed and sent to him. In all conditions, both explicitly and implicitly, We summoned him to that pure station which is sanctified from any trace of self and existence, that perchance he might attain the lofty, inaccessible stations. All this was from the grace, mercy and favor of your Lord, for We have never wished nor do We wish that any soul should be deprived of that for which it was created or remain without portion of that which was ordained for it. Despite these successive favors and continuous kindnesses, it is as though he considered God heedless and that God's concealment was due to him. Say: May my spirit and soul be sacrificed for You, O Concealer of the worlds!

O Ali! Observe the Cause of the Messenger of God, how at first it was in the utmost ascendancy and elevation, but later it halted. One of the causes that prevented it was that certain souls arose and, claiming they possessed inner knowledge, prevented the helpless people from the Divine Law and the repositories of divine glory. Say: By God! All that is manifest is more exalted than your inner knowledge and every shell is more luminous than your kernel. The sincere have abandoned your inner meanings just as bones are abandoned to dogs.

In these days Divine ordinances are dawning from the Dayspring of heavenly utterance. God willing, they shall be sent hereafter. These two blessed verses were revealed in that Most Holy, Most Exalted Tablet:

> "Amongst the people is he who seateth himself amid the sandals by the door whilst coveting in his heart the seat of honour. Say: What manner of man art thou, O vain and heedless one, who wouldst appear as other than thou art? And among the people is he who layeth claim to inner knowledge, and still deeper knowledge concealed within this knowledge. Say: Thou speakest

false! By God! What thou dost possess is naught but husks which We have left to thee as bones are left to dogs."

Consider how every vain soul that appeared drew forth a channel from the Most Great Ocean, and with all deceit and guile arose with personal imaginings and selfish passions, and divided the Muslim community. Say: O thou deluded one! Verily the inner meaning, and the meaning within the inner meaning, and that inner meaning which God hath sanctified beyond all inner and outer meanings unto infinity, circle round this outward Manifestation Who speaketh the truth at the heart of the world. The Most Great Name hath appeared, the Lord of nations and the Ancient King. None hath any refuge or dwelling-place save in cleaving to this shining Handle whereby earth and heaven were illumined, the Throne and the dust gleamed forth, the Kingdom of Names was brightened, and the Supreme Horizon was suffused with light. Fear ye God, O people, and follow not the desires of those who follow their lusts, nor the imaginings of those who have arisen with deceit in the realms of creation. Turn with shining faces and radiant brows unto the Dawning-Place of the signs of your Lord, the Lord of the Beginning and the End. Thus hath the matter been decreed in the Tablet which God hath made the Mother of Tablets and the Lamp of Prosperity between the heavens and the earth.

O Ali! The division of the community hath become the cause and reason for universal weakness, yet most people understand not. Would that certain souls who claim ardor and attraction, passion and enchantment, and the like, would go to Constantinople and observe the Qadiriyyih monastery and become warned. O Ali! A group is gathered in that place, and by the True One Himself, it hath been witnessed that one of those souls continuously struck himself against stone and mud and wall for more than four hours until there was fear of his perishing. Then he would fall unconscious to the ground and for about two hours would have no awareness at all. And they count these things among spiritual gifts. God is quit of them and We are quit of them. Verily thy Lord is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. He knoweth the treachery of eyes and what lieth hidden in the breasts of men.

Likewise there is a group known as the Rifa'i. These souls, by their own account, walk through fire and in moments of ecstasy strike each other with swords in such manner that the observer would think they had severed their own limbs. All this is but tricks and deceit and guile from their own selves. Lo! They are among the far lost. All these things have been witnessed firsthand and most people have seen them. How desirable it would be if one of those deluded souls would turn toward that land and witness the aforementioned monasteries and what transpires therein, that perchance through selfish thoughts and the delusions of deceitful souls he might not be debarred from the direction of Divine Unity and the Lord of all creation.

O Ali! There are and have been people in the climes of India who have denied themselves food and drink, have found companionship with wild beasts, and spend their nights and days in arduous spiritual exercises, constantly engaged in remembrance. Nevertheless, not one of these souls is mentioned in the presence of God, even though they count themselves among the pillars, stakes and unique ones of the earth. Today, the robe of deeds and the crown of actions is the mention of the Most Great Name, both outwardly and inwardly. Verily, it is the Word whereby every party hath been separated, every mountain hath been scattered, every star hath fallen, every sun hath been darkened, every moon hath been

eclipsed, every heaven hath been cleft asunder, every earth hath been split, every sea hath subsided, every peak hath trembled, every trunk hath been uprooted, every hill hath been shaken, and every plain hath quaked, save whom thy Lord, the Mighty, the Powerful, hath willed. Whoso acknowledgeth what God hath acknowledged, and confesseth what God hath confessed, is of the people of Baha in the kingdom of creation. Thus hath the command of thy Lord, the Firm, the Mighty, the Wise, been sent down from the horizon of revelation.

Although it is not befitting that the Supreme Pen be occupied with such utterances, yet in view of grace and the precedence of mercy, the Pen of the All-Merciful speaketh in such wise. Where are the mighty ones? Where are the manifestations of steadfastness in the kingdom of creation? Where are the dawning-places of power in the heaven of detachment?

O Ali! Until now the Finger of Power hath not rent asunder the veils. Verily, thy Lord is the Concealer. Beseech God that He may cause those souls to remain firm and steadfast in the Cause of the Lord of all beings and the Sovereign of all days, with complete steadfastness, detached from all else but Him. By My life! Through this their mention shall be exalted, their names confirmed, their stations realized, and the doors of My knowledge—which is the foundation of the Cause and its beginning, the essence of glory and its sovereign—shall be opened before their faces. Blessed is he who hath cast away the world and whatsoever is mentioned therein, and hath turned with an illumined heart toward the court of his Lord, the Exalted, the Powerful, the Most High, the Great.

Your burden is great. Bear it as this Most Tender, Most Delicate, Most Compassionate, Gentle, Wondrous, Luminous Heart hath borne above it. For you must, with wisdom as commanded in all Tablets, purify the people from personal imaginings and unseemly conditions through effective counsels and divine wisdom, and lead them to the most holy court. The first and greatest matter is steadfastness in the Cause. God willing, you must be engaged in service at all times, as indeed you are. Verily, the glory be upon you and upon those who love you purely for the sake of God, your Lord and the Lord of all worlds.

BH00455: The ambrosial fragrance emanating from the pen of thy…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Impregnable, the Most Mighty, the Most Glorious!

The ambrosial fragrance emanating from the pen of thy love, O beloved of my heart and soul, hath, in this most auspicious hour, perfumed the garden of my heart. Blessed be thy hand and arm, for thou hast brought joy to this wanderer through the influence of thy gem-scattering pen, and hast bestowed complete delight through the glad tidings of thy well-being. Happy art thou for having given the heart to drink from the cup of thy remembrance and bestowed upon it the bounty of thy connection, for correspondence, in the estimation of them that have recognized the truth, is the perfection of communion.

That which thou didst submit to the Most Holy Court was presented by this evanescent servant in detail before the presence of the Self-Sufficing Lord on one of the nights when a group of them that circle round the Throne were present. The breezes of grace and the winds of divine mercy are wafting with such intensity that neither can my motionless pen describe it, nor my weary tongue express it, nor can

anyone comprehend it save His exalted Self. Exalted, immeasurably exalted, is His grace that hath encompassed all possibility and His beneficence that is witnessed at all times.

Since at the time of the return of thy brother—upon him be the everlasting glory of God—a most mighty Tablet was specifically revealed for thee from the Most Holy Heaven and dispatched, the response to the supplication thou didst submit shall, according to His command, be sent subsequently.

Regarding thy brother, while he was in Alexandria, on one of the days, suddenly a Tablet was revealed from the heaven of oneness explicitly confirming the command for his return, and likewise he had been previously commanded to return. However, according to what he had written, his affairs were not yet concluded. He will present the details thereof to thee in person. Blessed is he for having attained the presence of God, for having drunk the wine of reunion from the hands of His mercy, and for having heard the call of God with his own ears.

Furthermore, there is much that this servant has continually wished to submit to your honor, but due to the multitude of occupations and writing, there has not been opportunity to properly explain and mention the matters concealed in the heart. Some time ago this servant was present before the Throne and a Tablet was revealed to one of the beloved ones. Among its contents was a command that someone should proceed to Gilan for the purpose of reminding the people. This servant perceived that within this decree was concealed a wisdom and hidden a mystery, but did not dare to inquire about its wisdom from the Most Holy Presence. However, I remained thoughtful about what would appear, until Jinab-i-Aqa Hasan, upon him be the Glory of God, arrived. This servant specifically asked him what news he had from Gilan. He did not mention anything at first, but after insistence briefly mentioned something, though nothing was understood from it, until Jinab-i-Aqa Jamal, upon him be the Glory of God, arrived and he himself, before being asked, detailed the events occurring in that land.

This evanescent servant was greatly amazed and astonished at how much delusion had overtaken the world and how much the suppositions of heedless souls had encompassed the people. Despite the fact that in most Tablets revealed from the heaven of Will, the people were informed that in most lands the birds of darkness and manifestations of the calf would appear, and all were explicitly commanded to avoid them, nevertheless when someone who was the most wicked of people and observably and inwardly among the basest of servants merely uttered a croak, a group followed him. And likewise another evil one said what he said and did what he did, such that the pen is unable to move in describing his words and deeds.

O beloved of my soul, reflect a little on what is the cause of these matters and what is the reason. This servant submits that the cause of such matters has been illusory investigations and interpretations that neither nourish nor satisfy, with which some occupy themselves day and night. Such investigations and detestable, unclean mysticisms have been and continue to be the cause and reason for the emergence of such false claims. Jinab-i-Aqa Jamal mentioned two statements that truly melted the heart. Among them he said that he met Aqa Siyyid Javad-i-Qazvini who stated that “I have no issue with the original Cause, but what can I do when I observe that these people have established such an apparatus that each day they prostrate themselves before someone and worship a calf.” He also mentioned that there were several Shaykhis in Rasht who showed complete acceptance, but after the events that occurred in that

land became extinguished and veiled. And they mentioned that "We observe that they speak of and remember someone with complete praise, glorification and exaltation, and then they say that this vile, unclean person is him, and for this reason they have become extinguished."

We beseech the True One that He may graciously bestow upon some of the people of that land, from the chalice of justice, that which hath descended from the heaven of Divine Will. With consummate sincerity, mercy, bounty, and compassion have those souls been counseled and admonished, yet until now no trace of effect hath appeared, and they remain occupied with fanciful investigations. Verily, thy Lord is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

Observe ye, had those souls engaged themselves in training the people according to what God hath willed, ye would now witness every portion of the earth as a region of Paradise. Reflect ye somewhat upon these recent occurrences in Rasht, and behold how greatly they have caused the dissipation of the Cause of God among the people. Strange it is that no soul hath appeared, by the power of God, to descend upon those wicked, pretentious persons like a flame of fire. We entreat God that He may raise up against them one who shall show them no mercy.

When the letter reached this point, I turned toward the Most Holy Court, and after gaining entry, He bid me stand and asked, "With what matter art thou occupied?" I submitted that I was writing a petition to Samandar. Thereupon the Tongue of Grandeur and Glory spoke, addressing this evanescent servant:

Write unto him: O Samandar, O Samandar! It behooveth thee to manifest that which is worthy of this name We have given thee. Be as fire unto the vain imaginings and idle fancies of those who are lost in delusion. Beware lest thou be veiled by the schemes of every schemer, the craftiness of every crafty one, and the arguments of every sinful doubter. O Samandar! This is the Day wherein the very stone proclaimeth "The Kingdom is God's, the Lord of Destiny," wherein the very clod crieth out "The Most Great Vision hath appeared," wherein the plains declare "Power belongeth to the Cleaver of Dawn," and the hills proclaim "Sovereignty belongeth to the Almighty, the All-Bountiful." The rapture of the All-Merciful's utterance hath seized all created things. Leave the people of delusion to their vain desires and the people of doubt to their veils. Then speak in My Name amongst My servants and bring them forth from conjecture unto certitude, and from fancy unto this manifest horizon.

O Samandar! The Cause is mightier than can be mentioned. Stand firm therein in a manner befitting thy relationship unto God, thy Lord and the Lord of all worlds. Be not heedless of thy station and that which hath been ordained for thee in the Tablets of thy Lord. This is My counsel unto thee. Verily thy Lord chose thee before, and in this exalted Tablet. Protect the household of the Cause with all thy strength, lest it be undermined by any cunning rodent. Hearken unto God's counsel with thy inner ear and stand with such steadfastness as will cause the people of passion to tremble and the pillars of the idolaters to quake—they who speak other than what God hath revealed in the Book and who cause people to slip after the Sun of Independence hath shone forth at its zenith.

Say: Open your eyes! By God, it cannot be known through similitudes nor concealed by the conjectures of the ignorant. Beware lest hopes prevent you from attaining this destiny whereby all in the worlds have been illumined. By God, soon shall ye find yourselves in such abasement as no might on earth can profit

you. Thus doth the All-Merciful testify with a power that the might of creation cannot weaken, were ye of them that know. Say: By God, what profiteth you is your steadfastness in this Cause and your arising to serve it and to aid it. Abandon oppression, then look with the eye of fairness that ye may recognize that which your Lord, the Forgiving, the Generous, commandeth you.

O Samandar! By God the Truth, We desired naught but the triumph of God's Cause, and We bore hardships to manifest His sovereignty. Would they be content to see that which would waste the Cause of God in all else after it hath been exalted to such heights that all in the kingdom of names acknowledged its power, all in the realm of might confessed its sovereignty, the very essence of divinity was moved by its appearance, and the very pebbles of the mountains, fruits of the trees, waves of the seas, and all that was created by God's Word, the Powerful, the Exalted, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise, spoke forth its praise?

O thou who art mentioned! The verses descend from the heaven of thy Lord's will, the Manifestor of clear proofs, and the tongue speaketh in the kingdom of utterance in His name, the All-Merciful. Yet tears fall like scattered pearls by reason of what hath befallen the Cause of God at the hands of the heedless hosts. Say: Have mercy, O people, upon yourselves and then upon Him Who hath borne hardships for your ease. Fear God and be not of the wrongdoers. Free yourselves from the darkness of idle fancies and turn with your hearts toward the horizon whereunto the Chosen One pointeth with the finger of power. By God! This is My manifest horizon, My certain truth, My shining light, My straight path, My mighty revelation, and My beauty dawning upon all who dwell in the world. O Samandar! Knowest thou what tongue addresseth thee and from what heaven these verses descend? By God! Wert thou to know, thou wouldst fall unconscious for a thousand years, then rise up and say:

> "Praise be unto Thee for having remembered me in the court of Thy might and for having turned toward me with Thy grace and favor. Thou art He Who cannot be known save through Thyself and cannot be described by aught except Thyself. There is no God but Thee, the Almighty, the Powerful."

Thus hath shone forth upon thee from the horizon of utterance the Sun of explanation, that thy self and spirit may be illumined thereby and the hearts of the sincere may rejoice therein.

Would that the servants would ponder deeply that which hath been revealed in this Tablet. Blessed is he who findeth therein the fragrance of his Lord's grandeur and who is detached from all the worlds. O My beloved! Most people are unaware and heedless, for they have not been and are not informed of the true station of the Cause. They have walked according to their desires and wasted their days, moving about in their vain imaginings. We beseech God to assist all to serve His Cause. Your honor observeth that if a soul in that land had arisen to serve the Cause, he would surely have educated the weak souls in such wise that they would soar in the heaven of certitude and walk upon the earth of steadfastness, paying no heed to such malevolent souls and a hundred thousand like them. O My beloved! The heart is consumed by this, that the loved ones of God, despite their claim of love, accept not that which is for the benefit, good, and salvation of all. Your honor must be very attentive and vigilant in all matters.

Convey infinite greetings from this evanescent servant to all the honored ones, the beloved ones, and the friends in that land, one and all, and counsel them all with the divine counsels that are in the verses revealed unto your honor. Convey infinite expressions of sincerity and most exalted, wondrous, and sublime greetings to the great and honored master, his honor the Name of Razzaq, after ʿAbdu'l-Baha. God willing, hereafter a sublime Tablet specifically for him will be revealed and sent. May the spirit, glory and splendor be upon your honor and those with you.

The servant of God, 23 Shawwal 1289

BH00135: Commentary on a verse from the Qayyumu'l-Asma

Section 1: "This is what was sent down…"

This is what was sent down from the heaven of will for the one who asked about the verse revealed in the Best of Stories [Ahsanu'l-Qisas].

"O Solace of the Eyes! Strike thou upon the people of the city a striking upon the two examples in the two souls. God hath ordained for one of them, round about the Gate, two gardens of the two lofty trees. One of them is given to drink with water in the two basins, and the other drinketh water in the two goblets. And both of them have been, by God's leave, stationed round about the fire in the two waters, and upon the other are two rivers in the land of the two Wests. And he possessed fish in one of the two gulfs. He said to his first companion: 'Ye two are in command in the latter times, and I do not think the Truth will remain standing in the two hours.' Thus he showed certain disbelief towards his own self and the two souls after him. By God the Truth! Judge ye with justice—which of the two souls in the two parties was praiseworthy around the fire?" [Qayyumu'l-Asma, Suratu'l-Medinah]

In the Name of God, the Most Ancient, the Most Great, the Most Holy, the Most Glorious!

This is a Book from Us to him who hath believed in God and His sovereignty which hath encompassed the worlds, that the Wronged One might make mention of him who was abandoned in the hands of those who were deprived of the fragrances of revelation, and who arose to serve Him among His creatures in such wise as was adorned with the ornament of glory. The afflictions and calamities and tribulations have surrounded Us from people who were despairing of the spirit of the All-Merciful. In the evening We see the oppressors issuing one decree, and in the morning another—thus was the fire visible from the horizon of tyranny through injustice. They have forbidden the loved ones from standing before the Gate and from showing humility before the Celestial Might which was raised through the power of the Divine Realm.

Would the phoenix shrink from the fire? Nay, by the Self of the Chosen One! But the wicked are in a station far removed from nearness. Say: I am the phoenix in this scene and tribulation is My fire, and verily it is the light of truth among creation—thus hath the rain of revelation been sent down in truth from the heaven of utterance. I would not exchange this tribulation for all that is in the world, nor this abasement for glory that exists among the worlds.

We have heard thy call and answered thee with this melody whereby rapture hath seized the dwellers of the realms of names and the dewdrops of grace have taken hold of all in the kingdom. By My life! When the tongue of the All-Merciful was loosed, the Point of the Bayan turned to hear the melodies that were raised from the direction of the Throne. Blessed is he who hath been intoxicated by the wine of utterance from the cup of glory and hath been moved by this fragrance that was sent from the garment of Beauty through grace. Give thanks for the breezes of the All-Merciful that have wafted upon thee from the Lord of Religions, and thou wast mentioned before the Countenance by the Pen of Justice through grace. All that exists in creation cannot equal this Tablet—to this doth testify the Lord of Invention while abandoned in prison. Rejoice thou in My joy, and be steadfast in My Cause, and gaze toward My horizon, and soar in the atmosphere of My love, and speak forth My Name which hath been the Self-Subsisting over the worlds.

And concerning what thou hast asked about the two verses, know that We have set forth from the Most Exalted Pen for the people of the City of Eternity the sweetest of parables concerning two souls. One of them drank what was upon the established Throne, whereon were the two luminous Lights shining from two horizons, sustained by two springs branching from two mighty oceans flowing from the letter “Ha” standing between two letters. Verily, he was the one manifest in the letter “Ba” before the two letters, and he stood before the Ba which shone with two ornaments upon the truth by the truth.

Say: Verily the first Ba bore what the eight bore, detached from all creation. And around the shrine’s gate were two gardens in recognition of two pre-existing Names, adorned with two lofty trees in the mystery manifest in two commands. And We ordained for each of them from the water flowing from two directions of the Throne, whereon was established the confluence of two seas from two Names, a measure decreed by God. When the life of the world was attached to it, it was called water, and when the veils of glory were consumed by it, it was called fire. Thus was the water visible from the horizon of light upon the truth by the truth. It has names which none can count save him who possesses the Book inscribed by the Finger of Might.

And when they acknowledged the Seat of Command and gave glad tidings to all lands of the Lord of Creation, We caused them to speak the mysteries concealed in the scrolls of grandeur and stationed them by grace around the Fire of the Word in two stations. And upon the other were two rivers at the setting of two moons according to those who perceive between two worlds. He possessed knowledge of one of the Names and acknowledged the first two who recognized the ultimate goal and the end of the six made manifest by the letter Vav through the standing of Alif between two Vavs. He said:

> “Ye are upon the truth, but I think not that the two hours after them shall come to pass.”

Thus was the matter decreed in the Tablets by God’s Pen in truth.

Thou art apart from the other and his denial. Consider then the latter one who, when he saw around him souls associating partners with God, ablaze with the fire kindled from the tree of Zaqqum, grew proud against God and denied the Hour which the Hour itself proclaimed, by which the Tree spoke, the Rock cried out, the Dove sang, and all things called out:

> "The Kingdom belongeth to Him Who hath come with the truth with an authority that encompasseth all worlds!"

Thus did We inform thee concerning this latter one through Our words in the Qayyumu'l-Asma: "Verily thy Lord is knowing of all things." We said: "O Joseph, O Most Great Gate! Turn away from this tree planted in falsehood at the Gate." Behold then what We foretold the servants in the Book, then those who turned away following their desires and stood disputing in the wilderness of error.

Reflect upon the two hours and their mysteries and what was sent down to them from the heaven of Command, that thou mayest find thyself possessed of knowledge and become strong in God's religion upon the truth by the truth. The Lord of Eternity calleth out through the Pen of His Most Great Name: "By God! Whoso denieth it is assuredly in manifest unbelief," like unto those souls and the two who denied thereafter.

Thus hath the ocean of eternity sprinkled upon thee that thou mayest arise with His authority to serve Him and with His Name to mention Him, that perchance the people may be awakened by the fragrances wafted from the direction of the Garment unto all worlds. O thou who art illumined by the lights of thy Lord's countenance, the Most Merciful, and who soarest in the atmosphere of remembrance and utterance! Shouldst thou inhale the two fragrances diffusing from the two crimson ornaments suspended between the heaven of Will raised by two symbols and the earth spread out by two names, it would draw thee to a station wherein thou wouldst forsake the realm of contingent being with all its idle fancies, and speak forth amidst the people of power with this Remembrance, whereby the Most Great Balance hath appeared betwixt the two worlds among the peoples of both realms, and God's decree hath shone forth in both cycles. Thus hath the Sun of Utterance been witnessed from the horizon of the All-Merciful through grace.

Then do We strike for thee, through favor, a similitude of the two cords: one of fine twisted silk wrought by the two most powerful fingers of the Two Most Great Names, and the other woven of spider's web, fashioned of two imaginary names. Which of these is more secure among the peoples?

Say: Consider, O people, and follow not those who have denied the All-Merciful when He came with clear proof, and who through their own desires were debarred from the horizon of guidance through ignorance. Say: He Who spoke forth the Qayyumu'l-Asma desired naught but to mention what existed among the people, lest those who hesitated in the allusions of their own idle fancies should flee, and that they might turn instead toward a station which hath ever been, in the eternity of eternities, praiseworthy in truth. By My life! Were it not for mankind's weakness, He would not have uttered a single word of the tales recounted aforetime. With thy Lord is the knowledge of all things, and God is witness to what I say. All books return unto the First Name, and verily unto this station which hath been sanctified above all description.

We have desired to speak in another strain—verily thy Lord is the Almighty, the Unconstrained. O Pen of Glory! Wouldst thou desire to move upon similitudes when the lights of Beauty are manifest? Nay, by thy Self, O Exalted One! I desire naught save to make mention of Thyself amidst all created things, and to this Thy Self, transcendent above all opposites, doth testify. What I have mentioned of similitudes was solely

for love of him who turned to Thee and asked Thee concerning what was revealed in the Tablets. I moved but between the fingers of Thy power by Thy command, and Thou didst cause me to speak forth what Thou hast made today the water of reunion for the people of Baha and the wine of immortality for Thy chosen servants.

O Asad! Arise through My love, then give the believers to drink of this sealed nectar through My Name, the Self-Subsisting, in such wise that the dead shall arise. Beware lest allusions hold thee back from what thou hast been commanded by the Revealer of verses. Arise and say: O people! The Dawning-Place of Revelation hath come with majesty and power. O Dawning-Place of Eternity in this Most Great Ornament! Set forth the verses in another style. Verily Thou art the One with power over whatsoever Thou willest through Thy word "Be" and it is. Then make mention of him who desired Thy remembrance, that the attraction of utterance might draw him unto God, the Mighty, the Beloved.

Blessed art thou in that thou hast attained unto the days of God and hast turned unto a Cause whereby wealth was seized and souls perished. Whoso acknowledgeth the Ultimate Goal in such days when the breezes of might pass behind the veils is the solace of all existence. Blessed is he who hath attained unto God's triumph when the Face was rejected by every idolater. Hold fast unto the Most Firm, Most Perfect Cord, and speak forth among the peoples that which the Beauty of the Ancient of Days hath spoken on this Promised Day. By My life! Should they discover the fragrance of My utterance, they would detach themselves from all else, soar in My atmosphere, and aid this Hidden Name. Say: By His Name, the Self-Subsisting! He is indeed the Hidden One, though He speaketh among men and uttereth speech at eventide and at dawn. Thus have We adorned thy temple with the ornament of utterance and thy heart with this treasured Remembrance. Be thou thankful and say: Praise be unto Thee, O Lord of the seen and the unseen!

Praise, sanctified from the limitations of created things and exalted above the doubts of all beings, befitteth the most holy, most exalted, most inaccessible court of the Lord of existence and the Sovereign of the seen and unseen, Who, through His irrevocable decree, ordained the Pen of Command to be the source of ancient mysteries and the fountain of life for all the peoples of the world, that all nations might attain unto eternal, everlasting life. That life-giving water appeared in the form of the Word among creation and shone forth through a single effulgence, and that effulgence was manifested according to the diversity of mirrors in the forms of mirrors.

Verily that Word is the Primal Form into which the Divine Spirit breathed the Merciful Spirit, whereby He took hold of all spirits and bestowed upon them a new spirit. In some mirrors it appeared in the form and effect of light, and He guided it to the Dayspring of revelation; and in others it appeared in the form of fire, and He caused it to return to the evil dwelling place which is the abode of the wicked. This blessed Primal Word hath been called by all names—in one place as the Trumpet, in another as the Bugle, and likewise as the Path, the Balance, and the like. It is the cause of the gathering and resurrection of all things whatsoever that have been created in earth and heaven. Through it was manifested all that hath been sent down in the Book concerning the Hour and its signs, and the Resurrection and what shall appear therein. In one station it cannot be described by any description nor mentioned by any mention, while in another station it is described by the most exalted attributes and mentioned by the most

beautiful names. Verily it is the Primal Will which created itself by itself and created through itself all else besides it.

And afterward, answers to your questions—some regarding the verses revealed in the Qayyumu'l-Asma—were sent down in a most wondrous manner, were you to know. And some others were revealed from the Source of the Cause and Dawning-Place of Revelation as God hath willed, in the Persian tongue, that your eyes might be consoled thereby and your heart rejoiced. However, due to the discord, upheaval and turbulence in this land, brevity hath been and is observed. We beseech God to make it a light unto the righteous and a fire unto the wicked. He, verily, is the All-Powerful, the Unconstrained.

Furthermore, it is known to you that the commentary on Ahsanu'l-Qisas was revealed according to the people's understanding. This was due to pure grace, that perchance the heedless and ignorant might ascend to the heaven of knowledge. Indeed, most of the subjects mentioned therein were matters already established among the followers of the Furqan. Had it been revealed from the beginning according to what God intended, none would have accepted it or remained steadfast. All this was of His grace unto His creation and His bounty unto His servants.

Observe how in the beginning of the Cause, His Holiness manifested Himself as the Bab. This was because in those days the birds of men's hearts were incapable of soaring beyond that station. All things lamented that He associated Himself with this station, for were this station His true and original one—while that which is above it and above that which is above it is created by a word from Him and a gesture from His finger—people would forever remain submerged in the ocean of idle fancies and veiled from what God intended, save whom God rescueth through His grace and acquainteth with what He hath manifested through His Command.

Consider the most exalted, most holy station which encompasses the verse "He begetteth not, nor is He begotten, and there is none like unto Him," while the Point of the Bayan, addressing Him, saith: "O Most Great Master! I would sacrifice my all for Thee and desire naught but martyrdom in Thy path." What accusations they have made and what harm they have inflicted, even though, were they fair, they would testify that in this Revelation there hath appeared outwardly what appeared not in any previous Revelation. Thus, after countless afflictions and imprisonment in the Most Great Prison, while all doors were outwardly shut and We were at the mercy of the oppressors, We proclaimed the Cause to all the kings of the earth with utmost clarity and without concealment. Thou hast heard the wondrous Call and witnessed in those regions the signs of His oppression through what befell the servants. God seized them first for following the Tree of Tyranny, for through them the oppressor gained strength in every age. Then He seized the branch that appeared in the image of the root, with justice. Thus was it revealed aforetime in various tablets. Thy Lord, verily, is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

Section 2: "Nevertheless, thou seest how some among the people…"

Nevertheless, thou seest how some among the people of the Bayan have closed their eyes to justice and risen in tyranny. They know not what they say, in what valley they wander, or to what rope they cling. Strange it is that they count themselves among the faithful, while the faith of none can be established except through acceptance of what hath been manifested in this Revelation, even if it be contrary to what

they possess. For instance, if He should declare this leaf—the royal rose which now existeth before the Divine Throne—to be the Dawning-place of the Most Beautiful Names and the Dayspring of the Most Exalted Attributes, or vice versa, and should any soul fail to believe or hesitate, such a one hath not believed in God and is excluded from faith. For the Tree speaketh through its root, and His Revelation shineth forth from His horizon. All have been and shall continue to be adorned with the ornament of faith through belief in God, which is the essence of believing in Him, and without it they are unmentioned. From this utterance which hath shone forth from the horizon of the knowledge of the All-Merciful, one can observe the kingdom of names in commotion.

Ponder thou carefully that thou mayest attain unto the purpose of God—meaning that the temples adorned with the ornament of the glory of names are seen to be disturbed, for they who are seated upon the thrones of names have no abode or dwelling place except through the command of the Lord of Power. Should the Sun of Purpose shine forth from the heaven of this utterance upon thy heart, infinite doors would be opened and no mention would prevent man from the Most Sublime Vision. The idols have been shattered by the hands of power and the veils have been burnt by the fire of attraction, and sovereignty remaineth unto God alone, alone. Blessed are they who possess understanding. This is a realm that hath been and shall ever be sanctified from the taint of peer, equal, opposite, likeness or similitude. Know thou the melody of utterance and be of the thankful ones.

Today all must fix their gaze upon that which appeareth in this Revelation, not upon that which they possess. Whoso faileth to attain unto this station shall not attain unto the recognition of Him Who is the Manifestation of His Own Self. The cause of some followers of the Bayan being deprived of the ocean of the mercy of the All-Merciful are those vain imaginings which are deemed authentic by the people of the Furqan. Yet ye have witnessed that whatsoever was in their possession was not mentioned in the sight of God. They have not drunk a drop from the ocean of knowledge nor attained unto a single letter of the knowledge of the Book. And since the people are seen to be weak and veiled, the Sun of Truth, as a favor unto them, occupieth Itself with the mention of an atom, and the Ancient Ocean speaketh of a drop. This is why the Primal Point appeared with the name of “Gate”, yet even with this measure the people were not content, let alone mention of Guardianship and the like. And yet all these stations and above them have been brought into being through a single word from the ocean of His bounty and shall cease to exist through a single command.

In this connection the Exalted One hath mentioned in the Persian Bayan a saying of Shaykh Ahmad-i-Ahsa’i, upon him be the glory of God, when someone asked him about a word which the Qa’im would utter and which the three hundred and thirteen souls who would be among the most God-fearing and distinguished ones of that Revelation would be unable to bear. The honored Shaykh refused to mention that word and said: “Verily thou art unable to bear it.” After insistence he said: “If the Qa’im should bid thee to renounce the successorship of the Commander of the Faithful, would you do so?” He immediately refused, saying “God forbid!” And the Point declareth in this connection that it is evident to the people of truth that the honored Shaykh caused him to hear that word from the tongue of the Qa’im, and when he could not bear it he became an unbeliever, though he realized it not.

I swear by the Sun of Eternity that shineth from the Most Great Prison: should anyone ponder upon this utterance, detached from all imitation and vain imaginings, he would become aware of the greatness of this Cause, and no mention would veil him from this Most Great Remembrance that speaketh amongst the peoples. O thou who gazest! The Truth is present and declareth: Now ponder and observe in what station of loftiness, exaltation, sublimity, and transcendent glory this Cause dwelleth, while the people stand confined within their own limitations. He hath taken unto Himself neither partner, nor likeness, nor peer, nor minister, nor consort, nor offspring. By My life! Were We to let fall but a drop from the ocean of this Most Great Sea in mentioning this most inaccessible station unto the chiefs of men in these days, they would surely flee and run from around this Cause, save whom thy Lord, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise, willeth.

Today, those immersed in the ocean of detachment and established in the Most Glorious Ark have attained a station wherein these stations are not even mentioned, much less the mention of those who have inhaled the fragrance of innovation from the garment of the Cause and have been purified from that which is possessed by the people. Say: This, verily, is the Innovator of the heavens and earth, Who cannot be weighed by any balance nor measured by any means. Blessed is he who hath recognized the decree of innovation and is of those who are firmly established. Blessed, again blessed, then blessed is he who hath pondered upon that which hath been mentioned and hath recognized that which was concealed in the depths of allusions, and hath discovered that from which the people were veiled. By My life! He is of those who are knowing, mature, and sincere.

The Hand of Grace rent asunder some of the august veils while leaving others intact. Thus, because of these veils, the people were barred from the Dawning-Place of verses, even as thou observest how the rebellious faction hath prevented some of the people of the Bayan from the effulgence of the Divine Sun and the Ocean of Oneness through the mention of unseemly imaginings and ancient tales. Such hath been the way of the people from the primal beginning until now. None of the previous Manifestations hath mentioned the subsequent Revelation as mentioned in the Bayan. In this are signs and evidences for those who are detached. By God, the Truth! Thou hearest from the Nightingale, singing upon the twigs of the Lote-Tree of the Bayan, naught but praise of this praise that is manifest in the kingdom of creation. Blessed is the ear that hath heard and the eye that hath seen. The Author of the Bayan had no purpose save this Most Great Remembrance; otherwise, He would not have uttered a word, for naught else was worthy of mention, as He hath clearly stated in the Book. Know this, O ye who are endued with understanding!

This is a day wherein the Tongue of Grandeur proclaimeth: “All things are perishable save My Face.” Whosoever today turneth away from the exalted Truth is perishing and evanescent in the shadow of negation, and whosoever turneth toward Him abideth steadfast and eternal in the shadow of His Face. And the Face is not limited by numerical limitations. That it hath been mentioned as fourteen districts is but for the guidance of the servants. For instance, were all who are on earth today to attain unto that which God desireth, all would be mentioned in the Face, gathered beneath the shadow of the Countenance, and reckoned as of the Countenance. And when the effulgences radiating from the Primal Word shine forth upon the repositories of Names and Attributes from the bearer of universal grace at the primary level, they are therefore circumscribed by numerical limitation. If there be one bearer, it is

mentioned as one, and if above that, it is known accordingly. This mention occurs at the station of the primary determination, which is the station of the Will of contingent existence. This is of God's grace, which He bestoweth upon whomsoever He willeth.

And should He desire, He is able, and hath ever been able, to establish at the foremost station that soul which occupieth the final station of the effulgences emanating from the horizon of Divine Unity, for He maketh that soul one of the manifestations of "He is the First" at the time when "He is the Last." The Command is in His grasp. By His sovereignty, He doeth what He willeth and ordaineth what He desireth. None hath the right to hesitate regarding His word, and whoso hesitates is assuredly among the most lost. In brief, all exist through His command and through His command become non-existent. We beseech God—exalted be His glory—to aid all and enable them to attain unto the knowledge of God and to stand firm in His Cause, for this is the ultimate station possible in the realm of contingent being, for it revolveth around itself and is powerless to transcend its limits. Glorified is the Ancient of Days from being associated with that which is contingent, and glorified is He from being reached by that which is contingent.

Likewise, a question was asked concerning sleep. It is a special world among the divine worlds and is indicative of infinite matters. Among other things, it is evidence of a realm wherein no beginning or end, no first or last, can be witnessed. Thus, something is observed in sleep, and after a number of years that very same thing is witnessed. If it be said that this is the world of similitudes between the two worlds—which some consider to be a semi-spiritual realm between the worlds of spirit and matter—this would be correct. In any case, if thou dost ponder it, thou wilt grasp endless mysteries. It likewise beareth witness to the resurrection and revival after death, even as Luqman said to his son:

> "If thou art able not to sleep, thou art able not to die. And if thou art able not to awaken after sleep, thou art able not to be raised after death."

Even as death is a reality, so is sleep a reality, and even as there is awakening after sleep, so is there resurrection after death. Sleep sometimes varies according to the differences in souls, thoughts, food and drink. In the dreams of holy souls there hath been and is no variation, for they are pure wakefulness.

O questioner! Man is the greatest index and the mightiest talisman. He is an index in which are found the representations of all that hath been created in earth and heaven. When the spirit is freed from incidental limitations and earthly conditions, it traverseth all stations, and the more it is detached, the swifter, more constant and more truthful is its journey. If it be said that the human temple is, in one station, the kingdom of God, this is the truth in which there is no doubt, for the representation of all things is found and witnessed therein. Though some have called it the lesser world, yet We bear witness that it is the greater world. Its changes and variations have been and shall be due to other causes, like the change in the taste of a sick person who perceiveth bitterness in that which is sweet. The change hath not occurred in the sweetness, rather the taste hath altered.

Sufficient and complete utterances concerning these stations have been revealed by the Pen of Command during the sojourns in Iraq and the Land of Mystery. Therefore, We have been brief, although these same points have been repeatedly set forth in the Tablets, for they have been repeatedly asked

about. However, all that hath been revealed in the Books and Scriptures, whether in Arabic or Persian, is scattered and dispersed. God will assuredly gather them together in truth. Verily, He is the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. Thou didst inquire about dream interpretation. Interpret dreams, for We have given thee permission and will assist thee in this. He is verily the Almighty, the All-Powerful. The foundation, however, is steadfastness in My Cause. Whoso attaineth unto this, God shall cause to flow from his heart the oceans of realities and knowledge, and whoso slippeth therefrom is accounted among the ignorant.

O Dhabih! The Tongue of Grandeur proclaims: By My Self, the Truth! All Revelations have culminated in this Most Great Revelation. Whosoever claims a Revelation after this is verily a lying impostor. We beseech God to enable him to recant; if he repents, He is verily the Forgiver, and if he persists in what he has claimed, God will assuredly send one who will show him no mercy. He is truly the Omnipotent, the Almighty.

Behold how the people of the Bayan have failed to understand that whatsoever the Herald of My Beauty and the Manifestation before Me uttered was in contemplation of this Revelation and its establishment. Otherwise, by His true Self, they would not have uttered a single word of what they said. These ignorant ones have considered the Cause of the Self-Subsisting, the Most High, as child's play. Each day they move according to some fancy and wander in some wilderness. Were the Cause as they assert, how could thy Lord's Cause be established upon the throne of tranquility? Reflect and be of those who are discerning. Reflect and be of those who perceive. Reflect and be of those who are steadfast. Reflect and be of those who are assured, to such extent that shouldst all humanity lay claim to whatsoever is possible or beyond it, thou wouldst not turn toward them but wouldst leave them behind thee, advancing toward the Qiblih of all worlds.

By My life! The Cause is mighty, mighty, and this Day mighty, mighty. Blessed is he who hath cast behind him all else, turning toward the countenance of Him through Whose light the heavens and earth were illumined.

O Dhabih! A penetrating vision is needed, and a stalwart heart, and legs of brass, lest one stumble through the whisperings of the hosts of vain fancy. This is the firm decree which, through the will of the Ancient King, hath flowed from the Pen of the Most Great Name. Preserve it as thou wouldst preserve thine eyes, and be of the thankful ones.

BH04496: Commentary on Basitatu'l-Haqiqah

In His Name, the Protector over all names! Say: Knowledge, in the realm of contingency, is the known thing itself, and in the Divine Essence none knoweth it save Him. Thus hath the matter been ordained. All that the mystics have known returneth to a station that was illumined by the lights of the Countenance.

The realities of all things are contained in a Word that the Tongue of Grandeur uttered when He was established upon the Throne with a sovereignty that encompassed all the worlds. Verily that which is encompassed cannot know the Encompasser, and that which perceiveth cannot perceive Him Who is beyond perception.

Say: The uncompounded Reality is the Primal Word. Blessed is he who hath known the purpose of God and chosen this Path as his way. Through it were all things brought into being, and in all things can be seen its revelation and its sovereignty. Know ye the melody of these words and walk ye straight upon this Path. All things begin with it and end with it.

Glorified be its Creator above being known through the knowledge of His creation or being described by attributes that were limited by human understanding. How can that which is originated reach the sea of eternity, or the evanescent attain unto Him through Whose command was the Kingdom of immortality created? We created all contingent things through the Contingent Will, and it is verily the Most Great Word that appeared with a sovereignty witnessed throughout all worlds.

O thou who art mentioned before the Throne! Grieve not at anything, but place thy trust in God in all conditions, and fear not those who were debarred from the Countenance. Thy Lord desireth for thee what I have desired for thee, and remembereth thee when He was a stranger in the kingdom. The glory rest upon thee and upon him who hath taken the All-Merciful as his Guardian.

BH00132: Commentary on the Dala'il-i-Sab'ih of the Bab

Section 1: "The seal of the choice Wine hath been…"

In the name of Him Who hath dominion over all things

The seal of the choice Wine hath been broken through My Name, the Self-Subsisting. Blessed are they who recognize that verily it is the Kawthar of the All-Merciful manifested in the contingent world and the Quickener of all beings, having been mingled with the tribulation of the Beloved. We have brought forth from the Point the knowledge of what hath been and what shall be, and have detailed therefrom that which none knoweth save God, the Help in Peril, the Self-Subsisting. Verily, the people have not followed that which they were counseled by the Lord of all beings. Had they followed, they would not have cast the Book of God behind their backs, nor turned away from the Mighty, the All-Loving.

Among them are those who say He [Baha'u'llah] hath come before the appointed time. Say: Is the knowledge of the appointed time with you or with God, the Revealer of verses? Be fair and follow not every vain imagining. Among them are some who say God hath purified the seed, that all may know that whatever appeareth from the Dayspring of Being was indeed pure. Say: Yea, by my Lord! He is indeed the Pure, the Most Pure, the Mighty, the Inaccessible. Therefore they conclude that He will appear afterwards. Say: The before and after are with thee, not with Him in Whose grasp is the dominion of all things. Say: Every seed from which We have brought forth the Dawning-Places of Revelation—all are pure and purified. This is God's decree, both aforetime and hereafter, did ye but know.

This matter needeth no mention or explanation, for it is among the fundamental ordinances in a hidden Tablet. The Point intended by this mention naught save His absorption in the remembrance of the Intended One and His stations, which none can know save every loved one consumed in the fire of the Beloved. Among them are those who said that the Revealer of the Bayan wrote what the Intended One would recite among children, and thereby were perplexed in the Cause of the All-Merciful. Say: Is the

knowledge of the Book with you, or with Him Who possesseth the Preserved Tablet? Say: Be not among the unjust. Open the eye of fairness and speak not that which would consume hearts and minds.

Interpret not according to your desires what God hath placed above your understanding. Ask of him who speaketh the truth from the presence of the Truth, the Knower of the unseen, though He hath forbidden questioning in this Revelation lest there come before His presence that which would sadden Him and prevent Him from mention of His Self, the One Who dominateth all witnesses and witnessed things. Yet We have permitted you, as a bounty from Our presence, lest the doubts of nations who follow vain imaginings and wander in the wilderness of heedlessness and pride keep you from the Most Great Ocean.

Say: He intended by mention of the seed and what is above it naught save My remembrance, the Mighty, the Beloved. Say: He was with My Name in the evening and with My remembrance in the morning, did ye but know. O people of the Bayan! Be fair in the name of the All-Merciful. Should diverse utterances come to you from the Manifestation of clear proofs, whom would ye question and to whom would ye turn to inform you of what the Chosen One hath ordained in the inscribed Tablet? All that hath been revealed in the Tablets ultimately returneth to a single point wherein the sincere find no difference, could ye but understand. None knoweth the interpretation of the Book and what the All-Bountiful intended save him from whom, through His Name, the ocean of Revelation hath flowed forth and from whom the fountains of wisdom and streams of knowledge have branched.

All utterances lead to this Word spoken by the Tongue of the Bayan, would ye but perceive it. He said that should He appear at this very moment, none hath the right to object to Him. He doeth what He willeth. He is verily the Help in Peril, the Self-Subsisting. None possesseth knowledge of His Revelation. He appeareth as He pleaseth and when He pleaseth. Thus hath the matter been decreed, would ye but be certain.

Say: Beware lest what is in the Bayan prevent you from meeting Him when the Call is raised. Cast aside all that ye possess and turn ye unto that most praiseworthy Station. Whoso pondereth these verses which have been sent down from the heaven of the Command will cry out and say:

> "I believe in Thee, O Lord of the seen and the unseen!"

Blessed is he who hath freed himself from the depths of allusions and turned, in a spirit of detachment, unto the Countenance. Say: O people of Baha! It behooveth you to soar today in an atmosphere that transcendeth the allusions of words and the doubts of them that have denied God when the Promise was fulfilled and the Promised One appeared. Say: All that was revealed in the Bayan hath been made specifically for this Revelation—reflect that ye may understand. Say: Have ye the knowledge of the unseen, or is it with Him Who created all things? Fear God and follow not the paths of fancy. Every matter is weighed by this Balance, and by its very self, would ye but know it. Say: Through Him were the standards of innovation raised upon every lofty banner. Thus have We sent down the verses unto thee that thou mayest remind the servants thereby. Verily thy Lord is the All-Bountiful, the Bestower, the Generous, the Forgiving. Say: Praise be to God, the Lord of the seen and the unseen.

This was revealed in answer to one who asked about what was mentioned in the Seven Proofs:

His words, exalted and glorified be He: Among the conclusive proofs is the knowledge of all things in a single soul, which knowledge hath been concealed and treasured in the Book of the Single Temples, and none before this hath been apprised thereof. The fruit thereof is that one observeth in the letters how all things are gathered together in eleven degrees, which constitute the Temple of Identity, and when thou causest the first Temple to move in the sea of names, it reacheth unto nineteen and entereth not into twenty. The revelation of this knowledge is a conclusive proof unto all, would they but understand.

In the name of God, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise

Praise be to God Who hath made the ornament of the Tablets of Numbers to be the One, which was sanctified above all single numbers, and made it the source of derivation in the Kingdom of Creation. Verily, it counteth not itself among the numbers from which numbers are compounded, in such wise that it can never be exhausted. When it shone forth through its sovereignty upon its pillars, there appeared the Four which is the completion of Ten, and through it were concluded the degrees of mathematical figures in the stations of remembrance and allusions. Every discerning one seeth, at the conclusion of this station, the form of the Beginning in the first of numbers. Then did the suns of Names shine forth from the horizon of this heaven in the degrees and lines which were determined according to the number of the Vav and Ha that were established therein in the worlds of accomplishment after decree.

When the lines adorned with Names appeared according to the number of Our Name, the All-Glorious, We adorned with them the First Temple and made it the source of causes, and from it We detailed the Temples and Names until the Temples ended at the Nineteenth Temple and the Names at Our Name, the Help in Peril, which We made the ultimate end of Names in numbers and their measure in the kingdom of creation. Thus ended the journey of the First Temple in the seas of Names unto this most exalted station, yet it reached not unto the sea of Kaf in the kingdom of beginning. Then We made the establishment of the Temples and Numbers and the objects of those Names through the manifestation of the Square by this Triangle, whereby all upon earth were thunderstruck save those who held fast to the luminous Handle—and it is the Triangle which was the first of forms and their source, and the fountainhead of numbers and their sovereign.

And verily these are outwardly possessed of straight sides and lines which were not ordained to descend, and inwardly that which none hath understood save God, the Lord of the Throne and earth, and the Creator of earth and heaven.

And as to what thou hast asked concerning the knowledge that was hidden in God's knowledge and treasured within the veil of grandeur and glory, know thou that the Point of the Bayan desired by its revelation naught else save that all should know their beginning and their return, lest the multiplicities of the worlds of names and the visible utterances of letters in the kingdom of creation should prevent them from turning unto Him Whom God hath made the Source and Return of all things. Thus hath the matter been decreed by the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. None can comprehend the greatness of this knowledge save he who beholdeth it with the eye of God, and without this none hath any share of this great depth. God hath revealed this knowledge for the recognition by men of the Source from which the letters have proceeded and every wise command. Verily God, blessed and exalted be He, hath created limited letters and made them sources of knowledge amongst the servants. Thy Lord is verily the Mighty, the Powerful.

And these letters and numbers, all of them, began from the Primal Point and the First Pattern, which is the One without number, and unto it do they return on His wondrous Day. The fruit of this knowledge and the fruits of all knowledge is the recognition of the Known One Who hath appeared after the Qayyum in His Name the Self-Subsisting. Whoso hath attained unto this hath ascended unto the ultimate goal and hath known the Beginning and the End. And whoso is deprived of the fruit in this Most Great Day is among the most ignorant of creation, even should he bring forth the knowledge of the first and the last ones. Say: The knower is he who hath known the Known One, and the learned is he who hath drawn nigh unto the Known One, and he who is remote, verily he is the imaginary one, by the Lord of the worlds.

All things have been limited by whatsoever hath been created in earth and heaven by everything—this is a word that encompasseth what hath been created and what shall be created by the Mighty, the Powerful. And verily these have been limited to nineteen units in the Book of God, and every unit began from the First Unit, and verily it is from the Point that speaketh: "There is no God but Me, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed." And God desired naught except to teach the people the Dawning-Place of the Cause and its Rising-Point, lest the manifestations of the worlds of names should prevent them from the Creator of heaven, and the allusions of the people of creation from the Source of verses and their Return. Thus hath God detailed what He desired in a clear Tablet. Verily he who hath drunk the wine of revelation from this Cup will not alter a single letter of what We have sent down in the Kingdom of the dominion of the heavens and earths.

Then know thou that Kitabu'l-Vahid hath been sent down from the presence of the One to this Single One, but for Whom the face of creation would not have been adorned with the beauty of detachment, nor the tablet of invention with the ornament of the Point from which all things have been detailed. Thus hath the matter been decreed in the kingdom of decree from the Dawning-Place of the revelation of thy Lord, the Most Exalted, the Most Great. Blessed is he who hath found the sweetness of utterance in the days of the All-Merciful. He would not exchange it for all the books of the earth. To this beareth witness the King of the realms of eternity from the presence of One All-Knowing, All-Informed.

And We adorned that Book with Our Most Beautiful Names in the lines of the Vav and the Ha, then We made them the ornament of the First Temple that it might tell of the Pure Identity among the nations. Verily thy Lord is the Mighty, the Powerful. And We ordained in the first line letters which We made the source and return of all things, that the seeing one might behold in that line the lines branching from the ocean of the Point, and might become aware of the beginning of manifestations and multiplicities from the first and last ones, and might be of the assured ones. And We revealed from their numbers a Name from the Names, that it might proclaim in the kingdom of creation that there is no God but He, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

Then in the second line were points representing the ranks of ones, tens and hundreds, and We added to them points for the three ranks and that which indicates the thousand in the inscribed figures. And We revealed from them another name—thus was the matter decreed from the presence of the Lord of Destiny in this noble scene. Then in the third were corresponding alifs until the lines were completed in the number of Our Most Glorious Name and the seas of geometry and figures ended at the geometry indicating nine, for God has ordained no geometry beyond it. All forms and shapes have culminated in

this geometry which tells of the Most Great Name, which God has made the Dawning-Place of names and their source for all who are in the heavens and earth.

When the realities of all things were gathered in eleven scrolls in the Temple of the Divine Identity, We made it the First Embroidery and the Speaker of this Name which God has made the Master of Causes and the Source of religions for all the worlds. When We adorned the heaven of that Temple with the suns of names, Our True Name appeared from the corresponding ta's at the ultimate stations, and in this are signs and clear proofs for those who know. This is what God intended in the mystery of mysteries from the mystery veiled by mystery in this Great Announcement. Blessed is he who has recognized this mystery, from the burden of which all in the heavens and earth fled in terror, save those who turned their gaze away from all things and set their faces toward the scene of God, the Mighty, the Generous.

When the creation of the First Temple was completed through this Most Great Name, We derived from it the Temples. Verily thy Lord is the Powerful, the Mighty, the Wise. Know then that We caused that Name which We revealed in the ultimate stations and lines to traverse a sea among the seas of names by adding to it its like, whereupon Our Name "the Embroiderer" appeared in that straight channel. Then We caused it to traverse another sea and another name rose from its dawning-place. Then in the stages of its journey through each of the seas a name among the names appeared until it reached the ultimate of the Temples, the Nineteenth Temple, whereupon the sun of Our Name "the One Who Calls for Help" shone forth from that manifest and evident horizon. At that point the journeys and seas came to an end, for God has not ordained among the names a greater number than this exalted Name. Therefore He said—and His word is the truth—that it reaches not unto twenty. Verily thy Lord is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. If thou shouldst add to this Name, no name would appear from it as appeared in the ranks We have explained to thee. Reflect that thou mayest know what thy Lord intended aforetime and in this wondrous Tablet.

Thus has the sun of utterance shone forth from the horizon of thy Lord, the Most Merciful, as a grace from Him unto thee and unto those who ask. If thou wouldst reflect, the proof of this knowledge and that mighty Book would become manifest to thee, and it is, in its inner reality, the manifestation of Truth in the One Who Calls for Help. By My life, this is indeed the purpose—blessed are they who attain! We testify that all that hath appeared in the Proof or shall appear is God's proof unto all else and His testament unto all in the kingdom. Then We shall explain to thee what the Point intended in the inmost heart of His utterance, that thou mayest be of the thankful.

Section 2: "By the nineteenth He intended naught but this…"

By the nineteenth He intended naught but this most impregnable and exalted Manifestation. As for the nine, ye were promised it in the Book in His words "In the nine ye shall attain all good," even as there appeared therein the Revelation of God and His mystery according to a fixed measure. And by the other years were meant those years that were appointed for the respite, as revealed in the Bayan. And when these were fulfilled and the Promise came, the Promised One appeared with a sovereignty that encompassed all who dwell in the realm of the seen and the unseen. And His words "It shall not reach unto Kaf" signified that the twentieth year would not be completed ere He would be made manifest with the truth, with evident sovereignty.

O thou herald! Convey unto the people what God intended in the mystery of the Book of the Temples from God's Most Great Treasury, that they may be of them that know. Say: In His mention He intended naught save the Goal of all who dwell on earth. When the creation of the First Unity was completed and from it the Temples were differentiated, He called upon his Lord in His communion, saying:

> "O my God! Guide Thou that Unity and that Being unto Him Whom God shall make manifest, that they may not be veiled from the Manifestation of Thyself, inasmuch as they were created for Him."

Thus was the matter decreed. Blessed are they that attain! Were anyone to ponder this utterance and comprehend what the All-Merciful intended, he would melt with the fire of yearning and would recognize the grandeur of this Cause and its sovereignty. Yet most people remain heedless.

O thou who hast dawned from the horizon of certitude and art mentioned by the tongue of the All-Merciful in the highest paradise! Know thou that every mention hath ended at this most mighty station and every description at this most luminous spot. When the Point praiseth a soul in the Bayan, He saith: "Beware lest praise veil thee from the Most Glorious Horizon," and when He describeth anyone with names, He addresseth him thus: "Beware lest the garment of names prevent thee from Him round Whom circle Their suns in adoration before His beauteous countenance." Observe how He praised the Letters in the most wondrous manner possible in creation and in the most glorious way that could be mentioned in invention. Then He addresseth the people of the Bayan, saying: "Beware lest ye be veiled by these Letters from the Lord of Names and Attributes." Blessed is he who hath recognized God's purpose in what He hath truthfully revealed and who hath remained steadfast upon this straight path.

And when He mentioneth Him Whom all shall seek, He saith that should He appear at that very moment, His command must be obeyed and His wish fulfilled. None may object to Him; rather must all acknowledge Him and thank God for this supreme bounty. O My Name! Reflect upon the allusions in the words of Him Who revealed the verses, that the fragrances of reunion in this culmination, which hath been the ultimate hope of the Messengers, may seize thee. Verily, he who hath not recognized the Purpose hath been deprived of God and His sovereignty and what He hath revealed unto the sincere ones. Say: Beware lest the multitude of what hath been revealed in the Bayan veil you from the Source of the Bayan, and lest the manifestations of the worlds of words veil you from the Horizon whence rose the suns of meaning and exposition from God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy.

By My life, O My Name! Were We to reveal books concerning the Temples and what lieth beyond them, it would be easier for Me than to interpret what We have previously revealed, for though interpretation is indeed a momentous matter, yet it is the province of every learned one aware among the people of Baha whose hearts are connected with this mighty ocean. Blessed is the learned one whom the breezes of revelation have seized in the days of God and have caused him to forget all creation and whatsoever hath been mentioned therein, speaking forth this remembrance whereby the oceans of life have gushed forth amidst all worlds. He is among the most exalted of creation before the Truth, for the station of the learned one who hath embarked upon the Crimson Ark in the Most Glorious Name among the people is as the station of sight among the senses. It behooveth all to revere him.

As for the one who spoke with this Remembrance, through which the rivers of life burst forth amidst the worlds—verily, he is among the most exalted of creatures before the Truth. For the station of the learned one who has embarked upon the crimson ark in the Most Glorious Name amongst the people is as the station of sight among the senses. It behooveth everyone to honor him and to magnify him. Thus was it sent down aforetime and at this hour. Then blessed is the learned one who hath adorned himself with the raiment of detachment in creation and with the cloak of godliness among men, and who hath been so attracted by hearkening to this Call that he hath gone forth from his homeland, traveling through the countries in remembrance of the All-Merciful. Verily, he is of those who have drawn nigh and are sincere.

O Khalil! This is uttered in the Persian tongue, that all creation might partake of the fragrant breezes of divine utterances and attain to that which God hath willed. The Point of the Bayan hath revealed a Book concerning the Single Temples, wherein He hath gathered all things within eleven lines corresponding to the number of ʿHuva' and the Most Splendid Name. In the first line He inscribed the letters of the abjad, and from its twenty-eight letters, which are the source and return of all things, He derived the name Vahid. In the second line He took the dots marking the ranks of ones, tens, hundreds and thousands, wherefrom the name Mahbub was derived. In the third line He recorded similar alifs, such as one (1), ten (10), eleven (11), one hundred (100), one hundred and one (101), one hundred and ten (110), one hundred and eleven (111), and so forth.

He calculated all similar letters in like manner, not exceeding the number of Al-Mustaghath, which He established as the measure of numbers. From these similar alifs He derived the name Baydavi. Similarly He recorded in each line the equivalents of each abjad letter and derived therefrom a name, until He reached the similar ta's, which represent the ultimate degree of geometry and forms in the material world, from which He derived the name Haqq. In this are signs for those who observe and reflect.

All these names He gathered in the First Single Temple, which is Oneness without number. Thereafter He caused each of the names gathered in the Temple of Identity to traverse an ocean from among the oceans of names, deriving other names therefrom, from which He arranged the Second Temple, until the Temples ended with the nineteenth, beyond which progress according to the established rule is impossible, for at the end of the nineteenth Temple the names culminate in Al-Mustaghath with the alif and lam, above which there exists no name in numbers from which to arrange a final Temple.

In brief, He determined eleven names corresponding to the number of Huva' and Bahhaj' in the eleven lines and degrees, as mentioned. The number of these eleven names also corresponds to the name Al-Mutakabbir. Then from this the First Single Temple appeared, and when they added once to the numbers of these names, eleven other names appeared, wherefrom He raised up the Second Single Temple. Likewise when they added twice to the numbers of the names of the First Single Temple, other names appeared wherefrom the Third Single Temple was manifested. Thus did they add at each degree until it concluded with the nineteenth Temple.

All these Temples appeared and came into being from the First Temple itself. Let it not be imagined that the Second Temple came from the First, the Third from the Second, and the Fourth from the Third, as would appear in calculation to those possessed of understanding. Thereby it is proven that God is the Truth, that He is the Creator and all else His creation, and all things are before Him in a single plane. Thus

doth God expound His Cause that ye may be among the believers in His unity. Observe how the Most Great Name appeared from the similar ta's at the end of the eleven lines.

And all are before Him in one plane. Thus doth God expound His Cause that ye may be of them that comprehend. Look ye unto truth, in that at the end of the eleven lines there appeared the letters Ta'at, evocative of the Most Great Name, and by it was the first temple completed, for at the end of the names of the first temple this blessed name dawned forth. This name moved through one of the seas of names; its like was added unto it, and the name Tarraz appeared, and by it was the second temple completed. Again it moved through another sea; twice its like was added unto it, and the name Shaydud appeared, and by it was the third temple completed. And likewise in every sea of seas there was added unto it, and a name appeared, and a temple from among the temples was by that name completed, until in the nineteenth sea, which was the ultimate of seas, there appeared the name Mustaghath with the alif and lam, and by it was the nineteenth temple completed.

It was impossible to go beyond this station, for were one to add to the numerical value of Mustaghath, no name would appear, since among the divine names commonly known among men none existeth with a numerical value greater than this name. This is why He saith that if thou movest the first temple through the sea of names it will be completed at nineteen and will not reach the sea of kaf. And it is known that eleven numbers are lacking from the numbers of the name Mustaghath. He saith that from these eleven numbers were created eleven lines. Here reflection is needed. The meaning is that from the eleven numbers of the name Mustaghath, which pertaineth to the Sovereign of Names, were created eleven lines, and from that arose the first single temple. Blessed is he who drinketh the pure water of mystic knowledge from this Cup, whereby the life of the worlds was suspended.

O proclaimer! Just as the name of Truth traversed all the cities of names and their kingdom in nineteen stations, or nineteen degrees, or nineteen seas, and reached Our name Mustaghath, so too did the Self of Truth traverse time in nineteen years and appear in Mustaghath. This is the meaning of the Book of the Temples, but most people do not understand. Were they to reflect, they would be convinced that His purpose in that Book was none other than what We have mentioned to thee, and they would thank the Lord for this lucid exposition.

We desire to cast upon the servants clear, manifest, and transcendent utterances, that they may understand according to their capacity what their Ancient Lord intended. And We have utterances and melodies, then other melodies which none hath discovered save God, and in every letter thereof is concealed the greatest depth of divine mysteries, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. We have repeated and do repeat these words that God's purpose may become as manifest as the sun at high noon. This is naught but a great bounty.

Know thou that Our name Mustaghath appeared from the Truth made manifest from the letters Ta'at which indicate the Most Great Name. Therefore, behold the Mustaghath made manifest from the Name which emerged from the Sovereign of Names in Mustaghath, and say: Praise be unto Thee, O Creator of the worlds! By My life, this is God's greatest mystery and His mightiest treasure and His Cause adorned with the ornament of eternity and His hidden talisman in a perspicuous Book. Know thou the purpose of Mustaghath which was revealed in the Tablets and the manifestation of Truth therein. This verily is the

spirit of life in the Bayan, whereby it soared and moved and trembled and proclaimed: There is none other God but Me, the Protector over all worlds.

Know that what was meant by the mention of the Divine Right and His maturity after the passing of nineteen stations in the name of Him Who is Implored for Help is the Manifestation of Truth after the passing of nineteen years at the time of Mustaghath. This and this alone was and is meant. Say: The fragrances of eternity have wafted over the world and the Sun of Utterance hath shone forth from the horizon of possibility. Well is it with them that perceive.

O My Name! All that was revealed in the Bayan concerning the mention of the Most Great Remembrance was revealed with utmost clarity. That which was made the cause of distinguishing the people and the degrees of recognition and the appearance of tests was the mention of Mustaghath, and now the meaning thereof hath been revealed from the Supreme Pen in the Clear Tablet—that which until now they have neither understood nor comprehended. The people are weak, and most have drunk the milk of vain imaginings from the breast of idle fancy. This is why they remain deprived of the Self-Subsisting through such mentions. Observe that after mentioning Mustaghath, in most statements He saith that should He appear at that time, all must offer thanks and praise unto the True God and be content with whatsoever God hath ordained for them.

There is no doubt that this latter statement predominates and encompasses all other statements, for from the second wafteth the fragrance of the Self-Subsisting as He passeth by, and from the first the fragrance of limitations is evident. Is there any possessor of smell who perceiveth the fragrance of the Bayan and is of the thankful? Is there any possessor of hearing who heareth and saith: “Thine be the praise, O God of all who are in the heavens and on earth”? In no case hath there been or is there for anyone occasion to hesitate. Thus doth the All-Merciful testify in the highest Paradise.

In some Names an increase or decrease is observed, and completion is with thy Lord, the Mighty, the All-Knowing. And that which the Point of the Bayan mentioned was meant to be the Most Great Remembrance, but most of the people of the Bayan have imagined from the Book of Temples and the like that it referred to numerology and other sciences. All are wandering in the wilderness of fancy. Every Tablet began with this Name and ended with this wise Remembrance.

As to what thou hast asked concerning the Days, We have made them manifestations of the letter Ha’ in the kingdom of creation. Therefore they are not limited by the bounds of years and months. It behooveth those in the Days of Baha to feed themselves and then the poor and needy, and to glorify and praise and magnify their Lord with joy and delight. And when the Days are completed, they shall enter into the Fast. Thus hath the Lord of all beings decreed. These Days are expansion before contraction, and giving before withholding. Therefore must all engage in glorification and praise and magnification of the transcendent Lord with complete joy and delight and fragrance. In these Days, gathering and feasting and rejoicing are beloved before God. God willing, may all derive the utmost possible delight in these Days and then enter into the month of fasting. Well is it with them that act accordingly.

Convey My greetings to My Afnan and give them glad tidings of how We have answered what they asked. He is verily the Answerer, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. Also to those who are there from among the loved ones of God, the Powerful, the Transcendent, the Most High, the Most Great.

BH03181: Khutbatu'n-Nikah [marriage Tablet]

And as to the laws of marriage and divorce which were sought, that which was revealed in this station in the Kitab-i-Aqdas had already been sent down aforetime. Likewise, in these days, the homily hath descended from the heaven of Oneness. After the good-pleasure of both parties and the consent of the parents hath been obtained, let them convene, in the presence of the God-fearing, in a designated spot, and let this blessed homily be recited with utmost joy and fragrance of spirit.

After the chanting of the homily, let the bridegroom and the bride, in a place set apart, recite these two blessed verses which were revealed in the Bayan. The two verses mentioned in the Bayan are to be inscribed, and thereafter let the husband deliver the dowry unto the bride, and let both parties set their seal upon a written document, and likewise the witnesses. And should it be in a locality where the people thereof are unable to recite the homily, no blame shall rest upon them; the recitation of the two verses sufficeth.

The intent of "the two verses" is this: for the men: "We will all, verily, abide by the will of God." And for the women: "We will all, verily, abide by the will of God."

Khutbatu'n-Nikah (The Marriage Homily)

He is the Bestower, the Bounteous!

Praise be to God, the Ancient, the Ever-Abiding, the Changeless, the Eternal! He Who hath testified in His Own Being that verily He is the One, the Single, the Untrammeled, the Exalted. We bear witness that verily there is no God but Him, acknowledging His oneness, confessing His singleness. He hath ever dwelt in unapproachable heights, in the summits of His loftiness, sanctified from the mention of aught save Himself, free from the description of aught but Him.

And when He desired to manifest grace and beneficence to men, and to set the world in order, He revealed observances and created laws; among them He established the law of marriage, made it as a fortress for well-being and salvation, and enjoined it upon us in that which was sent down out of the heaven of sanctity in His Most Holy Book. He saith, great is His glory:

> "Enter into wedlock, O people, that ye may bring forth one who will make mention of Me amid My servants. This is My bidding unto you; hold fast to it as an assistance to yourselves."

This is the testimony of the people of Baha, they who have exerted their utmost effort to exalt this perspicuous Faith, and whom, in the cause of God, the reproach of the censurer hath not dismayed. And praise be to God, the Lord of all the worlds.

BH00718: Lawh-i-'Ali

From the right hand of the Throne hath been sent down:

O Ali! From the day when the promised Tablet—which hath been designated as the Cry, the Hour, and the Trump—was dispatched, the idolaters and deniers have arisen with the utmost craftiness and scheming. Though outwardly nothing is apparent, yet thy Lord is verily the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. With the utmost determination they have been and are seeking the Ancient Beauty. In these days, each day witnesseth a new occurrence in this land. By the Truth! Never hath there been, nor shall there ever be, any grief from these matters and whatsoever hath occurred before or shall occur hereafter.

The Ancient Beauty is established upon the Most Great Throne with such joy that were but a breath thereof to pass over the dwellers of earth, all would perish from delight, gladness and ecstasy. However, the grief is that the servants are weak, and the Truth, out of kindness and mercy, summoneth them from the ocean of tribulations and trials to the uttermost goal, yet these veiled souls perceive it not.

O Ali! Exert the utmost endeavor and guard the edifice of the Cause from the thieves. Consider the physical house: if slumber overtaketh its guardians, assuredly the thieves will enter and intrude. However, if the guardians remain engaged in their watch and protection, the thieves shall never gain access. Now it behooveth the sincere ones among the loved ones of God to make every effort and protect God's Cause and His edifice from the thieves. Say: Stand guard at the gate, then drive away the evil ones with the shooting star of the remembrance of My Name, the Mighty, the Impregnable.

Again revealed to Ali-Qabl-i-Akbar.

Some people have sought and continue to seek specific worldly ornaments from the Most Holy Court, and this is far removed from justice and fairness. From the beginning of the Revelation until now, never has there been any indication to anyone regarding such matters—sacred is the hem of the Cause from such mentions, let alone their actualization. It is incumbent upon all to counsel the servants and declare what comes from God.

The Herald of Divine Unity calls out from the realm of Divinity: O loved ones! Soil not the sacred hem with the clay of this world, and speak not according to the dictates of self and passion. I swear by the Sun of the horizon of the Cause, which shines with perfect radiance and light from the heaven of the prison, that today those who have turned to the Qiblih of existence must be sanctified and detached from both the seen and unseen. Should they engage in teaching, they must do so with pure intention, complete detachment, independence, lofty resolve, and innate holiness, turning to all regions with the fragrances of the All-Merciful. It behooveth such souls to make their provision trust in God and their raiment the love of their Lord, the Most Exalted, the All-Glorious, that their words may have effect.

Those souls who today fix their gaze upon personal desires and the ornaments of this transient world are seen to be utterly remote. In most times, there have been no apparent ornaments in the court of the All-Merciful, and those circling round have been in great hardship. Nevertheless, never has any mention of the world, or word indicating it, shone forth from the Dayspring of the Supreme Pen. And if anyone was blessed to send a gift to the Most Holy Court, it was accepted out of grace, even though were We to

desire to possess all the wealth of the earth, none would have cause to question. No deed is more abhorrent than begging among people in the name of Truth.

It is incumbent upon that honored one and the companions of Truth to summon people to the greatest detachment and the most great sanctity, that the fragrance of the Most Glorious Robe might be inhaled from His loved ones. However, the wealthy must be mindful of the poor, for the station of the patient among the poor is great in the sight of God. By My life! No station equals it save what God willeth. Blessed is the poor one who is patient and discrete, and blessed is the rich one who spends and prefers others. God willing, the poor should strive and engage in earning a livelihood, and this is a matter prescribed for every soul in this Most Great Revelation and is reckoned among good deeds before God. Whoever acts upon this will surely receive divine assistance. Verily, He enriches whomsoever He willeth through His grace. He is, verily, powerful over all things.

Likewise, from the Dayspring of the All-Merciful's Will have shone forth words concerning the protection of souls and the education of the people of the nation and country, the benefits of which will encompass all who are on earth, were they to hear what hath been sent down from the heaven of the Command. At present it is not expedient to send it; it remains suspended in the heaven of Will until such time as the Divine Will determines it be sent. The Command is in His hand. Strive diligently in the education of souls, for this has been and will continue to be among the most important matters. And glory be upon thee, O thou whose call We hear in remembrance of thy Lord, the Powerful, the Mighty, the Unconstrained.

O Ali! Say to the loved ones of God that the first quality of human nature is fairness, and all matters depend upon it. Reflect a little upon the afflictions and tribulations of this Prisoner, Who has spent His entire life in the hands of His enemies, and every day has been afflicted with a fresh trial in the path of God's love, until the Cause of God was exalted amongst His servants. Now if anyone should arise and, following his own imaginings, engage either secretly or openly in causing division among the people—is such a one to be counted among the fair-minded? Nay, by His Self, the All-Compelling! By My life, My heart laments and Mine eyes weep for the Cause of God and for those who speak that which they understand not and imagine in their souls that which they perceive not.

Today it behooveth all to hold fast to the Most Great Name. There is no refuge or haven save Him. Let them unite the people. Should one be established in the highest station, and should words proceed from him that would cause division among the people, he hath turned away from the shore of the Most Great Ocean and directed himself to that which is limited by human boundaries. All creation beareth witness that such a one is deprived of the breezes of the All-Merciful. Say: Be fair, O people of understanding! He that hath no fairness hath no human qualities.

God is aware of all souls and what they possess. The forbearance of God hath emboldened souls, for He does not rend asunder the veils before their appointed time, and due to the precedence of mercy, manifestations of wrath have been withheld. Therefore, most people imagine that God is unaware of what they commit in secret. Nay, by His all-knowing, all-informed Self! All is visible and evident in the mirror of His knowledge. Say: Praise be unto Thee, O Concealer of the weaklings' faults! Praise be unto Thee, O Forgiver of the heedless ones' sins!

We forbade the people from following delusion that they might recognize the manifest Sovereign and that which proceedeth from Him. Yet now they are seen to be captive to their own doubts and imaginings. By My life, they themselves are delusion and perceive it not, and that which they utter is delusion and they understand it not. We beseech God to assist all and to make them know Him and their own selves. By My life, whoso attaineth unto His knowledge soareth in the atmosphere of His love and detacheth himself from all who dwell on earth, let alone those who speak according to their desires that which God hath not permitted them.

Say: Today is the day of hearkening. Hear ye the voice of the Wronged One. Speak ye in the name of Truth, and be adorned with the ornament of His remembrance and illumined by the lights of His love. This is the key to hearts and the polish of existence. Whoso remaineth heedless of that which hath flowed from the Finger of God's Will is in manifest error. Rectitude and trustworthiness are essential to faith, not discord and corruption. Convey that which thou hast been commanded by the Trustworthy, the Faithful One. Verily, the glory be upon thee, O thou who remembereth My Name, who gazeth toward My direction, and who uttereth the praise of thy Lord, the Beautiful.

BH01353: Lawh-i-Dustan-i-Yazdani

The beginning of every account is the name of God

O friends of God! Incline your inner ears to the voice of the peerless and self-subsisting Lord, that He may deliver you from the bonds of entanglement and the depths of darkness and enable you to attain the eternal light. Ascent and descent, stillness and motion, have come into being through the will of the Lord of all that hath been and shall be. The cause of ascent is lightness, and the cause of lightness is heat. Thus hath it been decreed by God. The cause of stillness is weight and density, which in turn are caused by cold. Thus hath it been decreed by God.

And since He hath ordained heat to be the source of motion and ascent and the cause of attainment to the desired goal, He hath therefore kindled with the mystic hand that Fire that dieth not and sent it forth into the world, that this divine Fire might, by the heat of the love of God, guide and attract all mankind to the abode of the incomparable Friend. This is the mystery enshrined in your Book that was sent down aforetime, a mystery which hath until now remained concealed from the eyes and hearts of men. That primal Fire hath in this Day appeared with a new radiance and with immeasurable heat. This divine Fire burneth of itself, with neither fuel nor fume, that it might draw away such excess moisture and cold as are the cause of torpor and weariness, of lethargy and despondency, and lead the entire creation to the court of the presence of the All-Merciful. Whoso hath approached this Fire hath been set aflame and attained the desired goal, and whoso hath removed himself therefrom hath remained deprived.

O servant of God! Turn thou away from the stranger, that thou mayest recognize the Friend. He indeed is a stranger who leadeth you away from the Friend. This is not the day whereon the high priests can command and exercise their authority. In your Book it is stated that the high priests will, on that Day, lead men far astray, and will prevent them from drawing nigh unto Him. He indeed is a high priest who hath seen the light and hastened unto the way leading to the Beloved. Such a man is a benevolent priest and a source of illumination to the whole world.

O servant of God! Any priest who leadeth thee away from this Fire, which is the reality of the Light and the mystery of divine Revelation, is indeed thine enemy. Suffer not the words of the foe to hold thee back from the Friend or the insinuations of the enemy to cause thee to forsake the Beloved.

O servant of God! The day of deeds hath come: Now is not the time for words. The Messenger of God hath appeared: Now is not the hour for hesitation. Open thine inner eye that thou mayest behold the face of the Beloved, and hearken with thine inner ear that thou mayest hear the sweet murmur of His celestial voice.

O servant of God! The robe of divine bestowal hath been sewn and readied. Take hold of it and attire thyself therewith. Renounce and forsake the people of the world. O wise one! Shouldst thou heed the counsel of thy Lord, thou wouldst be released from the bondage of His servants and behold thyself exalted above all men.

O servant of God! We have bestowed a dewdrop from the ocean of divine grace; would that men might drink therefrom! We have brought a trace of the sweet melodies of the Beloved; would that men might hearken with their inner ear! Soar upon the wings of joy in the atmosphere of the love of God. Regard the people of the world as dead and seek the fellowship of the living. Whoso hath not breathed the sweet fragrance of the Beloved at this dawntide is indeed accounted among the dead. He Who is the All-Sufficing proclaimeth aloud:

> "The realm of joy hath been ushered in; be not sorrowful! The hidden mystery hath been made manifest; be not disheartened!"

Wert thou to apprehend the surpassing greatness of this Day, thou wouldst renounce the world and all that dwell therein and hasten unto the way that leadeth to the Lord.

O servants of God! Deprived souls are heedless of this triumphant Day, and chilled hearts have no share of the heat of this blazing Fire.

O servant of God! The Tree which We had planted with the Hand of Providence hath borne its destined fruit, and the glad-tidings We had imparted in the Book have appeared in full effect.

O servant of God! We revealed Ourself to thee once in thy sleep, but thou didst remain unaware. Remember now, that thou mayest perceive and hasten with heart and soul to the placeless Friend.

O servant of God! Say: O high priests! The Hand of Omnipotence is stretched forth from behind the clouds; behold ye it with new eyes. The tokens of His majesty and greatness are unveiled; gaze ye on them with pure eyes.

O servant of God! The Daystar of the everlasting realm is shining resplendent above the horizon of His will and the Oceans of divine bounty are surging. Bereft indeed is the one who hath failed to behold them, and lifeless the one who hath not attained thereunto. Close thine eyes to this nether world, open them to the countenance of the incomparable Friend, and commune intimately with His Spirit.

O servant of God! With a pure heart unloose thy tongue in the praise of thy Lord for having made mention of thee through His gem-scattering pen. Couldst thou but realize the greatness of this bestowal, thou wouldst find thyself invested with everlasting life.

O servant of God! Say: The Lord declareth: He that is afflicted seeketh not wellness and shall not arise, and he that beareth the sign shall not attain unto salvation.

BH03529: Lawh-i-Jinab-i-Haji Siyyid Ibrahim (Kitab al-Fajr)

The Most Holy, Most Glorious Book hath appeared from the horizon of the Command and was witnessed in its manifestation. Whoso readeth a single letter thereof turneth toward the sanctuary and detacheth himself from all created things, and God, the All-Merciful, is My witness in what I say. Blessed is he who is illumined by this Light which hath shone forth from the horizon of the Manifestation. He is among the manifestations of beauty and hath been mentioned with justice in the Tablet of Glory.

The earth hath been illumined by the light of thy Lord, and the darkness hath been dispelled by the dawning light which was visible from the horizon of the Prison. Say: None can test God in this Revelation; rather God testeth whom He willeth. Thus was it sent down in the Bayan from the presence of the All-Merciful Who encompasseth all things. Choose ye what God hath chosen for you. Beware lest ye make your faith dependent upon your idle fancies. Thus hath the decree been ordained.

Say: Doth not what hath appeared in this Revelation suffice you? By God! Power hath been manifested, sovereignty hath encompassed all, and the signs have filled the horizons. None denieth them save he who is deprived of truth. Were We to will it, We would make all who are on earth one community. Verily He hath power over all things.

Among the people is he who desireth from God that which beseemeth him not, and when he seeth it he turneth away and returneth unto his own people, retreating. Those who have turned toward it have not acted according to what was ordained in the Bayan for this Revelation—how much less those who have turned away by following vain imaginings. Thy Lord is indeed cognizant of what I say.

Say: Have ye ever heard before of what hath graciously appeared in this Revelation? Nay, by the Lord of Justice! Ponder, O people, that ye may find a way to the truth. Grieve thou not over anything. We have ordained for thee an exalted station. Glorify thy Lord with praise. He is with whomsoever desireth Him. Blessed is he who chooseth Him as his friend. The glory be upon thee and upon whomsoever hath turned toward God with a countenance illumined by the lights of the Throne.

BH07258: Lawh-i-Kimiya 4

In the name of the one Friend! Your letter in Arabic was presented at the Throne, and its answer is sent down in Persian. Listen with pure and sanctified hearing. Be not distressed at the delay of matters—every matter is bound to its time.

In the mixing and combination of things, two stations are to be considered: one through pure absolute power, and this depends on His leave and is specific to His presence; the other through the conjunction of

harmonious things that are not mutually repellent, and this, after knowledge of the perfect nature, is known among the philosophers as “the egg,” and it is the fashioned stone, containing the four natures, and after separation is capable of complete mixture.

We beseech God to assist you in what He loves and is pleased with, and to ordain for you what is best with Him. Verily He is the Guardian of the sincere ones.

And the Glory be upon you and upon your son and those with you, and we beseech Him to assist all in His service and obedience. Verily He is the Powerful, the Forgiving, the Generous.

BH04321: Lawh-i-Kimiya 5

He is the Most Holy, the Most Glorious

O thou who art designated as the First Pillar of My Name! Hearken unto My call. Verily there is none other God but Him, the Mighty, the Self-Subsisting.

And now, thy letter hath been presented before the Beloved and God hath turned toward it. That which thou hast comprehended and expressed regarding the Hidden Word doth not accord and agreeth not with its true meaning. The essential matter is that which was sent down aforetime from the heaven of the Divine Will. Thou must ponder, that thou mayest discover the truth. Thus hath it been decreed in the Tablet by thy Lord, the Mighty, the All-Wise. More explicit than what hath been mentioned is not permitted, and in the Tablets a clearer exposition than what hath been given is not desired, inasmuch as the unveiling of this most great mystery hath ever been forbidden. Reflect upon that which hath been revealed both before and after, and after comprehending it, present it at the court of the Divine Throne. Thus have ye been commanded from before. Verily He is the Knower of all things.

Although the origin of the Tree hath been revealed in the Tablets through allusion and metaphor and indication, yet that allusion is more eloquent than explicit statement. Ponder, that perchance thou mayest find a way unto it. Whatsoever hath streamed forth from the Most Ancient Pen hath been for your benefit and for the benefit of the servants of God. Verily thy Lord is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

Know thou moreover that the word of victory hath ascended unto God and We were well-pleased with it, and the word of good-pleasure was mentioned before the Throne and is now with Me in the prison, and thy Lord encompasseth all things. Say: Beware lest ye utter that which God hath not permitted unto you. Thus hath the matter been decreed. Blessed is he who hath taken unto the Truth a way.

BH03255: Lawh-i-Siyyid Muhammad ibn Vahid

He is the Most Great, the Most Mighty

The gate of utterance has been opened and the Youth of inner meanings has appeared, holding in His right hand a cup of the salsabil of your Lord’s mercy, the Most High, the Most Great. At times thou findest therein the trace of fire whereby the veils of the worlds are consumed, and at times thou findest therein the trace of light whereby the hearts of the mystics are illumined, and at times thou seest it as the water

of life whereby God quickens every decomposed bone. Blessed is he who takes it in the name of his Lord and drinks in remembrance of Me, the Mighty, the All-Wise.

Unite in the Cause of God—thereby will His Cause be exalted among the servants. He, verily, is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. Cling ye unto the fear of God in His religion. By My life! It is My garment—blessed is he who attains unto this luminous garment.

Verily thy Lord is not prevented by anything from anything. Were He to decree for the heaven the decree of the earth, none has the right to object to Him, and were He to dispose of what is on earth, none has the right to say "why" or "wherefore." Everything hath proclaimed that He is the One Who ruleth as He pleaseth. Such is God's way among His servants and His sovereignty over His creation. This station hath been sealed with this noble perspective. Nevertheless, We have manifested Our Self in the garment of the fear of God as a grace from Us. Verily thy Lord is the All-Forgiving, the All-Merciful.

Those who transgress what hath been ordained in the Book and act without God's leave—these are among the disappointed ones. And those who commit what they were forbidden—these are among the heedless ones. Adorn yourselves with what We have commanded you in the Tablets that the sanctification of your Lord's Cause may be manifest among the servants. Thereby shall the faces of those near unto God be illumined.

Say: While you are in your homes, the Sovereign of the House remembers you in this mighty prison and desires to make you kings in the kingdoms of His dominion and inheritors in His mighty, impregnable empire. Grieve not because of those who have disbelieved. Trust in all matters in God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy. Be thou of such character that the sincere ones may find from thee the fragrances of the All-Merciful. Thus it behooveth one who hath believed in God, the Mighty, the Peerless.

BH01654: Second Tablet to Faris

O Ancient, Eternal, Most Holy One! Thy letter hath come before Our face and from it We have inhaled the fragrance of love and fellowship. Therefore hath this Most Great Tablet been revealed unto thee. It behooveth thee to render thanks unto Him Who caused thee to hear the cooing of the Dove and guided thee to this straight Path. Arise to assist the Cause of thy Lord with wisdom and utterance. He, verily, aideth whomsoever He willeth through the power of His behest, and He is the Mighty, the Powerful.

We beseech God to make thee a knight of inner meanings in this field and to number thee among those whom vain imaginings have not kept back from God, thy Lord and the Lord of all worlds. Take thou the chalice of eternity in the name of thy Lord, the Lord of all names, then drink therefrom and say: Praise be unto Thee, O Thou Who givest to drink unto those who have known Thee!

The divine fragrance hath been wafted, and the breeze hath blown, and there hath appeared from Zion that which was hidden, and from Jerusalem is heard the Voice of God, the One, the Incomparable, the All-Knowing. This is what was sent down aforetime from this wondrous Pen. Say: The Temple hath been built by the hands of the power of the Lord of all causes, and the All-Merciful hath been manifested from this resplendent Horizon. Say: Is that which hath been built by the hands of the All-Merciful better, or that

which is built of clay? God calleth unto all else besides Him and giveth them glad tidings of this Cause which hath shone forth and gleamed from the horizon of the will of your Ancient Lord.

Know thou that when We adorned the Kingdom with the ornament of the name of thy Chosen Lord, the fish in the seas were struck with awe, the fruits fell from the trees, the denizens of the Kingdom of Might were bewildered, the tribes of the human realm lamented, the people of the cities of names were halted, and the pillars of all who are in earth and heaven were shaken, save whom thy Lord, the All-Wise, willed otherwise. Blessed art thou, inasmuch as thy name hath been mentioned in the Kingdom of thy Lord, and there hath been sent down for thee that which shall cause thy remembrance to endure as long as God endureth. This is of His grace unto thee, wert thou of those who know.

The Spirit hath indeed come with the ornament of God, and every pillar of His pillars proclaimeth: "I am the Beloved of the worlds." When the promise came to pass and the veil was rent asunder by the finger of destiny, all who are in creation were terrified, and the fire of hatred was kindled in the hearts of the oppressors, and they committed that which caused the dwellers of Paradise to lament and the Spirit of Faithfulness to rend its garments.

Say: Tribulations prevent Us not from that which We have purposed. We speak the truth, though all the swords of the world be drawn against Our face. Say: O concourse of prelates! That which ye were promised in the Tablets hath come to pass. Fear ye God and follow not the imaginings of them that have gone astray. Cast away what ye possess and take hold of the Tablet of God with the authority that proceedeth from Him. This is better for you than all ye possess. Unto this testifieth every knowing, perceiving one. Ye glory in My Name, yet ye shut yourselves out from My Self. This is indeed a strange thing.

Say: O concourse of bishops! The Lord of all creatures hath appeared. He, verily, is calling humanity in the valley of guidance, while ye are of them that are dead. Blessed is he who hath been stirred by the breeze of God and hath arisen from amongst the dead through this manifest Name.

Say: O concourse of archbishops! The earthquakes have seized all the peoples, and He Who is the Everlasting Lord calleth aloud between earth and heaven. Blessed is the ear that hath heard, and the eye that hath seen, and the heart that hath turned unto the Qiblih of all who are in the heavens and on earth.

O concourse of priests! The Day of Reckoning hath appeared, and He Who was in heaven hath come. He, verily, is the One Whom ye were promised in God's Holy Books, the Mighty, the Praised One. How long will ye wander in the wilderness of heedlessness and vain imaginings? Turn with your hearts toward your Lord, the Forgiving, the Generous.

Thus have We sent down the verses unto thee that thou mayest rejoice at My mention of thee and be of them that are firmly established. Remember when thy first letter came before Us when the Most Great Sea was mounted upon the Ark by reason of that which the hands of the idolaters had wrought, and this is another time thy letter hath come before Our face. We have read it and answered thee with this decisive and all-encompassing utterance. Be thou observant in all circumstances of the dictates of wisdom, and speak unto men according to their capacities, for should an infant be given meat in its early days, it would perish. Thus doth thy Lord, the Merciful, counsel thee.

BH03908: Tablet for Naw-Ruz

He is the Almighty

Praised be Thou, O my God, that Thou hast ordained Naw-Ruz as a festival unto those who have observed the fast for love of Thee and abstained from all that is abhorrent unto Thee. Grant, O my Lord, that the fire of Thy love and the heat produced by the fast enjoined by Thee may inflame them in Thy Cause, and make them to be occupied with Thy praise and with remembrance of Thee.

Since Thou hast adorned them, O my Lord, with the ornament of the fast prescribed by Thee, do Thou adorn them also with the ornament of Thine acceptance, through Thy grace and bountiful favor. For the doings of men are all dependent upon Thy good-pleasure, and are conditioned by Thy behest. Shouldst Thou regard him who hath broken the fast as one who hath observed it, such a man would be reckoned among them who from eternity had been keeping the fast. And shouldst Thou decree that he who hath observed the fast hath broken it, that person would be numbered with such as have caused the Robe of Thy Revelation to be stained with dust, and been far removed from the crystal waters of this living Fountain.

Thou art He through Whom the ensign "Praiseworthy art Thou in Thy works" hath been lifted up, and the standard "Obeyed art Thou in Thy behest" hath been unfurled. Make known this Thy station, O my God, unto Thy servants, that they may be made aware that the excellence of all things is dependent upon Thy bidding and Thy word, and the virtue of every act is conditioned by Thy leave and the good-pleasure of Thy will, and may recognize that the reins of men's doings are within the grasp of Thine acceptance and Thy commandment. Make this known unto them, that nothing whatsoever may shut them out from Thy Beauty, in these days whereon the Christ exclaimeth: "All dominion is Thine, O Thou the Begetter of the Spirit (Jesus)"; and Thy Friend (Muhammad) crieth out: "Glory be to Thee, O Thou the Best-Beloved, for that Thou hast uncovered Thy Beauty, and written down for Thy chosen ones what will cause them to attain unto the seat of the revelation of Thy Most Great Name, through which all the peoples have lamented except such as have detached themselves from all else except Thee, and set themselves towards Him Who is the Revealer of Thyself and the Manifestation of Thine attributes."

He Who is Thy Branch and all Thy company, O my Lord, have broken this day their fast, after having observed it within the precincts of Thy court, and in their eagerness to please Thee. Do Thou ordain for Him, and for them, and for all such as have entered Thy presence in those days all the good Thou didst destine in Thy Book. Supply them, then, with that which will profit them, in both this life and in the life beyond.

Thou, in truth, art the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

BH00211: Glorified art Thou, O Thou Who by Thy most…

Section 1: "Glorified art Thou, O Thou Who by Thy…"

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious!

Glorified art Thou, O Thou Who by Thy most sweet call hast enraptured the heart of the world, and through the fragrances of the garment of the remembrance of Thy Most Glorious Name hast perfumed the realms of eternity! The rapture of longing hath seized me through the letter sent by the burning phoenix of love, wherein he warbled with the melodies of the nightingale of separation upon the branches of the Lote-Tree of yearning. How ardent are the sighs of the fire of his heart in his love for Thee, O my God, and how tender the attraction of his heart in his love for Thee, O my Beloved! The fire blazeth and surgeth from the burning of his heart in separation from Thee, and the Mount flieth from the rapture of his heart in longing for Thy countenance. The earth is rent asunder by what it hath inhaled of the fragrances of separation from the dwelling-place of union, yet the heaven rejoiceth in his spirit amidst the channels of destiny and his seeking of Thy good-pleasure and his desire for that which pleaseth Thee.

O my God, that which hath appeared from the horizon of Thy most pure Tongue hath been confirmed, in that Thou didst name him the Phoenix, for I see that he liveth and rejoiceth and delighteth in the midst of the fire of sorrows even as the nightingale in paradise, and in the sphere of fire he singeth with Thy Chosen Name, and in the depths of the sea he uttereth Thy praise and announceth the glad-tidings of meeting Thee. Therefore I beseech Thee, O my God, by Thy Most Great, Most Wondrous, Most Glorious Name, and by Thy Beauty that hath dawned from the horizon of the prison with lights that cannot be concealed, that Thou kindle the fire of his love in such wise that its flames may seize every lifeless one, melt every frozen one, cause every stationary one to soar, soften every hardened one, draw nigh every distant one, and gather together every scattered one, for verily Thou art the Powerful over what Thou willest, and Thou art, verily, the Potent over all things.

My spirit and my soul be a sacrifice for Thee! The letter of that beloved of heart and soul, which was perfumed with the fragrances of the garment of the remembrance of the Beauty of the Most Merciful and the countenance of the All-Glorious, reached this evanescent servant and was illumined with the splendors of its wondrous words and exalted meanings. Praise be to God that the fragrance of that beloved was inhaled from his most pure letter. Indeed my eyes were solaced, my vision was illumined, my innermost heart was gladdened, my spirit rejoiced, my heart was attracted, my soul was stirred, and my heart cried out:

> “To Thee, to Thee, O companion of my heart and intimate of my soul, Thou Who art remembered in all my limbs and witnessed before the throne of my Lord, the Mighty, the Best-Beloved!”

The supplication which he had offered was presented before the glorious throne in the late afternoon of Monday of the first Rabi’, and from the Dawning-Place of the utterance of the Most Merciful these most sweet and wondrous words shone forth, exalted be His majesty:

> “O thou who hast turned thy face to the Qiblih of the horizons and art enkindled with the fire of separation! Hearken unto the testimony of God which hath prevailed over the worlds. I bear witness by My own Self unto My own Self that there is none other God but He, and that thou art among those who have fulfilled the Covenant and discharged the trust of God on the Day whereon souls were agitated, flesh did creep, and feet did slip. The grace of thy Lord hath encompassed thee, and also thy father and mother, whom We have adorned with the

> ornament of Our Most Glorious Name in the kingdom of thy Lord, the Mighty, the All-Bestowing. We hear from thee that which passeth through thy heart and floweth from thy tongue in remembrance of thy Lord. Verily He is the Mighty, the All-Knowing. And We have heard that wherewith thou didst commune with God, thy Lord, and there hath appeared before the Throne the leaf which hath been adorned with the remembrance of God, the Creator of earth and heaven. Blessed art thou and thy brother and those who are with thee and who hear what thou mentioneth in remembrance of thy Lord, the Dayspring of lights. Those who object to thee are in heedlessness and behind a veil. Ask thou God, thy Lord and the Lord of all things and the Lord of creation, to gather all upon the shore of this Most Great Sea and to make them recognize His Self, the Mighty, the Chosen One."

O Samandar! Hearken unto the call of the Lord of Power, Who addresseth thee from the direction of the Most Great Prison. Though every soul hath heard His call and turned towards Him—as witnessed by the fact that most of the peoples of the earth, of whatsoever faith, cling to and turn toward the name of the All-Merciful—yet such hearkening is not acceptable in the sight of God, for they remain veiled from the true Purpose. Therefore hath the decree of rejection gone forth from the Source of Divine Command concerning such souls. They who today have attained unto the hearing of the Divine Call—these are the gems of existence, both seen and unseen. This Call resembleth not the call of the first or the last, nor are its hearers like unto the souls of before or after.

Observe how, despite being encompassed by the utmost severity and the most extreme affliction and abasement from all directions, yet from the horizon of the Prison the Sun of the Cause hath risen with such radiance that, were it beheld with the eye of the heart, it would be seen that its effulgence hath encompassed the kingdom of the seen and unseen. In the midst of abasement, it manifesteth such glory that the might of all in the heavens and earth is as naught before it. The eyes of all creation have been gladdened by what hath shone forth from the horizon of the Prison, and ears have been purified to hearken unto what hath been raised therein, and all things have been stirred by its most sweet call. How wondrous is this Revelation, the like of which hath never appeared in creation! It is as though every atom of earthly dust danceth from its fragrances, moveth in its atmosphere, and seeketh to attain the presence of its countenance.

God willing, your honor should remind the people with utmost yearning and attraction, yet never forsake wisdom in any circumstance. Some people are weak, some heedless, and some knowing yet deniers. Verily thy Lord is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. The conditions of all are witnessed and known to God, but as He regardeth with favor, He hath not wished to rend the veils of souls. Verily thy Lord is the Concealer, the Forgiving, the Generous. It is known that God's infinite favors have been and will continue to be bestowed upon your honor, and especially from the heaven of grace have Tablets been revealed and sent in the very script of revelation—you shall attain unto their perusal.

And regarding the differences mentioned in the letter of Ism-i-Jud, upon him be the Most Glorious Beauty of God, this evanescent servant, after observing before His presence, submitted it, and from the Source of Command was revealed, exalted be His grandeur:

> “We testify that the son of Nabil, who was named Kazim and then Samandar, hath believed in God and His signs, and the truth beareth witness with him, and all things bear witness, by the testimony of God, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting, that he is among those who have acknowledged the unity of God and His singleness, and was among the believers. None may object to him in the Cause of his Lord. He hath turned toward the Qiblih of the world, and he is of those who have rent asunder the veils through My Name and shattered the idols of fancy through My remembrance and sovereignty. By My life! He is among the triumphant.”

They stated: This utterance of the All-Merciful which was revealed concerning you is “Be thou grateful and among those who render thanks.” However, in view of the fact that in these days We are occupied with momentous and crucial matters—for never before has the Cause of God been openly proclaimed to the rulers of the earth, in none of the Manifestations of the divine Oneness was the Cause of God proclaimed as befitteth it, as they saw wisdom in concealment—but in these days the dominating Will of God and the prevailing Purpose of the King of Oneness have ordained that He should summon all and draw them to the divine realm. Therefore the clamor of all has been raised, and from every quarter they have sought and continue to seek with the talons of hatred to extinguish the divine Spirit.

Thus must the loved ones, as far as possible, be mindful of reconciliation. This has been and will be closest to wisdom. However this matter depends upon wisdom and prudence, lest conflict and contention arise between any parties that might cause harm to the loved ones of God. Be thou assured that thy Lord knoweth what is in the hearts and distinguisheth the corrupt from the righteous. Verily He knoweth all things. Unambiguous words have ever been sent down and made manifest from the Source of the Cause, yet people interpret them according to their own desires. We beseech God to make them recognize the Manifestation of His Cause and His sovereignty that hath encompassed the worlds.

If you meet Mulla Isma’il, convey greetings on behalf of this evanescent servant. Although the holy fragrances have not been inhaled from him, yet in view of past friendship, this servant, purely for the sake of his Lord, the All-Merciful, submitteth this that perchance he may become detached from the cord of doubts and idle fancies and hold fast to the firm handle of God. They recite a poem fitting for this station:

O Hafiz, thy task is but to offer prayer, Care not whether it be heard or unheard.

Therefore must the servant, purely for the sake of God and with his gaze fixed upon the realm of fidelity, remind his old friends of what he hath understood. If one hearkeneth, it is for his own sake, and if one turneth away, verily God is independent of all worlds.

One day, in the presence of the Most Great Throne, it was heard from the Most Holy Tongue:

> “They have deprived him through the cord of past delusions from the Truth. Would that he had knowledge and recognized That Which he hath clung to! By My life! Were he to know, he would instantly repent and return unto God, the True, the Manifest King. They know not of His Cause, nor do they wish to become acquainted with it. Like those souls who today cling to idols, they refuse entirely to hearken unto the Word of Truth, lest they might turn from that which they possess toward Him Who possesseth all authority.”

And He said: “Write to him: Hast thou not heard the consummate, primal Word which hath been revealed from the Source of the Pen of Command: Verily, the wayfarer on the white path and crimson pillar shall never attain to the station of his homeland except through detachment from all that is in the hands of men?’ And write to him: Apart from all the proofs, evidences, verses and conditions of this Most Great Revelation, I ask but one question: Was the Bab—may the spirit of all else be sacrificed for Him—aware of this Revelation or not? If thou sayest He was not aware, thou hast denied knowledge to the Source of knowledge itself. And if thou confirmest that He was aware, We say: Given His knowledge of this Most Great Revelation and its lack of truth, He would have been obliged to announce throughout the entire Bayan that such a mighty matter would appear and that ye should not turn to it, for the purpose of the Bayan was to establish truth and invalidate all else, just as it is recorded in all heavenly Books that false pretenders would come and their words should not be accepted.”’

Section 2: “O fair-minded hearer! If thou canst find…”

O fair-minded hearer! If thou canst find in the entire Bayan a single verse suggesting, even indirectly and without explicit statement, that should someone appear ye should hesitate for even a moment, We would count those who pause among the rightly guided. Throughout the entire Bayan He biddeth all to turn toward Him at His mere call, even before the presentation of proof. I adjure thee by God—would any person of understanding utter such words? Nay, by My true Self! How much less One Who is All-Knowing, All-Informed! For there are many false pretenders who have made and continue to make claims, as ye hear from every corner. What wisdom, then, lay in having devoted the entire Bayan to the mention of this Most Great Revelation, removing from this Cause all limitation and restriction to such extent that He saith that however and whenever He appeareth He hath free choice, and stating that the entire Bayan and all the Most Beautiful Names, laws and ordinances revealed therein were and are contingent upon the confirmation of that Sun of Revelation and dependent upon the Word shining from the horizon of the mouth of that King of Reality?

Reflect a little! It is most unbefitting for ones like you to hesitate in a Cause that is more evident than any proof or evidence. Have ye not heard what He saith, exalted be His glory: ‘Proof itself is ashamed to be proof for Him.’ Today it behoveth all to gather around the all-embracing Word and strive according to their capacity to assist the Cause of God, for the Ancient Beauty hath Himself, after entering the Most Great Prison, undertook matters of great moment and significance, even as He taught the kings of the earth one after another, as thou art aware of some of these instances.

Consider with fairness: is it permissible to oppose or befitting to turn away from such a Soul Who today stands alone between earth and heaven, summoning the peoples of the East and the West to the Truth with the utmost power and dominion? Nay, by His very Self, the All-Merciful! With all these enemies among the wielders of power and might, it is not permissible that the people of the Bayan should arise in opposition. O fair-minded one! If thou deniest Him, whom wilt thou accept, and by what proof wilt thou establish thine own faith? Bring it forth! By My life, ye have no escape today. Hearken unto the call of Him Who summoneth thee for the sake of God. Cast aside what thou hast and take what God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy, hath commanded thee.

I swear by the Sun of Truth that shineth from the horizon of the Prison that had this Revelation not appeared, the Point of the Bayan would never have uttered a single word of that which He revealed. Consider the Books of old: the announcement of each subsequent Prophet was contingent upon the words of the preceding Prophet, and all made mention thereof through subtle allusions, as ye have seen and heard. What, then, was His purpose in saying that caution in religion should not withhold thee from turning to that Sun of Truth, for to the extent of thy hesitation thou shalt abide in the fire? By Him Who holdeth my soul in His hands, the Bayan was revealed solely for My mention and praise, and the Dove warbled therein only for My firm and mighty Cause.

Even as in this Most Great Revelation no word hath been revealed stating that should someone come forward with a claim, ye should accept him or turn unto him, save after the passing of a full thousand years, and such limits as have been set down. Beyond this word, nothing hath ever flowed or shall ever flow from the Most Exalted Pen, nor is it permissible that it should, for many are the thieves lying in wait, and many are the ravens who claim to be doves. The example of this Revelation is like unto that of the son of Zachariah and Jesus, son of Mary. Reflect, that thou mayest know, then turn unto God, thy Lord, with a pure heart and radiant countenance.

Say: O my God and my Master! Base desire hath kept me from Thy mention, O my Lord the Most Glorious, and the world hath withheld me from turning unto Thee, O Thou Lord of all names. I beseech Thee by Thy Name through which the Cry was raised between the heavens and the earth, through which the Hour was bewildered within itself, and through which earthquakes seized all the tribes, that Thou deprive me not from the ocean of Thy Most Great Name, of which every drop crieth out with the loudest voice between earth and heaven that verily He is the Quickener of the worlds, the Beloved of the worlds, and the God of all who are in the heavens and all who are on earth. O Lord! Strengthen me through Thy power and might, that I may shatter with the arm of certitude the idols of idle fancies of the ungodly. Verily Thou art the Omnipotent, the Strong, the Mighty, the Great.

The ode of Khajeh was presented in detail at the Most Holy Court. This word shone forth from the dawning-place of the All-Merciful mouth: The ocean of nearness and reunion is surging and its fish are in the utmost hopes. The curse of God be upon those who have come between him and them. That which is beloved today is that your honor and his honor your brother—upon you both be the Glory of God—should be engaged in your trade with the utmost effort and striving, for the earning of livelihood in this Revelation is accounted as among the good deeds. And in the teaching of the Cause likewise be engaged with perfect wisdom. If it be deemed advisable and Jinab-i-Aqa Muhammad-ʿAli should move purposely toward the Desired One, there is no objection.

However, if Jinab-i-Amin should turn toward the direction of the Desired One, it would be more fitting for them to set out together. Although outwardly the door of attainment to the presence is closed, for the satans have prevented it from every direction, yet should a soul become successful in inhaling the diffused fragrances in this city and its surroundings, which is the seat of the Most Great Throne, he will attain unto all good and the decree of attainment to the presence will be true regarding him. Therefore, at the time of setting out, one must be content with whatever may befall him. In truth, contentment hath ever been and will continue to be beloved before God.

In any case, I convey wondrous greetings to his honor your brother, and I observe many expressions of bounty and favor in relation to him from the direction of the Desired One. We beseech God to assist him under all conditions. Verily, He is powerful over all things.

And the supplication that was submitted was presented before His countenance. From the Dawning-Place of favor the answer hath been revealed and will be sent. Upon you both be all-glorious Glory and all-resplendent Light.

And regarding that sum which was mentioned, it was presented before His countenance and this blessed verse was revealed:

> "We have accepted it from thee and apportioned it amongst the servants and preferred those who circle round the Throne, for they are poor. Verily thy Lord is the All-Possessing, the Most High."

For there are many souls, both those who are associated with the loved ones of God and are now imprisoned in this Most Great Prison, and both young and old who remain from the martyrs of the past—all are observed to be in utmost difficulty. Although there is not yet anything substantial available to relieve even the outward needs of some of the loved ones, and they are present in every land, both in Iraq and in Mosul and other regions, therefore that sum should be distributed according to the command as follows:

Fifty tumans to Jinab-i-Dhabih of the people of K, which was previously assigned; ten tumans to the family of Ustad Ahmad who entered the prison with God, which should reach the land of K, and a letter which that same honored one wrote to his home—its reply and receipt of delivery should be sent to the Most Holy Court; twenty tumans to the family of Jinab-i-Hajji Ja'far who entered the prison with God in Tabriz, and receipt of delivery should be sent; fifteen tumans to the family of his brother, the aforementioned Karbila'i Taqi, receipt of delivery to be obtained and sent; the remainder should reach Jinab-i-Aqa'i Aqa Siyyid Mihdi, upon him be the Most Glorious Glory of God. It has been mentioned to him what should be done, but the more quickly they can deliver it, the more beloved it is and will be in the sight of God. And if it reaches Jinab-i-Zaynu'l-Muqarrabin in Mosul, upon him be the Most Glorious Glory of God, that is also good—he will deliver it.

Thirty tumans in the land of T to Jinab-i-Mirza Husayn from TF should be given to a trustworthy person to deliver quickly and send receipt to the Court of the Throne. And further, they should not be confident in any person at all times, but should be mindful of this blessed word which has risen from the Dayspring of the mouth of the All-Merciful, His word, exalted be His majesty:

> "Be not confident in anyone's words, be observant of their deeds. Many a man claims the highest station, yet when he sees that which he desires not, he objects to God, the Lord of Names."

The total of several items [145 tumans]—whatever remains should reach His Holiness Zayn in Mosul, upon him be the Glory of God the Most Glorious, and he will carry out what he is commanded to do.

Two turquoise or black bordered headscarves, ten to twelve tumans if found, should be sent—here a Christian physician has requested them; previously in Tehran they were given at these prices, now consider. And further, one mann of sewing silk, one-third colored and two-thirds white. Hasten in sending the headscarves as they have been promised for some time. Again it is submitted that twenty tumans should also be sent in the land of T to Jinab-i-Mulla ʿAli-Akbar SM for him to deliver to the children of Jinab-i-Aqa'i Ismu'llah al-Munir, upon him be the Glory of God the Most Glorious.

This servant's special request: if a trustworthy person is departing, send some of the blessed writings of His Holiness the Exalted One, may the spirit of all else be sacrificed for Him—it would be a great cause of joy and gladness to this transient one's heart. Verily the spirit and glory and radiance be upon your honor and those with you among the people of Baha, upon them be the Glory of God and His mercy.

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BH00244: Exalted, exalted is Thy patience, O my God! Exalted…

Section 1: "Exalted, exalted is Thy patience, O my God!…"

In the Name of the Single, the Unique, the Stranger, the Wronged, the Imprisoned

Exalted, exalted is Thy patience, O my God! Exalted, exalted is the manifestation of Thy forbearance, O my Beloved! To such extent that, despite Thy power which hath encompassed all created things and Thy might which hath subdued all existence, Thou hast borne with Thy most exalted Self that which the Supreme Pen is powerless to recount, and which the tablets of creation and the pages of invention can never bear to record. By Thy glory, O my God! Were the veil to be lifted from what hath befallen and continueth to befall Thee, both secretly and openly, the heavens of power would be cleft asunder, the thrones of grandeur would crumble, all realities would be scattered, and all essences would cease to exist. Nothing would remain in the kingdom of the beginningless or the endless—all would return to that non-existence which hath no mention.

Yet Thou, through the sovereignty of Thy forbearance and the dominion of Thy patience, hast borne all this within Thy most tender, most subtle and luminous heart, and hast concealed it in the innermost sanctuary of Thy most mighty, most holy and impenetrable mystery. Thou hast accepted all tribulations for the deliverance of all who dwell in the realm of creation, for their gathering unto the Law of eternity, and their attainment unto those most inaccessible, exalted and impregnable stations which cannot be mentioned by any name, nor described by any attribute, nor indicated by any sign, nor comprehended by any evidence.

Praise be unto Thee, O my God, for having manifested from behind the veil of power such servants by whom the human realm boasteth over the divine realm, and the kingdom of earth over the kingdom of heaven. For they have attained unto Thy days, for the loss of which the realities of the holy ones and the near ones have perished in their yearning, and which the Prophets and Messengers have longed to witness. Some of them, O my God, have attained unto what Thou didst ordain for them in the Book from

the effulgences of the Sun of Thy Most Bountiful Name. Some have tasted the choice wine from the mention of Thy Most Great, Most Mighty Name.

Some have drawn near the shore of the Most Great Sea which surgeth by Thy Name, the Dominant over the world. And some have embarked upon the Crimson Ark by Thy Most Glorious Name and have sailed upon the ocean of grandeur, yet they reached not the axis of that Sea of Seas, by whose agitation the mighty deep was troubled, and from which the Sea of Seas surged forth—that Sea a single drop of which gave rise to the seas of names and attributes in the highest realms. Thou hast ordained, O my God, for each one of these a portion from the ocean of Thy bounty and a share from the vastness of Thy generosity and grace.

I testify, O my God, that this Name who was named Ali in the Kingdom of Names and was adorned with the crown of lights—the sun of the Most Great Name—hath attained unto all good from Thy presence, hath ascended unto a station wherein he became detached from all else but Thee, hath turned with his whole being to the countenance of Thy singleness, hath arisen with all his strength to serve Thee and to aid Thy Cause, and hath migrated to various lands time and again to manifest Thy Cause, to convey Thy decree, to spread Thy verses, to exalt Thy remembrance and to uplift Thy Word with the wisdom which Thou hast commanded all to observe in Thy perspicuous verses and clear evidences.

He hath stood firm as a mountain in servitude and obedience unto Thee. Nay, I have found him, O my God, even greater than this, for while earthly vapors may cause the mountain to crumble and parts of it to fall away, this one whom Thou hast created from the letters of Thy power and the Word of Thy command—even if the vapors of all contingent beings should arise and the tempestuous winds should blow from the north of vain desires throughout creation—would, through Thy might and power, remain steadfast in Thy Cause. Upon him be all the splendor of Thy splendors, all the light of Thy lights, and all the beauty of Thy beauty.

Therefore, O my God, Thou hast mentioned him in the tablets of Thy glory and hast caused his remembrance to flow from the Pen of Thy command and his praise to proceed from the throne of Thy mercy, and Thou hast ordained for him a station at the throne of Thy grandeur and a distinction among the distinctions of Thy glory. How can this non-existent one, who is unworthy to be mentioned by the name of nothingness in Thy kingdom or by the name of evanescence among Thy creation, praise Thee? I have no way, O my God, except utter powerlessness to mention Thee and mention Thy loved ones. Glory be unto Thee, glory be unto Thee, that I should be among those who remember. And I say that all praise be unto Thee, for verily Thou art God, the Rememberer, the Praiser, the Describer, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. There is no God but Thee, the Sanctified, the Inaccessible, the Mighty, the Exalted.

The blessed letter of your honor, which dawned and shone forth from the horizon of that Sun of the Most Great Name, and which was adorned with the ornament of brilliant words, resplendent letters, wondrous utterances and sublime meanings—this evanescent servant attained the honor of perusing that spiritual book and inhaling its sweet fragrances. O what breezes these are that no hostile circumstances can affect! It is as though they wafted from the paradise of detachment and reached the summit of inaccessibility before my Lord, the Mighty, the Withholding. At a special time I presented it before the Throne. The oceans of the favors of my Lord, the Most Glorious, have surged for you in such wise that the

Pen of Composition is powerless to describe. Thus did the tongue of the All-Merciful speak, addressing thee:

O Ali! Give thanks unto God for having adorned thy head with the crown of praise in the days of thy Lord, the King of Names, and thy temple with the ornament of His service in the contingent world. We have recognized thy turning to certain regions and thy migration in the path of God, the Revealer of verses. This beseemeth thee and every devoted one who hath detached himself in His love from all else.

O Ali! At all times exert mighty efforts to unite hearts and gather them together upon the divine holy law. Although thou art, by God's grace, adorned with goodly character, yet the more thou addest thereto the more beloved will it be in the sight of God, that all may turn to the Bestower through thine excellent character. Watch over the Cause at all times, as hath been revealed from the Pen of Command in previous Tablets.

Observe the grace, favor and bounties of God. For years one of the servants, whom thou knowest, and his followers have been secretly engaged in unworthy words, offensive odors and selfish conditions—and God was aware and encompassing all—yet We concealed it, and since outwardly they spoke in the name of God and mentioned Him, We did not interfere. In certain years, from the Dawning-Place of verses, sublime Tablets were specifically revealed and sent to him. In all those Tablets We called him, explicitly and implicitly, to the pure station that is sanctified from the taint of self and existence, that perchance he might attain unto transcendent and inaccessible stations. All this was from the grace of thy Lord, His mercy and His favor, for We have not wished, nor do We wish, that any soul should be deprived of that for which it was created or be bereft of that which was ordained for it. Despite these successive favors and continuous bounties, it is as though he considered God heedless, and that God's concealment was due to this. Say: My spirit and my being be a sacrifice for Thee, O Concealer of the worlds!

O Ali! Observe in the Cause of the Apostle of God how at first it advanced and ascended to great heights, but later became stationary. One of the causes that hindered it was that certain souls arose who, claiming to possess inner knowledge, debarred the helpless people from the Divine Law and the sacred strongholds of the Lord's glory. Say: By God! All that is outward is superior to your inner knowledge, and every shell is more luminous than your kernel. The sincere ones have cast aside your inner meanings as bones are cast to dogs.

In these days the Divine Laws are dawning from the Dayspring of the Lord's utterance, and God willing, they shall be sent forth hereafter. These two blessed verses were revealed in that most holy, most exalted Tablet: "Among the people is he who seateth himself amid the sandals by the door whilst coveting in his heart the seat of honor. Say: What manner of man art thou, O vain and heedless one!" "And among them is he who layeth claim to inner knowledge, and still deeper inner knowledge. Say: Thou falsifier! By God! What thou dost possess is naught but husks which We have left to thee as bones are left to dogs."

Consider how every deluded soul who appeared drew forth a stream from the Most Great Ocean and, armed with utter deceit and guile, arose with his vain imaginings and selfish desires, and rent asunder the Islamic peoples. Say: O thou deluded one! Verily the inner meaning, and the inner meaning of the inner

meaning, and that inner meaning which God hath sanctified beyond all inner and outer meanings unto infinity, circle around this outward meaning that speaketh with truth at the midmost heart of the world. The Most Great Name hath appeared, and the Lord of all nations, and the Ancient King. None shall find place or habitation save he who hath clung to this luminous Handle whereby earth and heaven were illumined, throne and dust made manifest, the Kingdom of Names lit up, and the Supreme Horizon made to shine.

Fear ye God, O people, and follow not the desires of such as follow their lusts, nor the vain imaginings of such as have arisen to practice deception in the kingdom of creation. Turn with shining faces and radiant brows unto the Dawning-Place of the verses of your Lord, the Possessor of the Beginning and the End. Thus hath the matter been decreed in the Tablet which God hath made the Mother of Tablets and the Lamp of Success between the heavens and the earth.

Section 2: "O Ali! The division of the community has…"

O Ali! The division of the community has become the cause and reason for the weakness of all, yet most people do not understand. Would that some of those who have made and continue to make claims of longing, attraction, ardor, and rapture, had gone to the Abode of Peace and observed the Qadiriyyih lodge and become awakened. O Ali! A group was present and gathered in that place and, by the One True God, it was witnessed that one of those souls repeatedly struck himself against stone, clod, and wall for more than four hours until there was fear of his demise, and afterward fell unconscious upon the ground and for about two hours had absolutely no awareness. And they count such actions among the miracles. God is quit of them and we are quit of them. Verily thy Lord is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. He knoweth the treachery of eyes and what is hidden in the breasts of all beings.

Likewise, there is a group known as the Rifa'i, and these souls, by their own account, walk through fire and in moments of ecstasy strike one another with swords in such manner that the observer would think they had severed their own limbs. All of this is but tricks, deceit, and deception from their own selves. Behold, they are among the most lost. All these things have been witnessed with our own eyes and many people have seen them. How beloved it would be if one of those deluded souls would turn towards that land and witness the aforementioned lodges and what transpires therein, that perchance they might not be debarred by personal fancies and the delusions of deceitful souls from the direction of Divine Unity and the Lord of creation.

O Ali! There have been and are people in certain climes who have denied themselves food and drink, have become familiar with wild beasts, and spend their nights and days in severe ascetic practices and in uttering invocations. Nevertheless, not one of these souls is mentioned in the presence of God, even though they count themselves among the poles, the pillars, and the unique ones of the earth. Today the robe of deeds and the crown of actions is the mention of the Most Great Name, both outwardly and inwardly. Verily it is the Word whereby every party hath been separated, every mountain laid low, every star made to fall, every sun eclipsed, every moon darkened, every heaven cleft asunder, every earth split open, every sea made to sink away, every peak made to tremble, every trunk uprooted, every hill shaken, and every plain made to quake, save whom thy Lord, the Mighty, the Powerful, hath willed. Whoso acknowledgeth what God hath acknowledged and confesseth what God hath confessed, he is of the

people of Baha in the kingdom of creation. Thus hath the command of thy Lord, the Decisive, the Mighty, the Wise, been sent down from the horizon of revelation.

Although it is not befitting that the Most Exalted Pen should be occupied with such utterances, yet in view of grace and the precedence of mercy, the Pen of the All-Merciful speaketh with such words. Where are the mighty ones? And where are the manifestations of steadfastness in the kingdom of creation? And where are the dawning-places of power in the heaven of detachment?

O Ali! Until now the Finger of Power hath not rent asunder the veils. Verily thy Lord is the Concealer. Implore God that He may cause those souls, with complete steadfastness and detachment from all else save Him, to remain firm and steadfast in the Cause of the Lord of all beings and the Sovereign of all days. By My life! Through this their remembrance shall be exalted, their names established, their stations realized, and the doors of My knowledge—which is the foundation of the Cause and its beginning, the essence of all stations and their sovereign—shall be opened before their faces. Blessed is he who hath cast away the world and whatsoever is mentioned therein, and hath turned with an illumined heart toward the sanctuary of his Lord, the Most High, the Almighty, the Exalted, the Great.

Your burden is great. Bear it as this most tender, most delicate, most compassionate, gracious, wondrous and luminous Heart hath borne above it. For you must, with wisdom, as hath been enjoined in all the Tablets, purify the people from their personal imaginings and their unseemly behavior through penetrating counsels and divine wisdom, and draw them to the most holy court. The first and most mighty requirement hath ever been steadfastness in the Cause. God willing, you must be occupied with service at all times, as indeed you are. Verily, the glory be upon you and upon those who love you purely for the sake of God, your Lord and the Lord of the worlds. End.

Praise be to God that His favors toward you have been beyond count. We hope that manifest fruits in the Divine Cause will appear from you. You must strive greatly to unite hearts. Should some act contrary to your good-pleasure, you must calm those souls through spiritual qualities, for whatsoever occurs in the path of God is beloved. And those souls who have been forbidden and who through the whisperings of the followers of Satan have remained deprived of the All-Merciful—counsel those souls with wisdom and utterance, that perchance they may awaken from the sleep of heedlessness and not be deprived of the supreme bounty.

The matters you had mentioned were presented before His presence. Regarding what was asked about the House of Justice, He said:

> “The intention of Aqa Jamal, upon him be the Glory of God, was to assist the Cause, but these days do not warrant it, for in every city, if specific individuals were to be appointed, the enemies would surely arise to eliminate those souls. Its time hath not yet come.”

Most of the divine ordinances We have not implemented due to wisdom and the protection of the friends and the weakness of the people, and the sending of these ordinances is so that the form of the law may be present in all regions. Many of the divine verses in this Revelation were lost during the days of trials and tests, such that neither the original nor any copy thereof remains.

And further regarding two of the beloved ones of the Land of Gold, two Most Holy and Most Exalted Tablets were specifically revealed and sent for them—deliver these. And concerning what was written about some of the friends requesting that your honor add diacritical marks to the verses and divine prayers, explicit permission has been granted for this. As for the books, this servant will send whatever possible, God willing. And regarding what you wrote about the hardship and famine in Iran, this was from God's promise in the Tablets, for in that same year when the glorious Tablet was sent by the hand of Badi', explicit mention was made in the Tablets of the hardships, tribulations and famine of that land, and God's warning encompassed all, such that a verse was revealed whose purport is this: "Were it not for consideration of the friends, all would have perished."

However, after receiving your letter, I attained the presence before the Throne and presented your petition. He said: "Their intercession has been accepted. Soon shall they find themselves in manifest prosperity." And then He said: "O ʿAli! The traces of Badi's blood have not yet been effaced from the earth, and thou knowest that the Wronged One sent forth a Book wherein no excuse whatsoever remained for anyone, and the essence of the Cause was declared with utmost explicitness. Yet there befell Him what befell Him."

O My beloved! Call the people to steadfastness, that they may stand so firm as to regard all else save God as non-existent, lest perchance through momentary heedlessness they be deprived and kept back from the Truth, even as what transpired in Gilan. Although they later became aware, such matters will not endure. However, the friends of the Truth must be so firm that none can cause them to deviate from the straight path. They must continually read what hath been revealed by the Most Exalted, Most Holy Pen concerning these matters, that they may remain preserved and attain unto what God hath willed. Convey to all the loved ones of God, one and all, greetings from this evanescent servant, and especially endless greetings to his honor Dhabih, upon him be the Most Glorious Glory of God.

God willing, I hope they will at all times be occupied with the remembrance of the All-Merciful. Praise be to God, they are mentioned in His presence and honored by His favors. As for the Tablets that were previously revealed from the heaven of His Will specifically for them, the command is that they should read these Tablets that what was revealed therein may remain before their eyes. God willing, an august Tablet specifically for them shall be sent hereafter, as this time what was revealed was in response to the petitions of the people. In any case, convey boundless expressions of devotion on behalf of this servant.

At this hour, the members of the household, after offering greetings and salutations, make mention of the daughter of the late Ismu'llah Al-Munir, upon him be the most glorious of all glory, whose holy being had willed that she should return to the Most Holy Place, and each one hath sent messages with utmost insistence and made this request. According to what hath been heard, she hath obtained a divorce from that person. If it be possible for her to reside somewhere in comfort until word arrives, it would be most appreciated, that perchance arrangements may be made to fulfill the will of that pure soul. Furthermore, it is mentioned that there was a piece of the Most Exalted, Most Holy handwriting, calligraphed in the Jali style and illuminated, which was in the possession of Ismu'llah Al-Munir, and now according to what hath been reported, it is with his mother. By whatever means possible, your honor should obtain it and send it

with a trusted one. You must certainly exert mighty efforts in this regard. May glory and holiness and splendor be upon you.

Moreover, whatever hath been recorded in this letter should be shown to his honor Aqay-i-Ismu'llah M.H., upon him be the Most Glorious Glory of God, and if he is not present in that land, a copy of these divine utterances should be sent to him.

All the Branches and Twigs of the Divine Lote-Tree, may our souls be sacrificed for them, remember your honor with wondrous divine praise and exalted greetings.

BH00257: Thy letter hath reached Our presence, which thou didst…

Section 1: "Thy letter hath reached Our presence, which thou…"

He is the Most Holy, the Most Impregnable, the Most Great

Thy letter hath reached Our presence, which thou didst send to Him Who calleth upon His Lord in the hunchbacked one, and toward him hath turned the gaze of Him Who is imprisoned in the path of God, the Lord of all names. Blessed art thou for the sweet savors of thy Master's love that pass from thee and the fragrance of the garment of His Name, the Mighty, the Wise, that is diffused. Blessed are ye and blessed is your land which hath become the seat of the Most Great Throne, whereon sat the Ancient Beauty for numbered years, and blessed is its horizon wherefrom shone forth the Sun of His Name, the Self-Subsisting, with lights that illumined the heavens and the earth.

Know thou that I am in the two prisons through what the hands of the two parties have wrought, and there befalleth Me at every moment that which none can reckon save God, thy Lord and the Lord of all worlds. Yet in this most grievous tribulation, We summon the peoples unto God, the Mighty, the All-Knowing. The veils of all creation cannot hinder Us; We speak forth the truth with most high proclamation between earth and heaven. Blessed are they that hear!

Remember on My behalf Ahmad who hath believed in God, the Lord of the Day of Mutual Calling. Blessed is he in that he hath fulfilled God's Covenant and Testament and was of them that attained the lights of the Countenance when he appeared before the Throne in Iraq. We beseech God to strengthen him in all conditions and inspire him with that which will establish His Cause among His servants. O thou Name! Hold fast unto the Most Great Name, then speak with wisdom and utterance amongst the concourse of creation, that perchance they may recognize Him Who calleth them unto God, the Mighty, the All-Bountiful. Say: From the horizon of tribulation He calleth you unto God—take ye heed, O people of vision! It behooveth every ignorant one to become aware and every person of understanding to take lesson from what hath come to pass in bygone ages, and to turn with illumined heart unto the Most Sublime Vision and say:

> "I have heard Thy call, O Thou the Wronged One, and have turned unto Thee, O Lord of all beings!"

Blessed art thou for having arisen to serve the Cause of God and His love, and for having attained the presence of thy Lord, the Mighty, the All-Forgiving.

Make mention of him in such wise as to attract the hearts of the righteous. He will verily aid thee with the truth and assist thee with the hosts of the unseen. There is none other God but He, the Mighty, the Self-Subsisting. Let not the words of the deniers sadden thee, nor the oppression of the oppressors. God shall soon efface their traces and shall adorn the tablet of creation with your remembrance. Illumine the horizons with the light of thy Lord, then relate unto them the news of the Wronged One when He was afflicted among the wicked ones. The Glory be upon thee and upon those who have turned unto the Countenance with humility and contrition.

Then make mention of him who was named after him who spoke the truth: “Are diverse lords better, or God, the One, the All-Compelling?” Blessed is he who today calleth out among the nations through the Most Great Name and summoneth the concourse of creation unto God, the Creator of earth and heaven. He is indeed of them that have attained the lights of the Countenance and believed in God, the Peerless, the All-Informed. We make mention of him in the prison even as he remembereth Me, though My remembrance hath preceded all who remember. Blessed is he in that the Supreme Pen maketh mention of him and the gaze of his Lord, the Lord of Names, is directed towards him from this manifest horizon. Arise to serve the Cause through God’s might and power, with wisdom and utterance. Thus have We commanded thee before and in this wondrous Tablet. Rejoice in the verses that have been sent down unto thee while the Dayspring of clear proofs was imprisoned in the hands of the oppressors.

Then did He adorn him who was named ʿAbd qabl-i-Ra with the ornament of the remembrance of thy Lord, the Almighty, the All-Powerful. Verily We have sent unto him the fragrances of verses from this luminous quarter, that joy might seize him in such wise that sorrows shall not overtake him in the days of his Lord, the All-Merciful, and that he might be among those who are firmly established. O servant! Remember the favor of God unto thee, how He caused thee to know His Self and made thee among the successful ones. His tongue moveth now in thy remembrance, and from His Pen floweth that which consoleth the eyes of the mystics. Glorify thy Lord with praise and say: “Praise be unto Thee, O Thou Who hast remembered me and made me among those who have turned unto Thee.”

Arise to remember thy Lord with such fire that when the waters of hatred from the malevolent ones are cast upon it, its flames grow fiercer and its roaring increaseth. Verily thy Lord changeth water into oil. He is indeed the Ruler over whatsoever He willeth. We beseech God to assist thee in His Cause and ordain for thee what He hath ordained for His sincere servants. Seize thou the worth of these days. By God! The eye of creation hath not seen their like. Say: “Praise be unto Thee, O my God, for having caused me to know the Dawning-Place of Thy verses and the Dayspring of Thy lights, and for having made me among those who hold fast to Thy strong and mighty cord and Thy manifest and straight path.”

Then did He perfume him who was named Muhammad with the fragrance that wafteth from the Pen of Revelation from one mighty and generous. His name hath been inscribed in the Tablets, and his mention hath been revealed from the mouth of the Will of his Lord, the Most Merciful, the Compassionate. O thou who gazest upon the Countenance! Thy name hath been presented in the Prison, and this wise remembrance hath been revealed for thee. Turn not unto those who object today—they are a people

who understand not. They have cast aside their God and taken their vain desires. They are indeed a people drowned. Arise amongst them with utmost steadfastness such that the idolaters might witness in thee the grandeur of God and His sovereignty. This beseemeth one who hath quaffed the wine of life from this cup that hath been unsealed by the finger of thy Lord's will, the Almighty, the Supreme, the Self-Subsisting. Beware lest thou transgress the bounds of wisdom among creatures. Thus have We commanded Our servants in various tablets. Verily thy Lord doeth what He willeth through His word "Be" and it is.

Then remember Rajab from thy Lord and give him glad tidings of that which his Lord, the All-Merciful, hath revealed unto him through these verses that have shone forth from the horizon of the mouth of his Lord, the Mighty, the Chosen. We make mention of him who hath turned unto God after every idolatrous infidel turned away from Him. Blessed is he who entereth the sea and immerseth himself therein through this Name whereby God hath subdued the earth and the heavens. Say: O people! The Self-Subsisting hath come, bearing in His hand a cup of the living waters of Kawthar. Draw near, then drink in His Name, the Mighty, the Bountiful. Beware lest ye follow in the footsteps of those who have wronged, and follow every sinful deceiver.

This is the path of God that hath appeared in truth, and this is His straight way that hath been established in justice, and this is His balance whereby what ye claim shall be weighed. He is indeed the All-Knowing, the Reckoner. Arise in unity to the Cause of your Lord, the Possessor of all creation. By My life! Through it shall the standards of victory be raised and the back of the wicked be broken. God shall soon seize those who have wronged, even as He seized those before them. Verily thy Lord is severe in punishment.

Then We make mention of another servant: O Muhammad! Hearken unto the Call from the Most Exalted Pen. Verily, there is none other God but Him, the Forgiving, the Merciful. I created mankind for My knowledge and gave them glad tidings of My days, but when the veil was rent asunder and the Lord of creation appeared, they denied God, the Most High, the Most Great. Say: Verily the eye was created for this Greatest Vision and sight for this Most Luminous Horizon, yet the people are in evident blindness. Those who turn away this Day are among the most abject. Blessed is he who hath arisen and remained steadfast in service to his Lord in these days wherein earthquakes have seized the tribes of the earth and the hearts of the deluded ones are perturbed. They say "We have believed in God" but when the proof came and the realm of possibility was illumined, they denied the All-Merciful. Verily they are among the refuted ones. Give thanks to thy Lord and say: "O my God! All praise be unto Thee for having directed toward me the glances of Thy grace and for having mentioned me when I was among the hands of the idolaters."

Then mention from Our presence him who is named Daniel. Say: Be steadfast in the Cause and address the concourse of the Jews, saying: "By God! The Promised One hath come and now judgeth from the throne of David. Cast away what ye possess and take what hath been given you from God, the Mighty, the Loving." This is the Day wherein the Sadratu'l-Muntaha proclaimeth: "The Kingdom belongeth unto God, the Omnipotent, the Mighty, the Forgiving." Wert thou to turn toward the Mount, thou wouldst hear from it: "The Dawning-Place of Revelation hath come. He is in prison through what the hands of the unbelievers have wrought, they who denied God, the Mighty, the Praised." By My life! Every rock and

every stone thereof singeth in such melodies that were thou to hear them, thou wouldst soar with longing toward God, the Lord of the invisible and the visible. Arise to serve thy Lord and be steadfast in what He hath taught thee. Then remind those on whose faces thou beholdest the radiance of acceptance. Thus doth this Pen command thee, which speaketh the truth. Verily, He is the Mighty, the Beloved.

The heavens have been adorned with the ornament of verses and the earth hath been illumined by the lights of His Face that was and that shall be. Then make mention of him who entered the Most Great Prison and attained the presence of God, the Mighty, the Wise. Say: Remember when thou didst set out toward the Dawning-Place of thy Lord's verses and didst travel from thy homeland, directing thyself toward the court of God, the Omnipotent, the Almighty. Then remember when thou didst enter the prison and wert blessed with the lights of His countenance and didst visit the Desired One and didst hear the call of thy Lord from the station wherein the Ancient Beauty was established upon the throne of His Most Great Name. Blessed art thou, O Muhammad, for having attained the presence of the Beloved and for being mentioned by the Praised One in this exalted station. We perceive the fragrance of thy love and make mention of thee in truth. Verily thy Lord is the All-Bountiful, the Ancient of Days.

Turn not toward that which thou desirest. Be content with what thy Lord hath ordained, for He ordaineth for His loved ones that which is best for them. Verily, He is the Protector of the sincere ones. We have forbidden the people from turning toward this direction. Whosoever moveth without My leave shall find himself in that which he loveth not. Verily thy Lord is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. Drink the wine of the mention of thy Lord's name and be of the thankful ones. We make mention of the Trustworthy One, upon him be the glory of God, the Lord of the worlds. He is among those who fulfilled the Covenant of God and His testament, and who spoke the truth while in the hands of the oppressors. Blessed is he whom My mention reacheth and who prayeth for this lonely Wronged One. We have mentioned him before in an exalted Tablet. We beseech God to strengthen him in all conditions and to manifest through him that which shall spread abroad the mention of his Lord. This shall endure while all else shall perish, by My shining and luminous Beauty.

Section 2: "Then send My greetings to the loved ones…"

Then send My greetings to the loved ones of thy Lord who are in the land of Dal and give them the glad tidings of this exalted Remembrance. O loved ones of God in that place! Be not grieved at anything, for verily He is with you and maketh mention of you even when the hosts of the oppressors surrounded His dwelling place. Rejoice in the remembrance of God and be steadfast in His love in such wise that neither the words of those who have turned away nor the intimations of the deceived may cause you to waver. Gather ye together in the love of God and drink the choice wine of utterance in His Name, the One Who ruleth over all the worlds. Thus have We counselled you aforetime and in this Tablet. He, verily, is the Mighty, the All-Praised.

Make thou mention of him who dwelleth in the land of Taff that perchance there may appear therefrom one who will remember his Lord, the Mighty, the Bountiful. Although We behold it in great turmoil and confusion, make mention therein of Qanbar who hath turned towards the Most Great Scene—verily, he is of them that remember. Say: Blessed art thou for having attained unto the covenant of God and for having been remembered before His Presence. This, verily, is a manifest favor. We have not forgotten

thee. He remembereth those who have turned unto Him. He, verily, is the Forgiving, the Merciful. Should thou find anyone there who standeth firm in the love of thy Lord, make mention of him on My behalf and convey unto him greetings from God, the Mighty, the All-Knowing.

We have turned towards two souls from among the concourse of the Son and make mention of them on this night wherein the Tongue of Grandeur proclaimeth: The Kingdom belongeth unto God, the Mighty, the Beautiful. Convey My greetings unto them and give them the glad tidings of God's bounty, thy Lord and the Lord of all worlds. Blessed are they for having accepted and hearkened and responded to Him Who calleth the servants unto God, the Master of the Day of Judgment.

O Muhammad-Qabl-Mim! Deliver unto those whose names thou hast mentioned in the Tablet of thy Lord, and after them convey My greetings unto My loved ones. Then recite unto them that which hath been sent down from the heaven of the mercy of their Lord, the Mighty, the Powerful. Say: O My loved ones! It behooveth you in this day to manifest the most great steadfastness in such wise that neither the turning away of those who have disbelieved nor the grunting of swine may cause you to stumble. Cast behind your backs what the people possess, turning unto the Lord of all mankind. Thus doth your Lord command you, the Ruler, the One Who willeth. Ye were created for this, did ye but know, and through this shall your glory be made manifest, were ye to understand.

Then make mention of him who hath turned towards the Countenance of thy Lord, the Most High, the Most Glorious, who was named Taha in the kingdom of names, that the breezes of revelation may attract him and draw him nigh unto God, the Mighty, the Wise. Blessed is he who hath turned to the Countenance. Woe unto those who have followed idols after the Days have come wherein the All-Merciful hath revealed Himself unto all who are in the heavens and on earth. Be thou steadfast in the Cause in such wise that every one who turneth unto thee may inhale from thee the sweet fragrances of thy Lord, the Mighty, the All-Praised. O concourse of ardent lovers! This is a Day wherein the Beloved calleth from the horizon of the Prison and summoneth you unto God, the Lord of all worlds.

Then make mention of Abdullah who attained Our presence. Say: Blessed art thou for having attained unto this Day wherein the atoms cry out "The Dayspring of verses hath come!", yet the people remain in strange heedlessness. That which every people was promised in their Books hath appeared, and the Spirit proclaimeth in the vast wilderness: "The Beauty of Divine Unity hath established Himself in Akka. Hasten unto Him, O ye that await Him!" Say: This is not the day to tarry when ye hear the call of the All-Loving One. Turn with your hearts toward His sacred and mighty habitation. Say: Do ye not hear the cry of the Rock? It proclaimeth with loudest voice: "The Kingdom belongeth to God, the Almighty, the Powerful, the Mighty!"

All things have been attracted by the fragrances of the All-Merciful. Beware lest anything in creation prevent you from this bounty that hath encompassed the worlds. Say: O concourse of the Son! I have never sworn before, but today I swear by His glorious and exalted Name and by the Beauty of the Beloved Who hath adorned the Kingdom on high with the ornament of His Most Great Name, and the Kingdom of heaven with His transcendent and peerless remembrance. Come forth from your temples out of love for God, your Creator, then make mention of Him amongst the servants through this Name by which the

heaven was cleft asunder and the All-Bestowing came riding upon the clouds. This is better for you, did ye but know.

Beware lest anything prevent you from Him Who hath come with the truth. Leave behind what ye possess and take what hath been sent down unto you from One All-Knowing, All-Informed. Beware lest ye be like those who make mention of God with their tongues, yet when the appointed time was fulfilled and the Dayspring of divine attributes appeared, they disbelieved in God, the Lord of this mighty Day. Rejoice in that thou hast been mentioned before the Throne, as the Ancient Beauty walketh and speaketh the verses of God, the Mighty, the Wise.

Then make mention of Sayfullah who turned toward the Countenance when it appeared from the exalted and luminous Dayspring of His Cause. Blessed is he for having attained the lights of revelation and turned toward the Dawning-Place of his Lord's mercy, the Mighty, the Generous. Say: Be thou so steadfast that the hearts of the transgressors may quake because of thee—they who, when the veils were rent asunder, turned away, and when the verses were sent down, said: "These are but tales of the ancients." Be thou as one rising from the horizon of thy Lord's steadfastness and as a helper of His Cause, which hath made the skin of the corrupt to shiver. Rejoice in God's remembrance of thee, and when thou attainest that which hath been sent down, turn with thy heart to the Qiblih of existence.

Say: Praise be unto Thee, O Thou in Whose grasp is the kingdom of the heavens and earth. Thy other letter hath come before the Countenance wherein thou didst mention that thou hast left "M" and held fast to teaching thy Lord's Cause, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. By My life! This is the essence of all matters and the best thereof, and it is indeed the most excellent of all deeds if thou restrict thy affairs to it, albeit with wisdom. Thus doth thy Lord, the All-Wise, ordain.

We glorify the loved ones of God who remember their Lord in Bushruyih and Isfahan, that they may rejoice in the glorification of God, the Mighty, the Invincible. Convey My glorification to them and to those in the villages who have stood firm in the Cause and are among the steadfast. We beseech God to assist all to turn toward His countenance and to ordain for every one who advances the good of this world and the next. Verily, He is the Protector of those who advance.

We counsel them to fear God in sincerity, for it is the ornament of His Cause between the heavens and the earth. Blessed is he who is adorned with this luminous ornament. Through it God's Cause is exalted among His servants, and the detachment of His loved ones becomes manifest throughout the worlds. Through it souls find rest and hearts turn toward the Beloved. Blessed is he who holds fast to it. Woe to him who casts piety aside, turning to his passions—he is truly among the abased.

Counsel the servants with what hath been sent down from the Pen of Revelation, and be among the thankful. Grieve not over those on whose faces thou seest the dust of aversion. Leave them and all on earth to their vain imaginings, and hold fast to the remembrance of God, thy Lord and the Lord of all worlds.

Say: O handmaidens of God in that land! Blessed are ye for having turned unto God and turned away from those who denied the Dawning-Place of Revelation when He came with manifest light. Be steadfast in His love and His Cause. Nothing on earth can equal it. He is the All-Knowing, the All-Encompassing. We

beseech God to assist you in what He loves and is pleased with, and to make you among those women who circle round the Throne throughout the duration of His dominion and kingdom. He is verily the Forgiving, the Generous.

Let not the calamities of the world grieve you. Remember My tribulations and what hath befallen Me in this Cause whereby the faces of the deniers were darkened. Ye are in your homes while the Lord of the House is in a mighty prison.

Convey the greetings of the Wronged One to Jinab-i-Faraj. God willing, may he at all times drink from the life-giving Kawthar of the Most Merciful and manifest such a state that those of insight may behold in his countenance the radiance of paradise. We beseech God to make him a light unto His loved ones and a fire unto His enemies, and We ask Him, exalted be He, to protect him from those who have denied the Faith and from their suggestions and insinuations.

Say: Praise be to the Beloved of the worlds that thou hast associated with this Wronged One for numbered years and hast become aware of His conditions. Follow what thou hast seen and known, and hearken not unto that which is unworthy to be heard. Trust in God in all matters. He will protect thee. He is the best of protectors. And praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

O Faraj! Say: Glory be unto Thee, O my God! I beseech Thee by the Manifestation of Thy Self, the Repository of Thy Cause, and the Dawning-Place of Thy verses, to make me firmly established beneath the shade of the Tree of Thy oneness. Then protect me from the enemies of Thy Self who have transgressed against Thee when Thou didst come to them with authority from Thee and proof from Thy presence. O Lord! Aid me in Thy love and Thy good-pleasure in such wise that I may be content with what Thou hast ordained for me and may follow what Thou hast revealed in Thy Tablets. Then make me among those who have arisen to aid Thy Cause amidst Thy creatures to such a degree that the Concourse on High hath testified to their assistance and the dwellers of the cities of names have been illumined by them. O Lord! Make me wholly detached unto Thee and looking toward the horizon of Thy bounty. Then send down for me that which will profit me in this world and the next. Verily, Thou art the Almighty, the Supreme, the Mighty, the All-Wise.

BH00312: In the Name of Godâ€“the Most Holy, the Most…

Section 1: “In the Name of Godâ€“the Most Holy…”

In the Name of Godâ€“the Most Holy, the Most Great, the Most Mighty, the Most Glorious, the Most Generous; the Peerless, the Single, the Exalted, the Inaccessible, the All-Strong, the Unassailable.

O Nabil, upon thee be My glory, My remembrance and My praise! Blessed art thou in that thou hast attained the presence of the Countenance and hearkened unto the call of thy Lord, the Lord of all worlds, and hast won that which He desired for thee. Verily He is the One Who ruleth as He pleaseth. O Nabil! The Youth hath been imprisoned and the croaking of the raven hath been raised. Soon wilt thou hear it from most lands. When thou hearest it, turn thy face toward God, the Holy, the Mighty, the Beloved. Say:

I have turned my face unto Thee, O Thou unto Whom the hearts of the chosen ones have turned and by Whom the faces of the Messengers have been illumined. I testify that Thou wert seated upon the throne of unity. Thou hast no peer in all creation, nor any likeness in invention. Whoso claimeth a matter after Thee is assuredly among the calumniators.

Say: O people! Hold fast unto this mighty cord. We have forbidden you from following vain imaginings and have bidden you to turn unto the Sovereign of the Unseen and the Seen, Who hath dawned from the horizon of power. Ye have followed your desires and have held fast unto the imaginings of your own selves, supposing your Lord to be heedless of you. Nay, by My Self! With Me is the knowledge of what hath been and what shall be. Of this beareth witness he who hath known My Self and hath read what hath been sent down from One All-Knowing, All-Informed. We have dealt with the servants in such wise that they supposed what they supposed, yet they are among the heedless ones. Say: Beware lest ye associate partners with God. Through My Name have the standards of unity been raised and the signs of detachment been manifested. Verily He is the Single, the One, the All-Powerful, the Almighty.

O Nabil! The forbearance of God has reached such a degree that some of His servants have deemed themselves wise and knowing while considering God to be unaware. This is manifest loss. Nothing moves except by His leave and will, and no thought enters any heart save that He encompasses it, knows it, and is aware of it. Many souls have committed that which was forbidden, and despite their knowledge of this, they have witnessed God's grace and generosity manifestly bestowed upon them, and they have attributed this to a lack of divine omniscience—heedless that My Name the Concealer loves not to rend asunder veils, and My preceding mercy has not torn away the veils of creation. O Ali! By My life, My Name the All-Forgiving has been the cause of the postponement of punishment, and My Name the All-Bestowing has been the reason for the delay of chastisement.

The details of this Most Great Revelation have not been mentioned except according to the known capacity of the people. Were they to ponder deeply that which was revealed in the Bayan, they would be blessed with a drop from this vast ocean. All the emphases that were revealed in the Bayan from the heaven of the will of the Lord of creation regarding the recognition by the servants were because He observed that the Divine Tree, the Sacred Lote-Tree, and the Apple of the Eye of divine manifestations would be present and visible; otherwise, He would not have uttered a single word of what was revealed. At this station, thou hast heard the utterance of the All-Merciful directly.

The deluded ones are many, and each is afflicted with some delusion. We have forbidden the people from clinging to vain imaginings, that they might hold fast unto the Sovereign of reality. Some have clung to their own vain imaginings and held fast to them. They wander in the wilderness of fancy while counting themselves among those endowed with insight, and they walk in the desert of heedlessness while reckoning themselves among the horsemen in the arenas of divine presence. By My life! They are among the deluded ones, they are among the bewildered ones, they are among the heedless ones, they are among the abased ones. They have not yet attained to that which even children have comprehended, for every child knows that if a new Revelation were to appear each day, divine ordinances and heavenly laws would remain without force and ineffective among the people.

Say: O people! If passion has prevented you from the Dayspring of guidance, at least do not transgress the bounds of fairness. If one were to be even slightly fair-minded, he would never utter a word that might cause division among people and discord among the loved ones. Rather, he would expend his utmost effort and power in exalting the Most Great Name. By My life! They are asleep, and were you to see them through My eyes, you would find them among the dead. During Our migration from Iraq, We informed most of the servants about what had appeared and would appear, such that were the revealed Tablets to be read, all would testify to that which has flowed in this Tablet from the pen of the Truthful, the Trustworthy.

Say: O people! If ye desire the water of life, by God it has flowed in His Name, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious. Blessed are they who drink thereof. And if ye desire power, verily it has shone forth from My horizon—exalted be your Lord, the Lord of all worlds. If ye desire signs, they have filled the horizons—fear ye God and be not among the deluded ones. If ye desire clear proofs, they have appeared in their essence and have shone forth each day from this manifest horizon. Say: Be attracted, O servants, by this Name through which the Cry was raised, the Hour was fulfilled, earthquakes seized all tribes, the heaven was cleft asunder, the earth was split, the mountains were crushed, and that which was revealed in the Tablets of God, the Omnipotent, the Sovereign, the Mighty, the Great, was made manifest.

Whosoever claims a station, attraction, rapture or longing without this Name is among the most lost, even if he should speak with all eloquence, or cause rivers to gush forth from rocks, or command the winds, or cause the clouds to rain. Thus have We sent down the Command on this blessed Night wherein the Tongue of Eternity spoke through His Most Great Name, and the Kawthar of utterance flowed from the mouth of thy Lord, the All-Merciful. When thou art successful, arise, then lift up thy hands and say:

> "Praise be unto Thee, O God of all who are in the heavens and on earth!"

O Nabil! Convey on behalf of this Prisoner unto the loved ones sublime and glorious greetings with kindly counsels and goodly admonitions, and say: Today is the day to assist the Cause of God through wisdom and utterance. Fix your gaze upon the root of the Cause and turn away from aught else, that perchance ye may become the cause of guidance and the gathering of peoples upon the shore of the Most Great Ocean. No excellence hath equaled or will equal this excellence. The Manifestation Who preceded Me and heralded My Beauty made the entire Bayan contingent upon the word "Yea" in this Most Great Revelation, and not a word was sent down from the heaven of His Will except that from it could be inhaled, and still can be inhaled, the fragrance of the garment of My love.

They entirely forbade the people from denial, even though many false claimants are seen and have existed and will exist in every age. Yet none hath pondered what might be the reason and cause for commanding all not to remain veiled from the Ancient Beauty and what hath been revealed in the Bayan concerning Him. Blessed are they that are endued with insight! Blessed are they that are possessed of discernment! Blessed are they that observe with the eye of the spirit! Blessed are they that attain!

By My life! This was naught but what they beheld: that the Tongue of Eternity was speaking in the heart of the world, saying "Verily, there is none other God but Me." Were they to meditate upon and immerse themselves in the ocean of these words, they would discover the cause of the endless emphases that

were revealed by the Pen of the Command in the Bayan. Recognition of this station is the key to divine knowledge. All must strive that they may perchance attain unto it and bear witness with perfect certitude that "He Who is the Beloved of the worlds is made manifest." Say: O ye who are fair-minded! This is not a day wherein ye should cause people to waver through your own vain imaginings and thus deprive them from the shore of the Divine Unity.

This is a day wherein ye should call out amongst the peoples through this Most Great Name. "Conquer the world through this Name, the Sovereign, the Exalted." This is the truth, the mention of truth, and the utterance of truth, and after it there is naught but manifest error. God willing, ye should teach with utmost kindliness. Conflict, contention, warfare and corruption have all been forbidden in this Most Great Revelation. This is of His grace unto the peoples, but most of them comprehend not.

Section 2: "O servants, count not the Cause of God…"

Say: O servants, count not the Cause of God as a child's play and be not heedless of the divine all-encompassing knowledge. Let all be witnessed among creation with radiant countenance, truthful tongue, pure heart, complete steadfastness, unadulterated trustworthiness, absolute sanctity and utter detachment. Gird up the loins of service while uttering the praise and glorification of the Truth, that perchance in these cherished days of God ye may succeed in rendering some service and commit not that which would bring harm upon you and the servants of God. Be ye the cause of guidance through word and deed—this is the most great counsel that hath flowed from the Most Exalted Pen. For years We bore tribulations and calamities until the Cause of God was raised up and made manifest amidst all else. Now, be not the cause of its degradation, and soil not the sacred hem with the clay of the idle fancies of the heedless ones.

By Him Who hath established Me in His station before all who are in the heavens and earth! We have not for a moment considered Our own Self. The Most Glorious Horizon hath ever been and will ever be turned toward the horizon of the Cause. For the glory of the Cause We accepted the most great abasement. I desire not My will but the Will of God, were ye of them that know, and I desire not My Cause but the Cause of God, were ye of the fair-minded. By My life! His Cause is My Cause and My Cause is His Cause. Blessed are they that know. However, there are souls for the sake of Truth who regard the cry of all else as the buzzing of flies and witness all in the world as non-existent, and turn not their gaze from the Divine Court and the Most Great Scene. These are the people of Baha and the dwellers of the Crimson Ark. Upon them rest the remembrance of God, His praise, and the praise of the Concourse on High.

O Nabil-i-ʿAli! Some among the people are observed to be most unfair. Consider Hasan-i-Bajistani: when he was present in Iraq before Us, he entertained doubts concerning the Cause of the Primal Point—may the spirit of all else be sacrificed for Him—which he presented before Our countenance, and received the answer directly from the tongue of the Manifestation of Divine Unity. Among his objections to the Primal Point was that His Holiness had, in all His revealed Books, described the Letters of the Living with countless attributes, saying "I am counted as one of those souls, yet I know myself and observe that I have never been, nor am I now, worthy of these attributes." These very attributes became the cause of

his doubt and misgiving, heedless of the fact that while the farmer's purpose is to water the wheat, the tares are watered incidentally.

All the attributes of the Point of the Bayan refer to the first to believe and a limited number; Hasan and his like have incidentally partaken of the waters of the Bayan and the attributes of the All-Merciful. This station endures only so long as acceptance endures, otherwise it returns to the lowest depths. This is why He says that many from the loftiest Tree of Affirmation are, in the Manifestation of the Most Great Luminary, accounted as belonging to the basest Tree of Negation. The Command is in God's hands; verily He is the All-Wise, the All-Knowing.

His Holiness's attributes were bestowed because these souls had, outwardly, attained to the word "yea," but He explicitly made all of them contingent and dependent upon this Most Great Manifestation. If thou shouldst see him, remind him on My behalf; perchance thou shalt find him among those who have returned unto God Who created all things by His command. Verily, He is the Protector of those who turn unto Him.

Say: Be fair, O servant! By God, if thou wert to be fair and to ponder that which was revealed in the Bayan, thou wouldst cry out My Name and praise between the worlds. He specifically refers to the Bayan and what was revealed therein, saying "Be not veiled from the Letters thereof and from the Manifestation of the All-Merciful, for the entire Bayan is but a leaf from that true Paradise." He was not steadfast even in the Cause of the Primal Point, being always observed to be disturbed and wavering. God willing, may He cause him to recognize the Dawning-Place of His Cause and draw him nigh unto Him. Verily, He is powerful over all things.

Specifically in the Bayan, such addresses have been made to the Letters of the Living that were they to understand them, they would surely destroy themselves lest a word should proceed from the Source of Divinity bearing the fragrance of displeasure regarding them. Say: O Hasan, reflect that thou mayest know; perchance thou shalt find a path to the Beloved. It behooveth him to carefully study the Book of Badi', which was revealed from the Dawning-Place of the Bayan, the Lord of Lords, in the name of one of the loved ones; perchance he may take the Intended One as his Beloved.

Strange it is that they have not attained to a single letter of the Bayan and have not reflected upon the countless emphatic statements that have flowed from the Supreme Pen. By My life! Were they to reflect, they would understand. He says that if someone should appear with a single verse, ye shall never deny him, and if someone should make a claim without proof, ye shall not oppose him. This is most evident and manifest. Since the Countenance of Divine Unity observed the Dawning-Point of holy revelations manifest and knew that no one other than that Ancient Beauty would be capable of raising the call, therefore all have been educated and trained that they might unite around this Divine Law, and such emphasis hath been placed in the revealed verses that no room remaineth for any soul to hesitate or raise objection, otherwise They would never have uttered such words.

Even now the Ancient Pen and the Most Great Name declares: if any soul should appear with all the verses before the completion of a full thousand years—each year comprising twelve months according to what was revealed in the Qur'an, or nineteen months according to what was revealed in the Bayan where

each month consists of nineteen days—you must never acknowledge him. In one of the Tablets it is revealed:

> "Whosoever makes a claim before the completion of a full thousand years is a lying impostor. We beseech God to graciously assist him to retract and repent. If he repents, God will verily turn unto him. If he persists in what he claims, a bearer of divine chastisement will be sent who will deal mercilessly with him. Verily God is severe in punishing!"

For the harm of such souls has affected the divine Tree of Truth itself and has been the cause of discord, contention, conflict, the wavering of weak hearts, and the instability of the Cause among the people—and will continue to be so. Therefore, beseech God to make them know themselves and to assist them in what He desires. Verily thy Lord is the All-Forgiving, the Most Merciful.

Say: Regard not the Cause of God as a trifling matter, O ye who are endowed with taste. Be not content with the bitter sea when the sweet and flowing ocean is in surge. Meditate upon the merciful utterances and regard them with penetrating vision, that perchance ye may become aware of a drop from the ocean of inner meanings that lies concealed within the Bayan. In this spiritual dawn, deprive not yourselves and other souls from the wafting breezes of the divine Robe. I swear by the Essence of Pre-existence that Baha weeps over you and laments for you. He has desired nothing for Himself and has accepted the harm of all who are on earth for your deliverance, salvation and turning unto God, the Mighty, the All-Praised.

Thus have We imparted to thee that thou mayest convey the Cause of thy Lord with wisdom and utterance. He will verily assist thee and He is the Helper. Glory be upon thee and upon thy son and upon those who hearken to thy words concerning the Cause of thy Lord, the Mighty, the Bountiful.

BH00346: O Mihdi! Hearken unto the call of Him Who…

Section 1: "O Mihdi! Hearken unto the call of Him…"

In the Name of the Compassionate, the All-Loving!

O Mihdi! Hearken unto the call of Him Who is immersed in the ocean of tribulation, and when the waves grant Him respite, He raises His head, gazing toward the East, and proclaims: "The Beloved is come, turn ye unto Him!" Then do the waves overtake and submerge Him. And when they subside, He lifts His head again, looking toward the West, crying out in His loudest voice: "This is the Beloved of the worlds! He is come for your life and the exaltation of your station. Yet ye have abandoned Him in this tribulation, the like of which the eye of creation hath never beheld." He, verily, is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

O Mihdi! By My life! Were the veils to be rent asunder and thou wert to behold Me in the darkness wherein I dwell, thou wouldst surely go forth and cry out amidst all created things, forgetting thyself and whatever sorrows may have befallen thee. But We have concealed it as a token of grace from thy Lord, the Mighty, the Bountiful. Yet in such a state and under such conditions, I remain radiant from the horizon of Beauty and dawning forth from the Dayspring of Power and Majesty, in such wise that were anyone to look upon Me, he would find in the features of My countenance the joy of God, and in My cheeks the light of God, the Almighty, the Mighty, the Great.

Though man may flee from tribulation, yet Baha findeth His solace therein in the path of God, the Lord of all names. Thus do We impart unto thee that thou mayest cast thy sorrows behind thee and follow the Manifestation of the All-Merciful amidst all worlds. This, verily, is a mighty triumph. Cast aside thy disappointment and acknowledge that which the Supreme Pen hath testified concerning thee in numerous Tablets. Verily, thy Lord hath acknowledged thy love and hath sent down that which hath diffused the fragrance of the Beloved throughout all regions. Is it befitting to acknowledge what hath been revealed for thee, or to doubt? Nay, by thy Lord, the Mighty, the All-Bestowing! Abandon all else and find tranquility in thy Lord's grace. Thus doth the Wronged One command thee, and He, verily, is to be obeyed in whatsoever He willeth.

Hear in the Persian tongue concerning that which hath been revealed, be thou assured therein and seek steadfastness from God in what thou art engaged. Doth not the testimony of God suffice thee? Indeed He hath testified to thy faith, thy turning unto Him, thy call, and thy assistance. By My life! Wert thou to know what hath been revealed for thee with true knowledge, thou wouldst soar upon the wings of longing. Beware lest the fragrance of despair pass from thee. Be thou hopeful, then send forth in every instance that which will diffuse the sweet savors of joy before the face of thy Lord, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy. This is what We counseled thee aforetime and in this luminous Tablet.

No one from the beginning of the world until now hath been afflicted with such tribulations. Consider thou the Messenger of God: despite His manifest power, during the Battle of the Trench some of His companions who outwardly showed the utmost devotion and self-sacrifice, whispered secretly saying "Muhammad promiseth us the treasures of Chosroes and Caesar, yet none of us can even go to relieve himself in safety." And this matter hath been among the claimants for numbered years without outward victory or manifest dominion—what hath occurred and what shall occur is evident.

Tu'mah, one of His companions, stole a coat of mail one night. In the morning the Jews gathered and traced its tracks and signs. After discovering this they came before His presence. It is known what these obstinate Jews did. The Prophet paused and did not wish this sin to be proven against Islam, as it would cause the undermining of God's Cause among the people. Suddenly Gabriel descended and recited this verse:

> "Lo! We have revealed unto thee the Scripture with truth that thou mayst judge between mankind by that which God showeth thee. And be not thou a pleader for the treacherous."

Thereafter Tu'mah turned away and spread calumnies about the Prophet among the people which the Pen doth not wish to recount. He then completely apostatized and returned to Mecca, dwelling among the idolaters.

Likewise, between Zubayr, who was related to the Prophet, and Hatib there arose a dispute about water and land, until they came before the Prophet for judgment. The Prophet said: "O Zubayr! Water thy land." At this point Hatib spoke words suggesting that the Prophet had deviated from justice. This blessed verse was revealed: "But nay, by thy Lord, they will not believe until they make thee judge of what is in dispute between them and find within themselves no dislike of that which thou decidest, and submit with full submission." When they went out, Ammar Yasir and Ibn Masud asked "For whose sake was the

judgment made?" Hatib, with utmost mockery and derision, raised his eyebrow indicating Zubayr. Several Jews who were present said: "God destroy these people!

What manner of folk are these who testify to this man's prophethood yet suspect his judgment?" At this point Ammar Yasir declared: "By Muhammad's God, if Muhammad were to command me to kill myself, I would do it!" And Thabit ibn Qays and Ibn Masud spoke likewise. This verse was revealed: "But had We prescribed for them, saying, Slay yourselves' or Leave your habitations,' they would not have done it, save a few of them; yet if they had done as they were admonished it would have been better for them, confirming them strongly"[Q4:66].

And in another instance, a dispute arose between a Jew and one of the companions. The Jew sought judgment from His Holiness, while the Muslim preferred Ka'b ibn al-Ashraf. At the Jew's insistence, they came before His Holiness, and the initial judgment favored the Jew. Then this verse was revealed: "Have you not seen those who claim to believe in what has been revealed to you and what was revealed before you? They wish to refer legislation to Taghut, while they were commanded to reject it; and Satan wishes to lead them far astray." The Taghut' referred to here was Ka'b ibn al-Ashraf. Then the Muslim turned away and said he would go to Umar ibn al-Khattab. After presenting the details to him, ʿUmar said: "Wait until I return." He entered his house, took his sword, returned and struck off Ka'b's head, saying: "This is the reward for one who is not satisfied with the judgment of God's Messenger." When this reached the Messenger, he named him "al-Faruq", and from that day he was known by this title.

From these accounts it appears that today the Supreme Pen is engaged in interpreting the Qur'an and explaining its revelation. This is sorrow upon sorrow, although by the truth itself, the mention of God's chosen ones and their traces has always been and will always be beloved. Our yearning for what is attributed to them, what their tongues have uttered, and the mention of what appeared in their days—the sorrow stems from the fact that in all ages such tribulations have befallen the Manifestations of Truth. Moreover, these times have necessitated that these mentions flow from the Chosen Pen as a matter of wisdom, so that you and the loved ones of Truth might become aware, through the allusions in the revealed verses of the Beloved of earth and heaven, of a drop from the vast ocean of tribulations that befell Him.

Section 2: "Let us return to our narrative: After…"

Let us return to our narrative: After the conquest of Mecca, the Battle of Hunayn, which is between Mecca and Ta'if, took place. After the victory, much wealth was gathered before His Holiness, including camels, sheep, and other things. His Holiness bestowed upon the nobles of Mecca, such as Abu Sufyan and others, one hundred camels each, and to those below them, forty each. Someone remarked, "I do not see you acting justly." The Messenger became angry and said, "If justice is not with me, then with whom is it?" At this point, the Ansar became distressed, for they were the poorest of all and had received nothing from these spoils. When evil thoughts and doubts seized them, the hand of your Lord's grace, the Master of all beings, took hold of them. The Messenger—may the spirit of all in the Kingdom be sacrificed for him—said: "O Ansar, are you not satisfied that they return with camels and sheep while you return with God's Messenger?"

O observant servant, if I were to mention all that occurred, according to the divine verses, the discourse would be prolonged and we would stray from our purpose. The point is that despite their manifest power and the connection of inner authority with outer sovereignty, all these tribulations befell them, even while they were implementing the outward laws, as evidenced when in one day they executed seven hundred people. This concerned the Battle of Banu Qurayza. After the Battle of the Trench, Gabriel descended and said,

> "O Messenger of God! The Lord of great command orders you and your companions to pray the afternoon prayer at Banu Qurayza."

The Prophet commanded his companions as ordered and departed with them to Banu Qurayza. When they arrived, God's forces surrounded them and terror seized their hearts. Then the Aws tribe asked the Messenger of God to release them as he had released Banu Qaynuqa, allies of the Khazraj.

The Aws and Khazraj were two tribes that had been in constant warfare until the Messenger arose and appeared with the truth—Islam united them. Therefore these two tribes were often treated similarly. The Banu Qurayza were allies of Aws, and since the Prophet had previously pardoned the Banu Qaynuqa (allies of Khazraj) through the intercession of certain hypocrites who outwardly claimed Islam and were counted among the companions, the Banu Qurayza hoped for the same treatment.

The Messenger—may all else be sacrificed for him—said, "Would you not be satisfied if Sa'd ibn Mu'adh judges their case?" He was the chief of Aws. They agreed, but Sa'd, upon whom rested the dewdrops of light, was prevented from attending due to wounds received in the Battle of the Trench. The Prophet specifically sent for him and he was brought with great difficulty. When he arrived, they informed him of the Messenger of God's command. Sa'd said, "I judge that their men should be killed, their property divided, and their women and children taken captive." The Messenger said, "You have judged as God has judged above the seven heavens."

Then the Prophet returned to Medina and the army carried out Sa'd's judgment—they struck off their heads, divided their property, and took their women and children captive. In two days they beheaded seven hundred people. Yet despite manifest and hidden power and divine might, some continuously became apostates, some returned to idols, and some turned to pure denial.

This Wronged One in the land of exile—all know that all kings have turned away and all religions oppose. Now it is clear what afflictions have come and continue to come. For instance, if someone is told "Do not drink wine" or "Do not say what God has not permitted," they immediately rise up with unprecedented calumnies. As when We banished two wicked souls after countless transgressions—I swear by the Sun of sanctified glory—they manifested such rebellion as had never been seen in creation, attributing all their own forbidden and reprehensible acts to the Truth before all the people of the land. Upon them be what is upon them.

Now consider the degree of harm and the level of tribulation. They do what they wish and judge as they desire, except for those who have believed in God and remained steadfast. The affairs of this land are very severe—observe the Lawh-i-Samsun and likewise tablets revealed in previous years containing news of what was to come. All these matters return to the Truth itself. Nevertheless, We have been and remain

engaged in what was commanded among the servants with perfect joy and delight. Therefore that soul should not be saddened by certain matters. Walk in the footsteps of thy Lord—this is God's decree from before and after. Follow and be among those who act. The more you are wronged, the more beloved it is and shall be, following the example of thy wronged Lord.

Convey My glorification unto thy nephew on behalf of this Wronged and exiled One. Say: O ʿAli-Qabli-Akbar! The fire hath been kindled by the fingers of thy Lord and hath set the horizons ablaze, yet the people remain veiled behind a mighty veil. Draw nigh unto it with thy heart, purely for the sake of God. By My life! Through it shall be ignited within thy heart the lamp of His love in such wise that neither the winds nor all the seas of the heavens and earth can extinguish it. Give thanks unto thy Lord for having drawn nigh, entered in, attained His presence, and been the recipient of thy Lord's glance, the Mighty, the All-Knowing. Recognize the value of this bounty and arise to praise Him amongst all peoples.

After having attained the presence of thy Lord, can anything cause thee grief? This beseemeth thee not. Be content with My love and hold fast unto it. It shall suffice thee, if thou be of them that know. Though thou be heedless, He is never heedless of thee and remembereth thee, having perceived from thee the fragrance of the garment. He shall bestow upon thee whatsoever He willeth. He, verily, is the Ever-Forgiving, the Merciful. Be steadfast in the Cause. By My life! Nothing that hath been created on earth can equal it. Be thou among the firm ones.

Then make mention of the Friend and say: Thou art in exile while thy Lord is the Exile. Yet there is this difference: thou hast none who would harm thee, torment thee, or speak evil of thee, whereas this Exile hath fallen into the hands of the oppressors who do with Him as they please, speak of Him as they wish, and pronounce against Him that which even the rejectors of former ages never pronounced. Give thanks unto thy Lord in this condition even as I give thanks in this affliction. Thus doth He Who is most loving and merciful unto thee command thee. Grieve not over anything. Stand firm in the Cause and say: Thine be the praise, O Thou Who art the Object of praise of the sincere ones! My soul be a sacrifice for Thy imprisonment and Thy exile, O Thou Who art wronged in the hands of the wicked ones!

When thou meetest those two who attained the presence of the Countenance and from whom thou perceivest the fragrance of God, convey unto them My glorification and give them the glad-tidings of this noble remembrance. Glory be upon you and upon them who have held fast to truth and justice from the presence of a Mighty, Ancient Being. Praise be unto God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH00497: Praise be to God that the lips of assurance…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Mighty, the Most Glorious!

Praise be to God that the lips of assurance have smiled and the pearl of mystical knowledge of the Countenance of the Most Merciful hath appeared from the shell of certitude, and the tongue of truth hath spoken with most wondrous utterance that there is none other God but He, the Luminous, the Most Luminous. Again, praise be unto Him that the sun of remembrance of the Lord of creation hath risen and shone forth from the horizon of the heart with the lights of righteousness, and the tree of certitude hath grown from the soil of the heart, and every branch of its branches and every leaf of its leaves hath spoken

in diverse melodies that there is none other God but He, the Almighty, the All-Powerful, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious.

O what joy that the rose of paradise hath blossomed and its fragrances have wafted, then spread and diffused, and its breezes, its scents and its spirit have encompassed the temples of the people of mystical knowledge, and the realities of spirits have inhaled it, and every bone hath quivered therefrom and testified with clear expression that there is none other God but He, the Most Great, the Most Holy, the Transcendent, the Mighty, the Gracious.

O blessed be that the nightingale of faithfulness hath warbled upon the twigs of the Divine Lote-Tree with melodies like unto those of the mystic dove upon the branches of the Garden of Paradise, in praise of the Creator of Names and the Sovereign of earth and heaven, Who is sanctified above the mention of aught else but Him or the description of what is beneath Him, and exalted above whatsoever the people of grandeur and glory may ascribe unto Him.

Again, unto Him be grace and permanence and might and sublimity, that the lights of guidance have returned to their abode and the sun of unity and uniqueness hath risen from its horizon, and the temple of sanctity hath donned its robe, and the essence of testimony hath testified to its Witnessed One, its Beloved and its Intended, with its secret and its manifest being, its essence and its heart, that He is the One manifest in His manifestation and hidden in His essence, and exalted in His name, and sanctified in His being from the mention of aught else but Him, and the One witnessed in His beauty and speaking in the heaven of His might and majesty, seated upon the throne of His grandeur and established upon the seat of His command, standing through the sovereignty of His might and His greatness, and self-subsisting through the dominion of His power—He is the One to Whom all existence, both seen and unseen, beareth witness that there is none other God but He, the Almighty, the All-Powerful, the Unconstrained.

My spirit be a sacrifice unto Thee and unto Thy Tablet which hath been adorned with the ornament of the remembrance of the Lord of Names, and unto the bearer who came as though bringing a musk-pod of immortality and the fragrant perfumes of joy and faithfulness. Praise be to the Beloved of eternity, exalted be His glory, that the fire of divine love hath been kindled from the Lote-Tree of the illumined heart and the call “Verily, there is none other God but He, the Luminous, the Most Luminous” hath been raised from the Sinai of the radiant breast. How blessed was that hour and how excellent that time when this evanescent servant was honored to break the seal of that spiritual tablet. All the twigs and branches of the blessed divine Lote-Tree rejoiced, especially His Holiness the Most Great Branch—exalted be His glory and praise—for due to their attachment to your honor they were greatly saddened by the delay of news from you. We praise God for this and beseech Him, exalted be He, to strengthen your honor in all conditions. Verily, He is powerful over all things.

And then, this evanescent servant presented thy letter before God. God knoweth what shone forth in that moment from the Dayspring of loving-kindness and the Source of grace and tender mercy. None can reckon it save His all-knowing Self. Thereafter there was revealed from the Source of divine utterance—exalted be His glory—these words:

> "God willing, thou shouldst at all times guide people to the divine law, that perchance through goodly counsel heedless and doubtful souls may turn toward the realm of oneness. O Nabil! Arise to serve thy Ancient Lord with thy heart, thy sight, thy hearing, thy tongue and all thy members. Thus doth He command thee Who is seated upon the pivot of tribulations and calamities. Make thy feet of iron in My Cause, and thy tongue a double-edged sword in My remembrance and praise, and thine eyes gazing toward My direction, and thy heart turned toward My shining and luminous Beauty. Stand forth between the righteous and the wicked in the name of thy Lord, the Mighty, the Chosen One. Then kindle in their hearts the fire of My remembrance and praise, that the former may increase thereby and the latter may be guided thereby. Thus doth the Sovereign of destiny command thee from this most great prospect. Heal souls from the disease of heedlessness and passion by My Most Exalted and Most Glorious Name. Blessed art thou for that which hath come from thee, whereof the Tongue of Eternity hath spoken in remembrance of thee in this Prison wherein is established the throne of thy Lord's mercy, the Most High, the Supreme."

Thus ended that which the Tongue of Revelation spoke. What else can this servant say regarding that which hath been revealed from the Source of Command? For if these divine fragrances were to pass over the mountains, they would transform them into rubies, and were they to pass over graves, their inhabitants would arise to praise thy Lord, the Mighty, the All-Forgiving. Your honor hath personally heard the resplendent utterances from the mouth of the All-Merciful and knoweth how, in such instances, the ocean of meanings and wisdom floweth and surgeth from the Fountainhead of the Will of the Lord of eternity. Specifically, it hath been revealed from the right hand of oneness that ye should deal with the servants with supreme kindness, and with perfect wisdom and tender mercy gather all upon the shore of the Most Great Ocean, in such wise that never shall the odor of discord waft between the loved ones of God. And should any soul become heedless and remain veiled, remind him through counsels and admonitions, that perchance he may remember or fear. The purpose is that ye may cause all who are on earth to enter the tabernacle of oneness.

And furthermore the misbeliever became aware of the details from that Person and was inflamed within himself. We beseech God to protect your honor from his evil and his plotting. Once again there descended from the right hand of the Throne: In these days after arrival at the Most Great Prison, the Divine Will became attached to this: that He should call anew all creation to the shore of oneness with the most exalted call. Therefore specifically for each of the rulers of the earth a special Tablet was revealed from the heaven of the Divine Will, and each was designated by a name—the first by "The Cry", the second by "The Calamity", the third by "The Inevitable", the fourth by "The Awakening", the fifth by "The Overwhelming", and likewise by "The Deafening Clamor", "The Imminent", "The Great Terror", "The Trumpet Blast", "The Horn", and their like—so that all the people of the earth might become certain and witness with their outer and inner sight that the Lord of Names has been and shall ever be triumphant over all. Tribulations and ordeals have not and shall not prevent the Sovereign of the seen and unseen from proclaiming His Cause.

By Thy life! In the midst of tribulation, from the horizon of the Prison We have manifested the Face, shining forth amidst all the worlds, and We have called all unto God, the Powerful, the Mighty, the Wise.

However, after the dawning of these destined matters from the horizon of the Cause of the Lord of creation, all have fallen to pursuing and panting after thy Lord—they are but in perdition. And the Cause has become extremely severe, to such an extent as transcends mention and utterance. From what appears from the Ancient King, the intention and deeds of the peoples become known—no need remains to mention it. From the beginning of creation until now, such an open proclamation has never occurred. The previous Manifestation and the Herald of My Beauty had sent two Tablets, but in them there was naught save the declaration of divine authority and oppression. In view of wisdom They veiled the essential matter, and in truth there had not been a complete and open proclamation. Therefore there shone forth from the Dawning-Place of Will that which had ever been the purpose of God. Exalted be this Power that has shone forth and encompassed the worlds!

The appearance of this deed from the Lord of causes has produced two effects: it has both sharpened the swords of the ungodly and caused the tongues of those who have turned towards Him to speak forth in His praise and glorification. This is the effect of those impregnating winds that were mentioned aforetime in the Tablet of the Temple. Now the earth is seen to be pregnant—soon shall sublime fruits appear, and towering trees, and beloved flowers, and fresh bounties. Exalted is the breeze from the garment of thy Glorious Lord that has wafted and quickened all things! Blessed are they who understand. And this is quite evident and clear that in these matters the Sovereign of Manifestation had no purpose for Himself, and despite knowing that it would cause tribulations and give rise to calamities and severity of circumstances, purely out of grace and mercy and for the quickening of the dead and the proclamation of the Cause of the Lord of Names and Attributes and the salvation of all who are on earth, He has closed His eyes to His own comfort and has borne what no one has borne or shall ever bear.

O Nabil! By My life, today is the day of hearkening. Blessed is the ear that hath turned toward the Most Great Direction. Arise with My sovereignty and command amongst My creation, then remind them of what thou hast discovered from this Announcement whereby the heaven was cleft asunder, the mountains were crushed, the Great Terror appeared, the moon was eclipsed, earthquakes appeared among the tribes, the stars fell, the luminary of fancy was darkened, and the Dove sang upon the branches of the Lote-Tree beyond which there is no passing. The Kingdom is God's, thy Lord and the Lord of the worlds. Write thou unto those who dwell in the land of Kha, then remind them of this Cause that hath encompassed the heavens and the earth. However, these are the days wherein the people of truth must conduct themselves with the attributes of God and transform satanic qualities into praiseworthy divine characteristics. Corruption hath ever been and shall ever be forbidden, and in this Most Great Revelation all peoples are forbidden from corruption. Let no one ever oppose another or rise up to wage war. The station of the people of truth hath been and shall ever be humility, submissiveness, and praiseworthy attributes.

The world is not worthy that man should commit unseemly acts and remain remote from the Sovereign of Oneness. Verily, the world laugheth at those who desire it, and declareth in its loudest voice, addressing them:

> "Hath anyone ever seen from me aught of good or faithfulness? Soon shall We return you to dust, disappointed and lost, even as We returned those who came before."

All must shine resplendent among the servants through the light of guidance, trustworthiness and fear of God, that all may thereby be drawn to the shore of the sea of oneness. Preserve what We have imparted unto thee, then recite unto the peoples, by thy Lord's leave, the Lord of all eternity, that they might forsake their desires, turning unto God, the Lord of the Throne and of the dust.

Thus have We informed thee and related unto thee and imparted unto thee and apprised thee, that thou mayest rejoice and say:

> "Praise be unto Thee, O Thou in Whose grasp is the dominion of Command and Creation, and in Whose right hand is the kingdom of the realm of the heavens and the earth. I thank Thee for having remembered me in the Most Great Prison and for having explained all things in detail unto me. Verily, Thou art the Most Merciful of the merciful and the Most Generous of the generous. Praise be unto Thee, O Lord of the Day of Judgment."

If copies of the revealed words were to be sent to outlying regions, it would be most beloved.

BH00510: This lowly servant submits that although the details…

He is the Most Holy, the Most Glorious

This lowly servant submits that although the details of the departure from the Land of Mystery [Adrianople] and the tribulations of those days are beyond description by pen and tongue—none can reckon them save God, my Lord and the Lord of all things—yet as commanded I shall briefly relate that one night, five hours past sunset, his honor Ism-i-Jamal and two others who were with him intending to attain the sacred presence were to depart at that hour of night, take their possessions and leave that land. This servant was bewildered as to the cause but was commanded and obeyed. The friends left in the morning. Some hours after their departure, people came inquiring what had happened and where they had gone. A brief response was given and they departed. Then suddenly at the eighth hour of the day, all the friends who were occupied in the bazaar, both merchants and others, were arrested and taken to the gate and imprisoned. Military officers surrounded the house. Someone came from the gate to the presence of the Most Great Branch—glorious be His praise—and submitted that by order they must proceed to Gallipoli.

What more can I say of what transpired? Everything in the sacred household was auctioned off and plundered. Later at the government house they told the companions that whoever wished could return to their own place and engage in their trade and commerce. The twelve persons who had come to serve Them in Adrianople must go together, the rest were free to choose. No one accepted to stay behind. All abandoned their belongings and possessions and everything pertaining to them, suffering great losses. Their goods were sold at very low prices. Those who purchased them delayed in payment, but they did not wait and forsook that wealth, joining the hosts of glory. And one person sacrificed himself which caused an uproar in the city. Afterwards most of the foreign consuls came to the Most Holy Presence and much was discussed. They said this journey was inevitable and must be undertaken, relying upon God in all things. In brief, were the details of what the officials said to be submitted it would be lengthy. They showed much kindness and wrote the full details of everything to all governments.

On the day of departure a strange commotion arose. With seventy-two souls They departed from the Land of Mystery toward the Prison Land. What more can I say of the joyous spirit that prevailed on the journey? By God, it was as though all were going to a feast! What more can I say of the wondrous verses that were revealed at every moment—would that you had been with us! After arrival in Gallipoli, Omar Effendi Binbashi came with five Onbashis and chavushes and submitted that They must proceed to Akka. Then on an Austrian vessel They proceeded toward Akka. Near that celestial city it stopped, and the Ancient Beauty came by rowboat. Four persons were prevented from accompanying Them: his honor Sayyah, Mishkin-Qalam, Aqa Muhammad-Baqir, and Aqa Abdul-Ghaffar—upon them be the Glory of God and His praise.

Umar Effendi mentioned that he was ordered to take these four individuals to Cyprus. The friends broke into lamentations. After a few minutes of separation, Jinab-i-Aqa Abdul-Ghaffar threw himself from the ship's deck into the sea—how sublime was his love, detachment, reliance and steadfastness! We then arrived in Akka and were lodged in the military barracks. On the night of arrival there was absolutely nothing in the sanctuary. The Pasha sent a small evening meal, which they distributed among the children. The weather was extremely hot, the water was salty, and the food was disagreeable—one can imagine what transpired. Yet through divine grace we were and are in the utmost joy and delight. God will soon assist His servants with truth. Verily He fulfills His promise and He knows all things.

Just as everything that was recorded in previous Tablets concerning the upheaval in the Land of Mystery has been fulfilled, likewise what was written about divine assistance will certainly come to pass. Three souls also sacrificed themselves in this land of exile and prison: the two brothers Jinab-i-Aqa Muhammad-Baqir and Aqa Muhammad-Ismail, upon them be God's mercy and favor, who arm in arm sacrificed themselves in one night. From the beginning of creation until now, such an event has never occurred where two brothers thus united and in perfect agreement took flight from this dark earth to the Most Pure and Luminous Habitation. Blessed are they, and blessed the loins that bore them and the womb from which they came forth! The details of the favors manifested towards them I cannot now submit, as the way is cut off and the pen is forbidden. Likewise Jinab-i-Aqa Abul-Qasim from Sultanabad.

Despite all these trials we were in truth in utmost comfort, joy and delight, as we had attained His presence. However we were saddened regarding the friends in Iraq, as they were far from His presence and afflicted with intense trials. Yet as it was for God and in God's path, there is no harm or sorrow. As for what you wrote concerning Jinab-i-Aqayi Aqa Siyyid Mihdi, upon him be the Glory of God, upon return he was verbally instructed to maintain complete secrecy, therefore he did not associate with others. And concerning what was written about the steadfastness of some of the friends, we praise and thank God for making His loved ones firm in His Cause and steadfast in His love.

Regarding Jinab-i-Zayn, you had asked for instructions. He said that today the duty of all is to be patient in the face of tribulations and to spread the mention of God among the servants with pure wisdom. Successive trials and continuous afflictions should not prevent those who have truly drunk from the Kawthar of Life, and although their hardships and trials have exceeded their strength, since all affairs are referred to God, whatever has befallen is easy. To whatever place they deem wise, they may write and

send letters. As the Divine Tree itself grows through the winds of tribulation, so too are its leaves in motion. The sorrows and trials of all are dependent on the root of the Tree.

Soon will descend that which will gladden the hearts of His loved ones. Convey greetings and glory to each and every one, especially to those whose steadfastness has become evident and who are mentioned in God's presence. If it were possible, the Mighty Missive would be sent to all, but these days do not allow it, as you observe. Furthermore, to whatever land you arrive, convey glory to the loved ones of God and say that today is the day of firmness and victory, and they should not be sorrowful in any way, for whatever has occurred was from the destined trials and was mentioned in previous Tablets. Soon will appear the wisdom of what has appeared, and we are in evident thanksgiving.

He is God! Today the foundation of all affairs has been and is service to God's Cause, and it is best for His loved ones in every land to engage in outward affairs, for they can thus convey a word of truth to people or render some service to the friends. God willing, I hope that you will be a mention for the people of that land and move with perfect wisdom lest strangers become aware. We beseech God to assist you in all conditions. Verily, He is your Guardian in this world and the next. There is no God but Him, the Mighty, the Wise.

On behalf of this servant, convey spiritual and holy mention to Jinab-i-Aqa Abdul-Ahad. We beseech God to grant him what has been sent down from the heaven of His favor and enable him to soar in the atmosphere of love for his Lord, the Most Merciful, and to detach him from all existence. Verily, He answers whoever calls upon Him, and He is the Forgiving, the Merciful.

The latest news is that Jinab-i-Ustad Muhammad-Ali, upon him be the Glory of God, has returned to the seat of the Cause after traveling through Iranian territories, bringing good news from all directions that, praise be to God, this restriction has become the cause of freedom, and this bondage has increased the stages of the servants' unity. All are engaged in the mention of God with perfect eagerness and longing. A letter also arrived from Jinab-i-Aqayi Aqa Siyyid Mihdi, upon him be the Most Glorious Glory of God, mentioning that praise be to God, all the loved ones everywhere are engaged in God's mention with perfect sanctification and detachment. He had written many praises, and you know that he rarely offers praise; nevertheless, he had expressed particular satisfaction and unity with their deeds, as they have completely abandoned forbidden rejected actions.

The divine words of counsel have affected them to such a degree that nothing greater can be imagined. He had even written that his brother, Jinab-i-Aqa Muhammad-Ali Kabir, upon them both be the Glory of God, who was known for certain deeds and whose transformation seemed impossible, has nevertheless completely abandoned all that God has forbidden. We beseech God to assist him and those who have believed in what manifests the sanctification of His Essence and the detachment of His Being from the worlds.

News has also come from the captives of Mosul. Strange it is that the prisoners spent on behalf of the prisoners. After learning of the Most Great Imprisonment, each one, both women and men, according to their means, sent gifts to the Most Holy Court. Various reports arrived from those regions. Out of fear of the sons, in the days of sedition, something had been written, but afterwards news came from the sons

themselves. Although outwardly they did not display the greatest steadfastness, as was abundantly shown by others beneath their station, yet God has pardoned them. The angels held him back from tearing all the veils, but the hand of grace took hold of him. A special messenger came and met with them at the time of their departure. They remain firm in the Cause, though outwardly they are afflicted. They have served the companions and prisoners to the extent possible, and have also sent something to the Most Holy Court. Glory be to God! Strange steadfastness was shown by the people of Iraq. Surely this has reached the blessed ears, especially concerning two Christians.

Although these petitions have led to a lengthening of words, they were submitted for your honor's information. And glory be upon you, and splendor be upon you.

BH00565: This is a Book from the Wronged One…

In The Name of Him Who is Mighty to do as He Willeth!

This is a Book from the Wronged One to him who hath clung to learning, that he may rend asunder the greatest veil and turn towards God, the Lord of destiny, and be of the fair-minded. Shouldst thou hear the melodies of the Dove which warbleth upon the twigs of the Tree of Utterance, they would so transport thee that thou wouldst find thyself detached from all the worlds. Be fair, O servant! Is God the One Who doeth what He willeth, or is it other than He? Make clear thy position and be not of the silent ones. If thou sayest it is other than He, thou hast not been fair in this matter—to this testifieth every atom and, beyond them all, thy Lord, the Speaker, the True, the Faithful. And if thou sayest that He is the One Who chooseth, then indeed He hath manifested me in truth, sent me forth, and caused me to speak verses that have struck terror into the hearts of all who are in the heavens and on earth, save those who have been seized by the breathings of revelation from thy Lord, the Forgiving, the Merciful. Can any decree stand before His decree? Can anyone prevent Him from what He willeth? Nay, by His Self, if thou be of them who know!

Consider the people of the Torah—why did they turn away when the Dayspring of verses came with manifest sovereignty? Were it not for thy Lord's protection, the divines would have put Him to death on the very first day He spoke in the name of His Lord, the Mighty, the Bountiful. Then consider the people of the Gospel—why did they object when the Sun of the Cause shone forth from the horizon of Hijaz with lights that illumined all in the worlds? How many a learned one hath been debarred from the All-Knowing, and how many an ignorant one hath attained to the source of all knowledge! Ponder and be of the assured ones. The shepherd believed in Him while the divines turned away. Thus was the matter decreed, if thou be of them who hear. Then observe how, when Christ came, the most learned divine of the age pronounced His death sentence, while he who caught fish believed in Him. Thus doth He Who God hath sent inform thee by His binding, mighty Command.

The learned one is he who hath recognized the Known One, hath won to the lights of His countenance and is of them who have drawn nigh. Be not of those who say "God is our Lord," yet when He sent forth the Manifestation of His Cause with clear proof, they denied the All-Merciful and gathered to slay Him. Thus doth the Pen of the Cause counsel thee, after God hath made it independent of all the worlds. We make mention of thee for the sake of God and impart unto thee that whereby thy remembrance shall

endure in the Tablets of thy Lord, the Mighty, the Praised. Cast aside learning and its aspects, then hold fast to the Name of the Self-Subsisting, Who hath dawned from this luminous horizon.

By God! I was sleeping when the breathings of revelation stirred me, and I was silent when my Lord, the Mighty, the Powerful, caused me to speak. Were it not for His Command, I would not have revealed myself. His Will hath encompassed my will, and He hath established me in a Cause whereby the darts of the idolaters have assailed me. Read thou what We have sent down to the kings, that thou mayest be assured that this servant speaketh by the command of One Knowing, Informed, and mayest witness that tribulations have not prevented Him from making mention of the Lord of Names. He hath called all unto God, and the might of the oppressors hath not frightened Him.

Hearken unto what the Dayspring of verses calleth thee from One Mighty, All-Wise. Arise to serve the Cause through God's power and strength, detached from those who have objected to God after He came with this momentous announcement. Say: O concourse of divines! Take hold of your pens, for the Supreme Pen speaketh betwixt earth and heaven. Then be silent that ye may hear what the Tongue of Grandeur proclaimeth from this noble prospect. Say: Fear ye God and refute not the truth by what ye possess. Follow Him to Whom all things have testified and be not of the doubters. That which ye possess shall not profit you this day; nay rather, that which is with God, if ye be of them that discern.

Say: O people of the Qur'an! He Who was promised unto you in the Book is come. Fear ye God and follow not every sinful idolater. Verily He hath been manifested in such wise that none can deny it except those who are veiled by the shrouds of fancy and are accounted among the rejected ones. Say: The Word hath appeared, at which your divines and your learned men have fled. This is what We foretold you aforetime. He is, verily, the Mighty, the All-Knowing. The learned one is he who hath acknowledged the One Who is the Object of all knowledge, and he who turneth away is not worthy to be called a learned one, though he may have mastered all the knowledge of the ancients. The mystic is he who hath recognized the One Who is the Object of all mystical knowledge, and the man of distinction is he who hath turned unto this bounty which hath appeared through a wondrous command. Say: O people! Drink ye of the choice wine which We have unsealed with the hands of might. Verily, He is the Powerful, the Almighty. Thus have We counselled you, that haply ye may abandon your own desires and turn unto divine guidance, and be numbered among those who are assured.

Hear ye in the Persian tongue, that perchance ye may discover the sweet-scented breezes of the merciful Divine Robe which are wafting today, and hasten to the path of the One True Friend.

Ponder awhile. What is it that prompted, in every Dispensation, the peoples of the earth to shun the Manifestation of the All-Merciful? What could have impelled them to turn away from Him and to challenge His authority? Were men to meditate on these words which have flowed from the Pen of the Divine Ordainer, they would, one and all, hasten to embrace the truth of this God-given, and ever-enduring Revelation, and would testify to that which He Himself hath solemnly affirmed. It is the veil of idle imaginations which, in the days of the Manifestations of the Unity of God and the Daysprings of His everlasting glory, hath intervened, and will continue to intervene, between them and the rest of mankind. For in those days, He Who is the Eternal Truth manifesteth Himself in conformity with that which He Himself hath purposed, and not according to the desires and expectations of men. Even as He hath

revealed: “So oft, then, as an Apostle cometh to you with that which your souls desire not, do ye swell with pride, and treat some as impostors, and slay others.”

There can be no doubt whatever that had these Apostles appeared, in bygone ages and cycles, in accordance with the vain imaginations which the hearts of men had devised, no one would have repudiated the truth of these sanctified Beings. Though such men have been, night and day, remembering the one true God, and have been devoutly engaged in the exercise of their devotions, yet they failed in the end to recognize, and partake of the grace of, the Daysprings of the signs of God and the Manifestations of His irrefutable evidences. To this the Scriptures bear witness. Thou hast, no doubt, heard about it.

Consider the Dispensation of Jesus Christ. Behold, how all the learned men of that generation, though eagerly anticipating the coming of the Promised One, have nevertheless denied Him. Both Annas, the most learned among the divines of His day, and Caiaphas, the high priest, denounced Him and pronounced the sentence of His death.

In like manner, when Muhammad, the Prophet of God—may all men be a sacrifice unto Him—appeared, the learned men of Mecca and Medina arose, in the early days of His Revelation, against Him and rejected His Message, while they who were destitute of all learning recognized and embraced His Faith. Ponder awhile. Consider how Balal, the Ethiopian, unlettered though he was, ascended into the heaven of faith and certitude, whilst ‘Abdu’llah Ubayy, a leader among the learned, maliciously strove to oppose Him. Behold, how a mere shepherd was so carried away by the ecstasy of the words of God that he was able to gain admittance into the habitation of his Best-Beloved, and was united to Him Who is the Lord of Mankind, whilst they who prided themselves on their knowledge and wisdom strayed far from His path and remained deprived of His grace. For this reason He hath written: “He that is exalted among you shall be abased, and he that is abased shall be exalted.” References to this theme are to be found in most of the heavenly Books, as well as in the sayings of the Prophets and Messengers of God.

Verily I say, such is the greatness of this Cause that the father flieth from his son, and the son flieth from his father. Call ye to mind the story of Noah and Canaan. God grant that, in these days of heavenly delight, ye may not deprive yourselves of the sweet savors of the All-Glorious God, and may partake, in this spiritual Springtime, of the outpourings of His grace. Arise in the name of Him Who is the Object of all knowledge, and, with absolute detachment from the learning of men, lift up your voices and proclaim His Cause. I swear by the Daystar of Divine Revelation! The very moment ye arise, ye will witness how a flood of Divine knowledge will gush out of your hearts, and will behold the wonders of His heavenly wisdom manifested in all their glory before you. Were ye to taste of the sweetness of the sayings of the All-Merciful, ye would unhesitatingly forsake your selves, and would lay down your lives for the Well-Beloved.

Who can ever believe that this Servant of God hath at any time cherished in His heart a desire for any earthly honor or benefit? The Cause associated with His Name is far above the transitory things of this world. Behold Him, an exile, a victim of tyranny, in this Most Great Prison. His enemies have assailed Him on every side, and will continue to do so till the end of His life. Whatever, therefore, He saith unto you is wholly for the sake of God, that haply the peoples of the earth may cleanse their hearts from the stain of

evil desire, may rend its veil asunder, and attain unto the knowledge of the one true God—the most exalted station to which any man can aspire. Their belief or disbelief in My Cause can neither profit nor harm Me. We summon them wholly for the sake of God. He, verily, can afford to dispense with all creatures.

I pray that thou mayest be so enkindled, by the fire of the love of thy Lord—which is none other than light itself in this Manifestation of the All-Compelling God—that the whole of creation may be moved and stirred by its warmth, and turn unto the Truth. Glory be unto him who hath attained unto the lights of guidance and recognized God, the Single, the One, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

Say: Glory be unto Thee, O Creator of the heavens and Possessor of all names! I beseech Thee by the revelations of Thy signs and the hidden tokens of Thy favor to make me one of them who have turned unto Thee and turned away from all else save Thee, who have acknowledged Thy singleness and confessed Thy oneness, and who have soared in the atmosphere of nearness to Thee until they became captives in Thy domains and abased among Thy creatures. O my Lord! I have laid hold on the cord of Thy bounties and clung to the hem of Thy generosity. I beseech Thee not to shut me out from Thy gate which Thou hast opened unto all who dwell in Thy heaven and on Thy earth. Then grant me, O my God, that which Thou hast ordained for Thy chosen ones and written down for Thy loved ones. Aid me, moreover, to serve Thee in such wise that the denial of them that have turned away from Thee shall not keep me back from observing Thy right, nor shall the assault of the oppressors prevent me from proclaiming Thy Cause.

Wilt Thou, O my God, withhold me from drawing nigh unto Thee after Thou hast called me to Thee? Wilt Thou drive me from the dawning-place of Thy signs after Thou hast summoned me to the horizon of Thy grace? O Lord! This is one who thirsts for the river of Thy bounty, and an ignorant one who seeketh to draw near to the ocean of Thy knowledge. Teach me, O my God, from Thy hidden knowledge whereby Thou didst give life to what was and what shall be. Make me, moreover, to circle round Thy good-pleasure, to be submissive to Thy command, and humble before Thy loved ones who have sought Thy presence and attained the light of Thy countenance, and entered the city wherein the sweet savors of Thy revelation were wafted and the fragrances of Thy inspiration were diffused. Thou art, verily, powerful to do what Thou willest. I testify that Thou art the Sovereign over all who are in earth and heaven, and the Almighty over all things. There is none other God but Thee, the Most Exalted, the All-Powerful, the All-Compelling, the Self-Subsisting.

BH00595: O My Name! Upon thee be My glory!...

He is God, exalted be His glory in wisdom and utterance!

O My Name! Upon thee be My glory! The letters thou didst send have all been honored by the glance of favor and have attained unto the blessing of being heard. The Living Waters of the Kawthar have ever flowed and descended from the Supreme Pen, yet no seeker is to be found. Now that the baseness of the people of the Bayan hath reached such a state that Ibn-i-Ja'far-i-Kirmani hath become the leader of the people and guide of mankind, they have attributed calumnies to the King of existence—from Whose right and left flow the Euphrates of mercy and surge the seas of bounty, and Who throughout His life hath

been caught in the claws of His enemies—and have made these calumnies a cause of the people's deviation. In brief, a group, like unto the former people, are striving and endeavoring to extinguish the light of God and cut down the Blessed Tree. Therefore, the Supreme Pen hath chosen and continueth to choose silence.

O My Name! Among the wonders of the world is that one who hath lived his entire life in utmost comfort is called oppressed, while He Who throughout all His days hath borne imprisonment, exile, beating and the like is mentioned by another name. Such is the condition of the heedless servants. Those souls who are ignorant of the root of the Cause strive with the utmost cunning and deception to lead others astray.

The letter of his honor Buzurg, upon him be My glory, was noted. We make mention of him as We have mentioned him before in numerous Tablets, and I am the All-Knowing Rememberer. By My life! They have attained unto My verses. When they shone forth from the horizon of the heaven of Will, the denizens of the Supreme Concourse and the dwellers on the shore of the Crimson Sea showered upon him the pearls of wisdom and utterance. O My Name! My Pen lamenteth and speaketh: Beseech ye God that He may draw the servants from the left hand of idle fancies to the right hand of certitude.

Mention was made of his honor Muhammad and Aqajan. Mention of both hath been sent down from the heaven of utterance of God, exalted be His glory. The relatives of the Martyr, upon him be My glory and My loving-kindness and My mercy and My grace, have ever been and continue to be remembered. My Name Jamal, upon him be My glory and My loving-kindness, sent to the Most Holy Court the petition of the wife of the Martyr, upon her be the grace of God and His mercy and His glory. Praise and gratitude be unto Him. All are adorned with the ornament of faith and are gazing toward the Supreme Horizon.

O My Name! For twelve hundred years the former people were worshippers of names while counting themselves among the believers in Divine unity. By the life of God! They never inhaled the fragrance of unity, as became evident and manifest from the recompense of their deeds on the Day of Resurrection. They committed that which caused the realm of immortality to implore annihilation from God, glorified and exalted be He. Not a single person in that land, whether learned or ignorant, remained except that they engaged in cursing and execration. Finally they committed that which amazeth the realm of justice and fairness. Today, should any soul reflect upon the deeds and actions of those souls and their fruits, he would become established upon the throne of certitude and would abide upon the seat of assurance.

Names would not withhold him from the ocean of inner meanings, nor would the doubts and intimations of the opposers and deniers affect him. They run from city to city and village to village, thinking they are helping the Cause of God and protecting His Law. Say: O heedless ones! The Truth hath come with "He doeth whatsoever He willeth" and abideth in the pavilion of glory with "He ordaineth whatsoever He pleaseth." Whosoever drinketh from the ocean deposited within this word shall find himself free and liberated, and shall regard all else besides God as mere dust, nay, even more abject, were they but to know it.

O Buzurg! Mention has been made of Siyyid Ali and likewise his vow hath been accepted. Blessed is he in that he hath turned towards God, the Single, the All-Knowing. O Siyyid Ali! Strive to attain such a station that the ants of the world shall have no power over thee. The people of that land, despite their many

claims, have ultimately become the most loss-bearing of all people. Beseech ye God that through the power of the Most Exalted Pen He may grant strength unto the people, bestow might, and make them powerful, that all may be adorned with the Word of God as revealed in the Bayan. He saith that a year-old child in the Day of His Manifestation is mightier than the entire Bayan. All matters have been and are dependent upon this Manifestation. The divine Books all proclaim and herald this, and the Messengers have explained and acted upon it, yet the people are in evident delusion.

The letter of Jalal, upon him be My glory, was perused. Mention of him hath been made in the Most Holy Court, before and after, and all that he wrote to the servant in attendance hath been honored to be heard. Blessed is he and blessed are the friends of God in that land who were not held back by human limitations from the Most Great Prospect, and whom the hosts of those that turned away from God, the Lord of the worlds, did not frighten. We make mention of his mother and his wife. O My Name! All the souls mentioned in his letter have attained and been honored by the traces of the Most Exalted Pen.

O Jalal! Praise be to God that thou hast attained unto that which most of the peoples of the world are deprived of. Thou hast heard the Divine Call and beheld the waves of the ocean of utterance. Thy call hath been and is being heard. God, exalted be His glory, is the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing. He heareth and seeth. Convey My greetings to the friends in that land. Some time ago wondrous and exalted Tablets were revealed from the heaven of glory and dispatched. In every letter thereof an ocean lieth concealed. By the Sun of proof! Were the people to attain unto them and drink therefrom, they would find themselves independent of all save God.

O people of God! This is the Day of steadfastness. The cawing ones are spread abroad like locusts, and this is the news which the Ancient Beauty gave in Zawra and the Land of Mystery and this land, thus informing all. Today the ocean of mercy is surging and the Most Great Name standeth before all faces. Blessed are they whom the whisperings of devils and the doubts of the idolaters did not prevent or hold back from the straight path.

O My Name! The letter of ʿAttar, upon him be the glory of God, was perused. The Most Exalted Pen hath borne and beareth witness that they are among those who arose to serve at the beginning of the Cause. Both men and women have been observed to be steadfast and enkindled in exalting the Word and serving the people of God. We beseech God to make all steadfast and to illumine them with the lights of the Sun of Truth. He is, verily, powerful and mighty over all things. Blessed is the mother who hath been named by the Tongue of the Lord of Names as the Mother of the Friends. We make mention of her at this moment that it may be a glory, an honor and a treasure for her with God, the Lord of the worlds.

The resplendent Remembrance from the horizon of the Kingdom and the radiant Light from the heaven of might be upon thee, O My handmaiden and My leaf, who hath spoken My praise, turned unto My horizon, soared in My atmosphere, clung to My cord and held fast to the hem of My loving-kindness and mercy. Thou art she who turned unto the Most Exalted Horizon when the Creator of the heavens came with the kingdom of names, and who hearkened when the Most Sublime Pen raised its shrill voice, and who hastened unto the ocean of knowledge when the concourse of divines and rulers held back.

Blessed art thou, O mother of My loved ones and she who hath shown kindness to My chosen ones. I testify that thy heart was a dawning-place of the love of God, thy tongue a source of His remembrance, and thy breast His view. Blessed is the handmaiden who turned unto thee and made mention of that which was sent down from the heaven of thy Lord's will, the All-Merciful, when thou didst ascend unto the Most Exalted Companion and didst dwell in the precincts of the mercy of thy Lord, the Lord of all men and the Lord of the worlds to come and of the first worlds. Blessed is the earth that was honored by thy body and attained unto thy presence.

I testify that thou didst believe in God when most of His servants denied Him, and didst drink of My choice sealed wine through My Self-Subsisting Name when most of the people of the lands were debarred therefrom. Thou art she whom neither clamor deterred nor hatred veiled. Thou didst voice the praise of thy Lord until thy spirit ascended unto a station known to none save God, the Lord of all names and Creator of the heavens. In thy life thou wert in a house wherein was raised the remembrance of God, the Goal of all desire, the Lord of the Throne on high and of the earth below. Thou art she who attained unto the verses of thy Lord before and after thine ascension.

Mercy outstripped thee and grace encompassed thee, and light moved before thy face, and at the time of thine ascension a company of angels and the Spirit received thee. He Who possesseth the Mother Book beareth witness unto this. Glory be upon thee, upon thy beginning and thine end, thy outer and inner being, and the mercy of God and His favors.

O my God, my God! I beseech Thee by the hearts that were cut to pieces in Thy path and dissolved in separation from Thee, and by the bodies that soared in Thy love, and by the faces that turned unto Thy face, and by the sweet-scented breezes of Thy Revelation in Thy days, and by the manifestations of Thy power in Thy Kingdom and Thy Realm of Might, to ordain for him who hath visited Thy handmaiden, through Thy Most Exalted Pen, the best of the world to come and of the first world. Then forgive him, O my God, through Thy grace and bounty, and purify him, O my Goal, from transgression, through Thy Name, the All-Merciful. Thou art He through Whose Name, the All-Forgiving, the ocean of forgiveness surged in the contingent world, and through Whose Name, the All-Bountiful, the sun of bounty shone forth from the horizon of the world.

I beseech Thee by the lights of Thy face to forgive Thy servants and to remit their misdeeds and transgressions. Then accept from them, O my God, what they have wrought in Thy days and what they have arisen to render in service to Thy loved ones and chosen ones. Verily Thou art the One Who hath power over whatsoever He pleaseth, and in Thy right hand are the reins of all things. There is none other God but Thee, the Mighty, the All-Bestowing.

BH00719: This is what hath been uttered by the tongue…

This is what hath been uttered by the tongue of the Beloved:

O Zaynu'l-Muqarrabin! Thy letter hath come before Our presence and We have heard what was therein. Through this the ocean of the loving-kindness of thy Lord, the All-Merciful, hath been set in motion and casteth forth the pearls of divine knowledge. Be thou thankful and numbered with them that render

thanks. We beseech God to adorn with thy remembrance the temple of existence and through thee to raise the standards of His Cause amidst the concourse of the seen and the unseen. He, verily, is the All-Powerful, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

As to what thou didst mention concerning Muhammad-Qabli-Hasan, convey unto him greetings from this lonely Prisoner. Say: Blessed art thou, O servant, for having migrated with the exiles of God, having accompanied them and joined with them in thy journey. Thy Lord, verily, is the Protector of all things. He knoweth what the hands of His loved ones have wrought and witnesseth what they do in His path. He, verily, is the Mighty, the All-Wise. Grieve not that thou wert prevented from attaining Our presence. We desire him who hath desired Us, yet the heedless have intervened between us. We have written for thee the reward of one who hath attained Our presence and appeared before Our countenance. This is of My bounty unto thee. Be thou grateful before the face of thy Lord and be of them that show thanks. We have accepted this visitation of thine. This is a word We have caused to shine forth from the horizon of creation and it shall endure as long as God endureth. This is yet another bounty that hath encompassed thee from One Who is Mighty, Beautiful.

Wert thou to ponder on that which hath proceeded from the mouth of the Divine Will, thou wouldst remember the Lord of all creation throughout all thy days and be enkindled with that Fire wherewith the hearts of them that are near have been set ablaze. Convey My remembrance unto thy brother Husayn and give him the glad tidings of My mention of him. Thy Lord, verily, is the All-Bountiful, the Ancient of Days. Say: Be ye steadfast, O loved ones of God, in His Cause, then make mention of Him with wisdom and utterance. Beware lest ye transgress the bounds of wisdom. We have made it another sign from your Lord, the Most High, the Most Great. Hold fast unto it in all conditions. Thus have ye been commanded aforetime and in this perspicuous Tablet. Through wisdom do We educate Our loved ones. It is My adornment amongst those who have turned unto God and are of them that are well-directed.

O Zayn! Glorify on My behalf those who are in thy land, then impart unto them that which hath sprinkled upon them from this surging, encompassing, mighty, and exalted Ocean. The name of each one of them hath been mentioned in the Tablets of thy Lord. This is of His bounty unto them and unto His believing servants. Then make mention on My behalf of the handmaidens of God who are there and give them glad tidings through this Wise Remembrance. Upon them and upon them all be the Glory of God, thy Lord, so long as the Dove warbleth upon the branches of the Divine Lote-Tree. The Kingdom is God's, the One, the Single, the Peerless, the All-Informed.

Excellent is what thou hast mentioned concerning Asadu'llah and what thou hast desired for him regarding the proof of servitude. Blessed art thou, O Zayn! By My life, this is a station that no other station can equal, were people possessed of insight. Blessed is he who hath adorned his temple with the ornament of servitude unto God, the Truth, and blessed is he who layeth his face upon the dust in humility before the Lord of Lords, turning unto Him. This, verily, is the praiseworthy station with thy Lord, the Most Exalted, the Mighty, the Wise. Make mention of him on My behalf, then send unto him this fragrance which We have sent from the direction of the Throne that he may inhale the sweet scents of the garment and arise to praise his Lord at all times.

Say: Be thou assured by the grace of thy Lord that thy name hath appeared before the Face. God hath absolved thee of thy misdeeds and hath ordained for thee in the Tablet an exalted station. Were We to mention the effects thereof throughout the duration of the Kingdom and the Dominion, it would never end. Thy Lord, verily, is the Ruler over what He willeth. He detaileth unto whomsoever He pleaseth whatsoever He desireth and aideth those who have turned unto Him through His grace. There is no God but He, the Mighty, the Generous.

O Asad! Be thou steadfast in the Cause of thy Lord, then aid Him in His land. Say: Praise be to Thee, O my God, for having moved Thy Most Exalted Pen to make mention of me. Ordain for me, O my God, that which Thou lovest and with which Thou art well-pleased, for I know nothing and Thou art the All-Knowing.

Then make mention of ʿAli on my behalf. Say: Be not grieved at being debarred from the precincts of the Divine Purpose. Be content with what God hath ordained for thee. He ordaineth what He pleaseth for whom He pleaseth. He is indeed the Sovereign over all the worlds. Blessed art thou for having turned unto God and hastened unto Him. This turning hath been recorded by the Pen of thy Lord, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. This is better for thee than all thou witnessest and beholdest. Be not grieved at anything. Put thy trust in Him in all matters. He is with His servants who seek Him. Beseech God, thy Lord, to make thee steadfast in His Cause. He ordaineth for whomsoever He pleaseth that which is best for him.

Thy Lord is, in truth, the Most Merciful of the merciful. Aid His Cause through mentioning Him amongst His servants. This is the most meritorious of all deeds in the sight of the Self-Sufficient, the Most High. He is indeed informed of all things. We have accepted thy migration in His path and thy return by His command, and have ordained for thee that which will gladden the eyes of them that are nigh unto Him. In His hand is the dominion of command and creation. He is, in truth, potent over all things.

Then make mention of Isma'il who drank the choice wine of life in the days of his Lord, the All-Merciful, and bore hardships in the path of God, the Supreme, the Self-Subsisting. Make mention of him on My behalf and convey unto him what We have sent down from the direction of the Throne, that the fragrance of thy Lord's utterance may be diffused throughout the land wherein he dwelleth. Thy Lord is, in truth, the Mighty, the Ancient of Days. Say: Grieve not over what hath befallen thee. Reflect upon what thy Lord hath endured in manifesting His Cause. Say: Praise be to Thee, O God of the seen and the unseen. God is well aware of thine exile from thy native land and thy drawing nigh unto another land.

Grieve not on this account. This is what God hath written for Himself, as thou seest Him in the land of exile in a far-off prison. Arise to make mention of Me and to praise Me, then soar on the wings of detachment unto the atmosphere of My mercy and grandeur that thou mayest hear the call of the birds of My throne and the doves of My oneness. By My life! Through these are attracted the hearts of them that have sought the countenance of their Lord, the All-Merciful, in those days, and through these are wafted the sweet savors of the All-Glorious throughout all worlds. Thy Lord is indeed the Ruler over what was and what shall be.

When thou attainest unto the Tablet of God and its effects, make mention of Him with wisdom and clear exposition, that perchance they who slumber on the couch of idle fancies may arise at the call and turn

towards this Quarter round which circle angels brought nigh unto God. Turn with thy heart unto the Qiblih of all who are in the heavens and on earth. Say:

I am he who hath turned unto Thee, and hath set his face towards the Dawning-Place of Thy verses, the Dayspring of Thine inspiration and the Manifestation of Thy Cause. I beseech Thee by Thy Name through which Thou didst quicken all created things, to number me among them who have soared in the atmosphere of Thy love and who have remained steadfast in Thy Cause until Thou didst manifest unto them Thy sovereignty in Thy kingdom and Thy power over all that are in Thy earth. Then write down for me what beseemeth Thy greatness and Thy majesty. Thou art, verily, powerful to do what Thou pleasest. Thou art, in truth, the Mighty, the All-Wise.

O Zaynu'l-Muqarrabin! Hearken unto that which thy Lord calleth thee from the direction of the Throne, then send it unto him who hath been named Abu'l-Qasim, that the call of his Lord may attract him and detach him from all who dwell on earth. Say: O servant, hold fast unto the cord of thy Lord's loving-kindness. He will verily protect thee in truth. He is indeed the Almighty, the Powerful. When the fragrance of the garment which We have sent from the direction of thy Lord, the Most High, the All-Glorious, wafteth over thee, turn with thy heart unto Him. Say:

O my God, my Lord and my Beloved! I testify that Thou art my Creator and my Provider, and that Thy love preceded my love for my father and mother. I beseech Thee by Thy Name through which the believers drank the wine of certitude and the sincere ones partook of the Kawthar of assurance, and through which the breezes of forgiveness wafted over all created things, to protect me from those who have denied Thy signs, rejected Thy truth and repudiated Thy power. O Lord! Cause me to enter beneath the shade of the Tree of Thy mercy, then number me among those who have drunk the wine of steadfastness from the hands of Thy bounty and the Kawthar of utterance from the fingers of Thy mercy, that nothing may prevent me from turning toward Thee and arising to remember Thee.

I beseech Thee by Thy Self to ordain me as one of those who circle round Thee and gaze upon Thy countenance, detached from all things, and who move according to Thy will. Thou art the Giver, the Bestower, the Powerful, the Mighty, the Wise. Then write down for me that which is best in Thy sight and ordain for me to act according to Thy good-pleasure. Verily, Thou art the Powerful, the Most Exalted, the Mighty, the Great.

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BH00737: This is a mention from Us to him who…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Great!

This is a mention from Us to him who hath inhaled the fragrance of the Garment and turned towards the court of God, the Almighty, the Most High, the Most Great. Blessed art thou, inasmuch as the Most High Pen hath raised thy mention between earth and heaven, and the Tongue of the Wronged One addresseth thee whilst He was in the hands of the oppressors. Give thanks for having been aided to turn towards Him

when the Manifestation of thy Lord's Cause, the Self-Sufficient, the Most Exalted, appeared with a Command that caused all who are in the heavens and on earth to tremble, save those who came unto God with illumined hearts. There hath been ordained for thee in thy Lord's Kingdom that which shall bring solace to all eyes and gladden the hearts of them that know. Preserve this station, then aid thy Lord, and be not of them that tarry. Patience is praiseworthy except in His Cause—thus hath the matter been decreed from the presence of One mighty and wise. That which God showed thee in thy dream is indeed His supreme token unto thee and His most great favor for thee.

Be thankful for what He hath bestowed upon thee—ere long shall the effects of this bounty be made manifest. Verily thy Lord is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. He giveth what He willeth to whom He willeth and ordaineth by His command what He desireth. Can any prevent His command? Nay, by His sovereignty that prevaileth over the worlds! Can His wisdom ever be exhausted? Nay, by His Word that shineth forth from the horizon of utterance! Yet the people are in profound slumber. Soon shall they awaken, but shall find no escape for themselves. Blessed art thou for having recognized these days and cast aside mankind, turning unto God, the Almighty, the All-Forgiving, the All-Bountiful. Hold fast unto the handle of the Cause with utmost steadfastness, and associate with those in whose hearts thou findest the sweet fragrance of thy Lord, the All-Merciful, and on whose faces thou beholdest the radiance of joy. They who act according to that which they are commanded are verily among the people of Paradise in the estimation of thy Lord, while they who are heedless are in a mighty veil. O joy be unto him who hath rent asunder the veils, detached from all else but God, and stood firm in this Cause whereby the feet of the doubters have slipped.

Say: Glory be unto Thee, O my God! Praise be unto Thee for the loftiness of Thy gifts and favors, and the sublimity of Thy care and bounties, whereby Thou hast aided me to turn towards the Dayspring of the light of Thy oneness and the Repository of the manifestations of Thy transcendent unity. I beseech Thee by Thy Name which Thou hast made the Dawning-Place of Thy names and the Dayspring of Thy signs unto all who are in earth and heaven, to make me steadfast in Thy love, moved by Thy will, speaking Thy praise, gazing towards Thy direction, and content with what Thou hast ordained through Thy decree. O my Lord! I have turned unto Thee, detached from all else but Thee. Ordain for me that which befitteth the glory of Thy station and the sublimity of Thy bounties. Then write down for me that whereby my mention shall endure among Thy servants and my spirit in the worlds which Thou hast concealed from Thy creatures. Thou art, verily, powerful over whatsoever Thou pleasest. There is no God but Thee, the Mighty, the All-Praised. And praise be unto Thee, O Lord of the worlds!

In the name of the Adored One of the worlds.

Praised be God that in this divine springtime thou hast been favored with the outpourings from the clouds of heavenly grace, hast inhaled the sweet fragrances of the garment of divine unity, and hast hearkened unto the notes of the celestial Dove. It behooveth thee to render thanks unto Him at all times. Observe how many are the claimants to knowledge, virtue, wealth, affluence, piety and godliness who have remained deprived of the ultimate purpose and the source of divine bounties, despite the fact that they utter His Name night and day and make mention of Him. Fie upon them! They have cast away that

for which they were created and have taken that which they were forbidden in the Tablets of God, the Almighty, the Most Exalted, the Most Great.

Blessed art thou and blessed is he who hath attained unto the lights of His countenance. This is through God's grace which He bestoweth upon whomsoever He willeth. But today steadfastness is most beloved and is accounted as one of the most great affairs in the sight of God. This exalted station hath ever been and shall forever be. As thou canst observe, certain souls have been kept back from the Sovereign of existence by the vain imaginings of the past, whilst these are days wherein all must detach themselves from whatsoever they possess and, with hearts sanctified from all idle fancies, turn towards the Best-Beloved of the worlds. It is most evident that whatsoever the people possessed hath been but vain imagination, as hath now been made clear to some.

Thou shouldst gather, as much as possible, the Persian Tablets that have been sent down from the heaven of the Divine Will and read them, for in all of them are revealed mighty utterances and sovereign declarations which shall be the cause of the steadfastness of souls. Blessed is he who gathereth them, readeth them, and delighteth in their contents. We testify that he is of the sincere ones. God willing, thou shouldst remain steadfast in the Cause of God with utmost constancy, and move and speak with wisdom amongst the peoples of the world. He is verily the True Counsellor, the Trustworthy. We beseech God to assist thee in His service and draw thee nigh unto Him in all conditions. Verily, He is the Self-Sufficient, the Most Exalted.

That which was observed in the dream has come to pass, and it is indeed a manifest truth. This is evidence of God's gifts and bounties bestowed upon you, that you beheld yourself attaining His presence in a spacious place containing many chambers. From time immemorial and unto eternity, the Truth has been and ever shall be in the most exalted and expansive station, and likewise His loved ones—those souls who are sanctified from the doubts and allusions of the veiled ones. Though outwardly they may be seen in prison, in reality they dwell in the highest chambers of paradise, as hath been revealed in the Tablets. When you found yourself in that praiseworthy station, it behooveth you to thank God, your Lord, for having made you among those who circle round Him and attain His presence. This is the supreme bounty, that before the outward meeting, He hath inwardly reckoned you among those near to Him and who have attained His presence. Verily, He is the Forgiving, the Merciful.

That you inquired in that sublime and inaccessible station about Aqa Muhammad-Javad, upon him be the glory of God, concerning the bestowal of divine bounty upon you, is evidence that he was among the means of divine confirmation and spoke to you with truth and sincerity. Be friendly with him and be among those who remember. That you expressed insufficiency is evidence of your increased seeking from the treasury of grace. Yea, those who seek the Ka'bah of the All-Merciful and circle round the sanctuary of the All-Glorious are like fish in the ocean—the more they drink, the more they cry out "Is there more?"

That the bestowal of bounty was mentioned fourfold indicates that multiple bounties have been ordained for you: the bounty of remembrance now flowing from the Pen, the inner bounty stored in the treasuries of knowledge, likewise the hidden bounty concealed in the repositories of power, and the outward bounty inscribed in the heaven of divine command. God willing, you shall attain them all. This is not

difficult for God. Be assured of God's grace to such degree that should all on earth gather to oppose and object, you would see them as absolute nothingness.

As for your request that this be written in ink, verily We promised you this. By My life, this is indeed the Most Exalted Pen, whose shrill voice is heard between the heavens and the earth. Thus doth it remember thee in truth, and this cannot be equaled by aught that hath been or shall be created. Verily thy Lord is the All-Bountiful, the Ancient of Days. Perfect bounty hath been shown unto you; God willing, its effects shall become manifest. Preserve this station lest anything impede it. Thus doth this Wronged One remember thee while seated in prison, detached from all the worlds. Drink forever from the Kawthar of the gifts of the Exalted Lord. That which will assure thee of thy Lord's grace hath been sent down unto thee, and there shall soon be revealed that which shall cause the fragrances of thy Lord to waft abroad. He is the Protector of those who turn unto Him. We beseech God to preserve thee from those who speak of that which they comprehend not and imagine they do well, though they have not understood what is with their Lord, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

BH00765: Exalted is He Who is the Sovereign of all…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Glorious!

Exalted is He Who is the Sovereign of all kingdoms and the King of those who dwell in the realms of inaccessibility, Who hath caused the sun of the Most Great Word to shine forth from the horizon of the Most Ancient Pen, whereby the abstract realities, the sanctified essences, the pure and holy souls, and the assured and steadfast hearts have all been set ablaze. All these have testified to that which the Dove of Heaven hath testified in the midmost heart of eternity: that verily the Kingdom on this day belongeth unto God, the One, the Most Powerful, the All-Glorious.

How excellent are those radiant lights and lofty exemplars who have arisen with the spirit of might amidst the servants and called out to all creation:

> "By God! The Lord of the Day of Mutual Calling hath come! His is the glory and greatness, His the majesty and power! He hath taken a gem from among the gems of creation, purified it with the hand of His power and the fingers of His might, and caused the sun of His beauty and the light of His grandeur to shine upon it. Thereupon it prostrated before His Being and arose to aid His Cause in the world of creation, drank from the pure water of His love, detached itself from the mention of aught else but Him."

This is he who hath been named in the heaven of faithfulness as Muhammad Mustafa—upon him be the sun of remembrance from the supreme horizon and the light of glorification from the dawning-place of grandeur.

O my God! I know not by what remembrance to remember Thy near servants who have fulfilled Thy Covenant in these days wherein all have broken Thy pledge. They have arisen to aid Thy Cause and have detached themselves from all directions and from their own selves out of love for Thy most exalted Self and Thy Beauty that shineth forth from the horizon of Thy most sublime Being. They have been touched in Thy path by tribulations which the Pen of Creation is powerless to recount. I testify, O my God, that

through their turning unto the court of Thy oneness, I have drunk the cup of acceptance from the hand of the Cup-Bearer of Thy mercy, and through their orientation toward the Dayspring of the lights of Thy Revelation, I have attained the light of recognition and turned toward the sanctuary of certitude.

By Thy glory, O my God! Were it not for the lights of their permanence, I would surely have remained in the darkness of annihilation, as one brought to naught. How then can this feeble tongue make mention of those whom Thou hast made the manifestations of the lights of Thy majesty and glory? Among them, O my God, is this blessed Name whom Thou hast made the choicest of the chosen ones and the essence of the righteous and the learned.

O my God! The remembrances of this evanescent one befit not his presence nor are worthy of his station. I beseech Thee by Thy Most Great Remembrance and by Thy Most Perfect and Ancient Name that Thou make mention of him upon the throne of Thy beauty and the seat of Thy majesty with such holy remembrances as lie hidden within the pavilion of Thy mystery and are treasured beneath the veils of Thy Cause, that his eyes and the eyes of them that are nigh unto Thee among Thy servants and the sincere ones among Thy creatures may be solaced thereby. Verily, Thou art the All-Bountiful, possessed of grace and bounty, and the All-Merciful, possessed of generosity and bestowal. There is none other God but Thee, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious.

My spirit be a sacrifice for thee and for thy steadfastness in the Cause of thy Lord, the Lord of all names! Though thou art by outward nationality Iraqi, yet as thou hast for some time associated and communed with Persian friends and learned their expressions, therefore these few words are addressed in Persian to that Iraqi friend. By whatever means, one must find a way to the heart of a friend. O beloved of my heart and soul! The essence of knowledge and deeds, and the most ancient and excellent thereof, is today to arise to aid the Cause of the Lord of creation and the King of nations. Although thou hast exerted great and lofty efforts in all aspects to aid God's Cause and promote His Faith, what hath been manifested from thee in service and support of the Cause hath been thy portion, and what is now being conveyed is this servant's portion which thou must fulfill, as the outward means are cut off from this servant.

Be not content that one or two souls attain the water of recognition. Let the scattered tributaries that have branched from the Most Great Ocean be joined to the mightiest stream and enter the shore of the Sea of Seas. This was conveyed before and is now conveyed again, that thou mayest strive in this Cause and take the reins through the power of thy All-Knowing Lord. He will verily assist thee through His command. There is no God but Him, the Mighty, the Powerful.

However, these matters must be approached with complete wisdom, for the foundation of this momentous Cause is based on wisdom, and among wisdom's requirements are planning and reflection. These two are like the two wings for the bird of the heaven of wisdom. Today these aspects are confined to thy being. Consider thyself alone in teaching and supporting the Cause. It is hoped from the ocean of the Most Merciful's bounty that thou wilt arise from the horizon of teaching and utterance in such wise as to illumine and brighten all those lands with the lights of guidance and the manifestations of the Sun of Grandeur. This is not difficult for God. The confirmations of the Most Great Spirit have been with thee. God willing, thou wilt act according to what hath been inscribed by the Most Exalted Pen in all circumstances.

Again it is submitted that today teaching God's Cause is the greatest of all things and most excellent of all that is mentioned. All of us who have been blessed from the Most Wondrous, Most Glorious cup must, with pure servitude and complete humility, detached from ourselves and all else, invite people to the Divine Law. Furthermore, regarding those souls who have been disturbed in this greatest upheaval, they must be treated with conciliation that perchance they may return to the ocean of certitude. It is known that most souls are weak, but God's pre-existing mercy looks to ensure that no soul remains deprived, especially those who have endured hardships. In any case, it is incumbent upon thee to deal with such souls with kindness that they may not be deprived of divine bounty.

Furthermore, the evil one ʿAli-Muhammad hath written and continues to write whatever his soul dictates, resembling Tablets, on various papers and hath distributed them in the name of Truth. He hath ever been and still is engaged in this work. There he hath committed the same act and given them to certain souls to show people. The harm of this matter is great. Thou must not be heedless of this. We beseech God to remove him from the earth in such wise that no trace of him be seen and none know what became of him. Verily, He hath power over all things.

The circling prisoners of the Most Great Prison, one and all, convey their holy salutations, beyond words and utterance, to your honor and the other loved ones of God. Convey infinite expressions of longing, love and greeting from this evanescent servant to all the loved ones of God in that land and the remaining captives in His path who remain in that city. A petition has been sent to Amin Effendi, upon him be the Most Glorious Beauty of God. Convey this to him with countless greetings. And the spirit that wafts from the paradise of our Lord, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious, be upon you, O you who have been faithful to your Lord's covenant, steadfast in His Cause, and were among the helpers.

The servant of God

The ring-watch that you had sent to the Most Holy Court was forwarded so that you might sell it and distribute its proceeds among certain handmaidens of God there. One third should be given to Sayfu'llah, that is, the Guest of Baha'u'llah, and the remaining two thirds should be divided between their two sisters and the sisters of Aqa Muhammad-Rida. Furthermore, they said it is necessary to take care of certain handmaidens of God who have been left without support and whose apparent means have been cut off. Verily, He will fully reward the doers of good. And furthermore, whoever intends may send one veil.

BH00780: What has befallen the Tree, its branches and leaves…

What has befallen the Tree, its branches and leaves hath caused the Cause of God to be exalted, yet the people remain behind a veil and covering. Whatsoever harm hath come upon Us, We have made it a means of exalting God's Cause, the Lord of creation. We have knowledge of what hath befallen them in the path of God, and We have sent down for each one of them that which shall solace their eyes. Give them the glad tidings that their names were mentioned before the Throne. Thy Lord is, verily, the Mighty, the All-Knowing. We counsel them with wisdom, for through it flow the springs of knowledge amongst all created things. Blessed are they who have stood firm in the Cause and have tasted in His love what none before them have tasted. By My life! They are among the choicest of servants before the Mighty, the Bestower.

Blessed is he who hath been named the Trustworthy and who hath made mention with the tongue of his Lord, the Creator of all things, and blessed is Muhammad who hath attained unto the days of his Lord and hath answered his Master's call. He is assuredly among the righteous. No more is permitted in this letter. Gladden ye all through the favors of God. All names have been revealed in the Tablets and have been and shall be under the glance of His grace. They must walk with the utmost wisdom lest anything occur that might cause the weak to stumble. If they act according to what hath been revealed from the Pen of the Cause, they shall soon witness all people turning towards it.

Concerning the two persons mentioned, their petition was presented before the Face, and this is what was sent down from the heaven of Will: O Aziz! Give thanks unto God for having enabled thee to recognize Him and for having given thee to drink of the pure wine in the days of His Manifestation, and for having aided thee to turn unto Him after every contumacious infidel had turned away. Say: Glory be to Thee, O my God! I beseech Thee by Thy Name through which the sun of Thy Revelation shone forth from the horizon of Thy Will, and which Thou hast made to hold sway over all who are in Thy earth and heaven, to make me detached from all else save Thee and to fix my gaze upon the horizon of Thy grace and bounties.

O Lord! Thou art the Rich and I am the poor. I have raised my hands of supplication to the heaven of Thy grace and my eyes await the wonders of Thy mercy. Send down upon me from the heaven of Thy generosity that which will draw me nigh unto Thee and make me steadfast in Thy Cause and firm in Thy love. Verily, Thou hast ever been established in Thy transcendent might and power. I testify that Thy power hath encompassed all worlds. There is no God but Thee, the Mighty, the Generous.

O Aziz! This is a Day wherein if thou wouldst turn with the ear of thine innate nature unto the rock, thou wouldst hear it proclaim:

> "The Day is come and the Promised One hath appeared with manifest sovereignty."

The power of thy Lord hath encompassed all contingent things. Ask thou of Iraq those who walk the path of fairness and thou shalt be assured that He hath appeared with all the signs. He hath shattered the idols of vain imaginings through the sovereignty of thy Lord, the Mighty, the All-Knowing. When thou hast attained unto that which hath flowed from the Most Exalted Pen, say: Praise be to Thee for having sent down unto me that which shall cause me to endure in the kingdom of names and shall establish my remembrance among the righteous.

O Razzaq! Thy letter hath come before the Face and We found from it the fragrance of thy love for thy Lord, the Mighty, the Self-Subsisting. We have pardoned what is past and have sent down for thee that which shall cause spirits to soar. Verily thy Lord is the Mighty, the All-Forgiving. Soar thou in My atmosphere, make mention of My Name and voice My praise among My servants in such wise as to transform the servants when the breezes of the All-Merciful waft over thee from this Book which hath been sent down from the heaven of utterance. Turn with thy heart to the Qiblih of all creation. Say:

O my God and my Beloved! Praise be unto Thee for having caused me to recognize the Manifestation of Thy Self, the Dawning-Place of Thy Beauty, and the Dayspring of Thy Revelation. I beseech Thee not to shut me out from Thy gate which Thou hast opened unto all who are in Thy heaven and on Thy earth. O

my Lord! Aid me to love Thee in such wise that I may be content with Thy good-pleasure, moved by Thy command, and in all conditions be turned toward the realm of Thy grace and bounty, immersed in the ocean of Thy knowledge which hath appeared through Thy Most Great Name, from every drop of which can be heard: "There is none other God but Him, the Mighty, the All-Wise."

Blessed art thou, O servant, inasmuch as thy mention hath been made from this glorious horizon. Say: He desireth naught for Himself. I summon you from this prison unto God, the Mighty, the All-Knowing. Say: O people! Ponder upon God's ambassadors of the past and this Cause through which the standards of His Command have been raised. Beware lest ye deny Him through Whom the eyes of them that are nigh unto God have been solaced. When thou hast drunk the Salsabil of divine exposition from the utterance of thy Lord, the All-Merciful, say: Praise be unto Thee, O Thou the Goal of them that know Thee.

Had circumstances permitted, unique and sublime Tablets would have been revealed and sent unto all. However, due to the clamor of the heedless and the croaking of the ungodly, this brief message shall suffice. We send greetings and glorification to all the loved ones in the land of Ba and Sad. Blessed are they, for their names have been mentioned before the Presence. This, verily, is a great bounty.

Regarding the attestation of Shaykh Muhammad, We beseech God to strengthen him at all times according to what his Lord, the All-Merciful, hath willed, to cause the Salsabil of life to flow from his tongue, and to enable him to make mention of Him and praise Him among His servants. Verily, He is the Ruler over whatsoever He willeth.

As for what thou hast mentioned concerning the imprisoned one, he is indeed imprisoned as his Lord was imprisoned. Blessed is he for having followed His example. None of the souls dwelling in that land are commissioned to teach; rather, all must conduct themselves among the servants with spiritual qualities and praiseworthy attributes that will engender the love of people. This much sufficeth. Should any soul utter words that cause disturbance to another in that land, the harm will rebound upon all. Surely forbid the servants from such mentions that cause people to become alarmed. As for their expression of distress and desire for permission to proceed elsewhere—since each of the friends and associates in that land has no connection save through thee, praise be to God that thou hast attained unto this relationship, and this sufficeth.

Concerning what was mentioned about the child: Blessed art thou for having sacrificed him in the path of God. Indeed, it hath been revealed in one of the Tablets, these words—exalted be His glory:

> "Were the Word of God to be confined to a single word, the books of all the worlds could not equal it."

Be not grieved at Our having abbreviated the Tablet, for therein is seen a mighty Book. This is a Tablet mingled with the salt of God; when thou hast tasted it and discovered its savor, arise and say: Praise be to Thee, O God of the worlds! Marvel not if We jest in prison, for grief hath never overtaken Us in the path of thy Lord, and We are in wondrous joy. We have indeed sacrificed one of the Branches. Say: Thine be the praise, O Glory of the worlds! Would that thou knewest the surgings of this Most Great Ocean and what lieth therein of the pearls of thy Lord's mysteries, the Mighty, the All-Praised.

In this Cause thou hast followed the truth. Well is it with thee for having attained thereunto. Let nothing grieve thee in the love of God, the Mighty, the All-Knowing. Be thou engaged in the service of the Cause with the utmost dedication. All matters shall, God willing, be set aright if He so wisheth and decreeth. Be thou patient, for He is verily the All-Forgiving, the Most Generous.

The matter which is of the utmost importance in the sight of God is that all should strive to unite souls, that all may become united and in truth abide in perfect love, harmony and unity. This matter hath been revealed in most of the Tablets. Blessed are they that act accordingly.

Mention was made of Jinab-i-Rida. We beseech God to aid him in the service of his Lord. He hath rendered and continueth to render many services. These shall surely not remain without fruit and recompense. Give him the glad-tidings of My remembrance of him, for He is the best of them that remember.

BH00802: O Imam! There hath come before the Throne…

He is the Ruler over whatsoever He willeth by His all-compelling dominion that encompasseth the horizons!

O Imam! There hath come before the Throne a letter wherein was thy mention. We have, therefore, adorned thee with this remembrance which hath proceeded from the mouth of thy Lord, that thou mayest glory therein amidst the heavens and earths. How sweet is this fragrance that hath wafted from the utterance of thy Lord, the All-Merciful, throughout all creation! Blessed is he who hath perceived it and is of them that advance.

O Imam! Arise with such steadfastness as cannot be altered by the doubts of men or the might of rulers. Thus doth thy Lord, the All-Knowing, command thee. Say: O thou remote oppressor! Hearest thou not how the Trump proclaimeth this Revelation and the Bell ringeth out this Most Great Name? The Most Exalted Pen hath been sounded, and all in creation were thunderstruck save whom thy Lord, the Lord of Names, did will. He is verily the Almighty, the Powerful.

The branches of denial have been broken and the tail of Satan severed by the sword of the All-Merciful. Thus was raised the clamor of them that disbelieved, and the pillars of every heedless remote one were shaken. When the fire of malice was kindled, We closed the door for known months. Then did God raise up those whom He destroyed by His pure might. He is verily the Protector over His servants. There is none other God but Him, the Most High, the Most Great. Should God wish, We would detail what hath transpired and send it unto thee. He is verily the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. Thus have We adorned thy temple with the raiment of remembrance and sprinkled upon thee from the ocean of thy Lord's mercy, the Mighty, the Bountiful.

O thou who art rich! Hearken unto the call from the direction of the Lord of Names, from the Most Exalted Tree. Verily, there is none other God but Him, the Almighty, the Unconstrained. The people of blindness rose against Us with swords of rejection. When opposition reached its height, the Tongue of Unity spoke, after the door was closed and the veil drawn, saying—and His word is the truth:

> “The necks have grown long with hypocrisy. Where are Thy swords of vengeance, O Destroyer of the worlds?”

Then did God raise up a people possessed of mighty strength who arose to aid the Cause with force and power. Thus did the hosts of oppression encompass Us, and there befell Us that which the pens are powerless to recount. Yet in such condition We continue to summon all beings unto God, the Lord of all men. Nothing shall prevent Us from the remembrance of God, even as the tyranny of every doubting oppressor did not prevent Us. Be thou steadfast in the Cause, then make mention of it among the servants, that perchance they who sleep upon the couch of heedlessness and ignorance may become aware and turn unto the Lord of all mankind.

O Shafi’! Give thanks unto thy Lord for having turned toward thee the face of God from this noble prospect. Blessed are ye for having heard the call and turned unto God, the Lord of the worlds. He that is moved by the fragrance of reunion and drawn by the lights of beauty is assuredly among the people of Baha, inscribed in a mighty tablet. Say: The Sun of the Promised One hath dawned. By God! He is verily the Desired One. Blessed is he who hath advanced with his heart and drunk of this luminous nectar. Be thou in such wise that neither the winds of trials move thee nor the veils of the oppressors hinder thee. Arise from the horizon of certitude with radiant countenance and gladdened eyes, speaking this Most Great Name. We have created you for the service of the Cause and exalted you through this manifest grace. God shall soon manifest your glory throughout the lands. He is verily the Ruler over what He willeth by His all-compelling sovereignty over the worlds.

O Fath’u’llah! We have opened unto thee the gate of remembrance from this far-distant place, and the Tongue of Eternity makes mention of thee from the Most Great Prison. By My life! If thou wert to taste the sweetness of this bounty, thou wouldst detach thyself from all else and arise to serve thy glorious Lord. Thy name hath been mentioned before the Countenance, and there have been revealed for thee these verses which nothing created on earth can equal. Blessed is he who hears and says: “Praise be to Thee, O God of the worlds!” The Wronged One calls the people to God while they have drawn the swords of opposition against His radiant and wondrous face. Say: God is the protector of all things; He guards whomsoever He willeth through His sovereignty. When protection comes from His presence, the swords of the world cannot harm him. Thus have We caused to shine upon thee from the horizon of grace the sun of remembrance and utterance. When thou art illumined by its lights, render thanks and be of those who praise.

O Ayn! Know thou that the eye is the highest of the senses, and its station is that of fire among the four elements. Therefore, it behooveth thee to manifest through the fire of thy Lord’s love in such wise that the hearts of the righteous may be set ablaze through thee. Thy name was inscribed in the Book which was presented before the Throne, and We have revealed verses for thee and sent them to thee that thou mayest be assured of His bounty toward thee and be of those who have attained to the mention of their Lord, the Mighty, the Bestower. Blessed art thou, O Ayn, for the eye of God hath turned toward thee from this Scene which God hath made the Qiblih of all who are in earth and heaven. Be thou as a bird soaring in My atmosphere, speaking My Name, celebrating My remembrance, and steadfast in this Cause whereby feet have slipped. The Lord of all beings hath been afflicted in the land of Syria amidst the

people of darkness by what the hands of those who turned away from the countenance of Beauty have wrought. Be thou not grieved by what hath befallen Us. Be thou vocal with this Name amongst the servants.

O Sharif! Hearken unto the call from this luminous Station from whose horizon the Book of Union was manifestly witnessed through grace. Blessed is he to whom the Countenance of the Ancient of Days hath turned from this Most Great Prison, and by whose name moved the Pen that was held between the fingers of the All-Merciful.

O My loved ones! Be not saddened by the barking of dogs. Hold fast to the cord of grace in this Day wherein that which was hidden from time immemorial hath been manifested. Take up the chalices in the name of the Cleaver of Dawn, then drink therefrom the choice wine of salvation, despite those who denied the proof when the All-Merciful came with an all-encompassing sovereignty. Beware lest the veils of the wicked prevent you from your Chosen Lord. Be steadfast in the Cause; thus hath the decree been irrevocably fixed by the truth.

O Pen of loving-kindness! Turn toward Javad and make mention of him from the presence of the Lord of creation, Who hath come from the heaven of utterance with the sovereignty of God, the Self-Subsisting, that the fragrance of verses from the Lord of attributes might stir him and establish him in the love of God in such wise that neither the allusions of the deniers nor the signs of those who have turned away from God, the Mighty, the Beloved, can hinder him. Hold fast to the handle of sanctity and be a sign of detachment among the people. Thus doth thy Lord, the Mighty, the Loving, command thee. Say: Blessed is he who hath detached himself from all else and followed what hath been revealed in the Tablets. He is truly the apple of the eye of existence. Make mention of your Lord, the All-Merciful, with wisdom and utterance. God will soon assist you with authority from His presence and will exalt whomsoever He willeth among His creation. He, verily, is the Truth, the Knower of things unseen. All things are within the grasp of His power; neither is anything in the unseen or visible realms hidden from His knowledge.

O Imam! Glorify on behalf of thy Lord those who have heard, have turned towards Him and have answered the Call of God when it was raised in truth from this exalted station. The name of not one of those who have turned unto Him hath been left out of thy Lord's Book. He, verily, is the One Whose grace is manifest. Remember them at all times, that they may be drawn by this wise Remembrance. Say: Sorrow not over anything, for He is with you and this sufficeth you, did ye but know. Rejoice in My remembrance of you and in My turning towards you from this Spot which God hath made the Source of His mighty and wondrous Cause. Thus hath the Divine Lote-Tree spoken forth from this most sublime Station, out of Its love for you, that ye may give thanks unto your Lord, the Most Merciful, at all times, and arise to aid His Cause amidst His heedless servants. And the glory be upon thee and upon those who are with thee amongst the loved ones of thy Lord, the Mighty, the Bountiful.

BH00817: O thou who gazest upon the Friend and awaitest…

He is the Manifest Interpreter

O thou who gazest upon the Friend and awaitest the appearance of the Glorious One! Know thou that We have read the Gospel and with Us are its meanings and mysteries which none hath discovered save whom God willeth. Then know that wisdom requireth giving to each seeker his measure. The ocean containeth what is in the cup, but the cup cannot contain what is in the ocean. The cup hath been given according to its capacity and the ocean according to its measure. Ponder that thou mayest be of them that comprehend. We give the thirsty to drink of the wine of understanding—verily it is the Kawthar of life. Blessed are they that drink thereof.

Consider when Jesus was asked at the time when the Pharisees had gathered round Him; He said to the questioner: "Thou sayest," and gave no other answer. Thus was the matter ordained in the Book. The hour hath come wherein the Spirit glorified His Lord, but ponder thou that hour whose knowledge was concealed from all who are on earth, and none discovered it save the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. Whoso attaineth its recognition at the time of its manifestation hath attained eternal life and entered the Kingdom and partaken of what hath been perfected therein. Blessed is he who hath found the fragrance of the utterance and turned towards it, detached from all else.

Beware lest the veils hinder thee. Look, then remember when the Spirit came: He was denied by the Pharisees who possessed knowledge of the Law and its minutiae, while those who caught fish believed in Him, as did those who were publicans. Take heed and be of them that remember. Reflect upon the cause of these men's rejection and the reason for those men's acceptance, that the truth may become manifest to thee and thou mayest behold the light shining from its manifest and luminous horizon.

Among the Pharisees were those who cited the Torah as proof of His falsity, after the Torah had testified of Him and what was revealed in the scrolls of the Messengers. Had they understood the Books and what God intended therein, they would not have been debarred from recognizing that which was their purpose. To this testifieth every fair-minded one possessed of knowledge. When they interpreted what was in the Books according to their desires, they were veiled from the Spirit and committed that which caused the eyes of them that are nigh to shed tears.

We have cast thee into the depths of these allusions that which sufficeth thee, wouldst thou ponder them with a pure and sanctified and illumined heart. Blessed is the eye that seeth, the ear that heareth, the hand that graspeth, and the heart that turneth unto the Lord of great glory. Among the people are those who turn to Him through their desires, and among them are those who turn according to what their Lord desireth. Blessed is he whose desire is what his Lord, the Mighty, the Great, desireth.

As to what thou hast asked concerning my condition, know thou that I am a captive, and I would that trees had been cut down for my name and a portion of my body crucified upon each one of them. Thus do We impart unto thee that thou mayest be of them that comprehend. We beseech God to draw thee nigh unto Him and cause thee to hear the melody of the Dove which warbleth upon the branches in diverse notes. He, verily, is the Almighty, the Glorious, the Bountiful.

O thou who gazest! Know that this is a Day wherein questioning beseemeth no one. It hath been ordained for every soul that, when he heareth the Call from the direction of the snow-white Spot, he should hasten and say:

"Here am I, O God of earth and heaven, Creator of names!"

Woe betide them who were not stirred by the breezes of the All-Merciful in those days and were not awakened by the shrill voice of His Most Exalted Pen. They have not risen from among the dead, nor attained unto that for which they were created. We testify that they are of the dead.

The appointed time hath come, the Hour hath struck, and the Beloved of all who are in the heavens and on earth hath appeared. Thou didst leave thy home, turning toward the Spot wherein the Manifestation was promised in the tablets of God, the Mighty, the Impregnable. Thou hast reached the sea and beholdest its waves. Beware lest vain imaginings prevent thee from immersing thyself therein. Seek assistance through the Name of thy Lord, then enter it, stripped of the garments of allusion. Thus wilt thou find its pearls and say: "Praise be unto Thee, O Quickener of the worlds!"

We see the veil to be thin. Rend it with the finger of certitude that thou mayest behold the Sun of Beauty shining from behind it and be of them that attain. Beware lest that which prevented the divines of the earth when the Spirit came with the kingdom of His Lord, the Mighty, the Generous, prevent thee. Shouldst thou hear what the Tongue of Eternity addresseth unto thee, thou wouldst abandon all thou hast and turn toward the Station before which the Kingdom crieth out: "The King of Kings hath come with great glory!"

Reflect on that which hath flowed from the Pen that thou mayest find therefrom the fragrance of eternity. This is of His grace upon thee and upon the peoples, if thou be of them that turn. Withhold not thy tongue from the remembrance of thy Lord, nor thine eyes from gazing upon the scene of God, the Almighty, the Powerful. Arise from among the dead in the name of thy Lord, the Most High, the Most Exalted, and be thou one that crieth out His remembrance amidst His heedless servants.

Blessed is the heart that hath drunk what hath flowed in those days, and the temple that hath attained to standing in the presence of the All-Merciful and been honored with that which was promised in the Book from One true and faithful. Shouldst thou turn toward the Bell, thou wouldst hear from it the name of thy Lord, and shouldst thou look upon the Law, thou wouldst find it adorned with this wondrous remembrance.

How many Pharisees secluded themselves in temples awaiting the days of Christ, yet when He came with the truth from the heaven of thy Lord's will, they denied Him and were of the oppressors! How many learned ones were barred from the ocean of knowledge, and how many ignorant ones hastened, drank, and said:

"Praise be unto Thee, O God of all who are in the heavens and on earth!"

How many wise ones were heedless of the Purpose, and how many children turned and attained unto that which their Lord, the Mighty, the Impregnable, desired! How many women arrived and attained unto the presence of the Spirit and His knowledge, and how many men of power kept far from that noble Scene!

We beseech God to make thee a champion of His Cause and a servant of His Manifestation, and to make thee a standard of guidance among creation, that thy remembrance may endure in the realm below and thy spirit in the Kingdom above. Verily, He is powerful over whatsoever He willeth. When thou hast drunk from the Kawthar of life and attained unto that which the All-Merciful hath desired for thee, detach thyself wholly from all else, then turn with radiant countenance unto thy Lord. The Most Holy Sanctuary hath been adorned with the mention of thy Lord, the Lord of all names, and the land of Batha hath been stirred by the call of thy Lord, the Most Exalted, the All-Glorious.

Wilt thou remain still when all things have been set in motion by this Name, at Whose revelation all who are in the heavens and on earth were thunder-struck, save whom thy Lord, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise, hath willed? The Temple hath been raised by the hand of the All-Merciful's loving-kindness and adorned with the ornament of utterance. Is this better for you, or that which hath been built of clay? Judge ye fairly, if ye be of them that know.

From the right hand of the Throne there hath been raised a Call whereby the Pens were struck dumb, the Tablets were shaken, and the dwellers of the heavens and earth were thrown into confusion. The Kawthar of life hath flowed by the will of the All-Merciful, and the choice wine of immortality is bestowed by the hands of bounty. Take ye and drink in My Name, whereby all in the worlds have been subdued. Cast behind you the intimations of self; this is your Lord Who hath come with His holy kingdom, the Mighty, the Inaccessible. Do the might of kings or the cawing of the owned one frighten you? He, verily, aideth whom He willeth through a sovereignty from His presence, and He is indeed the All-Powerful, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

If thou findest weakness in thyself, seek strength through the power of thy Lord, and if thou perceivest lassitude in thyself, speak forth this remembrance that thou mayest be attracted by the signs of thy Lord and soar in the atmosphere of His love. Then wilt thou hear the cry of all things: "Blessed be God, the most excellent of creators!" Thus have We adorned the Kingdom with the lights of the Divine Realm and caused the sun of thy Lord's beauty to shine forth from its horizon, the All-Knowing, the Ancient of Days. When thou hast attained unto this, draw near and say: "Praise be unto Thee, O Beloved of the worlds!"

BH00873: Your letter addressed to this servant, present before…

In the Name of the Peerless, Incomparable God!

Your letter addressed to this servant, present before the Throne, was received before the Divine Presence. Previously, a detailed Tablet was written and sent to you, and likewise to Ali and Anis, upon them be the glory of God. God willing, may all else be awakened by the fragrances of your love and the wondrous expressions of your remembrance, and may they incline their hearts toward the Beloved, Who is sanctified above all directions. The letter which the Afnan had written to you was also presented and observed before the Most Great Presence, and from it was inhaled the fragrance of the love of the All-Merciful. Blessed is he, and glory be unto him from his Lord, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

In his letter mention was made of two of the Afnan; therefore the ocean of thy Lord's loving-kindness surged, and the winds of thy Master's favors were stirred, and there was revealed for each of them a

Tablet that brought solace to the eyes. In the Land of Mystery and Iraq it was revealed in Tablets that all the Afnan would attain unto the Everlasting Law. Thus did God will it, and His will hath been and ever shall be sovereign and all-encompassing. The gaze of mercy and the glance of bounty have ever been directed towards them and, God willing, ever shall be. Had all who dwell on earth been mentioned in His Book, We would have revealed for them that which would cause spirits to soar and minds to be attracted. This is of Our grace upon him. Verily, thy Lord is the All-Bountiful, the All-Knowing, the All-Forgiving.

We beseech God that all may remain steadfast and firm in His love, in such wise that the fragrances of their constancy may waft throughout the realm. This is a station concerning which the Beloved of the world made complaint—though in truth it was not a complaint, but rather a revelation of the greatness of this station. He said, and His word is the truth: "These two verses have turned My hair white."

O My Name! The utmost joy and delight were occasioned by the turning of those two souls whose mention was outwardly made in the Most Holy Court, for God hath never wished that any of those souls should remain veiled. Say: Take ye the chalices of salvation in the name of Him Who causeth the dawn to break, then drink therefrom in remembrance of this Light on this morn. Well is it with you, O ye that drink!

O My Name! The fragrances of the All-Merciful's loving-kindness are wafting with the utmost joy and fragrance throughout all creation, and the utterance of the Beloved is manifest with supreme delicacy and sweetness. The Pen of the Lord of eternity floweth with perfect clarity and sweetness. Nevertheless, behold how many of the people remain veiled and remote. Hath any melody equaled this melody? Nay, by the Lord of all created things! Hath any call more exalted or more sweet reached mortal ears? Nay, by My all-compelling Self!

O Mihdi! At a time when the Manifest Beauty was imprisoned at the hands of the oppressors of the earth, and both those without and those within were engaged in the utmost heedlessness and error, tyranny and insolence, the call was that which thou didst hear, and the Tablets were those that were sent to the rulers of the earth. Have I ever compromised in the Cause of God? Then would the Lord of Lords declare: Nay, by thy life, O thou through whom sovereignty and power have been manifested!

O Mihdi! Nevertheless, some of the veiled ones among the people of the Bayan have preferred and chosen the buzzing of flies over the wondrous melodies of the Lord of Names and Attributes. This is indeed oppression, wert thou to perceive it. They have abandoned the most pure and fragrant Kawthar and turned to the putrid and noxious pool.

O Mihdi! The exposition is vast and time is short; therefore it is better that we turn to mention other matters.

Furthermore, in the letter from Afnan was mentioned his brother and sister who had intended to journey to the Most Holy Court. How excellent was their intention! However, this land continues to be in turmoil, as was previously detailed in the Tablets. The manifestation of turmoil is in these days, therefore permission was not granted on this occasion. O My Name! We perceive from Muhammad, in most times, the fragrance of love for his Lord, the All-Merciful. Think not that thy Lord is heedless. With Him is the knowledge of all things, but the people are in heedlessness and behind a veil. We make mention of him at

times, as testified by Him Who has knowledge of mysteries. Convey My greetings unto him and unto the sister. For them is a goodly return.

In his letter was mention of the Trustworthy One. We beseech God to strengthen him at all times. Verily, He is the Answerer of the prayers of the supplicants. May He enable him to do what He loves and is pleased with. Verily, He is the Ruler over what He wishes. Say unto him: We have known what thou hast done in the path of thy Lord. We were with thee in all conditions. We testify and We see.

Likewise, the letter of Ibn-i-Za', upon him be the Glory of God, which he had written to thee, was presented before the Face. Convey My greetings unto his face. We beseech God to strengthen him in the service of his Lord. We testify that he is among those who have attained and witnessed the testimony of his Lord, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. This is better for him than what is witnessed and seen. Verily thy Lord is the Munificent Giver. He makes mention of Us in the letter Ha; We make mention of him in this Great Prison. Say: Say: My spirit be a sacrifice for Thy favors, O Beloved of the worlds!

Furthermore, regarding the aforementioned sum that the honored Afnan had mentioned—verily he is the trustee from the presence of the Truth. This was decreed aforetime from One All-Knowing, All-Wise. We had previously given permission that whatever amount your honor needs for occupation may be requested. Now the decree remains the same, however major commerce in that land is not permitted for your honor. Let it be just enough to keep you occupied and to expend, for enemies seek to grasp at various pretexts and arise in pursuit. This apparent wisdom is mentioned, otherwise thy Lord is verily the Protector in all conditions. Verily, He has power over all things. We have previously commanded the observance of outward matters, therefore the Pen flows upon such matters.

Likewise, a special Tablet for the honored Uncle, upon him be the Glory of God, was revealed from the heaven of the Will of the Self-Sufficient, the Most Exalted, and was sent. O My Name! Convey sublime greetings from this Prisoner to all the loved ones of that land and other regions. The poems of his honor ʿAli were mentioned before the Face. Blessed is he in having drunk the wine of faith and having opened his lips in praise of his Lord, the All-Merciful.

Say to Isma'il: We had previously answered thee, as if thou hast forgotten it. Be thou assured and trust in God. He will give thee what He willeth. He is verily the Mighty, the Generous.

Say: O Moses! We beseech God to cause thee to hear from this Tree what the Interlocutor heard. He is verily the Almighty, the Powerful. O My Name! Convey what We have conveyed to thee in this Tablet, then send what was revealed for thee before, and be of those who remember. The Glory be upon thee and upon those who are with thee, who have remained steadfast in the Cause and were among the firm ones.

BH00869: O Abdul-Ghani! Hearken unto the call of the All-Bountiful…

In the name of Him Who is seated upon the throne of Divine Unity

O Abdul-Ghani! Hearken unto the call of the All-Bountiful in the most wondrous and sweet language. This is the Day wherein every soul, detached from all else, must occupy itself with the remembrance of the

Sovereign Lord of verses. Look not at what hath been mentioned, but at what hath shone forth from this Horizon, from which the Sun of Glory and Power hath dawned.

Arise with the utmost diligence and endeavor to promote the Cause. Soon shall the people of truth behold in the Kingdom the fruits of acceptance and deeds. This is the Day of helplessness and supplication. Pure nothingness hath been and shall ever be beloved, and whosoever attaineth unto this station shall be reckoned before God among the dwellers of the cities of eternity.

Many are those who have remained deprived and forbidden from a single word of the Sovereign of Oneness. The Tablets sent down from the heaven of God's Will have been revealed concerning every matter. No mention remaineth except that which hath flowed from the Most Exalted Pen, and no question is seen except that its answer hath dawned and appeared from the horizon of the heaven of inner meanings.

Although much of what was revealed hath been lost and effaced due to lack of time and the rebellion of the people of hatred, strive to obtain that which exists, that thou mayest testify with complete certitude that all that hath been and will be mentioned hath flowed from the Ancient Pen.

As to thy question about the Mathnavi poetry, it would be a pity in this Day for the Most Exalted Pen to flow in such mentions. Hast thou not observed that the Primal Point, the Most Exalted Remembrance, saith "His mention shall be 'There is none other God but I, O My creation, bear ye witness unto Me"'? Nevertheless, in previous years there hath flowed from the Ancient Pen in these stations that which sufficeth.

Similarly, questions were asked about the disconnected letters. During the sojourn of the Day Star of the horizons in Iraq, countless verses were revealed concerning these matters, some of which were sent. By My life! If thou wert to look with penetrating vision, thou wouldst find therein that which would make thee soar in the atmosphere of wisdom and utterance. Reflect upon those revealed verses, for We have deposited in the depths of those allusions the mysteries of thy Lord, the Source of verses. Oceans of meanings lie concealed therein, and divine consummate wisdom is hidden therein. Blessed is he who recognizeth and saith:

> "I testify, O my God, that Thou art the All-Knowing, the All-Informed."

Likewise, previously some explanations flowed from the Pen of Command concerning a single verse of the Mathnavi and were sent. In truth, the meanings of what thou hast asked and what thou hast not asked are all concealed and inscribed therein.

Furthermore, concerning the blessed verse "Alif Lam Mim. The Romans have been defeated," thou hadst inquired. In this regard, a mention of the Sovereign was previously revealed. Search that thou mayest find and be of them who know. However, We have commanded the Most Great Branch to interpret anew that blessed verse and send it.

Moreover, mention was made of the Dawning-Places of Manifestations and the Rising-Points of divine verses, especially in Tablets concerning the mention of Names, their essences, their effulgences, their

realities, their origins, their influences, their ascents and their descents, revealed from the Source of Command in response to one of the loved ones in the Land of Mystery. Blessed is he who findeth and readeth and saith: “Praise be unto Thee, O God of the worlds.”

In the Epistle of Badi’, which was sent down from the heaven of Will in the name of one of the servants, reflect thou upon the unveiling of certain veiled matters therein.

O illumined one! A Tablet from God, the Lord of creation, hath been sent unto thee. We beseech God to aid thee in all conditions and to make thee among those who have attained to what He desired for them in the beginning and the end. If God should will and desire it, divine Tablets shall reach thee hereafter, and thou shalt attain unto them.

Make mention on My behalf of Our servant who is named Majid. Say: Blessed art thou for having turned unto the Qiblih of all horizons. Happy art thou and happy is he who hath drunk the cup of life from the fingers of the mercy of his Lord, the All-Merciful, on this Day which God hath made the solace of all days. Grieve not over remoteness, for how many a remote one have We decreed to be near, and how many a near one is verily in the fire. Be as thy Lord desireth thee to be. He desireth for those who turn unto Him naught save what He hath desired for His chosen servants. Blessed art thou, inasmuch as mention of thee hath flowed from the Most Great Pen and thy name hath been uttered by the tongue of thy Lord, the All-Forgiving.

Then make mention of the Hearing One. Say: Hearken unto that which the Lord of Destiny calleth thee from the direction of His most great prospect.

Then make mention of the Bearer of Glad Tidings. Say: By God! The moon hath been cleft asunder and the Ancient Beauty hath been established upon the throne of His name, the All-Merciful, the Most Compassionate. Blessed be the ear that hath heard the call of its Lord and hath said: “Yea, O Beloved of the heavens and the earth!” Blessed art thou for having turned unto the Qiblih of them that have recognized Him, and for having mentioned Him with thy tongue while He was imprisoned in this mighty prison. This prison hath been named the Most Great Prison. Ponder upon this, that ye may comprehend what your Lord, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise, hath intended. Before this, We were beneath chains and fetters when We were in the prison of the wicked in the land of Ta, yet that was not named the Most Great. Thus doth the Lord of nations inform thee that thou mayest be among the discerning ones.

Then make mention of him who was named by the Most Great Name. Say: Give thanks unto thy Lord for having aided thee to recognize His Self on this Day whereon earthquakes have seized all the tribes of the earth and the veils of idle fancy have been rent asunder through this Name whereby the standards of thy Lord’s Cause, the All-Glorious, the All-Knowing, have been raised aloft and that which was hidden hath been revealed. Render thanks unto God for having aided thee to turn unto the horizon of Beauty and for having bestowed upon thee that which hath been sent down from the heaven of His name, the Self-Subsisting. Put thy trust in Him in all matters. Say: Unto Thee be praise, O Lord of the seen and the unseen! Blessed art thou for having attained unto the recognition of thy Lord after all the ungodly rejected Him. Adorn thy breast with the ornament of divine knowledge, thy heart with the remembrance of the All-Merciful, and thy tongue with His Name, the One Who overlordeth all that witnesseth and is

witnessed. Rejoice in what hath been sent down unto thee from the direction of the Throne—manifest verses which nothing in the heavens or earth can equal. Verily, thy Lord is the All-Compelling, the Self-Subsisting.

O My loved ones! Grieve not over anything. Put your trust in God. By My life! He hath ordained for you that which shall never perish. He is the Mighty, the All-Loving. O thou who art rich! God willing, thou hast been and wilt ever be the recipient of the effulgent favors shining from the Dayspring of Beauty, and with utmost joy and fragrance thou art occupied in helping the Cause of the All-Merciful through gracious utterances and penetrating counsels. This is the most great bounty and the most ancient grace. In all divine words, diligent effort is necessary. Acquire what thou canst and occupy thyself therewith. Thou art accounted among the people of Baha by the Most Exalted Pen. This bounty sufficeth thee—be thou grateful and among the thankful ones. All praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds. Convey My greetings to the faces of My loved ones and give them the glad tidings of the mention of their Lord, the All-Bountiful.

BH00898: This is a remembrance from Us to one who…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Exalted!

This is a remembrance from Us to one who was mentioned before Our presence and concerning whom Our Most Exalted Pen was moved to write, in such wise that the pages were filled therewith. Grieve not at anything, but put thy trust in God, the Illuminator of the horizons. Soon shall He exalt those who have aided His Cause and abase those who have lifted up their necks in pride and who waxed arrogant against God when He came unto them with all His signs. We testify that they are among the people of hypocrisy who have risen up with tyranny in all regions, wielding the swords of treachery and iniquity. Verily thy Lord is the Mighty, the All-Knowing.

O My Name! The Beloved is in such tribulation as hath no parallel in all lands, and the Wronged One is in such adversity as the eye of creation hath never witnessed. Yet in such a state do We summon all beings unto God, their Lord, the Master of the Day of Mutual Calling. We address all created things with the most exalted call: Awaken ye to the call of your Lord Who hath come with power and sovereignty!

At times We address the company of the Torah and call them to the Revealer of verses Who hath come from the presence of the Lord of all men. We say: The Most Great Law hath come, and the Ancient Beauty ruleth upon the throne of David. Thus hath the Pen spoken that which was mentioned in the tales of the ancients among the followers of all religions. But now David crieth out, saying:

> "O my Lord, the All-Loving! Make me to be of them who are steadfast in Thy Cause, O Thou through Whom faces have shone and feet have slipped!"

O My Name! Were We to manifest that which beseemeth Us, thou wouldst witness the earth changed into another earth, the heavens cleft asunder, all faces turned toward, and all eyes fixed upon, the direction of thy Lord, the Mighty, the Bestower. O My Name! By God! We have donned a garment of camel's hair lest anyone should recognize Me, and those whose garments of pride have been soiled

should flee from around Me. Thus doth the tongue of faithfulness speak. Blessed is he who hath turned unto that which hath proceeded from the mouth of thy Lord, the Mighty, the Bountiful.

By God! Were We to desire to bring forth the hand of Our grandeur from the sleeve of Our will, other hands would prevent it. Thus have We ordained it for Our Self in the kingdom of Our Cause, lest the eyes of those who have doubted and risen up in tyranny should fall upon it. Wert thou to look with Mine eye, thou wouldst see that the Pen moveth for Mine own Self, the verses descend for Mine ear, Beauty hath appeared for Mine eye, and utterance hath been created for the tongue of thy Lord, the All-Merciful.

O Mihdi! This is a station that none among the servants hath known from the beginning that hath no beginning, nor shall anyone ascend unto it save through My might, My power, and My sovereignty that hath encompassed all regions. At such times, We sit alone in the house, awaiting that which shall deliver Us from the hands of the wicked. Thou dost witness this station, and also those who follow their own desires yet claim to be of the people of Baha in the kingdom of names. By God! They are but worshippers of passion, to which thy Lord, the Mighty, the All-Uttering, doth testify.

Observe thou the people of the Bayan, how they have been veiled by mention of succession and the like from Him Who, by the movement of His finger, created that which the hearts of the successors cannot comprehend. By My life! Were We to lift this veil, the hearts of them who are possessed of understanding would be rent asunder.

O My Name! We have sprinkled upon thee a sprinkling from the surging seas that were hidden in thy Lord's knowledge, that thou mayest become aware of what hath befallen Us at the hands of the people of error.

It behooveth Us to turn now to another rendering of the verses and return to what We set forth at the beginning of the Book. At one time We address the concourse of the Gospel, saying: The All-Glorious hath come with this Name through which the divine fragrance hath wafted o'er all lands. O concourse of the Son! The Temple hath been built by the hands of the Will of your Lord, the Mighty, the Bestower. Tell Me truthfully, O people: Is that which is built of clay better, or that which is built by the hands of the power of your Lord, the Revealer of verses? This is the Temple that was promised you in the Tablets, calling out:

> "O people of the kingdom! Hasten ye unto the Lord of all Cause, and follow not every doubting idolator."

At another time We address the concourse of the Furqan: Fear ye the All-Merciful, and oppose not Him through Whom all religions have been fulfilled. Say: The laws have been ordained in My Name, and the verses have been sent down for My Remembrance, which God hath made the Sovereign of all remembrance.

Say: O concourse of the Bayan! Your mention beseemeth you not, for ye are the most veiled of all people before the Self-Sufficient, the Most High. We have rent asunder some of the veils for you that ye might recognize the others. Even then We behold you at the first obstacle, worshipping idle fancies. Say: Ponder the utterance of God that ye may comprehend His purpose, O people of the veils!

Say: O concourse of the wise! Be fair before God—can any among you race with the Knight of utterance in the arena of grandeur and majesty? Nay, by My Self, were ye of the fair-minded!

How long will ye, O concourse of divines, level the spears of hatred at the face of Baha? Rein in your pens. Lo, the Most Sublime Pen speaketh betwixt earth and heaven. Fear God, and follow not your desires which have altered the face of creation. Purify your ears that they may hearken unto the Voice of God. By God! It is even as fire that consumeth the veils, and as water that washeth the souls of all who are in the universe.

O concourse of poets and men of letters! The Day of Praise hath come. Open your tongues in this Remembrance whereby the idols have been shattered. Cast aside your adorned and intricate verses, and that whereof ye boast—both the ornate and the unadorned, the unadorned. Take hold of that which ye have been commanded by God, the Cleaver of the Dawn.

O concourse of mystics! By My life, ye are as nothing. We behold you immersed in the oceans of fancy and idle imaginings. It is as though ye speak beneath a covering. Say: Lift up your heads, for the Sun hath dawned from the horizon of grandeur and might. The mystic is he who hath recognized Him Who is known, and the learned one is he who hath turned toward Him Who is known. Thus hath the Tablet of Declaration been adorned with the seal of utterance.

Say: O concourse of merchants! By God, this is a Day wherein every commerce shall prosper, were ye possessed of insight. Know ye that your affairs shall not prevent you from your Lord, the Knower of secrets. Occupy yourselves by His leave, then by His remembrance. Thus have ye been commanded in most of the Tablets.

Know thou, moreover, that We have written Tablets for the followers of the Magian Faith and have therein adorned the Law. Blessed is he who remembereth them with joy and fragrance. And We have revealed therein the essence of what was concealed in their Books of symbols and allusions. Verily thy Lord is the Mighty, the All-Knowing.

O My Name! Glorify My loved ones who are there, that they may rejoice in this remembrance which hath dawned from the horizon of sorrows. They are mentioned before the Throne, to this testifieth every atom. Say: Blessed are ye, inasmuch as ye have fulfilled God's Covenant and remained steadfast in the Cause whereby the foundations were shaken. O ʿAli! Thou art in My sight, and We have turned unto thee from this Station which God hath made the most exalted of stations. Hold thou fast, under all conditions, to the cord of thy Lord's loving-kindness. He is with thee at all times. The son of Za' hath been mentioned in the presence of the Countenance, and We have glorified him from this Quarter from whose horizon hath shone forth the Sun of thy Lord's loving-kindness, the Lord of all worlds and of the heavens.

BH00914: This is a mention from Our presence to one…

He is the Most Holy, the Most Exalted, the Most Great

This is a mention from Our presence to one who has attained unto tribulations and afflictions even as his Lord, the King of Names, attained unto trials beyond the reckoning of all created things. Exalted is God,

Creator of the heavens, Who hath made Me a target for the arrows of fate, that the Most Great Word might be made manifest between the heavens and the earth.

The Call hath been raised from the luminous Spot, from the crimson Tree: "Verily, there is none other God but Me, the Mighty, the Wise!" The turning away of those who have turned away grieveth Me not, nor doth the acceptance of all the world bring Me joy. Can tribulations ever prevent the Lord of Names from raising His call betwixt earth and heaven? Nay, by His very Self, the True One—witness to this is this Call which hath been raised in the midst of tribulation from the Divine Lote-Tree: "Behold Me, O people of Baha! This is He Who hath been established upon the Throne and hath manifested Himself unto all created things through His Names that have encompassed the worlds." Blessed is he who hath heard this sweetest Call; woe unto the heedless! He who hath heard is neither grieved by the veils of the unbelievers nor by the oppression of those who have turned away from this Straight Path. Blessed is the strong one who hath arisen with the pillar of fire among the wicked and hath spoken forth this wondrous Name.

The All-Merciful calleth and saith:

> "Blessed art thou, O servant, for thou hast turned thy face toward My countenance, hast drawn nigh unto My court, hast spoken My praise, hast borne tribulation in My love, hast accepted fate for My Name's sake, and hast drunk the choice wine of utterance in the days of thy Lord, the All-Merciful, after all the ungodly had turned away from it in their remoteness."

We have seized the leader of ignorance who laid claim to knowledge. Thus doth God ordain what hath been sent down in the Tablets. Verily thy Lord is the Mighty, the Powerful. We sent him a Tablet that hath no equal in all the heavens and earth. He cast away God's Tablet, having followed his own desires. Lo! He is of the companions of the Fire. Through him the fire of sedition was kindled amongst the people, and there befell My loved ones that which caused the Most Exalted Pen to lament in the heaven of eternity. When death came to him and he beheld the punishment, he wailed with the wailing of those who are lost. Then did none of his deeds profit him, and he became of the most grievous losers. God shall soon seize those servants who have wronged, even as He seized aforetime. Verily thy Lord is the Strong, the Great.

Convey My greetings unto her who hath believed in her Lord and turned toward the Kaaba of God, the Mighty, the Generous.

O Pen of loving-kindness! Make mention of Muhammad-Javad from thy Lord, the Creator of all existence, that he may rejoice in My remembrance of him and arise to serve the Cause in such wise that the hints of those who have denied the Day of Judgment shall not deter him. Drink thou a draught from the choice wine of utterance which hath flowed from the Pen of thy Lord, the All-Merciful. By My life! It will attract thee in such wise that the clamor of those in the land will not grieve thee. Hold fast unto the Sure Handle through which the fragrance of the All-Merciful hath wafted among the servants. Say: Praise be unto Thee, O my God, for having caused me to turn toward the court of Thy bounties and to gaze toward the horizon of Thy favors. I beseech Thee by Thy Name which hath dominated all names, to aid me to be steadfast in Thy Cause and to arise to celebrate Thy praise amongst Thy creation. Verily, Thou art the

Omnipotent over whatsoever Thou willest and art sanctified from all opposites. Glory be upon thee and upon those who are with thee and upon those who have believed in God, the Lord of the Day of Mutual Calling.

O Most Pure Countenance! Turn from this Most Great Scene unto him who hath been named ʿAli-Akbar, that he may hear the call of the Lord of Destiny from the Tree planted upon the crimson hill. Verily, there is none other God but Him, the Mighty, the Self-Subsisting. By My life! If thou didst but know, thou wouldst sacrifice thyself for this bounty which hath turned unto thee and encompassed all horizons. They that are heedless this day have no portion of the presence of thy Lord, and are indeed among the wayward. Give thanks unto thy Lord for having turned unto thee while He was in the hands of the wicked. He by Whose word all created things were stirred now dwelleth in His house behind drawn curtains—thus have they dealt with Him Whom they invoke at eventide and at dawn.

We conceal that which hath befallen Us lest the hearts of the righteous be saddened thereby. Give thanks unto God that the Countenance of the Ancient of Days hath turned toward thee and the Tongue of God hath spoken thy name from the most exalted station. The glory rest upon thee and upon thy brother who bowed down when thy Lord appeared with grandeur and might. Convey My greetings unto his face and give him the glad tidings of this remembrance which hath no equal among all in earth and heaven. Then glory from the All-Glorious upon thy wife whom the breathings of thy Lord's days, the Lord of all men, have stirred.

Then We turned unto Our servant Mihdi that he might hear the call of the Everlasting God from this Ancient Beauty, at Whose settling upon the throne all things proclaimed: "The Kingdom belongeth unto God, the Almighty, the All-Powerful, the All-Forgiving!" Blessed is the tongue that hath spoken My Name, the eye that hath beheld My signs, the heart that hath recognized My power, the hand that hath taken My Book, and the soul that hath been set ablaze with the fire of love for its Lord, the Almighty, the Compelling. Rejoice thou with this supreme joy and say: "Praise be unto Thee, O Creator of the heavens and Author of all names! I testify that Thou art the Almighty over whatsoever Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the Most High, the All-Possessing, the Mighty, the Bountiful." Remember on My behalf My handmaiden who hath believed in My signs and attained unto this Cause before which necks have bowed low, and My other handmaiden who hath been illumined by the lights of the Lord and perceived the fragrance of My raiment when it was wafted among the servants.

O Imprisoned Pen! Make mention of Husayn from the Wronged One, that the call of God, the Supreme, the Self-Subsisting, may attract him, that he may be assured that My favor hath preceded My loved ones and My mercy hath encompassed Our servants who have sought the most distant Shrine and attained unto the lights of God, the Mighty, the Beloved. By God! Were We to mention what hath befallen Us at the hands of those who have wronged the Remembrance, the heavens would be cleft asunder, the earth would be rent, and the mountains would crumble. Thus doth thy Lord, the Mighty, the All-Loving, inform thee. We praise God in all conditions and rejoice in His remembrance and the exaltation of His Cause among all who witness and are witnessed.

Be as thy Lord hath been, such that neither the gestures of the ignorant disturb thee nor the darkness of the desires of those who judge alarm thee. Remember thy Lord at all times and turn not unto those who

have cast the covenant and testament of God behind their backs and followed the promptings of their own desires—these are indeed the lost. Blessed art thou, and thy father and mother, and all thy kindred who have turned with illumined hearts unto this praiseworthy station. Ye have stations with your Lord—to this doth testify this exalted and mighty Tablet.

Convey My greetings unto the faces of My loved ones who have been consumed by the fire of separation—they are indeed of those for whom is ordained the reward of them that have attained unto the presence of the Beloved. We beseech God to assist them to remain steadfast in His Cause in such wise that no rejected misbeliever may cause them to waver.

BH00950: The Most Holy, the Most Glorious

The Most Holy, the Most Glorious

The Book of God hath been sent down in truth—verily it is a perspicuous Book. It proclaimeth: "There is none other God but Me, the Mighty, the Bountiful." O people, follow not your selfish desires, but follow Him Who hath come with His mighty and impregnable Kingdom. Beware lest ye invalidate the truth with what ye possess. Blessed is he who soareth in the atmosphere of justice and pondereth upon this wondrous Cause.

The Spirit proclaimeth by His sovereignty: "The sovereignty of God hath been manifested, were ye of those who know." And the Beloved declareth by His arising: "The Hour hath come, were ye of the fair-minded." The Lord of the Bayan proclaimeth that He is the Best-Beloved of the worlds. He hath come at a time when no one among men had expected His mention, and this is His proof, were ye of those who know.

He is the One Whose manifestation none hath known save His own Self. To this testify all atoms and beyond them the Tongue of God, the True One, the Trustworthy. God hath made His Day transcend understanding, even as His own Self transcendeth comprehension. Thus hath the decree been sent down from One Who is All-Knowing, All-Wise.

This is the Manifestation which none hath known save he who hath cast away what the people possess and turned wholly unto the Countenance of God, the Radiant, the Luminous. Among the people are those who say: "He hath appeared differently from what we expected." Say: Thus must it be, by your Lord, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy. And among the people are those who say: "He hath appeared too soon." Say: This is His proof, were ye of the discerning ones.

Say: O people of the Bayan! Fear ye the All-Merciful and speak not that which would cause the hearts of them who are nigh unto God to burn. He hath come as He willeth. The command is in God's hands—He ordaineth what He pleaseth. Verily He is the Almighty, the Powerful. Look ye at what He possesseth, not at what ye possess. This is what We counsel you in the Tablets. Read them and follow not the ways of the calumniators.

Say: If ye deny Him Who speaketh between earth and heaven, unto whom will ye turn? Consider, if ye be of the truthful. Have ye not heard that He doeth what He willeth and ordaineth what He desireth? I was

silent; the Truth made Me speak. I was seated; He raised Me up for His firm and mighty Cause. Were the matter in My hands, I would have veiled My face from all on earth, but God hath manifested Me in truth. Verily He is the Powerful, the Trustworthy.

Say: O people of the Bayan! The All-Merciful Himself calleth you, yet ye are as the dead. Ye object to Him through Whom the breeze of God hath wafted over all things, and by Whom the eyes of the Messengers have been solaced. Your objection returneth not unto Me but unto God, were ye aware of it. Your hatred falleth not upon Me but upon God—to this testifieth every fair-minded and clear-sighted one.

Hearken ye unto the Call from the Most Glorious Tree upon the Crimson Spot:

> "Verily there is none other God but Me, the Mighty, the Bountiful."

Turn not unto those who point to what was decreed in former ages, nor hearken unto the tales they tell you of what hath passed. Hearken ye unto the Call of your Lord, the Mighty, the Beautiful. Ponder what We have sent down in truth that ye may perchance know God's purpose and follow that which ye have been commanded in His Book, the Mighty, the Impregnable.

Say: The seas have surged, the trees have yielded their fruits, the rains have fallen, the birds have sung their songs, yet ye walk in the wilderness of ignorance. The Sun hath testified to this resplendent Light, and the atoms have proclaimed this Name that dominateth all who are in the heavens and on earth. The Rock hath cried out to the Lord of all creation, yet ye remain heedless. The Dominion hath been adorned with the stars of utterance, and the Kingdom with this wondrous Remembrance, and the horizons were illumined by the light of His countenance, yet ye are among those who turn aside.

Say: O people of the Bayan! Do ye object to Him through Whom religions have appeared and the Cause of the All-Merciful hath been established? This is naught but grievous wrong. In the midst of supreme tribulation He calleth all created things, as witnessed by all things, if ye be of them that hear. Do ye imagine yourselves to be the guides? Nay, by My Most Glorious Beauty! Do ye reckon yourselves among those who have witnessed and seen? Nay, by the Self of God Who dominateth all things great and small!

This day ye are blind and deaf, thus hath the All-Merciful testified, and no testimony in all the worlds can equal His testimony. Ye have believed in your own vain imaginings and followed what your desires commanded you. This is naught but manifest transgression. Had ye perceived the fragrance of the All-Merciful, ye would not have denied this bounty which hath appeared in human form. Blessed is He Who sent Him with the truth and caused Him to speak forth a Word that made the limbs of the idolaters quake.

Trample under foot the head of him who led you astray, and turn ye towards the Dawning-Place of your Lord's revelation, the Mighty, the Peerless. Say: Beware lest ye be among those who turned away from the Known and followed the conjectural, and were of them that wander.

Consider the people of the Furqan, who await that which was promised them, even after the moon was cleft by the fingers of Him Who ruleth destiny, and the heaven was rent asunder, and the All-Merciful came upon clouds of light, and the heavens and earth were illumined. They rejected Him Who came with

the signs of the All-Merciful, following instead the people of perdition who were occupied with their own desires and were among the lost.

Turn your ears that ye may hear the call of God. By God! The Self-Subsisting calleth you from a manifest horizon, if ye be of them that know. Do ye reject Him behind your backs and turn to your own desires? Woe unto you, O heedless ones! At My call the pebbles were stirred and the atoms cried out: "The Kingdom is God's, the Almighty, the All-Praiseworthy!"

Be fair in God's name and oppose not Him Who was promised you in the Tablets of your Lord, the All-Merciful, the All-Compassionate. Were ye to read the Bayan, ye would know what hath been sent down from One All-Knowing, All-Wise. Thus doth the Pen of Revelation command you from One All-Knowing, All-Informed.

O thou who gazeth upon the Face, hearken unto what We counsel thee and be of the thankful. Recite the verses of thy Lord to them that are there of the loved ones of thy Master, that perchance the breezes of revelation may cause them to be among those who are steadfast in the Cause and are firmly rooted. Should thou find objectors among the people of the Bayan, deliver unto them what We have revealed to thee from the heaven of thy Lord, the Almighty, the Powerful, that they may perchance be awakened by God's call and turn with radiant faces toward the Dayspring of the Cause.

Be thou a servant of thy Master's Cause in all conditions. This will profit thee in the hereafter and in this world. He is with His remembering servants. Thou art in the House while thy Lord hath turned toward thee from this distant Prison and revealed for thee that which hath diffused the fragrances of the Beloved. Blessed is he who hath found and hath said:

> "Praise be to Thee, O Wronged One of the worlds! I testify that Thou hast established God's Cause and manifested it in such wise as hath rendered the workers powerless."

BH00956: He is God! It is not permissible…

He is God! It is not permissible for a lover to show forth claims of existence and self in the presence of the Beloved. If he should take one step beyond this path, he would no longer be counted among the lovers. Never doth true love accept a living soul, nor doth the hawk take a dead mouse as prey.

Yea, some lovers have recounted their tribulations and hardships in the presence of the Beloved of all creation, and their purpose was communion with the Beloved and attention to the Lord of their goal, not the mention of self and desire. Now a messenger has come down from the most exalted goals of glory's purpose and speaks certain words—understand who speaks and what is spoken. By God! If ye but knew and were informed of the mysteries of your Lord, the Most High, the Most Exalted, that lie behind the veil of grandeur, ye would sacrifice yourselves out of love for God, the Lord of all names.

The aforementioned messenger related a tale that once when We were at the Mount of Splendor, and the Beloved of all horizons went forth intending to reach the Mount of Glory, He implored with utmost humility those who claimed to love Him, saying that though this journey and migration might outwardly seem easy and simple, yet inwardly it was severe and a gate of tests, and though it appeared to be with

sovereignty and power, in reality it concealed countless trials and distresses. “Do not present yourselves and cause yourselves hardship—let Me migrate alone.” All the loving and compassionate words He spoke, both indirect and direct, proved ineffective. This servant and a group, claiming we desired no provision save His good-pleasure and had no purpose save His countenance, in our own estimation remained steadfast but heedless of the sincere counsel and certainty of the Friend. We resolved to journey and became fellow travelers with the Beloved’s presence.

After traversing some distance in the wilderness, the fire of love became extinguished and beauty’s attraction became veiled. When we passed beyond that station, we counted good deeds as evil and evil deeds as good, until we arrived at the Green Isle. There the divine ark settled upon the mount of the Cause.

Thereafter we traveled morning and evening upon the steeds of desire through the desert of suspicions and fancies—sometimes gathered, sometimes scattered, sometimes in love, sometimes in heedlessness we passed our days and nights. The Salsabil of utterance constantly flowed from the Merciful One’s lips, yet thirst was absent; the lights of His countenance shone from the horizon of glory, yet attraction was not found. Each day we increased in fancy and conjecture while decreasing in attention to truth.

And with these displeasing conditions and unseemly attributes, we became so immersed in the depths of heedlessness and desire that we grew unmindful even of our own state. Through all conditions we observed the Beloved’s countenance showing complete kindness and gentleness. Some of us wondered how, if divine all-encompassing knowledge exists, we could be accepted despite these reprehensible deeds. Finally we considered the Truth heedless and ourselves wise and knowing, unaware that the Most Great Mercy prevents the tearing of veils. If we rendered any service, we followed it with obligation and injury.

After that land He intended to migrate and again forbade all from accompanying Him. We neither perceived nor awakened to what was the cause of the prohibition and why. Once again we migrated and traversed wildernesses with the Lord of the goal until we arrived in another land and settled with the Friend in one place, secretly.

O soul! We have become preoccupied until the fire of desire gained ascendancy and we were barred from the Most Glorious Horizon. Through the abundance of meetings, we lost sight of the value of attainment, and the veil of shame was rent asunder. Now we have imprisoned the Beloved in a place and at all times, to the extent of our ability and power, we spare Him not from the arrows of suspicion and the spears of fancy, for we have found Him imprisoned, incarcerated and solitary. Heedlessness has reached such a state that in that blessed place, to which all the Concourse on High turn their gaze and from which they seek assistance, we openly utter the most abhorrent words and engage in the most misguided and base deeds. Woe unto us! The words of God have not affected us, and yet we have not awakened. If we could not be faithful, at least let us not be unfaithful. Not a night do we spend in remembrance, nor in contemplation.

It is related that Fudayl of Khurasan was among the most wicked of men and a highwayman. He fell in love with a maiden and one night went to her, climbing over a wall. Then he heard someone reciting this

verse: “Has not the time come for the hearts of those who believe to submit to the remembrance of God?” It affected his heart and he said: “Yes, my Lord, the time has indeed come!” He turned back, repented, and made his way to the Sacred House where he dwelt for thirty years until his spirit ascended to the supreme horizon. It is strange that hearing the Word of God from the tongue of one of His servants had such an effect that in an instant he returned from the lowest depths of existence to the horizon of the All-Merciful, while these servants have repeatedly and continuously heard the melodies of the All-Merciful Spirit from the tongue of power and majesty, yet they have not been affected enough to become aware even of the repugnance of their deeds, actions, suspicions and idle fancies.

When the narrative reached this point, the heaven of utterance was thunderstruck upon the mount of speech, and the pen fell unconscious, severed from expression. “Naught shall befall us save what God hath prescribed for us.” We beseech God to open our eyes and make us aware of ourselves and our deeds. If we are not enabled to know His exalted Self, may we at least be enabled to know our heedless selves, and may He remove from our faces the veils that prevent us from beholding Him rising from the horizon of grace and bounty, that we may detach ourselves from all who dwell in the realms of creation and turn wholly toward Him, for He is our All-Merciful Lord. We beseech Him to enable us to turn to Him in repentance morning and evening, and to protect the Dawning-Place of His countenance’s lights from the spears of His loved ones, for He seeks no helper other than Himself, and He is their source and their ultimate end, and He declares: “There is no God but God.”

BH00965: This is what hath dawned from the horizon…

This is what hath dawned from the horizon of thy Lord, the All-Merciful. O My Name! Today is the day of divine assistance and, by the truth of My Being, all the realities of the exalted ones and the spirits of those nigh unto God who circle round have beseeched to appear in the outward vesture of human temples and arise to aid the Cause of God in the visible realm. It beseemeth no one to seek departure from this world in the days of the manifestation of the Lord of Eternity. Rather must all, at all times, be turned toward the horizon of the All-Merciful and beseech God that some service to this most wondrous and impregnable Cause might be manifested from him, even if it be but the mention of one of His words. This, verily, is a great bounty, a great good, and a great matter.

As to approaching the Most Holy Court in these days, this is outwardly not permitted. We have revealed in one of the Tablets: “How many are near whom We do not confirm in their nearness, and how many are remote and, by the Self of the Beloved, are yet nigh!” And in another Tablet: “How many who are near are yet strangers, and how many who are distant are yet near! Blessed is he who is near and drew near!” And in yet another Tablet: “How many a beloved one became but the foam of the sea, and how many a companion We found to be a flatterer, and how many who were distant are near, and how many who were near We testify are in a station remote.”

Though it is evident that no grace, bounty, station or rank can ever equal attaining the presence of God in the visible realm, I swear by the Sun of the glory of oneness, rising from the dawning-place of detachment in My Name, the All-Powerful, that nothing can equal appearing before the Throne in the visible realm, even for a moment, though one possessed all that is in the heavens and earth. Some people have been

deprived of the divine spiritual wine-house. Thus have the effects of these matters and their fruits remained hidden from their sight. Therefore they remain occupied with their own imaginings and veiled from the Lord of all beings.

The purpose is this: many souls, in the very midst of nearness, are deprived of attainment, while many souls who are outwardly remote attain to the waters of reunion. This is from the bounty of thy Lord, the Giver, the Mighty, the Generous. Blessed is the soul that hath attained both, detached from all save His good-pleasure and annihilated in the good-pleasure of his Lord. By God! No deed can equal this.

If this veil were to be rent asunder by the finger of the will of the Lord of Lords, thou wouldst witness all who are on earth, both the mighty and the lowly, cast behind them poverty and wealth, sovereignty and glory, and hasten to that station whereof every atom of its dust proclaimeth:

> "There is none other God but He, the Almighty, the Glorious, the Unconstrained."

O Beauty of the Essence of Oneness, Who is sanctified above all limitations and purified from words, allusions, names, attributes, manifestations and revelations, hath appeared in human temple. Therefore most people, looking upon human habits manifested from the Divine Temple, remain veiled, heedless that herein lies the essence of power. Reflect that thou mayest know, and say: Praise be unto Thee, O God of the worlds! Praise be unto Thee, O Thou the Essence of Power that calleth from behind Thee: "Thine are the greatness and the might, O Thou in Whose grasp is the dominion of the worlds!" And praise be unto Thee, O Thou the Essence of Greatness that calleth: "Greatness is Thine, O Thou through Whose manifestation the faces of those near unto Thee were illumined!"

O Jamal! These humiliations that have befallen thee were for the sake of God's Cause, and this is a glory excelling all glories. By God! If thou but knew, thou wouldst find solace in humiliation and say: "O humiliation! May my soul be a sacrifice unto thee! Where art thou? I have accepted thee all for my Lord, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy." Thou hast attained unto far more than thou didst desire. God willing, He will cause thee to know what He hath intended for thee, that thou mayest rejoice and soar and say: "Unto Thee be praise, O Thou Who art the Praise of all worlds!" The head of Baha hath been adorned with the crown of tribulation, and in this doth He glory amidst earth and heaven. True glory lieth not in what the people comprehend; rather, all glory is in the humiliation We have borne for God's Cause, the Mighty, the Powerful, the All-Wise.

We have ordained for thee what We have loved, that thy remembrance might endure in the realm of dust amongst Our sincere servants, in the Kingdom amongst the angels drawn nigh, and in the Realm of Might amongst God's chosen ones, they who are detached from all else save Him. Can any bounty equal this which thou didst desire? Nay, by My mercy that hath embraced all worlds! O Jamal! If thou wouldst inhale from the outer meanings of what the Tongue of Grandeur hath spoken the sweet-scented breezes of inner significance and certitude, thou wouldst assuredly know that whatsoever hath appeared from Him shall endure as long as the dominion of earth and heaven endureth, and that it is better for thee than all that was and shall be. The fragrance of the Beloved's raiment hath been diffused through that which hath been revealed at this hour, and by it have the dwellers of earth and heaven been perfumed. Blessed are they that attain thereunto.

Whatsoever We have desired for Ourselves, We have desired and continue to desire for Our sincere loved ones. By My life! Soon shalt thou find thyself in manifest glory. Be not grieved by straits and distress. Occupy thyself with God's Cause. He shall assuredly set right all things. Be thou assured and numbered among the thankful ones.

As for what thou hast mentioned regarding certain differences, this is what hath been sent down in the Tablets from thy Lord, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed: "Whoso layeth claim to a Cause before the completion of a full thousand years is verily a lying impostor. And whoso interpreteth this verse differently is indeed among the most lost." And in another Tablet: "Whoso layeth claim to a Cause before the completion of a full thousand years is verily a lying impostor. We beseech God that He may assist him to repent should he repent. Verily thy Lord is the Ever-Forgiving. And should he persist in what he hath claimed, there shall be raised up against him one who will show him no mercy.

Verily thy Lord is severe in punishment." For these souls have been and shall continue to be the cause of harm to the root of the Cause and the source of discord among the people. Were it to be thus, that every ignorant one might understand as he pleased, then never would the divine Tree of the Cause be established amongst men, nor would God's commandments and laws become effective and operative. Strange indeed is the lack of understanding among the people! However, some attribute certain things to others out of their selfish desires, but with thy Lord is the knowledge of all things in a clear Book. The truth hath never been, nor shall it ever be, obscured from Him. Verily He is the All-Knowing.

BH00986: Your letter hath come before Our presence…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Glorious!

Your letter hath come before Our presence and the gaze of thy Lord, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed, hath been directed towards it. I have apprehended its contents and understood what thou didst desire concerning that matter whereby the eye of certitude was gladdened. O thou who gazeth upon the Countenance and standeth before the Throne! Hearken unto the call from the Most Glorious Tree which hath risen through its own power in the Cause, and which neither the heedlessness of those who remained unmindful nor the oppression of those who disbelieved in God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy, could impede.

O Mustafa! By My life! Whoso heareth My call with the ear of the heart, verily he soareth in the atmosphere of My love and subdueth all who are on earth through My Name, the Mighty, the Inaccessible. He who hath found the sweetness of the utterance which hath proceeded from the mouth of the All-Merciful hath adorned his heart with the ornament of faith in such wise that the very essence of certitude proclaimeth from behind him:

> "Blessed art thou, O thou through whom the temple of tranquility hath been adorned with the raiment of love for the mention of the Name of thy Lord, the Glorious, the Most High, the Mighty, the Wondrous!"

Grieve not at anything. Put thy trust in God at all times. Verily, He will help thee as He helped thee before when thou wast heedless of the Cause. Then did We unveil the Beauty and manifest unto thee that which

is better in thy Lord's sight than all that hath been created in the heavens and earth. We took thy hand with the hand of grace and power and delivered thee through Our sovereign might. Verily thy Lord's mercy hath preceded all creation.

Be not disturbed by what the tongues of the people utter. The Sovereign of the Day hath come, and now He calleth unto thee from the horizon of the House: "Be at peace through thy Lord's favor and say: 'Praise be unto Thee, O God of the worlds!"' Blessed art thou for having heard the call and having said: "Yea, yea, O Beloved of the worlds!" Rejoice thou in thy Lord's gladness in such wise that thy joy may influence Our servants whom the stupor of sorrows hath overtaken because they followed vain imaginings. Rend asunder the veil of idle fancy through My Name, the Self-Subsisting. Say: By God! He Who is known hath come with great sovereignty. We have commanded the people to follow what is known and forbidden them from what is imagined. Some have attained to what their Lord desired, while others have clung to their own desires—these are verily among the lost.

O Mustafa! By My life! Thou art beneath My wing and within the stronghold of My protection. Preserve this station through the remembrance of My Name, the Guardian over the worlds. Let not the clamor of those who have committed what they were forbidden grieve thee. The winds of passion have stirred them. Among them are those who have returned and repented. Verily thy Lord is the Ever-Forgiving, the Merciful. Blessed is he who hath drunk the choice wine of reunion from the hands of his Lord, the Mighty, the Most High—he is assuredly among the triumphant.

How many are the servants who claim with their tongues what is not in their hearts, and God revealeth it through one means or another. Verily thy Lord is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. We bear witness that thou hast turned unto God with pure sincerity for His radiant and luminous face. From whomsoever thou perceivest the fragrance of aversion, in whatever land he may be, avoid him, then turn with thy heart to the Qiblih of them that know.

Say: O my God! I beseech Thee by Thy Most Glorious Name, through which what lay hidden in hearts and breasts was revealed, to make me content with what Thou hast ordained for me and to fix my gaze upon Thee under all conditions. Verily Thou art the All-Forgiving, the Bountiful. O my Lord! Preserve me within the shelter of Thy great mercy, then cause me to speak Thy praise amidst the concourse of creation in such wise that I may become forgetful of myself and evanescent in Thy Name. Verily Thou art He in Whose grasp are the reins of all created things. Thou ordainest what Thou pleasest and doest what Thou desirest.

O Mustafa! Thus has the Tongue of Eternity spoken in the Most Great Prison. Read thou and be of the thankful ones. Then remember wherefore We named this Prison the Most Great, after We had formerly been under chains and fetters. Verily thy Lord is the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. Believe not what thou hast heard and hearest. Hearken unto that which the Tongue of Grandeur and Majesty hath spoken in this station wherein the Kingdom crieth out: "My spirit be a sacrifice to Thy dust," then the Realm of Might: "My soul be a sacrifice to Thy air," then the Kingdom of Names: "All my being be a sacrifice to Thy prison," O Thou at Whose finger's beckoning every wise decree is suspended! Be thou at all times directing thy gaze toward the court of thy Lord's will. When the Sun of His Command dawneth from His

horizon, say thou with submission and contentment: “My soul be a sacrifice to Thy command, O Thou Who art the Desire of the sincere ones!”

We have chosen thee and adorned thee with the garment of My love. By God! Soon shall the tongues of all things speak forth thy praise and the praise of those who have cast away their idle fancies and have turned with radiant faces toward the Most Glorious Horizon. These, verily, are of them that are nigh unto God. Through My remembrance is every matter established. Be thou assured by that which hath flowed from My tongue in thy praise, and by thy mention from the Lord of the Pens, through Whose movement the hearts of them that are detached have taken flight.

O Mustafa! When the Tablet was read before Our face a second time, We added to it another word. Know thou that aforetime it was revealed: “Soon shall the prison door be opened, and he that entered shall go forth and he that went forth shall enter,” and in another Tablet: “Soon shall that which was closed be opened and that which was joined be severed, and he that was forbidden shall enter and he that was gathered shall be scattered, and that which was difficult shall be made easy, and that which was hidden shall be revealed.” Ponder, O ye who are endued with discernment, that ye may recognize what hath been inscribed of the mysteries.

O Mustafa! By My life, every matter hath been revealed in the Tablets. Verily thy Lord is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. They who were not present before the Throne yet claim inner presence—these have followed vain imaginings, by thy Lord, the All-Knowing! He who hath attained the presence of the Countenance in the manifest outer realm—this is better for him than the worship of both humans and jinn. Around this outward manifestation revolve the worlds of the inner reality, yet the people remain in evident obscurity.

If thou seest the letter Nun before Za’, say: “Look unto thy Lord and not unto thyself.” Thou wilt not see the raven as a dove—thus doth the All-Informed apprise thee. Blessed is the soul that hath attained the presence of the Throne and to whom We have testified reunion—he is the best of men before thy gracious Lord. How many who were near, to whom We testified not nearness, and how many who were far, for whom the decree of nearness was revealed from the Pen of God, the Mighty, the Impregnable! Blessed is he who hath attained and recognized both excellences—he hath outstripped all others. Verily thy Lord confirmeth what He willeth. How many who were near are in the highest paradise, and how many who were near are in the lowest fire. Thus hath the decree shone forth from the horizon of the Pen of thy Lord, the All-Merciful, in this mighty Prison. The glory be upon thee and upon those who have attained, and been blessed, and been present, and have drunk, and have heard, and have said: “Here am I, here am I, O Lord of the worlds!”

BH01030: A remembrance from Our presence to him who hath…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Great, the Most Ancient!

A remembrance from Our presence to him who hath attained unto the lights of divine knowledge in the days of his Lord, the Most Merciful, and hath voiced His praise amidst the concourse of all created things. He is verily of those who have attained. Blessed is he who hath stood firm in the Cause of God and

desired that which his Ancient Lord desired. It behooveth thee to arise to serve the Cause in such wise that whatsoever proceedeth from the Pen of thy Lord, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy, shall not grieve thee. We have chosen thee for Our Cause, as witnessed by all things and beyond them this All-Knowing Pen. We have sent thee numerous Tablets which well-nigh fill the horizons. Thy Lord is verily the All-Numbering, the All-Informed. It behooveth thee to render thanks unto Him at morn and eventide, and to soar on the wings of spirit and joy in the atmosphere of the love of thy Lord, the Merciful, the Compassionate.

We have revealed for everyone mentioned in thy book clear verses that cannot be equaled by the treasuries of the heavens and earth. This is of My grace upon thee, and thou dost witness what God hath witnessed, wouldst thou but reflect. Thy Lord is verily the Forgiving, the Merciful. He was with thee when thou wert in Iraq and other lands, and heard what thy tongue uttered in remembrance of this Wronged One, this Exile, and testified unto thee with His truthful and trustworthy tongue. Behold the Tablets We sent thee aforetime, that thou mayest be assured that His grace hath encompassed thee and His mercy hath preceded thee in every matter. He is verily the Lord of those who turn unto Him.

Wert thou to gather all that hath been revealed for thee, thou wouldst find it a book wherein every word indicateth thy Lord's loving care. Read thou and be of them that render thanks. The ocean of grace hath surged and the heaven of bounty hath been adorned with the stars of thy Lord's favors, the Lord of all names. Drink thou therefrom and say: Praise be unto Thee, O Thou the Goal of all seekers!

O My Tabib! God's grace and bounties have ever been and shall ever continue to be. Out of pure loving-kindness, numerous wondrous and sublime Tablets have been revealed and sent to thee at most times, and for every soul mentioned in thy book, divine verses were specifically revealed and dispatched. Most of this bounty pertaineth to thee thyself. Thou must, God willing, conduct thyself in such manner that whatsoever proceedeth from God and the Dawning-Place of His Cause should be regarded as thy desire and purpose. His purpose and whatsoever proceedeth from Him hath been and shall ever be. O My Name! Thy will must be connected to what God willeth, and thy desire must be annihilated in His desire—that is, thou must regard God's will as thy desire and His wish as thy purpose. It is most evident that the condition of all is witnessed and known before the Divine Throne, and His gaze hath ever been and shall ever be fixed upon His loved ones. Thou art now counted among those related to the Truth. Let not certain matters grieve thee. Be confident in God's grace and be detached and free from aught else but Him.

Write that they should take heed not to trust in him, for he has not been and will never be steadfast. Whatever matters he comprehends and understands, he will surely mention in due time. If the Tablet to the Sultan is given, there is no harm, as most of the opponents have seen it and it has even reached the source of opposition. Therefore, if it reaches anyone, no harm will come of it. However, nothing else is ever permitted. They should exercise utmost care. His example is like that of a serpent—when it reaches maturity, it strikes and hisses. Regarding the House, the intention is that it be purified from strangers. If the name Mim with utmost gratitude and joy and fragrance relinquishes the House to him to whom it belongs, this is most beloved and praiseworthy. Otherwise, speak not of it and turn not unto it. Thus does

the All-Knowing, the All-Informed command you. Soon you shall witness what is in your Lord's knowledge and shall say:

> "Praise be unto Thee, O Thou in Whose possession is the knowledge of all things in a Mighty Book."

Write for Muhammad-Mustafa, upon him be the Glory of the Lord of Names, that which hath been revealed for him. We beseech God to assist him and those with him to aid His Cause and exalt His Word through wisdom and utterance. Verily He is the Powerful, the Mighty, the Bestower. Convey My greetings upon him and upon those who were with him, that they may rejoice within themselves and be of the thankful ones.

Concerning what you mentioned about Ha preceding Sin becoming Sipahsalar—listen not to this. His neck was between the fingers of thy Lord's power. Soon shall you hear from him what you heard from those who opposed Us in the Great City. Verily thy Lord is the Powerful, the Mighty.

Regarding what you wrote about the return of the loved ones to Iraq—whosoever can go, there is no objection. Soon shall all attain to divine favors and bounties. What is beloved of all is steadfastness in the love of God. If they remain firm in this station through God's grace, they shall comprehend all inner and outer effusions. Those who have become captives in His path and afflicted with exile shall never be erased from the view of the Most Great Scene. Blessed are they for what hath befallen them in the path of God. We beseech God to grant such grace that they may remain steadfast and properly preserve the trust of God, which is His love, lest any deed appear from anyone that would cause the hardships and difficulties they have borne in God's path to be wasted. We beseech God to assist all to His love and good-pleasure. Verily He has power over all things.

A letter from Zaynu'l-Muqarrabin, upon him be the Glory of God, was written to this servant present before the Countenance. It was observed. Its answer will reach him, God willing. Glorify him on My behalf, then give him the glad-tidings of My remembrance of him. Verily thy Lord is the Best of those who remember. Adorn the temple of each one of My loved ones with the ornament of My remembrance and glorification, then give them glad-tidings of what God hath desired for them. Verily He is the Rewarder of the doers of good.

BH01043: From the Dayspring of Divine utterance it is revealed…

From the Dayspring of Divine utterance it is revealed… It is evident and clear that the True One, exalted be His mention, is never pleased that anyone should transgress against another. Some among the servants, from every group, have transformed the breaths of the All-Merciful into the promptings of self, attributing these to the Truth. All such matters stem from heedlessness, and His holy and sanctified garment is pure and free from these. I beseech God to guide all and make them steadfast in His love. We have accepted all the tribulations of the world specifically for the deliverance and tranquility of the loved ones and their unity.

At all times, Jinab-i-Haji and Aqa ʿAli have been mentioned before the Divine Presence, and without interruption the Sun of Grace has dawned and shone upon them from the horizon of favor, until certain

words appeared from them which were and are contrary to God's Cause. For the Truth has risen from the horizon of eternity specifically for the unity of the world's peoples, yet from them have issued words that oppose the Will of God, as they have caused division. Let Haji himself and the others look with the eye of fairness: if every day a new Truth—that is, a new Manifestation of the complete sovereignty of the One True God—were to appear, how could the divine Cause remain firm among creation?

Today one Truth appears, speaking a word, and tomorrow another Truth speaks a different word than the first. What then is the duty of the people? If we say these two words are seen with the same perspective, this is utterly remote from reason and wisdom, and people of insight would never utter such words. For among the utterances of Truth are commandments and prohibitions which all need, and in essential reality the order of the world, the preservation of existence, and the unity of all on earth depend upon and are connected to these. If every day a new Authority were to appear, all these matters would become void and ineffective, and the helpless people would have to abandon all things each day and turn to a new qiblih.

Consider somewhat the Bayan: The example of this Revelation and the Revelation of the Point of the Bayan is exactly like the appearance of the son of Zachariah and Jesus the son of Mary. The son of Zachariah, despite his station of prophethood and the greatness of his rank, gave the people glad tidings of the appearance of the Spirit, and both were in the same age. Some of the words of the son of Zachariah were understood by the people as to their meaning, while others were not understood. Thus after the martyrdom of the son of Zachariah, some of his followers did not turn to the Manifestation of the All-Merciful, namely Jesus son of Mary, and departed from the divine law, and they still exist on earth and are known to some as Sabeans. These souls consider themselves followers of that holy one, but remain veiled from the purpose, for had they understood the purpose they would not have turned away from the son of Mary who was the beloved of the son of Zachariah and his purpose.

Likewise consider the Revelation of the Primal Point, who despite His exalted station was the Herald of this Most Great Revelation. And if one possessed of insight were to observe the Bayan fairly, he would see nothing except mention of Him Who is the Origin of a new creation, and if one possessed of a refined sense were to inhale the gentle fragrance of the Bayan, he would perceive naught but the sweet scent of this Garment.

This is the beginning and end of the matter of truth that was mentioned. Furthermore, whosoever drinks of this wine of oneness shall be counted among the guides and manifestations of the Manifester, so long as he dwells beneath His shadow. The meaning of unity is not to see two or ten as one—this is the very essence of misbelief and atheism itself—rather, the one who believes in unity is he who sees the Truth as one from all directions, sanctified from all names and likenesses, and beholds all else as subsisting through Him and existing by His command. And whosoever is deprived of this most pure Kawthar, which flows from the direction of the Most Great Scene, is non-existent in the sight of God, let alone being mentioned among the people of unity. Today, ears and hearts must be emptied of their own words and imaginings, that perchance they may become recipients of divine outpourings and confirmations.

O Hasan! God willing, thou shalt become intoxicated with the pure, flowing waters of these merciful utterances and shalt pass beyond the world and all who dwell therein in the path of the Lord of all

creation, in such wise that no zeal shall hold thee back. And like the brilliant morn thou shalt rise from the horizon of the heaven of divine love and shalt openly and secretly acknowledge among men that which God hath acknowledged in this Tablet. Then will power be made manifest unto all, and thy station with God shall be exalted and resplendent. If thou be of the birds, wing thy flight in this spiritual atmosphere and outstrip all other birds in thy soaring. I swear by the Ancient Beauty that there is no atmosphere save this atmosphere, and no space visible except this space.

O My bird! Soar in this atmosphere through My Name and My sovereignty; then, in My love, detach thyself from the worlds. By My life! The Revelations have ended with this Most Great Revelation. Whoso layeth claim to a Revelation before the completion of a full thousand years, such a one is assuredly a lying impostor. And whosoever interpreteth this verse is one who hath turned away from the All-Merciful and is counted among the lost. Although for those possessed of insight, mention was made aforetime of the dominion of Husayn lasting eighty thousand years, yet the people of Baha must at least hold to a thousand years.

O Hasan and O ʿAli! Hearken unto the call of Him Who hath, for God's sake, occupied Himself with making mention of these matters to you in this Most Great Prison. Turn ye unto Him with all your being. Thus doth command you your Lord, the Imprisoned, the Alone.

BH01104: As to what was asked about the Most Great…

…As to what was asked about the Most Great Festival, it begins after the passage of thirty-two days from the Festival of Fasting, with the first day of the month of Baha being counted as the first of these thirty-two days. On the thirty-second day, at the time of the afternoon prayer, the Ancient Beauty entered the Garden of Ridvan. That moment marks the beginning of the Most Great Festival, and that day together with the second day of the Festival are reckoned as one day. It is strictly forbidden in the Book to engage in work on the first, ninth and twelfth days, but there is no objection to working on the other days.

As to the matter of the Festival of Fasting, the intercalary days fall before the days of fasting, after which one enters into the Fast. One must fast for the full nineteen days.

And as for the day associated with the Most Great Name, which is the Festival day—if the transition occurs, for example, after noon or in the afternoon, that day will be the Festival day. For that hour is like unto the sun—its radiance falls upon the entire day. Especially since it is associated with the Most Great Name, its afternoon is regarded in the sight of God as equivalent to its dawn. Therefore, at whatever time during the day the transition occurs, that day will be the Festival day. Blessed are they who partake of this bounty.

As to the matter of the Most Holy, Most Glorious Birth, it is at the first dawn of the second day of Muharram. However, the first day, which is the day of the birth of the Herald, together with the second day, is reckoned as one day in the sight of God….

…you wrote that several souls who had set out were prevented and returned. This was presented at the Most Holy Court, and He said:

> "What happened was good, for in these days it is not advisable for multiple souls to arrive in one place. Praise be to God that what was best came to pass. In such journeys, it is not permissible to exceed two persons, for most people are corrupt and are waiting to seize upon something to create mischief."

BH01115: The Call of God is raised from the direction…

In the name of the one God

The Call of God is raised from the direction of Akka, saying:

> "Blessed is he who hath turned unto God and hath hearkened with both outer and inner ear to His divine call."

Such souls are the people of the Most Great Vista and the partakers of the Most Pure Wine—especially those who, in these days when the darkness of vain imaginings hath seized most of mankind, have not been hindered from turning toward the Court of Oneness. For this reason have the Manifestations of the past, from time immemorial and forever after, made mention of these souls in their Tablets. In this tribulation it is observed that the truly sincere ones are rarer than red sulfur. Were the servants to perceive the sweetness of the divine call and recognize the greatness of the Source of the Word, all would turn unveiled toward the Lord of Lords.

From time immemorial and forever after, infinite oppression hath been visited upon the divine Manifestations from the daysprings of pharaonic might, yet with utmost power and sovereignty They bore all, that perchance a few souls might be sanctified from the murk of doubts and imaginings and ascend to the heights of divine oneness. Although all witnessed that these Sources of divine authority endured hardships solely for humanity's salvation, they did what they did—may God's curse be upon the wrongdoing people!

All know that this world hath no permanence, and when death's messenger cometh, no veil can conceal him, no power can prevent him, no tyrant's might can turn him back. Despite certain knowledge of this station, in these numbered days when none knoweth whether tomorrow they will be above the earth or beneath it, all walk the path of self and passion, heedless of God, the Most High and Glorious.

They vainly imagine they can extinguish God's Lamp amidst creation and prevent the divine Tree from yielding Its holy, celestial fruits. This is as if a salty drop were to oppose and seek to repel the sweet, surging ocean. Did the veils of the people of the Hijaz prevent the Sun? By God, the fingers of destiny rent asunder the veil that intervened, and It shone forth from the horizon of glory!

The holders of outward authority have ever forbidden people from turning to the Court of Oneness and have disliked the gathering of servants at the Most Great Ocean, for they have regarded and still regard such gathering as the cause and means of undermining the foundations of sovereignty. Yet by Him in Whose grasp is the control of all things, the gaze of God's loved ones hath ever been and shall ever be sanctified from attention to such matters. These things have been spread by the corrupt. Now most imagine that this servant desireth universal rule in the earth, although in all Our Tablets We have

forbidden the servants from accepting such rank, for it yieldeth naught but tribulation and affliction, unless one should accept it for God's sake to help His Cause. Kings are the manifestations of divine power, and what is intended is their justice—if they observe this, they are related to the Truth.

Soon will the veils be rent asunder and the manifestation of Names and Attributes will seize most of the servants, and all will testify to the sanctification and transcendence of those near to God's court, let alone His exalted Self.

We thank God that He enabled His servants and supported them in His love and good-pleasure, opened their eyes that they might behold Him and know Him, and did not withhold them from this Sun which has dawned, and from this Sea which has surged, and from this Heaven which has been upraised, and from this Grace which has descended, and from this Lamp through whose light the earth has been illumined. Verily He is powerful over all things.

As for what thou didst behold in thy dream, give thanks unto God for having revealed Himself unto thee, unveiled to thee His beauty and admitted thee into the pavilion of His glory. Then know thou that what thou didst see is truth, there is no doubt therein, and the matter is as thou didst see. God will soon manifest from this horizon a light and power whereby the sun shall be darkened and the traces of those who have waxed proud before God shall be obliterated, while the faces of the sincere shall be illumined thereby. Soon shall the lights of thy Lord's countenance encompass all who are on earth. Verily He is powerful over all things.

Though it hath not been explained in detail, yet from that which hath been revealed from the Source of the Command, the purpose is clear. The interpretation of the dream itself is manifest—every person of insight and vision will recognize it.

Glorified art Thou, O my God! These are Thy servants who have left their homes out of longing to meet Thee, and have forsaken their native lands yearning for the court of Thy mighty throne, the visitation of Thy beauty and presence before Thee. They have been prevented therefrom by reason of what the hands of Thy creatures have wrought. I beseech Thee by Thy Name through which Thou didst attract the hearts of them who are nigh unto Thee and didst cause them to be detached from all else besides Thee, that Thou write down for these servants every bounty from the treasuries of Thy generosity, every favor from the repositories of Thy munificence, every mercy from the heaven of Thy Will, and every good thing Thou hast sent down for Thy chosen ones. Then raise them, O my God, to such a station where sorrows cannot prevent them from turning to Thy face, nor can the vicissitudes of the contingent world disturb their joy in Thy days. Moreover, ordain for them, O my God, the good of this world and the world to come. Verily Thou art the Almighty, the Doer of what Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the Most Exalted, the All-Glorious.

BH01130: A mention from Us to him who was illumined…

He is the Most Great, the Most Ancient, the Most Exalted!

A mention from Us to him who was illumined by the lights of his Lord's countenance, the Mighty, the Bestower. When he heard the Call, he turned unto it, and when he was summoned, he responded. Verily,

they who have been faithful to God's Covenant are accounted among the most exalted of beings in the sight of the Sublime Truth. They who were heedless are assuredly numbered with the people of the fire in the estimation of thy Lord, the Mighty, the Chosen One.

Say: The Most Great Balance hath appeared, whereby all deeds are weighed, and verily it is God's Path for all who are in earth and heaven. Through it every seeker hath turned, and everything hath voiced the remembrance of God, the Cleaver of the Dawn. Blessed art thou, inasmuch as thou hast found the sweetness of utterance in that which hath been sent down from the All-Merciful, and hast recognized thy Lord in this Garment whereby all regions have been illumined.

We had previously sent thee a Tablet wherein wafted the sweet savors of thy Lord's loving-kindness, the Mighty, the Ever-Forgiving. And before that, another Tablet through which the sun of grace shone forth from the horizon of thy Lord's mercy upon all creation. Beware lest anything sadden thee or the tyranny of those who have rebelled against God when He came in the clouds of glory cause thee to grieve. When sorrow overtaketh thee, consider Mine affair and reflect upon that which hath befallen this Wronged One when He was made a captive in the hands of the two parties who had turned away from God after He had come unto them with the kingdom of verses.

Blessed is the strong one who hath arisen to serve his Lord's Cause, and the herald who proclaimeth this Name with wisdom and clear exposition. Say: O people! Where are they who unjustly oppressed the earth, and where are the royal couches and crowns? And where are they who warred against God and His chosen ones? They have been consumed by their wrongful devouring of people's wealth. Verily thy Lord is severe in punishment.

That which endureth is what He hath ordained for those near unto Him. Thus hath the matter been decreed in the Tablets. By My life! That which is with men shall perish, while glory and power shall remain for those who have turned to the Dayspring of Light. By God! Were they to hear the shrill voice of the Supreme Pen, the ecstasy of God would so seize them that they would cast away their kingdoms and turn to the Kingdom. Thus hath it been sent down from the heaven of might at this time when the tongue of grandeur proclaimeth: The Kingdom is God's, the Powerful, the Mighty, the Effulgent.

My likeness is as one who hath embarked upon the sea while waves encompass him from every side. In such state he calleth out to creation and summoneth them unto God, the Lord of Lords. Say: Doth such a Beloved deserve praise or hatred? Be fair, O ye possessors of sight, and be not like those who witnessed God's power yet denied it. These are assuredly companions of the fire. Do they imagine they follow God's command? Nay, by the Lord of creation! They worshipped vain imaginings for a thousand years, and when the appointed time came and the Dayspring of verses appeared, they were terrified and cried out: "This is none other than a lying impostor!" Say: Fear God, and exchange not the pearl for the shell, nor the jewel for clay. Thus doth your Lord command you out of His love for His servants who were created by His all-compelling command that overshadoweth the horizons.

O servant who gazeth toward God! Praise be to the Best Beloved of the worlds, that thou art blessed with His love, engaged in His remembrance, and turned toward His direction. This hath been and ever shall be among the greatest bounties. God willing, thou shalt be watchful over His Cause in all conditions, for

whatsoever is associated with Truth is abiding, eternal and steadfast, while all else is evanescent and as nothingness.

The weak souls today are unaware—some are afflicted in the wilderness of heedlessness, while others are barred from the court of oneness by ancient, worn-out, man-made doctrines. For a thousand years or more, these deluded souls have fixed their gaze upon an imaginary person in an imaginary city, clinging to him; yet after the appearance of the Most Great Luminary, only a few rent asunder the veils of idle fancies, while the rest remained bound by the same vain imaginings. Blessed is he who, by the power of his Lord, the Mighty, the Omnipotent, hath torn away the veils. All that the followers of the Furqan (Qur'an) formerly possessed can be measured by this same standard. The deluded ones have ever been and continue to be thus, as is now witnessed. The one who associateth partners with God and his followers have, through mention of a fabricated successorship, barred people from the Lord of creation. They are in naught but error—thy Lord, the Self-Sufficient, the Most High, is witness. Although all know they have neither understood nor comprehend His Cause, still they wander in the wilderness of error, unaware.

In any case, be not saddened by these matters, for God hath servants who burn away the veils of idle fancy and rend asunder the coverings of the people. These are they whom neither that which is in the hands of men, nor that which their lying tongues utter, can deter. They are the lights of unity in the lands and the stars of detachment among the servants. Soon will their station be made manifest to all on earth. He, verily, is the Almighty, the All-Powerful.

If thou askest about conditions in this land, it is in evident turmoil. That which was foretold in previous Tablets is now manifest. Verily thy Lord is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. Would that none but myself had to endure tribulations in the path of God, the Lord of the worlds. In all conditions we have been and are thankful, and are engaged in His praise and glorification. Nothing can prevent Him, even should all kings oppose Him and every bondsman turn away from Him. We beseech God to assist thee in His service and obedience, and to aid thee through His grace. He, verily, is the Most Merciful of the merciful.

Convey exalted and glorious greetings to the Afnan, and likewise to such of God's sincere servants as are in thy vicinity. The glory from the All-Glorious be upon thee and upon those who love thy Lord, Who standeth at the Straight Path.

BH01139: O thou who bearest My Name in the Kingdom…

In the Name of God, the Luminous, the All-Glorious!

O thou who bearest My Name in the Kingdom of My Cause, My trusted one among My creation, the sign of My remembrance amongst My servants, and who journeyeth through the lands to aid My Cause and promote My Faith! I testify that thou art of Me and hast diffused the fragrance of My raiment throughout the East and West of the earth. Thou art he who hath remained faithful to My Covenant and My Testament. Thou didst depart from the precincts of the Throne by My leave, and didst draw nigh and enter through My good-pleasure. Blessed art thou, and blessed is he who hath found solace in thee out of love for My Being, and hath heard from thee the gems of My laws and commandments.

Know thou that thy letter hath come before the Throne aforetime, and in these days We have answered thee in the Tablet and sent it unto thee by the hand of one of Our servants. This is yet another token of Our grace bestowed upon thee. Verily, thy Lord is the All-Forgiving, the All-Merciful. He loveth him who loveth Him, desireth him who desireth Him, and answereth him who calleth upon Him. Within His grasp is the dominion of the kingdom of the heavens and the earth. He doeth what He willeth and ordaineth what He pleaseth.

Those whose names thou hast mentioned in thy letters, We have recorded them in the Tablet and have ordained for each one of them that which shall bring solace to their eyes. Verily, thy Lord is the Mighty, the Bountiful. And concerning that which was mentioned in thy letter—We have not fixed a specific time for it. Those who claimed that We commanded the sincere ones as We commanded them were mistaken, that their acceptance and detachment might be made manifest before all the worlds.

We praise God that He hath shown thee servants in this Revelation who have hastened to do good works before their appointed time. These, verily, are among the people of Baha. Upon them rest My mercy, My glory, My remembrance, and My praise at all times. These are they whom the world hath not prevented from treading the path of God, the Lord of all names, and who have spent that which they possessed in their quest for that which is with God. We have accepted from them as a bounty from Our presence. Verily, thy Lord is the Almighty, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

Hear in the most wondrous Persian tongue: During the sojourn of the Ancient Beauty in the Land of Mystery, when it was observed that the time of the great tribulation drew nigh—even as had been revealed in previous Tablets from the heaven of the Will of the All-Knowing, the All-Informed—therefore when Jamalu'd-Din, upon him be the glory of God, was present before Him, the Tongue of Grandeur spoke certain words concerning the known matter, that they might be mentioned among men and that confirmed souls might act upon them. The essence of these words was this: that after the arrival of the Most Holy Beauty in the great city, the sublime government had allocated a specific sum for designated expenses. Fie upon such bounty that is followed by obligation and injury! However, in view of the exigencies of the time and the consummate divine wisdom, it was not rejected. Although all that exists on earth belonged to the True One, in those days everything was contingent upon the permission and consent of the King of Oneness. Nevertheless, it would be most beloved if each of the Branches of the Divine Tree, the related Twigs, and the loved ones could, at any time or age, reject these funds and receive instead pages adorned with the seal of the Cause.

Likewise was this utterance repeatedly spoken from the Tongue of Grandeur in the Most Great Prison in the presence of two souls. However, this was not intended for these days, for after arrival at this place, the sovereignty of God was openly proclaimed to the kings and other monarchs, and His Cause was publicly taught. Thus were all hearts set ablaze and engaged in schemes. Thus did We grant victory unto Our Cause with true victory.

By My life! No doubt appeared in all the worlds in those days. Sufficient was the fire We kindled in their hearts. Thus doth God transform light into fire for those who waxed proud and were among the oppressors. In such circumstances, the disclosure of that matter is not now permitted. Consider the mercy, power and bounty of God: although the appointed time for that matter was to be later, yet by His

guiding hand He raised up certain souls in the goodly land who, after His will and before the appointed time, hastened to this greatest good. These are the helpers of God; God hath accepted their deeds. These souls have attained unto that which God desired; therefore if they themselves dispose of it, no harm shall come to them, for in truth they have acted according to what their Lord, the All-Merciful, desired and decreed. Blessed are they and blessed is he whom thou didst mention in thy letter previously, for he preceded in this matter. Upon him be the glory of God, the Mighty, the Beautiful.

Glory be unto Thee, O my God! Praise be unto Thee for having enabled Thy loved ones to carry out Thy command and manifest that which Thou didst desire through Thy sovereignty. O Lord! Thou knowest that I desired for no one save Thy remembrance and praise, and sought from no soul that which Thou hadst bestowed through Thy bounty and favor. I summoned them in all conditions purely for Thy sake to the court of Thy grace. Thou, O my God, beholdest these who aided Thy Cause with their wealth before Thy manifestation and Thy command, and with their own selves after the dawning of the Sun of Thy wisdom from the dayspring of Thy revelation and inspiration. And Thou seest their steadfastness in Thy love and their firmness in Thy Cause.

O Lord! Ordain for them that which beseemeth Thee and is worthy of Thy presence. Then write down for them the reward of those who circle round Thee in all Thy worlds. Separate them not from Thee throughout the duration of Thy kingdom. This is the most excellent prayer; therefore answer it, O Creator of the heavens! Verily Thou art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest. There is no God but Thee, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious.

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BH01159: O My name Mihdi! Upon thee be My glory…

O My name Mihdi! Upon thee be My glory, My remembrance and My praise! Blessed art thou for having fulfilled My Covenant, spread My remembrance, arisen to extol Me and serve Me amongst My servants. We created all to attain Our presence, call upon Our Name and turn to Our Countenance. Yet some were deprived of My mercy, strayed from My path and failed to answer My call. Blessed is the distant one who remembers Me. By God, he is among those who stand upon My carpet and attain My presence. And among them is one who mentioned Me, whom We made one of the twigs of My Lote-Tree and leaves of My Tree.

Know then, O My servant who gazeth upon My face, that the servant hath attained the presence of his Sovereign and his letter was presented. When it was presented, the winds of My mercy were stirred and the ocean of My bounty surged. Thus did We cast upon the people of possibility the pearls of utterance through the grace of the All-Merciful. Blessed is he who attaineth unto them, recognizeth their value and preserveth them from those who are unworthy.

O Mihdi! Thy mention hath been made before the Countenance. We beseech God to assist thee in all conditions and to aid thee in the beginning and the end. Verily He is the Self-Sufficient, the Most Exalted.

Although restraint of the Pen is necessary due to the heedlessness of the nations, for the protection of God's loved ones, yet through His grace, from the Fountainhead of His Will, the pure Water floweth according to measure. Blessed is he who drinketh, detached from all the worlds.

Among the letters received was one from one of the Afnan, upon him be the Glory of God, to whom all things testify of his love for his Lord, the Mighty, the All-Knowing. We have sent through the Trustworthy One to him and those around him that which will gladden the eyes of the mystics and cause the hearts of those who have turned to God to soar.

Thus doth the Supreme Pen address him from the direction of the white dome of the Ultimate Tree: "O thou who bearest My Name! Blessed art thou for having inhaled the fragrance of My raiment, turned to My face, spoken My praise, sought My presence, taken refuge in My sovereignty, heard My call from My Kingdom, answered Me amongst My servants, and soared in the atmosphere of My love, circling round My will. All this is from My confirmations, My care, My grace, My generosity and My mercy.

Blessed is he who turneth unto thee, heareth from thee the mention of thy Lord, and boweth before thee purely for My sake, hoping for My loving-kindness which We have sent down in the scrolls of My power and the tablets of My favor.

We have learned of the calamity that befell you, whereat tears flowed and sighs ascended to God, the Lord of Names and Attributes. By My life! In this ye have followed your Lord. We sacrificed one of the Branches for the exaltation of the Cause of your Lord, the All-Merciful. At the time they were washing him, My tongue was speaking between earth and heaven in remembrance of your Lord, the Most High, and My pen was flowing with that which caused the breezes of the All-Merciful to waft among all possibility. We have sent it to you. Blessed is he who considereth it and reflecteth upon that which hath appeared from the Command of his Lord, the Exalted, the Mighty, the Powerful, the Omnipotent.

Say to his relatives: Grieve not for him. He is with Us and will continue soaring in the atmosphere of the mercy of his Lord, the Forgiving, the Merciful. Through his mention We have adorned the Tablets, for We found in his heart what We found only in a few numbered souls. Blessed is he, and his father, and those who are with him from among My Afnan. Soon We shall send down for each one that which is better for them than all that hath been created in the heavens and earth. Verily, he is alive in My horizon, for We recognized in him what none knoweth save your Lord, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

God willing, those related to the Blessed Tree should not be saddened by this new calamity. In truth, they have followed the example of the Truth, for at all times calamities descended like rain upon the Beauty of Divine Unity. Were the exalted stations specially reserved for that Bird of the heaven of divine love to be mentioned, all would raise their hands in supplication toward the Most Exalted Horizon. We beseech God to aid all to that which He loveth.

The mention of his honor Aqa Shaykh Sadiq, upon him be the Glory of God, which was in your letter, was made before the Divine Presence. Previously a wondrous and glorious Tablet was sent especially for him. Say: O Sadiq! Blessed art thou for having drunk the choice wine sealed from the hand of the mercy of thy Lord, the Mighty, the Self-Subsisting. Nothing hath prevented thee from the remembrance of thy Lord.

By My life! This is a praiseworthy station. It behooveth thee today to arise and say: O people! Follow Him by Whose praise all things speak, and Whose proof hath encompassed both the unseen and the visible. Pass by with the fragrance of thy Lord's raiment, the All-Merciful, amongst all who dwell within the realm of possibility, that hearts and minds may be set ablaze through thee. We have made mention of thee in numerous Tablets. Verily thy Lord is the Mighty, the Loving. Say: O people! Forsake the world, for your Lord, the Lord of all names, hath come. Do ye imagine it will profit you in aught? Nay, by My Name, through which all who have entered the garment of existence were stirred! It will profit you only for a limited number of days. Cast it behind you, turning to that which your Lord, the All-Merciful, hath desired on this Day wherein the Sun of Revelation hath shone forth and the stars have fallen.

O Sadiq! We have sprinkled upon thee from the ocean of My mercy, lest sorrow overtake thee in the remembrance of thy Lord, the All-Merciful, and that thou mayest speak forth His Name with wisdom and utterance, that perchance the peoples of the worlds may abandon what they possess and hold fast to the cord of thy Lord, the Almighty, the Mighty, the Beloved. Rejoice thou in My remembrance of thee yet again, then inhale therefrom the fragrances of thy Lord's raiment, the Knower of the unseen.

BH01165: Baha hath been abashed by finding thee abashed…

In the Name of the Glorious, the Bountiful!

Baha hath been abashed by finding thee abashed in His days, and Baha hath been perturbed by finding thee perturbed at what hath escaped thee beneath His shade. Sorrows have seized Me upon learning of thy grief in the Cause of thy Lord, and I have been moved by the stirring of the Lote-Tree of thy love, which the winds of thy Lord's loving-kindness have set in motion.

By My life! Baha hath been set aflame by the burning of your hearts and the yearning of your souls. We beseech God to make thy confession the hand of power whereby the veils may be rent asunder, and to make thy acknowledgment a support for thee, that through the cord of My Name, the All-Powerful, thou mayest draw forth the Joseph of My luminous remembrance from the well of mysteries. May the attraction of the melodies of My Most Exalted Pen so possess thee that from the horizon of thy heart may rise the sun of faithfulness to My Most Glorious Name, and from the gardens of thy breast may waft that whereby all things shall be attracted, that the sincere ones and they that circle round may discover therefrom the fragrance of the garment of thy Lord's love, the Lord of Names and Creator of earth and heaven.

Glory be unto Thee, O my God, my God! Thou Who art the Throb within my heart knowest and seest that the shame of Thy loved ones leadeth back to the Manifestation of Thyself and the Dayspring of Thy Cause. Nay, He seeth Himself more ashamed than they when they confess what hath escaped them in Thy days. O my Lord! These are Thy servants who have migrated in Thy love and borne tribulations in Thy path.

By Thy glory, O my God! Whenever any one of them confesseth his transgressions before Thee, shame covereth the face of Baha, for they are Thy servants who have tasted the cup of tribulation in Thy Cause and drunk the chalices of hardship at the appearance of the lights of Thy countenance, and trials have so

seized them that they found no rest in Thy presence. By Thy glory! Baha hath melted in love for Thy loved ones and is perturbed by the sorrows that have befallen them at the manifestation of Thy Cause and the surging of the seas of Thy grace and favor. O Lord! From the sighs of their hearts hath my sighing risen, and from the burning of their hearts hath my heart been set aflame. I beseech Thee, O Lord of all being and Educator of the seen and unseen, to make each one of them a standard of Thy guidance among Thy servants and a dawning-place of the lights of the sun of Thy loving care among Thy creatures. Thou hast singled them out, O my God, for Thy love and for attendance before the throne of Thy grandeur. This is a station wherein none hath preceded them.

How many nights, O my God, they slept not in remembrance of Thee, and how many days they lamented for what was wrought against Thee by Thine enemies. I beseech Thee, O King of Kings and Exalter of the lowly, to assist them in the triumph of Thy Cause and the exaltation of Thy Word in such wise that through them Thy remembrance may be spread among Thy creation and Thy praise throughout Thy realm. Verily, Thou art the Almighty, the Most Exalted, the All-Forgiving, the Most Generous.

Glory be unto Thee, O Lord my God! This is Thy servant whom Thou hast named with Thine own name in the kingdom of Thy names and reared beneath the wing of Thy grace and favor. Now Thou seest him hastening toward the region of Thy bounties and running unto Thee in quest of Thy bestowals. Adorn him, O my God, with the mantle of Thy generosity and the robe of Thy bounty and grace, that all things may perceive from him the sweet savors of the garment of Thy love. Then crown his head with the diadem of Thy remembrance that he may be known among the servants for his love for Thee and his steadfastness in Thy Cause. Then aid him in all conditions to help Thy Cause and to extol Thee and sing Thy praise amidst Thy creatures.

By Thy glory, O my God! Whenever I contemplate Thy greatness and sovereignty, I find myself the most rebellious of all them that have rebelled in Thy realm, and whenever I behold the stations which Thou hast reserved for Thyself, I perceive my being more sinful than any that dwell upon Thy earth. Were it not for the concealment of Thy Name, the Concealer, and the forgiveness of Thy Name, the All-Forgiving, and the fragrance of Thy Name, the All-Merciful, Thou wouldst behold the chosen ones in the positions of sin and rebellion. Praise be unto Thee for having preceded them with Thy mercy and encompassed them with Thy grace and favor.

After my confession of what hath flowed from my pen, I beseech Thee by Thy Name which Thou hast made the Sovereign over all names and the Supreme Ruler over all who are in earth and heaven, that Thou wilt not turn away him who hath turned toward Thee, nor withhold from him the wonders of Thy grace and the hidden tokens of Thy mercy. Kindle within his heart, by the hands of Thy power, a lamp that will burn in Thy days and cry out in Thy Name in such wise that shyness will not prevent him from soaring in the atmosphere of Thy love and ascending to the horizon of Thy rapture and yearning, nor will the affairs of the people hinder him from exalting Thy Word, that Thou mayest behold him sanctified as Thou desirest and as beseemeth Thy majesty and glory. Though this, O my God, be a mighty station and a great position, for how can any besides Thee bring forth that which would be worthy of Thy presence and befitting of Thy majesty?

Thou art the Generous One, and Thou art the Merciful. All atoms testify that Thou art the Ever-Forgiving, the Kind, the Bestower, the Mighty, the Wise. O my God, look upon him with the eye of Thy loving-kindness and the glance of Thy bounty. Then attract him through the melodies of the Source of Thy Revelation to such a station wherein he may become wholly annihilated in Thy good-pleasure and hopeful of what Thou hast ordained in Thy tablets. Then strengthen his heart through Thy name, the Strong, the Faithful, that he may stretch forth the hand of power and thereby aid Thy Cause at the appearance of the light of Thy Beauty and the dawning of the Sun of Thy Glory.

O Lord! Since Thou hast named him with Thy name, single him out among Thy servants for Thy service. O Lord! Thou knowest that I have desired naught for myself but rather for Thy Cause, and have turned to no one except for Thy Command and the manifestation of Thy bounty. I beseech Thee by Thy Hidden Name which now speaketh, that Thou send down upon him and upon Thy loved ones that which is treasured in the heaven of Thy bestowal and gifts, that yearning and attraction may seize them in Thy Covenant, O Lord of Lords! Then ordain for him and for them what befitteth Thy Name, the All-Bountiful. Verily, Thou art the Almighty, the Most Exalted, the Strong, the Mighty, the Great.

BH01220: O My Name! The letter thou didst send hath…

In the Name of Him Who is the Supreme Ruler over all names!

O My Name! The letter thou didst send hath reached Him Who hath testified to that which God hath testified concerning His Own Self unto the ultimate horizon, thy Lord, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. We have taken note of its contents. We beseech God to make it a source of guidance unto all mankind and a sign of His good-pleasure amongst all the worlds.

As to what was mentioned concerning the Afnan and their turning, one and all, unto God—this was what God ordained when We were in Iraq. He, verily, is the Almighty, the Powerful. He manifesteth what He willeth and giveth to drink, unto whom He pleaseth, the wine of understanding. He is, in truth, the Protector of the sincere ones.

He hath mentioned in his letter the name of Bahram, desiring for him God's grace. We, therefore, make mention of him at this moment, that the sweet savors of remembrance may waft from this luminous quarter upon him. All those whom the Tongue of Grandeur remembereth are remembered by the denizens of the Supreme Paradise and then by those who dwell in the Most Exalted Horizon. Thy Lord is, verily, the Forgiving, the Merciful. Should God so will and desire, We shall send unto him a Tablet wherefrom he will inhale the fragrance of the Best-Beloved. We beseech God to make him steadfast under all conditions and to strengthen him from His presence that he may mention Him amongst His servants. This, verily, is a great bounty.

As to what was mentioned concerning Muhammad-Qabli-ʿAli and his turning towards God's direction—the sun of permission for his return hath not yet risen. It behooveth him to remain among the people and to guide them through deeds, character, and remembrance, calling them unto God, the Single, the One, the Mighty, the Bountiful. He is among those who have attained Our presence time after time. Say: Be thou grateful for having attained unto the presence of thy Lord, and be thou among the patient ones.

And concerning the tribulations that have befallen the loved ones—there hath befallen them in that place what befell Us in the prison. Say: Be not grieved thereby. God shall soon exalt them through the truth and abase the arrogant ones and the wrong-doers. He shall establish the truth through His sovereignty and seize those who have disbelieved and then committed injustice. He is, verily, the Subduer, the Mighty.

What hath been mentioned concerning Our servant, ar-Rahim, beareth witness thereto: the Tongue of Grandeur testifieth that he hath not fallen short in the Cause of God, but hath been faithful to His Covenant and His pledge. By My life! this sufficeth him, for the testimony of God is matched by naught of all that hath been created in the heavens and on the earth. There hath come upon Us a greater wrong than that which hath befallen him; it behoveth him to glory therein, and to be of the thankful. We revealed unto him aforetime a Tablet, and set down therein what befell him in the path of God. God shall assuredly recompense him with the fairest recompense, and shall shield him from the malice of the unjust.

Were affliction to be a cause of remissness, then I would be the first of the remiss. Say: Be thou assured through the bounty of thy Lord, and then give thanks unto Him for that which hath been sent down unto thee in this lucid Tablet. Say: All that hath appeared from thee in the service of God is recorded in the Tablets; verily He was with thee in all conditions. Beware lest thou sorrow for what hath come upon thee; nay rather it behoveth thee to be of them that rejoice.

And what hath been mentioned concerning one of My Afnan, who hath ascended unto the horizon of My loving-kindness, the companion of My grace and of My bounty—We bear witness that he was called, and he answered his Eternal Lord; he was adorned with the mantle of faith, and turned toward the Beloved with a comely face. We heard his cry at the hour of his ascent, and answered him from this noble station. Blessed is he—blessed is he—and blessed also are they whom he hath left behind. We shall send down for them that which shall cause their eyes to be refreshed. Do thou, on My behalf, make mention of them, and give them glad tidings of this mighty remembrance. Verily We remember them in the loftiest station, and send unto them breaths of sanctity from this manifest horizon.

O My Name! The book of Mir was received and beheld before the Throne. The glance of divine favor hath ever been and will continue to be directed towards him. The answers to some questions, as ordained by God, were sent down from the heaven of the Divine Will and dispatched. Write unto him and convey Our greetings from this near yet far station. As for his request for forgiveness for one who has passed away, We have forgiven him. Indeed We have accepted his intercession, and We have increased the punishment of him who denied God, the Almighty, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

O My Name Mihdi! The dispatching of souls to various regions is not favored, for an unwholesome odor is perceived therefrom. Perchance people might imagine that which is unworthy of thy Lord's holy court, sanctified above all worlds. In the early years, it was necessary to exalt the Word of God and manifest the Cause among His servants, even as the diffusion of the fragrances of the sublime Tablets and the sweet perfumes of the divine utterances were spread outwardly through messengers and inwardly through the angels brought nigh. Beyond what hearts and minds can comprehend was bestowed upon all who dwell on earth from the Source of the Cause and the Dayspring of grace. However, at present, the coming and going of designated souls is not viewed favorably, as it might cause perturbation in the hearts of the weak

and the destruction of certain servants. Thus, from one perspective it is favored, and from another, it is not. The administrators of God's Cause should ponder upon this matter and implement whatever is beneficial for His servants. The glory be upon thee and upon My loved ones who have attained unto the Cause of God, the Unalterable, the Mighty, the Great. Praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH01255: The All-Sanctified, the Most Great, the Most Inaccessible…

The All-Sanctified, the Most Great, the Most Inaccessible, the Most Glorious! All things proclaim that He Who is the Lord of Names is come, yet the people remain behind a clear veil. The seas have surged by virtue of that Most Great Name which hath appeared from the horizon of eternity, yet most of the people remain fast asleep. The call of God hath been raised from the lofty Tree in the heart of Paradise, yet the people of creation remain in manifest remoteness.

O My loved ones in that land! Hearken unto the call of your Lord, the All-Glorious, from the Ultimate Tree upraised upon the luminous Spot. Verily, there is none other God but Him, the All-Forgiving, the Bountiful. Turn with your hearts unto the Best-Beloved, then take the chalices of life in the name of your Lord, the All-Merciful, and drink therefrom in His Name, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

By My life! This honor sufficeth you—that ye have drawn nigh unto the Best-Beloved while the people are in grievous loss, that ye have attained unto Him Who is the Purpose while they remain in grave delusion. Arise in the name of your Lord, the All-Merciful, amidst all creation in such wise that the sincere shall find in your faces the radiance of the All-Glorious. Thus doth this imprisoned Stranger command you.

Do sorrows overtake you when ye behold yourselves beneath the shadow of your Lord, the Most High, the All-Knowing? God shall soon exalt you through the truth, inasmuch as ye have turned unto Him in days wherein the feet of all the world have slipped. They have clung to vain imaginings while ye have won the recognition of Him Who is known, when He Who is the Self-Subsisting appeared with His name, the Mighty, the Inaccessible. Did ye but know the measure of this bounty, ye would soar with longing in this subtle atmosphere.

Blessed are ye for having heard, turned unto Him and said: "Here am I, O God of the worlds!" How many a mighty one was prevented, and how many a weak one was strengthened through His Name, the Powerful, the Almighty! How many a lofty one descended from his seat, and how many a lowly one was raised up through His Name, the Mighty, the Wise!

Blessed be your faces, for ye have turned unto Him Who is the Intended One; blessed be your hearts for having borne the trust of the love of the Beloved; blessed be your ears for having heard His sweet and wondrous call. Beware lest the vain imaginings of them that have disbelieved in God, the One, the Peerless, the All-Informed, disturb you. Stand firm in the Cause in such wise that neither the gloom of glory nor the might of them that have turned away from the Fountain of nearness and are numbered with the heedless may shake you.

We behold you in your station and hear your call. Verily, He is with His sincere servants. Your names have not been withheld from the Supreme Pen. By My life! It hath moved in your remembrance, and He Who

speaketh in this remote station beareth witness unto this. He desireth him who hath desired Him and loveth him who hath loved Him, and His remembrance hath preceded all who remember.

Know ye that We are in the Most Great Prison between two factions among the nations, and there befalleth Us at all times that which hath not befallen any of the Messengers. Whereat the Dove hath lamented and the Beauty of the Ancient of Days hath mourned in the pavilion of grandeur. Thus doth your Lord, the Mighty, the All-Praised, inform you. Can tribulation prevent Me from the remembrance of the Lord of Names? Nay, by the Creator of the heavens, if ye be of them that know!

Arise to aid the Cause of your Lord as your Master hath arisen, in such wise that neither the greatness of the turbans nor the might of them that have wronged and are among the most lost shall prevent you. When ye desire to render aid, hold fast unto the cord of wisdom. Thus hath the All-Merciful commanded you in the Tablets. Verily, He is the Ruler over what He willeth.

Unite in the Cause, for thereby are gladdened the hearts of the chosen ones and grieved the hearts of them that deny. Through unity will the Cause of your Lord, the Possessor of creation, become manifest. Blessed is he who hath held fast thereunto—he is assuredly among the triumphant.

Let not the world and its conditions sadden you. All shall perish and there shall endure what hath been ordained for you in the Kingdom of your glorious and beauteous Lord. For him that hath no helper, He is his Helper, and for him that hath no friend, He is the Friend of them that turn unto Him. Verily the Cause is in God's hands; He giveth to whomsoever He willeth whatsoever He pleaseth. He is the All-Forgiving, the All-Merciful.

O concourse of the righteous! When ye receive the Tablet of God, take it with hands of certitude, then read it with the spirit of joy and fragrance. Verily it will draw you nigh unto your Lord, the All-Merciful, and will aid you in that which your Ancient Master hath desired. Ye are in your homes while the Lord of the House remembereth you in the land of exile. Be ye thankful and be of them that remember.

Ponder ye upon God's favor and His mercy. Verily He hath revealed unto you the verses in the prison after it was encompassed by the hosts of the oppressors. We have veiled that which hath befallen Us; were We to unveil it the trees would be overturned, the spirits would swoon, the rivers would cease to flow, the fruits would fall, the mountains would crumble, and they that are in the heavens and on earth would be sorely troubled. How wonderful are these tribulations that have descended in the path of God, and how wonderful are these hardships that have encompassed Me in the Cause of your Lord and the Lord of all worlds!

Blessed is he who hath this day fulfilled God's covenant and His testament, and was of them that are guided. Blessed is he who hath been stirred by the breeze of God and was of them that are detached. Blessed is he who hath cast away the world, turning unto God, the Most High, the Most Great, and was of them that are steadfast. Blessed is he who hath detached himself in the love of his Lord from all else beside Him, and was of them that are firm.

Thus have We sent down unto you the verses; they are clear proofs unto all in the kingdom. May the glory that hath shone forth from the horizon of the Most Glorious be upon you, O loved ones of God, inasmuch as ye have turned unto the Qiblih of the horizons and were of them that are assured.

BH01390: This is a Book from the Prisoner to him…

He is the Most Holy, the Most Exalted, the Most High

This is a Book from the Prisoner to him who hath desired his Lord, the All-Compelling, the Self-Subsisting, that he may cast away what he hath and hold fast unto the Handle which God hath manifested in the temple of man. Blessed is He Who sent Him with the truth and made Him the Manifestation of His Cause for what hath been and what shall be. Blessed is he who hath turned unto the All-Knowing, detached from idle fancies. He is assuredly among those who have attained the lights of guidance and followed that which they were commanded by the All-Knowing, the Knower of things unseen.

Verily, I am God's servant among you. He hath sent Me with the truth to manifest His Cause. Every atom beareth witness to this, as doth this hidden Pillar Who hath borne afflictions in manifesting God's Cause and hath cast behind Him all creation. The Lord of Names beareth witness to this, but the people comprehend not.

Let not the idle fancies that have issued from the mouths of men disturb thee. Be thou assured through the grace of thy Lord, with a heart sanctified from the allusions of those who disbelieved in the All-Merciful when He came with clear proof. Thus hath it been sent down unto thee this day from the presence of the Lord of existence.

Verily, those who slumber today and are kept back from the ocean are the dead. They rejoice in what they possess, but soon shall they find themselves in unrelenting torment. It behooveth him who hath drawn nigh unto the Light to forget darkness and all that is therein. By My life! He soareth above hearts and minds. Didst thou know the station thou hast attained, thou wouldst cast away idle fancies and proclaim unto all peoples this treasured Name.

Those who bear burdens and by them weigh the Self-Sufficient, the Most High—these are people who understand not. Leave what they possess, by the sovereignty of thy Lord, the Creator of the heavens. Say: O my Lord! I have turned with my whole being unto Thee, detached from all else but Thee. Write down for me that which shall profit me in this world and the hereafter. With Thee is the knowledge of all things in a preserved tablet, for I know nothing. I have abandoned my desire in what Thou hast desired, so make me steadfast in Thy Cause and a servant to Thy Self. Verily, Thou art the Almighty, the Mighty, the Beloved.

Consider the generations of old when We sent unto them the Manifestations of the Cause. Why did they turn away and deny? Thus doth command thee He Whom sorrows have encompassed in the days of thy Lord, the All-Merciful. Reflect, that thou mayest find the fragrance of musk from this Sent Garment.

Place thy trust in all things in God, thy Lord. Verily, He aideth whom He willeth through His sovereignty and ordaineth for him that which maketh him soar in the atmosphere of revelation and witnessing.

Should thou return to thy place and someone ask thee whither thou wentest and what thou sawest, say: I moved for the sake of God until I entered the place wherein was raised the mention of my Lord, the Mighty, the Loving, and I heard the call of Him Who was immersed in the ocean of tribulation in God's path, the Originator of all things, and Who summoneth all unto God, the All-Compelling, the Self-Subsisting.

Weigh what thou hast against what hath appeared from Him, that thou mayest be assured that His proof is sovereign over all proofs and His evidence shineth from the horizon of grace. Thus doth the Pen of Revelation speak, and the angels and the Spirit glorify. Thy Lord hath ordained for thee what thou knowest not. Wouldst thou reflect, thou wouldst be certain that at the time thou wert present before the Face, all thy needs were fulfilled, and to this the Self itself beareth witness.

Be thou steadfast in such wise that the whisperings of the people move thee not. Thus hast thou been commanded by the Truth. Blessed is he who followeth his Lord, detached from those who are heedless. Witness naught save what God hath witnessed, and see naught save what We have shown thee in truth. Thus have We broken the seal, and this is the sealed wine.

When thou didst turn unto the Path, this inscribed Tablet was sent down unto thee. Say: Glory be unto Thee, O my God! Thou knowest that I turned toward the direction of Thy grace and the horizon of Thy bounties until I reached the shore of the sea which was surging with Thy Name and remembrance. By Thy might! Were I to thank Thee for as long as Thy Self endureth and Thy Essence abideth, I would be powerless to render thanks for what Thou hast bestowed upon me through Thy grace, though I deserve it not.

I beseech Thee by Thy Self, the Sovereign over all things, that Thou deprive me not of Thy knowledge. Then assist me in all conditions to serve the Wronged One Who is imprisoned in the hands of the oppressors among Thy creation and the heedless among Thy servants. O my Lord! Thou art the Generous, Thou art the Great. I beseech Thee by Thy greatness and Thy power that Thou leave me not to myself and my desires. Draw me unto Thee, even if by chains and fetters. Verily, Thou art the Self-Sufficient, the Most High. There is no God but Thee, the Mighty, the Generous.

Then I beseech Thee, O my God, to consume what I possess with the fire of attraction, then cause me to dwell in the Garden of Eternity, the station of those among Thy servants who are at peace and those among Thy chosen ones who are steadfast, who have no will save what Thou hast willed and no purpose save what Thou hast decreed. Thus doth Thy servant beseech Thee in his final call. Verily, Thou art the Almighty, the Answerer, and Thou art the Most Merciful of the merciful.

BH01399: O Ali! Give thanks to God for having enabled…

He is the Most Mighty, the Most Inaccessible, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious

O Ali! Give thanks to God for having enabled thee to attain the presence of thy Lord, the All-Forgiving, at His Throne, and to drink the choice wine of revelation from the cup of the utterance of the All-Merciful when the Tongue of Grandeur proclaimed: "There is none other God but Me, the Mighty, the Generous." Thou hast been honored to attain the presence of the Self-Subsisting when He appeared with His Name

“the Wronged One” in this mighty prison. We bear witness that thou didst turn to Him, enter His presence, arise, behold, and hear, and didst attain that which thy Ancient Lord desired for thee in these days wherein the sun of grace hath dawned and the moon of bounty hath shone upon all who are in the heavens and on earth.

It behooveth thee to soar on the wings of yearning in the atmosphere of inner meanings and utterance, and to speak amongst all created things of this wondrous Name. O Akbar! Hearken once again unto the call from this Blessed Divine Lote-Tree, the Primal Unity, planted in the soil of grandeur, to the melodies of thy Most Glorious Lord, Who speaketh betwixt earth and heaven: “There is none other God but Me, the Mighty, the All-Wise.” Thou hast entered the precincts of the All-Merciful by My leave. Now return by My command to thy home, that through thee might be wafted the sweet savors of the Desired One amongst His assured servants.

We speak naught except by God’s command, and breathe naught save that which returneth unto Him, and We command no one save that through which are manifested the attributes of his Lord’s Cause, the Mighty, the Impregnable. We have never desired aught for Ourselves, but rather the Self of God, yet the people remain behind a thick veil. Say: We have forsaken that which would give rest to Our bodies, and have desired that which would cause hearts to burn in the path of the Beloved. This is the way of Baha, which He hath chosen for Himself, were ye to know. What thou hast known of My tribulations is as nothing in thy Lord’s sight. We have concealed most matters, in view of Our mercy that hath encompassed the worlds.

O Akbar! Blessed art thou for having turned to the Most Great Prospect and been among the successful ones. Thus doth God assist whom He willeth among His servants; He is the Protector of those who draw nigh unto Him. How many servants have sought yet reached not their goal, and how many have attained, succeeded, heard, and said: “Praise be to Thee, O Thou Beloved of them that know!” And how many a servant who attained not Our presence—We have written for him the reward of one who hath attained the presence of God, for he is indeed of those whom the All-Merciful hath testified are among those who have attained.

Blessed is he who moveth by God’s leave and command, and blessed is he who remaineth still through God’s Will and decree. We bear witness that he is among those who draw nigh. O Ali! Thou art in thy place, yet the Tongue of the Most High speaketh thy praise. Dost thou see any bounty greater than this? Nay, by thy Lord, We have ever been mindful. The Finger of loving-kindness hath moved the Most Exalted Pen to make mention of thee purely for the sake of God; He is indeed the Most Merciful of the merciful.

Be thou of such character that whosoever approacheth thee may be drawn by the mention of thy Lord, the Ancient of Days. Thus it behooveth one who hath turned to the Countenance and attained His mighty throne. Convey My greetings to My loved ones who soar in the atmosphere of My love and speak My Name, make mention of Me, and sing My praise. Then recount to them what thou hast learned of the story of the Youth, that they may arise to render assistance as We have commanded them in the Tablets We have sent through those who sought Us.

This is not the day for stillness and patience. The Lote-Tree of Fire proclaimeth: “There is none other God but He, the Mighty, the All-Praised.” O My loved ones! Grieve not over the world and what hath befallen you in My path. By God! Your reward lieth within the treasuries of My power and the repositories of My protection. He is indeed the Bestower, the Mighty, the Trusted One.

Make mention of your Lord with wisdom and utterance, then stand firm in such wise that the hearts of the unbelievers may be troubled and the backs of the idolaters be broken. Thus have We inspired thee and taught thee that thou mayest thank thy Lord at all times and be of those who remember. Go forth with God’s Tablet and its influence to those who have attained to the love of God and His Cause, and are among the steadfast ones, that they may hear the call of the Beloved time and again, and be assured that He is indeed the All-Bountiful, the Giver, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

Convey My greetings to the radiant faces among the people of Baha, who, when they heard the call, responded: “Yea, O Thou Wronged One of the worlds!” Say: O My loved ones! This is the day of triumph and victory. Arise to serve the Cause by leave of your Lord, the Unconstrained. Beware lest anything prevent you from making mention of this All-Wise Remembrance. Ye are the gems of the earth. We have taken you through Our sovereignty and raised you to the dome of true knowledge. Preserve ye this exalted station, the mighty, the impregnable. Thus have ye been commanded by the Lord of Pre-existence, Who is imprisoned through what the hands of the nations who denied God, the Lord of all worlds, have wrought.

BH01413: A Book from Our presence to those who have…

He is the Most Holy, the Most Exalted, the Most Great

A Book from Our presence to those who have attained unto the lights of mystic knowledge in the days of their Lord, the Most Merciful, and who have stood firm in the Cause when most of the servants turned away from it, that the fragrances of revelation may draw them nigh unto a station wherein naught is mentioned save God, the Almighty, the Glorious, the All-Praised.

There have come before Our presence various petitions from those who have turned towards God, and We make mention of them in this exalted Tablet. Among them is Samandar, who desired to enter the Most Great Scene. He is among those whom nothing deterred when the All-Merciful came with manifest sovereignty. O Samandar! Thy letter hath come before Us, and We have heard that wherewith thou didst call upon God, thy Lord, the Mighty, the Generous. Blessed art thou for having fulfilled God’s covenant and arisen to serve Him amidst His heedless servants. Be thou a lamp of guidance among the people and a dawning-place of utterance through this Great Name. Grieve not over anything. Verily thy Lord is with thee and will aid thee as He pleaseth. There is none other God but He, the Almighty, the All-Powerful.

And among them is Dhabih, who believed in God, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting. O Dhabih! Give thanks for Our having aided thee to turn towards Him when the ascetics turned away. We have read what thou didst send and heard that wherewith thou didst commune with God, the Lord of what was and what shall be. We have, of a truth, mentioned thee in the Tablets as a token of grace from Our presence. Thy

Lord is, verily, the Mighty, the Loving. It behooveth thee not to grieve over anything. By God! His remembrance sufficeth thee in truth, whereunto testify honored servants.

And among them is Husayn, who turned towards the horizon of his Lord's loving-kindness, the Mighty, the All-Bestowing. O Husayn! Hearken unto the Call from the Dayspring of grandeur and glory. There is none other God but He, the Almighty, the Glorious, the Unconstrained. Thy letter hath been honored in the presence of thy Lord, and the Wronged One hath turned His gaze toward it while imprisoned among the wicked. O servant! Act in accordance with what hath been sent down in the Most Holy Book. By God! It is truly the Balance of guidance among the people and the proof of the All-Merciful to all who are in earth and heaven. Grieve not over anything. Trust in God under all conditions.

Say: O my God! I beseech Thee by the Lamp which Thou hast kindled with the fire of Thy Cause between Thy heaven and earth, and by Thy Name through which Thou hast distinguished between Thy servants and Thy creatures, to assist me in Thy remembrance and praise, and preserve me from that which Thy good-pleasure abhorreth. O Lord! This transient one hath clung to the hem of Thy eternity. I beseech Thee not to deprive me of the outpourings of the ocean of Thy bounty, and ordain for me that which shall profit me in this world and the next. Verily, Thou art powerful over what Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the Most Exalted, the Mighty, the Bountiful.

And among them is he who is named Ali, who attained unto the lights of faith when the horizon of certitude was illumined by the Sun of the utterance of his Lord, the Mighty, the Wise. O Ali! We have heard thy call and answered thee before, and in this wondrous Tablet. Blessed art thou for having attained unto the recognition of God and the Dawning-Place of His revelation when He appeared with His Name, the Protector of the worlds. The glory of God rest upon thee and upon thy brother, from God, the One, the Peerless, the All-Knowing, the Generous.

And among them is the Leaf of Ridvan who hath believed in God, the Lord of the worlds. We have read thy letter and understood its contents. He is, verily, the Mighty, the Generous. We have sent thee various Tablets through those who have journeyed there. Thy Lord is, verily, the True One, the Faithful. We beseech God to aid thee in His service and to make thee a sign of piety among His handmaidens who have believed in God, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

In the Persian tongue it is mentioned that some days ago, specially dedicated Tablets, sublime and wondrous, were revealed and sent to most of the loved ones of God, as was done before. Therefore, this time We have sufficed with this brief message. We beseech God, exalted be His glory, to give all to drink of the living waters and cause them to speak His praise. O friends! Strive to become dawning-places of divine outpourings, that is, to manifest such conduct as is beloved and praiseworthy before God, that all may be awakened by your deeds, actions, and character, and turn towards the Friend. In most Tablets it hath been revealed that the victory of the Truth hath been and shall be through goodly deeds, befitting actions, and pleasing character.

Strive ye in that which ye have been commanded in the Book. By God! Through it shall your souls profit and those who are in the world. Thus doth the Wronged One counsel you as He counseled you before. To this testifieth every knowing and informed one. Blessed is he who hath attained unto that which he hath

been commanded in the Tablets. He is, verily, of the people of Baha in the presence of the Lord of Names. Upon him be the glory of God and the glory of all things at all times.

BH01427: In the name of the All-Knowing, the All-Informed Expounder!…

In the name of the All-Knowing, the All-Informed Expounder! O seeker of the utterance, hearken unto the Purpose in the Persian tongue, that thou mayest attain unto the wondrous tokens of the All-Merciful's favors, unto the infinite outpourings that lie hidden and treasured within these words. Thy letter was presented before the Countenance, and that which was inscribed therein was heard and understood before its arrival. This is not difficult for God. With Him is the knowledge of the heavens and earth, and the knowledge of what was and what shall be. As to what thou didst write concerning the unveiling of the names and attributes—by God! We have rent asunder the veils and torn away the shrouds on the Day when We manifested Ourselves with all names unto all things. Blessed are they that behold! Blessed are they that know!

O seeking servant! Strange it is that thou didst not witness this station and recognize it. No veil remained, except that it was rent asunder by the finger of might, and no mystery remained, except that it was made manifest and evident through the revelation of Truth. The hidden treasure cannot be known, and the concealed secret cannot be described. Now it calleth unto thee from the midmost heart and summoneth thee unto the Truth. No question is permitted at this station, for the One questioned is manifest, and no words are befitting, for the meaning is evident and clear. All knowledge hath been specifically meant for the recognition of the Known One, and all remembrances are but steps for attaining the Remembered One. Now the Known One Himself hath appeared by His Name, the Self-Subsisting. Beseech God, exalted be His glory, that thou mayest attain unto this most great bounty and recognize the Truth in this wondrous garment.

When thou art present before the Countenance, behold God with the eye of thy heart. Then shalt thou witness His grandeur and His sovereignty, and become acquainted, according to thy capacity, with the Dawning-Place of mysteries. Verily thy Lord is the Expounder, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. Be not as the fish that, though in water, asketh about it. Thus doth He Who possesseth a Preserved Tablet teach thee.

I swear by the Sun of the horizon of inner meanings that creation hath been specifically created for this Day, and ears have been brought into being to hearken unto this most sweet utterance, and sight hath come into existence for this Most Great Vision. Strive that thou mayest attain unto it. Verily, He is the Manifest, the Near One.

As to thy seeking and mentioning the recognition of reality, and saying "Will not my will unite with Thy will?"—the tongue should seek forgiveness of God for this utterance, for this station is one whereunto the recognition of the mystics, the knowledge of the learned, and the realities of those in earth and heaven cannot attain. He hath ever been, in the heights of inaccessibility, sanctified above all else but Himself, and will forever remain, in the summit of His exaltation, hallowed above all that is besides Him. No one hath known Him as He should be known, and no soul hath comprehended Him as He should be comprehended, for this station hath been and shall ever be sanctified and exalted. The Books and Scriptures have testified to His sanctification and transcendence.

Whosoever today beholdeth and recognizeth the hidden treasure through the concealed Name, hath attained unto his own Paradise and Kingdom, and this is the utmost station of the servant's recognition within the realm of possibility. Beyond this the path is barred and seeking is rejected. His proof is His Revelation, and His evidence is His being established upon His mighty Throne.

We hope, God willing, that thou wilt drink from the Salsabil of this utterance and quaff the wine of "Am I not?" from the hand of the Friend, and become intoxicated, speaking His praise and glorification amongst the servants. This is the crown of deeds and the essence of actions and the ultimate earthly home.

Furthermore, no one's will hath ever been or shall ever be united with God's will, for the will of all hath been and shall ever be as nothingness before His will. The glory of existence is for one to make his own will fade away in God's will—that is, to have no will, thought or imagination of his own, but to move by God's will and act accordingly. Deem not this matter imaginary. Whosoever today hath drunk of the sealed wine and acted according to that which hath proceeded from the Source of Command, hath attained unto God's will, and he is of the people of truth. And whosoever remaineth veiled from this station is accounted among the dead, even should he manifest the knowledge and recognition of the ancients.

Strive that thou mayest attain, through divine grace, unto God's good-pleasure and move according to His will. This is the ultimate station—whosoever attaineth unto it hath attained unto the furthermost goal and the most exalted summit. And peace be upon him who followeth guidance!

BH01490: Glorified is He Who hath revealed the Word…

In the Name of God, the Most Great, the Most Ancient, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious!

Glorified is He Who hath revealed the Word with authority from His presence. Verily it speaketh amongst the people of creation that there is none other God but Him, the Mighty, the Gracious. Should anyone turn unto it with the ear of his true nature, he would soar, with spirit and sweet fragrance, into the atmosphere of his Lord's love, the All-Merciful. Say: It is a fire unto him who hath turned away from the One Who is Chosen, and a light unto the righteous. Through it are distinguished the one who accepteth from him who turneth away. Verily it is the Balance of deeds, and verily it is the Path of the Cause for all who are in the heavens and on earth, and the Fountain of Life for all who dwell in the realm of possibility. Blessed is he who hath turned unto it and laid hold on this Name which God hath made to exercise dominion over all regions.

The wretchedness of those who denied the Days of God, wherein the Cause dawned from the horizon of mysteries, hath prevailed. We have seized those who disbelieved in God and wronged the Dawning-Places of Revelation. Verily thy Lord is severe in punishment. Among them were those whom We seized with might from Our presence, those whom We destroyed with a single cry, those whom We drowned in the sea, those whom We caused the earth to swallow, those whom We burned with the flames of fire, and those upon whom We rained stones. Thus have We sent down their stories in the Tablets. Verily thy Lord is the Mighty, the All-Knowing.

Soon shall We seize those who have wronged, even as We seized the transgressors in those regions who drove Us from the Land of Mystery when they opposed God, the Lord of all men. We seized them all with authority from Our presence. Thus was it sent down in the Tablet of the Heart. Blessed are they who possess insight.

We seized the first one as We had promised him in the Book, and We seized the second one and those with him with such might as caused the hearts of the wicked to tremble. They arose, and naught could be heard from their dwellings save the echo and the croaking of ravens.

O Most Exalted Pen! Make mention of when We sent the Wondrous One with clear signs unto him who was heedless and in schism. He committed that which caused the denizens of Paradise and the realities of the Concourse on High to lament. We then left the wrongdoer to himself in wisdom and seized those in the lands. Soon shall We seize him by Our command, for verily We are powerful over what We desire.

Blessed is he who hath read God's Tablet which We sent unto him, that he might be assured that We were not deterred by what befell Us. The Tongue of Grandeur hath spoken with pure truth, that all might testify that He is the Mighty, the Chosen One. Thy Lord's proof hath been completed against them, and the evidence hath shone forth from the horizon of certitude. Those who read God's verses find the sweetness of their Lord's utterance, the Mighty, the Bestower, and turn with pure hearts toward the direction wherein appeared the Luminary of creation.

There hath come before the Throne a letter from him who, upon hearing the Call, said: "Yea, yea, O Render of veils!" Therefore have We sent down unto thee this Tablet through which the fragrance of the Garment hath been wafted throughout all worlds. Be thou thankful unto thy Lord for having directed toward thee the gaze of the Wronged One while imprisoned in the most remote of lands.

O Husayn! Hearken unto the call of Husayn. Stand firm in such wise that the limbs of those who have disbelieved in God, the Lord of all men, may quake. Say: O concourse of divines! The Most Exalted Pen doth move in the fields of Tablets. Is there any among you who can race with the Horseman of might in this arena? Nay, by My Self! They are like the lame one, having halted in the mire of idle fancies. Say: This is the Sun of knowledge which hath dawned from the horizon of utterance, despite you, O company of the wicked! Leave these people be; sufficient unto them is thy Lord's punishment, the Mighty, the Compelling.

Be thou observant in all circumstances with the eye of wisdom. Thus have We commanded creation in most of Our Tablets. Blessed art thou and blessed is he who hath caused thee to hear the cooing of the Dove upon the branches and the flowing of the River of Utterance in these days. By My life! He is the One mentioned before the Throne and the One Who remembereth with this remembrance whereby the idols have been reduced to naught.

Say: O Friend! Hearken unto the call of the Glorious One Who calleth thee from the tongue of this Afflicted One Who hath been tried among the people of dissension. Amidst darkness the light hath shone, and in tribulation this Man hath remained steadfast in such wise that the mountains cannot rival Him. Blessed art thou for having become the cup-bearer of the All-Merciful, giving the wine of life unto those

who have turned to God, the Help in Peril. Clear verses have been sent down unto thee and We sent them aforetime. Verily He is the Mover of the cord of love.

The glory be upon you, O people of Baha, from your Lord, the Mighty, the All-Bountiful.

BH01509: The beginning of speech is the praise…

The beginning of speech is the praise of the Lord. O servants! The springs of divine bounty are flowing—drink from them, that by the help of the peerless Friend ye may be cleansed from the dust of earth and enter the precincts of the one true Friend. Pass beyond the world and set your face toward the city of the Beloved.

O servants! The consuming fire is kindled by My hand—quench it not with the waters of ignorance. The heavens are a sign of My greatness—behold them with pure eyes. And the stars bear witness to My truth—testify ye to this truth.

O servants! Sight belongeth to the eye and hearing to the ear. Whoso in this blessed day hath not heard the voice of the divine herald hath not possessed, nor doth he possess, ears. The ear is not that piece of flesh at which thou gazest—open the hidden eye that thou mayest behold the fire of God, and hearken with the ear of the spirit that thou mayest hear the sweet voice of the Beloved.

O servants! If ye desire healing, lo, the remedy hath appeared. If ye possess seeing eyes, behold the countenance of the Beloved manifest in the marketplace. Kindle the fire of knowledge and flee from the ignorant. This is the word of the Lord of the worlds.

O servants! The body without spirit is dead, and the heart without the remembrance of God is withered. Therefore commune ye with the Friend and shun the enemy. Your enemy is those things which ye have acquired of your own desire and have cherished, and wherewith ye have defiled your souls. The soul is for the remembrance of the Beloved—keep it pure. The tongue is for the testimony of God—sully it not with mention of the wayward.

O servants! I speak in truth: the truthful one is he who hath beheld the straight path—and that path is one, which the Lord hath chosen and made ready. This path among all paths is like the sun among the stars. Whoso hath not attained unto this path is unaware and astray. This is the word of the peerless Lord, the incomparable One.

O servants! The world is the abode of demons—keep yourselves from approaching them. The demons are the wayward ones who lie in the sleep of heedlessness with corrupt deeds. Their sleep is sweeter than wakefulness, and their death more attractive than life.

O servants! Not every body possesseth a spirit, nor every frame a soul. Today he possesseth a spirit whose body hath set out for the precincts of the Beloved. The end of every beginning is today—blind not yourselves. The one true Friend is near—make not yourselves remote.

O servants! Your bodies are as saplings in a garden, and from lack of water are nearly withered. Therefore freshen them with the heavenly water flowing from the clouds of divine bounty. Words must be followed

by deeds. Whoso accepteth the words of the Friend is a man of deeds—otherwise a corpse is better than he.

O servants! Sweet is the word of the Friend—where is he who will find it, and where is the ear that will hear it? Blessed is he who today joineth with the Friend and in His path forsaketh and turneth away from all else save Him, that he may behold a new world and attain to the everlasting paradise.

The Lord of the worlds declareth: O servants! Abandon your desires and seek that which I have desired for you. Travel not the way without a guide, nor accept every guide's words. Many guides are themselves astray and have not found the right path. A guide is one who is free from the bonds of the world and whom nothing preventeth from speaking the truth.

O servants! Practice truthfulness, turn not away from the destitute, make mention of Me before the great ones, and fear not.

O servants! Be pure in your deeds and follow the word of your Lord. This is the utterance of the one true God.

BH01558: In the Name of the One Friend! Your letter…

In the Name of the One Friend! Your letter reached the Divine Throne and the glance of loving-kindness was directed toward it. All that was mentioned therein was understood. We have heard that which thou didst call out to God, thy Lord and the Lord of the worlds, and the yearning of thy heart at what befell thee in His days. He is verily the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

Forget not what We counseled thee during thy presence. Hold fast unto it—it shall suffice thee if thou be of them that comprehend. Thy Lord speaketh naught but the pure truth. Soon shalt thou witness what We have informed thee of, if thou hearkenest to what We caused thee to hear and act according to that which thou hast been commanded by One All-Knowing, All-Wise.

This is not a day of grief, for the Ancient Beauty is outwardly speaking and established upon the throne. Ye must manifest such joy and gladness as to cause the world and all therein to rejoice. What God desireth from you is that which befitteth these days and manifesteth that which attracteth the hearts of all creation. Thou wert in the presence of the Throne and heard what the Tongue of Grandeur spoke, and knew what He loveth and is pleased with. Act according to what He desired. He is the Friend of whosoever befriendeth Him, and He is verily the Mighty, the All-Knowing.

Be assured of God's loving-kindness. He is verily the Forgiving, the Pardoning, the Merciful, the Compassionate. Know thou with certitude that whatsoever hath been revealed from the Mouth of the Divine Will shall assuredly come to pass.

Thou didst mention tribulation. Grieve not at this, for the tribulation of this wronged Prisoner is greater than the tribulations of the first and the last. Observe and reflect how in the Most Great Prison He is afflicted between two parties, to such an extent that no end can be seen to its mention. Nevertheless, with utmost joy and delight He summoneth the people to the most exalted station, which is the

recognition of God. No harm hath prevented Him and no tribulation hath hindered Him from the remembrance of God.

All the loved ones of God must appear among the people of the world adorned with the ornament of steadfastness and assurance, and at all times remind the people, that perchance their worn and tattered garments may be exchanged for new and sanctified raiment. All that is seen and exists in the world shall pass away, and what endureth is the deed performed in the path of God.

Follow what thou hast been commanded by the Intended One. Soon shalt thou witness what thou wert promised in His presence. Nothing escapeth His knowledge. He is cognizant of all things. Previously, wondrous verses were revealed and sent especially for the honored Karim and thyself. Likewise, before that, a mighty Tablet was sent with the letter Sin. Never have ye been absent from sight, nor shall ye ever be.

These are the days for the manifestation of the most great steadfastness. Blessed is the soul that hath drunk from this most pure wine and partaken of this most luminous nectar.

Convey from this Prisoner in the realm of possibility the most wondrous and most glorious greetings to them that soar in the atmosphere of the love of the All-Merciful, especially to those souls who have drawn nigh and turned to God's imperative Command. Blessed are they, and again blessed are they! By God, the Pen moved to inscribe their names and the tongue to make mention of them. This sufficeth them, would they but know it. A special Tablet hath been revealed for each one. God willing, they shall be sent through a trusted messenger.

We beseech God to gather all upon the shore of this Ocean and give them to drink that which shall make them the helpers of His Cause, the rememberers of His Name, the utterers of His praise, and them that are detached from all else besides Him. He is verily the Powerful, the Mighty.

His favor hath reached such a degree that He maketh mention of His loved ones in the Most Great Prison. Have ye witnessed any bounty greater than this? Nay, by His Self! Have ye found any lord more merciful than He? Nay, by His Beauty! Have ye known any beloved more compassionate than He? Nay, by His Command which hath subdued the worlds!

Appear ye among the people of the world in the utmost spirit and fragrance, bearing His Name, and strive to teach His Cause. This is the pure good which the Pen of Command hath recorded. Blessed are they that act accordingly. Glory be upon thee and upon those who have remained steadfast in this Cause whereby the mountains have been crushed, the heaven cleft asunder, and the earth rent in twain.

BH01552: A mention from Us to him who turned towards…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Glorious

A mention from Us to him who turned towards the Dawning-Place of Revelation and attained the presence of his Lord while He was in the Most Great Prison through that which the hands of the wicked had wrought, that he might once again inhale the fragrance of his Beloved from His garment which We have sent in the form of a Tablet. Verily thy Lord is the Almighty, the Mighty, the Unconstrained.

Blessed be thy face for having turned towards the countenance of the Beloved, and thy tongue for having voiced the praise of God, the Self-Sufficient, the Most High. Be thou aflame with the fire of God in such wise that the sincere ones may find from thee the warmth of thy Lord's love, the Cleaver of the Dawn.

Convey My greetings unto My loved ones and remind them of that which thine ears have heard from the tongue of thy Lord, the Mighty, the All-Bestowing. Then bid them to wisdom and utterance. This is better for the exaltation of thy Lord's Cause amongst His servants.

Say: Beware lest the affairs of the kingdom sadden you or the veils of those who follow vain imaginings prevent you. That which they possess shall perish, while might and power shall endure for you, O concourse of the righteous.

Rejoice, O assemblage of ardent lovers! By God, the Beloved hath appeared and the horizons have been illumined by His countenance. Be ye jubilant and magnify this Name through which the atoms are entranced when it is mentioned. Blessed are they who have borne tribulations in My path and have been imprisoned for My Name. These, verily, abide beneath the canopy of My majesty. Soon shall We adorn the pages of the Book of Creation with their names amidst all existence.

Then make mention on My behalf of him who hath been named Muhammad-Qabli-Ali. Say: Grieve not for thy imprisonment. Verily thy Lord is in the Most Great Prison through that which the hands of the infidels who have denied God, the Lord of all names, have wrought. Thou wert mentioned before the Throne and praised before the Face, and the Tongue of Eternity spoke in remembrance of thee, and this Pen, which God hath made the sovereign of all pens, hath flowed over thy name. Blessed art thou for having turned towards Him, recognized Him, quaffed, and been attracted by this Light, one ray of which, when it appeared, caused the tongues of the Concourse on High to proclaim: "This, verily, is the Most Great Name and the Ancient Beauty"; and the tongues of those within the pavilions of grandeur and majesty to exclaim: "This is the Ancient Mystery and the Essence of His Great Name"; then the tongues of the denizens of Paradise cried out: "This, verily, is He Who was promised unto us in the Tablets of God, the Almighty, the Loving"; and the tongues of the inhabitants of the Kingdom proclaimed: "This, verily, is the Beloved through Whom eyes were solaced and faces were illumined."

Then the call was raised above the head of the Youth from the horizon of glory and power: "By His life! That which ye have mentioned is limited by your own selves. This is the Beloved of God, the Almighty, the Beautiful. This is He Who, were He to rend asunder the veils and appear in the full splendor of His Beauty, would cause the very essence of beauty to sever its own hand and exclaim: May my soul be a sacrifice unto Thee, O Thou Who art the sacrifice of all worlds!"'

O Muhammad-Qabli-ʿAli! Verily thy Lord maketh mention of thee even as thou makest mention of Him, and His mention hath preceded all worlds. Were it not for His mention, who would know what mention is, that he might speak of it in creation? Thus doth the Lord of invention inform thee—He through Whose name the ocean of inner meanings surgeth in the heart of utterance, and the proof of the All-Merciful hath been perfected unto all worlds.

Be thou as a bird soaring in the atmosphere of thy Lord's love. When thou inclinest to the right, say: "In Thy Name, O Lord of all worlds!" When thou turnest to the left, say: "Through Thy remembrance, O Thou

Who art the Most High, the Self-Sufficient!" And when thou seeketh the south, say: "Through Thy praise, O Thou Who art the Beloved of all in the heavens and the earth!" Grieve not, for verily thy Lord is with thee. He is with His sincere servants.

Upon thee, O Mustafa, be the remembrance of God, His praise and the praise of them who have detached themselves from all save God, the Mighty, the Most Praised. Guard thou the Cause from all directions, even as thou hast been bidden by the One Who revealeth the verses. He, verily, is the Omnipotent, the Almighty. If thou shouldst meet Amin, attract him through the remembrance of thy Lord. He is indeed among those who are remembered and will be remembered before the Throne. This is from the bounty of thy Lord, the All-Forgiving, the Most Merciful. Blessed is he for having borne abasement for the glory of the Cause. By My life! He shall find himself in manifest glory.

Say: O My loved ones! Let not exile grieve you. Whosoever seeketh Me, in whatsoever land he may be, verily dwelleth in the homeland of the All-Merciful. Thus hath the matter been decreed from the presence of the Lord of all creation in a Tablet sealed with the finger of thy Lord, the Strong, the Trustworthy.

Then make mention on My behalf of Abdullah, who hath borne tribulation for the victory of the Lord of creation. Upon him be the glory of God, His remembrance and the remembrance of them that remember. And upon thee, and upon him, and upon them all be glory.

BH01556: In the Name of Him Who encompasses existence, both…

In the Name of Him Who encompasses existence, both seen and unseen. This is a sealed Book, to which the near ones bear witness that it has been sent down from God, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting. Shed no blood and harbor no doubts concerning this Cause, through which all religions have been fulfilled in the realm of possibility—thus has the All-Merciful decreed, if you but knew. Do not consume the property of others, nor follow those who have risen in hypocrisy when the Luminary of the horizons has come with His promised Name.

O people! Turn not away from Him Who has turned to you, nor oppose Him Who calls you to God, the Mighty, the Loving. How long will you follow your desires and pursue your vain imaginings? Rend asunder all veils in the name of your Lord, Who has power over what was and what shall be.

Days and nights have passed while you slumbered. The dawn has broken from the horizon of the Cause while you slept. The light has appeared yet you flee to darkness. The living waters have flowed from the mouth of your Lord's will, the All-Merciful, yet you turn away. The nightingales of utterance sing upon the branches with various melodies, yet you remain distant. You run to the crier but perceive not.

Is there anyone who beholds his Lord with his own eye, detached from all else in people's hands? Verily such a one is among the people of Baha in the preserved tablet. Ears were created to hearken to this utterance and hearts to recognize this Beloved. You drink stagnant water thinking it the pure stream, and worship idols yet understand not. Blessed are those who have cast aside their desires and turned with their hearts to this horizon from which has risen the sun of the remembrance of their Lord's name, the Mighty, the Forgiving.

O rememberer! Hearken to the call of the Remembered One, through Whose name those in the graves have arisen. When you see one who is immersed in his desires, listen not to what he says. Rather hear this sweetest call raised from the mouth of your Lord, the Possessor of Names:

> "Verily there is no God but Me. O My creation, behold Me!"

When you detect from anyone the fragrance of aversion, draw not near to him—thus does the Lord of the seen and unseen command you.

Despair not of God's spirit and mercy, and forget not this praiseworthy portion. Arise to your Lord's Cause through His might and power, and be a herald of His name among the worlds. Say: O people! The Lord of Days has come, and the King of mankind calls out: "To Me, to Me, O lovers!" The Beloved calls you at all times and summons you to His luminous beauty. Follow not vain imaginings—open your eyes. By God, this is the light of certitude which has shone from the horizon of detachment, illuminating the heavens and earth. Deprive not yourselves of the outpourings sent down from the heaven of your Lord's bounty, the Mighty, the Generous.

This is God's Day which you were promised in His mighty Book. This is God's Balance which has been set up by the hands of your Lord, the Strong, the Trustworthy. This is the appointed time for all servants and the return of mankind, did you but know. This is He through Whose name mosques and temples were built, and through Whose remembrance hearts took flight and turned to God, the Mighty, the Inaccessible.

Say: O people! Fear God and pervert not the Word from its place—this is it, were you but fair-minded. Whoever acknowledges otherwise has perverted the Word and is among the wrongdoers. Say: If you seek its dawning-place, it is this, and if its setting-place, He speaks now with God's verses, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy.

Do you know by what you have been barred from the heaven of bounty? No, by the Self of Baha! And do you realize by what cause you turned away from the Intended One? No, by His radiant, wondrous Command! Vain imaginings from the idols who claim knowledge without proof or clear Book have overcome you.

Say: O people! Have mercy on yourselves and break not God's covenant and testament. This is sincere counsel, were you but hearing. Break down the barriers in My Name, the Loving, then rend asunder the veils in My Name, the Powerful, the Bestower, that you may know your Lord, the Mighty, the Great. Thus have the fragrances of verses wafted when the Lord of Names and Attributes spoke. When you find, say: Praise be to Thee, O Wronged One, and glory be to Thee, O Glory of the worlds, and praise be to God, the Beloved of the mystics.

BH01573: In His Most Holy, Most Ancient, Most Luminous, Most…

In His Most Holy, Most Ancient, Most Luminous, Most Great Name, I am the Rewarder of all the worlds. These are the verses of Glory sent down from the heaven of destiny. Blessed are they that hear them.

It behooveth no one to cleave unto what is with the people, but rather unto that which is with their Lord, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. That which is with the people profiteth them not. Verily God is the Self-Sufficient, the Powerful. He enricheth whomsoever He willeth through His command, and guideth whomsoever He desireth through His Name, the One Who ruleth over the worlds.

Every great one hath become great through His greatness, and every powerful one through His Name, the Powerful. Every matter hath appeared through His sovereignty and everything hath become great through His Name, the Great. His names have encompassed all who are in creation. Verily He is independent of them, were ye of the assured ones. The names are with you, while with Him there is naught save His Self, the Mighty, the All-Informed. All things have bowed down before His Name, and every sovereign hath been humbled before His sovereignty, and in His grasp is every wise command.

Take what ye are bidden by God and abandon what ye are bidden by every remote ignorant one. Every learned one who hath not known his Lord is counted among the ignorant, and every ignorant one who hath known his Lord is reckoned among the learned. We abase him who hath exalted himself and We exalt him who hath abased himself, for I am powerful over what I desire.

Say: The Command is in My hand. I do what I will. There is no God but Me, the Mighty, the Generous. Say: Were We to decree for light the decree of darkness, none hath the right to object. Thus hath it been sent down in the Tablets, were ye of those who know. Were We to decree good as evil, no soul hath the right to say "why?" Whoso sayeth this is among the transgressors. Verily He decreeth for the seeing one the decree of the blind, and for the blind one the name of the seeing. He is the All-Seeing, the All-Perceiving. All affairs are in the grasp of His power and are created by His Word, but most of the people are heedless.

We hear from the servants what they object to God. Lo! they are among the lost. Say: O My servants, first ponder upon the origin of the Cause. When ye have recognized it, ye shall find yourselves in a vast expanse and shall not object to God even if He were to decree for all upon earth. Blessed are they that perceive. Were it not for My mercy, they would see the decree other than what they have, but My mercy hath preceded and My grace hath encompassed the worlds.

Arise, O My servants, to assist My Cause, and be not of those who hesitate. Most of the servants who followed vain imaginings have objected to Us. Lo! they are among the wrongdoers. Those who have denied God's verses and His proof have lost. Lo! they are among the bewildered ones. They see the ocean yet hasten to the pond. This is naught but manifest wrong. They wrong their own souls and are not among those who are aware. They call upon God with their tongues, yet when He commandeth them with what their souls desire not, they return to their place in the depths of hell. They visit the House yet object to Him Who built it in His Name. Thus do their desires move them. Lo! they are among the godless ones.

Blessed is he who hath shattered the idols of vain imaginings through the sovereignty of his Lord, the Lord of all men, and hath arisen among the servants with this wondrous Remembrance. He aideth whomsoever desireth to assist His Cause and inspireth whoso openeth his tongue in His mighty Name.

O My loved ones! Be as beacons of unity among mankind and as lamps of detachment unto those who dwell in the heavens and on earth. Beware lest the dust of the world darken your hearts or the veils of

the wayward conceal your faces. Be as stars of guidance among creation and as lights of utterance unto all in the realm of possibility. This beseemeth those who have attained the lights of the countenance in this brilliant dawn.

O thou who hast turned to God! Recite the verses of thy Lord unto those who are there, that perchance they may arise unto that which beseemeth a Day like this, wherein the Spirit lamenteth and the Beloved crieth out in grief for the Beloved of the worlds. The Pen moveth and the tongue of the Lord of Eternity speaketh in this hour wherein the hosts of those who believed not in God have encompassed Him and were engaged in manifest oppression. Be patient, O Pen, and mention not that which saddeneth the loved ones of thy Lord, and be of the patient ones. God hath made tribulation the Kawthar of Glory. Thus hath the matter been decreed from the presence of One mighty and great. Verily glory from the Glory be upon those who have heard the call of Grandeur when it was raised in truth. Lo! they are among the sincere ones.

BH01580: O My Most Holy and Most Exalted Messenger! Grieve…

O My Most Holy and Most Exalted Messenger! Grieve not for what hath befallen thee. By My life! Thou art beneath the wing of thy Lord's grace, the Mighty, the All-Praised. I testify that thou hast attained the presence of God and achieved that which thy Lord, the All-Forgiving, the All-Bountiful, hath desired for thee. He was with thee when the oppressors drove thee from the City of God, whereat the eyes of the Concourse on High wept and the dwellers of the pavilions of Glory and Grandeur lamented. Thus doth thy Lord, the Most Glorious, bear witness, and He is, verily, the All-Knowing.

Rejoice thou in this Most Great Remembrance from the Ancient King. By God! It behooveth thee to soar with rapture at that which God hath testified for thee in this Tablet, from whose horizon hath shone forth the Sun of thy Lord's loving-kindness, the Mighty, the Inaccessible. Thou hast indeed fulfilled God's Covenant and His Testament, and turned unto Him with a luminous heart. Thy mention hath been revealed in the Tablets in such wise as to gladden the eyes of the sincere ones who shall come after thee. The very act of thy departure and exile from the City is identical with drawing nigh unto God. Thus doth He Who causeth the dawn to break testify in the Tablets, and He is verily the Ruler over what He willeth.

We have seen thy departure as arrival, thy going forth as entering in, and thy absence as presence before thy Lord. Such is the bounty ordained for thee by the One Who is the Almighty, the Ancient of Days. The heavens may vanish at thy Lord's behest, but that which hath been revealed for thee by the Pen of the Ancient of Days shall never pass away. Say: Praise be to Thee, O God of all the worlds! Joy and sorrow have embraced each other through what hath befallen you in the path of God. Blessed are they who understand. The sun of joy hath dawned through the manifestation of the Lord of Revelation unto you with the lights of grace and bounty, while sorrow hath consumed the hearts of the pure ones through what hath befallen you at the hands of the oppressors. The world and all that the wrongdoers behold for themselves shall perish, but that which hath been ordained for you in a clear Tablet shall endure.

Soar thou in the atmosphere of longing and yearning, since the Day-Star of the horizons hath shone upon thee through this wondrous Tablet. O Messenger! Read thou the Tablet wherefrom emanates that which hath perfumed all creation with the fragrance of the All-Merciful, by which the Holy Spirit hath been

rendered fragrant. Say: All glory is in God's hands; He bestoweth it upon whomsoever He willeth of His creation. He is, verily, the One Who hath power over His purpose. There is none other God but Him, the Mighty, the All-Wise.

Remember My loved ones on My behalf, then choose for thyself the service of thy Lord. He will, verily, assist thee with the truth. He is with His sincere servants. Say: Glorified art Thou, O my God! Praise be to Thee for having caused my name to flow from Thy Most Exalted Pen, and for having mentioned my remembrance before Thy Most Great Throne. I beseech Thee, O Beloved of the worlds and God of all who are in the heavens and on earth, to make me steadfast in Thy love, firm in Thy Cause, gazing toward Thy direction, serving Thy Self, rising with Thy remembrance, and shining forth with Thy Name amongst all beings.

I testify, O my God, that with Thee the reward of one who hath borne hardships in Thy good-pleasure shall not be lost. Blessed is the soul that hath trusted in Thee and turned toward Thee. Woe betide him who hath denied and disbelieved and was among the transgressors. O Lord! Aid me in all conditions to serve Thee amidst Thy creatures. I testify that service unto Thee is naught but the exaltation of Thy remembrance and such deeds as manifest the sanctity of Thy Cause among the peoples of the world.

O Lord! I beseech Thee by Thy Name through which Thou hast subdued all who are in the heavens and earth, through which Thy remembrance was exalted, Thy proof was established, Thy evidences appeared, and Thy verses were sent down, to assist Thy loved ones in that which Thou hast purposed for them through Thy bounty and favor. Then deliver them from the fire of self and passion, and cause them to enter beneath the shadow of Thy Most Great Mercy. Ordain for each one of them that which shall render him independent through Thy riches, powerful through Thy might, and triumphant over the enemies through Thy sovereignty and power, in such wise that the hosts of earth and the authority of those dwelling thereon shall not frighten him. Verily, Thou art the One Who hath power over whatsoever Thou willest. Thou doest what Thou pleasest through Thy pervading Will, and Thou decreest what Thou desirest through Thy all-encompassing Purpose. The clamor of the heedless shall not prevent Thee from that which Thou hast willed, nor shall the power of the oppressors render Thee impotent in that which Thou hast ordained.

Have mercy upon us, O our God! We call upon Thee and remember Thee by Thy Name, the All-Forgiving, the All-Merciful. Praise be to Thee, O Thou Who art the Goal of them that seek Thee and the Ka'bah of them that yearn for Thee!

BH01626: O my God and my Beloved! I know not…

He is God, exalted be His station in loftiness and transcendence

O my God and my Beloved! I know not how to remember Thee or by what means to mention Thee, for I perceive that the very reality of remembrance is in itself severed from the places of Thy description, and in its essence and being is bewildered before the effulgent rays of the Sun of Thy Glory. By its root and substance it declares:

> "O Source of all sources! Remaineth there in the unseen of the unseen, or in the worlds which Thou hast created by the Word of Thy Command, any remembrance wherewith Thou hast been remembered, or any description wherewith Thou hast been described, or any name whereby Thou hast been called?"

I testify, O my God, that Thou hast remembrances within the pavilions of preservation and beauty whereof no Manifestations whom Thou hast manifested from time immemorial have become aware, and no Dawning-places of Thy Most-Learned Name have uttered mention of any of them. Should I say I desire to remember Thee by such remembrances, I see this is not my station or rank. Nay, were the thought of this station to cross my mind, I would have committed a sin beyond compare with any other sin in existence. Were it not for Thy pre-existing grace and mercy, I would deserve eternal destruction and endless consignment to an unquenchable fire that knoweth no end. For I would have desired to drink from a sea wherefrom Thy chosen ones, Thy trusted ones, the Manifestations of Thy Cause and Dawning-places of Thy wisdom have not drunk.

Alas, alas! My very being nearly dissolveth from fear. O Lord! Have mercy upon me through Thy grace, then hold me fast by the hand of Thy loving-kindness. Verily Thou art the Most Merciful of the merciful.

And should I desire to remember Thee with remembrances wherewith Thou hast been remembered before, by Thy glory! My heart would not be content therewith, nor would the essence which Thou hast deposited in my heart and stored within my innermost being be pleased thereby. Therefore, O my God, cause me to drink from the pure wine of Thy love to such degree that it may intoxicate my entire being and remove the spirit of consciousness from all my limbs and members. Then shall the tongue speak through the heat of Thy love's motion and describe Thee as Thou dost manifest through the appearances of Thy grace and the emergences of Thy favors.

Yet I know, O my God, that none can ascend into this atmosphere and no soul can rise into this cloud save through love of Thy loved ones and friendship with Thy chosen ones. For their love is identical with Thy love in the worlds of Command and Creation. Therefore I beseech Thee, O my Beloved, to give me to drink from the pure water of this cup from whose depths shineth forth the star of Thy love and wherein Thou hast manifested Thyself through the lights of the Sun of Thy Glory—a cup which hath two most exalted names in the heaven of names and one name before Thy Most Great and Most Exalted Throne.

Praise be unto Thee, O my God, for having singled him out for Thy love, confirmed him in Thy service, made him manifest in Thy days, and caused him to be among those who have attained and succeeded in reaching the city of Thy nearness and the sanctuary of Thy reunion and presence. There is no God but Thee, the Mighty, the Beautiful.

Thou hast sent unto this evanescent servant that which perfumeth the hand of him who receiveth it, illumineth the eye of him who beholdeth it, gladdeneth the heart of him who learneth what is therein, enricheth him who possesseth it, and preserveth him who treasureth it—for it was sent through the love of God, the Mighty, the Wise, and containeth the gems of remembrance and praise of the Beloved of all worlds.

The letter of that honored one, which was purified from allusions and indications, reached this evanescent servant. All the elements attained, through what was ordained for them, to the wondrous remembrances that were revealed in praise of the Chosen Beauty and to the spirit of communion with the Lord of Names and Attributes. God willing, may this eternal spring water ever flow and descend from the fountain of the spiritual heart, that the dead lands of the hearts and souls of the servants may attain, through these sweet and subtle waters, unto a wondrous new life and become the place for the appearance of the plants of faith and knowledge. This is not difficult for God. The exalted branches of the divine Tree remember that honored one with wondrous praise. Glory, holiness and splendor be upon you.

The servant, 18 Jumada II 1289

BH01606: O Most Holy, Most Impregnable, Most Exalted One! Make…

O Most Holy, Most Impregnable, Most Exalted One! Make mention of him who turned towards Thee until he entered the Spot wherein shone forth the Sun of the Beauty of Thy Lord, the Mighty, the All-Praised, that the rapture of the verses might seize him in such wise as to make him steadfast in the Cause of God and in His love. This, verily, is a glorious station. Blessed art thou, inasmuch as thou hast hastened to the Goal and attained the presence of His Countenance and hearkened unto that which the Tongue of Grandeur and Glory hath spoken. This, verily, is a great triumph.

Give thanks unto thy Lord for this bounty. Say: O my God and the God of all who are in the heavens and on earth, my Beloved and the Beloved of the worlds! I testify that through Thee the fragrance of the Robe hath wafted over all regions and the faces of the righteous have been illumined, and through Thee the banners of sanctity have been raised throughout the lands and the standard of detachment hath been planted upon the highest mountains. I beseech Thee by Thy Name through which Thou didst subdue all created things and caused all beings to speak forth Thy remembrance, O Thou Who sendest down the verses and Who art the Originator of earth and heaven, to make me wholly detached from all else save Thee and turning in all conditions towards the court of Thy bounty and the horizon of Thy favors. Verily, Thou art the Almighty over whatsoever Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the All-Forgiving, the All-Bountiful.

O my Lord! Thou knowest that I have turned towards Thee and hastened to the place wherein He Who is the Manifestation of Thy Self, the Dawning-Place of Thy verses and the Dayspring of Thy evidences was imprisoned. Had it not been for Thy grace and bounty, how could I have attained unto this station from which Thy servants and creatures were debarred? Praise be to Thee, O my God, for that which Thou hast honored me through Thy generosity and bestowed upon me through Thy grace. I beseech Thee, O Thou Who art the Ultimate Hope of the sincere ones and the Beloved of the hearts of the lovers, to aid me in serving Thee and in promoting Thy Cause amongst Thy servants and creatures, and to make me one of those who have partaken of the wine of steadfastness and assurance and have attained unto that which Thou didst desire for them, O Thou Who art the Lord of Religions and the Creator of the worlds.

O Lord! Deprive me not of that which lieth with Thee, nor withhold from me that which Thou hast ordained for Thy chosen ones. Make me one whose will is subordinate to Thy Will, whose movement is by Thy Command, whose flight is by Thy leave, whose repose is in Thy love, whose refuge is in Thy presence,

and whose shelter is in Thy court, in such wise that I turn to none save Thee, speak naught except of Thy love, and set my face toward none but Thy face. Verily, Thou art He Who hath ever been supreme through Thy Will and shall ever be powerful through Thy Purpose. All things are captive in the grasp of Thy might, every wealthy one is poor before the ocean of Thy riches, and every mighty one is abased before the surging sea of Thy greatness.

I beseech Thee, O Thou Who controlleth the winds and Who causeth the dawn to break, to absolve me of whatsoever Thou lovest not, then preserve me beneath the shade of the Tree of Thy mercy and the Lote-Tree of Thy oneness. Verily, Thou art He in Whose grasp is the kingdom of all things and in Whose right hand are the reins of all names. Thou doest what Thou willest through Thy sovereignty and ordainest what Thou pleasest through Thy power. Every possessor of might, O my God, confesseth his powerlessness before the manifestations of Thy might, and every possessor of wealth acknowledgeth his poverty before the evidences of Thy wealth.

I beseech Thee, O Lord of creation and Beloved of all who dwell in the realm of invention, to assist me in all conditions to turn towards the Kaaba of Thy Cause and to arise independently to manifest Thy love amongst Thy creatures. Then write down for me, through Thy grace, that which shall profit me in this world and in the world to come. Verily, Thou art the Almighty, the Most Exalted, the All-Glorious, the All-Powerful.

O Ali! Recite what hath been sent down unto thee. Verily, it will strengthen thee in the Cause of thy Lord and protect thee from those who have disbelieved in God, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. This is a gift which hath shone forth from the horizon of the bounty of thy Lord, the Most High, the Most Great. When thou hast attained unto it and been nourished thereby, turn with thy heart toward the Qiblih of existence Who is imprisoned among the Jews, and say: Thine is the giving, O Bestower of gifts, and Thine is the bounty, O Lord of justice! I testify that Thou art the Source of all good things and the Dawning-Place of all blessings. Thou dost send down to whomsoever seeketh Thee that which is best for him, and ordain for whomsoever loveth Thee that which shall profit him in every world of Thy worlds.

O Lord! Drive not away him who hath drawn nigh unto the ocean of Thy favors, and deny not this poor one access to the shores of Thy bounties. The atoms testify that Thou art the Lord of names and attributes, and that Thou art the Almighty, the Most Exalted, the All-Glorious, the All-Bountiful.

BH01607: Worthy of praise is the Lord of creation

Worthy of praise is the Lord of creation

O Jafar, may the effulgent rays of the Most Great Countenance illumine thee! The successive calls and repeated voices raised by thee have reached the ears of the Lord of all beings. He calleth thee with the most excellent and wondrous call. Today, praise be to God, through the bounty of the All-Merciful, the Living Waters are flowing, the Celestial Stream is coursing, and the Sealed Wine is unsealed. Be thou gladdened by the favors of God and freed and detached from the veils of creation. Think not that thou art forgotten from His sight. He is possessed of great faithfulness. Thou art remembered and observed in most times. Thou shouldst, God willing, be engaged in the remembrance of God with the utmost

assurance and with spirit and fragrance. We beseech God to assist thee in all conditions and to ordain for thee the best of circumstances. Verily, He is the Self-Sufficient, the Most High.

The Primal Point—may the spirit of all else be sacrificed for His sake—hath said that the purpose of all that is in the Bayan is that on that blessed Day the people may attain unto the good-pleasure of the Beloved and be engaged in His remembrance, even as He saith:

> "The word of good-pleasure from that Dawning-Place of Names is better than all that existeth and is visible."

Praise be to God that thou hast attained unto this station, inasmuch as thou didst seek the Intended One and attain unto His presence, and the word of good-pleasure hath appeared from the Source of Revelation. What sorrow remaineth and what care?

The Trusted One, the Faithful, saith:

> "Be not sorrowful on Our account. Soar with the wings of joy and delight in the atmosphere of the Manifestation."

Blessed art thou in that God hath enabled thee to achieve that which most of His servants have failed to attain. Be thou thankful unto Him and be of them that render thanks.

O thou who gazest upon the Countenance! Hearken once again unto the call of thy Lord, the All-Glorious:

> "Verily, there is none other God but Me, the Mighty, the Gracious."

Whensoever thou movest, He is with thee, and whensoever thou speakest, He heareth and seeth. Thy Lord is indeed the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. Grieve not over the world and its conditions. By My life! His love sufficeth thee, wert thou of them that know. He beareth witness for thee with such a testimony that wert thou to recognize it, thou wouldst cry out for joy. Thy Lord is verily the Ruler over whatsoever He willeth.

Remember when thou wert by the sea and didst drink what was ordained for thee by thy Lord, the Mighty, the Wise, and didst attain unto the presence of God and didst hear His most wondrous, most sweet, mighty and impregnable utterance. Can anything grieve thee after being under the glances of thy Lord, the Forgiving, the Merciful? Rejoice thou in the Spirit of God and His grace, and be of them that are thankful. Recite thou the verses of God with the sweetest of melodies. Then wilt thou find thyself in manifest ecstasy and the breezes of revelation will seize thee in such wise that thou wilt regard all existence as kneaded clay.

O thou who rememberest Me! The Remembered One calleth thee and saith: "Thou art of them that have attained." Can the testimony of men equal His testimony? Nay, by My Self! But most men are heedless. All things have been awakened by the breezes of revelation, yet they remain asleep.

Glorify thy Lord and say: "O my God! I beseech Thee by the oppression of the Source of Justice whom Thou seest lonely amidst the hands of the oppressors among Thy creatures and the transgressors among Thy servants, to protect me from the allusions of them who have turned away from Thee and have

denied Thy signs and have risen in tyranny in Thy days. Then make me of them whom neither cares have seized at the surging of the ocean of Thy joy nor sorrows at the manifestations of Thy gladness, that I may give unto the people the glad-tidings of Thy tidings, that every possessor of spirit may rejoice in Thy remembrance and praise. Thou art He in Whose grasp is the kingdom of names. Thou doest what Thou pleasest through Thy sovereignty that hath encompassed all who are in creation and through Thy power that hath prevailed over the worlds.

> "O Lord! Make all my deeds as one deed and all my remembrances as one remembrance, that whatsoever appeareth from me may tell of Thy remembrance whereby the heavens and earth have been illumined. O Lord! Leave me not to myself. Make me moved by Thy will, breathing by Thy providence, willing by Thy command, and speaking by Thy leave. Thou art He Whose knowledge hath preceded all in creation and Whose mercy hath encompassed all in the worlds. There is none other God but Thee, the Most Exalted, the Almighty, the All-Compelling, the Mighty, the Gracious."

BH01651: A remembrance from Me unto him who hath attained…

He is the Most Holy, the Most Impregnable, the Most Mighty, the Most Exalted

A remembrance from Me unto him who hath attained unto the lights of divine knowledge in the days of his Lord, the All-Merciful, that the fragrance of remembrance may draw him to a station wherein he shall cast aside all sorrows and immerse himself in the ocean of life through this remembrance, before which the Spirit proclaimeth: "The Joy of the worlds is come!" He is a helper to him that hath no helper, and a son to him whose son was martyred in the love of God, the Almighty, the Exalted, the Great.

All atoms and all things in their entirety, and beyond them the Tongue of God, the King, the Transcendent, the Mighty, the Impregnable, bear witness that he who dieth in the love of God is assuredly among those who have been martyred in His path and was of those who have attained. Wouldst thou grieve after that which the Tongue of the Wronged One and the Most Exalted, the Self-Subsisting, hath spoken? Through this word the denizens of the highest Paradise rejoiced, and the Dove warbled upon the branches of the Lote-Tree beyond which there is no passing. Blessed is he whom God hath singled out for this bounty, whereby the faces of His chosen ones were illumined in the most exalted Paradise, and the sweet fragrance of loving-kindness wafted over the dwellers of the heavens and the earth.

From thy Lord's word have been planted the trees of hope in the hearts of all created things, and the sun of generosity hath shone upon all in existence from this horizon which hath been illumined by the countenance of thy Lord, the Mighty, the Bountiful. By My life! Hadst thou been present before the Face and heard with thine own ears the verses of thy Lord, thou wouldst have forsaken the world and all that is therein, and wouldst have arisen amidst the peoples of all worlds, calling upon thy Lord, the All-Merciful:

> "I am content with Thy good-pleasure, O Thou the Beloved of the worlds, and I praise Thee for my son's martyrdom in the year wherein the Son of the Wronged One was martyred in the land of exile. Blessed are the two sons who have attained unto God's remembrance and His

Word, and whose names have adorned the Tablet of Creation from the presence of One All-Knowing, All-Wise."

Marvel not at the supreme loving-kindness of thy Lord, for He beholdeth that which none hath comprehended save His all-embracing Self, which encompasseth all created things. Were We to acquaint thee with the station of him who hath ascended unto God and his love for his Lord, thou wouldst assuredly arise to praise and remember him at all times. The Cause is in the grasp of thy Lord's power—He ordaineth what He pleaseth for whom He pleaseth, and bestoweth upon whom He willeth that which He desireth. He, verily, is the Ruler over what He willeth. There is none other God but Him, the Mighty, the All-Praised.

Follow thou thy Lord. Neither afflictions nor sorrows have deterred Him from that which He was commanded in the path of God, the Lord of all religions. In the ocean of tribulation, He calleth those on land among the peoples of creation to this Cause, through which the horizon of certitude hath been illumined. When the rapture of the All-Merciful's utterance overtaketh thee and thou drinkest the choice wine of life from the hands of grace and bounty, arise and lift up thy hands unto God, thy Lord and the Lord of all worlds.

Say: Glory be unto Thee, O my God! I have come unto Thee, detached from all else beside Thee, heedless of any other than Thee, turning unto the horizon of Thy grace, the Dayspring of Thy generosity, and the Source of Thy favors. I beseech Thee by the wrongs suffered by Him Who is the Manifestation of Thy Self, and by His exile in Thy lands, and His loneliness among Thy creatures, to make me one of those whom the might of Thine enemies hath not kept back from drawing nigh unto Thee, and whom the veils of Thy creatures and the coverings of Thy people have not prevented from beholding Thy face.

O Lord! Thou seest me standing before Thy gate, enkindled with the fire of Thy love, gazing toward the hidden gifts of Thy bounty, content with what Thou hast ordained for me in the tablets of Thy decree and the pages of Thy destiny. I beseech Thee by Thy Self to strengthen me in Thy love in such wise that I shall suffice myself with Thee as mine aid. O Lord! Turn unto him who hath turned unto Thee, then ordain for him what is best in Thy knowledge, for Thou knowest him better than he knoweth himself, and Thou art the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

Grant me, O my God, the sweetness of that which hath proceeded from the mouth of Thy bounty and descended from the heaven of Thy grace. I beseech Thee not to withhold from me the outpourings of the heaven of Thy mercy and the rain-showers of the clouds of Thy tender care. I have committed my soul into Thy hands; turn it about as Thou pleasest with the fingers of Thy power. This is my request and my hope, O Thou Beloved of the hearts of them that know, and Thou Goal of the hearts of them that are nigh unto Thee.

BH01641: O ʿAli! Hearken unto that which thy Lord…

He is the Most Holy, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious

O ʿAli! Hearken unto that which thy Lord, the Grief-Stricken, the Stranger, Who is encompassed by sorrows from every direction through those who have disbelieved in God when He came with His Great

Name, revealeth unto thee. Take heed lest the mention of grief sadden thee. Verily, thy Lord is not saddened by aught of what hath been created in the heavens and the earth. By God! His station is one which the birds of the hearts of the doubters can never attain, nor the fragrances of the hearts of the mystics. Were We to manifest this station, thou wouldst be bewildered within thyself and wouldst say: "Verily, Thou art the Omnipotent over whatsoever Thou willest." Thou wert hidden in the eternity of eternities and shalt remain treasured in the pavilions of Thy Cause. None knoweth Thee save Thine Own All-Knowing Self.

O Ali! Whenever We turn towards the stations of the earth and its conditions, We make mention of sorrows and the like thereof. Dost thou not witness how by the fragrances of My utterance all things have been stirred, and by the outpourings of My Pen every mouldering bone hath been quickened? Can grief prevent the Ocean of joy? Nay, by thy Lord, the Ever-Forgiving! Verily, He is the One Who dominateth over all who are in the heavens and on earth. We are radiant in the darkness and standing firm among those who sit still—those who, when it is said unto them "Arise!", they remain seated. They are indeed among the lost. Blessed art thou for having drawn nigh unto the station wherein the horizon of utterance hath shone forth with the mention of thy Lord, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

O Ali! Were We to make mention of tribulations, rest and tranquility would be cut off. Consider them as a mercy, for they have been sent down in the path of God, the Beloved of the worlds. Say: O people! The Tongue of Grandeur speaketh, yet ye hear not, and the Counsellor calleth you, yet ye understand not. The Herald cried out before Me, yet ye heard not and hear not. The verses have been sent down and the signs have appeared, yet ye know not. All things have testified to the Creator of heaven, yet ye are as dead. How long will ye look to yourselves? This is the Spirit of God—behold ye bear witness! We draw you near through the cords of grace, yet ye flee. Will that which ye cling to profit you? Nay, by the Self of God, the Dominant, the Self-Subsisting! Will your divines avail you this Day? Nay, by My life! Rather, they are the ignorant ones, did ye but know. How long will ye look with eyes that have been blinded by the ophthalmia of ignorance, were ye to be fair! Behold Me with Mine eye—thus have ye been commanded in a hidden Tablet.

Arise with supreme steadfastness in the Cause of the Lord of Names, then summon the concourse of creation to this praiseworthy station. Verily, those who hesitate this day are a people who shall not be helped. They cling to their vain imaginings as did the servants before them. They are indeed a blind people. Vain desire hath prevented them from My Most Glorious Name, and they hasten in the wilderness of error. When it is said unto them: "Come ye to the Dayspring of the Cause," they say: "Sufficient unto us is that which we possess." Thus spoke those before them. They call upon God, yet know Him not. They journey to the House from the furthermost lands, while the Object of their quest witnesseth that they are turned aside. They turn towards different directions, thinking themselves to be the triumphant ones.

Say: All directions have ended in My direction, and all paths in this manifest Path. Say: Fear God and take not your vain imaginings as lords besides God. Follow Him Who calleth you to the Mighty, the Loving. That which never appeared in creation hath appeared. Blessed is he who hath attained and hath said:

> "Praise be unto Thee, O Lord of the seen and the unseen!"

Those who have been given insight by God—they are the people of vision, and those besides them are deaf and blind, to which thy Lord, the Knower of the unseen, doth testify.

Thus have We sent down the verses unto thee and dispatched them to thee that thou mayest recite them at eventide and at dawn, and remember thy Lord Who hath come with the truth, whereby the horizons have been illumined. Convey My greetings unto My loved ones who have believed in God and been faithful to the Covenant, that they may arise to make mention of their Creator and aid Him with the swords of remembrance. The glory from before the All-Glorious be upon thee, O thou who gazeth toward God, and upon those whom the oppression of the enemies hath not prevented from drawing nigh unto God, the Mighty, the Bestower.

BH01642: O Nabil! Your petitions have been presented and your…

O Nabil! Your petitions have been presented and your call has been heard. Its answer depends on the time, for some are still present in this land. After their departure, God willing, judgment will be rendered according to what is required. Be not distressed. Be the embodiment of “announce glad tidings.” Beware, beware lest you mention your Lord to anyone.

O Nabil! Many times have We commanded, and again We say: In the wilderness of Syria, mention of the Lord of all names is not and has not been permissible, for its people are exceedingly remote from the shore of nearness and deprived of the choice wine of grace. Its land is supremely blessed, yet its people are supremely unfortunate, save whom thy Lord willeth. Should they, after countless counsels, desire to draw near, their approach would be and will be like the approach of a serpent. Shun them and be of the vigilant. All have been raised in corruption and nurtured in corruption. Likewise the strangers in these parts have never had and do not have any worth. Some souls, being cut off from all directions, will grasp at any rope that appears and cling to it. But this clinging has been and will be for the sake of passion—the effect of hellfire will become manifest from it.

Although from Our first arrival in this land and entry into the Most Great Prison, this Servant has not uttered a word except what God has ordained, and we have ever spoken what is in the Holy Books, nevertheless you saw what they perpetrated and heard what they said. The human-like beings are more fearsome than these people, as if they were born of Satan. Say: I seek refuge in the Lord of mankind.

Convey greetings from the Wronged One to all the loved ones and friends. Counsel all to guard their tongues. O Nabil! Drink secretly in this land the living waters in the name of the Lord of all creation and the Beloved of the worlds from His hand of favors, and leave others to themselves. These people are occupied with their own evil and deprived of the glad tidings of God. Speaking of the Friend with a friend is beloved, not with those who devour flesh and chase after skin.

Say: O friends! This Wronged One speaks only what contains your welfare. Pass not beyond His counsel and pursue not your own desires. These lands have become pregnant from the divine fragrance—how long until spiritual children are born from it? He is indeed the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. In brief, all the loved ones are commanded to silence and contemplation of divine favors, merciful manifestations and godly conditions, and are forbidden from aught else.

O Nabil! All trials and afflictions have been borne so that all people might be adorned with spiritual qualities and heavenly attributes. Until the divine friends drink from this spiritual cup, they will not be able to give others to drink. They must first drink themselves, then give others to drink. Ever has God's purpose in sending Messengers, revealing Books, establishing firm laws and ordained religions been several things, among them the preservation of souls and their rights, and this depends on the appearance of the light of trustworthiness among people. Counsel the friends of God to conduct themselves among people with perfect trustworthiness, religiosity and what was mentioned before. Whoever is adorned with these qualities is attributed to Truth and reckoned of Truth; without them one has never been and will never be accepted. Therefore all must drink from the pure water of this cup and entirely close their eyes to the desires of self.

Peace be upon him who has heard the call of the Wronged One and responded to what he was commanded. Again it is mentioned: Convey Our boundless greetings to the friends present in that land. Indeed glory be upon you all.

BH01693: Revealed on the night whereon certain numbered souls were…

Revealed on the night whereon certain numbered souls were martyred in the love of God, the Lord of Names and Attributesâ€"by an oppression such as the eyes of all contingent beings have never beheld its like. Whoso readeth it, God shall raise him up among them that are nigh unto Him in the Paradise of Refuge, and He shall cause the lights of His Most Exalted, Most High Name to shine upon him. Verily He is the Doer of whatsoever He willeth, and verily He is the Mighty, the Generous.

In the Name of God, the All-Sufficient, the All-Forgiving, the Merciful.

Praise be to Thee, O Lord my God! Thou beholdest what the tongue of no one except Thee can utter, and bearest witness unto things which no mouth can recount. The floods of afflictions are let loose, and the winds of Thy judgment have blown, and from the clouds rain down the darts of tests, and the heavens of Thy decree pour forth the arrows of trial.

Thou seest, O my Lord, how Thy servants, who have believed on Thee and acknowledged Thy signs, have fallen into the clutches of Thine enemies, how the doors of ease and comfort have been shut against them, how they languish in the Fortress wherein neither pleasantness nor hope can be found. They have suffered in Thy path what no man before them hath suffered. To this bear witness they who abide around Thy throne, and the dwellers of the earth, and the Concourse on high.

These, O my God, are Thy servants who, for love of Thy beauty, have forsaken their homes, and been so stirred up by the gentle winds of their desire for Thee that they have sundered every tie in Thy path. Such of Thy servants as dwell in Thy land and have transgressed against Thee have assailed them, and banished them from Thy cities, and made them captives, and delivered them into the hands of workers of iniquity among Thy people and the perverse amidst the wicked doers in Thy realm. And finally, they were made to abide in this place with which no other place, however loathsome, in all Thy dominion, can compare. They were seized with such trials that the clouds weep over them and the thunder groaneth by reason of the manifold tribulations that have afflicted them in their love for Thee and for the sake of Thy pleasure.

Thou knowest full well, O my God, that there is no one on Thine earth who can claim to be related to Thee except these, some of whom have suffered martyrdom for Thy sake, while the rest have been permitted to survive. Though for such as are like unto us, O my God, it beseemeth not to claim to be related to Thee, inasmuch as our misdeeds and our waywardness have hindered us from reaching the depths of the ocean of Thy oneness, and from immersing ourselves beneath the waters of Thy transcendent mercy, yet our tongues, O my God, bear witness, and our hearts testify, and our limbs confess that Thy mercy hath enveloped all created things and Thy compassion surpassed all that are in heaven and all that are on earth.

I beseech Thee, by Thy Most Great Name, through which all created things were rent asunder and the whole creation was shaken, to send down from the clouds of Thy mercy that which will purge them from every ordeal and from whatever is hateful to Thee. Raise them up, then, to such heights that no amount of tribulation will keep them back from Thy wondrous remembrance, nor any trouble hinder them from turning toward the court of Thy transcendent oneness.

By Thy might, O Well-Beloved of Baha and his heart's Desire! I myself cry out, under all conditions, unto Thee saying: "Would I had, ere this day, drawn nigh unto Thee!" When I hear, however, the sighs of such of Thy people as are wholly devoted to Thee, and those of Thy servants as enjoy near access to Thy court, who have taken no other friend than Thee, and sought no refuge except Thee, and have chosen for themselves, in Thy path, what no man hath chosen in the days of the Manifestations of Thy transcendent unity and the Day-Springs of Thy most holy sovereignty, then my heart is saddened and my soul is vexed, and I cry to Thee, imploring Thee to protect them, by Thy power that hath encompassed the entire creation both visible and invisible, from whatsoever may be abhorrent to Thee. This is not for their own sakes, but that Thy name may, through them, abide amongst Thy servants, and Thy remembrance may continue to endure in Thy dominions.

Thou knowest, O my God, that all Thy servants have turned back from Thee and risen up against Thee. Thou knowest that Thou hast no one to obey Thee except them and such as have believed in Thy Revelation, through which the foundations of the entire universe have been shaken, and the souls of all men have trembled, and all that lay asleep were quickened. Thou art, O my God, the God of bounty, Whose grace is immense.

Send down, then, upon them that which will assure their hearts, and quiet their souls, and renew their spirits, and refresh their bodies. Thou art, verily, their Lord and the Lord of the worlds. Praised be God, the Lord of all creation!

BH01703: This is what hath been sent down…

This is what hath been sent down from the heaven of grace and loving-kindness

Thy letter which thou didst send to the servant who is present before the Throne hath been read, and We have been informed of its contents. Verily thy Lord is the Hearing, the Answering. We were with thee when there befell thee what befell from the hosts of the oppressors. Nothing whatsoever escapeth the knowledge of thy Lord, and He suffereth not the reward of the well-doers to be lost. By reason of what

hath befallen thee, there hath been ordained for thee that which the treasuries of the heavens and earth cannot equal. Grieve not over the vicissitudes of time. He remembereth you both in the Most Great Scene. This is of His most great favor, and it shall endure for you throughout the eternity of God, the Mighty, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

Every matter shall change and every thing shall perish save what hath been sent down in the Tablet of God, the Powerful, the Ruler, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. Soon shall affairs be altered in that land, inasmuch as vain life hath diverted them from the remembrance of My Name, the Sovereign over all worlds. Hold fast unto the Most Great Handle—verily it shall profit thee in truth. Thus hath the Lord of the knowing ones decreed. God hath absolved thee from what thou didst ask of Him, as a favor from His presence. Verily He is the Forgiving, the Generous. Ye have been at all times beneath the glances of the loving-kindness of your Ancient Lord. The people rejoice in that which perisheth—rejoice ye in that which endureth in My glorious and mighty Kingdom. They have gathered treasures for others, and are unaware. Soon shall the carpet of their glory be rolled up even as was rolled up the carpet of them who preceded them, and they shall behold themselves in an abasement that hath no equal in the earth. They are indeed among the lost.

O servant who gazeth toward God! The letter from thee and thy brother hath been mentioned before the Throne. Although outwardly it was a cause of grief to them that circle round, yet We are in manifest joy, for We look to the root of the matter and what brancheth therefrom. Praise be to God that the glances of divine favors and the expressions of lordly loving-kindness have ever been directed toward you, and all that hath befallen you hath been witnessed and known in the presence of His court. Those souls who have arisen today in the utmost pride—soon shall ye behold them in the utmost submission and humility. And those who today speak with vain imaginings—soon shall they pride themselves before the people on your name and mention.

Since truth is with you, the world in reality is with you. Look not to the outward affairs current among the people—all shall pass away and perish, and that which shall endure is what hath been recorded for you in the mighty Tablet. Even as is witnessed at this time, most of the people of that land are remorseful and at a loss, and are holding fast to your name. This is among the wondrous favors of the Lord. Though not apparent today, it shall soon be made manifest in truth, and there is no alteration in the command of God, the Sovereign, the Self-Subsisting.

The matter that concerneth you is steadfastness in the love of God and the Dawning-Place of His Revelation. God willing, ye must needs remain steadfast in this matter with the utmost power and strength. This point being established, all circle round this station, and in its own time there shall appear whatsoever hath been and shall be meet and fitting. As for the request for permission to come to the Most Holy Court—it is well known and evident that the Truth hath appeared for manifestation and revelation, and all have been created for attainment and circumambulation. Assuredly, were it timely, permission would be granted. Until now this land hath not been at rest, and every day a fire is ignited. We beseech God to extinguish the fire of rancor and hatred and discord and hypocrisy by such means as He knoweth. Verily He is the Powerful, the Mighty.

BH01738: O Abu'-Nur! Hearken unto the Call that hath been…

He is the Most Holy, the Most Glorious, the Most Exalted

O Abu'-Nur! Hearken unto the Call that hath been raised from the Tree on Sinai: "God, there is none other God but Him, the Almighty, the Self-Subsisting." Thou wert in prison even as We were therein. Be thou thankful and say: "Praise be to Thee, O my God, for having enabled me to achieve this." I bear witness that Thou art the Mighty, the All-Bountiful.

O Kamal! Arise to serve the Cause of thy Lord, the Self-Sufficient, the Most High, in such wise that neither the veils of glory nor the suggestions of them that have disbelieved in the Beginning and the End shall deter thee. Summon the people with wisdom and utterance. Thus hath thy Lord, the All-Merciful, commanded thee in the Scriptures and Tablets.

O My Kamal! Grieve not for what hath befallen thee in My path. That which hath come upon Us in God's path could not be borne by all creation. Thou wert Our partner in tribulations and afflictions. Thy Lord, the Lord of creation, beareth witness unto this. Blessed art thou for having fulfilled God's Covenant and His Testament, and for having circumambulated the House when the Lord of the House was in the land of Iraq. We were with thee when thou wert in the midst of the idolaters, and We behold what thou art engaged in. Thy Lord is, in truth, the Mighty, the All-Knowing.

If thou seest Mahmud say: "Where is thy Beloved?" By My life, this is the Praised Station [Maqam-i-Mahmud] whose decree was revealed in the Qur'an. Cast aside the idol and turn unto the Lord of all nations. This behooveth thee and those who have attained unto this Day which God hath made the Dayspring of all days.

O Mahmud! Hearken unto that which thy Lord, the All-Loving, calleth thee from the Divine Lote-Tree which hath been raised above the crimson spot beyond the sea of grandeur: "God, there is none other God but Him, the Mighty, the All-Forgiving." Cast aside all that thou hast heard, then turn unto the signs of thy Lord. By My life, if thou shouldst taste their sweetness, thou wouldst forsake all creation and turn unto thy Lord, saying: "I believe in Him Who hath sent Thee, O Thou Who art imprisoned in the most desolate of lands!"

Ponder within thyself: Wouldst thou choose to remain silent regarding the Cause of thy Lord after the Most Exalted Pen hath raised its shrill voice between earth and heaven? By My life, were thou to be fair, thou wouldst weep both eventide and dawn. Dost thou imagine that thy belief profiteth Him or thy denial harmeth Him? Nay, by the Revealer of verses! He calleth thee purely for the sake of God while the idolaters surround Him from every side. Cast aside prejudice and hold fast to the cord of the Lord of all creation. This is better for thee than all that hath been created in the earth and heaven. Be not content with illusion, but turn unto thy Lord, the Self-Subsisting, Who hath come with power and authority.

O Kamal! If thou findest in his countenance the freshness of beauty, then recite unto him the verses of thy Lord, the Lord of majesty and glory. Otherwise, turn away from him and turn with thy heart unto God, the Lord of the Day of Reckoning. We have mentioned him in this Tablet by virtue of thy Lord's preceding

mercy; else the Pen of God, the Mighty, the Compelling, would not move for his like, unless he repenteth and returneth unto Him through Whom faces were illumined and the Herald proclaimed.

Convey My greetings to the faces of those who have turned towards Me and have been afflicted with hardships in these grievous days, and give them glad-tidings of thy Lord's favors. Then recite unto them what hath been revealed from God, the Mighty, the All-Forgiving. We remember them in the prison and have revealed for each one that which shall immortalize their names in the Book of God, the Lord of all lords.

The glory be upon thee and upon thy child and thy family and upon those who have remained steadfast in this Cause whereby the tribes of the world have been shaken. Be thou among the people as thou wert commanded before, that there may be seen in thee that which shall gladden the eyes of the righteous. Thereupon We withhold the Pen, though it desired to flow over the names of My loved ones until the Day that cannot be bounded by mention. Thus have We revealed unto thee the verses as a grace from Us, that thou mayest recite them among the servants who have rent asunder the veils in the name of the Revealer of verses, and who have shattered the idol of fancy through this Remembrance which hath descended from the heaven of might and power.

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BH01754: Hearken unto the call of the Lord of Names…

He is the Most Holy, the Most Exalted, the Most Great, the Most Generous

Hearken unto the call of the Lord of Names, which hath been raised betwixt earth and heaven. Verily, there is none other God besides Him, the Mighty, the Bestower. Through your mention, the Most Great Remembrance hath rejoiced, and through your letter the Ancient Beauty, Who hath come from the heaven of certitude with proof and evidence, hath been gladdened. We testify that ye drink, in remoteness, the wine of nearness, and in separation, the water of reunion, and We perceive from you the fragrance of faithfulness. This is a station none hath attained save he who hath shattered the idol of associating partners with God through power and dominion. Grieve not at separation, for verily it is a sign of reunion. Your Lord, the Self-Sufficient, the Most Exalted, beareth witness to this. This is a station We have ordained for you as a bounty from Our presence, and I am the Mighty, the All-Bountiful.

We oft-times remember those moments when ye were present before the Throne, and these days when the veils of the people of error have come between us. At times We recall the days of reunion and their sweetness, and at other times the days of separation and their burning pain. Thus doth God remember those who have chosen Him over all else. He, verily, is the Mighty, the Unconstrained.

O ʿAli! The Ancient Beauty hath turned toward thee from this Most Great Prison, and remembereth thee with that which nothing in all creation can equal. That which ye sent to Ism-i-Mihdi hath been read before Us, and the Dawning-Place of sorrows hath been gladdened thereby. We remember the All-Merciful at all times in such wise that neither the tyranny of them that are on earth nor the swords of the contentious

can hinder Us. We have been afflicted among the people of Syria in whose hearts is concealed hatred for God, thy Lord, the Lord of all mankind. We hear from its very pebbles "The kingdom belongeth to the Revealer of verses," yet its people are in strange doubt. The peoples were promised the Lord of the Day of Remedy, but when He came with the truth, they turned away from the face of Beauty. The land of Syria was given glad tidings of the land of God, but when He came, they turned away from Him and arose in such hypocrisy as the eye of creation hath not seen. They hear the verses of God and deny them. They are indeed the people of hellfire.

O ʿAli! Inhale the fragrance of My love from the breezes of My verses which We have sent unto thee from this quarter which God, the Lord of all quarters, hath ordained. Convey My glorification unto the faces of those who have believed in God and have detached themselves from every doubting misbeliever. They who have been faithful to God's Covenant are among the choicest of creation. Upon them be the glory of God and His mercy, and the light of God and His praise. We testify that they are among those endued with understanding. And they who have broken God's covenant have no portion of this bounty which hath encompassed all regions. He hath prospered who hath remained steadfast, and hath lost who hath turned away from God, the Lord of all men. Soon shall come a day wherein God will exalt those who have held fast to the cord of His Cause and have attained unto the Dayspring of lights.

Then do We make mention of Ha' before Sin from this manifest horizon—he who was afflicted with separation from Me after having drunk the water of reunion. Blessed art thou for having remained steadfast in the Cause and for having won the remembrance of God in My days and for having kept the Covenant. We beseech God to confirm thee in that whereunto thou hast attained and to draw thee near at all times. Were We to remember you throughout the duration of the kingdom and the heavenly dominion, the love of My heart would not be exhausted, for We have found from you the fragrance of the love of your Lord, the Mighty, the Unconstrained.

God willing, may ye ever be gladdened by the glad-tidings of the Lord of Names and Attributes. Ye have always been and will continue to be beneath the glances of the favors of the Lord of Names. Never have ye been absent from Our sight. Every soul who hath today attained unto the most great steadfastness is accounted as human in the presence of the All-Merciful; without it, he is more abject than animals. The Most Exalted Pen is ever engaged in the remembrance of the friends—this is a bounty that hath had and hath no peer or likeness. God willing, may ye be gladdened by the remembrance of Truth and remain steadfast in His Cause. The glory from God, the Self-Subsisting, the All-Compelling, be upon you.

BH01773: Concerning what you wrote about someone from Europe who…

Concerning what you wrote about someone from Europe who had come seeking to learn of this community's claims, laws and fundamental purpose—this was presented at the Divine Throne. His word, exalted be His majesty: "O physician! The laws were revealed in those days but We did not send them forth—a wisdom from Our presence. It is not permitted that he whom you mentioned in your letter should become acquainted with them, for We see the days in travail. Verily He is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. When the time cometh, We shall send them forth in truth as a grace from Our presence to all the worlds.

“As for what he asked about the foundation of the Cause, say: Thou wouldst not hear from me even if thou hadst an attentive ear. Turn rather to the rock—thou wouldst hear it cry out in the loudest voice that, by God, that which was hidden in the treasuries of infallibility and power and the repositories of might and mystery hath appeared with a sovereignty that neither the veils of the wicked nor the imaginings of the heedless can withhold. Then turn to the thickets—thou wouldst hear them proclaim The Self-Sufficient, the Most High hath come!’ Then hasten to the mountain peaks—verily they declare The Lord of all possibility hath come!’ Thus do all things speak, if thou be of them that hear. Hast thou not heard that the Spirit said that if these were silent, the very stones would cry out? Thus doth He inform thee, with Whom is the Preserved Tablet. Wouldst thou inquire about the sun after its rising at high noon, and seek after That compared to which the very essence of knowledge is ashamed to be associated? Rather rub thine eyes with the fingers of submission, then look—thou shalt see Him at the heart of the world, speaking in the name of God, the Powerful, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

“Say: This is He Who was promised to you in all God’s scrolls, of Whom Isaiah informed you. Return thy gaze to the Torah and the Gospel that thou mayest know the decree of this Day and detach thyself from what thou hast, turning to the Kingdom of God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy.

“This is not the day for questions. The Beginning hath been made manifest in the End, invested with the sovereignty of majesty and glory, and summoneth all unto the Dawning-Place of the clear tokens of your Lord, the All-Powerful, the Exalted, the Mighty, the Most Great. Beware lest thou be of them that awaited the days of the Christ, and when He came unto them with the truth, pronounced the edict of His death, and were numbered with the utterly lost.

“Lo, the Dove is, beneath the talons of the enemy, crying aloud with a most exalted cry—such is the measure of the fear wherewith the hosts of heedlessness have sought to affright Him. Yet neither hath He been hindered by what hath befallen Him at the hands of the unjust, nor by what hath been inflicted upon Him by the people of hatred. Wouldst thou but ponder it—ponder that which hath been visited upon Him, and that which He uttereth in the Kingdom of creation—thou wouldst forsake the world and all that is therein, and turn, with thy whole being, unto the Dayspring of lights, and wouldst say:”I believe in God, O thou imprisoned Stranger!”

“O physician! to utter such words in this day is not permissible. Was it not known unto thee that the Most Exalted Pen, until it moved of itself, would not be stirred by aught besides? For it hath ever been mindful of the weakness of men, and hath dealt gently with them. Yet behold how mighty is that which hath descended from Him; and behold how that which lay hidden in the heaven of thy Lord’s Will hath been unveiled.

“And these people—how unfairly they judge!—despite these shining proofs, these sanctified conditions, these well-established disclosures, these manifest signs, and these all-embracing proofs—are still drunken with the wine of vain desire. The passions of men have withheld them from the Most Exalted Horizon.

“And that person whereof thou hast spoken was not sincere. His purpose was but this, that he may report on some fresh item of news—for the travellers of Europe are exceedingly eager for new reports, that they

may boast thereof in their own lands; and some are specially commissioned to wander about in the regions and send back fresh news. Such is his aim.

> "Therefore give him no document, for he will spread it abroad in that very city. In truth, this answer that hath been revealed was dictated by mercy toward that honoured one, and was not intended for the questioner alone."

BH01786: This is a Book sent down in truth, wherein…

In the Name of Him Who is the All-Powerful over whatsoever He willeth!

This is a Book sent down in truth, wherein is mentioned that which causeth the Face of the Cause to shine forth between earth and heaven. Say: Verily it is the Exposition of God unto all who dwell in the realm of possibility. From its horizon hath shone forth the Sun of Utterance, and there hath been inscribed upon it by the Pen of the All-Merciful: "The Prison," for the Manifestation of your Lord's Cause, the Mighty, the Bountiful.

O thou who art of the kindred! Hearken unto that which is spoken by the Tongue of Grandeur and Glory, that the mention of thy Lord may draw thee to a station wherein sorrows shall not overtake thee. Through thee have We manifested the Cause in such wise that hearts were confounded and eyes were blinded. Know thou that when We desired to create that which was new, We brought it forth alone and spoke unto it a word whereat its very foundations trembled before the Face, in such wise that it was nigh unto swooning away. We preserved it through Our sovereignty, then did We proceed with its creation until We had created it and breathed into it the spirit of might and power, such that were We to command it, it would subdue all who are in the heavens and on earth. Verily thy Lord is the All-Powerful, the Unconstrained.

When its creation was completed through thy Lord's Word, and it was fashioned by the breath of Revelation, it smiled before the Face and turned toward the place of sacrifice with power and sovereignty, advancing in such wise that the Concourse on High and the dwellers in the Cities of Names were stirred thereby. Thereupon the call was raised from the direction of grandeur:

> "Blessed be the All-Glorious Who hath created whatsoever He willeth! Verily He is the Mighty, the All-Bestowing."

Would that thou hadst been present before the Throne when the Tongue of Power conversed with him in such wise as caused spirits to take flight! When We showed unto him the Kingdom of the Cause and shone upon him from the Dayspring of Revelation, he was illumined by the lights of that effulgence. Such rapture seized him that he soared on the wings of detachment to aid thy Lord, the Creator of all things. Through him were gladdened the eyes of victory and adorned was the temple of the Cause. Exalted be this station, the mention of which no Tablets can bear and before which all pens fall powerless!

Dost thou imagine that he is dead? Nay, by Him Who revealeth the verses! Through him hath the Spirit of Life stirred within the heart of all creation. Know ye this, O ye who are endued with insight! He is in the All-Highest Horizon and the Most Glorious Companion, calling the peoples of creation unto God, the

Mighty, the Help in Peril. Dost thou reckon him as one among the servants? Nay, by the Lord of all existence! Through him have all tribes been seized with earthquakes, the pillars of tyranny have trembled, and the countenance of victory hath shone forth from the horizon of power. Can names attain unto him? Nay, by their Lord! He hath ascended unto a station beyond all mention. Through him have We caused the Cry to be raised once again, in such wise that the very rock hath proclaimed: "The Kingdom belongeth unto God, the Almighty, the All-Compelling!"

Thus have We adorned the heaven of utterance with the sun of the steadfastness of Our name, the Wondrous, and the heaven of power with that star which shineth forth from the horizon of all regions. The Most Exalted Pen then addresseth him from the direction of his All-Glorious Lord: Upon thee be the remembrance of God and His praise, and the praise of the people of the Realm of Might, and the praise of the people of the Kingdom, and the praise of all things at all times.

God hath ordained for every soul to turn his face toward the direction of the Letter Ta and to speak that which the Tongue of Grandeur hath spoken. Thus hath the matter been decreed by thy Lord, the Knower of the hidden and the manifest. If aught hath been lacking in thy service unto Him, overlook it and be content. Thus doth the Sovereign of the Cause command thee. He is verily the Mighty, the All-Knowing.

We have prescribed for every son the service of his father. Thus have We ordained the matter in the Book. Be thou steadfast in the Cause under all conditions, in such wise that the cawing of those who have disbelieved in God, the Lord of Lords, shall not deter thee. Thou seest the idolaters as naught but earthworms, and their clamor as but the buzzing of flies. Can any thing withstand His Cause? Nay, by My true Self! Yet the people are in doubt and misgiving.

Illumine faces with the sun of thy Lord's remembrance and hearts with the light of His countenance that shineth upon all regions. The glory be upon thee and upon those who are with thee and upon those who have turned unto God on the Day of the Mutual Summons.

BH01851: Praise be unto Thee, O God of Names…

In His Name, the One Who has dominion over all things!

Praise be unto Thee, O God of Names and Creator of heaven, for having ordained for the Afnan such wondrous tokens of Thy grace and bounty, and for having strengthened them as revealed in Thy Tablets. Make then, O my God, each one of them to endure through Thine eternity and to stand firm in support of Thy Cause and the exaltation of Thy Word. Remove not from their temples the traces of the spring of Thy mercy, and adorn them, O my God, in all conditions with the leaves of Thy mercy and favors. Then ordain for them the reward of those who have attained unto Thy presence and appeared before the Throne in Thy days, and whom the wine of reunion has so inebriated that they have detached themselves from all desires, standing in service to Thee at morn and eventide.

When he heard the call from the direction of tribulation:

> "Verily, there is no God but Him, the Mighty, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise."

There is nothing to which We have not conveyed the Command of thy Lord, and no land to which We have not sent the fragrances of this Musk that has perfumed all the worlds. Those who have found and remained steadfast—these are the people of Baha, and their names shall be mentioned in this noble scene. And those who have not found—the name of nothing can be applied to them except that they are among the dead.

The trees of Paradise have been stirred by the breezes of your Lord, the Mighty, the Most Praised. When the winds pass over their branches from the right side, there is heard from them "The Beloved of the worlds has come," and from another direction is heard "Blessed is he who has attained the Living Waters when the All-Merciful appeared with a luminous countenance." Those who have attained today—these are the gems of creation, thus has the Truth testified in a clear Book. Blessed is he who has heard the call of God and turned with his heart to his Lord, the Mighty, the Generous.

Know then that We have asked God to assist all the Afnan that they might proclaim from the Divine Lote-Tree that there is no God but Him, the Forgiving, the Merciful. Thus have We revealed in the Tablets when We were in the Land of Mystery and other lands—verily He is the Mighty, the Powerful. Be thankful to thy Lord for this bounty that has preceded thee and be steadfast with a mighty steadfastness. Soon will hasten unto you he who hesitated, and the vibration of thy Lord's verses will seize him—verily He is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. Thus did We inform the believers beforehand—verily nothing escapes His knowledge, He is the Protector of all things and knows what lies in the breasts of the worlds.

Blessed is he who caused you to speak in remembrance of God and made known to you this straight path. Soon will spread in those parts and other lands a foul odor—avoid it, thus does the All-Knowing command you. By God, this is the day of steadfastness, were you of those who know. This indeed is the highest station and most exalted rank—blessed are they who attain.

Be as mountains in the Cause of your Lord, the Self-Sufficient, the Most High, in such wise that neither the tempests of vain imaginings nor the hurricanes of the doubts of the ungodly move you. How many a servant has been veiled by the intimations of those who have disbelieved in God, the Mighty, the Great, and has strayed from the station wherein the Source of inspiration proclaims:

> "The Kingdom belongs to God, the One, the Everlasting, the Mighty, the Most Praised."

Arise to serve the Cause through God's might and power, then remember thy Lord with such remembrance as will cause the spirits of those who have turned unto Him to soar. Beware lest the hardships of the world prevent thee from the remembrance of thy Lord, the Lord of all names. Follow thy Ancient Master Who, in the Most Great Prison, summons the peoples unto God, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. Verily, in the ocean of tribulation He remembers thee purely for the sake of God—be thankful to Him for this manifest grace.

When thou hast drunk the choice wine of understanding from the words of thy Lord, the Lord of all religions, say:

> "Praise be unto Thee, O Thou Who called unto me through the tongue of the Manifestation of Thy Cause when He was in the hands of the oppressors."

BH01839: Hearken unto what the Tongue of Grandeur proclaimeth…

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Exalted, the Most Great!

Hearken unto what the Tongue of Grandeur proclaimeth from this blessed land upon the glorious spot: He is, verily, none other God but Him, the Almighty, the Powerful, the All-Compelling. The gaze hath been directed towards thee from this Most Great Scene, the spot wherein the Lord of Destiny hath been imprisoned through what the hands of the oppressors have wrought. Were I to mention what hath befallen Me of sorrows, the dust of grief would envelope all who dwell in the realms of being. Thy Lord, verily, is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

We have, in all Our Tablets, commanded the people to behold this Revelation with their own eyes. Yet they have cast behind their backs that which they were bidden, except those who have rent asunder the veils through this Most Great Name. Fie upon those who have cast away their Lord and followed the desires of such as have disbelieved in God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy.

The more intense the tribulation, the more doth the glory of Baha shine forth in proclaiming that which hath been ordained by the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. By God! He hath stood firm in the Cause in such wise that were anyone to ponder thereon, he would cast away all created things and hasten unto the All-Merciful. Yet most of the people are heedless.

Say: He stood between earth and heaven, and nodded His head, and winked His eye, and raised His brow, and caused His garment to shine forth, and raised His sleeve, and moved His lips, and gestured with His hand, saying: O people! Follow Him Who hath come unto you from the Dayspring of the Cause with manifest sovereignty. In the midst of tribulation, with every member of His body He proclaimeth the Cause of God, the Most High, the Mighty, the Beautiful. Blessed is he who hath been guided by the guidance of God, and woe betide them that have turned aside.

Render thanks unto God for having been made the recipient of thy Lord's attention and for that which hath been sent down unto thee that causeth the hearts of them that are endued with understanding to take wing. Great, great is the Cause, and great, great is the tribulation. Blessed is he who hath remained steadfast in his love for his Lord and hath cast aside all else—he is of them that are sincere.

Thy letter which thou didst send to the servant who standeth before the Throne hath come before Our presence, and We have heard that which it contained, and We were among them that hearkened. We sat alone in the house and occupied Ourselves with diverse matters—thus have We been commanded by the Mighty, the Ancient. At times We swim in the ocean of mysteries and praise the Lord with wondrous remembrances, veiled from the heedless. And at times We soar in the atmosphere of detachment and behold all things as though no mention had ever been made of them. Verily thy Lord is not hindered by any occupation from another occupation. He is, in truth, the One Who overshadoweth all things.

Blessed art thou, inasmuch as the Kawthar of life hath flowed in thy name in this Tablet whereby the hearts have been assured and the faces of them that are nigh unto God have been illumined. We beseech God to aid thee to serve Him and to make thee of them who have helped His Cause after all the heedless ones remote had veiled themselves therefrom. Give thanks for having drawn nigh unto the Divine Lote-

Tree and for having heard its most sweet call when it warbled forth verses whereby the land of misbelief was rent asunder and the pillars of them that were immersed in fancy were made to tremble.

Say unto My loved ones: Grieve not for what hath befallen Us. By God, the Truth! Tribulation is the crown of glory and abasement in God's path is the adorning of His Temple—your Lord and the Lord of your fathers of old. Be ye steadfast in the Cause, then drink ye of the most pure wine through this Name whereby the breathings of God have wafted among mankind. Thus doth the Wronged One command you from this most luminous Spot. He, verily, is the friend of him who hath loved Him, and He is, in truth, the Mighty, the Bountiful.

And upon thee be glory, and upon them that are with thee—they who have hastened with their hearts unto the court of God, the Mighty, the Wondrous.

BH01871: This is a letter from the Prisoner…

In the Name of God, the One Who dominates all who are in the heavens and on earth.

This is a letter from the Prisoner to the prisoners in the path of God. O thou who gazest toward God and art mentioned before the Throne! The letter which thou didst send to His name Jud, upon him be the Glory of God, was presented at the Most Holy Court and brought the utmost joy. The mention of you all hath ever been and will continue to be before the Wronged One.

Convey My sublime greetings to the other loved ones and remind them all of these shining words from the tongue of Truth: Say: O friends! Let not slip from your grasp the eternal dominion and everlasting glory. Ye have been mentioned in the name of Truth and have been afflicted with great tribulations and mighty calamities in His path. Though outwardly despised, yet inwardly ye have been and will remain beloved. Ye have borne hardships and carried afflictions in the path of the Beloved of all creation. How regrettable would it be now to lose these eternal bounties through imaginary concerns. Hearken unto the call of the trusted Counselor and be not content with abasement after such supreme glory.

By the Truth itself, God will soon adorn the beginning of the Book of Existence with mention of His loved ones who have borne tribulations in His path and journeyed through the countries in His name and for His praise. Whoso hath attained their presence will glory in their meeting, and all that dwell in every land will be illumined by their memory.

O friends! Waste not this most great station and remain not distant from eternal manifestations due to fleeting doubts. The All-Seeing, the All-Knowing counsels you not to destroy through the axe of suspicion and heedlessness the mighty edifices built especially for you by the hands of divine favor, nor to cut down with the saw of ignorance and foolishness the blessed trees of remembrance planted for you in the paradise of heavenly grace.

There hath befallen you what befell the Truth, and this is a station which the concourse of the near ones and the sincere ones have yearned for and hoped to attain. Now it hath been granted to you without any merit, purely through grace and bounty. How could you be content to let this station slip away and waste your eternal, everlasting rewards?

Meditate for a moment, detached from all else, that ye may become aware of the brilliant sun shining in the depths of the divine destiny and may understand the ultimate outcome of your deeds. The days have passed and what remains shall likewise pass like rushing winds, and all that is visible shall vanish. Strive ye therefore and adorn your deeds with the crown of steadfastness. This is the counsel of the Wronged One, recorded by the Supreme Pen out of pure grace and generosity. Blessed are they who are awakened! Blessed are they who reflect! Blessed are they who perceive!

O thou who art immersed in the ocean of divine knowledge and soarest in the atmosphere of certitude! Impart unto them what We have imparted unto thee, that perchance the Word of God may stir them and draw them near unto Him. He is verily the Forgiving, the Merciful.

Although the affairs of the loved ones of that land are not mentioned in detail before the Throne according to outward appearance, yet this Tablet hath been revealed purely out of grace, lest the darkness of worldly affairs and personal conditions deprive those souls of the enduring divine favors. Verily remembrance profiteth the believers.

The letter written in the voice of Haji Abu'l-Qasim which was sent to Jud was also presented at the Most Holy Court. We beseech God to assist him to be steadfast in the Cause and to consider the consequences of all matters. He is verily the Mighty, the Forgiving.

BH01891: O thou who art immersed in the gulf…

He is the Most Holy, the Most Great

O thou who art immersed in the gulf that brancheth from the Most Great Sea and gazeth toward the horizon gleaming and resplendent with the lights of the Morn of Eternity! Know thou that We have adorned thy letter which thou didst send to the servant who standeth present with the glances of thy Lord's loving-kindness, and We have become aware of what thou didst desire in thy open and private commune. We found thy remembrance like the songs of lovers in their longing and yearning.

At one time thou didst behold the Beloved with thine eye and didst mention Him in such wise that We perceived from it the fragrance of coquetry and boldness—though this beseemeth not the Beloved Who hath been manifested upon the horizons with the lights of this Effulgence. And at another time thou didst turn to Him with His own eye and didst describe Him in such wise that We perceived from it the fragrance of detachment and thy arising to serve God, the Lord of the beginning and the end. It is as though in these two mentions in the two stations thou didst desire naught but the hearkening of the Lord of Names. Therefore We loved not to answer thee with the utterances of the people of allusions among the followers of religions. Blessed art thou for having drunk from the two chalices the wine of remembrance in the mention of the two Most Exalted Names on this Day which God hath made the Lord of Days.

O thou who advancest toward the Supreme Horizon! Be moved by the motion apparent from the heat of God's compelling Word, which God hath made sanctified from the three motions which are the six and what is above them of the motions mentioned in the books of the people. Thus doth the Lord of all beings command thee. And this motion, though it revolveth around itself, yet it hath motions which none knoweth save thy Lord, the Mighty, the All-Knowing. At one time thou seest it controlled by stillness, for

We have made the most powerful thing to control it, and at another time stillness itself appeareth from it. Exalted be God, thy Lord, the Powerful, the One Who prevaileth over opposites! The contingent hath ever been within the bounds of contingency, and creation in its places, and the Truth is He Who cannot be known through mention and utterance, nor through wisdom and examples.

Be thou a station of stillness and expansiveness. As for stillness, it controlleth the motion produced from the Word as mentioned before, and as for expansiveness, that I may build upon thee a house for My remembrance according to what I desire. When thou knowest the purpose, say:

> "Praise be to Thee, O Lord of the servants and Ruler over the lands!"

If thou wert to know what We intended for thee in the depths of these allusions, joy and longing would seize thee to a station wherein thou wouldst find thyself detached from all directions. If thou wert to reflect upon the very act of advancing and thy journey unto the Self-Sufficient, the Transcendent, thou wouldst recognize what was mentioned in thy letter through witnessing and vision. We shall aid thee in this. Verily thy Lord is the Powerful, the Unconstrained.

We desired to sanctify thee from what is with the people and make thee a herald of this Mention that dominateth over all in creation and a bearer of glad tidings of this Most Great News among the nations. Verily thy Lord is the Mighty, the All-Knowing.

Then know thou that at the time when thou didst advance toward God, thou wast created anew from the water of the spirit. Beware lest thou mention this clear water as mean—the first was ordained for the former ones, and the second for whoso advanceth toward the Dayspring that was luminous with the lights of the Countenance. Verily thy advancing is itself receptivity, and it was verily a divine bounty deposited by the Truth within thyself by thyself, and entering into thee not as a thing entereth into a thing. When the appointed time came, it appeared from thee—preserve it thus! Thus doth thy Lord command thee, He Who was sanctified from entering and leaving, from this station that was raised up in the name of God. And thus did We call out to thee from the right side of the luminous Spot, that thou mightest thank thy Lord and arise to serve His Cause with joy and attraction. Verily the glory be upon thee, O thou who advancest toward God in the final goal!

BH01939: This is a Book from Us to him who…

He is the Most Holy, the Most Exalted, the Most High!

This is a Book from Us to him who has turned to his Lord, the All-Merciful, in these days wherein all who dwell in the realm of possibility have been shaken, save those who have cast away vain desire and taken unto themselves guidance, in the name of their Lord, the Possessor of Names, Who hath come from heaven with manifest sovereignty that the fragrances of the verses may draw him to the summit of names and attributes and bring him to a station wherein he ariseth to aid the Cause of his Lord, the Mighty, the All-Wise.

Arise to serve the Cause by thy Lord's leave, then guide the people in His Name, the Mighty, the Inaccessible. Beware lest anything prevent thee from that which thou hast been bidden by One powerful

and ancient. Say: O people! The call hath been raised from the Divine Lote-Tree, and that which ye were promised in the Tablets from the Cleaver of Dawn hath appeared. Turn with your hearts toward the direction of the Beloved—this is better for you than all that hath been created in the heavens and earths.

Say: He was hidden in His Essence, but when He desired its manifestation He revealed the Manifestation of His Self and sent forth the Dawning-Place of His Cause, through Whom the horizon of utterance was illumined and the Dove sang upon the branches and the Spirit cried out from the heart of Paradise: "The Kingdom belongeth unto God, the Powerful, the Mighty, the Inaccessible!"

Turn not unto those who are moved by their desires. We testify that they are drowned in the ocean of vain imaginings, and every informed one doth witness this. They are as dead before God, the Lord of the First and the Last. Leave them in their idle fancies and hold fast unto the Cord of God, the Powerful, the Mighty, the Beautiful.

Arise to serve the Cause through God's might and power. Say: O people! Obey him who calleth you unto truth and follow not the footsteps of Satan. Aid ye the All-Merciful through utterance and turn unto Him Who hath arisen amongst the servants to exalt the Word of your Lord, the Master of the Day of Judgment. Be fair—by what proof can your faith be established if ye deny? They are indeed confuted, unless they return and repent. Verily thy Lord is the Ever-Forgiving, the Pardoner, the Merciful.

Thus have We sent down the verses that thine eyes may be solaced thereby and that thou mayest stand firm in thy Lord's Cause in such wise as to summon the servants through this Great Name. Say: By God! All things have spoken in praise of the Lord of Names, and the Ocean of Pre-existence hath surged with this wise Remembrance. Cast aside all peoples, for the Lord of all peoples hath come with mighty sovereignty.

Gird up thy loins to serve God and remember Him. He will verily aid thee through the truth. He is, in truth, powerful over all things. From the heart of whoso desireth to make mention of Him this day shall flow springs of wisdom and utterance. Verily thy Lord, the All-Merciful, ordaineth what He pleaseth for whom He pleaseth and decreeth what He willeth for whom He desireth.

Confine thy affairs to the remembrance of God and the promotion of His Cause. This will profit thee in this world and the next. Thy Lord is, in truth, knowing of all things. It behooveth him who hath turned toward the Point of Existence to cast behind him all that is in the hands of men. This is the truth, and beyond truth there is naught but manifest error.

Blessed art thou for having turned unto the Intended One and believed in God after every froward misbeliever turned away. Give thanks unto thy Lord for having sent down unto thee that which shall immortalize thy mention throughout the kingdom of earth and heaven. This is indeed a great bounty.

Make mention of thy son from Us and convey unto him the greetings from this lonely Wronged One, that he may be stirred by the breezes of thy Lord's loving-kindness and become of the sincere ones. And upon thee and thy family be the glory of thy Lord, the Speaker, the True, the Mighty, the Trusted One. And praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH01928: Commemoration of the anniversary of the Declaration of the Bab

He is the Ever-Abiding, the Most Great, the Most Exalted!

Lo! The Tongue is calling aloud and the Word hath lifted up its Voice, proclaiming: The Kingdom is God's, the Creator of the heavens, the Lord of Names; yet the generality of mankind is sunk in heedlessness. All creation hath been carried away by the sweet melody of the All-Merciful and the realms of sanctity are redolent of the fragrance of His raiment and the Most Great Name hath shed the splendour of His effulgent glory upon all the dwellers of the world; but the people are obscured by a palpable veil.

O Pen of Glory! Raise thou the tune of the celestial strains, for We inhale the sweet savours of reunion, inasmuch as the Day is at hand in which the kingdom of names is embellished with the ornament of Our Name, the Most August, the Most Exalted—a Name which no sooner was it mentioned before the Throne than the Maids of Heaven broke into songs of divine melody and the heavenly Dove warbled its wondrous notes and the Tongue of the Merciful Lord proclaimed that which hath enraptured the souls of the messengers, of the pure in heart and of them that enjoy near access unto God.

This is the Night from the orient of whose Day the Morn of Eternity hath dawned and the whole world hath been illumined by the splendour of its light, shining forth above this radiant Horizon.

Say, verily this is the Day in which God hath entered into a covenant concerning Him Who proclaimeth the Truth when He sent forth the One bearing unto mankind the tidings of this Great Announcement. This is the Day in which His mighty Sign hath appeared, magnifying the glory of this inestimable Name; the Day in which the entire creation hath been enravished by the reviving breeze of the Verses of God. Happy is he that hath recognized his Lord and is numbered with the blissful.

Say, He is the most perfect Balance amongst nations. Through Him the measure assigned unto everything hath been revealed by virtue of the Will of the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. Men of discernment, inebriated with the choice wine of His utterance, have rent the veils asunder through the sovereign might of My Name which pervadeth all mankind.

He consecrated the Bayan as a leaf unto this Garden and adorned it with the praise of this incomparable Remembrance. He hath exhorted men not to withhold themselves from the Day-Spring of Ancient Glory, nor to cling unto such tales and traditions as are current amongst them at the time of His appearance. Thus the decree was fulfilled in conformity with what He hath enunciated. Unto this beareth witness He Who proclaimeth the Truth: Verily, no God is there besides Me, the Almighty, the All-Bountiful.

They that turn away from the Latter Manifestation have indeed failed to recognize the First One; thus hath it been ordained by the Causer of the causes, He Who is now manifest in this glorious raiment. He did herald the tidings of this Root amidst you, wherefore they who have deprived themselves by reason of the twig are truly numbered with the dead. The twig is that which people set their hearts upon and thus turn their backs to God, the Supreme Ruler, the All-Glorious, the All-Praised.

He conditioned everything He hath revealed by My good pleasure and made every commandment subservient unto this irrefutable, this undoubted Commandment. Had it not been for My sake He would

not have uttered a single word, nor would have He manifested Himself before the gaze of the dwellers of heavens and earth. How often did He lament over My captivity, My imprisonment, My tribulations! That which is sent down in the Bayan doth amply testify unto this; would that ye know it. Powerful indeed is the man who through the might of God hath severed himself from all else but Him and powerless is the one who turned away from His face when He did appear, invested with manifest dominion.

O people of the earth! It behooveth you to magnify the Name of God in this Day—the Day in which the Spirit hath unloosed His tongue and the souls of such as were brought into being through the operation of the Word of God, the Mighty, the Exalted, eagerly yearn to wing their flight.

It beseemeth everyone in this Day to rejoice with exceeding gladness, to attire himself with exquisite garment, celebrate the praise of his Lord and yield thanksgiving unto Him by virtue of this great favour. Blessed is he that hath apprehended the purpose of God and woe betide the heedless.

Since this Tablet hath been revealed in this Night, We fain would wish to send it unto thee as a token of Our grace, that thou mayest be of the grateful. Once thou hast perused it, recite it in the presence of the loved ones of God, that they, one and all, may hearken unto that which the Tongue of Grandeur hath uttered and may be of them that act accordingly. Thus have We singled thee out and attired thee with that wherewith the temples of the pure in heart are attired.

All glory be unto God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH01927: That which flowed from thy pen hath come into…

He is God, the Most Holy, the All-Knowing

That which flowed from thy pen hath come into the presence of Him Who is the Fountain of the Waters of Life amidst all possibilities and the Salsabil of the mercy of the All-Merciful amidst the worlds. Through it the fragrances of sincerity were wafted and the sweet savors of pure-heartedness were diffused. It is as though the water of thy utterance hath been mingled with the ink of the Beloved. Thus hath the star of joy risen and the cup of gladness circled round in these days wherein sorrows have encompassed Us through that which the hands of the transgressors have wrought. Blessed art thou and blessed is thy letter which testified to that which thou dost manifest in the Cause of thy Lord, the Most High, the Great.

My grief is not for that which hath befallen My own Self. By God! The Ancient Beauty doth not shrink from tribulations. Indeed, He hath found solace in them in the path of God, the Almighty, the Powerful. But observe, then mention that We had forbidden all from shedding blood, as all the Tablets bear witness, and thou art among those who know. Wickedness hath reached such a degree that the Pen of the Most High suddenly cried out with the most exalted call between earth and heaven, after the doors of attainment to His presence were closed:

> “The necks have been stretched forth in hypocrisy. Where are Thy swords of vengeance, O Destroyer of the worlds?”

When the verses were sent down, all things were shaken. Therefore We took hold of the reins of power with authority from Our presence. Yet there leaked what leaked and appeared what appeared. Say: Praise be unto Thee, O Thou in Whose grasp of power lie the reins of the worlds.

O My Name! We forbade all people from such matters. The fire of wickedness became so inflamed that there occurred what occurred in numbered years. Continuously We kept those vile souls protected beneath the cloak of protection. Yet they found no rest, manifesting corruption and sedition each day. The matter reached such a point that We withdrew from all and closed the doors of association. The angels of divine wrath seized them suddenly and made them a lesson to the worlds. The All-Merciful did not have mercy on their graves. This occurred suddenly. Were you to hear the details, you would testify that the Hand of God's power seized them—no one else had any part in it, nor will they. Pure power was manifested from the presence of a Mighty, Powerful One.

Thou didst mention the captives of God. Their letter came into the presence of the Countenance. We found the fragrance of the garment of the Name of thy Lord, the All-Compelling, the Self-Subsisting, from the direction of Khartoum. They have always been and will continue to be before Our sight. Remember them on My behalf and convey My glory to them from this Wronged One, this Stranger. In these days more than this is not permitted. If stability is achieved in this land, We shall send to them what thy Lord, the All-Knowing, the Wise, hath desired.

Convey My glory to Javad. We have sent to him what was previously revealed for him that he may find from it the fragrance of God, the All-Compelling, the Self-Subsisting. Then mention him who is named Muhammad and give him the glad-tidings of the remembrance of the All-Merciful, that he may be among those who rejoice. There hath come into the presence of the Most Great Scene what was sent to thee from Shin and Jim. We beseech God to make them among those who guide others to His remembrance among the worlds, and manifestations of steadfastness among creation, and dawning-places of righteousness among creatures. He is verily the Almighty, the Powerful, the All-Wise.

As for what thou didst explicitly inquire about regarding Jula, say: He hath returned to the lowest depths, by the Lord of the worlds! But the difference between them is not slight. The first Jula who was before and about whom the example was struck was truly wretched, wretched. But the second one is accursed, accursed. The glory of God be upon thee and upon those whom God hath aided to His firm and wise Cause.

BH01918: My remembrance of My servant who soared…

He is the Most Ancient, the Most Great

My remembrance of My servant who soared in the atmosphere of the love of his Lord, the Most Merciful, with spirit and fragrance, and was so seized by the attraction of the Call that he turned to the Lord of Names and Creator of Heaven, and entered the luminous spot wherein his Lord, the Most Glorious, calls out "God, there is no God but Him, the Mighty, the Wise."

We have found the fragrance of thy love, O Beloved of the horizons, and We are aware of what is in thy heart. Verily thy Lord is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. Be thankful for His having enabled thee to

attain His presence and hear His mighty and impregnable utterance. Know thou the bounty of thy Lord and what hath been ordained for thee from the Supreme Pen in a mighty tablet.

O Nabil! Hearken unto the call of the Glorious One. He calleth thee from the horizon of the prison, "Verily there is no God but Him, the Mighty, the Wise." Blessed art thou for having attained the presence of the Beloved and for having entered, appeared, and heard the call of thy Lord, the Mighty, the Impregnable. By God! If thou didst find the sweetness of the utterance of the Most Merciful in this Tablet, which God hath made the Dawning-Place of His remembrance in the contingent world, thou wouldst soar with longing and speak forth His praise amongst the worlds.

O Nabil! Rejoice in God's remembrance of thee, then aid Him with such steadfastness as shall cause the servants to stand firm. Thus doth the Lord of the mighty Throne command thee. Return to thy homeland by God's leave and command, then make mention of those who have arisen to serve the Cause of thy Lord, the Self-Subsisting, the Mighty, the Powerful. We have sent down for each one of them clear verses and We have sent them in truth, if thou be of them that know. We make mention of him who makes mention of his Lord and speaks His praise—the denizens of Paradise who circle round the pavilion of grandeur and majesty. Thus doth He inform thee in Whose grasp is the kingdom of the heavens and earth.

Blessed be thy heart for having turned, and thy face for having been directed toward the spot wherein the Beloved is imprisoned for the sake of God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy. We had given thee leave to attain Our presence aforetime, therefore thy name was mentioned among those who were moved by the Will and who turned with permission toward the Qiblih of those near unto God. Give thanks to thy Lord for this and be thou of the thankful. Convey My greetings to each one of My loved ones who dwell in thy land. We behold them in their condition. Verily thy Lord is the All-Knowing, the All-Encompassing.

O Samandar! Blessed art thou for having turned to the Most Great Scene and attained the recognition of the Lord of Destiny, and for having arisen to serve Him and been among those who arose. Thou hast fulfilled God's Covenant and discharged His trust. He shall fulfill even as thou hast fulfilled, for He is the Most Merciful of the merciful. My gaze hath been directed toward those who have attained the lights of the Countenance and who were among the firm ones. Grieve not over anything, for thou hast drunk from the ocean of joy which appeared through this Great Name. Call the people with wisdom and utterance. Thus hath the Most Merciful commanded thee in various tablets. He is the Ruler over what He willeth.

Blessed are ye for having attained what God desired. We testify that ye have turned and attained and were among those who turned. Ye are of Us, therefore We counsel you with that which befitteth the days of your Lord, the Mighty, the Beautiful. Acquire ye the attributes of God, then walk ye in the straight path that His Cause may be sanctified among His servants and His Being glorified among the worlds. Thus doth the Tongue of Grandeur counsel you while in the midst of the malicious ones. We have desired for you that which nothing can equal. He is the Protector of the doers of good. Verily the glory be upon you and upon those with you, every male and female who have turned with their hearts and attained the lights of His impregnable countenance.

BH01932: Your letter reached this servant and after being presented…

He is God

Your letter reached this servant and after being presented, the Most Exalted Tongue spoke these lustrous words: That which you saw in your dream was mentioned in the presence. As for what you mentioned about seeing in heaven flowers, blossoms and stars—these indicate the manifestations of your Lord's favors and the expressions of His power. Soon their signs will appear on earth such that mention of your Lord's name, the Most High, the Great, will encompass it. And what you drank from the cup—it was connected to the Most Great Ocean which has no end. This is evidence of your Lord's grace toward you, and He has ordained for you from this ocean that which will never be exhausted, throughout the duration of your Lord's kingdom. Just as you drank and found no end to it, blessed are you in what has been ordained for you of that ever-flowing, enduring, remaining, mighty, impregnable Kawthar. Soon God will give life through what has flowed from it to the hearts of His servants and will draw them near to Him and cause them to recognize the Dawning Place of His Essence, Who speaks with truth: There is none other God but Him, the Mighty, the Powerful, the Omnipotent.

As for what you saw of Our turning toward the mosque—this indicates the latter manifestation and the spreading of your Lord's verses and the gathering of people unto what He desires, even though in these days veils of idle fancies have covered the people and the Word has been lost through what was earned by the hands of those who have left God's party—your Lord and the Lord of the worlds. But soon will come a day when the melodies of the Dove of Utterance will be raised with the most wondrous tunes and the loftiness of this Cause which has been exalted in truth will become manifest. Verily your Lord is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

That which We have commanded thee concerning teaching is verily the undoubted truth, but We have prohibited it in these lands. Beware lest ye breathe a word therein. When the appointed time hath come We shall instruct thee according to Our wish. As to thy request for a meeting, We beseech God to aid and assist thee in attaining His presence. He, verily, is the guardian of all who seek after Him. Teaching in this land is in no wise permitted, for a certain faithless and evil-whispering soul hath spread numerous calumnies amongst the people. He hath even claimed that agents have been sent to various parts for the express purpose of teaching, whereas such an intention hath never been entertained, nor do individuals exist to be dispatched in such a manner. This calumniator would every day commit a transgression and repent when it was brought to light, but in these days he is engaged in all that is forbidden. Thus have we cast both of them out and consigned them to the torments of hell.

They have submitted two petitions which were not accepted at all. From the Land of Mystery until the present time they have repented nine times and it was accepted, yet they have not become aware. They have ever been engaged in hypocrisy, but in these days their veils have been rent asunder through what they have earned by their desires from among the idolaters.

Convey greetings from Us to Mansur and then to Husayn—upon them be the glory of God, the King, the Mighty, the Beautiful. God willing, regarding what you have been commanded concerning teaching, when its time comes We shall instruct you about it. Act with the utmost wisdom and let not a single word

contrary to this issue forth from your tongue. Thus have you been commanded in truth—be among those who act accordingly. End.

I convey infinite greetings to all. God willing, you are and will continue to be in the utmost joy. A quatrain was mentioned for all—God willing you will recite it and never forget it:

O thou who com'st—while absence sets thy soul aflame— With Love's remembrance, lone, yet guarded by His Name;

Within the shell of thine own breast that Pearl conceal: Keep, day and night, the love of the Belovèd's frame.

BH01969: Praised be Thou, O my God! I beseech Thee…

Praised be Thou, O my God! I beseech Thee by them who have circled round the throne of Thy will, and soared in the atmosphere of Thy good-pleasure, and turned with all their affections towards the Horizon of Thy Revelation and the Day-Spring of Thine inspiration, and the Dawning-Place of Thy names, to aid Thy servants to observe what Thou hast commanded them in Thy days—commandments through which the sacredness of Thy Cause will be demonstrated unto Thy servants and the affairs of Thy creatures and of Thy realm will be set aright.

I testify, O my God, that this is the Day whereon Thy testimony hath been fulfilled, and Thy clear tokens have been manifested, and Thine utterances have been revealed, and Thy signs have been demonstrated, and the radiance of Thy countenance hath been diffused, and Thy proof hath been perfected, and Thine ascendancy hath been established, and Thy mercy hath overflowed, and the Day-Star of Thy grace hath shone forth with such brilliance that Thou didst manifest Him Who is the Revealer of Thyself and the Treasury of Thy wisdom and the Dawning-Place of Thy majesty and power. Thou didst establish His covenant with every one who hath been created in the kingdoms of earth and heaven and in the realms of revelation and of creation. Thou didst raise Him up to such heights that the wrongs inflicted by the oppressors have been powerless to deter Him from revealing Thy sovereignty, and the ascendancy of the wayward hath failed to prevent Him from demonstrating Thy power and from exalting Thy Cause.

So highly didst Thou exalt Him that He openly delivered unto the kings Thy messages and commandments, and hath never for one moment sought His own protection, but striven to protect Thy servants from whatever might withhold them from approaching the kingdom of Thy nearness, and from setting their faces towards the horizon of Thy good-pleasure.

Thou seest, O my God, how, notwithstanding the swords that are drawn against Him, He calleth the nations unto Thee, and though Himself a prisoner summoneth them to turn in the direction of Thy gifts and bounties. With every fresh tribulation He manifested a fuller measure of Thy Cause, and exalted more highly Thy word.

I testify that through Him the Pen of the Most High was set in motion, and with His remembrance the Scriptures in the kingdom of names were embellished. Through Him Thy fragrances were wafted, and the sweet smell of Thy raiment was shed abroad amongst all the dwellers of the earth and the inmates of

heaven. Thou seest and knowest full well, O my God, how He hath been made to dwell within the most desolate of cities, so that He may build up the hearts of Thy servants, and hath been willing to suffer the most grievous abasement, that Thy creatures may be exalted.

I pray Thee, O Thou Who causest the dawn to appear, by Thy Name through Which Thou hast subjected the winds, and sent down Thy Tablets, that Thou wilt grant that we may draw near unto what Thou didst destine for us by Thy favor and bounty, and to be far removed from whatsoever may be repugnant unto Thee. Give us, then, to drink from the hands of Thy grace every day and every moment of our lives of the waters that are life indeed, O Thou Who art the Most Merciful! Make us, then, to be of them who helped Thee when fallen into the hands of those Thine enemies who are numbered with the rebellious among Thy creatures and the wicked amidst Thy people. Write down, then, for us the recompense ordained for him that hath attained Thy presence, and gazed on Thy beauty, and supply us with every good thing ordained in Thy Book for such of Thy creatures as enjoy near access to Thee.

Brighten our hearts, O my Lord, with the splendor of Thy knowledge, and illumine our sight with the light of such eyes as are fixed upon the horizon of Thy grace and the Day-Spring of Thy glory. Preserve us, then, by Thy Most Great Name, Which Thou didst cause to overshadow such nations as lay claim to what Thou hast forbidden in Thy Book. This, verily, is what Thou didst announce unto us in Thy Scriptures and Thy Tablets.

Cause us, then, to be so steadfast in our love towards Thee that we will turn to none except Thee, and will be reckoned amongst them that are brought nigh to Thee, and acknowledge Thee as One Who is exalted above every comparison and is holy beyond all likeness, and will lift up our voices amongst Thy servants and cry aloud that He is the one God, the Incomparable, the Ever-Abiding, the Most Powerful, the All-Glorious, the All-Wise.

Strengthen Thou, O my Lord, the hearts of them that love Thee, that they may not be affrighted by the hosts of the infidels that are turned back from Thee, but may follow Thee in whatsoever hath been revealed by Thee. Aid them, moreover, to remember and to praise Thee, and to teach Thy Cause with eloquence and wisdom. Thou art He Who hath called Himself the Most Merciful. Ordain, then, O my God, for me and for whosoever hath sought Thee what beseemeth the excellence of Thy glory and the greatness of Thy majesty. No God is there but Thee, the Ever-Forgiving, the Most Compassionate.

BH01989: May my spirit and being be sacrificed for Thee!…

Section 1: “May my spirit and being be sacrificed…”

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Mighty, the Most Glorious!

May my spirit and being be sacrificed for Thee! Praise be to God that the darkness of separation was illumined by the light of thy letter, which shone forth from the horizon of the heaven of divine love. It brought endless joy and boundless delight. If half a letter equals half a meeting, thy letter was like a complete reunion. My happiness and joy have always come and will come from the loving fragrances of God’s loved ones. After the petition thou didst submit reached the Most Holy Court, this servant presented it in its entirety before the Sacred Presence as commanded. God knoweth what shone forth

from the horizon of thy Lord's utterance for thee. I am powerless to mention what I heard from the Tongue of Grandeur and Power. He is the All-Knowing, the Almighty.

What thou hast set forth concerning Hadrat-i-Badi', upon him rest the glory of Baha'u'llah, the All-Glorious, was read out, in the presence of all the loved ones of God, in the very words penned by thee. Would that, at the hour of Badi"s creation, thou hadst been present before the Throne! Amazed thereat were they that dwell in the heavens and on the earth. He was brought into being through a Divine Word, the mention whereof is not possible; and in certain of the Tablets revealed concerning him it hath been written—exalted and glorified is He:

> "We created him by a word from Our presence, and breathed into him of the Spirit of power and might, in such wise that, were We to bid him confront all that are in the heavens and on the earth, he would, even as the banner of omnipotence, be reared upon the highest of standards. Verily thy Lord is the Mighty, the All-Chosen."

Let him, moreover, who beareth regard for truth, ponder within himself that inviolable Tablet which he hath carried, and reflect how great a measure of God's consummate wisdom and the intimations of the utterances of the Lord were poured forth in that perspicuous Epistle; and this, though the Revealer thereof was imprisoned and confined within the Most Great Prison. Should any soul, with rectitude, meditate upon that blessed Tablet, he shall be made acquainted with the mysteries of Divine power. And in another Tablet these verses have been revealed from the Dayspring of Names and Attributes:

> "When We entered the Prison, We purposed to deliver unto all the Messages of their Lord, that they might know that affliction hath not withheld the Beauty from that which God, the Lord of men, hath willed."

All conditions and degrees of utterance were disclosed in that Most Mighty Tablet—counsels firm and unshakable, admonitions tender and compassionate, verses and supplications, and, by thy life, even passages in the Persian tongue. This, verily, would suffice the peoples of the world, were they but of the fair-minded. Blessed is he that reflecteth upon its allusions and its explicit declarations, and recognizeth the power of God and His wisdom that have encompassed all created things.

In truth, until this time the proclamation had not been made complete, nor had the Divine Proof appeared in its full radiance and manifest splendour; for the rulers of the earth were not, one and all, informed of the matter in its details. The Most Exalted One—may the life of all besides Him be offered up for His sake—had indeed sent two Tablets unto the former ruler; yet in those two there was naught beyond mention of sovereignty and wrongs endured, wherefore they were not truly apprised what the Cause of God signifieth, nor what is intended thereby. Hence, in the Most Great Prison, for each of the rulers of the earth, a mighty Tablet—such as that of Badi'—was revealed in particular, and, without veil or concealment, the Cause of the All-Merciful was set down therein. Some of those Tablets have been dispatched and have arrived; others, God willing, shall reach their destination in these days. The bearer of one of them was Badi' himself, even as thou didst witness. Wherefore hath it been revealed from the Dayspring of the Cause—glorified be His majesty:

> "We have sent down the Tablet and made it the Cry betwixt the heavens and the earth."

Yet the Tablets revealed for others were still more firm and weighty. Would that thou hadst attained, hadst read, and hadst exclaimed:

> "Praise be to Thee, O Thou in Whose grasp are the reins of the worlds!"

Never did He dissemble with any man; rather did He set forth, with explicitness, the Cause of God in each of those Tablets—nay, He even mentioned ordinances new and wondrous.

From this it is evident what hath come to pass, and what shall yet befall. After the dispatch of the Tablet of Badi', grievous indeed became the oppression laid upon these servants; from every side did they intensify their severity. Yet thy Lord is not deterred, by hardships, from what He hath willed. What more shall I submit? Consider what hath befallen Jinab-i-Rasul, and what the ظلم of the unjust hath wrought. May my soul be offered up for his burning anguish! I swear by the Sovereign of what hath been and what shall be, that I beheld in his behalf such tokens of loving-kindness that, night and day, I longed that some drop from the billowing ocean of the favour I had perceived might be allotted and vouchsafed unto me. I heard with mine own ears, from the Tongue of Grandeur, these words—exalted be His glory:

> "My Rasul, My Rasul! Grieve not; thou art beneath the wing of My bounty and in the shade of the Tree of My loving-care. My Rasul, My Rasul! Thou art in My presence; thou hast attained unto My meeting; thou hast visited My Beauty and heard My call; thou hast turned unto the Dayspring of My Revelation, the Dawning-place of Mine inspiration, and the Seat of My Most Great Throne."

And in certain Tablets revealed in these days mention hath been made of him—especially on the Ninth Day of Ridvan, when a supplication, from the Dayspring of the Will of the All-Merciful, was revealed concerning him and some of the loved ones of God. God willing, it shall reach thine exalted gaze, and thou shalt be honoured thereby. Know, at the least, that his toil hath not been wasted; nay, beyond what he himself desired and hoped for hath it been accepted in the court of the All-Merciful Presence. Sufficient unto him is that which hath been revealed in his honour—nay, it sufficeth all existence, whether in the unseen or the seen.

As to the allusions contained in the supplication thou didst present, concerning the تجاوز of certain of the friends and the hardship inflicted by others, utterances have been revealed from the Horizon of the All-Merciful, and a special Epistle hath been sent unto thee in this matter.

And as to the passage concerning the Divine Trust, the meaning was that it should remain hidden from all. The wisdom thereof is this: were the adversaries to become aware, grievous harm would befall both those souls who have borne it, and that House which hath become the seat of the Throne. Behold, that which was decreed hath been decreed. Peradventure God will, through this, bring to pass some good. A certain place must therefore be appointed, and, without the knowledge of any soul, that heavenly Deposit must be given a dwelling and an abode, until God shall will.

And as to what thou didst write concerning certain people—that, in some measure, they have become the dawning-place of the shining lights of Baha—what, in brief, they submit is this: that naught is witnessed save verses that constitute a proof; and that we are powerless to comprehend the verses as

they truly are. This servant declareth: if a soul be not assured by what hath appeared in this Most Great Revelation, he shall never be assured by anything, nor shall he ever become so. Behold, apart from the verses, and consider what a multitude of manifestations of power, of unseen attributes, and of divine utterances have appeared—so great that they have encompassed the whole world. True it is that certain souls, standing before His Face, asked for a miracle and the breaking of accustomed laws; and of those whose case this servant knoweth, some are still living—perhaps thou didst even hear of them in Iraq.

Likewise there was that learned man who, on behalf of the divines in Iraq, entered into the presence of the Throne; and, after beholding the Divine power, openly confessed his certainty, as he himself related in many gatherings. Yet none of those few were enabled to cleave steadfastly unto the Cause; and thereafter some of the deniers were recorded in the perspicuous Book. The full account is set forth in the Divine Tablets. Up to this time this servant hath not seen one who, having sought this station, became thereafter firm and unwavering.

Section 2: "In the days when the Luminary…"

In the days when the Luminary of the horizons shone in ʿIraq, He—Himself the Mighty, the Beloved—appeared in such wise that to whomsoever turned, and whatsoever was asked, He answered, even as most of the Arab tribes have related and continue to relate. The confidence of those weak souls of whom thou hast spoken is bound up with the confidence and the strength of thine own spirit.

Behold, in view of what hath been submitted, I had not intended to lay this matter before His presence; yet on a certain night I attained His face, and He said:

> "If thou art writing the reply to the letter of Jinab-i-Ismu'llah Jamalu'd-Din, write, ere thou settest pen to page, these words from before the Face."

Whereupon He uttered—exalted be His glory:

"She beheld the proof in a dream, and she shall behold. Even so hast thou beheld, and thou shalt behold. Calamity shall descend upon them that have wronged, and affairs shall be confounded. Shouldst thou find in thine own land dissension, grieve not; and shouldst thou find thyself in tribulation, fear not. Thy Lord shall preserve thee in truth; verily He is the Truth, the Knower of the unseen. All this is tidings from the invisible, wherewith We have inspired thee in truth. Verily thy Lord is the Mighty, the All-Powerful. We have strengthened thy heart, that through thee the hearts of the troubled may be at rest. Purify thy heart by My Name, then make it strong by My sovereignty, that through thee the souls of them that have turned unto the Face may be assured.

This behoveth thee, if thou be of them that know. It behoveth thee to be of such a station that, by thy mention, the veils of the heedless may be consumed. We have ordained for thee a lofty rank; We love to see thee among them that have arisen with assurance from Our presence and with power from Us. Follow then what thou hast been commanded, and draw hearts by My Name, the Mighty, the Inaccessible. Say: Is it meet to doubt after the sun of certitude hath shone forth? And is it meet to be perturbed after power hath encompassed all horizons? No—by this illumination that hath encompassed the worlds." (Ended.)

Furthermore, this evanescent servant submiteth that thou shouldst look often into the revealed Tablets; for whatsoever appeareth afterwards hath already been revealed in the Tablets. Consider, for example, the Suriy-i-Haykal: part of it, in the Land of Mystery, went forth to ʿIraq, and part was dispatched after entry into the Most Great Prison. Among its passages are the verses revealed unto the King of Paris—verses which they heard in Adrianople—exalted be His might:

> "We have heard from thee the word thou didst speak when the King of Russia questioned thee concerning the decree of war. Verily thy Lord is the All-Knowing, the All-Aware. Thou didst say: ʿI lay asleep upon my couch; the cry of the servants who were wronged awakened me, until they were drowned in the Black Sea.' Thus have We heard, and thy Lord beareth witness to what I say. We testify that it was not the cry that awakened thee, but desire; for We tried thee and found thee in retreat. Know then the accents of speech, and be of them that discern."

And He further saith—exalted be His mention:

"Hadst thou been the possessor of the Word, thou wouldst not have cast the Book of God behind thy back when it was sent unto thee from One Mighty and Wise. We have tried thee by this and found thee not as thou didst claim. Arise, and repair what hath escaped thee. The world and what thou possessest shall pass away, and the Kingdom shall remain unto God, thy Lord and the Lord of thine sires of old. Through what thou hast done shall affairs be changed in thy realm, and sovereignty shall depart from thy hand as the recompense of thine acts. Then shalt thou find thyself in manifest loss, and earthquakes shall seize all the tribes therein—save thou arise to champion this Cause and follow the Spirit in this straight path. Hath thy glory beguiled thee? By My life, it shall not endure: it shall vanish, unless thou lay hold on this sure Cord. We see abasement hastening after thee while thou art of them that sleep." (End.)

It is greatly desired that thou wouldst also examine those portions of the Haykal which were revealed concerning changes in earthly dominion, and likewise the Tablet to the Chief (Lawh-i-Ra'is), that thou mayest become informed of matters that have been, and remain, concealed. All that shall appear hath already been sent down in what hath been revealed from our Lord, the All-Knowing, the All-Aware. And that which hath been revealed in the parts of the Haykal—what hath already come to pass, and what hath not—shall, ere long, come to pass.

And as to the passage concerning the Hidden Knowledge, the decree is that what hath been revealed in Persian must be acted upon. All things are dependent upon their appointed times. God willing, ponder this, that perchance thou mayest discern the original intent—which neither falleth short of the number two, nor exceedeth three. We have desired for thee a station wherein thou shalt behold all these affairs beneath thy shadow. Stand firm, then, and confine thyself to the remembrance of thy Lord, with wisdom and utterance. Thus doth the All-Merciful teach thee from the direction of His Most Great Name, wherewith all atoms cry aloud: "The Kingdom is God's—the Almighty, the Invincible, the Most Bountiful."

There are matters whose disclosure was not, and is not, expedient for the welfare of the servants. A Tablet was revealed formerly unto Jinab-i-Nabil, the son of ʿAli, of the people of Q—seek a copy thereof; certain of the Divine wisdoms lie hidden within it, that thou mayest attain unto sure certainty that Truth hath ever been, and shall ever remain, the Bestower, the All-Bountiful. And whatever delay is seen in

outward affairs is but in view of the welfare of the people. Verily thy Lord is the Generous Giver, the Bestowing, the Forgiving, the Merciful.

And lastly, concerning those petitions thou didst request to be submitted unto the Sacred Threshold, and that one of those three matters might be granted: the detail thereof was laid, at a chosen time, before His presence, and this was what shone forth from the horizon of the utterance of thy Lord, the All-Merciful: "O Name! This day is the day of victory …"—to the end of His exalted words.

BH02114: May my soul be a sacrifice for Thy pure…

He is God, exalted be His glory, to Whom belong grandeur and majesty

May my soul be a sacrifice for Thy pure love! The letter of faithfulness which had issued forth from the source of truth and sincerity reached this evanescent servant, and from perusing it the utmost joy and gladness was obtained, for from all that was written therein were inhaled the sweet fragrances of the garment of divine love. Likewise were evident from that essence of contentment the signs of resignation and detachment from all else, and of orientation and sincerity toward the direction of our Lord, the Most High, the Most Glorious. Praise be to God for having granted thee success and aided thee in what He desired, and made thee steadfast in His Cause, and established thee in His service, and given thee to drink in every moment from the Kawthar of His grace and the Salsabil of His bounty, from the cup of His glorious and beautiful remembrance.

After this servant attained the honor of receiving thy letter, I presented it in its entirety before the Most Sublime Vision. This is what shone forth from the horizon of care and bounty: "O Rida! God willing, mayest thou be successful through the bestowals of the All-Merciful at all times. Thou hast ever been and art remembered before the Countenance. All the services thou hast rendered in the path of God are remembered with Him and recorded in the holy Tablets. Grieve not over anything, be as thou wert, for He is with thee at all times." And concerning what was written about the honored travelers, upon them be the glory of God—all was presented before the Countenance. He said: "We beseech God to grant them success in acting according to what they have been commanded in God's lands and His kingdom."

Furthermore, if this servant, the attendant, wished to mention the favors shown to thee, in truth he finds himself incapable. This much I submit: that all thy troubles and services are remembered with God—not an atom of them has been or will be lost. Blessed art thou for having attained the favors of thy Lord and for having been mentioned by the Tongue of Grandeur and Power. In all conditions thou must be occupied with service, for this is the portion of existence: that it arise to serve its Lord. And exert the utmost effort and striving in creating harmony and unity among the friends, for this has been and shall ever be among the greatest of matters in the sight of God.

Furthermore, convey greetings and glorification on behalf of this servant to all the friends in that land, one and all, young and old. I swear by the Beauty of the Beloved that in all nights and days I have heard the mention of each one of them specifically from the Tongue of the Ancient of Days, and the manifestations of the infinite divine favors concerning all are evident and apparent. After the appearance of these enduring divine mentions concerning them, how can this servant venture to mention his own

nothingness and evanescence in their service? Therefore I say with the tongue of all things: “Praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.”

Convey glorification and glory to Muhammad-Hasan. God willing, his reply will arrive later. Glory be upon him and upon those who were with him.

The servant of God

BH02120: O Ibn Nabil! Hearken unto the call of thy…

He is the Most Holy, the Most Exalted, the Most Ancient

O Ibn Nabil! Hearken unto the call of thy Lord, the Glorious One, from the Valley of Nabil. Verily, there is none other God but Me, the Wronged One, the Stranger.

Remember when thou didst enter the Most Glorious Presence and didst hear the melodies of thy Lord, the Most High, and didst attain that which flowed from the mouth of Grandeur in His most exalted words. Thou art assuredly among those who have attained. He admitted thee into His presence when all were forbidden from attaining unto the meeting and the oppressors had surrounded from every direction. Thus doth God single out for His grace whomsoever He pleaseth. He, verily, hath power over all things.

Grieve not at anything. Place thy trust in all matters in God, thy Lord. He is with thee under all conditions and will aid thee with truth. He is the Guardian of the sincere ones.

Should thou meet one in whom thou findest the fragrance of My love, recount unto him what thou knowest of the story of the Youth. Say: By God! He is verily the Wronged One Who hath been afflicted at the hands of the oppressors, and His plight became so severe that He banished all from His presence and dwelt alone in His house, detached from all the worlds. At the height of tribulation He sought no help from any soul. He remained steadfast in the Cause between the heavens and the earth.

Forget not what thou hast heard from the tongue of Grandeur. Thus doth the Lord of the worlds command thee by virtue of thy presence before His countenance and thy burning in the love of God. God hath ordained for thee and thy kinsmen that which shall gladden the eyes of those endued with insight.

Say: O my God! Praise be unto Thee for having caused me to hear Thy call and summoned me to the Manifestation of Thy Self and enabled me to enter the sanctuary of Thy reunion and the sacred precincts of Thy presence, and made me one of those who have attained. I beseech Thee by the wrongs suffered by the Manifestation of Thy Self to make me a champion of Thy Cause and one who speaketh Thy praise.

O Lord! I am he who hath turned toward Thee, yet found not, through what the hands of the oppressors have wrought, an opportunity commensurate with that which would quench the thirst of remoteness with the Kawthar of Thy nearness and the burning of separation with the ocean of Thy reunion. I moreover beseech Thee, O Lord of eternity and Sovereign of nations, to ordain for me that which befitteth Thy grace and favors and to decree for me that which is best in Thy sight. Thou art indeed the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

Then cause me, O my God, to soar in Thy atmosphere and to be detached from all else but Thee. Then give me to drink from the Salsabil of Thy Revelation, whereof if one partaketh, the cawing of the infidels shall have no effect upon him. I have laid hold on the cord of Thy bounties and clung to the hem of Thy favors, gazing toward Thy grace and awaiting the wonders of Thy bestowals.

Every limb of my body testifieth that Thou art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest. None can frustrate Thy command or prevent Thy decree. Thy Will hath encompassed all created things and Thy Purpose all contingent beings. The onslaught of the wicked cannot disable Thee, nor can the tyranny of the ungodly weaken Thee. Thou hast been supreme over all who are in earth and heaven and wilt continue to be as Thou hast been from time immemorial. There is none other God but Thee, the Most Exalted, the Almighty, the All-Glorious, the All-Wise.

Cast upon me then, O my God, patience in my separation from Thee and tranquility in my remoteness from Thee, that I may be content with what hath been ordained by the Pen of Thy decree in the Tablets of Thy determination. Thou art verily the Almighty, the Most Exalted, the All-Powerful, the All-Wise.

BH02117: Is it befitting to pause after the Beloved calleth…

He is the Most Great, the Most Ancient

Is it befitting to pause after the Beloved calleth out with the tongue of His Own Manifestation, saying: “Hasten with your hearts unto the court of your Lord, the Mighty, the All-Bountiful”? Nay, by His very truth! Rather must every soul arise and say: “I believe in Thee, O Thou in Whose hand are the reins of all created things!”

O Muhammad-ʿAli! When thou hearest the Call from the Divine Lote-Tree raised upon the crimson hill, the seat of tribulation—God, there is none other God but He, the Mighty, the Powerful, the Unconstrained—this is not the day for silence. Arise to praise thy Lord amongst His servants. This is the day whereon the trees have spoken, the leaves have cried out, and the tongue of thy Lord’s will hath spoken in the kingdom of names. The sovereignty belongeth unto God, the One, the Powerful, the Mighty, the All-Forgiving.

Blessed is the eye that hath turned to the Most Sublime Vision, the face that hath turned to the Dayspring of Power, and the heart that hath been illumined by the lights of this Lamp. Leave creation behind thee and summon the servants unto the Cause which hath dawned and shone forth from the horizon of thy Lord’s will, the Revealer of verses.

Silence is praiseworthy except in the remembrance of thy Lord. Loose thy tongue in utterance to remember thy Lord, the All-Merciful. Thus doth the Most Exalted Pen command thee from the presence of God, the One, the Mighty, the Compelling. The tongue was created for these days. Beware lest thou restrain it through vain imaginings. Speak forth in praise of thy Lord in such wise as to attract the spirits.

It behooveth every soul in this day, when hearing the Call from the Most Exalted Horizon, to turn unto it and say: “Here am I, O Cleaver of the dawn!” Beware lest anything prevent thee from the remembrance of thy Lord. Stand firm through God’s power and might, then reflect upon God’s Messengers and what

transpired in the past. Then shalt thou find thyself immersed in the ocean of certitude. This is the horizon from which hath shone forth the Sun of Certitude. By My life! If thou gazest with the eye of the heart, thou shalt see certitude itself circling round thy Lord's will, the All-Merciful.

Thus have We revealed unto thee that thou mayest arise to aid thy Lord amidst all creation. Give thanks unto God for having sent down unto thee this Tablet from whose horizon hath shone the sun of wisdom and utterance. If thou recite it with the melody of the heart, it will attract thee to a station where thou wilt soar with longing and arise to help Him in such wise that through thee the breezes of the Divine Vesture will be wafted to all regions.

Emerge from the horizon of certitude in the name of the Lord of Religions. Say: O peoples of the worlds! The divine fragrance hath wafted and the Promised One hath come with sovereignty and power. By God! This Prisoner desireth from this Tablet naught but thy mention and what is best for thee, and desireth naught but what God hath desired, and desireth for Himself naught but what hath been revealed in the Tablets.

Know thou the worth of this bounty, then turn and say:

> "Praise be unto Thee, O God of Names and Creator of heaven, for having remembered me through the tongue of the Dawning-Place of Thy Cause while He was wronged in the hands of the wicked ones. I beseech Thee by the Most Great Name which Thou hast made the ruler over all names, to aid me in Thy love and in helping Thy Cause and in detachment in Thy path in such wise that there may appear from me what befitteth Thy Cause. Then ordain for me what is best for me. Verily, Thou art the Powerful over what Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the Mighty, the Help in Peril."

BH02138: O Mim! Hearken unto the Call from the Divine…

He is the Most Great, the Most Ancient, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious

O Mim! Hearken unto the Call from the Divine Lote-Tree planted upon the crimson hill, from the Lord of Destiny. Verily there is none other God but Him, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting.

The door hath been closed by thy Lord's command, then opened through His Name, the Mighty, the Beloved. Reflect upon what hath befallen the Dawning-Place of thy Lord's power, the Mighty, the Inaccessible. The matter hath reached such a pass that We were prevented from approaching the door from which no seeker was ever barred nor any pilgrim ever turned away. This is what We mention outwardly, but inwardly the door was never closed nor shall it ever be closed, by My Name whereby We have subdued all creation.

Say: This is a door before which every possessor of a mighty throne doth stand, a station wherein the Faithful Spirit rendereth service. By God! Were thou to hearken with the ear of inner nature, thou wouldst hear its atoms proclaim: "The Beloved of the mystics hath appeared!" Were the Most Exalted Pen to move perpetually by thy Lord's leave, the Lord of Names, in description of this most exalted

station and this spot wherefrom the sweetest of all calls hath been raised, it would find itself still at the beginning of its description. Thus doth thy Lord teach thee from this glorious vista.

O Ha! Hearken once again unto the Call from the Divine Lote-Tree which hath been raised by God's leave, the Lord of Names. Verily there is none other God but Me, the Almighty, the Powerful. Blessed is he who hath truly hearkened—verily he is of the people of Baha, inscribed in a Tablet sealed by this luminous Finger. And he who hath heard hath cast the world behind him and names to his left, turning with a most pure heart toward the station which God hath made the seat of this mighty Throne. Thus hath the Pen of Eternity moved by command of the Creator of Heaven upon this Tablet adorned with the ornament of thy Lord's loving-kindness, the All-Forgiving, the Merciful.

Give thanks unto God for having adorned thy head with His wise remembrance and thy temple with the garment of His favors. Verily He ordaineth as He pleaseth. We counsel thee to remain steadfast in this Cause whereby all who dwell in the kingdom of names were thunderstruck, save those whom the hand of grace did seize by My leave, the Mighty, the Wondrous. Thus hath the Pen sprinkled upon thee from the ocean of thy Lord's loving-kindness. When thou attainest, say:

> "Praise be unto Thee, O God of the worlds, for having turned toward me the gaze of Thy favor and mentioned me when I was immersed in an ocean of sorrows through what befell Thee at the hands of the oppressors."

O Pen! Take hold thy reins. By God! We behold existence thunderstruck at this moment by Thy mention and utterance. Among them We see some who have been seized by the wine of thy Lord's utterance, and others seized by the throes of death from the sweet fragrances of the Spirit. Thus hath a portion been ordained for every soul from thy Lord's Book, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. Behold how that which was the cause of life became the cause of death. When thou knowest this station, thou wilt understand the mysteries of thy Lord's word according to thy measure. Verily He is the Expositor of all things, and with Him is a preserving Book.

O Dal! Give thanks unto God and praise Him for having honored thee with His presence, admitted thee before His throne, and caused thee to dwell near Him. Thus doth He single out whom He willeth by a command from His presence. Verily He is the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

BH02167: In the Name of Him Who speaketh between earth…

In the Name of Him Who speaketh between earth and heaven! This is an epistle from the All-Bestowing to him who hath believed in God, the Lord of Lords, and attained unto the Most Great Ocean when it surged through this Name which God hath made to prevail over all who are in the lands.

We revealed the Bayan for this Revelation through which the worlds were illumined. But when the appointed time came and the Revealer of verses appeared, the people were seized by the doubts of those who denied God, the Lord of the Beginning and the End. Some doubted His Cause, while others denied this Hour from which all hours have dawned.

Say: Is the knowledge of the Hour with you, or with your Lord in His Book? None on earth can comprehend His knowledge—to this testifieth every discerning knower. Say: Every hour hath appeared through His command and every resurrection hath been raised up through His sovereignty which hath encompassed all possibility.

Do ye seek through what ye possess to draw near unto this Fire which hath been kindled from the Tree that hath been raised in the most exalted station? By My life! What was revealed in the Bayan sufficeth you not today except through this Revelation, at whose appearance the Cock of the Throne crowed and the Tongue of Grandeur proclaimed: "The Kingdom belongeth unto God, the One, the All-Powerful, the All-Forgiving!"

The Bayan hath informed you of the loftiness of this Revelation—behold, O ye who are endued with insight! He said:

> "Beware lest ye be veiled by what is in the Bayan from this Revelation shining forth upon the horizons. Whosoever seeketh to know Me through aught else than what was revealed by Me is indeed the most veiled of all creation before the Self-Sufficient, the Most High. Whosoever desireth to behold Me must behold Me through Mine own eyes."

Thus was the matter decreed in the Tablets.

Say: Fear God and make not what ye possess the standard for this Light that hath shone forth from the horizon of certitude. Every measure hath appeared through His command, and through Him the Path hath appeared and the Balance been set up. None may test the Lord—rather doth He test whom He willeth through His sovereignty. He is indeed the All-Powerful, the Unconstrained. Were anyone to read what was revealed in the Bayan, he would surely weep at what hath befallen the Wronged One from the daysprings of darkness.

O Karim! Thy letter hath come before the All-Bountiful, and We have answered thee with this Tablet from which the Light of the Cause hath shone forth with power and sovereignty. Give thanks unto God for having sent unto thee in every year the proof and testimony of God, and for having mentioned thy name while He was in the hands of the wicked.

Grieve not at the hardships of the world—greater ones have befallen Us. Be patient even as thy Lord was patient. He is indeed the Mighty, the All-Patient. Arise to serve Him amongst the people—this beseemeth thee and those who have turned unto the Qiblih of humanity. Blessed art thou for having attained unto the mention of thy Lord and for having voiced His praise amongst the servants. The glory be upon thee and upon those with thee who have stood firm in the Cause and fulfilled the Covenant.

Then remember thy family from the Wronged One. Say: Remember when thou wert in the house before thy Lord, the Mighty, the All-Bestowing, and heard His sweetest call as the breezes of revelation wafted from behind the veil. Thus did We bestow Our favor upon thee when the Luminary of the horizons was in Iraq.

BH02133: O thou who gazest upon the Countenance! Hearken…

He is the Most Holy, the Most Mighty, the Most Exalted

O thou who gazest upon the Countenance! Hearken to the call of the Stranger when He was crucified upon the cross through that which the hands of the wicked ones who had not tasted the sweetness of faith nor drunk the choice wine of life in the days of their All-Merciful Lord had wrought. That which thou didst send hath come before Us. Blessed art thou for having desired to make mention of thyself in the presence of the Wronged One while He was in the hands of the wicked ones. Grieve not at this, but know thou and be assured that neither the plotting of those who have disbelieved nor the treachery of those who have turned away from God, the Lord of all beings, can harm Us.

We summon the servants in all conditions unto the Self-Sufficient, the Most High. Be thou steadfast with the steadfastness of thy Lord, then walk in His footsteps with wisdom. Thus doth thy Lord, the Mighty, the Bestower, command thee. Make mention of those around thee on My behalf and give them the glad-tidings of thy Lord's loving-kindness, the Lord of creation.

If thou seest Ali, glorify him on My behalf. Say: Blessed art thou for having been faithful to the Covenant. He remembereth those who have turned unto Him and nothing escapeth His grasp. He doeth what He willeth and ordaineth what He pleaseth. Hold fast unto the cord of wisdom amidst all people and place thy trust in Him. He is with those who have turned unto Him and He is the Friend of the righteous.

We love to make mention of those who have become strangers in the path of God and who have wandered through the lands in His love. The glance of loving-kindness hath been directed towards you and His grace is with you, O concourse of the loved ones! Give thanks for the Pen having moved to make mention of you after the Ancient Beauty was in the most desolate of lands.

If thou seest Mim give him the glad-tidings of his Lord's mention of him, the Ancient One. Say: Remember when thou wert present before the Countenance and didst hear that which the Tongue of God, the Mighty, the Generous, did speak. Grieve not at being a stranger—thy home is in My presence. We testify that ye are among those who dwell beneath His shadow. Rejoice at God's testimony, for naught in the heavens or on earth can equal it. Then remain steadfast in what thou art and glorify thy Lord with praise at all times. Forget not God's bounties and favors.

Be mindful of the tales of this Stranger, then give Ha the glad-tidings of that which the Supreme Pen hath moved with, that he may rejoice within himself and be of the thankful ones. We make mention of the loved ones of God in the prison and enjoin them to fear God in the kingdom of creation, though the idolaters oppose Us.

O servant! Hearken unto the call from this Spot that hath been raised between earth and heaven. Verily there is no God but Him, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting. Be thou steadfast in the service of thy Lord and act according to that which thou hast been commanded by the Truth, the Knower of the unseen. Begin thy day with the remembrance and praise of God, then end it with this praised Name. Would that thou knewest the state in which thy Lord, the Mighty, the Loving, calleth thee! By My life! Were it to be

revealed thou wouldst lament, but the matter hath been concealed through that which hath been inscribed in a preserved tablet.

We beseech God to assist you in His service and His good-pleasure and to guide through you those servants who have wandered in the wilderness of heedlessness and were of the deluded ones. Praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH02147: The Most Holy, Most Exalted, Most Great! A remembrance…

The Most Holy, Most Exalted, Most Great! A remembrance from Us to those in the kingdom of command and creation, that they may hear the call of their Lord, the Most High, from this Tree which hath been raised up by the command of God, the Lord of Names. Thus hath the matter been decreed in a Tablet from whose horizon hath shone the Sun of Command from the presence of One mighty and wise.

O servant! Hearken unto that which is revealed unto thee from the uttermost Tree upon the luminous spot. Verily, there is none other God but He, the Almighty, the Most High, the Great. Behold Me with Mine eye—thus hast thou been commanded in the Tablets from the presence of thy Lord, the Mighty, the All-Knowing.

Were anyone to ponder what hath flowed from the Pen of the All-Merciful in this wise Remembrance, he would know what none hath known save whom thy Lord willeth, and would turn with his most luminous countenance toward the Most Sublime Vision and say:

> "I have turned my face unto Thee, O Lord of the worlds!"

This is a matter the like of which hath not appeared in creation. By My life, this is indeed the wonder of the heavens and earth! Say: Ponder ye upon this innovation that ye may discover what your Lord hath intended in this luminous Tablet.

This is not the day of desires—burn them with the fire of the love of your Lord, the Self-Sufficient, the Most High. Arise to serve the Cause by the leave of God, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. And this is not the day of idle fancies—rend their veils asunder by the name of your Lord, the Almighty, the Powerful. The Beloved hath appeared in such wise that the horizons are illumined thereby. Blessed be He Who hath sent Him with the truth with a manifest sovereignty. Is it fitting to tarry when all things have been set in motion by the breezes of revelation? Fear ye God and follow not those who have disbelieved in God, the Lord of the Day of Judgment.

Were anyone to inhale the tablet of his Lord, he would discover therefrom the fragrance of His glorious and wondrous garment. And were he to turn with the ear of his innate nature unto all things, he would hear from them:

> "The appointed time hath come—dominion belongeth unto God, the Mighty, the Peerless."

It behooveth every soul to abandon what is possessed by the people, turning unto God, the One, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy.

We had sent thee aforetime a noble Book wherein was revealed that which illumined existence. Verily thy Lord is the Forgiving, the Bountiful. Hearken unto the call of Him Who summoneth thee in the prison unto God, thy Lord, and be thou of the discerning. He desireth for no one save what is best for him—to this doth testify the Most Exalted Pen which speaketh the truth while in the hands of the oppressors.

When thou hast attained unto the lights of the Tablet, turn toward the Most Sublime Horizon. Say: O Lord of Names and Ruler over all things! I beseech Thee by Thy Name through which the Kingdom was adorned and the Realm of Might was embellished, to aid me to turn toward the Kaaba of Thy Beauty and to stand firm in Thy love and Thy Cause. Then write down for me what is best for me. I know not what is within Thy Self, and Thou art the All-Knowing, the All-Encompassing. O my Lord! Ordain for me what Thou hast ordained for Thy chosen ones and decreed for Thy loved ones. O my Lord! Thou seest mine eyes fixed upon the horizon of Thy favors and my heart turned toward the wonders of Thy grace and bounties. I beseech Thee to make me one of those who aid Thy Cause, who arise to serve Thee, who rest beneath the canopy of Thy mercy, and who are tranquil through the lights of the Sun of Thy Beauty. Verily, Thou art powerful over what Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the Mighty, the Beautiful.

BH02136: O Most Exalted Pen! Make mention of the loved…

He is the Everlasting through His own everlasting Self

O Most Exalted Pen! Make mention of the loved ones of God in the land of Ta [Tehran] who have not been deterred in the path of God by the censure of any critic, nor by the intimations of any misbeliever, nor by the turning away of those who were in manifest delusion. Hearken to My call from the direction of My Most Great Name, which speaketh from this remote station. We counsel you with the most sublime call, whereby the Cause of God, the Lord of Names, may be exalted. He, verily, is the All-Knowing Expositor. Hold fast unto what is good and vie ye with one another in good deeds. Thus have ye been commanded by God, the Lord of the worlds.

Blessed are your hearts for what they have recognized, your hands for what they have grasped, your tongues for what they have testified, your faces for having turned, your eyes for what they have beheld, and your ears for having heard My most sweet call which hath been raised from this luminous spot, the station which God hath made the seat of His mighty throne. Ye are they who have outstripped all others in creation in turning towards My most exalted horizon. Blessed is the river that hath attained unto you and the houses from which your voices have been raised in remembrance of God, the Goal of them that know. The first counsel We have enjoined upon Our loved ones in the Book is the Most Great Steadfastness. Blessed is he who hath held fast unto it and attained its pure wine through My Name, the All-Compelling, the Almighty, the All-Powerful.

God willing, may all the friends partake with the utmost joy and fragrance of the wine of divine revelation—a partaking that knoweth no end and whose thirst shall never seize it. And likewise may they be ignited by the fire of the divine Word—an ignition that shall know no cooling nor experience extinction. All must, through divine assistance and in perfect unity, gather at the table of the love of the All-Merciful, regard their aims as one and their purposes as united, vie with one another in service, and

exert their utmost endeavor. I swear by the pure hearts and upright souls that these mentioned matters are of benefit to the world of good repute as water is to earth.

His honor Siyyid Ali-Akbar, upon him be the Glory of God, is among those souls who have turned to the most exalted horizon and received their portion from the Sun of inner meanings. They have drunk repeatedly from the ocean of reunion and attained the lights of the Divine Countenance, and have taken their share time and again from the cup of trials in the path of the love of God, exalted be His glory and might. Therefore, let those souls who have taken shelter beneath the Divine Lote-Tree and are free and detached from the world and all therein strive to improve his affairs. We counsel those who have drunk of the Living Waters to look after his affairs according to their capacity. He is verily the Trusted Teacher.

At present they dwell in the Prison-land and circle round the Throne. O My loved ones! Take hold of My Book with the power bestowed by Us and place your trust in the One, the All-Informed. We behold from Our most exalted horizon those who have arisen to act according to what was ordained in My perspicuous Book. God willing, may all the loved ones of God be enabled to act according to His good-pleasure.

Let Jinab-i-Aqa Muhammad-Rahim and Aqa Abdul-Husayn exert their utmost endeavor in what hath been mentioned. The Glory be upon you all.

BH02162: Commemoration of the anniversary of the Birthday of the Bab

In the Name of the One Begotten Whom God hath designated the Herald of His Name, the All-Glorious, the All-Loving!

This is a Tablet from Our presence to glorify the Night in which heavens and earth were illumined by the Day-Star whose effulgent splendour hath encompassed the dwellers of the whole world.

Immeasurably blessed art thou, inasmuch as the Day of God hath been born in thee—the Day which hath been singled out by Us to be the lamp of salvation unto the denizens of the cities of names, the chalice of blissfulness for such as dwell within the immensities of the realm of immortality and the source of joy and gladness unto all the inmates of the world of creation.

Immensely exalted is God, the Maker of the heavens, Who hath caused His Day to raise its voice in glorification of this Name whereby the veils of delusion have been rent asunder and the mists of idle fancy dissipated, whereby the Name of Him Who is the Self-Subsistent hath shone resplendent above the horizon of assurance. The choice wine of everlasting life hath, on this Day, been unsealed and the doors of true knowledge and utterance were unlocked before the face of all the inmates of the realm of existence and the breeze of divine mercy been wafted upon all regions. All glory be unto this Hour wherein the Treasure of God, the Potent, the Knowing, the Wise, hath been unveiled.

O peoples of earth and heavens! Verily God hath made the First Night a token for the Latter Night in which hath been born the One Whom no human mind can comprehend, Whom no expression of praise can magnify. Well is it with him who pauseth to reflect upon these Twin Nights. Indeed he would readily recognize that the outer form doth conform with the inner reality and would become acquainted with the

divine mysteries that lie enshrined in this Revelation—a Revelation through whose potency the foundations of disbelief have quaked and the idols of superstition have been dumbfounded and the banner bearing the proclamation:

> "Verily, no God is there but Him, the Powerful, the Pre-Eminent, the Peerless, the Incomparable, the Sovereign Protector, the Mighty, the Most Exalted"

hath been unfurled.

This is the Night in which the fragrance of reunion hath been diffused, in which the portals leading unto the divine presence were, in fulfilment of the ultimate objective, flung open and all created things did proclaim: "Verily, the Kingdom is God's, the Lord of Names, He Who is come invested with such sovereignty as pervadeth the whole creation".

This is the Night in which the Concourse on High have celebrated the praise of their Lord, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious, in which the realities of all names have, in recognition of the glory of His Revelation, magnified the Name of Him Who is the sovereign Ruler of this world and of the world to come—a Revelation which hath caused the mountains to wing their flight unto the All-Possessing, the Most Exalted, through Whose power men have set their hearts towards the countenance of the Beloved and the leaves are stirred by the gentle winds of deep longing and the trees, enraptured by the ringing Call of the Almighty, have lifted up their voice and the whole creation is vibrating with ecstasy in its eagerness to attain the presence of the Lord of eternity and all created things were called into being through the potency of the hidden Word which this glorious Name hath disclosed.

O Night of the All-Bountiful! In thee We discern the revelation of the Mother Book. We wonder whether it is a begotten child or a revealed Book. Nay, I swear by Myself; whatever hath been mentioned is but a matter of names, whereas God hath immeasurably exalted Him above this station. Through Him hath the Unknowable been made manifest and the impenetrable Mystery laid bare. Nay, by My life! All that hath been uttered is indicative of the station of designations, whereof He in truth is the sovereign Ruler. Through Him hath the letter of negation preceded that of affirmation. Nay, this is mentioned in proportion to the capacity of the peoples of the world, while in the estimation of thy Lord no one's ear but His Own is capable of hearing it. Well is it with them that are well-assured.

Thereupon Our Pen of Glory cried out, dumbfounded:

> "O Thou Whom names fail to describe! Forgive me, I adjure Thee by Thy might which transcendeth beyond the earth and the heavens. Wherefore I have been fashioned through the potency of Thy creative power, how can I describe that which no word throughout the realm of creation can describe? And yet, I swear by Thy glory, were I to express that which Thou hast divinely inspired me, the entire creation would be consumed away by reason of the ecstasy and exaltation it would experience. How much mightier then must be the waves of the ocean of Thine utterance which surge forth in praise of this sublime station, this exalted and transcendent habitation. O Lord! I beg Thee to forgive the incapacity of this tongue-tied Pen in magnifying the glory of this august station. Treat me then mercifully, O my Possessor and my King and excuse the things I have done amiss in Thy presence."

Verily, Thou art the Lord of Bounty, the Omnipotent, the Ever-Forgiving, the Most Generous.

BH02232: This is a remembrance from the One Who…

He is the Most Holy, the Most Ancient

This is a remembrance from the One Who is mentioned unto him who hath remembered his Lord and was of those who have advanced, and who emigrated from his native land out of longing to attain the presence of God until he arrived at the pavilion of grandeur and the Sun of the Beauty of Oneness shone upon him with manifest light. Glad tidings unto thee, O Ahmad, for having journeyed and attained unto the presence of thy Lord, the Most Exalted, the Most Great. Give thanks unto God for having aided thee to recognize the Dawning-Place of His Cause and for having caused thee to hear His wondrous Call.

Although thou didst present thyself before receiving permission from thy Lord, yet God hath pardoned what is past as a bounty to thy father, who is among Our sincere servants. Be thankful that We have accepted thy visitation and presence before thy Lord, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy. We have inscribed for thee a station in the Tablet. Verily thy Lord is the All-Bountiful, the Ancient of Days.

Return to thy homeland by God's command and decree, and be not of the hesitating ones. When thou seest thy father, convey unto his face the greetings of this Wronged One, the Peerless. Say: Blessed art thou for having remained steadfast in thy love for thy Lord and for having voiced His praise after He was imprisoned in this distant place. Blessed be thy face for having turned, and thy heart for having advanced, and thy tongue for having uttered His beauteous praise. Say, O Javad: God willing, through the bounty of the Lord of creation thou shalt ever voice the remembrance of the All-Merciful and attain His endless outpourings.

At all times strive mightily for unity among the loved ones of God, that perchance the idols of vain imaginings and differences may be shattered and the standards of unity and harmony may be raised. This is what is beloved in the sight of the Beloved of the worlds. The gaze of His loving-kindness hath ever been fixed upon those souls who have turned to the countenance of their Lord. He hath not wished, nor doth He wish, that they should be deprived of the Dawning-Place of the lights of oneness through human fancies.

If thou shouldst meet the letter Jim, say: Dost thou know by what proof thou didst advance and then by what evidence thou didst turn away from the All-Merciful? Nay, by His very Self, the Truth! Thou knowest not, and We see thee among the veiled ones. Hear My words, then look at this Revelation and what hath appeared from it, detached from all thou hast heard. By God, thou wouldst then cast aside what thou hast and turn toward the court of thy Lord's grace, saying: "I have turned unto Thee, O Lord of the worlds!" Thy likeness is as those who cast the Most Great Ocean behind their backs and gathered around a pond. Verily thy Lord is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. He who led thee astray is in the fire. Soon shall he who misled him join him. Thus hath the matter been decreed in a luminous Book.

O Javad! Convey to all the loved ones the greetings from the True One. Blessed is he who hath been named Servant-before-Hadi; he is among the triumphant ones. Since previously Tablets were revealed and sent to all specially, therefore at this time none hath been revealed specially, but they have been and

are in mind. This is the essence, and thy Lord is the All-Merciful, the Most Compassionate. May the glory rest upon thee and upon those who are with thee and those who have turned unto thee for the sake of God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy.

BH02222: Your letter hath come before Our presence, and this…

Your letter hath come before Our presence, and this is its beginning: “That which hath been apportioned from the burning of the heart…” Who am I that I should hearken unto that which the Tongue of Eternity speaketh? Be thou of them that render thanks.

Verily, thou art he whom We guided to the right shore, and inscribed upon his brow with the Pen of Eternity “This is a believer art thou,” and called him from the Divine Lote-Tree “Thou art,” and gave him to drink from the Kawthar of recognition by the hand of grace “Thou art,” and fed him the heavenly repast “Thou art,” and rained upon him the showers of bounty “Thou art,” and adorned him with the ornament of turning unto the Mighty, the Exalted “Thou art,” and sheltered him in the pavilion of munificence and generosity “Thou art,” and brought him into the precincts of the Throne “Thou art,” and removed for him the veils of grandeur from the countenance of Beauty “Thou art,” and brought him before Our presence “Thou art,” and caused him to hear Our most sweet call “Thou art,” and manifested Ourselves unto him with the lights of the Countenance face to face “Thou art,” and made him speak forth Our remembrance amongst the servants “Thou art,” and made him a herald of Our Cause “Thou art,” and sheltered him in prison for eighty-one days “Thou art,” and concealed his face from the enemies “Thou art.” Thus did My grace precede thee and My mercy encompass thee. None can outstrip Us in anything. We are the Ever-Forgiving, the All-Merciful.

It hath been proven with evidence that thou hast no way by proof to establish against the All-Merciful even less than can be counted what would withhold His grace from thee. However, his honor Nabil came to the shore of the Most Great Sea before Ali and was deprived through the tyranny of the oppressors. I swear by the Ancient Beauty that his outward deprivation and the burning fire of separation in his most great heart exceeded a thousand years of worship. In any case, they have some right—nay, I seek God’s forgiveness for this—this is pure grace that is mentioned.

That which hath appeared from the presence of the Truth hath been and shall ever be beloved of those near unto God. If the fire of separation be not kindled, the Kawthar of nearness and reunion will not flow. Praise be to the Beloved of the worlds Who, through His grace, accepted him and made him a place for the manifestation of calamities and trials in His path, and sanctified him from occupation with the world and all that is therein, strengthening him to turn toward the shore of nearness until he traversed the stages and attained the presence before the Throne and won the meeting with God.

Remind Abdullah and the father of Abad of the fragrances of the spiritual garment that wafted from the ancient realm, and convey greetings on behalf of God. May Khalil and Asad ever repose beneath the shadow of the Friend and conduct themselves with perfect wisdom, lest a word arise and become the cause of sedition. And the Glory be upon them both and upon her who hath turned toward the realm of oneness. Verily We have accepted from her what she intended in the path of her Lord. She is among the devout ones before the Throne. Thy Lord is, verily, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

His honor the Master must be joyful in all conditions, for praise be to God, he turned toward the divine court and dwelt in the vicinity of the Truth.

BH02267: O Most Exalted Pen! We have sent down…

He is the Most Holy, the Most Mighty, the Most Great

O Most Exalted Pen! We have sent down for thee in every condition that which sufficeth the worlds. Blessed art thou for having arisen to promote the Cause in such wise that the tyranny of the oppressors hath failed to deter thee. We behold thee speaking at all times in praise of thy Lord, even after thou wert imprisoned among the silent ones. And We see thee possessed of sight amidst the blind, and standing firm among those who sit. Through thee was raised the shrill voice of every pen and every wise decree was expounded. Through thee were hearts drawn to the Beloved, and the hearts of lovers were set ablaze with the fire of separation, and the Face illumined the horizons. Verily thou art among those who are firmly established.

How long wilt thou gallop in the arena of utterance? Dost thou see any who would race with thee? By My life, We behold thee bewildered in reply, gazing to the left and to the right. O Pen, recount unto the Lord of Eternity: We behold thee bearing all tribulations and afflictions, yet never ceasing from utterance in remembrance of the All-Merciful. Dost thou make mention of Him for love of those on earth or of Him Who created it? Tell Me truly, for verily thou art the Truthful, the Trusted One.

How can I mention, O my God, my condition, knowing well that Thou art the All-Knowing, the All-Informed? The fingers of Thy Will move me, and Thy prevailing Purpose directeth me throughout all worlds. O My Pen! Tell Me what thou hast, for thou beholdest Me a stranger among the oppressors. None is there to speak with Me of that which would gladden Me in this Most Great, Most Mighty Cause.

O My Pen! We have heard from thee diverse melodies and countless strains. Hast thou a melody whereby the world would be attracted and every mouldering bone be quickened, such that nothing would remain save that it would hasten unto thee and turn toward this luminous horizon? O my Lord! No power have I before the manifestations of Thy might, nor any knowledge before the surgings of the ocean of Thy knowledge. All things are dependent on Thy Will and conditioned by Thy Purpose. I testify that Thou art the All-Knowing, the All-Powerful, the Almighty.

Were I to find a hearing ear, I would manifest what lieth within Thy knowledge, for verily Thou art the One Who ruleth as He pleaseth. Where are the attentive ears that would hear what is sent down at every moment from the Kingdom of Utterance? And where are the eyes that would behold Thy bright and wondrous countenance? By My life, that hath been revealed which hath caused the Kingdom of Verses to quake, yet the people are in evident remoteness. Thus doth the Dove warble in this dark night. Blessed are they who hear.

O thou who hast turned to God! Hearken unto the call of the Wronged One when sorrows encompass Him. Verily there is no God but Him, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting. In this state He summoneth all unto the Mighty, the Beloved. Be as thy Lord was, in such wise that no mention would prevent thee from His mention, nor any description from His description. Make mention of His praise amongst His servants

and be of those who remember Him. This is better for thee than all that is in the heavens and earths. And say: Praise be to God, the Lord of all worlds.

BH02271: O Mihdi! Upon which land thou mayest be…

He is the Most Mighty, the Most Mighty

O Mihdi! Upon which land thou mayest be, the glory of God, the Lord of what hath been and what shall be, rest upon thee. Thy letter hath reached the Throne, and We have heard that whereby thou didst call upon God, the Omnipotent, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting. We are in a state that cannot be compared with any other state. We make mention of thee—this is God's bounty unto thee. He, verily, is the Mighty, the Forgiving. We beseech God to make thee a sign of My joy amongst His servants, in such wise that neither the affairs of creation nor the deeds of them that have disbelieved in God, the Mighty, the Beloved, may sadden thee or trouble thee. That which thou hast sent are the words of thy Lord. This behooveth thee and those who have been moved by the fragrances of this praiseworthy Name. We beseech God to aid thee under all conditions to make mention of Him among His servants and to spread His Cause throughout His lands. This behooveth Us and thee and the people of Baha who are established upon the Ark—they, verily, are safe and secure.

O Jud! The Desired One maketh mention of thee from this praiseworthy station. This is from the bounty of God, thy Lord, the Mighty, the Loving. That which thou didst send aforetime hath reached Our presence, and We have read thy letter which thou didst send to the servant who standeth before the Throne, and We have been informed of its contents. Thy Lord, verily, is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. Grieve thou not over anything. He, verily, will suffice thee in truth, and He is the Protector of the sincere ones. There hath reached Our presence the letter sent from Ha unto the people of Za, and it hath been read in this noble Scene. We beseech God to assist them both to serve Him and obey Him, and to grant them the good of this world and the next. He, verily, is the Mighty, the Generous. They are remembered at the Most Glorious Horizon. Blessed are they and those who have turned towards God, the Goal of all mankind.

O Muhammad! The All-Praised One maketh mention of thee from the presence of God, the One, the Single. That which thou didst send hath reached the Throne, and the glorification hath been honored by the fingers of thy Lord, the Single, the Self-Subsisting. Be thou thankful unto thy Lord for this. He, verily, is the Mighty, the Trustworthy.

O Nabil, son of Nabil! The glory of thy Glorious Lord be upon thee. There hath come unto Us that whereby the Friend and they that circle round the Throne of thy Lord, the Omnipotent, the Mighty, the Glorious, have lamented. Thou didst visit the Throne in thy early days and didst attain the presence of thy Lord, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy. That which was sent from thy presence hath been honored in the court of thy Lord, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. We beseech God to ordain for thee that which shall gladden thine eyes and to make thee one of those whose faces are illumined by the lights of this resplendent Dawn. Grieve not over what hath befallen Us. We were created for tribulation. Thy Lord, verily, is the All-Patient, the All-Forbearing.

O Javad! Convey the greetings from Us to them that have believed in God, thy Lord and the Lord of all worlds. Then make mention of those who were in the land of Sin (China) and give them glad tidings of the favors of their Lord, the Forgiving, the Merciful. The glory be upon thee and upon them and upon those who have stood firm in this Cause whereby the lands were shaken, the servants were confounded, and the faces of the false ones were darkened.

BH02295: O Abu'l-Hasan! Hearken unto the Call from the direction…

In His Name, the All-Remembering, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed

O Abu'l-Hasan! Hearken unto the Call from the direction of the Ancient of Days, from the tongue of thy Lord, the Knower of the hidden and the manifest. Verily, there is none other God but Me, the Mighty, the Wise. We have guided thee to the Most Great Ocean and illumined thine eye by gazing upon the countenance of thy Lord, the Ancient of Days. We gave thee to drink of the purifying Kawthar when the Lord of Manifestation came with a sovereignty that encompassed the worlds. Our grace hath encompassed thee in such wise that We drew thee nigh unto the Dawning-Place of the beauty of thy Lord, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. We caused thee to enter the pavilion of grandeur and made thee to hear the call of thy Lord, the Possessor of earth and heaven. We revealed Ourselves unto thee even as We revealed Ourselves unto the Manifestations of the Names between earth and heaven. Verily thy Lord is the One Who doeth as He willeth. There is none other God but Him, the Mighty, the All-Knowing, the Wise.

We have set ablaze the heart of the world through the heat of the Word of thy Lord, the Ancient of Days. Blessed is he who hath turned towards Him, and woe betide them that have turned away. Hearken once again unto the call of thy Lord, the Most Glorious, from the Ultimate Lote-Tree: Verily, there is none other God but Me, the Mighty, the Bountiful. I have created all contingent beings through My Name, then raised them up through My sovereignty. I am, verily, powerful over whatsoever I will, yet most of the people are heedless. Thus have We seized all who are in the kingdom through the attraction of the verses of thy Lord and guided them to the Dayspring of the Cause. Blessed are they that have advanced towards it.

Be thou steadfast in the Cause in such wise that hearts may be attracted by thy call and faces may be illumined by the lights of thy countenance, which hath been kindled from the light of the face of thy Lord, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy. O Abu'l-Hasan! Give thanks for having been mentioned and for the revelation of this Tablet, the All-Compelling, the Mighty, the Inaccessible. Be thou at all times vocal in the remembrance of thy Lord, the All-Merciful, and be thou a proclaimer of this Name through which feet have slipped and all who are in the heavens and earth have been thunderstruck. Beware lest the doubts of the people of denial or the veils of those who have disbelieved in God, the Lord of all worlds, withhold thee.

We have created thee for My service and taught thee that wherewith We quickened hearts from time immemorial and whereby We shall resurrect every mouldering bone. Cast aside, in the name of thy Lord, whatsoever preventeth thee from the Lord of all creation, then be steadfast in His service amidst all peoples.

Thus doth it beseem one who hath clung to My Name, the All-Encompassing over all names. Thus doth the Creator of the heavens command thee, for thou art the First Word from this wondrous Line. Say: O people! This is the creation of God for all who are in the heavens and earth. Then convey My greetings to My loved ones who have been consumed by the fire of separation when they remember the Luminary of the horizons, and who, when Our verses come unto them, are set ablaze, hastening unto God, the Lord of all names. Then mention them through the wonders of Our remembrance, in every line of which lieth concealed an ocean from the oceans of life, from which We have distinguished this Name whereby all in the world were overturned, save whom thy Lord, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed, hath willed.

May the glory rest upon thee and upon those who have quaffed the purest wine and were assured of the signs of their Lord.

BH02264: The Most Holy, Most Exalted, Most Glorious, Most Luminous

The Most Holy, Most Exalted, Most Glorious, Most Luminous

O Javad! We have desired to cause the waters of everlasting life to flow for thee from this Tablet whereby the life of all in the realm of possibility hath been sustained. Thy Lord is, verily, the Mighty, the Powerful. And We have desired to give thee to drink of the choice wine—dost thou know from which cup, from this manifest cup? And to show thee the Ancient Beauty—dost thou know from which horizon, from this luminous horizon? And to cause thee to hear the Call—dost thou comprehend from which throat, from this most holy and wondrous Throat? And We have desired to attract thee—dost thou know by what thing, by this Word whereby all things have been attracted unto God, the Beloved of the worlds?

And We have ordained thy glory—dost thou know by what, by this ancient glory? We have caused rivers to gush forth for thee through this Great Name, and have opened doors before thy face through this Key which was fashioned by My wise remembrance. And We have sent unto thee the fragrance of musk—dost thou know from which direction, from this most mighty, impregnable and glorious Paradise? And We have wafted unto thee the sweet scents of the All-Merciful from this Branch suspended above the back of thy Lord, the Mighty, the All-Knowing. Then drink once again of the wine of immortality from this most sweet and subtle saliva. This is a Tablet whereby spirits take flight and the hearts of the sincere are drawn.

O Javad! The Lord of creation calleth thee from this manifest horizon. Seize thou the bounty of thy Lord and ponder upon that which hath been sent down unto thee from One Who is caring, merciful. Thou didst endure hardships in thy journey—verily thy Lord is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. Thou didst behold the waves of the sea and its grandeur and dominion; reflect thou then upon the waves of the sea of thy Lord's power, the Mighty, the Great. By My life! Were but a single wave from the waves of this sea to become manifest, it would cause all who are in the heavens and on earth to be drowned therein. The glance of grace hath ever been directed towards thee—He is, verily, the Mighty, the Generous. That which will gladden thy heart hath been ordained for thee in the Tablet. Grieve thou not over anything, but be thou among the joyous ones.

Behold the power of thy Lord, how He hath seized the foreigners through a sovereignty from His presence, and those who expelled Us from the Land of Mystery—verily He is possessed of mighty strength. Thus was it sent down aforetime in the Tablets, and when the appointed time came to pass, that which was inscribed therein was made manifest, that all might be assured that He is, verily, powerful over whatsoever He willeth. There is none other God but Him, the Most High, the Impregnable, the Almighty, the Peerless, the All-Informed. We opened the door in those days lest there occur again that which had occurred. Verily My mercy hath preceded all creation. Thus have We illumined the horizon of utterance with the lights of the Sun of the remembrance of the name of thy Lord, the Mighty, the All-Praised.

Glory be unto Thee, O Lord of existence and King of the seen and unseen! I beseech Thee by Him Who is the Purpose of the heavens and earth to protect Thy loved ones from those who have denied Thy proof and have warred against Thy Self. Then give to drink unto them that have professed Thy unity that which floweth at all times from the mouth of Thy bounty and the lips of Thy favors. Thou art, verily, powerful over whatsoever Thou pleasest. There is none other God but Thee, the Almighty, the Most High, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

BH02341: Thy letter hath attained the Most Great Success…

In His Name, the One Who abideth after the extinction of all things!

Thy letter hath attained the Most Great Success in that it hath come into the presence of this Scene, when We were encompassed by tribulations which none can reckon save the Mighty, the All-Knowing. We have read it and become acquainted with its contents, and We have heard thy yearning in separation. All things have been created for the meeting with God, yet when He appeared, every idolator and infidel denied Him, save those whom God preserved through His grace and aided to turn towards the Self-Sufficient, the Most High. The meeting hath diverse degrees—thus hath the matter been decreed in the Book. Among the people are those who attained the presence yet did not truly attain, and among them are those who remained in their homes yet received the decree of attainment from thy Lord, the Mighty, the Chosen One, through His word that revealeth all things and establisheth every matter. Verily He is the Ruler over whatsoever He willeth, and He is the Powerful, the Sovereign.

In the name of the Peerless Friend!

The letter which that honored one sent to this servant who is present before the Throne was noted, and the effect of the heart's burning heat in separation from the Dawning-Place of Oneness was perceived. All matters depend upon God's command, and whatsoever hath been revealed by the Pen of the Divine Command concerning any soul is firmly established in all the infinite divine worlds. For example, observe that from the beginning of the mention in the new Revelation, whatsoever was revealed concerning each soul remaineth mentioned until now and shall remain mentioned hereafter, and likewise it is mentioned and established in the infinite worlds. Verily He is knowing of all things and powerful over all things. Therefore that honored one should not be grieved, for the decree of nearness and meeting and presence before the Throne hath repeatedly been revealed specifically for that honored one from the Supreme Pen. Rejoice thou and be of those who are thankful.

In this year infinite tribulations have descended and the prison-land hath been witnessed in utmost upheaval and agitation. That which was foretold in previous Tablets hath manifestly come to pass from concealment. In view of these occurrences We did not summon thee before, and until now it hath remained postponed. Should God will and desire thy presence among creation, He will surely summon thee. He is the Protector of those who love Him. Verily He is the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. In any case that honored one should not be grieved, for all good hath been revealed in the Tablets concerning that honored one.

Observe how God hath seized those in the lands who transgressed against Our new Name when We sent it with a clear Tablet. We have clothed them with the garment of hunger and fear, for through them was established the foundation of tyranny. Then We shall seize him who was their source. Verily thy Lord is the Powerful, the Mighty. This is what was revealed in the Tablets aforetime, and We informed thereof the servants who followed the truth and were of the assured ones.

BH02318: O Taqi! You have interpreted what you interpreted regarding…

O Taqi! You have interpreted what you interpreted regarding your standing before the Gate and your presence in the seats of grandeur at the right hand of the Tree of Eternity, where upon the shore of the Divine Identity was planted the pavilion of the cloud, and the words of your Lord were fulfilled in the atmosphere of these allusions, and the meanings of your Creator's melody were defined in the inner essence of these symbols. And you, bear witness for yourself as I bore witness then for you that you obeyed God in all conditions and did not disobey Him and will never disobey Him should He will and desire. And there shall appear to you what was concealed in your heart, and there shall descend upon you what was ordained for you, for in His hand is the Kingdom of might and power, and He is powerful over all things.

The corner of the tavern of divine love is the resting place of the soul's abode, for the delicate, subtle soul soars only in the atmosphere of the Beloved and finds no dwelling place except the gathering place of the Friend. One must arise and advance with all one's soul and spirit to give thanks at all times to this Cupbearer of the wine of immortality. The meaning of this thanksgiving is a thanksgiving that purifies the ear from hearing outward lute and harp, that it may perceive the holy, spiritual melodies, and prevents the eye from beholding ephemeral, darkened outer beauty, that it may receive its portion from beholding the beauty of the Divine Identity.

Blessed is the ear that heareth from this divine Royal Falcon the celestial royal strain, and from this Iraqi Countenance heareth the melodies of mighty Hijaz, until his whole body becometh a spirit and his entire frame the dwelling and abode of the Beloved. But, I swear by God, none heareth and no soul perceiveth, for this divine flute needeth a plectrum of the essence of spirit, and this eternal harp requireth the melody of light—not these remote souls who have never tasted the wine of nearness nor drunk the water of reunion from the matchless fountain. They possess naught but pure fancy and find no eternal life save utter extinction. They have become slaves to self and remained cut off from the King of Kings; they have become servants of the body and remained heedless and veiled from the Lord of Lords.

But O Taqi, the breeze of thy love is sweeter than morning prayers, and thy sin more beloved than asking forgiveness. It was intended that all these stations be explained, but what was decreed has come to pass and therefore is complete and ended. For if all on earth were freed from veils, this single page would suffice them all, and all spiritual meanings are hidden as pearls in this divine ocean. Blessed are those servants who succeed in obtaining its pearls.

BH02340: The Tablet of Creation hath been adorned…

In the Name of God, the Most Great, the Most Glorious

The Tablet of Creation hath been adorned with the ornament of thy Lord's utterance, the Lord of Invention, and the Book of Revelation hath been embellished with this Remembrance, whereby the denizens of the Supreme Paradise were attracted, the dwellers of the cities of eternity were made joyous, and all who inhabit the Kingdom of Creation were thunderstruck, save those whom the hand of might and power did rescue, from One powerful and mighty and all-knowing.

Blessed is the soul that hath detached itself from all else but God and stood firm in assisting His Cause amongst the worlds. This is a Day wherein all atoms speak even as the Tongue of Grandeur and Glory hath spoken, yet most of the people remain heedless. The fragrance of the garment hath been diffused throughout the world, inasmuch as the Ancient Beauty hath appeared adorned with His Most Great Name. Blessed is he who hath turned and attained, and woe betide them that have turned away!

Say: Have ye occupied yourselves with the world after We have abandoned it to the dogs? Fear ye God and be not of them that are far removed. Hold fast unto that which profiteth you and follow not those who have denied God when He came with His sovereign Kingdom, the Inaccessible, the Mighty, the Impregnable. Their likeness is as the likeness of those who awaited the days of the Spirit, but when He came they turned away and denied God, the Lord of all worlds. Behold then and call to mind those who would invoke God at eventide and at dawn, and who awaited the days of the Luminary of the horizons, yet when He dawned from the vale of Mecca with the Kingdom of Names, they arose in opposition and objected to Him through Whom all religions were established amidst all creation. They are indeed among the most lost.

Blessed is the servant whom vain desires have not kept back from the Daystar of guidance, who hath cast away all else, turning unto God, the Lord of the throne on high and of the dust, and who, upon hearing the call from the Divine Lote Tree raised above the crimson spot, turned with his whole being and said: "Yea, O Beloved of the worlds!"

Thy letter hath come before the Wronged One in prison, and from it We perceived thy vibration at the divine breeze and thy attraction to the Word of God, the Mighty, the Powerful, the All-Wise. Blessed art thou for having attained unto the days of God and recognized that which most of His servants have failed to recognize. The dwellers of the cities of Names now bear witness that thou art indeed among the triumphant.

We beseech God to reveal His treasures from that land and to make thee among those who have stood so firm in His Cause that neither the hints of the wicked nor the words of the ungodly deterred them. We

have accepted from thee what thou didst acknowledge at the beginning of thy letter. Know thou the station of this bounty and be of the thankful ones. As for what thou didst desire regarding the laws, their sun hath dawned from the horizon of thy Lord's utterance, the Mighty, the All-Knowing. We shall soon send them unto thee. Verily thy Lord is the Almighty, the Powerful.

Be thou assured of thy Lord's tender mercies, then make mention of Him at morn and eventide. Convey My greetings unto the faces of those whom the breezes of their Lord, the All-Merciful, have stirred and brought forth from darkness into light. Thus hath His grace preceded all created things and His mercy encompassed all contingent beings, yet most people remain veiled.