A Compilation of Baha'u'llah's Writings — Volume 10 (1883–1886)

Translated Using GPT-4

Baha'u'llah

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

Volume 074: Akka 1301 A.H. (1883–1884), Part II (2 of 5)

BH05215: In My Name, Who speaks from the Supreme Horizon!

In My Name, Who speaks from the Supreme Horizon!

O Rasul! The people awaited the divine Day in such wise that at all times they implored and beseeched with utmost humility and supplication the presence of the immortal King, seeking His meeting. Yet when the Sun of Revelation dawned from the horizon of Will, all remained veiled, bewildered and heedless, save whom God willed. Consider the saved sect, namely the Shi'ih, who counted themselves the best of all the world's peoples. They afflicted a few helpless souls with such vain imaginings that finally they martyred the Lord of the world with hands of hatred. Now souls who have no knowledge whatsoever of the essence of this Cause have arisen with the same vain imaginings. Their purpose is to establish a region like before, and designate an illusory Jabulqa and an unknown Jabulsa.

This Wronged One has spoken and speaks for God's sake. All the servants—that is, those souls who have drunk from the cup of certitude—must arise to protect and preserve the House of the Cause, and behold the Truth with their own eyes and hear His call with their own ears. Whoso desires to know Him through other than Him shall never know Him. This is specific to this most mighty, most holy Revelation. Glory be upon the people of Baha who have cast away idle fancy and clung to the hem of God, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

BH05709: The Sun of Truth hath risen from the horizon…

He is the True One; there is no God but Him.

The Sun of Truth hath risen from the horizon of the Will of God, exalted be His glory, and the Supreme Horizon is illumined and adorned with the Name of the Lord of Names. Blessed is he whom the veils of the people and their vain imaginings have not withheld from the True Sovereign.

This is the Day of God, and no mention save the mention of God, exalted be His glory, is acceptable. Yet the people are heedless of the station of the Day and speak according to their former vain imaginings, clinging to the suppositions of ancient times. Say: O ye who have gone astray! What was the outcome of all that the former people said and did, and what fruit did they reap? Say: Fear God, O people, and be not of the distracted ones.

This is the day of steadfastness and the day of deeds, for the Sun of Revelation is risen and the Ocean of bounty is surging. Occupy not yourselves with the suppositions and vain imaginings of the ignorant ones of the earth. The Wronged One counseleth you with that which shall profit you in all the worlds of your Lord. He is, verily, the All-Merciful, the Generous.

The Glory shining forth from the horizon of My mercy be upon thee and upon those who have attained unto this mighty Cause.

BH07043: In many of the Tablets mention hath been made…

He is the All-Hearing, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise!

In many of the Tablets mention hath been made by the Most Exalted Pen of the cawing of the crows. Some were bewildered as to its meaning, while others waited to see what would come to pass. The Most High, the Most Great God hath spoken the truth: that which was foretold in all the Tablets hath come to pass, and the cawing hath been raised from the abode of the sinful one. Glory be to God! Despite having no knowledge of the Divine Cause, they have arisen in opposition in a manner the like of which hath never been heard.

O Muhammad-Rida! Upon thee be the Glory of God, the Lord of Names, and upon thy father who attained unto the remembrance of God and the service of His firm and mighty Cause. We have remembered him in such wise that all that is on earth cannot equal it, as every discerning and knowing one doth testify. The Glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My loving-kindness be upon thee and upon him and upon those whose names were mentioned in the Most Great Scene before God, the Lord of Destiny, Who hath come with manifest sovereignty.

BH07550: O friends of the True One! Certain souls…

In the Name of the All-Knowing Speaker!

O friends of the True One! Certain souls in the past, while outwardly in accord yet inwardly in discord, closed the door of divine mercy and opened the gates of idle fancies and vain imaginings to the faces of helpless servants. They adorned themselves with the garment of knowledge yet were accounted among the ignorant in the sight of God. Praise be to God that this Wronged One hath not associated with that group, and hath appeared with such proof and testimony that no fair-minded one can deny it. Today the very essence of proof crieth out amidst all creation, and the reality of testimony calleth, with most exalted utterance, all who dwell on earth to the shores of the sea of oneness. Yet the people remain heedless. This Wronged One counseleth thee to patience, calm and steadfastness in the Cause of God,

exalted be His glory. Take what We have counselled thee and leave what the people possess. Thus doth the Mother Book command thee in this glorious and wondrous station.

BH07993: The Wronged One makes mention of him who has…

He is the All-Seeing, the All-Informed!

The Wronged One makes mention of him who has turned to God, the Single One, the All-Knowing, Who has come with the truth and revealed that which lay hidden in God's knowledge, the Lord of all worlds. Earthquakes have appeared and the tribes have lamented, and the people are in manifest agitation. Say: Fear ye God and follow not every distant barking dog. Break the idols with the arm of certitude—this is better for you, if ye be of those who know. Verily the Truth hath come with authority from His presence while the people inquire about prophethood and the like. Say: Perdition betide you and those who follow the vain imaginings of the heedless ones. Say: Cast aside every barking dog and hearken unto that which the Divine Lote-Tree uttereth amidst the Concourse of Creation: Verily there is none other God but Me, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. This is the Day of God, were ye of those who know. None is mentioned therein save Him—to this testifieth he who hath with him a perspicuous Book. The glory be upon thee and upon those who have held fast to My firm cord.

BH03310: Praise be to God Who sent down the Book…

He is God—exalted be His station, the Glory and the Power!

Praise be to God Who sent down the Book and manifested through it that which guided people to the straight path. Verily He is the Single One Whom praise does not benefit nor blame harm, and He is the One Who praised Himself through oneness and singleness, and through power and might and grandeur and glory. And blessings and peace be upon the best of His creation and the Seal of His Prophets, through whom appeared the pearl of utterance from the ocean of knowledge and the lights of the Countenance shone forth from the horizon of possibility, and upon his family and companions, an abiding, abundant, eternal peace. My spirit be a sacrifice for your remembrance!

The servant has attained your letter and was gladdened by your words. We beseech God—our Lord and your Lord and the Lord of all the worlds—to draw us near to Him and ordain for us entry into His paradise whose breadth is as the breadth of His heaven and earth. As for what you mentioned regarding the matter of marriage, it was presented before the Countenance. The Intended One said: "This depends on the consent of both parties and the parents. We beseech Him, exalted be He, to bless them both and through them, and to send down His blessings upon them, and to ordain for them the good of the hereafter and of this world. Verily He is the Possessor of the throne and the dust." At the end He said—may our spirits be a sacrifice for Him: "It behooveth whosoever desireth to enter into any matter to first hold fast to consultation and to act according to what appears therefrom, placing his trust in God, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting."

This evanescent one beseeches God his Lord to assist those who desire goodness and virtue and connection between His servants. Verily He is the Lord of all created things and the Protector of all

possibilities, and He is the Powerful, the Munificent, the Bestower, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. And peace be upon your honor and upon your children and your family and those with you. And I beseech God to assist His loved ones in wisdom and to manifest through them that which will calm the fire of discord in all regions. Verily He is powerful over all things.

The servant, 12th of the blessed month of Ramadan 1301

BH01028: Praise, sanctified from the limitations of creation, befits…

He is God, exalted be His glory, the majesty and the power!

Praise, sanctified from the limitations of creation, befits and is worthy of that exalted Truth Who, through the wonders of His bounty and generosity, illumined the world with the lights of justice and guided it to the straight path which is the cause and means of preserving the peoples. He is the Omnipotent One Whom the armies of the world cannot weaken and the opposition of the idolaters cannot frighten. His will is supreme and His decree penetrating. He doeth what He willeth and ordaineth what He pleaseth. He is the Strong, the Dominant, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy. And the prayer shining from the horizon of the grace of the Lord of eternity be upon the Lord of Nations and Master of the World, through Whom the Book was sealed and God's promise of judgment's return was fulfilled, and upon His family and companions whom God made the stars of the heaven of His knowledge and the moons of the horizons of His proof.

Glory be unto Thee, O Thou Who with the finger of Thy power didst rend the veils! I beseech Thee by Thy sovereignty, Thy might and Thy power to aid Thy resplendent Law and protect it from the idolaters among Thy servants and the deniers among Thy creatures. O Lord! Weakness hath seized the limbs of Thy party, and the vitals of Thy religion tremble at the onslaught of Thine enemies. I beseech Thee, O King of Kings and Merciful to the downtrodden, to send down from the heaven of Thy grace that which will exalt Thy Cause among Thy servants and raise the standards of Thy mention in Thy lands. O Lord! I implore Thee by the Manifestations of Thy Cause, the Daysprings of Thy revelation, and by the Seal of Thy Prophets and chosen ones, to protect him who hath clung to Thee and to the cord of obedience to Thee, who hath spoken Thy praise and glorification, and arisen to serve Thy Cause.

O Lord! Thou seest him clinging to Thee, hoping in Thy grace, and yearning for Thy nearness and meeting. O Lord! Deprive him not of the revelations of the light of Thy knowledge, and render him not deprived of the effulgences of the dawn of Thy favors. Make all his deeds and devotions as one devotion in Thy presence. This is what the sovereign of Thy chosen ones uttered in a prayer taught by the Lord of Thy Messengers:

> "that all my deeds and devotions may become as one devotion, and in eternal service to Thee."

O Lord! Protect him who hath entered the fortress of Thy security, then aid him who hath sought shelter beneath the shadow of Thy banner. Grant him pilgrimage to Thy Sacred House once again, and ordain for him that which shall profit him in the hereafter and in this world. There is no God but Thee, the Forgiving, the Generous.

O beloved of my heart! Verily my heart yearns to converse with thee, and my spirit loves to turn to thy face, though faces are indicated by thee and me. Yet the love of God with which we have been blessed cannot be indicated by the signs of the world. It speaks of true spiritual oneness—whoso attains unto this has attained unto the mysteries of the Books and the signs of the Scriptures. Blessed is the seeker who has found his Goal, and the searcher who has been honored with the presence of his Beloved. The longing and yearning of this servant is evident and clear. The One God is witness that at all times he wishes to make mention of that spiritual beloved, but due to the multitude of occupations and other matters, there is sometimes delay.

Yet heart-to-heart communications have, praise be to God, existed and continue to exist, [and nothing] has or will affect them. Thy letter was presented before His Countenance. He said that thou art adorned with a pleasing ornament and art confirmed and mentioned in all conditions. Whoso attains unto this has attained unto the Most Great Joy. Whoso is for God, God is for him. Praise be to God, thou art known and mentioned for pure deeds in God's path. No harm comes to thee from incidental matters and unpleasing signs. What has been and is being said is an expression of love outwardly and inwardly in a station that changes not.

We counsel Nabil, upon him be My peace, to deal with kindness and affection toward the few souls who are in that land. They should in no wise take notice of words or deeds wherein opposition may be perceived, for they must become the reference point for all matters. However they deal with those few souls will be the cause of their own exaltation—no harm will ever return to them. I am among those who bear witness. Let them act in such a way that those few souls remain at peace. Man is ever prone to error, save him whom God protects. Forgiveness and overlooking are ever beloved before God. The purpose is that they should not engage in conflict with anyone in that land, so that gradually their love too may dawn and the foundation of thy business may be made firm.

Although in the outward world separation, parting and division have prevailed, yet by God's grace the light of true nearness is not prevented by leagues and miles. This is of God's bounty—He bestoweth it upon whomsoever He willeth. I beseech and implore Him to strengthen the light of nearness and to ordain outward meeting and reunion. He is powerful and mighty over all things. Indeed this time of separation from that beloved has had a great effect, a mighty effect. The servant asks his Lord to grant reunion after it. Verily He has power over all things.

The tools and implements sent for the garden arrived. Indeed much trouble has been taken. It is hoped that, God willing, through these implements success will be achieved for the garden and from that success an enduring fragrance will be diffused. In this case, this deed of that beloved will remain with him—that is, mention of it will, God willing, remain fixed and established in the book of the world.

I send greetings to the honored brother, Aqa Ghulam-Husayn, from whom every possessor of smell has found the fragrance of the garment, and I congratulate him and beseech the Exalted Truth to confirm him in attaining all that he hopes and seeks. May the manifest, evident and radiant peace shining from the horizon of divine favor be upon you and upon him and upon God's righteous servants. Praise be to God, the Lord of the Worlds.

The servant 14 Ramadan 1301

BH00116: In the Name of our Lord, the Most Holy…

Section 1: "In the Name of our Lord, the Most…"

In the Name of our Lord, the Most Holy, the Most Great, the Most Ancient, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious

Praise, sanctified beyond word and meaning, is befitting and worthy of the most holy and most sacred threshold of the Lord of creation, Who, in these days when the darkness of oppression hath encompassed the world, guideth all to the straight path and the great announcement through the light of justice. He is the Omnipotent One Whom the ranks of misbelief cannot diminish His oneness, nor can the hosts of nations prevent Him from His Cause. He is able to cause the light of justice to shine forth from the darkness of oppression, and from a drop of corruption make manifest an ocean of reformation. Who can stand against Him and who can claim to know Him or draw nigh unto Him? Glory be unto Him! Glory be unto Him! We are all powerless.

Glorified art Thou, O Thou in Whose grasp are the reins of oppression and justice, and in Whose right hand are the reins of punishment and grace. I beseech Thee by the wafting of the breezes of Thy bounty and the flowing of the river of Thy mercy to aid Thy loved ones through Thy generosity and grace, and deliver them from the prison of those who have denied Thy truth and disputed Thy signs. O Lord! Thou seest and knowest that this servant desired to make mention of him who hath arisen to serve Thy Cause and circulated Thy laws throughout Thy lands. I beseech Thee, O Lord of the worlds, Who hath appeared through the Most Great Name, to assist him with true assistance and aid him with the hosts of Thy Cause. Then make him, O my God, to be honored through Thy glory and enkindled with the fire of Thy love in such wise that neither the howling of the people in Thy Day nor the clamor of Thy servants shall quench that which Thou hast willed through Thy power and might. There is none other God but Thee, the Omnipotent, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

O beloved of my heart! My delay hath been prolonged, and my patience and composure have exceeded moderation in a place where patience and composure are not befitting save by the command of God, the Manifest, the Evident, the Omnipotent, the Hidden. Great regret hath been occasioned, for this evanescent one hath not been able for some time to respond to the letters of that beloved of the heart. The cause and reason for this hath been the enkindling of the fire of oppression and corruption, and the lack of capacity among the servants. In truth, were one to reflect a little, utter amazement would result, for every soul hath been and is the recipient of manifold bounties and countless favors, such as hearing, sight, heart, understanding, and both outward and inward senses.

Nevertheless, they are seen as though dead. Most strange of all is that man observeth the changes and variations in the world, yet clingeth to that which is destined to perish, remaining heedless and deprived of the eternal and everlasting bounty. He hath not and cannot have assurance of life for even an hour, yet he maketh provision for generations and ages to come. I beseech God to grant true vision to the eyes, for these sights have yielded and yield no fruit. How many a blind one hath heard and turned unto God,

attaining the lights of the Countenance after the passing away of all things, and how many a seeing one hath been deprived and forbidden from beholding with his eyes.

Glory be unto Him! Glory be unto Him! Verily, the Cause is in His hand, and success is in His grasp, and assistance is in His right hand. There is none other God but He, the Single, the One, the Ordainer, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

After observing and perusing the last letter of that spiritual beloved, which was adorned with the date of the twenty-ninth of Jamadiyu'th-Thani, I ascended to the heaven of inner meanings and presented it before His face. This is what the Tongue of Grandeur uttered, exalted be His utterance and magnified be His majesty:

In My Name, the All-Encompassing over all who are in earth and heaven

That which was mentioned and recorded in the Books of the past and since hath been made manifest, and the divine promises shine forth like unto light. Verily, He hath fulfilled what He promised in His Books, His Scriptures and His Tablets. And that which the Most Exalted Pen foretold in the Land of Mystery, the Land of Secret, and the Most Great Prison hath come to pass. The croaking from the land of Kaf and Ra hath been raised, and the clamor of the idolaters is heard like the buzzing of flies behind a veil. Glory be to God! Despite the clear text of the Primal Point stating that all is limited and known by My bidding and what was revealed in the Bayan—that the entire Bayan is but a leaf among the leaves of His Paradise, and that "I am the foremost of worshippers"—yet they have objected to the Truth Himself through the words of the Bayan, like unto the people of the Furqan. They fail to perceive that the knowledge of the Bayan is today with the Truth Himself, from Whom they should seek answers. Woe unto them and unto those who heard vain imaginings on this Day wherein God hath established His firm and mighty Cause.

They have abandoned the Mother Book and clung to their own desires through the book of perdition. Today the Mother Book calleth out before the faces of all people: O ye that slumber, arise! O ye that are heedless, become aware! Today the world is perfumed by the breezes of the dawn of revelation and illumined by the light of His countenance. Abandon the dawning-places of vain imaginings and break the idols of idle fancies with the arm of certitude. With pure hearts, sanctified breasts, penetrating vision and radiant faces, turn ye toward the shore of the ocean of knowledge.

Some among the people of the Bayan utter words that no ignorant one hath ever spoken. Say: O manifestations of doubts and idle fancies, fix your gaze upon this exalted Word, which is as the spirit of inner meanings unto the world of mystic knowledge. By God's life, it sufficeth you, were ye to know. Let your movements and your stillness, your silence and your speech be by the will of your Lord, the Commander, the All-Wise. Say: O people of the Bayan, observe this blessed Word and act according to it. Today is God's Day; the mention of aught else is not permissible. If ye seek verses, He is the Kingdom of verses, and if ye seek proofs, He is the Dawning-Place thereof. By God's life! The Mother Book and the Mother Bayan appeared through Him, speak through Him, and circle round Him. Today all mention and deeds are dependent upon His acceptance and good-pleasure.

O thou who hast dawned from the horizon of certitude! Make the heedless aware and remind them of that which hath flowed from the Most Exalted Pen, that they may adorn themselves with the greatest

steadfastness and be preserved from the craft of the deceitful ones. Some among the opposers appear in the guise of friendship, concealing lethal poison in sweet and delicate words. They appear with utmost craftiness and deceit, deprived of the fragrances of divine days and forbidden from hearing His Word. In truth, they have not comprehended a single word of His utterances nor fathomed the ocean of His meanings. On God's Day they ask about general and specific prophethood—such words testify to the baseness and heedlessness of those souls.

A speaker and witness indeed! Convey greetings from this Wronged One to the friends of God who have quaffed the choice wine from the cup of the Self-Subsisting. Say: Today is the day for the manifestation of the essence of humanity. Strive that ye may succeed in performing deeds or uttering words worthy of God's days. Ye have ever been and continue to be beneath the glances of loving-kindness. Know ye the value of this most exalted station and with the utmost joy and fragrance, give utterance to the praise of the Goal of all worlds—utterance that is a consuming fire unto the opposers among the people of the Bayan and a shining light unto the people of Baha. The glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My mercy be upon thee and upon those with thee and upon those whom We have guided to My straight path.

The world hath been encompassed by the smoke of tyranny and oppression. It is observed that each day giveth birth to a fresh evil. Goodness is like unto the phoenix, and faithfulness hath been and shall continue to be the rarest of all things. O beloved of My heart! Diverse and conflicting patterns are witnessed. One who for fifty years, more or less, hath manifested the utmost friendship and love, suddenly without cause or reason riseth up in opposition, to such an extent that no enemy or oppressor hath ever shown such enmity. Another soul who hath dwelt for years beneath the shadow of favor and repeatedly been granted permission to return to his homeland, hath disobeyed, claiming this to be from exceeding love, while outwardly possessing wealth, honor and comfort; nevertheless he hath manifested such poison and exhibited such opposition that the pen is powerless to describe it. I beseech God, exalted be His glory, to illumine the world with the light of justice and deprive it not of the splendors of the sun of faithfulness. Indeed, thus must it be—both the people of the highest heaven circling round and the people of the lowest hell arising. The Cause is in God's hands, our Goal and the Goal of all who are in the heavens and on earth.

Concerning what you wrote about the beloved of the heart, His Holiness H.—upon him be all the most glorious Glory—it brought great joy. Praise be to God, the magnet of grace caused gathering in the station of truthfulness and security, and in that blessed spot ye sat and spoke and listened, for God and in God and purely for His sake. Some time ago his letter arrived and specifically a detailed and extensive Tablet was revealed from the heaven of grace and sent. God willing, he will attain unto it and be illumined by the effulgent rays of the Sun of utterance.

Regarding what you wrote about his being forbidden to proceed to the lands of T. and M. and Kh., this is unquestionably true, for in those days the fire of hatred was aflame in those regions. However, should entry and arrival occur with wisdom, there is and hath been no harm. Even as was revealed by the Supreme Pen in the previous Tablet, according to the command that beloved one must also in all

circumstances give precedence to wisdom and keep it in view, lest the clamor of those who have denied God, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting, be raised.

Concerning what you had written about teaching and directing attention to certain regions, this is exactly right and an issue that cannot be left unanswered, for some time ago this matter was repeatedly heard from the Tongue of Grandeur, and this servant, according to His command, wrote to some of the friends that steadfast and well-established souls should direct their attention to certain regions. The outlying areas of Fars are necessary, for in some of the cities and villages there are receptive souls, and likewise in the Land of Ya and its dependencies. However, they must proceed with the utmost wisdom, for if they become known by this name at first, the people will avoid them and the purpose will not be achieved. The same applies to the regions of Kaf and Ra. But the souls who are sent must be adorned with spiritual qualities, goodly deeds, and complete detachment. After this matter was presented, He said:

> "Well spoken is he who sought Me and attained My presence and My favor and My mercy."

In all cases they should consult and act accordingly.

The honored and beloved Amin, upon him be the Glory of God and His favors, has mentioned your honor in several letters, as have friends from the land of Kha and other regions. In truth they have shown and continue to show complete sincerity and kindness toward the chosen ones of God. At this time he has turned toward the Seat of the Goal of all worlds, and after his presence, this is what the Tongue of Grandeur spoke:

O servant in attendance! Write to him who bears the name of the Most Truthful, upon them both be My loving-kindness, My mercy and My grace. Tell the friends not to be saddened by the oppression of oppressors and the heedlessness of the heedless. By the life of God! The entire world before the presence of the Ancient Beauty is and has been as a handful of dust, and the clamor of all is like the buzzing of a fly compared to the Call of God. Today the fire of the Divine Lote-Tree is ablaze and the lights of His countenance are manifest and radiant. With perfect unity and harmony, they must arise to educate the peoples of the world. Death is decreed for all, and the passing and transformation of the world is evident and visible. Those souls who have attained eternal life through the breezes of the divine days and the dawning lights of the morn of inner meanings must arise in the name of God, glorified be His majesty, to quicken the people of the world and offer them the choice sealed wine that flows from the source of the Self-Subsisting Name.

The Supreme Pen bears witness to those upright souls who, in the days of the greatest turmoil, summoned the people to the highest horizon. The clamor of the divines and the croaking of the jurists did not prevent them nor deprive them of the fragrances of the Cause. We beseech God to inflame all through His grace and favor and guide them to the straight path.

O thou who hast turned to My horizon and who standeth in service to My Cause! Hearken unto My call from the direction of My prison. By My life! I have accepted the oppression of the world, its tyranny and tribulations that God's Cause might be exalted among His servants and the fragrance of His raiment might be diffused throughout His lands. Blessed is the seeing one who hath attained to witnessing, and the hearing one who hath been honored to hearken to the call of God, the Lord of creation, before Whom

the Spirit doth cry out, while the Beloved is above His head, and the Friend is at His right, and at His left are the tribes of the Supreme Concourse, speaking and bringing glad tidings of that which hath appeared, gleamed forth, shone and brightened—that which was hidden in knowledge and concealed in the Books of God, the Lord of the seen and the unseen, and the Lord of all worlds.

O friends of God! Beware lest the affairs of men sadden you or prevent you from the Truth. Set aside what they possess, holding fast to that which hath been sent down from God, the Mighty, the Great. Aid your Lord through the hosts of wisdom and utterance. This is what ye were commanded before and in this exalted station. The glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My dominion be upon you and upon them and upon those whom the hosts of the world did not weaken nor the clamor of the nations frighten in this Cause, before which all things prostrated themselves when it appeared, and the Tongue of Grandeur spoke forth in the most exalted Paradise: "The promise hath come and the Promised One hath appeared," and the One Who conversed upon Sinai, Who was mentioned in the tablets of God, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise, doth speak.

God, exalted be His glory, is witness and aware that this servant has not forgotten and will not forget the days of association and presence, and beseeches God to ordain that which is the cause of the expansion of the breast, the brightening of the eyes, and the illumination of the heart—and that is the gathering of the friends beneath the blessed Lote-Tree. With the generous, nothing is difficult. It is hoped that the horizon of hope will be illumined and the prayer will be answered. Verily our Lord, the All-Merciful, is the Powerful, the Supreme, the Self-Subsisting.

As to what was written regarding meeting with the beloved spiritual one, his honor Asad, upon him be the Most Glorious Glory of God, and likewise the honored beloved, his honor Amin, upon him be the Glory of God, Lord of the worlds, for consultation—this matter was submitted and this most exalted word shone forth from the horizon of the heaven of will, His exalted Word: "Excellent is what he intended," for from such meetings the fragrances of love are diffused and the effulgences of the lights of oneness become manifest, "and in gathering together are signs for those who seek the face of their Lord, the Mighty, the All-Knowing." The essence of what was stated is that the attention of assured souls who are focused on wisdom to cities and villages has been and is acceptable. I beseech God to assist all to that which has been and is the cause of exalting the sovereign Word.

Section 2: "Regarding what was written about his honor Fa'iz…"

Regarding what was written about his honor Fa'iz, upon him be the Glory of God and His favors—this was submitted. Thus did the Tongue of Grandeur speak:

> "We have ordained for him a great good in the Book and commanded him to that whereby his mention shall endure throughout the kingdom of earth and heaven."

The world has had and has no worth, and its people no faithfulness, whether children or others, as has been and is witnessed, save whom God willeth. A deed that appears today by God's leave and is adorned with the ornament of acceptance is better and more acceptable than a hundred thousand effects and children. The Command is in God's hand—He doeth and decreeth as He pleaseth, and He is the

Commander, the All-Wise. Praise be to God, he has been and is successful, as testified by what was revealed for him in the Scriptures and Tablets. As commanded, a brief note was written separately—it would be beloved if sent to him, as the fragrance of divine favor, kindness and bounties emanates therefrom, that his heart may rejoice through the grace of God, Lord of the worlds.

Regarding what you wrote about the Huquq amount of 44 tumans which was given to that beloved one to deliver and which that beloved one spent—this matter was submitted to the Most Holy and Most Exalted Court and was honored with acceptance and approval. Well done to you!

And regarding what was previously written about nearly 100 tumans of Huquq being with some of the friends who await instruction about its receipt and remittance—this matter too was submitted. As commanded, what that beloved one has spent is agreeable and acceptable, and the remainder should either be delivered to his honor K.Z., upon him be the Glory of God, in the Green Land, or to his honor S.M., upon him be the Glory of God, in the land of Q. And if sent elsewhere it is also acceptable. Blessed are those souls who have paid the Huququ'llah and acted according to what is in the Book.

And regarding what was written about his honor Aqa Mirza Mas'ud, upon him be the Glory of God, and his offering (saffron)—they had written from the land of Ha. This evanescent servant beseeches and hopes that God may grant success to him and the other friends that all may arise to serve the Cause as befits it and them. The payment of Huquq is firmly established in God's Book. For certain years its collection was forbidden, then later, in view of certain benefits and the arrangement of certain necessary matters, its collection was commanded. Verily He is the Commander, the Compassionate, the Forgiving, the Generous.

As mentioned has been made of souls who are adorned with the ornament of steadfastness, this matter was presented before the countenance of the Ancient King. For each name, a verse was revealed from the heaven of God's will, that they might be blessed with the special favors of God, exalted be His glory, and be immersed in the ocean of joy. This is what God hath sent down from the kingdom of His utterance, as a token of His grace unto His servants. He, verily, is the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous. His blessed and exalted Word:

O ʿAli! We have witnessed and do witness that thou hast turned toward the Most Sublime Horizon and hast quaffed the Choice Wine that was sealed, whose seal was broken by My Most Self-Subsisting Name, and hast hastened unto the Dawning-Places of remembrance out of love for God, the One, the Chosen One.

O Muhammad! The Wronged One remembereth thee in this month which hath been named Ramadan by the All-Merciful, with a remembrance through which the ocean of utterance hath surged, the sun of knowledge hath shone forth, and the dove of certitude hath warbled upon the branches. There is none other God but He, the Mighty, the All-Bestowing.

And We make mention of him who was named Mirza Muhammad, that joy and gladness might seize him from the direction of My Most Glorious Name, in such wise that he may soar with the wings of knowledge in this atmosphere from whose rushing winds the sincere ones hear that there is none other God but He, the One, the Single, the Protector of all who are in the earth and the heavens.

O Muhammad-Husayn! The Wronged One hath turned toward thee when the opposers rose against Him with swords of tyranny and oppression, and when the divines of the earth and its jurists turned away from Him—they who violated the Covenant of God, the Lord of lords.

O Kazim! We have remembered thee with that which shall never lose its fragrance. To this testify the Concourse on High and the dwellers of the Cities of Names, and beyond them all things, and beyond them the Tongue of God in the most exalted station.

The Wronged One maketh mention of him who was named Muhammad: O Shaykh! Hearken unto the Call from the Divine Lote-Tree beyond the Ocean of Grandeur. By God's life! Through it every believer hath hastened unto God, the Creator of heaven, and every one who hath turned toward the Most Sublime Horizon, and every thirsty one unto the Kawthar of eternity, and every poor one unto the Dawning-Place of riches, and every ailing one unto the Ocean of healing, and every silent one unto the Kingdom of God's utterance, the Lord of all men.

O Muhammad-Taqi! That which We foretold the servants in the Kaf and Ra hath come to pass. It behooveth every one who hath turned toward God to read what We have revealed in Our Most Holy Book which hath been named "The Most Holy" by God's will, the Revealer of verses.

O ʿAziz! Blessed art thou for God hath aided thee to recognize the ocean of His knowledge, the heaven of His wisdom, the sun of His Cause, and His Wine whose seal was broken by the finger of power.

And We make mention of ʿAbdu'l-Husayn and counsel him and those who have believed to be steadfast and to observe that which they have been commanded by God, the Lord of the Beginning and the End. And We seal these verses with thy mention. Blessed art thou and blessed is My Most Truthful Name who soared on wings of longing until he entered the Most Great Prison and visited the House and stood before the Door and heard what the Speaker of Sinai uttered and beheld what most of the servants were debarred from. We have made mention of him in the Tablets with that which the treasures of the earth cannot equal. To this testifieth He Who speaketh at this moment that there is none other God but Me, the One, the Chosen One.

At the end of that beloved one's letter was seen the handwriting of His Holiness the beloved Mirza H-Y, upon him be the Most Glorious Beauty of God. Praise be to God, the letter was sealed with two seals. After reading and learning of its contents, it was presented in the Most Holy, Most Exalted Presence, and after permission was granted, it attained the honor of being heard, and a most mighty and wondrous Tablet was revealed from the heaven of Will. By command of His Holiness the Most Great Branch—may my spirit, my being, and my essence be sacrificed for the dust of His footsteps—it was written and sent. God willing, may the people of the world perceive its fragrance and not remain deprived of this greatest bounty. Some time ago, this evanescent one sent a letter to their presence; God willing, it has arrived by now.

Mention was made of certain steadfast women, upon them be the Glory of God. One by one they were mentioned in the Most Holy, Most Exalted Presence and attained the favors of God, exalted be His glory. Blessed are they, joy be unto them, and glad tidings be unto them, for they have attained that which pure essences and sanctified hearts have sought and yearned for.

Some time ago His Holiness the honored and revered brother, the Hakim (R), upon him be the Glory of God and His favors, set out for that direction. Specifically for some of the aforementioned steadfast women, wondrous and exalted Tablets were revealed and sent. I beseech God that they may attain unto them and engage as befits them in the mention and praise of the Peerless Friend.

And regarding what was written about turning towards this direction with family, it was presented before the Face. This is what the Tongue of Grandeur spoke:

> "O thou who gazest toward My horizon and standeth in service to Me! The incident in the land of Ta has somewhat affected this land as well, and certain discussions have arisen. Glory be to God! All atoms testify to the tranquility, steadfastness, justice and fairness of God's loved ones, but the corrupt ones observe their own reflection in things. They are debarred and deprived of the ocean of divine favor and the effulgences of the Sun of Truth. And apparently the authorities of that land have written to the authorities of the great city concerning this Prisoner that which was born of suspicion and fancy. Verily thy Lord knoweth that they know not. Therefore the pause of those in authority is in God's hand, the Lord of all mankind."

End quote.

This evanescent one's submission is that to those divine friends who have drunk from the Kawthar of faithfulness and are gazing toward the Most Exalted Horizon, I offer greetings and glorification to each one. Whenever that honored one meets with them, as proxy for this evanescent servant, remind them all of this supreme utterance which flowed from the blessed Pen of the Primal Point—may the spirit of all else be sacrificed for Him. His blessed and exalted Word is:

> "And I have written a gem concerning His remembrance, and it is that He shall not be indicated by My indication, nor by what was mentioned in the Bayan. By the life of my Beloved and your Beloved!"

If a soul were to drink a drop from the ocean of meanings of this utterance which has appeared from the Dayspring of the Will of the All-Merciful, all of the Bayan and its people would be powerless to prevent him, and he would testify with absolute certainty that the purpose of the First Call was a glad tiding from God, that those near and sincere ones might become aware and purify the path from thorns and weeds. If the divine loved ones were to preserve this all-encompassing Word upon the mirror of the heart, all the people of the Bayan would be unable to speak in their presence, let alone beyond that. It is hoped that the friends will receive blessings from your breaths and be illumined by the lamp of your utterance.

In further submission, let any of the kindred, both male and female, be mentioned through this servant's representation according to what they deem worthy. Peace and glory and splendor, then spirit and majesty and praise be upon you and upon those who love you for the sake of God, the Lord of all worlds, and praise be to our Lord, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

The servant 15th Ramadan 1301

Glory be to God! After concluding, it was observed that the initial decree was not completed. Among the wondrous and exalted Tablets that were specifically revealed from the heaven of grace for his honor Ibn-i-Fa'iz and some of the noble khans—upon him and them be the glory of God—were not presented. Likewise, the mention of that beloved one's entreaty on behalf of some of the divine loved ones was not made. In any case, this servant again ascended to the supreme height, and after attaining the presence, mention was made of the aforementioned souls who were honored to attain the grace of listening, and all were blessed through divine favor with that which diffuses the fragrance of eternity. His blessed and exalted Word:

In My Name, the Mighty, the Generous

O Husayn! Today this blessed word was heard from the rustling of the Divine Lote-Tree:

> "The Possessor has come and the kingdom belongs to God, the Supreme, the Self-Subsisting."

Praise be to God, thou hast attained to the hearing of the divine call on a day when those who waited were found to be turning away, and those who hoped were heedless and veiled. The grievous and major misdeeds of the people of the world have deprived them from the most great bounty, save whom thy Lord willeth. Verily thou hast attained on this day to another Tablet and to these verses sent down from the heaven of thy Ancient Lord's favor.

O My Most Exalted Pen! Make mention of him who is named Kazim and give him the glad-tidings of My remembrance of him from this station which hath been named the heaven of this heaven in My Most Great Tablet.

We make mention of him who is named Mihdi and give him the glad-tidings of what We have sent down for him in another Tablet from the verses of his Lord, and We remember him at this time with a remembrance that would move every mouldering bone.

O Rajab! Praise be to God, the blessed Ramadan has come to an end and Shawwal has come, calling:

> "O people! Seize the opportunity in the days of God and be not of the heedless ones!"

O Ishaq! The Lord of all horizons makes mention of thee—He through Whom appeared the decree of the Covenant on the Day of Separation—and gives thee glad-tidings through this remembrance by which God created the world and guided the peoples to His straight path.

O Pen! Turn thy face toward him who was moved with rapture when the spheres of utterance were stirred by the breezes of thy Lord the All-Merciful's revelation, and say: Blessed is the stranger who recognized his homeland, and the existent one who knew his Dawning-Place, and he of spirit who attained unto the Word of God, the Lord of all worlds.

O Shahvirdi! The Wronged One makes mention of thee while seated upon the Throne and calls all unto God, the Peerless, the All-Informed.

O son of My Name! Upon thee be My glory and My loving-kindness. We have mentioned every name thou didst mention with that which cannot be equaled by all the trees of the world and their fruits, nor

the wealth of the rich, nor the treasuries of kings and rulers. Give thanks unto God for this bounty and counsel My servants with wisdom and utterance, lest the cawing of those who have denied the All-Merciful be raised. Verily thy Lord is the Expositor, the All-Knowing. The glory shining forth from the horizon of the heaven of My loving-kindness be upon thee and upon those whom thou didst mention and who have attained unto the bounty of God, the Mighty, the Great.

O beloved of my heart! It was mentioned that the letter had been sealed with two musk seals. Praise be to God that it was blessed with a third, despite the enemies and as a bounty to the loved ones. One must reflect upon the grace and bounty of the True One, exalted be His glory. Upon the mere presence and presentation of the wondrous and exalted verses, once again they were revealed. By the life of our Lord! None can reckon His bounty. To this testifieth every fair-minded and discerning soul. Glory and praise, peace and the spirit of mercy be upon you and upon those who love you for the sake of God, our Lord and your Lord, our Goal and your Goal, and the Goal of all who are in the heavens and on earth. Praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

The servant 19th of the honored month of Shawwal, 1301

In these days and before, petitions arrived from the Land of Kha. Until now no reply had been sent, and in these days some exalted and holy Tablets were revealed in response to various petitions that had reached the Most Holy Court, and replies to some of the letters sent were dispatched. The purpose is to inform your honor. This evanescent one beseeches the True One to give all to drink from the ocean of His utterance and to bestow upon them a complete portion, for whosoever attaineth unto this, neither the opposition of the people of the world nor the might of nations shall prevent them from the True One, exalted be His glory. Again, glory be upon you and upon them.

BH11703: Praise be to God Who hath sent down water…

In the Name of our Most Holy, Most Great, Most Exalted, Most Glorious Lord.

Praise be to God Who hath sent down water from the heaven of utterance and hath quickened thereby His servants, and Who hath sent unto them the Messengers and revealed unto them the Books that they might recognize the straight Path of God and His firm and mighty Command. But when the Call was raised among them they denied it and turned away therefrom, save those who held fast to the Sure Handle and clung to the hem of the robe of grace and bounty. And blessings and peace and mercy and glory and praise and salutations be upon the loved ones of God and His chosen ones who have arisen to serve Him in His lands and to exalt His Word among His servants.

And now, to be brief—for God is my witness that time has become as narrow as the eye of a needle—I shall write what is necessary. Your second letter has arrived, though previously an extensive Tablet had already been sent down from the heaven of the favor of the Desired One of the worlds, specifically addressed to you, along with the Tablets you had requested. Surely these must have reached you by now. I beseech God, exalted be His glory, and implore Him to protect His loved ones and preserve them from the croaking of the croakers, the clamor of the heedless, and the schemes of the plotters. Verily He is powerful over all things and worthy to answer prayers.

The Cause is most great, and whatsoever shall come to pass in these days shall likewise be great. I beseech and implore God to give all to drink of the Kawthar of steadfastness, in such wise that should the whole world become the embodiment of utterance or the essence of knowledge, it would not prevent them from the Truth. The croaking is raised up in all regions and may well appear from the Land of the Desired One also. This is what I heard with mine own ears from the Tongue of Grandeur and Power. But the knights in the field of steadfastness cannot be deterred by the hosts of the world, nor can what they possess constitute a barrier.

A letter arrived from the Green Land from our honored master, His Honor Aqa Muhammad-Kazim, upon him be the glory of God and His favors, wherein he made mention of that spiritual friend. Likewise our honored master, His Honor Amin, upon him be the glory of God, the Lord of the worlds, repeatedly mentioned you during the days he attained the presence, especially one day when he spoke of you in the presence. Praise be to God that you are the recipient of the favors of the Desired One of the worlds. This evanescent servant beseeches and implores God, exalted and glorified be He, to ever assist and confirm you and keep you safe beneath the shade of the Tree of Grace.

Furthermore, I convey greetings and salutations to the friends in that land. Your deed is acceptable before God, exalted be His glory. One day these supreme words were heard from the Mouth of the Will of the Lord of all beings, exalted and mighty be His utterance:

> "O servant present! His Honor ʿAli-Akbar has long been occupied with serving the Cause. We have heard what he hath spoken, and We do hear and see, for We are the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing. This time too he hath set out at the behest of the Afnan of the Blessed Tree. Blessed is he and blessed are those with him and his brothers. Give him these glad tidings from Me that he may rejoice and be of the thankful ones. Verily his reward is with his Lord, the All-Bountiful, the All-Generous."

Praise be to God! Time and again they have been blessed with mention of the Beloved of the worlds, and permission has already been granted. If wisdom requireth it, they may turn thereto—there hath been and is no harm in this. This is yet another glad-tiding. Should they write to the Land or anything else, this servant should convey special greetings from me to the friends of God, particularly to His Holiness the Trustee, upon him be the glory of God. The intention is that this servant hath made mention of them and continueth to do so, and beseecheth God, exalted be His glory, to grant them success.

As to what they wrote regarding the known sum that was lost, the loss thereof falleth upon His Holiness the Afnan, upon him be all the most glorious glory. After this word was presented before the Throne, the Supreme Pen stated:

> "In this Most Great Revelation, the Supreme Pen hath made mention of them as being among the Afnan in the Crimson Book and other Tablets. In this case no loss shall fall upon them; nay, rather, there is gain upon gain, and wealth upon wealth. Soon shall they witness the effulgences of the lights of the Sun of bounty."

End quote.

This evanescent servant beseecheth God to assist them in that which is befitting, in such wise that they may be observed to be ever more enkindled in the Cause of God and in service unto it. Yet, by the life of our Beloved! from the beginning until now they have stood firm and remain firm. The Supreme Pen hath testified to what I have submitted; therefore the testimony of this mere nonentity is and was pure nothingness. Once again I convey greetings and glorification to all the friends in that land. Glory and praise and glorification be upon you and upon those who are with you among the loved ones of God, and upon those who have quaffed the sealed wine from the hand of the bounty of our Lord, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting. And praise be to God, the Possessor of what was and what shall be.

BH02372: Praise be to Him Who is unique in grandeur…

He is God, exalted be His glory, the Grandeur and Power

Praise be to Him Who is unique in grandeur and singular in mercy and compassion. And blessings and peace be upon the best of creation and possessor of the praiseworthy station in the hereafter, through whom prophethood was sealed, and upon his family and companions, through whom the standard was planted and the banners were raised, and the dove sang upon the branch of eloquence and rhetoric. Verily there is no God but Him, the Single, the One, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

May my spirit be a sacrifice for your steadfastness, your love and your service. Your esteemed letter has opened one of the gates of inner meanings, for from it wafts the fragrance of the love of the Beloved of the worlds, and from it appear the pearls of the ocean of affection. The pearls of this ocean know no diminution. Every day and every moment, the mysteries hidden within the shell of utterance become manifest through the command of the All-Merciful. Glorified be the Creator Who has aided the Afnan and adorned them with the most glorious raiment. The servant indeed praises Him, thanks Him and extols Him for this bounty that has no equal in all creation. Exalted be the All-Merciful, the Ordainer of every bounty and Bestower of every good thing, Who honors that which cannot be weighed in the balance of the world or of nations. Verily He is the Lord of eternity, there is no God but Him, the Forgiving, the Merciful.

Regarding what was written in your esteemed letter that one of the two stars, upon them be 966 [Baha'u'llah], the Most Glorious, has requested to accompany your honor: It was presented before His presence and according to His command, nine pieces of paper of equal size and two other pieces different from those nine were prepared. They were instructed to write the name of each one and mix them together, then place a cloth over them and draw out the papers one by one. He said that whoever's name comes out first may accompany you, and whoever is delayed must hold fast to patience, for God is with those who are patient.

O my Afnan! We send greetings upon the Greater Afnan and upon you and upon the other Afnan and the leaves of the Divine Lote-Tree. Upon you and upon them be the peace of God, the Lord of the worlds.

This evanescent servant presents his utter nothingness and evanescence to the honored gentlemen. To the beloved and honored presence of his excellency Jud I convey greetings and glorification. This lowly one had intended to submit something to his presence but due to pressure of work was not successful

this time. God willing, at the next opportunity this servant will arise to make up for what was missed, for God aids His servants and He is the Powerful, the Mighty. Similarly, greetings are conveyed to the beloved of the heart, his excellency Muhammad Mustafa. Praise and peace be upon you.

BH01187: How befitting and worthy of praise is the Glorious…

He is God, exalted is He in might and power

How befitting and worthy of praise is the Glorious One, who created the world through a word and adorned it through a word. He is the Mirror that reflects the Most Beautiful Names and Supreme Attributes. Blessed is the one who recognizes and clings to them, and woe unto him who remains heedless of them. Prayers and peace be upon the First Point from which all Books were differentiated, the First Mention to which all Messengers held fast, the First Light by which the world was illumined, and the Last Command which was adorned with the mention of the Seal, and upon His family and companions through whom the chalice of unity was passed round and the decree of detachment was made manifest, through whom laws and traditions were spread abroad and the Cause became evident in secret and in public.

I present that the letter of that beloved one which was previously sent brought joy to the heart and delight to the spirit. Praise be to God! The river of love flows in His name among the friends, and the rains of kindness pour from the cloud of grace. How can this tongue adequately make mention of this, or be worthy of praise? The world is powerless to describe Him, for He, exalted be His glory, is known through naught else but Himself and is not described by the mention of aught besides Him. Exalted be His station, His sovereignty, and His remembrance!

And after the reading thereof and becoming apprised, attention was turned toward that lofty station and the details were submitted. The Sun of favor shone forth, and the billows of the sea of grace appeared. My tongue is wholly incapable of recounting this station, and my pen powerless to set down what hath been revealed through His decisive and irrevocable utterance. I beseech and hope of the True One—glorified be His glory—that He may gather together the scattered word, and adorn its letters with the vesture of unity. He is, verily, the Able, the Omnipotent.

As to the mention you made of the spiritual beloved, Aqa Mirza Mustafa—upon him be the Glory of God—I implore of the Munificent, the Generous, that He may adorn him with perfect health and grant him success in serving the Cause. In very truth, the fruit of his existence hath been, and still is, this.

In all circumstances we seek divine confirmation and make supplication. Verily He is the All-Bountiful, the All-Generous. I convey greetings to His Eminence, the honored one, and the other gentlemen. Likewise to the beloved of heart and soul, Aqa Muhammad Mustafa, upon him be the peace of God, and the other friends who are illumined by the light of piety and engaged in the remembrance of the Lord of all beings. And likewise to the leaf of the family, upon her be the glory of God, and to the delight of eyes Badi' Effendi and the Ridvaniyyih leaf, upon them both be the glory of God. I remember them with goodly remembrance and beseech God, exalted be His glory, for their well-being, might and exaltation. Peace be upon you and upon the sincere servants of God, and praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

Again praise be to God, again praise be to God, again praise be to God for the wondrous bounty and the table sent down from the heaven of kindness and unity, upon which was inscribed the royal signature of the name of the All-Bountiful, upon him be the glory of God, the Lord of creation. When it was opened, another fragrance was found indicating the first. We praised God for this and thanked Him for its arrival and advent, and its glad tidings of your health, your acceptance, your mention and your thoughts, your humility and your submissiveness, and all your deeds for God, the Lord of the worlds.

The letters of that true loved one have truly been and continue to be a source of physical exhilaration and spiritual joy. Yesterday I troubled you with some worthless words, and now I venture this brief note. Indeed, brevity is most fitting and appropriate in all circumstances. I have beseeched and continue to beseech the Self-Sufficient Lord for confirmation and success for that beloved one, for verily He is the Answerer.

Regarding what you wrote about the Friend, this is most clear and evident. Whatever this servant submits, that beloved one accepts with utmost grace, especially if it pertains to the station that has no station. At present, expediency requires it here, and in delay there is no harm, rather in delay there is prosperity and clear signs. As commanded, it was delayed. I beseech God to make that beloved one the center of all services, and in truth they have been and are.

At this moment, as this letter was nearing completion, the letter of his honor Muhammad Mustafa (upon him be the peace of God, the Lord of Names), which had been written previously by the beloved of the heart, his honor Qasim (upon him be the peace of God), arrived bearing news of their health and well-being. This is glad tidings that gives the cup of joy to the friends and the chalice of tribulation to the enemies. I beseech God, exalted be His glory, to replenish these two cups, for verily He has power over all things.

I convey greetings to them—greetings which God, exalted be His glory, renders free from tests. Likewise to his honor Jasim. God willing, may they remain under the shade of the divine Lote-Tree, safe, at rest, with gladdened eyes, refreshed in body, and light in spirit. I convey greetings to his honor Husayn Effendi and to all those of insight, and I beseech God, exalted be His glory, for protection. Peace be upon you, and the mercy of God, and His blessings.

BH01769: Praise be to the One Who is worthy…

He is God, exalted be His station, the Greatness and the Power!

Praise be to the One Who is worthy and deserving, Who has sanctified the world through the word “No” and guided it to the city of “Except,” Who has adorned the foreheads of the believers with the seal of the blessed words “There is no God but God.” This seal is inscribed in the Mother Book yet hidden from all eyes and sight. The Manifestation of this divine treasure and heavenly secret was the King of Prophets and Goal of the saints—He through whom the idols of desire were shattered and traces of misbelief and transgression were erased, and through whom the light of unity shone forth among all peoples. Upon Him be the blessings of God, the Lord of Names and Creator of Heaven, and upon His family and companions through whom the gate of piety was opened to all created things, through whom the throne

of manifestation was established and the Dove of Utterance warbled upon the Mount: “Verily there is no God but Him, the Kind, the Forgiving.”

Thereafter, the letter of that honored friend arrived. Praise be to God, the fragrance of love for the Beloved of the worlds emanated from it and the light of recognition shone from its horizon. Praise be to God that you are adorned with the ornament of health and occupied with the remembrance of God, exalted be His glory. This evanescent servant beseeches God that He may assist and enable you to serve Him. Verily He is the Hearing, the Responding One.

After being presented before Him, the Tongue of Utterance spoke thus:

> “Praise be to God, you have attained to that which was mentioned and recorded in the divine Books. We beseech God to assist you in preserving it. You have been and are remembered before the Wronged One. Your call was heard and your letter was seen. God willing, you will ever be assisted in that which is acceptable unto God. We have mentioned you before with a mention through which the fragrance of My loving-kindness was diffused. Give thanks unto God, your Lord and the Lord of the worlds. We beseech Him to send down upon you a blessing from His presence and to protect and guard you. Verily He is the Powerful, the Mighty.”

The bounty of His grace is present and the table of His loving-kindness is visible. His glances of mercy and grace have ever been and continue to be directed towards His friends and those who circle round His Cause.

The honored Afnans—upon them be God’s peace—have arrived and attained His presence. They mentioned what they deemed advisable regarding your affairs, and the beloved and honored Haji—upon him be God’s peace—submitted a detailed account which was approved. Consultation in matters is most beloved, and acting upon it after a decision emerges has ever been and continues to be the cause of blessing and good. That spiritual friend has also been and continues to be mentioned in the presence of the Afnans—upon them be God’s peace. Praise be to God, the horizons are illumined with the light of love and adorned with the light of unity and harmony, and all are resting and dwelling beneath the Lote-Tree of grace. These manifest bounties surely attract all the good things and blessings of the world.

Today, being Saturday, they sent the letter that was sent to his honor Afnan—upon him be God’s peace. It was presented and He said to act according to what was deemed advisable. We beseech God to grant them good and blessing. Verily He is the Bountiful, the Generous. However, in all matters they must observe wisdom and not accept claims from any soul merely on the basis of assertion. With perfect joy and fragrance, trusting in God and committing all to Him, they should proceed.

This lowly one also beseeches blessing and bounty for you. Verily our Lord, the Most Merciful, is the Giver, the Bestower, the Forgiving, the Compassionate. Peace be upon you and God’s mercy and blessings.

The servant 1 Shawwal 1301

BH02249: Praise be to God Who assisted us to fast…

He is God, exalted be His glory, the Greatness and the Power

Praise be to God Who assisted us to fast in the month of standing, wherein people arose to worship God, glorified be His majesty. We have fasted by His command and broken our fast by His leave, and He has completed for us the two flowing bounties—the bounty of fasting and the table of breaking fast. And prayers and peace be upon him through whom Yathrib was honored and the Hijaz smiled—verily he is the Lord through whom God's power was manifested throughout the lands and among the servants—and upon his family and companions who aided the Faith, holding fast to God's mighty cord, and through them the text of the world was adorned with the beauty of commandments and laws, and the faces of nations with the light of His knowledge in the beginning and the end.

And thereafter, the handwriting of that spiritual beloved brought joy to the heart and increased the vision's insight. This heavenly table strengthens the spirit and expands the breast. I beseech and hope from God that this bounty may ever be bestowed and draw the friends to the ocean of joy. In truth, that beloved has been and is troubled by hardship—would that it were from common hardships, but rather they have been necessary, complex, weighty and difficult hardships. However that beloved does not acknowledge or admit to the hardship, for every burden has been and is made light through love. It is love that has opened paths and unlocked doors. In an instant it traverses the East and West of the world. It is the sign of the Ancient among nations. I beseech God, exalted be His glory, not to deprive any from the ocean of His love and to enable all to attain the highest station, which is the station of recognizing His sacred Essence. He is the Powerful, the Mighty. There is no God but Him, the Commander, the All-Informed.

Furthermore, in all conditions I beseech and hope that that beloved and those with him will proceed to the ultimate destination in perfect health and well-being, so that we may attain to meeting, which is the greatest of God's bounties, glorified be His majesty, and under the shade of His blessed Tree offer thanks and praise. Surely he will soon grant this request. He is the Powerful and Mighty. As for what was written about the health of the spiritual beloved, Aqa Mirza Mustafa, upon him be God's peace—complete joy was attained. I beseech God to restore him to permanent health and complete well-being. Verily He has power over all things. To his eminence the great Afnan and those circling round His presence I convey my nothingness and beseech God to transform the days of separation into reunion. And likewise I send greetings to the beloved of the heart, Aqa Muhammad Mustafa, upon him be God's peace. The peace shining forth from the horizon of God's loving-kindness be upon you and those with you.

BH00699: The verses have been sent down and the clear…

In the name of our Lord, the Most Holy, the Most Great, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious!

The verses have been sent down and the clear proofs have appeared, and the gate of the prison was opened after a numbered span of years, even as was foretold by the Lord of Eternity when the Seat of the Throne was established in the prison of ʿAkka. Every learned one, every seeing one, and every fair-minded one beareth witness to the appearance of that which was uttered in the Book of God and His

Tablets that were revealed aforetime. Blessed is he who hath read and recognized and testified, and woe unto every heedless one who hath denied that which hath appeared from God, the Lord of all worlds.

In truth, neither pen is capable of recording nor tongue of expressing that which hath come to pass. With utmost clarity hath it been revealed in God's Book, and yet all remain heedless save those whom God hath aided. In the early days, the meaning of this blessed verse which He had previously revealed became manifest: "Everything is perishable save His Face." This finite one existeth while all else is perishing and non-existent, as attested by His exalted Word: "All that is thereon is perishable, and there remaineth but the face of thy Lord, the All-Glorious, the Most-Bountiful."

Glory be unto Thee, O God of existence and Lord of the seen and unseen! Thou seest and knowest what hath befallen Thy loved ones at the hands of those who have denied all that hath appeared from Thee, and whose riches have so occupied them that they have cast behind their backs Thy Book, violated Thy Covenant, and disputed Thy verses. O Lord! Aid those who have entered prison for Thy Name's sake to be steadfast and patient, then ordain for them through Thy Most Exalted Pen the good of the world to come and of this world, and that which will draw them nigh unto Thee in every world of Thy worlds. Verily, Thou art the Almighty, the Omnipotent. There is none other God but Thee, the Supreme, the Self-Subsisting.

O Ali! The servant in attendance here brought thy letter and presented it before the Wronged One. We heard and have answered, and verily We are the Hearer, the Answerer.

O Ali! The children of the earth are occupied with doubts and vain imaginings. The intoxication of heedlessness hath so seized them that they consider the world everlasting and themselves immortal. By the life of God! Soon will the hand of divine power purify the earth from the wicked. The fire of tyranny shall be quenched, and its kindler shall return to his abode. Thus doth the All-Informed apprise thee. Verily, He is the Truth, the Knower of things unseen.

Thy letter testified to thy love, affection, devotion, humility and lowliness before God. Divine confirmations have reached thee and will continue to reach thee. Gird up the loins of service and counsel the friends of God as behooveth them on behalf of the Wronged One. Say: Look not upon the transgressors and what they possess, but rather fix your gaze upon the Most Sublime Horizon and what hath been ordained for you by the Pen of Command from the presence of the Ancient Ordainer. Let all hold fast to patience and forbearance, and seek from God, exalted be His glory. He hath granted victory and will continue to do so.

Where are they who drew their swords and arose in tyranny in such wise as caused the dwellers of the cities of justice and equity to lament? Throughout ages and centuries, the transgressors and oppressors have perpetrated that which caused every person of insight to weep and every possessor of a heart to wail. Nevertheless, exaltation, ascendancy and profit have been for the people of truth, while abasement, torment and loss have been for the enemies. Had they acted upon divine counsels, they would now behold the world as a tract of light. Although the darkness of oppression hath prevented some of the rays of the Sun of Justice, yet the Hand of Power shall manifest that which He hath willed. None hath the power to change or prevent it.

Rejoice thou in My remembrance of thee and be of the thankful ones. The glory shining forth from the horizon of the heaven of My Kingdom be upon thee and upon those who have held fast to My firm cord.

Praise be to God! The Sun of loving-kindness is shining and the Moon of grace is radiant. He chooseth whomsoever He willeth for whatsoever He pleaseth. None can prevent Him and none can resist Him. He bestoweth upon whomsoever He willeth and withholdeth from whomsoever He desireth. He shall not be asked of His doings. He is, in truth, the Almighty, the All-Compelling, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

Concerning what was written about the prisoners, this is what was uttered by the Tongue of Grandeur—exalted be His glory:

> "O Abdu'l-Hadir! Make mention of Ali on Our behalf and gladden him with the favors of God. From his mention wafts the fragrance of love, and from his words his arising to serve the Cause is evident. I beseech God to protect him, to strengthen him, and to ordain for him that which shall profit him in this world and the next. Verily, He is the Lord of all created things, the Sovereign of the throne on high and of the earth below."

One should not be assured by the words of some. In the Land of Ta (Tehran), some took whatever they desired in this name, specifically for the release of prisoners, and afterwards no effect was manifest. God is the Concealer, He conceals from some. If they arrange to seize them after their release, there is and was no harm in this. Otherwise their affair rests with God, exalted be His glory. At one time this supreme utterance issued forth from the Dawning-Place of Names—blessed and exalted be His Word:

> "O Abdu'l-Hadir! They have been imprisoned for the sake of God and have entered prison through their love for Him. This is a most great bounty, for God hath accepted this deed and attributed it to Himself. All the treasures of the world and the riches of the nations cannot equal it. If He willeth, He will release them as He hath released them time and again. O Abdu'l-Hadir! This imprisonment is beloved, for it is adorned with God's acceptance. This station is most exalted. By My life! If the manifestations of tyranny were to become aware of the station and loftiness of this prison, all would yearn for it. But alas! alas! These people are deprived of the spirit of inner meanings and barred from divine mysteries. Blessed is ʿAli, for he is steadfast in service and hath intended to serve. God willing, may all attain to that which befitteth this blessed Day. The friends in that land are all remembered in His presence, especially those souls who have arisen for God's sake and have been enabled to spend in His exalted path."

They smiled at the letter of that loved one and repeatedly accepted his intention with the adornment of acceptance. That which they forbade its execution—verily our Lord, the Most Merciful, is the All-Bountiful. Not an atom of good deeds and goodly words has been or will be lost. When these words of that loved one were presented, which stated "With longing and hope, in complete humility and lowliness it was submitted that whatever is ordained in this matter, we are ready with utmost gratitude," They said: "For God is his essence, for God is his deed, for God is his word, for God is his humility and submission and his turning unto Him."

A hundred thousand praises be unto the Beloved of the worlds that His loved ones and friends are steadfast in service, blessed with His remembrance, adorned with His love, and embellished with His favors. Furthermore, this station has become evident and manifest like the greatest luminary, requiring no mention from this servant. In truth, this noble tradition "The intention of the believer is better than his deed" was and is for this station. It behooveth the tongue of the inmost heart and the head to say: "Praise be unto Thee, O my God, for having enabled Thy loved ones to perform that which hath been adorned with the ornament of Thine acceptance. Verily, Thou art the One Who hath power over whatsoever He willeth, and in Thy grasp are the reins of all things. Thou givest and Thou withholdest, and Thou art indeed the Almighty, the Powerful."

I send greetings and salutations to all the loved ones of that land, and I beseech them all that in their moments of leisure they forget not this evanescent one and pray on his behalf for divine confirmations and success. Similarly, this servant too, in the nighttime and during the day, before the throne of the Lord of all beings, has prayed and continues to pray for their confirmation and success. Verily our Lord, the All-Hearing, is the Answerer of prayers. Glory and remembrance and praise be upon you and upon the steadfast loved ones of God.

The servant 14 Shavval 1301

BH00137: Praise be sanctified above the mention of all created…

Section 1: "In the name of our Lord, the Most…"

In the name of our Lord, the Most Holy, the Most Great, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious

Praise be sanctified above the mention of all created things and exalted beyond the attributes of contingent beings—praise that befits and is worthy of the Sovereign of the Throne of Grandeur, Who, in the darkness of these days, caused the light of His Most Exalted Word to shine forth and appear manifest from the horizon of His Will. Neither the might of the powerful, nor the armies of monarchs, nor the doubts of the divines, jurists and scholars could deter Him from His purpose. He hath spoken before the faces of all the world that which hath caused the seas to surge, the mountains to take flight, and the Dove of Paradise to warble at the dawning light of the splendors of Beauty. By God! The Desired One hath come, and through Him hath appeared that which was hidden in the Presence of Knowledge and inscribed in the Books of God, the Self-Sufficient, the Most High. Radiant light be upon those who have arisen to serve the Cause and have spoken in praise of God, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. These are servants whom neither the might of tyrants nor the hosts of pharaohs could deter. They arose and spoke that which the Tongue of Grandeur had uttered before the creation of the heavens and the earth.

Glory be unto Thee, O Thou through Whose Name the gate of reunion was opened to all who are in earth and heaven, and the nightingales of divine knowledge warbled upon the branches. Verily Thou art God; there is none other God but Thee. I beseech Thee, O God of Names and Creator of Heaven, by the Crimson Scroll and by Thy Most Exalted Pen, to assist Thy chosen ones to celebrate Thy praise and glorify Thee. Then raise them up, O my God, amongst Thy servants and Thy creation. Thou beholdest them, O my God, turning unto Thee and setting their faces toward Thy countenance. I beseech Thee not to leave

them at the mercy of the oppressors among Thy creatures and the transgressors among Thy servants. I implore Thee, O God of the Kingdom and the Realm, and Sovereign of the Celestial Dominion, by Thy Name through Whose manifestation all names bowed down in prostration and all things submitted themselves in humility before Thy Face and in lowliness at Thy Revelation, to aid Thy loved ones with Thy hosts and protect them from the enemies of Thy Self—they who have violated Thy Covenant, disputed Thy signs, and disbelieved in Thy clear evidences. Verily Thou art the All-Powerful, the Supreme, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

O beloved of my heart and one remembered in my heart! The servant has been honored with your letters time and again, and from each has found the fragrance of your love for God, your arising to serve Him among His servants, and your mention and praise of Him among His creation. The servant beseeches his Lord to assist you in all conditions and to make you as a banner upon the hills. Verily He is the One with power over whatsoever He willeth. There is no God but Him, the Single, the One, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

In truth, this servant is remiss in one respect, yet has always hoped for forgiveness, as one must act according to the requirements of wisdom. For a long time, due to the conflicts between the parties of the earth and the kindling of the fires of war in all regions, there was delay in sending whatever was written in response to the letters of the friends, especially after the upheaval in the land of Ta. Glorified art Thou, O God of Names! Thou seest Thy chosen servants in the prison of the enemies. Blessed are they and joy be unto them! They have attained in Thy days through their turning and devotion, and have testified to that which Thy Tongue testified before all things, and have done what Thou commanded them in the realm of creation, until they were seized for Thy love and entered prison in Thy Name.

I beseech Thee, O Lord of existence and Controller of the seen and unseen, to pour forth upon them patience from Thy presence, then aid them against the transgressing people through Thy power, Thy might, and Thy sovereignty. The servant bears witness that they have attained unto a bounty that shall never perish and a mention that ages and centuries shall not alter. They are those from whom every possessor of smell has found the fragrance of submission and contentment, and every possessor of sight has beheld the countenance of patience and faithfulness.

O my Lord! I beseech Thee by the Most Great Name, through which the horizon of the world was illumined, to assist them to be steadfast in Thy Cause, then transform the poison of tribulation into honey through Thy grace and bounty, and severe decree into ease through Thy mercy. Verily Thou art the Forgiving, the Merciful. There is no God but Thee, the Mighty, the Great.

By the life of our Beloved and your Beloved, our Goal and your Goal! Were the servant to remember them throughout the duration of the kingdom and the heavenly realm, it would not quench his thirst of love for them in the path of God, the King of this wondrous and exalted Day. When I read your letter and became aware of what was in it of your traces, I approached the Station that cannot be described by names nor characterized by what is mentioned by the people of creation. When I reached the Gate, I bowed down and prostrated myself in humility before the face of God, then entered and stood, and after permission, presented what was in your letter. After this was completed, the Ancient Countenance turned toward me and spoke that which diffused the fragrance of revelation throughout the world. He

said, exalted be His utterance, sublime His proof, complete His argument, and perfect His remembrance and praise:

In My Name, the Remembering, the All-Knowing

O Ali! The waves of tribulation have encompassed Us from every side, and the evidences of Divine decree have taken hold of Us from all directions. The Revealer of verses and the Manifestor of clear proofs speaks at all times even as He spoke before the creation of earth and heaven, saying: "There is none other God but Me, the Almighty, the All-Powerful." By My Life! The machinations of nations cannot frustrate Me, nor can the might of the world. I have arisen through My power and strength before all faces, and My tongue hath spoken that which hath caused the limbs of them that have disbelieved in the Day of Judgment to quake. Say: O concourse of earth! Your Goal and your Beloved, Whom ye have mentioned night and day, hath come.

Fear God and deny not Him in Whom ye have believed before. Cast away what ye possess and take hold of that which ye are commanded in that which hath been sent down in a perspicuous Book. This is the Day wherein the Mother Book speaketh, did ye but know, and wherein the Most Great Name calleth aloud among the nations, did ye but hear. The Hidden One hath appeared, did ye but perceive. Beware lest the affairs of creation hinder you from the Truth. Arise in My Name, then aid Him through remembrance and utterance. Thus hath the matter been decreed from the presence of an Ordainer, All-Wise.

O Ali! The clamor of which We had informed thee beforehand hath been raised, and that which had been inscribed by My Most Exalted Pen in various Tablets hath come to pass. To this every discerning one beareth witness. We have sent down for thee that from which the fragrance of My loving-kindness hath been wafted. To this My tongue in My exalted station beareth witness. And We have sent down for every name that was in thy book that whereby those who are nigh unto God perceive the fragrance of the garment of thy Lord, the Gracious. Convey My glory to the faces of My loved ones who were not hindered by the promptings of any deceiver, nor were they frightened by the tyranny of any remote oppressor. Say: Hold fast unto the Book of God and His Cause. By My life! That which the people possess shall perish, and that which hath been ordained for you by an All-Knowing, All-Wise Protector shall endure.

From whatsoever hath been sent down from the Kingdom of Divine favor, every soul doth inhale the fragrance of grace and bounty. What else can this evanescent servant mention or submit? At all times he beseecheth God, exalted be His glory, to protect His loved ones and preserve them from the evil of the cawing ones. The oppression of the divines and that which hath befallen the friends at the hands of rulers hath been and continueth to be the cause of the exaltation of the Word, as hath been witnessed in the past and present. If God, exalted be His glory, were to unveil for them what He hath unveiled for His loved ones, all would be seen turning toward the supreme horizon.

To most people today the Cause hath become obscure; they have imagined that the party of God, exalted be His glory, are workers of corruption rather than of reformation. The cawing ones who have turned away from the Most Great Ocean and set their faces toward the fetid spring have manifested the utmost enmity and the most grievous cruelty. Each day they are occupied with a new deceit. They plagiarize from

the divine verses and utter calumnies such as the Pharaohs and tyrants of old never uttered. The Sun is shining, the Moon is gleaming, and the Full Moon is manifest, yet all are heedless. We beseech God, exalted be His glory, and implore Him to protect His loved ones from the like of such souls. He is, verily, powerful and mighty over all things.

The offering of greetings and salutations to the friends of that land is entrusted to that beloved one, and for all I seek steadfastness. In the divine Tablets this word hath repeatedly been revealed—His word, exalted and mighty is He:

> "The beginning of all things is the knowledge of God, and the end thereof is steadfastness in His Cause."

We must, with the utmost lowliness and supplication, beseech the Goal of all creation that He may adorn all with the ornament of steadfastness. Some souls, despite their claims of steadfastness, certitude and assurance, were veiled by a single cawing from the flow of the Most Exalted Pen. Verily, they are among the wrongdoers in the perspicuous Book. For each one of the names, a most holy and exalted Tablet hath been sent down from the heaven of the Divine Will. I beseech God, exalted be His glory, to cause all to attain, and to grant them sustenance from the ocean of inner meanings that lie concealed and treasured within the words. How often it happens that one's hand is immersed in the ocean, yet one fails to drink therefrom. However, this is the Day of Grace. The hope of the world is in motion and ecstasy, even though its people perceive it not.

This is what was revealed for him who was named Karbala'i Isma'il. His words, blessed and exalted is He:

He is the Counselor, the All-Knowing

Today from the rustling of the Lote-Tree beyond which there is no passing, this most exalted Word is heard: Blessed is every hearer and blessed is every one who turneth unto it. O peoples of the earth! He Who was treasured in knowledge and recorded in the Books of God, the Lord of the worlds, hath come. O Isma'il! Hold fast unto the Word of God. Shouldst thou discover its fragrance, thou wouldst find thyself in a paradise whose breadth is as the breadth of the heavens and of the earth. To this beareth witness He Who speaketh in the prison—there is no God but Me, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. Know thou, moreover, that should He speak a word, all the books of the world and whatsoever the peoples possess could not equal it. To this testifieth He with Whom is the perspicuous Book. God hath created the world through a word from Him for this Day wherein the Speaker on Sinai hath been established upon the throne with manifest sovereignty. Blessed be thine ear if it heareth what the Tongue of Grandeur hath uttered in this wondrous and incomparable Tablet. The glory shining from the horizon of My Kingdom be upon thee and upon those who have turned toward the Countenance when every heedless sinner turned away therefrom.

And this is what was revealed for His Honor Mulla ʿAli, upon him be the glory of God. His word—exalted be His utterance and mighty His proof:

In the Name of Him Who gazeth from Mine All-Glorious Horizon

This is a Book sent down by the All-Knowing from the Kingdom of Utterance unto him who hath turned unto the All-Informed, that it may draw him to a station wherein he beholdeth naught in existence save the signs of his Lord, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. A letter hath come before the Wronged One wherein thou art mentioned. We make mention of thee with that which the ornaments of the world cannot equal. Be thankful unto thy Lord, the Compassionate, the All-Bountiful. Take hold of the Book with the strength that cometh from Him and say:

> "Praise be unto Thee for having remembered me whilst Thou wert in prison, and glory be unto Thee, O Thou the Goal of them that know!"

Thus hath the Most Great Ocean sprinkled upon thee that thou mayest rejoice and be of them that are assured. The remembrance shining from the horizon of the heaven of Mine utterance be upon thee and upon them who have attained unto tranquility when earthquakes seized all the tribes of the earth save whom God, the Lord of all worlds, did will.

This was revealed for Muhammad Husayn, upon him be the Glory of God. His word—exalted be His utterance and complete His proof:

He is the Hearing, the Answering

O Husayn! The Wronged One maketh mention of thee when the servants rose against Him with such enmity as the eye of time hath never beheld its like, and He, in the midst of tribulation, calleth the people unto the Supreme Horizon—the station wherein the Kingdom of Utterance proclaimeth: "There is none other God but I, the Almighty, the Powerful." Take heed lest the affairs of the world sadden thee or the veils of the heedless ones prevent thee—they who sit in positions of authority and claim knowledge without any clear proof from God, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. Blessed is the one who, being strong, casteth away what they possess, turning unto God, the Lord of all worlds. Whoso hath today attained unto My recognition hath attained unto all good—to this have God's Books, both past and future, borne witness.

Blessed is he who hath heard and attained, and woe unto the heedless ones. Hold fast unto the Sure Handle and cling to the hem of thy Lord, the All-Bountiful. Thus doth the Dawning-Place of thy Lord's revelation teach thee. Remember and say: "Praise be unto Thee, O God of all worlds!" The glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My mercy be upon thee and upon them who have cast away idle fancies and acted according to that which they were bidden in the Book of Certitude from the presence of the Mighty, the Powerful.

This was revealed for Haji Mulla Ibrahim, upon him be the Glory of God. His word—blessed and exalted is He:

In My Name, the Forgiving, the All-Bountiful

Today from the rustling of the winds of the All-Merciful's utterance this word is heard: Whoso hath attained unto recognition of that which the Tongue of Revelation hath spoken hath attained unto that which none before him hath attained. Blessed is he who hath hearkened unto the Divine Call and turned

unto His horizon. The world was created for this Day. All them that drew nigh unto God and were sincere did for years lament and bewail their separation from this Day. Blessed are they whom the veils of the learned have not hindered and whom the might of rulers hath not kept back from the recognition of God. Arise to guide the wayward unto the straight path through the name of Truth and with wisdom and utterance, and draw the heedless unto the quarter of awareness. Remember what the All-Merciful hath revealed in the Qur'an:

> "Whoso quickeneth a soul is as though he had quickened all mankind."

In this Revelation this word hath been multiplied a hundredfold. Is there any hearing ear to be found in the land or any penetrating vision to be witnessed? In all conditions beseech ye the Self-Sufficing Lord that He deprive not His creatures of the breezes of His days. He is the Almighty to Whose power every possessor of knowledge hath testified. The glory manifest and resplendent from the horizon of My will be upon thee and upon every steadfast and firm one.

This was revealed for Mulla Karim, upon him be the Glory of God. His word—exalted be His grandeur:

Section 2: "In My Name, through which they that lay…"

In My Name, through which they that lay in their graves arose

Say: O concourse of the heedless! He Who conversed on Sinai hath come, Whose advent was foretold in the Books of God, the Lord of Lords. Say: By God! The Fire hath appeared from the Divine Lote-Tree and the Tongue of Grandeur speaketh openly. Beware lest ye deprive yourselves of this bounty, the like of which hath never appeared in creation. By God! The world hath rejoiced at the appearance of the Ancient King, yet the peoples are in a wondrous slumber. O Karim! The All-Bountiful mentioneth thee in truth and calleth thee to God, the Lord of all men. We summoned the divines to the supreme horizon, yet they call Us to the dust. The call of the infidels is naught but error.

Arise thou to serve the Cause and remind the servants of what hath been sent down from My Most Exalted Pen at morn and eventide. Say: O concourse of divines! Fear ye the Lord of Names. Leave behind what ye possess and turn with illumined hearts to the station which God hath made most exalted. The Mount hath been illumined by the lights of the Manifestation, and the Lote-Tree calleth out with its loudest voice: "The Kingdom belongeth to God, the One, the Almighty, the Unconstrained!" Is there any hearing ear that will hearken to My sweetest call? Is there any one with the sense of smell who will inhale the fragrance of My utterance whereby the kingdom of mystic knowledge was attracted?

Thus doth My Most Exalted Pen move in the arena of utterance, by the command of God, the Lord of Religions. The Light shining from the horizon of the heaven of My mercy be upon those whom the affairs of the world have not withheld from the Lord of all beings—they who have arisen and said: "God is our Lord and the Lord of all who are in the earth and the heavens."

And this was revealed for his honor Ahmad, upon him be the Glory of God. He, exalted and mighty, saith:

In the Name of the All-Knowing, the All-Seeing

O Ahmad! Reflect upon the words “may God hasten his relief.” I swear by the Sun of the horizon of inner meanings, were anyone to reflect purely for the sake of God, the Hand of His bounty would lead him to the ocean of knowledge, such that neither the whisperings of the ungodly nor the insinuations of the deniers would keep him from God, exalted be His glory. Those who arose mentioning His blessed name and uttering “may God hasten,” attacked with sword and spear and rose up to battle against the Manifestation of God’s Cause. O Ahmad! The recompense of the reprehensible deeds of the heedless souls prevented them from the Most Great Ocean and deprived them of the lights of the Sun of Truth. Whosoever today hath broken the chains of vain imaginings and rent asunder the veils of the ascetics, he is mentioned as the most exalted of creation before the Truth and is recorded by the Most Exalted Pen as being among the people of the Crimson Ark. Blessed are they who advance and woe unto those who turn away.

And this was revealed for his honor Muhammad-Baqir, upon him be the Glory of God. He, exalted and mighty, saith:

He is the Expositor, the All-Knowing

This Wronged One has, during the nights and days, summoned the peoples of the earth to the horizon of the heaven of true knowledge, and all atoms bear witness that not for a moment has the Pen ceased to move. Though the outward Pen may at times have paused, the Pen of the Divine Command has remained in constant motion—a motion that no stillness can overtake. Yet the faithless people, in place of praise, have chosen cruelty, and instead of gratitude have begun to complain. Would that they had attained unto the hearing of but one word of the divine utterances! Would that they had perceived its fragrance! The intoxication of vain desires has seized them all, such that they remain deprived and veiled from the Lord of all beings.

Reflect upon the deeds of humanity, and likewise upon what thou hast heard of the traces of this Revelation. Today the Concourse on High is astounded and the denizens of the Kingdom of Names are bewildered, for the One Whose beauty all eyes had yearned to behold and Whose praise was upon every tongue—after His appearance and manifestation, all arose in hypocrisy against Him. Blessed are the strong ones whom neither the might of princes weakened nor the power of enemies deprived of the Lord of Names. Forsake the world and all that is therein, and hold fast unto the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. Behold negation as non-existent and cleave unto the hem of affirmation. This is the counsel of the Wronged One of the horizons to the loved ones of God, glorified be His majesty.

Blessed be they that are nigh unto God, and they that are endued with true understanding, and they that act in accordance with His teachings, and woe unto the idolaters, and the heedless, and they that raise the call of ignorance.

This is what was revealed for Karbala’i Husayn, upon him be the glory of God. His word, exalted be His grandeur and mighty His proof:

I am the Rememberer and I am the Remembered One

Say: Glory be unto Thee, O my God, my Lord, my Beloved, my Purpose, my Hope, and my Desire! I beseech Thee by the Ocean whereupon Thy people were carried, and by the Ark that sailed upon the sea of recognition through Thy Name and Thy favor, to send down upon all who exist that which befitteth Thy generosity and bounty. O Lord! Thou seest the enemies of Thy Self turning away from Thy Cause and striving to extinguish Thy light and quench the fire of Thy divine Unity. I beseech Thee by the power that hath encompassed all created things, and by the might that hath subdued all contingent beings, to send down from the heaven of Thy mercy upon them that are nigh unto Thee that which shall gladden their eyes and rejoice their hearts, in such wise that the sorrows of the world and the oppression of the nations shall not prevent them.

O Lord! Aid them, then, with the hosts of the unseen and the visible realm, and ordain for them, by Thy Most Exalted Pen, that which Thou hast destined for Thy chosen ones who have expended all they possessed in Thy path and soared in the atmosphere of Thy love. Verily, Thou art the Almighty over whatsoever Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the Strong, the Powerful.

We make mention of Muhammad-i-Qabli-Rida and counsel him with that wherewith We have counseled Our loved ones. He is, in truth, the Counselor, the Trustworthy. Hold fast unto the Book of God—verily, it will protect thee and draw thee nigh unto Him. Of this doth this Speaking Book, the Mighty, the Wondrous, bear witness. The glory of God rest upon thy son and his family, and upon thee, from God, the Lord of all worlds.

This is what was revealed for Haji Husayn, upon him be the glory of God. His word, exalted be His majesty and all-encompassing His grace:

I am the Compassionate, the All-Bountiful

A remembrance from Our presence to one who has turned to the Truth on a day wherein all mankind hath turned away save those who have cast aside vain imaginings and clung to the hem of the robe of their Lord's loving-kindness, the Lord of all creation. This is the Day whereon all that lay hidden in hearts and veiled from eyes hath been made manifest. To this beareth witness the Pen of God, the Most High, the Most Exalted. Take hold of the Book of God with the power that proceedeth from Him, then make mention of Him amidst the denizens of Paradise. Beware lest the veils of the corrupt deter thee, or the might of those who have disbelieved in God, the Lord of the Throne and of the dust, frighten thee. We have revealed the pearls of the ocean of utterance unto all who dwell within the realm of possibility, yet the people have denied them, having followed their own desires and idle fancies. The Promised One hath come, and all things have cried out:

> "The Kingdom is God's, the Lord of the Hereafter and of the former days!"

Among the people are those who heard, arose, turned and responded, and among them are those who denied, turned away, and committed that which caused the dwellers of the most exalted Paradise to lament. O people of Baha! Cast aside what the people possess and take hold of that which ye have been commanded by God, the Most High, the Most Glorious. Thus hath the Tongue of Grandeur spoken, while seated upon the throne. Blessed is he who hath turned, heard and seen, and woe unto him who hath

turned away and gone astray. The glory shining forth from the horizon of the heaven of My grace be upon My loved ones who have answered their Lord when the Call was raised amongst all peoples.

This was revealed for Muhammad Kazim, upon him be the glory of God. He saith, exalted be His dominion and mighty be His proof:

He is the One manifest from the highest horizon

The signs have encompassed the world and the evidences have appeared. The Kawthar of utterance floweth before all faces and the rustling of the Divine Lote-Tree is raised high. He Who conversed on Sinai calleth out with the most exalted call, and the Concourse on High circle round, yet the people are heedless to such a degree that they are observed to be unaware and deprived of the effulgences of the Sun of Truth and the waves of the ocean of knowledge. The grace of God is more manifest than the sun, yet these faithless people are for the most part veiled. Would that they had been content with denial and rejection! They have committed that which hath caused the denizens of the most exalted Paradise to cry out and lament.

Throughout ages and centuries they awaited this Day, yet when it appeared they did that which the Pen is powerless to describe. O people of Baha! Beseech God, glorified and exalted be He, to guide the wayward ones of the earth and show them the path. He is the Powerful, He is the Mighty. There is none other God but He, the Most High, the Most Glorious. We counsel the people of God, at the end of Our utterance, to fear God and to act in such wise as would exalt His Cause among His servants. Blessed is he who hath held fast unto the Truth, turning away from those who have disbelieved in God, the Lord of the worlds.

This was revealed for Mulla Akbar. He saith, mighty be His utterance, sweet be His call, and mighty be His proof:

He is the All-Knowing Witness

O Akbar! The Lord of humanity has come, every hidden matter has been revealed, and the call has been raised from the Most Great Scene, yet most of the people do not understand. Say: By God! That which was concealed has been manifested, that which was hidden has emerged, and He Who was promised has come. Hasten, O people, and be not of those who denied God's grace and His Cause, who rejected His bounty and disputed His signs that have encompassed both earth and heaven. This is the Day when existence itself smiled at His mention, yet the people have turned away from Him. Say: Fear the All-Merciful, O people of the realm of possibility! Be fair in what has been revealed in truth. Come, that I may show you the Supreme Horizon; come, that I may cause you to hear the Call of God, the Protecting, the Self-Subsisting. Beware lest riches occupy you in these days of your Lord, the Self-Sufficient, the Most High. Leave behind you the ornaments of the world, hastening to His station, the Mighty, the Inaccessible.

O Akbar! Gather what the Most Great Ocean has cast upon thee of the pearls of knowledge and wisdom, then give thanks to thy Lord, the Possessor of the visible and invisible. This is the Day wherein one can hear from the waves of the sea: "The Sovereign has come"; from the rustling of the trees: "The Chosen One has appeared"; and from the murmuring of the waters: "The Kingdom belongs to the Lord of Names"—yet the people hear not. Thus has the rustling of the Lote-Tree of the Far Boundary been raised.

Blessed is he who has heard, and woe unto every heedless and veiled one. The glory that has shone forth from the horizon of the heaven of My utterance be upon thee and upon those who have cast away idle fancies and vain imaginings.

Praise be to God! The fishes of love have attained unto the ocean of the All-Merciful's utterance, and the moons of the horizons of knowledge have derived the lights of inner meaning from the Sun of Truth. This servant beseecheth God to assist them to remain steadfast and to grant them a complete portion from His wondrous and exalted Tablets.

Know ye that concerning the treatise on proofs which ye wrote, it was presented before the Most Holy and Most Exalted Presence. Thus spoke the All-Merciful, exalted be His utterance: In these matters it would be more fitting and appropriate to present the Kitab-i-Iqan and the Tablet to the Shah. O Ali, be not grieved by the clamor of the heedless and the outcries of the ungodly. Ere long will the standards of justice and fairness be raised throughout all regions in the name of Truth. Today all monarchs consider this people to be mischief-makers, for in truth at the beginning certain deeds were manifested by some of this community that caused the very pillars of faith to tremble. They took possession of people's property without permission, and counted murder, bloodshed, plunder and pillage among praiseworthy deeds.

They observed not the rights of any faction among the factions. And those souls imagined these acts to be acceptable, even though they were adorned with the ornament of divine love and crowned with the diadem of detachment. Due to their utter simplicity and lack of knowledge they committed such deeds and considered them all to be from God. These acts became the cause of people's aversion and the clamor and turning away of mankind from the Truth. Now, for more than thirty years the fire of corruption, warfare, strife and contention has been quenched and extinguished in all regions and countries, yet still they remain in doubt and uncertainty.

Glory be to God! In the divine Tablets all that causes grief was forbidden, let alone deeds that cause terror and alarm among people. Beseech ye God that He may make His servants aware and grant them sustenance from the ocean of knowledge. For if they were to become somewhat aware and understand the purpose of God, exalted be His glory, both ruler and subject, both wayfarer and pauper would all turn toward the court of God's favor and cling to the hem of His grace. Blessed art thou, O Ali! We bear witness that thou hast heard in the path of God and witnessed that which grieved the hearts of the Concourse on High. Rejoice thou in this testimony which the Tongue of Grandeur hath spoken in His mighty prison. Upon thee be My glory and upon those who have held fast to the cord of God when He came with manifest sovereignty.

In all conditions the gain hath been and is with the friends of Truth. These injuries and harms shall become the source and dayspring of triumph, success and good. Every person of insight and hearing hath testified and doth testify that whatsoever hath flowed and doth flow from the Most Exalted Pen hath been and is being fulfilled word for word.

O thou beloved one, if the treatise on proofs that was written is sent to this servant it would be appreciated.

God willing, through divine grace, ease shall follow hardship and comfort shall follow distress. Consider ye the companions of the Seal of the Prophets, may the spirit of all else but Him be sacrificed for His sake—what they were at first and what they became at last. At first some would satisfy their hunger with a date-stone, while at the end they would give away heaps and stacks in charity. The servant beseecheth his Lord to send down from the heaven of His bounty upon His loved ones a blessing from His presence. Verily He is the Powerful, the Mighty.

I convey greetings to the family members and relatives, upon them be the glory of God, and I beseech for each one that which befitteth the generosity of the Ocean of Bounty. Verily He is the Generous One to Whose grace, generosity, bounty and benevolence all created things have testified. Glory and remembrance and praise be upon you and upon them from God, the Kind, the Forgiving.

BH00225: Praise, sanctified beyond the mention of all created things…

Section 1: "In the Name of our Lord, the Most…"

In the Name of our Lord, the Most Holy, the Most Great, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious

Praise, sanctified beyond the mention of all created things, befitteth the most holy and most glorious court of the Desired One, Who hath, through the key of His Most Great Name, opened wide the portals of reunion before the countenance of all peoples and nations, Who hath called out with the most exalted call between earth and heaven, and hath summoned all to the most sublime horizon, the Seat of the revelation and manifestation of the Lord of Names. He hath opened wide the gate of reunion and guided all to the straight path. Yet the people remain deprived and veiled from this Day and from its recognition. Blessed are they who have perceived the breezes of the morn of revelation and who have risen from the graves of heedlessness at the breath of divine revelation. These are the servants mentioned in the books of old and those yet to come, whom God, exalted be His glory, hath given glad tidings and numbered among the people of the Crimson Ark. Exalted be His grace and great is His dominion!

Glory be unto Thee, O Lord of creation and Sovereign over all servants! I beseech Thee by the breathings of Thy utterance and the lights of Thy manifestation in Thy days to ordain for Thy loved ones that which Thou hast ordained for Thy chosen ones, whom Thou didst aid with the hosts of the unseen and the visible, and whom Thou didst protect from those who denied Thee and Thy mighty signs and turned away from Thee, O Creator of the heavens! Thou art He Whom the veils of Thy creation cannot hide, nor can that which Thou hast created in Thy realm by Thy will prevent Thee. Thou art He Who hath ever been the Sovereign of the kingdom of power and its Ruler, and the King of the realm of might and the Manifestation of its effects. There is none other God but Thee, the All-Witnessing, the All-Hearing, the Almighty, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

And further: that spiritual loved one's letter was received repeatedly, and in truth each letter thereof spoke in praise of Him Who is our Goal, your Goal, and the Goal of all who are in the world. The ear was delighted by its melodies and the eye was illumined and brightened by beholding it. After its perusal, reading and examination, the Most Sublime Summit was sought and the details were presented before

the countenance of the Lord of Names. This is what the Tongue of Grandeur spoke in reply, exalted be His utterance and mighty be His sovereignty:

In My Name, the All-Witnessing, and in My Name, the All-Hearing

O Amin! The Lord of all worlds maketh mention of thee from this most exalted Station which hath been named with the Most Beautiful Names. By the life of God! He draweth thee unto the station of sanctity and nearness and attainment unto His presence, even as He drew thee nigh aforetime. Verily thy Lord is the Mighty, the All-Bountiful. We have made mention of thee before and after, and in thy presence and absence. Verily thy Lord is the Mighty, the All-Bestowing. The servant here present hath come with thy letter time and again. He hath attained unto the hearing thereof, and there hath been sent down from the Kingdom of eternity that which is beyond compare with all the treasures of earth or with that wherein the parties take pride.

Counsel the servants with that which We commanded thee when thou wert present, standing before the gate. Blessed is the servant who hath held fast unto that whereby the Cause of God hath been exalted among His servants, and woe unto those who have turned away from the Truth in that they followed them who denied God's grace and violated the Covenant in their final end. Say: O people of Baha! Hearken unto the call of Him Who is the Lord of Names. Take ye the chalice of steadfastness and drink therefrom in the name of God, the Lord of Lords. O Amin! We have sent down verses unto thee before and after, and have expounded them as a grace from Our presence. Within the grasp of My power lie the reins of all who are in earth and heaven.

O thou who gazest upon the Countenance! That whereof We forewarned the servants hath come to pass, and the clamor hath been raised throughout all regions through that which the hands of every sinful doubter have wrought. The buzzing of flies hath risen from behind the veil. Say: Fear God and follow not thine own self, O thou lying idolater! Be fair in thy judgment—if thou deniest that whereby the eye of the world hath been solaced, by what proof canst thou establish that which thou holdest? Bring it forth then, and be not of them who turned away from God when He came with power and sovereignty. The clamorer raised his cry, and those who cast the Ocean behind their backs followed him, turning unto brackish pools. Remind My loved ones on My behalf and give them the glad-tidings of My loving-kindness and [mercy] and of My remembrance which, when sent down from the heaven of My will, was circled round by all remembrances.

Say: Beware, O people of Baha, lest the strong ones of the earth rob you of your strength, or they who rule the world fill you with fear. Put your trust in God, and commit your affairs to His keeping. He, verily, will, through the power of truth, render you victorious, and He, verily, is powerful to do what He willeth, and in His grasp are the reins of omnipotent might.

Say: Beware lest human conditions grieve you or prevent you from beholding the Most Sublime Vision. Cast away vain imaginings, taking hold of that which ye have been commanded by God, the Lord of the Day of Resurrection. Thus have We illumined the horizon of the heaven of utterance with the sun of clear proof. Blessed is he who hath turned thereunto, and woe unto every heedless infidel.

Praise be to God! The lights of the Sun of Divine favor have encompassed the world and illumined all the atoms of creation. How strange, how utterly strange, that most of the servants are seen to be deprived. Some are held back by the intoxication of pride, others by the intoxication of wealth, some by the conditions of self and desire, and yet others by the doubts and intimations of the divines, together with the turning away, objections and denial of the people of the earth. The Lord of Names—exalted be His grandeur and His might—hath at all times called the people of the contingent world to that which would draw them nigh unto Him and guided them to the straight path. But the hardness of hearts and the wretchedness of souls have been manifested to such a degree that they denied the outpourings of the True One and veiled the effulgences of the Sun of the heaven of inner meanings behind the veils of self and passion. Not content with this, they pronounced judgment upon that which caused the dwellers of the most exalted Paradise and the inhabitants of the supreme Heaven to be seized with terror and dismay.

Glorified art Thou, O God of the world, Who hath appeared through the Most Great Name! I beseech Thee by the ocean of Thy mercy, the heaven of Thy grace, the sun of Thy generosity, and the celestial spheres of Thy bounty, to send down upon Thy servants that which will draw them nigh unto Thee and cause them to recognize what Thou hast manifested in Thy days and what Thou hast ordained in Thy Book for such of Thy servants as are nigh unto Thee. O Lord! Deprive them not of what lieth with Thee, nor withhold from them what Thou hast ordained for Thy chosen ones. Thou art He Whose mercy hath preceded all things, Whose grace hath preceded all, and Whose loving providence hath encompassed the kingdom of earth and heaven.

In truth, for a long while hath this servant been immersed in the ocean of wonderment, for if man were to reflect, were there a Revelation greater than what hath been manifested, or affairs more momentous than what hath transpired, tranquility might prevail. Yet from the beginning of creation until now, as God knoweth, no such matter hath appeared. All divine Books bear witness to what hath been and is being mentioned. Were true ears to be found, they would hear today the call of all Books, summoning with their loudest voice those who turn unto them toward the supreme horizon. Verses have encompassed the horizons, evidences have filled the world, and the effulgences of the Sun of meaning and utterance have seized all things. Nevertheless, that which causeth man to be ashamed to mention is witnessed, and that which the tongue is powerless to describe is heard. The Cause is in His grasp—He doeth what He willeth and ordaineth what He pleaseth. He is the Mighty, the Praiseworthy.

Regarding the fifty tumans which were ordered to be given to the prisoners, they have written that they were given (in the land of Q) and the receipt was sent. We beseech God to aid him who hath held fast unto that which is right and hath done that which gladdeneth the hearts of the sincere ones.

As to their having appointed this servant as a representative to attain the presence of that beloved one on their behalf—praise be to God, this intention hath been realized and hath been graced with acceptance before His countenance. Well is it with you and with whosoever hath attained the grace of God, the Lord of the worlds.

Concerning what was repeatedly written about the beloved of hearts, His Holiness Varqa, upon him be the glory of God, the Lord of Names—verily he standeth firm in service and uttereth the mention of the

Peerless Friend. Exalted, exalted is this most high station and this supreme rank! All that that beloved one wrote was in accordance with reality. Well is it with him, pleasant unto him, and glad tidings unto his presence.

Regarding the mention made of Aqa Mirza Muhammad-ʿAli and Aqa Khalil, upon them be the glory of God, and the mention of their contribution that appeared in the path of God, specifically for the oppressed ones of the land of Ta—these matters were honored to be heard in the Holy Presence. This is what the Tongue of Grace hath spoken in the Kingdom of might and power. His word, exalted be His majesty:

O Amin! Blessed are they who have in these days arisen to serve the Cause. Every deed that appeareth today from any soul in the path of God is recorded as the sovereign of deeds in the presence of the Self-Sufficient, the Most High. Blessed is Muhammad-ʿAli, whom thou hast mentioned, and he who is named Khalil. We make mention of them both and give them the glad tidings of the acceptance of what they have wrought in My straight Path. Convey My greetings unto them both. We beseech God to send down upon them that which will draw them nigh unto Him and protect them from the evil of His enemies. Verily, He hath power over all things.

Concerning your mention of the land of M-R, and the intention to turn toward that direction; and your mention of Aqa Mirza Haji Aqa, the son of Ibn Dakhil—upon them be the Glory of God; and likewise your mention of Mulla Haji Aqa in Shishvan; and Aqa Muhammad-'Ali Mamaghani in Bunab; and Aqa Siyyid Muhammad—upon them be the Glory of God: the remembrance of these souls, and of the believers of that region, was all laid before the Countenance of the Lord of the Footsteps. This is what hath been sent down from the Kingdom of Omnipotence for the loved ones of our Lord, the Chosen One. He—blessed and exalted be He—saith:

He is the Caller between earth and heaven!

O friends of God in M and R! Hearken unto the call of the Lord of all beings, through Whose advent the fragrance of the Divine Manifestation hath been wafted throughout the world and the Nightingale of Faithfulness hath warbled upon the Branch of Eternity that there is none other God but Him, the Single, the One, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. We have made mention of you before and after, and given you glad tidings of the favors of your Lord, the All-Bountiful, and informed you of the appearance of the clamorous ones in the domains of God, the Lord of all worlds. Beware lest their clamor debar you from the Day-Star of the horizons. Cast aside all else and hold fast unto that which ye have been commanded by God, the Almighty, the All-Powerful.

Section 2: "O people of M and R! The Wronged…"

O people of M and R! The Wronged One maketh mention of you in this Prison which God hath made the most exalted of stations. Hearken unto the call of the Lord of Names which hath been raised in truth as a token of His grace. He is, verily, the Mighty, the Chosen One. We make mention of A and H and those who have believed therein with such remembrance as causeth hearts and souls to take wing. Blessed is he who hath held fast unto that which is praiseworthy and acted in accordance with what hath been

commanded in the Book of God, the Lord of all men. By the life of God! This is the Day of remembrance and utterance, the Day whereon the stations of the servants are made manifest in this Cause at which the heaven of idle fancies hath been cleft asunder. The carpet of vain imaginings hath been rolled up by the hand of power, and the temple of certitude hath been established upon the throne, despite every ignorant doubter.

O people of Shishvan! Hearken unto the call of the All-Merciful. He made mention of you before and maketh mention of you at this time wherein the Ancient Beauty uttereth that which attracteth the hearts of them that are endued with understanding. Beware lest the affairs of men withhold you from the Truth. Shatter the idols of vain desire through the name of the Lord of all creation, and take the chalice of steadfastness in the name of the Dawning-Place of the Light of Oneness, then drink therefrom with power and authority. Ye are the gems in the mines of the earth and the pearls in the shell of the sea. God hath manifested you on a Day which was heralded in His Books of old, as attesteth the Mother Book which is with Him. We counsel you to show forth love and affection, and such unity as would cause the horizons to shine forth. Beware lest the might of them that have denied God, the Lord of the Final End, veil you. Soon shall the earth and all that is therein and thereon perish, and sovereignty over the kingdom and the realm shall remain with God, the Cleaver of the Dawn.

We make mention of one of Our loved ones in Shishvan who was named Haji Qabla Aqa and We counsel him with that wherewith We have counseled Our servants before, when the Most Exalted Pen raised its cry between earth and heaven: Rejoice in My remembrance of thee, then make mention of My loved ones on My behalf and give them glad tidings of that which hath been ordained for them in the Crimson Book by the Pen of God, the Almighty, the All-Bountiful.

O people of Baha! By God, the gate of reunion hath been opened and the horizon of Revelation hath been illumined by the lights of the countenance of your Lord, the Self-Sufficient, the Most High. Blessed is he who hath cast away vain desires and held fast unto that which is commanded in the Book of God, the Lord of all mankind. We counsel you to observe justice and equity and that whereby the Cause of God, the Lord of religions, may be exalted. And We counsel you to wisdom as We have counseled you before. Fear God and be not like those who arose and said “God is our Lord,” but when the breezes of trial blew, they turned back on their heels. O people of the world! Fear the Lord of eternity, then leave the abodes of idle fancies and vain imaginings in the name of the Lord of all mankind. By God! The Sun is at its meridian, and from the horizon of majesty the Beauty of Glory proclaimeth: “There is none other God besides Me, the Self-Sufficient, the Most High.”

We make mention of other lands which have been blessed by the breaths of those whom God hath made His friends in His earth and for whom He hath sent down that which delighteth the eyes. Arise to serve the Cause and make up for what hath escaped you in the days of God, the Lord of creation. Beware lest ye be saddened by the doings of those servants who have cast the Book of God behind their backs and violated the Covenant on the Day of Meeting. Thus surgeth the ocean of utterance when the tongue of the All-Merciful speaketh. Blessed is he who hath heard and recognized, and woe unto every stubborn infidel.

O beloved of my heart! You and this servant and the friends of God, glorified be His majesty, must seek and supplicate night and day that He may not deprive His servants of hearing, sight and heart, and likewise withhold not from them the adornment of fairness. For if all the world were to attain, even less than a mustard seed, to hearing and sight, surely all would, upon hearing but one verse of the divine verses, turn toward the ocean of inner meanings. O spiritual friend! What can the servant say and what can the people hear? At every moment a thousand perplexities have arisen and continue to arise, for they have desired to veil the Sun of Truth with the clay of vain imaginings.

Far, far be it! The hands of the world have ever been and shall remain powerless to achieve this. I beseech God, glorified be His majesty, to deal with them through His grace, bounty and generosity, and to not deprive His servants from the ocean of His favors. He is the Powerful, the Mighty. In brief, each one of the friends whom that beloved one hath mentioned hath been blessed with the special favors of the Desired One of the worlds. His is the praise and the glory, His is the thanksgiving and the bounty.

Concerning what you wrote about the Green Land and the honored Mr. Afnan, His Holiness A. and H.—upon him be all the most glorious glory—they had written to the beloved Ibn-i-Nabil—upon him be the glory of God and His favors—and he has acted according to what was written. And concerning what was written about the sum that should reach Mosul, the amount of fifty which they mentioned during their presence was, according to instructions, sent to Mosul. And this amount of twenty-seven (27) tumans which that beloved one wrote about should be sent to His Holiness Ismu'llah Zayn—upon him be all the most glorious glory. And concerning what was written about the affairs of this land and collecting funds from some, nothing has been collected so far. Whatever has been or will be necessary will be collected through religion. They said this is most proper and fitting, and God willing, rights will be fulfilled. And since that beloved one's intention in affairs is for God's sake, all matters will be adorned with the ornament of improvement, even though outwardly means are cut off. But the Truth, exalted be His glory, has been and is the Causer, the Powerful, and the Manifester. Verily He has power over all things.

Concerning their appointing this servant again as representative in their second letter to attain the presence, praise be to God, at the end of the blessed month of Ramadan, on behalf of that beloved one, it was accepted and adorned with the ornament of acceptance. Likewise in the third letter, mention was made of deputized visitation and mention of His Holiness, the beloved of the heart, Varqa—upon him be the Most Glorious Glory of God. It was presented at the Most Holy Court. This is what the Tongue of Grandeur spoke, exalted be His glory:

> "O servant in attendance, be determined in the representation of the Trustee. We have accepted what thou hast done on his behalf as a favor from Us. Verily He is the Bestower, the Generous. And We mention in this station once again he who has arisen to serve My Cause and to make mention of Me and praise Me among My servants and My creation. If thou seest him, convey My greetings to him and give him the glad tidings of My mercy which has preceded all created things. The glory, shining, manifest and resplendent from the horizon of the kingdom of My utterance be upon him and upon him who has attained unto what God has revealed in the Book."

This ephemeral one offers greetings and salutations to them. Praise be to God, they have been and are successful. It is hoped that the souls in those regions will be set ablaze by their fire—a blazing that will not be extinguished. However, in all conditions the servants in those regions must observe wisdom, for the ungodly and deniers lie in wait. The servant asks his Lord to protect His party from the rancor of the divines and the hatred of the clergy. Verily He has power over all things.

Concerning what was mentioned about the spiritual beloved, Mirza A.B.—upon him be the glory of God and His favors—truly they are engaged in service and are successful in good deeds. I beseech the True One, exalted be His glory, to grant from the heaven of favor that which befits the ocean of His generosity and the heaven of His bounty. Verily He is the Near One, the Hearer, the Answerer.

Another matter: His Holiness the Afnan, upon him be all the most glorious splendor of God, attained presence for the first time, and again in these days renewed his request for presence. The Sun of Permission dawned and he was favored with this bounty. In truth, divine confirmation and assistance have been with him, for he attained presence repeatedly in such days. This is the effect of divine verses that were revealed in Tablets specifically for him. Every day a fruit appears and will appear from the Divine Lote Tree of utterance, and assuredly the fruits of the Supreme Pen have not and will never come to an end. Blessed are they and joyous tidings be unto them.

On the 14th day of the honored month of Shawwal, His Holiness the Afnan Aqa Siyyid M, upon him be all the most glorious splendor of God, by command departed from the Land of Purpose to the land of Ha, accompanied by the beloved of hearts Aqa Haji Mirza Muhammad, upon him be the Most Glorious Beauty of God. And the honored one, His Holiness the Great Afnan, upon him be all the most glorious splendor of God, will also attain presence in these days, as special permission has been granted to him. And his honor the Afnan Aqa Siyyid Muhsin, upon him be the Most Glorious Beauty of God, is now present.

I beseech and hope from God, exalted be His glory, that He may assist all to that from which the fragrance of eternity wafts. In truth, this servant is abashed to make this prayer, for whatever has been revealed from the Supreme Pen specifically for them, extinction reaches it not, annihilation seizes it not, and obliteration has no path to it. However, prayer is beloved in every condition. How excellent is what was said: “O prayer from Thee, and acceptance also from Thee.” With divine generosity and grace, every matter becomes easy and simple. It is hoped that He will not deprive His servants from any good. His is the praise in all conditions. There is no God but He, the Forgiving, the Generous.

The glory, the remembrance, and the praise from God, the Lord of all beings, be upon you and upon those with you and upon God’s loved ones in all cities and regions.

The servant 15th of the honored month of Shawwal 1301

BH03314: Praise be to the Lord of creation, and peace…

He is God, exalted be His station, the Greatness and the Power

Praise be to the Lord of creation, and peace and blessings be upon Him after whom there shall be no Prophet, and upon His family and companions through whom shone forth the light of divine unity and through whom was established the law of oneness among creation, and upon those who sacrificed their spirits, children, descendants and wealth in the path of God, the Lord of the visible and invisible, and the Lord of all who are in the heavens and earths. My spirit be a sacrifice for your remembrance! The servant has attained to that which the pen of your love warbled upon the branch of divine knowledge and the tongue of your love in the gardens of utterance. When I learned and heard of this, I turned to the Divine Countenance and presented it. He spoke, and His sweetest words were:

> "We beseech God to assist him in what he desires and enable him to achieve what He loves and is pleased with. Verily He is the Lord of humanity and the Sovereign of the throne and earth."

Greetings from the Wronged One be upon him and upon his son Husayn and upon those with him, female and male, young and old.

As for what your honor mentioned regarding the matter of trade with the spiritual friend Ahmad, upon him be Baha'u'llah, his mother, upon her be Baha'u'llah, does not wish him to travel there as she became grieved when she heard the climate does not agree with him. Today when your honor's letter was read, it was sent to his honored father, upon him be Baha'u'llah, the Ancient Lord, that he might read it and inform your honor of their opinion. And regarding what you mentioned about Jasim, upon him be God's peace, his eminence the honored Afnan, upon him be the Most Glorious Baha, mentioned the details. The servant asks his Lord to make known to all what is best for them and guide them to what benefits them. Verily His path is the straight path and His way is the clear and upright way. Glory and praise be upon your honor and those who bring joy to the eyes and those with you.

The servant, on the 21st of the honored month of Shawwal, 1301

BH04900: O Shafi'! We beseech God that He may enable…

…O Shafi'! We beseech God that He may enable thee to accomplish that which shall endure throughout the kingdom of earth and heaven. Convey Our greetings to the friends in that land, that perchance through the power of the mention of the Most Great Name they may soar with spiritual wings in the atmosphere of inner meanings. Blessed is the soul whose wings of endeavor were not prevented from soaring by the clay of idle fancies, and who, with the wings of certitude, aimed for the ultimate goal, the most exalted summit, the furthermost end, and the highest horizon.

O friends! Hearken unto the call of the Prisoner and hold fast unto that which beseemeth the days of God—namely, to sanctify your beings and purify them from things that veil man's station and incline him toward that which is unworthy….

We beseech God to aid all to manifest goodly deeds, virtuous character, and words that are pure, well-pleasing and acceptable. The conquest of the citadels of hearts hath been ordained to be achieved through the hosts of praiseworthy deeds and character. Contention, conflict, strife and corruption have all been forbidden in God's Book. Beseech ye God not to deprive your towns and lands of the effulgences

of the sun of trustworthiness, the light of truthfulness, and the radiance of justice and equity. Trustworthiness and godliness are as two luminaries shining forth from the horizon of the heaven of the divine Tablet of Laws. Blessed is he who hath recognized this, and woe unto the heedless. We counsel all to unity and harmony. Blessed is he who acteth in accordance with that which hath been commanded, and woe unto those who turn aside. Praise be to God, the Lord of all worlds….

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BH01136: Let the tongue, heart, limbs and members, the inner…

He is God, exalted is He in might and power

Let the tongue, heart, limbs and members, the inner and outer being, the first and last, the veins and hairs—all bear witness to the oneness of God, exalted be His glory, and to His singleness, His might and power, His all-encompassing sovereignty and dominion—exalted be His station, exalted be His sovereignty, exalted be His command, and exalted be His word and His grandeur. And blessings and peace be upon Him with whom the Seal began and ended, who migrated from Batha towards Yathrib due to what befell Him from those who denied the All-Merciful and disputed the proofs, and upon His family and companions through whose lights the horizons were illumined and the servants and lands were brightened.

Thereafter, your letter arrived, and previously another letter as well, and both are two witnesses and two testimonies to your love and devotion. After they were read and reviewed, they were presented before the Countenance of the Intended One, who said:

> “We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to protect them and to send down upon them from the heaven of His loving-kindness a blessing from Him and a table spread from His presence, and to aid them in that which will draw them nigh unto Him in all conditions. Verily, He is the Lord in the beginning and in the end. And I send greetings to My loved ones there who have testified to that which God hath testified, that there is none other God but Him.”

Thus ends His words.

Praise be to God, the glad tidings of your well-being, health and comfort were heard from both letters, causing complete joy. God willing, may this bounty remain perpetual and lasting. This evanescent one’s entreaty is that that honored brother not be saddened by the affairs of the world. Those souls who were above the world, nay through whose being the world was created, have ever been encompassed by tribulations. There befell the Prophets, may God’s blessings be upon them, that which befell no one else. Were one to ponder what descended upon the Seal of the Prophets, may the spirit of all else be sacrificed for Him, one would perish from grief. This Friend called the people to the word of unity, yet they visited upon Him that which caused all the atoms of Batha and all things therein, such as stones and trees, pebbles and date-stones, to lament the tribulations of that Manifestation of God’s command.

No friend remained save a few numbered souls, until the decree of migration was revealed, the details of which that honored one has surely heard. By the Sun of the horizon of utterance, had there been any worth to this world, they would never have accepted these tribulations. Their gaze was fixed upon another station and their heart was turned to another realm. Divine love strengthened all to sacrifice what they possessed. Blessed are those souls who ponder upon what befell in former times. Such reflection causes awakening, and awakening is the cause of the soul's repose.

This evanescent servant has ever remembered and continues to remember that honored one. Convey greetings from this evanescent one to all the gentlemen of that land. I have besought and continue to beseech bounty, health and blessing for each one. Verily, He is powerful over all things and worthy to answer prayers.

It is submitted that His honor Aqa Muhammad Ibrahim (upon him be 96 [Baha'u'llah]) has in these days fallen onto a bed of discomfort, meaning he has become ill. This servant is in Akka while he is in Bahji. Thus far a doctor has been brought twice. He has written repeatedly to this servant stating that he owes money to someone from Beirut from whom he previously obtained copper and work materials. Now a sum must be paid to him but funds are not available, and his honor Aqa Muhammad Rida (upon him be God's peace) has delayed in sending funds for some time. He has requested that you send these funds so that perhaps he may be relieved from embarrassment before that person. He has written and mentioned this in such a way that truly saddened this servant's heart—that is, he has appealed for mercy from you. It is obvious then that something must be done so that credibility is not suddenly lost, as after such upheaval many would be afflicted. I make mention of the light of my eyes and beseech from God, exalted be His glory, his well-being, and likewise I send greetings to the family.

As for their apology regarding the sewing of the cloak not being good—no apology is necessary. As per their instruction we will send another cloak. That which has a replacement merits no complaint. God willing, may they ever remain steadfast upon this pleasing way.

Indeed they have shown much love. The previous cloak was also very good, rather above all good things of the world, for it was sewn with friendship and love. In this case its like and equal are rare. May God, exalted be His glory, grant recompense and bestow its reward.

And as for the dried yogurt that you sent, it was very, very good. Thus far it has been consumed two or three times. Your place was empty. It was truly good—both sender and sent were both successful, you with the wine of mention and it with the wine of acceptance. Peace be upon you and God's mercy and blessings.

Alfalfa seeds were requested from Damascus and arrived—no longer needed.

The servant 27th of the honored month of Shawwal 1301

BH02086: O my God, my Lord, my Master, my Beloved…

In the name of God, the Most High, His station is majesty and power!

O my God, my Lord, my Master, my Beloved, my Heart's Desire! Every time I intended to make mention of Thee, such perspiration of shame encompassed me that I found myself bewildered and dumbfounded. How can a tongue of rebellion be capable of mentioning that station where pure sanctification itself is counted among the sinners? And how can a heedless heart be worthy of comprehending that Lord of all who is desired, before whom the very essence of comprehension has testified and continues to testify to its own inadequacy? Neither is the outward eye worthy to behold, nor the outward ear capable of hearing that call whose sweetness has attracted the kingdoms of earth and heaven.

O my Lord and my Master! Despite this confession and this impotence, the ocean of rebellion has turned to Thee and beseeches from Thee Thine ancient favor. Whatever exists has its relation to Thee and is reckoned as Thy creation. By the breeze of Thy grace, quicken the dead and by the fragrance of Thy garment, grant him attainment. O Thou Who art the Object of worship of the world and the Beloved of all nations! Pure darkness seeks light, and absolute heedlessness has turned to the ocean of knowledge, and the utterly thirsty one seeks the living waters of recognition. This one who is completely asleep has intended the city of wakefulness. Is there any sovereign besides Thee from whom he may seek what he desires? Nay, by Thy Self! Thou art the One Who exists, Who encompasses all, Who protects, Who is powerful and mighty. I beseech Thee not to disappoint me in what I desire from the wonders of Thy bounty and grace. Verily Thou art the All-Bountiful, the All-Generous. O Lord! Send down upon Thy loved ones that which befits Thy bounty and favor, and assist them in Thy remembrance and praise and in what Thou hast revealed in Thy mighty Book. Verily Thou art the Almighty, the All-Powerful.

The letter of that honored friend transformed the darkness of grief and sorrow into the light of joy and gladness. This is from God's favor upon us and upon you. His mercy has preceded and His grace has encompassed all. After it was presented, He said:

> "O Lutfu'llah! Thy mention hath been and is before the Wronged One. We beseech God, exalted be His glory, not to deprive thee of His infinite bounties and to rain upon thee from the clouds of His grace—a rain whose mention shall never be erased from the book of the world. Verily He is the One Who has power over whatsoever He willeth. He giveth and withholdeth, and He is the Hearing, the Answering."

Peace be upon thee and upon those with thee.

Praise be to God that you are mentioned and have been and are present before His face. The favor of the Lord toward you has been and is more evident than the sun. We beseech God not to withdraw the bounty of His favor and not to withhold whatever exists in the world, for all is transient and all bear witness to this truth. We beseech God, exalted be His glory, for His favor which is everlasting and abiding. Verily He has power over all things. Peace be upon you and upon your family and upon your daughter and upon God's righteous male and female servants.

BH02773: A mention from the Wronged One to him who…

He is the One dawning from the horizon of utterance.

A mention from the Wronged One to him who hath drunk the choice wine of revelation when its seal was broken by the finger of his Lord's will, the Mighty, the Powerful, that the verses of his Lord may attract him to a station wherein he heareth from all things that there is none other God but Him, the Single, the All-Informed.

Thy letter hath come before the Face and the servant in attendance before the Throne hath read it. We have answered thee with that whereby bodies have taken flight and the eyes of those near unto God have been solaced. We have found from thy letter the fragrance of thy sincerity to God and thy turning toward His face after the passing of all things. Verily thy Lord is the Hearing, the Seeing. And We found it sanctified from mention of aught else. Thus it behooveth one who hath turned today unto Him Who was promised in the Qur'an on the Day when mankind shall stand before the Lord of the worlds.

Blessed art thou and blessed is he who guided and directed thee to the straight path of God. How many a learned one heard the call when it was raised between earth and heaven, yet attained not to the word "yea," and was recorded among the most lost in the perspicuous Book. But thou didst turn and advance and hear and answer thy Ancient Lord. Give thanks unto God for this most great favor. He confirmeth whom He willeth through a command from His presence, and He is the Mighty, the Powerful, the Wise.

Counsel the servants on My behalf to righteousness and piety, to trustworthiness and godliness, and to that whereby the Word of God is exalted amongst men. Verily thy Lord is the Counselor, the Compassionate, the Generous.

Say: O people, abandon what ye possess of idle fancies. The Hidden Name hath appeared and calleth out with the most exalted call from the supreme horizon, summoning those in the kingdom of creation unto God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy. Beware lest ye deprive yourselves of the Most Great Ocean. Fear God and be not of the heedless. Open your eyes—verily the Sun is at its zenith. Hold fast unto it and be not of the wrongdoers. Soon shall perish what ye and your divines and princes possess, and the Cause shall remain with God, the Lord of the worlds. Thus have the spheres of utterance revolved by the finger of the All-Merciful, and the river of mercy hath flowed through this Most Great Name. Joyous are they who have attained and seen and drunk, and woe unto them that have turned away.

The Glory shining from the horizon of My Kingdom be upon thee and upon those who have turned with radiant faces and illumined hearts unto the horizon wherefrom hath dawned the Day-Star of My Cause, the Mighty, the Wondrous.

BH05112: My Most Exalted Pen hath testified…

In the name of Him Who is the All-Manifest, the All-Knowing

My Most Exalted Pen hath testified to that which the Tongue of Grandeur testified before the creation of earth and heaven—that there is none other God but Him, the Almighty, the Self-Subsisting. The world hath been adorned with the lights of the Most Great Name, yet the people comprehend not. They have violated the Covenant of God and His testament, yet they perceive not. They have cast the Truth behind their backs, clinging to their vain imaginings and idle fancies.

Blessed is he whom vain imaginings have not deterred and who hath keen sight which no veils of the heedless have obscured. Say: O people of the earth! Come forth and draw nigh that We may show you the lights of His countenance from the Most Exalted Horizon and give you to drink of the choice sealed wine. Thy name hath been mentioned before Him Who is the One Remembered. We make mention of thee through verses at whose revelation all within the kingdom of earth and heaven bow down in submission. Let not the might of the ungodly frighten thee. Arise with supreme steadfastness in thy Lord's Cause. Soon shall all thou seest today perish, while that which God, the Lord of all being, hath ordained for thee shall endure. Rejoice thou in My remembrance of thee. Beware! No remembrance can equal it, nor anything the people possess. Of this beareth witness He with Whom is the Preserved Tablet. Be thou steadfast in the Cause, then make mention of thy Lord, the Mighty, the Loving. The glory shining from the horizon of eternity be upon those who have not violated God's Covenant and His testament and who have acted according to that which was enjoined upon them in His perspicuous Tablet.

BH06837: O Ruhullah! Today the Spirit in the sacred valley…

He is the One dawning from the horizon of Glory!

O Ruhullah! Today the Spirit in the sacred valley cries "Here am I, O my God, here am I," and Moses on the Mount of Knowledge gives glad tidings of the Manifestation. Where is the eye and where is the ear that may see and hear? I swear by the lights of the Sun of Truth that if anyone today fails to seize an opportunity, he shall never again be enabled to make amends.

O friends! You are accounted as the flowers of the garden of inner meanings. Strive that there may be diffused from you that which is worthy and befitting. Whosoever is adorned today with goodly deeds and praiseworthy attributes—from him will be diffused that which strengthens the soul. Adorn yourselves with that which you have been commanded by God, the Compassionate, the Bountiful.

Praise be to the Goal of the world Who guided you to the Most Great Sea and did not deprive you of the Choice Wine. It behooveth thee to thank God for this supreme bounty and to remember Him at morn and eventide.

BH06561: Glorified be He Who hath sent down the verses…

He is the Protector of all who dwell in the kingdom of names!

Glorified be He Who hath sent down the verses and guided all to the straight path. Among them are those who have attained unto My grace and found the sweetness of My utterance and turned to My horizon, and among them are those who have denied and turned away from God, the Lord of lords. Blessed is he who hath taken the cup of eternity in My Most Great Name and hath arisen to serve the Cause in such wise as to shake the hearts of all created things.

Say: O people! Do ye not hear the rustling of the Divine Lote-Tree? Do ye not behold the Supreme Horizon? Be fair in your judgment and follow not every doubtful idolater. The Day is come and the people are wrapped in veils and heedlessness. That which was hidden hath appeared and hath spoken as He desired.

Say: O people of the earth! Fear God and deny not Him Who hath come unto you with that which was recorded in the Books and Tablets. Thus hath the Sun of Utterance shone forth from the horizon of thy Lord's will, the All-Merciful, that thou mayest render thanks unto Him at eventide and at dawn. The resplendent Light shining from the horizon of Revelation rest upon thee and upon whosoever hath clung to the hem of God, the Almighty, the Most Glorious, the All-Bountiful.

BH02432: Praise be to God Who has made known…

He is God, exalted be His glory, the Most Great, the All-Powerful

Praise be to God Who has made known to us His path and taught us what draws us near to Him in all conditions, and has granted us His presence which was more precious than all that has been or will be created. Because of this, ignorant servants have risen against us who have deprived themselves of the Salsabil of divine knowledge and the Kawthar of life in the days of the All-Merciful. By the life of our Beloved! They shall soon see their loss in the stations ordained for them by God, the Just, the Wise.

Glory be to Thee, O my God and the Desire of my heart! I beseech Thee to assist Thy chosen ones whom Thou hast distinguished among Thy servants and associated with Thyself, to make mention of Thee and praise Thee. Verily Thou art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest and Thou art the Mighty, the Praiseworthy. May my spirit be a sacrifice for your steadfastness and service.

For some time the response to the petition of the honored servant, Aqa Mirza ʿAli-Rida, upon him be the Glory of God the Most Glorious, has been revealed from the heaven of the Divine Will, but there was delay in sending it. Now two Most Holy Tablets, one a prayer and the other verses, have been sent. Your honor should deliver them to him. One Most Holy Tablet specifically for the beloved of the heart, His Honor Mirza ?.Y., upon him be the Glory of God the Most Glorious, has been sent. God willing, he will attain to it. Permission to come has also been given to him.

The servant begs his Lord to assist your honor in all conditions and protect you from the evil of those who have denied God and turned away from His path and disputed His verses until they pronounced judgment against Him with manifest injustice.

To the honored gentlemen in that land, upon them be His most glorious splendor, I present my utter effacement and nothingness. Some time ago this servant wrote a letter to his honored master, Jinab-i-Amin, upon him be the Glory of God, which was sent for your honor to deliver to him.

Another matter: if His Honor the Physician, upon him be the Glory of God, should make any representation regarding the House, in accordance with wisdom no response is necessary. In all matters wisdom must be observed, and this matter has been so firmly established that one day this exalted word was heard from the blessed tongue, His word, blessed and exalted is He:

> "Acknowledgment and confession are not permitted. If someone confesses to lack of understanding and knowledge, he speaks truth, for no one has been or is truly cognizant of it as it deserves."

This matter too is a mercy to all the people of the world, even though today they are heedless and veiled.

Peace and glory and light and radiance be upon your honor and upon those with you and upon all who are firm and steadfast.

The servant 9 Dhi'l-Qa'dih 1301

BH08168: The essence of praise is befitting and meet today…

The essence of praise is befitting and meet today for Him Whom the onslaughts and trembling of all created things did not constrain His field of utterance, and the might and power and authority of the deniers did not hold Him back from the Most Exalted Word….

Well done and congratulations to you! You have attained both to the Kawthar of utterance and the wine of loving-kindness, and to the lofty station of submission and contentment. I beseech and implore God, exalted be His glory, to grant that beloved one that which has been and is the cause of perpetual mention and enduring deeds. In truth, this station has been granted—to this testifies everyone endowed with vision, hearing and heart. Your mention has never ceased and will never cease to be in the Most Holy Court. I swear by the Sun of the horizon of utterance that you have been and are among the successful ones. As the poet says:

> "If I speak of it, it would confound minds, And if I write of it, many pens would break."

Peace be upon you, upon our brothers, and upon God's righteous servants.

BH02787: Say: O God of existence and Master…

He is the Speaker, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise

Say: O God of existence and Master of the unseen and the seen! Thou seest my rising up and my sitting down, performed purely for Thy sake, and Thou hearest my remembrance and praise of Thee in Thy days, and my crying and lamentation at separation from Thee. O my Lord! This is one of Thy days wherein the hand of Thy grace hath raised me up to serve Thy Cause. O my Lord! I was asleep and the fragrances of the garment of Thy Revelation awakened me, and I was heedless when the warbling of the Bird of Faithfulness, singing upon the branches of the Tree of Thy manifestation, made me aware. When I heard and recognized, I hastened with my heart to Thy most exalted horizon through Thy Most Great, Most Mighty, Most Glorious Name, and I responded with my outer and inner tongue to Thy Call which was raised between earth and heaven.

I bear witness, O my God, Beloved of my heart and He Who is remembered in my soul, that Thy proof hath been completed, Thy bounty hath been perfected, Thy evidence hath been fulfilled, and that which was recorded in Thy Books, Thy Scriptures and Thy Tablets hath appeared. O my Lord! This is the Hour which Thou hast established after its signs through Thy power and sovereignty, whereby the greatest terror hath seized all mankind except those who shattered the idols of vain imaginings through Thy power and drank the wine of certitude from the hands of Thy bounty.

O my Lord! I testify to that which Thy Most Exalted Pen testified before the creation of earth and heaven—that Thou art God, there is none other God but Thee, the Single, the One, the All-Knowing, the

All-Wise. O my Lord! Thou seest my sighs in Thy love and my tears for what hath befallen Thee from the oppressors among Thy creatures who denied Thy manifestation and Thy power, and who rose up to extinguish Thy light and quench the fire of Thy Tree. I beseech Thee, O God of existence and Master of the unseen and the seen, by Thy black tresses and Thy white hand and Thy shining brow and Thy radiant countenance and Thy Most Great Sign and the manifestations of Thy Cause in the kingdom of creation, to strip from the temples of Thy servants the garments of tyranny, ignorance and transgression, and to adorn them with the raiment of knowledge, justice and fairness.

O my Lord! Thou seest me turning unto Thee, holding fast to Thy cord and clinging to Thy robe. I beseech Thee not to deprive me of what is with Thee, then write down for me the good of this world and the next through Thy grace and favor. Make me then a helper of Thy Cause, standing firm in Thy service and celebrating Thy praise. Verily Thou art the Powerful over what Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the Mighty, the Wise.

BH10689: God is Most Glorious

God is Most Glorious

O thou who art mentioned before My throne and inscribed in My Book! Upon thee be My glory, My mercy and My loving-kindness. Verily, the dawning-places of hatred desired to extinguish the light of God, the Lord of Names, and to quench the fire of the Divine Lote-Tree. By God! The hands of Caesars and Pharaohs fell short—how much more these rabble! The glory shining forth from the horizon of the heaven of My grace be upon thee and upon every patient believer.

BH10572: God is Most Glorious!

God is Most Glorious!

This is a mention from Us to one who has attained the lights of the Countenance when the Light was shining from the Most Exalted Horizon and the Tree was proclaiming: “There is no God but Me, the Mighty, the Powerful.” Blessed art thou for having been the recipient of the gaze of the Ancient Being and for having this Clear Tablet revealed for thee. Know thou its station, then give thanks unto thy Lord, the Compassionate, the Generous. The Glory be upon thee from Us, and upon those with thee, and upon all who are firm, steadfast and upright.

BH11196: God is Most Glorious

God is Most Glorious

He Who was wronged mentions you from the prison precincts, O Afnan ʿAli who has attained unto God, and remembers the days of your presence before His face and your standing before the door and your hearkening to My sweetest call in the morning and evening hours. And We make mention of your mother who attained the presence and drank the choice wine of reunion from God, the Exalted, the Great. The glory be upon you both.

BH03132: This is a Book sent down by the Wronged…

He is the Witness from His most exalted horizon.

This is a Book sent down by the Wronged One to him who soared on the pinions of certitude in the atmosphere of divine knowledge until he presented himself at the Gate and entered therein by the leave of his Lord, the Ordainer, the All-Wise. He entered and heard the Call of God—for whose yearning many souls have perished.

O Husayn! Hearken once again unto the Call from the direction of the luminous Spot, the place wherefrom the Lord of Names doth speak and summon all to the supreme horizon, as bidden by God, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. By My life! All the books of the world cannot equal My remembrance. Say: Fear God, O people, and be not of the heedless ones. He Whom ye have mentioned at all times hath come, as attesteth the Book of God, the Mighty, the All-Praised.

Say: Have vain imaginings prevented you from the Lord of all beings, or the might of tyrants from this momentous Cause? Observe, then remember: When Moses came, Pharaohs opposed Him and pronounced judgment against Him without any clear proof from God, the Forgiving, the Merciful. Then remember when the Spirit came, the Jews rose against Him with such tyranny as caused the dwellers of the Kingdom of your Lord, the Possessor of this wondrous Day, to lament. Then remember when Muhammad, the Apostle of God, appeared with clear signs: the people denied Him and committed that which caused the denizens of the highest Paradise and the companions of the Crimson Ark—who offered up their souls and all they possessed in the path of God, the Lord of the Day of Judgment—to weep. No Messenger appeared but the people turned away from Him, and no Prophet came but they denied Him and stoned Him with the stones of their idle fancies. Of this beareth witness He with Whom is the Mother Book.

Give thanks, O Husayn, to thy Lord, for He hath aided thee, prospered thee, and drawn thee nigh until He caused thee to enter a station wherein thou didst hear His mighty and glorious Call. Take hold of the Book of God with the power that proceedeth from Him and say: I beseech Thee, O Creator of the heavens, by the ocean of Thy names and by Thy Name at Whose manifestation the dwellers of the earthly and heavenly kingdoms did prostrate themselves, to preserve me and strengthen me to remain steadfast in Thy Cause, the most mighty, ancient and all-glorious. Verily, Thou art the Lord of all men and the Sovereign of the throne on high and of earth below. There is none other God but Thee, the Mighty, the Beautiful.

BH04315: O My handmaiden! Upon thee be My glory! Thy…

He is the Compassionate, the Most Generous

O My handmaiden! Upon thee be My glory! Thy letter was received and read in the presence of the Wronged One. Praise be to God, the fragrance of faith wafted from it. Such a mighty favor deserves mighty thanks, and such an infinite bounty merits infinite praise. How many men of the earth—from among the divines, princes and doctors of law—were deprived of the recognition of God, exalted be His

glory, on His Day, while thou hast attained to the lights of the Sun of Truth, which is the knowledge of God, exalted be His glory.

Be thou thankful unto thy Lord for this enduring blessing and this eternal, everlasting table. In every age and dispensation, when the Dawning-Places of Revelation and the Manifestations of divine inspiration rent asunder the veil and appeared from the horizon of the divine Will, the people arose in protest and opposition. Verily, they are accounted among the most lost in the perspicuous Book. Blessed art thou, O My handmaiden, for having heard My mention, turned toward My horizon, and attained unto My recognition, the Mighty, the Wondrous. The glory be upon thee and upon him who guided thee to the straight path of God. Say: Praise be to Thee, O my God, for having enabled me to recognize the River of Thy mercy, the Ocean of Thy bounty, the Heaven of Thy grace, the Dawning-Place of Thy Revelation, and the Dayspring of Thy signs—He Whom the heedless ones have imprisoned without any clear proof from Thee or any Book from Thy presence. I beseech Thee to make me one of those steadfast handmaidens whom the affairs of creation have not prevented from turning unto Thee. Verily, Thou art the All-Hearing, the Answerer of prayers. Verily, Thou art the Ever-Forgiving, the Most Merciful.

BH04612: Praise be to God Who perfected the Word…

He is God, exalted be His glory, the Greatness and the Power

Praise be to God Who perfected the Word and sent down the blessing, which is, in the first rank, the House which He made the point of circumambulation for the world and the refuge of nations. Through it, every seeker attains his goal and every searcher finds his desire. It is the House which the Friend built by command of the Glorious One. Blessed are they who have turned towards it from all regions and quarters, and who have spent their hearts and souls in its path. The servant begs his Lord to assist all to attain His presence and circumambulation, to visit its stones and drink from the water of its well. Verily He is the Hearing, the Answering.

And prayers and peace be upon Him through whom the Cause of the House and its dwellers was raised up, He through whose will the Will of God appeared and through whose volition His pervading Will was manifest, through whose utterance flowed the river of mercy, through whom the cycle of Prophethood and Messengership was ended, the proof was completed and the blessing perfected, and the mysteries of divinity were revealed. And upon His family and companions who held fast to the proof until they attained the noble valley wherein was raised the call of the Prophets and Messengers. Praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

Your letter arrived and was presented in the Most Holy and Exalted Presence. Two Tablets were sent. God willing, you will attain unto them and drink from their ocean of knowledge. Peace be upon you and upon God’s righteous servants, and praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH01095: Praise be fitting and worthy of that Intended One…

He is God, exalted be His station, the Grandeur and the Power!

Praise be fitting and worthy of that Intended One through Whose finger of will the spheres of the kingdom of utterance are set in motion, and by Whose blessed Word the world is adorned and distinguished with the ornament of existence. The might of the powerful and the dominion of rulers have not hindered His Will, nor is His Purpose halted by the clamor of the parties of the earth who are outside the blessed Word of unity. Glorified be the Creator, glorified be the Maker! His decree flows, His command pervades, His Will penetrates, and His Purpose prevails. The banner "There is none other God but Him" has been raised, and the standard "He doeth what He willeth and ordaineth what He desireth" is unfurled—and He is the Mighty, the Praiseworthy.

And blessings and peace be upon the waves of the ocean of His knowledge and wisdom, and the rivers of His recognition amongst His creation, and upon Him through Whom the outpourings of the world and the stations of nations were consummated—He Who was named with Ha following Mim, and with Mim preceding Dal. He is the One through Whom appeared the Most Beautiful Names and the Most Exalted Attributes. Were it not for Him, the decree of the House would not have been raised, nor would that which was preserved in the treasuries of the unseen have been manifested.

And upon His family and companions, through whom the limbs of the world trembled and the hearts of nations were attracted, and through whom God's path was made manifest in all else, and through whom the proof was completed and the bounty perfected, and the fear of God encompassed all regions, and His signs appeared in all lands. Exalted are their stations and ranks—through their attainment the teeth of Paradise and its maidens smiled, the trees and their branches swayed. Glory be unto Thee, O my God and the God of all who are in the unseen and the visible, and the Sovereign of existence, and the King of the Promised Day! I beseech Thee by the winds of the spring of Thy mercy and the swords of Thy power and might, to protect Thy believing servants from the evil of the ungodly and oppressors. Then inscribe for them, by the Pen of Thy will, that which befits the heaven of Thy bounty and generosity. There is none other God but Thee, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

And further: I make mention to that spiritual beloved that, praise be to God, thy letter arrived like a herald bearing glad tidings, for it brought news of health and mention of well-being. Indeed, the station of both these is most exalted, for it hath been previously stated: "Knowledge of bodies and knowledge of religions," with knowledge of bodies being given precedence, for if health be lacking, memory becomes impaired and the faculty of understanding grows cold. But when health is attained, both the outward and inward senses remain firm in their respective stations and engaged in their service. Glory be to God! Though each manifesteth in its own manner, no discord appeareth. Were one to attempt to fully describe the degrees of a single soul and all that it containeth, one would need to enumerate and compare every particle of creation. In truth, man is the greater world, and the world is but a lesser reflection of him, as hath been said: "Were I to speak of it, it would overwhelm minds; were I to write of it, many pens would break." I fear these scattered utterances might lead matters to such a state that even after much back and forth the subject would remain incomplete and unfinished.

After being informed and reading it in the presence of His countenance, He uttered words that were such that if cast upon stone, the water of life would flow therefrom, and if cast upon clay, streams of wisdom and explanation would surge forth. That beloved one himself knows what the spirit says and does to the

body, and what the spring breezes bestow upon the garden. This station needs no mention. In the Land of Mystery, in one place, He spoke this supreme utterance:

> "O Javad! Thou wert with Me and didst witness My patience and the waves of the ocean of My utterance. Reflect on what caused Me to raise the Call between earth and heaven."

Verily, I beseech and implore God, exalted be His glory, to assist that beloved one and adorn him with the ornament of health, and to soon grant that which is the purpose of his soul and the desire of his heart. The glad tidings of the well-being of the honored Afnan, upon them be all glory, have arrived from every direction. Whatever occurred was for the best. Thus has spoken the Lord. I beseech and implore God, exalted be His glory, that they may ever dwell beneath the shade of His favor and repose under the shadow of His mercy.

And concerning what you wrote about the two exalted brothers, upon them be the peace of God, their situation was presented. He said: Let them not be sorrowful. Praise be to God, they are adorned with the ornament of recognition and acknowledge and confess the Word of Unity. In this case, they must at all times drink from the ocean of joy and partake of the cup of delight. If for a time affairs proceed contrary to their wishes, it matters not, for assuredly God's grace will make amends. None but God, exalted be His glory, is aware of the consummate wisdom. Say: Be confident in God's grace and mercy. This is for him who holds fast to God's mighty cord.

Regarding what they mentioned about the delay in Beirut and the loss incurred in taking the shop, let them not be sorrowful. Now they should consult with the honored beloved, the esteemed Haji Siyyid Javad, upon him be God's peace, and Aqa Muhammad Mustafa. Whatever emerges from the consultation, let them act upon it. As commanded, you too should be present in that meeting. He said: Convey My greetings to the two brothers and say: He is with you and will assist you, and He is the Single, the One, the Powerful, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

BH02581: Praise be to God Who sent down the Books…

He is God, exalted be His station in greatness and power.

Praise be to God Who sent down the Books and dispatched the Messengers for the protection of His servants and their attainment to the station wherein they acknowledge with heart and tongue that which God hath acknowledged—there is no God but Him, the Mighty, the Bestower. And blessings and peace be upon His Beloved and Chosen One through Whom prophethood and messengership were ended, and upon His family and companions through whom the verses were spread abroad, the signs were raised up, and the standards were planted. And furthermore, this servant submitteth to your honor that the Most Luminous Letter arrived while I was engaged in writing in the presence. After taking and perusing it and becoming informed of its contents, I presented it. He said:

> "We beseech God, exalted be He, to assist him and grant him the good of the hereafter and of this world."

And regarding the mention made of the Afnan, upon them be My greetings, their journey proceeded according to wisdom. We beseech God to open through them a comfortable door. Verily He is powerful over all things. End.

This servant conveyeth greetings to all. From His Honor the Great Master, upon him be from all 9 [Baha] His Most Glorious, I beseech prayers that perchance I may be enabled to perform that which I am commanded. And likewise I convey greetings to my beloved Jinab-i-Aqa Muhammad Mustafa, upon him be the peace and light of God. Though he is not present now, it is as if he were present, nay rather, he standeth before mine eyes. And likewise greetings are conveyed to the other friends and I beseech from God, exalted be His glory, the good of all. To the star of the heaven of love, Jinab-i-Aqa Mirza Mustafa, upon him be God's most exalted peace, I send greetings.

His mention hath ever been and still is made. And regarding what you wrote about Jinab-i-Haji Muhammad ʿAli Aqa arriving with his servant, this news brought joy. Convey greetings. God willing, may they be confirmed through God's favor and dwell beneath the shade of the Tree of Hope. And likewise the person who is in their service is very good. I beseech God to grant him that which He loveth and is pleased with. And that which you had written specifically hath been and will be carried out. At all times and moments I beseech God, exalted be His glory, to assist that beloved one and grant him the good of this world and the next. Verily He is powerful over all things. Peace be upon you and upon your first and your last and your outward and your inward, and the mercy of God and His blessings.

BH04592: In My Name, the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing!

In My Name, the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing!

O Muhammad-Qabli-ʿAli! The Wronged One was with thee when there befell thee in His path what befell the loved ones of God in the past, who broke not His Covenant but arose and proclaimed:

> "We testify that there is none other God but Him. He hath ever been One, Single, Alone, Self-Subsisting, the Ever-Living, the Self-Sustaining, and will forever remain as He hath been. He is the Self-Sufficient, the Most Exalted."

There hath befallen thy Lord what is greater than what befell thee. We have been patient and counsel thee to be patient, for He loveth every grateful, steadfast one. God hath made that which befell His loved ones a treasure for them in His heaven, as attesteth the Mother Book in the most exalted station. The dwellers of the All-Highest Paradise and the companions of the Crimson Ark have lamented what hath befallen My loved ones, yet the people remain in strange slumber. God shall soon replace injustice with justice and shall manifest him who shall arise to serve the Cause at eventide and at dawn.

Thy mention hath been made before the Wronged One, and this Tablet hath been revealed for thee, adorned with the fragrance of revelation and the sweet-scented breezes of inspiration. Take hold of it with the power of God. Thus have We commanded thee as a token of Our grace unto thee. Verily thy Lord is the Mighty, the All-Bestowing. We counsel Our loved ones to patience, calmness, trustworthiness and faithfulness. I am the Mighty, the All-Knowing. The Glory be upon thee and upon those who have

hearkened to the Call and turned with their hearts to My horizon and have arisen to serve My Cause at morn and at eventide. There is none other God but Him, the Mighty, the All-Bountiful.

BH05984: O ʿAli-Akbar! Your mention has been and is before…

He is the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing, the All-Informed

O ʿAli-Akbar! Your mention has been and is before the Most Great Horizon. You have attained unto a Tablet that has shone forth from its horizon with the light of your Lord's loving-kindness. Some time ago the Most Holy, Most Exalted Tablet specifically for you, along with other revealed Tablets, was sent. We beseech God not to deprive His servants of the ocean of inner meanings hidden within the verses, nor to prevent them from the clear and manifest path.

Convey My greetings to the loved ones and give them the glad-tidings of God's grace and favors. Say: Be not grieved by the fire of sedition and corruption that has been kindled through the hardness of men's hearts. I swear by the light of God's countenance, shining and manifest from the Most Exalted Horizon, these matters have been and are the cause of the exaltation of the Word of God. Soon all shall return to extinction and the near ones shall behold the entire Cause as God's, the Lord of the worlds. The glory shining from the heaven of My mercy be upon you and upon every patient and grateful soul. In accordance with the revealed wisdom, We have forbidden all to acknowledge and confess this Cause before the faces of men. All must hold fast to what was said before: "Dissimulation is My religion and the religion of My forebears."

BH06906: The glory shining forth from the horizon of eternity…

He is the One manifest from the horizon of the Kingdom.

The glory shining forth from the horizon of eternity be upon him who hath drunk the choice wine of steadfastness from the hand of the bounty of his Lord, the All-Bountiful.

How many a servant hath heard and turned unto Him, and how many a servant hath heard and turned away—he verily is of them that perish. Blessed are they whom the hosts of earth have not frightened and whom the power of the idolaters hath not weakened. By the life of God! Every power and every might and every party shall pass away—to this doth the Tongue of Grandeur bear witness from this exalted station.

Rejoice, O people of Baha, in My gracious remembrance. Ye have heard the taunts of the enemies, and now ye hear your own praise and glorification from the Pen of God, the Mighty, the Wise. Happy are ye, and joy be unto you, O people of fidelity and unto him who hath drunk the Choice Wine sealed with My Name, the All-Forgiving, the All-Merciful.

The glory shining forth from the heaven of My Kingdom be upon those whom the tyranny of every heedless one who hath denied Him in Whom he had formerly believed did not withhold—he verily is of them that are lost.

BH08777: In this spiritual dawn, from the rustling…

In His Name, the Most Glorious of the Most Glorious

In this spiritual dawn, from the rustling of the breezes of the garden of inner meanings, this exalted Word was heard: "The Hidden One hath come with a Cause before which nothing can stand. The might of the mightiest weakeneth Him not, nor doth the power of sovereigns make Him afraid. He hath spoken and continueth to speak before the face of the world: 'There is none other God but Me, the Single One, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.' We have sent unto thee a Tablet from which the fragrance of thy Lord's gracious favor hath been wafted, and another wherein the Most Great Announcement hath bidden thee to make mention of this mighty Cause. Blessed is he who hath hearkened unto thy word concerning this Cause, and woe betide the heedless ones. Praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

The light shining from the horizon of the heaven of My grace be upon thee and upon every servant who hath arisen to serve the Cause of his Ancient Lord."

BH08694: In My Name, the Most Great!

In My Name, the Most Great!

We have heard the call of those who turned when they heard the Call from the Supreme Horizon, and I am verily the Compassionate, the Generous. O people of Baha! The croaking has risen from one direction and the braying from another, and I am verily the All-Knowing Reckoner. We informed you of this when the Light was shining from the horizon of Zawra. Blessed is the ear that heard and the eye that beheld this luminous scene. Grieve thou not over anything. In all matters place thy trust in God, the Lord of the worlds. He is with His loved ones—He heareth and seeth, and He is the Powerful, the Mighty, the Omnipotent. Thus have We remembered thee with that which thou wilt find to be the fragrance of My loving-kindness. Be thou grateful and say: Praise be unto Thee, O Thou in Whose grasp is the dominion of all who are in the heavens and on earth.

BH02399: A mention from Us to him who desires…

He is the Dawning-Place from the Kingdom of Utterance.

A mention from Us to him who desires to draw nigh unto the Most Great Sea and drink therefrom in the name of his Lord, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting, and to enter into a station whose very atoms testify that there is none other God but Him, the Powerful over what was and what shall be.

O Sadiq! The Wronged One makes mention of thee from the precincts of His Most Great Prison, that the rapture of remembrance may seize thee in such wise as to draw thee to the Most Exalted Horizon, detached from all that is on earth. Verily thy Lord is the One with power over whatsoever He willeth, and in His grasp are the reins of all affairs. We have revealed that which was recorded in the Books of God and summoned all to the Supreme Heights. Among the people are those who heard and hastened, those who denied, and those who disbelieved, until they pronounced judgment against Him Whom the people remember morn and eve.

Remind thou the people of that which hath been sent down unto thee from the heaven of the Will of the Truth, the Knower of things unseen. Should thou find a receptive soul, impart unto him My Most Great Verses, that they may draw him to the Most Exalted Horizon, the station wherein the Tongue of Grandeur proclaimeth: The Kingdom belongeth unto God, the Sovereign of sovereigns. Cast away what is with the people through the power of the Most Great Name and say: O people of the world, the Ancient Beauty hath come, and He Who was promised hath appeared and been recorded in the Tablets of God, the Lord of existence. Fear ye God and follow not your desires. Turn ye unto Him Who calleth you to the Most Exalted Station, from God, the Almighty, the All-Loving.

Counsel the servants to trustworthiness and godliness, and to that whereby the Word of God may be exalted amongst His servants. Verily thy Lord is the True Counsellor, there is none other God but Him, the Single, the One, the Mighty, the Well-Beloved. Hold thou fast in all conditions unto the wisdom that hath been sent down in the Book, a command from God, the Sovereign of the Kingdom. Convey unto the people with wisdom and utterance that which hath appeared in the realm of possibility, and give them the glad-tidings of this Remembrance through which earthquakes have seized the tribes of the earth and the limbs of every heedless and veiled one have trembled.

Say: Glory be unto Thee, O my God and the God of all names, my Creator and the Creator of the heavens! I beseech Thee by Thy Name through which Thou didst subdue the world and through which the ocean of utterance surged in the contingent world and the sun of proof shone forth, to aid me in Thy remembrance and praise and to strengthen me to stand firm in Thy Cause. O my Lord! Thou seest mine eyes fixed upon the horizon of Thy grace, my hands raised to the heaven of Thy bounty, and my heart turned toward the direction of Thy favors. I beseech Thee by the cries of the hearts of the sincere ones in their separation from Thee and by the supplications of them that are nigh unto Thee at the gate of Thy grandeur, to ordain for me and for them that believe that which shall profit us in the Hereafter and in this world from Thy Most Exalted Pen. Verily Thou art powerful over what Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

BH02914: O Abraham, O Babi! Hearken to the call…

He is the All-Witnessing, the All-Hearing

O Abraham, O Babi! Hearken to the call of the Most Exalted Pen which speaketh in the Persian tongue, after having spoken in the most eloquent language. Praise be to the Goal of all the worlds Who hath enabled thee to recognize a Cause from which the divines, the jurists, the mystics, the learned, and the rulers remain veiled and deprived, save whom God willeth. O Abraham! Great is the Cause, and great is the Day, yet the people are heedless and barren. How many souls are occupied day and night with the mention of His appearance, beseeching and hoping to attain His presence. Yet when the Sun of Truth shone forth from the Dayspring of God's Will, some denied, others turned away, and a group hesitated—until the party that considered itself the most exalted of all parties and saw no peer or likeness for itself among religions issued the death warrant for God's chosen ones, nay for the Truth Itself, exalted be His glory.

They committed that which transformed the joy of the denizens of the highest Paradise into grief, and the gladness of the most exalted Garden into lamentation and weeping. Fie upon them and upon what their hands have wrought! Strive thou and make a mighty effort that perchance thou mayest guide a soul and enable it to attain the Kawthar of His presence. We counsel thee to observe wisdom. God, glorified be His majesty, acteth with wisdom, as a grace from His presence. He is verily the All-Bountiful, the Generous. Praise be to God, the Most Exalted, the Most Great.

Say: Glory be unto Thee, O Thou in Whose grasp are the reins of all things! I beseech Thee by Him Who conversed with the Tree and by the Sovereign of this Revelation Who proclaimeth before the face of the world "There is no God but Me, the Lord of all nations," to assist me to mention Thee and praise Thee, and to enable me to act according to what Thou hast commanded me in Thy Book. O my Lord! This is a day wherein the cry of all things and the lamentation of the Concourse on High have been raised by reason of what hath befallen Thy loved ones and chosen ones. I beseech Thee by Thy pervading Will and Thy triumphant Purpose and Thy pre-existing Mercy to ordain for me from the Pen of Thy bounty, in the Tablet of Thy Command, that which Thou hast ordained for Thy loved ones who have not been kept back by the world from turning unto Thee, O Thou Who art the Lord of all names! There is no God but Thee, the Almighty, the Most Exalted, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

BH03711: Thy letter was received and attained the presence…

He is God, exalted be His station, the Bounty and Grace

Thy letter was received and attained the presence of the Wronged One. Praise be to God, the fragrance of recognition wafteth from it and the sweet-scented breeze of the love of the All-Merciful emanateth therefrom. Today all must fix their gaze upon the supreme horizon alone, detached from all else, and beseech God, exalted be His glory, to grant victory to the people of divine unity. Today the world of misbelief is united while the realms of unity are divided, and this division hath caused the abasement of the people of truth. Unity and accord have ever been the cause and means of exalting the Word. We beseech God to illumine the horizons of the hearts of His loved ones with the light of unity. He is the Powerful, the Mighty.

As to thy intention to come at this time—it is not permitted, as newly arisen circumstances prevent it. We beseech God to bestow the reward of attaining His presence. Whatever hath befallen that honored one in the path of God hath caused no harm and never shall. By the life of God! Soon shall the abasement of His loved ones be transformed into glory and the poverty of His chosen ones into wealth. Had this world any worth in the sight of God, His loved ones would have been born from their mothers' wombs in complete glory. Were what He hath ordained for His loved ones to be revealed unto thee, even less than the eye of a needle, wonder would seize thee and thou wouldst exclaim:

> "This is naught but the bounty of our Lord, the Generous, the Bestower!"

Blessed art thou and blessed is he who was mentioned in thy letter. We send Our greetings upon thee and upon him from this glorious and exalted station. Praise be to God, the Lord of all worlds.

Mention was made of his honor Siyyid Muhammad-ʿAli, upon him be 966 [Baha'u'llah]. We send Our greetings upon his countenance and beseech God to aid him to remember Him and serve His mighty Cause.

BH01635: Praise be to the All-Praised One and the All-Desired…

He is God, exalted be His glory, the Grandeur and the Power.

Praise be to the All-Praised One and the All-Desired One Who created Muhammad, peace be upon Him, through the sovereignty of might and power, and sent Him with the truth, and dispatched Him unto the servants with manifest signs and clear evidences, before which, when they were revealed, the realities of all created things and the most exalted essences of all contingent beings bowed down in submission. He is verily the Straight Path Who gave tidings of the Great News. Through Him did God transform misbelief into unity, until the light of faith encompassed most lands. And manifest blessings from the horizon of the heaven of utterance from the All-Merciful be upon Him and His family and His companions, through whom the darkness of vain imaginings was illumined by the light of certitude, and through whom the heaven rained and the earth brought forth vegetation, and the banners of guidance were raised amidst all creation. These are servants whom God hath described in His Books, both before and after, and through them hath He aided His Cause and empowered His loved ones. He is verily the All-Bountiful, the Almighty, the Powerful, the Omnipotent.

My spirit and my body be a sacrifice for your love and for your steadfastness. The servant hath attained unto the traces of your pen which calleth out in the world and among the nations that which draweth them nigh unto the horizon of the love of God, our Lord and your Lord, our Goal and your Goal, and the Goal of all who are in the heavens and on earth. When I read and understood, I presented myself before His countenance, first presenting that which your honor had presented, then that which had been bestowed upon me through your favor. When this was completed, the Master—may our spirits be a sacrifice for Him—spoke and said:

> "O My Afnan! Upon thee be My glory and My favor. We have heard thy call and found the fragrance of thy love and beheld the horizon of thy sincerity towards God, the Lord of the worlds. We beseech Him, exalted be He, to ordain for you that which befitteth the heaven of His generosity and the ocean of His grace and the sun of His favor, and to inscribe for you from the Supreme Pen that which shall delight the eyes and vision, and to provide you with that which is better than the kingdom of the hereafter and of the former times. And We make mention of My other Afnan who have attained unto that which God hath revealed in the Book, and We remember the leaves of My divine Lote-Tree who have clung to the Tree and believed in God, the One, the Chosen One."

Ever hath the mention of all been and still is before the Wronged One. Whatsoever hath come to pass hath been in accordance with wisdom, and the reward of every deed is recorded and preserved with God. Verily, He is with you, hearing and seeing, and He is the Mighty, the All-Knowing.

In truth, hardship hath befallen your honor and those with you, and the utmost favor hath also been made manifest, for in days when the light of justice was veiled and the horizon of equity was concealed behind clouds of oppression, and when outward misbelief was manifestly at its height of rebellion and the domains of the believers were besieged—in such times did your honor and the other companions attain unto the visitation of the House and that which was revealed in the Books of God. Praise be to God, the visitation and devotions and orientation and acceptance were all made manifest, and all attained unto these true spiritual bounties. This evanescent servant beseecheth and imploreth God that He may cause your honor to attain repeatedly and ordain whatsoever He hath willed. He conveyeth greetings to the two Najmis—upon them be the glory of God—and to the honored leaves—upon them be the glory of God—and expresseth his nothingness.

Another entreaty: At present, due to lack of time, the response to the letter of His Holiness Aqa Siyyid ʿAli—upon him be God's peace and favor—hath been delayed. I seek his pardon, for your honor knoweth that this ephemeral one is occupied day and night. Should any service be neglected, he seeketh forgiveness. I convey greetings to the beloved Haji Siyyid Javad—upon him be the glory of God—and to the beloved of the heart, Aqa Muhammad Mustafa, if he is present, and Aqa Mirza Mustafa—upon them both be the glory of God—and to the other friends, and I beseech confirmation for all. Verily, He is the Answerer, the All-Bountiful, and praise be to God, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

BH00304: Praise be to God Who hath sent down…

Section 1: "Praise be to God Who hath sent down…"

In the Name of our Most Holy, Most Great, Most Exalted Lord

Praise be to God Who hath sent down the Books and dispatched the Messengers, and made them the lamps of His guidance amidst His creation. Through them He distinguished truth from falsehood and separated the rejector from the acceptor. They are God's straight path and His firm and mighty command. Through them God gave glad tidings to His creation of His hidden Name, His treasured Secret, His mighty News and His ancient Light, until the appointed time was fulfilled and the Promise came to pass, and the horizon of the world was illumined by the Day-Star of Manifestation, and the Voice of the One Who conversed on Sinai was raised—a Voice at which all in the heavens and earth were thunderstruck save those whom the hands of grace had delivered and who found the fragrance of the Garment when it was diffused among all creatures.

These are they who attained to the Day wherein the earth shone with the light of its Lord, and the Dove of Paradise warbled in praise of its Creator, and the rustling of the Lote-Tree was heard, bringing glad tidings to all of the appearance of their Goal and their Beloved, calling all until the days reached these days wherein the minds of the wise were perturbed and the edifices of the mighty were shaken and the limbs of princes trembled and the hearts of the learned and the divines were convulsed, save those whom the hands of Power had created from the essence of steadfastness and whom God's will, the Lord of creation, had reared in a station none knoweth save His all-encompassing knowledge. These are servants who, when cast into prison, uttered what the Ridvan had uttered when the near ones entered the most exalted Paradise. The rapture of God's love so seized them that they chose imprisonment over

paradise out of love for God, their Lord, the Most Merciful. They took the cup of tribulation in the name of the Lord of Names and drank thereof with such love that patience and forbearance themselves declared:

> "God hath created us from a light from the lights of your patience and steadfastness. By the life of our Goal! We are ashamed to manifest our existence before your faces; rather it behooveth us to circle round you throughout the eternity of the kingdom of our Lord, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting."

Glory be unto Thee, O Thou through Whose Name the sea of life surged and the winds of trial blew and the hearts of the sincere were set ablaze and the minds of the believers took flight! I beseech Thee by the penetrating power of Thy verses and the appearance of Thy signs and Thine Own oppression among Thy servants and by those who chose imprisonment for themselves in hope of what lieth with Thee, to send down from the heaven of Thy bounty that which will gladden the eyes of those who have held fast to the cord of Thy providence and clung to the hem of Thy mercy.

O Lord! Thou seest Thy loved ones and chosen ones turning toward Thy most exalted horizon, acknowledging that which the tongue of Thy grandeur hath spoken in the kingdom of creation. Ordain for them, O my God, what beseemeth Thy generosity and favors and what befitteth Thy grace and bounty. Then write down for them, O Thou Goal of the world and Lord of the nations, from the Pen of Will that which will profit them in every world of Thy worlds. O Lord! The heart of this servant hath melted by reason of what hath befallen those whose names Thou didst mention in the Crimson Scroll from Thy Most Exalted Pen, and whom Thou didst remember in such wise as caused the denizens of the Kingdom and the companions of the Realm above to lament.

O Lord! Draw them nigh unto Thee in every world of Thy worlds and ordain for them that which will solace the eyes of Thy servants and gladden the hearts of the sincere ones among Thy creation. Thou art He through Whose Name the ocean of bounty surgeth, O Lord of Names, and at Whose mention the Peacock crieth out before the throne of Thy grandeur, O Creator of heaven! I beseech Thee to send down upon Thy chosen ones that which will manifest their stations in the kingdom of creation. Verily Thou art the Lord of humanity and the Sovereign of the throne on high and of the dust below. There is none other God but Thee, the Mighty, the Beloved.

All the servant is a ransom for your imprisonment. The successive letters of that Beloved—whether addressed in the name of this servant, or in the name of the Most Glorious Name of Bounty (upon him be the Glory of God, the Most Glorious)—have all been received; and boundless sorrow and joy have appeared, and the reason is evident and needeth no setting forth. And after the reading and perusal of each, at one time or another it was laid before the Most Holy and Inviolable Presence; and tokens of favor and loving-kindness shone forth from the horizon of the All-Merciful's grace—so manifest that this servant is, in very truth, unable to recount them in full. Yet that Beloved hath himself beheld the billows of the sea of the All-Merciful's utterance, and the radiance of the Sun of bounty; therefore there hath not been, nor is there, any need of translator, expounder, or interpreter.

Likewise, in the Tablets that were sent in company with the well-beloved H-K—upon him be the Glory of God—and his favor, in some of those Tablets the mention of that Beloved was also revealed. And the last letter of that honored one, after it was presented before the Throne, was followed by these words revealed from the Kingdom of divine knowledge. He, exalted be His majesty and glorified be His utterance, saith:

In My Name, the Compassionate, the Generous

O Ali! Thou hast ever been beneath the glances of God's favor, exalted be His glory, and there hath been sent down for thee from the Kingdom of grace that which neither the treasuries of kings and subjects, nay the treasuries of the world, can equal. The people, heedless and deluded in their wealth and comfort, have reached such a state that they make no distinction between truth and falsehood, between tyranny and justice, between equity and oppression. They count affliction as blessing and mirage as water, unmindful that with a single change joy may turn to sorrow and song to lamentation. Glory be to God! All are aware of change and extinction and bear witness to it, yet they remain occupied with deeds the like of which have never been seen. By the life of God! Soon shall they find themselves in manifest loss.

In this Most Great Revelation, God, exalted be His glory, hath not and will not grant respite to the oppressors. Were it not for His prior decree, they would have seen the recompense of their deeds in less than a moment, such that the tempests of wrath would have scattered them like dust. God hath been with you and hath witnessed the actions of the oppressors and transgressors. The Supreme Pen did not attribute what occurred to lack of wisdom but accepted it as a favor from Him. He beareth witness to you, to your uprising, your steadfastness, your mention and praise before all faces, your persecution, and all that befell you in the path of God, your Creator, your Fashioner, your Goal and the Goal of all who are in the heavens and on earth.

Thus did the Pen speak when the Lord of Eternity was seated upon the Most Great Throne on a night wherein the Herald proclaimed:

> "The Kingdom belongeth to God, the Lord of the Beginning and the End!"

Blessed are they who served the friends of God and sought their companionship. Today not a single atom of good deeds remaineth hidden, and its recompense becometh manifest. Blessed are they who have attained unto your love and service in the path of God, the Lord of the worlds. Whatever hath befallen you hath been for the sake of God. In His path you heard what was unworthy to be heard and saw what was unworthy to be seen. This testimony of the Supreme Pen is greater than the world and all that is therein. It behooveth thee to thank thy Lord, the Rememberer, the Generous.

Convey My greetings to the friends and gladden them with God's favors. Say: Verily, He is with you, hearing and seeing, and He is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. The glory shining forth from the horizon of My Kingdom be upon thee and upon those who have acted according to what they were commanded in My perspicuous Book. Praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

From the flowing pen of the Most High are manifest the degrees and stations of grace and favor. There is no need to mention this weak and feeble one. I swear by the Sun of the horizon of inner meanings that if

the ears of the world were sanctified and pure, they would be set ablaze by hearing this call—a fire whose mention is beyond pen and ink. To this testifies the Lord of the worlds and the Goal of all nations. This bounty has no likeness or peer, and this mercy has no equal. I beseech God, exalted be His glory, to bestow favor and deliver His servants from the slumber of heedlessness through the Most Great Word, and guide them to the horizon of awareness. How excellent is what was said:

Section 2: "If thou desirest that reason should not suddenly…"

If thou desirest that reason should not suddenly cast thee into bondage, Take it to the school of the All-Merciful and there confine it.

I beseech God to make the heedless aware and not deprive them of the sweetness of His utterance. Verily, He is powerful over all things.

Furthermore, it is most beloved that the sending of correspondence remain concealed, for if the oppressors become aware, they will surely arise to prevent it. Often the unwisdom of friends reveals news. In all cases, as commanded, they must hold fast to wisdom and cling to it.

Again, when thy beloved supplication was presented in its entirety before the Most Holy, Most Exalted Presence, unto Whom there is no likeness, this utterance shone forth from the Dayspring of the favor of the Beloved of all creation. His mighty utterance, exalted be His mention:

Verily, I am the Hearer, the Answerer.

O Ali! The rivers of thy remembrance and utterance have flowed into the Most Great Ocean, and It desired to cast upon thee the pearls of remembrance and utterance. Gather them in His Name, the All-Powerful, the Mighty. We have heard thy praise and witnessed the fruits of the tree of thy sincerity, and We have mentioned thee in this wondrous Tablet. Blessed be thy rising up, thy service, thy composure, thy dignity, thy steadfastness, and thy beautiful patience. We beseech God to make thee a standard in His Cause and to attract thee to a station wherein thou wilt see not what thou hast but rather that whereby the Cause of God, the Lord of the worlds, may be exalted.

Know thou of a certainty that nothing whatsoever escapeth His knowledge, and He is the Kind, the Mighty, the Inaccessible. Thus have We adorned thy temple with the raiment of My favor and thy head with the crown of My grace, than which there is none other equal. Rejoice and say: Praise be unto Thee, O Lord of the worlds, for having mentioned me, taught me, made me know, caused me to witness, shown me, given me utterance, and made me attain Thy presence and the Kawthar of reunion with Thee, and attracted me in such wise that the power of the powerful weakened me not, nor did the majesty of princes frighten me.' O my Lord! I beseech Thee by Thyself to protect me and draw me near unto Thee, and to ordain for me that which beseemeth the heaven of Thy generosity and the sun of Thy grace. Verily Thou art the Munificent, the Generous. There is no God but Thee, the Most High, the Great.

Praised be God! The effulgent rays of the Sun of Divine Providence, glorified be His majesty, are manifest and resplendent like His very Being, and despite the clouds and veils that have encompassed all horizons, the light of God's Cause remains, to those who are near and sincere, more evident than all else. His is the

praise in all conditions. This servant beseeches his Lord to assist His servants to be fair, for verily He is the Helper, the All-Wise. Praise be to God, the Mighty, the Great.

As to what was written about Ibn-i-Sultan, who is titled Vazir-Nizam, he has uttered many embellished words claiming: "I had association with Him"—meaning the Ancient Beauty, exalted be His glory—"and I am aware." By the Lord of the Throne and earth, this is false. No meeting occurred with the existing sons of the Sultan. Yes, when We were in the prison of Shimiran, before the manifestation of the Greatest Spectacle, the noble princes, including Murad Mirza titled Husam-us-Saltanih, Farhad Mirza, and Imam-Quli Mirza titled Imad-ud-Dawlih, along with Sayf-ud-Dawlih, son of Zill-us-Sultan, came twice to the prison and attained the blessed presence. As for Fereydun Mirza, titled Farmanfarma, the Ancient Beauty visited his house once since he lived in the vicinity. Beyond this, whatever they have said is false. Some relatives had associations with them, and some were occupied with certain affairs.

Glory be to God! If we were to verify the words of such souls, the manifestation of the Most Great, Most Mighty, Most Exalted and Most Glorious Cause would be witnessed, and the conclusive proof would be complete and perfect for all. They say what was said before. In truth, one who is without insight and fairness is and shall be deemed as non-existent. Princes who are characterized by such attributes are and have been like the tombs of Pharaohs—outwardly perfect but inwardly otherwise. This servant beseeches his Lord to assist them to be fair and adorn them with the ornament of justice and truthfulness. Although the deeds of such souls have blocked all paths except one, every fair-minded and insightful person bears witness to this.

In response to the beloved of the heart, Ibn-i-Abhar, upon him be the Most Glorious Glory of God, concerning these matters, that which has been revealed from the Supreme Pen before is such that any fair-minded person who observes it will perceive the fragrance of the Merciful's utterance. Mention was made of Jinab-i-Aqa Siyyid Aqa Buzurg, upon him be the Glory of God. His mention has ever been heard from the blessed tongue. Repeatedly He said: "There has befallen the people of Mim from the descendants of the Prophet that which has not befallen anyone before." And this time, regarding the conditions you wrote about, after they were presented in the Most Holy, Most Exalted Presence, He said: True, by the Lord of the Verses!

True, by the Lord of the Clear Proofs! There has befallen them greater than what befell Us when the ungodly brought Us to the city named Amul, when clamor was raised at all times, and every day the herald would cry out, "This is the day when the pure blood shall be shed." Blessed are the people of Mim upon whom has befallen that which caused the dwellers of Paradise and those who circle around God's mighty throne to lament. And We mentioned the Most High with such mention that caused all things to wail, the rock to melt, the clouds to cry out. And We mention at this time the one who ascended unto God in prison. My Supreme Pen has acknowledged his martyrdom in My path.

Blessed is he and joy be unto him. By the life of God, at the time of his ascension the Concourse on High welcomed him by God's leave, the Lord of all names and Creator of heaven, and the maidens of Paradise in their celestial chambers sought blessings through him. Blessed are God's chosen ones and His loved ones, and woe unto those who have wronged without clear proof or evidence. We remember all who

have broken the chains of idle fancies and attained the lights of certitude on this Day wherein all atoms proclaim: “The Kingdom belongs to God, the Lord of creation.”

A hundred thousand praises and thanks be to the Goal of all the worlds, that whatever has been endured in His path has been accepted. Soon these governments, authorities and oppressions shall pass away, and every oppressor shall witness his own loss. Glory be to God! Despite the fact that the continuance of these souls in this world is not known—whether it be a day or two days, a moment or two moments, a minute or two minutes—nevertheless they have deprived themselves of the lights of justice and have committed that for which the recompense shall endure throughout the kingdom of earth and heaven. Woe unto them and unto that which their hands have wrought in the days of God, their Creator and Maker.

Convey My greetings to the aforementioned wronged Siyyid—upon him be the Glory of God, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting—and to the other gentlemen. I beseech God, exalted be His glory, to ordain for them that which will preserve their stations, and I likewise ask for their good in this world and the next. He is the Powerful, the Mighty, and He is the Compassionate, the Generous. Glory, praise and magnification be upon you all from God, our Lord and your Lord and the Lord of all who are in the heavens and earths. And praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

The servant 29 Dhi’l-Hijjih 1302

At this moment, having intended the Most Exalted Goal, after attaining the presence They commanded: Write to ʿAli-Qabli-Akbar—upon him be My glory—that he must strive with the utmost diligence to unite and harmonize hearts. The conflicts of the world cannot harm this station. Its reward is treasured and preserved in the divine repository of knowledge. Verily thy Lord is the Truthful, the Speaker, the All-Seeing. Hold fast unto that which thou hast been commanded. By My life! It shall benefit thee in all the worlds of thy Lord, the All-Informed.

One further submission: A separate Most Holy and Most Exalted Tablet has been revealed from the heaven of will specifically for your honor and has been sent. This is grace upon grace.

BH02688: At this moment, which is four o’clock on Thursday…

In the name of our Most Holy, Most Great, Most Exalted, Most Glorious Lord

At this moment, which is four o’clock on Thursday the twenty-sixth of the month of Dhi’l-Hijjih the Sacred, having intended the ultimate goal and most exalted summit, after attendance in the Most Holy, Most Sanctified Court, the Tongue of Grandeur spoke these words—His glory be glorified: “O servant present, write to Ibn-i-Dhabih, upon him be My glory: Today all eyes must be fixed upon the Supreme Horizon and all ears attentive to hear the Call, and all must arise to serve the Divine Cause, for whatsoever He ordaineth is the welfare and benefit of His friends and chosen ones.

“O youth, thou hast attained unto that which was recorded in the divine Books and Tablets. Convey to all the family of Dhabih, upon them be My glory and loving-kindness, greetings from the Wronged One and gladden them with God’s favor. All are mentioned in His presence and have attained His grace. We send

greetings to the leaf who is related to Haji Ali. Previously there flowed from the Most Exalted Pen concerning this matter that whose fragrance is everlasting and enduring. Now they must treat the aforementioned Haji with love and consider his welfare. The purpose is that the fragrance of friendship and unity may be diffused between them. The brothers must all strive and act according to what God hath willed. Their reward is with God Who created them and brought them forth and made them manifest and provided for them and made them grow and caused them to know His Path, from which every stubborn tyrant and every remote misbeliever hath turned aside. We beseech God, exalted be He, to reward them for their deeds in this world and the next and to decree for them the recompense of attaining His presence. Verily He is the Forgiving, the Generous. There is no God but He, the Powerful, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise." Thus ended His utterance.

His honor Haji Ali, upon him be the glory of God and His loving-kindness, is mentioned and recorded among the souls who are firm and steadfast, and his honor Dhabih the exalted, upon him be the Most Glorious Glory of God, is related to the Truth, glorified be His glory. Therefore whatever shines forth from the horizon of the Cause, to act according to it is necessary. At all times hath union and association been well-pleasing in the sight of God, and separation and dissension abhorred. Hold fast unto that which God loveth and is His command unto you. He, verily, is the All-Knowing and the All-Seeing, and He is the All-Wise Ordainer. Salutations, greetings and glory be upon you from God, the Lord of all worlds.

The servant 26 Dhi'l-Hijjih the Sacred 1301

BH00059: Praise, sanctified above the mention of servant…

Section 1: "In the Name of our Lord, the Most…"

In the Name of our Lord, the Most Holy, the Most Great, the Most Exalted, the Most High!

Praise, sanctified above the mention of servant and the remembrance of all created things, beseemeth the most holy and most glorious court of the Desired One Who hath caused His loved ones to speak His praise and enabled them to celebrate His remembrance. The doubts of the divines produced no effect, and the might of the powerful and the ascendancy of rulers created neither weakness nor impediment. They willingly bore the chains of tyranny for His love's sake, and in their eyes the taunts of enemies and the torments of the wicked appeared as praise. Exalted, exalted be their station! Exalted, exalted be their remembrance! Exalted, exalted be their power and their steadfastness and their constancy! In truth, every praise returneth to this station, for God, exalted be His glory, is sanctified above all descriptions and remembrances.

This matter is proven through clear evidence. Despite my knowledge and certitude of the sanctification and transcendence of that holy Being above all praise and glorification and remembrance of the world, I wish with a hundred thousand thousand tongues at every moment to praise Him saying "Unto Him be praise, O God of the worlds" and to make mention of Him, for He hath crowned His Name and His loved ones with the crown of patience and adorned them with the raiment of forbearance. In the place of lamentation, smiles appeared; in the station of complaint, thanksgiving shone forth; and at the time of sorrow, joy was manifest. Glorified be the All-Powerful, and glorified be the Patient One!

Glorified art Thou, O Thou in Whose grasp are the reins of all things and in Whose right hand is the control of both the seen and the unseen! I beseech Thee by Him Who conversed with the Burning Bush, and by the Hands of Thy Cause, and the manifestations of Thy grace, and the dawning-places of Thy most beautiful names and Thy most exalted attributes, to strengthen the Dayspring of steadfastness and the Source of Thy remembrance, O Lord of all creation, even more than Thou hast strengthened him in all conditions. The servant beareth witness before Thy face to Thy Name that hath borne hardships for Thy love and the derision of enemies for Thy name and remembrance, until he entered prison, ignited by the fire of Thy Cause.

There hath appeared from him that which befitteth Thy days. O my Lord! Aid him, then, with the hosts of the unseen and the visible realm. Nay, by Thy Self! Rather aid him with the hosts of Thy remembrance and Thy utterance. By Thy glory! Truly tribulations and trials in Thy path are the ultimate desire of those near unto Thee among Thy loved ones and the sincere ones among Thy chosen ones. However, since the servant desireth his presence for the service of Thy Cause, he beseecheth Thee for his release from the prison of the transgressors and his arising before Thy gate, O Thou Who art the Ultimate Goal of the hopes of those who have hope and the Desire of the hearts of the sincere ones.

May my spirit be a sacrifice for your imprisonment, steadfastness and uprising! Your successive letters arrived. In truth, each was a luminous lamp and a manifest, resplendent light. Praise be to God, mention of your eminence transformed the darkness of sorrows and somewhat dispelled the bitterness of separation and parting. Likewise, the petitions submitted to the presence of the Two Branches—may my spirit, being and essence be sacrificed for the dust of their footsteps—all arrived and were repeatedly read, especially the account of events that arrived the day before. Its details were written in the letter of the honored beloved T.A.—upon him be the glory and favors of God—which will reach your presence, God willing.

As for events in this land, all are reposing in the shadow [of God's protection] and engaged in divine thanksgiving. This year, outwardly there is abundant bounty. The merchants, heedless of God, are busy purchasing wheat, but profit, like justice, mercy and fairness, is absent in those parts. Although it has reached ten ghurush, nevertheless whatever each has bought remains imprisoned in warehouses. The poor loved ones have made no profit this year either. Some merchants from outlying areas have requested transport to send what has been collected; perhaps God, exalted be His glory, will bestow His favor and bring forth seekers. The command is in His hands. In these years, such abundant and inexpensive bounty has not been seen, although compared to those realms it is still dear and expensive. Nevertheless, no one has profited. Exalted is the Creator and exalted is His command! Consummate wisdom remains hidden from hearts and eyes. As for other things, they remain as expensive as you have observed.

This evanescent one beseeches and hopes that God will open the door of comfort, wealth, knowledge and ease for all. Verily, He is powerful over all things. In any case, after the arrival of your eminent letter and this evanescent servant's perusal thereof, I proceeded to the Most Exalted Goal and Supreme Summit. Your supplication was presented before the Divine Presence, as were the supplications contained in other letters, each at its appropriate time. Your eminence knows that everything received

from that Beloved One is presented, and after the presentation of each, the ocean of divine bounty surges in such wise that this servant is incapable of describing it. You yourself have been present and heard. Were this evanescent one to attempt to provide details, he would be unable and these pages would not suffice. When your last letter was presented before the Divine Presence, these brilliant verses shone forth from the Dayspring of favor. His word, exalted be His glory:

In My Name, Who Calleth from the Supreme Horizon

O My Name! Your imprisonment and what hath befallen thee in the path of God, the Lord of all worlds, hath truly grieved Me. We have made mention of thee in diverse Tablets and in that which hath been revealed for My loved ones in all regions by the Pen of God, thy Lord and the Lord of the mighty Throne. We have forbidden the servant from holding the feast which he arranged each year. Verily thy Lord is the All-Compassionate, the All-Bountiful. Blessed is the soul that hath grieved at thy grief and hath recalled what befell thee at the hands of the heedless ones. Give thanks unto God for having adorned thee with the crown of patience, by whose light the Concourse on High and they that circle round My glorious and wondrous Station have been illumined.

O Mihdi! The Wronged One hath made mention of thee with such mention as cannot be equaled by all the bounties of the world and whatsoever is seen therein. Verily thy Lord is the True One, the Faithful. They that have wronged thee and commanded thy imprisonment—these have no portion in the Book of God, the Possessor of this luminous Day. Thou hast attained unto that which none hath attained except whom God, thy Lord, the All-Merciful, the Most Compassionate, hath willed. The Most Exalted Pen hath made mention of thee morn and eve, to this beareth witness the Lord of Names in His manifest prison. Thou art he who hath arisen to serve the Cause and hath borne that which caused the dwellers of the highest Paradise to lament, and those who circle round this exalted Station.

The wrongdoers shall soon behold the recompense of their deeds, and the sincere ones what hath been ordained for them by the Pen of God, the All-Forgiving, the All-Bountiful. Thus hath soared the Bird of Utterance, and spoken the Pen of the All-Merciful, and cooed the Dove of the Cause upon the branches, by the command of One Who is the Almighty, the Ancient of Days. The glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My bounty be upon thee and upon those who love thee and make mention of thee at morn and at eventide.

That which hath been revealed from the Kingdom of God's bounty, exalted be His glory, specifically for that honored one is not and was not limited to these verses. Numerous Tablets have been revealed and by command some are being sent. His bounty is not such as to be confined within limits or to come to an end. It hath been and forever shall be. Exalted be His bounty, exalted be His majesty, great be His grace, and all-embracing be His mercy. This evanescent servant, at all times, beseecheth and imploreth the Goal of all existence to grant once more the blessing of meeting, reunion and gathering. In the realm of dreams, what was sought hath been witnessed several times, and it is most strange that until now it hath been delayed. With utmost humility and supplication, this request hath been and is being made of the Self-Sufficing Lord. Verily He is the Hearer, the Answerer.

And regarding that which was written in the blessed letters appointing this servant as representative for visiting the Goal of the worlds—praise be to God, this evanescent one hath been honored with acceptance each time, and even without representation, at special times that which no deeds of men and jinn can equal hath been accomplished. Exalted is the bounty of our Lord and our Goal and your Goal and the Goal of all who are in the heavens and the earth. Were eloquent and articulate tongues to appear to the number of all created things, they could not render thanks for even a single confirmation and success that hath been granted, unless His grace should aid and bestow that which is befitting and worthy. In Him do we trust and to Him do we commit all affairs. He knoweth and ordaineth, therefore He hath been and is the Beloved.

And regarding what you wrote about Aqa Mirza Aqa, upon him be the Glory of God—his verses arrived and by command Aqa Mirza ʿAli-Rida, upon him be the Most Glorious Glory of God, copied them on very fine paper, and both his writing and the original were presented, and this servant submitted all before His presence. This is what the tongue of our Lord, the All-Bestowing, spoke in reply—His blessed and exalted Word:

O thou rememberer and praiser! We have heard thy remembrance and thy praise hath reached the ears of the Wronged One. Praise be to God that thou hast attained His presence. If the opposing souls permit, thou shalt, God willing, attain again. Some of the heedless ones are engaged in manifest tyranny, and the flame of self and passion hath so seized them that they are deprived of hearkening to the Word of Truth and forbidden from beholding the horizon of justice. They have not distinguished the mischief-maker from the reformer, nor the wise from the ignorant. Justice and tyranny are the same to them, and knowledge and ignorance weigh equally. Well was it said:

> “Nay, nay, for heaven and fate know not the worth of merit, Thus spake my father to me in the days of my youth.”

While at ease they remain heedless, and in times of hardship and tribulation they lament and wail, but their lamentation availeth them not, neither their wailing, nor their helplessness, nor their weeping. Consider the Emperor of Paris. Out of pure grace We revealed a special Tablet for him and informed him of certain matters and warned him. That heedless one was so deluded that he made light of the Divine Tablet. Though he received it, no reply was forthcoming from him. At the time of “yea” he was silent, and at the station of “yes” he was mute. Later another Tablet was revealed from the heaven of will, and We informed him of the tribulations that were advancing from behind him. Nevertheless, the veils prevented him from understanding, and love of position deprived him of awareness, until the divine term arrived and the irrevocable decree descended. He found for himself no helper, nor supporter, nor companion.

The people of the world are deluded by the glory of a day or two, and even that is uncertain, for the poor wretch knoweth not whether in the next hour he will descend from palace to grave. Nevertheless, he doeth that which causeth the denizens of the celestial Kingdom to lament and weep. Soon shall they find themselves in manifest loss.

Whatever hath befallen thee is in the path of God. Today the Truth is wronged and dwelleth in prison. His friends must assist Him through the hosts of goodly character and praiseworthy deeds. These hosts are

mightier than the hosts of the world. In truth, spiritual qualities and praiseworthy deeds and goodly words, sealed with the decree "We are of the Truth and a bounty from His presence," have been sent down from heaven to earth in glory. Give praise unto the Goal of the world that He hath mentioned thee in prison with a mention whose fragrance shall never cease. We beseech God to aid thee to preserve this station which He hath graciously bestowed.

This evanescent one also conveyeth greetings to them. Praise be to God that they have been enabled to offer praise and glorification and remembrance of God, exalted be His glory. Their ode was recited in His presence and likewise before the inmates of the pavilion of grandeur and infallibility. This is a bounty from God, our Lord and the Lord of the mighty throne.

Concerning the solace of eyes, upon them be the glory of God, His loving-kindness and His grace, about which you wrote—this is most clear and evident. The utmost loving-kindness is ever flowing toward them. I am constantly inquiring about their condition and am delighted by their presence. Praise be to God, all are safe, settled and at rest beneath the canopy of mercy. In these days the honored beloved, Haji Siyyid Javad, upon him be the glory of God, has proceeded to Beirut in consideration of the commercial interests of the honored Afnan, upon him be all the Most Glorious Glory, who has been appointed there, and he is now residing in Beirut. For this reason they have become somewhat alone. For a time, the mother of Haji Ali, upon them both be the glory of God, who had come by command, was residing with them. Now the family of the Haji has returned and all are dwelling in that same house. A person has been specially appointed for the Leaf [female believer], upon her be the glory of God, to take her to and from school.

As for other events from that land, some movement has also appeared in this land. The Persian chief who is in the Sublime Porte sent letters to some and mentioned certain arranged suspicions therein. Thus far no effect has appeared. As for the travelers, despite the greatest prohibition, they have arrived and continue to arrive. Among those souls who have come with permission are the honored Afnans of the Blessed Tree, upon them be all the Most Glorious Glory. The honored and exalted Afnan-i-Kabir, upon him be the Most Glorious Glory—who is in truth a portion of light—first came with the honored Aqa Mirza Aqa and the exalted ladies, his wife, daughter and granddaughter, upon them be the glory of God and His loving-kindness, who were related to the elevated Afnan, upon him be all the Most Glorious Glory, along with two luminaries. After receiving permission for departure they left. Now again for nearly two months they have come and taken up residence in a special house near the Shrine, engaged in circumambulation and pilgrimage.

Section 2: "The honored Afnan, Aqa Siyyid M., the honored…"

The honored Afnan, Aqa Siyyid M., the honored teacher, and Aqa Mirza Mahmud, upon them be all the Most Glorious Glory, came after the first visit of Afnan-i-Kabir and stayed for a time. Some of them were blessed with attainment twice and then took their leave. The honored Afnan Haji Mirza Muhammad, upon him be the Most Glorious Glory, also came in the service of my Master, the Most Great Branch of God—may my spirit and being be sacrificed for the dust of His footsteps. He too was blessed with attainment and then by command went to Beirut. On his return he was again honored with attainment and set out for the land of Ha. Blessed and congratulations to them!

The honored and exalted Afnan-i-Kabir has taken up residence in Beirut. Praise be to God, he was and is in the utmost joy, delight and gladness. Furthermore, news has arrived and continues to arrive from every quarter. I beseech and implore God, exalted be His glory, to grant insight to the rulers that they may know with clear certainty that this Cause is sanctified above what they have imagined, and that the welfare of all lies in its manifestation and exaltation. May He also grant fairness to the divines and aid them to reflect upon and call to mind the divines of past ages who lived in the days of the Manifestations. Glory be to God! Every person of insight is bewildered and every fair-minded one is astonished at what could be the cause and reason for such oppression, and what could be its justification. In all conditions, we must resign all affairs unto Him and place our trust in Him. Verily He is the Hearer, the Answerer, and He is the All-Knowing, the All-Seeing.

Another supplication: This servant was blessed each year to offer hospitality in Your service, but last year, due to Your imprisonment and the martyrdom of His Holiness Ali, may my spirit be sacrificed for him, it was, according to command, prevented. This servant, in truth, had no inclination for it. In these days, as news has arrived and signs of joy have somewhat appeared, You commanded to resume the practice of previous years due to the appearance of gladness which has dawned and shone forth. Whatever You have sent will be spent at the appointed time. Praise be to God in all this. This servant fears lest the hearing of detailed petitions cause weariness and trouble. Since You wrote in Your letter addressed to the beloved ones, Hadrat-i-Ism-i-Jud and His Holiness Javad, upon them be the glory of God, the Lord of creation, commanding that the events of this land be written and sent in detail, therefore this servant has submitted some news. In all cases, forgiveness is hoped for.

Regarding what You wrote about the honored lady, the mother of His Honor A.T., and the honored wife of His Honor Mirza, upon them both be the glory of God—in Your first letter You mentioned the mother of His Honor A.T., and after it was submitted to the Most Holy and Exalted Presence, she was named "Mother of the Saints." Exalted is this lofty station and this Most Great and wondrous Name. A special message was written to her son: whosoever arises to serve You, their deed is accepted before the Throne. Blessed is he and joy be unto him. In truth, he is counted among the men of God and mentioned among the pillars. His mention has been revealed from the Supreme Pen in the Most Glorious Station. You should give them glad-tidings and make them happy with the bounties of God. Likewise regarding the other leaf, the wife of His Honor Mirza, upon them both be the glory of God, which was mentioned in Your letter this time—it was presented before the Throne. This is what the Lord of the worlds spoke, exalted be His utterance and glorified be His grandeur:

I am the Compassionate, the Bountiful

O My Name! The Pen lamenteth and maketh mention in times of hardship and tribulation, and in times of joy and gladness. Through its motion it moveth and speaketh, and by its movement the world is set in motion. This movement ariseth from the heat of the utterance of the All-Merciful—some of it manifest and some concealed. Were one to observe with the eye of insight the realities of all things, one would witness how all are drawn, in their inmost essence, toward the Call of the Most Exalted Pen and its movement toward the Throne, and its effects have been and shall continue to be made manifest and

resplendent day after day. Except for those in whom no trace remaineth as recompense for their deeds—such souls are as ashes, neither were nor are they capable of life.

The servant in attendance made mention of the Leaf, the Mother of ʿAta, upon both of whom be the glory of God. After hearing of thy contentment, We named her the Mother of the Near Ones. Verily this was inscribed by the Most Exalted Pen upon the Tablet by the command of thy Lord, the Forgiving, the Generous. Neither centuries nor ages shall erase this mention, nor shall this edifice be ruined. It shall forever be adorned with the garment of preservation. O My Name! Give her glad tidings from Me and remind her of My verses, then recite unto her what hath been revealed for her from God, the Lord of the worlds. And give glad tidings from Me to My other handmaiden who hath attained the grace of God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy.

The mention of those handmaidens who attained to service in the days of tribulation hath been and shall remain immortalized in the divine Books and Scriptures. In these days, a special Visitation Tablet for the Martyr ʿAli, upon him be the mercy of God, His grace and His favor, hath been revealed, wherein certain women have been mentioned. This is distinct from the first Visitation Tablet that was sent. Verily, He wasteth not the reward of the doers of good. Not an atom's weight of deeds shall be lost. In previous Books, God, exalted be His glory, hath given tidings saying that all shall receive their recompense and reward on the Day of God. He hath likewise given tidings that whatsoever is hidden and forbidden from sight shall be made manifest. Behold what the All-Merciful hath revealed in the Qur'an—blessed and exalted be His words:

> "And if it be the weight of a grain of mustard seed, and though it be in a rock, or in the heavens, or in the earth, God will bring it forth."

Gladden the other Leaf with God's bounty. Praise be to God, they have attained unto service to His Cause in His days and been adorned with the ornament of acceptance. Let them know the value of this station and preserve it through the Name of God, exalted be His glory.

This evanescent servant conveyeth his greetings to each one. In truth, these Leaves are among the leaves of Paradise. I beseech God, exalted be His glory, to ever keep them and their like preserved beneath the shadow of His grace. He is the Powerful, the Mighty.

As to the mention made of him who hath turned to God and is imprisoned in His path, Aqa Siyyid Aqa-Buzurg, upon him be the glory and grace of God, it was presented at the Most Holy, Most Exalted Threshold. This is what was revealed for him and those with him from Mim. His blessed and exalted Word:

He is the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing

O My Name! The morning breezes wafting from the garden of inner meanings brought this word to hearing:

> "Blessed is he whose strength is not weakened by the doubts of the learned, and blessed is he who stands firm when the oppression of princes would make him sit."

Allah-u-Akbar! In these days when at every moment there can be heard the murmuring of the Kawthar of utterance, the whisper of divine breezes, and the rustling of the Sadratu'l-Muntaha—were the ears of the world but pure, a single word would suffice for all and guide them to the highest horizon. Blessed are My loved ones who have attained unto tribulation and adversity in My path and who have, for love of My Beauty, drunk from the chalice of trials.

Verily We have mentioned him who was named Aqa Buzurg time and again, and then the people of Mim who were imprisoned in the path of God, the Lord of all worlds. O My Name! All those souls who have been imprisoned in God's path and those who have been scattered and disturbed through fear of the oppressors—all have been honored with mention by the Supreme Pen. There have befallen the people of Mim afflictions the like of which have never been heard of in the world. By the life of God! This oppression will cause universal sedition and corruption in the world. Soon that which is now hidden from knowledge and sight shall be revealed. Convey to all greetings and glorification from the Wronged One, and give them glad tidings. Soon will the hand of divine power once again begin to seize the oppressors. Guard this and be of them that conceal it.

Not for a moment hath the Truth been heedless of those souls, and is not now. In the night when every eye sleeps, the eye of God, exalted be His glory, is ever watching over His loved ones who have been afflicted. The wickedness of the servants hath reached such a pass that the Supreme Pen lamenteth, for it hath uttered the words of the friends of old: "Hide thy gold, thy comings and goings, and thy beliefs, and dissimulation is my religion and the religion of my forefathers." After the martyrdom of Badi', upon him be My glory and My mercy, the decree of wisdom was firmly established in God's Book—that is, it was clearly and explicitly mentioned. Likewise, after the martyrdom of His Holiness ʿAli, the decree of concealment was revealed: "None should openly confess this Cause before the faces of men." All must gaze toward the Supreme Horizon and act according to that which appears from His presence.

The Most Glorious Splendor be upon thee from God, the Lord of all being, and upon those who are with thee in prison, and upon those who have attained unto patience in this mighty Cause.

Verily some are weak and have no endurance, becoming disturbed and shaken by the slightest thing. In all cases consideration for the weak is necessary, therefore the mercy and favor of God, exalted be His glory, encompasses all and this wondrous Cause has been revealed from the Supreme Pen. The servant verily gives thanks to God, his Lord, and praises Him in all conditions. He is the Self-Sufficient, the Most Exalted.

Mention was made of his honor Aqa Siyyid Khalil, upon him be the glory of God. His mention has attained to the hearing of the Lord of Names, and this is what was revealed for him from the heaven of the will of our Lord, the Possessor of all names, in this station. He says, blessed and exalted be He:

O Khalil! Blessed art thou for having shattered the idols of idle fancy with the arm of certitude and turned to the Supreme Horizon when every remote scholar turned away from it—they who, when the name of the Qa'im was mentioned, would arise and say "May God hasten His relief," yet when the appointed time was fulfilled and the Promised One appeared, they disbelieved in Him and unjustly pronounced judgment against Him, whereat every discerning mystic did lament. Say: O concourse of divines! Where is your praise and glorification, and where is your postponement and hastening regarding the Manifestation of

God and His proof? Fear God and follow not your idle fancies; rather follow Him Who hath come to you with a manifest light.

Say: O heedless ones! Why did the idol-worshipping divines turn away when Muhammad, the Apostle of God, appeared, and by what proof did the Jews deny when the Spirit came, and by what evidence did the tyrants and pharaohs turn away from God, the Lord of the worlds? Behold and then recall what hath appeared from you throughout the ages and centuries; then judge with fairness in this Cause wherewith God gave glad tidings in the Books of the past and future, and before His face the Faithful Spirit giveth you glad tidings. Say: Fear God and make not vain imaginings lords over yourselves. Set aside what ye possess and take what ye are commanded by One mighty, bidding, wise.

We have come to teach you the mysteries of the Book and guide you to My straight path. Say: By God! My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor do I walk in your ways. To this doth the tongue of My favor in the kingdom of My wondrous utterance bear witness.

O Most Exalted Pen! Make mention of My loved ones once again, that the fragrances of My words may attract them to a station wherein the intimations of men who have disbelieved in God, the Lord of destiny, shall not grieve them. Say: The profit is yours and from you, while they are in manifest loss. Beware lest the might of the powerful weaken you, or the tyranny of the princes frighten you. Cast aside the manifestations of fancy and idle imaginings, clinging to the hem of God, the Mighty, the Great. Ye have heard the gloating of the enemies, and today ye hear the verses of God, the Lord of the Day of Judgment. By what hath befallen you, the dwellers of the Kingdom of Names have lamented. To this doth bear witness this Wronged One, this Stranger. The Glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My mercy be upon you and upon every steadfast upholder of the truth.

Praise be to God! The luminous elder was seized by the Most Great Light, and for the spiritual chalice of water, a hundred thousand “well done!” would not suffice for this ocean, and this station is not attainable save through divine confirmation, glorified be His majesty.

As for what you wrote concerning consultation, after presenting your question He said that if disagreement arises among the first group assembled, new souls should be added and then by drawing lots select the number of the Greatest Name, or less or more than that, and consult anew. Whatever emerges therefrom is to be obeyed. And if disagreement still persists, “adorn the two with a third and take the strongest.” Verily, He guideth whom He willeth to the straight path. Thus hath the Lord of all beings decreed in this station.

And mention was made of two souls, with expressions of satisfaction. I beseech God to confirm them in that which will cause the exaltation of His Word among the people. Their mention attained the honor of being heard in the Most Holy Court and was adorned and distinguished by the favor of the Beloved of the worlds.

As for the mention of the angel of mercy and the kindler of the bath of love which they wrote about, after presentation this exalted word appeared from the horizon of the will of the Lord of Names, glorified and exalted be His utterance: We beseech God to confirm this one in recognizing the Dawning-Place of

Revelation and the Dayspring of Inspiration, and to make him steadfast therein. Verily He is the Mighty, the Merciful.

Section 3: "In truth, whoever thou mayest be…"

In truth, whoever thou mayest be, as the possessor of pure deeds, mention of thee is essential and acceptable in the gathering of the chosen ones. This evanescent servant implores and beseeches God that He may strengthen the chief of that place, adorn him with justice and fairness, deliver him from the darkness of heedlessness, and illumine him with the light of certainty. Verily, He is powerful over all things.

I have always offered, and continue to offer, praise and glory to all the people of Baha. At the end of these supplications, this exalted Word was revealed from the Source of Names following the incident in that land. His blessed and exalted Word states:

> "One must proceed with moderation and be content with the minimum necessity, for if the people of error become aware of the coming and going of correspondence, matters will surely become difficult for the Name of God (66)."

Until now, this servant has received multiple letters from certain ones, yet until this time no reply was sent. In these days, according to capacity and station, a letter was written and sent to the honored beloved, his eminence ʿAli-Qabli-Akbar, upon him be the Most Glorious Glory of God, and one Most Holy, Most Exalted Tablet was also revealed and sent specifically for him. In any case, great care must be taken, for if they sense that correspondence is being exchanged in the prison, it will lead to a complete prohibition. Otherwise, God is witness that the heart is occupied with thy remembrance, and hath loved and continues to love to reveal, through the assistance of God, exalted be His Glory, by means of pen and ink, whatever lies hidden in the treasury of love. God sufficeth as witness. The purpose is that if there has been delay and suspension in expressing sincerity, it has been for this reason.

Furthermore, all the inhabitants of the pavilion of grandeur and infallibility have repeatedly sent their greetings and praise, which this servant is to convey. Whenever mention is made of thee, all become saddened, but when reading thy letters, sometimes sadness and sometimes joy is experienced, and both are evident and clear. They have repeatedly told this servant that whenever thou writest something, convey our greetings and praise. Likewise, the Branches of the Blessed Tree—may my spirit and being be sacrificed for the dust of their footsteps—the Most Great Branch—may my spirit, being and essence be sacrificed for the dust of His footsteps—has expressed much surprise that His blessed letter has not arrived, and this servant is also perplexed. However, the Most Mighty Branch—may my spirit, being and essence be sacrificed for the dust of His footsteps—has written and sent multiple times. During the revelation of verses, these words were revealed: "Write to the Name that he should read, that is, recite in a beautiful voice, that joy and gladness from the Speaker of Sinai may take hold of him:

We are Thy lovers—face to face with Thee; We haunt Thy lane, and bend the knee.

Snared by one curl of Thy dark hair, We crave Thy meeting, crave Thy care;

We crave Thy pleasure—O Desire! For Thee we perish, heart and fire:

Hey, hey—of God implore! Hey, hey—of Baha, ask more!

We are Thy heralds, town-bound, true; We circle round Thy prison too;

We are the servants of Thy Word— We crave Thy cruelty, unblurred;

We crave Thy trial, we crave Thy pain, For Thee our souls are gladly slain:

Hey, hey—of God implore! Hey, hey—of Baha, ask more!

We are Thy gazelles of desert-wide; We are Thy fish in foaming tide;

We guard Thy Throne with watchful eyes— We crave Thy beauty's paradise;

We crave Thy glory's blazing ray; For Thee we're offered—life and clay:

Hey, hey—of God implore! Hey, hey—of Baha, ask more!

That which was revealed was more extensive, but this much suffices. It is hoped that henceforth complete joy will be attained. He said:

> "O servant present! The purpose of this pleasantry is to gladden the Name of God; otherwise, due to the oppression of the enemies, the Pen hath withheld its treasures, and the Water of Life floweth only in fixed measure."

Praise be to God, the letter was sealed with the musk of God's pleasantry. In truth, its attraction hath produced a wondrous effect on this night, especially if one hearkeneth to the melody of God. Complete bounty, all-encompassing grace, pre-existent mercy, and all-embracing kindness. We praise Him for what He hath bestowed upon us through His generosity and grace. Verily, He is the Generous, the Munificent. Glory, remembrance, praise, light and radiance be upon you and upon those who are with you, who love you, and who hear your words concerning the Cause of God, the Lord of the worlds.

May my spirit be a sacrifice unto you! At this moment, again, as commanded, I turned towards the Most Holy, Most Exalted Presence. After attaining the presence and standing, the Tongue of Grandeur spoke and said—exalted be His majesty and sublime be His utterance:

> "We wish to mention at this time one who hath turned towards My direction and migrated from his homeland, advancing to the Most Exalted Homeland, the Most Glorious Horizon, the Supreme Height, and the Ultimate Goal, until he arrived at the Most Great Prison and stood before a door which the Hand of Providence had opened unto the face of all who are in earth and heaven, and heard the call of the Wronged One, and attained that which was inscribed in the Books of God, the Help in Peril, the Self-Subsisting."

O Abul-Qasim! The Wronged One makes mention of thee before all faces. Rejoice thou in this remembrance, which nothing on earth can equal. He Who possesses the Sealed Book beareth witness to this. Behold and call to mind when thou didst arrive with Us at the Castle, and that which was revealed for

thee was such that had We cast it upon the mountains, thou wouldst have beheld them prostrate before the face of God, the Mighty, the Loving. Praise be to God, thou hast been and art remembered. The glances of loving-kindness have ever been directed towards thee. In the prison, recall those days of joy and meeting. Blessed art thou! The Wronged One testifieth that thou hast attained that which was promised in the Books of God, both past and future, and didst enter prison for My Name's sake, whereby the limbs of every remote oppressor trembled.

My Name, upon Him be My Glory, hath made mention of thee, and the servant in attendance before the Wronged One hath renewed it. Blessed art thou and blessed is he who loveth thee for the sake of God, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. What do the oppressors say, and how do they curse the oppressors of the past? By the life of God! Soon shall they lament and find for themselves neither helper nor protector. Thus have We adorned thy temple with the ornament of Our loving grace, thy Lord, the Compassionate, the Generous. The Glory be upon thee from Us and upon those who have shown patience, seeking the good pleasure of God, the Mighty, the Praised.

Furthermore, this evanescent one conveys greetings and salutations to them and declares that the days of meeting have not been and will not be forgotten. Their manifestation in the garden during the days of meeting was evident. Their deeds are ever manifest in new splendor and adorned before all eyes. Though the friends have lost all they possessed in the path of the Goal of all worlds, yet the fortresses of love and devotion remain in their possession. There, the highest power of princes is weak and the mightiest armies of the world are as nothing. We beseech God, exalted be His glory, to ordain for them that which is lasting and eternal. Verily, He is powerful over all things. Glory and praise be upon your honor and upon those who have adorned their temples with patience and forbearance in the Cause of God, our Lord and the Lord of all who are in the heavens and earths. Praise be to God, the Mighty, the All-Knowing.

A further submission is that a letter was received after the conclusion of this petition, adorned with mention and supplication to God, exalted be His glory, and the leaf of prayers and devotions, the details of which your honor had inscribed on the back, also arrived and was presented before the countenance of the Lord of all beings on Thursday morning, the 19th of Dhi'l-Hajjih. This is what was revealed for his honor Siyyid A.S., upon him be the Glory of God. His word is mighty in utterance and sublime in proof:

In My Name, which warbleth upon the branches

God beareth witness that there is none other God but Him, and He Who hath come with the Kingdom of verses is indeed the One promised in all the Books and Tablets. Every tablet hath been adorned with His mention and every book with His praise, yet the people have denied His proof and disputed His verses whereby the horizons were illumined. The servant who is present hath appeared before the Wronged One and read that which thy heart's tongue had uttered in remembrance of God, the Lord of Lords. We have heard thy call from the prison and have answered thee with verses that nothing in all creation can equal, to which My Most Exalted Pen in this station doth testify.

Thy mention and thy praise have attained unto My hearing, and We have adorned them with the ornament of Our acceptance. Thy Lord is verily the Compassionate, the All-Bountiful. Blessed is he who hath borne hardships in His love and hath entered prison in My Name, the One Who holdeth dominion

over all who are in earth and heaven. The oppressors shall soon behold the recompense of their deeds even as the people before them beheld it. Thus hath the matter been decreed in the Book by God, the Lord of all men. Rejoice thou in My remembrance of thee and say: Praise be unto Thee, O Thou through Whose appearance the Path was laid and the Balance set up and the mountains were moved. The splendor shining from the horizon of My Kingdom be upon thee and upon every patient soul who placeth his trust in God.

This was revealed for his honor Mim-Qaf-Ra, upon him be the glory of God. He saith, exalted be His majesty and greatness:

In the name of the peerless Lord, the All-Knowing

Consider the party that counted themselves the most exalted of all parties. Throughout ages and centuries they were occupied with the mention of the Truth, and the divines were honored and accepted through His name. Sometimes lamenting and sometimes wailing, at times supplicating God, exalted be His glory, beseeching the meeting with the Promised One. They would stand at His mention and utter "may God hasten His relief." Yet when the Light of the Cause shown forth from the horizon of the world by God's will, they did that which pens and tongues are powerless to describe. They walk in the wilderness of error yet perceive it not, and move in the desert of wretchedness yet remain heedless and unaware.

God hath seized them for their sin and made them a lesson to those who have cast the world behind them, turning unto God, the Lord of all worlds. This Day hath no peer or likeness. Well is it with the soul whom doubts and allusions did not withhold from the Dayspring of revelation and the Source of verses. The servant hath attained the presence of the Wronged One and thy mention hath won His hearing. We do truly pray for thee and glorify thee from this station that joy and gladness may seize thee through this mighty grace. Verily He is with thee, hearing and seeing, and He is the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing. The glory be upon thee and upon whoso hath held fast to the cord of the loving-kindness of his Lord, the Compassionate, the Bountiful. End.

Praise be to God, two honored souls have attained to the sweet savors of God's verses. This servant also conveyeth to them greetings and salutations. Would that I were with your honor and with them in the prison for the sake of God, our Lord and your Lord and the Lord of all in the heavens and earth. I beseech God, exalted be His glory, to honor them with the light of His Cause and grant them shelter beneath the tree of His loving care. Verily He hath power over all things and is worthy to answer prayers.

Another submission: From every quarter mention of your honor hath arrived. Among these, yesterday a letter arrived from his honor the beloved Amin, upon him be the Most Glorious Glory of God, and your honor's handwriting within it was truly situated in its heart. After it was read and reviewed, it was presented at the Divine Throne. This is what the Tongue of the Beloved spoke in reply:

This time We have made frequent mention of Ismu'llah. Now one must pray that the True One, exalted be His glory, may bestow upon Ismu'llah in prison an opportunity to read that which hath been revealed. The Tablet was repeated, the addresses were repeated.

Likewise, the letter of My beloved, the honored ʿAndalib, upon him be the Most Glorious Beauty of God, which your honor sent, was seen. After reading and reviewing it, it was presented. This is what the Tongue of the Desired One hath spoken:

> "O My Name! ʿAndalib hath many claims upon Us. He is the creditor and We are the debtor. We beseech the True One, exalted be His glory, to discharge this debt, for it hath been some time since any specific mention hath outwardly been sent to him, although he hath been and is remembered in the Most Holy Court. God willing, in these days the Supreme Pen shall arise to make amends. Verily, give him glad tidings from Me and remind him of My remembrance and My bounty. O My Name! We have found him to be among the patient ones. This utterance from God, the Lord of the worlds, suffice him."

It is submitted that many of his odes in praise and glorification of the Beloved of the worlds have been received, and in these days he hath sent ghazals in remembrance of the Sovereign of existence and the Lord of the seen and unseen. These were read in the presence of the Throne and those who circle round it, and the original was given to the Afnan that they might make copies thereof. The purpose is that the glances of favor have been and are directed towards him. This evanescent one hath at all times sought for him whatsoever is worthy of grace and bounty. In all conditions I beseech and supplicate the True One for help, that at least once more we may, beneath the shade of the Tree, speak and hear with your honor and the friends that which attracteth hearts and souls. Praise be to God, the Mighty, the Beloved.

The servant 29 Dhi'l-Hijjih 1301

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BH00180: Praise, sanctified beyond pen and ink, befits the most…

Section 1: "In the Name of Our Lord, the Most…"

In the Name of Our Lord, the Most Holy, the Most Great, the Most Exalted, the Most High

Praise, sanctified beyond pen and ink, befits the most holy and most sacred threshold of the Beloved, Who hath educated the people of Baha through trials and guided them to the Kingdom of immortality. Exalted, exalted is He, the Almighty One Who hath caused the trees of the most exalted Paradise to grow tall through blood, and Who hath ordained that afflictions and tribulations, despite their intensity and bitterness, should taste sweeter than sugar in the mouths of His loved ones. He is the Beloved One Who hath not prevented and will never prevent His lovers from His path through hardship and adversity. By the life of our Beloved and your Beloved! If life be not sacrificed in His path, it is not worth a mustard seed, and if the essence of spirit be not offered up at His feet, it is baser and more worthless than stone. Yet none save the assayers of divine unity can recognize this essence. What portion can the sightless one receive, even should he enter the highest Paradise? And what can the deaf one hear, even should he draw nigh unto the Tree of Blessedness? The money-changers of this precious essence are those souls of whom He saith:

"They speak not until He hath spoken, and act according to His commandment."

And likewise He saith: "Neither merchandise nor trade beguileth them from the remembrance of God." Can it be imagined that death shall not overtake any soul? Nay, by God! "Every soul shall taste of death." This being so, if it be offered up for the Beloved and sacrificed for the Desired One, it is assuredly better and more fitting. God forgive me for such mention, for it is a hundred thousand times more glorious and preferable than this—again, God forgive me! I beseech God, exalted be His glory, to illumine the eyes of all with the collyrium of knowledge, that all may witness, with their outward and inward eyes, that which the people of self and desire are deprived of beholding and forbidden from recognizing. Glory and praise be upon those whom nothing whatsoever hath prevented from turning to the Face after the passing of all things, and whom the clamor of the people of creation—who have been beguiled by the world's ornaments and its colors, such that they have cast the Cause of God behind their backs—hath not frightened. Soon will God roll up their carpet and spread another carpet. Verily, He is the Single, the One, the Mighty, the Triumphant, the Powerful.

And further: thy letters arrived repeatedly. Praise be to God, each was a book that spoke and a truthful witness to thy acceptance, steadfastness, attention, submission and humility in the path of God, the Lord of the visible and invisible, and the Lord of all who are in the heavens and the earth. After reading and reviewing them, We approached the presence of the Lord of creation, and whatsoever was recorded in the letter was presented before His face and achieved the honor of His hearing. His word, exalted be His station, exalted be His utterance, and exalted be His remembrance:

In My Name, He Who is established upon the Throne of Utterance

O thou who speakest in praise of thy Lord! Hearken unto the call of the Wronged One. He remembereth thee at this time when sorrows have compassed Him round by reason of that which hath befallen His loved ones at the hands of the divines and rulers of the earth. Verily there is none other God but Him, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. The servant who was present hath appeared and conveyed what was in thy letter, and this Tablet hath been revealed unto thee as a token of grace from Him Who is the Mighty, the Praiseworthy. By My life! In tribulation the glory of Baha hath increased, and He hath spoken from His most exalted horizon, summoning all unto God, the Lord of all worlds.

Blessed is he that heareth and seeth, and woe unto every oppressor who hath perpetrated that which hath caused the denizens of the Kingdom, the dwellers of the realm of might, and the inhabitants of the pavilion of grandeur to lament in this resplendent station. Blessed is thy mother who hath arisen to serve the Cause and hath attained to serving My Name. We testify that she is a leaf who hath held fast to My Tree, who hath spoken My praise and clung to My robe in such wise that neither storms nor tempests caused her to fall, and who hath testified to that which God hath testified: that there is none other God but Him, the Single, the One, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

Conceal the Cause and whatsoever reacheth thee from the direction of the prison, lest the hosts of the oppressors become aware thereof. Guard the Tablet of God even as thou guardest thine eyes. Thus doth He command thee, in Whose possession is the knowledge of all things preserved in a clear tablet. The mention of My Name hath never ceased to reach My presence, and the mention of those who have

entered the prison for My Name and My love, and the mention of him who gave up his spirit in My path in that exalted station. He was named ʿAli in the Book of Names and the Unique One in the Crimson Scroll which none hath beheld save My all-encompassing knowledge.

God hath adorned the outer surface of the earth with his blood and its inner depths with his sacred remains. Say: O concourse of rulers! By God! We have not come to create mischief in your land or to lay hands on your riches and dominions. We have come to reform the world and to educate the souls of all nations. Fear ye God and be not of the oppressors. He calleth you to the most exalted horizon, while ye summon Him to the fire. The call of the oppressors is naught but manifest error. Consider Our Cause with the eye of justice and equity. He remembereth you for the sake of God and desireth naught from you. To this testifieth every fair-minded and discerning soul.

Thus have We adorned the heaven of the Tablet with the stars of utterance. Blessed is he who hath heard and acted, and woe unto the heedless. The glory that shineth from the horizon of the heaven of My mercy be upon thee and upon thy mother and thy father and thy two brothers and thy wife and thy two sisters and upon every man and woman who hath believed in God, the Mighty, the Beauteous.

O thou who hast turned thy face toward the Countenance! Hear with thy Persian tongue the call of the Wronged One. The Truth in the Most Great Prison is wronged and forbidden, and seeketh a helper. Say: O friends of God and ye who drink the choice wine of inner meanings! The helper hath not been and is not outward hosts, nor hath it been or will it be manifest armaments. Rather it hath been goodly words, righteous deeds and spiritual qualities. O people of Baha! Aid ye the Wronged One through the hosts of deeds and character, and likewise through the hosts of patience and resignation, lest there appear from anyone that which would sadden hearts and disturb souls. All the hosts of the world cannot equal these hosts. The cities of hearts and minds are conquered by these hosts. How many cities and villages have, through one pure deed, turned toward the highest horizon and clung to the hem of the Lord of Names! Blessed is he who hath found and perceived the sweetness of virtuous character.

I counsel thee to calmness, patience and discretion, lest anyone become aware of thy mention, thy turning and thy devotion. Any matter that is uttered by the tongue will spread and become known, especially if it occurs between two persons—every secret that passeth beyond two will be divulged. Trustworthy and assured souls have ever been concealing, protecting and faithful. But discernment is difficult, for none but God is aware of what is in anyone's heart. Although through the wondrous grace of God and divine favors, the Cause and Will are bright and luminous as the sun, there hath not been and is not any harm in discretion. Praise be to God, this Most Great Revelation hath forbidden all from that which is repugnant.

The purpose of discretion is that if the people of doubt and fancy should become aware of thy turning to the highest horizon and the sending of tablets from the prison quarter, they would unlock the door of sedition and corruption with the key of doubts and fancies, and become the cause of clamor and croaking. The horizon of justice hath been seized by the clouds of tyranny, and the lamp of equity surrounded by the winds of oppression. Therefore they speak without awareness and walk without proof. In all cases We beseech the Self-Sufficient One not to deprive His servants and to grant them awareness. Verily He hath power over all things.

Convey repeatedly the greetings of the Wronged One to the honored mother, and gladden her with the favors of God. Her deeds are accepted before God and adorned with the ornament of His good-pleasure. Grace hath reached such a degree that in God's Book she hath been named the Mother of the near ones. Let her preserve this lofty and most exalted station for the sake of the Lord of Names. He Whose name is ʿAli—upon him be My glory, My favors, My mercy and My remembrance—hath mentioned her repeatedly. Today is a day wherein if anyone should manifest the tiniest deed for the sake of God, it would be seen in the mirror of divine knowledge as greater than the heavens and earth.

Blessed are they that act! Blessed are they that attain! Blessed are they that are steadfast! Blessed are they that are firm! Convey greetings to all the family, both male and female, and gladden them with the splendors of the light of the Sun of utterance of the All-Merciful. Here endeth kindness for God's sake, bounty for God's sake, mercy for God's sake. Compared to His favors, the favors of earth and heaven are as naught. Before His grace, the grace of all else is non-existent. From each letter of His utterance the kingdom of speech is stirred, and from each of His mentions the dominion of knowledge is enraptured.

What else can this servant say or write? Were it not for the sweet fragrances of the utterances of the Beloved of the worlds, the grief from the imprisonment of the Name of God and His loved ones would surely have caused spirits to be seized and would have banished all joy, delight and gladness into nothingness. In the early dawn their remembrance is my companion and intimate. By the life of our Beloved and our Goal, the lamentation of the heart has not ceased nor has the sorrow subsided. Yet despite all that was mentioned, since it is for God's sake and has appeared in the path of His love, it merits an ocean of joy and deserves a heaven of delight. From the day this matter occurred, the Supreme Pen has not ceased to make mention in various tablets, nor has the Tongue of Grandeur chosen silence. His is the praise and glorification, and His is the thanksgiving in the hereafter and in this world. He can quench with one drop from the ocean of His utterance the thirst of one who has been parched for a hundred years, and with one breath of His mention He can bestow life upon one who has been dead for a thousand years and revive him.

This evanescent one conveys greetings and salutations to the people of that household and beseeches abundant good for each one from the Exalted Truth, especially for those who have migrated and attained, then for those who have migrated and attained. The mention of the honored matron, her eminence the mother, upon her be 9 66 [Baha'u'llah] the Most Glorious, cannot be contained in these pages, for her mention has been recorded and inscribed by the Supreme Pen in the Crimson Tablet, and her deeds are accepted before the Throne. This evanescent servant beseeches and hopes from the Truth that she may ever remain adorned with this most wondrous ornament and be embellished and honored with the crown of His love.

The mention that has flowed from the Tongue of Grandeur of His Holiness the Desired One is sovereign over all, and no thing among all things has equaled or will equal it. A hundred thousand blessings upon the soul that has attained to the mention of our Beloved and your Beloved, our Goal and the Goal of all who are in the heavens and the earth.

In these days, praise be to God, new letters have arrived from the honored gentleman, His Holiness the Name of God, upon him be from all 9 [Baha] most glorious. Blessing upon blessing, glad-tiding upon glad-

tiding. This evanescent servant begs from the Truth that He may assist him to present that which is befitting and worthy. In these days, heart and hand and pen and ink all desire to write accounts for his honor, but time is like the phoenix and there is much work, as His Holiness the Name of God himself knows in detail. Among other things, in these days there are five locations where the honored travelers, upon them be the glory of God and His favor, are staying. If even a portion of their affairs are referred to this servant, it takes several hours. The matter of writing needs no mention.

Section 2: "On this day a detailed letter arrived…"

On this day a detailed letter arrived from him and was read twice in the presence of the Ancient Beauty and the people of the pavilion of infallibility and grandeur who were present. Once it was presented in the presence when some of the people of the pavilion of grandeur were present, then when others were present, He again commanded it to be read. Both grief and joy were felt from his mentions and statements—grief from the mention of imprisonment, and complete joy and gladness from the events he had mentioned. The gathering was very good indeed. It is very rare that all are present before the Presence. This is only due to the purity of heart of His Holiness the Name of God.

Regarding his mention of Mirza Asadu'llah, upon him be the glory of God, and his request for favors concerning him and his mother and wife, upon them be the glory of God, the matters were presented before the Presence. This is what was revealed for Jinab-i-As, as a bounty from God, the Lord of the worlds. He says, exalted be His glory:

In the Name of Him Who shineth from the horizon of the Kingdom!

This is a Book sent down by the Sovereign of Might unto one who hath taken God as his Lord instead of men, that he may rejoice in what hath been vouchsafed unto him from One All-Knowing, Most Bountiful. Verily, We have mentioned thee before, and in this Clear Book. His grace hath encompassed the world and its peoples, yet most of them remain asleep. They have not awakened at the Call, nor have they been roused by the Cry when it was raised between earth and heaven. We commanded the servants to fear God and called them to the Supreme Horizon. Every knowing and informed one beareth witness to this, yet they turned away and denied until they disbelieved in God, the Lord of this wondrous Day.

These are they who worship the calf and comprehend not, who mention the wolf yet perceive not. They hear the verses yet turn away from them; they behold the clear proofs yet remain heedless thereof. They have taken their own desires as lords unto themselves, to which the near servants bear witness. Blessed is he who is strong and hath cast away the world, and steadfast whom the might of nations hath not caused to slip. He is of the companions of the Crimson Ark. Woe unto him who hath remained heedless of this praiseworthy station. Joy be unto him who hath heard the verses of God, and unto the hand that hath taken His preserved Tablet. The glory from Us be upon thee and upon those who have held fast to the cord of their Lord's loving-kindness, turning away from idle fancies and vain imaginings.

And this is what was revealed for the Mother of Alif and Sin. His words, blessed and exalted be He:

In My Name, the Manifest, the Witnessed

O handmaiden of God! The True One, exalted be His glory, hath appeared that all who are on earth might attain unto His recognition and presence. Yet after the rending of veils and removal of coverings, most were found heedless and denying. How many among the divines and jurists who considered themselves the most exalted of creation were counted among the most abased after the dawning of the Sun of Truth. God hath made their highest ones lowest, and their lowest ones highest. How many dwellers of palaces have returned to their graves, and how many possessed of might are witnessed in utter abasement. By the life of God! Abasement lieth in denial of God, and glory in faith in Him.

Do jewels, ornaments, palaces and thrones preserve man from divine chastisement? Nay, by the Self of God! Soon shall all that ye behold return to nothingness. Both the witness and the witnessed shall become non-existent and forgotten. O leaf! Praise thou the Beloved of the worlds, that thou hast been honored with His blessed word "O My handmaiden." It behooveth thee to preserve this most exalted station through the name of thy Lord, the Most Glorious. Verily, He is with His remembering handmaidens and His remembering servants. The glory be upon thee and upon every believing man and believing woman who have believed in God, the Lord of the worlds.

And this is what was revealed for the consort of His Excellency Alif and Sin, upon him be 96 [Baha'u'llah]. His words, blessed and exalted be He:

In My Name, the Wronged One, the Stranger

This is a mention from Us and a Tablet from Our presence to those on earth and to a handmaiden who desired the remembrance of her Lord, the Compassionate, the Generous. We have at all times remembered those servants who heard and hastened when the call came to them from God, the Lord of the worlds. These are servants whom God hath described in His firm and perspicuous Book. O My handmaiden! How many a man was prevented from the Lord of earth and heaven through following his desires, and how many a woman heard, turned unto Him, and attained unto the knowledge of God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy. This is a Day wherein all things have testified to the Lord of the Throne and earth, yet most people are among the heedless.

Some turned away, some denied, some disbelieved, and some pronounced judgment against Him with such injustice as caused the Faithful Spirit to lament. O My handmaiden! Give thanks unto thy Lord for having aided thee to recognize the Dawning-Place of His signs, Who came with manifest sovereignty. We have remembered thee and those women who have believed in God, the Single, the All-Informed. Remind them on My behalf and glorify before the faces of My handmaidens who heard the call and answered their Lord on a Day wherein the pillars of the earth were shaken, the heaven was cleft asunder, and the Caller cried out: "The Kingdom belongeth unto God, the Sovereign of this great Day!" The splendor of God be upon thee and upon the steadfast handmaidens and upon My steadfast servants.

Praise be to God! The rain of loving-kindness hath poured down, the ocean of compassion hath overflowed, and the sun of grace hath shed its radiance. This evanescent servant conveyeth his greetings and salutations to each one. May they, God willing, be confirmed in that which is today the lord of all deeds, namely steadfastness in the Cause of God after having recognized His Manifestation.

As to what was written concerning the beloved of the heart, Aqa Mirza Ayyub, upon him be the glory of God and His loving-kindness, and his wish and that of the honored mother, upon her be the glory of God—these were presented and were graced with acceptance. This servant conveyeth his greetings to the honored mother. The servant testifieth that she hath attained unto her Lord's loving-kindness. Sufficient for her is that which the Supreme Pen hath testified in her behalf. Likewise, he conveyeth greetings to his beloved, T.B., upon him be the glory of God. In truth, they are remembered in this gathering; their mention hath not been forgotten nor have they passed from sight. I beseech God, exalted be His glory, to aid and assist them in that which shall cause His mention to endure forever.

Although this prayer hath been answered before being uttered, for praise be to God, they have been blessed by the effects of the Supreme Pen, and there hath been revealed for them from the heaven of the will of our Lord and the Lord of earth and heaven that which shall testify to their endurance in both the earthly and heavenly kingdoms. Similarly, I convey greetings to their brother and seek confirmation and success for him. Verily our Lord, the Most Merciful, is the Compassionate, the Generous.

Concerning the Huquq which was given to Jinab-i-Amin, upon him be Baha'u'llah's glory, Jinab-i-Amin himself wrote repeatedly about this matter in those days, and a receipt was sent to him. It is strange that it has not yet reached that honored one. Every soul who is enabled to pay the Huquq must receive a receipt for it. Jinab-i-Amin, upon him be Baha'u'llah's glory, is authorized by the Truth, exalted be His glory, to receive the Huquq. He is adorned with this distinction and honored with this name. Blessed is he! The revealed Tablets which were requested specifically for the aforementioned souls were, as commanded, sent in this servant's handwriting. God willing, they will attain unto them.

At this time, when one hour and ten minutes have passed from Tuesday night, the seventeenth of Dhi'l-Hajjih al-Haram, having turned toward the Most Exalted Horizon and the Supreme Summit, after arriving in the Most Holy Court, the Tongue of Grandeur spoke these exalted words—His word, exalted and mighty is He: "O servant present! Write to ʿAyn and Ta, upon him be My glory: Thou hast ever been beneath the gaze of God's favor, exalted be His glory. Be mindful at all times, for the remembrance of God hath ever been and is the cause of the heart's enkindlement. Many are they who practice deception, artifice and guile. Guard thyself through the name of thy Lord, the Protector of what was and what shall be.

Be not grieved by the discord in affairs. Verily, He is with thee and will aid thee, and He is the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous. However, in affairs take counsel. Accept not the word of every speaker, and be not assured by every soul. Conceal what We have sent thee; it behooveth thee not to acknowledge this matter before all faces, for some souls are weak and become disturbed by the doubts of the divines and the might of rulers, and this disturbance gradually leads, God forbid, to forgetfulness and even to rejection. It behooveth thee and the loved ones to beseech God to protect His servants from all that He loveth not. Verily, He hath power over all things.

We make mention of him who migrated until he arrived and heard and saw what was inscribed in the Book of God, the Lord of the worlds. And We send greetings to the other who visited the House of the Friend and what the Glorious One built by His power, and We counsel him to remain steadfast in this mighty Cause. And praise be to God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy." End.

Praise be to God! From the horizon of every letter shineth forth the Day-Star of God's loving-kindness. Blessed are ye and joy be unto you! This evanescent one again conveyeth greetings to them and beseecheth from the Truth that which containeth the good of this world and the next. The Purpose Who knoweth the purpose of them that purpose and the hopes of them that hope ordaineth for whomsoever He willeth the good of the hereafter and of the former life. Verily, He is the Lord of the Throne and of the dust, and He is the Omnipotent, the All-Powerful.

As to your mention of the seal, where am I and where is this name? How can I claim to be present when I count myself as lost? It is the ocean of grace that encompasses all, and the lights of favor that shine forth and continue to shine in every moment. In any case, I beseech God—exalted be His glory—with utmost humility and supplication, that He may recompense the trouble taken by that honored master, the Most Great Name—upon him be all the most glorious glory—and your honor and Aqa Siyyid ʿAli—upon him be the glory and favor of God. It is most clear and evident that this deed has appeared solely for the love of God, otherwise where am I and where are such matters? Since it has appeared for the love of God, it must truly be placed upon the eye, and oceans upon oceans of gratitude must be expressed.

Jinab-i-Aqa Muhammad Karim—upon him be the glory of God—has arrived these days and, praise be to God, has attained infinite bounties. He has heard what most of the servants were prevented from hearing, and has attained what was inscribed in God's books and scrolls. What he had with him arrived in accordance with your letter, and he will be returning these days. This servant beseeches his Lord to protect him and aid him in what He loves and is pleased with, to make him speak in His remembrance, stand firm in His service, move by His leave, and walk upon His straight path.

And as for the kohl of jewels that was previously sent, the hands of grace passed it from hand to hand until it reached the desired land. Your honor has truly taken excessive trouble, but this kohl, while highly distinguished in name, must in practice be asked of ashes what station they occupy. Praise be to God, the letter ends in jest—this is another gift from God, our Lord and your Lord and the Lord of the mighty throne. Glory and praise be upon your honor, upon those with you, upon those in your household, upon every steadfast servant and every steadfast maidservant, and upon everything that has attained to the praiseworthy station.

BH00581: All praise that is sanctified above the comprehension…

In the Name of our Lord, the Most Holy, the Most Great, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious!

All praise that is sanctified above the comprehension of all who dwell on earth befitteth the most holy and exalted court of the Desired One, Who was not deterred by the might of the wicked or the clamor of the evil ones in these days when the fire of tyranny and oppression blazeth on all sides. At all times doth He, with the finger of His Will, with the tongue of His Purpose, and with the motion of His Eye and Brow, summon all unto the straight path which is illumined with manifest light. He is the Peerless One Whom neither the multitudes of the idolaters, nor the gathering of the deniers, nor the abundance of the atheists could hinder.

In times of hardship He proclaimed “Verily I am God,” and in the midst of tribulation He declared “There is none like unto Me.” At all times His glance of loving-kindness hath been directed toward His loved ones. By the life of our Beloved and the Beloved of all who dwell on earth and in heaven! In times when the leaders of the earth, both rulers and divines, arose with utmost determination and power to extinguish the light, the Luminary of utterance was seen to shine more resplendent and manifest from the horizon of divine knowledge. Thus, every letter of the verses that were revealed in the latter days in the Land of Mystery and likewise on the way, doth in itself proclaim and testify.

Yet these veiled people were not worthy to hear even a whisper, much less to hearken unto the Call that was raised from the Kingdom of utterance. Exalted is the Cause of our Lord, and glorified the Word of our Desired One and the Desired One of all who dwell in the heavens and the earth!

Glory be unto Thee, O Thou in Whose grasp are the reins of existence, both seen and unseen! Through Thy Name was the seal of Thy choice sealed wine broken. I beseech Thee by the lights of Thy Kingdom and the revelations of Thy Dominion, and by the effulgent rays of Thy countenance which the eyes of them that are nigh unto Thee have not beheld, and unto whose precincts the birds of inner meaning and utterance have not attained, to send down from the heaven of Thy will that which will draw Thy chosen ones nigh unto Thee. O my Lord! Ordain for them to attain unto Thy presence and to stand before the gate of Thy grace, and to hearken unto that which the Son of Imran heard on the Sinai of Thy bounty and the Sinai of Thy mercy.

O my Lord! Aid them to enter the Most Great Scene that they may witness and behold that which no mortal eye hath seen. Thou art He Whom the will of the nations cannot frustrate, nor the manifestations of the world deter. Thou ordainest for whomsoever Thou willest the good of the world to come and of this world. Verily, Thou art the Lord of all creation. There is none other God but Thee, the All-Bountiful, the Ever-Forgiving, the Most Generous.

May my spirit and my soul be offered up for your steadfastness and your constancy! The servant was sitting still and silent when suddenly he was stirred as though he had found the fragrance of the garment that had been diffused aforetime. Then did one of them that circle round enter with your noble letter. I took it, broke its seal and read that which the nightingale of your loving-kindness had warbled upon the branch of faithfulness, and I beheld the waters of sincerity that flowed from the fountain of remembrance and praise. When I had drunk and heard, I betook myself to that station which cannot be described by the descriptions of the world nor mentioned by the utterances of the nations, until I entered and attained the presence of my Desired One and the Desired One of all who dwell on earth and in heaven, and I laid before His countenance that which had streamed from your pen. The Tongue of Grandeur spoke that which, were it to be cast upon the dust, would cause the realities of spirits and minds to arise therefrom until a Day that hath no end and no termination shall overtake it. Exalted be His utterance, glorified His station, and magnificent His proof! He spoke:

In My Name that speaketh from the horizon of the world

O Afnan! Upon thee be My Glory and My Loving-kindness! Thou art he who hast attained unto the warbling of the doves of My knowledge upon the branch of Mine utterance, and whom the rapture of My

Call hath seized and the sweetness of My remembrance hath attracted on a Day whereon My servants and My creatures have turned away from Me, save whom God, the Lord of Lords, did will. Thou wert standing firm in My service and speaking forth My praise when intoxication had overtaken all the dwellers of the earth—to this testifieth He with Whom is the Mother Book.

We have remembered thee once in the Prison, and again in the castle built upon a mountain, and yet again in this Castle which hath quivered when moved the Pen of God, the Lord of the Day of Creation. There hath befallen you in the path of God that which befell Me from the Daysprings of misbelief and the Dawning-places of dissension. We make mention of thee and of the Most Exalted Leaf, through whose grief sorrows have encompassed Me from every direction. Verily thy Lord is He Who speaketh the truth and observeth with justice on this Day which hath been named the Day of Return. We testify that she sacrificed her spirit in the love of God, the Lord of all mankind. We have, time and again, made mention of thy mother, and at this moment when the Tongue of Glory proclaimeth: The Kingdom belongeth to God, the Lord of all Religions!

Blessed art thou, and blessed is she, and blessed is thy son whom thou didst mention in thy letter. We had made mention of him before thy mention, as attested by the Tablets of thy Lord's loving-kindness, the Mighty, the Self-Subsisting. The Glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My mercy be upon thee and upon her and upon those who are with thee and who love thee and hearken unto thy word concerning this Cause whereby feet have slipped.

A hundred thousand thanks unto the Goal of all existence! Each day His favor is manifest and His grace evident, to such an extent that were all who are in earth and heaven to occupy themselves forever in His praise, they would fall short. However much the people of the world may strive and advance in this station, they find themselves at the first step. At one time this exalted word was revealed from the Dayspring of Revelation and the Dawning-place of inspiration—exalted be His utterance:

> "God hath ordained for His Afnan that which, were less than a needle's eye thereof to be disclosed, would cause all beings to swoon away."

Though at present some may be affected by grief through the deeds of the idolaters, or be touched by abasement through the actions of the transgressors, soon shall the sun of glory shine forth and make the world aware of their station.

Whatsoever groweth from the earth or descendeth from the heavens hath been and is destined for the loved ones of God, and the Afnan occupy the foremost rank in the world. It behooveth thee to beseech God to strengthen them in preserving that which hath been ordained for them by My Most Exalted Pen in the Crimson Book.

Blessed are they who have attained unto the hearing of the Word and who perceive the sweetness of the utterance of the All-Merciful. Heedlessness hath so seized the world that every living soul is bewildered. How many souls have been observed whose song was raised at one hour, while at another their lamentation and wailing was heard. Are they assured by the fidelity of the world? How can this be when it declareth at all times and confesseth its transience, and showeth forth its changes and variations? The wine of vain imaginings hath so seized them that even after witnessing and understanding they are seen

to be heedless. Soon shall they behold that which they have been promised. The servant beseecheth his Lord to guide them unto His path and His balance, or else to cleanse the earth from their defilement. Verily our Lord is the All-Powerful, the Almighty.

As regards what you wrote concerning Aqa Mirza ʿAbdu'r-Rasul, upon him be God's loving-kindness, his petition was at one time presented before His Presence, and a Most Holy and Most Exalted Tablet was revealed especially for him from the heaven of the favor of the Best-Beloved of the worlds and was dispatched. God willing, may he be illumined by the effulgent rays of the Sun of divine utterance and drink from the ocean of inner meanings. This servant conveys his greetings to him and beseeches God, exalted be His glory, to aid him in that which diffuseth the fragrance of eternity. Verily He hath power over all things.

And concerning what they wrote about the Aqa-Zadih, upon him be all the Most Glorious Glory of God, mentioning his expulsion and what befell him, and afterwards expressing thanks and praise—after this matter was presented, the Temple of the Throne arose, walking and speaking that which this servant is unable to mention, until He said, exalted be His grandeur:

> "Blessed is My Afnan, and joy be unto him! He hath spoken that which beseemeth the Days of God, the Lord of the worlds. We beseech God to aid him, to grant him success, and to send down upon him from the heaven of His grace that which beseemeth His sovereignty, the Protector of all who are in the heavens and on earth."

This servant and his like are assuredly powerless to mention that which floweth from the Tongue of Grandeur. The drop is incapable of describing the surging of the sea, and the shadow was not and is not worthy to enumerate the rays of the sun. All dependeth upon His grace, favor and assistance. If He willeth, we have been and are enabled to render any service, otherwise we are indeed powerless. We are God's and unto Him do we return.

To their eminences, the revered Afnans, upon them be all the Most Glorious Glory of God, I express my nothingness and convey greetings and salutations. The letter of his eminence, the honored Aqa Siyyid M, upon him be all the Most Glorious Glory of God, reached this servant and was presented before His Presence, and wondrous and exalted Tablets were revealed. At present there is a delay in making copies. God willing, they will be sent in these days. This servant beseecheth his Lord to quicken the earth through His signs and His sweet savors. Verily He is the Hearer, the Answerer. Glory and praise and honor be upon you, upon your first and your last, your outward and your inward, and the mercy of God and His blessings.

The servant 29th of Dhi'l-Hijjih al-Haram 1301

At this moment I was present in the Most Pure and Most Luminous presence of the Two Most Great Branches—may my spirit, my being, and my essence be sacrificed for the dust of their footsteps—and likewise before the Pavilion of Infallibility I presented mention of your praise and glory. Each one expressed special mention, special praise, special greetings and salutations and glory, which this servant should convey. May my spirit be sacrificed for their favors and my being for their tenderness.

BH06839: O Zayn, upon thee be My glory and loving-kindness!…

He is God, exalted be His glory, majesty and power!

O Zayn, upon thee be My glory and loving-kindness! The servant in attendance before the Throne presented thy letter and that of the noble name, upon whom be My glory. At a time when the morning breeze of inner meanings was wafting and the birds of utterance were singing with joy, all that thou hadst mentioned attained the honor of being heard. Praise be to God, He hath adorned the world with an ornament and clothed it with a garment which the possessors of hosts and ranks and of might and wealth are powerless to remove. Say: All power belongeth unto God, the Goal of the worlds, and all majesty belongeth unto God, the Object of worship of all in the heavens and the earth.

These earthly manifestations are not and have never been worthy of mention. Say: These birds of the wilderness have another drinking-place and another station. Who is able to extinguish what God hath kindled with His white hand, and who can put out what the hand of thy Lord's power, the Strong, the Dominant, the Mighty, hath set ablaze? The hand of power hath extinguished the fire of sedition. Verily, He is the One Who doeth what He willeth through His word "Be" and it is. Say: The mountain of the steadfastness of My chosen ones is not shaken by the winds of the world nor by the tempests of the nations.

Glory be to God! What hath possessed these people that they should imprison the friends of God and cast them into dungeons? Thou hast seen that Name of God. By My life! He desired naught save righteousness and prosperity from God, glorified be His majesty, and at all times he would beseech God, glorified be His majesty, for bounty, mercy, loving-kindness and compassion for all the peoples of the world. Naught but good was mentioned by him. Nevertheless, there befell him what befell him.

Likewise with the friends of God, ʿAli-Qabli-Akbar, upon whom be My glory—although he spoke with utmost truthfulness, it proved of no avail. They presented proofs and evidences. We were with them when they spoke the truth. Although one of the friends of God spoke somewhat unwisely, yet God forgave him as a grace from His presence.

And We make mention in this station of Abu'l-Fadl who hath been imprisoned for My name. Say: Be not grieved, for the day is approaching when the faithful will behold the daystar of justice shining in its full splendor from the dayspring of glory. Thus doth the Lord of all beings inform thee from His mighty prison.

As to what thou hadst mentioned regarding consultation, We have verily made it a ladder of ascent unto the heaven of success and salvation. Well is it with them that take hold thereof and preserve its station. Man's ascent to the heaven of wellbeing and safety is indeed dependent upon the ladder of consultation. God willing, may the people of God hold fast unto it in all conditions.

O thou who hast attained unto My presence! The immoderation of some in the early days of the Cause was like violent and destructive tempests that uprooted the saplings of assurance and hope. Thus did the government turn away and the people become agitated, for they were heedless of the divine purpose and commandments and acted according to their own desires. Although the morning breeze of revelation was wafting and He Who conversed on Sinai was speaking, yet none witnessed from them any deed

befitting the divine days. For this reason did the life of the oppressor gain extension until these days. Every person of insight beareth witness to what hath been mentioned.

O Zein! The clouds of oppression have veiled the moons of justice and prevented their light from shining forth, and the greatest veil has come between the Sun of Justice and the world. The cause and origin of this oppression have been and are the divines. They are the mighty veil and the dense cloud. Hearken unto that which the All-Merciful hath revealed in the Qur'an:

> "They have exchanged the favor of God for disbelief, and caused their people to dwell in the abode of perdition."

Today, that which will cause the exaltation of the Word and the spread of the Divine Cause is the sanctification of the hearts of His loved ones from rancor and hatred and from whatsoever is unacceptable in God's sight. I swear by the lights of the Sun of inner meanings that such souls have been and are under the glance of His favor. Their Helper and Succourer is God, exalted be His glory. The oppressor shall be in loss, and the oppressed shall triumph. How excellent was that which was spoken aforetime:

> "Thine eyes are closed in slumber while the wronged one remaineth sleepless, Calling out against thee, and God's eye slumbereth not."

Today, pay no heed to outward powers. That which thou seest shall perish, but that which My Most Exalted Pen hath spoken unto thee shall endure. In this Revelation, God hath not and will not grant respite to the oppressor, and if any soul remaineth for numbered days, this is in accordance with the requirements of consummate wisdom. This is another matter. Thy Lord is, verily, the Mighty, the All-Conquering, the Powerful.

In all matters be vigilant regarding the Cause. In the darkness of oppression, be as a brilliant star, and in the midst of turmoil, be at peace through the Name of God. Take counsel together in matters, placing your trust in God, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting. Blessed art thou, O Zein, for having remembered My Name, the Wronged One, the Imprisoned, and for having mentioned it with glory in thy letter. He will surely reward thee with the best of rewards. Verily, He doth not suffer the recompense of the sincere to be lost.

As to what thou didst mention regarding My handmaiden and My leaf, We send her Our greetings from this exalted spot. Give her the glad-tidings of My remembrance of her, that she may thank her Lord, the Forgiving, the Generous.

Concerning what thou didst write about the sale of property, there is no objection. What is essential today is to hold fast to and engage in matters that will cause the elevation of the Cause. God will soon expand your sustenance and send down upon you a blessing from the heaven of His bounty. He, verily, hath power over all things. The selling of property for the purpose of acquiring another house is acceptable before the Face, and God, exalted be His glory, in all conditions hath regard for what is beneficial for His loved ones.

We make mention in this place of thy son Abdul-Husayn, that this may be a treasure for him in the Book of God, the Lord of the worlds. Every mention that hath flowed from My Most Exalted Pen shall never be exhausted, and shall endure as long as My Most Beautiful Names endure. To this testifieth every discerning one who is endued with insight.

And We make mention of thy other son who hath been named Hasan. O Hasan! Be excellent even as God hath shown excellence unto thee. Then rejoice in His wondrous remembrance of thee. Verily, He hath remembered thee in the Most Great Prison with that which nothing can equal, if thou be of them that understand. Seize upon the remembrance of God and His loving-kindness, and be thou of the thankful.

And We make mention of Muhammad-Qabli-ʿAli and counsel him with that which will exalt his station among the servants and establish his remembrance in the Book of God, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. Thus have We illumined the horizon of thy heart with the Sun of My wise remembrance. Be thou thankful to God for this great bounty.

O Habib! The Best-Beloved remembereth thee from the prison quarter, while speaking with manifest sovereignty. The conditions of the world cannot frustrate Him, nor the hosts of nations, nor the might of the oppressors. He calleth out with the most exalted call betwixt earth and heaven, and summoneth all to His straight path. He seeth the oppressors but as moths fluttering in the air. Thus hath the Tongue of Grandeur spoken from His exalted station.

As to what thou hast mentioned concerning the trustees, all of it hath been accepted in the Most Holy Court, and its decree hath previously been issued from the Most Exalted Pen. However, their appointment in the visible world is contingent upon its time. Every matter, when its hour cometh, God shall manifest it in truth. Verily, He is the Powerful, the Mighty.

Had We previously designated someone specifically and adorned him with the distinction of appointment, there would assuredly have befallen him that which would have grieved the Concourse of the Near Ones and the Supreme Concourse. However, after the extinction of the kindled fire and its subsidence, let the Council of Consultation designate them in utmost joy and fragrance. In that Council, let them hold fast unto whatsoever conduceth to exaltation, elevation, dignity, composure, goodly deeds, spiritual qualities, words of counsel, and the reformation of heedless souls, according to the requirements of the days, until God shall come with His command. Verily, He hath power over all things. At present, it is more expedient that these souls be confirmed by the signature of the friends in that land, for if the people of hatred and iniquity—that is, the divines of the age—were to become aware of those souls who have been designated by God, they would assuredly harass the princes and ministers with a hundred thousand lies, deceptions, and schemes, and would besmirch matters that are sanctified from the world and its affairs with the clay of their own suspicions and imaginings, presenting them before their presence. Verily, thy Lord speaketh the truth and guideth to the way. He is the Ruler, the Commander, the Holy, the Mighty, the Beautiful.

And at the end of the Book, We make mention of thee with another mention, that thou mayest rejoice in God's bounty, the Supreme, the Self-Subsisting. We have answered thee and decreed for thee what thou didst desire, and We ask God to forgive that for which thou didst seek forgiveness. Verily, He is the All-

Merciful from before and after, and He is the Forgiving, the Generous. The glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of thy Lord's loving-kindness be upon thee and upon thy family and upon those who have attained unto this manifest Cause.

BH00722: The essence of praise and the jewel of glorification…

He is God, exalted be His glory in greatness and power!

The essence of praise and the jewel of glorification befit the tracing of the Most Exalted Pen, which was not prevented from its call by the clamor of the divines nor the rattling chains of the composers. At all times it moved in the arena of wisdom and utterance in such wise that all the worlds of the unseen, by that movement, turned toward the Friend. Now it is hidden, but God shall soon make it manifest through His justice. Verily, He is the All-Bountiful, the Generous. This movement shall not be seized by stillness, nor shall this call be followed by silence. Blessed are they who have attained unto the hearing thereof. These are the people of Baha and the companions of the Crimson Ark, whose mention God hath revealed in the Qayyumu'l-Asma. There is none other God but He, the Single, the One, the Powerful, the Mighty.

Glory be unto Thee, O Thou at Whose mention all mention boweth down, and at Whose light's dawning all lights humble themselves. I beseech Thee by Thy Name through which Thou didst subdue all things and didst open the cities of the Kingdom of Names, to assist Thy servants in Thy remembrance and praise, and to enable them to act according to what Thou hast revealed in Thy Book. O Lord! This is Thy Day which Thou hast preferred above all other days and hast mentioned in the Books, the Psalms, and the Tablets. I beseech Thee by it and by what beseemeth it to send down from the heaven of Thy Will upon Thy servants that which will draw them nigh unto Thee, make them recognize Thy path, cause them to hear Thy verses, and teach them what Thou hast revealed in Thy Book.

Thou art the One Who hath power over whatsoever He willeth. Nothing can frustrate Thee, nor can any matter prevent Thee. Verily, Thou art the Powerful, the Mighty. O Lord! Send Thy blessings upon Thy chosen ones and Thy loved ones who were not deterred by the might of the oppressors from turning to Thee, nor were they frightened by the pharaohs from facing toward Thy direction. Thou doest what Thou willest through Thy power and decreest what Thou desirest. Verily, Thou art the Mighty, the Praiseworthy.

The petition of that dear one was presented by this servant in the Most Holy and Most Exalted Court, and was graced with hearing.

Concerning what thou didst ask about the earth and what the wise have said about it: in truth these matters have not yet been fully discovered. This is the truth, and beyond it is naught but error. However, the philosophers of this age, having received a portion of the light of this Manifestation, are more knowledgeable than those who came before. They have not yet fully discovered the number of planets; soon it shall be revealed and added to the previous count. This science is a fathomless ocean. Each fixed star has its planets, and each planet is a world among the worlds of thy Lord. Who can count the hosts of thy Lord therein, or the creations of His servants therein?

The spirituality of Jesus adorned the world of the Gospel, yet its people are heedless, walking in the wilderness of error and sleeping on the couch of negligence. They have not awakened from the trumpet blast, nor have they risen from the graves of their desires. Soon shall they witness the recompense of their deeds. Verily, thy Lord is the Just, the Wise.

As to thy question concerning the spirit and its movement, know thou that pure and sanctified spirits, detached from earthly conditions, have been and ever shall be the educators of the world of being. By the Life of God! After their ascension, they exercise supreme influence and power. They have ever been, and shall remain, all-encompassing and supreme. This station hath ever been guarded and preserved, sealed with the Seal of Divine protection, and treasured in the vault of infallibility. The tongue faileth to describe it, and minds and hearts fall short of comprehending it. The first interpreter, enthroned at the head of creation, is the tongue itself, which hath repeatedly confessed its powerlessness. What hath been mentioned regarding this station hath been solely through Divine grace and favor. Let this much be clear and evident: that pure and sanctified spirits who ascend from this world in the light of detachment are mighty causes for the education of the world and the appearance of crafts and wisdom.

In the first rank, the purpose of sending Messengers and revealing Books hath been this: the purification of souls, the refinement of spirits, and their sanctification and detachment. Blessed are they who today have attained unto the rustling of the Lote-Tree beyond which there is no passing and have perceived the fragrance of His garment.

O friends! This is the day of pure deeds, the day of mention and praise. Strive ye that ye may attain unto that which shall cause the fragrance of being to be forever inhaled throughout all kingdoms. Say: Take ye the Book of God with the power that proceedeth from Him, then observe that which ye have been commanded therein. He, verily, is the Commander, the All-Wise.

As to what thou hast mentioned regarding business and transactions, these matters have been made dependent in the Book of God upon consultation. Let them consult with faithful and upright souls concerning their business dealings and the like, and whatsoever is decided, let them act upon it, placing their trust in God. This is God's decree and His command. Blessed is he who heareth and acteth, and woe unto the heedless.

As to what thou hast mentioned regarding the Huqúqu'lláh, this pertaineth exclusively to God, exalted be His glory. It must be sent to the Holy Court. The matter is in His hands. He doeth what He willeth and ordaineth what He pleaseth. Since thou hast inquired, this answer hath been sent down from the heaven of bounty. This matter is obligatory upon all, and the honor of all lieth in its payment, for it is the cause of the purification of one's possessions and the source of blessing and increase in bounty. Until now, people have been heedless of this matter. They strive to amass wealth, whether lawfully or unlawfully, to leave it for heirs whose fruit is unknown. Say: Today the Word of God is the heir, for the purpose of an heir hath been the preservation of name and trace, and it is evident that centuries and ages shall obliterate these remembrances. However, every word that hath flowed from the Most Exalted Pen concerning any soul shall endure throughout the kingdoms of earth and heaven. This is the supreme bounty and the greatest favor. Let him who wisheth act accordingly, and let him who wisheth turn away.

Mention has been made of turning towards the prison. After the fire of oppression was kindled in the land of Ta, this land too was somewhat disturbed. False rumors arose. Therefore, wisdom dictated a pause. If they gradually turn, holding fast to wisdom, there is no harm. Acknowledgment is not permissible in any place. Trusting in God, let one or two set forth. In all conditions they must not let go of wisdom until the clamor from that land subsides. They must not change those practices which they have previously followed, as a wisdom from God, the Lord of the worlds. Today the gaze of all must be fixed solely upon the Most Exalted Horizon. Whatsoever He commands, that is the decree of God amongst His servants. To this testifies He Who speaks: verily there is none other God but Him, the Single, the All-Informed.

We convey greetings to the friends and enjoin upon them that whereby the Cause is exalted, namely deeds and character that cause the elevation and advancement of the Word of God among His servants. The glory shining from the heaven of My grace be upon thee and upon My loved ones who have turned with their hearts unto God, the Mighty, the Powerful, the Best-Beloved.

We convey greetings to the handmaidens of that land and give them the glad-tidings of the favors of God, exalted be His glory. All must, with utmost sanctity and detachment, be engaged in the remembrance of God throughout the days and nights. Every handmaiden of God who today attains unto hearing and is enabled to respond—she is recorded and inscribed among the leaves of the most exalted Paradise in the Book of Names. Rejoice, O handmaidens of God! Blessed are ye and joy be unto you! How many a man hath been debarred from the Truth, and how many a woman hath turned unto and attained recognition of God, the Most High, the Great. Praise ye the Best-Beloved of the worlds, Who hath chosen you from among all handmaidens and adorned you with the ornament of His own recognition. The glory shining from the horizon of My grace be upon you and upon those who have attained unto this glorious, mighty station.

BH01377: Praise be to God Who hath spoken that whereby…

He is God, exalted be His glory, the Most Great!

Praise be to God Who hath spoken that whereby all things were attracted, and through Whom His path and His balance were made manifest, and whatsoever was recorded in the Books, the Scriptures, the Psalms and the Tablets. He, verily, is the Cleaver of the daybreak and the Sender of winds. There is none other God but Him, the One, the Almighty, the All-Powerful, the Unconstrained. And may blessings and peace, shining forth from the horizon of the heaven of His grace, rest upon His loved ones and His chosen ones who have cast aside the ways of the world, holding fast to His straight path. These are servants unto whom God's Book hath testified, both before and after, and the tongue of the All-Merciful hath spoken their praise in the Qur'an:

> "They speak not until He hath spoken, and they do His bidding."

Glory be unto Thee, O God of Names and Creator of heaven! I beseech Thee by Thy Name through which the pearls of utterance appeared and the fountain of Thy knowledge flowed amidst Thy creatures, to ordain for Thy loved ones, by Thy Most Exalted Pen, that which will draw them nigh unto Thee. Thou art

He Who hath ever been, in the heights of bounty, mercy, loving-kindness and beneficence, and will ever continue to be even as Thou hast been from all eternity. There is none other God but Thee, the Self-Sufficient, the Most Exalted.

My spirit be a sacrifice unto your remembrance! Your letter arrived and from its horizon shone forth the light of recognition. When I opened and read it, I found the fragrance of your words in the mention of our Lord, the All-Merciful. Then was I taken up until I entered the Most Exalted Paradise, the Station whereon the Ancient Beauty was established upon the throne of His Most Glorious Name. When I presented what was therein before His Countenance, the Ancient Lord turned toward me and spoke that which caused the ocean of knowledge to surge in creation and the light of recognition to shine from the heaven of proof. He said, exalted be His majesty and mighty be His utterance:

"O Zein! Blessed art thou that My Most Exalted Pen hath moved to make mention of thee morning and evening. By My life! The glances of My favor are directed toward thee and the showers of My loving-kindness are raining upon thee. Blessed be thine ear, for it hath heard My sweetest call in the earliest days; and blessed be thine eye, for it hath beheld My most exalted horizon; and blessed be thy heart, for it hath turned toward the Dayspring of My most beautiful Names; and blessed be thy hand, for it hath taken hold of My Book; and blessed be thy tongue, for it hath spoken My praise and glorification." Thus doth the Lord of the worlds make mention of thee in the Most Great Prison with that which diffuseth the fragrance of God's loving-kindness, the Lord of all worlds.

The portion of that honored one from the treasury of the grace of God, exalted be His glory, hath been and is beyond measure. Thou hast partaken of one ocean of supreme bounty, one city of greatest favor, and one world of praise and glorification. No tongue is capable of uttering "well done," nay rather, the Kingdom of utterance is needed to speak forth "well done and blessed be it," inasmuch as the station of the manifestation of grace from the direction of Truth is such that this evanescent servant and his like are powerless and fall short of describing it. Exalted be His generosity, exalted be His bounty, and exalted be His loving-kindness and mercy!

When Jinab-i-Safar-ʿAli (upon him be 96) attained the Most Holy and Most Exalted Court, they promised that a Tablet would be specially revealed and sent for him. This time it was sent. I beseech God to assist him and all servants in that which is the good of all. It is most regrettable that lives should be wasted and pass fruitlessly. It is hoped that God, exalted be His glory, will make all aware and deliver them from this heedlessness, for had we not been heedless, cities opened in the name of Truth and wherein His mention was raised would not have fallen into the hands of the idolaters and enemies of the manifest religion. This is truth, there is no doubt therein.

Now must the sincere ones and the pure in heart, with utmost lowliness, beseech God, exalted be His glory, for the protection of the radiant Faith. The recompense of deeds is evident and manifest at all times, but where is the soul who will take heed, and where is the one who will be awakened? The sleep of heedlessness and the intoxication of pride have seized all and cast them like uprooted stones upon the earth.

Praise be to God that the blessed month of fasting became a cause of joy and gladness, though its end brought endless sorrow. Through divine confirmations and heavenly assistance, deeds were manifest according to our capacity, but it is difficult for such minor acts to efface or compensate for major transgressions. In any case, we seek forgiveness through goodly character and praiseworthy deeds—how much more so without them! Never have the deeds of a servant been worthy of the court of the Lord, unless His grace should take hold and His favor should assist.

BH01512: Praise be to the Adored One Who, in every…

He is God, exalted be His station, the Greatness and Power!

Praise be to the Adored One Who, in every age and century, nay rather in every year and month, even in every hour and minute, awakens His servants through signs, tokens and allusions. As is evident, at every moment He appears in a new guise, and in every instant a new matter becomes manifest and an event occurs. Exalted is the All-Merciful Who sent down the Criterion unto them while they were in doubt concerning a new creation. Some are awakened and become aware of divine intentions, their awareness increasing, while others grow more heedless. In these days, were one to find hearing, every created thing would inform man of the mighty events and grievous trials which are the consequences of deeds, and would, in most eloquent language, make him aware. How many a stone hath melted from the fear of God, and how many a servant laugheth and playeth until chastisement seizeth him from every direction. And peace and blessings be upon the Point of Existence and the Manifestation of the Adored One, through Whom the world was glorified, and upon His family and companions who broke not God's Covenant and His testament, and who sacrificed themselves in His path for the exaltation of His Cause and the manifestation of His sovereignty.

Thereafter, it is submitted that the beloved of the heart, his honor Muhammad Mustafa, upon him be the Glory of God, mentioned you, and likewise forwarded the letter you had sent to this evanescent one. Praise be to God, it indicated your honor's love. We beseech God to assist and enable your honor in all conditions. After perusing the letter, it was submitted to His presence, and He commanded that your departure is necessary, and the sooner you hasten, the more advisable it would be, for in these parts the weather is unsettled and there are many people. Therefore, the sooner you proceed to the direction of the physician, upon him be His glory, the more beloved it is and has been. Be not grieved at not attaining His presence, for you have previously attained it many times. God willing, may you ever remain under the glances of God's favor and be enabled to do that which He loveth and approveth. Say: Make resolution thy right hand, and prudence thy left hand, and reliance upon God the crown of thy head, and wisdom before thy face, then journey forth. This is nearer unto righteousness.

We have sent unto the physician, upon him be the Glory of God and His loving-kindness, that from which every seeker hath found the fragrance of his Beloved's garment, and every pursuer the sweet scent of his Goal. Ask God to assist him to serve His Cause and to remain steadfast in that whereby the feet of the servants have slipped, save those whom God hath willed, the Lord of the worlds. We send Our prayers and glorification upon him who hath loved Me and turned unto My face, and upon thee, and upon those

who have fulfilled their covenant and acted according to what they were commanded in the Book of God, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

God willing, your honor will proceed, trusting in God and committing all affairs unto Him. Convey my utter servitude and nothingness to the beloved of the soul, the honored physician, upon him be the Glory of God and His loving-kindness, and likewise to his honor the imprisoned one, upon him be the Glory of God, and to Muhammad Surur Effendi and others, upon them be the Glory of God. God willing, may all be engaged in His praise and mention, purely for the sake of God. These are days wherein a thousand sorrows appear at every moment, all being the results of deeds and actions. Matters have reached such a pass that the Islamic nation, which was the most powerful, greatest, most perfect and most rightful of all nations, has manifested such weakness that every person of conscience, every person of fairness, and every person of heart lamenteth over it. Verily, sighs ascend and tears descend, but most of the people are in evident delusion. They have not yet awakened and have not perceived the cause and reason for the afflictions. This evanescent non-existence beseecheth the True One, exalted be His glory, to enable us all. Verily, He is powerful over what He willeth. Peace and glory be upon your honor and upon God's sincere servants.

BH02144: Praise sanctified above hearts and minds befitteth the King…

He is God, exalted be His station, the Greatness and the Power.

Praise sanctified above hearts and minds befitteth the King of Kings Who, through the waves of the ocean of utterance, caused the world of contingent being to acknowledge His oneness and become aware of His singleness. Exalted be His generosity, exalted be His grace, and glorified be His loving-kindness, His greatness and His favors. And blessings and peace be upon the Lord of the world and Sovereign of nations, through Whose advent heaven was honored and through Whose manifestation the kingdom of creation was adorned, and upon His family and companions whom God made the lamps of the cities of His knowledge, the lights of His dominions, and the stars of His heaven, and through whom He caused His religion to flourish and His Cause to be made manifest among His servants and creatures.

And further: your illustrious letter arrived swifter than lightning and brought fresh joy, for indeed heart guides unto heart. When you intended to write that love-inspiring letter, the heart here was expectant, ready and waiting. The swiftness of lightning in this regard is very slow and its feet quite lame. I beseech and implore God, exalted be His glory, not to deprive the world of this gift, that all may gather on one plane and become citizens of one homeland. In truth, were humanity to be blessed with the education of the true Educator, most of these visible means would be observed to be fruitless. But now it remains treasured in the stronghold of infallibility and hidden from all save whom God willeth.

As to the mention made of his honor the Afnan, upon him be from all nine [Glory] most glorious, and his honor Aqa Ahmad, upon him be 9 66 [Baha'u'llah], praise be to God the glad tidings of their well-being brought complete joy. This servant too extends his greetings and begs confirmation for them, yearns for their presence, beseeches their reunion, seeks their company, desires to be in their presence. Prayer is from the servant, acceptance from God—verily He is the Hearer, the Answerer.

And regarding the rice, his honor the Shaykh, upon him be 9 66 [Baha'u'llah], submitted his petition to the Most Holy Court and a most impregnable Tablet was sent especially for him, and this servant also mentioned something to him and as commanded mentioned the rice as well, and now too upon receipt it will be sent—do send it. And as for the writings, after submission They said it was not and is not advisable, rather even being in Beirut with writings is contrary to wisdom unless they keep them concealed and preserved in a firm, secure place, that is, in Beirut. End.

I beseech God to adorn the world with the ornament of trustworthiness and grant truthfulness and sincerity, that the properties of the servants may remain protected from the transgressions of the treacherous and the thieves, so that there may remain no need for concealment and hiding. He is the Powerful, the Mighty.

Two new packets arrived. God willing their reply will be sent. I extend greetings and nothingness to all the friends and masters. Peace be upon you and the mercy of God.

BH02374: Today all things are speaking this most exalted Word…

He is God, exalted be His station, the Most Great, the Most Powerful

Today all things are speaking this most exalted Word:

> "He Who was promised in the Books of God and mentioned in the hearts of the Messengers hath come."

O My Afnan! Today the Eternal God speaketh. All the near ones, the sincere ones, the chosen ones and the favored ones have given glad tidings of this Most Great Revelation and have made mention of the trials and tribulations that would come to pass, even unto the prison of ʿAkka. Blessed is the soul that hath arisen to serve and is engaged in such deeds and character as befit the Day of God. This Wronged One seeketh helpers, and helpers are deeds from which the fragrance of God can be inhaled. Verily doth the Glory of God forbid all from following their desires and command them to fear God, the Lord of all creation.

In one of the Tablets this most exalted Word was revealed: All the Prophets and chosen ones were commanded by God, exalted be His glory, to water the trees of human existence with the living waters of refinement and wisdom, that there might appear from all that which God hath deposited within man. Every tree hath its fruit, as is plainly evident. The purpose of all they have spoken and taught was, in one respect, the preservation of human dignity and station. Blessed is the soul that in the Day of God hath held fast unto the divine principles and hath not deviated from the true Law. The fruits of the tree of existence which are attributed to God, glorified be He, have been and are trustworthiness, religiousness, truthfulness and sincerity. And the greatest of all, after recognition of the unity of the Lord, exalted and glorified be He, is regard for the rights of one's parents. This matter hath been mentioned in all the heavenly Books and recorded by the Most Exalted Pen. Consider what the All-Merciful hath revealed in the Qur'an:

> "Worship God and join not any partners with Him, and show kindness unto parents."

Observe how association with parents is linked with the recognition of the one true God. Blessed is every wise mystic who witnesseth and seeth and readeth and recognizeth and acteth according to that which God hath revealed in the Books and in this mighty Tablet.

Praise be to God that thou hast recognized that of which the peoples of the world, of whatever kind, are deprived. That which the Most Exalted Pen now commandeth thee is to make thy father pleased with thee, for the good pleasure of God, exalted be His glory, dependeth on this. We have, through Our special favor, acquainted thee with this matter. Act according to that which thou hast been commanded and be of the thankful ones. He will assuredly reward thee for thy deeds, purely for the sake of God, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. The Glory be upon thee and upon My Afnan and upon those who are with thee and have believed in the One, the All-Informed.

BH02591: Ziyarat-Namiy-i-Awliya (Vahid)

For his holiness Vahid hath this been revealed, he who beheld the Countenance of God, the All-Glorious, the Almighty, and who in His path sacrificed himself, arose to serve His Cause and quaffed his fill of the draught of certitude from the Hand of his Lord, the Munificent.

He is supreme over His Cause and powerful over His creation

The first wave of exaltation from the ocean of grace of thy Lord, the Compassionate, be upon thee [Vahid] who art the essence of the Qur'an and possessor of the mysteries of the Bayan.

I testify that thou drank of the choice wine of His Revelation from the hand of His favor and grace, and attained the presence of Him Who was the Promised One in all the sacred Books, Scriptures and Tablets. Thou didst hearken unto the divine Call when raised and perceived its manifestation above the Exalted horizon on a Day when all the dwellers of the mortal kingdom rejected the Creator of the heavens. Thou hast, moreover, discerned the Most Great Announcement and inhaled the fragrance of the garment of the Lord of Days.

I testify that thou rendered victorious the Faith of God and His Cause through thy pen, thy tongue and thy hand until thou didst surrender thy life in His path and quaffed from the Kawthar (heavenly fountain) of self-renunciation in His name and in His love. Thou wast intoxicated from the spring of His Recognition and hath soared with the wings of certitude in the heaven of the murmur of thy God, the Lord of Grandeur. Over thy sufferings have all the atoms of the earth cried and the eye of creation wept.

I testify that because of thee all the treasures of earth appeared and all the pearls of sea were revealed. Through thee, the pinnacle of understanding was adorned with the crown of revelation. Thou art the one who accepted the choice sealed wine in the presence of all and drank thy fill in the Name of thy Lord, the Ancient of Days.

May the resplendent glory which hath dawned from the horizon of divine grace, and effulgent light from the heaven of sanctified justice, rest upon thee and upon those who have assisted thee. For they accepted the One that thou had accepted and repudiated those who had risen against thee. With thee and under thy shadow, they rendered the Cause victorious, having beheld thee and circled around thee.

O God, my God, creator of me and of the heavens, I beseech Thee by the pearls of the ocean of Thy Oneness, by the mysteries of Thy Book, and by lamentation of Thy loved ones in their separation from Thee, and by the tears of the pure ones on their remoteness from Thee, I invoke thee, O Thou Lord of indomitable Strength, by this sacred Tomb and by this exalted Shrine [Vahid's], to forgive me and my father, and all those who for Thy sake have approach these sacred remains, and all those who have come and will come on pilgrimage to this spot.

O my God, I beseech Thee by him [Vahid] and those who have suffered martyrdom in Thy path to grant me and to those who remain faithful in Thy Covenant, the necessities of life. Thou art the All-knowing, the All-wise, Sovereign of creation.

BH02694: God beareth witness that there is none other God…

He is the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing.

God beareth witness that there is none other God but Him, and that He Who hath come is verily the Dawning-Place of Revelation, the Manifestation of His Cause, and the Dayspring of God's commandments, the Lord of all worlds. Whoso turneth unto Him hath turned unto the Object of all desire, and whoso turneth away is accounted among the most lost in the perspicuous Book. This is the Day whereon all things proclaim: There is none other God but Him, the Single, the All-Informed. This is the Day whereon the Balance hath been established and God's straight Path made manifest. Blessed is he who hath turned toward Him and faced the Most Exalted Horizon, the station wherein the Lord of Names proclaimeth: There is none other God but Him, the Mighty, the All-Praised.

The Wronged One hath heard thy mention and witnessed thy turning unto Him. He maketh mention of thee with that which shall never cease to diffuse its fragrance throughout the eternity of God's most excellent names and supreme attributes. To this beareth witness the Lord of all beings in this wondrous Tablet. Remind the people and bring them the glad-tidings of this announcement which the Books of God, the Mighty, the Beautiful, have testified unto. Say: O concourse of divines! By God, the ocean of knowledge hath surged and the Sun of utterance hath shone forth from the horizon of the heaven of your Lord's will, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. Take heed lest worldly leadership debar you from the Lord of Names. Cast away what ye possess and take hold of that which hath been given unto you from the Ancient Dispenser. Beware lest this world beguile you away from the Lord of the Throne and of the dust. Soon shall all that ye behold today perish, and sovereignty shall remain with God, your Lord and the Lord of all who are in the heavens and on earth.

Counsel all as We counseled them before, that there may appear from the earth what God hath desired. He is verily the Helper, the Gracious. Blessed is he who hath heard the Call and answered his Lord, and woe unto every heedless one far removed. O thou who gazeth toward the Most Exalted Horizon! The deniers have wished to extinguish God's light through their oppression and their turning away. Say: Fie upon you! His Cause shall be made manifest as He pleaseth, despite you, O company of unbelievers! Be thou vocal in thy Lord's remembrance and steadfast in service to His Cause. He shall aid thee even as He aided His servants aforetime. In His grasp are all who dwell in the kingdom of creation and command. He doeth what He willeth and ordaineth what He pleaseth. He is the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing.

Convey My greetings unto My loved ones there who have held fast unto the Sure Handle and clung to the hem of the mercy of their Lord, the All-Forgiving, the Most Merciful. The glory shining forth from the horizon of My loving-kindness be upon thee and upon those with thee and upon them that have acted according to that which they were commanded by One mighty, powerful and ancient.

BH02931: Today from the rustling of the Divine Lote-Tree…

In the name of the Compassionate, the Merciful!

Today from the rustling of the Divine Lote-Tree is heard, in the highest degree, this most exalted Word: "Look not upon the creatures and their clamor, but rather to the Truth and His sovereignty." The Most Exalted Pen declares: "Soon shall pass away all that thou dost witness and behold, and God shall spread another carpet."

God willing, may that soul be enkindled by the fire of the Lote-Tree—an enkindlement through whose effect the warmth of the love of God may be generated in the heart of the world and may he be illumined with the light of the Cause in such wise that its traces become manifest and evident in all directions.

These days are adorned and blessed with the ornament of divine relationship and are known in the heavenly Books and Scriptures as the Day of God—no centuries or ages can equal a single moment of this blessed Day. Praise be to God, the special favor of God—exalted be His glory—hath been vouchsafed and that soul is numbered among the Afnan of the Divine Lote-Tree. Be thou thankful unto thy Lord for this great bounty.

In all conditions fix thy gaze upon the Most Sublime Horizon and act in such manner that thy fragrance may never be cut off, by virtue of the continuance of God's most excellent names and most exalted attributes. All matters and all things return to extinction. That which is everlasting and enduring has been and shall ever be the Word of God. No traces and no names have remained nor shall remain. Whoso is blessed today with the blessed word of divine good-pleasure from the presence of God hath attained unto all good, and this word is like unto a treasure in the keeping of a true trustee—the hands of thieves and traitors cannot reach it.

Thus have We adorned the heaven of the Tablet with the stars of utterance, as a bounty unto thee. Verily thy Lord is the All-Bountiful, the Generous.

Say: O my God, and my Master, and my Hope! I beseech Thee by Thy rising up to promote the Cause, and by Thy being seated upon the throne of divine exposition, and by what hath befallen Thee at the hands of the Pharaohs of the earth and the tyrants of the lands, to aid me in that which beseemeth Thy days. O my Lord! I have turned with my whole being to the horizon of Thy grace and bounty. I beseech Thee to assist me in Thy remembrance and praise and service to Thy Cause in such wise that the vain imaginings of Thy servants may not hinder me. Verily Thou art powerful to do what Thou willest and in Thy grasp are the reins of all who are in the heavens and on earth. Praise be to Thee, O God of the worlds!

BH02957: As commanded, deliver from the land of Kha…

As commanded, deliver from the land of Kha the sum of fifty tumans to the honoured Dhabih of the land of K, and the sooner it arrives, the more pleasing it will be in the sight of the Best-Beloved. Likewise, send the sum of one hundred and thirty-three tumans and eight thousand to His Holiness Ismu'llah Jamal—upon him be all the Most Glorious Glory and all the Most Resplendent Light—to be delivered to the heirs of the late Ustad Ahmad who ascended to the Most Exalted Horizon while in prison. Obtain a receipt and forward it to the Most Holy Court.

They have decreed that in these days special consideration must be shown to the people of Sad, namely those souls who have been afflicted with all manner of tribulations in the path of God. Blessed are they, blessed are they, for they have borne hardships and have become intoxicated with the wine of steadfastness to such degree that neither the censure of the censurers nor the oppression of the tyrants could deter them in the Cause of God.

In one of the blessed Tablets specifically revealed for the loved ones of the land of Ta—those souls who were imprisoned for the sake of God and drank from the cup of tribulation—verses were revealed whose purport is this: Since ye have taken the cup of tribulation in the path of the Lord of Names and have drunk therefrom, now drink of the pure wine which floweth from the Fountainhead of the Supreme Pen. Blessed are ye for having attained this supreme bounty and for having been afflicted by the tyranny of the peoples in the path of the Beloved of the world. Since ye have drunk from the ocean of sorrows, now drink, by leave of the Lord of Revelation, from the ocean of joy.

For God Himself maketh mention of you in words that cannot be equaled by all that is in the heavens and on earth. Consider the world as a book, for all matters are recorded and inscribed in its outward form. Should anyone observe but a single page thereof, grief would never overtake him; rather, he would find joy and gladness circling round about him. In any case, all must today fix their gaze upon the horizon of the tender mercies of the All-Merciful with perfect certainty and assurance. Blessed is the soul whom the loss of all things deterreth not from that whereunto he was created. Verily, He Who hath given will give again, for He is the All-Powerful, the All-Bountiful.

On one occasion He said to this servant: Observe how We transformed those two holy souls when they presented themselves in the land of Zawra, adorning them with a new raiment. The eternal bounty and manifest blessing rained down upon them from the heaven of divine Will like a copious rain. After their return to the land of Sad, two petitions from them reached the Most Holy Court wherein they had beseeched this very station which they attained. Praise be to God that through divine grace and His all-embracing, all-encompassing mercy they attained to such a station that the tongues of the Concourse on High are moved to their mention and praise. This is now cause for gratitude to the discerning, occasion for remembrance to them that remember, and ground for praise to them that are endowed with understanding. Life was granted, bounty was granted, station was granted, blessing was granted—by the life of God, that was granted which cannot be comprehended through mention and utterance. And in their final days they attained to that which their hearts desired. All must behold the divine bounties

vouchsafed unto themselves and others, and act in accordance with that which hath been commanded in the Book.

He is the Giver, He is the Powerful, He is the Bestower. Doth not the Kingdom belong to Him? Doth He not hold within His grasp the reins of all existence? Every created thing beareth witness to His sovereignty, His grandeur, His might and His power. He, verily, is the All-Conquering, the Almighty, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

BH02991: Your petition hath reached the Most Holy Court…

In the name of the Sun of Truth!

Your petition hath reached the Most Holy Court and the servant in attendance submitted all of it.

Blessed are those souls who in this Day have not been content with mere words, but have arisen to do that which beseemeth the days of God. No garment hath been or is more excellent for the temple of man than goodly character, and no crown better than the fear of God. This is the first ornament, whose radiance illumineth and brighteneth the human world.

Say: O friends! Hold fast unto that which is beloved in the sight of God. The Most Exalted Pen hath desired naught for itself, and whatsoever hath flowed and continues to flow from it hath been for the good of the servants. The souls mentioned have each attained the grace of God and their mention hath flowed from the Tongue of Grandeur. Blessed are they and joy be unto them.

All must today, with the utmost lowliness and supplication, seek steadfastness, for the clamor is raised high, the traitor follows behind, the thief lies in ambush, and the ungodly watch from their lookouts. Beseech ye God that He may protect all and shelter them in His mighty and impregnable fortress.

We send greetings to the handmaidens of God in that land and give them the glad-tidings of the grace and mercy of God, exalted be His glory. We beseech God that He may aid them to do that which is befitting, that they may, in utmost sanctity and detachment, engage in the remembrance of the Goal of all the worlds and attain the fruit of existence.

We convey Our greetings to the mother of the sanctuary and give her the glad-tidings of the favors of the Lord of Names and Attributes, and likewise to the handmaidens who are in mind. Blessed is he who remembereth her and assisteth her purely for the sake of God.

Blessed are the souls who have been and are in mind and who dwell beneath the shade of the Tree of Providence. The requirements of consummate wisdom have concealed their mention. By My life! Theirs is a goodly return.

The Glory be upon thee and upon My friends and loved ones and My male and female servants and upon those whom the clamor hath not prevented from the Lord of all beings in this […] the Mighty, the Wondrous.

BH03057: He is God, exalted be His station, the Greatness…

He is God, exalted be His station, the Greatness and the Power! Praise be to God Who hath revealed that which was hidden and manifested the Name that was supreme over all names—Muhammad (peace be upon him) in the realm of creation. Through him did God exalt His religion, reveal His treasures, spread His commandments and raise His standards. He is the First Name in the Kingdom of Names. Upon him be prayers and peace, and upon his family and companions until the Day of Resurrection.

And now, O beloved of my heart, thy letter hath brought joy to this servant, and the clouds of thy kindness have rained down delights upon him. When I read and understood it, I presented it, and the Master—may my spirit and the spirit of all else be a sacrifice for Him—said:

> "O Nabil, God willing, mayest thou be blessed through divine favors and adorned with spiritual qualities. Fix thy gaze upon this word which is as light for dark days and as spirit for cast-out bodies: The hosts of God are praiseworthy character and goodly deeds. God is witness and testifier that thou hast ever been and art before Our eyes, and that the glance of Our loving-kindness is directed towards thee. To this do thy tongue, thy sight, thy heart and thy hearing bear witness. We beseech God to adorn that temple with the ornament of goodly character in such wise that its effects may become manifest and evident."

And concerning what thou didst mention about what thou didst see, verily it beareth witness before all creation that He assisteth His Cause as He pleaseth. Beseech God that He may enable His servants to do that which will exalt His Word. Verily He hath power over all things. Something hath been prepared by the Wronged One, though it be but a trifle, and sent to thee that thou mayest know of My love for thee and My care for thee. Peace be upon thee, and the mercy of God, and His blessings. The end.

That beloved one is blessed, and his letter auspicious, and his name likewise blessed upon blessed. We beseech and implore God, exalted be His glory, that He may cause all to attain unto His perfect bounty and enable them to do what is befitting. He is the Powerful, the Mighty. Peace shining forth from the horizon of the Abode of Peace be upon you and upon those who love you for the sake of God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH03179: Praise be to God Who hath opened the gate…

He is God, exalted be His glory, the Most Great, the All-Powerful

Praise be to God Who hath opened the gate of divine knowledge to all who dwell within the realm of possibility, and hath spoken forth the Most Great Word, whereupon the ocean of names surged, the kingdom of creation appeared, and the Dove of the Command warbled upon the branches. There is none other God but Him, the Single, the One, the Chosen One. And the prayer shining forth from the horizon of His Will be upon the Sovereign of existence and Dawning-Place of bounty, through Whom the oneness of God was made manifest among the peoples, the horizon of the world was illumined, and through Whom God's commandments and laws were sent down and His religion and mysteries were revealed. And upon His family and companions, through whom the sun of justice shone forth and the moon of grace appeared and the heaven of equity was raised up and adorned with the stars of loving-kindness and

beneficence. Blessed is he who holdeth fast unto them and cleaveth to their hems, and woe betide the heedless and the doubtful. Praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

It is submitted that your letter indicating and testifying to your good health was received, bringing joy and delight. Praise be to God in all conditions. God willing, may you ever drink from the cup of grace and be occupied with His mention and praise. Soon will these diverse colors return to the one-colored pavilion of God, exalted be His glory. This morning, the seventeenth, while the lamp was lit and this servant was occupied with writing, mysterious circumstances appeared and the servant attained the presence, where mention was made of you and it was stated:

> "God willing, may his mention remain eternal and enduring in the ledger of the world, throughout the duration of the kingdom of earth and heaven."

End quote. Praise be to God, His grace hath been and continueth to be with you. I beseech God, exalted be His glory, to aid all to achieve that which is beneficial for all and is His good-pleasure. The two letters that arrived were sent on—let them be forwarded. The wick and comb also arrived. It is requested that if wisdom permiteth, convey greetings to the friends and loved ones. This servant hath ever been and remaineth occupied with their mention. Peace be upon you and the mercy of God and His blessings.

BH03330: Visitation Tablet for His Holiness Nasir, upon him be…

Visitation Tablet for His Holiness Nasir, upon him be the Glory of God and His Light

In My Name, the Compassionate, the Bountiful Visitor

The first remembrance that dawned from the horizon of the Mother Book and the first light that shone from the horizon of the Countenance in the final return—upon thee, O thou who hast turned to God, the Lord of Lords!

I testify that thou didst acknowledge what the Tongue of Eternity acknowledged and didst witness what the Lord of the world and Goal of the nations witnessed. Thou art he through whom and through whose like the fortress of the Cause was strengthened among the servants and the mention of the Desired One was raised throughout the lands. Thou art he whom neither the clamor of the divines prevented from the Lord of all beings nor the power of princes from the Most Exalted Horizon. The Most Exalted Pen hath testified to thy testimony in the path of God, Creator of heaven, and to thy steadfastness until thy spirit ascended to the Most Glorious Companion.

Blessed art thou, O Nasir, for having heard and responded and believed and turned until thou didst enter and attain presence and didst hear what the Son of Imran heard on the Mount of Knowledge and didst see what the Beloved saw of the signs of his Lord, the All-Merciful. I testify that thou didst attain the lights of reunion and didst drink the choice wine of nearness and meeting from the hands of thy Lord's bounty in the beginning and the return.

Thou art he who was patient in hardship and tribulation, and the people of the cities of justice and fairness lamented at what befell thee and thy like from oppression. By your calamities the sky was filled with smoke and grief took hold of the Dawning-places of Revelation and the Day-springs of Knowledge.

Blessed are ye and those who seek your station and visit your dust and remember your days and what befell you and draw near through you to God, your Lord and your Goal and your Object of Worship and the Object of Worship of all in the heavens and earths.

Glory be unto Thee, O my God! I beseech Thee by those who were martyred in Thy path and soared in the atmosphere of Thy love in such wise that the power of the world could not hold them back from the Most Great Name, that Thou forgive me and my father and my mother and whosoever hath held fast unto Thy Strong Cord, O God of the worlds!

BH03741: O my handmaiden! Your call has attained the hearing…

He is the Witness, the All-Aware.

O my handmaiden! Your call has attained the hearing of the Wronged One and your turning has been honored by the gaze of the Intended One. Be not grieved by what has come to pass. The loved ones of God belong to Him and are associated with Him, and whatsoever befalleth them hath been and is in accordance with the requirements of wisdom, and its traces and fruits shall assuredly appear on earth and become manifest in the assemblage of the world.

Verily, he who hath ascended unto God hath attained the presence and visited a House which the Almighty built with the hand of His power, and a House which the Friend built by His command and will. As to the first, he entered it not, and as to the second, he departed not from it. Verily, he who visited the first and the second is among the people of inner meanings in this holy, mighty and inaccessible station. O my handmaiden! He hath attained that which causeth eyes to be consoled and hearts to be drawn. This station is most great.

That handmaiden must occupy herself at all times with the remembrance of the Goal of the worlds and be content with what hath been ordained from the Supreme Pen. Praise be to the Lord of the Kingdom Who hath mentioned thee through words with which none of the books of earth can compare, even to a single letter thereof.

Convey greetings from the True One to all the handmaidens in that land. They must remain so steadfast on God's path that neither doubts and vain imaginings, nor the cawing of the crows nor the clamor of the deniers shall hold them back or keep them from the Truth.

Today the rain of bounty is pouring from the clouds of grace and descending. Blessed are the servants and handmaidens who have not been deprived and have taken their portion and share from the outpourings of God's days. Today you are known by the Truth and associated with Him, and He sufficeth. Rejoice thou in this wondrous and glorious mention.

BH03600: Today all enkindled souls who have drunk…

He is the Most Ancient, the Most Great, the Most Exalted

Today all enkindled souls who have drunk from the cup of divine love and partaken of the ocean of inner meanings must arise to serve the Cause and guide people to the Most Great Announcement and the

Straight Path. This exalted rank and most high station has been and continues to be reserved for the learned ones—those scholars who have turned to the supreme horizon and attained the highest summit, which is the station of recognition of God, exalted be His glory. They are as lights for the darkness of the earth and as stars for the heavens of understanding. Every learned one who today has attained the divine fragrances of these days is as the eye for the temple of the world. Trusting in the All-Merciful, he must engage in teaching the Cause with the utmost joy and delight. This is the deed that will accompany him through all worlds.

Some scholars today have deprived the helpless people of the Euphrates of divine mercy and the fountain of heavenly grace, while barring themselves from the eternal outpourings of God. Others have succeeded in hearing the rustling of the Divine Lote Tree and the shrill voice of the Supreme Pen, and have arisen to serve the Cause in such wise that God Himself bears witness: these are the people of the Crimson Ark whose names have been inscribed by the Supreme Pen in the Crimson Book. Blessed are they and joy be unto them! God willing, you will, through divine confirmations, illuminate the horizons of those regions with the light of faith and bestow the water of steadfastness, that perchance the weakness of the people may be transformed to strength and their agitation to tranquility. Verily your Lord has power over all things. He does what He wishes and ordains what He desires. He is the Mighty, the Praiseworthy.

BH04535: The Wronged One of the horizons calls out…

In the name of the All-Knowing Lord!

The Wronged One of the horizons calls out to the people of the Covenant and invites them to the highest horizon. The parties of the world, meaning the diverse peoples, sought throughout the nights and days to attain His presence, and with utmost humility and supplication they begged and hoped for the understanding of the Day of God. Yet when the Sun of Truth dawned from the horizon of Will, all arose in opposition and strove with the utmost effort and exertion to extinguish the divine light. Such is the condition of heedless, veiled souls. I swear by the effulgent rays of the Sun of Truth that whosoever attained and, at the time of the raising of the Call, was confirmed in responding—such a one is recorded and inscribed among the dwellers of the highest paradise in the divine Book. Blessed is the soul who was quickened by the name of the Friend and remained steadfast in His love and gave up his life in His remembrance. Blessed art thou, O brother! Verily he ascended to the Supreme Companion and God made him purified from the defilement of the world. Be thou thankful to thy Lord for this great bounty.

My Most Exalted Pen makes mention of him at this moment and says:

> “O Hashim! Blessed art thou for having heard the Call and [responded to] thy Lord. We bear witness that thou didst turn and believe when the servants turned away, until thou didst fulfill thy pledge by the command of God, the Lord of the worlds. The glory shining forth from the horizon of My loving-kindness be upon thee and upon those whom the affairs of the world did not prevent from the Most Great Name, and whom the might of the nations did not frighten from this Most Holy, Mighty, Wondrous Cause.”

BH04831: Thy letter was presented before the face…

He is the One Who standeth supreme over His Cause and Who prevaileth over His servants.

Thy letter was presented before the face of the Wronged One in the Most Great Prison, and the servant in attendance read it aloud. We heard thy call and perceived from it the fragrance of love. Thou hast spoken the truth, and We have answered thee through grace.

Blessed is the soul that hath attained unto the divine Word and acteth according to that which is in the Book. We counsel all to manifest courtesy and to perform such deeds as will cause the promotion of the Cause among the peoples. Ere long will the oppressor return to his abode, and the radiance of the Sun of Justice will illumine the world. Say: O friends! This is the day of goodly character and righteous deeds. Associate with all the peoples of the world with the utmost love. Whosoever heareth from you, it is for his own sake, and whosoever denieth, verily your Lord, the All-Merciful, is independent of all who are in the heavens and on earth. Blessed is the ear that hath heard, and the tongue that hath confessed that which the Tongue of Grandeur hath uttered from this noble station.

Thus hath the Pen of inner meanings spoken upon the branch of utterance, as a command from the All-Merciful Who hath come with an authority that they who are endowed with fairness and justice cannot deny. To this testifieth He Who speaketh in all things: There is none other God but Me, the Single, the One, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. The glory that shineth forth from the horizon of the heaven of My mercy be upon thee and upon those who have quaffed the choice wine of understanding in the days of their Lord, the All-Merciful. These are they who have attained in a perspicuous Book.

BH04886: O thou who gazest upon My countenance! Upon thee…

He is God, exalted be His glory, the Most Great, the All-Powerful

O thou who gazest upon My countenance! Upon thee be My peace, My mercy and My loving-kindness. Blessed art thou and blessed is thy father, through whom the fragrance of faith was diffused among the religions. He is among those whom God hath described aforetime in His perspicuous Book, saying—and His Word is most sweet—"honored servants who speak not until He hath spoken, and who do as they are bidden."

By the life of God! Thou hast been and art before the Face. We beseech God, glorified be His majesty, to cause thee to attain unto that which draweth faces toward the Most Exalted Horizon. His honor ʿAli-Qabli-Akbar hath arrived and thy letter hath attained the honor of being heard. We beseech Him, exalted be He, to open a door before thy face and to rain down upon thee from the heaven of His grace the showers of mercy and blessing. Verily He is the Lord of creation and the One Who […] whereby the pillars of the transgressors were shaken and the faces of those near unto God were illumined.

Never hast thou been absent from Our sight, nor shalt thou ever be. We testify that there is none other God but Him, in acknowledgment of His oneness and confession of His singleness. There is none other God but Him, the One, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. Praise be to God, the Mighty, the Great. We convey from this station Our greetings unto the friends of God and His loved ones there, and We beseech God to

cause them to hold fast in all conditions unto His Book and to act according to that which they have been commanded. Verily He is the Helper, the Almighty, the All-Bountiful. Peace be upon you all, and the mercy of God, and His blessings.

BH05122: This is a Book which the All-Merciful hath sent…

In the name of Him Who hath been wronged in the prison of the heedless.

This is a Book which the All-Merciful hath sent down from the Kingdom of Utterance unto him who hath believed in God, the Lord of all worlds. Should anyone ask thee of My dwelling-place, say: By God, it is in the Most Exalted Paradise—to this doth testify He with Whom is the perspicuous Book. And should anyone ask thee of My station, say: In the Kingdom of God, the Mighty, the Great.

Should a heedless one object to thee, saying:

> "At one time He mentioneth His station in the prison, and at another in the Most Exalted Paradise—tell me truthfully which of these is more accurate,"

say: All that floweth from His Most Exalted Pen is truth from God, the Goal of all who know. Say: God hath changed the prison into the Most Exalted Horizon and hath named it with all names. He, verily, is the Ruler over what He willeth. There is none other God but Him, the One, the Almighty, the All-Powerful.

O Muhammad-Qabli-ʿAli! Husayn hath mentioned thee before this Servant Who standeth before My face, and He hath revealed for thee this perspicuous Book. Take hold of it through the power of thy Lord, then do what behooveth this mighty Cause and say: Praise be unto Thee, O God of all worlds and Goal of them that know.

It behooveth My servants there who have quaffed the wine of Mine utterance and attained unto the fragrance of My wondrous knowledge to read this Tablet. Upon them rest My prayers and My mercy and My loving-kindness, and I am verily the All-Merciful, the All-Bountiful. The splendor that shineth forth from the horizon of My Pen be upon them and upon thee and upon those who have held fast unto My strong cord and My straight path.

BH05200: In My Name, the Manifest, the Witnessed

In My Name, the Manifest, the Witnessed

O handmaiden of God! The True One, exalted be His glory, hath appeared so that all who are on earth might attain unto His recognition and presence. Yet after the rending of veils and removal of coverings, most were found heedless and in denial. How many divines and jurists who considered themselves the most exalted of creatures were counted among the most abased after the dawning of the Sun of Truth. God hath made their highest ones lowest, and their lowest ones highest. How many dwellers in palaces have returned to their graves, and how many possessed of glory are witnessed in utter abasement. By the life of God! Abasement lieth in denial of God, and glory in faith in Him.

Do jewels and ornaments and palaces and thrones preserve man from divine chastisement? Nay, by God's Self! Soon all they witness shall return to nothingness. Both witness and witnessed shall become extinct and lost. O leaf! Praise the Beloved of the worlds that thou hast attained unto His blessed word "O My handmaiden." It behooveth thee to preserve this most exalted station through the name of thy Lord, the Most Glorious. Verily, He is with His remembering handmaidens and His remembering servants. Glory be upon thee and upon every believing man and believing woman who hath believed in God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH05152: In My Name, the Wronged One, the Stranger

In My Name, the Wronged One, the Stranger

This is a remembrance from Our presence and a tablet from Our realm to those on earth and to a handmaiden who desired the remembrance of her Lord, the Compassionate, the Generous. We have at all times remembered those servants who, when permission came to them from God, the Lord of the worlds, hearkened and hastened—servants whom God hath described in His perspicuous and decisive Book.

O My handmaiden! How many a man hath been debarred from the Lord of all being through following his passions, and how many a woman hath hearkened, turned unto Him, and attained unto the knowledge of God, the Mighty, the Praised. This is a Day wherein all things have borne witness to the Lord of the Throne and of earth, yet most of the people are among the heedless. Among them are those who turned away, those who denied, those who disbelieved, and those who pronounced judgment against Him with such tyranny as caused the Faithful Spirit to lament. O My handmaiden! Give thanks unto thy Lord for having enabled thee to recognize the Dawning-Place of His signs, Who hath come with manifest sovereignty. We have remembered thee and those handmaidens who have believed in God, the Peerless, the All-Knowing. Remind them on My behalf and glorify before the faces of My handmaidens who heard the call and answered their Lord on a Day wherein the pillars of the earth were shaken, the heaven was cleft asunder, and the Summoner cried out: "The Kingdom is God's, the Possessor of this mighty Day!" The glory of God rest upon thee and upon the steadfast handmaidens and upon My steadfast servants.

BH05235: O people of the Manifestation! Hearken unto the Voice…

He is the Caller on Sinai

O people of the Manifestation! Hearken unto the Voice of Him Who conversed on Sinai from this Prison wherein is confined He before Whose sovereignty all created things have bowed down in adoration. Every appointed time hath been fulfilled, every sign hath been made manifest, every hidden secret hath been revealed, and He Who was promised hath come in truth, riding upon the clouds.

Blessed is the powerful one who hath arisen to serve the Cause, and the speaker who hath proclaimed: "The Kingdom is God's, the Lord of Lords!" We have revealed that which lay concealed in knowledge and have sent down that which the Mother Book doth testify. How many a servant hath fled from the hosts of divine revelation, and how many a servant hath arisen and said: "Praise be to Thee, O my Lord, the Most

High!" Blessed is he who hath remained steadfast, whom the clamor of those who have disbelieved in the Beginning and the Return hath failed to deter. And woe unto every one who hath turned away from Him through Whom the horizon of creation hath been illumined.

Let nothing grieve thee. Put thy trust in God, thy Lord, and say: "Praise be to Thee, O my God, for having made known unto me the Dayspring of Thy signs, the Dawning-Place of Thy lights, and the Manifestation of Thy Self, before Whom, when He appeared, all necks bowed down in submission. I beseech Thee to aid me in Thy remembrance and praise and in the service of Thy Cause in such wise that the hosts of every one who hath denied Thy right in the Hereafter shall not deter me. O my Lord! Thou seest me turning toward Thee, mine eyes fixed upon the wonders of Thy bounty. Have mercy upon me through Thy grace and loving-kindness, then send down upon me from the heaven of Thy favor that which befitteth Thy Name, the All-Bountiful."

BH05934: O Iskandar! Time and again you have been blessed…

He is the One speaking from the Supreme Horizon

O Iskandar! Time and again you have been blessed with the remembrance of the Wronged One. You have perceived the fragrances of the garment of the All-Merciful's utterance and attained unto the supreme horizon and the knowledge of the Lord of Names. Today, whosoever has turned towards Him has attained unto all good.

Your letter was presented before the Wronged One and the servant in attendance submitted all of it. Blessed is the tongue that speaks in remembrance of the Beloved of all creation, and blessed is the face that turns toward Him. We beseech God to grant what you have desired and to ordain that which is enduring and everlasting. Today is the day of arising, of remembrance and praise. With perfect unity and harmony, occupy yourselves with the reformation of souls. The entire world had been awaiting this blessed Day, yet after its appearance all remained dormant save those whom God willed. Hold fast to the Book of God and act according to it. By the life of God! It will bestow the water of everlasting life and grant eternal bounty. Convey greetings from the Wronged One to the friends in that land and remind them of that which hath been sent down from the Supreme Pen. Glory be upon thee and upon whosoever hath turned towards the Path of God, the Most High, the Most Great.

BH05788: The atoms bear witness to the Revealer of verses…

He is the All-Knowing, the All-Wise!

The atoms bear witness to the Revealer of verses, and all created things to the Manifestor of clear proofs. We behold the people in this Day struck down, save whom God, the Lord of mankind, hath willed. This is a Day wherein the Most Exalted Pen hath spoken both morn and eve, yet the people remain heedless and astray. How many a verse hath appeared in truth, and how many a light hath shone forth from the horizon of the Cause, yet the people turned away after beholding the proof and evidence. O concourse of the earth! Fear God, and deny not Him through Whom acknowledgment hath been established among

the righteous and through Whom the very pebbles have proclaimed: The kingdom belongeth unto God, the One, the Chosen!

This is a Day whereof God gave you tidings in His Books, Psalms and Tablets. Fear God and cast not the Book behind you. Take hold of it with strength from your Lord, the Mighty, the Bestower. We have heard thy mention and have remembered thee with that which shall endure throughout the eternity of My most excellent names. He Who possesseth knowledge of the Book beareth witness unto this. Thus have We adorned the heaven of the Tablet with the stars of meanings and utterance. Blessed is he who hath drawn near and perceived the fragrances of revelation from this Station which God hath made among the most exalted of stations. The glory shining from the horizon of My Kingdom be upon thee and upon whosoever hath held fast unto the Cause when God came with power and sovereignty.

BH05853: The Supreme Pen conveys greetings to the people…

He is seated upon the throne

The Supreme Pen conveys greetings to the people of Baha and says: Today is the Day of God and on this Day the mention of anyone except Him beneath His shadow is not permitted. If a soul were to reflect upon what was revealed in previous Books, throughout his life he would exclaim: “Praise be unto Thee, O Revealer of verses!” The clamor of the ungodly and oppression of the heedless have bewildered the people—fear has prevented some, while worldly ornaments have held back others. We beseech God to illumine all eyes with the light of recognition, that they may behold the effulgences of the lights of the Countenance from the Supreme Horizon and attain unto that which none before has attained.

Say: O friends! This is the Day which the sincere ones, the pure-hearted and the near ones sought from God to attain His presence. Strive that you may not be deprived of the outpourings of the True Bestower and be not forbidden from the waves of the ocean of meanings. In all conditions hold fast to His cord and cling to His robe. He is the Deliverer, He is the Helper, He is the Bestower, He is the Protector, He is the All-Knowing and He is the All-Powerful. His is the praise and the glory and His are the most beautiful names, through the eternity of His Most Exalted Word.

BH06714: This is a Book sent down by the Wronged…

In the Name of Him Who ruleth over all names!

This is a Book sent down by the Wronged One unto him who hath believed in God, the All-Compelling, the Self-Subsisting. Therein He maketh mention of him who hath turned towards His most exalted horizon and hath voiced His praise amongst His servants. He, verily, is of those whom God, the Lord of what was and what shall be, hath described.

Blessed is he whom the turning away of all who are on earth hath not deterred, and mighty is he whom the conditions of every rejected world have not weakened—he who worshippeth vain imaginings and deemeth himself to be of those who have believed in God, the Single, the One, the Mighty, the All-Loving. Take heed lest the doings of the wicked sadden thee, or the oppression of those who have denied the Witness and the Witnessed strike fear into thy heart. By God’s life! Soon will God purify the earth from

the defilement of those people who have turned away from the Countenance when Its lights shone forth from this praiseworthy station. Say: O concourse of the earth! Abandon what the people possess and take hold of the Book of God which hath been sent down from the heaven of the loving-kindness of your Lord, the Possessor of all existence. Thus hath the Tongue of Grandeur spoken, as He walked in His inhabited house. The glory that hath dawned from the horizon of My mercy be upon thee and upon those who have testified to that whereunto the Truth, the Knower of things unseen, hath testified.

BH07385: In My Name, the Truthful, the Trusted One!

In My Name, the Truthful, the Trusted One!

O Sadiq! God willing, may you attain to true truthfulness and be adorned with the ornament of trustworthiness. Blessed is the soul who acts according to that which hath been revealed in God's Book, both before and after.

I swear by the Sun of Truth that no Book hath been sent down except that it gave glad tidings of this Most Great Revelation and this Most Straight Path. Were it not for Him, no Books would have been revealed and no Scriptures would have appeared.

Yet the divines of this age and the theologians of this time have denied the Interlocutor of the Mount and have forbidden divine rights. Glory be to God! Like unto the Jews they wait, while the Promised One hath appeared, His banners have been hoisted upon the heights, and His mention hath encompassed all regions. Nevertheless, through the vain imaginings of rejected souls they remain deprived of the ocean of divine knowledge and forbidden from the sun of utterance. Thus have their souls enticed them, and today they remain unaware.

Praise be to the Object of all the world that thou hast attained to this most great bounty. Preserve this station through His Name. This is My counsel unto thee and unto God's near servants.

BH07084: In My Name which is sanctified above all names

In My Name which is sanctified above all names.

Your mention hath been made in the presence of the Wronged One, and these exalted words have been revealed purely for the sake of God. In every letter thereof the sealed wine is concealed. Blessed is he who drinketh thereof and attaineth unto his goal. Know thou the value of these divine days and strive that thou mayest attain unto that from which the fragrance of eternity can be inhaled. The Day is manifest, the verses are being revealed, and the Beloved is visible. By God's life! It behooveth all who are in the world to freely sacrifice their lives at the feet of the Friend. Today the divine bounty encompasseth all, and the Kawthar of utterance is visible before the faces of the world. How excellent is the state of him who hath attained thereunto and become detached and free from all else but God. We beseech God to assist His loved ones to accomplish that which beseemeth His days. Verily He is powerful over all things. There is none other God but Him, the Single, the One, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

BH07920: O people of the world! The Hand of Divine…

He is the speaker of truth and justice!

O people of the world! The Hand of Divine Bounty is offering the Kawthar of inner meanings—deprive not yourselves thereof. The Tongue of Grace is summoning all to the supreme horizon—render not yourselves destitute. Say: How long will heedlessness persist and folly reign? The human temple befitteth the robe of knowledge, not ignorance. While time remaineth, arise to redress what hath escaped you. By the Sun of Truth! This blessed Day hath, in the estimation of God, exalted be His glory, a station which none save Him can reckon or describe. Grieve not over anything. Be thou vocal with My Name, place thy trust in My Self, be assured of My Revelation, and stand firm in My love amidst My servants. Thus have We given thee to drink of My sealed wine through My Name, the Self-Subsisting. Drink thou thereof and be among the thankful ones.

BH08535: He hath been manifested with wisdom

He hath been manifested with wisdom

O son of Babi, upon thee be My loving-kindness and My mercy! God, exalted be His glory, hath greatly loved this name, for within each letter thereof is concealed the Most Great Mercy, inasmuch as the letter B was the source of the creation of all things, were one to reflect upon this throughout the kingdom. None can comprehend this save to a limited degree. This blessed name is composed of two B's and one A. Were I to reveal the mystery of the A standing between the two letters, all who dwell in the kingdom of heaven would swoon away, how much more those who dwell in the realm of dust. Praise be to the Intended One of the world that thou hast attained unto that which most of mankind are deprived. Say: Praise be unto Thee, O God of Names and Creator of heaven, for having aided me to recognize the Dayspring of Thy Cause and the Dawning-Place of Thy testimonies, and for having made me one of those who have attained.

BH08024: Today all atoms are observed to be…

In the name of the Goal of all the worlds!

Today all atoms are observed to be in a state of utmost attraction and excitement, for they have perceived the fragrance of the garment of Joseph of inner meanings. Yet most of the servants remain heedless and deprived of it, even though all who dwell on earth were created for this blessed and wondrous Day. The divine Books bear witness to this utterance and His tongue of will testifies to these words. At all times, night and day, render thanks unto God and occupy thyself with His praise with thy outer and inner tongue, for He hath made thee aware of a Cause of which the people of the world are unaware, save whom God willeth. Take hold of the divine Books with the hand of certitude, and with a mighty arm shatter and cast down the idols of vain imaginings. Thus doth the Wronged One command thee from His manifest prison. The decree belongeth unto God, the Powerful, the Wise.

BH09655: O Zayn! Upon thee be the peace of God…

O Zayn! Upon thee be the peace of God, His favors, His grace, His bounty, and His blessing….

Some time ago, from the direction of the Most Sublime Horizon, the traces of the Most Glorious Pen were sent in the name of Mulla Baqir, upon him be My glory, to the land of N.J. through Afnan. God willing, may they find from the fragrances of revelation that which Jacob found from Joseph's garment. Though the Cause of this Day is different and its fragrances are different, for the divine fragrance is diffused. Blessed is he who perceives it, and woe unto every doubtful denier….

BH09891: He is the Most Holy, the Most Great. God…

He is the Most Holy, the Most Great. God testifieth that there is none other God but Him. This is the Day whereon the Caller hath cried out from a near place, and wherein that which was hidden in the treasuries of God's protection, the Lord of all worlds, hath been revealed. He hath come to counsel the world and hath commanded all to observe the most great chastity and the fear of God in this momentous Announcement. The Wronged One hath heard thy mention and hath revealed for thee this perspicuous Book. Take it with the hand of submission and say:

> "Praise be unto Thee, O Thou Who hast remembered me in Thy Most Great Prison, and glory be unto Thee, O Thou Who art the Desire of them that have recognized Thee!"

BH10686: O wronged exile! The Tongue of Grandeur and My…

O wronged exile! The Tongue of Grandeur and My Most Exalted Pen bear witness that thou didst hear the rustling of the Sadratu'l-Muntaha in the earliest days and didst respond to thy Lord, the Lord of all beings, and didst bear in His path what caused the dwellers of this ordained prison to be overcome with grief. Praise be to God, the Self-Subsisting, the All-Compelling. May the glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of utterance rest upon thee, O thou in whose name this Tablet hath been sent down from God, the Lord of what was and what shall be.

BH10926: God is Most Glorious

God is Most Glorious

O Haydar-Ali, upon whom be the Most Glorious Beauty of God! God is Most Glorious! O Haydar, before Ali, upon thee be My glory and My mercy! I bear witness that thou hast arisen to serve the Cause of God and hast clung to the hem of teaching in days wherein the fire of discord hath been kindled in all regions. Blessed art thou and blessed is he who loveth thee and hearkeneth unto thy words concerning this Announcement whereby the pillars of the world have been shaken, save those whom God hath willed.

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BH00099: How wonderful that the Hand of God's Will, exalted…

Section 1: "How wonderful that the Hand of God's Will…"

He is God, exalted is His majesty and manifest His proof!

How wonderful that the Hand of God's Will, exalted be His glory, is assisting, and the stars have emerged from the darkness of the prison-sky, radiant, luminous and resplendent. If prison is termed 'heaven', there is no harm, for it is the place of God's loved ones—from God did they come, to God do they return, and of God do they speak. Praise befitteth the most exalted Court of the Intended One Who, from the prison, hath interpreted for the sincere ones the blessed verse "Every day He is in a new state". Through the name of prison He hath elevated His friends to such a station that the tongues of the world fall short of describing it. He giveth and withholdeth, and He is the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. He raiseth up a people through His sovereign might and bringeth low others. Verily, He hath power over all things.

His power can make fire manifest from the mystery of light, and from light the consequence of fire. The rebellion of the peoples of the world diminisheth not His mercy, nor doth the certitude of His people add aught unto Him. Were His gracious Name to shed its radiance by less than a needle's eye, no trace of rebellion would remain in creation, and were His Name of Justice to be revealed, the frames of the world would be bent low from the burden of transgression. He is the All-Bountiful Who withholdeth not His favors despite heedlessness, nor cutteth off sustenance from the transgressor. His mercy floweth like the Euphrates, and His generosity pervadeth and penetrateth like His Word of Command. His is the praise in all conditions, and He is the Self-Subsisting, the Most High.

And further: the letters of that spiritual beloved which were addressed to the servant present, upon him be the Glory of God, were received and gained the honor of being heard in the most holy and exalted Presence. This is what the tongue of our Lord, the Most Merciful, hath spoken in the Kingdom of Utterance. His word, exalted be His might and sublime be His station:

He is the Helper, the Almighty

O thou who art imprisoned in My path! Hearken unto My call. Verily, He remembereth thee at a time when sorrows have encompassed Him from all sides. He hath delivered you from prison that the heedless may know they cannot frustrate God. He announceth unto them at this moment a grievous chastisement. Grieve not because of those who have denied and turned away; they shall soon behold what hath been ordained for them by One mighty and powerful. By God! Their wailing and weeping shall profit them not. They shall find themselves in God's torment without helper or protector. The heedless sought victory over Us through their troops, their ranks, their swords and their steeds, while We sought victory over them through God, the Strong, the Triumphant, the Mighty, the Powerful.

Thy letter hath arrived and was read by Him Who was present before the Throne. We have answered thee with verses that all in the world cannot equal, as this perspicuous Book doth testify. That which hath befallen you in My path hath caused My Pen to lament and those who circle round My glorious Throne to

cry out. Blessed art thou and those who have shown patience and gratitude in adversity and tribulation. They are indeed among those near unto God, the Lord of all worlds.

We have remembered thee and those who were previously imprisoned with a remembrance from which those near unto God inhale the fragrance of eternity. Thus hath the matter been decreed by God, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. Take My Book with the strength bestowed by Me. Verily, He will assist you and draw you nigh. He is the Forgiving, the Merciful.

We have sent down the verses, yet the people hear not. We have revealed the clear proofs, yet mankind perceive not. They have cast knowledge behind their backs, hastening to a manifest delusion. He who turned away from God when He appeared with the truth and came with a mighty sovereignty. Say: O people! Fear God and take not your vain imaginings as lords besides God. Cast away what ye possess and take what ye are commanded by One All-Knowing, All-Informed.

We have remembered thee and those whose names thou didst mention, and have written for each one of them that which shall abide with them in the worlds of their Lord, the Kind, the Generous. We counsel them to preserve that which they have attained. Verily, thy Lord is the Counselor, the Trustworthy.

O ʿAli-Akbar! The Most Great Vision hath been gladdened by the mention of God, His praise, His glorification, His exaltation, His grandeur, His majesty, and the praise of His loved ones, His chosen ones, His guides, and His beloved ones. The Wronged One hath heard thy call, thy lamentation, and that which thy heart's tongue hath uttered in remembrance of God, thy Creator, thy Sustainer, thy Maker, thy Provider, and thy Helper. Thou didst remember Me, I shall remember thee. Thou didst thank Me, I shall thank thee. Verily, thy Lord is the All-Bountiful, the Mighty, the Great.

Blessed art thou and those whom the power of the mighty did not weaken. They arose and proclaimed: "God is our Lord and the Lord of all who are in the heavens and the earth." These are servants whom God hath described in His Books of old and those yet to come. They are servants whose excellence and loftiness His loved ones' tongues have acknowledged, saying "Their blessedness exceedeth our blessedness." Thus hath the Tongue of Grandeur spoken from this glorious and exalted Station.

The splendor shining from the horizon of the heaven of My mercy be upon thee and upon those who have attained unto the preservation of God's trust, the Lord of the seen and the unseen, and the Lord of this exalted Station.

The effulgent rays of the Sun of divine favor are clear and evident from the luminous words. I swear by Him Who is the Desire of all who are in the heavens and on earth—in this instance there hath been revealed concerning the prisoners that which hath caused every living being to yearn for imprisonment. They beseech God—exalted be His glory—at all times that they may not be deprived of this bounty. He, verily, is the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous. Praise be to God that all loss hath reverted to the aggressors and all profit to those who are nigh unto God, namely the prisoners. This is among the wondrous favors of the Lord of all worlds. Though this servant did not outwardly say "Would that I were with you!", yet the heart hath continuously uttered "Would that I were!". Praise be to God, glad-tidings have arrived from all directions. All were saddened upon entering the prison, but rejoiced upon leaving it.

This was a blessing that accorded with the temperament of all the realms of inner meaning and utterance, despite those who have denied the verses of God, the Lord of this wondrous and glorious Day.

Fresh above all else was the manifestation of kindness and favor from His Majesty the Sultan. From the Tongue of Grandeur in the Tabernacle of Glory, these words were repeatedly heard. He said that a great kindness hath been shown by His Majesty the Sultan. We beseech God to aid and assist him. Similar to this exalted word He hath repeatedly spoken—to Him be praise and gratitude. God hath assisted His Majesty the Sultan to achieve this great good. We beseech God to open before his face the gate of truth and to illumine him with the light of the Sun of Justice. Verily, He hath power over all things.

Concerning what was written about multiple letters being sent in the name of the honored servant—upon him be all the most glorious Glory of God—without receiving replies: the state of His Holiness is such that for some days, at dawn He turneth His attention to the garden, and after sunset He returneth. At times He is occupied with the planting of trees and at times with their uprooting. Permission hath been obtained for ten to fifteen days. However, it doth not appear to this lowly one that His Holiness would be neglectful in replying, or that He would delay in answering any matter. During this period, whatsoever hath arrived from any place hath been submitted, and the answer to all hath been written paragraph by paragraph, notwithstanding that from all directions letters arrive like unto rain, and no shortcoming hath occurred according to capacity. If the favor of the True One—exalted be His glory—be not vouchsafed, how can one discharge this mighty and weighty task? Through His confirmation all difficulties become easy, and without it every easy thing becometh difficult.

Praise be to God! The mention of that spiritual beloved hath been and is in the Most Holy Court. In the days of the imprisonment of the friends, replies were occasionally issued and revealed, and this was according to wisdom, for when this exalted Word was heard from the tongue of the Lord of Names, He commanded that while they are in prison, action must be taken according to the least obligation, inasmuch as the friends of God are surrounded and the aggressors are apparently encompassing them. Perfect wisdom doth not approve the sending of Tablets save to the extent possible. Perchance for this reason also the reply to some letters hath been delayed. In any case, that which arriveth once sufficeth, for in each instance a Book hath been and is being sent. We beseech the True One that whatsoever of the Tablets and their copies hath been scattered to the winds may be gathered together. The people of injustice are heedless, and outward circumstances have so beguiled them that they have had and have no regard save for the desires of the self. Every deed hath its doer and every rebellion its follower. We beseech the True One—exalted be His glory—that whatsoever they have seized through oppression—that is, the divine verses—may be returned to their rightful owners.

Regarding what you recorded concerning the brothers of His Honor Aqa Abdu'l-Azim and Aqa Haydar-ʿAli—upon both of them be the Glory of God—this was submitted to the Most Holy Court. This is what hath been revealed for them from the Kingdom of the wisdom of our Lord, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. His words—mighty is His utterance:

> "O ʿAli! Verily, Akbar is great and mighty, and Haydar, in the Most Great Vision, hath attained unto the remembrance of the Lord of destiny. By My life! We have made mention of them both with that which naught that is seen on earth or that is hidden therein can equal. The

> Mother Book beareth witness to this in this station. Magnify them both on My behalf, and remind them with My tongue, and give them glad tidings of My mercy which hath preceded all horizons. Say: Today is a day to whose greatness the True One hath borne witness in all centuries and ages. The Scriptures and Books and Psalms—all of them speak of its excellence and confess and acknowledge its station. The world hath had and hath no significance. They must be enkindled in the love of God like unto fire, and in His recognition like unto a dawning and resplendent light, to such a degree that the fragrance of steadfastness may be diffused. The assured soul and the spirit, freed from all else save the blessed Word of the True One—exalted be His glory—taketh flight and journeyeth above the world. Neither doth the strength of the aggressors weaken it, nor doth the violence of the oppressors turn it away from the True One. Every soul shall taste of death. Death is but once, and everlasting life followeth after. Would that my people knew! We beseech the True One that He may confirm them and keep them assisted, that with perfect wisdom they may walk among the servants and be occupied in the remembrance and praise of the True One. That which is everlasting is this which hath been mentioned, and verily God is witness unto that which I say."

Convey greetings to all the kindred, and adorn them with the ornament of the remembrance of God. Verily, He is with every one who remembereth Him, with every one who turneth unto Him, with every one who is oriented towards Him, with every one who holdeth fast unto Him, with every one who cleaveth unto Him, and with every one who gazeth toward His Most Exalted Horizon and Supreme Summit. The Glory that hath dawned from the heaven of My grace be upon them all, men and women alike, and upon them who have held fast unto My Sure Handle and clung to My Luminous Hem. His is the loving-kindness, and the bounty, and the generosity; His is the grace and the bestowal unto all who dwell on earth.

In truth, all are bewildered, for the Sun of Grace hath shone forth in such wise that for a single drop of remembrance He hath bestowed an ocean of recompense, and for an atom of goodness He hath given rewards brilliant as the sun. This hath been witnessed and continues to be witnessed by all, but such as your honor and his kindred have attained unto that which thought and utterance fail to reckon, and the pen is powerless to describe. Who can describe him who hath arisen to serve Him Who is beyond description?

Section 2: "Some time ago, this servant was present when…"

Some time ago, this servant was present when the Ancient Beauty—upon Him be the most glorious of all glory—was mentioning with His tongue of grandeur the services of the leaf who is your honor's wife, as well as those of other kindred. This servant beareth witness that none have been forgotten. The services of all are manifest, resplendent and evident in the sight of the Lord of all knowledge. Blessed is the soul that hath attained unto service and been honored by the remembrance of God, exalted be His glory. This remembrance hath a station that transcendeth description. By the life of our Goal and your Goal, our Beloved and your Beloved, immortality itself is ashamed to be associated with it. In truth, the remembrance of God, exalted be His glory, hath a station that understanding cannot reach and human comprehension cannot grasp, except through His aid, blessed and exalted be He. This servant conveyeth

greetings and salutations to all, and beseecheth God to cause all to attain unto that which beseemeth His days.

As to what was written regarding the Huquq, after being submitted before the Divine Throne, these resplendent words shone forth from the horizon of the divine heaven—exalted be His utterance:

> "O Ali-Qabli-Akbar! Upon thee be My glory! Today the payment of Huquq is obligatory and binding upon everyone. We have commanded its collection provided it is done in a spirit of joy and radiance—that is, that the servants of the All-Merciful pay it of their own accord with utmost happiness and gladness. If it is not paid in this manner, its collection is not permissible. For several years We forbade the trustees from collecting it. Later, in view of the requirements of wisdom, necessity demanded that We command its collection, subject to the aforementioned conditions. Blessed is the one who hath succeeded in paying it. By the life of God! Its benefit returneth to the souls themselves, would that they knew. It must be collected and spent according to God's command. All must act in accordance with what hath been mentioned. None may dispose of it without permission. The purpose of these utterances is that disorder may not prevail and affairs may not transgress the divine law. The Hands of the Cause must strive diligently to execute the law and fundamental ordinances of God so that all may become aware and informed of God's commandments. That which his honor Azim, upon him be My glory, hath given hath been accepted. Blessed is he, again blessed is he. We have forgiven him and purified him as a bounty from Us. Verily thy Lord is the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous."

That which hath been done regarding him hath been accepted before the Divine Countenance. Give him the glad-tidings of this wise remembrance. What was received hath been counted as Huquq, and this service hath been recorded in the Book by the Most Exalted Pen.

This is a Day wherein no deed is lost, nor shall be lost. If one were to reflect upon that which hath been revealed concerning the deed of his honor ʿAzim, one would attain to the recognition of this Day, the recognition of God's friends, and the station of deeds. That which they have spent regarding that spiritual friend hath been counted as Huquq. Praise be to God Who hath assisted him to pay His dues and to obey His binding command in His perspicuous Book.

And as to what was written regarding the sister, upon her be the Glory of God, she hath indeed achieved a mighty matter. Praise be to God Who hath assisted her and enabled her to accomplish that which is celebrated by the Supreme Concourse, the dwellers of the Most Exalted Paradise, and those who circle round the mighty Throne. Mention of the sister hath been revealed in numerous Tablets. A robe was sent specifically for her. She hath been and is mentioned before the presence of the Ancient Beauty. Blessed is she, and blessed is any woman who hath done in the path of God that which the Most Exalted Pen hath mentioned from its exalted station. Praise be to God! This time all the brothers of his honor have been blessed with special favors. I beseech and implore God to assist and enable them all to serve His Cause.

The following was written concerning the matter of the meeting: After these lofty words were submitted, this was revealed from the heaven of divine will—exalted be His glory:

> "In these days new circumstances have arisen in this land, therefore We have withheld permission, and afterwards action will be taken according to the requirements of divine wisdom. Convey My greetings anew to all, that joy and gladness may draw them to a station where the deeds of the aggressors, the oppression of the tyrants, and the barking of the atheists will not sadden them. Whoso is for God, God is for him."

This blessed word was written that the loved ones may know with clear certitude that the truth has been and is with them, and if outwardly some are not granted the meeting, their reward has been recorded and revealed in the Book by the All-Bountiful Pen. This word is glad-tidings for those souls who have acted and continue to act for God's sake.

Concerning what was written about the loved ones in the land of Ta and Alif and Shin and other lands—upon them be the glory of God and His favors, mercy and bounties—these details were submitted to the Most Holy, Most Exalted Presence. This is what was revealed for them from the heaven of grandeur and power—glorified be His majesty:

"O people of God in [Ta]! Ye have heard the Call when it was raised between earth and heaven. Hearken unto it once again from this Most Glorious Station, round which circle the Concourse on High at morn and eventide. That which hath caused the Spirit to lament and the Most Exalted Pen to cry out hath come to pass in a spot sanctified by God above all description. The dwellers of Paradise and the most exalted Garden, and they that abide in the Mansion at eve and at dawn give you glad tidings. O Ali-Akbar! Glorify them on My behalf and remind them of that which hath been sent down for them from the Kingdom of the utterance of thy Lord, the Chosen One.

Say: Beware lest ye be frightened by the might of those who enter their houses at eve and at dawn—the angels of punishment drive them to a most evil destination. Ye are they who have heard the taunts of the enemies and that which caused the Spirit and the Sovereign of the Messengers to lament in the most exalted chambers. Ye have attained in My path that which the Lord of Names hath revealed from His Most Exalted Pen—rejoice therefore, O ye who are endued with understanding. Thus have We sent down the verses unto you as a grace from Our presence, that they may attract you to a station where the intimations of those who have disbelieved in the Lord of Lords will not sadden you. Glory be upon you and upon whoso hath attained unto this Cause, whereby all things have proclaimed: The Kingdom belongeth to God, the One, the All-Forgiving."'

And this is what was revealed from the heaven of the favors of our Exalted Lord for the people of Ta—exalted be His majesty and sublime be His utterance:

He is the Speaker, the Answerer

O people of gold! Upon you be the Glory of God, the Self-Sufficient, the Most High! The Wronged One of the world hath, from the Most Great Prison, turned toward you out of pure grace. All princes, divines, religious doctors and men of letters have yearned for this Day, beseeching God night and day for His presence. Yet when the Most Great Luminary arose from the horizon of the heaven of manifestation, shining and resplendent, and the One Who conversed on Sinai spoke forth and made mention, all

remained veiled save a few souls. By the life of God! He uttered a Word whereby all who are in the heavens and on earth were thunderstruck, save a handful of letters.

The Face of God, the Help in Peril, the Self-Subsisting, shall endure. Praise be to God that ye have attained unto this most great bounty and supreme gift. Now beseech ye God that ye may be assisted to remain steadfast with supreme steadfastness. Reflect upon the Shiite divines and that party. They all would say "hasten, O God," yet when the rain of knowledge and wisdom poured down from the clouds of the grace of the Lord of Revelation, they all turned back, incurring God's wrath. Reflect upon the deeds of that wicked band, that ye may henceforth remain preserved and not be deprived anew by such utterances from the straight path and the manifest, clear way. The Glory and mercy of God be upon you and upon those who are with you.

This was revealed for the people of Alif and Shin.

In My Name, the One Who ruleth over all names!

O party of God in Alif and Shin! The honored Amin, upon him be My Glory, mentioned you before, and again the honored Ali-Qabl-i-Akbar, upon him be My Glory, who was imprisoned for My Name, hath mentioned you thereafter. Therefore hath the Supreme Pen engaged in your mention. We beseech God that He may assist all to achieve that which hath been revealed in God's Book from the Eternal Pen. The days are passing, and ere long all that is on earth shall return to nothingness. What hath been revealed for you shall endure and shall testify for you in all the worlds of your Lord. Be thankful unto God for this great bounty. God's tender mercies have encompassed you and His grace shall be with you. Strive that ye may achieve deeds that extinction shall not overtake and that shall endure as long as the kingdom of earth and heaven endure. The mention of all hath been and shall be in the Most Holy Court. The Glory be upon you and upon those who are with you and who love you.

And this was revealed for his honor Muhammad.

O Muhammad, reflect upon what hath come to pass, that thou mayest become aware of what the modern idolaters intend. The Shi'ih sect, who considered themselves the most ancient of peoples, the most exalted of servants, and the most refined of souls, were mentioned before the Divine Countenance as the most abject of people and the most wretched of servants. At times they were deluded by mention of the Successor, and at others preoccupied with mention of the Guardian, sometimes boasting of Jabulqa and Jabulsa and the realm of falsehood. How many souls were slain by these vain imaginings, and the Lord of the world was martyred by the swords of falsehood of those souls. Now too a group hath appeared in the land of Kaf and Ra, who have adorned the steed of idle fancies with the saddle of passion and have intended Jabulqa and Jabulsa.

God protect us and you, O concourse of the sincere ones! In brief, those falsehoods have emerged anew, for they have not yet realized that today is the Day of God and no mention is beloved except His mention. What fruit did that heedless party reap from their former utterances, that these souls should again intend thus? Fie upon them and upon what their hands have wrought! Hold fast unto Him, exalted be His glory, and be free and detached from all else. Today the books of the world provide no salvation except through this perspicuous Book. Convey greetings from the Wronged One to the people of that land, that

perchance they may drink from the Kawthar of steadfastness and detach themselves from all save God. The Command is in His grasp; He doeth what He willeth and ordaineth what He pleaseth. He is the Mighty, the Praiseworthy.

Section 3: "As to what thou didst write concerning…"

As to what thou didst write concerning the people of Mim, as well as the prisoners, all are mentioned before the Divine Throne and have attained the grace of God, exalted be His glory. Give thou glad-tidings unto them all and assure them of divine grace. And as for what thou didst mention regarding the people of Sin and Shin, after being presented before the Most Great Scene, these manifest verses were sent down from the heaven of the Will of the Lord of Destiny—exalted be His mention and His majesty:

He is the Manifest Book

He verily speaketh in this hour that which the Tongue of Grandeur spoke before the creation of the heavens and earths: He is God; there is none other God but Me, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

O My loved ones in Sin! Hearken unto My call from the precincts of My prison, then call to mind what hath befallen Me and My loved ones at the hands of them that cast the Truth behind their backs, turning unto every doubting misbeliever. The divines have prevented the people of creation from drawing nigh unto God, the Lord of all names, when He came from heaven with great sovereignty. Thus did their souls entice them. They are indeed among the most lost in the Book of God, the Lord of all worlds.

The Most Great Ocean hath surged, and the horizon of utterance hath been illumined by the sun of the loving-kindness of your Lord, the Almighty, the All-Powerful. We counsel you with that whereby the Cause will be exalted, and with the trustworthiness which We have mentioned aforetime—a command from Us, and I am the All-Commanding, the All-Knowing.

Say: O people! Fear God, and deny not the Truth through what ye possess. By the life of God! Neither the books of the world nor the scriptures of the nations shall profit you. Fear God, O concourse of earth, and be not of the heedless. He Who was hidden in the presence of knowledge and inscribed in the Books of God, the Mighty, the All-Praised, hath been made manifest. The croaking hath been raised, and that whereof We informed you aforetime hath appeared. He is, verily, the Truth, the Knower of the unseen. Soon will a croaker come unto you with the book of the wicked, to debar you from My straight path—at one time showing humility, at another with great deceit. We counseled all beforehand and gave tidings of the croaker. Blessed is the soul from whom the croakers perceive the fragrance of supreme steadfastness, such that the limbs of misbelief tremble and the hearts of the hypocrites are troubled. Whosoever uttereth any word today save the mention of God hath been and shall be rejected in God's sight.

After manifold tribulations, bearing hardships, and exile from land to land, the Sun of Manifestation did at last shine forth and Its effulgences encompassed all. Certain ones emerged from behind the veil of concealment and firmly girded themselves to lead God's loved ones astray. Whoso pondereth the fruits of the deeds of the Islamic sect, and likewise the false traditions whereby they have barred the hapless people from the straight path, will in no wise draw nigh unto such souls, nor will he deem their vain

imaginings worthy of attention. We beseech God to aid you, draw you nigh, and grant you the good of this world and the next. He, verily, hath power over whatsoever He willeth. O people of Sin! Know ye the worth of the divine mention and inscribe it upon the tablet of the heart with the pen of steadfastness, that it may not vanish from sight and that thieves and traitors may find no way unto it. End.

As to what was revealed for the friends of God in Shin:

He is the True Speaker, the Trustworthy One

O people of Shin! The Beloved of the world confirmed you in your devotion and turning unto Him, and blessed you with the recognition of a Cause which the Prophets and Messengers yearned and hoped to recognize and attain unto. This is a supreme bounty and an exalted station that requires diligent effort to preserve. This is the Day which We heralded to Abraham, made known to Moses, and to which We guided Isaiah, John and Christ, and about whose greatness the Seal of the Prophets informed all. Were one to take its description from the divine Books, no word would remain, yet those possessed of true knowledge are well aware of this station. From the beginning of the Cause until now, We have accepted all earthly tribulations for the sake of God.

By night and day the Supreme Pen has been in motion and the waters of mercy have flowed from the right hand of the Throne. When the world was adorned with this wondrous and new ornament, the hypocrites, with the utmost deceit and craft, strove to lead souls astray. The counsel of the Supreme Pen to His loved ones is to fix their gaze solely on the highest horizon and to purify their ears from tales of the past and future, that they may attain true hearing. We beseech God, the Lord of the Throne and earth, to assist you, draw you nigh, and grant you the Kawthar of steadfastness. Verily, He is powerful over all things and worthy to answer prayers.

This lowly one beseeches the Eternal Truth not to deprive the people of that land from the sealed wine and the favors of the Self-Subsisting Lord, and to confirm them in the most great steadfastness, until all the treacherous ones, the deceitful ones, and the cawing ones find themselves powerless to prevent them. Verily our Lord, the All-Merciful, is the Mighty, the Powerful, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. The mention of greetings and salutations to all is entrusted to your honor.

The mention of the handmaiden of God, Maryam, was presented at the Most Holy and Most Exalted Court. This is what was revealed for her from the heaven of the bounty of her Lord, the All-Forgiving:

He is the All-Mentioning, the All-Knowing

O ʿAli-Akbar! We make mention in this station of him who is named Yahya and give him glad tidings of the favors of his Lord, the All-Forgiving, the All-Merciful. We have remembered those who have turned to the highest horizon and have drunk the choice wine of revelation from the hand of the bounty of their Lord, the All-Generous. O Yahya! Blessed art thou for having taken hold of the Book with strength from thy Lord. We counsel thee at this time to preserve this mighty station. We also make mention of My handmaiden whom We have adorned with the ornament of My love and given to drink of the Kawthar of My beautiful remembrance. She remembered her Lord at the time of her ascension, and We

remembered her as a grace from Us and caused her to enter beneath the shade of My Lote-Tree, whose leaves proclaim:

> "There is none other God but Me, the Single One, the All-Informed."

We have forgiven her as a mercy from Us, and We are the Forgiver, the All-Wise.

Concerning what was written requesting permission to journey to the Land of Mim to console the friends in that land, this matter was presented. His blessed and exalted Word states: This matter is most praiseworthy. It is essential that someone arise to perform this great service and illumine the oppressed ones in the valley of tyranny with the light of justice, console them, and shower upon those wronged ones, from the presence of Truth, an ocean of mercy that cannot be contained within the garment of words. O Ali, all have attained the grace of God and the word of pardon has been revealed for all. Some were seized with fear and the might of oppression made them anxious. The tribulation was great and the fire of tyranny was ablaze.

The transgressors acted with such hardness of heart that the Pen is ashamed to recount it. However, the life of this world is brief. Let them not be sorrowful, for whatsoever occurred was for God's sake and was encountered in His path. This tribulation was and is sweet to the taste of the lovers. However, your honor should consult with others in that land and act accordingly. Great wisdom is needed lest what happened before should happen again. One must move with perfect wisdom. The ignorant people have been and are waiting to cause turmoil. However, God protects His servants. He is, verily, powerful over all things. After consultation, if you decide to proceed, spend that sum in His path. Thus do We command thee. Verily, thy Lord is the Commander, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

A Tablet was previously revealed and sent especially for your honor, and likewise another Most Holy, Most Exalted Tablet was revealed but its dispatch was delayed. Now, according to the command, that too has been sent. God willing, may you drink and give others to drink from the ocean of inner meanings hidden in the revealed verses and blessed Tablets. Blessed art thou and blessed is he who drinks from thy hand the cup of thy Lord's and my Lord's bounty. The two mentioned Tablets were revealed from the heaven of grace during the days when you were in prison. In truth, no one can enumerate His bounties and favors. His is the praise in all conditions.

The Most Great Branch and likewise the Greater Branch, may my spirit be sacrificed for them both, convey their greetings and manifest their past and present kindness. They shared in the grief and they share in the joy. All the members of the pavilion of grandeur and infallibility convey their greetings to your honor and to the Leaf, your wife, your sister, and your male and female relatives, and express their love. In truth, this new imprisonment was different from previous imprisonments, for it was the dawning-place of the greatest sorrow and likewise the greatest joy. Praise and gratitude be to God for all that He does. He brings low and He raises up, and He is the Powerful, the Mighty. Exalted is He Who is praised in His actions and obeyed in His command, and He is the Mighty, the Wise. Peace and greetings and glory and remembrance and praise be upon you and upon those with you and upon those who have drunk the wine of revelation, detached from those who disbelieved and were heedless and associated partners with God and turned away from God, the Powerful, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

As commanded, convey My greetings to the son of the Most Holy Asdaq. The delay in answering his petitions was due to the upheaval in this land. From the time of the upheaval in the land of Ta until now, discussions have arisen concerning every matter […]. Likewise, the answer to the petitions of Mirza Asadu'llah, upon him be the glory of God, will arrive, God willing, in these days. Again convey greetings from this Wronged One to the people of the Letter Ayn and likewise to the companions in that land, and give them the glad-tidings of the favors of God, exalted be His glory. Say: Your righteousness has become as evident and manifest as the sun, for until this day—that is, from the beginning of creation until now—what has befallen you has befallen the people of truth. They are witnesses unto you and you are witnesses unto them, and God is witness unto both. O Ali-Akbar! Upon thee be My glory and My loving-kindness. All must act with wisdom and hold fast unto it. Impart the meaning of wisdom that all may act in accordance with that which God hath ordained. This is a great good.

Glory and praise be upon them and upon the steadfast servants of God.

BH06904: I beseech Thee, O my God, my Lord, my…

In the Name of our Lord, the Most Holy, the Most Great, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious!

I beseech Thee, O my God, my Lord, my Creator and my Beloved, by the ocean of Thy Most Great Name, and by the heaven which Thou, O Lord of Eternity, hast raised up, to deliver Thy loved ones from those who have been so intoxicated with the wine of self-conceit that they have cast Thy Book behind their backs and followed Satan in whatsoever he commandeth them. I beseech Thee, O my Lord, by Thy Most Exalted Self and by Thy Most Glorious Name, to draw Thy servants nigh unto the shore of the ocean of Thy oneness. O my Lord! Disappoint them not of that which lieth with Thee. I testify that Thy generosity hath preceded all created things and Thy bounty hath encompassed all existence, both seen and unseen. Deal, then, with Thy servants in a manner befitting Thy majesty, Thy greatness and Thy sovereignty. Verily, Thou art the All-Powerful, the Supreme, the Compassionate, the All-Forgiving.

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BH01040: On the night of the 11th of Muharram…

On the night of the 11th of Muharram in the year 1302:

He is God—exalted be His glory, His majesty and His power!

Praise be to God Who created creation for His knowledge, as stated in His words:

> "I was a hidden treasure and loved to be known, so I created creation that I might be known."

It is established through proof that He, glorified and exalted be He, neither manifests through His Essence nor is known through what His creation possesses, nor can He be comprehended through conjecture and imagination. Since the way to know His Essence is barred and proof is prevented from reaching the threshold of His door, He sent to His servants the Dawning Places of His revelation, the Daysprings of His

verses, and the Manifestations of His Self, making them His path among His creation and His balance among His creatures, until the paths culminated in the Most Great Path and the balance in the Most True Balance, through which prophethood and messengership were sealed. Whoso hath known Him hath known God, and whoso hath attained unto Him hath attained unto the presence of God, for God, blessed and exalted be He, made Him a mirror reflecting His most beautiful names and His most exalted attributes.

Through Him the decree of divine unity was established; were it not for Him, the clouds would not have rained, nor would the earth have yielded its fruits. Through His advent the world was adorned and the fragrance of knowledge was diffused among the nations. Upon Him be the prayers of God, His peace, His bounty, His generosity and His favors, and upon His family and His companions through whom the springs of utterance flowed throughout all possibility and the signs of the All-Merciful appeared throughout all lands, and through whom God conquered the countries and the hearts of His servants.

Glorified art Thou, O God of the yearning ones, Goal of the knowing ones, and Beloved of the hearts of those drawn nigh! I beseech Thee by Him and by them, and by the signs of Thy power which have encompassed all created things, and by the manifestations of Thy grandeur which have prevailed over all possible things, to ordain the light of Thy countenance as a lamp for Thy loved ones and the meeting with Thee as life for the sincere ones among Thy loved ones. O my Lord! Thou seest Thy chosen ones aflame with the fire of Thy love and Thy loved ones anticipating the wonders of Thy grace and mercy. Their hearts have melted in their separation and remoteness from Thee, and their hearts yearn in hope of what lieth with Thee.

I beseech Thee by the lights of Thy countenance, the mysteries of Thy Book, and that which Thou hast concealed from the eyes of Thy servants, to ordain for them what they desire of Thy bounty, Thy favors, Thy mercy and Thy grace. O my Lord! Draw them nigh unto Thee that they may stand before the gate of the City of Thy might wherein was raised Thy Call—the Call by which the ear of Thy Moses was privileged in the Sinai of Thy knowledge. Thou art He Whom nothing can prevent and no affair can veil. All power is within Thy grasp and all strength hangeth upon Thy Will. There is no God but Thee, the Almighty, the Powerful.

O my beloved, O my beloved, O my beloved! Though outwardly this servant's mention of you was delayed, God knoweth that his inner being and heart find rest only in your remembrance, in mentioning your love, your acceptance, your service, and your humility and submission before God, your Creator and Fashioner. At this hour, which is four and a half hours past nightfall on the eleventh of Muharram al-Haram, as I was engaged in mentioning that Beloved One before His face, He said:

> "O servant in attendance! We make mention of him who hath acknowledged and confessed the oneness and singleness of God and that which was uttered by the tongues of His Messengers and chosen ones. We have found from him the fragrance of the love of God and make mention of him with that which nothing can equal. We beseech Him to make him steadfast in all conditions in the service of the Self-Subsisting and to manifest through him that which perisheth not. Verily He is the Lord of all beings and the Possessor of the throne on high and of earth below. There is none other God but Him, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting. We

> make mention of My loved ones there and counsel them with that which behooveth them and through which the Cause of their Lord, the Mighty, the Loving, may be exalted. O Muhammad! Upon thee be My peace and loving-kindness. The world hath been set ablaze by the fire of oppression and the hosts of the wicked have encompassed the righteous. From all sides is heard the rumbling of cannons. It behooveth every soul who hath believed in God and His signs to purify his heart with the water of return. We beseech God to protect His party from the tyrannous among His servants and the oppressors among His creatures. Verily He is the Single, the One, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise."

Divine favors and infinite bounties have ever encompassed and continue to encompass that beloved one. In truth, in the realm of mention thou art accounted as a letter of His Word, and in the station of praise and glorification thou art manifest in the highest degree. If a letter were to be separated from a word, or should become separated, one might conceive of your mention being separate from His presence. Praise be to God! His grace encompasseth all, His mercy precedeth all, His favor embraceth all, and His bounty descendeth upon all. Praise be to God! The successive letters from that beloved one arrive like the spring rains and waves of the sea, one after another, and every letter thereof giveth joy to the soul and light to the eye of love. I beseech Him, glorified be His majesty, not to withhold this blessing and not to deprive the garden of the heart from the fragrances of the garment of His favor. If mentions are upon the tongue, there is no harm in it, for that beloved one is witness—He is witness to the multitude of occupations and dispersion of thoughts. Khwajih Hafiz—upon him be mercy and forgiveness—spoke well:

> "Seek not thy desire through opposition to custom, for I gained composure through that disheveled tress."

The beginning of this letter was on the night of the eleventh of Muharram al-Haram when I attained His presence, and what was heard from the blessed tongue was recorded. Then occupations intervened—that is, necessary tasks, for otherwise no occupation or matter hath been or is an impediment. In any case, this station hath not needed and doth not need mention or proof—it is established, firm, known and evident. Successively and repeatedly, necessary matters prevented until this night, which is among the final nights of the aforementioned month, when the end is being or will be connected to the beginning, for it is not known whether opportunity—which is in truth the supreme elixir—will be granted and this letter will come to its close. The command is in His hand—He doeth what He willeth and decreeth what He pleaseth, and He is the Powerful, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy.

BH01291: Praise be to God! Although the darkness…

In the Name of our Lord, the Most Holy, the Most Great, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious!

Praise be to God! Although the darkness of the vain imaginings of the divines of the earth—those souls who are heedless of the Truth—hath encompassed the world, and the tyranny and oppression of rulers hath shaken the very foundations of all lands, and the deeds of the idolaters and transgressors have deprived hearts of their freshness, yet the call of the Desired One of all worlds and the lights of the Countenance of His Revelation have been raised and are shining forth in such wise that, in the eyes of them that are endued with vision, naught else is to be seen. At every moment He imparteth news unto

the world, and the fragrances of His verses are wafted from the direction of His Prison. He is the Spirit of the world and the cause of the existence of the sons of men. Blessed is he who hath found and recognized Him, and woe unto the heedless ones!

Glory be unto Thee, O God of existence and Lord of the Frequented Fane! I beseech Thee by the appearance of Him Who conversed on Sinai, Who calleth aloud between earth and heaven, that Thou aid Thy chosen ones to do that which beseemeth Thy sovereignty and grandeur. Verily, Thou art the One Who hath power over whatsoever He willeth. There is none other God but Thee, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. O my Lord! Thou seest and knowest that this servant desired to make mention of them who are related unto Thyself and whom Thou hast named the Afnan of Thy Tree, though this be beyond my station and rank. Yet I make mention of them lest I be deprived of this bounty, and I thank Thee for this and for having enabled me to do so. Then, after making mention, I turn in repentance unto Thee, that this may serve as evidence of my powerlessness to make fitting mention of Thy loved ones. O Lord! I beseech Thee by the Kawthar of Thy utterance and the mysteries of Thy knowledge that Thou aid Thy Afnan as Thou didst aid them before, and ordain for them that which beseemeth Thy generosity. Verily, Thou art the Munificent, the Generous.

And furthermore, may my spirit be a sacrifice for your steadfastness, your remembrance, and your service. His blessed letter, which was sent along the way, bestowed light upon the heart, expansion upon the breast, and strength upon the vision. Praise be to God, the remembrance of God, exalted be His glory, was found therein, as well as the sweet news of His health and those with Him. Thanks be to the Goal of all the worlds, for His grace has been and continues to be manifest at all times, to such an extent that all the world is incapable and falls short of enumerating it.

If you wish to know of the conditions in the Land of Purpose: His honor the most great Master, upon him be the Most Glorious Glory of God, and the two Stars, upon them be the Most Glorious Glory of God, and the august ladies, upon them be the Glory of God and His grace and favor, were circumambulating. Later, according to the command, they proceeded to Beirut. God willing, may they ever be occupied with the remembrance of Truth and find rest beneath His shade.

After reading His letter before the Throne, these exalted words were revealed and sent down from the Source of verses and the Manifestation of clear proofs. He says, exalted be His glory and universal be His bounty and great be His station:

“O My Afnan, upon thee be My glory! The very arteries of the world are moved by the divine verses, and at every moment divine reinforcement reaches it, otherwise all would be seen as perished and extinct from the oppression of the people of the earth and the divines of the lands. Ask ye of God that He might knead the dust of certitude with the water of knowledge, and raise up souls who shall be seen as firm and steadfast as mountains in the Cause of the Self-Sufficient, the Most High, and who shall attain such a station that no earthly affair shall prevent them from God, exalted be His glory, and a door to another world shall be opened unto their beings. By the life of God! Any soul who attains even a trace thereof shall see all who are on earth as mere handfuls of dust. Praise be to God, repeatedly hast thou attained that with which the world cannot compare.

> "Convey My greetings to Muhammad, upon him be My glory. Say: Verily God shall be with thee, He heareth and seeth, and He is the Hearing, the Responding One. Convey greetings from the Wronged One to all the Afnan and gladden them with boundless favors."

This servant also offers greetings and salutations to each one. God willing, may all become dawning-places of God's will. The Tablets that were previously requested have been sent, numbering fourteen, by the count of the All-Bountiful. It is hoped they will arrive and be found as keys for hearts, as Kawthar for those thirsting in the wilderness of divine love, and as light breaking forth from the darkness of these days, and that all may take their portion from the ocean of their meanings.

I offer greetings and salutations to their honors, the illustrious Afnan, upon them be the Most Glorious Glory of God, who are present in that land. Blessed are they and joy be unto them for what God has confirmed them with and mentioned them in various Tablets. Verily our Lord, the Most Merciful, is the Compassionate, the Generous. Glory and remembrance and praise be upon your honor and upon them and upon those who love them and turn unto them for the sake of God, the Lord of the worlds.

The servant 12 Muharram al-Haram 1302

BH01358: Praise, sanctified from the intimations, allusions and comprehension…

In the Name of our Most Holy, Most Great, Most Exalted, Most Glorious Lord

Praise, sanctified from the intimations, allusions and comprehension of creation, befitteth that Desired One Who, through His consummate wisdom and all-encompassing Will, brought forth His servants from utter nothingness into being. In His creation infinite wisdom is evident and perfect craftsmanship manifest and clear. Every wisdom beareth full witness to His creation, and every person of insight hath observed His signs in the horizons and within themselves. Each and every created thing is a treasury of His wisdom, and none but the Self of Truth, exalted be His glory, is aware of that which lieth concealed and hidden therein. Exalted be His power and magnificent His dominion!

Glory be unto Thee, O Thou through Whose Name the hearts of them that are nigh have been drawn, and through Whose fire of love the hearts of the monotheists have been set ablaze! I beseech Thee by Thy hidden mysteries, Thy treasured knowledge, and Thy all-embracing Word, to protect Thy loved ones from those who have denied Thee and Thy signs. Then cause them to hear that which will draw them to the seat of nearness, holiness and meeting with Thee, lest the affairs of the world make them heedless of drawing nigh unto Thee, O Thou Who art the Lord of Names. Then make known unto them, O my God, that which beseemeth them in Thy days, wherewith Thou didst give glad-tidings to the world in Thy Books, Thy Scriptures and Thy Tablets. Verily Thou art the Omnipotent over whatsoever Thou willest, and within Thy grasp is the dominion of all names. There is none other God but Thee, the Forgiving, the Bountiful.

Thereafter, this servant attained unto your letter and found therein the fragrance of humility and submissiveness before God, our Goal and your Goal, our Object of worship and the Object of worship of all who are in earth and heaven. I took it with the hand of longing, opened it, read it, and understood it. Then bewilderment seized me for a quarter of an hour. Then I placed my trust in God and repaired to the

Most Exalted Station, until I attained unto His presence and presented what was in your letter. The Tongue of Grandeur spoke that which, were it to be cast upon rocks, would cause rivers to gush forth therefrom. His word, exalted be His glory and mighty His utterance:

In My Name, the Wronged One, the Stranger

Praise be to the Best Beloved of the worlds, Who is worthy and deserving, for in the midst of tribulation He summoned the people of the mortal realm to the highest horizon. Neither the might of princes nor the clamor of divines could deter Him from His purpose. The hosts of the world and the ranks of nations could not hold Him back from His will. His Cause is triumphant and His will prevails, now and forever. Blessed are they whom the vanishing ornaments and diverse things did not prevent from the Dawning Place of the Light of Divine Unity, and who arose to serve the Cause in the name of the Self-Subsisting Lord—an arising that knew no wavering and was seized by no weakness. They stood and said:

> "God is our Lord and the Lord of all on earth and in heaven."

Out of pure mercy and grace, He sent forth Moses from the Dayspring of the All-Bountiful Name and dispatched him to mankind. Then arose the clamor of the servants, the standard of denial was raised, and the pen of rejection was manifest—until God, exalted be His glory, seized the deniers, the rejecters, and the infidels with a seizure whereby all souls, deeds, possessions and traces perished and returned to nothingness, while the banner "Verily I am the Interlocutor of God" was raised as the most exalted of standards.

Thereafter He chose the Spirit (Jesus) and sent Him to mankind that He might give all the glad tidings of the Day of God and make them aware. Then the people rose against Him and visited upon Him that which caused the dwellers of the Kingdom to lament, until God seized the idolaters and deniers and strengthened those who believed in Him and His Book. As can be seen today, most of the world's sovereigns bow in humility before His name and remove their hats in churches at His mention.

Then He sent the Sovereign of the realm of knowledge (Muhammad) with proof and evidence to mankind. The divines and jurisprudents of all religions and the generality of people arose in rejection and wrought that which caused all things to weep. Then was raised the standard "Truth has come and falsehood has perished" and the horizons of the world were illumined with the light of unity and concord.

By the life of God! Had the world been worthy, the Prophets and holy ones would not have given themselves into the hands of the idolaters. Reflect upon what has been mentioned, that perchance neither the might of princes nor the clamor of divines may prevent you from the highest horizon. God has seized the oppressors with complete conquest. He is the One with such power that the might and dominion of the people of the world cannot weaken Him. Soon will God seize those who have oppressed in the land of Ta (Tehran) just as He seized the Wolf and the Spotted One and the one who was secretly with them. Through your intercession God forgave him and remitted his sins. Verily nothing is hidden from thy Lord's knowledge. He hears and sees, and He is the All-Hearing, the All-Knowing, the Answering….

BH11375: All praise, all glory, and all remembrance befitteth…

Section 1: "In the name of our Lord, the Most…"

In the name of our Lord, the Most Holy, the Most Great, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious

All praise, all glory, and all remembrance befitteth the most holy, most exalted, most sublime and wondrous court of the Desired One, whose threshold hath ever been and shall forever remain the dwelling-place of them that are nigh unto God, the refuge of them that profess His oneness and are sincere in their devotion. He is the One Almighty whom neither the barking of the dogs of the earth nor the grunting of the swine of diverse lands could deter from His purpose. The swords and hosts of the world could not withhold Him from His will. At times His call was raised from the land, at others from the sea, and at still others from the mountains, in such wise that every hearing ear hearkened thereto and every conscious heart was made aware. The more the heedless among His servants sought to harm Him, the more manifest became His Cause and the more exalted His call. Those who were honored and renowned through His Name arose at the outset of His Revelation to voice such objections and protests as the world had never before witnessed.

The primary cause and reason for their turning away and protesting were the divines of that age, whom the ignorant people blindly followed. To such an extent did they arise to harm Him that all things were moved to lamentation and weeping, and so difficult became the situation for the loved ones of God that they could find neither refuge nor repose. Yet despite all the tribulations that befell them and the afflictions that descended upon them, these steadfast souls shone forth from the horizon of the heaven of constancy like unto the Greater Luminary, for the world and all that is therein were regarded by them as worth less than a gnat's wing, nay less still.

They are the Hands of God's Cause and His signs amongst His servants and His standards in His lands—servants who have bowed their necks before the countenance of God, the Lord of all beings, whose voices are hushed at the mention of His Most Glorious Name, and whose eyes overflow with tears at what hath befallen God at the hands of them that have broken His Covenant and His Testament, cast behind their backs His Book, disputed His verses, and finally warred against His very Self and with manifest tyranny sent Him to this place which hath been named the Most Great Prison by the tongue of Him Who is our Goal and the Goal of all who are in the heavens and on earth.

Glorified art Thou, O Thou through Whose Name the standards have been raised aloft, the tokens have appeared, the trees of utterance have been planted in the garden of true understanding, and the river of life hath flowed throughout all contingent being! I beseech Thee to assist those whom nothing whatsoever hath deterred from Thy remembrance, O Lord of all names, and whom no earthly might hath kept back from the Most Sublime Horizon. I moreover beseech Thee, O Thou Who art the Lord of existence and the Sovereign of the seen and unseen realms, to aid Thy loved ones with the hosts of wisdom and utterance. Verily Thou art the Almighty, the Glorious, the All-Bountiful. There is none other God but Thee, the Single, the One, the Help in Peril.

To continue: thy letters were received, and each bore true witness and gave eloquent testimony to the praise and glorification of our Beloved and your Beloved, our Goal and your Goal, the Object of worship of all who dwell on earth and in heaven. In truth, the fragrance of that honored one's love was diffused therefrom. Well is it with thee, and again, well is it with thee, for thou hast drunk from the cup of the All-Merciful's love and partaken of the outpourings of the ocean of certitude. This servant was so delighted and gladdened by his words that the pen fails to describe it, for it is abundantly clear that every utterance and expression from which the fragrance of the love of the Beloved of the worlds is wafted brings fresh life to the soul and boundless joy to the spirit.

In truth, this station transcends description and is sanctified above all praise. A hundred thousand blessings upon that honored one who has attained to that which the world, after long anticipation, was found to be heedless of, save those whom God has willed. In any case, after reading and becoming acquainted with it, I repaired to that station where "God was, and there was none beside Him." After attaining to the presence and observing silence, permission was granted, and thy petition and letter were presented in their entirety. These sublime words were then revealed in response from the Kingdom of Divine utterance—exalted be His might and majesty—and these are His mighty words:

In My Name, the Hearer, in My Name, the Answerer

O Muhammad-Qabli! In these days, at every moment, from the murmuring of the Kawthar of inner meanings, flowing from the right hand of the Divine Throne, a word is heard, and this exalted word has now attained to the hearing of the Lord of Names. Blessed is he who hath heard and responded, and hath arisen to serve the Cause of God, the Lord of the worlds. By the life of the Desired One! Whoso hath attained unto it is longed for by the highest Paradise and the dwellers of the most exalted Heaven and those who circle round His mighty Throne.

O Muhammad-Qabli! Thou hast heard the call of the Wronged One time and again, and this is yet another time, a bounty from His presence—and He is the All-Bountiful, the Compassionate, the Noble. The servant who is present came with thy letter and presented it before the Face while the Wronged One was in evident sorrow. By God's life! My sorrow is not for My imprisonment, nor for what hath befallen Me at the hands of Mine enemies, but rather for those who attribute themselves to Us yet commit that which causeth the tears to flow from the eyes of them that know. This is a Day whereon it behooveth every soul who hath turned to the Face to adopt My attributes and to hold fast to that which hath been sent down in My wondrous Book.

Hear in the Persian tongue! The grief of God hath ever been due to the deeds that have appeared from His loved ones. The imprisonment of Mihdi and those who were with him, and what befell Me in the path of God, have not been and are not the cause of sorrow. Rather, this station is one of supreme joy, greatest delight and complete gladness. Today in one of the Tablets this most great verse was revealed from the Supreme Pen:

> "Blessed are they who have entered prison in My path and whom tribulation hath befallen for My Name. By God's life! Their abasement is not equaled by the glory of the world, nor their

poverty by the wealth of princes, nor by the treasures of those whom riches have kept back from the Ultimate Goal."

O Muhammad-Qabli! The opposition and objections of princes, divines and doctors are as water for the Divine Lote-Tree and as the spring breezes for it. Its effects are manifest and its fruits evident. However, unseemly deeds and conduct that conflict with God's Book are observed to be as poison, for the heedless people attribute them to the Truth. Today one must aid the Cause of God through the hosts of spiritual virtues, goodly words, and deeds that are pleasing and acceptable. These hosts are and have ever been mightier than the hosts of the world.

O Muhammad! In truth I say, every word that shineth forth from the Dayspring of Divine utterance is as the sun, and every letter is as an ocean. How excellent is the state of him who is illumined by the splendors of the Sun of His utterance and who hath drunk from the ocean of meanings. O ʿAli! The heedless have not entered the school of awareness nor drunk from the ocean of knowledge. The fingers of power have fashioned from the tablets of utterance the armor of certitude, yet most of the people of the realm of possibilities have passed by the first adorning and clung to the garments of fancy and idle imaginings. Fie upon them and upon those who followed them without clear proof from Us and evidence from Our presence!

Gladden the loved ones of those regions and that place through God's—glorified be His majesty—care and kindness. Say: Know ye the value of these divine days and arise as behooveth you. Today the Balance is visible, the Path manifest, the Call raised high, and the Mother Book speaking. Strive that perchance ye may be blessed with a word of acceptance from the Supreme Pen, or be assisted to perform a deed whose fragrance shall never fade. I swear by the Sun of Truth which shineth resplendent from the horizon of the Most Great Prison! If anyone were to become aware of the reward for good deeds, even to the extent of a mustard seed, he would freely sacrifice his life to attain it.

O friends! These are days around which all centuries and ages revolve, and this is a time before which all times in the world bow down in humility. Let not the diverse colors of the world deprive you of everlasting bounty and eternal, enduring blessings. We beseech God—glorified be His majesty—not to deprive those cities and lands that are the dwelling-places of His loved ones from the effulgences of the lights of the sun of religion, truthfulness and trustworthiness. He is the One with power whom the veils of the world have not hindered.

He is the All-Powerful One Whom the veils of the world have not hindered and the might of nations has not prevented from His purpose. Thou shalt not grieve over anything. Rejoice in this Most Great Tablet, from which the Concourse on High has inhaled the fragrance of the loving-kindness of thy Lord, the Lord of all beings. The splendor shining forth from the horizon of the heaven of My grace be upon thee and upon My loved ones who have been awakened by the Call and have answered their Lord, the Forgiving, the Bountiful.

The tongue of the All-Merciful speaketh; it is its own interpreter and its own expounder. The words, utterances and petitions of this evanescent one are as nothingness before His presence and as feeble before the kingdom of utterance. Yet since this is the day of supreme bounty and greatest favor, every

soul may confidently engage in mentioning the Beloved. Had mercy not preceded and grace not been witnessed, this evanescent one would never have dared to speak a word. In all conditions, I beseech pardon from God, exalted be His glory, and entreat His loved ones not to forget this servant in their moments of remembrance, meditation and tranquility of heart.

That which hath flowed from the tongue of grandeur clearly manifests the degrees of love, mercy, grace and kindness of God, exalted be His glory, towards you. Praise be to God, you have attained unto that which hath no likeness or equal. You and this evanescent one and the other friends must beseech God to adorn the world with the light of justice and fairness and to guide the transgressors. He is powerful and mighty over all things.

As to your mention of Ridvan and the arrival of divine verses and the joy and gladness of the friends—these matters were presented before the throne and attained the honor of being heard by the Lord of Names. His word, exalted be His grandeur, once again:

O thou who hast turned towards Me! Blessed is he who hath attained unto My good-pleasure in My Ridvan and hath acted according to what was commanded in the Book of God, the Help in Peril, the Self-Subsisting. Thou hast heard the Call before and after; hearken now in this moment wherein the Ancient Beauty hath spoken: Verily there is no God but Me, the Single, the One, the Mighty, the Loving. Counsel My loved ones with wisdom and utterance lest there appear that which would trouble the hearts of the weak ones. This is what hath been sent down at this moment and before in the tablets of thy Lord, the Knower of the seen and unseen. Say: O people of the village! Do what ye have been commanded in My Book. Verily He will be with you in every world of the worlds of your Lord, did ye but know. Rejoice in My remembrance of you, for nothing that hath been created on earth can equal it, to this do honored servants bear witness. None should speak that which would cause clamor to arise between the cities and villages. He counseleth you as a grace from His presence, and He is the Counselor, the Compassionate.

Blessed are those souls who have attained unto the good-pleasure of God in His Ridvan. Happy are they and joy be unto them. May the bestowal of this cup never cease and may His loved ones never be deprived of the outpourings of this chalice. Verily He is the Bestower, the Compassionate, the Bountiful.

As to their desire for circumambulation and turning towards the Most Exalted Horizon, these two matters were presented at the Threshold of Divine Unity. Permission for circumambulation was granted, and this servant proudly performed it as your representative. Praise be to God in all conditions! I swear by the Beloved of the world that if this servant were to declare that a single circumambulation around Him exceeds the worship of all humanity and the jinn, it would be truth itself. Rather, he considers himself lacking and deficient in making even this statement, for the rewards of this deed are and have been unlimited, and none save divine knowledge has encompassed it. As the Bab—may our spirits be sacrificed for His sake—addressed the honored Azim, upon him be the Most Glorious of all Glory, saying:

> “Verily, to sit for one hour in His presence is better than the worship of both worlds.”

As for the matter of attaining His presence, after it was presented at the Most Holy Court, this exalted Word was revealed from the Most Exalted Horizon. He says, exalted be His glory and majesty:

“O Muhammad-Qabli-Ali! God created the world for the purpose of turning to My countenance, standing before My gate, gazing toward My horizon, and speaking My beautiful praise. Yet when the Supreme Luminary illumined the horizon of the world, the nations turned away, save whom God, the Lord of the worlds, willed. The Books of God have spoken of this Name and given glad tidings of this Day wherein He Who conversed on Sinai proclaims: ‘There is no God but Me, the Mighty, the Powerful.’ The Cry has been raised, the Tree has called out, the Calamity has struck, the Inevitable has come to pass, the Trump has sounded, and the hidden Secret has been revealed, yet most of the people remain heedless. They have risen in opposition to such an extent that they have denied what was revealed in the Books of God, the Exalted, the Great. They have broken God’s Covenant and cast His Book behind their backs. Verily, they are among the most lost in the perspicuous Book.

“O Muhammad-Qabli-Ali! Hear in the Persian tongue what is sweeter: The whole world was created for the recognition of and meeting with Him on this blessed Day, and no deed can equal this deed. This act is seated upon the throne of glory and established at the fore of all existence. Nevertheless, the people have failed to recognize the worth of this Day and what has appeared therein, and have perpetrated that which has caused all atoms of creation, the dwellers of the highest chambers, and the manifestations of verses to lament and weep.

Section 2: “By God’s life! The path to attaining His…”

By God’s life! The path to attaining His presence is clear and evident, and His loved ones are seeking it, yet heedless servants have prevented the people of Baha from reaching the Most Exalted Horizon and have held back the companions of the Crimson Ark from movement. The darkness of oppression has encompassed the world, and until this oppression ceases, neither kings nor subjects, neither rulers nor others shall find rest. Each day brings new hardship and fresh corruption, as you have seen and heard. In these days, due to the sedition in the Land of Ta, improper talk has somewhat spread even in this land. Therefore, we have paused in granting permission, and we beseech God, exalted be His glory, to record from the Supreme Pen the reward for attaining His presence. Verily, He has power over all things and is worthy to answer.”

Man needs a hundred thousand eyes to weep at what hath been inflicted upon the Self of God, exalted be His glory—that which all created things and beings are powerless to recount. They have attributed corruption to the Ocean of reformation, and injustice to the Dayspring of everlasting lights. Glory be to God! What heedlessness is this, that hath bewildered all the realms of knowledge. In any case, since the mercy of the Desired One hath taken precedence, we must, with utmost supplication and imploring, beseech the Almighty not to deprive His servants and to grant them a portion from the ocean of vision, that perchance they may attain unto consciousness and arise to do what behooveth them. He is the Generous, He is the Merciful, and He is the Bestower, the Kind. There is no God but Him, the Mighty, the Help in Peril.

Concerning what thou didst write about the bathhouse and the Mashriqu’l-Adhkar, it was presented before Him from Whose knowledge nothing is hidden. This is what the Tongue of the Chosen One hath spoken regarding the Mashriqu’l-Adhkar, exalted be His majesty and His power:

Praise be to the Desired One of the world Who hath enabled thee to serve His Cause. Despite the clamor of the people of the world, their sedition and corruption, and the uprising of all to extinguish the divine light of remembrance, from you and His loved ones this edifice hath become manifest and evident. This structure shall be accompanied by everlasting remembrance, for it was built in the name of God during the days of God and hath been adorned with the ornament of His approval. Beseech ye God that He may enable all to serve His Cause with steadfastness and to observe what God hath revealed in His Book. This world is evanescent; soon shall all return to nothingness, and there shall endure only that which hath been ordained by the Supreme Pen from God, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting.

As for what thou didst mention concerning the bathhouse and the assistance of the friends in that land, this utterance hath been revealed from the Dayspring of divine revelation. His words, blessed and exalted be He:

Blessed are they who have acted with goodness and who have arisen to serve the Cause in the days of God. Blessed are they who have labored and they who have rendered assistance. Convey to all of them greetings from the Wronged One and say: The recompense for goodly deeds is preserved and treasured with God. Rejoice in this most exalted Word. Verily your Lord, the All-Merciful, is the Announcer, the All-Knowing. Every deed that appeareth today in the path of God is recorded as the sovereign of deeds in the Book of Names and is inscribed by the Supreme Pen. Blessed are they that act and blessed are they that understand. Praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

The friends whose deeds are mentioned before the Divine Throne and whose praise floweth from the Tongue of Grandeur, by the life of our Beloved and your Beloved, such souls stand in the highest station and are accounted among the most exalted of creation in the sight of God.

We hope from His grace and favor that He may enable this evanescent one and other gentlemen and friends to make up for what hath escaped us in the days of God. A whole world of tongues would be needed to make mention of that which is hidden from all eyes. None is aware of the requirements of consummate wisdom. Verily our Lord, the All-Wise, is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

Another glad-tiding is that mention of your parents was made before His presence, and the word of forgiveness was uttered from the tongue of the All-Desired One. Verily doth the Servant praise Him and thank Him for the wondrous tokens of His grace and bounty unto him who hath turned unto Him and arisen to serve Him.

As for what thou didst write concerning thy wife and sister and others, it was laid before the Divine Throne. This is what the Tongue of Grandeur hath spoken in reply, exalted be His glory:

O Muhammad-Qabli-ʿAli! Give glad-tidings to thy wife on My behalf and make mention of her through My verses. Verily thy Lord answereth him who calleth upon Him, remembereth him who remembereth Him, and turneth unto him who turneth unto Him, as a token of His grace, for He is the Forgiving, the Generous. We have made mention of her and We have made mention of thy sister as a mercy from thy Lord, the Most Merciful. Blessed is the servant who hath believed in God on the Last Day, and blessed is the handmaiden who hath turned unto Him and attained unto the lights of the Throne whereon thy Lord,

the Most High, the Most Great, is seated. Convey My greetings unto them both from the Wronged One, and unto those handmaidens who have believed in God, the Lord of all worlds.

How many a king have We found heedless of this Day, and how many a handmaiden hath attained unto this Cause whereby the feet of the learned have slipped, save whom God hath willed, the Mighty, the Most Praised. Soon shall pass away that which the queens possess, and there shall endure that which hath been sent down for My handmaidens from the Ancient Revealer. The glory be upon thee and upon them and upon every handmaiden whom the clamor of the idolaters hath not kept back.

Grace upon grace, mercy upon mercy, bounty upon bounty, loving-kindness upon loving-kindness, are manifest and evident. What praiser can adequately render praise, and what thanksgiver can render sufficient thanks? Within each loving-kindness lie concealed a hundred thousand bounties, and for each bounty a hundred thousand thanks are required. God forgive this meaningless limitation! Nay, infinite thanks are not sufficient, let alone limited, numbered thanks. Who is able to thank Him as He deserves to be thanked? Who is able to praise Him as He deserves to be praised? Nay, by His very Self, all are powerless, all fall short.

In reference to what thou didst write concerning the testament of the departed, ascended, exalted leaf, the daughter of the sister of the Most Exalted Leaf, upon her be the Glory of God, the Most Glorious—these words were heard in the Most Holy and Most Exalted Presence, He Who was God and there was naught else besides Him. Blessed is she, for she hath drunk from the chalice of My love, soared in My atmosphere, spoken My praise, attained unto the hearing of My call, submitted to My Cause, and turned with her heart to My horizon. We make mention of her with such remembrance as shall cause the near ones to perceive the fragrance of eternity. To this beareth witness the Lord of all beings in this manifest Prison.

We have accepted from those related to the Leaf such deeds as have not yet come to pass. We have previously said: The intention of the believer is better than his deed. The intention of that honored lady, upon her be the Glory of God and His mercy, hath been adorned with the ornament of acceptance. Blessed is she and joy be unto her. We have mentioned her before and make mention of her from this time forth. Every bearer of a name testifieth to My loving-kindness, My bounty, and My mercy, which encompasseth all who are in the heavens and on earth. The Tongue of Grandeur beareth witness unto her as it bore witness before—that she heard the call of her Lord, turned unto Him, and responded to her Master, the Mighty, the Generous.

That which creation beholdeth cannot be compared with My testimony. To this beareth witness He Who proclaimeth in every state that there is none other God but Me, the Single, the All-Informed. Blessed is he who readeth what hath been sent down for her from the heaven of My loving-kindness. We testify that he is among the triumphant ones. The glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My mercy be upon her and upon those who have turned to God when the Intended One came with a mighty command.

The mention of that company hath ever been, from the first day until now, in the Most Holy and Most Exalted Presence. The servant beareth witness that they have attained unto that which hath been

revealed in the Books of God, the Lord of the worlds. I beseech God to protect them and aid them in that which will cause the exaltation of His Cause. Verily, He is powerful over all things.

Likewise, I convey greetings to each one, and with utmost humility and supplication, I request them to seek divine confirmation for this evanescent one, that he may perchance fulfill this mighty service.

As to what was written regarding uncertainty about whether certain matters may be mentioned in the Most Holy and Most Exalted Presence—it is certainly permissible, nay rather, necessary, for judgment proceedeth according to what is apparent, and the affairs of the chosen ones, particularly those souls who are under the glance of divine favor, must assuredly be mentioned so that the decree may issue forth from the Source of the Cause.

He made mention of Mirza Muhammad-Husayn—may the glory of Baha rest upon him. This was laid before the Most Holy and Inaccessible Threshold, and there was revealed and dispatched unto him a weighty and exalted Tablet from the heaven of bounty. God grant that he may partake of its spiritual repast, and obtain his portion from the oceans of its meanings. Verily our Lord, the All-Merciful, is indeed the Forgiving, the Most Generous.

In like manner, a most holy and exalted Tablet was revealed and sent especially for Aqa Abu'l-Hasan. This is yet another bestowal, as a grace from Him Who is our Lord and the Lord of earth and heaven. Blessed is he that attaineth, and woe betide the heedless.

And as to the people of the village: there were revealed, on their behalf, these resplendent verses—His glorious utterance and His mighty majesty:

In My Name, the All-Preserving over the heavens.

O Most Exalted Pen! Make mention, on My behalf, of the people of My village who heard and turned, and answered their Lord, the All-Merciful, the All-Compassionate.

We did, aforetime, remember you with a remembrance which, when it issued from the mouth of My Will, caused the remembrances of the world to bow down before it—thereunto beareth witness the Book that is clear. This is the Day wherein the rivers of utterance have flowed forth in the Name of your Lord, the Mighty, the Generous. Blessed are you, in that you heard the call of your Lord from the Most Exalted Horizon, and turned unto Him with a humility whereat all created things were humbled, and beyond them every discerning world. Let not the might of princes affright you, neither suffer the aversion of the ignorant—who, without proof from God, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise, lay claim unto knowledge—to veil you.

Take ye the chalice of utterance in the Name of your Lord, the All-Merciful, then drink therefrom with the wisdom We have sent down in divers Tablets and in this wondrous Tablet. This is a Cause which, when it appeared, made the idols lament, and caused every stubborn tyrant to swoon away. Blessed is the tongue that speaketh what God hath testified, and the ear that heareth what hath been sent down from His mighty Kingdom.

Thus hath the Tongue of Eternity spoken in His Most Great Prison, as a grace from Him, for those who turned unto Him with illumined faces and acted according to that which they were bidden by God, the Mighty. O people of the village! Upon you be My glory, and upon you My loving-kindness, and upon you My mercy, for as long as My Kingdom and My Dominion endure, and the cities of My might remain—cities whereunto none hath attained save those who speak, at this hour. Verily there is none other God but Me, the True One, the Manifest. Ended.

This lowly servant conveyeth unto each of the people of the village his greetings and salutations, and declareth that all must, with consummate wisdom, arise to serve the Cause, and strive this day to repair whatever hath been lost; for other days may not be possible. He beseecheth and hopeth of God that He may preserve, within the treasuries of His inviolable protection, the deeds and acts and the goodly, spiritual character of His loved ones, and lay them up for each as a store. He is the Just; He is the Faithful.

He Himself hath declared:

> "He will in no wise suffer the reward of the well-doers to be lost."

Strive ye, perchance from among you there may appear such deeds as the passing, the heedlessness, and the forgetfulness of this earthly realm shall not efface, nor shall the veils conceal from sight. He is powerful and able to do all things.

And likewise there hath been revealed a most holy and exalted Tablet especially for Aqa Mulla Hasan—may the glory of Baha rest upon him. God grant that he may be aided to recite it; for by its recitation hearts are expanded and eyes are refreshed.

And as to those servants of God, both men and women—upon them all be the glory of Baha—who were enabled to discharge the Huququ'llah and did send it: it was received—praised be God—and they were confirmed in that which hath been revealed in the Book from the Pen of the Most High. And some of the gifts that were forwarded attained unto their purpose, and unto Him Who is the purpose of the world and the Desire of all peoples—that is, they were adorned by touching His blessed body. Joy be to those who sent them, to those who fashioned them, and to every thing that, this day, attained His presence: it attained the very fruit of its existence.

According to command, that honored one should convey to each the Takbir, and gladden them with the word of acceptance. Glory, praise, and magnification be upon you, and upon those who attained unto the Days of God, the Lord of the worlds. Certain mighty Tablets were sent unto some, and hereafter also—God willing—shall be sent. And certain Tablets, in the hand of this servant, have been and shall be forwarded.

The servant, on the 15th day of Muharram, the sacred month, in the year 1302.

BH02312: Praise be to God Who hath made earning…

He is God, exalted be His station, the Grandeur and the Power!

Praise be to God Who hath made earning and acquisition the treasure of man, and hath ordained for every soul that which was foreordained in His knowledge from time immemorial. Among men are those who profit and those who lose, and for each there is a portion and share in God's knowledge. The greatest profit lieth solely in God's good-pleasure and obedience unto Him. This is a profit that shall see no loss throughout the duration of the kingdom and the heavenly realm, as attesteth He with Whom is the Mother Book. And blessings and peace be upon the Lord of the world and the Exemplar of nations, the Cause of existence and the Ultimate Purpose, the Sovereign of the unseen and the seen, and upon His family and companions through whom the books of religions were completed and the ordinances of the All-Merciful were made manifest, and through whom were struck down the banners of Pharaohs and extinguished the fires of tyrants who denied God's right and His Cause and violated His Covenant.

And further: O beloved of my heart: First, concerning thy inquiry about the condition of that beloved soul—I beseech God, exalted be His glory, to adorn His loved ones with true physical and spiritual health, to increase the nearness of all, and to withhold not from them that which is inscribed in the Book. He is the Hearer and the Answerer. Second, the letter from the radiant star, His Holiness the Afnan, upon him be the Most Glorious Beauty of God, hath renewed the heart and soul with the fragrances of love. In truth, mention of God's loved ones, especially the Afnans of the Divine Tree, is like the breaths of the spirit for bodies. I hope it will ever continue to arrive without delay or interruption. This evanescent servant hath ever besought and continueth to beseech the True One, exalted be His glory, to support the Afnans of the Divine Tree, upon them be the Most Glorious Beauty of God, and to bestow upon them such special bounties as would cause every counter to confess his inability and every possessor of speech to acknowledge his shortcoming.

To his honor the esteemed Afnan-i-Kabir, upon him be all Glory most glorious, I express my utter powerlessness and nothingness. Likewise to his honor the Last Star and the honored ladies, upon him and them be God's peace and loving-kindness, I convey mention, praise and greetings. To the honored beloved Haji Siyyid Javad and the beloved of the heart Aqa Muhammad Mustafa, upon them both be God's peace and loving-kindness, and to the rest, I extend mention and greetings. And I beseech God, exalted be His glory, on their behalf, for that which befitteth His generosity. Peace be upon thee and upon them and upon God's righteous servants. Praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH01181: Praise be to God, Who was and Who shall…

He is God, exalted be His glory, the Most Great!

Praise be to God, Who was and Who shall ever be as He hath been, and peace and blessings be upon the Lord of all creation, through Whom was made manifest the essence of all religions and through Whom were sealed the commandments of God, our Lord, the Most Merciful, and upon His family and companions who acted in accordance with that which they were commanded in the Book.

Your letter was received, bringing joy and gladness. We beseech the True One to confirm you in that which He loveth and is pleased with. After presenting the letter before Him, He spoke:

> "O Husayn, upon thee be My peace! Give thanks to the Intended One of the world and the Lord of nations Who confirmed thee in His recognition. We testify that there is none other God but Him, acknowledging His oneness and confessing His singleness, submitting to His Cause and all that appeareth from Him. Verily, He is the Protector of whosoever loveth Him and the Answerer of whosoever calleth upon Him."

We beseech Him to ordain for thee that which is conducive to the good of this world and the next. Be not saddened by the diverse affairs of this world. Verily, joy cometh after sorrow, ease after hardship, comfort after distress, tranquility after agitation, and glory after abasement. Thus doth the Wronged One make mention of thee that thou mayest rejoice and be of those who are thankful.

Today all the sincere ones and they that are detached must beseech the Self-Sufficing Lord for that which will safeguard and protect the Cause of God. The enemies have encompassed it and each day they demolish one of its pillars. Alexandria is on the brink of drowning, and likewise other lands. Each day they seek to destroy one of its members, and all these things are the punishment for their deeds. All must turn to the Truth, glorified be His majesty, with the utmost lowliness and supplication, and seek forgiveness, that perchance the ocean of divine mercy might surge and wash away the dust of disobedience.

The pure Faith, for numbered years, was occupied with itself and heedless of others. They disputed and quarreled with each other over words whose meaning they knew not, and their enmity became so firmly rooted that it caused the very foundation to tremble. We beseech the True Architect to protect it and save it from ruin. He is, verily, the Powerful, the Mighty, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

In all conditions, hold fast to the firm cord and cling to the luminous hem of divine favor. You have not been forgotten, nor shall you ever be—you and all those souls who are truly adorned with the ornament of detachment and illumined with the light of divine knowledge. We send Our greetings. Verily, the Wronged One remembers those whose names thou didst mention before in the letter that was presented. We beseech God, exalted be He, to grant them success and to ordain for them from His Most Exalted Pen that which befitteth His generosity, bounty, grace, and bestowal. Verily, He is the Generous, the Bountiful. Praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

Praise be to God! In these days the heat of fasting hath increased the fire of love in the hearts of the lovers and the obedient ones, and this is among the greatest bounties of the Lord. We beseech the Truth to assist His servants that they may act in utmost joy and fragrance according to that which they have been commanded. One deed performed in the path of God hath ever been and shall ever be the cause of salvation, and is like unto a lamp before all faces in all the worlds. The explanation of this station cannot be completed nor concluded through the utterance of one such as this evanescent one. In all conditions we hold fast to the cord of His grace.

We have committed all affairs unto Him and have placed our trust in Him. Verily, He is the Hearer, the Answerer. Concerning what you wrote about Haji Ibrahim, upon him be 9 66 [Baha'u'llah], it was submitted. He commanded that they should engage in trade and business with the utmost joy and fragrance, and if they should afterwards return to Iran, this too would be well-pleasing. We beseech God to aid all, that there may be manifested from the servants that which befitteth their servitude unto Him.

The bounties of the world are in the grasp of His power. Assuredly He hath not deprived and will not deprive His loved ones, and if for a few days hardship should occur, this hath been and is due to the requirements of consummate wisdom.

By My life! Soon shall the doors of ease be opened before the faces of the believers, and rivers of wealth and affluence shall flow in the cities and lands. Verily He is the Almighty, the Unconstrained.

This evanescent servant conveyeth greetings to them and beseecheth God, exalted be His glory, to preserve them beneath the shade of the Tree of His providence. Verily He hath power over all things. In all circumstances they should be mindful of wisdom and hold fast to the divine law. Goodly deeds are as lights. We beseech God not to deprive His servants of these brilliant, shining lights. We are all His servants, turning unto Him and beseeching Him. In the prayer of Kumayl ibn Ziyad al-Nakha'i it is said:

> "Until all my deeds and devotions become one continuous devotion, and my state in Thy service eternal."

We beseech Him to give His servants to drink from the Kawthar of this exalted word. He is the Generous, He is the Merciful, and He is the Kind. Peace be upon you and upon the sincere servants of God, and praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH11635: In My Name, the Commander, the All-Informed

…In My Name, the Commander, the All-Informed

O Ibn Abhar! Upon thee be the glory of God, the Lord of destiny. Hearken unto that which God, the Lord of all worlds, calleth unto thee. We cast upon thee aforetime that which, were it to be cast upon the heavens, would cause them to be cleft asunder, or upon the earth, would cause it to be rent in twain, or upon the mountains, would cause them to crumble to dust. Verily thy Lord is the Helper, the All-Knowing. We have given thee leave and have sent down unto thee that which will draw thee to the most exalted horizon, this glorious and wondrous station. It behooveth thee to make mention of what thou hast witnessed in the tablets of thy Lord. Thus doth command thee He from Whose presence hath been sent down this perspicuous Book. The glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My tender mercy be upon thee and upon those who have cast away what the people possess, yearning for that which is with God, the Strong, the Mighty.

Praise be to God that His loved ones have attained unto the grace of the All-Merciful and have received their portion from the Most Great Ocean. Especially the spiritual friend, His Honour Ibn-i-Abhar, upon him be the Glory of God, the Most Glorious, who hath both been mentioned and given leave. This evanescent servant conveyeth greetings to him and the other loved ones, and beseecheth confirmation, success and protection for all….

BH00585: O Muhammad-Qabli-ʿAli! Thieves lurk in ambush and traitors lie…

In the Name of God, Exalted be His Glory, His Grandeur and His Power!

O Muhammad-Qabli-ʿAli! Thieves lurk in ambush and traitors lie in wait, whereby the path of divine knowledge is barred and the fragrance of the All-Merciful is cut off. Beseech the True One to unlock, through His mighty hand, the gates that are shut, and to guide His true loved ones to the court of His glorious oneness. Thy letter was received and the servant in attendance laid it before His face. The sweet savors of love were inhaled therefrom. We beseech God, exalted be His glory, to aid thee in that which will cause the exaltation of His Word. Summon the people unto God with wisdom and utterance, and remind them of His signs and clear evidences, that perchance they may break asunder the chains of idle fancies through the Name of the Lord of all beings, and turn with heart and soul to the Most Exalted Horizon.

Say: O people! The divine promises have been adorned with the ornament of fulfillment, and whatsoever was announced in the heavenly epistles hath become manifest and evident. Deprive not yourselves. This is the Day for the revelation and manifestation of goodly character, deeds and words. Hold fast unto wisdom and plant in blessed, hallowed, and receptive soil that which is meet and seemly. Be not grieved at the oppression of the oppressors. By the Sun of the horizon of Revelation! All shall soon perish and return to nothingness, except that which hath been uttered by the Supreme Pen. All mention, description, color and deed shall be seized by extinction and annihilation, but the divine Word which hath been sent down from the heaven of the Will of God concerning every soul shall endure for as long as the kingdom of earth and heaven shall last.

Say: Strive that perchance ye may attain unto the Word and be freed and delivered from the fetters and tribulations of this darksome world. This is the counsel of Him Who is wronged in all horizons unto the loved ones of God. Well is it with him who hath clung fast thereunto and acted in accordance therewith. He, verily, is of the people of this glorious station.

O My Most Exalted Pen! Make mention of him who hath been named Muhammad-ʿAli in thy most eloquent language and thy sweetest utterance, that he may render thanks unto his Lord, the All-Bountiful, the Speaking One. We have desired to rain down upon him from the heaven of utterance the showers of wisdom and knowledge, that the rapture of the Call may so seize him that neither the insinuations of the divines nor the whisperings of the scholars who have denied God’s right and turned away from His straight Path may sadden him.

O Muhammad-ʿAli! The Countenance of the Ancient of Days hath turned toward thee from His Most Great Prison, and hath made mention of thee in such wise as the world and all that the nations possess cannot equal. To this beareth witness the Mother Book which hath appeared in truth and speaketh forth in this glorious and exalted station. We have caused those near unto God to hear the verses of thy Lord, and have shown unto them that recognize His unity that which the Beloved beheld when He ascended to the most sublime Summit and the highest Horizon—the station whereon the All-Merciful revealed Himself in the light of His holy, mighty, and luminous countenance. By God’s life! Were We to unveil that which We have concealed from eyes, thou wouldst see the people struck down. Thus doth He Who speaketh in every matter make mention unto thee, that there is none other God but Me, the Single, the One, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

We have heard thy call and perceived the fragrance of thy love. We have answered thee with a Tablet from whose horizon shineth forth the Day-Star of thy Lord's utterance, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. Thus have We sent down upon thee from the ocean of forgiveness a mercy from Our presence. Verily thy Lord is the All-Bountiful, the Forgiving, the Merciful.

Say: O people of the realm of dust! By God, the Lord of the Kingdom hath come with a sovereignty before which no faction among all factions, nor all the hosts of earth and heaven can stand, if ye be of them that are assured. He hath come with the truth and hath rent asunder the veils with manifest sovereignty. Fear ye the All-Merciful, and follow not the manifestations of idle fancies who have broken God's covenant and His testament, and have changed God's favor after it was sent down through grace. These are indeed among the most lost in God's Book, the Lord of all worlds.

We have manifested that which lay hidden in thy Lord's knowledge and was recorded by the Most Exalted Pen in the Crimson Tablet. To this every discerning scholar beareth witness. Among the people are those who have denied God's proof and His testimony, and among them are those who have heard and turned toward their Lord and answered Him when every heedless doubter turned away, and among them are those who have sacrificed their souls and their wealth for love of God, the Lord of the Mighty Throne. Blessed art thou and blessed is he who hath fulfilled God's covenant and His testament, and hath done that which he was bidden in the Book. He is assuredly among those brought near unto God in His mighty and praiseworthy Tablet.

Gladden thou on My behalf My loved ones with My tender mercy and My compassion which have preceded all who are in the heavens and on earth. Say: This is God's Day, did ye but know it, and this is the day for deeds, were ye but doers of them. Cast aside all else through My Name and take what ye have been given by One mighty, powerful, and ancient. Thus have We adorned the temple of utterance with the robe of thy Lord the All-Merciful's loving kindness. When thou hast attained and beheld, arise and say:

> "Thine is the praise, O Thou the Goal of the world! And Thine is the glory, O Thou the Beloved of those who dwell on earth and in heaven! And Thine is the splendor, O Thou in Whose grasp are the reins of all things! I testify that Thou hast manifested that which was hidden from time immemorial. There is none other God but Thee, the Almighty, the Glorious, the Wondrous."

We have sent down for each one mentioned in thy letter that from which the fragrance of thy Lord's gracious and bountiful favor is diffused. We beseech God to confirm them in that which He loveth and which pleaseth Him, and to manifest through them that which beseemeth His days. He is indeed the Almighty, to Whose sovereignty all created things have testified, and to Whose power all things possible have borne witness. There is none other God but Him, the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing.

We make mention of the friends of God in that land who, upon hearing the call, soared on the wings of certitude to the atmosphere of the love of the All-Merciful. These are servants unto whom God hath testified in His Books which He sent down to the Prophets and Messengers. O friends of the All-Merciful! Hearken unto the call of the Wronged One. He counseleth you to observe trustworthiness and godliness, patience and forbearance, and that whereby the Cause of God, the Mighty, the Wondrous, may be

exalted. Let not the doings of men sadden you, nor the oppression of those who have wronged you without clear proof from God, the Object of the knowing ones. We counsel you with wisdom as We have counseled you and Our friends before, lest the fire of hatred be kindled in the breast of every ignorant and remote one.

Rejoice in My mention of you, then give thanks to your Lord Who speaketh at every instance that there is none other God but He, the Mighty, the All-Praiseworthy. Thus have We expounded the verses and sent them down in truth as a grace from Our presence, and I am the Wronged One, the Revealer, the Stranger. By God! We have spent what We possessed on the first day whereon the shrill voice of My Most Exalted Pen was raised between earth and heaven, but most of the people are among the ignorant. They have cast away their God and taken the calf for themselves as lord besides God. Verily they are among the most lost in My perspicuous Book. The Glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My mercy be upon thee and upon those who have held fast to My strong cord.

O My Most Exalted Pen! Make mention of Muhammad-Qabli-ʿAli time and again, then send down for every name that was in his book that which will solace his eyes and gladden his heart. Verily thy Lord is the All-Merciful, the Bountiful.

O Rajab-Qabli-ʿAli! Hearken unto the call of the Wronged One. He maketh mention of God in the Most Great Prison and summoneth the people to His luminous horizon. We beheld thy name in the book of one who loved Me and have made mention of thee with verses that equal not what the kings and rulers possess.

We make mention of him who was named Muhammad and counsel him with that whereby the Cause of God, the Supreme, the Self-Subsisting, may be exalted. Give thanks to thy Lord at all times. He maketh mention of thee with that whose fragrance shall never be cut off. To this testifieth He Who proclaimeth that there is none other God but He, the Mighty, the Loving. Rejoice thou in My mention of thee, then assist thy Lord with the hosts of deeds. Thus hath the matter been decreed from before God, the Lord of what was and what shall be.

We make mention of the Noble One and counsel him with that wherewith We have counseled Our friends. By God! This is the Day of deeds, yet most of the people comprehend not. This is the Day of mention and praise. Blessed are the people who know. O Noble One! Make mention of thy Lord at all times, at eventide and dawn. He is with His servants, hearing and seeing, and He is the Truth, the Knower of the unseen.

O David! He Who made mention of Me hath made mention of thee, and We make mention of thee as a grace from Us, that thou mayest thank thy Lord, the Sovereign of all sovereigns. Let not the doings of men sadden thee. Cast aside what the people possess, holding fast to the cord of God, the Lord of the seen and the unseen.

O My Most Exalted Pen! Make mention of him who desired the countenance of God and was named Muhammad-Qabli-Ibrahim, and convey unto his face greetings from the Wronged One, Who proclaimeth with the most exalted call in the prison of Akka that sovereignty belongeth unto God, the Lord of the Promised Day. Give thanks unto God Who hath aided thee to recognize the Dawning-Place of His signs

and the Dayspring of His evidences, and hath caused thee to hear My sweetest call when most of the people were as the dead. We have made mention of thee that thou mayest arise to aid the Cause of thy Lord through virtuous character and that which beseemeth this Day wherein all things proclaim:

> "Blessed is he who hath heard the call and answered his Lord."

He is among the most exalted of servants in the Book of God, the Mighty, the Beloved.

We make mention of him who was named Mirza Kuchik, of whom the servant present before Us made mention, and verily I am the All-Knowing Remembrancer. We have heard thy call and have answered thee, and have heard thy name and turned toward thee. Verily thy Lord is the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous. We counsel thee with that which We have sent down in the Book from the presence of an Ancient Revealer. Hold fast to the Book of God and say: O my God and my Lord! I beseech Thee by Thy days and Thy signs and Thy clear tokens and the sweet savors of Thy Revelation, to aid me in that which befitteth Thy bounty and Thy grace. Verily Thou art the Almighty over whatsoever Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the Strong, the All-Conquering, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. The glory from Us be upon Our loved ones there who have cast away whatsoever is with the world in hope of that which is with God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH02423: He is the Speaker, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise! O…

He is the Speaker, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise! O thou who journeyest through the lands and gazest toward the direction of thy Lord's mercy, the Lord of creation! Hearken to the call of the Wronged One from the precincts of the prison. There is none other God but Him, the Mighty, the Bestower.

The Self-Subsisting has arisen, and the people have risen against Him in opposition—a opposition that caused the dwellers of Paradise to lament, and behind them the Concourse on High and those who circle round the Throne at morn and eventide. The servant in attendance before Me has presented thy letter before the Face, whereupon the Most Exalted Pen raised its shrill voice and mentioned thee in such wise as nothing in the world can equal, as testified by the Mother Book which is with Him.

We have called the servants to the supreme Paradise—among them are those who have heard and hastened, and those who turned away from Him Whose appearance God had promised in the Scriptures and Tablets. Grieve not at the people and their deeds. Look and remember what befell Muhammad, the Apostle of God, aforetime when He arose and called the people to God, the Lord of Lords. Then remember when the Spirit came before Him—the Jews rose against Him with such oppression as caused the hearts of the chosen ones to tremble and the livers of the pure ones to melt. Thus was the matter decreed aforetime and in these days which God has associated with His Self. Verily thy Lord is the Mighty, the All-Knowing.

Then look before Him at Moses when He came with His Lord's signs, and the people turned away from Him on that day and denied God's Cause after its manifestation and committed that which caused the clouds to cry out. He gave the people glad tidings of the days of God and what would appear therein. Blessed are they who heard and responded, and woe unto every doubting denier.

By the life of God! No Messenger was sent and no Book was revealed except to give glad tidings to creation of this Manifestation through which the very corners of possibility smiled. But when the appointed time was fulfilled and the Promise came and the Promised One appeared, the servants in all directions denied Him.

Say: O people! Fear God and deny not Him in Whom ye believed throughout past ages and centuries. Cast behind your backs the divines of the age and hasten to the City of Divine Knowledge, whose gates have been opened by this Name through which the Resurrection has come, the Trumpet has been blown, the Cry has been raised, the Balance has been set up, and the heaven has brought forth smoke. Thus have We sent down the verses and dispatched them to thee that thou mayest thank thy Lord by night and day, at eventide and dawn.

The glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My mercy be upon thee and upon those whom neither the cannons of princes frightened nor the intimations of the divines who enter the mosques in My name yet turn away from Me in such wise as caused all things to lament, and whatsoever was created by the Word of God, the Lord of creation.

BH02569: O Muhammad! The people of the world, night…

He is the One Who Rules over all who are on earth and in heaven

O Muhammad! The people of the world, night and day, would beseech to attain the presence of the Dayspring of God's Cause and the Manifestation of His Revelation. In pulpits and mosques, upon hearing His mention, they would rise to their feet and, with utmost humility and supplication, would implore His presence, crying out "May God hasten His advent!" Yet after the lights of the Sun of inner meanings dawned and the waves of the ocean of divine utterance surged forth, all turned away. Would that they had been content with mere rejection! They attributed to Him that which the Jews did not attribute to the Spirit (Christ), nor did the idolaters and others speak about the Seal of the Prophets.

This is why the people of the Last Days have been condemned in every Book. They pronounced judgment against the One whose remembrance occupied them night and day, and denied Him Whose oneness and singleness they had acknowledged throughout ages and centuries. Reflect upon the heedlessness and error of these people. Through the vain imaginings of negligent souls, they deprived themselves of the Dawning-Place of the light of divine unity, and through the doubts and conjectures of ignorant divines, they excluded themselves from the effulgences of the Sun of certitude. Blessed art thou, and blessed is the one who has rent asunder the cord of vain imaginings and has shattered the idol of doubts through the strength of certitude. Such a one is among those companions whose remembrance God, exalted be His glory, has recorded in all the Books.

O Muhammad! Thy letter was received and presented by this servant, and this Tablet has been sent down from the heaven of grace that thou mayest inhale the fragrance of the All-Merciful's utterance and arise to serve His Cause in such wise that the varying conditions of two days shall not prevent thee or deprive thee of the eternal dominion. Convey My greetings to the friends. We beseech divine confirmation for all, lest they be dismayed by the might of those who have denied God, the Lord of all worlds. Each of the

relatives mentioned in thy letter has attained God's favor. We beseech Him, exalted be He, to strengthen them, forgive them, and ordain for them what He has ordained for His loved ones.

Verily, He is the Almighty, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. As for thy desire to attain Our presence—We have indeed manifested Ourself for this purpose, but the idolaters have intervened between Us and those who have believed in God, the Lord of the worlds. We beseech God to ordain for thee and thy uncle the reward of attaining His presence, and to decree for you both what He has decreed for His chosen ones. Verily, He is the Truth, there is no God but Him. He doeth what He willeth and ordaineth what He pleaseth. The Glory be upon thee and upon those who have believed in the One, the All-Informed.

BH02772: In My Name which shineth forth from the horizon…

In My Name which shineth forth from the horizon of creation. A mention from the Wronged One unto him who hath heard and seen and answered the call of the Lord of all beings when the summons was raised betwixt earth and heaven and the inhabitants of the cities of names were seized with the intoxication of the trumpet. Thus hath the Most Exalted Pen spoken upon the branches of the uttermost Lote-Tree. Blessed are they that hear.

Take hold of the Book of God with the power that proceedeth from Him, adhering to the wisdom which hath been sent down from God, the Lord of the worlds. None should acknowledge that which he possesseth, for the protection of those who have turned towards the Countenance—a command from the presence of One mighty and powerful.

The servant who was present brought thy letter and placed it before the Face, and there hath been revealed for thee this wondrous and glorious Tablet. Give thanks unto God for having enabled thee to turn towards Him and guided thee unto His straight path, from which the servants have turned aside except such as God hath willed, the Possessor of this mighty and exalted Cause. He hath, of His grace, forgiven thee and thy father and mother. Verily thy Lord is the Forgiving, the Merciful.

Beseech God to assist thee in that which beseemeth His days and this Cause, whereby the limbs of them that denied God's right and His sovereignty did quake, and who disputed His signs, and turned away from His luminous countenance.

At this moment We make mention of the handmaiden whom thou didst mention in thy letter, and give her the glad-tidings of her Lord's loving-kindness. We make mention too of her daughter and of those women who have believed in God, the Mighty, the All-Praised. We make mention of thine uncle who turned towards the Most Sublime Horizon on a day whereon the limbs of the servants trembled for fear of the Cause, save those who held fast to the cord of God, the All-Powerful. We had mentioned her aforetime with that which nothing in all creation can equal, and at this hour with a mention whereby the hearts of them that are endued with understanding are attracted.

We make mention of God's loved ones in that land, whom the circumstances of the tyrannous ones did not frighten, and whom the power of those who disbelieved in the Day of Judgment did not weaken.

O concourse of loved ones! Conceal the pearls of divine knowledge from the eyes of the treacherous ones. None should acknowledge the Cause of God before the faces of those through whose tyranny the dwellers of the Most Exalted Paradise did lament, and every perceiving mystic did cry out.

The glory be upon you, O My loved ones, and upon you, O My handmaidens. Know ye of a certainty that soon shall perish that wherein the oppressors take pride, and there shall endure for you that which hath been ordained by the Pen of God, the Mighty, the Beautiful. Praise be to God, the Forgiving, the Generous.

BH03964: O Yahya! Today, by God's testimony, all who are…

He is the Most Holy, the Most Great, the Most Glorious

O Yahya! Today, by God's testimony, all who are associated with the Truth are and have been rich. Can any of those who seek to evaluate confine the station of God's Word, or determine its worth and value? Nay, by My mighty Self! And can the treasuries of kings and princes and the wealthy compare with it? Nay, by My Cause that holds sway over the world!

Praise be to God, from the heaven of the All-Merciful's will there hath been sent down unto thee a wondrous, luminous Tablet. The ears of the world were created specifically to hearken unto it, the eyes of nations to behold it, and all tongues to recite it. Yet now most are deprived, while thou art favored with it. Moreover, thou possessest that essence which is sanctified above mention and utterance—the love of God, exalted be His glory.

Consult outwardly with the friends in that land, and occupy thyself with whatever they deem advisable. No pursuit prevents man from any other pursuit. Whatever God hath commanded is what benefits His servants. We beseech God to assist the friends in that land to aid thee, that thou mayest engage in that which hath been made obligatory for every soul in God's Book.

Glory be upon thee, upon thy poverty, thy remembrance, thy call, thy praise, thy beginning and end, thy outward and inward being. Were the kings of the earth to expend all that they have stored in their treasuries, without the love of God they would not attain to such a Tablet as this. Thy Lord, the All-Informed, beareth witness to this. Know thou the bounty of thy Lord, then thank Him at all times and say: Praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH04525: O spiritual leaf, upon thee be the Glory…

O spiritual leaf, upon thee be the Glory of God! In the name of the loving Lord!

The Books of the world's peoples have given glad tidings of the appearance of the Most Great Name, and all the Messengers and near ones have spoken of His mention and uttered His praise. He is the hidden bounty and the treasured food and the concealed secret and the determined mystery. Isaiah says: "The everlasting Father and eternal God shall come." The Spirit (Christ) says: "The Comforter and the Perfecter and Spirit of Truth shall come." The Qur'an calls out His Name and makes all aware. And the Author of the Bayan with loudest call counsels and with utmost humility and supplication mentions that perchance they

may not through vain imaginings remain deprived of the Lord of all beings. He says that He is not confined by the intimations of the Bayan and what is revealed therein. All the Bayan is but a ring on His finger and a mention from Him and a leaf from the leaves of the gardens of His knowledge.

Nevertheless His people did that which caused the dwellers of Paradise to lament. We beseech God that He make steadfast the servants and handmaidens of that land in such wise that the cawing of the crows and the clamor of the transgressors prevent them not.

Convey greetings from the Wronged One to all and say: Blessed is the handmaiden who has taken the wine of steadfastness in the name of Him Who conversed on Sinai and has drunk thereof in His name, the Mighty, the Beloved. Thou art she who has drunk thereof and attained thereunto. Blessed art thou and blessed are they who have attained unto this mighty announcement.

The glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My grace be upon thee and upon every handmaiden who, when she heard, arose and said: “Here am I, here am I, O Desire of the worlds!”

BH04717: A mention from Us to him who hath turned…

He is the Hearer, the Answerer

A mention from Us to him who hath turned to the Wronged One while He was in prison through what the heedless had wrought, that the fragrances of remembrance might attract him to a station wherein he seeth naught save God, the Lord of all worlds. This is a Day wherein is heard from the rustling of the Lote-Tree beyond which there is no passing: “The Kingdom belongeth unto God, the Lord of all mankind,” and from the murmuring of the Water of Life: “By God! He hath come through Whom the eye of the Bayan was solaced throughout all possibility,” and from the whistling of the winds: “He hath appeared concerning Whom the Books, the Psalms and the Tablets have testified, from God, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.”

Blessed art thou and blessed is he who hath turned to God when every ignorant one remote from Him turned away. As We were walking in the House, the servant who was present entered with thy letter and read it before Our countenance. We have sent down for thee this Perspicuous Book which calleth out with the most exalted call between earth and heaven and summoneth all unto the One, the All-Informed. When thou hast attained unto the traces of My Most Exalted Pen and found the fragrance of utterance from the garment of My loving-kindness, give thanks and say: “Praise be unto Thee for having caused me to hear Thy call and enabled me to turn to Thy horizon when the people were veiled by a thick veil.”

I beseech Thee by Thy most beautiful names and the manifestations of Thy power in the kingdom of creation to aid me to be steadfast in Thy Cause whereby the limbs of the learned trembled and the pillars of the idolaters were shaken. Praise be unto Thee, O God of the worlds.

BH05627: O Leaf of Paradise! Upon thee be the Glory…

O Leaf of Paradise! Upon thee be the Glory of God, the Most Glorious! God is Most Glorious! O Leaf of Paradise! Verily the Hidden One hath come with the truth, yet the people understand not. And the

Treasured One hath appeared through grace, yet the people perceive not. The Most Exalted Horizon hath been illumined through the manifestation of the Lord of all beings, yet the people recognize not. This is He Who was promised in the books of old, and before Whose name the Kingdom of Names hath bowed down. To this testifieth he who hath with him a perspicuous Book. Verily the Bayan and whatsoever was revealed therein is like a ring upon My finger. To this do testify the dwellers of Paradise and beyond them honored servants.

Blessed is the strong one whom the cawing of the wicked weakeneth not, and the steadfast one whom the clamor of every ignorant outcast causeth not to sit. I give glad-tidings unto My servants of My remembrance and My bounty which hath preceded existence. O handmaidens of the All-Merciful in all lands! We have remembered each one of you with that which no treasures or riches can equal, and We bid you show forth the Most Great Steadfastness in this Cause whereby the feet of those who turned away from the Truth did slip when it came with manifest sovereignty. Blessed is the servant who hath attained unto his Goal and the handmaiden who hath believed in God, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting.

The glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My mercy be upon thee and upon them and upon every handmaiden who hath turned and hearkened and responded when the Call was raised between earth and heaven, and the believers hastened to the horizon of Manifestation.

BH00051: This servant beareth witness to that which God hath…

Section 1: "This servant beareth witness to that which God…"

In the Name of our Most Holy, Most Great, Most Exalted, Most Glorious Lord

This servant beareth witness to that which God hath witnessed, and acknowledgeth that which the Supreme Pen hath acknowledged before the creation of all things—that there is none other God but Him. He hath appeared and made manifest that which was hidden in His knowledge, inscribed in His Book, symbolized in His Tablet, and treasured in the repository of His protection, in such wise that neither human limitations nor the whisperings of those who have denied the Lord of Destiny could prevent it. He hath arisen with such an arising that the pillars of princes and the foundations of the learned were shaken, and He hath proclaimed with the most exalted call between earth and heaven that there is none other God but Him, the All-Knowing, by Whose finger's beckoning the ocean of knowledge surged in the realm of possibility and the breezes of the All-Merciful wafted over all lands.

Blessed is he who hath heard and hastened, and woe unto every hesitant doubter. Joy unto him who hath heard and responded, and woe unto every idolatrous disbeliever. I offer prayers, peace and glory upon His loved ones and chosen ones, whom neither the swords of enemies deterred from the Lord of all beings, nor the hosts of tyranny frightened in the days of their Lord, the Sovereign of all names. These are servants whose mention hath been voiced by every Book, whose glory and loftiness every scroll hath proclaimed, and whose excellence and sublimity every tablet hath extolled.

Glory be unto Thee, O Thou through Whose Name the world is illumined and through Whose mention the fragrance of utterance is diffused among the nations! I beseech Thee by Thy Name which Thou hast made the Breaker of the might of aggressors, the Refuge of the believers, and the Haven of the fearful, to

protect Thy loved ones from the wicked among Thy servants and to aid them with such aid that in every city the banners of Thy Name and the standards of Thy mention may be raised. O Lord! Thou seest and knowest what hath befallen those whom heedlessness hath not overtaken in Thy path, and whose eyes have not witnessed sleep resting upon beds in Thy love.

They traversed lands to exalt Thy Word and visited the servants to convey Thy Cause until they were expelled, seized and imprisoned for Thy Name's sake—the Name through which the river of life flowed and the breezes of revelation wafted over all who dwell in the realm of possibility. O Lord! Thou art He to Whose grandeur all things possible have testified, and to Whose power the tongues of all beings have witnessed. Adorn Thy loved ones, O God of Names and Creator of heaven, with that which will draw them nigh unto Thee in all conditions and grant them the chalice of Thy good-pleasure at all times. Verily, Thou art the Lord of all creation and the Ordainer of all worlds.

O beloved of my heart! By God's life, thy mention and praise, and that which flowed from thy pen and was uttered by thy lips, time and again, have gladdened me. Many a day did this servant arise while encompassed by sorrows at what had befallen thy honor and the loved ones of the All-Merciful, and there reached him what thou hadst sent, from which every person of discernment perceived the fragrance of thy sincerity and steadfastness, and the fragrance of thy support and faithfulness in days wherein the servants cast fidelity behind their backs and violated God's Covenant by following their own desires. When I read and understood, the wine of love for thee so intoxicated me that sorrows took flight. Thereupon I repaired to the Most Exalted Station and the heaven of the highest heavens until I attained the presence and presented myself before the Face. When the Ancient Beauty turned His attention to this servant, He spoke, exalted be His grandeur and mighty be His utterance:

We are the All-Knowing Witness

This is the Day wherein the Kingdom of Utterance calleth aloud in the midmost heart of contingency: "Blessed is he who hath aided the Cause of God and stood up to serve His Cause and quaffed the cup of tribulation in His path and the chalice of hardship in His love and was imprisoned for having summoned the people unto Him!" And from the waves of the ocean of inner meanings is heard: "Joy be to him from whom the fragrance of fidelity hath wafted throughout the realm of creation and who hath attained unto the Most Great Steadfastness in a Cause whereby the feet of the denizens of the Kingdom of Names have slipped, save whom God hath willed, the Lord of all worlds."

O Varqa! Upon thee be My glory and My loving-kindness. The servant who is present hath come with thy letter and what thou didst send to him before and after. From every letter, every word, and every character have We inhaled the fragrance of thy love and thy steadfastness and thy sincerity and thy faithfulness and thy covenant in the Cause of God, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. We bear witness that thou hast girded up thy loins to serve God and hast spoken His praise and proclaimed His Cause and rent asunder, through His Name, the veils of those who were held back from the Lord of destiny by the Most Great Veil which is called the world. We beseech God to aid thee and assist thee and preserve thee. Verily, He is potent over all things.

We make mention of thee every day and night, and We recall what hath befallen thee in this Cause, at Whose appearance all things proclaimed: “The Kingdom belongeth unto God, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.” Blessed is he who hath turned unto thee and loved thee and heard thy mention in this wondrous Cause. Say: O people of the Bayan and O people of creation! Beware lest ye deny Him Whom ye have worshipped throughout ages and centuries, through nights and days. Be fair in the name of God, then behold this Most Great Structure and hearken unto that wherewith this Great Announcement doth remind you. Say: He is the One foretold in the Torah and announced by the Spirit and Whose mention was sent down in the Qur’an from the presence of an ancient Lord. Fear God and deny not the signs of your Lord, the Most Merciful, and oppose Him not. He calleth you unto the supreme horizon, whereunto every discerning knower beareth witness.

We make mention on this night of My loved ones there and give them the glad-tidings of My loving-kindness and My mercy and My bounty, which have preceded all who are in the heavens and on earth.

We make mention of the ʿAyn and the Ba, to whom God testifieth of his acceptance, his devotion, his remembrance, his praise, and his spending in this straight Path. Remember him and give him glad tidings. By My life! He hath attained unto a remembrance that no remembrance can equal and unto a word whose fragrance shall not be cut off throughout the endurance of the names of thy Lord, the Hearing, the Responding. We have heard what thou hast mentioned concerning him, and what the Trustworthy mentioned before, and what he hath done in the path of God, the Exalted, the Great. Convey My greetings unto him and unto the faces of My loved ones, and give them glad tidings of My favors, and remind them of what We have revealed unto thee in this Clear Tablet, that perchance the attraction of the utterance of the All-Merciful may so seize them that the might of the mighty shall not weaken them, nor shall the hosts of the oppressors frighten them. God shall soon seize them as He seized the peoples before them. He, verily, is the Powerful, the Mighty. The Glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My mercy be upon thee and upon them and upon every steadfast and upright one.

These pearls of the ocean of utterance need a hem vaster than earth and heaven to gather them together. God is Most Great! Who is able to enumerate them and who can swim in the depths of this Most Great Sea? What pearls! What are these words that this servant hath spoken and continues to speak? In truth, he should seek forgiveness throughout the endurance of the kingdom and the heavenly realm for what he hath said and continues to say. Yet praise be to the Object of the world and the Sovereign of nations, that the effulgences of the sun of His favor toward that spiritual beloved are clear, manifest and evident. We hope that they will, through the name of the Lord of existence, set hearts and souls ablaze with wisdom and utterance—an enkindling such that all who are on earth shall find themselves powerless to extinguish it. What has happened and what intoxication has seized the world? Yes, the intoxication of self and desire has prevented ears from hearing and eyes from seeing. Nevertheless, this servant holds fast to the cord of generosity and clings to the hem of favor, and beseeches Him not to deprive His servants of the waves of the ocean of meanings. Verily, He is powerful over all things.

Some time ago, letters arrived from the honored master, His Eminence the Trustee Haji Mirza Abu’l-Hasan, upon him be the Glory of God. In two letters he mentioned in detail your honor and the spiritual

beloved ʿA.B., upon him be the Glory of God, and he was very pleased and satisfied. I beseech and hope from God, exalted be His glory, that He may aid them in that which is befitting and grant them that which is worthy of His generosity and mercy.

Concerning what was written about the means for promoting the Cause and spreading the divine verses and laws, this matter was presented before the Presence. This is what the Tongue of Grandeur spoke, blessed and exalted be His words:

> "Today it is incumbent upon every soul to serve the Cause of God. God, exalted be His glory, has made earthly affairs dependent upon means. Every soul must pay the Huququ'llah, and one-third of the Rights of the Land of Ta and its surroundings must be spent on the interests of teaching and spreading the Cause and establishing it. All must be engaged in supporting the Cause in perfect unity and must strive to their utmost ability to exalt the Word. God has forbidden contention and conflict—this is the most great bounty and the supreme favor."

In all ages, assured and steadfast souls have, in accordance with the command, supported the Cause with life and property. Now it is dependent on property alone. This servant beseeches and hopes from God that He may enable all to accomplish that which benefits the Cause. Verily, He is the Helper, the Generous.

The items that were sent arrived. However, when the two photographs attained the blessed presence, He observed them and then, smiling, uttered these supreme words:

> "O servant! They are present in this moment in the presence, and the reward of attainment has been inscribed by the Pen of Will. Blessed be they both, and may it be wholesome for them both."

The gaz also arrived and attained the presence, and was bestowed upon every soul who was present before Him, both at that time and afterwards. We praise God for this.

On one occasion, this servant attained the presence with a petition from the spiritual friend, his honor A.B., upon him be the Glory of God and His favors. After permission was granted, it was presented. This is what the Tongue of Grandeur spoke in reply—His glory be glorified:

He is the Near, the Answering One

The Wronged One hath heard thy call and hath answered thee with that which hath diffused the fragrance of the loving-kindness of thy Lord, the Compassionate, the All-Bountiful. This is a Day wherein the Mother Book crieth out and saith: "Blessed is the soul that hath attained unto that which was hidden in divine knowledge and recorded in the Books of God, the Lord of all worlds." And the Mother of the Bayan calleth aloud, saying: "O peoples of the earth! By God! The veils have been rent asunder, and the Intended One is come, speaking openly before all the world: ʿThe Promise is fulfilled and this is the Promised One Who proclaimeth: Verily there is none other God but Me, the Peerless, the All-Informed."' And the Mother of the Tablets crieth out saying: "The gate of reunion hath been opened unto all who are in earth and heaven. Blessed is he who hath drawn nigh and attained. He is indeed of those who are

brought near in a perspicuous Book." And the Crimson Scroll proclaimeth amidst the concourse of creation, saying: "Blessed is he who hath attained unto the days of God and hath acted according to that which hath been recorded in His precious Book."

O thou who hast turned thy face toward Mine own! Rejoice in My remembrance of thee. We have accepted what thou hast done in His path, and have sent down for thee, both aforetime and at this hour, that which nothing can equal. Verily thy Lord is the All-Remembering, the All-Knowing. We bear witness that thou hast heard the call of the All-Merciful, hast turned unto Him and held fast unto His Strong Cord. How many a servant hath heard and hastened, then turned away from God, and how many a servant hath attained unto the Most Great Steadfastness in such wise that through his constancy the limbs of the idolaters were made to quake. Read thou what We have revealed unto thee, by the hosts of My Kingdom's denizens.

Thus doth He command thee Who possesseth a perspicuous Book. We counsel thee to observe wisdom, lest the clamor of every remote transgressor be raised. Give thanks unto God that thy deeds have been accepted, thy call hath been heard, and thy letter hath attained unto My Most Great Prison. The splendor shining from the horizon of the heaven of My grace be upon thee and upon those who are with thee among thy kindred, and upon those who have testified to that which God hath testified: that there is none other God but Me, the Single, the One, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

The Tongue of Grandeur hath spoken concerning them that which shall never perish and whose fruits shall appear day after day. This year all have been commanded to practice concealment lest clamor be raised among the people. This evanescent servant conveyeth greetings and salutations to them and declareth:

> "Happy is he, for he hath attained unto the special favors of God, exalted be His glory."

That which hath been revealed beareth witness to what hath been stated, and a Most Holy, Most Exalted Tablet hath also been sent separately. God willing, they shall attain unto it and receive their portion from the oceans of His grace. Glory be to God! This servant is astonished at these heedless people—to what have they attached their hearts and with what are they occupied? Do they deny the transience of the world, or are they unaware of its changes and transformations? They have taken conjecture in place of certitude, and fancy in place of assurance. Soon shall all return to nothingness, and there shall remain for those brought near only what God hath revealed in the Book. As commanded, they must observe wisdom and act in accordance therewith, for this matter hath been revealed from the Supreme Pen in numerous Tablets and its observance is obligatory upon all.

He verily protecteth whom He willeth and aideth whom He pleaseth, and He is the Mighty, the Praiseworthy. It is entirely clear and evident that the True Protector is God, exalted be His glory, yet it is necessary and incumbent to act in accordance with what He hath commanded, for people are not all observed to be at the same station. Therefore must the loved ones be considerate and remind them.

Regarding what was written about several souls from the land of S and Y who are heading to this land for agriculture according to the counsel of the honored beloved, the distinguished Amin, upon him be the glory of God—this matter was presented by Amin and they said:

"The prison situation is uncertain, as disturbances have been mentioned both before and after. Therefore it is more prudent for them to remain in that same land."

Today the primary and universal divine cultivation has been and continues to be the sowing of the blessed Word. We beseech God to assist them and others in service to the Cause.

Section 2: "As for the mention of my beloved Haji…"

As for the mention of my beloved Haji Mirza Haydar-ʿAli, my beloved Ibn-i-Asdaq, and my beloved Aqa Mirza Asadu'llah, upon them be the glory of God—in these days their letters arrived addressed to this evanescent servant. Praise be to God, every word thereof spoke in praise of Truth and bore witness to their acceptance, attention, humility and submissiveness before God, our Lord and the Lord of all who are in the heavens and earths. A letter also arrived from His Holiness Ismu'llah Jamal, upon him be all the most glorious Glory, mentioning that beloved of the heart. Their intention was that that beloved one should travel to those regions. After presenting this in the Most Holy Court, they said: "It is very good, however the requirements of wisdom must be observed, for after the episode in the land of Ta, some movement has appeared in every land." And they said: "We beseech God to assist Ismu'l-Jamal in wisdom."

Regarding what was written about the beloved of the heart A and H, upon him be the Most Glorious Glory of God, and the relatives and friends of that land, upon them be the glory of God—these matters were presented in the Most Holy, Most Exalted Court. This is what was revealed for them from God, the Lord of the worlds. His word—exalted be His majesty and mighty be His utterance:

O people of Mim! Your Ancient Lord makes mention of you with that which draws you nigh unto Him. He, verily, is the Single, the One, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. During the nights hath the Supreme Pen remembered you, and during the days it moveth upon your names. Verily your Lord, the All-Merciful, is the Compassionate, the Generous. At all times there hath flowed from the Pen of the All-Merciful the river of wisdom and utterance. Blessed are they that drink thereof. O My loved ones there! Hearken unto the call of the Wronged One when sorrows encompassed Him through those who disbelieved in the Day of Judgment. By God's life! Were ye to hearken with true hearing—that is, were ye to hear the Call of Truth with the ear of inner truth—ye would be set ablaze in such wise that the peoples of the world would be powerless to quench it.

Today the Sun calleth out, and the waves of the ocean summon mankind unto the most exalted horizon. The rustling of the Divine Lote-Tree is raised from one direction, and from another floweth the Kawthar of the All-Merciful's utterance. They that have not drunk from the ocean of knowledge and are deprived of hearkening to the divine call must arise with perfect steadfastness in the Cause of the Lord of all beings, in such wise that neither the aggressive, nor the irreligious, nor the deceitful may debar you from the Most Exalted Horizon.

Today the heavens of Revelation are adorned with the stars of utterance, and the horizon of the world is illumined with the splendors of the light of His countenance. Strive ye, that ye may attain unto that which beseemeth the days of God. Moses gave all men the glad-tidings of this Day, and Christ promised it. The

Seal of the Prophets—may the life of all else be a sacrifice unto Him—was commanded in the mighty stronghold of the Qur'an to give the glad-tidings of the Day whereon mankind shall stand before the Lord of the worlds. Know ye the value of this time! By God's life, it is more precious and more beloved than the crimson philosophers' stone, for while the latter, as is said, transmuteth one color into another, or one body into another, this time and this moment, which in the Qur'an is termed "the Hour" and mentioned as "the Resurrection," bestoweth life upon the world and conferreth the spirit of the animal.

O party of God! Arise as behoveth you and act as is worthy. Be not grieved by the might of princes, the power of the strong, or the glory of the divines. I swear by the Sun of the horizon of utterance which speaketh at this moment—ere long shall all return with utter abasement and regret to the station appointed for them as a consequence of their deeds. Praise be to God! Ye have attained unto that from which all others are veiled. Ye have drunk that whereof all are seen to be deprived, save whom God willeth. With the arm of certitude, take hold of the Perspicuous Book. This is that which shall profit you in all the worlds of your Lord, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. We have, out of wisdom from Us and protection from Our presence, veiled the mention of him who loved Me and attained unto My Tablets, and verily We are the Concealer, the All-Wise.

O people of S and Y! The Wronged One makes mention of you from the prison and gives you glad tidings of the favors of God, the Lord of all worlds. There has come before the Wronged One a letter from him who has arisen to serve My Cause, who circled round Me and soared in My atmosphere, wherein was your mention. We have made mention of you with this wondrous mention. Beware lest anything keep you back from God, the Lord of all names. Give thanks unto God for having created you, sustained you, and aided you to hearken to His most sweet call when it was raised between earth and heaven. Verily your Lord, the Most Merciful, is the Forgiving, the Compassionate. Be not grieved by the doubts of the people of the Bayan and the intimations of the divines of the earth who have broken the Covenant of God, the Lord of the mighty throne.

Blessed are they who in this day arise wholly to offer praise and glorification, but this must be done with wisdom, for the heedless people cling to the manifestations of fancy and vain imaginings. They are seen to be unaware of the sealed wine and bereft of the Kawthar of utterance. The loved ones in that land must, with perfect unity and harmony, occupy themselves with the mention and praise of the True One and aid the Creator with the hosts of goodly character. By the life of God! Were you to become aware of what hath been ordained by the Supreme Pen, you would all exclaim: "Praise be unto Thee, O God of the worlds!" Be not saddened by what hath come to pass or what may yet come to pass. The command is in His hand. He doeth what He willeth and ordaineth what He pleaseth. He is the Almighty, the Powerful. The glory be upon you and upon those with you and upon them that have believed in God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy.

Indeed, one matter has become the cause of great regret, namely that in every place where a believer was arrested, first the Tablets and Writings were seized, and then the owner of the house. Glory be to God! Are the Tablets and Writings to be kept in front of the houses of the friends or in places exposed to all eyes? In the land of Ta, many Tablets and Writings fell into the hands of the oppressors. A hundred thousand regrets, for they do not preserve them and may perhaps destroy them all. The people of God

must exert their utmost effort in protecting the divine verses, that they may be safeguarded from treacherous eyes and thieving hands. This servant has expressed this to some of the friends. God willing, they will be assisted. Among other things, all the writings of the beloved Ali-Qabli-Akbar, upon him be the Glory of God, the Most Glorious, fell into the hands of the enemies. In any case, they took most of these along with other writings to the government. I beseech God, exalted be His glory, to preserve whatever has fallen into the hands of the oppressors. Verily He is the Preserver, the Wise.

They had written mentioning Haji Muhammad-Tahir, upon him be the Glory of God. This matter was presented in the Most Holy and Most Exalted Court. This is what was revealed for him once again from God, the Lord of all beings. His word, mighty is His utterance and manifest His proof:

He is the Compassionate, the Generous

O Muhammad-Taher! The Wronged One makes mention of thee at a time when sorrows have surrounded Him from the dawning-places of idle fancies and vain imaginings of those who claim knowledge without clear proof or evidence. These are they who would mount the pulpits to make mention of God, the Lord of creation. When they concluded their remembrances with mention of the Proof, they arose and said “May God hasten his advent.” Yet when the veils were rent asunder and the clouds parted, they arose in opposition until they pronounced their verdict against Him with such injustice as caused the trees in the mountains to lament. They passed judgment on Him Whom they had remembered throughout the nights and days.

By God! Because of their tyranny the eyes of the Most Exalted Paradise and the Supreme Heaven wept. He in Whose possession is the Mother Book bears witness to this. Blessed art thou for having cast them behind thee and for having turned to God with spirit and fragrance. We have heard thy call and what thou hast composed in remembrance of this Wronged One Who was banished and exiled throughout the lands. By the life of God! We call unto all who are on earth even as We called them before, and We make mention of what We mentioned before all faces. The might of the mighty cannot hinder Us, nor the clamor of the divines, nor the roaring of men. The hosts of the world cannot weaken Us. The Lord of Eternity, Who proclaims “There is none other God but Me, the Mighty, the All-Bountiful,” bears witness to this.

We beseech God to assist thee in preserving what He hath ordained for thee. He is verily the Helper, the All-Bountiful. Blessed is the tongue that hath spoken My remembrance, the face that hath turned toward My face, the ear that hath been honored to hear My call, and the hand that hath clung to the cord of God, the Lord of Lords. The glory shining from the horizon of the Tablet be upon thee and upon those who have cast aside what the people possess, turning unto God, the Mighty, the All-Bountiful.

Thus ends what was revealed. Praise and gratitude be to God. They have attained to that which hath no peer or likeness. The bounty of God, exalted be His glory, is evident from the fragrances of His verses. God willing, they shall be enabled to engage in remembrance, praise, and the greatest steadfastness in all conditions. This servant offers his utter nothingness and effacement in service to them, and conveys remembrance and glorification.

As to what you wrote regarding the veil, although certain ordinances have been revealed from the Most Exalted Pen, the matter of covering has been ordained and is concealed from all. However, considering wisdom, what has been observed is that in most matters the previous ruling remains in effect until the greatest separation occurs, lest it become a cause of remoteness and avoidance by the people, that perchance they may be enabled to hearken unto the Word and act according to what God has willed.

As to what was written concerning the elixir, this Most Exalted Word was repeatedly heard from the tongue of the Lord of Names—exalted be His utterance and mighty His proof:

> "O servant in attendance! Whatever hath been revealed concerning the elixir from the heaven of divine Will was in response to the questions of the servants. They repeatedly asked until that which was revealed was revealed. Otherwise, the Most Exalted Pen would not have addressed it and hath not had, nor hath, any inclination to mention such matters. The Prophets have made mention of it, and likewise the philosophers have had countless discussions about the existence or non-existence of this art. Some have said that bodies other than gold are prevented from attaining to this station due to ailments, and that the power and balance of the elixir removes this and reveals their original color and essence. Others have deemed this impossible, saying that these metals are each composed of different elements and that the elixir is incapable of acting upon different contradictory things. Many philosophers have considered the transformation of essence impossible. The books of the people are filled with such mentions, objections, and differences among philosophers and others. However, if one possessed of insight and vision were to reflect upon the utterances that have flowed from the Most Exalted Pen, the matter of its existence or non-existence would become evident and manifest unto him."

Time and again this servant has presented the petitions of the friends of God who have inquired about this matter, and some have shown utmost insistence in their questioning. Therefore there flowed from the Most Exalted Pen that which exists. Once this Most Exalted Word was heard, He said:

> "O servant in attendance! If no answer were to be revealed, there would be fear that they might attribute it to a lack of divine knowledge."

And to each person an answer was revealed containing within it a prohibition, save for one or two. The prohibition against engaging in this work has been repeatedly revealed.

The wisdom of the past has entirely differed from the wisdom of the present. In the elements, in the planets, and likewise in movements, spirits and bodies, fundamental differences have appeared, both in effects and in numbers, and assuredly in future years that which is now hidden from all eyes shall be revealed. This Most Great Revelation is the cause and reason for the opening of the gates of sciences and wisdom. No one hath yet fully enumerated the sciences and hosts of Truth. How many manifest suns have not been seen, and how many moons remain hidden from sight! If all the world were to gather and attempt to enumerate the creation of but one of the fixed stars and the planets revolving around it, they would surely find themselves powerless and would utter the blessed words "None knoweth the hosts of thy Lord save Him."

The glad tidings are that yesterday the Ancient Beauty proceeded from the Mansion of Bahji to the Mansion of Mazra'ih with a group, and when they reached the resting place of His father—upon him be all the most glorious Glory—He paused, and there was revealed for him that whose fragrance endureth, whose mention endureth, and whose word and meaning endureth. Blessed be he and joyous be he who, in coming and going, hath attained to this most great bounty the like of which the eye of the world hath not seen. This station is beyond mention.

Concerning what was written about the Revelation of John, upon Him be the Most Glorious Beauty of God, it is correct. He has mentioned with utmost clarity, as He says that the New City shall descend from heaven, meaning the New Jerusalem shall descend in Jerusalem, as indeed it did descend. There are many signs, but time does not permit. What that beloved one wrote is correct, but the people do not understand.

As for what was mentioned about the Well-Ordered Pearl and the traditions recorded therein, it is fitting and conforming, but the people are antagonistic and hypocritical. In this land too, some have found clear signs, evident proofs, and decisive traditions in the books, all of which indicate the appearance of the Hidden Name, the Treasured Secret, and the Complete All-Embracing Word, and yet no one is aware. The Prussian group, despite acknowledging that "we have turned to this land to attain the Manifestation, for it is written in our books that the Manifestation is near or has passed," yet they remain heedless.

The world is overtaken by the stupor of negligence. One day these words were heard from the Mouth of the Will of the Lord of all beings:

> "O servant in attendance! Today the sun bears witness, the sea cries out, the earth gives tidings. The intoxication of vain desire has so seized the people that they are oblivious to themselves and others, let alone this station and the recognition of the station that has been the ultimate hope of those near to God, the believers, and the sincere ones."

As to what was written concerning the revered Shaykh and the revered Siyyid—upon them be all the most glorious Glory of God—that among some of the friends there are discussions about their stations and ranks, claiming that the Ahmadi Revelation represents the celestial station of Muhammad and that the station of Prophethood was offered to them but they declined it—whether these statements have any foundation or are mere products of vain imaginings—they are assuredly nothing but vain imaginings. When this matter was mentioned in the presence of the Ancient Beauty, He paused for some time in His explanation and then said with great regret that the friends of God should not speak of that which is far from justice. The glory of Ahmad lies in that he became aware of certain mysteries of Prophethood and became the bearer of the Trust. This station is most exalted and sufficient for him, by the Lord of all worlds. All manifestations, revelations, sainthood, pillars, poles, chiefs, nobles and whatever stations are mentioned as praiseworthy among the servants have appeared through his word and attained their lofty stations.

Section 3: "Some mystics have said things that were not…"

Some mystics have said things that were not befitting. Some have fabricated inner meanings and counted themselves among its people. By the life of God, they are lower than a gnat in the sight of Truth! An unjust mystic has said that the station of Prophethood is the station of announcement, while the station of mystical unveiling and witnessing is above it—considering the second to be the station of saints and the first to be the station of Prophets. This sightless one devoid of truth has failed to understand even this much: that the announcements of the Prophets came after mystical unveiling and witnessing. Indeed, they were the very essence of witnessing and unveiling and its reality. Through them appeared every wise command and every great mystery. The Prophets have been the source of both Prophethood and sainthood, and through the word of the Prophets have saints appeared in the earth. In brief, most people have spoken and continue to speak according to their desires.

Many times have these exalted words been heard from the Source of verses. He has said that every day an apostate appears and takes away a river from the ocean of Muhammad's Law, until at last the ocean was seen to be diminished, as is witnessed today. The Cause is one and the Path is one, and unity and concord are praised in the divine Books, Psalms and Scriptures. Nevertheless, these differences that are witnessed have all been from transgressors and apostates. Should anyone wish to enumerate the branches of the spiritual path that are mentioned and known among people today, he would need to spend much time.

The servant asks his Lord to adorn all with the collyrium of justice and the Kawthar of equity, and to grant them the cup of righteousness. Verily He is the Lord of all beings and the Omnipotent over whatsoever He willeth. According to His command, remind the people of these things, that perchance these vain imaginings may be effaced. Ignorant and heedless souls have afflicted the people. Convey with the utmost joy and fragrance and wisdom that which is befitting.

The station of the revered Shaykh and the elevated Siyyid—upon them be the glory of God and His favors—is most exalted. Once these blessed words issued forth from the Source of divine wisdom: "O servant in attendance! Ahmad and Kazim were aware and informed of the meanings of the divine Books. With the intention of attracting hearts, they made certain statements, and their purpose was to bring people near, that they might attain the Word of Truth—as indeed those souls who first entered the divine Law were of that party. That party it was, and this fact beareth witness to their awareness, knowledge, wisdom and the straight path to which they held fast. Well is it with them.

Towards the end, the honored Siyyid—upon him be all the most glorious glory—repeatedly stated:

> "Do you not wish for me to depart so that the Truth may be made manifest?"

This was the essential meaning of his words, but in accordance with the requirements of wisdom, there appeared from him what appeared.

As to what was asked about the Manifestations of the Cause, they possessed and possess stations in the mother source, and these were revealed according to the requirements of the times and circumstances.

Concerning what was asked about the blessed verse revealed in the Kitab-i-Aqdas, His words, blessed and exalted be He: "Whoso layeth claim to a Cause before the completion of a full thousand years…" etc. This matter was presented, and this is what the Tongue of Grandeur spoke: "O thou who gazeth upon the Countenance and circleth round the Cause…" That which all are bound to recognize hath been revealed in this blessed verse, and all are obliged to acknowledge it and hold fast to it. Most of the ignorant are heedless and walk in the paths of delusion, and most people are unaware. Therefore was this blessed verse revealed as a bounty, that they might not follow every barking dog and become the cause of dissipating the Cause of God.

In truth, this blessed verse is a great bounty for all, for that Beloved One knoweth that each day a barking ariseth from some direction, and likewise deeds that have caused and led to the dissipation of God's Cause. They imagine that the Cause of God is like children's play, each day engaging in some game and uttering some word. Lost indeed are they who have spoken that for which they had no leave from God, and have done that which hath caused the eye of justice and equity to weep. That beloved one must remind the people.

Regarding what was asked about another blessed verse, His words, blessed and exalted be He: "Say: This is the Hidden Knowledge which shall never change…" The purpose of this utterance can be understood from the rest of the verse, His exalted words: "for it is derived from the letter Ta, which indicateth the hidden Name, the Manifest, the Impregnable, the Inaccessible" and the number of division corresponds and agrees with the complete number of the nine fractions. Today the world of the unseen and the visible circleth round the indicative Ta. By the life of Our purpose and your purpose and the purpose of all who are in the heavens and the earth, there is concealed within this sovereign of letters, namely Ta, that which all the pens of the world are powerless and incapable of describing.

As to what was written regarding his honor Aqa Ali, upon him be the glory of God, it was presented at the Most Holy and Most Exalted Court. His words, blessed and exalted be He:

> "O Ali! Thou hast attained unto the grace of God in that which hath been the purpose of creation. Preserve this station for the sake of the One Beloved. The irreligious and the transgressors have been and are lying in wait. Be thou steadfast in the Cause, and fix thy gaze upon the Most Sublime Horizon, speaking My beautiful praise. In affairs take counsel, and then act, placing thy trust in God, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting. Verily, He is with thee and will aid thee, and He is the Mighty, the All-Loving."

As to the repeated mention of the beloved of the heart, his honor A.B., upon him be the Glory of God and His favors, he has never been and will never be absent from this evanescent one's sight. Praise be to God, they have attained to the favors of the True One. That which was written to this servant, and likewise the petition dispatched to the Most Holy Court, all were presented before His presence and attained the honor of His hearing. His word, exalted be His majesty and all-encompassing be His bounty:

> "They have ever been and continue to be the recipients of the True One's favors. Their requests have been heard with the ear of acceptance. They have attained to that which was revealed in the Divine Books regarding the mention of these days. This is a grace that no other

grace can equal. We beseech the True One to ordain for them that which is the cause of eternal success and triumph, and not to deprive them of that which is befitting. We have granted permission for attainment of His presence and have recorded the reward thereof. O ʿAyn and Ba, give thanks to the Intended One of all worlds, Who has assisted thee to turn towards Him, to recognize Him, to love Him, and to serve His Cause. To Him be praise and glory. He has adorned thee with such an adornment whose mention shall never be erased from the world, and has ordained for thee that which He has ordained for those near unto Him. We testify that thou hast attained unto My good-pleasure and hast drunk the choice wine of recognition from the hand of My bounty. Give thanks unto God for this manifest grace."

Each and every matter they raised was presented and received His gracious response. In each instance the sun of favor and grace dawned and shone forth from the horizon of His will. All that was done regarding that beloved one has been mentioned at the Divine Threshold and has attained the ornament of acceptance. This servant beseeches the True One to assist them in all conditions. As commanded, they must be mindful of and hold fast unto wisdom.

The robe and da'ira will also arrive, God willing.

As to the mention they made of the departed and elevated one, his honor Mirza A.B., upon him be the Glory of God and His favors, all that that beloved one mentioned was and is correct. There hath been revealed for him from the Supreme Pen that which nothing in all creation can equal. This matter too was presented in the Most Holy, Most Exalted Court. His word, blessed and exalted be He:

In My Name, the All-Remembering, the All-Knowing

O My Most Exalted Pen! Make mention of him who ascended to the Most Glorious Horizon and quaffed the choice wine of revelation from the cup of the bounty of his Lord, the Lord of Names. Say: The glory shining forth from the heaven of thy Lord's mercy, the Lord of creation, be upon thee, O thou who didst turn unto the Countenance when the limbs of the servants did quake. I testify that thou didst hear the Call when it was raised betwixt earth and heaven, and didst answer thy Lord when earthquakes seized the tribes of the earth and hearts were troubled through fear of God, the Lord of Lords. Blessed be thine ear, for it hath heard, and thine eye, for it hath seen, and thy heart, for it hath turned, and thy face, for it hath set itself toward the Qiblih of all horizons.

Thou art he whom neither the calumnies of the divines nor the might of the powerful could deter. Thou didst hold fast to the cord of the Cause and cling to the hem of thy Lord's grace on a Day whereon the trumpet was sounded, and the Balance set up, and the Bridge laid down, and that which was hidden in the hearts of those who violated God's Covenant and Testament and turned away until they pronounced judgment against Him was made manifest. Blessed art thou, O servant of God, and blessed are they who turn unto thee and visit thy grave, by virtue of what the Most Exalted Pen hath spoken in this Prison which hath been named with the Most Beautiful Names.

Blessed is he who remembereth thy days and maketh mention of that which hath been sent down unto thee from God, thy Creator, thy Fashioner, thy Provider, thy Helper, thy Supporter, the One Who giveth

thee life and causeth thee to die. Glory be upon thee, and light be upon thee, and peace be upon thee from God, thy Lord, thy Beloved, thy Desire, and the Desire of all who are in the heavens and on earth.

Previously also there was revealed specially for him that which shall endure in the garden of divine books. Happy is he! And that which hath now been revealed beareth witness to this. Praise be to God, divine mercy encompassed him and His grace took him by the hand. Again, happy is he! This evanescent servant beseecheth God, exalted be His glory, to assist his son in all that is befitting. This servant conveyeth greetings and glorification unto him, and likewise unto Aqa Mirza Mahmud, upon him be the glory of God and His grace, and unto all the friends and loved ones, upon them be the glory of God. I beseech God, exalted be His glory, to intoxicate all with the wine of the realm of inner meanings, in such wise that they may behold none save the Friend and seek none save the Friend.

His honor the imprisoned one of Rasht, upon him be the glory of God, who graced that land with his presence, hath ever been and continueth to be before Our eyes. Time and again mention of him hath been heard from the tongue of Grandeur in the Most Holy Presence. God willing, may he be assisted to do that which is befitting. They made mention of the coolness of the eyes and fruits of the heart, ʿAzizu'llah and Ruhu'llah. Their mention was made in the Most Holy, Most Exalted Presence. He recited that which was and shall be the manifestation, exposition, evidence and sign of divine grace, bounty and mercy. Two Most Holy, Most Exalted Tablets were revealed and sent specially for them. God willing, may they attain unto them.

Mention was made of the friends and notables of that land. Each one hath, through the grace of God—exalted be His glory—attained unto His mention, and been recorded by the Pen of His Command. The bounty of God hath reached such heights that tongue and pen fall short of describing it. For some, special Tablets have been revealed individually, while for others mention hath been made collectively in a single Tablet. This latter approach is more conducive to preservation. Copies should be made and given to their recipients. What hath been sent this time should not exceed this, and hereafter the matter resteth in God's hands. He doeth as He willeth and ordaineth as He pleaseth. Peace and glory and majesty be upon you, upon those with you, upon those who have attained unto that which none before them had attained, and upon every patient and grateful soul. Praise be to God, the Powerful, the Kind, the Forgiving.

The servant 11 Safar 1302

Another letter from that beloved one, dated 26 Dhi'l-Hajjih, arrived as the post was being sealed. Praise be to God, it brought joy to our eyes. Specifically for Aqa Mirza Muhammad—upon him be 966 [Baha'u'llah]—a Most Holy, Most Exalted Tablet was sent. God willing, he will attain unto it.

Concerning what was written about the disagreements of certain ones, it was presented at the Most Holy, Most Exalted Court. He—glorified be His majesty—said:

> "Let them not be saddened by such matters and deplorable deeds. Soon all shall return and become aware of their loss. Your steadfastness suffices to awaken those souls. They shall soon acknowledge thy counsel and turn unto thee. The same souls who now praise such deeds shall confess their evil. Blessed art thou, and woe unto him who is heedless. Verily thy Lord is the

Elucidator, the All-Knowing, and He is the Rememberer, the Counselor, the Speaker, the Compassionate, the Generous."

This servant's humble submission is that whatever was received from that beloved one expressing devotion, humility and submissiveness to the presence of the Two Most Great and Most Blessed Branches—may my spirit, my being and my essence be sacrificed for the dust of their footsteps—this servant presented it. They showed countless tokens of bounty, recalled the days of attainment to Their presence, and sent greetings, praise and glory. They said:

"God willing, may they remain firm in the assistance of God's Cause as they have been."

Whenever mention is made, this evanescent one presents it, and tokens of Their perpetual bounty are manifested. Likewise the two other Most Pure and Most Luminous Branches—may my spirit be sacrificed for their footsteps—and the dwellers of the pavilion of infallibility and grandeur, all send their greetings and make mention. All glory be upon you and upon those with you and those who love you.

BH03892: This is a Book which God hath sent down…

In the Name of Him Who is the Ruler over all who are in earth and heaven.

This is a Book which God hath sent down in truth, wherein He commandeth men to observe justice and piety. He, verily, is the Lord of all mankind, within His grasp lieth the kingdom of Command and Creation, and in His right hand are held the reins of all who are in the heavens and on earth. Stand thou firm in service to the Cause, and be thou vocal in the praise of God, the Lord of all worlds. How many a servant hath turned towards and then away from Him, hath believed and then denied, and how many a servant hath shone forth from the horizon of steadfastness with such power that before him bowed the necks of those who had turned away from His straight Path. Fix thy gaze upon the Most Sublime Horizon and hasten to perform good deeds. Thus doth the Revealer of verses command thee from the presence of the Strong, the Mighty.

Blessed art thou and blessed is he who hath acknowledged that which God hath acknowledged and hath testified to that which His Tongue had testified before the creation of the heavens and earth: "There is none other God but Me, the Almighty, the Powerful." We have, verily, adorned the heaven of utterance with the sun of divine knowledge. Blessed are they that have attained thereunto.

O party of God! Hearken unto the Call that hath been raised from the direction of Akka: "There is none other God but Me, the Ordainer, the All-Wise." Worship none but Him. Thus hath the Most Exalted Pen decreed while in His mighty prison. Be ye of such constancy that the power of those who have turned away from the Countenance and have committed that which caused the Spirit of God to lament shall not frighten you. The splendor that hath shone forth from the horizon of the heaven of My loving-kindness be upon thee and upon those who have attained unto this momentous News.

He is the Helper.

The missive of the beloved of the heart, his honor Varqa, upon him be the Most Glorious Glory of God, in the amount of one vahid before and one vahid after, through the beloved spiritual one his honor Amin,

upon him be the Glory of God and His grace, reached the servant in the prison in the month of Rabi'u'th-Thani 1305.

BH04442: The smoke of vain imaginings hath enveloped the world…

He is the All-Remembering, the All-Knowing

The smoke of vain imaginings hath enveloped the world, and the veils of idle fancies have prevented the people from beholding the lights of the supreme horizon. They worship idols, supposing themselves to be worshipping the Truth. Glory be to God! They remain heedless of the Source from which the justice and knowledge of the world have been made manifest, while clinging to ignorant and oppressive divines. In every age and century these oppressive souls have inflicted upon the Dawning-Places of divine revelation that which caused all eyes to weep and all hearts to lament. Praise be to God that in such days, when darkness hath encompassed the world, thou hast attained unto the living waters and drunk from the river of mercy. Preserve this most exalted station through the Name of the Lord of Names, and associate with the people of the earth with wisdom, utterance, spirit and fragrance, that perchance through thy mention some soul may turn to the lights of the Sun of Revelation and be remembered before the One Who remembereth. In all circumstances fix thy gaze upon wisdom.

The True One, exalted be His glory, hath enjoined wisdom in Iraq, the Land of Mystery, and in the Most Great Prison—especially after arrival in this Most Great Prison and following the martyrdom of Badi', upon him be My Glory. Convey My greetings to the friends. Say: Beware lest the tyranny of oppressors frighten you or the might of Pharaohs weaken you. Soon shall the world and all that is therein perish, and there shall endure that which hath been ordained by God, the Lord of all worlds. The Glory be upon thee and upon those who have attained unto the recognition of God in this blessed, mighty and wondrous Day.

BH04572: This is the Most Great Announcement. He…

This is the Most Great Announcement. He is the All-Seeing from the Horizon of the Heaven of Knowledge!

O My handmaiden, O My leaf! Verily the Pen of the Most High hath borne witness unto thy recognition of Him, thy love for Him and thy turning towards the Ancient Countenance at a time when the world hath rejected Him, save those whom God, the Most High, hath willed. This is the Day foretold by the Messenger of God, and before Him by the Spirit and before Him by Him Who came with nine clear signs and was called the Interlocutor in My perspicuous Book.

O My leaf! All the Books of the past and the Messengers of God have given the people the glad-tidings of this hallowed, this most exalted Day, nevertheless, the ungodly, the ignorant and the evil ones have arisen with utmost cruelty to uproot the Holy Tree. Well is it with thee for having adorned thyself with the ornament of the love of God and for having been enabled to make mention of Him and utter His praise. Divine grace, in its entirety, is in the mighty grasp of God, exalted be He. He conferreth it upon whomsoever He willeth. How many a man considered himself a celebrated divine and a repository of heavenly mysteries, and yet when the slightest test visited him, he arose with such opposition and denial as to cause the Concourse on high to moan and lament. Through the bestowals of the Lord, however, and

His infinite favour, thou hast attained unto the hidden secret and the well-guarded treasure. Preserve then, in the name of God, this lofty station and conceal it from the eyes of betrayers. The glory shining from the horizon of My Kingdom be upon thee and upon every handmaiden who hath attained the splendours of My sublime Throne.

BH05283: Today the breezes of the Kingdom are speaking forth…

He is the Desired One!

Today the breezes of the Kingdom are speaking forth this blessed and exalted word:

> "Blessed is he whose strength is not weakened by armies, and whose steadfastness is not shaken by the might of kings."

O Nabil! Upon thee be the Glory of God, the Mighty, the Beautiful! We behold the people in a strange sleep and manifest doubt. They possess neither that which would lead them to the good-pleasure of God, nor that which would attract them to the Supreme Horizon. Can what they possess equal what is with God? Nay, by His own Self, the Truth! Say: He followeth not your idle fancies, nor walketh in your ways. Fear God, and be not of the wrongdoers. Convey My remembrance to the friends of God and His loved ones, and give them the glad-tidings of My remembrance and My loving-kindness. We beseech God to draw them nigh unto Him and to ordain for them the reward of attaining His presence.

There is none other God but Him. He guideth whom He willeth unto His straight path. Say: This is the Day of steadfastness and fidelity. Blessed is he who hath arisen to serve the Cause of God—he is indeed of them that occupy this station in the sight of God, the Lord of the worlds. Remind the people with wisdom and utterance, lest the fire of hatred be kindled in the breast of every remote barking dog. The glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My mercy be upon thee and upon them that are with thee and upon those whom neither the veils of the divines nor the ascendancy of the aggressive ones have hindered.

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BH05437: We left the house, turning toward another land, remembering…

He is the One Who warbles upon the branches.

We left the house, turning toward another land, remembering My early days and speaking the verses of God, the Lord of the worlds. We glorified, and all things glorified with Us—exalted be the Lord of Names Who has come with manifest sovereignty. The people of the Kingdom were attracted by the Call raised from the right side of the Mount, while the people remain in manifest error.

We proceeded until We reached the sea. We sat and heard from its murmuring:

> "By God! The Beloved of the world has come, and He has appeared through Whose appearance the eyes of the Messengers were consoled."

Thereupon We took up Our Most Exalted Pen and desired to make mention of him who spoke My praise and soared in My atmosphere and drank from the ocean of My utterance and attained My presence—he who was named Varqa in the Crimson Book by My Most Exalted Pen. Blessed is he who remembers him and hears his word concerning this wondrous Cause.

When thou hast received My Tablet and found the fragrance of My utterance, travel in My Name, then guide the people to My path and acquaint them with My Cause and give them the glad-tidings of My bounty and My loving-kindness. Then impart unto them that which We imparted unto thee, that they may choose for themselves a path to God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy. The glory shining forth from My Kingdom be upon thee and upon those who love thee for the sake of God, the Lord of the Mighty Throne.

BH05448: In My Name which has dawned from the horizon…

In My Name which has dawned from the horizon of proof

The call of the All-Merciful has been raised, and that which was recorded in the Tablets of God, the Self-Subsisting, the All-Compelling, has appeared. How many a servant desired to attain the presence of God, yet when He came and that which was hidden was made manifest, he then arose in opposition, to such extent that he pronounced judgment against Him through Whose word all in the heavens and earth were created. Blessed is he who has turned to the Countenance and held fast to God, the Mighty, the All-Praised.

We have heard thy mention and have mentioned thee. Verily thy Lord remembers him who remembers Him, and turns to him who turns to Him, as a grace from His presence, for He is the All-Bountiful, the Ancient of Days. Be thou vocal in the remembrance of the Wronged One and arise to serve His Cause. Thus does He Who speaks the truth command thee. There is none other God but Me, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

The smoke has overtaken all who dwell in the realm of possibility, save those whom the hand of power has rescued through its sovereignty over all who are in the heavens and on earth. When thou hast received My Tablet and found the fragrance of My loving-kindness, arise and say:

> “Praise be to Thee, O Thou the Desire of the worlds, and glory be to Thee, O Thou through Whom every wise command has been made manifest.”

The Glory shining forth from the horizon of eternity upon those who have turned to God on the Day wherein the Promised One has appeared through His mighty Command.

BH05882: A Book sent down in truth from before One…

He is manifest from His most exalted horizon.

A Book sent down in truth from before One Who possesses knowledge of the heavens and earth, and I am the All-Knowing. Therein He informs all of what was revealed in the Book of God, before and after, and I am the All-Informed. By God! The Path has been established and the Balance set up, and I am the Straight Path. Blessed is he who, when hearing, arose; and he who, being silent, upon recognizing spoke;

and he who, being hesitant, hastened to the most exalted horizon, and I am the Luminous Horizon. Say: O peoples of the earth! Fear the All-Merciful and follow not every froward devil. The Hidden has appeared and what was concealed in the Books of God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy, has been made manifest.

Cast aside vain imaginings. By God! The heaven of knowledge has been adorned with the daystar of certitude. To this testifies He Who proclaims in all things that there is none other God but Me, the Single, the One, the Powerful, the Mighty. We have heard thy mention and have mentioned thee as a bounty from Us. Know this and be of the thankful. Beware lest the allusions of those who have disbelieved in God prevent thee when He came with a manifest dominion, a mighty sovereignty and a firm, impregnable Cause. Thus have the rains of grace poured down from the clouds of justice. Blessed is he who has seen, and woe unto the heedless ones.

BH05995: In My Name, the All-Subduing over all names! O…

In My Name, the All-Subduing over all names! O thou who art wronged! Make mention of him who hath turned towards the horizon of divine knowledge, as a token of grace from thee, for thou art verily the All-Bountiful, the Generous. Say: This is the horizon of divine knowledge from which have shone forth the splendors of the lights of My revelation, the Mighty, the Wondrous. The Most Great Prison hath been honored through the Hidden Name and the Treasured Secret. To this beareth witness he who hath inhaled the fragrance of God, the Lord of all worlds. Whoso hath found the fragrance of My garment, he is indeed among the most exalted of beings before the Truth. Blessed is he who hath heard and witnessed that which God did witness before the creation of the heavens and earth.

He Who hath remembered Me and loved Me hath remembered thee. We have remembered thee through this perspicuous Tablet. Be thou thankful for this most great favor and say: Praise be unto Thee, O King of Kings and Merciful unto the servants! I beseech Thee by Thy Kingdom and Thy Dominion and by the mysteries of the Book of Thine own Self, to make me steadfast in this Cause whereby the feet of every learned one have slipped, the heart of every mystic hath been perturbed, and every proud oppressor hath lamented. The glory rest upon thee and upon those who have heard and responded to their Lord, the Mighty, the Great. We make mention of thy son and give him the glad-tidings of God's loving-kindness, and We counsel him with that wherewith We have counseled the chosen ones in My sacred and mighty Tablet.

BH06013: In this Most Great Revelation, from the sweet-scented morning…

In the name of the One True Friend!

In this Most Great Revelation, from the sweet-scented morning breeze this blessed word is heard: The world is illumined through love and fellowship, and laid waste through hatred and enmity. O people of Baha! Hearken unto the call of the One True Counselor and strive that the light of unity may illumine the world and adorn its horizons. In all ages and centuries, discord hath been and still is the cause of degradation and abasement. Be not saddened by the tyranny of princes and the rejection of divines. Fix your gaze upon the Most Exalted Horizon and be confident in the grace of God. He will surely not deprive His loved ones of the effulgences of the lights of the Sun of Glory and Power.

Soon shall every steadfast one behold his station, and every one who hath turned unto Him shall become aware of that which hath been ordained for him. That which hath issued from the Most Exalted Pen shall never be exhausted. Blessed are they who hold fast to the cord of steadfastness and cling to the hem of grace. These are the people of Baha, whose names have been inscribed by the Most Exalted Pen in the Crimson Book. Blessed are they that hear, and woe unto the heedless. The Glory be upon thee from God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH06292: In My Name, the One Who Dawns…

In My Name, the One Who Dawns from the Horizon of the Kingdom

M.H.: We have called thee from the right side of the Mount. Verily, there is none other God but He, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting. Blessed is he who hath cast away vain imaginings and taken hold of certitude by the command of God, the Lord of the worlds.

The world is ablaze with the fire of vain fancies and veiled from the lights of the divine Manifestation's dawn. In the days and nights the pen of the Most High scratches, the call of the divine Tree is manifest, and the light of the Cause shines forth from the supreme horizon. Yet the unjust people have not awakened. Praise be to God that thou hast attained to the service of the Cause, art speaking His praise, and art turned toward His horizon, and continue thus. The heedlessness of the people hath reached such a state that they were not awakened by the cry and the trumpet blast, and did not raise their heads from their beds. Thou and the friends must hold fast to wisdom, lest the clamor of every rejected ignorant one be raised.

The Glory shining from the heaven of My grace be upon thee and upon those whom the veils of grandeur have not prevented from turning to the Self-Sufficient, the Most High. We send from this spot Our greetings upon thy mother and those with thee. Verily thy Lord is the All-Bountiful, the Ancient of Days.

BH06270: He is the One speaking from the horizon…

He is the One speaking from the horizon of the Kingdom! This is a Book sent down by the Lord of the world in His Most Great Prison, wherein He gives glad tidings to the peoples of that which has dawned and shone forth from the horizon of God's loving-kindness, the Lord of all worlds.

Beware lest the affairs of creation hold you back from the Truth. Cast aside what the people possess, turning unto God, the Single One, the All-Informed. Beware lest the veils of the divines prevent you, or the might of princes frighten you. Take the cup of utterance in the name of the All-Merciful, then drink thereof in the days of God, the Mighty, the Praised.

Say: By God! The promise has come, and He Who was promised has appeared with a sovereignty before which neither the hosts of the world nor the might of the nations can stand, were ye of those who know. Thus has My Most Exalted Pen spoken, when the light was shining from the horizon of tribulation. Be thou thankful to God for this most great favor.

Beware, beware lest what the people possess frighten thee, or the doings of the oppressors sadden thee. Aid thy Lord with the hosts of wisdom and utterance, and the legions of deeds and character. Thus does the Commander, the All-Wise, command thee.

Blessed art thou and those who have attained unto the Word of God in His days. Woe unto every heedless remote one. The glory shining from the horizon of My Kingdom be upon thee and upon those who have laid hold on the hem of God, the One, the Single, the Mighty, the Beautiful.

BH06604: God testifieth that there is none other God but…

He is the All-Witnessing, the All-Informed

God testifieth that there is none other God but Him, and He Who speaketh upon the throne when it was upon the water is verily the Hidden Mystery which none hath known save whom God, the Most High, the Most Great, hath willed. He hath come with a power that the might of the powerful could not weaken, and with a sovereignty that the hosts of those who turned away from the Countenance and denied this Revelation, wherewith the Books of God, the Lord of all worlds, had given glad tidings, could not frighten. We have heard thy call and answered thee, and have remembered thee with a remembrance that the ornaments of the world and whatsoever is with the nations cannot equal.

To this beareth witness every discerning knower. Take thou the Kawthar of steadfastness in the name of thy Lord, then drink with His All-Wise remembrance. Blessed is the servant who hath been illumined with the lights of certitude, and woe unto every heedless doubter. Cast away what is with the world and take what We have sent unto thee through the power of God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy. Thus hath the Tongue of Grandeur spoken when He was in prison through what the hands of the heedless had wrought. The glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My mercy be upon thee and upon every patient one and upon every learned one who hath attained unto the Most Great News.

BH06470: O friends! Today I give glad-tidings to the people…

In the Name of the Sun of Truth!

O friends! Today I give glad-tidings to the people of the world. That which was hidden has been made manifest. The straight path has appeared, the balance is visible. The mountains, plains and rivers give glad-tidings to each other of the appearance of the Hidden Name and the Treasured Mystery. Stand firm in the Cause of God with such steadfastness that it will cause the steadfastness of all the peoples of the world.

For years, mighty efforts were expended to exalt the Word and proclaim the Cause. Now it is observed that excellent souls have arisen against the Lord of Names merely for selfish desire and have set about to waste the Cause of God. Beseech God that He may guide them and prevent them from this great injustice. He is the Powerful, He is the Mighty, He is the All-Knowing, He is the All-Wise.

Thou hast been mentioned before the Wronged One and this most holy, most exalted Tablet hath been revealed that the joy of the utterance of the All-Merciful may take thee and make thee among those who

are nigh. In all conditions hold fast to the cord of grace and cling to the greatest steadfastness, for thieves lie in wait in the thicket of negligence. The Glory be upon thee and upon those who have attained unto this mighty, this most holy Cause.

BH07073: This is a remembrance from Us to one who…

He is the One with power over whatsoever He willeth.

This is a remembrance from Us to one who hath attained unto the light of the Countenance and heard the Call when it was raised from My most exalted horizon, and acted according to what was ordained in My perspicuous Book. We make mention of thee with that which will attract thee, and have sent unto thee the verses to teach thee what beseemeth the days of thy Lord, the Mighty, the Wondrous. He hath come with the truth and summoneth mankind unto His straight Path. Say: O people! Cast away what ye possess and take hold of the Book of God with the power that proceedeth from Him. This is better for you than all upon which the sun shineth, if ye be of them that know. My loved ones have been imprisoned in the land of Ta by reason of what the hands of the oppressors have wrought, they who have cast the Book of God behind their backs and followed every ignorant remote one. Say: The oppressor is the divines of the earth who have pronounced judgment against the Truth without clear proof or perspicuous Book. Thus have We sent down the verses and dispatched them unto thee that thou mayest find from them the fragrance of the loving providence of thy Lord, the Forgiving, the Bountiful.

BH06990: O friends! Know ye the station of the days…

He is the Most Great, the Most Ancient, the Most Glorious

O friends! Know ye the station of the days of the All-Merciful. This is a day wherein one deed is greater than all the deeds of past ages and centuries and more beloved in the sight of God. Strive ye that ye may attain to that which neither the vicissitudes of time can alter nor obliterate. Thy mention was made before the Throne and thou didst attain the hearing of the Wronged One. It behooveth thee to praise God Who hath caused thee to know the Dawning-Place of His Revelation, made thee to hear His Call, and forgiven thee through His grace. He is verily the Ever-Forgiving, the Bountiful, the Generous. Say: Glory be unto Thee, O my God! I beseech Thee by the Sovereign of Names, through Whom all things were attracted, and the heaven was cleft asunder, and the earth was split, and the mountains were scattered, to ordain for me through Thy grace and bounty the reward of those who have attained unto Thy presence and drunk the choice wine of reunion with Thee. Thou art, verily, powerful over what Thou willest, and Thou art indeed the Strong, the Mighty. That which thou didst send hath been accepted with the ornament of acceptance. It behooveth thee to thank thy Lord, the Hearing, the Responding One.

BH07065: A remembrance from Our presence unto him who hath…

He is the All-Seeing, the All-Informed.

A remembrance from Our presence unto him who hath believed in God, the All-Possessing, the Self-Subsisting, that he may find assurance through his Lord’s favor and arise to serve the Cause with such

wisdom as hath been sent down in the Tablets of God, the Lord of what was and what shall be. Thou hast been remembered before the Wronged One. Give thanks unto thy Lord for this favor and say:

> "Praise be unto Thee, O Revealer of the verses, and thanksgiving be unto Thee, O Thou in Whose grasp is the dominion of existence!"

Blessed is thy father who sought the ultimate goal and the highest summit, and who laid down his life in exile in the path of God, the Mighty, the Loving. We have mentioned him in various Tablets with such mention as nothing on earth can equal, as beareth witness unto this He with Whom is the Preserved Tablet. We counsel thee and My loved ones to observe wisdom, lest the fire of hatred be kindled in the breasts of them that have denied the Witness and the Witnessed.

The Glory rest upon thee and upon thy mother and upon them that are with thee and upon those who have cast away idle fancies, clinging fast to the handle of the tender mercy of their Lord, the Mighty, the All-Forgiving.

BH06920: Today all atoms of creation are engaged in rejoicing…

He is the Caller from the horizon of the Throne!

Today all atoms of creation are engaged in rejoicing, for the true Beloved Who had forever been concealed behind veils hath unveiled Himself and appeared in the gathering of the world with utmost manifestation and evidence. One ray from His effulgences shone upon the people of the graves, and all attained unto a new life and turned toward the precincts of the Throne. Strive, that perchance ye may attain unto that which shall cause your mention to endure. I swear by the Sun of the heaven of inner meanings that whosoever remaineth heedless this Day and departeth in heedlessness shall be afflicted with everlasting torment and perpetual remorse and endless regret. Let the friends beseech God—exalted be His glory—for grace, that perchance the deprived ones of the world may attain their goal, the remote one may enter the ocean of nearness, and the sick may drink from the sea of healing. Verily, He is powerful over all things. The glory shining forth from the horizon of the heaven of My mercy be upon thee and upon whosoever hath heard the Call when it was raised from the Divine Lote-Tree and hath responded with manifest humility.

BH07102: He is the One calling between earth and heaven!…

He is the One calling between earth and heaven! Glorified be He Who speaks at all times, at eventide and dawn, and sends down verses as He wishes in such wise that neither the tyranny of the Pharaohs of the earth nor the oppression of the tyrants of the lands can prevent Him. Verily the Pen of the Most Merciful moves at all times and calls out with the most exalted call to all who dwell in the realm of creation, summoning all to God in their return.

This is the Day of which the Spirit gave tidings, and before Him Moses, and after Him Muhammad the Messenger of God, Who when He appeared caused the pebbles to speak and His white hand bore witness that there is no God but Him, the Mighty, the Bestower.

We have found from you the fragrance of love; We have turned to you and mentioned you with the Most Excellent of Remembrances.

When you find the fragrance of My loving-kindness and attain unto My Tablet, arise and say: I beseech Thee, O God of Names and Creator of heaven, to make me among those whom the cawing of Thine enemies has not kept back from Thy love, and whom the threatening of the wicked has not frightened in Thy days. Verily Thou art the Commander, the Ordainer, the All-Knowing.

BH07916: He is the Summoner between earth and heaven! O…

He is the Summoner between earth and heaven! O people of creation! The Lord of Names makes mention of you from this Prison wherein has been established the throne of your Lord, the Most High, the Most Great. He has come for the life of the world and has called all to the Most Great Ocean. Blessed is he who has turned and attained, and woe unto the deniers! O concourse of earth! Abandon what the people possess. By God! Nothing that is witnessed and seen will profit you this Day save through this Name which God has made the Dayspring of His names, the Manifestation of His attributes and the Dawning-Place of His firm and mighty Cause. Thus has My tongue spoken in the kingdom of My utterance. If thou hast attained, arise and say: Praise be unto Thee, O Beloved of them that know! I testify that Thou hast revealed what was hidden and made manifest what was treasured, and spoken that which guided the people to the straight path of God. The glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My utterance be upon thee and upon those who have held fast to the cord of steadfastness in this Cause whereby the feet of the knowers have slipped.

BH07546: O people of the world! After the veil was…

In the Name of the One True God!

O people of the world! After the veil was lifted, some clung to verses—We sent down verses; and some adhered to proofs—We made these manifest; and some turned to ordinances—We revealed a most great portion thereof. Whatever they desired was fulfilled, and whatever they uttered was heard. The purpose of all that was manifested was that ears might become ready to hearken unto one exalted Word, and that is this: O people of the earth! Make not God's religion a cause of enmity. If this Word were to take hold in the world, all would find themselves at ease and in comfort. Say: By the life of God! The divine religion and His Faith have come to unite and accord, not for difference and discord. The Mother Book beareth witness to this, but the people hear not. The splendor shining from the horizon of the heaven of My Kingdom be upon thee and upon those who have cast away idle fancies, clinging to the lights of certitude.

BH07596: In the Name of the Heaven of inner meanings!…

In the Name of the Heaven of inner meanings! The Truth is manifest and hath dawned from the horizon of power. Say: Observe ye how He hath set the world in motion. This is the earthquake of that Hour which hath appeared and seized all save a few who have drawn nigh unto the Divine Countenance. The cause of the world's turning away hath been the divines of the age. They themselves say that when the Qa'im

uttereth a word, the chiefs of the earth, who are the most exalted of creation, shall turn away from it. Yet they themselves have arisen with great presumption. Had they reflected even a little, they would surely have been reminded by the turning away of the chiefs and would not have made claims to knowledge and certitude, nor would they have visited upon the Dawning-Place of the names and attributes, the Goal of all the worlds, that which caused the thunder to lament and the clouds to weep. The glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My grandeur be upon thee and upon all who have been just in the Cause of God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH08200: A mention from Us unto him who hath heard…

He is the Manifest, the Hidden

A mention from Us unto him who hath heard the Call and answered his Lord, the Speaking, the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing. Blessed is the one who hath arisen with strength to serve the Cause, and woe unto every man whom the might of the mighty and the power of princes hath weakened—they who have cast the Book of God behind their backs and have uttered that which hath caused the denizens of the most exalted Paradise to lament. And they who aid the Cause of their Lord at morn and eventide. Beware lest the affairs of men sadden thee. Hearken unto the Call of thy Lord—verily He calleth thee from the precincts of the Prison with a call whereby the hearts of them that have recognized Him have been attracted. Take My Book in My Name, as bidden by Me, and I am verily the Ordainer, the Ancient of Days. By My Word were the heavens raised up, and by My Name was the Throne established upon this glorious, wondrous station. Thus hath the Tongue of the Wronged One spoken while He was in the hands of the heedless. The glory from Us be upon thee and upon every upright servant.

BH08143: In the name of God, the Almighty! The Sun…

In the name of God, the Almighty! The Sun of Truth is risen and manifest, and the Speaker of Sinai is speaking and visible. Blessed are they who have attained unto this most great bounty and supreme joy, and woe unto him who hath turned away from God and denied His signs and disputed His proof. He is assuredly among the most lost in the Book of God, the Lord of all worlds. We convey Our greetings to the friends of God and guide them to the highest horizon. All must arise to serve the Cause with perfect unity—an arising that no disturbance can affect and no wavering can approach. O friends! These are the days of the All-Merciful, and the nightingales of mystic knowledge are warbling upon the branches. Beseech ye God that He may graciously grant you the blessing to arise with complete steadfastness to serve the Cause of the Lord of all beings. He is the Powerful, the Mighty. All created things have testified to His power, and all contingent beings to His sovereignty.

BH09210: In this Day the Blessed Tree of Remembrance speaketh…

He is the Light shining from the Horizon of Revelation!

In this Day the Blessed Tree of Remembrance speaketh forth in the Kingdom of Utterance saying: Well is it with the servant who hath turned his face towards Him, and embraced His truth, and with the

handmaiden who hath hearkened to His Voice and become of the blissful. Verily, she is a champion of the field of true understanding. To this the Tongue of Truth beareth witness from His exalted Station.

O My leaf, blessed art thou for having responded to My call when it was raised in the name of the True One. Thou didst recognize My Revelation when men of renown were immersed in manifest idle fancies. Thou hast verily attained the mercy of thy Lord time and again. Render thanks unto Him and glorify Him with thy Praise. He is, in truth, with His handmaidens and servants who have turned towards Him. The shining glory from the Horizon of My Kingdom be upon thee and upon the one who hath guided thee to My straight path.

BH09354: A mention from the Wronged One to a leaf…

He is the One Who gazeth from His most glorious horizon

A mention from the Wronged One to a leaf who believed in her Lord when all the divines of the earth turned away from Him save whom God, the Lord of all worlds, did will. Blessed is the servant who held fast to God, the Lord of all beings, and blessed is the handmaiden who clung to His luminous hem. How many a servant turned away and denied God, and how many a leaf heard and turned to Him and said: “Here am I, O Thou Goal of the Messengers!” O My leaf! Upon thee be My glory and My remembrance and My loving-kindness and My mercy that hath preceded all who are in the heavens and on earth. Be thou thankful unto thy Lord for this most great favor and say: “Praise be unto Thee, O Beloved of them that have known Thee!”

BH10683: O my God, my Lord and my Hope! Thou…

He is the Compassionate, the All-Bountiful!

O my God, my Lord and my Hope! Thou knowest that the Wronged One loveth to make mention of the son of him who turned towards Thy horizon, who arose to serve Thee, who spoke forth Thy praise, and who led Thy sheep to Thy spring. I beseech Thee, O God of the world and Desire of the nations, to ordain for him the best of what Thou hast sent down in Thy Book. Verily, Thou art the One Who hath power over whatsoever He willeth. There is none other God but Thee, the Hearer, the Answerer.

BH10609: My Most Exalted Pen beareth witness to thy acceptance…

He is the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing.

My Most Exalted Pen beareth witness to thy acceptance and thy turning unto Him and thy arising to serve the Cause when those who were expected to seek His release from God, the Mighty, the Great, turned away from it. Blessed art thou, and blessed is he who hath heard thy mention and found fellowship with thee and perceived from thee the fragrance of My wondrous love. Remind My loved ones and give them the glad-tidings of My gracious remembrance. The Glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My bounty be upon thee and upon him who hath taken the cup of the Choice Wine in the name of his Lord, the All-Informed.

BH10837: Blessed art thou, who in thy tender age hast…

He is the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing!

Blessed art thou, who in thy tender age hast acknowledged the grandeur and majesty of God. Blessed be the mother who nursed thee and fulfilled her duty as was befitting. We beseech God to inscribe for thee from His Most Exalted Pen that which beseemeth His generosity, munificence and grace. Verily, He is the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous. Praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH01055: Praise be befitting unto that Sovereign who was not…

In the Name of our Lord, the Most Holy, the Most Great, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious

Praise be befitting unto that Sovereign who was not deterred from His will by the desires and intentions of kings and subjects. At all times, despite the peoples of the world, He speaks "I am verily the Lord of all days." Exalted is His mention above My mention, and His attributes above My description. And blessings, peace, glory and light be upon His loved ones and chosen ones who have arisen to serve His Cause by night and by day.

And further: one envelope containing sacred, glorious and blessed Tablets was sent last week, and now another envelope previously described in detail is being sent. This evanescent servant beseeches and hopes that the True One, exalted be His glory, will assist that spiritual beloved one to exalt His Word. Verily, He is powerful over all things. At this moment while engaged in this writing, another envelope arrived containing fresh and flowing verses which, like a newly arrived flower, diffused such a fragrance of praise for the Beloved of all worlds that it gave strength to the heart and keenness to sight. However, these have not yet been presented in the Most Holy and Most Exalted Court. God willing, they will attain to the hearing of the Lord of Names this evening or tonight. Now this servant offers a hundred thousand felicitations, and God willing, they will also be accepted.

Likewise, a letter has arrived from the honored friend Mirza M.H. Qabl M.D., upon him be the glory of God, the Self-Sufficient, the Most High. A hundred thousand thanks to the Beloved of all worlds that they are aflame with the fire of divine love, turning to the highest horizon, steadfast in the Cause, and speaking His praise by night and day. I beseech the True One, exalted be His glory, for their success and confirmation. The mention of glory and salutation from this servant to them depends on your grace. Glory, praise and salutations be upon your honor, upon those with you, and upon all who are faithful, from whom the sincere ones perceive the fragrance of faithfulness in the days of God, the Lord of all worlds. And praise be to God, the Lord of the mighty throne.

The servant 24th of the blessed month of Safar 1302

Alas! Alas! O Beloved of my heart! Grief hath seized me at the completion suddenly, to such degree that my sighs and lamentations have ascended. Verily the Pen hath stopped and the Tongue is perplexed. The servant complaineth of his anguish and sorrow unto God, the Lord of all worlds and the God of all who are in the heavens and earths. After the completion of the letter, that which was the cause of infinite sorrows arrived. Glory be to God! How can one, despite claims of faith and recognition and acceptance,

deviate from the straight path, abandon truth and become self-centered? Through the composition of two words or the expression of vain imaginings, pride seizes him such that he becomes deprived of the ocean upon ocean of tenderness and mercy from the Truth, exalted be His glory.

Today verses have filled the world and evidences have encompassed all things. Every child has been and is capable of writing certain words and letters. As once one of the well-known friends said to this evanescent servant that the carpet of inner meanings has been so widely spread and expansion has reached such a degree that every tongue-tied one has become articulate. The Supreme Pen hath spoken concerning the aspects of utterance in such wise that every child's heart hath been touched, and he would mention that his faculties were so filled with the words of Truth, glorified be He, that when we take up the pen we write that which we deemed impossible to express even a letter thereof.

In any case, according to reports a new incident hath occurred and how greatly is this servant grieved. Although outwardly the details are not known, this servant with utmost helplessness beseecheth the Truth, exalted be His glory, that He may not leave us to ourselves for an instant and deprive us not from the lights of the sun of faithfulness. What happens that a person showeth the utmost love and humility and submissiveness and acceptance and helplessness and evanescence and nothingness, and then through one movement or change becomes utterly deprived? This servant and your honor and all friends must pray that perchance doubts and vain imaginings may be truly lifted from among the people and that the friends of Truth may hold fast unto the cord of providence with perfect humility and submissiveness and pure servitude. By the life of our Beloved and your Beloved! This station hath such sweetness that whoever findeth it will not let go, will complete his service and will not abandon faithfulness.

What can I say? While I was observing and deriving pleasure from several original verses of that beloved one, at that moment news arrived and prevented this servant from that with which he was occupied. And this is due to the love which this evanescent one hath had and hath for the divine friends, and he desireth that at all times they may irrigate the lands of existence with the rivers of humility and submissiveness and resignation and contentment and faithfulness, that they may appear with refined, sublime and beautiful leaves and flowers and fruits. Today no harm hath been or is greater for the Cause than discord, and this returneth to these servants, otherwise He is indeed independent of us and of our mention and of what we possess and of what hath been created between the heavens and the earth. Your honor and this servant and those who have held fast to the strong and firm cord of His providence bear witness to this.

There is fear that from these words that beloved of the heart may also become sorrowful. In truth this evanescent one and that beloved one and all friends must pray for each other that perchance the Most Great Protection may preserve all. Again, glory and praise and spirit and mercy be upon you and upon those with you and upon those who hearken to your words concerning the Cause of God, the Exalted, the Mighty.

The servant

BH02618: God testifies that there is none other God but…

He is the One Who rules over the world through His Most Great Name.

God testifies that there is none other God but Him, and He Who has come with the truth is verily the Hidden Secret, the Treasured Mystery, the Most Exalted Word, the Sovereign of Names, and the Light shining from the Supreme Horizon. He cannot be indicated by any indication of the Bayan nor by what was revealed therein from the All-Merciful. God has made all that was revealed from the Kingdom of the Bayan as glad-tidings of Him and as a leaf from the leaves of the gardens of His knowledge. Every mystic has testified to his powerlessness and every learned one to his inability to attain His presence. Blessed is he who has testified to that which God has testified, and woe unto every heedless doubter.

O ʿAziz! We have heard what your tongue has uttered and what your pen has inscribed, and We found the fragrance of your humility, submissiveness and your turning to God, the Lord of the visible and invisible, and the Lord of all worlds. Do not grieve over what has befallen you. Remember your Lord with the myriads of the supreme Paradise. By the life of God! By it are attracted the people of the Kingdom of Names and behind them the hearts of those brought near. You are the one who has attained to recognition and heard the Call when it was raised between earth and heaven. This is from His great bounty, to which My Manifest Book bears witness.

O ʿAziz! The Supreme Pen has in scriptures and tablets informed all of the appearance of the cawers, the heedless ones, and the atheists. Now from certain directions the cawing is raised. The Author of the Bayan commanded all to recognize the Promised Beauty through His own eyes and not to consider anything else as proof of His recognition, for He is known by His own Self and all else are His creation. This statement is specific to this Manifestation, yet the heedless people remain veiled from the Truth and occupied with vain imaginings, appearing like the peoples of former times. We beseech God to grant justice that they may not be deprived of the outpourings of the True Bestower in His days.

Convey My greetings to the friends and give them the glad-tidings of God's infinite favors. Say: Pay no attention to the fly and its buzzing, nor to the crow and its cawing. Soon they shall return to their abode as returned those who wronged in those days. By the life of God! What they possess shall perish and might and power shall remain with God, the Lord of all worlds. The glory shining from the horizon of My loving-kindness be upon you and upon your brothers and upon those who have cast aside vain imaginings, holding fast to My Strong Cord. We have revealed for every name that was in your letter that from which the sincere ones will find the fragrance of God, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting. Verily, we are God's and to Him we shall return.

BH00187: Praise be to God Who sent down the Furqan…

Section 1: "Praise be to God Who sent down…"

He is God, exalted be His glory, the Greatness and the Power

Praise be to God Who sent down the Furqan in the month of Ramadan. Verily it is the light of utterance that hath shone forth from the horizon of God's knowledge, the Lord of all religions. Through it appeared the law of unity and the sign of detachment in the world of possibility. Exalted is He Who revealed it unto the King of the Messengers and the Manifestation of the Ways, through whom the hearts of those who are nigh unto God took flight, and the decree of the Book was established among the believers. The

servant doth offer prayers unto Him—prayers from which the sincere ones inhale the fragrance of servitude, sincerity and faithfulness—and unto His family and companions through whom God established His Cause among His servants and His ordinances among His creation. These are honored servants whom God hath described in His Books, both past and future. Verily, He is the Truth, the Knower of the unseen.

May my spirit be a sacrifice unto your remembrance! The blessed letter which was in truth the key to the gate of joy and gladness arrived and was opened. Blessed is He Who confirmeth His loved ones through the breathings of the pens of His chosen ones. That which thou didst write was presented at the Most Holy and Most Exalted Court. Thou hast spoken with truth and justice. The Wronged One hath heard and answered thee. We beseech God, the Lord of what was and what shall be, to preserve thee and ordain for thee that which He loveth and is pleased with, and to assist His loved ones to hearken unto thy remembrance, thy praise and thy utterance.

O Zein! The glances of loving-kindness have ever been directed towards the friends of that land. Convey greetings from the Wronged One to the remaining souls. We beseech God to adorn all with the ornament of steadfastness, which in one station is reckoned as the first ornament. Verily, He is powerful over all things. God, exalted be His glory, hath loved and continues to love those who are firm and steadfast. His mercy hath preceded His servants and handmaidens, and His grace hath encompassed those who have turned unto Him with radiant faces and have acted according to what was commanded in His perspicuous Book.

Praise be to God, news of Your Eminence hath arrived and continues to arrive. In these days numerous telegrams have reached Beirut specifically announcing the release of the poor ones from the prison of the princes. His Eminence the Name 66 [of God], upon him be all 9 [Glory] most glorious, hath been released. Knowledge is with God. We beseech Him, exalted be He, to protect His loved ones and servants and deliver them from the hosts of vainglory. Verily, He is powerful over all things.

Concerning what thou didst write about Haji Khavar, upon him be 66 9 [Glory of God], and his services in the path of God, it was presented. Praise be to God, they have attained unto that which they intended. As commanded, convey greetings, and likewise from this evanescent servant.

As for what was written concerning the dear son of that noble person, the Name 66 (Allah), the Most Truthful, upon him be from every 9 (Baha) His Most Glorious Baha—a detailed reply was sent to him. If they send something to him, they should give him this glad tidings. Praise be to God, the effulgences of the Sun of Grace concerning him are manifest and evident, requiring no mention now or before.

His brother arrived in these days and attained the presence despite the turmoil in these parts. After imprisonment in the Land of Ta (Tehran), in this land day by day some new event occurs and some new discussion arises. For thirty years or more the servants were forbidden through exhortations and counsels from contention, conflict and corruption. Nevertheless neither government, nation nor people are content, imagining that there is an intent to cause corruption. Every fair-minded person has testified and continues to testify, and every person of insight has acknowledged and continues to acknowledge, that

corrupt matters and reprehensible deeds have been forbidden to such a degree that they are killed but do not kill, they endure but do not inflict, they hear but do not speak.

Yet not one fair-minded person exists before the government to speak a word and inform the authorities. Although even if something were said perhaps no one would listen, if hearing is found then surely by God's grace speech will also be found—the capacity of ears creates utterance and expression. This evanescent servant beseeches and hopes from God, exalted be His glory, that He will aid the rulers and learned ones of the earth to hearken to the blessed word of truth. Verily He is powerful over all things. There is no God but Him, the Mighty, the Beauteous.

As for what was written about Aqa Muhammad-Baqir, upon him be the Glory of God (Baha'u'llah), from the people of Naj mentioning Aqa Muhammad-Ali from the people of Riz—when this detail was submitted He said:

> "O Zayn! We make mention of him who was named Muhammad before Baqir and give him glad tidings of God's grace and favors, and We counsel him to steadfastness and to that which befits the Cause of God, the Lord of the worlds. We send greetings from this station upon him and upon the faces of those who have held fast to the cord of their Lord's grace, the Mighty, the Powerful. And We make mention of him who was mentioned, who was named Muhammad-Ali, that he may rejoice and be of the thankful ones. Blessed is he who has turned to the Supreme Horizon, acknowledged the unity and singleness of God, recognized what was hidden and attained what was mentioned in His perspicuous Book. And We make mention of him who guided to the Path and caused him to hear that for which ears were created to hearken unto. Blessed is every guide, every hearer, every doer, and every one who has arisen to serve the Cause of God, the Lord of the worlds. O Muhammad before Hashim! Remind the people with wisdom and utterance lest the whisperings of Satan prevent them from God, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise."

End quote.

Praise be to God, all three attained. This servant conveys greetings to each one and begs confirmation and seeks success for them from God, exalted be His glory. And concerning what was written about Hasan, upon him be the Glory of God (Baha'u'llah), and his wife, when submitted He said:

> "O Hasan! We have made mention of you and do mention you and We beseech God to ordain for you the good of the hereafter and this world, and to decree for your wife that which benefits her and what He loves for her. Verily He is the Protector of those who do good, male and female. We send greetings from this station upon them both and upon those who have adorned their temples with the ornament of godliness. Verily the Wronged One makes mention of whoever has turned to the Supreme Horizon and loves whoever has loved God, the Lord of the worlds."

End quote.

And furthermore, they wrote that mention had been made of Aqa Muhammad-Mahdi—may the glory of Baha rest upon him—one of the people of Kh-w, and that they had implored divine favor on behalf of certain souls in that land. These matters were laid before His presence; whereupon He said:

He is God—exalted be His glory, grandeur and power!

O Mihdi! Thou hast been mentioned in such wise that the fragrance thereof shall never cease to perfume creation throughout the duration of utterance. We beseech God—exalted be He—to forgive thee, thy parents and thy spouse. Verily, He is the All-Forgiving, the All-Merciful. He heareth and seeth. Verily, He answereth the prayers of all who supplicate Him. He forgiveth whom He willeth through His grace, and ordaineth as He pleaseth. He is the All-Powerful, the Almighty.

We make mention of him who is named Iskandar and counsel him to be trustworthy among all people and to observe that which God hath revealed in His perspicuous Book.

We make mention of Ali-Akbar of Kha and counsel him with that whereby the Cause of God, the Lord of all worlds, may be exalted.

O Muhammad-Hasan! The Wronged One remembereth thee from His prison and counseleth thee to be steadfast in the Cause of God, the Lord of all beings. We beseech Him to aid thee to act in accordance with His commandments, He Who is the Strong, the Ancient of Days.

O Hasan! Hearken unto the call of the Wronged One. He hath testified and doth testify to the oneness of God, exalted be His glory. He hath ever been sanctified above the mention of aught else but Him and exalted above whatsoever hearts and minds can comprehend.

O Ali! The Wronged One maketh mention of thee with that which will draw thee nigh unto God. Hold fast unto the cord of His sure and extended grace.

O Mirza! Have you recognized and turned towards Him? Say: How can I recognize Him Who cannot be known except to the extent decreed? I testify that there is none other God but Him. He created me, sustained me, and taught me that which every veiled learned one hath failed to comprehend.

Praise be to God! May each of these souls who have been mentioned act in accordance with that which will cause the exaltation of His Cause, the glorification of His Word, and the sanctification and detachment of His servants from all that God loveth not.

As to what was written concerning Aqa Mirza Habibullah, upon him be the glory and favors of God, who had sent a letter about those who have set out for the Most Great Goal through the guidance of Aqa Shaykh Muhammad, upon him be the glory and light of God, this matter was presented, as was the petition from Ja'far, upon him be God's grace. His word, may our souls be a sacrifice for Him:

He is God—exalted be His station, might, power, grandeur and majesty!

O beloved! Your mention hath been and continues to be remembered before the Wronged One. Some time ago, a reply was sent to that which thou didst submit. In all cases, We beseech the Self-Sufficing One to aid thee. Ja'far's letter arrived and was presented by this servant. Convey on behalf of the Wronged

One greetings and salutations, and say: O Ja'far! Thy letter was received and that which flowed from thy pen in praise and glorification of the Goal of the world was heard. We beseech God to aid thee to accomplish that which today conduceth to the exaltation of His Word and the refinement of souls.

We have made mention, and continue to make mention, of the friends in that land. All are remembered and inscribed in the Tablet. We counsel all to observe trustworthiness, chastity, sincerity and faithfulness. We beseech God to aid them all to perform good deeds and eschew evil, and likewise to adorn them with the ornament of unity. The world is illumined through unity and concord, and laid waste through discord and dissension. O friends! Know ye the value of these days and with utmost love, fellowship and wisdom, remind the servants, that perchance they may turn to the supreme horizon through the fragrances of utterance and hold fast unto the divine commandments. Peace and glory be upon you and upon those who have guided you, caused you to recognize, and made you to hear.

This servant hath written the aforementioned utterances as commanded, to be sent to his honor Aqa Mirza Habibu'llah, upon him be the Glory of God. They have arisen and girded up their loins to serve. I beseech God, exalted be His glory, to manifest through them that which will cause the Word of Unity to be upraised amongst the believers. Praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

Mention was made of his honor Aqa Siyyid Husayn. When presented before His countenance, He said:

> "Blessed is he and his father. We counsel him to perform deeds purely for God, the Lord of the worlds."

The adornment of the youth of the people of unity hath been and ever shall be obedience to divine laws and the good-pleasure of parents. May his honor Husayn, upon him be the peace of God, be aided. This servant beseecheth God to adorn him with the ornament of His good-pleasure.

To his honor, the cherished friend Aqa Siyyid Muhammad-ʿAli and his son, upon them be the Glory of God, I convey greetings. Praise be to God, they have not been and will not be forgotten.

Section 2: "The sister of him who hath ascended…"

The sister of him who hath ascended to the Supreme Companion, upon him and her be God's forgiveness, mercy and loving-kindness, was mentioned, and this exalted word was revealed from the Source of bounty: We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to forgive her, adorn her with the greatest bounty, and cause her to enter a paradise whose breadth is as the breadth of heaven and earth. Blessed are she and her brother. God's mercy, their Creator and Fashioner, hath preceded them.

Through his honor Aqa Muhammad-Isma'il, upon him be the Glory of God, regarding his brothers—they have attained acceptance. Happy are they and we.

The supplication of his honor Aqa Muhammad, upon him be God's peace and loving-kindness, was read in the presence of His countenance. He said:

> "We have heard that which the Tongue of the Wronged One spoke before thee, and We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to grant thee that which He hath ordained. Verily, He is powerful over all things and worthy to answer."

Praise be to God, they have attained unto that which the friends of God have ever yearned and hoped for. This servant and your honor must beseech God, exalted be His glory, to aid His friends to preserve that which hath been granted. The Cause is mighty; at every moment one must seek divine confirmation. Verily our Lord, the Most Merciful, is the Near One, the Hearer, the Answerer.

Mention was made of His honor Darvish-i-Samad in the presence of His Countenance. He said:

> "We make mention of him from the prison and counsel him with that which will manifest man's station in the realm of possibility. Exalted is the All-Merciful Who created him and taught him utterance as a token of His grace, and He is verily the All-Bountiful, the Generous. O Samad! We have heard thy mention and have mentioned thee with that whereby the sincere will perceive the fragrance of love and affection. We beseech God to enable thee to do that which shall profit thee in this world and the next. He is verily the Forgiving, the Merciful. Baha enjoineth all to eschew desire and biddeth them observe righteousness and piety and that which God hath revealed in His Manifest Book."

And regarding the mention he had made of Aqa Muhammad-Hasan, his uncle, He said:

> "His mention hath been and is before the Wronged One. Praise be to God, they have attained unto that which was recorded and inscribed in the divine Books. He should beseech the True One, exalted be His glory, for that which is the cause of steadfastness and firmness. O Muhammad-Hasan! Say: Glory be unto Thee, O Thou in Whose grasp are the reins of all things! I beseech Thee by Him Who conversed with Thee on Sinai, and by Thy Preserved Tablet, and by the mysteries of Thy Book, to ordain for me that which shall profit me in this world and the next. Verily Thou art the Lord of all beings and the Lord of the Throne on high and of the dust below. There is none other God but Thee, the Almighty, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise."

Let them persevere with this blessed passage. God willing, the closed doors shall be opened and whatsoever is beneficial for them shall appear from the horizon of His Will. Let them act with the utmost wisdom in that land and speak with moderation. "Speak unto all men…" etc., as was previously stated. This servant also conveys greetings to them and seeks their success.

And regarding what was written about a letter received from His honor Aqa Muhammad-Hasan-i-Khayyat, upon him be the Glory of God, praise be to God he is favored with divine grace. Some time ago he wrote a letter to this servant; a detailed reply has been written and God willing will be sent. Likewise in that letter and in a Tablet given to one of the emigrants, expressions of loving-kindness and favor regarding him were recorded and inscribed. We beseech God, exalted be His station, to enable him to attain the blessing of pilgrimage. On behalf of this evanescent one, convey greetings, praise and glorification to every soul who intends to make the journey.

And likewise mention was made of His honor Aqa Mihdi (from the people of Rasht), upon him be the Glory of God. He hath been and is remembered before His Countenance. Praise be to God, he standeth firm in service and uttereth the mention and praise of the Peerless Friend. After presentation He said: "O Mihdi! Upon thee be My peace and My glory. The Wronged One hath heard thy call and remembered thee before and at this moment. Blessed art thou for having fulfilled thy covenant and pledge and cast away idle fancies, turning unto the horizon of certitude. We beseech God, exalted be He, to preserve thee and assist thee and give thee to drink of the choice wine of steadfastness. He is verily the All-Bountiful, the Generous.

"O Muhammad-Qabli-Hasan! We have made mention of thee and of him whom thou didst mention. Convey My glory unto him. We have heard his mention and perceived from it the fragrance of My love, the Mighty, the Wondrous." Convey the greetings and salutations of the Wronged One to all thy friends and relatives. In these days mention of you hath also flowed from the Pen in other places. We beseech God to protect thee and grant thee the good of this world and the next. He is verily powerful over all things.

Another of His autograph letters, adorned with the date of the second of Safar, arrived and was presented before His presence. He said:

> "O Zayn, thy mention is accepted and thy praise approved. We beseech God, exalted be His glory, to aid thee in all conditions in that which is conducive to the honor of His friends and the abasement of His enemies. The people of unity are encompassed and the ungodly encompassing. All Islam must gather together and with the utmost humility and supplication turn unto the Self-Sufficing Lord. They must free their eyes from inflammation with the drops of the water of fairness, purify their hearts and breasts with the Kawthar of trust in God and detachment, and likewise deliver their tongues from the mention of aught else, seeking salvation, nobility and glory from God, exalted be His glory. Perchance they may be delivered from the abasement that hath befallen them and strive during their remaining days to make up for what hath escaped them, exerting mighty efforts."

As for thy mention of His Holiness the Name of God (66), upon him be all Glory (9), multiple letters from him arrived and responses were issued, but this servant hath not yet succeeded in dispatching them. God willing, they will be sent these days. Praise be to God, he is successful in service and engaged in the refinement of souls. I beseech God, exalted be His most great glory, to aid His Holiness at all times, to assist his utterance and strengthen his wisdom. Adherence to wisdom is most necessary. We beseech the Most High to aid us in holding fast to its cord and clinging to its hem.

And as for what thou didst write regarding Aqa Mirza Habibu'llah, upon him be the Glory of God (66, 9) and His favors, that he had sent a letter mentioning the believers, including Muhammad-Sharif and describing his steadfastness and service—this detail was presented before His presence. His words, may our spirits be sacrificed for Him:

In the Name of the Merciful, the Compassionate

O Muhammad-Sharif! The Wronged One hath heard thy call and answered thee from the precincts of His Most Great Prison. We have called all unto God and counseled them to righteousness and piety. Among the people are those who turned away, those who denied, and those who pronounced judgment against Us without any proof from God, the Lord of the worlds. We desired light for them; they desired fire for Us. Thus was the matter decreed. Verily thy Lord is the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. Blessed is the servant who is adorned with the ornament of fairness and speaketh with justice. He is indeed among the people of unity in the Book of God, the Exalted, the Great. Blessed art thou and blessed is he who heard the call and acted according to what was commanded by the Ancient Ordainer. We beseech God to aid thee in His remembrance and praise, and to enable thee to serve His manifest Cause. And We beseech Him to forgive thy father and those for whom thou didst seek forgiveness. Verily He is the Forgiving, the Merciful.

And We make mention of him who was named Muhammad-Sadiq, who desired to detect the fragrance of the Bayan from the garment of God's favor, the Lord of all religions. Blessed is the face that turned, the heart that advanced, and the temple that was adorned with the robe of fairness in this Cause, through which every person of insight hath testified to the unity of God, the Lord of the seen and the unseen, and the Lord of the glorious Throne. We beseech God to make him steadfast in the service of His loved ones and eloquent in His beautiful remembrance.

And likewise a youth named Imam-Ali sought favor. This matter was presented before His presence, and He said:

> "O Ali! Thy mention hath been made. Praise be to God, thou hast attained unto that which most are deprived of. We counsel thee to steadfastness and faithfulness, and We beseech God to grant thee the good of the hereafter and of this world. Verily He hath power over all things."

Concerning what was written about Ali Haydar, mentioned by Nayib Ali Akbar Bey, upon him be the Glory of God, it was presented before His Presence. A wondrous and exalted Tablet was specifically revealed and sent for him—forward it to the honored Bey to be delivered to him. The mention of the honored Bey has been and continues to be before His Presence. The Glory be upon him and upon those who have recognized the oneness and singleness of God. This servant conveys greetings and praise to them and to Ibn-i-Nur, upon them be the Glory of God.

It was mentioned that Aqa Muhammad-Ali, upon him be the Glory of God, returned from Aintab as commanded. The people of Aintab had expressed satisfaction with him. After this was presented, He said: The friends of God should, in whatever place they enter, cause joy to be manifested upon their arrival and sadness upon their departure from that city, that land, that air and its people. O Zayn, if you meet him, mention on behalf of the Wronged One that he acted according to what he was commanded upon his departure from there.

Likewise, mention Abul-Qasim. God willing, may all be assisted to perform goodly deeds and display praiseworthy conduct. This servant also conveys greetings and praise to them and all the friends, and beseeches assistance for all. His Holiness Ismu'llah Al-Asdaq, upon him be the Most Glorious Glory, was mentioned. Well is it with him.

Regarding the inquiry about Huquq, how much should be paid on nineteen mithqals—God's ordinance has been set at nineteen percent. Calculate accordingly and it will become clear what amount applies to nineteen. It was also asked whether, if it exceeds nineteen, it must reach another nineteen or if the excess is also subject to Huquq. Whatever exceeds nineteen is not subject to Huquq until it reaches another nineteen.

As commanded, write to Nun and Jim that wherever divine Huquq remains unpaid, they should collect it and send it to Jinab-i-Amin or Jinab-i-Samandar, upon them be the Glory of God, obtain a receipt, and report back so that action may be taken according to His will. In these days, some in various regions have fallen into great hardship, including the families of the prisoners who are both in debt and face delays in their daily sustenance. May God assist all to pay the Huquq. Since affairs are dependent upon outward means, this command has come from the All-Wise Commander, that those who act according to what they were commanded in the Book may benefit from it. Glory, praise and exaltation be upon you and upon God's sincere servants, and praise be to God, the Lord of the Worlds.

The servant 9th of Rabi'ul-Avval 1302

Regarding sending someone for the matter of the garden, God willing, what was written before will be carried out. If it be from another land, there is no harm in it.

BH01129: Praise be unto that Most Desired One, whom neither…

In the name of our Lord, the Most Holy, the Most Great, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious

Praise be unto that Most Desired One, whom neither the doubts of the learned, nor the insinuations of the turbaned ones, nor the might of the world, nor the oppression of nations could prevent from His purpose or deter from His Will. At a time when the arrows of the enemies were flying like rain from all directions, the Tongue of Grandeur was speaking the blessed words "There is none other God but He, the One with power over what is and what has been." How many were the transgressors and the deniers who arose to harm Him and issued decrees for the shedding of His most pure blood. Nevertheless, the ocean of grace surged with utmost waves, and the sun of loving-kindness shone with perfect radiance and brilliance. His mercy has preceded all, His favor encompasses all, His Cause prevails. Exalted be His Cause, glorified His grandeur, and mighty His sovereignty. There is none other God but Him.

Glory be unto Thee, O Thou through Whose Name the heavenly table was sent down, the bounty was made manifest, mercy preceded all, and the rains of utterance poured forth from the heaven of knowledge upon all who dwell in the realm of possibility. I beseech Thee by the mysteries deposited within Thy Most Great Name, and by the lights of Thy countenance, O Lord of eternity and Sovereign of nations, to assist Thy loved ones to remember and praise Thee, and to act in accordance with what befits Thy days. Then protect them, O my God, from the influences of the oppressors and the might of the transgressors who cast aside Thy laws, clinging to their own desires when the Dawning-Place of Thy Revelation appeared.

O Lord! Thou seest Thy servant Nabil, the traveler, in the hands of the tyrannical among Thy servants. I beseech Thee, O God of Names and Creator of heaven, to assist him in all conditions to serve Thee, to

make him a champion of Thy Cause, and steadfast in carrying out what Thou hast willed through Thy sovereignty. There is none other God but Thee, the Mighty, the Exalted, the Great.

Thereafter, the letters of that spiritual beloved arrived one after another, each bearing witness to that beloved's love, acceptance, steadfastness and service, and from every letter thereof wafted the fragrance of humility, such that the people of the realm of wisdom perceived it and received their portion. Verily, He does not allow the reward of the doers of good to be lost. By the life of our Beloved and your Beloved, every word that has flowed from the pen of that steadfast, firmly-rooted, and upright friend has testified and continues to testify. And one letter from that spiritual beloved arrived in these days; after its reading and review, it was taken to the presence of the Lord of Creation, and after permission was granted, it was presented before His face. This is what the Tongue of Grandeur spoke, exalted be His utterance and mighty His station:

He is the Helper, the All-Knowing

O Nabil, O Traveller! That which hath befallen thee is witnessed by the Lord of the world, and that which hath proceeded from thee hath been adorned with the ornament of acceptance, inasmuch as His mercy hath encompassed all things and the sun of His grace hath shone forth from the horizon of the heaven of His bounty, manifest and resplendent. For thee there is a station with thy Lord—be thou assured and be of them that render thanks. Be not grieved by any matter. Thou art under the gaze of the True One and art related unto Him. By My life! God hath created the earth and its treasures for thee and for them that are like thee. Grieve not for that which hath passed.

The ornaments of the world have ever been, and shall continue to be, worthy only of heedless and ornate souls. By the Sun of grace which shineth from the most exalted horizon of the world, resplendent and manifest: there are treasures laid up for thee with God which no thief can reach and no oppressor can find. Verily thy Lord is He Who informeth, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. God willing, thou shalt be assisted to accomplish that which We commanded thee after thy request in Our presence. The glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My bounty be upon thee and upon them that are with thee and upon them that love thee for the sake of God, the Lord of the worlds.

Praise and gratitude be unto Him for having mentioned you, and made you know Him, and taught you His straight and manifest path. This servant beseecheth God—exalted be His glory—to aid that beloved one in all conditions. He verily hath power over whatsoever He willeth. From the last two letters, immeasurable grief was perceived. After presenting them again, they said: O servant in attendance, write to his honor the Traveller, upon him be My glory: God's bounty hath been and shall ever be with you. With the utmost joy and fragrance, and with trust and assurance, hold fast unto that which hath been commanded. Verily thy Lord loveth thee and is with thee in all conditions. Glory be upon thee and upon thy children and upon them that are with thee and have believed in God, the Lord of the worlds.

Yet again when present in the Most Holy Court, mention of you was repeatedly made by the tongue of the Lord of Names, and the sun of bounty and favors rose resplendent and manifest. I beseech God to cause that beloved one to attain unto all that beseemeth His grace and generosity. Verily He is the Protector of whosoever loveth Him and the Helper of whosoever turneth unto Him, and He is the

Concealer, the Forgiver, the All-Bountiful, the Compassionate, the Generous. Unto his honor the son, upon him be the glory of God and His bounty, I convey greetings and salutations. God willing, may he be assisted to serve his Lord and to remain steadfast in His Cause. The world shall soon perish and pass away, and that which endureth and lasteth is the bounty of God—exalted be His glory—towards His loved ones, which hath been and shall ever be. Blessed is he who hath attained unto His bounties in His days and hath drunk the choice wine of reunion from the hands of His bestowal. Glory and praise and exaltation be upon you and upon them that are with you and upon those who have heard and answered their Lord, the Speaking One, the Trustworthy. And praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH00787: Praise be to God Who hath enabled us…

He is God, exalted be His glory, the Most Great!

Praise be to God Who hath enabled us to acknowledge His oneness and singleness, guided us to His path, blessed us with His bounties, sent down unto His Prophets His Books and Scriptures, and caused them to speak that He is the First and the Last, the Manifest and the Hidden. And peace and blessings be upon His Mystery and the Mystery of His Mystery and His Mystery veiled by His Mystery and His Mystery adorned by His Mystery, Whom He hath established as the station of His Manifestation in the world and caused to speak that which attracted the peoples who were illumined by the light of unity and attained the recognition of God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy. And upon His family and companions through whom the All-Merciful was revealed unto all creation and through whom the springtime of divine knowledge appeared amongst religions—upon them be the blessings of God, His peace, His mercy and His favors.

Thereafter, may my spirit be a sacrifice for your honor. The servant hath been blessed with your letter and found therein the fragrance of springtime. We beseech God to make it manifest in the most evident manner and to transform the thirst and heat of the earth through a complete, generous, manifest and all-encompassing watering, that thereby the countenance of the world, its beasts and its birds may be gladdened.

O God of Names and Creator of Heaven! Though we are unworthy of the wonders of Thy generosity and bounty, and undeserving of Thy mercy and favors, I beseech Thee by Thy Most Beautiful Names and Thy Most Exalted Attributes, and by the cry of those who yearn for Thee in the wilderness of separation, and by the call of Thy lovers in all regions, to have mercy upon the birds of the wilderness and desert, and the beasts of the hills and mountains. Verily, Thou art the Self-Sufficing, the Most High. There is none other God but Thee, the All-Forgiving, the Most Generous.

When I was blessed to read it, I presented it before His Presence. He—may my spirit be a sacrifice unto Him—said:

> “O Muhammad Mustafa, upon thee be My peace! This is the day wherein is heard from the tongues of all things: ‘Help us! Help us! O Lord of Days and Master of mankind!’ We beseech Him, exalted be He, to send down from the heaven of His bounty upon His servants that which befitteth His grace. Verily, He is powerful over all things and worthy to answer prayers. Peace be upon thee and upon those who are with thee.”

End.

As for what your honor mentioned regarding sending one letter and withholding the other, after presenting this He—may my spirit be a sacrifice unto Him—said:

> "Well hast thou done. We testify that thou hast acted with wisdom, and We counsel thee to do so in all circumstances."

And We make mention of the guest—We have read her letter. We beseech God to preserve her and assist her in that which He loveth and is pleased with.

And We make mention of Abdul-Wahhab and counsel him to steadfastness and to that which hath been commanded in the Book of God, the Lord of the worlds.

And We make mention of Shukrullah and those with him who have acknowledged the oneness and singleness of God. We send greetings upon him and them from this station, and We beseech God, exalted be He, to ordain for them that which will exalt their names among His servants and their remembrance in His lands, and to record for them the reward of what they have intended in His path. Verily, He is the All-Forgiving, the Most Merciful.

And We make mention of Ali and his brothers from whom We found the fragrance of return unto God and their sincerity toward Him. We beseech Him, exalted be He, to grant them success and draw them nigh unto Him, to ordain for them the good of this world and the next, and to assist them in steadfastness. Verily, He is the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous. There is none other God but He, the Most High, the Most Great.

And We make mention of Yusuf and counsel him to goodly words, goodly deeds, and virtues through which the station of man becometh manifest in creation. O Yusuf! We have heard thy call and make mention of thee, and We beseech Him, exalted be He, to grant thee success and ordain for thee that which will gladden thy heart. Verily, He is the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous.

O Muhammad Mustafa! Upon thee be My salutation! We have made mention of those whom thou didst mention in the letter thou didst send to this Servant who is present before Me. We desired to make mention of the physician, upon whom be My salutation, who sent various books. We have, as a matter of wisdom, withheld Our Pen from replying to him. The days do not warrant the sending of letters to that place. Vain imaginings have seized most of mankind. By God! They are in a wondrous sleep. We desired mercy and rest for them, yet they desired torment for Us. I make complaint of My grief and sorrow unto God, the Lord of all beings.

O physician! Upon thee be My salutation! We have read thy letters and understood their contents, and We have read the letter of My Afnan wherein mention was made of thee. In days such as these, We have abandoned speech and chosen silence, lest there appear that which would raise the clamor of every remote ignorant one. We make mention of God by night and by day, while the people fabricate against Us that which their desires command them. Know ye that they are among the heedless. We beseech God to aid His servants unto pure sincerity and unto acting in accordance with what hath been sent down in

My perspicuous Book. They have said that which hath caused the dwellers of the realm of fidelity to lament and the people of this noble station to cry out. We send Our greetings to My loved ones and counsel them with that which will exalt their stations, and We beseech God to assist them in doing good. Verily, He is the Hearer, the Answerer.

We make mention of Abdullah. His letter was previously presented and read by the Servant who is present. We have made favorable mention of him. We beseech God, the Lord of the Throne and earth, to make him speak His praise, to be enkindled with His love, and to hold fast unto that which beseemeth the people of divine unity in these days wherein the smoke of hatred hath risen from all sides and the righteous are in great distress. The wicked have made the great city—and by this We mean in this instance Alexandria—a target for their cannons, whereat eyes have shed tears, hearts have been troubled, the sacred valley hath lamented, and the Hijaz hath cried out. O Abdullah! It behooveth thee and every believer who hath believed in God and His signs to beseech your Lord, the All-Merciful, by night and by day, that He may bring forth that which hath been stored away and raise up the people of divine unity through His bounty, generosity and favor, preserve them from the evil of His enemies, and grant them victory from His presence. He is the All-Powerful, the Strong, the Triumphant, the Almighty.

O Abdullah! Thy letter was previously presented. We read it, made mention of thee, and prayed to God for thee. We beseech God, exalted be He, to aid thee to be steadfast and to that from which the believers perceive the fragrance of thy sincerity unto God, the Lord of the worlds. We send Our greetings unto thee and thy son, and We beseech God to send down upon you both a blessing from His presence. Verily, He is the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous. As for what thou didst write concerning inheritance, We beseech Him to assist thee in all good and every righteous deed. Verily, He doeth what He willeth and ordaineth what He pleaseth, and He is the Mighty, the Wise. The End.

Praised be God that in every moment the Pen of loving-kindness, bounty, counsel, admonition, wisdom and benefit is in motion. This evanescent one begs of his Lord, the Eternal God, the Everlasting One, Who sent down the Seven Verses unto His Beloved, to protect His loved ones and His party, and to aid them to act in such wise as would immortalize their remembrance through His grace and favors. Verily, He is the Generous, the Bountiful.

I convey my greetings to my beloved, his honor the Physician, upon him be 96 [Baha'u'llah] and His blessings, my remembrance and salutations. I beseech God, the Lord of earth and heaven, to assist his honor to achieve that from which every person of discernment would perceive the fragrance of service to the Cause in that beloved and praiseworthy station.

I send greetings to the honored friend, Jinab-i-Aqa Mirza ʿAbdu'llah, and I pray for his health, well-being and service. I send greetings to the Leaf [Mihman] and to her guest, Jinab-i-Shukru'llah, and I beseech God to assist him to remember and praise Him, and to draw him near unto Him. Verily, He is the Hearing, the Responding One.

I send greetings to the believers among the people of certitude. Praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

May peace, radiating, manifest and shining forth from the horizon of the heart, be upon you, upon the pupils of eyes, upon your family, upon those who are with you, and upon God's righteous servants.

The servant 28 Rabi'u'l-Avval 1302

BH11165: O Lord of Hosts and God of all existence!…

In the Name of our Most Holy, Most Great, Most Exalted, Most Glorious Lord!

O Lord of Hosts and God of all existence! I beseech Thee by the bearers of Thy throne and by the loftiness of the heaven of Thy loving-kindness, that Thou mayest send down from the clouds of Thy grace a blessing upon Thy loved ones. In Zion hath Thy call been raised, and in Jerusalem hath Thy throne been established. I implore Thee to assist the heedless to recognize the Dawning-Place of Thy Revelation and the Dayspring of Thy unity….

BH02365: Praise be to God, the Eternal, the Everlasting…

He is God, exalted be His glory, the Greatness and Power

Praise be to God, the Eternal, the Everlasting, the Single, the One, the Endless, the Self-Subsisting. He hath taken no partner in His dominion. He is the Truth, there is no God but Him. He doeth what He willeth and ordaineth what He pleaseth. And peace and blessings be upon His Beloved, His Chosen One, His Manifestation and His Appearance among His servants and creation, through Whom was revealed the decree of the "B" and "E" and every hidden command and treasured secret, and upon His family and companions who arose to aid Him and strove in God with true striving until the verses were spread throughout the lands.

And then, may my spirit be a sacrifice for your remembrance, O beloved of my heart! The mention of the believer in God and the one assured of His signs, who became known as "the imprisoned one" among the friends, hath been left out. This hath caused me such grief that neither pen nor tongue can describe. The servant beseecheth his Lord to forgive his great sins and mighty transgressions, and seeketh pardon from the Lord, from your presence, and from him. Verily this evanescent one mentioned him before the Face when your letter arrived containing his mention and writing. He—may my spirit be his sacrifice—said that he should recite this prayer:

He is the Powerful over all things through His word "Be" and it is!

Glory be to Thee, O Lord of all beings and Educator of all created things! I beseech Thee by Thy chosen ones and Thy loved ones, and by those who bear the throne of Thy grandeur and whom Thou hast made the repositories of Thy mysteries, the treasuries of Thy knowledge, the dawning-places of Thy revelation, the daysprings of Thy guidance among Thy creatures, and the manifestations of Thy signs in Thy dominion, to ordain for me through Thy Most Exalted Pen that which shall profit me in the next world and in this. O my Lord! I am the sick one who hath turned toward the ocean of Thy healing, the ignorant one who hath hastened to the sun of Thy knowledge, and the needy one who hath set his face toward the sea of Thy riches. I beseech Thee by the Manifestations of Thy Self and the hidden gifts of Thy bounty to send down for me that which is best for me. I am the ignorant one and Thou art the Knower of my heart. Thou knowest what is within me while I know not what is with Thee. There is no God but Thee, the Powerful, the Ordainer, the Forgiving, the Merciful.

The Lord hath commanded me to write to your honor that you should send in full what was sent to you, and this prayer which is now being sent to your honor. We beseech Him, exalted be He, to grant your honor the good of this world and the next, though verily He, glorified and exalted be He, had already answered before it occurred to my mind or yours. Then the servant presenteth expressions of sincere submission, humility and lowliness before the presence of the honored Afnan and the two luminaries—upon them be the peace of God, the Lord of all names and Creator of heaven. And I send greetings upon your honor and upon the apples of the eyes and upon the brothers there and upon your family and those who love you, and the mercy of God and His blessings.

The servant 1 Rabi'u'th-Thani 1302

BH00121: The one God knows that heart, pen and tongue…

Section 1: "The one God knows that heart, pen…"

In the Name of our Most Holy, Most Great, Most Exalted, Most Glorious Lord

The one God knows that heart, pen and tongue have ever cherished the mention of the friends of God, especially those beloved ones whose remembrance has been deposited in the heart. The multiplicity of affairs and the exigencies of the days have caused that I trouble that loved one less frequently, yet whatsoever was previously mentioned was presented before the Throne and an answer was sent.

Concerning what you wrote about the honored beloved, His Holiness Nabil of Qa'in, upon him be the Glory of God the Most Glorious—wherever he may be, may God be his helper. We hope he will ever gaze upon this blessed verse which was revealed in his Tablet. His blessed and exalted Word: "It behoveth thee to speak forth today that which will set ablaze the hearts and cause the bodies of those who have turned towards God to soar." And in another place His exalted Word: "Be thou like an artery pulsating in the body of creation, that through the heat generated by this motion there may appear that which will quicken the hearts of the hesitant." And in yet another place His glorified and mighty Word: "Be thou a promulgator of God's Cause with an utterance which will cause fire to burn in the trees and will make them proclaim: 'There is no God but Him, the Mighty, the Self-Subsisting."' And in one place, concerning the conditions of the people of Baha who arise to serve the Cause, He says, His mighty and glorious Word: "They must not look at what they possess, but at what God possesseth. They must not be attracted by what benefiteth themselves, but by that which will cause God's Cause to be exalted."

As to the second matter, concerning what you wrote about Haji Khalil, upon him be the Glory of God and His favors—permission for his journey was previously sent. And concerning what they said about submitting the mentioned sum with the utmost joy and fragrance—excellent is what he hath done for God, our Lord and the Lord of the worlds. In truth, this matter was among his blessings, that immediately upon its mention it was adorned with the ornament of acceptance. Well is it with him! As for his nephew, permission for his journey was previously bestowed and was not contingent upon a second mention—the sun of permission rose with perfect clarity. These matters were again presented before the Presence. This utterance was revealed from the Kingdom of the All-Merciful, His Word, exalted be His grandeur:

> "O Samandar! Upon thee be My Glory! Convey My greetings to Khalil, upon him be My Glory, and gladden him with the lights of the Sun of favor of the Lord of all beings. Blessed is he and blessed is he who hath turned to the All-Informed One."

Likewise was Karim mentioned in the Most Holy Court, and from the Speaker of Sinai the word of permission appeared and shone forth. Give them both glad tidings from Me and remind them of My verses.

The third matter was presented before the Countenance. This is what was revealed in response:

> "O Samandar! Convey greetings from the Wronged One to the honorable consort of the late Khan, upon them both be the Glory of God. Their services in the path of God have not been and will never be forgotten from view, and have been recorded by the Most Exalted Pen in the Most Sublime Book. God willing, may they attain to that wherefrom the fragrance of divine good-pleasure shall be eternally wafted throughout the kingdom of earth and heaven. What they sent arrived—He with Whom is God's Book, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy, beareth witness to this."

End. This servant conveys greetings and salutations to that leaf, upon her be the Glory of God and His favors. May God grant them success and confirmation.

And as to what was written concerning the branch, it is most clear that the branch follows the root. When the root is reached, surely the branch is reached as well. Perfect grace from the Most Exalted Horizon hath been manifested toward that leaf. Some time ago, a Most Holy, Most Exalted Tablet was specifically revealed and sent to her. God willing, may she be counted among those whose faces the whisperings of the men and women who join partners with God cannot prevent from the Most Exalted, Most Wondrous Horizon.

And concerning what you wrote about A.B., all that that beloved one hath done is most excellent in the view of this servant. God willing, perhaps it may be the cause of his awakening. I beseech and implore God, exalted be His glory, to aid him in abandoning that with which he hath been afflicted. Verily our Lord is the All-Powerful, the Almighty. Perhaps after abandonment a new spirit may be breathed, for the Sun of Grace shineth and gleameth in such wise that one cannot despair of any matter or from any direction. Exalted be His grace, magnificent His bounty, and all-embracing His mercy.

And concerning what you wrote about Aqa ʿAli, upon him be 966 [Baha'u'llah], son of His Holiness Haji Nasir who, as God beareth witness, was martyred in His path—this was presented before His countenance, and one Most Holy, Most Exalted Tablet was specifically revealed and sent for him. Deliver it unto him. Verily, He is with whosoever is with Him. The station of His Holiness Nasir, upon him be the Most Glorious Glory of God, is great in the sight of God. Blessed be he! Again blessed be he! Again blessed be he!

Mention was also made in the Most Holy, Most Exalted presence of his brother, Aqa Fadlu'llah, upon him be the Glory of God. This is what was revealed for him from the heaven of the will of our Lord, the All-Bountiful. His word, exalted be His glory:

He is the Truth, the Knower of the Unseen

O Fadlu'llah! Verily grace hath encompassed you. His favor hath been bestowed and His mercy hath preceded. Verily your Lord, the All-Merciful, is the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous. His Holiness Nasir, upon him be the Glory of God, was imprisoned for God's sake and ascended in the path of God. He is mentioned before the Wronged One among the martyrs. I swear by the Luminary shining from the horizon of the Prison that he was given that which all who are on earth are powerless to reckon. Blessed is he! Blessed is he! He is among those whom the doubts of the divines, the might of princes, and the clamor of the ignorant could not prevent from the Lord of Names. He abandoned extinction and sought immortality. The various transient colors did not keep him back from the Dawning-Place of the Light of Oneness. Ye must all walk in his footsteps. Give thanks to God, exalted be His glory, that ye are of him and related to him. His station with God is most great. The Glory be upon thee.

We have heard before Our Throne your communication regarding the handmaiden and consort of the departed Abdul-Hamid, upon him be the Glory of God. We have not until now given permission to property owners to sell. However, since that leaf is saddened by this matter and is concerned about the encroachments upon that property, in this case its sale is necessary, for We desire that leaf to be free and unburdened, occupied at all times with the remembrance of the Creator of existence. Earthly possessions are transient, their owner transient, their possession transient—but the grace of God endures, His favors endure, His remembrance endures, His generosity endures, His verses endure, His evidences endure. Blessed is the one whom transient affairs do not hinder.

However, matters must be arranged such that no ill-feelings arise with others, as this is closer to righteousness and piety. If Sa'd is, God willing, truly sa'd (fortunate), he will not be content with that which opposes justice, and even if he be at the level of Mercury, he is still with Sa'd. We beseech God to grant him success and not deprive him from the ocean of His knowledge. Convey My greetings to that leaf and say: Be not saddened by such matters. What is befitting and worthy today, adorned with the ornament of permanence, is the remembrance that hath been revealed from God. Praise be to God that thou hast attained thereunto. And regarding her desire to attain Our presence, give her glad tidings of her Lord's favor. We have made the word to take the place of the deed, and have accepted it from her as a bounty from Us. Verily thy Lord is the All-Bountiful.

After what transpired in the Land of Ta, certain matters have arisen in this land as well, and in previous years that which was revealed specifically for this land became known to some of the friends. In some Tablets He says, exalted be His glory: "The outer is calm while the inner is turbulent." For this reason permission is now withheld, but through His boundless grace this intention has been accepted even before its execution. Well is it with her.

And concerning that which you inscribed regarding His Honor Aqa Hasan-ʿAli—upon him be the glory of God—this was submitted to the Most Sanctified and Inaccessible Court. This is what hath been revealed for him as a bounty from Our Lord, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. Thus saith He, exalted be His glory:

He is the All-Seeing, the All-Knowing

Mention is made of the Wronged One concerning him who hath turned his face toward the Divine Countenance and heard the call of God, the Overshadowing, the Self-Subsisting, and hath attained unto His recognition, whilst the inhabitants of earth have remained heedless of Him, save those whom God, the Sovereign of sovereigns, hath willed. We have heard thy mention and have made mention of thee, and in this hour have We revealed for thee that whereby hearts are dilated. We beseech God that He may confirm thee in steadfastness upon His command and ordain for thee that which He hath ordained for His chosen ones. Verily He is the Overshadowing Lord over all that was and shall be. Give thanks unto God for that He hath enabled thee to turn toward Him, and hath revealed for thee that from which honored servants shall inhale the fragrance of the robe. We exhort thee to steadfastness and to that whereby the Cause of God, the Lord of Hosts, is exalted. Glory be upon thee and upon those who have held fast to the cord of the Cause, detached from idle fancies and vain imaginings. End.

And this is what hath descended from the heaven of bounty for His Honor's brother, who was named by the name of the Desired One. Thus saith He, glorified and mighty:

He is the Dayspring from the horizon of the heaven of Manifestation

O Husayn-ʿAli! Thy name is most beloved, and indicative of thy path. This is a name at which the joints of the ungodly tremble and the hearts of the transgressors are troubled. Through this name hath the standard of unity been raised, and by it hath the banner of oneness been hoisted to the most exalted station. Thy mention hath been made, and these verses revealed as a token of grace, that thy heart may rejoice thereby and thine eyes be solaced. Hearken unto the Voice of the Wronged One. Hold fast unto that which is the cause of everlasting salvation and the source of perpetual bounty. The vicissitudes and changes of the world are two most mighty proofs of its transitoriness. We beseech God to protect thee and aid thee in that which will exalt His Word. The cause and means of exaltation are goodly deeds and praiseworthy character. He, exalted be His glory, hath been and will ever be self-sufficient. He hath neither desired nor doth He desire dominion, riches, sovereignty or realm. One deed performed for God's sake is better than all the wealth of the world. Know thou this and be of them that are steadfast.

Say: O my God! Praise be to Thee for having enabled me to recognize Thee. I beseech Thee by the light of Thy countenance, the fire of Thy Cause, the mysteries of Thy Book, and the pearls of the ocean of Thy knowledge, to aid me in that which Thou lovest and art pleased with. There is no God but Thee, the Most High, the Most Exalted, the Lord of the Throne on high and of earth below.

Praise be to God! Both have drunk from the cup of bounty and received their full portion from the ocean of God's remembrance. God willing, they shall in all conditions hold fast unto the Self-Sufficing Lord. Their mention was also made before in the Most Holy Court.

Concerning the mention of Aqa Mulla Yusuf-ʿAli, upon him be the Glory of God, which was made, it was presented before the Most Holy and Most Exalted Court. This is what was revealed for him from the heaven of bounty and favor. His word, exalted be His glory and mighty His utterance:

He is the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing!

O Yusuf! Reflect upon the days when one named Joseph was imprisoned, and likewise when he was cast into the well. Consider also Abraham, the Friend of God, and the dedication of the Sacrifice at the place of offering. Behold what befell the Spirit of God, and observe attentively. Likewise consider the Seal of the Prophets, may the spirit of all else but Him be sacrificed for His sake, and the Herald, the Point of the Bayan, may the spirit of all in the Kingdom be sacrificed for His sake, and what befell Him is not remote. Most have heard and some have witnessed that which came to pass upon the Point and the company of the Prophets and Messengers.

It hath been the cause of the exaltation of God's Word, the promotion of His Cause and its diffusion. Every person of insight beareth witness that the loss hath been with the oppressors, and the profit with those holy and pure souls. Reflect upon the Twin Lights, namely the two martyrs, and Kazim. By the life of God! None hath been or is capable of reckoning the profit of their trading in God's path. To this testify honored servants who have been given insight from God, the Lord of what was and what will be. Reflect upon one named Mihdi and those who were with him. Did that which befell them in God's path cause abasement and loss, or was it the cause of the exaltation of the Word, the elevation of stations, and true profit?

The days of every soul shall pass away and come to an end. Blessed are they whom these fleeting days have not debarred from the everlasting Kingdom. Know thou with absolute certitude that thy imprisonment in God's path hath been the cause of thy freedom and the exaltation of thy station with God. Account not this supreme bounty as small. By the life of God! It is most great and glorious. Be on thy guard, for the devils are seen lying in wait. Say:

Glorified art Thou, O my God! I beseech Thee by Thy grace through which the gates of knowledge were opened to all who dwell in the realm of possibility, and the breezes of Thy bounty wafted, and the rivers of Thy mercy flowed, to protect me from the mischief of Thine enemies who plot against Thy Cause and lead Thy servants astray. Thou, verily, art powerful to do what Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the Mighty, the Omnipotent.

Thou didst desire to attain Our presence, but in these days it is not permitted, for the whisperings of the transgressors and deniers have to some degree spread to these regions. We beseech God to aid thee in His remembrance and praise and in service to His firm and wise Cause. The servant in attendance here hath conveyed that wherewith thou didst call upon God, the Lord of the worlds. Blessed is the servant whose call hath been heard and for whom the verses of God, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed, have been sent down. Hold fast unto goodness and cleave to the hem of righteousness, as bidden by God, the Lord of all men. He, verily, is the Commander, the Mighty, the All-Praised.

Mention thou the loved ones of that land on behalf of the Wronged One and convey His greetings. In these days all are remembered before His countenance, for His Trustee, upon him be My glory, hath mentioned the loved ones of God in his letters, especially Afnan and His Honor A. and H., upon them be My glory and loving-kindness. Blessed are they whose remembrances, names and petitions have been presented before His countenance. Although the fruits of these deeds remain hidden due to the land's unpreparedness, all are preserved in God's treasury. He will soon reveal them in truth. He, verily, is the Just, the Wise. Not a single letter's reward has been or will be lost.

Section 2: "Thou didst mention His Honor Siyyid Hashim. We..."

Thou didst mention His Honor Siyyid Hashim. We make mention of him and those who have believed in God, the Single One, the All-Informed. Blessed is the one whose strength was not shaken by the allusions of the divines and the doubts of the theologians. They arose and proclaimed:

> "God is our Lord and the Lord of all who are in the heavens and on earth."

We beseech God to sanctify the eyes of His servants from the blindness of self and desire, that they may behold the effulgences of the Sun of Truth.

Moses came and gave the people glad tidings of His manifestation, yet when Christ appeared, all turned away. The Jewish divines who for years were occupied in their temples with the praise and glorification of the Lord of Names, and were likewise awaiting the days of His appearance, all arose in rejection and protest, to such extent that the hand of mercy bore Him to heaven. Today the people of the earth must ponder upon the previous Manifestations—what caused all the Prophets, Messengers, sincere ones and near ones to suffer at the hands of enemies. The Cause of the Qa'im—may our souls be a sacrifice for Him—was greater than all, and His tribulations more severe, for it was foretold that the most exalted among creation would flee from His word. Yet none became aware or understood the purpose.

O Hashim! By the mighty Name of God, rend asunder the veils of allusions and the coverings of doubts—a rending whose sound the denizens of the Kingdom will hear. This Wronged One speaks for the sake of God: though most princes and divines have been and are in opposition, this Prisoner has arisen to manifest God's Cause and to reveal that which He was commanded, and continues to this day with His pen alone to stand before the world and all peoples, speaking that which He was bidden and will continue to speak. The might of the rejectors and the clamor of the deniers have not and will not deter Him. Know thou the station of these days and arise to make up for what hath escaped thee. Say:

Glorified art Thou, O my God and the God of all in the world! I testify that I was heedless of the wonders of Thy remembrance and the mysteries Thou hast manifested in Thy days, in such wise that mine ears attained not unto the shrill voice of Thy Most Exalted Pen, and mine eyes beheld not the effulgences of the lights of Thine All-Glorious Horizon, until these days arrived wherein my heart, my sight, and my hearing were stirred with longing to hearken unto Thy most exalted Word, O Lord of all beings! Now dost Thou see me turning unto Thee, hoping for the wonders of Thy bounty and favors. I beseech Thee not to disappoint me from the ocean of Thy knowledge. Verily, Thou art the Generous, the Bountiful.

We make mention in this station of him who was named Ali-Akbar, who hath believed in God, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting. Blessed art thou and those who have acknowledged that which the Tongue of Grandeur hath spoken—that there is none other God but Him, the Single, the One, the Mighty, the Loving. We have mentioned thee out of Our grace, and We mention thee out of Our loving-kindness. Give thanks unto thy Lord, the King of Kings. Convey My greetings unto the faces of My loved ones there and give them the glad-tidings of My mercy and My grace, for I am verily the All-Bountiful, the Protector of what was and what shall be. That land hath been named Paran in the presence of the Desired One. Blessed is it and blessed is he whose letter hath come before Us in these days. We shall soon answer him and his father and those who have believed in God, the Lord of existence.

O Joseph! Give thanks to the Beloved of the world Who hath mentioned thee, and likewise the souls mentioned in the letter. We make mention of thy father and thy brother. We seek forgiveness for them both and We beseech God to forgive them and to ordain for them what He hath ordained for His devoted servants. We counsel them to be steadfast in this mighty Cause. Praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds. End.

Praise be to God! Upon each of the souls mentioned the rain of mercy hath descended—a rain whose flow shall never cease, for it hath descended from the heaven of God's grace. O beloved of my heart! On behalf of this ephemeral one, convey greetings and salutations to his honor Mulla Yusuf-ʿAli, upon him be 95 [Baha'u'llah]. It is incumbent upon all to remember and respect those who have suffered tribulations in the path of God, who have heard the taunts of the heedless, who have been imprisoned, and who have witnessed signs of wrath and anger from hostile faces. Even if some of them committed unseemly acts in prison, one should seek forgiveness for them, for in times of tribulation and hardship some cannot maintain their normal state—errors inevitably occur. However, verily our Lord is the Forgiving, the Generous, and He is the Pardoner, the Concealer, the Compassionate, the Kind, the Merciful.

The servant beseecheth his Lord to protect all through His bounty, mercy and loving-kindness. Verily, He is the Most Merciful of the merciful ones and the Most Generous of the generous ones.

And regarding the mention of his honor Aqa Mirza Mihdi and his honor Mashhadi Ali, upon them be the glory of God, it was presented before the Face. This is what was revealed for them from the heaven of our Lord's will, the All-Informed. His words, exalted be His majesty and mighty be His proof:

He is the All-Knowing Speaker

O Mihdi! Remember Me amongst My servants. We have remembered thee before and after, and have revealed for thee that from which all who have the sense of smell can detect the fragrance of My loving-kindness, My care and My mercy, which have preceded all who are in the heavens and the earth. Be thou vocal in My praise, soaring in My atmosphere, serving My Cause, and holding fast unto the cord of My loving-kindness. I am, verily, the All-Commanding, the All-Knowing.

Thou hast been beneath the glances of thy Lord's loving-kindness, as attesteth He with Whom is the perspicuous Book. The Glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My loving-kindness be upon those who entered the prison for My sake and left it through My love, the Mighty, the Inaccessible.

O Ali! Upon thee be My mercy! Verily, We have mentioned thee in diverse stations and do mention thee at this hour. Be thou thankful and numbered with them that praise. Say: O my God and my Lord! I beseech Thee by the lights of Thy countenance, the pearls of the ocean of Thy knowledge, the manifestations of Thy grace, the Dawning-Place of Thy revelation and the Dayspring of Thy signs, to make me steadfast in Thy Cause and voiced in Thy praise amidst Thy creation, through the wisdom Thou hast sent down in Thy Books. Verily, Thou art the Omnipotent over whatsoever Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the Mighty, the Great.

This servant conveyeth greetings, glorification and salutations to each one, and beseecheth God, exalted be His glory, to adorn all with the ornament of steadfastness and the crown of submission and contentment.

As for the mention of the beloved of the heart, Aqa Muhammad-Javad and his kindred, upon them be the glory of God and His favors, it was presented before the presence of the Lord of Manifestation. Each one hath been blessed with the lights of the Sun of the mention of the Most Great Name. His is the praise and bounty in all conditions. After wondrous utterances and resplendent favors, the Tongue of Grandeur spoke this most exalted Word. His word, exalted and mighty be He: O Javad! Upon thee be My Glory! The Wronged One remembereth thee and hath remembered thee before in such wise as hath borne witness before the faces of the world to the permanence of the dominion and the Kingdom. The Lord of nations beareth witness to this. Thank Him for this most great favor, then preserve it through My Name, the Omnipotent, the Mighty. We, verily, glorify and send Our greetings from this station upon thee and upon them that are with thee and thy kindred. Verily thy Lord is the All-Remembering, the Compassionate, the Generous.

The favors and kindness of the Goal of the world's desire toward them are truly beyond this servant's mention. The servant beseecheth his Lord to aid him in serving the Cause as He strengthened him in the early days, and to write down for him from His Most Exalted Pen that which beseemeth His all-embracing bounty, His all-encompassing grace, and His pre-existing mercy. Verily our Lord, the All-Merciful, is the Hearer, the Answerer.

Likewise, mention was made of the cousins, especially Aqa Abdul-Baqi, upon him and them be the everlasting glory of God. It was presented at the Most Holy, Most Exalted Court. For each one particularly did the sun of grace and favor rise. The servant testifieth that they have attained unto the bounty and bestowal of our Lord. O beloved of my heart! Ye have witnessed the waves of the ocean of favor and beheld the effulgences of the Sun of grace. There was and is no need for mention by this evanescent one.

And as for the mention made of my beloved, Jinab-i-Ibn-i-Abhar, upon him be the glory of God and His favors, after it was presented in the Most Holy, Most Exalted Court, the Tongue of Grandeur spoke this word: O Samandar! Upon Ibn-i-Abhar be My glory! He hath ever been mentioned before the Face and regarded with the glance of favor. My name Mihdi, upon him be My mercy and My favors. Likewise hath Jinab-i-Amin repeatedly made mention of him in his petitions. Blessed is he and his father and his mother and those who are with him in this Cause whereby the thoughts of the nations were scattered, the structure of the world was shaken, and the hearts of those servants who broke the Covenant on the Day of Return were perturbed.

We send greetings to the friends of the land of Za, both men and women. Indeed, We have sent down verses unto them before, and in these days We have sent down unto them as a bounty from Our presence, that they may give thanks unto their Lord, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy. O people of Za! Rejoice in the favors of your Lord, the Most Glorious. He maketh mention of you from the Most Sublime Horizon in such wise as nothing can equal. He is verily the Compassionate, the Forgiving, the Merciful. God willing, may ye be enkindled with the fire of the love of God—an enkindlement which neither the oppression of the aggressors nor the ascendancy of the tyrants can quench. Take ye the chalices of

prosperity in the name of God, glorified be His majesty, and drink, in spite of those who cast them behind their backs. These are days of joy, for the Beloved of the world and the Most Great Name is established upon the throne [of manifestation]. Speak ye in His Name, drink ye in remembrance of Him, and be ye occupied with His mention. Associate with one another and with all people with the utmost joy and fragrance, wisdom and utterance. Be ye never heedless of wisdom in any situation.

O son of Abhar! Upon thy father and upon thee and thy mother be My peace and My loving-kindness and My mercy. Remind My loved ones of that which We have sent down unto them from the Kingdom of My Will and the Heaven of My favor, and I am verily the Compassionate, the Kind, the Generous. This servant conveyeth greetings and salutations to them and to the friends of that land who are enkindled with the fire of the love of God and illumined with the light of the knowledge of God, and I express my utter powerlessness and nothingness, and I beseech God to grant them the blessing of attaining His presence. Verily, He is powerful over all things.

As for the mention of Himmat-Ali Khan, upon him be the Glory of God and His favors, his mention hath ever been made in the Most Holy and Most Exalted Court, and my beloved, the Trustee, upon him be the Most Glorious Glory of God, hath repeatedly mentioned him in his letters which he hath sent to this servant. In these days, one Most Holy and Most Glorious Tablet hath been specifically revealed for him and was given to the beloved of the heart, His Holiness Haji Mirza Haydar-Ali, upon him be the Glory of God and His favors, to be forwarded, for he too hath repeatedly made mention of him in the Most Holy and Most Exalted Court and hath sought special favors for him from God, exalted be His glory. Praise be to God, he hath attained unto that which is befitting in this day. I beseech God, exalted be His glory, and hope that He will manifest that which He hath ordained. Verily, He is powerful over all things.

At this time I was summoned into the Most Holy and Most Exalted Presence, and after attaining the presence, the Tongue of Grandeur spoke these words:

> “O servant in attendance! We wish to make mention of Samandar, upon him be My glory, and those who are with him, both male and female, young and old. O servant in attendance! Although the kindred of Samandar have been and are mentioned in the Most Holy and Most Exalted Court of the Lord of Destiny, We now desire to outwardly adorn them with the ornament of the Most Glorious Remembrance. Blessed are ye, O My handmaidens and leaves of the Tree of My love! Praise ye the Desired One of all worlds Who caused you to attain and aided you in that which most of the women of the world and the queens of the earth, despite their waiting, seeking, longing and yearning, remain veiled from. For years they followed vain imaginings and ran to churches and mosques in remembrance of the Friend, yet when the light of certainty dawned, they remained heedless and veiled. O Samandar! Convey My greetings to all the souls of that household, male and female, young and old, on behalf of the Wronged One, and gladden them with the favors of God, exalted be His glory. All have been and are under the shadow of His grace. Through divine love they have attained a great station. They have never been and will never be absent from His sight. They must be grateful for this great bounty and appear with the utmost joy and gladness. Blessed are they and happy are they.”

This servant also conveys greetings and salutations to each of the honored ladies and delight of the eyes. I beseech God to assist all His loved ones in that land to remain firm, steadfast and resolute in such wise that should all the world gather together and speak contrary to what God has ordained, they would regard them all as bubbles on the surface of water with no permanence. This indeed is the meaning of steadfastness that has been revealed in the Tablets from the Pen of God, both before and after. On one occasion these exalted words were heard from the Tongue of Grandeur:

> "O servant in attendance! Whosoever has, in the name of the Self-Subsisting, drunk from the Sealed Wine must fix his gaze solely upon the Supreme Horizon. This is the station of true unity. In this case, even if all souls who consider themselves assured, enkindled, firm and steadfast should, God forbid, turn away, no doubt would enter his mind nor would any misgiving seize him. Rather, he would find himself more firmly rooted, more steadfast, more powerful and more triumphant."

This indeed is the station of steadfast souls. Those who are moved by every wind and changed by every word were not and are not worthy of this court. This servant and that Beloved One must pray that He may not deprive His loved ones in that land and other countries from the splendors of the Sun of Unity. Verily, He is the Hearer, the Answerer. Glory, praise, spirit and laudation be upon you and upon those with you and upon those who were attracted by the call of their Lord, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. And praise be to God, the One, the Single, the Individual, the Self-Subsisting, the Powerful, the Strong, the Triumphant, the Almighty.

The servant 4 Rabi'u'th-Thani 1302

BH01767: Verily He speaketh the truth before, during, and after…

…Verily He speaketh the truth before, during, and after imprisonment. From his poems, the stages of yearning, longing, submission and contentment are manifest and evident. It is as though every vein in his body and every strand of his hair were bound by the chain of love and made fast to the Most Great Handle of divine love. Praise be to God that despite the hardships of imprisonment and the cruelties of the son, they remained ablaze with the fire of love, such that might caused no fear and power brought no hindrance. In the midst of tribulation he held fast to the Lord of Names and placed his trust in Him. Sufficient is that which the Pen hath spoken in his praise. The Command is God's, the Lord of eternity….

BH03970: Praise be to God Who hath made us among…

Praise be to God Who hath made us among those who are assured of Him and of all that proceedeth from His presence, and Who hath enabled us to recognize His Self…

…Again, after reading the letter that was sent to the beloved one Mirza H and Sin—upon him be the Glory of God, Lord of the worlds—I became more troubled, for the heart seeks pretexts to find a way to begin again and again expressing praise, glorification, longing and yearning. They had mentioned news which is in my heart and which I cannot help but express: that on this blessed day, the 12th of Safar, from His

Honor Aqa Mirza Asadu'llah—may my spirit be sacrificed for him—a telegram addressed to His Honor Aqa Ghulam-Husayn—upon him be [the Glory of God]—arrived stating:

> "All the stored goods have been completely removed from storage, and this glad tidings has caused such joy and delight that I especially cannot contain myself in my clothes; my soul dances to the melody of the Beloved's word."

Indeed you are right, for from this incident the power and favor of God, exalted be His glory, is clear and evident. Although for the steadfast and firm ones this is not and was not anything new, yet it waters the new saplings—that is, it assists them—and that water is the water of His all-encompassing mercy. We hope that all on earth may attain to this mercy and partake of your joy in the Cause of the Lord of Names and enter upon your path, that is, the path of divine love.

BH05829: Your mention hath been made before the Wronged One…

He is the Hearing, the Answering!

Your mention hath been made before the Wronged One in His Most Great Prison, and He hath answered thee with that which hath caused the musk of inner meanings to waft among the peoples. Blessed is he who hath found and given thanks, and woe unto him who hath remained heedless and turned away.

Say: O people! This is the Book of God which hath been sent down in truth, would that ye might read it. This is the Call of the All-Merciful which hath been raised through grace, would that ye might hear it. This is the Countenance of your Lord, the All-Merciful, would that ye might behold it. By God! The shrill voice of My Pen hath been raised up, and the rushing of the winds of My mercy, and the flowing of the waters of My loving-kindness which have encompassed all existence.

Say: O concourse of the earth! How long will ye follow vain imaginings and idle fancies? Open your eyes! By God! The Sun of the Cause hath dawned from the horizon of the will of your Lord, the Mighty, the Loving. Cast aside your ignorant divines, turning unto God, the One, the Single, the All-Subduing over what was and what shall be. That which ye possess will profit you not this Day—He Who possesseth the Preserved Tablet doth testify to this.

Thus hath the Dove of Knowledge warbled upon the branch of utterance, as a command from the Lord of the Unseen and the Seen. And We make mention of Our loved ones there, and give them the glad-tidings of God's mercy and His favor on this blessed Day and in this praiseworthy station.

BH06382: O peoples of the earth! The Most Great Name…

He is the Dawning-Place from the horizon of the world

O peoples of the earth! The Most Great Name hath come, calling you unto the Supreme Horizon. Fear ye the Lord of all beings, and be not of the heedless ones. This is the Day wherein the letters Ha' and Ba' cry out between earth and heaven, and the Dove of Divine Knowledge warbleth upon the branch of utterance, yet most of the people are sunk in slumber. Take heed lest the threats of the wicked frighten thee. Leave them to themselves, awaiting what God hath promised in His perspicuous Book.

Heedlessness hath seized all the inhabitants of earth save whom God, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed, hath willed. O Joseph! We made mention of thee before in a Tablet that beareth witness before all existence to the perpetuity of God's kingdom, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy.

And at this hour We remember thee in this resplendent and manifest Tablet. Grieve not over anything, for He is with whoso hath turned unto Him. God shall soon reveal in the earth the stations of them that are firmly rooted. Rejoice in what hath flowed from the Most Exalted Pen. Beware lest the affairs of the world occupy thee or the imaginings of the doubters hold thee back. They that have turned away shall soon find themselves in manifest loss. The glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My grace be upon thee and upon them that have believed in the One, the All-Informed.

BH06327: Hast thou heard the Path speak? Say: Yea…

He is the Straight Path!

Hast thou heard the Path speak? Say: Yea, by my Lord! He hath appeared in truth and speaketh at all times, saying: "There is none other God but Me, the Single, the All-Informed." Hast thou seen the Balance walk? Say: Yea, by the Self of God, the Lord of all worlds! Verily He hath appeared in truth and summoned all to His luminous horizon.

The Hour hath come and its signs are manifest, yet most of the people remain heedless. Such heedlessness hath seized them that they have cast God behind their backs, clinging to the idle fancies and vain imaginings they possess. Say: O people! Fear God and deprive not yourselves of this mighty grace. This is the Day wherein the ocean of utterance hath surged and the fragrance of the All-Merciful hath wafted, yet ye remain asleep. Arise in the name of your Lord, the King of Names, from the slumber of passion, then turn towards the Most Exalted Horizon that ye may hear what Moses heard in the wilderness of knowledge, and be not of the wrongdoers. Say: Thus doth the Most Exalted Pen teach you—act as ye have been commanded and be not of those who turn aside. The glory shining from the horizon of My Sacred House be upon thee and upon those who have held fast to My mighty cord.

BH07593: The Divine Being declares: At all times have We…

He is the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing!

The Divine Being declares: At all times have We made the servants aware of that which draws them near and benefits them. The intent is that the diverse and ephemeral colors of the world should not deprive the peoples from the everlasting bounty and heavenly sustenance. Say: The Day of Return is manifest and the Mother Book speaks without veil or concealment that which will guide all from poverty, weakness and vain imaginings to the horizons of wealth, power and certitude. O thou who hast turned to My Kingdom! Observe what God, exalted be His glory, hath willed and what the people have done and continue to do. We call them unto God but they call Me to their desires. Verily they are among the companions of the Fire. My Glory be upon you and upon those who are with you in this Cause through which the horizons have been illumined and every clear matter hath been made manifest.

BH08568: O ʿAli! Upon thee be Me glory. Today…

He is the All-Commanding, the All-Wise!

O ʿAli! Upon thee be Me glory. Today the eye of justice is blind and the hand of tyranny upraised. We have guided them with the light of guidance, yet they point to the fire of error, and their call leadeth but to perdition. Although the fragrance of springtime is clearly distinguished from autumn, and the scent of the rose is manifestly different from all else—His signs are not hidden from those possessed of vision, and the Greater Perspective is not concealed, and the sweet breezes of His days are not to be confused with aught else—nevertheless the people have forgotten the Day and have turned away from that which is with God, cleaving to that which is with them. The True One, exalted be His glory, with power remaineth patient, and with utterance silent. Well is it with thee, for thou hast been faithful to God's Covenant, the Lord of all worlds. Glory be unto thee, inasmuch as thou hast inhaled the fragrance of My robe, and hearkened unto My call, and hast testified to that which the Tongue of Grandeur hath testified in My mighty prison.

BH08749: At this moment, from the rustling of the morning…

He is the Eternal, Who passes not away!

At this moment, from the rustling of the morning breezes, this clear remembrance hath become manifest and apparent: Verily God sufficeth His loved ones, and maketh their good deeds in this Cause a treasure for them, and preserveth it through the hosts of revelation and the hands of power. We have heard thy mention and have remembered thee, and have revealed for thee that which the hands of centuries and ages shall fail to alter. We beseech Him, exalted be He, to assist thee and confirm thee in that which will cause thy mention to be exalted among the righteous ones. The world and whatsoever is therein shall pass away, and that which hath been revealed from the Supreme Pen shall endure. He Who possesseth the knowledge of the Book beareth witness unto this. The glory shining forth from the horizon of the heaven of grace be upon thee and upon him who hath heard and responded.

BH10364: In the name of Him Who is the Ever-Watchful…

In the name of Him Who is the Ever-Watchful, the Near One! Say: Glory be to Thee, O Thou through Whose Name the hidden Secret and the treasured Symbol were made manifest! I beseech Thee by the mysteries of Thy Most Great Name, and by the lights of Thy countenance, O Lord of eternity, and by the knowledge which no highest consciousness of contingent beings nor loftiest manifestation among created things hath comprehended, to make me one of the Hands of Thy Cause among Thy creatures, that I may arise to serve Thy Cause and make mention of Thee with wisdom and utterance in Thy kingdom. Thou, verily, art the One Who hath power over whatsoever He willeth, and in Thy grasp are the reins of all things. There is none other God but Thee, the Possessor of all names and Creator of the heavens.

BH03223: How excellent is God's helping hand which, after centuries…

How excellent is God's helping hand which, after centuries and ages, delivered His Holiness from prison through His all-encompassing power and overwhelming might!…

Mention was made of Haji Muhammad-Husayn resident in Egypt and Haji Muhammad-Husayn resident in Tiflis, upon them be the Glory of God, and other friends of God, upon them be the Glory of God. All these matters were presented before the countenance of the Lord of Eternity. His word, mighty and glorious:

In My Name, the Wronged One

O party of God! Upon you be His glory and His favors. My Name hath remembered you, and We make mention of you with that which draws the hearts of them that are nigh. Blessed are they who have attained unto the divine Word and divine remembrance. O party of God! Hold fast unto the cord of unity and concord, and aid the Wronged One through the hosts of goodly deeds and virtuous character. Know ye the worth and station of this time, for by My life, it hath no like nor peer. Ages and centuries circle round these days. Beseech ye God—exalted be His glory—that He may aid you to become the cause of guidance to humanity. Peter was a fisher of fish, yet became the leader of the world and guide of nations.

Abu Dharr was a shepherd, yet became the cause of enlightenment for the people of learning and wisdom. Know ye your worth and recognize your station. The might of the world and its oppression and tribulations are but for a day or two, while that which is with God hath ever endured and will continue as it hath been. While time remaineth and breath endureth, expend it in service to the Cause. By God's life! This is that word of counsel which deserveth to adorn the frontispiece of the Mother Book. Glory be upon you and upon those who support you, guide you, cause you to know, make you to hear, and upon those who have quaffed the wine of steadfastness from the hand of the bounty of their Lord, the Generous.

Praise be to God, all have attained and been honored and adorned through the grace of God, exalted be His glory. We beseech God that He may cause a river to flow from each one and aid them through mysterious means. Although the friends of God in these days have attained more than what hath been mentioned—they have attained both His remembrance and His days—this station is most exalted. God, exalted be His glory, is witness and testifier….

And all that thou wrote separately regarding our spiritual beloved Ibn-i-Abhar, upon him be the glory of God, the Lord of Destiny—all of it was presented before the Desire of all worlds. This is what the Tongue of Grandeur spoke forth in the Most Great Prison, His Word, exalted be His grandeur and glory:

He is the Dawning-Place from the horizon of the Prison

A remembrance from Us unto him who hath grasped the cord of God, clung to His robe, uttered His praise, and attained unto service to His Cause, the Unalterable, the All-Wise. O My Name! Upon thee be My glory and My mercy. The honored Ibn-i-Abhar, upon him be My glory, is remembered before the Countenance. Wondrous and sublime Tablets have been revealed concerning him, adorned with the lights of the Sun of divine favor and mentioned in the pavilion of glory. He was created for the remembrance of God, His praise, the proclamation of His Cause, and to arise in His service. He is

confirmed and assisted. We counsel him to observe wisdom in all conditions. He must be mindful of wisdom and turn his gaze solely toward the Most Exalted Horizon.

Permission to attain Our presence hath been granted unto him. Previously that honored one had requested this matter. Thanks be to God, he hath attained it. However, so long as he is occupied with service to the Cause and with planting sublime and exalted saplings, there is no harm if his presence at the Most Holy Court be delayed. We have sent unto him that which the treasures of earth cannot equal, and ordained for him that which shall solace his eyes. We beseech God to assist him to preserve what he hath been given from the presence of the Mighty, the Ancient.

We make mention of the people of Z and N who have shattered the idols of vain imaginings, turning unto God, the Peerless, the All-Informed. Blessed is he who hath drunk the choice wine of certitude when its seal was broken through My Name, the All-Compelling over all who are in the heavens and earth.

O Ibn-i-Abhar! Upon thee be My glory. Proclaim on My behalf unto the faces of My loved ones and give them the glad-tidings of My mercy and favor, and remind them of My verses. Say: Beware lest the conditions of creation withhold you from the Truth. Set aside what is with the people in hope of that which is with God, your Lord and the Lord of your fathers of old. You are in your homes while the Lord of Hosts maketh mention of you in the Most Great Prison, when sorrows have encompassed Us from those who have denied My Self and turned away from My straight path. Say: By God! The Light hath shone forth and the Speaker of Sinai hath spoken, established upon the throne of manifestation.

Beware lest your own selves prevent you from this manifest grace. Thank God for having moved My Most Exalted Pen to make mention of you—the Pen that speaketh between earth and heaven. Verily there is no God but Him, the Peerless, the All-Informed. Ye were created for My remembrance and praise, and were commanded to worship none but God, the Lord of the worlds. This is a day wherein the banner of unity hath been raised aloft and the standard of "There is no God but Him" hath been planted upon this sublime station. Take the chalice of salvation in My Name, then drink therefrom despite those who have denied God, disputed His verses, and turned away from Him when He came with manifest sovereignty.

O people of God! Aid your Lord, the Wronged One, through deeds and character. Thus have We commanded you in the Scriptures and Tablets from the presence of an Ancient Commander. The glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My grace be upon you and upon those who have believed in God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy.

O Ibn Abhar! Upon thee be My glory! Call thou to mind when Abu-Basir departed from the house, adorned with the lights of the Kingdom and speaking forth My gracious praise. He was among those who quaffed the choice wine of steadfastness from the hand of My loving-kindness, in such wise that neither the tyranny of the oppressors nor the veils of the divines could deter him. He forsook the world, turning unto God, the Lord of eternity, until he sacrificed his life in My manifest and luminous path. We make mention of him who was named Ashraf. By the life of God! At this hour, through Our remembrance of him, the Concourse on High, the exalted Paradise, the dwellers of the holy precincts and the Kingdom of glory make mention of him. Blessed is he, and his mother, and his sister, and every maidservant who hath hearkened unto the call and answered her All-Knowing Lord.

Convey My greetings to all the loved ones in that land on behalf of the Wronged One. Say: Today the Kawthar of utterance floweth from the right hand of the throne of the All-Merciful, and the choice sealed wine hath appeared and circulated through the name of the Self-Subsisting. The pure water of Paradise existeth and the Object of the world's desire is present. Deprive not yourselves. With the utmost endeavor and effort, beseech God, exalted be His glory, that He may enable all to attain that which beseemeth His Day. All things, from the sands of the desert to the trees, leaves and fruits, even stones and clay, all are engaged in glorifying and extolling God, exalted be His glory.

This Day hath no peer or likeness, for the true Bestower hath appeared and through His appearance the world hath been adorned with the springtime of inner meanings. Observe ye and reflect upon the handiwork of the peerless Creator. Be not saddened by the tyranny of the oppressors, the veils of the heedless, the clamor of the divines, and the turning away of the jurisprudents. God will soon reward you with the best of rewards. For each one of you there is preserved with Him a great recompense. All souls, both men and women, who have turned and are oriented toward the supreme horizon, are, through God's grace, mentioned and recorded by the Most Exalted Pen in the Divine Book.

Rejoice ye in My remembrance of you, then give thanks to your Lord, the All-Merciful, with joy and fragrance, in such wise that the sweet-scented perfume of sincerity may waft from you to God, the Mighty, the Wise.

This servant also conveyeth greetings and salutations to them. Several letters from them have thus far been received. It is hoped that this ephemeral one may be enabled to send replies. The cause and reason for the delay in summoning them, and the blessed word of permission, was that in the days when that honored one was in prison, detailed letters arrived from them. Some were answered and sent, and for one very detailed letter, a response was begun and many pages were written, but due to wisdom in those days and the turmoil in surrounding areas, it was not sent and remains extant. The purpose is that this servant hath been mindful of them in all conditions, and the delays that occurred were due to external circumstances, otherwise they are mentioned in the heart and present before the face. I beseech God, exalted be His glory, to enable them through His special grace to open the doors of hearts with the keys of utterance….

BH01286: Praise befitteth the Beloved of the world…

In the Name of our Most Holy, Most Great, Most Exalted, Most Glorious Lord!

Praise befitteth the Beloved of the world and the Desire of the nations, from whose right and left hands giving and taking are ceaselessly flowing and manifest. He taketh what He giveth, and giveth what He hath taken. Hidden in His taking are a myriad consummate wisdoms, and likewise in His giving. He hath made known the loftiness and sublimity of giving through taking. From the grain that the millstone hath ground upon doth man produce flour—from such travail doth this blessing emerge, and from such hardship doth this ease appear. For this reason have they who are nigh unto God, the sincere ones and they who recognize His unity, resigned themselves to all things and with perfect steadfastness shown patience in whatsoever hath befallen them, inasmuch as He knoweth what we have while we know not what He hath, and He is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

The letter of that honored friend arrived and was laid before the Throne. Thus did the Tongue of Grandeur speak, exalted be His glory:

In My Name, the Wronged One

O Husayn! Reflect upon the tribulations of Husayn. Outwardly they appeared as afflictions, severe and momentous, yet through them the ocean of mercy surged, the light of recognition shone forth, and the sun of grace dawned. His martyrdom became a support and champion to the resplendent Law of the Messenger of God. His deeds were, in their essence, as the sun in the heaven of the Qur'an, and he was the tender and waterer of the garden of inner meanings. Were but one of the mysteries of tribulations in His path to be mentioned, all would freely hasten to the field and seek martyrdom. Today, whatsoever station thou mayest consider, the Truth standeth manifest therein—whether the station of father or above it or below it.

Let it suffice thee that the Supreme Pen doth in this station console thee and comfort thee, and maketh mention of him who hath ascended. He was adorned with the ornament of the love of God, and was assured and acknowledging through the utterance of the Pen of the All-Merciful. Now doth he dwell in the precincts of mercy, receiving endless bounties. Blessed is he, and blessed art thou, and blessed are they who are with thee, and blessed are they unto each of whom We sent a Tablet from whose horizon shone the sun of thy Lord's tender mercy, the Gracious, the All-Bountiful. The glory be upon thee and upon him who hath ascended to the Most Exalted Companion and attained unto that which God, the Lord of all worlds, ordained for him.

Thy letter did truly cause complete sorrow, for it bore grievous tidings. God is Our witness that perfect anguish and grief appeared. However, when it was laid before the Most Holy, Most Exalted Presence and brilliant verses were revealed from the heaven of Will, the flames of sorrow were suddenly stilled and the fire of cares was extinguished, nay, grew cold with a coldness that shall never be warmed. For such utterances were revealed in this station from the tongue of the Desire of all things that every soul longed for death that perchance they might attain the like thereof. Blessed is he who hath ascended unto Him. Convey on behalf of this evanescent one greetings and peace to the kindred, and console them.

Another matter is that at the time of your departure, several names were written and sent to the Most Holy Court, and the promise of the revelation of Tablets from the heaven of bounty was manifest, and they were revealed some time ago. This time they are being sent according to the number ten. I beseech and implore God, exalted be His glory, to enable them to reach their destination and to adorn creation anew with a fresh raiment, that they may not be saddened or disturbed by the vicissitudes of time, the hatred of the wicked, the enmity of the divines and the envy of the doctors of law.

At one time this exalted word was revealed from the tongue of the Lord of all beings—exalted be His grandeur:

> "O thou who art present! The friends of God are today the recipients of such bounty and loving-kindness as all the pens and oceans of the world are powerless to reckon. They must not be saddened by ephemeral happenings. Whatsoever may occur to their minds or whatsoever their powers of imagination may conceive is [with God], created and present and waiting for

> His loved ones. Under such circumstances, grief is not permissible. Joy upon joy, gladness upon gladness, delight upon delight, bounty upon bounty is their portion. To this beareth witness He Who hath spoken and speaketh: verily there is no God but Him, the Manifest, the Resplendent, the Single, the One, the Powerful, the Helper. Praise be to God, the Lord of all worlds."

I hope that if wisdom permitteth, you will convey my greetings to the friends in that land. The yearning of my heart and soul exceedeth all bounds, but in view of the wisdom revealed in the Tablets, it is not permissible to mention names. Glory and praise and greetings be upon you and upon those who have attained unto the Cause of God, the Mighty, the Wise.

The servant 18 Rabi'u'th-Thani 1302

BH05479: This is a Book which the All-Merciful hath sent…

He is the One manifest and speaking in the Kingdom of Utterance.

This is a Book which the All-Merciful hath sent down to him who hath turned unto Him when the Trump was sounded and the Manifestation of the Cause arose with such might that feet did stumble thereby. He hath come with the truth and summoned the servants unto the Dayspring of Revelation. Among them were some who heard and turned away, and some who hastened and said: "Here am I, O Thou Revealer of verses!"

The first to pronounce a verdict against Me and turn away from My Beauty was one of the divines of My time who cast the Book of God behind their backs and rejected the Countenance without any clear proof or evidence. Thus have We adorned the Tablet with the ornament of My Most Exalted Pen that thou mayest thank thy Lord, the Lord of the Final Return.

Blessed art thou and those whom the doubts of the people have not kept back from this Day and who were not veiled by the veils of them that disbelieved in God, the Lord of Lords.

Hold thou fast unto the cord of thy Lord's loving-kindness, and cling unto His mantle, and say:

> "Praise be unto Thee, O Thou Who didst strengthen me to recognize Thee when most of Thy servants had turned away from Thee. I beseech Thee to make me steadfast in Thy love and looking unto Thee in all conditions. O my Lord! Aid me to remember Thee and to praise Thee and to serve Thy Cause. Then ordain for me through Thy Most Exalted Pen the good of this world and the world to come. There is none other God but Thee, the Mighty, the All-Bountiful."

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BH06405: Though the door of presence and speech be closed…

Though the door of presence and speech be closed, yet through God's bounty the path of letters and messages remains open. "Correspondence is half of meeting" is evident and manifest. Praise befitteth the

Lord of all desires Who, if He closeth one path, openeth others. In one world He hath bestowed upon the spirit the station of messenger and courier, in another He hath ordained the tongue, and in yet another the pen….

O Musa! Mention and expression have not been and are not confined to the tongue alone. Reflect upon the story of the shepherd and His Holiness Moses. When the ocean of divine love surged in his heart, he became acceptable at the Divine Threshold. His words, though contrary to convention, did not prevent the spiritual fragrances from reaching him. Outwardly he was rejected, but inwardly he was recognized. He was a true lover, for what he expressed came from sincerity. He knew not customs and manners, yet he was not deprived by what he uttered, and achieved divine acceptance. We beseech God to assist that soul in whatever He loves and is pleased with, and to grant success in what is befitting, lest the affairs of the world hold you back from the Lord of earth and heaven. In all conditions, be occupied with the remembrance of God and hold fast unto Him. The command is in His grasp. He doeth what He willeth and ordaineth what He pleaseth. He is the Single One, the One, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy….

BH01476: O beloved of my heart! The blessed handwriting…

He is God, exalted be His glory, the Most Great, the All-Powerful

O beloved of my heart! The blessed handwriting of His exalted station has directed this evanescent one to undertake reconstruction of what is in ruins and to bestow the bounty of spring upon the world. After it was read and understood, it was presented before His presence, whereupon He said that whatever had been mentioned should be answered, that it may reach him who was intended. We beseech God to assist Ism-i-Jud to serve the Cause, even as He assisted him. Verily, He is the Helper, the Mighty, the Powerful.

As to the letter of the honored beloved, his eminence Nabil-Ibn-Nabil, upon him be the peace and bounty of God—it was read and presented. Praise be to God, he has been blessed with special favors. God the All-Knowing is witness that this servant remembers him at special times and beseeches God, exalted be His glory, to grant and ordain that which will cause his station to be elevated, exalted and uplifted. Verily, He has power over all things.

Regarding what was written about Haji Muhammad Ibrahim, upon him be the peace of God, and his petition—it was presented, whereupon He said:

> “We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to protect and guard him with the hosts of the invisible and the visible realms, and to ordain for him that which will benefit him in this world and the next. Verily, He has power over all things.”

The possessions of those who trust in God and are sincere have been and always will be under the protection and guardianship of God, exalted be His glory. He said:

> “O Nabil-Ibn-Nabil, upon you be My peace. There are two kinds of possessions: One comprises the pearls of divine love, praiseworthy character, and pleasing attributes, which have always been and will remain preserved, for the hand of the thief and traitor falls short in this station. In previous years, there was a sum in the keeping of a trustee, and a thief stole it. We wrote:

> We beseech God to assist you in acquiring that which thieves and traitors cannot lay hands upon. The other kind of possessions thieves may plunder if they gain access to them, but whatever belongs to the people of truth will surely be compensated and bestowed upon them ere long."

O Nabil-Ibn-Nabil! We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to protect you and preserve whatever is associated with you, and to ordain for you the best of what He has revealed in His Ancient Book, whereby He distinguished between truth and falsehood and made those who believe in His unity to be among those who are brought near. Blessed is he who has acknowledged the unity and oneness of God and acted according to what the All-Merciful has revealed in the Furqan.

Regarding what was written about partnership and commerce, the details were presented, whereupon He said:

> "God willing, it is blessed. We beseech Him, exalted be He, to send down upon you a blessing from His presence and to ordain for you and your children every good thing that was in His Book."

As for the onion and white poplar cutting that were mentioned and sent, God willing, from the former may colorful flowers appear, and from the latter, refined, wondrous, and sublime shadows, for it exists in the shade. God willing, shade too shall be bestowed upon it, that the friends of God may rest in its shadow and be appropriately gladdened, attaining to the greatest joy, which is the station of nearness to God, exalted be His glory, and may hearken to the divine glorification and sanctification in its rustling.

This evanescent one conveys greetings to him, upon him be the peace of the All-Merciful. He has always been and continues to be remembered by this evanescent one. God is witness to these words and this petition. I extend greetings to him and to his blessed offspring, namely his honor Ahmad, upon him be God's bounty and grace, and I beseech God for favor and mercy. Regarding what was written that "Ahmad stands firm"—this firmness is evidence of steadfastness, that through him every seated one may arise to serve God and obey Him, and every weary one to His remembrance and praise.

Mention was made of his honor Aqa Ghulam-Husayn, upon him be the peace of God. Praise be to God, he has been and continues to be remembered. Convey greetings on behalf of this servant, and express this evanescent one's love, affection and sincerity. I beseech God to assist him and keep him preserved beneath the shadow of His grace. Peace be upon your honor and upon them, and the mercy of God and His blessings.

The servant 22 Rabi'u'th-Thani 1302

BH02238: We counsel you to perform goodly deeds. Every soul's…

…We counsel you to perform goodly deeds. Every soul's station is made manifest through his deeds, for deeds are as mirrors wherein the reality of the doer is revealed and evident. Some servants, whenever they desire any rejected deed, they encourage the friends of God toward it through false words and satanic suggestions. God is indeed clear of these! A goodly deed is distinguished from that which is

otherwise; the fragrance of the doer is diffused through the deed. Blessed are they whom the misguided ones of the world have not and will not prevent from the Lord of Eternity….

Say: O friends! Be united and be in accord in the Cause of God. Unity conquers the realms of hearts through wisdom and utterance. Good is clearly distinguished from evil. Through the blessedness of the Most Great Name, hold fast unto that which is good, detached from all evil and from every lying clamourer. Be not grieved by the world and its vexations. By the life of God! Ye are and have ever been the people of the eternal dominion and are recorded in the Book as the party of God. What bounty is greater than this bounty, and what station more exalted than this station? Strive diligently to preserve it. We counsel you and those who believe in that whereby the Cause of God, the Supreme, the Self-Subsisting, is exalted. Associate with different groups with utmost love and fellowship. Rancor and hatred have ever been and remain condemned.

We counsel you finally to fear God. It is the shield that protects the temple of faith, a luminous lamp in darkness, a spiritual strength in weakness, an eternal helper in solitude, and an enduring companion. It is the manifest deed and the mighty, impregnable fortress. It protects man from the arrows of Satan and the spears of the rebellious. It has been and ever will be the source of mighty deeds. For now We conclude with this much. Blessed are they who have held fast unto it and clung to its hem….

BH01145: Praise be to God Who sent down the Torah…

In the name of Him Who is exalted in His majesty and power!

Praise be to God Who sent down the Torah, the Gospel, and the Furqan. Exalted is the All-Merciful Who through the Criterion distinguished between religions and made it the dawning-place of His commandments, the dayspring of His ordinances, the manifestation of His knowledge, and the source of His utterance among His servants and creation. Through it the oceans of knowledge and wisdom surged, and the rivers of the Law flowed, and through it every seated one arose and every sleeping one awakened. And blessings and peace be upon God's lamp among His servants and His light throughout the lands, through whom every seeker recognized his goal, every searcher found his desire, and every wayfarer his straight path, and upon his family and companions whom God made the dawning-places of His power and the daysprings of His might, with abundant and great peace.

And further: the distinguished letter addressed to this evanescent servant arrived and after being read and reviewed was presented before the face of the Lord. These exalted words were revealed in response from the Dawning-Place of knowledge and wisdom: "O Husayn! Thy letter hath arrived and was read by him who serveth Me. We found from it the fragrance of thy love and thy mention and thy utterance for the sake of God, the Lord of the worlds. We beseech Him, exalted be He, to send down upon thee from the heaven of His grace that which will draw thee nigh unto Him in all conditions. Verily, He is the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous. Say:

> "Glory be unto Thee, O God of the Throne and earth and Lord of all mankind! I beseech Thee by the Zamzam and the Safa, and by Thy House around which circle they who dwell in the kingdom of creation and which the sincere ones seek by Thy command, O Lord of Names and

> Creator of heaven, to ordain for me through Thy grace and bounty that which Thou hast ordained for Thy sincere servants and Thy near ones. O my Lord! Thou seest me turning toward the court of Thy grace and directing myself to the lights of Thy countenance, and I desire naught but what Thou hast desired through Thy bounty and favor. I beseech Thee by the Seal of Thy Prophets and the Manifestations of Thy power among Thy creation to assist me to act according to what Thou hast revealed in Thy Book and to ordain for me the good of the Hereafter and of this world, O Thou in Whose grasp is the reins of all things. O my Lord! The tongue of my inner being and my outer being and my limbs testify to Thy oneness and singleness, and that Thou art God, there is no God but Thee. Thou hast created all beings through a word from Thee and brought forth all existence through a will from Thy presence. Thou art He Whom the manifestations of power and might cannot frustrate, nor can the objections of creation prevent Thee. Through Thy Name, O my God, the gate of relief was opened before the faces of Thy loved ones, and the rivers of Thy knowledge flowed among Thy creation. I beseech Thee to forgive me and my father and my mother and those who are with me. Verily, Thou art He through Whose Name the ocean of forgiveness surged and the fragrance of Thy name, the All-Merciful, wafted. There is no God but Thee, the Mighty, the Help in Peril."

Praise be to God, they have attained to the circumambulation of the House and performed the rites without doubt, and have been and are in the vicinity of the House of God. This evanescent one has sought and continues to seek prayers from that honored one. The prayers of the friends are answered. Verily our Lord, the All-Merciful, is the Hearer, the Answerer.

When remembrance occurs, forget not this servant. If but the faintest breath of the zephyr of mercy should pass, the transgressions of the world would vanish from sight. By the confession and acknowledgment of all the Prophets and the chosen ones, His mercy has preceded all else, and His grace has exceeded the power of pen and utterance to recount. His generosity has encompassed all who exist, and His bounty has enveloped the world. With such a Generous One, no matter is difficult or arduous. While the world and humankind exist, were we to give thanks, it would be as naught before His bestowal.

God willing, may your honor be ever engaged in the remembrance and praise of the One desired by all the worlds. At one time He said:

> "Write to Haji—upon him be greetings—that mention of this Wronged One is not permitted among the servants, for whatever is said in relation to this Wronged One, they interpret according to their own desires."

God is witness and testifier that there has been and is no thought save the good of the nations and the reformation of the world. We have ever bidden unto righteousness and forbidden wrongdoing. Nevertheless, at times We have been imprisoned, at times incarcerated, and at times exiled, and so We remain. Yet We would not exchange an atom of what We have endured in God's path for all the treasures of kings and rulers. Abasement in the path of the Friend is an enduring glory, and hardship in His way has been and ever shall be a blessing. In all conditions We have committed Our affairs to Him and have placed

Our trust in Him. The Command is in His hands; He doeth whatsoever He willeth and ordaineth whatsoever He pleaseth. He is the Powerful, the Almighty, the Omnipotent.

This evanescent one beseecheth God—exalted be His glory—to assist your honor to act according to what hath been mentioned. Praise be to God, your remembrance hath been and is in the prison. The mention of the fourteenth night which you made that evening is ever before Our eyes; the sweetness of that remembrance hath not left Our palate. God is sufficient as witness.

That which you sent arrived—it was indeed fresh and ripe, for it was taken by one who loved and sent with love. It was surely acceptable, as indeed it proved to be. And as for the Tablet that was requested, a prayer was specially bestowed for your honor. This servant has recorded it in the original letter. God willing, you will be blessed to read it. As commanded, it was also written separately and sent. Peace and mercy be upon your honor and upon God's sincere, righteous, and active servants.

BH04587: O ʿAli-Akbar! The Wronged One remembereth thee…

He is the Eternal, Who passeth not away

O ʿAli-Akbar! The Wronged One remembereth thee from the precincts of the Prison and counseleth thee with that whereby the Cause of God shall be exalted throughout all else. Take what hath been uttered by My Most Exalted Pen and abandon what is with those who have turned away from this Great Announcement. Look not to the people and their affairs, but hearken unto that whereunto the Truth calleth thee from His Most Great Prison. Verily He is the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous. Rejoice thou in that We have made mention of thee. Verily it shall endure for thee throughout the duration of the Kingdom and the Dominion. He Who possesseth the Clear Book beareth witness to this. They who have turned aside have violated God's Covenant and His Testament, and have denied Him Who came unto them with that which was sent down aforetime upon the Prophets and Messengers.

Say: O concourse of divines! By what thing have ye believed in God and His signs, and by what cause have ye turned away from Him Who, when He appeared, caused all things to proclaim in their loudest voice:

> "By God! The Hidden One hath come with a sovereignty before which the hosts of the heavens and earth are powerless!"

Say: O people of the earth! Deal fairly in God's Cause and be not of the transgressors. Beware lest desire hold you back from the Lord of all creation, or the veils of the divines conceal you from God, the Lord of all worlds. Thus have We adorned the horizon of proof with the sun of the utterance of thy Lord, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. When thou hast attained unto it and found from it the fragrance of thy Lord's loving-kindness, render thanks unto Him with myriads of the near ones. The glory shining forth from the horizon of the heaven of My loving-kindness be upon those who have hearkened and responded to their Ancient Lord.

BH05609: He dawneth above the horizon of immortality

He dawneth above the horizon of immortality

O Muhammad-ʿAli! From the prison of the Lord of Names, hear this call and fix thy gaze upon this most exalted Word: Grieve not over the world and its conflicts and conditions and troubles. Strive to connect thy heart to the Most Great Ocean. In this way, the divine bounty will ever encompass thee. All that the wealthy pride themselves upon today, and the learned boast of, and the possessors of riches are made vain by—all shall pass away. Make a mighty effort, that thou mayest become in those regions and parts a cause for the exaltation of the Word of God. This is the station wherein, shouldst thou attain unto it, thou shalt be recorded in the Divine Book as one of the people of the immortal Kingdom.

He is with those who remember their Lord at eventide and at dawn, and who aid His Cause through wisdom and utterance. Praise be to God that thou hast attained His mention and been enabled to recognize Him. God willing, thou shalt take up thy station beneath the Lote-Tree of grace in such wise that all creation shall testify thereto. Be thou in all conditions firmly attached to the grace of God, clinging to His hem, speaking His praise, and severed from those who have disbelieved and turned away when God came with a manifest light. The glory of God rest upon thee and upon every steadfast, firm and upright soul.

BH06176: Glorified be He Who hath revealed Himself and sent…

In the Name of the All-Knowing, the All-Wise!

Glorified be He Who hath revealed Himself and sent down the Book, yet most people remain heedless. They have cast the Book of God behind their backs and followed every rebellious satan. They have abandoned the cup of God and drunk of putrid water. Say: O people! Do ye not hear what hath been raised from the Sadratu'l-Muntaha, and do ye not see what hath shone forth from the Supreme Horizon? Fear ye God and be not of the wrongdoers. This is the breath of God wafting from the daybreak of Revelation—arise and be not of them that slumber. Lift up your heads and gaze toward the Dayspring of God's Revelation, that the lights of His countenance may draw you to a place whereof every atom proclaimeth:

> "The All-Merciful hath come and manifested Himself upon His mighty and impregnable throne!"

Blessed art thou for having turned unto the Most Great Ocean and responded to thy Ancient Lord, against Whom the idolaters rose up and concerning Whom the divines unjustly pronounced their verdict—whereat the Concourse on High and the dwellers of Paradise lamented, yet most of the people remain heedless. The glory shining forth from the horizon of My loving-kindness be upon thee and upon whosoever hath taken the cup of recognition, despite the idolaters, and drunk therefrom in My Name, the Almighty, the All-Conquering, the All-Powerful.

BH06099: O thou who hast turned to this Most Exalted…

In His Name, the All-Encompassing Over All Names

O thou who hast turned to this Most Exalted Word which, like unto the Most Great Luminary, shineth forth from the horizon of the heaven of inner meanings! Fix thy gaze upon this utterance, blessed and exalted be He:

> "I have written a gem concerning His remembrance: He shall not be known through My allusions nor through what hath been mentioned in the Bayan."

I swear by the Sun of Truth which shineth and beameth forth from the horizon of the Prison—had the people of the Bayan inhaled the fragrance of this blessed Word, they would have turned with their eyes, their hearts and their breasts toward the Court of God. But their heedlessness, nay rather their wretchedness, hath overwhelmed them. To this beareth witness He through Whose utterance the Kingdom of Utterance was attracted and before Whose proof the testimonies of God, both past and future, have bowed down in submission. Blessed is he who hath recognized and heard, and blessed is he who, clear of sight, hath beheld that which hath been revealed in the days of God, the Lord of all worlds. Thus hath the Mother Book spoken, as a token of Our grace, that thou mayest render thanks unto thy Lord, the All-Knowing Speaker. The Glory that is manifest, evident and shining from the horizon of the heaven of grace be upon thee and upon those who have laid hold on the Book of God with a power from Him. These are they who are truly of the people of Baha and the companions of the Crimson Ark which God hath mentioned in His perspicuous Book.

BH07461: Praise be to God Who hath made…

He is seated upon the Throne

Praise be to God Who hath made that which flowed from His Most Exalted Pen the cause of the life of the world, and hath revealed that whereby the faces of His loved ones were illumined and the faces of those who turned away from the Most Glorious Horizon were darkened. Glorification and peace be upon His loved ones and chosen ones whom neither the swords of rulers nor the clamor of divines could deter from God, the Lord of Names and Creator of heaven. These are God's party in the earth and His signs in the lands. Through them was made manifest God's straight path and His firm and mighty Cause. We have heard thy mention and have remembered thee and turned toward thee through the grace of One Who is All-Knowing, All-Wise. This is the Day of Resurrection, the Day of Remembrance, and the Day whereof the Mother Book and the Books of old gave glad tidings. Blessed is he who hath recognized it, and woe unto the heedless. The glory shining forth from the heaven of My mercy be upon thee and upon every discerning one possessed of insight. Praise be to God, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

BH09423: God beareth witness that there is none other God…

He is the Outward and the Inward.

God beareth witness that there is none other God but Him. He heareth and seeth, and He is in the highest horizon, the Lord of the Throne and of the dust, the Sovereign of the hereafter and of former times. He is the Caller from the Divine Lote-Tree, the One mentioned in the heart of Glory, and established upon the throne of faithfulness amidst all peoples. O My leaf and My handmaiden! That which thou didst send hath

been received and hath been accepted through the grace of God, the Lord of the Kingdom of Names, and the Lord of the visible and the invisible. The Glory be upon thee and upon whosoever hath followed guidance. We have sent unto thee that from which thou wilt discover the fragrance of the garment of thy Lord, the Most High, the Most Glorious.

BH09884: God testifieth that there is none other God beside…

He is the Ever-Abiding, the All-Sufficient

God testifieth that there is none other God beside Him, the Single One Whom nothing whatsoever can frustrate and no command can prevent. He doeth what He willeth through His sovereignty and ordaineth what He pleaseth. He is the Just, the All-Wise, the Mighty, the Beautiful. We have heard thy mention and have made mention of thee with such mention that were it to be cast upon the rock, it would melt, and were it cast upon the mountains, they would circle round, and were it cast upon the tongue-tied, they would speak forth that there is none other God but Him, the Single One, the All-Informed. Rejoice thou in My mention and glorify the name of thy Lord, the Mighty, the Great. The glory be upon thee and upon them who have quaffed the choice wine of revelation from the hand of the bounty of their Lord, the All-Bountiful.

BH03058: Praise be to God Who has honored His sincere…

He is God, exalted be His glory, the Greatness and the Power

Praise be to God Who has honored His sincere servants with the ornament of certitude, and has elevated them through truth, and made them among those who are honored in a clear Book. And blessings and peace be upon His Prophets and His chosen ones who aided God through His Name, and when the ranks were arranged between the armies—that is, between the believers and the ungodly—their cry of “Allahu Akbar” and “La ilaha illa’llah” was raised up, causing the limbs of the ungodly to tremble. Praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

To continue: Some of the letters addressed to the Most Exalted Name of the Beloved of Hearts, his honor the Name Aqa Muhammad, upon him be 66 9 [Baha’u’llah], were seen and some were sent sealed. Let them be forwarded to him. This servant had intended to present and send something to him as well, expressing degrees of yearning and longing and manifesting the kindling of the fire of love in the heart. However, by decree of the heart it was sealed:

> “It would be a pity to praise you among prisoners—it must either be in the heart or in spiritual gatherings.”

Praise be to God, spiritual gatherings exist both here and there. In this case, excuses have been scattered to the wind. God willing, the results will become evident and manifest, for when the countenance of love for the sake of God draws on a veil, its reflection appears clear and evident in all mirrors. Praise be to God, the candle exists and the moth exists, the sun is shining and things are ready. The Command is in the hand of God, the Lord of the outer and the inner.

Regarding the honored beloved, his honor Haji Abdul-Karim, upon him be the glory of God and His care, who had asked permission to attain the presence: praise be to God, permission has been granted. However, movement must occur with wisdom, for if the souls in those parts become aware of the purpose, they will surely arise with whatever their passions command them. They must act with perfect wisdom and consultation, and if there is any contradiction, patience is preferable. Verily He writes for him what he desires from the bounty of his Lord, the Self-Sufficient, the Praiseworthy. Peace and mercy be upon you and upon him and upon the steadfast and upright servants of God.

BH11778: Today, if it be said that the whole world…

He is the All-Knowing, the Peerless One!

Today, if it be said that the whole world is but a single eye, or a single ear, it would be true, for not an atom's weight of deeds remaineth concealed or hidden. Should any movement arise in the East, the people of the West become aware of it. The world today is adorned with awareness. Holy and assured souls must manifest such deeds and character as are befitting, that all the peoples of the earth may follow their example, so that the light of recognition may encompass and illumine the world. O friends! Know ye your worth and recognize your station, lest what ye have borne in the path of God be lost. Hearken unto the call of the Wronged One, and with complete determination arise to teach the Cause of the Lord of Days and the Beloved of mankind.

No matter among matters, and no glory among glories, hath ever endured or shall endure, except that matter which is attributed to God, or that glory which is bestowed by the Most Exalted Pen. This alone shall remain and persist throughout the dominion of earth and heaven. We have heard thy call and have answered with these decisive words, from which the fragrance of loving-kindness is wafted, that thou mayest be assured through the grace of the Friend and be gladdened by His favor. Know thou this station and be eloquent in praise and glorification of God, exalted be His glory.

BH06664: In My Name, the Most Great!

In My Name, the Most Great!

All created things have testified, all contingent beings have bowed down in submission, and all atoms have proclaimed: "The Lord is come, and sovereignty belongeth unto God, the Mighty, the Great!" Is there anyone with ears to hear? Is there anyone with eyes to see? Is there any fair-minded one who will judge fairly in the Cause of God, the Lord of all worlds? Among the people are those who imagine themselves to be of the people of Baha. Say: Far, far from it! This is naught but what thy self hath fancied. If thou deniest Me, then upon Me be the burden of proof. This name befitteth him who hath cast the world behind him, turning with spirit and joy toward the Most Exalted Horizon.

They whom riches have hindered are accounted among the wayward in the Books and Tablets. Give thanks unto God for having been mentioned before the Wronged One, Who hath sent down for thee that which hath gladdened eyes and caused the breeze of God to waft over the righteous. Take My Book in My Name and say: "Praise be unto Thee, O Thou Who hast remembered me in Thy Most Great Prison and

hast sent down for me that which hath made the countenance of recognition smile." Thus have We sent down the verses. Verily thy Lord is the Mighty, the Unconstrained.

BH08653: Today the Sun of Truth has risen…

In His Name, the Protector over all names!

Today the Sun of Truth has risen and the Mount of Knowledge speaks forth through the manifestation of the One Who converses. Blessed are they whom the mentions of the world have not prevented from the remembrance of the Ancient King. Throughout ages and centuries, the Twelver sect continually made mention of the Qa'im, yet after the dawning rays of His manifestation appeared, they issued the decree for His death and martyred Him. Today every soul must reflect upon the words and deeds of that sect, lest they be deprived of the eternal outpourings by the crowing of new roosters. We have heard thy mention and have answered with these exalted words. We counsel thee to that which today will cause the elevation of God's Cause and the steadfastness of heedless souls. This mighty Cause belongs to God, the King of the Day of Judgment.

BH08756: Say: O servants! The Morn of Divine Manifestation hath…

In the Name of the Ever-Abiding Speaker!

Say: O servants! The Morn of Divine Manifestation hath dawned, and the fragrance of His garment is diffused, and the breeze of the All-Merciful wafteth from the direction of the Best-Beloved. Seek ye confirmation from God, that perchance ye may not be deprived in these wondrous, exalted and novel days from the ocean of inner meanings, nor be forbidden from the effulgences of the lights of the Sun of loving-kindness. Great is this Day and mighty this Cause! Hold ye fast unto the Name of God, glorified be His majesty, and cling ye to His sanctified hem. Verily He will deliver you from the torment of a barren day. Blessed is the one whom doubts and allusions did not prevent or deprive from the Most Exalted Horizon. And woe unto every heedless one who accepted then turned away, who believed then denied. Verily he is among the companions of the Fire.

BH10142: From the murmuring of the Kawthar of the Merciful's…

He is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

From the murmuring of the Kawthar of the Merciful's utterance, this blessed word was heard: No adornment hath ever been or will ever be more excellent for the temple of man than the fear of God, and no garment more befitting than upright character. We make mention of thee that thou mayest remind the loved ones of God, that haply they may hold fast unto that which will exalt them amongst the servants. Take thou the reins of the Cause and convey unto the people that which will draw them nigh unto the Truth, the Knower of all things hidden. The glory shining forth from the heaven of My grace be upon thee and upon whomsoever hath remained steadfast in this mighty Cause.

BH10407: He is the Compassionate, the All-Bountiful! The Necessary Being…

He is the Compassionate, the All-Bountiful! The Necessary Being regardeth not any temporal attribute. The Incomparable One is sanctified and exalted above the how and wherefore of the world. The praise of all created things exalteth Him not, nor doth the blame of all contingent beings abase Him. O Tahmasb! We have turned toward thee from the precincts of the Prison, and have cleansed thee with the waters of loving-kindness and remembrance, and have sent down for thee that which the happenings of earth cannot alter. Rejoice thou in the bounty of thy Lord. He is with whosoever desireth Him, and He is the Forgiving, the Merciful. The glory shining forth from the horizon of the heaven of My mercy be upon thee and upon those who have attained and witnessed that which God, the Lord of all worlds, hath witnessed.

BH00419: Concerning the spiritual friend, Jinab-i-Aqa Muhammad-Javad, what they wrote…

Concerning the spiritual friend, Jinab-i-Aqa Muhammad-Javad, what they wrote is true. He has been engaged in service to the Cause from the first day until now. After this matter was presented before the Most Holy and Most Exalted Presence, these sublime words issued forth from the Dawning-Place of Divine inspiration—exalted be His blessed words: The Tongue of Glory in the prison of Akka beareth witness to the oneness of God, exalted be His glory, and that He hath no peer or likeness, and testifieth that Jinab-i-Javad, upon him be the Glory of God, together with the papers present in that house, hath arisen to serve from the beginning and hath not, according to his capacity, fallen short in rendering service and showing hospitality for the sake of God. He hath ever been and is mentioned in Our presence. In these days Asad, upon him be the Glory of God, hath arrived and made mention of each one, and each hath been honored with the mention of the Wronged One. We beseech God to assist them through the means of the heavens and earth and to aid them to remember Him, praise Him and serve His Cause. Verily He is the Powerful, the Mighty, the Hearer, the Answerer.

This servant beareth witness that God's favor hath ever been and is with him. The fragrant tablet of the honored lady, upon her be the Glory of God, was presented, whereupon God's favor toward that leaf became manifest, evident and clear. God willing, may she be aided and assisted in all conditions. Likewise mention was heard from the blessed tongue regarding others. Your honor should write these details and send them to the honored friend Jinab-i-Aqa Muhammad-Javad, upon him be the Glory of God and His favor, that all may rejoice in God's favor, exalted be His glory. Similarly, concerning Jinab-i-Haji Khalil and his nephew, upon them both be the Glory of God and His favor, they wrote that they are enkindled and are wisely engaged in mention, praise and teaching the Cause. All praise be to God—grace is from Him, bounty is from Him, success is from Him, and confirmation is from Him. We are poor and naked—clothing is from Him, crown is from Him, might and power are from Him. He confirmed them with a confirmation whose fragrance reached the Most Great Prison. This servant conveyeth greetings and salutations to them and beseecheth from God on their behalf whatsoever is worthy of His days and His favor.

Concerning what you wrote about Jinab-i-Aqa Abdul-Husayn Thamar, upon him be the Glory of God the Most Glorious, it was presented in the Most Holy and Most Exalted Presence. He—exalted be His utterance—said: "Our gaze of loving-kindness has ever been and continues to be directed towards those

related to Samandar, the sphere of fire. These are souls from whom, in the earliest days, the fragrance of the love of God was diffused. That house is truly associated with Him and is mentioned by His name. We have remembered and continue to remember them all, and We counsel them with wisdom.

Blessed is the teacher who fulfilled the divine covenant and engaged in the education of children. The reward which was revealed in the Most Holy Book concerning him has been recorded by the Supreme Pen. Blessed is he, blessed is he! He acted according to the divine counsel. We have mentioned him and will mention him as a bounty from Us, for We are the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous. Should God will and desire it, the manifestation of favor will also be made evident outwardly. He should rejoice in what has flowed from My Pen and been mentioned in My prison. We beseech Him, exalted be He, to make him a star among the stars of the heaven of steadfastness and power in this Cause, through which the limbs of the wicked have quaked."

As for their proceeding to the great city or other destinations, this is contingent upon consultation in that land and also with Jinab-i-Mahbubi Nabil Ibn-i-Nabil, upon him be the Glory of God and His loving-kindness. The law of consultation has been enacted and established before the Throne. Well-being be unto him who follows guidance.

Likewise, you had mentioned the beloved and honored ones Jinab-i-Aqa Mirza Yusuf and Jinab-i-Aqa Mirza Ayyub, upon them be the Glory of God. This servant conveys greetings to each of them and beseeches God to assist and enable His loved ones to teach His Cause. O beloved of my heart! You know what God, exalted be His glory, has willed in this Revelation. By the life of our Beloved! If the kings of the earth were to perceive the fragrance of His will, they would surely unite with Him and arise to serve the world—how much more so His friends! If His Majesty the Shah of Iran were to turn even slightly toward justice and arise to manifest and establish this Cause—indeed, this year there has appeared from His Majesty that which is the cause of thanksgiving and praise. All should beseech God, exalted be His glory, to grant him success and confirmation. Repeatedly this exalted word was heard from the Blessed Tongue; He said:

"His Majesty the Shah, of his own accord, has released the prisoners and granted freedom."

This statement was heard from that Source in various forms

In the name of our Lord, the Most Holy, the Most Great, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious

Praise be to God Who was and is as He has ever been. He has manifested His Cause and executed His Will, and His power has encompassed all things, despite those among all created things who have violated His Covenant and His Pact, and have changed the religion of God and His Cause according to their vain imaginations. They are indeed among the godless ones in a perspicuous Book.

This evanescent one presents that the letter from the beloved of hearts, Samandar, fire of love and certitude, upon him be the Glory of the All-Merciful, which was sent to that Presence, was read. This evanescent servant was refreshed by the breezes of his love and attained boundless joy from the wine of his mention. After praise and gratitude to the Goal of all the worlds, it was presented before His face. He spoke, and His word is the truth:

> “O Samandar! Praise be to God that from the first days until now thou hast been favored with the grace of the Lord of Destiny and engaged in service. We beseech Him to ordain for thee that which perisheth not. Verily, He is the One with power over whatsoever He willeth in the hereafter and in this world. The Glory from Us be upon thee and upon those who are with thee and who love thee and who hearken to thy words concerning the Cause of God, the Lord of the Throne on high and of the earth below.”

Mention was made of the intention of the honored His Holiness the Name of God M.H., upon him be all His Most Glorious Glory, to proceed to the Land of Kaf. This word attained the honor of being heard, and the Tongue of Grandeur spoke this word: If they would proceed for some days to the Land of Ya and Alif and Ra and its surroundings, and Dal and Ha and the like, it would be acceptable in the presence of the Wronged One, and in those lands they must fully observe wisdom. And regarding what was mentioned about the telegraph, the purpose of that was that they should proceed to the Land of the Goal, and now since they have been summoned from the Land of Ya, their proceeding in that direction is loved and accepted by God.

And regarding what was written about Jinab Aqa Mirza Mahdi, upon him be 669 [Baha’u’llah], from the people of Rasht, this matter was presented in the Most Holy and Most Exalted Court. This is what was sent down for him from the heaven of grandeur and power:

> “O Mahdi! Convey My greetings to the friends. Say: Today the Fire speaketh and the Speaker of the Mount uttereth speech, and the fragrance of the garment of Revelation hath perfumed the world—that is, the world of knowledge and vision—while these people, like worthless insects, neither perceive nor understand. They have newly returned to the ancient mentions of the people of the Furqan and have adorned vain imaginings with new forms. Until now they have not understood that this Day is the Day of God; the mention of any other than Him was not and is not permitted. We beseech God that He may assist all to attain unto a fire that shall never be quenched and unto a remembrance that shall never be forgotten.”

And likewise mention was made of Jinab Aqa Ali, son of him who ascended unto God. His mention was raised to the highest station of the world, attaining the honor of being heard by the Lord of Eternity. His word, exalted be His majesty and mighty be His utterance:

> “O Ali! We counsel thee to preserve that which thy father preserved, he whom the Supreme Pen hath mentioned at eventide and at dawn. Blessed art thou and he and whosoever hath loved him for the sake of God, the Lord of Lords.”

Mention was made of Aqa Muhammad-Taqi, brother of Haji Muhammad-Ibrahim, upon them both be the Glory of God. He had come to the city from the village on behalf of his brother and brought twenty-four tumans as payment of Huquq. After attaining the presence and hearing the words of the Lord of Names, this most exalted utterance was revealed, His word, exalted and mighty be He:

> “Blessed is he! He hath done what was ordained in the Book of God. We beseech Him, exalted be He, to draw him near unto Him in all conditions. Verily He is the Self-Sufficient, the Most High. Muhammad-Qabil-Ibrahim is among those who attained the presence of the

> Countenance and drank the choice wine of reunion and achieved that which was inscribed in the Books of God, the Lord of the worlds. The Glory be upon him and upon his brother and upon those with him who have turned unto God, the One, the All-Informed."

End.

According to what was commanded, the aforementioned twenty-four tumans and fifty tumans were sent by His Holiness Nabil-i-Akbar, upon him be the Glory of God, the Lord of Power, from the direction of K, some from himself and some from the friends of that land, whose names he had recorded. God willing, a reply to his letter will be sent. From these fifty tumans, as commanded, five tumans were spent on hospitality on his behalf, and certain arrangements were made regarding the aforementioned souls, upon them be the Glory of God. The handmaiden of God who had the honor of serving the House of her Lord, namely the noble lady Sayyidih, upon her be the Glory of God, gave five tumans for her daughter. That sum was received here and the aforementioned hospitality was provided from it. And the aforementioned fifty tumans were assigned to be delivered to the beloved of the heart, His Holiness Samandar, upon him be the Glory of God, that he might distribute that sum along with the twenty-four tumans to the friends of God, exalted be His Glory.

Concerning the beloved Abhar, upon him be the Glory of God and His favors, they had written. We beseech God, our Lord and the Lord of all who dwell on earth and in heaven, to grant him success and to strengthen him and honor him with what He desires in His straight path. At present, due to the accumulation of affairs and multitude of occupations, there is no opportunity to write more. As commanded, in these days another letter is being written to that land. Whatever remained unanswered, and the details of the distribution are as follows: As for the amount of twenty-four tumans, nine tumans should be given to the honored mother of Ibn-i-Abhar, upon them both be the Glory of God, and nine tumans should be given in the name of Allah J.M., upon him be all His most glorious Glory, and the remainder should be sent to the Most Holy Court.

And that fifty tumans should be distributed as follows: The aforementioned honored daughter, upon them both be the Glory of God, ten tumans, some of which her mother has given and the rest has been bestowed. In the land of Ta, to the honored Hudhud, upon her be the Glory of God, twenty tumans. To the spiritual beloved Aqa Mahmud from N.R., upon him be the Glory of God and His favors, deliver ten tumans, and the other ten tumans should be delivered to the son of His Holiness Kamaluddin, upon him be the Most Glorious Glory of God, Jinab-i-Aqa Nur.

And at the end of the missive, He said to write to Jinab-i-Samandar: If souls succeed in paying the Huquq, it will be useful for some. The fragrance of "they prefer others before themselves" is cut off, and the scent of "and among them are those who hasten to do good deeds" is forbidden. Would that after these two, they would at least act upon "lend unto God a goodly loan." However, the Euphrates of the wealth of the Truth, exalted be His glory, flows and spreads. Blessed are those who know, and blessed are the patient ones. Praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds. End.

This servant offers greetings, glorification and praise to them, and mention was made in detail of their household in the Most Holy Court, and all were blessed with the mention of the Truth, exalted be His

glory. Blessed are they and joy be unto them. And the Glory, the Remembrance and the Praise be upon your honor and his honor and upon the friends of God there and in all regions and territories.

The Servant 1st of Jumada II, 1302

BH01859: Praise be to God Who has recorded all things…

He is God, exalted be His station, the Greatness and the Power!

Praise be to God Who has recorded all things in a Book, wherein the Pen Most High has inscribed the manifestations of His power, the expressions of His grandeur, the revelations of His sovereignty, and that which none has encompassed save Him. And blessing and peace be upon the Mystery of His Book, the Secret-essence of His verses, the Sign of His oneness, and the Cause of His creation, through Whom the lips of mystical knowledge smiled in the contingent world and the decree of the All-Merciful appeared throughout the lands, and upon His family and companions who arose and strove in His path until they sacrificed their spirits in His love and in manifesting His ordinances and revealing His commands.

Glorified art Thou, O Thou Who art the Goal of all hearts and the Beloved of the souls of those who have attained to the station of unveiling and witnessing! I beseech Thee by Thy Self and by the Manifestations of Thy power and the Dawning-places of Thy signs to strengthen me in that which Thou hast commanded me in Thy Book. O my Lord! Thou seest me confessing my powerlessness and acknowledging my shortcomings. I beseech Thee by the pearls of the ocean of Thy utterance and the lights of Thy countenance to protect me and Thy loved ones from the evil of Thine enemies. O Lord! Strengthen us through Thy power and sovereignty to remember Thee, then have mercy upon us through Thy generosity and favors.

We testify that through our heedlessness the pillars of unity have been shaken in Thy lands and the banners of detachment in Thy realm. Thou hearest, O my God, the roaring of the ungodly who have surrounded Thy dwellings, laid waste Thy lands, and usurped the territories of Thy servants. We beseech Thee, O God of the world and Goal of the nations, to send down from the heaven of Thy power that which will exalt the station of those among Thy servants who profess Thy unity and those among Thy creatures who hold fast to Thee. Verily, Thou art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest. There is no God but Thee, the Strong, the Mighty.

And further: may my spirit be a sacrifice for your mention—the servant has been honored by what has flowed from the ink of your love and the pen of your will. When I read and understood it, I presented it before the Countenance and submitted what was in your letter. The Master—may my spirit be His sacrifice—said:

> “We beseech the Lord of all beings to strengthen whoever has acknowledged God and His signs and recognized His greatness and sovereignty, and We ask for him the best of what He has revealed in His Book. Verily, He is powerful over all things and worthy to answer. We make mention of him and those with him as We mentioned him before, and We ask for them grace, mercy and blessing. Verily, He is the Forgiving, the Generous.”

End quote.

Regarding what you mentioned about those who arrived there, they have permission to proceed to your presence. Give them this glad tiding. The servant beseeches his Lord to strengthen them in what He loves and is pleased with. He is God, the Goal of all beings and the Beloved of those in earth and heaven.

As for what you wrote concerning the apple of the eye, Husayn Effendi and Abdul-Karim—upon them be God's peace—after presenting it, the Master—may my spirit be His sacrifice—said they should hold fast to patience for a known time. End quote.

The servant presents greetings and sends salutations to the apple of the eye and to those whose names were mentioned and to all the loved ones, and beseeches God to grant them success and decree for them what will benefit them. Verily, He is the Most Merciful of the merciful ones and the Most Generous of the generous ones.

Regarding what you wrote about the physician—upon him be 96 [Baha'u'llah]—a letter was sent to him before, and if God wishes, another will be sent to him again.

Peace, praise and glory be upon you and upon those who love you and upon those who have taken the Criterion with the hand of might, power and assurance, and have distinguished between truth and falsehood and between the people of unity and misbelief.

The servant 12 Jamadiyu'th-Thani 1302

BH02753: Praise be to God! Today the garden of inner…

Section 1: "Praise be to God! Today the garden…"

In the Name of our Most Holy, Most Great, Most Exalted, Most Glorious Lord.

Praise be to God! Today the garden of inner meanings hath appeared, adorned with the flowers of divine knowledge and wisdom. The Kawthar of utterance and the living waters of Tasnim flow therein. How blessed is the state of one who hath found the way thereto, and how deprived is he who hath gained no portion thereof. Its fragrant breeze giveth life to the soul and gladdeneth the spirit. Without words it imparteth subtle and delicate mysteries; without treasure or ornament it bestoweth eternal wealth. With the finger of power it rendeth asunder the veil of bewilderment and causeth the sun of truth to shine forth from the horizon of grace. How blessed are they that attain! How blessed are they that know! How great the regret of the heedless and the rejectors!

Its key hath ever been and will continue to be the love of God, which is the praise and glorification of the Goal of all creation, expressed in sweet and engaging words. How blessed is such a day, how blessed such an hour, and how blessed such a moment when the exalted letter, which is as a key and from which emanateth the fragrance of the love of the Beloved of the world, arriveth continuously! In truth, it is this that refresheth the heart with new joy and causeth the fire of longing and yearning to burn more intensely.

God is my witness that at all times, despairing of creation, finding solace in thoughts of Thee, and placing my trust and reliance in God, suddenly the door was opened and hope was fulfilled. The carpet of sorrow was rolled up and the carpet of joy was spread forth. Before that, each day the pen would write of the pain of separation, and ink would record mention of the days of communion and unity. At times the nature yearned for the art of the nightingale, and at others beheld itself like the salamander in the fire.

Brevity is more beloved than prolixity, for it neither prevents you from the mention and praise of the Beloved of the worlds, nor obscures the matter which is explained and clear to that Eminence. We have passed over lengthy discourse; in brief, without you no complete joy was attained, and your absence deprived the gatherings of their supreme adorning. As the servant was seated, suddenly from the horizon of the house your letter appeared like the morning star. After taking, reading and perusing it, it attained the honor of being heard before the face of the Lord of Names, exalted be His majesty and His favors.

He is the One Who gazeth from His most exalted horizon

O My Name! Time and again have We made mention of thee. Thou hast quaffed the cup of everlasting life from the hands of the Best-Beloved of all creation. Thy mention endureth forever and thy tribulations are witnessed before the Throne. Through thy steadfastness the horizon of constancy hath been illumined and made radiant. Blessed art thou, and blessed is he who loveth thee, maketh mention of thee, and hearkeneth unto thy words concerning the Cause of God, the Lord of all worlds.

Should you for a time turn your attention to your homeland and its environs from the land of Ya, Alif and Ra, this would be well-pleasing in the sight of God, for perchance some wayward soul might find guidance and recognize the Purpose. However, in all conditions you must fix your gaze upon the horizon of wisdom. Whatsoever is contrary to this is neither permitted nor befitting. Thus doth the Wronged One command thee and make mention of thee from this exalted station.

Convey My greetings to the friends of God. Say: Beware, beware lest the clamor of the ungodly keep you back from God, the Lord of all worlds. These people newly walk in the footsteps of the people of the Furqan. By the life of God, they have not understood the Day of God, for on that Day none is mentioned save God alone. All books are dependent upon His Word and acceptance, and all deeds are contingent upon His leave. Throughout ages and centuries they have nurtured people with vain imaginings. Yet that heedless group considered themselves superior to all others, unaware that they were and are the most abject of servants. With utmost tyranny they martyred Him Whose mention they prefaced with “may God hasten His relief.” The result was “may God hasten their descent into hell.” Say: O friends of Truth! By God’s life, these souls are heedless and unaware. Setting aside all else, what benefit did they derive from their past utterances that they should gain from future ones? Fie upon them and upon those who followed them without clear proof from God, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

It is necessary to mention somewhat the calumnies of the Shi’ih sect and their falsehoods. O My Name! The Concourse on High lamenteth and the dwellers of the Most Exalted Paradise grieve, for having rent asunder the thick veils and mighty coverings, they have now returned to their first step. Weep, O people, weep! Justice hath become like the phoenix and truthfulness like equity—both unwitnessed. Yet thy Lord is the Powerful, the Mighty, the Omnipotent.

The people of Baha are deterred neither by the world nor by aught therein. His Cause is more manifest than the sun, and His call is raised at all times. Blessed is he who hath cast away the world, turning unto God, the Lord of eternity, Who in the midst of tribulation proclaimed with the most exalted call and summoned all to His luminous horizon.

I know not why until now the people of the Bayan have not reflected upon the deeds and words of the previous sect. Those who considered themselves the best among mankind, namely the Shi'ih sect, committed that which caused all things to lament. Not one soul reflected upon what was the outcome of that sect and their deeds and words. By the life of our Purpose, it was all scattered dust! Now the ungodly among the people of the Bayan have established such an apparatus anew. These sightless ones have not reflected for a moment that from the beginning of the world until now, what Cause hath been greater than this Cause and what Revelation more manifest than this Revelation? Should any soul arise to deny it, to what would he then testify? Today none is mentioned save God. Blessed is the soul that hath inhaled the fragrance of this Day and recognized its Purpose. This servant beseeches the Eternal Truth to render ears worthy and eyes capable of hearkening to the Call and beholding the Supreme Horizon.

Concerning what was written about His Holiness the Afnan (upon him be all the most glorious Glory of God), that he sent a telegram—the purpose thereof was that dignitary's journey to the direction of the Divine Purpose. However, the subsequent letter stated that His Holiness the Afnan (upon him be all the most glorious Glory of God) and the honored Amin (upon him be the Glory of God) had requested to proceed in those directions. After this matter was presented at the Most Holy Court, this supreme utterance shone forth from the highest horizon, He says, exalted and mighty is He:

"Now that these honored ones have made this request, the Afnan's acceptance is beloved before the Divine Presence, and if he should travel for some days in the land of Ya and its surroundings, it would be beloved." The people of that province and the relatives will surely attain fresh joy and new delight from meeting with that dignitary. And concerning what was written about how the friends of God in every land have all requested mention, this matter was honored to be heard. He said, exalted be His glory: "O My Name! Upon thee be My glory, My loving-kindness and My mercy. By My life! Whosoever has desired that his name be mentioned in the Most Holy Court, verily his mention is recorded and inscribed by the Supreme Pen. Give glad tidings from Me to all who have desired My loving-kindness and attention. Say: Verily He heareth and seeth, and He is the All-Hearing, the Answering. Give to each one the glad tidings of God's loving-kindness and counsel them to steadfastness and that which exalteth the station of man. Blessed are they and theirs shall be a goodly return." End.

And concerning what was written about three trustworthy souls who are among the poor and working class having given a portion for the Huququ'llah—though it is small, yet coming from its owners despite their poverty, it is most praiseworthy and beloved. These matters were presented in the presence of Him from Whose grasp nothing can escape. This is what caused the ocean of utterance to surge in the realm of possibility. He says, blessed and exalted is He:

He is the One Who speaketh in truth!

O servants of the All-Merciful! My Name hath mentioned you, and We have mentioned you in a Tablet that cannot be equaled by the tablets of the world nor by what the nations possess. Your Lord, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting, beareth witness unto this. Ye have attained unto the recognition of the Wronged One, Whom the transgressors have made a prisoner because He summoned all unto God, the Lord of what was and what shall be. Bear ye witness as God hath borne witness before the creation of earth and heaven that there is no God but Me, the Truth, the Knower of the unseen. Whoso hath attained unto My recognition, he is indeed of the Supreme Concourse in the sight of God, the Fashioner of the heavens and the Lord of Names; and he who hath been prevented is accounted among the heedless in the Preserved Tablet.

God hath heard your call and witnessed your turning unto Him, and hath sent down for you that which shall be with you in every world of the worlds of your Lord, the Mighty, the Loving. Beware lest the clamor of the babblers prevent you from God, the Lord of the worlds. Preserve what ye have been given through this Name that dominateth over all who are in the heavens and the earth.

Praise be to God, they have attained unto the bounty of the True One, exalted be His glory, and what they have given hath been accepted, and a receipt shall be sent. If possible, it would be beloved if that sum could be delivered in the land of Kha to Mulla ʿAli Bajistani (upon him be the Glory of God), that he might use half himself and deliver the other half to Ibn-i-Shahid (upon him be the Glory of God).

In reference to thy mention of His Honor Aqa Mirza Muhammad Ja'far and His Honor Aqa Mirza Mihdi, upon them be the Glory of God, this was presented before the Divine Throne and attained the honor of being heard, and the petition of His Honor Aqa Mirza Muhammad Ja'far which he had written to thy presence was likewise presented before the Throne. Two most holy and most exalted Tablets were revealed from the heaven of divine will especially for them and were sent forth. God willing, they will attain unto them and drink from their ocean of inner meanings.

Similarly, mention was made of the devout, enkindled handmaidens—the honored aunt and her two daughters, upon them be the Glory of God and His favors—and it was written that they are counted among the first believers. After these matters were presented in the Most Holy and Most Exalted Presence, these verses shone forth from the horizon of grace. He saith, exalted be His glory:

In My Name, the All-Remembering, the All-Seeing

O My Name! Upon thee be My glory and My mercy. By the life of God, thou hast spoken the truth. The aunt and Khadijih in the early days attained unto faith, drank from the Kawthar of love, and received a mighty portion from the Euphrates of certitude. The sweet fragrances of the love of the All-Merciful have ever wafted from them, and they have, to the extent possible, exerted mighty efforts in service to His Cause and His loved ones. In the path of God they heard and witnessed that which caused grief to the hearts of those near unto Him. Blessed are they! By My life, all that is on earth cannot equal what hath been ordained for them. Praise be to God that they attained unto acceptance, certitude, recognition and utterance of "yea." The divine testimony concerning them sufficeth and endureth. Verily, He doth not suffer the reward of the doers of good, whether men or women, to be lost. Convey to them My glad-tidings and remind them on behalf of the Wronged One. The glory shining from the horizon of the heaven

of My utterance be upon them and upon their children who have acknowledged that which the Tongue of Grandeur hath spoken: “Verily there is none other God but Me, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting.”

Their mention hath ever been in the Most Holy Presence, and there hath been revealed for them that which shall endure as long as the names endure. The servant beseecheth God, his Lord, to grant them success, to strengthen them, and draw them nigh unto Him. Verily, He is powerful over whatsoever He willeth, and He is the Forgiving, the Generous.

Likewise, two Most Holy, Most Exalted, Most Glorious Tablets were revealed and sent especially for His Honor Aqa Muhammad-ʿAli and Aqa Muhammad-Husayn, upon them be the Glory of God. God willing, they will attain unto them. Some time ago their petitions attained the Most Holy Presence. Verily our Lord, the All-Merciful, is the Succorer, the Almighty, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

Regarding thy mention of His Honor Aqa Mirza Abdu’r-Rahim of Qamsar, upon him be the Glory of God, and likewise the amount of six (vav) for the Huquq which His Honor Aqa Zaynu’l-Abidin from Mazgan, upon him be the Glory of God, had sent through him—these matters were presented before His countenance. This is what was revealed for His Honor Mir, upon him be the Glory of God. He saith, exalted be His utterance:

I am the Expounder, the All-Wise

O Mir! Great is the Cause and great is the Day! Some followers of the Bayan have until now failed to comprehend the Day and cling to former vain imaginings. Say: O people! Today is God’s Day wherein none is mentioned but Him. If a soul should be confirmed in the worship of all who have gone before and shall come after, and in less than that moment turn his gaze to aught else, he hath not been nor ever shall be accounted among the people of unity, and all his deeds shall be as scattered dust. Have they not heard the words of the people of the Furqan, that is, the Shi’ih sect, and have they not weighed the imaginings of the past?

How then are they occupied in renewing suspicions and idle fancies? Nay, they are in manifest loss! Though all days of Manifestation are, in one sense, the Days of God, yet this Day was the object of the desire of all Prophets and Messengers. In all Books, Scriptures and Tablets it is adorned with the ornament of distinction. Say: Fear God, O people, and be not of them that join partners with Him! Be steadfast in the Cause, and voice the praise of thy Lord, and be firm in such wise that the edifices of doubts and idle fancies may tremble. Thus doth the Mother Book command thee.

Section 2: “We make mention of the friend who hath…”

We make mention of the friend who hath attained to the remembrance and utterance from the All-Merciful. We beseech God to aid him in that which will exalt His firm and wise Cause. Convey My greetings unto him and unto My loved ones there. We counsel them to manifest the utmost steadfastness and that which befitteth this glorious and wondrous Day. My Name, upon Him be My glory, hath made mention of thee. We make mention of thee through this manifest remembrance. Thou hast attained unto thy Lord’s remembrance time and again—this from His great bounty. The glory be upon you from God, the Lord of the worlds.

We make mention of Zaynu'l-ʿAbidin who hath acted according to what was commanded in the Book of God. Blessed is the servant who hath testified to that which the Desired One hath testified, and hath performed in His path that which hath caused his remembrance to be exalted among His sincere servants.

A hundred thousand thanks to the Desired One of the world! Whenever mention is made of one of His loved ones in His presence, it is adorned with the lights of His grace and embellished with the ornament of His favor. Particularly those souls whom that Excellency hath mentioned—each one hath attained unto wondrous, sublime, enduring and eternal verses. Blessed are they, and joy be unto them, and all good be unto them! This evanescent servant beseecheth all to remember him at the time of mention and praise, and to seek confirmation for him in the service of this mighty and great Cause.

Concerning what was written about spending an evening at the home of Aqa Siyyid Muhammad-Baqir, upon him be the glory of God, in the company of the friends of God, engaged in the remembrance of the Beloved of the worlds—this matter was presented in the Most Holy and Most Exalted Court. His Word, exalted be His glory:

In My Name, through which the sea hath surged and the fragrance hath wafted

Blessed is he whose tongue hath spoken in praise of his Lord, and he who hath inhaled the fragrance of His luminous garment, and he whose ear hath heard His sweetest call, and he whose eyes have beheld His glorious countenance. O Siyyid, O Muhammad-i-Qabl-i-Baqir! My Name, upon Him be My glory, hath made mention of thee. We make mention of thee that thou mayest give thanks unto thy Lord, the All-Forgiving, the Most Bountiful.

The greatest of all deeds in this day is steadfastness, for the people have been reared in the midst of vain imaginings. Blessed is he who hath cast aside the vain imaginings and utterances of the past and hath fixed his gaze upon the horizon of certitude alone. Those souls who are deprived of knowledge have clung to the words of the people of the Furqan and have arisen to lead others astray. This was the promise of God, exalted be His glory, and He hath given tidings in His Books of that which hath appeared and shall appear. Hold fast unto the cord of thy Lord's loving-kindness and cleave unto His luminous hem.

Blessed is thy house wherein My remembrance hath been raised, and wherein My Name and My loved ones have been present. Remember them on My behalf, and convey My greetings unto them, and give them the glad-tidings of My loving-kindness and mercy. We beseech God to aid them to serve His Cause, to send down upon them blessings from His presence, and to give them to drink from the Kawthar of steadfastness by the hands of His bounty. Verily, He is the Mighty, the Supreme, the Self-Subsisting.

As to what was written regarding the distress of the friends—the good of the world, the blessings of the world, and the power and might of the world, all are directed towards them and reckoned as theirs. How many companions in the time of the Seal of the Prophets, may all else but Him be sacrificed for His sake, had not even sustenance for the night, yet they held fast unto patience and were adorned with the ornament of resignation, until there was sent down unto them from the heaven of grace that which the reckoners were powerless to reckon. Soon they shall witness that which hath been revealed in the Book. The riches of the world and its good shall turn towards them from all directions. What is needed now is

unity and harmony, wisdom and the teaching of the Cause in such wise as not to create commotion. This hath been and is incumbent upon the servants, and the rest is with God, exalted be His glory.

Despite the expenses of this land, of which thou art aware, if any portion of the Huquq reacheth Us or arriveth, it hath been and will be given. What Ismi hath written in this regard is correct; indeed, great breaches shall appear, as they already have. Concerning the beloved Aqa Mirza Asadu'llah, upon him be the glory of God and the trust of God, what was written hath caused boundless joy. Praise be to God, and thanksgiving and glory be unto Him, and His is the power and strength and bounty. However, according to the command, at present a small place must be designated without furnishings, otherwise it is in danger. Many wicked heedless ones are to be seen; should they become aware, they may perhaps arise to commit previous deeds. At the outset of any matter its end must be considered. The place must be taken in such wise as to leave no room for anyone to make claims.

And likewise it was written that one night they were honored to be in the house of Aqa Muhammad-ʿAli, upon him be the glory of God, together with the friends of God, upon them be the glory of God. This matter in its entirety was presented before the Presence. This is what was revealed in reply from our Lord, the Lord of the Final End. His word, exalted and mighty is He:

In My Name, Who heareth and seeth

O Muhammad-ʿAli! For successive years thou hast been blessed with the remembrance of the Lord of Names and Attributes. Thou hast drunk from the cup of reunion and partaken of the ocean of meeting. Thou hast heard that which was mentioned in the divine Books and witnessed that which was recorded therein. Blessed art thou and blessed is thy son who hath attained unto the tablets of his Lord, the All-Bountiful. Thy mention and that of thy sons hath been immortalized in God's Book. We beseech God to aid thee in preserving that which He hath bestowed. We testify that thou didst migrate and attain Our presence, and didst hear and see. Rejoice thou in thy Lord's loving-kindness and be of them that are steadfast.

We make mention of the Hakim, brother of the Hakim, who attained Our presence and discovered the fragrance of Our wondrous Revelation. O Aqa Khan! Hearken unto the call of thy Lord, the All-Merciful, from the Divine Lote-Tree upon this elevated Mount in the most noble of spots. Verily, there is none other God but Him, the Mighty, the All-Bestowing. Thy mention hath been made before the Wronged One, and there hath been revealed for thee a tablet from whose horizon hath shone the star of thy Lord's loving-kindness, the Lord of all men. Blessed art thou for having turned unto the Dayspring of Revelation and heard the call of Him Who conversed on Sinai, Who was promised in the Books and Tablets. We beseech God to strengthen thee, prosper thee, and ordain for thee through His Most Exalted Pen the best of this world and the next. Verily, He is the Omnipotent over whatsoever He willeth, through His Name whereby He hath subdued all who are in earth and heaven. Soon shall all thou seest today perish, and there shall endure what hath been ordained by God, the Lord of Lords. We counsel thee to preserve what thou hast been given and to remain steadfast, which God hath made among the most excellent of deeds.

The waves of the ocean of bounty have encompassed all, and the lights of the Sun of loving-kindness have shone upon all. This servant beseecheth God that He may make all aware of what He desireth, for should they become aware, all would arise to serve His Cause. Praise be to God that both the aforementioned ones—namely Aqa Muhammad-Ali and Aqa Khan, upon them be the Glory of the All-Merciful—have drunk from the cup of meeting with their heart's Desire and have attained unto that which was promised in the Books. I beseech God to strengthen them in steadfastness, which is mentioned as the most excellent of deeds, and service. I convey greetings and salutations to each, and likewise to the sons of Aqa Muhammad-Ali, upon them be the Glory of God—the eldest son and the others. Praise be to God, they are mentioned in His presence and have attained His loving-kindness. Praise be to Him in all conditions. I beseech and hope from God that He may open the door of bounty and extend the hand of giving. Verily, He hath power over all things.

As for what they wrote concerning their difficult circumstances, they were told to act in whatever way they deem advisable, whether through the Huquq or other means. They should certainly give attention to this matter. Since this is the divine will, relief shall surely come. In His grasp is the control of all affairs and He is the All-Powerful, the Almighty.

Regarding what they wrote about the honorable Hudhud, upon her be the Glory of God, in these days news arrived of a sum of twenty tumans which has been ordered to be sent to her, with the remainder to be given to certain others. If further news arrives, it shall be transferred.

O My Name! Upon thee be My glory! Ha and Sin, upon him be My glory! From the beginning of the Cause he turned to the Most Exalted Horizon and in a few years was enabled to serve the Cause through mention and praise. We beseech God to strengthen him to preserve this station. He is the Powerful, the Mighty. God willing, may he be assisted to perform that which is regarded as the most excellent of all deeds in the sight of God, and which shall endure throughout the kingdom of earth and heaven. O My Name! Give him the glad tidings of a favor from which the sun of permission hath dawned from the horizon of his Lord's gracious will. He may turn with such turning as causeth all created things to turn towards the precincts of nearness and meeting—the station wherein the Speaker of the Mount proclaimeth: The Kingdom belongeth unto God, the Lord of Lords.

Blessed is he, for he hath attained unto that which he sought. However, as bidden, he must observe wisdom and its requirements. If circumstances are favorable, well and good; if not, patience is preferable.

As to the mention thou hast made of the feast given by the honored mother of the family, upon her be the Glory of God, and likewise the mention of the minister and his son and their circumstances, upon them be God's loving-kindness—this was presented in the Presence of Him Who was God and there was naught else besides Him. Thus did the Tongue of our Lord, the All-Merciful, speak in the Kingdom of Utterance: O My Name! We have previously made mention of Muhammad—a mention whose fragrance shall endure and persist. We beseech God to assist him to do that which beseemeth His days and enable him to act according to that which hath been revealed in the Book.

From this station We send Our greetings upon him, his brother and his son. Convey to all of them the Wronged One's greetings, that the greeting may draw them to the most exalted station and bring them

near unto God, the Lord of all mankind. The world is evanescent and its treasures will not endure. We beseech God to enable those who are related to attain unto true relationship and to guide them to the straight path. Praise be to God that they have been mentioned and their names have flowed from the Pen of Utterance. This is the true blessing and the heavenly food. Glory be upon them and upon those who have attained unto this manifest Day and this firm and mighty Cause.

This evanescent servant beseecheth the Eternal Truth not to deprive any of those who are related from the sealed wine.

Concerning the mention thou hast made of the evening of arrival and the presence of the friends and some of the loved ones, this exalted Word hath shone forth from the Most Exalted Horizon at this point: O God! Bestow Thy blessings and peace upon the host, the guests, and those who were present, visited, attained, served, made mention and heard the praise of God, the Self-Subsisting, the All-Compelling.

Praise be to God! These exalted words encompassed all—the host, the guests, those who were present, those who rendered service for the sake of God, and those who made their way through the snow—all attained and received their portion from the ocean of God's mention. Happy are they! Especially for the honored mother of the family, upon her be the Glory of God, a Most Holy, Most Great Tablet was revealed, and likewise specifically for the leaf who is the sister of Aqa Mirza Mahmud, upon them both be the Glory of God, who made her way through snow and cold. Verily, He doth not suffer to be lost the reward of those men and women who do good.

And as to what ye wrote concerning Aqa Mir ʿAli-Naqi—may the glory of Baha rest upon him—and likewise the mention of the services he hath rendered unto the friends of God: this matter, after being laid before the Most Holy Presence, drew forth in reply these exalted words—His glory be magnified:

Section 3: "Today all the friends of God must reflect…"

He is the All-Witness, the All-Informed.

Today all the friends of God must reflect upon matters of the past and become aware of the unripe fruits of false trees, that perchance they may not fall prey to new delusions in the future. The Shi'ih sect was considered the most exalted of religions, yet it became manifest as the lowest and most abject of all parties. Some followers of the Bayan who are deprived of the rays of the Sun of Truth and barred from the ocean of knowledge walk in the footsteps of that people. The true Herald and genuine King—that blessed Being Whose mention the Shi'ih sect made for years during nights and days, eagerly awaiting His appearance and yearning for His presence—after His manifestation they all pronounced the verdict of His death and martyred Him with grievous torment.

That Holy One was martyred by the sword of that group's falsehood. For one thousand two hundred years and more they busied themselves with arranging beliefs and mentioning the paths of faith and certitude. In the end neither did those beliefs bear fruit nor were those words seen to yield any result, for they were deprived of the straight path and walked the ways of idle fancies and vain imaginings. They arranged multiple partners for God, glorified be His grandeur, while considering themselves believers. The ultimate end of that rebellious sect was what you saw and heard. How many souls whom they

considered misguided, including those of the Sunni sect, have now had the light of faith shine forth from their hearts such that they became accepted and attained His presence.

Reflect upon the children of Abraham and the heirs of Moses, how they became enkindled with the fire of the Cause. Observe, then mention what the All-Merciful revealed in the Qur'an, blessed and exalted be His words:

> "And We desired to show favor unto those who were brought low in the land, and to make them leaders and to make them inheritors."

Verily all grace is within His mighty grasp—He gives and withholds, and He is the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous.

The Supreme Pen today counsels all to steadfastness, for the croakers have appeared with evident craftiness and have striven and continue to strive to lead people astray. It is reported they have gathered the writings of this Revelation. God is aware and knowing of all intentions. We counsel all to the Most Great Steadfastness in such wise that the hearts of those who have denied God, the Lord of all worlds, may be astonished thereby.

We make mention in this station of him whom We named Khalil (Friend) in the Book. O Khalil! Hearken unto the call from the Most Exalted Horizon. Verily thy Lord hath turned toward thee and made mention of thee in such wise that nothing possessed by all the parties can equal it. Glorify thy Lord's praise and remind the people of this Cause whereby all things have proclaimed: "The Kingdom belongeth unto God, the Lord of Lords!" Protect My servants from the calumnies of the people of the Bayan who have denied the All-Merciful by following vain imaginings and idle fancies. They desire to spread corruption in the land after its reformation. They are assuredly among the transgressors in the Scriptures and Tablets. Be a shepherd to God's flock and protect it from the wolves of the earth who have violated God's Covenant and His Testament and have committed that which caused the dwellers of the Most Exalted Paradise and those who circle thy Lord's throne at eventide and dawn to lament.

We make mention of Abdul-Rahim, who believed in God in the beginning and the end. We have mentioned him before and We mention him at this time with verses by which the mountains would take flight. Remind the servants of what befits the days of thy Lord, then protect them from those who have denied the Resurrection.

We make mention of Our loved ones and friends in that place and its surroundings, and give them glad tidings through the remembrance of God, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. O loved ones of the All-Merciful! We counsel you with that which will elevate your stations, and I am the True Counsellor, the All-Informed. Beware lest any matter prevent you from this Cause, or any remembrance veil you from this Great News. You are in your homes while the Most Exalted Pen makes mention of you in this firm and impregnable Prison. And We make mention of My handmaidens and give them glad tidings of My loving-kindness and My mercy, which have preceded all who are in the heavens and the earth.

O Ali [Naqi]! My Name, upon Him be My glory, hath made mention of thee. We have remembered thee in this Clear Tablet. Be thou thankful to God for this most great favor and say: "Praise be unto Thee, O Thou

the Goal of the mystics!" Glory be upon Al-Khalil and upon thy father and upon thee and upon thy wife and upon My loved ones who have held fast to My firm cord. End.

His is the praise and the favor at all times and under all conditions. He hath adorned His friends and loved ones with the crowns of mention and utterance. The Word of God endureth and whatsoever is therein endureth. This evanescent servant conveyeth his greetings to all the friends and loved ones, and seeketh steadfastness for all. The honored beloved one, Aqa Mir Abdul-Rahim, upon him be the Glory of God, hath been twice mentioned by the Most Exalted Pen in this letter. Blessed is he and blessed is he who hath attained unto the cup of bounty and favors. At this hour, when four and a half hours had passed from Wednesday, the 17th day of Jamadi'u'th-Thani, there was, on behalf of that Beloved One, accomplished that which the Desire of the world approveth, and the word of acceptance was revealed. Well is it with you, and with this servant.

Another matter: in the radiant letter which they had addressed to the honored beloved Haji Siyyid Javad—may the glory of Baha and His loving-kindness rest upon him—they had made mention of Haji Abdu'l-Husayn, and of Aqa Abdu'l-Hamid and his son, and likewise of Aqa Muhammad Bik, and of other friends who, together with that honored one, were eleven souls.

These matters were laid before the Most Holy and Inaccessible Threshold. There were revealed and dispatched two wondrous and weighty Tablets for Haji Abdu'l-Husayn and Aqa Abdu'l-Hamid—may the glory of Baha rest upon them both—let them be delivered unto them. And for Bik and the others there flowed from the Tongue of Grandeur words such as no tongue can bear to recount or describe. Yet, inasmuch as this servant was eager to dispatch the packet without delay, he acted only according to the least that was needful. By command, convey unto them, on behalf of God, the Takbir, and gladden them through the boundless bounties of the Desire of the world. This servant, likewise, sendeth unto each greetings, praise, and magnification. They had also written that, at the time of penning that letter, they were honored with the presence—in the house of the two exalted brothers, Aqa Muhammad Hashim and Aqa Muhammad-Husayn—may the glory of Baha and His mercy rest upon them. They had further mentioned Aqa Muhammad, Aqa Nasru'llah, and Ustad ʿAli, their neighbor. This account was submitted at the Gate of the Possessor of all men.

This is what hath been sent down unto them from the heaven of the loving-kindness of our compassionate and generous Lord—His exalted utterance:

In My Name, He Who speaketh in the Kingdom of Utterance.

This is a Book sent down by the All-Merciful for those who have turned towards the Holy Court on a Day wherein every learned one was thunderstruck, every jurist was perturbed, and every wise one was shaken, save those whom God, the Lord of the worlds, willed otherwise.

O Hashim! My Name hath mentioned thee, and We make mention of thee. Verily thy Lord is the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous. This is a Day wherein the Concourse on High circle round the Throne of thy Lord, the Master of humanity, yet those who claim adherence to the Bayan are among the heedless, clinging to the Calf and turning away from God, the Mighty, the Wise.

O Husayn! Hearken unto the call of Husayn. He makes mention of thee and counsels thee to show forth the Greater Steadfastness in this mighty Cause. Soon will a cawer come to you with the book of the iniquitous. He is indeed among those who deny God in His Book, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy. He will call you to the Calf and seeks to extinguish the light of God through the whisperings of satans. Blessed are those who remained with Us until their spirits ascended unto God, the Mighty, the Beautiful. The glory from Us be upon them both, and upon you, and upon those who have drunk the wine of steadfastness from the hands of the bounty of their Lord, the Ever-Flowing, the Generous.

We make mention of Muhammad, whom My Name hath mentioned, and We give him glad tidings of My loving-kindness and My mercy which have preceded all things, and of My remembrance before which all remembrances bow down. O Nasrullah! Hearken unto the call of the Wronged One, then be steadfast in the Cause in such wise that the cawing of every cawer who has disbelieved in God, the Lord of lords, will not cause thee to slip. Hold fast unto the Sure Handle and cling to the hem of thy Lord's grace, the Master of creation.

We make mention of Ali, who was present before My Name, with a remembrance that shall never fade. O Ali! Rejoice in this Most Great Remembrance, then give thanks unto thy Lord, the Master of all men. We counsel you and My loved ones there to be steadfast in the Cause of your Lord, the Mighty, the All-Bestowing. Whoso makes mention of this Day besides Me is among the iniquitous in the Scriptures and Tablets. This is God's Day, wherein none is mentioned save Him. To this testify those possessed of understanding, and behind them the Revealer of verses.

A hundred thousand thanks must be offered in every moment, but what benefit when man is not capable of such? We are weak, we are lowly, we are poor—how can we render thanks for these successive bounties and consecutive favors? His is the praise and the favor. All the souls mentioned by that eminent one's pen have attained to that which hath no likeness or peer. We beseech God, exalted be His glory, to assist His loved ones to be steadfast, that they may not be deprived of the purpose of the world through the utterances of the whisperers and the signs of the fault-finders.

And as for the mention made of his honor Aqa Mirza Mahmud, upon him be the glory of God, and likewise those souls who came with him from Badaghan, this matter was presented in the Most Holy and Most Exalted Court and attained the honor of being heard. His word, exalted be His glory:

In My Name, the One Who ruleth over all names

O Mahmud! Upon thee be My glory! Thou hast attained unto that which most of the peoples of the world, both past and present, have been deprived of despite their yearnings and aspirations. Thou hast attained unto a mention the like of which hath never been and shall never be. All divine Books bear witness unto this truth. We beseech God to set thee ablaze with the fire of His love—a fire that shall never be extinguished. O Mahmud! We counsel thee with that which will cause the exaltation of God's Cause. Today, the people of the Crimson Ark must remain so steadfast that the barking ones, the atheists, and the ungodly among the people of the Bayan shall be rendered powerless to speak.

O Mahmud! For twelve hundred years the divines and pulpit-climbers led people astray, and the result of their deeds was that they pronounced their verdict against the Beloved of the world and martyred Him.

And now again these same souls desire to promote their former vain imaginings. They have not reflected even briefly upon what became of that party which considered itself the most exalted of all parties. Take heed, O ye who possess insight! Blessed art thou and blessed is he who fulfilleth his covenant and breaketh not the testament of God, the Lord of the worlds.

Convey My greetings unto Muhammad-i-Sadiq and give him the glad-tidings of My remembrance of him from this exalted station, that his heart may be assured through the remembrance of God, the Most High, the Most Great. We make mention of him who is named Hasan and counsel him with that which We have counselled Our loved ones before, and I am the All-Knowing Counsellor. Be thou vocal in My praise, turn thy face toward My horizon, and stand firm in My Cause whereby the limbs of the ungodly have quaked. We make mention of him who was named Ghulam-ʿAli with a mention through which the sincere ones shall perceive the fragrance of their Lord's loving kindness. Beware lest the people of the Bayan, who have denied God, the Lord of the Day of Judgment, keep thee back from the All-Merciful. O Mahmud! Remind My loved ones on My behalf, then recite unto them the verses of thy Lord, and I am the All-Commanding, the All-Wise. The Glory be upon thee and upon them and upon everyone who is steadfast, firm and upright.

Praise and thanksgiving be unto Him. He made mention of the souls referred to, with verses that cannot be matched by aught possessed by the peoples of the world. This lowly servant, likewise, conveyeth the Takbir unto Aqa Mirza Mahmud—may the glory of Baha rest upon him—and unto the others, and beseecheth of God, exalted be His glory, steadfastness for each one. Verily He is the Bountiful, the Most Generous.

And as to what ye wrote—that Aqa Muhammad-Taqi, son of Aqa Muhammad-Ibrahim Arab, and Aqa Muhammad-Ali, and Darab Bik—upon them be the glory of Baha—have arrived from Margh: this account was submitted before the Face of the Possessor of all being, and attained the honor of His attentive hearing. His glorious utterance:

In My Name, the All-Remembering, the All-Knowing.

O Muhammad-Taqi! Upon thy father and upon thee be My glory. He did speak My remembrance ere My Manifestation, and recognized Me before My Revelation. Verily he is of those who were mentioned in the Book of thy Lord, the All-Preserving, the Self-Subsisting.

This day We exhort all unto steadfastness in the Cause; for the wearers of turbans have arisen anew, and would bar the servants from the True One by the vain imaginings of the past. Blessed be thy brother who attained unto My presence and My service, and to circumambulation round about Me, and to hearkening unto My call, and to arising at My Gate, and to gazing upon My countenance—upon him be the glory of Baha, and the glory of His chosen ones and His well-favored, from the First that hath no beginning unto the Last whom hearts and minds can never compass.

Section 4: "And We make mention of Muhammad-ʿAli, before whom…"

And We make mention of Muhammad-ʿAli, before whom Muhammad—My Name—hath been mentioned in his Book, and We give him glad tidings of My mercy that hath preceded all that are in the

heavens and on the earth, and of My grace that hath encompassed existence, both the unseen and the seen. Take thou the Book of God with strength from Him. Verily He shall aid thee, as a grace from His presence. He is potent to do whatsoever He willeth, by His word "Be!" and it is.

And this was revealed for Darab Beg, upon him be 96 [Baha'u'llah].

He is the Most Exalted, the Most Great.

O Darab! Hearken unto what thy Lord, the All-Bountiful, calleth thee to in this final abode. He hath appeared and manifested what He desired, and He is the Almighty, the Unconstrained. O Darab! We counsel thee to remain steadfast in this Cause whereby feet have slipped. The clamor hath been raised and what lay hidden in hearts hath been revealed. Thy Lord is verily the Almighty, the All-Knowing. Be thou so firm in the Cause that neither the veils of men nor the pretensions of those who have disbelieved and turned away from the Most Sublime Vision shall hinder thee. Verily thy Lord is the Counselor, the All-Seeing. The Glory be upon thee and upon those whom the clamor of the divines hath not prevented from God, the Lord of lords.

Thus endeth what was revealed. There is no name but hath been honored with the verses of its Lord, and no servant but hath been sent down for him that which will draw him nigh unto God, his Lord. Happy and welcome be it to them. We beseech God, exalted be His glory, at all times, to grant steadfastness unto all, for the deceitful ones and the thieves lie in wait. God protect us and you, O ye who are brought near!

As for the mention of Aqa Muhammad-ʿAli Makhmalbaf, son of Aqa Hasan, and their sons and family, upon them be the glory of God, and likewise for the sake of God, they were guaranteed their special Tablet. This detail was presented in the Most Holy, Most Exalted Presence, and a wondrous and sublime Tablet was revealed from the heaven of the True Bestower's bounty specifically for them and was sent. God willing, may they attain unto it and drink from the ocean of the All-Merciful's utterance. Likewise, mention was made of Aqa Husayn Makhmalhaf, uncle of the aforementioned person, and that group, all of them, who were written to be nearly thirty souls—all were mentioned in the Divine Presence and attained unto God's bounty. After the presentation of these exalted words, there was revealed from the heaven of grace—His word, exalted be His glory:

O My Name! Upon thee be My glory! Mention on behalf of the Wronged One all those people and give them glad-tidings of God's grace, mercy and loving-kindness—namely those who have drunk from the living waters and attained unto new life. We beseech God to protect those souls from the evil of those who have turned away from the Bayan, and to keep them all firm and steadfast in His Cause. We beseech the Most High to ordain for them what He hath ordained for His chosen ones from His Most Exalted Pen, to grant them the best of what hath been revealed in His Book, and to draw them nigh unto Him in all conditions. Verily He is the Omnipotent over what He willeth, and in His grasp are the reins of all who are in the heavens and on earth.

This servant conveyeth greetings to all and declareth that there have been and are cawers, deceivers and liars. Protect yourselves from the evil of the idolatrous souls through the Name of God, exalted be His glory. In previous Tablets all have been informed about the clamor of the cawers and the atheists. Verily our Lord, the All-Merciful, is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

Concerning the mention of Aqa Ramadan-Ali who hath ascended unto God and his brother Aqa Sha'ban-Ali, upon both of whom be the glory of God, and concerning the matter of the one tuman which was intended for a feast in honor of the beloved of the heart Haji Mirza Haydar-ʿAli and other souls, upon them be the glory of God—praise and thanksgiving be unto God that before the deed manifested itself, the intention of the deceased was accepted. This is what was revealed from the Kingdom of Utterance in this station. His word, exalted and mighty is He:

> "O My Name! O thou who gazest upon My countenance! We have mentioned him who hath ascended unto God with a mention which God hath made for him as the table of inner meanings and the fruit of utterance, and through it He hath ordained for him what no eye hath seen nor ear heard. Give this glad tiding to his brother who was named Sha'ban before ʿAli that he may thank his Lord, the Forgiving, the Generous. O My Name! God's favor concerning these two is clear and evident, for He aided them and caused them to attain His presence. He made them hear His call and revealed to them His beauty. Ask God that they may be aided to preserve this station."

This servant will also, God willing, be enabled to carry out the feast which they had intended to hold. The servant testifieth that they both attained unto the grace of their Lord, the Most High, the Great.

And concerning what was written about being present in the house of Aqa Shukru'llah, son-in-law of Aqa Ghulam-ʿAli, upon him be the glory of God, and the mention made there of a group of men and women—this matter was presented at the Most Holy and Most Exalted Court. This is what was revealed from the heaven of the knowledge of our Lord, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. His word, blessed and exalted is He:

O My loved ones! Hearken unto My call from the direction of My prison, then assist the Wronged One through goodly deeds, praiseworthy character, and wondrous, sublime steadfastness. He commandeth you what profiteth you, and He is the Truthful, the Trustworthy.

O Shukru'llah! My Name mentioned thee, so We make mention of thee as a grace from Us, and I am the All-Bountiful, the Generous. Hold fast unto the cord of steadfastness, turning away from those who have disbelieved in God, the Lord of the worlds. Glory be upon thee, upon thy wife and her mother, from One Who is All-Knowing, All-Informed.

O Ghulam-ʿAli! We have mentioned thee before with verses that nothing in creation can equal, thy Lord, the All-Knowing, beareth witness to this. Be thou steadfast in serving the Cause, speaking the praise of thy Lord, and gazing toward His luminous horizon. Thou hast attained unto the utterance of the All-Merciful time and again, to this My Most Exalted Pen beareth witness, and it is My Self, the One that encompasseth all who are in the heavens and on earth. We make mention of thy son Mihdi and give him glad tidings of My grace and bounty, and We counsel him with that which beseemeth My mighty, wondrous Cause.

O Mihdi! Upon thee and upon thy father be My Glory, My mercy and My grace that cannot be equalled by the riches of kings and monarchs.

O Shaykh Qabli-Hasan! Thou art among those who have attained unto My remembrance, both before and after, and unto My verses from which those near unto God inhale the fragrance of My wondrous raiment. We have heard thy mention from a Book bearing My Most Great Name, and We make mention of thee from this remote spot. Convey My greetings unto My loved ones. We counsel them to manifest supreme steadfastness in this mighty Cause. We make mention of Muhammad-Qabli-Tahir, that he may rejoice in the bounty of his Lord and be of them that render thanks. Blessed art thou and blessed are My friends who have quaffed the living waters of steadfastness from the hands of the bounty of their Lord, the Generous, the Benevolent. Blessed is thy father who attained unto the Ocean of Life when it surged forth from the presence of the All-Bountiful, the Compassionate, the Bestower, the Mighty, the Wise. Glory be upon thee and upon all who are with thee, both men and women, who have acknowledged that which God, the Lord of this wondrous Day, hath acknowledged.

This evanescent servant conveyeth greetings and salutations to Jinab-i-Aqa Ghulam-ʿAli, upon him be the Glory of God, and to the souls mentioned, and counseleth all to steadfastness, for the ungodly among the people of the Bayan, through the vain imaginings of the people of the Furqan, have striven and continue to strive with the utmost hypocrisy to lead astray the loved ones of the All-Merciful. Today steadfastness is accounted as the most great of all deeds in the presence of the Self-Sufficient, the Most High. Blessed is he who hath attained thereunto and quaffed its pure wine, and woe unto him who hath denied and forsaken it.

As to the mention made of Jinab-i-Aqa Muhammad-ʿAli, brother of Jinab-i-Aqa Muhammad-Riday-i-Muhajir, upon them both be the Glory of God, and the supplication he sent to the Most Holy Court, this evanescent one presented these details and his supplication was, according to His command, honored to be heard in His presence. His word, exalted be His glory:

He is the Hearer from the Most Exalted Horizon

O Muhammad-ʿAli! My Name hath made mention of thee and hath received thy supplication and that wherewith thou didst call upon God, the Lord of the worlds. The servant in attendance before the Countenance read it. We heard and have responded through this perspicuous Tablet. Say:

Glorified art Thou, O my Lord, the Most Merciful! I beseech Thee by the waves of the ocean of Thy utterance, the manifestations of Thy Lordship, the revelations of Thy Divinity, and the mysteries that were hidden in Thy knowledge, to aid me in serving Thee and serving Thy loved ones, and to enable me to fulfill the rights Thou hast revealed in Thy Book. O Lord! I am he who hath turned unto Thy most exalted horizon and clung to the hem of Thy bounty, O Lord of all being and King of the kingdom of names. I beseech Thee not to disappoint me of what is with Thee nor to deny me that which Thou hast ordained for Thy chosen ones. I implore Thee, O God of names and Creator of heaven, to assist me to be steadfast in Thy Cause in such wise that neither the ornaments of the world nor the clamor of the wicked ones who have arisen to mislead Thy creatures in Thy days shall hinder me. Then ordain for me, O my Best-Beloved, the good of this world and the world to come. Verily, Thou art the Almighty to do what Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the All-Forgiving, the All-Bountiful.

Praised and glorified be He! He hath revealed for him whom your presence hath mentioned that which no earthly thing can equal, to this our Lord, the Creator of heaven, beareth witness. During its revelation the tongue of grandeur spoke this exalted word, exalted be His utterance:

> "O My Name! Souls have appeared with perfect love and ardor, and God Himself is witness and testifier—verily He heareth and seeth, and He is the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing."

Ask ye of God that they may be assisted to perform such deeds as are recorded and inscribed in the divine Book by the Most Exalted Pen. O My Name! God willing, may all be enabled to discharge the rights. Although these rights pertain to the Right Itself, yet your honor knoweth how many souls are today engaged in service to the Cause in various regions, while their affairs are apparently hindered. Since matters ordained by God have been made dependent upon means, therefore the law of payment of rights hath been sent down from the heaven of the Divine Will, and the benefit of this deed returneth unto those who practice it.

This servant beseecheth God, exalted be His glory, beseeching Him to assist His loved ones to perform such deeds as shall endure and be preserved in His presence.

Concerning the mention which you made of Mirza Abbas, upon him be the glory of God, who is counted among this servant's relatives, and likewise concerning his expressions of love and affection for this servant—although today all relationships are severed, all paths are forbidden, and all ways are blocked, yet since the mercy of the Desired One of all worlds hath taken precedence, therefore this weak ant entreateth God, exalted be His glory, and with utmost humility and supplication beseecheth that He may assist him, namely Aqa Mirza Abbas, to that which is befitting, and that He may mention him in the Book by the Most Exalted Pen as among the souls who are firm, steadfast and upright. Indeed, mention of him was made in the Most Holy Court and attained the honor of being heard. Blessed and exalted be His word:

He is the All-Witnessing, the All-Informed

O Abbas! Reflect upon the former centuries. Consider what hath come to pass in ages past, that thou mayest find the straight path and recognize the way of truth. Ponder upon "There came not unto them a Messenger but they did mock at him." By My life! If those who hesitate, turn away and deny would reflect upon this one verse that hath been mentioned, all would turn unto the truth and would regard the opposition and objection of the divines of the earth as proof of the truth of Him Who calleth today. We beseech God that He may assist thee and not deprive thee from the lights of His countenance, that thou mayest attain unto that which all the Books and Messengers have testified to and for which they have sought His presence. O Abbas! Hearken unto My call. Say: God! Then leave them to their vain disputes. Turn with a luminous face toward the horizon of God, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

A hundred thousand thanks unto the true Object of worship and the true Bestower Who at every moment granteth that which tongues of the world are powerless and incapable to mention. We hope that he may attain unto the divine verses and drink from the ocean of the All-Merciful's utterance and receive his portion from the fragrance of the words of Him Who revealeth the verses. Verily our Lord, the All-Merciful, is the Hearer, the Answerer. This servant conveyeth greetings and glorification unto him, and

at every moment seeketh divine confirmation for him and all his relatives. Verily He hath power over all things and is worthy to answer prayers.

Section 5: "Mention was made of Jinab-i-Aqa Siyyid Isma'il, upon…"

Mention was made of Jinab-i-Aqa Siyyid Isma'il, upon him be the Glory of God, and the Sun of Permission hath once again risen from the horizon of grace—blessed be he! Concerning the mention that was made of Jinab-i-Aqa ʿAli-Akbar, the harness maker, and Jinab-i-Aqa Muhammad-Ibrahim, the handkerchief weaver, upon them be the Glory of God, that they are among the righteous ones, both pious and attentive to serving the loved ones—all these matters were presented at the Most Holy, Most Exalted Threshold. This is what was revealed in response from our Lord, the Mighty, the Bestower. He—exalted and glorified be He—speaketh the truth:

O My Name Mihdi! Upon thee be My glory and My loving-kindness. This Wronged One arose to establish the Cause in days when darkness had encompassed the world. None dared breathe a word. The atheists and hypocrites lurked behind veils, fleeing from place to place to preserve their lives. After countless afflictions and the revelation of verses morning and evening, when the world became somewhat illumined by the lights of the Sun of Manifestation and a measure of tranquility was attained, they emerged from behind their veils and initiated a new game of religious pretense. Thou knowest well with what mercy the Supreme Pen hath been engaged night and day, and with what loving-kindness it hath been made manifest. Nevertheless, several souls from Kaf and Ra, who were and are unworthy of mention, have raised the standard of corruption and appeared with utmost deceit and guile. Some through the pulpit and others through letters and messages strive to lead the servants astray. May God destroy them!

The same apparatus of the people of the Furqan has emerged—that is, the vain imaginings of the Shi'ih faction. They utter that which was never and is not with God, exalted be His glory. A Manifestation which from the beginning until now has appeared with utmost power amidst enemies, has not concealed itself for a moment, and from which has been revealed and made manifest the equivalent of what was revealed by all the Prophets and Messengers, and all future events have been explicitly recorded in Tablets by the Supreme Pen—yet they have said that which was never said and which no idolator has ever uttered. Strange it is that some of the souls who had accepted the Faith have hesitated and some have turned away.

Glory be to God! They are occupied with the buzzing of a fly and are heedless of the Lord of Lords. Fie upon them and upon those who have denied God and His verses and have disputed His proof! In such circumstances the Supreme Pen has had and has no inclination to make mention in these days. In Iraq was seen in a vision that which would cause every person of insight and heart to weep and lament. If it be before thine eyes, thou wilt become aware of what has happened and what will come to pass. In any case, We beseech God to make those souls whom thou hast mentioned aware and to adorn them with the ornament of steadfastness.

O My Name! We make mention in this station of him whom thou didst mention and who was named Ali-Akbar, that he may hold fast to the cord of his Lord's loving-kindness, the Lord of Power, and may testify

to that which God hath testified, that there is none other God but Him, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. O Ali-before-Akbar! When thou dost inhale the sweet fragrances of thy Lord's utterance, arise and say:

O my God, my Lord and my Goal! I beseech Thee by the horizon of Thy Manifestation, by the ocean of Thy knowledge and the sun of Thy Cause, to aid me to be steadfast in Thy love. O Lord! Thou seest how the embodiments of vain imaginings are calling Thy servants unto idols. I implore Thee to protect me and Thy servants from the evil of these ones, then banish them by Thy power, O Thou Who art the Possessor of Names and the Sovereign of earth and heaven. O Lord! I am the poor one who seeketh Thy grace, Thy mercy and Thy generosity. Disappoint me not, O my God, from that which Thou hast sent down in Thy Book of the wonders of Thy favors and bounties. Verily Thou art the Omnipotent over whatsoever Thou willest, and Thou art the Strong, the Mighty, the Powerful.

We make mention of him who is named Muhammad-Ibrahim and give him the glad-tidings of My mercy which hath preceded all who are in the heavens and the earth. O Ibrahim! The perishing ones have made claims of being, and the misguided ones have made claims of faith. Beseech God to protect thee. The Cause is most mighty. Reflect upon the leaders of the people, how they all issued decrees and martyred the Beloved of the world. Now they have appeared in the Bayan, having opened the gates of fancy and vain imaginings. We beseech God to protect thee and those who have believed from the evil of these ones, and to grant you the good of the hereafter and of this world, and to give you to drink from the Kawthar of steadfastness from the hands of grace and bounty. Verily He is the Omnipotent over what He willeth. There is none other God but He, the Counselor, the Commander, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

And concerning the mention of Aqa Siyyid Husayn-i-Sabbagh and Ustad Nasru'llah-i-Najjar, upon them be the glory of God, after being submitted before the Most Great Threshold, these supreme verses were revealed from the Source of Names. His word, exalted be His glory:

We are the Wronged One, the Stranger.

O Siyyid before Husayn! The Dawning-Place of revelation, the Dayspring of manifestation, the Source of the Cause and the Manifestation of the Divine Self hath appeared. Nevertheless, the ignorant and heedless people… while the pearls of the ocean of divine knowledge have filled the world, equivalent to all books before and after, nay more, have been sent down from the heaven of Will. Nevertheless, the idolaters strive and endeavor to reject it. One must take refuge in God, for again the turbaned ones have turned their thoughts to pulpit and prayer-niche, and have not ceased nor do they cease in leading people astray. Seek protection from God and ask for steadfastness, that ye may remain preserved from the evil of the atheistic, idolatrous souls. We counsel thee to pure deeds and to that which We have revealed in the Psalms and Tablets. Praise the Beloved of the world Who aided thee and made thee aware. Verily thy Lord is the All-Bountiful, the Generous. Say: Praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

And this is what was revealed for Ustad Nasru'llah, upon him be [the glory of God]:

He is the Near One, the Answerer.

Glorified be He Who hath appeared and caused to appear that which lay hidden in knowledge and was inscribed in the Books of God, the Lord of the worlds. Verily He hath come with signs of signs, and hath

arisen to champion the Cause in such wise that neither the doubts of the divines nor the power of the heedless could deter Him.

O Nasru'llah! God hath truly aided thee, inasmuch as thou wast confirmed in the recognition of the Dayspring of Revelation and the Dawning-Place of inspiration, at a time when all were seen to be heedless and veiled, save whomsoever God, the Lord of the worlds, hath willed. Know thou the worth of this station, and preserve it from the gainsayers among the people of the Bayan. By the life of God! they are in manifest ignorance. Implore thou steadfastness of God in such a manner that the idolaters may be powerless to utter a word. Thus doth He command thee through Him with Whom is the perspicuous Book. Ended.

And likewise, they had made mention of Aqa Rajab-ʿAli the velvet-weaver, and Aqa Husayn Zahir, and Aqa Mirza Muhammad the mirror-maker—upon them be the glory of Baha. This matter was laid before the Court of Oneness, and this is what was sent down unto them from the Kingdom of utterance of our Lord, the All-Merciful. He is the All-Preserving over whatsoever He willeth, and ordaineth as He pleaseth.

O My friends, upon you be My Glory! The Wronged One mentions you in His prison and gives you glad tidings of God's loving-kindness, the Lord of all beings. O Rajab, when My name was mentioned in your remembrance, We remembered you, and verily it is the Lamp of God that walks before your face in the realms of your Lord, the Mighty, the Bestower. This is a station which God has made contingent upon the Most Great Steadfastness. Blessed is he who attains unto it, and woe betide every heedless doubter. Hold fast unto the cord of the Cause and cling to the hem of the loving-kindness of your Lord, the Master of all necks.

O Husayn, the Wronged One remembers you when sorrows encompassed Him from those who disbelieved in God, the Lord of Religions. The people believed in the Pool but denied the Most Great Ocean. Thus did their souls entice them. They are assuredly among the companions of the fire. They claim to believe in God's Messengers of old and in Him Who came with the truth, yet they denied their Messenger, their Manifestation, and their Helper. Verily your Lord is the Mighty, the All-Knowing. Guard yourself against those who believe according to their desires and disbelieve in God, the Lord of Lords.

O Muhammad, hearken unto that for which ears were created, then give thanks to your Lord, the Master of the Final Return. We have sent down the verses, and beyond them We have manifested the clear proofs, and beyond them We were visibly resplendent before the faces of the enemies in days wherein the limbs of the people of the Bayan trembled—they who have today emerged from behind the veil. Say: Fear God, O people! Shatter the idol of fancy, then turn with radiant faces toward the Supreme Horizon, the station wherein the Divine Lote-Tree calls out:

> "The Kingdom belongs to God, the Powerful, the Mighty, the Chosen One!"

And likewise they had made mention of Aqa Muhammad-Taqi the dyer, and Aqa Muhammad-ʿAli the reciter of sacred dramas, from Qamsar—upon them be the glory of the All-Merciful. After this was laid before His presence, these verses were revealed from the Kingdom of divine knowledge—His glory be magnified:

O Muhammad-Taqi, sanctify your ears from hearkening to the call of the opposers and purify your tongue from the mention of the deniers. Eyes were created for the Greatest Vision and ears for hearkening to the call of the Lord of Destiny. O Dyer, God willing, you shall attain to the divine coloring and shall desire no other hue. In truth I say, thieves lie in ambush that they might find some weak one and seize upon him. Guard yourself in the name of Truth. This is the Wronged One's counsel to you and the friends. We heard your mention and made mention of you. Give thanks to your Lord for this manifest bounty.

O Muhammad-ʿAli, all the Prophets and Messengers gave the people glad tidings of this Revelation and informed them of this Day. God has adorned His Books and His Scriptures with this Name through which, when it appeared, the idols fell and the traces of those who disbelieved in God, the Lord of the worlds, were effaced. Now certain wood-turners are sullying the wings of the faithful with the clay of idle fancies and preventing them from flight. Guard your wings from the clay of these people, then thank your Lord, the Generous. Verily He has aided you, caused you to know Him, made you to hear, and guided you to His Straight Path.

O My Name! Upon thee be My Glory and My loving-kindness! Convey My greetings to all the loved ones of God and give them glad tidings of the grace of God, exalted be His Glory. Counsel them in that which is the cause of deliverance and success. All the companions in that land have been and are oppressed, having borne tribulations in the path of God. The deeds of all are remembered with God and are recorded by the Most Exalted Pen in the Crimson Book. Not a soul's reward, even to the extent of a mustard seed, has been or ever shall be lost. We beseech God to strengthen all to remain steadfast. Verily, He is powerful over all things. The Glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My mercy be upon thee and upon them and upon those whom the clamor hath not prevented from the Most Exalted Horizon, who have arisen and proclaimed: "God is our Lord and the Lord of the Mighty Throne." Praise be to God, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

This servant conveyeth greetings and salutations to that honored one and to the friends of God who have quaffed from the sealed wine and who are holding fast unto the Self-Subsisting Lord. He declareth his own evanescence and nothingness, and beseecheth that honored one not to forget him and to pray to God for divine confirmation, that perchance he may not fall short in service and may attain unto God's good-pleasure. May remembrance and praise and glory and light be upon your honor and upon those who are with you and upon those who love you and hearken to your words.

At this point, mention was made of the spiritual friends, his honor Shaykh Abu'l-Qasim and his honor Aqa Mirza Aqa, upon them be 96 [Baha'u'llah]. God knoweth that the mention of these two beloved ones that appeared in the blessed Writing was presented day and night, and their names flowed from the tongue of the Desired One. Blessed are they, and again blessed are they. This servant is certain they have not been forgotten for a moment, as if they were present before the servant. I beseech God, exalted be His Glory, to strengthen them in that which would delight their eyes and gladden their hearts and elevate their stations and manifest what He hath ordained for them. God willing, may they be assisted in that which is befitting and may they attain true unity and harmony. Verily our Lord, the All-Merciful, is the Hearer, the Answerer, and He is the Near One, the Watchful.

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BH00451: In truth, it hath never been, nor shall it…

In the Name of our Lord, the Most Holy, the Most Great, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious!

In truth, it hath never been, nor shall it ever be, fitting to offer praise and mention unto the Truth—glorified be His majesty and abundant be His favors—for the way to that privacy is barred, and the path to that mystery and mystery of mysteries is forbidden. How far removed is this visible assembly from that hidden sanctuary! Where is the path, and where is the way? To make mention with the Pen of that Ancient Being is like an ant making mention of the Desired One, and for the tongue to offer praise unto the Beloved of all creation is as a mere atom directing one to the Sun, or a drop pointing to the Ocean. Glory be unto God! Even thou knowest that the Unseen is sanctified, exalted, and free from the description of them that witness. And when this matter became clear and evident to them that possess insight and the people of the Most Great Vision, there remained no choice but to turn unto His chosen ones.

A hundred thousand praises and thanks befit and beseem the loved ones and the chosen ones of the Friend, who are detached from themselves and from the world, alive and steadfast through the name of the Desired One. Through tongue and utterance, through pen and deeds and actions, they summon the servants to the Dawning-Place of Revelation and the Dayspring of Inspiration. They speak with their tongues and gesture with their hands, and through movements of brow and head they draw the heedless to the realm of awareness and bestow wakefulness upon them that slumber. These are the branches of the Divine Lote-Tree who have attained unto the most great favor. The hand of bounty hath taken hold of all and established them in the most exalted station. Should “well done” and “well pleased” be uttered throughout the duration of the kingdom and the heavenly realm, they of understanding would not deem it befitting or worthy. Yea, by God! This hath been the will of the Truth—glorified be His majesty. Who can turn Him aside? The banner “He doeth what He pleaseth” hath been raised aloft, and the light of “He ordaineth what He willeth” hath dawned.

Glorified art Thou, O Thou through Whose command the Sun of Unity hath shone forth from the horizon of power and the Book hath revealed what lay hidden within it! Exalted art Thou, O our Chosen Lord! Thou art He Who hath manifested unto us Thy Cause, taught us Thy remembrance, made known unto us Thy path, and caused us to hear Thy call and guided us to Thy way. I beseech Thee by Thy pure bounty and Thine absolute generosity to aid Thy loved ones to remain steadfast in Thy love and to act according to what Thou hast sent down in Thy Book. O Lord! The servant, despite his poverty and faltering tongue, desired to make mention of Thy branch who hath attained unto the traces of Thy Most Exalted Pen and whom the tongue of Thy grandeur hath mentioned in the kingdom of Thy utterance. I beseech Thee, O God of the kingdom of earth and heaven, to protect him and ordain for him the good of both this world and the next. Verily, Thou art the Lord of all names and the Creator of the heavens. There is none other God but Thee, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

O thou whose spirit is a sacrifice unto his holiness! The exalted letter arrived like a spiritual fragrance, perfuming the servant’s gathering, the servant’s station, and the servant’s home. With this withered

sapling it did what the breezes of spring do with saplings and trees. After reading it with joy and delight, I approached the Presence where it was presented. This is what the Tongue of Will spoke, exalted be His utterance:

"O My Afnan! Upon thee be My Glory! The oppressors sought victory over Us through their might, but We sought victory over them through God, the Strong, the Prevailing, the Powerful. The Pharaohs desired to extinguish the light of God with their armies, the tyrants to shed His blood with their swords and ranks, and the Caesars to erase His traces with their strength, power and might. Thus did their souls entice them to a course of which they were unaware.

"Glory be to God! The Supreme Pen commanded the loved ones day and night to observe what is good and forbade what is wrong. In some Tablets this exalted word was revealed: Blessed is he who heareth and speaketh not. Should they witness good from anyone, they should reciprocate; should they witness harm, they should be patient and leave it to God. Beating, fighting, strife, contention, murder and plunder are the works of the beasts of the jungle of oppression and ignorance. The people of truth must be sanctified and pure from all these. All must strive for the betterment of the world. The world is but one country and mankind its citizens, if they but knew it. All must endeavor with perfect unity and agreement to rebuild it. He is the Counselor, the All-Knowing, and He is the Expositor, the All-Wise.

"Through the mention of the tongue and pen, the world of utterance has been adorned with order and arrangement. Nevertheless, each day they rise up with new utterances and calumnies to perpetrate oppression, and they attribute corruption—God forbid—to holy souls, as you have seen and heard. The blow of the deserters and atheists has struck the branches of the Divine Lote-Tree. The nature of that people is clear and evident to the Afnan. We beseech God to guide all and deprive them not of the waves of the ocean of utterance. The source and origin of the world's corruption are the divines of the age. Sedition appears through those souls and returns to them. Each party looks to its leaders; if they turn away, the followers turn away. In all matters they follow those people. May God abandon them and slay them!

"Had the Wolf, or Raqsha, or their like been in apparent authority, they would certainly have martyred the prisoners. Yet His Majesty the Sultan, although he suffered harm from the ignorant, nevertheless of his own accord granted freedom to the confined and released the imprisoned. He giveth sovereignty to whomsoever He willeth. Verily He is the All-Knowing, the Powerful, the Single, the One, the Mighty, the Wise.

> "We make mention in this station of thy children and those with thee, and We give them the glad-tidings of God's loving-kindness, the Lord of all worlds. The Glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My mercy be upon thee and upon those with thee and upon those who love thee and upon those who hearken to thy word in this manifest Cause."

Praise be to God! The effulgences of the Sun of divine loving-kindness have ever been and continue to be directed toward your honor. This servant, on some occasions when present before the Face, heard from the Tongue of Grandeur that which caused the spirit to grow and the heart to rejoice and quiver.

Assuredly, at some time its effects will appear from the horizon of the world. The bounty and grace are of such magnitude that this servant is incapable of describing them.

As to what was written concerning the destruction of writings—yes, this occurred in Iraq, not here. In those days, by divine command, the sacred writings were consigned to the river of bounty. He said their effects would become manifest throughout all lands. In this land certain discussions arose, and consequently some correspondence, petitions and such were destroyed. The verses of God are preserved—the servant gives you these glad tidings and by your tongue says: "Praise be to Thee, O Thou Desire of the worlds!" Although this people, meaning the people of this age, were not and are not worthy to behold and read these verses, it is a bounty that has become the source of assurance for the servants, and a mercy that bestows spirit and fragrance upon the soul. Otherwise, considering what we deserve, despair would encompass the soul. The servant beseeches his Lord saying:

O God, my Goal, my Beloved! Thou art the Mighty, the Powerful. The power of the world is utter weakness before Thy power, and its riches absolute poverty before Thy wealth. If Thou shouldst deal with justice, woe betide us, and in truth we deserve it. But if Thou lookest with favor, how excellent is our state! One gleam from Thy Name, the All-Bountiful, would sanctify the world from the defilement of transgression, and one drop from the ocean of Thy generosity would purify all peoples. All souls gaze longingly toward Thee and all hearts are under Thy command. Whatever Thou doest is good—Thy love bestows eternal sustenance and Thy wrath confers the blessing of education. O Generous One! Bounty is Thy attribute and impurity is ours. Purify this dust and grant it true repose. Besides Thee there is no refuge, and except Thy path there is no path.

In any case, where am I and where are these utterances? Where was I and where have I gone? What was I saying and what do I now say? The reins have slipped from my hands and the thread is broken. Perchance Thy grace will take a few steps forward and mend these broken and severed things.

As for the letter of Jinab-i-Aqa Siyyid Husayn, upon him be the glory of God, which you sent—it was presented before the countenance of the Ancient King. This is what was revealed from the heaven of bounty and favor. His word, exalted and mighty is He:

"O My Afnan! Upon thee be My glory and My loving-kindness. The servant in attendance here has received what Husayn, upon him be the glory of God, sent to him." Ask God to make the servants worthy of understanding these days and what hath appeared therein. Today one must act according to this exalted word: "Say: God; then leave them to their vain disputes." For this is the Day of God wherein none is mentioned save Him. We have not fallen short in anything. The horizons have been filled with the signs and evidences of thy Lord, yet the people neither understand nor perceive. Eyes and ears were created for this Day, but the former were prevented from witnessing and the latter from hearing. Exalted is the Lord of Names, Whom neither the world's rejection can diminish nor the acceptance of nations can exalt. He is sanctified above all that was and shall be. The glory shining from the horizon of My utterance be upon thee and upon thy mother and upon thy children and upon those who love thee.

Astonishment hath seized all, nay, the very essence of astonishment is astounded, for they have hesitated concerning that Station which is equivalent to all the Books revealed unto the Prophets and Messengers

of the past and future, and some have even risen in opposition. Although these things must needs come to pass, for they have been recorded by the Most Exalted Pen in God's Book, yet strange it is that they have rejected this Cause and seek to establish another. O God! If a Cause of such magnitude be rejected, what other cause in the world could be proven? The servant speaketh that which the All-Merciful hath revealed in the Qur'an: "Leave them to plunge in vain discourse and play."

Concerning the news, should their honors the Afnan and the most exalted ladies—upon them and upon them all be the Most Glorious Glory—wish to know, they have intended to attain the presence in these days, and this is the third time. We praise God for this, for He hath granted success and confirmation until they attained unto that which is mentioned and recorded in the Books. This evanescent servant ever beseecheth and imploreth the Self-Subsisting Lord that He may cause you to attain unto all good and manifest the means through His all-encompassing and prevailing power. He is the All-Conquering, the All-Wise.

Unto their honors the Afnan—upon them be the Most Glorious Glory—who are present in that land, I convey greetings, salutations, and utter nothingness and evanescence, and I beseech and implore them all that in their moments of commemoration and praise of the Lord of Names, they forget not this evanescent one, that perchance I may fulfill this mighty service. Glory, remembrance and praise be upon you, upon those with you, upon those who have attained your presence, and upon all who are steadfast and firm. Praise be to God, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

It would be appreciated if you would send a copy of this writing, along with my letter, to his honor Aqa Siyyid Husayn—upon him be 966 [Baha'u'llah]—as it might cause some to become aware or awaken one who slumbers. There was one item mentioned at the end of your letter regarding a sum and a draft, but no draft was found between the letters. This matter is mentioned solely for your information and nothing else.

The servant 29 Jamadiyu'th-Thani 1302

BH07635: Thou hast been mentioned repeatedly in the presence…

He is the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing!

Thou hast been mentioned repeatedly in the presence of the Wronged One, and in each instance thou wert blessed with the mention of God. This mention is among the special divine bounties—one drop from its ocean bestoweth eternal life upon the world.

In all conditions fix thy gaze upon Him and seek aid from Him. Verily He aideth whom He willeth through a command from His presence, and He is the Almighty, the Powerful.

Say: Relinquish not wisdom, and act according to that which hath reached you from God. Today the Mother Book speaketh and the Mother of Cities is manifest. Strive that ye may not be deprived of His grace and prevented from His fragrances.

Mention of thee hath repeatedly flowed from the Pen, for verily He mentioneth him who hath mentioned Him and desired to aid His wondrous Cause. The glory be upon thee and upon those who have not violated God's covenant and testament, and upon all who are steadfast and firm.

BH08169: The tale of falsehood hath been renewed. The people…

He is the All-Informed, the All-Knowing!

The tale of falsehood hath been renewed. The people of rancor and hatred have arisen against the friends of God and have striven, and continue to strive, with utmost diligence to lead the people astray. For years they deceived and misguided the people with tales of Jabulqa and Jabulsa and the Holy Land. Now they reflect not in the least upon what the Shi'ih sect hath gained, or what fruit their beliefs have yielded. By the life of God! Their portion hath been and shall be the flames, and ere long they shall find themselves consigned thereto. The barking ones from every corner are engaged in their clamor. Of late they have mounted the pulpit, determined to spend yet another thousand and two hundred years inviting the helpless people to a woeful destiny through mention of vicegerent and guardian, chiefs and nobles….

BH00215: Praise befitteth the most inaccessible, most holy court…

Section 1: "In the Name of our Lord, the Most…"

In the Name of our Lord, the Most Holy, the Most Great, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious

Praise befitteth the most inaccessible, most holy court of the Lord, the Desired One, Who through His Most Exalted Word on the Day of the Covenant hath exposed the dissension concealed in the hearts of the people of discord, and through that same blessed Word hath manifested the harmony of the people of concord. He is the One Who hath power to transform His bounty into retribution for the ungodly and His light into fire. With a single word He hath brought all to account and weighed them in the balance. Neither doth the acceptance of them that turn unto Him add unto His glory, nor doth the rejection of them that turn aside diminish it. He hath ever been independent of mention and utterance, and will continue to be so forever.

All creation standeth present in a single sphere, and the call from the direction of His grandeur embraceth all, yet thereafter through deeds and words their stations become diverse and their conditions scattered. Whoso accepteth and believeth in that which is best—he is of the companions of the Crimson Ark; and whoso denieth and turneth away—he is of the people of fire in the Book of God, Lord of the throne and of the dust. Blessings, peace, glory and praise be upon them who have not changed the bounty of God nor denied His sovereignty. These are they whom neither the hosts of the world nor the ranks of the nations did frighten, nor were they prevented by the intimations of those who disputed His verses, denied His evidences, and warred against His Self.

The servant beseecheth his Lord to open the eyes and aid all to justice and fairness. Verily He hath power over whatsoever He willeth. There is none other God but He, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting.

And further: the letter of that honored one and revered friend arrived. The servant perceived from it the fragrance of your sincerity and your turning to God, our Lord and your Lord, our Goal and your Goal, and the Goal of all who are in the heavens and the earth. After reading and becoming apprised of it, he repaired to the court of the Lord of creation. When it was presented before His Countenance, this is what was revealed in reply from Our Lord, the Mighty, the Bestower. His words, exalted be His majesty and universal His bounty:

In My Name, the Hearer, the Answerer

They have denied the Dawning-Place of My verses, which are equivalent to all the divine books of the past and future that have been sent down from the Kingdom of His utterance, and whatsoever was subsequently manifested was clearly visible and evident from His verses. They have clung to mere fancy. Such is the condition of the servants that they have newly arisen to voice objections through vain imaginings. Say: O ye who are bereft of fairness, what have ye understood of "He doeth whatsoever He willeth"? By My life! Through My Name the banner of "There is none other God but He" hath been raised aloft, and the standard of "He doeth what He willeth and ordaineth what He pleaseth" hath been unfurled. Were they who are lost in fancy to ponder this most exalted and blessed Word, they would cry out and utter "We repent unto Thee, O God of the worlds and Beloved of the nations!" But conjectures and fancies have become an obstacle and a veil, and have deprived them of the light of the Sun of justice. Soon shall they know what hath escaped them in the days of God, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting.

In this Revelation, every word that hath dawned from the horizon of the Will of God, glory be to His majesty, all mention, nay all books, bow down before it. Where is the vision to see, and where is the hearing to hear, and where is the heart to understand? The state of the heedless is that they play with their own vain imaginings, even as they have been occupied therewith for a thousand and two hundred years and more. He who hath drunk from the stream of fancy is not worthy to draw nigh unto the Most Great Ocean, except through the grace of God, the Lord of the worlds.

With justice and fairness do I declare that if any soul be adorned with even a trace of fairness, he would testify that whatsoever hath in this day been revealed from the Most Exalted Pen sufficeth all mankind, and that all the pens in the world are powerless to expound its full meaning. If they acknowledge that God doeth whatsoever He willeth, then what meaning have their objections? And if they deny this blessed word, then the matter is settled and the verse returneth unto its Source, its Beginning and its End, and no further discussion is needed.

O my brother! For twelve hundred years and more, such souls were engaged in opposition, disputation and strife. During their debates, they would beat their heads against each other like elephants with their trunks, denying one another, nay, cursing and reviling each other from every faction to another. Yet on the Day of Testing, they all found themselves among the people of hell-fire, and neither their beliefs nor their deeds were of any avail, nor did they yield any fruit. Say: Consider then—what was the fruit of the deeds and the result of the beliefs of the Shi'ih sect who counted themselves foremost among the world's factions and most learned among nations in their deeds and beliefs? This servant knoweth, and knoweth well—the fruit thereof was that they martyred the Lord of the world. Such souls and their like have been reared in delusions throughout the ages. How can they enter or even approach that station whereof He

saith the dwellers of Sinai would be thunderstruck? Far, far be it! Save by emptying their hands of all they have heard and seen.

Great is the Cause and great is the Day! The heedless among the people of the Bayan cling to the same delusions as the Shi'ih sect, busying themselves with misleading men and women through the ropes of idle fancies, even as was done before. Say: Reflect a little on the lies of the past, that perchance ye may be warned. In one instance, this exalted word descended from the Kingdom of Utterance of the Lord of Names—glorified be His majesty:

"O servant in attendance! Blessed is the soul whom names prevent not from their Owner, and whom idle fancies deprive not from the dayspring of certitude." They imagine these days to be like the days of old. Say: Nay, by My life! This is the Day when mankind shall stand before the Lord of the worlds. This is the Day which Moses foretold, and which the All-Merciful revealed in the Qur'an through His words, exalted be He: "Lead forth thy people from darkness into light and remind them of the days of God." Though the days of the manifestation of God's Repositories may in one sense be called the Days of God, yet this Most Great Day is special, and in it is made manifest the Great Announcement. Say: Fear God, O people, and invalidate not the truth through your desires. When ye discover the fragrance of My utterance, and behold the lights of My horizon, and hear My call, arise and say: "Here am I, O Thou Goal of the world! Here am I, here am I, O Thou Beloved of all in the heavens and the earth!" End.

O brother! Man is bewildered as to what he should mention and what he should say. The Primal Point—may our souls be a sacrifice for all else but Him—declares that if He should pronounce upon the heaven the decree of earth, or upon the earth the decree of heaven, no one has the right to object or ask why or wherefore, and whoso sayeth 'why', hath indeed disbelieved. In this Most Great Revelation, whenever any name was mentioned in the Most Holy Court, verses were revealed specifically for that one from the heaven of divine Will. This was in accordance with the promise given in the Tablet to Hadrat-i-Ism-i-Jud—upon him be the Most Glorious Glory of God—wherein He states that should names to the number of atoms be presented in the Most Holy Court, divine verses would be revealed specifically for each one. However, this bounty is assured and established only for those who have turned to Him, who are steadfast, and who are firm. And whosoever turns away, the light returns to its source while he remains in evident loss.

These objections all stem from lack of insight and fairness. In Iraq, a Tablet was revealed in the name of Siyyid Muhammad Isfahani. After some time, one day as They were proceeding in that direction and this servant was following at some distance, in the middle of the bridge, suddenly They said, without looking at this servant or turning Their blessed head in any direction:

> "This Tablet is not for this Muhammad. Muhammad is a name that will attain to it after three thousand years."

For God's sake, have mercy upon yourselves and upon the servants. Do not embody the vain imaginings of the past and become the cause of the martyrdom of God's loved ones. The world has no constancy. You were not and are not aware of the root of the Cause. If you deny the proof He has manifested, which is equivalent to all divine proofs and heavenly evidences, what can you establish?

Mulla Abdul-Khaliq, who was among the Shaykhi leaders, at the beginning of the Cause when the Primal Point—may our souls be a sacrifice for all else but Him—appeared in the garment of the Bab, showed acceptance and submitted a petition. Mention of him was revealed from the Source of Supreme Grace and outwardly perfect bounty was shown towards him, until a Tablet was sent specifically for him containing these exalted words—His exalted Word:

> "Verily I am the True Qa'im Whose appearance you have been promised."

After reading this, he cried out and arose in complete rejection, and because of him a group in the Land of Ta [Tehran] turned away. Say: O fair-minded ones! Today these objections are not befitting. You are not aware of the mysteries. Divine knowledge has encompassed and continues to encompass all things. Whatever has later become manifest was previously revealed with complete clarity from the Supreme Pen in the Suras, and all are aware and bear witness that this ephemeral one speaks with truth. Have they not seen the Suriy-i-Ra'is, or have they not read the Suriy-i-Muluk?

Some time ago this servant submitted some papers to one of God's loved ones, but due to numerous occupations has not yet succeeded in completing them. I beseech God to enable me. Surely that honored one knows the reason. Night and day I am occupied with writing. Correspondence arrives from all directions, and in response Tablets are revealed from the heaven of grace, and this servant is occupied with transcribing them, and how many letters arrive addressed to this servant, requiring that answers be rendered! And beyond this weighty and momentous matter, for some time past another occupation has been established, engaging this evanescent one.

One must pray on behalf of the heedless souls. They are indeed very far removed and are unaware. Those souls must reflect upon what has occurred in the past and become mindful. This servant beseeches his Lord to aid them to achieve that which He loves and is pleased with, to make them be among the just, among those who repent, and among those who return unto Him.

Section 2: "As regards what they mentioned that some steadfast…"

As regards what they mentioned that some steadfast and upright souls appear distressed, and furthermore some, God forbid, deny knowledge to the Truth, glorified be His majesty, this evanescent one submits that it would be well for them to read for a time the revealed Tablets, that perchance they may become aware of a drop from the ocean of divine knowledge. Alas! Alas! "Not an atom's weight in the heavens or the earth escapes His knowledge." This is attested by that which hath been sent down from our Lord and your Lord and the Lord of all who are in the heavens and the earth.

O brother! Not every soul hath been or is worthy of this court, nor is everyone privy to the mysteries of the Truth. The heedlessness of some hath reached such a point that they have not yet become aware of their own ignorance, for had they become aware, they would not deny knowledge to its Source. Wonder upon wonder! The steadfast and firm ones today are souls who, should all on earth become manifestations of names and embodiments of attributes and hesitate less than that regarding this Most Great Cause and Mighty Announcement, would see them all as non-existent and null. Blessed are the steadfast ones! O my beloved, where are the steadfast ones, where are the firm ones, and where are the

upright ones? I beseech and implore the Truth not to deprive the world of the light of the countenances of the steadfast ones, the firm ones, the upright ones, the arising ones, the devoted ones, and the doers of good.

As to what they wrote concerning the verses revealed about that person: “Verily We have mentioned thee with a mention before which all mentions bow down.” Every letter that appeareth from the tongue of the Will of the Lord of the invisible and visible realms—all the letters of the world, the mentions of nations, and whatsoever they possess, all bow down before it. This distinction pertaineth to the mention of the Truth and the Word sent down from the heaven of Will. The whole world is mentioned before the Truth. Whosoever today attaineth unto the mention of the Truth hath attained unto all good. However, this station is contingent and dependent upon steadfastness, and in most Tablets this point hath been revealed. Should the entire world turn today in acceptance, the effects of the divine manifestation would appear in all. This station remaineth so long as the acceptance remaineth; otherwise “the manifestation returneth to the Manifester, and He returneth to His origin.” These matters are clear and evident, as hath been revealed with utmost clarity and explicitness in the Book of Certitude and other books, as well as in Tablets. Those verses were revealed two years ago, and those changes occurred afterward.

Say: O embodiments of vain imaginings! Break the idols with the strength of certitude and hold fast unto the Truth, glorified be His majesty. At one time a word is revealed concerning a person, and at another time He abrogates it. “He doeth what He willeth and ordaineth what He pleaseth.” Reflect upon the abrogating and abrogated verses in the Qur’an. Were this servant to wish to mention all these degrees in full, he would be held back from matters a hundred thousand times greater than these mentions. And what hath been submitted and mentioned was due to the love that existed and exists for that honored one. Say: Have shame before God—at least be silent, that perchance ye may find a way to the Truth. Say: If the intent is to deny knowledge, they themselves are more worthy of it, as every fair-minded and discerning one would testify. In any case, it would be more fitting and seemly for them to occupy themselves with denying their own knowledge.

Convey greetings from this evanescent one to the loved ones in that land. I know not what has transpired, that those who have never had any knowledge are heeded, while those who have ever been with that renowned person go unheeded. Assuredly this is among the sublime mysteries of understanding. God preserve us! The glad tidings are that some time ago a Most Holy, Most Exalted Tablet was revealed specifically for you and sent, that your eyes might be consoled thereby and that you might find therein the fragrance of our and your Beloved. This letter is not to be given to anyone, for it would pass from hand to hand until reaching the ungodly, and those souls collect whatever of the sacred writings fall into their hands. They have stolen many of the verses of God, exalted be His glory. He verily is the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. You may read it for any soul, that each soul may know its station.

As to what was mentioned regarding the Holy Days, they are the first and second of Muharram. However, wisdom does not at present permit their observance, for the heedless party—that is, the Shi’ih—have formed and continue to form other notions. Therefore this ordinance and other ordinances are for future days, and their time shall come. Thus hath spoken the tongue of our Lord, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

As to what thou didst mention concerning Naw-Ruz: that day is a festival, whether the sun passes into the new year at the beginning of the day or at its end, for the sun's effulgence on that day encompasses all its hours. Therefore that day is considered a festival from morning onwards. Likewise the Most Great Festival falls thirty-two days after Naw-Ruz—the evening of the thirty-second day marks the beginning of the Festival. Blessed is the soul that inhales the fragrances of this wondrous, this glorious Day and is not deprived of its splendors. In one of the prayers these exalted words were revealed from the Pen of the Lord of Names—blessed and exalted be His utterance: "O my Lord! This is a Day whose light Thou hast made holy, rising above the sun and its effulgence. I testify that it hath been illumined by the light of Thy countenance and by the dawning rays of the Morn of Thy Revelation." This station is mentioned in the divine Holy Books. This servant concludeth with this much. Even this much that hath been and is mentioned increaseth the rancor of the heedless ones, for it hath been said: "A blessing unto the righteous, a curse unto the wicked."

Never have we heard that should divine grace take hold of a soul, it would cause that one to turn away. There hath never been and is no doubt that no one is worthy by himself to be mentioned by God. That the Pen of the world's Desired One engageth in mentioning His servants—this proceedeth from the effulgent rays of the Sun of grace. They said: "O servant in attendance! If the Most Concealing Name should conceal what is in a soul, and the Most Bountiful Name should mention that one with good, would this be cause for objection?" By My life! Should a soul be blessed by a breath of this grace, he would place the right side of his face upon the dust and cry out "I turn unto Thee, O Most Bountiful, O Most Generous!" Where is fairness? Where is the power to perceive? We beseech God to aid him to recite and read those same verses with an illumined heart and penetrating vision, that he might perchance catch the fragrance of the garment and not be deprived.

God is witness and testifier that this blessed word melts the liver. Now observe the grace and bounty of God—at what station it stands and at what degree our vain imaginings. We beseech God for reformation, seek His favors, and implore His grace. Were the sun of His justice to shine forth for but a moment, the entire world would deserve eternal torment, and were the sun of His grace to shine forth even to the extent of a needle's eye, the very name of transgression would be erased and vanish from creation.

O my God, my Lord! We are weak and hopeful of Thy grace. We cling to the cord of Thy generosity and hold fast to the hem of the robe of Thy bounty. Leave us not to ourselves. O Mighty One, take the hands of the weak and deliver them from the abyss of idle fancies and desire. Thou art the Helper and Thou art the Powerful. We are helpless and we are weak. Without Thy grace, the spirit hath no comfort, and without Thy bestowal, the soul hath no effect. O Generous One! Adorn our unworthy deeds with the ornament of acceptance, and conceal our unseemly words with Thy forbearance. We have none besides Thee and desire none except Thee. Grant us shelter in the sanctuary of infallibility and bestow upon us dwelling beneath the canopy of Thy grandeur. Preserve us from the fire of self and passion, of idle fancies and transgression. We have no protector save Thee. We turn to the gate of Thy grace and await the wonders of Thy mercy. Do what befitteth Thy greatness and beseemeth Thy generosity and grace. There is no God but Thee, the All-Forgiving, the All-Generous.

Regarding what you mentioned about the blessed ring, this matter was entirely presented in the Most Holy and Most Exalted Presence. He smiled and said:

> "Write that you shall attain, God willing. Be patient until God bestoweth upon thee His other favors. Verily, He is the Lord of all beings and the Lord of the Last and the First."

The mention of the spiritual friend, Aqa Tahir, upon him be the Glory of God, who in previous years attained the presence, has been and is in the Most Holy Court. At this moment too He said to convey greetings to him and make mention of him from the Wronged One, that he may rejoice in My remembrance and be of the thankful ones.

This servant also conveys greetings to him and beseeches God, exalted be His glory, for confirmation especially for him. Wondrous and sublime verses have been revealed, and likewise mention of some who were in his letter. God willing, these will be sent these days. I beseech God that they may drink from the ocean of grace and be illumined by the lights of the sun of bounty—that is, that they may receive their portion from the hidden meanings in the divine verses which are, in truth, the heavenly food and the spirit of the Kingdom of eternity. Glory and praise and exaltation be upon you and upon those who have stood with supreme steadfastness and have said:

> "God is our Lord and the Lord of the Throne and earth."

The servant, 7th of Rajab 1302

On this day the letter of the honored friend Aqa Muhammad Hasan, upon him be the Glory of God, arrived. Convey greetings to him. God willing, his reply will also arrive. The dye and henna sent have arrived. The servant asks his Lord to send down for him that which will bring comfort to his eyes. Verily, He is the Generous, the Bountiful.

BH01382: How wonderful are the bestowals of the True One…

He is God, exalted be His glory, the Most Great, the All-Powerful!

How wonderful are the bestowals of the True One, exalted be His glory! He granted His gifts unasked, and bestowed understanding undeserved, that every soul might attain unto the recognition of the Lord of "were it not for Thee." And the recognition of Him is identical with the recognition of God, for the True One, exalted be His glory, hath ever been and shall ever remain unknowable, indescribable, and incomprehensible. "No vision can grasp Him, but His grasp is over all vision: He is above all comprehension, yet is acquainted with all things." When He desired to adorn the realm of recognition, He created the intellect. It is the administrator and minister in that realm. Exalted be His bounty, exalted be His grace, exalted be His favor, exalted be His beneficence! The seen and the unseen, the visible and invisible, all are illumined and adorned by the effulgence of the Most Great Light, namely His Holiness the Seal, may our souls be a sacrifice for all else but Him.

O God, O All-Bountiful, O All-Merciful, O Self-Sufficing, O Peerless One! What can we say when all our utterances arise from vain imaginings, unworthy of Thy threshold and court? If Thou regardest justice, we are nothing and worthy of nothing, but if Thou lookest upon Thy grace, we are and have ever been

worthy of every bounty. Thy name, the Concealer, hath ever concealed, and Thy generosity hath brought to naught the consequences of disobedience. Should Thy bounty bestow attention less than the eye of a needle, we would all become people of insight and knowledge, but should it turn away—God forbid—we would deserve a hundred thousand stings. O my God, have mercy on Thy weak ones, grant awareness to the heedless, and bestow steadfastness and constancy upon the aware ones. O Lord, deprive not Thy loved ones of the heaven of Thy grace and bounty. Grant that which befitteth Thy Most Generous Name, and bestow that which beseemeth Thy Name, the All-Bountiful. Verily, Thou art the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous. Verily, Thou art the Mighty, the Great. There is no God but Thee, the Forgiving, the Merciful.

The letter of that honored friend arrived, dispelling grief and bringing joy. In truth, it bestowed the blessing of reunion and entirely erased the hardship of separation. Praise be upon his hand and arm! If this servant should be remiss in responding to your correspondence, I hope to be forgiven, as I am occupied with numerous tasks and countless affairs—sometimes writing, sometimes planting trees, and at times engaged in various services. Surely the friends can testify to what has been mentioned, and certainly these services, being for the sake of God, are hoped to bring joy to the hearts of the friends and earn their good pleasure. However, the absence of a reply or its delay has never been and is not evidence of lack of love. God Almighty is witness that you have ever been and remain in my thoughts. Praise be to God that the affairs of the land of Kaf, according to what has been written, have been and are being resolved. God willing, may it transpire according to your wishes.

As for the [lambs] sent by the honored master, Sabri Efendi, upon him be the Glory of God, they arrived with the same mark and sign as mentioned. I beseech the True One, exalted be His glory, to confirm him in all conditions and grant him success. He is mentioned; this is what matters and, praise be to God, is present. On behalf of this evanescent one, convey greetings, praise, and glory to him. Likewise, I send greetings and glory to the honored friend, Aqa Ali-Akbar, upon him be the Glory of God, and I beseech God, exalted be His station, that they may be engaged in the mention and praise of the One True Friend in perfect health and well-being. The spiritual friend, Aqa Ali-Muhammad, came, but as there was no one to accompany him to Iran, the command for his return was issued. Whenever someone is found, we shall inform you. Convey greetings on behalf of this evanescent one. God willing, may they ever be successful.

As for the item sent by Aqa Abdu'llah, upon him be the Glory of God, it has not arrived, but they said, "We have accepted what has not arrived." May God, exalted be His glory, grant reward, and they said, "From these that Sabri Efendi, upon him be peace, has sent, we shall use some with his intention in mind. Let him not trouble himself further. What we seek and desire has been and is goodly words, righteous deeds, and praiseworthy character," and God willing, he has attained unto these. This evanescent servant also sends greetings and glory to him and beseeches God, exalted be His glory, for confirmation and support. Verily our Lord, the All-Merciful, is the Hearing, the Answering One. I entrust Qurratu'l-Ayn and Qurratu'l-Ayn Inayatu'llah and ʿAta'iyyih Khanum, both of them, to God and seek their protection. It is hoped they will attain the highest degrees of grace and knowledge and be successful in serving the Cause. Verily, He is the Forgiver, the Bestower, the Mighty, the All-Wise. Peace, spirit, and mercy be upon you and upon those with you and upon God's righteous servants. And praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

The servant 13 Rajab 1302

BH00185: How excellent, how excellent is the caravan of utterance…

Section 1: "How excellent, how excellent is the caravan…"

In the name of our Most Holy, Most Great, Most Exalted, Most Glorious Lord

How excellent, how excellent is the caravan of utterance, bearing the gift of inner meanings! Each letter thereof brought forth the joy of roses, and each word bestowed the exhilaration of wine. From it emanated the freshness of the soul, and from its melodies proceeded a feast for the ears. Whatever interpretation is given accords with it, and whatever is said agrees with it. God knows that its mention heralded the days of attainment. It seems as though word and meaning in this station have become confidants, harmonious and embracing, for its words manifested the decree of meaning, and its meaning revealed the mystery of words.

The distinction and detail of this station transcend human comprehension, for they are intoxicated with the wine of pride and deprived and veiled from the outpourings of the days of manifestation. The condition of the various factions is known and evident and clear, requiring no mention. In one station, this exalted word was revealed from the tongue of the Lord of Names—exalted be His glory: "May God hasten His relief," which yielded "May God hasten their punishment." Yet it is astonishing that the people of the Bayan have not reflected upon the deeds and words of the Shi'ites, despite the fact that the falsehood of those souls and their rebellion became manifest to all the world. Nevertheless, these heedless souls are occupied with the words and deeds of those people.

This exalted word was revealed from the Supreme Pen in these days in response to the questions of Jinaab-i-Samandar—upon him be the Most Glorious Glory of God. His word, exalted be His glory:

> "Now it becomes clear that they have newly undertaken to renew the deeds and words of the past. They have adorned the steed of vain imaginings with the saddle of passion and set out for the journey to Jabulqa and Jabulsa. May God protect us and the company of those near to Him from the evil of these people."

This evanescent servant beseeches night and day and seeks the protection of the servants, and likewise asks for their success and confirmation, that all might attain unto hearing and sight and not remain deprived of the ocean of divine mercy. This evanescent one is bewildered every moment—have the people of the Bayan not recognized the words and deeds of the past? The Shi'ites possessed not one word of truth; they uttered various calumnies in the name of truth, and those calumnies became the cause of the shedding of the blood of the Beloved of the world, and the Lord and Sovereign of existence was imprisoned in the prison of Akka.

That heedless faction considered themselves the highest of religions, and were so proud of what they possessed that, in the words of common folk, Pharaoh could not match their conceit. In the end it became clear that the Blessed Beauty, Whose mention occupied them night and day, they slew with their own hands. Now the people of the Bayan are newly occupied with their ancient utterances—may God

forsake them and fight against them. They have not understood even this much: that today is the Day of God, wherein none is mentioned but Him. Although the days of every manifestation may in one sense be called the Day of God, yet this Day is, in all the Books, Psalms and Scriptures, specifically God's and attributed to Him. By His exalted glory, with a hundred thousand hands I beseech and hope that He will, with His mighty hands, either prevent the people of the Bayan or guide them. He is powerful and mighty over all things.

Glorified art Thou, O God of earth and heaven and Lord of all mankind! I beseech Thee by that which was hidden in Thy knowledge, inscribed in Thy Book, and recorded by the Pen of Thy Command, to aid Thy servants to acknowledge Thy unity and confess Thy singleness. O Lord! Withhold them not from the ocean of Thy grace and the heaven of Thy bounty. Thou knowest what is in their hearts and hast power to transform and build them anew. They are Thy servants and Thy creatures; Thou hast manifested them through Thy bounty and fashioned them through Thy grace. I beseech Thee to protect them from the heat of the sun and the harm of the rains. Verily, Thou art the Chosen One. There is none other God but Thee, the Mighty, the Bestower.

And may peace and blessings be upon Thy loved ones and chosen ones who have cast away their desires, taking hold of that which hath shone forth from the Sun of Thy Will and the Sovereign of Thy Purpose. O Lord! They are they who have arisen to aid Thy Cause, and who have endured in Thy path that which hath caused the denizens of Thy dominion and kingdom to lament. O Lord! Aid them at all times to serve Thy Cause, to make mention of Thee and to praise Thee. There is none other God but Thee, the Powerful, the All-Conquering, the Almighty.

O Beloved of my heart! After partaking of the cups of joy from the words of that Presence, which were in truth the dawning-place of gladness and delight, I proceeded to the Most Exalted Station and presented myself before His countenance. Signs of joy and grace appeared upon that blessed face, and after several moments the Tongue of Grandeur uttered these brilliant verses, exalted be His utterance:

He is the All-Witnessing, the All-Informed.

O thou who drinkest from the cup of My loving-kindness, and soareth in the atmosphere of My love, and gazeth toward My horizon, and art immersed in the ocean of My utterance! Upon thee be My glory and My mercy. We have heard thy call and answered thee before and after, and have mentioned thee in such wise as to be a blazing lamp before thy face in all the worlds of thy Lord. We complain unto thee of those who have been debarred from recognition after that which hath been sent down from the heaven of utterance—that which none can reckon save God, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

By God's life! Every person of insight and fairness is bewildered. They have not understood the Day of God and have not become aware as beseemeth it. For had they become aware, all would have arisen with perfect steadfastness to serve His Cause. They remain veiled from the Day when mankind shall stand forth and are occupied with the idle fancies of the past. By thy life! The baseness of the people and their lack of capacity hath reached such a state that until now the Supreme Pen hath not spoken in its true accent as it beseemeth. Through the sovereign Will and the pervading Purpose, the fingers of divine

power have rent asunder the veils and the clouds, that eyes might be blessed with beholding and ears with hearing.

In truth, the powers of sight and hearing were created for this Day. Yet now it is observed that some of the ignorant ones still speak of the vain imaginings of the people of the Furqan. Such injustice and heedlessness hath reached such a point that they deny the Truth which hath ever been manifest before the faces of enemies, and standing, equivalent to all divine books from before and after, hath been sent down from the heaven of His utterance. Yet they fancy themselves to be believers and godly souls. All atoms are bewildered—to what do these heedless souls cling? God hath forsaken them.

We beseech the True One to raise up souls who will discover the sweetness of the Cause, the sweetness of utterance, and the greatness of this Day, and will find themselves detached and free from the world and all who dwell therein. Today, whosoever entereth beneath the shadow of the Divine Tree hath no need of the sun of the world, much less the glow of the firefly. We beseech God to assist you in such wise that you may, by day and by night, summon the servants to the horizon of the All-Merciful with wisdom and utterance, and give them to drink from the cup of steadfastness. Steadfastness is regarded today as the most great of all deeds in the sight of the Self-Sufficient, the Most High. The light that shineth from the horizon of the heaven of My mercy be upon thee and upon those who are with thee and who serve thee and hearken to thy word concerning the Cause of God, the Lord of the worlds.

O beloved of my heart! The ocean of bounty in relation to your honor is manifest with its highest waves, and the effulgences of the sun of grace are evident with perfect radiance. Exalted be His greatness, and elevated be His favors, and sublime be His gifts! Who can describe what hath appeared from the waves of the ocean of His utterance? Glory be unto Him! Glory be unto Him! Far is He above what I say or what others say. The servant seeketh forgiveness and repenteth for what his tongue hath uttered and his pen hath written. Verily, He is sanctified above what was and what will be.

One letter from your honor which was sent from the land of K, dated the thirteenth of the first ʿAyn, opened the gate of joy. Though presence is forbidden, yet the birds of correspondence are, through divine grace, in flight, and in truth, the fragrance of presence and meeting emanates from it. It somewhat soothes those aflame with the fire of separation and bestows according to capacity upon those thirsting for reunion. The letter of a true friend refreshens the friend and its mention brings to life the days of nearness and reunion. We beseech and implore the Exalted Truth that this gate may ever remain open and this bird may forever be in flight.

And concerning what you wrote about the aforementioned person, upon him be the Glory of God, this servant bears witness that repeatedly the Tongue of Grandeur spoke verses concerning him, from whose fragrance it was understood that repeatedly they had prepared for him a well of hatred and animosity, but God, exalted be His glory, protected him and he is still protected. Let him be assured that this humiliation has been and continues to be the cause of everlasting remembrance, and its end is good. There has been revealed for him that which shall testify for him in all the worlds of his Lord and shall be as a lamp walking before his face. Verily our Lord, the All-Merciful, is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. Now also a Most Holy, Most Exalted Tablet has been revealed for him from the heaven of Will. You should

deliver it that he may inhale from it the fragrance of his Lord's favor and be made steadfast in His Great Announcement.

And concerning the mention you made of the honored leaves, his aunt and two daughters, upon them be the Glory of God and His favors, and likewise the mention of their being set ablaze with the fire of divine love—after this detail was presented before the Most Great Threshold, one Most Holy, Most Glorious Tablet was revealed from the heaven of the Will of the Lord of all beings. God willing, they will attain unto it. Likewise, two Most Holy, Most Exalted Tablets were revealed from the heaven of grace specifically for his two sons who were in the land of K. God willing, they will drink from the living waters of the words of the All-Merciful and attain unto a wondrous new life.

And concerning what you wrote mentioning the good news about the oppressed ones and the prisoners, after their release news came by telegraph from various directions. Indeed, His Majesty the renowned Sultan showed greatness. One day this exalted word was heard from the tongue of the Lord of Names. He said:

> "O servant in attendance! Had the false Siyyid, who is known as the truthful one in the land of Ta, been the Sultan, he would have martyred those oppressed ones on the first day."

Now all must pray for His Majesty the Sultan and ask for divine confirmation. This ends the quote. According to what was mentioned, of His own blessed accord He released the captives and showed favor.

And concerning what you wrote about the feast of the friends of God, exalted be His glory, in thanksgiving for the blessing of release, and the arising of assured and steadfast souls, upon them be the Glory of God, to serve this Cause, and the mention you made of their names—all these matters were presented before the face of the Lord of all beings. Each one was honored with the mention of God, exalted be His glory. By the life of our Beloved and your Beloved! They have attained unto a mention before which all mentions prostrate, and a light before which all lights bow down, and a name around which all names circle. Give them the glad-tidings of their Lord's favor. Verily our Lord, the All-Merciful, is the Compassionate, the Generous.

This evanescent servant beseeches God to confirm all in that which is the cause and reason for the perpetuation of existence. As commanded, the amount of one feast was specifically taken from what you sent for the Holy Presence, and the remainder was assigned to the beloved of hearts, Jinab-i-Samandar, upon him be the Glory of God, to take and do with as commanded, since some have been in great distress. Therefore, as commanded, it was bestowed upon those souls to be delivered. This is what was revealed from the Kingdom of utterance of our Lord, the All-Merciful, for those who have attained unto goodness and performed in His path that which was accepted. His word, exalted be His glory:

Section 2: "The mentioned loved ones have all attained…"

He is the Witness from His most exalted horizon.

The mentioned loved ones have all attained the grace of God, glorified be His majesty, and by the name of each one, the ocean of utterance surgeth and the sun of bounty shineth forth. We beseech God to

enable all to attain unto the Most Great Steadfastness and to aid them in that which will cause the exaltation of His Cause.

We have made mention of Nun and Vav, upon him be My glory, and We implore assistance for him. Today is the day of sowing and reaping the fruit. Blessed are they who are occupied with the planting of goodly trees, that is to say, pure words and praiseworthy deeds. We have previously made mention of him with words that cause bodies to tremble, let alone souls and minds. Give him My glad-tidings that he may inhale the fragrance of My loving-kindness.

And We make mention of Ha' and Sin. He arose to serve the Cause in days wherein trees were uprooted, blood was shed, souls were perturbed, mountains moved, the heavens were cleft asunder, and heroes fled, save those whom God, the Lord of the Mighty Throne, willed otherwise. We have mentioned him before and after, and counseled him to preserve his station. I am, verily, the Commanding, the All-Wise. Remind him from Me of that which hath been revealed for him at this time.

We further make mention of Ha' and Sin who hath believed in God, the Lord of the worlds. Various letters from him were presented by the servant who attends the Wronged One. Blessed is he and those who have attained unto the Kawthar of steadfastness in this mighty Cause. He hath ever been remembered and hath attained unto God's grace. God willing, may they at all times hearken unto the rustling of the Lote-Tree beyond which there is no passing and the murmuring of the Kawthar of the Merciful's utterance, and become aware of the station of the Day of God and that which beseemeth it.

Convey greetings to Farajullah. He is enkindled with divine love. He must, throughout the days and nights, beseech and supplicate God, and ask Him to preserve this most exalted station, for the barking ones are striving with the waters of idle fancies and vain imaginings to extinguish the fire of God's love. O Faraj! God's relief hath come, yet the people perceive it not. The Hidden Treasure hath appeared, yet the people recognize it not. Behold the people of the Bayan, how they have hastened to the pond, forsaking the Most Great Ocean. What aileth them? How is it that they understand not? By God's life! They worship idols without any proof from God, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting. It behooveth thee to ask thy Lord to preserve that whereon thou art. Verily, thy Lord is the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous.

O Muhammad! Hearken unto the call of the Single One, Who summoneth thee in the prison of Akka to the supreme horizon and remindeth thee of that which hath been revealed in the Books of God, the Lord of the worlds. Under all conditions We counsel thee to be steadfast, for mighty is the Cause and the servants are weak. Blessed are they whom the chains of the ungodly and the clamor of the deniers have not kept back from the Lord of the Day of Judgment. Whosoever attaineth unto steadfastness hath attained unto all good. Praise the Object of all creation Who hath made mention of thee in prison. This mention is, in the sight of God, better and more praiseworthy than the treasures of the world. Know thou its value and be thankful. O thou who art mentioned at the Throne! We have made mention of My loved ones and have accepted what they have done in My path, and We make mention of My leaves and My handmaidens as a grace from Our presence. Verily, He doth not suffer the reward of the doers of good, men and women, to be lost.

We have revealed unto the aunt and her daughter that which beareth witness before the faces of the world to the loving-kindness of the Ancient King, Who proclaimeth at all times: “There is none other God but Me, the One, the All-Informed.” We testify that they both believed in God in the earliest days and manifested steadfastness in the Cause of God, the Exalted, the Great. Convey unto them My glad-tidings and remind them of My loving-kindness and bounty which have encompassed all who are in the heavens and on earth. They have ever been and continue to be engaged in service to God and His loved ones, and have in truth shown no remissness. We beseech God to ordain for them that which shall exalt their station and elevate their rank.

We make mention of the wife of him who ascended unto God, and of her who is with her, and of every handmaiden who hath believed in God and held fast unto His sure cord. Verily We have made mention of every leaf who hath clung to the Tree and turned unto and believed in Him Whom all on earth denied, save those whom God, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise, hath willed. Every servant who hath believed and every handmaiden who hath turned unto God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy, hath been mentioned in the presence of the Wronged One.

We make mention in this station of My handmaiden who attained the presence of her Lord while He was imprisoned through that which the hands of the heedless had wrought, and We make mention of her son and his wife, and I am the All-Knowing Remembrancer. The Sun of God’s loving-kindness hath shone upon all, and the souls mentioned have attained unto that which hath been the hope of them that are nigh unto God and of the sincere ones. All ears in the world are attentive that they might hear “O My servant” and “O My handmaiden,” and all eyes of the peoples are waiting for the Hand of Power to rend asunder the veil. How many souls expired in their longing for the Divine Day and attained it not. Now must the souls and handmaidens who have attained remember during the nights and days “Praise be unto Thee, O God of all worlds.”

At this moment the Tongue of Grandeur maketh mention of His handmaiden Shirin, and likewise of Firdaws. How many princes and princesses awaited these days yet attained them not, while handmaidens who were counted as lowly attained that which hath been the goal of all worlds. Bounty is in His mighty grasp—He bestoweth upon whomsoever He willeth. He is the Generous, the Merciful. We convey Our greetings unto Shirin and Firdaws and give them the glad-tidings of divine favors. Blessed are they both and joy be unto them. The glory shining from the horizon of My Kingdom be upon those who have attained unto My remembrance and have drunk the choice wine of steadfastness in My Name, the Mighty, the Wondrous.

Praise be unto Him, then praise be unto Him for what He hath bestowed upon us and sent down unto us from the heaven of grace and bounty that which cannot be equaled by aught in the kingdom of creation. The mentioned loved ones and the acceptable leaves have each drunk from the ocean of remembrance that which hath no likeness or equal. Now is the time when all things should speak “Well done! Well pleased!”—likewise that honored one and this servant—but what use is it when the people are seen to be intoxicated with the wine of pride? Has taste been forgotten, or have the senses become altered and confused? The ancient world hath attained unto new meanings, and the decayed bodies of utterance have appeared in wondrous attire, yet the people of the world are seen to be deprived and portionless.

The command is God's, the Overseer, the Self-Subsisting. He judgeth as He pleaseth and decreeth as He willeth, and He is the Commander, the All-Knowing.

This evanescent servant conveyeth his greetings and salutations unto each of the mentioned loved ones and secluded leaves—upon them be the glory of God—and beseecheth confirmation for each, for the ungodly and the treacherous lie in wait. I beseech God to protect them through His Name, the Preserver, and through His Name, the Powerful.

Concerning the honoured Leaf, upon her be the Glory of God, you wrote that you have entrusted her to God. He said:

> "God willing, she has been and will continue to be under the glance of His favor. Convey My greetings to her on behalf of the Wronged One. Praise be to God, she has been blessed with meeting and serving you. We beseech God, exalted be He, to assist her and to ordain for her the best of what He hath decreed in His Book. Verily, He is powerful over all things."

Your kindred have not been and will never be forgotten from sight, for the Sun of loving-kindness is ever-shining and manifest.

They had mentioned Aqa Muhammad-ʿAli, upon him be the Glory of God. After it was presented before the Most Holy and Exalted Presence, a wondrous and sublime Tablet was specifically revealed and sent for him. God willing, may he attain unto it and drink from the Kawthar of divine favor—a drink after which there shall be no thirst.

They had mentioned Haji Khalil and his nephew, upon them be the Glory of the All-Merciful. After presentation, this supreme utterance shone forth from the Dayspring of utterance, the Lord of Names. His exalted Word:

> "Recently their names have repeatedly flowed from the Most Exalted Pen. Again convey My greetings to them and adorn them with the lights of the Self-Subsisting Name. Praise be to God, they have attained unto that which was mentioned and recorded in the divine Books of the past and present. I beseech for them success. May they gaze at all times toward the supreme horizon and be engaged in the remembrance of the Lord of the Kingdom of Names. We beseech God to protect them beneath the canopy of His grace and grant them the greatest portion of His everlasting bounties."

This servant also conveys greetings and salutations to each one, and beseeches God, exalted be His glory, for everyone's confirmation. Verily, He is powerful over all things. Until now, for everyone about whom you have written, answers have descended from the heaven of the Will of the Lord of Lords. It appears to this evanescent one that no name has been omitted by the Most Exalted Pen. God is sufficient as witness.

And concerning what you wrote that praise be to God, the loved ones and friends everywhere are at ease, He said:

> "Ask God to assist all to act according to what hath been revealed in the Book from the Pen of Command. By the life of God! Had they acted upon the divine ordinances and commandments

> from the beginning of the Cause until now, you would have witnessed this day to be different from this day and this earth to be different from this earth. He Who possesseth the Mother Book beareth witness to this. The Wronged One dwelleth in prison, and that which would cause the manifestation of human stations and the tranquility and security of the peoples of the world hath been mentioned and continues to be mentioned, but few are found who act upon it. We beseech God to roll up the carpet of vain imaginings and to adorn the world with the lights of certitude."

This evanescent servant tenders praise and glory to each of the loved ones of that land who have drunk from the eternal Kawthar and who are gazing toward the Most Exalted Horizon, and he begs confirmation for all. Verily He is powerful over all things. His Holiness the Most Great Branch and His Holiness the Most Mighty Branch—may my spirit, my being, and my essence be sacrificed for the dust of their footsteps—each convey their greetings and have shown such bounty and love that this servant is incapable and powerless to describe. Likewise, the denizens of the pavilion of infallibility and grandeur convey their greetings to your honor and to the Leaf who is related to your honor. Glory and praise and remembrance and thanksgiving be upon your honor and upon those who have arisen and declared:

> "God is our Lord and the Lord of all who are in the heavens and the earth and the Lord of the mighty throne."

And praise be to God, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

The servant, 14 Rajab 1302

BH05739: A mention revealed by the One Who is mentioned…

He is the One Who gazeth from the horizon of the Prison.

A mention revealed by the One Who is mentioned for him who hath turned to the Countenance when the veils were rent asunder and the coverings were torn by the finger of God's will, the Lord of all worlds. Blessed is the soul that hath attained unto the knowledge of God and the hand that hath taken hold of His perspicuous Book.

Thy mention was presented and the servant who was present before the Countenance read it. We heard it and have answered thee through this luminous Tablet. By God! The luminary of prosperity hath shone forth from the horizons of the Tablets, yet the people are in grievous doubt. Their vain desires have kept them back from God, their Creator. They are indeed among the heedless ones. The mountains have passed away and the Cry hath been raised, the Trumpet hath been sounded and the Herald hath called out, yet the people are in strange stupor.

Say: Glory be to Thee, O Dawning-Place of the verses and Dayspring of clear tokens and Source of the oceans of wisdom and utterance in the contingent world! I beseech Thee by the power of Thy Pen of destiny and by Thy might in Thy kingdom to make me steadfast in Thy love and speaking in Thy praise and detached from all else besides Thee. Thou art verily the Almighty, the All-Compelling, the Powerful, the All-Subduing, the Omnipotent.

O my Lord! Thou seest me turning toward Thee and hoping for the wonders of Thy grace. I beseech Thee not to withhold from me that which is with Thee and which Thou hast ordained in Thy Book. Thou art verily the All-Forgiving, the All-Bountiful.

BH06003: O my leaf! Upon thee be My glory! Blessed…

He is the All-Seeing, the All-Informed

O my leaf! Upon thee be My glory! Blessed art thou, for from the beginning when the Sun of Revelation dawned from the horizon of the Will of God, exalted be His glory, thou didst turn unto Him and with complete love and affection arose to serve the Lord of all beings. Among men thou art mentioned before the Self-Sufficing, the Exalted. The friends of God have made mention of thy service, to this He with Whom is the Mother Book beareth witness. And We make mention of thy daughter who attained the days of her Lord. Her remembrance hath ever been before the Wronged One, Who testifieth to her turning, her devotion, her humility, her submissiveness and her service unto God and in His straight path.

And We make mention of thy other daughter and give her the glad-tidings of My mercy, My loving-kindness and My bounty which have encompassed the kingdom of earth and heaven. All thy kindred who have fixed their gaze upon the Most Exalted Horizon and who have held fast unto the Most Firm Handle have been and are mentioned in the presence of this Face. Praise ye the Beloved of the world Who hath enabled you to turn unto a Cause whereof all who are on earth remain heedless and veiled save those whom God hath willed, the Lord of all worlds. Upon you and upon those women who have believed in the All-Informed, the One, be the Glory of God.

BH07794: The Supreme Pen hath revealed wondrous and exalted verses…

He is the Single, the All-Informed!

The Supreme Pen hath revealed wondrous and exalted verses equivalent to all the previous Books, and hath likewise made manifest clear proofs. Nevertheless, an unjust people turned away and pronounced sentence of death upon Him. When sovereign might prevented this, they cast Him into prison. And now in the Most Great Prison He is occupied with the remembrance of the party of God.

I counsel thee and the friends to manifest the greatest steadfastness, for certain among the people of the Bayan have clung to previous vain imaginings and turned away from the Truth. God smite them! It is not known by what they believed and by what they turned away. We beseech the True One to protect thee and His party from the evil of such souls.

It behooveth thee to thank God for having turned unto thee from the direction of the Prison and remembered thee in such wise as cannot be equaled by what is with the kings and sovereigns. Praise be to God, the Lord of the Worlds.

BH08272: The Most Exalted Pen beareth witness to thy turning…

He is the Witness from His most exalted horizon

The Most Exalted Pen beareth witness to thy turning and devotion to God, the Lord of all beings. This is a testimony that walketh before thy face like the sun in all the worlds of thy Lord, the Compassionate, the Generous. Be thou trusting in Him, confident in His grace, and holding fast to the cord of His Name, the Powerful. Be not grieved at what hath come to pass. By the life of God, it hath been and is pure good. Soon shall appear that which is hidden from sight. What behooveth thee is steadfastness in the Cause. What behooveth God is compassion and grace and glory and exaltation. We counsel thee to be steadfast, for He is the Ordainer, the All-Knowing. Should a malicious one bring thee news, leave it behind thee, as bidden by God, the Exalted, the Great. May the glory shining from the horizon of My Kingdom be upon thee and upon those with thee who love thee for the sake of God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH10073: O Husayn, upon thee be My glory! Thou wert…

He is the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious

O Husayn, upon thee be My glory! Thou wert enkindled with the fire of the love of God and didst arise to serve His Cause, the firm, the mighty. Be thou eloquent in His praise, turn thy face toward His countenance, and fix thy gaze upon His bright horizon. With perfect wisdom strive to unite souls and to kindle hearts. He will assuredly assist thee even as He hath assisted and confirmed thee in this Great Announcement. Preserve thy station, then make mention of thy Lord, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. Glory be upon thee and upon those who have cast behind them the idle fancies of the past, and hold fast to the lights of the Sun of Certitude from God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH01246: Praise be to God who hath made knowledge…

He is God, exalted be His glory, greatness and power!

Praise be to God who hath made knowledge a lamp and wisdom a light, and hath linked it to godliness through His word “Fear God: God will teach you”, whereby He hath made clear the proof and revealed the path. Through it the dove of utterance warbleth upon the branch of divine knowledge—verily there is no God but Him, the Mighty, the Bestower. Praise be to God who hath preserved it through wisdom and commanded all to follow it. Through it the foundation of existence was established, the clouds of bounty rained down, and His all-pervading Cause appeared to all who witness and are witnessed. Exalted is His Cause, exalted His sovereignty, and exalted His greatness, His power and His might. He hath sent forth the Messengers and revealed the Books to manifest His grace and demonstrate His bounty and generosity.

He hath made them the dawning-places of His revelation, the daysprings of His Cause, the manifestations of His Self and the sources of His wisdom, until the Books were sealed with the Qur’an and the Messengers with the Lord of all creation, through whom the earth and heaven smiled and the gate of bestowal was opened to all in the kingdom of names. Upon Him be God’s peace, blessings, mercy, favors, glory, splendor, bounty and grace, and upon His family and companions through whom the horizons of the heaven of divine knowledge shone forth upon all in the realm of possibility, the fragrance of unity was diffused among all religions, and through whom God’s power and sovereignty were made manifest and the standards of His Cause were raised among His creation. These are honored servants who speak not until He hath spoken and who act by His command.

And further: thy letter which diffused the fragrance of love for the Best-Beloved of the worlds caused the breast to expand and adorned the heart with boundless joy. After its reading and perusal it was presented before His presence. He said: “O thou who holdest fast to the cord of divine knowledge! Heedlessness hath laid waste the world. The foundation of the word of unity is observed to be shaken through the dissension and cawing of the ungodly. The banner of God’s word hath been raised and planted at the highest station of the world for thirteen hundred years, yet now it hath inclined due to the transgressions of evil and wayward souls. By the life of God! These things have occurred only through the heedlessness and disobedience of the servants. Beseech ye God to assist the people of unity and purify them with the water of repentance and return, that all may turn with perfect unity and without hypocrisy toward the supreme horizon and seek relief from God, glorified be His majesty. He is the Generous One Who heareth and answereth the cry of the oppressed.

Glory be to God! Until now they have not discovered the cause of these new developments. We beseech God to assist the distinguished divines to that which preserveth the radiant Faith. Every soul must arise to redress what hath been lost, for if this matter is, God forbid, delayed, the beasts of prey will seize and plunder what remaineth. This Wronged One beseecheth God, glorified be His majesty, to assist thee in that which causeth the fragrance of eternity to be diffused. Rejoice thou in My remembrance of thee, then give thanks unto thy Lord, the Generous. We beseech Him, exalted be He, to ordain for thee from His Most Exalted Pen the good of the hereafter and of this world, and to make thee so firm, steadfast and upright that thou shalt see in existence naught save His manifestation, His signs, His power and His might.” We seal these words with the remembrance of God’s loved ones and chosen ones, that the fragrance of sincerity unto God, the Lord of all worlds, may be diffused thereby. End.

God is witness and testimony that from the beginning of the ignition of the fire of oppression in those regions and other places, they beseeched God in utter helplessness to extinguish it, and they said: O servant present, this word will be answered only when people awaken from the sleep of heedlessness and arise to remedy what has passed. In any case, for the generous ones no task is difficult. Through God’s grace and favor we have been and are hopeful that He will not deprive His servants of His infinite favors. Verily He has power over all things.

That honored one has always been and continues to be remembered, and it is hoped that this favor will be the cause and means of exaltation, ascendancy and elevation. This is not difficult for God.

Regarding the journey of Aqa Mirza ʿAli-Muhammad, upon him be God’s peace, they said the choice rests with that honored one himself—whenever wisdom requires it, he may proceed. Conveying mention and praise to the friends in that land is entrusted to that honored one. Peace be upon you and upon God’s righteous servants.

The watermelon seeds that you sent arrived, and after your letter, permission for another steamer was granted to Haji, the emigrant traveler. This favor encompasses that honored one and him, for he is present by proxy and has attained representation and been blessed with pilgrimage. All this is from God’s grace and mercy unto the Guardian of the hopeful ones and the Guardian of the sincere ones.

BH00659: Praise be sanctified above the recognition of all created…

He is God—exalted be His station, the Most Great, the All-Powerful

Praise be sanctified above the recognition of all created things and the comprehension of all beings, befitting the court of nearness to the Holy Presence of the Desired One, Who has ever been and shall ever be sanctified above all names and attributes. The entire creation speaks His praise and acknowledgeth His bounty and generosity, yet none has claimed to have truly accepted Him, for how can they who are bound by limitations enumerate that which exists within the court of the Lord of the invisible and the visible? The private chamber of the unseen is sanctified above the gathering of manifestation and witness. Nevertheless, we servants submit with the utmost lowliness and supplication:

O Lord! O Self-Sufficient One! O All-Bountiful! O All-Merciful! Thou art He Whose mercy has preceded all and Whose generosity has encompassed all peoples and nations. Should the breeze of Thy wealth pass by, it would erase the very name of poverty from the world, and should the ocean of Thy forgiveness surge, it would remove all distinction between the sinful and the obedient. Thou hast loved oneness and unity, yet this evanescent one testifies that none hath truly understood Thy oneness. O Generous One! Deprive not Thy weak servants of Thy profound grace. Accept these unworthy mentions through Thy bounty. The world of being is but a token of Thy generosity, and the manifestations of all things are but signs of Thy manifestation. O Peerless One! Sanctify Thy servants and summon them to the seat of Thy loving-kindness. Deprivation from all else is possible, but from Thee it is neither fitting nor possible. O God! The eye is expectant, the face is turned toward Thee, and the heart is attracted. What Thou didst grant at first, withdraw not at the end. Thou art the All-Powerful, Thou art the All-Seeing. Praise be unto Thee, O Creator of heaven and Possessor of all names!

O Beloved of my heart! The perfumed spiritual leaf that was adorned with the mention of the people of inner meaning gave new life to the soul and strength of vision to the eye. In truth, each of its words was a messenger from the right hand of love and affection, and a fragrance from the rose-garden of longing and desire. It gave the power of smell to the nostrils and taste to the palate. Allah-u-Akbar! Such is the influence of the messengers and the penetrating power of the words of the sincere ones that a single word can transform hell into paradise and retribution into blessing. Thus it was that in the midst of sorrows that descended in these days, the gate of joy was opened and delight and gladness took hold of our very being.

His is the praise and the favor. He created both fire and light, and this contrast has been the cause of our recompense; otherwise His generosity would not accept punishment, and His mercy would not be followed by wrath. Glorified be His majesty, universal be His bounty, exalted be His station, and there is no God but Him! In all conditions the people of truth are patient and gaze toward the horizon of submission and contentment. After reading and becoming apprised of the esteemed letter, We proceeded to the exalted station and presented it before His Countenance. He said:

This Prisoner has ever besought and continues to beseech God, exalted be His glory, for their confirmation, and assuredly this prayer shall be answered, for He is the Hearer and Answerer of prayers. From Him is supplication and in His grasp lies its acceptance. The mysteries of the words “He doeth

whatsoever He willeth" are beyond reckoning. Convey greetings from this Wronged One to all the friends in that land. We beseech God to protect them all and make them the sources and manifestations of His most excellent names. The petition of Ghulam-Qabli-Husayn was read before the face of this Wronged One in the prison. Blessed is he and joy be unto him. We beseech the Almighty to make him ever-mindful of Him, speaking His praise and standing firm in His service under all conditions. The peace of God and His mercy and blessings be upon you.

This evanescent one expresseth utter nothingness and evanescence before each of the loved ones and friends of God. To the beloved of my heart, His honor Aqa Siyyid ʿAli, upon him be 96 [Baha'u'llah], this evanescent one's mention of nothingness is beloved, for if true evanescence is achieved, perpetuity is present in that moment. In such case, the decree of attainment is clear and established. God willing, may you ever adorn the garden of utterance with wondrous and exalted trees. The trees of loving-kindness have arrived. O beloved of my heart! The tree is present, the earth is present, the water is present—the matter rests with the planter and cultivator. We beseech God that by His blessed will and good-pleasure, He may bring about the means that are expedient. He is the Helper and Succourer in all things.

At this hour, when four hours of night have passed, this evanescent one, like lightning, was at times at the wharf and at times by the sea, and likewise near its gift-bearers. Through abundant searching, praise be to God, its palm trees, before bearing fruit, yielded in wondrous and lofty array fruit whose taste was love and whose flavor was the savor of life. How excellent was its fragrance which gave strength, and its mention which bestowed joy! If, for example, it seems trivial to true friends, God knows that with the Friend it is accounted as precious gems. Other trees were also seen and present. As time had passed and night had advanced beyond four, therefore the searching and investigating and observing and admiring and giving thanks were all deferred to the spiritual dawn.

The mention of dawn was made, and the elephant remembered India. From this mention was inhaled the fragrance of the dawn of the Day of Manifestation. Exalted be that Day wherein God was manifested unto all things through all names! By the life of our Beloved, in this station I am both mute and dumb. Another sight is needed and another power of hearing. Although it is hoped that through the prayers of those beloved ones, through patience every difficulty may become easy and every hardship become comfort. In truth, with His generosity no task is difficult.

In any case, I hope that tomorrow morning, through the endeavors of the gentlemen, I may be occupied with taking and carrying and digging and planting and arranging, and surely through the noble efforts of those beloved ones its fruit will appear, its stature will become lofty, and its shade will become brilliant. In truth, each was a palm grove that truly captured hearts and dispelled grief. It seemed as though the garden of delight had turned from Alexandria to Bahji, and from there to that small plot which His Honor knows contains the lamentation of the world and from which the tumult of nations is manifest and evident. However, I state with sincerity and declare with the tongue of truth that in these days this servant has no means beyond what they have sent, and there is fear that, God forbid, there may be delay in the assigned service and inability may become apparent.

I petition those beloved ones not to forget this evanescent one in times of leisure. This is the hope of this evanescent one. Convey greetings on behalf of this evanescent one to those blessed, assured, enkindled

souls and those detached, attracted spirits. I have besought and continue to beseech from God, exalted be His glory, blessing and bounty and health for each one, being certain that He is the Hearing, the Responding One, and praise be to God, the Mighty, the Watchful. In Persia I used to hear them say: A new flower has come to market, My soul's beloved has come.

However, it was not known who was the lover and who was the beloved, for in truth they were uttering meaningless words. But now it is observed that a whole world of meaning hath appeared from that which seemed meaningless, inasmuch as Jinab-i-Aqa Abu'l-Qasim arrived bearing a fresh flower whose fragrance was more delicate than the human spirit and whose sight was a hundred thousand times more sublime than beholding garden roses. After observation, examination and investigation, it became clear that this too was one of the favors of those beloved ones. Another night it came to bloom; truly it was a wondrous sight. This one flower excelled all flowers, for it had attained the presence [of the Beloved] and was adorned with the ornament of acceptance. These are the attributes of this sweet-natured flower which, according to the Beloved of hearts, His Holiness ʿAli—may God ennoble his countenance—was called Malonia. As long as the power of renewal exists in springtime and moisture in the morning breeze, may ye remain joyous and triumphant, hale and whole, abiding beneath the shade of the Sacred Tree.

Truly a wondrous thing hath come to pass. For several years this flower was planted, yet neither its blossoms nor its fruit were known, until in these days they appeared. And by chance, it was on a night when at dawn this servant was to recite in the Shrine the revealed sermon specifically for the new Most Great Joy. Taking up the sermon and the flower, I set out from ʿAkka toward Bahji. All began to utter words of praise and glorification. And in God's handiwork, His is the praise in all conditions, and He is the Self-Sufficient, the Most Exalted. There is no God but Him, the Powerful, the All-Bountiful.

BH02823: O My leaf! Upon thee be My glory! Blessed…

He is the Comforter, the Consoler.

O My leaf! Upon thee be My glory! Blessed art thou and those like thee whom nothing whatsoever hath prevented from God, the Creator of the heavens. By the life of God, We have made mention of thee in such wise as all the treasures of the earth cannot equal. Thy Lord, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed, beareth witness to this. The Supreme Pen testifieth to the acceptance, orientation, humility and submissiveness of that honored woman before the face of God, and to her patience and tranquility in His Cause. Blessed art thou, O My handmaiden! Thou hast drunk the choice wine of patience from the hand of the favor of thy Lord, the Chosen One, and hast attained unto that which the denizens of the Most Exalted Paradise and the Supreme Heaven have attained.

The entire world hath been created for the knowledge of God, exalted be His glory, and on the Day of Manifestation all relationships are severed, for all relationships return unto Him. Each party was prevented by some matter, and each people were deprived by some mention, cause or calamity. Praise be to God that that leaf turned towards Him and attained unto the hearing of the divine call, and the calamities of the world did not prevent her from the Supreme Horizon. There hath befallen thee what befell Us in the Most Great Prison in the early days.

In truth the world is not worthy of attention. Blessed are they who soared on the wings of detachment and ascended through the love of God. For them have been ordained exalted stations beneath the pavilions of grandeur, under the shade of the Tree of Grace, in the Supreme Paradise and Most Exalted Heaven. I swear by the Sun of the horizon of sanctity, were the merest trace of that station to be revealed to all peoples, they would freely sacrifice their lives.

We beseech God to aid thee and make thee firm and steadfast in His Cause. Know thou the value of this Tablet. By My life, from its horizon hath shone the sun of the loving-kindness of thy Lord, the Compassionate, the Generous. We have mentioned him who ascended unto God with such remembrance as the denizens of the Kingdom of Names and every servant who heard and responded to his Lord when He came with manifest sovereignty make mention of. The Wronged One conveyeth His greetings to all the relatives and counseleth all to submission, patience, perseverance, remembrance and praise of God, exalted be His glory. The glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My mercy be upon thee and upon them and upon everyone steadfast and firm.

BH02414: Praise be to God! The musk-laden fragrances of meaning…

He is God, exalted be His glory, the Most Great, the All-Powerful

Praise be to God! The musk-laden fragrances of meaning and utterance are diffused in every moment and instant, and the correspondence and letters of the friends of God, like caravans from Yemen bearing divine knowledge, are ever arriving. At all times the sweet scent of love wafts from the mention of the chosen ones to the nostrils of the soul. In truth, this is the mystery of life and its essence. They have attributed a spirit to the body and called it the soul—that spirit grows cold at the sight of Azrael, but this spirit endures until the trumpet of Israfil, nay until whatsoever God willeth.

The letter arrived and increased longing and reunion, though it also portrayed the might of separation. Praise be to God in all conditions! With perfect certitude I declare that without His favors we are powerless, nay non-existent and lost. Speech is from His special grace and the pen from His infinite bounty. The connection of the world, the fellowship and gathering of nations, and all stations and ranks are made manifest through these two. They are two mighty interpreters that He has bestowed upon His servants. Exalted is God, our Lord and your Lord, our Goal and the Goal of all in the heavens and earth! And peace and blessings be upon the Source of His Cause, the Ocean of His knowledge, and the Heaven of His wisdom, whom He named Ahmad in the Kingdom and the Comforter in the Gospel. His are the most beautiful names from God, Creator of heaven. And upon His family and companions through whom the carpet of idols was rolled up and the carpet of divine unity was spread among the people.

After perusing the letter and its contents, it was presented before His presence and this is what the Master (may our spirits be sacrificed for Him) spoke:

> “We beseech God to assist them and ordain for them the good of this world and the next. Verily He is the Lord of humanity and the Sovereign of the throne on high and of earth below.”

Indeed, boundless joy was obtained from the attention of that beloved one, as there is hope that through God’s grace and help, the door of bounty will be opened to all and all will be enabled to visit the House of

God. As for the arrangements for the visit, with wisdom it depends upon drawing lots and the consent of both parties, for if all were to set out at once it would cause disputes. People are weak—despite having complete trust, Satan sometimes casts doubts and whispers into heedless souls.

I send greetings to Aqa Muhammad-Qasim and Aqa ʿAbdu'l-Muttalib, upon them be 96 [Baha'u'llah]. We hope God's grace will encompass their condition. Peace and praise be upon you and upon God's friends and chosen ones.

The servant, 5 Sha'ban 1302

BH01322: Praise be to God Who created man and taught…

He is God, exalted be His glory, the Most Great!

Praise be to God Who created man and taught him utterance, and made him a sign of His dominion in all creation. And blessings and peace be upon the Lord of the Messengers, the Ordainer of paths, the Manifestation of Names, the Banner of Eternity in the Kingdom of Creation, and upon His family and companions who held fast to divine assistance and attained to the Dayspring of dawn.

Thereafter, this evanescent servant was honored by your exalted letter which was truly the essence of joy and gladness, bestowing complete delight and opening the gates of reunion, for the yearning ones perceive from the book the fragrance of reunion. However, from what you wrote about the tribulations that had befallen, infinite grief was experienced—one word brought joy while another brought sorrow. Praise be to God in both conditions. Your honor has no news from this land. What has befallen it is the universal cause of the world's grief. A few days ago, while at the mansion, one night as this servant was engaged in writing in His presence, suddenly an uproar arose. Later it became known that a group of Christians had, with utmost tyranny and aggression, beaten and abused some friends who were engaged in service, to such an extent that two souls nearly perished. Until now the physicians are occupied with their treatment.

After these abhorrent acts, they entered Akka and began complaining to the Pasha and others, claiming "Three of us were sent to another place by the Persians who attacked us," whereas no one had molested those souls. It seems they were raised in the school of falsehood and grew up in the college of calumny. In brief, there were several days of dispute, and every soul said something, until finally it became clear and evident to the government that these prisoners and captives had not molested those heedless souls.

Tribulations and hardships have ever been and continue to be—sometimes the imprisonment of the friends in various lands, and at times the heedlessness of the people of this city. From the day they seized the beloved of hearts, Haji Siyyid Ali Akbar—upon him be the peace of God—in the land of Ta, verbal incidents also occurred in this land. Your honor is aware of the favor, grace and mercy of the Lord. Nevertheless, every day, nay every moment, they are engaged in deception and plotting, although all know that the world and all that is therein belongs to none but returns to God. Yet for a single dirham they cast themselves into peril and make themselves deserving of eternal punishment.

This servant beseeches God—exalted be His glory—to protect these servants and assist them in that which pleases Him. Verily, He has power over all things.

Your letter was presented before His countenance. He said:

> "We beseech God to protect him and ordain for him the good of the hereafter and this world. Verily, He is the Ruler over whatsoever He willeth."

End quote.

The souls present in service, the son and the honored lady—upon them both be the glory of God—send their greetings, and please convey greetings to those who are absent as well. We beseech divine confirmation for each one. We implore and beseech the Exalted Truth to assist all in that which He loves and is pleased with, and to increase your honor's elevation and exaltation at every moment. Verily, He is the Powerful, the Mighty.

Regarding what you wrote that his honor, my master—may my spirit and being be a sacrifice for the dust of his footsteps—has not shown any kindness for some time, this much is submitted: Your honor has ever been and continues to be mentioned before all. This is the truth of what was submitted. Otherwise, it is the multitude of occupations that sometimes prevents mention. Now matters have reached such a point that this servant is even prevented from responding to the letters of the friends in various regions. I beseech God to assist this evanescent one to serve His friends. Verily, He is the Hearer, the Answerer, and worthy to respond.

The people of the pavilion of grandeur and glory each send their greetings to your honor and the honored lady and those absent, and they beseech God for your honor's confirmation, success, glory and elevation of station. Peace, spirit and mercy be upon your honor and upon those with you and upon those who love you for the sake of God, our Goal and your Goal and the Goal of all who are in the heavens and the earth.

The servant 9 Sha'ban 1302

BH05960: O thou who hast turned unto the Countenance! Rejoice…

He is the Speaker, the Manifest, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

O thou who hast turned unto the Countenance! Rejoice in what thou hast witnessed and heard and seen at the horizon of the manifestation of Him Who conversed on Sinai, Who hath come and calleth out amidst all peoples:

> "The Kingdom belongeth unto God, the Lord of the Throne on high and of the dust below."

My Most Exalted Pen beareth witness to thy drawing nigh and thy presence, and counseleth thee to serve the Cause with wisdom and utterance. Verily thy Lord is the Master of the latter and the former ends. Convey My greetings unto My loved ones, remind them of My days, and give them the glad-tidings of My tender mercy and My grace which have preceded all created things.

We have made mention of thee before and at this hour, and have made this mention for thee a brilliant lamp that shall go before thee in every world of the worlds of thy Lord. He Who speaketh in all things beareth witness unto this, that there is none other God but Me, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious.

Preserve thou this most exalted station and say:

> "Praise be unto Thee, O Thou Who hast aided me to recognize the Dawning-Place of Thy Cause, whereby the limbs of them that turned away from God did quake, and the faces of such as held fast unto the Most Great Handle were illumined."

The glory that proceedeth from Us rest upon thee and upon them that have cast away all else save God and have turned with radiant faces unto His most exalted horizon.

BH08192: A remembrance from Our presence unto him who hath…

He is the Mighty, the Praiseworthy.

A remembrance from Our presence unto him who hath turned towards God, the Lord of the worlds. The Most Exalted Pen beareth witness to thy turning, thy devotion and thy arrival in the Most Holy Court. Blessed art thou and joy be unto thee, for thou art among those who have attained unto the Book of God and His verses, and entered the Prison, and heard the call of the Wronged One. Give thanks unto God for this most great favor and be thou of the thankful ones. All these stations are dependent and conditioned upon steadfastness. Blessed are they that have attained thereunto. How many souls failed to attain unto this most exalted and glorious station.

Say: Glory be unto Thee, O my God and the God of all, the Sender of the Messengers and the Revealer of the Books! I beseech Thee by the lights of Thy countenance that Thou disappoint me not from steadfastness and from that which is with Thee. Verily Thou art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the Forgiving, the Generous.

BH09897: God, His angels and His Messengers bear witness…

He is the One Who gazeth from the Most Exalted Horizon

God, His angels and His Messengers bear witness that there is none other God but Him, and that He Who speaketh among the peoples is indeed the Goal of the world. Through Him the heaven of utterance was upraised and the sun of exposition shone forth, and that which was hidden in the presence of knowledge and inscribed by the Most Exalted Pen in the Books and Tablets was made manifest. Rejoice thou in thy Lord's remembrance of thee. Say: O my God! I beseech Thee by Thy wrongs and by what hath befallen Thee at the hands of the oppressors among Thy creatures, to assist me to be steadfast in Thy love and to ordain for me, by Thy Most Exalted Pen, the good of the world to come and of this world. There is none other God but Thee, the All-Forgiving, the All-Merciful.

BH11701: Take heed, O people of insight! Take heed, O…

In the Name of Our Lord, the Most Holy, the Most Great, the Most Exalted, the All-Glorious!

Take heed, O people of insight! Take heed, O people of vision! Consider, O people of understanding! Those who were exalted by the name of Truth and who, claiming faith in Him, sat at the head of assemblies, reclining upon the seats of opposition, who issued the decree for the shedding of His pure blood, who denounced as infidels His near ones and the sincere ones, and who counted the most wretched and the opposers among the pure and faithful—they attributed corruption to Him whose very breath is the cause of the life of the world. This is not the first day whereon they have violated the Covenant of God and His Testament. Reflect upon the past ages and centuries, when the ignorant among the people, claiming knowledge, visited upon the Dawning-Places of Revelation and the Day-Springs of inspiration that which caused the dawn to lament, the afternoon to weep, and the most exalted Paradise and the supreme Heaven to tremble. Yet God, exalted be His glory, has been and shall ever be with His party.

In the early days they were opposers, deniers and calumniators, and after the exaltation of the Cause, they occupied pulpits and mosques, claiming faith in the Truth while busying themselves with ensnaring souls. Such is their wretchedness that God, exalted be His glory, hath spoken that which sufficeth every hearer. His blessed and exalted Word in the Qur'an declareth:

> "Truly, those among His servants who fear God are the learned ones."

Though the outward learned ones have interpreted this according to their own desires, yet every possessor of insight and vision can perceive its meaning. Through this verse God, exalted be His glory, intended to make known to His servants the wretchedness of such souls; otherwise, with but a single word He could bring the entire world to naught. The measures of earthly power cannot restrain His might, nor can the ranks of nations prevent the manifestations of His power. Were His all-pervading wisdom to so determine, He could with a single letter strip the world of the ornament of existence. These are they who, in the name of Truth, have barred the way to Truth, and who, while claiming to love Him, have opened for themselves the gates of earthly adornments.

The opposers from among the people of the Bayan are today walking in those same footsteps. For one thousand two hundred years the misguided and misleading sect—namely the Shi'ih—both learned and ignorant among them, have occupied themselves with mention of guardian, successor, Imam, chief and noble, and such like, and such was the intensity of the hatred and animosity between their factions that each party would denounce the other as infidel and decree their death, while through the architects of suspicion and fancy they built up dominions. Finally, on the Day of Resurrection those suspicions and fancies were transformed into opposition and were visited upon the Lord of mankind that which was heard. This was the fruit of their beliefs, sayings and deeds. As to what will be the fruit of these new events, namely the objections of the opposers, the knowledge thereof is with God. Verily He is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

And further: O beloved of my heart! Your grief has saddened this servant and the manifestations of divine love, and its smoke well-nigh approached the sacred, pure, mighty and luminous hem of God. Each oppressed soul is mentioned before the Throne. By the life of our Purpose! They have attained that which none can reckon save Him Who is the Reckoner, the All-Knowing. Blessed is the oppressed one who hath suffered in the path of God that which the chosen ones of God suffered throughout ages and centuries. If

you remained awake at night, the Eye of God was with you—verily it slumbereth not. What fault had the Primal Point in the sight of the Ancient Beauty? What did the Seal of the Prophets do? Why did the Spirit ascend to the fourth heaven? Likewise the chosen ones and companions of those Daysprings of God's Cause. You have many companions, but the Hand of God's Power, exalted be His glory, is occupied with taking and giving. He is the Helper, He is the Giver, He is the Protector, and He is the All-Knowing, the All-Seeing.

Repeatedly from the Tongue of Grandeur hath flowed this exalted word—blessed and exalted be His utterance: "The tabernacle of order in the world is upheld by two pillars: reward and punishment." Assuredly the reward of the friends and the punishment of the enemies will become manifest and evident. After hearing what befell you, the Tongue of Grandeur uttered this blessed word: "Verily We were with them when the oppressors rose up against them, and We did witness and observe, and verily We are the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing." Likewise the mention of that oppressed one who was wounded in God's path has been and is before the Most Holy Court. Verily the Servant mentioneth him and giveth him glad tidings of the favors of his Lord, the Almighty.

Another matter: the letters of that beloved of the heart arrived consecutively and were answered, and specially for some of them wondrous and exalted Tablets were revealed, but their dispatch was delayed for wisdom's sake. Now this brief message is sent, and likewise the receipt for the funds was honored with acceptance and distinguished by mention of its receipt. The request is that you convey greetings to each and all the kinsmen who are present in that land. By the life of our Purpose! The angels of heaven are grieved and saddened by the oppression that hath been wrought. This is what my Lord, the All-Hearing, hath informed Me. I beseech Him, exalted be He, to aid you, to grant you success, to protect you from the evil of His enemies, and to seize those who have denied His right, broken His covenant, and committed that which hath caused every fair-minded and discerning one to lament.

Glory, praise and salutations be upon you, O party of God in the earth and Hands of His Cause in the lands.

BH03018: Praise be unto Him, and thanksgiving be unto Him…

Praise be unto Him, and thanksgiving be unto Him, and glorification and extolment and grandeur be unto Him, and power and exaltation be unto Him…..

I beseech the Omnipotent, the Ancient One, through the endeavors of His loved ones, to sanctify and purify the world from rancor, hatred, tyranny, transgression, conflict, corruption, contention and all abhorrent and blameworthy deeds. In the nights and days this matter has continuously streamed forth from the tongue of the Lord of all names—assuredly its effects shall appear in the world and the earth shall be cleansed from the dust of vainglory and the smoke of ignorance. If the foolish ones among the people of the Bayan and the rabble among the people of the Furqan would allow it, the world would be seen as a piece of Paradise. As the poets of old have said, "What strange sorcery is this!" and so forth.

Without bloodshed or injury being inflicted, the spirit is taken. For twelve hundred years and more they recited the Book of God, the Furqan, yet failed to comprehend a single letter thereof. A hundred

thousand mercies upon the people of the Furqan, for that group was, from the beginning, occupied in the school of vain imaginings with reading books of conjecture. However, the people of the Bayan witnessed with their own eyes that all they possessed from epistles, declarations, Jabulqa, Jabulsa and the Qa'im were lies and calumnies, and the fruit of the deeds of that rebellious group was the martyrdom of the Primal Point, may our souls be a sacrifice for Him. This Babi group follows in those same footsteps and repeats those same words….

The Herald, that is the Primal Point—may the spirit of all else be sacrificed for Him—states, exalted be His words: "All exists so that on the Day of Manifestation thou mayest not remain veiled by names, but rather look to That by which names subsist in all things, even the mention of the Prophet, for that name is created through what God reveals."…

Praise be unto Thee, O Lord of Names and Creator of heaven, for having caused us to hear Thy call and recognize Thy path and witness Thy revelation and behold Thy beauty. I bear witness that Thou art He Who was hidden in the unseen and veiled from all eyes. We beseech Thee by the sovereignty of Names to enable us to do that which Thou lovest and art pleased with. There is none other God but Thee, the Lord of the Throne and of earth below….

These are they from whom, in the earliest days, the fragrance of the love of God was diffused. That household is truly associated with His Name and is mentioned by Him. We have remembered and continue to remember them all, and We counsel them with wisdom….

We send Our greetings to the friends and counsel them to be truthful, trustworthy, pious, chaste, and loving, and to manifest that which will exalt their station amongst the peoples of the world. God, exalted be His glory, hath loved faithfulness. Blessed is the temple that hath attained unto this adornment and been honored with this most great distinction….

No adornment, no garment, no mark hath ever been or ever will be better for rulers than justice. Blessed is the ruler who hath illumined the world with the lights of justice and hath judged with equity between the peoples. A ruler who hath attained unto justice hath been recorded in the Most Great Book by the Most Exalted Pen as one of the near ones. His station with God is the most great, and his rank the most exalted. It is most difficult for rulers, ministers, governors and the wealthy to attain unto the effusions of the True Bestower—perhaps with the tongue, but with the heart, alas, alas! And should one attain thereunto, he would be mentioned as the most exalted of creatures in the presence of God….

All must hold fast to that which hath been enjoined upon them. In no aspect or matter should they neglect that which hath flowed from the Most Exalted Pen concerning trustworthiness, religious duty, chastity, virtue, deeds and character. All should gaze toward the Most Exalted Horizon and strive to reform and remove that which causeth the servants to be troubled. Beseech God to adorn all with justice and fairness. Blessed are they who occupy themselves day and night with counsels and exhortations for the refinement of souls. These points should be mentioned before the faces of God's loved ones lest anyone become heedless and occupy themselves with that which befitteth not these divine days. Verily He is the All-Knowing Counsellor and the Wise Expositor. There is no God but Him, the Most High, the Most Great.

In truth the loved ones of God, exalted be His glory, must be mindful at all times and take precedence in deeds and character. This is the station of man. Blessed be the All-Merciful Who hath manifested him and made him the dawning-place of His commandments and ordinances. It is hoped that through the hosts of love and reformation they may conquer the cities of the hearts of the world, that no trace of rancor and hatred may remain and their fragrance may be cut off. The oppressors and tyrants of the earth have in every age prevented good and the manifestations of the outpouring grace of the True One. They have turned away from a station the like of which the eye of the world hath not seen, yet count themselves among the faithful. Glory be to God! They cling to and accept a withered leaf while turning away from the Divine Lote-Tree. Such is the condition of the heedless ones. We beseech reformation and seek confirmation. He is the Powerful, the Mighty….

Any deed performed by anyone today is recorded as the king of deeds in God's Book. Today is the day of service, victory, steadfastness, remembrance and praise. By the life of God! Today an atom is able to attain the station of the sun, and a drop is empowered to achieve the greatness of the sea, for the effulgences of the Sun of Revelation have encompassed the world. O people of God! Arise to assist the Cause of the Lord of creation with the utmost endeavor, wisdom and unity. Count time as precious, for centuries and ages cannot equal a moment thereof. To this has testified the Lord of the Day of Judgment in His perspicuous Book….

Whosoever today succeeds in paying the Huqúqu'llah is among those who have acted according to the commandments of God, exalted be His majesty, and have attained to that which hath flowed from the Most Exalted Pen. However, We have ever written and commanded that none should make demands. Whosoever of his own accord turns and pays the Rights of God with the utmost joy and fragrance, let it be accepted, but without this it was not and is not permissible. The heedless must be somewhat reminded. Action must occur with willingness. In all matters the exaltation of the Cause of God must be observed. We wrote before that if someone owned the whole world and were to give it all but diminish the dignity of the Cause by even a mustard seed, forsaking that wealth would be necessary and obligatory.

This is the command of God before and after. Well is it with them that act. The command to pay the Huqúq was a bounty from God, exalted be His majesty, and its benefit returns to those who act upon it. All must give thanks to the True One, the Inaccessible, that He has enabled them to pay the Huqúq. For a long time We held back the Pen and issued no command in this matter until consummate wisdom required its acceptance. God refuses to let matters proceed except through their proper channels. It is necessary to assist some and be considerate of others, but by the leave of God, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting….

This is what was revealed for Husayn-ʿAli, upon him be the glory of God. His blessed and exalted Word: O thou who bearest My name and gazest toward My horizon! Hear My call from the direction of My prison. There is no God but Me, the Truth, the Knower of the unseen. Say: O people of the Bayan! This is the Day [of God] wherein none save Him is mentioned, however much it displeaseth you and displeaseth those who have denied God, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting. They profess belief in the Bayan yet deny its Sender and Revealer. Nay, they perceive not. Their wretchedness hath overcome them and they have

forgotten their past deeds. To this testifieth the Tablet of God, the Lord of what was and what shall be. We counsel thee and those who have believed to show forth the most great steadfastness and that whereby the Cause of God, the Lord of the seen and unseen, may be exalted. The glory be upon thee and upon those with thee….

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BH00935: Praise be to God! The heaven of love has…

He is God, exalted be His station, the Most Great, the All-Powerful

Praise be to God! The heaven of love has arrived, meaning the letter, and the stars of faith, certitude, steadfastness and fidelity are manifest, resplendent, radiant and shining from its horizons. If it were called an ocean of love, that too would be true, for the shells of its words contained the pearls of inner meanings. It gave strength to vision and joy to the heart. Blessed be the pen and fingers, for though they appear as nothingness, yet a hundred thousand interpretations, explanations and meanings are true of them. The station of the gathering of all gatherings has in truth been with the Word of God in the first degree, and likewise the words that are uttered in praise, glorification, love and fidelity from the tongue of His loved ones—it expresses without a tongue and writes without pen and ink.

Well does it comprehend the mysteries of the lovers. All perfect work is His, for its fragrance shows the way and makes known the destination. His is the praise, His the perfection, His the beauty, His the power, His the grace. And prayers and peace be upon the Sovereign of the Prophets and the King of the Chosen Ones, through Whose face the world was illumined and through Whose bright utterance the horizon of possibility shone forth—He whom God made His Most Great Word the key to unlock the door of knowledge and wisdom—and upon His family, the stars in the heaven of grace and proof, and upon His companions, the standards of victory in the realm of possibility.

Thereafter, your esteemed letter arrived, bringing glad tidings, conveying news, bestowing joy. It was a messenger bearing a thousand messages, a book containing the mysteries of the lovers and the secrets of the people of harmony and the Covenant. In truth, the flame of spirit was manifest from it.

Once, this exalted word was heard from the tongue of the Lord of Names—He said that when the Sun of Unity shed its rays, in each of the hearts of those who had turned to God and were assured, a light became manifest and radiant. And that light was one, for it told of the Sun of Unity and indicated the Orb of Detachment, and in its station it was and ever will be one. Yet from its orientation to each direction, a name becomes manifest, a word becomes evident, and a cloud becomes visible. For example, through its orientation to the means of sight, vision becomes manifest, and through the means of hearing, the power of listening becomes evident, and likewise with each member of the body and each part of the parts. Exalted be His utterance, exalted His proof, exalted His remembrance, exalted His interpretation!

Though your letter was one, it brought manifold wondrous and novel gifts. The rest of the story is yours to tell—it has been read and understood and needs no interpretation, for that would lead to length, and

prolongation might cause weariness. After reading, understanding, considering and reflection, proceeding to the station, after presentation He said:

Praise be to God! They are warmed by the Sun of loving-kindness and illumined by the lights of His countenance. The Truth has manifested that which was beyond the comprehension of the mystics and learned ones of the earth, and they too have arisen to serve, beyond the understanding of the people of all lands. We beseech God that He may bring to realization every word that has issued from the mine of sincerity and make manifest from it universal results throughout the earth. He is the Powerful, the Mighty. Convey greetings from this Wronged One to all the friends in that land. The One God is witness that they are mentioned in His presence and are present before His face. The end.

Praise be to God! Although these days are blessed days when fasting is among the binding divine ordinances, and weakness and lassitude are human traits, yet His grace hath bestowed bounties and favors. His Word is not weakened by fasting, nor doth abstinence prevent His work. His is the praise and glory, and His the gratitude and bestowal.

Concerning what was written about Aqa Muhammad Mihdi, upon him be God's peace, permission is hereby granted according to His command that he may proceed to the prison and thence to whatsoever God willeth and desireth. Give him these glad tidings and convey greetings.

As to what was written concerning the Siyyid and his affairs, what transpired is well known. Those beloved ones have not and will not fall short in such matters. I beseech God to manifest through the Siyyid that which shall cause joy and delight to the friends in those regions.

What that certain person said about the companion of His Holiness Ismu'llah was false and contrary to wisdom. Glory be to God! The friends of God must be truthful, discreet, calm, patient and wise. That false statement was in no way appropriate, but rather departed from the requirements of wisdom. I beseech and implore God to make all aware and grant them knowledge. He is the Powerful, the Mighty.

From all the letters sent by each of the friends of this land, and from the detailed words and multiple letters, the fragrance of the beloved of the heart, His Holiness Muhammad, emanates. Praise and thanks be to God Who exalted the two names and adorned them with the ornament of enduring mention. This person is, in one station, the seal of bounties and the confirmer of hearts. When love takes possession of a place and fills it, no room remains for mention or praise to appear. In short, the heart has been conquered by the hosts of love; there remains no other station for manifestation and appearance.

They sent reed pens. Surely these reeds are superior to those mentioned by Rumi, for those complained of separation while these, God willing, shall tell of nearness, meeting and reunion.

The fragrant flowers sent by the aforementioned one, upon him be God's peace, arrived. They were both used in his presence at the time of breaking the fast and also given to the friends. A line was sent in reply to his letter which they will deliver, God willing.

I convey greetings to all the friends and masters. All are mentioned and have attained the grace of the Friend. I beseech God, exalted be His station, to grant success to all, bestow blessings, give joy, grant

steadfastness, and make all happy through beholding one another. This servant has ever yearned and continues to yearn for meeting the friends of God. Peace be upon you, and the mercy of God, and His blessings.

BH01260: Praise be sanctified above pen and ink unto…

He is God, exalted be His station, the Greatness and the Power!

Praise be sanctified above pen and ink unto the Lord of the Day of Reckoning, Who befittingly and worthily calleth out on that Day "Unto whom belongeth the Kingdom this Day?" and answereth by His own Self "Unto God, the One, the All-Compelling." He is the Omnipotent Who brought forth from a Point the Letter, and from the Letter the Word, and from the Word the books of the world. Glorified be His praise and exalted be His knowledge, transcendent be His station! And blessings and peace be upon His Messenger, and upon Him Who standeth firm in His Cause, Who gazeth toward His horizon, Who speaketh forth His commandments and ordinances, Who relateth His most excellent Names and most exalted Attributes, through Whom the celestial spheres revolve and the realm of dust is adorned, and upon His family and companions through whom God's victory and His Cause, God's sovereignty and His power were made manifest.

Glorified art Thou, O my God and the Desire of my heart! I beseech Thee by Thy Name through which Thou didst subdue the world and didst distinguish the believers among the nations, to assist Thy servants who have acknowledged the Word of Unity and have recognized what Thou didst command them regarding the signs of detachment which testified to Thy oneness and Thy singleness, and to that which the tongue of Thy power hath uttered in the kingdom of Thy Cause. O Lord! Abandon them not among Thy heedless servants. Aid them through Thy bounty and preserve them by Thy sovereignty. Verily, Thou art the Almighty, the Strong, the Powerful.

Furthermore, in these days all must hold fast unto the truth and be supplicants of His grace, beseeching that He protect the people of unity from the ungodly. This matter is binding upon all. May He change the weakness of this community into strength. He is the Able, the Powerful.

Your letter was received, and the fragrance of love wafted therefrom. Praise be to the Goal of all the worlds that He hath confirmed you in steadfastness and love. Were the True One, exalted be His glory, to grant life and were we to desire to offer thanks for but one of His bounties throughout the duration of His earthly and heavenly kingdom, we would have sought the impossible. Therefore do we grasp the cord of His grace and cling to the hem of His generosity, that He may assist these weak and poor ones in that which is befitting and may enable them in such wise that this evanescent world may neither engage them nor deprive them of His good-pleasure.

After reading and reviewing your letter, We proceeded to the Most Great Prison and details were presented. They said:

> "Praise be to God that they are occupied with the mention of God and are firm in His Cause. We beseech God that He may cause him to be steadfast in such wise that the calumnies of the corrupters and the whisperings of the atheists may not withhold him from God, exalted be His

glory. O Muhammad-ʿAli! Grieve not over anything. The sorrow and joy of the world are both transient. God willing, thou shalt be confirmed in that which altereth not and shall not be erased from the scroll of names. This Wronged One hath ever besought God, exalted be His glory, for the exaltation, elevation, tranquility and steadfastness of His loved ones. Assuredly His prayer is answered and His call shall receive response, now and in the future. He it is Who hath named Himself the All-Hearing, the Answering, and He is the Forgiving, the Merciful."

You have ever been mentioned in the prison and continue to be. You should occupy yourself, with complete joy and radiance, and trusting in Him. Verily, He confirmeth whomsoever He willeth through the hosts of strength, power and might, and He is the Exalted, the Unconstrained.

Concerning the matter of partnership about which they wrote, permission was first granted as previously explained, and now it has been referred to the honored Ism'u'llah [Name of God]. He will write you the details. All the gentlemen—may the Most Glorious Glory of God be upon them—have the utmost love for you. Their purpose in mentioning these matters is to protect wealth from the thieves and traitors of the world. For instance, when the honored Mulla Ali—may God's peace be upon him—received a sum of people's money in trust to sell in Aleppo and its surroundings, after arriving at his destination, divine decree overtook him and that true bird ascended on the wings of certitude. Immediately the people's money was seized, and the consul of Aleppo auctioned it off and disposed of it before news could reach its owners and they could claim their property. The actual money disappeared—where is trustworthiness? Where is religion? Where is truthfulness? Where is purity? All these have become as rare as the philosopher's stone, nay rather, non-existent.

In any case, it is for this reason that they have written what they have written. It is quite clear and evident that whatever you possess, you consider it to be from God. This servant, with utmost humility and supplication, begs that at all times blessings may descend upon you from the heaven of bounty like a torrential rain. He is the Powerful, He is the Mighty. The sent fabric arrived. You have always taken trouble and continue to do so. May God, exalted be His glory, grant you abundant reward. Verily, He has power over all things and is worthy to answer prayers.

BH01941: The more the hope of attaining union grows stronger…

He is God, exalted be His station in greatness and power.

The more the hope of attaining union grows stronger, the more intense becomes the fire of longing. Therefore a strong body is needed to bear it, not this weak one, for this weak one would collapse at the slightest flame. The hearing and the union must occur in a single moment, that perchance the spirit may be granted victories and recall the records of separation, for the more His fire becomes manifest and evident, the more it adds to the rank and station of the Presence of Union, which is the station of the Divine Presence.

Praise be to the Peerless Intended One Who invited and guided all the people of the mortal realm through the blessed word "Pilgrimage to the House is incumbent upon all." His path is clear and His proof is evident. Reflect upon the power of this blessed word: from the day of its revelation until now, the

people of the Covenant from all regions and directions have been and continue to be oriented toward it with utmost longing and yearning. They have borne all afflictions, calamities, hardships, injuries and difficulties of every kind on the path as they hastened toward the Friend. Glorified is He Who guided all to His House and His straight and manifest path. And the prayer dawning from the horizon of His loving-kindness be upon him by whose light the Hijaz was illumined and through whom appeared the decree of the Real and the metaphorical, by which the hidden door and treasured mystery were opened, and upon his family and companions, the banners of guidance and brilliant lights and evident signs and manifestations of oneness among creation—those servants whom God the Exalted described in His words: "honored servants who speak not until He hath spoken, and who do His bidding."

And further: your sublime letter arrived. In truth it was a messenger from the realm of inner meanings that intended this evanescent one. After its reading and review it was presented before the Face. The Master said:

> "We beseech and hope from God, exalted be His Glory, that He will assist them and adorn them with His loving-kindness. May He not withhold the heavenly feast and true bounty from them for a single moment."

End quote.

God willing, through divine grace they will attain with utmost joy and delight to that which was intended. I beseech and hope from God that He will protect the pilgrims to His House from the heat of summer and other illnesses, for in some years in those regions the air changes due to the actions of the heedless and eventually plague breaks out. In any case, what can I say? I ask God Himself to set things right and enable His servants to do what He loves and is pleased with.

I send greetings to the honored lady, upon her be Baha'u'llah, and Mirza Inayatu'llah and Mirza Aminu'llah, upon them be Baha'u'llah, and the other lady, upon her be the peace of God, and I beseech God, exalted be His Glory, for assistance. I convey greetings to Siyyid Asadu'llah, upon him be Baha'u'llah. God willing, they will attain their goal with utmost joy and fragrance. Regarding the journey of that beloved one and others, it was decided by lot and consent that, in accordance with wisdom, they should travel gradually, for if all travel at once it will not be free of talk. Peace be upon you and upon the servants of God.

BH01305: Praise be to the Goal of the world Who…

He is God, exalted be His station, the Greatness and the Power!

Praise be to the Goal of the world Who, through the breathings of correspondence, adorns hearts with a new ornament and souls with a wondrous beauty. In truth, letters are divine messengers that arrive from the cities and regions of love, affection, fellowship and unity. We beseech Him that this grace may not be cut off and this bounty may not cease. He is the Bestower Who gave life to the world of acceptance through the Word of Unity, and in the arena of manifestation conquered cities and regions with the swords of power and certitude, and raised the banner of His Oneness over the hearts of those who have turned to Him and the sincere ones. His is the praise and the bounty, His the gratitude and the greatness,

His the glory and the mercy. And blessings and peace be upon the Dayspring of His Cause, the Lord of His chosen ones, the Seal of His Prophets, the heaven of His mercy and the sun of His grace, through Whom were opened the gates of the treasuries of mysteries and distinction was made between the wicked and the righteous, and upon His family and companions who, when they heard the call from the direction of the Most Great, arose and said:

> "Yea, Thou art our Lord and our God, our Goal and the Goal of all who are in earth and heaven."

These strove with true striving and aided the Faith of God with true aid.

And further: although thy letter was not Israfil's trumpet, yet it gave life. This is one of the talismans of the Lord of Glory, exalted be His grandeur. His names have revelations and manifestations. May God grant time that we may ponder His signs and tokens and manifestations and conditions, and clearly and evidently observe the effects of power and might and greatness and exaltation. His grace is greater than what hath been and is mentioned. Sometimes He ordaineth pleasure and delight, at times sorrow and grief, and at times He freeth and detacheth man from both. Indeed, if the drops of the sea could be counted and the sands of the deserts limited, these stations too would be bounded. Who can render thanks by hand or tongue? In all conditions I beseech for thee His aid and confirmation, and likewise for myself, though this too is wrong—man hath no self or self-will. He must be attentive to the Command and arise in service like a corpse in the hands of the washer.

After the letter was presented before His face, He said that although thou art not physically present, thou hast been and art remembered night and day. Thy mention hath been made in His presence. Repeatedly He said: "We sent him when his presence was needed. We considered the desire of the Afnan purely for the sake of God. We beseech God to grant him reward." And now, according to what was mentioned, they intend to wait for another steamer, and He said that since We have absolute authority, permission may perhaps be granted, but We beseech God that it may not reach the point of "We strengthened them with a third." God willing, they will return by another steamer.

And concerning what thou didst write about his honor the Hakim—truly he is the manifestation of virtues and the dawning-place of kindness. Virtues are the adornment of the world and the life-giving force of nations, and are in truth the manifestations of the highest Paradise and the most exalted Heaven. If these were to vanish from the page of the world, it would truly become a manifestation of the fire of hell. In any case, this servant praiseth the Goal of the world Who confirmed him in that which hath ever been loved and accepted by God. The grace is in His hands—He bestoweth it upon whomsoever He willeth among His creation, and He is the All-Bountiful, the All-Generous.

Verily this servant sendeth greetings to him and mentioneth him and beseecheth God to make his breaths a lamp unto the darkness of the world and his face a healing to the sick among the nations, and through the ocean of His wisdom to purify chronic and persistent diseases and base and degraded morals. And I beseech Him, exalted be He, to assist his honor with the means of the heavens and earth and to confirm him in what He loveth and approveth. He is the Lord of creation and the Sovereign of the hereafter and the former life, and the Lord of the throne and the earth.

O beloved of my heart! The servant beseecheth God to grant him a mouth as wide as the heavens that he may mention the loved ones of God and His chosen ones and His trustees in His lands, among them his honor Muhammad Mustafa, upon him be mention and praise from God, the Lord of Names and Creator of Heaven. Verily the servant remembereth his honor and doth not forget him—his Lord, to Whom is his return and abode, beareth witness to this. And he sendeth greetings to Husayn, upon him be the peace of God. His honor departed and no further news of him was received. God willing, may all attain true health. Peace be upon him and upon those with him, and peace be upon you and upon those with you.

BH01503: Praise be to God Who hath manifested, revealed, sent…

He is God, exalted be His station, the Most Great, the Most Glorious

Praise be to God Who hath manifested, revealed, sent down and made clear His Revelation, His sovereignty, His verses and His path. And peace and blessings be upon the Dawning-Place of His names, the Dayspring of His attributes, the Source of His knowledge, the Wellspring of His Cause, and the Manifestation of His commandments and ordinances, through Whom the law of unity was established in the world and the mystery of oneness among the nations. Through Him God opened the door of hope to all in earth and heaven, through Him the light appeared and the mystery of the Mount was revealed. Were it not for Him the mysteries of eternity would not have been unveiled nor would the station of nations have been exalted—He Who was named Muhammad in the kingdom of names—and upon His family and companions whom God made the lamps of His guidance, the banners of His victory, the signs of His Cause, the manifestations of His power and the evidences of His might. Through them God conquered the world and His Cause flowed among the nations. And upon those who entered beneath their shadow, drank the choice wine of their love, tasted the sweetness of their utterance, and circled round their Cause in support of God's religion and the exaltation of His Word.

Thereafter, the servant hath received your letter, and before it your other letter, and every letter therein spoke of your mention and praise. Our purpose and your purpose and the purpose of all in the heavens and earth:

Praised be Thou, O God, my God! These are the days whereon Thou hast enjoined Thy chosen ones, Thy loved ones and Thy servants to observe the Fast, which Thou hast made a light unto the people of Thy kingdom, even as Thou didst make obligatory prayer a ladder of ascent unto those who acknowledge Thy unity. I beg of Thee, O my God, by these two mighty pillars, which Thou hast ordained as a glory and honor for all mankind, to keep Thy religion safe from the mischief of the ungodly and the plotting of every wicked doer. O Lord, conceal not the light which Thou hast revealed through Thy strength and Thine omnipotence. Assist, then, those who truly believe in Thee with the hosts of the seen and the unseen by Thy command and Thy sovereignty. No God is there but Thee, the Almighty, the Most Powerful.

The Pen was poised to range within one arena, yet the Will bore it unto another realm and another station, until it culminated in the mention of God—exalted be His glory, all-pervading His bounty, and mighty His sovereignty. In that moment did my spirit take flight and my limbs trembled, as though the blood coursed boiling through my veins. I ask God the Exalted to assist me and your honors in what He loves and is pleased with. Verily He is the Lord of all creation, there is no God but He, the Omnipotent, the

All-Knowing, the All-Wise. By thy life, O my beloved, thy mention brings me joy as though it were a herald bearing me glad tidings. The servant asks his Lord to enable him to manifest what is in his heart and reveal what was hidden in his inner being regarding the degrees of his love and affection for you. Verily He is powerful over all things.

As for what you mentioned regarding Darvish Ghulam-Husayn, upon him be God's peace, We have sent him that which diffuses the fragrance of grace and favors. And regarding what you mentioned about Aqa Ahmad, upon him be God's grace and bounty—excellent is what you intended regarding separation and detail lest there appear what is not befitting. The matter is known, uncovered, evident, requiring no mention or proof. The servant asks his Lord to preserve His servants and assist them in virtuous conduct. Verily He is the Creator, there is no God but He, the Ruler over what He wills, and He is the Mighty, the Powerful. I send greetings to the beloved ones and ask God the Mighty, the Praiseworthy for their protection and success. Peace, remembrance and praise be upon your honors and upon our brothers and beloved ones and upon God's righteous servants. Praise be to God, Lord of the worlds.

The servant, on the 7th of the blessed month of Ramadan 1302

To his honor, the beloved of the heart, Haji Siyyid Javad, upon him be 69 [Baha'u'llah] and His care. I convey greetings. At this time his letter was received and became a crown of joy. As there was no new matter, the response will be offered, God willing, at the time of meeting. As commanded, his honor the Afnan Aqa Siyyid Muhsin, upon him be God's most exalted peace, is preparing in detail—they are departing and they are arriving. May the Desired One bless both the going and coming. Verily He is the Forgiving, the Merciful. And peace and praise be upon his honor and upon every steadfast believer.

BH00174: Blessed is God Who brought the world into being…

Section 1: "Blessed is God Who brought the world into…"

In the Name of our Most Holy, Most Great, Most Exalted, Most Glorious Lord.

Blessed is God Who brought the world into being with a single word, and from the first day gave the peoples the glad tidings of the Day of the Manifestation of Him Who conversed on Sinai. His Books testify to this glorious Cause and bear witness to this mighty announcement.

Each of the Messengers and Guides of the paths spoke of this Day and yearned for His presence. Exalted, exalted is He Who made His Day the Dawning-place of all days and the Source of commandments and laws. The eyes of those near to God awaited this wondrous Day, and the ears of the sincere were attentive to the call of the Lord of the Day of Judgment.

Praise and gratitude be to God! With the finger of power He rent asunder the veil and removed the clouds from the horizon. The essence of the Books is established upon the throne of manifestation, speaking forth the blessed, mighty, hidden, concealed and promised Word. Glory be to God! The effulgences of the Sun of Revelation are a hundred thousand times more luminous and manifest than the sun, yet eyes are deprived and forbidden from beholding it.

O God, O Generous One! The oceans of bounty are manifest through Thy generous Name, and the rain of mercy descendeth through Thy bountiful Name. Thy bestowal hath encompassed the world, and Thy mercy hath preceded all things. My God! The thirsty ones in the valley of love seek the water of life, and those enkindled with the fire of affection seek Thy presence. Thy generosity, like Thy existence, is manifest and evident. Thou didst bestow before any request and gave before any supplication. The ocean of Thy giving hath never been, nor shall ever be, contingent upon anything. Cleanse this handful of dust from defilement and deprive it not of the wonders of Thy grace. The Day is Thy Day, and the reins of power are in Thy grasp. Guide Thou the lost and direct them. Thou art the All-Knowing and the All-Powerful over all things.

O beloved of My heart! Thy letter was received—the arrival of a caravan bound for the city of the Beloved, bearing as its gift praise of the All-Merciful. In truth it brought joy and spread wide the carpet of gladness. Praise be to God that thou hast been successful in serving the Cause and confirmed in the mention and praise of the Friend. After reading and reviewing it, I proceeded to the Most Exalted Station, presented it, and after its completion, the Lord of all beings and the Sovereign of Days spoke these exalted words—mighty be His utterance and glorious His proof:

I am the One Who warbleth upon the branches with diverse melodies

O Majid! Thy Lord, the All-Praised, maketh mention of thee from this far-distant shore, and calleth thee to the supreme horizon, and counselleth thee to manifest great steadfastness in this Cause whereby the hearts of all people were shaken save those who cast away the world, turning unto that quarter from whence the call was raised betwixt earth and heaven. These, verily, are reckoned among them that are nigh unto God in His Book, the Lord of all worlds. The fragrance of revelation hath been wafted throughout all regions, and the Lord of the Covenant hath been established upon the throne of His Great Name. This is a day wherein the clouds of proof have shed the rain of knowledge. Blessed is he who hasteneth and attaineth, and woe unto the heedless!

O people of God! Hearken unto the call from the direction of Akka, from the right hand of the luminous spot, from the Divine Lote-Tree: Verily, there is none other God but Me, the Omnipotent over what I will. Neither the might of the world nor the clamor of the nations can hinder Me. I have appeared and made manifest that which was hidden in the treasuries of infallibility and power, and that which was recorded in the Books of God, the Lord of the Throne and of the dust, and inscribed by the Pen of wisdom and knowledge upon the tablets of the hearts of the Messengers. Say: O concourse of the heedless! By what proof have ye believed in your Lord, the All-Merciful, and by what reason have ye turned away from Him by Whom the countenance of faith hath been made to shine? Fear God, and be not of them who believed and then denied, who accepted and then turned away, until they returned to the nethermost fire—the abode ordained for them by God, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

Say: O people of the Bayan! Fear God and utter not that which the people of the Furqan uttered, who claimed faith throughout the ages, yet when the Manifestation thereof came unto them with the standards of signs, they slew Him with such injustice as caused the dwellers of the highest Paradise and the inmates of the pavilion of glory to lament in an exalted station. Say: Cast away what ye possess. This is the Day of God wherein naught shall be mentioned save Him. Fear God, and spread not corruption in the

land after its reformation, and be not of the wrongdoers. Come ye forth from the precincts of idle fancies and vain imaginings, then enter ye the City of God in peace and security. Thus doth the Supreme Pen counsel you whilst the Wronged One is in grievous sorrow. Convey My greetings unto My loved ones who have hearkened unto the call from the supreme horizon and have responded with evident submission. O people of God! This is the Day of deeds. Take ye hold of the Book of God with the power that proceedeth from Him, then observe that which ye have been commanded, and be not of them that forsake it.

O Majid! Hearken in the Persian tongue: In their first step, the people of the Bayan have reverted to that which was uttered by the heedless, rebellious and wayward group. These souls have likewise clung to and become attached to those same words. With but a slight test, they turned away from Him Who was their Ultimate Goal, Whom they had remembered throughout ages and cycles, Whose manifestation they had eagerly sought, and with swords of hatred and animosity they martyred Him. Now the people of the Bayan too have desired to spread the carpet of new vain imaginings. We beseech God to assist His party in such wise that they may see all else as non-existent and count it as naught.

Say: O friends! Until ye pass beyond the gulf of names, ye shall not attain unto the Most Great Ocean. We have previously announced that the barking ones would spread abroad like locusts. Through the blessedness of the Most Great Name must the ears of faith and recognition be preserved. This is the station of the supreme steadfastness. Blessed is the soul that hath attained thereunto and held fast unto it. This is the firm cord and the sure handle. Blessed are they that hold fast thereunto. The hearing of the friends, praise be to God, hearkeneth unto the Voice of the True One, exalted be His glory, and without delay or hesitation attaineth unto it. Such is the bounty that the noble scribes are powerless to reckon it, how much less others. How excellent is the state of those souls who have, through the Name of the True One, delivered themselves from chains and vain imaginings, and who soar with utmost freedom in the atmosphere of Divine love.

Concerning Janab-i-'Andalib—may the loving-kindness of God be upon him—ye wrote. This matter was laid before the presence of the King of Manifestation, and attained the honor of His attentive hearing. His glory be magnified and His utterance exalted:

O Majid! These are the days of the Most Great Manifestation—days whose mention hath been on the lips of them that are nigh unto God, the sincere ones, and the Messengers. All have yearned and hoped for the attainment of this Day from God, exalted be His grace. Today the Dawning-Place of generosity, the Dayspring of bounty, the heaven of munificence, the Source of favors, and the Fountainhead of bestowals is manifest, resplendent and evident. On the first day when the King of nations entered the Ridvan, He shed the splendor of all His most excellent names upon all created things. Every thing that turned unto Him reflected His light, and that which turned away—verily the light returneth unto its source and the branch remaineth as it was.

O Majid! The grace of God hath so encompassed all that every transgressor hath deemed God heedless. From time immemorial the name Concealer' hath clung to the hem of God's robe, ever seeking concealment, while the name Revealer' and Uncoverer' seek to expose and unveil. Yet as mercy hath preceded all else, the glance of God's loving-kindness is fixed upon the sign that exists in all things, for in all things there is a sign testifying to His oneness. Were He to judge by deeds, words and character, the

matter would prove most difficult and arduous. Today the names Concealer', Munificent' and All-Bountiful' are present before His face. In this Most Great Revelation, the ocean of generosity is surging and hath encompassed all. Blessed, however, is the soul that hath detached itself from its own desires, held fast unto the Will of God, and clung to such deeds and character as would exalt His Cause. The deeds of every soul are reflected in the mirror of divine knowledge. Today the loved ones of God must, with the utmost lowliness and supplication, seek forgiveness for one another and beseech divine confirmation. He is the All-Powerful, the Almighty.

And as for their supplication for forgiveness on his behalf, it was most graciously received before the Throne, and He declared: "Well spoken is he who hath uttered these words." Here endeth the passage.

Several days prior to the arrival of that honored one's epistle to this servant, on one of those days there was suddenly revealed from the heaven of bounty a Most Sacred Tablet in the name of His Honor Nightingale, which was graciously bestowed upon His Presence, Ism-i-Jud—upon him be the Most Great Glory of God—for transmission. The Pen of God hath, with perfect grace and mercy, given counsel therein, and every soul who reciteth it will perceive the fragrance of bounty and compassion. And after some time there arrived the petition of His Honor Nightingale himself, which was expressive of remorse, helplessness, repentance, lamentation, and supplication. And even as is evident, the plea of that honored one was at that very moment joined with acceptance and response.

The True One is witness and testimony that this servant, after the transformation of his condition, sought relief from the Sovereign of mankind throughout the nights and days. That is to say, from this circumstance there came upon this servant such grief as had never before occurred, inasmuch as he had been eloquent in praise of the Beloved of the world and occupied with His remembrance and service. And even now I beseech the True One—glorified be His glory—that He may sanctify him from that which is unseemly and confirm him in that which is meet and fitting. May pure deeds render this handful of dust the envy of the celestial spheres. The hope is such that there may be diffused from him that which shall render null and void unseemly fragrances. Verily, our Lord the Merciful is the Bountiful, the Forgiving, the Generous.

And as for their mention of souls that have turned unto God, it was presented before the Countenance of the Ancient One. This is that which was revealed in response—He saith, magnified be His command and exalted His remembrance:

O Majid! The servant in attendance before the Face is present and hath made mention of souls who have quaffed from the sealed wine in the name of the Self-Subsisting and have turned towards the Most Exalted Horizon. Say: We have heard your call and witnessed your turning unto Us and perceived the fragrance of your sincerity. We make mention of you in such wise as nothing in all creation can equal, and I am verily the All-Knowing, the All-Wise Remembrancer. Blessed is he who hath answered My call, tasted the sweetness of My utterance and found the fragrance of My luminous garment. This is the Day whereon the Mother Book hath been sent down and speaketh before the faces of the world: There is none other God but He, the Single One, the All-Informed.

O My loved ones in that land! Take ye the chalice of steadfastness in My Name, then drink therefrom in remembrance of My wondrous mention. He who attaineth unto it hath attained unto all good, as testify the Concourse on High, the Most Exalted Paradise, the Supreme Heaven and the dwellers of the Cities of Names who circle round My mighty throne. Remember them on My behalf and glorify their faces in My Name, for I am the Wronged One, the Stranger.

O Majid! The Cause is most mighty in this day. They that have turned unto it must be so steadfast that the dominion of names and remembrances of the past shall not hold them back from the heaven of inner meanings. This station cannot be attained except through reflection upon past events. The more they become aware of the lies and calumnies of the Shi'ih sect, the more steadfast they will remain in the Cause of God. Throughout ages and centuries they acted contrary to that which God desired, yet counted themselves the most exalted of creation. Consider the fruits of their deeds and words—what they were and what became of them. The outcome was that they martyred the Lord of all horizons with the swords of their malice.

Section 2: "Now certain among the people of the Bayan…"

Now certain among the people of the Bayan who have strayed from the path of the All-Merciful are engaged in the same deeds and words as those souls, making their own desires a snare for mankind in the name of Truth. We beseech God to preserve His loved ones until such time as they comprehend the station of this Day of God. Say: This is a Day wherein none is mentioned save God alone. Thus hath the Sun of Unity shone forth from the horizon of the world while the peoples remain in evident veils. This is the Day of Unity. Blessed is the one whom the idols of names have not debarred from the Creator of heaven.

O Majid! For twelve hundred years and more they were occupied with dispute and contention. Each faction cursed the other—some Shi'ih, some Sunni, some Shaykhi, while others counted themselves among the people of the Path and Truth. They were ever engaged in disputation, yet when the Day of God appeared, through a slight test they wrought against the Divine Trust that which caused the very stones to lament and the earth to weep, let alone all other things. Reflect upon this matter, that the cause of the shedding of that most pure blood was the Shi'ih sect. Their highest have become their lowest and their lowest their highest. Say: Take ye warning, O ye who are endued with insight! Say: O friends! Purify your hearts from selfish desires and reflect with justice and fairness upon these events, that perchance the gate of true knowledge may be opened and lead to the kingdom of steadfastness.

Praise and gratitude be to God! The rain of divine bounty continues to pour down and the horizon of loving-kindness remains radiant. Blessed is the state of those souls who have clung to truth and are detached and free from all else. This Revelation is the Revelation of unity, this Day is the Day of detachment wherein none is mentioned save God alone. At one time this exalted Word shone forth from the horizon of utterance of the Lord of Names, saying:

> "O servant who is present! These are the days of the manifestation of this blessed verse of the Furqan: 'Say: God; then leave them to their vain disputes.' Blessed is the soul that hath clung to it, and woe unto him who hath been heedless of it."

This evanescent servant at all times beseeches and hopes from God, exalted be His glory, that He may enable His loved ones to attain unto such steadfastness that neither names nor their bearers may deprive them from the Lord of Names and Attributes. That they have traveled through various lands and exerted their utmost in guiding people—all this is from God's grace upon you. Praise be to God, they were successful and confirmed. However, you must counsel all to observe wisdom. People are prone to imitation; if they observe opposition, an uproar will arise. In this year, which is 1302, concealment has been ordained. Until this year, the loved ones of God have acknowledged and confessed the Most Great Cause and the Mighty Announcement with perfect steadfastness, power and might. However, in these days the decree of concealment hath been sent down from the heaven of divine will. One must observe and act according to the command. He doeth whatsoever He willeth, and He is the All-Commanding, the Unconstrained.

In brief, if the friends were to break the chains of imitation all at once, it would be unwise, for all would become aware and arise in opposition. God is generous and His mercy hath preceded all, therefore one must deal with people with forbearance. As you have observed, the Most Great Branch and the Most Mighty Branch—may my spirit, my being, and my essence be sacrificed for the dust of their footsteps—act in accordance with the law. This servant beseeches God that He may aid all to do that which is pleasing unto Him.

And concerning what you wrote about Aqa Mirza ʿAbdu'l-Khaliq and Aqa Siyyid Nasru'llah—upon them be the glory of God—that they were present in the gathering and sought His favor, this was granted the honor of being heard in the Most Holy, Most Exalted Presence. His word, exalted be His glory:

> "We beseech God that He may enable them to promote His Cause and to mention and praise Him in such wise that neither the clamor of the people of the Bayan nor the opposition of the concourse of the Furqan may deter them or keep them back from God. O people of God! Know ye the value of these days and arise to do what behooveth you."

These exalted words were revealed from the heaven of divine favor concerning Jinab-i-Haji Muhammad-Taqi. He—exalted and mighty be His Word—saith: O Muhammad! Noah came and they rejected him. Hud arose and they occupied themselves with denouncing him as an infidel. He sent Salih and they rose up to torment him. What was the cause of this torment, this denunciation of infidelity, this attribution of fault? By the life of God! The cause of denunciation was the opposition of the divines of that age, and the cause of fault-finding was detachment from all save God. Moses came and they deemed His words false and His Cause invalid. The Spirit (Christ) came and the doctors of the Torah rose up with such malice as cannot be imagined, save in this Revelation wherein the Shi'ih divines have arisen to perpetrate even greater acts.

Reflect upon the Seal of the Prophets (Muhammad)—may the spirit of all else be sacrificed for His sake. Although He spoke the word of Divine Unity, they reviled Him and counted the persecution of that Holy One as a means of drawing near to God. The matter became so severe as to defy description, until, by divine command, the righteous companions resolved to depart and migrated to Abyssinia. If these souls were at fault, for what crime were those holy beings afflicted with trials? Consider the blessed verse "No Messenger cometh unto them but they mock at him." Their abominable deeds prevented them and

deprived them of the divine Kawthar and heavenly Tasnim. Arise in the name of Truth, be enkindled with the fire of His love, and occupy thyself with service to His Cause.

The days are fleeting and time doth not endure. Rend asunder the veils and stand firm in such wise that neither trembling shall seize thee nor sitting follow. He is the Ruler over whatsoever He willeth through His word "Be" and it is.

As for the mention they made of Jinab-i-Aqa Mirza Abu-Talib and those with him, and Aqa Mirza Kazim and Karbala'i Iskandar and Aqa Mirza Muhammad and Aqa Mirza ʿAbdu'l-Karim and Karbala'i Qasim—upon them be the Glory of God—each one is mentioned in the Most Holy and Most Exalted Presence and hath attained the favors of the Truth, exalted be His Glory. Verily this servant giveth them glad tidings of God's remembrance and His favor. Blessed is the soul that hath attained the remembrance of the Purpose of the world. This servant conveyeth greetings and glorification to each one, and beseecheth confirmation and divine aid for each, that they may attain to that which is everlasting and eternal. The Command is in God's hands—our Lord and your Lord and the Lord of all who are in the heavens and the earth. As for their question concerning the blessed verse of the Furqan (Qur'an), it was presented before the Presence. This is what the Tongue of Grandeur hath spoken in reply—mighty be His utterance:

As to what thou hast asked concerning that which the All-Merciful hath revealed in the Qur'an to Muhammad, the Apostle of God, where He saith, "Who maketh the angels His messengers, having wings two, and three, and four"—know thou that the angels have diverse ranks and stations, and likewise exalted positions, some above others. Some are occupied with the education of the world, while others are charged with recording the words, deeds and conduct of the servants. The four well-known angels are each appointed to a specific service, as all have heard and known. Similarly there are angels in each of the worlds of God that exist, and some angels are immersed in the divine manifestations of the Glory of God, exalted be His majesty.

Their sustenance is the Divine Presence, their deed is nearness—this group is occupied with revelation and witnessing, and from the beginning that hath no beginning they have turned to none but God, nor will they until the end that hath no end. One group of angels is known as the Most Exalted, whom none knoweth save God, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. Another group is known as the Spirit, as witnessed by "the angels and the Spirit descend." The Spirit itself hath various ranks known and mentioned, such as the Holy Spirit which is mentioned in the Books and which some have identified as Gabriel, and likewise the Faithful Spirit, the Spirit of Faith, the Spirit of Certitude, the Spirit of Command, the Spirit of Grandeur, the Spirit of Power, the Spirit of Beauty, the Spirit of Majesty, and the like.

As to His words "Who maketh the angels His messengers," the meaning is that angels are intermediaries between God and His chosen ones and loved ones. They convey unto them the messages of their Lord through revelation, inspiration or vision, and teach them what they have been commanded by God. Through the angels hath God aided His Cause, manifested His Command, perfected His handiwork and made firm His signs. And as to His words "having wings two, and three, and four," the intention is to mention the ranks of angels as was stated before. They are possessed of multiple, varied wings according to their ranks and stations, by which they descend and ascend. Some have wings numbering the divine

names, as when the Seal of the Prophets met Gabriel on the night of His ascension and said “he had six hundred wings.”

Each group hath described these stations in their own way and taken their own path. This Wronged One hath mentioned the statements of certain souls. The truth of the matter resteth with God. In every decree and command they have mentioned that which was neither spoken of in the Supreme Concourse nor accepted by the people of the Most Exalted Paradise. Were the true meaning to be revealed, they would flee and say what the idolaters said before. For thirteen hundred years and more they have recited the Qur’an and written commentaries upon it, but by God’s life they have not inhaled the fragrance of a single letter thereof. “None shall touch it save the purified ones” is a truthful witness and an eloquent testimony. The people of the Bayan, that is, those souls who have turned away from the Most Exalted Horizon, are seen to be the basest of all groups.

This Wronged One hath not had, nor hath, any desire to interpret. He hath come to sanctify you through God’s most exalted Word, to purify you with the choice sealed wine, and to draw you nigh unto Him through that which hath flowed from the Pen in His wondrous and glorious Day. Baha hath not come to interpret the Books, but to fulfill what is in them and to set the world ablaze with the fire of the love of God, the Lord of all worlds. Interpretation hath not been, nor is, the province of God. And if at times the Most Exalted Pen hath engaged in it, this hath been due to the people’s request and their desire. Verily, He loveth to speak forth in every matter that which none of His heralds hath spoken before, and I am the All-Knowing, the Unique One.

Praise be to God! The outpourings of the sea of meanings and utterance that appeared from the Most High have adorned the world of hearts with a wondrous new ornament. His is the praise and the bounty. The light of His utterance has illumined the world, and the ocean of His wisdom has encompassed all. His is the greatness and the glory, and His is the praise and the bestowal. My spirit be a sacrifice for His utterance, and my spirit be a sacrifice for His Cause. I convey greetings and salutations to all the friends in that land—salutations that will guide all to the Most Great Abode of Peace, and a greeting that will confirm them in the most great steadfastness. Today is the Day of utterance, the Day of remembrance, the Day of service, the Day of unity, and the Day of detachment. I beseech Him, exalted be His glory, to assist all to achieve that which befits this blessed Day. Glory and remembrance and praise be upon you all and upon those whom the ways of the people have not prevented from the path of God, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting.

The servant, 15 Ramadan 1302

Four Most Holy, Most Exalted Tablets have been revealed from the heaven of grace in response to the petitions that arrived with your envelope, and have been sent. Let them be delivered.

BH01232: All praise befitteth the most holy and exalted Court…

He is God, exalted be His glory, the Most Great, the All-Powerful

All praise befitteth the most holy and exalted Court of the Beloved One, Who from His Most Great Word created emissaries and made them heralds, that they might give glad-tidings to the peoples of the world

and summon them to the most exalted horizon. And when the effulgences of the Sun of the Primal Word shed their radiance upon the Secondary Word, the world was seized by the vibration of the Word. Every soul in whom a light was manifest turned towards the Dayspring of existence, and this Secondary Word which appeared from the mouth of the emissaries penetrated the realities of men, and the lovers of the countenance of the Beloved Lord sought to attain His station, and with utmost lowliness and supplication gained permission and turned towards the Dawning-Place, the Source, the Rising-Point, the Fountainhead and the Return.

When this turning and journeying occurred in the contingent world, the pilgrim house came into being—and it is the first guest-house of the world, the shelter of the chosen ones and the near ones, and the homeland of the people of Baha. A hundred thousand blessings be upon the one who gained permission and was honored to visit that place. From the first emissaries shall appear second emissaries, and from the second emissaries other emissaries unto the end that hath no end. But blessed is he who attained unto it in His days and drank the choice wine of His revelation from the hands of His bounty and partook of His favors at the table of His generosity. In truth, all others are in the shadow of decrease, except whom our Lord and your Lord and the Lord of the heavens and earth willeth.

I submit that your letter arrived and was like musk, for from it wafted the fragrance of love for the Desired One of the worlds. After it was read and reviewed, it was presented to the Master. He said:

> “Praise be to God, in this month of fasting the sun of deeds hath shone forth and illumined the temples of those who have turned to Him and drawn nigh unto Him. Blessed is he who performeth what God hath revealed, purely for His sake—he is indeed among the sincere ones in the perspicuous Book.”

End quote.

After presenting the prayer of the beloved of the heart, His Eminence Ibn-i-Abhar, upon him be the peace of God, the Lord of Power, He said before His face:

> “We beseech God, exalted be He, to make him a leader of His servants unto His path. Verily He is powerful over all things. O Ibn-i-Abhar! The servant in attendance here read what thou didst supplicate at the beginning and the end. Verily the Wronged One heard and answered thee with that which causeth the fragrance of utterance to waft throughout all possibility.”

End quote.

Praise be to God, in this blessed month they are occupied with the remembrance of God, exalted be His glory, and are turned towards Him. Tomorrow afternoon, which is Tuesday the 3rd, they shall turn with another of the pilgrims. He said: “This is the reward of his deed and his remembrance.” Later they will gradually summon the others. Your Honor should convey greetings from this servant to each one. He said that Your Honor should look after the pilgrims so that they may be engaged with joy and fragrance in the praise and glorification of the Beloved of the worlds. Especially in the blessed month of Ramadan, attention is necessary. They ask thee concerning the bounty—it is water and bread. Praise be to God, they are blessed with manifold bounties: the bounty of recognition, the bounty of deeds, the bounty of

turning to God, the bounty of attaining His presence, the bounty of meeting Him, the bounty of hearkening, the bounty of witnessing. Were this table of power to be spread unto the end that hath no end, it would not be exhausted. “If ye should count the bounties of God ye would not be able to number them.” End quote.

In truth the glance of favor is directed towards you. The mention of those souls has ever been and continues to be in His presence. They stated that his honor Muhammad, upon him be peace, has received and continues to receive rewards and recompense for this service. Give him my glad-tidings and say: Peace be upon you and the mercy of God and His blessings.

O beloved of my heart! Though the reply to your letter was delayed, it is compensated in this missive, for it is adorned with the mention of the Master—may our spirits be sacrificed for His sake. I beseech God, exalted be His glory, to continually grant unto all that which He has in these days bestowed upon some.

Regarding what was written about his honor Aqa Asadu’llah, upon him be the peace of God, it has been granted. Likewise, the names of the advancing souls that his honor Aqa ʿAbdu’l-Muttalib, upon him and them be the peace of God, sent have each attained what is befitting them. Happy are they! And the spiritual beloved, his honor Aqa Siyyid Asadu’llah, upon him be the peace of God and His favors—the request he had made has been granted acceptance. We ask him to act upon what was intended previously for the friends of God.

Regarding the wheat about which they wrote that it is finished, it should be mentioned to his honor the Most Exalted Name of Bounty, upon him be the peace of God, as this service pertains to him. He has ever accomplished and continues to accomplish it. His reward and recompense are with God and before God. Assuredly they should mention the details to him; consideration of this is necessary, nay, obligatory. Peace, spirit and mercy be upon you and upon the sincere servants of God. Praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

The servant 16th of the blessed month of Ramadan 1302

BH06139: Your beloved handwriting arrived—it was a new…

Your beloved handwriting arrived—it was a new bounty bestowed during the days of fasting. Every particle has its suitable and befitting sustenance. The sustenance of the heart is without doubt the manifestation of love and affection of the masters and friends—of this there is no doubt. And the table of this pure, holy, spiritual bounty is correspondence. This adornment is specific to Him—He giveth as He willeth and is not asked of what He doeth. Writing and paper associated with the friends has attained this station; what then must their own station be? The knowledge is with Him.

Now that the world is not capable of this manifestation, as it is narrow and base, God willing the days of expansion will come and the hidden things will be revealed and the concealed stations will raise their banners in the realm of knowledge. This is truth, there is no doubt in it. Regarding the matters you wrote about, God willing letters and Tablets will be sent. Concerning the feast they said to seek what—verily God is with the patient ones. God willing it will be arranged. Convey greetings and praise to all. Peace be upon you and the mercy of God and His blessings.

BH00943: Praise befitteth the most holy and exalted Court…

He is God, exalted be His station, the Greatness and the Power!

Praise befitteth the most holy and exalted Court of the Desired One Who hath adorned the world of contingent being with the light of recognition and hath embellished the tablet of existence with the inscription “I am He that existeth and is to be worshipped.” He is the Omnipotent One Who hath raised high the heaven of utterance and adorned it with the stars of wisdom, Who hath made the ocean of inner meanings to be possessed of the pearls of knowledge, and Who hath perfumed the assemblage of the world with the sweet fragrances of His Most Compassionate Name. His is the praise and His the thanksgiving, His the grace and His the bounty, His the generosity and His the glory.

Glory be to God! Despite this Revelation whose light hath encompassed both the seen and the unseen, and despite this Call which hath embraced both heaven and earth, no eye capable of beholding and no ear worthy of hearkening hath been found, save whom God hath willed. He is the One Whom the conditions of the world did not prevent from the Most Great Name, and Whom the allusions of the peoples did not hinder from immersion in the ocean of inner meanings.

And peace and blessings be upon Him through Whom the hearts of the believers found rest and the hearts of the ungodly were disturbed. Every accepted one is accepted through His acceptance, and every known thing is known through His will. He is the Lord of the Prophets and the Sovereign of the chosen ones. The books of the world were sealed with His name, and the sending of Messengers was concluded with His appearance. His is the bounty and generosity in the beginning and in the return. Through His appearance the mystery of the Book was made manifest, and through His utterance the hidden meanings of the Books became clear. Through Him God sent down the proof and made manifest the way, through Him the gate of utterance was opened to all who dwell in the realm of possibility, and His ordinances were established among all religions. And upon His family and His companions who cast away all that is in the world, holding fast to the Most Great and Most Firm Cord.

And after that, the letter which you had addressed and sent unto the beloved of heart, Aqa Mirza Husayn—upon him be the peace of God—this lowly one, upon perusing it and becoming informed of its contents, set his face toward the Most Exalted Presence and laid it before His countenance. He said:

God willing, at all times may they dwell and repose beneath the shadow of the loving regard of the Desire of the worlds. Praise be to God! they have attained unto the lights of the Sun of true oneness; they have drunk from the cup of recognition and tasted of the goblet of certitude. We beseech God, exalted be He, to confirm him in that which He loveth and approveth, and to enable him to do that whereby the fragrance of His love may be diffused amongst men.

This day it behoveth all to fix their gaze upon the Most Exalted Horizon, and to implore of the Lord of the Names and Attributes the safeguarding of the people of unity; for the fire of idolatry is kindled, and the horizon of the light of oneness is veiled by the clouds of vain imaginings and idle fancies. Blessed is the soul that hath expended itself in the path of God—that is to say, hath arisen to remember God, to praise God, and to serve God. Such a one is of those of whom He saith: “Neither traffic nor commerce

distracteth them from the remembrance of God," and such a one is of those of whom He saith: "They precede Him not in speech, but act according to His command."

All the friends of that land are, at all times, present and witnessed before the face of the Wronged One; and the Tongue of Utterance is ever speaking this word: "O God, my Adored One, my Worshipped One, my Sovereign, the Self-Sufficient! Deprive not Thy loved ones of the ocean of awareness, and withhold them not from beholding the lights of the Sun of Manifestation.

"O Thou the Generous! By a single spark of the fire of Thy love Thou hast set the world aflame, and by one effulgence of the lights of Thy countenance Thou hast sent the near ones and the sincere unto the place of sacrifice. Thou art the Sovereign Whom the power of all created things hath not weakened, and Whose will the might of rulers hath not restrained. In Thy Name, the banner of"He doeth whatsoever He willeth" is uplifted in this dark night. I beseech Thee: grant unto Thy loved ones their portion from the Kawthar of meanings, and bestow upon them a full share of everlasting life. Let not the raging winds extinguish Thy lamp, nor the floods of the world uproot the Lote-Tree of Thy Cause from its resting-place. Thy remembrance, in the mouth of lovers, is sweeter than every honey; and Thy Name, to the taste of the faithful, is more delightful and more beloved than all that is in the horizons. O Thou the Generous! Preserve Thy loved ones, and aid them in that which beseemeth them. Verily Thou art potent to do whatsoever Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the Mighty, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. Ended.

Praised be God that the fragrances of utterance have perfumed the world of possibility, yet its people remain heedless and deprived. This servant is bewildered at how one could be deprived of the sweet-scented breezes while standing in the midst of a rose garden. The light is manifest, the fire is ablaze, and the call is raised, yet the affairs of this fleeting world have prevented the senses from beholding, perceiving, and hearing. I beseech God, exalted be His glory, not to close the doors of His grace and to guide those who are lost unto the straight and firm path. He is the Powerful, the Mighty. Praise be unto Him, for He is the Lord of all names.

The one true God is witness that since the return of your honor, you have been remembered and have been the recipient of His special favors. This ephemeral one has been and continues to be mindful of the friends in that land. The loved ones of God are as one soul, though they appear to be many, for all hold fast to the sure handle and are turned unto Him, turning away from all else. For all I seek divine confirmation and assistance, that they may all be adorned with the greatest steadfastness in such wise that nothing shall prevent them from God, their Creator, their Provider, their Sustainer, their Supporter, their Helper, and their Protector.

Regarding what you wrote about the newborn child, upon him be God's peace, it was presented, and in the Book of Names he was designated and honored as Badi' Effendi. This evanescent servant beseeches and hopes that He may open the doors of His bounties and blessings upon your honor, and shower the wonders of His favors like abundant rain. Verily, He has power over whatsoever He willeth.

Your shipment of …, two boxes of sweets, and nine containers of rice arrived on the day the mansion became the residence, was presented, and was accepted and honored. Praise be to God that you were

assisted to achieve that which the people of the world, despite their pleading, supplication, and waiting, remained deprived of. Praise be unto Him in all conditions. And peace be upon you and upon God's sincere servants.

The servant, 24th of the blessed month of Ramadan 1302

BH00981: This evanescent servant, whenever he attempts to offer praise…

He is God—Exalted be His Station, to Him belong Greatness and Glory

This evanescent servant, whenever he attempts to offer praise and thanksgiving, it is as though he hears from all his limbs and members the cry "it cannot draw nigh unto me, for God hath placed it beyond the comprehension of all creation." And when he turns away and sets down pen and paper, it is as though spirit, heart and soul cry out: "O heedless one! Art thou in despair, even though thou hast heard from the Tongue of Grandeur ʿDespair not of God's mercy'?" He stands between light and fire—His light […] and His fire strikes fear, yet this servant circumambulates both, for the light is a gleam from the effulgences of the Sun of His Countenance, and the fire is a flame from the burning of the Tree of Grace. Glory be to God! The Ocean of Life surgeth, and the horizon of grace and bounty is manifest, evident, dawning and resplendent. Nevertheless, all are heedless of Him save whom God willeth.

In the Qur'an the All-Merciful saith: "None shall touch it save the purified ones." Now this evanescent servant declareth concerning the manifestations of grace which "none behold save those who are brought nigh": O my God, O Thou the Generous One! Thy Name of the Beloved hath attracted the world, and Thy Name of Bounty hath adorned the nations with the ornament of prosperity. The people of the world, despite their heedlessness and ignorance, seek the wonders of Thy grace, and the wayfarers, despite their weakness and poverty, are in search of the gems of Thy bounty. Thou art He the rejection of Whose grace by the ungrateful hath not withheld the rain of Thy mercy and bounty, and the ignorance of Whose servants hath not concealed the manifestations of Thy knowledge. The swords of princes and the chains of the mighty have not prevented Thee from Thy purpose. Thine is the power and the strength, and Thine is the might and the choice.

I beseech Thee to adorn Thy faithful servant, who is designated by the name of Hasan, with the lights of Thy Most Great Name amongst the world and the nations. O Generous One! Through Thy conquering power and Thy prevailing might, preserve him from the evil of the heedless and idolatrous souls. Make manifest in his heart the light of steadfastness and kindle in his being the fire of love, that he may be wholly occupied with Thee, in such wise that his name may be exalted under the shadow of Thy Name and his station may be elevated beneath the canopy of Thy station. Thine is the bounty and the generosity, and Thine is the grace and the bestowal, O Thou the Bestower of favors! Thy grace took his hand and delivered him from the doubts and vain imaginings of men. Verily, this servant hath laid hold on the hem of Thy bounty and the cords of Thy generosity and favors, that Thou mayest make him a servant of Thy Cause, standing firm in Thy service, and speaking forth Thy praise and glorification with wisdom and eloquence. Verily, Thou art the Lord of all religions and the Ruler of all existence.

Thereafter, this evanescent one, after reading ʿAli's letter and reviewing it, turned his attention until that which was in the letter was presented before the presence of the Countenance. He said: Praise be to God! Through the confirmations of the Blessed One they have attained, and by the radiant lights of the Sun of divine knowledge they are illumined and adorned. All the peoples of the world count themselves among the faithful and assured, yet when the test came and the light of recognition shone forth from the direction of Mecca, all the divines—whether idol-worshippers, Jews, or Christians—arose in opposition, though that Holy Being called all to the word of unity. Glory be to God! The ears of the ungodly were deprived of His call and the eyes of the heedless were prevented from beholding the splendors of His beauty. Finally they issued the decree for His death and arose with utmost hatred and malice to shed His most pure blood. The more they opposed, the more manifest became the light of His Cause, and the more complete their objections, the more intense grew the fire of His Cause. His is the command and the creation, His the grandeur and the majesty. Verily He is the Lord of all names and the Creator of the heavens.

The servant in attendance read thy letter. Praise be to God, the fragrance of steadfastness and the sweet-scented breeze of love were inhaled therefrom. We beseech God to ordain for thee the good of this world and the next, and to exalt thee through His Name in the kingdom of creation. There is no God but Him, the Omnipotent over His will. Within His grasp lie the reins of all who dwell in the kingdoms of earth and heaven, and in His right hand are all who abide in the dominion of command and creation. He is the Mighty, the Supreme, the Powerful, the All-Knowing.

His is the praise and the bounty, His the majesty and the grandeur. He is the King Who has honored His loved ones at all times with mention and utterance among all possibilities. He deposited the seed of divine knowledge in the soil of hearts through His hands of mercy and watered it with the rains of His grace. Praise be to God, it has sprouted forth in such wise that neither the poisons of the world can harm it nor the afflictions of the nations can alter it. He doeth what He willeth and ordaineth what He pleaseth. He is the Single, the One, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy.

This servant beseecheth God, exalted be His glory, to aid thee to promote the Word with wisdom and utterance and to become the cause of spreading divine knowledge in those regions. He is the Powerful, He is the Mighty. I convey greetings of peace to the friends in that land. It is hoped they will recognize the worth and station of this time, will in all conditions drink from the cup of bounty, and will gaze toward the highest horizon. Praise be to God, the lights of the Sun of favor are shining and the ocean of grace is surging. Blessed are they who in this transient world acquire an everlasting station. This servant is occupied with the remembrance of the friends at all times. God willing, may all hold fast with utmost strength, power and assurance to the cord of the favor of the Lord of religions. Verily our Lord, the All-Merciful, is the Hearer, the Answerer.

The sweets that were sent arrived. In truth, the fragrance of love wafted from them all and the palate of God's loved ones was sweetened thereby. After they were presented in the Most Holy Court, they were accepted and with a smile it was said: "They arrived at a good time." According to command, some were distributed and some preserved so that others might gradually partake thereof. Peace be upon you and upon those with you and upon God's righteous servants. Praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH09310: Blessed is the Day of God that hath appeared…

Section 1: "In the Name of Our Lord, the Most…"

In the Name of Our Lord, the Most Holy, the Most Great, the Most High, the All-Glorious.

Blessed is the Day of God that hath appeared; blessed the fragrance of His raiment that is diffused; blessed the Lote-Tree that speaketh forth! Today, from the rustling of its leaves, this exalted Word hath shone resplendent:

Might, and power, and majesty be upon him who hath come with the truth, accompanied by the hosts of revelation and inspiration!

At every moment the verses of God are being sent down, and His clear evidences made manifest. This is the day of pure and absolute unity unto God, the True, exalted be His glory; for this Day is His Day, and none is commemorated therein save Him—despite the people of the Bayan, who have cast away that which they were commanded in the Book of God, the Lord of Names and the Creator of heaven, and have returned to their former step.

By the life of Our Well-Beloved, and the Beloved of all that dwell on earth and in heaven! In this Day they appear even lower than the Shi'ih party. Never for a single instant have they pondered: what was the fruit of that people, and what the outcome of their beliefs and deeds, save that they pronounced the sentence of death against the Prince of the world and the chosen ones of God, and upon their pulpits and in their mosques are occupied with cursing and reviling. May God bring to naught the understanding of such as discern not!

Blessings and peace be upon the friends of God in these days—those souls whom neither the mention of their names, nor the aversion and protest of the people, withheld from turning unto Him, but who, with perfect steadfastness, arose in the Cause of the Lord of all being. These are the souls in whose praise the Books of former and latter times have spoken and whose station they attest. A hundred thousand tubas be upon those souls who look with the eye of truth, and are sanctified, hallowed and purified from all else save Him. Upon them be the peace and the glorification of God, and the mercy and bounty of the Lord.

I beseech God, through them, that He may enable me and His loved ones to remain standing, firm and steadfast in such wise that no outcry of any clamorous soul, nor any plot of any treacherous schemer, may hinder us.

And now, O My beloved! Some time ago your letter arrived; from it there wafted the sweet scent of turning, of response, and of steadfastness. After reading and becoming acquainted with its contents, this servant directed his steps towards the Most Exalted Court and laid it before the Holy Presence. When this was accomplished, the Tongue of Grandeur uttered words concerning my mention and the mention of my like, the full import of which I cannot grasp. I entreat Him, in all conditions, to confirm me in guarding that which the Tongue of grace uttereth in the Kingdom of the Bayan. His blessed word was this—exalted and glorified be He:

> "In My Name, the Speaker in the Most Great Prison! Verily, He guideth the nations unto God, the Lord of pre-existence, and bringeth them nigh unto Him as a bounty from His presence. Verily, He is the Bountiful, the All-Generous."
>
> "O thou that gazest toward the Most Exalted Horizon! The servant in attendance hath come with thy letter and laid it before My Face. We have sent down for thee that whereby thou wilt perceive the fragrance of My loving-kindness that hath outstripped all who are in heaven and on earth. This is attested by the Mother Book in this lofty station. We have perceived from thee the perfume of My love and of steadfastness in My Cause. Blessed art thou, and blessed whoso attaineth unto this mighty rank. Consider then, and call to mind what hath flowed from the tongues of the people of the Bayan who turned away from the Truth and disbelieved in God, the Lord of all worlds. They profess faith in the Point of the Bayan, yet disbelieve in Him Whom He sent in truth, and Whom He made the herald of this Announcement, through which the pillars of the divines were shaken and the earthquakes seized all tribes, save such as God, thy Lord, the Mighty, the Praised, willed to spare. I know not by what proof they once believed in God, nor for what cause they now have turned away from this luminous Horizon."

Now will it be mentioned in the Persian tongue, that all may understand and become aware of the guile, the plotting, and the heedlessness of the idolatrous souls.

A King of existence hath been manifested—His Revelation equivalent to all the Books of God, nay rather exceeding them—for from the Kingdom of His Will there hath descended that which hath encompassed the world. Yet they have denied Him, and in their fancy reckon themselves among the people of faith.

By the life of God! The Point of the Bayan is, by reason of the injustice of these souls, engaged in lamentation and wailing.

Today, God—exalted be His glory—is in no wise in need of any other proof for the establishment of His Cause; He Himself maketh His Cause evident through that which He hath sent down from His presence and made manifest from His own Self.

Convey to the friends of that land My greetings and gladden them with the bounties and favours of God, exalted be His glory. Ere long shall their eyes be cheered with that which God hath promised them. Verily, He is the most merciful of the merciful and the One Who, over all that are in the heavens and on earth, exerciseth His sway. End.

A hundred thousand praises and thanksgivings be unto the Desire of all the worlds, for that He causeth His friends to rejoice through the fragrance of one another's love, and transmuteth sorrow and care into joy and gladness. One word, if it proceed from a heart pure and stainless, traineth the world of humanity and draweth it unto the Shore of the Friend. Unto Him be praise and gratitude in all conditions.

From Him do I entreat and hope that He may reckon you among the appointed standards, and may so vouchsafe you confirmation that no soul shall retain any pretext for turning aside or objecting.

The lamentation and sighing of this servant are because of those souls who behold the sun and yet set themselves to veil it, and—by the true Self of God—there is fear lest once again they should hide the

creation behind the same doubts and fancies as of old, and for another twelve hundred years, nay even more, remain occupied only with contention one with another.

The hope is that the party of God will protect the people, will awaken the ignorant and arouse the heedless. Blessed is the just one who is fair in what hath appeared; and woe betide the heedless and the faithless.

As to what you have written concerning the noble and exalted handmaid, Varaqatu'l-Firdaws—upon her be the glory of God, the All-Glorious—this was presented in the Sacred, Inaccessible Court. The Tongue of Grandeur uttered these words:

"All the people of the world have been created for the knowledge of the True One and for service in His Cause. Yet love of outward adornments and occupation therewith have debarred and withheld all from the special bounties of God, exalted be His glory, to such a degree that they hesitate even in rendering those rights which are directly referable to the True One Himself—although the fruit thereof returneth unto the souls themselves. Blessed are the souls who are enkindled with the fire of love and who act according to that which hath been sent down in the Book. Until now, in proportion to what might be expended for the victory of the Cause, they have not yet been confirmed. By My life, all are heedless save whomsoever God willeth; for if they were to become aware of the station of the deeds of these days, they would gladly sacrifice their very lives, how much more their fleeting possessions." End.

This lowly servant beseecheth the True One to confirm all, that they may rend asunder every veil and arise for the service of the Cause.

As to what you have written—that a command be issued for the delivery of the Huquq to the Leaf, upon her be the glory of God and His loving-kindness—according to the divine ordinance, some soul must, for the sake of God, remind the servants, that perchance they may be enabled to discharge the Huququ'llah, and thus attain unto a lofty station and an everlasting recompense.

Let the funds be collected in the presence of a trustworthy person, and let him report the matter, that, in accordance with the Will of God, action may be taken. From those contributions, that portion which was formerly conveyed, on their behalf, to the presence of the Leaf, upon her be the glory of God, should again be delivered to her; and the details thereof should be set down in writing.

It is hoped that the heirs of Hadrat Mirza-yi-Marfu'—upon him be the glory and mercy of God—will be aided to follow in the footsteps of their honoured father, although some are veiled, some hesitant, and some wavering. It is to be hoped that the pure intention of that exalted and departed one will become the cause and reason of all-embracing divine bounties, and that he will not suffer his sons to be deprived of the abundant reward, the comely character, and the spending of their substance in the path of God. I entreat the Lord that He may confirm them in all that leadeth to the exaltation of His Word. God willing, the party of God will be granted success in that which hath been sent down in the Book.

As to what you have written regarding the saplings of the garden of knowledge and the leaves of the Lote-Tree of the love of the All-Merciful—upon them be the glory of God—who are related to your honoured self: this was submitted in the Holy Presence and attained the honour of being heard.

This is what was revealed for the son, Wali-Aqa—upon him be the glory of God:

He is the Dawn shining from the horizon of the heaven of the Bayan.

This is a remembrance from Us for him who hath attained unto the lights of the Kingdom, when the Lord of Might came with manifest sovereignty. Say:

Glorified art Thou, O Thou by Whose Name the seas of wisdom and knowledge have surged, and by the light of Whose Face the horizon of proof hath shone forth! I beseech Thee, by the Mother Book and by the breaths of Thy Revelation in the Abode [of eternity], to make me aided by Thy confirmations, steadfast in Thy Cause, gazing toward Thy horizon, and voicing Thy praise amongst Thy servants. Praise be unto Thee, O my God, for having caused me to appear in Thy days from the loins of one of Thy loved ones. I entreat Thee, by Thy power and Thy might, that Thou suffer me not to be deprived of that which is with Thee, nor disappoint me of that which Thou hast ordained for Thy chosen ones and Thy trusted ones. Verily, I am he who hath confessed, O my God, to Thy oneness and Thy singleness and to that which Thou hast sent down in Thy Book. There is no God but Thee, the All-Powerful, the One Who exerciseth His sway over whatsoever hath been and shall be.

And this is what was revealed for the daughter, Nuriyyih—upon her be the glory of God:

In My Name, sanctified above all names.

O Leaf! Hear the Call of God from the Sinai of meanings. From the beginning of the creation of the world until this moment no such Call hath been raised. By My life! Through this sweetest Call, they that dwell in heaven and the inmates of the Kingdom of Names have been enraptured.

Blessed is thy mother who gave thee suck, and thy father who reared thee. Know thou his worth and station, for he was the means of thy existence and the cause of thine acceptance. The whole world was in quest of him; yet when the lights of his being shone forth from the horizon of manifestation, all turned away from him. Thou, however, art accounted among those leaves whose names the Pen of the Most High hath inscribed upon the Crimson Scroll. Know thou, then, how exalted is this station, and be thou thankful unto the True One—exalted be His glory. The glory of God rest upon thy father and thy mother and upon thee, and upon those who have believed in God, the All-Sustaining, the Self-Subsisting.

And this is what was revealed for another daughter, ʿAla'iyyih—upon her be the glory of God:

In the Name of the one Friend.

In this Day, whosoever attaineth unto the knowledge of the True One—exalted be His glory—is, in the Book, recorded and inscribed among the people of the Supreme Paradise; and whoso is heedless is, in the perspicuous Book, numbered with the people of Sijjin. Blessed is the soul whom this world hath not debarred from the Lord of what lieth beyond. By the life of God! If she be of the Leaves, she is accounted among the mightiest of men; and if she be of the weakest of servants, she is, in the sight of the All-Glorious, known among the champions.

Blessed is the leaf whom the violent winds have not withheld from God, her Lord. We beseech the True One to keep the people of that household firm in His Cause and renowned by His Name. He is the All-Powerful, Whom the clamour of the world and the injustice of the nations cannot hinder. His Will is the breaker of the wills of the world, and His purpose the slayer of the purposes of all. Verily, He is the One, the Single, the All-Powerful, the Almighty.

And this is what was revealed for the sister—upon her be the glory of God:

He is the One potent to accomplish whatsoever He willeth and desireth.

This is a Book which the Wronged One hath sent down in the Most Great Prison, wherein He maketh mention of a handmaiden among His handmaidens and a Leaf among His leaves, that the sweetness of My utterance may draw her nigh to the Kingdom of My might, the All-Glorious, the Inaccessible. Verily, We have made mention of thee with this wondrous mention, and We entreat God that He may make it a treasure for thee in His presence. Verily, He is powerful over all things.

And this is what was revealed for another sister—upon her be the glory of God.

He is the All-Knowing, the Speaker.

Glorified be He Who hath sent down the verses and made manifest the clear evidences, and in every station hath proclaimed: "Verily, there is no God but Me, the All-Subduing, the Self-Subsisting." Every created thing hath heard the call of its Lord, whilst the people perceive it not. Verily, We have brought forth what was hidden in the treasuries of knowledge and concealed in the Books of God, the Lord of all being. Blessed is the people that hath attained unto faith and believed in its Lord when He came with a manifest sovereignty. Take thou the Book of God with a power that cometh from Him; then render thanks unto thy Lord, the Mighty, the All-Loving. Thus have We sent down the verses and despatched them unto thee, that thou mayest remember thy Lord, the Lord of the Promised Day.

Section 2: "And this is what was sent down…"

And this is what was sent down for the "Rib" (the kinswoman), upon her be the glory of God:

He is the Seer, gazing from the horizon of the Kingdom.

This is a Book which the King of kings hath sent down, wherein He maketh mention of His handmaidens who have believed in God, the One, the All-Informed. We, of a truth, have created all things that they may hearken unto My Call and recognize My Self, which exerciseth dominion over all who are in the heavens and on earth. Among men are those who have attained unto this recognition, severed from all that is in the realm of dust; and among them are those who have taken Satan, instead of God, as a lord unto themselves. Verily, such are, in the Book of God, the Most High, the Most Great, numbered with the abased.

Take thou the Book of God with a power that cometh from Him; then be thou thankful unto thy Lord, the Mighty, the All-Praised. Verily, We have made mention of every servant who hath turned unto God, and of every handmaiden who hath directed her face unto His luminous Horizon. The glory that shineth from

the heaven of My bounty rest upon thee, and upon every handmaiden whom the cavils of the divines and the insinuations of the froward have not debarred. End.

The gracious favour of God—exalted be His glory—towards this station is such that all the tongues of the world are powerless and mute to render thanks for it; yet the servants remain heedless of this lofty and exalted rank, and are busied with their own imaginings.

O beloved of my heart! In very truth the world is consumed by the fire of idle fancies and vain imaginings, and these have debarred the people from the True One. Today, a single word that floweth from the Pen of the Most High concerning a soul, and conferreth upon him an everlasting grace, is such a bounty that most of the people are wholly bereft of any understanding of its station—although all know full well that, save the True One, exalted be His glory, there hath been and will be no appointing and no helper. His loving-kindness and His tokens clothe this mortal world with the vesture of immortality.

Consider the honoured Mustawfi Marfu'—upon him be the glory of God. In this world he toiled greatly; he preferred his children to his very eyes; and yet, after him, they failed to recognize his worth and did not walk in his footsteps.

By the life of our Desire! That which remained with him and secured his eternal victory were the verses which, from the Pen of the Most High, were revealed especially in his name. One such verse is equivalent to a thousand heirs and a hundred thousand sons. Over and above the weighty Tablets, there was revealed, in connection with his visitation, a Most Holy, Most Exalted Tablet, which—by the life of God—nothing in existence can compare with. We beseech the Lord that He may likewise confirm his children, that they be not deprived of the water of life and may partake of the virtues of their father; verily, He is powerful over all things.

As to what you have written regarding the honoured, exalted, blessed veiled one, the mother—upon her be the glory and grace of God—this was submitted, and the following was revealed for her from the Kingdom of the Will of our Lord, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed:

He is the All-Forgiving, the All-Bountiful.

Glorified art Thou, O Thou in Whose Name the heaven hath rained, the earth hath brought forth her fruits, the sun hath shone, the mysteries have been disclosed, and the tokens have appeared! I beseech Thee, by the ocean of Thy mercy, by the breaths of Thy Revelation, by the manifestations of Thy signs, that Thou wilt forgive Thy handmaiden who hath ascended unto Thee and who hath sought Thy bounty, Thy grace, Thy gifts and Thy loving-kindness. O my Lord! This is Thy Day, wherein the fragrance of the vesture of Thy bounty is stirred, and the sweet scent of Thy Word is diffused. I beseech Thee to deal with her in a manner that beseemeth Thee and Thy Days and that is worthy of Thy majesty and Thy sovereignty.

Verily, Thou art He Whom naught can frustrate and Whom no affair can hinder. There is no God but Thee, the All-Powerful, the All-Forgiving, the All-Bountiful. End.

Praise be to God! The departed, chastely veiled handmaiden hath been encompassed, from every side, by the mercy of God. It behoveth us to render thanks unto Him in all conditions, and to praise Him at morn and at eventide.

Likewise, the mention of the ascension of Jinab-i-Mulla Muhammad Hasan—upon him be the glory of God—unto the all-merciful Throne was heard with attentive ear. This is what was sent down for him from the heaven of grace and bounty—exalted and blessed be His Word:

In My Name, through which the ocean of forgiveness hath surged within the realm of existence.

Glorified be He Who hath sent down the verses in truth, made manifest the proof, made clear the path, spoken and caused all things to speak, that there is no God but He, the All-Subduing, the Self-Subsisting. God Himself beareth witness that there is no God but He, and that He Who hath come with the truth is the Lord of manifestation, the Speaker on Sinai, the One named in the very heart of Baha by the hidden secret, and inscribed by the Pen of the Most High in the Gospel, the Torah, the Psalms and the Qur'an. By Him the Straight Path hath appeared, the Balance hath been set up, the Trump hath been blown, and all affairs have returned unto God, the Lord of the Day of Resurrection.

O My Pen! Make mention of him who is named Hasan with such a mention that therefrom the fragrance of the loving-kindness of God, the Lord of what was and what shall be, may be diffused.

Blessed art thou, O Hasan, inasmuch as thou didst bear witness to what God had borne witness, ere the creation of the heavens and the earth, and didst confess to that whereunto the Tongue of Grandeur confessed in His praiseworthy station. I testify that thou didst turn unto God when the servants turned away from Him, and didst answer thy Lord when the Call was raised between earth and heaven.

Thou art he who attained unto the Tablet of God, His remembrance, His Days and His Manifestation. Blessed art thou, and blessed whoso draweth nigh unto thy resting-place and visiteth thee for the sake of that which the All-Merciful hath sent down from the heaven of certitude. Verily, he is among the doers of good in the Book of God, the Lord of the visible and invisible. Thou art he whom God hath adorned with the light of faith, forgiven as a bounty from His presence, caused to enter the supreme Paradise, and given to drink of the Kawthar of bestowal, in His Name, the One Who ruleth over the unseen and the seen.

Glorified art Thou, O Lord of Names and Fashioner of the heavens! Thou knowest and beholdest that he heard Thy Call, turned unto Thy Horizon, and was enkindled with the fire of Thy love in days when the divines, the sages, and the men of letters turned aside from Thee.

O my Lord, adorn him, amidst the dwellers of Paradise, with the vesture of forgiveness, and illumine him with the light of Thy gifts and bounties, O Thou in Whose grasp is the world of creation and the Kingdom of eternity. There is no God but Thee, the All-Powerful, the All-Subduing, the Mighty, the All-Glorious. Praise be to God, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. End.

Blessed is he, and blissful his state, and happy his condition! He hath attained unto that which was the hope of this servant and the longing of the company of the near ones.

By the Sun that dawneth from the horizon of the Bayan! In these days, death is indeed most beloved, if it be attained through the operation of the Pen of God. Yet this servant is, in very truth, greatly desirous of life also, that perchance a service might be vouchsafed him worthy of mention. I bear witness that this service which pertaineth unto this lowly one is great—yea, exceedingly great. From the Lord, exalted be His glory, we ask for confirmation; and from your honoured self we beg remembrance in prayer, that haply I may be enabled and may acquit myself thereof.

As to what you have written regarding Jinab-i-Abu Talib Bey and Jinab-i-Khalil Aqa—upon them be the glory of God—some months ago Jinab-i-Aqa ʿAziz'u'llah—upon him be the glory and grace of God—had written that Jinab-i-Abu Talib Bey had, some time previously, set out for Tabas, and that Jinab-i-Mir—upon him be the glory of God, the All-Glorious—had taught him the Faith, whereupon he attained the honour of belief; and that he, in turn, had taught Jinab-i-Khalil Aqa.

This matter had already been submitted in the Most Holy, Most Exalted Court of the All-Glorious, and two special Tablets for these two souls had, from the Pen of the Most High, been sent down and forwarded to Jinab-i-Aqa ʿAziz'u'llah—upon him be the glory of God—that he might deliver them. And now that the matter hath once more been presented, these exalted words have been revealed concerning these two: exalted and blessed be His Word:

In My Name, the One Who shineth forth from the Most Exalted Horizon.

O Mir! The All-Powerful calleth out unto thee in this moment wherein He is seated upon the throne of certitude and summoneth all unto His luminous Horizon. Make mention of him who is named Abu Talib, unto whom thou didst make the path plain and whom thou didst call unto God, the One, the All-Informed.

Verily, We have already made mention of him in a Tablet whence there flashed, from its horizon, the Sun of the loving-kindness of thy Lord, the compassionate, the All-Generous. Blessed art thou, for thou didst give him to drink of the Kawthar of knowledge and didst acquaint him with My straight Path.

We counsel him to the supreme steadfastness in this wondrous Cause. And We make mention of Khalil, who turned unto the All-Glorious in a Day when every ignorant and suspicious soul turned away from Him. Verily, We have made mention of him and of those who have believed, in such wise that from this mention the denizens of nearness inhale the fragrance of the loving-kindness of their Lord, the Mighty, the All-Praised.

Blessed is Abu Talib, for he broke, in the Day of God and in the Name of the Lord of all existence, the chains of the people, and turned unto the Most Exalted Horizon.

The people of the path have, in this Dispensation, for the most part been seen heedless. Blessed is the soul that hath attained unto the knowledge of the Speaker on Sinai. We entreat God to assist him, draw him nigh, and confirm him in effacing from his mind all that he hath heard aforetime, and in being awakened to that which he heareth today from the direction of the Prison from whose horizon the Sun of the Bayan hath shone forth with a command from before the All-Powerful, the Almighty.

The glory that dawneth from the heaven of My bounty rest upon thee, upon him, upon Khalil, and upon every steadfast, firm and upright soul. End.

This lowly one beseecheth the Lord that He may confirm them in that which leadeth to the exaltation of His Cause. In this Day, steadfastness is, in the sight of God, accounted among the greatest of deeds; for the evil ones, with the utmost deceit and craft, are striving to mislead sanctified souls, while they themselves remain wholly ignorant of the very foundation of the Cause.

This servant sendeth them his greetings and takbir, and for each one of them supplicateth confirmation and aid.

As to what you have written concerning Hadrat-i-Afnan, Jinab-i-Aqa Siyyid ʿAli—upon him be the glory of God, the All-Glorious: he, together with the Great Afnan, his brother, his mother, his sister, the sons of his sister, and those who are with them, are now dwelling in the neighbourhood [of the Holy Spot]. This is the third time that, according to permission, they have attained unto the Prison and are resting in the shade of the Lote-Tree.

God hath made attainment their companion, lodged them in His neighbourhood, and granted them that which had been inscribed by the Pen of the Most High and recorded in the Books of the Messengers. This lowly one hath proclaimed your mention before him; and he, in turn, is engaged in making mention of your honoured person.

All the bearers, the circumambulators, the travellers and voyagers convey to you their greetings and takbir.

Blessed is this exalted, impregnable station! Unceasingly doth this servant beseech the Eternal Beloved that He may aid your honoured self to unite hearts, enkindle souls with the fire of the love of God, and enable all to be confirmed, with utmost joy, longing and rapture, in clinging to and holding fast the wisdom of this Cause that hath come from God.

This is a favour vouchsafed to the weak; the strong must needs have regard unto them. The glory, the remembrance, and the praise of God rest upon your honoured person, upon those who are with you, and upon such as have confessed to that whereunto the Tongue of Grandeur hath testified—that there is no God but He, the Mighty, the Well-Beloved.

Another matter: the mention of the exalted and blessed Jinab-i-Aqa Muhammad-ʿAli—upon him be the glory of God—who ascended in Jeddah. In two places hath his name flowed from the Pen of the Most High: once in a Tablet revealed for his mother, the chaste and veiled one, and again in a Tablet revealed for Jinab-i-Mulla Ghulam-Husayn. He hath attained unto that which was the hope of this servant and the longing of the company of the near ones.

The servant, on the third day of the blessed month of Ramadan, 1302 A.H.

BH00095: One day I was sitting, bewildered by the Divine…

Section 1: "One day I was sitting, bewildered…"

In the Name of our Most Holy, Most Great, Most Exalted, Most Glorious Lord!

One day I was sitting, bewildered by the Divine Cause and contemplating what had appeared in the land of Kaf and Ra (Kirman), wondering how these calumnies had arisen and how they were preventing the helpless people from the Divine Law. At that moment, I was reminded of the blessed verse of the Most Holy Book which was revealed at the beginning of imprisonment from the Holy Kingdom. His word, exalted be His grandeur: "O Land of Kaf and Ra! We, verily, see in thee that which is not pleasing unto God, and We behold in thee that which none knoweth except God, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. And We perceive that which secretly and stealthily proceedeth from thee. With Us is the knowledge of all things, recorded in a lucid Tablet.

Sorrow not on account of that which hath befallen thee. Erelong will God raise up within thee men possessed of mighty strength, who will magnify My Name with such constancy that neither will they be deterred by the evil suggestions of the divines, nor will they be kept back by the insinuations of the doubters. With their own eyes will they behold God, and with their own lives will they render Him victorious. These, truly, are of those who are steadfast." I said: "God, the Most High, the Most Great, speaketh the truth."

At that very moment, a letter arrived sealed by four individuals. By the life of my Purpose and the Purpose of all who are in earth and heaven, after seeing and considering it, I lamented for the Primal Point (may the spirit of all else be sacrificed for Him), for it was observed that the people of the Bayan had not understood a single letter of the Bayan of the All-Merciful and had not attained its purpose. For the purpose of the entire Bayan was the recognition of this Most Great Manifestation—were it not for Him, the Bayan would not have been revealed nor would its Revealer have appeared. Bewilderment was added to bewilderment, for that blessed Being throughout the entire Bayan counsels all to turn towards, submit to, and become as nothing before this Most Great Manifestation. How well the divine covenant was fulfilled and His testament carried out!

The exact copy of the letter that was received is as follows, and at the beginning of the letter the name of the True One—exalted be His glory—is not mentioned:

> "And among that which the Azalis have agreed upon in their response to confirmation without obstinacy or objection are two matters: The first is the announcement of the death of a man or woman sought after at a specified time and day or night of such and such a month and such and such an hour from a particular disease, together with his name and his mother's name and his house and his quarter and his tribe and his clan—in short, that which individuates him in all his particulars. And the second is the announcement of the birth of a specified child, whether male or female, from a specified woman by her name and her father's name, with the determination of a specified time and specified day and such and such an hour and such and

such a month in that specified year. And God is the Guide to the path of righteousness, and He is the Helper in all circumstances. On the 21st of the honored month of Rajab, 1302."

God is my witness to what hath befallen this evanescent servant. The Primal Point—may the spirit of all else but Him be sacrificed for His sake—hath said: "Whatever ye desire on that Day, ask ye it now from Me." And He hath said: "I have not failed to counsel this people, nor to devise means for their allegiance to their Lord and their faith in God, their Creator. Should they believe in Him on the day of His manifestation, all who dwell on earth would at that time rejoice, as would Mine own Essence, for all would have attained the summit of their existence, would have gained access to the countenance of their Beloved, and would have apprehended all that was possible within contingent being from the revelation of their Object of desire.

Otherwise, My heart would be saddened, for I have nurtured all things for this purpose—how then could anyone remain veiled?" Thus concludeth His mighty and exalted utterance. And He saith, blessed and exalted be His words: "O God! Do Thou nurture all who are in the heavens and on the earth and whatsoever lieth between them for the day of Thy manifestation, that when the Manifestation of Thy Self reciteth a verse from Thee, all may declare: 'Yea, praise be unto Thee! There is none other God but Thee! We all do truly believe in what God hath promised us in the Bayan."'

How well they heeded the counsels of God! A hundred thousand praises upon the people of the Bayan! He declareth that at the mere hearing of a single verse all would acknowledge Him. Now, the equivalent of all heavenly Books—nay, more—hath been sent down in every mode from the heaven of God's Will. Yet they write anew asking for details about the pregnant mirror-bearer from Manshad—what she carrieth in her womb and when she will deliver! By the life of my Beloved, and the Beloved of all who are in earth and heaven, the very eye of justice weepeth, and equity crieth out in anguish!

In the thirteenth chapter of the second Vahid of the Bayan He says, exalted be His glory, the gist of this chapter is that no questions are permitted concerning Him Whom God shall make manifest except about that which befits His station, for His station is the pure manifestation itself, such that even the essence of manifestation in the essence of manifestation appears in His shadow. Despite this clear and evident command, now observe what the people of the Bayan have said and done and what questions they have asked. O people! Fear God and do not invalidate the truth through your own imaginings. Cast aside that to which you cling and turn unto Him. Verily He is the Forgiver, the Merciful. Do they imagine that today any thing among things or any matter among matters can benefit anyone? Nay, by the Self of the All-Merciful! All that is thereon shall perish save those who have clung to His cord and held fast to His hem.

One of the provisions of the Pen of the All-Merciful in the Bayan is that He says at the beginning of every nineteenth year, each of the people of the Bayan should write to one another a book proving Him Whom God shall make manifest. His purpose was that at the appointed time of the Manifestation, which is the nineteenth year as is known in the Kitab-i-Hayakil, the tongue, pen and thought of all should be occupied with His remembrance and the proof of His Cause, and that no word of denial should issue from any soul. Glory be to God! Now in the Supreme Horizon He observes what has transpired and what they have said. It is most strange that such things have appeared from the people of Manshad.

In any case, after observing the letter, this servant was perplexed whether to present it before His countenance or conceal it, fearing lest there be some negligence in concealing it. Therefore, placing my trust in God, I intended to approach the Most Exalted Station and Supreme Summit until I arrived and stood silent and speechless until He, exalted be His glory, said: “O servant who is present! What do you have in your hand?” I submitted: “A letter has come.” He commanded: “Read it to the end.” It was submitted. Then the Tongue of the All-Bountiful spoke these exalted words in reply:

O servant in attendance! What became of the divine counsels? Where have all those covenants and pledges gone? Today the Mother Book speaks and the Mother of the Bayan is manifest. These matters were not and are not worthy of mention. They have not taken their portion from the ocean of divine counsel nor received their share from the sea of the All-Merciful’s wisdom. Any soul who today, after hearing this Most Great Cause, hesitates less than a moment is not worthy of mention. All books are dependent and conditioned upon the Word of this Manifestation. Today no mention and no deed is of benefit except by God’s leave, exalted be His glory. Say: The Will of God is other than your wills, and His way is other than your ways. He walks not in your paths nor follows your desires. He calls those on earth and guides them to His straight path. Whoso turns toward Him has attained all good, and whoso turns away is among the people of the fire in a mighty Book.

O servant who is present! It would be most regrettable if the people of the Bayan were to be seen as more lost than the people of the Furqan. After centuries and ages of tribulation, the final fruit of their deeds was that they unanimously martyred the Lord of the world, both the learned and the ignorant. I abhor using the word curse’, otherwise the Supreme Pen would have written: Lo! The curse of God be upon the wrongdoing people!’ In this Most Great Revelation and Momentous Announcement, the Supreme Pen has saved certain divines and raised them from the pit of fancy and vain imaginings. We now beseech God for their steadfastness. In one of the Tablets it is revealed: The divines in this Revelation are as sight unto the body of the world and as spirit unto physical forms. May God protect them from the deceit and trickery of heedless souls.

O servants! This is the Day of revelation and witnessing. Occupy not yourselves with questions and answers. Arise in truth to serve the Cause. In one of the Tablets this most great verse was revealed: “This is not the Day for questions. It behooveth him who hath heard the Call from the Supreme Horizon to arise and say: ‘Here am I, O God of Names! Here am I, O Desire of the worlds!”’

Say: O servants! Hatred and animosity are unseemly. All must arise with complete determination to extinguish this world-consuming fire, that the world may be purified and adorned as befitteth it. Ye have all witnessed the Shi’ih sect—ye all know their claims and the deeds and actions of that party. Now strive that perchance the people may be preserved from the fire of self and passion.

O fair-minded ones! Consider the recent letter which the people of Manshad wrote in rejection of the Truth and opposition to it, sealing it with their seals, and likewise consider the gathering of the idolaters in the Mother City, what conditions they set for faith, saying that if these appeared they would believe, and if not, then nay. God, exalted be His glory, speaks through the tongue of those idolaters, blessed and exalted be His Word: “And they say: ‘We shall not believe in thee until thou cause a spring to gush forth for us from the earth; or thou have a garden of date-palms and grapes, and cause rivers to gush forth in

their midst abundantly; or thou cause the heaven to fall upon us in pieces, as thou hast pretended; or thou bring God and the angels face to face with us; or thou have a house adorned with gold; or thou ascend up into heaven; and even then we will put no faith in thine ascension until thou bring down for us a book that we can read."'

That which is mentioned is for pure and assured souls; otherwise, it increaseth the wrongdoers in naught but loss. O people of the earth! Hear ye the words of the All-Merciful in the Qur'an. He relateth that the idolaters said: "We will not believe in thee until thou cause a spring to gush forth for us from the earth, or thou have a garden of date-palms and grapes and cause rivers to gush forth abundantly therein, or thou cause the heaven to fall upon us in pieces as thou hast claimed, or thou bring God and the angels as a surety, or thou have a house of gold, or thou ascend to heaven." And then from the depths of their hatred they said: "We will not believe in thy ascension unless thou bring down for us a book that we can read." Such was their hardheartedness that they said: "O God! If this be indeed the truth from Thee, then rain down stones on us from heaven, or bring us a painful doom!"

In reflecting upon the conditions of faith for those souls and the conditions of faith for these new souls, much contemplation is required. Blessed are they who are awake and alert—those souls who have been awakened by the divine breeze and have turned toward the Most Exalted Horizon, detached from the world and all that is therein. By the life of God! These are the people of Baha and the companions of the Crimson Ark mentioned by the Supreme Pen in the Book of Names. Today the Primal Point laments, and all things are saddened, for they have denied Him whose station equals all the books before and after that descended from the heaven of His Will, and whose manifestations of power and grandeur shone forth like the sun.

Section 2: "Glory be to God! How hath heedlessness so…"

Glory be to God! How hath heedlessness so seized these souls that after years of reading the Qur'an, they remained so unaware as to speak like the idolaters. A hundred thousand pities that the people of the Bayan have been afflicted with the chronic diseases of old. Ibn-i-Ja'far-i-Kirmani claimed: "I possess a hundred books from the Primal Point and so-and-so." Say: Thou hast lied, by the Lord of the Ka'bah! By God, thou hast spoken without justice. In any case, whatever is from the Primal Point must be sent to the Most Holy Court, for it depends upon acceptance, and as for that which is from others—read some of it and judge fairly. By the life of God! It cannot compare with a single verse. We are not concerned with rejection or acceptance, but for the sake of God We say this much: you had and have no knowledge of the foundation of the Cause and its Founder. By the life of God! This one word would guide the fair-minded to the sweet and flowing fountain, but now you are found sleeping. Ask God to awaken you with the breezes of the springtime of divine knowledge and draw you to the Most Exalted Horizon. Verily, He is powerful over all things.

The Supreme Pen laments for itself, for matters have reached such a state that the Truth Itself writes proofs. O ye who possess ears, hearken with pure ears to this verse of the Qur'an. His blessed words, exalted is He:

> “If the Truth had followed their desires, verily the heavens and the earth and whosoever is therein would have been corrupted.”

He says that if the Truth had followed their desires, surely the heavens and earth and all within them would have been corrupted. O people! Hear the call of the Wronged One and abandon your desires. Fix your gaze upon the Will of God and hold fast to His Purpose. He manifests whatsoever He willeth. Blessed is the one whose will is annihilated in His Will and whose desire is dissolved in His Desire. Thus hath spoken the Truth, and He guideth the Way.

Now contemplate the attributes of the assured believer of whom God hath given tidings. His blessed words, exalted is He: “And when they hear what hath been revealed to the Messenger, thou seest their eyes overflow with tears because of what they have recognized of the truth. They say: ʿOur Lord, we believe; write us down among the witnesses.”’ And concerning the idolaters and opponents who have taken their own desires as proof for themselves, He says, blessed and exalted is He: “Even if We had sent down the angels unto them, and the dead had spoken unto them, and We had gathered all things before them, they would not have believed unless God had so willed. However, most of them are ignorant.”

This blessed verse refers to souls who have ever risen in opposition and clung to their vain imaginings and turned away from the proof and testimony of God, exalted be His glory. He saith: “Even if We had sent down the angels unto them, and the dead had spoken unto them, and We had gathered together before them all things in multitude, they would not have believed in God, exalted be His glory.” And “They swear their strongest oaths by God that if a sign should come to them, they would surely believe in it. Say: Signs are in the power of God alone, and what will make you realize that even if they came, they would not believe?” O assembly of Manshad! Be not as those who in the time of the Seal said: “By God, if He should turn Mount Safa into gold, or raise our dead to testify to the truth of His prophethood, we would believe.”

Throughout all His verses, God, exalted be His glory, hath rejected the deniers and made mention of those who are assured of His signs, in a manner befitting their faith and their turning unto God, the Single, the One, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. Moreover He saith, blessed and exalted be He:

> “Are they waiting to see if the angels come to them, or thy Lord, or certain of the signs of thy Lord? The day that certain of the signs of thy Lord do come, no good will it do to a soul to believe in them then.”

Now ponder upon these verses and take heed, that perchance through divine proof and testimony ye may find your way to the straight path.

Concerning those souls who turn away from the rays of the Sun of Certitude, the Blessed and Exalted One declares: “Most of them follow nothing but conjecture. Surely conjecture can be of no avail against Truth. Verily God is well aware of all they do.” Ponder upon this blessed verse. Concerning those souls who are deprived and forbidden from seeing and hearing, He says, blessed and exalted be He: “Among them are some who listen to thee; but canst thou make the deaf to hear even though they are devoid of understanding? And among them are some who look toward thee; but canst thou guide the blind even though they see not? Take heed, O ye who are endued with understanding!”

Hearken unto the call of the Wronged One, and turn from ignorance to knowledge, from turning away to acceptance, and strive to proceed from the rivulet to the Most Great Ocean, that ye may not be deprived of the outpourings of the True Bestower. This is the Day of vision, for the highest horizon is resplendent and manifest, and the Day of hearing, for the call of the Intended One is raised. This is that Day which hath been mentioned in all the Books and Scriptures. This deafness and blindness is indeed divine retribution and the recompense of deeds, yet we beseech God, exalted be His glory, to assist all and deprive none from the ocean of divine unity on this Day.

Consider this objection of the idolaters, that perchance the breeze of fairness may waft from the direction of the heart and purify all members. The Blessed and Exalted One declares: "Those who disbelieve say: 'Why is not a sign sent down to him from his Lord?"' Observe how whatever was manifested from God, exalted be His glory, the idolaters were not content therewith, but desired according to their own vain imaginings whatsoever they wished. O ye who count yourselves as believers, do ye acknowledge or not that He "doeth whatsoever He willeth, and ordaineth whatsoever He pleaseth"? Ye must today contemplate with fairness the proof of God and consider His evidence. By the life of God! This is spoken for the sake of God. The harm and benefit of the world revert to its people, as every discerning one and every informed sage doth testify. Fear God, O people, and be not among the wrongdoers.

Consider this verse:

> "If there were a Qur'an with which mountains were moved, or the earth were cloven asunder, or the dead were made to speak…"

The purpose is that the idolaters among the Quraysh and those who turned away demanded such things from that holy Being that they might believe. The heavens lament and the dwellers of the highest Paradise wail. The idolaters of that age clung to such matters, and now certain followers of the Bayan are observed to be lower than those souls, for they have asked Him to reveal the gender of an expectant woman, who she is, what she carries in her womb and when she will deliver. Verily the very essence of seeking forgiveness doth ask forgiveness in this station for what they have said and say. Glory be to God! Is the mention of such matters befitting? Nay, by God! Yet this Wronged One standeth alone in the Cause and beseecheth God not to deprive His servants on this Day. Now the equivalent of all the Books of God, past and future, hath been revealed and is present. Reflect upon that which hath flowed from the Most Exalted Pen. In this Revelation hath appeared that which hath not appeared since the beginning of creation, yet opposition preventeth both the outward and inward eye from beholding. We beseech God that He may grant deliverance unto all and not deprive them from the oceans of His mercy.

O ye that are gathered together! I say unto you in truth that throughout all ages and centuries the evil ones among the people have ever been occupied with such objections. This is not the first Command that hath appeared in the Bayan, nor the first vessel that hath been broken in Islam, nor the first matter concerning which they have objected to the Prophets and Messengers. They objected to the Spirit (Christ), saying "If Thou be the Truth, command this stone to become bread," or "Cast Thyself down from above." He saith: "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God's will." And it is also written: "Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God." Can they perceive the

fragrance of these utterances and taste the sweetness of the Divine Word? This is most difficult unless the eyes, ears and hearts be cleansed through the water of return and repentance. He guideth whom He willeth and leadeth astray whom He pleaseth, and He is powerful over all things.

This is a Day wherein all must show forth obedience and turn with complete submission and contentment, offering praise unto God with both their outer and inner tongues. Instead of gratitude they have drawn forth the sword, and in place of submission they have kindled the fire of hatred. Where are they whom names have not kept back from their Creator, and where are they whom the might of sovereignty hath not frightened in the days of God?

O ye seekers who claim to be of the Shi'ih sect! Reflect, that perchance the tales and stories of old may not prevent you from the Day-Star of the divine kingdom and deprive you from the ocean of utterance. Verily He speaketh the truth and guideth to the Way. Whoso believeth, it shall be to his own benefit; and whoso turneth away, it shall be to his own loss. God is independent of all the worlds. O ye who claim knowledge! Consider this verse—blessed and exalted be His Word:

> "Seest thou such a one as taketh for his god his own passion? God hath, knowing him as such, led him astray, and sealed up his hearing and his heart, and put a covering on his sight. Who, then, will guide him after God? Will ye not then be mindful?"

Take heed of the words of Truth, exalted be His glory. The days are passing swiftly. By the life of God, these objections were and are unworthy of the divine days. This is the day whereof He saith, "The earth shall shine with the light of her Lord." This is the day whereof He saith, "The dwellers of Sinai shall be struck with thunderous awe." Take refuge in Truth, glorified be His majesty, and with pure hearts and sanctified vision turn towards the Most Exalted Horizon. I swear by the light of the Sun of Evidence which hath shone from the highest horizon of the world that this Wronged One hath gone beyond your faith and the faith of others.

For twelve hundred years and more, people like you took pride before other sects in what they possessed, and in gatherings and from pulpits they occupied themselves with disputation, contention, revilement and cursing of one another, imagining they were serving God. In the end, the fruit of all their deeds was their agreement to shed most holy blood. Now too these souls desire to occupy themselves with cursing, reviling and disputation for another thousand years, ultimately reaching the same fruit as the previous sect, namely the Shi'ih party. What strange intoxication and what strange heedlessness hath seized them all! From the beginning of Islam until the first day of the Manifestation, not one of the Shi'ih divines was aware of the nature of the Manifestation and the presence of that Essence of Being in the loins.

This was the station of your previous divines who possessed not an atom's weight of knowledge. Were they to reflect somewhat on this matter, they would cry out. Now the time of the previous sect hath passed, and the time of the Bayani sect hath come. Say what ye wish. That which was incumbent upon Truth, glorified be His majesty, He hath proclaimed in most eloquent terms before the faces of all the world. All things bear witness to this, if ye be not of them that deny.

Section 3: "Judge fairly: after the effulgences of the Sun…"

Judge fairly: after the effulgences of the Sun of the Bayan of the All-Merciful, and the waves of the ocean of divine knowledge, and the manifestations of the Luminary of inner meanings in the gathering of the world, is it befitting to speak like the former deniers? Nay, worse still! By God! Sanctify your hearts from the veils of idle fancies and desire, that perchance ye may hearken to the wondrous, delicate melodies of the Bird of inner meanings, warbling upon the highest branch of understanding, and may find yourselves detached and free from the world and all who dwell therein, and soar with the wings of freedom in the atmosphere of justice and fairness. It would be regrettable were ye to be seen as like unto the former deniers.

By the life of God, were it not for the Most Exalted Pen, the veils and coverings would have prevented all. Now that some of the veils have been rent asunder by the power of the Most Exalted Pen, perchance a few souls may find and remain steadfast. Observe how the verses have encompassed the world and how the evidences have become more manifest than the sun, yet despite this they have forgotten the divine counsels and broken His covenant and testament, and have perpetrated that which pen and utterance fail to describe.

O servant! We conclude with these words, blessed and exalted be His utterance:

> "Verily, thou canst not make the dead to hear, nor canst thou make the deaf to hear the call when they turn their backs and flee."

And it is better that we pass beyond all this and occupy ourselves with the remembrance of God.

O my God, my Adored One, my King! I bear witness that Thou art not to be known through the attributes of Thy creatures, nor described through the praises of created things. The perceptions of the world and the minds of nations cannot fittingly enter the precincts of Thy sanctity, nor comprehend it. What error has caused the dwellers of the City of Names to be withheld from Thine exalted horizon and deprived from drawing nigh unto Thy Most Great Ocean? A single letter from Thy Book is the Mother of all Utterance, and one word therefrom is the Source of all Being. What ingratitude has appeared from Thy servants that Thou hast withheld them all from knowing Thee! One drop from the ocean of Thy mercy can quench the flames of hell, and one spark from the fire of Thy love can set the world ablaze.

O All-Knowing One! Though we are heedless, yet we cling to Thy grace, and though we are ignorant, we turn to the ocean of Thy knowledge. Thou art He Whose abundance of grace is not hindered by the multitude of errors, nor is Thy bounty impeded by the world's rejection. The gate of Thy grace has forever been open. A dewdrop from the ocean of Thy mercy can adorn all with the ornament of sanctity, and a sprinkle from the sea of Thy generosity can endow all existence with true wealth. O Concealer! Remove not the veil. Ever have the manifestations of Thy grace encompassed the world, and the lights of Thy Most Great Name have shone upon all. Deprive not Thy servants of the wonders of Thy grace, and grant them awareness that they may testify to Thy oneness, and bestow upon them recognition that they may hasten unto Thee.

Thy mercy hath encompassed all created things and Thy grace hath embraced all. From the waves of the ocean of Thy bestowals have appeared the seas of seeking and yearning. All that exists is Thee; what is besides Thee is unworthy of mention save through entering beneath Thy shadow and arriving at Thy court. In every state we seek Thy ancient forgiveness and search for Thy boundless grace. We hope that Thou wilt not deprive any soul of Thy grace nor withhold from anyone the ornament of justice and fairness. Thou art the Sovereign of generosity, the Lord of bounty, and the One Who ruleth over all who are in earth and heaven.

The spirit of the world be a sacrifice unto His call, and unto His remembrance, and unto His utterance! By the life of my Purpose and the Purpose of all who are in earth and heaven! At the time of the revelation of these verses, from beginning to end, all the realities of the Prophets and Messengers were present, and all the Concourse on High and dwellers of the Most Exalted Paradise were seized by the attraction of the utterance of the All-Merciful. God is witness and bearer of testimony to what befell this servant at the time of utterance—all limbs and members were agitated and convulsed, and from all directions sorrows encompassed me, that the people of the Bayan should act thus despite the counsels of the All-Merciful.

Glory be to God! This servant is astonished at how quickly the veils and idle fancies have encompassed the people. The Exalted One—may the spirit of all who are in the kingdom of Command and Creation be a sacrifice unto Him—proclaims with the most elevated call, His word, exalted and mighty:

> "I have written a gem concerning His remembrance: He shall not be known through My allusions, nor through what is mentioned in the Bayan."

Do the people of the Bayan consider these words, which flowed from the lips of the Primal Point's Will—may the spirit of all else be a sacrifice unto Him—to be false or true? If, God forbid, they deem it false, then no further word remains. And if they accept it as true, what then are these words and these objections? Well done to the people of the Bayan! How firmly they have girded their loins to block the gates of divine bounties and how ready they are to prevent His mercy!

This evanescent servant implores and beseeches you to fix your gaze upon the truth and upon that which hath appeared from His presence. Have you not witnessed and hath there not appeared from the Truth even as much as you desired? Look ye in the revealed Books—whatsoever hath later come to pass had already flowed from the Most Exalted Pen, but there is neither sight nor hearing to observe and take heed.

This servant hath no word with anyone. What he had to say, he hath said; this was his duty and he hath discharged it. Guidance and error are in the hand of God, exalted be His glory. Yet he hath not failed, nor will he fail, to pray. The Command is in the hand of our Lord, our Beloved, our Purpose and the Purpose of all who are in the heavens and the earth.

And I beseech God, exalted be His glory, to aid these mentioned souls to return and repent, that perchance God may remit their misdeeds and transgressions, whereby the hearts of the people of Paradise have melted, the Concourse on High have lamented, and this evanescent servant was struck unconscious. For a time this servant remained unconscious and stupefied. After recovering consciousness and awakening, I besought the Self-Sufficient One with utmost lowliness and supplication not to deprive

His servants of the splendors of the Sun of Divine Unity, for this is truly the Day of Divine Unity. Blessed is the soul that hath recognized the Day and the Lord of the Day.

This is the Day of the blessed word "There is none other God but He." Hearken unto the call of this evanescent servant, and while there is yet time, arise to redeem that which hath passed you by. The greatness of this Day hath been mentioned in the Books of old and of recent times, and recorded by the Most Exalted Pen. This evanescent servant beseecheth God to aid all to perform such deeds as befit this mighty Day, and to grant His confirmation that all may turn their faces to the eternal countenance and advance toward the Most Exalted Horizon.

At the close, this evanescent servant makes mention of a word, and it is this: Let them ask, with the utmost courtesy, from their own source one of those questions which they posed here with complete discourtesy, and after witnessing how different is the reality from what they had imagined, let them turn towards the Most Holy Court, that they may gain awareness and attain unto the knowledge of God, and recognize the station of this Day and true unity. This is the most great mercy and the supreme bounty, if they be enabled to achieve it. Would that the people might recognize Him! Would that the people might know! Verily we are God's, and verily unto Him shall we return. Glory be upon the people of Baha who were not prevented by the intimations of the people of the Bayan, those who turned away from the All-Merciful when He came to them with manifest sovereignty. And praise be to God, the Single, the One, the Powerful, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

The servant, 15 Shawwal 1302

He is God

After several days when no answer descended from the heaven of divine will, this servant once again, for the sake of God, submits these few words to the possessors of attentive ears, that perchance they may recognize the station of Truth and, through the fragrance of utterance, turn to the horizon of the All-Merciful. The people of the assembly, meaning those four souls, seek tidings of the unseen, saying "We do not understand the verses." This statement greatly affected this servant, for it contradicts the divine verses. In the eighth chapter of the sixth Vahid of the Bayan, He says—exalted and glorified be His words: "Whoso seeks proof in aught save the Book of God and the verses of the Bayan, while all are powerless to produce the like thereof, hath no proof. And whoso relates miracles other than these, there is no truth in it…" until His exalted words: "that perchance on the Day of the Manifestation of Him Whom God shall make manifest, no why' or wherefore' shall be uttered concerning Him." Would that only "why" and "wherefore" had been uttered! That which no oppressor had ever spoken was spoken. Those souls who say "We do not understand the verses"—do they not even understand their obvious meaning?

Let them ponder the blessed Surih of Ra'is and judge fairly. All that subsequently came to pass had been previously revealed from the Supreme Pen with utmost clarity. Let a group gather, free from hatred, and examine that Surih. By the life of our Lord! Word for word it hath been made manifest in the visible world. Let them observe and judge fairly, and return from the desert of heedlessness to the field of awareness, and from the darkness of fancy and conjecture to the light of certitude. Fear God, O people, and be not among the transgressors.

Be not like the heedless Shi'ih party who would first lament from the pulpit the oppression of the Letters of the Furqan, and then at the end would curse the Chief of those Letters and decree His death. In any case, by the testimony of the Bayan and the Furqan and the divine Books, the sending of that concordant writing was an error—an error whose record would be most difficult to erase from the book of deeds, save through clear repentance. They must seek forgiveness by night and day; perchance He may forgive them and expiate what they have committed. Verily He is the Forgiving, the Merciful.

Glory be to God! They have said that which its error is clear and evident to every soul. O united souls! What tidings of the unseen did ye hear from the Exalted One? In the first year of the Manifestation, ye were all heedless and turned away. What unseen thing was then revealed that ye became believers? Now observe that which is above it and far above it, and judge fairly. God is witness and testifier that in what hath been submitted, I had and have no purpose save His good-pleasure and the salvation of His servants. Verily He knoweth what is in the hearts and what is in the breasts, and He is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

BH03897: He dawns from the horizon of the Kingdom

He dawns from the horizon of the Kingdom

A Book sent down by the King of Kings for him who hath believed in God, the Mighty, the Loving. O Karim! We have mentioned thee time after time, and again and yet again. To this beareth witness My Most Exalted Pen, and beyond it he who circleth round My mighty throne. Thou art he who responded when the Call was raised between earth and heaven, and who believed in God, the Sublime, the Great. Beware lest the breezes of aversion hold thee back from turning to the All-Informed One. Be thou so steadfast that neither the veils of the world nor the mists of the nations shall prevent thee. Thus doth command thee the Pen of the Divine Decree from the presence of One knowing, wise.

Consider those who claim belief in the Bayan—they have disbelieved in God just as did the people before them. They are indeed among the most lost. O Karim! God willing, thou shalt be blessed through His grace and stand firm in His Cause. In most times thy call hath been heard and the Most Exalted Pen hath moved at thy name. Know thou the measure of this mighty station, and as thou gazest upon the name of the Lord of Power, preserve it. Reflect upon the baseness of the people of the Bayan—they have turned away from One from Whose pen flowed the equivalent of all the books on earth and all tidings past and future, and they busy themselves with their own vain imaginings. Fie upon them and their faithlessness!

Be not grieved by hardship and difficulty. By My life, ease and relief have ever followed and shall follow. We beseech God that He assist thee and keep thee firm and steadfast in His Cause. Thy mention hath been made in the Supreme Concourse—ask thou of God that this station remain lasting and eternal. All affairs are in His grasp and He hath power over all things. There is no God but Him, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting.

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BH04012: In the days when the foundations of all were…

In the Name of the One Friend!

In the days when the foundations of all were disturbed and shaken through the power of oppression, this Wronged One arose to promote the Cause of God—an arising after which no sitting down was seen. Night and day did the tongue speak and the pen write, until the divine Cause was somewhat spread abroad. Then souls who were fearful, agitated and concealed behind a veil came forth with the sword of rejection and made for the truth. The curse of God be upon the wrong-doing people! Now they strive and struggle to lead the weak astray. Soon will this spread to those regions also. We beseech God that He may aid thee in that which is the cause of the Most Great Steadfastness.

For twelve hundred years and more the Shi'ih sect counted themselves above all other sects and considered themselves the most exalted of creation. In the end what happened and what became evident was that in the sight of the Lord of creation they were and are like worthless insects, for they martyred with their own hands the One they worshipped and visited upon the friends of God in every land that which tongue and pen are powerless to recount. Now the people of the Bayan are occupied with those same vain imaginings. They have not reflected even this much on what was the outcome of the deeds of the Shi'ihs and what was their fruit. By God's life! They are accounted as transgressors in the Book of God, the True, the Manifest King.

Rejoice thou in My remembrance of thee. Verily We have been with thee in all conditions. Thy Lord doth witness and behold, and He is the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing. We have ordained for thee that which gladdeneth the heart of every one who hath turned towards God. Thy Lord, the All-Knowing, doth testify to this. Convey My greetings to the friends in those regions and remind them on behalf of God of the Most Great Steadfastness.

BH05210: He dawneth from the horizon of eternity!

He dawneth from the horizon of eternity!

O Habib! From the earliest days, when day and night appeared as one due to the dust and smoke of oppression, He appeared before the faces of the servants, and equal to the heavenly Books—nay, greater still—was that which descended from the heaven of His Will, and all matters both past and future flowed from His Pen. Yet they turned away from Him and turned instead to the dayspring of idle fancy, who had no knowledge whatsoever of His Cause.

By the life of God! The people of the Bayan are seen to be more base than the people of the Furqan, walking in the footsteps of that party. They have lost who denied My sovereignty and disputed My verses and turned away from My Beauty, the Luminous, the Shining One. We beseech God to grant justice, that perchance they may see with their own eyes and hear with their own ears the Call of God.

We made mention of thee before in a Tablet from whose horizon shone forth the luminary of thy Lord's loving kindness, and We make mention of thee at this time with that which will draw thee nigh unto God, the Lord of all worlds. Take hold of the Book of God with His strength and with such steadfastness as cannot be shaken by the might of the oppressors. Convey My greetings to the friends and give them the glad-tidings of God's grace, exalted be His glory.

We counsel thee and those who have believed to show forth such steadfastness as will cause the hearts of the idolaters to tremble—they who have violated God's Covenant and His Testament and were among the heedless. The Glory be upon thee and upon all who are firm and steadfast.

BH07378: In My Name, the All-Encompassing over all names! O…

In My Name, the All-Encompassing over all names! O Rahim! The All-Bountiful, Who is imprisoned in the prison of ʿAkka, makes mention of thee, inasmuch as He hath summoned all unto God, the Lord of all names. By the life of God! The people are in manifest error. We have mentioned thee before, and in this hour We have revealed unto thee this Tablet from whose horizon hath shone forth the Sun of the utterance of thy Lord, the All-Evident, the All-Knowing. Remember thou when thou didst turn to the Most Exalted Horizon and attain the presence of the Throne, and didst hear the verses of God, thy Lord and the Lord of the worlds, and didst drink the choice wine of reunion from the hands of bounty and favor, until thou didst return by the leave of thy Lord, the Ordainer, the Ancient of Days. Preserve thou this station, then give thanks unto thy Lord, the All-Bountiful. We make mention of thy brother who was with thee, and We counsel him to be steadfast in this Great Cause, whereby the hearts of the servants have been shaken, save those whom thy Lord, the All-Forgiving, the All-Merciful, hath willed. The Glory be upon thee and upon those whom vain imaginings have not withheld from this wondrous Cause.

BH07404: O Ghulam! Praise be to God that thou hast…

He is the All-Hearing, the Answering One!

O Ghulam! Praise be to God that thou hast been assisted to attain unto the good-pleasure of the Peerless Friend and hast acted according to that which He hath commanded. Blessed are they who have attained unto God's good-pleasure and have held fast unto that which is in the Book.

In this day the rain of mercy is pouring down abundantly from the heaven of bounty. Whoso turneth unto it shall be reckoned among them that are nigh unto God, and whoso turneth away shall be recorded among the opposers in God's Book. The world hath been illumined by the lights of His countenance, and yet piercing vision is rare indeed. The spiritual feast hath been sent down, and yet none seeketh after it save whom God willeth. We beseech Him to kindle in the breast of the world the fire of seeking, that all may turn in devotion toward the most exalted horizon, the supreme perspective, and the ultimate goal. This is the fruit of existence and the cause of creation. Blessed are they that understand! Convey to all the kindred ones greetings from the True One. Upon thee and upon them be My glory, My loving-kindness and My mercy which hath preceded all who are in the heavens and on earth.

BH08993: This is a Book sent down by the Wronged…

He is the All-Seeing, the All-Informed.

This is a Book sent down by the Wronged One, wherein He summoneth all to God, the Almighty, the All-Praised. There hath not been a day but the rustling of My Most Exalted Pen was raised therein and My sacred tongue spoke forth, the Mighty, the Wondrous. By God! The Day hath come and He Who was hidden in the knowledge of God, the Lord of the worlds, hath been made manifest. Thy name hath been mentioned in the presence of the Prisoner and this perspicuous Tablet hath been revealed for thee. When thou attainest unto it, arise and say:

Praise be unto Thee, O Thou Who art the Goal of the world and the Object of worship of the nations, for having guided me to Thy horizon and made me to know Thy manifestation, Thy dawning and Thy radiance. I beseech Thee by the Crimson Scroll and by the mysteries of Thy Tablets, O Thou Creator of the heavens and Sovereign of all names, to assist me to be steadfast in Thy love. Verily, Thou art the Almighty, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

BH09626: O My handmaiden! We mentioned thee before in such…

He is the One speaking from the Supreme Horizon

O My handmaiden! We mentioned thee before in such wise as to enrapture the hearts of the devoted ones in their chambers. Thy Lord is, verily, the All-Witnessing, the All-Informed. And We make mention of thee at this time with this wondrous mention. Beware lest the affairs of men sadden thee or the clamor of those who have denied God when He came with a mighty Cause cause thee to fear. Take hold of the Book of God with the strength that cometh from Him, then thank Him for this manifest bounty. By My life! My mention of thee outweigheth all the treasures of the earth—to this testifieth every discerning servant. The glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My mercy be upon thee and upon those who have cast away what the people possess and upon those women who have believed in the One, the All-Informed.

BH09217: Today the world is illumined with the lights…

He is the One Who gazeth from the horizon of the heaven of utterance.

Today the world is illumined with the lights of the Sun of Manifestation. This Day hath no peer or likeness, and in all the divine Books its station and rank have been recorded and inscribed. O friends! By the life of the All-Merciful! If in this Day any soul should miss performing a deed, its compensation shall be impossible thereafter. Today the mystery of the Books is made manifest, the Mother Book is speaking, the Most Great Path is clear, and the ocean of knowledge is surging. Strive that ye may not be deprived of the outpourings of the divine days. Thy name hath been mentioned before the Wronged One, and this blessed Tablet hath been revealed as a token of grace. When thou attainest unto it, say: Praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH00944: Praise befitteth the sanctified court of the Desired One…

He is God, exalted be His station, the Greatness and the Power

Praise befitteth the sanctified court of the Desired One Who, out of pure wrath, hath manifested the Most Great Mercy, and from fire hath made light apparent. “In retaliation there is life for you, O men of understanding!” Through His pure will, retaliation became the cause of life, and the fire became the Manifestation of His verses. He is the King Who causeth the water of life to flow from the solid rock, and from sheer weakness bringeth forth incalculable power. Glory be unto Him! Glory be unto Him! How great are His signs, how exalted His might and majesty!

And may blessings, sanctified from all conjecture and idle fancy, and peace, exalted above the comprehension of all created things, rest upon Him through Whom the back of misbelief was broken and the light of unity shone forth from the horizon of creation. Exalted is the All-Merciful Who sent Him with the truth and revealed unto Him the Criterion, to the dismay of every misbeliever who took idle fancy as lord among the religions. And upon His family and companions, through whom were revealed the mysteries of the Book and the power of God in the beginning and the return, and through whom the cities of the world were conquered and God’s decree was established among the nations, and through whom rivers flowed and oceans surged and the fragrances of the All-Merciful were wafted to all regions. And peace be upon them—a peace whose reckoning the pens are powerless to count.

Glory be unto Thee, O God of existence and King of the seen and unseen! I beseech Thee by them and by those who aided Thy Faith and arose to serve Thy Cause, that Thou assist the people of unity through Thy strength and power and sovereignty. Then protect them, O my God, from the evil of the ungodly among Thy creatures who denied Thee and Thy signs and surrounded Thy cities and habitations. Then aid, O my God, whosoever hath turned unto Thee and held fast to the cord of Thy favors, and protect him from the oppressors among Thy creatures and the rebellious ones among Thy creation. Verily, Thou art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest. There is no God but Thee, the Almighty, the All-Powerful.

The beloved’s letter was received; it was not a mere letter in form, for in meaning it was a source of joy and a fountain of gladness. Glory be to God! What a wondrous missive it was, for without speech it conveyed its message and in perfect order expressed degrees of love. Paper, ink and pen alone possess not such grace; rather these miracles, favors and extraordinary things stem from the essence of love which has penetrated the very being of its letters and words.

In any case, the door of reunion, meeting, nearness, joy and gladness was suddenly opened. I beseech God, exalted be His glory, not to withhold this subtle essence from the letters of creation, that it might permeate humanity and enable all to attain unto the word of unity.

After reading and becoming acquainted with its contents, I proceeded to the Holy Presence where it was presented. He said:

> “God willing, may you fix your gaze upon the love of God, which is the cause of creation and the reason for existence, and be enkindled with its heat. From the letter Ha’ of this word, the fire of divine love surges in the breasts and hearts of the believers in unity, the near ones, and

the sincere ones. From its letter Ba', all beings have appeared, and from its point the world of distinction has come into being. Were this ʿBa' to be expounded, the mysteries of the first and the last would become manifest through it. It is the mirror of all letters and words, wherein the mysteries of eternity are concealed and upon which the affairs of nations depend. It is the manifestation of the One, sanctified from numbers, and the dawning-place of verses and evidences."

I beseech God, exalted be His glory, to assist your honor in that which He loves and with which He is well-pleased. Today all—that is, the community of the All-Merciful—must implore with utmost humility and supplication the Self-Sufficient Lord for the victory of His manifest Faith, and beseech the All-Powerful One to extinguish the fire of the ungodly.

Peace be upon you, upon your son, and upon him who was with Me and bore tribulations without fault or error. We praise God Who enabled him to be patient and forbearing. Verily He is the Protector of His loved ones and His friends. There is no God but He, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

Praise be to God, again praise be to God, for the door of favor is opened and the effulgences of the Sun of Unity are manifest and evident. Glory be to God! What greed and avarice have blazed in the hearts of the ungodly! They possess numerous dominions yet run with lightning speed after a single span of earth. Do they not witness the changes of the world and its transience? The evanescence of all things is clear and evident in the midst of decline. What has prevented sight and what veils have seized the heart? They seize the wealth of the people of the world and spend it on weapons and war, without any proof from God. Man was created for peace and has come for reformation. For what is this contention and for whom is this war? This handful of dust was not and is not worthy of such transfers. God is witness and testifier that this servant, in nights and days, seeks that which is the cause and means of salvation for the people of the world. In view of His favor, mercy and generosity, despair has had and has no place. He is the All-Knowing, the All-Powerful.

Concerning what you wrote about the Feast, they said it is most excellent and praiseworthy; all that was mentioned in these matters is adorned with the ornament of acceptance. Praise be to God, you are people of truth and well-wishers of all the peoples of the world. The Lord of the Prophets (may our souls be a sacrifice for His sake) would pray and seek salvation for all creation, and was adorned with the crown of the blessed words "a mercy to all the worlds." Praise be to God, the Lord of the Worlds.

Convey my greetings to my spiritual friend, his honor Sheikh—upon him be 669 [Baha'u'llah]'s glory and favors. Mention of him has been and continues to be made in the gathering of friends, and love for him has been and will remain treasured in hearts. Convey my greetings to his honor Aqa Muhammad-Ali—upon him be Baha'u'llah's glory. A response to his letter was written some time ago; God willing, it has arrived. Convey my greetings to Qurratu'l-Ayn, the fruit of the Tree of the Love of God, and I beseech God—exalted be His glory—for his support and confirmation.

A small amount of Huquq was received and accepted, and its purpose was designated at that very moment. This too is evidence of acceptance upon acceptance. Peace, mercy and loving-kindness be upon you and those with you.

The Servant, 26th of the honored month of Shawwal 1302

BH10325: Another submission is that whatever expressions of humility, submissiveness…

Another submission is that whatever expressions of humility, submissiveness, self-effacement, nothingness, remembrance, praise and glorification were offered in the presence of Their Holiness the Two Most Great, Most Exalted, Most Noble Branches—may my spirit and the spirits of all the worlds be sacrificed for the dust of their footsteps—were repeatedly presented, and in each instance They mentioned this one with special words reflecting pure grace and favor. Whatever this servant has presented in this station was and will remain utterly deficient.

Completed on Tuesday the 18th of Dhi'l-Qa'dih 1302.

BH00886: Praise, sanctified beyond all that can be imagined, befitteth…

In the name of our Lord, the Most Holy, the Most Great, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious

Praise, sanctified beyond all that can be imagined, befitteth the most impregnable and most holy court of the Self-Sufficient, the Most High, Who through the first Word which shone forth from the Dayspring of the mouth of His Will, brought into being the worlds of Command and Creation. Through that Word was made manifest all that was made manifest. Whatsoever can be conceived of the Day of Resurrection, the Hour, and their conditions, appeared through Him. Glory be to God! The Most Great Exposition shone forth from Him. Fire and light, exaltation and abasement, felicity and wretchedness, guidance and error, belief and unbelief—all became manifest in creation through His appearance. Exalted be His grandeur, elevated be His power, and all-encompassing be His dominion! He is the One with such might that neither the cawing of the crows, nor the denial of the infidels, nor the clamor of the ungodly, nor the turning away of the divines, nor the power of princes could deter Him from His purpose.

Glorified art Thou, O God of Names and Creator of earth and heaven! I beseech Thee to ordain for Thy loved ones the good of this world and the world to come. O Lord! This is Thy Day wherein the ocean of Thy grace hath surged, the fragrance of Thy bounty hath wafted, the heaven of Thy generosity hath been raised up, and the sun of Thy giving hath shone forth. I beseech Thee not to drive away those who have turned toward Thy gate, nor to deprive them of the outpourings of Thy days and the rain-showers from the heaven of Thy mercy. Thou art He Who, through a letter of Thy Hidden Name, opened the doors of the mysteries of Thy Books and Scriptures, and through another letter made manifest Thy Path, Thy Evidence, and Thy Way. O Lord! Take the hands of Thy loved ones with the hands of Thy power and might. Verily, Thou art the Chosen One and the Lord of the righteous. There is none other God but Thee, the Mighty, the Compelling.

Thereafter, some time ago this evanescent servant sent a detailed letter to that spiritual beloved containing Tablets, verses and papers. As the reply was delayed, no further submission was made until this day, the second of Dhi'l-Qa'dih, when that honored one's letter written to his honor Afnan—upon him be the Most Glorious Beauty—was sent to this land. That letter brought glad tidings that the aforementioned letter had arrived. Praise be to God, news of health, well-being, joy and gladness arrived,

and the arrival of the letter and message in one instant adorned heart and soul with the ornament of joy and delight. I beseech the True One, exalted be His station, to ever grant these moths such strength that they may soar at all times and journey through cities and regions. After reading and reviewing it, I proceeded to write this letter.

If you wish to know about affairs in this land, praise be to God, as before, all are engaged in the remembrance, praise and glorification of the True One, exalted be His glory. The honored Afnans—upon them be the Most Glorious Beauty—resided in this land for some time under the shade of the blessed Divine Lote-Tree, attaining at every moment to a bounty and being sustained by the blessings of the utterance of the Beloved of creation. After fulfilling their promise, they returned to Beirut as commanded. Their place was both empty and not empty, for specifically in every gathering there was mention of the honored Afnans and other friends in the Most Holy Court. This truly is eternal salvation and everlasting success. Praise be to God Who fulfilled His promise and manifested that which was inscribed by the Pen of Revelation in a Book which none knoweth save our All-Knowing, All-Informed Lord. At this moment, the binding command hath descended from the heaven of the decree of the Ancient King. His word—exalted be His glory, universal be His bounty, and great be His station.

O Amin, upon thee be my glory! In all conditions keep thine eyes fixed upon the exaltation of the Cause. The Supreme Pen hath testified and doth testify to your deeds, and hath mentioned your services rendered purely for His sake—a mention that shineth like the sun in the Book. Be thankful unto thy Lord for this great bounty. However, We counsel thee to keep thine eyes fixed upon the horizon of glory. The loved ones of God must be reminded, with the utmost joy and fragrance, and with their gaze fixed upon the Word, of His exalted utterance: “Remind them, for surely remembrance benefiteth the believers.” Whosoever is enabled to perform deeds with joy and fragrance is recorded among the sincere ones in the Manifest Book; otherwise, none should ever reproach him. Today the True One, exalted be His glory, regardeth the hearts and the pearls hidden therein. Such is the way of the True One and His chosen ones, exalted be His glory. Ye must supplicate on behalf of the loved ones and friends that the True One may assist all to act according to what is in the Book, and that neither vain imaginings nor worldly conditions may hinder them.

O Abu’l-Hasan, upon thee be my glory! Fix thy gaze upon the glory of the Cause and speak that which attracteth the hearts and minds. The demanding of the Huququ’llah hath never been and is not permissible. This decree hath been revealed in God’s Book for certain necessary matters which have been ordained through divine causes. If someone, with utmost contentment and joy, nay rather with insistence, wisheth to attain this bounty, it may be accepted; otherwise, no.

Exert your utmost that what hath been revealed may be acted upon. Send the Tablets of the Land of Kha. Much time hath elapsed. From there Jinab-i-Haji Ahmad, upon him be the glory of God, hath repeatedly expressed his helplessness and pleaded that the Tablets which were requested be sent. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to assist you in His service as He assisted you before. Praise be to God, you are mentioned in every gathering and assembly in this blessed Prison. The Tongue of Grandeur hath repeatedly mentioned you before the emigrants, the residents, and the pilgrims. He is verily the All-Bountiful, the Generous One, and the Purpose of all who are in the heavens and on earth.

In these days, responses to the communications from the Land of Ya are being sent as commanded. We implore God, exalted be His glory, to bestow sight and hearing, that all may hear the call and behold the horizon of the Cause with their own eyes. Wherever you may be, convey greetings and salutations from this evanescent one to the friends and loved ones of that land. We beseech God, exalted be His glory, to make each one of His party like unto a mountain rather than a straw. The hurricanes and tempests of the ungodly have never been and shall never be capable of moving the former, by God's might and power; however, the latter is moved by every wind and inclines toward any direction. I beseech God to grant even the straw the strength and majesty of a mountain. He is, verily, powerful and mighty over all things. Glory, remembrance, and praise be upon you and upon those who are with you and who love you for the sake of God, the Lord of the worlds, and praise be to Him Who is the Goal of the mystic knowers.

The servant 2 Dhi'l-Qa'dih 1302

BH00190: All praise that is sanctified above the comprehension…

Section 1: "All praise that is sanctified above the comprehension…"

In the name of our Most Holy, Most Great, Most Exalted and Most Glorious Lord!

All praise that is sanctified above the comprehension of the world and the recognition of nations befitteth the court of the glory of the Most High, Who alone, through the Supreme Pen, rendered His Cause victorious in days when the Sun of justice was concealed behind the clouds and the Luminary of equity was veiled behind the mists, to such extent that the horizon was darkened and the world intoxicated and stupefied. Trembling had seized the tribes, and the streams of knowledge were cut off and prevented from flowing through creation. The clouds themselves bear witness, and the mists themselves testify, while the atoms of all created things acknowledge and the realities of all things confess that there was no helper save the shrill voice of the Supreme Pen.

In such days did He, alone, arise to champion the Cause—an arising that caused the seated to tremble and the mighty to be perturbed. And when the clouds were somewhat lifted through the grace of the Pen of the Lord of Lords, and the lights of the Luminary of justice shone forth, there arose from behind the veils clamor and croaking. Every heedless one fell into vain imaginings and every infidel arose in opposition. Instead of gratitude, they began to complain; in place of faithfulness appeared faithlessness, and in place of justice, tyranny became manifest. Those who from the beginning of the Cause were heedless and veiled laid claim to knowledge and insight, and with the utmost cunning and deceit, strove to mislead those who had accepted and become unified with the Truth.

Glorified art Thou, O Revealer of verses and Manifestor of clear proofs, Master of existence and Sovereign of the seen and unseen! I beseech Thee by the light of Thy countenance whereby the earth and all thereon were illumined, and by the fire of Thy Lote-Tree whereby all things were attracted, to aid Thy servants to return unto Thee and to repent before the door of Thy grace, even though they have committed that which caused the dwellers of Thy Paradise and the occupants of the tabernacle of Thy majesty to lament, and the Primal Point to cry out from Thy most exalted horizon, and the eyes of Thy Prophets and chosen ones and the near ones among Thy servants to weep.

O Lord! Thou seest them cast upon the earth of heedlessness and forgetfulness, their deeds having prevented them from soaring in the atmosphere of Thy love, from turning to Thy face, and from entering the paradise of Thy presence. I beseech Thee, O Desired One of the world and Lord of the nations, by Thy mercy which Thou hast made the supreme cause for the tranquility and joy of Thy chosen ones, by Thy bounty and grace and favors, to deliver them from the darkness of self and passion. Verily, Thou art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

I beseech Thee, O my God, by the mysteries hidden in the treasury of Thy knowledge, to assist Thy servants in Thy days that they may discover the fragrance of Thy most sweet utterance whereby earth and heaven have been perfumed. O Lord! This is Thy Day and the Day of Thy manifestation. The door of Thy grace hath been opened, the ocean of Thy mercy surgeth, and the fragrance of Thy bounty is wafted. I beseech Thee not to deprive Thy servants of Thy grace and bestowals and gifts which have, by Thy command, encompassed all created things. Verily, Thou art the Single, the One, the Powerful, the Mighty.

Send Thy blessings and peace and glory, O my God, upon those faces whom Thou hast, through Thy power, exalted to a station whereunto the hands of them that are beneath them fall short of attaining. I beseech Thee by Thy power which hath prevailed and by Thy might which hath encompassed all, to strengthen them as Thou didst strengthen them before, in such wise that they may see all else but Thee as a handful of dust. Verily, Thou art the Lord of all men and the Speaker in the final return. There is none other God but Thee, the Mighty, the All-Bestowing.

My spirit be a sacrifice for your arising, your remembrance, and your praise. This evanescent servant has been blessed to receive your letter, which spoke in praise of God, proclaimed His Name, called to His Cause, made mention of His remembrance, guided to His path, and conveyed your submissiveness, humility, turning and dedication to your Creator, your Maker, our Life-Giver and your Life-Giver. When I detected the fragrance of certitude, I opened and read it, and ascended until I attained and presented it before the countenance of our Goal and your Goal and the Goal of all who are in the heavens and earth. Thereupon the Tongue of Grandeur spoke that which attracted the souls and minds. His word, exalted be His majesty and all-encompassing His bounty:

In My Name, the Manifest, the Resplendent, Who standeth before the faces of the world

O Afnan! Upon thee be My glory, My mercy and My loving-kindness. Say: By God! He hath appeared, and whoso denieth Him hath denied the Bayan and before it the Books of God, the Help in Peril, the Self-Subsisting, even unto the Primal Point. To this testifieth all things, and beyond them the Truth, the Knower of the unseen.

O Afnan! Hear thou in Persian: Say: A Revelation hath appeared and a Sun hath dawned and a Light hath risen. Whosoever denieth or rejecteth Him, denial and rejection themselves shall curse him. Say: By God! He hath not appeared in such wise that clouds could prevent Him or mists could withhold His light. Today all the Prophets and Messengers circle round Him. By the life of God, the heedless are in grievous drunkenness.

Say: Read ye the verses of God, then judge with fairness. He hath ever been independent of you, of your acceptance and your faith. They that are endowed with insight from God are worthy to behold the lights

of the Lord of Power from the Most Sublime Vision. By the Sun of certitude that shineth resplendent from the highest horizon of the world, this Wronged One hath, throughout the nights and days, made mention of the servants of God and summoned them to the supreme horizon. Neither the hosts of the world deterred Him, nor the clamor of nations. He arose with a power that none can equal and a might that none can rival—an arising that caused feet to stumble and hearts to quake, save those who detached themselves from the world and all therein and turned their gaze to the most exalted horizon.

Say: Acceptance and rejection, reward and punishment, return unto the souls themselves, while God is sanctified and detached from all. The blind are debarred from beholding the horizon of light, and the deaf are deprived of hearing the call of Him Who conversed on Sinai. Blessed is the soul that hath completely rolled up the worlds of fancy and lifted its eyes from the realm of idle imaginings. Such a one is and hath ever been worthy to behold the lights of the Sun of Truth.

Reflect upon the Shi'ih sect—what came of their zealotry, their lamentations, their seeking and their weeping? What was their end and what fruit did it yield? Say: Take ye warning, O men of understanding! Take ye warning, O men of insight!

Convey thou My greetings to all who are related to the Divine Lote-Tree. Say: The heaven hath come with manifest smoke. Guard ye yourselves through this Most Great Name. It would be regrettable should the people of the Bayan walk again in the footsteps of the Shi'ihs and follow their vain imaginings, with their end being what was witnessed.

O Afnan! By My life, thy sorrow grieveth Me even as thy joy delighteth Me. Yet know thou with clear certainty that truth is with you. The world hath written volumes about its own faithlessness—how many kings hath it dispatched from palaces to tombs, how many traces hath it erased through centuries and ages. That which endureth and lasteth is the Word of God. By the life of God, whoso attaineth unto it hath attained unto all good. Were the Supreme Pen to expound this station in detail, all would hasten to the place of sacrifice to seize and attain unto it. Consummate wisdom requireth concealment. He knoweth while people know not; He understandeth while people understand not.

The glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My loving-kindness be upon you, upon those with you, upon those who love you, and upon those whom the cawing of the cawers hath not kept back from God, the Lord of the worlds.

Praise be to God! the splendours of the lights of the Sun of divine loving-kindness are manifest and resplendent. The word of love standeth in need of no interpreter, nor can any translator be found worthy of it. Consider ye the people of the Furqan: for twelve hundred years have they busied themselves with exposition and allegorical interpretation, and at the last it was made plain that they had not even apprehended the perfume of a single word. From all their schools arose an uproar, and in their gatherings there was clamour upon clamour; for such and such a learned man would dispute with another, and speak only to establish the truth of his own claim. The neck-veins of preachers, teachers, and self-styled investigators would stand out like spear-points; and every party would curse the other. In the end it became evident that all were heedless, and deprived of the ocean of true awareness.

Even now, assuredly, the like of such souls are found, and will continue to arise, calling the people unto the ancient misguidance. Such is the condition of mankind. The Primal Point—may our souls, and all else besides Him, be a sacrifice—hath declared that a single one among the Shi'ih understood not the Resurrection, nor that Qa'im for whom they yet await, and have awaited, nor their own deeds and beliefs.

By the life of our Lord! they have not inhaled the fragrance of true oneness. Would that they might know and perceive! God, exalted be His glory, hath rent asunder certain veils; yet the people of the Bayan, with the fingernails of conjecture and the needles of vain fancy, fashion anew the very veils. God protect the people! Yet this servant clingeth fast to the cords of His mercy, and holdeth to the hem of His loving-kindness, and maketh this supplication:

O my Lord! deprive not these poor ones of the world of the Bayan of Thy Kawthar of meanings. One man is poor in possessions, another is poor in recognition: the first lacketh the means to purchase things; the second lacketh the capacity to receive meanings and divine knowledges. By the life of our Lord! the second is the poorer, and his need of prayer is the greater.

The Afnan of the Sacred Tree, this ephemeral one, and the friends must beseech God for deliverance and protection, that perchance they may return. Otherwise, the Truth has been and remains sanctified above all. In these days it is heard that the Tongue of Grandeur recites the blessed Surih "Say: O ye unbelievers!"—even as the Primal Point, may our souls be sacrificed for His sake, foretold this. Great was the wonder at the assembly of Manshad, for it much resembled the assembly of the Mother City [Mecca], nay, was even baser. This servant, after witnessing and learning of this, paused. However, fearing that concealment might not find favor in the Most Sublime Vision, it was mentioned. After this was presented, the Ancient Tongue spoke that which would bestow the spirit of justice upon dust and confer the power of equity. Yet it is unknown what effect this will have upon the heedless, for He has said: "It increaseth nothing in the wrongdoers save loss."

In truth, those whom God has granted insight have become aware and perceive the divine fragrances. However, it is not permissible to place these in the hands of deluded souls. In Kaf and Ra, many divine verses have been plagiarized and mixed together, thinking they might compose a book and engage in misguidance. By the life of our Lord and your Lord, our God and your God! Nothing will profit them today except that they repent and return to God, the Single, the One, the All-Informed. First it should be given to Aqa Shaykh S., upon him be the glory of God, that he may make a copy, carefully compare and verify, and if possible have someone read it to some of the people of Manshad, and then read it to the Manshadi assembly who sent the darkened page of opposition. His honor Aqa Mulla Muhammad, upon him be the Glory of God, God willing stands firm on the path of the Cause, and their clamor and croaking has not prevented him from the Lord of the Covenant.

Section 2: "Let them also consider it, and if…"

Let them also consider it, and if a copy reaches his honor, the beloved and honored Raj, upon him be the Glory of God and His favors, it would be most pleasing. Similarly, let all the souls in the surrounding areas observe it, that perchance it may become the cause of the remembrance of the servants. In truth, today is the day of the victory of the Cause. They must act in whatever way is wise and beneficial. And it would

be pleasing if his honor, the honored one, his honor the Teacher, upon him be all the Most Glorious Glory, would also consider it. The purpose is that the party of God may become aware and give awareness to the heedless souls about the path of truth, the nature of truth, the deeds of those drawn nigh, and that which their tongues have uttered, that perchance they may attain their goal.

Those poor ones are observed to be asleep and heedless, as they have no knowledge, and the former Shi'ih delusions have made those souls deluded. They have no sight of their own to see, and possess no hearing to hear, and they are turned away and heedless of those souls who are aware. What remains except that the hand of pure grace and favor may grant salvation to such souls. Surely his honor has observed the letter of those souls. Hatred and animosity are so inflamed in some of those souls that they have omitted the Greatest Name at the beginning of their writing, and the verse "every important matter" has been erased from view. Observe how heedlessness has encompassed those souls. His honor is aware of some of what has appeared in this Most Great Manifestation—equivalent to the heavenly books, nay greater, is now present, and the evidences are so manifest that no one has any excuse to turn away. Nevertheless, they said and did that which none before had done.

At the end of this servant's letter which contained the utterances of Truth, exalted be His glory, they mentioned [the word] "this ephemeral one." It would be very good if they would act upon it and then return to the truth, that they may recognize that of which they are heedless today.

Some time ago, this servant intended to write something that might deliver and preserve the ignorant servants from the well of suspicions and delusions. During the writing, certain matters arose that caused delay, and this servant also paused for some time, for He said:

> "I do not need what was revealed in previous books to prove My Cause, although God, blessed and exalted be He, has adorned His books with this Most Great Manifestation, which none can bear except he who has cast away the world, turning unto God, the Lord of the Mighty Throne."

For this reason it remained postponed until again some friends wrote about the objections of the opposers and the calumnies of souls. Therefore it became necessary to write and send something, that perhaps God may thereby bring about a matter and preserve His servants through it. God is witness and testifier that this servant becomes ashamed to write of certain events and the deeds and actions of heedless souls, for in these days that have no likeness or similarity, it is a pity for one to occupy oneself with that which is unworthy. However, in consideration of the condition of the weak ones and some souls who have no knowledge, this ephemeral one engaged in writing certain matters and proofs and evidences. If Truth, exalted be His glory, wills, it will be sent in these days.

In the first letter, mention was made of His honor Aqa Mulla Muhammad-Rida of Muhammad-Abad, upon him be the Glory of God, who directed his steps toward Bahram-Abad, and his journey proved beneficial for the guidance of souls. When this matter was presented to the Most Holy and Exalted Presence, these blessed and exalted words were revealed: "Today, all the good that hath been revealed in the Book of God is for the one among the people of Baha who, for the sake of God, turneth toward various regions,

strengtheneth the weak through the Name of God, and adorneth them with the ornament of steadfastness.

Until now, no soul hath truly attained complete understanding of the Day of God and what hath been manifested from His presence, save whom God willeth. It is incumbent and obligatory upon all souls to protect people from vain imaginings. O Afnan! Consider first the Shi'ih sect: four persons became the cause of that party's vain imaginings, calling themselves the Gates. Those illusory cities and unreal domains were built by the hands of their suspicions, and those vain imaginings became the cause of hatred, the harm of which reached even unto the Primal Point. Were any possessor of insight to ponder the events that have transpired and the conditions that have become manifest, he would find himself detached and freed from all else but God."

The effulgences of the Sun of Grace have dawned and shone forth upon the aforementioned personage. This evanescent servant beseecheth the True One, exalted be His glory, to confirm him that he may again turn toward various regions for the sake of God and make the servants of Truth aware of the suspicions, vain imaginings, deception and craftiness of the barking souls. This servant conveyeth his greetings and salutations to him and seeketh confirmation and assistance from the True One.

As for the mention they made of His honor Mulla Ghulam-Rida, his petition was received. In those days, whatever was submitted regarding those matters, the Supreme Pen was stayed in response until these days when the answer to the community of Manshad was revealed from the heaven of the Will of the Lord of creation. That which is ordained by God for him shall also be revealed. This evanescent servant seeketh guidance and desireth confirmation for all.

Concerning what they wrote about the incident involving His honor Mirza [Ali-Rida], upon him be the Glory of God and His favors, the deceit and trickery they perpetrated against him is but the same record of the characteristics of those souls. Glory be to God! To what degree have deceit and trickery reached! I beseech the True One, exalted be His glory, to make those souls aware of their ignorance and doubt, that they may return unto God, their Lord, and repent before Him. Verily, He is the Forgiving, the Generous. Praise be to God that his honor remained protected and the arrows of craftiness and guile had no effect upon him. I beseech the Most High to make him confirmed in His remembrance and in serving His binding and wise Cause. I convey greetings and salutations to him and seek confirmation from the True One.

Concerning what was written about Aqa Shaykh Mihdi, upon him be the Glory of God, that he exerted great effort in his introduction and rendered assistance—after this matter was presented, these sublime words were revealed in response, blessed and exalted be His utterance:

> "Blessed is he and blessed is he who has attained to the service of the Cause in the Days of God, the Lord of the worlds. O Mihdi! Rejoice thou in My remembrance of thee. We have sent down for thee in these days that which nothing in all creation can equal, and We have sent it to thee as a bounty from Our presence. Verily thy Lord is the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous. Thy deed hath previously been adorned with the ornament of acceptance. Give thanks unto God for this wondrous remembrance. We send from this station Our glorification upon thee

and upon him who made clear to thee My straight Path, and upon him whom thou didst guide to My manifest and perspicuous Way."

Praise be to God, they have attained unto the lights of the utterance of the Purpose of the worlds, and their deed in that matter hath been adorned with the ornament of acceptance. This is of His latter grace. In these days they have written a letter to this servant; a reply was sent containing the verses of God. I beseech the True One to confirm them in grasping His verses with such strength that the power of the world will neither weaken nor render them helpless. According to what was mentioned, in these days they have guided a certain person, and that person hath also sent a petition to the Most Holy Court. The answer was revealed in this servant's letter written to the Shaykh, upon him be the Glory of God. I beseech and implore the Truth, exalted be His glory, to confirm him in steadfastness and service, to protect him from the reprehensible and aid him in the commendable, and likewise to preserve him from the evil of heedless and oppressive souls.

With utmost humility I convey greetings and glorification to the honored Afnan of the Sacred Tree, upon them be all His most glorious Glory, and I beseech God, exalted be His station, for their good in this world and the next, and for all that hath flowed from the Supreme Pen in the Book. I testify that He hath related them to Himself and raised them to a station whereby the servants draw near unto God, the Lord of creation. Likewise, I convey glorification and greetings to the loved ones and friends of that land. I beseech and implore the Truth to confirm them all in the Most Great Steadfastness and enable them to remind the servants. He is powerful over all things. There is no God but Him, the Lord of Names and Creator of the heavens. Glory, peace, and praise be upon your honor, upon those with you, upon those who hear your words, and upon those who love you for the sake of God, the Lord of the worlds. Praise be to Him, for He is the Master of the Day of Judgment.

The servant 8th of Dhi'l-Hijjih al-Haram, 1302

The papers have arrived. What was requested has been sent, and previously too, the honored Amin, upon him be the Glory of God and His favors, had sent what was requested. If it has been duplicated, there is no harm; your honor may keep them.

Regarding what was written that the honored physician, upon him be the Glory of God, has requested a power of attorney—from the beginning it was decided that his honor should deed the house in your honor's name. If they send a valid deed, they will be given power of attorney.

One receipt for what was sent by the honored Aqa Mirza Muhammad Ibrahim, upon him be the Glory of God, and what was sent by the handmaiden of God, his wife, upon her be the Glory of God, was previously dispatched. God willing, all will arrive and be delivered.

Furthermore, some time ago a special Tablet was revealed from the heaven of the Divine Will for His Honor the Teacher, and a special Tablet for His Honor Haji Mirza Aqa, and likewise a special Tablet for His Honor Aqa Siyyid M—upon them be all the Most Glorious Glory. These have now been sent and should be delivered. And several Tablets were revealed in response to the petitions of some, which have been delayed for a year until now. These too should be delivered. A wondrous and exalted Tablet was revealed from the heaven of grace specifically for His Honor Aqa Muhammad Hasan A.T., upon him be the Glory of

God, and a most mighty and holy Tablet was revealed from the Kingdom of the All-Merciful's utterance specifically for His Honor Aqa Mulla Muhammad—upon him be 966 [the Glory of God]. These have been sent, and God willing they will attain unto them.

BH00053: Ishraqat (Splendours)

Section 1: "This is the Epistle of God, the Help…"

This is the Epistle of God, the Help in Peril, the Self-Subsisting

He is God, exalted is He, the Lord of wisdom and utterance

Praise be unto God, incomparable in majesty, power and beauty, peerless in glory, might and grandeur; too high is He for human imaginations to comprehend Him or for any peer or equal to be ascribed unto Him. He hath clearly set forth His straight Path in words and utterances of highest eloquence. Verily He is the All-Possessing, the Most Exalted. When He purposed to call the new creation into being, He sent forth the Manifest and Luminous Point from the horizon of His Will; it passed through every sign and manifested itself in every form until it reached the zenith, as bidden by God, the Lord of all men.

This Point is the focal centre of the circle of Names and marketh the culmination of the manifestations of Letters in the world of creation. Through it have appeared indications of the impenetrable Mystery, the adorned Symbol, He Who standeth revealed in the Most Great Name—a Name which is recorded in the luminous Tablet and is inscribed in the holy, the blessed, the snow-white Scroll. And when the Point was joined to the second Letter which appeareth in the beginning of the Mathani, it traversed the heavens of exposition and utterance. Then the eternal Light of God shed its radiance, flared up in the midmost heart of the firmament of testimony and produced two Luminaries. Glorified be the Merciful One, unto Whom no allusion can be made, Whom no expression can define, nor any assertion reveal, nor any evidence describe. He is in truth the Ordainer, the All-Bountiful, both in the beginning and in the end. And He provided for them protectors and defenders from among the hosts of power and might. Verily, He is the Help in Peril, the Mighty, the Unconstrained.

The preamble of this Epistle is being revealed twice, even as was the Mathani.

Praise be unto God Who hath manifested the Point, hath unfolded therefrom the knowledge of all things, whether of the past or of the future—a Point He hath chosen to be the Herald of His Name and the Harbinger of His Great Revelation which hath caused the limbs of all mankind to quake and the splendour of His light to shine forth above the horizon of the world. Verily, this is the Point which God hath ordained to be an ocean of light for the sincere among His servants and a flame of fire to the froward amidst His creatures and the impious among His people—they who bartered away the gift of God for unbelief, and the celestial food for hypocrisy, and led their associates to a wretched abode. These are the people who have manifested sedition throughout the world and have violated His Covenant on the Day when the immortal Being mounted His throne and the Crier raised His Voice from the haven of security and peace in the holy Vale.

O followers of the Bayan! Fear ye the All-Merciful. This is the One Who hath been glorified by Muhammad, the Apostle of God, and before Him by the Spirit and yet before Him by the One Who discoursed with God. This is the Point of the Bayan calling aloud before the Throne, saying: ‘By the righteousness of God, ye have been created to glorify this Most Great Announcement, this Perfect Way which lay hid within the souls of the Prophets, which was treasured in the hearts of the chosen ones of God and was written down by the glorious Pen of your Lord, the Possessor of Names.’

Say: Die in your wrath, O malicious ones! Verily He Whose knowledge nothing escapeth hath appeared. He Who hath caused the countenance of divine knowledge to be wreathed in smiles is come. Through Him the kingdom of utterance is embellished, every receptive soul hath set his face towards the Lord of Revelations, everyone resting on his knees hath stood up, and every indolent one hath rushed forth to attain the Sinai of assurance. This is the Day that God hath ordained to be a blessing unto the righteous, a retribution for the wicked, a bounty for the faithful and a fury of His wrath for the faithless and the froward. Verily He hath been made manifest, invested by God with invincible sovereignty. He hath revealed that wherewith naught on the earth or in the heavens can compare.

Fear ye the All-Merciful, O people of the Bayan, and commit not that which the followers of the Qur’an have committed—they who in the daytime and in the night season professed belief in the Faith of God, yet when the Lord of all men did appear, turned aside from Him and pronounced so cruel a sentence against Him that, on the Day of Return, the Mother Book sorely bewailed His plight. Call ye to mind and ponder upon their deeds and words, their stations and merits and the things they brought to pass when He Who conversed on Sinai unloosed His tongue, when there was a blast on the Trumpet, whereupon all that are in heaven and on earth swooned away except such as are reckoned among the letters of affirmation.

O people of the Bayan! Abandon your idle fancies and vain imaginings, then with the eye of fairness look at the Dayspring of His Revelation and consider the things He hath manifested, the words He hath divinely revealed and the sufferings that have befallen Him at the hands of His enemies. He is the One Who hath willingly accepted every manner of tribulation for the proclamation of His Cause and the exaltation of His Word. At one time He suffered imprisonment in the land of Ta (Tihran), at another in the land of Mim (Mazindaran), then once again in the former land, for the sake of the Cause of God, the Maker of the heavens. In His love for the Cause of God, the Almighty, the All-Bountiful, He was subjected there to chains and fetters.

O people of the Bayan! Have ye forgotten My exhortations, which My Pen hath revealed and My tongue hath uttered? Have ye bartered away My certitude in exchange for your idle fancies and My Way for your selfish desires? Have ye cast away the precepts of God and His remembrance and have ye forsaken His laws and ordinances? Fear ye God and abandon vain imaginings to the begetters thereof and leave superstitions to the devisers thereof and misgivings to the breeders thereof. Advance ye then with radiant faces and stainless hearts towards the horizon above which the Day-Star of certitude shineth resplendent at the bidding of God, the Lord of Revelations.

Praise be unto God Who hath made the Most Great Infallibility the shield for the temple of His Cause in the realm of creation, and hath assigned unto no one a share of this lofty and sublime station—a station

which is a vesture which the fingers of transcendent power have woven for His august Self. It befitteth no one except Him Who is seated upon the mighty throne of ‘He doeth what He pleaseth’. Whoso accepteth and recognizeth that which is written down at this moment by the Pen of Glory is indeed reckoned in the Book of God, the Lord of the beginning and the end, among the exponents of divine unity, they that uphold the concept of the oneness of God.

When the stream of words reached this stage, the sweet savours of true knowledge were shed abroad and the day-star of divine unity shone forth above the horizon of His holy utterance. Blessed is he whom His Call hath attracted to the summit of glory, who hath drawn nigh to the ultimate Purpose, and who hath recognized through the shrill voice of My Pen of Glory that which the Lord of this world and of the next hath willed. Whoso faileth to quaff the choice wine which We have unsealed through the potency of Our Name, the All-Compelling, shall be unable to discern the splendours of the light of divine unity or to grasp the essential purpose underlying the Scriptures of God, the Lord of heaven and earth, the sovereign Ruler of this world and of the world to come. Such a man shall be accounted among the faithless in the Book of God, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

O thou honoured enquirer! We bear witness that thou didst firmly adhere unto seemly patience during the days when the Pen was held back from movement and the Tongue hesitated to set forth an explanation regarding the wondrous sign, the Most Great Infallibility. Thou hast asked this Wronged One to remove for thee its veils and coverings, to elucidate its mystery and character, its state and position, its excellence, sublimity and exaltation. By the life of God! Were We to unveil the pearls of testimony which lie hid within the shells of the ocean of knowledge and assurance or to let the beauties of divine mystery which are hidden within the chambers of utterance in the Paradise of true understanding, step out of their habitation, then from every direction violent commotion would arise among the leaders of religion and thou wouldst witness the people of God held fast in the teeth of such wolves as have denied God both in the beginning and in the end. Therefore We restrained the Pen for a considerable lapse of time in accordance with divine wisdom and for the sake of protecting the faithful from those who have bartered away heavenly blessings for disbelief and have chosen for their people the abode of perdition.

O thou seeker who art gifted with keen insight. I swear by Him Who attracted the Concourse on High through the potency of His most sublime Word! Verily, the birds abiding within the domains of My Kingdom and the doves dwelling in the rose-garden of My wisdom utter such melodies and warblings as are inscrutable to all but God, the Lord of the kingdoms of earth and heaven; and were these melodies to be revealed even to an extent smaller than a needle’s eye, the people of tyranny would utter such calumnies as none among former generations hath ever uttered, and would commit such deeds as no one in past ages and centuries hath ever committed. They have rejected the bounty of God and His proofs and have repudiated the testimony of God and His signs. They have gone astray and have caused the people to go astray, yet perceive it not. They worship vain imaginings but know it not. They have taken idle fancies for their lords and have neglected God, yet understand not. They have abandoned the most great Ocean and are hastening towards the pool, but comprehend not. They follow their own idle fancies while turning aside from God, the Help in Peril, the Self-Subsisting.

Say, by the righteousness of God! The All-Merciful is come invested with power and sovereignty. Through His power the foundations of religions have quaked and the Nightingale of Utterance hath warbled its melody upon the highest branch of true understanding. Verily, He Who was hidden in the knowledge of God and is mentioned in the Holy Scriptures hath appeared. Say, this is the Day when the Speaker on Sinai hath mounted the throne of Revelation and the people have stood before the Lord of the worlds. This is the Day wherein the earth hath told out her tidings and hath laid bare her treasures; when the oceans have brought forth their pearls and the divine Lote-Tree its fruit; when the Sun hath shed its radiance and the Moons have diffused their lights, and the Heavens have revealed their stars, and the Hour its signs, and the Resurrection its dreadful majesty; when the pens have unloosed their outpourings and the spirits have laid bare their mysteries. Blessed is the man who recognizeth Him and attaineth His presence, and woe betide such as deny Him and turn aside from Him. I beseech God to aid His servants to return unto Him. Verily He is the Pardoner, the Forgiving, the Merciful.

O thou who hast set thy face towards the Realm on High and hast quaffed My sealed wine from the hand of bounteousness! Know thou that the term Infallibility' hath numerous meanings and divers stations. In one sense it is applicable to the One Whom God hath made immune from error. Similarly it is applied to every soul whom God hath guarded against sin, transgression, rebellion, impiety, disbelief and the like. However, the Most Great Infallibility is confined to the One Whose station is immeasurably exalted beyond ordinances or prohibitions and is sanctified from errors and omissions. Indeed He is a Light which is not followed by darkness and a Truth not overtaken by error. Were He to pronounce water to be wine or heaven to be earth or light to be fire, He speaketh the truth and no doubt would there be about it; and unto no one is given the right to question His authority or to say why or wherefore.

Whosoever raiseth objections will be numbered with the froward in the Book of God, the Lord of the worlds. Verily He shall not be asked of His doings but all others shall be asked of their doings.' He is come from the invisible heaven, bearing the banner 'He doeth whatsoever He willeth' and is accompanied by hosts of power and authority while it is the duty of all besides Him to strictly observe whatever laws and ordinances have been enjoined upon them, and should anyone deviate therefrom, even to the extent of a hair's breadth, his work would be brought to naught.

Consider thou and call to mind the time when Muhammad appeared. He said, and His word is the truth: 'Pilgrimage to the House is a service due to God.' And likewise are the daily prayer, fasting, and the laws which shone forth above the horizon of the Book of God, the Lord of the World and the true Educator of the peoples and kindreds of the earth. It is incumbent upon everyone to obey Him in whatsoever God hath ordained; and whosoever denieth Him hath disbelieved in God, in His verses, in His Messengers and in His Books. Were He to pronounce right to be wrong or denial to be belief, He speaketh the truth as bidden by God. This is a station wherein sins or trespasses neither exist nor are mentioned. Consider thou the blessed, the divinely-revealed verse in which pilgrimage to the House is enjoined upon everyone. It devolved upon those invested with authority after Him to observe whatever had been prescribed unto them in the Book. Unto no one is given the right to deviate from the laws and ordinances of God. Whoso deviateth therefrom is reckoned with the trespassers in the Book of God, the Lord of the Mighty Throne.

O thou who hast fixed thy gaze upon the Dawning-Place of the Cause of God! Know thou for a certainty that the Will of God is not limited by the standards of the people, and God doth not tread in their ways. Rather is it incumbent upon everyone to firmly adhere to God's straight Path. Were He to pronounce the right to be the left or the south to be the north, He speaketh the truth and there is no doubt of it. Verily He is to be praised in His acts and to be obeyed in His behests. He hath no associate in His judgement nor any helper in His sovereignty. He doeth whatsoever He willeth and ordaineth whatsoever He pleaseth. Know thou moreover that all else besides Him have been created through the potency of a word from His presence, while of themselves they have no motion nor stillness, except at His bidding and by His leave.

Section 2: "O thou who soarest in the atmosphere…"

O thou who soarest in the atmosphere of love and fellowship and hast fixed thy gaze upon the light of the countenance of thy Lord, the King of creation! Render thanks unto God, inasmuch as He hath unravelled for thee that which was hidden and enshrined in His knowledge so that everyone may become aware that within His realm of supreme infallibility He hath not taken a partner nor a counsellor unto Himself. He is in truth the Dayspring of divine precepts and commandments and the Fountainhead of knowledge and wisdom, while all else besides Him are but His subjects and under His rule, and He is the supreme Ruler, the Ordainer, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

As to thyself, whenever thou art enraptured by the vitalizing breaths of the revealed verses and art carried away by the pure, life-giving water proffered by the hand of the bounty of thy Lord, the sovereign Ruler of the Day of Resurrection, lift up thy voice and say:

O my God! O my God! I yield Thee thanks that Thou hast directed me towards Thyself, hast guided me unto Thy horizon, hast clearly set forth for me Thy Path, hast revealed to me Thy testimony and enabled me to set my face towards Thee, while most of the doctors and divines among Thy servants together with such as follow them have, without the least proof or evidence from Thee, turned away from Thee. Blessing be unto Thee, O Lord of Names, and glory be unto Thee, O Creator of the heavens, inasmuch as Thou hast, through the power of Thy Name, the Self-Subsisting, given me to drink of Thy sealed wine, hast caused me to draw nigh unto Thee and hast enabled me to recognize the Dayspring of Thine utterance, the Manifestation of Thy signs, the Fountainhead of Thy laws and commandments and the Source of Thy wisdom and bestowals. Blessed is the land that hath been ennobled by Thy footsteps, wherein the throne of Thy sovereignty is established and the fragrance of Thy raiment is diffused. By Thy glory and majesty, by Thy might and power, I desire not my sight save to behold Thy beauty, nor my hearing save to hearken to Thy call and Thy verses.

O my God! O my God! Debar not the eyes from that for which Thou hast created them, nor the faces from turning to Thy horizon, or from paying homage at the portals of Thy majesty, or from appearing in the presence of Thy throne, or from bowing down before the splendours of the Day-Star of Thy bounty.

I am the one, O Lord, whose heart and soul, whose limbs, whose inner and outer tongue testify to Thy unity and Thy oneness, and bear witness that Thou art God and that there is no God but Thee. Thou didst bring mankind into being to know Thee and to serve Thy Cause, that their station might thereby be elevated upon Thine earth and their souls be uplifted by virtue of the things Thou hast revealed in Thy

Scriptures, Thy Books and Thy Tablets. Yet no sooner didst Thou manifest Thyself and reveal Thy signs than they turned away from Thee and repudiated Thee and rejected that which Thou didst unveil before their eyes through the potency of Thy might and Thy power. They rose up to inflict harm upon Thee, to extinguish Thy light and to put out the flame that blazeth in Thy Burning Bush. Their iniquity waxed so grievous that they conspired to shed Thy blood and to violate Thy honour. And likewise acted he whom Thou hadst nurtured with the hand of Thy loving-kindness, hadst protected from the mischief of the rebellious among Thy creatures and the froward amidst Thy servants, and whom Thou hadst set the task of writing Thy holy verses before Thy throne.

Alas! Alas! for the things he perpetrated in Thy days to such an extent that he violated Thy Covenant and Thy Testament, rejected Thy holy Writ, rose up in rebellion and committed that which caused the denizens of Thy Kingdom to lament. Then no sooner had he found his hopes shattered and had perceived the odour of utter failure than he raised his voice and gave tongue to that which caused Thy chosen ones, who are nigh unto Thee, and the inmates of the pavilion of glory, to be lost in bewilderment.

Thou seest me, O my God, writhing in anguish upon the dust, like unto a fish. Deliver me, have mercy upon me, O Thou Whose aid is invoked by all men, O Thou within Whose grasp lie the reins of power over all men and women. Whenever I ponder my grievous shortcomings and my great trespasses, despair assaileth me from every direction, and whenever I pause to meditate upon the ocean of Thy bounteousness and the heaven of Thy grace and the day-star of Thy tender compassion, I inhale the fragrance of hope diffused from right and left, from north and south, as if every created thing imparteth unto me the joyous tidings that the clouds of the heaven of Thy mercy will pour down their rain upon me.

By Thy might, O Thou Who art the Mainstay of the sincere ones and the Desire of them that enjoy near access unto Thee! Thy manifold favours and blessings and the revelations of Thy grace and loving-kindness have truly emboldened me. How, otherwise, can utter nothingness magnify the Name of Him Who hath, by a word, brought creation into being, and how can an evanescent creature extol Him Who hath demonstrated that no description can ever express Him and no word of praise magnify His glory? He hath from everlasting been immeasurably exalted above the understanding of His creatures and sanctified from the conceptions of His servants.

O Lord! Thou beholdest this lifeless one before Thy face; suffer him, through Thy generosity and bountiful favour, not to be deprived of the chalice of immortal life. And Thou seest this afflicted one standing before Thy throne; turn him not away from the ocean of Thy healing. I entreat Thee to enable me at all times and under all conditions to remember Thee, to magnify Thy Name and to serve Thy Cause, though I am well aware that whatever proceedeth from a servant cannot transcend the limitations of his soul, nor beseem Thy Lordship, nor be worthy of the court of Thy glory and Thy majesty.

Thy might beareth me witness! Were it not to celebrate Thy praise, my tongue would be of no use to me, and were it not for the sake of rendering service to Thee, my existence would avail me not. But for the pleasure of beholding the splendours of Thy realm of glory, why should I cherish sight? And but for the joy of giving ear to Thy most sweet voice, of what use is hearing?

Alas! Alas! I know not, O my God, my Mainstay, my heart's Desire, whether Thou hast ordained for me that which shall bring solace to mine eyes, gladden my bosom and rejoice my heart, or whether Thine irrevocable decree, O King of eternity and the sovereign Lord of all nations, will debar me from presenting myself before Thy throne. I swear by Thy glory and majesty and by Thy dominion and power, the darkness of my remoteness from Thee hath destroyed me. What hath become of the light of Thy nearness, O Desire of every understanding heart? The tormenting agony of separation from Thee hath consumed me. Where is the effulgent light of Thy reunion, O Well-Beloved of such as are wholly devoted to Thee?

Thou seest, O my God, what hath befallen me in Thy Path at the hand of those who have denied Thy Truth, have violated Thy Covenant, cavilled at Thy signs, rejected the blessings Thou didst vouchsafe, disbelieved the verses Thou didst send down and have refused to acknowledge the testimony Thou didst fulfil.

O Lord! The tongue of my tongue and the heart of my heart and the spirit of my spirit and my outward and inmost beings bear witness to Thy unity and Thy oneness, Thy power and Thine omnipotence, Thy grandeur and Thy sovereignty, and attest Thy glory, loftiness and authority. I testify that Thou art God and that there is none other God besides Thee. >From everlasting Thou hast been a treasure hidden from the sight and minds of men and shalt continue to remain the same for ever and ever. The powers of earth can never frustrate Thee, nor can the might of the nations alarm Thee.

Thou art the One Who hath unlocked the door of knowledge before the faces of Thy servants that they may recognize Him Who is the Day-Star of Thy Revelation, the Dawning-Place of Thy signs, the Heaven of Thy manifestation and the Sun of Thy divine beauty. In Thy holy Books, in Thy Scriptures and Thy Scrolls Thou hast promised all the peoples of the world that Thou Thyself shalt appear and shalt remove the veils of glory from Thy face, even as Thou didst announce in Thy words unto Thy Friend through Whom the Day-Star of Revelation shone brightly above the horizon of Hijaz, and the dawning light of divine Truth shed its radiance among all men, proclaiming: The Day when mankind shall stand before the Lord of the worlds.' And before Muhammad Thou didst impart this glad-tiding unto Him Who conversed with Thee, saying: Bring forth thy people from the darkness into the light and remind them of the days of God.' Moreover Thou didst proclaim this truth unto the Spirit and unto Thy Prophets and Thy Messengers, whether of the remote or more recent past.

If all that which Thou hast sent down in glorification of this Most Great Remembrance, this Great Announcement, were to stream forth from the wellspring of Thy most august Pen, the inmates of the cities of knowledge and understanding would be dumbfounded, except such as Thou wouldst deliver through the potency of Thy might and wouldst protect as a token of Thy bountiful favour and Thy grace. I bear witness that Thou hast in truth fulfilled Thy pledge and hast made manifest the One Whose advent was foretold by Thy Prophets, Thy chosen ones and by them that serve Thee. He hath come from the heaven of glory and power, bearing the banners of Thy signs and the standards of Thy testimonies.

Through the potency of Thine indomitable power and strength, He stood up before the faces of all men and summoned all mankind to the summit of transcendent glory and unto the all-highest Horizon, in such wise that neither the oppression of the ecclesiastics nor the onslaught of the rulers was able to deter Him. He arose with inflexible resolve and, unloosing His tongue, proclaimed in ringing tones: 'He Who is

the All-Bountiful is come, riding aloft on the clouds. Advance, O people of the earth, with shining faces and radiant hearts!'

Great indeed is the blessedness of him who attaineth Thy presence, drinketh the wine of reunion proffered by the hand of Thy bounteousness, inhaleth the fragrance of Thy signs, unlooseth his tongue in celebrating Thy praise, soareth high in Thy heavens, is carried away by the sweetness of Thy Voice, gaineth admittance into the most exalted Paradise and attaineth the station of revelation and vision before the throne of Thy majesty.

I beg of Thee by the Most Great Infallibility which Thou hast chosen to be the dayspring of Thy Revelation, and by Thy most sublime Word through whose potency Thou didst call the creation into being and didst reveal Thy Cause, and by this Name which hath caused all other names to groan aloud and the limbs of the sages to quake, I beg of Thee to make me detached from all else save Thee, in such wise that I may move not but in conformity with the good-pleasure of Thy Will, and speak not except at the bidding of Thy Purpose, and hear naught save the words of Thy praise and Thy glorification.

I magnify Thy Name, O my God, and offer thanksgiving unto Thee, O my Desire, inasmuch as Thou hast enabled me to clearly perceive Thy straight Path, hast unveiled Thy Great Announcement before mine eyes and hast aided me to set my face towards the Dayspring of Thy Revelation and the Fountainhead of Thy Cause, whilst Thy servants and Thy people turned away from Thee. I entreat Thee, O Lord of the Kingdom of eternity, by the shrill voice of the Pen of Glory, and by the Burning Fire which calleth aloud from the verdant Tree, and by the Ark which Thou hast specially chosen for the people of Baha, to grant that I may remain steadfast in my love for Thee, be well pleased with whatsoever Thou hast prescribed for me in Thy Book and may stand firm in Thy service and in the service of Thy loved ones. Graciously assist then Thy servants, O my God, to do that which will serve to exalt Thy Cause and will enable them to observe whatsoever Thou hast revealed in Thy Book.

Verily Thou art the Lord of Strength, Thou art potent to ordain whatsoever Thou willest and within Thy grasp Thou holdest the reins of all created things. No God is there but Thee, the All-Powerful, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

O Jalil! We have unveiled to thine eyes the sea and the waves thereof, the sun and the radiance thereof, the heavens and the stars thereof, the shells and the pearls thereof. Render thou thanks unto God for so great a bounty, so gracious a favour that hath pervaded the whole world.

O thou who hast set thy face towards the splendours of My Countenance! Vague fancies have encompassed the dwellers of the earth and debarred them from turning towards the Horizon of Certitude, and its brightness, and its manifestations and its lights. Vain imaginings have withheld them from Him Who is the Self-Subsisting. They speak as prompted by their own caprices, and understand not. Among them are those who have said: Have the verses been sent down?' Say Yea, by Him Who is the Lord of the heavens!' Hath the Hour come?' Nay, more; it hath passed, by Him Who is the Revealer of clear tokens! Verily, the Inevitable is come, and He, the True One, hath appeared with proof and testimony.

The Plain is disclosed, and mankind is sore vexed and fearful. Earthquakes have broken loose, and the tribes have lamented, for fear of God, the Lord of Strength, the All-Compelling.' Say: The stunning trumpet-blast hath been loudly raised, and the Day is God's, the One, the Unconstrained.' And they say: Hath the Catastrophe come to pass?' Say: Yea, by the Lord of Lords!' Is the Resurrection come?' Nay, more; He Who is the Self-Subsisting hath appeared with the Kingdom of His signs.' Seest thou men laid low?' Yea, by my Lord, the Most High, the Most Glorious!' Have the tree-stumps been uprooted?' Yea, more; the mountains have been scattered in dust; by Him the Lord of attributes!' They say: Where is Paradise, and where is Hell?' Say: The one is reunion with Me; the other thine own self, O thou who dost associate a partner with God and doubtest.' They say: We see not the Balance.' Say: Surely, by my Lord, the God of Mercy!

None can see it except such as are endued with insight.' They say: Have the stars fallen?' Say: Yea, when He Who is the Self-Subsisting dwelt in the Land of Mystery. Take heed, ye who are endued with discernment!' All the signs appeared when We drew forth the Hand of Power from the bosom of majesty and might. Verily, the Crier hath cried out, when the promised time came, and they that have recognized the splendours of Sinai have swooned away in the wilderness of hesitation, before the awful majesty of thy Lord, the Lord of creation. The trumpet asketh: Hath the Bugle been sounded?' Say: Yea, by the King of Revelation! when He mounted the throne of His Name, the All-Merciful.' Darkness hath been chased away by the dawning light of the mercy of thy Lord, the Source of all light.

The breeze of the All-Merciful hath wafted, and the souls have been quickened in the tombs of their bodies. Thus hath the decree been fulfilled by God, the Mighty, the Beneficent. They who reject the truth have said: When were the heavens cleft asunder?' Say: While ye lay in the graves of waywardness and error.' Among the faithless is he who rubbeth his eyes, and looketh to the right and to the left. Say: Blinded art thou. No refuge hast thou to flee to.' And among them is he who saith: Have men been gathered together?' Say: Yea, by My Lord! whilst thou didst lie in the cradle of idle fancies.' And among them is he who saith: Hath the Book been sent down through the power of the true Faith?' Say: The true Faith itself is astounded.

Fear ye, O ye men of understanding heart!' And among them is he who saith: Have I been assembled with others, blind?' Say: Yea, by Him that rideth upon the clouds!' Paradise is decked with mystic roses, and hell hath been made to blaze with the fire of the impious. Say: 'The light hath shone forth from the horizon of Revelation, and the whole earth hath been illumined at the coming of Him Who is the Lord of the Day of the Covenant!' The doubters have perished, whilst he that turned, guided by the light of assurance, unto the Dayspring of Certitude hath prospered. Blessed art thou, who hast fixed thy gaze upon Me, for this Tablet which hath been sent down for thee—a Tablet which causeth the souls of men to soar.

Commit it to memory, and recite it. By My life! It is a door to the mercy of thy Lord. Well is it with him that reciteth it at eventide and at dawn. We, verily, heard thy praise of this Cause, through which the mountain of knowledge was crushed, and men's feet have slipped. My glory be upon thee and upon whomsoever hath turned unto the Almighty, the All-Bounteous. The Tablet is ended, but the theme is unexhausted. Be patient, for thy Lord is patient.

Section 3: “These are verses We sent down previously, [BH02116]…”

These are verses We sent down previously, [BH02116] and We have sent them unto thee, that thou mayest be acquainted with what their lying tongues have spoken, when God came unto them with might and sovereignty. The foundations of idle fancies have trembled, and the heaven of vain imaginings hath been cleft asunder, and yet the people are in doubt and in contention with Him. They have denied the testimony of God and His proof, after He came from the heaven of power with the kingdom of His signs. They have cast away what had been prescribed, and perpetrated what had been forbidden them in the Book. They have abandoned their God, and clung unto their desires. They truly have strayed and are in error. They read the verses and deny them. They behold the clear tokens and turn aside. They truly are lost in strange doubt.

We have admonished Our loved ones to fear God, a fear which is the fountainhead of all goodly deeds and virtues. It is the commander of the hosts of justice in the city of Baha. Happy the man that hath entered the shadow of its luminous standard, and laid fast hold thereon. He, verily, is of the Companions of the Crimson Ark, which hath been mentioned in the Qayyum-i-Asma.

Say: O people of God! Adorn your temples with the adornment of trustworthiness and piety. Help, then, your Lord with the hosts of goodly deeds and a praiseworthy character. We have forbidden you dissension and conflict in My Books, and My Scriptures, and My Scrolls, and My Tablets, and have wished thereby naught else save your exaltation and advancement. Unto this testify the heavens and the stars thereof, and the sun and the radiance thereof, and the trees and the leaves thereof, and the seas and the waves thereof, and the earth and the treasures thereof. We pray God to assist His loved ones, and aid them in that which beseemeth them in this blest, this mighty, and wondrous station. Moreover We beseech Him to graciously enable those who surround Me to observe that which My Pen of Glory hath enjoined upon them.

O Jalil! Upon thee be My glory and My loving providence. Verily We have enjoined the people to do what is meet and seemly and yet they have committed such things as have caused My heart and My Pen to lament. Incline thine ear to that which is sent down from the heaven of My Will and the realm of My good-pleasure. I sorrow not for My captivity, nor for the things that have befallen Me at the hand of Mine enemies. Nay, My sorrows are occasioned by those who claim to be related to Me and yet commit that which causeth the voice of My lamentations to be lifted up and My tears to flow. We have exhorted them at length in various Tablets and beseech God to graciously assist them, to enable them to draw nigh unto Him and to confirm them in that which would bring peace to the hearts and tranquillity to the souls and would stay their hands from whatsoever ill-beseemeth His days.

Say, O My loved ones in My lands! Give ye ear unto the counsels of Him Who admonisheth you for the sake of God. He hath in truth created you, hath revealed before your eyes that which exalteth you and promoteth your interests. He hath made known unto you His straight Path and hath acquainted you with His Great Announcement.

O Jalil! Admonish men to fear God. By God! This fear is the chief commander of the army of thy Lord. Its hosts are a praiseworthy character and goodly deeds. Through it have the cities of men’s hearts been

opened throughout the ages and centuries, and the standards of ascendancy and triumph raised above all other standards.

We will now mention unto thee Trustworthiness and the station thereof in the estimation of God, thy Lord, the Lord of the Mighty Throne. One day of days We repaired unto Our Green Island. Upon Our arrival, We beheld its streams flowing, and its trees luxuriant, and the sunlight playing in their midst. Turning Our face to the right, We beheld what the pen is powerless to describe; nor can it set forth that which the eye of the Lord of Mankind witnessed in that most sanctified, that most sublime, that blest, and most exalted Spot. Turning, then, to the left We gazed on one of the Beauties of the Most Sublime Paradise, standing on a pillar of light, and calling aloud saying: ʻO inmates of earth and heaven!

Behold ye My beauty, and My radiance, and My revelation, and My effulgence. By God, the True One! I am Trustworthiness and the revelation thereof, and the beauty thereof. I will recompense whosoever will cleave unto Me, and recognize My rank and station, and hold fast unto My hem. I am the most great ornament of the people of Baha, and the vesture of glory unto all who are in the kingdom of creation. I am the supreme instrument for the prosperity of the world, and the horizon of assurance unto all beings.' Thus have We sent down for thee that which will draw men nigh unto the Lord of creation.

The Pen of the Most High turneth from the eloquent language to the luminous one that thou, O Jalil, mayest appreciate the tender mercy of thy Lord, the Incomparable One and mayest be of them that are truly grateful.

O thou who hast fixed thy gaze upon the all-glorious Horizon! The Call is raised but hearing ears are numbered, nay non-existent. This Wronged One findeth himself in the maw of the serpent, yet He faileth not to make mention of the loved ones of God. So grievous have been Our sufferings in these days that the Concourse on High are moved to tears and to lamentation. Neither the adversities of the world nor the harm inflicted by its nations could deter Him Who is the King of Eternity from voicing His summons or frustrate His purpose. When those who had for years been hiding behind the veils perceived that the horizon of the Cause was resplendent and that the Word of God was all-pervasive, they rushed forth and with swords of malice inflicted such harm as no pen can portray nor any tongue describe.

They that judge with fairness testify that since the early days of the Cause this Wronged One hath arisen, unveiled and resplendent, before the faces of kings and commoners, before the rulers and the divines, and hath, in ringing tones, summoned all men unto the straight Path. He hath had no helper save His Pen, nor any succourer other than Himself.

Those who are ignorant or heedless of the motivating purpose of the Cause of God have rebelled against Him. Such men are the foreboders of evil, whom God hath mentioned in His Book and Tablets and against whose influence, clamour and deception He hath warned His people. Well is it with those who, in the face of the remembrance of the Lord of Eternity, regard the peoples of the world as utter nothingness, as a thing forgotten, and hold fast to the firm handle of God in such wise that neither doubts nor insinuations, nor swords, nor cannon could hold them back or deprive them of His presence. Blessed are the steadfast; blessed are they that stand firm in His Faith.

In response to thy request the Pen of Glory hath graciously described the stations and grades of the Most Great Infallibility. The purpose is that all should know of a certainty that the Seal of the Prophets—may the souls of all else but Him be offered up for His sake—is without likeness, peer or partner in His Own station. The Holy Ones—may the blessings of God be upon them—were created through the potency of His Word, and after Him they were the most learned and the most distinguished among the people and abide in the utmost station of servitude. The divine Essence, sanctified from every comparison and likeness, is established in the Prophet, and God's inmost Reality, exalted above any peer or partner, is manifest in Him. This is the station of true unity and of veritable singleness. The followers of the previous Dispensation grievously failed to acquire an adequate understanding of this station. The Primal Point—may the life of all else but Him be offered up for His sake—saith: 'If the Seal of the Prophets had not uttered the word "Successorship", such a station would not have been created.'

The people aforetime joined partners with God, though they professed belief in His unity; and although they were the most ignorant amongst men, they considered themselves the most accomplished. But, as a token of divine retribution upon those heedless ones, their erroneous beliefs and pursuits have, in this Day of Judgement, been made clear and evident to every man of discernment and understanding.

Beseech thou God, the True One, that He may graciously shield the followers of this Revelation from the idle fancies and corrupt imaginings of such as belong to the former Faith, and may not deprive them of the effulgent splendours of the day-star of true unity.

O Jalil! He Whom the world hath wronged now proclaimeth: The light of Justice is dimmed, and the sun of Equity veiled from sight. The robber occupieth the seat of the protector and guard, and the position of the faithful is seized by the traitor. A year ago an oppressor ruled over this city, and at every instant caused fresh harm. By the righteousness of the Lord! He wrought that which cast terror into the hearts of men. But to the Pen of Glory the tyranny of the world hath never been nor will it ever be a hindrance. In the abundance of Our grace and loving-kindness We have revealed specially for the rulers and ministers of the world that which is conducive to safety and protection, tranquillity and peace; haply the children of men may rest secure from the evils of oppression. He, verily, is the Protector, the Helper, the Giver of victory. It is incumbent upon the men of God's House of Justice to fix their gaze by day and by night upon that which hath shone forth from the Pen of Glory for the training of peoples, the upbuilding of nations, the protection of man and the safeguarding of his honour.

The first Ishraq

When the Day-Star of Wisdom rose above the horizon of God's Holy Dispensation it voiced this all-glorious utterance: They that are possessed of wealth and invested with authority and power must show the profoundest regard for religion. In truth, religion is a radiant light and an impregnable stronghold for the protection and welfare of the peoples of the world, for the fear of God impelleth man to hold fast to that which is good, and shun all evil. Should the lamp of religion be obscured, chaos and confusion will ensue, and the lights of fairness and justice, of tranquillity and peace cease to shine. Unto this will bear witness every man of true understanding.

The second Ishraq

We have enjoined upon all mankind to establish the Most Great Peace—the surest of all means for the protection of humanity. The sovereigns of the world should, with one accord, hold fast thereunto, for this is the supreme instrument that can ensure the security and welfare of all peoples and nations. They, verily, are the manifestations of the power of God and the daysprings of His authority. We beseech the Almighty that He may graciously assist them in that which is conducive to the well-being of their subjects. A full explanation regarding this matter hath been previously set forth by the Pen of Glory; well is it with them that act accordingly.

Section 4: "The third Ishraq…"

The third Ishraq

It is incumbent upon everyone to observe God's holy commandments, inasmuch as they are the wellspring of life unto the world. The heaven of divine wisdom is illumined with the two luminaries of consultation and compassion and the canopy of world order is upraised upon the two pillars of reward and punishment.

The fourth Ishraq

In this Revelation the hosts that can render it victorious are the hosts of praiseworthy deeds and upright character. The leader and commander of these hosts hath ever been the fear of God, a fear that encompasseth all things and reigneth over all things.

The fifth Ishraq

Governments should fully acquaint themselves with the conditions of those they govern, and confer upon them positions according to desert and merit. It is enjoined upon every ruler and sovereign to consider this matter with the utmost care that the traitor may not usurp the position of the faithful, nor the despoiler rule in the place of the trustworthy. Among the officials who in the past have governed in this Most Great Prison some, praise be to God, were adorned with justice, but as to others, We take refuge with God. We beseech the One true God to guide them one and all, that haply they may not be deprived of the fruit of faith and trustworthiness, nor be withheld from the light of equity and justice.

The sixth Ishraq

is union and concord amongst the children of men. From the beginning of time the light of unity hath shed its divine radiance upon the world, and the greatest means for the promotion of that unity is for the peoples of the world to understand one another's writing and speech. In former Epistles We have enjoined upon the Trustees of the House of Justice either to choose one language from among those now existing or to adopt a new one, and in like manner to select a common script, both of which should be taught in all the schools of the world. Thus will the earth be regarded as one country and one home. The most glorious fruit of the tree of knowledge is this exalted word: Of one tree are all ye the fruit, and of one bough the leaves. Let not man glory in this that he loveth his country, let him rather glory in this that he loveth his kind. Concerning this We have previously revealed that which is the means of the

reconstruction of the world and the unity of nations. Blessed are they that attain thereunto. Blessed are they that act accordingly.

The seventh Ishraq

The Pen of Glory counselleth everyone regarding the instruction and education of children. Behold that which the Will of God hath revealed upon Our arrival in the Prison City and recorded in the Most Holy Book. Unto every father hath been enjoined the instruction of his son and daughter in the art of reading and writing and in all that hath been laid down in the Holy Tablet. He that putteth away that which is commanded unto him, the Trustees are then to take from him that which is required for their instruction, if he be wealthy, and if not the matter devolveth upon the House of Justice. Verily, have We made it a shelter for the poor and needy. He that bringeth up his son or the son of another, it is as though he hath brought up a son of Mine; upon him rest My Glory, My Loving-Kindness, My Mercy, that have compassed the world.

The eighth Ishraq

This passage, now written by the Pen of Glory, is accounted as part of the Most Holy Book: The men of God's House of Justice have been charged with the affairs of the people. They, in truth, are the Trustees of God among His servants and the daysprings of authority in His countries.

O people of God! That which traineth the world is Justice, for it is upheld by two pillars, reward and punishment. These two pillars are the sources of life to the world. Inasmuch as for each day there is a new problem and for every problem an expedient solution, such affairs should be referred to the House of Justice that the members thereof may act according to the needs and requirements of the time. They that, for the sake of God, arise to serve His Cause, are the recipients of divine inspiration from the unseen Kingdom. It is incumbent upon all to be obedient unto them. All matters of State should be referred to the House of Justice, but acts of worship must be observed according to that which God hath revealed in His Book.

O people of Baha! Ye are the dawning-places of the love of God and the daysprings of His loving-kindness. Defile not your tongues with the cursing and reviling of any soul, and guard your eyes against that which is not seemly. Set forth that which ye possess. If it be favourably received, your end is attained; if not, to protest is vain. Leave that soul to himself and turn unto the Lord, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting. Be not the cause of grief, much less of discord and strife. The hope is cherished that ye may obtain true education in the shelter of the tree of His tender mercies and act in accordance with that which God desireth. Ye are all the leaves of one tree and the drops of one ocean.

The ninth Ishraq

The purpose of religion as revealed from the heaven of God's holy Will is to establish unity and concord amongst the peoples of the world; make it not the cause of dissension and strife. The religion of God and His divine law are the most potent instruments and the surest of all means for the dawning of the light of unity amongst men. The progress of the world, the development of nations, the tranquillity of peoples, and the peace of all who dwell on earth are among the principles and ordinances of God. Religion

bestoweth upon man the most precious of all gifts, offereth the cup of prosperity, imparteth eternal life, and showereth imperishable benefits upon mankind. It behoveth the chiefs and rulers of the world, and in particular the Trustees of God's House of Justice, to endeavour to the utmost of their power to safeguard its position, promote its interests and exalt its station in the eyes of the world.

In like manner it is incumbent upon them to enquire into the conditions of their subjects and to acquaint themselves with the affairs and activities of the divers communities in their dominions. We call upon the manifestations of the power of God—the sovereigns and rulers on earth—to bestir themselves and do all in their power that haply they may banish discord from this world and illumine it with the light of concord.

It is incumbent upon everyone to firmly adhere to and observe that which hath streamed forth from Our Most Exalted Pen. God, the True One, beareth Me witness, and every atom in existence is moved to testify that such means as lead to the elevation, the advancement, the education, the protection and the regeneration of the peoples of the earth have been clearly set forth by Us and are revealed in the Holy Books and Tablets by the Pen of Glory.

We entreat God to graciously aid His servants. What this Wronged One doth expect from everyone is justice and fairness. Let no one be content with mere hearing; rather doth it behove everyone to ponder that which this Wronged One hath revealed. I swear by the Day-Star of utterance, shining above the horizon of the Kingdom of the All-Merciful, had there been any expounder or speaker discernible, We would not have made Ourself the object of the censure, ridicule and slander of the people.

Upon Our arrival in Iraq We found the Cause of God sunk in deep apathy and the breeze of divine revelation stilled. Most of the believers were faint and dispirited, nay utterly lost and dead. Hence there was a second blast on the Trumpet, whereupon the Tongue of Grandeur uttered these blessed words: 'We have sounded the Trumpet for the second time.' Thus the whole world was quickened through the vitalizing breaths of divine revelation and inspiration.

Certain souls have now sallied forth from behind the veils, intent on inflicting harm upon this Wronged One. They have hindered and denied the outpouring of this priceless bounty.

O ye that judge with fairness! If this Cause is to be denied then what other cause in this world can be vindicated or deemed worthy of acceptance?

Such as have turned away from the Cause of God are diligently seeking to collect the Holy Writings of this Revelation; and they have already, through gestures of friendship, managed to secure certain of these Writings from those who held them in their possession. Moreover, when they meet the followers of any religion, they hold themselves out as believers therein. Say, die ye in your wrath! Verily He hath appeared with so great an authority that no man of vision, of hearing, of insight, of justice or of equity can ever deny Him. Unto this beareth witness in this resplendent Hour the Pen of Him Who is the Ancient of Days.

O Jalil! Upon thee be My glory. We exhort the loved ones of God to perform good deeds that perchance they may be graciously assisted and may hold fast to that which hath been sent down from the heaven of His Revelation. The benefits arising from this divine utterance shall fall upon such as observe His precepts.

We beseech God to enable them to do that which is pleasing and acceptable unto Him, to grant that they may deal equitably and may observe justice in this all-compelling Cause, to acquaint them with His Holy Writings and to direct their steps towards His straight Path.

Our Exalted Herald—may the life of all else besides Him be offered up for His sake—hath revealed certain laws. However, in the realm of His Revelation these laws were made subject to Our sanction, hence this Wronged One hath put some of them into effect by embodying them in the Kitab-i-Aqdas in different words. Others We set aside. He holdeth in His hand the authority. He doeth what He willeth and He ordaineth whatsoever He pleaseth. He is the Almighty, the All-Praised. There are also ordinances newly revealed. Blessed are they that attain. Blessed are they that observe His precepts.

The people of God should make the utmost endeavour that perchance the fire of hatred and malice which smouldereth in the breasts of kindreds and peoples may, through the living waters of utterance and the exhortations of Him Who is the Desire of the world, be quenched and the trees of human existence may be adorned with wondrous and excellent fruit. He is, in truth, the Admonisher, the Compassionate, the All-Bountiful.

May the brightness of His glory shining above the horizon of bounty rest upon you, O people of Baha, upon every one who standeth firm and steadfast and upon those that are well grounded in the Faith and are endued with true understanding.

As to thy question concerning interest and profit on gold and silver: Some years ago the following passage was revealed from the heaven of the All-Merciful in honour of the one who beareth the name of God, entitled Zaynu'l-Muqarrabin—upon him be the glory of the Most Glorious. He—exalted be His Word—saith: Many people stand in need of this. Because if there were no prospect for gaining interest, the affairs of men would suffer collapse or dislocation. One can seldom find a person who would manifest such consideration towards his fellow-man, his countryman or towards his own brother and would show such tender solicitude for him as to be well-disposed to grant him a loan on benevolent terms. Therefore as a token of favour towards men We have prescribed that interest on money should be treated like other business transactions that are current amongst men.

Thus, now that this lucid commandment hath descended from the heaven of the Will of God, it is lawful and proper to charge interest on money, that the people of the world may, in a spirit of amity and fellowship and with joy and gladness, devotedly engage themselves in magnifying the Name of Him Who is the Well-Beloved of all mankind. Verily He ordaineth according to His Own choosing. He hath now made interest on money lawful, even as He had made it unlawful in the past. Within His grasp He holdeth the kingdom of authority. He doeth and ordaineth. He is in truth the Ordainer, the All-Knowing.

Render thou thanks unto thy Lord, O Zaynu'l-Muqarrabin, for this manifest bounty.

Many ecclesiastics in Persia have, through innumerable designs and devices, been feeding on illicit gains obtained by usury. They have contrived ways to give its outward form a fair semblance of lawfulness. They make a plaything of the laws and ordinances of God, but they understand not.

However, this is a matter that should be practised with moderation and fairness. Our Pen of Glory hath, as a token of wisdom and for the convenience of the people, desisted from laying down its limit. Nevertheless We exhort the loved ones of God to observe justice and fairness, and to do that which would prompt the friends of God to evince tender mercy and compassion towards each other. He is in truth the Counsellor, the Compassionate, the All-Bountiful. God grant that all men may be graciously aided to observe that which the Tongue of the One true God hath uttered. And if they put into practice what We have set forth, God—exalted be His glory—will assuredly double their portion through the heaven of His bounty. Verily He is the Generous, the Forgiving, the Compassionate. Praise be unto God, the Most Exalted, the Most Great.

Nevertheless the conduct of these affairs hath been entrusted to the men of the House of Justice that they may enforce them according to the exigencies of the time and the dictates of wisdom.

Once again We exhort all believers to observe justice and fairness and to show forth love and contentment. They are indeed the people of Baha, the companions of the Crimson Ark. Upon them be the peace of God, the Lord of all Names, the Creator of the heavens.

Volume 076: Akka 1302 A.H. (1884–1885), Part II (4 of 6)

BH00317: The essence of praise and glorification and the quintessence…

Section 1: "In the Name of our Lord, the Most…"

In the Name of our Lord, the Most Holy, the Most Great, the Most Exalted, the All-Glorious

The essence of praise and glorification and the quintessence of commendation befitting those of understanding is due to the people of God, whom neither the tempests of objections from the people of the Bayan nor the storms of intimations from the people of the Furqan could deter from steadfastness, recognition, certitude, and turning toward and drawing nigh unto God. Exalted, exalted be their station, their rank, their loftiness, their elevation, and their steadfastness in a Cause at which hearts have trembled and feet have slipped, save those whom God, the Lord of Names and Creator of Heaven, has willed. The servant bears witness that they are such servants whose stations in the sight of God the pen and tongue are powerless to comprehend. These are the dawning-places of steadfastness, the daysprings of dignity, the manifestations of certitude, and the sources of power, majesty and might.

Glorified art Thou, O Thou through Whose Name the horizon of the heaven of recognition was illumined and the ocean of knowledge surged in contingent being! I beseech Thee by the influences of Thy power and the manifestations of Thy grandeur to protect them from Thine enemies. Then send down upon them from the heaven of Thy favors that which befits Thy gifts, and grant them that which will strengthen them in all conditions. Verily, Thou art the Lord of the servants in the beginning and in the end.

And further: it is submitted that your letter was received and all was presented before His presence. He said: O My loved one! God willing, may you be preserved through the grace of God, exalted be His glory, and remain firm and steadfast in His Cause. Today you must fix your gaze upon that which is of God and

befitting His Cause. The endeavors of the people of Baha must reach such a stage that they occupy themselves with the reformation of the world and the education of its peoples. Convey My greetings to the people of Kirmanshah on behalf of the Wronged One. The petitions of each one were presented, and answers have descended from the heaven of God's will. We beseech God to aid all to remain so steadfast that they will not be moved by the tempestuous winds or the intimations of the malicious, but rather stand firm and immovable as mountains in the Cause of God.

O loved one! The clamor of the baying ones has risen from the land of Kaf and Ra, and is rising in other lands as well. This is the promise which the Most Exalted Pen gave to all in Zawra and the Land of Mystery and in the early days of the Most Great Prison. Some helpless souls, having no understanding of the fundamental truth of the Cause, have been misled by the deception of the baying ones and have strayed from the straight path. Glory be to God! How thoroughly do fabricated falsehoods affect the hearts of some! The source of oppression and corruption issued a verdict against the Most Great Branch and others like him, and martyred him, and afterward they would speak of their own oppression in various regions—while God is witness that not even to the extent of a needle's point were those souls harmed. Every fair-minded person testifies that this Wronged One has, from the inception of the Cause, stood before the faces of the world and accepted all tribulations for the sake of God, to manifest His Cause and exalt His Word. Blessed are the fair-minded!

Consider the Shi'ih sect. For years they considered themselves the best of creation, yet with the slightest test it became evident they were the basest of servants, as evidenced by their martyrdom of the Bab. Now too the deniers among the Bayan cling to the same vain imaginings. Whatever fruit the Shi'ih sect reaped from the tree of their deeds, these souls shall reap as well. You must, with the utmost joy and fragrance, remind the people and guide them to the highest horizon.

The extent of deceit and trickery among the people of the Bayan exceeds all reckoning. By the life of our Lord and the Lord of earth and heaven, they intended to shed holy blood, and after revealing what was in their hearts, the greatest separation occurred. To this every discerning and fair-minded one bears witness. Nearly a hundred souls became aware of this matter, yet with complete power, God did not permit any action against those souls. The servants are like sheep, possessing neither understanding nor discernment, save those whom God wills. We beseech God, exalted be His glory, to guide all and show them the way. He is the All-Powerful and the Mighty over all things.

Mention was made of one named Shaykh Muhammad. He and his like have no understanding whatsoever. Whatever the followers of Siyyid Muhammad-i-Isfahani—who is the root of this mischief—have said, he has accepted, and thus he has risen in opposition. Those helpless ones are heedless and deprived of awareness. We beseech God to grant them fairness, that they may not accept merely through hearing, but see with their own eyes and hear with their own ears. However, their rebellious deeds have barred and deprived them from this most exalted station. Let us see what the power of God's gracious aid, exalted be His glory, will accomplish.

Verily, that honored one must return to that land, that perchance some may become aware of the truth of the Cause and turn unto the straight path. In truth his letter brought wondrous joy, for it spoke in praise of God and bore glad tidings of his well-being. For this bounty we offered praise and rendered

thanks, and we beseech Him to assist that honored one. He is verily the All-Powerful, the Helper. If they obtain a copy of the letter of His Holiness Ismu'llah Zaynu'l-Muqarrabin, upon him be the Most Glorious Beauty of God, it would be most beloved, for it contains the utterances of God, exalted be His glory, that perchance every heedless one may be reminded thereby, every ignorant one may gain knowledge thereby, and every distant one may draw nigh thereby. The Command is in His grasp—He doeth what He willeth and ordaineth what He pleaseth. He is the Mighty, the Praiseworthy.

As to what was mentioned regarding Kermanshah, it was presented at the Most Holy, Most Exalted Court. This is what the Tongue of Grandeur spoke in reply, blessed and exalted be His Word:

The barking one of Kermanshah had and hath no knowledge of the essence of the Cause. That wretched, helpless one hath accepted whatever they have said. The dawning-places of idle fancies first attribute tyranny to God, exalted be His glory, saying that they killed so-and-so, heedless that they themselves committed that which caused the atoms of creation to lament and the denizens of the highest Paradise to wail and cry out. The entire world—all the Tablets, Scriptures and Books sent down from the heaven of the Divine Will in this Revelation have strictly forbidden conflict, contention, killing and the like. We beseech and implore God to sanctify the people of Baha in all conditions from such matters and to withhold them from all that diminisheth human dignity. This is the true religion of God among the people today. Well is it with them that attain thereunto.

As for the one whom the Exalted One—may the spirit of all else be sacrificed for Him—designated as Dayyan, and who according to the explicit sacred texts was a repository of divine mysteries and the seat of trust and wisdom—they passed judgment against him and martyred him, and likewise others similar to him, and still others. This servant pauseth in elaborating these matters, for they are the cause of grief and sorrow. By the life of God! They committed that which would set ablaze the heart of any fair-minded person. Surely they have heard of the violation of chastity and what disgrace it brought about. Nevertheless, wherever they found one as heedless as themselves, they imparted whatever was in their hearts.

Today is the Day when secrets shall be disclosed. They have revealed what was hidden and concealed in their hearts. They are not even aware enough to know that objection to God is not permitted. "He doeth what He willeth and ordaineth what He pleaseth"—what meaneth this? If they deny this word they have denied God, and if they acknowledge it, what meaning have these objections? By the life of our Purpose and the Purpose of all who are in earth and heaven! They committed that which the Pen is powerless to describe. In any case, we hope that that honored one will arise as befitteth and will observe wisdom.

Section 2: "As to the mention of Abu'l-Qasim, upon him…"

As to the mention of Abu'l-Qasim, upon him be the Glory of God, that he was present and sought to be remembered, this was granted audience before the presence. His Word, exalted be His glory:

O Abu'l-Qasim! We beseech God that He may aid thee to act in accordance with that which hath flowed from the Most Exalted Pen in the Book. Be thou observant of that whereby the Cause of God is exalted. We have commanded all to cast away that which remoteth them and to take hold of that which draweth

them nigh unto the Truth, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. O Abu'l-Qasim! Take hold of the Book of God with the power that proceedeth from Him. This is what beseemeth this praiseworthy station. We convey greetings to all and give them the glad-tidings of God's grace, exalted be His glory.

As to what was written concerning Jinab-i-Aqa Shaykh Sadiq, upon him be the Glory of God, and likewise two others, Jinab-i-Karbila'i ʿAli and Ustad Naqi, upon them be the Glory of God, that they desire to journey to the Most Holy Court—this matter was presented before His presence. This is what was revealed in response, blessed and exalted be His words: If it be accomplished with joy and fragrance, and be in accord with wisdom, there is no objection to their coming. And if they be engaged in service in that land, this is acceptable before God. We beseech God to record for them, by the Most Exalted Pen, the reward of attaining His presence. Verily, He is powerful over all things.

The beloved of God in that land—mention of them hath flowed from the tongue and pen. Praise be to God, all have attained unto the Word of God and have been sustained by the heavenly feast. We beseech God to aid them that they may, at every moment, drink the water of steadfastness from the chalice of certitude, for the barking ones and the transgressors have been and are lying in wait. O My loved ones in that land! Hearken unto My call from the direction of My prison. Verily, it draweth you to My horizon, bringeth you near unto My Self, and giveth you to drink of the choice wine of My wondrous utterance. Your names have been mentioned before the Wronged One, and We have revealed for each one of you that which shall not change so long as the names of God, the Lord of all worlds, shall endure.

Beware lest the doubts of every remote barking one cause you to slip. By the life of God! They have followed vain imaginings and perceive not, and have acted upon mere conjectures and understand not. We counsel you to manifest goodly character and that whereby the Cause of God, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed, may be exalted. Be ye as mountains in the Cause of God, your Lord. Verily, He is with you, hearing and seeing, and He is the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing. Object ye not to anyone. In all matters, place your trust in the All-Powerful, the Almighty.

Under all conditions, ye should manifest the utmost composure and dignity. Should a heedless soul arise in opposition, oppose ye him not, lest the clamor of the heedless be raised. Blessed are My loved ones in Khadra. They are reckoned among the patient ones in God's Book. The ignorant divines in that land have manifested the utmost rebelliousness. Nevertheless, the friends of God, exalted be His glory, out of their love for God and their adherence to His command, never opposed the oppressive souls. Finally, the government authorities were enabled to execute justice, judged with truth, and restrained the hands of the oppressors from their taking. Follow ye, O My loved ones, that which hath been revealed in the Book, then be patient in His love. Verily, He is the All-Patient, the Commander, the All-Wise.

Likewise, mention of the friends of those regions hath flowed from the Most Exalted Pen. This is what was revealed for the friends of God in Al-Alif and Al-Sin (Asadabad). These are His blessed and exalted words:

O My loved ones in that land! We counsel you to manifest supreme steadfastness, such that the godless and the deniers shall be rendered powerless to speak. Today belongeth to the Truth—naught shall be mentioned save Him alone. Reflect upon the deeds of the people of the Furqan (Muslims). They considered themselves supreme over all the world. For twelve hundred years they enthroned an

imaginary being that had no external existence upon the seat of Jabulqa and Jabulsa which they had constructed with the hands of idle fancies. Then they strove to lead the helpless masses astray. The ultimate fruit of their deeds, beliefs and words was that they martyred the Lord of the world with the most grievous torture. All the divines, together with the tyrannical masses, pronounced death sentences in their gatherings and assemblies, and engaged in cursing and vilification, God forbid! Not a single divine showed acceptance in the early days of the Cause, for they were nourished at the breast of fancy and vain imaginings. Now the deniers of the Bayan are playing the same tune behind a veil. With turbans and robes they have arisen to harm the Truth. The ultimate fruit of these souls' deeds shall be the same as those who came before.

O concourse of loved ones! God willing, may you remain firm and steadfast through the power of the Truth, exalted be His glory, and through His favors, in such wise that the tongues of all created things shall testify to your steadfastness. By God's life! The deniers were not and are not aware of the root of the Cause. They soar with the wings of self in the atmosphere of heedlessness and rejection. Praise be to God that you have attained to the mention of the Truth and have been beneath the glances of His favor. Know the value of this station and preserve it as the apple of your eye. Today the hosts of Truth and His helpers have been and are goodly deeds and pure, holy, pleasing character. It is not and was never permissible to oppose anyone. Hold fast unto righteousness and cleave unto that which God hath ordained. Soon shall you attain unto the fruits of your deeds if you succeed in acting for God's sake.

And as to certain individuals in particularâ€"whose names, or whose petitions, have attained unto the Most Holy Presenceâ€"separate answers shall be revealed and sent unto them.

The end belongs to the God-fearing, and praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

This evanescent one conveys greetings to each of the loved ones in that land and its surroundings, and begs confirmation from God, exalted be His glory, for each one. And he submits to the service of each that the deniers among the people of the Bayan have turned away from the Truth. All know that from the beginning of the Cause this servant has been in every place and station and is informed of every matter. Nevertheless, not one of the deniers has inquired of this servant to become informed and aware. They have clung to the words of Siyyid Muhammad-i-Isfahani and his like, who had no knowledge whatsoever, and have turned away from the Truth. By the life of our Object of desire and the Object of desire of all who are in the heavens and earth! The tyranny of these oppressive souls is more severe, greater and graver than the tyranny of the people of the Furqan.

In brief, this servant has submitted for God's sake and submits for God's sake, and has not refrained and will not refrain from speaking the truth, even should the whole world advance with sword and spear. I beseech God, exalted be His glory, to purify the loved ones of that land from the doubts and conditions of the deniers and transgressors among the people of the Bayan. Verily He is powerful over all things. Glory and remembrance and praise be upon you and your family and those with you and upon every one firm, steadfast and unwavering. And praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

The servant, 18 Dhi'l-Qa'dih 1302

BH01088: The servant testifies that there is no God but…

He is God—exalted be His glory, majesty and power!

The servant testifies that there is no God but Him, acknowledging His oneness and confessing His singleness, and with certitude in what He has revealed in His Book. Verily He is the Sovereign before Whose hosts the world cannot stand. He does as He wills by His command and decrees what He desires. He is indeed the Single, the One, the Powerful, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

Glory be unto Thee, O Thou through Whose manifestation mysteries were revealed and that which was hidden in the hearts of the chosen ones who Thou madest the repositories of Thy revelation, the dawning-places of Thy inspiration, the fountainheads of Thy Cause, and the daysprings of Thy laws. I beseech Thee by the lights of Thy countenance and by the Word through which all created things were moved and all existing things were ordained, to assist Thy chosen ones, Thy loved ones and Thy trustees to celebrate Thy praise and glorification and to serve Thy Cause, that there might appear from them that which would cause those near unto Thee to inhale the fragrance of immortality through Thy Most Exalted Name. There is no God but Thee, the Mighty, the All-Conquering, the Powerful.

O my Lord! Withhold them not from Thy outpourings which none has comprehended save Thy knowledge and none has recognized save Him Whom Thou hast made the Manifestation of Thy names, attributes, signs and tokens. Protect them from the evil of those who have encompassed the people of Thy oneness in Thy realm, and through whom there has come to pass that which has caused the dwellers of the Most Exalted Paradise and the Verdant Isle to lament. Praise be unto Thee, O my God, for having enabled those who have acknowledged Thy oneness to remain patient in adversity and tribulation. There is no God but Thee, the Lord of earth and heaven, and the Sovereign over all names. Thou art indeed the Mighty, the Great.

And further: O beloved of my heart, the words composed of the letters of the Book of love for the Lord of the worlds and the Goal of all nations have left their effect upon all limbs, members and pillars—an effect of which it is said that it enters with milk and departs with the soul. How wondrous is this most great mystery of love! Though a thousand volumes be written about it, it would still appear deficient. It is the first adornment and the cause and reason for the continuation of existence. In one station it bestows life and grants spirit, in another it makes one utterly evanescent, and in yet another it confers an enduring, eternal power. I have no name for this mystery and this reality. Whatever is said of it is other than it and beneath it, for by God's will it has become the cause and reason for creation. After gaining awareness and knowledge, approach was made to the presence of His countenance and He said: "Praise be to God! A carpet has been spread that the hands of the morning breeze are powerless to fold. Blessed are its people! None but the people of determination and joy have access to this carpet.

The world is seen to be in turmoil through the tyranny of the nations. Each day it is afflicted with a new ordeal and from every corner a tribulation arises. O people of unity! Through your existence the world exists. Strive that perchance the world may be adorned with the ornament of justice and equity and attain unto that which God has willed. Blessed art thou and blessed is he who has turned towards Egypt and blessed are God's loved ones there. We make mention of the two Most Great Names as We have

mentioned them before and will mention them hereafter, and those whom the doubts of the people of misbelief have not prevented from recognizing the unity of God, the Single, the One, the Powerful, the Supreme, the Mighty, the Wise. Peace be upon you and upon God's sincere servants."

The station of loving-kindness and compassion is evident, both outwardly and inwardly, through utterance. Every word speaks, nay every letter testifies and bears witness to the Most Great Bounty. We beseech God, exalted be His glory, to preserve these stations and increase them with each moment. He is the Powerful, the Able One.

That which that beloved one observed and mentioned in the dream indicates the exaltation of the religion of God and His Cause among the servants. As for the weeping, it is joy—this is what the servant heard from the tongue of his Lord. They stated that whatsoever came to pass and was revealed, all was and is evidence of loftiness, elevation, exaltation and steadfastness. We beseech Him, exalted be He, to make your honor one who aids, stands firm, and speaks forth in His Name with wisdom and utterance. Although mentioning this matter is to achieve what is already achieved, as that beloved one has been and is, praise be to God, already successful.

And regarding what was written about ʿAmmar, these details that were submitted are clear and evident. Your honor has fulfilled and continues to fulfill the Covenant and Testament, and there has been no doubt or uncertainty. Whatever is with them will return to this Spot, but it has not yet emerged from the unseen. After its emergence, whatever is wise and befitting to the time will be made manifest. End.

To the beloved of the heart, that is, the direction of the two Most Exalted Names, his honor Aqa Siyyid ʿAli, upon him be the Glory of God, I convey countless salutations and greetings. Surely by now he has returned from Egypt. This servant is ashamed before him, for whatever he might express, there still remains more to say. Perhaps God will bestow His grace and enable its expression, for it is not and has never been within the power of ones like this servant. I convey greetings to each of the loved ones in that land, and I beseech God, glorified be His Majesty, for health, well-being, blessing, bounty, confirmation and success in all that He loves and is pleased with. May they ever dwell beneath the shade of the Tree of loving-kindness, standing in His service, mentioning His remembrance, and gazing toward His horizon. Peace, praise, glory and splendor be upon your honor and upon the near-servants of God.

BH01916: A wondrous mention and a new adornment…

He is God, exalted be His station of grandeur and power!

A wondrous mention and a new adornment and a fresh thought and boundless knowledge is He Whom our praise cannot reach and our glorification is not worthy of. Description and characterization, whether above or below that, belongs to the world of creation and should be mentioned within creation's bounds. However, praise befits the people of fidelity who hold fast to the cord of unity and cling to true love and harmony. The clamor of the ignorant does not prevent them from the highest horizon, nor does the uproar of enemies veil them. These are the hands of the Cause in the world of creation and the servants of the Lord of existence among His creatures. Their praise flows from the Supreme Pen and is recorded in every Book. Blessed are they and theirs is a goodly return.

And further: the letter of that honored brother arrived like water reaching the thirsty. Praise be to God, the fragrance of the love of Truth wafted from it and divine mention and praise were evident therein. In these days the pens have attained their lofty stations. All things have received the breezes of the grace of the Beloved of possibility according to their measure. Pens are racing in the field of mention and praise, and likewise the tongue of remembrance. These two are outwardly heard and perceived by the external ear, but by the life of our Beloved and your Beloved, the true ears hear the praise of all things and are gladdened thereby. We beseech God, exalted be His glory, to cause these servants to ever attain these two most exalted stations. He is the Powerful, the Mighty.

After perusing the letter of that honored brother, it was presented before the Countenance and fully submitted. He said: "O Ali-Akbar! Praise be to God that thou hast attained unto true unity and hast heard from the rustling of the leaves of the garden of inner meanings the words Verily there is no God but Him.' Darkness hath encompassed the world. The friends must shine forth like light that perchance the darkness may be dispelled and return to nothingness. Regarding what thou didst write about affairs, in all conditions they should fix their gaze upon the highest horizon, and if they are in debt to anyone they must certainly pay it, whether through compensation or otherwise. That honored one should rest assured in God's grace and hold fast unto Him.

And what thou didst mention regarding partnership with the two Most Exalted Names was accepted before the Countenance. The welfare of the friends hath ever been mentioned. In all matters they should consult with the two Names and act according to what becomes apparent. This is a bounty from God, for consultation removes obscuring veils from the face of understanding and reveals that which is befitting. We have mentioned and continue to mention all the friends of that land, and We beseech God to increase the light of certitude in each one at every moment. Verily, He hath power over all things."

This evanescent servant also conveys greetings to each one and beseeches God, exalted be His glory, for the success of all. He is the Bestower, the Kind. In closing, peace and mercy be upon you and upon God's righteous servants. Praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH01909: Praise befits the people of faithfulness who are holding…

He is God, exalted be His glory, the Greatness and the Power

Praise befits the people of faithfulness who are holding fast to the Covenant and clinging to the Pledge. Blessed is the soul that has attained unto God's Covenant and His Testament—such a one is mentioned as the most exalted of creation before the Truth and is recorded in God's Book. Glory be unto Thee, O my God! I beseech Thee by the fragrances of the hearts of them that know Thee and by the burning of the livers of the sincere ones in their separation and remoteness from Thee, to assist Thy Afnan in that which Thou lovest and approvest. Then raise them at all times through Thy grace, Thy power and Thy loving-kindness. Verily Thou art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest. There is no God but Thee, the Forgiving, the Generous.

May my spirit be a sacrifice for you. Your esteemed letter arrived and brought the utmost joy and delight—a joy before which all the joys of the world fade into nothingness. After it was presented before the Blessed Beauty, He said:

> "God willing, may they ever drink from the inexhaustible stream of God's loving-kindness and remain seated firmly established upon the throne of certitude and assurance."

Although outwardly there is distance between this land and that land, yet God knows they are present before Us and are mentioned in the Most Holy Court. I beseech God, exalted be His glory, again and again that they may attain the honor of His presence and drink from the ocean of reunion.

Regarding what was written about Aqa Mirza Muhammad Ibrahim, the receipt was sent—let them send it. And the reply to some petitions from those parts is being sent—they should forward them with utmost haste. The reply to the letter of the honored Afnan, his eminence A. and H., upon him be the Glory of God the Most Glorious, has been submitted and is being sent. I convey to him greetings, praise and glory, and I beseech God, exalted be His station, for the loftiness and elevation of his rank. Verily He is the Generous, the Benevolent, and He is the Giver, the Kind, the Merciful.

To his eminence the honored Afnan-i-Kabir, upon him be all the most glorious Glory of God, I convey my utter servitude and nothingness. And likewise to the shining star, his eminence the Afnan whom God has blessed, I send greetings. To the holy, blessed Leaf, may my spirit be a sacrifice for her steps, and to the honored consort, upon her be all God's most glorious Glory, and to the honored ladies, the Leaves of the Divine Lote-Tree, upon them be the Glory of God and His loving-kindness, I convey glory and greetings. God willing, may all attain unto that which God loves and approves, and drink again and again from the cup of reunion and meeting.

To the apple of our eyes, his eminence Aqa Mirza Mustafa, upon him be the Glory of God, I send greetings. God willing, may he be in perfect health and wellness and remain steadfast in service. To the beloved of the heart, his eminence Aqa Muhammad Mustafa, and the honored beloved, his eminence Haji Muhammad Rida, upon them both be the Glory of God, I send greetings. Praise be to God, they are firm in the Cause and speaking in remembrance and praise. In all conditions I seek confirmation and success for them. To the spiritual friend, his eminence Haji Husayn and all the friends in that land, I send greetings. Peace, mercy and glory be upon the good, pure and blessed Leaf, and upon you and those with you and those who love you and those who hear your words concerning God's Cause, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting. And praise be to God, the Lord of what was and what will be.

BH06199: Glorified art Thou, O Thou through Whose Name Thou…

In the Name of our Lord, the Most Holy, the Most Great, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious

Glorified art Thou, O Thou through Whose Name Thou hast illumined the world and subdued the nations. I beseech Thee by the Most Great Name, through which the limbs of the idolaters trembled and the hearts of the deceivers were agitated—they who turned away from Thee and violated Thy Covenant and Testament, and followed their own desires in Thy days. Thou seest them, O my God and my Purpose, clinging to vain imaginings and devoted to them without any clear proof from Thee. I beseech Thee, O

Mystery of existence and Controller of both the unseen and the visible, to protect Thy loved ones and chosen ones from the evil of those who have turned away from Thy horizon and disputed Thy signs.

O Lord! Thou seest those who have turned away and what their hands have wrought and their tongues have uttered. They have denied Thee and Thy signs and desired to lead Thy servants astray. I beseech Thee by the lights of Thy countenance to inspire Thy loved ones with that which will make them independent of all else besides Thee, through Thy might and power and sovereignty. O Lord! Thou knowest that through their existence vain imaginings and idle fancies have been renewed. Verily Thou art the Protector, the Self-Subsisting. Ordain through Thy Most Exalted Pen that which will make known to them Thy path and will guide them to Thy way and will teach them what Thou hast desired for them through Thy generosity and grace. Verily Thou art the Powerful over what Thou willest. There is no God but Thee, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

BH00768: O God, O Gracious One, O Merciful One! I…

…O God, O Gracious One, O Merciful One! I have turned to Thee, and am clinging to the cord of Thy bounty, and am holding fast to the hem of Thy generosity. Thou art the Gracious One—a single drop from the ocean of Thy forgiveness would wash away the transgressions of all mankind, and one word from the mouth of Thy grace would bestow the water of life upon all contingent beings. O Peerless Bestower! Deprive not Thy servant of Thy mercy—grant him a portion from Thy ocean, and ordain for him a share from the sea of Thy generosity. The tongues of the world are unworthy to praise Thee, and the hearts of nations incapable of comprehending Thy Being. Thy Being transcends all understanding and reason, and is exalted above the knowledge of souls—such has it ever been and ever shall be. With utmost humility and supplication, I seek Thy ancient bounty and search for Thy all-encompassing grace. Thou art the All-Knowing, the All-Aware. Through Thy remembrance am I alive, and in hope of meeting Thee do I exist and endure. Do what befitteth Thy bounty, not what befitteth my praise and glorification. There is none other God but Thee, the Forgiving, the Generous. Praise be unto Thee, for Thou art the Goal of all seekers….

BH11873: In truth, today praise and glorification befit the people…

Section 1: “In truth, today praise and glorification befit…”

In the Name of our Most Holy, Most Great, Most Exalted, Most Glorious Lord

In truth, today praise and glorification befit the people of fidelity, whom neither the clamor of the heedless, nor the croaking of the croakers, nor the doubts of the ungodly, nor the insinuations of the opposers could debar from the manifest light. Although the effulgent rays of the Sun of Revelation have encompassed the world and His verses have adorned cities and lands, and in every direction the Standard of His Revelation has been raised aloft and from every quarter the voice of the One Who conversed on Sinai can be heard, yet again some of the heedless have returned to their first step. Glory be to God! The Finger of Power rent asunder the veils and tore away the shrouds, yet still the croakers seek anew to afflict the hapless people with veils thicker than those before and shrouds greater than those of old. They are worshippers of vain imaginings yet count themselves among the people of unity; they are idol-worshippers yet consider themselves among those endowed with true knowledge.

Man is bewildered, for all have witnessed with their own eyes and heard with their own ears that whatsoever the Shi'ih sect formerly uttered and occupied itself with was mere fancy and sheer delusion. Throughout ages and centuries they pronounced curses and maledictions against one another from their pulpits, to such extent that the veins of their necks stood out like spears. When the dawn of the Will of the Lord of Oneness broke and the Sun of Truth shed its radiance, all, whether learned or ignorant, arose in the first year against the Lord of all beings, in such wise that the dwellers of the highest Paradise lamented. Finally, that unjust group issued the decree and arose to shed His pure blood, until that which caused the very essence of truth to weep came to pass.

This was naught but the fruit of their unworthy deeds and false actions. Now the people of the Bayan, namely those souls who have turned away, should with fairness and justice reflect upon the end of those who considered themselves the most exalted of nations—what fruit those souls reaped, that these souls should now walk in their footsteps. God protect us and you from the evil of such people! In truth these souls are heedless, for they have not been informed of the root of the matter and do not inquire of those who are aware. It behooveth me to mention that which the All-Merciful hath revealed in the Qur'an. His exalted Word: "Leave them to plunge in their idle discourse and play." And prayers and peace and glory and praise be upon those who have quaffed the wine of steadfastness in such wise that they have cast the world behind their backs, standing firm in the Cause of God, the Lord of all worlds. And praise be unto Him, for He is the Goal of all who know and the Beloved of the sincere ones.

Glorified art Thou, O Thou through Whose Name the mysteries have been revealed, the rivers have flowed, the banners of unity have been planted, and the standards of detachment have been raised! I beseech Thee by the Word through which Thou didst create all beings and bring forth all existences, to acquaint Thy servants with that which will profit them in every world of Thy worlds, and teach them that which they have neglected concerning Thee in Thy days. I testify, O my God, that Thou hast made clear the Path, brought forth the Evidence, sent down the Verses, and manifested the Proofs. Blessed is the soul that hath discovered the fragrance of Thy verses, turned unto Thee, hastened to Thy supreme horizon—the Station wherein naught is mentioned save Thyself, O Lord of all beings and Sovereign of the earth and heaven.

O Lord! I beseech Thee by the waves of the ocean of Thy mercy and the effulgences of the lights of the sun of Thy grace, to aid Thy heedless servants to return to the court of Thy glory and to enter the precincts of Thy grandeur. O Lord! Disappoint them not through Thy bounty and generosity, and deprive them not from the heaven of Thy bestowals. Then I beseech Thee, O my God, to assist Thy party who have not broken Thy Covenant and Thy Testament, and who have arisen to make mention of Thee and to praise Thee and to serve Thy Cause, to manifest that which Thou hast and which Thou hast sent down in Thy Book, that perchance thereby the slumberers may awaken and return unto Thee and hold fast unto the cord of Thy bounty and cling to the hem of the robe of Thy forgiveness. Verily, Thou art the Ever-Forgiving, the All-Merciful, the Generous One.

The letter from that honored one reached this evanescent servant some time ago. It was a conscious testimony and a true witness to that honored one's orientation toward and acceptance of the Supreme Horizon. How excellent was the fragrance of the love of the Beloved of the worlds that wafted from it.

This evanescent servant beseeches and hopes from God, exalted be His glory, that this fragrance may ever continue to waft and this breeze to blow. After its reading and review, it was taken to the Most Exalted Station and, following permission, was presented before His countenance and was honored to be heard. His word, exalted be His glory:

In My Name that shineth forth from the horizon of the Kingdom of proof

O thou who hast turned towards the Most Exalted Horizon! A servant presented thy letter before the Countenance and read it. Each word thereof bore witness to and indicated thy turning and devotion. We beseech God to aid thee in such wise that thou mayest safeguard the people from the delusions of the barking ones. By My life! They are engaged anew in building cities and abodes of doubts and vain imaginings. Detached from the world, arise to educate the peoples. Marvel not at this word, for this is not difficult for God. Make great thy resolve and occupy thyself with service. Today the Most Great Gate is opened, the Sea of Revelation is surging, and the Speaker is speaking.

Reflect upon the baseness of the souls of those who have turned away. God hath manifested the banners of verses and the hosts of revelation and inspiration from the horizon of the heaven of Will, clear and evident and manifest, and there hath been revealed from the Most Exalted Pen the equivalent of all the heavenly Books, nay more. Yet they are occupied with former vain imaginings and speak the words of the gathering of the Mother City. If they deny this Most Great Cause and Most Great Announcement, to what cord will they cling and to what rope will they hold fast?

This Wronged One arose to promote the Cause in days when all hearts and souls were agitated and the limbs of the people of the Bayan trembled from the might of rulers and the clamor of divines—an arising to which all bear witness—and called all, with the most loud voice, to the Most Exalted Horizon. Nevertheless, there proceeded from the wayward souls that which caused the dwellers of the cities of inner meanings and utterance to weep. Soon shall they see the recompense of their deeds. Verily thy Lord is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. In any case, beseech the Dayspring of generosity, the Treasury of bounty, and the Dawning-Place of divine mercy that He may aid the heedless servants to return, that perchance they may arise to retrieve what they have lost. Verily thy Lord is the Forgiving, the Merciful. Rejoice thou in My remembrance of thee and My turning toward thee from the direction of My distant prison. We have sent down for thee aforetime, and at this moment, that which will draw thee nigh unto God, the Lord of the worlds.

Section 2: “O people of the Bayan! Fear God…”

Say: O people of the Bayan! Fear God and utter not that which the ancients did not utter. Have mercy upon yourselves and upon the servants. By God! He Who was hidden in the eternity of eternities hath appeared and there hath been sent down that which was treasured in the knowledge of God, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. The banners of proof have appeared and before them have bowed down the signs of all existence. To this beareth witness He Who proclaimeth that there is none other God but Me, the Wronged One, the Stranger. Take thou the cup of mystic knowledge in the name of thy Lord, the All-Merciful, in spite of the people of the Bayan who have broken God’s Covenant and Testament and have arisen in clear opposition.

Thou hast been mentioned before the Countenance. We beseech God to aid thee to preserve this glorious and elevated station. Convey My greetings to the faces of those whom God hath related to thee and give them the glad-tidings of My remembrance of them in My Most Great Prison, and remind them of that which hath been sent down from the kingdom of My wondrous utterance. The glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My grace be upon thee and upon those who have quaffed the wine of steadfastness from this cup before which the seas have bowed down, and who have held fast unto this cord whereby the near ones have held fast. Praise be to God, the Lord of what was and what will be.

This servant, nay all things, are bewildered and astonished, for it is observed that the very means whose corruption was evident yesterday are again today being grasped and clung to. Would that the people knew! An assembly in Manshad, like unto the assembly of the Mother of Cities, nay greater and mightier, has arisen in protest. They have written a letter, signed and sealed by four persons, and dispatched it. Glory be to God! Have these souls not seen the Tablet to Ra'is? Have they not read the Tablets to the Kings? Have they not heard of the Most Holy Book? All these matters were revealed aforetime from the Most Exalted Pen with utmost clarity. After receiving the letter, this servant remained bewildered for a time.

On the one hand, it was observed that this letter was not worthy of presentation, and on the other hand, it was considered that perhaps concealing it might constitute a dereliction. Therefore, placing complete trust in God, this servant turned toward the Most Holy Court, and after receiving full permission, presented it in its entirety. An answer descended from the heaven of divine will. It is hoped that you will be blessed to review it. A hundred thousand regrets that this party has failed to comprehend that which befits the Day of God. And concerning the mention that was made of those who are related, each one has been mentioned in the Most Holy Court and has attained the outpourings of the true Bestower of Bounty. After the presentation of this matter, these exalted words descended from the Kingdom of the All-Merciful's utterance. He—exalted be He—saith:

In the Name of the Compassionate, the All-Bountiful

O thou who gazest toward the Most Sublime Horizon! We have heard thy remembrance and praise, and witnessed thy turning and devotion to God, the Lord of all beings. Blessed is the ear that hath attained to hearing the Call, and the eye that hath beheld the Most Sublime Horizon, and the hand that hath taken what was sent down from the heaven of the bounty of thy Lord, the Possessor of all necks. The Books of God have testified to this Book which hath spoken before the face of the world that there is none other God but Him, the Mighty, the Bestower. They who cast the Book of God behind their backs, clinging to vain imaginings and idle fancies, are indeed lost. Say: By God! The hearts of the sincere have been attracted by the verses sent down from the heaven of grace. Fear God, O people of the Bayan, and be not of those who disbelieved when the All-Merciful came with power and sovereignty. All that ye heard hath appeared from the horizon of My will, and the Sun of proof hath shone forth from this Station which God hath made the point round which circle the Concourse on High and they who circle the Throne at eventide and at dawn.

Say: Beware lest the doubts of the people debar you from the truth, or the allusions of those who were heedless of the Cause prevent you, for they followed every doubting idolator. How many a learned one

hath been debarred from the Kawthar of life, and how many an ignorant one hath heard, hastened, and said: “Praise be unto Thee, O Revealer of the verses!” How many a servant hath turned away from the Countenance, and how many a handmaiden hath heard and answered her Lord, the Guardian over all who are in the heavens and the earth. Bounty is in His right hand, and justice in His grasp. He doeth what He willeth and ordaineth what He pleaseth. He is the Commander through Whose command the Sun of power hath shone forth from the horizon of might.

Thus hath the water of life flowed from the Pen of the All-Merciful. Blessed is he who hath taken and drunk thereof, and woe unto every irreligious deceiver—they who have broken God’s covenant and His testament, and denied Him in Whom they believed. These are indeed of those who have gone astray. The Names whom God hath associated with thee have appeared before the Wronged One, and We have sent down for each one of them that whereby those near unto God shall perceive the fragrance of the bounty of thy Lord, the Lord of creation. Remember them on My behalf and give them glad tidings of that which hath been revealed for them—that which shall never perish, as long as My Most Beautiful Names endure. He Who possesseth knowledge of the Book beareth witness to this. We counsel them to manifest supreme steadfastness and to observe that which beseemeth the days of their Lord, the Lord of Return. Glory be upon thee and upon them and upon those who have shattered the idols of idle fancy through the power bestowed by God, the Manifester of clear tokens.

His is the praise and the favor, and His is the bounty and providence. His bounty is more manifest than the sun in mid-heaven; His grace is evident and His providence is radiant, such that this evanescent one needeth not make mention thereof. Would that heedless servants would observe with the eye of fairness and the ear of justice that which hath been revealed and made manifest, and would ponder thereon. This is that state of meditation of which they have said: “One hour’s reflection is preferable to seventy years of pious worship.”

BH01712: O Tahir! Your letter reached the Most Holy…

He is God, exalted be His glory, the Most Great, the Most Powerful

O Tahir! Your letter reached the Most Holy and Most Exalted Court some time ago and was granted audience with the Wronged One.

O Tahir! The people are ignorant, deprived of the divine verses and their hearing, and forbidden from His evidences. The Sun of meanings has risen and shines from the horizon of the heaven of utterance, and the ocean of knowledge surges, yet they cling to their own vain imaginings. The divine proof has encompassed the world and the heavenly evidence has surrounded all creation—where is the hearing, where is the sight?

Say: By God’s life! Today the books of the world and all that the peoples possess have not been and are not sufficient. Fix your gaze upon this exalted Word which is as the spirit for the temple of utterance: Say: God sufficeth all things above all things, but nothing in the heavens or earth or what lies between them sufficeth instead of God, thy Lord. He is indeed the All-Knowing, the All-Sufficing, the Almighty. All must hold fast to Him and not be heedless of Him.

Today is the day of this blessed verse, yet the people are deprived of the bounty of this day. Today is the Day of God—nothing is seen except the Truth, glorified be His majesty, and His signs. Whoever remains deprived will not be enabled to make up for it. Say: Fear God and make not the drop the measure for the Most Great Ocean, nor the atom the balance for the Sun.

A few deluded ones have clung to their vain imaginings and with the utmost cunning and deceit have intended to lead people astray. At times they cling to the Qur'an and at times to the Bayan, desiring to spread the carpet of past imaginings. Today nothing besides God will profit. How many souls claimed steadfastness but then at a single cry entered the precincts of delusion and with complete deceit and hypocrisy busied themselves with harming people.

Convey My greetings to the friends in that land. Say: It behooveth you to be steadfast as mountains and brilliant and radiant as light, and to be so enkindled with the fire of God's love that the ungodly would not dare to speak, much less to prevail. The people of Baha are as shooting stars that prevent the demons from ascending to the heaven of hearts. They are the people of the Crimson Ark, and in the Book of Names this Ark is specifically for the people of Baha.

As for your mention of questions from certain ones—today is not the day for questions. This blessed verse was revealed in answer to someone: "This is not the day for questions. It behooveth every soul, when he heareth the Call, to arise and say: 'Here am I, here am I, O God of the worlds! Here am I, here am I, O Desire of them that have recognized Thee!"' Today is another day and another time. Whoever fails to perceive this—the recompense of the deeds of the servants has prevented and deprived them.

Those who have said that "He Whom God shall make manifest" is the Primal Point Himself have spoken unjustly. Regarding this Revelation He says "I am the first to worship Him." The Truth, glorified be His majesty, cannot today be known through the Bayan and what was revealed therein. The Point of the Bayan has said: "I have written a gem concerning His mention: He cannot be indicated by My indication, nor by what was revealed in the Bayan." Observe how lofty is the station of the Revelation, while the people are as beasts in what base station. Justice is as rare as the phoenix, for were it found, by a single verse of this Revelation one would find oneself independent of all previous books.

As for what you wrote concerning the Afnan, upon him be all My most glorious Baha—he has previously been favored with permission and grace. Multiple Tablets were revealed and sent specifically for him. It is hoped he will drink from the ocean of the utterance of the Most Merciful and be illumined by the lights of the Sun of meanings.

The glory be upon you and upon those with you.

BH01790: O My Afnan! We make mention of the sorrows…

He is the Consoler, the Comforter.

O My Afnan! We make mention of the sorrows that have befallen you in the days of the All-Merciful, and We console you with the verses of God, the Lord of all worlds. By the life of God! We have seen him who has ascended, detached from this world and sanctified from its dust and smoke, and We found him in a

state of joy and delight, such that were it to be manifested to those on earth, they would assuredly detach themselves from all that is with them, turning unto God, the Mighty, the Praised. Blessed art thou, for We have heard from thy tongue the word of gratitude and submission, and found in thy heart the sweet savors of contentment. Thy Lord, verily, is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

Behold and remember when We sent My Herald with My verses and gave him a son whom We named Ahmad, and raised him to a station known only to God, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. And before him We sent Muhammad, My Messenger, and gave him a son named Qasim, and after him Abdullah, and after him Ibrahim, and We raised them up through Our wisdom, for We are the Almighty, the Powerful. The idolaters called him ʿabtar' (childless), and We revealed unto him a verse from Our presence, for We are the Ancient Revealer:

> "Wealth and children are the adornment of this world's life, but the good deeds which endure are better in thy Lord's sight, as rewards, and better as the foundation for hopes."

And We seized the idolaters with Our might and authority. Thus did the fragrances of revelation waft, that thou mightest thank thy Lord, the Remembering, the All-Knowing.

O My Afnan! We wish to impart to thee that which We have not imparted to any of My loved ones, that thou mayest find within thyself the light of patience from thy Lord, the Mighty, the Peerless. God hath magnified thy reward for thy son who hath ascended unto Him, even as My son Mihdi ascended at the beginning of Our imprisonment.

O My Afnan! The world is troubled and dust-laden. Its tribulation precedeth its comfort, and its punishment precedeth its blessing, and its toil exceedeth its pleasure. It is the beloved of the heedless and the abhorred of the knowing ones. Comfort and fidelity in it are like the philosopher's stone, and its afflictions are beyond reckoning. Man seeth therein what he would rather not see, and consorteth with those whose company he would not desire. Were it to have any station, thou wouldst see Me seated upon its thrones, and were it to have any worth, its Creator and its Sovereign would not have turned away from it. Beware lest its grief sadden thee or its adornments gladden thee. Its glory is humiliation, its wealth is poverty, and its permanence is extinction. Where is the splendor of Parviz and his pure gold? Where is the might of the Pharaohs and their lofty palaces? Where is the wealth of the tyrants and their ordered armies? If thou wert to look today at the palace of Khosrow, thou wouldst find it a spider's web and echo. Take heed, O ye who are endowed with understanding!

Grieve not for what hath befallen thee. We console thee and comfort thee, and counsel thee to be patient and forbearing. Thy Lord is the Commander, the Unconstrained. We desired naught from the world save its people, for it, in itself, is but the footstool of My feet and the pasture of My sheep and the vista of My loved ones and the dawning-place of the manifestations of My power and the dayspring of My most beautiful names and most exalted attributes. Thy Lord is the Expositor, the All-Knowing.

We make mention of My leaf whom sorrows have encompassed through what hath been ordained for her by the irrevocable decree of God, the Lord of the ancient. We beseech Him, exalted be He, to change her sorrow into His remembrance and praise, His verses and evidences, His nearness and presence. Grieve not, O My leaf! He is with thee in all conditions. He heareth and seeth, and He is the All-Hearing,

the All-Seeing. He will suffice thee in truth, and He is powerful over what He willeth. There is none other God but Him, the Single, the One, the Mighty, the Praised.

The glory shining forth from the horizon of the heaven of My mercy be upon you, O My Afnan and My leaves, and upon those who love you for My sake and hear your words concerning this momentous News.

BH04255: The Wronged One hath heard thy communion with God…

He is God—exalted be His glory, His grandeur and His majesty!

The Wronged One hath heard thy communion with God, the Lord of the worlds. Holy and sanctified is He Whose knowledge transcendeth the understanding and comprehension of all created things. Nevertheless, the hand of His bounty hath taken hold of the hands of His creation, and He hath ordained that the acknowledgment of powerlessness to comprehend His Essence, exalted and glorified be He, constituteth the true knowledge granted unto creation. There hath never been, nor shall there ever be, any path from the assembly of knowledge and learning to the sanctuary of the unseen. Exalted, exalted be His grace, exalted be His sovereignty, His grandeur, His tender mercy, His favors and His bounties! Blessed is the tongue that is occupied with His remembrance, and blessed is the eye that is turned toward the Most Exalted Horizon.

Today all must ponder upon the deeds and words of the people of the Furqan, that is, the Shi'ih sect, and become aware of their vain imaginings. In this way, the doubts and idle fancies of the heedless and the transgressors shall not prevent man from drawing nigh unto the All-Merciful. O people of God! This is the Day of steadfastness and deeds.

Say: Glory be unto Thee, O Thou in Whose grasp are the reins of all created things and in Whose right hand are the reins of all possibilities! I beseech Thee by the breathings of Thy Revelation and the manifestations of Thy sovereignty in Thy lands to send down upon me from the heaven of Thy bounty and generosity that which will make me steadfast in Thy love, firm in Thy service, and vocal in Thy praise. I moreover beseech Thee by Thy Self and by the mysteries of Thy Book to ordain for me that which will profit me in the world to come and in this world. Verily, Thou art the One Who hath power over whatsoever He willeth, and in Thy grasp are the reins of all names. There is none other God but Thee, the Lord of the Throne on high and of earth below.

BH08495: O My Afnan, upon thee be my glory! Today…

O My Afnan, upon thee be my glory! Today is the day of true unity, and the blessed words "There is no God but Him" are established upon the throne of all books. Say: O people, this is the Day of God, wherein none is mentioned save Him. All must gaze toward the Most Exalted Horizon. Blessed is the soul that hath transformed doubts into certitude. Say: Today the Sun of Certitude hath risen, the Straight Path is manifest, the banners of verses are unfurled, and the standards of guidance are visible. Cleanse your eyes from the ophthalmia of turning away, that ye may witness the lights of the Manifestation, and purify your ears from unseemly words, that ye may hearken to the divine call at all times. Say: O people of the Bayan!

By the life of God, if anyone in this Revelation should miss a single matter, he shall never be able to make amends for it, now or ever….

BH00072: Praise be to God Who uttered a Word…

Section 1: "Praise be to God Who uttered a Word…"

In His Name, exalted be His glory, His majesty and His power

Praise be to God Who uttered a Word in the world concerning which the factions differed in its meaning: some understood from it concealment, some supposed from it the decree of revelation, some recognized in it steadfastness, some found in it the fragrance of oneness, some perceived in it the scent of union, and others the path of error. Glorified be our Lord Who is sanctified above all that they have understood, for all words return to their like and are bounded by their limitations and referred back to themselves. Meanings are only known through words which God has made as their garment, yet they befit not their Creator and their Sovereign. The servant testifies that there is none other God but Him, and this is a word which God has made the mightiest pillar for the people of faith. Whoso acknowledges it has acknowledged what the All-Merciful has revealed in the Book and confessed what the Tongue of Grandeur has spoken in the return.

Prayers and peace be upon the Guide of ways and the Sovereign of Messengers, Who was a bearer of glad-tidings to the righteous and virtuous and a warner to the wicked and the infidels, through Whose appearance the decree of the sword was manifested and paradise was ordained beneath His shade. I beseech Him, exalted be He, to have mercy upon His servants and to lift the decree of the sword from among His creation, and to aid them in that which will unite their hearts and souls, and to grant them that which will profit them and make them independent of all else. Verily, He is powerful over all things.

My spirit be a sacrifice unto your remembrance! There has reached the servant that which he found like unto an ocean whereon sailed the ships of meanings and utterance with the banners of letters and words, wherein were treasured the pearls of wisdom and explanation. When I attained, witnessed, read, found and knew, I soared on wings of certitude to the station and presented it before the Countenance, and the Lord—may our spirits be sacrificed for Him—said: O Zayn! Ever has the mention of your turning to the Most Holy Court been present. We beseech God to grant you success in visiting the Sacred House of God. O Zayn! One House was built by the Friend, and the other was built by the Glorious One. The first, He entered not therein, and from the second, He departed not. This is what We uttered last year to the messenger who was named Khalil. Should God will, He will draw you nigh unto Him and ordain for you the good of the hereafter and of the first life. If wisdom permits and the loved ones of that land become not divided, and the journey takes place with joy and fragrance, then set forth, placing thy trust in God, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting.

Verily, We make mention in this station of Muhammad who has ascended unto God, the Lord of the worlds. We beseech Him, exalted be He, to forgive him and absolve from him that which befitteth him not, and He is the Forgiving, the Merciful. We testify for him that he turned to the Supreme Horizon and witnessed the unity of God and His singleness, and believed in Him on a day wherein the ungodly had

surrounded the cities of the believers. O Zayn! Verily, We make mention of everyone who has turned unto God, and this mention benefits him as the lamp benefits in the night and the sun in the day.

O God of Names! I beseech Thee by Thy Name, the All-Encompassing over all things, and by the breezes of Thy Revelation and the fragrances of Thy inspiration, and by the splendors of the lights of the daybreak of Thy bounty, that Thou forgive those who have ascended unto Thee, both men and women, until they reached Thy presence. Verily, Thou art He by Whose Name the ocean of forgiveness surged and the fragrance of grace wafted among all possibilities. There is none other God but Thee, the Forgiving, the Kind.

Praise be to God that the dawn of union hath broken and the veil of separation and estrangement hath been rent asunder. Separation hath been transformed into meeting. In the midst of sorrow, the star of joy hath risen and the moon of gladness hath become manifest. As the Arabs say, “Congratulations to you! Come! Come!” A hundred thousand thanks to God, exalted be His glory, that this word “Come,” which had long remained concealed, hath today been made manifest. However, order must be maintained in that land. The friends must act with wisdom, even as is done in this land. The world of humanity dwelleth in peace and tranquility through harmony and forbearance; otherwise, each day witnesseth fresh strife and conflict. This evanescent one beseecheth and imploreth the Most High to remove rancor and hatred from the world and to transform discord into concord and estrangement into unity. He, verily, is the Powerful, the Mighty over all things.

As to what was written concerning a certain person who hath shown love and desired to come: say unto him that the idolaters of the world would not approve of such a visit, and those that affirm God’s unity—that is, the divines of Persia—after having proclaimed for years that there is no God but God, ultimately pronounced their verdict against the Manifestation of Divine Unity. With their tongues they say “He doeth what He willeth,” yet at every moment they voice some objection or opposition. Until now, the fragrance of true unity hath not in truth been inhaled. “We are God’s and to Him shall we return.” Under these circumstances, that person’s visit and attention to these matters might cause him harm. If he is still living, convey to him, as bidden, Our greetings and make Our excuses. They were told: We have appeared for the purpose of meeting and We are the Guide, but the heedless have become as barriers. Verily, God loveth the patient ones.

O Muhammad, upon him be the peace of God, this servant sends greetings to him in the land of Sin-Lam and beseeches God, exalted be His glory, to grant him steadfastness. O beloved of my heart! The cawers have gone forth cawing in the land of Sad, and they will surely go to Ardakan and Najafabad as well. Mulla Ja’far of Kirman and his sons have appeared with unprecedented deceit, exactly like the abominable Shi’ihs, repeating the same old arguments. They have not caught the slightest fragrance of this Day. You should write in detail to the land of N-J-A-R and write: O friends of Truth! Reflect upon the deeds, actions and beliefs of the Shi’ihs—what was their fruit and what was their outcome? The result of their beliefs and deeds was that they pronounced judgment against the Primal Point, may our souls be sacrificed for His sake, and martyred Him with such tyranny that all things wept. “The curse of God be upon the wrongdoers!”

Write to Zayn to write to the land of Nun and Jim and its surroundings: O people! Fear God and follow not the sources of conjecture and idle fancy. Today all must be set ablaze with the fire of divine love—a blaze that will ignite all the peoples of the world. Be ye strong in the Cause of God and His love. The corruption of the world hath appeared from the turbaned ones of those parts. Reflect upon Jabulqa and Jabulsa. They prided themselves on being Shi'ihs while in God's estimation they were lower than dogs, for each day they would add to their turbans, say one qirat, while engaging in lies, a whole chest full, and cursing each other from the pulpits, heedless that all were in the fire and unmentioned before God. The Primal Point, may our souls be sacrificed for His sake, hath said that not a single one of the Shi'ihs became aware—may God silence them! Each day they occupied the people with lies and idle fancies, moved by their own base desires.

The people of the Bayan are observed to be like those souls. Though they had no knowledge from the beginning of the Cause, they have claimed awareness. At times they speak of the successor, at times of the mirror, and at times of the guardian, occupied with the same old utterances. Whatever fruit the misguided Shi'ih sect tasted, these souls shall taste as well. They have followed vain imaginings and perceive not; they have turned away from the truth and know not; they have violated God's Covenant and Testament and understand not. Had that blessed Cause appeared in these lands, all would now be seen as they ought to be. Their beginning is conjecture and their end is idle fancy. The Cause is in the hands of God, the Lord of all beings.

O people of God! When a cawer comes to you, leave him to himself. Draw not near unto him. This is My counsel unto you, both before and after. And if you do meet them, every cawer should behold from your faces such steadfastness that he would be powerless to turn away or object.

Glory be to God! They desire to measure by the standard of their own idle fancies the King of existence Who hath brought that which equals all divine books, nay rather exceeds them. At times they cling to the Bayan and at times to vain imaginings, although the Primal Point, may our souls be sacrificed for His sake, hath said:

> "He shall not be asked about My signs nor about what was revealed in the Bayan."

Observe how exalted is the Cause!

Consider the loftiness of the Cause and the baseness of the manifestations of idle fancies and vain imaginings. In accordance with the command, apprise the friends of the deceit and trickery of the croakers, and counsel them on behalf of the Truth to ponder the deeds, actions and beliefs of the misguided Shi'ih sect, and likewise their fruits. Should any soul reflect upon these, he would find himself steadfast in the Cause of God. The fruits of those souls were that, by the unanimous verdict of the leaders, they martyred the Lord of the world, and in every land they shed the blood of the friends of Truth. Say: O party of God! This is the day of true unity. Fix your gaze upon the horizon of God alone, and keep your hem pure from the thorns and thistles of the past and future.

The honored friend Aqa Mirza Habibu'llah, upon him be 9 66 [Baha'u'llah], God willing, will return to Kirmanshah. The heedless souls of that land have no knowledge of the Cause, for at first the idolaters cast their calumnies—some regarding the oppression of the Point, some regarding his being a mirror and

vicegerent, and some regarding his knowledge and understanding. Yet any fair-minded person would testify that he was ever in a state of security and perfect comfort, and always had multiple wives with him. His oppression that they mention—the martyrdom of the Dayyan, upon him be 9 66 [Baha'u'llah] the Most Glorious, calling him the father of evil, and likewise calling one whom the Primal Point—may the spirit of all else be sacrificed for Him—addressed "O My friend" in the Tablets until the end of His words, the father of calamities, passing verdicts against him and his like, usurping the authority of the Point, martyring one of the cousins and his like—all these matters and fleeing from land to land merely upon hearing a word, all were counted as oppression by the oppressors.

And the arising of the Desired One before the faces of the world, and His endurance of afflictions and trials and imprisonment, were regarded by those souls as tyranny, although whatsoever He ordains is truth and whatsoever appears from Him is truth. Glory be to God! They have not yet understood the station of "He doeth whatsoever He willeth and ordaineth whatsoever He pleaseth." I beseech God to grant success that all may be freed from the conditions of self and passion and soar with the wings of freedom in this vast divine atmosphere.

Mention was made of Aqa Muhammad, upon him be God's peace, and his petition was noted. It was presented before His countenance and He said: O Zayn! Convey greetings to him on behalf of the Wronged One and say: O Muhammad! This is the day of steadfastness and the day of service. The very foundation of the believers is shaken by the onslaughts of the idolaters and hearts are perturbed. Today consider the believers as a body—each day a portion of it is taken, yet none has yet discovered the cause and reason thereof. By God's life! The cause has been deeds and conduct. We beseech God to aid all to cleanse their outward members through ablutions and their hearts through the water of return, and to cling with pure and mighty hands to the hem of the Most Merciful's bounty, that perchance they may remain preserved from these trials. Glory be to God! They witness calamity yet strive not to remove it, and know not by what cause it came and by what means it may be lifted. The command is in God's hand—He unveils and He covers, and He is the Concealer, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

And likewise mention was made of Jinab-i-Aqa Muhammad Isma'il and his supplication was presented before the Presence. This is what was revealed in reply:

> "O Isma'il! Jinab-i-Zayn conveyed thy petition. We beseech God to aid thee to that which is pleasing unto Him and to ordain for thee that which is best for thee."

Section 2: "And mention was made of Jinab-i-Aqa Husayn…"

And mention was made of Jinab-i-Aqa Husayn from the people of Sh. It was presented and He said:

> "O Husayn! This Wronged One counseleth thee to steadfastness. The atheists are many and without number. Forget not the divines of the past who, despite their claims to knowledge and complete piety, pronounced the death sentence upon the most excellent of creation. We beseech God to make thee steadfast in such wise that the intimations of the people shall not debar thee from the Truth. He is the Powerful, the Mighty."

And He said:

> "Whosoever requesteth mention from you, make mention of him on behalf of the Wronged One and show kindness unto him, that all may rejoice and occupy themselves with the praise of God."

The second missive from His Holiness, dated the 3rd of Rajab, delighted the ears with the warbling of the doves of inner meaning and brought to the heart the joy of the people of the Most Glorious Paradise. For the eyes it was true antimony, fashioned from the jewels of love and affection. After its reading and perusal, and after drawing from the living waters of love flowing through its letters and words, it was brought to the Sacred Presence and presented before His countenance. He said:

O Zayn, upon thee be the peace of God and His grace! Remove not the believers from thy sight. Pray for them, that the True One, exalted be His glory, may protect them and their cities from the evil of the fire and the hosts of the ungodly. O Zayn! Had the believers truly clung to the hem of the resplendent Law, the kindled lamp would not have been extinguished nor accepted extinction—a lamp by whose light the entire world was illumined, yet which was extinguished by the winds of self and desire. How many streams have the thieves carried away from that Most Great Ocean—some claiming truth, some in the name of the Path, some in the name of the esoteric, and some in the name of the essence of the esoteric. In any case, the mighty party was seen to be weakened by division, such that cities and lands were laid waste.

In Kaf and Ra, which was mentioned in the Most Holy Book in the early days of imprisonment, the opposers have raised the standard of discord through calumnies the like of which have never been heard since the beginning of the world, and through deceptions never before witnessed, exerting their utmost effort to lead the people astray.

O Zayn! Praise be to God that in days when day could not be distinguished from night, We summoned with utmost power and might before the faces of the world with the most exalted call, until in every city and land, nay in every village, the mention of the True One, exalted be His glory, was raised. Now that some light has appeared, they have emerged from behind their veils. We have no complaint; the purpose is to proclaim the Cause of God. By My life! If there were one worthy of mention, this Wronged One would choose silence. The station of which He said 'If He should appear at this time, I would be the first to worship Him,' and before whom all the Bayan was considered but as a leaf—from Him they have turned away, clinging to their own desires.

O Zayn! Through nights and days the Supreme Pen alone rendered assistance. All bear witness to this, and not for a moment did it turn to self-preservation. Tribulations rained down like torrential rain and afflictions flew like the arrows of the ungodly. Nevertheless, the call was not cut short and the Pen did not choose silence. The Point of the Bayan has said that in the year nineteen, all who are in the Bayan should write books to each other proving He Whom God shall make manifest. His purpose was that all should be occupied with this Most Great Remembrance through tongue, hand, pen and heart, lest the people of the Bayan should act like the Shi'ih sect. However, His counsels produced the opposite effect in most of the hearts of the opposers of the Bayan. We leave them in their idle play.

O Zayn! Repeatedly has this most sublime word flowed from the Supreme Pen: ʿI was asleep when the breezes of the mercy of my Lord, the All-Merciful, awakened Me and commanded Me to raise the call between earth and heaven. This is not from Me but from Him,' and through verses and clear proofs it is evident that if any fair-minded person were to compare the Kitab-i-Aqdas, which was revealed at the beginning of imprisonment, with the books possessed by the deniers, the radiance of the Word would shine forth like the sun and be proven. Should this word "I was asleep" until its end, along with the verses and clear proofs that have filled the world, be rejected or accepted?

And this word was mentioned only in consideration of the weakness of the servants. Countless sovereign verses were revealed concerning the Kitab-i-Aqdas, most of which were not recorded. In any case, beseech the True One to grant fairness and confirm all, that perchance they may attain the fragrance of the garment and recognize its Source. Now they have risen up with schemes and plots against the friends of Truth. Have such deeds ever been among the attributes of the people of truth? No, by My life! We beseech Him, exalted be He, to grant them what He possesses and not to make them among those who have corrupted and led others to corruption, who have gone astray and led others astray. Verily, He is powerful over all things and worthy to answer prayers.

One is bewildered as to what to mention and what to submit. This servant never imagined that the people of the Bayan would so quickly and severely rise up in rejection and objection. The Shi'ihs never committed what this group has perpetrated, nor did they say what this party has said and continues to say. Where has justice gone? This ephemeral one is perishing, for he observes that the deniers have turned away from the Truth and are unaware, or they recognize God's favor yet deny it. In one respect, it is seen that the effulgences of the Sun of Truth have encompassed the world—how then have some remained veiled? However, in light of the blessed verse of the Furqan which states, exalted be His Word: "And it increaseth nothing for the wrong-doers save destruction," one becomes silent and at rest, and commits all affairs to the Truth, glorified be His majesty. He doeth what He willeth and ordaineth what He desireth, and He is the Mighty, the Praiseworthy.

Regarding what was written about the spiritual beloved, Ibn-i-Abhar, upon him be the peace of God, the Lord of Power—through boundless grace and favor, and the confirmation and success granted by the Truth, glorified be His majesty, he crossed land and sea until he arrived at the shore of the Most Great Sea. The favors and kindnesses shown to him were evident and manifest. He arrived and his sight attained its purpose of creation, and likewise his hearing and heart—he saw and heard and was occupied with the mention of God. Now he dwells at rest beneath the glances of grace. We beseech the Truth, glorified be His majesty, to confirm him and make him the source of great services. After this matter was submitted before the Lord, He said:

> "O Zayn! We ask God to confirm him, grant him success, and enable him to arise in service to the Cause—an arising that no sitting down can overtake, and that the authority of ignorant divines cannot prevent. Now that he has, praise be to God, been successful and adorned with the ornament of acceptance, it is hoped that he will hold fast to wisdom, speak for God's sake, and remain turned toward God. Peace be upon him and glory be upon him."

And what was with him has arrived, of seeds and other things.

As to what was written concerning Zare' and those authorized souls, I beseech God to grant them all the blessing of pilgrimage to the House, and perchance this servant too may be gladdened and cheered by attaining their presence. In truth, those souls who move for the sake of God and hold fast to the commandments of His Book are accounted as stars in the heaven of grace. All atoms beseech God to grant success to such souls. The hardships of the way and the trials of the path do not deter them. These are the servants concerning whom He saith: "No fear shall be upon them, neither shall they grieve."

And petitions were received from Jinab-i-Aqa Siyyid Isma'il, Jinab-i-Aqa Mirza Asadu'llah and Jinab-i-Aqa Muhammad, upon them be God's peace. After being presented before the Most Holy and Exalted Presence, He said:

> "O Zayn, Jinab-i-Aqa Siyyid Isma'il has, praise be to God, repeatedly attained and succeeded in visiting the House. Write to him on behalf of the Wronged One: O Isma'il! Upon thee be My loving-kindness. Thy mention hath been made in the presence of the Wronged One and thy name hath been uttered from His tongue. It is as though We behold thee standing at the door. Thy petition and letter—all that thou didst send—was seen and renewed thy mention. We beseech God to grant thee success in that which will cause the exaltation of His Cause. The friends of God who have drunk from the cup of love and soar in the atmosphere of longing and yearning must hold fast unto wisdom and cleave unto that which will bring glory to the Cause. We have mentioned thee before and after, and We shall mention thee if God should will and desire.' And He said to write to Jinab-i-Asad, upon him be My loving-kindness: We give thanks unto God for having bestowed upon thee the privilege of visiting His House and making thee among those who circle round it and hold fast unto what is in His Book. He forgets not those who have turned to Him and acted according to His command. His is the praise and the bounty that He hath enabled thee to attain that which hath been the hope of those near unto Him from before and after. Praise be to God, thou hast been and art mentioned. Hold fast unto the cord of thy Lord's loving-kindness and cleave unto His luminous hem. Thou hast ever been and art under His watchful gaze. If thou shouldst find a friend, convey the greetings of the Wronged One and counsel him to act with propriety.' Jinab-i-Siyyid, upon him be My glory, and you must counsel everyone you meet to conduct themselves with calm, dignity, trustworthiness, religiosity, chastity, submission, contentment and reconciliation, that perchance the dust and smoke of hatred and animosity may be dispelled and the light of unity may illumine all lands."

And He said:

> "We have made mention of Jinab-i-Aqa Muhammad. God willing, may he be confirmed and assisted in that which is befitting."

This servant conveys greetings and praise to my honored master Jinab-i-Aqa Siyyid Isma'il, upon him be 966 [Baha'u'llah]. God is witness that in most times I make mention of them, and likewise occasionally mention is made of them in the Most Holy Presence. The days of nearness and attainment to His presence shall never be forgotten. For some time this servant has not been able to reply to their letter, and this is due to the abundance of writing, of which they are aware, and responding to souls newly

planted in the garden of inner meanings, that perchance they may attain to the lights of the Luminary of certitude and drink from the rivers of assurance. And to my honored beloved Jinab-i-Aqa Mirza Asadu'llah, upon him be God's peace and favors, I send greetings. How blessed were those days when seekers gathered in the presence of their Heart's Desire and nightingales assembled upon the branches of the Tree of nearness and reunion, warbling and singing. Whenever remembered, the heart attains renewed joy. I beseech God, exalted be His glory, to ever confirm that honored friend through the grace of the Most Great Name. This is not difficult for God.

The beloved of the heart, Jinab-i-Ibn-i-Abhar, upon him be the glory of God, the Lord of destiny, arrived with petitions, but until now there has been no opportunity to present them. Tonight or tomorrow, God willing, they will attain the honor of being heard, and afterward the command is in God's hand—He doeth what He willeth and ordaineth what He desireth.

As regarding what you wrote about Jinab-i-Aqa Muhammad Husayn Ibn'us-Sad, upon them both be God's peace, that he is engaged in shoemaking and that God, exalted be His glory, has blessed him with prosperity, and that the equivalent of two nineteen mithqals of gold has accumulated with him, and he now desires to pay the Huqúqu'llah therefrom—these matters were submitted to His presence. He said:

> "O Zayn! Those souls who act according to the ordinances of the Book are accounted as the most exalted of creatures in the sight of God. There has never been any doubt that whatsoever shines forth from the horizon of the heaven of God's command is purely for the wisdom and benefit of His servants. These small amounts are not worthy of mention, yet since he acts for the sake of God, it is beloved—even if it be but a single grain, it is the crown of all the harvests of the world. Give him glad tidings of My mention, My favor, and My acceptance, that he may rejoice and be amongst the thankful."

Section 3: "According to His command, three tumans…"

According to His command, three tumans of the mentioned Huqúq were received from Jinab-i-Ustad ʿAbdu'l-Karim, upon him be God's peace. Half of the remainder He bestowed upon him, and the other half upon that honored one. Blessed are those souls who hold fast to the fear of God and are engaged in service. This ephemeral one beseeches God to assist His party, one and all, in serving His Cause. Verily, He has power over all things.

And as for what was asked about shop equipment that is necessary for work and trade—whether Huqúqu'llah must be paid on these or whether they fall under the rule of household furnishings—after submission before His presence, He said that the rule of household furnishings applies to them.

As for the mention of the son of Jinab-i-Aqa ʿAli Nur, upon them both be Baha'u'llah's peace, it was submitted and attained the honor of His hearing. His mention and that of the souls mentioned have flowed from the Pen of Glory. God willing, may they attain unto it and be set ablaze with such a fire that the barking ones shall not prevent them, nay, shall not even be able to make mention of them. Thus has spoken the Lord:

He is God, there is no God but Him

O Zayn! Give glad tidings to My loved ones of My remembrance of them, My attention to them, and My turning toward them. The Pen has ever been occupied with mention of the friends of God. Today all atoms lament the oppression of this Wronged One, for there has befallen Him that which has befallen no one else. As if the people of the world were not enough, now the people of the Bayan have arisen in opposition. Instead of acceptance they show rejection, in place of turning toward they turn away, and at the time of submission they show denial. Well have they heeded the counsels of the Point! He says that the Tree of Affirmation becomes negation through turning away from Him.

Observe what mention the Herald made in such greatness, and what the people of the Bayan have done. The rocks cry out, the clouds lament, and the eyes of the near ones weep. Convey greetings from the Wronged One to each of the souls mentioned and make mention of them. Some time ago We mentioned the Deputy and sent a brief Tablet. Now again mention has been made of the one bearing the name of God (66) M.H. and of the friends. We beseech God not to deprive any of them of the Most Exalted Word, for all that is witnessed shall return to nothingness, but the Word of God has been and shall ever be enduring. Blessed is he who has attained unto it, recognized its station, and held fast to the cord of love for it. Woe unto the heedless!

And as for the mention of Jinab-i-Aqa Rajab-ʿAli, upon him be God's peace, this is what the tongue of the Lord has spoken:

He is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed

O Rajab-ʿAli! The world has been encompassed by the smoke of heedlessness—that smoke which was mentioned in the Tablets and about which people would inquire has appeared. These are souls who have arisen to oppose without any cause, and with the utmost deceit and cunning strive to lead poor souls astray. The dust of ignorance, like a disease of the eyes, has prevented them from beholding the effulgent rays of the Sun of Revelation. They have forgotten the counsels of the Most Exalted Pen and have erased the words inscribed in the Crimson Book. Beseech the True One, exalted be His glory, to have mercy upon His servants. O Rajab, ask God that never again in the world may the likes of the Shi'ih arise—that is, that such unfairness and cruelty may not appear. They perpetrated injustices unprecedented and unparalleled. Now certain followers of the Bayan walk in the path of those souls and cling to their ways. Say: O my Lord! Protect us from the evil of every deceiver and schemer. Verily, Thou art the Most Merciful of the merciful. Rejoice in My remembrance of thee and be of the thankful ones.

By the life of our Lord! If a soul were to comprehend, as it ought to be comprehended, the shrill voice of the Most Exalted Pen, he would become aware of the oppression inflicted upon the Blessed Being. At least if he cannot act as he ought, he should not engage in that which would kindle the fire. The servants must have mercy upon themselves and not make themselves the objects of divine wrath and anger. Most are unaware and cling to vain imaginings, and have neither sight nor hearing of their own. We are God's and unto Him shall we return.

According to His command, it would be desirable if copies of the Tablet to Aqa Rajab-ʿAli, together with the blessed utterances revealed in response to his second letter specifically for him, were sent to various

regions, that perchance the people may take heed and recognize. It would also be desirable if Jinab-i-Aqa Mirza Habibu'llah, upon him be God's peace, were to make copies.

Regarding the several bound volumes that someone from Dawlatabad sent to your honor and which volumes have remained until now—what you wrote about this matter was presented. According to His command: let them remain for now. The Shaykh has not come and no news has been received from him.

Regarding what you wrote about the envelope addressed to the honored and beloved Haji Nabil-i-Musafir, upon him be the glory of God—if possible send it and write that it arrived some time ago but due to the disturbances its dispatch was delayed.

The mention of the spiritual friend Aqa Muhammad Hasan, upon him be God's peace, was presented in the Most Holy and Most Exalted Presence. He said: We have not forgotten him and will not forget him. He has always been and continues to be remembered. This servant also sends greetings to him and beseeches the True One, exalted be His glory, that He may grant him his hopes and ordain for him from the Most Exalted Pen that which is the cause of joy and gladness. He said: We have mentioned Our Most Truthful Name as befits Him and beyond.

Your third letter, which was adorned with the date of the 22nd of the month of Sha'ban, gave new life to the spirit and bestowed fresh joy. Praise and thanksgiving be unto the peerless Lord that blessings arrive continuously.

Concerning the mention of the ascension of the honored Aqa Mirza Muhammad, upon him be the Glory of God and His forgiveness, which was written—this was presented at the Most Exalted Place, and this is what the Lord uttered: "O Zayn! We bear witness to his acceptance and his faith, and his confession of the blessed word 'There is no God but God,' and his recognition of that which was revealed from the Supreme Pen in the Divine Book. We beseech the True One, exalted be His glory, to cleanse him of all imperfections with the water of His grace and to immerse him in the ocean of forgiveness.

> "O my God! I beseech Thee by the ocean of Thy generosity and the heaven of Thy bounty to forgive Thy servant who hath ascended unto Thee, and to remit his sins and transgressions. Verily, Thou art the All-Forgiving, the All-Generous."

Praise be to God, they were repeatedly mentioned. This servant also beseeches the True One, exalted be His glory, not to withhold from him the wonders of His grace nor deprive him from the ocean of His mercy.

Mention was made of Aqa Muhammad Husayn, son of the known one, upon them both be the Glory of God. After this was presented, He said:

> "O Muhammad-Qabli-Husayn! We beseech God to ordain for thee what thou hast desired and to forgive thee through His grace, His generosity and His favors. Verily, He is the One Who hath power over what He willeth, and He is the All-Forgiving, the All-Kind."

Concerning what you wrote about the middle son of Aqa 'Ali-Nur, upon them be the peace of God—this was presented and He said:

> “O Zayn! Nur and his relatives have never been forgotten in the presence of the Wronged One. God willing, may they be assisted to that which will cause their eternal and enduring mention and preserve them from the evil of the barking ones. Today all must pray for one another and seek protection from the True One. Coming to this place at this time would be unwise, as many have come this year. The opposers are intervening and are heedless of what God hath willed. Each day they cling to a cord and grasp the hem of vain imaginings. May God grant justice and adorn the horizon of the world with the light of equity.”

Mention was made of His Holiness the Name of God Jamal, upon him be all His Most Glorious Glory. He hath endured many hardships in the path of God and, praise be to God, hath attained unto the word of contentment. Continually from the blessed Tongue is heard concerning him that which is the greatest testimony to his humility, submissiveness, self-effacement and his arising to serve the Cause of God. If possible, your honor should convey this glad tiding to him.

The stockings of the Leaf, upon her be the Glory of God, which were sent through the beloved heart, the honored Ibn-i-Abhar, upon him be the praise of God, the Lord of Power, arrived at the Household. All showed the utmost appreciation, and each of the members of the pavilion of grandeur and glory sends special greetings. His Holiness the Name of God Asdaq, upon him be all His Most Glorious Glory, is adorned with wondrous mention upon the arrival of each letter from your honor. In truth, this time is the springtime of death, for its mention flows from the Supreme Pen. This evanescent servant conveys greetings, praise and glory to all the friends of that land, and beseeches from the True One, exalted be His glory, confirmation and success for each one. Verily, He is worthy of response and He is the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing. Praise, remembrance and glory be upon your honor, upon those who are with you, and upon the sincere servants of God. And praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

The servant On the 9th of the honored month of Shawwal 1302:

He is God

Praise be to God! God’s grace has honored us with the fourth letter of Book Four. Each of the four elements and the four fundamentals received their full portion of its fragrances. Although in the view of later thinkers the elements have exceeded the number given by the ancients, knowledge is with God and the command is in His hand—He gives and withholds, He inspires and restrains, and He is the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

After reading and becoming informed, and after submitting this response, there appeared from the Kingdom of Utterance these words—exalted be His glory:

> “O Zayn! The dust and smoke of idle fancies and vain imaginings have encompassed all. The heedless and ignorant have clung to what they possess and remain deprived of what is with God. Four persons from the people of Manshad have sent a letter in opposition to God and in rejection of Him, and that letter bore witness to sheer ignorance and absolute tyranny. What was befitting as an answer has appeared from the Most Great Sea. If God should will it, your eyes shall be gladdened by beholding it. Glory be to God! How many heedless servants are to

be seen! Thou shalt read and know the stations of those who have disbelieved in God, the Lord of the worlds."

Four persons from the people of Manshad sent a letter to the Most Holy Court and arranged according to their own desires that which befitted those heedless souls. Strange that the letter of those people was incomplete, meaning that due to the intensity of their hatred and animosity, they omitted the divine mention at its beginning. What was hidden in their hearts was revealed, for this is the Day when secrets are unveiled. Everyone is occupied with their own vain imaginings, save those whom God has willed otherwise.

The letter which this servant wrote in reply, containing divine utterances, is being sent so that your honor may observe it and become aware of the degrees of faith and certitude of some. The reply was sent to the Land of Ya to be delivered to Manshad. If your honor should make copies and send them to certain places, this would be acceptable in the sight of God. Perhaps the ignorant people will not again fall prey to the well of idle fancies and vain imaginings. The Command is in God's hand, and He has power over all things.

Another submission: The response to your honor's letters was written some time ago, but there was delay in sending them as other matters arose and other affairs occurred. Therefore, I hope for forgiveness. The travelers, upon them be God's peace, arrived and what was with them was received. I beseech and hope from God, exalted be His glory, that He may grant each one a complete reward. Verily, He has power over all things. The Glory be upon you and upon your family.

The servant, 15th of the sacred month of Dhi'l-Hajjih 1302

BH00432: In the Name of Our Lord, the Most Invincible…

In the Name of Our Lord, the Most Invincible, the Most Holy, the Most Great, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious!

The essence of praise and glorification befitteth the Lord of Names, Who hath conquered the cities of the hearts of them that are endued with understanding through the hosts of utterance and expression. From time immemorial, out of pure bounty and grace, He hath summoned the peoples of the world to the most exalted horizon. His mercy hath ever preceded all else, and His grace hath outstripped all things. Every tongue proclaimeth His greatness and every face is turned toward His horizon. The oceans of the world bear witness to His grandeur and the heavens testify to His exaltation. The transgressions of the peoples of the world have not withheld His favors, nor have the errors of nations stayed His Will. He eraseth whatsoever He willeth and confirmeth whatsoever He pleaseth. The pavilion of power hath been raised through His Name and the tabernacle of world order hath been pitched by His Will. Exalted be His station, exalted be His might, exalted be His grandeur and power, and exalted be His glory and majesty!

Alas, alas! Souls that are defiled with fancy and vain imaginings are incapable of drawing nigh unto Him. Pure sanctification and complete detachment are required for one to attain unto the lights of the Kingdom and taste the sweetness of the utterance of the All-Merciful. Now the peoples of the world are observed to be veiled and deprived of the supreme blessing, for the flesh and blood of most are

commingled with tales and sayings and the conditions of names and the differences of things. Glory be to God! How can such souls be worthy of this Court and befitting of this station, unless the True One, exalted be His glory, should through His power create servants who are capable of hearkening unto the call and worthy of beholding the Most Exalted Horizon? Verily our Lord, the All-Merciful, is the One Who hath power over whatsoever He willeth through His Word "Be" and it is!

Glory be unto Thee, O God of Names and Sovereign over all things! The servant testifieth that Thou wert alone and single; no one was seen to champion Thy Cause or arise to serve Thee. Thou didst stand alone before the faces of the world in days wherein the hearts of Thy servants were agitated, and Thou didst call all to the ultimate goal, the most exalted station, and the highest summit. When the horizon of proof was illumined and that which was treasured in the storehouse of knowledge was manifested, Thine enemies who claim adherence to the Bayan emerged from behind the veils and perpetrated that which caused the dwellers of the cities of certitude to lament. I beseech Thee, O Thou Desire of the world and Lord of the nations, by Thy Most Great Name, to assist Thy Cause through Thyself and Thy Will and Thy Purpose. Verily Thou art the Omnipotent over what Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the Almighty, the All-Powerful.

Thereafter, thy letter was received. Praise be to God, the fragrance of love wafted therefrom and the light of faith shone from its horizon. After it was read and perused, it was presented before the countenance of the Lord of all mankind. This is what the Tongue of Grandeur hath spoken in reply, blessed and exalted be His Word:

In My Name, the Wronged One, the Prisoner:

O Ahmad! The divine Bird hath been imprisoned in the talons of the enemy. The Sun at the horizon of inner meaning hath been veiled by dark clouds from the light, and the Euphrates of the All-Merciful's mercy hath been held back from flowing by the wickedness of souls. At a time when that which hath been revealed from the heaven of His Will is equivalent to all the books of the past and future, some among the people of the Bayan have risen against Him. It seemeth they are not content with shedding His most pure blood. Those who are heedless and unaware of the root of the Cause claim knowledge and have arisen to mislead receptive souls. Like unto the Shi'ihs they have aimed at the station of the Divine Unity. Throughout ages and centuries they occupied themselves with mention of the Truth from pulpits and praised their own beliefs, yet after the appearance of the Sun of Truth, all engaged in cursing and execration from pulpits in mosques, gatherings and assemblies. Finally both the learned and the ignorant pronounced Him an infidel and issued the death warrant for His most pure blood.

Now too the people of the Bayan cling to such vain imaginings and hold fast to such idle fancies. O people of God! With penetrating vision, attentive ears, pure tongues and illumined faces, behold and hearken and speak. Today the people of Baha are those who see none as existing save God and His loved ones. Say: Pass beyond the realm of names that ye may attain the Most Exalted Paradise which is the station of true unity. Today none but God is worthy of mention, for this is His Day and His Manifestation. The books of the world suffice not, and that which is with the peoples availeth not. With clear certitude and upright stance, arise for the Cause of God—such an arising that neither the doubts of the people of the Bayan nor the might of all in creation shall prevent or deprive you from the goal of all existence.

Reflect upon the deeds and actions of the former people, and likewise upon their results and fruits, that perchance ye may not be deprived of the Lord of the Day of Judgment through the croaking of the crows and the deception of the deceivers. We convey greetings to the friends in that land and those round about, and We counsel them to that which hath been revealed from the Supreme Pen in the Tablets. O people of God! Whatsoever hath come to pass or shall come to pass was revealed aforetime in God's Book—with Him is the knowledge of all things in a clear Book.

Likewise We convey greetings to the handmaidens of God in that land and give them the glad-tidings of God's grace and favor—exalted be His glory. All must engage in the remembrance of the Lord of all beings with utmost sanctity and detachment throughout the nights and days. By God's life! He hath ordained for His loved ones and handmaidens that which shall bring joy to the eyes and gladness to the hearts and souls.

O Ahmad! Give praise to the Goal of the world that He granted thee the grace to witness, meet, hearken and stand before His presence. By God's life! Each of these mentioned stations cannot be equaled by the world and all that is therein. The nature of this world is that its Owner hath abandoned it and left it to others. In such case what value can be attached to it that one should be saddened or gladdened by it? Its existence is affliction and its absence is trial. Blessed are the people of Baha, meaning those souls who soar on the wings of love and detachment and behold themselves free and independent of the world and all its peoples in this day.

On this Sunday, the eighteenth of the month of Hajj, this Wronged One was seated upon the carpet sent by that honored one, which had been forwarded previously, in the Mansion of Mazra'ih, engaged in these remembrances:

> "Blessed art thou, and blessed is thy son, and blessed are they that are with thee. By the life of God! Verily he who hath ascended is in a glorious station and a radiant spot."

This ephemeral servant submits that the world is once again encompassed by the vain imaginings of false souls. The party of God must protect itself through His Name. The enemy appears in the guise of friendship to steal away the pearl of the love of Truth. Were Satan to appear in his own garment, no soul would be attracted to him, but he comes in the garment of the people of truth and engages in praise and glorification for the purpose of leading astray. This servant has ever beseeched and hoped from the true Omnipotent One that He may protect His loved ones from the evil of Satan. Verily, He has power over all things.

Some time ago, two Most Holy, Most Exalted Tablets were revealed and sent specifically to that honored one, wherein mention was made from the Supreme Pen of the departed and forgiven one who ascended unto God. They attained to that which had been the hope of those near and sincere ones. The other Tablets which were requested in His presence were given to the honored friend, His Eminence Amin, Haji Mirza Abu'l-Hasan, upon him be the glory of God and His favor, to be delivered to that honored one, and especially in these days he was written to with emphasis to send them.

Concerning what was written about the receipt of the trust, whatever reached that honored one reached this servant. That honored one has been and is, by God's grace, trustworthy. There is no room for doubt

or uncertainty in this matter. Praise be to our Lord Who guided me and guided you to His path, made clear to us His way, manifested to us His evidence, showed us the horizon of His revelation, and made us hear His call. We beseech Him to protect us from the evil of His enemies and the wickedness of His servants. Verily, He is our Master and our Protector, our Guardian and our Provider, the One Who gives us life and causes us to die, and our Helper in recognizing His firm and mighty Cause.

From my brother, His Eminence Aqa Mulla ʿAli-Akbar, upon him be the glory of God, also whatever should have arrived has arrived. This servant conveys greetings to him and gives him the glad tidings of God's favor, exalted be His glory, and the acceptance of what was sent. Blessed is he, happy is he.

And concerning what was written about the friends in that land, that they are engaged with utmost love and unity in the remembrance of God, exalted be His glory, and likewise all are holding fast to wisdom in such wise that the clamor of the heedless has subsided—after this matter was submitted in the Most Holy, Most Exalted Presence, these verses were revealed from the heaven of the favor of the Lord of Lords. His blessed and exalted Word:

O friends of Truth! He accepted all the tribulations of the earth and arose alone to promote the Cause. Neither the might of the people nor the clamor of men kept Him from mentioning and praising God. He revealed that which He willed. Had there been any worth or station in this world, He would surely not have accepted these tribulations. You must, with utmost joy and eagerness, ecstasy and gladness, be engaged in the mention of Truth, and despite the heedless ones, drink from the most exalted chalice and partake of the sealed wine. The adherence of God's loved ones to wisdom has been and is acceptable in His sight. Blessed are ye for having adhered to it, recognized its station and that which appears therefrom.

The Supreme Pen counsels all to steadfastness, and likewise all must supplicate God day and night to protect His servants from the vain imaginings of the past, lest there appear again in the world the likes of the Shi'ihs and those heedless souls. The deniers of the Bayan are occupied with the same vain imaginings and with utmost deceit and hypocrisy have arisen against the loved ones, and through outward love and friendship have afflicted and continue to afflict the people with the wilderness of idle fancies. I beseech God, exalted be His glory, to assist this party in such wise that they may regard all else save God as non-existent and as nothing. This is the station of true unity. Blessed is he who has adhered to it, detached from those who have hesitated in this Most Great, this mighty Cause.

Concerning the late and forgiven His Honor Ibn, upon him be the Glory of God, the Most Glorious, what was written—the manifest and evident grace has shone forth from the horizon of divine bounty, both in the previously revealed Tablet and in other sublime and holy Tablets. Upon him be God's mercy, His grace, His compassion and His bounty. The one God is my witness that these are the days of death, for each of the steadfast loved ones who has ascended has been mentioned by the Supreme Pen—a mention that perishes not and changes not. Exalted is the mercy of our Lord and great is His bounty upon us. We beseech Him to protect us from the evil of His enemies and to draw us near unto Him in all conditions. Glory and praise and honor be upon you and upon God's loved ones who have drunk the wine of steadfastness from the hand of the bounty of their Lord, the Generous.

The servant 18th of Dhi'l-Hajjih-i-Haram 1302

The piece of brocade, the rifle and the cloak that were sent previously have arrived, and likewise the piece of brocade that was in Tehran has also arrived, and the brocade sent by His Honor Aqa ʿAli, upon him be the Glory of God, has also arrived. God willing, Tablets will be revealed and sent specifically for those mentioned and others, upon them be the Glory of God. I convey greetings to Ibn and the friends of that land. God willing, may each one be illumined with the light of steadfastness, arise to serve, and be engaged in divine mention. Verily, He is the Protector of the sincere ones and those possessed of certitude. And praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH00665: Praise be unto the Self-Subsisting Lord Who, after…

In the Name of our Most Holy, Most Great, Most Exalted, Most Glorious Lord!

Praise be unto the Self-Subsisting Lord Who, after the Qa'im, arose with such arising as prevented all from arising, inasmuch as through the power of the Divine Word the foot of learning became unsteady and disturbed. Finding itself powerless to arise, it sat down—a sitting from which it hath not arisen to this day, as those possessed of vision among the divines and doctors of law have witnessed. When the Sun of Truth shed its radiance and the waves of the ocean of knowledge became manifest, these souls were seized with trembling and encompassed with perturbation, to such extent that the thread of their reason was severed and the bird of their faith took flight. The fire of hatred so encompassed them that it consumed their corrupt deeds.

What a blessed fire it was and what a blessed deed! Praise be to its hand and to its mighty arm!

Glorified art Thou, O God of existence, Who art established upon the Throne of the visible realm! Thou hearest the sighs of the sincere ones and beholdest the tears of them that are nigh unto Thee, by reason of what hath befallen Thee at the hands of the people of the Bayan who have turned away from Thy proof and Thy testimony, and from Thy signs in which they claimed to believe through Thy Manifestation aforetime—although they who are endowed with vision behold how all the books of the world bow down before a word that hath proceeded from the mouth of Thy will in this Revelation whereby the cities of Thy knowledge and the gardens of Thy Cause have been adorned. I beseech Thee, O Creator of the heavens and Manifestation of Names, by Thy dominion and Thy might, and by the mysteries hidden in Thy knowledge, to protect Thy loved ones from the cawing of the cawers and the turning away of them that turn aside. Then send down, O my God, upon Thy friends a blessing from Thy presence, and ordain for them in every world of Thy worlds such good as shall profit Thy servants. There is no God but Thee, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

And thereafter the letter of that honored and dearly-loved one arrived, quickening the soul and bestowing upon the spirit a new life. If I were to say it was pure and limpid wine, I should speak truly and rightly—for it spread the banquet and brought gladness. And if I were to call it the Kawthar of meaning, that would be truer still—for it was adorned with the mention of the Beloved of the worlds. Whatever it was, it was a wondrous thing: it holdeth unheard-of mysteries, and revealeth unseen matters. All these are the handiwork of love. Glorified be God! What is this, that all are bewildered at his recognition? His

word is potent and his decree prevaileth; all the lovers of the world are gathered beneath this banner. I beseech God that He may, at every moment, increase his grandeur; verily He is powerful and able to do all things. After reading it, and considering it, and becoming informed of its purport, I turned toward the Most Exalted Presence, and laid the whole before the countenance of the Possessor of Manifestation. This is what the Tongue of Grandeur uttered in the Kingdom of Utterance—His glory be magnified:

O Amin, O Abu'l-Hasan! Upon thee be the Glory of God, Lord of the hidden and the manifest! Thy letter was presented, thy call was heard. Today a tongue hath appeared in all things and all utter the blessed words "Aid us then, O God of all worlds, against the people of tyranny." O Amin! Today the verses of God are cast upon all and pass before all, yet all are heedless save whom God willeth. Beseech God not to deprive His servants of the wine of His bounty. We have spoken with the tongue, with the finger have We rent asunder the veils, and by Our will have We made manifest the mysteries of the divine Books. Nevertheless, they are deaf, dumb, blind, and they neither understand, nor know, nor perceive.

As to what thou didst write regarding attendance, it hath been some time since departure. Were thou to return to thy Source, it would be better for thee. In Arabic: "Come! Come!" In Persian: "Come! Come!" That thou mayest behold Him for Whose vision eyes were created. Come! Come! That thou mayest hear that for whose hearing ears were formed. Today the fire of the Divine Lote-Tree is ablaze and the light of the Divine Countenance is manifest and radiant. Blessed is the soul that hath been set aflame by its heat and illumined by its light.

The people have not known nor do they know the value of this Day. Ere long shall they utter the words "Oh, woe unto us!" With their own idle fancies and vain imaginings have they objected to the Truth. Such is the state of the heedless and the negligent. These souls are of those who for twelve hundred years cried out "O Lord!" and "O Vicegerent!" and "O Ali!" and "O Shaykh!", yet when at last He appeared for Whose appearance they had waited all this time, and through Whose utterance those very names were created, they occupied themselves with cursing and reviling Him from their pulpits. Then all the divines of Persia issued the decree for the shedding of His blood, and their followers—well known is what they said and did. By God! The Eye of Grandeur weepeth and the Point of Being lamenteth. Say: O servants! Reflect a little upon the deeds of those souls and upon their result and fruit. By the life of God! They are in manifest error and are among the most lost in the mighty Book.

O thou who gazest upon the Divine Countenance! The Most Exalted Pen hath repeatedly recorded these passages that the evil deeds of the former party might become evident and manifest to all, for it is observed that the heedless barking ones prevent the people through their former delusions and deprive them from the path of God. Would that eyes and ears could be found, that the veil might be wholly lifted and the reality of the Cause might become manifest and evident to all the worlds. The people are weak, and the mercy of God, exalted be His glory, hath preceded; therefore words are spoken in measure. Praise be to God, the Lord of what was and what will be. Verily, we are God's and to Him shall we return.

Praise be to God! The rays of the Sun of Truth have illumined the realm of the hearts of the chosen ones. At all times the waters of mercy flow, verses are revealed, and clear proofs are made manifest. This spiritual friend and this servant must implore from the Sea of Divine Generosity, exalted be His glory, to

awaken the heedless people and grant them vision. He is the Protector and the Powerful, He is the All-Knowing and the Omnipotent.

The greatest glad tidings is the presence of that spiritual friend in the holy court of the Lord. I beseech and hope from God that He may soon grant the blessing of attainment unto His presence. I also beseech Him to favor the beloved of my heart, namely His Holiness the Afnan, the honored Alif and Ha, upon him be the Most Glorious Glory of God, and bestow upon him from the ocean of attainment and the fountain of reunion. Verily, He has power over all things.

God is my witness that for a long time I have made and continue to make this supplication with both my outer and inner tongue, for this bounty has no likeness and this deed no parallel. The Command is in His hands; He does what He wills and ordains what He pleases. He shall not be asked of His doings and He is knowing of all things.

Another matter: The papers that were requested have been sent, as before. Outwardly, there is no news except that some time ago the Two Shining Lights, the two most noble Branches, His Holiness Aqa Aqa Mirza Diya'u'llah and His Holiness Aqa Aqa Mirza Badi'u'llah—may my spirit be a sacrifice unto their arrival—and the people of the pavilion of chastity, virtue and greatness have proceeded to Beirut. In truth, this year the place of that spiritual friend was empty. Would that all were present and could witness with their own eyes the effulgences of the rays of the Sun of Divine Grace. Although they were not physically present, they were and are mentioned in the Most Holy and Most Exalted Court.

Convey greetings and salutations on my behalf to the friends in the cities and regions. I beseech God, exalted be His glory, to confirm them in such wise that they may regard all else save God as non-existent and evanescent, and that they may attain unto the lights of true unity. This Day is not like the days of the past; this ocean has different waters and this heaven a different sun. Repeatedly was this exalted word heard from the tongue of the Lord of Names—blessed and exalted be His utterance:

> "O people of God! Until you pass beyond the gulf of names, you will not attain unto the ocean of inner meanings."

If a soul is confirmed in hearkening unto this one word, there has not been and is not any danger for him. All atoms bear witness to his faith, certitude and steadfastness in the path of God, the Lord of the worlds. A hundred thousand blessings upon the soul who has drunk from this cup and partaken of this chalice.

Glory, praise and magnification be upon you and upon those who are with you and who hearken to your words concerning the Cause of God, the Mighty, the Great. And praise be to God, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

The servant 28th of Dhi'l-Hajjih 1302

Volume 076: Akka 1302 A.H. (1884–1885), Part II (5 of 6)

BH00098: God testifieth that there is none other God but…

Section 1: "God testifieth that there is none other God…"

He is the One Who gazeth from His Most Exalted Horizon

God testifieth that there is none other God but Him, and He Who hath come with the truth is verily the Dayspring of verses and the Manifestor of clear proofs. Through Him were the Books sent down and that which was recorded in the Mother Book was made manifest. O thou who hast turned toward My horizon, hearken unto My call from the precincts of My prison. There is none other God but Him, the Mighty, the All-Bestowing. Say: By God! He Who was recorded in God's Books and concealed in His knowledge hath come. Come ye, O peoples of the earth, that ye may hear what the Ear of Moses heard on the Sinai of Divine Utterance. Say: Fear ye God and follow not your desires. Rend ye asunder the veils of idle fancies in the name of your Lord, the Lord of all mankind. This is the Day whereon all things proclaim: The Kingdom is God's, the Lord of Lords.

There hath come before the Wronged One a letter from him who hath arisen to serve My Cause, who hath voiced My praise, who hath drunk the choice wine of My love from the hand of My bounty, who hath attained My presence and stood before the door of My grandeur, and hath heard My sweetest call, wherein was thy mention. We make mention of thee with a remembrance whose fragrance shall not cease to endure so long as the names of thy Lord, the Lord of the Return, shall endure. Give thanks unto God for having aided thee to turn unto Him and guided thee unto the straight path. We counsel thee and them that have believed to wisdom and utterance, lest the clamour of them that have turned away and disbelieved in God, the Powerful, the Unconstrained, be raised. Blessed art thou for having turned toward My horizon and blessed is thy house which thou hast made a dawning-place of remembrance.

We make mention of thy brother who hath ascended unto the Supreme Companion and was named Muhammad-ʿAli. We testify that he hearkened unto the Call and attained unto the days of his Lord, the Lord of all men. We have forgiven him and purified him and make mention of him in this Tablet from whose horizon shineth forth the Day-Star of thy Lord's loving-kindness, the Lord of all names. We make mention of him and of that which befell thee in the path of God. Thy Lord is, in truth, the Mighty, the All-Bountiful. Be thou steadfast in the service of the Cause, and circle round the Will, and hold fast unto the cord of the loving-kindness of thy Lord, the Mighty, the Gracious. The splendor shining forth from the horizon of My Kingdom be upon thee and upon thy sister and upon those women who have turned unto God and believed in Him Who revealeth the verses.

We make mention of Muhammad-Sadiq and ʿAbdu'l-Karim and Haydar and him who was named Abu'l-Qasim and give them glad tidings of the bounties of their Lord Who hath come with power and sovereignty. We counsel them to observe the Most Great Steadfastness in this Cause whereby feet have slipped save those whom God hath delivered as a grace from Him, and He is verily the Powerful, the Mighty, the All-Knowing. From this station We send Our greetings upon their faces and beseech God to aid them in His remembrance and praise and in serving His Cause which hath illumined the horizons.

We make mention of the Siyyid who was named ʿAli-Rida that he may rejoice and be of them that render thanks. Blessed art thou for having turned toward the Most Exalted Horizon when mankind turned away from it, and for having heard the Call when it was raised betwixt earth and heaven. We counsel thee to steadfastness from this Most Exalted Station. Thy Lord is, in truth, the Counselor, the All-Knowing.

O Muhammad-ʿAli! Rejoice thou that the countenance of the Ancient of Days hath turned toward thee and hath mentioned thee with verses which God hath made the standards of His victory amidst His servants and the emblems of His might unto all who are in the heavens and on earth.

O youth Rida! Take what We have sent unto thee with power from God, the Lord of the worlds, and cast away what the people possess, for they are recorded among the most lost in the Book of God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy. We beseech God to aid thee in serving His Cause and to draw thee nigh unto Him in all conditions. He is verily the Forgiving, the Bountiful.

We make mention of him who was named Ghulam-Husayn and give him glad tidings through My remembrance of him. By the life of God! That which is with men cannot equal this. I am the All-Seeing Witness. Rejoice in this bounty and give thanks to thy Lord, the Mighty, the Beauteous.

O Muhammad-Husayn! We have manifested the Cause and revealed the verses, yet most of mankind remain heedless. Among men are those who turned toward God when they heard His call, and those who turned away when the clamor was raised. Blessed is the servant who hath clung to the hem of God's robe and turned to Him with a radiant face, and hath arisen to serve the Cause in such wise that neither the clamor of the divines nor the doubts of the followers of the Bayan, who have broken the Covenant and denied Him in Whom they had believed, could deter him. They are indeed the distracted ones. Hold fast to the cord of thy Lord's loving-kindness and give thanks for that which He hath revealed unto thee, which all that hath been created on earth cannot equal. To this testifieth every fair-minded and discerning soul.

O Muhammad-Husayn and Muhammad-Rafi'! Rejoice that My Most Exalted Pen hath turned towards you and made mention of you in such wise as shall endure throughout the kingdom. Blessed is he who hath attained, and woe unto the heedless. We make mention of you and counsel you to practice righteousness and piety, and that whereby the Cause of God, the Mighty, the All-Wise, may be exalted. O My Most Exalted Pen! At all times do We hear thy shrill voice and thy call in remembrance of God and His loved ones. Blessed art thou and blessed is he who findeth solace in that which floweth from thee by God's command, the Almighty, the All-Powerful.

Make mention on My behalf of him who was named Ali-Askar and give him the glad tidings of My turning towards him and My remembrance of him in this mighty Prison. Give thanks unto God Who created thee, nurtured thee, and made mention of thee in such wise as nothing on earth can equal. Verily thy Lord is the Forgiving, the Merciful.

Then make mention of Hasan with that which God hath inspired thee, that he may rejoice and be of those who render thanks. O Hasan! Thy Lord maketh mention of thee even as He mentioned His loved ones before thee. He verily doth not withhold the reward of the righteous.

O Ghulam-Husayn! The Wronged One calleth thee from the Most Great Prison with that which shall draw thee to the horizon of God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy. Beware lest Satan's hosts prevent thee from thy Lord, the All-Merciful. Abandon what the people possess, clinging to the cord of thy Lord's loving-kindness, the Ordainer, the Ancient of Days. Take hold of God's Book with the power that proceedeth from Him, and give thanks at all times.

O Tongue of My Grandeur! Make mention from My Kingdom of My servants Muhammad-Ali, Abdu'r-Rahim, and Muhammad-Isma'il, who have been remembered by him who circumambulated My Cause and arose to serve Me. I am the All-Knowing Witness. Blessed are ye for having turned unto God and attained unto His Word that speaketh before the faces of all the world: "There is none other God but Me, the Almighty, the All-Powerful." Recognize the station of this most exalted Station and say:

> "Praise be unto Thee, O Lord of Names, for having enabled us to remember and praise Thee, and for having drawn us nigh unto Thee. We beseech Thee by the waves of the ocean of Thy utterance and the splendors of the sun of Thy bounty to aid us to remain steadfast in that which Thou hast graciously bestowed upon us. Verily Thou art the Most Generous of the generous ones and the Most Merciful of the merciful."

O Muhammad-Karim! Give thanks unto God Who hath adorned thy head with the crown of acceptance and made thee recognize Him from Whom most of mankind remain veiled. He is the Protector of those who have turned unto Him. We observed thy turning to Us and We turned unto thee, and having perceived the fragrance of thy love, We made mention of thee in My wondrous utterance. Verily He heareth and seeth, and He is the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing. Rejoice in My remembrance of thee and preserve this station through this Name that holdeth sway over all who are in the heavens and on earth. Beware lest anything hold thee back from God. Leave the people and what they possess, turning unto the One, the All-Informed. Thus hath there flowed from My Most Exalted Pen the Living Waters. Blessed is he who hath taken and drunk thereof, and woe unto those who have forsaken it.

O Tongue of the Will! We love to make mention of him who writes the verses of thy Lord and who is named Muhammad Hashim, with a mention at whose appearance all mention bows down in adoration. When thou findest the fragrance of My utterance and attainest unto My verses which have descended from My Kingdom, arise and say:

Praise be unto Thee, O Lord of the world, and thanksgiving be unto Thee, O Possessor of all names! I testify that through Thee the Hidden Name and the Treasured Secret, which had been concealed from all eyes throughout all eternity, was revealed. Through Thee were the mysteries of the Books unveiled and the standards of "Verily Thou art God" were hoisted upon the highest pennants. I beseech Thee, O Lord of existence and Sovereign of the seen and unseen, by the lights of Thy countenance and the manifestations of Thy sovereignty, to assist me under all conditions to be steadfast in this Cause whereby the mountains have been shaken.

Then, O My Tongue, make mention of him who is named by His name, that he may give thanks unto his Lord, the Possessor of all beings. We counsel him and Our loved ones to be trustworthy, religious, truthful and faithful, and to manifest that which will exalt the station of man in the contingent world. Blessed art

thou for having been mentioned by My Most Exalted Pen and for having attained unto that which was hidden from all eyes. O Muhammad Hashim! Hearken unto the call from the direction of Akka: There is none other God but Me, the Mighty, the Powerful, the Self-Subsisting. We have sent the Messengers and revealed the Books as a grace from Our presence, and verily I am the Mighty, the All-Bountiful. We have mentioned thee before and at this time. Rejoice in the bounty of thy Lord, through Whom earthquakes have seized most lands save those who held fast to the cord of God, the Lord of all beings. Limit thine affairs to the service of thy Lord. Soon will all on earth perish, and there shall remain for thee what hath been revealed from My Most Exalted Pen, and I am the Mighty, the All-Knowing.

O Pen! Arise to serve the Cause of the Lord of Eternity, then make mention from the direction of My Most Luminous Horizon of My servant who is named Ali-Qabl-Akbar (Ustad), who hath arisen to serve My Cause and hath spoken My praise and hath attained unto My Tablets and hath acknowledged that which the Tongue of Grandeur hath uttered in My Kingdom, and I am the True Speaker, the Trustworthy. O Ali-Qabl-Akbar! The Wronged One hath mentioned thee once in the Most Great Prison and again in the palace built by the hands of providence, wherein My Temple was established upon the throne of My Great Name. Blessed art thou in that God hath assisted thee to serve His Cause and thou hast been mentioned by him who hath loved Me and hath arisen to assist My wondrous Cause.

We have heard thy mention and have mentioned thee, and We have seen thy turning towards Us and have called out to thee from the right side of the Mount with that which the fragrance thereof shall never cease to endure throughout the eternity of the name of thy Ancient Lord. The glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My utterance be upon thee and upon thy brothers who have tasted the sweetness of My call and have drunk the choice wine of My love, and upon every patient, steadfast and upright one.

And We make mention in this station of him who is named Muhammad, that the mention of his Lord may draw him to a station wherein he shall behold none save God, the Mighty, the Most Praised. O Muhammad! Blessed art thou and blessed are they who have shattered the idols of vain imaginings and adorned their temples with the lights of certitude. We make mention of them that have believed in God throughout the nights and days. To this testifieth every fair-minded and knowing one. Let not the affairs of earth grieve thee. Leave them behind thee, turning unto God, the Lord of the Day of Judgement. There hath befallen Us at the hands of the hostile forces that which hath caused the clouds to wail and the Faithful Spirit to lament.

Once they imprisoned Us in the land of Ta, and when the appointed time was fulfilled, they expelled Us therefrom. We journeyed until the land of Zawra was honoured by the advent of thy Lord, the Lord of all worlds. Then did they banish Us from there until We entered the Great City, and from thence to the Land of Mystery, and from there to this Great Prison. Thereafter the matter resteth in His hands. He knoweth and is patient. Were We to recount what lay in the hearts of the enemies and what they intended, the bereaved would weep and wail. Thy Lord, verily, is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. Nothing escapeth His knowledge. He witnesseth and seeth, and He is the Rememberer, the Hearer, the Answerer.

Section 2: “O My Pen! The Lord of Eternity commandeth…”

O My Pen! The Lord of Eternity commandeth thee to make mention of His loved ones and His friends, from whose countenances shineth the radiance of the All-Merciful and from whose character is manifested that whereby the Cause of God, the Sovereign, the Self-Subsisting, is exalted. O ʿAli-Akbar! We counsel thee to act in accordance with what God hath revealed in His Book. Thy Lord, verily, is the Truth, the Knower of things unseen. He hath created the world for My days, yet most of the people comprehend not. They have cast the Book of God behind their backs, clinging to what proceedeth from the daysprings of idle fancies—they who have denied the signs of God and disputed them, and turned away from the Face when it shone forth from this Horizon which God hath made the Dawning-place of Light.

And We make mention of Qasim, who turned unto his Lord and answered His call when the summons was raised. We beseech God to aid him to remain steadfast in this irrevocable Cause. O Qasim! Thy Lord calleth thee from beyond the sea and maketh mention of thee with that which nothing visible can equal. Rejoice thou and say: Praise be unto Thee, O Lord of the seen and the unseen! Blessed is he who hath attained unto the mention of God in His days. He is indeed among the most exalted of creatures in a preserved Tablet. Hold thou fast unto the cord of thy Lord’s loving-kindness and say:

I beseech Thee by the pearls of the ocean of Thy knowledge and the stars of the heaven of Thy bounty and the effulgent rays of the Sun of Thy countenance, to make me steadfast in this Cause whereby hearts and souls have been shaken.

O Muhammad-Rida! We have sent down the verses and manifested the Cause, yet most of the people perceive not. Say: He walketh not in your ways, nor followeth what ye possess. He hath appeared with the truth and His is the sure handle and the extended path. It behoveth every soul to hold fast unto it. His is the command, both before and after. There is no God but Him, the Almighty, the Sovereign over what was and what shall be.

O Zaynu’l-ʿAbidin! Take thou this perspicuous Book with a power from Our presence. Beware lest the affairs of men debar thee from the truth. Cast away what the people possess and take what thou art commanded by God, the Lord of existence. Thus have the spheres of utterance been set in motion by thy Lord’s will, the Lord of all names, yet most people understand not. They have turned away from the truth, inclining unto the manifestations of idle fancies and vain imaginings.

Praise be unto Thee, O Most Exalted Pen! Make mention of him who was named Muhammad-Rida, who turned towards the Most Exalted Horizon. Blessed is he and his brother who turned towards the Countenance and drank the choice wine of utterance from the hands of the bounty of his Lord, the Mighty, the Best-Beloved. O Muhammad-Qabli-Rida! Thy mention hath been made in the presence of the Wronged One, and there hath been revealed for thee that which guideth the servants unto the Interlocutor of the Mount. Rejoice thou in My remembrance of thee and say:

> “Praise be unto Thee, O Thou Who hast mentioned me in Thy Most Great Prison and guided me unto Thy praised station.”

Blessed is thy house wherein the mention of God hath been raised. We, from this station, magnify thee and thy brother, and give you both glad tidings of the mercy that hath preceded existence. The Glory, manifest and resplendent from the horizon of My loving-kindness, be upon you both and upon those who have drunk, in My Self-Subsisting Name, of My sealed choice wine.

We make mention of your father who was enkindled with the fire of the love of God and who spoke in praise of his Lord. Verily, he is of the people of this station in a preserved Tablet. By the life of God! Nothing in the world can equal this mention, yet most of the people understand not. O Muhammad-Rida! Confine thyself to the promotion of the Cause of thy Lord and His mention amongst His servants. Soon shall the world and whatsoever is therein perish, and there shall endure every deed that hath been adorned with the ornament of acceptance. Beware lest the might of princes frighten thee or the veils of the divines who have broken God's Covenant and His Testament, and have denied the verses when they were sent down from the heaven of the will of thy Lord, the Sovereign of the Kingdom, prevent thee.

O Husayn! The Wronged One maketh mention of thee from the precincts of the Prison, and calleth thee to patience and resignation in this Cause whereby the foundations of every rejected idolater have been shaken. Arise to serve the Cause with such steadfastness as cannot be shaken by the clamor of the people. Verily thy Lord hath made mention of thee and guided thee unto His outstretched path. There hath befallen thee what hath befallen Us, as attesteth He with Whom is the hidden Book. Hold thou fast unto the cord of thy Lord's loving-kindness and say:

> "Praise be unto Thee, O my God, for having created me and reared me and mentioned me in Thy praised station. I beseech Thee, by the fragrances of Thy Revelation and the lights of Thy Countenance, to make me steadfast in Thy Cause. Thou art, verily, the Omnipotent over what Thou willest, and within Thy grasp are the reins of all kings."

O Ghulam-Qabli-Rida! There hath dawned from the horizon of My Most Glorious Name that which the earth and heaven cannot equal, as attesteth He with Whom is the Mother Book. Blessed is he who hath spoken My mention and attained unto My praise and risen to serve My Cause whereby necks have been subdued. This is a Day wherein that which was hidden in the knowledge of God and inscribed by the Most Exalted Pen in the Scriptures and Tablets hath been made manifest. Know thou this most exalted station. He hath mentioned thee in such wise as shall endure in the kingdom through the perpetuity of My Name, the Dominator over all names.

O Ali-Qabli-Rida! We have seen thy turning unto Us and We have turned unto thee, and We have heard thy call and answered thee with verses at whose revelation all verses have bowed down in submission. Give thanks unto God for having enabled thee to turn towards Him and for having mentioned thee from the horizon wherefrom the lights have shone forth. Be thou steadfast in the service of the Cause and speak forth His praise throughout the nights and days.

O Abbas! The Lord of humanity remembers you and calls you to the lamp kindled by the hand of power among creation. Verily your Lord is the Mighty, the Unconstrained. He does whatsoever He willeth and ordaineth what He pleaseth. Whosoever saith why' or wherefore' hath disbelieved in God, the Lord of all lords. We had informed everyone of the rising of the clamor in all regions when the Light was shining

from the horizon of Iraq and in the Land of Mystery and in this Station which hath been named with the most beautiful names by God, the Lord of creation. We beseech God to protect you and His loved ones from the evil of those who outwardly claim to love God and follow Him while calling people to themselves—and the call of such atheists is naught but error.

O Hadi! He Who guided thee to the straight path makes mention of thee and imparts unto thee that which shall cause thy remembrance to endure throughout the eternity of thy Lord's names, the Lord of all beings. Verily he who hath arisen to serve the Cause is of the people of Baha in the Book of Names and among the companions of the Crimson Ark in the scriptures and tablets. Hold fast unto the cord of certitude in such wise that none in all creation may deter thee. Be thankful to thy Lord Who remembered thee and aided thee until thou didst turn toward His supreme horizon while most of the servants turned away. Be vocal in thy Lord's praise and steadfast in His remembrance throughout the nights and days. Thus have We adorned thy temple with the ornament of thy Lord's remembrance, the Mighty, the Bestower.

O Abul-Qasim! The Lord of the world makes mention of thee from the Most Great Prison that He may draw thee nigh unto the horizon whence shone forth the lights of thy Lord's countenance, the Cleaver of the dawn. Give thanks unto God for having enabled thee and aided thee and revealed for thee that whose fragrance shall never cease throughout centuries and ages.

We make mention of him who was named Ali-Akbar from the direction of My most luminous horizon, round which circle the Highest Paradise and the dwellers of the Kingdom of Names. Be thou thankful and say: Unto Thee be praise, O Lord of all humanity, and unto Thee be glory, O Thou in Whose grasp is the reins of all who are in earth and heaven. Be thou steadfast in the Cause and act according to what thou hast been commanded in the Mother Book. This is a Day wherein the Book speaketh and the Mother Book walketh and saith: "To Me, to Me, O concourse of the chosen ones!" Beware lest the might of the mighty weaken thee. Arise to serve the Cause with such resolve that the thorns of those who have denied the Beginning and the End cannot make thee slip. Thus have We illumined the horizon of utterance with the luminary of proof. Blessed is he who hath turned toward it and woe unto every doubting denier.

O Muhammad-Hasan! The Wronged One in prison makes mention of those who have turned toward His supreme horizon and counsels them with that which shall elevate their stations before God, the Lord of the Day of Judgment. Blessed is the ear that hath heard what the Interlocutor heard and the eye that hath seen what other eyes and visions were prevented from seeing.

O Asadu'llah! Set down what thou hast and take up what thou hast been commanded by God, the Lord of all religions. Thus hath the Tongue of Revelation spoken while the Wronged One was in the hands of the wicked. Take the cup of the choice wine in thy Lord's name, then drink thereof with His remembrance at Whose appearance the earth was shaken and the mountains passed away. Say: Verily the choice wine is My verses, and the Mother Book is My Self, and the Book is My tongue from which the mysteries have appeared. Thus have We adorned the heaven of knowledge with brilliant stars, and I am the All-Powerful, the Unconstrained.

O Muhammad-Baqir! We counsel thee and Our loved ones with that which befitteth My days and their relationship to My Cause. Exalted is He Who hath appeared with power and sovereignty. Be thou steadfast in the Cause in such wise that neither the allusions of the divines, nor the doubts of the theologians, nor the might of princes, nor the wealth of the rich shall debar thee. Thy Lord doth witness and hear, and He is in the most sublime horizon, and before His face the Lote-Tree of the Uttermost End doth speak. Blessed is he who hath seen and heard when the Temple of Pre-existence was established upon the throne of grandeur and might.

O Ali-Akbar! Aid thy Lord, the Lord of Destiny, through wisdom and utterance, and through the hosts of deeds and character. We have sent down the verses and expounded them in truth, and We are verily the Mighty, the Glorious, the All-Bountiful. We have commanded all with that which draweth them nigh unto God, as attesteth the Mother Book which is with Him.

We make mention of him who was named after thee, that he may rejoice and be of the thankful. Thou wert created for this Most Great Day wherein the Lord of Destiny proclaimeth: The Kingdom is God's, the Lord of the worlds. We have remembered him who turned to Us and make mention of him in My perspicuous Book. Be thou thankful to God for this supreme bounty, then remember Him at all times.

O Ali-Asghar! The Wronged One remembereth thee from the direction of His Most Great Prison, and summoneth thee to the Greater Steadfastness whereby the limbs of all creation trembled, save those whom God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy, willed to exempt. This is a day wherein is heard the barking of dogs from all directions, and behind them the squealing of swine. Blessed is the soul whom the clamor of the people hath not prevented, who hath arisen and proclaimed: The Kingdom is God's, the One, the Peerless, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. Thus hath flowed from the Most Exalted Pen the secrets of that which was recorded in the Book of Names, as witnesseth the clear Book which is with Him.

O Zaynu'l-ʿAbidin! Adorn thy head with the crown of certitude and thy temple with the ornament of steadfastness in this Day wherein every edifice hath been shaken, every heart troubled, and all limbs have trembled through fear of God, when He came from the heaven of will with manifest sovereignty. Cast aside what the people possess, holding fast to that which is with God, and be not of the heedless. By God! The Hidden One hath appeared and the Treasured Secret been revealed, yet We see the people among the heedless. Say: Fear God, O people, and follow not your desires. Follow Him Who calleth you unto God, the Lord of the Day of Judgment. Blessed is the servant who hath heard the call and answered his Lord, the All-Hearing; and woe unto him who hath denied God's right and turned away from Him to Whom testified the Books of the world and beyond them He Who proclaimeth in every state that there is none other God but Me, the One, the All-Informed.

Section 3: "O Pen! Make mention of him who was…"

O Pen! Make mention of him who was named Sadiq, that My remembrance may draw him to the kingdom of My utterance and bring him nigh unto the heaven of My loving-kindness, and I am verily the Compassionate, the Generous. Be thou steadfast in service to the Cause and vocal in thy Lord's praise at all times. Soon shall pass away all thou beholdest today, and there shall remain for thee what hath been sent down from God, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting. Hold fast to the cord of thy Lord's favor and say:

Praise be unto Thee, O my God, for having caused me to hear Thy call, guided me to Thy path, and remembered me when I was wronged at the hands of those who were heedless of Thy Self and Thy hidden Book. I beseech Thee, O my Lord, by the breezes of Thy Revelation, the manifestations of Thy power, and the winds that blow in Thy days to quicken Thy creation, that Thou aid me in this Cause whereby the feet of the learned and the mighty have slipped, save those rescued by the hands of Thy power. There is none other God but Thee, the Almighty, the Protector, the Glorious, the All-Loving.

The Wronged One wishes to mention in prison the one named Rajab-ʿAli that he may thank God, the Lord of the seen and unseen. We have indeed caused the rains of knowledge to pour forth from the clouds of utterance. Blessed is he who has recognized and attained, and woe unto every heedless and veiled one. Beware lest thou be frightened by the oppression of any oppressor, the might of any misbeliever, the denial of any denier, and the turning away of any who has turned away from God, the Lord of the Kingdom. Blessed is he who has arisen to proclaim:

> "By God! The Desired One has come with a sovereignty that neither the hosts of the world nor the clamor of those who have denied the Witness and the Witnessed can prevent."

He has come, He to Whom the Books of God, the Lord of what was and what shall be, have testified. Among the people are those who have turned towards Him, heard and acknowledged, and among them are those who denied and turned away until they disbelieved in Him Whom they mention night and day. To this testifies He with Whom is the [preserved] Book. Blessed is he whom the breezes of My mercy have awakened and whom the winds of My loving-kindness have raised up in My days, and woe unto every transgressor whom vain imaginings have withheld from the Dayspring of knowledge.

O ʿAli! The Wronged One mentions thee and bids thee to that whereby thy mention shall endure throughout the kingdom of earth and heaven. This is a Day wherein the Mount calls out: ["By God!] The Lord of Revelation has come, He Who was promised in the Books of God, the Mighty, the Beloved." We counsel thee to be steadfast in this Most Great Announcement, whereby the Concourse on High rejoiced and every rejected misbeliever lamented.

O Most Exalted Pen! Verily Muhammad and Muhammad, then Muhammad and ʿAli and Muhammad are among those whose names were present before the Face, and there was revealed for them from the Kingdom of Will that which brought joy to the eyes of those near unto God. Know ye what hath been revealed for you. By God! He who hath attained unto My mention hath attained unto all good, but most of the people are heedless. Then preserve your stations in the name of your Lord, the Strong, the Mighty, the Powerful. The transgressors have stationed themselves in ambush and prevent the people from turning to the countenance of God, the Lord of the worlds. Satan himself flees from their scheming and from what they possess. To this testifies He Who speaks at this hour:

> "The Kingdom is God's, the One, the Single, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed."

Thus have the fingers of proof woven the armor of utterance, as a bounty from God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy.

O Muhammad-Hasan! Hearken unto the call from the direction of ʿAkka, which hath been named the White Dome and the Land of Resurrection in the Books of God, the Lord of this wondrous Day. Whoso hath attained unto hearing it is indeed of the people of the Crimson Ark, which God hath specially ordained for the people of Baha. He is verily the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous. Rejoice thou in My mention, then give thanks unto thy Lord, the One Who has sovereignty over all who are in the heavens and on earth.

O Siyyid Javad! The Lord of creation makes mention of thee from His abode and gives thee glad tidings of that which hath been ordained for those who have turned towards the Most Sublime Horizon, from God, the Ancient Sovereign. Verily, he who hath heard and acknowledged is among the people of this noble station. Let not the affairs of men sadden thee, nor the intimations of the deniers who mount the pulpits and deny the Manifestation of God and His signs—they are assuredly among the most lost. These claim to have faith and would beseech God by night and day for the appearance of this Cause which was mentioned in the Qur'an, the Torah and the Gospel. Yet when the promise was fulfilled and the Hidden One appeared, they pronounced judgment against Him with an injustice unequaled by any in the world. To this testifieth He Who possesseth the Book of God and the Tablet wherein was revealed that which none knoweth save He Who speaketh:

> "There is no God but Me, the Single, the One, the Mighty, the Wise."

Thus did the Pen of the Wronged One move in the Most Great Prison when sorrows encompassed Him from all sides through that which the hands of the idolaters had wrought—they who turned away from the Countenance when it shone forth from the horizon of revelation. They are indeed among the bewildered ones.

O Muhammad Javad! The day of hearing hath come, yet most of the people hear not. The day of arising hath come, yet they remain seated. The world hath appeared for this Revelation, yet the people comprehend not. We call them to the supreme paradise, while they call Us to the fire. Thus have their souls seduced them, and they perceive it not. Blessed is the face that turneth away from them, setting itself toward God, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting. Hold fast to the Sure Handle and cling to the hem of God, the Powerful, the Mighty, the All-Loving.

O Ustad Rajab-ʿAli! Thy name hath appeared before the Wronged One, and the Most Exalted Pen of God hath moved to make mention of thee. Know thou this station, then give thanks to thy Lord, the Possessor of existence. He Who was promised hath come, He Who was concealed hath appeared, and He Who was hidden hath been made manifest. To this testifieth He Who, by the power of His Lord, hath shattered the idols of vain imaginings and suppositions. When thou art blessed with My verses and findest the fragrance of My loving-kindness, arise and say:

> "Praise be to Thee, O Thou through Whose remembrance the limbs of the ignorant tremble and the hearts of those who denied the Promised Day are disturbed."

O Rida, son of Muhammad! Dost thou know Who maketh mention of thee? By the life of God, the Single, the One, Who was the goal of the Prophets and the Chosen Ones and the Dawning-Place of thy Lord's will, the Possessor of might! He Who ascended to heaven hath come from it, and beareth witness before

My face, yet the people hear not. Muhammad, the Apostle of God, hath testified to this Most Great Announcement, and Moses crieth out saying:

> "By God! The Revealer of the Torah, the Gospel and the Psalms hath come!"

The lips of the world have smiled through recognizing My utterance. Blessed is he who hath found, and woe unto every heedless one who is veiled. This is a day wherein the doors of bounty and grace have been opened unto the faces of all peoples, yet they have turned away and denied God's proof and evidence. They are indeed the lost. They have taken idols as lords for themselves instead of God, yet these shall not help them.

O My Most Exalted Pen! Make mention of him who hath been named Siyyid ʿAli, that he may rejoice in the remembrance of God, the Mighty, the All-Knowing. Blessed art thou, inasmuch as thou hast heard the Call and been mentioned by the Dove, and there hath been sent down for thee that which no earthly thing can equal. Thy Lord is, verily, the Forgiving, the Bountiful. Beware lest anything debar thee from the things of this world. Take thou the chalice of salvation in the name of Him Who causeth the dawn to break, and when thou hast attained unto it, arise and say: By the life of God! I have attained unto that which was inscribed in the Books of God, the Lord of all worlds. Blessed is the stranger who hath drawn nigh unto the Most Exalted Homeland, and the poor one who hath turned toward the Ocean of wealth, and the sick one who hath clung to the Dayspring of healing, Who hath come from heaven with manifest sovereignty.

O peoples of the earth! Hearken unto the call of this Wronged One, the Stranger, Who hath been imprisoned and banished and exiled for having summoned mankind unto God, the One, the All-Informed. Listen in this hour to the Voice of the Spirit from the right hand of My mighty Throne, saying: O concourse of divines! Ye are the highwaymen of God and His paths, and the misleaders of His servants. Fear ye the All-Merciful, and draw not over the face of justice the veil of tyranny, nor over this heaven the clouds' shroud. Soon shall the days pass, and ye shall find yourselves in the position of being questioned before God, the Self-Subsisting, the Most High. This is the day whereon Zion hath cried out and given glad tidings unto all of the Garden of inner meanings, which hath descended from heaven with a glory that none can deny save every sinful doubter. This is what hath been sent down in another Tablet to one of My servants, and I am the One Who sendeth down, the Chosen One.

O concourse of divines! By God, Paradise lamenteth because of your tyranny, and the chosen ones because of what hath befallen Us at the hands of your followers, who have clung to you without clear proof or evidence. Behold, then remember what ye have done aforetime to God's friends and chosen ones, through whom the horizon of the world was illumined and the ocean of knowledge surged amongst the nations, and through whom the banners of unity were hoisted upon the hills.

O Muhammad-Qabli-Ja'far! God maketh mention of thee from His direction and counseleth thee to be steadfast in this Cause, the greatness of which was heralded by the tongues of the Prophets and the chosen ones, and before Whose manifestation necks have bowed down. Hold fast unto that whereby the Cause of God may be exalted, then make mention of Him at eventide and at dawn. We have sent down

concerning every matter that which no books in the world can equal, whereunto the Mother Book beareth witness.

O Muhammad-Qabli-Ja'far! Hearken unto the call of the Wronged One Who lamenteth in His heart and crieth out in His inner being and calleth with His tongue and writeth with His pen and pointeth with His fingers, that He may draw men nigh unto the Most Sublime Horizon, the station which the Seal of the Prophets and the Lord of the chosen ones did seek. Exalted is He Who hath appeared and called all unto the Dayspring of verses.

And at the end of the Tablet We make mention of My handmaidens who have believed in God and His signs, and who have turned towards Him when most of the servants turned away. O thou who circlest round My Cause and gazeth upon My countenance and uttereth My praise and soareth in Mine atmosphere! We have made mention of those whose names thou didst recount in thy letter, and have adorned them with the ornament of utterance in the realm of possibility. Exalted is the All-Merciful, the Source of this bounty and the Bestower of this station. Convey My greetings unto them, then remind them of that which hath been sent down from the heaven of My loving-kindness, and give them the glad tidings of My mercy, which hath preceded all created things. The glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My grace be upon thee and upon those who are with thee and who hearken unto thy mention in this Cause whereby feet have slipped save such as God, the Lord of mankind, hath willed.

BH00448: O Ism-i-Jud! Upon thee be My Glory! The letters…

He is God—exalted be His glory, His grandeur and power!

O Ism-i-Jud! Upon thee be My Glory! The letters from Jinab-i-Samandar, upon him be My glory, have arrived continuously, yet for some time nothing has been sent from the Most Holy Court. The saplings in the gardens of inner meanings have grown and continue to grow from the Kawthar of divine bounty. The outpourings of the Most Great Sea are the cause and reason for the appearance and manifestation of the crafts and things of the world. By the life of God! The world's sustenance is from Him. Blessed are they who reflect, and blessed are they who perceive.

The mention of those souls that were in the letters—each one has been blessed with the lights of the Sun of grace and kindness. Their mention has been made and recorded by the Supreme Pen. Blessed are they and theirs shall be a goodly return. We beseech God to assist the loved ones of that land that they may all be occupied with the remembrance of the Lord of all beings at all times, and that they may not in any circumstance exceed the bounds of wisdom. Let them speak with moderation, teach with moderation, and act with moderation. Let Jinab-i-Samandar convey greetings to all on behalf of the Wronged One and gladden them with God's bounty, exalted be His glory. We testify that he arose to serve the Cause on a day wherein every lion fled, every standing one sat, every tranquil one was disturbed, and every swift one halted. Upon him be the glory of God, His mercy, His grace, and His favor.

O Ism-i-Jud! Upon thee be My Glory! The letter of Khalil which he sent to thee was noted. We found in it the fragrance of his love and his enkindlement in the Cause of God, the Lord of the mighty throne. He has taken the cup of success and drunk therefrom in the name of his Lord, the Mighty, the Powerful. He has

arisen to serve the Cause and desired to turn towards the Most Exalted Horizon. We testify that he has fulfilled God's Covenant and His Testament, and has succeeded in discharging His rights in following His mighty and glorious Command. We have granted him permission, as a mercy from Us, that he may proceed with wisdom to the Dawning-Place of the Light of Oneness.

We thank God, the Lord of the Exalted House. He desired to leave his homeland out of love for the Most Exalted Homeland and longing to attain the presence of God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy. Hear in the Persian tongue: Jinab-i-Khalil, upon him be My glory, has been granted permission, but after setting his affairs in order and arranging them, and setting in order the affairs of those left behind, for if they wish to travel with the people it would be difficult and very arduous. In solitude there is spirit and rest for those who turn to God, but wisdom does not endorse solitude. One is necessary and two are not forbidden. In any case, the smaller the group, the more spirituality is witnessed.

And Jinab-i-Muhammad-Karim, upon him be the glory of God, has previously been granted permission. We ask God to assist him in what He loves and is pleased with, and to manifest through him what befits His days. Verily, He has power over all things.

O Samandar, upon thee be my glory! The numerous supplications from his honour the Trustee (Amin) have reached the Most Holy Court, wherein he hath made mention of his honour Nabil-i-Akbar, upon whom be the glory of God and His favours, and likewise mention of his honour Javad and those with him, upon whom be the glory of God, and hath made mention of his honour ʿAziz Khan and his honour Morteza-Qoli and Nuru'llah Khan, and hath sought for each that which leadeth to divine confirmation and success. Praise be to God that all are remembered and have attained unto the grace of God, exalted be His glory. We beseech Him not to deprive any soul on earth of the choice wine of inner meanings, and to bestow from the ocean of His bounty and knowledge a complete portion.

The affairs of the world and attachment thereto have prevented mankind from the divine path and deprived them of that freedom and detachment which are among the greatest gifts of the Lord. They are fettered by the chains of idle fancies and vain imaginings until they return to their own station. The recompense for the deeds of the people of the world hath been made manifest in the form of ignorant divines who deny Him. These are they who cut off the way of God and lead His servants astray. Beseech ye God to protect all from the evil of such souls. The fire of these souls is seen to be more fierce than the fire of Nimrod. O Lord! Protect Thy servants from the evil of these people, then assist them with the hosts of deeds and virtues. Verily Thou art the Strong, the Triumphant, the Almighty.

O my Nabil! O thou who gazest toward the Most Sublime Horizon! Today from the rustling of the Sadratu'l-Muntaha was heard this most exalted Word:

> "Nabil-i-Akbar hath passed by the Most Great Scene. Let him aid his Lord, the Most Merciful, through utterance. By My life! He was created to serve this wise Cause and this mighty News. We, from this station, send Our glorification upon thy face and make mention of thee as We have mentioned thee before and will mention thee hereafter. To this beareth witness the Mother Book in this exalted station."

O Samandar! Convey with the utmost joy and fragrance the greetings of the Wronged One to the friends in that land. God is the Hearer, the Answerer. The sweet savours of the love of each one have reached the Most Holy Court. Blessed are they whom the earthquake of the Hour hath not disturbed, and whom the might of the heedless ones hath not deprived of God. A soul who is manifestly filled with pride and who boasteth of worldly ornaments is at times consumed with the fire of wrath, thundering and flashing, and at other times his lamentation riseth high due to some slight ailment. Nevertheless he hath not become aware, nor will he become aware until death overtaketh him. At every moment they witness change, decline and extinction, yet they are not mindful. My Most Exalted Pen testifieth that they are among the most lost.

Muhammad-Karim hath arrived and the petitions from that land have reached the Most Holy Court. Each one hath been mentioned in the presence of the Wronged One and his name hath been recorded by the Most Exalted Pen. Blessed are they who in the days of God have attained unto His mention and been adorned with His favours. However, in accordance with wisdom, the response to these petitions hath been outwardly delayed until God shall bring about His decree.

And regarding Jinab-i-Abu'l-Hasan, upon him be the Glory of God, who mentioned Jinab-i-Muhammad-ʿAli alif mim—we beseech God to aid him to arise in service to His Cause and to utter that which is befitting for His sake. In all conditions he must observe wisdom. He hath attained the mention of the Wronged One in this Station which hath been named by the Most Beautiful Names. Give him these glad-tidings and convey to him greetings from the Wronged One, that he may rejoice and be among the thankful ones.

He hath also mentioned the honored wife of ʿAbdu'l-Hamid Khan. Her mention hath been before the Holy Presence both in the past and present, and numerous Tablets have been revealed in her name. We have remembered her and continue to remember her, and We counsel her to show forth the Greater Steadfastness in this Mighty Cause. In truth, every leaf that hath clung to the Divine Lote-Tree is mentioned as one of the denizens of Paradise before the Throne. Blessed is the handmaiden who hath attained unto steadfastness and hath drunk the choice wine from the hands of the bounty of her Lord, the Almighty.

O Murtada! There hath turned towards thee from this Most Exalted Horizon He Whom all have denied save those whom God, thy Lord, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise, hath willed. Behold and remember when Muhammad, the Apostle of God, came, all people denied Him save a few souls, and when the Spirit (Jesus) came, the Jews denied Him and perpetrated that which caused the dwellers of the Kingdom to lament. He Who possesseth the Perspicuous Book beareth witness unto this. Take thou the chalice of detachment in the name of thy Lord and drink therefrom, despite those who have denied this Mighty Announcement. Arise to make mention of God and His praise, and give thanks unto thy Lord, the Generous. We beseech Him to cause to appear from thee that which shall diffuse the fragrance of sincerity throughout the eternal kingdom. Verily thy Lord is the All-Bountiful, the Ancient of Days.

He hath also made mention of the loved ones in the surrounding villages. Each one's name hath attained unto the hearing of the Lord of all beings and his mention hath been recorded. That honored one should give them all the glad-tidings of God's loving-kindness and His infinite outpourings. By night and by day

the Supreme Pen maketh mention of the friends, and We beseech God to aid them all to preserve that which hath been bestowed. Today, whosoever hath attained unto the recognition of God must regard this station as great and act according to that which God hath revealed in the Book. Beseech thou God that the veils of these transient days may not deprive His servants from everlasting bounties.

O Samandar! We have mentioned him who attained unto the meeting and ascended the pathway to the Supreme Companion with a mention whose fragrance shall not cease throughout the duration of the Kingdom of Names. Blessed is he, for he is among the triumphant ones. A Most Holy, Most Exalted Tablet hath been revealed especially for his family. Convey to them the greetings from God and gladden them with His bestowals. Until now, numerous letters have repeatedly reached the servant in attendance before the Throne from the name of Jamal, upon him be the Glory of God. They are walking in the way of God and moving in His path. They have turned to certain cities and regions and have succeeded in delivering the Word. We beseech God to aid him through wisdom, for in certain instances, due to eagerness and enthusiasm, the reins of discretion slip from his hands. We have counseled him to wisdom both in the past and present. We testify that he hath arisen to serve the Cause, and We beseech God to strengthen him to hold fast unto wisdom. Verily, He is the Hearer, the Answerer.

And likewise mention has been made of Ibn-i-Abhar. Blessed is he, for he hath remembered the loved ones of God and described them in such wise as hath made the countenance of the Wronged One beam with smiles in this impregnable fortress. He hath remembered each and all with sublime and glorious mention, and hath sought bounty for each one. Were thou to meet him, glorify him on My behalf and give him the glad-tidings of My loving-kindness and mercy. Verily the sun of permission hath dawned upon him from the horizon of his Lord's Will, the Commander, the All-Wise. I beseech God to honor him with this most great favor, to draw him nigh unto Him and to cause him to enter within the precincts of His mercy that hath encompassed all in the heavens and on earth. He, verily, is the Forgiving, the Bountiful.

Mention hath been made of Mulla Aqa Baba. We make mention of him from this Spot and give him the glad-tidings of his Lord's tender mercy. His remembrance hath ever been and will continue to be, God willing, in the Most Holy Court. He and all the people of that village have been honored with the mention of God. Convey My greetings unto him and make him glad with the outpourings of these days.

And We make mention at the end of these pages of ʿAbdu'r-Razzaq, son of him who turned toward My horizon, soared in My atmosphere, uttered My praise and glorification amongst My servants, and drank the choice wine of steadfastness from the hands of My bounty in such wise that neither the opposition of the oppressors, nor the clamor of the pharaohs, nor the derision of any misbeliever, nor the rancor of any malevolent one could deter him. Upon him and his son rest My glory, My peace, My mercy and My loving-kindness. We beseech God to assist him and those with him in that which shall cause his mention to endure throughout the kingdom of earth and heaven.

We make mention of My servants and handmaidens who have found the sweetness of My utterance and have attained unto My days. I am, verily, the Kind, the Bountiful. The splendor shining from the heaven of My mercy be upon thee and upon those whose names thou hast mentioned from My Most Exalted Pen, and upon all who are steadfast and firm.

O My Most Exalted Pen! Make mention once again of the sister of the Most Generous Name, that she may rejoice in God's loving-kindness, the Mighty, the Loving. Blessed art thou, O My handmaiden, for having turned unto God and attained unto His mention when He came with manifest sovereignty. We counsel thee and those handmaidens who have believed in God to act in a manner befitting this Cause, by reason of which the ungodly have lamented while the faces of those who have turned unto God, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting, have been illumined.

We make mention of the wife of the Noble One, who believed on a day when every heedless one turned away rejected. Glorify thy Lord with praise, then remember Him at all times. Verily He witnesseth and seeth, and He is the Truth, the Knower of the unseen.

O Samandar! Upon thee be My glory and loving-kindness. Remember on My behalf those who are with thee and give all the glad-tidings of My loving-kindness and mercy that have encompassed all existence. Blessed are they and happy are they and those who have loved thee for the sake of God, the Lord of the seen and unseen. Glory be upon thee and upon them and upon those who have quaffed My sealed choice wine. Praise be to God, the Mighty, the Best-Beloved.

BH01224: O Khavar! Convey greetings from the Wronged One…

O Khavar! Convey greetings from the Wronged One to Mulla Muhammad. Say: The fragrances of thy love reached the presence of the Wronged One. Praise be to God that thou hast been assisted to mention the name of God, exalted be His glory. We beseech Him to aid thee under all conditions. Today all must seek from God, exalted be His glory, the victory of His manifest Faith.

O Muhammad! The Cause of God hath been weakened due to unseemly deeds, to such an extent that the enemies of the Faith are striving with the utmost power and might to destroy it. The government and the people must all beseech God, exalted be His station, for deliverance. Such sorrows have been visited upon Us that the Pen is powerless and incapable of recounting them.

As to thy mention of Haji Mulla Ali, who hath ascended to the Supreme Companion, and thy guardianship of his affairs—excellent is that which thy tongue hath uttered, but the people are heedless, veiled and withheld. For thirty years and more We have dwelt in the domains of the sublime state, and have ever counselled Our friends to love and obey. Nevertheless, there hath been visited upon Us that which hath not been visited upon any other wronged one. The tongue of the heart uttereth at all times these words:

> "Lord! Pour forth upon us patience and make firm our steps. Verily Thou art the All-Bountiful, the All-Generous."

Such adversities have been visited upon these wronged ones as none save God's knowledge hath encompassed or reckoned. In all conditions We have been and are patient. We have committed all affairs unto Him and have placed Our reliance in Him. Verily He loveth them that put their trust in Him. Praise be to God, for He is the Goal of all worlds, the Beloved of them that know, and the God of all who are in the heavens and on earth.

We convey Our greetings to the friends and counsel them to fear God. Mention unto Haji Mustafa the words of the Wronged One. We beseech God to assist him and grant him success. We have heard his call. We beseech God, exalted be His glory, on his behalf in all conditions for that which containeth the good of this world and the next. Verily our Lord, the All-Merciful, is the Giver, the Munificent, the All-Generous.

We make mention of Ahmad who hath mentioned Us, that he may be among them that rejoice. O Ahmad! Praise be to God that thou hast attained unto the word of unity and hast testified to that whereunto God, exalted be His glory, hath testified—that blessed and goodly Word "There is none other God but God," at which the limbs of the idolaters and transgressors have trembled and continue to tremble. Blessed is he upon whose heart this exalted Word hath dawned, and whose light hath illumined all his members. We beseech God to assist thee in that which hath been revealed in the Book and to ordain for thee that which shall accompany thee throughout all worlds and preserve thee from darkness.

We make mention of him who is named Muhammad-ʿAli. Know thou that thy letter was present and whatsoever was mentioned therein was heard. We beseech God, exalted be His glory, to adorn thy intention with the ornament of deed and acceptance, for thou hast been and art among the godly and the believers. He hath said—peace be upon Him—"The intention of the believer is better than his deed." Give thanks to the Goal of all beings, Who hath assisted thee to acknowledge and recognize the blessed Word of Unity. He is the Helper and Succourer of them that believe in divine unity and of the faithful.

O Muhammad ibn Muhammad, O Abdul-Karim, O Muhammad from the people of Za, and O Qasim! His honor the dervish made mention of you and your letters were received and noted. Coming to this quarter in these days is not permitted, for the opposers, for no reason—as the Persians say—seek pretexts and wish to find some pretext to raise an uproar. Therefore, coming in these days would not accord with wisdom. We beseech God to protect you and aid you to do what is right. The world has no worth, nor has it ever had. Strive that praiseworthy and befitting deeds may be manifested from you. Keep away from the corrupt, and do not associate with the oppressors and the stubborn. Pass your days with the utmost joy and fragrance, and be intimate companions with the righteous and the believers. Verily, He does not allow to be lost the reward of the doers of good. Praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

O Ayn and Kaf! Your mention has ever been and shall ever be before the Wronged One. We beseech God not to deprive you of the rain of His mercy. He is the Bestower and He is the Kind. There is no God but He, the Powerful, the Mighty, the Help in Peril. Peace be upon you and upon your father and upon those who are with you and love you for the sake of God, the Lord of the worlds.

Glory be to Thee, O God of the world and Lord of the nations! I beseech Thee by Him through Whom prophethood and messengership were ended and their mysteries were sealed and their breezes ceased, to assist Thy servants to turn unto Thee and to place their trust in Thee. Then protect them, O my God, through the hosts of Thy unseen realm from the enemies of Thy Self who have encompassed the lands. Verily Thou art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest. There is no God but Thee, the Strong, the Triumphant, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

BH01779: He is the Truth, the Knower of the Unseen

…He is the Truth, the Knower of the Unseen

Your letter was received and was favored with perusal. We beseech God that He may aid thee in that which is befitting and seemly in this day. The Will of God hath never been subject to the will of another, nor shall His Purpose ever be dependent upon the intention of the peoples of the world. Had the will of the Seal of the Prophets—may the spirit of all else be sacrificed for His sake—been subject to the will of the people of His age, He would not have been afflicted with curses, abuse, tribulations and hardships. And had Christ heeded the words of Herod, that which came to pass would not have transpired. Hast thou not heard His saying: "My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways My ways"? It behooveth all to turn unto His Path and to hold fast unto His Most Straight Way.

When the Most Exalted Pen uttered its call and the rustling of the Divine Lote-Tree became manifest, God's proof and evidence were perfected unto all. O friend! Hearken unto the Voice of the Wronged One, and utter not that which the possessors of power have not uttered before thee. The Path is manifest, the Balance is set up, the Standard of Divine Unity is raised aloft, the Trumpet-blast and the Bugle-call are evident and clear to all.

In one of the Tablets this most exalted Word hath flowed from the Most Exalted Pen—hold fast unto it and say: I turn towards Thee, O Thou the Goal of the world, and return unto Thee, for verily Thou art the Forgiving, the Merciful. And that Word is this: This is not the Day for questions. It behooveth every soul, when he heareth the Call from the Supreme Horizon, to say:

> "Here am I, O Lord of Names! Here am I, O Fashioner of earth and heaven!"

Hear thou the Voice of the Wronged One and let not this opportunity slip away. Reflect for an hour upon that which hath appeared and been witnessed, and observe with the eye of justice and fairness. By the life of God! His Cause is more manifest than the sun and more exalted than the heavens. If thou turnest away from this Cause, by what proof and evidence wilt thou uphold another cause? Purify thyself with the water of unity from the fancies of the past, that thou mayest behold the rays of the Sun of certitude. Break the idols of vain imaginings through the name of the Self-Subsisting Lord, exalted be His glory, and standing, say, turning towards the Kaaba of the Messengers:

> "I believe in Thee, O God of the world, and commit my affairs unto Thee, O Thou Goal of the worlds!"

Know thou the value of the Day of God. If any deed be missed by anyone this Day, it can never be retrieved. Today, from the murmuring of the waters, the blowing of the winds, and the rustling of the Divine Lote-Tree is heard: "The Truth hath come with manifest sovereignty." God willing, thou shalt attain unto that which beseemeth this blessed Day. Say: I beseech Thy forgiveness, O my God, for all that I have mentioned and done in Thy days. Verily Thou art the Almighty over what Thou willest, and verily Thou art the Forgiving, the Merciful….

BH01819: By the life of our Beloved and your Beloved…

By the life of our Beloved and your Beloved, and our Goal and the Goal of all who are in earth and heaven! That Beloved One prepared hundreds of thousands of colored paper factories with various hues, and in each page thereof was concealed and hidden the love of the world's beloveds and the secrets of the lovers of the Ancient Countenance. This intention is dearer and more acceptable than a hundred thousand deeds. If a soul becomes aware of the sweetness and station and rank of this intention, without words he would arise among the people and say:

> "Intention is the sovereign of deeds, the dawning-place of deeds, and the dayspring of deeds."

Glory be to Him Who has deposited in each letter of His letters a book, and in each intention of His loved ones deeds which none can reckon save His all-encompassing knowledge. Thus it was established that in truth the paper of the world was sent and arrived, and was adorned with the pen of the Beloved. All this is from God's grace, our Lord and your Lord.

In this case, what mention could appear from the servant that would shine forth in this arena or become the bearer of meaning? I seek forgiveness from God, the Great, for what I have mentioned and mention, and what has occurred to my heart and been uttered by my tongue.

And regarding the last writing of that Beloved One who had mentioned: "Now there is the intention to visit the shrine—may God accept it"—likewise the prayers and the visitation prayer of Ashura—sun and wind and cold and we had neither fur coat nor cloak—on the high roof until complete noon, and from there to another place until evening, and from evening until midnight—may God accept it. These phrases which were presented before His presence, He said smilingly: "By the life of God, all is accepted and acceptable, for whatever appears from assured, content and successful souls has been and is acceptable. Indeed, that which is hidden in the realities of things all speaks this word: Whatever appears from the acceptable one is acceptable.' Blessed is he whose acceptance by God all things have testified to, and his arising to serve again and again."

The Sun of loving-kindness is shining and evident. God willing, may all the friends of that land be illumined by its lights and made happy and joyful and delighted and blessed by its kindness through all ages and centuries.

And I convey praise and greetings to each of the masters and friends of God. They have never been and will never be absent from sight. The One God is witness and aware that the honored beloved, Jinab-i-Aqa Ghulam-Husayn, upon him be the praise of God, has been and is in view and has attained to the loving-kindness of the Goal.

I send greetings to the spiritual beloved Aqa ʿAli-Akbar, upon him be Baha'u'llah. His letter arrived bringing joy and gladness, and whatever he had written was carried out. I beseech and hope from the True One, exalted be His glory, that he may ever be adorned with the ornament of grace and loving-kindness.

And further, the spiritual beloved Jinab-i-Aqa ʿAli-Asghar, upon him be Baha'u'llah, due to the upheavals in Iran returned to that direction, and a box containing two bounties, namely two sweets—that is, white musk and rose candy—was bestowed. The details of this are that since at a feast pertaining to this evanescent one some divine bounties were arranged and presented before His presence, by His command this portion was specially sent for that beloved one and the friends. Well done to those who have attained!

Peace and remembrance and praise be upon you and upon God's loved ones and friends and upon God's sincere ones. And praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH01849: Say: O servants of the All-Merciful in all lands!...

He is the Hearer, the Answerer

Say: O servants of the All-Merciful in all lands! We counsel you at the outset to patience and forbearance in what hath befallen the friends in the path of God, the Lord of all worlds. We exhort you not to associate any partners with God, the Possessor of Names. Hold fast to the cord of submission and contentment. Verily He seeth and heareth and judgeth with justice, and He is the Just, the Wise. And he whose temple is adorned with the ornament of contentment, he is of the people of Baha in the Crimson Book. To this doth My Most Exalted Pen testify in this station which God hath made the Dawning-place of His Cause and the Dayspring of His Revelation and the Repository of His knowledge and the Manifestation of His Self, the One Who ruleth over all who are in the heavens and on earth.

O people of Paradise! Commit your affairs unto God and place your trust in Him. Victory lieth in His grasp—He aideth whom He willeth through His sovereignty. The hosts of the world and the might of nations cannot withhold Him. He doeth what He pleaseth by His word and ordereth what He willeth, and He is the Strong, the All-Conquering, the Almighty.

Say: O people of the earth! This is the Day of Resurrection when the Trump is sounded and all who are in the heavens and on earth are struck down, save only certain letters of the countenance of your Lord, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. By God! The dwellers of the graves have arisen when the Speaker on Sinai spoke forth in this Revelation, through which the Books of God were fulfilled aforetime and the Dove of Knowledge warbled upon the branches. He Who was hidden behind the veils of the Unseen and treasured in God's storehouse, the Most High, the Most Great, hath appeared.

Say: O concourse of the earth! Cast away vain desire and take hold of what ye are commanded by God, the Lord of all men. Verily Baha forbiddeth oppression and wickedness and commandeth you with what ye were commanded by God, the Lord of the Mighty Throne.

Thy letter hath come and was presented by the servant in the presence of this Wronged One. This Tablet, mighty and wondrous, hath been revealed for thee. Drink from each of its letters an ocean of joy, by the command of God, the Kind, the Generous. We found from thy letter the fragrance of Our love. We make mention of thee with that whereby the sincere ones perceive the fragrance of His bounty, thy Lord, the Mighty, the Praised. Blessed art thou for having turned to the horizon wherefrom most people have turned away, and blessed is thy tongue for having uttered the praise of thy Lord, the Wronged One, the

Stranger. Give thanks for what hath been revealed unto thee from My Most Exalted Pen in place of attaining My presence. He is verily the Forgiving, the Merciful.

In this station We make mention of My loved ones who were not frightened by the circumstances of men nor hindered by the veils of the heedless. We make mention of him who was named Muhammad that he may rejoice in the remembrance of the Wronged One and be of the thankful. O Muhammad! The Mother Book hath appeared and calleth out between earth and heaven, summoning all unto God, the Creator of Names, Who hath come with manifest sovereignty.

And We make mention of him who was named Rabi' and counsel him with what beseemeth the days of God and with what hath been commanded in My perspicuous Book. Give thanks unto God that thy mention hath gained the attention of the Wronged One and My swift-moving, racing Pen hath moved upon thy name. And We make mention of him who was named ʿAli-Akbar and give him the glad-tidings of My remembrance of him, which surpasseth all the treasures of earth—to this doth every knowing, seeing one bear witness. Take hold of the Book of God with the power that cometh from Him and say:

Praise be unto Thee, O my God, for having strengthened me and made me know Thee. I beseech Thee by the breezes of Thy Revelation in Thy days to make me and Thy loved ones steadfast in Thy Cause. Thou art verily the Almighty, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. The splendor shining from the horizon of the heaven of My mercy be upon thee and upon those whose names thou didst mention and upon those who have turned unto and believed in God, the Single One, the All-Informed.

BH02145: Praise be to the One Who is worthy…

He is God, exalted be His glory, the Greatness and the Power

Praise be to the One Who is worthy and deserving, Who brought the world to life through a drop from the ocean of His love and guided it to eternal, everlasting life. And blessings and peace be upon the Lord of the world and Master of nations, and upon His family and companions who aided God's Law and His religion, and conquered lands through His power and His Name.

And now, multiple occupations have seized this servant at this time—one being necessary writings and answering the letter of that honored master, and there is also the intention to visit the bath, and a necessary task has arisen requiring me to meet with his honor Afnan. In any case, now giving precedence to answering your epistle, I submit that your distinguished letter arrived and by its arrival sorrows and grief took flight and joy intended to take up residence.

Praise be to God and His is the grace and favor, for truly it is His confirmation that makes hearts loving and causes them to be ignited with the warmth of love. In one of the Tablets this supreme utterance was observed—He says:

> "Today from the rustling of the Divine Lote Tree this supreme word was heard: The world is built through love and fellowship, and without it, it is in ruins."

Truly it is the crown of the world and the source of the manifestation of the [stations] of humanity. We beseech God, exalted be His glory, to bestow this great bounty and this goodly feast at all times so that all may soar in the air with one wing and dwell in one station.

After reading and reviewing the eminent letter, I proceeded to His presence and submitted all. He said:

> "God willing, may they be blessed at all times with the favors of the Desired One, and be mentioned by His Name, illumined by His light, turned to His face, arise in His service, and whatever they have intended, God willing, will be adorned with the ornament of deed from potentiality, and from word to action."

End quote. And then the sprinkling of the ocean of favor appeared and shone forth to such a degree that truly this servant is utterly incapable of mentioning it. Beyond that, opportunity has become like the phoenix and like the philosopher's stone. This servant beseeches God to ever confirm him in serving His friends.

We deeply regret that for a time the flame of love was suspended and concealed. May God guide those souls who, without proof or evidence, engage in sedition and corruption. I beseech God not to deprive those souls from the ocean of His mercy and to educate them through the hands of His favor.

I send greetings to the honored friend, his honor Aqa Ali Akbar. His letter, praise be to God, opened the gate of joy and spread the carpet of gladness. And now, in view of what was submitted at the beginning, no opportunity for further discourse remains. I seek his pardon.

And finally, peace and mercy and divine favor be upon you and upon His friends and loved ones.

BH02375: Today all must fix their gaze upon this Most…

In His Name, the Compassionate, the All-Bountiful!

Today all must fix their gaze upon this Most Great Word which is like unto a heaven for the ocean of inner meanings. Follow ye My laws for love of My beauty. The souls that have turned to God and are steadfast must act in accordance with whatsoever hath been revealed in God's Book—that is to say, such deeds as cause not the outbreak of sedition and hatred. Some deeds today are and have been contrary to divine wisdom, while others are in harmony therewith. Blessed is the soul that hath done what beseemeth the Day of God.

O thou seeker of the Desired One! Praise be to the Goal of the world Who hath assisted thee and enabled thee to attain His most great bounty. Thou didst journey and arrive until thou didst attain the presence at the Gate which was opened unto all who are in the heavens and on earth. Be thou thankful to God for this supreme favor.

Convey the greetings of the Wronged One to the friends in that land. All must observe wisdom and hold fast unto it, dealing with the people of the city in the utmost joy and fragrance, and cleaving to such means as will conduce to the fellowship of hearts and the attraction of souls. Perfect wisdom requireth kindliness, care, compassion and loving-kindness. This is the day of spiritual virtues, goodly words and

righteous deeds. I swear by the Sun of the horizon of utterance, shining and manifest from the heaven of the Most Great Prison, that the hosts of virtuous character and deeds are mightier than the hosts of the world. The Lord of the celestial throne beareth witness to this in the Most Great Prison. Blessed is he who hath been just in the Cause of God, and woe unto every sinful denier.

With perfect unity and harmony raise ye the remembrance of God, exalted be His glory, and be ye steadfast in His Cause, in such wise that neither the barking of the heedless, nor the signs of the deniers, nor the onslaught of the transgressors shall hold you back from the straight path. The barkers have ever lain in wait. Blessed is the soul that hath shown forth supreme steadfastness and hath uttered that which hath caused the foundations of every heedless doubter to quake. Satan hath ever sought to prevent the steadfast from the straight path through piety and asceticism. The believers and the sincere must arise to serve the Cause with perfect certitude and assurance, in such wise that were all the world to appear with complete asceticism and utter a word contrary to what hath flowed from the Supreme Pen, they would be rejected and would be accounted among the people of hell in God's presence.

The servant in attendance hath attained with thy letter and read it before the Countenance. We have answered thee with this Tablet and have mentioned thee in such wise as naught in all creation can equal it. Give thanks unto thy Lord, the All-Merciful, the All-Bountiful. The glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My grace be upon thee and upon every one who hath turned unto God and is steadfast, and upon those women who have believed in the One, the All-Informed.

BH02962: Praise befits the Most Desired One Who bestowed perfect…

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

Praise befits the Most Desired One Who bestowed perfect affection between hearts through His Most Exalted Word and adorned them with the light of unity and harmony. If all the treasures of the world were expended, such affection and unity could not be achieved. The command is in His hand—He creates love as He wishes and brings hearts together as He pleases. The key to this door has been and continues to be the diffused fragrances, and this fragrance appears sometimes through mention and utterance, and at times through pen and fingertips. Exalted be His grace, exalted be His favor, His might and His kindness.

And furthermore, the letter of that honored master dated the 15th of the blessed month of Ramadan arrived and like the April rains bestowed fresh adornment upon heart and soul. I beseech and implore God, exalted be His glory, that this door remain forever open. Verily He has power over all things.

And regarding what you wrote about the items, complete emphasis was previously given and they were sent. God willing they will prove acceptable. The beloved Haji Siyyid Javad, upon him be the Glory of God, has written to both your honor and this servant about the reason and cause for the delay. You will learn the details of these matters from their letter. And regarding what you wrote about the sweets, God willing it shall be acted upon. This servant beseeches his Lord to ordain for you the good of this world and the next, to elevate your station and open before your face the doors of grace and bounty. Verily He has power over whatsoever He willeth.

And regarding what you wrote about His Holiness the Name of God, upon him be the Glory of God, it is correct—they arrived and attained. Their joy, delight and happiness accord with what you wrote. They stayed here two nights and then, as commanded, returned home. It is hoped that soon we shall gather together in the assembly of unity and the seat of truth in the shade of the Divine Lote Tree. I beseech Him, exalted be He, to bring near the days of attainment. Verily He is the Hearer, the Answerer of prayers. And praise be to God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy.

BH02990: The world is observed to be in turmoil…

He is the All-Seeing, the All-Informed!

The world is observed to be in turmoil. The recompense for the deeds of the heedless nations has prevented rest and tranquility. After the martyrdom of the martyrs and the manifestation of the Cause and the exaltation of the Word until now, truth cannot be distinguished from falsehood. By the life of God! The people of the Bayan and what they possess are like the spider's web, nay weaker still, if they but knew it.

The people of the Furqan spent one thousand two hundred years polishing the swords of rejection and protest until finally they fell upon the pure body of the Mystery of existence and the Educator of the seen and unseen, cutting down that Sacred Tree. God's curse be upon them! And now the deniers of the Bayan cling to the same vain imaginings. Ahmad ibn Ja'far Kirmani desires to become the possessor of false prophecies and forged declarations, and perhaps he also wishes to rebuild Jabulqa and Jabulsa, just as they did before, burning the world with the fire of tyranny. We beseech God to protect His loved ones.

They have denied Him Who has appeared with all divine verses and heavenly proofs, while they busy themselves with exalting the words of those who have ever remained behind the veil of concealment. They have stolen divine verses and have made various calumnies a bridle for the heedless ones. Shame upon them for what their hands have wrought!

You should remain engaged with the utmost joy and fragrance and assurance. Divine blessing and heavenly bounty have encompassed and will continue to encompass your condition. Convey My greetings to the friends in that land on behalf of the Wronged One and counsel them to the Most Great Steadfastness.

Your letter which you sent to the Observer, upon him be My glory, was noted. Praise be to God, the fragrance of love and steadfastness wafted from it. We have read it and have revealed for you this wondrous Tablet.

Grieve not over anything. Verily all affairs are in His grasp. He doeth what He willeth, and He is the Desired One in the beginning and in the end. We console you in what hath befallen you and comfort you through My grace and My verses and My mercy which have preceded all created things, and We bid you to beautiful patience. Verily your Lord is the All-Patient, the Almighty, the Powerful, the Self-Subsisting.

BH03308: Praise be to God Who caused the Luminary…

He is God, exalted be His glory, the Most Great, the All-Powerful

Praise be to God Who caused the Luminary of eternity to appear from the horizon of Batha, and from it the Sun of divine decree shone forth in the world of execution, through which the mysteries of the Book were revealed. He is the Judge in the final return. Exalted be the All-Bestowing One Who sent Him with truth and guidance, and through Him caused the rain to descend from the heaven of bounty. Upon Him and His family and companions be the blessings of God, His peace, His mercy and His favors.

Glorified art Thou, O Thou in Whose grasp are the reins of all created things and the controls of all existence! I beseech Thee by the Lord of "but for Thee," through Whose advent the celestial spheres were honored, to protect Thy believing servants from the evil of Thine enemies and to assist them through the hosts of the unseen and the visible, through Thy power and might. Then I beseech Thee by the Most Great Word to send down upon them from the clouds of Thy mercy that which will draw them nigh unto Thee and elevate them through Thy Name and sovereignty. Verily Thou art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest. There is no God but Thee, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

O thou who hast turned! The Wronged One beareth witness to thy turning, thy devotion, thy arrival and thy attentiveness. We beseech God, exalted be He, to aid thee and make thee successful in that which will exalt thee amongst His servants, and to ordain for thee the good of the hereafter and of this world. Verily He is powerful over what He willeth. There is no God but He, the Almighty, the Powerful.

Convey the greetings of the Wronged One to the friends in that land. We beseech God to make them all successful in such wise that the world and all that is therein shall not prevent them from turning unto Him. All that is witnessed is transient, and that which is with Him endureth. Blessed are they whom that which they possess hath not deprived of that which is with God. Verily We send Our greetings to Our loved ones and mention unto them that which shall profit them in all the worlds of their Lord, the All-Forgiving, the All-Bountiful. Peace be upon thee and upon those who are with thee and upon those who have testified to that which God hath testified, that there is no God but He, the Most High, the Most Great, for He is the Most Merciful of the merciful ones and the Goal of all who are in the heavens and on earth.

BH03707: The Wronged One testifies that the Supreme Pen has…

He is God, exalted be His station of grandeur and power!

The Wronged One testifies that the Supreme Pen has remembered you morning and evening. At times it has galloped in the arena of remembrance, and at other times it has been prevented from utterance by sorrows that have overtaken it. The heaven bears witness, and likewise the sun and moon, that mention of you has been and will continue to be made in the presence of the Wronged One. How could you be erased from sight when, from the Most Great Scene, the rustling of the breezes of the highest Paradise, the murmuring of the celestial Kawthar, and the whispering of the divine Lote-Tree all attest to God's loving-kindness—exalted be His glory—towards you? The verses of grace have encompassed the world. All bear witness and will continue to bear witness to this truth. The trees bear witness, the fruits bear

witness, and beyond them this servant present bears witness, and beyond him bears witness He with Whom is the Mother Book.

Baba Tahir has spoken well when he said:

> "What if my pain were but a single pain? What if my grief were but a little grief?"

That which has befallen you is clear and evident to God. However, wisdom and forbearance befit your station. O My Name! The loved ones are saddened by your sorrow, but I bear witness by God that there has been and is no harm, for whatsoever occurred, occurred for a mighty Cause and a great Announcement. Adversities, hardships, tribulations and trials in the path of God have been and ever will be beloved.

Blessed art thou for thy patience and fortitude in the Cause of God, and for thy tranquility and steadfastness in His path. This is a testimony uttered by the tongue of the Wronged One in this noble station. To those friends who have quaffed from the Kawthar of divine knowledge and who are gazing toward the Most Exalted Horizon, We convey Our greetings. The glory shining forth from the heaven of My mercy be upon thee and upon those who are with thee, who love thee, and who hearken to thy words concerning My manifest Cause.

BH03694: Say: Praise be to Thee, O my God…

He is God, exalted be His glory, the Most Great, the All-Powerful

Say: Praise be to Thee, O my God, for having guided me to Thy straight path and Thy mighty announcement, for having given me to drink from the Kawthar of Thy verses, for having shown me the horizon of Thy grace, and for having strengthened me until I acknowledged Thy oneness and Thy singleness and that which Thy Prophets and Messengers and chosen ones have acknowledged. Thou art He from Whose knowledge nothing escapeth and Whom nothing can frustrate.

I beseech Thee by Thy power which hath encompassed all created things and by Thy sovereignty which hath prevailed over all existence, to make me in all conditions one who maketh mention of Thee and singeth Thy praise. O Lord! I am he who hath taken up his abode beneath the shadow of Thy mercy. I beseech Thee by the breezes of Thy Revelation and the Manifestations of Thy Cause and the mysteries of Thy Book and whatsoever hath been inscribed by Thy Most Exalted Pen in the Crimson Tablet, to send down upon me from the heaven of Thy bounty that which shall profit me in the world to come and in this world and shall draw me nigh unto Thee, O Lord of all men! O my Lord! Thou seest Thy servant standing before Thy door, hoping for the wonders of Thy grace. I testify that Thou didst call me of Thine own accord though I was unworthy thereof, and didst strengthen me to turn towards Thee until I turned and entered a station wherein was raised the pavilion of Thy glory and wherein shone forth from its horizon the sun of Thy bounty.

Praise be to Thee, O Lord of Names, and unto Thee be glory and bestowal, O Creator of the heavens, for having caused me to hear and to see and for having honored me and drawn me nigh unto Thee on a day whereon the servants turned away from Thy Cause and disputed Thy signs and violated Thy covenant and

Thy testament. I beseech Thee, O my God, by Thy greatness and Thy self-subsistence, not to deprive me of the pearls of the ocean of Thy grace nor to withhold from me the lights of Thy countenance. Ordain for me that which beseemeth Thy generosity and Thy bounty and Thy bestowal. Verily, Thou art the Almighty, the All-Powerful. There is none other God but Thee, the All-Forgiving, the All-Bountiful.

BH03873: Thy letter hath come before the Wronged One…

He is the Hearer, the Answerer

Thy letter hath come before the Wronged One and the servant in attendance before His face hath presented it. We have heard and answer thee through this perspicuous Tablet. Blessed is he who hath heard the Call and answered his Lord. Verily he is among the people of Baha in the Crimson Book. The Concourse on High and they that circle round their Lord's throne, the Almighty, the Most Exalted, the Most Great, shall pray for him.

O Muhammad! Hearken unto the Call from the prison precinct from this Wronged One, Who hath been encompassed by the swine and dogs of the earth—they who have risen in opposition, such that by their tyranny the dwellers of thy Lord's kingdom, the Almighty, the Powerful, have lamented. We counsel thee and those who have believed to unity and concord in this Cause, whereby the pillars of the divines of the earth who have broken God's Covenant, the Lord of all worlds, have been shaken. Through the light of unity doth the world become illumined, and through concord is gathered together what was scattered throughout the earth. Thy Lord is verily the Elucidator, the All-Knowing.

Blessed art thou for having turned towards Him when most people turned away, and for having remembered thy Lord when the people were in evident doubt. When the crier cometh, leave him behind you, turning towards God, the Single, the All-Informed. He will come to you with a subtlety the like of which the eye of creation hath never seen. Thus doth the One possessed of knowledge of all things inform you, from a Mighty, Near One.

We counsel all to act according to what hath been revealed in God's Book and that whereby this Most Great Announcement may be uplifted. Remember God's loved ones on My behalf and give them the glad tidings of My loving-kindness and bounty, which have encompassed all who are in the heavens and on earth. Blessed is the servant who hath held fast to the Book and who hath drunk the choice wine of revelation from the hands of the bounty of their Lord, the Generous.

The Glory shining from the horizon of the Kingdom be upon thee and upon those who have cast aside the world's vain imaginings, holding fast to that which hath been sent down from the presence of an Ancient One. Praise be to God, the Almighty, the Most Exalted, the Protector, the Forgiving, the Merciful.

BH03961: He dawneth from the horizon of grace

He dawneth from the horizon of grace

O Nur! Know that thy father, Nuru'llah, upon him be the Glory of God, hath ascended. He is the One Who shineth from the horizon of grace. Whatsoever existeth in the world and is possessed by the people of

the world is perishable, except what God willeth. That which is adorned with the ornament of immortality is a remembrance that floweth from the Supreme Pen—this endureth as long as the kingdom of earth and heaven endureth.

All are assured with manifest certainty of the transience of the world and its vicissitudes. Nevertheless, they have clung to it in such wise that they remain heedless and veiled from God and from that which is with Him. Blessed is thy father! At the time of his ascension We perceived from him the fragrance of My love, to which the dwellers of the Most Exalted Paradise in the All-Glorious Companion bear witness. By the life of God! Were the recompense for deeds performed in the path of God to become manifest on earth, all would turn toward the Friend and would be detached and freed from aught else.

Be not grieved by that which hath come to pass. Hold fast unto patience—for patience hath a great reward with God, the Lord of all worlds. Upon thee be glory, and upon those who have attained unto the days of God and have hearkened unto that which hath been sent down from Him—they are among those who are nigh in a perspicuous Book.

On behalf of the Wronged One, make mention of the relatives and remind them of that which beseemeth them, for the station of the servants hath ever been that of submission. Were man to observe with the eye of truth, he would testify that whatsoever cometh to pass is pure good. We counsel all to patience and steadfastness, and We beseech God to assist His loved ones in that which He loveth and is pleased with. Verily He is the Protector of humanity and the Lord of the world to come and the world that was.

We send Our greetings to the family of him who hath ascended, and We make mention of each of them with a goodly remembrance. Praise be to God, the Single, the One, the Mighty, the All-Praised.

BH04000: This Wronged One, whether in prison or out…

He is the Witness from His Most Glorious Horizon.

This Wronged One, whether in prison or out of prison, has summoned all to the highest horizon. All things bear witness that the Pen of the Ancient has been and is, night and day, occupied with the remembrance of the loved ones of God.

Oceans of God's loving-kindness have streamed and been sent down from the Pen, yet the people of the earth remain heedless and occupied with their own vain imaginings. They have regarded the Dawning-Place of light as darkness and deemed the Ocean of knowledge as ignorant. The recompense of the deeds of these heedless souls has encompassed the world, and every deed appears in its own form and effect. Those possessed of vision have perceived and continue to perceive this. We beseech God to shut the doors of corruption and to open, through the key of the Most Great Name, the portals of goodness and benevolence before the face of the world.

O Abdul-Husayn! His honor Jud, upon him be My glory, has made and continues to make mention of you. The letter you sent was presented at the Most Holy and Exalted Court. Be not grieved by the conflicts and varying conditions of the world. Praise be to God, you dwell beneath the shade of God's loving-kindness

and are turned toward His horizon. We beseech God to set right that which is the cause and source of grief.

We give you the glad-tidings of God's mercy, His grace and His loving-kindness, and We send Our greetings from the Prison to you and to My handmaiden there. We make mention of her as a token of Our grace, for verily I am the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous. Convey My greetings to the faces of My loved ones there and remind them of that which hath been sent down from My Most Exalted Pen in this clear Tablet. The Glory shining forth from the horizon of My loving-kindness be upon you and upon her and upon them and upon every believing servant and every handmaiden who has attained to the recognition of God, the Lord of all worlds.

BH04002: The verses have been sent down, the evidences are…

He is the Protector over all names!

The verses have been sent down, the evidences are manifest, the path is clear, and the balance is set up, yet the people are witnessed to be in great heedlessness and behind a mighty veil. The heavenly food descends in every moment from the heaven of the favor of the Lord of the Worlds, yet the people remain unaware.

O my God, O my King, O my Sovereign! What ingratitude has appeared from Thy servants that it has become the cause and reason for withholding the outpourings of Thy days. Thou art that Generous One Whom the ocean of rebellion did not prevent from bestowing His favors, and the world of misbelief and unbelief did not hold back His bounty and generosity. One breeze from the right hand of Thy will can make the ancient world new and bring the dead to life. We beseech Thee to protect Thy loved ones and to rain down upon them from the heaven of generosity and the heaven of bounty the showers of grace and bestowal. Thou art the Powerful, the Mighty, the All-Knowing, the Wise.

Praise the Beloved of the worlds. Before and after thou hast been blessed by His mention and confirmed in turning toward Him. Today the imperishable food and eternal blessing is especially for the friends of Truth. It appears and will appear according to the requirements of time and season. Verily thy Lord is powerful over all things. Rejoice in My remembrance and then thank Him for His grace. Verily He is the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous.

Jinab-i-Nazir dwells beneath the canopy of the Throne. Praise be to God, they have attained to that which was recorded and inscribed in the divine Books. There is no excellence or honor greater than what has been bestowed. We beseech God to confirm, assist, strengthen and establish all to remain firm, steadfast and upright. Verily He is powerful over all things.

BH04448: A remembrance from Us unto him who hastened…

He is the All-Witnessing, the All-Informed.

A remembrance from Us unto him who hastened to the Most Exalted Station which was honored by the advent of the King of Names, and I am the All-Knowing Rememberer. O thou who art hated for My love,

imprisoned for My Name, and banished in My straight path! Would My Most Exalted Pen forget thee? Nay, by My Most Glorious Name! Be thankful unto thy Lord, the All-Merciful, the All-Bountiful. He hath adorned His names with the name of faithfulness and arrayed Himself in its robe when He came with a mighty command. By God's life! My remembrance of thee and My call unto thee have never ceased. He Who possesseth the knowledge of all things in a clear Book beareth witness to this. By My life! Through thy grief, sorrows have overtaken Me, and by what hath befallen thee, the tribes of the earth who heard the call and answered their Lord, the All-Hearing, the All-Responding, have lamented.

Thus have We adorned the Tablet of remembrance with the luminary of Our care. Be thankful and say:

> "Praise be unto Thee, O my Heart's Desire, and glory be unto Thee, O Thou Who art worshipped by all who are in the heavens and on earth!"

I testify that Thou hast remembered me, guided me, made me know Thee, taught me, drawn me nigh unto Thee, honored me with Thy presence, made me hear Thy call, and shown me the horizon of Thy manifestation when Thou didst withhold therefrom countless souls whom none can reckon save Thy knowledge. I beseech Thee, O God of all beings and Lord of all things, by Thy Most Glorious Name and by the shrill voice of Thy Most Exalted Pen, to preserve me through Thy bounty and grace, and ordain for me through Thy tender mercy and favors the good of the hereafter and of this world. Thou art He Whom nothing can frustrate and no decree can hinder. There is no God but Thee, the All-Powerful, the Most Exalted, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

BH04661: O people of the world! The harm inflicted upon…

In the name of the true Interpreter!

O people of the world! The harm inflicted upon the Ancient Beauty and the Most Great Name came not from the princes and ministers, for whatsoever they committed was due to lack of awareness. I swear by the Sun of Truth which shineth from the horizon of the prison, were they to become adorned with the ornament of awareness to even less than a mustard seed's weight, they would become detached and freed from what they possess and would turn with acceptance toward that which is with God.

The harm to the Beloved of all creation came from the people of the Bayan who, with the utmost effort and struggle, arose to waste away the Cause.

The divine verses have encompassed all horizons and His manifestations have adorned all with the ornament of awareness. His evidences exceed all reckoning—were all the writers of the world to gather together, they would find themselves powerless to mention that which hath appeared and been revealed. In this Revelation all are commanded to behold Him with His own eyes. Praise be to God, the Face is resplendent and manifest, and the ocean surgeth while the people remain heedless and veiled.

Beseech ye God that He may adorn all with the ornament of fairness and guide them with the light of justice. Blessed art thou for having been mentioned before the Wronged One, and there hath been revealed for thee that which proclaimeth with the most exalted call before the face of the world: "The

Lord of Eternity hath come with manifest sovereignty!" Glory be upon thee and upon every discerning believer.

BH04833: Your letter arrived and its verse and prose were…

He is God, exalted be His glory, majesty and grandeur!

Your letter arrived and its verse and prose were presented at the Most Holy Court. The fragrance of divine love was wafting from it. We beseech God to assist you in negating negation and affirming affirmation, in such wise that neither the opposition of the ungodly nor the denial of the transgressors may hinder you. The clamor is raised high and the atheists lie in wait—should they find opportunity they would cast doubt. They have objected to the Dayspring of divine verses and the Source of heavenly proofs, which has ever been thus, while considering themselves possessed of faith. Say: Alas! Alas! By God's life, they are deprived of all bounties and forbidden from the favors of God, exalted be His glory.

Rejoice in My remembrance of you, then give thanks to your Lord, the Compassionate, the Generous. The clamor will also be raised in those regions. Guard yourselves and through the Name of God, exalted be His glory, see yourselves detached and free from all that is in the world. Blessed is your tongue for having uttered praise of your Lord. Verily He does not allow to be lost the reward of the doers of good. Regarding what you wrote about meeting—these are difficult days, for the unfair people lie in wait to create some incident and then object to their Sovereign. Be patient, verily your Lord is the All-Patient, the All-Knowing. Convey My greetings to the friends. Glory be upon you and upon them and upon every steadfast, upright one.

BH05088: He hath illumined the world with the splendors…

He is the All-Seeing, the All-Hearing, the All-Knowing!

He hath illumined the world with the splendors of the revelation of the Most Great Name with supreme joy. Today every remote one draweth nigh unto the court of nearness, and every sinner gazeth toward the ocean of forgiveness, and every poor one arriveth at the shore of the sea of wealth. The attraction of His revelation hath seized the realities of all things, and yet the heedless servants lie prostrate in the graves of negligence, neither arising at the cry nor awakening at the trump. Blessed is he who hath been seized by the fragrance of the days of God and been guided to the court of the Friend. He is numbered among those who are nigh unto God in the perspicuous Book. He Who circled round Me and migrated with Me hath mentioned thee. We make mention of thee in this wondrous Tablet. Blessed is the countenance that hath not been deprived of the light of the Countenance, and well is it with the assured one who hath not been shut out from the Supreme Horizon.

The friends of God must regard the cry of the world as the buzzing of a fly, and arise by day and by night to that which will cause the exaltation of the Most Great Word. This is the station of man and his glory, which hath flowed from the Pen of the All-Merciful. Well is it with them that act! Give thanks unto thy Lord, for He hath aided thee and caused thee to know that of which most of the people of the earth remain heedless. Thus hath the Tongue of Grandeur spoken from His Most Great Prison in His exalted

station. Blessed be the people of God, whom the might of the oppressors hath not frightened, and whom those who have denied God, the Lord of the Day of Judgment, have not weakened.

BH05048: He is the Compassionate, the All-Bountiful. A remembrance…

He is the Compassionate, the All-Bountiful. A remembrance from Us to those on earth: Worship none but God, the Lord of all worlds. Beware lest veils prevent you from the Source of divine verses, or the might of those who have violated God's Covenant and Testament and are among the most lost deter you.

By God's life! We have come for the reformation of the world, yet the peoples have risen in opposition in such wise that they have shed blood and plundered what belonged to My loved ones without any clear proof or perspicuous Book. Therefore have the inmates of the pavilion of sanctity wept, and the eyes of those near to God have shed tears.

A letter mentioning thee hath come before the Wronged One. We have remembered thee with that which hath caused the hearts of the sincere to soar. Give thanks unto God for this supreme bounty. Verily He remembereth whom He willeth and aideth whom He pleaseth. He is the Almighty, the Powerful.

We make mention of God's loved ones in the cities and regions and counsel them to remain steadfast in this mighty, irrevocable Cause. How many a servant arose to serve the Cause in such wise that armies could not frighten him, and how many a servant trembled at the buzzing of a fly. Thy Lord is indeed the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. Blessed is the strong one whom the hosts of earth could not weaken, and blessed is the one who hath turned toward God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy.

Thus have We adorned the heaven of knowledge with the stars of wisdom and utterance. Blessed is he who hath heard and seen, and blessed is he who hath arisen and taken hold of the Book of God with a power from Him. He is indeed among those near to God in a clear Book.

BH05221: In the Name of Him Who speaketh…

In the Name of Him Who speaketh from the horizon of utterance! O ʿAli-Qabl-i-Akbar! Thy cry hath reached the Most Exalted Horizon. He hath hearkened unto thy lamentation and mourning in separation from the Divine Lote-Tree. All trees and fruits and leaves bear witness to the grace of God and His bounty. The True One hath testified and doth testify to thy turning unto Him, thy steadfastness, thy service, and thy praise and glorification.

The One Beloved—the Tablets that have been sent down bear witness to God's grace, exalted be His glory. If delay hath been observed in their dispatch, it was due to wisdom, lest any soul in that place might become aware and cause fresh commotion. Thou must at all times drink from the chalice of joy and gladness, for that which came upon you in the path of God caused the Concourse on High to weep and lament.

Thy letter was read before the Wronged One. Praise be to God, it was adorned with the ornament of divine praise and thanksgiving. This beseemeth thee and My firm and mighty Cause. The glory shining from the horizon of My Kingdom be upon thee and upon those with thee and upon him who hath arisen

and declared: God is my Lord and the Lord of all who are in the heavens and the earth and the Lord of the mighty Throne!

O thou who gazeth upon the end of the Bayan! We counsel thee to patience and forbearance in what God, the Lord of all worlds, hath ordained.

BH05612: He looked on from the most exalted Horizon

He looked on from the most exalted Horizon

O Muhammad, O My Afnan! Today from the waves of the Most Great Ocean is heard this most complete and great Word: The Kingdom and the Realm of Names and Sovereignty and Might belong to God, the Possessor of the seen and unseen.

When there comes to you one who protests, say: Fear, and speak not that which would cause all things to curse you. Verily He has come with that which no one has brought, and has revealed the equivalent of what all the parties possess of the Books of the Prophets and Messengers, nay rather more, were ye of those who know.

Leave the people and what they possess, placing thy trust in God and holding fast to His cord and clinging to His luminous robe. We have mentioned thee before and at this time. Verily thy Lord is the All-Bountiful, the Generous.

We behold thee at the door in all conditions. Verily thy Lord fulfills His promise. Nothing whatsoever escapes His knowledge. He doeth what He willeth and ordaineth what He pleaseth, to the dismay of those who have denied God, the Single, the All-Informed.

It behooveth thee to follow that which thou hast been commanded, O My Afnan. This is what We have counseled thee with in thy presence and in another Tablet. Verily thy Lord is the All-Explaining, the All-Wise.

The glory shining forth from the horizon of My Kingdom be upon him and upon thee and upon those who have said “God is our Lord and the Lord of all who are in the heavens and earths.” Praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH05821: Husayn and ʿAbdu’l-Karim have attained the presence…

He is God, exalted be His majesty, the Grandeur and the Power!

Husayn and ʿAbdu’l-Karim have attained the presence of the Wronged One in these days when We are surrounded by those possessed of hatred and malice, who claim association with the Spirit of God, the Creator of heaven. They have calumniated Us and committed that which caused every fair-minded one to weep, brought tears to the eyes of every just one, and made the heart of every discerning one to moan. We beseech God, exalted be He, to protect His servants from the evil of these people. By the life of God! They are the offspring of vipers, and this is what God hath revealed aforetime unto His Messengers. O

thou who gazest toward the Most Sublime Horizon! It behooveth Us and thee and every believer to hold fast unto the cord of God's loving-kindness, the Lord of creation.

We beseech from Him victory and deliverance for His servants who are encompassed by the ships of misbelief and the cannons of unbelief. O my Lord! Thou seest Thy weak servants—where is Thy strength, O Lord of the worlds, and where is Thy power, O Creator of the nations? I beseech Thee by Thy Name through which Thou didst subdue all created things, to send down from the heaven of Thy loving-kindness that which will gladden the hearts of Thy servants and the souls of Thy creation. Verily Thou art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest. There is no God but Thee, the Almighty, the All-Conquering, the All-Powerful. Peace be upon thee and upon God's sincere servants.

BH05869: He is the Witness and the Witnessed! This…

He is the Witness and the Witnessed! This is a Book sent down by the All-Loving in the Frequented Fane, guiding mankind to His Straight Path. O peoples of the earth! That which was inscribed by the Most Exalted Pen in the Books of God, Lord of Names, and concealed within His all-encompassing knowledge, hath now been made manifest. Fear ye God, and oppose not Him at Whose advent sovereignty and dominion, every learned one and every mystic bowed in submission. He hath testified to that which God hath testified from His exalted station. We have heard thy call and have answered thee through this Book, from which hath flowed the river of mercy and wherein the nightingale of utterance hath warbled upon the branches, that there is none other God but Him, the One, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

We counsel all to steadfastness in this mighty Cause. The clamor hath been raised throughout all regions, while the Lord of the Day of Mutual Meeting hath seated Himself upon His exalted throne, calling the servants unto the Most Sublime Horizon and commanding them to that which will elevate their stations, by One Who is knowing and wise. Say: O people! Fear ye God and deny not yourselves that which hath been revealed in truth. Thus doth counsel you He in Whose possession is a perspicuous Book. The glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My mercy be upon thee and upon those who have held fast to My firm cord. And praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH06068: One is astonished, for all the people…

…One is astonished, for all the people of the Bayan have witnessed and heard the falsehoods and calumnies of the people of the Furqan, and on God's Day that which was hidden became manifest. How then have they again secluded themselves behind the veils of former idle fancies? At times they speak of "mirror," at times of "successor," at times of "guardian." A hundred thousand souls like these have been and are created by a single word. Neither their names nor what they possess shall profit them. What shall profit them is their return unto God, the Sovereign, the Self-Subsisting. Like children they are occupied with clay playthings. Glory be to God! Such a door of falsehood hath been opened in the letters Kaf and Ra that the world is bewildered, and likewise deceit, guile and craftiness. The Most High, the Most Great God speaketh the truth. That which hath been revealed in the Most Holy Book concerning that land sufficeth them that are nigh unto God. He who is assured of this most great Cause beholdeth the world as a handful of dust. May God protect His helpless servants, for again they have arisen in opposition through the agency of the divines…

BH06269: He speaketh from His most exalted horizon

He speaketh from His most exalted horizon

A book revealed by the Lord of all being as He was walking in the house and gazing toward the horizon of faithfulness. Exalted be God, the Lord of Names and Creator of heaven, Who hath shown such loving-kindness as all the pens of the world and tongues of the nations are powerless to recount. To this My Most Exalted Pen beareth witness in this mighty and impregnable station.

O ʿAli-Akbar! Thou didst enter prison for love of Me and didst drink the cup of tribulation in My Name, the Mighty, the Wondrous. Verily He was with His loved ones and friends. He heareth and seeth what befalleth them, and He is the Hearing, the Answering. Grieve not for what hath befallen thee. He comforteth thee and consoleth thee, and He is the All-Bountiful, the All-Generous. By God! Tribulation in My love is sweeter than all sweetness. To this My Most Exalted Pen hath formerly testified, and thou art among those who behold. Blessed art thou and blessed are My friends in that land whom the affairs of the world have not withheld from the Ancient Lord. They are indeed among the triumphant. Beware lest the gloating of enemies sadden thee. Rather, rejoice in My remembrance and say: Praise be unto Thee, O my Best-Beloved, and glorification be unto Thee, O Lord of the worlds!

BH06217: Upon thee be My peace and My mercy…

He is the All-Witnessing, the All-Knowing!

Upon thee be My peace and My mercy and My loving-kindness! I pray that thou mayest be occupied with the remembrance of God, arise to serve Him, turn toward His horizon, gaze upon His countenance, act according to His laws, and be engaged in the refinement of souls. Some time ago, wondrous and exalted verses were specifically revealed and sent to thee. Thou hast not been forgotten, nor shalt thou ever be. Be thou assured of thy Lord's grace. Verily, He remembereth thee as He remembered thee before, and He is the All-Forgiving, the All-Bountiful.

Convey My greetings to the friends of God and say: Today is the day of service. Strive that ye may guide one who hath gone astray and give drink to one who thirsteth. No other day is like unto this day. All ages bow down in submission before this age, and all days stand humble before this Day. Say: O friends! In this transient abode ye can attain unto an everlasting station. By the life of God! This is a truth in which there is no doubt. Deprive not yourselves thereof. With the utmost endeavor and wisdom, with spirit and fragrance, bring the dead to life and take the hands of those who have remained behind. This is the station of the party of God. The glory that proceedeth from Me rest upon thee and upon My loved ones and chosen ones, and upon all who are steadfast and upright.

BH06861: O Kazim! The oppressor desired to extinguish the fire…

He is the Witness from His most exalted horizon.

O Kazim! The oppressor desired to extinguish the fire of God with the water of hatred and animosity. Thus did his soul entice him. Verily thy Lord is the Mighty, the All-Knowing. Ask God to unveil for him what

was hidden from him, that he may abandon what he possesseth, turning toward the horizon which God hath made the Dawning-place of lights.

O concourse of friends! Take hold of the Book of God with the power that proceedeth from Him. Beware lest the might of those who have denied the Source and the Return cause you to fear. They who have clung to the cord of the Cause—these are the friends of God on earth and His chosen ones in the lands. The Most Exalted Pen maketh mention of them at eventide and at dawn. Say: Beware lest the clamor of the divines hold you back from Him Who is the Possessor of Names. They have cast the Book of God behind their backs, clinging to their own books. To this doth the Lord of the world testify from His most sublime station. Thus have We sent down the verses and expounded them in truth and sent them unto thee, that thou mayest thank thy Lord, the Mighty, the Powerful, the All-Bestowing. The Glory shining and manifest from the horizon of the heaven of My mercy be upon those who have arisen and said:

> "God is our Lord and the Lord of all who are in the earth and heaven."

BH06558: He is the One dawning from the horizon…

He is the One dawning from the horizon of the world! Glorified be He Who hath sent down the verses and revealed the clear evidences while the people were in doubt and schism. Say: Arise ye from the slumber of vain desire, turning toward the Most Exalted Horizon. By God! The Promised One hath appeared with a sovereignty that hath conquered both the kingdom and the realm of heaven. To this beareth witness the Mother Book which is with Him. Fear ye God and oppose not Him in Whom ye believed aforetime. Take hold of the Book of God with the power that cometh from Him, then recite it at eventide and at dawn. How many a servant hath heard and responded, and how many a servant hath heard and turned away—verily he is of the veiled ones.

When thou findest the fragrance of utterance from the Tablet of thy Lord, the All-Merciful, arise and say: Praise be unto Thee for having made me to know and taught me and caused me to hear and strengthened me to recognize Him from Whom most of the servants have turned away. I beseech Thee not to withhold from me that which is with Thee. Ordain for me, O my God, what Thou hast ordained for Thy chosen ones, then send down unto me that which will preserve me from all else besides Thee. Verily Thou art the Almighty, the Mighty, the All-Bountiful.

BH06467: O people of Baha! I swear by the Lord…

He is the All-Hearing, the Responsive One!

O people of Baha! I swear by the Lord of the Kingdom of Names that the opposers among the divines and rulers who are today enkindled with the fire of hatred are not and have never been mentioned in the presence of God. Every person of insight sees such souls as thieves and murderers, for no human qualities are manifest from them. They have ever been and continue to be intent upon seizing people's lives and property, as ye have witnessed and continue to witness. They have amassed wealth from the property of others and grown rich thereby, and they lord it over them. In truth they are the most abject souls in the world, yet outwardly they adorn themselves in various ways and say "Glory is mine!" By My life! Any soul

possessing discernment less than a mustard seed would count such people as non-existent. Blessed art thou for having heard My call, turned to My horizon, spoken My praise, and attained unto My recognition, for which We created all things. Glory be upon thee and upon whosoever hath arisen to serve the Cause with steadfast and unwavering dedication.

BH06502: All the different parties of the world are each…

In His Name, the One Who rules over all names!

All the different parties of the world are each clinging to a book, or to a scroll, or to psalms, or to a tablet—this is an undoubted fact. Now, what has been revealed is equal to all divine books, nay rather more, but the people are seen to be heedless and asleep, nay rather dead. We beseech God that He may quicken all through the Kawthar of His utterance and make them enduring.

Blessed is he who hath cast away vain imaginings and shattered the idols, turning unto God, the Lord of all men. We beseech God that He may assist thee to mention and praise Him and to remain steadfast in this manifest Cause. Say: Glory be unto Thee, O Revealer of verses and Manifestor of clear proofs! I beseech Thee by the pearls of the ocean of Thy knowledge and the mysteries of Thy Book that Thou assist me in that which Thou lovest and art pleased with, and ordain for me what Thou hast ordained for Thy chosen ones whom neither hosts nor ranks could prevent from turning to Thy face. O my Lord! Thou art the Generous, possessed of great bounty. Ordain for me what beseemeth Thy generosity and grace. Verily, Thou art the Almighty, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

BH06492: After affirming the oneness of God and acknowledging what…

He is God, exalted be His station of grandeur and power

After affirming the oneness of God and acknowledging what His Prophets and Messengers brought, and their Seal Muhammad—peace be upon him—His Messenger whom He adorned with the crown of “But for thee” and the mantle of the Seal, and his family and companions, I submit that your esteemed letter reached this lowly one. Although the physical distance is very close, yet in the realm of love and friendship this small distance seems very far, such that upon receipt of your letter, in truth the joy of meeting and reunion was experienced. This matter is a matter of love—what a wonderful rider it is and what a wonderful walker! It traverses the globe in a single step and crosses the realm of imagination in an instant. Praise be to its hand and arm! The ledgers you sent arrived. As commanded, they should take from the fifty tumans mentioned. If anything remains, they should send the small remainder. The Glory be upon you and those with you.

BH06801: O My Afnan! Upon thee be My glory…

He is the All-Witnessing, the All-Knowing

O My Afnan! Upon thee be My glory and my loving-kindness. Haydar hath come to the Most Great Scene, crossing paths of land and sea until he entered the luminous Holy Land and attained that which was revealed from the Supreme Pen in the Books of God, the Lord of the Kingdom of Names. He came and

heard and attained and visited on thy behalf and as thy representative. Rejoice thou in this bounty and in having been adorned with the ornament of acceptance. This is another bounty from God, the Lord of all beings.

And he mentioned before the Countenance what thou hast done in the path of God, the Lord of the worlds. This is not the first good deed that hath appeared from thee. God hath assisted thee to serve the Cause in successive years. God created thee and chose thee for this as a mercy and bounty from Him—He is the All-Bountiful, the Generous.

Nothing escapeth His knowledge. He witnesseth and seeth, and He is the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing. The glory shining from the horizon of grace be upon thee and upon those with thee and who love thee.

BH06862: O beloved of my heart! As commanded, the package…

He is God, exalted be His glory, the Greatness and the Power!

O beloved of my heart! As commanded, the package for his honor Darbaghi, upon him be God's peace, was sent. Place in it the Tablet addressed to his honor Aqa Mirza Ibrahim and send it. And send the remaining Tablets, along with the Tablet of his honor Muhammad Khan, upon him be Baha'u'llah, which was recently sent, to his honor Aqa Mirza Haydar-ʿAli, upon him be the Most Glorious Beauty of God.

The Tablet of his honor Aqa Yahya, upon him be God's peace, was also sent—send it to his honor Samandar, upon him be God's peace, for delivery. You yourself, O beloved one, should also write something as commanded to Aqa Yahya that will bring him joy and delight, though it was not possible this time. Something special should also be sent to his honor Khalil, upon him be Baha'u'llah. God willing, it will be done later. For now, give promises of bounty to them and to his honor Samandar and the others, upon them be God's peace. The servant beseecheth his Lord to aid them with the means of the heavens and earth. Verily, He hath power over all things.

BH07135: God testifieth that there is none other God but…

He is the Mighty, the Praiseworthy

God testifieth that there is none other God but Him, the Supreme, the Self-Subsisting. He hath ever been sanctified beyond mention and utterance, and will forever remain as He hath been. He is the Single One, the Mighty, the Bountiful. He hath sent forth His ambassadors and chosen ones, revealed unto them the scriptures and books, and aided them to manifest His Cause in such wise that each one of them prevailed over all who dwell in the heavens and the earth. Through them was raised the standard of divine unity upon the heights, and the fragrance of the garment was wafted amongst the peoples. Exalted be their station, exalted be their rank, exalted be their might and glory and their loftiness and transcendence and their arising to promote the Cause of God, the Lord of all worlds. We have perceived the fragrance of thy turning unto Us, wherefore have We turned unto thee and mentioned thee in this perspicuous mention, through which every one who hath turned unto God, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed, hath turned. Hold fast unto the Book of thy Lord, rendering thanks and praise unto Him Who hath aided thee and guided thee unto His straight path.

BH07069: He is the Most Holy, the Most Great…

He is the Most Holy, the Most Great. A mention from Us to him who hath drunk the choice wine from the hand of the bounty of his Lord, the All-Bountiful.

We have sent down the verses and manifested clear proofs by the command of God, the Lord of the worlds. We have heard thy call, turned toward thee, and answered thee with a Tablet that cannot be equalled by the treasures of kings.

We have enjoined upon all to observe what is praiseworthy and that whereby man's station is exalted. Blessed is He Who created him, assisted him, and made him to be among the honored ones.

Beware lest the affairs of creation veil thee. Take hold of the Book of God with the power that proceedeth from Him. He, verily, is the Helper of whosoever turneth unto Him, and He is the Mighty, the Powerful.

Thus have We woven the coat of divine utterance with the fingers of the will of thy Lord, Who is supreme over all who are in the heavens and on earth. Whoso attaineth unto this coat, neither the swords of the idolaters, nor the cannons of the infidels, nor the arrows of the transgressors shall affect him.

Be thou steadfast in the Cause, enkindled with the fire of love, and speaking forth My beauteous praise. The glory shining forth from the horizon of the heaven of My loving-kindness rest upon thee and upon every steadfast and firm servant.

BH07047: Throughout all days this Wronged One hath shone even…

He is the All-Seeing, the All-Knowing!

Throughout all days this Wronged One hath shone even as the sun from the horizon of the heaven of Revelation. By the life of God! Those souls who have risen up in opposition today were concealed behind veils and coverings, and from fear for their lives were moving from city to city and land to land. Yet when the light of the Sun became somewhat manifest and brilliant, they emerged from behind the veil with swords of opposition and objection. At first they attempted to cut down the blessed Tree that is neither of the East nor of the West, but God preserved it through His truth, as a manifestation of His power and an expression of His might.

O friends! Today all the heavenly Books are dependent and conditioned upon the recognition of this Revelation, and no words, deeds or actions will profit except by the leave of God, exalted be His glory. We beseech God to protect His loved ones and adorn them with the raiment of supreme steadfastness. Verily He is powerful over all things.

Thy mention hath been made in the presence of this Wronged One, and this Tablet hath been revealed for thee, that thou mayest give thanks unto thy Lord, the All-Forgiving, the All-Bountiful.

BH07625: This is a mention from Us unto him whose…

He is the All-Seeing, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

This is a mention from Us unto him whose letter reached Us in the Most Great Prison. We give him the glad-tidings of God's loving-kindness, the Lord of all worlds. We love to remember him who hath remembered Us, and counsel him with that which is praiseworthy and with that which God hath revealed in His perspicuous Book.

Beware lest the doubts of the people prevent thee from drawing nigh unto God, the Mighty, the Most Praised. The Truth hath appeared, yet the divines have turned away from it and pronounced against it with manifest injustice, whereat both morn and eve have wept. Arise with supreme steadfastness in the Cause of God, the Lord of all creation. This is what thou wast bidden before, and what thou art bidden at this time by One Who is All-Knowing, All-Wise.

We beseech God to open before thy face the portals of understanding and to rain down upon thee from the heaven of certitude that which will tranquilize thy heart and the hearts of them who have sought the countenance after the passing of all things—these, verily, are among those who draw nigh. The glory shining from the horizon of the Kingdom be upon thee and upon every patient and trusting soul.

BH07475: Today from the rustling of the breezes…

He is the One through Whose fragrance the breeze of the All-Merciful has wafted through all lands.

Today from the rustling of the breezes of the gardens of utterance this word is heard:

> "O people of Baha! Look not upon the creatures and their clamor and oppression, but rather upon the Truth and His justice and sovereignty."

Thus has the Divine Lote-Tree spoken forth in His mighty prison.

Thy letter hath arrived and was presented by the servant in attendance. We have revealed for thee this Tablet, each letter of whose words testifieth that there is none other God but Me, the Speaker, the All-Wise. Blessed is he who hath attained unto My remembrance and My Tablet, the Mighty, the Wondrous. All the treasures of the world cannot equal it, as doth testify He Who is established upon His mighty throne.

O people of Baha! Aid ye the All-Merciful through deeds and virtuous character. This is what We commanded you before and in this glorious Tablet. The Glory shining from the horizon of My Kingdom be upon thee and upon those who have aided the All-Merciful through goodly deeds. These, verily, are among the triumphant.

BH07810: He is the One speaking in the Kingdom! This…

He is the One speaking in the Kingdom! This is a Book which the All-Merciful hath sent down from the heaven of utterance unto all that dwell on earth, bearing unto them the glad-tidings of the good-pleasure of God, the Lord of all worlds.

O peoples of the earth! The Lord of Heaven hath come with His kingdom of verses—turn ye unto Him, and be not of the heedless. They who have turned away from the Most Exalted Horizon, inclining unto

every remote learning, are indeed among the lost. Say: Fear ye God, and reject not the truth by what ye possess. Follow Him Who hath come unto you with a mighty sovereignty.

This is the day wherein the gate of utterance hath been opened unto all possibilities, and wherein the straight path of God hath been made manifest. Blessed is he who hath attained the lights of the countenance and recognized that which was recorded in the Books of God, the Mighty, the Most Praised.

Thus hath the Tongue of Grandeur spoken, while imprisoned amidst the heedless ones. We have witnessed thy turning unto Us, wherefore have We turned unto thee and made mention of thee in this wondrous Tablet. When thou attainest unto it, render thanks unto God, thy Lord and the Lord of earth and heaven, and the Lord of the exalted Throne.

BH08598: O thou who art intoxicated! God willing, thou shalt…

He is God, exalted be His glory, the All-Wise, the All-Eloquent!

O thou who art intoxicated! God willing, thou shalt be reckoned among the men of the divine garden of fruits. Praise be to God, thou art illumined by the light of unity and art a believer in, and dost acknowledge, that which hath been revealed in the Book. Say: My God, my God! Thou seest me detached from all else save Thee and holding fast to the cord of Thy bounty. I beseech Thee by Thy Beloved, through Whom the light of unity hath shone forth from the horizon of the world and the decree of justice hath been established among the nations, to assist me to act according to that which Thou hast commanded me in Thy perspicuous Book.

O my Lord! Thou seest the poorest of Thy servants turning to the horizon of Thy riches, and the most abject of Thy creatures facing the heaven of Thy glory and power. I beseech Thee not to disappoint him of that which Thou hast ordained for them that are nigh unto Thee among Thy servants and for the sincere ones among Thy creation. O my Lord! Open before my face the doors of Thy generosity and bounty. Verily, Thou art powerful to do what Thou willest through Thy binding command, the All-Wise. Praise be to Thee, O God of the worlds!

BH08138: In these days, despite the sorrows that have befallen…

He is the Hearer, the Seer, the Answerer

In these days, despite the sorrows that have befallen the Beauty of Oneness, at all times We are occupied with the remembrance and praise of His sanctified Being. Blessed is the soul that has heard the divine call and has arisen with perfect steadfastness to serve His Cause. O friends! Know ye the value of the days of God, and in His Day remain not deprived of the outpourings of the true Bestower of bounty. This day is the sovereign of days, and deeds performed therein are the sovereign of deeds. Strive ye that there may appear from you such service as will diffuse the fragrance of eternity and be adorned with an everlasting ornament. Thy mention hath come before the Wronged One, and He hath revealed for thee this perspicuous Book. Give thanks unto God for this most great favor. Verily He heareth and seeth, and He is the All-Hearing, the All-Knowing.

BH08160: O God, my Goal, my Beloved, the All-Bountiful…

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

O God, my Goal, my Beloved, the All-Bountiful, the All-Merciful! Thou art He Who knoweth all things, from Whom no matter hath been or shall ever be concealed. Thou art He Who is aware of all things, Who hath been and shall ever be cognizant of the secrets of all hearts and souls and breasts. Every pure deed returneth unto Thee like unto light. Thy will causeth dust to transcend the heavens, and Thy might transformeth solid rock into water. O All-Knowing Lord! Thy servant hath desired to offer Thee a feast—accept it from him and grant it Thy favor. Thou art the All-Bountiful, from Whose heaven of grace none among the first or the last hath ever been deprived. Adorn this service of Thy servant Muhammad-Hasan with the ornament of Thy acceptance. Thou art the Protector of all things and the Encompasser of earth and heaven. There is no God but Thee, the All-Bestowing, the All-Bountiful.

BH11841: O Yusif! The Wronged One counsels thee to hold…

He is God, exalted be His glory, the Greatness and the Power

O Yusif! The Wronged One counsels thee to hold fast to the white religion and the resplendent Law. We beseech God, exalted be He, to assist thee with what He loves and is pleased with, and to make thee among those who grasp the firm handle. Verily, He is the Lord of the throne and earth, and the Master of the hereafter and this world. And peace and blessings be upon Him through Whom the world was renewed and Who appeared from the essence of Adam.

Say: I beseech Thee, O God of Names and Creator of heaven, by Thy most beautiful names and by the Dawning Place of Thy knowledge through which the breezes of revelation were concluded and the banners of divine unity were raised, to assist me to act according to what Thou hast sent down in Thy Book and according to that which will manifest the station of man in creation. Verily, Thou art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest. There is no God but Thee, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

BH08991: This is a Book which the Wronged One hath…

He is the One Who speaketh the truth

This is a Book which the Wronged One hath sent down unto him who hath believed in God, the Help in Peril, the Self-Subsisting. O ʿAbbas-Quli! We have not forbidden the near ones from quaffing the choice sealed wine. Rather, in every instant hath the Tongue of Grandeur proclaimed: “Come ye, come ye, O peoples of the earth!” Yet man is weak, and the Cause mighty and powerful. Under all conditions wisdom and forbearance are to be preferred. Were it not for the weakness of the servants, We would have summoned all the friends openly to the Most Exalted Horizon.

Be thou content with that which thy Lord, the All-Knowing Ordainer, hath ordained. He manifesteth whatsoever He willeth and inscribeth for whomsoever He willeth the reward of attaining His presence. And He is the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous. The glory be upon thee and upon all who have turned unto Him and have testified, saying:

"I bear witness that Thou art God, and that there is none other God but Thee, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise."

BH09041: Your letter was received and attained the honor…

He is the One Who warbles upon the branches

Your letter was received and attained the honor of being noticed and heard. Praise be to the Goal of all the worlds Who confirmed you and enabled you to recognize the Dawning Place of Revelation and the Speaker of the Mount. He is the One Whose oneness is sanctified above oneness itself, and Whose oneness in the Kingdom of Names cannot be described or encompassed by anyone's understanding. Hold fast to Him and cling to His luminous robe. See none but Him and observe naught besides Him. Strive that perchance you may act according to that which hath been revealed in the Book of God. Whosoever attaineth unto this hath attained unto all good. He Who possesseth the Mother Book beareth witness unto this. Glory be upon thee and upon all who have believed in God, the Lord of Lords.

BH09152: In My Name, the Imprisoned, the Wronged

In My Name, the Imprisoned, the Wronged

O Muhammad! Reflect upon the days of the Seal of the Prophets—may the spirit of all else but Him be sacrificed for His sake. The enemies arose from all directions to oppose and object, and perpetrated that which caused the Concourse on High to weep and lament. If these people consider this Wronged One blameworthy, what fault did they find in that Holy Being? Most of the people of the world are observed to be like cattle, deprived of understanding and bereft of comprehension. In all ages and centuries they have acted as they do in these days. "No Messenger cometh unto them but they did mock at him." Verily we are God's, and to Him shall we return.

BH08956: Say: Glory be unto Thee, O God…

He is the Hearer, the Answerer!

Say: Glory be unto Thee, O God of the world and Desire of the nations! I beseech Thee by Thy Most Glorious Manifestation from the highest horizon, and by Thy mighty signs, and the evidences of Thy power in the kingdom of creation, to assist me to be steadfast in Thy Cause. O my Lord! Thou seest me turning unto Thee, clinging to Thy cord, and directing my face toward Thy countenance. I implore Thee by the mysteries of Thy Book and the sweetness of Thy utterance to ordain for me the reward of those who were steadfast in Thy Cause and who spoke Thy praise in such wise that the hosts of those who denied Thee and Thy signs could not hinder them. I am he who, O my God, doth acknowledge his weakness and impotence, and Thy power and might and glory and dominion. I beseech Thee to preserve me through Thy Name and strengthen me to arise to serve Thee. Verily, Thou art the Almighty, the Powerful.

BH08883: My Most Exalted Pen beareth witness that verily I…

He is the Mighty, the Self-Subsisting!

My Most Exalted Pen beareth witness that verily I am the Wronged One. There is none other God but Him, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting. Blessed is he who hath attained unto My call and responded to that which My Pen hath uttered and acted according to what hath been sent down in My wondrous Book. I bear witness unto him who hath turned towards My countenance that he hath turned towards God, the Lord of all worlds. Blessed is the handmaiden who hath heard and attained. Verily she is among the denizens of Paradise in the presence of God, the Mighty, the All-Wise.

Say: Praise be unto Thee, O my God, for having enabled me to serve Thy Cause and given me to drink of the Kawthar of Thy bounty. I beseech Thee by the rustling of the Divine Lote-Tree and the mysteries of Thy Book, O Lord of all names, to make this handmaiden of Thine steadfast in Thy Cause. Verily Thou art powerful over all things. The Glory be upon thee and upon every handmaiden who hath believed in the All-Knowing, the One.

Volume 076: Akka 1302 A.H. (1884–1885), Part II (6 of 6)

BH09168: O My Leaf! Upon thee be My glory. Verily…

He is the One Who hath power over whatsoever He willeth through His word “Be” and it is.

O My Leaf! Upon thee be My glory. Verily the Divine Lote-Tree casteth upon thee from the verses of thy Lord, and I am the All-Knowing Remembrancer. It calleth out between earth and heaven: By God! The Lord of Names hath come with clear sovereignty. Rejoice thou in the bounty of thy Lord, for He hath named thee in the Book of Names “The Exalted One.” Be thankful for this great favor. Hold fast to the cord of thy Lord’s grace, then act according to that which We have counseled thee. Nothing whatsoever escapeth His knowledge—He witnesseth and seeth, and He is the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing. The glory shining forth from the horizon of the heaven of My mercy be upon thee and upon My Afnans who have circled round My Cause and arisen to serve Me amongst My servants. Verily they are of Me—to this My swiftly-moving, ever-active Pen doth testify.

BH09722: He is the All-Seeing, the All-Informed. My pen…

He is the All-Seeing, the All-Informed. My pen and my tongue and my fingers and my inner self and my outer self and my hidden being and my heart and my liver and my spirit and my soul and my limbs and my faculties and my knowledge and my understanding and my hearing and my sight and my inmost heart testify to the oneness of God and His singleness and to His grandeur and His sovereignty and His might and His power and His glory. Blessed is the tongue that beareth witness to that which My Most Exalted Pen hath testified on this dark night, and the heart that hath turned toward the horizon of the All-Merciful, and the eye that hath beheld the lights of the Countenance when it was shining forth from the horizon of the Prison, and the hand that hath taken hold of the Book of God, the Lord of all worlds.

BH09474: We have heard thy mention and witnessed thy enkindlement…

He is the All-Seeing, the All-Informed.

We have heard thy mention and witnessed thy enkindlement in the love of God, the Lord of the mighty throne. We have remembered thee in a Tablet from whose horizon hath shone forth the Sun of thy Lord's loving-kindness, the Lord of all worlds. Say:

O my God and my Lord! I beseech Thee by Thy Name, the All-Subduing above all names, and by the Ark that hath sailed upon the sea through Thy Most Great and Most Glorious Name, to assist me in Thy remembrance and praise and in the service of Thy Cause. O Lord! Increase my longing and steadfastness in this Cause whereby the foundations were shaken and the hearts of the deniers were perturbed. O Lord! Deprive me not of that which lieth with Thee, and ordain for me what Thou hast ordained for Thy chosen ones. Verily, Thou art the Almighty over what Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

BH09718: In My Name which shineth forth from the horizon…

In My Name which shineth forth from the horizon of the Kingdom!

O My leaf and My Afnan, daughter of His Honor Siyyid M., upon both of whom be the Most Glorious Beauty of God! Thy Lord remembereth thee in the Most Great Prison. Verily He remembered thee before thy existence, and in these days wherein have been revealed the mysteries of the Books and that which was hidden in the knowledge of God, the Lord of all worlds. Be thou thankful unto thy Lord and say:

> "Praise be unto Thee, O my God, for having made me one of Thy leaves and recorded me by Thy Most Exalted Pen as one of the Afnans whom Thou hast mentioned in Thy Books, Thy Scriptures and Thy Tablets, and hast commanded Thy servants to love them and to show them affection—a bounty from Thy presence. I beseech Thee to aid me in remembering Thee and glorifying Thee. Verily Thou art the Mighty, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise."

BH11847: We bear witness to that which God hath witnessed…

He is the All-Witnessing, the All-Informed

We bear witness to that which God hath witnessed, that there is none other God but Him, in acknowledgment of His oneness and in recognition of His singleness, His grandeur and His sovereignty. And We bear witness that thou hast sent unto the Wronged One that which cannot be equaled by the Hidden Treasure, and which was more beloved in My sight than all things visible in the kingdom of creation. We beseech Him, exalted be He, to reward thee with the most excellent reward in this world and the next. Verily, He is the Lord of the seen and the unseen, and the Lord of the throne on high and of the earth below. We have sent unto thee that which hath been honored to attain His presence, that thou mayest inhale therefrom the fragrance of tenderness and loving-kindness. By My life! Its fragrance will draw thee to a station that cannot be described in words. The Cause is in the hands of God, the Lord of all possibilities and the Educator of all religions.

BH09436: The world is in motion through the magnetic force…

In the Name of the One True Friend!

The world is in motion through the magnetic force of the Word of the Lord of Eternity, yet the servants remain heedless thereof, save whom God willeth. Render praise unto the Desired One of all worlds, Who hath enabled thee to recognize that Horizon from which all are veiled and heedless. In the springtime of youth and the prime of life, whosoever attaineth unto the love of God is accounted among the denizens of the most exalted Paradise. Strive thou to manifest that which will cause the exaltation of His Cause….

BH09336: Two matters are of utmost magnitude: one…

He is the Speaker from the Supreme Horizon

Two matters are of utmost magnitude: one is the recognition of the Most Great Announcement and the other is steadfastness therein. The essence of acceptance is like a tablet whereon this most exalted Word hath been inscribed by the Most Exalted Pen:

> "The beginning of all things is knowledge of Me and the end thereof is steadfastness in My love."

Blessed is the soul that hath perceived the fragrance of this blessed and most exalted Word. Such a soul hath been and ever shall be the manifestation of God's Most Powerful Name. We make mention of thee that thou mayest arise to serve the Cause of thy Lord through wisdom and utterance and through that which the All-Merciful hath revealed in His precious and wondrous Book. The glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My loving-kindness be upon thee and upon those who have testified to that whereunto God hath testified in this exalted and glorious station.

BH10006: The waves of the ocean of bounty are surging…

In the Name of the Friend!

The waves of the ocean of bounty are surging at their highest, and the Sun of loving-kindness is shining from the most exalted horizon of grace. The clouds of oppression have sought to veil it, and the veils of concealment have intervened. O friends! I tell you truly: The Word of God shall prevail, His Will shall encompass all. Today, hold fast to the cord of steadfastness, that ye may be numbered among those of whom it is said:

> "The censure of any censurer deterreth them not in the path of God."

O handmaiden of God! Thy name was mentioned before the Wronged One, and this Tablet was revealed. We beseech God to assist all handmaidens and illumine them with the lights of His manifestation. The Glory be upon thee.

BH09894: God testifieth that there is none other God but…

He is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed!

God testifieth that there is none other God but Him. He giveth life and causeth death, and He is the One with power over whatsoever He willeth. Within His grasp is the dominion of Command and Creation. He

doeth what He pleaseth and ordaineth what He willeth, and He is the Strong, the Mighty. O My maidservant! Upon thee be My glory and My loving-kindness. We counsel thee with that which beseemeth the days of God, the Lord of all worlds, and with steadfastness in this mighty Cause, whereby every idol hath wailed, every heedless one hath cried out, and every remote one hath been sorely troubled. O My maidservant! Rejoice thou in My remembrance and My loving-kindness, then give thanks unto thy Lord, the All-Forgiving, the All-Bountiful. The glory be upon thee from the presence of One mighty and great.

BH09980: The Book of God hath been sent down…

He is the One dawning from the horizon of the heaven of Revelation.

The Book of God hath been sent down in truth, yet the people understand not. The Promise hath come to pass, and the Promised One calleth aloud before all faces, yet most of the people perceive not. They have cast the Book of God behind their backs, clinging to idle fancies and vain imaginings. There hath been sent down in this Revelation what was not revealed unto the Prophets of old—nay, even more. To this bear witness the Manifestations of fairness and the Daysprings of all matters. We have shown forth clear proofs in such wise that none deny them save those who have cast away the Covenant and the Testament of God, the Lord of what was and what shall be.

BH09912: He is the Most Exalted, the Most High! Know…

He is the Most Exalted, the Most High! Know that Mine Afnan hath mentioned thee before the Throne, until the Sun of Permission rose from the horizon of the Will of God, the Lord of all worlds. Thou shouldst thank Him for this most great favor, which cannot be equaled by whatsoever is with the kings and rulers. We have given thee permission and have recorded for thee the reward of attaining His presence through My Most Exalted Pen in My perspicuous Book. He hath desired to fulfill His promise and covenant. Verily thy Lord is the All-Seeing, the All-Knowing. The glory rest upon him and upon thee and upon those who have chosen for themselves a path unto God, the Mighty, the All-Wise.

BH10119: O my leaf! Upon thee be My glory!…

He is the Most Glorious, the All-Glorious

O my leaf! Upon thee be My glory! In this year, through the wondrous favors of God—glorified be His majesty—a number of Afnan turned toward and attained the presence of the Blessed Tree, and achieved that which was recorded in the divine Books and Scriptures. Each one hath their station with God. Although outwardly thou didst not attain this bounty, yet thou hast been favored with a Tablet from whose horizon the Sun of God's loving-kindness hath dawned and become manifest. Glory be upon thee and upon those who have attained, and upon a handmaiden who hath attained unto God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH10304: In My Name, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious

In My Name, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious

God testifieth that there is none other God but Him, the All-Compelling, the Self-Subsisting. O My leaf! Bear thou witness unto that whereunto God hath Himself borne witness, and she who hath affirmed and acknowledged the testimony of God—verily she is of the denizens of the highest Paradise, inscribed in the Crimson Book which none hath beheld save God, the Lord of all mankind. Thus have We caused thee to hear the rustling of My Lote-Tree and the shrill voice of My Pen, that thou mayest give thanks unto thy Lord, the Almighty, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. The glory rest upon thee and upon every leaf who hath held fast unto the cord of the will of her Lord, the Forgiving, the Bountiful.

BH10320: My Most Exalted Pen beareth witness that there…

He is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed

My Most Exalted Pen beareth witness that there is none other God but Him. He giveth life and causeth death, causeth death and giveth life, and He is the Single, the One, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. We have heard thy call and have called out to thee from the Most Sacred Side of the Throne, and have remembered thee with a remembrance through which thy station hath been elevated, and the station of all who have turned to God, the Single, the All-Informed. Give thanks unto thy Lord, for He hath aided thee and sent down for thee that which shall endure throughout the eternity of My Most Beautiful Names. And I am verily the Rememberer, the Compassionate, the Generous. The glory be upon thee and upon those who have believed in God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy.

BH10301: God testifeth that thou hast turned unto Him…

He is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed

God testifeth that thou hast turned unto Him and believed, and hast heard and responded when the Call was raised between earth and heaven, and hast acknowledged that which the Tongue of Grandeur hath spoken. We beseech God to aid thee to preserve that wherewith He hath honored thee, and to ordain for thee the good of both this world and the next. Then know thou that there appeared before the Gate he who rent asunder the veil in the final return, and delivered the Message, as attested by God, the Lord of lords. He made mention of thy kindly deed, and it was accepted. Verily thy Lord is the Mighty, the All-Bestowing. And the glory be upon thee and upon him who hath believed in God, the One, the Chosen One.

BH10370: Say: O My Afnan! Glory be unto Thee, O…

He is the One singing upon the branches

Say: O My Afnan! Glory be unto Thee, O my God, my Goal and my Beloved! Thou seest one of Thy leaves turning unto Thee, clinging to the Tree of Thy grace, and seeking the wonders of Thy bounty and Thy mercy. I beseech Thee, O my Lord, by the light of Thy countenance and the breezes of Thy Revelation, to preserve me through Thy power and Thy sovereignty, lest the tempests of trials in Thy days cause me to fall. O my Lord, I am she who hath turned unto Thee, holding fast to the cord of Thy generosity. I beseech Thee to cause me to be immersed in the ocean of Thy oneness and to stand before the door of Thy bounty in every world of Thy worlds. Verily, Thou art the All-Forgiving, the All-Bountiful.

BH10737: O My Leaf! The Wronged One makes mention…

He is the Guide to His Straight Path!

O My Leaf! The Wronged One makes mention of thee from the precincts of the Prison, and gives thee glad tidings of the favors of thy Lord, before Whose Name the Concourse on High, and the dwellers of the Cities of Names, and the people of this Most Glorious Horizon have bowed down in adoration, whilst it increaseth naught in the oppressors save loss. Rejoice, O My Leaf! Then make mention and glorify thy Lord at eventide and at dawn. The glory of God rest upon thy father and thy mother and [thy brother] and upon thee from God, the Mighty, the All-Bestowing.

BH10762: He is the Mighty, the All-Knowing! My Most Exalted…

He is the Mighty, the All-Knowing! My Most Exalted Pen makes mention of My Afnan who hath inhaled the fragrance of My loving-kindness, who hath turned unto My horizon, and who hath clung to the cord of My bounty in days wherein every oppressor hath arisen, every transgressor raised his voice, and every misbeliever denied God, the Lord of this wondrous Day. Render thanks unto thy Lord for having aided thee to recognize His Most Great Command and to hold fast unto this Momentous Announcement. Say: Praise be unto Thee, O God of the worlds!

BH11486: Sorrow and joy, poverty and wealth, hardship and ease…

…Sorrow and joy, poverty and wealth, hardship and ease, difficulty and facility—all are within His mighty grasp. He giveth as He willeth; none can resist His command. He doeth what He pleaseth and ordaineth what He desireth. He is the Triumphant, the Strong, the Almighty….

BH11911: This honor and benevolence hath been bestowed upon…

This honor and benevolence hath been bestowed upon the sister and her descendants, from her Lord, the Merciful. He is the Munificent and the Compassionate, and He is the Generous and the Bounteous.

BH05870: In My Name, the Speaker between earth and heaven

In My Name, the Speaker between earth and heaven.

A Book which the All-Bestower hath sent down at the final goal unto those who have believed in God, the Almighty, the Self-Subsisting. O peoples of the earth! Beware lest the deeds of the oppressors hold you back from God, the Lord of all worlds. Arise ye from the slumber of vain desire, turning unto God, the Lord of all humanity. This is what shall profit you in the hereafter and in this world, if ye be of them that know.

Thy mention hath come before the Wronged One, and He hath sent down for thee this wondrous and glorious Tablet. We counsel thee and those who have believed to show forth that steadfastness which God hath made the crown upon the head of faith and the eye of the temple of true knowledge. Thus hath

the matter been decreed by My Most Exalted Pen in the Crimson Book, yet most of the people are heedless.

When thou dost inhale the fragrance of My raiment from the temple of My utterance, give thanks unto God and say:

> "Praise be unto Thee, O Lord of the Kingdom of earth and heaven, and glory be unto Thee, O Thou Who showest mercy to both kings and subjects! I beseech Thee by Thy Name through which Thou didst subdue the world and guide the peoples, to make me steadfast in Thy Cause, firm in Thy love, and speaking forth Thy praise. Verily Thou art the Almighty over whatsoever Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the All-Compelling over what was and what shall be."

Volume 077: Akka 1303 A.H. (1885–1886), Part I (1 of 5)

BH01190: Praise and glory befitteth the Lord of Names, Who…

He is God—exalted be His station, the Most Great, the All-Powerful

Praise and glory befitteth the Lord of Names, Who hath bestowed from the ocean of truth the pearls of inner meanings, and caused the waters of utterance to flow from the mountains of grandeur, and hath granted to every created thing a measure of His bounty and generosity. He hath guided the lovers of His beauty to the most exalted Paradise, and bestowed upon those who seek His nearness and reunion a portion from the garden of His presence. He is the All-Knowing One Whom the ignorance of the world could not deter, and the All-Powerful One Whom the might of nations could not withhold. The faith of all created things added naught to His station, nor did the rebellion of beings diminish aught from His grace and generosity. The cloud of His bestowal hath ever rained down, and the sun of His bounty hath ever shone upon all existence. Exalted be His grandeur, sublime be His loftiness, and mighty be His dominion! There is none other God but Him.

The letter of that honored master arrived, and like the morning breeze it gave freshness to the withered heart and revived the lifeless body, for it was adorned with mention of the Desired One, the Sovereign of the unseen and the seen. From the glad tidings of the well-being of that spiritual friend, a new world appeared and boundless joy was attained. They have said that the world was created through the command "Be" (Kun), and in the realm of truth, this "Kaf" is the "Kaf" of remembrance of friends, and the "Nun" is the endless bounty of love.

What you wrote was the essence of truth and a matter beyond dispute. After it was presented before His presence, He said—upon him be God's care and mercy:

> "He hath spoken the truth and uttered what is right. We beseech God, exalted be He, to aid him and make him successful, and to ordain for him that which shall benefit him outwardly and inwardly, and to open before his face the gate of glory and the gate of bounty and the gate of

care and exaltation. Verily He is powerful over whatsoever He willeth. There is none other God but Him, the All-Powerful, the Almighty."

End.

His honor Haji Ghulamali (upon him be 966 [Baha'u'llah]) arrived and recounted the details of that servant's tribulations, as well as the transgressions of the treacherous souls. Glory be to God! What has become of the world's understanding? Where has justice gone? What has become of fairness, that people fail to distinguish between the causes of honor and abasement, between light and darkness? Trustworthiness has been and remains the cause of the world's prosperity, while treachery is the cause of ruin. We beseech and implore God, exalted be His glory, not to deprive countries and regions of the lights of the sun of trustworthiness. What benefit has the treacherous one gained, and what harm has befallen the trustworthy? In any case, people are observed to be like children—education is needed, and an educator is needed.

Today among the peoples of the world, mention of love of country, patriotism and the like is heard to such an extent that there is not a single newspaper, gathering, or tongue that does not speak of this word and claim superiority therein. However, when put to the test, self-worship becomes clear and evident. Where are those souls of whom He says "and give them preference over themselves, even though poverty be their own lot"? And where are those souls who act for God's sake and turn to God? The point is that they should speak with truthfulness and hold fast to deeds that are the cause of the glory of existence. The world of knowledge is illumined and radiant through the lights of the sun of truthfulness, and the world of vision is adorned and embellished through the effulgences of the light of trustworthiness. In short, now the clay pieces of the world praise themselves with the attributes of pearls, heedless that among creation there are and have been possessors of penetrating vision and attentive ears who can distinguish. To say more risks causing that honored one weariness.

I beseech God to adorn all with the ornament of truthfulness and uprightness. He is powerful and mighty over all things. They mentioned the influence, steadfastness and justice of those regions. These matters have been and are the cause of hope for many, and we beseech God to assist their manifestation, dawning-place and source at all times with the means of earth and heaven, that the orb of justice may rise from the horizon of Iran's heaven with perfect light and radiance, without cloud or veil, and cast its rays upon all, in such wise that not a single atom remains deprived. Every deed has had and has its own effect. God willing, the effect of justice will reveal its fruit. Mention of justice and its influence brought boundless joy. Detached souls are educated under the shadow of the sun of justice, and through those souls the world is renewed and the orb of fairness appears. In this case, all will observe themselves in the cradle of peace and security with perfect joy and delight. We have been and are supplicating, and it is certain that God, exalted be His glory, will grant the response. Verily, He has power over all things. Peace and praise and glory be upon you and upon those with you.

BH05368: Your mention hath been and continues to be before…

In the Name of God, the All-Knowing!

Your mention hath been and continues to be before the Wronged One. We beseech God to aid thee to that which befitteth this blessed Day.

Today the believers in God must strive, wholly detached from all else, to protect the souls that have accepted the Faith, that perchance they may not be afflicted with the vain imaginings of the past. Should souls reflect upon the deeds of the previous party and their fruits, they would become firm in the Cause of God with such firmness that the hosts of the world would fail to move them.

Observe how many souls from the inception of Islam until now have wandered distracted in the wilderness of idle fancy. Not a single soul became aware of the Purpose or recognized the Cause. By God's life! The people are in great drunkenness. Now is the turn of the people of the Bayan. God protect us and you from their evil.

Be not grieved by the world's differences and the dispersion of affairs. Soon there shall appear what hath been ordained for thee from the Pen of Revelation. Thy Lord is, verily, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

Remember My loving-kindness, then recite My verses, detached from all else and clinging to My luminous robe. Glory be upon thee and upon thy majesty and bounty and upon those with thee. We have mentioned them before in such wise that no mention can equal it. Verily, thy Lord is the All-Bountiful.

BH09408: Glorified art Thou, O Thou in Whose grasp are…

He is the Mighty, the All-Knowing!

Glorified art Thou, O Thou in Whose grasp are the reins of the hearts of all nations! I beseech Thee by Thy Most Great Name through which the world hath been illumined, and by the yearning of the hearts of Thy lovers throughout all regions, and by the mysteries of Thy Revelation on the Day of Separation, to assist me to be steadfast in Thy Cause and to arise to serve Thee. O my Lord! Thou seest how the people of the Bayan have violated Thy Covenant even as the people of the Furqan violated it in Thy days. I beseech Thee to make me so firm in Thy Cause that I shall see in all the realm naught save Thy most exalted horizon from which the lights of Thy Revelation have shone forth, O Thou Who art the Lord of all names! O my Lord! Ordain for me what is best in this world and the world to come. Verily Thou art God. There is none other God but Thee, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

BH00443: Today the garden of praise is adorned…

In the Name of our Most Holy, Most Great, Most Exalted, Most Glorious Lord!

Today the garden of praise is adorned with the names of the friends of God—those whom the possessions of men have not prevented from that which is with God, whom neither the wickedness of the atheists, nor the clamor of the ungodly, nor the tumult of the aggressors has debarred from the Most Great Ocean. Today, whosoever gazes toward the Most Exalted Horizon and clings to the Most Great Handle is accounted as one of the party of God. All friends must strive with utmost endeavor that they may be distinguished and honored among all peoples by this most great title and most exalted word. Behold the Truth with the eye of truth. Leave behind the pool of names created for the worshippers of

names, that perchance ye may attain unto the ocean of inner meanings that lies before all faces. This evanescent servant hath ever mentioned the friends of God in the Most Holy Court according to his capacity, and hath sought divine confirmation for each one, purely for His sake. It is hoped that the party of God may in these days, which are attributed to the Truth, attain unto true unity—that they may see naught but the Truth and hear naught but the Truth, for in this Day none but the Truth is mentioned.

Glory be unto Thee, O God of the seen and the unseen, Who art established upon the throne of Thy Name, the All-Loving! I beseech Thee by the lights of Thy countenance and the dawning-places of Thy revelation to assist Thy people to be steadfast in Thy Cause in such wise that they may place the world beneath their feet, ascending unto Thy Most Great Name and turning unto it with their faces, their hearts, their breasts, their eyes, and their very veins, so that no name may remain in all creation save Thy name, O Most Merciful, and no description save Thy description, O Thou through Whom the Sun of Proof hath shone forth from the horizon of certitude. O Lord! Take the hands of Thy loved ones with the hands of Thy power, then preserve them from the evil of the people of the Bayan who have turned away from Thee and from that which Thou hast. Verily, Thou art powerful over what Thou willest, and Thou art the Forgiving, the Merciful.

Thereafter, thy letter was received, and likewise thy previous letter. After they were read and their contents noted, we approached the presence of the Lord of all beings, and after permission was granted, they were presented before His face and were honored to be heard. His word, exalted be His glory and universal be His bounty:

He is the One Who calleth from the Divine Lote-Tree by His Most Glorious Name!

This is a mention from Our presence to My loved ones and friends who have cast away the world in their longing for My nearness, My meeting, and the recognition of My mighty and great Self. O Mahmud! The All-Loving mentioneth thee from His glorious station that the utterance of thy Lord, the Most Merciful, may attract thee to the horizon of divine knowledge and cause thee to hear what the Son of Imran heard when he entered the wilderness of certitude and heard the call: “Verily, there is no God but Me, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.” We have mentioned those who have believed, both before and after, as the Tongue of Grandeur in this exalted station doth testify. This is a Day wherein from every word of God’s words a call is raised between earth and heaven.

By God’s life! Each one of these words hath a tongue, and each tongue hath a tongue. Were We to expound this station as it truly is, all who are on earth would be thunderstruck, save whom God willeth, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. O people of God! Cast aside all else, for He hath come with the truth and hath summoned all to the horizon from which hath shone the Sun of this Revelation, whereby the Hour hath appeared with its signs, and the mountains have been set in motion by the command of One Who is powerful and omnipotent. Beware lest ye be hindered by the croaking of every croaker, or the braying of every brayer, or the doubts of any learned one who hath pronounced against God, the Lord of all worlds.

Listen to the Divine Call in the Persian tongue. Throughout all ages and centuries, the divines and doctors of the earth have been the cause of rejection and negligence, for the Dawning Places of Revelation and the Daysprings of the Cause, at first, behold all who are on earth at one station and one rank, and

summon all from what they possess to what God possesses. These matters conflict with the glory and leadership of the outward divines, thus they arise in opposition, contention and disputation. Even so have they done, and most have attained martyrdom through the decree of those oppressive souls. All corruption in the world hath been and shall be from such souls.

Consider Jesus, Son of Mary, Who came with proof from the intention of the worlds—all Jewish divines and idolatrous priests decreed His death. Reflect on the Seal of the Prophets, may the spirit of all else be sacrificed for Him—the Christian, Jewish and idolatrous priests arose against Him. Consider the first appearance of the Point of the Bayan, may the spirit of all in the kingdom of the Cause be sacrificed for Him. The chief of all the divines of Persia in those days was Shaykh Muhammad Hasan Najafi. He arose in opposition at first, and afterward the divines of the lands and the heedless dead arose in opposition, and from the pulpits engaged in cursing and reviling the Master of the world.

Finally, through their decree that Holy Being was martyred. All know this matter, whether they witnessed or heard it, for several lying, heedless ones trained the people in vain imaginings and suckled them at the breast of idle fancies, and determined His appearance would be from Jabulqa and Jabulsa, such that if a soul spoke of His birth, they would immediately decree his death. In brief, those vain imaginings became the sword of cruelty that fell upon the Dawning Place of faithfulness. Now too, some among the people of the Bayan, whether turbaned or not, have renewed those vain imaginings. May God protect His servants.

Consider the Shi'ih sect—for centuries and ages they counted themselves the greatest, most learned and most discerning of servants. The fruit of their deeds on the Day of Recompense was that they arose to curse, revile and slay the Lord [of the worlds]. O people of God! Guard yourselves by the Name of God, glorified be His majesty. Take the cup of detachment and drink it in the name of the Creator of new creation. Stand firm in Him with such steadfastness that all the world shall be powerless to prevent you. Reflect on what hath flowed from the Most Exalted Pen, that perchance the heedless souls may not prevent you from the effulgences of the lights of the Sun of unity, nay rather, may they be powerless to speak.

Today the water of mercy floweth, the Sun of truth shineth, and the ocean of knowledge surgeth. Whosoever attaineth thereunto is mentioned as the most exalted of creation before the Truth. These utterances have repeatedly flowed from the Pen of Him Who is the Manifestation of names and attributes, that all may preserve and protect them, and perchance remain preserved from the whispers of the slinking whisperer and the satans of the earth. The satans at first appear in the guise of friendship and through love lead man to hell. God protect us and you from their evil.

O My loved ones in Sarchah! The Lord of the worlds remembers you from His Most Great Prison and gives you glad tidings of that which hath been sent down for you in the Book of God, the Lord of lords. Beware lest the clouds of glory prevent you from the Self-Sufficing, the Most High, Who hath come from the heaven of grace with the hosts of revelation and the standards of inspiration. Blessed is he who ariseth and saith:

> "O people of the Bayan! Fear God and reject not the truth through that which ye possess. Fear the All-Merciful Who hath come with power and sovereignty."

Beware lest ye act as ye acted in former days. Cast away vain imaginings and idle fancies. The horizon of the Manifestation hath been illumined by the Day-Star of certitude. In former days ye committed that which caused the dwellers of the Most Exalted Paradise to lament, and those who circle round the Throne at morn and eventide.

We make mention of the people of Qaf who witnessed that which God witnessed in the beginning of the Cause when the Light was shining from the horizon of Iraq. That which We promised you in the Scriptures and Tablets hath been fulfilled. We counsel you to manifest supreme steadfastness in this Cause whereby feet have slipped, and to show forth trustworthiness and godliness and that whereby the Cause of God is exalted amongst His servants. We mentioned you before with a mention at whose appearance all other mentions bowed down in prostration. Be as mountains in the Cause of God. Thus hath He Who hath with Him the Mother Book commanded you before and after. O party of God in that land! Beware lest the doubts of the divines or the might of princes hold you back. Abandon the world, placing your trust in God, the Lord of all men. The glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My mercy be upon you and upon those who have arisen and said:

> "God is our Lord and the Lord of earth and heaven and the Master of the beginning and the end."

As to your having appointed this servant as your representative for circumambulation and visitation, praise be to God, on behalf of your honor and the friends of that land, I performed the circumambulation of the Point round which circle the near ones and the sincere, and the visitation was also accomplished. I beseech God, exalted be His glory, to grant the reward thereof in this world and the next. Today that which is preeminent with God and is reckoned among the most exalted of deeds is steadfastness in His Cause, and so it shall ever be. God willing, may ye attain unto it.

Concerning what you wrote about having sent numerous letters without receiving replies, the reason for not sending responses has been and continues to be the volume of correspondence. God is my witness that whenever this evanescent one has found opportunity, he hath occupied himself with serving the friends and answering their letters. Communications and missives arrive from all directions, and due to the press of occupation it often happens that responses are delayed by one or two years. The loved ones of God should not be disheartened by such delay, for this servant's excuse is as clear as the sun. Nevertheless, I seek forgiveness and beseech God, glorified be His majesty, for assistance in fulfilling this momentous task. The command is in His hand—He doeth what He willeth and decreeth what He pleaseth.

As to what was written that the friends in that region are dejected and saddened by not receiving news from the Most Holy, Most Exalted Presence, this matter was presented at the station of "God was, and there was nothing else besides Him." His blessed and exalted Word: The friends of God, glorified be His majesty, are all remembered and recorded by the Supreme Pen. The outpourings of the True Bestower are manifest and descending at all times. The friends in every land should gather together with wisdom and utterance in meetings and assemblies to read the verses of God, for the verses kindle the fire of love and ignite its flame. However, they must observe wisdom in all conditions, and gatherings of five to nine persons are sufficient. The locations must also be varied, for if they are held in one place, the heedless

will become aware and cause commotion. Praise be to God, in all cities and regions the divine verses are present and visible. He is the Quickener of the world and the Gladdener of the hearts of the sincere ones and those near unto Him. Blessed is he who holdeth fast unto them, succeedeth in reading them, and becometh among the helpers of His Cause and the protectors of its reins.

That which hath flowed from the Supreme Pen is sufficient and standeth in need of no interpreter or expositor. This evanescent servant conveyeth greetings and praise to all the friends, and beseecheth for all steadfastness from the Exalted True One. Today is the day of remembrance and praise, for the Beloved of the world is manifest. Today is the day of steadfastness, for the clamorous ones are countless. Today is the day of true unity—whosoever is illumined by its lights is recorded among those near unto God in the Manifest Book. Strive that ye may attain to that which is intended, that ye may drink from the everlasting cup and partake of the eternal chalice, which is the recognition of the Purpose of the world and steadfastness in His Cause. Glory and praise be upon you and upon God's friends there and in all regions, and upon every man whose foot hath not slipped from the Path. Praise be to God, the Lord of lords and the Master of the beginning and the end.

The servant 4th of Muharram al-Haram 1303

BH02665: Praise be to God Who hath made this world…

He is God, exalted be His station, the Grandeur and the Power!

Praise be to God Who hath made this world a manifest book and a mighty volume, and hath inscribed therein that which ordaineth its change and passing away, its turmoil and transformation and extinction. Blessed are they whom its conditions and manifestations and colors and ornaments and bounties have not prevented. And peace and blessings be upon Him Who was the cause of its appearance and the reason for its emergence and ascendancy and exaltation, and upon His family and companions through whom the banner of good was raised and the standard of evil was brought low, and through whom appeared what God desired, and upon those who followed them in spirit and fragrance and through whom was established what the All-Merciful had ordained.

My spirit be a sacrifice for your remembrance! The servant hath attained to hearing the cooing of the doves of your love in the gardens of wisdom and utterance, and hath recognized thereby your loftiness and acceptance and steadfastness and your being known among the religions. We beseech God to aid you in achieving every good thing ordained in His Manifest Book.

When I recognized and read it, I presented it before the Master, may our spirits be a sacrifice for Him. He said: O thou who art assured of God and His sovereignty! The attending servant hath presented what was in thy letter. We beseech God to raise through thee the banner of divine knowledge throughout all possibility. He is the Mighty, the Bestower. Peace be upon thee and upon thy son Husayn and upon the Light who was with me at all times. We beseech God, exalted be He, to preserve him and strengthen him and preserve thee and those with thee. He is the Powerful, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

Although the reply was delayed for a long period, yet O beloved of my heart, the occupation reached such a state that in mentioning it there is no mention of times and opportunity and mention of time and

the like. And we thank God for having aided His servant at this time in presenting the reply to His loved ones in Iraq which you had sent before, and I beseech Him, exalted be He, to ordain for them and for us that which will draw us near and benefit us in every world of His worlds. Verily He is the Hearer, the Answerer, and He is the Watchful, the Near.

The servant conveyeth greetings to the friends of God there and beseecheth for them divine confirmation in all conditions. Verily He is the Helper in the beginning and the end. Peace and praise be upon your honor and upon those who are with you and who love you for the sake of God, the Lord of the worlds.

The servant, on 4 Muharram al-Haram 1303

BH05597: In My Name, the All-Subduing over all names

In My Name, the All-Subduing over all names

O ʿAbdu'llah! Thou art remembered by the Wronged One, through Whom the eyes of grandeur have shed tears, and the Concourse on High have lamented, and the Prophets and Messengers have cried out. We arose to promote the Cause in the earliest days with such arising that the limbs of every established one trembled, and the heart of every powerful one was troubled, and the feet of the divines and theologians who denied Him in Whom they had believed did slip—nay, they comprehend not. They worship vain imaginings while thinking themselves to be the people of unity. Nay, by My Self, the All-Subduing over what was and what shall be! Through their turning away every denier turned away and every oppressor arose. To this testify honored servants whom neither the might of tyrants, nor the ascendancy of Pharaohs, nor armies and hosts could frighten. Thus have the rains of proof showered from the heaven of utterance. Blessed is he who hath witnessed and attained, and woe unto every heedless and veiled one.

We counsel thee and those who have believed to show forth the greatest steadfastness in this Cause whereby faces have been illumined. When thou dost inhale the fragrance of utterance from the Pen of the Most Merciful, arise and say:

> "Praise be unto Thee, O Lord of Names and Creator of heaven, for having remembered me while I was in the prison of the enemies. I testify that Thou art the Omnipotent over whatsoever Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the All-Subduing, the Self-Subsisting."

BH06821: In My Name, the Compassionate, the All-Bountiful

In My Name, the Compassionate, the All-Bountiful

O ye who gaze upon My countenance! There has befallen you what befell the Self of Truth. The heavens wept and the clouds lamented. Know with clear certainty that had the world been worthy, God, exalted be His glory, would never have delivered Himself into the hands of the enemy. To one possessed of insight, all that is witnessed is less than naught and returns to nothingness. Therefore, to those souls who have drunk from the immortal chalice and have been blessed with God's special favors, it holds not the

weight of a mustard seed. Be not grieved by what has befallen you. All has been recorded in the Book by the Supreme Pen. Soon shall the heedless behold the recompense of their deeds, and you shall witness your reward with God, the Most High, the Great. Were the idolaters to see what is ordained for them, they would surely lament, and were you to behold your stations, you would soar aloft. Thus has spoken the Tongue of Truth from the Most Exalted Horizon. Blessed is he who has attained, and woe unto the most lost ones who have deprived themselves of this glorious station. The glory from God, the Lord of the worlds, be upon you.

BH07439: In My Name, the Supporter, the Mighty, the All-Knowing!

In My Name, the Supporter, the Mighty, the All-Knowing!

The Hand of God took hold of him and His grace guided him. Blessed is the soul who saw the Path and followed it, such that the opposition of the peoples of the world could not prevent him from turning toward the Straight Path. The Path, in its primary degree and first station, is the Self of God, glorified be His majesty, Who calleth with the most exalted voice between earth and heaven. And in another station it is His ordinances and commandments which are recorded and inscribed in the Book by the Most Exalted Pen.

Praise the Object of all the world's peoples that thou hast attained unto that which the learned of the earth are heedless and veiled from, save whom God willeth. We counsel thee to be steadfast, for thieves and treacherous ones exist who, should they find opportunity, would steal away the pearl of divine love. We beseech Him, exalted be He, to assist thee to preserve it through His Name, the Protector of all who are in the heavens and on earth. Verily He is the Mighty, the Powerful. Praise be to God, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

BH00324: Praise, sanctified from the comprehension of all created things…

Section 1: "Praise, sanctified from the comprehension of all created…"

He is God, exalted be His station, the Grandeur and the Power

Praise, sanctified from the comprehension of all created things, befitteth that Eternal Lord Who hath, from time immemorial unto time everlasting, guided through His Most Exalted Word the people of the mortal realm unto the highest horizon. He sent forth the Prophets with clear proofs and evidences, with scriptures, tablets, books and testaments, that the diverse paths of the world might converge into a single path, and the manifold ways of the peoples into one way. And since it was intended from the beginning that the mystery of mysteries be revealed, He made it manifest in the Mirror of the Seal, and He is the Manifestation of the divine names most beautiful and attributes most glorious. With Him ended Prophethood and Messengership.

He is the true Baptizer, for He hath cleansed hearts and souls with the waters of divine knowledge. Even as Christ declared, He is the Dawning-Place of the light of unity and the Dayspring of the blessed word "There is none other God but Him." Through Him was raised the pavilion of knowledge and wisdom in the contingent world, and the light of the All-Merciful shone forth from the horizon of the heaven of

understanding. Upon Him be God's blessings, peace, mercy and favors, and upon His family and companions who drew their swords in aid of God's Cause, the King of Kings. Through them were the banners of victory raised throughout the lands, and the sun of justice shone forth upon all horizons. Through them were made manifest Paradise and its stations, according to His words, peace be upon Him: "Paradise lieth beneath the shadow of swords." Peace, great and abundant peace be upon Him.

And further: thy noble letters arrived repeatedly, and all were received. Each appeared as a garden adorned with the flowers and blossoms of mention and utterance, its trees speaking in praise and glorification of God, its fruits manifest to those of humility and lowliness. For in truth every letter thereof bore the fragrance of divine love, and every word thereof indicated steadfastness in service to the eternal Purpose. O beloved of my heart and physician of my soul! Love is that which openeth the sealed doors and showeth the path of nearness and reunion. If I say it is light, this is the truth without doubt, for through it do lovers attain unto the lights of nearness to the All-Merciful Lord.

And if I say it is fire, this too is true, for it consumeth the moisture of lethargy and manifesteth the reality of heat. Glory be to God! Its might hath seized and conquered the hearts of kings, and bound the heroes of the world in chains. Whatever is said of it is but a drop from this ocean. Pens are powerless to describe it, let alone to describe its Creator. Glorified, glorified be He from being mentioned by my tongue or pen, or by the tongues and pens of the world and its peoples. I seek forgiveness before me and before all, and I turn unto Him in repentance. Verily, He is the Ever-Forgiving, the Merciful.

In truth, what shall I say—where was I and where have I fallen? My intention was to seek pardon from that Beloved One for the delay in response. That did not come to pass, and this transpired instead. The command is in His hands—He doeth whatsoever He willeth and ordaineth as He pleaseth. I swear by the peerless God, the All-Knowing, that the delay was not due to neglect, but rather stemmed from wisdom. For they have said that people are heedless and unaware of the purpose. Should a word be dispatched to those parts and be spread abroad, they would interpret and explain it according to their own vain desires. For most of the servants have been and continue to be vessels of ignorance and corruption, ever waiting to invalidate truth or to clothe falsehood in the garment of truth.

Even as the divines of Iran from the inception of Islam until now maintain that the Promised One dwells in Jabulqa and Jabulsa, and whosoever speaks otherwise, they pronounce his death sentence and mock the Sunnis, since those souls do not cling to such invented fancies but rather affirm and proclaim His birth. One is perplexed—nay, the world is perplexed—that from the earliest days until now, among all the divines who have come and gone, not one has been aware of the truth. Indeed, it is cause for amazement. We beseech God not to deprive these servants of the ocean of true knowledge. Given such profound ignorance, what can be said? What can the tongue utter and the pen record?

This lowly one is immersed in the ocean of wonderment, for it is observed that the people of the Bayan too have become occupied with the same vain imaginings, whereas today all Islam should hold fast to a single word—that is, the blessed word "There is none other God but Him"—and strive to protect God's religion and God's law from enemies. They have devoted all their energy to depriving these servants of all rights. The body of Islam lies exposed while the beasts of the world snatch and carry away its limbs and members piece by piece. The eye of justice weeps and the form of equity laments. Whatever befalls

them, they say nothing, yet when true believers, who after God's grace are adorned and illumined by the lights of unity, speak a word of counsel or show a path of protection, all rise up in rejection and protest. Such is the condition of the heedless ones. However, I beseech God, exalted be His glory, to unite all Islam through His conquering might and overwhelming power, and to aid them to act according to what He has revealed in the Book. He is the Powerful, the Mighty.

After observing and examining the noble letters, proceeding to the station, the details were presented before Him, and He said:

O Physician! Upon thee be My salutation and My bounty! We beseech the True One that He withhold not the world from the light of the Sun of Love, and deprive it not from the ocean of knowledge and wisdom. The world hath been encompassed by the smoke of heedlessness and seized by the dust of ignorance, to such extent that eyes are prevented and ears deprived, save whom God willeth. Today all must, with utmost lowliness and supplication, beseech the Self-Sufficient for the victory of His manifest Faith. The lamp of understanding hath been surrounded by tempestuous winds, and the horizon of the Sun of Justice hath been seized by dark clouds. We beseech Him to preserve the former in the glass of wisdom, and to remove the latter from the horizon.

This Wronged One's counsel is that all associate with the servants of God in the utmost spirit of joy and fragrance. Every time hath its command, and every season its requirement. Noah did say "Leave not upon the earth any dweller from among the unbelievers," while the Spirit (Christ) said "If Thou punish them, they are Thy servants, and if Thou forgive them, verily Thou art the Mighty, the Wise."

At one time in the world of dreams, I attained the presence of the Messenger of God [Muhammad]—may the spirit of all else be sacrificed for Him. Words were revealed from that Dawning-Place of the Divine Book, and utterances shone forth from that Ocean of Divine Wisdom. During His utterance He said: "Formerly I declared Paradise is beneath the shadow of swords,' but in these days were I manifest I would say Paradise is beneath the shade of the Tree of Unity and Mercy."' After hearing this most exalted blessed Word, I said: "May the spirit of the world be sacrificed for Thy loving-kindness, for Thy bounty, for Thy mercy!" Thereafter there flowed from the Ocean of Utterance that which no pen hath the station to express, nor ink the position to reveal.

When I arose from sleep, for a time I found myself in such joy as cannot be described. That which was witnessed and heard transcendeth the understanding of the servants. We beseech God to confirm all and cause them to attain the Most Exalted Station, which is the station of knowing Him, that all may acknowledge the sanctification of His Essence from likeness and the exaltation of His Self from similitude. True acknowledgment is achieved and established when they act according to that which hath been revealed in the Book from the Supreme Pen.

Section 2: "That Beloved One and this servant…"

That Beloved One and this servant and the people of unity must all take refuge in God from the evil of those who are veiled by the Bayan, who mislead and train the servants exactly as the Shi'ih did. Glory be to God! Until now they have not realized what Day this is and what the Manifestation is. They drink from

the spring of fancy yet count themselves among the people of certitude. They walk in the wilderness of conjecture yet consider themselves companions of assurance and conviction. God forbid that a party like the previous one, namely the Shi'ih, should appear in the world. Reflect upon the deeds of those oppressive souls—what they claimed and what they did, what they said and what they practiced.

At this moment I was summoned to the Most Exalted Summit, and after attaining the presence, the Tongue of Grandeur spoke these words—exalted be His glory:

> "O servant in attendance! Write to the Physician—upon him be My salutation—For a long time the Supreme Pen hath spoken about the deeds of the previous party. The wisdom in this is that later souls might become aware and informed, that perchance they might not be afflicted with previous vain imaginings. The deniers of the Bayan are occupied with the same vain imaginings. By My life! Until they pass beyond the gulf of fancy they will not enter the ocean of certitude, and until they traverse the path of names they will not attain to the lights of the Sun of inner meanings. This is the truth, there is no doubt therein."

We beseech God to grant sight. The veils have been rent asunder by the finger of power, and it is hoped that the people of the Crimson Ark will not be afflicted with the idle fancies and vain imaginings of the past, nor will they defile their hearts and minds with the worthless utterances of this one and that. They had sent a copy of the letter written to Husayn, known as Sukhte. Glory be to God! How he has advanced! He has become an emigrant and has learned from the white bankers. What that beloved one has seen is but a drop from his ocean of nonsense. It would be well for him to send such writings far and wide. Ask ye God to bestow upon the eyes of the people of the world a subtle light. This servant hath seen many things and hath much in his possession, yet I pray and beseech all the friends to guide those veiled souls and remove from the world the foul odor of ignorance, folly, rancor and hatred. He is the Powerful, the Mighty.

If you inquire about the news of this land, praise be to God, all are well. For some time now the twin luminaries of the heaven of grace, namely His Holiness Aqa Mirza Diya'u'llah and His Holiness Aqa Mirza Badi'u'llah—may my spirit be sacrificed for their coming—and the people of the pavilion of purity have gone to Beirut and will return in a few days. The pilgrims to the House of God have been many this year, praise be to God, and have attained His presence. I beseech God not to deprive anyone and to aid and assist all to achieve that which He loves and is pleased with. Verily, He is the Hearing, the Responding One.

Mention was made of the friends of that land. After this matter was presented before the Master, He said: Convey greetings to all from the Wronged One. Verily We remember them as We have remembered them before, and We beseech God to protect them from the evil of every oppressor and to guard them with the hosts of the seen and the unseen, to aid them to act according to what is in His Book and to draw them near to Him in all conditions. Goodly deeds and praiseworthy conduct are God's ladder among His creation. Through these every soul can ascend to the ultimate goal and the highest summit. Blessed is he who attains unto them, and woe unto him who neglects them. They must associate with all with fragrance and spirituality, with love and affection.

Love is the light of God among His creation—through it every light appears and the world is illumined by it. It is the cause of creation and its manifestation, as spoken by the Almighty:

> "I was a hidden treasure and loved to be known, therefore I created creation that I might be known."

Hold fast, O friends of God, to love and affection, to kindness and unity. Your station is above all stations and your conditions above all conditions, for you are the people of unity and the companions of detachment. Ask ye God, your Lord and the Lord of all who are in the heavens and the earth, to protect you from the slings of the ungodly and the swords of the infidels, and to assist you against His enemies through His grace and bounty. Verily, He is the most powerful of the powerful and the most generous of the generous. Praise be to God Who is the Goal of the mystics and the Almighty over all who are in the heavens and the earth. End.

This evanescent one beseeches and implores God, exalted be His glory, to assist His friends to preserve the pearls of His love and that which will calm the fire of hatred in the world of creation.

As for the matter of the House, some time ago His Holiness A. and H., upon him be the Most Glorious Beauty of God, wrote to this servant that the honorable physician, upon him be God's peace and loving-kindness, had requested a power of attorney. This servant presented this before His presence and He said:

Half of the sum remains, therefore We did not wish to issue any decree in this regard. Half of the sum has reached them and We await the remainder, after which whatever is commanded will be beloved. God is witness and testament that We do not wish any harm to befall anyone, therefore the matter remains pending. We know not what the honored physician, upon him be peace, hath done. In any case, We beseech God to soon provide the means whereby this sum may be paid.

This evanescent servant continually beseecheth and imploreth for the exaltation, sublimity, glory and elevation of that beloved one. Were it not for the unwise actions of the friends, I would have caused much trouble. Praise be to God, that beloved one is remembered in most times. All the friends and pilgrims send their greetings and praise, and this servant conveyeth greetings and praise to each of the friends in that land. That land and those regions have ever been and continue to be before Our sight. For each one I seek divine confirmation that they may be assisted in that which will cause the exaltation of the Cause and may be strengthened with such steadfastness as is the mightiest foundation. Verily He will assist them through His grace, and He is the Mighty, the Powerful.

At this moment, having approached the Sacred Threshold, the Lord spoke thus:

> "We send greetings from this station to the physician, upon him be My glory, and to the leaf who is with him, and to his son who hath been mentioned before and after in the presence of the Wronged One, and to the believers and the sincere ones. Praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds."

This servant also conveyeth greetings to the honored leaf and to the son, upon them both be the glory of God, and beseecheth God to ordain for them the good of this world and the next. Peace, praise, remembrance and glory be upon thee and upon those who have acknowledged and recognized the Word that there is none other God but Him, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

BH01022: Today the hands of God's loved ones are raised…

He is God—exalted be His glory and power!

Today the hands of God's loved ones are raised to the heaven of the bounty of the Bestower of gifts, beseeching relief and joy, and imploring victory for the Manifest Religion. They cling to the cord of grace and hold fast to the hem of generosity. The enemies of the Faith have surrounded the mighty and impregnable fortress. From every direction the idolaters have risen to extinguish the Muhammadan light and Ahmadic character. The tempests of misbelief and the storms of infidelity have nearly extinguished the light of divine unity. O people of the world! Arise and with perfect humility, submission and lowliness beseech the Self-Sufficient Lord for assistance, that perchance something may remain. Each soul is occupied with his own fancy and strives in his own affairs.

Glory be to God! The signs of the Hour are manifest and the evidences of the resurrection brilliant. The people of the pavilions of glory and the tent of knowledge are all grief-stricken. Eyes are deprived of witnessing and ears forbidden from hearing. The veils of greed and avarice have obscured all, and its fire has consumed the realm of insight. At every moment they sink deeper into the earth, yet remain unaware. As has been and continues to be witnessed, each year the grandeur of God's religion and God's Faith diminishes in the eyes of men due to the oppression of the idolaters and the hatred of the opponents.

Glory be to Thee, O God of existence, Who art established upon the throne of manifestation! I beseech Thee by the standards of Thy signs and the banners of Thy power, and by those whom Thou hast made the dawning-places of Thy revelation and the manifestations of Thy Cause and the daysprings of Thy most beautiful names, to protect Thy servants through Thy power which hath conquered all things and Thy might which hath encompassed the earth and heaven. O my Lord! Thou seest the believers beneath the claws of the ungodly. I beseech Thee by the light whereby Thou didst deliver Noah and his companions, and didst make the fire cool for Thy Friend despite his enemies, and whereby Thou didst manifest Thy straight path and make it the herald of Thy mighty News, to deliver them through Thy grace and bounty. Then have mercy upon them through Thy providence which hath encompassed all created things and Thy mercy which hath preceded all existing things. Then ordain for them what beseemeth Thy generosity. Verily, Thou art the Giver, the Powerful, the Mighty, the Bountiful.

Thereafter, the letter of that honored one was a source of joy and gladness, for it was adorned with praise and glorification of the One True God. After its reading and perusal, we proceeded to the Divine Court where it was presented. He said: O servant of God! The world craves for reformation and the homes of hearts need repair. These matters have ever been and are dependent upon the hands of justice. Now, through the tyranny of the oppressors, the hands of justice are bound with strong and mighty cords. To loose them is the work of the right hand of power.

We beseech God—glorified be His majesty—to loose them and remove the clouds from before the face of the sun. O servant of God! Discernment has been taken away; the blind and the seeing, the deaf and the hearing, are deemed equal in the sight of men. Thou hast observed the letter that was sent. By God's life! Astonishment is bewildered at this point. Would that Hussein had been asked what he understood from this and what people understand. By God's life! He should return to his place. If thou wouldst reflect, thou wouldst become aware of the tribulations of this Wronged One. In brief, the vain imaginings of men have reached such a point as transcends description. Ask God not to deprive His servants.

The sun of divine wisdom is shining from the horizon of the heaven of knowledge, yet people follow ignorance and fancy. Consider the divines of Iran—what they were and what they did. Their words were praiseworthy but their deeds were like unto Nimrod's. Nay, by God! They have wrought that which neither Nimrod, nor Pharaoh, nor any rejected idolater ever wrought. Those souls were the cause of division and the weakening of God's Law. Furthermore, the people of the Bayan are even more lost than these souls, for despite being aware of their evil deeds, they yet follow in their footsteps.

We beseech the Most High to protect Us and thee and the company of the believers from their mention, their call, their deeds, their words, their counsels and their admonitions. For years they occupied the pulpits with their preaching, yet they themselves never acted upon a single word of it, as hath become clear and evident.

Convey My greetings to the friends of that land. We beseech God to aid them all and grant them supreme steadfastness. This evanescent servant also conveys greetings to the gentlemen and friends of that land. I beseech God—glorified be His majesty—to protect them all from the braying and barking of the brayants and barkers.

Regarding what was written about the Fast, no such news has been heard in this land. The firm command is that all should hold fast to wisdom. This word was ever heard from the blessed tongue and is likewise recorded in the Tablets. Divine wisdom is the protector and helper of the servants. Therefore, all must hold fast and cling to it. As commanded, convey greetings to all the kindred, both sons and others, and give them the glad-tidings of their Lord's favors. God willing, may they ever drink from the cup of bounty and abide at rest beneath the Lote-Tree. We beseech Him to send down upon them His blessings and mercy, for He is the Most Merciful of the merciful ones and the Most Generous of the generous ones.

This evanescent servant also conveys greetings to each one and begs confirmation and assistance for all, and that which will endure through His remembrance. Verily our Lord, the All-Merciful, is the Hearer, the Answerer. Peace and mercy and glory be upon you and upon those with you and upon those who act according to that which they were commanded in the Book of God, the Lord of the worlds. And praise be to Him, for He is the Goal of all seekers and the Object of worship of all who know Him.

The servant 15th of Muharram al-Haram, 1303

BH00023: Tablet to Varqa I

All praise, sanctified beyond mention of glorification and exaltation and transcending that plane, befitteth the court of the Desired One Who hath ordained deeds to be the testimony to the truth of words….

Deeds are as mirrors, wherein that which is hidden in man becometh manifest and evident….

And then, O beloved of my heart, the spiritual hosts of utterance have routed and scattered the ranks of sorrow in praise and glorification of our Lord, the All-Merciful—a rout from which return appeareth most difficult. Well done to his hand and arm! God willing, may the Hand of God assist him, the Eye of God protect him, the Power of God guard him, and the Glance of God aid him in all conditions….

Love accomplishes strange and mighty works. Pure intention, pure deeds, the manifestations of detachment and its various aspects—all of these emanate from this source, that is to say, from love, and become manifest, evident and visible…. How many monarchs expressed their longing and desire to be engaged in some service or to be confirmed in some endeavor in this day, even as the late sovereign, His Majesty the Sultan, set aside a treasure in the name of His Holiness the Qa'im—may the spirit of all else but Him be sacrificed for His sake—and not a single coin thereof was spent for the intended purpose. Most monarchs have cherished and continue to cherish such a desire…

Mention was made of Aqa Mirza Muhammad Khan, upon him be Baha'u'llah. After this was presented in the Most Holy Presence, these manifest verses were revealed specifically for him. His word, mighty is His proof and exalted His praise:

He is the One Who rules over all names.

O Muhammad! We beseech God that He may aid thee to be steadfast in His love, in such wise that thou mayest acquire an eternal station in this transient world and remain ablaze with the fire of His love in this cold world. Today the faithful are able to attain a station beyond the reach of the hands of change and safe from the assault of extinction. We beseech God to assist him in all circumstances and enable him to achieve that which He has willed. He is the One Whose power cannot be frustrated by worldly conditions, nor can the clamor of the peoples prevent His purpose….

The heedless, cawing souls have understood this Revelation as they did the previous one. Until now they have not comprehended the Day of God and deceive the helpless people with vain imaginings and mentions of the past. By the life of our Purpose! They have not spoken one word in truth. Moreover, these souls who have chosen to walk in the footsteps of those people—had they understood the Day of God, they would have buried mention of guardian, successor and the like in the dust of oblivion. Until now they have not understood. Their gates—namely the four gates—became the cause of misguidance. Had those false words not appeared from those dawning-places of falsehood, the Point of Being—may our spirits be sacrificed for Him—would not have been martyred.

The Shi'ih party counted themselves the greatest of all parties and most learned of all through their affirmation of successorship. Later it became clear that the Jews were and are higher and more excellent than that people, for the Shi'ih party and their divines issued the decree to kill the Lord of the world, while the children of Abraham and inheritors of Moses in the lands of Ha and Mim and certain other regions attained to faith and certitude. Now again the cawing ones have clung to that same device and with those same mentions deceive some of the friends….

In My Name, the Forgiving, the Merciful

We have mentioned him before and after, and We mention him at this time that he may inhale the fragrance of his Lord's favor in the Most Exalted Station. He believed and responded and ascended, assured and turning unto God, the Lord of the worlds. God hath purified him as a grace from Him and forgiven him as a mercy from His presence. He is verily the Most Merciful of the merciful. Blessed is he for having attained unto the mention of My Most Exalted Pen, with which nothing in all creation can compare—to this testifieth He Who is established upon the throne of His Great Name. The Glory shining from the horizon of My grace be upon him and upon every steadfast, firm and upright servant….

Today the Euphrates of knowledge is flowing from the right hand of the Throne, and the hidden and treasured mystery is revealed. Although outwardly the things of the world appear as before, yet, by God, its sun is different, its heaven is different, and its earth is different. Today the Revelation is new in all respects. Blessed is the eye that gazeth upon the horizon of the Revelation, and the ear that hearkeneth unto the Call and cleaveth unto God's revealed ordinances. Such a one is among the companions of the Ark that saileth upon the sea of names by the leave of the Creator of Heaven. God willing, may they succeed in accomplishing that which hath flowed from the Most Exalted Pen in the Book, and be confirmed in that which is adorned with the ornament of immortality and shall endure….

Concerning what thou didst write about His Honor Mulla Muhammad-Ali-i-Dih-Abadi, upon him be God's everlasting glory, that he hath sought permission to attain the presence—after this was presented in the Most Holy and Most Exalted Presence, the horizon of grace was illumined with the lights of the Sun of Permission. His blessed and exalted Word:

> "O Muhammad-Ali! Set thy face toward God, the Help in Peril, the Self-Subsisting. It is permitted thee to approach the Most Exalted Horizon with a heart that is sanctified and with ears that are purified from all thou hast heard of the allusions of the divines and the doubts of the theologians who have turned away from God, the Sovereign of the Kingdom of earth and heaven. Place the world beneath thy feet, soaring in this atmosphere from which every possessor of smell perceiveth naught save the fragrance of God, the Lord of what was and what shall be. Be steadfast with a steadfastness through which the fragrance of constancy may pass over all created things, and with a trust whereby all contingent beings may put their trust in God, the One, the Single, the Mighty, the Loving. Thus have We adorned the Tablet of Questions with the luminary of the Answer and illumined it with the Sun of Permission from the presence of God, the Lord of existence."

Thus ended His words.

Praise be to God that the Sun of Grace hath shone forth and permission hath been granted. We beseech and implore the Exalted Truth that He may assist him to achieve that which hath flowed from the Most Exalted Pen, that he may approach with an illumined heart, attentive ear, and penetrating vision, that he may attain unto that which was mentioned in the Books of God and hear that whereof the Prophets and Messengers gave tidings….

In truth, the remembrance of like-minded friends giveth strength to the spirit. This one is most beloved in this station. The remembrance of loved ones is auspicious to the Beloved. How it quickeneth! How it

giveth spirit! The messenger of love's fragrant breeze it is that keepeth the world enduring. Praise be to God, it is diffusing, reaching, coming and going. At last this fragrance shall encompass the world. Knowledge is with God, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed….

BH02201: O thou who hast turned to God! Hearken…

He is the All-Seeing, the All-Hearing, the All-Answering!

O thou who hast turned to God! Hearken in this darksome night, wherein the light of utterance hath illumined the world, unto the call of the Lord of Names. They that account themselves among the learned and the perceiving have failed to hearken to the shrill voice of the Pen, being occupied with the imaginings of the peoples.

Throughout the ages and centuries, one of the sects that considered itself the most exalted of all creation and the most pious of all servants—namely the Shi'ih sect—was found, at the appearance of the divine Touchstone, to be the most evil and the most lost of all peoples. Night and day they would rise from their pulpits at the mention of the Qa'im's name and cry "May God hasten His advent!", but the result of these false words became "may God hasten their punishment." All were consigned to hell-fire save a few, as both the learned and the ignorant among them, at the bidding of these souls, strove to extinguish the divine light and martyred the Dayspring of verses.

The cause and reason for this most great injustice was that certain lying souls united with that rejected sect and, through a hundred thousand tricks and deceits, brought forth mention of the Holy Land and of Jabulqa and Jabulsa and the like. Through false tales they firmly established themselves in the hearts and minds of that heedless sect, who even now await this evident Cause to appear from the imaginary Jabulqa. Far, far from it!

Now certain barking ones in the land of Kaf and Ra have arisen in rejection and denial, and are engaged in contriving similar imaginary matters. They have not understood that this is the Day of God, known by this supreme designation in all the scriptures, tablets and books. Despite this they have again clung to former names. Say: O infidels! If the people of the Furqan reaped any fruit from that to which they clung, ye too shall reap the same. Say: Fear God, O people, and be not of those who understand not.

This is a Day wherein none is mentioned save God alone and His loved ones who have arisen to serve His Cause by His decisive and wise command. Say: Today the books of the world suffice not, except for this manifest, evident and perspicuous Book. Today the Mother Book speaketh and the Interlocutor of the Mount hath appeared and is manifest. All matters have depended and shall depend upon His will. The Herald, the Primal Point, proclaimed "I am the first to worship Him," yet these shameless people strive to lead the servants astray.

Blessed art thou for having drunk the wine of steadfastness from the cup of thy Lord's utterance, the All-Wise. Preserve this station through My Name, detached from those who have disbelieved in God, the Lord of all worlds. The servant who standeth before the Face hath appeared and mentioned thee unto his Lord. We have remembered thee with this wondrous remembrance. We have seen thy turning to God

and heard thy call. We have answered thee with verses from whose horizon hath shone the sun of thy Lord's grace, the Kind, the Generous. Glory be upon thee and upon all who are steadfast and firm.

BH04267: This is a Book which the Wronged One hath…

He is the Hearer, the Answerer.

This is a Book which the Wronged One hath sent down to him who hath attained the lights of My Name, the Self-Subsisting, and hath testified to that whereunto God testified before the creation of words and meanings—that there is none other God but Me, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. This is a day wherein every soul that hath turned unto God hath attained, and every one possessed of hearing hath hastened unto God, the Lord of all worlds.

We made mention of thee before in the Kingdom of Utterance, and We make mention of thee at this time through this perspicuous Tablet. Thy letter was presented before the Face, and the servant who standeth before the Throne laid it before Us. We have heard and have answered, for verily We are the Hearer, the Answerer.

Beware lest the affairs of creation withhold thee from the Truth or the intimations of the heedless sadden thee. We beseech God, exalted be He, to aid thee to remember and praise Him, and to ordain for thee the good of this world and of the world to come. Verily, He is potent over all things.

O My Most Exalted Pen! Make mention of My leaf who hath ascended unto God, the Mighty, the All-Praised. We make mention of her in such wise as will draw her nigh unto the most sublime heights and the most exalted Paradise, and will cause her to enter a station wherein she shall behold naught save the effulgences of My Name, the All-Forgiving, the Most Merciful.

Blessed is she, and blessed is the one who maketh mention of her after her ascension in the manner in which the All-Merciful hath made mention of her in the Kingdom of Utterance. Thus hath the Tongue spoken in this most sublime station. We have forgiven her and purified her at the time of her ascension, and adorned her with the ornament of My wondrous remembrance. Blessed is the soul from whom the Concourse on High shall inhale the fragrance of My garment. She is the object of circumambulation of My angels and the denizens of My mighty, glorious Kingdom. We beseech God to enable all to do that which He loveth and which pleaseth Him. Verily, He is the Most Merciful of the merciful ones. Praise be to God, the Lord of all worlds.

BH04914: O Faraj! Let thy joy and gladness and sorrow…

He is the Hearer, the Answerer!

O Faraj! Let thy joy and gladness and sorrow be for God alone. Be happy in truth and confident in truth, and be sorrowful only for His sake. All sorrows are forbidden save that which cometh from the tribulations of the Intended One. The radiant effulgence of the Sun of Joy hath taken hold of thee and the Tongue of Eternity speaketh with thee. I swear by the sweetness of the utterance of the All-Merciful that oceans of joy are concealed in this mention. Hearken unto the call of the Wronged One. In all matters,

place thy complete trust in Him with utmost joy and fragrance, delight and expansion, and commit all unto Him, and say:

My God, my God! My Lord, my Lord! I have turned to Thee, detached from all else but Thee, and have hastened unto Thee, hoping for that which will draw me nigh unto the threshold of Thy grace. I testify with my outer and inner tongue that I know not what profiteth or harmeth me, nor what exalteth or abaseth me. Thou art more knowing than I and than whosoever is in the heavens and the earth. I beseech Thee by the lights of Thy countenance and the manifestations of Thy grace and the oceans of Thy bounty and the revelations of Thy favors, to ordain for me, through Thy generosity which hath encompassed the world and Thy mercy which hath preceded all peoples, that which will profit me in every world of Thy worlds. Verily Thou art He through Whose will all things came into being and all possibilities were set in motion. Thy command hath preceded and Thy power hath encompassed all things. There is no God but Thee, the Almighty, the Powerful, the All-Conquering, the All-Compelling.

BH05611: He speaketh from this transcendent station

He speaketh from this transcendent station

O Muhammad-ʿAli! The Wronged One maketh mention of thee even as He mentioned thee before. He, verily, is the One besides Whom there is none other God, the Single, the One, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. We have sent down the verses and manifested the clear proofs, yet most of the people remain heedless. The rivers have flowed and the trees have yielded their fruit and the mysteries have been revealed, yet most of the people remain asleep. This is a Day that cannot be compared with the centuries of old, as doth testify He Who is the Lord of Names, the All-Knowing Witness. Be thou steadfast in the Cause and arise to serve thy Lord. By God's life! Soon shall the world and all that is therein perish, and the sincere ones shall behold that which hath been ordained for them by God, the Lord of all worlds.

Grieve thou not over anything. Rather, rejoice in My remembrance of thee, for it shall endure as long as My most excellent names and exalted attributes endure. Be thou thankful and say: Praise be unto Thee, O Thou the Goal of the worlds! We beseech Him, exalted be He, to ordain for thee the good of this world and of the next, and to decree for thee that which shall exalt thee through this Name amongst His servants. He, verily, is the Strong, the Mighty, the Powerful.

We counsel thee to observe wisdom in this Cause whereby the feet of the mystics have slipped. The Glory rest upon thee and upon those who have attained unto the recognition of this Day and have believed in Him Who hath come with manifest sovereignty.

BH05490: This is a Book sent down by the Wronged…

He is the One Who is manifest, evident and clear!

This is a Book sent down by the Wronged One, through Whom the Promised One arose and the Self-Subsisting spoke. The Kingdom belongeth unto God, the Lord of what was and what shall be. O Nabil, upon thee be My glory! After the Sun of Truth dawned from the horizon of manifestation and the call of the Speaker on Sinai was raised, the ignorant, unconscious people wandered in the wilderness of error

and the desert of vain imaginings until this time. They have not become aware and have not awakened from the slumber of heedlessness. Woe unto them and unto those who led them astray!

The most degraded of all the peoples of the world have been and are those who turned away from among the people of the Bayan. They have denied Him Who brought that which is equivalent to all the divine Books, and they cling to their own vain imaginings. Until now they have not understood the Day of God. For one thousand two hundred years they disputed about the Qa'im, the Guardian, the Successor, the Chief, the Noble One, the Shaykhi, and so forth, and were occupied with denouncing one another as infidels. Now too the deniers cling to the same vain imaginings. What was the result for those souls and what will be the result for these souls?

Say: This is the Day of God, in which none is mentioned save Him, did ye but know. Say: The carpet of words and vain imaginings hath been rolled up through the coming of the King of Days with a manifest light [to the end of the Tablet of God].

BH08486: O Abu'l-Qasim! We make mention of thee…

He is God, exalted be His glory, unto Whom belongeth grandeur and majesty

O Abu'l-Qasim! We make mention of thee from the Prison, and give thee the glad-tidings of God's loving-kindness, the Lord of all worlds. We counsel thee with that which beseemeth man and that which will cause the Cause of God, the Almighty, the All-Powerful, to be exalted. In all conditions fix thy gaze upon the Most Sublime Horizon and drink from the chalice of steadfastness. How many kings and sovereigns who were expecting the days of the Revelation yet attained not unto its fragrance and were not enabled to hearken unto a single word. The same is true of the divines of the earth, save whom God hath willed. But thou, through God's infinite grace, glory be to His majesty, hast recognized His days and drunk from the cup of His love. This is a great station. We beseech God to preserve thee and grant thee that which will strengthen thee to remain steadfast among all peoples. Verily He is the Helper, the All-Bountiful.

BH00955: Praise and glory befitteth the loved ones…

In the name of our Lord, the Most Holy, the Most Great, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious

Praise and glory befitteth the loved ones of the Lord of all creation who, amidst the clamor of the divines and the croaking of the jurisprudents in the world of existence, acknowledged the supreme Pen and bore witness to all that hath flowed therefrom. These are they whom neither the doubts of men nor the tyranny and oppression of the dwellers of the earth could debar from the Lord of creation or deprive of the bounties of the Day of Return. They rent asunder the veils of idle fancies and vain imaginings through the Name of the Lord of all beings, and arose to serve the Cause with such arising as hath amazed the Concourse on high. Exalted be their stations, glorious their condition, and magnificent their steadfastness.

Glorified art Thou, O Thou through Whose Name the oceans of wisdom and utterance have surged in the realm of creation, and through Whose most sweet call the followers of all religions have been attracted! I beseech Thee by Thy Name which Thou hast made a light unto them that have drawn nigh unto Thee and a fire unto them that have turned away, and hast made it a blazing lamp unto them that have sought

Thine all-highest horizon and held fast unto Thy path, O Lord of all names, to aid Thy Afnan even as Thou didst aid them through Thy power that hath subdued all things and Thy might that hath encompassed all that are in earth and heaven.

I beseech Thee, O Sovereign of existence and King of the seen and unseen, to send down upon Thy Afnan, who hath been attracted by Thy verses and enkindled with the fire of Thy love and hath sought Thy presence once again, through Thy bounty and favors, the rain-showers from the heaven of Thy grace and whatsoever beseemeth Thy greatness and power and generosity and gifts. O my Lord! Thou seest him turning unto Thee, uttering Thy praise and arising to serve Thee. Aid him through Thy bounty and power, then assist him with the hosts of wisdom and utterance. Verily Thou art the All-Merciful. There is none other God but Thee, the Mighty, the All-Conquering, the Powerful.

My soul be a sacrifice unto your service and your steadfastness! Your blessed letter was received—such a receiving that each of the ear, eye and heart took its share, for it was adorned with the praise and glorification of Him Who is the Goal of your desire and my desire and the desire of all who are in earth and heaven. After its reading, recital and perusal, I turned my face toward the lights of His countenance and presented it before the Divine Throne. This is what the Desired One hath revealed in reply. His blessed and exalted Word:

O Afnan, O Muhammad! Upon thee be My glory and My loving-kindness. Thy cries, lamentations and anguished pleas in separation and remoteness have been heard. Thou hast ever been before Our gaze, and thy purpose, deeds and intention are clear and evident before Our countenance. The days of attainment and presence before the Wronged One are remembered. Praise be to God, the Dawning-Place of generosity and bounty hath bestowed a favor whose mention the pens of the world are powerless and incapable to describe. Every possessor of sight and hearing beareth witness to this most exalted Word that hath flowed from the Supreme Pen. The smoke of tyranny and oppression hath encompassed the world, preventing those who seek from reaching their Ultimate Goal, their Utmost Purpose and their Supreme Summit, and depriving sight and hearing from beholding and hearkening unto that for which they were created.

Yet they are heedless that nothing among all created things can prevent or hinder the people of God. Their hearts have found their way to the Most Great Ocean and their eyes are enabled to witness the Most Exalted Horizon. These are the chosen ones mentioned and recorded by the Supreme Pen in the books of the past and future. O Afnan! Be not saddened by thy engagement in outward affairs, for God, exalted be His glory, hath ordained that your occupation is worship itself—this is a decree revealed in the Book aforetime. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to send down upon thee that which will gladden thy heart and solace thine eyes, and grant thee the good of this world and the world to come. There is none other God but He, the Ordainer, the Great. Upon thee be glory from the presence of the Ancient Revealer.

This evanescent servant hath beseeched and continueth to beseech the True One, exalted be His glory, that we may once again gather beneath the shade of the divine Lote-Tree of His loving-kindness. Whenever this servant beholdeth the Mazra'ih where the Throne was established, he remembereth the days of attainment to His presence. In truth, love is a wondrous essence—its will floweth more freely

than the will of all who dwell on earth, and its influence is more potent than the authority of kings. Its effects are manifest and its power evident. Great is He Who created it and through it made firm the connection of the world. I beseech God, my Lord and my Goal and the Goal of all who are in earth and heaven, to extend to your honor a blessing from His presence and draw you near unto Him once again. Verily, He hath power over whatsoever He willeth. There is none other God but He, the Hearer, the Answerer.

Concerning what was written about the Semnan business, it was presented before the Most Holy, Most Exalted Presence. These are the words uttered by the Tongue of Grandeur—exalted be His utterance and mighty His proof:

> "If settlement can be reached with spirit and fragrance, it would be well; otherwise, proceed according to what the Afnan, upon him be My glory, deemeth advisable and make firm the partnership document. The command is in God's hands—He ordaineth for whomsoever He willeth what He desireth, and He is the Commander, the All-Knowing."

This evanescent servant beseecheth and hopeth that the True One, exalted be His glory, may grant confirmation and success in all matters. Through His loving-kindness, a drop becometh an ocean and an atom transformeth into a sun.

As to what you wrote concerning the honored beloved, Jinab-i-Aqa Mirza Muhammad-Husayn, upon him be the glory of God and His favors, I beseech God, exalted be His glory, to confirm him, grant him determination, and cause his occupation to culminate in the printing of the Words of God. If, God willing, he attains to this station, he will have attained to every good. We beseech Him for confirmation in all conditions. Verily, He is the Hearer, the Answerer. That is, in this occupation and work in which they are engaged, I offer them greetings, praise, glory and splendor, and in all conditions I beseech for them whatsoever is conducive to loftiness, exaltation, and the perpetuation of name and remembrance. Verily our Lord, the All-Merciful, is the Bestower, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy. Glory and remembrance and praise be upon your honor and upon those who are with you and who love you for the sake of God, our Lord and your Lord and the Lord of all who are in the heavens and the earth.

BH03851: Glorified art Thou, O Lord of the Kingdom…

In the Name of our Most Holy, Most Great, Most Exalted, Most Glorious Lord!

Glorified art Thou, O Lord of the Kingdom of Immortality and Sovereign of the First and the Last! I beseech Thee by the mysteries of Thy Dominion and the signs of Thy Kingdom to assist Thy loved ones to be steadfast in Thy Cause, then send down upon them from the heaven of Thy loving-kindness the rains of Thy bounty and from the clouds of Thy mercy the showers of Thy grace.

Thou art He at Whose separation hearts have melted and servants have lamented, and through Whose banishment the tears of them that are nigh unto Thee have fallen and the sighs of the sincere ones have risen. I beseech Thee by the lights of Thy countenance and by Thy Most Great Name—but for which the mysteries of Thy Book and Thy power and might would not have been revealed, nor would existence have emerged from nothingness—then I beseech Thee, O Sovereign of the world and Goal of the nations, by

Thy most exalted Self and by that which lieth within Thy knowledge, O Lord of all names and Creator of heaven, not to deprive Thy party of that which Thou hast sent down in Thy Book and ordained for Thy chosen ones. Verily Thou art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the Almighty, the Powerful.

Then send down, O my God, upon him who hath turned unto Thee and acted according to that which Thou hast revealed in Thy Book, a blessing from Thee and a mercy from Thy presence. Then protect him, O my God, from the hosts of the Pharaohs who lay claim to knowledge without clear proof from Thee or evidence from Thy presence, and who have risen in opposition in such wise that they have pronounced judgment against Thee and shed the blood of Thy loved ones. O Lord! Seize them through Thy power, then strip their temples of the robes of Thy glory. Verily Thou art the Almighty, from Whose knowledge nothing escapeth. Thou doest what Thou willest and ordainest what Thou pleasest. And verily Thou are the Mighty, the Praiseworthy.

O my God! Send Thy blessings upon the Letters of the Book of Thy justice and the Leaves of the Tree of Thy grace—they who have spent what they possessed in hope of that which lieth with Thee. Verily Thou art God. There is none other God but Thee, the Forgiving, the Generous.

BH04695: There hath come unto us the Dayspring of loving-kindness…

In the name of our Lord, the Most Holy, the Most Great, the Most Exalted, the All-Glorious.

There hath come unto us the Dayspring of loving-kindness, risen above the horizon of grace, and the luminary of bounty, which at every moment appeareth in the most wondrous guise, and, from the clouds of His munificence, bestoweth without stint whatsoever the land of true knowledge can reveal of manifold gifts, and whatsoever the ocean of inner meanings can disclose of the pearls of a new and resplendent wisdom. He is the Sovereign before Whose power the might of the world is abashed, and beside Whose knowledge the learning of the peoples is accounted as utter nothingness.

And when His mercy outstripped all things, and His favour compassed all that is, certain souls were awakened, and bore witness unto His guidance. Blessed, then, the soul that hath attained unto His recognition and hath apprehended the fragrance of His Manifestation. These are they who are the leaders of men and the guides of the servants of God….

Should the Hand of power rend asunder the veils, all would, with utmost haste, turn their faces towards the City of ʿAkka. Yet, in view of His consummate wisdom, the means are cut off and the barrier remaineth visible. From Him—glorified be His Name—I implore confirmation, that all may attain unto that which He loveth and is well-pleased with. He, verily, is the All-Bountiful, Who hath never debarred a seeker, nor deprived a wayfarer. The heavens proclaim the signs of His exaltation, and the seas bear witness to His mercy. Who is there that hath strayed and sought not His grace, or that hath been denied His compassion? Whoso is for God, God shall assuredly be for him….

BH06803: O my God, my Lord, my Goal and my…

In the Name of our Lord, the Most Holy, the Most Great, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious

O my God, my Lord, my Goal and my Hope! The servant testifieth to that which Thy Most Exalted Pen hath testified before the creation of earth and heaven, that there is none other God but Thee, the Peerless, the All-Informed. And he testifieth that He Who was hidden in the eternity of eternities through Thy Will and Purpose, and was treasured within the strongholds of Thy protection and preservation, did appear. And when the promise came to pass, Thou didst manifest Him through Thy power and didst send down upon Him that which no books of the world can equal, to reveal Thy Cause and Thy bounty and Thy generosity, and to make manifest that which was hidden in Thy knowledge.

But when He appeared and revealed Himself, the people turned away from Him and committed that which caused the land and the sea and all that is therein to lament, and the dwellers of the kingdom of Thy utterance and the dominion of Thy knowledge and power to weep. I beseech Thee, O Lord of all names, to assist Thy party who have not broken Thy Covenant and Thy Testament, who have stood with utmost steadfastness in Thy Cause, O Lord of all mankind, and have said: "God is our Lord and the Lord of the mighty throne." Praise be unto Thee, O Goal of them that know and Beloved of the hearts of the sincere ones. There is none other God but Thee, the Mighty, the All-Knowing.

BH01581: May my spirit be a sacrifice unto thy presence!...

He is God, exalted be His glory, the Grandeur and the Power!

May my spirit be a sacrifice unto thy presence! What can this evanescent servant say or mention that would be befitting? It is most beloved that the beginning of every letter be adorned with the mention of the Lord of all beings and the King of origin and return. However, at times, when the certainty of non-arrival and attainment appears evident, the pen becomes still, the tongue silent, and the heart bewildered. In any case, since permission has been granted, we must praise Him with such descriptions and glorification as are acceptable among the servants. There is no other recourse, and this is the ultimate bounty. To Him be praise, thanksgiving, glory and splendor.

The blessed and exalted letter which was the cause of joy and gladness arrived. Like the spring rain to saplings and the special favors of God upon men, it hath showered upon this servant. Praise be unto Him and praise be unto His loved ones. Multiple letters have arrived; some have been presented and some have not yet found opportunity. God willing, they shall be presented.

Regarding the Afnan, His Honor Haji Mirza Siyyid Muhammad, upon him be the Most Glorious Beauty of God, what you wrote—that is, his exact words—was presented in the Most Holy, Most Exalted Presence. He said:

> "O My Name Mihdi, upon thee be My Glory! The call of the Afnan was heard. We are aware and cognizant of his grief and sorrow from separation and remoteness. Sorrow and anguish have seized him from every direction. God willing, may he not erase the days of presence from his sight. The remembrance and manifestation of that is the cause and reason for the defeat of sorrows. When the greatest joy comes, sorrow flees like lightning. O My Name! The Afnan is afflicted with both hardship and separation and exile, and other matters that are the cause and reason for heart-weariness. However, we beseech God to adorn him with such an

> ornament that the smoke and dust of the world may not change him, and likewise we ask for him that which is befitting and worthy. O My Afnan! Do not grieve, for the world is not worthy of grief. That which will gladden thy heart and the hearts of the lovers hath been ordained for thee. Say: Praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds."

This evanescent servant beseeches God, exalted be His Glory, that means may be provided for them to return again, and that this evanescent servant may drink with them from the cup of reunion and meeting, time after time, repeatedly, cup after cup, chalice after chalice, in spite of those who have denied God's signs and rejected His manifest and evident proof.

Regarding the mention made of the beloved one, His Honor Haji Aqa Muhammad, upon him be the Most Glorious Beauty of God, after presentation They said:

> "O My Name Mihdi! The mention of the mentioned one is mentioned before the Mentioned One. God willing, may they be blessed in all times and circumstances with the favors of the Desired One of the worlds. O My Name! In truth, they are striving and endeavoring to serve the Cause, unite hearts, and promote the divine laws. Praise be to God Who assisted him in establishing harmony and steadfastness. Some of the loved ones of that land have sent letters to the servant in attendance. If God willeth, favors shall be shown hereafter and replies shall be sent. Praise be to God, all are seen as links of one chain. The lights of their love are evident and radiant. Glory be upon them, peace be upon them."

The fact that they had mentioned this lowly one brought two delights: one, their mention, and two, your honor's renewal and repetition of that mention—blessing upon blessing. Praise be to God, the land has been adorned with the flowers, roses and fruits of love. I convey greetings, praise and glory to them, and likewise to the loved ones of God in that land. Peace and praise be upon your honor, upon the beloved ones, and upon those who are with you.

BH11612: That which hath shone forth from the horizon…

In the Name of God, Exalted be His Glory, His is the Greatness and the Power!

That which hath shone forth from the horizon of certitude hath been established through clear proof, namely that My praise and My mention cannot attain unto My purpose. The most exalted call from the highest realm befitteth Him not—how much less My mention and the mention of ones like Me, and My praise and the praise of ones like Me. Therefore We make mention, and We declare, and We say that mention and praise, from this day unto the day that hath no end, are reserved for the loved ones of God, glorified be His majesty—those souls who are seen to be evanescent and as nothing in the Will and Purpose of God, exalted be His glory, who stand with utmost steadfastness in the Cause of God, and who with spirit and joy speak forth His praise. These are the souls who are mentioned in the Books of old and of latter days, whom neither the doubts of the peoples, nor the signs of the world, nor the clamor of the ungodly, nor the commotion of the heedless have deterred. They have arisen and proclaimed with wisdom and utterance:

> "Verily our Lord is the All-Merciful, and He is the Help in Peril in all times."

And now, O beloved of My heart! Thy letter arrived repeatedly, news arrived, and praise be to God, the morn of hope hath dawned, in that, praise be to God, the Sun of loving-kindness hath risen and permission hath been granted. O Ibn-i-Abhar! Advance with such acceptance as would cause all created things to advance toward the Qiblih of the horizons, and turn with such turning as would cause all beings to turn toward the Dawning-Place of the verses and the Manifestor of clear proofs. Verily the Wronged One hath heard thy call and hath answered thee time and again. We beseech God to make thy pilgrimage accepted, thy endeavor appreciated, and thy turning unto Him a treasure and honor and store with Him. Verily He is powerful over all things.

As to what thou didst write concerning his honor Haji, upon him be the peace of God—blessed is he! Faithfulness is greatly loved in the sight of God. How excellent is the state of those souls who have ever fixed and continue to fix their gaze upon Him. In brief, all are adorned with the ornament of permission, and this evanescent servant beseecheth and imploreth God, glorified be His majesty, to distinguish all with His special favors and to adorn them with the ornament of acceptance. Come ye, come ye, O people of fidelity! Come ye, come ye, O ye who have borne hardships in the path of God, the Lord of Names! Come ye, come ye, O ye who have witnessed the waves and the blowing of tempestuous winds!

Come ye, come ye, O loved ones of God! Ye are they who have traversed land and sea and have remained patient in hardship and tribulation. Come ye, come ye, O people of the Covenant! Come ye, come ye, O companions of divine love! He Who is not known by what the tongue uttereth or what floweth from the Pen of creation hath called you. All this is from the loving-kindness of our Lord, the All-Merciful. Therefore let all turn with spirit and joy. Well is it with you, and may it be pleasant unto you. Peace and remembrance and praise be upon you and upon God's loved ones and His friends.

BH00676: Your letter dated the twelfth of Muharram al-Haram was…

In the Name of our Lord, the Most Holy, the Most Great, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious

Your letter dated the twelfth of Muharram al-Haram was received and attained the honor of being heard by the Lord of Names. His blessed and exalted Word: O Amin, your letter arrived and was presented by this servant. In truth, the sapling of existence has drunk from the waters of divine love. This is among the great bounties of the Truth, exalted be His glory. The rain of divine outpourings and the rays of the Sun of inner meanings have showered and shone upon all, yet all remain heedless save whom thy Lord willeth. O Abu'l-Hasan, the Lord of the hidden and the manifest declareth: O people of earth! Today the Mount hath attained the presence of its Interlocutor and the Lote-Tree hath reached its planting place. Blessed is the soul that heareth and findeth, and woe unto the heedless.

All that was in the correspondence from before and after is correct and acceptable, and whatever was [given] to any soul, before the Divine Presence a special course is destined. The Supreme Pen beareth witness to the trustworthiness and truthfulness of My Name Jamal, upon him be the Most Glorious Glory of God, and you yourself have also testified, and he has ever spoken well of the friends of God. Nevertheless, some in the land of Ta have accused him—God forbid—of treachery. This is naught but a grievous sin. Beseech and implore the Composer of hearts and the Sovereign of existence that the few souls who have been blessed by the Supreme Pen may arise with complete unity, love and dedication to

teach the Cause and aid it. This matter is essential and obligatory, and without it there is no salvation. In discord there is remote, remote impossibility, and in unity the horizons become illumined. In this matter, mighty effort is required.

Concerning what you wrote about the friends in Nun, Jim, Alif, Ra and other lands, each has been mentioned by the Beloved of the world, and from the ocean of divine verses there hath been revealed concerning them that which maketh all the seas of the world appear as but a drop compared to a drop thereof. Beseech the True One that they may preserve this most exalted station and not be silenced by the croaking of the croakers, the atheists and the deniers. May each be as a fire in the love of God upon a mountain and like the sun at the pole of heaven. And as for what reached Shaykh Muhammad Arab, it is necessary, nay obligatory, that he be looked after according to capacity by the Afnan and yourself.

Regarding the sum of 70 tumans mentioned by Jinab-i-Haydar-Qabli-ʿAli, upon him be the Glory of God and His favors, who wrote from the Land of Ta, there are in that land certain steadfast souls who have turned to God, and it is hoped that they will be confirmed and assisted in paying the Huqúqu'lláh. Therefore, from the direction of the Supreme Pen this firm command is issued: if they succeed, let them deliver the amount of seventy to the oppressed ones in the Land of Mim, that is, to the relatives of the Martyr, upon him be the Most Glorious Glory of God.

Blessed is he who has been or will be assisted in this. Otherwise, God, exalted be His glory, is sanctified above what has been and is mentioned, and is above the world and its treasures. Whatever He commands, its fruits return to the servants themselves. Soon they shall see that which the Tongue of Grandeur has spoken before and will speak hereafter. And even if they present it with the utmost joy and fragrance and complete humility and submissiveness, O Amin, reflect upon the cotton-carders: from the beginning of their acceptance until now, they have arisen to serve the Goal of all the worlds with perfect steadfastness, love, joy and fragrance, to such an extent that the tongues of the people of God on earth speak their praise and the tongues of the Concourse on high in heaven proclaim their attributes. Exalted, exalted is this mighty and impregnable station! Ask God to increase their bounties at all times. Verily thy Lord is powerful over all things.

Now if anyone in the Land of Ta is enabled to do so, take it and send it; if not, then let it be. The Glory be upon thee and upon those who act according to what they have been commanded in the Book of God, the Lord of the worlds.

Praise be to God! Through the effusions of the Most Exalted Pen—may my spirit and the spirit of all who dwell in the kingdom of the Cause be a sacrifice unto Him—you have attained. Some time ago the glad tidings of His gracious presence were given, and surely you have attained unto them. In these days there has been no new news except that Mr. Muhammad Ibrahim and Haji Ghulam-ʿAli—upon them be the glory of God—arrived, stayed for several days, and then, as commanded, returned to their homelands.

This evanescent servant ever beseeches and implores God, exalted be His glory, to protect His loved ones from the evil of the oppressors, the cawing ones, the doubts of the suspicious ones and the atheists. The key of grace and bounty is in His mighty grasp—He doeth what He willeth and ordaineth what He pleaseth.

Consider how all the Shi'ih divines—may God forsake them—arose in opposition and issued the verdict for the execution of the Primal Point—may the spirit of all else but Him be sacrificed for His sake. Day and night, they and their followers busied themselves with cursing, execration and charges of unbelief, while the cotton-carders, despite them, crossed the bridge and partook of the choice sealed wine. May God protect the people from the evil of the divines.

The purpose of knowledge is the benefit of God's servants, and this has ever been and will continue to be the crafts and trades. He has ever said and continues to say:

> "Know ye the value of the craftsmen, for they have been and continue to be the cause and means for facilitating affairs."

The foundation of religion is made firm through God's Law, and the foundation of livelihood through the craftsmen. By knowledge is meant that knowledge whose benefits reach humanity, not knowledge that leads to pride, arrogance, plunder, oppression, tyranny and pillaging.

Merely upon mention of the name of one of the people of truth before that group, they immediately issue the verdict of unbelief, plunder and death for that helpless one. By the life of my Purpose and thy Purpose and the Purpose of all who are in the heavens and earth, that misguided and misleading sect—namely the Shi'ih—committed that which neither the Jews, nor the Magians, nor even the idolaters have done the like. God protect us and you from the evil of these people and from the evil of the people of the Bayan who have violated the Covenant and who walk in their footsteps and say what their desires command them. Verily they are among the most lost in the perspicuous Book.

I convey greetings and salutations to the friends in every land and beseech God to strengthen and protect them all, that they may not be afflicted with the vain imaginings of the past, and that through Ja'far and his sons Ahmad and others they may not be kept back from God's straight path. Reflect upon the fabrications of the Shi'ih sect: for one thousand two hundred years they called the truthful one a liar, and the heedless people called the son of the Imam and the brother of the Imam himself a liar, and they were unaware. And all these things came to pass through the word of one like Ibn-i-Ja'far. That which befell the world, befell it. The Primal Point—may the spirit of all else be sacrificed for His sake—was martyred through the word of that vile one and two or three others like him, for they ruled that whosoever says the Qa'im is in the loins and must be born is an infidel whose killing is obligatory. Thus did that occur whereat the atoms of all created things wept. They judged contrary to what God had revealed in the Book.

We beseech God to deal with them according to His justice, not His grace. Enough trouble has been given; I shall not further impose upon that Beloved One and shall end this letter with these words: Glory, remembrance and praise be upon you and upon those with you and upon those who have arisen to aid the Cause of God, the Mighty, the Inaccessible. And praise be to God, the Most High, the Most Great.

The servant 15th of the month of Safar 1303

Multiple petitions have reached the Most Holy Court from Eliyahu. According to the Command, either something should be given to him so that he may be freed from debt and proceed to another land, or some occupation should be arranged for him. O Amin, although thou art poor, I know thy Lord is also

poor, meaning He is sanctified from earthly ornaments. By the life of God! The treasures of the world are as non-existent and null before one drop from the ocean of His riches. Be thou assured. Verily thy Lord is the All-Possessing, the Almighty, the All-Powerful. The glory from Us be upon thee, and I am the Remembering, the Compassionate, the All-Bountiful.

BH00664: The ocean of praise and thanksgiving befitteth and beseemeth…

He is God, exalted be His station, the Greatness and the Power

The ocean of praise and thanksgiving befitteth and beseemeth the Lord of all names, Who bestowed existence upon the world and adorned it with the ornament of nations. He is the Omnipotent One Whose power no weakness can touch and Whose will no creation can hinder. And blessings and peace be upon Him Whom He sent forth and unto Whom He revealed His Book, and adorned Him with His most beautiful names and most exalted attributes, Who was named Muhammad in the world of creation, and upon His family and companions through whom the earth brought forth its fruits and the heaven shed its rain.

And furthermore, may my spirit be a sacrifice for your honor. Your letters from before and after have been received. In truth, they were a paradise reflecting praise and thanksgiving, and speaking of that which indicateth the Most Great Steadfastness. The servant hath found therein what the body findeth in the spirit, and what the niche findeth in the light. When I read and understood, I turned to the Station and presented it before His Countenance. The Lord—may my spirit be sacrificed for Him—spoke: “We beseech God to assist him through remembrance and to strengthen him through utterance in such wise that His light, His influence and His proof may be made manifest throughout all possibility. The Command is in God’s hands, the Lord of all religions.

O Zein! Upon thee be My peace and My glory, and upon My loved ones there. We counsel them in all conditions to that whereby the Cause of their Lord, the Self-Sufficient, the Most Exalted, may be uplifted, and to draw nigh unto the Divine Lote-Tree and to turn with heart and soul toward the Most Exalted Horizon. Say: O My loved ones! We command you to that which will profit you in every world of the worlds of your Lord, and to righteousness and fear of God, and to turn away from those who have denied God, the Lord of Names and Creator of the heavens.” In all conditions they must fix their gaze upon the Truth, utter His praise and remembrance, and turn away from all else.

This is the command of the Wronged One, before and after. The purpose of turning away is to avoid association, not contention and conflict, and this applies to those souls who have arisen in opposition and objection and who have manifested rancor and hatred. These souls are known, and most are aware of their condition. O Zein! We beseech God to enable all to attain true unity and to grant them a portion from the ocean of the word “There is none other God but Him,” and not to deprive His servants of His boundless grace.

Aqa Muhammad Ibrahim and Haji Ghulam-ʿAli, along with two others—upon them be the peace and favors of God—arrived intending to visit the House, and praise be to God, they attained the Most Great Pilgrimage. This year was very pleasant for the pilgrims. In truth it was a blessed journey. Blessed are they

who have attained. We beseech God, exalted be His glory, to grant success to all the peoples of the earth that all may attain. Verily, He is powerful over all things.

Another matter: As some funds were needed, twenty tumans were borrowed from the spiritual friend Aqa Muhammad Ibrahim—upon him be the peace of God—which your honor should convey to him. Although at first he was unwilling to accept it, they specifically stated it must reach him and he accepted. Your honor must pay it. And what the friends brought of gaz and other items was received.

Regarding what you wrote about the traveling companion, it is necessary, and Aqa Habibullah is permitted to be in your honor's service, but they said after meeting he must return, as wisdom requires this.

Another submission concerns the sum due to Jinab-i-Aqa Muhammad-Taqi, upon him be God's peace. Its delay is in no way permissible. Indeed, they have performed a good deed and this act has been accepted. Let it be delivered to him. The souls mentioned who have turned to God with certitude, upon them be God's peace, from among the people of S, H-M, N-R, Shah-Abad, B-R and T who have sought mention from that Presence—all have been honored with mention, one and all. He said:

> "O Zayn, convey greetings to all these souls on behalf of the Wronged One, and counsel them regarding that which remains of their remembrances. This Wronged One has ever beseeched on behalf of all that which is like unto a lamp before their faces in all the worlds of God, exalted be His glory. We have counseled and continue to counsel all to unity, harmony, kindness, love and steadfastness, which are among the greatest of deeds. O Zayn, beseech God to protect His servants and deprive none from the ocean of recognition, the sun of certitude and the heaven of knowledge. Verily, He speaks the truth and guides the way, and He is the Single, the One, the Mighty, the Beautiful."

And likewise convey greetings to the handmaidens of God. We beseech God to assist them all and ordain for each one the good of this world and the next. We make mention of the people of Marfu' and console them, and we beseech God for the improvement of affairs.

This evanescent servant conveys greetings to each one and seeks divine success and confirmation for each. All must, at all times, with patience, calm and dignity, be engaged in the mention and praise of the Goal of all the worlds. Assuredly the outpourings of the True Bestower will embrace pure and holy souls and illumined hearts. Should hardship befall some, or difficulties arise, this has been and is due to God's penetrating wisdom, exalted be His glory. Blessed are the friends and loved ones of God—theirs is a goodly return. The end of all things is good, for the ocean of generosity is surging through His name and the sun of bounty exists through His favor. He will never deprive His loved ones. Every person of insight bears witness to this truth. Glad tidings that He said:

> "If God willing, We shall thereafter summon the people there one by one that they may attain and return."

Concerning what you wrote about Jinab-i-Aqa Muhammad Hasan (the Tailor), upon him be God's peace, when it was submitted, He said:

> “O Zayn, write to Hasan: O Hasan! Your lamentations have been heard and the yearnings of your heart have reached Us. The Wronged One hears your cries and supplications. You have always been and continue to be remembered. For years you have been engaged in service. We beseech God to grant souls fairness that they may not say that which they have not heard from the tongue of the Wronged One. Truthfulness has ever been and remains the characteristic of the people of truth. One must not be content with imaginings and conjectures. Say: O Hasan! Be not grieved. By the life of God, your grief has grieved Me. We beseech Him, exalted be He, to adorn you with the ornament of patience and forbearance, and His servants with justice and fairness.”

This servant also conveys greetings to him. God is witness and testifier that he is remembered most of the time, and all who circle [the Sacred Precinct] mention him with utmost love, kindness and care, and send their greetings. It is hoped that something may be written directly to him hereafter, as in these days the spiritual beloved Aqa Mulla Rida—he who spoke the truth before all faces—and he have written and sent letters. Repeatedly there has arrived from them that from which the fragrance of love and sincerity emanates.

At the end of the manuscript, when mention was made of His Holiness the Name 66 [Allah] al-Asdaq, upon him be from every 9 [Baha] its Most Glorious, before His presence, He said:

> “Upon him be God’s peace, His care, His mercy, and His grace, and upon his son, and upon those whom God has related to him.”

This evanescent servant conveys greetings to each of the friends in that land. He Himself is witness and testifier that their mention has ever been the cause of joy and their remembrance the source of delight, and this is naught but through the bounty of the Lord, for they have borne hardships in His path and have tasted the poison of hatred in their love for Him. We beseech God to grant success to all and to confirm them in preserving what has been bestowed. Verily, He is powerful over all things. Peace, remembrance and glory be upon your honor, upon them, and upon every steadfast, firm and upright one. And praise be to God, the Exalted, the Great.

The servant 26th of the month of Safar al-Khayr 1303

BH01318: Through but one letter of His glorious Name did…

He is God—exalted be His glory, to Whom belongeth greatness and grandeur

Through but one letter of His glorious Name did the universe and all within it become manifest and evident. All that exists hath been and shall ever be through the effulgence of His bounty. Should any soul in all creation draw a breath contrary to that which hath been mentioned, every atom in existence would testify to his heedlessness. The heaven is a sign of His loftiness and the seas are tokens of His grandeur. Whatever we may say, the seeing eye beholdeth in but a single leaf among the leaves of the divine Lote-Tree His majesty, power, exaltation and favor. All came into being through His will, that it might tell of its Fashioner, its Creator, and its Originator. Neither reckoning nor comprehension hath any place in this realm, until the hand of grace bestoweth what it will and conferreth what it pleaseth. His might can raise

a straw to the galaxies and elevate dust to the Pleiades. How many among the possessors of sovereignty, dominion and palaces hath His controlling hand returned to their graves in utter abasement. He doeth what He willeth and ordaineth what He pleaseth. He is the Mighty, the Praiseworthy.

The prayers and salutations of all peoples are befitting the most holy and exalted court of the Beloved, through Whose advent the heavens were adorned and through Whose presence the Night Journey was blessed. He is the source of the life-giving Kawthar amongst all possibility, through Whom the horizon of utterance was illumined, the ocean of inner meanings surged, and the decree of the All-Merciful was established amongst all religions. And upon His family and companions, who are the stars in the heavens of wisdom and the fish in the sea of power—they who aided and endured with patience, and theirs is the final abode.

The letter of that honored brother, which was in itself a new gift, arrived at the right place and the right time, for it came just as this evanescent one was intending to attain the presence. I took it, opened it, saw it and read it, then hastened until I reached the spot. When I arrived, the countenance of the Master smiled and He said—may my soul be sacrificed for Him—"What is in thy right hand?" I presented the letter, saying it had come from the direction of A. and S. When permission was granted, I read it. When the poem was finished, the countenance of the Master smiled again and He said—may my soul be sacrificed for Him—"O thou who art present! How beloved before God is the unity and harmony of the friends. Most often doth the word ʻunity' flow from the Pen and tongue. We beseech God to confirm him and in every moment make him successful in remembrance. He is the Powerful, the Mighty."

That you mentioned each of the loved ones individually in verse was most acceptable. Praise be to God that you were assisted to achieve that which is pleasing before the Friend. He said that its poetry is joy-inducing and its prose even more so, for the fragrance of love emanates from it. This quality keepeth the world alive and enduring. Love is like an essence—whatever remains after it is extracted from anything neither nourishes nor avails. We beseech God not to deprive the whole world from the lights of the Sun of His love. Your verses have been mentioned repeatedly and became the cause and reason for your remembrance. Time and again they commanded me to convey to you that they should consult on matters and then, trusting in God, act accordingly.

And they said the good of the world and its benevolence and kindness are directed toward you. Be not grieved, and be assured of the favors of God, exalted be His glory. His favor has been and is with you. In all conditions maintain the utmost joy and fragrance, such that whoever associates and companions with you becomes happy and delighted. Praise be to God, the carpet of gladness has been spread and the sun of God's favor has risen. Speak in His remembrance, drink in His mention. Never let go of wisdom in any situation. It is not permissible to acknowledge matters which the ignorant are incapable of comprehending. Walk in the footsteps of the Wronged One. [End]

This servant conveys greetings, praise and gracious mention to all the friends of that land, and begs confirmation from God, exalted be His station, for each one. I ask God that His name be exalted through the unity, accord and sincerity of those noble souls. May their intention be the reformation of the world and the tranquility of all peoples. He is the Hearer, the Answerer, and He is the Mighty, the Praiseworthy. The whole world has been and is specially for the friends of God, manifested according to the

requirements of consummate wisdom. This is the evident truth, there is no doubt in it. Peace, remembrance and praise be upon you and upon the friends of God, the people of unity and the companions of detachment, whom God has described in His Manifest Book:

> "They speak not until He hath spoken, and they do His bidding."

And praise be to God, the Lord of what was and what will be.

BH02894: Through the Book the whole world with all its…

He is God, exalted be His station of grandeur and power.

Through the Book the whole world with all its mysteries is made manifest, and through its letters all things are brought to completion. May God come to the aid of you and us and all who dwell on earth. However, since this is a place of service and worship and station and rank and manifestations […], I beseech the Beloved of my soul and the Desire of my heart from God, exalted be His glory, that He may enable this evanescent servant to render such service as may bring joy to His loved ones. Verily He is the Generous, the Bountiful, and He is the Hearer, the Answerer.

The letter arrived bringing joy to this evanescent one and glad tidings for a number of the friends. The joy was attained and the glad tidings were conveyed. All accepted it with perfect humility and submissiveness. God, exalted be His glory, has made your Saturday into Friday. There will be a gathering there—a gathering which, God willing, will be the cause of the gathering together of the world beneath the divine Lote-Tree. However, besides those present, there were several others who heard these glad tidings. Surely on Saturday they too will attend your presence. According to instructions, the honored Ustad ʿAbdu'l-Karim, upon him be God's peace, will attend your presence—not today, not tomorrow, but on that day. How excellent is the host and how excellent are the guests! Praise be to God, the Powerful, the Forgiving, the Compassionate.

Today many of your works were answered from before. The answer to the honored Aqa Mirza Mahmud was revealed and the answer to the honored Aqa Mirza Husayn was bestowed. A new letter was also written and sent in detail. This year, praise be to God, you were enabled to provide food and feasting time after time and occasion after occasion. In your words, may it continue! The Command is in God's hands, the Lord of creation. You should be occupied with preparations while the guests are getting ready. I beseech and implore God, exalted be His glory, to grant that honored one such bounty that you may be enabled to accomplish such deeds each day. Peace and praise be upon your honor and upon all who are firm and steadfast. And praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH00498: Praise be fitting unto the Lord of all desires…

In the Name of God, Transcendent is His Glory, His Grandeur and Power!

Praise be fitting unto the Lord of all desires, Who with a single effulgence illumined the horizons of discord with the light of unity and concord. His Will lent support and His Purpose penetrated through divine favor. Through that effulgence which encompassed the world through the radiance of the

Muhammadan Sun, it seized all the palaces of the Caesars, the arches of the Chosroes, and the porticos of tyrants. In places where the banner of misbelief was raised, the standard of divine unity was hoisted, and gatherings once devoted to the mention of idols were transformed to circles remembering the Lord of all beings. In place of wine came the celestial stream, in place of darkness came light, in place of ignorance came knowledge, and in place of wealth appeared poverty. This poverty is a crown upon the head of the world's wealth, even as He declared: "Poverty is My glory." This is a poverty before which the world's riches bow down and the wealth of nations stands in humility. No tongue can adequately describe this poverty, nor can any pen do justice to its mention. Exalted be His glory, exalted be His dominion, glorified be His grandeur, and mighty be His proof!

The essence of praise and glory, and the source of description and prayer, be upon Him and His family and His chosen ones and His companions—those who forsook their own existence in His path and became connected to the waves of the ocean of His generosity. He is the Mirror of the Most Beautiful Names and the Most Exalted Attributes. We call God the All-Bountiful, yet this bounty appeared through His existence; we name Him the All-Generous, yet this generosity shone forth from that Dawning-Place of the Ancient Light. Through a single decree, the Hijaz became the sun of the world and the Lord of all creation.

O my God! O All-Generous! O All-Merciful! Thou art He Who openeth doors without keys and manifesteth meanings without the existence of words. O Generous One! The people of unity are found between the fangs of the ungodly, and the people of sanctity are afflicted with countless tribulations. This evanescent servant beseecheth Thee by Thy Most Great Name to protect Thy loved ones at all times and adorn them with the raiment of infallibility, that the whole world may be illumined with the light of unity and hold fast to the cord of infallibility. Perchance through Thy boundless grace, one day the world may be adorned with that which beseemeth it. Thou art the Sovereign Whom the sovereignty of the world neither hindereth nor increaseth Thy station, and the power of nations neither compareth with Thee nor diminisheth Thee. By the hand of Thy loving-kindness and power, take the hands of Thy friends and grant them eternal salvation. Verily, Thou art the Omnipotent over whatsoever Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

And furthermore, O beloved of my heart! The epistle of divine knowledge, which was adorned with the praise and mention of the Beloved of all worlds, was received. Praise be to God that the temples of words and letters were embellished with the garment of certitude. In truth, each letter thereof was a key to unlock the door of divine love. I cannot describe this ark, nor can I praise it adequately, for its captain is the mention of God, exalted be His glory, and upon its banner is inscribed the blessed words "Verily, there is none other God but He." The effect of this mention is evident, and the fruit of this description is manifest. The tree of remembrance bore befitting fruit, and the tree of sincerity yielded luminous leaves.

After its observation and perusal, it was presented before His presence, whereupon He said:

> "Praise be to God! The signs are manifest, the fruits are present, and the grace is evident. Generosity hath assisted, bounty hath aided, and the water of loving-kindness hath enabled the saplings in the garden of inner meanings to become adorned with the leaves and fruits of divine love."

O thou who art present! From that direction the fragrance of true love is diffused. The tongues of all travelers speak in their praise. The eye of existence is illumined and brightened by such souls. These are they who are endowed with insight from God, the Lord of the virtuous. We send greetings upon him and upon them, and We beseech the Almighty to assist them with the breaths of His grace and the means of the heavens and earth, that they may speak His praise and mention, and arise to serve His Cause. Verily, He is the Hearing, the Responding, the All-Powerful, the Almighty.

We make mention of ʿAbdu'l-Baha who hath attained that which most of the servants have not attained. God willing, may they ever gaze toward the horizon of the All-Merciful and be gladdened by His grace. Likewise, convey greetings from the Wronged One to the other friends. We beseech God to draw them nigh unto Him and to strengthen them in that which will exalt their mention among His servants, and to grant them success through wisdom. Verily, He hath power over all things.

This evanescent servant hath ever besought and continues to beseech from the Exalted Truth that which would cause the attraction of hearts, the unity of souls, and the concord of all who dwell on earth. The Lord is witness that I am abashed by these utterances, for praise be to God, as attested by the Lord, ye are possessed of insight and endowed with virtuous character. This is a mighty bounty and a great favor that hath been granted. No mention is befitting alongside this matter. How excellent is the saying: "When a hundred cometh, ninety is also with us." Since ye are possessed of virtuous character, ye possess all good, and since ye are doers of good deeds, ye are masters of all excellence. Well is it with you, and again, well is it with you.

This evanescent one offers salutations and praise to each of the gentlemen and the friends of God, exalted be His praise. Yesterday afternoon, in His presence, He made special mention of that land, speaking in such a manner that each soul who intended to turn in that direction—that is, one by one—was mentioned. How beautiful are these verses in this regard:

Those words which that Friend did speak at that time, If they strike the night, day would from darkness climb. That dark night would brighten like morning clear; Those terms I cannot repeat or render here.

You know what the sun in Aries tells The flowers and the fields You know what the crystal water speaks To blossoms and young shoots Beyond this I am not permitted to say For the ocean cannot be contained in a stream

A hundred thousand praises and thanks to the Goal of all the worlds, Who bestowed His favor and showed His generosity, and Who gave this evanescent one and his friends shelter and abode beneath the shadow of His grace. All things bear witness that verily He is the Omnipotent over whatsoever He willeth, and He is the All-Merciful, the Most Bountiful.

According to your request, in the presence of the Most Holy Branches of the Sacred Tree—may my spirit, essence and being be a sacrifice unto the dust of their steps—greetings and praise were conveyed. All the circling men and women each expressed their loving-kindness. Truly, the lights of bounty were manifest, evident and radiant at their mention. The beloved of the heart of ʿAbdu'l-Baha—upon him be the peace of God, the Lord of creation—his blessed letter arrived, creating a world of joy and delight. Indeed, the meaning of the passage previously revealed:

> “May my love make all my deeds and devotions as one single devotion, and my condition in serving Thee eternal”

was clear and evident from his letter, for to those endowed with insight, all letters culminate in and speak of two letters: Ha and Ba. I beseech and implore God, exalted be His glory, to confirm him with such confirmation that its light may illumine all horizons. After presenting this, He said before His countenance:

“Praise be to the Goal of the world that they were successful and found the path of the All-Merciful through the lamp of recognition. The veils of the world did not prevent his sight from witnessing, nor did the clamor of nations stop his hearing from hearkening. They are mentioned in the presence of the Wronged One and have attained to the bounty of God.” Before the appearance of the Sun of inner meanings, words have no station. Whatever is said or written was not and is not worthy. However, this nothingness and evanescence lends some luster to the work. His is the grace and generosity in all conditions. After establishing the station of sanctification and transcendence, He permitted every soul to call upon and mention Him according to its tongue and understanding. His is the praise and glory, His the favor and splendor, His the bounty and grandeur. Since a letter was previously sent to serve them, I did not trouble them this time, though even this much is a burden.

In these days, by divine decree, that occurred which darkened the world of light and veiled the realm of vision. The dust of sorrow encompassed all and the smoke of grief and anguish seized every space. Were it not for God’s grace and bounty, the loved ones and companions would have perished. Herein was manifested that which testified clearly and evidently to His bounty and grace, and from the Source of Utterance appeared what appeared. At the end He says:

> “Verily Thou art the One with power over whatsoever Thou willest. If Thou should desire, Thou wouldst transform the mystery of sorrow into joy in Thy dominion, and the essence of grief into delight among Thy servants.”

And considering that in these days this matter occurred and, having been blessed with a considerable portion of the outpourings of the Pen, some patience and tranquility were attained—in truth, blessed are those souls who have ascended and were blessed with the fruits of the Tree and the tokens of the Pen. Many matters are not clear at present, but if He wishes, He will reveal what He desires, and He is the Mighty, the Unconstrained.

More than this cannot be disclosed, for in one place He has said these are the days of the Most Great Joy; in the presence of the Lord, sorrow is not permissible. All lamentation, crying out, and grief have been forbidden except for what has befallen Him. In any case, I beseech and hope from God that He may comfort all and grant patience and forbearance. The place of those beloved ones was indeed empty in the gatherings of these days. Though you were not present physically, assuredly you were present in spirit and sharing in all conditions. We are God’s and unto Him do we return. And in truth, even outwardly, the true representative of the direction of the Most Exalted Names was his honor Aqa Siyyid ʿAli, who shone like a star in the gatherings. His representation is sufficient and complete in the sight of God. The fragrance of the garment of grace continues to waft. Well is it with you.

The letter from the honored brother, his honor Aqa ʿAli-Akbar, upon him be God's peace and grace, arrived and it so happened that it attained the presence and was opened by the blessed hand and read. He smiled, and all those present smiled. Give him glad tidings and convey greetings and praise. I beseech God, exalted be His glory, to grant him such confirmation that he may ever be enkindled with the fire of God's love and act according to His command. Verily our Lord, the All-Merciful, is the Confirmer, the All-Wise. Peace and glory and remembrance and praise be upon you and upon those who love you for the sake of God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy.

BH00700: This is a Book which the Wronged One hath…

He is the Dawning Place from the Horizon of Proof

This is a Book which the Wronged One hath sent down unto him who hath turned towards the horizon of His Cause, soared in His atmosphere and recognized that which most of the servants have rejected. He is, verily, of those who have turned towards God.

O Muhammad-Qabli-ʿAli! Hearken unto My Voice from My direction: Verily, there is none other God but Me, the Forgiving, the Generous. Thy letter hath come before the Wronged One and the servant who standeth before the Face hath presented it. We have answered thee with a Tablet whereunto the tablets of the world and whatsoever is with the nations cannot be compared. To this beareth witness the Lord of the world Who uttereth at all times:

> "The Kingdom belongeth unto God, the Possessor of this glorious and wondrous Day!"

Be thou vocal in the praise and remembrance of God, and steadfast in the service of His Cause whereby the hearts of the learned were perturbed and the dwellers of the cities of names have lamented, save those whom thy Lord, the Forgiving, the Generous, hath willed. Say: This is the Day wherein the Mother Book hath been sent down, did ye but know it, and the Mother of the Bayan hath come, as attested by Him with Whom is the Preserved Tablet.

Say: O people of the Bayan! Fear the All-Merciful, and turn not away from Him by Whom the horizon of divine knowledge hath been illumined and the Nightingale warbleth upon the branches. Verily, there is none other God but Him, the Truth, the Knower of the unseen. By God! The Bayan was sent down for My remembrance, the Book for My Name, and the Tablets for this irrevocable Cause. Say: Your clamor shall not prevent Me, nor the clamor of those on earth. I call out before the faces of the world and speak that which I have been commanded by the Lord of Eternity. To this bear witness My deeds and My call, but the people do not understand.

O Pen! Make mention of My loved ones there, that the remembrance of their Lord may draw them to the most exalted station.

O Ghaffar! The Chosen One maketh mention of thee when the wicked surrounded Him from every direction. I am He Who hath arisen with God's Cause amidst the world and have manifested that which I was commanded before the faces of all people. When the Cause was revealed, there emerged from behind the veils certain wicked ones who desired to shed My blood without any proof or book.

O Yahya! The Book hath come; take hold of it with strength from Us and follow not those who have violated God's Covenant and His Testament, and who have disbelieved in that which hath been sent down from the presence of a Mighty, All-Knowing One. Blessed art thou for having turned towards Our horizon when most of the servants turned away. Thus have We sent down the verses and expounded them in truth as a grace from Our presence, and We are the Mighty, the Bestower.

O Nur-Muhammad! The Wronged One remembereth thee from the prison quarter and giveth thee glad tidings of that which hath been sent down for thee from the Most Exalted Pen. Rejoice and say: Praise be unto Thee, O Lord of Names! Thou art He Who hath manifested Himself for the life of the world and hath called all unto the Dayspring of bounty. Those who have turned away, they shall have no portion of this Most Great Sea. To this beareth witness the Mother Book in the most exalted station. Blessed is the face that hath turned unto the Face of God and the heart that hath turned towards Him on a Day wherein feet have slipped.

O Muhammad-Husayn! Hearken unto the call from the Lote-Tree beyond the Sea of Grandeur: Verily, there is none other God but Me, the Mighty, the Chosen One. I have come from the Dayspring of certitude with the standards of divine knowledge. Among the people are those who have turned towards God and those who have turned away—and he who turneth away is assuredly among the companions of the Fire. We counsel thee and those who have believed to show forth the utmost steadfastness in this Cause whereby the hearts of the wicked have been perturbed.

O Pen! Make mention of him who is named ʻAbbas-Quli that he may rejoice in My remembrance of him and be of the thankful ones. Say: Praise be unto Thee, O my God, for having sent down unto me Thy verses and manifested unto me Thy clear tokens, and for having aided me to turn towards Thee. I beseech Thee by the ocean of Thy verses and the sun of Thy bounty to make me steadfast in Thy Cause. Verily, Thou art the Mighty, the Powerful.

O Ali! The Lord of creation makes mention of thee at a time when the hosts of the wicked have encompassed Him, and He reveals unto thee that which will draw thee nigh unto God, the Lord of all worlds. Take heed lest the might of the powerful weaken thee in the Cause of God, the Lord of Names, or the power of those who have denied God, the Mighty, the All-Praised, cause thee to fear. Arise with such steadfastness as will cause the hearts of the opposers to tremble.

O Pen! Make mention of Abdul-Ali and give him glad tidings of the favors of his Lord, the All-Forgiving, the All-Bountiful. We counsel him to remember God and praise Him, and to that whereby His mighty and wondrous Cause may be exalted. Arise to serve the Cause in the name of God, thy Lord, and say: O people of the Bayan! By God, its Revealer and Sender hath come. Fear ye the All-Merciful and be not of the wrongdoers. Do ye deny the Ocean and regard the drop as an ocean apart from Me? Ye are indeed of the ignorant ones. By God, he who denieth this Cause cannot prove any other cause. The Books of God, both past and future, bear witness to this. Be fair and be not of the transgressors. We counsel thee to remember and praise God on this Day wherein the opposers have arisen in manifest sedition.

O Muhammad! The One, the Single, makes mention of thee from this most exalted Station that He may draw thee unto the supreme height. Verily thy Lord is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. Hold fast unto

the cord of thy Lord's favor and cling to His resplendent hem. Say: O my God and my Desire! I beseech Thee by the hidden and treasured mysteries, by Thy revealed verses and Thy manifest and brilliant evidences, to make me steadfast in Thy Cause and firm in Thy love. Thou art He Whom nothing can frustrate and no affair can weaken. Thou doest what Thou willest through Thy power. There is none other God but Thee, the Mighty, the All-Conquering, the All-Powerful.

We make mention in this station of him who is named Aqa Bala that the utterance of the All-Merciful may attract him to the supreme horizon and draw him nigh unto Him in all conditions. Blessed is he who hath cast away idle fancies and taken hold of that which he was bidden by God, the Lord of Lords. Thy name was presented before the Wronged One, and He hath revealed for thee that whose fragrance shall never cease to endure throughout the eternity of My most excellent names and supreme attributes. He unto whom is given the knowledge of the Book beareth witness to this. Rejoice thou in My remembrance of thee and say: Praise be unto Thee, O Revealer of verses! I beseech Thee to strengthen me in steadfastness in Thy Cause in such wise that the power of the wicked may not move me.

O Muhammad-Taqi! My Most Exalted Pen makes mention of thee in this fortress built of smoothed rock. When thou attainest unto this remembrance and perceivest from it the fragrance of My loving-kindness, arise and say: Praise be unto Thee, O Thou Who hast turned toward me from the direction of the prison, and thanks be unto Thee, O Thou Who hast mentioned me in such wise as to enrapture the hearts of the righteous. We counsel thee and them that have believed to observe trustworthiness, religious devotion, chastity, and that whereby God's Cause may be promoted amongst His servants. Seize hold of that which hath been revealed unto thee with such strength as the hands of the infidels who have broken God's Covenant and His Testament, and have turned away from the Countenance when it appeared from the heaven of utterance with wisdom and clear proof, are powerless to withstand.

O Tongue of My Grandeur! Make mention of him who is named Muhibb-ʿAli and give him glad tidings of verses that are unequalled by aught in the private or public domain. Blessed is he who, though seated, hath arisen to serve the Cause, and he who, though disobedient, hath hastened to the ocean of forgiveness. Thus hath My Most Exalted Pen spoken while the Wronged One was in the most sublime station.

And We make mention of My handmaidens in that land and give them glad tidings of God's favor and bounty which have encompassed all who are in earth and heaven. Rejoice, O My leaves, in My remembrance and My loving-kindness and My mercy that have preceded all created things. By My life! The treasures of the earth cannot equal My remembrance. He with whom is the Mother Book doth testify to this.

O Muhammad-Qabli-ʿAli! We have made mention of thee at the outset, and have mentioned every name that was recorded in thy book, and have sealed the Tablet with thy name. Rejoice thou and say: Praise be unto Thee, O Lord of the worlds, and glory be unto Thee, O Thou Who causeth the rivers to flow! I beseech Thee to make me steadfast in Thy love and firm in Thy Cause. Verily, Thou art the One Who hath power over whatsoever He willeth, and in Thy grasp are the reins of all created things. O my Lord! I beseech Thee to ordain for me that which is best for me. Thou knowest what is within my soul, while I know not what is with Thee. Verily, Thou art the All-Powerful, the Unconstrained.

The servant who is present hath appeared and visited the Throne in thy stead, and hath attained the ornament of acceptance from the Wronged One, Who hath proclaimed before the faces of the world: "The Kingdom belongeth unto God, the Sender of the winds." Give thanks unto thy Lord for this most great favor and say: Praise be unto Thee for having remembered me when I was wronged at the hands of the ignorant. We beseech Him, exalted be He, to aid thee, to grant thee success, and to ordain for thee the best of what hath been sent down in the Holy Books and Tablets. The splendor shining forth from the horizon of the heaven of My mercy be upon thee and upon the people of understanding who have not broken the Covenant at their final return.

BH01198: O beloved of my heart! Your letter sent…

He is God, exalted be His glory, majesty and power!

O beloved of my heart! Your letter sent from the great city arrived, and likewise your previous letter from Cyprus. Praise be to God, it brought what was befitting—that is, praise of the One Beloved—and bestowed what was worthy—that is, joy and delight. His is all praise and glory in every condition.

First, I beseech that beloved one to accept my apologies for brevity, as the rains from the heaven of writing have left no time, and you yourself are witness to this. After presentation in the Most Holy and Most Exalted Presence, these supreme words flowed from the tongue of the Lord of all beings:

> "O Asad! Upon thee be My glory and My loving-kindness. What thou didst write regarding Aqa Muhammad-Javad, upon him be My glory—mention of him hath ever been before the Wronged One. From the time he attained the presence in Iraq until now, he hath not departed from Our sight. Verily, faithfulness hath stood before My face and We have preserved his station and will preserve it. Verily thy Lord is the Compassionate, the Generous. In these days a Tablet hath been specifically revealed for him. God willing, he will attain unto it. We send greetings unto him and unto those in his household, and We have mentioned in the Tablet the leaf who hath ascended unto God, the Lord of all worlds."

In truth, he hath ever been the recipient of divine favors, and this servant conveys greetings and salutations to him, beseeching from God, exalted be His glory, whatsoever He Himself desireth. Regarding what was written about Haji Muhammad-Rida, upon him be the Glory of God—that from Faran he awaits permission to turn toward the Most Holy and Most Exalted Court—after presentation, these blessed words were revealed in response. His exalted Word:

> "He hath attained unto the luminary of permission to turn toward the Supreme Horizon with such turning as will cause all created things to turn. This beseemeth him who hath turned unto God, the Peerless, the All-Informed. We have mentioned him before and after. We beseech God to strengthen him to preserve what We have given him, for the Cause is mighty beyond all that is mighty. O Asad! The smoke of hypocrisy hath encompassed the horizons. The cawing of the ravens hath been raised in Jadhba and its surroundings. The time of its rising, before and after, is known and evident with God. Beseech God to grant such confirmation that they may

> distinguish the effulgences of the Sun of true unity from aught else. Verily, He is the Confirmer, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise."

And regarding what was written about Aqa Muhammad, upon him be the Glory of God—that too was honored to reach the ears of the Goal of all worlds. His blessed and exalted Word:

> "O Asad! Upon thee be the Glory of God and His loving-kindness. The affairs of this land and its stability are uncertain, and God hath never wished and doth not wish to deprive anyone in any condition. He hath never regarded and doth not regard the preservation of His own Self. He hath ever gazed with joy and delight toward the direction of loving-kindness to the beloved ones. Therefore permission is granted—turn as thou pleaseth. If he attaineth, he hath attained unto the Goal; if not, the matter is in His hands. He doeth what He willeth and ordaineth what He desireth. And He is the All-Knowing, the All-Wise."

And mention has been made of the travelers and emigrants—all have attained to hearing, and each one hath been remembered before the Wronged One. God willing, they will act in accordance with that which is befitting and conducive to the exaltation of the Cause. At all times the Pen hath been occupied with the mention of the friends of the Desired One of the worlds. We beseech Him, exalted be He, to aid them through the means of the unseen and the visible, and to make them of those whom nothing whatsoever hath deterred from turning toward God, the Protecting, the Self-Subsisting.

Praise be to God, the Pen of Response is in motion and each question hath been granted an explicit answer. Verily our Lord and your Lord, and our Beloved and your Beloved, is powerful over all things and worthy to respond. In whatever land they reside, convey to the friends of that land and other regions greetings and salutations from this evanescent servant. For each one I beseech steadfastness that may cause the limbs of the people of the Bayan who have denied our Lord, the Most Merciful, to quake, and who have uttered that which none of the ancients had uttered.

And concerning that which was written about his honor, my brother, upon him be the Glory of God and His favors, it was again presented before His presence. His blessed and exalted Word:

> "O Asad! Convey My greetings unto thy brother. We beseech God to ordain for him that which shall profit him in all the worlds of His worlds, to record for him the reward of attaining His presence, and to grant him the best of what is in His wondrous revealed Book."

The response to this matter was previously presented in His presence and was honored with an answer. This evanescent one beseeches the True One to assist him in that which He loveth and pleaseth, and to ordain for him the good of the hereafter and of this world. Verily, He is powerful over all things. Peace and praise and glory be upon you and upon those who are with you and upon those whom nothing hath prevented from God, the Most High, the Most Great. And praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

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BH04331: O Badi', son of Muhammad-Quli who emigrated and attained…

In the name of the Desire of the world

O Badi', son of Muhammad-Quli who emigrated and attained unto the name of the Goal of the world! O Badi'! The adults have not attained unto the traces of the Most Exalted Pen, yet thou hast attained. Bounty and favor are in His mighty grasp; He bestoweth upon whomsoever He willeth. Praise be to God! Thy father entered the Most Great Scene and heard that for which the ears of the world were created, and witnessed that for which eyes were specially brought from nothingness into being. We, on behalf of thee and the sincere friends, render praise and thanksgiving, and beseech from God that He may grant success. He is the Bestower, the Kind. The Glory be upon thee and upon thy mother and thy father and upon him who hath believed in God, the One, the All-Knowing.

BH04528: The Tongue of Grandeur on this dark night makes…

In the name of the Creator of the world

The Tongue of Grandeur on this dark night makes mention of His leaves and handmaidens, that they may attain to the fragrances of divine remembrance. The servants and handmaidens have ever been and are remembered in the Most Holy and Exalted Court—those souls who have turned to the Most Great Ocean and are gazing toward the Supreme Horizon.

O Aminih, give thanks to the Goal of the world that He enabled thee to recognize that which most of the world remaineth deprived of, and adorned you with a brother whom neither the derision of enemies, nor the assault of princes, nor the clamor of divines, nor the oppression of tyrants, nor the transgressions of pharaohs could prevent from the Dawning-Place of the Light of Oneness. Give thanks unto thy Lord for this manifest glory.

O Fiddih, God willing thou shalt remain firm in His Cause. The misguided ones have been and are lying in wait in their ambush. Praise the Goal of the world that He enabled thee to turn to Him in days when the divines of the age were witnessed to be turning away.

O Umm-i-Ayman, in the Most Great Prison God, exalted be His glory, is occupied with thy mention, and this Perspicuous Tablet beareth witness to this utterance, from which every loving soul perceiveth the fragrance of God's favor and His raiment. Blessed are they that have attained, both women and men.

Glory be upon you from God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH05429: Blessed is the tongue that hath testified this Day…

He is the One Who speaketh in the Kingdom of Utterance.

Blessed is the tongue that hath testified this Day to that which God hath testified, and the eye that hath beheld that which hath shone forth from the Supreme Horizon, and the heart that hath turned unto the

Most Great Scene—the station wherein the Lord of Destiny proclaimeth: "There is none other God besides Me, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise."

By God's life! This is a Day wherein naught is mentioned save Him, yet the people are in evident slumber. Among the people of the Bayan are those who have turned away from God and objected to Him—they are indeed in age-old error.

Blessed art thou for having cast away the vain imaginings of those who disbelieved in God and turned to the lights of the Countenance when they shone forth from the horizon of certitude. Take hold of God's Tablet with a strength from Him and a power from His presence, then remember Him at all times, and be thou of the thankful ones. Thou hast attained, and heard, and beheld what was concealed throughout all eternity. Thy Lord is verily the All-Merciful, the Bountiful.

Say: Praise be unto Thee, O my God, for having strengthened me and brought me into Thy presence and shown me and caused me to hear the rustling of the Sadratu'l-Muntaha in this most exalted Station. Bounty is in Thy right hand and the reins of grace are in Thy grasp. Thou art, verily, the Almighty over whatsoever Thou willest. There is none other God besides Thee, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

BH06156: A mention from Us for one whose name was…

He is the All-Knowing Counselor!

A mention from Us for one whose name was mentioned before the Wronged One, that he may give thanks to God Who aided him and guided him to His straight path. We counsel him and those who have believed to act with wisdom and with that which will exalt the station of man among the religions. And I am the All-Knowing Counselor. Let not the doings of men grieve thee. Hold fast to the cord of thy Lord's tender mercy, the All-Bountiful. He is with His loved ones under all conditions, and He is the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing. He heareth what proceedeth from the mouths of His servants and seeth what they do, and He is the Truth, the Sovereign over all who are in the heavens and on earth.

When thou attainest unto the Tablet of God and its traces, and findest the fragrance of the Divine Raiment, arise and say:

> "Praise be unto Thee for having remembered me, O Thou Who art wronged throughout all regions! And glory be unto Thee for having confirmed me, O Thou Beloved of the hearts of them that know!"

We make mention of thy brother who soared on the wings of longing until he arrived and attained the presence and heard the call of God as He sat upon His mighty throne. We have remembered him after We forgave him, and We have sent down for him that which shall be a shining lamp before his face in every world of the worlds of his Lord, the All-Forgiving, the All-Merciful.

BH07428: In My Name which hath shone forth…

In My Name which hath shone forth from the horizon of utterance!

O Nasru'llah, hearken unto the call from the Tree upraised upon the white land, the shore of the sea of thy Lord's loving-kindness, the Lord of Names. Verily there is none other God but Him, the Single, the One, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. We counsel thee with that which beseemeth the days of thy Lord and that whereby His firm and mighty Cause may be exalted. And We counsel thee regarding thy father—verily he hath a station with God, the Lord of the worlds. Blessed is the servant who acteth according to that which he hath been commanded in the Book of God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy. Beware lest anything prevent thee from this Cause or the doubts of the suspicious ones veil thee, they who have turned away from the Truth and have turned unto every remote idolater.

Say: I beseech Thee, O Thou in Whose grasp are the reins of all created things and the bridles of all beings, by Thy Name through which Thou hast sent down the verses and subdued all regions, to make me steadfast in Thy Cause, speaking forth Thy praise, and acting according to that which Thou hast revealed in Thy Book. Verily Thou art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the Mighty, the All-Conquering, the Omnipotent.

BH07433: In the Name of the one peerless God! O…

In the Name of the one peerless God! O My handmaiden who hath emigrated and attained! Reflect upon the divine Will and Purpose and celestial favor—how many men today are deprived and forbidden from recognition of the Self-Subsisting Lord, while thou, through His grace, hast attained and gazeth toward the Most Exalted Horizon. He is the One with power to cause whatsoever He willeth to flow forth, and whatever He ordaineth is pure truth itself—none hath had or hath the right to question "why" or "wherefore." We counsel thee and all the handmaidens of that land to turn unto Him, to place thy trust in Him, and to stand firm. Grace lieth within His mighty grasp, and mercy dependeth upon His will. He bestoweth upon whomsoever He willeth. Blessed art thou and thy like who have perceived the fragrance of the Day of God and held fast to the cord of His grace. Preserve this most exalted station through His Most Great Name. Glory be upon thee and upon My handmaidens who have turned, hearkened, and responded to the call of God, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

BH08112: O handmaiden of God! You have been mentioned before…

In the name of Him Who is the Most Bountiful, the Most Merciful

O handmaiden of God! You have been mentioned before the Wronged One. Through the grace of God, exalted be His glory, you have attained. Give thanks to the Beloved of the worlds that He enabled you to turn to the Most Exalted Horizon and there appeared from you a soul who emigrated in the path of God and attained the presence of the Beloved of the world, which was the cause of creation. Verily the grace is in His hands—He bestoweth it upon whomsoever He willeth, and He is the All-Bountiful, the Generous. We convey greetings to the handmaidens of God and give them the glad-tidings of God's grace. This is the day of mention and praise. Blessed is the servant who turned and the handmaiden who faced the horizon of the Cause. The Glory be upon you and upon them and upon every handmaiden whom the clamor of the ignorant ones did not prevent—they who denied the right of God and His verses and turned away from Him when He came with manifest light.

BH09097: O handmaiden of God! The Wronged One remembereth thee…

He is the One with power over whatsoever He willeth.

O handmaiden of God! The Wronged One remembereth thee in prison and guideth thee to the straight path of God. Bear thou witness to that whereunto God did testify before the creation of earth and heaven: that there is none other God but Him, the Single, the One, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. He hath no likeness in creation nor any peer in invention. He hath sent the Messengers and revealed the Books testifying that there is none other God but Him, the Guardian, the Self-Subsisting. Blessed is the handmaiden who hath attained unto the recognition of God and His oneness, and woe unto every heedless servant. Glory and remembrance and praise be upon those who have attained the presence of God, and upon thee, and upon every handmaiden who hath acted according to that which was commanded by the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

BH10105: In My Name, the Speaker in the Kingdom…

In My Name, the Speaker in the Kingdom of Utterance! O Muhammad-Husayn! We have made mention of thee time and again, and this is yet another time. Be thou thankful unto the Lord of all beings and the Master of the world to come and of the world of old, Who hath preserved thee and aided thee and assisted thee and caused thee to recognize this Great Announcement on a day when the divines of the earth and its doctors and mystics have turned away therefrom, save whom God, the Lord of the worlds, hath willed. It behooveth thee to render thanks unto God for this Most Great Remembrance through which the fragrance of the All-Merciful hath been wafted to all regions and the standard of “Verily, I am God, the Lord of all worlds” hath been raised.

BH09736: He is the Hearer, the Answerer! My God, my…

He is the Hearer, the Answerer! My God, my God! Have mercy upon Thy servants and handmaidens, and withhold them not from the Kawthar of Thy mercy which hath flowed from Thy Most Exalted Pen in the garden of inner meanings by Thy command. O Lord! They are servants who have turned unto Thee, detached from all else but Thee. Send down, then, upon them and upon Thy handmaidens from the clouds of the heaven of Thy bounty that which will preserve them from all else besides Thee. O Lord! Thou seest how the people of the Bayan have broken Thy Covenant and violated Thy Testament and turned away from Thy Beauty. I beseech Thee by the Most Great Ocean which surgeth through Thy Name, and by the fragrance of Thy garment which hath been diffused in Thy days, to preserve Thy servants and handmaidens through Thy power and sovereignty. There is no God but Thee, the Almighty, the All-Powerful.

BH10967: O Muhammad Karim, who hath emigrated and attained, He…

He is the Ever-Forgiving, the Most Generous

O Muhammad Karim, who hath emigrated and attained, He is the All-Forgiving, the All-Bountiful! O Muhammad-i-Karim! I bear witness that thou didst leave thy homeland, turning unto the most exalted

homeland, and didst traverse the path until thou didst arrive at the Valley of the Noble One, and didst visit a House which God hath built by the hand of power, and didst hear the call of the Wronged One, and didst drink the choice sealed wine of His love. Blessed art thou, and blessed is he who loveth thee for the sake of God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH01628: O beloved of my heart! Although the beginning…

He is God, exalted be His glory, the Greatness and the Power

O beloved of my heart! Although the beginning of every word, book and volume should be adorned with the mention of God, glorified be His majesty—and this evanescent one too, in most responses to the petitions of friends, has ventured to mention what befits this evanescent one, a mention created by and returning to me, and this is a previous word and good words are good, blessed is he who utters them—yet sometimes when consciousness and fairness are attained through God's grace, I feel shame and embarrassment to mention a Purpose of which I have no knowledge except to the known degree which He Himself has taught and made known. Glory be to Him, glory be to Him, there is no God but Him! Even if these mentions and praises are befitting for the chosen ones, that would still be good, nay very good—though even that is not certain. Now we must, with complete supplication, humility and submissiveness, beseech the unknowable King and ask that He perfect our imperfections, make spoken our unspoken words, and through His grace adorn our unperformed deeds with acceptance. He is the All-Knowing and He is the All-Powerful.

And then, in response to the telegram of the beloved His Holiness the Physician, upon him be the Glory of God, according to instructions a promise of reply was made. And since some time ago this servant submitted and sent a detailed letter to him, therefore this time he did not venture. According to instructions, that beloved one should write in response to his letter which he wrote to that beloved one:

> "O Physician! Upon thee be My peace and My loving-kindness! Thou hast ever been and art remembered in the presence of this Wronged One. We beseech God to aid thee in all conditions in such wise that the world may testify to thy standing firm in service to the Cause. We also beseech Him to make the heedless ones aware through the fire of love and keep them enkindled. As for what thou didst report regarding the house outside the sanctuary, We have held back since this Wronged One had no funds to transfer, and We did not wish to afflict thee with new troubles. The tribulation of the house that has occurred is sufficient for thee. In any case, We beseech God that means may be provided in joy and fragrance that will bring ease and comfort. May God, glorified be His majesty, grant fairness to the heedless souls. They sell our property back to us. By the life of God, they have been and are usurpers though they perceive it not! It seems they have taken God's law as a plaything. With properties that were outwardly and inwardly associated with and belonged to this place, they have done what is outside justice, fairness, religious and customary law. The people of Iraq would testify to this, were they to speak with truth and justice. Peace and praise be upon thee and upon those with thee."

End.

Indeed, by what religious law do heedless souls sell property to its owner, while authoritative deeds bearing the seals of that land's clergy are in hand? In any case, that permission was withheld now due to lack of funds there and other reasons. That beloved one should write the details of what you have done so far and what you intend to do, and how much has reached them so far, how much has been spent on repairs. They said that now, given the lack of apparent means, one must be content with less, as we do not wish to impose upon anyone. We beseech God to manifest that which will cause the exaltation of His Word. Verily, He has power over all things. End.

I convey greetings to all the friends and loved ones of that land, and I seek divine confirmation for each one. Peace, remembrance and glory be upon them and upon those with them, and upon the people of unity who have attained to the recognition that there is no God but Him.

BH05063: May my spirit be a sacrifice unto your honor!…

He is God, exalted be His station, the Glory and the Power

May my spirit be a sacrifice unto your honor! The esteemed letter which diffused the fragrance of meanings was like gentle water for the sapling of being and a wondrous table for the seeker of the Worshipped One. After it was read and reviewed, it was presented before His presence. He said it was intended that whatever would cause their enkindlement be mentioned to Jinab-i-Mirza Muhammad, upon him be God's peace, and Jinab-i-Mulla ʿAbdu'r-Rahim.

God willing, a Tablet of bounty will be revealed. Regarding what was written about making a copy, if your honor makes the copy yourself, it is not necessary for Hadrat-i-Ism-i-Jud, upon him be 966 [Baha'u'llah] and His favors, to make another copy. Otherwise Ism-i-Jud must make a copy of it. And concerning what you wrote about Jinab-i-Mulla Muhammad-Shafi', upon him be 966 [Baha'u'llah], it was presented. He said two or three other Tablets specifically for that land remain—God willing they will be sent. Send them with your own letter. And the Tablet of Jinab-i-Aqa Mirza Majid and Aqa Mulla Muhammad-ʿAli, upon them both be the glory of God, is being presented before my Lord and Master. If it is bestowed, it will be sent. Peace and praise be upon your honor.

BH00016: Praise be unto our Lord Who hath made manifest…

Section 1: "In the name of our Lord, the Most…"

In the name of our Lord, the Most Holy, the Most Great, the Most Exalted, the All-Glorious!

Praise be unto our Lord Who hath made manifest from the drop the waves of the sea, and from the atom the lights of the sun, and hath detailed from the Point the books of what hath been and what shall be. He it is Who hath created creation as a token of His bounty and as a manifestation of His might, His grandeur and His sovereignty. He hath made them the mines of His knowledge and wisdom, the treasuries of the pearls of His remembrance and utterance, the dawning-places of justice and equity, and the manifestations of munificence and grace. He hath deposited within them two signs: the sign of light and

the sign of fire. When creation was completed, He adorned it with character, and through it revealed the station of man in the contingent world.

Exalted be the Lord of Destiny, Who hath appeared at the Greatest Scene, Who on the Day of Gathering called the servants unto the Most Sublime Horizon and the Ultimate Goal. Among them were those who denied their Lord by following their desires, and those who were inflamed with the fire of hatred such that they turned away from God, the Lord of Names and Creator of the heavens. Among them were those who pronounced judgment against Him Who created them by a word from His presence, and those who said "In the Name of God" and "By God" and broke the chains of idle fancy through the strength of might, and rent asunder the veils of vain imaginings through the Name of God, the Lord of all mankind.

They hastened like lightning, crying: "Here am I, here am I, O Lord of the Kingdom and Sovereign of Might! Here am I, here am I, O Breaker of the might of the aggressors and Light manifest and gleaming on the Day of Judgment!"

They have prospered who were attracted by the breezes of revelation and acted in accordance with what they were commanded in the Book. And they have lost who broke God's covenant and His testament—they went astray and led others astray until they caused their people to dwell in the abode of perdition. Do those who denied God's proof and His evidence suppose they follow a command from His presence? Nay, by His Self that rules supreme over all names and His power that encompasses all things! Say: Die in your wrath! The Chosen One hath come, and He Who revealeth the mysteries hath appeared with the standards of power and might. Neither the veils of your idle fancies nor the obscuring clouds of your allusions can hinder Him.

He it is Who hath spoken from His most exalted station, and through Him the Lote-Tree beyond which there is no passing hath spoken in the kingdom of creation. O people of the Bayan! Have ye forgotten God's covenant and His testament, and neglected what He commanded you in His Book? What aileth you that ye understand not and perceive not? Ye have taken fancy for truth and cast truth behind your backs, imagining that ye do well. Nay, by the Lord of the Throne and of earth! The Point of the Bayan disavoweth you, as did before Him the Revealer of the Furqan. To this all things bear witness, yet ye comprehend not. Through dust ye have been withheld from the Lord of Lords, and through clay ye have been heedless of the Lord of the Day of Judgment. Say: The dust is your own selves and the clay your vain imaginings, did ye but know it.

Glorified art Thou, O Thou through a drop from the clouds of the heaven of Whose bounty the oceans of Thy knowledge have surged in the hearts of them that yearn for Thee and are sincere among Thy servants and creatures! Through a light from the lights of Thy countenance the earth of Thy generosity and the heaven of Thy grace have been illumined, and through a breath from Thy garment the trumpet was sounded and the dwellers of the graves arose at Thy manifestation and Thy establishment upon the throne of Thy Will. I beseech Thee by Thy Name through a single letter of which appeared that which none has understood save Thyself, and by Thy Command whereby Thou hast subdued the people of Thy cities and lands, to protect Thy loved ones from the evil of the oppressors among Thy creatures. O my Lord! Thou seest how one of Thy loved ones is encompassed by the wolves from the thickets of rancor and hatred and the beasts from the forests of heedlessness and misery. Take his hand, O my God, with

the hand of Thy power, then assist him with the hosts of the unseen and the visible. Verily, Thou art the Lord of all creation.

O my Lord! Thou seest how the people of the Bayan have turned away from Thee and from Thy proof, and have disputed Thy verses after Thou didst come to them with a sovereignty that transcended all names and with evidences clearer than the sun at noontide, clinging to the letters of their own selves, turning away from the ocean of verses, holding fast to the hem of idle fancies, and denying that which has shone forth from the horizon of the heaven of power and might. O my Lord! I beseech Thee by the breezes of the dawn of Thy Revelation and by Thy fragrances which have perfumed the places wherefrom appeared the Manifestations of Thy Self and the Daysprings of Thy verses, to enable them that have turned away to turn towards the horizon of Thy oneness, to face Thy countenance, and to ponder that which hath flowed from Thy Most Exalted Pen in Thy Scriptures and Tablets.

O my Lord! Deprive them not of the ocean of Thy bounty and the heaven of Thy grace. Verily, Thou art the Almighty, the Self-Sufficient, the Most Exalted. O my Lord! My heart lamenteth their heedlessness and remoteness. Teach them, O my God, Thy path and make known unto them that whereof they were heedless in Thy days. Who is able, O my God, to describe himself by any description before the court of Thy glory, O Lord of all names! The servant testifieth in this his station that all bounty is within Thy grasp and all mercy is in Thy right hand. Thou singliest out whom Thou willest with Thy care and Thy favors and Thy compassion and Thy gifts.

Were it not for Thy grace and bounty, all creation would be in nothingness. There is none other God but Thee, the Lord of eternity, the Possessor of knowledge, and the Ordainer of good for the peoples. Verily, Thou art the Mighty, the All-Bountiful.

And further: your letter adorned with the traces of your pen reached me. When I opened it, I found therein the fragrance of your love for our Beloved and your Beloved, our Goal and your Goal, and the Goal of all who are in the heavens and the earth. The servant asketh his Lord to enable you to serve the Cause with a power that the power of the world cannot frustrate and with a might that the might of the nations cannot prevent, and through you to guide the heedless to the path of guidance and protect you from the evil of those who have denied the Source and the Return. O beloved of my heart! Thy remembrance is the cause of my joy and thy letter the reason for my gladness, my delight and my expansion, for it proclaimeth with most eloquent utterance and mentioneth your turning unto God, your sincerity and your steadfastness in the Cause of God, our Lord and your Lord. Well is it with you and pleasant it is unto you. We beseech Him, exalted be He, to assist you and grant you success in all conditions. Verily, He is the Almighty, the Self-Sufficient, the Most Exalted.

After I read and understood it, I approached the Most Exalted Station and the Supreme Summit until I attained the presence before the Face and presented what was therein after the sun of permission shone forth from the horizon of grace. When this was completed, the Tongue of the All-Bountiful spoke in reply, exalted be His utterance:

Verily, I am the Hearer, the Answerer

O Muhammad! The servant in attendance has delivered what thou didst send unto him, and mention was made thereof before the Face of the Wronged One, Who hath borne tribulations for the life of the world and the salvation of all nations. We have heard and respond to thee through this perspicuous Tablet. Blessed art thou for having turned toward the Supreme Horizon when the people turned away, save those whom God, the Lord of all worlds, did will. Thou art he who hath drunk the choice wine of utterance from the hands of the bounty of thy Lord, the Most Merciful, and hast believed in Him when the divines of the earth and its doctors and those who followed them without clear proof from God, the Commander, the All-Wise, did deny Him.

Say: O concourse of men! He Who is the Lord of Destiny hath come, through Whom every hidden matter hath been revealed. Fear ye God and be not of those who turn aside. Judge fairly concerning that which hath appeared in truth and be not of those who would make mention of God throughout the days and nights, yet when the Dawn of His Manifestation broke forth and the Speaker on Sinai spoke, they turned against Him with swords of hatred and slew Him with such injustice as caused the pillars of the Temple to shake and the eyes of the near ones to weep. Behold the people of the Bayan and their vain imaginings. They have denied Him through Whom God's Cause was revealed from time immemorial and through Whom the Books were sent down unto the Prophets and Messengers.

Say: Be fair before God—if ye deny this Most Great Cause, by what proof can ye establish your faith in God? Produce it then, and be not of the patient ones. Say: By God's life! Nothing shall profit you this Day save through this Manifestation, which was mentioned in the hearts of the chosen ones and inscribed by the Most Exalted Pen in the Books of God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy. Cast away vain imaginings and be not of the heedless. Say: This is God's Day, were ye of them that know. None is mentioned therein save Him—to this testifieth every seeing believer. Say: Consider the people of the Furqan, their deeds and words, and what they committed when the Desired One came with manifest sovereignty. They deemed themselves the most excellent and learned of all peoples, yet when the test came, We found them the most worthless of all sects—to this testifieth every fair-minded and upright just one.

O Pen! Leave the mention of these people and remember the party of God who have cast behind their backs the dawning-places of vain imaginings, turning unto the One, the All-Informed—they who broke not God's Covenant and His Testament, who arose and said:

> "God is our Lord and the Lord of all who are in the heavens and on earth."

Thus did the Pen speak when the Ancient of Days was established upon the throne of His Most Great Name. The splendor shining from the horizon of the heaven of My mercy be upon thee and upon those whom neither the doubts of the people of the Bayan nor the allusions of the people of the Furqan prevented, who turned with radiant faces unto God, the One, the Single, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

After the rustling of the Divine Lote Tree has been raised among humanity and the waves of the ocean of inner meanings have surged from the Word of God, the Lord of all names, how can this servant speak or utter or make mention or say anything? Nay, by His very Self, the Truth! He sees his tongue faltering and his pen halted. How can the ailing one describe or make mention of Him Who created the water of life through a word from His presence? The mention of one such as I and my like before His countenance was

and is as nothingness and non-existence. Were I to describe Him through metaphors, the fragrance of existence would be diffused therefrom.

This befitteth not one who is as naught. Though this servant hath arisen to render a service whose greatness hath been testified to by the tongue of his Lord and Master, and though he is occupied at all times before His face with His mention and the inscription of His verses, he is ashamed to make mention of himself before the court of His might and greatness and majesty. Nay, by His glory, he is ashamed to make mention of those who have circled round His Cause and spoken His praise and arisen to serve Him and testified to that which the tongue of His grandeur hath spoken forth when He unfurled the banner of His Revelation on the day when He was established upon the throne of His Most Great Name.

I beseech Him, exalted be He, to assist your honor with the hosts of wisdom and utterance and to protect you from the evil of those who have arisen in hypocrisy and broken the Covenant, who have gone astray and led others astray. By the life of the Lord! This servant is astonished at their words and deeds. They know not, neither do they understand. They have followed their own desires and today they perceive not.

As to what you wrote regarding the beloved of the heart and Haji Amin, upon him be the Glory of the Most Glorious, and their expressions of love—praise be to God, they have arisen to serve from the earliest days. They turned to God, acted for the sake of God, and have been and are focused on God. The Supreme Pen hath made mention of them in the Books and Scriptures and Tablets. There was and is no need for this evanescent one to make mention of them. After this matter was presented in the Most Holy and Exalted Presence, He spoke these blessed words:

> "Excellent is what the Trustworthy One hath done. He assisteth those who have arisen to serve the Cause. They have done what is befitting. All the friends should show love to him. We beseech God to assist all to serve Him and serve His friends and loved ones. Verily, He hath power over all things."

End quote.

And regarding what you wrote about Aqa Siyyid Javad, upon him be the Glory of God, and likewise your mention of his love and kindness and steadfastness—these matters were presented in the Most Holy and Exalted Presence of the Goal of the worlds. These are His blessed and exalted words in response:

Section 2: "Hearken unto the voice of the Wronged One…"

He is the Compassionate, the Generous

Hearken unto the voice of the Wronged One from the precincts of the prison and ponder upon what hath befallen Him. Perchance through the grace of God, exalted be His glory, thou mayest attain unto such steadfastness that neither the divines of the earth nor its rulers, nor those above them or below them, can prevent thee therefrom. The vain imaginings of the divines of the Shi'ih sect have deprived those poor souls from the ocean of divine affluence and the rain of infinite mercy. Would that they had been content with this much! Nay, rather, in the early years all were engaged in cursing, denouncing and that which the pen is loath to describe. That Beloved One, Whose remembrance they had uttered night and

day, and Whose presence they had yearned to attain—when the horizon of the world was illumined with the dawning light of His Revelation, they all turned against Him with faces darkened by hatred and hearts filled with rancor, and all gave verdict to shed His most pure blood.

Such was the fruit of the deeds of that heedless people. They considered themselves the best of all creation, yet were observed to be the most debased of servants. Now the people of the Bayan, those souls who have turned away from God, have clung to these same vain imaginings. Arise ye for the sake of God, that perchance ye may protect the servants from the vain imaginings of the past. Should the person of insight reflect even briefly, he would find himself bewildered by the heedlessness, misguidance, malice and hatred of that people.

O Javad! We beseech God to assist thee and grant thee success, that thou mayest exert thy utmost in service to His Cause to the extent of thy capacity. Verily, He is with whomsoever desireth Him, and He is the All-Bountiful, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. The glory be upon thee and upon those who have cast away vain imaginings, holding fast unto My strong cord. The light of the All-Merciful's utterance has encompassed the world, and His call has been raised before the faces of all people from the beginning of this Cause and continues to be. Despite this, the heedless and veiled remain. For what day are ears created, and sight for what time? If they remain deprived today, when will they attain?

May God, exalted be His glory, bestow justice. The Lord of all desire, from Whose heaven of grace verses have been sent down like rain, equivalent to all divine books before and after, nay more, is now present. Yet the cawers persist in leading people astray, whispering into people's hearts. The station which the Primal Point—may the spirit of all else be sacrificed for Him—describes saying "Verily, I am the first of worshippers," Ibn Ja'far Kirmani and Hadi Dawlat-Abadi have spoken of in ways that no unjust one has spoken before, despite having no knowledge of the Cause whatsoever. Where is justice? Where has fairness gone? What has become of vision? We belong to God and to Him we return.

One stands bewildered. This evanescent servant beseeches the True One, exalted be His station, to grant justice and provide guidance, that they might return and at least not hold back the helpless people from the path, lest they become afflicted like the Shi'ih sect in the wilderness of fancy and vain imaginings. That sect which counted itself the highest of creation did what neither the Jews nor Christians committed—no people committed what that sect perpetrated, for they issued the death warrant for the Master of the world and occupied themselves with cursing and execration from pulpits, and still do. Yet again they have firmly girded themselves to lead astray the people of the Crimson Ark. The fruits of that sect's deeds were witnessed; the fruits of these souls will likewise be seen after another thousand two hundred years. I beseech the Most High to adorn His servants with the ornament of justice and fairness and guide them to His straight path.

Regarding the mention made of the loved ones of Kermanshah, Sahneh, Kangavar, Asadabad and Kurdistan—all were presented before the Most Holy Court, and the loved ones of each city were honored with the mention of the Lord of Names. Blessed are they. This evanescent servant beseeches the Truth to assist and confirm all, that they may attain to the recognition of God's Day and be adorned with true unity. As commanded, convey greetings to each of the mentioned souls and give them glad tidings of the mention of the Wronged One of the horizons. He said: Today is the day of service, triumph, mention and

praise. Count time as precious and deprive not yourselves of the outpourings of these days of the true Generous One. Make an effort—an effort that the might of the world cannot prevent. Arise—an arising that the doubts of the people of the Bayan and the allusions of the people of the Furqan cannot disturb or shake.

He also mentioned the land of Qaf and Za, and those souls who broke the chains of vain imaginings and held fast to the cord of the grace of God, glorified be His majesty. He said all were presented before Him. His blessed and exalted word:

O Muhammad! Blessed art thou for having turned thy face toward a land wherefrom thou didst inhale the fragrance of My glorious and inaccessible love. His honor Abdu'r-Rahim, upon him be My glory, the fragrance of whose love hath been and still is diffused. Likewise Ababasir and Ashraf and his honor Hakim—all attained unto that which hath no peer or likeness. The friends in that land, one and all, have been and are beneath the glances of grace. Blessed are they who have rent asunder the veils and turned toward the Point of God. Convey to each one greetings from the Wronged One and give them glad-tidings, saying: O friends! Some of you have witnessed the waves of the ocean of utterance and have heard the call of the Ultimate Tree. Know ye the worth of this most exalted station and cling to His most pure hem with such tenacity that the world shall have no power to separate you therefrom.

This evanescent one offered thanks to God that his honor Aqa Naqd-Ali had attained, for it would have been most regrettable had he remained deprived. This servant beseeched the True One day and night, seeking confirmation and assistance for him. In any case, I convey greetings and salutations to him and all others. O beloved of my heart! Most were and are unaware, and those who became aware remained silent and mute as commanded. Thus some are seen to be veiled, but there is hope that the dawn of manifestation will overcome the darkness and illumine all the peoples of the world.

Mention was made of the beloved of the heart, his honor Samandar, upon him be the Most Glorious Beauty of God. He is among those who arose in the earliest days to serve God and to make mention of Him and praise Him. He hath not for a moment failed in his mission. I beseech God, exalted be His glory, to ordain for him from the Supreme Pen that which befitteth His bounty and generosity.

And as for the mention made of his honor Aqa Mirza Ali, son of him who ascended unto God, and his honor Ustad Kazim, brother of his honor Ali-Qabl-i-Akbar, upon them be the glory of God, it was presented in the Most Holy Court. His mighty utterance, exalted be His proof: "His honor Ali, upon him be My glory, hath repeatedly been mentioned by the Supreme Pen. We have mentioned him in numerous tablets and We give him glad tidings at this moment with My glorious and wondrous remembrance." We beseech God to assist him and the relatives of the deceased and exalted one in that which He loveth and is pleased with. "And We give glad tidings to Kazim with My remembrance both before and at this moment, that he may rejoice and be among the thankful ones."

And regarding the mention of the lands between Qaf and Ya and Ash and Sa and Kaf, and meeting with the friends in those regions—each one hath attained the grace of God, exalted be His glory. Mention of all hath been uttered from the Tongue of Grandeur. Happy are they and blessed are they. This evanescent one also conveyeth greetings to all and beseecheth God for the success of each one. Verily

our Lord, the All-Merciful, is the Hearer, the Answerer. Mention was made of Alif and Ra and their association with the friends of God. This matter was presented in the Most Holy Court. His word, exalted be His remembrance above all mention:

O Muhammad! All that thou hast mentioned hath attained unto true remembrance. The loved ones in that land are each and all remembered in the presence of the Wronged One and recorded by the Most Exalted Pen. We beseech God to aid them all to drink from the Kawthar of steadfastness—a draught whereby neither the might of the peoples of the world nor the opposition of nations shall hold them back. Implore God not to afflict His loved ones with the vain imaginings and idle fancies as befell the Shi'ih sect. May they all gaze towards the Most Exalted Horizon alone and be illumined by the lights of true unity. Until now most remain heedless and veiled from the blessed words "There is none other God but Him." We beseech God, exalted be He, to protect them from the clamor of the atheists, the croaking of the croakers, and the imaginings of the idolaters.

Regarding thy mention of the distinguished, steadfast, firm, upright and sanctified souls of that land—this attained unto the hearing of the Lord of Names. His mighty utterance, exalted be His words above all expression:

He is the Hearer, the Answerer

O Hasan! Upon thee be the Glory of God and His praise! Blessed art thou for having drunk the choice wine of inner meanings from the cup of thy Lord's bounty, the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous. We have made mention of those who have believed in God and His signs with such remembrance as shall cause the sincere to perceive the fragrance of their Lord's loving kindness, the Forgiving, the Merciful. Blessed be thy face for having turned unto the Countenance of the Ancient of Days, and thy tongue for having voiced His praise and glorification, and thy heart for having turned unto Him on a Day whereon the people turned away and opposed Him, following the desires of those who cast the Book of God behind their backs, clinging to their vain imaginings—these are indeed among the lowly ones.

Take thou the reins of the Cause by My command and remind the people of that which hath been sent down from the Kingdom of My wondrous utterance, lest they be led astray by the People of the Bayan who have turned away from the All-Merciful, and lest their feet slip through the doubts of the suspicious ones. Say: By God! The horizon of Revelation hath shone forth and He Who conversed on Sinai calleth aloud amidst all beings. Joy unto them that have turned towards Him and heard, and woe unto those that have turned away. We made mention of thy father before, and We mention him at this time with that which all things cannot equal—to this beareth witness He with Whom is the perspicuous Book.

We make mention of thy brother Husayn and give him the glad-tidings of God's loving-kindness, the Lord of all worlds. O Husayn! The Wronged One makes mention of thee from the precincts of the Prison, at a time when sorrows have encompassed Him from the people of the Bayan who have violated God's Covenant and Testament and were among the wrongdoers. Arise to promote the Cause with such steadfastness that neither the clamor of the divines nor the power of princes shall deter thee. Verily thy Lord is the All-Commanding, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. We counsel thee and those who have believed to observe wisdom, lest there appear that which might agitate the souls of the weak ones. Verily thy Lord

is the All-Merciful, the Mighty, the Wondrous. We make mention of Nuru'llah as a token of Our grace, that he may rejoice and be of the thankful ones. Take, O people of God, the chalice of salvation in the name of Him Who sendeth the winds, then drink ye therefrom in remembrance of Him by Whom the hearts of them that are nigh have been attracted. Beware lest the doubts of the people debar you from the Self-Subsisting One Who hath come riding upon the clouds of utterance with manifest sovereignty.

O ʿAli-Qabli-Muhammad! Hearken unto the call of the Wronged One from the precincts of the Prison and say: Praise be unto Thee, O Thou the Goal of the world! I testify that Thou hast appeared and revealed that which was hidden in God's knowledge and recorded in the Books of the Messengers. When the appointed time came and the Manifestation of clear evidences appeared with the standards of signs, all the divines turned away from Him and pronounced judgment against Him with such injustice as caused the dwellers of the highest Paradise and the people of this exalted station to lament. Thus did their souls entice them, and they are assuredly among the wrongdoers in the Book of God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy.

We make mention of Husayn and ʿAli-Qabli-Akbar and then those who have believed in that place, and We beseech God to grant them success and assist them to be steadfast in the Cause and preserve them from the evil of the barking ones who have turned away from Him through Whom God's decree was established in the past and will be in the future. They are assuredly among the most lost ones in My manifest Book.

Blessed is My servant Muhammad for having remembered you in his letter which he sent to the servant who attends the Wronged One. When it was presented and read, the Tongue of Grandeur spoke that which hath perfumed the worlds of inner meanings and utterance and the realms of justice and fairness. He mentioneth whom He willeth as a token of His grace, and He is the One with power over whatsoever He pleaseth and the Protector of all who are in the heavens and on earth.

Praise be to the Beloved of the world! They have attained unto verses from every letter of which the Sun of grace dawns and the Moon of bounty shines forth. Glory be to God! One is astonished at what the ungodly have said and continue to say. They utter that which their own foundations deny, yet they neither hear nor perceive. The signs have encompassed the world, and the evidences are more manifest than the sun, yet through the sayings of this one and that, they have remained deprived of the Purpose of all the worlds. It is not known by what proof they establish their own faith, and by what evidence they deny this Most Great Announcement. Fie upon them and their loyalty!

It is not known where they have been until now—behind what veil were they concealed in the years of adversity, and by what barrier were they barred? The atoms of creation bear witness that the One True God stands before the faces of the world, calling out with the most exalted voice. Now that some signs have appeared and they have emerged from behind the veil, bringing that which none had brought before, we must beseech the True One that He deprive none, illuminate all with the lights of the Most Great Name, and guide them to the straight path.

Section 3: "This evanescent servant, upon hearing mention of those…"

This evanescent servant, upon hearing mention of those loved ones whom your honor had described, observed boundless joy within himself. Praise be to the Purpose of all worlds, Who confirmed them and granted them such success that there was revealed from the Supreme Pen concerning them that which its fragrance shall endure as long as the kingdom of earth and heaven shall last. Happy are they and blessed are they! I beseech God, exalted be His glory, to ordain them among the steadfast ones, the firm ones, and the promoters of His Cause. Convey greetings and salutations to his honor Aqa Mirza Hasan, upon him be the Glory of God, and to the others. I beseech God for confirmation and assistance for each one. Verily, He is the Generous, the Bountiful, and praise be to Him, for He is the Purpose of all worlds and the Beloved of those who know. This much I submit: that all the souls of that land, both the gentlemen and the women, have been honored before God with the greatest mention. Upon them be the Glory of God and the glory of His chosen ones, His pure ones, and His loved ones.

And regarding the mention made of Abbas, it was presented before His presence. His mighty utterance, exalted be His proof:

> "O Abbas! If less than a needle's eye of the station of those who have turned to the Most Exalted Horizon and have drunk from the wine of recognition were to be made manifest, thou wouldst behold all the people of the world having forsaken what they possess, turning toward and advancing to the Friend. We beseech God to confirm thee in steadfastness, for the beginning of the recognition of God, exalted be His glory, and acting according to what He hath revealed in the Book, and its end is steadfastness in His Cause, for this Cause hath been and is mighty. All divine Books, both of the past and present, have testified to its greatness. Blessed are they who know, and blessed are they who are steadfast."

This evanescent servant beseeches the Ever-Abiding Truth to confirm that honored one in wisdom, for this matter hath streamed forth and been revealed from the Most Exalted Pen in numerous Tablets. Today, whosoever acteth according to that which God hath commanded him shall be recorded among those near unto Him in the Perspicuous Book.

The other letter from that beloved one, dated the twenty-second of the month of Shawwal, was received, and its effect was like that of flowing water to one who thirsteth, for it was adorned with the mention of the Beloved of the worlds, and the fragrance of love was wafted therefrom. After reading and perusing it, I approached the Most Exalted Presence, and, having gained permission, presented it. He—may the spirit of all who dwell in the kingdoms of Command and Creation be sacrificed for His sake—said:

"O servant in attendance! His honor Muhammad—upon him be My glory in the path of God—hath turned towards the outlying regions. Beseech the Truth to create new ears and fresh eyes through His wondrous and blessed Word, that perchance they may hear the divine verses and recognize the Truth with their own eyes. The people of the world have been reared in vain imaginings. They have ever been deprived of the splendors of the Sun of certitude and forbidden from the ocean of divine knowledge. Throughout ages and centuries they have been occupied with the mention of that which is imagined and have soared in the atmosphere of idle fancies. When the Sun of Truth, by the will of the Ancient Lord,

shone forth from the horizon of the world, all engaged in cursing and execration from pulpits in their mosques, even though the Truth, exalted be His glory, had rent asunder the veils and coverings with the finger of power. Nevertheless, all have been and still are awaiting an imaginary manifestation.

Strange it is that the children of the Friend and the inheritors of Him Who conversed with God have attained, and have drunk from the ocean of the favors of the Truth, exalted be His glory, and have received their portion of the sealed wine by My Name, the Self-Subsisting. Likewise, some of the people of this land and its surroundings, who in the eyes of the Shi'ih faction were regarded as the most abject of all the peoples of the world, have drunk from the cup of reunion; yet that heedless faction remaineth until now oblivious and veiled. They have not been awakened by the call, the cry, and the trumpet blast. In the wilderness of error, they are observed to be intoxicated with the wine of heedlessness and pride, nay rather, they appear as dead. And since in this Most Great Revelation, conflict, contention, cursing, execration, killing and the like have been forbidden, the people of God must guide all the peoples of the world with joy and fragrance to the horizon of the All-Merciful, and must beseech the Truth to guide all unto the Dayspring of favors and the Source of His Command, and to make them aware. He is the Powerful, the Mighty." End.

Exalted is His mercy, glorified His grace, magnificent His bestowals and favors! Despite the tribulations that have befallen Him, the evident hatred, and the manifest oppression against His servants, He hath mentioned and continueth to mention such words from which flow and spread the rivers of mercy. Exalted is His generosity, His grace, His munificence and His beneficence!

Concerning what you wrote about Aqa Rida, his petition arrived some time ago and was presented in the Most Holy and Most Exalted Presence, and a response descended from the heaven of divine will and was sent forth. The petition was forwarded by Aqa Shaykh Mihdi, upon him be the glory of God, in accordance with what that beloved one had written in a letter to this servant. This servant wrote a letter in response to them containing the verses of God. I beseech the True One, exalted be His glory, that it may reach them and they may receive their full portion from the ocean of divine verses. I send greetings and praise to Jinab-i-Shaykh and beseech God for confirmation and success, that He may aid him to teach His Cause in such wise that no obstacle may hinder him.

Likewise, I pray for success for Aqa Rida, that in his youth he may arise to serve the divine Cause with steadfastness and firmness. The purpose is that he may spend his days in love for the Revealer of verses and the Manifestation of clear proofs. Give him the glad tidings that he has attained the ornament of forgiveness. This is what I heard with mine own ears from the tongue of grandeur. You mentioned the love of Jinab-i-Shaykh and his hospitality—this was accepted in the divine presence. Blessed is he and joy be unto him. Good deeds are the cause of divine success and confirmation. Blessed are they that act.

As for what you wrote concerning Aqa Mirza Ali, upon him be the glory of God, it was presented before Him Who conversed on Sinai, and these exalted words descended from the Dayspring of verses. His word, exalted be His glory: "O Ali! Vain imaginings have seized the world and deprived eyes from beholding the Most Exalted Horizon. All have clung to that which is vain and remained heedless and veiled from the True One. Throughout ages and centuries they awaited His appearance, yet when the horizon of the world was illumined with the lights of the Most Great Luminary, all turned away. And the Shi'ih sect, who

considered themselves the most exalted of all sects and the most learned, rose up with utmost tyranny against the Divine Lote-Tree and brought about that which caused every seeing one to weep and every person of heart to lament. Such is the condition of these worthless creatures that thou observest. We beseech the True One, exalted be His glory, to make thee aware and grant thee a portion from the ocean of knowledge, that thou mayest discover the fragrance of the garment of His Revelation and not be deprived of the sweet savors of His days. Say:

My God, my God! I am Thy servant and the son of Thy servant. I have aimed for the Ultimate Goal, the Most Exalted Summit, and Thy Most Sublime Horizon. I beseech Thee by the lights of Thy countenance, the mysteries of Thy Book, and the pearls of the ocean of Thy knowledge, to confirm me in steadfastness in Thy Cause and in Thy love, whereby the feet of the learned ones and divines of the earth have slipped. O my Lord! I have turned to Thee. I beseech Thee not to disappoint me of what lieth with Thee. Then write down for me, with the pen of Thy grace, that which shall profit me in all the worlds of Thy worlds. Verily, Thou art the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous. There is none other God but Thee, the Forgiving, the Merciful."

Praise be to God, they have attained unto the waves of the ocean of the Merciful's utterance. This evanescent servant beseeches the exalted Truth to aid them in that which is pleasing to Him, to strengthen them in steadfastness in His Cause, and to bestow upon them that from which the fragrance of His presence may be diffused. He is powerful over whatsoever He willeth. How many are the learned who are seen to be deprived and forbidden, and how many are the souls who, though not counted among the learned, are yet regarded by God as people of insight, hearing, vision and knowledge. The key of grace is in the right hand of His power. He doeth what He willeth and ordaineth what He pleaseth. He is the Almighty, the Strong, the Powerful.

As to your mention of the presence of the friends of God at the gathering where that honored one was called with sincerity—from the honored Chief and his eminence Sir, and the honored Shaykh and Aqa Rida-Bala and the honored Aqa Muhammad-ʿAli, upon them be the glory of God—blessed is the land that in these days becometh the seat of the friends. By the life of our Lord and your Lord and the Lord of earth and heaven, the heaven declareth in most eloquent utterance:

> "Blessed art thou, O earth, in that God hath made thee the footstool of His feet and the dwelling-place of His friends! Blessed is the people among whom His remembrance is raised!"

Today the earth glorieth, and with justice. We beseech God, exalted be His glory, to favor that gathering with His special grace, that each one may drink from the ocean of divine knowledge and fix their gaze solely upon the supreme horizon.

As to their mention that before his acceptance of the Truth, the idolaters incited Aqa Rida-Bala to harm his eminence Sir 1111 [Ali-Rida], upon him be the glory of God—after this matter was presented before the throne of the Lord, exalted be His glory, the Tongue of Grandeur uttered this most exalted and blessed word—His utterance, blessed and exalted be He:

> "The Truth, exalted be His glory, preserved him twice from the evil of those heedless, heretical, and wicked souls. Verily God preserved him twice through the hosts of the seen and the

unseen, and He will preserve him as a grace from His presence and will open before his face the gate of His mercy. Verily, He is powerful over all things."

End quote.

As to what you wrote regarding the honored Aqa Mirza Husayn, upon him be 966 [the glory of God], and his acceptance, steadfastness, firmness and constancy—this account, together with his petition, was presented before the Intended One of all the worlds on Wednesday night, the fifteenth of the month of Safar, two hours after nightfall. A most holy and exalted Tablet was revealed from the heaven of grace and was sent. It is hoped that they will attain unto it and drink from the Water of Life that is concealed within the divine words, and that this evanescent one may, without delay or hesitation, utter the words "Well done! Well done!" This is what the Tongue of Grandeur hath spoken in reply—His utterance, exalted be His exposition and mighty be His proof:

He is the Hearer, the Answerer

The book sent by thee hath reached the Wronged One, and from it We perceived the fragrance of thy turning toward the Most Exalted Horizon on a Day wherein the divines and princes of the earth turned away. Blessed is he whom the doubts of men have not kept back, and blessed the steadfast one whom the clamor of those who have broken God's Covenant and Testament did not cause to sit, when the Promised One came with a sovereignty that subdued all who are in the heavens and on earth.

O Husayn! The Wronged One calleth thee from the precincts of the Prison, and remembereth thee with that which will never cease to spread its fragrance throughout the eternity of My Best Names and Most Exalted Attributes. Verily, thy Lord is the Compassionate, the Bountiful.

We have heard thy call and have answered thee, and have seen thy turning toward Us and have turned toward thee, and have cast upon thee that which shall be with thee in every world of the worlds of thy Lord, the Almighty, the All-Powerful. Thus have We sent down the verses and expounded them in truth, and sent them unto thee that thou mightest thank thy Lord, the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing.

We found thy book purified from doubts and idle fancies, giving voice to the praise of God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy. We beseech God, exalted be He, to aid thee and make thee successful, and to ordain for thee through His Most Exalted Pen the good of the hereafter and of this world, and to decree for thee what He hath decreed for His chosen ones. Verily, He is the All-Hearing, the Answerer.

Remember My loved ones on My behalf and give them the glad tidings of My bounty, My mercy, and My loving-kindness which have preceded existence itself. To this beareth witness the Most Great Book of God in this exalted station. The Glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My Kingdom be upon thee and upon those whom the doubts of the followers of religions have not kept back from the Daystar of Certitude, and whom the might of every remote oppressor hath not frightened.

Section 4: "Every word of God's utterances, exalted be His…"

Every word of God's utterances, exalted be His grandeur, is like a lamp that shall accompany you. In one station it is the living water, for the life of all created things depends upon and is connected to it. In

another station it is like the sun, nay its light is seen to be greater and its effect more perfect. This evanescent servant beseeches and implores God, exalted be His glory, not to deprive any of creation from this light, nor withhold from them that living water, so that all may, as one soul, engage in His praise and glorification beneath the blessed Tree, and at all times be sustained by the heavenly food and true bounties. Yet most difficult is the attainment of this supreme station—not every soul is capable. Until now, the deniers have failed to comprehend the station of this Day. They occupy themselves with the doubts, vain imaginings, and limitations of the past which, after twelve hundred years, resulted in the martyrdom of the Beloved of the world. They walk in those same footsteps.

This evanescent one mentions here one word, and this is the word that has been revealed by the Supreme Pen in numerous tablets. Thus speaks He, blessed and exalted be He: "O concourse of divines! Not one among you at the dawn of the Manifestation attained to faith. You all, along with your ignorant followers, engaged in cursing and denouncing. Throughout ages and centuries, you imagined yourselves to be commemorating God and following His commandments. Yet when the dawn of hope appeared and the blessed Tree sprouted forth, you arose with swords of hatred to cut it down and issued decrees for the shedding of His most pure blood. From the beginning of Islam until now, not one among you has understood the truth of the Cause, nor attained even an atom's weight of true knowledge, for none of you, from beginning to end, achieved the recognition of the Promised One and the existence of that Essence of Being in the loins.

Now set aside your ignorant prejudices and speak with justice and fairness. The horizon of the world is illumined and adorned with the lights of the manifestation of Him Who conversed with Moses. Behold Him with His own eyes. This is a firm command—the Primal Point counseled all concerning it, and it is specific to this Most Great Manifestation.

> "Now some among the people of the Bayan have opened the door of misinterpretation. If a word is spoken from any station, they say it has been misinterpreted. Say: O oppressors! The people of the Furqan, because of such sayings, remained deprived of the supreme horizon, the ultimate goal, and the knowledge of the Lord of Names, and committed injustices that none among previous peoples—neither Jews, Zoroastrians, nor Christians—ever perpetrated. If one truly contemplates what has flowed from the Supreme Pen in this leaf, he would cry out and find himself immersed in the ocean of wonderment. O people of the Bayan! Abandon the sayings of this one and that. Today the Primal Point proclaims I am the first of the worshippers' and speaks as the first of them that bow down in adoration.' Fear God, O people, and be not of the transgressors. By God! The world has been stirred with longing for My manifestation and My presence. The dwellers of the graves have arisen through My sweet savors, and the decomposed bones through My call, while you remain among the slumberers, nay among the dead. Say: The Pen counsels you for the sake of God and informs you of what you have missed in the days of your Lord, the Most Merciful, the Most Compassionate, and relates to you the tales of old for your awakening and return to God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy. Say: Be fair, O people! Turn unto Him! Verily He is the Ever-Forgiving, the Most Merciful."

The followers of vain imaginings and idle fancies have committed such acts as no faction hath ever committed. They have called disbelief faith, and reckoned turning away as turning towards. They have failed to distinguish between the buzzing of a fly and the call of the Lord of Lords. Once again the veins of the neck have swollen in pride and unseemly words have gained currency. For some time the market of vanities was bereft of splendor and esteem; now it hath appeared and they sell perpetual loss. I beseech the Truth to confirm and protect His party in all conditions.

O My beloved! Concerning the events that have transpired—the first letter from that beloved one shall be answered last, as the letters were each placed in different locations. Whichever was at hand, its contents and matters were mentioned. The letter dated the 12th of Rajab was one containing true and sincere words, from which, in truth, the fragrances of firmness, steadfastness and constancy were diffused. The servant praised God for having confirmed you in utterances that no person of insight and fairness, no one possessed of justice and hearing, could deny. In any case, it was read until reaching the false statement of Fath'u'llah who claimed "We have a hundred volumes of books from the Point and Yahya." After this matter was presented to the Most Holy and Most Exalted Presence, this supreme word was revealed: "Say: By the Lord of the Ka'bah, thou hast lied!" In any case, whatever is from the Primal Point must be sent to the Holy Presence, as its acceptance depends on that, and whatever is from others, read it and judge fairly. By God's life, it does not equal a single verse. End.

What that beloved one hath mentioned in response to the heedless souls was true and right, the Truth in which there is no doubt. The Truth, exalted be His glory, hath protected and will protect His Holiness Sh R (upon Him be 966 [Baha'u'llah]), otherwise it would have been a great plot and mighty deception. However, "the prayer of the disbelievers is naught but in error." Soon that which is hidden shall be made manifest. The Command is in His hand—He doeth what He willeth and ordaineth what He desireth.

As to what thou didst write concerning Haji Mahmud, it was submitted; and this is that which hath been sent down from the heaven of the Will of our Lord in reply—His Word, blessed and exalted be He:

O Mahmud! Reflect upon what transpired in the centuries and ages past, and likewise at the inception of the manifestation of the Point of the Bayan. The faction that counted itself foremost among all factions and deemed itself possessed of the pearls of the ocean of divine knowledge, who at all times waited in such wise that their tears flowed in separation and their sighs ascended—when the horizon of the world was illumined with the lights of the manifestation of the Herald, namely the Point of the Bayan, all the divines of that faction and their followers pronounced anathema and turned away, issuing the death warrant for the Lord of mankind. This Wronged One seeketh justice: What were the fruits of the deeds of the Shi'ih who counted themselves more entitled than all the factions of the world, and what became of them? Now again the people of the Bayan cling to the same vain imaginings, desiring to afflict anew the helpless servants in centuries and ages to come. The fruits of these souls' deeds will ultimately be as before. Hearken unto the call of the Wronged One, observe with thine own eyes and hear with thine own ears. The treacherous lie in wait, and the thieves pursue this Wronged One.

From the people of the world We have sought and seek naught but justice and fairness. In the days when the world was agitated and distressed by the might of monarchs, We openly proclaimed before all faces, without any veil or covering, and summoned all to the supreme horizon. No fair-minded person can deny

this fact, for they are witness and aware, if they speak truthfully. Yet when the lights of the Countenance shed but a glimmer of radiance, they emerged from behind the veil with the swords of malice, striving to cut down the Divine Tree, and continue to do so. They have made calumnies their pretext, and the helpless people, like sheep, move by the movement of these souls and turn by their bidding. How pitiful the state of a people whose leader is their most oppressive one and whose shepherd is their most misguided one. Would that a wolf were the leader of the people!

Say: Glory be unto Thee, O my God and the God of all things, the Purpose and Purpose of all created beings! I beseech Thee by Him Who came forth from the Hiding Place of the Unseen with the standards of the verses, to make me turn toward Thy most exalted horizon and stand firm in Thy Cause, O Creator of the heavens and Sovereign of the Kingdom of Names! O Lord! Thou seest me wavering in Thy Cause. Make clear to me Thy path even as Thou didst make manifest to me Thy proof. Verily Thou art the Powerful One Whom neither the might of hosts can withhold nor the clamor of multitudes can deter. Thou doest what Thou willest through Thy power that hath encompassed all things, and decreest what Thou pleasest through Thy command that hath pervaded earth and heaven. Give me to drink, O my God, of Thy sealed wine whose seal was broken by Thy Name, the Self-Subsisting, that my heart may be assured and mine eyes be gladdened and my breast be dilated and my foot made firm. Verily Thou art He Who hath never disappointed those who have hoped in Thee, nor turned away those who have sought Thee. There is none other God but Thee, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

Praised be God! The waves of the ocean of the All-Merciful's utterance have appeared in such wise that no fair-minded soul can find cause for hesitation, rejection or objection. Should anyone observe with an eye of fairness and reflect, he would discover the truth and station thereof even through the objections of heedless souls, for the fire of hatred blazeth in their hearts. Those possessed of keen sight and attentive ears perceive that which is concealed and hidden in the hearts of the deceivers. This evanescent servant is bewildered. If he remaineth silent, he witnesseth how oppressive souls, although utterly unaware of this Cause, have, out of their opposition to God, said whatsoever they have said. Therefore, this servant is compelled to mention certain matters, yet if he were to do so, he seeth that it would lead to increased enmity and hatred. Would that this servant had never become aware of the truth of this Cause from the beginning; perchance he might have maintained silence for a few days.

O people of God! By the life of Him Who is our Purpose and your Purpose, our Beloved and your Beloved, these heedless and calumnious souls are unaware of the Cause, speaking and acting according to their desires. Their vain imaginings move them as they please, and they neither understand nor perceive this Day. Convey my greetings and praise to that distinguished person, and mention that in regard to the Qa'im, the truth lay with the Sunnis, for the Desired One appeared from physical descent in accordance with their beliefs, while the Shi'ih divines have been and continue to be in error from the beginning of Islam until now. Even now they await the appearance of an imaginary person from an imaginary Jabulqa.

God protect us and you from the evil of such people. Nevertheless, they show no shame. The likes of these turbaned ones that are seen today, together with Ja'far and his sons before them, have led the helpless people astray and cast them into the well of vain imaginings. The Sun is shining and manifest, yet they shut their eyes and blindly search for Jabulqa and Jabulsa. Such is the station of these souls and the

divines that preceded them back to the beginning of Islam. May God protect the sheep of the earth and guard them from wolves. Verily, He hath power over all things.

And as to thy mention of Mulla ‘Ali-Murtada, it was laid before the Most Holy, the Most Exalted Court, and was honoured with the privilege of attentive hearing. His Word—blessed and exalted be He:

O Ali! The Wronged One of the world sends greetings and salutations and summons thee to the light of the Sun of Truth. Today the Sun of Divine Unity has risen and none is mentioned save God alone. The heedless people in all ages and centuries have perpetrated against the Manifestations of Truth that which ye have heard. Read what the All-Merciful hath revealed in the Qur’an: “There cometh not unto them a Messenger…” and so forth.

Today the gate of grace is opened wide and the fragrances of revelation waft from the garden of inner meanings. The fragrance of the Word of God is distinct and separate from all else. Should one be enabled to observe with his own eyes, he would behold the Sun of Truth at its meridian. The people have forsaken the Self-Subsisting Lord and cling to their own idle fancies, holding fast to the hem of self and desire.

Say: Today a mere drop sufficeth not, and a single word bestoweth not independence. The Most Great Ocean surgeth and the Mother Book is manifest and speaketh. Deprive not yourselves of the purpose of all worlds through the sayings of this one or that. Say: O people of the Bayan! Like unto the people of the Furqan, ye defile yourselves with conflict, disputation, rancor and hatred. The lies and calumnies of twelve hundred years suffice. O Ali! By the life of God! The people are in manifest error. Beseech the Truth that He may enable thee to serve His Cause and to mention His praise, detached from the world and holding fast to the wisdom We have revealed in the Book. Stand for God’s sake and speak for God’s sake, that perchance the servants may be educated and arise to that which profiteth them.

The honored Shaykh hath made mention of thee, wherefore this Most Holy, Most Exalted Tablet hath been sent down from the heaven of the utterance of the All-Merciful, that thou mayest thank thy Lord, the Compassionate, the Generous. Praise be to God, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

We are immersed in the ocean yet are unaware of the water; we are bathed in the light yet know not of the sun. If God, exalted be His glory, bestoweth not insight, all shall remain deprived. We beseech Him not to shut the door of His mercy and to pour forth the rain of His bounty. May He assist His servants that all may return and arise to compensate for that which hath escaped them. Yet this appeareth most difficult, for it is the recompense of deeds and actions that hath overtaken them. In any case, the tree of hope hath not been cut down. Verily, He is the Forgiving, the Merciful.

Section 5: “Concerning what thou didst write about Haji Muhammad…”

Concerning what thou didst write about Haji Muhammad Rahim and Aqa Muhammad Rafi’ and their love and enthusiasm in the fire of divine love, this matter was presented before the throne of the Lord, exalted be His glory. This is what the Tongue of Grandeur hath spoken in the Kingdom of Knowledge. He saith, exalted and mighty be He:

O Ramhim! Reflect upon the deeds of those factions which, though destined for perdition, counted themselves among the saved. Say: Whither went those lamentations? What became of those sighs? Why were those tears shed? Through nights and days they bewailed and beseeched the Almighty, pleading for the appearance of the Qa'im, and at His mention would cry "May God hasten His advent!" Yet when the veil was rent asunder by the finger of might and the light of His countenance shone forth, they all arose to slay Him and issued decrees to shed His most pure blood. This same Ahmad who now stands in opposition—at first, like all the Shi'ih divines who turned away from Truth and clung to falsehood—perpetrated such acts as no denier or idolator had ever done since the beginning of the world.

The opposition and denial of the people of Persia stemmed from the opposition of the divines, as in the early years all were occupied with cursing and execration, as you have surely heard and witnessed. Now the faction that claims adherence to the Bayan is afflicted with these same diseases. At first they were opposers, deniers and hypocrites, but when some measure of peace and security prevailed, they counted themselves among the foremost believers and busied themselves with leading astray the helpless people, rushing from city to city. By the life of God! They are engaged in deceit and guile at every moment, though they perceive it not. Such is the condition of heedless souls. Leave them to themselves; verily God is quit of them. We beseech God to assist thee to aid His Cause with wisdom and utterance in such wise that none can resist or prevent it. Verily He is the Hearer, the Answerer.

We make mention of thy brother as a token of Our grace, that he may rejoice and be of the thankful. Say: By God! The appointed time hath come, and the Lord of Days hath appeared, and with Him are the tribes of the Concourse on High and the Kingdom of Names. He hath spoken before the faces of all the world: "The Most Great Name hath come with a sovereignty that hath conquered all who are in earth and heaven." Thus hath the Cause appeared from the Dawning-Place of signs. Say: O people of the Bayan! Come ye, come ye, that I may show you My most exalted horizon and cause you to hear My sweetest call. Say: By God!

This is the Day of Revelation wherein the Mount speaketh: "There is none other God but Me, the Mighty, the Bestower." Be fair, by God—by what proof did ye believe in the Primal Point, and before Him in Muhammad the Apostle of God, and before Him in the Spirit, and before Him in Him Who conversed with God? Fear God, O people, and be not of those who disputed God's signs after they came to them from the heaven of Command with the standards of wisdom and proof. Among them were those who said "He hath forged a lie against God," and among them were those who arose in opposition, to such extent that the clouds cried out: "Look not to the creatures and what issueth from their mouths, but to the Truth and His sovereignty that hath encompassed the horizons." Glory be upon thee and upon him and upon every people that hath believed in God, the Lord of Lords.

My beloved, Jinab-i-Aqa Shaykh Muhammad, upon him be the glory of God and His care, hath made mention of thee and thy brother, and likewise of the handmaidens of God. Therefore this most holy, most exalted Tablet hath been sent down from the heaven of bounty. It is hoped that ye may drink from the ocean of its meanings and may bestow thereof, that perchance the heedless people may become sanctified from vain imaginings and doubts and may turn to the most exalted horizon of certitude.

When mention was made of Aqa Siyyid Asadu'llah, it was submitted at the Most Holy Court, whereupon He said:

> "O thou who art present! Beseech God that He may strengthen him in turning unto Him, in recognition, in certitude and in steadfastness, in such wise that the doubts of the divines, who have been the cause and reason for the greatest hindrance to the servants in the days of every Manifestation, may not withhold him from the straight path and the clear and evident proof, and that the attractions of the world may not deprive him of true tranquility. The life of this world is like unto a bird that entereth through one door and goeth out through another—it hath not been, nor is it, worthy of attention. We beseech God not to deprive him who hath been mentioned of the choice wine of revelation, nor to withhold him from the fragrances of His days. Today the Most Exalted Pen maketh mention of all and summoneth all to the supreme horizon. Blessed are they that advance, blessed are they that attain, and woe unto the heedless and the transgressors."

And likewise concerning Aqa Ali-Askar these sublime words were revealed from the Dawning-Place of verses—blessed and exalted be His utterance:

> "The world was created for the knowledge of God, glorified be His majesty. All were brought from nothingness into being, and the divine hand of training hath nurtured all with the utmost spirit and joy until they reached maturity. Thereafter did He bestow His grace and showed the way. The proof and evidence were made manifest and the path became visible, yet thieves and betrayers held back the people from the path of God. Thus were some hindered, but others, through the finger of divine power, rent asunder the veils and tore away the shrouds, detached themselves from all else but God and turned unto the supreme horizon. These are souls who, like lightning, have passed over the bridge; the gulf of vain imaginings hath not deprived them of the ocean of inner meanings. Blessed are they, and unto them be a goodly beginning and end. O Ali-Askar! The Wronged One of the world maketh mention of thee in the Most Great Prison. For the sake of God hath He spoken and doth speak. Know thou the value of this mention and arise with wisdom and utterance to make mention of the Goal of the worlds. We beseech Him, exalted be He, to aid thee in that which He loveth and is pleased with. There is none other God but He, the Lord of the worlds to come and of the first."

As to their mention of the people of Ravar and Sirjan, that they are ablaze with the fire of love and are awaiting the bounties of God, exalted be His glory—these details were submitted before the face of Him Who is our Goal and your Goal and the Goal of all who are in the heavens and on earth. This is what the Tongue of Grandeur spoke in reply—blessed and exalted be His utterance:

He is the Dawning-Place from the horizon of the heaven of divine knowledge

> "A mention from Our presence to the friends of God and His loved ones who have not broken God's Covenant and His Testament, and who have turned with radiant faces to the Most Exalted Horizon, and who heard when the Call was raised and answered their Lord, the Compassionate, the Generous, that the Call might draw them to the Divine Lote-Tree and bring

them near to a station wherein naught is seen save the lights of the face of their Lord, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise."

O people of Ravar! Hear the call of thy Lord, the Most Merciful, then judge with fairness concerning that which hath appeared by His firm and irrevocable Command. This is a Day wherein the heaven of divine knowledge hath been adorned with the stars of wisdom and utterance. Blessed is the soul that hath turned unto it and attained, and woe unto them that have turned away.

When the fragrance of the Revelation was diffused and the Speaker of the Mount gave voice, the people opposed Him. Some turned away, some objected, some denied and disbelieved, and some pronounced judgment against Him without any clear proof from God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy. We found the people of the Bayan to be the most vehement in opposition after We came to them from the Dayspring of Power with verses that all the books of the world cannot equal, as every fair-minded and clear-sighted one doth testify. We informed all of the clamor when the Light was shining from the horizon of Iraq, as attested by that which was sent down from the heaven of the will of your Lord, the Ancient Sender.

O people of the Bayan! Fear the Most Merciful and follow not your desires. Follow Him Who hath come to you with a clear authority. By God! He Who was treasured in the hearts of the trustees and inscribed by the Most Exalted Pen in the Books of God, the Lord of the worlds, hath come. Fear God and oppose not Him through Whom every proof was established and every wise matter was made manifest. Were it not for Him, neither would the Point of the Bayan have come, nor Muhammad the Messenger of God, nor the Spirit, nor before Him the Interlocutor. Every luminary hath shone forth through My Name, and every Prophet hath attained through My mention, the Mighty, the Wondrous.

Verily, the Revealer of the Bayan hath circled round Me and made the Bayan contingent upon My acceptance, as testified by that which was revealed by Him, if ye be of them that know. O people of Sirjan! The Most Merciful remembereth you in His Most Great Prison that He might draw you nigh unto the ultimate goal and the most exalted summit. Give thanks unto God for this great bounty. Cast behind you all idle fancies, turning unto the horizon of certitude by the command of God, the Lord of this blessed and mighty Day.

Remember, then remember what the people of the Furqan committed when there came unto them the Manifestation of My most beautiful Names and My most exalted Attributes, Who was named ʿAli before Muhammad in My Book, which none hath known save My all-knowing Self. When He rent asunder the veil and revealed Himself, they rose against Him with such injustice as caused the Faithful Spirit to lament. Say: O people of the Furqan! Judge fairly by God—for what crime did ye rise against Him and decree the shedding of His pure and radiant blood? By the life of God! The people of the Bayan are more oppressive and more lost than they. They have risen up and said that which none before them had ever said, save that they are among the companions of the Fire in the Book of God, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

We counsel you and the party of God with that whereby His Cause may be exalted among His servants, and with trustworthiness, religiosity, truthfulness and faithfulness. Thus hath My Most Exalted Pen spoken at this time when the Most Great Announcement hath been established upon the throne of His Great Name. Praise be to God, the Lord of this mighty and glorious Day.

Glorified be God! The blind ones of the world have objected to the Lord of the world. To what cord do they cling and to what hem do they hold fast? Do the people of the Bayan intend to walk in the ways of the Shi'ih sect and hold to the deeds of those souls, or to speak words like unto theirs? O ye who are endowed with sight! Ye have witnessed with your outward eyes the fruits and consequences of their deeds. Ask ye of God, exalted be His glory, whatsoever conduceth to salvation and prosperity. That sect, after twelve hundred years, committed that which neither Shaddad nor Pharaoh perpetrated. For Pharaoh did not, by mere word, pronounce judgment against the Interlocutor, whereas this erring Shi'ih sect, in the first year of the Manifestation, caused both the divines and their followers to decree the death of that Essence of being.

Haji Mirza Karim Khan, who was the chief of the Shaykhis, committed that which caused the denizens of the all-highest Paradise to lament. Every year he would write a book in refutation of the Truth, exalted be His glory. And now those who were at first counted among his dead followers raise objections against the Divine Lote-Tree. Fie upon them and their sense of fairness! The fruits of these souls' deeds will, after a thousand years and more, be like unto the fruits of the former sect.

O people of God! Wherever ye are dwelling and in whatever land ye reside, arise to serve the Cause, trusting in God and detached from all else. Perchance through the hosts of wisdom and utterance ye may protect the helpless people, lest they be again deprived of the Sun of Truth through the vain imaginings of the leaders and be forbidden from beholding the Most Exalted Horizon. Are there to be found in the world those possessed of hearing ears? Do penetrating eyes exist? This evanescent servant beseecheth and imploreth the King of the Kingdom of inner meanings to protect His loved ones from the chains of idle fancies and the arrows of vain imaginings. Verily He is powerful over whatsoever He willeth through His word "Be" and it is.

This servant conveyeth greetings and salutations to the people of God wherever they may be found, and entreateth God, exalted be His glory, to raise up each one like unto a banner in His praise and glorification, that all may find in them the attributes and characteristics of God and thereby be guided to the Most Great Ocean. Verily, He is powerful over all things. Glory and praise and exaltation rest upon you and upon those who are with you and upon those who hearken unto your words concerning the Cause of God, the Lord of the worlds. And praise be to Him, the Lord of the Day of Judgment.

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BH00109: Praise be to God Who hath guided us…

Section 1: "Praise be to God Who hath guided us…"

In the Name of our Most Holy, Most Great, Most Exalted, Most Glorious Lord!

Praise be to God Who hath guided us to His most sublime horizon, Who hath given us to drink from the sweet Kawthar of His utterance, Who hath blessed us with His presence and reunion, Who hath honored us with attendance at the court of His throne, and Who hath permitted us, through His grace and bounty,

to make mention of Him and to praise Him. We thank Him and glorify Him, and we beseech His forgiveness in all conditions. Verily, He is the Forgiver, the Self-Sufficient, the Most High.

And now, the letter from that honored beloved one, dated the eleventh of Muharram, was received and achieved the honor of being presented before and heard by the Lord of the World. By the life of our Purpose and your Purpose and the Purpose of all who are in earth and heaven! The favors, gifts and bounties that have been sent down from the heaven of grace and revealed verses cannot be compared to anything. Mind and understanding have confessed their inability to reckon them. Were one to liken them to rain or to the number of grains of sand or atoms in creation, these would prove inadequate. Thus it is proven by clear evidence and manifest proof that His bounties have no likeness or parallel, nor will they ever have. Exalted be His bounty, sublime His grace, great His sovereignty and mighty His utterance.

After being informed, We proceeded to the Most Great Throne where it was mentioned in His presence. This is what the Lord of Return spoke in reply—blessed and exalted be His words: "We make mention of thee and have sent down unto thee from the heaven of grace the Kawthar of utterance, one drop of which is not equaled by all the seas of the world nor the books of nations. Be thankful and say: ʿPraise be unto Thee, O Thou the Desire of the worlds!"' O Trustee! Thou art remembered; in most gatherings thy mention hath been made and hath flowed from the tongue of the Wronged One. Praise be to God, thou hast attained unto service and art freed from unseemly limitations. The Most Exalted Pen hath ever testified to thy service, love and acceptance.

In that which Haydar-ʿAli (upon him be the Glory of God) had requested, thou wert in the right, for thou hadst no means, and debt is not viewed favorably. The essence of wealth boweth down before thy poverty, for thy affairs are referred to truth. We beseech God that thou mayest ever be illumined by the lights of the Sun of wealth and detachment. Accept the Huqúqu'lláh from any soul who offereth them with the utmost humility, submissiveness, joy and fragrance. Otherwise, verily thy Lord is the Self-Sufficient, the Most High. Observe what the All-Merciful hath revealed in the Qur'an:

> "O men! Ye are but paupers in your relation to God, but God is the Self-Sufficient, the All-Praised."

It is not advisable to tarry long in the Land of Ta. Make thy days therein like unto the days of roses in the garden. Permission was previously granted for thee to turn toward the direction of thy Purpose. Turn thy face toward God, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting. By thy turning, all created things will turn unto God, the Revealer of verses and the Manifestor of clear proofs. Convey greetings to the friends in that land. Say: O people of God! The croaking of the raven and the braying of the ass have become loud. Protect yourselves through the Name of God, exalted be His glory. The Evil Whisperer of the world is engaged in spreading doubts. Strive that perchance the delusions of the past may not be renewed and helpless servants may not fall into the well of vain imaginings. For twelve hundred years they cried "O Imam!" and "O Successor!" and in the end they martyred One through Whose word a thousand Imams could be created. Fie upon them and their deeds and actions! They have committed that which neither the Jews nor any other people have committed.

The friends of the land of K arrived in perfect health and safety, and after circumambulating the Kaaba, they attained the presence of the Hidden Mystery. Happy are they and blessed are they. In the assemblies before the faces, the Tongue of Grandeur repeatedly made mention of that Beloved One, and each attained that which was recorded and inscribed by the Supreme Pen in the divine books. This evanescent servant begs confirmation and assistance for each one in preserving what has been bestowed. Verily our Lord, the All-Merciful, is the Confirmer, the Helper, the Forgiving, the Generous.

Regarding what you wrote about his honor N, upon him be the Glory of God and His favors, praise be to God, he has been and continues to be successful. It is hoped that there shall appear from him that which will immortalize his mention in the Book of God. Especially at this time when I was in the Most Holy Court, mention of him flowed from the Tongue of Grandeur. By the life of our Purpose! No mention in the world and what is therein equals His mention of him. Blessed are those souls who in this wondrous Day have been adorned with the ornament of His favor and have drunk from the ocean of inner meanings. They have truly attained all good. Blessed are they and those who have attained through their deeds and their love and their affection for Him. His is the grace and bounty in all conditions. Verily He is the Speaker, the Commander in the beginning and the end. On behalf of this evanescent servant, convey greetings, praise, mention and salutations to him and to all the friends of God. I beseech for each one that which God, exalted be His glory, has promised and revealed in the Book. Verily He fulfills His promise and He is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

Regarding what you wrote about his honor Aqa ʿAli Haydar, upon him be the Glory of God, praise be to God, he has attained the lights of the Sun of Truth and has drunk from the ocean of knowledge of God, exalted be His glory. It is hoped that he will become the source of great services, meaning the cause of the enkindlement of souls and that by which his mention shall endure throughout the duration of the kingdom and the realm. What that Beloved One mentioned regarding his enkindlement with the fire of divine love and his arising to serve the Cause is truth in which there is no doubt.

Regarding what was written about the honored beloved, his honor Aqa Mirza Abu'l-Fadl, upon him be the Glory of God and His favors, and likewise the allowance of his honor Aqa ʿAli Haydar, upon him be the Glory of God—this matter was brought before the face of the Lord of Destiny and attained the honor of His hearing. His blessed and exalted Word:

> "Those who spend their wealth in the path of God, these are among the people of the highest Paradise in the Crimson Tablet. The Concourse on High and the Supreme Paradise send prayers upon them. Verily bounty is in His hand. He doeth what He willeth by His command, and He is the Powerful Commander."

End quote.

Regarding the mention made of his honor Muhammad Ali Khan, upon him be the Glory of God, and the two brothers of his honor Aqa Ali Haydar—his honor Asad Aqa, upon them both be the Glory of God—praise be to God, both are mentioned at the Throne and have attained the favor of God, exalted be His glory. They have drunk from the wine of revelation and turned to the supreme horizon. This is from His bounty upon them. Verily our Lord, the All-Merciful, is the Bountiful, the Generous. This servant also

conveys greetings and salutations to the honored brother, his honor Khan, upon him be the Glory of God, and the two aforementioned brothers. I beseech God that in these days I may be enabled to send a reply to the letter of his honor Khan. The enkindled souls who are content and pleasing should at all times pray for one another and ask God to assist all to do what is befitting and worthy of His Day.

As to the mention of Aqa Muhammad-Rida, I beseech and implore God that He may assist him to praise and serve, and aid him in that whereby man's station in the contingent world may be made manifest. Thus has the Tongue of God spoken before and will speak hereafter, for the Tongue of Grandeur has ever proclaimed this blessed word—He, glorified be His majesty, saith:

> "O thou who art present! Beseech God to assist His loved ones that the station of man may through them be made manifest and evident in the contingent world."

And as to the mention of the land of K and Q-M and the brethren Aqa Muhammad-Husayn and Mashhadi Muhammad-Rida, upon them be the glory of God, they are among those souls who have attained unto the word of contentment from the Lord of Names. That beloved one should convey on behalf of this evanescent one greetings and glorification to them.

And as to the mention made of Aqa Qasim, another brother of Aqa ʿAli-Haydar, it was presented at a special time before the countenance of the True One, exalted be His glory. Thus spoke the Tongue of Grandeur in reply—He, exalted and mighty, saith: "O Amin! The Most Exalted Pen testifieth that thou hast been and art occupied with the mention of the friends of God, and in every letter thou hast written to him who is present, there hath been mention of the chosen ones and the loved ones. May God grant thee thy reward and cause thee to attain His presence once again, that thou mayest hear what thou hast heard and see what thou hast seen. And as for what thou hast mentioned concerning Qasim, let him read what hath been revealed from the Most Exalted Pen at this time:

ʿO Qasim! The Wronged One maketh mention of thee for the sake of God and saith: When thou desirest to make mention of God, the Lord of the Throne and of earth, and the Sovereign of the hereafter and of the former times, arise from thy place, then turn thy face toward the Sacred House and say:

ʿMy God, my God! Praise be to Thee for having wafted the fragrance of Thy knowledge when the Day-Star of Batha shone forth from the horizon of Hijaz and Thou didst raise the standards of Thy victory amidst all peoples. I beseech Thee, O Thou in Whose grasp are the reins of earth and heaven and by Whose command the Kingdom of Names appeared in the kingdom of creation, to aid me and Thy servants to turn toward Thy most exalted horizon and Thy most splendid seat. My God, my God! I am he who hath acknowledged and confessed his poverty before Thy riches which have encompassed the horizons, and his powerlessness before Thy might at whose manifestation the power of the mighty ones and the dominion of the princes were rendered impotent.

I beseech Thee not to disappoint me of that which Thy Most Exalted Pen hath ordained for Thy chosen servants who were not hindered by the intimations of the Dawning-Places of idle fancies from turning unto Thee and arising to serve Thee. O Lord! Grant me that which will take all power of choice from my hands and cause the winds of Thy will to move me as Thou pleasest. Verily Thou art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest. Then cause me, O my God, to be detached from all else but Thee, to be

immersed in the ocean of Thy mercy and forgiveness, to hold fast to the cord of Thy bounty and to cling to the hem of Thy generosity.

Wilt Thou, O my God, turn away a poor one who hath hastened unto Thee, or a needy one who hath confessed to his powerlessness at the manifestations of Thy grace and the appearances of Thy mercy? Nay, by Thy Self! For I am assured of Thy power and might, Thy grace and mercy, Thy bounty and choice. There is no God but Thee, the All-Forgiving, the All-Merciful. There is no God but Thee, the Compassionate, the Generous."'

This prayer is in itself effective in the world, for it hath flowed from the Tongue of Grandeur. Blessed is he who readeth it and attaineth unto it. God willing, may his honor Qasim become the vanquisher of the ego and base desire, and with utmost joy and fragrance succeed in its recitation. This servant beseecheth his Lord to assist him and enable him to read that which hath been revealed for him.

Another matter: as commanded, that beloved one should not tarry long in the land of Ta. As to what was mentioned in the second letter regarding the honored brothers—upon them be the Glory of the All-Merciful—and likewise concerning the sum given to the noble matron, the Mother of the Sacred Precinct—upon her be the Glory of God—and their being set ablaze with the fire of the love of God, and their humility and submissiveness, and their services for the sake of God—all these matters were presented in the Most Holy, Most Exalted Court and attained the honor of being heard by the Lord of Names. Each was illumined by the rays of the Sun of Divine favor. Blessed are they both and joy be unto them. They have ever been confirmed in service and adorned with His grace. I beseech the Most High to send down upon them such blessing from His presence that the rains of the clouds of His bounty and the lights of the Sun of His mercy shall never cease to pour upon them. Verily, He is the Answerer of prayers. Some of the requested papers were sent previously, and are being sent again this time. God willing, they will arrive and be delivered.

As to what was mentioned concerning his honor Aqa Siyyid Farajullah—upon him be the Glory of God—and his accompanying that honored one: praise be to God, they were blessed with acceptance, attention, remembrance, praise, love and affection of the friends of God. His letters have repeatedly arrived, both to this servant and to His Holiness the Name of God—upon him be all the Most Glorious Glory—and all were presented before the presence of the Lord of Eternity and were honored with the lights of the utterance of the Beloved of the Worlds. God willing, their reply will also arrive. In these days, as indicated by that honored one, on behalf of the noble leaves, the two daughters of the paternal aunt—upon them be the Glory of God—and the friends of God—upon them be the Glory of God—tea was served for several gatherings in the Sacred Precinct in the presence of the Beloved of the Worlds, and this was written so that all may know that whatever reacheth that honored one is being delivered.

The mention of Aqa Muhammad Big, Aqa Muhammad Husayn Big, Aqa Ghulam-Husayn Big, and Aqa Turab Big (upon them be the Glory of God) was presented before the Most Holy and Exalted Presence. He says, blessed and exalted be He: O loved ones of the All-Merciful! Praise be to God, ye have been honored by the effects of the Most Exalted Pen, and your mention hath been recorded in the presence of the Wronged One, and in the Tablets that which diffuseth the fragrance of eternity hath been inscribed.

Know ye your station and preserve it in the name of the True One, exalted be His glory, for the people of the Bayan cling to the vain imaginings of the past and strive diligently to lead men astray.

Glory be to God! Have they not witnessed the fruits of the deeds of the Shi'ih sect and have they not understood that they are once again clinging to the ways of that party? O party of God throughout all lands! Rend asunder with the fingers of power all veils, that ye may attain unto the lights of true unity. Today is the Day of God; none else is mentioned or existeth save Him. Take ye what hath been given unto you from God, the Lord of all worlds. Make firm your resolve, lest turbans and staffs and robes once again become the cause of vain imaginings and afflict helpless souls in the pit of doubts and fancies.

This lowly one conveyeth to each one greetings and salutations, and beseecheth from the True One, exalted be His glory, steadfastness for each one, that they may regard all else save God as non-existent and as naught, and may consider the doubts of the atheists and the signs of the opposers as if they had never existed. At this moment, before His countenance He saith, blessed and exalted be He: O thou who art present, write: O Amin, O Abu'l-Hasan! The Luminary of Batha and the Lord of Prophets (may the spirit of all else but Him be sacrificed for His sake) was sent by God unto all who dwell on earth, and diverse parties each spoke in their own tongue, and the differences of languages in the world are clear and evident and known to all.

God, exalted be His glory, revealed the Furqan, which distinguished between truth and falsehood, in the most eloquent Arabic tongue, and it was a proof for Arab and Persian and Turk and the diverse parties of the world. And this language is potent and comprehensive; therefore from the Most Exalted Pen it hath mostly flowed and been revealed in this tongue, and at times in the sweeter Persian tongue. He is not bound by any limits. He doeth what He willeth and ordaineth what He pleaseth, and He is the All-Powerful, the Almighty.

Section 2: "O Amin! The people of the Furqan prided…"

O Amin! The people of the Furqan prided themselves on the authority of the Furqan over the world, and the people of every religion on their Book, and the people of the Bayan on what they possessed. In this Most Great Revelation, like unto torrential rain, from the first day until now, night and day, verses have been revealed and evident proofs have shone forth equivalent to the books of the past and future now existing, and whatsoever shall appear in the future hath already been revealed from the Most Exalted Pen with utmost clarity. Nevertheless, they remain occupied with their vain imaginings and deprived of the effulgences of the sun of certitude. What hath afflicted their eyes and what hath prevented their ears? They play with their idle fancies and perceive not. By what proof do those souls who have denied this Cause seek to establish another? By the life of God! The Point of the Bayan lamenteth. The entire Bayan is like unto a ring upon the finger of the power of God, exalted be His glory; He turneth it howsoever He willeth.

Those souls who have denied this Cause perceive not by what proof they would establish another. By the life of God, the Point of the Bayan lamenteth. The entire Bayan is as a ring upon the finger of God, exalted be His glory—He turneth it as He pleaseth and moveth it as He willeth. May God, through His conquering power, grant the sun of justice and fairness to emerge from behind the clouds of deliverance, that

perchance the people may attain unto the hearing and sight that befit these days. The ocean of the All-Merciful's utterance hath surged, and the sun of grace and bounty hath reached its zenith. What station remaineth for the drop to make mention, and what measure for the atom to move? The Mother Book hath appeared and the Mother of Utterance speaketh. Exalted is our Lord and your Lord, our Goal and your Goal, and the Goal of all who are in the heavens and the earth.

Concerning what was written about Aqa Bala who is engaged in service to Jinab-i-Aqa ʿAli-Haydar, upon him be 96 [Baha'u'llah], it was mentioned. His blessed and exalted Word: "Verily We glorify his countenance" and We beseech God to assist him in service to His loved ones and ordain for him that which is for his good.

This evanescent servant conveyeth greetings and salutations to the friends in that land, namely the loved ones of God, exalted be His glory, and beseecheth God to make each one firm as a mountain and radiant as light, and to increase their vision and hearing at every moment that they may behold that for which they were created and hear that for which ears were made to hear.

Mention was made of Jinab-i-Aqa ʿAli-Akbar Bey, upon him be the Glory of God, and his enthusiasm and service in the Cause of God. Praise be to God, he hath been and is successful, ever arising to serve and speaking in praise and glorification of God, exalted be His glory. His mention hath repeatedly flowed from the Supreme Pen. At this moment his mention was made before the Countenance of the Goal of the world. We beseech God to open the doors of grace and mercy upon his face. Verily He answereth the prayer of the supplicants. Praise be to Him, for He is the Goal of the mystics. Glory, remembrance and splendor be upon you and upon those with you and upon those who love you for the sake of God, our Lord and your Lord and the Lord of all worlds.

The servant 6 Rabi'u'l-Avval 1303

He is God!

Praise be to God Who revealeth and will reveal as He pleaseth, and He is the Almighty, the Unconstrained. In one letter mention was made of the friends in the land of Q.M.S. and likewise of their being set ablaze with the fire of the love of God and their longing for the Most Exalted Horizon. Well is it with them and happy are they. Praise be to God that steadfast souls have been found and appeared in that land. Jinab-i-Haji Siyyid Khalil, upon him be the Glory of God and His favors, hath ever been mentioned in the Most Holy Court. God willing, may those regions be illumined by the light of his steadfastness. Likewise Jinab-i-Aqa Mir ʿAbdu'r-Rahim, upon him be the Glory of God and His favors. Indeed, details about them and praise of that Beloved of all were presented in the Most Holy, Most Exalted Court, and all attained infinite favors. This is what the tongue of our Lord hath uttered in the Kingdom of Utterance. His blessed and exalted Word:

He is the All-Seeing, the All-Hearing

O Khalil! The path is clear, the proof manifest, the evidence brilliant and the testimony evident. Nevertheless, the people of the Bayan have clung to the vain imaginings of the past. Reflect upon the heedlessness of these people. With their outward eyes they have witnessed the loss suffered by the

people of the Furqan and observed the fruits of their deeds and words, yet they remained unaware and took no heed. Say: Take heed, O ye whose darkness hath taken the place of light! Take heed, O ye whose whiteness hath appeared upon your cheeks!

They are unaware of the Day of God and have not attained unto the lights of true unity. Your honor should strive with utmost effort, detached from all else, to protect souls that perchance the vain imaginings of the past may not resurface and be renewed. The tale of those who went astray and led others astray hath returned. They say what was said before. With perfect deceit and guile they strive to lead holy souls astray. The outcry that was revealed and recorded by the Supreme Pen in the sacred scrolls and tablets hath been raised. Observe the Most Holy Book and that which was revealed concerning Kaf and Ra. Today it is evident how Ja'far and his son, from among the people of Kaf and Ra, have turned away from the Truth and opposed Him, uttering that which no heedless one hath ever said. They have turned away from Him around Whom the Primal Point would circle, and Who hath said "I believe in Him and I am the first to worship."

We make mention of the Merciful One in this station, glorify Him, and counsel him to the greatest steadfastness. My Name hath mentioned him before My face. We have remembered him with that which no remembrance can equal. We remember all My loved ones who have remained faithful to the Covenant. We beseech God to draw them nigh unto Him in all conditions and to ordain for them that which He loveth and is pleased with. Verily, He is the Self-Sufficient, the Most Exalted.

O My loved ones in that land! The Trustworthy One hath mentioned you, and We mention you as a grace from Our presence, and I am the All-Knowing Rememberer. The Wronged One of the world hath remembered you in the Most Great Prison. Were the fruits of this remembrance to be revealed unto you in the measure of a needle's eye, you would arise to serve throughout your lives and would regard all else save God as non-existent and as naught. Glory be upon My loved ones who have not been prevented by anything and who have not been veiled by the veils of those who have disbelieved in God, the Lord of the worlds.

Divine mercy hath so encompassed all that no description can reach it and no obliteration can touch it. The tongue is incapable of mention and the pen unworthy to race in this field. Another tongue is needed that might succeed in offering praise to His loved ones and become engaged in mentioning His chosen ones. Among these is the mention of that land. Whatever this servant heard from the blessed tongue, were he to attempt to mention it, he would surely find himself powerless and wanting. Exalted is His bounty and magnificent are His bestowals.

As to your mention of Aqa Mirza Ghulam-Husayn, Aqa Mirza Siyyid ʿAli, and Aqa Mirza Muhammad-Baqir—may the glory of God rest upon them—and likewise your mention of their ardor, steadfastness and devotion, you have indeed spoken the truth. In reality, these three holy souls have arisen to render praise and service to the Cause, and sublime and wondrous Tablets have been specifically revealed and sent to them. After this matter was presented before His presence, He spoke—and His word is the truth:

> "O Amin! These souls are remembered before the Divine Presence and have attained the favor of God, exalted be His glory. We have made mention of them with such praise as cannot be equaled by the treasures of the world nor by all that the nations possess."

We beseech God to make each of them shine bright as the morning star in the heaven of certitude. Soon will God make manifest in the earth the stations of those who have turned to Him and have arisen to serve the Cause whereby the foundations of every learned one were shaken, the hearts of every scholar were perturbed, and whereby the great terror appeared and all who are in the heavens and earth were thunderstruck, save whom God willed, the Lord of the mighty throne. We beseech God to assist them in fostering unity and concord among the people of that land, and to aid them in spreading the Cause through wisdom, utterance, spirit and fragrances. Verily, He is powerful over all things. This servant also conveys to each one greetings and glory, and beseeches from God, exalted be His glory, the eternal and everlasting blessing.

Likewise mention was made of Aqa Muhammad-Rida of Muhammadabad—upon him be the eternal glory of God—and of his service to the loved ones of God, and praise was offered for his verses. This servant beseeches God, exalted be His glory, to assist him in deeds whose traces shall endure and persist, and to cause his flowing talent to stream forth in the rivers of His love. In truth, eloquence, articulateness, rhetoric and refined talent have been created specifically for the mention of God, exalted be His glory. Blessed is he and joy be unto him. This matter too was presented before the throne of the Lord, attaining the honor of His hearing. Thus did the Tongue of Grandeur speak:

> "O Muhammad-Rida! By God's life! Whosoever today has attained to a drop from this ocean and to a letter from this Book has indeed attained to all good, by the testimony of God, the Lord of the worlds. Blessed is the soul that hath not been hindered by vain desire from the Lord of all being, and that hath not been veiled by the veils of the people of the Bayan who have turned away from Him Who hath come from the heaven of divine will with verses that cannot be equaled by the books of the past and future. To this beareth witness the Mother Book in this mighty and exalted station. Say: Look ye at the Tree and its fruits, not at what the tongues of the transgressors have uttered. Say: O people of the Bayan! Come ye, come ye, that I may show you the Sun shining from the highest horizon of the world. Fear ye God and be not of the wrongdoers. Say: Cast aside vain imaginings and idle fancies. By God! The Self-Subsisting hath come with a Cause before which neither the heavens nor the earth can endure, were ye of them that comprehend. By God's life! We see the people of the Bayan to be more lost than the people of the Furqan, nay more lost than all the peoples of the past. To this testifieth he who hath been given insight from God, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise."

Thus hath the Supreme Pen spoken from the most sublime horizon. Blessed is he who hath heard and found the fragrance of the utterance of the All-Merciful in the realm of existence, and woe unto the heedless. The glory shining from the heaven of My utterance be upon thee and upon the people of My ark who have not been hindered by the paths of idle fancy from My straight path.

Mention was made of Jinab-i-Aqa Muhammad-ʿAli-Bahram, upon him be the Glory of God. Praise be to God, neither the croaking of the croakers nor the doubts of the atheists prevented him from the Lord of

the Day of Judgment. Glory be to God! Glory be to God! Souls have appeared who, in their unfairness, are without precedent from the beginning of the world until now, and have never come from non-existence into being. They have turned away from the ocean and abandoned the Kingdom of utterance, occupying themselves with vain imaginings and idle fancies. By the life of our Beloved and your Beloved, our Goal and your Goal, such souls have, since the inception of Islam, led people astray and afflicted them with vain imaginings and idle fancies. These matters are evident and need no detailed explanation.

In any case, mention of the aforementioned one has been and continues to be in the Most Holy and Most Exalted Presence. Praise be to God, he has attained to that which was inscribed by the Supreme Pen in the divine Books. We beseech and implore God, exalted be His glory, to protect him and adorn him with the imperishable ornament of His mention, that he may be a sign of the love of God amongst the people and steadfast in service to the Cause throughout the nights and days. In all conditions, this evanescent one seeks divine confirmation and assistance for that beloved one, that God, exalted be His glory, may increase it every moment and cause him to attain unto new and wondrous favors. He is, verily, powerful and mighty over all things. May remembrance, glory and exaltation be upon you and upon those who are with you and who love you for the sake of God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy.

He is God, exalted be His majesty and His glory. Before the dispatch of this letter, two other letters from that beloved one arrived, one dated the twelfth of the month of Safar and the other the first of Rabi'u'l-Avval. Praise be to God, all attested to that beloved one's steadfastness, service, recognition and devotion. All that was written was presented in the Most Holy and Most Exalted Presence. His blessed and exalted Word: "Verily, he hath spoken the truth." Jinab-i-Amin is confirmed in service. In all letters he has made mention of the divine friends and their steadfastness, enthusiasm and devotion from N.J. and A.R. and Q.M.S. and Q.M. and K., and likewise has mentioned the friends in the land of T. and Sh. and Y. and other regions. May God, exalted be His glory, grant them all a reward through him. Verily, He is the Generous, the Bountiful. End.

Concerning what thou didst write about Jinab-i-Aqa Mirza ʿAbdu'llah and Jinab-i-Aqa Mirza Ghulam-Husayn (upon them be the Glory of God), and likewise concerning their steadfastness, love and generosity which thou didst mention—all was presented in the Most Holy, Most Exalted Presence and attained the honor of being heard by the Lord of Names. His blessed and exalted Word:

> "O ʿAbdu'llah! The letter from the Trusted One hath come before the Wronged One, wherein was thy mention. We have mentioned thee with a mention from which every possessor of smell perceiveth the fragrance of the utterance of the All-Merciful throughout all creation. Exalted is He Who hath appeared and revealed what He desired through a command from His presence, and He is the Mighty, the Powerful. Blessed is the soul who hath arisen to serve the Cause of God, the Lord of the worlds. Verily he is among the people of Baha in the Crimson Scroll and among the companions of the Ark, the mention of which was sent down from the heaven of the Will of the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. Verily those who have spent in the path of God and fulfilled their covenant—these are servants whom God hath mentioned before and will mention hereafter. Every truthful and knowing one beareth witness to this. O Ghulam-Husayn! Thy name hath attained the honor of being heard by the Wronged One, and

> He hath revealed for thee this Mighty Tablet. Blessed art thou and blessed is he who acteth in accordance with what hath been commanded in the Book of God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy. We beseech Him, exalted be He, to assist you both and to aid you with the hosts of wisdom and utterance, and to send down upon you from the heaven of grace and bounty a blessing from His presence. He is verily the Compassionate, the Bountiful, the Generous. The Glory be upon you both and upon every servant who hath attained to the service of God, the Lord of this wondrous Day."

Here end the sprinkling drops from the ocean of inner meanings. He hath received the two names, upon them be the Glory of God. Grace is in His mighty hand—He bestoweth whatsoever He willeth and giveth to whomsoever He desireth. He shall not be asked of His doings, and He is the Mighty, the Unconstrained. Again, the Glory and the Great Glory and the Praise be upon you and upon every one who is steadfast, firm, resolute, upright and unwavering.

The servant 1 Rabi'u'th-Thani 1303

BH06542: A remembrance from Us to him who hath turned…

He is established upon the throne of utterance.

A remembrance from Us to him who hath turned unto the One, the All-Informed, that he may drink from the ocean of his Lord's remembrance that which will draw him nigh unto Him. He, verily, is the Compassionate, the All-Bountiful.

O Muhammad! Hearken unto the call of Him Who hath been wronged from the precincts of the Prison. There is none other God but Him, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. We have indeed revealed the evidences and sent down the verses, and We are the Ancient Sender-down. We have made plain the Path and brought forth the Proof as a bounty from Us, and We are the Bountiful, the Munificent.

When the Promised One came with the hosts of revelation and inspiration, all the divines of the earth turned away from Him save whom God, the Lord of this wondrous Day, did will. They rose up in opposition until they pronounced judgment against Us with manifest injustice. Blessed is the soul whom their doubts prevented not, who arose and said:

> "God is our Lord and the Lord of all who are in the heavens and on earth."

We counsel thee to be steadfast in this Most Great Cause, whereby the feet of the mystics have slipped. The clamor of the regions hath been raised. We beseech God to protect thee and those who have believed. He, verily, is the Almighty, the Powerful. The glory be upon thee and upon those who have attained unto this wondrous Day.

BH00161: All praise and gratitude beseemeth those who draw nigh…

Section 1: "In the Name of our Lord, the Most…"

In the Name of our Lord, the Most Holy, the Most Great, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious!

All praise and gratitude beseemeth those who draw nigh unto Him, whose mention kindleth the Fire of God amongst His servants, and whose glorification illumineth the realm of the heart with the light of recognition. The fragrance of their love for God hath attracted the world of letters and fashioned them into embodied words. Exalted, exalted is He Who hath adorned His loved ones with the ornament of meaning and utterance, to such extent that the realm of speech standeth powerless to describe it. In truth, the living waters of human utterance have ever been and shall remain the fountain of life, for they revive withered forms and quicken those who lie dead in the wilderness of heedlessness and forgetfulness. Exalted, exalted is that Sovereign Who, through the breezes of His Most Exalted Pen, hath enabled all to attain unto the supreme heights—the station of the most great steadfastness. The Pen hath no power to soar beyond this station.

Glorified art Thou, O God of all created things and Educator of all beings! I beseech Thee by the fire in the hearts of them that are sincere, by the radiance of the faces of Thy near ones, by the waves of the oceans of their hearts moved by Thy name and remembrance, and by the enkindlement of the fire of their love in Thy days, to make them the ensigns of Thy guidance among Thy servants and the standards of servitude in Thy dominion, that through them may appear that which will draw Thy servants nigh unto Thy most exalted horizon and honor them with Thy recognition in the world of creation. Thou art, verily, the Almighty over what Thou willest, and Thou art, in truth, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. O my Lord! Send down upon them Thy blessings, throughout the everlasting dominion of Thy sovereignty, and ordain for them the good of this world and the world to come through Thy bounty and generosity. Thou art, verily, the Most Bountiful, the Most Generous, He Who commandeth, the All-Powerful, the All-Informed.

O Beloved of my heart and He Who is mentioned in my soul! Ages and centuries have truly passed wherein this servant hath not succeeded in sending that which would evidence my steadfastness in my love and devotion for you. Though it is clear and evident to the illumined heart what hath caused this delay and postponement of my letters, God the One beareth witness that not a moment hath passed except that I intended to importune that Beloved One. However, for every matter there is an appointed time and a fixed hour, beyond which this evanescent one hath no power to transgress. The command is in His grasp; He doeth what He willeth and ordaineth what He pleaseth. Yet the mention of that Beloved One hath ever been made in the Most Holy and Exalted Court.

Time and again have I heard from the tongue of Grandeur mention of that honored one and reference to the land of Mim. Though this ephemeral one may at times be heedless, the Ever-Abiding Lord existeth and His favors have never ceased for a moment. When one contemplates the manifestations of mercy and compassion from the heaven of grace and bounty, one is struck with wonder. May all creation be a sacrifice unto His favor, and all beings be a sacrifice unto His compassion! In any case, this servant remained watchful and waiting until the tree of hopes brought forth goodly fruit and the pen of recognition became laden with new words of love. After perusal, reading and understanding, I proceeded to the sacred station which is beyond the mention of the Concourse on High, and it was presented before the Most Great Throne and attained the honor of being heard.

This is what was uttered by the tongue of our Goal and your Goal and the Goal of all who are in the kingdoms of Command and Creation. His mighty utterance, exalted be His proof:

In My Name, the Witness, the Hearer

O thou who speakest in My Name, who hast drunk the choice wine of My love, who hast turned towards My horizon and who standest in service to My Cause! Hear My call whereby the world was set ablaze and the hearts of nations were stirred, whereby every pregnant one cast her burden and all in creation were seized by the stupor of heedlessness. Exalted is the All-Merciful Who hath rent asunder the veil with the finger of power and come from the heaven of utterance riding upon the clouds. He verily draweth thee nigh unto a station wherein no matter shall grieve thee, nor the opposition of those who have denied the Source and the Return. Take thou the chalice of joy in My Name, then drink therefrom what I have ordained, and I am the Commander, the Bountiful.

Thou hast attained unto My bounty in My days and unto tribulation in My path, and I am the All-Knowing Rememberer. My Most Exalted Pen hath testified to what thou hast endured in My love and what thou hast heard from Mine enemies who denied My proof, rejected My signs and rose up to shed the blood of My loved ones without evidence or Book. The world hath so deluded them that they have deprived themselves of this grace that hath encompassed all regions. By My life! They shall soon behold the recompense of their deeds. This is a truth in which there is no doubt, as attested by Him with Whom is the Mother Book.

The servant who was present came and read what thou didst send unto the Wronged One. We have sent down for thee that which shall give thee to drink of the Kawthar of life from the hands of favor and grace. O Ali! It hath grieved Me what hath befallen My Name Ali who sacrificed his spirit and his wealth with such steadfastness as amazed the Concourse on High and caused all things to speak forth his praise and his detachment throughout the nights and days. The Wronged One hath come for the reformation of the world, yet the peoples have committed that which hath caused the dwellers of Paradise and the inhabitants of this station to lament at eventide and at dawn.

Blessed art thou in thy migration and thy turning towards His people. We beseech God to ordain for thee the reward of what thou hast wrought in His path. He, verily, is the Mighty, the All-Bestowing. Convey My greetings unto the faces of My loved ones who have cast away what the people possess and have taken the Book of God with the hands of might and power. Remind them of what We have revealed in the Tablet and give them the glad-tidings of the favors of their Lord, the Lord of all men. The glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My Kingdom be upon thee and upon thy family and upon those who are with thee and upon every patient believer.

O Ali! The friends of God must at all times look to the exaltation of the Cause, and this cannot be achieved except through unity. Steadfast souls who are assured, content and well-pleasing must hold fast to that which promoteth unity and harmony, and must arise for God in this service. They must not look to themselves but rather to that whereby the Word of God, the Sovereign, the Self-Subsisting, may be uplifted. Whosoever attaineth unto this station, the hand of divine favor will take him and exalt him as it pleaseth.

Counsel each of the friends regarding those manners and characteristics that cause the gems of human qualities to be revealed from the mine of man. This Wronged One hath, throughout the nights and days,

imparted to the souls who were present from among the neighboring community that which conduceth to everlasting life and eternal, abiding grace. Blessed is he who hath attained unto true hearing, and woe unto those who have turned aside. All atoms bear witness that this Wronged One, in bearing hardships and standing before the faces of the world, hath had no purpose except the reformation and tranquility of the nations. The steadfast souls must gird up the loins of endeavor and with all their power hold fast unto this most great Cause and most mighty service.

Unto Him be praise and glory, unto Him be gratitude and splendor! At all times His grace is manifest and evident. From time immemorial His glance of favor hath been directed toward His loved ones, and ever shall remain so. From the beginning of this Revelation until now, no seeker hath been denied, and no pursuer barred. The Beloved Ones themselves know and bear witness to this—there is no need for mention by this evanescent one. In truth, the waves of the ocean of mercy are never still, and the outpourings of grace never cease. The breezes of bounty waft throughout all nights and days, and the fragrance from the garden of inner meanings is diffused at every moment. Nevertheless, the mischief-makers among the people of the Bayan have denied it all and are occupied with vain imaginings. Nay more, they have denied the revealed verses and manifest proofs that have encompassed the world. They are seen to be more lost than the people of the Furqan. Woe unto them and unto those who have led them astray! This servant beseecheth his Lord to aid them to return and to assist all who are on earth to turn towards Him. Verily He is the Powerful, the Self-Sufficient, the Most High.

As to what was written about making arrangements in each city so as not to cause trouble, and so forth: God, exalted be His glory, is my witness that whatsoever cometh from those beloved ones hath been and ever shall be the cause of gladness of heart, expansion of the senses, and dilation of the breast. God willing, may this bounty never cease or be cut off. How fitting in this connection is this verse: “The remembrance of friends by the Friend is blessed.” I beseech God that He may bestow His grace and favor, that once again this dispersion and separation may end and be transformed into gathering together, that we may abide beneath the canopies of grandeur and occupy ourselves in these days with the mention of the Beloved of the worlds. Every desire and purpose that seemeth great in the eyes of men is easy for God, exalted be His glory. He doeth as He willeth and ordaineth as He pleaseth. He is the Mighty, the Praiseworthy.

Concerning what was written about turning towards the lands of S, Sh and M, after it was submitted to the Most Holy and Most Exalted Presence, these sublime words were revealed from the highest horizon. His blessed and exalted Word:

O Ali! Upon thee be My glory and My loving-kindness! God hath raised thee up and made thee manifest to arise for the service of His Cause. Among the greatest services in the sight of God hath been and is the harmonizing of hearts and the promotion of fellowship among souls. Hold fast at all times to this mighty command and most great service. God’s favor hath been and is with thee. Thy call hath been and is being heard. Nothing escapeth the knowledge of thy Lord. He witnesseth and seeth, and He is the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing. We have heard thy communion with God, thy Lord and the Lord of all worlds, and We have perceived the fragrance of thy steadfastness in this Straight Path. Blessed is he who heareth thy word in this Great Cause. Blessed are they whom riches have not kept back from the Lord of all beings, and who

have acted according to what they were commanded in His perspicuous Book. We beseech Him, exalted be He, to unite the hearts of His servants and make them as one soul. Verily, He is powerful over all things.

The turning of those beloved ones toward various regions is acceptable in the sight of God. May you be confirmed in all affairs, God willing. I implore God that through your being, He may cause souls to arise who shall be aided and enabled to promote the exaltation of His blessed Word, and who shall, through wisdom and utterance, draw the people of creation to the most exalted horizon.

As regards what was written concerning Aqa Abdu'l-128, upon him be the Glory of God, after it was presented before the Most Holy and Exalted Presence, He said: "Excellent is that which the Most High hath spoken in reply," inasmuch as it is not permissible to dispose of the Huqúqu'lláh without permission, and whatsoever the aforementioned soul remitteth of the Huquq to be given to the poor is acceptable before His Face and adorned with the ornament of permission. O Ali! The payment of the Huquq returneth to benefit the working souls. If this matter were to be unveiled and its fruits made manifest, all would render the Huqúqu'lláh from what they possess and deliver it. Beseech God to grant success unto His servants. God willing, may all be enabled to pay the Huquq. Convey greetings to his honor ʿAbdu'l-Husayn. We beseech God to send down upon him from the heaven of His bounty a blessing from His presence. He is the All-Bountiful, the All-Generous.

This mention which hath been revealed by the Most Exalted Pen concerning the aforementioned soul is better and more exalted than the treasures of the world and whatsoever is concealed therein. Happy is he! We beseech God, exalted be His glory, to kindle the fire of love that all may be set ablaze and become as wings one unto another, soaring together in the atmosphere of unity. They must be regardful of wisdom, and likewise of that love which causeth hearts and souls to be enkindled. Gatherings that do not exceed proper bounds have been and are necessary. Verily, He Who hath commanded us to observe wisdom hath taught us that which increaseth our love, our turning and our devotion unto Him. May God, exalted be His glory, aid His servants in all conditions with that which He loveth and is pleased with, and grant them success that they may not be deprived of the outpourings of His days.

As to their mention of Haji ʿAbdu'l-Karim, upon him be the Glory of God, it was presented in the most mighty, most exalted and most glorious station before the face of the Lord of Names, and this most exalted Word was revealed from the Dayspring of Will, exalted and blessed be His utterance:

Section 2: "In My Name, the Wronged One, the Stranger…"

In My Name, the Wronged One, the Stranger

O ʿAbdu'l-Karim! The horizon of the world is illumined and bright with the light of the manifestation of the Most Great Name. The path of attainment is clear, the proof is evident, the verses are revealed and the signs are manifest, yet the people are occupied with vain imaginings and idle fancies, save whom God willeth, thy Lord, the Lord of all worlds. In every age and cycle when the Morn of Revelation dawned and the blessed Tree sprouted forth by the command of the Lord of creation, the divines of the earth, its doctors and other servants assailed the Tree with sharpened swords. All divine Books bear witness to this

fact. In the Book of Certitude there hath flowed from the Pen of the All-Merciful that which is the water of life for the people of the world.

Blessed is the soul that riseth up purely for the sake of God to aid His Cause and striveth for the reformation of the world and its peoples. We beseech God to aid His loved ones that they may, through the divine waters of counsel, purify the hearts of the world's peoples from rancor and hatred. God willing, may you ever drink from the chalice of divine knowledge and take your portion from the ocean of utterance which is manifest and resplendent before the faces of men, and arise to serve the Cause of God with such steadfastness that the doubts and intimations of all who dwell on earth shall not hinder you. Verily, He is powerful over all things and worthy to answer prayers.

The glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of thy Lord's loving-kindness be upon thee and upon those who have taken the cup of steadfastness with the hands of power and might, and have drunk therefrom despite those who have disbelieved in God, the Lord of all worlds.

This lowly servant supplicateth and hopeth of the one true God—exalted be His majesty—that He may confirm them, and render them successful in the service of His Cause. And as to the mention thou didst make of Mirza Sadiq and Mirza ʿAbdu'l-Husayn—upon them be the glory of God—after it was presented in the Most Holy and Inaccessible Court, these shining and particular verses were revealed in their behalf. His Word—blessed and exalted be He:

In My Name, the Compassionate, the All-Bountiful.

O Sadiq! Your name was mentioned before the Wronged One in His Most Great Prison. We make mention of you with that which guideth every seeker unto the Path, every thirsty one unto the Euphrates, every pursuer unto the Pursued, and every truthful one unto the Supreme Horizon—the station wherein the Lord of Names proclaimeth: "Blessed is he that heareth and hath a heart that turneth, and woe unto the heedless." Whatsoever hath flowed from My Most Exalted Pen is verily the Water of Life unto all who dwell within the realm of creation. To this beareth witness He Who speaketh before the faces of the world: "The Kingdom is God's, the Lord of all worlds." When thou art blessed with My verses and perceivest the fragrance of My utterance, say:

> "My God, my God! Withhold not from me the outpourings of Thy Most Bountiful Name in Thy days. O Lord! I am he who hath fled from his self unto Thy Self, and who seeketh from the wonders of Thy bounty that which shall make me steadfast in Thy Cause and firm in Thy service amongst Thy servants. O Lord! Make for me a lamp from the light of Thy knowledge that it may guide me unto Thee in every world of Thy worlds. Verily, Thou art the Powerful over what Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the Almighty, the All-Powerful."

And We make mention of Abdul-Husayn and give him glad tidings of My turning towards him from this far-distant Shore. We counsel him with that which exalteth the station of man in the contingent world, and with that wherewith We have counselled all in My Perspicuous Book. Strife and conflict have been forbidden, as hath been all that causeth grief to hearts and souls. Say: O peoples of the earth! Ye were created for harmony and unity. Fear the All-Merciful, and follow not the desires of those who have disbelieved in God, the Almighty, the Most Great. Verily, My Most Exalted Pen speaketh at morn and at

eventide, and calleth all unto God, the Lord of Names. Among the people are those who have heard and turned unto Him, those who have turned away, and those who have pronounced judgment against the Wronged One without any clear proof from God, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

Be thou steadfast in the love of thy Lord, firm in His Cause, and vocal in His beauteous praise. Let nothing debar thee from this Straight Path. The glory shining forth from the horizon of My Most Exalted Pen be upon the people of Baha who have inhaled the fragrance of the Divine Raiment and have recognized that which the Tongue of Grandeur hath spoken before the creation of all things. The Kingdom is God's, the One, the All-Informed.

This endeth the passage. I beseech God—exalted be His glory—that He deprive them not of the fragrances of His days, that He make them steadfast in His Cause, and that He aid them with such confirmations that the veils and barriers of the people of the world shall neither hinder nor prevent them. Verily our Lord, the All-Merciful, is the One Who is powerful over whatsoever He willeth, and He is the Hearing, the Answering.

And this is what was revealed for Karbila'i Husayn, upon him be the glory of God. His utterance, exalted be His word and manifest His proof:

In the name of God, the One

O Husayn! Praise thou the Best Beloved of the world Who confirmed thee in turning towards Him in days when most of the people of the world are seen to be heedless and turned away. Know thou the station of this most great bounty and supreme gift. The world and whatsoever is therein cannot be compared to one blessed word that shineth forth from the horizon of the heaven of God's Will. We beseech God to grant success in preserving that which He hath bestowed. This grace hath no equal. Verily thy Lord is the All-Bountiful, the Forgiving, the Generous. Strive that there may appear from thee that which beseemeth these days. Verily He counseleth His servants and He is the Counselor, the All-Knowing. Praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

To Him be praise and glory. Each one hath attained to that which hath been the desire of those who are nigh and sincere. This servant conveyeth greetings, peace and praise to them and to all other friends, and for each one I seek that which is like unto a shining light and like unto a penetrating and subtle spirit. Glory be to God! Despite this burning Fire and this shining Light and this clear Path, all are seen to be heedless and withered, nay rather dead, save those souls who have been illumined by the light of the Most Great Luminary and who, detached from all else, hold fast unto the Most Great Name. These are honored servants whom God hath described in His perspicuous Book: "Men whom neither merchandise nor traffic beguile from the remembrance of God" and who "speak not till He hath spoken, and who do His bidding."

And concerning what was written that some are seeking and acknowledge the verses but for the assurance of their hearts they say "we will write something, place it in a box and seek its answer from the Most Holy Court accordingly"—after this was submitted before the Throne, these words were revealed from the Dawning-Place of Divine Revelation, exalted be His glory:

O Ali! The Most Exalted Pen hath revealed aforetime and thereafter that which leaveth no room for anyone to hesitate, turn away or object. Future events were clearly foretold beforehand by the Most Exalted Pen. The evidences are manifest and the Cause is brilliant, yet the people are in evident doubt. Kindness and courtesy must be shown to the souls mentioned. Say: Reflect on that which hath appeared and be fair in your judgment. By what proof have you accepted the Qur'an? Now you witness that which is a hundred thousand times greater than that. In truth, this is not the day for questions and answers. Previously this blessed verse was revealed from the Most Exalted Pen: "This is not the day for questions. It behooveth everyone, when hearing the Call from the Supreme Horizon, to say: Here am I, here am I, O God of Names! Here am I, here am I, O Desire of the worlds!"'

In truth one is bewildered. The lights of the Sun of Revelation have encompassed the world. The proof, evidence and testimony are more evident than the sun in midheaven. Yet they say that which the heedless souls have not said before or since. In these days some people from Manshad sought that which the assemblage of Ummu'l-Qura had sought. Nay, this lesser request was specifically answered by that which was befitting from the heaven of divine Will. It is very good for such souls to read it. Those who cling to such matters have never succeeded in attaining to faith, to this beareth witness our Lord and your Lord and the Lord of earth and heaven.

And concerning what was written about his eminence from the people of Mim, upon him be the Most Glorious Glory, it was submitted before His presence. This is what was revealed in reply from God, the Lord of Lords, blessed and exalted be He:

He is the All-Remembering, the All-Knowing!

O Ali! We have remembered thy father with verses that neither the spirits of the world nor sacred books and tablets can equal. Every Book hath submitted when the Mother Book did speak. He Who hath spoken in every state beareth witness that there is none other God but Me, the Mighty, the Bestower. There hath befallen them in the path of God that which hath caused the Maids of Heaven to beat their faces and the eyes of them that are nigh to weep in the most exalted station. O Ali! Behold and then remember what befell My Name, the Most Exalted. By God! He sacrificed his spirit with such detachment as to astonish the Concourse on High and those who circle round the Throne at morn and eventide. We have remembered him and revealed for him that from which those nigh unto God inhale the fragrance of eternity, and the sincere ones that which none hath known save God, the Lord of all men. The glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My Kingdom rest upon him and upon those who were imprisoned through tyranny, for whom the Manifestations of the Cause have lamented in the highest paradise.

This Wronged One hath remembered all with a remembrance that shall endure throughout the kingdoms of earth and heaven. O Buzurg! Thy mention hath been and is before the face of this Wronged One in the Most Great Prison. Thou hast ever been and art beneath the glance of grace. By the Sun of the heaven of proof! All things have shared in thy tribulation. The atoms of creation, by the testimony of the Supreme Pen, have borne witness. Convey My greetings to the family of the martyr, his relatives and friends. Say: A station hath been conferred upon you which, were it to be revealed, would cause the people of the world to swoon away and all tongues to exclaim "Blessed be God, the Ordainer of this station!" Some time ago,

a Most Holy, Most Exalted Tablet was specifically revealed and sent to each one. God willing, may all drink from the oceans of divine utterances and, with utmost joy and fragrance, occupy themselves with the remembrance of the Goal of all the worlds. The glory be upon you, upon your first and your last, your outward and your inward.

This evanescent servant also conveyeth greetings and salutations to each one and beseecheth God to aid all to remain patient and calm. Previously, numerous tablets were revealed from the heaven of grace and sent forth, and this time too, whatsoever was graciously bestowed shall be sent according to the command of that Beloved One. Their mention is and shall remain indelibly inscribed in hearts.

Concerning what was written about the departed and elevated Aqa Siyyid ʿAbdu'l-Hadi, upon him be the Most Glorious Glory of God, some time ago there was revealed from the Supreme Pen specifically for him that which adorned the world with a new ornament. His is the grace and the bounty, His the generosity and the praise. There is none other God but He, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious.

Likewise, mention was made of the honored beloved, Jinab-i-Fadl, upon him be the glory of God and His favors. In these days he is frequently remembered. We beseech God, exalted be He, to protect him, deliver him, and send down upon him that which befits His generosity and bounty. The friends in that land should be mindful of his condition, but God is his Protector and He is the Protector of those who do good. To the friends of that land, one and all, I convey greetings and praise, and I beseech from the True One that through your influence He may set them all ablaze with such a fire as shall ignite the whole world. Likewise, I send greetings and glory to your household and relatives, and for each one I seek divine confirmation and assistance.

This letter concludes with mention of the Branches of the Blessed Tree—may my spirit, my being, and my essence be sacrificed for the dust of their footsteps—that its ending may be spirit itself, nay the spirit of spirits and the essence of essences. During the days of your imprisonment they were grieved and expressed sorrow. Praise be to God that after release from prison, all, together with the dwellers of the pavilion of purity and grandeur, were joyful. All expressed countless tokens of loving-kindness. Blessed be you and those with you. And they conveyed their glorification.

Peace, praise and glory be upon you and upon those with you, and upon those whom the affairs of creation have not prevented from the straight path of God. And praise be to God, the Exalted, the Great.

BH06408: Praise be to God Who has made clear…

Praise be to God Who has made clear to us His straight path, illumined us with the light of divine unity….

Reflect upon this Wronged One and what hath befallen Him. By the Sun of the heaven of the Bayan of the All-Merciful! We summoned all to the truth and called them to the straight path. We counseled them to perform goodly deeds and to manifest praiseworthy characteristics, that perchance the fire of divine love might be ignited in hearts with a wondrous flame and all might be illumined with the light of recognition. We interpreted the Word of God—the Furqan—which distinguisheth between truth and falsehood, and made the people aware of its meanings. This matter became the cause of hatred and animosity, and they

perpetrated what ye have seen and heard. This hatred became a thick veil between the Wronged One and His loved ones….

BH00170: Praise and thanksgiving beseem the people of creation…

Section 1: "Praise and thanksgiving beseem the people of creation…"

In the Name of Our Most Holy, Most Great, Most Exalted, Most Glorious Lord!

Praise and thanksgiving beseem the people of creation and the Kingdom of Names, the chosen ones of the Creator of heaven, who were not prevented by the doubts of the divines nor the might of princes from attaining the Most Exalted Horizon. They gave of their wealth, they sacrificed their lives, and no earthly thing—neither glory, riches, possessions, circumstances, honor nor fame—became a veil or barrier to them. By the name of the Powerful One they rent asunder the veils, and by the name of the Omnipotent they cleft the clouds. Through the name of the Lord of Creation they crossed the river of names and attained unto the ocean of inner meanings. The cawing of the people of the Bayan did not hold them back, nor did the clamor of the people veil them. They arose to champion the Cause with such firmness that neither the devastating winds of the ungodly nor the tempests of the infidels could shake them. These are they who are described by the tongues of the Prophets and Messengers, they whose mention hath been made in the divine Books of both past and present.

Glory be unto Thee, O God of Names and Creator of heaven! The servant beareth witness that Thou art God, there is none other God but Thee. Thou hast had no peer, no equal, no partner, and no likeness. All things have testified to Thy oneness and the Concourse on High to Thy singleness. I beseech Thee by the manifestations of Thy power and the expressions of Thy grandeur, and by the Lamp of Thy Cause and by that which was within Thy knowledge, to assist Thy loved ones and chosen ones to serve Thy Cause. Ordain for them, through Thy all-encompassing Will and prevailing Purpose, that which will draw them nigh unto Thee in all conditions. Verily Thou art the Lord of all servants in the beginning and in the end. There is none other God but Thee, the Self-Sufficient, the Most Exalted.

And further: I was seated in my place, reflecting on what had befallen the Lord of the world and Master of eternity in the Most Great Prison at the hands of the people of the Bayan, who have surpassed the followers of the Qur'an in loss, and who have spoken that which none before or after them hath ever spoken, and who have committed that which neither tyrants nor Pharaohs have ever perpetrated. At that moment Thy letter reached me. I opened it and read it, and found therein the fragrance of Thy love. Our purpose and thy purpose and the purpose of all who are in the heavens and on earth is one. When I understood its contents, I approached that Station which cannot be described by any description, nor mentioned by any mention, nor known by pen and ink, until I attained the presence of our Lord, the Lord of all creation.

Then did the Tongue of Grandeur speak: "What is in thy right hand?" I submitted: "A letter hath been delivered unto me from one of Thy loved ones who hath borne tribulations in Thy path." He commanded me to read it, and when I had done so, the Tongue of the All-Merciful spoke in the Kingdom of Utterance that which no one can reckon. I found myself powerless and my pen halted, until He—may the spirit of all

who are in the kingdom of Command and Creation be sacrificed for His sake—spoke in reply, exalted be His utterance and glorified His proof:

In My Name, through which the Euphrates of utterance hath flowed throughout all creation

O Husayn! Hearken to the rustling of My Most Exalted Pen. Verily it is raised from the right of the Luminous Spot at the Lote-Tree of the Utmost Boundary before the faces of all peoples. There is none other God but Him, the Single, the One, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. The ears were created to hearken unto My call, the eyes to behold My signs and verses, and the hands to grasp My perspicuous Book. By God's life! Nothing hath appeared except for My sake, and the ocean of utterance hath not surged except through My remembrance, and the sun of proof hath not shone except by My firm and mighty command. Blessed is he who hath heard the call and hath arisen to serve the Cause with such steadfastness as the doubts of the world and the clamor of the nations who denied God's signs and His proof could not shake, clinging to that which they possessed from every heedless and remote one.

Say: Open your eyes! The ocean is before your faces and the light guideth you to God's straight path. This is the day whereon the Most Exalted Pen hath spoken and the horizon of the world hath been illumined by the Day-Star of the Most Great Name, and every possessor of utterance and understanding hath testified that the Day is come, yet the people remain heedless, having followed their own desires. They are indeed among the most lost.

Behold and then recall what was committed by the previous faction who enter mosques to commemorate the name of their Lord, the Most Merciful, the Compassionate, and who would ascend pulpits to exalt the Word of God, the Lord of all worlds, and who deemed themselves the most learned and most understanding among all parties. Yet when the promise was fulfilled and the Promised One appeared, they pronounced judgment against Him with such injustice as caused the eyes of Grandeur to weep in their exalted station. Ponder their words and deeds on the Day of Retribution; thereby shall the matter become clear unto thee and thou shalt find thyself steadfast in this mighty Cause.

Say: O people of the Bayan! Fear the Most Merciful and follow not those who have denied God's signs and His proof, and who turned away from Him when He came with manifest sovereignty. This is He Whose Covenant the Primal Point took before taking His own covenant. To this testifieth He Who speaketh in every condition that there is none other God but I, the Single, the All-Informed. By God! His Pen moved only to make mention of Me, and He arose from His seat only to derive power through My Name. Fear ye the Most Merciful, O people of the Bayan, and be not of the wrongdoers.

Verily the Point circleth around Me, and all that hath been sent down from the heaven of My Will surpasseth not the books of the past and future. To this doth the Tongue of Grandeur bear witness from this luminous horizon. Thus hath the Treasury revealed the pearls of His knowledge, and the Light His appearance and His radiance. Blessed is he who hath clear vision, hath witnessed and hath seen, and woe unto every heedless and remote one.

Remember My loved ones and friends on My behalf, and glorify them, and give them the glad tidings of that which hath been sent down from the heaven of My bounty and ordained for them by My Pen, and I am the Mighty, the Powerful. The servant in attendance hath attended and presented before the

Wronged One that which thou didst send. We found in thy words the fragrance of steadfastness in this Cause whereby the feet of the learned have slipped, the hearts of the jurisprudents have been perturbed, and the back of every idolatrous doubter hath been broken.

Blessed is the tongue that hath spoken My remembrance, and the pen that hath testified to that which My Most Exalted Pen hath testified in the most glorious Kingdom, and the eye that hath beheld that which hath appeared from an ancient Commander. Say: My God, my God! I testify to Thy oneness and Thy singleness, and to that which Thou hast manifested through Thy power and Thy sovereignty. O Lord! The wine of the Kawthar of Thy love hath so intoxicated me that I have forgotten myself and my conditions. O Lord! Thou seest how my liver hath melted from separation from Thee and my heart hath been consumed by remoteness from Thee. Blessed is the land that hath been honored by Thy sweet fragrances.

O God! My heart is consumed in separation from Thee! Blessed is the land honored by Thy breaths, and blessed the spot that hath been ennobled by Thy footsteps. O Lord! Thou seest my tears and hearest my sighs in my separation from the place wherein was established the throne of Thy Revelation and from whence were wafted the sweet savors of Thy inspiration. O Lord! I beseech Thee by the heads that were severed in Thy path, and by the breasts that were pierced for Thy good-pleasure, and by the hearts Thou didst make repositories of Thy love, to ordain for Thy loved ones, by Thy Most Exalted Pen, the reward of attaining Thy presence. I am the one, O my God, who hath sought Thy sanctuary that I might stand before the door of Thy grandeur and hear Thy sweetest call and behold Thy most exalted horizon.

I implore Thee by the ocean of Thy bounty and the sun of Thy grace and the heaven of Thy generosity, not to deprive my ear of Thy call, though it be but a single letter, and not to render me, O my Beloved, deprived of the manifestations of Thy grace and the signs of Thy favors and that which Thou hast ordained for Thy chosen ones. Thou art, verily, the All-Powerful over what Thou willest. There is no God but Thee, the All-Forgiving, the All-Bountiful.

Praise be to God that they have been honored with the mention of the Lord of the worlds—a mention with one letter of which nothing that is witnessed can compare. That soul must, in accordance with the command, arise with complete determination to serve, that perchance the falsehoods of the past may not be renewed and the imaginary cities not be reconstructed by false hands. One destruction is better and nobler than a hundred thousand such constructions.

Consider how those unjust ones brought forth calumnies and what cities they built with lying hands. Those utterances of false souls appeared in the form of a sword and befell the Lord of the world in such wise that the eye of possibility wept. Those lies caused all the divines and their followers in the early years to engage in cursing and reviling their true Object of worship, and finally they pronounced the verdict for His death. Glory be to God! What intoxication seized them that all the Shi'ih divines were in error and had not attained unto a drop from the ocean of knowledge, for they all maintained that if anyone should assert His existence in the loins, such a one was an infidel whose death was obligatory—and thus did they kill. Glory be to God! What deed caused that from the inception of Islam until now not one of the Shi'ih divines was aware of this matter? By the life of our Beloved and your Beloved, the cause was the recompense of deeds and words.

O my beloved! The followers of the Bayan have again clung to the same vain imaginings and speak the same names. Strive ye and beseech God that perhaps the servants may be freed from these vain imaginings and attain unto the lights of true unity. Where are the heroes of the arena of inner meanings and the horsemen of the field of divine utterance? These are souls who have no purpose save the Truth and know none as existing save Him. They have passed beyond names and pitched their tents on the shore of the ocean of inner meanings. The clamor of the people of the Bayan and their croaking cannot prevent them. They are free and detached, have attained unto true freedom, and are severed from all else but God. Blessed are they and theirs shall be a goodly return.

In brief, whatsoever they ponder concerning the deeds of the former party and their fruits and convey to others becomes the cause of the steadfastness of the servants. Then they will not remain deprived of the Creator because of names, and will regard the sayings of twelve hundred years as though they had never existed. The signs have encompassed the world and the evidences are more manifest than the sun, yet they have said what no oppressor hath said and done what no party hath done.

As to that which they wrote concerning the permission, it was laid before the Most Holy, the Most Exalted Court, and was honoured with the privilege of attentive hearing. His Word—blessed and exalted be He:

O thou who hast turned thy face towards My countenance and gazed upon Mine all-highest horizon! The All-Merciful hath come down from the heaven of utterance with the standards of proof. He is the Hidden Secret and the Treasured Mystery. He hath, as a token of His grace, manifested His Self and hath, with the finger that doeth whatsoever He willeth, opened unto all who are in earth and heaven the gate of attainment unto His presence. Yet have the idolaters interposed themselves between Him and His loved ones, and perpetrated that which hath prevented them that were seeking from attaining their ultimate goal, their supreme pinnacle, and from appearing before the throne of thy Lord, the Lord of all names. Thus have their souls enticed them, and today they are in manifest loss.

O thou who hast drawn nigh! This Wronged One hath been encompassed by enemies from every direction. Most have heard what hath come from without. Now the people of the Bayan have arisen with utmost rancor and hatred. Say: O ye idolaters and heedless ones! Where were ye in those numbered years, and behind which veil were ye concealed? Most of the people of the world bear witness that this Wronged One, alone and without any veil or covering, called out before the faces of all men and summoned all to the truth. In those days, the limbs of all trembled from awe and hearts were troubled. Yet when the light became somewhat manifest and visible, they emerged from behind their veils with sword and spear, intending harm to the Desired One of all worlds. Such is the condition of heedless souls who, with utmost cunning, strive to lead men astray.

O thou who hast drunk the choice wine of utterance! This party and the various factions have been and continue to be the cause and reason for prevention. Yet, purely through grace and favor, We give permission for that honored one to turn towards the intended destination—but with such turning as would cause all created things to turn unto the Dawning-Place of the verses of their Lord, the Lord of Names and Attributes. This matter dependeth upon two conditions: first, that it be carried out with wisdom, spirit and fragrance; and second, the tranquility and stability of this land. Ask thou God to draw

thee nigh unto Him and grant thee attainment unto His presence. If thou attainest thereunto, He is verily the Source and Master of all hopes; and if not, He shall write down for thee, with His Most Exalted Pen, the reward of attainment. Verily, He is powerful over all things through His word "Be" and it is.

Section 2: "Praise be to God that the effulgences…"

Praise be to God that the effulgences of the sun of permission have shone forth from the horizon of the will of God, exalted be His glory. In truth, the people of the Bayan have committed that which hath caused every possessor of insight to weep and every possessor of a heart to lament. Most wondrous of all is that the Intended One, from the heaven of Whose will there hath been revealed that which equalleth all the books of the past and future, and Who is now present, and likewise all that which is to appear hath been revealed with utmost clarity from the Pen of His will—yet despite this they have turned away from Him and occupied themselves with their own desires. It is not known what they have understood from the Bayan and what they have comprehended from the manifestations of the Prophets. By what proof do they reason and to what evidence do they cling? Fie upon them and upon those who follow them!

As to that which they wrote concerning the Mashriqu'l-Adhkar, it was submitted. His Word—glorified be His utterance, and exalted be His proof:

O Husayn! Excellent is what thou hast done. Hold fast to wisdom, the decree of which We have sent down in the scriptures and tablets. We have accepted thy house and adorned it with the ornament of acceptance. Say: Praise be to Thee, O Lord of the world, and glory be to Thee, O Master of all beings. Stand firm in service to My Cause, be vocal in My praise, take hold of My Book, cling to the cord of My Cause, and grasp the hem of thy Lord's robe, the Mighty, the Bestower. Counsel the servants with that which We have commanded thee and that which We have revealed in the scriptures and tablets. Remind them of My verses, teach them what hath been revealed by My Pen, and make known to them the straight path.

In all circumstances thou must be mindful of wisdom and its requirements, and occupy thyself with teaching the Cause. Blessed art thou and thy father, whom We named Pir-i-Ruhani. Thy Lord is the Mighty, the All-Bountiful. We make mention of him at this hour with a remembrance whose fragrance shall endure as long as the names of thy Lord, the Mighty, the All-Knowing.

O My Most Exalted Pen! Make mention of Abbas-Quli, who hath ascended to the Supreme Companion, that his remembrance may endure as long as My most beautiful names and most exalted attributes. Say: The first light that shone forth and gleamed from the horizon of the heaven of inner meanings be upon thee, O Pir-i-Ruhani. I testify that thou didst turn to God and didst witness what God Himself witnessed before the creation of earth and heaven—that there is none other God but Him. He hath ever been sanctified above the description of all within the kingdom of creation, and will ever remain as He hath been. And I testify that thou didst attain unto the days of thy Lord, the Most Merciful, when the call was raised from the right side of the luminous spot beyond the crimson sea of grandeur.

Thou art he whom the blame of the blamer, the authority of any ruler, nor the doubts of any learned one could deter in the path of God. Blessed art thou for having attained unto the word "Yea" in the days of

thy Lord, the Lord of Names. Thou wert assured of the signs of thy Lord, wert turned toward His countenance, and didst acknowledge that which was revealed from His presence in days wherein the various peoples lamented for fear of God, the Lord of Lords. I testify that thou didst drink the choice wine of utterance which flowed from the pen of thy Lord, the Most Merciful, and didst attain unto that which the Concourse on High and the dwellers of the Most Exalted Paradise have attained.

Well is it with thee, and blessed art thou and he who maketh mention of thee and remembereth thy days and what befell thee in the path of God, thy Creator, thy Fashioner, thy Provider, thy Quickener, and thy Resurrector. He was with thee in all conditions, hearing and seeing, and He is the Mighty, the All-Bountiful, the Witness in the beginning and in the end.

Praise be to God! The ocean of forgiveness is surging and Pir-i-Ruhani is in the utmost joy and delight. I swear by the Sun of the horizon of inner meanings that at the time of the revelation of this visitation tablet, all the Concourse on High, the angels, the Spirit, and the souls of the assured, lofty, content, well-pleased and tranquil ones were present before the throne of their Lord to hearken. The reins of grace are in His hand of power, and the bridles of loving-kindness and bounty are in His right hand of mercy. With one exalted word He can raise earth above the Pleiades. He is the Powerful One Who can bring forth a pure gem from a handful of dust and transform loss into profit. Night and day this servant seeketh His grace and bounty for himself and His loved ones, that all may, without clouds or veils, be turned toward His horizon and arise to serve His Cause. The Command is in His hand; He doeth what He willeth and ordaineth what He pleaseth, and He is the Mighty, the Praiseworthy.

As to that which they wrote concerning Huququ'llah, it was honoured with the privilege of attentive hearing. His Word—blessed and exalted be He:

O Husayn! Concerning what was written about the Huquq, this has been raised to Our hearing. His blessed and exalted Word states: Whatever Huquq was owed by the spiritual elderly servant and you, We have pardoned it all. Be assured through the grace of your Lord and be among the thankful ones. We have accepted what you have done and what you have missed, as a bounty from Us and a mercy from Our presence. That which caused the Hands of the Cause to lament has befallen you in Our path. We have been with you in all conditions. Nothing is hidden from your Lord's knowledge, and He is the Truth, the Knower of the unseen. Then praise be to God that you have attained this great bounty and been adorned with the grace of Truth.

Blessed are you and those who love you for the sake of God, our Lord and your Lord, our Goal and your Goal, and the Goal of all who are in the heavens and earth. Another matter is that whatever Huquq and other payments that were sent to Haji Ahmad, upon him be the Glory of God, all of it has reached this evanescent servant. The servant testifies to his trustworthiness and religiosity. I beseech God the Exalted to strengthen him, make him successful, and make him among the steadfast ones.

Concerning what you wrote about the Fast—the Fast remains as it was, that is, the Fast of the Bayan, as explicitly mentioned in the Kitab-i-Aqdas. As for the obligatory prayer, it hath been revealed in such wise that should one recite it but once with a detached heart, he would surely find himself detached from the world. However, for reasons of wisdom it remaineth concealed for now and no command hath been

given to observe it. Regarding what they have heard about the Fast of Ramadan in this land—since some of the friends acted unwisely and the heedless and antagonists became aware of it, therefore, as a matter of wisdom, the command was sent down from the heaven of the Ancient One to observe the Fast of Ramadan, lest the clamor of the heedless be raised. In all circumstances wisdom must be observed, even as the True One Himself, exalted be His glory, would attend the mosque in Iraq and likewise visit Kazimayn before the Cause was proclaimed. Prior to the proclamation of the Cause, it is necessary to hold fast to that which draweth people near, for were people to become fully informed and aware, a greater separation would occur and none would then draw nigh to hear the Word of God and hold fast to the straight path.

This ruling was specific to this land, that is, the Prison Land. In any case, all the servants must observe the requirements of wisdom so that no clamor be raised and the weak be not shaken. Reflect upon the Cause of the Seal of the Prophets, may the spirit of all else be sacrificed for His sake. During the limited years He was in Mecca itself, the ruling regarding the Qiblih did not change, but after the Cause was proclaimed in Yathrib, the ruling was made manifest and the Qiblih became known. The servant beseecheth his Lord to confirm the servants in turning unto Him and teach them that which will draw them nigh unto His holy court. By the Sun of Truth! The servants themselves have been and are the cause of their own harm, abasement and loss. God, exalted be His glory, through the power of the Supreme Pen, rent asunder the veils and spoke without concealment or hindrance before all faces, such that the lights of the Most Great Luminary became manifest from every land. However, the people of the Bayan arose in opposition and manifested the utmost rancor and hatred. Were it not for this dissension, the whole world would now be illumined and adorned with the light of unity.

Ask thou God to grant justice and bestow awareness upon the people. Those who had and have no knowledge of this Cause, upon observing some measure of tranquility, emerged from their holes. In any case, I beseech the Exalted One to guide those souls and not deprive them of the ocean of His bounty. However, it is very difficult, for they have committed that which neither Pharaohs nor tyrants committed. Would that the people knew what they have wrought and recognized what they have perpetrated!

Mention was made of Qarru'l-ʿAyn, Nuru'llah and Diya'u'llah, upon them be the glory of God. This was presented before the face of the Lord and attained the honor of His hearing, and each was distinguished by mention from the Supreme Pen. His blessed and exalted Word:

In My Name, the Speaking, the Manifest

O Light of God! The ocean of utterance is surging, and the Desired One makes mention of thee with verses that all the kings and rulers possess nothing to equal them, and gives thee the glad tidings of God's grace and His favor, and of that which will draw thee nigh unto Him. Verily thy Lord is the All-Powerful, the Almighty. Say: My God, my God! I have turned to Thy most exalted horizon in my earliest days. I beseech Thee by the Manifestations of Thy power, the Daysprings of Thy signs, and the Sources of Thy clear tokens, to ordain for me from the Pen of bounty that which befitteth Thee, O Lord of Names and Creator of heaven.

There is none other God but Thee, the Omnipotent, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. O Light! The Wronged One makes mention of thee in such wise that thou wilt find from it the fragrance of the utterance of thy Lord, the All-Merciful. Blessed art thou and blessed is he who hath heard and said: "Praise be unto Thee, O Desire of the worlds!" When thou attainest unto My verses, recite them. They will draw thee nigh unto the ocean of the utterance of thy Lord, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. Thus hath the Tongue of Grandeur revealed Its utterance and the Will Its favor that thou mayest rejoice and be of those who are thankful. Say: Praise be unto Thee, O my God, for having made me know Thee and guided me and drawn me nigh unto Thee and sustained me and made me speak in Thy remembrance and turn unto Thee. Verily, Thou art the Forgiving, the Generous.

O Husayn! We have made mention of the Light as a bounty from Us on this Day whereon the divines and doctors of the earth have opposed Us. When thou attainest and readest, say:

> "Thine is the bounty, O Lord of the world, and Thine is the generosity, O Thou the Desire of them that know."

The splendor shining from the horizon of the heaven of My Will be upon thee and upon thy kindred and upon all who are steadfast and upright. Praise be to God, the Most High, the Most Great.

The smoke of vain imaginings hath deprived the world from the Lord of mankind. In the Tablets revealed in Iraq and the Land of Mystery and upon first arrival in this land, all were informed about the appearance of the clamorous ones in diverse regions. You must protect the people and gladden them with God's favors. Today if the people of God were to become aware of the error of the previous party and their words and deeds, they would find themselves firm upon the path of the Cause. One is astonished as to which deed brought about the punishment of the divines of Iran and their followers, such that in the early years not a single one attained the honor of nearness, and whatever they uttered regarding the Qa'im—may our spirits be sacrificed for Him—was all falsehood, as the Truth hath manifested. Were they to reflect a little, they would cry out and cleanse their ears from such mentions. In any case, I beseech God to assist you in promoting His Cause. Verily, He is powerful over all things.

Convey My greetings to the friends in that land. Tell them:

> "God willing, may you not be among those who, while claiming steadfastness, were deprived of the Truth by the word of a clamorer. You must be firm and steadfast as mountains in the Cause of the Desire of the worlds."

Today is the day of service to the Cause, and the day of remembrance and praise. Blessed are they that hear, and blessed are they that act.

The glory and the praise and the exaltation be upon you and upon God's loved ones there, and His mercy and His might and His honor and His favor and His generosity and His grace.

The servant, In the month of Jumada'th-Thani 1303

BH01579: Praise be to Him Who is sanctified above my…

In the Name of our Most Holy, Most Great, Most Exalted, Most Glorious Lord

Praise be to Him Who is sanctified above my praise and the praise of all created things. How can the praise of those beneath Him reach the court of His glory, after my certitude that all else was created by His command? The oceans of praise and the heaven of remembrance and utterance are reserved for His loved ones, whom the afflictions and hardships of the world did not prevent from the Lord of Names. They arose and spoke that which the Tongue of Grandeur had spoken before the creation of all things: Verily there is no God but Him, the Single, the One, the All-Informed.

Thereafter, your beloved second letter, which you had written after returning from your journey, arrived—an arrival that refreshed the very spirit itself. It was as if it were cool living waters reaching one afflicted with thirst in intensely hot weather. Well is it with me and with you! After it was presented in the Most Holy, Most Exalted Court, and after the prayer was presented, these verses were revealed from the heaven of the Will of the Goal of all the worlds. His blessed and exalted Word:

O ʿAli-Qabl-i-Akbar! Praise the Goal of the world Who hath mentioned thee in such wise that were it to be compiled, a manifest book would be witnessed wherein oceans of meanings lie concealed and hidden in its words, and wherein the mysteries of the Books are treasured in its letters. Glory be to God! Despite a greatness the like of which hath not been witnessed in the world, the transgressors have turned away and deprived themselves of the Most Great Bounty and the Mightiest Ocean. Soon shall their dominion be rolled up, and they shall find themselves in the fire. Convey to all the friends in that land the greetings of the Wronged One, especially to those souls who have drunk from the Kawthar of inner meanings and who are gazing toward the Most Exalted Horizon.

Wondrous and exalted Tablets have been sent down from the heaven of divine Will; from their horizons the light of grace is manifest. Blessed is he who hath attained unto the Tablet of his Lord. By the life of God! It is more precious in My sight than whatsoever hath been created on earth or treasured therein. Verily thy Lord is the Strong, the True, the Trustworthy. The splendor shining forth from the horizon of My Most Exalted Pen be upon thee and upon those who are with thee and who love thee for the sake of God, the Lord of the worlds.

What else can this evanescent one mention after the dawning of the lights of the Sun of divine favor? Who and what am I? I am lower than dust and more traceless than nothingness. The flow of ink is from His boundless mercy, and the power of the pen is from the spirit of His favor. Who gave power to the hand and Who taught the ink? His grace and mercy have encompassed all and are evident as the sun. He is the Describer of Himself and the Praiser of Himself. He hath no need for mention by anyone. His is the creation and the command, and He is the Mighty, the Unconstrained.

In brief, each of the aforementioned souls have been honored to be mentioned in the Most Holy, Most Exalted Court, and for each one hath been revealed that whose fruit shall endure throughout the kingdom of earth and heaven, if they be enabled, God willing, to preserve it. The thieves and betrayers lie in wait. For twelve hundred years what did they bring upon the people? They reared all in vain imaginings

and idle fancies until, on the Day of Manifestation, its fruit became evident to all the worlds. God curse them! They have done what neither Nimrod, nor Shaddad, nor the Christians, nor the Jews have done. They have pronounced judgment against Him through Whom the rivers of meanings and utterance have flowed in the contingent world and through Whom God's Law was established among His servants. Fie upon them and upon what their hands have wrought on the Day whereon the Herald proclaimed: "The Kingdom belongeth to the Creator of all existence!"

This evanescent servant beseecheth God—exalted be His glory—to aid and grant success to those souls who have unanimously determined to serve the Cause, that is, to educate and refine souls. Verily our Goal and your Goal, our Beloved and your Beloved, is the Hearer, the Answerer, and He is the All-Bountiful, the All-Generous. Glory and remembrance and praise be upon your honor, upon them, and upon whosoever hath clung to the cord of God, the Lord of all worlds.

BH03657: Glorified be He Who hath sent down the verses…

He is the One Who speaks the truth in the Kingdom of Utterance!

Glorified be He Who hath sent down the verses and through them opened the gates of divine knowledge to all who dwell in the realm of possibility. Exalted is the All-Merciful Who hath appeared and made manifest that which was hidden throughout all eternity.

O people of Baha! Hearken unto the call from the direction of the blessed white spot. Verily, there is no God but Him, the Single, the One, the Alone, the Self-Subsisting, Who hath summoned all to the most exalted station. Blessed is he who hath found the fragrance of the garment and turned toward the horizon from which the transgressors have turned away. This is the Day wherein the rapture of the divine call hath seized the Concourse on High and the dwellers of the most exalted Paradise, while most of the people remain wrapped in heedlessness and veils.

O Hamid! Give thanks unto God for having honored thee with attainment unto His presence and given thee to drink of the Kawthar of reunion from the hand of His bounty at the latter end. Be thou ablaze with the fire of My love, steadfast in service to My Cause, and vocal in My praise in such wise that the clamor of those who have disbelieved in the Beginning and the End shall not deter thee. Remember when thou wert present before the Countenance and didst drink the choice wine of utterance and hear the call of the Desired One from the Sinai of divine knowledge. We beseech God to aid thee in that which befitteth His days and to grant thee that whereby thy mention shall endure through the eternity of His most excellent names. Verily thy Lord is the Omnipotent over whatsoever He willeth. There is no God but Him, the Mighty, the All-Bestowing.

Thus have We sent down the verses and dispatched them unto thee that they might attract thee to a station wherein thou shalt cast silence behind thee and speak forth among the servants with wisdom and utterance. Look not upon the divines and their clamor, nor upon the princes and their turning away. Soon shall come a day wherein that which hath transpired in the days of thy Lord, the Lord of all men, shall be remembered. Convey My greetings unto My loved ones and mention unto them what We have revealed

for thee, that they might arise to perform that which hath escaped them in the days of God, the Lord of Lords.

BH06497: The Divine Lote-Tree desires to make mention of one…

He is the One Who rules over all names.

The Divine Lote-Tree desires to make mention of one of its branches who sought it out, heard its call, soared in its atmosphere, spoke in its praise, and hastened towards it until he attained its presence and beheld its effulgences. We beseech God, exalted be He, to ordain for him that which will draw him near unto Him in all conditions. Verily, He is the Self-Sufficient, the Most High. There is no God but Him, the One Who speaks in the beginning and in the return.

O My branch! We have remembered thee time and again with that which shall endure as long as the Most Beautiful Names of God and His most exalted attributes endure. Give thanks unto God for this manifest grace. By My life! Whatever hath been created on earth cannot equal a single verse from thy Lord. He Who speaketh “there is no God but Me, the One, the All-Informed” beareth witness to this. Blessed art thou for having attained His presence and drunk the choice wine of revelation from the hand of the bounty of thy Lord, the Generous. Verily, He is with thee and hath ordained for thee that which shall gladden the hearts of them that are nigh unto God. The glory that shineth forth from the horizon of the heaven of My utterance be upon thee and upon those who love thee for the sake of God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH07316: O son of Afnan, upon thee be My glory…

He is the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing

O son of Afnan, upon thee be My glory and My mercy! I saw thee before thou didst see Me, guided thee before thou didst ask of Me, and made thee known before most of My servants and My creation. Ponder thou the ocean of My loving-kindness and the heaven of My mercy and the sun of My bounty. Thy Lord is verily the All-Bountiful, the Compassionate, the Most Generous. There hath appeared before Us My Afnan whom God and His loved ones love, and thou wast mentioned. We make mention of thee at this moment with this perspicuous mention, and before this with a mention before which every wondrous mention hath bowed down in humility. The light of permission hath shone forth from the horizon of the heaven of the Tablet.

Draw nigh and be of the thankful ones. Under all conditions We counsel thee to observe the wisdom which We have sent down in the Book. Hold fast unto it, then act in accordance with it; otherwise ask thy Lord and the Lord of the throne and of the dust to ordain for thee the reward of attainment unto His presence. He, verily, hath power over all things. We send from this spot Our greetings upon thee and upon those who are with thee and upon those who love thee for the sake of God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH07478: Today the true Beneficent One is manifest…

In the name of the one peerless God!

Today the true Beneficent One is manifest, and the sea of bounty is surging, and the effulgences of the Sun of generosity are visible and evident, yet none attained except a few among the men and women servants. These are the letters whose mention hath been in the Book of God, before and after.

We make mention of thy Lord with thy tongue saying: My God, my God! This is Thy handmaiden and the daughter of Thy handmaiden and a leaf from among the leaves of Thy Tree. I beseech Thee by the lights of Thy countenance and by Thy Name whereby Thou hast subdued Thy earth and Thy heaven, and by Thy wisdom wherewith Thou hast commanded Thy servants, and by that which hath flowed from Thy Most Exalted Pen in Thy days, to ordain for me that which profiteth me. Thou seest and knowest what profiteth me in every world of Thy worlds. There is no God but Thee, the Powerful over what Thou willest.

Ordain through Thy grace that which befitteth Thy generosity and bestowal. There is no God but Thee, the Mighty, the Dominant, the Powerful.

BH09547: He is the One Who gazeth from the horizon…

He is the One Who gazeth from the horizon of the heaven of utterance. The Book speaketh with truth, but the people hear not. By God! The Cock of the Throne hath crowed, and the Dove of the Cause hath cooed, and the Nightingale hath warbled, yet the people perceive not. Blessed art thou for having cast behind thee what was with the people and turned to God, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting. We beseech God to aid thee and assist thee to be steadfast in His Cause, and to ordain for thee from His Most Exalted Pen that which will draw thee nigh unto Him. Verily He is the Truth, the Knower of the unseen. The light shining from the horizon of My Most Exalted Pen be upon thee and upon whosoever hath chosen for himself a path unto God, the Lord of what was and what shall be.

BH09353: A mention from the Wronged One to him who…

He is the All-Hearing, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed

A mention from the Wronged One to him who has turned with his heart to the Most Exalted Horizon and set his face toward God, Creator of Heaven, that he may give thanks, by night and by day, to the Lord of those who are in the heavens and on earth. Blessed is he whose strength the power of the servants cannot withhold, and blessed is he who stands firm whom the might of the oppressors cannot seat. The world and whatsoever is therein shall pass away, and there shall endure that which hath flowed from My Most Exalted Pen in this mighty Prison. Whoso hath turned today, verily he hath turned in all eternity past unto God, the Lord of the worlds. O people of God! The Ancient Beauty remembereth you and counseleth you with that whereby the Cause shall be exalted among the servants. He is, in truth, the Commander, the All-Wise. The glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My mercy be upon thee and upon those who have attained unto the lights of certitude.

BH00463: Praise, sanctified from all limitations and the recognition…

In the Name of our Most Holy, Most Great, Most Exalted, Most Glorious Lord

Praise, sanctified from all limitations and the recognition of any soul, befitteth the Lord of Mercy, Who hath raised the standard of "Verily I am God" to such heights that all hands fall short of reaching it and all tongues are powerless, nay mute, in its mention. Through it are all the peoples of the world known, while it is known through its own self. This is unique to this Most Exalted Revelation, whose Day is unlike all other days and whose light is unlike all other lights. In days when all were veiled, He spoke before the faces of the world in such wise that all bear witness. He summoned the entire world to unity and concord, and to that which adorneth the world of being and humanity.

He hath, through the burnishing power of His Most Holy Name, purified and sanctified the hearts of His loved ones, and through His All-Powerful Name hath removed from the realm of Baha all rancor and hatred which are characteristics of the divines of Persia. By "realm" is not meant the known realms of earth; within this realm lie concealed a hundred thousand worlds, though all remain heedless and veiled therefrom. A single leaf of its divine Tree speaketh and warbleth its praise in such wise as to draw to it heedless handmaidens and refresh them with the living waters of the love of the Peerless Friend. A hundred thousand blessings be upon the one who hath today attained unto true unity and hath turned his vision, heart and attention solely toward the Most Exalted Horizon. Such a soul hath, by the testimony of God Himself, attained true unity and is illumined by its light.

Glory, praise and exaltation be upon the loved ones of God, His chosen ones, and upon the leaves of God and His handmaidens, whom neither the riches of the world deterred nor the ascendancy of the nations frightened, who have held fast to the cord of His grace and clung to the hem of His bounty. Upon them, both men and women, be the mercy of God and His favors, and the compassion of God and His gifts, which have encompassed all existence, both seen and unseen.

And after, the letter of that honored leaf which was sent to the Most Great Name, upon him be all the most glorious Glory of God, was submitted to the Most Holy Court, and this evanescent servant presented it at a special time before the countenance of the Beloved of the worlds. After its presentation, these supreme words flowed from the tongue of the majesty of the Lord of creation—blessed and exalted be His utterance:

O Leaf! The Lord of Eternity hath desired the reformation of the world. All bear witness that We have forbidden all from harboring rancor, hatred and enmity which cause division and disunity. The Truth is, in and of itself, sanctified and distinguished above all else. No person of insight would deny this. Beseech the True One that He may grant eyes the power of vision. However, the ophthalmia of vain imaginings hath prevented eyes from beholding the Most Exalted Horizon. O My handmaiden! By the life of God, that which thou hast heard and seen cannot be equaled by a single verse. The people are heedless and veiled. We have breathed the spirit of life into the bodies of utterance, and the spirit of inner meanings into the bodies of words. Blessed is the soul that findeth and becometh aware—such a one is mentioned as the most exalted of creatures before the Truth. Thou hast ever been mentioned in the Most Holy Court. Strive that thou mayest attain unto that which beseemeth the bounty of the Truth, exalted be His glory. Convey My greetings to the handmaidens of that land, especially those who are engaged in serving the Cause.

The leaf who is the wife of Abu-Talib—upon her and him be the glory and favor of God—had some time ago sent to the Most Holy Court news of recent events in that land. It was seen. Blessed is she, for she hath attained unto serving My loved ones and hath borne hardships in My love and their love, seeking My good-pleasure. We beseech God to assist her, grant her success, and ordain for her the good of the hereafter and of this world. End.

God willing, the Most Holy, Most Great Tablet will also be revealed and sent specifically for the mentioned leaf—upon her be the glory of God. Verily our Lord, the All-Merciful, He is the Compassionate, the Generous.

And as for the mention they made of the honored beloved, Jinab-i-Aqa Mirza Abu'l-Fadl—upon him be the Most Glorious Glory of God—his mention has ever been and continues to be in the Most Holy, Most Great Court. And this time, after presentation before the Face, these exalted words were revealed from the Dawning-Place of verses—exalted be His utterance and glorified be His proof:

He is the All-Seeing, the All-Informed

O Abul-Fadl! Thou hast attained unto tribulation time and again in the path of God, the Lord of all names, even as the Wronged One did experience in most of His days. To this testifieth every fair-minded and discerning soul. Thou wert in the prison of Ta beneath chains and fetters. We have heard from the heedless what no ear hath ever heard, and We have witnessed what no eye in all the world hath seen, and I am the True One, the Trustworthy. Grieve not because of imprisonment, for it is characteristic of God's loved ones and a practice of God that hath preceded. Thy Lord is verily the All-Wise Expositor. Thank God, thy Lord, for having aided thee to turn unto Him on a day wherein most of the servants turned away and the hearts of those who claimed knowledge without proof from God, the Lord of all worlds, were perturbed.

We have remembered thee and do remember thee with such remembrance as diffuseth the sweet fragrance of thy Lord's tender mercy. He shall deliver thee even as He delivered His loved ones before thee. He hath power over all things. Hold fast unto wisdom in all conditions. We have enjoined this upon thee in numerous Tablets and in My Perspicuous Book. Take the chalice of utterance in the name of thy Lord, the Most Merciful, then drink therefrom despite every heedless and remote one. Remind the servants with wisdom and speak according to their capacity and station lest the clamor of the transgressors be raised.

O Fadl! Hearken unto the call of the Wronged One. In all conditions hold fast unto wisdom. From the inception of this Cause until now We have forbidden all people and the friends of God from oppression, transgression, conflict, disputation and treachery, for this Revelation hath come for the unity of nations and the betterment of the world. Its benefit returneth unto all, both to government and people. Nevertheless, until now they have not comprehended this evident and manifest truth. This decree hath been and remaineth firm. The Command of God is established and steadfast. Were heedless souls to reflect and ponder even briefly, they would behave toward the friends of God with utmost love, fellowship, harmony and unity. Beseech God, glorified be His majesty, to make the heedless aware and guide them.

The heedlessness of some people hath reached such a state that the Supreme Pen is bewildered. For twelve hundred years they claimed to love and beseeched God, glorified be His majesty, for the meeting with the Promised One by night and day. Yet when the clouds were rent asunder by the finger of divine will and the Day-Star of Revelation shone forth from the horizon of the world, all turned away. And now again the heedless walk the same path, that is, the deniers among the people of Bayan. Lo! They are accounted among the wrongdoers in the Book of God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy.

O Fadl! Repeatedly have thy letters arrived and the servant in attendance before the Countenance hath presented them. The glances of favor have been and are directed toward thee. We beseech God to grant thee divine confirmation and success, to bestow patience and forbearance upon thee. He is the Powerful, the Mighty. Verily He shall deliver thee, save thee and draw thee nigh through His grace. He is the All-Bountiful, the Forgiving, the Merciful.

This evanescent servant hath ever besought and continues to beseech God, exalted be His glory, for your success. Although the frequency of writing hath prevented this servant from expressing love and affection, yet the heart hath not been and is not prevented. The remembrance of that beloved one hath been preserved and flows from the tongue most often. I beseech God, glorified be His majesty, to make that beloved one's imprisonment blessed, that is, to make it the cause of the turning of denied souls. Verily our Lord, the Most Merciful, is the Powerful, the Mighty. I offer greetings and salutations, and I seek help from God.

Concerning what that leaf mentioned about some handmaidens newly turning to the Divine Law, this detail was presented in the Most Holy, Most Exalted Presence. His blessed and exalted Word:

> "O leaf! The mention of the handmaidens has been heard, and each has received her portion from the waves of the ocean of the All-Merciful's utterance. We beseech God that they may be assisted to preserve what has been bestowed. Great is this Day, and mighty is its station with God. Blessed is the countenance that hath turned to the light of His countenance, and the heart that hath turned toward His horizon. Convey to all the greetings of the Wronged One and give them the glad-tidings of His favors, that perchance the Divine remembrance and mention may detach all from aught else but Him and enable them to achieve that which beseemeth His days."

The lights of the Sun of Grace have, praise be to God, encompassed all, given water to the thirsty, strength to the weary, and blessed the seekers with the lights of His remembrance. Who is the lost one whom His grace hath not sought? Indeed, this evanescent one, together with all the cherubim, the chosen ones and the pure ones, is incapable and falls short of mentioning even a drop from the ocean of His grace.

Regarding your mention of that heedless soul who spoke certain words five years ago—indeed, he spoke truthfully, for the source of vain imaginings had specifically announced that the Truth would appear after two or three years. Now six years have passed, and it is not known what became of that promise. Would that the deluded souls had understood and had not, through such lies, remained deprived of the Dawning-Place. Fie upon them and upon what their mouths have uttered! Truthfulness, fairness and

justice have disappeared; they have taken fancy for certainty and fire for light. Such is the condition of the worthless masses. I beseech God to confirm that leaf and make her steadfast in His Cause with such steadfastness that all may testify to it. Until now, naught but goodness, kindness, love, and praise and glorification of God have been mentioned regarding that leaf. To this bear witness the fair-minded and those who hold fast to the cord of our Lord's gracious favors.

Concerning what you wrote about being unable to free yourself from this anxiety, grief and sorrow except through His all-encompassing grace, this matter was presented. His blessed and exalted Word:

> "O My handmaiden! Be thou glad through God's favor. His mercy hath preceded and His grace hath encompassed all. The ocean of His generosity is surging and the effulgences of the Sun of His bounty are manifest and evident. With utmost joy, expansion, spirit and fragrance, occupy thyself with the remembrance of the Goal of all the worlds. Verily, He is with whosoever remembereth Him, turneth unto Him and placeth his trust in Him. He is the Helper in all conditions. There is no God but Him, the Self-Sufficient, the Most Exalted."

May God grant that you may ever be joyous and enkindled with the fire of love in such wise that its effects may become manifest and evident. Verily, my Lord and your Lord, my Beloved and your Beloved, is the Compassionate, the Generous, the Oft-Forgiving, the Mighty, the Great.

The honored matron, the Mother of the Sacred House, upon her be the Glory of God, arrived and mentioned that leaf in the Most Holy Presence. I beseech Him, exalted be He, to aid thee through a power from His presence. Verily, He is powerful over all things and worthy to answer prayers. Praise be to God, the One, the Single, the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing. The Glory be upon thee and upon those handmaidens who have turned, heard, and responded on a Day wherein the Herald proclaimed:

> "The Kingdom belongeth to God, the Lord of the Day of Judgment."

The servant 9th of Jamadiyu'l-Avval 1303

BH00812: those who are deprived of ears cannot attain unto…

…those who are deprived of ears cannot attain unto hearing. What can the blind behold of the Sun of divine power and the manifestations of the craft of the Eternal? And what can the deaf hear of the melodies of the nightingales of divine knowledge? The Tongue of God is speaking manifestly and evidently amidst the world, the Most Exalted Horizon is visible, the river of inner meanings is flowing from the Supreme Pen, and the Luminary of utterance is shining and gleaming from the highest horizon of contingent being. Nevertheless, all are heedless save a handful of the Letters of thy Lord's countenance—namely, those souls who have quaffed of the sealed wine by the name of the Self-Subsisting and have attained unto the Kawthar of the knowledge of the Beloved of all possibility. These are the hosts of thy Lord, and none knoweth the hosts of thy Lord save Him….

…say: Reflect upon the deeds of the Shi'ih sect. For twelve hundred years and more they occupied themselves in mosques and pulpits with the mention of God, exalted be His glory. Each faction held fast to a cord and clung to a name, busying themselves day and night with cursing and denouncing one

another, while counting themselves the most learned, most excellent and most understanding people in the world. Yet when the horizon of the world was illumined by the Day-Star of Revelation and the Speaker of Sinai appeared and spoke, all of them, both learned and ignorant, arose in the earliest years to oppose Him and issued decrees to cut down the Divine Tree. Say: For God's sake, reflect upon the fruits of that sect's deeds and judge with fairness. They attributed unbelief to the Dawning-Place of faith and the Day-Spring of God's laws, and declared from their pulpits that which caused the Lote-Tree of the utmost boundary to cry out and the denizens of the highest Paradise to lament….

Say: This is that mighty announcement mentioned in the Qur'an, and these are those days about which God informed His Interlocutor. This Most Great Revelation hath ever been manifest in and of itself, needing no one to establish its truth. The equivalent of all previous and future books hath been sent down from the heaven of His Will, and whatsoever was to come to pass was clearly set forth beforehand by the Supreme Pen. Let them consider the Surih of the Kings, that perchance they may become mindful and distinguish truth from aught else.

Say: By God's life! Thou hast no knowledge of the root of this Cause and art deprived of the ocean of wisdom. None hath understood the nature of this Revelation. The Point of the Bayan Himself hath testified and doth testify to this. He seized upon the essence of the Bayan, which is in truth like its spirit and crown, saying, blessed and exalted be His words:

> "I have written a gem concerning His remembrance: He shall not be known through My allusions, nor by what hath been mentioned in the Bayan."

Blessed is the fair-minded one who pondereth this blessed word and knoweth with absolute certainty that the Truth encompasseth and is not encompassed. The reins of the world's understanding lie within His mighty grasp. The Point declared: "I am the first of them that worship Him." He spoke not in jest but in truth. This is the Day of vision. Blessed is the soul that hath attained true insight and recognized the Desired One in this garment. Woe to the heedless! By God's life! If any fair-minded person were to reflect upon these words of the Primal Point—"He shall not be known through My allusions, nor by what hath been mentioned in the Bayan"—he would find himself detached from the world and all who dwell therein….

The world was created for the recognition of this Manifestation. Deprive not yourselves, and withhold not yourselves from the Kawthar of the All-Merciful's utterance. Hasten with your hearts; perchance ye may attain to that which was the purpose of the world's creation—His recognition. The Point of the Bayan declares: Should anyone bring forth a single verse, turn not away but remain silent and seek from him, that ye may perchance attain to His grace. Likewise in the Book of Recompense He saith: "When ye hear of a Cause from Him, say not nay' except as ye say God is greater than all things, all are created by Him, and all are His worshippers."'

Now reflection is needed—that reflection which hath been mentioned in the Books past and future. Every fair-minded soul can understand from the utterances of the Primal Point that were this Manifestation not to appear, He would not have spoken thus. For today any soul is capable of composing one or two verses or more, and through the all-encompassing grace of this Manifestation, the loved ones of God speak and

write that which the divines are powerless to match. In brief, since the Sun of Revelation had risen from the horizon of Him Who conversed on Sinai, He educated the people through these clear and explicit statements lest they be deprived at the time of His manifestation, or lest they commit that which would cause their eternal loss. The Cause of God is not child's play, that every day someone should appear and cause division and difference….

In days when hearts were troubled and limbs trembled, this Wronged One stood forth unveiled before the faces of all peoples, called them to the Truth and guided them to the straight path. When the Cause was partly revealed and the Light manifest, they emerged from behind veils with drawn swords, intending to strike at the Dayspring of Divine Oneness. They said what no oppressor had said and did what no idolater had done. O servants! Hearken unto the scratching of the Most Exalted Pen and the rustling of the Lote-Tree beyond which there is no passing. This is the counsel of Him Who is wronged to all on earth. Blessed are they that attain, blessed are they that understand, blessed are they that are fair-minded. Leave behind names and turn to the ocean of inner meanings.

Now certain ones among the people of the Bayan speak like the Shi'ih sect, and these souls too shall witness after a thousand years and more the fruits of their deeds even as the fruits of the deeds of the previous group. O people of God! God protect us and you from the evil of these ones. O people! Hear the call of the Wronged One. Cast aside these worthless things of the world and keep your garment pure and sanctified from the like of them. This is the counsel of the Wronged One. Blessed are they that act accordingly….

BH01759: The verses of creation have prevented the Pen…

He is God, exalted be His glory, the Most Great, the All-Powerful!

The verses of creation have prevented the Pen from mentioning the verses of revelation. This is not a mere wind that bloweth, but rather the Lion of winds. Glory be to God! From every created thing are manifest and evident the signs of power. Exalted be His dominion and magnificent His might! Each of His creative works and each manifestation of His power hath been and is without equal, peer, similitude or likeness—how much more so His attributes and names, how much more His Essence! Blessed and exalted is He. True unity befitteth His threshold alone, but only if the Kingdom of His own utterance be made manifest; otherwise, God forbid that one such as I should attempt description or praise.

After offering praise and gratitude to God, exalted be His glory, and to His Prophets and chosen ones—may my spirit be a sacrifice for your presence—the elevated letter of this evanescent servant bestowed a new spirit, as the ancients have said: "He did unto me as the rain unto the meadow."

After reading and becoming acquainted with its contents, it was submitted. They stated that what was written is true and approved. We have fulfilled some obligations and, God willing, through His bounty and grace we shall fulfill the others. We beseech God, exalted be He, to strengthen, assist and support him that they may not cease in their quest and that the friends of God may attain their answer. The Light of Beauty shed its radiance, love became manifest, and from that mention it entered the arena, and from that enkindled realm came the verse "Thou shalt not know." It is He Who sent His loved ones to the place

of sacrifice, and He is the Cause of the world's attraction and unity. We beseech God to confirm all, that they may be set ablaze by the fire of love kindled by the Word of God. Verily, He is powerful over all things.

Indeed, any mention that appeareth from the Dayspring of utterance will cause the elevation, exaltation and enkindlement of that soul. Therefore, we beseech God to send forth at all times that which giveth life. As for the countenance of God, He is generous—it shall be properly arranged. The remaining Tablets of Baku, along with two letters addressed to his honor, were sent and will reach the blessed presence. The answer to the mentioned letter hath been revealed, but will be sent later to be forwarded subsequently, for some of the handmaidens of God, such as the wife of the elevated and late Aqa Siyyid Abu-Talib—upon him be the Most Glorious Beauty of God—have submitted petitions. If her answer is not sent, she will surely be saddened, therefore that too shall be dispatched.

To his honor, my namesake—upon him be God's peace—I convey greetings and praise. May he be preserved, God willing. He too must act with wisdom, for some people are corrupt and have neither recognized nor understood the value of generosity, love, and true manliness. In all cases, one must hold fast to wisdom. Verily, He is the Protector, the Mighty, the Powerful.

As for the mention of Aqa Mirza Safar ʿAli-Akbar from Tuyserkan, this servant conveys greetings to him. I beseech God to protect him and grant him sustenance from the purest fountain. Devils and demons lie in wait at their ambush points. I beseech and implore God not to deprive the seekers from their ultimate goal and highest purpose, nor prevent the pursuers from the effulgent lights of the Sun of inner meanings. Glorious is this day, and mighty is this Cause, yet the poor people remain heedless and unaware. We hope that the True Bestower will not withhold His grace and will grant that which befitteth His generosity. Verily, He is the Munificent, the All-Bountiful.

BH00484: The oceans of praise and gratitude, and the heaven…

In the Name of our Lord, the Most Holy, the Most Great, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious.

The oceans of praise and gratitude, and the heaven of remembrance and glorification, befit and beseem the people of God, whom neither clamor nor barking nor bleating deterred from the Lord of Names and Creator of Heaven. They arose with supreme steadfastness to serve the Cause of the Lord of creation—an uprising that neither the might of the sword nor the pen could prevent. They are the manifestations of the power of God, exalted be His glory, whose mention hath been and continues to be recorded in the heavenly Books of former and latter times. In the Qayyumu'l-Asma He saith—exalted and glorious be His Word:

> "And upon it are vessels of moist red ruby, wherein none shall embark save the people of Baha."

Glorified art Thou, O Thou Who through Thy most exalted Word didst create earth and heaven, and through Thy Most Great Name didst illumine the horizon of the world—whereby existence was thunderstruck and feet did slip, save those whom the hand of Thy grace did protect. I beseech Thee, O my God and the God of all contingent beings, my Purpose and the Purpose of all created things, by the

Dawning-Place of Signs and the Manifestation of clear evidences, to assist Thy Afnans, whom Thou hast related to Thyself and preferred above all other servants in Thy Books, Thy Scriptures and Thy Tablets, to serve Thy Cause and to stand firm in that which Thou hast commanded them in Thy Book. Then send down upon them from the heaven of Thy bounty that which will draw them nigh unto Thee in all conditions. Verily, Thou art the Self-Sufficient, the Most Exalted.

My spirit be a sacrifice for your steadfastness, your remembrance and your service! The honored letter dated the ninth of Muharram arrived and gave life to the body, for from each letter emanated and diffused the fragrance of the love of the Desired One of the worlds. After reading and reviewing it, I sought permission to present it at the Most Exalted Presence, and after receiving leave, it was presented before His face and was honored to be heard. His blessed and exalted Word states: "O My Afnan! Upon thee be My glory and My loving-kindness! Thy letter arrived and the servant in attendance before My face made mention of it, and at this moment the effulgent rays of the Sun of inner meanings are directed towards thee.

Well is it with thee! Today the world is in need of the Word of God. The sacred Being of God has ever been and will ever be self-sufficient and independent. As He said before and at this time: ʻO people! Ye are the poor in your relation to God, and God is the Self-Sufficient, the Praiseworthy.' Say: He hath come with the truth and was radiant with His lights, triumphant in His sovereignty, manifest in His signs, and sanctified in His exaltation and power. Nothing can frustrate Him and no matter can weaken Him.

Say: O people of the Bayan! Die in your wrath! By God, He hath come before Whom the verses bow down and voices are hushed. Fear God and be not of the transgressors. In this Revelation there hath appeared what hath never appeared before nor will appear hereafter. My Most Exalted Pen beareth witness to this, as doth that which hath appeared through My firm and mighty Command. Convey My greetings to the faces of My loved ones who have not been held back by the doubts of the heedless nor the insinuations of the opposers. The Glory shining and gleaming from the horizon of the heaven of My mercy be upon you and upon those who are with you and who love you for the sake of God, the Lord of the worlds."

Glory be to God! What do the heedless people imagine? They deny the station from which, from the beginning of the Cause until now, the signs of grandeur and power have been manifest and evident before the faces of the world. What do they affirm? This servant's very being trembles and his limbs quake with the fear of God at the mention of these stations. In all conditions, this evanescent one of no worth clings to the cord of grace and with the utmost lowliness and supplication implores and seeks bounty and mercy for the servants. Though mercy has preceded and grace has encompassed all, yet the words and deeds and actions of the transgressors have exceeded all bounds. In any case, we have never been and are not now in despair of the ocean of generosity and the sun of His bounty. Verily our Lord, the All-Merciful, is the All-Bountiful, the Generous One. He heareth and answereth, and He is the Forgiving, the Merciful.

Regarding what was written about the funds, some time ago this servant, as commanded, wrote to Jinab-i-Haji Mirza Abu'l-Hasan (upon him be the Most Glorious Glory of God) and emphasized that if they had any of the Huququ'llah with them and if sending it would be accomplished with joy and fragrance, they should send it, otherwise not. Later Jinab-i-Amin forwarded some funds, and they were repeatedly

written to, asking them to consult with him in all matters and act according to his judgment. In any case, God, exalted be His glory, was and is Self-Sufficient. They should, like Jinab-i-Amin (upon him be the Glory of God), hold fast to what is beneficial for the Cause and act accordingly. I beseech and implore God, exalted be His glory, to assist this servant and them and all to do what He loves and is pleased with.

Regarding Mr. F.Sh., upon him be the Glory of God, who requested a passage—four pages were sent, and God willing they will reach him and he will attain unto them. I beseech the True One, exalted be His glory, to assist him at all times to serve the Cause. Today it is incumbent upon all to strive, that perchance former vain imaginings may not intervene and the helpless people may dwell in perfect tranquility beneath the canopy of grandeur. The command is in His grasp, and He is the Commander, the Wise, and the All-Knowing Doer.

They mentioned Haji Muhammad-Rida, upon him be the Glory of God. Whatever was given before and after, Jinab-i-Amin himself, upon him be the Glory of God, has written about. I beseech the True One, exalted be His glory, to assist him to make mention and give praise, that perchance the sleeping ones may become aware and the dead may be adorned with the ornament of life. Mention of him was made in the Most Holy and Most Exalted Court, and these exalted words were revealed from the Kingdom of utterance. His words, blessed and exalted be He:

"O Muhammad-Qabil-Rida! Praise the Beloved of the world Who enabled thee to recognize Him Whom all have been created to know, yet from Whom they remain veiled and debarred. This station is great—know thou its value and preserve it in the name of the True One, exalted be His glory. The people are heedless. By the life of God, were they adorned with the ornament of awareness, they would sacrifice their lives to obtain but one word of the divine words. Whosoever today attaineth unto the Word of God hath attained unto all good, and is more precious in the sight of God than all that lieth hidden and visible in the earth. Reflect upon the deeds and words of the former people and their fruits on the Day of Resurrection. Should anyone become aware and witness the fruits of those souls' deeds, he would be adorned with the ornament of supreme steadfastness, would pass beyond the river of names, and would turn toward the ocean of inner meanings—a turning that neither ranks and multitudes could prevent nor the clamor of nations could hinder. Blessed is he who hath attained, and woe unto the heedless, and woe unto the transgressors." End quote.

Praise be to God, once again they drink from the cup of the favor of the Lord of all beings. The essences of existence circle round this bounty, and the people of the Kingdom make mention of this favor.

Regarding the mention they made of Aqa Mulla Muhammad, upon him be the Glory of God, as well as the mention of his acceptance, devotion and enthusiasm—praise be to God, he hath attained unto this most great station. Any soul adorned with the ornament of fairness will recognize that of which the people of the world are heedless, and will turn to a horizon from which most of mankind have turned away. This most great Cause hath not appeared in such wise as to leave any soul room for excuse, hesitation, or anything less, save those whom divine wrath and the recompense of their deeds have prevented and deprived. If someone denies the sun, its rays and its light, then to what else can he hold fast and what can he declare? I beseech and implore the True One to purify eyes and ears through His grace, that none may be deprived of hearing and beholding.

Regarding what they wrote about Aqa Mulla Muhammad-Baqir, upon him be the Glory of God—His Holiness Ismu'llah Zayn, upon him be the Most Glorious Glory of God, has also written something in this regard. God willing, may they be assisted and enabled to do that which will cause the exaltation of the Word of God.

Mention was made of His Honour Haji Mulla Muhammad Ibrahim, upon him be the Glory of God. I beseech the True One to confirm him in the remembrance of His Cause with wisdom and utterance, and to ignite within him such a fire that its traces may become manifest and evident in the world, and its warmth may endure throughout the kingdoms of earth and heaven. This lowly one conveys greetings and salutations to him and beseeches God, exalted be His glory, for assistance on his behalf. He must at all times be mindful of wisdom, as this binding commandment hath repeatedly flowed from the Supreme Pen. This lowly one offers greetings, salutations and praise to each of the Afnans of the divine Lote-Tree, and beseecheth for each that which is peerless. The Command is in His grasp; He ordaineth as He pleaseth for whom He pleaseth, and He is the Mighty, the Powerful. Glory, remembrance, praise and peace be upon you, upon those with you, and upon those who love you for the sake of God, the Lord of the worlds.

Concerning His Honour the Physician, upon him be the Glory of God and His favours, they wrote that according to instructions it was written to him to provide details about the House—how much had been received, how much remained, and likewise what were the costs of repairs. In any case, matters should now proceed with utmost brevity until news arrives. Whenever news from him arrives I shall inform your honour. The honored Afnan, His Honour Haji Mirza Aqa, upon him be the Most Glorious Glory of God, has also written something about repairs to the House. Thus far no reply has been sent to him as news from His Honour the Physician, upon him be the Glory of God, has not arrived.

The funds from His Honour Haji Mirza Muhammad, upon him be the Glory of God, arrived through His Honour Haji Siyyid Javad, upon him be the Glory of God, and was accepted and acknowledged. It was written to him in the letter this servant wrote in reply to his letter, and the receipt for the funds sent to Bushruyyih was dispatched—they will observe it and deliver it.

In these days the blessed place of your honour and the great gentlemen, the Afnans, is very empty, as the Greater Afnan, the Afnan of China, and the Afnan of Beirut have attained the presence. Praise be to God, they have repeatedly attained and continue to attain. Praise be to our Lord in all conditions, verily He is the Self-Sufficient, the Most Exalted.

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BH00917: In truth, the praise of these servants has not…

He is God, exalted be His station, the Greatness and the Power!

In truth, the praise of these servants has not been and is not worthy of the Concealed Mystery, the Hidden Secret, and the Protected Symbol. The path to the impenetrable Mystery is blocked and the quest

rejected. However, praise, gratitude, mention and glorification are befitting of Him Who stands in the place of Truth, glorified be His Glory. He is the Dawning-Place of supreme attributes and the Dayspring of the Most Beautiful Names. This most exalted station and loftiest summit and ultimate goal ended with the Seal of the Prophets, may the spirit of all else be sacrificed for Him. He is the Seal through whom the Beginning was made manifest, and He is the Last through whom the First became evident. He is the Manifestation of He doeth what He willeth' and the Embodiment of the words He is the First and the Last, the Manifest and the Hidden.' And prayers and peace be upon Him and His family and companions through whom the banner of unity was unfurled and the decree of detachment was spread.

Thereafter, O beloved of my heart, the esteemed letter which was sent to the great beloved, Hadrat-i-Ism-i-Jud, upon him be God's peace and care, was forwarded to this servant and presented before His face. He said:

> "Excellent is what his tongue hath spoken and what hath flowed from his utterance. He hath indeed spoken the truth. We beseech God the Exalted to strengthen him and assist him with the hosts of wisdom and utterance, and to protect him from the evil of those who have clung to the cord of deceit and guile. Verily, He is powerful over all things. And We make mention of those with him. We beseech God to send down upon them a blessing from His presence and mercy from His side. He is the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous."

End.

As for that beloved one's augury, in truth it was a supreme sign and a mighty proof. But what benefit when there is no fairness and penetrating vision and attentive ears are lacking—nay, lost. We are God's and unto Him shall we return. However, what he said afterward and declared that "I took an augury from them and this verse came"—this statement was pure fabrication. In any case, Ahmad is very corrupting. That beloved one should know that he may often become the cause of sedition and corruption, for in his childhood things were observed from him.

It is not known by what proof and evidence those souls accepted the Primal Point. The essence of the Bayan, by the confirmation of the Point Himself, may our spirits be sacrificed for Him, was this blessed word:

> "I have written a gem concerning His mention, and it is that He shall not be known by My allusion nor by what is mentioned in the Bayan."

If this mention were removed from the Bayan, nothing would remain.

The second Yahya surely wants to become a follower of the first Yahya. Say: O helpless one! What was the outcome of the deeds and the fruits of the words and beliefs of the Shi'ihs of Iran that you now wish to follow them? After twelve hundred years, when He Whom they mentioned night and day and Whose appearance they sought and hoped for, both learned and ignorant, after His manifestation they arose to oppose Him and gave verdict to shed His most pure blood. And if only they had been aware of the source of vain imaginings. If this evanescent servant were to mention the details, all would be astonished.

In any case, I beseech the True One to grant eyes the light and ears the power of hearing that perchance they may see. Let them hear that verily He is in need of nothing from among all things, neither any mention from among mentions, nor any matter from among matters. He hath spoken with supreme steadfastness before the faces of humanity. What He hath willed—verily He is the One Willed in both beginning and end, and He stood before all faces while those who indulge in vain imaginings remained behind the veil.

That beloved one, praise be to God, is aware and cognizant. According to His command, shunning such souls is necessary and withholding acknowledgment obligatory. Often they inform the heedless and investigators appear. Under no circumstances should you be at ease with anyone. There have been and are investigators among the people; one cannot be at ease with any soul, for they conduct their investigations with the utmost friendship and unity.

Since that beloved one has the affairs of the people in hand, they must be most vigilant. The ungodly souls will surely give information to others. In correspondence also, wisdom must be observed. Until now they have not understood the purpose, imagining that this party consists of corrupt people. I beseech the True One to make all on earth aware, that they may know with clear certitude that corruption, conflict, contention, treachery and all evil deeds have been forbidden with a mighty forbidding, and the purpose hath been and is naught but reformation. As they are heedless and unaware, at the mere hearing of a word they become agitated.

In all cases that beloved one must be vigilant and documents must be in a secure place. The servant beseecheth his Lord to preserve you, guard you, aid you in wisdom, ordain for you the good of this world and the next, and manifest through you that which shall endure through the eternity of His most beautiful Names.

Convey my greetings to the spiritual friend, his eminence Shaykh, upon him be God's peace and favors, and likewise to Qurratu'l-ʿAyn. I beseech God, exalted be His glory, for confirmation and aid for each one. Verily He hath power over all things. Convey my greetings and praise to his eminence [the namesake], upon him be God's peace and favors. He too must act with wisdom, for some people are corrupt and have neither recognized nor known the worth of generosity, love, manliness and valor. In all cases one must hold fast to wisdom. Verily He is the Preserver, the Mighty, the Powerful.

Concerning what was written about his honor Aqa Mirza ʿAli-Akbar, may God assist and aid him, this servant conveys greetings to him and beseeches the Truth to preserve him and grant him sustenance from the purest fountain. Ghouls and demons lie in wait in ambush. I beseech and implore the Truth not to deprive the seekers from the ultimate goal and highest purpose, nor prevent the yearning ones from the effulgences of the Sun of inner meanings. Blessed is the day and mighty the Cause, while the helpless people are heedless and unaware. It is hoped that the true Bestower will not withhold His grace but grant that which befits His generosity. Verily He is the Kind, the Generous.

Peace, remembrance and praise be upon you, upon those with you, and upon God's sincere servants. Praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

The servant 12 Jamadiyu'l-Avval 1303

BH01309: The path of God is more manifest than…

In the Name of our Lord, the Most Holy, the Most Great, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious

The path of God is more manifest than the sun, and His proof more perfect than all that exists in creation. He is the Praised One in His deeds, the One to be obeyed in His command, the Dominant One in His sovereignty, and the Manifest One through His signs which have encompassed the horizons. The tabernacle of glory hath been raised upon the most exalted place, and the banner of His Cause hath been hoisted upon the highest standards. Yet the people of the earth remain heedless and veiled, save for a numbered few who are the Hands of the Cause among His servants. In truth, praise and glorification today befit these souls who have arisen to reform the world and are confirmed in that which exalteth the Word of God. Otherwise, the Ancient Beauty, exalted be His glory, is sanctified and exempt from all that minds can comprehend or tongues can utter. And the prayers, the peace, and the glory be upon His loved ones and His chosen ones who have not broken His covenant and His testament—servants whom God hath described in His Books, His Scriptures, and His Tablets.

Glorified art Thou, O God of all beings and Goal of all creation! I beseech Thee by the ocean of Thy knowledge and the sun of Thy bounty to assist Thy loved ones at all times in that which will draw them nigh unto Thee, and ordain for them that which befitteth Thy generosity and Thy gifts. Verily, Thou art God, there is none other God but Thee, the Powerful, the Mighty.

Thereafter, the letter of that spiritual beloved arrived. In truth, it was like a warbling nightingale and a melodious verse. The servant testifieth that it was as a dove cooing upon the branch of divine knowledge. Exalted is the All-Merciful Who confirmed you, assisted you, caused you to know, taught you, and enabled you to voice His praise amongst His servants. The fragrance of the love of God and steadfastness was diffused and evident throughout the entire letter. His is the grace, the bounty, the grandeur, and the majesty. I beseech and implore the Self-Sufficient, the Transcendent, in all conditions to increase His confirmation upon that beloved one and to aid him through the means both seen and unseen, that thou mayest utter in every state, with wisdom and utterance, that which will draw people nigh unto God, the Goal of all the worlds. When the servant heard thy melodies and warbling, he approached the Most Exalted Station and the Supreme Summit, until he attained the presence and presented it before His face. Then did the Tongue of Grandeur speak that which caused the sun of grace and favors to shine forth and its lights to encompass all lands. His word—exalted be His utterance and exalted be His proof—is as follows:

In His Name, the One Who ruleth over all who are in earth and heaven!

The servant who is present before the Wronged One hath presented and read that which the tongue of thy heart hath uttered out of love for God and His verses, and out of longing for the wonders of His grace and His bounty. We have found therein the fragrance of sincerity and supplication unto God, the Lord of creation and the Speaker on the Day of Reckoning. Blessed art thou for having drunk the choice wine sealed with My Self-Subsisting Name, and for having attained unto the fragrances of My utterance, and for having soared in the atmosphere of My love, and for having turned toward the ocean of My

knowledge, and for having faced the lights of the Countenance, and for having spoken in praise of God, the Lord of the mighty throne.

And blessed be thine ear for having heard the Call, and thine eye for having witnessed and beheld My greatest signs. We beseech Him, exalted be He, to manifest through thee that whereby His verses and that which He hath revealed in His Book may be spread abroad, and to confirm thee in every good thing that hath flowed from His Pen. Verily, He is powerful over all things. The glory from Us be upon thee and upon whoso heareth thy word concerning the Cause of God, the Dominant, the Self-Subsisting.

Praise and gratitude be to God! The shrill voice of the Most Exalted Pen is raised, and the rustling of the Divine Lote-Tree is heard. The benevolence of God, exalted be His glory, is manifest and evident. We beseech God, exalted be His station, to grant at every moment that which will cause the exaltation of His Word. At the time when your supplication was presented, We found you assisted by the confirmations of your Lord, Who has dominion over all who are in the heavens and on the earth.

Concerning what you wrote about Ahmad, upon him be the glory of God, it was presented, and a most holy and exalted Tablet was revealed from the heaven of bounty and sent forth. God willing, he will attain unto it and receive his portion from the ocean of inner meanings. This servant conveys greetings and glorification to him, and beseeches God to ordain for him that which will draw him near and enable him to succeed in mentioning and praising Him. Verily our Lord, the All-Merciful, is the All-Bountiful, the Generous.

Regarding what you wrote about the piece, four blessed pages were sent. God willing, they will arrive and you will attain unto them. I presented your mention, praise and glorification to the Branches of the Divine Lote-Tree. They expressed their favor and besought God, exalted be His glory, for your confirmation. Glory, radiance, remembrance and praise be upon you and upon those with you who have achieved the greatest steadfastness in this mighty Cause.

BH00616: At all times doth the Book of God call…

He is God, exalted be His station, the Greatness and the Power!

At all times doth the Book of God call out and declare:

> “O people of the earth! The True One, glorified be His majesty, hath sent Me down from His Kingdom of utterance that ye might all hold fast unto Me and find the path of salvation. Through Me is the straight path made clear and the evident proof established. Through My being hath the world been established, through Me are mysteries revealed and lights made manifest, the ocean of knowledge billoweth and the sun of wisdom shineth resplendent. O people of the glorious Faith and the radiant Law! Return ye unto the Truth and act according to Me. Today the believers must arise to make good what hath been lost, that perchance the departed glory might return, the fallen standard be raised again, and the banner of power be unfurled. But alas! Alas! For in the days when I was with the Interpreter and We came for the salvation of the world, the people of the earth were found heedless and remote, save for a few. And afterward, when the sword appeared, some turned to Him willingly or unwillingly. In

> truth, had the servants been enabled to act according to what was recorded in God's Book by the Supreme Pen, the whole world would now be illumined with the light of unity. The results of deeds have weakened strength and transformed assurance into fear and trepidation."

And peace and blessings be upon Him unto Whom God revealed the Book and sent Him for the guidance of creation until the Day of Return, through Whom was opened the gate of knowledge and understanding before all possibility, and through Whom spoke the Tongue of Grandeur: "Power and might belong to Me and to My friends." And upon His family and companions, at whose might the world trembled and the skin of the nations shuddered. Through them was made manifest God's power among His servants and His sovereignty over all lands—blessings eternal and everlasting.

Thereafter, O beloved of my heart, the servant hath been honored by your letter, which was an eloquent proof testifying to your sincerity and your devotion. It related what was hidden in the grieving heart. I beseech the Exalted One to assist your honor and to aid you with the means of the heavens and the earth. Verily, He is the Hearer, the Answerer.

After reading and reflecting, proceeding to the Presence, achieving the honor of attentive listening, the Lord (may our souls be His sacrifice) said: O physician, upon thee be My peace! Thou hast fallen into hardship. The True One, glorified be His majesty, hath foretold the absence of comfort in this world. In truth, its comfort is hardship, let alone its hardship. However, since it is transient, there hath been and is no harm. In one station, hardship is the cause of testing the servants, that the station of each soul might become known—from it patient perseverance is made manifest, and through it the world of attention and remembrance is adorned and evident. O physician! Tears are very good, and sighs most desirable. Hardship is the cause of the awakening of being, and awakening is the cause of reflection upon the end. In this state, sighs ascend and tears descend. Were We to expand upon this station, a book would come into being. We beseech the True One, glorified be His majesty, to preserve your honor from the vicissitudes of time. Say:

O my God, my God! Your love has set me ablaze, and my remoteness from the shore of Your nearness has consumed me, causing my veins to be severed and my liver to melt. I beseech You by Your Prophets and Your chosen ones, by the mysteries of Your Kingdom and Your Dominion, and by the Mother Book which none has known save You, to aid me in that which You love and are pleased with, and to assist me in serving Your chosen ones and Your loved ones. Then grant me the best of what You have revealed in Your Book. O Lord! You see that hardship has encompassed me and difficulty has seized me. Where is Your ease, O Master of existence, and Your repose, O Sovereign of the seen and unseen?

You behold me, O my Goal, turning toward the lights of Your countenance, holding fast to the cord of Your grace, and clinging to the hem of the robe of Your bounty. O Lord! The thirst of days has destroyed me. Where is the sweet water of Your mercy, O Goal of the worlds? I beseech You by Your Name through which You have subdued the world and guided the peoples, to send down upon me from the clouds of the heaven of Your grace the rain of Your bounty, that it may cleanse me from the murk of the world and its cares and sorrows. Then open before my face and the faces of Your servants the gates of Your relief.

You are He by Whose will all things have appeared and by Whose desire all possibilities have been created. Ordain for me through Your Most Exalted Pen the good of the hereafter and of this world. There is no God but You, the Single, the One, the Powerful, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

Praise be to God! The drops from the vessel of grace have made fresh and verdant the realm of the seen and unseen. Ever has the sun of His truth and bounty been manifest and evident and clear. This servant beseeches the Eternal Lord and submits in humility and supplication that He may confirm that Beloved One in that which will cause the exaltation of the Word of God and His glorious Law. O Beloved of my heart! We must all, at all times, hold fast to the cord of grace of the Lord of all beings and seek from Him the protection of the people of unity. The servant asks his Lord to protect the people of unity from the fire of the hatred of the ungodly and to assist them in what they have missed in pure servitude to His true Self. For had the Book been followed, this evident abasement would not have occurred. In all conditions, we beseech the Exalted Truth for the reformation of the people of the world, that all may attain to the fruit of their existence and not depart heedless from this world. Verily, He is God; there is no God but Him, the Powerful, the Supreme, the Hearing, the Answering.

As to what you wrote concerning the emigrants and the Leaf, upon them be the peace of God and His favors—they were honored in these regions for a time. Praise be to God, they inhaled the fragrance of the Hijaz and bore the difficulties of the way for love of the Glorious One. They attained to the circumambulation of the House and the sight of Yathrib. God protected them with the hosts of the seen and unseen and granted them a great victory, for despite the upheavals in these parts and the might of the ungodly and the disorder of the way, they arrived, saw, and attained in perfect health and safety. This is among the special and mighty divine favors. Blessed are they!

And as to what was mentioned that the honored emigrants, after visiting the Sacred Thresholds, intended to stay in that House—this matter was honored by being heard. We ask God to assist them in what they have intended, to remind them of His verses, to adorn them with His beautiful remembrance, and to ordain for them the reward of what they have done in His path. Verily, He is the All-Bountiful, the Generous.

Concerning what was written about the House, they said that you yourself know there were and are no special funds with the friends that could be transferred. And the matter of the House—its details are not known. Previously a description was written and sent, but no reply was received—apparently it did not arrive. This matter was truly approved in consideration of your love and desire. Now you should, as commanded, describe in detail the affairs of the House—how much has been received and how much remains, and likewise how much you intend to spend on repairs. However, given the lack of means, the more modest it can be the better and more fitting. This year the affairs of this land have also become somewhat disturbed. Surely news about the House in this land has reached or will reach your ears. In any case, they repeatedly said that the honored physician has been put to trouble—the first matter not yet complete when you fell into a second difficulty. By the life of our Beloved and your Beloved, due to lack of means these matters and their completion were delayed. Now you should write in detail all that was mentioned and send it. After its receipt, it must be carried out in whatever way possible.

In these days some mischief-makers in this land have made certain accusations that have caused grief to the friends—that is, general grief. Although whatever has happened and is happening has been in the path of God and we are all content and thankful for it. Convey greetings from this ephemeral one to the friends in that land. God willing, may all be assisted to act in ways that cause the reformation of the world and the tranquility of nations. A reply to this letter is desired as soon as possible.

And concerning what you wrote that "it is two hours past sunset on Thursday the 13th of Jumada I, and we are dwelling in the upper chamber above the entrance with weeping eyes and burning hearts, together with the Leaf, upon her be God's peace"—these words had a profound effect. The dwellers of the pavilion of glory all send their greetings to that Leaf and express their loving-kindness. The servant asks his Lord as you asked: "O God! Cause Your House to be built by the hands of Your chosen ones and Your loved ones. Verily You have power over all things."

The greetings and praise of that beloved one were conveyed to the presence of the Branches of the Blessed Tree—may my spirit, my being and my essence be a sacrifice for the dust of their footsteps—and each one expressed loving-kindness and sends greetings with the utmost eagerness, love and kindness. Praise be to God, mention of that beloved one and the days you were here has been and continues to be made. Blessed are you! Peace and praise be upon you and upon those with you and upon God's sincere servants. And praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH02923: In My Name which shineth forth from the horizon…

In My Name which shineth forth from the horizon of utterance

O Samad! We beseech God that He may aid thee to be enkindled with the fire of the blessed Tree, with such enkindlement as shall generate heat throughout the world of being. Today the pavilion of glory hath been raised up, and the canopies of grandeur have been pitched in the most exalted station, and the banner "Verily He is God" is manifest and resplendent before all faces, and the standard "The Kingdom is God's" is visible in the prison. Turn thou to God and speak for His sake, that perchance they that slumber in the wilderness of heedlessness may awaken and be adorned with the ornament of awareness.

Say: O friends! Know ye the value of the Day of God and arise to make good what hath escaped you. Today the Mount is in communion with Him Who conversed with it, and the Tree beyond which there is no passing is ablaze in the luminous spot. The people of God must occupy themselves with wisdom and utterance in exalting the Word, that perchance they may become possessed of deeds whose fragrance shall endure and persist. Convey My greetings to the loved ones of God, glorified be His majesty. Say: It behooveth you to hold fast unto that which will exalt the Cause of God, the Supreme, the Self-Subsisting. Beware lest the doubts of the divines, or the suggestions of the jurisprudents, or the denial of the people of the Bayan who have disbelieved in your Lord, the All-Merciful, when He came with manifest sovereignty, hold you back. We beseech God to aid you to purify the world from rancor and hatred. Verily He is the Almighty over whatsoever He willeth, and He is the Single, the One, the Mighty, the All-Loving.

O Samad! Say: My God, my God! Praise be to Thee for having strengthened me and caused me to know Thee and brought me before the gate of Thy grandeur and made me hear Thy sweetest call and showed

me Thy most exalted horizon. I beseech Thee, O Thou in Whose grasp is the kingdom of names and from Whose might the limbs of all who are in earth and heaven do tremble, by the lights of Thy countenance and the pearls of the ocean of Thy knowledge, to ordain for me through Thy Most Exalted Pen that which shall cause me to speak Thy praise and turn toward Thy face and be attracted to Thy horizon and arise to serve Thy Cause.

My God, my God! Withhold me not from the fragrances of Thy days, and disappoint me not of that which Thou hast ordained for Thy chosen ones. I beseech Thee, O Lord of eternity and Goal of the world, by Thy Most Great Name, to assist Thy servants to return to the horizon of Thy grace, then enable them, O my God, to do that which beseemeth them in Thy days. Verily Thou art the Almighty over whatsoever Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the Mighty, the Beloved.

BH05576: O handmaiden of God! The True One, exalted be…

In the name of God, the All-Knowing, the All-Powerful!

O handmaiden of God! The True One, exalted be His glory, has remembered His male and female servants, and declares that at all times the Most Exalted Pen has not paused—this is from the great bounty of the Lord of the world.

How many among the divines, theologians and princes have failed to attain recognition of the Day of God and are deprived of the ocean of reunion and the gulf of His presence, while you have attained thereunto, heard His call and turned to the most exalted horizon. How many a man has been kept back from the ocean of divine knowledge, and how many a woman has attained and said: “Praise be to Thee, O God of the worlds!” Preserve this most exalted station through the Name of the True One and be occupied with His remembrance.

That which you sent has been received and has been honored with acceptance from your Lord, the Compassionate, the Generous. God has forgiven the one for whom you sought forgiveness—verily He is the Forgiving, the Merciful.

Be not grieved by worldly events. This blessed word which has flowed from the Most Exalted Pen is greater and more excellent than a hundred thousand children and monuments, for all shall return to extinction while the Word of God endures for the duration of the Kingdom and the Realm. Rejoice and be among the thankful ones. Verily your Lord is the Revealer of verses and the Manifester of clear proofs.

BH05623: In My Name, the Hearer, the Answerer!

In My Name, the Hearer, the Answerer!

O My leaf! Upon thee be My glory! Thy letter was received and was the object of attention. Thou hast ever been mentioned in the presence of this Wronged One. Permission to attain the presence had previously been revealed and sent down from the Most Exalted Pen.

O My handmaiden! The Wronged One of the world hath been and is afflicted in the hands of the oppressors. At every moment enmity hath been made manifest. From the beginning of days We have

been in the hands of Our enemies. What hath been mentioned is not intended as complaint. I swear by the Sun of Utterance which hath dawned from the horizon of the Kingdom of meanings that tribulations in the path of the Lord of Names are more delectable than any bounty and more pleasant than any ease. These mentions are for the consolation of the hearts of the righteous. We beseech God, exalted be He, to protect His loved ones and His leaves, and to ordain for them that which will bring comfort to their eyes. Verily He hath power over all things.

As to what thou didst mention regarding the honored leaf, upon her be the Glory of God—it was heard. She must hold fast unto beautiful patience until God openeth unto her the door of mercy and bounty. A Most Holy, Most Exalted Tablet was revealed and sent specifically for her, that her eyes may be consoled, her soul assured, and that she may be among the thankful ones in a clear Book.

The Glory be upon thee and upon My handmaidens, from God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH05621: O My leaf! Turn to the Most Exalted Horizon…

He is the All-Compelling, the Protector, over all who are in earth and heaven

O My leaf! Turn to the Most Exalted Horizon, then hearken to the call of thy Lord, the Lord of Names. He calleth thee and giveth thee glad tidings of God's loving-kindness and grace, for thy son Husayn was present before the Wronged One. Verily thy Lord is the All-Compassionate, the All-Bountiful.

We have heard thy call and have remembered thee in this wondrous and glorious Tablet. When thou dost inhale the fragrance of thy Lord's merciful robe, arise and say: Praise be to Thee, O Lord of Names and Creator of the heavens, for having remembered me when I was among the heedless ones.

I beseech Thee, O Cleaver of Dawn and Subjugator of Winds, by Thy Name through which Thou hast subdued all names, to make this leaf of Thine confirmed by Thy confirmations, uttering Thy praise among Thy handmaidens, and steadfast in Thy service. Thou art verily the All-Forgiving, the All-Merciful.

Thou art He Who, O my God, hast drawn me nigh unto Thee and made me to know the Dayspring of Thy lights, the Dawning-Place of Thy signs and the Manifestation of Thy Self Who hath called Thy servants and handmaidens to Thy luminous horizon. I beseech Thee, O my God, to make me in all circumstances turning unto Thee, holding fast to Thy cord, and clinging to the hem of Thy bounty. Thou art verily the Goal of them that have recognized Thee and the Beloved of the sincere ones. Praise be to Thee, O God of the worlds and Lord of the heavens and earths.

BH08616: O My leaf! Upon thee be My glory!…

He is the One Who gazeth from His Most Exalted Horizon

O My leaf! Upon thee be My glory! A single word from thee was presented at the Most Holy Court, before the face of the Wronged One, and that word found acceptance. We heard thy mention and made mention of thee. We beheld thy turning unto Us and turned unto thee from the direction of the Prison, and We give thee the glad-tidings of God's loving-kindness, the Lord of all the worlds. How many are the men, divines and princes who are deprived this day, while thou, through His infinite bounty, hast turned

unto Him and attained unto that which hath been recorded in all the divine Books, both past and present. Blessed art thou, and blessed are thy father, thy mother, and thy brother who attained unto the presence of his Lord and quaffed the choice wine of reunion from the hands of the bounty of his Lord, the All-Forgiving, the All-Bountiful. The glory be upon thee from Us, and upon them that have turned unto God and hearkened unto the call of God, the Mighty, the All-Praised.

BH01316: O My Name! Upon thee be My glory…

He is God, exalted be His glory, the Most Great, the Most Powerful!

O My Name! Upon thee be My glory and loving-kindness. The letter from the honored Attar which he sent to thee was read before the Presence. Praise be to God that from it wafted the fragrance of love for the Desired One of all worlds. That household hath ever been engaged and occupied in serving the Cause, and mention of each one hath repeatedly flowed from the Most Exalted Pen in such wise that its effects are manifest and evident to those possessed of insight.

As to their mention of the honored Aqa Siyyid Muhammad-i-Sahhaf, he hath been granted permission to enter. Let him give thanks unto God for this manifest bounty. However, taking up residence in this land is another matter. Repeatedly hath this exalted word flowed from the Most Exalted Pen: though outwardly at rest, the Prison Land is inwardly turbulent. We beseech God to ordain for His loved ones that which will draw them nigh unto Him and assist them in such wise that nothing shall prevent them from His remembrance and praise. Verily, He is the Almighty, the All-Powerful.

From this spot We send Our greetings upon him and upon Attar and all who dwell in that household. Thy Lord is verily the All-Merciful, the All-Bountiful. The glory from Us be upon his mother, upon him, upon his brother who emigrated and attained, upon the other who attained the presence of the Countenance, and upon all who are steadfast and firm. We beseech God to ordain for them that which shall profit them in all the worlds of His worlds. He is verily the All-Hearing, the All-Answering.

Mention was made of Abu'l-Fadl, upon him be the glory of God. In these days mention of him hath repeatedly been revealed from the Most Exalted Pen. He hath once again been afflicted with trials. We beseech God first to adorn him with the ornament of patience, then to deliver him through His power and sovereignty. He is verily potent over all things. Blessed are they who have remembered and do remember such souls, and who strive and endeavor to the extent of their capacity in the Cause of God.

O My Name! The mention of Muhammad-Qabli-ʿAli from the people of Sad was made in thy letter. In these days We have repeatedly made mention of him, especially when Khalil from the people of Qaf attained the presence of the Countenance. In truth he is firm in his attachment to the cord of love and steadfast in service. We beseech God to strengthen him, to prosper him, and to send down upon him from the heaven of grace and bounty that which will gladden his heart and solace his eyes. He is verily the Protector of the sincere ones.

We counsel him to observe wisdom, for in that land there are both tale-bearers and spies. Wisdom is necessary for the time being. The people of the world have not yet discovered the purpose of this Wronged One. Each faction among the factions hath imagined vain things. By the life of God! Were they

to discover the purpose, all would circle round it and would be content and grateful with what God hath willed. Then would the loved ones of God be freed from the need for wisdom, concealment, and the like.

Say: O my God, my God! Make known to Thy servants what lieth with Thee, teach them what Thou hast intended for them, and draw them nigh unto Thee, that they may acknowledge that which Thy tongue hath uttered. Thou art verily the One Who hath power over whatsoever He willeth. There is none other God but Thee, the All-Merciful, the All-Bountiful. O my Lord! Wert Thou to remove the veil from them, Thou wouldst find them hastening to the horizon of Thy grace and bounty. To this beareth witness every fair-minded and perceiving one.

[…] You have mentioned Siyyid-i-Tuyserkani. We beseech God not to deprive him of the lights of the Sun of Truth and deny him his portion of the ocean of inner meanings. Several Tablets have been revealed specifically for those souls whose names Jinab-i-Ghulam-ʿAli had sent to the Most Holy Court.

O My Name! The Most Exalted Pen is ever flowing, pervading, speaking and moving without cessation. Time and season do not suffice. We beseech God to aid all and enable them on the Day of God to engage in mention, praise and service to His Cause. The letter of Jinab-i-Asad, upon him be My glory, was considered. What they have written concerning wisdom is the truth, in which there is no doubt. All the people of God must hold fast unto it, and this matter hath been repeatedly revealed in the divine Tablets.

O My Name! Convey to all the friends in those regions the greetings of the Wronged One. Each one is mentioned before the Throne and hath attained the favor of God, exalted be His glory. Today all must hold fast unto unity and act in concert, that perchance the horizons may be illumined and perfumed by the breezes of revelation. All things bear witness that God, exalted be His glory, hath remembered and continueth to remember His loved ones in the Most Great Prison. Blessed are they who have attained unto the Divine Word. The glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My bounty be upon thee and upon those whose names thou hast mentioned and whose letters thou hast sent, and upon all who have remained firm and attained unto the most great steadfastness in this mighty Cause.

BH00651: Praise and thanksgiving befit the chosen ones and pure…

In the Name of our Most Holy, Most Great, Most Exalted, Most Glorious Lord

Praise and thanksgiving befit the chosen ones and pure ones of God, they who have drunk of the living waters flowing from the Pen of Him Who is the Purpose of all the worlds, and have offered it unto others. These are the Hands of the Cause amongst the servants, and these are the lights of the horizons. Through them the light has shone forth and God's commandments and laws have been spread among the people of the Dispensation. These are they who serve the chalices of divine bounties and heavenly gifts. In the name of Truth do they take, in remembrance of Truth do they drink, and to every seeker and questor do they give. These are souls who have had and have no will or purpose of their own.

They gaze toward the horizon of the All-Merciful and act according to His command. The cause of their life is the mention of Truth, and the reason for their existence is the remembrance of the Peerless Friend. By the word "Arise!" they arise with such arising that sitting shall never overtake it. As He states in the prayer of the Fast, these are servants who, when blessed to hear the word "Fast" as a binding command,

this decree becomes not bound by time or limit—they fast until their spirits leave their bodies. How glorious is this most exalted station and this supreme rank!

Glory be to Thee, O my God, O Thou by Whose name the horizon of power hath been illumined and by Whose remembrance the lights have shone forth! I beseech Thee by Thy Will which hath subdued all created things, and by Thy Purpose which hath encompassed all atoms, to assist this servant of Thine to mention Thee and to mention Thy Afnan whom Thou hast related to Thyself and elevated through Thy Most Exalted Word and made them the dawning-places of Thy love in the realm of creation. O my Lord! The servant acknowledgeth his powerlessness and shortcomings and his errors that have prevented him from that which beseemeth Thy days, and his transgressions that have made him heedless of the mention of Thy chosen ones. I beseech Thee, O Bestower of bounties, by the Most Great Name, to teach me that which Thou lovest and with which Thou art well-pleased. Verily, Thou art the Lord of all beings and the Lord of the throne on high and of the dust below.

And then—may my spirit be a sacrifice for your steadfastness and your mention and your turning unto God! The servant has been blessed with a scroll filled with pearls of remembrance and praise. When I contemplated it, I was blessed by it and by its beauty and its purity and the delicacy of its hue. I approached the station of its Creator and Originator and Inspirer and Sustainer, and I presented it before my Lord and its Lord, my Sovereign and its Sovereign. And after it was blessed by the gaze of my Creator and its Creator, the gate of utterance was opened and the Tongue of Grandeur spoke that which nothing in all creation can equal. His blessed and exalted Word is:

He is the One Who exercises dominion over all who are in earth and heaven.

O Afnan! Upon thee be My glory, My loving-kindness and My mercy which have encompassed all horizons. The All-Merciful hath come with the Kingdom of proof, yet most of the people are in doubt and discord. Their eyes have been prevented from beholding the waves of the ocean and that which hath shone forth and appeared from the horizon wherefrom the lights have dawned. They worship vain imaginings and perceive not; they hear the verses yet understand not. For twelve hundred years they clung to the vain imaginings of heedless souls, and on the Day of Reckoning they pronounced sentence of death upon the Lord of all beings. They cling to the gulf of names while deprived and forbidden from the ocean of inner meanings. Glory be to God! Not one among the divines attained true understanding—from delusion they came and to delusion they returned. Every person of insight is bewildered and every possessor of heart is astonished.

Today the people of God must arise to serve the Cause with utmost endeavor, that perchance the servants may be preserved from former delusions and the tender saplings of the new garden may be protected from poisonous winds. By the life of God! The breath of the opposers is as deadly poison. Beseech ye God to protect all—He is the Powerful, the Mighty.

Thy mention hath ever been and shall continue to be in the Most Holy Court. The servant in attendance presented thy letter and read it before the Wronged One. We found therein the fragrance of sincerity for God, the Lord of the worlds. We heard its contents and answered thee with verses that nothing in the world can equal. Verily thy Lord is the All-Witnessing, the All-Informed. He is with thee and will aid thee

through His grace, for He is the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous. Thus did the Light manifest its appearance and the Sun its radiance. Blessed art thou and blessed is he who hath attained unto that which hath shone forth from My luminous horizon. The Glory shining from the heaven of My loving-kindness be upon thee and upon those who love thee and are with thee and hearken to thy words concerning this irrevocable, mighty and wondrous Cause. End.

Praise and grace be unto Him Who hath ever mentioned and will continue to mention His Afnan, each having been blessed with the effects of the Supreme Pen, though God hath preferred some above others—this is what the tongue of God, our Lord, hath formerly uttered, and He is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. In truth, a bounty hath been manifested that hath had and shall have no likeness or parallel. This evanescent servant beseecheth the Ever-Abiding Truth to increase His favors at all times and to keep him joyous and steadfast through the Kawthar of His utterance.

Regarding what was written about the funds for the Most Exalted Leaf, upon her be the Most Glorious of all Glory—what was sent has been received, however the remainder should reach the Supreme [Lady] the Leaf, her mother. The choice of garments has also been left, as commanded, to that noble lady. They said if they can preserve some in a chest, it would be beloved and acceptable in the sight of God. And they said that the honored Afnan hath rendered complete service to the root of the Cause in attending to the needs of the Most Exalted Leaf, and this service was most acceptable before the Divine Throne, as this servant repeatedly heard from the Tongue of Grandeur. Well is it with you and pleasant it is.

As for the House, its custodianship has been entrusted to the exalted lady, the mother of His Holiness, and this is what the Tongue of Grandeur hath spoken at this time:

> "O My Afnan! Upon thee be My glory and My loving-kindness. The exalted lady, the mother of His Honour, is most entitled to reside in that House. We have entrusted its custodianship to her and bestowed it upon her, and after her to her descendants, that it may be a remembrance for her from God, the True One, and a memorial to her throughout ages and centuries."

Indeed, the favor of the True One, exalted be His glory, is of such magnitude that this evanescent one is powerless to describe it. Thereafter, that Most Great House must be maintained and renovated by the friends according to what the Tongue of Grandeur hath spoken and in the manner He hath commanded. Reverence for it is incumbent and obligatory upon all. This supreme gift hath today been specifically revealed from the Most Exalted Pen for the exalted lady. His bounty hath encompassed, His generosity hath taken hold, and His mercy hath preceded. Exalted is our Lord, our God, our Beloved, and our Desire! We beseech Him to assist us in His remembrance, His praise, and the promotion of His Cause. Verily, He is powerful over all things.

As for the tea sent by Your Honour, it truly arrived pure, distinguished and desirable, though not without some strength. Nevertheless, it has been and is being consumed. The package also arrived. In response to the petition of the exalted lady, the honored mother and leaf, upon them both be the Most Glorious Glory of God, two Most Holy, Most Exalted Tablets were revealed and sent. God willing, they will attain unto them and be gladdened and rejoiced by the rain-showers of divine mercy.

Furthermore, Your Honour's second letter, dated the 2nd of Rabi'u'th-Thani, renewed the world of remembrance and bestowed a wondrous adornment upon the tree of hope. I beseech Him, exalted be He, to grant me the blessing of meeting you and gathering with you beneath the shade of the Tree of His loving-kindness and the pavilions of His grandeur. In reading the letter, this servant was deeply moved, for there was delay in responding to it. However, God is witness and Your Honour knows that you are ever present before these eyes. Forgetfulness hath no place in this station, and oblivion hath no power. Verily our Lord, the All-Merciful, is the All-Knowing Witness.

To the honored Afnan who are present in that land, and to the friends of God, I convey greetings and praise, and I beseech for all novel bounties and fresh favors. The Branches of the Blessed Tree—may my spirit, my being, and my essence be sacrificed for the dust of their footsteps—and the people of the pavilion of infallibility and grandeur, all convey their greetings and praise. Glory, remembrance and praise be upon Your Honour, upon those who are with you, and upon those who love you for the sake of God, the Lord of the worlds.

The servant 26 Jamadiyu'l-Avval 1303

Furthermore, in response to the honored Aqa Siyyid Husayn, upon him be the Glory of God, a detailed Most Holy, Most Exalted Tablet was revealed from the heaven of divine Will and sent. God willing, they will send it soon. A Tablet was also sent specifically for the honored Haji Mirza Muhammad-Taqi, upon him be the Glory of God. A Tablet was also revealed for the aforementioned person. God willing, they will attain unto it. I beseech the True One that the sealed wine may take hold of all and lead them to the praiseworthy station.

BH11874: O Rida! Upon thee be the Glory of God…

He is the Speaker before the faces of the world

O Rida! Upon thee be the Glory of God, the Lord of all names. Thy letter hath come before the Wronged One, and from it We perceived the fragrance of the love of God, the Lord of the worlds. My Most Exalted Pen beareth witness from the Most Sublime Horizon that thou hast spoken the truth and testified to that which God testified before the creation of the heavens and earth—that there is none other God but Him, the Single, the One, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. Thou hast spoken that which caused the limbs of the ungodly to quake and the hearts of those who denied God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy, to tremble. Blessed be thy tongue for having spoken the truth, and thy heart for having turned to the One, the All-Informed.

Be confident in thy Lord's favor such that neither the doubts of the divines and jurisprudents disturb thee, nor the might of princes frighten thee, nor the intimations of the people of the Bayan who have turned away from the All-Merciful and committed that which caused the Faithful Spirit to lament, prevent thee. Say: O people of the Bayan! Cast the names behind you, turning unto the ocean of inner meanings which surgeth before your faces and from whose waves is heard "The Truth hath come with manifest sovereignty." Thus warbled the Dove of Paradise upon the bough of eternity by the command of God, the Mighty, the Great. Say: O people of God! This Day is your day. Arise to aid the Cause of your Lord through

wisdom and utterance. By God! The King hath come with a Cause against which neither the hosts of the world nor the might of kings and sovereigns can stand. Say: By God! He hath come for the reformation of the world and the purification of all peoples through this water which hath flowed from His Most Exalted Pen in this mighty, impregnable station. Thus hath the Tree of Knowledge yielded the fruits of utterance, each by My wondrous permission.

O Rida! Upon thee be My Glory! That which thou didst speak before all faces and didst send to the Most Holy Court was the truth, without doubt. Praise be to God that thou hast attained unto the lights of the Sun of Truth and hast drunk from the sealed wine. However, now the Most Exalted Pen counseleth concealment and protection, and that which wisdom requireth in all circumstances. We have forbidden the people of God from that which is prohibited and commanded them to that which is good. Nevertheless, until now the people of the earth have not understood what is intended and what is desired. Glory be to God! The people of the Bayan are seen today as the most lost among the peoples of the world.

For one thousand two hundred and more years the Shi'ih sect clung to vain imaginings and held fast to idle fancies, and when the pavilion of glory was raised upon the highest of standards and the banner of "Verily I am God" was hoisted upon the most exalted station, they committed that which caused the denizens of the highest Paradise to lament. Now the people of the Bayan are secluded in those same vain imaginings. The fruit of this people will surely be like the fruit of that people. Ask thou God to aid them to return. Verily He is the Ever-Turning, the All-Forgiving, the Merciful.

Convey greetings from the Wronged One to the friends in that land and counsel them to steadfastness. Say: Open your eyes and purify your ears, for this is the Day of sight and hearing. To this beareth witness He with Whom is the Mother Book. The Glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My mercy be upon thee and upon those who have clung to the hem of the robe of their Lord's bounty, the Lord of Return.

That thou hast made mention of the hoopoe—the grace of God hath encompassed all, and His mercy hath taken precedence. Convey greetings on behalf of the Wronged One to him and say: O my handmaiden! We have made mention of thee aforetime in such wise as no mention can equal. God willing, thou shalt be confirmed. That which the Wronged One seeketh from all is the preservation of their own stations. All must adorn themselves with the ornament of truthfulness, sincerity, trustworthiness, righteousness, and chastity. This is the counsel of God, both in the past and in the future. To this testifieth every fair-minded and discerning one. Today is the day of the most great bounty. The True One, exalted be His glory, beholdeth it. O Rida! The Lord of Names declareth: Beseech the True One that He may manifest from His party that which beseemeth His Day and is worthy of His Revelation. The command is in His grasp. He doeth what He willeth and ordaineth what He pleaseth. He is the Almighty, the All-Powerful.

The petitions of the leaf, the wife of the late Haji Mirza Hasan, upon them both be the Glory of God, were received and attained unto His presence. Make mention of her in such wise as shall gladden her eyes. Likewise the leaf Farkhundih, upon her be the Glory of God. We beseech God, exalted be He, to confirm them both, to grant them success, and to draw them nigh unto Him in all conditions. Verily He is the Self-

Sufficient, the Most Exalted. His is the praise at the beginning and the end. There is none other God but Him, the Mighty, the Supreme, the Glorious, the All-Bountiful.

BH02358: O Rafi'! God has exalted the station of one…

He is the All-Witnessing, the All-Knowing

O Rafi'! God has exalted the station of one who [ascended unto] God and was named the Most Great Victory in His perspicuous Book. Hearken with the ear of truth to the call of the Wronged One, reflect upon all matters, and likewise upon that which hath been revealed from the Supreme Pen. Verily He will make clear unto thee His path, manifest unto thee His Cause, and draw thee nigh unto Him in all conditions.

The cawing hath been raised—this is among the divine promises that flowed from the Supreme Pen in Zawra'. Protect the souls from the guile of the cawers in the name of God, exalted be His glory. For twelve hundred years the ignorant divines educated people in vain imaginings, with the result that on the Last Day they issued the death warrant of the Lord of the world. Reflect upon the fruits of the deeds of that vile party, namely the Shi'ites, and hold fast to the firm and mighty cord. Perchance through His wondrous grace He may protect these helpless people from the deception of the turbaned ones.

Consider the Most Holy Book—mention of what would appear in the land of Kaf and Ra was revealed in that sacred tablet from the Pen. Convey My greetings to the friends in that land. Say: This is the day of steadfastness and the day of service. Thieves lie in wait and robbers stand ready, that they might find an opportunity to steal away the pearls of divine love. Beseech God that He may aid you to remain firm with supreme steadfastness and to perform such deeds as will endure throughout the kingdom of earth and heaven.

O Rafi'! Reflect upon the pole of the divines, namely Shaykh Muhammad Hasan Najafi, who at the beginning of the Revelation was the chief divine of Persia. That aforementioned pole, together with all the Persian divines, engaged in cursing and denouncing the Lord of mankind and Master of the world. Finally they issued the death warrant for His pure blood. There occurred that which caused the Spirit of Truth to lament and the dwellers of the highest paradise to weep—a weeping that caused all things to don the garment of grief. Fie upon them and upon what their hands have wrought!

Make the friends aware of past vain imaginings, that they may not again be debarred from the straight path by green and white turbans and remain deprived of the Most Great Ocean. Be a helper of thy Lord's Cause in such wise that nothing whatsoever shall deter thee, no host shall frighten thee, no might of the mighty nor authority of the divines shall weaken thee. By My life! The world shall pass away and thou shalt find thyself in a glorious station, were the merest trace thereof, even less than a needle's eye, to be revealed, all on earth would swoon away, save whom God, thy Lord, the Mighty, the Great, willeth. Glory be upon thee and upon them that are with thee and upon those who have cast away vain imaginings, clinging to the cord of certitude.

BH05045: This is a mention from Us to him who…

He is the One speaking from His most exalted horizon.

This is a mention from Us to him who hath clung to My cord and laid hold on My robe and turned towards My horizon and uttered My beauteous praise. Say: O people of the earth! This is a Day which the Books of God have attested, both in the past and in the future. Fear ye God and set not aside that which ye have been commanded by One All-Knowing, All-Informed. Hearken! Hearken! The rustling of the Divine Lote-Tree hath been raised, and the Rock hath cried out, and the Tongue of the All-Merciful speaketh in the kingdom of utterance: “There is none other God besides Me, the Mighty, the Great.”

This is a Day wherein We have made clear the Way and sent down the Evidence, yet most of the people are heedless. They play with their vain imaginings and perceive not. They worship the idols of their desires and understand not. Say: O concourse of divines! Die in your wrath. The Lord of Names hath come with clear sovereignty. He it is Who hath appeared and manifested before the faces of the world that which He desired in such wise that neither the might of kings nor of rulers could withhold Him. Thus hath the ocean surged and the fragrance wafted. Blessed is he who hath found and said: “Praise be unto Thee, O Thou the Desire of the worlds!” Arise to serve the Cause by Our command. Verily thy Lord is the Commander, the Ancient of Days.

Blessed is the strong one whom the affairs of creation have not weakened and who hath guided the people to My straight path. Glory be upon thee and upon those who have laid hold on My mighty cord. And praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH11789: O Yahya! My Most Exalted Pen hath moved among…

He is the Guardian over all names.

O Yahya! My Most Exalted Pen hath moved among the people at eventide and at dawn, and hath called all unto God, the Lord of Names and Creator of the heavens, Who hath come from the heaven of grace with a power that the might of the wicked could not overcome. The servant who is present hath appeared and made mention of thee. We have remembered thee with a remembrance that no other remembrance can equal. We made mention of thee before, and at this hour when the horizon of the heaven of My proof hath been illumined with the Day-Star of inner meanings and utterance. Take hold of the Book of God with strength and set aside that which proceedeth from the daysprings of idle fancies and vain imaginings. Blessed art thou and blessed is he who hath hearkened unto thy words concerning the Cause of God, the Lord of Lords.

We make mention in this station of thy son who was named Ghulam-Qabl-Husayn and thine other son who attained the lights of recognition in his final abode. We send Our greetings upon the countenance of thy wife and thy daughters who have believed in the Almighty, the All-Bestowing, through Whose Name the ocean of utterance hath surged in the realm of possibilities and the breeze of God hath wafted over all lands. The glory shining forth from the horizon of the heaven of My loving-kindness be upon you and upon every servant who hath arisen to aid the Cause with humility and hath turned unto God in repentance. And praise be to God, the Lord of the beginning and the end.

BH09172: O leaf! Thou hast been mentioned in the presence…

He is the Compassionate, the All-Bountiful!

O leaf! Thou hast been mentioned in the presence of the Wronged One, and this blessed Tablet hath been sent down from the heaven of loving-kindness addressed to thee. Praise thou the Best-Beloved of the worlds that thou hast attained unto that which was the hope of the Prophets and Messengers. Thou hast apprehended the days of God and hearkened unto His call in days wherein the ears of the divines, the mystics, the learned ones and the dead were debarred and deprived of hearing. Know thou this bounty to be great. By the life of God, it is mighty!

The Glory be upon thee and upon those handmaids who have believed in God, the One, the All-Informed. If thou findest handmaids of God, convey to them My greetings and give them the glad-tidings of God's loving-kindness. Verily He is the Bearer of Glad-Tidings, the All-Bountiful. Praise be unto Him, for He is the Lord of all the worlds and the Goal of them that have recognized Him.

BH09720: O leaf of the Tree of Love! I bear…

He is the Mighty, the All-Wise!

O leaf of the Tree of Love! I bear witness that thou hast turned unto God and drunk the choice wine of revelation when the handmaidens were wrapped in heedlessness and veils. Thou didst seek and attain the recognition of thy Lord when men were in doubt and error. Blessed is the handmaiden who hath attained unto your love, and blessed is the servant who hath arisen to make mention of you and serve you. We beseech God to preserve you and draw you nigh unto Him, and to grant you the best of what He hath sent down in His Book, and to record for you from the Pen of Grace the reward of attaining His presence, and to rain down upon you from the heaven of bounty the showers of mercy and loving-kindness. Verily, He is powerful over all things. There is none other God but Him, the Mighty, the All-Praised.

BH10080: O Zahra, upon thee be My Glory! The women…

In the name of the Desire of the world

O Zahra, upon thee be My Glory! The women of the world were waiting during the nights and days for the appearance of the Lord of all beings. When the divine morn's fragrance was diffused and the banners of the Cause were unfurled, all remained veiled from the Dayspring of divine light and the Dawning-place of divine revelation by the veils of the divines. And a few attained to the hearing of the call—these are the leaves of the Divine Lote-Tree, which have been sent down by the Supreme Pen in the scriptures and tablets. Blessed art thou and blessed is every maid-servant who hath heard and responded and attained to the recognition of God, the Lord of all worlds.

BH10149: O my God! O my God! I testify…

He is manifest from the All-Glorious Horizon

O my God! O my God! I testify that this is Thy Day which hath been mentioned in Thy Books, Thy Epistles, Thy Psalms and Thy Tablets. In it Thou hast manifested that which was hidden in Thy Knowledge and stored up in the repositories of Thine unfailing protection. I beseech Thee, O Lord of the world, by Thy Most Great Name whereby the limbs of the people were shaken, to assist Thy servants and Thy handmaidens to become steadfast in Thy Cause and to arise in Thy service.

Verily, Thou art potent to do whatsoever Thou willest, and in Thy grasp are the reins of all things. Thou protectest whomsoever Thou willest through Thy Power and Dominion. And verily, Thou art the Almighty, the All-Subduing, the Most Powerful.

BH00009: Today the rustling of the Divine Lote-Tree is raised…

Section 1: "In the Name of our Lord, the Most…"

In the Name of our Lord, the Most Holy, the Most Great, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious

Today the rustling of the Divine Lote-Tree is raised aloft, and the Sun of Utterance is dawning and manifest from the horizon of the heaven of inner meanings, the Path is speaking with most eloquent utterance, and the Balance is remembering with most perfect words. Nevertheless, the banner of "there is none in the kingdom but Him" is hoisted and raised high, for the world is cold and listless, nay, dead. There is no ear to hear and no eye to see, save for the few whom the veils of names and the coverings of allusions and words did not debar. They have forsaken all else but Him and clung to Him, they have heard the Call and drunk the choice wine, and have arisen to promote the Cause with such arising as hath caused the hearts of the transgressors to be troubled and the feet of the ungodly to quake. In truth, not every ear is worthy to hear, and eyes that are diseased and dim are not fit to behold. This is the Day of remembrance and praise. Who are the chosen ones? They who stand with utmost steadfastness in the Cause and who speak in praise of the Purpose of the world. Every mention and every praise beseemeth those assured, contented and well-pleased souls.

Glory be unto Thee, O Thou at Whose separation the near ones lamented and at Whose remoteness the sincere ones cried out! I beseech Thee by the lights of the morn of Thy Revelation whereby Thou didst quicken Thy servants and Thy creation and didst give glad tidings unto all in the lands of attaining Thy presence and meeting Thee, to aid Thy loved ones in that which will cause the manifestations of Thy power and the evidences of Thy might to be upraised. O Lord! Adorn with their names the scrolls of the world and the books of the nations. Verily Thou art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the Confirmer, the Bestower, the Almighty, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

O my God and the God of the world, my Purpose and the Purpose of the nations! I beseech Thee by Thy most sweet call which was raised betwixt earth and heaven, and by the dawning-places of the lights of Thy countenance from the highest horizon, that Thou protect him who hath arisen to serve Thy Cause and who speaketh in Thy praise. Then aid him with the hosts of the unseen and the visible, then assist him with a company of the angels and the Spirit. Verily Thou art the Almighty Whom neither the power of

princes nor their might, nor the doubts of the divines nor their allusions can frustrate. There is none other God but Thee, the Omnipotent, the Almighty, the Powerful, the Great.

O beloved of my heart! I was observant, contemplative, grieving, and discerning regarding the manifestations of our Lord's power, what befell Him, and what emerged from the factions. Then the door opened and there entered one bearing your letter, from which all those possessed of spiritual perception detected the fragrance of your sincerity, your love, and your turning to God, our Lord and your Lord, and your arising to serve the Cause in days when the might of the heedless had seized the dwellers of the cities of names, save those whom God, the Lord of all beings and the Sovereign of the hereafter and the former times, did protect. When I read it, I found in each of its letters that which taught me what you possessed and made known to me how your heart, your very veins, your outer and inner being were attracted to the Cause of God, to whose cord you had clung and whose robe you had grasped for the exaltation of His Word and the guidance of His servants and creatures.

When I became aware of this, I soared on wings of longing unto God, the Lord of the Covenant. I attained His presence and presented it until it was completed. Then arose the rustling of the Divine Lote-Tree, and the Lord of all beings spoke that which this servant is unable to mention as it deserves to be mentioned. I beseech Him to assist me through His grace and bounty. Can any writer enumerate the waves of the sea when they appear and surge? Nay, by His true Self, except through His confirmation and grace. There is no God but He, Who has enumerated all things in a clear Book.

And at the end of His utterances—may the spirit of all who dwell in the kingdom of Command and Creation be a sacrifice unto Him—He said, exalted be His utterance and sublime His proof:

He is the All-Seeing, the Witness, the All-Knowing, the All-Hearing, the All-Perceiving

The Lote-Tree of Utterance in the midmost heart of contingent being proclaims: There is no God but Me, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting. The Divine Lote-Tree upon the luminous earth behind the Most Great Ocean proclaims: By God! The Hidden One has come with manifest sovereignty. The Lote-Tree of Certitude planted in the saffron field calls out: The King has come—sovereignty belongs to God, the Possessor of all existence. The Tree of Proof in the white spot speaks: The fragrance of the garment has been diffused and the light has shone forth from the horizon of manifestation. Hasten, O people of the earth, and follow not every ignorant and veiled one. This is the Day wherein the mountains have humbled themselves at the coming of the Self-Sufficient, the Most High, with the banner of might, and it is known that there is no God but I, the Possessor of the unseen and the seen. Say: O people of Iran! Fear the All-Merciful and be not of those who know not. We have blown the Trumpet, which is My Most Exalted Pen, and have quickened thereby those who were in My preserved knowledge.

Say: O people of the Bayan! Have you heard and denied, have you seen and turned away? Fear God and be fair in this Cause at whose appearance souls were troubled, save those whom God took unto Himself and delivered from the darkness of idle fancies and raised to a station wherein they heard the call of the Kingdom. O Varqa! Hear the call as thou didst hear it before and wilt hear it hereafter.

The servant in attendance has come with thy letter, and when it was read before the Wronged One, the Pen of thy Self-Subsisting Lord was moved and revealed for thee that which caused the mouth of

utterance to smile and seized those in the graves with trembling. We have sent down for thee that which was a light unto the books of the world, a straight path for the followers of all religions, and a mighty pillar for those who have acknowledged this Great News. Say: O company of the deniers! Hear, then be fair. By God's life! The call attracts you to a station wherein you will cast away what you possess in hope of that which is with God, the Mighty, the Loving. Say: This is the field of proof; bring forth what you possess. By God's life! None can gallop therein save the knights of certitude who have cast away the world, turning unto God, the Lord of the Promised Day. Thus has the ocean revealed the pearls of wisdom and utterance, and the Lote-Tree its fruits, but the people do not know.

Hear the Call of the Wronged One in the Persian tongue! That which was hidden hath been made manifest, and that which was stored in the heaven of the Divine Will from time immemorial and preserved in the Preserved Tablet hath been revealed. Yet the recompense of their deeds hath deprived all from the bounties of the Day of Reckoning, even as was witnessed in the actions of the people of the Furqan and their recompense, particularly the Shi'ih sect. O Varqa! Ponder the lack of understanding among the deluded souls of the Bayan. Although the veils were rent asunder and they witnessed with their outward eyes the suspicions, delusions, infidelity, dissension, tyranny and oppression of the former people, they are now again occupied in organizing another Shi'ih sect, desiring to make a people Shi'ih.

Indeed, vain imaginings and names have deprived mankind from the ocean of inner meanings and rendered them bereft of true unity. In truth, in one sense names are as idols, as hath been and is still being witnessed. Until now the former people have not awakened and have not arisen from the slumber of heedlessness. Each day the fire of tyranny blazeth more fiercely and the flame of rancor and hatred groweth brighter. Today it is incumbent and obligatory upon all to arise to aid the Cause by protecting the weak souls from suspicions and vain imaginings.

Convey My greetings to the friends in that land. Say: Strive that ye may attain unto the lights of the sun of true unity. Whosoever attaineth unto this will behold himself detached and free from the world. Well is it with them that act and well is it with them that are endued with understanding. The glory that shineth resplendent from the horizon of the heaven of My Kingdom be upon thee and upon whosoever hearkeneth to thy words concerning the Cause of God, the Lord of the worlds.

O beloved of My heart! The Sun of the utterance of the All-Merciful hath risen in such wise that all the utterances of the world, from the beginning of creation until now, bow down in humility and submission at its appearance and revelation. What else can this evanescent one say or express? This transient servant is perplexed as to what the babblers say and to what they cling. Now the worth and station of some is becoming evident. Although all have witnessed with their outward eyes the presumption of the former people and have seen their misbelief, heedlessness, dissension and oppression, yet they sometimes mention Mirror, sometimes Successor, sometimes Deputy, Noble, Chief and the like. Glory be to God! They have denied whatsoever was revealed contrary to the desires of the former wayward souls. They have entirely denied the Persian Bayan which is in truth among the most great books of the Primal Point—may the spirit of all else but Him be sacrificed for His sake—saying it hath been altered. We should all lament and cry "Alas!" The lies of old have been revived and the former calumnies have reappeared. We are God's and unto Him do we return.

O beloved of My heart! The discerning and insightful ones of the world know and recognize the greatness of this Revelation and its all-pervasiveness, as well as that which hath been sent down from the heaven of His Will, and they behold the lights of the appearance of the Lord of all beings as bright as the sun. Nevertheless, these unclean, dust-stained, defiled creatures, like unto the divines of the Shi'ih sect who displayed asceticism in their filthy school corners while manifesting malice in their claims to knowledge and faith, are in truth neither worthy nor deserving of this court. Praise be to God Who hath sanctified His court from their presence, His light from their vision, His Revelation from their recognition, and His Call from their hearing. They have clung to cunning, deception and guile. They have attributed certain deeds to those heedless and ignorant souls that perplex every person of understanding. God protect us and you from the evil of such people.

Concerning what was written about this servant's correspondences being less frequent, I verily acknowledge this statement, for at all times I should send forth that from which the fragrance of the loving-kindness and compassion of our Beloved and your Beloved, our Goal and your Goal, and the Goal of all who are in the heavens and earth may be diffused. However, O beloved of my heart, letters have been and are arriving from all directions to such an extent that, in truth, this servant has not had and has not the opportunity to express what is in his heart to the friends. Two years have passed, and replies to some of the friends, upon them be the glory of God and His loving-kindness, have been and remain delayed. I beseech and implore God, exalted be His glory, to confirm and grant success. He is the Powerful, the Mighty. Nevertheless, replies to your letters have mostly been sent. The one God is witness that whenever a letter from that beloved one arrives, a new joy and delight is attained. Moreover, for some time in this land certain discussions have arisen, and wisdom is at times observed.

Furthermore, you know that night and day I am engaged in the presence of God writing divine verses. Yet from this servant's services that beloved one also has a share and portion. This word is adorned with the testimony of the Goal of all the worlds. As for the mention you made of my beloved, his honor Amin, upon him be the glory of God and His loving-kindness—he himself has written a letter to this servant. He has ever mentioned you in all his letters. In truth, he has been and is a well-wisher of the friends. I beseech and implore God to assist him in all conditions. Verily, He is the Compassionate, He is the Generous.

Concerning the glad tidings regarding the abandonment of harmful habits by some of the friends of God, after this matter was submitted to His Most Holy Presence, He said: "We beseech the True One, exalted be His glory, for the sanctification and purification of all. Today, goodly deeds and praiseworthy character are God's hosts on earth, and through these hosts the Truth has granted and continues to grant victory. O thou who speaketh in My Name, who gazeth toward My horizon, and soareth in the atmosphere of My love! Convey repeatedly My greetings to the friends in that land. Each and every one is mentioned in the presence of the Truth, and their names flow from the Most Exalted Pen. Convey My greetings to his honor M and S, upon him be the Glory of God. We beseech God to aid him in that which befitteth His Day, and in deeds whose fragrance shall never fade. Praise be to God, they have attained recognition and been adorned with mention by the Most Exalted Pen.

Convey thou unto Jinab Mim and Ṣad—upon him be the glory of God—My triumphal acclamation. We beseech God to confirm him in that which beseemeth His Day, and likewise in such deeds that his renown may never be cut off. Praise be to God! They have attained unto His good-pleasure, and have been adorned with the mention of the Pen of the Most High." End.

This lowly one, moreover, supplicateth the one true God—glorified be His Name—that He may sanctify them from earthly concerns, and array them with such qualities as shall become the cause of the exaltation of the Word of God. Souls were created for this, and bodies were brought into being for this; and the sun and the moon, and all created things, have been called into existence for this service. God willing, they shall be enabled to engage in remembrance and praise, and in the propagation of the Cause. I convey unto them My greetings and salutations, and implore for them from God His confirmations.

Section 2: "Regarding the mention of Suhrab and his turning…"

Regarding the mention of Suhrab and his turning to the Most Exalted Horizon, this was presented in His Most Holy Presence, and these were His blessed words, exalted be His praise and mighty His proof:

> "O Suhrab! The Comforter hath come to speak that which hath not been spoken, to cause that which hath not been heard to be heard, and to complete that which hath been said. Praise the Beloved of the worlds that thou hast turned to the supreme height and ultimate goal, which is the knowledge of God, exalted be His glory. Rend asunder the veils of idle fancy and shatter the idols of vain imaginings, that thou mayest be illumined by the lights of the Sun of Truth and certitude and attain thereunto. The Loving Father came, yet His children recognized Him not and remained deprived of His knowledge, save for a few who were not prevented from the Dawning-Place of Divine Oneness by the doubts of prelates, bishops, and priests. The call is raised, yet tongues that would utter yea' are rare. Beseech God to grant awareness and bestow understanding. Verily, He is the One Who, through His word Be', hath power over all things."

Concerning what thou didst write about the spiritual friend, his honor A.B., upon him be the Most Glorious Glory of God, praise be to God that he hath been attracted by the breezes of these days. He is mentioned in God's Book and recorded by the Most Exalted Pen in the Crimson Tablet. No bounty can equal this bounty, and every station boweth before this station. I beseech God, exalted be His glory and abundant His favors, to aid him to preserve this most exalted station and supreme rank. Blessed is he, happy is he, wholesome is it for him, and joy be unto him. These matters were presented before the Presence of the Lord of Revelation, and this utterance was revealed from the Kingdom of the favor of the Beloved of the worlds, exalted be His majesty and mighty His sovereignty:

He is the Witness from His Most Exalted Horizon

Verily We have mentioned him with a remembrance that shall not be altered by the happenings of contingent existence, nor changed by centuries and ages. It shall remain immortalized in the Book of God, the Lord of all worlds. By My life! There hath been ordained for him that which surpasseth the earth and its treasuries. To this beareth witness the Mother Book in this Palace, whose very atoms proclaim:

> “By God! The Interlocutor of the Mount hath been established upon the Throne of Revelation, and the Tongue of Dominion and the Kingdom, then of Might and Power, then of Station and Divinity, hath spoken for My Ancient and Mighty Self.”

We beseech God to open before his face the gates of grace and favor, and to draw him nigh unto Him in all conditions. Verily He is the Almighty over what He willeth, and He is the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous. We have mentioned him in another Tablet that he might rejoice and be among the thankful. Thus hath mercy showered its rain, and the Pen revealed its secrets, and the Sun of inner meanings shed its radiance. He is verily the Almighty, the All-Forgiving, the Most Merciful. The Glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My grace be upon him and upon those who have believed in God, the Mighty, the All-Praised. The ocean of bounty is itself a witness to bounty, and its waves are proof thereof. The sun itself makes manifest its own station, and its effulgences are its evidence. What else can this evanescent servant mention or present that would be worthy and befitting?

They mentioned the honored Khalil, upon him be the Glory of God. Praise be to God, he hath been and continues to be successful. He hath been mentioned in the Most Holy and Exalted Presence. This evanescent one beseecheth God, exalted be His glory, to aid him to serve His Cause. Verily He is the Hearer, the Answerer. O beloved of my heart! Most of the writings of the Supreme Pen that were in the introduction of Ta fell into the hands of the adversaries. Whoever they seized had books, scriptures and tablets with them. That beloved of the people of God must inform all so that they may exert mighty efforts to preserve and protect the Tablets and writings, and exercise the utmost care in this regard. Blessed is the land wherein the fragrance of the Supreme Pen’s movement is diffused. The preservation of these mighty, impregnable and blessed Tablets is most necessary and is beloved before God, lest their pages and lines should not remain in their original form. Direct and teach the way of preservation. What hath been mentioned in this regard was according to the Most Holy and Exalted Command. Blessed are they that act accordingly.

They mentioned Mirza Muhammad Husayn and Abbas-Quli, upon them be the Glory of God. After being presented before the Presence, two Most Holy and Exalted Tablets were revealed specifically for them and sent. I beseech God, exalted be His glory, that they may attain unto the exalted heaven mentioned in the Tablet and be illumined by the lights of its suns and moons, in such wise that the vicissitudes of days may not change it and the tyranny of the Pharaohs of the age and oppressors of the lands may not veil it. This is not difficult for God, our Lord and your Lord. Thus saith the Lord, exalted and sanctified is He:

He is the Light shining from the horizon of the world

This is the Day wherein the All-Desired One proclaimeth and beareth tidings unto mankind of His irrevocable Cause and His sealed nectar. Blessed are they who have turned with radiant faces and illumined hearts, who have taken the cup of bounty from the hand of the Lord of Names and Creator of the heavens, and have drunk in His Name, the All-Compelling, the Self-Subsisting. The Fire hath appeared from the Tree and He Who conversed on Sinai hath spoken from the horizon of the heaven of Revelation. O peoples of the earth! By God, the Promise hath come, and the Promised One calleth you from His glorious station unto God, the Lord of the seen and unseen. The All-Merciful hath manifested Himself unto all who are in the realm of being, and the Most Great Vision and the Lord of Destiny hath appeared,

saying: O concourse of men! Turn ye to the Most Glorious Horizon and hearken unto the rustling of My Most Exalted Pen. Verily, it guideth you unto the path of God, the Lord of what was and what shall be.

O thou who art mentioned before the Wronged One! We have heard thy mention and have remembered thee with that which neither the peoples nor the princes and kings possess. Blessed art thou for having attained unto the tokens of My Most Exalted Pen and for being mentioned by the Wronged One whilst seated upon the throne of His Name, the All-Loving. We have sent down the verses and manifested the clear proofs and have rent asunder the veils before all faces in such wise that the might of the world hath not deterred Us. To this testifieth he who possesseth an inscribed Book.

Tribulations have encompassed Us from every direction and calamities from all regions, while the Pen of the Unconstrained continueth to proclaim at eventide and at dawn, at night and in the morning, that there is none other God but Me, the Truth, the Knower of things unseen. Blessed is he who hath heard My call, turned to My horizon, uttered My praise, arisen to serve My Cause, and held fast to My stretched cord. When thou art attracted by the fragrances of My verses and seized by the Kawthar of My utterance, say:

My God, my God! Thou seest the distant one who desireth Thy nearness, the poor one who seeketh the ocean of Thy wealth, and the thirsty one who craveth the Kawthar of Thy bounty. I beseech Thee by the lights of the Orb of Thy utterance, the mysteries of Thy Book, Thy most exalted Horizon, and that which lieth concealed in the treasuries of Thy Pen and the repositories of Thy knowledge, O Lord of Names and Creator of the heavens, to aid me to be steadfast in Thy Cause and to arise to serve Thee. O my Lord! Thou beholdest me confessing that which the Tongue of Thy Grandeur hath spoken in the kingdom of Thine utterance, and acknowledging that which hath descended from the heaven of Thy Will.

Strengthen, O my God, my heart and my limbs in such wise that neither the power of the mighty nor the doubts of the learned may weaken them. Then make me ablaze with the fire of Thy Tree and illumined by the lights of Thy Throne. I beseech Thee, O Revealer of signs, by Thy Command whereby Thou didst raise the standards of Thy Manifestation in the horizons and the banners of Thy victory in the lands, to ordain for me by the Pen of Thy bounty that which shall abide with me in every world of Thy worlds. Verily, Thou art the Powerful over whatsoever Thou willest, and in Thy grasp are the reins of all things. Thou doest what Thou pleasest and ordainest what Thou desirest. There is none other God but Thee, the Single, the One, the All-Compelling, the Mighty, the Most Bountiful.

Thus hath been revealed for his honor Abbas-Quli Khan, upon him be the glory of God, the Lord, exalted and sanctified be He:

In My Name, that ruleth over all names

At this moment, the Tree of Utterance which hath been planted by the hand of divine bounty in the Most Exalted Paradise speaketh forth with these words: O peoples of the earth! Abandon what ye possess of idle fancies and vain imaginings. This is the Day whereon the seal of the Choice Wine hath been broken, through the Name of God, the Self-Subsisting, the All-Compelling. Draw nigh and drink thereof, despite every heedless rejected one and every veiled learned one. Blessed is the one who hath hearkened to its call and attained unto the sweetness of its utterance. I swear by the lights of the Luminary of inner

meanings, shining from the horizon of the heaven of utterance, that whosoever attaineth unto hearing it shall become enkindled with such a fire that neither the opposition of the world nor the objections of the nations shall prevent or deprive him, and its effects shall become manifest and evident. From the first days until now, We have called out, without concealment or veil, before the faces of rulers, divines and religious leaders—a call for which ears were created from nothingness into being. Yet outward ornaments and ephemeral colors have deprived souls of everlasting, eternal blessings.

When thou hearest the melodies of the birds of inner meanings upon the branches of the divine utterance, purify thy heart and breast with the water of detachment and turning unto God, and say:

My God, my God! Praise be unto Thee for having made manifest Thy path among Thy servants and for having called the people to the Dayspring of Thy revelation, the Dawning-Place of Thy inspiration, and the Source of Thy commandments and ordinances. I testify that Thou hast revealed the Way and sent down the Guide, and hast commanded all to do that which will draw them nigh unto Thee and benefit them in all Thy worlds. I beseech Thee, O Lord of existence, by the waves of the ocean of Thy bounty and the lights of the sun of Thy grace, to aid me in all conditions to be one who speaks Thy praise, who is enkindled with the fire of Thy love, who is mindful of Thy verses, who soars in Thy atmosphere, who holds fast to the cord of Thy bestowal, and who clings to the hem of Thy generosity.

O my Lord! Thou seest Thy servant turning toward Thy Most Exalted Horizon, acknowledging Thy oneness and singleness, and confessing Thy grandeur and sovereignty. I beseech Thee by Him Who hastened to the place of sacrifice in His longing to meet Thee, and who advanced toward the arrows of tribulation out of love for Thy beauty, to grant me Thy favor which Thou hast sent down from the heaven of Thy Cause, and the food which Thou hast sent forth from the kingdom of Thy utterance. Verily Thou art He Whom the ranks and armies of the world cannot withstand. Thou doest what Thou willest and ordainest what Thou pleasest. There is no God but Thee, the Mighty, the All-Praised.

Moreover, I beseech Thee, O Ancient of Days, by the Most Great Name through which Thou hast illumined the world, to ordain for me what is best in this world and the next. Verily Thou art the Lord of all names and the Creator of the heavens. There is no God but Thee, the Omnipotent, the Mighty, the All-Bountiful.

The bounty belongeth unto God, the grace is His, and the bestowal is His. For every soul who hath been present in the Most Holy Court or whose name hath been mentioned, there hath been revealed that within each word of which are concealed oceans of grace and favor. Blessed is the eye that hath attained unto it and the heart that hath drunk therefrom. This servant conveyeth to each of you greetings and salutations, and entreateth the Ever-Abiding Truth to confirm you in the service of His Cause, that through His Name ye may gain dominion over the cities of hearts. By His very Life, the sword of utterance is sharper and the penetration of the Word is beyond reckoning. In all circumstances, as commanded, wisdom must be observed. This decree taketh precedence over most other decrees, for it hath been revealed and issued forth from the Most Exalted Pen in numerous Tablets. Blessed are they that act accordingly.

Concerning what was written about Jinab-i-Aqa Khalil, upon him be the Glory of God and His favors, who at first undertook to convey the Word with the two aforementioned souls—after this matter was presented before the Most Holy and Exalted Presence, a special Tablet was revealed for him from the heaven of grace and was sent. God willing, may he attain unto it and receive his portion from the surging oceans of the utterance of the Desired One of all worlds. The Lord, exalted and sanctified is He, speaks:

Section 3: "We have revealed that which was hidden…"

He is the One Who Warbleth upon the Branches

We have revealed that which was hidden in the Kingdom of Utterance and made manifest that which was treasured in the Books of God, the Lord of all worlds. Among the people are those who have discovered the fragrance of the Utterance and have turned to the All-Merciful, and among them are those who have turned away and denied what hath come from the heaven of grace from God, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. Blessed is he who hath heard the Call and been attracted by the verses of God, and woe unto every heedless and remote one. Verily, those who have found the sweetness of the Utterance, they are the people of Baha in the Book of God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy.

O Khalil! The Wronged One remembers thee from the prison's precincts and gives thee glad tidings of thy Lord's favors and reminds thee of His verses. Verily, He is the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous. We have revealed for thee and for those whose names were presented before the Face that which will make them independent of all the books of the world. This perspicuous Tablet, which hath been sent down at this hour from the Pen of God, the Master of the Day of Judgment, beareth witness to this. When thou hast drunk the choice wine of revelation from the cup of utterance and been seized by the attraction of thy Lord's verses, say:

My God, my God! I testify to Thy oneness and Thy singleness, and to that which hath flowed from Thy Most Exalted Pen and been sent down from Thy highest horizon. I beseech Thee, O Thou the Goal of the world and the Beloved of the nations, by Thy Most Great Name, which Thou hast made a light unto them that are nigh unto Thee among Thy servants and the sincere ones among Thy creatures, and a fire unto those who have turned away from Thee and Thy verses and opposed Thee in Thy days, to assist this servant of Thine to rend asunder the veils of Thy servants and the clouds of Thy creation, and to aid him in all conditions to diffuse the fragrances of Thy good-pleasure.

And I beseech Thee, O Lord of all beings and Master of the throne on high and of earth below, to make me detached from all else save Thee, steadfast in the promotion of Thy Cause, and vocal in that which will draw Thy servants nigh unto the court of Thy might and beauty, O Dayspring of Beauty, and Dawning-Place of Majesty! I love existence only for the sake of Thy mention and praise, and I desire naught but what Thou hast ordained for me through the Pen of Thy decree. O Lord! Assist me in that which beseemeth Thy days and Thy Manifestation and what Thou hast revealed in Thy Book.

I beseech Thee by the influences of Thy Pen, the operation of Thy Will, and the power of Thy Purpose, to assist Thy servants to return unto Thee, to turn repentantly to the door of Thy grace, and to humble themselves before the revelations of Thy grandeur. O Lord! Withhold them not from the waves of the

ocean of Thy utterance, nor from beholding the evidences of Thy power in Thy days. Thou art He Whom the affairs of the world cannot frustrate, nor can the opposition of the nations hinder. Thou art He Who, O my God, did raise up Moses from Pharaoh's household despite him and Thine enemies, and did deliver the Friend from the fire of fuel, manifesting Thy power and sovereignty. I beseech Thee by the signs of Thy Cause and the standards of Thy determination to ordain for Thy loved ones the good of the Hereafter and of this world, and that which will draw them nigh unto Thee, O Master of all things! There is none other God but Thee, the Almighty, the All-Powerful.

We beseech and implore God, exalted be His glory, to assist and enable the aforementioned soul, upon him be the Glory of God, to serve the Cause with spirit and fragrance, with wisdom and utterance. Verily our Lord, the All-Merciful, is powerful over whatsoever He willeth, and He is the Compassionate, the All-Bountiful.

The mention of His Honor Aga Mirza ʿAbdu'llah of Kha—upon him be the Glory of God—who, through the guidance of the spiritual beloved, His Honor Huda—upon him be the Glory of God—and by his favor, hath turned his face unto the Most Exalted Horizon, was honored with attentive audience in the presence of the Sovereign of Manifestation, and one most mighty, Most Sacred Tablet was specially revealed and dispatched. Saith the Lord—exalted and sanctified is He:

In the Name of Him Who speaketh in the Kingdom of Utterance

This is a Book which the Wronged One hath sent down unto him who desireth to quaff the sealed wine from the hands of the bounty of his Lord, the Self-Subsisting, that the Call may draw him nigh unto the Most Exalted Horizon and strengthen him to offer praise and glorification. Well is it with him who hath heard and attained, and woe betide every heedless and veiled one.

We have heard thy mention and have remembered thee before, and at this hour, as a token of grace from God, the Lord of the seen and the unseen. The servant who standeth before the Countenance hath presented a letter from one who loveth Me, who hath held fast unto My cord, soared in the atmosphere of My love, and arisen to aid My Cause amongst My servants—and therein was thy name. We have sent down from the heaven of grace verses that nothing in all creation can equal, that thou mayest render thanks unto thy Lord, the Lord of existence.

Beware lest the happenings of the world hold thee back from the Ancient Beauty, or the doubts of the nations veil thee from this sealed Mystery. Say: O concourse of men! The horizon of Revelation hath been illumined by the Lord of Destiny, and that which was hidden in the Books of God, the Mighty, the Loving, hath been made manifest. Cast away what ye possess and take hold of that which ye have been bidden by the Truth, the Knower of things unseen.

We have turned from the Most Eloquent Tongue to the Language of Light. Today the world is illumined by the lights of Revelation, and all things are engaged in praise, glorification, joy and delight. In the divine Books, both of the past and of later times, this most blessed Day hath been celebrated as the supreme festival. Blessed is he who hath attained and become aware of the station of this Day. Today the shrill voice of the Divine Pen is raised high and its horizon is visible. Blessed is he whom the doubts and

allusions of the peoples of the world have not withheld from the Ancient Beauty nor deprived of the Most Great Ocean.

Blessed art thou and blessed is he who gave thee glad tidings and guided thee to My straight path and My momentous News. Thus have We caused thee to hear My sweetest call and sent unto thee that whereby the eyes of those near unto God have been solaced.

At this point We make mention of thy wife, reminding her of My verses and giving her the glad tidings of My loving kindness and mercy which have preceded all who are in the heavens and on earth. The splendor shining from the horizon of the heaven of My loving kindness be upon thee and upon her and upon those whom the hosts of the Pharaohs and the ranks of oppressors have not frightened from God, the Lord of all worlds. Praise be to God, the True King, the Manifest Justice.

The mention of their honor has been made before. This evanescent servant beseecheth and imploreth the True One, exalted be His glory, to assist them that they may arise wholly to serve His Cause and in these fleeting days attain unto eternal stations. He is the Mighty, the Powerful.

Likewise, I convey greetings and salutations to His Honor Hadi, that is, Huda, upon him be the Most Exalted Glory of God. Praise be to God, they are engaged in service and have attained His favors. We beseech God, our Lord and your Lord, to place in his utterance that which will attract people to His manifest horizon and His mighty Cause. Moreover, mention was made of His Honor H. Kh. A. and His Honor Mirza Muhammad Kh. A., upon them be the Glory of God. This was presented, and from the horizon of the heaven of grace, a wondrous Tablet specifically for each one dawned forth and was dispatched, that their eyes might be consoled thereby and that they might give thanks to their Lord, the Compassionate, the Generous. This servant also conveyeth greetings to them and beseecheth God, exalted be His Glory, for their confirmation. Verily, He hath power over all things.

Mention was made of the friends in the land of Ya, upon them be the Glory of God. This was presented at the Most Holy Court, and one by one they were blessed with the mention of God, exalted be His Glory. These verses shone forth from the horizon of will. His words, exalted be His Glory and all-embracing be His bounty:

We are the Hearer, the Answerer

At this moment when the Speaker of Sinai is seated upon the throne of manifestation, the messenger of utterance brought this word from the garden of inner meanings: “O people of Baha! Adorn your temples with the ornament of deeds and character, that the horizons may be illumined thereby. This is a word We revealed in another Tablet and have reminded you of it in this Clear Book. Hearken unto My call from the direction of My prison. Verily, there is no God but Me, the Mighty, the Powerful.

I have revealed Myself and called the servants unto the ocean of My grace. Among them are those who have turned towards it and those who have turned away. Blessed is he who hath turned, whom the opposition of the transgressors hath not deterred. We mentioned you before through My verses, and at this time through that which hath attracted the hearts of those who know. We have ordained victory through the fear of God. Blessed is he who holdeth fast unto it. Woe unto the heedless. Aid your Lord, the

Merciful, through the hosts of goodly character. This is what ye have been commanded in various Tablets, and I am the Ordainer, the Wise. Take the cups of prosperity in the name of the Cleaver of the Dawn, then drink therefrom with My mention, the Mighty, the Wondrous.

Say: O people of the world! The lights of revelation have encompassed you. Fear the All-Merciful and be not of those who turn away. Turn unto God. That which ye behold today shall perish, and ye shall find yourselves among the greatest losers in the presence of God, the Mighty, the Great. Where are the Chosroes and their sons, and the Pharaohs and their traces? Look, then remember when Muhammad, the Messenger of God, came. Ye opposed Him and desired to extinguish His light, but God preserved Him through the hosts of the seen and the unseen and exalted His Cause. O My loved ones in Ya! See how He is the One with power over whatsoever He willeth, and the Ruler over whatsoever He desireth. There is no God but Him, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy.

O My loved ones, O My friends! Give thanks unto God for having caused you to hear His call and to see the traces of His Pen, and for having guided you to His straight path. Blessed are ye, and joy be unto you, for ye have attained unto that which the learned ones and divines of the earth have not attained. Preserve this most exalted station through the name of your Lord Who speaketh in this sublime station. Thus did the Pen speak when the Lord of Eternity walked in His Great Prison. The glory shining forth from the horizon of the heaven of My favors be upon you and upon whosoever hath turned unto God, the Peerless, the All-Informed." End.

Praise be to God, all have attained unto His signs and are illumined by the light of the Sun of divine utterance. I beseech God to grant success to all and confirm them in teaching His Cause. I implore His exalted presence to reinforce them with the hosts of divine utterance. Verily, He is the Almighty, the Mighty, the Helper.

The other missive from that beloved of hearts, from whose horizon the Orb of unity hath dawned, hath arrived and achieved its purpose. His mention is penetrating and His word is effective. Praise be to God, its fragrance brought joy and its perfume spread the carpet of gladness. After it was presented before the Most Holy Court, this utterance was revealed from the Divine Kingdom—the Word of the Lord, exalted and sanctified:

In the Name of Him through Whom the gates of the Kingdom were opened to kings and subjects alike

Upon thee be the Glory of God, His grace and His mercy. I make mention of Myself at this moment on thy behalf, and describe Him as befitteth My station and is worthy of My most holy court, in recompense for thy deeds in My path, and thy devotion of spirit, body, tongue and pen to My remembrance, My utterance and the service of My mighty and exalted Cause. Thou hast a treasure with God. He will surely grant thee thy reward. He is thy Guardian in the Hereafter and in this world. He is the Compassionate, the Generous. The Glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My mercy be upon thee, upon those with thee, and upon those whom the affairs of the world have not prevented from the Cause of their Lord, the All-Knowing.

Two verses have been revealed from the heaven of supreme bounty which truly cannot be equaled by two worlds. Blessed are ye, happy are ye. Regarding the mention of the gathering of the friends of God in

the home of Aqa Mirza Sulayman and Aqa Mirza Mihdi, upon them both be the eternal glory of God, who were invited to a feast by Jinab-i-Amin, upon him be the Most Glorious Beauty of God—after these matters and the names of those gathered were presented before the Most Holy and Exalted Court, these verses dawned forth from the horizon of the heaven of the grace of God, exalted be His glory. The Word of the Lord, exalted and sanctified:

He Who remembereth His loved ones with a remembrance that no other remembrance can equal

O H! The Wronged One hath turned from the prison towards thee and saith: Praise be unto Thee, O God of the seen and unseen, for having enabled Thy servant to turn unto Thee, to face the light of Thy countenance, to behold Thy horizon and to hold fast unto Thy cord. I beseech Thee to assist him to remain steadfast in Thy Cause and to make his deeds a treasure with Thee. Then forgive him through Thy grace. Verily, Thou art the All-Bountiful, the Generous.

Section 4: "O Nabil-i-Ba! The Wronged One hath mentioned thee…"

O Nabil-i-Ba! The Wronged One hath mentioned thee in numerous Tablets and hath in these days revealed for thee that which, should its fragrance be diffused, would attract the hearts of them that are endued with understanding. Say: Praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

J! Thou hast attained unto My mention and the tokens of My Pen. Recognize the worth of this most exalted station and say:

Praise be unto Thee, O Lord of all beings, for having enabled me to turn unto Thee and to acknowledge that which the Tongue of Thy grandeur hath uttered. I beseech Thee to assist me to preserve what Thou hast given me through Thy bounty and generosity. Verily, Thou art the Munificent, the Generous.

O Abu-Talib! The Desired One maketh mention of thee and the Wronged One hath turned towards thee. Blessed is the seeker who hath found the Sought One, and the knower who hath recognized the Known One, and the learned one who hath turned unto the All-Knowing. Take hold of the Book of God with the power that proceedeth from Him, despite those who have denied His proof and His evidence. These are assuredly among the most lost in the view of the Concourse on High in this noble station.

O Muhammad-Ali! The Speaker of Sinai is established upon the Throne of Revelation, making thee hear His call, sending down unto thee His verses, and dispatching to thee that which every learned sage and every informed mystic is powerless to mention. O Ali! The Wronged One remembers thee in prison. Say: O people of the world! Today the Sun of this Word hath dawned from the horizon of the heaven of divine counsel, shining and manifest: "Take ye My way and forsake the ways of others." Blessed is the soul that hath attained to hearing and hath drunk from the cup of steadfastness. Give thanks unto God for having remembered thee. Verily He remembereth those who love Him. He is the All-Remembering, the All-Knowing.

O Muhammad-Qabli-ʿAli! Thou hast attained unto the writings of the Most Exalted Pen. Praise be to God! Thou hast rent asunder the veils of fancy through the Name of the Lord of all names. Today the Most Great Balance is set up before the faces of the world, calling out with the most exalted call: "Verily I am

the Distinguisher, the All-Knowing." Blessed is he whom no power hath deterred nor any might hath frightened, and who hath turned toward the Most Sublime Horizon with supreme steadfastness. He is of the people of Baha in the Preserved Tablet.

O Rida! Blessed is the soul that hath today attained unto the word of contentment. Such a one is mentioned among the dwellers of the Most Exalted Paradise. The vain imaginings of desires have prevented the servants from their ultimate end, depriving them of the immortal Kingdom for numbered days. Leave them to their idle fancies and say:

> "Praise be to Thee, O my God, for having aided me to turn toward Thee and enabled me to voice Thy beauteous praise. I beseech Thee to ordain for me that which will draw me nigh unto Thee. Thou art the Hearer, the Answerer."

O Haji ʿAli-Qabli-Akbar M.Y.! Thou art mentioned at the Most Great Scene and hast attained the favors of God. Today the preamble of the Book of Justice is adorned with this most exalted Word: O people of the world! Ye are the drops of one ocean and the leaves of one tree. Abandon discord and dissension, and hold fast unto unity and harmony. This is what ye have been commanded by God, the Lord of the Day of Meeting. Yet the ears of the people of the world are deprived of hearing and forbidden from understanding, for the reins of all are in the grasp of the ignorant, save whom God willeth. Blessed art thou for having recognized the Purpose when the idolaters denied Him.

O ʿAli-Akbar! Today the Sun of remembrance is dawning and manifest from the horizon of the heaven of the Most Exalted Pen. The purpose is that souls may be nurtured beneath the shadow of the Cause and arise to extinguish the fire of hatred that blazeth in the breasts of the diverse parties of the world. Perchance the eye of the world may attain unto such a day. Opposition hath ever been the cause of destruction, while unity the source of construction. Ask thou of God that those who claim association with the Most Sublime Horizon may attain true hearing and act according to that which they are commanded. Blessed art thou for having heard the call and responded to thy Lord.

O Muhammad Q! Today the world is illumined and radiant with the lights of the Most Great Remembrance, and the Wronged One hath called out with the most exalted call and guided the servants. Blessed are they who have attained unto this Day and recognized their Purpose. We beseech God to aid all and deprive them not of the fragrances of His verses.

O Karbala'i Sadiq! The deniers have rejected manifest truth. Those heedless of the beginning and the end have arisen to harm the Cause, clinging to every means that they might attain their desires, which are the ruination of both this world and the next. We beseech God to make His loved ones steadfast in such wise that the clamor of the world shall neither prevent nor deprive them.

O Muhammad Mihdi! When the attraction of My call takes hold of thee and thou attainest unto the choice wine of My utterance, say:

> "My God, my God! Increase the light of my vision that I may behold Thy most exalted horizon, and strengthen my hearing that I may hearken unto the crackling of Thy Most Glorious Pen. O my Lord! I am he who hath placed his trust in Thee and committed his affairs unto Thee.

> Ordain for me what is best in this world and the next. There is none other God but Thee, the Mighty, the Powerful."

O Mihdi! The Guide came, yet they denied Him. Truth appeared, yet they rejected it. The corrupt ear is not worthy to hear the call of Truth, and the sightless eye is not fit to behold. Praise be to God that the company of His loved ones have attained unto penetrating vision. These are they of whom He saith have been given insight from God. They heard and saw, and attained unto that which was the purpose of creation.

O Varqa! Upon thee be My glory and My loving-kindness. All mention hath ended with thy mention. Blessed art thou and joy be unto thee! Thou art ever remembered in the Most Holy Court and art the recipient of the infinite favors of the Goal of all existence. Convey on My behalf greetings and glory unto the Spirit, and demonstrate the signs of kindness, favor, and the manifestations of mercy from the Wronged One, that they may grow through God's grace and bear fruit. Verily, He is the Compassionate, the Generous, and He is the Forgiving, the Merciful.

To God belongs all grace and bounty. The stars in the heaven of knowledge have each acquired radiance and are illumined by the light of the Most Great Luminary. These mentions and descriptions are, in truth, indicative of the stations of souls. How can that which hath appeared from this servant be worthy of God's court? Never was it, nor will it ever be. To Him be praise and glory, and to Him be thanksgiving and splendor, for He hath revealed and accepted the stations of powerlessness and nothingness. No deed, no mention, no thought—whether from the visible or invisible realm—can equal this station.

Mention was made of the handmaidens of God, upon them be the glory of God. After being presented before Him, each was adorned with the ornament of mention and attained the favors of the Kingdom of utterance. We beseech our Lord and the Lord of earth and heaven to ordain for them what is best in this world and the next. Glory be to God! The mystery of the Cause and the consummate wisdom remain hidden from view. Those who spent years acquiring knowledge to recognize the Known One turned away when the lights of His countenance shone forth, while leaves and handmaidens who never attended school nor acquired outward learning were illumined with the light of recognition and were blessed from the cup of steadfastness. Verily, grace is in His hand and within His mighty grasp. He giveth and withholdeth, and He is the Mighty, the Unconstrained.

As for what was written concerning the one who was promised but did not come due to illness, and who sought mention of his name in the Most Luminous Presence—this refers to Aqa ʿAli-i-Milani, upon him be the glory of God. After this matter was presented before the countenance of the Lord of creation, these verses were revealed from the Kingdom of the All-Merciful utterance:

Thus saith the Lord, exalted and sanctified is He:

> "O ʿAli! Thy mention is remembered and the Most Clear Book is turned toward thee and speaketh. Thou didst accept that which all others have turned away from, and acknowledged that which the people deny. Thou didst drink the choice wine of recognition on a day when the people of the world were deprived and veiled therefrom. Now consider what tongue is needed and what utterance is befitting to render thanks."

Say:

Praise be unto Thee, O my God, and glory be unto Thee, O my Hope and Creator! I bear witness that Thou hast sent down the blessing and revealed the heavenly table and made manifest the proof. I beseech Thee, O Creator of the world, by the Most Great Name, to assist me in that which will draw me nigh unto Thee in such wise that the clamor of Thy creatures shall not deter me from the court of nearness, nor shall the doubts of Thy servants keep me from attaining Thy presence. O Lord! Thou seest me clinging to the cord of Thy bounty. I beseech Thee by the lights of the Orb of Thy knowledge and the mysteries of Thy Book to ordain for me that which shall endure through the endurance of Thy celestial dominion and Thy realm of might. There is none other God but Thee, the Giving, the Bountiful, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

They also mentioned another gathering at the house of Jinab-i-Khalil, upon him be Baha'u'llah, and made mention of Aqa Mulla Mustafa, upon him be Baha'u'llah, and Aqa Mirza ʿIbadu'llah, upon him be Baha'u'llah. After this was presented, the Tongue of Grandeur spoke these radiant verses, blessed and exalted be His utterance:

O Mustafa! Upon thee be My glory! The eternal Lote-Tree of the Most Glorious in the highest Paradise uttereth this most exalted Word: Blessed is he who hath recognized the station of his Lord's Day and acted in accordance with that which beseemeth it. Praise be to God, thou hast hearkened unto the divine call and turned to the supreme horizon. Make thy resolve lofty. Verily, He is with thee and will aid thee in His remembrance, His praise, and the service of His Cause. Say:

My God, my God! I am Thy servant and the son of Thy servant and the son of Thy handmaiden. I testify that Thou hast created my tongue for Thy mention, mine eyes to behold Thy signs, mine ears to hear Thy call, my heart for Thy knowledge, my hand to grasp Thy Book, and my feet to stand firm upon Thy path. O Lord! Aid me in that which will diffuse the fragrance of Thy good-pleasure. This is better for me than all that is in the first and last worlds. Verily, Thou art the Lord of all beings and the Lord of the throne on high and of the dust below. There is none other God but Thee, the All-Evident, the All-Wise.

And this is what was revealed for Aqa Mirza ʿIbadu'llah, upon him be Baha'u'llah, blessed and exalted be His utterance:

He is the All-Seeing, the All-Informed

The True One, exalted be His glory, sent the Herald and gave the glad tidings that the people of the earth might be adorned with the ornament of joy and delight, and with utmost gladness might approach the court of the True One. However, since the hearts of the servants were occupied with vain imaginings, they remained deprived of the lights of the morn of certitude, and these life-giving glad tidings became the cause of sorrow, for their hearts were occupied with other than Him and their ears were accustomed to the most hateful of sounds. Glory be to God! The sweet waters of the Euphrates flow before their faces and the Most Great Luminary shineth from the highest horizon of the world; yet the people remain heedless. In all conditions one must beseech the True One, exalted be His glory, not to deprive His servants. Give thanks to the Goal of the world that His glad tidings bestowed life and confirmed thee in

turning unto Him, in drawing nigh and in recognition. Verily, He is the All-Bountiful, the Generous. There is none other God but He, the Almighty, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

This lowly servant conveys greetings and glorification to each one, and beseeches from the True One, on behalf of all, that which is everlasting and enduring in its remembrance. They mentioned the spiritual friend [name], upon him be the Most Glorious Glory of God, and likewise mentioned the items he sent. Praise be to God, they arrived, and as they were sent with pure intention, each attained its proper station and mention was made repeatedly of the beloved sender in the Most Holy Court and the gathering of those who circumambulate. The beloved Trustee, upon him be the Glory of God, mentioned him repeatedly, and the musk which was truly the crown of all fragrances in the world was used in the Most Holy and Most Exalted Court and by the dwellers of the pavilion of virtue and chastity.

The beloved Trustee, upon him be the Glory of God, also did that which was beloved. This evanescent one wishes with a hundred thousand tongues to utter divine praise and thanksgiving, for He confirmed him and his offering was accepted in the Most Holy Court. May the True One, exalted be His glory, preserve His loved ones and grant them the highest attainments possible. Verily, He has power over all things. In truth, that beloved of hearts was present with each and every one of those items before His face. This is the word that His Holiness had requested—praise be to God it was illumined with the light of acceptance.

Section 5: "Mention was made of [name] of [place], upon…"

Mention was made of [name] of [place], upon him be the Glory of God, in the Most Holy and Most Exalted Court, and likewise the prayer that flowed from the tongue of the Divine Purpose, which His Holiness asked to be conveyed on his behalf to the Most Holy Court. His request was fulfilled, for on one night these details were presented and the prayer was recited. This is what the Tongue of Grandeur spoke in reply, exalted be His glory:

He is the One Who speaks in the Kingdom of Utterance

O Samad! Upon thee be My Glory! He who loved Me and desired Me and held fast to My cord and clung to My robe and spoke My praise among My servants and arose to aid My Cause, has mentioned thee. We have remembered thee with verses which, were they to be revealed unto the mountain, thou wouldst hear from it:

> "Here am I, here am I, O Thou Goal of the Supreme Concourse and Beloved of those who dwell in the heavens and the earth!"

O Samad! When thou wert present before the Throne and didst hear with thine own ears the call of thy Lord and didst behold with thine own eyes the horizon of the manifestation of God, the Lord of the worlds, say:

My God, my God! Praise be to Thee for causing me to hear that for which Thou didst create me. Thou art He Who, O my God, didst awaken me when I was sleeping, and raised me up when I was seated, and taught me when I was ignorant, and drew me near when I was far, and gave me to drink of Thy sealed

wine, and sheltered me beneath the shadow of Thy Name, the Self-Subsisting. I beseech Thee by the revelations of Thy might and the manifestations of Thy grandeur to make me steadfast in Thy Cause, firm in Thy love, and immovable in Thy Word. Verily, Thou art the All-Powerful, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

Truly a fresh bounty hath reached his honor Samad (upon him be 9 66 [Baha'u'llah]) and the aid of the One True God hath assisted him. Blessed be he and blessed be whoso hath attained unto the loving-kindness of his Lord, the Compassionate, the Generous. Another letter from that Beloved One hath opened the gate of joy and spread wide the carpet of delight. A hundred thousand praises upon the joy and gladness that appeareth from the direction of His loved ones. That joy is the King of all joys and that gladness is the gladness of all the world's gladness and the light of the nations' delights. Glory be to God! The pen pauseth not and thought ceaseth not.

I fear lest the abundance of writing should keep that Beloved One from necessary matters, that is, from revealing verses and manifesting proofs and reminding the servants. Praise be to God that His Holiness hath been enabled to make mention and offer praise and render service. The proof of this statement is the word of that Beloved One himself who wrote that whatsoever was in honor of the loved ones of this land—upon them be the Glory of God—was recited in three places where they had attained the presence with due regard to wisdom, and each one with their whole being offered thanks and praise to the Desired One, exalted be His bounty and mighty be His bestowal. And whatsoever was in honor of the chosen ones of other lands was copied one by one and sent, and incomplete copies of the letter were also made to be sent to all lands after completion, since in these days there is no one except this evanescent one engaged in writing, unto the end of your statement.

A hundred thousand joys would not equal this joy that was attained, for through God's infinite bounties the sight, hearing, tongue, hand, pen and ink of that Beloved One are all engaged in service and directed toward the exaltation of the Word. I beseech God, exalted be His glory, that through the deed of each member, the members of the world may arise to perform their appointed tasks and act accordingly.

As to what was mentioned regarding the treatise of proofs that was revealed from the Divine Pen, it is evident that His Holiness perceiveth the fragrance of the utterance of the All-Merciful. The nostrils of the world are stopped save whom our Lord, the Lord of earth and heaven, willeth. And those four souls were specifically summoned to attain the presence before the Throne, yet they were not enabled, and one of those four was his honor Aqa Mulla Muhammad—upon him be the Glory of God—who was with those souls for the sake of wisdom, and the other three were outwardly reckoned among the people of the Furqan, yet before the Throne they were attributed to the tree of turning away. If the whole world were to hearken, free from prejudices, those same blessed limited pages would guide all and lead them to the Most Great Ocean. I beseech God to purify all from selfish desires that they may become worthy to hearken and qualified to witness.

O my God, my Lord, my Master and my Desire! Strengthen the heart of him who desireth Thy mention and the service of Thy Cause, and his tongue in praising Thee, and preserve him in reciting Thy verses, and his feet in arising to execute Thy laws. Verily Thou art the Mighty, the Powerful.

That this servant was appointed as representative to attain the presence and visit on behalf of that beloved one and His Holiness ʿAli-Qabli, upon him be the Most Glorious Glory of God—one night I set forth toward the Most Great Goal, attained the presence of His Countenance, and was blessed with visitation. The Tongue of Grandeur spoke the word of acceptance, saying "Well is it with you both and with him and with this servant." Another missive from His Holiness, which began correctly and explicitly, spoke of separation from the Beloved of the worlds and indicated degrees of longing and yearning, attraction and joy and delight. A state of regret was produced, and I beseech and implore God, exalted be His glory, to bestow these conditions upon this ephemeral servant in all circumstances. His is the praise and the bounty, for He hath bestowed that which hath no likeness or equal. Both the mention of separation from that Beloved ignited the fire of love in the heart, and the longing for attainment and meeting produced the light of joy. His is the praise in all matters and all conditions.

Every letter indicates His grace and every word testifies to His bounty. He mentioned His Holiness Ismullah al-Jamal, upon him be every most glorious glory, and whatsoever flowed from his pen in praise and glorification of God, exalted be His glory, was presented before the Most Great Ocean and was honored to be heard. When it concluded, the Tongue of Grandeur in the Kingdom of Utterance spoke these manifest verses. The Lord, exalted and sanctified is He, saith:

O Varqa! O thou who hast drunk of My sealed wine, who hast held fast to My Self-Subsisting Name, and who hast stood firm in My ordained Cause! The ocean of grace is surging at this moment and the sea of joy is manifest at the highest point of possibility, for the fragrance of the Most Great Love from what was mentioned in showing humility and submissiveness, steadfastness and supplication and entreaty of My Name Jamal, upon him be My glory, is diffused and spread abroad. O Jamal! Thou didst show powerlessness before the power of God, exalted be His glory. Now the All-Powerful maketh mention of thee and the Omnipotent hath turned toward thee. Thou didst manifest nothingness; the Absolute Truth from the direction of the prison hath turned toward thee.

Thy powerlessness in this station is the pride of all earthly powers, and thy nothingness is the crown of all the beings of the nations. He hath mentioned thee and made mention of thy mention by him who soared in the atmosphere of My nearness and My love and My grace, and sent it to My prison, and My servant present here presented it, and the tongue of My grandeur answered thee. Thou didst seek a sprinkling; verily My ocean hath poured forth unto thee. Thou didst ask for a drop; the rain of My mercy hath showered upon thee. Blessed is he who hath mentioned thee. Reflect on nothingness and its station, for thou hast become the dawning-place of this most great favor, and observe poverty and its fruits, for He hath caused the Kingdom of wealth to turn toward thee.

Both the mention of thy love by him whom I love, and his mention of thee—from these two mentions a light shineth forth in the worlds of love and affection and harmony and unity. Well is it with you both and happy are you both. We beseech God to illumine the horizons of the hearts of His loved ones with this light, that all may hold fast to the Most Great Cord of divine love. This is the Water of Life that floweth and courseth from the Pen of the Most Merciful. The Glory be upon you both, the Mercy be upon you both, the Grace be upon you both, the Bounty be upon you both.

The station of harmony and unity, particularly among those who are reckoned as the Hands of the Cause of God, is well-pleasing and beloved in the sight of God. Indeed, after reading the letter of His Holiness Ismullah, upon him be the Most Glorious Beauty of God, which they had written to that loved one, and likewise mentioning that loved one, that letter caused the Beloved to smile. That which was revealed in this station is a trustworthy testimony and a manifest witness to the loftiness of the station of harmony and unity before God, the Lord of Creation. This evanescent servant offers greetings and praise to His Holiness. I have ever beseeched the Self-Sufficient Lord for that which would cause the exaltation of His loved ones. Verily, my Lord is the Hearer, the Answerer.

Mention was made of him who bears the name of the Intended One, the son of him who ascended unto God, Aqa Mirza Muhsin, the physician—upon them both be the Glory of God—and their brother, Jinab-i-Aqa Mirza Ja'far—upon him be the Glory of God. After presenting this before the Divine Throne, the Lord, exalted and sanctified be He, spoke these words:

Upon thee be My Glory and My loving-kindness. We make mention of the son of him who attained unto My love, lived by My love, and ascended through My love. Convey My greeting unto him and say: O namesake of the Intended One! Praise be to God that the Luminary of Grace hath shone forth from the heaven of bounty with such brilliance as to encompass the world. We beseech the True One to aid thee in such deeds as would cause every person of discernment to inhale therefrom the fragrance of God's good-pleasure. The door of grace is open, and the Seat of Divine Utterance is visible at the center of possibility, with the Divine Speaker seated thereon, calling out night and day in the most exalted voice with verses that are the cause of the glory of existence and counsels that are the source of exaltation. O dove! The dust of vain imaginings hath seized some. Verily thy Lord knoweth the treachery of the eyes and what the breasts conceal.

We make mention of Mirza Ja'far as a token of Our grace, for verily We are the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous.

O Ja'far! Take what hath been revealed in the Book and set aside what the various sects possess. Some deluded souls are occupied with idle fancies, others speak forth calumnies, and yet others cling to vain imaginings and idle fancies. The Truth is sanctified above all comprehension and knowledge, and His Cause is more manifest than the sun. We beseech the Truth that He deprive not the ears and eyes, and withhold not the Kawthar of utterance from all who dwell on earth. The loved ones of God must guide people through their character, conduct, and deeds, and lead them to the Most Great Ocean.

Every person of insight, hearing, and heart is astonished at what intoxication hath seized the servants, that they cannot distinguish between the sun and the firefly, nor can they discern between them. At one time this exalted word shone forth from the Dayspring of eternal light—thus speaketh the Lord, exalted and sanctified is He:

O servant in attendance! Until now one cannot make mention of the manifest Truth. Despite the scratching of the Most Exalted Pen and the call of the Lord of Names, true hearing and sight have not been witnessed, being unworthy to behold and unfit to hear. Observe the Bayani sect: though the misguidance, error, and loss of the Shi'ih sect are clear and evident, they are again occupied with forming

such a sect. By the life of God! That sect hath not inhaled the fragrance of unity. They were and are worshippers of idols and vain imaginings. The Truth hath until now spoken in measure, for the servants are weak, having been reared in vain imaginings throughout ages and centuries. Eyes dimmed with dust are not worthy to behold the light of the Sun, and souls immersed in fancy are not fit to receive the effulgences of the Daystar of certitude. Their beginning is fancy and their end is vain imagination. Thus hath spoken the Tongue of the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

O Faraj, upon thee be My glory! Thy mention hath been made and thy name inscribed. We have seen and heard, and have pronounced these words in the Kingdom of proof. In these days thy mention hath repeatedly flowed from the Most Exalted Pen. Give thanks unto thy Lord. Beseech Him to aid thee in His mention and praise and the promotion of His Cause. Verily, He is able to do all things. Convey to the people of that land the greetings of the Wronged One, and remind them of that which beseemeth the days of God.

And likewise mention was made of Aqa Mirza Aqa, upon him be the glory of God. After it was presented, these verses were revealed, exalted be His words: We have accepted and borne the taunts of enemies, the tyranny of the wicked, and the tribulations of the world, all for the salvation of the world, yet all remain heedless save whom God willeth. Thou shouldst praise thy Lord for having aided thee, taught thee, caused thee to recognize Him, and given thee to drink of the Kawthar of knowledge from the hands of grace and bounty. We beseech Him to assist thee to remain steadfast in His firm and mighty Cause.

Section 6: “Mention was made of the attention of Aqa…”

Mention was made of the attention of Aqa Mirza Majid, upon him be the glory of God, to that direction, and likewise of his steadfastness and enthusiasm. After presentation in the Most Holy Court, these words were revealed, exalted be His words:

O Majid! The world hath been seized by vain imaginings, and the means of conflict and corruption are evident from every direction. In this century the newspapers have gained prominence, and their proprietors consider them the cause of the world’s prosperity, the education of nations, and the progress, refinement, knowledge and awareness of the servants. In truth, they are means of gathering and dispersing. “The Day when the earth shall tell its tidings” is witnessed and heard, and “The whole earth shall be His handful on the Day of Resurrection” is manifest and evident. The earth hath wondrous and sublime secrets within, and speaketh of both new and ancient tidings, while outwardly too the bird of news flieth in all directions.

Yet it is regrettable that some newspapers publish fabricated reports without investigation. Whatever anyone may say, they say, and whatever anyone may write, they write. Thus do the dawning-places of vain imaginings spread their fancies through newspapers. O Majid! Reflect upon “the Day when the heaven shall bring a manifest smoke.” In these days falsehood hath great currency. The dust of vain imaginings hath prevented the people from the Lord of Days. We beseech God to raise up souls who will speak the truth and not allow the barriers and obstacles to deprive the servants from the Day of Return. Blessed is he who hath heard My call, risen to serve Me and serve My loved ones, and spoken My beautiful praise. Praise be to God, the One, the Single, the Mighty, the Beautiful.

Verily newspapers sometimes traverse the earth, and at times soar on the wings of news, and sometimes change their name and become like electric currents from which spread tidings, news and traces. However, I beseech God, exalted be His glory, to confirm their proprietors that all may act in accordance with what is befitting. It was not expected that some European newspapers would make mention without investigation or become followers of the fabricated statements of the servants. The manifestations of vain imaginings send writings to newspapers day and night, and these are published without investigation. As some seek fresh news, they publish them. I beseech God to aid all to act according to His exalted Word: "Believe not every speaker, nor be assured by every arrival." Repeatedly from every quarter some souls have desired that an account be written and sent for publication in books and newspapers. This was not accepted; until now no word has been given. The command is in His hand. He doeth what He willeth and ordaineth what He desireth. He is the Mighty, the Praiseworthy.

Regarding what was written about the two Ridas: after submission, one Most Holy, Most Exalted Tablet was specifically revealed from the heaven of divine favor and sent to Jinab-i-Aqa Muhammad-Riday-i-Milani, upon him be the Glory of God. He said:

> "This is better than permission, and I am the All-Bountiful, the Generous."

Specifically for Jinab-i-Aqa Mirza Hasan, upon him be the Glory of God, about whom you wrote, one Most Holy, Most Exalted Tablet was revealed and sent. I beseech God to make him successful in preserving this supreme bounty. Verily He is the Answerer.

Concerning the son of the late Jinab-i-Aqa Mirza ʿA.B., upon him be the Glory of God, what you wrote was noted. After submission to the Most Holy Court, He said that a Tablet was revealed concerning him. If it is expedient, they may deliver it; if not, then no. However, that beloved one must act with great wisdom, for if one were to counsel or advise such souls, that very word would become the cause of hatred and lead to corruption.

What was mentioned at the end of this letter concerning humility, submissiveness, and supplication to God, exalted be His glory, attained the honor of His hearing. His blessed and exalted Word:

> "We have heard from thee what beseemeth the court of My might and the throne of My grandeur. Blessed be thy tongue, for it hath spoken that from which the fragrance of My bounty, My grace and My mercy hath been diffused; and blessed be thine eye for what it hath witnessed and seen, and thine ear for what it hath heard—the Call of God, the Speaker, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. Thy turning to God, thy presence, thy devotion and thy supplication have been accepted in the days of God, the Lord of the worlds. We beseech God to assist thee and confirm thee in spreading His Cause, exalting His Word, and disseminating His laws. Verily, He is powerful over all things."

End.

After the submission of that beloved one's supplications and expressions of humility and entreaty, the river of mercy flowed and the sun of favor rose from the horizon of the heaven of grace, in such wise that the ocean of the Merciful's utterance surged so that this evanescent servant is incapable and falls short of

mentioning it. We beseech through His wondrous grace that He may bestow a drop of this bounty upon the worlds, that all may attain to that which is the cause of eternal permanence and everlasting life.

In another missive, that Beloved One, after mentioning praise and glorification and ascent to the heaven of recognition of the Lord of Names, made mention of His spiritual friend, Jinab-i-Nuri, upon him be the Glory of God, the Most Glorious. And likewise did He inscribe their aforementioned passages. After being presented before Him, the Tongue of Grandeur spoke these verses—blessed and exalted be His Word:

> "O ʿB', thou hast ever been remembered and art still remembered. His mention taught thee mention, His grace took thy hand, His mercy guided the way, and His bounty encompassed thee. He bestowed knowledge, granted vision, extended help, and confirmed thee. Praise be to God, thou hast attained that which hath no likeness. In all the letters of Varqa, upon him be My glory and loving-kindness, thou wert mentioned. We beseech God to aid thee and assist thee in that which He loveth and is pleased with, and to ordain for thee that which shall be as a light before thy face in all the worlds of His worlds. Verily, He is potent over all things."

News of their health and wellbeing has repeatedly arrived from the Land of Ta. The loved ones of that land have repeatedly spoken well of them. Indeed, they speak the truth and stand firm in service. Mention was made of his brother, Aqa Mirza Husayn, upon him be the Glory of God. After being presented before the Most Holy Court, these verses were revealed from the Kingdom of the All-Merciful's utterance—exalted and sanctified be the word of the Lord:

> "O Husayn! Upon thee be My Glory! God willing, thou shalt attain unto that which is befitting, and be among the fruitful trees whose manifestations shall appear in the Divine days. The True One hath, with the hand of grace, planted new saplings and watered them with the water of loving-kindness, that they might perchance bear fruit and provide shade. Blessed is he who attaineth unto this most exalted station. Say: O God of Names! Praise be unto Thee for having honored me, shown me, and caused me to hear. I beseech Thee to aid me in that which Thou lovest and art pleased with. Verily, Thou art the Lord of all beings and the Lord of the last and the first."

This servant also conveyeth greetings and praise to them, and seeketh from God confirmation and assistance. Regarding what was written about Jinab-i-Ustad Husayn, upon him be the Glory of God—that he had newly entered the stream of recognition—after his mention was presented to the hearing of the Lord of all beings, the Light of Grace shone forth from the horizon of the Kingdom of utterance and these verses were revealed—exalted be His majesty and universal His bounty:

> "Praise God for having aided thee to turn unto Him on a day when smoke had encompassed the inhabitants of the earth, and for having taught thee when the servants were in manifest ignorance. Say: Unto Thee be glory, O Lord of Names, and unto Thee be loving-kindness, O Lord of creation, for having enabled me to recognize the ocean of Thy utterance and the heaven of Thy bounty, and for having illumined me with the lights of the Sun of Thy Manifestation. O Lord! Aid me to be steadfast in Thy Cause, then enable me to make mention

of Thee and to praise Thee. Verily, Thou art the Powerful, the Mighty, the Omnipotent, and worthy to answer prayer."

And these gleaming words were revealed from the Dayspring of the Will of the Lord of Names and Attributes, specifically for the two sons of Jinab-i-Mulla Mustafa and Aqa Ghulam-Husayn, upon them be the Glory of God. The Lord, exalted and sanctified be He, saith:

O sons of men! Strive that from you may be revealed that which is worthy of the Days of God. This Wronged One counseleth you with that which is the cause of glory and exaltation. Adorn your temples with the ornament of deeds and your heads with the crown of virtuous conduct, that through them the horizons may be illumined. The light is manifest and radiant, and the Cause clear and evident. The heedless souls have ever been and still are lying in wait for man. Protect yourselves through the Name of Truth. Be ye vigilant, be ye watchful. This is His counsel. Well is it with them that act accordingly.

Thanks be to the Lord of the world, whose grace encompasseth all. The spring rain of His mercy hath ever descended upon the soil of hearts without cease. His bounty hath encompassed existence, and His grace hath bestowed that which hath no peer or likeness. However, that Beloved of hearts and this servant must beseech the Truth, exalted be His glory, to rend asunder the concealing veils, that perchance they may see and recognize. Concerning what hath been mentioned about the honored lady, the mother of Jinab-i-Aqa Mirza Sulayman and Jinab-i-Aqa Mirza Mihdi, upon her and upon them be the glory of God, after being presented before His presence, these exalted words were revealed from the Dayspring of the Will of God, exalted be His glory. His word, exalted be His utterance and His proof:

O Pen! Make mention of the leaf who left her home, advancing toward the Most Exalted Horizon, that she might attain the presence of the Countenance and stand before the Gate, and hear the call of the Wronged One and behold the horizon of Revelation. I testify that she heard the call of her Lord, believed in Him, turned toward Him, and witnessed what the Tongue of Grandeur had witnessed. Blessed art thou, O My handmaiden and My leaf! Thou art she who hath been mentioned by Me before thy ascension and after it. Blessed art thou for having attained unto the days of God and His traces on a day wherein the handmaidens of the earth and its queens turned away.

We found from thee the fragrance of My love and thy turning toward the lights of My countenance. We beseech God, exalted be He, to cause thee to enter the Most Exalted Paradise, to adorn thee with the crown embellished with His Most Glorious Name, and to send down upon thee at every instant a mercy from His presence and a light from His court. Verily, He is the Almighty, the Forgiving, the Generous. The glory from Us be upon thee and upon the handmaidens who remember thee through what the Supreme Pen hath spoken on this dark night.

In truth, these are days wherein man, from one perspective, seeketh death, for after ascension he attaineth unto the verses of the Supreme Pen; and from another perspective, he desireth life in the hope that some service might be manifested from him. However, the truth is that whatever the Beloved willeth is beloved. Peace is the best conclusion. They have specifically mentioned that We console Jinab-i-Mirza Sulayman and Mirza Mihdi, upon them be My glory, and We make mention of that which openeth the

doors of joy and transformeth sorrow into the greatest gladness. At the time of her ascension, there was revealed from the Supreme Pen concerning her that which is everlasting and eternal.

Before this, there was revealed from the Most Exalted Pen concerning the aforementioned noble lady that which its fragrance shall endure throughout the kingdom of earth and heaven. Blessed be she! That which was mentioned regarding Jinab-i-Aqa Mirza Mahmud-i-Maraghi'i, upon him be the Glory of God, has been granted, and this evanescent servant, on behalf of your honor and him, attained the presence at an appointed time and was adorned with acceptance. I beseech Him, exalted be He, to make the drop of my deed an ocean from His presence. Verily, He is powerful over all things. Likewise, they mentioned Jinab-i-Aqa Mirza Mihdi Shafa'i, upon him be the Glory of God, and requested special favors. After submission, the Tongue of Grandeur spoke these verses. Thus speaks the Lord, exalted and sanctified be He:

In My Name, the Wronged One, the Stranger

God, exalted be His glory, is at all times occupied with the mention of His loved ones. His Tongue of Grandeur speaks and His Pen moves. By the life of God! Whatever is manifest and visible cannot compare with the traces of His Pen. O Mihdi! Give thanks to thy Lord with these exalted words. When thou findest the fragrances of the utterance of the All-Merciful, say:

> "My God, my God! I testify that Thou hast created me for Thy knowledge, for turning to the lights of Thy countenance, for facing the horizon of Thy Manifestation, for standing before the gate of Thy grandeur, and for presence in the court of Thy might. I beseech Thee by Thy greatest signs, by the manifestations of Thy power in the world of creation, by the ocean of Thy grace and the heaven of Thy knowledge, to make me steadfast in Thy Cause and a herald of Thy Name. O my Lord! Write down from the Pen of Thy bounty for this servant that which will draw him near unto Thee in all Thy worlds. Then write for him what Thou hast written for Thy servants who have not broken Thy covenant and Thy testament, and who have drunk the choice wine of revelation in Thy days from the hands of Thy bounty. Verily, Thou art the Almighty, the Protector, the Mighty, the All-Wise."

The letter of that Beloved of hearts which was sent in the name of the honored friend "A.H.", upon him be the Glory of God and His favors, attained the honor of being heard by the Goal of the world. Blessed and exalted be His words:

Section 7: "Praise be to God Who assisted A.H…"

> "Praise be to God Who assisted A.H. to turn unto Him, to hold fast to the cord of His grace, to cling to the hem of His mercy, and to arise to serve His Cause. He is verily the Compassionate, the Helper, the Forgiving, the Generous. O Varqa! Upon thee be My Glory and My favor. The Most Exalted Pen beareth witness to his turning, his orientation, and his service in days when the limbs of existence trembled from the might and rebellion of the people of the earth. He turned to the Truth, attained His knowledge, spoke His mention, and acknowledged and confessed His Word. Blessed is he and joy be unto him. Give him My glad-tidings and remind

him of what hath been revealed from My Pen that he may rejoice and be of the thankful ones."

The beloved spiritual Amin, upon him be the Glory of God, acted in accordance with their wishes. He repeatedly mentioned them, their sons, and Aqa Mir Ali Akbar and Aqa Mir Ali Asghar, upon them be the Glory of God, as well as other loved ones from the people of M. and Y. and Saysan. He mentioned them all, and in most of their letters your honor was also mentioned. I beseech God to assist them in all conditions through love for His loved ones. Verily, He is the Helper, the Mighty, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

Another leaf that grew from the Tree of the Love of the Beloved of all worlds arrived in the form of a letter. Praise be to that pen and that ink from which spiritual water flowed, and when that water, flowing from the spring of love, reached the surface of the pages, it caused to bloom special flowers of sincerity, humility, submissiveness, remembrance and praise. A hundred thousand praises upon that pen and that ink and that letter. After inhaling the fragrance of those flowers and examining their traces, it ascended to the most glorious and exalted station and attained the honor of being heard. The Lord, exalted and sanctified be He, speaks:

In the Name of Him by Whom the Tablet is borne and the Pen is moved

Upon thee be My glory, My loving-kindness and My mercy. The servant is present with the letter present. We heard and saw the call of the tongue of the heart attaining the honor of being heard. Blessed is thy heart for having turned to My luminous horizon, and thy tongue for having voiced My beautiful praise, and thy face for having been illumined by the lights of the Countenance, and thy being for having been set ablaze with My love, the Mighty, the Inaccessible. O Varqa! Upon thee be God's loving-kindness and His mercy. The days of thy presence are ever remembered before the Divine Presence. Thou didst arise in thy earliest days to serve My Cause and to guide My servants to My path and to refine souls through My verses and to purify them with the water of My loving-kindness which flowed from the clouds of the heaven of My will. Blessed art thou, and joy be unto thee and unto him who loveth thee for the sake of God, thy Lord and the Lord of the worlds. The glory be upon thee and upon those with thee.

Praise and thanksgiving be unto Him, for on this blessed night His special favor encompassed all and that honored one was adorned with a special ornament. God willing, may you be confirmed and assisted in the education of the servants, the refinement of souls, and the attraction of minds and hearts. After the prayer was offered before the presence of the Most Great Sea, a wave appeared which this servant is incapable of describing. Finally the Tongue of Grandeur uttered these blessed words: "O Varqa! Upon him be My glory and My loving-kindness." He turned toward the face of the heart and the tongue of the heart and the heart of the heart and the essence of the heart. Verily he was set ablaze with the fire of thy Lord's love and attained the Kawthar of His remembrance, the Bountiful, the All-Compelling, the Resurrector, the Life-Giving, the Moving, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. And then it was concluded with these blessed words: "Happy is he!"

Regarding the known matter, what transpired was correct and acceptable. Yes, such souls should neither be discouraged nor should personal desires be followed. A middle course should be maintained. It is

strange that until now his honor the Letter Sin is still not aware of the purpose, even though he attained the Most Great Prison twice and each time dwelt in its vicinity for a period. I beseech God, exalted be His glory, to make him aware of the purpose. On one occasion He said:

> "Ask God to confirm him in that which will preserve him and be the cause of his salvation. When association in service to kings exceeds its bounds, there is fear of harm."

This servant implores God to strengthen His helper in elevating the Word and spreading the Cause. If they turn to this station, divine confirmations and the mercy of the All-Merciful will assuredly assist and bestow what is befitting. Mention was made of the honored servant, Mirza F.D., upon him be Baha'u'llah's glory. Some time ago, a Most Holy, Most Exalted Tablet was revealed for him from the heaven of grace and was sent. From every letter of that blessed Tablet wafts the fragrances of eternal favors. Praise be to God, they are confirmed in steadfastness, service, remembrance and praise. I convey to them greetings, praise, glory and splendor. God willing, the signs of their grace shall become manifest and evident throughout all regions through the command of the Mighty, the Self-Subsisting.

All those present and circumambulating send greetings and glory and are engaged in praise. Regarding the aforementioned matter, one must follow the Shi'ih tradition which states:

> "There is neither compulsion nor delegation of authority, but rather a position between the two."

Glory be to God! Until now, the bounty, kindness and mercy of God, exalted be His glory, have not been recognized, although all Tablets bear witness to this. This servant beseeches his Lord to aid them to understand what He has intended. Verily, He is the Hearer, the Answerer.

Mention was made in the Most Holy Court of the apple of the eye named Valiyu'llah, upon him be the glory of God. These manifest verses were revealed specifically for that apple of the eye and other apples of eyes, upon them be God's protection and care. The Lord, exalted and sanctified, speaks:

He is the One Who speaks in the Kingdom of Utterance

Blessed art thou for having turned in thy early days to thy Lord, the Lord of the mighty throne. Say: My God, my God! Thou seest me turning toward the heaven of Thy manifestation, speaking in Thy praise and of Thy verses, and acknowledging that which hath shone forth from the horizon of the kingdom of Thy knowledge. I beseech Thee to make me confirmed in the triumph of Thy Cause and the exaltation of Thy Word, such that the standards of Thy Cause may be raised in Thy cities and lands. Verily, Thou art the Master of the world and the Educator of the nations. There is no God but Thee, the Mighty, the Powerful.

And this is what was revealed for ʿAzizu'llah, upon him be the glory of God:

In My Name that shineth forth from the horizon of the heaven of proof

The Wronged One hath heard thy call and hath answered thee with that which was as the sprinkling rain of mercy for the good and blessed lands, as the breeze of grace for the gardens of knowledge, as the sun of certitude for the heaven of utterance, as the water of life for the thirsty one, and as the fragrance of

the All-Merciful for the people of Baha. Thank thou My Most Exalted Pen, for it hath mentioned thee with that which shall endure throughout the duration of God's kingdom, the Lord of the worlds.

This is what was revealed for Ruhu'llah, upon him be the glory of God:

In the name of Him Who is hidden while being manifest and evident.

That which the tongue of the heart uttered hath been honored to be heard. Say: My God, my God! Praise be to Thee for having created me through Thy most exalted Word and for having manifested me in Thy days, O Lord of all beings and Lord of the throne on high and of earth below. I beseech Thee by the Ark upon which sailed the Most Great Sea, and by Thy Cause through which Thou didst subdue the world, to make me abide beneath the canopies of Thy mercy and the heaven of Thy grace. Then ordain for me that which will draw me nigh unto Thee in all conditions and aid me in the victory of Thy Cause. Verily, Thou art the Self-Sufficient, the Most High. There is no God but Thee, the Mighty, the All-Bountiful.

Praise be to God that favored eyes have been blessed with the bounties of the Goal of all existence. For each one an eternal blessing and a spiritual feast hath been sent down from the heaven of grace—blessed are they! At the moment these were presented, He smiled, and the sea of bounty surged with a wondrous wave and reached a mighty crest. His is the praise and glorification, His the thanksgiving and splendor. And the new-born child, upon him be the Glory of God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy, who hath been adorned with the name Badi'u'llah, was at that moment honored with His approval—blessed is he! This servant beseecheth and imploreth God that He may confirm each one with such confirmation as is evident and manifest in the verses revealed. O Varaqa, upon thee be My Glory and My loving-kindness! Praise be to God that thou thyself hast attained this supreme honor and art adorned with this mighty gift. To this beareth witness the tongue of My grandeur, the tongue of My grace, the tongue of My loving-kindness, and the tongue of My wondrous utterance.

This endeth one bounty, another blessing, another mercy, and another gift from God, our Lord and the Lord of all who are in the heavens and the earth.

Concerning what thou didst write about Aqa Mirza Aqa, upon him be the Glory of God, and his desire to turn toward the lights of the Countenance of the Beloved and his burning with the fire of separation, these matters have reached the hearing of Him Who created ears to hearken unto His call. This is what the Tongue of Grandeur hath spoken in reply—the Word of the Lord, exalted and sanctified be He:

He is the All-Seeing, the All-Informed

We have heard thy call and witnessed thy turning, thy devotion and thy burning in separation from thy Lord. We have mentioned thee before in such wise that through it the fragrance of the All-Merciful hath wafted throughout creation. We beseech God to aid thee and make thee successful in His remembrance, His praise and the service of His Cause. Verily He is the Mighty, the Supreme, the Self-Subsisting. When thou drinkest the choice wine of revelation from the cup of My utterance and findest the fragrance of the All-Merciful from My words, say:

My God, my God! Separation from Thee hath destroyed me, remoteness from Thee hath consumed me, Thy Manifestation hath bewildered me, Thy verses have enkindled me, and Thy clear signs have attracted me. I beseech Thee by the Word through which the near ones hastened to the place of sacrifice, that Thou mayest write down for me, by Thy Most Exalted Pen, the reward of attaining Thy presence, of standing before Thy face, and of arising at the door of Thy grandeur. O Lord! Thou seest me attracted by the breezes of Thy Revelation and soaring in the atmosphere of Thy love. I beseech Thee by the rain-showers of the dawn of Thy Manifestation and by the lights of Thy Countenance, to make me in all conditions hold fast to the cord of Thy grace and act according to what Thou hast commanded me in Thy Book. Verily Thou art the Powerful over what Thou willest. There is no God but Thee, the Almighty, the All-Powerful.

God hath loved and continueth to love His loved ones, and hath come for their meeting and for the manifestations of His bounty and mercy. However, the oppression of the oppressors and the heedlessness of the heedless have become an obstacle. For some time now the prison-land hath been observed to be in turmoil, for a person from among the people of hatred was seated upon the throne of government for a period. Although he hath returned to hell—that is, was dismissed—yet until now the land hath not settled. Therefore We have paused in giving permission to utter the Word. Verily He is the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous, and He is the Forgiving, the Merciful. We beseech Him for that which containeth the good of this world and the next. Verily He hath power over all things and is worthy to answer. End.

Praise be to God, they have attained unto that which hath no likeness or similitude. The details concerning this land have undoubtedly reached your ears by now. This servant also conveyeth his greetings to them and beseecheth from God, exalted be His glory, good in this world and the next. Concerning what was again written about Haji Muhammad-ʿAli, upon him be 9 66 [Baha'u'llah], on the day your letter arrived, all that you desired was presented at the Most Holy Court and was honored with approval. Well is it with him! And the beloved of hearts, Amin, upon him be the Glory of God, also presented his petitions at the Most Holy Court and heard the approval with his own ears, and likewise a Tablet was revealed and sent especially for him. The servant beseecheth his Lord to assist His loved ones in that which He loveth and is pleased with, and to ordain for them the good of what hath been sent down in His Manifest Book.

And concerning what you wrote about the mention of divinity, that someone was disturbed upon hearing it, after this lowly one presented this, these exalted words shone forth from the Dawning-Place of Will:

His blessed and exalted Word: O Dove! Upon thee be My glory and My loving-kindness. The people are weak. Until now the Most Exalted Pen hath not mentioned what is befitting. The Speaker of Sinai, though His verses have encompassed the world, beholdeth Himself silent, and until now the ignorance of the people of the Qur'an hath not been fully mentioned. By the life of God! They are deprived of the cup of divine unity and forbidden from the chalice of oneness. Until now the station of true unity hath remained concealed, and this concealment is a great bounty for certain souls who have turned towards God. Although the fragrance of this station hath been diffused from the Most Exalted Pen, the purpose is that

few ears are found ready to hearken unto the Call of God and few eyes are keen enough to behold what hath appeared from the treasuries of the Pen.

Your honor should proceed with patience and speak of such things as would cause attraction, turning and enthusiasm, for if some of the stations and ranks of the chosen ones of the Qur'an and that which is worthy of this Revelation remain veiled, it is nearer to piety. At present, love and turning towards God suffice, and after turning and attraction, most will ascend by the cord of utterance and become aware of the stations according to their capacity. We have ordained for thee abundant good in the Book.

Section 8: "O beloved of my heart! Most are..."

O beloved of my heart! Most are as nursing babes seeking milk, and are not and never were worthy of more than that. We beseech God, the Most High, to assist His servants in His remembrance and praise, in turning towards Him and placing their trust in Him. Verily, He is the Hearer, the Answerer of prayer, and He is the Single, the One, the Mighty, the All-Praised.

The petitions that were sent to the Most Holy Court have been answered. I beseech God that through the effulgent rays of the Sun of Truth, shining forth from the horizon of the Tablet, may all the loved ones of that land be illumined and be enkindled by the sacred and exalted Fire. May they arise in unity and concord, and with hearts purified from hatred and animosity, devote themselves to the reformation of the world, so that the light of unity may envelop the earth and the hidden enmities in human hearts may be stilled and vanish.

It is hoped that the people of Baha—may the spirit of the world be sacrificed for them—will gird up the loins of endeavor and remove corruption, conflict, contention, and bloodshed from the world, that this suffering world might draw one peaceful breath. This I say, but alas, alas, I hear that certain souls have taken God's Cause lightly. They play and comprehend not, and they speak that of which they are unaware.

In all conditions, this evanescent servant seeks divine confirmation and heavenly assistance. Verily our Lord, the All-Merciful, is the Compassionate, the Generous, and He is the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

As to the two written statements of the Greater Branch—may my spirit and being be sacrificed for the dust of His footsteps—they are most excellent. His Holiness Himself will provide the details. Regarding His mention that one of the friends inquired about the Occultation, these matters shine forth like the sun in the divine Tablets. In these days all must be enkindled with the fire of the Word and engage in service to the Cause, seizing the time and enlightening the people of the world through wisdom and utterance. Whosoever today succeeds in acknowledging what God has revealed in the Book is numbered among the denizens of the Most Exalted Paradise.

Today is the Lord of Days, and the Master of Manifestations is seated upon the Throne of Utterance. Blessed are they who attain! The days of the Divine Manifestations are in one sense referred to as the Day of God, but these days are specifically designated in all the Books for the appearance of the Hidden Mystery and the Treasured Secret, Who proclaims with the most exalted call before the faces of the

world. The greatness of these days is recorded and inscribed in the previous Books and the mighty Qur'an.

The Herald, that is the Primal Point—may the spirit of all else be sacrificed for Him—during the days of His journey to Maku, outwardly concealed from all, attained the honor of Our presence, and Quddus—upon him be My glory and loving-kindness—attained repeatedly. During the journey to the Land of Kha We specifically summoned him, and for numbered months he attained Our presence. The Primal Point—may the spirit of all else be sacrificed for Him—named both him and the Most Great Gate as the First and the Last, and likewise interpreted them as the First to come and the Last to go, giving each the glad-tidings of this Revelation, and specifically saying to Sayyah—upon him be My glory—"Go forth, that thou mayest find."

The Universal Manifestations of the past were aware before the Revelation. They are the Dawning-places of divine knowledge. We beseech God to assist His loved ones to recognize what He has revealed in His clear and decisive Book. Some mentions become causes of veiling, and likewise cause the extinguishing of the fire of the Divine Lote-Tree in one's being. Glory be upon those who limit their gaze to turning toward the Most Exalted Horizon, detached from idle fancies and vain imaginings. O beloved of My heart! Indeed some mentions become causes of heedlessness and indolence, especially mentions of that which God has not approved. It is hoped that all may drink from the choice wine of the utterance of the All-Merciful and appear adorned with the ornament of distinction in the assemblage of the world. Verily the party of God must be distinguished from others. Greetings and salutations have been and are conveyed to the loved ones of that land, both past and present, and this evanescent servant beseeches the Eternal Truth to assist all to that which is befitting.

Regarding the matter in question, it is abundantly clear that in the sight of God, any matter that causes harm to anyone, or afflicts any soul, or indeed causes sorrow and distress to any souls, is in this Most Great Revelation rejected and unacceptable. That which causes elevation, loftiness, and ascendancy, and brings joy and gladness to the hearts of the people of the world, is acceptable and beloved. However, wisdom requires that one act in such a way that no trace of despair may appear. Verily our Lord, the All-Merciful, has forbidden all from corruption and conflict, and commanded them to show forth love, kindness and affection. Yet wisdom necessitates forbearance, both now and in the past. I beseech the True One to confirm that honored person in protecting the sheep. In this case, divine assistance will surely reach him. Verily He protects whoever turns to Him, and ordains for him the good of this world and the next, and exalts him through His grace, mercy and sovereignty, and aids him with the hosts of the seen and unseen. He is verily the Almighty, the All-Powerful.

As to the matter of prayers, in response to the request of the honored and beloved Mirza F D, upon him be the Glory of God, they were sent down from the heaven of grace, and likewise the reply to the spiritual friend Aqa Mirza Jalil, upon him be 966 [the Glory of God], and the other friends, upon them be the Glory of God. That beloved of the heart should, after perusing them, deliver them to their owners. As they requested specific prayers for sleep and waking, after presentation before the Divine Throne, these prayers dawned forth from the horizon of Divine utterance. His word, exalted be His greatness and mighty be His power:

Thou art the Rememberer and Thou art the Remembered One

O my God, my Lord and my Goal! Thy servant desires to sleep in the shelter of Thy mercy and rest beneath the canopy of Thy grace, seeking aid through Thy protection and guardianship. O Lord! I beseech Thee by Thine eye that slumbereth not to guard mine eye from beholding aught beside Thee. Then increase its light for the vision of Thy signs and for gazing toward the horizon of Thy Revelation. Thou art He before Whose manifestations of might the very essence of power hath waxed feeble. There is no God but Thee, the Almighty, the All-Conquering, the Unconstrained.

Thou art God, there is no God but Thee

Praise be to Thee, O my God, for having awakened me from my sleep, and brought me forth after my absence, and raised me from my slumber. I have risen this morning with my face set toward the splendors of the Dayspring of Thy Revelation, through which the heavens of Thy power and grandeur have been illumined, acknowledging Thy signs, believing in Thy Book, and holding fast unto Thy Cord. I beseech Thee, by the potency of Thy will and the compelling power of Thy purpose, to make what Thou didst show me in my dream the most firm foundation for the edifice of Thy love in the hearts of Thy loved ones, and the best instrument for the revelation of Thy grace and loving-kindness.

O Lord! Ordain for me through Thy Most Exalted Pen the good of this world and the world to come. I testify that within Thy grasp are the reins of all things. Thou changest them as Thou pleasest. No God is there save Thee, the Strong, the Faithful. Thou art He Who changeth through His command abasement into glory, and weakness into strength, and powerlessness into might, and fear into calm, and doubt into certainty. No God is there but Thee, the Mighty, the Beneficent. Thou disappointest not him that hath sought Thee, nor dost Thou keep back him that hath desired Thee. Ordain Thou for me what becometh the heaven of Thy generosity, and the ocean of Thy bounty. Thou art, verily, the Almighty, the Most Powerful.

He is the All-Compelling above all names

O my God, my God! How can I choose sleep while the eyes of them that long for Thee are wakeful because of their separation from Thee, and how can I lie at rest on the couch while the hearts of Thy lovers are sore troubled by their remoteness from Thy presence? O my Lord, I have entrusted my spirit and my entire being into the right hand of Thy might and Thy protection, and I lay my head on my pillow through Thy power, and lift it up according to Thy will and Thy good-pleasure. Thou art, in truth, the Preserver, the Keeper, the Almighty, the Most Powerful. By Thy might! I ask not, sleeping or waking, but what Thou dost desire. I am Thy servant and in Thy hands. Do Thou aid me to do what will shed the fragrance of Thy good pleasure. This, truly, is my hope and the hope of them that enjoy near access to Thee. Praised be Thou, O Lord of the worlds!

He is the Hearing, the Answering

O my God! I have awakened under Thy protection, and it behooveth him that seeketh Thy protection to abide within the Sanctuary of Thy safekeeping and the Stronghold of Thy defense. Illumine my inner

being, O my Lord, with the splendors of the Dayspring of Thy Revelation, even as Thou didst illumine my outer being with the morning light of Thy favor.

He is the All-Compelling, the Self-Subsisting

I have awakened this morning by Thy grace, O my God, and left my home trusting wholly in Thee and committing all my affairs unto Thee. Do Thou bestow upon me, then, out of the heaven of Thy mercy, a blessing from Thy presence. Then cause me to return home in safety even as Thou didst cause me to leave it in safety and with a steadfast heart. There is none other God but Thee, the One, the Peerless, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

The Sun of divine bounty is ever shining and manifest. It is Its own proof, and Its manifestations of grace are Its signs. It is the Evidence and the Manifest One, the Witness and the Expositor. Its grace encompasses all and Its mercy embraces everything. It hath never needed and will never need any proof.

Regarding Haji Ali-Askar (may 966 [Baha] rest upon him), they wrote that after presenting the petition in the Most Holy Court, permission to return was granted. Having a family, they must surely act according to the Kitab-i-Aqdas. A hundred thousand blessings upon them that act accordingly!

Concerning the prisoner in Tiflis, Mashhadi Isma'il ʿAlaqih-band, what was written was presented, and he attained divine grace and favor. His mention was made by the Tongue of Grandeur, Who said: Write to him:

> "Be not sorrowful. The Lord of the worlds is in the Most Great Prison. Say: O my God, my God! I have placed my trust in Thee and have committed my affairs unto Thee. Ordain for me that which will profit me in every world of Thy worlds. Thou, verily, art the All-Knowing, the All-Informed."

Mention was made of Aqa Muhammad Sadiq, who had migrated and attained. They said that especially for him a most holy and exalted Tablet was revealed from the heaven of the divine Will and was sent. God willing, he will attain unto it and drink from the ocean of its meanings. This servant also conveys greetings and praise to him and seeks his success.

Regarding what was written about that from which the mercy of the world is made manifest, and likewise His wrath—meaning ink, from which flow the vehicles of the world and by which the pillars of nations are made firm—in truth, were all the pens in the world to attempt to enumerate the offspring of this mother, they would find themselves powerless. Thought cannot comprehend it, registers cannot contain it. Indeed, were all its qualities to be truly described on every leaf, they would still be as nothing compared to its supreme, overwhelming influences. In any case, what was mentioned with these attributes and beyond them was received and was very good and pleasing, thus [it is] mercy made manifest through it.

Glory be unto Thee, O God of all possibilities and Goal of all beings! Thou art the One Who hast deposited within every drop that which hath stirred them that lie in the graves; by it Thou hast quickened, by it Thou hast taken and seized. I beseech Thee by Thy power that overruleth all the world to guide the nations to accept Thy Cause. Verily, Thou art the Omnipotent over whatsoever Thou willest, and Thou art the All-

Compelling, the Self-Subsisting. I beseech Thee, O my God, by the ocean of Thy bounty and the heaven of Thy grace, to send down upon him who hath loved Thee and mentioned Thy servant such glory as is from Thee, such peace as is from Thy presence, and such spirit as is from Thy side. Verily, Thou art the Omnipotent Whom nothing that Thou beholdest and seest can frustrate, and verily Thou art the Lord of all men and the Lord of the throne on high and of the dust below. There is none other God but Thee, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious.

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BH00851: Praise be to God Who hath guided us…

He is God, exalted be His glory, the Most Great, the All-Powerful

Praise be to God Who hath guided us to His straight path, Who hath caused us to speak of His oneness and His attributes, and Who hath enabled us to acknowledge that which His Most Exalted Pen hath uttered – that there is none other God but Him, the One, the Peerless, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. He sent forth the Messengers and revealed the Books as a token of His grace, and commanded them to guide His servants that they might manifest that which would exalt them in all His worlds, until the divine ordinances were completed through that which was revealed in the Qur'an to the Seal of the Prophets and the Chosen Ones.

Verily, it is the manifest Book of God, His mighty Command, and His radiant and resplendent Light whereby the world was illumined and nations were exalted. May the prayers that shine forth from the heaven of His grace be upon Him and upon His family and companions, who were as an ocean in their bounty, as a sword in battle, as the sky in their generosity, and as an army in their support. They manifested in every station that which was befitting and proper for them. Through them was made manifest what was made manifest, and was established what was revealed in God's Book, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy.

Glory be unto Thee, O Lord of all beings and Lord of the Sacred House! I beseech Thee by the Sacred Place and Station, by the mysteries Thou didst confide to the heart of Thy Beloved when He ascended unto Thee on the Night of Ascension, by the manifestation of Thy power on the Day of Resurrection, and by Thy settlement upon the throne of Thy greatness, O Lord of all beings and Breaker of idols, to send down upon Thy loved ones from the heaven of Thy bounty glory, honor, mercy and blessing. Verily, Thou art the Generous, the Bountiful. There is none other God but Thee, the Mighty, the Great.

Thereafter, praise be to God, as the Shaykh said, I was seated, my thoughts turned inward – that is, contemplating my own heedlessness, failings and shortcomings – when suddenly the door of joy was opened and the countenance of the letter appeared, bringing what the spring caravan brings. No joy or delight, no pleasure or comfort can compare with it. God knows, God knows what it bestowed upon the heart, from which sprouted the sweet basil and roses of love. It is the cause and the means thereof. With but one drop it can transform barren land into good soil and grant a hundred thousand utterances to the dumb. Its mark is visible upon all things, and its trace is evident in all things. It bestows the spirit of inner

meanings upon the temple of utterance. Were but a breeze from its direction to pass over the people of the world, all would turn to the most exalted horizon and detach themselves from aught else.

After reading and becoming acquainted with it, we proceeded to the station and it was presented. The Lord spoke that which was spirit to bodies, light to the righteous, and meaning to words, concluding with these most exalted words:

> "We beseech God, exalted be He, to assist them in that which He loveth and is pleased with, and to adorn the pages of the world with their names, their mention, and that which proceedeth from them."

God is witness and testifier that these beloved ones have ever been and are before His face at all times, their mention being with the Lord.

As for the mention of turning toward Egypt, and likewise the subsequent turning of the beloved of hearts, his honor M.H., upon him be the glory of God – God willing, Egypt shall be blessed and shall receive a full portion from this turning, for it hath been honored by two most exalted names. By the life of our Purpose and your Purpose, the breath of the chosen ones is effective, their existence is effective, their turning is effective, their utterance is effective.

The mention of Haji Muhammad-Baqir and others, upon them be God's peace, which they wrote about, brought the utmost joy and fresh delight. This word was the effect of the verses of the garden of inner meanings. I beseech and implore God, exalted be His glory, to increase the reward of that beloved one.

In truth, this matter was a cause of sorrow to the Blessed Beauty. That beloved of the heart bears witness and knows that one must grasp and hold fast to all means that promote the unity of God's loved ones, for unity itself is among the hosts of God, exalted be His glory. Indeed, had the idolaters truly witnessed the unity of the people of divine unity, they would never have dared to oppose them. The world's ruin stems from discord, and its prosperity from unity. In one place it is stated that unity is the lamp of the heart and its guardian.

I beseech and implore God, exalted be His glory, to grant the sweetness of unity that all may taste thereof and share it. This evanescent one offers his utter nothingness in service to each of the believers in divine unity and seeks help from all, that he may perchance succeed in justice and fairness and in deeds that are the cause and means of God's good-pleasure and salvation.

As to what was written regarding the treasury, I beseech God, exalted be His station, that from that eternal treasury may appear sweet and goodly gifts—that is, those that are praiseworthy and desirable—of trustworthiness, religious devotion, wealth, blessing, bounty, kindness, mercy and glory. However, one must first ask God to grant all the capacity to become worthy and capable of receiving true gifts.

God willing, from that treasury may the treasuries of the world be made prosperous—that is, hearts—and from that shop may both worlds receive their portion. The command is in God's hand, our Lord and your Lord and the Lord of all who are in earth and heaven. There is none other God but Him, the Mighty, the Powerful.

As to what was written regarding ʿAli, upon him be God's peace, and his attention to the palm trees, though outwardly they have not been seen or planted, yet inwardly they are lofty palm trees. I fear the mullas, otherwise I would say that their roots are firm and their branches reach unto heaven. These are the trials of this poor one which appear and are evident from every corner.

I beseech God, exalted be His glory, for grace and seek His bounty that He may ever keep pure the intention of this evanescent servant and make it for His sake. He is the Bestower, the Kind. I also beseech Him to assist ʿAli with all divine outpourings and to place this deed of his in the third category, according to His word, exalted be He: "And among them are those who outstrip others in good works." Grace belongs to God, the Revealer of verses, the Manifester of clear proofs, the Remover of doubts, and He is the Protector over all names and attributes.

As mention hath been made of His honor Haji Mirza, upon him be the peace of God and His grace, and likewise mention of His honor Haji A.A., upon them both be Baha'u'llah's [glory], if that beloved one is present in that land, convey greetings on behalf of this deprived one to each of them. I beseech God, exalted be His glory, to grant unto each one both outward and inward bounties, and sustenance both earthly and heavenly, and this will assuredly be answered through His generosity, which hath encouraged me, and through His bounty, which hath increased my certitude. And I implore God to bestow speedy recovery upon the honored beloved, His honor A.B., upon him be Baha'u'llah's [glory]. Peace and praise and remembrance and glory be upon you and upon those who are with you and who love you for the sake of God, our Lord and your Lord and the Lord of all who are in the heavens and the earth.

BH01096: Praise be fitting unto that Desired One, unto Whom…

He is God, exalted be His glory, the Grandeur and the Power!

Praise be fitting unto that Desired One, unto Whom the hearts of all seekers have been turned from the beginning that hath no beginning unto the end that hath no end, and glorification beseemeth that Worshipped One, unto Whom the eyes of all the peoples of the world, both past and future, are fixed, from Whom they implore, and unto Whom they return. Glory be unto God! Whatever we might say or write will remain unsaid, for speech is but the fruit of comprehension, and comprehension itself beareth witness to its own impotence. The pinions of those nigh unto God, despite all their ardor and ecstasy, their attraction and rapture, are debarred from this atmosphere, and the wings of men are bound and fettered. No thought or knowledge or intelligence can traverse beyond heaven and earth—all that exists lieth between these twain. Yet the guardians of the pavilion of grandeur and the sentinels of the sanctuaries of the Kingdom exist above a hundred thousand visible worlds. This heaven, compared to that heaven, is as the earth before this heaven—nay, I seek God's forgiveness from every limitation and delimitation. The fettered wing knoweth not how to soar, and wings besmeared with clay cannot transcend their bounds.

Glory be unto Thee, O my God! I beseech Thee to transmute our despair into hope, and to accept from us what we have failed to achieve in Thy days. Were it not for Thy grace, Thy generosity and Thy bounty, who would be able to utter a word, or take a step, or turn toward any direction, or make any sign? Glory be unto Thee, glory be unto Thee! Exalted is Thy knowledge and mighty is Thy remembrance! It

beseemeth Thee alone to make mention of Thyself and to describe Thy beauty, and this transcendeth the station of Thy servants, for they cannot attain unto Thy mysteries and that which Thy wisdom requireth. There is none other God but Thee, the Almighty, the Powerful.

To continue: your letter was received. We offered thanks for your well-being and We beseech Him to assist you at all times and not deprive you of the breezes of His grace. May He bestow a bounty every moment and grant a gift every instant, for His door is open, His generosity evident, His grace manifest and His favor apparent. No sin of any among the first or the last has ever prevented His gifts.

The pouring rains bear witness, the flowing rivers testify, the abundant blessings make clear, and the descended table speaks. For were He to withhold, none of what was mentioned would exist. Existence itself bears witness to this and testifies to it. After reading, it was presented. The Lord said: "O Rida, may God be pleased with you and you be pleased with Him. When these two states of pleasure are joined and achieved, there will appear from their horizon that which shall bestow light upon the world. For whosoever has drunk a drop from the ocean of divine good-pleasure and attained true bounties, they are recorded and inscribed by the Supreme Pen in the Book of Names among the Concourse on High.

Blessed is he who has drunk, and woe to the heedless. O Rida, We counsel you in all conditions to fear God, to goodly deeds, and to that which causes the manifestation of love and kindness. What does the Book say? That which benefits you. What has God commanded? That which brings salvation and bestows rest. The sayings are for us to hear, become aware, and walk the path—a path cleansed and purified by the breezes of divine favor. Now the truth has become distinct and the tongue is silent. The Command is in the hand of God, the Lord of all religions and Creator of all possibilities.

If Sabri Effendi, upon him be the peace of God and His favor, is there, convey greetings from the Wronged One. Verily We send greetings upon him, his family and those with him, and We beseech God to grant him what he loves and desires. Verily He has power over all things. And peace be upon you, O Rida, and upon those with you, and upon those who act according to what they were commanded in the Book of God, the Lord of the worlds, through which God has separated truth from falsehood, and through which were raised the pavilions of security and safety and the tent of rest and tranquility. Verily He is the Powerful, the Mighty, the All-Bountiful."

I send greetings to my beloved friend Sabri Effendi, upon him be God's peace, favor and mercy. The paintbrushes, each of which was in truth a banner in the world of love and a standard in the realm of devotion, arrived. We planted them—let us see what fruit they will bear and who shall partake thereof. God knows best. How blessed are those souls who plant for God's sake and leave it for God's creatures. The springtime consumption and sustenance of a single being lasts but a day or two. We beseech God with utmost humility and supplication to grant us the strength to plant trees whose fruits will forever benefit and nourish the inhabitants of earth. In any case, praise be to God, the manifestations of his love are cherished and accepted. We beseech our Lord and our God to decree for him a goodly reward and make it a treasure for him in His presence. Verily He is the Guardian of those who place their hopes in Him. Praise be to Him, for He is the Most Merciful of the merciful ones.

If it would be possible with the utmost joy and fragrance to send a few seeds with the qualities that this servant has described, it would be most beloved, for they will be planted in his name and their fruits will be for all. If this would cause the slightest trouble, this ephemeral one would not be content. I send greetings to Qurratu'l-'Ayn—upon her and her mother be the peace of God, our Lord and the Lord of the throne and earth. And praise be to Him in the hereafter and in this world.

4 Jamadiyu'th-Thani 1303

BH00122: The rain of divine mercy is pouring down…

Section 1: "In the Name of our Lord, the Most…"

In the Name of our Lord, the Most Holy, the Most Great, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious!

The rain of divine mercy is pouring down and the verses are ever being revealed from the Most Exalted Pen, and by His very truth there hath appeared that which hath no equal, no likeness, and no peer. All things are voicing the remembrance of the Lord of Names, and the dwellers of heaven are celebrating with "Blessed be God, the Lord of the Day of Judgment." This is the Day whereof He saith: "Thou shalt see mankind as in a drunken state, yet they are not drunken: But dreadful will be the chastisement of God," and "On that Day shall every woman that beareth a burden lay down her burden." In truth, in the primary station are the people of the Bayan. By the life of our Lord and your Lord, our Beloved and your Beloved, none hath been seen like unto these heedless people. Though they have witnessed the waves of the ocean of utterance and beheld the dawning splendors of the morn of inner meanings, yet they have arisen in opposition in such wise as hath never been seen or heard. What have they understood from twelve hundred years of Shi'ih Islam that they should now again cling to the same vain imaginings?

I beseech God, exalted be His glory, to make His servants aware through both seen and unseen means, to grant them vision, to bestow wakefulness, to vouchsafe justice, to confer fairness. Can one imagine for this Most Great Announcement any veils or glory-clouds more manifest, more dominant, and more encompassing than those which cause every fair-minded soul to cry out "God is most evident," "God is most great," and "God is most glorious"? This is the Day whereof He saith: "They have eyes with which they see not," until the end of His exalted Word. His is the command; He doeth what He willeth and ordaineth what He pleaseth. He is the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous. There is no God but Him, the Help in Peril, the All-Knowing.

Glorified art Thou, O my God and the God of the seen and unseen, my Goal and the Goal of Him Who hath appeared in the garment of being! I beseech Thee to assist Thy loved ones to serve Thy Cause, then aid them through the signs of Thy grandeur and the standards of Thy sovereignty, then manifest through them that whereby Thy Cause may be exalted amongst Thy servants and Thy traces in Thy lands. Thou art, verily, powerful over whatsoever Thou willest, and Thou art the Mighty One, and Thy remembrance is sweet to the taste of them that love Thee.

My God, my God! Thou seest Thy servant and he who loveth Thee (S.M.) who hath arisen to aid Thy Cause in days wherein agitation hath seized the dwellers of Thy earth and faces have been darkened

through their turning away from Thy countenance. Strengthen, O my God, his limbs for the service of Thy Cause and Thy remembrance and [Thy praise]. Thou art, verily, the Strong, the Triumphant, the Powerful.

O Beloved of my heart! The letters which that loved one addressed to the beloved of the heart of His Holiness the Most Great Name and to this servant were each a garden adorned with the roses of truth and utterance and meaning and exposition, and each letter thereof was a speaking book and a manifest scroll. The fragrance of those roses transcendeth mention and description. After their perusal and examination, they were taken to the Most Exalted Station and Supreme Summit, presented before the Divine Throne, and were honored to be heard. His word, exalted be His majesty and mighty be His sovereignty:

In My Name that speaketh in all times

Today the Banner of Revelation hath been raised to its loftiest station, and the Standard proclaiming "Verily I am God" hath been planted before the faces of all mankind. The path of God is clear, the proof hath been sent down, and the evidences are manifest. Nevertheless, most of the people of the world remain heedless and veiled. By God's life! That which hath flowed from the Most Exalted Pen is such that a single drop thereof would suffice to quicken the Concourse on High, how much more the dwellers of earth. This is the Kawthar of life that floweth between the fingers of the All-Merciful. In truth, these created beings have never been, nor are they now, capable of hearkening unto this Word that hath shone forth from the Dayspring of Revelation, nor are they worthy of recognizing it, save whom God willeth.

O thou who gazest upon His Countenance! Beseech God, exalted be His glory, to raise up and send forth through His perfect might such people as may become bearers of His Trust and guardians of the pearls of His wisdom. Say: O party of God! Ye are the knights in the arena of inner meanings and utterance. Arise with zeal and stand firm in service to His Cause, that perchance the helpless servants may not be afflicted with the vain imaginings of the past. They were worshippers of idle fancies yet counted themselves among the most learned of mankind. They were adorers of idols yet deemed themselves to be believers. Until now the true meaning of Divine Unity hath not been made manifest. Were the Most Exalted Pen to unveil but a little thereof, all would testify to their own misbelief. However, the Name "the Concealer" hath not withdrawn the hem of grace, and the Name "the All-Bountiful" hath not permitted justice to reach this station.

Blessed are they who reflect and observe what hath come to pass in the past. For whosoever becometh aware shall attain unto the choice sealed wine through the blessing of the Name "the Self-Subsisting" and shall be adorned with the ornament of supreme steadfastness. Convey greetings from the Wronged One to the party of God and give them the glad tidings of the favors of the Beloved of the worlds. All are mentioned in His presence and have attained unto the grace of God, exalted be His glory. Say: O friends! Preserve the trust of the love of the Beloved of the worlds in His Name and keep it hidden from the treacherous and the thieves. Convey my greetings to all the people of that household. Give them the glad tidings of My grace, My mercy, and My loving-kindness. The children and the teacher are all remembered. Verily, He fulfilleth His promise and He is the Compassionate, the All-Bountiful.

O Samandar! It is best that we occupy ourselves with the mention of the Peerless Friend and pass beyond all that exists and is visible, that another realm may be spread out and another world appear. Say:

My God, my God! Separation from Thee hath destroyed me, and remoteness from Thee hath consumed me, as hath that which hath befallen Thee in Thy path. My God, my God! Mine ear desireth to hear that for which it was created; withhold it not from Thy melodies and Thy tones. And mine eye desireth to behold the effulgences of the lights of Thy countenance; deprive it not of that which Thou hast manifested unto it. My God, my God! Why do I hear the call of the servants but hear not Thy call, and see Thy creation but see not the Dawning-Place of Thy revelation and the Dayspring of Thy signs? Blessed is he who hath inhaled the fragrance of Thy shirt and whom the breezes of Thy days have overtaken in such wise that he hath detached himself from all else beside Thee.

I beseech Thee, O my Lord, the All-Merciful, by the kingdom of Thy utterance, and by the sea which no ships of the world can encompass, and by the ark which the waves of nations cannot hinder, to strengthen me in all conditions as Thou didst strengthen me before and wilt strengthen me hereafter. Then send down from the heaven of Thy mercy upon Thy servants that which will draw them nigh unto Thee and acquaint them with what Thou hast purposed for them through Thy bounty and grace, and guide them to Thy path which calleth out with the most exalted call in the morning and in the evening:

> "By God! I am the Straight Path and I am the Balance whereby all things small and great are weighed."

O Lord! Deprive not Thy servants of the rustling of the Lote-Tree of the Uttermost End and the sound of Thy Most Exalted Pen. Verily Thou art He Who hath testified through Thy generosity to all created things, and through Thy grace to all beings. There is none other God but Thee, the Revealer of verses, the Lord of earth and heaven.

Praise be to God that this servant, despite numerous occupations, was blessed to make mention of that Beloved. The comfort of man hath ever been in meeting with loved ones, and when this is not possible, mention serveth as a substitute, for through mention some measure of solace is obtained. Thus it hath been said that when the rose is veiled, man findeth solace in rosewater. He beseecheth the eternal Truth and hopeth that He may grant success and confirmation, that the fire of separation may be quenched by the water of the mention of reunion and attainment. In His hand is all authority; He confirmeth whom He willeth as a grace from His presence, and He is the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous.

As to the mention of the intention to pen words—each letter of which is truly a messenger of love—to the city of seekers, this was a wondrous matter, and the poetry too was most fitting. He beseecheth God, exalted be His glory, that through the tears of that eye He may water the gardens of inner meanings, that the flowers of remembrance and utterance may be refreshed by the rain from the spring of the eyes of them that are nigh, and may be made manifest in the world. For the tears of the eye, countless stations have been ordained; they tell of the sovereign of love, they are the primary narrator and the secondary interpreter. The servant beseecheth his Lord to preserve it and extend it through the sea of His light and the effulgences of the lights of His manifestation. Verily, He is the Protector of the yearning ones and the One Who draweth nigh unto them that are brought nigh. Praise be to Him for His bestowal at this time.

Regarding the mention of Jinab-i-Khalil, upon him be the glory of God and His favors—he did indeed turn towards God, hasten forward until he arrived, heard and witnessed. Verily our Lord, the Most Merciful, is the Helper, the Generous. In truth, with the divine seal of God's love and the fire of heavenly affection, he moved like a celestial telegraph of love. O beloved of my heart! Love accomplishes many things—before it lies the book of mysteries, it possesses the records of ruin and prosperity. It can make the rock abundant in bounty, ignite that which is extinguished, and with a single word make the inanimate flow and spread. The hand is His hand and the field is His field. Praise be to God, he arrived safely at the divine homeland, was present and observant, and after staying some days, returned as commanded. Divine favor assisted him, confirmation accompanied him, and heavenly support protected him until he attained the presence of the Most Great Throne. In such days, matters like these are counted among miracles, for despite the discord of the peoples of the world, the light of unity and harmony accomplished its work, as it did—all attained to good and returned. Happy is he and blessed is he.

Regarding the permission for Haji Muhammad Baqir, upon him be the glory of God, to come—what was written was presented to the Most Holy Court. These exalted words were revealed from the Dawning-Place of grace, the Source of verses. His word—exalted be His utterance and mighty His proof:

> "O Samandar! The Truth, exalted be His glory, has appeared to bestow upon all the honor of His presence and to adorn them with the ornaments of sanctification, detachment, trustworthiness, religion, chastity and that which benefits their souls. He has manifested Himself for the meeting, but the people have prevented those who desired Him from every distant quarter."

Due to the multitude of visitors, arrivals and seekers in the prison land, some discussions have arisen. Convey greetings from the Wronged One. We have mentioned him through Our grace with a mention before which all mention bows down. O Samandar! Give him glad tidings from Me. We beseech God to inscribe for him from the Pen of His Command the reward of His presence. Verily, He is powerful over all things. Let him strive that he may attain unto steadfastness, which after recognition and meeting is the foundation. O Samandar! Beseech God not to deprive His servants of the ornament of justice and equity. He is powerful and mighty over all things. Praise be to God, they turned towards Him, approached, and attained the traces of the Most Exalted Pen. This is a great bounty, by My Life, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

Regarding the Huququ'llah which they have taken trouble to deliver—this is not the first service that has appeared from your honor, as attested by the Pen of God, our Lord and your Lord. From the first days you have been engaged in service and speaking in praise and glorification. This is from the favor of our Lord and your Lord upon you. Verily, He is the Witness, the Hearer, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. The papers also arrived. Whatever is entrusted to your honor, its execution is certain and requires nothing else. Regarding the remaining amount known to the beloved Ibn-i-Abhar, upon him be the Most Glorious Glory of God, favor was shown, and what that beloved one wrote is correct and accepted before the Truth, for if it had been mentioned, clamor would have arisen.

Regarding the Leaf, your niece, upon her be the glory of God—praise be to God, she has arrived and attained the presence and is engaged in service in the sanctuary, and all are pleased with her—that is, the people of the pavilion of chastity and greatness. In this matter, let that beloved one be assured.

O Abdul-Baqi, upon whom be the Glory of God! Your mention hath been made before the Throne. This servant conveyeth greetings and salutations to you and all your kindred. At this moment, while engaged in penning these words in the presence of the Most Great Throne, these exalted words have issued forth from the Kingdom of the All-Merciful's utterance:

> "O Samandar! Convey greetings to the people of God on behalf of the Wronged One. Say: A handful of transgressors in the world, having adorned their heads with white and green turbans, have purposed to lead astray the people of God. From the inception of Islam until the Day of Manifestation, all have wandered in the wilderness of idle fancies and strayed in the deserts of vain imaginings. Thus when the Finger of Power rent asunder the veil, the deeds of all and their fruits became clear and evident to all. When He willeth to unveil, no veil can conceal it, and when He willeth to conceal, no power in the world nor the will of nations can expose it. Nevertheless, some among the people of the Bayan have followed suit and set about to mislead the people, even as did the former people. It is incumbent and obligatory upon all to strive and protect the servants of God, lest they be deprived of the Day-Star of certitude through former idle fancies. Convey greetings from the True One to Abdul-Baqi. Each soul is mentioned in the presence of the Wronged One and hath been blessed by the grace of the Supreme Pen. Blessed are they whom neither the doubts of the people of the Bayan nor the allusions of the people of the Furqan caused to slip, and who have acknowledged that which the Tongue of Grandeur hath acknowledged in His Most Great Prison. These are the people of God in all lands. Glory be upon them, upon their first and their last, their outward and their inward aspects."

When mention was made of the people of God in that land, it was presented before the Throne, and each one was blessed with the mention of God, exalted be His glory. Happy are they! For some, wondrous and sublime Tablets have been revealed from the heaven of favor and sent forth. God willing, may all attain unto them. In these days, a letter was received from the beloved Amin, Haji Mirza Abu'l-Hasan, upon whom be the Glory of God and His favors, wherein he made mention of the beloved ones of that land and expressed great joy and satisfaction. This is what was again revealed for the friends of God whose names were mentioned. His blessed and exalted Word:

Section 2: "O Muhammad (Darbagh)! Hearken unto the call…"

O Muhammad (Darbagh)! Hearken unto the call of the Wronged One. He maketh mention of thee with that which nothing in all creation can equal, and counseleth thee to show forth the Greater Steadfastness and that whereby the Word of God, the Lord of all worlds, may be exalted. O Ali Akbar! The Prisoner calleth thee from the precincts of the Prison, maketh mention of thee, and beareth thee glad tidings as a bounty from His presence, and commandeth thee to that which beseemeth the days of God, thy Lord, the Lord of the Mighty Throne.

O Abdul-Husayn! Thou didst attain unto My mention in the early days and on this Day wherein the people of the Bayan have risen up even as the people of the Furqan rose up against My harm, after I had come unto them from the Dayspring of proof with the standards of verses and the banners of clear evidences. Thus did their souls entice them, and they were recorded among the idolaters in the Book of God, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

O Samandar! We make mention of the sons of thy paternal and maternal uncles, as a token of Our grace. Verily, thy Lord is the All-Merciful, the Bountiful. Convey unto them the greetings of the Wronged One and give them the glad tidings of My turning towards them and My remembrance of them in a Book which none hath comprehended save God, the Mighty, the All-Praised. We have remembered them in numerous Tablets and have counseled them with that which behooveth them, and We counsel them now to show forth the Greater Steadfastness in this wondrous Remembrance. The clamor which We had foretold hath come to pass in the Land of Mystery and before it when the Light was shining from the horizon of Zawra wherein was diffused the fragrance of My luminous raiment. Thus hath the ocean of utterance surged and the sun of knowledge shone forth. Blessed is he who hath witnessed and seen, and woe unto the heedless.

All have been blessed with special favors and have partaken of the table of divine meanings. This evanescent servant beseecheth God—exalted be His glory—to aid them to recognize true divine unity, for had the people of old attained unto the effulgent rays of true divine unity, all would have been found submissive and humble on the Day of Manifestation. This is the Day of God wherein none is mentioned save Him. Blessed are they that know.

At an appropriate and beloved time, thy visit was accepted on thy behalf as desired. Well is it with you and me.

As for the testimony which flowed from thy heart, tongue and pen at the end of thy letter, it was granted the honor of being heard before His presence, and that which was revealed in response from the heaven of divine will is such that this servant is truly incapable of describing it. Pardon, pardon, pardon! Glory be to God! From what substance are those souls made who have hesitated in this Cause? In truth, it is divine wrath and the recompense of deeds that hath seized some. Verily, He is the Recompenser, the Just, the Wise.

Concerning the mention of the loved ones of the land of ʿIshq in the letter of the spiritual beloved, His Holiness the Most Generous Name, upon him be the Most Glorious Beauty of God—praise be to God, it was a spiritual glad tiding and a luminous remembrance. However, to those who drink the wine of divine love, both ease and hardship are beloved. Whatever occurs in the path of the Friend is beloved to the soul and the heart's desire. They have been delivered from those tribulations; God willing, may they remain protected from the fire of the idolaters and transgressors. This servant conveyeth greetings and praise to all and seeketh divine confirmation and assistance for all. All letters which thou sendest to thy spiritual beloved are presented before the Divine Throne, and responses are requested. The purpose is that thou hast ever been and remaineth mentioned.

Regarding what thou didst write about the funds expended, yes, according to the command, if it can be found from any source it should be taken. And concerning what thou didst write: "Whatever is commanded, we are, God willing, obedient and content, especially in receiving funds which is a matter of obedience"—to the end of thy words—after this matter was presented in the Most Holy Court, this utterance was revealed from the Kingdom of proof—exalted and blessed be His words: "O Samandar! We bear witness that thy deceased and elevated father and thou have not been remiss in serving the Cause. Ye have obeyed whatever was commanded and acted for the sake of God, for the love of God, and in the path of God. God willing, mayest thou ever drink of this Kawthar and partake of this choice wine. Nothing can equal the testimony of thy Lord. We praise God, exalted be He, with thy tongue and thank Him with His tongue, that it may be a treasure and honor for thee throughout the duration of the Kingdom and the realm of heaven."

The petition of the nephew of the late, ascended Diya'—upon him be the Glory of God and His mercy—was received, and several months ago a response descended from the heaven of divine will and was sent. Regarding [Yakan]—may God the Exalted strengthen him—what they wrote was presented before the Most Holy, Most Exalted Presence, and a wondrous and exalted Tablet was specifically revealed for him and sent. His blessed and exalted Word states:

> "When he recognized, he soared on wings of longing unto God, the Lord of the Day of Meeting."

This evanescent servant is truly bewildered by that which hath been manifested and made evident from the exalted Truth, and likewise by the conditions of the people. At all times he beseecheth his Lord, the All-Merciful, to assist His servants to recognize what He hath manifested through His grace, His generosity and His favors. Verily, He is the Hearer, the Answerer.

Some names that were mentioned in this letter were presented before the countenance of the Lord of the worlds, and each received their portion as befitting from the ocean of grace. Blessed are they that drink thereof.

This is what was sent down from the heaven of the providence of our Lord and your Lord and the Lord of all who are in the heavens and on earth. His word, exalted be His glory, states:

> "O Muhammad-ʿAli! There came before the Presence a leaf wherein was thy mention. We have mentioned thee with a mention that all the mentions of the world cannot equal, and We counsel thee to manifest the Most Great Steadfastness in this Cause whereby the Names were shaken, as were the divines and jurisprudents of the earth. Thus hath the Sun of Grace revealed its favors that thou mayest be thankful and be of those who render praise."
>
> "O Pen! Make mention of him who is named Tahmasb, that he may rejoice in the mention of his Lord, the Mighty, the Bestower, who hath turned toward Him from the direction of His Most Great Prison, and mentioned him in such wise that the near ones perceive therefrom the fragrance of the loving-kindness of their Lord, the Forgiving, the Generous."

> "And We make mention of the teacher whom We mentioned before and gave him glad tidings of the favors of his Lord, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy. O Muhammad-Taqi! The Face of Him Who was wronged hath turned toward thee and calleth thee to that which will draw thee nigh unto the Supreme Horizon and will adorn thee with that which beseemeth the days of God, the Lord of the Day of Judgment."

Concerning the mention of Haji Baba, upon whom be the Glory of God, after these sublime words were submitted, there dawned from the Dayspring of Divine Revelation and Inspiration these words—magnified be His glory:

> "O Haji Baba! The Divine Lamp is luminous and bright, and the Sun of inner meanings is radiant and manifest. The tongue of utterance speaks at all times, and the ocean of proof surges before all faces. Nevertheless, all remain heedless and deprived, save whom God willeth. Reflect upon the people of the Bayan: They have newly arranged their turbans, green and white, and ascend the pulpits. They desire to establish a party like unto the Shi'ih party in the earth. By God's life! The people of justice lament, and the manifestations of equity weep. Have they not reflected upon the fruits of the former party's deeds? For they committed such acts as prevented eyes from beholding and ears from hearing. That party, both learned and ignorant, perpetrated what no other party had ever done, and committed that from which Satan himself fled. We beseech God to protect His servants. In brief, the divines of Iran and the opposers among the people of the Bayan are deprived of the lights of the Sun of true divine unity. More than this cannot be disclosed. Say: Fear God, and follow not your idle fancies. This is a Day wherein naught is mentioned save God, your Lord and your Goal, and the Goal of all who are in the heavens and on earth. Convey My greetings to the friends in that land on behalf of the Wronged One, and summon them to the most great steadfastness. Glory be upon thee and upon whosoever hath cast away the world, holding fast to the cord of God, the Strong, and His mighty Cause."

This evanescent one conveys greetings to each one. All must, through God's grace, bounty and aid, hold fast to unity and harmony, and through consultation strive to exalt the Word of God, expending mighty efforts therein.

Mention was made of Andalib, upon whom be the Glory of God. His petitions have repeatedly reached the Most Holy Court, and in these days a Tablet was specifically revealed and sent to him. At this moment these manifest verses were revealed from the heaven of God's grace—blessed and exalted be He:

> "O Samandar! Andalib, upon whom be My glory, hath been striving and endeavoring to exalt the Word night and day. This is the testimony of the Most Exalted Pen concerning him. Give him the glad tidings of My grace, My bounty, and My turning towards him. We beseech God to adorn him with such an ornament that all may behold from him the light of sanctity. By God's life! For long periods this Wronged One was grief-stricken, until Divine grace seized him and generosity turned toward him. We beseech Him, exalted be He, to strengthen him and aid him with what He loveth and pleaseth. He hath ever been mentioned in the presence of the Wronged One, and continueth to be so."

This evanescent servant conveys greetings to him and beseeches the Mighty God to strengthen him to make mention and praise of Him and to aid His Cause. Verily our Lord, the All-Merciful, is the Powerful, the Mighty.

Another submission: The beloved sister of His Holiness the Name of Generosity (Ismu'l-Jud), upon whom be 966 [the Glory of God] the Most Glorious, together with her son, upon them both be the Glory of God, have been granted permission to turn towards the Most Holy Court. Thus hath shone forth the sun of permission from the horizon of our Lord's grace, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. I beseech and implore the Mighty God to strengthen them in all conditions, grant them success, and through His perfect power arrange circumstances whereby they may at all times attain unto His wondrous and sublime bounties. We verily are the Comforter, the All-Knowing.

We have desired to make mention of Our handmaiden who attained to the recognition of her Lord before her ascension, and after her ascension was blessed with the Kawthar of her Lord's gracious favors, the Kind, the All-Merciful. We testify that she turned to God and believed when men were in manifest rejection. She drank the choice wine of recognition from the hand of her Lord's bounty, the All-Merciful, and mention of her was recorded by the Pen of Revelation when the Wronged One was in His mighty prison. When she ascended, the Concourse on High perceived from her the sweet fragrance of the love of God, the Lord of all beings. Blessed is she and joy be unto her!

She attained unto mention in her days and unto the favors of her Lord after her ascension. We beseech God to send down upon her from the heaven of grace and bounty at all times that which befitteth His generosity, His grace and His bounty, which have encompassed all who are in the heavens and on earth. We console Our servant Abdul-Husayn, who was mentioned in the early days before God, the Lord of all mankind. We make mention of his son and daughter and counsel them to be patient in what hath come upon them in the days of God, the Lord of the worlds. We console those who were with them, as a token of Our grace, for verily We are the Almighty, the Forgiving, the Merciful. The glory from Us be upon them all.

Blessed is she, again blessed is she, for she hath been honored with mention by the Supreme Pen. In life she was adorned with His love, and in death she ascended with His love. Grace, bounty and favor are within His mighty grasp; He bestoweth them upon whomsoever He willeth. Verily, He hath power over all things.

I convey unto the honoured [Ákhund]—upon him be the glory of God and His loving-kindness—and unto the bereaved ones, upon them be the glory of God, My triumphal acclamation and salutations. And I beseech the one true God—glorified be His Name—that the Pen of the Most High may make mention of all as steadfast and thankful. In very truth have they attained unto that which is abiding and everlasting. To Him be praise and glory, and to Him be thanksgiving and favour and faithfulness.

Concerning the late Aqa Murtida-Quli, upon him be the glory of God and His mercy, the mere fact that he associated with that beloved one and entered that house and showed forth love is sufficient. Thus did the Tongue of Grandeur speak concerning him, and after being submitted before the Most Holy, Most Exalted Presence, these sublime words were revealed—exalted be His utterance and glorified His proof:

> “O Samandar! Although that deceased one did not act according to divine counsels, yet in his final years signs of love were manifest from him, and his turning to your house, his presence, and his seeking—all bear witness to his recognition. Therefore he has been adorned with the grace of God, exalted be His glory, and He forgave him through His bounty, and purified him from the defilement of the world, and ordained for him a station beneath the shade of His chosen ones. Verily He doeth what He willeth and ordaineth what He pleaseth. He shall not be asked of His doings. He is the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.”

Though he was not enkindled as befitted, yet from time to time he was mindful, and by the testimony of the Supreme Pen he possessed love to a certain degree. Therefore the all-encompassing mercy embraced him. Verily our Lord, the All-Merciful, is the All-Bountiful, the Generous, and He is the Forgiving, the Merciful.

Special mention that I conveyed your humility, submissiveness, remembrance and praise to the Holy Branches of the Blessed Tree—may my spirit, my being, and my essence be sacrificed for the dust of their footsteps. Each one manifested countless favors, especially mentioning and showing kindness to you. Likewise, the denizens of the pavilion of infallibility and grandeur all made mention of that beloved one and his household. God willing, this letter will reach you and the hidden, recorded favors will become manifest and evident.

Glory, remembrance and praise be upon your honor, upon those with you, and upon those who love you for the sake of God, our Lord and your Lord and the Lord of all who are in the heavens and the earth.

The servant 10th of Jumada al-Thani 1303

BH00723: The Branches of the Blessed Tree—may my spirit…

The Branches of the Blessed Tree—may my spirit and whatsoever my Lord hath bestowed upon me be offered for their advent—convey sacred remembrance beyond the mention and thought of this evanescent one. May the spiritual friend, his honor Ahmad—upon him be God’s peace and loving-kindness—take note.

He is God, exalted be His station, the Grandeur and the Power!

The Book of God speaketh and the Sun of Truth shineth. The light of His countenance with the word “Verily He is God” is manifest and evident after the passing of all things. The Sun of the Will of the Peerless Beloved hath so encompassed all things with its effulgences that not a single atom among all atoms is deprived of its signs and verses. Yet heedless souls remain veiled and debarred from witnessing and hearkening. The Sun calleth out, yet ears are absent. Heaven crieth aloud, yet the power to hear is non-existent. The realm of manifestation is adorned with the ornament of true unity, yet sight is nowhere to be found. From a single will the ocean of bounty came into being, and from one drop thereof the world of existence became manifest and creation appeared.

By virtue of His pre-existing mercy and all-encompassing grace, He bestowed sight and granted awareness. From His pure and absolute existence, He sent down proof and made clear the path. The King

of the Path and the Manifestation of the Proof is He Who came with the truth, by Whose advent the Hijaz was adorned and from Whose fragrance Batha was perfumed, He Whose will was the Will of God, Whose desire was the Desire of God, Whose command was the Command of God, and Whose prohibition was the Prohibition of God. Through Him appeared His straight path and His firm and mighty command.

Glorified art Thou, O God of Names and Creator of heaven! I beseech Thee by the movement of Thy Most Exalted Pen, whereby Thou didst subdue all things, and by Thy Name which Thou didst make the Sovereign of names and the All-Ruling over earth and heaven, to send Thy blessings upon Thy Beloved, Whom Thou didst strengthen and exalt and cause to enter a station which the understanding of the world cannot comprehend nor the minds of nations grasp, and upon His family and companions whom Thou didst make the lamps of guidance among all creatures and the emblems of unity among kings and servants. O Lord! I beseech Thee by them and by their glory, might and power to protect Thy loved ones from the ungodly who have encompassed Thy cities and lands without any proof from Thee, and who have committed that which hath grieved the hearts of Thy chosen ones and the hearts of Thy messengers.

O Lord! Send down from the heaven of Thy grace upon those who have turned wholly unto Thee and have acted according to what Thou didst command them in Thy Book that which shall endure as long as Thy names endure and Thy attributes persist. Verily, Thou art the Almighty Whom neither the clamor of the servants nor the turning away of those in the lands can hinder. Thou doest what Thou willest and ordainest what Thou desirest. There is no God but Thee, the Mighty, the All-Praised.

And send Thy blessings, O my God, upon Thy loved ones and friends who hastened unto Thee and circumambulated Thy House by Thy command, who bore hardships in their turning unto Thee, whom neither the blame of the blamer nor the turning away of the heedless nor the sword of the oppressor nor the assault of the transgressor could deter in their love for Thee. They have turned unto Thee with radiant faces and illumined hearts. O Lord! Withhold not from them that which is with Thee, and ordain for them what Thou hast ordained for Thy trusted ones and Thy loved ones. Verily, Thou art the Almighty, the All-Ruling, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise, the Hearing, the Answering.

And furthermore, O beloved of my heart! I had been contemplating the world and reflecting on the power of its Maker, its Creator, its Fashioner, and the visible signs of God and His manifest evidences, when someone arrived with your letter. I took it and opened it, and from it wafted the fragrance of love and affection, and the intoxication of the Kawthar of love seized me in such wise that the pen is powerless to describe it and the tongue fails to express it. I opened it and read it, and found in each letter thereof that which gladdened me and attracted me, for from it wafted the fragrance of the love of our Lord and your Lord, our Goal and your Goal, and the Goal of all who are in the heavens and on earth. Then it was presented before our Master—may our souls be a sacrifice for Him—and He said:

> “O thou who gazest upon the Countenance! He who was present before the Wronged One with thy letter hath come, and he read before the Countenance what thou didst praise God therein, the Lord of all worlds. We found from it the fragrance of thy turning unto God, thy sincerity, thy devotion, thy certitude, thy submissiveness, thy humility, thy resignation and thy contentment in God, the Lord of the Mighty Throne. We beseech Him, exalted be He, to send

> down upon thee from the heaven of His bounty that which will draw thee nigh unto Him and to make that which hath proceeded from thee in His mention and praise a treasure for thee in His heaven and a store for thee in His Kingdom. Verily, He is the One Who hath power over whatsoever He willeth. Neither the might of the world nor the oppression of the idolatrous among the nations can prevent Him. He is the Single One, the Unique One, Who hath no likeness nor peer, and there is nothing like unto Him. Every possessor of knowledge and understanding hath testified to the sanctification of His Being and the exaltation of His Essence above all else. We bear witness to that which they who are endued with constancy among His Prophets have testified: verily He is the Single One, the Unique One, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed."

Life came and bestowed life; spirit came and conferred spirit. What effect can this servant's movement and mention have, and what purpose can they serve? Every call is as nought beside the rustling of the Most Exalted Pen, and every utterance is lost before the Kingdom of utterance. However, since the word of permission hath appeared from the horizon of the Most Great Favor, therefore we hold fast unto His mention and praise, and offer a hundred thousand thanksgivings that this permission hath been granted and this honor hath been bestowed. The world is weary and the Lord is glorious, seated upon the throne of utterance. Glory be unto Him, glory be unto Him, above my mention and the mention of those above me and those below me!

By the life of our Beloved and your Beloved, the letter of that loved one brought perfect joy and bestowed boundless delight. Prayers were offered at a propitious time and were honored to be heard. Well is it with your tongue and your pen! God willing, may they be confirmed and assisted at all times. This evanescent servant reflects how the idolaters have surrounded the lands of the believers, and such grief seizes him that he is truly unable to describe it. What hath caused these humiliations? The resplendent Law, with its supreme glory and its mighty sovereignty, is now witnessed in such a state. The eye weeps and the heart laments. What is the cause and what is the reason? In any case, we must all turn with the utmost lowliness and supplication unto the Self-Sufficing One, seek pardon for the deeds we have done, and ask forgiveness for the deeds we have not done. Perchance once again will the banner "The Kingdom is God's" be raised by the hand of power in the most exalted station. This is not difficult for the Mighty One to accomplish.

To my honored friend, Jinab-i-Mirza, upon him be God's peace, providence and favors—I send greetings and remembrance. Praise be to God, you have been and continue to be remembered. The servant beseeches his Lord to strengthen him, grant him success, and manifest through him that which causes the believers to find the fragrance of their Lord's providence, the Generous Giver. Praise be to God, the Lord of the Worlds.

The mention of the beloved of the heart, one of the two Most Exalted Names, His Holiness ʿAli—upon him be God's peace and glory—was made and presented. They said:

> "Excellent is what he has done, and excellent is he who has shown gratitude, praise and contentment."

End.

We must all, through the confirmations of God—exalted be His Glory—become possessors of virtuous character and be adorned thereby. From this matter great joy was obtained. I beseech God to grant him reward. And regarding what was written about the polished papers—this servant, upon seeing them, has seen and continues to see the countenance of that spiritual beloved reflected therein, and at times his presence appeared and appears before my sight. I beseech and hope from the Exalted Truth that He may strengthen that beloved one and grant him success. Verily He is powerful over all things and worthy to answer prayers. Peace and praise be upon you and upon those with you and upon God's righteous and sincere servants. Praise be to God, the Lord of the Worlds.

The servant 10 Jamadi'th-Thani 1303

The specified amount was received through my beloved, His Grace Haji Siyyid Javad—upon him be the Glory of God, the Lord of Creation—and was adorned with the ornament of acceptance.

BH00864: O beloved of my heart! It is night, yet…

He is God—exalted be His glory, His greatness and His power!

O beloved of my heart! It is night, yet the sun is bright and visible, and the light manifest and clear. Glory be to God! Each of His signs is a clear book and a mighty volume. The worth of day appears through night, and its station shines through darkness. The lamp of night speaks of and indicates its station, while day itself reveals and manifests the station of day. Yet night stands opposite to day, and day opposite to night—both are limited. We seek a day that has no night following it, one illumined by the light of the Beloved's face, not by the light of sun or moon. This is the day of the Kingdom of Heaven, nay rather the Realm above, nay even sanctified above all three. We beseech and implore God, exalted be His glory, not to deprive the people of divine unity from this day.

I know not whether I speak truth or utter delirious words. The fire of love is ablaze and at times seizes and takes the reins of control. It is a mighty champion and valiant horseman, its field the arena of the world, its course the realms of the seen and unseen.

Glory be to Thee, O my God! Thou seest and knowest that the love of Thy chosen ones hath caused me to speak, and their affection hath emboldened me, taught me and made me speak. Were I to mention the degrees of their love in my breast and their remembrance in my heart, words would fail, ink and paper would not suffice, neither pen nor tongue could express it. I beseech Thee, O God of the world and Goal of the nations, by Thy Most Great Name, to assist them in all conditions as Thou hast assisted them through Thy grace and bounty. Then manifest through them at all times that which befitteth Thy gifts and bestowals. O Lord! I beseech Thee by them, by Thy greatest signs and the manifestations of Thy grandeur in the kingdom of creation, to assist Thy servant to act according to what Thou hast commanded in Thy Book and to remember Thy chosen ones and pure ones. Verily Thou art the Helper, the Wise. There is no God but Thee, the Mighty, the Great.

The sea arrived—meaning the letter arrived. As the saying goes, I speak first and then fulfill it, for it contained the pearls of divine love. Each word was like a shell; when examined closely, it showed what was to be seen and made heard what was to be heard. By the life of our Lord! The ear is for hearing the message of love, and the eye for beholding the beloved ones of God. In any case, after its observation and perusal, it was granted the honor of being heard by the Lord. We beseech God to deposit in every heart of His loved ones a surging sea of His love, that through its waves the world may be purified and become worthy of the effulgence of the Sun of Truth.

For what was the world created? For acceptance. Why did Adam come? For recognition and submission. The meaning of ink took the form of writing, the point came into being, and the point journeyed for centuries until it became adorned and when it became expanded and submissive, its head was crowned with the diadem of ʿH' and the Word appeared, and this Word was honored with the name of the Beloved of the world—that Beloved by whom the night journey was glorified and the heavens were adorned by His footsteps. We beseech God, exalted be He, to aid us and you, and to assist us and you in His remembrance and praise and in what He hath revealed in His Book. Verily, He is powerful over all things. The end.

The ocean hath come and the river hath departed—what can the poor and lowly one do? Where is conclusive proof, and where are these idle words? Unless His grace assist and His bounty bestow utterance upon the tongue-tied. And for what purpose is this utterance? By the life of our Lord, it is beloved for His mention and praise, for without these, speech availeth not.

O my God, my God! Inspire us with Thy remembrance and praise, and aid us in that which befitteth Thy glory and majesty. Then accept from us, through Thy grace, that which hath appeared from us in Thy path and Thy love. Thou art the Generous One Who enricheth the world through a word from Thy presence, and Who openeth the door of wealth through one of Thy names. Verily, bounty is in Thy grasp and giving is in Thy right hand. Thou hast subdued all things through Thy Most Exalted Pen. There is no God but Thee, the Lord of the Throne and earth.

Concerning what they wrote, that the spiritual friend Aqa Ghulam-Husayn and Aqa ʿAli-Akbar, upon them be the peace of God and His favors, have of their own accord requested to participate in a good deed, namely the palm grove partnership—this matter was presented and was honored with acceptance before the Lord, and these exalted words issued from the blessed tongue:

> "We beseech God to strengthen their tongues for His mention and praise, their ears to hearken unto His verses, their faces to turn toward His horizon, their eyes to behold the mysteries of His creation, their hands to grasp His Book, their hearts to be enkindled with the fire of His love. And We beseech Him to ordain for them every good thing He hath sent down in His Books, His Scriptures and His Tablets. Verily, He is the Compassionate, the Generous. There is no God but He, the Forgiving, the Merciful."

Praise be to God, ye have attained unto that which ye desired. Blessed be I and ye! Convey mention and praise on my behalf to all the friends in that land. God the One is witness that they have been and are remembered most of the time. Mention of that beloved one's joy in what flowed from the blessed

tongue regarding the palm grove partnership became the cause of complete gladness and delight. If the joy of these words was but a drop there, here it became an ocean, for He mentioned it repeatedly and smiled. The servant beseecheth his Lord for your success and confirmation, and I beseech Him to grant you that which befitteth the heaven of His generosity and the ocean of His grace. Verily, He is the Giver, the Munificent, the Generous.

Concerning the mention of Aqa ʿAli, upon him be God's peace, they have indeed accepted hardship and difficulty. I beseech God, exalted be His glory, to bring forth from this hardship manifold ease, and from this difficulty and constraint, boundless facility. Verily, He is the Creator of all things, their Manifester, their Ordainer and their Educator. There is no God but He, the Single, the One, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. Peace, remembrance and praise be upon you, upon those with you, upon every steadfast and firm one, and upon every resolute and trustworthy one.

The servant 10 Jamadiyu'th-Thani 1303

I convey greetings and praise to the honored friend Mirza, upon him be God's peace and favors, and I beseech God, exalted be His glory, to apply in his case the blessed words "ten times as much"—that is, to increase his successes, confirmations and rewards at every moment. Verily, He is the Hearer, the Answerer.

The blessed Branches, may my spirit and being be sacrificed for the dust of their honored footsteps, each and every one, remember that beloved one and send their greetings.

BH01046: All praise and gratitude belong to the True One…

He is God, exalted be His station, the Grandeur and the Power

All praise and gratitude belong to the True One, glorified be His majesty, Who created hearts and guided them to one another. He is the Almighty Who bestows eternal glory upon dust and places the crown of wealth upon the head of the poor. Why did Sinai become beloved of the world and mentioned among nations? What was the cause of its elevation and the reason for its nobility? From what did Sina derive its radiance and wherefore did it become the focus of the world? The Word of God was the cause, and through His grace He made stone the point of circumambulation for the world and bestowed the heart's desire upon [clay]. In every atom the signs of His craftsmanship are perfect—an eye is needed to behold them and a perceptive faculty to comprehend them.

O God, my Purpose, my Adored One! Thy remembrance is the companion of hearts and Thy mention the solace of souls. Whosoever seeketh anyone but Thee hath been and shall ever be in loss, and whosoever desireth any other than Thee hath been and shall ever be bereft. Bid the sun of Thy grace to shine upon the dead, and the rain of Thy mercy to pour upon the realm of existence. O my God! The saplings of the garden seek water, and the flowers of the garden of inner meanings yearn for confirmation. Water and sun are Thy two great signs—deprive not Thy servants of these two. By Thy leave they are effective, and without it they neither nourish nor satisfy, and thus shall it ever be. Thy power maketh dust to become as the sun and earth to become as heaven. Take our hands, for we are helpless. Bestow Thy grace, for we

are poor and lowly. Whatever cometh from Thee is the desire of hearts and the beloved of souls. Thou art the Mighty, the Powerful.

Blessings and peace be upon Him Whom Thou didst choose from among all the world and didst make a Guide for the peoples. Through Him the rivers of wisdom and utterance flowed amidst all possibility, and the gate of grace was opened before the faces of humans and jinn. And upon His family and companions whom Thou didst make as guides for Thyself—through them Thou didst manifest Thy power, Thy sovereignty, Thy might, Thy majesty, Thy dominion, and Thy will. And upon those who followed Thy laws throughout the ages and centuries. There is no God but Thee, the One, the Mighty, the Glorious, the All-Forgiving.

Furthermore, the successive letters which dawned from that honored brother's horizon of love arrived like the spring rains one after another. Praise be to the Purpose of all worlds that He confirmed you, bestowed the power of verse, granted the ability of prose, conferred the spirit of prayer, and vouchsafed the Kawthar of remembrance. Praise be to God, you have drunk from the cup of love and attained unto the blessed Word of unity. Your mention is evident among mentions and your verse and prose are manifest among words. Whatever exists has been and shall ever be through the grace of the Peerless Friend. In brief, after becoming informed and aware, you sought the station of the Master and were honored to attain His presence.

O ʿAli-Akbar! The realm of divine knowledge hath been encompassed, and the cities of remembrance and recognition forbidden. The lamp of justice hath been beset by the winds of oppression, and the countenance of equity lieth in ambush, threatened by the wolves of tyranny. Beseech thou the True One that He may protect the horizon of justice from the clouds of His protection and safeguard the Kawthar of utterance from the hands of rebellion. the ungodly have surrounded the believers. Recompense for deeds hath sealed shut the gate of hopes and disrupted the course of destiny. We beseech God, exalted be He, to aid the people of unity and preserve them from the artillery of the ungodly, their swords, the malice of the atheists, and their spears. Verily, He hath power over all things. There is none other God but Him, the Single, the One, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

Night hath turned to morning, for the light of utterance hath dawned from its horizon, and if it be night, it hath been and shall be the best of days. Views differ: in the sight of those near and sincere, a house wherein the mention of God is raised up is the king of houses, and a night illumined by the light of praise of the Lord of Names is superior to centuries and ages. the ungodly see night, but the believers see an ocean of light—vast is the difference! I beseech and implore the True One, exalted be His glory, to keep that honored brother preserved beneath the shadow of His grace and to increase his power of utterance at all times. The verses of that beloved one have arrived at every occasion. The Lord hath taken them with His blessed hand and recited them. A hundred thousand praises upon your poetry and your prose! God willing, may every deed of deeds, every mention of mentions, and every letter of letters that appeareth for God's sake become an adorning border on the preamble of the world's scrolls.

Fresh tidings and a new blessing and heavenly feast: the presence of the Beloved—may the spirit of one of the two Most Exalted Names, M.H., upon him be the peace of God and His grace, and the bounty of God and His mercy—praise be to God, they have arrived with his honor Ali, who chose journey over rest,

hardship over ease, and the turbulence of the sea over stillness in the path of God, the Lord of the worlds. In truth, they were a mighty blessing, the dawning-place of joy and gladness, and the manifestation of delight and rapture. Exalted be God, the Manifestation of His grace and bounty, His generosity and munificence, His favors and glory and splendor. News of the departure of his honor Aqa Ali, upon him be the peace of God, had arrived, and in letters supplication was made to the True One, exalted be His glory, that He protect him and bring him to his destination.

Praise be to God, before the letter was sent, the mentioned one arrived in perfect health and safety with what was with him. His reward and the rewards of those who preceded him rest with God, and we beseech Him, exalted be He, to ordain for them the good of the hereafter and this world. Verily, He is the Hearer, the Answerer, the Compassionate, the Forgiving, the Generous.

The exalted Branches—may my spirit and being be sacrificed for the dust of their footsteps—have conveyed greetings and praise, which this servant doth now present.

BH01308: Pure praise and glorification befit the believers, before whose…

He is God—exalted be His station, the Most Great, the All-Powerful

Pure praise and glorification befit the believers, before whose might the limbs of the ungodly tremble. These are the hosts of whom He said “O hosts of God, mount ye!” Their might obliterated the might of the world, and their power transformed the highest palaces of kings into the abode of spiders and owls. The arch of Chosroes stands as witness. The signs of victory and triumph were manifest in all regions and directions. What became of that power, and where did that might go? Had these servants held fast to the divine law and the way of Muhammad (peace be upon Him) and moved according to God’s command and His good-pleasure, surely the world would have been illumined and its people found rest. Every word of the divine utterances, nay every letter thereof, is influential and beneficial. Those souls who are illumined by the dawning lights of the Sun of Truth see in every letter a book, and every word is the dayspring of light and the dawning-place of knowledge. Where are the eyes to see and the ears to hear?

Glory be unto Thee, O God of Names and Creator of heaven! We confess our powerlessness, our shortcomings, our transgression of our bounds, and our misdeeds that have prevented us from drawing nigh unto Thee, and our sins that have come between us and the effulgences of the lights of the Sun of Thy grace and the manifestations of Thy favors. O Lord! We have fled from ourselves to the shadow of the canopies of Thy generosity. I beseech Thee by the Dawning-Places of Thy revelation, the Daysprings of Thy inspiration, the Recipients of Thy knowledge, the Manifestations of Thy Self, the Sources of Thy Cause, and by the Seal of Thy Prophets, to assist us in what hath escaped us, then illumine our hearts with the lights of Thy knowledge.

O Lord! Protect Thy servants, Thy believers, and Thy sincere ones from the evil of every misbeliever, and strengthen them through Thy power, Thy sovereignty, Thy might, and Thy dominion. Thou art He Whom nothing can frustrate and no affair can prevent. Ordain, O my God, for the believers among Thy creation that which will exalt them and aid them, that they may remember Thee among Thy servants and Thy

creation, in Thy habitations and Thy lands. There is no God but Thee, the Forgiving, the Generous, the Strong, the Powerful, the Almighty, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

And then the letter arrived, news arrived, glad tidings arrived, for it brought joyful news of that spiritual beloved's health and well-being. It was an auspicious messenger and a welcome herald that drove away sorrow with overwhelming power. With its coming, joy found opportunity and took sorrow's place. Praise be to God, the rain of grace is ever-showering and the lights of bounty are ever-shining and manifest in all times. Were it not for His grace, who would be capable of mention? His is the praise and glory, His the gratitude and bounty. One revelation from the revelations of the Sun of His grace brings forth a hundred thousand worlds, and one manifestation of His justice raises a hundred thousand lamentations. What can the Manifestations say of "He doeth whatsoever He willeth"? The Command is His Command, and the power is His power, and we are among the thankful ones.

After hearing what the scribe uttered, it was presented before our Lord (may our spirits be sacrificed for Him), and He said:

> "Praise be to God, they have attained to that which most are deprived of. They are turned toward the highest horizon, holding fast to the cord of grace and clinging to the hem of bounty. We beseech God to manifest through them that which will cause the countenance of existence to smile, and to aid them in His remembrance, His praise, and the service of His Cause, even as He has aided them, and to enable them to act according to what has been revealed in His Book, even as He has enabled them. Verily, He is powerful over all things. There is no God but Him, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed."

Regarding what was written about the friends in the land of Qaf and Fa and the honored friend Aqa Ahmad (upon him and them be God's peace), it was presented and gained acceptance. God willing, We shall send him that which will gladden his heart and comfort his eyes. Likewise, We make mention of the friends of that land. Give glad tidings of Our greetings to Ahmad, and likewise to the others. We beseech God the Exalted to aid them and draw them near to Him, and to manifest through them that which shall adorn the pages of the world and be a remembrance for the nations. Verily, He is powerful over all things and worthy to answer.

Praise be to God, they have been mentioned at this time and will be mentioned hereafter. Two glad tidings should be sent. As for their request for pilgrimage, it was accepted by proxy for that beloved one. We beseech God to accept the deeds, and surely they are accepted. All the Branches (may my spirit and being be sacrificed for the dust of their footsteps), and likewise the people of the pavilion of infallibility, all send their greetings. Peace, remembrance, and praise be upon you and upon God's sincere servants, and praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH01356: Praise be unto the King of existence Who adorned…

He is God, exalted is He in might and power

Praise be unto the King of existence Who adorned the world of humanity with the ornament of utterance. The Guide, the Interpreter and the Manifestor, in His primary station, was the utterance of the All-

Merciful. With one word from His Kingdom of utterance He created the world and showed the way. His path is clear and evident like the sun, and His proof is manifest and visible above that. Yet the blind ones of the world have ever rejected and continue to reject, regarding the oppressor as the oppressed and the corrupt as the upright. Distinction hath vanished. Glory be to God! It seems as though eyes and ears have become non-existent and have disappeared.

The people of God brought forth a sapling; they planted it and it grew tall. Now its fruit must be observed. The station of the fruit is clear and known from the station of the tree. At one time this exalted word was revealed from the Divine Lote-Tree:

> "O servant in attendance, say to the heedless people: Fix your gaze upon the Tree and its fruits. Today the Tree of inner meanings with its wondrous, novel and subtle fruits of divine knowledge is visible. Is it permissible to abandon this and say its time has not come? O helpless one! What knowest thou of time? The Euphrates of mercy floweth from the right hand of the Throne, yet thou sayest where and when is it?' and it must flow at another hour.' Be fair, O people, and be not among the transgressors and the abased ones."

The servant and the people of God must, at all times, beseech the True One to guide all. And blessings and peace be upon the best of God's creation, the most excellent, the most ancient, the most knowing, the nearest and most articulate one, through whom the rains of wisdom and knowledge were showered upon all in creation, and through whom every mention, every name and every station was exalted. With Him the Book of Creation began and with Him it ended. Every book of His Book was detailed, and God's decree was manifested through His arising and His utterance. And upon His family and companions who aided the Cause of God with true aid and strove in God with true striving, and profound peace be upon them.

Thereafter, the servant found the fragrance of remembrance and praise… I beseech God the Exalted to confirm thee and make thee among those who shall have no fear nor shall they grieve. After observing and becoming informed, he proceeded to the Presence and it was presented before His face. He said:

> "O Ali, God willing, mayest thou be successful through divine confirmations and be assisted by the confirmations of the All-Merciful in such wise that the signs of success and confirmation become manifest and evident in the world. Thou hast been and art mentioned before the Wronged One. We beseech God the Exalted to make all your deeds as one deed and all your remembrances as one remembrance."

Deeds and remembrances that occur for God's good-pleasure are one deed and one remembrance. This station is the station of the oneness of deeds and remembrances. The pen hath no power to speak and the rider of the fingers no room to gallop. We beseech God the Exalted to send down upon you from the heaven of His grace that which will exalt you among His servants and draw you nigh unto Him. Verily He is the Munificent, the Generous. Praise be unto Him, for He is the Goal of the knowers and the God of all who are in the heavens and the earth.

Praise be to God! The rain of wisdom and utterance hath descended from the heaven of bounty. We were not, then we became; we were non-existent, then we existed; we were nothingness, then we

became being. Whence came these bounties? They existed before our existence, and He bestowed before any request. His gift hath no end and no subsequent obligation. O God! How can we thank Thee? For whatever we say is not worthy of Thee nor befitting Thee. How can absolute nothingness describe the Ancient One? Whatever it says is worthy only of itself and from its own realm. The ant cannot equal the phoenix, and the dim-sighted hath no knowledge in this arena. When He permitted, we made mention; we received leave and hastened to the field of praise.

O Generous One! The needy one, with complete need, hath clung to Thee and taken his place on the shore of the sea of bounty. Deprive not this gathering. Show unto all what is in their hearts, that they may know with clear certainty that this people know none but Thee, see none but Thee, and desire none but Thee. They have no purpose save Thy good-pleasure and no beloved save Thee. If Thou dost enable them, they will arise to serve Thy servants; otherwise the matter is in Thy hands. Thou doest what Thou willest and ordainest what Thou desirest. There is no God but Thee, the Powerful, the Mighty.

BH02653: O Ali! The traditions of vain imaginings have returned…

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

O Ali! The traditions of vain imaginings have returned once again. That which the people of the Furqan (Muslims) did, the people of the Bayan now cling to. They have intended to build imaginary cities with the hands of idle fancies and to deprive helpless souls of the choice sealed wine and the outpourings of His Holiness the Self-Subsisting. For one thousand two hundred years they considered themselves, in their own estimation, the most learned and knowledgeable in the world, and at all times they were engaged in mentioning the Promised One. Yet when the Sun of Truth shed its radiance and the horizon of the world became illumined, they became like clouds that intervened and prevented its rays. Finally they issued the decree for His death, as you have all heard and seen. In the early years, not a single one of the divines showed acceptance or attained to the Cause of God. All arose in such obvious opposition as had never been heard of in creation. The divines and their followers, one and all, engaged in cursing and vilification, and committed that which no oppressor had ever done. Even now in all lands the fire of hatred is ablaze. Well is it with them that are endued with insight!

The people of the Bayan are now freshly uttering those same words and committing those same deeds. At times they say the Bayan has been corrupted, and at times they say that which no idolator has ever said. Say: O people of God! Strive to protect people from the vain imaginings of these souls, that perchance they may soar with the wings of freedom in the luminous atmosphere of glory and attain unto true unity. These are the counsels of the True One, exalted be His glory, unto His loved ones. Blessed is he who hath heard and hath attained unto the most great steadfastness in this mighty Cause. Praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds. The Glory be upon thee and upon My loved ones who have not broken My covenant and My pledge, who have arisen and have said:

> “God is our Lord and the Lord of all who are in the heavens and on earth.”

O Ha and Sin! Thou hast ever been mentioned in the presence of the Wronged One and art beneath the glance of His favor. Praise be to God that the effulgences of the sun of divine love are dawning and

shining forth from the horizons of hearts, and thy remembrance hath been inscribed by the Pen of loving-kindness upon the crimson scroll. Give thanks unto thy Lord for this manifest grace.

We beseech God, exalted be He, to assist the white faith and the radiant Law and preserve it from the evil of the idolators who have cast behind them the Covenant of God and His Testament and have committed that which hath made the eyes of the righteous to weep. And we beseech Him to exalt the people of unity even as He exalted them before. Verily He is powerful over all things and worthy to answer prayer.

BH02887: In My Name, the Speaker in the Kingdom…

In My Name, the Speaker in the Kingdom of Utterance

This is a Book which the All-Merciful hath sent down to him who hath turned towards the Most Sublime Horizon and hath voiced the praise of God, the Lord of Names and Creator of Heaven, that He may draw him nigh unto Him and aid him to promote His irrevocable, firm and mighty Cause.

O Muhammad! The Wronged One remembereth thee from the prison quarter and calleth thee with that which will make thee independent of the knowledge of those who have denied God's proof and evidence, who have disputed His verses and disbelieved in His sovereignty by following every heedless and remote one.

O thou who gazest upon the Countenance! Remember, then consider the people of the Furqan who denied the All-Merciful when He came unto them with manifest sovereignty. They would wait through nights and days, mentioning Him in mosques and gatherings, yet when the promise was fulfilled and the Light shone forth from the horizon of Manifestation, they denied Him and pronounced judgment against Him with such injustice as caused every person of insight to lament. Say: Where are your remembrances and that which ye uttered at the mention of the Qa'im? And where is the justice and fairness ye claimed when the Cause was preserved in the treasury of your Lord's protection, the Mighty, the Powerful? Consider the fruits of their deeds and words on the Day of Recompense. Thus doth He Who possesseth the perspicuous Book command thee.

Verily, We behold the people of the Bayan who have turned away from the All-Merciful to be in greater loss than they on God's Day, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy. We have sent down from the heaven of bounty and generosity that which the books of the world cannot equal, yet most of the people are heedless. They have cast aside the Lord and seized upon their desires. Thus have their souls enticed them, and today they are among the dead.

Arise to serve the Cause with such steadfastness as cannot be prevented by the doubts of the divines who have turned away from God, who have changed His favor and caused their people to enter the fire. Thus did the Tongue of Grandeur speak before and at this time. Be thou a speaker of My Name, turn with thy heart to My horizon, and stand firm in service to My wondrous Cause. Convey My remembrance to My loved ones and give them the glad tidings of My tender mercy and loving-kindness which have preceded all in the heavens and the earth.

The glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My bounty be upon thee, upon those with thee, and upon My party who have not been hindered by the doubts of the servants and the gestures of every remote misbeliever. Praise be to God, the Lord of the seen and the unseen, the Lord of the mighty throne.

BH03306: Go forth by God's command and His wisdom…

He is the All-Commanding, the All-Wise!

Go forth by God's command and His wisdom to the lands and remind them of that which was uttered before thy face, and I am the All-Knowing Rememberer. Pass through the lands with joy and fragrance, then make mention unto them of that which will draw them nigh unto God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy.

Say: O people! By God, the Most Great Treasure of God hath appeared and He Who was mentioned in the hearts of the Prophets and inscribed by the Most Exalted Pen hath come. Fear ye God and be not of the wrongdoers. Turn ye to the horizon of the Cause, then remember Him by night and by day, and be not of the silent ones. This is the Day of Remembrance, were ye of them that know, and this is the Day of Utterance, were ye of them that are certain. This is the Day wherein the Tongue of Grandeur hath spoken before all faces: Fear ye God and be not of the heedless ones. Behold ye the waves of the ocean and the lights of the sun of meanings and utterance, that your eyes may be solaced on this wondrous Day.

O Ali-Qabli-Akbar! Thou hast attained unto Our presence and witnessed and heard that which was inscribed in the Books of the Messengers. We beseech God to assist thee and confirm thee in aiding His Cause through remembrance and utterance. Verily He is the Almighty, the Powerful. Convey My greetings unto the faces of My loved ones and give them the glad-tidings of My remembrance and My favor which hath preceded every small and great one.

Say: O party of God! The Light of Proof hath dawned and that which was hidden in God's knowledge, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy, hath appeared. Beware lest anything whatsoever prevent you from turning toward the Most Exalted Horizon or the veils of the transgressors conceal you.

O Ali-Qabli-Akbar! Be thou a bird in My atmosphere, speaking My praise, turning toward My horizon, holding fast to My cord, preserving what We have bestowed upon thee through My grace, and clinging to My luminous robe. Thus hath the scroll of inner meanings been adorned by the Pen of God, the Lord of all worlds. The glory shining forth from the horizon of the heaven of My mercy be upon thee and upon My loved ones who were not prevented by the doubts of the divines from God, the Lord of this wondrous Day.

BH03670: Thou didst journey and emigrate until thou didst attain…

In the name of the one true God!

Thou didst journey and emigrate until thou didst attain to a station that hath been recorded and inscribed by the Supreme Pen in all the divine Books. We beseech God to aid thee to preserve that which He hath bestowed. Convey My greetings to the friends of God, glorified be His majesty, and command them on

behalf of the Wronged One to the Most Great Steadfastness, that all may attain to that which is acceptable and beloved in the sight of God. The dust of irreligion hath seized the world and the clouds of idle fancies have obscured the Sun of Justice. Say: O friends! Hold fast unto God and fix your gaze upon Him. Today steadfastness is accounted as the greatest of all deeds in the sight of the Self-Sufficing, the Most High. Hold fast unto it and be free and detached from all else but God.

This is truly the Day of Divine Unity—deprive not yourselves thereof. Reflect upon the people of a former religion: after lamentation, weeping and expectation, they martyred the Lord of all beings, yet to this day they remain unaware of what they have wrought. Heedlessness and pride have so seized those souls that their condition surpasseth description by pen and ink. We beseech God to guide all and deprive them not of the splendors of the Sun of Truth.

Convey greetings to all the people of the villages and say:

> "The mention of each one hath flowed from the tongue of the Wronged One and been recorded by the Supreme Pen."

Strive that ye may attain unto that from which the fragrance of eternity can be inhaled. We likewise make mention of the steadfast handmaidens and counsel them to celebrate the praise and glory of God and that which He hath revealed in His Perspicuous Book. The glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My mercy be upon thee and upon those who have turned with illumined hearts and upon those women who have turned unto God, the Peerless, the All-Informed.

BH04121: O Muhammad! The Most Exalted Pen speaks in praise…

In the Name of the One True God

O Muhammad! The Most Exalted Pen speaks in praise and glorification of the Lord of Names, for His bounty is manifest and His mighty hand is the Savior and Deliverer. He bestowed favor and showed generosity by bringing you from the land of Ta to the Prison-land that you might hear what is recorded in the divine Books and witness what has flowed from the Most Exalted Pen. The Wronged One testifies that you have turned from your homeland to God, the Lord of the worlds, and attained the blessing of visiting His house and acted according to what was commanded in a clear Tablet. We beseech Him, exalted be He, to aid you in remembrance and praise, for He is the Protector of those who remember Him.

Convey greetings to the loved ones of God wherever you find them, and give them the glad tidings of the splendors of the Sun of Providence. All are mentioned in His presence and are sustained by the Kawthar of His grace. Ask God to assist them to preserve what He has bestowed. Verily He has power over all things.

O Muhammad! Place your trust in God in all matters. Verily He is with you in all conditions. He is verily with His trusting servants. You should proceed to different lands with the utmost joy and fragrance, like the breezes of the divine springtime of mercy, that perchance souls may be revived and arise to mention and praise God.

Say: O people of God! The world is passing away and its evanescence is fully apparent. Deprive not yourselves of the immortal Kingdom through attachment to that which is transient. The atheists and hypocrites lie in wait—protect yourselves through God's name and occupy yourselves with the Peerless Friend. The glory from Us be upon you and upon those who have heard and responded to their Lord, the Speaker, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

BH05233: In the Name of Him Who is the Ruler…

In the Name of Him Who is the Ruler over all names! O concourse of men! The call hath been raised from the Most Great Scene, and before it in the land of Ta, and after it in Zawra, then in the Land of Mystery, and in this Great Prison. God hath made this castle His Most Great Scene which We have mentioned and adorned with the dawning splendors of the countenance of God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy.

O son of Kazim! Upon thee and upon him be My glory and My loving-kindness. We have mentioned thee and him, both before and after, through verses that draw nigh unto them the hearts of those who have drawn near. Give thanks unto God for this most great favor and say: Praise be unto Thee, O Thou in Whose grasp lie the reins of all who are in the heavens and on earth, for having taught me and made me know and guided me unto Thy straight and manifest path. I testify that whosoever hath attained unto it hath attained unto that which was sent down in the Book, both before and after. He Who possesseth the Luminous Tablet beareth witness unto this.

We make mention of His loved ones and give them the glad-tidings of My loving-kindness and My mercy, and We remind them of My verses. I am, verily, the All-Powerful, the Almighty. We counsel all to manifest the most great steadfastness, and chastity, and trustworthiness, and faithfulness, and that kindliness which We have enjoined upon all in My Most Great Book.

Blessed art thou for having heard and turned towards Him. We beseech God to aid thee to preserve that wherewith He hath honored thee. He, verily, is the All-Bountiful, the Responsive. The glory shining forth from the horizon of the heaven of My loving-kindness be upon thee and upon everyone who is steadfast and firm.

BH05040: A mention from Us to him who hath turned…

He is the One manifest from His most exalted horizon.

A mention from Us to him who hath turned unto God, the Lord of the worlds, and attained His presence, and heard His call, and beheld the waves of the ocean of His utterance and whatsoever hath appeared from Him in His mighty prison.

Hearken unto the call of the Wronged One—verily He guideth thee unto the straight path of God. Beware lest the dawning-places of idle fancies withhold thee from the remembrance of thy Lord, the Master of all beings.

Say: My God, my God! I have turned unto Thee and have laid hold on the cord of Thy grace and favor. I beseech Thee, by the splendors of the lights of the Sun of Thy unity and the waves of the ocean of Thy

bounty, to ordain for me from Thy Most Exalted Pen that which will draw me nigh unto Thee in all conditions. O my Lord! Thou seest me clinging unto Thee and unto the cord of Thy generosity. Disappoint me not of that which is with Thee. Ordain for me the good of the world to come and of this world. Verily Thou art the Lord of the throne on high and of the dust below. There is none other God but Thee, the Almighty, the Powerful.

Through Thy Name the standards were raised aloft, and by Thy command the banners were unfurled. The conditions of created things cannot frustrate Thee. Thou doest what Thou pleasest and ordainest what Thou willest. Verily Thou are the Mighty, the Praised One.

I beseech Thee, O God of Names and Creator of heaven, by Thy Most Great Name, the Most Glorious, to make me a servant of Thy Cause, and one who speaketh Thy praise, and one who gazeth upon Thy countenance. Then enable me to perform such deeds from which the fragrance of Thy good-pleasure may be wafted, throughout the everlasting days of Thy kingdom and dominion. Verily Thou art the Single One, the One, the Hearing, the Answering.

BH05519: Praise be to God, thou hast attained unto…

In the Name of God, the Everlasting, the All-Merciful

Praise be to God, thou hast attained unto the Most Great Favor and hast drunk from the cup of bounty the Salsabil of the presence of the Lord of Names. The True One, exalted be His glory, hath come for the guidance and refinement of souls, and hath commanded all to be sanctified, detached and righteous, that all who dwell on earth may attain unto the ornament of unity and concord and act in accordance with that which beseemeth man. Convey My greetings to the handmaidens of God in that land on behalf of the Wronged One, and give them the glad-tidings of His favors. Say: Thieves have been and are lying in wait; preserve the pearls of divine love through His Name.

Especially convey My greetings to Khadijih, upon her be My glory. Say: By the life of God, thy grief hath caused Me to grieve. We beseech Him, exalted be He, to send down for thee that which will gladden thee and ordain for thee good in all His worlds. Verily, He is potent over all things. Likewise convey greetings from the Wronged One to she who hath attained and to her daughters. We beseech God to aid them all and enable them to do that which He loveth and is pleased with. The glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My grace be upon thee and upon My handmaidens there who have turned unto Him and have hearkened unto the call of God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH05745: A remembrance from Us to him who hath attained…

He is the One Who speaketh at the heart of the world.

A remembrance from Us to him who hath attained the presence and won that which was inscribed in the Books of God, the Lord of all worlds.

He left his home, turning toward the Most Exalted Horizon, until he attained the presence and won that which was recorded by the Most Glorious Pen in the Crimson Tablet. He is assuredly among the

triumphant ones. He entered the Prison, heard the call of the Wronged One, and beheld the countenance of God, the Most High, the Most Great. We bear witness that he responded when the Call was raised, and turned when the Most Exalted Horizon appeared, and drank the choice wine of utterance when its seal was broken by the finger of the power of his Lord, the Mighty, the Powerful.

When thou arrivest in the land of Kaf, gladden My loved ones with My remembrance and remind them of My verses. Say: Blessed is he who hath attained unto steadfastness in this Most Great Cause and this Mighty Announcement. We counsel all to manifest the greater steadfastness, for the clamor hath been raised in all regions, as attesteth the Tongue of Grandeur in this luminous station.

Remember My people on My behalf, and give glad tidings to My handmaidens of My remembrance and My loving-kindness which have preceded all who are in the heavens and on earth. The splendor shining from the horizon of My Kingdom be upon thee and upon those who have believed in God, the Mighty, the Beautiful, and upon every people that hath believed in the One, the All-Informed. Praise be to God, the Almighty, the Powerful.

BH05879: A Book hath been revealed, a manifest path made…

He is the Hearer from the Horizon of Revelation

A Book hath been revealed, a manifest path made known. The Sun of Truth is manifest, risen and evident, yet the people are seen to be heedless and dejected, nay rather dead. Those leaves who today have attained unto the recognition of God, exalted be His glory—they are mentioned and recorded by the Pen of the Self-Sufficient as being among the men. Blessed are those handmaidens who are illumined by the lights of the Sun of Truth, and woe unto those men who are deprived and forbidden.

Say: My God, my God! I am a handmaiden among Thy handmaidens and a leaf among Thy leaves. I have turned with my heart unto Thee and raised the hands of hope toward the heaven of Thy grace and bounty. I beseech Thee by the outpourings of Thy days and the breathings of Thy Revelation to ordain for me that which shall be a lamp before my face in all the worlds of Thy worlds. O Lord! Thou seest me placing my trust in Thee and holding fast unto Thee. Disappoint me not of the pearls of the ocean of Thy grace and the splendors of the lights of the sun of Thy generosity.

Thou seest Thy handmaiden turning unto Thee and hoping for the wonders of Thy grace. Ordain for her through Thy mercy which hath preceded all created things and Thy generosity which hath encompassed all contingent beings the good of the hereafter and of the former time. Verily Thou art the Lord of the Throne and the dust. There is none other God but Thee, the Mighty, the Powerful.

BH06002: He speaketh forth in truth

He speaketh forth in truth

O My leaf! Upon thee be My glory! Thy remembrance hath been and will continue to be before the Wronged One. Thy grief hath caused sorrow to the Lord of Eternity. Thy lamentation was heard and thy devotion and orientation were witnessed. Place thy trust in all things in God, thy Lord, and commit them

to Him. Verily He is nearer to thee than thyself. He heareth and seeth, and He is the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing. We have beheld thy tears and heard thy sighs. By God's life! There hath been ordained for thee that which will gladden hearts and bring solace to eyes. Whatever the requirements of God's consummate wisdom may be will assuredly come to pass.

Praise be to God, thou hast attained unto that which most of mankind are deprived of, and hast been enabled in such wise that the Lord of Eternity hath made mention of thee in the Most Great Prison. Rejoice thou in this manifest grace. Convey My greetings to all the handmaidens in that land. We counsel all to manifest praiseworthy character, goodly deeds, love, fellowship and unity. The Most Exalted Pen hath, both formerly and recently, counseled all concerning that which is the source and origin of the appearance of the pearls of wisdom and utterance from the mine of man. Glory be from Us upon thee and upon those women who have believed in the All-Informed One.

BH05754: The path hath become manifest, and the Cause evident…

In His Name Who warbleth upon the branches!

The path hath become manifest, and the Cause evident, and the banner "Verily there is none other God but Him" hath been hoisted upon the most exalted station, and the pavilion of utterance hath been raised upon the shores of the ocean of knowledge. Yet the people of the world remain deprived and veiled. Reflect upon the exaltation of the Word of God—how it hath shone forth, risen and appeared from the horizon of the kingdom of the knowledge of thy Lord, the Compassionate, the Bountiful. Likewise reflect upon the baseness of the people of the world—they are occupied with that which they themselves acknowledge to be perishable, and are debarred from the life everlasting. Hearken unto the call of the Wronged One, then turn with thy heart toward the Most Exalted Horizon. Soon shall the world and whatsoever is seen therein perish, and there shall endure for thee that which hath been enjoined upon thee in this wondrous Tablet.

Say: My God, my God! I have perceived the fragrance of Thy Revelation and the gentle breezes of Thy inspiration, yet know not which spot hath been honored by the footsteps of the Dawning-Place of Thy knowledge and the Recipient of Thy Revelation. I beseech Thee by the waves of the ocean of Thy knowledge and the stars of the heaven of Thy utterance to aid me in Thy remembrance and praise in such wise that neither the might of the world nor the tumult of the nations shall deter me. Then ordain for me the good of this world and the world to come. There is none other God but Thee, the Almighty, the All-Conquering, the Bountiful, the Ever-Forgiving, the All-Generous.

BH06207: God testifies that there is none other God but…

In the Name of Him Who speaks from the Most Exalted Horizon

God testifies that there is none other God but Him and that He Who has come with the truth is indeed the One promised in My Books and mentioned in the hearts of My Prophets. He is the One through Whom the luminary of His Most Great Name has shone forth from the horizon of the world, through Whom the river of wisdom has flowed and the ocean of knowledge has surged, and through Whom the

Dove of Utterance has warbled upon the branch of possibility: “There is none other God but Me, the Single, the All-Wise.”

Your name was mentioned before the Wronged One. He has revealed for you that from which those near unto God inhale the fragrance of God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy. And before this, he whom We named the Trusted One in My perspicuous Book mentioned you and spoke of what you had accomplished in the path of God. We beseech Him, exalted be He, to strengthen you and aid you from His presence, and to ordain for you the good of the hereafter and of this world. Verily, He is the Lord of humanity and the Lord of the throne on high and of the dust beneath.

Blessed is the tongue that has spoken His praise, and the heart that has turned toward Him, and the eye that has beheld what hath appeared from Him, and those whom neither the doubts of the transgressors nor the signs of the deniers have kept back from God, the True, the Certain. And praise be unto Him, for He is the Beloved of the mystics and the Goal of all seekers.

BH06668: In My Name which shineth forth from the horizon…

In My Name which shineth forth from the horizon of heaven!

Every name that was in thy letter hath attained unto mention by thy Lord, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. Give thanks unto God for having confirmed thee in turning unto Him, and for having caused thee to leave thy dwelling-place, and aided thee with the hosts of the seen and the unseen, until He brought thee into a spot wherein was heard the rustling of the Divine Lote-Tree, and caused thee to hear and behold that which ears were forbidden to hear and eyes to witness. Say:

My God, my God! Thy knowledge led me unto Thee until I left my home, turning my face toward Thy Sacred House, and traversed land and sea until I entered a valley wherein was raised the call of Thy Prophets and Thy Messengers. Praise be unto Thee, O my God, for having made me to know and taught me and guided me unto Thy straight path and Thy mighty station. I beseech Thee by the heaven of Thy knowledge and its stars, and by the sun of Thy utterance and its splendors, to ordain for me from Thy Most Exalted Pen that which shall profit me in the world to come and in this world. Thou knowest what is within my soul while I know not what is within Thine. Verily Thou art the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

BH06869: In My Name which is manifest from the most…

In My Name which is manifest from the most exalted horizon

O Muhammad-ʿAli! Today the people of God must hold fast to unity and harmony, that all horizons may be illumined by the splendors of the light of the will of the Lord of the Covenant. Every word that causes harmony and is the source of unity is loved and acceptable, and without it nothing is acceptable. From the beginning, this Wronged One has summoned all on earth to the straight path of God. All are witnesses that He did not conceal or hide Himself for a moment. But when the Sun of Truth shed its radiance to some degree, the people of the Bayan arose in opposition and committed that which none had ever perpetrated from the beginning of the world until now.

Hearken to the call of the Wronged One and arise with great resolve, that perchance thou mayest succeed in serving the Cause and stand firm in it in such wise that none of the peoples of the world can prevent thee. Verily We have heard thy mention and have remembered thee in this mighty Book, that thou mayest thank thy Lord Who hath sent down for thee that from which the near ones perceive the fragrance of the bounty of their generous Lord.

BH06675: The Tongue of Grandeur hath spoken: There is none…

He is the All-Knowing Witness.

The Tongue of Grandeur hath spoken: There is none other God but Me, the Single, the All-Informed. The Promise hath come to pass, and the Promised One calleth from the prison quarter, summoning all to the All-Forgiving, the Most Generous. O people of God! Beware lest the clamor of the heedless debar you from God, the Lord of all worlds. Arise to promote the Cause with a power from Us and a might from Our presence, and I am the All-Knowing Commander. Say: O peoples of the earth! Fear the All-Merciful and deny not God when He hath come with manifest sovereignty. Turn with radiant faces toward the Dayspring of Names, then hearken unto that which hath been raised from the rustling of the Divine Lote-Tree, and be not among the heedless ones.

By God! The Hidden hath appeared with the signs of God, the King, the Truth, the Manifest, and the Treasured One hath come with His Name, the One Who overshadoweth all who are in the heavens and on earth. Thus hath the Tongue spoken when the All-Merciful was seated upon His mighty throne. We have heard thy call, We have turned toward thee and made mention of thee in this manifest Prison. The splendor shining from the horizon of My Most Exalted Pen be upon those who have laid hold on My Most Great Cord and clung to My luminous Hem.

BH07435: O Leaf! Thou hast been favored with divine grace…

He is the Hearer and the Answerer

O Leaf! Thou hast been favored with divine grace, for He hath confirmed thee in turning to and recognizing the Dawning-Place of knowledge, the Repository of verses, and the Dayspring of His revelation. How many of the divines, theologians and men of learning are seen to be deprived on this day, while thou, through His infinite bounty, hast quaffed the choice wine of recognition from the cup of His bestowal and turned thy face toward the horizon of His manifestation. Know thou the station of this most great favor and preserve it through the Name of God.

We send greetings to the leaves in that land and summon them unto God, exalted be His glory. God willing, may all attain to that which beseemeth the Day of God.

Mighty is the Cause and mighty the Day. This is that Cause which was mentioned and recorded in the former Books. This is that Treasure which hath ever been preserved and safeguarded in the treasury of God’s protection. Blessed is the soul that hath recognized it and held fast unto it. Woe unto those who remain heedless, be they men or women.

BH07045: At all times and seasons the shrill voice…

In the name of God, the Almighty.

At all times and seasons the shrill voice of the Most Exalted Pen and the rustling of the Lote-Tree of the utmost boundary are raised up, yet the people of the mortal realm are deprived of hearing, for they have followed those who have ever been the dawning-places of idle fancies and vain imaginings. Many are the learned ones who are barred from true knowledge, while thou, through God's grace and loving-kindness, glory be to Him, hast attained unto it. Men of might and valor remain unaware of the cause of their own creation, for had they become conscious of it, they would not have deprived themselves of the dawning of the divine light. O Leaf! Thy mention hath been made in the presence of the Wronged One, and this most holy, most exalted Tablet hath been revealed especially for thee, that through it thou mayest inhale the fragrance of the loving-kindness of the Beloved of the worlds and become occupied with His praise and thanksgiving. The glory shining forth from the horizon of the heaven of utterance be upon thee, upon him who mentioned thee before the Throne, and upon those women who have heard, turned unto God and believed in God, the One, the All-Informed.

BH08501: O Amanullah! Blessed art thou, and blessed is he…

He is the Witness from His most exalted horizon.

O Amanullah! Blessed art thou, and blessed is he who reared thee, and blessed is he whom God hath aided to show kindness unto thee. We beseech God to assist thee and the dear one to that which He loveth and is pleased with. Verily He is the All-Powerful, the Almighty. Hearken in the Persian tongue: Give thanks unto the Purpose of the world and the Sovereign of nations Who hath confirmed thee and guided thee. Thou didst hearken unto His mention and attained unto His recognition. Know thou the value of this great bounty and recognize the station of thy teacher. Verily He hath made mention of thee in this Tablet that thou mayest render thanks unto Him at eventide and at dawn. Know thou the worth of God's favor and speak forth His praise. Verily He created thee and revealed thee and guided thee. Verily He is the Compassionate, the Generous. The Glory be upon thee and upon him who reared thee from the presence of One Who is Powerful, Mighty.

BH10734: O Nuru'llah! The Wronged One of the horizons remembers…

In His Name that overshadoweth all names

O Nuru'llah! The Wronged One of the horizons remembers thee from the prison-precincts and summons thee to God, the Lord of lords. He who emigrated in My path hath appeared and mentioned thy name. We make mention of thee through verses whose fragrance shall never cease to endure throughout the eternity of the names of God, thy Lord, the Goal of all desire. Give thanks unto God for this most great favor and say: Praise be unto Thee, O Master of all necks, and laudation be unto Thee, O Dawning-Place of verses.

BH11171: O ʿAli-Akbar! You have attained the lights…

He is the All-Hearing

O ʿAli-Akbar! You have attained the lights of the Kingdom when you turned to the Most Exalted Horizon on a Day wherein the hearts of the learned were troubled and the feet of the mystics did slip. Rejoice in this Most Great Remembrance which hath been inscribed by the Pen of God, the Mighty, the Praised One.

BH00763: Praise be unto Him Who hath adorned the world…

He is God, exalted be His glory in majesty and power!

Praise be unto Him Who hath adorned the world with the ornament of knowledge, and through it made clear the path of deeds, and revealed that whereby man's station is exalted in the contingent world, and taught them the way of guidance in both beginning and end. He is the One Who cannot be described by firstness or lastness, by outwardness or inwardness, for all these were created in His court of might and brought into being by a word from His presence. He is the One Who hath taken unto Himself no likeness, no partner, no peer, no similitude, and no offspring. Verily, He is God; there is no God but Him. He hath ever been, and there was naught else beside Him. He is the Single One, the One, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

And blessings and peace be upon Him through Whom was opened the door of all knowledge and wisdom, and through Whom the breezes of the All-Merciful wafted over all lands and the fragrance of the garment was diffused among all religions. Exalted be He Whom God hath made the Dawning-Place of His signs, the Dayspring of His power, the Source of His commandments, and the Manifestation of His laws. Through Him all created things were moved and all existing things were quickened. Through Him the sea revealed its waves, the Books their mysteries, and the earth its treasures. Through Him all things began with the name of God, and every tongue was moved to His wondrous and glorious remembrance. And upon His family and companions, whom God hath made the stars of the heaven of His grace, the waves of the ocean of His knowledge, the rain from the clouds of His mercy, and the effulgences of the lights of the sun of His wisdom, be abundant peace that cannot be bounded by limits, nor indicated by signs, nor ended by words—peace whose description, definition, praise and glorification leave those who would attempt it in utter helplessness.

Thereafter, the letter of that beloved one arrived and brought illumination. In truth it was a spiritual sign and a sweet tiding, for it brought glad news of thy well-being, adorned as thou art with the ornament of love for the Sovereign of existence and illumined by the splendors of the Sun of Truth. The food of the friends of God hath ever been news of well-being, for it is the source of joy and the wellspring of delight. After expressing gladness and joy, proceeding to the main point, all that was written was presented before His presence. The Master—may our souls be a sacrifice for Him—hath said:

O Husayn! Upon thee rest My salutations through the centuries and ages! Through the grace and favor of the Chosen One, these places and regions were adorned with the traces of the blessed word "all things are captive in the grasp of His might." The darkened, barren lands were illumined by the lights of the Sun

of Batha and made fruitful. No volume among the volumes of the world contained aught but mention of the ascendancy and dominion of the people of unity, and the verses of creation were adorned with His name, and the banners of glory and power were raised by His command. In every moment, God's favor would arrive and victory would be granted, until hearts changed and grew dark. Gradually justice became veiled and tyranny appeared and became established in its place. Fairness was concealed behind clouds and oppression became manifest and evident in its stead. These matters became the cause and reason for the supreme abasement, as was and is witnessed: "The banners of misbelief flutter above the banners of unity."

In brief, the glory of the favored community was transformed into abasement. We must beseech God, exalted be His glory, to grant awareness and bestow knowledge that we may discover the cause and reason for this transformation and arise to make amends for what was lost. Yet due to the evil of error, all are asleep and heedless of the cause and reason. I swear by the Sun of utterance of the All-Merciful that if time continues in this manner, soon the lamp of guidance will be extinguished and the torch of error will be raised and visible in every place.

Say: O my God, my Adored One, my Object of worship! Thy Cause is a light that the hands of the world's oppression are powerless to extinguish, and Thy love is a fire that the oceans of the world cannot cool or quench. By Thy will the ocean of knowledge surgeth and the ships of Thy wisdom sail upon it. Thou art the King of bounty and the Lord of the Day of Recompense. Deprive not Thy servants of the waves of the ocean of Thy gifts, and grant them victory through the hosts of Thy power and might. O Forgiver! Thou art He Whose generosity the sins of His servants could not obstruct or withhold, and Thou art He Who hath ever concealed and desired not the shame of Thy servants.

Today the world is seen to be heedless. Grant awareness to all existence of the wonders of Thy generosity and guide them, that all who are on earth may turn to Thy straight path and receive their portion from the ocean of Thy knowledge. The tears of those near unto Thee flow in separation from Thee, and the sighs of the sincere ones rise in their remoteness from Thee. Bounty is Thine alone and generosity befitteth Thee. Remove the veil that eyes may be illumined and brightened by the lights of Thy most exalted horizon. Open the gate of grace with the hands of power, that all may enter Thy holy court and receive their share from the knowledge of Thy most holy and most exalted Being.

Vision is from Thee and the power of hearing lieth within the grasp of Thy will. Be generous, that eyes may not be deprived of beholding the signs of Thy craftsmanship and ears may not be bereft of hearkening to Thy sweetest call. Through Thy name the ocean of generosity surgeth and the sun of bounty shineth and existeth. Thy servants are poor and needy, while Thou art the Lord of bounty and generosity and bestowal. There is none other God but Thee, the Mighty, the All-Conquering, the Powerful.

Unto Him be praise, thanksgiving and glory! The ocean of bounty hath surged, and the station of remembrance and utterance hath reached its zenith. The fragrances of loving-kindness waft from every word, and the sea of mercy billoweth in every letter. Were the people of the world to turn, even to the extent of a needle's eye, all would attain unto everlasting glory and drink from the eternal chalice. Blessed are they that attain, and blessed are the sincere ones.

This evanescent servant, throughout all days and nights, beseecheth from God, exalted be His glory, confirmation and success, especially for that beloved one who hath ever been and remaineth before mine eyes. A hundred thousand praises be unto the Beloved Lord, Who hath from all directions confirmed and guided that beloved one, and enabled him to remember, praise, and serve His Cause. He is the Omnipotent One, Whose will no impediment can obstruct and Whose influence nothing can cut short. Through His name, the banner of "He doeth what He willeth" hath been raised aloft, and through His sovereignty, the standard of "He ordaineth what He pleaseth" hath been made manifest. This banner shall not be seized, nor shall it be moved by any wind, yet not every eye is worthy to behold it or capable of perceiving it.

Again, a hundred thousand praises be unto the Goal of the world's desires, Who guided that beloved one, bestowed awareness upon him, and confirmed him in all conditions. Unto Him be praise in all circumstances; verily, He is the Self-Sufficient, the Most Exalted.

I convey greetings to all the kindred, and I beseech God, exalted be His glory, for confirmation, success and protection. Likewise do I implore for the friends that which endureth and lasteth forever, and which remaineth preserved from the vicissitudes of the world. Peace and praise be upon you, and the mercy of God and His blessings.

That beloved one's missive arrived and was accepted. We beseech the Most High to assist you with the means of the seen and the unseen, to make you a champion of His Cause and steadfast in His service. We beseech Him to make your deeds and your remembrance as enduring as the kingdom of earth and heaven. I give you glad tidings at the end of this letter of that which hath shone forth from the horizon of grace as the luminary of permission. Whenever wisdom requireth, turn ye towards it. This servant asketh his Lord for that success which hath no likeness in all the world. Verily our Lord, the Most Merciful, is the Hearer, the Answerer.

BH00971: This is a Book sent down by the All-Merciful…

He is the Dawning-Place from the horizon of utterance.

This is a Book sent down by the All-Merciful to him who hath drunk the choice wine of revelation and acknowledged that which the Tongue of Grandeur hath spoken: that there is none other God but Me, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise, that the utterance of his Lord may draw him to the highest pinnacle of knowledge and bring him near unto Him on this Day whereon all things proclaim: "The Kingdom belongeth to God, the Lord of the worlds!"

O Shafi'! Hearken unto that which My Most Exalted Pen hath voiced in this Most Holy, Most Glorious, Most Exalted Station, which God hath made the point round which circle them that are in the heavens and on earth. Thou hast been mentioned before the Throne, and there hath been sent down for thee that whose fragrance shall never cease to endure throughout the eternity of My most excellent names. Verily thy Lord is the All-Witnessing, the All-Informed.

Beware lest the gestures of the people sadden thee from My Self-Subsisting Name, through which My sealed wine was unsealed and all things proclaimed:

> "The Possessor of all hath come and sovereignty belongeth unto God, the Mighty, the All-Praised."

O Shafi'! He hath come Who was mentioned in the hearts of the Prophets and inscribed by the Most Exalted Pen in the Books of God. Blessed is he who hath recognized Him and said: "Praise be unto Thee, O God of the worlds!" Say: He hath appeared and made manifest that which was hidden in knowledge, and hath spoken before the faces of the world in such wise that neither the veils of the wrongdoers nor the gestures of the heedless have hindered Him.

Among the people are those who turned towards Him and drank the choice wine of revelation, and among them are those who turned away in such manner as caused My Herald in the Most Exalted Paradise and Muhammad the Apostle of God in the All-Highest Paradise to lament. However, most of the people are heedless. They have cast the Cause of God behind their backs, clinging to their vain imaginings and idle fancies.

Say: Fear God, and deny not His favor, dispute not His verses, and reject not His grace which hath encompassed all things both small and great. Behold, then mention those who denied the All-Merciful when He came with proof and evidence, and spoke that which none before had spoken. Thus did their souls prompt them to a matter, and today they are amongst the dead.

Arise to serve the Cause by God's leave and His sovereignty in such wise as to cause the hearts of the people of the Bayan to tremble—they who have broken the Covenant and turned away from Him in Whom they had formerly believed. They are assuredly among the wrongdoers in God's mighty and glorious Book. Thus have We expounded the verses and sent them unto thee that thou mayest rejoice and be of them that are thankful. When thou art blessed by them and findest the fragrance of thy Lord's utterance, the All-Merciful, arise and say:

> "Praise be unto Thee, O God of the world and the Manifest One through the Most Great Name, for having made Thyself known unto me, shown forth Thy proof unto me, and sent down Thy verses unto me. I testify that Thou art the One with power over whatsoever Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the Mighty, the Wise."

In the Persian tongue We make mention, that all the people of that land may comprehend the Will of God and stand firm and steadfast in His Cause. This is the Day of steadfastness and the Day of assistance through goodly deeds and pleasing conduct.

O Shafi', the people of the Bayan, like unto the people of the Furqan, have clung to vain imaginings and idle fancies, and are diligently engaged in leading the servants astray. Not for a moment have they pondered what the fruits of the deeds, words and beliefs of the Shi'ih party have been. By God! They are in manifest delusion.

For twelve hundred years and more they nurtured the helpless masses on vain imaginings and idle fancies, and the result was that they martyred the Purpose of all worlds with hands of hatred. All the ignorant ones of the earth—that is, the lands of Persia—pronounced their verdict to shed the blood of the Sovereign of existence, the Lord of the seen and unseen. And by the ignorant ones are meant the

divines of that realm who have been and continue to be the cause of the peoples' rejection and opposition.

And now the people of the Bayan are seen to be even more lost, more astray and more remote. They have cast aside certitude and taken fancy as their lord instead of God. They are assuredly among the wrongdoers in God's Book, the Lord of all worlds.

The Sovereign of existence Who from the beginning of the Cause stood before the faces of all nations and spoke forth in praise and glorification, Who brought that which all the books of the past cannot equal—Him have they denied, imagining themselves to be among the people of truth, even as the Shi'ih party, despite their utter wretchedness, considered themselves more exalted, more elevated and more learned than anyone else on earth. Yet when the test came, they were found to be the basest of scholars and most tyrannical of peoples, for they martyred the Truth and His loved ones throughout all lands. Fie upon them and upon those who followed them without clear proof from God, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

O Shafi', protect the party of God and His sheep from the wolves of self and passion belonging to the people of the Bayan, that perchance vain imaginings and idle fancies may not this time seize the servants, that all may be illumined with the light of certitude and assurance and fix their gaze upon the horizon of God alone. Say: This is the Day of God, wherein none but He is mentioned, if ye be of them that know.

O Shafi', until now the wayward people of the Bayan have failed to comprehend the Day of God and with the utmost cunning and deceit have striven and continue to strive to lead astray the party of God. They have gathered together whatsoever hath been revealed from the Supreme Pen. The purpose of those heedless and wayward souls is clear and evident. With thy Lord is the knowledge of all things preserved in a mighty Book. Through the power of the Most Great Name, take hold of the reins of souls and adorn all with the ornament of steadfastness in the name of Truth, that the satans and the wayward may witness the lights of steadfastness shining from the brow of each one of the party of God. The cawing of the crows hath been raised from the land of Kaf and Ra, and this is that news which was specifically revealed from the Supreme Pen in Iraq and in the Land of Mystery in the Most Holy Book. Blessed are they that know. Blessed are they that are firmly rooted. Blessed are they that are steadfast. Blessed are they that are firm.

Gather together the loved ones of God and impart unto them the Divine Tablet, that all may discover from the fragrance of its utterance that which the tongue is powerless to mention and the pen faileth to describe. The glory shining forth from the horizon of the heaven of My mercy be upon thee and upon them and upon those whom the signs of the divines have not kept back from God, the Lord of all worlds.

BH03293: O Jalal, upon thee be the Glory of God!…

In the name of the one Expounder

O Jalal, upon thee be the Glory of God! Thy letter hath arrived repeatedly and the servant made mention thereof in the presence. Praise be to God that the veils of idle fancies have been rent asunder and the clouds of vain imaginings have been lifted. Thou didst turn and direct thyself to the Most Exalted Horizon

until, through the grace of God, exalted be His glory, thou didst attain unto the presence and hearken unto the divine call and drink from the Kawthar of reunion. All this is from God's grace and mercy upon thee—know thou this and be of the thankful ones.

O Jalal! We counsel thee and all the friends to unity and harmony. Should any ill-feeling arise between you, arise at once to dispel it, for discord causeth the Word to be arrested while harmony promoteth its exaltation. Convey my greetings to the friends and say: Ye have witnessed the vain imaginings of the people of the Furqan (Muslims). Now the people of the Bayan cling to those same imaginings. Guard yourselves and take refuge in God. For twelve hundred years they made claims to knowledge and wisdom, yet the final outcome of the acts and words of the Shi'ih party was the decree to slay the Lord of the world. Now with utmost cunning the people of the Bayan have risen against the souls who have believed and are assured. God protect us and you from the evil of these people who, in both word and deed, are like unto the former party.

This is the Day of true unity wherein naught is mentioned save God, exalted be His glory. At all times be occupied with the triumph of the Cause of God, that is, guiding souls unto God, the Lord of creation. You must be so enkindled with the love of God that the heedless, upon witnessing it and its heat, will turn toward the Friend and drink from the cup of understanding. The relatives through mother, wife, mothers and sisters—all are remembered in the Most Holy and Most Exalted Court and mentioned by the Supreme Pen. The Glory be upon thee and upon them and upon thy two daughters and upon every maidservant who hath believed in God, the Lord of lords.

BH04529: By the life of God! All have been created…

He is the Hearing, the Answering One!

By the life of God! All have been created for the knowledge of God, exalted be His glory, and the exaltation of His Word, and likewise have they been brought from nothingness into being for the reformation of the world and the education of its peoples. The cause of exaltation and the means of advancement has been and ever will be the unity and concord of the servants. Say: O people of God! Strive that perchance the dust of discord may be cleansed from the world and all may be adorned and illumined with the light of harmony.

The Most Exalted Pen is occupied night and day with counsels and teachings. Blessed is the soul that has rent asunder the veils of doubts and idle fancies through the Name of the Lord of Days and has turned to the dawning-place of the lights of certitude.

O friends! The days are fleeting. By My life! Nothing among all things, no name among all names, and no mention among all mentions shall profit you except through this Name, at Whose appearance the limbs of the world trembled and the pillars of the nations were shaken—they who violated God's Covenant and His Testament and uttered what none of the former generations had uttered.

Arise to serve the Cause. Whenever dust is stirred up, settle it. The grace of God has reached and continues to reach you, and the hidden means provide assistance. Verily your Lord, the All-Merciful, is the Hearing, the All-Seeing.

Glory be upon you and upon those with you who have turned and said:

> "We have set our faces toward Him Who hath created the heavens and earth, and we are of those who are assured."

Praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH06876: In My Name, Who lamenteth and speaketh

In My Name, Who lamenteth and speaketh

O people of the Bayan! Fear ye the All-Merciful, and be not of the wrongdoers. The horizons have been filled with the signs of your Lord. Be fair-minded, and be not of the abased ones. The Euphrates hath flowed from the Pen of Him Who revealeth the verses, and the Most Great Ocean hath surged before the faces of the world. Fear ye God, and be not of the transgressors. We have heard thy call and have answered thee, that thou mayest rejoice and be of the thankful ones. When thou hast attained unto the Tablet of God and its effect, arise and say:

Praise be unto Thee, O Lord of the worlds, and glory be unto Thee, O Glory of the worlds! I testify that Thou hast appeared and hast manifested that which was inscribed by the Supreme Pen in the Books of God, the Mighty, the Beautiful. Through Thee was set up the Bridge, and established the Balance, and the mountains were made to pass away, yet the people are in evident doubt. Thou art He the meeting with Whom was the hope of the chosen ones, then of the pure ones, and of those who circled round Thy mighty Throne. Give thanks unto God for having revealed unto thee in His Most Great Prison that whereby thy mention shall endure throughout the eternity of His Abiding Name. Verily thy Lord is the Forgiving, the Merciful.

BH01324: Praise be unto Him by Whose name the valley…

He is God, exalted be His station, His greatness and His power!

Praise be unto Him by Whose name the valley flowed and by Whose light the Hijaz was illumined. Through His remembrance the sincere ones have proclaimed: "The Kingdom is God's, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting," and those near unto Him have declared: "There is none other God but He, the Omnipotent over what was and what shall be." Blessed is he who hath attained unto His Revelation, been illumined by His lights, drawn knowledge from the ocean of His wisdom, been enlightened by the Sun of His utterance and been raised up by His exaltation. He, verily, is the Dawning-Place of God's signs and His proof, and the Day-Spring of His evidences and His favors. Through Him the path of God was made manifest in the world and His judgment established amongst the peoples. Upon Him rest God's blessings, His peace, His light, His glory, His honor, His power, and upon His family and companions through whom the rains of justice poured forth from the clouds of grace and the dove of the Cause warbled upon the branches: "The Kingdom is God's, the One, the Mighty, the Bountiful!"

Thereafter, the servant received your letter and became acquainted with what was inscribed by the pen of your love. When I found therein the fragrance of your turning unto God, I approached the Lord and

presented before His presence that which your tongue had uttered in remembrance. He—may my spirit be sacrificed for Him—said:

He is the All-Knowing Witness!

Today is the day of lowliness, supplication and return, for the armies of misbelief have encompassed the world of unity, as hath been and is now witnessed. Each day the fire of hatred is kindled. By the life of God, the clash of arms shall not be silenced except through turning unto God. The people of unity must all, at all times, beseech abundance from the Self-Sufficient and implore victory, that perchance the people of unity and the inhabited cities and regions may be preserved from the flames of the blazing fire. The world was not and is not worthy of mention. Blessed is the soul whom the veils and clouds of the world and all therein have not debarred from the Dayspring of the names and attributes of God, exalted be His glory. Soon shall all that is visible vanish, and sovereignty, might and power shall remain with God, the One, the Unconstrained.

And as to that whereof thou didst enquire concerning deeds, know thou, with the knowledge of certainty and the truth of certainty, that He hath enjoined upon all, in His Books, His Scriptures, and His Tablets, trustworthiness and piety, chastity and fidelity, and whatsoever will exalt the station of man within the realm of being. By the Sun of the horizon of utterance, which hath arisen and shone forth from the direction of the Prison, this Wronged One, by night and by day, beseecheth the Lord of mankind to preserve the Bright Community and the resplendent Law, that perchance the fruits of the Tree of deeds may be guarded from the blowing of tempestuous and devastating winds.

Goodly works and seemly, well-pleasing virtues have ever been, and shall ever remain, acceptable in the sight of the incorruptible Purpose. Blessed is he who cleaveth unto them, and acteth according to that which hath been sent down in the Book of God, the Lord of the worlds. Corruption, strife, and contention have never been, nor are they now, befitting of man.

Say: My God, my God! I am Thy servant and the son of Thy servant. I have desired the wonders of Thy bounty and the manifestations of Thy grace. I beseech Thee by the lights of Thy Kingdom and Dominion, by Thy Prophets and Thy chosen ones and Thy Messengers, and by the tears of the sincere ones and the sighs of them that are nigh unto Thee, to assist me in Thy remembrance and Thy praise and in acting according to that which Thou hast commanded me in Thy Book. This lost one beareth witness to Thy existence, this poor one to Thy wealth, this ignorant one to the ocean of Thy knowledge, and this weak one to Thy power.

His tongue, both outward and inward, testifieth to Thy oneness and Thy singleness, and that Thou art God and there is none other God but Thee. Thou hast ever been the Goal and Object of the world's worship and will continue to be what Thou hast been from time immemorial. There is none other God but Thee, the Self-Sufficient, the Most Exalted. O Lord! I beseech Thee by the Dawning-Places of Thy Revelation and the Day-Springs of Thy Command and the Manifestations of Thy Self and the Repositories of Thy knowledge, to ordain for me the good of what Thou hast revealed in Thy Book. Thou, verily, art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the All-Forgiving, the All-Bountiful.

Praise be to God! His light is resplendent, His Cause manifest, His decree [evident, His path clear, and His proof luminous. Blessed is the soul that hath clung to the cord of His bounty and hath acted in accordance with the] precepts revealed in His Book. Deeds bear witness to words and aid those who turn to Him. I beseech Him, exalted be His glory, to aid that honoured person to do that which He loveth and which pleaseth Him. I likewise implore Him to grant all a portion and share from the ocean of His good-pleasure and not to deprive them thereof. He is the Giver, He is the All-Bountiful, and He is the Self-Sufficient, the Most Exalted. Peace be upon you and upon God's sincere, righteous, active and successful servants. Praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

The servant 26th of Jumada II, 1303

Volume 078: Akka 1303 A.H. (1885–1886), Part II (3 of 5)

BH01370: Praise be to our Lord, the All-Merciful, Who created…

He is God, exalted be His station, the Greatness and the Power!

Praise be to our Lord, the All-Merciful, Who created man and taught him utterance, and deposited within him a sign from among His greatest signs, and made known to him the path that leadeth unto Him and the way to turn toward the lights shining from the horizon of His bounty. And blessings and peace be upon the best of His creation, and His mystery, and the mystery of His mystery, and the concealer of His mystery, and the one invested with His mystery, through whom the door of divine knowledge was opened to all who dwell in the realm of possibility, and the fragrance of the All-Merciful was diffused among all religions, and upon His family and His companions, whom no blame of any blamer, nor the assault of any oppressor, nor the doubts of any learned one could deter from God. They stood with supreme steadfastness among all peoples and declared:

> "God is our Lord, and the Lord of the throne and the earth, and the Master of the hereafter and this world."

These are servants who aided the Cause of God with true aid, in such wise that neither armies nor ranks could hold them back, until the light of unity encompassed all and that which God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy, had purposed was made manifest.

Thereafter, the letter of your honor was received and the fragrance of sincerity and devotion was detected therefrom. When I found it and read it and understood it, I approached the Presence and presented it before the Lord. He—may my spirit be offered up for His sake—said: "O Lutf-ʿAli! Upon thee be My peace! The Wronged One hath heard thy call and hath answered thee with that which will draw thee nigh unto God, the Lord of the worlds. Say:

"O my God, my Lord, my Support, my Purpose, my Object of worship and my Hope! I testify to that which Thy Prophets and Messengers have testified, that Thou art God, there is no God but Thee. Thou hast ever been sanctified beyond the mention of aught else but Thee, and exalted above the description of aught besides Thee. Every possessor of hearing and sight hath testified to Thy oneness and singleness, and to

that which the tongue of Thy grandeur testified before the creation of Thy earth and heaven. O Lord! Thou beholdest me turning unto Thee, directing myself toward the lights of Thy manifestation, clinging to the cord of Thy bounty, and holding fast to the hem of the robe of Thy generosity and favor. O Lord! This is one of Thy servants who hath desired to drink, from the hands of Thy bounty, the Kawthar of Thy knowledge, and to draw near, through Thy generosity, to the Dayspring of Thy signs and the Dawning-Place of Thy clear tokens. O Lord! Deprive him not of Thy outpourings and gifts, then send down upon him from the heaven of Thy mercy that which will purify him from the mention of any save Thee and strengthen him to make mention of Thee and to praise Thee.

> "O Lord! Thou seest me turning away from all else but Thee and advancing toward the gate of Thy grace, hoping for that which Thy Most Exalted Pen hath ordained for such of Thy servants as are detached and such of Thy creation as are sincere, whom nothing whatsoever hath deterred from turning toward Thy horizon and drawing nigh unto the tabernacle of Thy glory. I beseech Thee, O Sovereign of existence and King of the seen and unseen, by Thy Name through which Thou hast guided Thy servants to the shore of the ocean of Thy nearness and hast manifested that which lay hidden in Thy knowledge, to number me among such as are in Thy Cause, upon whom no fear shall come, nor shall they grieve. O Lord! Adorn my head with the crown of Thy favor, my heart with the light of Thy knowledge, my tongue with Thy remembrance, and my ear with the hearing of Thy verses. O Lord! Forgive my transgressions which have prevented me from turning toward Thee, and my sins which have kept me far from the station of Thy nearness. Verily Thou art He Who hath ever been praised in His deeds, obeyed in His command, and sovereign in His will. I beseech Thee, O Lord of the world and Educator of the nations, by Thy Most Great Name, to assist me to perform such deeds as will cause the fragrance of Thy good-pleasure to be diffused, and that which Thou hast revealed in Thy Book. There is no God but Thee, the One, the Single, the Powerful, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise."

This evanescent servant beseecheth and imploreth the Ever-Abiding Truth to strengthen your honor to drink from the hidden seas contained within the manifest, shining words, and to be illumined by their lights. The world hath been deprived of the lights of the Orb of Certitude by vain imaginings. They speak but comprehend not; they talk but perceive not. In these days the blessed verse "they have eyes wherewith they see not" hath been and is manifested. However, this servant beseecheth and imploreth the Truth not to withhold from your honor the rain of His mercy, and to grant a portion from the ocean of His grace. He is the Lord of the kingdom of bounty and generosity, and He is the All-Bountiful One Whom the world and all that is therein cannot prevent from His grace and favor. His mercy hath ever preceded, and His bounty hath ever taken precedence. His is the praise in all conditions. Verily, He is the Self-Sufficient, the Most Exalted. Peace be upon you and upon God's sincere servants, and praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH01433: Praise be befitting and worthy of the Lord…

He is God, exalted be His glory, the Grandeur and the Power!

Praise be befitting and worthy of the Lord of eternity Who illumined the world through the lights of His Most Great Name. His proof hath ever been conclusive and the light of His evidence resplendent. His verses have brought the world of existence into being, and His clear tokens have encompassed both the unseen and the visible. His is the grace and the bounty, and His is the grandeur and the majesty.

The essence of blessing and peace be upon the Point of existence and the Mirror of the unseen and the visible, namely the Beloved of the Prophets and the King of the chosen ones, through Whom the fragrances of revelation were diffused throughout the world and the luminary of divine unity shone forth amidst all peoples, and upon His family and companions—those who sacrificed their lives and possessions in the path of God and strove with the utmost diligence to aid His Cause, and who arose to manifest the truth with such arising that the peoples of the world were powerless to prevent it, until in all directions the banner of "Verily He is God" was raised and the lights of His verses became manifest and evident. They are the ones whom God hath described in His Books, both before and after. We beseech God through them to assist us in manifesting the truth among His creatures with wisdom and utterance. Verily, He is the Hearer, the Answerer.

Thereafter, your letter brought joy and bestowed gladness, for the fragrance of acceptance and love was wafted from it. In all conditions we must be engaged in thanksgiving and praise, for He doth not deprive His servants. His bounty opened the door and His favor summoned all. Blessed are they who attain, and blessed are they who achieve.

After perusal, with wings of longing you sought the supreme horizon and were mentioned before His presence. The Lord saith: O Salih! Purify thy heart with the water of turning unto God and sanctify and cleanse it from the mention of all else save Him, and say:

"My God, my God! I am Thy servant and the son of Thy servant. I have sought the ultimate goal and the highest aim—the station wherein Thy signs and clear tokens have appeared. O my Lord! Thou seest me turning toward Thee and directing myself to Thy court, and I desire to drink the Kawthar of Thy knowledge from the hand of Thy bounty. I beseech Thee not to disappoint me of what lieth with Thee, nor to deprive me of what Thou hast ordained for those near unto Thee among Thy servants and the sincere ones among Thy creation. I ask Thee, O Creator of the heavens and King of the Kingdom of Names, by the hidden and treasured mysteries in Thy knowledge and by the verses that hold sway over Thy earth and heaven, to make me one of those who have attained unto the breezes of Thy revelation and inspiration, and who have arisen to serve Thy Cause in such wise that neither the doubts of the divines nor the power of rulers prevented them. They turned with their hearts to Thy most exalted horizon and answered Thy sweetest call.

> "O my Lord! Thou seest me clinging to the cord of Thy bounty and hastening to the Kaaba of Thy good-pleasure. I beseech Thee to ordain for me that which shall profit me in all the worlds of Thy worlds, then grant me the heavenly table of knowledge which Thou hast sent down from the heaven of Thy bounty. Verily, Thou art the Powerful One Whom the might of the world weakeneth not, nor doth the clamor of the nations frustrate. Thou doest what Thou willest by Thy command, and decreest what Thou pleaseth through Thy power, might and sovereignty. There is none other God but Thee, the Strong, the Dominant, the Powerful."

Praise be to God, the door of bounty is open and the sun of favor is shining and the river of mercy is flowing. And that which is now necessary is to seek from God, exalted be His glory, that which hath been and is success. Through His assistance the tongue speaketh, the ink floweth, the pen moveth, hearts are attracted, faces are turned, and eyes are directed. Should He withdraw His aid for but a moment, existence would return to nothingness. This evanescent servant beseecheth and imploreth God, exalted be His glory, to assist His loved ones in that which is pleasing to Him, and not to deprive man of His eternal gifts through these fleeting days. He is the All-Knowing, the All-Powerful. There is none other God but Him, the Mighty, the Glorious, the Great.

When the letters arrived, the time had passed and this servant had no opportunity, therefore he wrote with utmost haste that it might cause joy or create renewed love. Verily our Lord, the All-Merciful, is powerful over whatsoever He willeth through His word "Be" and it is. Peace be upon you and upon God's sincere servants.

BH01621: Your letter arrived at a time when opportunity was…

He is God, exalted be His station, the Grandeur and the Power

Your letter arrived at a time when opportunity was as rare as the phoenix. As Aqa Siyyid Taqi, upon him be God's peace, intended to return, and now that three hours have passed in the night, this servant engaged in writing multiple letters, that perchance they might spread forth the carpet of joy. Then, turning toward the Presence, they were submitted before His face and He graciously heard all the letters. We beseech God, exalted be His glory, to make each one a sign in His kingdom—that is, to appear manifest and evident like banners in support of the Cause. Then, turning to you, He said: "O ʿAbdu'l-Karim! Upon you be My peace. The doubts of Iran's divines have debarred the world from the Goal of all existence. They cling to vain imaginings while considering themselves people of certitude. After more than twelve hundred years, the fruit of their deeds was what you heard—they all issued verdicts to shed the most pure blood.

Give thanks to the peerless Beloved that He confirmed you, showed you the way, and guided you to the straight path. Praise be to God, you have drunk from the cup of recognition and attained to the remembrance and praise of the Goal of the world. What is now required is wisdom, for people are immersed in the sea of heedlessness. If they gain even slight awareness, they will arise in opposition. Until now, the purpose of this Wronged One remains unknown, for had they discovered it, all would have sought to attain His presence and, cleansing themselves with the water of return unto God from doubts, allusions and sins, would have undertaken pilgrimage. Beseech God not to deprive the peoples of the world from the Kawthar of nearness and debar them from the ocean of knowledge. He is the Powerful, the Mighty, the All-Knowing, the All-Capable.

You intended to journey to this land—consult together. If it truly accords with wisdom, there is no harm in coming; otherwise patience is preferable until We send you another command. This is quite clear and evident. The gaze of favor has been and remains fixed upon you. We beseech God, exalted be His glory, to ordain through His complete power the means of nearness. Verily He is powerful over what He willeth and He is the Strong, the Mighty."

Praise be to God that you have attained to the true feast and drunk from the cup of recognition. This bounty has had and has no like or equal. As commanded, you must hold fast to wisdom lest the clamor of the heedless be raised. The souls who have accepted should not outwardly change, for some, out of love for Satan, wait to seize upon something and arise according to what their desires command them. Such is the state of the heedless people. Otherwise those possessed of insight know with clear certainty that there has been and is no purpose save the refinement of souls and the manifestation of true divine unity. We beseech and implore God, exalted be His glory, to guide all and lead them to the straight path.

As for your journey, the command is clear and in effect. God willing, it shall be acted upon. Verily He has guided us to the right path of utterance. To those gentlemen who have drunk from the wine of love for the All-Merciful and who gaze toward the Most Exalted Horizon, I convey greetings and praise, and I beseech God, exalted be His station, to confirm them all in what He loves and is pleased with. Two petitions arrived and after being submitted to His presence, two prayers were graciously bestowed. Let them recite these and drink of the wine of certitude concealed therein. Verily our Lord, the All-Merciful, is the All-Bountiful, the Generous. There is no God but He, the Mighty, the Great. Peace, praise and mercy be upon you and upon those who love you and upon God's near servants. Praise be to God, Lord of the Day of Judgment.

The servant 26 Jamadiyu'th-Thani 1303

BH02368: Praise be to God Who created what was…

He is God, exalted be His glory, the Most Great, the All-Powerful

Praise be to God Who created what was and what will be, and Who was sanctified from them both. He sent forth the Messengers and made manifest the paths as a bounty from His presence, that He might draw His servants nigh unto the supreme horizon—the station wherein naught is seen save the effulgences of His Most Beautiful Names and His Most Exalted Attributes. And blessings and peace be upon the Lord of both worlds and the Cause of the manifestation of the two weighty things, through whom every person of insight hath acknowledged the oneness of God, His singleness, His power, His might and His sovereignty. And upon His family and companions whom God made the rain-showers of the heaven of His mercy among His servants and the lights of His knowledge throughout His lands. They are the trees of unity that have borne the fruits of detachment. Blessed is he who draweth nigh unto them, and woe unto the heedless.

Thereafter, O beloved of my heart, the servant hath attained unto your letter and through it the gate of joy and gladness was opened before his face. We beseech God, exalted be He, to ordain for your honor that which He ordained for His loved ones through whom the banner of knowledge was raised up in the realm of possibility. Exalted is the All-Merciful Who hath manifested whatsoever He willed through His sovereignty that dominateth what will be and what hath been.

It was presented before the Countenance and its contents were made known. The Master (may our spirits be a sacrifice for Him) said:

> "Blessed art thou, O Mustafa, in that God hath chosen thee for the mention of the word of unity, and hath caused thee to know His path, and drawn thee nigh unto Him, and enabled thee to remember and praise Him, and aided thee to acknowledge that which His Prophets and His chosen ones have acknowledged. We beseech Him, exalted be He, to ordain for thee the good of the hereafter and of this world. This is what We asked for thee aforetime. Verily, He is the Hearer, the Answerer."

We praise God, exalted be He, and We beseech from Him well-being, health, loftiness, exaltation, joy and gladness for your honor and for those who are with you and those who love you for the sake of God. And as for what you desired regarding the journey of the apple of the eye Husayn Effendi and his mother and younger brother (upon them be the peace of God), it was presented before the Master and the sun of permission shone forth for them to proceed to the Most Great Prison. We beseech God to assist them through the means of the unseen and the visible, to draw them nigh unto Him and to aid them to remember and praise Him. Verily, He is powerful over all things and worthy to answer.

We convey God's bounty, care and mercy to the honored Afnan who have attained unto that which He hath sent down in His Book, and upon His loved ones and friends there. The servant asketh for each one of them that which will draw him nigh unto Him in all conditions. Verily, He is the Self-Sufficient, the Most High. Peace and praise be upon your honor and upon those who are with you and upon God's sincere servants.

The servant 29 Jumada II 1303

BH00727: Praise and thanksgiving beseem the Afnan of the divine…

In the Name of our Most Holy, Most Great, Most Exalted and Most Glorious Lord!

Praise and thanksgiving beseem the Afnan of the divine Lote-Tree, who were not deterred by the hosts of idle fancies and the ranks of vain imaginings from the Most Great Announcement and the Straight Path. Through God's grace, they drank from the Kawthar of "He doeth whatsoever He willeth" and partook of the Tasnim of "He ordaineth whatsoever He pleaseth." Neither the might of tyrannical Pharaohs nor the power of oppressive despots could deprive them of the dawning-place of loving-kindness and favor. With the finger of trust they rent asunder the veils, and with the arm of reliance they cast down the idols. Their eyes were fixed upon the Most Exalted Horizon and their faces were turned toward the light of His countenance. The diverse winds of the world could not shake their tranquility and steadfastness, nor could the perturbation and agitation of the nations find their way into their hearts. Glorified be He Who created them, caused them to know Him, drew them nigh unto Him, and exalted be He Who raised them up, preferred them, gave them utterance, showed them, and caused them to hear.

Glory be unto Thee, O my God, my Goal, my Beloved, the Beloved of the world, my Adored One and the Adored One of the nations! I beseech Thee by Thy Name through which the Hour and its signs were made manifest, and the Resurrection and its tokens appeared, to send down from the heaven of Thy bounty upon Thy Afnan that which befitteth Thy glory, Thy might, Thy generosity, Thy grace and Thy power. O Lord! Thou seest him in all conditions standing ready to serve Thy Cause and voicing Thy praise. He it is

who turned to Thee on a day wherein they that dwell upon Thine earth turned away from Thee and they that inhabit Thy lands rose up against Thee.

He spent that which he possessed for the exaltation of Thy Word, the triumph of Thy Cause, and the spread of Thy verses. By Thy glory, O my God! Were this servant to attempt to mention that which hath proceeded from him in Thy days, his pen would prove powerless and his tongue would fall short. I beseech Thee, O Thou Who art the Goal of the hearts of them that are nigh unto Thee and the Beloved of the hearts of the sincere ones, by Thy Most Great Signs and by Thy Most Exalted and Most Glorious Self, to cause his deeds in Thy days to appear from the horizon of bounty and favors, that all may witness their manifestation and their light even as they behold the sun and its effulgence and its radiance.

I seek Thy forgiveness, O my God, for making mention of this station which Thou hast made to be above my station. I beseech Thee by the light of Thy oneness, from which Thy servants have been debarred, to aid him at all times to do that which Thou lovest. Verily, Thou art the Almighty, the Help in Peril. There is none other God but Thee, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

My spirit, my soul and all that I possess be a sacrifice for your love and for your steadfastness! This servant was sitting silent, contemplating the verses of God and the manifestations of His greatness, His might, His power and His sovereignty, when the Afnan—upon him be the Glory of God, the Most Glorious—arrived with your letter. I took it and opened it, and from each of its letters I seemed to discover the fragrance of the love of God, our Goal and your Goal and the Goal of all who are in the heavens and on earth. When I had read and understood it, the ecstasy of your love so overtook me that I soared on the wings of longing until I attained the presence of God, the Lord of the Day of Meeting, and I presented what was in the letter. And this is what the Tongue of Grandeur spoke in reply—exalted be His utterance and sublime His proof:

He is the Hearing, the Answering

O Afnan! Upon thee be My glory, My loving-kindness and My mercy which have preceded all who are in the heavens and on earth. The servant who was present came before Us and read that which thy tongue had uttered in praise and glorification of God, His might, His power, His sovereignty, His strength, His grandeur and His dominion. Blessed be thy tongue for having spoken the truth, and thy pen for having flowed with that wherefrom every person of understanding perceiveth the fragrance of submissiveness, humility and detachment in the love of God, the Lord of creation. My Most Exalted Pen beareth witness that thou hast been illumined with the light of unity and hast drunk from the chalice of detachment while the people were in manifest error. By My life! None hath attained unto the Day of God and what hath been manifested therein save those who have cast away the world and clung to the Most Great Name, whereby the feet of the learned have slipped, the mountains of knowledge have been scattered, the limbs of the mystics have trembled, the hearts of the wise have been perturbed, and every oppressor remote from God hath lamented.

O Afnan! I complain unto thee of those who have turned away from Him Who came unto them with verses that all the books of the world cannot equal. Were it not for Him, that which lay hidden in God's knowledge, the Lord of all worlds, would not have been revealed. Until this time they have not

comprehended the Day of God, nor have they attained unto a drop from the ocean of the blessed word "He doeth whatsoever He willeth." For in truth, had they been illumined by the light of this exalted word, they would have closed the door of objections and turned with their whole being toward the Beloved of all creation. By God's life! The ears that exist in the world were not and are not worthy to hear this call, nor are the eyes capable of beholding the Supreme Horizon. This Day is a mighty Day and this Cause is greater than every great thing.

Praise be to God! Thou hast attained repeatedly and hast drunk from the ocean of the Merciful's utterance. Thou hast preceded others in serving God and championing His Cause, as attested by Him with Whom is the Mother Book. We beseech God—exalted be His glory—to protect His servants from the vain imaginings of the heedless, oppressive, and deceitful souls. Ye must exert the utmost effort in this matter and seek protection for all from God. Verily, He is with thee and heareth what thou hast desired of the wonders of His grace and favors. He is the Hearing, the Responding One.

Under all conditions, the servants must be reminded that perchance they may drink from the ocean of awareness and attain unto the splendors of the lights of wisdom. If it accordeth with wisdom, convey on behalf of this Wronged One greetings to the loved ones of God and bid them to that whereby God's Cause may be exalted, that perishable things may not deprive them of God's everlasting bounties. All the Afnans of the Sacred Tree are mentioned in the presence of this Face and are the recipients of special favors. Convey greetings to the Leaves and give them the glad-tidings of God's loving-kindness. The glory shining forth from the horizon of the heaven of My grace and mercy be upon thee and upon those who are with thee and who love thee and hearken unto thy word concerning this momentous News.

Praise be to God that the waves of the ocean of loving-kindness are manifest and the lights of the Sun of compassion are evident! When this evanescent servant attained the presence of His Holiness and presented his letter, the Sun of grace shone forth and appeared in such wise that this servant and his like are powerless and incapable to describe it. During the time of offering prayers, repeatedly this most exalted Word issued from the tongue of the Master of all beings:

> "How excellent is that which the Afnan hath spoken on this Day of God, the Lord of Religions!"

The revealed verses themselves bear witness and testimony; no other proof hath been or is needed. By God's grace, His Holiness is adorned with that which beseemeth the Day of God. The honored Afnan, Aqa Siyyid ʿAli, upon him be the Glory of God, the Most Glorious, arrived and mentioned that which His Holiness had uttered, and it was granted the honor of being heard at the Divine Throne. Likewise, all the passages mentioned in the letter were, praise be to God, granted the honor of being heard and were adorned and illumined by the lights of acceptance.

This evanescent servant offereth greetings and praise to the honored Afnan, upon them be the Glory of God, the Most Glorious—and from every light the most luminous, and from every beauty the most beautiful, and from every bounty the most glorious, and from every joy the most evident, and from every blessing the most abundant, and from every feast the most complete. He beseecheth God—exalted be His glory—and imploreth Him to assist His servants and grant them success in that which is befitting, that all may turn towards the ultimate goal and the most exalted horizon, and may not remain deprived of the

outpourings of these days. Verily, He is powerful over all things. Praise and glory and remembrance and magnification and peace be upon you and upon those with you, and upon those who have attained to your service and your love, and upon every one steadfast and firm, and every one established and well-informed.

The servant, in the month of Rajab, 1303

BH02229: A Book inscribed by a Pen—the Pen…

He is God—exalted be His glory in wisdom and utterance!

A Book inscribed by a Pen—the Pen of God, the All-Subduing, the Self-Subsisting! What a Tablet traced by what a Reed—the Reed of God, Lord of what was and what shall be! This is a Tablet from whose horizon hath shone forth the Day-Star of thy Lord's favor, the Lord of all existence. We have mentioned thee before with such remembrance as cannot be equaled by all the treasures of the world nor by that which the nations possess. He Who possesseth the Hidden Book beareth witness to this. How many a learned one have We left to himself, and how many an unlettered one have We rescued through My favor that dominateth every witness and witnessed thing!

This is a Day wherein the heaven hath spoken, the sun hath testified, the moon hath proclaimed, and the Divine Lote-Tree hath cried out, yet the people understand not. The world hath been illumined by the Most Great Name, the Mount by its Interlocutor, the Throne by its Lord, the Light by its Dawning-Place, and the signs by their Source, yet most of the people know not. They hearken unto the manifestations of fancy and idle imagination that which keepeth them back from the Most Great Vision and draweth them nigh unto the fire. He Who speaketh in every condition beareth witness that there is none other God but Me, the All-Subduing, the Self-Subsisting.

Say: O people! By God, the rustling of the Divine Lote-Tree hath been raised up, and the Caller hath called from the right side of the blessed Spot, saying: Fear God and follow not your desires. Follow Him Who hath come to you with a manifest sovereignty. Thus hath the Most Great Ocean revealed the pearls of knowledge and wisdom, and the Sun its effulgence and its lights.

When thou hast attained, arise and say: Praise be to Thee, O Lord of the seen and unseen! Behold, then mention what the people of the Bayan have committed, who turned away from the All-Merciful and opposed Him with such tyranny as caused the denizens of the Kingdom to lament. They cast the Most Great Ocean behind their backs, hastening toward the pond. Verily, they perceive not. We have observed thy devotion and have turned to thee once again, mentioning thee with that which gladdeneth the eyes and rejoiceth the hearts.

When thou hast attained unto My Tablet and drunk the choice wine sealed with My Self-Subsisting Name, say: My God, my God! I perceive the fragrance of Thy Revelation and the sweet-scented breezes of Thy appearance. Hast Thou ordained for me to stand before Thy gate and attain the presence of Thy countenance? Blessed is the station that hath been illumined by the lights of Thy beauty, the land honored by Thy footsteps, and the atmosphere wherein Thy call was raised. I beseech Thee, O Lord of existence and Educator of the seen and unseen, by the Ark which the winds and waves could not hinder

and which sailed through the ocean of Thy Cause, and by the subduing power of Thy Most Exalted Pen, whereby Thou hast subdued earth and heaven, to assist me to attain unto Thy presence before Thy throne, that I may hear what the Son of ʿImran heard on the Mount of Knowledge.

O Lord! Deny me not Thy presence and nearness, nor the fountain of Thy reunion and meeting. Then I beseech Thee to teach me what Thou hast intended from the ocean of Thy knowledge and the heaven of Thy grace. I am he, O my God, who knoweth not what profiteth him. Thou art more knowing of me than I am of myself. Ordain for me from Thy Most Exalted Pen that which shall profit me in every world of Thy worlds. Verily, Thou art the Almighty, the Most Exalted, the Most Great.

BH02546: He dawneth from the horizon of the heaven…

He dawneth from the horizon of the heaven of the Kingdom!

This is a Book which the Sovereign of the Kingdom and the Ruler of the Realm of Might hath sent down unto him who hath turned to the Most Exalted Horizon, at a time when the limbs of the Names trembled through the onslaught of the princes and the clamor of the divines who cast the Covenant behind them in their final abode. We have mentioned thee before with a mention before which all mentions bow down in humility. Blessed art thou and blessed are they whom the affairs of creation have not held back from the Truth—they arose and proclaimed before the faces of the world: “The Kingdom belongeth unto God, the Lord of Lords!”

O thou who gazest upon the Countenance! The Cause hath been sanctified above the knowledge of the people of the Bayan, who cast aside the Covenant of the All-Merciful by following their own desires. They are assuredly among those recorded as lost in the Scriptures and Tablets. We stood firm in the Cause and voiced the praise of God on a day wherein the limbs of the mighty trembled through fear of the wicked ones.

When the veils were rent asunder and the Sun of Revelation manifested His banner according to a decreed measure, there emerged from behind the veil the buzzing of flies who objected to Him Who aided the Cause through the hosts of inspiration and revelation. They say what the Shi’ih party said, imagining themselves to be possessed of certitude. Nay, by My life! They are worshippers of idle fancies and vain imaginings. When the horizon of Revelation manifested its banner, they turned away from it, following every heedless doubter. Say: Observe, then recall the fruits of the deeds of the people of the Furqan when the Hour came and the Herald proclaimed: “The Kingdom belongeth unto God, the Lord of all men!” Those people denied God and His sovereignty and opposed Him with an injustice whereat the Concourse on High and the dwellers of Paradise lamented at eventide and at dawn. Hatred intensified in their hearts until they pronounced judgment against Him Who is the Desired One with a tyranny that caused the heaven to withhold its rain. Thus did their souls entice them, and today they are among the lost ones. By God’s life! They committed what none before them had ever committed. Say: Take ye warning, O ye who are endowed with insight!

From this station We send Our greetings upon thy face and upon those who are with thee in this Cause whereby feet have slipped, and We send Our greetings upon My loved ones there whose names thou

hast mentioned before the Wronged One in this station which God hath made among the most exalted of stations. We have remembered them and inscribed their names with the Most Exalted Pen in the Crimson Book as a grace from God, the Lord of all beings. We counsel them to manifest supreme steadfastness in the Cause of God, the Lord of all creation, and to that whereby the station of man is exalted among all religions. The glory that shineth forth from the horizon of the heaven of My mercy be upon thee and upon those who hearkened unto the call and said:

> "Here am I, here am I, O Lord of Names! Here am I, here am I, O Possessor of earth and heaven!"

BH05080: The Wronged One hath heard thy call and answereth…

In His Name through Whom the Bayan was revealed!

The Wronged One hath heard thy call and answereth thee from this exalted station, that the remembrance of God may draw thee to His glorious and luminous horizon and make thee so steadfast in the Cause that neither the opposition of the opposers nor the allusions of those who have disbelieved in the Day of Judgment shall deter thee. Hearken unto that which the people of the Bayan, who have turned away from God, the Lord of all worlds, have uttered. Among them are those who have turned away from the Countenance, and those who have said that He hath fabricated lies against the All-Informed One. The dwellers of the Kingdom have lamented at what they have said, and beyond them the denizens of the realm of might and those who circle round this mighty and glorious station. Say: By what proof have ye established My fabrication, and by what evidence have ye proven that which ye possess is from God, the All-Forgiving, the All-Bountiful? Bring forth a verse, O people of the Bayan, if ye be of the truthful.

Be fair, by God, and reject not the truth by what ye possess. Turn ye unto Him unto Whom the Prophets and Messengers have turned. Thus hath My Most Exalted Pen spoken when the Wronged One was in evident sorrow. Grieve thou not at anything. Put thy trust in God. He will suffice thee through a power that proceedeth from Him. He is the Mighty, the All-Compelling, the Powerful. The splendor shining from the horizon of the heaven of My loving-kindness be upon thee and upon those who have hearkened and said:

> "Praise be unto Thee, O Thou the Goal of the mystics, and praise be unto Thee, O Thou the Beloved of all who are in the heavens and on earth."

BH05680: In My Name, the All-Subduing above all names!

In My Name, the All-Subduing above all names!

We found for the Mother Book a tongue that speaks with truth and summons the people unto God, the Lord of the worlds. Blessed is he who accepts, whom neither the doubts of the people of the Bayan deterred, nor the clamor of the oppressors frightened. The Truth has appeared and made manifest what He desired. He, verily, is the Powerful One Whom the conditions of creation have not hindered—to this testifies every fair-minded and perceiving one. Say: O people, cast aside what ye possess and take what ye have been commanded by God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy. Beware lest ornaments prevent you

from the Most Exalted Horizon, or worldly treasures old and new from this Momentous Announcement. Take hold of the Book of God with the power that proceeds from Him, and be not of the fearful ones. Thus have We commanded those who believed before and in this time.

We have remembered those who have believed and shown them My most exalted horizon and caused them to hear My sweetest call, and I am the All-Knowing Witness. We beseech God to assist them to preserve what they have been given from the presence of One All-Knowing, All-Wise. Thus has the Bird of Utterance soared in the garden of inner meanings, yearning for the presence of God, the Lord of the worlds. The glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My loving-kindness be upon thee and upon those who have not denied God's proof and His manifest evidence.

BH05956: O people of earth and heaven, hear My call…

O people of earth and heaven, hear My call and judge fairly in My Cause and be not […]. That which was confirmed by every wise command, every clear Book, and every wondrous mention hath been made manifest. Say: Fear God and be not among the heedless. This is He Whom Adam heralded, until the matter reached the Interlocutor whom We commanded, through what We revealed in the Qur'an, to lead the people out of darkness into light and remind them of the days of God; and of Whom the Beloved informed concerning the Day when all shall stand before the Lord of the worlds.

O people of earth! Beware lest the whisperings of every contemptible slanderer keep you back. Purify your hearts through that which hath flowed from My Most Exalted Pen, then turn with radiant faces toward the station round which circle the Concourse on High and the dwellers of Paradise, morning and evening. We counsel you for the sake of God—whoso wisheth, let him accept, and whoso wisheth, let him turn away. Verily your Lord, the All-Merciful, is independent of all ye behold today. To this testifieth every discerning sage and every informed mystic. The glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of grace and bounty be upon the people of Baha who have not broken God's Covenant and Testament and who are among the steadfast.

BH07727: The clamor hath been raised and the raven hath…

He is established upon the Throne.

The clamor hath been raised and the raven hath croaked, and the deceivers are engaged in cunning and hypocrisy. They have cast the Book of God behind their backs and have taken their own book instead. They are indeed among the most lost in the Book of God, the Lord of Lords. Say: O people of the earth! Fear God and follow not those who have denied the grace of God and His proof, and who have pronounced judgment against Him and His loved ones without any evidence or Book. Blessed is he who hath heard the Call and blessed is he who hath spoken forth this Most Great Name, and blessed is he who hath proclaimed these tidings whereby feet have slipped. We found thee loving Us, wherefore We have remembered thee, and We heard thy call and therefore have called out to thee, and We saw thy turning to Us and therefore have turned toward thee from this Spot which God hath made the Dawning-Place of lights. Thus hath the Dove of the Cause warbled, and thus hath the Bird of Eternity sung upon the branch, from God, the Lord of all men.

BH07806: This is a Book which the All-Merciful hath sent…

He is the One speaking with truth from the horizon of proof

This is a Book which the All-Merciful hath sent down when the Throne was established in this manifest Station which one of the servants hath built. Verily thy Lord ordaineth whatsoever He willeth as He pleaseth. Among the people are those who build but do not dwell therein, and among them are those who build for one who knoweth them not. Thus have matters been ordained by the Most Exalted Pen in a preserved Tablet.

We have heard thy call and have called out to thee, and have beheld thy turning toward Us, and have revealed for thee that from which the servants will find the fragrance of God, the Help in Peril, the Self-Subsisting. Beware lest the clamor of the people of the Bayan frighten thee, or the doubts of every rejected misbeliever prevent thee. Say: O people! If ye were to hear the shrill voice of the Most Exalted Pen and the rustling of the Sadratu'l-Muntaha, by God, that which never appeared before hath now appeared. To this testifieth every knower who hath attained the lights of the Countenance on this promised Day. Thus hath the Book manifested its verses and the Light its radiance. Blessed is he who hath witnessed and seen, and woe unto every heedless one who is debarred.

BH11661: This remembrance is sent down by Us to him…

He is the All-Merciful, the Beneficent.

This remembrance is sent down by Us to him who hath drawn the servants to the utterance of his Lord, the Most Merciful, and who hath spoken before all faces that which the Tongue of Grandeur hath spoken:

> "Verily, there is none other God but Me, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting."

All things have been stirred by the Call of the Lord of Names, yet the people perceive not. They have forsaken that which they were commanded and have committed that which hath caused the Concourse on High to lament, as well as those who circle round the House at eventide and at dawn.

Be thou eloquent in the remembrance of thy Lord, steadfast in the service of His Cause, turning toward His horizon, and holding fast to His extended cord. Thus have We caused the pearls of knowledge to emerge from the shell of utterance. Blessed is he who hath witnessed and seen, and woe unto every heedless and veiled one.

The glory shining forth from the horizon of My Kingdom be upon thee and upon those who hastened when they heard the Call of God, the Lord of existence.

BH08773: God, exalted be His glory, calls the peoples…

In the name of the One True Friend!

God, exalted be His glory, calls the peoples of the world to everlasting life, yet His servants remain wrapt in idle fancies and vain imaginings. To such a degree has heedlessness encompassed mankind that they

occupy themselves night and day with aught save God, and are unaware. At every moment they prepare for themselves a manifest chastisement. Ere long shall they witness the fruits of their deeds and bear witness to their own loss. Blessed is the soul whom neither the vanishing ornaments, nor the varied colors, nor the might of tyrants have withheld from the Dayspring of the Light of Oneness. He hath clung to the Truth and held fast unto Him. We beseech God not to deprive His servants and to grant them their portion of the choice sealed Wine.

BH11910: Praise be unto Thee, O Creator of the heavens…

…Praise be unto Thee, O Creator of the heavens and Possessor of all names! I beseech Thee by the ocean of Thy verses to assist me to be steadfast in Thy Cause and to ordain for me that which shall profit me in Thy worlds. Thou art, verily, the Omnipotent over whatsoever Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the Ordainer, the All-Wise.

BH00261: Praise, glorification, remembrance and splendor befit those champions…

Section 1: "Praise, glorification, remembrance and splendor befit those champions…"

In the name of our Most Holy, Most Great, Most Exalted and Most Glorious Lord!

Praise, glorification, remembrance and splendor befit those champions in the arena of meaning and utterance, whom neither the clamor of the ungodly, nor the tumult of the deniers, nor the croaking of men and the roaring of their mighty ones could debar from the light of attainment. With complete steadfastness they remain firm and steadfast in the Cause of God. They are the dawning-places of victory and exposition, and the daysprings of power and knowledge. They heard and responded; they saw and exclaimed: "Praise be unto Thee, O God of the world!" The veils of the world did not prevent them, nor did they remain deprived of the supreme horizon. The divine Books, both of the past and present, speak of their mention and celebrate their praise.

Glory be unto Thee, O Lord of the House, Who hath raised its pillars, illumined its walls, made manifest its traces, and revealed its fruits! I beseech Thee by the rustling of the Lote-Tree beyond which there is no passing, by the lights of Thy countenance from the supreme horizon, and by the treasuries of Thy mysteries in Thy Name that is sanctified above all names, to assist Thy loved ones to be steadfast in Thy Cause and to arise to serve Thee. O Lord! Aid them through Thy power, might and sovereignty; then strengthen them through Thy mercy, loving-kindness and bounties. Thou art He before Whose verses all verses bow down, before Whose light all lights pale, before Whose Book all books humble themselves, before Whose Manifestation all manifestations submit, before Whose rising all risings yield, and before Whose ocean all seas diminish. Through clear proof hath been established Thy power and might, O Lord of creation and Sovereign of men and spirits. There is none other God but Thee, the Strong, the Mighty, and the One worthy to answer.

To continue: The letter from that honored one arrived, bringing joy and gladness, bestowing delight. After its reading and review, turning toward the supreme horizon, all of it attained the honor of being heard before the Presence. His blessed and exalted Word states: In truth, the Supreme Pen is bewildered, for it

is observed that the souls of the world were not and are not worthy to hearken to the divine words and to behold the lights of the Countenance of the Self-Subsisting. People who through ages and centuries have been reared in vain imaginings were not and will not be worthy to witness the lights of the Sun of certitude. Until now, the people of the Bayan have not perceived the fragrance of the Day of God, nor have they become aware of the hidden mysteries in the blessed word "He doeth whatsoever He willeth."

They have not attained even a drop of this ocean. Blindly and ignorantly they run about and speak. At times they mention the alteration of the Bayan, and at other times they speak of other matters. They have contrived calumnies that perchance they might thereby conceal the lights of the Sun of the supreme horizon. In truth, they are seen to be the most lost among the parties of the world. We beseech the True One to protect His party in those regions and vicinities from the evil of devilish souls. Verily, He is powerful over all things.

Convey My greetings to the friends in that land and give them the glad-tidings of the favors of God, exalted be His glory. Perchance through the fragrance of the mention of the All-Merciful they may attain unto steadfastness and assurance. Verily, We remember them and give them glad-tidings of God's grace, the Lord of the worlds. We beseech Him, exalted be He, to assist them with the hosts of the seen and the unseen, and to draw them nigh unto Him. Verily, He is the Hearer, the Answerer. The splendor shining forth from the heaven of My mercy be upon thee and upon those who have aided the Cause of God, the Lord of the worlds.

Praise be to God—the radiant Light, the wafting Fragrance, the manifest Appearance, and the Speaker of Sinai's Voice. Today is the day of bounty and bestowal, and the time of grace and meeting. Blessed are they who have attained to that which hath been revealed from the Supreme Pen in God's Book. The friends of that land have been and are, praise be to God, beneath the glances of the favor of our Beloved and the Beloved of all who are in earth and heaven, and each hath been mentioned by the Supreme Pen. I beseech God to make them all steadfast in this Most Great Cause with such steadfastness as shall cause the people of the world to turn and remain firm.

Concerning what was written about the Huqúqu'llah, truly much trouble hath been caused to your honor. After it was presented before the Most Holy and Exalted Presence, He said that the benefits of charitable deeds return to the souls themselves, and in these matters the utterance of a single word sufficeth. Whosoever payeth it with the utmost joy and radiance, with submission and contentment, it is acceptable before God; otherwise, He verily is independent of all worlds. Blessed art thou, O Muhammad-Qabli-ʿAli, in that thou hast been steadfast, speaking and turning toward God, the Lord of the worlds. Blessed are the souls who have attained to that which is recorded and inscribed in God's Book. All must act according to what God hath willed, for whatsoever hath been revealed in the Book from the Supreme Pen hath been and is the cause of purification, sanctification, holiness, blessing and bounty. Blessed are they who have attained. However, regarding the mention of the Huqúqu'llah, let them be content with one word, and for the sake of God utter that word and no more. Insistence is not necessary, for God doth not wish that any strain should fall upon the souls who are engaged in service. Verily He is the Forgiving, the Merciful, the Bountiful, the Generous.

Those souls who have been and are successful in paying the Huqúqu'llah, whom your honor hath mentioned, have all been blessed with God's mention, glorified be His majesty. No good deed hath been or will be lost. All good deeds are treasures preserved with God for their doers. Blessed is the servant, whether man or woman, who hath acted in the path of God, our Lord and the Lord of the worlds.

Concerning what was written about Muhammad-Hasan and his wife, upon them be the glory of God, after presentation He said:

> "Excellent is what thou hast done, O Muhammad-Qabli-ʿAli, and excellent is what they both have done in God's path. The Huqúqu'llah should be paid when possible and with the utmost joy and radiance. Those who lack the means are adorned with the ornament of God's pardon."

Such verses have been revealed and sent down from the Supreme Pen. In all conditions one must look to the glory of the Cause. This is most important and most beloved in the sight of God, our Lord and your Lord and the Lord of the mighty throne. Praise be to God, the aforementioned one and the handmaiden of God his wife and two leaves, upon them be the glory of God, have all been adorned with the ornament of divine mention. The grace from God, the Exalted, the Great, hath encompassed them. Their letter was also accepted. This is yet another bounty. Verily He is the All-Bountiful, the Generous.

Concerning what thou didst write previously about Mulla Muhammad-Rafi', upon him be the glory of God, and his petition—it was presented before the Most Holy, Most Exalted Presence and was honored to be heard, and these decisive verses were revealed from the heaven of special favor for him. His word, exalted be His utterance and mighty His proof:

In My Name, the Hearer, the Answerer

O Rafi'! Upon thee be My glory! Know thou with manifest certitude that every soul that hath turned outwardly and inwardly toward the Most Exalted Horizon, and hath faced the lights of His Countenance, hath been and shall ever be blessed with the remembrance of God, exalted be His glory. They that have turned unto Him have ever been and shall ever remain beneath the glance of His grace. In this station, which is the station of pure bounty, neither veils nor clouds have been or shall be interposed. He heareth and answereth, and He is the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing. Blessed are they whom the veils and allusions of men have not debarred from the Lord of destiny nor deprived thereof. We beseech God to adorn His people with the ornament of supreme steadfastness. He, verily, is powerful over all things and mighty.

As for the mention of Muhammad Hasan, upon him be the glory of God, and his missive, and Muhammad Ali, upon him be the glory of God, and his missive, and likewise Aqa Muhammad Ali the son of thy maternal uncle and his missive, and Muhammad Hasan and Haji Isma'il, and likewise the mention of the sons of thy maternal aunt, upon them be the glory of God—all have been mentioned at the Most Holy, Most Exalted Court and have attained the remembrance of the Desired One of all worlds. Praise and gratitude be unto Him. Each hath partaken of the Kawthar of the utterance of the All-Merciful and been mentioned in the Most Exalted Horizon. This evanescent servant beseecheth God and imploreth Him to strengthen them to perform such deeds as shall endure in their fragrance throughout the kingdom of earth and heaven. He is the Compassionate, He is the Bountiful. There is none other God but Him, the Almighty, the All-Powerful.

All that was sent before and after hath been received. Praise be to God Who hath enabled them, assisted them, and guided them to His manifest and straight Path.

Regarding what they wrote seeking permission to turn to other directions for charitable works, after this matter was submitted to the Most Holy Court, this supreme utterance was revealed from the Most Exalted Horizon:

> "O Muhammad ʿAli! The people of God must all strive to exalt the Word of God, but wisdom must be observed in all conditions. As for the Huqúqu'lláh, mentioning it once sufficeth, and that in general terms. Whosoever achieveth its payment according to what hath been revealed in the Book hath attained. Ask God to assist His servants to act in accordance with that which conduceth to the good of this world and the next. This is what God hath decreed in His mighty and impregnable Book. This Day is God's Day, and the exaltation of His Cause hath precedence. Verily, He ordaineth what benefiteth the people, and He is the Compassionate, the All-Bountiful."

Section 2: "In these stations there hath been revealed…"

In these stations there hath been revealed from the Most Exalted Pen that which every person of sensitivity perceiveth the fragrance of bounty and riches therefrom, and the benefit of what was mentioned returneth unto the servants themselves. To this testifieth every discerning doer of good deeds.

Concerning what thou didst write about the construction of the bath-house, God willing, may all in those regions be assisted to achieve what hath been revealed in the Divine Book.

As for what was written regarding the handmaiden of God, the wife of Aqa Muhammad Hasan, upon both of them be the glory of God, that she hath confined herself to serving the Mashriqu'l-Adhkar—these matters were submitted before His presence. This is what the Tongue of Grandeur spoke, blessed and exalted be His words:

> "We make mention of Our handmaiden who hath believed in God and His signs, and hath attained to serving the House built in His name, the Mighty, the Wondrous. We, from this station, glorify her and those women who have heard the call and answered God, the Lord of this mighty Cause."

Concerning the mention made of the seven handmaidens of God, praise be to God that their mention has attained the honor of being heard, and each is adorned with God's infinite favors. Their efforts are appreciated and their deeds accepted. Give them glad tidings from God, our Lord, your Lord, and the Lord of the mighty throne.

Concerning what was written at the end of the letter about Muhammad Sadiq Khan and Aqa Mirza Lutf-ʿAli, upon them be the glory of God, who had sought forgiveness—these matters were presented before Him, and these brilliant verses were revealed from the Dayspring of the favors of God, exalted be His glory. His blessed and exalted Word:

He is the Hearer and the Answerer

O Sadiq! The Ancient Countenance hath turned toward thee from His Most Great Prison and hath mentioned thee in such wise that the fragrance thereof shall endure throughout the eternity of His Kingdom and His Dominion and His most beautiful Names. Hold thou fast unto it. He will assist thee to remain steadfast in this mighty Cause. Say:

My God, my God! Praise be to Thee for having enabled me to turn toward Thy most exalted horizon and to hearken unto Thy most sweet call which hath been raised betwixt earth and heaven. Glorified art Thou, O Thou Who art the Goal of the Concourse on High and Who art mentioned in the hearts of the Prophets, for having enabled me to recognize the Manifestation of Thy Self, the Dayspring of Thy Revelation, the Dawning-Place of Thy inspiration and the Repository of Thy knowledge. Thou art He, O my God, Who hath shown unto Thy servants Thy straight path and Thy clear and manifest way. I beseech Thee, O Lord of all being and Educator of the seen and unseen, by the ocean of Thy knowledge and the sun of Thy bounty, to aid me under all conditions to serve Thy Cause. O Lord! Thou seest the sinner hastening toward the ocean of Thy forgiveness and the poor one toward the repository of Thy wealth. Write down for him, by Thy Most Exalted Pen, that which will purify him from all that is unworthy. Verily, Thou art the Munificent, the Generous. There is none other God but Thee, the Forgiving, the Merciful.

And this is what was revealed for his honor Mirza, upon him be the glory of God:

In My Name, the One Who ruleth over all names

O Lutf-ʿAli! Give thanks unto God that thy name hath flowed from His Most Exalted Pen. Say:

My God, my God! I am Thy servant and the son of Thy servant and the son of Thy handmaiden. I have turned toward Thee, having detached myself from all else but Thee, enkindled with the fire of Thy love, speaking Thy praise, gazing toward Thy horizon, and turning unto Thy face. I beseech Thee by the fragrances of Thy days and the manifestations of Thy power not to disappoint me of that which is with Thee. Thou seest me, O my God, standing before the door of Thy grandeur, seeking the wonders of Thy bounty and Thy gifts. O Lord! Withhold not from me that which Thou hast ordained for Thy loved ones. Ordain for me that which shall profit me in every world of Thy worlds. Moreover, I beseech Thee, O Lord of the worlds and Goal of the nations, to forgive me and have mercy upon me. Verily, Thou art the Ever-Forgiving, the All-Forgiving, the Generous. There is none other God but Thee, the Mighty, the Great.

Praise be to God that verses have been sent down from the heaven of grace and the rain of mercy hath poured forth from the clouds. I beseech God to enable all to attain and not to deprive them of the fragrances of His days. Glory be to God! Despite the fact that in every moment an ocean is surging and in every day the sun of bounty is shining, yet most remain veiled and heedless. More veiled than all other peoples are the followers of the Bayan. It is not known to what they were turning and from what they were turning away. This evanescent one beseeches and hopes that He may bestow a portion upon all and may purify the hearts of the people of the world from the fire of falsehood and hatred. He is the One with power over all things, to which all created things have borne and continue to bear witness. There is none other God but He, the Almighty, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

As to what was written concerning the Most Holy Tablet wherein the command was given to act according to what was revealed in the Furqan [Qur'an], this matter was specific to the Most Great Prison, for the companions in this land conducted themselves in such a way that outsiders became aware of all matters. Likewise, due to a disagreement that arose among the companions, one of them spoke certain words in public which became a cause of commotion among the people. Therefore, for the protection of souls, a Tablet was revealed from the heaven of divine command in the name of Jinab-i-Aqa Faraj, upon him be the Glory of God, wherein the command to observe the fast of the Furqan was given. This decree was specifically revealed for this land. However, in the Tablets the command has been given to observe wisdom—that is, matters which might cause commotion among the people and trials for the loved ones are better left concealed.

Blessed are those souls who are engaged in the remembrance of the Lord of the righteous in the Mashriqu'l-Adhkar. Blessed are those souls who are steadfast in serving that House, and blessed are those souls who have become the cause of its construction. They enter with peace and longing and depart with regret. We beseech God, exalted be He, our Lord and your Lord, to assist you through the means of the unseen and the visible, and to ordain for you that which shall endure as long as His Name, the All-Compelling over all names, endures. There is no God but He, the Forgiving, the Merciful. And if any new command should issue from the heaven of the command of the True Commander, it shall certainly be sent to those regions. He, verily, is the Informer, the Mighty, the Great.

The loved ones in the lands of Ba, Shin, Jadhba, Faran, Qaf, Fa, Ta, and Kha—all are mentioned in the Most Holy Court and have attained the grace of God. His blessed and exalted Word:

O people of God in all lands! Hear the call of the Wronged One. He desires to sanctify you from surmises and idle fancies, and to purify you through that which has flowed from the Supreme Pen, lest any name among all names or any thing among all things should prevent you from God, the One, the Chosen. O people of God! The followers of the Bayan have clung to matters which have ever been and shall ever be rejected in the sight of God. Should anyone today meditate upon the blessed word "He doeth whatsoever He willeth," he would find himself freed and detached from the dawning-places of idle fancies and vain imaginings. Whosoever has drunk from the hidden Kawthar of this blessed word, neither the clamor of the followers of the Furqan nor the doubts of the people of the Bayan shall prevent him from the Goal of all worlds.

Today no mention, no name, and no book shall suffice or benefit man, for all depend upon the acceptance of the Truth, exalted be His glory. The people of the Bayan are occupied with former surmises and speak with the idle fancies of the veiled ones. They have clung to that which causes heedlessness and error, though they have never understood nor do they understand the Cause. The people of God must be so firm and steadfast in the Cause that all the peoples of the world would be powerless to prevent them. This is the command of God, were they to hear, and this is the decree of God, were they to understand.

We convey greetings to all and give them the glad-tidings of God's grace. The glory from Us be upon them and upon those who have attained unto this mighty Cause. Praise be to God that all have attained the fragrances of the verses and received their portion from the ocean of bounty. This evanescent servant beseecheth the Eternal Lord that He may open wide the gates of mercy before the faces of all, that none

may be deprived of the Most Great Grace. This servant offereth greetings and glorification to each one, and prayeth for confirmation and assistance for all, that they may be set ablaze by the fire of the Most Exalted Word which hath been revealed from the Most Exalted Pen—may the spirit of all who dwell in the kingdom of creation and command be offered up in its path—and may they, in turn, set the world aflame. Verily our Lord, the All-Merciful, hath power over all things. Glory and praise and remembrance be upon you and upon those who are with you and upon them who have hearkened and responded to their Lord, the True One, the Speaker, the Answerer. And praise be unto Him, for He is the Manifest, the Resplendent, the All-Watchful, the Ever-Near.

BH00037: Praise and thanksgiving befit the people of God…

Section 1: "In the Name of our Lord, the Most…"

In the Name of our Lord, the Most Holy, the Most Great, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious

Praise and thanksgiving befit the people of God in a station where they are inwardly like a surging ocean, yet outwardly, in accordance with the wisdom they are bidden to observe, are calm and patient. They have crossed the river of names and reached the shore of the ocean of inner meanings. Detached from the world, they have turned to the horizon of the Most Great Name. The hues and stains of various parties do not prevent them from attaining the true station of repose, which is the station of supreme steadfastness. They speak for God, turn to God, and return unto God. The veils of the world have not obscured them, nor have the clouds of the nations held them back from what God hath willed.

They are the dawning-places of the reformation of the world and the manifestations of the wisdom of the Lord of Eternity. When they observe fertile soil, they deposit the seed of wisdom; when they find ears to hear, they speak. This prescribed wisdom hath ever been and shall continue to be a fortress for the friends of God. As long as the ocean surgeth, the sun shineth, and the heaven remaineth lofty and adorned, they must arise with the utmost endeavor to serve. Among the forms of service is wisdom itself, which they must impart to the friends of God, that all may be educated and become the cause of the exaltation of His Cause, rather than the clamor of the heedless and the aggressive.

Glorified art Thou, O Thou through Whose command the laws were ordained and proofs and evidences were made manifest! The servant testifieth that the tongue of Thy Will hath spoken naught but that which is a shield for Thy servants and a crown for the heads of Thy loved ones. In all that Thou hast sent down from the kingdom of Thy grace and favor, Thou hast desired naught save that which draweth them nigh unto Thee and causeth them to recognize what Thou hast willed through Thy bounty and loving-kindness. O Lord! Aid Thy servants to act according to what Thou hast commanded them in Thy Book. Then protect them from the evil of Thine enemies who have disbelieved in Thee and Thy signs and have broken Thy covenant and Thy pledge. O Lord! I beseech Thee by Thy greatest signs and the hands of Thy power in the world of creation to assist Thy chosen ones and loved ones to arise to serve Thy Cause in such wise that neither the doubts of the learned nor the allusions of the divines nor the might of princes shall hold them back. Verily, Thou art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

And further: I submit that your esteemed letter was received—a receipt that heralded the world of meeting. In truth, the letters and messages of God's loved ones emit the fragrance of reunion. Praise be to God, every letter thereof testified to your steadfastness, which today is like the elixir—precious indeed is that elixir which adorns the transient with the ornament of the eternal. And after joy, delight and gladness, proceeding to the station of the Lord of all beings, following presence before His face and complete permission, the letter was honored to be heard. His Word—exalted be His proof and mighty His utterance:

In the name of the Goal of the worlds

Strange and peculiar affairs have come to pass. The carpet of idle fancies hath been spread wider than before. At one time they speak of interpolations, at another of an island and region. Glory be to God! Until now they have not understood a single letter of the Mother Book and are unaware of the Day of God. They cling to names while calling themselves the people of God, yet He is quit of them. To this My Most Exalted Pen beareth witness in this mighty and impregnable station. The winds of self and passion have seized these heedless souls and carry them whithersoever they desire. By God! They appear like the people of old, nay worse. Today the light of true oneness hath dawned from the horizon of the world and none but the Truth is mentioned.

With the banner "Verily I am God" it hath descended from the most exalted summit, and with the standard "He doeth whatsoever He willeth" it hath appeared. By My life! Had they understood the Divine Day, they would have found all who dwell on earth as non-existent. Today no mention among mentions and no matter among matters sufficeth except this Most Great Remembrance and Mighty News. For twelve hundred years the people of old strayed from the straight path, yet deemed themselves guides to the way. But when the Sun of Manifestation shone forth from the horizon of the world, the deeds of those souls and their fruits became clear and evident—this is not hidden from any possessor of insight.

Blessed art thou, O Husayn, for having turned to the Most Sublime Horizon and drunk the choice wine of utterance from the hand of the bounty of thy Lord, the Most Merciful, and attained the greatest steadfastness in the days of God, the Lord of all beings. We beseech Him, exalted be He, to aid thee and make thee successful in exalting His Word amongst His servants, and to ordain for thee that which will draw thee nigh unto Him in all conditions. Verily, He is the Self-Sufficient, the Most Exalted. Until now the transgressors have not perceived the fragrance of God's Cause, let alone the Truth itself. With utmost deceit and guile they have arisen to mislead the people.

In truth, the eyes of the world are incapable of beholding this horizon, and the ears of the world are unworthy of hearing this utterance. Beseech the True One to raise up souls created from the element of sanctity, that they may attain unto vision and hearing, and find themselves detached and free from all else but God. The existing souls possess ears yet are deprived of hearing, have eyes yet are forbidden from seeing. "They have eyes wherewith they see not." Convey My greetings to the loved ones of God. Say: Strive to protect the servants, that perchance their words may not prevent them from the ocean of meanings, that names may not become a veil and hold them back from the Truth.

The glory shining forth from the heaven of My mercy be upon thee and upon those with thee, and upon them that have turned unto the Most Sublime Horizon and believed in God, the Single One, the All-Informed.

The waves of the ocean of utterance have appeared in such wise that were the world to possess hearing and sight to the extent of a needle's eye, all would turn from what they possess to what is with God. Yet the heedless people each day cling to some new thing and soar in some new atmosphere. The verses of God descend and pour forth like rain, and His evidences shine forth and appear from every horizon. Nevertheless, they remain occupied with ringing sounds, heedless and veiled from the Lord of all worlds. Bewilderment has reached such a state that its description is beyond the power of pen and ink. In truth, divine wrath has seized them and the recompense of their deeds has become manifest. These mentions are so that some may become aware. Repeatedly this exalted Word was heard from the tongue of the Lord of all beings—blessed and exalted be His utterance:

> "O servant present! The Supreme Pen has repeatedly made mention of the deeds of the former party and their recompense on the Day of Resurrection. The purpose is that those who have turned to God may become aware, for if they would reflect and become informed of the fruits of the deeds of the former party, they would remain firm, steadfast and unwavering in the Cause of God in such wise that the doubts of the infidels and the gestures of the transgressors would not hinder them."

Regarding what was written about the departed and elevated Muhammad-Ali, upon him be the Glory of God, the Most Glorious, and the trusts that were with him—he himself had written a letter to this servant wherein the trusts of the friends of God were mentioned in detail. Now, after your letter was presented before the Most Holy and Exalted Presence, a most mighty and sublime Tablet was revealed from the heaven of divine will specifically for Nayib-Ali, upon him be the Glory of God, and was sent. God willing, he will attain to it and become joyful with such joy that the troubles of the world will not affect him. This servant also conveys greetings to him and begs confirmation from the Truth. Likewise, a Tablet was graciously revealed specifically for Karbila'i Rida, upon him be the Glory of God, and what they sent has arrived. Not an atom of deeds has been or is hidden. The servant asks his Lord to confirm them and those who have believed in steadfastness in His love and His mighty and wondrous Cause.

After that departed one's passing, whatever was with him was brought to the Most Holy Presence, as was detailed in writing to the honored mother of that departed one, upon them both be the Glory of God. This evanescent one has, in most times, made mention of them and of the patient leaf, the mother, upon her be the Glory of God and His favors, as well as their relatives, upon them be the Glory of God. Praise be to God, they have been and are remembered before His presence. Blessed are they.

Concerning what was written about the spiritual friend, Jinab-i-Aqa Shaykh Muhammad, upon him be the Glory of God, and sending what he had requested—from that very matter his station is clear and evident. That beloved one should reflect upon the heedless souls—to what they cling and with what they occupy themselves. There are many such instances. Would that the people understood! Those souls who today consider themselves believers and assured ones have never been and are not now aware of the foundation of the Cause. However, when the effulgences of the lights of the Manifestation somewhat

shone forth, they ran out from behind the veil and say what they do not comprehend and speak of what they do not understand.

Thus have their souls made a matter seem fair to them, and they know not today. Praise be to God that beloved one has attained to the mention of Truth, the praise of Truth, and the assistance of the Cause of Truth. Concerning what was written about the honored matron Varaqatu'l-Firdaws, upon her be the Most Glorious Glory of God, and her turning toward Faran and the steadfastness and enkindlement of the loved ones of God in that land—all was presented before the Presence and attained the honor of being heard. His word, exalted be His station and sublime be His utterance:

In My Name, through which the ocean of utterance surged

This is a Book inscribed by the Pen of God, the Lord of all worlds. God hath made it the Dayspring of Guidance unto all who are in the heavens and on earth. O people of Faran! Ye were favored with the mention of your Lord, the All-Merciful, in the past and are so at this time when We are surrounded by the wolves and dogs of the earth through what the hands of the oppressors have wrought. Beware lest anything whatsoever debar you from the Lord of Names and Creator of heaven. Cast aside this day what the people possess, clinging fast to the cord of God, the Almighty, the All-Praised.

We have arisen to manifest the Cause before the faces of men in such wise that neither the clamor of the wicked, nor chains and fetters, nor the prison of Akka could deter Us. To this testifieth He with Whom is the perspicuous Book. O party of God! Beware lest the doubts of the people of the Bayan debar you even as the doubts of the people of the Furqan debarred them when the All-Merciful came with great sovereignty. The gate of heaven hath been opened and He Who was promised by the tongue of Grandeur and inscribed by the Most Exalted Pen hath come. Blessed is the soul that hath turned unto Him and attained. Woe unto them that have turned away!

They behold the waves of the ocean yet deny them. They are indeed the companions of hellfire. They have cast the Book of God behind their backs, clinging to what they possess of the promptings of Satan. Say: That which the people possess shall profit you not this day. Fear God and be not of the wrongdoers. Take ye the Book of God with His might and His power. Verily it is His Balance amidst you and His Path before your faces, if ye be of them that know. The Concourse of the Bayan have denied the heaven of grace and its stars and the Sun and its effulgence. Thus have their souls enticed them and they are today among the most lost in the Book of God, the True Sovereign, the Just, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

O Concourse of the Bayan! Be fair in the Cause of the All-Merciful and weigh what ye possess against but one verse from the verses of God, the Lord of all worlds. There hath appeared what hath never appeared in creation. To this testifieth every fair-minded, clear-sighted one. They who have been given insight from God have heard and said:

> "Praise be unto Thee, O Thou the Goal of the world, for having manifested Thyself among the peoples, and glory be unto Thee, O Thou the Beloved of them that know."

He whom We reared with the hands of grace and preserved beneath the wing of justice hath risen in opposition and drawn against My face the sword of hatred, having been led astray by one of the wicked

ones. When God revealed what was hidden in their breasts, they arose and cried out whereat the denizens of the all-highest Paradise and they that circle round the mighty Throne lamented. They have made calumnies their shield. Say: By God! Nothing shall profit you save this Name at Whose appearance the people of the cities of vain imaginings have wailed, and every mighty idol hath fallen upon its face.

O party of God! Recite ye the verses of God. They will guide you to the straight path of God. We have sent down the verses and manifested the evidences and made clear the way, yet most of the people are heedless. They worship idols and know not; they follow vain imaginings and perceive not. Say: Be fair, O Concourse of the Bayan, regarding this Cause through which all things have proclaimed: "The Kingdom belongeth unto God, the Sovereign Protector, the Self-Subsisting!" If ye deny the kingdom of the Bayan, by what proof can ye establish what ye possess? Bring it forth! By God! What ye possess cannot equal one word from Us. To this testifieth He Who opened through His name the gate of knowledge and unsealed through His command the Choice Wine.

Whoso denieth this Cause, the world and all that is therein laugh at him, did they but perceive it. O party of God in Faran! We counsel you with that which shall exalt the Cause of God, the Lord of all that hath been and all that shall be, and with the preservation of the pearls of your love from every rejected thief. This is the Day of Uprightness, and this is the Day wherein every hidden secret and every treasured matter hath been made manifest. Thus hath the Most Exalted Pen revealed its mysteries, and the Ocean its waves. Blessed are the people who recognize the glory that shineth forth from the horizon of the heaven of My bounty upon you and upon those who have renounced the world, turning unto God, the Sovereign of the Kingdom and of earth and heaven. End.

Section 2: "All atoms stand bewildered at mankind's lack…"

All atoms stand bewildered at mankind's lack of awareness. The shrill voice of the Most Exalted Pen is raised during the nights and days, and the Sun of Utterance is shining and manifest from the highest horizon of possibility. This is that Call which the Beloved heard during His ascension and Moses heard on Sinai and by which he was made to prosper. It is not known with what the heedless souls are occupied and to what they cling and in what they rejoice. By the life of our Lord and your Lord! Were anyone to observe with the eye of fairness, he would behold himself immersed in an ocean of wonderment. There hath flowed from the Most Exalted Pen that which those who would enumerate are powerless to reckon and those who would record are impotent to write.

Despite this, they have uttered that which no people have ever uttered and committed that which no soul hath ever committed. I beseech God to set ablaze the people of Faran and those drawn to Him with such a fire that the people of that land shall be enkindled thereby and no opportunity for objection shall remain for the opposers. Should anyone reflect upon this most great Revelation, he would observe this Cause to transcend the world and all therein. He would become detached from mere words and turn toward the ocean of meanings. Verily, He speaketh the truth and guideth the way.

O people of this village! Ye have hearkened unto the melody of the Supreme Pen and beheld the surging waves of the ocean of the utterance of the All-Merciful. Every possessor of spiritual sense hath inhaled the fragrance of His Revelation, and every possessor of sight hath turned towards the supreme horizon.

Yet certain deluded ones among the people of the Bayan have risen in opposition, turning away from the ocean of divine utterance and advancing towards a mere pond. Like scattered locusts they strive and labor to lead souls astray. They walk in the footsteps of the former parties, though they witness with their own eyes the loss that hath befallen those parties. Fie upon them and their sense of justice!

All the divines of Persia, each of whom regarded himself as the heaven of knowledge, the mountain of piety, and the sun of faith, and considered his religion the most exalted among the religions of the world—all of them in the early years engaged in cursing and reviling the Object of the world's adoration, and ultimately issued the decree for His death from their idolatrous souls and pens. Even now they have not desisted. Day and night they occupy themselves with hatred towards Him Who created them. One wondereth from what element these essences of hatred have been created. The curse of God be upon the wrongdoing people!

By My life! My Pen weepeth both night and day over Him against Whom they pronounced their verdict without any clear proof or Book. Now the people of the Bayan too are occupied with the same delusions. The Supreme Pen hath repeatedly made mention of these matters and given utterance thereto, that perchance the people might become mindful and discover that which is hidden from their eyes. For were they to become aware of the deeds of the former party and the fruits thereof, they would regard those who turn aside as non-existent and as nothing. We beseech God, exalted be He, to assist His loved ones and to acquaint them with that which will draw them nigh unto Him. Verily, He is the Hearer, the Answerer.

We send greetings to each of the people of this village. The names of the sincere ones and the steadfast ones have been recorded and inscribed by the Supreme Pen. Blessed is he who hath attained unto My remembrance, who hath held fast unto My cord, and who hath clung to the hem of My luminous robe. From this station We greet their faces and give them the glad-tidings of My grace, My mercy and My loving-kindness, which have preceded all things. And I am verily the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous.

We make mention of him who is named Muhammad-Husayn, who hath been mentioned in the Book of him who turned to My horizon, who voiced My praise and who arose to serve My Cause, the Firm, the Impregnable. O Muhammad-Husayn! We have mentioned thee time and again as a token of grace from Us, that the verses might attract thee to a station wherein the affairs of the world will not sadden thee, nor will the doubts of the divines hold thee back from the Lord of all beings, Who hath come from the Dayspring of might with the standards of guidance and success. Blessed is he who hath heard and recognized. Woe unto them that deny!

By God's life! Whoso heareth My verses with the ear of his true nature, they will surely draw him nigh unto God, the One, the Peerless, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. Behold, then remember when the Point came and said that should anyone come with a verse, ye should not deny him nor object to him. Yet the people of the Bayan objected to Him Who came with the kingdom of verses. Thus did the affairs of the world delude them until they disbelieved in God, the Exalted, the Great. He had decreed in the Book the sanctification of My Self from whatsoever was revealed in the Bayan—to this testifieth he who hath a perspicuous Book. Vain imaginings have withheld them from the Lord of all days, and idle fancies have debarred them from God, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting.

Thus have We revealed the verses and sent them unto thee, that they might attract thee to the praiseworthy station. When thou hearest My call and attainest unto My verses, say:

> "My God, my God! Should I be prevented from standing before the gate of Thy grace and from attaining unto Thy presence, ordain for me through Thy Most Exalted Pen the reward of meeting Thee. Thou, verily, hast power to do what Thou pleasest. There is none other God but Thee, the Truth, the Knower of things unseen."

The All-Glorious remembers him who hath been named with My Name, and announceth unto him My loving-kindness and My mercy which have preceded all created things. O Baha, the All-Glorious remembereth thee from the Prison of ʿAkka, through which every Messenger was sent and every Book was revealed. He hath spoken: There is none other God but Me, the Mighty, the All-Loving. Through Him was made manifest that which lay hidden in the knowledge of God, and the Truth came with manifest sovereignty. But for Him, no verses would have been revealed, nor any signs appeared, yet the people understand not. We have heard thy cry when thou didst read the Book of God, the Lord of all that was and shall be.

Recite that which hath been sent down from My Most Exalted Pen at eventide and at dawn. We counsel thee and those who have believed to observe wisdom and utterance, even as We counseled Our servants aforetime. To this testify honored servants. Say: O people of the Bayan! The River of Life hath flowed from the Pen of the All-Merciful. Fear ye God, O people, and be not of those who denied when the Intended One came with manifest sovereignty. Say: Die in your wrath! The Resurrection is come, the Hour hath appeared, the Bridge hath been laid, the mountains have passed away, and those in the graves have been raised. By God! The ocean of utterance hath surged, yet the people understand not; and the fragrance of the All-Merciful hath wafted, yet the people perceive it not. Thus hath spoken My Most Exalted Pen when the Wronged One was in the hands of every oppressor who denied the Witness and the Witnessed.

O Land of Ba! Hearken to the call of thy Lord, the Most Glorious, from the right hand of the Luminous Spot. Verily, there is none other God but Him, the Mighty, the Bestower. He Who was mentioned in the Book of God, the Lord of Lords, hath been made manifest. O people of God! I complain unto you concerning what hath befallen Me at the hands of a band of wolves who have violated God's Covenant and His Testament, and have disbelieved in Him in Whom they had believed throughout ages and centuries. Beware lest the doubts of the people of the Bayan prevent you from your Lord, the All-Merciful. Leave them to their vain imaginings and turn ye towards the Dayspring of Light.

They were concealed behind veils, and when the waves of hatred subsided and the light shone forth according to a fixed measure, they emerged therefrom and perpetrated that which caused the eye of grandeur to weep in the most exalted station. Blessed are ye and blessed is he who hath quaffed the wine of steadfastness from the hands of bounty and favor. He is indeed of the people of Baha in the Book of God, the Revealer of verses. O people of the cities! Your Lord, the Lord of the Throne, maketh mention of you. Turn with radiant faces and illumined hearts unto God, the Lord of all return. We have made mention of every servant who hath turned towards the prison, and of every maidservant who hath believed in the Mighty, the Bestower.

O people of God! Beware lest the intimations of the misguided keep you back from your Lord, the Self-Sufficient, the Most High. He who hath recognized Me seeth himself stronger than all who dwell on earth. Thus hath the Most Exalted Pen spoken when the Wronged One was in such grief as no eye in all creation had ever witnessed. End.

His is the praise and the favor, and His is the loving-kindness and compassion. The Sun of bounty hath risen with such splendor that none hath the power to describe it. Wondrous and sublime verses have been revealed specifically for the mentioned names—from each letter thereof the fragrance of grace and bounty is wafted. This evanescent servant beseecheth the eternal Truth to confirm all to recognize that which is today manifest, evident and resplendent. For were they to attain unto a drop from the ocean of divine utterance, all would behold themselves independent of all else. Their vain imaginings shall not hold them back, nor shall names prevent them. Those who were and are incapable of speech have risen up with all manner of deceit and guile to mislead the people. They have uttered that which no ignorant one hath ever uttered. The chief of the barking ones hath appeared from the land of Kaf and Ra, and in his delusion imagineth that he is helping the Cause, just as the Shi'ih sect was occupied with such vain fancies and ultimately committed that which no oppressor had ever perpetrated since the beginning of creation. The curse of God be upon the wrongdoing people.

O thou who gazest upon the Countenance! The Afnan, upon him be My glory, hath from the beginning of the Cause until now stood firm in service to the Truth and His loved ones, and remained constant in His remembrance. He hath borne witness to that which God hath witnessed, acknowledged that which God hath acknowledged, and uttered that which the Tongue of Grandeur hath spoken. Blessed is he, then blessed is he! Praise be to God, all have turned to the waters of mercy and drunk from the chalice of grace. We have made mention of them in numerous Tablets—a mention that causeth the ears of creation to incline towards the Word of God. We have favored some above others, and We are the All-Powerful, the Unconstrained. We send Our greetings upon them and upon Our loved ones whom the buzzing of flies hath not kept back from God, the Lord of all worlds. Blessed are they and theirs shall be a goodly retreat.

He hath said: Whenever a Tablet is to be sent to the Afnan himself, We shall make mention of that which they have requested. In truth, steadfast souls have been created for the service of the Cause of God. Naught shall remain for them save what they have wrought in the path of God, our Lord and their Lord and the Lord of all who are in the heavens and on earth.

At this time and at this hour, these decisive verses specially intended for the people of rapture were revealed from the heaven of the Will of the Creator of all things. His word, exalted be His mention and mighty His utterance:

He is the Hearer, the Answerer

O people of rapture! The Lord of Names maketh mention of you in that which draweth you nigh unto God, the Cleaver of the Dawn. We have made mention of you time and again, and have sent unto you that which caused bodies to take flight, and We make mention of you yet again at this time, and We remind you of the signs of God, the Lord of lords. Hearken unto the call from the direction of bounty and

bestowal, before the faces of all humanity, from the Lote-Tree beyond which there is no passing. Verily, there is none other God but He, the Mighty, the All-Bestowing. The Spirit of Life hath been breathed into you and the breezes of the All-Merciful have wafted over you. He is the Mighty, the All-Bountiful. The clamor hath been raised—this is what We foretold you aforetime in the Book of God, the Lord of the Final End. We have been hearing what hath been raised there, for He is the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing. Beware lest the doubts of the world hold you back from the Lord of Eternity, or the objections of the learned keep you from Him Who hath come with power and sovereignty.

O party of God! This is spoken in the Persian tongue that ye may comprehend the purpose and remain firm and steadfast in the Cause of God. The objectors of the Bayan are like those souls who, in the early days of Islam, constructed through the instruments of idle fancies and vain imaginings that which caused the ruin of the world. O party of God! Consider all matters with penetrating vision and reflect: what were the fruits of the deeds of the Shi'ihs during twelve hundred years on the Day of Reckoning and what became of them? They raised their cry from pulpits and mosques and, in their own estimation, summoned mankind unto truth, while the various sects among that party pronounced each other infidels, each faction counting itself the defender of the resplendent Law. By the life of God! Thereby was the standard "there is none other God but Him" reversed, the Word was divided, the Lote-Tree lamented, and even now the Wronged One heareth its sighs and moans by reason of what hath befallen His own Self after We had assisted the Cause in days wherein souls were perturbed and eyes were dimmed. We stood before the faces of men and summoned all unto God, without veil or covering.

Section 3: "We beseech God to aid all to be…"

We beseech God to aid all to be just and fair and to assist the Cause, that perchance the idle fancies of the past may not be renewed and people may be freed from the chains of vain imaginings and may regard all save God as utter nothingness. Should the true station of Divine Unity be revealed from the Supreme Pen as it should be, all would become aware of that which they have hitherto been heedless. Verily, He speaketh the truth and guideth the servants to the path of guidance.

Through the might of princes and the oppression of divines, all remained veiled behind a covering, and when the horizon became somewhat illumined with the light of security and the fire of hatred somewhat abated, they rushed forth to the outlying regions and uttered that which caused the denizens of the highest Paradise and the companions of the sacred precincts to lament. This party too hath determined to occupy the helpless people for another thousand and two hundred years with the vain imaginings of deluded souls, and in the end to reap the fruits of the deeds of the former party. By My life! This party hath proved more base than all other parties.

The people of God must strive and promote the Cause of the All-Merciful through wisdom and utterance. Great is this Day! Blessed are they that have attained, and blessed are they that are firmly established. From this spot We send Our greetings upon your faces and counsel you with that which will exalt you and profit you in all the worlds of your Lord, the Almighty, the All-Powerful. Praise be to God, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

This evanescent servant conveys his greetings to each of the friends of God and implores the Exalted Truth to grant confirmation and success to all, that perchance these helpless people may not again fall prey to the claws of vain imaginings. They have denied Him Whose station is equal to all the books before and after, which were sent down from the heaven of His bounty, and they have clung to that which was and is unworthy of mention. By the life of our Lord! The barking ones are unaware. What is astonishing is that Ahmad ibn Ja'far was among the followers of Karim Khan, and Karim Khan wrote a book every year refuting the Bab, yet when he entered this Cause, on that very day he fell into the desire for leadership and became occupied with misleading the helpless people.

Soon that which is hidden within him shall be revealed. All are witnesses and testify that the Truth alone, unveiled and unobscured, hath been established from the beginning of the Cause, and He hath summoned all the peoples of the world, both kings and subjects, to embrace it. Neither might nor clamor, neither guns nor cannons, neither ranks nor multitudes could prevent Him. Every fair-minded person beareth witness to what hath been mentioned. In brief, all these matters have previously flowed from the Most Exalted Pen. Blessed is the soul whom the breathing of the idolators and the objections of the antagonists have not kept back from the Lord of the Day of Judgment.

Regarding what was mentioned about his cousin, upon him be the Glory of God, one page was revealed from the Most Exalted Pen and adorned in the handwriting of the Most Great Branch—may my spirit and being be offered up for the dust of His footsteps—specifically for him. God willing, they will deliver it to him and he will attain unto it. This evanescent one beseecheth the Exalted Truth to not deprive him of the Kawthar of utterance, to illumine him with the lights of the Sun of certitude, and to preserve him from the darkness of idle fancies and vain imaginings. Verily, He hath power over all things.

And regarding what was mentioned about the spiritual matron, upon her be the Most Glorious Glory of God, her mention hath ever been and continueth to be in the Most Holy Court. One Most Holy, Most Exalted Tablet was also revealed and sent specifically for her. God willing, she will attain unto it and will cause all the handmaidens to be set ablaze with the fire of the Divine Lote-Tree of utterance. In truth, from the beginning of the Cause, in days when all the heroes and men of the earth were hidden due to fear and awe of the divines, that leaf, upon her be the Glory of God and His favors, stood firm in the Cause and was engaged in praise and remembrance. Well is it with her and pleasant is it unto her. In the early days she heard from the Tongue of Grandeur "O My handmaiden and My leaf." The passage of Abdullah Ansari was previously before the eyes of that beloved one; from this, to some extent, this station becometh known. Blessed is he who hath attained thereunto. Most matters remain concealed. God will soon reveal what He willeth. Verily, He is the Expositor, the All-Knowing, and He is the Powerful, the All-Wise.

O handmaid of God! The Object of all horizons is seen beneath the talons of hatred, yet in this hour He makes mention of thee. No thing among all things, and no matter among all matters, hath prevented Him from the remembrance of God, exalted be His glory. We have spoken that which We were to speak. Now pray thou and beseech God that His servants and handmaidens may be preserved from the dawning-places of idle fancies and may hold fast to His straight path and His firm cord with such firmness that the peoples of the world shall not prevent them. Convey the greetings of the Wronged One to the

handmaidens of that land and give them the glad tidings of the splendors of the Sun of favor. Verily, He is the All-Bountiful, the Generous. Praise be to God, the Powerful, the Forgiving, the Mighty, the Great.

And as to the mention thou didst make of Jinab Jamal—upon him be the glory of God—after it was laid before Him Who is seated upon the throne of the Lord, these resplendent verses shone forth from the Dayspring of utterance. His Word—blessed and exalted be He:

O Jamal! Upon thee be My glory! Today the possessors of beauty, perfection, justice and fairness are those souls who have drunk from the ocean of knowledge and been illumined by the rays of the Sun of inner meanings. Should a soul subjugate the whole world and possess all sciences and arts, yet before God he was not and is not mentioned, and in the sight of them that are established upon the thrones of divine knowledge and wisdom, he is as one non-existent and forgotten. But if his sight is illumined by the light of divine vision and knowledge, and he hath drunk from the Kawthar of certitude, he possesseth all things, even though he be unable to read a single word.

Blessed are the manifestations of the knowledge of God, exalted be His glory—those souls who soar on the wings of knowledge in this luminous atmosphere. We beseech God to preserve all and deprive them not of this true journey and spiritual wayfaring. Today the wings of most are prevented from flight by the clay of vain imaginings, and the veil of heedlessness hath deprived their eyes from beholding the Most Exalted Horizon. Blessed is he who hath mentioned thee and thee, and those who have held fast to this firm cord and this mighty announcement. Blessed is thy father who, at the time of his ascension, was welcomed by the Concourse on High, who found from him the fragrance of the love of God, the Self-Subsisting, the All-Compelling.

His is the grace and the bounty. All who are related unto that well-beloved one have been remembered; the gaze of His loving-kindness hath been, and continueth to be, directed towards them. Verily our Lord, the All-Merciful, is the All-Seeing; He is the Most Bountiful, the Ever-Giving, the Munificent, the All-Generous.

And this is that which hath been revealed for the leaf that hath been named Nuriyyih—upon her be the loving-kindness of God. His Word—blessed and exalted be He:

According to what was mentioned, Shaykh Muhammad Hasan Najafi wrote two cycles of divine ordinances, yet he attained not unto the Tree of his heart's desire and remained deprived of the rustling of the Divine Lote-Tree and the fruits of all his knowledge and deeds. And Shaykh Murtada, although to some degree he gazed toward the Most Exalted Horizon and traces of love's light were manifest in him, yet he succeeded not in attaining true knowledge. The labors of seventy years were scattered to the winds, and likewise all the other divines of the cities and regions of Iran were deprived. But thou, through the grace of God, exalted be His glory, hast drunk from the cup of divine love and partaken of the ocean of knowledge. By the life of God! Were this station to be revealed and made manifest, the tongues of all the peoples of the world would speak forth "Blessed be God, the Lord of all worlds!" Give thanks unto thy Lord for this mighty favor and this manifest grace.

And this is what was revealed for the son, upon him be the glory of God, exalted be His proof and mighty His utterance: O My friend! The True Friend hath turned towards thee, and this is that friendship whereof

He saith “Your friend is God alone” unto the end of the verse. This is that friendship for which there hath been and shall be no peer or likeness. It is specially reserved for God, exalted be His glory, even as the Most Great Infallibility hath ever been and shall ever be specially reserved for God—exalted be His station and His Manifestation—Who hath not accepted and will never accept any partner therein. This is one of the hidden mysteries which in this Revelation hath streamed forth from the Most Exalted Pen.

Well is it with them that comprehend! Give thanks unto God for that the Lord of all being hath turned towards thee and made mention of thee in such wise as to solace the eyes of them that are nigh unto Him. All praise be to God, the Lord of all worlds. We make mention of thy mother and thy sister, as a command from Our presence, and I am verily the Omnipotent Commander. We beseech God to assist you and strengthen you to remember and praise Him, to hold fast unto His cord and cling to His resplendent hem. Ye have ever been and continue to be remembered, as testified by My tongue, My pen, and My loving-kindness whose fragrance hath been diffused through that which hath been sent down from the kingdom of Mine utterance, the Mighty, the Inaccessible.

This evanescent servant conveyeth greetings, salutations and praise to each one, and seeketh for them whatsoever is worthy of the grace and bounty of God, exalted be His glory. Whenever the Sun of loving-kindness shineth upon His friends, or the ocean of grace manifesteth its waves, the spirit of this evanescent one is renewed as though he had quaffed from the ocean of grace and been showered by the rain of mercy. Such joy doth encompass him that its mention would transform the sorrow of the world. His is the praise in all conditions, His the bounty in all conditions, His the generosity in all conditions. Glory be unto God! Man is bewildered, nay all things seen and unseen are bewildered by these people who are as dead in these days when the fire of Manifestation is ablaze, the lamp of loving-kindness is manifest, and the water of life floweth from the Pen that revealeth the verses.

All are withered, dead, non-existent and lost. By the life of our Lord and your Lord! This is naught but the recompense of their vile deeds. The Day of Reckoning hath come: that which was hidden hath become manifest, and that which was concealed hath been revealed. The decree belongeth unto our Lord, and all authority is in His grasp, and the reins of all things are in His right hand. The servant testifieth that there is none other God but Him, the Omnipotent, the Single, the One, the Mighty, the All-Wise.

Mention was made of the sister. After she gained the honor of hearkening, this most exalted and blessed Word was revealed. His word, blessed and exalted is He: O thou who gazest upon the Face! We have heard her call and have answered her with these verses. We beseech God, her Lord, to assist her with His remembrance and praise, to strengthen her in that which beseemeth His days, to draw her nigh unto Him, and to ordain for her from the Supreme Pen that which shall profit her. Verily, He is powerful over all things. Convey My glad-tidings unto her and glorify her countenance, and I am verily the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous.

Glory be unto God! The spiritual realm hath been disturbed by the whisperings of devils, the insinuations of the infidels, and the schemes of the transgressors.

In these days the beloved of hearts, His Holiness Haydar-ʿAli, upon him be the Most Glorious Glory of God, hath sent a copy of a letter which Ibn-i-Ja’far-i-Kirmani gave to Aqa Muhammad Big, upon him be

the glory and loving-kindness of God, in Sensen. At its head the Most Great Name is mentioned, followed by one of the most exalted Words. Here then is the exact copy of the letter, without any change or alteration:

He is God, the Glorious, the All-Glorious

The Most Exalted Pen proclaims: The loved ones of Our sanctified Countenance, who in their longing for the Beloved and the revered Temple of Truth have turned their days into nights and their nights into days, are now mentioned before the Throne, that they may rejoice and be glad with this most exalted honor, this most radiant joy, and this most glorious delight in the highest and lowest kingdoms. O thou Named Nabil! Give thanks unto God, thy Lord, then thank the Most High God at morn and eventide, and be thou steadfast in the Cause of God. Remember thy branches and leaves with words of glorification, mention the awestruck lovers before the Countenance of the Divine Unity, and being established in the mysteries of glory and certitude upon your most exalted paths, may ye be remembered in the highest and lowest dominions of might. And glorification be from God.

Reflect upon the deception and fraud of the souls of the ungodly. First they write using the Most Great Name so that the recipient might be attracted, and through this stratagem they might tame him and instill that which leads to eternal misguidance. Now one must reflect upon the ocean of deception—they have mixed the words of truth with the whisperings of satan, for though it begins with the Most Great Name—this is from the Truth, says the Most Exalted Pen, and this is what the Truth has spoken, and likewise before the Throne—the rest is attributed to the rebellious one. In any case, say: O party of God! These souls are seen to be exactly like those souls who in early Islam became the cause of error and misguidance.

They would run from city to city, making mention of an imaginary Qa'im and recounting miracles, until at last all were wandering for twelve hundred years in the wilderness of error due to the vain imaginings of those souls. These souls too, by the life of our Lord and your Lord, will never attain to the light of faith. They strive and struggle that perchance they might acquire authority like the authorities of the past, and this party has been seen to be the most abased of all parties. May the True One, exalted be His glory, protect His party. Verily, He has power over all things.

Section 4: "As to what was previously written regarding…"

As to what was previously written regarding the arrival of divine Tablets wherein the command of dissimulation [taqiyyih] was revealed—this is true. After the martyrdom of His Holiness Badi'—upon him be the Most Glorious Beauty of God—who appeared and shone forth from the horizon of power, the command of wisdom [hikmat] was revealed, such that most Tablets were adorned with this command. And after the martyrdom of His Holiness Ali from the land of Mim—upon him be all the most glorious Beauty—the command of non-confession [adam-i-iqrar] was issued. Glory be to God! Those oppressive, heedless souls wished to utter words contrary to truth, yet they [the martyrs] refused and sacrificed their lives with the utmost joy and fragrance. At the time of the revelation of the second command, the Tongue of Grandeur would utter words that would melt the hearts and dissolve stones. At one point He said: The Supreme Pen lamenteth and declareth: "Conceal what ye possess." The oppression of the

oppressors and the heedlessness of the heedless have reached such a state that the Supreme Pen spoke the words of one of the former Letters: “Dissimulation is my religion” et cetera. The purpose was to preserve sacred souls.

Consider how many souls sacrificed their lives without concealment, veil or dissimulation. In no age or Dispensation have such examples appeared. They considered the martyrdom of the Prince of Martyrs—upon him be all the most glorious Beauty—to be the cause of the exaltation and elevation of the religion of the Messenger of God—may the spirit of all else be sacrificed for Him. How many sacrificial lambs in this Dispensation hastened to the place of sacrifice with joy and fragrance and did not return alive. Nevertheless, all remain heedless and veiled. The son of Ja’far counted the Beloved of Martyrs, His Honor Aqa Siyyid Isma’il of Zavarih—upon him be the Most Glorious Beauty of God—who sacrificed himself by his own hand in Iraq, as one of his own, even though he had never seen aught but truth. The details about that beloved one have been mentioned in some letters, and in the Kitab-i-Badi’ his mention hath been revealed from the Supreme Pen in such wise that none but truth can comprehend it. They have said the people of Baha killed him. It would be most fitting to ask him:

> “You were among the dead followers of Karim Khan in those days, and when you claimed to have entered this Cause you were behind a veil. From where do you derive these reports?”

In brief, by the life of Our purpose and your purpose, from the beginning of the world until now, no liars like these souls have ever been seen or heard. To this every fair-minded and insightful one beareth witness.

Concerning what was written about fasting, the divine ordinances have not changed—the Kitab-i-Aqdas exists. In this land, the friends with utmost boldness abandoned the Ramadan fast, to such an extent that the entire population became aware of it, and there was fear that the wicked would suddenly rise up. Therefore, a special Tablet was revealed from the heaven of the Lord of Lords’ will, addressed to one of the friends, commanding that in this land they should observe the Ramadan fast. This ruling is specific to this land. However, the decree of wisdom has ever been revealed and all must hold fast to it and cling to it. These recent matters have been the cause of the oppression of oppressors and the transgressions of transgressors.

The Sunnis will soon turn to the Cause, as they do not harbor previous delusions and say the Promised One must be born, as some have already turned. However, before entering the ocean of faith they are very fanatical, as they definitely consider the Persians to be infidels. In any case, we beseech and hope that the Truth may guide all. Their entry into this ocean also carried risk of corruption, for after entering they would become so enkindled that concealment would be lost. Therefore, teaching in this land and its surroundings has been forbidden. However, the friends of Truth in those lands must be mindful of wisdom and engage in teaching with utmost effort. Blessings be upon those who hear the Word and act according to what is commanded in the Book of God, Lord of the worlds.

Regarding what was written about the details of the Most Great Festival and acting according to wisdom’s requirements, after being presented, He—exalted be He—spoke:

> "Excellent is what you have done in the path of God, Lord of the worlds. We have heard your mention and what issued from your lips in praise of your Lord, and We have accepted what you have done purely for the sake of God, the Mighty, the Great. We beseech Him, exalted be He, to draw you near to Him in all conditions. Verily, He is the Protector of those drawn near. Praise be to God, Lord of the worlds."

As for the days of the Most Great Festival, the afternoon of the thirty-second day after Naw-Ruz is the first day of the Festival, and the afternoon of the forty-third is its end, making twelve days. The first and last days are reckoned as two days with God. Would that this servant could find opportunity to mention to you the mysteries of these days and what God's Books, both past and future, have uttered concerning them. Praise be to God that those beloved ones are assisted in remembrance, praise and service to the Cause. On the thirty-second day which is the first day of the Festival, as well as the ninth day and the forty-third day which is the final day, work and occupation are forbidden. All must engage in associating with friends in a spirit of joy and fellowship and in establishing love in hearts.

Mention was made of His Honor Aqa Mirza ʿAli, upon him be the Glory of God. After being presented before the Divine Presence, the Supreme Pen spoke that which caused the realities of all things to be attracted. He—exalted be He—spoke:

In My Name, the Wronged One, the Imprisoned

O Ali! By God, the Path calls out, yet the people hear not. The Balance summons all within the realm of possibility, yet they understand not. The Hour has come with its tokens, and the Resurrection with its mysteries, yet the people know not. All who dwell in earth and heaven were thunderstruck when the shrill voice of My Most Exalted Pen was raised, yet most of the people perceive not. Their desires have prevented them from turning to God, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting. They worship idols by night and day, save those whom God, the Lord of what was and what shall be, has strengthened. Thus have We sent down the verses and revealed what was hidden in God's knowledge, the Possessor of the Unseen and the Seen. Your mention hath been made before the Wronged One, and this irrevocable Book hath been sent down unto thee that thou mayest read it and thank thy Lord, the Protector, the Mighty, the Loving. Hold fast to the cord of steadfastness and speak forth in praise of God, the Lord of creation. Glory be upon the people of Baha who have not been kept back by desire from the Lord of all mankind—verily they are among the people of this praiseworthy station.

The mention of Haji Muhammad-Rida, upon him be the Glory of God, hath repeatedly flowed from the Most Exalted Pen, and a Tablet hath been specifically sent to him. God willing, may he be adorned with steadfastness and illumined with the light of certitude. The mention of the nephews, and likewise the Fast of the Luminous Leaf, and the mention of Qurratu'l-ʿAyn Mir-Vali, upon them be the Glory of God—all were presented at the Most Holy and Exalted Court, and were honored with acceptance, each being distinguished by God's wondrous and glorious favors. Blessed are they and joy be unto them.

Thy other letter, which was truly a garden adorned with the roses of spirit and sweet basil, and the anemones of realities and flowers of knowledge, was indeed a delightful sight to behold and a wondrous fragrance for the spiritual sense to perceive. After its reading, recitation, observation and review, it

ascended on the wings of attention to the Station until it was presented before the face of the Lord of all mankind. After it gained the honor of being heard, these exalted words descended from the heaven of the favors of the Lord of Names and Attributes. His word, exalted be His majesty and abundant be His favors:

O thou who gazeth upon the Face! There hath come upon Us what hath come upon no other among the servants. The learned sit while Truth standeth; the learned are silent while Truth speaketh; the learned sleep while Truth is awake; the learned fear while Truth is serene; the learned waver while Truth is steadfast. In the days when the idolatrous souls among the people of the Bayan were occupied with play behind the veil, this Wronged One was calling out before all faces with the most exalted call—a call that all in the world, both rulers and ruled, heard, except for certain minor kings whose mention hath not specifically flowed from the Most Exalted Pen. In those days, neither speaker was visible nor anyone standing forth. Now one like Ja'far hath come forth to make display. By God's life, they are in manifest error. We beseech God to assist His servants unto justice and fairness, and to enable them to hearken unto His call which hath been raised between earth and heaven. Verily, He is powerful over all things. The glory from Us be upon thee and upon My friends and loved ones who have not been kept back by the veils of the world from turning unto God, the Lord of the worlds.

And concerning what the aforementioned Ja'far hath mentioned about alteration—for some time the deniers of the Bayan have been speaking this word, saying the Bayan has been altered and the true Bayan is not available. Their purpose is to occupy people with former vain imaginings. Lo! The curse of God be upon those who imagine vainly, the infidels, and the transgressors.

In reference to the mention of Haji Muhammad-Ali, upon him be the glory of God, we continually beseech the Most High, exalted be His glory, for his success. I am writing and sending a reply to his letter which, God willing, will reach him. And likewise regarding the mention of Karbila'i Abbas-ʿAli, upon him be the glory of God, after presentation before the Divine Presence, these sublime words were revealed, He says, glorified be His majesty:

> "O Abbas-Ali! Vain imaginings have deprived the world from the Lord of all beings, for even the blessed word There is no God but God', which is the word of unity, has until now remained veiled. Indeed, great is this Cause—in the Qur'an it was referred to as the Great Announcement'. Most great it is, yet should a soul become illumined with the light of unity, he would see all else but God as non-existent and count it as nothingness, and would regard himself as transcending all the peoples of the world. Names would no longer hold him back from reality and meaning. The ranks and multitudes of nations and the might of the world would not prevent the men of this field from turning towards Him, and the diverse winds would not move the trees of this garden. We beseech God to give His friends to drink from this cup. By the life of God, the oceans of the world are as a drop before Him, now and forever. Blessed are they that attain, and blessed are they that know."

Praise be to God, the rays of the Sun of divine favor have encompassed the world. Blessed are those souls who have recognized the value of God's days and become illumined by its lights.

Regarding what was written about the property, that it should be transferred to whomever is commanded, after presentation in the Most Holy Court, this exalted word shone forth from the highest horizon, blessed and exalted be He: “We have accepted what thou didst intend in the path of God, the Lord of the worlds.” Indeed, that honored one has been and is successful. We have accepted what he intended and entrusted it to him. As a mention from Us: “Thou hast fulfilled God’s covenant and His pledge, and hast been steadfast in serving His mighty and great Cause.”

That beloved one has, praise be to God, been successful in turning towards God, serving, and fulfilling rights both past and present, and has likewise been honored with acceptance. His is the praise in all conditions, His is the favor in all conditions, and His is the grace in all conditions.

Regarding what was written about sending leaves, what was sent has arrived, and most of what clothes the blessed body is also leaves. The servant asks his Lord to send down upon His loved ones from the heaven of His gifts that which will illumine hearts and minds in His mighty and beloved Day, and I ask Him to draw them near to Him in all conditions. Verily, He has power over all things.

This evanescent one conveys greetings and glorification to each of the friends of God, and beseeches God to assist all to be steadfast in service and in His remembrance and praise. He is the Hearer, the All-Seeing. There is no God but Him, the Most High, the Most Glorious.

Peace, praise, glory and splendor be upon you, upon those with you, and upon those who have attained unto the Most Great Steadfastness in this manifest Cause. Praise be to God, the Lord of Names, Creator of the heavens, and Lord of this wondrous Day.

The servant 23rd of Rajab 1303

The divine friends in Faran have sought permission to come. Permission is granted and favor is manifest. Convey to them the glad tidings of permission. Another point is that whoever in those regions becomes enabled to pay the Huqúqu’llah, it should be given to the honored Leaf of Paradise, upon her be the Most Glorious Glory of God, and if anything remains afterward, it should be sent.

Six exalted and sublime Tablets were sent; following their perusal, deliver them.

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BH10050: O My handmaiden! I have heard thy cry…

He is the Hearer, the Answerer

O My handmaiden! I have heard thy cry and thy lamentation in the love of God, the Lord of the worlds. Thy letter hath come and the servant in attendance hath read it at the beginning of the night of Ridvan, and hath attained to the hearing of thy Lord, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. Blessed is the handmaiden who hath attained unto the Most Great Sea, and woe unto the queen who hath turned away from God, the Lord of all worlds. How many queens awaited the days of God, but when they appeared, turned away, following the dawning-places of idle fancies who turned away from the Face by following

every heedless doubter. And how many a handmaiden, when she heard the Call, hastened and said: "Here am I, O Thou Goal of the mystics!"

BH00776: Praise and glory befit that intended Lord Who illumined…

He is God, exalted be His station, the Glory and the Power!

Praise and glory befit that intended Lord Who illumined the world with the lights of His Most Great Name, Who guided with a single call and taught the way, Who bestowed upon the realm of dust distinction above the heavens. That call in every age is made manifest through a revelation and an effulgent light. He is the Living Waters for the thirsty and He is the True Spirit for the dead. The source of the attributes of the world hath been through Him and unto Him do they return. Yet ears capable of hearkening to this call are as rare as red sulphur.

Blessings and peace be upon the first ear that was blessed to hearken unto the call of the Lord of Names, and the first eye that witnessed and beheld the greatest signs of its Lord, and the first hand that was raised to the heaven of bounty, and the first foot that hastened to the seat of the throne of the Creator of heaven, and the first countenance that turned toward the lights of the Countenance, and the first light that shone forth from the horizon of the heaven of the Cause whereby surged the ocean of knowledge in creation and the mysteries of the Books were revealed through clear proof and evidence, and through whom the stations of revelation and inspiration were completed and the messages of God, the Lord of all beings, were sealed.

He it is Who informed the people of the Day of Resurrection and of the Hour which none knoweth save God, the Mighty, the All-Knowing. He it is Who warned the idolaters who broke the Covenant and Testament and gave glad tidings to the believers of what was ordained for them in the highest Paradise and the most exalted Garden. And upon His family and companions, whom neither land nor sea nor anything whatsoever prevented from striving in His path and exalting His Word. The Most Exalted Pen hath testified that they strove in the path of God with true striving until the banner of unity was raised and the standard of detachment was hoisted in the name of God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy.

Glory be unto Thee, O Light of the world and Manifestation of the Unseen amidst the nations! I beseech Thee by Thy mysteries hidden in Thy knowledge and Thy verses treasured therein that Thou ordain for Thy Afnan, whom Thou hast related to Thyself and mentioned from Thy Most Exalted Pen in Thy Scriptures and Tablets, the good of the hereafter and of this world and whatsoever beseemeth Thy generosity and bounty, O Lord of Names and Creator of heaven! O my Lord, send down upon them from the heaven of Thy generosity a mercy from Thee and a blessing from Thy presence. Then grant them that which will gladden their hearts and solace their eyes and bring joy to their souls. O God! Illumine their faces with the lights of Thy countenance, and their hearts with the effulgences of Thy knowledge, and their breasts with the lights of Thy mention and praise. Verily Thou art the One Who hath power over whatsoever Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the Strong, the Bountiful. And praise be unto Thee, for verily Thou art the Goal of the worlds and the Beloved of those who have recognized Thee.

My spirit be a sacrifice unto your mention and unto your service! The servant has attained unto the traces of your pen, from which every possessor of smell perceives the fragrance of your acceptance, your recognition, your orientation, your sincerity, your humility, and your submissiveness before the face of God, your Goal and the Object of worship of all who are in the heavens and earths. After its reading and perusal, it attained the honor of being heard before His presence. The Master—may our spirits be sacrificed for Him—said:

> "O Afnan! Upon thee be My salutation. The first banner in the world was the banner of Islam, and the first standard was the standard of that party. They bore for the sake of God that which none other than them bore, and they strove in such wise as astonished all who were in the world, until the banner of 'There is none other God but Him' was raised to the most exalted station. From their might, the limbs of various parties trembled, and through the power of those souls the pavilion of glory was raised up and the Euphrates of wealth flowed. What happened to that power, and where did that might go, and in what corner has that authority hidden, and by what has that majesty been prevented? By God's life! The heedlessness of the people of unity became the cause of strength for the people of misbelief. Heedlessness reached such a state that the pen is impotent and falls short of its mention. Would that they were capable of hearing the cause and reason of what has occurred. By God's life! The recompense of deeds has become embodied and rendered the strong party weak. Today all must return, detached from all else, and beseech God—glorious be His majesty—that perchance the departed glory might return and the lost power might appear and the sun of unity might rise from behind the clouds and mist and illumine the world with a new adornment."

His eminence Kabir—upon him be My peace and My peace and My favor—has ever been and is mentioned before the Wronged One and present before His face. Praise be to God Who assisted him in that which is better for him than what is witnessed and seen. We beseech God, exalted be He, to ordain for him from His Most Exalted Pen that which will draw him nigh, strengthen him and gladden him. Verily He is the One with power over what He willeth, and He is the Ordainer, the Ancient of Days. Praise be to God, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. Remembrance and peace from the Wronged One be upon you and upon those who remember you and love you for the sake of God, the Lord of the worlds.

We make mention of his honor Haji Muhammad-Rida—upon him be God's peace—and we beseech for him success and confirmation, although he has been and is confirmed. Witness to this is his tranquility and establishment. We send greetings to all the friends in that land. We send greetings to his honor Mihdi. God willing, may he be successful in that which is the cause of exaltation and ascendancy, and likewise the satisfaction of the Afnan. We send greetings to his honor Siyyid Ibrahim. Praise be to God, they are occupied with service to the Afnan. We beseech from the Truth steadfastness and constancy for him. Verily He is the Powerful, the Mighty, and worthy to answer.

Praise be to God! The light of grace is radiant and resplendent, and the rain of mercy flows and descends. Ever before the Lord has he been mentioned and favored with loving-kindness and affection. God is witness and testifier that this station is sanctified above the mention of this ephemeral one. Where is the

mention of this ephemeral one compared to the mention of those souls who have attained true remembrance? In view of the manifestation of humility, submissiveness and sincerity, these words have appeared and continue to appear from such a servant. Our silence is preferable to our speech, and our quietude is more exalted than our utterance. In all conditions God is witness and testifier that the mention and praise of the honored master, the Most Great Afnan, may the Most Glorious Glory of God rest upon him, has never ceased from pen and tongue.

Love for him is treasured in the heart. We beseech and implore God to gather all in the utmost joy and fragrance beneath the pavilions of grace, to bestow vision and revelation and hearing, and to confirm them. Verily our Lord, the Most Merciful, is the One Who has power over whatsoever He willeth, and He is the Compassionate, the Generous. To those who circle round, meaning those souls who are present with your honor, I convey greetings to each one, and I beseech God, exalted be His glory, for that which will cause their elevation and exaltation. He is the Mighty, the Powerful.

Another matter: His honor Aqa Mirza Majdu'd-Din, may my spirit be sacrificed for him, has arrived and become the cause of joy, happiness, gladness and delight. And according to what was mentioned, the apple of the eye, Jinab-i-Aqa Mirza Mustafa, may God's most exalted peace be upon him, has returned. What was sent has arrived. Ever has he been and continues to be mentioned, even as specifically in the presence they inquired of His Honor Majd, and loving-kindness was manifested from the Dayspring of Grace. Happy is he! God willing, may they be safe and attain to that which is befitting. Peace and remembrance and praise be upon your honor and upon those who are with you and upon those who love you and upon God's sincere servants. And praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH01080: Praise be unto the Creator of the world…

In the name of God, transcendent is His glory, His grandeur and His power!

Praise be unto the Creator of the world and befitting unto the Sustainer of all nations, Who in His consummate wisdom hath bestowed upon every soul a gift and granted unto each a portion that can neither increase nor diminish. His ordainment cannot be altered by the world of destinies, nor can it find a way unto Him. He is the Sovereign Who hath adorned the world through the hosts of justice and equity. Intelligence is the first interpreter, and from it justice is made manifest, and through justice are ordered the affairs of nations. Blessed is the soul that hath been adorned with the ornament of justice and illumined with the light of intelligence. This raiment is, in the first degree, the most excellent adornment for the temples of kings.

Should they achieve it, they shall attain unto all good, and should they be deprived thereof, they are not worthy of mention. The Manifestation and Revealer of justice and intelligence is the Sovereign of existence and the King of the Divine purpose—namely, the Seal of the Prophets, may my spirit be a sacrifice for all who were at the beginning and at the end. He is the representative of the Truth, and He is the manifestation of the most beautiful names and most exalted attributes. Upon Him be blessings and peace, and upon His family and companions, the conqueror of lands and guide of servants.

Glory be unto Thee, O my God! I beseech Thee by the lights of the Sun of intelligence and justice to protect Thy believing servants from the evil of the ungodly who have broken Thy Covenant, denied Thy signs, and surrounded Thy cities and habitations. O Lord! Aid Thy loved ones to obey Thy Cause and to submit to the manifestations of Thy commandments and ordinances. O Lord! Withhold them not from the ocean of Thy good-pleasure, then ordain for them through Thy bounty that which will draw them nigh unto Thee. O Lord! I beseech Thee by Thy Prophets and Thy chosen ones to inscribe for Thy believing servants, with Thy Most Exalted Pen, the good of all worlds among Thy worlds. Verily, Thou art the Omnipotent over what Thou willest. There is no God but Thee, the Mighty, the Powerful.

To continue: thy letter hath been received. Praise be to God, it brought tidings of thine health and well-being. After experiencing joy, delight and gladness, I approached the Presence and attained the honor of hearing these words from our Lord—may our souls be a sacrifice for Him:

"O Ali-Akbar! We beseech the Lord of Destiny and the Sovereign of mankind to aid thee in whatsoever is pleasing unto Him. In the early days We established rules and principles for the assembled souls, that all might attain, through God's grace, to His manifest and hidden bounties. All this was done with the permission and leave of this Wronged One—some in Alif and Sin, others in Ba and Ya, and in Haifa and Akka, and Nun and Sad—that all might attain, through God's grace and mutual assistance, to the good things recorded in the Book and the bounties ordained in His knowledge. The purpose was that they might be occupied and enjoy the bounties of these few earthly days, while beseeching God—exalted be His glory—night and day for the salvation of all on earth, that perchance through the grace of the sincere ones and the believers the fire of envy and hatred might be extinguished and all might gather as one soul beneath the shade of the Tree of Divine Unity.

Let them likewise supplicate and beseech the true Omnipotent One that the banner of peace and security might once again be raised aloft and the light of the words 'There is none other God but Him' might illumine the world. All the friends of God must strive for the reformation of the world. If outward means are cut off, they must hold fast to spiritual means through humility and supplication. God is powerful and generous, His Will encompasseth all things and His decree prevaileth. He doeth what He willeth and ordaineth what He pleaseth, and He is the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

"For thee and for him who hath ascended to the Supreme Companion, that land—namely the land of Nazareth—hath been designated. By no means relinquish it. Engage thyself therein, placing thy trust in God. We beseech Him to bestow His blessing and withhold not His bounty. This Wronged One hath never in His lifetime considered His own interests; whatsoever He hath uttered hath been for the good of His loved ones. Blessed is the servant who hath attained, the ear that hath heard, and the eye that hath seen. Under all conditions, remain mindful of the remembrance of God and act according to that which hath been revealed in the Book. Verily He is the All-Bountiful, the Generous, the Compassionate, the Mighty, the Merciful." [End]

Praise be to God! Through His bounty thou hast attained, and in His prison what hath issued from the blessed Tongue shall enable thee to attain the outpourings of the True Bestower of abundance. Of this there is no doubt. O honored brother! We must seek divine confirmation from the Truth that we may act in accordance with that which exalteth the Word of Unity. From the recompense of thirteen hundred

years' deeds hath weakness resulted. Had our deeds been worthy of the court of the Self-Sufficient, the Supreme, assuredly the might of misbelief would not have seized us, nor would we have been afflicted with countless trials. Thou and this servant and all the friends must turn unto Him and seek deliverance from Him, that perchance His all-encompassing forgiveness may reach us and His mighty grace may grant salvation.

He is the Omnipotent, the All-Powerful. Convey greetings from this evanescent one to the friends in that land. All are remembered. For some time no word hath come from the honored master Sabri Efendi, upon him be God's peace. God willing, may he be confirmed and assisted, and may He cause his affairs to proceed according to what He loveth and desireth. Likewise do I send greetings to the honored friend Aqa Muhammad-Rida, upon him be God's peace, and to the others, and I beseech from the Truth the protection of all. Verily He hath power over all things and is worthy to answer prayers. Peace be upon you and upon God's sincere servants.

BH03432: O thou who art beloved of my heart, remembered…

In the Name of our Most Holy, Most Great, Most Exalted, Most Glorious Lord!

O thou who art beloved of my heart, remembered in my soul, enkindled with the fire of the love of my Lord, speaking His praise and glorification, and arising to serve His Cause! I swear by the effulgent rays of the Sun of Truth which hath shone forth from the most exalted horizon of the world that thy mention is remembered, thy effort appreciated, and thy deed accepted. Thy flame ever appeareth manifest and evident before the face of the Ancient King. A hundred thousand blessings and felicitations be upon that honored one, for he hath attained unto that which hath repeatedly been revealed from the Supreme Pen in the Tablets. Praise be unto Thee, O God of the worlds and Goal of the nations, for having manifested from among Thy Afnan one who hath clung to Thy Tree with such firmness that neither all that is in the world nor what is possessed by the peoples can sever him therefrom. I beseech Thee, O Lord of existence, by Thy generosity which hath encompassed all that was and shall be, to ordain for him from Thy Most Exalted Pen that which befitteth Thy grace and bounty.

Though I acknowledge, O my God, that my station doth not warrant his mention, for Thou hast related him unto Thyself and remembered him in such wise as none knoweth save Thyself, yet since Thou hast commanded me to love and mention Thy Afnan, I have mentioned him according to my station and capacity. I beseech Thee by the lights of Thy countenance to accept what my tongue hath uttered concerning them. Verily Thou art the Almighty Who disappointeth not the petitioners. There is no God but Thee, the Forgiving, the Merciful. O Lord! Send Thy blessings upon him and upon those who are with him and who love him for Thy sake. There is no God but Thee, the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing, the Almighty, the Powerful.

He is the Confirmer

The letter from His Honor Afnan M.H. 92 [Muhammad], son of His Honor Afnan whom God hath made the manifestation of His dignity amongst His servants, together with one hundred liras, reached the servant in the prison. Likewise, all that His Honor the Revered One, upon whom be the Most Glorious

Glory of God, had sent in previous years—both the cloth and other items including the carpet—all arrived in the honored month of Sha'ban 1303.

BH03772: My tongue, my heart, my pen and my limbs…

In the Name of our Most Holy, Most Great, Most Exalted, Most Glorious Lord!

My tongue, my heart, my pen and my limbs testify to the oneness and singleness of God, and that He is the One who has power over whatsoever He willeth. The conditions of the world cannot frustrate Him, nor can the doubts of the nations. There hath shone forth from His most exalted horizon a brilliant light, a pervading fragrance, an articulate tongue, and a commanding Cause. Through His might, power and sovereignty He hath manifested whatsoever He desired in such wise that neither the might of princes nor the opposition of divines—who broke God's covenant and His testament and caused their people to enter the abode of perdition—could prevent it.

Glory be unto Thee, O Subduer of the world and Benefactor of the nations! I beseech Thee by the Ark of Thy Cause which sailed upon the sea of names through Thy will and power, to aid Thy male and female servants who have aimed for the ultimate goal and the supreme height to remain steadfast in Thy love and in the exaltation of Thy Cause. Verily Thou art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest and in Thy grasp are the reins of all things.

O my Lord! Thou seest and hearest that one of Thy Afnans hath mentioned one of Thy handmaidens and testified to her acceptance and her turning unto Thee. I beseech Thee by the sovereignty of the names to accept from her what she intended in Thy days and sent forth as evidence of her adherence to Thy commandments and ordinances. O my Lord! Forgive her and purify her through Thy grace and favor, then send down upon her at all times that which will make her steadfast in Thy Cause—that which was named in the Furqan as the Great Announcement and in the books of old by that which caused the faces of the believers to be wreathed in smiles. There is no God but Thee, the Hearer, the Answerer, and worthy of answering prayers.

The remittance of Amatu'llah Fatimih Bibi, upon her be the Glory of God, in the amount of eighty tumans, was received by the servant in the prison through the honored Afnan T.Q., upon him be, from all Glory, its most glorious portion, during the month of Sha'ban the Great in the year 1303.

BH00572: Praise and glory befit the friends of God, exalted…

In the Name of our Most Holy, Most Great, Most Exalted, Most Glorious Lord

Praise and glory befit the friends of God, exalted be His majesty, who, detached from all else, have arisen to serve the Cause with such steadfastness that no sitting was seen in their standing—nay, even in their repose they stand upright. Exalted are their stations and sublime their ranks in the presence of God, their Creator, their Fashioner, their Quickener, their Slayer, their Strengthener, their Revealer, and their Guide. These are the men who have ever championed the Cause in the arena of utterance. The heroes of the world are as sparrows before them, and the clamor of the nations in their glorious presence is but as a croaking. These are the horsemen of the field and the helpers of the Purpose of all worlds.

With the finger of certitude they have rent asunder the veils of idle fancies and shattered the idols. The chains of vain imaginings of the world's peoples did not hold them back from the Most Exalted Pen. They have attained true understanding and are adorned with spiritual perception. These are the servants of whom He says they are the treasures of the earth and its repositories, for they are the pearls of wisdom and utterance and the trust of the All-Merciful. Blessed is he who recognizes them, attains their presence, serves them, and turns his face toward their countenances.

Glory be unto Thee, O Thou Who art the Goal of both the seen and the unseen, Who art established upon the throne of grandeur in Thy praiseworthy station! I beseech Thee by the light of Thy countenance through which all lights have shone forth, and by the breathings of Thy love among the chosen ones, to assist Thy loved ones to mention Thee before the faces of all religions with wisdom and utterance. O Lord! Prevent not Thy chosen ones from turning to the horizon whence the sun of Thy presence hath shone forth, and deprive them not from arising before the door of Thy bounty and generosity. O Lord! Thou seest them turning toward the direction of Thy prison and holding fast to the cord of Thy grace. Ordain for them through Thy Most Exalted Pen the good of both this world and the next. Then write down for them the reward of attaining Thy presence, O Thou Who art the Lord of all names and the Creator of heaven. There is none other God but Thee, the Omnipotent, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

Thereafter, the letters of that spiritual friend arrived repeatedly. Some were answered as time and opportunity permitted, while others were delayed due to the abundance of the revelation of divine verses, until some time ago when the beloved of the heart, Hadrat-i-Ism-i-Jud, upon him be the Most Glorious Glory of God, sent a letter to the Most Holy Court. This servant presented it before His presence and it was honored to be heard, yet its answer was also delayed until these days when repeatedly my beloved, Hadrat-i-Ism-i-Jud, upon him be God's grace and favors, beseeched from the heaven of the will of the Lord of all beings for a response. On this day, which is the last day of the revered month of Rajab, that letter was honored to be heard before the Throne, and afterward the Tongue of Grandeur spoke these sublime words, blessed and exalted be His utterance:

In My Name, the Speaker, the All-Knowing

O Abdu'l-Husayn! The Wronged One of the world proclaims: Today the rustling of the Divine Lote-Tree is raised on high, and the Most Exalted Pen speaks from the highest horizon of the world. The earth is changed to another earth and the heaven to another heaven, yet the people of the world remain heedless and veiled. The dwellers of the graves have arisen at the breath of revelation of the Self-Subsisting Lord, while the living souls are seen as if dead. The intoxication of pride and heedlessness has encompassed the world and deprived it of the Ancient Lord. Blessed are the party of God, the people of Baha, who are like unto the surging ocean and like unto the sun, radiant and luminous. The darkness of the people of the Bayan does not hold them back from the light, nor do the doubts of the people of allusions deprive them of the horizon of the All-Merciful. Their hearts are sanctified from rancor and hatred. They hold fast to the cord of grace and cling to the hem of justice. The clamor of the vain ones has not prevented them from the Self-Sufficient, the Most High. They stand for God, speak for God, and turn their gaze toward God.

Convey My greetings to the friends in those regions on behalf of the Wronged One and give them the glad tidings of the favor of the Desired One of the world. Say: O party of God! Today the fragrance of divine revelation is diffused throughout the world and the spiritual breeze wafts at dawn. By the life of God, it imparts awareness and bestows eternal life! Say: Deprive not yourselves and veil not yourselves from the Lord of all possibilities through the idle fancies of the people of the Bayan. Reflect upon the former party and their utterances—what they proclaimed from their pulpits, what claims they made, and what became manifest from them on the Day of Reckoning. If you become aware of the deeds of those heedless souls and their fruits, you will remain steadfast on the divine path in such wise that names will neither prevent nor deprive you from the Lord of inner meanings.

O Abdu'l-Husayn! Repeatedly have you been blessed with the grace of God, exalted be His glory. We beseech God to aid you in that which befits His Cause and is worthy of His days. Convey greetings to the handmaiden of God. Say: Praise be to God that you have been blessed with the mention of the Wronged One, both before and after. Convey greetings from the Wronged One to the new handmaiden. Blessed is the handmaiden who has turned, heard, and attained to the knowledge of God, the Lord of the worlds. O handmaiden of God! The whole world has been created for the knowledge of the Ancient Lord and has been brought from nothingness into being. Yet in the divine days and the manifestation of the Eternal Beloved, all were found heedless and veiled save a few. Praise the Ancient Lord Who guided you, aided you, and bestowed guidance upon you. Since you have attained and possess the pearls of divine love, guard them from thieves and betrayers. This is the counsel of the Wronged One of the horizons. Know thou the station of the party of God, both men and women, and be occupied with praising and thanking the Lord of all beings.

Has anyone ever been, or is now, capable of recording the divine grace? Nay, by His own Self, the One Who dominates all who are on earth and in heaven! Every name that has attained the honor of hearing has been adorned and distinguished by the verses of God. Who is that lost one whom His grace has not sought? Praise be to God that those souls mentioned in that spiritual friend's letter have attained the verses of God. This evanescent servant beseeches the Eternal Truth to aid them to remain steadfast in His Cause and to grant them their portion and share from the oceans of inner meanings that lie treasured and hidden within the Words of God. He is the Powerful, the Mighty. Two Most Holy, Most Exalted Tablets, in Arabic and Persian, were revealed specifically for his honor Aqa Siyyid ʿAli, upon him be the Glory of God. As commanded, this servant wrote and sent them. God willing, they will attain unto them. And regarding their request to sell their possessions and turn toward the Most Exalted Horizon, after this was presented before the Most Holy, Most Exalted Presence, these manifest verses were revealed from the Kingdom of the All-Merciful's utterance. His blessed and exalted Word:

The sale of possessions is not permitted. We beseech God to aid him to serve the Cause and to record the recompense of attainment unto His presence with the Most Exalted Pen in the Crimson Book. Verily, He has power over all things. O Siyyid-i-Qabil-ʿAli! Say: My God, my God! Deny me not the breezes of Thy days, and deprive me not of that which Thou hast ordained for Thy chosen ones. O Lord! Thy separation and remoteness have destroyed me, and the fire of Thy love and affection has consumed me. I beseech Thee by Thy Most Great Signs, by the rustling of the Sadratu'l-Muntaha, and by the shrill voice of Thy

Most Exalted Pen, to ordain for me in each world of Thy worlds that which will draw me nigh unto Thee and benefit me through Thy bounty and favors.

O Lord! Thou knowest what is in my heart, my soul, and my being, while I know not what is with Thee. There is none other God but Thee, the Forgiving, the Bountiful. I lay before Thy presence that which none of Thy chosen ones has uttered: My Lord! Leave me not alone, for Thou art the Best of inheritors, or manifest through me that whereby my remembrance shall endure through the eternity of Thy Best Names and Thy Most Exalted Attributes. Verily, Thou art the Almighty Whom nothing can frustrate and no matter can hinder. Thou doest what Thou pleasest and ordainest what Thou willest. Verily, Thou art the Almighty, the Powerful.

His is the grace and bounty, and His the bestowal and justice! The world hath been illumined by the splendors of the Sun of utterance of the All-Merciful, yet most hearts remain in their own darkness. This servant is bewildered in all conditions. Indeed, the recompense of their deeds hath prevented all and deprived everyone of their due recognition of the Intended One. This servant conveyeth greetings and glorification to the honored Siyyid, upon him be the glory of God, and likewise to the honored Khan, the host, upon him be the glory of God, and to the other friends. Blessed are they who today have been designated by the Most Exalted Pen as the party of God and have attained this most great kinship. All must recognize the worth of this supreme bounty, this eternal blessing and everlasting table. They must remain firm and steadfast in the Cause of the Lord of the Day of Judgment with perfect unity and accord.

O friends of Truth! The people are without fairness and are worshippers of idle fancies. For years they have worshipped and bowed down before the idols of vain imaginings. I beseech the True One, the Mighty, the Powerful, to protect His party and grant them the heavenly water of reality, that all may become intoxicated with the wine of knowledge and occupied with the remembrance of the Peerless Friend. The Command is in His grasp, and He is the All-Knowing, the Powerful, the All-Wise, the All-Judicious. A Most Holy, Most Exalted Tablet hath also been revealed from the heaven of the will of the All-Merciful, specifically for the honored host. God willing, they will attain unto it and drink from its oceans of inner meanings. Peace and praise and remembrance and glory be upon you and upon those with you and upon all who are steadfast and firm, and all who are constant and trustworthy.

The servant. On the first day of the month of Sha'ban the Great, 1303.

BH00440: Praise be to God! The path is clear…

In the Name of our Most Holy, Most Great, Most Exalted and Most Glorious Lord!

Praise be to God! The path is clear, the way is evident, the proof is manifest, and the banner of the Revelation is raised upon the highest standards. Yet the people remain heedless and veiled. Glory be to God! The fragrance of the divine raiment hath encompassed the world, and the lights of the dawn of His Revelation have illumined the horizons. Yet the unjust people remain heedless and deprived of all, for they are occupied with their own concerns and are far removed and barred from that which is with God. One stands amazed at what hath prevented their eyes from beholding the ocean of inner meanings and their ears from hearkening to the Word of God. The shrill voice of the Supreme Pen is raised both night

and day. For what purpose was life created, and for what day was consciousness brought into being? What was the purpose of sight, and what of hearing? Blessed are they who ponder the Cause of God and discover its purpose. This exalted and blessed word was repeatedly heard from the Tongue of Grandeur, blessed and exalted be His utterance:

> "O servant! Until they pass beyond the gulf of names, they shall not attain to the ocean of inner meanings. The people of former times throughout ages and centuries were worshippers of vain imaginings, yet counted themselves among the people of unity. They were the most lost among the peoples of the world, yet deemed themselves the most exalted and learned. On the Day of Revelation, the loss of those people became clear and evident to all, for both the learned and the ignorant committed that which no other people had ever perpetrated."

Glorified art Thou, O God, Lord of all beings and the Object of all creation! I beseech Thee by Thy all-encompassing knowledge, Thy pervading Will, Thy pre-existing mercy, and Thy all-compelling purpose, and Thy triumphant power, to make known unto Thy loved ones and chosen ones that which will preserve them from all else but Thee and draw them nigh unto Thee. Then inscribe for them in Thy Scriptures and Tablets that which shall be a light unto them in all the worlds of Thy worlds. O Lord! Withhold them not from the rain-showers of Thy grace, nor from the outpourings of Thy days. Adorn them, O my God, with the ornament of steadfastness and fidelity. Verily, Thou art the Lord of all names and the Creator of the heavens. There is none other God but Thee, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

Thereafter, this servant, on Friday the 4th of the revered month of Sha'ban, while seated in his place, wondering at the greatness of the Cause of God and contemplating the heedlessness and misguidance of the people of the world, at that moment received a letter from Haifa from Jinab-i-Aqa Siyyid Taqi, upon him be the glory of God, and in that letter was a letter from you which you had written to him. After seeing, reading and reviewing it, for the sake of God I proceeded to the Most Exalted Station and presented before His presence that which was mentioned and written. Blessed and exalted be His Word:

Verily, I am the Hearer, and I am the Answerer.

We make mention of the loved ones of that land, and continue to do so, and We give the glad-tidings of God's special favors to the people of God. We have, out of wisdom, concealed the names, but in the Crimson Book they are recorded and inscribed by the Most Exalted Pen. By the life of God! They have attained unto that which hath no equal and no likeness. Soon shall the world return to nothingness. Every person of insight and understanding hath testified and continues to testify to the transience of all that is visible. However, that which hath been ordained for the people of God shall neither change nor alter. The hand of events shall fall short of its hem, and it shall remain sanctified and protected from the changes of the world.

O people of God! Know ye the value of these days and act as behooveth you. Today the heaven of inner meanings is adorned and illumined with the effulgences of the Sun of Revelation. From all directions is heard the cry "The Chosen One hath come," and from all things is heard "The Lord of the Kingdom of eternity hath come." The banner of "He doeth what He willeth" is raised, and the standard of "Verily He is

the Truth" is unfurled and visible. Blessed are they whom the doubts and intimations of the people of the Furqan and the Bayan have not debarred from the horizon of the All-Merciful.

O Muhammad! Hear with thy inner ear the call of the Beloved of the worlds. We beseech God to adorn thee with the ornament of His most excellent names and most exalted attributes, for verily the hosts that aid and assist the Truth this day have been and continue to be goodly and acceptable deeds. Blessed is he who hath been named by the Spirit's good-pleasure from the Pen of God, the Lord of lords. We testify that he turned towards God and attained His presence while people were in strange slumber. He was present, witnessed, and heard the call of the Lord of Names from His most exalted horizon, and acknowledged that which the Tongue of Grandeur uttered when He came with power and sovereignty. We have mentioned him before in such wise that its fragrance shall endure throughout the kingdom of earth and heaven. To this beareth witness the Mother Book in its most exalted station. Thus have We sent down from the heaven of grace and bounty that which draweth all near unto the Dayspring of Lights.

Convey thou the greetings of the Wronged One to the loved ones of that land and give them the glad-tidings of God's favors. All are mentioned in the presence of the Wronged One and are recorded by the Pen of Revelation. No deed hath been or shall be hidden. All are manifest and evident before His face. He heareth and seeth, and He is the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing. We beseech God to illumine all with the lights of His countenance and to set them ablaze with the fire of the Divine Lote-Tree, that all the peoples of the world may attain unto these twin bounties and arise with perfect steadfastness to promote the Cause of God. O people of God!

Today the Sun of Truth is shining and the light of divine unity is manifest and clear. Blessed is the soul that hath attained unto the lights of true unity and hath received its portion from the divine fragrances of this Day. Today some among the people of the Bayan are observed to be more lost than the previous parties. We counsel you to preserve the pearls of the love of God, your Lord and the Lord of your fathers and the Lord of all who are in the heavens and the earth. The glory from Us be upon you and upon those whom the clamor of the deniers hath not kept back from the Lord of the Day of Judgment.

Glory be unto God! Verses are being revealed like rain-showers from the heaven of divine Will, and He Who conversed on Sinai is seated upon the throne of Revelation and is manifest. Yet the faithless people remain veiled, save for a few. The smoke of idle fancies and the dust of self and passion have prevented the world from recognizing the Lord of Names. Say: O people of the Bayan! Are you content to cling to vain imaginings like the people of former times throughout the ages, and ultimately to occupy yourselves with cursing and denouncing from pulpits the One Who is your Goal and Beloved, and to issue decrees for the shedding of His most pure blood? Take heed, O ye who have eyes to see!

Take heed, O ye who have insight! For a thousand and two hundred years and more, each sect has clung to a name and engaged in conflict and strife, until on the Day of Reckoning there appeared from the learned and the ignorant of that sect that which caused the Eye of God to weep and the Pen of God to lament. This evanescent servant conveys greetings and glorification to the friends of God and those who drink the pure wine of truth, and declares that it is binding and obligatory upon all to arise to aid the Cause and to protect the helpless servants from the dawning-places of conjecture, that perchance former vain imaginings might not be renewed and suppositions might not veil the lights of certitude. Verily our

Lord, the All-Merciful, is powerful over whatsoever He willeth. There is no God but Him, the Protector over what was and what shall be.

As to what you wrote concerning Aqa Mirza Aqa and Aqa Mulla Rida, upon them be the glory of God, mention of them attained the presence of the Goal of the worlds and achieved the honor of being heard. This is what was revealed for them from the Kingdom of utterance of our Lord, the All-Merciful. His blessed and exalted Word:

He is the All-Seeing, the All-Informed

O Mirza Aqa! A letter reached the Wronged One in prison wherein thy mention was recorded, and it achieved the honor of being heard. These sublime words were revealed from the Dayspring of divine verses: Today the world is illumined with the lights of the True Sun of Divine Unity. Blessed are they whom the doubts of the deluded and the doings of the aggressive have not debarred from turning toward the countenance of the Ancient Beauty, which hath shone forth and is manifest from the supreme horizon. Say: O people! Rend asunder the veils of doubt and uncertainty and turn ye to the horizon of certitude. Reflect upon the former sect and take heed. We beseech God the Exalted to assist thee and those who have believed to act according to what hath been revealed in His perspicuous Book. Know thou the value of this mention, for from it wafteth the fragrance of eternity. Occupy thyself with the praise and glorification of the Lord of the Ancient.

O Muhammad-Rida! Hearken unto the call from the prison. Verily there is no God but Me, the Mighty, the All-Knowing. The ocean of knowledge hath surged through My Most Great Name, and the fragrance of the All-Merciful hath wafted from the breezes of what hath flowed from My Most Exalted Pen. Blessed is he who hath perceived and witnessed, and woe unto every heedless doubter. When thou hearest My call and attainest unto My verses, say:

My God, my God! Prevent me not from Thy remembrance and praise in Thy days, and withhold me not from that which Thou hast ordained for Thy chosen ones and Thy loved ones. O Lord! The poor one seeketh the ocean of Thy riches, and the sick one the sea of Thy healing. I beseech Thee by Thy sovereignty which hath subdued all things, and by Thy command which hath dominated all names, and by the breezes of Thy days, to assist me to be steadfast in Thy Cause and to arise to serve Thy loved ones. O Lord! Thou seest me turning unto Thee, clinging to the handle of Thy bounty, and holding fast to the hem of the robe of Thy grace. I beseech Thee not to disappoint me of what is with Thee, then ordain for me that which shall be a lamp before mine eyes in every world of Thy worlds. Verily, Thou art the Powerful over whatsoever Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the Mighty, the Powerful.

Praise and gratitude be unto Him! They have attained unto that which hath no likeness or equal. All the people of S, meaning those who are holding fast to the firm cord of God, and likewise the companions of the Mosque of Bardi—each one hath attained unto the mention of God, glorified be His majesty. This lowly one beseecheth God, glorified be His majesty, that He may cause all to be enkindled with the fire of the Sacred Tree—an enkindlement that neither opposition, nor heedlessness, nor clamor, nor tumult can extinguish. This is the day of remembrance and praise, of steadfastness and faithfulness. The evanescence of the world is evident and manifest to everyone; therefore, let not those possessed of keen

vision and hearing be deprived of the Sovereign of the Kingdom of immortality. Ever hath this most exalted Word been heard from the Supreme Pen—may our spirit and the spirit of all in the kingdom of command and creation be offered up for His sake—His blessed and exalted Word:

O people of God! This is the day of remembrance and praise, and this is the day of steadfastness and faithfulness, and this is the day wherein the treachery of eyes and that which the breasts conceal become manifest, and this is the day wherein that which was hidden and treasured in hearts and minds is revealed.

Such utterances have repeatedly been heard. They must appreciate the value of these days and occupy themselves with that which is befitting.

O God of Names and Creator of heaven! I beseech Thee by the name of Baha, and the light of Baha, and the manifestation of Baha, and the mystery of Baha, and the knowledge of Baha, and the mercy of Baha, and the bounty of Baha, and the generosity of Baha, and the grace of Baha, and the days of Baha, and the utterance of Baha, and the wisdom of Baha, to assist Thy loved ones and Thy chosen ones to make up for what hath escaped them in Thy days. O Lord! Thou art the Generous and Thou art the Merciful. Withhold not Thy chosen ones from turning unto the ocean of Thy knowledge, and distance them not from the court of Thy nearness and Thy presence. Thou art He Who hath testified to Thy generosity through all created things, and to Thy grace through all contingent beings. There is none other God but Thee, the Forgiving, the Generous. And praise be unto Thee, O Thou in Whose grasp is the reins of all who are in the heavens and on earth.

BH04705: Praise and glory befit the friends of the Beloved…

Praise and glory befit the friends of the Beloved One, Who has deposited in every created thing a sign of His signs, which in one station is a balance, and in another a path, and has likewise been designated by the Most Beautiful Names. He is the Guide of the servants and the Leader of all in the lands. That sign is evident and manifest like the sun—whosoever finds their way to it attains to the recognition of the Sun of Truth. It is the lamp that is continually replenished from the oil of knowledge, for were this replenishment to cease, that light would be extinguished. Blessed are they who have not veiled it through the veils of self and desire, and who have not prevented its light. Thus does the Supreme Pen—may the spirit of all in the kingdoms of command and creation be sacrificed for it—declare, exalted be His utterance:

> “The eyelid, delicate as it is, can deprive the physical eye from beholding the world and all that is therein.”

For veils and glories there are countless expressions. Whatsoever does not bear the fragrance of divine good-pleasure has been and ever will be a veil. Blessed are they who have preserved both their outer and inner vision from the veils of self and desire through the Name of the Lord of all mankind. These are the possessors of penetrating sight, attentive ears, illumined hearts, expanded breasts, and speaking tongues. These are the Hands of God’s Cause among His servants and the Dawning-places of His knowledge throughout all lands.

This evanescent servant, with utmost humility and supplication, beseeches the Self-Sufficient One that His servants may not remain deprived of the stream of mercy, the ocean of bounty, and the sun of knowledge and wisdom, and that all may aim for that station and find their dwelling and refuge beneath the Blessed Tree.

Glory be unto Thee, O Thou in Whose grasp is the reins of destiny and in Whose right hand are the controls of decree and fulfillment! I beseech Thee by the breezes of the dawn of Thy Manifestation and the fragrances of Thy days, to assist Thy servants to be steadfast in Thy Cause, to turn to Thy countenance, and to direct themselves to Thy horizon. O Lord! Deny them not the outpourings of Thy Most Bountiful Name. I testify that this Day is Thy Day, and this Revelation is Thy Revelation, which was hidden in the eternity of eternities and concealed from eyes and sight. Thou hast manifested it for the life of the world and the salvation of the nations. O Lord! Make clear to them the path that they may hasten unto Thee and recognize what Thou hast desired for them through Thy bounty and bestowals. Verily, Thou art the Powerful over whatsoever Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the Almighty, the All-Protecting, the All-Powerful.

And further: the letter of thine honoured personage was received, breathing forth the fragrance of the love of the Well-Beloved of all the worlds. A hundred thousand praises and glorifications befit the Lord of Names, Who hath guided thee and awakened thy soul. His confirmation hath been as a lamp set before thee, illuminating thy face and thy path; and His assistance as wings outspread, sustaining and upholding thee. Though true knowledge is with God—glorified be His Name—and no one hath any portion thereof save as He willeth (for He, verily, is aware of all things, seeth all things, encompasseth all things, and hath power over all things), yet are these servants, in outward semblance, bidden to obey, and charged to behold the traces of His handiwork. The signs of His love have been diffused through thine effects. The Most Exalted Truth, the Inaccessible, beareth witness and testifieth that a joy hath appeared such as pen and tongue are powerless to recount.

And when I had perused and become apprised of that which was written and mentioned therein, I, with the wings of yearning, set my face towards the radiant Presence, the Luminary of all horizons and the Lord of the Day of Meeting; and all, with faces turned wholly towards Him, were honoured by attaining unto the privilege of hearkening. This is that which hath been sent down in reply, as a manifestation of His grace, His loving-kindness, His bounty, and His manifold favours—His Word, blessed and exalted be He:

In the Name of Him Who has been wronged, the Stranger

O Yahya! The Wronged One makes mention of thee from the precincts of the Prison, and summons thee to the All-Highest Horizon, and acquaints thee with that which will guide thee to the manifest, straight Path of God, and give thee to drink of the Kawthar of life which hath flowed from the Pen of the loving-kindness of thy Lord, the All-Merciful. Take hold of it with the hand of submission and acquiescence, then drink thereof in His Name, the Mighty, the Wondrous.

Say: O concourse of the earth! By God, the Day hath come, and the seal of the choice Wine hath been broken in His Name, the Self-Subsisting. Cast away what ye possess, turning unto God, the Lord of all

worlds. Beware lest the doubts of the divines and the allusions of the doctors hold you back—they who disputed God's verses after their revelation and turned away from this Announcement wherewith Muhammad, the Apostle of God, and before Him the Spirit, and before Him He Who conversed with God, gave glad-tidings.

Say: O people of the Bayan! Fear ye the All-Merciful, and weigh what hath been sent down from the Kingdom of proof against what ye possess. Then be fair, and be not of the wrongdoers. Beware lest the calumnies of the people or the utterances of every associating soul who hath turned away from God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy, hold you back.

O people of the Bayan! By God, the Primal Point took My Covenant before His own. This is attested by Him Who proclaimeth in every state that there is none other God but Me, the Single, the All-Informed. By God, the ocean of the Bayan hath surged in creation through this Name, whereby the hearts of those who have disbelieved in God, the Exalted, the Great, have been shaken. Say: Beware lest the dawning-places of idle fancies hold you back from the Dayspring of certitude. Cast aside the people and what they possess, turning unto this Horizon from which hath shone forth the Sun of the loving-kindness of your Lord, the Almighty, the All-Powerful.

By God, the books of the world and whatsoever is with the nations shall profit you not except through this Book which proclaimeth at the midmost heart of creation that there is none other God but Me, the Speaker, the All-Knowing. Convey My greetings to thy father. Say: We counsel thee to justice and fairness in this Cause through which the horizons of knowledge and wisdom have been illumined and every perspicuous Book hath been sent down. The Wronged One summoneth thee for the sake of God and guideth thee unto His straight Path.

It is mentioned in the Persian tongue that perchance all may be enabled to inhale the sweet fragrances of divine verses and attain their purpose. O youth! If thou speakest with justice, thou wilt testify that this Wronged One hath acted for the sake of God alone, doing that which was befitting and worthy of His Day, and hath never sought to preserve Himself. From the inception of the Cause until now, He hath raised His call in the most exalted voice before the faces of princes, divines, kings and subjects, outwardly giving all the glad-tidings of the dawning splendors of the Sun of Truth and guiding them to the waves of the divine ocean of inner meanings. Blessed is the soul that hath attained the fragrance of the All-Merciful's utterance and turned toward the horizon of proof….

BH00277: Praise and glory befit those who are nigh unto…

Section 1: "Praise and glory befit those who are nigh…"

In the name of He who is the Most Glorious and Most Mighty

Praise and glory befit those who are nigh unto God, who rejoice in the hope of nearness and who live by the promise of His presence. Their life-giving waters flow from the Supreme Pen, and their growth springs from the remembrance and praise of the Lord of Names. No tongue can adequately describe this station, and the pen itself confesses its impotence. This is the station of them that are nigh—how much more exalted then must be the station of Him through whose Word the near ones, the sincere ones, and the

devoted ones exist, and through whose sweet savors they endure and are made manifest. Glorified be His greatness, exalted be His power, and sanctified be His sovereignty, His remembrance and His praise.

Since the realms of hearts and minds fall short and are powerless to know His Essence, Who is beyond all likeness, it behooveth us to make mention of the First Creation, the First Remembrance, the First Light, the First Manifestation, the First Appearance, the First Knowledge, the First Utterance, the First Dawning Point, the First Rising Place, the First Orient, and the First Source, and to adorn the preface of every book with His Name. For He standeth in the place of God and is the Manifestation of the Absolute Light, through Whom were revealed from the dust the mysteries of origin and return, and through Whom the Dove of Utterance warbled upon the branch of knowledge. Through Him the world was illumined with the light of unity and nations with the mention of detachment. Through Him the waters of life flowed throughout all contingent being, and the might of God encompassed all lands. Through Him every seeker turned to the Most Sublime Horizon and every tongue was loosened in praise of the Creator of Heaven.

He it was upon whom verses were sent down, at times in Yathrib and before that in Batha, at times in the air and again above the air, and at times at the distance of two bow-lengths or closer. Exalted be His most sublime station and His most resplendent glory. Upon Him be the blessings of God, the Lord of all things and the Sovereign of the hereafter and of this world, and upon His family and companions whom nothing whatsoever could deter and whom the might of men could not weaken. They drew their swords by the command of the Lord of creation and strove with utmost devotion. These are the suns in the heaven of knowledge and the stars in the horizons of certitude. Blessed is he who recognizeth them, attaineth unto their stations, beareth witness to that which their tongues have testified, circleth round their wishes, and holdeth fast to the cord of their favors. He is of those whom God hath described in His perspicuous, mighty and wondrous Book. And praise be to God, the Mighty, the Inaccessible.

And further, O beloved of my heart! Your letter has reached me and brought me glad tidings of your health, your remembrance, your praise, your devotion, and your humility and submissiveness before God, our Beloved and yours, your Goal and the Goal of all who are in the heavens and on earth. When I read and heard from the melodies of the birds of divine knowledge warbling upon the branches of proof, the attraction of your mention seized me through the fragrance of your turning to the Supreme Horizon—that station which is illumined by the lights of the countenance of our Lord and your Lord, the Lord of the Mighty Throne. I turned to the Ultimate Goal and faced the horizon which shone forth from the utterance of our Lord, Creator of heaven. When I attained presence, it was presented before His Face, and the Master—may our spirits be sacrificed for Him—said:

> “O Ali! Your mention has been made before the Prisoner both before and since, and you are adorned with the glance of favor. Praise be to God, your remembrance is spread abroad and your devotion shines forth like the brilliant sun. Every fair-minded person has testified to that which has appeared from you for the sake of God in this blessed Day. Blessed are you, and joy be unto you! We beseech the True One, exalted be His glory, to inscribe with the Most Exalted Pen in the Crimson Book that which is lasting and enduring. Verily, He is powerful over all things and worthy to answer. Remind My loved ones on My behalf who have acted according to what they were commanded in the Book of God, Lord of the worlds. We beseech God,

> exalted be He, to aid them with the hosts of the seen and the unseen, and to send down upon them from the heaven of His grace His blessing from His presence. He is the All-Bountiful, the Generous. There is no God but He, the Most High, the Most Great."

This lowly one submits that the letter of that true beloved arrived and achieved the honor of being heard and seen before His countenance, but at that time this servant had no opportunity to submit a response. And on this night, which is the tenth night of the honored month of Sha'ban, while sitting facing the Qiblih and occupied with the mention of the loved ones of God, He is witness and testifier that you have not been and are not absent, and by the testimony of the Master—may the spirit of all else be sacrificed for Him—you are present and standing firm. This testimony is greater than what this servant has mentioned or could mention. Ever have I besought and continue to beseech from the Self-Sufficient, the Exalted One, both inner and outer nearness, that we may dwell in the shade of the Blessed Tree and speak in remembrance of the Desired One. We seek divine success and heavenly confirmation that we may attain to that which has been revealed in the Perspicuous Book by the will of the Lord of the worlds.

Glorified art Thou, O God of existence and King of the kingdom of eternity and of the most exalted heaven! I beseech Thee by Thy Prophets and Thy chosen ones who arose to assist Thy Cause and spoke before the faces of Thy servants with Thy remembrance and with that which Thou didst command them in Thy Books and Thy Scrolls, and by the sighs of those near to Thee in Thy love and the tears of the believers in their longing to meet Thee, to ordain for Thy loved ones Thy nearness in the precincts of Thy mercy at the pavilions of Thy grandeur. O Lord! Thou seest them gazing toward the horizon of Thy Cause, turning to the lights of Thy countenance, and holding fast to the Tree which has yielded the fruits of Thy knowledge and utterance. Send down upon them, O my God, at every moment that which befits the heaven of Thy bounty and the ocean of Thy bestowal. Verily, Thou art the All-Informed, Whom nothing can frustrate and no affair can veil. Thou knowest the treachery of eyes and what the breasts conceal. Thou art the Lord of the Manifestation and the Caller from the Mount. There is no God but Thee, the Almighty, the Ancient of Days.

Concerning what they wrote about Jinab-i-Aqa Mirza Ali-Akbar, upon him be God's peace, truly the fragrance of love wafts from him. However, according to the command, that beloved one must observe wisdom and act according to its requirements. Repeatedly has this blessed word flowed from the Tongue of Utterance. Surely that beloved one and other chosen ones are holding fast to that which God has willed. This evanescent one conveys greetings to them and counsels as befits. He said write:

> "O Ali! You are mentioned in the Book among the most exalted ones. You must act according to what you deem wise. In all conditions we beseech confirmation and success for you. Verily, He is the Confirmer, the All-Wise."

And concerning the mention made of Jinab-i-Haji Baqir and his son Muhammad-Aqa, it was submitted. He said:

> "We beseech God to confirm them in steadfastness in His love and to send down upon them from the heaven of His grace a blessing from His presence. Verily, He is the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous. O Ali! Upon you be My peace and My glory. Today you must hold fast to that

> which draws souls near. You must remind all of this matter, that they may attain to that which is the cause and means of the exaltation and unity of the servants."

This evanescent servant beseeches the King of existence and the Educator of the seen and unseen to make steadfast these wondrous new souls and not deprive them from the ocean of His grace and bounty.

Concerning the mention made of the honored beloved H and S, upon him be God's peace and care, and their being set ablaze with the fire of love—praise and gratitude be to God, and to Him be glory and favor. His grace seized them and His favor encompassed them. They saw and heard and drank. The servant asks his Lord and your Lord and the Lord of all in the heavens and earth to confirm him, to assist him, and to make him among those who aid His Cause and those who celebrate His praise. Verily, He is the Powerful, the Supreme, the Almighty.

Likewise mention was made of Jinab-i-Haji A.B., upon him be God's peace and grace. After these exalted words were submitted, praise be to God, the receptive ones attained and drank from the Kawthar of mystic knowledge of the Beloved of all creation. We beseech God to guard the cities and strongholds of the people of unity with the hosts of the unseen, that they may be protected from the artillery of the ungodly, and to illuminate the cities of the hearts of His loved ones with the effulgent lights of the Sun of Truth. He is the Generous and He is the Powerful. His mention was made in the presence of the Wronged One and he attained to grace. Blessed is he and joy be unto him.

Section 2: "And likewise, after mention of Jinab-i-Anis, upon him…"

And likewise, after mention of Jinab-i-Anis, upon him be 9 66 [Baha'u'llah], this blessed word was revealed:

> "O Anis! Upon you be My peace. I beseech God, exalted be His glory, at all times, that He may confirm you in that which is His good-pleasure. He is the Powerful, the Mighty. Be not grieved. We beseech Him to send down upon you a blessing from His presence and to ordain for you what will profit you in every world of His worlds. Verily, He is the Supreme over what He willeth and the Powerful over what He desireth."

And after mentioning the name of Haji Muhammad-Baqir, upon him be God's peace, this utterance hath issued forth from the Dawning-Place of knowledge: The world hath been saddened by the clamor of the idolaters and the tumult of the aggressors. The hosts of idolatry have encompassed the people of unity. All that hath come to pass hath been the recompense of deeds, as ye have witnessed. They have forsaken all matters and turned against these wronged ones, bringing about that which caused the rock to cry out and the clouds to lament. Now, that which shall ensure the salvation of the people is their return unto God, exalted be His glory, and complete repentance. There is no other path than this, no other way than this. Beseech ye God to strengthen all and to reveal the cause and means of deliverance. He, verily, is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. Thank thy Lord, then remember Him at all times. Verily, He is with thee, hearing and seeing, and He is the Witness, the All-Hearing.

And after mentioning the name of Muhammad-Qabl, upon him be God's peace, these pearls have shone forth from the ocean of knowledge and wisdom: Today all must aid the Truth, but through the hosts of

goodly deeds and virtuous character. These hosts are reckoned as the hosts of God, and the hosts of God shall triumph. Blessed is the soul that hath inhaled the sweet savors of utterance and hath acted in accordance with that which is befitting. Praise God, thy Lord, and say:

My God, my God! I beseech Thee to make me one of Thy devoted servants who are firm in Thy Cause, and to protect me from the evil of the aggressors and the idolaters who have violated Thy Covenant and have risen to extinguish Thy light. Verily, Thou art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest. There is no God but Thee, the All-Forgiving, the All-Bountiful.

And after mentioning Ali-Qabl-R, these stars have dawned and appeared from the horizons of the heaven of utterance: This Wronged One, in the Most Great Prison, hath remembered and continueth to remember the friends of God, exalted be His glory, and counseleth all to that which will exalt the Word of Unity. The idolaters are manifest today with utmost power, might, and dominion, yet these powers are as nothing and non-existent before the Dawning-Place of Authority. O people of unity! Cling ye to the hem of divine favor and strive to make amends for whatsoever ye have neglected in the ranks of servitude. Perchance the signs of God's grace may become manifest and His overwhelming power may restrain the transgressing idolatrous souls. By the Luminary of certitude that shineth from the horizon of the heaven of proof! Should the believers return and hold fast to the firm and mighty cord, the world would be illumined and brightened by the light of the blessed word "There is no God but Him." The believers shall be directed to the Most Great Prospect, while the idolaters shall find their abode in the fire. He is the Almighty over what He willeth, and He is the Supreme, the Self-Subsisting.

And He said: O Javad! One of the Most Exalted Names hath mentioned thee, and this mention hath proceeded from sincere love. Love layeth waste cities and buildeth countless towns and dwellings. The world is set ablaze by its fire and illumined by its light. With a single manifestation it overturneth the world, and with a single revelation it scattereth the peoples. Power is His power, and might is His might, and this ability hath been bestowed upon him by God. Blessed is the soul that hath been adorned with the ornament of love. But the love that is well-pleasing and remembered in the presence of God—we beseech Him to grant His friends that which beseemeth His bounty and generosity. Verily, He is the All-Bountiful, verily, He is the All-Merciful, verily, He is the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

O Muhammad Qabil-i-Ha and Sin! Seek confirmation from the Truth, that He may assist thee to make mention and offer praise and render service to His loved ones. Thy mention was made in the presence of the Wronged One. We beseech God to aid thee to achieve that which manifesteth His loving-kindness. The Sun of His generosity hath ever been resplendent and the Ocean of His bounty ever-surging. Every sincere one hath attained and every truthful one hath reached his goal. We beseech Him to illumine the horizons with the light of unity, that all may abide beneath the shade of the Tree of Hope and act in accordance with that which hath been enjoined in the Book. His grace hath ever been manifest and His loving-kindness evident. Strive ye, that perchance ye may be enabled to perform such deeds whose radiance shall endure eternally in the heaven of actions. He, verily, is powerful over all things. There is none other God but Him, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy.

Thou didst also make mention of Aqa Muhammad-Rida and Haji Hasan, upon them be the peace of God. After this was presented before the Most Exalted One, the Lord—may our souls be offered up for His

sake—spoke thus: O Muhammad-Rida! We have heard thy name and make mention of thee with that which will draw thee nigh unto God, the Lord of the worlds. In this day the loved ones of God, glorified be His majesty, must turn with radiant faces and illumined hearts toward the Most Exalted Horizon, and with utmost humility and supplication beseech the Self-Sufficing Lord for deliverance, that perchance the people of unity may be preserved from the evil of the oppressors. Praise be to the Ancient Lord Who assisted thee and enabled thee to attain unto the blessed Word of Unity. By the life of God! If a soul should, with clear certitude, but once make mention of the blessed word "There is none other God but Him," this is greater in the sight of God than the world and all that is therein.

O Hasan! I bear witness unto that which God did testify before the creation of the heavens and earth: that there is none other God but Him. He hath ever been sanctified above all peers and exalted above all comparison. He is the One to Whose singleness all created things testify and to Whose oneness all contingent beings bear witness. Blessed is the soul that hath acknowledged His unity and recognized that which hath flowed from the Pen of God, the Most High, in His perspicuous Book. We beseech God to open unto the hearts of His loved ones the gates of His bounty. He, verily, is the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous.

O Ali! Upon thee be the peace of God, His loving-kindness and His mercy. The Wronged One desireth to make mention at the end of this epistle of him who is named Abbas, who hath acknowledged the Unity of God and recognized that which hath been sent down from the Kingdom of God, the Lord of the worlds. O Abbas! The Wronged One counseleth thee with that whereby the Cause of God, thy Lord, may be exalted, and He beseecheth Him, exalted be He, to assist thee and confirm thee in that which He loveth and is pleased with, and to grant thee every good thing ordained for His loved ones. He, verily, is the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous.

Say: My God, my God! I beseech Thee by Him Whom Thou hast made the Dawning-Place of Thy commandments and through Whom Thou hast manifested that which was hidden in Thy knowledge and through Whom the breezes of revelation were wafted and Prophethood and Messengership were sealed, to make me to hold fast unto wisdom and utterance and to cling to that which hath been sent down in Thy mighty Book. O Lord! Assist me to serve Thy Cause and Thy loved ones and to make mention of Thy beauteous Name. There is none other God but Thee, the Omnipotent, the Supreme, the Mighty, the All-Wise.

Such bounty hath been vouchsafed that every letter among letters doth proclaim "The Sun of Divine Favor hath dawned!" Would that there were tongues to the number of all created atoms, that from time without beginning unto time without end we might render praise for but a single letter of His Book. Yet even then would we surely find ourselves abashed and humbled. Who is able to praise Him as He deserveth to be praised, and who can make mention of Him as He should be mentioned? Every possessor of knowledge hath confessed his powerlessness, and every one endued with insight hath acknowledged his shortcoming. He testifieth that there is no God but Him, in recognition of His oneness, His grandeur and His sovereignty, and in acknowledgment of that which He hath revealed in His Book, the Impregnable, the Mighty. All praise be unto Him, for He is the Lord of all worlds.

Praise be to God that that Beloved One hath repeatedly been remembered, and this evanescent servant offereth greetings and praise in service to each of His loved ones, and seeketh for all divine confirmation and assistance. Every morn beareth witness and every eve is knowing and aware. At all times hath this servant beseeched from the ocean of God's bounty, for His loved ones, that which in all His worlds would be their companion and intimate friend. In His grace have I been, and am, confident. Verily He is powerful over all things and worthy to answer prayer.

Peace and praise be upon you all, upon those with you, and upon God's sincere servants. And all praise be to God, the Lord of all worlds.

BH03482: Praise, sanctified from the mentions of the world, befits…

He is God, exalted be His glory, the Most Great, the All-Powerful

Praise, sanctified from the mentions of the world, befits and is worthy of the Ancient Lord who through His will brought creation into being and through His utterance made manifest and established the order of the world and the tranquility of nations. And blessings and peace be upon His Prophets and Messengers, and upon their Master and Lord, Muhammad—may God's blessings be upon him and his family and companions through whom was manifested God's Revelation and Power and through whom was exalted God's Word and Sovereignty. May my spirit be a sacrifice for your honor.

Your esteemed letter brought new glad tidings to the spirit and fresh collyrium to the eyes, as it conveyed news of your health and well-being. We praise God for this with praise sanctified beyond the limitations of contingent beings and elevated above the geometry of those in all lands.

Regarding what was written about Aqa Siyyid Nasru'llah, upon him be God's peace, and the envelope addressed to him—as commanded, they should act in consultation however they deem advisable. Mention was made of the spiritual friend Aqa Mirza Husayn, upon him be God's peace, favors and bounties. Praise be to God, he too attained mention from his Lord, as the letter was presented before His presence. He said:

> "God willing, divine confirmations and merciful outpourings shall encompass him and the hand of divine power shall assist him. Verily He has power over all things."

End quote. This servant also conveys greetings and praise to him and beseeches from God that which leads to the elevation of station. Similarly I send greetings to Qurratu'l-ʿAyn Husayn Effendi, upon him be Baha'u'llah's peace. God willing, may he ever dwell in perfect health under the shadow of God's Name. Peace, praise and glory be upon your honor and upon those with you and those who love you for the sake of God your Lord.

Another submission: Two arrival notices were sent regarding the matter of the ten liras that Aqa Mirza Husayn, upon him be Baha'u'llah's peace, intended to send to Istanbul—they should give them to Aqa Faraj and deliver the other ten liras when possible. God willing, after Nazareth.

The petitions that were submitted to your honor were sent. As commanded, they should write a response.

The servant 23rd of the month of Sha'ban al-Mu'azzam 1303

BH00912: Praise befits and is worthy of that Intended One…

He is God, exalted be His glory, majesty and power!

Praise befits and is worthy of that Intended One Who has placed in the letters of His loved ones the effect of the Water of Life, for it quenches thirst and removes weariness. The hand is His hand and the power is His power, glorified be the Creator! And blessings and peace be upon the Leader of all who are on earth, their Sovereign, their Educator, their Teacher and their Guide, and upon His family and companions who conquered the lands in the name of their Lord, the Master of creation.

And then, may my spirit be a sacrifice for your honor! The letter from your honor along with the accompanying correspondence arrived and attained the honor of being heard by the Master. He said: "O My Name! Upon thee be My peace and loving-kindness." Whatever was sent, this servant present made mention of it. The letter of H and S ibn-i-Qubad (upon him be my glory) which he sent to this servant present was read before His countenance. Verily We heard his call and answered him. We found from his words the fragrance of his love and steadfastness. Blessed are those souls whom the ephemeral affairs of these two days have not deprived of the breezes of revelation nor prevented from the horizon of light.

Likewise was seen the letter of Siyyid Farajullah (upon him be my glory) which he sent to that honored one. Praise be to God, they have drunk from the cup of faithfulness. This is from God's grace upon him. Also the letter of Aqa Muhammad Hashim attained the honor of being heard. We beseech God, exalted be He, to inscribe with His Most Exalted Pen for those whose names were present before the Wronged One in the Most Great Prison that which will draw them near unto Him in all His worlds, and to ordain for them what He has ordained for His loved ones and chosen ones, and to assist them with the hosts of the unseen and the visible.

Verily He is the All-Powerful, the Omnipotent, the Almighty. A hundred thousand blessings upon those souls who were not deprived by the ephemeral causes of the world from the eternal Kingdom of God. These are the people of the highest Paradise and the companions of the Crimson Ark.

O My Name! The petition of Haji Ahmad, upon him be My glory, has reached the Most Holy Court. We have heard his remembrance, his praise and his call in the love of God, his Lord and the Lord of the worlds and the Ancient King. We make mention of him and beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to strengthen him to remain steadfast in His firm and mighty Cause. We have seen what one of the aforementioned Sayyids sent, who was named Ali-Naqi. We have previously made mention of him in such wise that the sincere ones would perceive from it the fragrance of his turning to God and his steadfastness in His Cause. We beseech the Exalted One to ordain for him that which befitteth His generosity and favors. Verily, He is the Compassionate, the Generous.

Convey greetings from this Wronged One to the friends of God. Today, every soul that hath turned unto Him, his light is manifest before the Throne and his cause is evident. That which is necessary today is steadfastness in the Cause. The barking ones, in accordance with what hath previously flowed from the Supreme Pen, are striving with utmost hypocrisy to lead astray the people of the Covenant. By the life of

God! They are in manifest error, wandering blindly in the wilderness of perdition. Their light and understanding have been taken from them in recompense for their deeds. Verily thy Lord is the Executor, the All-Wise.

Two days ago We observed the letter of Ali-Akbar, who hath emigrated and attained, which he sent to thee. They have mentioned a good deed. Blessed is he who remembereth and blessed is he who acteth. Out of grace and for the promulgation of such deeds as are acceptable in the sight of God, two Tablets were sent—one specifically for him who remembered and the other for him who acted. Would that all souls who are firm in the Truth and detached from aught else would hold fast to such lofty and goodly deeds. By the life of God! These deeds are and have ever been the hosts of Truth, and through these hosts the cities of hearts have been and will be conquered. We beseech the Exalted One to aid His loved ones, protect them from the evil of His enemies, and draw them nigh unto Him. Verily, He hath power over all things.

Those two Tablets were sent; let them be forwarded. Likewise, the letter of Muhammad-Hasan, upon him be My glory, arrived. We read it and make mention of him. We beseech the Exalted One to strengthen him and assist him in that which He loveth and is pleased with. The letter was adorned with the handwriting of him who loveth God and His loved ones, namely Rida, upon him be the glory of God and His mercy. Likewise with the mention of Husayn ibn Hasan from H.R., upon them both be My glory and My loving-kindness. Verily he traversed land and sea until he attained the presence and heard the call of the Wronged One. We have mentioned him and make mention of him, and We beseech God to manifest through him that which shall endure throughout the dominion of the kingdom and the realm. Praise be to God, the Transformer of hearts.

The letter concluded with mention of Muhammad ibn Marfu', Shaykh Abu-Turab, who attained the presence and drank the wine of reunion from the hands of bounty. We beseech the True One to make him a true heir—heir to wisdom and knowledge, faith and certitude, and steadfastness. We beseech God, exalted be He, to strengthen him through His sovereignty and to ordain for him the best of what lieth in His worlds. Verily, He hath power over all things. The End.

Praise be to God! All letters sent to your eminence attained the honor of being heard, and each was blessed with sublime and exalted favor. According to your eminence's command, they should send forth and dispatch the replies to the letters, and in each express that which causes hearts to be enkindled with the fire of the love of God. And regarding the mention of his honor AF, his holiness M.H., may the Most Glorious Glory of God rest upon him, which was in your eminence's writing, after submission, the Lord, may our souls be sacrificed for Him, said: "O Mihdi, upon thee be My peace and My favor." His honor Afnan, may the Glory of the All-Merciful rest upon him, is ever present before His countenance, and the effulgent lights of the Sun of bounty have been and are directed towards him. By the life of God! He is indeed beneath an extended shade, an upraised pavilion, and an elevated tree. Praise be to God, he has been and is confirmed, and we beseech from the Truth that His confirmation be his companion, His success his friend, His grace his intimate, and His favor his associate. Beseech from the Truth that He ordain his nearness, that is, in outward appearance. End.

Last week, His honor AF also sent this servant a writing, and while engaged in preparing a response, news arrived that His honor was intending to proceed to the Holy Place by way of Sidon. Therefore, the submission of the reply was left pending. I beseech and hope from the Truth, exalted be His Glory, that He may confirm and assist him in all matters.

And regarding the mention of departure, God willing, may they set forth on Saturday in perfect health and well-being, and return. And peace and praise be upon your eminence and upon those who are with you and who love you for the sake of God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy.

BH11764: In My Name, the One manifest from My most…

In My Name, the One manifest from My most exalted horizon!

O ʿAli-Akbar! He Who is the Lord of Destiny makes mention of thee from His Most Great Prison and gives thee glad tidings of His grace and bounty. Verily, He is the All-Merciful, the All-Bountiful. Several letters from thee were received and each attained the honor of being heard in the Most Holy Court. Blessed art thou, for the fragrance of the love of God was wafting from every letter. Thou didst make mention of the deed of Qasim—upon him be the Glory of God. Such deeds are acceptable in the sight of God. We testify that his endeavor is appreciated and his deed meritorious. Solely for the sake of propagation, there hath been revealed from the Supreme Pen that which shall encourage those who have turned to God and are unified in His Cause. We beseech God to assist all to perform such deeds as will cause the exaltation of the Word of God.

O ʿAli-Akbar! A single deed performed for God's sake may give life to many, and remembrance in the path of God is the water of life for the bodies of the chosen ones of God—that is, those souls who are firmly attached to Him and are detached and free from all else. We convey Our greetings to all and bid them to that which conduces to the elevation and enhancement of the Cause of God and human dignity. Blessed is he who was not prevented by the clamor of the deniers and the uproar of the opposers.

Give thanks unto God, thy Lord. Verily, He hath made mention of thee time and again, and hath revealed for thee that which giveth thee glad tidings of the ocean of His generosity, the heaven of His grace, and the sun of His bounty. Verily, He is powerful over all things. The promised luminous Tablets were previously sent. God willing, all shall attain unto them and drink from the ocean of their meanings. The Glory shining forth from the horizon of the heaven of My mercy be upon thee and upon those with thee, and upon them whom the opposition of the people hath not prevented from turning towards the horizon of God, the Luminous.

BH11768: In My Name that overshadoweth all names

In My Name that overshadoweth all names

O Qasim! Jinab-i-ʿAli-Akbar has made mention of your love, compassion and forgiveness. Since this deed is acceptable in the sight of God, the Most Exalted Pen has desired its promulgation, and this Tablet hath been sent down from the heaven of God's Will that all may read it and cleave unto goodly deeds and praiseworthy conduct. Today, whatsoever deed is manifested from those who are nigh and the believers

for the sake of God is effective and influential in the world. Blessed is the soul who, detached from all else, ariseth to do that which God loveth. The fragrance of a good deed hath never ceased, nor shall it ever cease.

We convey Our greetings to the friends in that land—that is, to those souls who are detached from all save God and who are gazing toward the Most Exalted Horizon. We counsel all to observe chastity, trustworthiness, faithfulness, mercy, compassion, generosity, and likewise wisdom. We beseech God, exalted be He, to ordain for thee through His Most Exalted Pen that which He hath destined for His chosen ones. Verily, He is the Lord of creation and the Lord of the throne on high and of the dust beneath.

At the end of this Tablet, We counsel all to aid the Cause of God through wisdom and utterance. Verily, He is the Almighty, the Help in Peril. Glory be upon thee and upon those who have attained unto deeds in accordance with what God hath revealed in His perspicuous Book. We beseech Him, exalted be He, to ordain for thee the reward of attaining His presence, of standing before His gate, and of mentioning and praising Him amongst His servants. Verily, He is powerful over all things.

Volume 079: Akka 1303 A.H. (1885–1886), Part III (1 of 5)

BH00520: The True One proclaims and verses shine forth…

In the Name of our Most Holy, Most Great, Most Exalted, Most Glorious Lord!

The True One proclaims and verses shine forth, the path is clear and proof is manifest. Yet the people of the earth are occupied with vain imaginings and veiled from the effulgent rays of the Sun of Certitude. Today, sublime praise and beauteous glorification are, in the first rank and highest station, befitting the loved ones of Truth, exalted be His glory, who were not hindered from the straight path of God by the insinuations of the opposers, the doubts of the deniers, the oppression of the aggressors, nor the conjectures and fancies of the heedless. Inwardly they are like surging oceans, while outwardly they remain steady and firm as mountains. These are the souls who are seated upon the cushions of light and recline upon the pillars of certitude, for they gaze toward the horizon of “He doeth whatsoever He willeth” and are steadfast in their adherence to the blessed words “He ordaineth whatsoever He pleaseth.”

The veils of the world and the clouds of the nations prevented them not from the Ancient Lord. They discovered the fragrance of the Day of God and attained unto true unity. These are the Hands of the Cause amongst the servants and the Standards of Guidance in all lands. Through the rustling of the Divine Lote-Tree and the flowing of the Supreme Pen, they have attained unto a wondrous new life and have drunk from the chalice of detachment. The clamor of the divines is to them as the buzzing of flies, and the tumult of the jurists like the croaking of ravens. They are enkindled with the fire of divine love—a flame that shall never be extinguished. They move by God’s will and are stirred by the movement of the Blessed Tree. Blessed are they, and joy be unto them, and theirs is a goodly destination. There is no God but He, the Mighty, the Glorious, the All-Bestowing.

Glory be unto Thee, O Thou at Whose call the dwellers of the graves arose and at Whose command the trumpet was blown! I beseech Thee by the One Who conversed on Sinai, through Whom the decree of resurrection was made manifest, to assist Thy chosen ones and Thy loved ones through whom Thy verses were spread abroad, Thy banners were raised up, Thy clear proofs appeared and Thy standards were planted. O my Lord! This evanescent one desires to make mention of one of Thy Afnan who attained Thy presence and whom Thou didst relate unto Thyself, though my praise befits not his exalted stations which were revealed from Thy Most Exalted Pen. Nevertheless, I beseech Thee, O Lord of Names and Creator of the heavens, to accept from me that which my tongue hath uttered and that which I failed to mention in their remembrance and praise.

O my Lord! I beseech Thee by Thy Most Great Name, through which the pillars of the world were shaken, to adorn him at every moment with new favors, fresh bounties, renewed blessings, original sustenance and mighty mercy. Thou art He through Whose Name the ocean of generosity surged amongst the nations and by Whose command the light of utterance shone forth from the horizon of the world. There is no God but Thee, the Strong, the Triumphant, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

My spirit be a sacrifice unto your mention and your loving-kindness. The servant has been blessed by the trace of your ink and what flowed from the pen of your knowledge. When I drank the Kawthar of love from the sweetest cups of your utterances, I approached the Most Exalted Station and the highest Summit, was present and offered supplication before the face of the Lord of all beings. Thereupon the Tongue of Grandeur spoke that which shall endure as long as the kingdom and the realm endure. His word, mighty is His utterance and sublime His proof:

In My Name, through which the fragrance of the All-Merciful was wafted throughout all possibilities:

Mention from the Divine Lote-Tree to His Afnan who turned towards the Most Exalted Horizon when Zawra was the seat of his Lord's throne, the Lord of Names, and who attained the choice wine of revelation while men were in a wondrous sleep. He turned, and heard, and beheld a horizon from which shone forth the Luminary of his Lord's loving-kindness, the Lord of creation. The Most Great Ocean hath surged, and the fragrance of the Ancient Beauty hath wafted, and the Dove of Utterance hath warbled upon the highest branch of divine knowledge that there is none other God but Me, the Mighty, the Bestower.

Blessed is the arm that hath shattered the idols of vain imaginings through the power of the Lord of all beings and hath attained the light of unity when it shone forth from the horizon of might. Say: By God! The gate of heaven hath been opened and the Lord of Names hath come with such sovereignty as neither the hosts of rulers nor the doubts of the learned could withhold. He stood before the faces of all the world and summoned all to God, the Lord of Lords. Say: Beware lest anything among all things prevent you from this bounty the like of which the eye of creation hath never beheld. The world hath been illumined by the light of My Most Great Name.

Say: Be fair, O people, in this Cause at whose appearance the very signs have submitted. Say: O people of the Bayan, fear the All-Merciful. He indeed said: Should anyone come unto you with a verse, reject him not—yet ye have rejected Him Who came with that which no revelation throughout eternity can equal.

By God! Every mention hath submitted at My mention, and the Concourse on High hath been attracted by the shrill voice of My Pen—to this testifieth He Who hath proclaimed in all things that there is none other God but Me, the Powerful, the Unconstrained.

This is the Day wherein the Mother Book crieth out from the precincts of the Prison with that wherewith all things have cried out: The Kingdom is God's, the Lord of all men. O Afnan! Upon thee be My glory and loving-kindness. I complain unto thee of those who have denied Me after they were created to serve Me. Say: Take ye heed, O people of insight! Say: O people of the Bayan! Where were ye when the Light was shining forth from the Supreme Horizon and the Manifestation was standing before the faces of all peoples? Fear God, O ye manifestations of idle fancies! I was standing at the world's center, making mention of God, Lord of all nations, whilst the people remained behind the veil.

Say: Cast the rivulet behind you. By God! The Ocean of Life hath surged in My Name, the All-Merciful. Draw nigh and drink therefrom through this Name whereby the pillars have been shaken. Say: O people, weigh what ye possess with the balance of justice and fairness by this Book, at Whose revelation all scriptures and tablets have bowed down in submission. Say: O company of the heedless! Of no profit to you this day is what the people possess, nor will all the books of the world suffice you. Fear God! He hath come with a Cause before which the verses have prostrated themselves.

Glory be to God! Until now they have not comprehended the Day of God. They have devised calumnies born of their vain imaginings and have arisen to lead the servants astray. The heaven beareth witness and the sun is a testimony that this Wronged One hath arisen before the faces of all the world, wholly detached from all else, in such wise that no fair-minded person can deny it. He hath summoned all unto the Supreme Horizon. And when the lights of the Cause shed forth their radiance to some degree, a band of wolves emerged from behind the veil of the letters Kaf and Ra, intent upon the Wronged One, though they were and are ignorant of the root of the matter.

Thus have their souls enticed them to a course of action that hath made them among the most lost in the perspicuous Book. By God! They are bereft of the ocean deposited within the blessed word "He doeth whatsoever He willeth" and are heedless of "He ordaineth whatsoever He pleaseth." Whosoever hath been blessed with this blessed word is preserved from all the doubts and allusions of the people. Thus hath the Supreme Pen spoken in the prison of ʿAkka as a grace and mercy unto thee and a light before thee. Verily He is the Compassionate, the Generous. The Glory shining forth from the heaven of bounty be upon you and upon those who love you and hearken unto your words, by the command of God, the Lord of the worlds.

This evanescent servant hath ever besought and continueth to beseech the True One that He deprive not the peoples of the earth of the outpourings of His days, and that He may aid them all that they might attain unto return. His Holiness too must needs supplicate the True One for the deliverance of His servants throughout the nights and days, for verily this blessed word was repeatedly heard from the tongue of Grandeur—blessed and exalted be His utterance:

> "O servant who art present! We have chosen the Afnan and made firm their connection to the Tree. The Tablet beareth witness and the Pen testifieth, and verily whatsoever they ask shall assuredly be granted by God."

They are, praise be to God, blessed with that which this servant and his like are powerless to mention. In the days when His Holiness the Greater Afnan and His Holiness who triumphed in Baghdad were honored to be in thy presence and in this Prison, thy place was truly empty. Such gatherings were arranged whose mention shall never be effaced from the world. Yet thy mention and the mention of those related to thee hath ever endured—gatherings from which the Concourse on High drew spirituality and the denizens of the highest Paradise cried out "Blessed be God!" At one time this supreme blessed word was heard from the tongue of the Lord of Names—blessed and exalted be His utterance:

> "O servant who art present! In these days, due to the world's lack of capacity, stations and ranks remain concealed. Yet in God's knowledge there is preserved a Day, and on that Day there shall be the gathering of Tablets and the spreading of verses, and on that Day the concealed stations and hidden conditions shall appear manifest as the sun from the horizon of the heaven of the world."

Whatsoever hath been revealed by the Supreme Pen is the truth wherein there is no doubt, as hath become evident and manifest to all. Every fair-minded one hath testified and doth testify that verily whatsoever hath appeared or shall appear in the world hath been revealed with utmost clarity in the divine Tablets. The stations of the Afnan must needs be made manifest and evident in the world. Thy letter was repeatedly read; at every moment the effects of the living waters were manifest therefrom. Praise be unto the Goal of all the worlds Who hath concealed within the words of His Afnan the treasure of love, wherein the effects of the celestial stream lie hidden. Glorified be His bounty, magnificent His generosity, and exalted His favors unto His Afnan! This servant beseecheth his Lord to assist and strengthen Your Honor and to open before your faces that whereby the fragrance of His Revelation may be diffused throughout the world. Verily our Lord, the All-Merciful, is the Omnipotent over whatsoever He willeth, and He is the Hearing, the Answering.

Unto the two luminous lights, upon them be the Most Glorious Glory of God, I convey greetings, praise and glory, and I say that they are truly adorned with the ornament of distinction and are enkindled with the fire of love. His Holiness M.H. [Muhammad], upon him be the Most Glorious Glory of God, hath returned by firm decree, while his sighs ascended and his tears descended. Truly, mention of the degrees of his love, faithfulness, acceptance, yearning and enkindlement transcend this servant's power to describe. And whatsoever was sent hath arrived. Two Tablets have been revealed from the heaven of divine Will specifically for the two lights. God willing, they shall attain unto them, inhale the fragrance of the All-Merciful therefrom, and drink from the ocean of His utterance. Glory, praise, mention and exaltation be upon Your Honor, upon those with you, and upon those who love you, mention you, and aid you by the command of an All-Wise Ordainer. Praise be to God, the King of this manifest Day.

The servant 5 Ramadan the Blessed 1303

BH00880: That which was hidden and concealed desired to come…

He is God, exalted be His glory, the Grandeur and the Power!

That which was hidden and concealed desired to come forth and be revealed. Therefore, through the Most Great Word, He created whatsoever is beneath Him, of which all others are powerless and incapable to reckon. And since creation was in need of education and refinement, He sent forth the Messengers and revealed the Books, dispatching them to His servants with clear proof and manifest evidence, until the Messengers culminated in their Seal and the Books in their most complete form. The bearer of manifestation and revelation, of attributes and names, of knowledge and wisdom, of conditions and appearances and effulgences of the Lord was Muhammad—upon Him be the blessings of God, the Single, the One. Through Him were manifested all names and attributes, through Him did the heavenly spheres revolve and the horizons become illumined, through Him did the idols fall and the standards were raised.

And upon His family and companions, through whose arising the servants arose, and through whose aid God aided all in the lands. Through them appeared the straight path of God and His mighty Cause. Through them surged the ocean of divine knowledge throughout contingent being, and the decree of the All-Merciful was made manifest in all lands. This servant beseeches his Lord by Him and by them, and by His chosen ones and pure ones, that He may guide us to His path and draw us near to the court of His good-pleasure, and honor us with that which He has promised us in His Book. Verily, He is the Lord of the world and the Educator of all nations, and He is the Truth, the Knower of the unseen.

Glory be unto Thee, O Subduer of Names! I beseech Thee by the shrill voice of Thy Most Exalted Pen, and by the rustling of the Lote-Tree beyond which there is no passing, and by the lights of Thy countenance in the kingdom of creation, and by the Most Great Word through which Thou didst create earth and heaven, to assist Thy servants to turn unto Thee and to be humble before the gate of Thy grandeur, and to act according to that which Thou hast commanded them in Thy Book. O my Lord! We beseech Thee by the light of Thy countenance and the fire of Thy Lote-Tree to ordain for us that which Thou hast ordained for Thy near servants and sincere chosen ones, and to assist us in Thy remembrance and praise amongst Thy servants.

O my Lord! Thou seest the poor turning toward the ocean of Thy bounty and the unlettered hoping for the treasuries of Thy knowledge. Send down, then, from the heaven of Thy mercy that which befitteth Thy presence and Thy generosity and Thy grace and Thy forgiveness and Thy bestowal. Verily, Thou art the Almighty, before Whose power the might of every mighty one and the power of every powerful one is impotent. There is no God but Thee, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

To continue: Several letters from your honor were received. O brother! This evanescent servant has ever cherished the mention of God's friends, nay, at all times has beseeched the True One, exalted be His glory, to assist him in remembering His friends. However, ignorant and heedless souls have become a barrier. In their utter ignorance, they see good as evil and evil as good. The fire of sedition has encompassed all. The cities and abodes of the people of divine unity have been plundered, as all have witnessed and continue to witness. Where has the might of the people of unity gone, and what became

of that power? Not long ago, their very limbs would tremble and their hearts would quake at the might of the sword of the people of unity.

O brother, in the Syrian desert during the time of Abu Ubaydah, the commander, sixty men defeated one hundred thousand. What then is this weakness that has now encompassed such power, and what is this abasement that has obliterated the horizon of glory, and what is its cause? Verily, our deeds have caused the ruin of the world, and our heedlessness and transgressions have brought about the power of the enemies. Each day the ungodly seize and carry away a limb from the believers.

O brother, it is incumbent upon you, upon this servant, and upon all believers in divine unity to hold fast to the cord of return and arise to redress what has been lost. God is witness and testament that His Holiness the Master—may our souls be a sacrifice for Him—desired naught save the reformation of the world, and His purpose was the refinement of souls and the education of the people of the earth. Yet when He opened His lips to mention the Lord of humanity and the Sovereign of destiny, the wolves of the earth emerged from all directions and perpetrated that which caused the people of the City of Justice and fairness to weep and lament. God is witness and His Prophets bear testimony that there was no purpose save the welfare of the people of unity. The intention was that rancor and hatred, born of the suppositions and idle fancies of the people of the earth, might be effaced and eliminated, and that hearts might turn to their Author and Illuminator. Nevertheless, they perpetrated that which no eye has seen and no ear has heard.

Therefore, beautiful patience, and God is the One Whose help is to be sought against that which they describe. Had ears been found and had they been blessed with hearkening to the Most Exalted Word, the world would have found some measure of tranquility, and likewise the fire of war and contention. Strange that until now we have not reflected upon what has been the cause of this abasement and what has been its reason. O brother, I speak truly when I say that the recompense of deeds—that is, the recompense of the deeds of the heedless—has been mentioned as supreme justice and described as fairness. We are God's and unto Him shall we return. Now what appears to be the cause of extinguishing the fire of oppression in all regions is the return of the people of unity to the True One, exalted be His glory.

We must, at all times, with the utmost lowliness and supplication, beseech the Self-Sufficient Lord for protection and ask for the return of departed glory. His forgiveness is abundant and His generosity beyond reckoning. Perchance His grace and bounty will encompass all existence and deliver it from these tribulations. He is the Mighty, the Powerful. There is no God but He, the Lord of the Throne and earth, and the Master of the hereafter and this world.

The honored traveler has arrived. Praise be to God, news of that esteemed friend's health and well-being brought joy and gladness. I beseech the True One, exalted be His glory, to assist your honor in that which ensures salvation in both worlds. You have not been and will not be forgotten.

As to what you wrote about business matters, engaging in a profession has been and is beloved before God. We beseech Him to assist you, bestow His blessings, and ordain that which contains your good.

The pen which you sent arrived. God willing, you are remembered during writing. In all conditions, petition, supplication and beseeching are from us servants, while bestowal, bounty, generosity, grace, gifts and favors are from the Lord of all worlds.

To the honored friend, Aqa Muhammad-Baqir, upon him be God's peace, I convey greetings and beseech from God, exalted be His glory, confirmation and assistance for him. The bowl of sugar candy which he sent arrived and was accepted with favor.

This servant asks his Lord to aid you with the means of the heavens and earth and to enable you to do what He loves and is pleased with. Peace be upon you and upon God's righteous and sincere servants.

BH02128: The servant testifieth that there is none other God…

He is God, exalted be His glory, the Greatness and the Power!

The servant testifieth that there is none other God but Him. He hath ever been One, Single, Alone, Self-Subsisting, the Ever-Living, the Self-Sustaining, and will forever remain as He hath always been. In the beginning that hath no beginning, He is the One Who hath sent down the Books and dispatched the Messengers, that He might draw His servants nigh unto the highest horizon and make them cognizant of His path, His straight way, His Cause and His mighty Message. And may prayers and peace be upon the Point of Existence and the Lord of the kingdom of earth and heaven, Whom God hath made the Manifestation of His names and the Dawning-Place of His attributes and the Repository of His knowledge and the Source of His Command—He but for Whom nothing would have been created—and upon His family and companions who conquered the world through His Name and arose to aid His Cause and bore witness even as the tongue of His grandeur bore witness that there is none other God but Him, the All-Compelling, the Self-Subsisting.

Glory be unto Thee, O my God! I beseech Thee by the Most Great Name, and by Thy mighty Message, and by the Dawning-Places of Thy Revelation, and the Manifestations of Thy Self, and the Day-Springs of Thy inspiration, to aid us in Thy remembrance and praise and in acting according to that which Thou hast commanded us in Thy Book. I beseech Thee, O Creator of the world and Quickener of the nations, by the lights of Thy Kingdom and Thy Dominion, and by Thy chosen ones and Thy loved ones, and by Him through Whom revelation was cut off and Thy clear and straight path was made manifest, to ordain for us that which will remove us from all else save Thee and draw us nigh unto Thee. Verily Thou art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest and within Thy grasp are the reins of all who are in the heavens and on earth.

Thereafter, your letter was received, and at this hour, when six hours have passed from the fifth day of the blessed month of Ramadan, this ailing one, while fasting, is engaged in writing this letter that you might be gladdened thereby. God is witness and testifier that the friends have ever been and continue to be before our eyes. I beseech God, exalted be His glory, to accept the unworthy deeds that have appeared and continue to appear in this blessed month, and to aid us in making up for what we have lost. Every deed that is performed for God's sake is acceptable and hath ever been and will continue to be the

cause of success and prosperity. I convey my greetings to the friends in that land and beseech God to grant them the ability to perform good deeds and to acquire praiseworthy character.

Although fasting is outwardly difficult and toilsome, inwardly it is a blessing and comfort. Refinement and training depend upon spiritual exercises—such spiritual exercises as are in accordance with the Book of God and are permitted by religious law, not those wherewith certain deluded ones have afflicted the people. Whatsoever hath been revealed by God is beloved of the soul. We beseech Him to aid us in that which He loveth and is pleased with. The two Pharaoh birds that you sent arrived. May God reward you. Indeed you took much trouble. While they were here also they endured many hardships. The deed was for God's sake and its reward too is with God. Peace and praise be upon you and upon God's sincere servants. And praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH03733: Being came into existence through the Word of God…

Being came into existence through the Word of God, and the Word of God through His manifest Revelation. He is the Perspicuous Book and the Impregnable Stronghold, the Dawning-Place of the Hidden Mystery and the Dayspring of the Treasured Name. Through His mention have the Books of God been adorned, and through His light hath the world been illumined. His deeds are He doeth whatsoever He willeth', and His will is He ordaineth whatsoever He pleaseth'. The foundation of existence is made firm through His Name, and the realm of wisdom and utterance is ordered through the effects of His Pen….

Today the judgement of death applieth to all save those souls whom the obstacle of names hath not withheld from the Creator of all things. They saw and heard, and with manifest certitude made their way to the ocean of inner meanings. These are the Hands of the Cause of God and the dawning-places of steadfastness and power….

The decree of wisdom in the divine Tablets is like unto the sun shining from the horizon of the heaven. All must observe it and follow it. The tender saplings must be protected from poisonous winds, by the command of God, the Lord of the worlds. The requirements of consummate wisdom are that which hath been recorded in the Tablets. All must hold fast to the cord of God's command and cling to the hem of His laws, for whatsoever hath flowed from the Most Exalted Pen hath been and is the cause and source of the order of the world and the preservation of nations. Well is it with them that act. O people of God! Hold precious these days and arise to serve His Cause. Today, goodly deeds and praiseworthy character are reckoned as mighty hosts in the sight of God. With these hosts render ye assistance. Verily He speaketh the truth and He is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed….

BH01689: Praise befitting and worthy be unto the Creator…

He is God, exalted be His station in wisdom and utterance

Praise befitting and worthy be unto the Creator of contingent beings, Who made utterance the dawning-place of wisdom, will and knowledge. He is that Word within which books lie concealed and psalms lie hidden. From Him have appeared the hosts of divine commands and prohibitions which are the cause of the order of the world, the comfort and tranquility of nations, and the reason for fellowship, unity, love

and affection. The protection of cities and lands through justice and fairness has been and continues to be through these blessed hosts. The Dawning-Place of this utterance in the world of creation was the Seal of the Prophets, may the spirit of all else be sacrificed for Him. O God, bless Him and His family and companions through whom were opened the gates of knowledge to all in creation and through whom appeared the path of Thy commands amongst religions.

And then, O beloved of my heart, the distinguished letter whose allusions were delightful and whose worth was precious to the people of knowledge—not every appraiser can know this pearl nor undertake to determine its value. In any case, since it was adorned with the lights of love, humility, submissiveness, attention and acceptance, after reading it the wine of its words intoxicated this lowly one and involuntarily I approached the Presence where it was granted the honor of being heard. O Nabil, upon thee be My peace. Praise be to God that through the grace of the All-Powerful and the compulsion of the Self-Sufficient, the Almighty, thou hast attained unto both. This compulsion is the cause and reason for the stability of existence and the firmness of its pillars. In truth, the insightful ones detect the fragrance of grace from all affairs that occur.

This Wronged One testifies to thy burning with the fire of love and thy attraction and longing for the light of knowledge. Thou hast drunk from the cup of mystical knowledge and quaffed from the ocean of grace. Divine love causes dust to transcend the heavens and brings the heart to light. The servant in attendance with thy letter mentioned what thou didst mention. In truth it removed grief and brought joy, took away sorrow and bestowed delight. According to the inappropriate sayings of the world:

> "O time, thou art pleasant that thou hast made our time pleasant."

Although this verse outwardly has no elements, yet a subtle fragrance emanates from it. We beseech God that thy mention and that of the friends has ever been and continues to be in the court of the Lord.

This evanescent one at all times beseeches God, exalted be His glory, to assist all to do what is befitting. That honored master should convey on behalf of this evanescent one greetings and praise to each one. The servant asks his Lord to make them manifestations of glory among creatures, dawning-places of faith among the people of creation, and rising-points of certitude for the people of mystical knowledge, and to protect them from the evil of His enemies and draw them near to Him in all conditions.

His honor the Name 66, upon him be from all the Most Glorious of God, arrived and attained the presence and dwelt in the shadow, and his honor the Beloved too, upon him be the peace of God, was in his service for a time and then the command to return was issued for some of their own affairs. They arrived with utmost joy, delight and gladness and returned in the same manner. Give my greetings and praise to the comfort of eyes. God willing, may they be at rest in the shadow of grace and provided for from the Tree of bounty.

As for the mention made of his honor Mulla Ali, upon him be the peace of God, praise be to God his name attained the honor of being heard in the Presence and was adorned and illumined with the light of grace. This servant too sends greetings to him and beseeches God for his success. Peace and praise be upon you and upon those with you and upon those who hear your words regarding good deeds and upon every knowing, steadfast mystic.

BH00486: Praise and glory, sanctified above the comprehension of all…

Praise and glory, sanctified above the comprehension of all created things, befit the Lord of all things, Who, despite the opposition of the deniers and polytheists, hath appeared with His manifest and radiant light from the horizon of Revelation, and hath called out with the most exalted call before the countenance of the Manifestations of His names, inviting all to the most exalted horizon. Neither the might of princes hindered Him, nor the turning away of the divines. Despite the heedlessness and contention of all, in every direction was raised the banner of "Verily He is God." The clamor of the world became as the buzzing of a fly, and the tumult of the nations as though it had never been mentioned. He appeared and manifested whatsoever He desired. Ponder, O ye who are endowed with understanding! From the beginning of the Cause He spoke forth the Most Great Word, and by that Word He rent asunder the veils and dispersed the clouds of glory. Exalted be the fingers of His power and might! In days when the sea of hatred surged and the fire of malice was ablaze, He openly and manifestly summoned all the kings….

In the Persian tongue, hearken unto the sweetest verses of the Lord of Names. Whosoever today attains unto hearing them is accounted among the people of Baha and is recorded by the Most Exalted Pen in the Crimson Tablet. Say: O servants! Deprive not your ears from hearing the call of Him Who is the Speaker on Sinai and the Lord of Revelation, and forbid not your eyes from beholding His signs. Today the horizon of the world is illumined and radiant with the lights of the Most Great Luminary. It would be a pity to abandon the rustling of the Most Exalted Pen and the murmuring of the Uttermost Tree, and seek instead to hear the buzzing of flies. Say: Abandon your vain imaginings. By God, the ocean of certitude is surging and the horizon of faith is illumined. The heaven is witness and the sun bears testimony….

All the divines and ecclesiastics of the earth were created for this Day and to serve this Cause, yet on the Day of His Manifestation, all arose in opposition. They pronounced death upon that Desired One for Whom they had waited a thousand and two hundred years and Whose presence they had longed for, as all have seen and heard. Now the worth and station of those few divines who drank from the wine of revelation and turned to the Supreme Horizon become clear and evident. These things occurred only because of vain imaginings. Suspicions and idle fancies deprived all from the Lord of mankind on the Day of Resurrection….

From the beginning of Islam until now, the divines of the earth and its ecclesiastics have been deprived of the knowledge of true unity, save whom God willeth, just as all were veiled from recognizing the truth of the Promised One's Cause. Not one of the former divines discovered His presence in the loins. All walked in the wilderness of ignorance. Now too all the divines and ecclesiastics of Iran gaze toward the imaginary Jabulqa and the unknown Jabulsa, awaiting the appearance of an imaginary person, like unto the Jews who still wait. I beseech God to illumine the friends of those regions with the lights of the Sun of true unity. He is powerful over all things. They are awaiting an imaginary person to appear, like unto the Jews who until now await. I beseech God to illumine the friends of those regions with the lights of the Sun of true divine unity. He verily is powerful and mighty over all things….

O Wahhab! The All-Giving counseleth thee to recognize the measure and worth of God's grace and favor, and to voice His praise throughout the days and nights. The divines of Iran who considered themselves the repositories of knowledge and learning, and counted themselves among the most ascetic, learned and pious in all the world, were deprived of the divine manifestation's effulgences and barred from recognizing His Day. Yet thou hast attained unto the recognition of God, exalted be His glory, and hast hearkened unto the Most Exalted Pen's shrill voice. Blessed art thou and those who have attained unto this most mighty, most holy, most exalted and most impregnable station….

O Hasan! Know thou with clear certitude that the fragrance of the Merciful's utterance is distinct and distinguishable from all else. Blessed is he who, possessing the sense of smell, discovered it and hastened to the Friend's dwelling-place, and blessed is he who, possessing the power of hearing, recognized it and attained unto hearkening to His call. He is indeed of the people of Baha in My perspicuous Book….

O Husayn! This Wronged One hath counseled and continueth to counsel all to perform goodly deeds and manifest praiseworthy conduct, that all may behold the people of truth adorned with that which beseemeth them. By My life! Goodly deeds have been and will ever be a guide. Likewise We counsel all to fear God, for in the divine kingdom of knowledge, the fear of God is regarded as the finest adornment. Blessed are they that act. Praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds….

O Muhammad-ʿAli! The Wronged One calleth thee. Reflect upon the deeds of the Shi'ih and what was manifested from them of rancor and hatred on the Day of God. If thou wert to reflect upon the deeds and words of those souls and their recompense on the Day of Resurrection, thou wouldst behold thyself seated upon the throne of steadfastness and see thyself detached and free from all else but God. The fruit of those lamentations and wailings, and the result of those claims, was that on the Day of Resurrection they openly and evidently engaged in cursing and reviling the Object of the worlds' adoration from the pulpits, and finally pronounced the verdict for the shedding of His most pure blood. Say: The curse of God be upon the wrongdoing people!…

O Abu'l-Qasim! The suspicions and imaginings of the divines of Iran have deprived them of the Dawning-Place of Revelation, the Source of Knowledge, and the Revealer of Verses. Blessed is he who, with the arm of might, hath shattered the idols of the people on this Day which is attributed to Truth, and hath turned toward the horizon of certitude. Today all must guide the people of creation to the horizon of the All-Merciful with hearts sanctified from rancor and hatred, with joy and radiance. Blessed is he who hath attained unto this mighty deed….

O Ali-Akbar! The people of the world, throughout ages and centuries, have lamented their separation from the Almighty Lord, and at the mention of His name they were seen humble and submissive. Yet now when the promise hath been fulfilled and the promised One—that is, the Speaker of Sinai—hath dawned and appeared from the horizon of the heaven of manifestation, all have risen in opposition and uttered that which no sect hath ever uttered. The Pen wept, the Tree lamented, and the Tablet took its place upon the dust. Man is bewildered, nay the world is bewildered. The recompense of their deeds hath deprived these heedless, evil souls of future blessings….

O Rahim! God willing, may you and the friends of God succeed in performing deeds that are acceptable in His sight. Today is the day of pure deeds, and deeds are the witness and testimony to words. Words without deeds were never and are not worthy of mention. We beseech God to aid all to perform deeds whose fragrance shall never be cut off from the world….

O Muhammad-ʿAli! That which hath flowed from the Most Exalted Pen is as a lamp before one's face, and in all divine worlds it accompanieth and befriendeth him. Were this most exalted station to be unveiled even less than the eye of a needle, all the world would turn from what they possess to what God possesseth. Fleeting ornaments, changing things, and imaginary names would not prevent them from the Dawning-Place of the Light of Oneness. Say: O people of God! Hold fast to the divine Book and free yourselves from all else. This Wronged One beseecheth confirmation and assistance for all. He is the Compassionate, He is the Generous. There is no God but He, the Mighty, the Great….

O people of God!… Today the learned one is he who has attained to the recognition of God, and the God-fearing soul is one who has withheld himself from that which God loves not, and the strivers are they who have clung fast to the Perspicuous Book. Whosoever has caused his will and desire to be extinguished in the Will and Desire of God—that is, has attained to God's good-pleasure—he is recorded and inscribed among the martyrs in the Crimson Book. Blessed are they who know, and blessed are they who understand….

O people of God! Reflect upon the deceivers and plotters among the people of the Qur'an. For one thousand two hundred years and more they trained God's servants in vain imaginings. In truth, they were worshippers of fancy yet counted themselves among the people of certitude. All clung to mere conjectures and were heedless of God, exalted be His glory. When the dawn of hope broke and the horizon of the world was illumined with the lights of the appearance of Him Who conversed with God on Sinai, the merit of all became evident and clear to those possessed of insight. They committed that which no people had ever committed. O people of God! Fix your gaze solely upon the Most Exalted Horizon and act according to His command. Purify your ears from hearkening to the words of the idolaters, that you may hear with the ear of the soul the rustling of the Divine Lote-Tree. Praise ye the Beloved of the worlds Who guided you and led you to the straight path in days when all arose in opposition….

BH01162: Praise be befitting and worthy of the Beloved…

He is God, exalted be His glory, the Greatness and the Power!

Praise be befitting and worthy of the Beloved of the world and the Goal of all peoples, Who hath adorned the realm of existence with the ornament of knowledge. He is the Omnipotent One Who bestowed existence upon utter nothingness and commanded the worship of His peerless Being. He is the Sovereign Who hath ever loved and will ever love His knowledge; therefore He brought creation from non-existence into being. And His knowledge is not realized except through knowledge of the Dayspring of Revelation, the Dawning-Place of His Manifestation, the Source of His Cause, and the Manifestation of His Self, through Whom appeared His power, His might, His grace, His sovereignty, His greatness, His loftiness and His authority. Exalted be His station and His glory!

Through Him He revealed His signs and His evidences, and made Him the Lord of His Messengers and the Seal of His Prophets. Upon Him and upon His family and His companions be His blessings, His peace, His glory, His mercy and His favors. We beseech God through them to assist through them the people of divine unity to return unto Him, to turn in repentance at the gate of His grace, and to hold fast to His cord, that there may be revealed that which was concealed and raised up that which was cast down.

Glory be unto Thee, O God of kings and Master of all who are owned! I beseech Thee to enable the people of the white path to return unto Thee, then open before their faces the gates of Thy glory, Thy mercy and Thy favors. O my Lord! Thou seest them in the hands of the idolaters among Thy servants, where the people of hatred have surrounded them from all sides and have seized their cities and homes through oppression, for which those who acknowledge Thy unity and confess Thy oneness have lamented. O Lord! Do Thou absolve us of our transgressions which have stripped us of the garments of glory and honor. Verily Thou art the Lord of all creation. There is none other God but Thee, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

Thereafter, thy distinguished letter shone forth like the morning star and brought joy. Praise be to God, each letter thereof was a gate of gladness, for from it wafted the fragrance of the love of the Beloved of the worlds. Blessed art thou and those with thee. After its presentation before Him, the Lord—may our spirits be a sacrifice for Him—said:

> "O thou who gazest toward the horizon! Thy letter hath come and he who was present before the Wronged One read it. We heard and have answered thee with that which will gladden thy heart and solace thine eyes. We beseech God, exalted be He, to grant thee every good that hath been sent down in His Book and to ordain for thee from His Most Exalted Pen the good of the hereafter and of this world. Verily, He is powerful over all things."

Thou hast ever been mentioned in the presence of the Wronged One. Thou art among those souls whom God hath assisted and granted that which is the cause and source of the joy of the hearts of those near unto Him. The fragrance of thy sincerity is diffused throughout the world, and from all regions have come noble and wondrous accounts of thy character and deeds. Every soul who hath visited that land hath mentioned and continueth to mention thy good name. In truth, service to the Cause consisteth in such deeds and character as cause the spread of the traces of the friends of God. Blessed are ye and joy be unto you! Praise be to God that ye have attained unto that which shall endure and persist. We send greetings to all the friends in that land and we beseech for each one that which is the cause and source of exaltation, ascendancy and elevation. Verily He is the Hearer, the Answerer, and He is the Compassionate, the Generous." End.

Praise be to God! The generosity, compassion and mercy of the True One, glorified be His majesty, has encompassed and continues to encompass all. We were non-existent and He brought us into being; we were silent and He bestowed upon us the power of utterance; and He taught and made us aware of the ultimate purpose through words and meanings. Exalted be His power and His sovereignty! This servant testifies with both outer and inner tongue that had the people of the resplendent Faith acted according to the radiant Law and held fast to the divine Book, none would have prevailed over them and no cities or lands would have been plundered. Until now they are observed to be sleeping, for they have not arisen to

redress what has been lost. In any case, we beseech God for His confirmation, that perchance the dispirited may become enkindled and the wayward may find the path. The command is in His hands; He doeth whatsoever He willeth and ordaineth whatsoever He desireth. He is the Almighty, the All-Powerful.

As to what was written concerning the House, after submission they stated that whatever belongs to you should revert to the Truth. At present in that land there is no one who can attend to affairs and act as is befitting. Therefore if someone is found who can repair it and dwell therein, this would be acceptable; otherwise, it would be preferable to sell it.

Regarding what you wrote about the intention of Aqa Muhammad-Kazim, upon him be God's favor, according to His command if it can be accomplished with wisdom—that is, if the non-believers of that land do not become aware of his coming—there is no objection to his proceeding. I convey greetings and praise to each of the friends in that land, and I beseech the True One, glorified be His majesty, that they may ascend to greater heights and loftiness each day, nay each moment. Indeed, the mention of Alexandria has become the cause and source of joy to the friends in all regions. The servant beseeches confirmation and aid for them. Verily, He is the Hearer, the Answerer. Peace and praise be upon you and upon God's righteous and sincere servants.

The servant 5 Ramadan 1303

BH02356: O My Afnan, upon thee be My glory!…

He is the All-Seeing, He is ever-present.

O My Afnan, upon thee be My glory! The Hidden Book that was concealed from hearts and eyes hath been made manifest and visible in the days of Revelation.

Say: O people of God! The enemies have invented calumnies and made these the means of their own associating partners with God, seeking thereby to ensnare heedless and ignorant souls. The Most Exalted Pen declareth: Such mentions serve only the purposes of malicious souls. But those servants who have quaffed the sealed wine and dwell beneath the banner of "God doeth whatsoever He willeth" see all else as non-existent and void. They have raised high the pavilion of certitude; the winds of idle fancies neither prevent nor move them.

By God's life! All things have wept tears of blood at the tyranny of the oppressors, yet these shameless people—the followers of the Bayan—display no modesty but cling to the cord of falsehood and grasp the hem of calumny, that perchance they might deprive helpless servants of the rain of divine mercy, even as they did aforetime.

Say: O people of God! Be not weak-spirited, be not moved by every wind, be not deluded by every word. The Tree of Revelation, which in former Books was referred to as the One Who conversed on Sinai, hath from the beginning appeared and stood manifest before the faces of the divines and rulers. Most of the world's peoples have, without veil or hindrance, seen and heard. Where were those manifestations of doubt and sources of idle fancy in those days? By God's life! Each one, from fear in those days, was concealed behind a veil and hidden behind a curtain.

Say: By God! Should anyone deny this Most Great Cause and this Great Announcement, he cannot prove any other matter. To this testifieth the Mother Book which is with Him.

Well is it with thee, O My Afnan, for having attained the presence and heard and seen that which was hidden in knowledge and inscribed by the Most Exalted Pen in the Sacred Scrolls and Tablets. Thy letter hath been presented repeatedly, and from each letter We have inhaled the fragrance of thy love and sincerity toward God, the Illuminator of the horizons.

Soon shall the world and all that thou beholdest today perish, and there shall endure that which hath been ordained for you by the Pen of Destiny from One Who is the Mighty, the Glorious, the All-Bountiful. We beseech God—exalted be He—to aid thee and grant thee success in this Cause whereby feet have slipped. Hold fast unto wisdom lest the clamor be raised of those who have denied the Beginning and the End.

That which thou didst send hath been presented before the Wronged One and hath been adorned with the ornament of acceptance. Be thankful and say: Praise be unto Thee, O Thou Who hast remembered me while I was in prison through that which the hands of every associating doubter had wrought. The glory shining from the heaven of My dominion be upon thee and upon those who have not cast behind them God's Covenant and Testament and who have arisen with a power that the winds cannot move.

BH02415: A fire is kindled and a light is shining…

He is the One manifest from the supreme horizon.

A fire is kindled and a light is shining. The Sun of utterance hath dawned from the horizon of the heaven of meaning, yet all are veiled and debarred from it. Today the Most Exalted Pen is manifest and visible from the loftiest heights with the banner "Verily He is God." A bounty hath appeared the like of which hath never appeared in the contingent world. The disease of passion hath prevented eyes from beholding the Most Exalted Horizon. Where are the attentive ears, where are the penetrating eyes, and where are the illumined hearts?

O thou who gazest upon the Countenance! Reflect upon the people of the Furqan. What station they claimed, and what was manifested from them on the Day of Reckoning! They committed that which caused the denizens of Paradise and the holy precincts to lament, as attested by the Mother Book in the final abode. Throughout ages and centuries they were occupied in cursing one another while speaking of the Qa'im and uttering "may God hasten His advent." But when the Sun of Manifestation shone forth from the horizon of the world and the One Who conversed on Sinai issued His call, the divines one and all, along with their followers, arose to curse and revile the Point of Existence and the Lord of the seen and unseen. Finally they issued the verdict for the shedding of His most pure blood.

Reflection is needed on the ranks of knowledge of the divines from the beginning of Islam until the Day of Manifestation. They searched for Him in Jabulqa while He appeared in Shiraz; they sought Him in Jabulsa while He was born of a mother. And if anyone spoke differently from what they held, they would pronounce him an infidel. They are indeed among the most lost in the Book of God, the Lord of the worlds.

Now after great tribulations, God, exalted be His glory, drew some by the chains of wisdom and utterance from the left hand of error to the right hand of knowledge. But when the Cause became somewhat manifest, the deniers among the people of the Bayan again became occupied with the same vain imaginings. Blessed are those whom veils, clouds and doubts did not prevent from the dwelling-place of verses.

We have mentioned thee time and again, and have now revealed for thee that whose fragrance shall endure as long as the most beautiful names of God and His exalted attributes endure. The people of God must strive and, according to their capacity, protect people from the manifestations of idle fancies and vain imaginings. Be thou grateful for My remembrance of thee and My attention toward thee from My Most Great Prison, and be thou of the thankful ones. That which will gladden thy heart and comfort thine eyes hath been ordained for thee as a bounty from God, the Forgiving, the Generous. The glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My loving-kindness be upon thee and upon those who have attained unto the Most Great Steadfastness in this Cause, whereby the hearts of the learned ones of the earth and its doctors were perturbed, save those whom God desired, the Powerful, the Mighty.

BH02409: One of the servants of God has presented your…

He is the Hearer, the Answerer.

One of the servants of God has presented your letter and read it before the Wronged One. We have heard and answered you with that from which those near to God inhale the fragrance of God's loving-kindness, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting. Verily should He utter a word, it would be the sovereign of all words. To this bears witness the Dawning-Place of Revelation and the Source of proof in His Most Great Prison, which has been named the Praiseworthy Station. We beseech God, exalted be He, to draw you nigh unto Him, to guide you to the Path, and to give you to drink of His sealed wine, whose seal has been broken by the finger of power, through a command from God, the Possessor of the seen and the unseen.

Say: My God, my God! Thou seest me turning toward Thee, placing my trust in Thee, acting according to what Thou hast revealed in Thy Book, and hoping for what Thy Most Exalted Pen hath ordained for Thy chosen ones and Thy loved ones. O Lord! Thou seest me standing before the door of Thy grace and turning toward the horizon from which the Sun of Thy Revelation hath shone forth. I beseech Thee, O Revealer of verses and Manifestor of clear proofs, by the Manifestations of Thy Self, the Dawning-Places of Thy Cause, the Day-Springs of Thy signs, and whatsoever was hidden in Thy knowledge and treasured within the repositories of Thy protection, to make me one of those who heard the Call when it was raised between earth and heaven, who hastened to the ocean of Thy bounty and the heaven of Thy generosity, and who acknowledged what was sent down from the heaven of Thy Will and the Source of Thy Purpose.

I beseech Thee, O Creator of the heavens and Lord of the Kingdom of Names, to send down for me that which will render me assured in Thy days, steadfast in Thy Cause, and vocal in Thy praise. Verily Thou art the Almighty, Whom neither the authority of princes nor the opposition of divines could deter. Thou doest what Thou willest and ordainest what Thou pleasest. Verily Thou art the Almighty, the All-Glorious, the All-Praised.

We beseech God to assist that honored one to recite what hath been mentioned. Verily He speaketh the truth and guideth to the Way. Although the path is clear and the proof is evident to such a degree that none hath any excuse to hesitate, yet if that honored one would reflect upon what hath been revealed aforetime, he would testify to the appearance and power and might of God, exalted be His glory. We beseech Him not to withhold that honored one from the waves of the ocean of utterance and the lights of the Sun of knowledge, and to bestow upon him a complete portion. He is, verily, powerful over all things.

The attributes and signs of God are evident and distinct from all else, but vain imaginings have prevented the servants from the Dawning-Place of knowledge and the Source of the Cause. To this testifieth every seeing scholar and every informed mystic. In all cases We beseech for that honored one divine confirmation and assistance. Verily He is the All-Bountiful, the All-Generous. The Glory be upon you and upon those who have heard the Call and turned toward God, the One, the All-Informed.

BH02844: The days of attainment unto the presence of God…

In the Name of the one true God!

The days of attainment unto the presence of God are remembered, and the fragrance of faithfulness wafteth from the right hand of the Vale of Permanence. Thou hast ever been and art remembered through the mention of the Self-Sufficient, the Most High, and art commemorated in the verses of the Most Exalted Pen. God hath loved and continueth to love true faithfulness. His true loved ones stand manifest and visible before the Divine Throne.

O Asad! Today the Interlocutor of Sinai is seated upon the throne of Revelation and speaketh forth. Blessed is the ear that hath heard and attained, and the eye that hath turned and beheld. Today the people of God must regard all save God as non-existent and count it as nothingness, and must assist His Cause through the hosts of goodly deeds and conduct. A single pure deed can cause the element of dust to transcend the heavens—that is, to attain the most exalted heights and uttermost limit. Blessed are they who are set ablaze with the fire of the love of God and are illumined by the light of His knowledge.

Convey My greetings to the friends. We beseech God to bestow upon them a portion and share of the Kawthar of knowledge which floweth and streameth from the Most Exalted Pen.

The deniers of the Bayan have arisen in opposition. The Most Exalted Pen hath informed all of the braying of these brayerers. Blessed is the soul whom the clamor of the world hath not deprived of the Ancient King. He hath freed himself from names and words and hath sought the ocean of inner meanings. Those souls who were ever heedless of the Cause and concealed behind veils have now emerged. God protect us and you from the evil of such as these. They cling to the vain imaginings of the former people and hold fast to the hem of idle fancies. We beseech God to assist the eyes and ears of the world, that perchance they may behold the Most Exalted Horizon and hearken unto the Divine Call.

Praise be to God that thou didst arrive and witness and hear that which was recorded and inscribed by the Most Exalted Pen in the Books and Tablets. O Asad! We counsel the friends to wisdom and to teach

the Cause with grace and joy. Thus hath spoken the tongue of the All-Merciful, both before and after. Blessed are they that act.

Glory be upon you and upon those whom the whisperings of Satan have not kept back from God, the Lord of all worlds. These are servants who have attained unto the most great steadfastness and have witnessed to that which God Himself witnessed before the creation of the heavens and earths.

BH03490: This is a remembrance from Us unto him who…

He is the All-Knowing Rememberer.

This is a remembrance from Us unto him who hath turned with his heart unto God, the Lord of all worlds. O Ayat! The Sign of God hath appeared, yet the people have turned away therefrom, and they are among the lowly ones. The horizon of Revelation hath been illumined and the Dawn of utterance hath broken forth, yet most of the people remain heedless. The verses have been sent down and the clear tokens have been revealed, and He Who conversed on Sinai calleth aloud from the Branch of appearance, yet the people are in evident doubt.

Blessed is the strong one whom the might of the divines hath not weakened, and the steadfast one whom the allusions of the idolaters have not caused to sit. Whenever the Light appeared and He Who conversed on Sinai spoke forth, the divines rose up against Him with such tyranny as caused the Faithful Spirit to lament.

Say: This is the Day wherein that which was recorded by the Most Exalted Pen and mentioned in the hearts of the Messengers hath appeared. We have remembered thee, and do remember thee at this time, with the verses of God, the True King, the Manifest. Arise in the Cause in such wise that neither the veils of the world nor the doubts of those who have disbelieved in God, the Mighty, the Praised, shall hold thee back. We counsel thee with that whereby the Word of God shall be exalted throughout all else. Verily thy Lord is the All-Knowing Counselor. Grieve not over anything, but trust in all matters in God, the Lord of the Mighty Throne.

Thou didst stand before all faces in days wherein the pillars of the servants were shaken by the power of those days. When the Cause was made manifest, the manifestations of vain imaginings emerged from behind the veils and perpetrated that which neither Pharaohs nor tyrants had perpetrated. Thus did their souls entice them, and today they are among the companions of the fire. By the life of God! The dwellers of the cities of justice and fairness, and they who circle round the Throne at morn and eventide, have lamented their deeds. Thus hath the Treasury of Knowledge revealed the pearls of wisdom and utterance.

Blessed art thou in that thou hast attained thereunto in the days of thy Lord, the Compassionate, the Bountiful. The Glory be upon thee and upon whomsoever remaineth steadfast in this Mighty Announcement. Praise be to God, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

BH08026: Today the people of God are souls who have…

He is the Hearing, the Responding One!

Today the people of God are souls who have, with the strength of certitude, shattered the idols of vain imaginings. Neither the might of princes nor the clamor of divines could hold them back from the Lord of Names. The All-Knowing, the All-Informed, says: Today the world is illumined by the lights of Him Who conversed with God on Sinai, and the Divine Call is raised.

Blessed is the eye that hath beheld it and blessed is the ear that hath heard it. Thy mention was made in the presence of the Wronged One, and these exalted words were revealed from the Source of verses: I swear by the Sun of knowledge which hath shone forth from the horizon of the world that all the earth and whatsoever is found therein cannot be compared to a single word from the divine words. Know thou the worth and station of the Word of God and preserve it with thine eye. These days are God's days. Blessed are they who possess true knowledge, blessed are they who have attained, and praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH00092: How glorious is the victory of God! He hath…

Section 1: "How glorious is the victory of God! He…"

In the Name of our Most Holy, Most Great, Most Exalted, Most Glorious Lord

How glorious is the victory of God! He hath raised His Banner—verily He is the One Who hath power over whatsoever He willeth—to the most exalted station in all the world. Its abasement is the source of all glory, and its defeat the sovereign of all triumphs. They have indeed suffered loss who denied God's power and sovereignty, who broke His Covenant, who disbelieved in His signs, who strove to extinguish His light, and who rejected that which He brought forth in His days. Exalted is the King, the Single, the True, the Mighty, the Self-Subsisting, and exalted is His sovereignty that overshadoweth all that was and will be.

He brought the world into being through His Word, and caused the rivers of meaning and utterance to flow therein. Through His blessed Name He opened the gate of the Kingdom and summoned all on earth unto it. How many souls were veiled from beholding the effulgences of the lights of unity as a consequence of their deeds, and how many turned away from all else save God and attained unto the shelter of His grace. He is the One with power Who with the finger of His will rent asunder the thick veils and tore away the august coverings. The hosts of the world are powerless to prevent Him, and the ranks of nations deserve no mention. He exalteth whomsoever He willeth. He is the Single, the One, the Powerful, Who doeth what He willeth by His sovereignty. Verily He is the One Whom all desire, in both beginning and end.

Glorified art Thou, O Thou through Whose light the horizons of meaning and utterance were illumined, and through Whose Name the heaven of knowledge was adorned with the stars of remembrance and exposition. I beseech Thee by Thy power, Thy might, Thy sovereignty, Thy glory, Thy grandeur, and Thy dominion to ordain for Thy loved ones, from the Pen of Thy bounty, that which will draw them nigh unto Thee and give them to drink from the cup of bestowal through Thy Name and Thy grace. O my Lord! Thou seest them gazing toward Thy horizon and clinging to the cord of Thy generosity. Thou beholdest, O my

God, their eyes expectant of the wondrous tokens of Thy mercy, and their hands raised toward the heaven of Thy bounty.

O Lord! Disappoint them not of that which befitteth Thy generosity and favors, and withhold them not from the effulgences of the lights of Thy countenance. O Lord! Thou seest him who hath traversed the lands to exalt Thy Word and Thy remembrance, and who hath borne hardships in Thy days. I beseech Thee to aid him in all conditions through the manifestations of Thy strength and power, and the daysprings of Thy might and authority. Verily Thou hast power over whatsoever Thou willest, and verily Thou art the All-Compelling, the Self-Subsisting.

O Beloved of my heart! The successive letters, like unto rain, have watered and refreshed the gardens of existence. Praise be to God Who enabled you to send them and enabled Me to read the remembrances contained therein. After perusal they were brought to the Most Great Throne and presented before the face of the Lord of all beings. In each instance there descended from the heaven of the grace of the Lord of Oneness that which the peoples of the world are powerless and incapable of mentioning, until in this instance, after their presentation in the Most Holy and Exalted Court, these sublime words shone forth from the Dayspring of Will. His blessed and exalted Word:

In My Name, the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing

O thou who gazest upon the Countenance! Numerous letters from you have arrived and all attained the honor of being heard in the presence of the Wronged One. Praise and gratitude be unto Him for having enabled you to turn unto Him, to acknowledge and recognize Him, to direct yourself towards Him, to hearken unto Him, and to stand firm in a Cause at which the lions of the world trembled, save those whom God, thy Lord, the Powerful, the Mighty, the All-Wise, wished otherwise.

The destroyers of the worlds of meaning and utterance are those souls whom neither the might of princes nor the doubts and suspicions of the divines could debar from the Lord of Names or deprive of the ocean of the Ever-Flowing Grace. God is Most Great! Such souls have no peer or likeness. All divine Books, both of the past and present, bear witness to the loftiness and sublimity of the station of these assured souls. Blessed is the one adorned with the ornament of steadfastness and attained unto the robe of faithfulness.

Convey My greetings to the party of God. Say: Be not content to occupy yourselves with vain and profitless matters like the former people. Throughout ages and centuries they were worshippers of idols and pursuers of vain imaginings, yet deemed themselves the most exalted and excellent of all creatures. Night and day they would beseech God, glorified be His majesty, with utmost supplication and entreaty for the appearance of the Lord of all beings. Yet when the gate of reunion was opened and the hidden mystery dawned forth from the horizon of the unseen, and the ocean of utterance surged, both the learned and the ignorant arose in opposition. Glory be to God! They attained not unto a single drop from the ocean of divine revelation and insight. Take heed, O ye who are endowed with understanding!

Now again the people of the Bayan are engaged in the same vain imaginings. At times they speak of alteration, at times of successor, at times of mirror and beyond. Say: O ye ignorant ones! For one thousand two hundred years and more ye were occupied with these causes—bring forth the fruit thereof

that it may become manifest to all the worlds. Yea, its fruit was that ye engaged in reviling the Sovereign of existence and ultimately pronounced death sentence upon His most pure blood. Would that the world had never been created and such a grievous wrong had never appeared! The Jews seek refuge in God from the oppression of that party, and likewise do other peoples. Say: This is the Day of true unity. The Sun of Manifestation is shining from the horizon of the heaven of grace, manifest and evident. The mention of aught else besides God was not and is not permitted. Those who cling to names have newly devised fresh remembrances for the dawning-place of vain imaginings. They have indeed lost who denied the signs and evidences of God, and rejected His proof and testimony. They are assuredly among the transgressors in the Book of God, the Lord of all worlds.

Convey My greetings to all the kindred and those of the House of Justice, and give them glad tidings of God's favors. The Mother of the near ones has ascended and has attained unto that which none among the handmaidens of the earth have attained, save whom God willeth, the Almighty, the All-Powerful. The splendor shining from the horizon of the heaven of My grace be upon thee and upon those with thee and upon those who hearken to thy words concerning this Most Great Cause and this Mighty Announcement.

Ever have you been and continue to be remembered in the presence of the Exalted, the Self-Sufficient. The rain pours down, the waters flow, grace is manifest, light radiates, the ocean surges, fragrance wafts, and the Sun of true unity shines forth—yet the people remain heedless and veiled. The King of being Who from the earliest days until now has arisen before the faces of the world and, with no veil or barrier, summoned all peoples to the highest horizon—from Him have the people of the Bayan turned away, clinging to new delusions a hundredfold more corrupt than the ancient delusions of the Shi'ih sect. In truth, men are bewildered, the possessors of insight are bewildered, nay all things are bewildered. That exalted Truth Whose verses have encompassed the world and Whose manifestations are evident and clear as the sun at high noon have they forsaken, clinging instead to souls who were and are unworthy of mention. Glory be to God! What heedlessness has seized the world! By the life of our Lord, the people are in grievous heedlessness and great intoxication.

Concerning what was written about Mirza Muhammad-Baqir Khan, upon him be 9 66 [Baha'u'llah]: his petition was presented before the countenance of the Lord of the worlds on the sixth day of the blessed month of Ramadan, four and a half hours after sunrise, and was honored to be heard, and this most mighty, most holy Tablet was revealed from the heaven of grace specifically for him. His blessed and exalted Word:

In My Name, the All-Encompassing over all names

This is a Book sent down by the Wronged One to him who hath believed in God, the All-Encompassing, the Self-Subsisting. He calleth with the most exalted call between earth and heaven and giveth glad tidings unto all of the manifestation of God, His sovereignty, His glory, His power, and His verses which have encompassed the kingdom of earth and heaven. Hear thou the call of the Wronged One, then bear witness to that which God hath testified: that there is none other God but I, the Truth, the Knower of the unseen. I created all things for the knowledge of My Self, yet when the appointed time came and the Promised One appeared, they disbelieved in God, the Lord of all being. Say: The Law is that which hath

flowed from the Most Exalted Pen, and the Way is this straight and extended Path. The Truth is He Who speaketh at the midmost heart of the world before the faces of all nations.

By God! The heavens have been cleft asunder, the earth hath been split, the mountains have been scattered, and all who lie in the graves have been raised up. This is a Revelation at which the limbs of all names have trembled, while tranquil were the hearts of those who recognized that which was uttered from His praiseworthy station. Say: The Law is the Law of God, did ye but know, and the Way is this Path which hath appeared with truth, did ye but recognize it. Say: O concourse of earth! Beware lest the veils of the divines shut you out from the Lord of all names, or the might of those who have disbelieved strike fear into you regarding the Witness and the Witnessed.

This is the Day whereof Muhammad, the Messenger of God, gave glad tidings, and for which the One Who conversed with God [Moses] was chosen aforetime, did ye but perceive it. The servant in attendance hath presented thy letter before the Face. We have answered thee with verses that nothing in existence can equal, neither that which is possessed by kings nor subjects. Blessed art thou for having turned unto the Face and won the verses of God, the Mighty, the Loving. Take it with a strength from Us and a power from Our presence and say:

My God, my God! Should Thy decree prevent me from standing before Thy gate, and Thy predestination hold me back from turning toward Thy horizon, do Thou write down for me, with Thy Most Exalted Pen, the reward of attaining Thy presence. Verily Thou art the Almighty Whom the contingencies of creation cannot frustrate. Thou doest what Thou willest. Thou art, in truth, God, the All-Encompassing, the Self-Subsisting.

The Glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My mercy be upon thee and upon those who have turned with radiant faces and illumined breasts toward the Most Exalted Horizon. These are, verily, the people of Baha in the Preserved Tablet.

Praise be to God that ye have attained unto that which its fragrance shall endure through the perpetuity of God's exalted attributes. Well is it with him and fair his pleasure. This servant conveys his greetings and expresses that which conduces to the exaltation of the Word of God. From the True One, exalted be His glory, this servant beseeches and hopes that He may aid you in that which befits His days.

As to your mention of Aqa Muhammad and Aqa Haydar-ʿAli from the people of Ya, upon them be the glory of God, and likewise your request for their remembrance in the Most Holy Court—praise be to God this hope was fulfilled and mention of them was made in the presence of the Lord of the Manifestation. His blessed and exalted Word is:

O people of God! Some time ago, wondrous and glorious Tablets were specifically revealed for the friends of that land and were sent through one of the Afnan, upon him be the Glory of God. God willing, they will attain unto them and drink from the ocean of the utterance of the Most Merciful. O people of God! All that hath been revealed and sent down from the Supreme Pen is manifest and evident. The barking ones have assailed from all sides and, like wolves, have set upon the sheep of God. Would that one among that people would ask what became of the recompense of the previous community, namely the Shi'ihs, for what they said and did, and what was their reward on the Day of Reckoning. By the life of God! They

clung to vain imaginings while counting themselves people of certitude; they were worshippers of names while deeming themselves believers. Fie upon them and upon what their hands have wrought! The fruit of the deeds of those spurious, rejected, heedless and false souls was denial of the Truth, as is clear and evident. Say: Verily He knoweth the treachery of eyes and what the breasts conceal.

Section 2: "With perfect unity and harmony, drink ye…"

With perfect unity and harmony, drink ye of the Kawthar of divine knowledge, despite those who denied God's proof and evidence, and who uttered that for which they were cursed in this world and the next. Verily He is the Truth, there is none other God but Him, and He is the Wise Commander, the Manifest Ordainer. Recently they have clung to the cord of perversion and the like. It is incumbent and obligatory upon all the people of God to protect the weak souls from the barking of the baying ones and the doubts of the transgressors. By the life of God! The people of Baha behold all else but God as a handful of dust. They are seated upon the thrones of steadfastness and recline upon the cushions of light. Blessed are they that know.

My God, my God! Thou seest Thy chosen ones enkindled with the fire of Thy love, turning unto Thy horizon, and clinging to the cord of Thy loving-kindness. Praise be to Thee, O Thou the Desire of the worlds and the Worshipped One of the nations, for having made clear unto them the path, revealed unto them the proof, and manifested unto them that which draweth them nigh unto the ocean of Thy presence and the heaven of Thy bounty. I beseech Thee, O my Lord, by Thy Most Great Signs, by the manifestations of Thy power in the kingdom of creation, by the seas of meaning that were concealed within Thy verses and words, and by the Ship that moveth at times through the air, at times upon the land, and at other times upon the sea of Thy will and purpose, to aid Thy chosen ones to be steadfast in Thy Cause in such wise that they see naught except Thee save as the darkness upon a dead ant.

O my Lord! Draw them nigh unto the station wherein was raised the pavilion of Thy glory, pitched the tents of Thy Cause, and hoisted the banners of Thy victory. Verily Thou art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest, and within Thy grasp are the reins of all who are in the heavens and on earth.

Before every word of Truth—exalted be His glory, abundant be His favors, and mighty be His utterance—the books of the world bow down in humility. A hundred thousand regrets that deluded and treacherous souls are seen deprived of the Dawning Place of the Hidden Mystery. Say: Today is the springtime of bounty and today the heaven of grace is uplifted. Strive that perchance you may attain unto a mention or be honored with a service. Great is the Day, great is the Cause, and great is the bounty. Blessed are they who know, blessed are they who attain, and woe unto the heedless.

Concerning what you wrote about the barking ones—if anyone attains unto the vision of even less than a needle's eye, they will see all these as non-existent and lost. The abundance of bounties has caused the heedlessness of the servants. By the life of our Lord! That which has been revealed is sovereign over all names and their kingdoms, attributes and their dominions, the Bayan and its loftiness, and the Furqan and its radiance. Now they sleep. Soon they will awaken at the gathering of divine verses and bear witness to their own evil deeds. O people! Fear God, the Powerful, the Mighty, the Subduer. This is that

Manifestation at the mention of whose name the Point of the Bayan—may the spirit of all else be sacrificed for His sake—uttered "I am the first of them that worship."

From the ocean of divine generosity and the heaven of His bounty, We beseech and hope that He may aid all to return, that perchance the servants may not be deprived of the fragrances of the days of the Lord of creation. Verily, He is powerful over all things.

Previously in thy beloved letters were petitions from certain handmaidens. The answer to each has been sent down from the heaven of divine grace. God willing, they will attain unto them and drink from the ocean of mercy. Every name that was present before the Face attained unto the verses of God. What has happened that the world remains deprived of the ocean of knowledge, the euphrates of mercy, and the tree of wisdom? To what do they cling? By the life of our Lord! Their path, their proof, their worship and their orientation have sprung from idle fancies and vain imaginings. Evil is the deed of the doubters. The Command is in God's hand, the Lord of all worlds.

This is what was revealed for the leaf Diya'u'l-Hajiyyih, upon her be 9 66 [Baha'u'llah]. His word—exalted be His utterance and mighty be His proof:

In My Name, the One Who dominates all names

O Leaf! God willing, thou shalt hold fast unto the Tree with such firmness that the diverse winds of the world shall not move thee nor prevent thee from the Tree. Today the shrill voice of the Most Exalted Pen and the rustling of the Lote-Tree are raised. Blessed are the leaves that have attained unto hearing them and are moved by the winds of God's will, exalted be His glory. Today the emperors enter churches in the name of the Lord of creation, yet remain veiled from the Commander, the Creator, and the Goal. Likewise the queens of the world turn night and day toward the Ancient King and mention the Most Great Name, yet when the horizon of the heaven of manifestation was illumined with the lights of His countenance, all were seen to be heedless and remote, though night and day they were speaking His mention and hoping for His presence.

Now that leaf must, with outer and inner tongue, be engaged in praise and glorification of the Beloved of the world, for He has aided and guided. We beseech God to strengthen thee to preserve what He has bestowed. O Leaf! Know thou the worth and station of the utterance of the All-Merciful. If thou hast attained unto God's tablet and found its fragrance, say:

My God, my God! Thou art He Who strengthened me, made me know, taught me, and guided me to Thy straight path. I beseech Thee, O Lord of the Kingdom and Sovereign of might, to aid me and Thy handmaidens in Thy remembrance and praise and in arising to serve Thy Cause. Verily Thou art God, the Powerful, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

He is the Hearer, the Answerer!

My God, my God! Thou seest one of Thy leaves who hath turned toward the Tree of Thy Cause and hath set her face toward Thine all-highest horizon—the Spot wherefrom the Luminary of Thy Revelation hath shone forth, O Thou Who art the Lord of Names and Creator of the heavens! I beseech Thee by the lights

of Thy countenance, the mysteries of Thy Book, the suns of the horizons of Thy heaven, and the waves of the ocean of Thy Will, to aid me as Thou didst aid Thy handmaidens and leaves who turned unto Thee, believed in Thee and Thy signs, and acknowledged that which Thy Tongue did utter ere the creation of Thy earth and heaven—that there is none other God but Me, the Almighty, the All-Compelling, the Self-Subsisting.

O my Lord! I perceive the fragrance of Thy Manifestation, yet know not upon which spot Thy throne is established. I beseech Thee by the breezes of Thy Revelation and the showers from the clouds of the heaven of Thy mercy to open before the face of Thy handmaiden the door of Thy bounty and grace with the key of Thy Most Great Name, whereby the limbs of the princes who violated Thy Covenant and Testament and arose to extinguish Thy light and quench the fire of Thy Tree did tremble. Praise be unto Thee, O God of the world and Desire of the nations, for having caused me to hear Thy call, to behold Thy signs, to be guided to Thy path, and to be given to drink of the Kawthar of Thy love.

I beseech Thee to assist me to preserve that which Thou hast bestowed upon me through Thy bounty and generosity, O Most Merciful of the merciful, O Thou in Whose grasp are the reins of all who are in the heavens and on earth.

In My Name Which Dawneth from the Horizon of the Heaven of Utterance!

O My leaf and My handmaiden! Thy mention hath ever been present before the Wronged One. That which is everlasting and enduring hath been sent down for thee. Be not grieved by the happenings of the world. Hold fast unto the cord of patience and cling to the hem of resignation. Praise be to God, thou hast attained unto the lights of the Sun of Divine Unity and hast drunk from the ocean of the All-Merciful's recognition. Beseech the True One, exalted be His glory, to assist His handmaidens to preserve the pearls of His love, for verily the treacherous ones, the thieves, and the barking dogs lie in wait. By the life of God! They are in manifest error.

From the earliest days until now the Self of God hath been in the hands of His enemies—at times imprisoned, at times in chains, and at times wandering from land to land as a captive. Yet in all conditions the scratching of the Pen was heard and the Call was raised. The heedlessness of the world did not prevent the Ancient Beauty from His purpose. Every fair-minded one beareth witness and every just one testifieth. O My handmaiden! Convey My greetings to the handmaidens of God. Say: We beseech the True One, exalted be His glory, to grant success unto all and supreme steadfastness. Ye must occupy yourselves with the remembrance of God, exalted be His glory, in complete sanctity and detachment, through goodly deeds and praiseworthy and pleasing character.

This is the counsel of the Wronged One unto His handmaidens. The glory which shineth resplendent from the horizon of this Most Great Name be upon thee and upon those handmaidens who have turned unto God and believed in Him, the Lord of all worlds.

In My Name through Which the Spheres of Utterance Have Revolved throughout Creation

O My handmaiden, My leaf! Thy letter was presented before the Wronged One, and the servant in attendance read it, attaining the honor of being heard by the Goal of all the worlds. Thou hast previously

been blessed with the holy writings of the Supreme Pen. This station is most glorious—hold it dear. Say: O leaves, deprive not yourselves of the rustling of the Divine Lote-Tree. This is the day of grace and bounty. We beseech God to adorn His handmaidens with the ornament of the Most Great Chastity and illumine them with the light of His knowledge. He is the Powerful, the Mighty, and He is the All-Seeing, the All-Perceiving. We convey Our greetings to the handmaidens of that land and counsel them with that which befitteth the Days of God.

Blessed is the soul that hath attained unto hearing and hath acted upon the counsels of the Supreme Pen. All that is witnessed shall perish and become as nothing, save that which is related to God, exalted be His glory. One word from Him is better than the wealth of the world and the inheritance of nations. Well is it with the soul that hath attained unto it. The glory be upon thee and upon every handmaiden who hath turned unto God, believed, hearkened and responded to her Lord, the Forgiving, the Generous.

And this is what was revealed for the Leaf Badi'ih, upon her be the Glory of God. He saith, blessed and exalted be He:

In the Name of the Compassionate, the Merciful

The spiritual sustenance hath been sent down from the heaven of divine favor in such wise as to astound all, and perchance due to its great bounty it remaineth concealed. Would that the people of the world might become ready and worthy to witness that which is hidden. The divine favor hath reached such a degree that every name mentioned before His presence hath been blessed with a Tablet and honored with verses. Today the ocean of grace is manifest before all faces, and the Name 'the Concealer' standeth before all faces, concealing that which is unseemly and mentioning that which causeth awakening and enkindlement. With Him is the knowledge of all things in a Clear Book. We convey greetings to all the handmaidens and give them glad tidings of the splendors of the Sun of Divine Providence. Blessed are the souls that are accepted, steadfast and upright. O handmaidens of God! This is the day of remembrance, praise and deeds of purity. Strive that there may appear from you that which may cause the turning of the heedless and the awakening of the sleeping ones. The Glory from Us be upon My handmaidens who have believed in the All-Informed, the One.

Praise and thanksgiving be unto God that He hath caused the waves of the ocean of utterance to appear and become manifest in the form of the Luminous Proof from the horizon of the crimson ark. Glory be to God! The ocean surgeth, the sun shineth, the light is radiant and resplendent; yet the heedless ones, the infidels, and the babblers remain in evident doubt. All things mock them, but they perceive it not. Man is astonished at what the deniers of the Cause have understood and comprehended. Have they not witnessed the outpourings of divine meanings, or have they not heard the cooings of the eternal Dove? From whom is life, and from whom is death?

Section 3: "In one of the Tablets, this most exalted…"

In one of the Tablets, this most exalted Word hath been revealed from the Supreme Pen—blessed and exalted be His words:

> "Verily We have sounded the Trumpet, and it is My Most Exalted Pen, whereby We have quickened all who are in earth and heaven"

unto the end of His utterance. May the spirit of all who dwell in the kingdoms of command and creation be a sacrifice unto Him.

May the True One, exalted be His glory, protect His loved ones. That beloved one should arise with the utmost endeavor to preserve the weak souls, lest they be afflicted with the like of former vain imaginings. At one time He said:

> "Say: O people of God! Ye should be so steadfast in the Cause of God that ye should regard all else as non-existent and lost. Should clamor be raised from all directions, consider it as the buzzing of a fly, nay less, did ye but know. The fragrances of verses are diffused throughout the world, and the Hand of Power is manifest with the banner 'Verily, I am the All-Powerful.' Say: O babblers! Roll up the carpet of idle fancies—the carpet of God is spread, and the Lord of Eternity is seated thereon. Fear God and be not of the wrongdoers."

By the life of our Purpose and your Purpose! The flame of divine verses and the lights of heavenly utterance have encompassed the world, yet those who are veiled remain in evident veils.

Concerning the mention that was made of the martyrs—upon them be the Most Glorious Glory of God—and the detailed accounts of events in that land, these passages were requested by the Most Great Branch—may my spirit, my being, and my essence be sacrificed for the dust of His footsteps. Should the authentic account, free from falsehood and conjecture, become available, let it be sent. It is most beloved, for the purpose of the Most Great Branch—may my spirit be a sacrifice unto Him—is that all that hath outwardly transpired in this Cause be recorded, that it may become the means of knowledge and awareness for the peoples of the world.

And concerning the mention thou didst make of Darreh-Gaz and their turning to the Most Exalted Horizon and their sanctification from all else save God, these passages were honored to be heard in the Most Holy and Most Exalted Court. His blessed and exalted words are:

O Son of My Name! O thou who traversest the lands for My remembrance! Treacherous ones, thieves, clamorous ones and atheists have appeared throughout all regions. This is the news which flowed from the Most Exalted Pen in the earliest days. Verily He informed all of what hath appeared and what shall appear. To this beareth witness He Who speaketh at this moment that I, verily, am God, the Lord of all the worlds.

We make mention of Our loved ones in Darajiz, those whom We have remembered, and We give them glad-tidings of God's loving-kindness and mercy. We remind them of what hath been revealed by My Pen in My Scriptures and Tablets, and We inform them of what hath been ordained for them as a command from Me, and I am the Ordainer, the Ancient of Days. O people of God! Ponder upon the matter of this Wronged One. From the earliest days until now He hath been afflicted in the hands of enemies. Not for a moment did He seek comfort or protection for Himself. Before the faces of princes, divines and doctors of law did He raise the Call, and summoned all to the most sublime horizon. When the light shone forth and

the Cause became somewhat manifest, the opposers emerged from behind the veil with the swords of hatred, seeking to destroy the Desired One of all worlds. By the life of God! They are deprived of the ocean of divine knowledge, forbidden from the effulgences of the Sun of inner meanings, heedless of the root of the Cause and unaware. They play with their idle fancies and perceive not, and they say what the ancients never said, and they purpose what those of later times never purposed.

Some of the ignorant ones have arranged objections and made them snares for the people of God. What have they understood of "He doeth what He willeth" and what have they comprehended of "He ordaineth what He pleaseth"? Every possessor of insight and fairness beareth witness to the greatness of the Cause and its exaltation, and likewise to its sanctity and detachment. We were not behind any veil. Before all faces were We manifest and evident; the Word was manifest and the deed apparent. We beseech God that He deprive not His servants of the light of the Day-Star of justice and fairness, and that He aid them to return. He is the Powerful, the Mighty. There is no God but Him, the Exalted, the Most Glorious.

Blessed are they who have drunk from the cup of steadfastness. This evanescent servant beseecheth the Eternal Truth for confirmation and success on behalf of the friends, and conveyeth to each one mention, greeting and glory. In all conditions, God willing, the victory hath been and shall be with that spiritual Beloved.

Regarding what you wrote about the barking ones, the transgressors, the slanderers and the oppressors—that party is not and never has been worthy of mention. Praise be to God, most of the friends attained the Desired Land and dwelt in its vicinity for extended periods, finding repose beneath the pavilions of grandeur. They saw, heard and became aware. He said:

> "O Son of My Name! This Cause is the Most Great Announcement. Surely it must be seen as greater and mightier than the sayings and calumnies of the ungodly of the past."

Each day one or two souls or a group would arrive in the Most Holy Land—all saw, heard and became aware. However, during this period one person was with those people on the island. Surely the details of this have reached or will reach the ears of that beloved one. Despite being in the land of England, they did not allow a single person to reside there or engage in any occupation lest they discover what they possess. In any case, the mention and deeds of this land are evident—more manifest than the sun and more elevated than the heaven. Blessed are they that behold, blessed are they that hear, and blessed are the fair-minded. The divine utterance hath been revealed to such a degree that the Mother Book and the Mother of Utterance are astounded. We beseech God to grant fairness and not deprive His servants of the light of justice. The duty is to protect the servants. And regarding the hardships you wrote about—they are true, without doubt. This evanescent servant beseeches and hopes that God will transform them into ease and comfort. Verily He is the Lord of humanity and the Omnipotent over what He willeth.

Regarding what you wrote about it being more than two years since you wrote and this evanescent one has not been enabled to reply—indeed it is exactly as you have written. However, the heart of that beloved one bears witness that this negligence had two causes: First, the assurance that, praise be to God, that beloved heart has attained and witnessed the waves of the Most Great Sea and heard the Call

of God, and the verses have reached every city in a manner that transcends the description and comprehension of the people of the world. The second cause was the multitude of occupations. He has ever said and continues to say that attention must be given to the new, fresh and wondrous saplings, and they must be watered lest they be afflicted with the disease of withering from the poisonous winds of the calumnies of the opposers. That beloved one, praise be to God, is occupied with service and stands firm in rendering assistance. The servant asks his Lord to open before your face the gates of His grace and mercy. Verily He is the Compassionate, the Generous, the Hearing, the Responding One.

And regarding what you wrote about Jinab-i-Aqa Sadiq from among the sons of Khalil, mentioning that they intended to pay the Huquq but were subsequently not enabled to do so—these matters were raised before His presence and attained the honor of being heard. His blessed and exalted Word:

O Son of My Name! Upon thee be My glory! The payment of the Huququ'llah is obligatory upon all and its ordinance hath been revealed and established by the Most Exalted Pen in the Book. However, demanding and insisting upon it is never permitted. If anyone is enabled to pay it and delivers it with joy and radiance, it is accepted; otherwise, no. By way of reminder, it should be mentioned once generally in gatherings, and that is sufficient. The assured, steadfast and insightful souls will themselves take action and act upon what hath been commanded unto them by God. The benefit of this matter returns to those souls themselves. Verily God is independent of all worlds. Let not the people of God be saddened. By the life of God! There hath been ordained for them that which the reckoners are powerless to reckon.

As to what that beloved one wrote concerning non-acceptance, after it was presented They uttered words of truth, for the Cause of God has been and continues to be exalted through wealth and independence. "It behooveth My loved ones to hold fast unto that whereby the Cause of God and His sovereignty may be exalted."

In truth, it is exactly as that beloved one has written. This evanescent servant beseecheth the everlasting Truth to assist the loved ones—namely those who are the Hands of the Cause, who are adorned with the ornament of teaching, and who are engaged in service to the Cause—to achieve that which will exalt His Word. In these days mention was made of this matter. It is hoped that the door of grace will be opened and the hand of bounty will bestow that which will cause the elevation and ascendancy of His loved ones.

His honor Aqa Muhammad Ardikani, upon him be 9 6 6 [Baha'u'llah], sent a letter to this servant specifically requesting that this servant make pilgrimage on his behalf. At three hours past nightfall on Monday the fifth of the blessed month of Ramadan, intending to visit the Most Exalted Shrine and Supreme Heights, that which was intended was accomplished. After completion, the Tongue of Grandeur spoke these blessed words, exalted be His glory and mighty His utterance:

"O servant in attendance! Praise be to God, thou hast attained and thy deed hath been adorned with the ornament of acceptance. Give glad tidings unto him who desired to attain the presence of God, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting. He may say:

ʿMy God, my God! I have perceived the fragrance of Thy Revelation and have turned to the Mount of Thy knowledge. I beseech Thee by the pearls of the ocean of Thy wisdom and knowledge, by the verses of Thy Book and their mysteries, and by the hearts of Thy loved ones, their radiance and their light, to ordain for

me from Thy Most Exalted Pen that which will benefit me in all the worlds of Thy worlds and draw me nigh unto Thee. Thou knowest, O my God and my Lord, that I know not what profiteth or harmeth me. Verily Thou seest and knowest and hearest, and Thou art the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing."'

Praise be to God, they have attained that which is the goal of those near unto God and the desire of the sincere ones. This evanescent one beseecheth the Truth to assist them and confirm them in such wise that they may hold fast unto the Truth alone and be detached from all else. This is the station of true unity that hath been manifested in this Revelation. A hundred thousand blessings upon those who yearn and act.

In previous letters from that beloved of the heart, certain names were mentioned. Each hath been blessed with divine verses and illumined by the lights of the utterance of the All-Merciful. By the life of our Purpose and your Purpose! After mention of the names, the ocean of divine utterance surged in such wise that tongues and pens are powerless to describe it. As commanded, convey greetings to all and give them glad tidings of that which hath been revealed for them from the Most Exalted Pen. It is hoped that the horizons of those regions will be illumined with the light of unity and concord, and all will act as befitteth. Repeatedly hath the Tongue of Grandeur spoken this exalted word:

> "O people of God! Let not the time slip away from you. Know ye its value. By the life of God! All the centuries and ages cannot equal a single moment of these days. This is that which God hath testified when He was established upon His Most Great Throne with His mighty sovereignty."

It is hoped that all will attain unto the word of contentment and will speak in praise and glorification of God, exalted be His glory. Peace and praise and glory and splendor be upon you and upon those with you and upon those whom neither the assault of the oppressors nor of the pharaohs who have adorned their heads with white and green turbans and have turned people away from the path of God, the Lord of the worlds, could deter.

BH10068: A mention from Us to those servants whose names…

He is the Ever-Mindful, the All-Knowing

A mention from Us to those servants whose names were mentioned before the Wronged One, Who is imprisoned in this mighty fortress. O people of God in Faran! We have mentioned you aforetime in such wise as nothing whatsoever can equal. The Lord of creation beareth witness unto this from this exalted station. Beware lest the clamor of the people of the Bayan debar you from your Lord, the All-Merciful, or the veils of every remote learned one withhold you. We have heard your call and answered you through this perspicuous Book. Verily, He seeth what ye do and heareth what ye say, and He is the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing. A letter hath come to the prison wherein were inscribed the names of those who have turned toward My luminous horizon.

O Muhammad! Hearken unto the call raised from this most exalted station, from the Divine Lote-Tree: Verily, there is none other God but Me, the Single One, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. Be thou vocal in My praise, hold fast unto My cord, turn thy face toward My countenance, and cleave unto this mighty

News whereof Moses gave tidings on the Mount of Knowledge, and the Spirit in the wilderness of longing, and the Beloved One between Yathrib and Batha. Thus hath the matter been decreed by an ancient Commander.

O ʿAli! Blessed is the soul that hath attained unto the mention of My Most Exalted Pen in My days and hath discovered the fragrance of My garment as it was wafted throughout the world. He is assuredly among the companions of the Crimson Ark in My perspicuous Book. We counsel thee and those who have believed to perform pure deeds and that which befitteth your relationship to God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy.

O Khalil! The Glorious One hath come with such sovereignty as the hosts of the heavens and earth cannot withstand. He giveth thee and those who have believed glad tidings of that which He hath ordained for you as a command from His presence, and He is the Mighty, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

O Rida! The Lord of Names hath mentioned thee from this most exalted station. Give thanks unto thy Lord for this manifest bounty. He hath mentioned thee in such wise as nothing whatsoever can equal. The Tongue of God, the Mighty, the Powerful, beareth witness unto this. Say: My God, my God! Leave me not to myself, and deprive me not from the breezes of Thy Revelation, and forbid me not from the gate that hath been opened unto all who are in earth and heaven, and disappoint me not of that which Thou hast ordained for Thy chosen ones who have fulfilled Thy Covenant and Thy Testament and have acted according to that which Thou hast commanded them in Thy mighty Book.

We beseech God to draw thee nigh unto Him and to aid thee to be content in this glorious and wondrous Revelation.

O Fath-ʿAli! This is the Day wherein the river hath flowed, and the sea hath surged, and the Cause hath come with manifest sovereignty. Cast aside what the people possess and say: By God, what He hath is better than what we have—to this testifieth every discerning knower. This is the Day wherein the horizon of utterance hath been illumined by the sun of knowledge, and the Dove hath warbled upon the branches:

> “Verily, there is none other God but Me, the Omnipotent, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.”

Take hold of the Book of God with the strength granted by Us, and be not of the heedless. We counsel thee and those who have believed to be trustworthy, religious, chaste and pure. Verily thy Lord is the Counsellor, the All-Informed.

O Darvish-Khuda! We sent thee aforetime, and in this year, a Tablet from whose horizon shone the sun of thy Lord’s gracious favor. Give thanks unto God for having aided thee to turn unto Him and guided thee to His straight path, and for having sent down for thee that which maketh thee independent of every book and remindeth thee of that which beseemeth His days. Give thanks unto thy Lord for this manifest bounty.

O people of God! Ye have hearkened to the call of the Arabian Bird and to His melodies. Now hearken unto it in the Persian tongue. Verily it will draw you nigh unto Him and guide you to the Path and deliver

you from grievous torment. We have mentioned you in numerous Tablets and aided you to turn toward this luminous horizon. Beware lest anything whatsoever prevent you from God, the Lord of all names, or the might of the oppressors frighten you. From the first day until now the Supreme Pen hath neither paused nor found rest, and hath, through its movement and mention, aided the Cause of God, exalted be His glory. And when the banners of divine victory were raised in certain lands, the people of the Bayan rose up from behind the veil to wage war.

By God! They uttered that which made the eye of God weep and the tongue of God lament. O people of God! The idolatrous souls have never been with Us and have no knowledge of this Cause. Nevertheless, they have contrived calumnies and have aimed at the Purpose of the worlds, and with the utmost effort and endeavor are striving to mislead souls. We beseech God to make them aware of their stations and to cause them to return unto Him. Verily, He is the Hearer, the Answerer.

As to your intention to visit the House—this is acceptable and beloved in the sight of this Wronged One, provided it be undertaken in a spirit of joy and radiance and be not contrary to wisdom. Say: O people! The beginning of the matter is the recognition of God, exalted be His glory, and its end is steadfastness, and thereafter the purification of one's wealth and whatsoever the people possess according to God's commandment. Therefore, the divine rights must first be paid, and then attention be turned to the House. Out of pure bounty hath this word been mentioned. We beseech God to confirm all to serve His Cause in such wise that these fleeting two days and their transient ornaments may not become a barrier and prevent them from turning unto Him in devotion.

O friends of God in those regions! The call is raised at all times, the Pen is in motion, and the tongue is speaking, that perchance the servants who have grown cold might be set ablaze by the fire of the Supreme Word and turn toward the most exalted horizon. Whosoever hath attained hath attained unto everlasting good and is adorned with eternal life. Blessed is he and his is a goodly destiny. The glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My kingdom be upon you and upon him who heareth the call of God, the Lord of Lords.

BH04602: In My Name which shineth forth from the horizon…

In My Name which shineth forth from the horizon of the heaven of utterance!

O My leaf and My handmaiden! Thou hast ever been remembered in the presence of the Wronged One, and there hath been revealed for thee that which is enduring and everlasting. Be not grieved at the happenings of the world. Hold fast unto the cord of patience and cling to the hem of resignation. Praise be to God, thou hast attained unto the lights of the Sun of divine unity and hast drunk from the ocean of the All-Merciful's recognition. Beseech God—glorified be His majesty—to assist His handmaidens in preserving the pearls of His love, for the treacherous ones, the thieves, and the barking ones lie in wait. By the life of God! They are in manifest error. From the earliest days until now the Self of God hath been in the hands of the enemies—at times imprisoned, at times in chains, and at times led captive from land to land. Yet in all conditions the shrill voice of the Pen was heard and the Call was raised. The heedlessness of the world did not prevent the Ancient Beauty from His purpose. Every fair-minded one beareth witness and every just one testifieth.

O My handmaiden! Convey My greetings to the handmaidens of God. Say: We beseech God—glorified be His majesty—to grant success unto all and supreme steadfastness. They must occupy themselves with the remembrance of God—glorified be His majesty—in utmost sanctity and detachment, through goodly deeds and praiseworthy and pleasing character. This is the counsel of the Wronged One unto His handmaidens. The glory which is manifest and resplendent from the horizon of this Most Great Name be upon thee and upon those handmaidens who have turned unto God and believed in God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH04604: In My Name, the Protector over all names!

In My Name, the Protector over all names!

O Leaf! God willing, thou wilt hold fast to the Divine Lote-Tree with such firmness that the diverse winds of the world shall not cause thee to waver, nor keep thee from the Tree. Today the shrill voice of the Most Exalted Pen and the rustling of the Lote-Tree of the utmost boundary are raised up. Blessed are the leaves who have attained to hearing them and who are stirred by the winds of the will of God, exalted be His glory.

Today the Caesars enter churches in the name of the Lord of creation, yet remain veiled from the Commander, the Founder, and the Intended One. Likewise the queens of the world turn at all times toward the Ancient King, uttering the mention of the Most Great Name, yet when the horizon of the heaven of manifestation was illumined with the lights of His countenance, all were found heedless and remote—even though at all times they had spoken His mention and yearned for His presence. Now must that leaf occupy herself with the praise and glorification of the Beloved of the world, both outwardly and inwardly, for He has confirmed and guided. We beseech God to confirm thee in preserving what He has bestowed.

O Leaf! Know thou the worth and station of the utterance of the All-Merciful. If thou attainest unto a Tablet of God and findest its fragrance, say:

> “My God, my God! Thou art He Who strengthened me, made me know, taught me, and guided me to Thy straight path. I beseech Thee, O Master of the Kingdom and Sovereign of the Realm of Might, to confirm me and Thy handmaidens in Thy remembrance and praise and in arising to serve Thy Cause. Verily Thou art God, the Mighty, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.”

BH04952: O God my God! Thou seest one of Thy…

He is the Hearer, the Answerer

O God my God! Thou seest one of Thy leaves who hath turned toward the Tree of Thy Cause and hath drawn nigh unto Thy most exalted horizon—the Station from which the Luminary of Thy Manifestation hath shed its radiance, O Thou Lord of Names and Creator of the heavens! I beseech Thee by the lights of Thy countenance, the mysteries of Thy Book, the suns in the horizons of Thy heaven, and the waves of the ocean of Thy Will, to assist me in that wherewith Thou didst assist Thy handmaidens and Thy leaves

who turned unto Thee, believed in Thee and in Thy signs, and acknowledged that which Thy Tongue did utter before the creation of Thy earth and heaven:

> "Verily there is no God but Me, the All-Powerful, the All-Compelling, the Self-Subsisting."

O my Lord! I perceive the fragrance of Thy Manifestation yet know not upon what station Thy Throne is established. I beseech Thee by the breezes of Thy Revelation and the rain-showers from the clouds of the heaven of Thy mercy to open before the face of Thy handmaiden the door of Thy bounty and grace through the key of Thy Most Glorious Name, whereby the limbs of the princes who violated Thy Covenant and Testament, who arose to extinguish Thy light and quench the fire of Thy Tree, were made to quake.

Praise be unto Thee, O God of the world and Desire of the nations, for having caused me to hear Thy call, to behold Thy signs, to be guided unto Thy path, and to be given to drink of the Kawthar of Thy love. I beseech Thee to assist me to preserve that which Thou hast bestowed upon me through Thy bounty and generosity, O Thou Most Merciful of the merciful ones and O Thou in Whose grasp lieth the reins of all who are in the heavens and on earth.

BH06752: The heavenly food hath been sent down…

In the name of the Compassionate, the Merciful!

The heavenly food hath been sent down from the heaven of divine favor in such wise as to astound all beings, and perchance by reason of its abundant grace it remaineth concealed. Would that the people of the world were capable and worthy to behold that which is hidden! The divine bounty hath reached such heights that every name that was mentioned before the Countenance hath been adorned with a Tablet and honored with verses.

Today the ocean of grace is visible before all faces, and the Name "the Concealer" standeth before the Face, concealing that which is unseemly and making mention of that which causeth awakening and enkindlement. With Him is the knowledge of all things in a Perspicuous Book.

We convey greetings to all the handmaidens and give them the glad-tidings of the splendors of the Sun of divine favor. Blessed are the souls that are accepted, steadfast and upright. O handmaidens of God! This is the day of mention and praise, and the day of pure deeds. Strive that there may appear from you that which may cause the turning of the heedless and the awakening of them that slumber. The glory from Us be upon My handmaidens who have believed in the One, the All-Informed.

BH08174: Praise be unto Him Who is sanctified above all…

In the Name of our Most Holy, Most Great, Most Exalted and Most Glorious Lord!

Praise be unto Him Who is sanctified above all mention and utterance, the Goal of all creation, Who hath ordained for His near ones the taste of milk and honey in the sword, and in tribulations suffered in His path the sweetness of heavenly food and nectar. Verily, every soul that hath drunk of the sealed wine was not prevented by the onslaught of the oppressors from the fragrance of the garment of His Most Self-Subsisting Name. With utmost longing did they hasten to the place of sacrifice, casting the crown of life

before His feet. They discerned the mysteries of martyrdom and, detached from all else, set their faces toward their Ultimate Goal and Most Exalted Summit. These are they whom neither the might of the world, nor the wealth of nations, nor the pride of princes and divines could debar from the Dayspring of Revelation of the Lord of Names….

BH01087: In the Name of the One Who answereth…

In the Name of the One Who answereth from the horizon of the Fire kindled in the Lote-Tree beyond which there is no passing!

O My Name! Upon thee be My glory and loving-kindness. The letter of Farajullah—upon him be My glory—which he wrote to thee hath attained the honor of being heard in Our presence. The fragrance of the love of the Best-Beloved of the worlds was wafted from it. Likewise, he sent to this Servant that which testified to his acceptance, humility and lowliness before God, the Lord of the worlds. Due to events occurring in this land, there was delay in responding and showing favor until this time when the Most Great Branch appeared before the Countenance and made mention of you. We have mentioned thee in such wise as nothing can equal. Verily thy Lord is the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous.

At this time when the Tongue of Eternity speaketh and the Pen moveth, the Ancient Countenance hath turned toward the land of K and maketh mention of Faraj—upon him be My glory—that he may rejoice in his Lord's favor and be among those who are steadfast. O Faraj! There hath befallen the Wronged One that which hath caused the dwellers of Paradise and those who circle round My mighty Throne to weep. Servants who have denied God and His sovereignty and turned away from His gracious Cause have risen against Us. Yet the Wronged One, in the midst of tribulation, continued to voice His beauteous praise and remember His loved ones in all directions. He, verily, is the Almighty, the Powerful. Neither the power of the world nor the might of nations hath deterred Us. We have arisen, without veil or covering, and spoken that which hath caused the limbs of the ungodly to quake. Blessed art thou and those who have held fast to the Most Great Cord and have arisen to serve My manifest Cause.

We have heard thy call time and again, and We answer thee at this hour. We make mention of the youth who mentioned thee before the Countenance and heard the call of God, the Lord of the worlds. He hath attained and won to his goal, as the Mother Book beareth witness in its exalted station. O youth! Hear the call and be not of the heedless. We make mention of H and S. He arose in the earliest days to serve the Cause, as beareth witness He Who speaketh in all things that there is no God but Me, the Single, the All-Informed. We have commanded the servants not to speak regarding him. We have forgiven him as a bounty from Our presence, and We are verily the Forgiving, the Merciful.

O Faraj, upon thee be My Glory! Thy mention hath been made before the Wronged One. I swear by the tribulations of this Wronged One that whosoever today attaineth unto any of My remembrances hath attained unto all good. We beseech God to aid thee in such wise that thy name may never set from the horizon of names, nor thy remembrance from the heaven of mention, nor be touched by decline. Convey My greetings to the loved ones of that land and give them the glad-tidings of God's favors. His honor Amin, upon him be My Glory, during the days he was present before the Face, made mention of that land, and repeatedly mentioned each one in the Most Holy Court, and likewise the party of God at the

gate of Isfahan. We beseech God to aid them and grant them success in that which He loveth and is pleased with.

Say: O people of God! Today ye must be set ablaze by the traces of the Most Exalted Pen and the rustling of the Lote-Tree beyond which there is no passing—an enkindlement that would consume all dampness and coldness which are the cause and reason for lassitude and hesitation, that all may speak forth in praise and thanksgiving and arise to serve. Say: O people of God! Know ye the value of these days and seek from God that which endureth and lasteth. The days are transient, things are transient, colors are transient, wealth and riches and might and glory are all transient. What a pity that man should be deprived of the eternal Kingdom for the sake of that which perisheth. From the beginning of the Cause until now, the Pen of God hath, for the sake of God, uttered that which is the cause of salvation for all and eternal everlasting life. Well is it with them that hear, and well is it with them that act!

His honor Ha and Sin hath, from the beginning of the Cause, turned to the Most Exalted Horizon and hath borne in the path of God that which none save God is aware of. The gaze of favor hath turned toward him from the horizon of the Prison, that he may be of the thankful ones. Verily We have forgiven him and purified him. Thy Lord loveth faithfulness and commandeth all to observe it. Blessed is he who hath held fast unto that which God hath willed and hath detached himself from his own desires in this Great Announcement. Those who have attained unto His presence, nothing whatsoever shall harm them. We beseech Him, exalted be He, to assist him and aid him in His remembrance and praise and in serving His manifest Cause, and to make him a standard of His name. Verily He is the Powerful, the Mighty.

We send greetings to the leaves of that land and make mention of them with such mention that the whole world and whatsoever is therein cannot equal a single letter thereof. Soon that which hath flowed from the Most Exalted Pen shall appear and become manifest to all the world. Consider what was in the beginning and what hath now come to pass. The will of God cannot be hindered by the will of creation, nor can the penetrating influence of the Most Exalted Pen be prevented by the clamor of ignorant divines. Thus hath He revealed the utterance, pearls of knowledge. When thou hast attained unto them say: Praise be unto Thee, O God of the worlds, and glory be unto Thee, O Desire of the worlds! My spirit be a sacrifice unto Thy grace and unto Thy favor. Despite what hath befallen Thee, Thou hast remembered Thy devoted friends.

If thou shouldst meet his honor Amin, convey My greetings. Say: Verily We have mentioned every name thou didst mention before the Face, and We mention it as a grace from Us, and I am verily the Compassionate, the Bountiful. O Amin! Thou didst enter by My leave and depart by My leave. Thou didst stand before My face and didst speak in remembrance of My party and My loved ones who have held fast to My cord and clung to the hem of the robe of My mercy, and who have soared in My atmosphere and spoken My praise and hastened unto My straight path. The Glory be upon thee and upon him and upon those whose names thou hast mentioned on this dark night from the Pen of God, the Powerful, the Strong, the Triumphant, the Mighty.

BH01619: A letter from the Wronged One to him who…

He is the One speaking from His most exalted horizon.

A letter from the Wronged One to him who has turned to God, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting, that the call may draw him to the most exalted horizon and bring him near to Him Who hath come from the heaven of grace with a proof that nothing possessed by the nations can equal. He Who possesseth the known Book beareth witness to this. The horizon of knowledge hath been illumined by the light of the name of thy Lord, the All-Merciful. Blessed is he who hath seen with his own eyes and blessed is he who hath heard with his own ears the call of God, the Mighty, the Loving.

O ʿAli! We have heard thy mention and have remembered thee with that which nothing in the world can equal. Give thanks unto thy Lord for this bounty and say: "Praise be unto Thee, O God of the seen and unseen!" Beware lest the people of the Bayan prevent thee from thy Lord, the All-Merciful. Be thou steadfast in service to the Cause, turn thy face toward its horizon, speak forth its praise, and hold fast unto its strong cord. When thou perceivest the fragrance of revelation in the verses of thy Lord, say with wisdom and utterance: "O people of the world! The All-Merciful hath come with manifest sovereignty." Beware lest the veils of the divines withhold you, or the might of those who have denied God's right, the Lord of existence, frighten you.

Say: "O concourse of divines! By God, the dwellers of the highest Paradise lament because of your tyranny. Fear God and be not of those who have denied God's favor after it was sent down." Thus doth My Most Exalted Pen counsel you from its praiseworthy station. Through you was shed the blood of the Primal Point, and the limbs of the Concourse on High did tremble. Thus did their souls entice them, and you today do not understand. Cast away your idle fancies and take what ye have been given from the presence of the Truth, the Knower of the unseen, Who hath come with the banners of verses, with the Primal Point at His right hand and a company of angels at His left, if ye but knew.

O ʿAli! Behold and then recall what the people of Iran perpetrated when the Herald of thy Lord's Cause, the All-Merciful, appeared. They pronounced judgment against Him with such injustice that the Holy Spirit lamented, as did the dwellers of the divine pavilions and the inhabitants of the Kingdom.

Hearken in the Persian tongue to the call of the Wronged One and ponder the deeds of the Shi'ih sect. Throughout ages and centuries they awaited the appearance of Him Who conversed on Sinai, and at all times they lamented and supplicated God, glorified be His majesty, yearning for His presence. But when the blessed Morn dawned and the holy Tree sprouted forth, all surrounded Him with swords of hatred and pronounced judgment to shed His most pure blood. "It was not the rulers who slew Him, but rather the divines, would ye but understand." For in the early years, all the divines pronounced judgment to slay the Lord of the saints, and by the verdict of those heedless souls there occurred what occurred.

Reflect a little, that perchance thou mayest drink from the ocean of awareness and bear witness to the wronged state of the Truth. The Shi'ih sect counted themselves the most learned, most excellent and most God-fearing among the world's peoples, yet with one clear test it became evident they were the basest of all the earth's peoples. They committed that which no other people in the world had committed. Even now their deeds are manifest and evident. The cry did not bring them to their senses, nor did the call awaken them. They stand in pulpits cursing the Intended One and perceive it not.

Now the people of the Bayan too have intended to organize a party from among the Shi'ih. In any case, hearken to the call of the Wronged One. Stand for God's sake and speak for God's sake, that perchance former delusions may not be renewed and the helpless people may become free and attain true unity. Service to the Cause is binding and obligatory upon all. Convey My greetings to the friends in that land. Say: While time remains, turn ye to the eternal Kingdom and arise to redress what hath escaped you. The world is transient, its days are transient, and all that is seen is transient. Strive that ye may achieve such deeds whose fragrance shall never fade from the world and may be recorded by the Most Exalted Pen in the Crimson Book. Verily He is the Protector of those who remember Him and those who act. Praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH04021: This is a mention from Us unto him who…

He is the Hearer, the Answerer

This is a mention from Us unto him who hath believed in God, the Single, the All-Informed. The eyes have been prevented from beholding My horizon, the tongues from making mention of Me, and the ears from hearkening to My sweetest call. Thus have their souls enticed them to follow every remote oppressor. They who claim knowledge without clear proof from Our presence—these are the companions of hellfire. Say: O people of the Bayan! Fear the All-Merciful and be not of those who disbelieved in Muhammad, the Messenger of God, when He came with the truth, and turned away from the Spirit when He appeared from the presence of a Mighty, Ancient One. Judge fairly by God, then behold this horizon from which hath dawned the Day-Star of thy Lord's beauty, the Speaking, the All-Knowing. The books of the people profit you not today except through this Book which hath been sent down from God, the Lord of the worlds. Thus hath the Pen revealed the Kawthar of life—blessed are the people of Baha who have drunk therefrom in My Name, the Mighty, the Wondrous.

These are they whom names prevent not from the Creator of heaven, nor the clamor of the people from God, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting. Praise be to God, Lord of what was and what will be. Convey the Cause of thy Lord with wisdom and utterance, then protect the servants from the arrows of those who have disbelieved in God, the Sovereign of existence. Be a servant of thy Lord's Cause and a guardian of the City of the Bayan, lest there enter it any immoral one who hath turned away from God, the Mighty, the Loving. When thou attainest unto My Book and findest the fragrance of My utterance, arise and say: Praise be to Thee, O Master of the seen and unseen! I testify that Thou hast come from the dayspring of the Cause with the banners of verses and the standards of wisdom and utterance. Blessed is he who seeth with insight, and woe unto every heedless doubter.

BH04183: O people of the earth! Have ye not heard…

He is the Preserver, He is the Guide!

O people of the earth! Have ye not heard the shrill voice of the Most Exalted Pen, and attained not unto the rustling of the Divine Lote-Tree? Say: Today the ocean of utterance is surging and the Sun of Truth is shining resplendent. Deprive not yourselves! Set your faces toward the ultimate goal and supreme summit. This is the Day which all books and messengers have heralded and made known.

O Hadi! Aforetime didst thou attain unto the traces of the Most Exalted Pen and wert honored by the lights of the Sun of Truth. We sent thee aforetime a Tablet from whose horizon shone the sun of thy Lord's loving kindness, the Compassionate, the Bountiful. By the life of God! The world cannot be compared to a single word from the divine utterances. Know thou the value of the utterance of the All-Merciful and preserve it as thou wouldst thy life.

Would that the peoples of the earth were adorned with the ornament of fairness and would recite but one Tablet from the Tablets of God, exalted be His glory, and judge with fairness. Great indeed is this Day, for in it the Mighty News hath appeared and the Mother Book hath spoken forth from the most exalted horizon of the world. Blessed is the one whom the doubts of the divines and the allusions of the jurisprudents have not kept back from the Lord of Names.

Convey on behalf of this Wronged One greetings to all who are related—that is, those souls who have held fast to the Divine Book and are gazing toward the Supreme Horizon—and give them the glad-tidings of God's favors, exalted be His glory. We beseech Him, exalted is He, to ordain for those who have turned to Him and attained that which He hath prescribed for His chosen ones and His loved ones. Verily, there is none other God but Him, the All-Bountiful, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

BH04910: O Andalib, We have heard your melodies, your warbling…

He is the One Who stands and speaks before the faces of the world!

O Andalib, We have heard your melodies, your warbling, and your songs in the garden of loving-kindness and favor. We beseech Him, exalted be He, to strengthen you and protect you from that which is unworthy of His days—days which were heralded by the Spirit and announced by Him Who conversed with God. Your verses have been presented before Us. We found from them the fragrance of orientation and devotion. We have turned unto you and mentioned you in this wondrous Tablet. This is the Day wherein the Mother Book speaks and the Preserved Tablet utters, and that which was hidden in God's knowledge, the Lord of the worlds, is made manifest.

Say: My God, my God! I perceive the fragrance of Thy bounty from Thy utterance and behold the lights of Thy daybreak from Thy horizon. I beseech Thee by Thy Name through which Thou didst manifest the Resurrection and its conditions, and the Hour and its signs, and through which Thou didst subdue the servants and send down upon the lands that which was inscribed by Thy Most Exalted Pen in the Crimson Tablet, to enable me to remember Thee and praise Thee throughout the nights and days. Verily, Thou art the Lord of all beings. Praise be to Thee, O my God, for having made known to me Thy path and caused me to speak Thy praise on this Day wherein the idolaters have risen against Thee with the swords of malice and hatred, and the heedless with the spears of fancy and idle imagination. I beseech Thee by Thy Most Great Signs and the manifestations of Thy power in the kingdom of creation to ordain for me that which will preserve me from all else save Thee and draw me nigh unto Thee. Verily, Thou art the Self-Sufficient, the Most Exalted. There is none other God but Thee, the Ruler in the beginning and in the end.

BH05028: Throughout past ages and centuries, the people of Iran…

In the name of the All-Knowing Lord!

Throughout past ages and centuries, the people of Iran, both clergy and others, according to their own claims, held fast to truth, spoke of truth, and walked in the path of truth. Yet when the light of the Most Great Luminary shone forth from the horizon of the heaven of the Ancient Lord's will, they committed such acts as no oppressor had ever committed since the beginning of creation. They issued death sentences against One Whom they had remembered day and night. I swear by the Sun of Truth which shineth from the horizon of the prison's heaven that all religious groups have sought and continue to seek refuge in God from the deeds of those heedless souls.

Now again the deniers of the Bayan are engaged in the same pursuits. Beseech God to protect all, that they may perhaps engage in the remembrance of the Beloved of the worlds with joy and fragrance, and attain to the light of true unity. Thus hath My Most Exalted Pen spoken, and the Tongue of Grandeur uttered in this glorious and wondrous station.

The world hath been laid waste by vain imaginings. Glory be to God! Despite all they have seen and heard, they again associate with the barking ones. What do they intend to perceive and what do they wish to understand? We beseech God to assist His loved ones with the means of the heavens and earth, and protect them from the evil of every remote oppressor and every stubborn barking one.

BH05501: A missive from the All-Compelling, the Self-Subsisting, unto him…

In the Name of Him through Whom the fragrances of the All-Merciful were wafted throughout creation.

A missive from the All-Compelling, the Self-Subsisting, unto him who hath drunk of My sealed wine, that he may rejoice and be of them who have turned to the Most Exalted Horizon on a Day whereon the Herald proclaimed: The Kingdom belongeth unto God, the Possessor of the Invisible and the Visible. My Name Jamal, upon him be My glory, hath made mention of thee. We make mention of thee in a Tablet whereunto nothing in all creation can compare, and I am, verily, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

Hearken unto the Call that hath been raised from the precincts of the Prison—verily there is no God but Me, the Mighty, the Best-Beloved. Be thou vocal in My praise, and turn unto My horizon, and make mention of My Forbidden Name through which the foundation of every learned one was shaken and the hearts of all who are endued with understanding were perturbed, save whom God, the Lord of the Kingdom, did will. Thus hath the Tongue of Revelation spoken, as the Wronged One was established upon the throne of dominion. Let not the affairs of men grieve thee. Hold thou fast unto the cord of the tender mercy of thy Lord, the Mighty, the All-Loving.

Convey My remembrance unto My loved ones who have believed in God, the Lord of the Invisible and the Visible. We counsel them with that which We counseled Our servants aforetime and with that which hath been sent down in a Preserved Tablet. The Glory shining resplendent from the horizon of the heaven of My utterance be upon thee and upon My servants who have not broken My Covenant and My Testament, and who have acted in accordance with that which they were bidden in My perspicuous Book.

BH05613: O Mahmud! The Day is God's Day…

He is the All-Witnessing from the most exalted horizon

O Mahmud! The Day is God's Day, and the Cause is His Cause, and the Book is His Book, and the Manifestation is His Manifestation. That which was hidden from the beginning of creation until now has been made manifest. Yet all the divines of this age are engaged in cursing and denunciation. Glory be to God! The former faction, who counted themselves the most learned, most God-fearing and most ascetic in the world, committed that which no previous factions had done. In the early years, both learned and ignorant would curse the Lord of the world and issue decrees for His death. What has been the fruit of the words, deeds and actions of those souls over twelve hundred years, and what has become of them?

Man is bewildered, nay the world is bewildered. Blessed is the soul that became aware of that faction's loss and preserved itself from the whisperings of the turbaned ones through the name of Truth. Give thanks to the Aim of the world that He remembered thee in the Most Great Prison, and arise with complete steadfastness in the Cause of the Lord of all names. Verily He heareth and seeth, and He is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. The glory from Us be upon thee and upon those whom the clamor did not prevent from the Lord of Names—they turned and said "We believe in God, the Lord of the worlds."

BH05895: The Preserved Tablet speaketh: The verses have been sent…

He is the One Who gazeth from His most exalted horizon

The Preserved Tablet speaketh: The verses have been sent down, the clear proofs have appeared, and the Light of the Cause hath dawned from the horizon of power, and the Call hath been raised, yet all remain heedless and veiled, save those souls who, drawn by the Call, have turned, detached from all things, toward the most exalted horizon. These are the hands of God's Cause amongst His creation. Blessed is the one whom vain imaginings have not deprived of the Dayspring of certitude, and who hath clung to the blessed word "He doeth whatsoever He willeth." Whosoever attaineth unto this blessed word shall attain unto manifest certitude and shall accept whatsoever appeareth from the most exalted horizon with perfect submission and contentment. Blessed is he who hath heard My call and turned to My horizon and gained victory through My Cause, the Mighty, the Wondrous.

Thy mention hath been made in the presence of the Wronged One, and thy verses have attained the honor of being heard. Praise be to God that thou hast been assisted to turn unto Him and hast been honored by this blessed Tablet, adorned by the Most Exalted Pen. Give praise to the Goal of all worlds, Who, in the Most Great Prison, hath bestowed His grace upon thee and made mention of thee. Unto Him be praise in all conditions. He is the Self-Sufficient, the Most Exalted. The splendor from the presence of Baha be upon the people of Baha, whom nothing whatsoever among all things hath prevented from God, the Cleaver of the heavens.

BH07736: The sweet water of life hath flowed…

He is the One speaking from His most exalted horizon.

The sweet water of life hath flowed from the Pen of the All-Merciful. Blessed is he who hath drunk thereof, and woe unto every heedless and remote one. The Preserved Tablet hath appeared through My firm and impregnable Command. By My Life, He Who speaketh at this hour declareth: The kingdom is Mine—beware lest ye be of the heedless ones. The verses have submitted to My verse, and the evidences to My wondrous Manifestation. We have revealed in the Tablets that which hath appeared and shall appear, yet the people remain behind a thick veil.

Thou hast been mentioned in the presence of the Wronged One. He is verily the All-Compassionate, the All-Bountiful. When thou findest My choice-sealed wine from the chalice of My destined utterance, take it with the hand of submission, then drink thereof in My Name, the Self-Subsisting, Who hath arisen before all faces proclaiming: The Truth hath come with manifest sovereignty.

Thus have the breezes of revelation been wafted as a token from God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy. Glory be upon the people of Baha who have cast the world behind them, turning unto My luminous horizon.

BH07816: This is a Book which the Lord of all…

He is the Most Exalted Pen.

This is a Book which the Lord of all beings hath sent down unto him who hath turned unto the lights of the Countenance and drunk the choice wine in the name of his Lord, the Help in Peril, the Self-Subsisting. We have manifested that which was hidden in knowledge and have sent down from the heaven of Will that which the reckoners have failed to reckon. Blessed is the servant who hath held fast to the cord of God, and woe betide every rejected denier. When thou hast attained unto My Book and drunk the choice wine of revelation from My verses, arise and say:

Unto Thee be praise, O Lord of Names, and unto Thee be glory, O Desire of the invisible and visible realms. I beseech Thee to assist me to serve Thy Cause, to make mention of Thee and to praise Thee. Verily Thou art powerful to do what Thou willest through Thy word “Be” and it is. Thus doth the Pen move when the Ancient King was seated upon the Most Great Throne, speaking forth verses that all the treasures cannot equal. Glory be from Us upon those who have cast away idle fancies and vain imaginings, holding fast to the cord of God, the Lord of the Kingdom.

BH08213: Praise and glory befit the friends of the Lord…

Praise and glory befit the friends of the Lord of Names, whom neither the veils of the divines, nor the clouds of the jurists, nor the opposition of the philosophers could debar from the Most Exalted Horizon or deprive of the ocean of divine mercy. Their hearts are illumined with the light of recognition and their faces are turned toward the Most Glorious Horizon. They are those servants concerning whom He hath said: “Neither trade nor commerce distracteth them from the remembrance of God.” They are sanctified from rancor and hatred, and are free from guile and deceit. Should they find pure and blessed soil, they impart the Word unto all peoples with spirit and joy; if not, they desist. Contention, strife, warfare and the shedding of blood have never been and are not the way of the people of truth. This Most Great

Revelation hath come to purify souls from all that reason abhorreth. Blessed are they who have held fast unto justice and equity and are adorned with the ornament of truthfulness and fidelity….

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BH07159: They said: Your coming and going was like lightning…

He is God, exalted be His station of grandeur and power.

They said: Your coming and going was like lightning—it was not clearly known when you sat or when you rose, and you bid farewell without being heard. Of such proofs there are many. In this case, making amends for what was lost is necessary. Then whenever circumstances require, we beseech God to assist you and confirm you in that which will cause the effects to appear throughout all regions. End. And then, may my spirit be sacrificed for your honor, my beloved, His Honor Aqa Mirza Asadu'llah, upon him be 96 [Baha] and His favors, sent a letter to this servant which arrived, and regarding certain matters concerning attention to this land they had requested instructions. Therefore, according to instructions a letter was written and sent for your honor to forward to one of the friends in Baku so that upon their arrival in that land, namely Baku, they may deliver it. Emphasis on this matter is necessary.

This evanescent servant beseeches and hopes that God will assist and aid your honor at all times with the hosts of the seen and unseen and the forces of the heavens and earth. Verily He has power over all things. Praise and glory be upon your honor and upon God's sincere servants, and praise be to God, Lord of the worlds.

The servant, on the 22nd of Shawwal 1303.

BH03188: The Wronged One calleth out to thee and giveth…

He is the One Who gazeth from His most exalted horizon

The Wronged One calleth out to thee and giveth thee glad tidings of God's loving-kindness, the Lord of all worlds, from this Spot which hath been named at one time the Most Exalted Horizon, at another the Heaven of heavens, and at still another the Most Great Prison and the Most Beautiful Names. He is, verily, the Almighty, the All-Powerful. O Ghani! The ocean of bounty hath turned toward thee and desireth to cast upon thee the pearls of wisdom and utterance, that thou mayest give thanks unto thy Lord, the Possessor of this noble station.

Say: O peoples of the earth! Be fair in the Cause of God and His Manifestation, and be not of the wrongdoers. The verses have encompassed all directions and the Day-Star of proof hath shone forth from the horizon of the Pen of the will of your Lord, the All-Merciful. Observe, then be fair, and be not of them who recognized God's favor, then denied it and caused their people to dwell in the fire. Say: We have not entered schools, yet We have sent down from the heaven of knowledge and wisdom that before which all the learning of the earth hath bowed down, as every discerning one doth testify. Say: This is a Day wherein fancies and idle imaginings will profit you not. Fear God and be not of the ignorant. Cast away

what ye possess of the divines and jurists of the earth, and take hold of the Book of God with the strength that proceedeth from Him. He, verily, is the Commander, the All-Wise.

Thus have We sent down the verses and expounded them in truth as a grace from Us, and I am verily the Almighty, the All-Forgiving, the All-Bountiful. Be thou steadfast in the service of My Cause, gazing toward My horizon, turning unto My countenance, and speaking My beauteous praise.

Say: Praise be unto Thee, O my God, my Purpose and my Hope! I testify that this Day is Thy Day and this Manifestation Thy Manifestation. Thou hast appeared and revealed through Thy conquering power what lay hidden in the treasuries of inner meanings and concealed in the repositories of utterance, and Thou hast made manifest the Way and sent down the Proof. I beseech Thee by Thy Most Exalted Word to aid me to be steadfast in Thy Cause and in Thy remembrance and praise amongst Thy creatures. O my Lord! I behold the reins of expression in the grasp of Thy power and the bridles of understanding in the right hand of Thy will. Thou art, verily, the Almighty, the Guardian over all who are in the heavens and on earth.

BH03277: This is the Day whereon He Who conversed…

He is the One Who rules over all who are in the heavens and on earth

This is the Day whereon He Who conversed with God upon Sinai hath seated Himself upon the throne of Manifestation before all faces, calling aloud with the most exalted utterance and summoning all who are on earth and in heaven unto the Supreme Horizon—that station wherein hath shone forth the Sun of knowledge by the command of God, the Lord of the worlds.

O Ja'far! The Wronged One remembereth thee from the Most Great Scene and saith: By God! He hath come, the Lord of all beings, through Whom every hidden matter was revealed, the moon was cleft asunder, the trumpet was sounded, and all upon earth were struck down save those whom God, thy Lord, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise, willed to spare. We have heard thy call and have answered thee, and have beheld thy turning toward the lights of the Countenance. We have sent down for thee that whereby the Concourse on High and the exalted Paradise were attracted, that thou mayest thank thy Lord, the Possessor of this wondrous Day. Thus hath the ocean of utterance surged, and the gate of knowledge been opened, and the tongue of grandeur hath spoken: There is none other God but Me, the Ordainer, the Ancient of Days. I have manifested My Self and sent down My verses, and I am the Powerful over what I will, and I am the Dominant, the Mighty, the Wise.

When thou didst find the fragrance of My most sweet utterance and didst hear the trilling of My Most Exalted Pen, arise and say: Praise be unto Thee, O Lord of all names and Creator of heaven, for having aided me, guided me, taught me and caused me to know Thee when I was heedless of Thy manifestation, Thy sovereignty, Thy attributes and Thy revelations. I beseech Thee by the movement of Thy Most Exalted Pen, whereby all created things were set in motion, and by its trilling, whereby the denizens of the cities of names and attributes were attracted, to confirm me in steadfastness unto Thy Most Great Cause and Thy Mighty Message.

O my Lord! The fire of Thy love hath enkindled me and my heart hath melted in separation and remoteness from Thee. I beseech Thee by the pearls of the ocean of Thy generosity and the stars of the heaven of Thy grace to ordain for me what Thou hast ordained for Thy chosen ones who have attained unto Thy days, circumambulated Thy throne, and hastened to the place of sacrifice out of longing to meet Thee. Verily Thou art the Powerful over whatsoever Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the Mighty, the Powerful, and worthy to answer prayer.

BH04951: My God, my God! Thou seest my turning toward…

He is the Most Holy, the Most Great, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious

My God, my God! Thou seest my turning toward Thy horizon, my orientation to the lights of Thy countenance, and my rising to serve Thee and to serve Thy loved ones. I beseech Thee by the trees which Thou hast planted by the hands of Thy bounty, and by the light of Thy face from which have shone forth the suns of Thy Cause from the horizons of the heaven of Thy wisdom, to ordain through Thy Most Exalted Pen for Thy loved ones that which will solace their eyes, gladden their hearts, and tranquilize their souls. Thou art He Who, O my God, hath encompassed the world through Thy most exalted Word and hast manifested Thy power amidst all created things. The hosts of the oppressors did not prevent Thee, nor did the might of the heedless ones. Thou didst arise before all faces and didst proclaim: The appointed time hath come, and the Revealer of verses hath appeared. Blessed is he who hath turned toward Thee, and woe unto every sinful denier.

My God, my God! I beseech Thee by the fragrances of Thy verses and the manifestations of Thy power to assist Thy loved ones to be steadfast in Thy Cause whereby the hearts of the divines of Thy earth and the ecclesiastics of Thy lands were sorely troubled. Thou art He Whom the conditions of creation cannot frustrate, nor can the intimations of Thy servants prevent Thee. Thou doest what Thou willest and ordainest what Thou pleasest. Verily, Thou art the Almighty, the All-Powerful….

BH06660: The servant hath testified to that which the Divine…

In the Name of our Lord, the Most Holy, the Most Great, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious!

The servant hath testified to that which the Divine Purpose hath testified: that there is none other God but Him. By His command hath flowed the Kawthar of eternity from His Most Exalted Pen, and the Ark of divine knowledge hath sailed upon the sea of names, and the Dove of the Cause hath warbled upon the highest branches, that there is none other God but Him, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious.

Glory be unto Thee, O Lord of existence and Sovereign over the seen and unseen! I beseech Thee by the splendors of the morn of Thy Revelation and by the Call that was raised from the Tree of Thy Mount, that Thou aid him who hath turned toward Thee and desired to adorn himself through acting in accordance with that which Thou hast commanded him in Thy Book. O my Lord! Thou seest him advancing toward Thee and turning toward Thy horizon. I beseech Thee not to disappoint him of that which Thou hast ordained for Thy loved ones. Thou art He Who hath named Thyself the All-Bountiful in Thy precious Book. There is none other God but Thee, the King, the Truth, the Manifest Justice.

Port Said

He is the Helper

The letter of his honor Aqa ʿAbdu'l-Vahhab, upon him be the Glory of God, in the amount of nine tumans, was received by the servant in the prison through his honor the beloved of hearts, the Trustee, upon him be the Glory of God, in the sacred month of Dhi'l-Qa'dah 1303.

BH06416: My God, my God! My tongue beareth witness…

In the Name of our Most Holy, Most Great, Most Exalted, Most Glorious Lord!

My God, my God! My tongue beareth witness to Thy unity and singleness, to Thy might and sovereignty, to Thy power and dominion, and that Thou art God and there is none other God but Thee. Thou wert hidden and treasured from all eyes, hearts and minds.

Then when the ocean of Thy giving surged forth, Thou didst create creation through Thy bounty and grace, and didst send unto them One Who would manifest Thy names and attributes, reveal Thy Self, and proclaim Thy commandments and ordinances. Among the people some turned towards Thee and attained, while others turned away and denied.

Blessed is the servant whom the veils of the world and the coverings of the nations did not prevent from hearing Thy call and responding to Thee, and who turned towards the prison-quarter, having detached himself from all else besides Thee.

O Lord! Thou seest him who hath loved Thee and arisen to serve Thy Cause, who hath spoken Thy praise and clung fast unto Thee, and who hath sought the wonders of Thy grace and the manifestations of Thy loving-kindness. I beseech Thee to ordain for him through Thy Most Exalted Pen the good of this world and the world to come. Then aid him through Thy power and might. Verily Thou art the Almighty, the Powerful.

BH06651: The servant who is present has brought a letter…

He is the Expositor, the All-Knowing

The servant who is present has brought a letter from him who was named Haydar-ʿAli, wherein thy name was mentioned. We make mention of thee through this clear remembrance, that it may draw thee to the seat of the throne and give thee to drink of the cup of bounty from the hands of thy Lord's gifts, the Compassionate, the Generous. Say:

My God, my God! Thou seest Thy servant who was named Muhammad, who hath turned toward Thy most exalted horizon and arisen to serve Thy Cause, O Lord of all beings, and who desireth from the heaven of Thy grace and the ocean of Thy generosity that Thou wouldst honor him with that whereby his remembrance shall endure throughout the duration of Thy Kingdom and Thy Dominion.

O my Lord! Ordain for me from the wonders of Thy bounty to attain unto Thy presence and to stand before the gate of Thy grandeur and to hearken unto Thy call. And if what I desire be prevented by the

requirements of Thy wisdom and Thy irrevocable decree and Thy binding judgment, then ordain for me the reward of attaining unto Thy presence. Then make me to be among those who turned unto Thee until they attained unto presence before Thy throne and were blessed with the Kawthar of Thy meeting and the Tasnim of reunion with Thee. Then write down for me what Thou hast written for Thy chosen ones. Verily, Thou art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

BH07271: Praise be unto Thee, O Thou Who causeth…

In the Name of our Most Holy, Most Great, Most Exalted, Most Glorious Lord!

Praise be unto Thee, O Thou Who causeth the dawn to appear and sendeth forth the winds. I testify that through Thee the gate of prosperity hath been opened and the path of success hath become manifest. I beseech Thee by the lights of Thy countenance and the revelations of Thy power that Thou aid whosoever hath turned unto Thee and sought Thy grace. Thou art He Whom neither the clamor of the tyrants nor the oppression of the Pharaohs could hinder.

Thou hast manifested through Thy power that which Thou didst will, despite every remote oppressor and every stubborn tyrant. O my Lord! I beseech Thee by Thy most exalted attributes and the manifestations of Thy glory in the Kingdom of eternity that Thou aid whosoever hath turned unto Thee and arisen to serve Thy Cause when he was in Thy vicinity in the great city which was honored by Thy presence, wherein Thou didst reveal that which was hidden in Thy knowledge, and wherein Thou didst manifest Thy Self and Thy sovereignty and Thy power. O my Lord! Ordain for him that which will draw him to Thy horizon. Verily, Thou art the One Who hath power over whatsoever Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the Protector of all who are in the heavens and on earth. Praise be unto Thee, O God of the worlds.

BH07471: My God, my God! Praise be to Thee…

In the Name of our Most Holy Lord!

My God, my God! Praise be to Thee for having informed Thy servants and revealed unto them beforehand that which later came to pass, when the light of Thy countenance was shining from the horizon of Zawra and in the Land of Mystery, and at the first arrival in Thy Most Great Prison Thou didst say—and Thy word is the truth—that the cawing of the crows would be raised and the birds of night would stir in the towns and territories.

The servant beareth witness that Thy word is truth and Thy command is certain, and testifieth that Thou didst foretell all that hath appeared and shall appear unto the Day that hath no end. I beseech Thee, O Cleaver of the Dawn and Sender of the Winds, by Thy Most Great Name through which the peoples are impelled, to strengthen whomsoever hath turned towards Thee upon the Most Great Steadfastness. Then send down upon him from the heaven of Thy bounty a blessing from Thy presence, O Lord of Names and Creator of earth and heaven! Verily Thou art the Almighty over whatsoever Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

BH07452: I beseech Thee, O my God and the God…

In the Name of our Lord, the Most Holy, the Most Great, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious!

I beseech Thee, O my God and the God of names, and my Sovereign and the Sovereign of all things, and my Master and the Master of earth and heaven! I beseech Thee by the mountain whereon was raised the tabernacle of Thy glory, and by the earth which was honored by the gaze of Thy favor, and by the trees which Thou didst plant when Thou wert wronged in Thy prison, that Thou aid Thy loved ones with the hosts of Thy power and might, and preserve them from the evil of Thine enemies. O Lord! Thou seest the one who hath heard Thy sweetest call and turned with his heart to Thy most exalted horizon. Ordain for him from the Pen of Destiny that which shall profit him in all the worlds of Thy worlds. Verily, Thou art the Mighty, the All-Bountiful. There is none other God but Thee, the Self-Sufficient, the Most Exalted.

Port Said

He is the Helper.

The contribution of his honor Ali-Muhammad ibn H-S, upon him be the Glory of God, in the amount of seven tumans, was received by this servant in the prison through the beloved of hearts, Jinab-i-Amin, upon him be the Glory of God, in the month of Dhi'l-Qa'dah the Sacred in the year 1303.

BH07697: The servant beareth witness unto that which God Himself…

In the Name of our Lord, the Most Holy, the Most Great, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious!

The servant beareth witness unto that which God Himself hath testified: that there is none other God but Him. He hath ever existed, sanctified beyond all mention and praise, and exalted above whatsoever is with all created things. He hath created creation as a manifestation of His bounty and power, and as an expression of His grace and providence. He hath sent forth the Messengers and made them to be guides unto His creation and lamps of knowledge among His creatures.

Blessed is the servant whom that which he possesseth hath not withheld from that which is with God, who hath arisen and turned towards Him, saying:

> "Praise be unto Thee, O Lord of all names and Creator of the heavens, for having guided me unto Thy straight path, and acquainted me with Thy mighty message, and caused me to hear Thy sweet call, and shown me Thy most exalted horizon. I beseech Thee, O my Lord, by the kingdom of Thy verses and the dominion of Thy Cause and Thy power, to assist Thy loved ones to make mention of Thee and to praise Thee, and to adorn them, O my God, with the ornament of goodly deeds. Thou art, verily, the Self-Sufficient, the Most Exalted, the Sovereign at the beginning and in the end."

BH07981: O Manzar! Thou art mentioned in the Most Sublime…

In the name of the Goal of all the worlds!

O Manzar! Thou art mentioned in the Most Sublime Vision. Every mention among mentions and every thing among things shall be seized by the hand of extinction according to the exigencies of divine wisdom, save the Sun of the Word of God, exalted be His glory, which hath shone forth from the horizon of the Supreme Pen. It shall endure through the eternality of the kingdom and the realm above. If thou wouldst ponder on this Word, thou wouldst forever utter "Thine is the praise, O God of the worlds!" This is the day of service and the day of deeds. Blessed is the soul whom the clamor of the world hath not prevented from the Dayspring of light and the Dawning-place of revelation, who hath rent asunder the veils of idle fancies and hath arisen with complete steadfastness to reform the world. Such a one is accounted among the people of Baha in the Crimson Book by the Supreme Pen. Blessed is he! Blessed is he!

BH08436: Praise be unto Thee, O my God, for having…

In the Name of our Lord, the Most Holy, the Most Great, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious!

Praise be unto Thee, O my God, for having caused the ocean of Thy utterance to surge amongst Thy servants and the fragrance of Thy mercy to waft throughout Thy lands. I beseech Thee, O Bestower of bounties and Lord of all nations, by Thy Most Great Name through which Thou didst manifest the Kaf and the Nun and didst create thereby what was and what will be, to assist Thy servants to turn towards that which Thou hast commanded them in Thy Book. Thou art He, O my God, from Whose knowledge nothing whatsoever escapeth, nor doth the mention of aught render Thee powerless. Ordain for this servant of Thine that which shall profit him in every world of Thy worlds. Verily, Thou art the Omnipotent over whatsoever Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the Mighty, the All-Bountiful….

BH05008: Honored brother, Aqa Muhammad-Rida! May you be confirmed through…

He is God, exalted be His station, the Glory and the Power!

Honored brother, Aqa Muhammad-Rida! May you be confirmed through God's grace and occupied with that which exalteth His Cause. Today, which is Thursday the fifth of the month of Dhi'l-Qa'dih, one hour after noon, He appeared before me and commanded: Write to Aqa Muhammad-Rida, upon him be God's peace: Khalil, upon him be God's mercy, hath been freed from the troubles, hardships and difficulties of this transitory world and hath set forth for his true homeland. It behooveth all to attend, according to their means, to his affairs. This is among the conditions of faith and certitude, of love and unity. They owe a sum of money—whatever is verifiably owed to you must be quickly repaid, that perchance, God willing, the debt that must be paid to Haji Muhammad in Beirut may be settled before mention and claim are made. They must exert their utmost effort in this matter. We beseech God to aid him in that which He loveth and is pleased with.

In truth, it is incumbent upon all of us to set right the affairs of the departed one, upon him be God's mercy and forgiveness, inasmuch as there are children and dependents, and moreover the debts of that honored brother and others—they must make every effort and endeavor to pay his debts. I convey greetings to the friends in that land and beseech confirmation and success for all. Peace and light and mercy be upon you and upon God's sincere servants. Praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

The servant, on 5 Dhi'l-Qa'dih 1303

BH01766: Praise, sanctified from the descriptions of nations, befitteth Him…

He is God, exalted be His glory, the Most Great, the All-Powerful

Praise, sanctified from the descriptions of nations, befitteth Him Who is the Ancient King, Who hath caused copper to appear from mines and mountain quarries, and through it hath provided sustenance for a multitude of creatures. Great is the power of that Sovereign Who bringeth forth wheat from rock and causeth the supreme bounty to spring forth from the earth. These things have appeared and continue to appear through the wondrous grace of His favor. For every soul a portion hath been ordained—some sow and eat, while others reap and eat without having sown. For all there is a share in the Book of our Lord. And blessings and peace be upon the Lord of nations and their Sovereign, and upon the pillars of the House and its foundation, and upon His family and companions through whom the edifice of knowledge was raised up in the contingent world and the power of God was made manifest among religions—blessings enduring forever.

Thereafter, the letters of your honor were seen, read, studied, and reviewed again. The heart was gladdened by them yet sorrowful, and the joyful eye wept, for the fragrances of grief wafted from them. I beseech and implore God, exalted be His glory, to bestow His grace, to untie the knot, to open the door of bounty, and to show the path of success and prosperity. Be not grieved. The host of the servant is resignation and prayer.

In all conditions, I beseech and implore the Blessed and Exalted Lord to refresh your honor with the rain of His mercy and grace, and to ordain for you the good of this world and the next. This matter was discussed with Aqa ʿAbdu's-Samad, upon him be God's peace. He mentioned that he thought they were not in debt, but later it became known they owed considerable sums. Therefore I did not dare, for it is not my money but the people's money, and indeed he speaks truly. If Haji Muhammad's funds do not arrive, that land will lose all credibility with foreigners, just as this land has. The greatest of all things is trustworthiness and religiosity. These two have been and continue to be the cause of the trust and confidence of the servants.

In a Tablet from a few days ago, these exalted words were recorded: "Verily We came upon a verdant isle whose rivers were flowing and whose trees were intertwined. I turned to the right and beheld a countenance from among the countenances of the most exalted Paradise, standing upon a pillar of light, crying out with the most elevated call: 'I am Trustworthiness and its beauty, and the adornment of lands and their light. Blessed is he who holdeth fast unto it and recognizeth its station. Through it wealth appeareth and blessings descend."'

What was in mind has been mentioned. Some phrases may be out of order. In any case, the purpose was that trustworthiness not be lost before others. Aqa ʿAbdu's-Samad was urged, after the passing of the departed one, upon him be God's forgiveness, to send Haji Muhammad's funds. This matter too was mentioned purely for the good of all, otherwise the law of consultation is binding and all must hold fast to it and act upon it. It would also be beloved if your honor were to meet with some and consult regarding

your affairs. In truth, the greatest pillar to which this servant holds fast has been and continues to be supplication to God, exalted be He. Your honor has passed many years, and now too, God willing, there is hope that the door of hope will open and that spiritual beloved will be gladdened.

I convey greetings and praise to the presence of the friends, upon them be God's peace and care, and I beseech the grace of God, exalted be His glory, for all. I send greetings to Qurratu'l-Ayn Inayatu'llah and his mother. Peace, spirit and mercy be upon you and upon God's sincere servants.

The servant 19th of Dhi'l-Qa'dih 1303

BH02099: In the Name of Him through Whom the Ocean…

In the Name of Him through Whom the Ocean of Divine Knowledge surged in creation! Your letter in the Arabic tongue is present, and the Eye of Grace beholds it. The response from the Mother Book descends in Persian, that all may partake of their portion from the Ocean of utterance of the All-Merciful and become aware of that for which sight and hearing and spirit were created.

Today the attraction of the Divine Word has seized the world. All things, in utmost joy and delight, are engaged in remembrance and praise. The water says: "O earth, let us set aside the remembrances of the world and occupy ourselves with the praise of the Ancient King." The mountains say: "O trees, today is the day of singing and melody, for the Hidden and Manifest Purpose is seated upon the throne of revelation." Blessed is our time, blessed is our day, and blessed is our state! The grace of the Beloved of the worlds has encompassed all, the lights of the Sun of loving-kindness have shone forth, the ocean of mercy is surging, and the light of bounty is radiant. A fleeting moment, in this Day, excelleth centuries of a bygone age. Blessed is the one who has become aware and testified to the grace of God, and woe unto the one who has deprived himself of the River of Mercy and held himself back from the bounty of the True Beneficent One!

O Kazim! On this day the Greater Branch was present before the countenance of the Lord of Destiny. We speak and he writes. Know thou the station of this bounty.

O Yahya! We have heard thy mention, remembered thee, and seen thy name. We have revealed for thee that which the remembrances of all nations cannot equal. The Mother Book bears witness to this, as it sits upon the Throne of Divine Address. O Yahya! Take hold of the Book of God with the power that is from Him and the might that is from His presence. He, verily, aids whoever turns to Him and desires to drink of His sealed wine, through His Name, the Mighty, the Wondrous.

Night and day the Most Exalted Pen is in motion. Ask God to raise up souls who are worthy of these days and capable of this Most Great Cause. By the Luminary of inner meanings that shines resplendent from the horizon of the heaven of utterance, the bounty of these days has not been and cannot be reckoned. Blessed is the state of the one who was not deprived of its outpourings nor prevented from its favors. Today the sun speaks: "Thine is the praise, O Lord of the worlds," and the heaven utters: "Thine is the glory, O Lord of Names." The Tree of Sinai chants: "The Lord of Revelation has come," yet the people of the world are heedless and veiled, save for a few.

O Kazim! We beseech God to aid all in that which causes the exaltation of His Cause and the advancement of existence. Thou didst seek forgiveness for thy parents. Praise be to God, it has been granted. He doeth what He willeth and ordaineth what He pleaseth. He shall not be asked of His doings. The glory from Us be upon thee and upon those who are with thee, male and female, young and old, who have fulfilled God's Covenant and His Testament, and have acknowledged that which the Tongue of Grandeur uttered before the creation of the heavens and earth.

BH02159: This is a Book which the Wronged One hath…

He is the One Who gazeth from His most exalted horizon.

This is a Book which the Wronged One hath sent down from the precincts of the Prison unto him who hath turned towards God, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting. He counseleth him with that which will cause the Cause to be uplifted and remindeth him of what hath been revealed from the Most Exalted Pen in this sublime station.

O Hasan! Hear the call of God from the Uttermost Tree: Verily, there is none other God but Me, the Truth, the Knower of the unseen. Let not the affairs of the world sadden thee, nor the might of those who have disbelieved in God, the Lord of existence. Say: The Promised One hath come, riding upon the clouds. Blessed is he who hath witnessed and seen, and woe unto every heedless and veiled one.

This is the Day whereon the fruits say unto the trees: "Blessed are ye, for the breezes of the Revelation have passed over you in this Day wherein eyes have been gladdened." And the seas call out to the mountains saying: "Blessed are ye, for the pavilions of grandeur have been raised upon you and the tabernacle of glory hath been erected among you by the command of God, the Lord of the seen and the unseen." Blessed is the servant who hath attained unto the knowledge of God in His days and hath arisen to serve His inevitable Cause.

He who was named Salman hath appeared before Us with thy letter. We have read it and answered thee with this Tablet that thou mayest thank thy Lord, the Mighty, the Loving. We make mention of him who was named Muhammad-Shafi', even as We mentioned him before in diverse Tablets, that he may give thanks unto his Lord, the Sovereign of the kingdom of earth and heaven.

O Shafi'! We have made mention of thee in such wise as to adorn the pages of the Book of existence. He Who possesseth the Preserved Tablet beareth witness unto this. Turn not unto the world and its conditions. Remind My servants with joy and fragrance that they may inhale the sweet-scented perfume of God's raiment, the Lord of all that was and shall be. Look not at the creatures and their deeds, but at Him Who speaketh at the heart of the world: "There is none other God but Me, the Truth, the All-Knowing."

O Abu'l-Qasim! Hear the call of the Wronged One from the precincts of the Prison, then make mention of Him at eventide and at dawn. Beware lest the veils of the world withhold thee or the might of those who have disbelieved in the Witness and the Witnessed strike fear into thee. Say:

> “Praise be unto Thee, O my God, for having turned toward me from the precincts of the Prison and remembered me with verses from which the fragrance of Thy beloved Name hath been wafted.”

We make mention of him who was named Muhammad-Hasan that he may rejoice and be of the thankful ones.

O Hasan! Turn with thy heart toward the Most Exalted Horizon, then make mention of thy Lord at all times. He hath remembered thee when thou wert silent in His remembrance, and hath turned toward thee from His mighty Prison. Thank God for that the Countenance of the Ancient of Days hath turned toward thee and remembered thee with that which shall never pass away. Verily thy Lord is the All-Merciful, the Generous.

O Hasan! Thank God, thy Lord, for that which hath flowed from His Pen in remembrance of every name that was in thy letter. Verily, He is the Forgiving, the Merciful. We make mention of My handmaidens who have believed in the All-Informed One. By My life! Every maidservant who hath believed is regarded by God as amongst the most exalted of men. God hath forgiven those who have turned toward Him and whose letters have been presented before His Countenance. He is the One to Whose grace all created things have testified, and to Whose loving-kindness every fair-minded and discerning soul beareth witness. Glory be upon the people of Glory who have fulfilled God’s Covenant, the Lord of all worlds.

BH02626: He Who is seated upon the Throne of Utterance

He Who is seated upon the Throne of Utterance

A Book sent down by the Wronged One to him who hath turned towards the Supreme Horizon, when the rustling of the Sadratu’l-Muntaha was raised and the Most Exalted Pen did warble, that the mention and utterance might attract him to a station wherein he beholdeth naught save the lights of his Lord’s countenance, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

Hearken unto the Call from the luminous Spot upon the white Earth:

> “Verily there is none other God but Me, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy.”

By God! The ocean of utterance hath surged in the contingent world and the fragrance of the All-Merciful hath wafted throughout the lands, yet most of the people remain heedless. They have cast the Book of God behind their backs, following those who have denied God when He came with manifest sovereignty.

Say: O people! The Self-Subsisting hath come with a Cause before which neither the hosts of the heavens and earth nor the ranks of kings and sovereigns can stand. He hath come with truth and stood before the faces of the world, speaking as He willeth, such that no thing among all things, nor the might of princes, could prevent Him. To this testifieth every fair-minded and informed one. He hath manifested that which was hidden in the hearts of the Prophets and inscribed by the Most Exalted Pen in God’s Books, the Lord of all worlds.

Say: O concourse of divines! If ye deny what hath appeared, by what proof can ye establish what ye possess? Bring it forth and be not of the patient ones. Say: Fear God and refute not the truth with your mouths. He hath come from the heaven of power with the banners of signs. Behold, O people, and be not of the wrongdoers. Thus hath the warbling of My Most Exalted Pen been raised, yet the people remain behind a thick veil.

We make mention of him who is named Muhammad-ʿAli and give him glad tidings of My loving-kindness, counseling him with that which beseemeth this momentous News. Cast aside what the people possess and take what thou art bidden in the Book of God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy. This is a Day wherein the Mother Book speaketh and the Preserved Tablet uttereth and the Tree calleth out, yet most of the people are turning away. They have denied Him in Whom they believed—verily they are among the most lost in God's Book, the Master of the Day of Judgment. Thus hath the Tree brought forth Its fruits and the ocean of utterance its waves. Blessed is he who hath witnessed and seen, and woe unto the heedless ones.

At the end of the Book We counsel you with that wherewith We have counseled Our loved ones: to act according to what hath been sent down in My wondrous Book. The glory shining from the horizon of My utterance be upon thee and upon them and upon those who have not broken God's Covenant and His Testament, whom neither the clamor of the divines nor the outcries of the jurists have prevented from My straight and manifest Path.

BH03167: O Qasim! He Who breaks the might…

He is the Hearing, the Answering One!

O Qasim! He Who breaks the might of the aggressors remembers thee with this remembrance, when from the horizon of the Pen there dawned forth that which caused all mention in the world to bow down before it, yet the peoples remain behind a manifest veil. Hearken unto the Call from the blessed Lote-Tree on high—verily it draws thee unto a station wherein thou shalt find thyself sanctified from the world and its concerns. Thy Lord is verily the All-Explaining, the All-Knowing.

This is the Day which God hath adorned with His mention in the Books of old, as doth testify the Mother Book in this exalted station. Beware lest thou be veiled by the veils of the divines or held back by the clamor of the theologians who have changed God's bounty into denial and led their people into the fire. This is what the All-Merciful revealed in the Qur'an, yet the people are in grievous doubt. They have denied Him Whom they mention night and day, and have pronounced judgment against Him without any clear proof from God, the Lord of all worlds. Observe then mention what the Shi'ih faction committed when God came with manifest sovereignty—they decked their heads with green and white, and committed what made the Faithful Spirit to groan.

When thou hast attained unto God's Tablet and His trace, and found the fragrance of the divine utterance from the Pen of the All-Merciful, say:

> "My God, my God! I beseech Thee by the breezes of Thy Revelation, the traces of Thy Pen, the pearls of the ocean of Thy knowledge, the manifestations of Thy power, Thy most great signs,

> and the rustling of the Lote-Tree beyond which there is no passing, to strengthen me in steadfastness in Thy Cause such that the affairs of the world and the doubts of the nations prevent me not from turning toward Thee, O Lord of eternity! O my Lord! Thou seest me advancing toward Thee, turning to the lights of Thy countenance, and clinging to the hem of the robe of Thy mercy. I beseech Thee to assist me in Thy remembrance, Thy praise, and service to Thy loved ones. Then ordain for me, O my God, from Thy Most Exalted Pen the good of this world and the next. Verily Thou are powerful over what Thou willest. There is no God but Thee, the Ever-Forgiving, the All-Merciful."

We make mention of him who was named Muhammad-Baqir and give him glad tidings of that which the Most Exalted Pen of God hath turned toward him from the Most Glorious Horizon, that he may be among the joyous ones. And We counsel him with that which gladdeneth the hearts of the people of Baha, who have not been prevented by anything from God, the Lord of all worlds. Glory be upon you, O companions of the Crimson Ark, from God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy.

BH03346: In My Name, the Guardian over all names!

In My Name, the Guardian over all names!

Your mention hath been made in the presence of the Wronged One, and thy name hath been caused to flow from the Most Exalted Pen. Render thanks unto the Desired One of the world for this most great bounty and supreme gift. Observe and ponder, for an hour's reflection is better than seventy years of pious worship. How many were the divines, mystics and doctors of the Shi'ih sect who, throughout the days and nights, occupied themselves with the remembrance of the Qa'im, beseeching God—glorified be His majesty—from pulpits and in mosques for His appearance, yearning to attain His presence. Yet when the horizon of the world was illumined with the lights of His countenance and the divine Lote-Tree sprouted forth by the leave of the Glorious Lord, all arose in the early years to oppose Him and issued the verdict for the shedding of His most pure blood. But thou, through divine grace and heavenly bounty, hast attained this most great favor and hast recognized the Great Announcement mentioned in God's Book. Know thou the worth of this exalted station and preserve thyself through His Name. If thou truly ponderest upon that which hath been mentioned, thou shalt attain supreme joy.

Convey My greetings to thy son and remind him of the divine verses, that perchance he may expend the gift of life in service at the court of verses and not allow transient ornaments to deprive him of enduring wealth. We likewise make mention of Baqir and remind him of wondrous and sublime verses. Convey greetings from the Wronged One. I beseech God to aid His loved ones to accomplish that which is befitting.

And We make mention of him who is named Muhammad Ja'far, and We counsel him and My loved ones to observe justice and fairness and that whereby the glory of My party shall be made manifest amidst all parties. Thus hath the Treasury revealed its pearls, and the Ocean its waves, and the Light its effulgence. Blessed is he who hath witnessed and seen, and woe unto the heedless ones.

BH03577: O Fadlu'llah! The Kingdom of grace is manifest…

He is the Witness from His Most Exalted Horizon

O Fadlu'llah! The Kingdom of grace is manifest, the Most Exalted Pen is speaking, and the horizon of the heaven of utterance is illumined and radiant with the Sun of meanings. Yet the people are seized with such a drunkenness that pen and tongue are powerless to comprehend or reckon it. Blessed is the soul that arose for the sake of God, spoke for the sake of God, and engaged in service to His Cause for the sake of God. Such a one is among the people of the Crimson Ark, whose mention was recorded and inscribed by the Most Exalted Pen in the Qayyumu'l-Asma'.

Say: O people of God! Arise to champion the Cause of God with unity and harmony. A Cause has appeared that has had and has no likeness or parallel. Say: Fear the one true God and deprive not yourselves of the breezes of His days. By God! That which had never appeared in creation has now appeared. Blessed is the soul that has not been held back by doubts or allusions. Today the rain of generosity is pouring down, the sun of grace is shining forth, and all things are crying out "Come! Come ye!" Deprive not yourselves. Hearken unto the call of the Wronged One, Who summons you while under the talons of hatred, as beareth witness to this the Lord of Names and Creator of the heavens.

Reflect on that which hath appeared and make the people aware of the divine fragrances. In this blessed Day every soul is able to attain unto enduring stations and everlasting mention. Blessed is the speaker whom the roaring of the divines did not deter, and blessed is the one who turned toward God, whom neither the opposition of the clergy nor the might of rulers held back from the Truth. Great indeed is this Day—all the pens of the world are powerless to describe and incapable of reckoning it. Thus did the Pen speak when the Ancient of Days was seated upon the throne of utterance with manifest sovereignty.

Glory be upon thee and upon those who heard the call and turned with their hearts toward this luminous horizon.

BH04061: This is a Book sent down by the Wronged…

In the Name of Him through Whom the ocean of true understanding has surged in the contingent world!

This is a Book sent down by the Wronged One to him who has quaffed the choice sealed Wine and believed in God, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting, that it may draw him to the supreme horizon and bring him near unto God, the Mighty, the Loving. Hear once again the Call from the Lote Tree beyond which there is no passing, raised up upon the white earth:

> "Verily there is no God but Me, the Truth, the Knower of the unseen."

O thou who gazest toward the horizon! Look, then hear what the people of the Bayan have uttered, who turned away from the All-Merciful by following the dawning-places of idle fancies and vain imaginings. Say: By the life of God! The Point of the Bayan appeared for My Cause, My remembrance and My praise, and gave the glad-tidings to all of this Manifestation, which was promised in the Books of God, the Lord of existence.

Say: Beware lest ye deprive yourselves of the Most Great Ocean. Cast aside vain imaginings and take what hath been sent down unto you from God, the Lord of the unseen and the seen. Say: Will what ye possess profit you? Nay, by the Lord of the Throne and earth! And will what the people have avail you? Nay, by My Self that ruleth over all that was and shall be! Say: O people of the Bayan! Beware lest ye reject the truth with your mouths. Observe, then judge with fairness concerning this Most Great Announcement, whereof the Qur'an, and before it the Gospel and the Psalms, gave glad-tidings. By God! Were it not for Him, the Books would not have been revealed, nor would the Messengers have been sent, could ye but know.

Fear God and follow not your desires. Follow Him Who hath come unto you from the Dayspring of proof with a perspicuous Tablet. Thus hath the Tablet manifested its lights, and the Pen its traces, and the sea its waves, and the sun its radiance and its light and its effulgence. Blessed is he who hath witnessed and seen, and woe unto every heedless one who is veiled.

BH04106: O thou who art mentioned before the Face! Hearken…

He is the Dawning One from the horizon of utterance!

O thou who art mentioned before the Face! Hearken unto My call. Verily it draweth thee to Mine horizon and will aid thee to act in accordance with that which hath been sent down in My Book, and will draw thee nigh unto a station wherein thou shalt behold naught save the lights of thy Lord's face, the Compassionate, the Generous.

Say: This is the Day of God, wherein none is mentioned save Him, if ye be of them that know. Blessed is he who hath turned and attained unto the unity of God, the Lord of the worlds.

Say: O people of the Bayan! The All-Merciful hath come with clear proof. Fear ye God and be not of the wrongdoers. By God! Verily the proof circleth round about Him and the evidence standeth before His face, if ye be of them that witness. Cast away what ye possess and take what hath been given you from God, the Most High, the Most Great. Blessed art thou for having attained unto that which was recorded in the books of old by the Pen of God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy.

We make mention of Our loved ones in Nun and Ya and give them glad tidings of My tender mercy and My loving-kindness which have preceded all who are in the heavens and on earth.

O people of God! We counsel you with that whereby your stations shall be exalted among the peoples and whereby ye shall be drawn nigh unto God, the Lord of the Day of Judgment. We counsel you to steadfastness and to that unity whereby God's Cause hath been victorious throughout centuries and ages. Blessed is he who hath heard and acted upon that which he was commanded by an Ancient Commander. The glory be upon you and upon those whom the clamor of the world hath not kept back from the Lord of Eternity—these are of the people of Baha by the decree of God, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

And We make mention at the end of the Book of thy mother who hath turned and believed in God, the Lord of the worlds. Give her glad tidings of My loving-kindness and remind her of My verses. Verily thy Lord is the All-Bountiful, the Ancient of Days.

BH04249: The Speaker of Sinai hath come, and the Divine…

He is the One dawning from the horizon of Revelation!

The Speaker of Sinai hath come, and the Divine Lote-Tree before all faces proclaimeth:

> "Verily, I am God, there is none other God but Me, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting."

The fragrance of the All-Merciful hath wafted through all lands, and the Call hath been raised in truth. The Truth hath come, the Knower of all mysteries.

Among the people are those who denied, those who turned away, and those who unjustly pronounced judgment against Him, whereat the denizens of the Kingdom and the Realm above lamented. They had awaited the appearance of God and His sovereignty, yet when the veil was rent asunder and the Lord of Names came riding upon the clouds, they denied Him and committed that which caused hearts and minds to tremble. Thus did their souls entice them, and they comprehend not this Day.

Blessed are those souls whom neither the doubts of the divines nor the intimations of the jurisprudents prevented, who turned with radiant faces unto God, the Lord of what was and what shall be.

Thy name hath come before the Wronged One, and He hath revealed for thee that which will draw thee nigh unto His praiseworthy station. Arise to serve the Cause, then speak forth in praise of thy Lord. He will assist thee in all conditions. Verily, He is the Protector over what was and what shall be.

Say: O concourse of divines! Cast aside what is in your hearts and breasts, and take what ye are bidden by God, the Sovereign of sovereigns. Thus hath the tongue of counsel revealed that which will draw you nigh unto the Most Sublime Horizon, and the Book hath been sent down that which was ordained in God's knowledge, the Mighty, the Loving.

The splendor shining forth from Us be upon those who have not violated God's Covenant and Testament, and who have acknowledged that which the Tongue of Grandeur hath spoken when seated upon the throne of His Name, the All-Forgiving.

BH04270: This is a Book traced by the Pen…

He is the All-Knowing Witness!

This is a Book traced by the Pen of God, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting, and a Tablet inscribed by the Supreme Pen of God, the Lord of what was and what shall be. O ʿAbdu'l-Hamid! Hearken unto the call of the All-Praiseworthy One. Verily, He makes mention of thee from the Most Great Prison, at a time when He is under the claws of hatred through what the hands of those who have denied God, the Master of the Promised Day, have wrought. We have made mention of thee before in a Tablet from whose horizon shone forth the light of thy Lord's loving-kindness, the Mighty, the Loving.

Blessed art thou for having drunk the choice wine of steadfastness in this Cause whereby the limbs of all names have trembled and hearts and minds were shaken. Take once again the Kawthar of eternity in My Most Glorious Name, then drink thereof before all faces. Beware lest the might of those who have denied the Witness and the Witnessed prevent thee.

Say: O concourse of divines! By God, the Promise has come to pass and He Who conversed on Sinai is seated upon the throne of Revelation, calling out in the most exalted voice between earth and heaven:

> "The Kingdom has come—the Kingdom is God's, the Lord of what was and what shall be!"

Thus has the rustling of My Lote-Tree been raised and the tongue of My grandeur has spoken from My praiseworthy station.

Remember My loved ones on My behalf, give them glad tidings of My loving-kindness, remind them of My verses, and illumine them with that which has shone forth from the horizon of My Pen in this exalted station. Thus does the ocean of utterance reveal the pearls of wisdom and exposition, as a grace from the presence of the All-Merciful. Blessed are they who have drawn nigh and believed, and woe unto every heedless and veiled one.

The glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My grace be upon thee and thy family and those who are with thee, from God, the Lord of the unseen and the seen.

BH04254: Thy letter hath come and was presented…

He is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

Thy letter hath come and was presented by the servant in attendance before the Face. We have answered thee through this clear Tablet. We beseech God to assist thee to be steadfast in this Great Announcement. Hearken in the Persian tongue: Thou hast asked about the blessed verse. The midmost heart of the heavenly paradise is the station ordained as the throne of God's Might. The Holy Tree (Sadrat) is, in a sense, the Manifestation of the One True God, exalted be He. The Blessed Tree in the land of Za'faran refereth to the land which is flourishing, blessed, holy and all-perfumed, where that Tree hath been planted. The intent of all exalted names and titles revealed in the Bayan and from the Pen of the Most High in this Revelation is the Manifestation of God Himself. At one time He is referred to as the Pen of the Most High, at another as the Mother Book, and yet at another He is named as the Supreme Horizon, the Preserved Tablet, the Recorded Book and the Mother of the Bayan. In truth, He is sanctified and detached from all that hath been mentioned in every station.

Blessed art thou! Thy petition hath attained the honor of being heard, and thou hast been blessed with the traces of the Most Exalted Pen. Happy art thou and joy be unto thee! Know thou the value of this most exalted station and render thanks unto God, exalted be His glory. Today good soil is rare—blessed is he who findeth it and planteth therein the seed of trustworthiness. He is assuredly among the successful ones in the Book of God, the Lord of all worlds. The Glory be upon thee from Us and upon those whom the cawing of the cawers hath not prevented from God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy.

BH04510: A Book sent down by the All-Merciful to him…

In the Name of Him through Whom the fragrance of the All-Merciful was diffused throughout creation!

A Book sent down by the All-Merciful to him whose letter reached the Wronged One while He was in the hands of the idolaters who violated God's Covenant and Testament, disputed His verses and warred against His Self after He had come from the horizon of power with manifest sovereignty. By God! The Hidden has been revealed yet the people comprehend not, and the Chosen One has come yet the evil ones recognize Him not. They have cast the Cause of God behind their backs—verily they are among the most lost in the estimation of God, the Lord of the worlds.

Blessed is the pen that hath moved in My remembrance, and the face that hath turned toward My court, and the heart that hath turned to My horizon, and the ear that hath heard the Call when it was raised betwixt earth and heaven, and the hand that hath taken hold of My perspicuous Book. I render thanks unto God for having aided thee and made thee aware and revealed unto thee that from which the sincere ones perceive the fragrance of His luminous garment. God hath forgiven those for whom thou didst seek forgiveness—a grace from His presence, for He is the All-Bountiful, the All-Generous.

Thus have We brought forth the pearls of knowledge from the shells of proof. When thou beholdest this, arise and say: Praise be unto Thee, O my God, for having remembered me while Thou wert wronged, and for having turned toward me while Thou wert imprisoned. I beseech Thee by the mysteries of Thy Book and the traces of Thy Pen and the lights of Thy countenance to make me steadfast, firm and unshakeable in Thy Cause whereby the limbs of the world have quaked and the hearts of the nations have trembled, save those who have turned unto Thee with radiant faces and illumined hearts. There is no God but Thee, the Forgiving, the Generous.

BH04906: O Ali! The Most Exalted Pen hath testified concerning…

He is the Confirmer, the All-Knowing, and He is the Mighty, the Generous

O Ali! The Most Exalted Pen hath testified concerning thee to that which cannot be equaled by the treasures of the earth and its ornaments, nor by the seas and their pearls, nor by the heavens and their stars, nor by the sun and its radiance, nor by the moon and its light. Thou art he who drew nigh and attained the presence and heard and beheld that which was withheld from all who are on earth save whom thy Lord, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting, did choose. Grieve thou not over anything. God will soon manifest that which hath been ordained for thee from His Most Exalted Pen. Verily He hath made thee a helper of His Cause, one who turneth toward His countenance, who speaketh His praise, who soareth in His atmosphere, and who remaineth steadfast in His Cause—the Cause whereby the limbs of all names did quake and the hearts of the chosen ones were agitated, except for those whom the hand of His power, which dominateth all that was and shall be, did rescue. There is not a single letter but that hath appeared and shall appear—to this the Tablet of Ra'is and that which was revealed from the Pen of God in the Tablets to the princes and kings do testify.

Beware lest thou be saddened by the might of those who violated God's Covenant and His Testament, or by the clamor of those who denied the Truth, the Knower of the unseen. Be thou steadfast in all

conditions in serving this Most Great Cause. Verily He will assist thee and help thee and manifest that whereof He informed thee in His preserved Tablet. The glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My utterance be upon thee and upon those who hearkened unto thy words concerning this irrevocable Cause. Verily we are God's and unto Him shall we return.

BH04832: Your letter arrived and We heard your call…

In the name of the one incomparable, all-knowing Lord!

Your letter arrived and We heard your call, and in the Most Great Prison We besought from the Ancient King whatsoever would be beneficial for you. Man himself is not aware of what brings him profit or harm—knowledge of the unseen belongs exclusively to His exalted Essence. Often it happens that man desires something which appears good to him and requests it from God, glorified be His majesty, but afterwards the utmost harm results from it. Therefore the Supreme Pen has taught the station of trust and resignation. It is evident and manifest to every person of insight and understanding that whatsoever appears from God, glorified be His majesty, has proceeded and continues to proceed from the exigencies of His consummate wisdom. If someone resigns himself and places his trust in God, assuredly that which is best for him will be made manifest. One must hold fast to the means while placing one's trust in God and engaging in action.

Say: O my God, my God! I have turned toward Thee and directed myself to the ocean of Thy bounty and the heaven of Thy bestowals and the dayspring of Thy grace. I beseech Thee by Thy Most Exalted Pen to ordain for me the good of this world and the next. O my Lord! I am he who has placed his trust in Thee and resigned his affairs unto Thee. I beseech Thee to ordain for me that which will profit me in all the worlds of Thy worlds. Then cause me, O my God, to be steadfast in Thy Cause in such wise that the ranks of the world and the clamor of the nations will not prevent me. Verily Thou art powerful to do what Thou willest. There is no God but Thee, the Mighty, the All-Conquering, the All-Powerful.

BH04876: O My handmaidens, upon you be My glory…

He is God, exalted be His station in wisdom and utterance.

O My handmaidens, upon you be My glory and My mercy. The Supreme Pen testifies that you are men, nay rather, among the most valiant of men.

How many were the divines, mystics, jurists and worshippers who beseeched God, glorified be His majesty, day and night for the appearance of the Promised One, yet when the Herald gave the glad tidings and the Ocean of Light appeared, all arose in opposition. Praise ye the Goal of all existence Who confirmed you, preserved you, and made you partners with Him in tribulations.

O Masumih, the Dawning-Place of the Light of Oneness calls unto thee and makes mention of thee. The entire world cannot be compared with this Most Exalted Word which hath shone forth from the Horizon of the Supreme Pen. Give thanks unto thy Lord for this great bounty. O Shirin, the Wronged One turns toward thee from the horizon of the prison, inasmuch as the fragrance of the love of God is wafted from thee. Know thou the value of this station and preserve it through the Name of the Beloved of all

existence. O Baygum, today the breezes of revelation are wafting and the lights of the Countenance are manifest and the Speaker on Sinai is speaking. Blessed is the soul that hath attained unto Him and hath become detached and free from all else besides God.

O My handmaidens, blessed are ye and blessed is the one who hath recorded your names. We beseech God to draw you nigh unto Him in all conditions. Verily, He is the Self-Sufficient, the Most Exalted. There is none other God but Him, the Mighty, the All-Bountiful.

BH05143: The Preserved Tablet proclaims: The world is illumined…

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

The Preserved Tablet proclaims: The world is illumined with the splendors of true divine unity. Blessed are the horizons of the hearts of those of My servants who have turned towards Me, whom the allusions and doubts of the people of the earth did not prevent from the Creator of heaven and the Lord of Names. They have grasped with the hand of certitude and clung to the hem of the All-Bountiful. These are servants whom neither commerce nor wealth nor glory nor exaltation deterred or deprived from God. Say: O people of God! Great indeed is this Day, for the Mighty Announcement hath appeared and the Mother Book speaketh. If ye prevent your ears from hearkening to the divine Call, what benefit and fruit will it yield? By God's life! In the realm of knowledge no mention shall be made of it. Blessed are those men whom neither words nor deeds have deprived of the bounties of the divine days.

Say: Hearken unto the voice of the Wronged One, and aid the Cause of God through goodly character and praiseworthy deeds. This is the covenant that was taken from all at the beginning of time. Blessed is the soul that hath fulfilled its covenant—such a one is numbered among those near unto God in the perspicuous Book. The light that shineth resplendent from the horizon of My Most Exalted Pen be upon those who have heard the Call and answered their Lord, the Wronged One, the Stranger. Thy name hath come before the Wronged One. We have revealed for thee that which shall be a lamp before thy face and a light between thy hands in all the worlds of thy Lord, the All-Forgiving, the All-Merciful.

BH05020: The Incomparable Lord is sanctified and exalted above all…

He is the One Who gazeth from the horizon of the heaven of utterance!

The Incomparable Lord is sanctified and exalted above all limitation and description. Duality cannot describe the One, nor can mention suffice except through His confirmations. All are dead and He is living, all are transient and He is eternal. Strive thou to hold fast to His firm cord and cling to His sacred hem. I swear by the Sun of Utterance which hath shone forth from the most exalted horizon of possibility that whosoever remaineth deprived today of the outpourings of the All-Bountiful Truth is deprived of all good. The Book beareth witness to this and the Supreme Pen testifieth thereunto.

This Wronged One hath, from the earliest days until now, guided the people to the horizon of Revelation without any veil or hindrance. His path is clear and His Cause manifest, yet all remain heedless and veiled. The people are worshippers of vain imaginings and followers of idle fancies. They have not drunk from the Kawthar of certitude nor partaken of the choice sealed wine. Glory be to God! What comfort have

they found and in what do they rejoice? They return from palace to tomb, and from light to darkness. Blessed is the soul that hath been reminded by the divine verses and hath sanctified itself from the events of these two fleeting days. Such a one is numbered among the people of Baha in the Crimson Book. Blessed are they that understand.

BH05053: In My Name through which the ocean of utterance…

In My Name through which the ocean of utterance hath surged

The renowned Haji Aqa—upon him be the glory of God—hath been mentioned from the presence of the Wronged One, for him who hath believed in the Self-Subsisting, hath uttered His praise, hath attained unto His recognition, and hath received his letter— a letter that testified unto that whereunto the servant himself testified before the God of his Lord, and confessed the oneness of His Essence, and sanctified His Self from all likeness and similitude. And I, verily, am the Hearer, the Answerer.

We have, from thy letter, perceived the fragrance of thine acceptance, at a time when most of the people turned away from the Most Exalted Horizon—save those whom the Hand of the Will of God, the Lord of all worlds, drew unto Him. O thou who art mentioned in the presence of the Wronged One! Hearken once again unto the Call: There is none other God but Me, the One, the All-Informed. Thou didst stand up for the knowledge of existence, and didst utter the praise of God, the Mighty, the All-Beautiful. Thou didst summon kings and subjects, divines and rulers, unto the Most Exalted Horizon, through a sovereignty which neither the hosts of the earth could withstand, nor the serried ranks of kings and sultans.

And when the Luminary of Manifestation shone forth from the horizons of the lands, the people of the Bayan arose and turned away with such denial that the heavens were nigh to be rent asunder, and the hearts of the Messengers to melt within them. Even so did their vain imaginings beguile them. Dost thou, indeed, understand their case? Yet today are they numbered among those who cry out, as set down in the Book of God, the Lord of the Day of Judgement. Render thanks unto God for His grace and His loving-kindness, and for that which He hath sent down for thee—things that shall never come to an end, nor be subject to change—through the enduringness of His Most Excellent Names and His Most Exalted Attributes. And I, verily, am the Expounder, the All-Knowing.

We beseech Him, exalted be He, to confirm thee and strengthen thee in that whereby the fragrance of sanctity is diffused. Thus hath spoken the Most Exalted Pen when this Wronged One was beneath the talons of hatred, by reason of what the hands of the oppressors have wrought. Thus did the Ocean of the Most High heave its billows, and the Light shine forth in its splendour. Blessed art thou, and blessed they who have borne witness and beheld; and woe betide every heedless soul, far removed.

BH05775: Glorified art Thou, O Lord of Names and Ruler…

In the Name of our Most Holy, Most Great, Most Exalted, Most Glorious Lord!

Glorified art Thou, O Lord of Names and Ruler of the Kingdom of Heaven! I beseech Thee by Thy Light that shineth from the Supreme Horizon, and by Him through Whom all things have proclaimed, that Thou assist Thy handmaidens to remember Thee and praise Thee and to stand firm in Thy Cause. Then inscribe

for them through Thy Most Exalted Pen the good of the world to come and of this world. O Lord! Thou seest that most of Thy servants have turned away from Thy face and broken Thy Covenant and denied Thy signs, while Thy handmaidens have turned toward Thee and spoken Thy praise, and Thou hast assisted them to acknowledge Thy oneness and confess Thy singleness, and Thou hast sent down for them through Thy Most Exalted Pen that which shall endure throughout the dominion of Thy Kingdom and Thy Realm. O Lord! Send upon them the sweet-scented breezes of Thy Revelation and send down for them the food of Thy heaven. Verily Thou art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest. There is no God but Thee, the Forgiving, the Generous. And praise be unto Thee, O God of the worlds.

He is the Helper

A letter from the handmaidens of God—Hajar, Begum, Khadijih, Maryam, and the wife of Muhammad Ja'far, and another Khadijih, upon them be the Glory of God—in the amount of four tumans was received by the servant in the Prison through the beloved and honored Aqa Mirza Asadu'llah, upon him be the Most Glorious Glory of God, in the sacred month of Dhi'l-Hajjih in the year 1303.

BH05742: A remembrance from Us to him who hath turned…

In the Name of Him Who is Powerful over all who are on earth and in heaven

A remembrance from Us to him who hath turned towards Us when the divines and theologians of the earth turned away. He Who speaketh, and will continue to speak, beareth witness to this: There is none other God but Me, the Single, the All-Informed. When thou art drawn by the shrill voice of the Most Exalted Pen, say:

My God, my God! Praise be to Thee for having made known unto me Thy path, made clear to me Thy proof, sent down from the kingdom of utterance Thy verses, and manifested to the servants Thy clear tokens. I beseech Thee by the glances of the eyes of Thy loving-kindness and the manifestations of Thy power throughout Thy lands to make me assisted in the service of Thy Cause and in Thy remembrance amongst Thy servants.

I testify, O my God, to Thy oneness and Thy singleness, and I acknowledge that which the tongue of Thy grandeur hath spoken. O Lord! This is Thy Day wherein the ocean of Thy grace hath surged and the fragrances of Thy mercy have wafted. I beseech Thee by the station whereon Thy throne was established and the pavilion of Thy glory and the canopy of Thy loftiness were raised up, to ordain for me through Thy Most Exalted Pen that which shall profit me in the Hereafter and in this world. I know not what profiteth me. Thou art, in truth, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. O Lord! I beseech Thee by the stars of the heaven of Thy utterance and the suns of Thy favors to aid me to remain firm in the Most Great Steadfastness. Thou art, verily, powerful over whatsoever Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

BH06652: The one who is present came with your letter…

He is the All-Seeing, the All-Informed.

The one who is present came with your letter, O ʿAli-Rida, upon whom be the glory of God, and laid it before the Wronged One. We have heard and have answered you through this Tablet of God, the All-Subduing, the Self-Subsisting. Give thanks unto God for having aided thee to turn towards Him when most of the servants have turned away, save those whom the hand of divine power hath delivered. Verily He is the One Who hath power over what was and what shall be.

Say: My God, my God! I beseech Thee by the lands that were honored by Thy footsteps, and by the mountains whereon were pitched the tents of Thy majesty, and by the dawning hours which were blessed with the breezes of Thy Revelation, and by the tent which the winds did not shake, and by the lamp of Thy Cause, O Thou Who causeth the morns to break, to ordain for me through Thy pen of grace that which shall profit me in all the worlds of Thy worlds and draw me nigh unto Thee in all conditions. Thou knowest what I have and what profiteth me, and I know not what Thou hast. There is none other God but Thee, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. O my Lord! Aid me to remember Thee and praise Thee and serve Thy Cause and Thy loved ones. Verily Thou art the One Who dominateth the names and createth all things. There is none other God but Thee, the Mighty, the Triumphant, the Powerful, the Hearer, the Answerer.

BH06809: O My handmaiden and My leaf! Hearken unto My…

He is the All-Witnessing, the All-Hearing, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise

O My handmaiden and My leaf! Hearken unto My call from the direction of My prison. Verily there is none other God but Me, the Compassionate, the Generous. When thou hast attained unto My Tablet and found the fragrance of My utterance, say:

My God, my God! Praise be unto Thee for having enabled this handmaiden of Thine to turn towards Thy horizon and to recognize the ocean of Thy light and the Dayspring of Thy Revelation, after the mighty ones among the men of Thy realm had forbidden it. I testify that Thou hast preferred Thy handmaidens above the greatest of the divines of Thy age, the jurisconsults of Thy earth and its mystics, inasmuch as they have violated Thy Covenant and Thy Testament and have led their people to the abode of perdition.

I beseech Thee, O my Lord, by Thy mercy which hath preceded all things, and by Thy providence which hath encompassed all, and by the Lamp of Thy Cause whereby the world hath been illumined, and by the lights of Thy countenance, O King of eternity, to ordain for me through Thy grace and bounty that which will draw me nigh unto Thee in every world of Thy worlds. Then write down for me that which Thou hast written for them that dwell within the tabernacle of Thy glory, who have believed in Thee and in Thy signs, and whom neither the tyranny of the people of Thy realm nor the clamor of Thy lands and regions have deterred. Verily Thou art the Almighty, the Most Exalted, the All-Glorious, the Most Great.

BH07424: O Mas’ud! The Wronged One of the world hath…

In the name of the one peerless God!

O Mas'ud! The Wronged One of the world hath turned toward thee from the All-Praised Horizon and maketh mention of thee, for We have witnessed thy sighs in separation and beheld thy tears in remoteness from the Day-Star of the horizons. Verily thy Lord is the Truth, the Knower of the unseen.

Call thou to mind that time when the Wronged One came to thy dwelling. Thou didst desire to attain His presence and He appeared before thee. We beseech God to assist thee to preserve this station.

Verily kings and subjects are, in truth, equal. The stations of souls have each been and are according to their measure. "The most honored among you in the sight of God is the most righteous among you" beareth witness to this.

We counsel thee to love My Afnan who have remained faithful to My Covenant and Testament and who have arisen to serve My Cause, the Mighty, the Great.

Glory be upon the people of Baha who were not deceived by the world, nor held back by the doubts of the divines, nor weakened by the might of princes, who have turned with illumined hearts unto God, the Lord of Lords.

BH08390: He is the Dawning-Place from the horizon…

He is the Dawning-Place from the horizon of the Kingdom of Utterance! This is a Book which the All-Merciful hath sent down in days wherein the raven hath croaked, and the snouts of swine have been raised, and the barking of dogs hath been heard, by reason of that which the hands of the oppressors have wrought. The Wronged One hath stood before all faces and summoned all unto God, the One, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. Among the people are those who have turned away, and those who have denied, and those who have unjustly pronounced His death-sentence, whereat every discerning soul hath lamented. By God! Neither the denial of the divines, nor the turning away of the doctors of law, nor the might of princes hath deterred Us, and of this doth the Book that is with Him bear witness. When thou hearest the shrill voice of My Pen and perceivest the fragrance of Mine utterance, say: Praise be unto Thee, O Lord of the Kingdom and Sovereign of the Realm of Might, for having remembered me in Thy Most Great Prison. I beseech Thee to assist me to be steadfast in Thy Most Great Cause and Thy Mighty Announcement.

BH09030: Praise be to God, thou hast emigrated and attained!…

In the Name of the one incomparable Lord!

Praise be to God, thou hast emigrated and attained! Thou didst set thy face toward the Most Exalted Horizon, crossing land and sea, and through the bounties of God, exalted be His glory, thou didst arrive at a station which hath been the goal of them that are nigh and sincere. Thou didst behold that spot round which circle the Concourse on High, and didst hear that call which the Son of ʿImran heard on the Mount of Knowledge. The recompense and reward for this blessed and acceptable deed hath been ordained for thee from the Most Exalted Pen as the good of this world and the next. Preserve this station and act in accordance with that which befitteth the bounty of God, exalted be His glory. Verily, He made mention of

thee before, and at this moment He commandeth thee to observe what is right, as a grace from His presence. And He is the Ordainer, the Ancient of Days.

BH09159: O Murad! The Desire of the world hath appeared…

In the Name of the All-Powerful Goal!

O Murad! The Desire of the world hath appeared, and they knew Him not. The Well-Beloved of all mankind hath come, and from Him they turned away. The Speaker on Sinai hath ascended the throne of Manifestation, yet they hearkened not unto His call, neither comprehended they His utterance. Thus did the requital of the deeds of the peoples of the world deprive them of the recognition of the Ancient Lord.

Render thou praise unto the Omnipotent, the All-Powerful, Who aided thee and guided thee. We beseech God to assist thee to preserve the eternal bounty and heavenly sustenance, which hath been and ever shall be the recognition of His holy Being. Glory be upon the people of glory, whom nothing whatsoever among all things hath prevented from turning to the Supreme Horizon and the Most Exalted Summit—they whom God hath described in the former Books and numbered among the guided ones.

BH09654: In the Name of the One God! O Ramadan!…

In the Name of the One God! O Ramadan! Salman made mention of thee, and there hath been revealed from the Supreme Pen for thee that which the pillars of the world are powerless and incapable to estimate its worth. God doeth whatsoever He willeth, He hath been and will ever be. He maketh mention of whomsoever He desireth, and that mention hath been and will ever be, with the One mentioned, accompanied by its influence and fruit throughout all worlds. Know thou this most exalted station and be of them that are thankful. We counsel thee and the friends of God to perform such deeds as will illumine the eyes and gladden the hearts. Glory be upon the people of Glory who have not broken God's Covenant, the Lord of all worlds.

BH09816: The True One, exalted be His glory, hath ever…

He is the Hearer, the Answerer!

The True One, exalted be His glory, hath ever loved and continueth to love tribulation. Therefore there hath befallen Him, and continueth to befall Him, that which causeth the clouds to cry out and the Faithful Spirit to lament. This is the station wherein the sighs of them that are nigh unto God have ascended, and the tears of the sincere ones have flowed. Were it not for the will of the True One, exalted be His glory, no one would have had the power to oppose Him. All are captives in the grasp of His might, and are weak and abject before the revelation of His power. Blessed art thou for having turned unto Him and attained unto this wondrous Tablet. The glory of God be upon thee and upon them that have believed in the One, the All-Informed.

BH10247: Praise be to the Goal of the world Who…

In the Name of the Lord, exalted and most holy!

Praise be to the Goal of the world Who confirmed and assisted the Leaf in praise of the Divine Lote-Tree, granted success and showed the way. His is the praise and the glory, His is the remembrance and the splendor, through the eternity of His most beautiful names and His supreme attributes.

He is the Confirmer.

The spiritual missive from the Leaf, upon her be the Glory of God—one letter packet through the beloved of the heart, his honor the son of the Name of God (initial letters A.S.), upon them both be the Most Glorious Glory of God—reached the servant in the prison in the month of Dhi'l-Hijjih the sacred in the year 1303.

BH00068: His is the grace and bounty, His the loving-kindness…

Section 1: "His is the grace and bounty, His…"

He is the All-Merciful, the All-Bountiful!

His is the grace and bounty, His the loving-kindness and bestowal. He giveth and withholdeth, and verily He is the All-Powerful over whatsoever He willeth. There is none other God but He, the All-Compelling, the Self-Subsisting. Hearken unto the Call from the precincts of ʿAkka: Verily, there is none other God but Me, the Single, the One, the Mighty, the Most Loving.

We have sent down unto thee that which hath brought solace to the eyes of the Concourse on High, and We have wafted unto thee the fragrance of the All-Merciful from this sacred and mighty, this beloved Paradise. Thy letter which thou didst send unto Our Most Great Branch hath come before the Wronged One, and he presented it before Our countenance. We have answered thee through this Tablet, the forbidden one, which causeth the limbs of them that have disbelieved in God, the Lord of what was and what shall be, to quake. We have mentioned thee in such wise as shall never perish, enduring as long as the dominion of earth and heaven endureth. Give thanks unto God, thy Lord, for He hath aided thee and distinguished thee and honored thee with that which most of His servants have been denied. He Who speaketh in every state beareth witness to this: There is none other God but Me, the Lord of the seen and the unseen.

Make mention of My people on My behalf and remind them of My verses which have been sent down from the heaven of My Will, and acquaint them with My straight and extended path. Say: O people of God! This is the Day which hath adorned the Books of God, both former and latter, as attested by honored servants. Cast aside this day whatsoever the people possess, holding fast unto that which God, the All-Compelling, the Self-Subsisting, hath. Beware lest the doubts of the world or the intimations of them that have disbelieved in the Witness and the Witnessed hold you back. Arise to promote the Cause by God's command and His sovereignty in such wise that neither the opposition of the divines nor the might of kings shall frighten you. Aid your Lord, the All-Merciful, through wisdom and utterance, and through such conduct as shall tranquilize hearts and minds.

We have commanded all with that which profiteth them and counseled them at the outset of the Book to fear God, the Lord of the Promised Day. O people of God! Aid your Lord through deeds and conduct and

through fear of God. This is better for you, did ye but know. By My life! The sword of piety is sharper than blades of steel, were ye to understand. We have forbidden all from disputation and contention, and commanded them to observe what is seemly. He hath enjoined upon His servants that which draweth them nigh unto Him. He, verily, is the Truth, the Knower of things unseen.

O people of God! Know ye the value of these days and that which hath been manifested therein. By the True One! The Throne of Revelation hath been established upon the most exalted spot in the world, and upon it hath sat He Who conversed upon Sinai, proclaiming: Verily, there is none other God but Me, the Lord of all existence. Beware lest the might of the world weaken you, or the ranks and legions prevent you. Be ye the banners of guidance unto all creation and the ensigns of triumph amidst humanity. Thus hath spoken the Tongue of Grandeur whilst in the Most Great Prison through that which the hands of the deniers have wrought, they who have disbelieved in God, the Lord of the elevated Throne.

O concourse of divines! Fear ye God, the Lord of all mankind. He hath come for your salvation, as attested by that which is with Him—the Preserved Tablet. Ye have forbidden the servants from the river of mercy and have committed that which hath caused the denizens of Paradise to lament at eventide and at dawn, at dusk and at morn. O mystics! Fear ye God and follow not your idle fancies. Follow ye Him Who hath come from the Dayspring of the Cause with verses that all the treasures of earth cannot equal, did ye but know. Verily, Reality hath appeared through His command and circleth round Him, and the Law is that which ye behold before your faces, and the Path is this way, would ye but comprehend. This is the Day wherein the Straight Path hath appeared and the Balance hath been set up. He calleth out with the most exalted voice between earth and heaven, yet most of the people hear not. Verily, Reality circleth round Him, and the Path hath appeared through His command, and the Balance hath been set up by His sovereignty, yet most of the people perceive not.

O Jamal! Hear once again the call from the crimson Tree raised upon the white land beyond ʿAmman—the grace of thy Lord, the Lord of all names. Verily, there is none other God but Me, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. I have appeared and manifested My Cause, and have sent down that which hath stirred the kingdom of utterance. Blessed is he who hath cast away vain imaginings and clung to the cord of certitude. Say: Today that which the people possess shall profit them not. Fear God, and follow not those who have changed God’s favor into their own desires and denied Him when He came with manifest sovereignty. We created the learned ones, the mystics and the divines for the recognition of Him Who is known and knowable, yet they turned away from Him when He came with His all-compelling verses to those who are in the heavens and on earth. They cast behind them God’s covenant and His testament, and pronounced judgment against those who lamented His separation. Thus did their souls prompt them. Bear thou witness that they are accounted among the most lost in the Book of God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy.

O My Name! Upon thee be My glory. Be thou vocal in My remembrance, steadfast in My Cause, soaring in the atmosphere of My love, turning unto the lights of My countenance, clinging to the hem of My mercy, and standing firm in the service of My Most Great Cause and My Mighty Message. We chose thee aforetime for the service of My mighty and wondrous Cause, guided thee to My straight and manifest path, and assisted thee until thou didst traverse land and sea, turning toward the Most Sublime Horizon,

until thou didst enter and attain presence and didst hear and see this manifest horizon. Blessed be thine eye for what it hath beheld, thine ear for what it hath heard, thy tongue for what it hath uttered, thy heart for what it hath turned unto, and thy face for what it hath turned toward the Face of God, the Powerful, the Strong, the Triumphant, the Mighty.

As to what thou didst write regarding thy migration toward the land of M, We were with thee and heard thy call in this manifest Cause. We beseech God to assist the people of M with the hosts of the unseen and the visible, and with companies of angels drawn nigh. Nothing whatsoever escapeth thy Lord's knowledge. He heareth and seeth, and He is the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing. Convey My greetings to the faces of My loved ones in T and its surroundings, that the utterance of the All-Merciful may attract them to a station wherein nothing whatsoever shall prevent them from turning toward God, the Lord of all names and Creator of heaven. Verily, thy Lord is the Ordainer, the All-Wise. Say: O peoples of the earth! Turn with illumined hearts to the horizon from which shineth the Day-Star of thy Lord's loving providence, the Most Merciful.

O people of Baha! Object not to that which hath appeared from God. He doeth what He willeth and ordaineth what He pleaseth. Blessed is he who hath pondered this most exalted Word and clung to it, despite those who are moved by every wind and who speak what their desires command them. They are assuredly among the wrongdoers. Thus hath the Book revealed its verses, the ocean its waves, and the Revelation its mysteries. Blessed is he who hath heard and acted; woe unto the heedless!

We have caused thee to hear Our verses in a clear Arabic tongue, and We desire to cause thee to hear them in an eloquent Persian language. Both before and after, the letters of that honored one and the petitions which were sent have attained unto hearing, and the answer hath been revealed and sent from the Lord of all beings. O My Name! Upon thee be My glory and My loving-kindness. Hearts have been veiled by barriers, ears have been defiled by the words of the ungodly, and eyes have been withheld by veils. Beseech thou God, exalted be His glory, that He deprive not His servants of the Most Great Ocean and withhold them not from the lights of the Day-Star of true Divine unity. He is, verily, the Powerful, the Mighty, the All-Knowing, the All-Seeing.

As to what thou didst write concerning the Land of Mim, We have hearkened thereunto. We beseech God to aid all to that which will exalt the Word of God and to transform doubts and idle fancies into certitude and faith. This Day is unlike all other days. Blessed is the soul that hath inhaled the fragrances of revelation and hath hastened with heart and soul to the Most Exalted Horizon. The Ancient Pen hath not ceased, and the Lord of the Most Great Name hath called out at all times. The path is clear, the Cause manifest, the light evident, and the verses revealed, the signs apparent. Yet the people of the world remain debarred and veiled. The world was created and brought forth from nothingness for this blessed Day, and that which no eye hath ever beheld hath been made manifest. Every person of insight beareth witness to what hath been mentioned, and every informed one testifieth and is aware. Yet the people remain heedless. We beseech God to aid them to turn towards Him, to draw them nigh unto Him, and to purify them from that which beseemeth not His party. Verily, He is the Munificent, the Bountiful, the Forgiving, the Merciful.

As to what thou didst mention regarding the upheavals in that land and certain matters, all is evident and manifest before God. The people are heedless and bereft of the knowledge of God, exalted be His glory, save whom thy Lord, the All-Knowing, willeth. By My life! Nothing is hidden from My knowledge. The Supreme Paradise, the Most Exalted Garden, the Concourse on High, and this Pen which moveth at this moment with a speed which none can reckon save the All-Knowing, the All-Informed, all bear witness to this. In the Tablets We have enjoined wisdom upon all, and that which exalteth souls hath been revealed and sent down from the Most Exalted Pen. Well is it with them that have attained and acted accordingly.

Last year one of the friends of God, upon him be My glory and loving-kindness, prevented someone from attaining Our presence. We testify that he hath turned to the Most Luminous Countenance, hath drawn nigh unto God, hath entered the Most Great Prison, hath heard My sweetest call and beheld My most exalted horizon. Blessed is he and whoso is with him. After his presence and standing before the Countenance, We made mention of thee, and especially for some of the loved ones of the Land of Mim wondrous and sublime Tablets were revealed from the heaven of the divine Will and sent forth. Among them were two Tablets specifically revealed from the heaven of favor for the Siyyids, that they might drink from the ocean of the utterance of the All-Merciful and arise to serve the Cause with such steadfastness as would remain unaltered by the conditions of the world and the vicissitudes of nations, that they might be illumined by the light of the Luminary of Revelation and occupy themselves with that which beseemeth His praise and glorification. Likewise for others, that all might attain and drink from the ocean of inner meanings which lie concealed in the utterance of the Goal of all the worlds.

O My Name! If they truly attain thereunto and receive their portion from the oceans of bounty hidden within the verses, they will unite the outward and the inward and will arise to champion the Cause of the Wronged One with such steadfastness as the might of the world cannot disturb nor the power of nations prevent. Those Tablets testify to the grace, loving-kindness, compassion and mercy of God, exalted be His glory. Beseech ye God that He may enable the souls to preserve that which hath been bestowed. God, exalted be His glory, is generous and His bounty all-embracing.

O My loved ones in the land of Mim! Hearken with your inner ears to the Voice of the Wronged One. Your mention hath proceeded from the Most Exalted Pen, both before and after. Blessed is the eye that hath not been hindered by the veils of idle fancies from beholding, and the ear that hath not been deprived by the utterances of the peoples of the world from hearing the Word of God, and the heart that hath not been withheld by the ornaments of the world from turning towards Him. The aforementioned Tablets have arrived and continue to arrive through the grace and bounty of God, exalted be His glory.

O My Name! Every breath that is drawn for the sake of God hath attained the Most Exalted Horizon and is honored at the Summit of Glory. Pure deeds transcend the heavens. No matter hath been or is hidden. Doubt hath no passage here, uncertainty no place. The horizon of manifestation is illumined with the lights of knowledge and certitude. Blessed is he who hath witnessed and seen, and woe unto them that turn away! Should anyone observe with the eye of fairness the verses, suras, and tablets that have been revealed and are manifest, he would throughout his life testify that with Him is the knowledge of all things. Blessed are they who hold fast to the cord of the word “He doeth whatsoever He willeth.” For them there hath been and is no peril, for they bear witness to the truth of whatsoever proceedeth from

God, even were He to decree for the earth the law of heaven or for heaven the law of earth. Thus hath spoken My Herald, Whom We sent to announce unto the people this Most Great, Most Ancient, All-Knowing, All-Informed Revelation.

Gird up the loins of endeavor, and with spirit and joy and with forbearance and kindliness, summon the people to the Truth. Today from the divine verses floweth the water of life, and it is the breath of the All-Merciful throughout all creation. With it, give life to the dead and refresh the withered ones. Protect the planted saplings from the poisonous winds of malicious souls. These are the winds of idle fancies and vain imaginings. Beseech God to protect His servants and enable them to attain that which He hath purposed for them. Verily He hath power over all things. Nothing can frustrate Him, no power can weaken Him, and no cause can frighten Him. He speaketh before all faces even as He spoke in the beginning of days:

> "Verily, there is none other God but Me, the Speaker, the Manifest, the Hearer, the Commander, the All-Knowing, the Mighty, the Great."

O My Name! You made mention of Mulla Muhammad. We make mention of him as a token of Our grace—verily your Lord is the All-Bountiful, the Strong, the Mighty.

O Muhammad! Hear the Call from the Sacred Tree planted in the luminous earth. Verily, there is no God but Him, the Truth, the Knower of the unseen. He hath appeared and revealed what He desired by His command, and He is the Omnipotent over what was and what shall be. The tyrants of the world and the pharaohs of the nations have not weakened Him. He doeth what He willeth by His command, and He is the Protector, the Self-Subsisting. We have heard thy call and make mention of thee in this perspicuous Book, and We counsel thee with that which the Tongue of Grandeur hath spoken and with which We have commanded the servants in My Great Tablet. Be thou steadfast in the Cause in such wise that the doubts of those who have exchanged the grace of God for unbelief shall not hinder thee, and who have committed that which hath caused the tears to flow from the eyes of the Messengers. O Muhammad! Strive that thou mayest attain unto that which beseemeth these days of God, exalted be His glory. Night and day the Pen of the Lord of all beings hath moved, and from it hath flowed that which the eye of the world hath never seen.

Section 2: "Praise be to the Goal of all existence…"

Praise be to the Goal of all existence Who hath guided thee and shown thee the way. Preserve this most exalted station through His Name. The divines of the earth are occupied with vain imaginings and are deprived of the lights of the Most Great Luminary. The mystics too have clung to idle fancies and have ever been followers of their desires. They have held fast to certain words that neither nourish nor profit, and have deprived the hapless people from the Most Great Ocean. The paths of vain imaginings are many, as ye have surely heard. Say: O people of God! Cast aside what the people possess and take what is with God, the Lord of the worlds. The light of truth hath ever shone from the horizon of the Word of God, but the people understand not. Nay rather, truth circleth round His Most Exalted Pen, to which every discerning soul beareth witness. We send greetings to the loved ones in that land and bid them to steadfastness. Verily He speaketh the truth and guideth to the Way. There is no God but Him, the Mighty, the Beautiful.

O My Name! Give him the glad-tidings from Me and remind him of My verses that he may rejoice and be of the thankful ones, and that he may speak in praise of his Lord amongst the servants. And I am the Ordainer, the All-Wise.

Concerning what thou didst mention about Mirza Muhammad, son of him who ascended unto God—upon them both be My glory and loving-kindness—We have revealed for him that which will solace his eyes and gladden his heart. The gaze of Our loving-kindness hath ever been directed towards that household. We beseech God, exalted be He, to assist them and grant them success in His remembrance and praise, and to confirm them in steadfastness in His firm and mighty Cause. Their tablets will be sent. Give them glad-tidings from the True One. Verily He maketh mention of His loved ones in such wise that their remembrance shall endure throughout the kingdom of earth and heaven.

Mention was made in thy letter of Muhammad-Qabli-ʿAli, upon him be My glory. We have mentioned him before and make mention of him at this time.

In My Name, the Compassionate, the All-Bountiful!

O Muhammad-Qabli-ʿAli! Hear the call of the Wronged One. Verily He maketh mention of thee while He was in the hands of the heedless. We have revealed the verses and manifested the clear proofs, yet most of the people are among the heedless. They have forsaken their God, clinging to their desires. Lo! They are among the most lost. When the rapture of the All-Merciful's utterance taketh hold of thee, say:

O my God, my God! Praise be unto Thee for having given me to drink from the fountain of Thy knowledge and for having caused me to turn toward Thy most exalted horizon when most of mankind turned away from Thee, and for having made me hear Thy call and shown me Thy signs. I beseech Thee by the penetrating power of Thy most exalted Word and the potency of Thy Cause, O Lord of all names and Creator of the heavens, by the rustling of the Lote-Tree beyond which there is no passing and the voice of Thy Most Exalted Pen, to make me attracted to Thy verses, enkindled with the fire of Thy Lote-Tree, holding fast to Thy cord, and clinging to Thy robe in such wise that the hosts of the world shall not prevent me nor the clamor of the nations frighten me. O Lord! Thou seest me turning toward Thee and standing ready to serve Thee. Assist me through Thy bounty and favor, then ordain for me through Thy Most Exalted Pen the good of this world and the world to come. There is none other God but Thee, the Omnipotent, the Almighty.

We make mention of him who hath ascended unto God, who believed in God, the One, the All-Informed. We were with him when he ascended to the Most Exalted Companion. We caused him to enter a station which none hath known save God, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed, after We forgave him and purified him as a bounty from Us. Verily, He is the Forgiving, the Merciful.

O My Name! We have mentioned every name that was in thy letter. Give thanks and say: Praise be unto Thee, O Lord of the world, and thanksgiving be unto Thee, O Sovereign of the Kingdom of bounty, and glory be unto Thee, O Glory of the worlds, for having strengthened me, exalted me, and distinguished me for the service of Thy Cause among Thy servants, and made me one of those who are nigh unto Thee.

Hearken unto the call of the Wronged One. Verily, My Most Exalted Pen desireth to make mention of him who was named Zaynu'l-ʿAbidin, who turned toward the Most Exalted Horizon, holding fast to the cord of the loving-kindness of his Lord, the Mighty, the Powerful. O My Most Exalted Pen! Say: The glory shining forth from the horizon of the heaven of My mercy be upon thee, O thou who didst turn and ascend unto the Most Exalted Companion. I testify that thou didst hear the Call and didst turn unto God, the Lord of all being. We beseech God, exalted be He, to forgive thee as a bounty from His presence, to rain down upon thee the showers of mercy and forgiveness, to cause thee to dwell in the highest paradise, and to make thee a companion of His Prophets and Messengers. Verily, He is powerful over what He willeth. There is none other God but Him, the Forgiving, the Generous.

O My Name! If the True One, exalted be His glory, were to act with justice and judge according to what is with Him in the presence of knowledge, matters would become exceedingly difficult and arduous. However, these are the days of Manifestation, and His grace hath encompassed all and His mercy hath preceded all. At the time when the Ancient Beauty was established upon the Most Great Throne, He uttered three words, one of which is that every name that is mentioned before His presence or is made present shall attain unto the traces of the Most Exalted Pen. Give thanks unto thy Lord for this great bounty.

Thou didst mention Ali-Askar, upon him be My glory. Verily, We love him. We have mentioned him and We make mention of him. Make mention of him by My command, remind him of My verses, give him the glad-tidings of My loving-kindness and My mercy, and illumine him with the lights of My wondrous utterance. We have accepted from him what he hath done in Our path. Verily, his Lord is the Generous, the Possessor of great bounty. Glorify him on behalf of the Wronged One. We testify that he turned unto God and believed in Him when every remote scholar and every doubtful mystic turned away from Him.

Concerning what thou didst write about thy brother Shaykh ʿAbbas—upon them both be My glory—mention of him hath reached the court of Our hearing. Convey unto him mention from the Wronged One and send him greetings and glad-tidings. For nearly a year in this land, the fire of hatred hath blazed in the hearts of some opposers, despite Our having treated the people of this realm with utmost love and kindness from the earliest days until now. They have denied Our bounty and rejected Our grace. Thus have their souls enticed them, and they remain today unaware and uncomprehending. Nevertheless, We grant leave to the aforementioned one to come, that he may rejoice and be among those who praise God. Let him set forth and keep his gaze fixed upon God. Thus have We illumined the tablet of his mention with the light of Our permission, the Mighty, the Wondrous.

O thou My Name! The Name of Generosity—upon him be My glory—hath sent unto Me thy letter, and We have heard what thou didst call out unto God, thy Lord and the Lord of the Throne and the dust, the Lord of the world to come and of the world that now is, and the Lord of this mighty station. We have heard thy mention; We have remembered thee time after time. Say: Praise be to Thee, O my Possessor and my Sovereign! and thanks be to Thee, O my Desire and my Worshipped One! and glory be to Thee, O Goal of the hopes of all who are in the heavens and on the earth!

From the Most Exalted Pen hath flowed that which hath neither peer nor likeness—nay, that which is the equal of the Books of God, in former times and in later, and indeed surpassing them. From God do thou

seek that what hath been revealed may be gathered together, and that the servants may be nurtured thereby, so that all may find their way, and attain unto true repose.

Concerning what thou didst write about the sick person—it hath reached the hearing of the Lord of Names. Excellent is what thou hast done. We beseech God to aid thee to do good, even as He hath strengthened thee and chosen thee to serve His Cause, the Firm, the Strong. The friends of God must assist one another in such matters that arise and consider themselves partners in both hardship and ease. Verily He commandeth His servants to righteousness and piety, even as He hath commanded them before in various tablets. Blessed is he who heareth and acteth! Woe unto every heedless and remote one!

Let those who have sought or who seek healing from the ocean of divine favor recite these exalted words which have shone forth from the Dayspring of grace:

> "O my God, my God! I beseech Thee by the ocean of Thy healing, and by the splendors of the Day-Star of Thy grace, and by Thy Name through which Thou didst subdue Thy servants, and by the penetrating power of Thy most exalted Word and Thy most august Pen, and by Thy mercy that hath preceded the creation of all who are in heaven and on earth, to purify me with the waters of Thy bounty from every affliction and disorder, and from all weakness and feebleness. Thou seest, O my Lord, Thy suppliant waiting at the door of Thy bounty, and him who hath placed his hopes in Thee clinging to the cord of Thy generosity. I beseech Thee not to deny him the things he seeketh from the ocean of Thy grace and the Day-Star of Thy loving-kindness. Powerful art Thou to do what pleaseth Thee. There is none other God save Thee, the Ever-Forgiving, the Most Generous."

O Jamal! Upon thee be the Glory of God, the Self-Sufficient, the Most High! Previously from the Most Exalted Pen flowed this passage: In the destined end, the Beloved is submission and contentment. Observe the lamp: as long as oil and wick remain, it can be protected from tempestuous winds and other conditions. At this station, whoever recites what hath been mentioned will assuredly be preserved and attain healing. This is the suspended destiny that hath been mentioned among the servants, both before and after. However, when the oil and wick are depleted, implements and tools yield no fruit, nor will they ever do so. This is the station of destined end. Although God, exalted be His glory, is capable of changing it, yet another harm would appear.

Therefore, if one attains this station with joy and fragrance, with trust and submission, by the life of God, he will be accounted among the dwellers of the Most Exalted Paradise and will abide in that supreme station. Were the Most Exalted Pen to elaborate on these stations in detail, all would, before their end, hasten toward the ultimate goal and the loftiest summit. Most know not what is best for them. Jesus, son of Mary, saith: "Thou knowest what is in my soul, and I know not what is in Thy Soul. Verily, Thou art the All-Knowing, the All-Informed." Thus hath shone forth the Sun of grace as a token unto thee. Observe, then hear, and say: "Praise be unto Thee, O my Goal and the Goal of all who are in the heavens and the earth!"

Thou didst mention Mihdi from Jasb. We heard thy mention, have mentioned him, and bid him to show forth the Greater Steadfastness in the Cause of God, the Lord of all beings, and We give him glad tidings of the grace of his Gracious Lord. Convey greetings from the Wronged One and say: The Wronged One hath turned toward thee from the Most Great Prison and maketh mention of thee, that His mention may perchance draw thee nigh unto a station where neither the shoes of every barking dog, nor the doubts of any learned one, nor the fancy of any mystic, nor the conjecture of any divine, nor the oppression of the aggressors will affect thee. Say: Know thou the station of this Most Great Remembrance which the Lord of Eternity hath sent down in His Great Prison.

Thou didst mention Hakim Sulayman. O Jamal! Praise be to God, the children of the Friend and the heirs of Him Who conversed with God have, in most cities and lands, turned to the supreme horizon and have drunk of the sealed wine in the name of the Self-Subsisting. However, the Shi'ih faction is still observed in manifest unbelief. This is what We promised aforetime and revealed unto Muhammad, the Apostle of God and the Seal of the Prophets: "We desire to show favor unto those who were brought low in the land, and to make them leaders and to make them the inheritors." O Sulayman! The All-Merciful hath come with manifest sovereignty. We beseech God to aid thee and grant thee success, that thou mayest, before all faces, take from the hand of the bounty of the Lord of the Unseen and the Seen the sealed wine and drink it in His Name.

Today, He Who conversed with God uttereth this word: "Praise be unto Thee, O God of the worlds, for having shown me and honored me with that which Thou didst withhold from me before. I testify that Thou art the Ancient Bestower. And thanks be unto Thee, O Thou in Whose grasp is the dominion of all who are in the kingdom of Command and Creation. There is none other God but Thee, the Forgiving, the Merciful."

Thou didst make mention of Nazim-ul-Ulama. We have turned unto him from this Station and have remembered him with that which attracteth the hearts, the minds, the souls, and the intellects. Hearken unto the call of the Wronged One. He remembereth thee from the precincts of the Prison and remindeth thee of the verses of God, the All-Possessing, the Self-Subsisting. By God! The Day of hearkening hath come, for the shrill voice of My Most Exalted Pen hath been raised between earth and heaven, and the Day of witnessing hath come, for the Most Great Luminary hath shone forth from the horizon of the world and summoneth all to the praiseworthy station. Beware lest anything whatsoever in the days of thy Lord, the Possessor of Names, prevent thee from arising to serve His Cause.

Know thou the value of these days. We beseech God to assist thee under all conditions and draw thee nigh unto Him. Verily, He is the One Who hath power over whatsoever He willeth through His word "Be," and it is. That which thou beholdest today shall perish, and there shall endure for thee that which hath been sent down from the heaven of the will of thy Lord, the Possessor of existence. Verily, My name Jamal, upon him be My glory and My loving-kindness, hath mentioned thee. We have remembered thee in this irrevocable Tablet that thou mayest drink of My choice sealed wine through My Name, the Self-Subsisting, and arise to aid thy Lord, the Possessor of the seen and the unseen. Thus hath the Sun manifested its splendor and its lights, and the sea its waves, that thou mayest thank thy Lord, the Mighty,

the Loving. When the Kawthar of My utterance hath taken hold of thee and drawn thee nigh unto the horizon of My loving-kindness, say:

Section 3: "My God, my God! Praise be to Thee…"

My God, my God! Praise be to Thee for having guided me in days wherein the divines and theologians of the earth have turned away from Thy most exalted horizon. I beseech Thee by Thy most great signs and the manifestations of Thy power, O Lord of all being, to strengthen me in Thy remembrance and praise, and in acting according to that which Thou hast commanded me in Thy Book, and in arising to serve Thy Cause amongst Thy servants in such wise that the doubts of the transgressors, the signs of the objectors, and the might of the heedless shall not withhold me. O Lord! Thou seest me turning unto Thee, clinging to the cord of Thy loving-kindness. I beseech Thee not to deprive me of that which beseemeth the ocean of Thy grace, the heaven of Thy bounty, and the sun of Thy generosity. Then cause me, O my God, to be steadfast in Thy Cause whereby the feet of Thy servants have slipped. Verily, Thou art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the Mighty, the Powerful, and worthy of answering prayer.

As to what thou didst write concerning turning towards various regions, these matters are contingent upon consultation, and as this matter hath repeatedly flowed from the Most Exalted Pen, it must in every case be firmly adhered to. Verily, He is thy Helper and will assist thee. Thy Lord is the All-Forgiving, the Merciful.

And as for thy mention of Abd S., praise be to God, he hath attained and drunk from the cup of loving-kindness. His eyes, ears, and tongue have attained to that for which they were brought from nothingness into being. It behooveth him to praise and thank God throughout the duration of the kingdom and the heavenly kingdom. Special Tablets were previously sent, and God willing, they will attain unto them.

Thou didst mention Abu'l-Hasan of Hamadan. We verily made mention of him before his acceptance, guided him to Our path, and caused him to hear Our call. We beseech God to ordain for him that which will draw him nigh unto Him in every world of His worlds. He, verily, hath power over all things.

Thou didst mention Mirza Siyyid ʿAli. We have sent down for him that which hath appeared and shone forth from the horizon of the heaven of thy Lord's gracious favor. We make mention of him at this hour through My manifest command. Give him glad-tidings from Me, remind him of My verses, and illumine him through My Name, at which the limbs of the idolaters have quaked.

O Jamal! Today is the day of service and the day of assistance, and assistance is through the teaching of the Cause. This blessed verse was revealed from the heaven of divine will in the Tablet of Wisdom. We addressed the Most Great Nabil thus: "Be thou as the throbbing artery in the body of creation," and in another passage: "Walk with the power of the Most Great Name above the world that thou mayest become aware of that which no one hath become aware."

O My Name! Upon thee be My glory! Assistance hath ever been through the fear of God and through the hosts of goodly deeds and character, and through the teaching of the Cause. All must strive and arise as behooveth them. Praise be to God that strife, contention and corruption are all forbidden. Beseech thou

the Truth that He may purify the earth from matters that are not pleasing and sanctify the hearts, that all may discover and become aware, and hearken with their inner ear to the scratching of the Most Exalted Pen, and behold with their outer and inner eyes the penetrating power of the Most Sublime Word. Verily thy Lord is the All-Informed, the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing, the Most Generous, the Helper.

We counsel all to observe wisdom, for the people are weak and the divines have made the Cause dubious in the eyes of both government and nation. They have called the reformer a mischief-maker and named the quickener a destroyer. By the life of God! Were there found the least measure of fairness, the mere arising of this Wronged One before the faces of all men, without any veil or covering, would be a proof unto all. However, the intoxication of wealth and pride hath prevented the people from the manifestation of Him Who conversed on Sinai. Soon shall they find themselves in manifest loss, and shall behold My loved ones in manifest gain.

Gatherings in the Land of Ta are not approved. For some who arrive there, it would be more in keeping with piety if they would depart soon. He verily knoweth and seeth what is with His loved ones, though they know not what is with Him. Verily He is the Truth, the Knower of the unseen.

As to what thou didst write regarding the ill person and his passing, blessed is he. Verily, We have mentioned him with a mention that hath purified him from his transgressions and mistakes, and caused him to enter an exalted station, as a mercy from God, the All-Forgiving, the All-Bountiful, and as a favor from Him—and He is the Most Generous of the generous ones. Concerning their having sent him to the hospital upon consultation with others, there is no harm in this. If that place is well-organized and there is no negligence in caring for the patient, it is acceptable. In these regions, in every city this practice is current and widespread. That which We have revealed in the Book hath come to pass, and what remaineth of it shall soon be made manifest. Verily thy Lord is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

As for the handmaidens whom thou didst mention, each hath been honored with Our mention. We beseech God to assist all to that which He loveth and is pleased with, and to bestow upon them that which endureth and lasteth. Verily, He hath power over all things. Make mention of each one on behalf of the Wronged One and give them glad tidings. Say: Today the ocean of bounty is surging and the sun of generosity is shining from the horizon of the world. He ordaineth that which shall endure throughout the kingdom of earth and heaven. Be thankful unto your Lord, for verily He is with His accepted servants and handmaidens, and He desireth for none save that which shall elevate their station with God, the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing.

The mention of those souls who, out of love for God, accompanied that stranger's funeral hath in this moment flowed from the Most Exalted Pen. Verily We give thanks for My bounty and My favor, and We make mention of My mercy that hath preceded all and My power that hath encompassed existence.

O Ali-Askar! This is yet another time thou hast been honored with the mention of thy Lord, the Most Merciful, the Compassionate. Verily We have mentioned thee with verses that surpass the riches of kings and sovereigns.

O Shir-ʿAli! Say: Praise be unto Thee, O my God, for having caused me to hear Thy most sweet call and for having shown me Thy clear and straight path. I beseech Thee by the ocean of Thy bounty and the heaven of Thy generosity to aid me to be steadfast in Thy Most Great Cause and Thy Momentous News.

O Habibu'llah! Thou art he who hath heard the scratching of My Most Exalted Pen and hath beheld My Most Glorious Horizon and hath attained the presence before My face, and hast been blessed with the bounties of thy Lord, the All-Bountiful. Preserve this most exalted station and say: Praise be unto Thee, O Thou Goal of the mystics, for having enabled me to fulfill that for which Thou didst create me. Verily Thou art the All-Bountiful, the Ancient of Days. The Glory be upon thee and upon thy mother who saw and believed and said:

"I believe in Thee, O God of all who are in the heavens and on earth."

Verily he who was named Buzurg hath attained unto My favor time and again, and We have mentioned him in diverse Tablets which We have revealed from the treasuries of My Most Exalted Pen, whereby the eyes of those near unto God were solaced and the hearts of the sincere ones were attracted. He must give thanks unto his Lord for having assisted and honored him, and revealed for him that which the tongues of all who make mention have failed to describe.

O Mirza! Hear the call from the precincts of the Prison. Verily there is no God but He, the Mighty, the All-Knowing. He seeth the turning of His loved ones unto Him and heareth their cry and mentioneth them through His all-encompassing grace.

O son of ʿAttar! Upon thee and upon thy father be My glory and My favor. Verily We counsel thee to unity and harmony. By My life, through these two the horizons are illumined. We have mentioned thee in these days time and again and have adorned thee with the ornament of the favor of thy Lord, the All-Bountiful. Verily My name Jamal, upon him be My glory and My favor—We have mentioned thee and have remembered thee again, and before him My name Mihdi, upon him be My glory. Verily thy Lord is the All-Hearing, the Answering One. Give thanks unto thy Lord for this mighty favor.

O Abu'l-Hasan! We have mentioned thee and do mention thee at this time as a favor from One mighty and all-knowing. Verily We counsel thee and those who have believed to unity and to that whereby the Cause of God, the Lord of all worlds, may be exalted.

O Jamal! We glorify in this hour ʿAli-Qabli-Haydar who hath arisen to serve the Cause. Make mention of him on My behalf and give him the glad-tidings of the effulgences of the light of the Sun of My bounty. Verily thy Lord is the Ordainer, the All-Wise. We beseech God to assist him in that which He loveth and is pleased with, and to enable him to serve His mighty Cause. In all conditions, hold fast unto wisdom, for the heedless consider reward and recompense to lie in persecuting the believers in divine unity, even as the Quraysh and the people of Batha inflicted upon the Seal of the Prophets that which the Pen is powerless to recount. And whatsoever they inflicted, they deemed it a means of drawing near to the manifestations of vain imaginings and the temples of idols. Ask thou of God to open wide the gates of justice and preserve the sun of equity from the clouds of vain imaginings, that haply His servants may see and find, and be freed and delivered from the smoke and dust of idle fancies. Verily thy Lord is the Compassionate, the All-Bountiful, and He is the Counsellor, the All-Knowing.

If thou meetest His honor ʿA.B., upon him be My glory and loving-kindness, convey unto him mention and glorification from the Wronged One, and give him the glad-tidings of God's bounty. Say: O ye who are sincere, honor ye his dwelling-place. This is a command from the presence of the Ordainer, the All-Wise.

Thou didst make mention of the daughter of him who attained Our presence and won the victory. We make mention of her with a clear remembrance, and We remember her mother who hath ascended unto God, the Lord of the Day of Judgment. We have forgiven her as a mercy from Our presence, for We are the Forgiver, the Merciful. At this hour We have sent that which will comfort her heart. Verily thy Lord doeth what He willeth and ordaineth what He pleaseth.

The letter written in the hand of one of the loved ones, sent on behalf of Sadat, upon them both be My glory, wherein mention was made of the friends in the lands of Sh. and S., was presented before the Face and attained the honor of being heard. All the souls mentioned therein have attained unto divine bounty.

O My Name Jamal! We have remembered them and do remember them. Verily thy Lord is the Rememberer, the All-Knowing. O My loved ones! Hear ye My call from the direction of My prison. He remembereth you with that whereby your names shall endure, as attesteth the Mother Book in its exalted station. Blessed is the eye that hath beheld My most elevated horizon, and the ear that hath heard the scratching of My Pen, and the heart that hath turned unto My mighty and unshakeable Cause. That which ye behold today shall perish, but there shall endure for you that which the Tongue of Grandeur hath spoken. Give thanks unto your Lord, the All-Merciful, for this great bounty.

We counsel you as We have counseled Our servants aforetime, to manifest spiritual qualities and goodly deeds, and the fear of God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy. Blessed is he who hath rent asunder the veils of idle fancies and the curtains of vain imaginings, and hath turned wholly unto the All-Informed One. Cast away that which the people possess. Verily the Self-Subsisting hath arisen with the Cause and calleth you unto that which shall profit you in every world of the worlds of your Lord, the Almighty, the All-Powerful. Not a thing escapeth His knowledge. He witnesseth and seeth, as every discerning soul doth testify.

Hold ye fast unto the cord of your Lord's loving-kindness in such wise that the doubts of the world and the idle fancies of the nations shall not keep you back. Then recognize ye the station of these days and their rank. By the life of God! The sun hath never risen upon their like. We have remembered you before and do remember you at this hour, and We remind you of that which beseemeth this blessed, mighty and wondrous Day.

When ye find the fragrance of My utterance and are attracted by My verses, say: O our Lord, our Master, our Worshipped One and our Heart's Desire! Praise be unto Thee for having guided us unto the Salsabil of Thy knowledge and the Euphrates of Thy mercy. We beseech Thee by the Sovereign of Names and by Thy Cause that dominateth all things, to assist us to be steadfast in Thy Cause in such wise that nothing whatsoever shall prevent us. Verily Thou art the Lord of Names and the Creator of heaven. There is none other God but Thee, the Almighty, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

O Jamal! We make mention of the party of God in the Land of Ta and other lands, and give them glad tidings through God's loving-kindness. By the Sun of proof which now speaks: whosoever has turned with a pure heart and radiant countenance toward the supreme horizon—in that very moment their mention

has flowed from the Most Exalted Pen and they have attained the divine tokens. Give thou glad tidings unto all and remind them. Some souls are mentioned before the Throne; due to wisdom their names are not revealed. Verily thy Lord speaks the truth and guides the way. Some turned with utmost love, while others arose to serve during the days and nights, and yet another group held fast without any pause. All are mentioned and have attained immeasurable favors. Soon will God manifest what He has ordained for them, and they shall find themselves in evident joy and mighty gladness. The Glory shining from the horizon of My heavenly Kingdom be upon thee and upon those whom nothing whatsoever has prevented from turning unto God, the Lord of Names and Creator of heaven, who broke not God's Covenant and His Testament, and who were steadfast in His manifest Cause. Praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

Volume 079: Akka 1303 A.H. (1885–1886), Part III (3 of 5)

BH00272: The Purpose of the one true God, exalted be…

Section 1: "The Purpose of the one true God, exalted…"

He is the Interpreter, the All-Wise

The Purpose of the one true God, exalted be His glory, in revealing Himself unto men is to lay bare those gems that lie hidden within the mine of their true and inmost selves. That the divers communions of the earth, and the manifold systems of religious belief, should never be allowed to foster the feelings of animosity among men, is, in this Day, of the essence of the Faith of God and His Religion. These principles and laws, these firmly established and mighty systems, have proceeded from one Source, and are the rays of one Light. That they differ one from another is to be attributed to the varying requirements of the ages in which they were promulgated.

Gird up the loins of your endeavor, O people of Bahá, that haply the tumult of religious dissension and strife that agitateth the peoples of the earth may be stilled, that every trace of it may be completely obliterated. For the love of God, and them that serve Him, arise to aid this most sublime and momentous Revelation. Religious fanaticism and hatred are a world-devouring fire, whose violence none can quench. The Hand of Divine power can, alone, deliver mankind from this desolating affliction.

Consider the war that broke out between the Ottoman Empire and Russia—how both sides sacrificed life and property, how many villages were utterly destroyed. The utterance of God is a lamp, whose light is these words: Ye are the fruits of one tree, and the leaves of one branch. Deal ye one with another with the utmost love and harmony, with friendliness and fellowship. He Who is the Daystar of Truth beareth Me witness! So powerful is the light of unity that it can illuminate the whole earth. The one true God, He Who knoweth all things, Himself testifieth to the truth of these words. Exert yourselves that ye may attain this transcendent and most sublime station, the station that can ensure the protection and security of all mankind.

This goal excelleth every other goal, and this aspiration is the monarch of all aspirations. So long, however, as the thick clouds of oppression, which obscure the daystar of justice, remain undispelled, it

would be difficult for the glory of this station to be unveiled to men's eyes. These dark clouds are the exponents of idle fancies and vain imaginings—namely, the divines of the age. At times We have spoken in the language of the Law-giver, and at times in the language of Truth and the Path, and Our ultimate purpose and highest aim hath been the manifestation of this most sublime and exalted station. God sufficeth as witness.

Consort with all men, O people of Bahá, in a spirit of friendliness and fellowship. If ye be aware of a certain truth, if ye possess a jewel, of which others are deprived, share it with them in a language of utmost kindliness and goodwill. If it be accepted, if it fulfill its purpose, your object is attained. If anyone should refuse it, leave him unto himself, and beseech God to guide him. Beware lest ye deal unkindly with him. A kindly tongue is the lodestone of the hearts of men. It is the bread of the spirit, it clotheth the words with meaning, it is the fountain of the light of wisdom and understanding.

If the people of the Qur'an had acted according to the resplendent Law after the Seal of the Prophets—may the spirit of all else than Him be His sacrifice—and had clung to its hem, the foundation of the fortress of the Cause would not have been shaken, and prosperous cities would not have been laid waste. Rather, towns and villages would have been adorned and blessed with the ornament of security and safety. Due to the dissension of the favored community and the smoke of corrupt souls, the luminous Faith is seen darkened and weakened. Had they acted faithfully, they would not have remained heedless of the rays of the Sun of Justice. Glory be to God! One Nuni in the utmost enmity and hatred, and another Nuni his helper and supporter, both outwardly dwelling with their hosts and armies in the fortress of steel, while the Wronged One dwells in a house whose walls are as paper—severed from all save God. Verily, should He wish, He could make paper harder than steel and steel finer than an eyelash. By God's life! I call them unto the light while they call Me unto the fire, but the call of the wrongdoers is naught but error. I desired glory for them while they desired for Me the greatest abasement.

From the earliest days We have been captive in the hands of the heedless—at times in Iraq, at times in the Land of Mystery, and thence to ʿAkka, which had been a place of exile for murderers and thieves. Without cause they banished Us, and from this Most Great Prison it is not known where and to what place We shall repair. Knowledge of this rests with God, Lord of the throne and the earth, and Lord of the exalted Seat.

To whatever place We may be banished, however great the tribulation We may suffer, they who are the people of God must, with fixed resolve and perfect confidence, keep their eyes directed towards the Dayspring of Glory, and be busied in whatever may be conducive to the betterment of the world and the education of its peoples. All that hath befallen Us in the past hath advanced the interests of Our Revelation and blazoned its fame; and all that may befall Us in the future will have a like result. Cling ye, with your inmost hearts, to the Cause of God, a Cause that hath been sent down by Him Who is the Ordainer, the All-Wise. We have, with the utmost kindliness and mercy, summoned and directed all peoples and nations to that which shall truly profit them.

The Daystar of Truth that shineth in its meridian splendor beareth Us witness! They who are the people of God have no ambition except to revive the world, to ennoble its life, and regenerate its peoples. Truthfulness and goodwill have, at all times, marked their relations with all men. Their outward conduct is

but a reflection of their inward life, and their inward life a mirror of their outward conduct. No veil hideth or obscureth the verities on which their Faith is established. Before the eyes of all men these verities have been laid bare, and can be unmistakably recognized. Their very acts attest the truth of these words.

Every discerning eye can, in this Day, perceive the dawning light of God's Revelation, and every attentive ear can recognize the Voice that was heard from the Burning Bush. Such is the rushing of the waters of Divine mercy, that He Who is the Dayspring of the signs of God and the Revealer of the evidences of His glory is without veil or concealment associating and conversing with the peoples of the earth and its kindreds. How numerous are those who, with hearts intent upon malice, have sought Our Presence, and departed from it loyal and loving friends! The portals of grace are wide open before the face of all men. In Our outward dealings with them We have treated alike the righteous and the sinner, that perchance the evildoer may attain the limitless ocean of Divine forgiveness. Our name "the Concealer" hath shed such a light upon men that the froward hath imagined himself to be numbered with the pious. No man that seeketh Us will We ever disappoint, neither shall he that hath set his face towards Us be denied access unto Our court.

The opposition and avoidance of the people have been caused by the Shi'ih divines and their unseemly deeds. Glory be to God! In Our childhood We heard that a certain divine was discoursing about the word of the Qa'im, saying that according to traditions and reports that have reached us, on the Day of His manifestation that Holy Being would utter a word from which the Deputies would all turn away and take flight. What word could this be, that even the most exalted among the people would turn away from the Truth?

O assemblage of the ignorant! That word is this, and at this moment He declareth: "He" hath appeared in the garment of "I" and the Hidden One speaketh forth with "I am the Manifest One." Ye fled without hearing. Say: This is that word at whose sovereign might all are made to tremble, save him whom God willeth.

By the divines in these passages are meant those souls who have prevented people from reaching the shore of the Most Holy Ocean. Otherwise, the learned who put their knowledge into practice and the just sage are as spirit unto the body of the world. Blessed is the learned one whose head is adorned with the crown of justice and whose temple is adorned with the ornament of equity.

The Supreme Pen counseleth the people of God and commandeth them to show forth love, kindness, wisdom and forbearance. Today the Wronged One is imprisoned; His hosts have been and are goodly character and upright conduct, not ranks, armies, rifles and cannons. One pure and goodly deed maketh the earthly world the Most Exalted Paradise. O friends! Help ye the one true God, exalted be His glory, by your goodly deeds, by such conduct and character as shall be acceptable in His sight. He that seeketh to be a helper of God in this Day, let him close his eyes to whatever he may possess, and open them to the things of God. Let him cease to occupy himself with that which profiteth him, and concern himself with that which shall exalt the all-compelling name of the Almighty.

He should cleanse his heart from all evil passions and corrupt desires, for the fear of God is the weapon that can render him victorious, the primary instrument whereby he can achieve his purpose. The fear of

God is the shield that defendeth His Cause, the buckler that enableth His people to attain to victory. It is a standard that no man can abase, a force that no power can rival. By its aid, and by the leave of Him Who is the Lord of Hosts, they that have drawn nigh unto God have been able to subdue and conquer the citadels of the hearts of men.

The world hath been encompassed by darkness, and the lamp that giveth light hath been and is wisdom. Its requirements must be observed under all conditions. Among the dictates of wisdom is the observance of ranks and speaking in accordance with station and standing. And among the dictates of wisdom is prudence, for man should not accept whatever any soul may say. We have written aforetime: "Trust not every newcomer, and believe not every speaker." Under all conditions, beseech ye the one true God, exalted be His glory, that He deprive not His servants of the sealed wine and the lights of His Name, the Self-Subsisting.

Section 2: "O people of God! The Most Exalted Pen…"

O people of God! The Most Exalted Pen counseleth the servants concerning the Most Great Trustworthiness. By the life of God! Its light is more manifest than the light of the sun. Every light hath been eclipsed before its light, its radiance and its effulgence. We beseech God that He deprive not His cities and lands of the splendors of the sun of trustworthiness. We have enjoined upon all to observe trustworthiness, chastity, purity and fidelity throughout all nights and days. Blessed are they that act accordingly.

From the first days when the rays of the Sun of the Cause shone forth from the horizon of Iraq until now, the Pen of utterance hath never ceased its movement. With the utmost joy and fragrance it counseled the people of the world to praiseworthy deeds and pleasing conduct. Throughout the nights and days the shrill voice of the Pen was raised and the tongue was speaking, so that in the face of the sword there stood the word, in the face of tyranny there was patience, and at the time of martyrdom there was submission. For thirty years and more, whatsoever befell this wronged community they endured with patience and left it to God. Every possessor of justice and fairness hath testified and doth testify to that which hath been mentioned.

During this period, this Wronged One clung to goodly exhortations and sufficient, healing counsels until it became evident and manifest to all that God hath appeared for the revelation of the treasures deposited within human souls. Conflict and contention have ever been the way of the beasts of the earth. Praiseworthy deeds are the attributes of man. Blessed is the Merciful One Who created man and taught him utterance.

After all these trials, neither the princes of the state were satisfied nor the divines of the nation. Not a single soul was found who would, for the sake of God, utter a word before the throne of His Majesty. "Naught shall befall us save that which God hath decreed for us." They acted not with kindness, and in manifesting evil they showed no restraint. Fairness became as rare as the phoenix, and truthfulness as scarce as the philosopher's stone. No one spoke a word of good. It seemed as though justice, like the people of truth, had become abhorred by the servants and banished from the lands.

Glory be to God! During the troubles in the land of Ta, no one spoke according to what God had ordained. With a view to displaying power and rendering service in the presence of the Sultan, they called good evil and the reformer a mischief-maker. Such souls would make a drop appear as an ocean and a speck as the sun. They would call a hut an impregnable fortress while turning a blind eye to the manifest truth. They seized a group of the world's reformers on charges of corruption. By the life of God! Those souls had and have no purpose save the glory of the state and service to the nation. They spoke and speak for God's sake and walk in His path.

O friends! Beseech the Purpose of all the worlds to assist His Majesty the King, that through the radiance of the Sun of Justice all the realms of Iran may be adorned with the ornament of security and peace. According to reports, he hath of his own accord freed those who were bound and granted liberty to those who were imprisoned. Certain matters must needs be brought before the people, and their disclosure beseemeth the righteous, that the chosen ones may be informed and made aware. Verily, He inspireth whomsoever He willeth with whatsoever He desireth, and He is the All-Powerful, the Commander, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

A word hath reached the ears of this Wronged One from that land which, in truth, hath caused astonishment. His Excellency Mu'tamidu'd-Dawlih Farhad Mirza hath spoken concerning the prisoner that which is not befitting to mention. This Wronged One had very few meetings with him and his like. What is remembered is that he came twice to Murgh-Mahallih in Shimiran where this Wronged One resided—the first time towards evening one day, and the second time on a Friday morning, departing near sunset. He is learned and aware; he should not speak aught but the truth. If anyone attaineth his presence, let these words be conveyed before his face on behalf of this Wronged One:

He is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed

O son of the King! Your Excellency saw me before as but one among men. Were you to turn today, you would behold me with a light none knoweth who hath manifested it, and with a fire none knoweth who hath kindled it. Yet the Wronged One knoweth and is aware, and saith: The hand of God's will, the Lord of all worlds, hath manifested it, and the hand of power hath ignited it. From its sighing [thou hearest]: By God! The promise hath come to pass, and He Who conversed on Sinai speaketh from the Sadratu'l-Muntaha, yet most of the people are heedless. O Prince! I had concealed my Cause; my Lord revealed me. I was sleeping; the breeze of God awakened me. When I raised my head, I heard from all directions:

> "O Thou Who speaketh in the Tree! Blessed is the land honored by Thy footsteps, the soul that hath attained Thy call, and the face that hath turned toward Thee. Arise and say: O people of the earth! My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor do I walk in your ways. Remember that which ye were promised [in what was revealed before] and in My perspicuous Book."

Then I arose and spoke as I was commanded. This is not from me, but from One mighty and powerful. I ask of Your Excellency justice and fairness concerning this momentous News and this noble Edifice. Your Excellency should inquire about the Cause for which blood was shed, heads were raised on spears, breasts were pierced, livers were melted, and the people were thunderstruck, save whom God, the Lord

of all worlds, willed. The Cause is not in my hands, but in His. Verily, He is the Strong, the Triumphant, the Powerful. The tongue hath spoken according to its capacity, and He is the Ordainer, the All-Wise.

Blessed is he whom the doubts of the people of passion have not withheld from the Lord of all beings nor kept back from the Most Exalted Horizon. The greatness of the Cause and the greatness of the days are recorded and inscribed in the divine Books. Blessed is the eye that hath seen and the ear that hath heard that which the Tongue of the Will of the All-Merciful hath uttered upon the branches, and woe unto every heedless and remote one.

O friends! His honor Haydar-ʿAli and Muhammad-Husayn, upon them both be my glory, have made mention of the friends of God. They have recounted tales city by city and house by house—nay rather, have told many tales—and have grieved over the absence of all at the Gate. O party of God in the cities and regions! Your names have been mentioned before the Face, and there hath been revealed for you that which the hands of change and annihilation shall never reach. He counseleth you to preserve that which hath been vouchsafed unto you from God, the Lord of all worlds. Preserve this most exalted station through the Name of the Lord of Names. Beseech ye God that He may assist all to accomplish that which will cause its fragrance and mention to endure throughout the kingdom of earth and heaven.

And at the end of the letter, We counsel you once again to observe chastity, trustworthiness, godliness, truthfulness and purity. Put away the forbidden and take hold of the good—a command from God, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. At this hour the Most Exalted Pen lamenteth and uttereth that which was in the divine Books of the past and future. By God's life! There hath appeared that which no eye in the world hath ever seen. Nevertheless, it is observed that some of the friends hesitate due to the sayings of the people of the Bayan, or are disturbed by the clamor of the hypocrites. This is a matter that is self-evident, and it behooveth all to observe the Cause with its own eyes. It beseemeth man that should the entire world attempt to prevent him from the Most Exalted Horizon or to turn him aside from the straight path, they would find themselves utterly impotent.

We previously informed all about the cawing of the crows and the clamor of the transgressors. The people of God must protect themselves from the corrupt ones among the people of the Bayan through the sword of this blessed word which hath shone forth from the Dayspring of the mouth of the Primal Point—may the spirit of all else be sacrificed for His sake—wherein He saith: "I have written an essence regarding His mention: He shall not be known through My allusions nor through what hath been revealed in the Bayan," and through the shield of another blessed word wherein He saith: "Beware, beware lest thou be veiled by the Vahids of the Bayan, and beware, beware lest thou be veiled by what hath been revealed in the Bayan."

Reflect upon the Manifestation of the Seal of the Prophets—may the spirit of all else be sacrificed for His sake—and the events that followed, and take heed. Consent not that once again there should arise the region of falsehood, the well of delusion, and the mythical Jabulqa and Jabulsa, leading astray the helpless people. Fix your gaze upon the Most Exalted Horizon and be detached, severed and free from all else. From the beginning of the Cause until now, all that hath been said hath been evident before all faces. God, exalted be His glory, is aware, and deeds bear witness. There is no power nor strength except through God. The glory shining forth from the horizon of the heaven of My loving-kindness be upon you,

upon those who mention you and love you, and upon every steadfast and firm believer. Praise be to God, the Most Exalted, the Most Great.

BH00319: In the Name of Him Who hath made subject…

Section 1: "In the Name of Him Who hath made…"

In the Name of Him Who hath made subject unto His command the Tablet and the Pen, meaning and utterance!

O Ahmad! Hearken unto the Call from the right hand of the Divine Lote-Tree, from the Luminous Spot, in the Supreme Horizon: Verily there is none other God but Me, the One, the Single, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. We have, in truth, revealed the verses and manifested the clear tokens and rent asunder the veils in such wise as hath caused the hearts of them that have denied God, the Lord of all worlds, to tremble. Successful indeed is he who hath turned towards it and hearkened, and lost are they who have denied God's testimony and His proof—these are truly among the transgressors in God's Mighty, Praiseworthy Book.

That which thou didst send hath reached the Wronged One. We have heard its contents and have answered thee with this Tablet, before which the books of the world bow down, as doth testify He Who proclaimeth that there is none other God but Me, the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing. The seal of the Choice Wine hath been broken by the hand of might, and the veils have been rent asunder through a command from the presence of the Powerful, the Ancient of Days.

O Ahmad! O Ahmad! Look to the Most Exalted Horizon. By God! We have made clear the path and manifested the proof, and have caused to flow from the fountain of My Most Exalted Pen the Kawthar of eternity. Blessed is he who hath drawn nigh, and partaken, and drunk in My Name, the Lord of all who are in the heavens and the earth. And woe betide them who have turned aside and remained heedless of this supreme bounty and who have denied Him in Whom they had believed—these are truly among the dead in God's Mighty, Glorious Book.

We have rent the veils asunder in such wise that every hearing ear hath heard the sound of their being rent. Thy Lord, verily, is the One Who hath power over whatsoever He willeth, and He is the Mighty, the All-Compelling, the Powerful. Blessed art thou, inasmuch as thou hast attained unto the traces of My Pen time and again, and this is yet another time, as a token of My favor, for I am verily the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous.

Ponder upon that which hath been sent down from the heaven of thy Lord's Will. It will acquaint thee with that which thou didst desire to know and will cause thee to soar unto the heaven of knowledge. Then shalt thou behold the Cause shining forth from its horizon. Thy Lord is, in truth, the Helper, the All-Wise. The Cause is more manifest than the sun in midheaven. Soon shalt thou know and witness that which thou didst ask from the ocean of thy Lord's knowledge, the Forgiving, the Merciful.

The glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My mercy be upon thee and upon those who are with thee, and upon those who have remained steadfast in this mighty Cause, whereby the limbs of the world have quaked and every ignorant one hath been struck dumb.

Hear in the Persian tongue the Voice of the Wronged One, Who speaketh from the direction of the prison. O Ahmad! The Cause is more manifest than the sun and more exalted than the heavens. Observe the verses sent down and reflect: verily they will grant thee true knowledge and draw thee nigh unto a clear and straight path. Reflect upon the Shi'ih sect. Previously We commanded all through the Most Exalted Pen to ponder upon this heedless people who, throughout ages and centuries, were speaking of God, glorified be His majesty, yearning and hoping for the days of His meeting. Yet when the dawn of His Revelation rose and shone forth, they all rose up in opposition and protest.

Reflect upon the fruits of these souls' deeds. In the early years, all the divines of the lands of Sh, Sad and Kha and other cities, and their followers, issued the decree for the death of the Lord of the world. The writings of the divines of the lands of Sh and Sad were brought into Our presence and met Our gaze. Verily My Most Exalted Pen doth not wish to mention what they wrote. Thou knowest what they said and what they did. The consequences of all shall become evident on the Day of Reckoning and the fruits of their deeds shall then be made manifest.

From the beginning of Islam, most were immersed in the ocean of idle fancies and vain imaginings. After the Seal of the Prophets—may the life of all else be sacrificed for His sake—and the holy Imams, only two souls attained unto the truth and were adorned with the ornament of true understanding: the late Shaykh and Siyyid—upon them be the Most Glorious Glory of God. These two souls were confirmed in their recognition of the Lord of mankind. Verily We were with them and heard from them that which none hath known save God, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. Through the nobility of these two souls, receptive souls turned toward the direction of Shin and attained unto the dawning-place of bounty and the day-spring of knowledge. This was through the grace of those two blessed beings, to which every fair-minded and discerning one and every learned and informed one beareth witness.

O Ahmad! In a certain station this most exalted Word hath been revealed from the Most Sublime Pen: What strange intoxication and what strange heedlessness hath seized all! From the beginning of Islam until the first day of the Manifestation, not one of the Shi'ih divines was aware of the nature of the Manifestation and the existence of that Essence of Being in the loins. This was the station of the former divines who possessed not an atom's weight of knowledge. Were you to reflect briefly on this matter, you would cry out and praise the All-Powerful Lord day and night, for He hath unveiled and rent asunder the veils.

The aforementioned Word was revealed in response to the gathering of Manshad. We have sent its copy in the handwriting of Zaynu'l-Muqarrabin, upon him be the Glory of God, that you may observe and gain complete knowledge of the conjectures, idle fancies, and heedlessness of the people of the Bayan.

That party committed what neither the Jews, nor the Christians, nor any other parties in the world have committed. Yes, a few among the Shi'ih party became aware during the time of occultation, but due to the dominion of the divines, they did not reveal it and hastened to the most exalted horizon. The

corruption of this sect is more evident than the sun in the midst of heaven. In the early days, all were occupied with cursing, denouncing and rejection. The heedlessness of these souls reached such a degree that they would mention the Prince of Martyrs from the pulpits and weep, and then curse and denounce the One by Whose word a thousand Husayns sacrificed their lives in the field of martyrdom, and from the pulpit they would hasten towards hell.

And thereafter that honor knoweth how this Wronged One arose before all the world. Neither the clamor of the divines prevented Him, nor the might of princes. We summoned all the peoples of the world to the horizon of the All-Merciful, until some of the people of Iran turned towards the most exalted horizon. These are the gems of creation, and likewise those souls in these lands who from among the community have attained unto the light of certitude, and likewise from among the children of the Friend and the heirs of Him Who conversed with God.

O thou who gazeth upon the Face and drinketh the choice wine of My grace! Had the Herald—may the spirit of all else but Him be sacrificed for His sake—appeared in these lands, thou wouldst now behold most of the people among the people of truth, for the idle fancies of the Shi'ih party concerning Jabulqa and Jabulsa and the region between them were not and are not among these people. O Ahmad! These idle fancies caused the blood of the Master of the world to be shed. These idle fancies—from whom did they proceed and who caused the people of Iran to be deprived? If anyone would utter a word contrary to that, they would issue a decree for his death. Reflect and observe with thine own eyes, that perchance thou mayest, through the handle of inner meanings and exposition, deliver the heedless ones from the well of idle fancies and cause them to attain unto the splendors of the sun of certitude.

O Ahmad! Leave the world behind and soar above it. The Most Exalted Pen is forbidden, yet despite the opposition of the people of the world and the arising of all to turn away, the Finger of Power hath rent asunder some of the veils and made aware the seeing one who possesseth knowledge and the knowing one who is informed. It became the balance of favor—weigh every word by it. Reflect upon the fruits of the deeds of the various parties. In one respect, that same balance is the truth, for it makes souls known. However, it is hoped that the world will attain unto the light of true unity and that misbelief will be utterly removed. Fix thy gaze upon God alone. This is the counsel of the Wronged One to that honor and the friends of God.

Section 2: "The Author of the Bayan, in the second…"

The Author of the Bayan, in the second chapter of the eighth Unity, saith—exalted be His utterance: This is the mystery of the words of the late Shaykh when someone asked him about that word which His Holiness had uttered, and the three hundred and thirteen individuals who would be the most God-fearing of that Dispensation could not bear it, and His Holiness Sadiq mentioned the letter kaf' concerning them. After much warning that "thou canst not bear it," he had said, "If His Holiness should appear and say abandon the Guardianship of the Commander of the Faithful,' wouldst thou abandon it?" He immediately refused, saying "God forbid!" It is evident to the people of truth that they heard the word from His Holiness, and since he could not bear it, he became an unbeliever, though he was unaware of it. This stems from their not looking to the Source of the Cause.

Now ponder upon the ocean of this utterance which hath flowed from the tongue of the Point and the Shaykh, that thou mayest know the station of Truth to be sanctified above all things, and mayest behold all things as created by the Word. How excellent is this word at the end of His Holiness's utterance where He saith that this stems from their not looking to the Source of the Cause, for if they were to look to the Source—that is, to behold the very Manifestation establishing all else beneath Him through His Word. O Ahmad! The station of the Manifestation is above what the servants mention of Him. Then shineth forth the light of unity and are extinguished the lamps of fancy and conjecture.

O thou who soarest in the atmosphere of My love! Know thou that the people of the Bayan are more lost than all previous peoples, for after the removal of the veils, the rending of the coverings, the appearance of the light of manifestation, and the call of the Speaker on Sinai, they have uttered that which no misbeliever had ever uttered. They cling to previous fancies and strive zealously to lead people astray. They attribute to distortion those statements of the Primal Point that oppose them. The previous fancies are not worthy of mention; it would be a waste for pen and tongue to be occupied with them.

Say: My God, my God! I have turned toward the horizon of Thy Cause and have directed my face to the lights of Thy countenance. I beseech Thee to assist me to attain such steadfastness whereby Thy servants may stand firm in Thy Cause and arise to serve Thee. My God, my God! I perceive Thy fragrance from Thy utterance, though I have not attained the station whereon the throne of Thy grandeur is established. O my Lord! Honor me with Thy presence and the visit of Thy beauty and the fountain of Thy reunion, or inscribe for me from Thy Most Exalted Pen the reward of those who stand before Thy face and who are stationed at the door of Thy mercy. My God, my God! Thou seest me turning toward Thee, hoping for Thy bounties and favors. I beseech Thee by the mysteries of Thy knowledge and that which was hidden from the eyes of Thy creation, to assist me to arise to mention Thee, to praise Thee, and to serve Thy Cause. Verily Thou art the All-Powerful, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

The law of fasting hath been revealed by God in His Most Holy Book. There is no doubt that it hath been sent down from One Who is All-Knowing, All-Wise. The laws of fasting and prayer as revealed have not been changed, but wisdom is necessary. Hitherto, most have acted in accordance with the laws of the Qur'an. Were something entirely different to suddenly appear before the people, great discord would arise and none would draw nigh to hear the Word of God. In any case, divine forgiveness hath ever encompassed and continueth to encompass your honour, but others must hold fast to wisdom and cling to its hem. This utterance is a mercy unto the friends and a bounty unto the party of God, lest the clamour of every ignorant one and every dissembling hypocrite be raised.

O Ahmad! A prayer hath been revealed which, shouldst thou recite it, would kindle within thee such a fire as no power in all the world could extinguish. Yet wisdom forbiddeth its disclosure. Convey the greetings of the Truth to the party of God. Say: Ye are all remembered in the presence of the Wronged One, and mention of each and every servant, man and woman, hath flowed from the Most Exalted Pen. Reflect upon that which hath been manifested and seek recourse unto God. Verily, He will open before your faces the doors of grace and guide you to the straight path. Be not heedless of that which befitteth this Day, and arise to secure it. Thus doth the Wronged One counsel you from His prison-cell and summon you unto that which draweth you nigh unto God, the Single, the One, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

O Ahmad! Again and again do We make mention of thee, as a favour unto thee, that thou mayest give thanks unto thy Lord, the All-Remembering, the All-Knowing. The purpose of all that hath been mentioned is that thou mayest enlighten the people, that all may testify to that which hath flowed from the Most Exalted Pen. Until now, the station of the Manifestation Himself hath remained concealed. None hath attained unto the light of true Divine Unity save whom God willeth. The purpose is that the station of the Manifestation be made known. For example, the Apostle of God—may the spirit of all else be sacrificed for His sake—is the Manifestation of "He doeth whatsoever He willeth and ordaineth whatsoever He pleaseth" and is established upon the throne of "He shall not be asked of His doings." In this station, He hath no partner or peer; nay, none is even mentioned in that realm, and all were created by His Word. This utterance diminisheth not the station of any. Blessed is he who distinguisheth ranks and stations—he is of them that are endowed with insight in the Most Sublime Vision.

Reflect upon this utterance revealed in the Bayan, which declareth that if the Manifestation Himself should designate a tree as proof, it becometh proof. The Manifestation Himself is sanctified above all lesser conditions. All are created by His Word, and this station remaineth so long as no deviation occurreth. After deviation, one is numbered and accounted among the people of fire. Today is the Day of God, wherein none save He is mentioned. This is the Day of true Divine Unity. Blessed are they that attain! Should one discover the shrill voice of the Most Exalted Pen within the depths of these words, he would find himself in a new world and would attain unto the light of true Divine Unity. I end My words thus: There is no God but Me, the Single, the One, the All-Powerful, the All-Compelling, the Self-Subsisting.

O Ahmad! Upon thee be My glory! The mention of fasting and prayer is renewed, that it may become clear and evident that the fast of the Bayan is acceptable before the All-Merciful and its ordinance hath been revealed in the Most Holy Book. As to prayer, verily it hath been sent down from My Most Exalted Pen in such wise as to set ablaze the breasts and attract the hearts and minds. However, until now none hath attained unto it save some of them that circle round it. Verily thy Lord commandeth all with wisdom. He is, in truth, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. The ordinance of fasting was formerly specific to the servants in this land, for its abandonment caused commotion. Today they must hold fast unto that which accordeth with wisdom. Thou art adorned with the ornament of grace. It is not for thee to fast, but rather to arise to serve the Cause with joy and fragrance, and with the wisdom We have sent down in the Psalms and Tablets. Verily thy Lord doeth what He willeth and ordaineth what He desireth. He is the All-Powerful, the Almighty.

Behold, then mention what the Point hath uttered. His word is:

> "Were He to pronounce the earth to be heaven and heaven to be earth, none hath the right to say why or wherefore, and whoso doth say this hath verily disbelieved in God, the Lord of the worlds."

The glory be upon thee and upon those with thee and upon those who love thee for the sake of God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy.

BH11082: My God, my God! Hearts have melted in separation…

Section 1: "My God, my God! Hearts have melted…"

He is the One Who speaks in the Kingdom of Utterance!

My God, my God! Hearts have melted in separation from Thee, and the hearts of Thy servants are consumed in remoteness from Thee. My God, my God! The cries of the lovers have risen from all regions, and the lamentations of the chosen ones in their separation have ascended. Thou hast, O my God, manifested the Dayspring of Thy signs and the Dawning-place of Thy revelations, that all who dwell in Thy heaven and earth might be honored by meeting Thee, yet the ungodly and the heedless have interposed themselves between them and the effulgences of the light of Thy countenance. O Lord! Thou seest the faces turned toward the gleaming lights of Thy countenance, the hearts drawn to the horizon of Thy manifestation, the tongues uttering Thy praise and speaking of what hath befallen them from the fire of separation from Thee, and the eyes awaiting the wonders of Thy mercy and the manifestations of Thy nearness and Thy presence.

Wilt Thou deny them, O my God, after the ocean of reunion hath surged through Thy name and Thy command, and the horizon of meeting hath shone forth with the luminary of Thy generosity and grace? O Lord! Thou seest the hands of hope clinging to the hem of Thy bounty. I beseech Thee by the breezes of Thy revelation, the pearls of the oceans of Thy knowledge, and the manifestations of Thy sovereignty amongst Thy creatures, to ordain for Thy loved ones reunion with Thee and attainment unto Thy presence. Then cause them to hear Thy sweet call before Thy throne, or inscribe for them, with Thy Most Exalted Pen, the recompense of attaining unto the gate of Thy grandeur, which Thou hast opened before the faces of all in Thy dominion.

My God, my God! Thou knowest and seest that there hath come before the Wronged One, in His Most Great Prison, a leaf whereon were inscribed the names of Thy loved ones who have drunk the choice wine of recognition from the cups of Thy gifts and the Salsabil of certitude from the hands of Thy grace. I beseech Thee, O God of Names and Creator of heaven, by Thy Name through which Thou hast transformed fire into light and removed the veils from hearts and minds, to aid them to remain firm with supreme steadfastness, that their feet may not slip through the doubts of the transgressors and the hints of those who have turned away—they who have broken Thy Covenant and Thy Testament, who have disputed Thy signs, disbelieved in Thy proof, and turned aside from Thy evidence after it had encompassed Thy earth and Thy heaven.

I beseech Thee, O Lord of eternity and Sovereign of nations, to assist them to recognize the Source of Thy laws and the Manifestation of Thy Self. Then remember those whose names have been presented before Thy face, that they may rejoice in Thy remembrance, Thy acceptance, and Thy attention. Verily, Thou art the Most Generous of the generous ones and the Most Merciful of the merciful. Bounty is in Thy grasp and generosity in Thy right hand. Thou doest what Thou willest and ordainest what Thou pleasest. Verily, Thou art the Mighty, the Praiseworthy.

O Ghulam-Rida! The Wronged One remembereth thee from the precincts of the Prison and counseleth thee with that whereby the Cause of God, the All-Possessing, the Self-Subsisting, may be exalted. Take hold of the Book with strength from Us in such wise that the doubts of those who have disbelieved in God, the Lord of existence, may not hinder thee. Arise with supreme steadfastness in the Cause of thy Lord, the Lord of all beings, and say: O peoples of the earth! Fear God, the Lord of the Throne and of the dust, and be not of those who have denied God's favor when it was sent down through grace. Turn with illumined hearts to the Most Sublime Horizon. This is what ye have been commanded, both before and after.

He beareth witness to this Who hath spoken in every condition that there is none other God but Me, the Truth, the Knower of the unseen. Say: By God! The horizon of certitude hath been illumined by the Light of proof. Fear ye God and follow not the sources of idle fancies and vain imaginings. He Who was hidden in the universe and mentioned in the hearts of the Prophets and inscribed by the Most Exalted Pen in the Books of God, the Lord of the seen and unseen, hath been made manifest. Thus have We revealed unto thee the proof and sent down that whereby thine eyes and the eyes of those who have attained to revelation and witnessing may be solaced.

O Haydar-ʿAli! The Most Exalted Pen makes mention of thee and counsels thee with that which hath been revealed in the Book. Be thou eloquent in My remembrance, steadfast in My Cause, directed towards Mine horizon, firm in My path, and holding fast to the hem of the robe of thy Lord's grace, the Lord of creation. A single letter of thy Lord's verses is worth more than all that is witnessed and seen, as attested by the Mother Book which is with Him. Blessed is the soul that hath attained unto My days, the heart that hath turned unto My countenance, the man that hath arisen to serve My Cause, and the eye that hath beheld the lights.

O ʿAbdu'l-Karim! The Wronged One makes mention of thee and gives thee glad tidings of God's loving-kindness, the Lord of all beings, and counsels thee with that which befitteth the days of God, the Lord of Lords. Turn not unto the world and its conditions and what transpireth therein. All that is therein shall perish, and that which hath been revealed from the Pen of thy Lord's Revelation, the One Who ruleth over all in earth and heaven, shall endure. We have sent down the verses and dispatched them unto those who believed when God came with power and sovereignty. Blessed is he who hath attained unto the knowledge of his Lord, and woe unto every heedless doubter.

O Pen! Make mention of him who hath been named Muhammad and reveal unto him that which will draw him nigh unto the Mighty, the Bestower, Who hath appeared and manifested what He desired. He it is Who hath spoken and caused all things to speak: "There is none other God but I, the Mighty, the Self-Subsisting." When thou hast attained unto My verses and found the fragrance of Mine utterance, say: "Praise be unto Thee, O my God, for having enabled me to recognize Thee and for having acquainted me with Him Who was hidden within the treasuries of Thy power. I beseech Thee to assist me to be steadfast in Thy Cause. Verily, Thou art the Almighty over whatsoever Thou willest. Within Thy grasp are the reins of all things. There is none other God but Thee, the Self-Sufficient, the Most Exalted."

O Shaykh Muhammad! Hear My call and remember My days and what hath befallen Me at the hands of those among My tyrannical servants who denied My manifestation, My appearance, My dawning, and My

verses which have encompassed the horizons. We make mention of thee and counsel thee with that which will manifest man's station among the religions. Exalted is the All-Merciful Who created thee and caused thee to know this Cause whereby feet have slipped. Let not the doubts of the opposers sadden thee, nor the onslaught of those who have disbelieved in God, the Revealer of verses. Be thou steadfast in the Cause of thy Lord and speak forth My Name amongst the servants. Thus hath the fragrance of revelation been wafted throughout the world, yet most of the people are wrapped in heedlessness and veils.

O Baqir! Hear the call from the right side of the luminous spot at the Lote-Tree beyond which there is no passing. Verily, there is no God but Him, the Mighty, the All-Forgiving. Blessed is the penitent who hath turned unto God, and the humble one who hath submitted to this Cause whereby necks have been laid low. Beware lest the veils of the world withhold thee or the onslaught of those who have denied the Source and the Return cause thee to fear. O Rida! Hear the call that hath been raised between earth and heaven, calling all unto God, the Manifestation of clear evidences. By God! He hath come, before Whom the verses have bowed down and around Whom the Manifestations of the Cause from thy Lord, the Lord of Lords, have circled. Be thou so steadfast in the Cause that the hearts of the wicked ones who have denied God's proof and evidence and committed that which hath caused the clouds to cry out, shall not disturb thee. Thus hath My Most Exalted Pen spoken upon the branch of eternity. Blessed is he who hath heard, and woe unto every froward denier.

O Mulla Ali! The Lord Who hath come with truth, with power and sovereignty, maketh mention of thee. By God! Neither do the Pharaohs hinder Him, nor do the oppressors frighten Him. He hath appeared and revealed whatsoever He desired. He, verily, is the Herald in the realm of destiny. Behold the effects of My Most Exalted Pen and ponder thereon. Verily it will draw thee nigh unto the Most Glorious Horizon and will open before thy face the gate of joy and ecstasy. Beware lest the clamor of the people of the Bayan debar thee from the Dawning-Place of the revelation of thy Lord, the All-Merciful, or the deeds of those who have disbelieved in God, the Lord of Days, cause thee to grieve. Say: O people! Be fair in the Cause of God and follow not those who have cast the Book of God behind their backs, clinging to idle fancies and vain imaginings. Thus hath the Truth spoken as a token of His grace. He, verily, is the Protector over what is and what shall be.

Section 2: "O Muhammad-Qabli-Husayn! The oppressors of the earth have…"

O Muhammad-Qabli-Husayn! The oppressors of the earth have unsheathed the swords of hatred against the countenance of God, the All-Compelling, the Self-Subsisting. They have committed that which hath caused the dwellers of the all-highest Paradise and this glorious station to lament. Say: O people of the Bayan! Fear ye the All-Merciful and follow not those who have denied that which hath been sent down from the Most Exalted Pen in this perspicuous Tablet. The verses have been revealed and the evidences have appeared, yet the people do not understand. Blessed is he who hath turned with his heart to the Most Exalted Horizon, and whose face hath turned toward the face of God, the Lord of what was and what shall be. Thus did the Pen move when the Ancient King was established upon the Most Great Throne and proclaimed: "There is none other God but Me, the Mighty, the Loving."

O Muhammad-Qabli-Hasan! The rustling of the Sadratu'l-Muntaha hath been raised and the water of life hath flowed in the realm of creation. Blessed is he who hath heard and drunk thereof, and woe unto every heedless one who is veiled. Beware lest the veils of the learned keep thee back. Take thou the chalice of My bounty and drink therefrom My choice sealed wine. How many a learned one hath been debarred from the Known One, and how many an ignorant one hath drawn nigh and said:

> "Praise be unto Thee, O Lord of the seen and the unseen, for having manifested Thyself, sent down Thy verses and guided Thy servants unto Thy straight path!"

O Ali! The Wronged One maketh mention of thee at this manifest time and calleth thee unto God, the Lord of the worlds. Beware lest anything prevent thee from God, the Lord of Names, or the intimations of the heedless ones, who have cast the Truth behind their backs, turning unto every remote ignorant one, veil thee. Cast away what the people possess and take that which thou art bidden by God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy. Thus have We sent down the verses and explained them in truth as a command from Us, and We, verily, are the Powerful, the Mighty.

O Husayn! Hearken unto the shrill voice of My Most Exalted Pen. Verily, it hath been raised between earth and heaven, and the fragrances of revelation have been diffused in all directions. That which hath befallen the Wronged One in the path of God hath not prevented the trees from yielding their fruits, nor the ocean of inner meanings from its waves. But the One Who conversed on Sinai speaketh and saith: "O people of the earth! Cast away what ye possess and take what hath been given you by God, the Lord of Lords." We have arisen to promote the Cause in such wise that the clamor hath not deterred Us from the remembrance of God, the Lord of all men. We proclaimed before the faces of the world: "The Promise is come and this is the Promised One Who calleth you unto God. Turn ye unto Him and be not of those who disbelieved in the bounty of God and disputed His signs that have encompassed the horizons." Thus hath the cock crowed and the Dove of the Cause warbled upon the branches.

O Mulla Hasan! The Supreme Pen hath never paused for an instant; it moveth and speaketh, and through its movement all things were set in motion and all created things appeared. The whole world was created for this Most Great Revelation. This fact hath been mentioned in the Books of old and those that followed, and is manifest today. The Herald, the Primal Point, took the essence of the Bayan and revealed it in these exalted words. His word is this:

> "I have written the essence concerning His mention, which is that He cannot be known through My allusions, nor through what hath been revealed in the Bayan."

This word is the essence of the Bayan, nay the sovereign of the Bayan. Although this Most Great Revelation, by the testimony of all the sacred Books, hath never needed any proof or evidence other than itself. Its verses have encompassed the world, and the manifestations of its power are clear and evident. Blessed is the eye that hath seen and the ear that hath hearkened.

O Abul-Qasim! The Wronged One maketh mention of thee. From the earliest days until now, both night and day, before the eyes of all men, we have made mention of God, exalted be His glory. The river of mercy hath ever flowed from the Pen of the Dayspring of Revelation, and when some trace of its effects became manifest, certain souls rose up in opposition—more severe than the opposition of the former

people who martyred the Lord of all beings—and some spoke words beyond all bounds. The heedless souls have made and continue to make claims. The people of God must be vigilant and aware. The Cause of God hath never been, nor will it ever be, the plaything of the ignorant. If every day someone were to make a claim, God's Cause would become suspended and delayed among the people. This matter is clear and evident to those possessed of insight. God willing, may all unite and, through their unity, illumine the horizons with the light of this dawning.

O Habib! Hearken unto the voice of Truth that hath been raised from the direction of the Prison. By God's life! His Word is the sovereign of all words, and His utterance the king of all utterances. Were all the ears on earth to hearken aright, all would turn to the Most Exalted Horizon and would return from that which they possess to that which is with God. The Sun of Truth is shining, the ocean of inner meanings is surging, and the heaven of knowledge is adorned. This Day is unlike all other days, and this Revelation unlike all other revelations. Blessed are they who have turned unto it and attained the recognition of God. Know ye the value of these divine days. By My life! Neither the treasures of earth nor all that it containeth can equal them. He, verily, is the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous.

O Ali! God willing, mayest thou remain steadfast in the Cause of God and hold fast unto His praise with such firmness that the world shall have no power to deter thee.

Blessed are the people of Kha who have heard the Call and answered their Lord, the Speaker, the All-Knowing. We have repeatedly made mention of the people of that land. We beseech God to set them all ablaze with such fire that through the heat of the love of God all the peoples of the world may be attracted. One of the people of Kha, named Muhammad, attained Our presence. He hath heard what the near ones have heard. We beseech God to protect him and enable him to make mention of Him and praise Him.

O Pen! Make mention of him whose book was present before the Throne and who was named Mirza Baba. Verily We make mention of him and of My loved ones who have believed in God, the Lord of the worlds. O people of God! Take heed lest anything prevent you or the hosts of the world weaken you. Arise with supreme steadfastness in the Cause of God, the Lord of all humanity. He hath aided you, caused you to know Him, drawn you nigh unto Him, and He is the Compassionate, the Generous. O Baba! Each of the names of the loved ones mentioned in thy letter hath been recorded by the Most Exalted Pen and is being sent, that all may be set ablaze and hold fast unto that which He loveth and is pleased with.

We counsel all to act in accordance with that which hath been sent down in God's Book from the Pen of His command. It guideth you to the straight path and biddeth you to that which will exalt your station amongst the religions. The glory be upon thee and upon them and upon My maidservant and My other maidservants (Hajiyih Bigum and Zahra). Give them the glad-tidings of My loving-kindness, My grace and My mercy. Verily thy Lord is the Forgiving, the Merciful, and He is the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing, and He is the Manifest, the Responsive.

BH00429: Praise be befitting and worthy of that Omnipotent One…

Section 1: "Praise be befitting and worthy of that Omnipotent…"

He is God, exalted be His station, the All-Bountiful, the All-Giving!

Praise be befitting and worthy of that Omnipotent One Who, despite the turning away of kings and subjects, the indifference of divines, theologians and mystics, and the aversion of the people of the cities and lands, and the dispersion of affairs and separation of means, did gather His loved ones in the field and garden and made them circumambulate the Most Exalted Castle which hath been made the seat of the Throne of the Lord of Names. He is that Sovereign Omnipotent One Whom the power of the world cannot weaken, and the clamor of the nations cannot prevent from His purpose. He hath done what He willed and doeth what He pleaseth. Verily He is the Single, the One, the Unique, the Omnipotent, the All-Powerful.

Thereafter, this servant who is present hath come with thy letter wherein was mentioned he who circumambulated the Throne when its seat was in Zawra and in the Land of Mystery, wherein was revealed that which was hidden in God's knowledge, the Lord of all worlds. O Hasan! Blessed art thou and blessed are they whom the affairs of creation did not prevent from the Truth, who turned with radiant faces toward My most exalted horizon and bore witness to that which the Tongue of Grandeur had testified before the creation of the heavens and earths. Thy mention hath been presented in a leaf sent by My Name who was named Zaynu'l-Muqarrabin in the Book of God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy. We have seen thy name and have revealed for thee that which God hath made as a spirit for bodies, a light for the horizons, water for the trees, and glory for the righteous. When thou attainest unto it and hearkenest unto it, say:

> "Praise be unto Thee, O Thou the Desire of the world, for having remembered Thy servant in the Most Great Prison. I beseech Thee by the waves of the ocean of Thy utterance and the stars of the heaven of Thy knowledge, to make me content with Thy good-pleasure, steadfast in service to Thy loved ones, speaking in Thy praise, and holding fast unto the wisdom Thou hast sent down in Thy Scriptures and Thy Tablets. Verily Thou art the Omnipotent over what Thou willest, and in Thy grasp are the reins of all things. There is none other God but Thee, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise."

We make mention of Our loved ones there who have not broken My Covenant and Testament and who turned to the Most Exalted Horizon when the Call was raised between earth and heaven. Blessed are they, their eyes, their hearts, their breasts, and their ears. Thus hath My Most Exalted Pen spoken forth from this Most Glorious Horizon. Blessed is he who hath heard and seen, and woe unto every heedless and remote one.

O people of God! We have adorned the heaven of knowledge with the stars of wisdom and utterance, and have sent down for those near unto Us that which shall draw them nigh unto My Straight Path. Give thanks unto God for having aided you to turn unto Him, to face toward His countenance, to gaze toward His direction, to hold fast unto His cord, and to cling to His luminous hem. We have made mention of you

in diverse Tablets and have ordained for you in the Book the good of the hereafter and of the former time. To this doth the Tongue of Grandeur bear witness in this exalted station.

O Siyyid Muhammad-ʿAli! Your letter hath reached the Wronged One, and from it We perceived the fragrance of thy praise in the remembrance of God, thy Creator, thy Fashioner, thy Sustainer and thy Quickener, Who hath sent down unto thee the proof and made manifest unto thee the way, until thou didst attain and win that which lay hidden in the treasuries of the unseen and was recorded in the Books of God, the Lord of the Day of Judgment. We heard thy call and summoned thee from the most sacred side of the Throne:

> "Verily, there is none other God but Me, the Single, the All-Informed."

We have mentioned thee aforetime with that which surpasseth all that can be seen on earth. Be thankful unto thy Lord for this great bounty. We bear witness that thou didst hearken unto the call of thy Lord, didst attain His presence, didst behold His horizon, and didst stand before a door which was opened unto all who are in the heavens and on earth. O Muhammad! The Single, the One, hath made mention of thee and given thee glad tidings of His favors, of which none is aware save His all-knowing Self. Blessed art thou for having cast behind thee idle fancies and turned unto the ocean that hath manifested its waves before the faces of the world, and unto the Lote-Tree that hath revealed its fruits among the nations. Thus hath the Pen spoken while the Wronged One was in the Most Great Prison through that which the hands of the idolaters have wrought.

O Ali! Hear once again the call of thy Lord, the Lord of all names, Whom neither the clamor of the princes, nor the barking of the divines, nor the clamoring of the wayward could deter. He hath arisen before all faces with a power that hath shaken the pillars of tyranny when the Wondrous One appeared before the people with God's mighty and irrefutable Book. He raised His hands and said:

> "O King! I have brought thee from the Most Great Announcement a mighty Book."

Thereupon the people's limbs trembled with the fear of God, the Strong, the Mighty, the Powerful.

The Glory be upon thee and upon thy son whose letter hath reached the Throne while the Prisoner was in manifest grief by reason of what the hands of the people of the Bayan had wrought, they who turned away from the All-Merciful after He came unto them with the Kingdom of verses and the dominion of wisdom and utterance, with a sovereignty that hath conquered all who are in the heavens and the earth. We make mention of Our loved ones there and remind them of My verses and counsel them with that which beseemeth their kinship to God, the Lord of the worlds. Thus hath the Pen shed forth its effusions and the Sun its radiance. Blessed is he who hath taken and attained unto the grace of God, the Originator, the Wondrous One.

We love to make mention of every name that is there and give them glad tidings of My loving-kindness, My mercy and My favor that hath encompassed all existence. O people of God! Hear once again My sweetest call from the Prison. Verily, there is no God but Me, the Truth, the Knower of the unseen. We have revealed in the Book whatsoever hath appeared and shall appear. To this testify honored servants whom neither the might of the Pharaohs deterred from drawing nigh unto God, the Protector, the Self-

Subsisting. They stood before all faces and spoke what the Book had uttered—the Book that was hidden in the treasury of knowledge and inscribed by the Pen of Revelation in this exalted station. Beware lest the affairs of creation debar you from the Truth. Cast away idle fancies, clinging to the cord of God, the Lord of what was and what shall be.

O Zayn! Upon thee be My glory, My mercy and My loving-kindness. The servant in attendance hath brought thy letter and laid it before the Wronged One. We have answered thee as a grace from Us, and I am verily the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous. Thou art he whom the affairs of the world have not deterred from the Lord of Eternity. Thou hast heard what ears were prevented from hearing and seen what eyes were hindered from beholding, as a recompense for their deeds on this Promised Day. When thou findest the fragrance of My utterance, give thanks unto God, thy Lord, and say:

> "Praise be unto Thee, O my Best-Beloved and Best-Beloved of the Prophets, and praise be unto Thee, O Thou in Whose grasp is the dominion of the Kingdom. Thou movest it as Thou pleasest by Thy command. Verily, Thou art the Mighty, the Protector, the Powerful, the Self-Subsisting."

Blessed art thou and blessed is he who loveth thee and turneth unto thee and holdeth fast unto the cord of thy love. He is indeed of the people of Baha in God's Book, the Sovereign of might.

Section 2: "O Zayn! We have heard the call…"

O Zayn! We have heard the call from the land of Kaf and Ra before Dal wherein ascended one of My loved ones who was named Nasru'llah in this praiseworthy station. We have revealed for him that which hath made the countenance of existence smile. He is of those who believed in God when people were lost in the wilderness of idle fancies and vain imaginings. He shattered the idols of fancy in the name of the Lord of all beings, turned unto Him and said:

> "Here am I, here am I, O God of the seen and unseen! Here am I, here am I, O Lord of existence!"

He testified to that which God had testified and turned toward Him when those around him turned away, following every heedless and veiled one. He bore witness to Me before all faces, to this doth testify the Pen of God when the Temple of Grandeur was established upon the throne of His name, the All-Loving. We have exalted him to the Highest Companion and revealed for him that which gladdens hearts and souls, and We revealed for his brother that which will cause its fragrances to endure throughout the duration of My Most Beautiful Names. We beseech the Most High to preserve him and strengthen him in a manner befitting this Cause, whereby skins have trembled. We have also mentioned his other brother—verily he remembers those who have turned to him just as he remembered before his loved ones who held fast to His extended cord.

We make mention of Ismail who attained the presence of the Throne and heard with his own ear My call. We have counseled him with that which We counseled Our loved ones in the Scriptures and Tablets. O Ismail! Upon thee be My glory! We mentioned thee before, and at this time verses have been revealed before which other verses bow down in humility. We counsel thee as We counseled thee before with that

which will elevate the station of man in the contingent world. Exalted is the All-Merciful Who hath come from the heaven of Command with verses of grandeur whereby the earth and heavens were illumined. Aid thy Lord through wisdom and utterance, and through the hosts of deeds and virtuous conduct. Thus have We commanded thee before and at this time when the fragrance of utterance hath been wafted throughout creation. Set aside what the people possess, then turn thy face toward God, the Lord of Lords. Say:

My God, my God! Whenever I contemplate Thy days, my standing before Thy face, the manifestations of Thy favors, the evidences of Thy bounties, and the hidden gifts of Thy grace, such agitation seizeth me that I long to hide my face beneath the dust, O Thou Who holdest all necks in Thy grasp! O Lord! The fire of separation from Thee hath consumed me, and Thy remoteness and estrangement hath caused my death. I beseech Thee by the Fire wherewith Thou didst manifest Thyself unto Moses on the Mount of Thy knowledge, and by Thy Name through which Thou didst deliver Thy loved ones and chosen ones, to make me aided in the service of Thy Cause in such wise that I may detach myself from all that is mine, turning toward the horizon of Thy good-pleasure and holding fast to the cord of Thy bounty and grace.

I beseech Thee, O God of the world, by the ocean of Thy generosity and the heaven of Thy bounty, to forgive me through Thy grace and favors. Then send down upon me from the clouds of Thy mercy that which will purify me from all else save Thee, draw me nigh unto Thee, grant me Thy good-pleasure and cause me to speak Thy praise. Verily Thou art the Lord of the world and the Sovereign of nations. There is none other God but Thee, the Mighty, the All-Conquering, the Powerful. O God, my God! Send Thy blessings upon Thy loved ones and chosen ones who have arisen to exalt Thy Word. Verily Thou art the Almighty Whom neither the hosts of the world nor the might of nations can frustrate. Thou doest what Thou willest and ordainest what Thou pleasest. Thou art, in truth, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

O My Name Zayn! Upon thee be My glory, My mercy and My loving-kindness. We wish to make mention of him who was named Asadu'llah in the Book of God, the Lord of Lords. He turned to the Most High Horizon and traversed land and sea until he arrived at the place wherein the Call was raised. We bear witness that he is of the people of Baha in the Book of God, the Lord of all men. He heard what most of the servants have not heard, and witnessed the mighty signs of his Lord when mankind was in wondrous drunkenness. He attained and drank the choice sealed wine from the hands of My bounty, and achieved that which was recorded in the Scriptures and Tablets.

We have mentioned him and do mention him in this station as a grace from Us, yea a grace from Us, and I am the Mighty, the All-Bountiful. We caused him to hear My call and showed him My horizon and revealed for him that whereby the horizons were illumined. O Asad! Upon thee be My glory and loving-kindness. We have mentioned thee—dost thou recognize from which Pen? From the Pen of God, the Lord of all religions. When thou beholdest the waves of the sea and findest the fragrance of utterance from the Book of thy Lord, the All-Merciful, say:

Praise be unto Thee, O Thou Who controlleth the verses and manifesteth the clear signs! I beseech Thee by the effulgences of the lights of the Sun of Thy utterance and by the waves of the ocean of Thy knowledge to assist me in Thy remembrance and Thy praise and in serving Thy Cause amidst Thy servants. O my Lord! Withhold not from me that which Thou hast ordained for Thy chosen ones who have

sacrificed all they possessed in their longing to attain Thy presence. Verily, Thou art the Lord of all beings and the Lord of the throne on high and of the dust beneath. There is none other God but Thee, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious.

We make mention of Our loved ones there and give them the glad-tidings of My favor and My loving-kindness and My mercy that have encompassed all regions. O My loved ones! This is a Day wherein the lips of all things have smiled at the revelation of that which lay hidden from time immemorial. Give thanks unto your Lord, the Most Merciful, for this bounty the like of which the eye of creation hath never beheld. We seal this epistle with the mention of him who was named Yusuf in the Book of Names, who stood before the Countenance and heard the call of God, the Lord of the Day of Return. He drew nigh and hastened until he attained the presence of the Countenance and heard that for the hearing of which ears were created.

Blessed be he and blessed be his eyes for what they beheld and blessed be his face for having turned toward the Face of God, the One, the Chosen. He heard My call and drank the choice wine of revelation from the hands of My bounty. We beseech God, exalted be He, to strengthen him in serving the Cause and inspire him with that which will attract the inhabitants of the lands. Verily, He is the Lord of creation and the Ruler in the return. There is none other God but Him, the Most Exalted, the Most High.

BH00523: This is a remembrance from the Wronged One…

He is seated upon the Throne of Utterance!

This is a remembrance from the Wronged One to those in the realm of possibility, that it may draw them near to the Kingdom of My Name, the All-Merciful—the station wherein is heard the rustling of the Sadratu'l-Muntaha and the murmuring of the Kawthar of eternity. Blessed is he who hath attained, and woe unto the heedless who have cast the Book of God behind their backs and taken their vain imaginings as lords beside God. They are indeed among the oppressors in My mighty Book.

O peoples of the earth! Fear God, and deny not My proof, and dispute not My verses, and reject not My favor which We have sent down from the heaven of My mercy. Thus doth My Most Exalted Pen counsel you on this darksome night. Hearken, and be not among the heedless. Know ye the worth of these days and their station. God hath made their lights from the light of His countenance and their radiance from the sun of His grace, that ye may give thanks unto your Lord, the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous.

The Tree of acceptance hath borne fruit, yet most of the people have turned away. The world hath been illumined by the Most Great Light, yet most of mankind remain asleep. All that was recorded in the Books of God and concealed in the hearts of the Prophets hath been manifested. The Tongue of Grandeur beareth witness to this in this Station which God hath made sanctified beyond the understanding of the sincere ones.

O Muhammad! Hear the call from the Crimson Tree raised upon the White Spot, the place of gathering:

> "Verily, there is none other God but Me, the Single, the All-Informed. I created the world for My knowledge and My manifestation and My days. Yet when I revealed Myself, they denied

My signs and turned away from My clear proofs, until they pronounced sentence to shed My blood. Thus did their souls entice them. They are indeed among the transgressors in the Book of God, the Lord of the worlds."

The servant hath presented thy letter before the Wronged One, and We answer thee with this clear Book. We have heard thy cry and thy lamentation, and have seen thy turning and thy devotion, and have found in thy letter the fragrance of thy love and thy steadfastness in this Cause whereby the feet of the learned have slipped and the hearts of the divines have been troubled, save whom thy Lord, the Lord of the heavens and earth, hath willed.

Be thou aflame with the fire of My love, and hold fast to My cord, and cling to the hem of My grace, and be illumined with the light of unity that hath shone forth from the horizon of the heaven of My wondrous utterance. By God's life! The people of old found not the fragrance of unity and attained not to that which the All-Merciful revealed in the Qur'an. Thus doth the Wronged One recount unto thee that thou mayest become aware of their vain imaginings and suppositions and their misbelief and their turning away on the Day of God, the Possessor of this mighty Day.

We testify that they are worshippers of idle fancies and their promoters. They have committed that which hath caused the Noah of days to lament, and the clouds of heaven to cry out, and the eyes of the knowing to weep. Say: O people of the Bayan and O community of the Qur'an! Fear ye the All-Merciful, then be fair in this Cause but for which the verses would not have been sent down, nor the clear proofs appeared, nor would the Point of the Bayan have spoken, nor before Him the Point of the Qur'an. The Kingdom of Utterance beareth witness to this, if ye be of the fair-minded.

Thus hath the shrill voice of My Pen been raised up. Verily it speaketh with the most exalted utterance and calleth all unto God, the Lord of the Day of Judgment. Blessed art thou, O Muhammad, for the Pen of God, Lord of the Throne and of the dust, and Lord of the exalted Seat, hath moved to make mention of thee and of those whom thou hast mentioned in thy letter.

We make mention of him who was named Muhammad-Rida, who spoke before all faces with pure truth and manifest justice. O Muhammad-Qabli-Rida! Thou art he who hath attained unto My days, who hath voiced My praise and made mention of Me before the faces of Mine enemies—they who violated My Covenant and Testament, who disputed My verses and warred against My Self, after they had lamented My separation and beseeched My grace that there be shown unto them that which they had been promised by God, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. We made mention of thee before in a Tablet that perfumed the world of remembrance and utterance, yet the people are in grievous doubt. Thou hast rent asunder the veils in the name of thy Lord, the Master of the Day of Return, and hast spoken that whereby the fragrance of My love, the Mighty, the Inaccessible, was diffused.

Say: Praise be unto Thee, O my God, for having made me to know Thee, taught me, given me to drink, guided me and drawn me nigh unto Thee. Verily, Thou art the One with power over whatsoever Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the Most Exalted, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. Remind My loved ones on My behalf and give them the glad-tidings of that which hath been sent down for them

from the heaven of My loving-kindness and the Pen of My grace, that they may be of them that render thanks.

O ʿAli-Muhammad! The Wronged One maketh mention of thee even as He mentioned thee before. Verily thy Lord is the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous. Blessed is he who hath attained unto the days of the Lord of Names, who hath entered the City of Faithfulness, who hath held fast unto His cord, who hath found intimacy with His beauty and who hath acted according to that which was inscribed in His Book. We created it and commanded all to observe it. Blessed is he who hath attained thereunto; he is indeed among them that are brought near in the Book of God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy. Thus hath the Most Exalted Pen made mention and guided all unto Him. He, verily, is the Counselor, the All-Knowing.

O Abu-Turab! The Lord of Lords, Who hath come riding upon the clouds at the return, maketh mention of thee—He Who hath called all to the supreme horizon, the station wherein the Tree exclaimed: "The kingdom belongeth unto God, the Lord of the worlds, and power and strength and dominion belong unto God, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise." Rejoice thou in My mention of thee. We made mention of thee before and after, and at this time wherein the Wronged One beholdeth Himself beneath the talons of hatred through that which the hands of the wicked have wrought—they who disbelieved in Him in Whom they had believed throughout ages and centuries. Thou hast attained unto that which altereth not, and there hath been sent down for thee that which God hath made a lamp unto thee in every world of His worlds. He beareth witness unto this round Whom circle the Spirit and the Point. He proclaimeth before all faces, saying: "By God! The Mother Book hath appeared. Fear ye the All-Merciful, O people of the Bayan, and be not of them who turned away when God came with power and sovereignty." Thus hath the Treasure revealed the pearls of wisdom and utterance. Give thanks unto thy Lord, the Master of Return.

O Zaynu'l-ʿAbidin! The Lord of the worlds maketh mention of thee from the precincts of His Most Great Prison, that He might draw thee nigh unto Him on a day wherein the harbinger crieth out and the raven croaketh. Say: O peoples of the earth! Fear ye God and follow not every ignorant rabble. By God! The Tree of Grace hath yielded the fruits of knowledge. Draw ye nigh and be not of them who turned away from God when He came with the kingdom of utterance. Give thanks unto God for having enabled thee and aided thee to turn toward Him when every vainglorious learned one turned away.

O My Pen! Make mention of My servant who hath been named Siyyid Ali Zargar in the Book of Names by God, the Cleaver of Dawn. O Ali! Give thanks unto God for this bounty which all the treasuries of the world cannot equal. Verily, thy Lord is the Mighty, the All-Knowing. The servant in attendance hath brought thy letter and presented it before the Wronged One, and We have withheld the Pen from the decree of reply. Thus hath My consummate wisdom required, and My command that dominateth all who are in the earth and the heavens. Blessed art thou for having attained unto My choice wine and believed in My Self on a day wherein most of the servants have disbelieved.

We have made mention of thee and will continue to mention thee in that which shall endure as a treasure and honor unto thee. Verily, thy Lord is the Mighty, the All-Bestowing. Grieve thou not over anything. In all matters put thy trust in God, the Powerful, the Self-Subsisting. Remember those whom thou didst mention in thy letter before the Wronged One, and greet their faces with joy and fragrance. Thus hath the Tree of Faithfulness revealed its fruits that thou mayest give thanks unto thy Lord, the

Mighty, the Gracious. We counsel thee and those who have believed to be steadfast in this Cause whereby feet have slipped, and to preserve that which We have given thee. Verily, thy Lord is the Counselor, the Mighty, the All-Knowing.

O Asadu'llah! The Wronged One of the world hath turned toward thee from the precincts of the Prison and maketh mention of thee through the Pen of His bounty and remindeth thee of His verses. Verily, He is the One Who hath power over whatsoever He willeth and is the Sovereign over what is and what hath been. Thou didst attain unto My mention aforetime and in this hour which no centuries or ages can equal. We counsel thee with that whereby the Cause may be exalted and with what behooveth the days of thy Lord, the Mighty, the All-Forgiving. Say: O people of the Bayan! Aid your Lord, the All-Merciful, through conduct from which the fragrance of acceptance is wafted and through deeds whereby the station of man is uplifted.

Blessed is he who hath attained unto that which hath been revealed in My Book and hath acted according to what My Tongue hath uttered in this station which God hath made the Dawning-place of inspiration. Give thanks unto thy Lord that the Tongue of Grandeur hath moved to make mention of thee and the Countenance of the Ancient of Days hath turned toward thee from the Most Exalted Horizon as a token of His grace, for He is the Mighty, the All-Bountiful. Every land which hath been honored by My footsteps hath been exalted, every mountain whereon My tent of glory hath been pitched hath trembled with joy, every mouth that hath uttered My praise hath smiled, and every horizon hath been illumined by My light before which all lights have bowed down.

Hearken unto My call and arise to serve My Cause in such wise that neither the oppression of every oppressor nor the learning of any doubting scholar shall deter thee. Those who have acted in the days of God in such wise as hath caused the Maids of Heaven to weep in their chambers—We had ordained knowledge for My recognition, yet it hath prevented them from drawing nigh unto the Dayspring of Revelation and turning toward the Horizon of Evidence.

O Muhammad! Every name hath been honored by the mention of God, the Lord of all mankind. Convey My glad-tidings unto them and remind them of that which hath been sent down from My Pen and illumine them with the lights of My utterance and acquaint them with what hath been inscribed in the Mother Book. Say: O party of God! Know ye your stations. By God! The Mother Book speaketh in your midst. In the Qur'an it was named the Most Great Announcement, and in another Book the Speaker of Sinai, and by the tongues of the Books the Lord of Lords. Say: Come, come, O people of ignorance, that ye may hear the call of your Lord, the Self-Sufficient, the Most Exalted, and become aware of that which was hidden in His knowledge and treasured in the repositories of His power which have encompassed the horizons. Thus hath the heaven revealed its suns and moons and stars. Behold and say: Praise be unto Thee, O Revealer of verses and Manifester of clear tokens!

O my God, my God! The Wronged One makes mention of Thee before Thy chosen ones and Thy loved ones, and beseeches Thee by the power of Thy Most Exalted Pen, whereby Thou hast subdued the kingdom of names and all who dwell in the realm of creation, to aid us to remain steadfast in Thy Cause in such wise as to make the limbs of them that raise the cry of denial among Thine enemies to quake—they who have cast the Book of God behind their backs, clinging to their own idle fancies and vain imaginings.

O Lord! Thou seest us turning unto Thee, seeking refuge at Thy presence, and clinging to the hem of the robe of Thy mercy and bounty.

I beseech Thee by Thy Name which Thou hast made the sovereign of names and sanctified from the mention of all who dwell in the realm of creation, to send down from the clouds of the heaven of Thy mercy that which will preserve us from all else except Thee, draw us nigh unto Thee, cause us to behold Thy signs and hearken unto Thy most exalted words. Then ordain for us through Thy Most Exalted Pen that which will profit us and inscribe for us the recompense of attaining Thy presence, O Lord of all beings and King of the throne on high and of earth below. There is none other God but Thee, the Omnipotent over all that Thou willest. Verily Thou art the Self-Sufficient, the Help in Peril.

BH00541: O Javad! Upon thee be the Glory of God…

He is God, exalted be His station of grandeur and power!

O Javad! Upon thee be the Glory of God, the Lord of Creation! Thou hast ever been and art still engaged in serving the Cause. All who have come, all who have sought, and all who have visited have made mention of thee. His honor Amin Abu'l-Hasan Ardikani, upon him be my glory, hath made mention of thee both before and since. These matters are a truthful testimony and an eloquent witness to thy acceptance, thy devotion and thy steadfastness. We beseech God to aid thee in all conditions, and through the traces of the Supreme Pen to grant thee eternal life. That remembrance hath been and shall ever be of God, exalted be His glory. He is the true inheritor and the spiritual progeny. Every trace shall be erased and will vanish save the trace of the Supreme Pen, which shall endure as long as the kingdom of earth and heaven endure.

O Javad! By the life of God, this Wronged One hath known no rest or repose from the beginning of the Cause until now. Each day hath brought fresh harm and each moment a new affliction. The people of God bear witness that from the first day of the Revelation until now, We have stood before the faces of the world without veil or covering, and guided all to the supreme horizon. We have sent down the proof and made clear the way in such wise that none can deny it save he who is deprived of hearing, sight and understanding.

O Javad! The river of names hath deprived the servants of the ocean of inner meanings. Each of the world's factions clingeth to some vain imagination, except for those souls who have truly arisen to serve the world and have purified their hearts from hatred and rancor. These are the hands of God's Cause amongst His creation. The gulf of names is indeed a barrier; until the servants are freed from the pitch-dark night, they will not perceive the lights of the luminous morn. After all the waiting, the striving, the yearning, the seeking and the longing, when the dawn of hope appeared and the blessed Tree grew forth, all turned against it with swords of hatred and rancor, and wrought that which ye have heard and seen. Would that the human world had been cut off and these great wrongs and their like had never appeared!

O Javad! Upon thee and upon those with thee be My glory! We have appeared and made mention of the corruption and righteousness of the world, and We have spoken that for which ears were created to hear. Nevertheless, people are observed to be in great delusion and grave doubt. The Finger of Power hath rent

asunder so many veils, yet now it is observed that the people of the Bayan have risen up with the same delusions as before, and veils and barriers thicker than the first have appeared and intervened. Even after We taught them their confused ways and made known to them My clear and straight path, they have not, until this moment, recognized the Day of God nor attained true unity.

Some among the people are observed to be deprived of the warbling of the Dove of utterance which singeth upon the highest branch of the world, being occupied instead with the buzzing of flies. Each day they cling to a rope and grasp at a hem. We beseech God, exalted be His glory, not to deprive the eyes of hearts from the splendors of the light of the dawn of revelation, and to free all from the doubts and intimations of the world. Thou and the loved ones of God have ever been and shall ever be beneath His glance; ye have not been and shall not be forgotten. Praise be to God that thou hast been confirmed in serving the Cause. We beseech the Most High to assist thee with the means of exaltation.

The All-Glorious and Exalted Lord of earth and heaven is, verily, powerful over all things and worthy to answer prayer. I have been saddened by what hath befallen you in the Days of God, the Lord of all worlds. What hath come upon you hath come upon Us. O My Most Exalted Pen! Make mention of the servants of God and His handmaidens in such wise that their names and remembrances may endure throughout the kingdom of earth and heaven. Then render thanks unto thy Lord for having aided thee and caused thee to speak that there is none other God but Me, the Guardian, the Self-Subsisting.

Make thou mention, moreover, of My leaf who hath ascended unto the Most Exalted Summit and the Supreme Companion, and give her the glad-tidings of her Lord's loving-kindness. He, verily, is the All-Forgiving, the All-Merciful. Say: May the light that shineth from the horizon of the heaven of utterance rest upon thee, O handmaiden of the All-Merciful and leaf of the Divine Lote-Tree who speaketh before all faces: "The Kingdom belongeth unto God, the Sovereign Lord of all creation." We bear witness that thou didst dwell in a house wherein God's remembrance was exalted in days when all tribes were shaken save whom God, the Lord of Kings, did will. Thou art she who heard the Call and answered thy Lord, who turned unto a horizon wherefrom every heedless and veiled soul had turned away, who quaffed My choice-sealed wine, who inhaled the fragrance of My Name, the Self-Subsisting, who witnessed what God had witnessed and acknowledged what the Tongue of Grandeur had uttered from His inaccessible station.

Rejoice thou in this Most Great Remembrance which all the treasures of the world cannot equal. To this all things bear witness, and I am the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. O My handmaiden! Upon thee be My glory, My remembrance, and My praise. We beseech God, exalted be He, to send down upon thee at all times that which befitteth the heaven of His generosity and the ocean of His bounty. He, verily, is powerful to do what He willeth. There is none other God but He, the True One, the Knower of things unseen.

O Javad! Upon thee be My glory. We console thee and those in thy household for what hath befallen you. We make mention of Ahmad and give him the glad-tidings of My acceptance of him from this praiseworthy station. O Ahmad! We make mention of thee and counsel thee to be patient and forbearing. Thy Lord, verily, is the Mighty, the Unconstrained.

In the Persian tongue it is mentioned: The world hath never had, nor hath it now, any faithfulness, and this is a truth to which all created things have testified. Yet despite this, mankind remaineth occupied with it and heedless of the Truth. O Ahmad! Be thou in all conditions looking unto My horizon, speaking My praise, standing firm in service to My Cause, and holding fast unto My strong cord. Though by God's infinite grace thou art blessed with that which most of mankind is deprived of, yet glory be to God! Until now the people of the Bayan and the divines of the earth remain unaware of the Day of God. Say: This is God's Day, did ye but know it, and this is God's Covenant, were ye but convinced of it.

His verses pass you by, yet ye perceive them not. Say: Know ye the value of these days. Today the trees are speaking and the fruits are manifest. By the life of God! This is the day of attainment and turning unto Him, for the Embodiment of Grace is established upon the throne of justice and the banner "The Truth is come" hath been raised and planted amongst mankind. The people need to be reminded, for they have been nurtured for twelve hundred years in superstitions and idle fancies. It is most difficult to break the idols of vain imaginings save through God's power and might. Blessed is the eye that seeth and the soul that pondereth upon what transpired among the previous communities. Should one become aware, he would find himself seated upon the cushions of steadfastness. Blessed are they that ponder. Blessed are the fair-minded.

O Ma'sumih! God willing, mayest thou be favored by the grace of the True One, exalted be His glory. By My life! The names of devoted handmaidens are inscribed by the Most Exalted Pen in the Crimson Book. In the sight of God they take precedence over men. How many valiant heroes and knights of the field are deprived of the Truth and bereft of His knowledge, while ye are blessed and favored therewith. Praise be to God in all conditions. Thou hast ever been and art still remembered. And We make mention of the wife of Javad—upon both of them be My glory, mercy and loving-kindness—that she may render thanks unto her Lord by night and by day. O My handmaiden!

The gaze of the True One hath been directed to that household. All abide beneath the shade of the divine Tree of Grace, in tranquility and at rest. This day is the Lord of all days and the Possessor of all ages and centuries. Blessed is the soul whom neither the doubts of the transgressors nor the hints of the deniers could deter or deprive, who, with complete steadfastness, held fast unto the cord of His grace and clung to the hem of His bounty. We send greetings to all the handmaidens in that land and counsel them all to that which God loveth.

O ʿAzziyyih! Upon thee be My glory! With thy mention this Book is ended. Forget not the days of thy presence. Thou hast ever been and art still beneath the gaze of loving-kindness. Be thou for God in all conditions. Forget not that which We counseled thee during thy presence. Remember the Wronged One by night and by day, and what hath befallen Him at the hands of the aggressors and the idolaters. Be not sorrowful. Be thou mindful. We counsel thee to be patient and calm, and to manifest the joy that was created for the days of thy Lord, the All-Bountiful, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

O people of Qaf! The Pen of God, the Help in Peril, the Self-Subsisting, maketh mention of you at this moment, that the sweet savors of revelation may so attract you that neither the might of the world nor the power of the nations may hold you back. Verily, He is the Commander, the Dominant over what was and what shall be. Beware lest the doings of the idolaters sadden you, or the forces of those who have

denied God's proof and testimony and disbelieved in His signs and committed that which hath caused the denizens of the Kingdom to lament, cause you to fear. The glory which shineth resplendent from the horizon of the heaven of My mercy be upon you and upon those who have turned with their hearts to God, the Lord of the seen and the unseen.

O Javad! Convey My greetings to the people of the villages whom thou didst mention. Say: O party of God! Today steadfastness is beloved. They have taken the Cause of God as children's play. Again green and white turbans have appeared, and like the former sect they are occupied in constructing houses of vain imaginings. The loved ones of God must remain steadfast in the Cause with perfect joy and radiance—a steadfastness that the world is powerless to prevent.

Convey greetings from the Wronged One to the sons of the late Mulla Abdu'r-Rahim—upon him be My glory and loving-kindness. They are remembered in the presence of this Countenance and will continue to be so. The letter of Abdu'r-Razzaq was received. The glance of favor hath been directed towards him. They have ever been and are favored by God's grace. God's counsel is that they should at all times engage in teaching the Cause of the Lord of all worlds with joy and radiance. Glory be upon thee and upon them and upon those whose names have been set down by the Most Exalted Pen in this noble station and mighty prison.

The sister of him who beareth the name of Jud—upon him be My glory—together with his son, have been granted permission to proceed to the Most Holy Court. In all circumstances they must not neglect wisdom.

BH00615: The divine verses have encompassed the world…

He is God, exalted be His glory and greatness!

The divine verses have encompassed the world and the light of His grace has illumined the hearts of the believers. The orb of justice has risen and shone forth from the horizon of the heaven of supreme statecraft, yet the veils of heedless souls—that is, the turning away of those evil ones—have concealed its rays. What has been the cause of deprivation, and what the reason for prevention? There can be no doubt that the All-Bountiful Lord, exalted be His favor and magnificent His grace, created the world for the sole purpose of recognition and the manifestations of justice and fairness. The rain of His generosity has ever poured down and the verses of His grace have descended. In all things the banner of God's power is raised, and in every station the standard of God's might is unfurled. Nevertheless, the believers are seen to be weak and the ungodly strong, as witnessed when the cities of the people of divine unity were besieged and the artillery of the ungodly encompassed them. This is naught but the recompense of deeds and actions.

And the prayer shining forth from the horizon of the heaven of God's mercy be upon the Essence of His creation, the Dawning-place of His signs, the Dayspring of His revelation and the Source of His Cause, through Whose light the world was illumined and in Whose name the nations were blessed. He it is through Whom every cause began and ended, and through Whom appeared the straight path of God and His mighty Command. But for Him no name among names would have appeared, nor any attribute

among attributes. And upon His family and companions, whom the veils of the veiled ones prevented not, nor the might of the ungodly—they aided the Cause of God with true aid such that their might seized all in the world and their power encompassed all peoples. These are servants whom nothing whatsoever frightened and no mention barred. They arose from the horizon of power and conquered the cities of the wicked. Through them shone forth the light of unity and appeared the decree of detachment.

Glory be unto Thee, O Lord of the world and Goal of the nations! I beseech Thee by them and by what appeared through them in Thy path, to assist the people of unity in that which Thou lovest and art pleased with. Then aid them against those who have transgressed against them and seized their rights. Verily Thou art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest. There is no God but Thee, the Mighty, the Powerful.

And further: This servant received your letter. I read what was in it and presented it before His countenance. The Lord—may our souls be a sacrifice for Him—said:

> "We beseech God, exalted be He, to open before the faces of His servants the gate of His grace, to draw them nigh unto the ocean of His knowledge, to adorn them with that whereby His Cause may be exalted, and to ordain for them from the Supreme Pen the reward of the Hereafter and of the former time. He is, verily, the Lord of the Throne and of the dust. We bear witness that there is no God but Him, in acknowledgment of His oneness and in recognition of His singleness. He hath ever been mighty over all who are in earth and heaven. There is no God but Him, the Single, the One, the All-Compelling, the Self-Subsisting. We send greetings from this station to Our loved ones and counsel them to wisdom and to that whereby the station may be exalted among the people."

End.

Praise be to God! The blessing of love, which is accounted among the greatest of divine bestowals, exists—the world is ablaze with its fire and illumined by its light. When in equilibrium, it is the spirit animating all created things, but if it exceeds its bounds in the slightest degree, it brings destruction and obliteration. Glory be to God! Both the prosperity of the world stems from it and its ruin. What manner of creation is this, that all are bewildered by its description! Both the wailing of weeping rises from it, and boundless joy is made manifest through it. This servant beseeches and implores God—exalted be His glory—to bestow moderation upon His loved ones and to grant them the taste of the choice sealed wine.

In one station, it is the guide and the channel of grace after the Prophets—peace be upon them. In another station it is the interpreter, and in yet another the expositor. Glory be to God! Its description cannot be completed by the pen. In all things this bounty is evident and manifest according to their measure, for all things point to God—exalted be His glory. Likewise from His handiwork are the pen and ink, though they cannot race in this field. The Command is in God's hands—He doeth what He willeth and ordaineth what He pleaseth, and He is the Mighty, the Praiseworthy.

As to the mention made of Haji Siyyid Mihdi—upon him be God's peace—his remembrance hath been accepted in the presence of the Lord. Let them recite this prayer, for verily it guideth unto the straight path of God.

My God, my God! Thou seest me turning toward Thee, and directing myself to the Dawning-Places of Thy Revelation, the Sources of Thine inspiration, the Repositories of Thy knowledge and the Fountainheads of Thy commandments and laws. I beseech Thee by Thy Name through which Thou didst subdue the world and guide the nations, and by Thy sovereignty that hath encompassed all things, and by Thy signs that have pervaded earth and heaven, and by those whose hearts were melted in Thy love and who gave up their spirits and all they possessed in Thy path, not to deny me that which Thou hast ordained for Thy chosen ones and destined for Thy trusted ones. O Lord! Thou seest the needy one standing before the gate of Thy favour, and the destitute one clinging to the cord of Thy bounty. Ordain for me that which befitteth the heaven of Thy generosity and the ocean of Thy grace. Thou art He to Whose exaltation and sublimity all created things have testified, and to Whose greatness and power all things possible have borne witness. O Lord! Send down from the clouds of Thy mercy's heaven that which will draw us near unto Thee, then provide us with the best of what Thou hast revealed in Thy Book.

I testify, O my God, to Thy unity and singleness, and that Thou art God, there is none other God but Thee. Thou hast ever been in the heights of majesty and power, and wilt ever be as Thou hast been from time immemorial. The conditions of creation do not weaken Thee, nor do the doubts of the people. Verily Thou art the Self-Subsisting One Whose hosts are not weakened by the armies of the world nor by the ranks of nations. Thou doest what Thou willest and ordainest what Thou pleasest. Thou art, verily, the Almighty, the All-Glorious, the All-Praised. My God, my God! Thou seest the sinner who hath sought the ocean of Thy forgiveness, and the remote one who hath desired the horizon of Thy nearness and good-pleasure.

I beseech Thee by the breathings of Thy verses and the breezes that waft from the direction of Thy loving-kindness, to aid me in Thy remembrance and praise, in turning to Thy horizon, in beholding Thy signs and in directing myself toward Thy verses. O God of the world! I beseech Thee by the Most Great Light, the Most Straight Path, to number me among those whom Thou hast described in Thy Book which Thou didst send down unto the Sovereign of Thy Messengers—they are honoured servants on whom no fear shall come, nor shall they grieve. Wilt Thou deny me, O my God, after I have hastened to the Euphrates of Thy mercy, and wilt Thou disappoint me, O my Purpose, after I have raised my suppliant hands to the heaven of Thy grace and Thy gifts?

Nay, by Thy glory! This is not what I think of Thee. I testify that Thy door is open, Thy grace all-encompassing, and Thy mercy ever-precedent. Neither do the rejection of Thy servants prevent Thy generosity, nor the errors of those in Thy lands hinder Thy giving. Therefore forgive me through Thy grace and bounty, then aid me to serve Thy chosen ones and Thy loved ones. Verily, Thou art the Almighty, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. There is none other God but Thee, the Single, the One, the Mighty, the Beautiful.

Praise be to God! Divine favors are manifest and grace is resplendent. This evanescent servant beseeches the True One, exalted be His glory, to confirm them in that which is befitting and to aid them in His remembrance and praise, and in acknowledging that which the Supreme Pen hath spoken before the creation of earth and heaven. Verily, there is no God but Him. He begetteth not, nor is He begotten, and He hath taken neither consort nor son. God willing, may they drink of the choice wine of utterance, for

whosoever attaineth unto it hath attained unto the knowledge of God, exalted be His glory. Had all the peoples of the world hearkened to the Word of Unity as it deserveth to be hearkened to, all would have turned unto God, detached from all else.

The deceptive conditions and allusions of the world have debarred the nations from the most great bounty. Reward and punishment are two mirrors reflecting good and evil deeds which are manifested therein. By the mystery of existence I swear that had they acted according to the Book of God, exalted be His glory, the evident abasement witnessed today would not have come to pass. All must now raise their outer and inner hands to the heaven of bounty and grace of God, exalted be His station, with the utmost lowliness and supplication, and seek His help, that perchance none may remain deprived and forbidden from the ocean of awareness and knowledge. In brief, the recompense of people's deeds hath held them back, but as the door of grace is open, it is hoped that the lamentations of the believers and the godly may prove effective and He may adorn the world with the ornament of justice and equity. The supplication is from the servants and the answer is from God, the Lord of the Day of Judgment.

To the honored and beloved H and S, upon him be the glory of God and His favors, I send greetings. Praise be to God, they have attained and their mention hath been made before the Lord. I beseech Him, exalted be He, to send down upon him from the heaven of grace the rains of mercy and bestowal. Verily He is the One Who hath power over whatsoever He willeth through His Word "Be" and it is. Likewise, to the honored and beloved K and R, upon him be the peace of God and His favors, and to the other friends, upon them be the peace of God, I send greetings and for each I seek confirmation and support. Verily our Lord, the All-Merciful, is the Hearer, the Answerer. Peace and praise be upon you and upon the sincere servants of God.

BH00865: Praise be to God Who hath revealed…

In the Name of our Most Holy, Most Great, Most Exalted and Most Glorious Lord

Praise be to God Who hath revealed that which He hath sent down and fulfilled that which He promised in the Books of old, such that His verses have been spread abroad and His evidences have become manifest, until the horizons were filled with the manifestations of His power and the tokens of His might and authority. Then arose the atheists in opposition and the idolators in protest. Among men were those who denied Him in Whom they had believed throughout ages and centuries, and among them were those who rejected that which was sent down from the heaven of the will of our Chosen Lord, and among men were those who disputed His verses and warred against His Own Self and pronounced judgment against Him with such tyranny as caused the Tablets to lament. Blessing and peace be upon the Manifestations of His oneness, the Recipients of His revelation, the Dawning-places of His Cause and the Sources of His wisdom, whom neither the veils of the world nor the doubts of the nations prevented, and who arose to serve the Cause at eventide and at dawn.

Glory be to Thee, O God of the Kingdom and Sovereign over the realms of might! I beseech Thee by Thy Name through which the fragrance of Thy days was diffused and the banners of Thy remembrance were unfurled, and by the ocean of Thy knowledge which none hath comprehended save Thyself, to assist Thy loved ones to celebrate Thy praise and glory, and enable them to achieve that which befitteth Thy days.

Then protect them from the evil of Thine enemies who have broken Thy covenant and Thy testament. Verily Thou art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest. There is no God but Thee, the Almighty, the All-Powerful.

Thereafter, thy letter was received and as it was adorned with the mention of the one true God, it brought joy. I beseech Him, exalted be His glory, to ever assist thee in that which will cause the exaltation of His Word.

As to what thou didst write regarding his honor Khan, upon him be the glory of God, and the corruption of the person mentioned, this servant was greatly astonished. How inappropriate! When his honor Khan departed from here, all his purpose was to aid the divine Cause, to educate heedless souls, to promote the Cause, and to adorn the servants with trustworthiness, chastity, religious devotion and virtuous character. I testify by God that he had no other purpose. This evanescent servant conveys what he himself hath understood. The person mentioned went to those parts specifically for trade, and until now no command or prohibition hath been given to him. What this evanescent one submits is pure truth, and God is witness and aware.

His honor Khan must in all conditions keep his gaze fixed upon the highest horizon and arise for God's sake and speak for His sake. Whoso is for God, God is for him. No matter is hidden from God. He is the Truth, there is no God but Him. He witnesseth and seeth, and He is the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing. They should be occupied with service to the Cause, detached from all else. The sayings of people will not harm them. This evanescent servant beseecheth God, exalted be His glory, for their success—such success that its fragrance may be diffused throughout the world.

This is a mighty day; one must regard time as precious. Once this exalted word was heard from the tongue of the Lord of Names, blessed and exalted be His utterance: Not a moment of these days can be compared with centuries and ages past. Time and again the Tongue of Grandeur hath voiced this blessed word and others like it. In all cases I beseech repose and tranquility for His Holiness, that He may engage in promoting the Cause of the Best-Beloved of the worlds with the utmost joy and fragrance. Assuredly this prayer will be answered, but let them not abandon wisdom and let them be mindful of the blessed words "Speak to men according to their capacities." God is witness that in the Most Great Scene perfect loving-kindness towards them is manifest, evident and clear. This bounty is mighty and this grace is great.

This evanescent one's petition in the presence of that honored one is that whatever hath been mentioned should be conveyed to His Excellency the Khan with greetings, praise, glory and exaltation. As for what was mentioned regarding that honored one's remembrance before the countenance of the Desired One, it was submitted at a specific time and was graced with His hearing. This is what was revealed in response, blessed be His words:

O Mihdi! God willing, thou shalt attain the honor of guiding the servants. Reflect upon the upheavals and conflicts of the world. Where are the Pharaohs and the children of the Pharaohs? Where are the Caesars and the children of the Caesars? Where are they who prided themselves on what they possessed in the East and West of the earth? Where are they whom the world so deluded that they were kept back from the most exalted Paradise and what was created therein? Where is the clamor of men and the roaring of

heroes? Where are their swords and their ranks? Where is their loftiness and their ascendancy? God hath brought them down from their palaces to their graves. Should anyone turn to the palace of Chosroes, he would see naught but spider webs therein, and hear naught but the echo. Take ye warning, O people of insight!

That honored one should arise with complete determination to promote and assist the Cause of the Lord of all beings—an arising that neither the doubts of the world can shake nor the conditions of the nations can cause to slip. Great is the deed, great is the reward, great is the day, and great is the Cause. Blessed is the soul whom neither the cawing of the divines nor the might of princes did hold back from the Truth. The Khan, upon him be My glory, hath been and is remembered. Every soul in those regions who hath today been blessed with the fragrances of revelation and the sweet-scented breezes of these days should join with the Khan in complete unity to teach and serve the Divine Cause, albeit with wisdom and utterance, for contention, warfare and strife have been strictly forbidden in the Book.

We beseech God to grant divine confirmation and assistance that all may find and hold fast to the path. Say: My God, my God! I am he who hastened to the splendors of the lights of Thy bounty and grace, and turned to the waves of the ocean of Thy bestowals. I beseech Thee by the dominion of Thy pen of destiny and by the fragrance of Thy garment which hath perfumed Thy servants and creatures, to assist me in Thy remembrance, Thy praise and the service of Thy Cause. Then send down upon me from the clouds of the heaven of Thy grace a mercy from Thee and a blessing from Thy presence. O Lord! Disappoint me not of what lieth with Thee. Ordain for me that which shall profit me. Verily Thou knowest what is within me and I know not what is within Thee. Thou art the All-Forgiving, the All-Bountiful.

Praise be to God that thou hast attained unto His supreme bounty, for all things and matters shall be seized by extinction save the Sun of Utterance which hath shone forth from the horizon of the Pen of the Best-Beloved of the worlds—this alone endureth and shall endure. Each of the souls mentioned was presented at the Most Holy and Most Exalted Court, and all were blessed with divine remembrance. This servant too conveyeth greetings and salutations to all. Glory and remembrance and praise be upon His Presence, and upon thee, and upon them, and upon every soul that is steadfast, firm and upright.

BH00868: Today, praise and salutation, remembrance and utterance belong especially…

In the name of our Most Holy, Most Great, Most Exalted, Most Glorious Lord

Today, praise and salutation, remembrance and utterance belong especially to the friends of God, exalted be His glory, whom the doubts of the people of the world did not prevent from the path of the All-Merciful. They caught the fragrance of His garment and hastened to the court of the Friend. The prevention of hinderers, the might of oppressors, the schemes of plotters, the turning away of the divines, and the closing of eyes by the jurisprudents did not keep them from the lights of the countenance of the Lord of Names. From the chalices of recognition they drank the wine of salvation in the name of Him Who controls the winds—a draught that made them independent and free from need of the rivers and streams of the world.

By the life of our Beloved and your Beloved, our Goal and the Goal of all who are in the heavens and earth, these are the souls mentioned in the books of the past and future. Exalted is He Who strengthened them, caused them to recognize, revealed them, and established them in the service of His Cause. They are the breakers of the idols of vain imaginings and the confounders of the enemies of the Lord of all beings. The servant begs his Lord to strengthen them, assist them, and grant them the best of what lies with Him. Verily, He is the Mighty, the Bestower.

Glory be to Thee, O Sender of rains and Causer of rivers to flow! I beseech Thee by the gems of Thy creation who have fulfilled Thy covenant and Thy testament, to assist Thy loved ones to achieve such steadfastness as cannot be shaken by the hosts of idle fancies and vain imaginings, nor prevented by the princes of men. O Lord! Thou seest the people of the Bayan and hearest what their tongues utter, and knowest their deeds and their turning away from the Station whereby Thy proof was established from time immemorial and the signs of Thy power were revealed with majesty and grandeur. I beseech Thee, O Subduer of the world and Quickener of moldering bones, to assist them to return. Verily, Thou art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest. There is no God but Thee, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. Then make, O my God and my Goal, Thy servant Khalil among those who aid Thy Cause and who speak Thy praise. O Lord! Assist him in all circumstances. Verily, Thou art the Most Exalted, the Most High.

Thereafter, thy letter which was perfumed with the remembrance and praise of the Beloved of the worlds was as collyrium to the eye and manifest joy to the heart. I beseech God, exalted be His glory, to assist thee in that which is befitting. After its reading and perusal, it was taken to the Most Exalted Station and presented before His presence and was honored to be heard. This is what was sent down from the kingdom of the wisdom of our Lord and your Lord and the Lord of earth and heaven. His word, exalted be His glory:

He is the All-Hearing, the All-Knowing

O Khalil! The peoples of the world are seen as children. Let none wonder at this exalted word, for all are occupied with matters which they themselves witness shall perish and pass away, and with their own hands they kindle that which they shall be powerless to extinguish. Vain imaginings have seized them all, and false suppositions have kept them back from that which would profit them, save those whom God has willed. None draws a breath for the sake of God, nor takes a step for His cause. They appear as sheep that have lost their shepherd, scattered and distracted, wandering in the wilderness of heedlessness and ignorance, and are unaware. Beseech ye God, exalted be His glory, to vouchsafe unto His servants a drop from the ocean of knowledge and to bestow His bounty upon them. He is the Bestower, the All-Powerful.

Reflect upon the people of the Bayan: although they witnessed the Shi'ih sect and the fruits of their deeds, as ye have seen with your own eyes and heard with your own ears, yet they have again clung to the same vain imaginings. Through fancy they are deprived of the Sovereign of certitude, and through a mere pond they are kept back from the Most Great Ocean.

Say: O God, my Worshipped One, my Adored One! I testify to Thy oneness and Thy singleness, and to Thy ancient and recent bounties. Thou art the Generous One Who hath caused the rain-clouds of Thy mercy to shower upon the high and the lowly alike, and the splendors of the Sun of Thy grace to shine upon

both the obedient and the rebellious. O Merciful One, before Whose gate the essence of mercy boweth down, and around Whose Cause the reality of bounty circleth! I beseech Thee and seek Thy ancient grace and seek Thy recent generosity, that Thou mayest have mercy upon the manifestations of existence and deprive them not of the outpourings of Thy days. All are needy and poor, and Thou art the Self-Sufficient, the All-Conquering, the All-Powerful.

Praise and glory be unto God! The ocean of utterance is so tempestuous that this evanescent servant is incapable of mentioning or describing it. The non-existent hath no station or expression before the presence of Him Who is the Ever-Existing. With the utmost powerlessness and contrition, I cling to the hem of the robe of His grace, that He may assist that honored one in all conditions and deprive not His servants of the bounties of His days. Verily, He is powerful over all things and worthy to answer prayers.

Concerning what was written about Aqa Mirza ʿAli, brother of Aqa Mirza Muhammad Khan, upon them both be 96 [Baha'u'llah], their letter was received and presented before the Countenance of the Beloved of the worlds. One Most Holy, Most Exalted Tablet in the mode of verses, and one Most Wondrous, Most Sweet Tablet in Persian were revealed from the heaven of grace and bounty; these have been written and sent. I beseech God to enable them to attain His presence that they may drink from the ocean of the utterance of the All-Merciful that which will cause movement and be the cause of enkindlement, and that they may arise to serve the Cause, that is, to teach. This servant conveys greetings to them and beseeches God, exalted be His glory, for such confirmation as its effects may become manifest and evident throughout all regions.

He is the Bestower Whom the veils of the world and the clouds of the nations have not and shall not hinder. Ever hath the hand of His power been manifest and the eye of His bounty extended. Blessed are they who, at this dayspring, have not deprived themselves of the effulgences of the Sun of grace. Verily our Lord, the All-Merciful, is the Bestower, the Generous, and He is the Bountiful, the Gracious. There is no God but Him, the Exalted, the Great.

Concerning the mention of the honored ones: his honor Aqa Mirza Mahmud, his honor Aqa Mirza Muhammad Khan, and his honor Aqa Muhammad Hasan Khan, upon them be the Glory of God—all are remembered in the Most Holy and Most Exalted Presence. Praise be to God that after their names were presented, there descended from the heaven of grace that which its fragrance shall endure through the duration of His most beautiful names and most exalted attributes. This servant beseecheth and imploreth God, exalted be His glory, that He may cause each one to be raised up like a standard of His Cause, manifest and resplendent. He is the Fulfiller of the needs of all who ask and He is the Hope of all who hope and the Goal of all who seek. Glory, remembrance and praise be upon you and upon those whom vain imaginings have not kept back from God, our Lord and your Lord and the Lord of all who are in the heavens and earths. And praise be to God, the Lord of all worlds.

BH00989: Praise be to God Who hath sent down…

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

Praise be to God Who hath sent down the verses and manifested the clear proofs and dispatched the Messengers and revealed the Books in demonstration of His generosity, grace, gifts and favors, and Who hath ordained for every land a portion of the effulgent lights of His Revelation and the Sun of His knowledge and wisdom, until the appointed time had come and the hour of the Hijaz arrived.

Then from that land was diffused the fragrance of His Revelation, and the Light shone forth from its horizon, and the treasuries of knowledge were made manifest therein, and the signs of power appeared therefrom, and the breezes of revelation encompassed its cities, its regions and its environs, whereupon the sacred vale trembled and swelled with longing and ardent desire for the meeting of the Manifestation of the Lord of Names and Creator of Heaven. The world was moved by its movement and the celestial spheres by its yearning and desire.

He it is through Whose manifestation the Dove of Utterance warbled upon every branch in diverse melodies:

> "O people of creation! There hath come unto you the Dawning-Place of your Lord's revelation, the Most Merciful, through Whom the Sun of Names hath shone forth and the Stars of Attributes have gleamed, and through Whom that which was hidden in His knowledge and treasured in the repositories of His protection hath been made manifest. He it is through Whom the celestial spheres and all within them, and the earth and all that is thereon, have been ennobled."

And when the dawn of His manifestation broke forth, the breezes of the Most Merciful wafted over all lands, whereby every one that was seated arose, and every tongue that was mute spoke forth, and every stagnant water began to flow, and every blind one saw, and every thirsty one was refreshed, and every troubled one found peace, and every seeker attained his goal, and every remote one drew nigh.

Upon Him be the peace of God and His prayers and the mercy of God and His light, and upon His family and His companions whom God made the Hands of His Cause in His lands and the manifestations of His power amongst His servants. Through them did every one that had turned away return, and every denier acknowledged the unity of God, and every proud one was affrighted. Through them were emperors humbled and pharaohs and tyrants thrown into confusion. They were those at whose lights of unity the very foundations of misbelief trembled, and by whose steadfastness and uprising in the Cause of God, the Lord of the Kingdom and of the Realm of Glory and Might, the mountains were scattered.

Glory be unto Thee, O my God! Thou seest the warriors under the grasp of the transgressors and the believers between the fangs of the idolaters. O Lord! I beseech Thee by Thy power which encompasseth all created things, and by Thy might whereby all possibilities are rendered powerless, to protect Thy believing servants from the idolaters and their cannons and rifles and swords.

O Lord! Thou seest Thy party among the parties and beneath the claws of a pack of wolves. I beseech Thee, O Lord of Lords, by Thy Prophets and Thy Messengers and Thy Books, and by Him Whom Thou hast established in Thy stead in the kingdom of creation and chosen from among the Prophets to manifest Thy hidden mystery, O Creator of heaven and Sovereign of the Kingdom of Names!

O Lord! There hath befallen the believers that which hath caused the pens to cease their flow and the tongues their utterance. Thou seest, O my God, my Beloved, my Purpose and my Adored One, the sighs of Thy chosen ones and the tears of Thy loved ones. Have mercy, then, upon Thy servants and deliver them from every anguish and calamity and from every torment and hardship.

O Lord! Thou seest them turning toward the horizon of Thy grace, hastening to the ocean of Thy bounty, and clinging to the hem of the robe of Thy generosity, O Lord of existence and Sovereign of the seen and the unseen!

My God, my God! I beseech Thee by Thy triumph wherewith Thou didst aid in the earliest days Thy chosen ones and Thy loved ones, to aid in these days Thy servants who have arisen to strive in Thy path and who have stood with supreme courage before the faces of Thine enemies. O Lord! Preserve them, then, through Thy protection, exalt them through Thy power and might, and assist them with the hosts of the seen and unseen. Verily Thou art the Guardian of the world and the Educator of the nations, and art powerful over all things. There is none other God but Thee, the Almighty, the All-Conquering, the All-Powerful.

O Lord! Send down upon Thy warriors from the heaven of Thy bounty the rains of Thy mercy and blessing. Then strengthen, O my God, their hearts, make their faces radiant, and illumine their eyes with the lights of Thy knowledge and recognition. Verily Thou art He Whom nothing whatsoever can frustrate, and Whom the hosts of earth and heaven cannot frighten. Thou doest what Thou willest through Thy power and ordainest what Thou pleasest through Thy might. There is none other God but Thee, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

And furthermore, O my dear son, upon thee be my peace. What hath reached me hath brought me glad tidings of thy health and the soundness of thy constitution, and of thy standing up for the sake of God in the face of those enemies who desire to extinguish the light of God with their mouths. But God will not allow aught but that His light be perfected, though the idolaters be averse.

This servant beseecheth God, his Lord and your Lord, to assist those who strive among our believing brethren, to aid them with the hosts of the unseen and the seen, to grant them victory through His might and His power and His sovereignty, and to manifest through you what He hath sent down in His perspicuous Book. The hosts of God shall be triumphant.

We praise Him and thank Him at all times that He hath made our brethren among those who hasten to holy war in His path and who act according to what He hath revealed in His Book. Verily He heareth and answereth, and He is the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing. We beseech Him, exalted be He, that all may return to their homelands, enjoying the victory of God which is nigh. Verily He is our Lord, our Goal, and our Object of worship. Nothing frustrateth Him and no matter preventeth Him. He doeth what He willeth through His sovereignty and ordaineth what He desireth, and He is the Mighty, the Praiseworthy.

O Lord! Aid those who strive in Thy path with the hosts of earth and heaven, and through Thy might whereby the backs of the princes were broken among the Pharaohs of the earth and its tyrants—they who denied Thy signs and turned away from Thy proof and shed the blood of Thy loved ones and seized Thy cities and Thy domains.

O Lord! Thou art He before Whose power the essence of might hath bowed down, and before Whose strength the very reality of force hath submitted. I beseech Thee to protect the people of unity from the fire of misbelief and hatred. Verily Thou art He through Whose Name the gates of victory were opened before the faces of all created things.

O Lord! Ordain for every face that hath turned unto Thee and advanced to aid Thy Faith and Thy Cause the best of this world and the next, and that which Thou hast ordained in Thy Book, O Lord of all humanity and Sovereign of the throne on high and of the dust below.

O God, my God! Send Thy blessings upon those whom no blame of the blamer nor mockery of the mocker hath kept back from Thee, who have advanced toward Thee with radiant faces to serve Thy Faith, O Lord of all things! There is none other God but Thee, the Omnipotent over what Thou willest.

BH01117: Lawh-i-Ism-i-Jud

He is God, exalted be His glory, the Most Great and Most Glorious!

O Ism-i-Jud! Upon thee be My glory! The letters from Samandar which he sent were presented before the Wronged One and attained the honor of being heard. Concerning what was written about the teacher, We have accepted what he hath done in the path of God, the Lord of all worlds. Say: O teacher! Thou art the first teacher who hath attained His good-pleasure and whom God hath mentioned in His perspicuous Book. We testify that thou hast attained that which was sent down from My holy Kingdom in My Most Holy Book and hast acted according to what thou wast commanded by God, the Exalted, the Great. We have made these verses the recompense for what thou didst in His path and have sent them unto thee that thou mayest thank thy Lord, the Ruler, the All-Wise. Through them We have immortalized thy mention and made thee remembered in all the schools of the world. Verily, thy Lord is the Almighty, the Powerful. Rejoice in what hath flowed from My Most Exalted Pen in the prison of ʿAkka as a favor from Us unto thee and unto those who have held fast to this firm Cord. The glory be upon thee and upon every learned one who hath attained unto this mighty Cause.

O Samandar! Convey what hath been revealed for him. God willing, another bounty shall be bestowed upon him. A robe of honor shall be granted, though it be but a shirt; yet that shirt is more precious in the sight of God than all that the kings and rulers possess. O Samandar! The teacher hath attained unto that which most of mankind are powerless to comprehend. Verily thy Lord is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. God willing, the children must exert their utmost effort in acquiring knowledge and penmanship. What was sent was seen. We beseech God to grant the capacity that they may perfect the art of calligraphy. Although for some, sufficient penmanship to meet their needs may suffice—and it would be better and more fitting to spend time in beneficial sciences—yet since God, exalted be His glory, hath loved every craft at its most perfect, therefore that which flowed from the Most Exalted Pen was revealed. However, attention to this direction is not permitted now; what he is occupied with is acceptable before God. He should thank his Lord morning and evening, at nightfall and at dawn.

O Samandar! Upon thee be My praise. Convey greetings and glory from the Wronged One to the friends of Alif and Shin. There hath befallen them what befell the Self of Truth. We enjoin upon them patience

and forbearance and We beseech God to deliver them from the evil of the wicked ones who have violated God's Covenant and His Testament—those servants who have adorned their heads with green and white turbans and have pronounced judgment against Him for Whose separation they lamented and whose presence they besought God night and day. By the life of God! Their words, deeds and beliefs have taken form and made them companions of the Fire. Say: O people of God! Be not grieved at what hath befallen you. Verily He is with you under all conditions. He witnesseth and seeth, and He is the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing.

Concerning the passing of Mulla Ja'far, upon him be the Glory of God, about which you wrote: We have turned toward him from this station and remember him with a remembrance whereby the righteous shall remember him. He believed in God and His signs, and testified to that which God had testified before the creation of earth and heaven. We beseech Him, exalted be He, to forgive him and expiate from him the hardships of this world and cause him to dwell in the highest Paradise. Verily He is the Almighty, the Powerful, the All-Bountiful. And We make mention of his wife, the daughter of ʿAzim. Verily thy Lord remembereth His servants and handmaidens as a grace from Him, and He is the Mighty, the All-Generous.

O Samandar! The mention you made of the Day of Separation passed over you like a dark night. Although this word has been the key to unlock the door of love for God, exalted be His glory, for there passed over you from separation from His loved ones and friends that which passed. Yet praise be to God, you are remembered and present in the gathering of the companions of reunion. By My life! Your mention is like unto a lamp shining in the Most Great Prison. Rejoice thou in the authoritative Word of God, which nothing among all things can equal, nor any mention among mentions, nor any book among books. Verily thy Lord is the Expositor, the All-Informed, and He is the All-Remembering, the All-Knowing.

As to what you wrote concerning the handmaiden of God, the daughter of Jinab-i-ʿAbdu'l-Baqi, upon him be the Glory of God, it was mentioned before the Countenance and now she is engaged in service in the House. Blessed be her father and blessed be she, for she hath attained to the service of the House. Convey My greetings to her father that he may rejoice and be among the thankful ones.

What thou hast done regarding the Huquq hath been accepted. Verily thy Lord is with thee and remembereth thy deed, and He is the Compassionate, the Bountiful.

Each of the souls thou didst mention have attained unto the grace and mention of Our presence. Give them glad tidings from Me and convey My greetings unto them, as bidden by thy Lord, the Commander, the All-Wise. The Glory be upon them and upon those who have attained unto the mention of God, the Exalted, the Great.

O Samandar! We make mention of Javad and give him the glad tidings of My grace, My bounty and My mercy. Blessed is he and his son, and blessed are those women who have arisen to serve the Cause at all times. Remember them from the Wronged One and give them the glad tidings of that which hath flowed from My Most Exalted Pen in this station. Convey My greetings unto all who are with thee, whether men or women, young or old. Thus hath shone forth the light of My grace from the horizon of My remembrance, that joy and gladness may attract thee to a station wherein naught is seen save the Sun of

My loving-kindness, shining upon all who are in the heavens and on earth. And praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.