A Compilation of Baha'u'llah's Writings — Volume 14 (1889–1892)

Translated Using GPT-4

Baha'u'llah

Table of contents

A Compilation of Baha'u'llah's Writings 2
Volume 096: Akka 1307 A.H. (1889–1890), Part IV (1 of 4) 2
Volume 096: Akka 1307 A.H. (1889–1890), Part IV (2 of 4) 42
Volume 096: Akka 1307 A.H. (1889–1890), Part IV (3 of 4) 83
Volume 096: Akka 1307 A.H. (1889–1890), Part IV (4 of 4) 125
Volume 097: Akka 1307 A.H. (1889–1890), Part V (1 of 4) 166
Volume 097: Akka 1307 A.H. (1889–1890), Part V (2 of 4) 210
Volume 097: Akka 1307 A.H. (1889–1890), Part V (3 of 4) 255
Volume 097: Akka 1307 A.H. (1889–1890), Part V (4 of 4) 301
BH00005: Lawh-i-Ibn-i-Dhi'b (Epistle to the Son of the Wolf) 349
Volume 099: Akka 1308–1309 A.H. (1890–1892), Part I (1 of 3) 422
Volume 099: Akka 1308–1309 A.H. (1890–1892), Part I (2 of 3) 463
Volume 099: Akka 1308–1309 A.H. (1890–1892), Part I (3 of 3) 491
Volume 100: Akka 1308–1309 A.H. (1890–1892), Part II (1 of 3) 516
Volume 100: Akka 1308–1309 A.H. (1890–1892), Part II (2 of 3) 554
Volume 100: Akka 1308–1309 A.H. (1890–1892), Part II (3 of 3) 596
Volume 101: Akka 1873–1892 year unknown, Part I (1 of 2) 616
Volume 101: Akka 1873–1892 year unknown, Part I (2 of 2) 656
Volume 102: Akka 1873–1892 year unknown, Part II (1 of 2) 666
Volume 102: Akka 1873–1892 year unknown, Part II (2 of 2) 713
BH00026: The Most Exalted Pen hath stirred and desireth… 719
Volume 103: Akka 1868–1892 year unknown, Part I (2 of 5) 740
Volume 103: Akka 1868–1892 year unknown, Part I (3 of 5) 780

A Compilation of Baha'u'llah's Writings

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

Volume 096: Akka 1307 A.H. (1889–1890), Part IV (1 of 4)

BH05904: Lawh-i-Ali-Haydar Shirvani

He is the Helper, the All-Knowing

He Who leadeth to true victory is come. By the righteousness of God! He is fully capable of revolutionizing the world through the power of a single Word. Having enjoined upon all men to observe wisdom, He Himself hath adhered to the cord of patience and resignation.

The clay clods of the world have set forth to visit the embellished, the luminous, the crimson City of God, and certain emissaries from Persia are secretly stirring up mischief, though to outward seeming they pretend to be gentle and meek. Gracious God! When will this world-afflicting craftiness be transformed into sincerity? The exhortations of God, the True One, have compassed the world, but until now their influence hath not been disclosed. Men's unseemly deeds have kept them back from attaining unto Him. We entreat God—exalted and glorified is He—to pour down, out of the clouds of divine grace, the overflowing rain of His bounty upon all His servants. Verily potent is He over all things.

O ʿAli Haydar! O thou who hast risen to serve My Cause and art engaged in magnifying the praise of God, the Lord of the mighty throne! Unto the emblems of justice and the exponents of equity it is indubitably clear and evident that this Wronged One, strengthened by the transcendent power of the Kingdom, is seeking to efface from among the peoples and kindreds of the earth every evidence of disorder, discord, dissension, differences or divisions; and it is for no other reason but this great, this momentous object that He hath again and again been cast into prison and many a day and a night hath been subjected to chains and fetters. Blessed are they that judge this impregnable Cause, this glorious Announcement, with fairness and equity.

Concerning what was mentioned about His Excellency the Ambassador—may God, blessed and exalted be He, strengthen him—having requested the Kitab-i-Aqdas: let what he hath requested be given. However, ordinances and laws have also been revealed in Ishraqat, Tajalliyat, Tarazat, the Words of Paradise, and other Tablets. All that was mentioned should be given to His Excellency the Ambassador, along with the Tablet of Haydar-ʿAli, upon him be My glory and My salutation.

As for the ordinances that have been revealed separately in various books, in these days a command hath been issued specifically for the observation of the fair-minded and the consideration of the sincere ones, that they be gathered on a page and sent. However, no copy should be given to anyone. Ye know well the deceptions of those who turned away from the Bayan and the Furqan. In any case, deliver that page along

with the Tablets that were mentioned, and retrieve them after they have been seen and reviewed. Praise be to God! The world will become another world, and creation another creation. Is there any helper who will assist all the peoples of the world? Is there any supporter who will support them?

Moreover, in the sections addressed to the kings there was revealed mention of the imprisonment of this Wronged One, and of the protection afforded by His Excellency the Minister Plenipotentiary of the august Russian Government—may God, blessed and exalted be He, assist him:

"O King! Whilst I lay chained and fettered in the prison, one of thy ministers extended Me his aid. Wherefore hath God ordained for thee a station which the knowledge of none can comprehend except His knowledge. Beware lest thou barter away this sublime station." [BH01042]

In the days when this Wronged One was sore-afflicted in prison, the minister of the highly esteemed government of Russia—may God, glorified and exalted be He—undertook with utmost dedication to secure My deliverance. Several times permission for release was granted, yet some of the divines of the city prevented it. Finally, through the minister's attention and efforts, deliverance was achieved and thereafter We proceeded to Iraq.

By the life of God! From the time of Our arrival until this moment, We have forbidden this community from conflict, contention, oppression and immorality, and have commanded them to righteousness and piety, such that their weapons have been entirely transformed into instruments of peace. A witness to this praiseworthy deed is that for nearly forty years this oppressed community has been seized and subjected to various forms of torment unto the point of martyrdom. In the Land of Sad [Isfahan] that which caused all things to lament came to pass. For successive years they engaged in cursing, reviling, seizing, plundering and killing, until the tyranny of the oppressors reached these days.

His Imperial Majesty—may God, glorified and exalted be He—extended his protection for the sake of God, and this protection has caused an increase in the rancor and hatred of the ignorant ones of the earth. From every direction they are occupied with deception, trickery and schemes. And now the lamp is observed amidst tempestuous winds. We beseech God to adorn His servants with the ornament of justice and fairness. Verily He is powerful over all things and worthy to answer.

My God, my God! Thou hearest my lamentation and sighing for what hath befallen Thy loved ones at the hands of them that have violated Thy Covenant and Testament. I beseech Thee by the waves of the ocean of Thy bounty and the fruits of the Tree of Thy utterance to protect them with Thy hosts and guard them by Thy power. Thou art verily the Mighty, the Strong, the All-Powerful, the All-Compelling, the Radiant Light, the Resplendent Illumination, and the Shining and Brilliant Glory. Upon Thee rest glory and upon those who have aided this wronged community and have turned towards Thee and said:

> "Praise be unto Thee, O God of the worlds, and glory be unto Thee, O Thou Who art the Goal of those in the heavens and on earth."

BH01794: Praise be unto the peerless Almighty Who, through His…

He is God, blessed and exalted be His station!

Praise be unto the peerless Almighty Who, through His all-subduing power and all-encompassing will, hath brought countless creatures from the depths of nothingness into the realm of existence and visibility, and from among them hath adorned man with the ornament of knowledge and distinguished him with the recognition of His Own Self. Most great is the station He hath conferred upon man, for all that is […]

Now, the soul that hath borne this most great trust and hath, through the grace of the Lord of all beings, arisen to promote His Cause, and with supreme steadfastness and consummate wisdom hath guided the people to the straight path and the mighty announcement—verily he is of those who have attained, by the Lord of the mighty throne!

O thou who hast attained to reunion in the end! Thy loving letter was received and from it were evident the signs of love and unity. We hope that thou wilt ever abide beneath the shade of [grace] and attain unto that which is good and mentioned in the Book of God. While hastening to reply, thy second letter arrived and added joy unto joy. It attained the presence and mention was made of thee and thy fellow-travelers. These manifest verses were revealed and sent down from the source of grace, exalted be His beneficence:

He is God, exalted and sanctified is He!

O Mir! Upon thee be the glory of God and His favors! Thy letters have repeatedly arrived, diffusing the fragrance of steadfastness and spreading the sweet savors of the love of God. We have heard what thou didst speak before the one who turned away from God, exalted be His glory, and followed his passions. Verily, he is of the rebellious faction. He cast the Book of God behind him and took what his self and desire commanded. This tongue, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise, doth testify to this.

Say: Die in your wrath, O people of hypocrisy! The Day of Meeting hath come and the Illuminator of the horizons speaketh before all faces: “The Kingdom is God’s, the Lord of the worlds!” It behooveth them not to seek proof today from the Bayan. Behold, then mention what the Tongue of the Point uttered, saying: “I have written an essence concerning His mention—He cannot be indicated by My indication nor by what was revealed in the Bayan.” Many such passages exist in the Bayan, but few are they who hear. Especially that heedless one who through passion is deprived of guidance, and through words is veiled from meaning. The Most Great Ocean surgeth before his face, yet he is occupied with proving the existence of a pond.

So heedless is he that he knoweth not by what proof he believeth in the Primal Point. We bade him come that he might hear that which would renew the world of meanings and utterance. He accepted not the counsel of the counselor, for he was deluded by love of leadership. He knoweth not what he sayeth even now, being unaware of the root of the Cause. Were he to observe the evidences with insight, he would testify from whom came that which appeared before the Primal Point, from what horizon it dawned, and from what heaven it became manifest. Blessed art thou and those with thee. Mention of that company hath ever been and still is before the Wronged One. The wolves have surrounded Me from all directions. The Command is from God, the Revealer of verses.

We make mention of Mir [Ali]. We beseech God to protect him from his enemies and ordain for him that which shall cause his remembrance to endure. We testify that he attained the presence, achieved victory, and heard the call of God, the All-Protecting, the Self-Subsisting. He gained the choice wine of reunion from the hand of God's loving-kindness, the Mighty, the All-Loving. We have mentioned him in verses by which those near unto God have been transported, and We make mention when he established for himself a station beneath the pavilions of God's grandeur, the Lord of the seen and unseen. The glory from Us be upon him and upon those with him, both women and men.

We make mention of him who was named Fath-Ali and say: My God, my God! Aid him to stand firm in Thy Cause and ordain for him that which shall draw him nigh unto Thee in all conditions. Then send down upon him from the heaven of Thy loving-kindness the rains of grace and favors. O my Lord! Thou knowest and seest that he left his homeland, seeking Thy presence in the prison, and attained unto that which was inscribed in Thy Book. Enable him and those with him to do that which befitteth Thy days. Verily, Thou art the Mighty, the All-Bountiful.

O Muhammad! O thou who didst migrate in the days of God and didst traverse the regions and lands until thou didst attain the presence of thy Chosen Lord, and didst witness what was hidden from all eyes, and didst hear what was forbidden to the ears of men. We beseech God to adorn thee with the ornament of steadfastness and aid thee to remember and praise Him in all conditions. Verily, He is the Self-Sufficient, the Most High.

We conclude this Tablet with the name of Khalil. O Friend of God! Give thanks for this supreme bounty. We testify that thou didst circumambulate the Kaaba of God, the Powerful, the Chosen One, and didst attain His presence, hear His call, and show forth thy submissiveness and humility before His countenance. We beseech God to give thee to drink from the ocean of His bounty time and again, and to ordain for thee the good of this world and the world to come.

We make mention of My loved ones there and bid them to be holy and detached. Through deeds are the stations of the valiant elevated and the glory of men made manifest. We send Our greetings to them from this station, and We make mention of My handmaiden who attained My presence and circumambulated around Me, and the maidservants who heard the call and turned to the Most Exalted Horizon. We beseech Him, exalted be He, to aid them to observe that which hath been enjoined in the Book. The glory from Us be upon them and upon My maidservants in all regions and directions.

Your honor and all your fellow travelers have each been mentioned by the tongue of the grace of the Intended One, may our souls be sacrificed for Him, and have been adorned with the ornament of bounty and loving-kindness. Convey to each one that which hath been revealed concerning them, and on My behalf make mention of them with wondrous remembrances and sublime greetings. The press of occupation, as your honor knoweth, hath prevented—otherwise separate letters would have been written and sent to each one. Make special mention of Jinab-i-Khalil, upon him be the glory of God, with remembrance and sublime greeting. Convey to the members of the household, on behalf of the people of the household, wondrous and sublime remembrance and greeting. The spirit and glory be upon thee and upon thy son and those who are with thee.

BH01070: In My Name that prevaileth over all that are…

In My Name that prevaileth over all that are in heaven and on earth

Praise be to the Lord of the world, Who is worthy and deserving, for He has illumined the world and its peoples with the lights of His Most Great Name, the Most Glorious, with the light of knowledge, and through the effulgent dawning of the Sun of Truth has manifested unity and harmony between hearts and souls. Exalted be His power, exalted be His greatness, supreme be His sovereignty! There is none other god but Him. And blessings and peace be upon the Garden of Wisdom and Understanding, through whose advent the heavens of grace and utterance were adorned, and upon His family and companions, whom God made the repositories of His knowledge and the stars of the heaven of His bounty, and through whom God aided His Cause and raised His Word among His servants. Verily, He is the Almighty, the Glorious, the All-Bountiful.

O Siyyid Mihdi, hearken to the call of the Wronged One from the direction of the Lesser Prison. He wishes to make mention of thee with a mention that shall endure as long as His most beautiful names and most exalted attributes endure. Blessed is he who has found the fragrance of utterance, detached from all else save God, and has held fast to the cord of God's command, the Lord of all worlds.

That which thou didst send to Siyyid Taqi, upon him be My glory, hath come before the face of the Wronged One. We have heard thy call, thy supplication, thy mention and thy praise. Thy Lord, the Lord of all beings and the Master of the last and the first, hath answered thee with this wondrous Tablet. Blessed art thou for having spoken the truth and responded to thy Lord when the Call was raised from this luminous horizon. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to give thee to drink from the cup of His bounty the Kawthar of His knowledge, and to ordain for thee what He hath ordained for His sincere servants.

Convey to the loved ones of that land the greetings of the Wronged One, then recite unto them what hath been revealed from My Most Exalted Pen at this time. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to forgive thee and thy parents, and those who have turned to the Most Great Manifestation and believed in God, the One, the All-Informed. Verily, He forgiveth whom He willeth through His mercy, and chastiseth those who have denied the Day of Judgment.

We make mention of him who is named Siyyid Husayn and give him the glad tidings of My favor towards him from this mighty Prison. We beseech God to protect him and his family and to ordain for them that which will draw them near to His holy court and the precincts of His presence. Verily, He is the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing.

We make mention of thy other brother who is named Ahmad, and We make mention of him through My verses and give him the glad tidings of My bounty, for I am the Compassionate, the Generous.

O Ahmad! Arise to that which will cause the exaltation of the Word of God, and with complete humility speak His praise. Verily, He maketh mention of him who maketh mention of Him, and ordaineth for him what beseemeth His glorious and wondrous bounty.

We make mention of those named Muhammad-ʿAli and Muhammad-Baqir, and We make mention of them with that which will strengthen them and draw them near unto God, the Mighty, the Beautiful. We beseech God to ordain for them what He hath ordained for His chosen ones, and to send down upon them from the heaven of His bounty the table of His knowledge. Verily, He is the Protector of the doers of good and the Ultimate Goal of the sincere ones and those near unto Him.

O Mihdi! Convey to all the friends of that land the greetings of the Wronged One, and likewise to the steadfast handmaidens. We have mentioned them before and mention them now at this time when the Beauty of the Ancient of Days walketh and speaketh the verses of God, the Lord of this glorious station. The Glory be upon thee and upon My loved ones and handmaidens, from God, the Lord of what was and what shall be, the Lord of the mighty Throne and the elevated Seat.

BH01135: The Epistle of God, the Help-in-Peril, the Self-Subsisting

In My Name, the One Who overshadoweth all who are in earth and heaven.

A Book revealed by the Lord of all worlds for the preservation of the peoples. He purposed to send it unto him who turned toward the Most Exalted Horizon at a time when mankind had turned away from it, and who quaffed the choice wine of utterance when all created things denied itâ€“save those whom God, the Lord of the mighty Throne, hath willed.

O Muhammad! Hear the Call that hath been raised betwixt earth and heaven, calling all unto the Path of God, the Almighty, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. O Muhammad! The hosts of sorrow have encompassed Us, and there hath befallen Us at the hands of the oppressors that which hath caused the Faithful Spirit to lament. We commanded all to be trustworthy and religious, sincere and pure, yet the people have denied God's Cause through the promptings of self and desire. Thus hath the matter been decreed, and they are numbered this day among the most lost in My perspicuous Book. Grieve not for what hath befallen Us at the hands of those who have disbelieved in God and His signs, and who have perpetrated that which hath caused all things to cry out and the tears of them that know to flow. The servant in attendance before Us hath laid before Us that which thou didst send unto him. We have heard it and answer thee with this Leaf, which hath been adorned with the verses of thy Lord, the Kind, the All-Bountiful. When bearing it, it cried out saying:

> "Praise be unto Thee, O Thou Who art the Goal of the world! And thanks be unto Thee, O Beloved of the nations, for having made me adorned with Thy verses and illumined with the light of Thy utterance!"

Blessed then is the servant who heareth and attaineth, and woe unto every heedless sinner. By the life of God! Should anyone at this moment hearken unto the voice of this Leaf, he would, in utmost joy and fragrance, detach himself from the world and all therein and repair unto the One Beloved.

O Muhammad! Upon thee be My glory and loving-kindness. The enemies of the Truth, exalted be His glory, outwardly manifest complete submission and contentment, while inwardly they are engaged in mischief and denial. And the Wronged One, before the faces of all, both learned and rulers, speaketh and saith:

> "O people! Fear God and follow not your desires. Follow Him Who hath come unto you with a sovereignty that hath encompassed the world and with a Cause before which the hosts of the heavens and earth cannot stand."

O thou who hast turned thy face towards the Countenance! Thou shouldst at all times guide the wayward to the straight path through wisdom and utterance, and illumine the oppressors with the light of justice—meaning those who wrong their own souls and are deprived of the most holy and exalted Court of nearness. Make mention of those who are related to Us in the name of the Wronged One, and illumine them with the splendors of the Day-Star of grace. Praise be to God, they have been and continue to be remembered, and have attained unto His favor. Make mention of the friends and give them the glad-tidings of what God hath willed. We beseech God to make them the standards of His guidance amongst His servants. Verily, He is powerful over all things.

A question was asked concerning a person's control over their own specific properties—whether if one desires during their lifetime to give or bestow all their property to one person, they have that authority, or whether what was revealed in the Kitab-i-Aqdas must be followed. What you mentioned was previously revealed from the Most Exalted Pen, and now is mentioned again as a grace from Us upon you that you may rejoice and be among those who give thanks. Every soul has had and has authority over their own property, for if authority were prevented, the glory of existence would be effaced. In one station, the glory of servants has been and is through properties and through the authority ordained for them. We beseech God to assist His servants to perform what they are commanded in His Mighty Book and to enable them to do what He loves and is pleased with, and to perform deeds from which the fragrance of His acceptance, His command and His wisdom may be diffused.

We desire at this time to mention My handmaiden and My leaf with a mention that will be with her in all the worlds of her Lord, the All-Bountiful, the Generous. The first fragrance that wafted from the garden of meanings and utterance, and the first light that shone and gleamed from the heaven of the Merciful's loving-kindness be upon you, O you who have turned to the Most Exalted Horizon. I testify that you have believed in God and His signs and have been patient in what befell you in His path. We beseech Him, exalted be He, to send down upon you at all times mercy from His presence and sustenance from the heaven of His bounty and grace from the atmosphere of His favor and generosity.

Blessed is he who mentions you and visits you according to what has been sent down from the heaven of the mercy of your Lord, the Forgiving, the Merciful. Rejoice, O My handmaiden, in My mention of you. The luminary of forgiveness has shone forth and the ocean of pardon and beneficence has surged. Blessed is he who has attained to My mention before and after his ascension. He is indeed among those who are near to God, the Lord of the worlds. Praise be to Him, for He is the Most Generous of the generous ones and the Most Merciful of the merciful ones. Previously too, mention of her flowed from the Tongue of Grandeur. Blessed is she and joy be to her, for she has attained to that which the handmaidens of the world were prevented from, save whom God willed.

We have mentioned the Martyr—upon him be My glory and My loving-kindness and My mercy—in various Tablets. Blessed is he and the leaf who was with him and those whom God has related to him. He is indeed the Ordainer, the All-Wise.

We have commanded the Name of God, Jamal—upon him be My glory and My loving-kindness—to turn in that direction. Blessed is the servant who loved you and heard your words concerning the Great Announcement of God and His firm and mighty Command. The glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My grace be upon you, O My friends and handmaidens, and upon those who have heard and turned and said:

> "Praise be to Thee, O God of the world, and the grace be Thine, O Thou the Goal of them that are near."

BH01164: God testifieth that there is none other God besides…

In the Name of Him Who imparts solace, Who brings comfort, Who is the All-Compassionate, the All-Bountiful!

God testifieth that there is none other God besides Him. His is the power and the might, the grandeur and the dominion. He it is through Whom was hoisted the Standard of Guidance amidst all peoples, and the Banner of Bounty amongst all who dwell on earth and in heaven. Through Him the ocean of beneficence surged in the world, and the fragrance of His presence wafted among the servants of God, both men and women. God testifieth that there is none other God besides Him, and that He Who hath come in the clouds of glory is the Promised One extolled in the Books and inscribed by the Most Exalted Pen in the Sacred Scrolls and Tablets. Through Him the mysteries were unveiled, the signs were spread abroad, and the Cause of God, firm and impregnable, was made manifest, and His sovereign decree was established over all who are in the heavens and on earth.

O My Most Exalted Pen! Make mention of one among the handmaidens who took up her abode in her Lord's house and attained His presence at morn and eventide, at night and at dawn. We bear witness that she succeeded in serving Me and the Branches, through the grace of God, her Lord, the All-Merciful. We testify that she migrated from the Land of Mystery with her Lord until she arrived at the Fortress of ʿAkka through an injustice at which the dwellers of the most exalted Paradise lamented, and the celestial maidens in the highest heaven were grieved. Blessed is she, and joy be unto her, for having answered her Lord when the Call was raised betwixt earth and heaven, and for having turned unto Him and attained that which flowed from the Most Exalted Pen in the Sacred Scrolls and Tablets.

We bear witness that she partook of the choice wine of utterance from the hand of the bounty of her Lord, the Mighty, the Bestower, and drank thereof time and again, to the shame of every people that turned away from their Lord and were deceived by the ornaments of the world, its embellishments and its colors, to such extent that they cast the Book of God behind their backs and committed that which caused every just and fair-minded soul to weep and made the tears of them that have recognized Him to flow.

By the life of God! The fire of hatred was kindled in her heart to such degree that she rent asunder the veil of the sanctity of God and of His chosen ones and His loved ones, and violated His Covenant and Testament. In her tyranny she reached such a state that she betrayed the trust of God and sent it to a house adorned with the ornaments of the world and the possessions of the nations. Thereby was raised

the lamentation of all things, despite that the Wronged One loved her and revealed numerous Tablets for her. But greed held her back and love of leadership encompassed her until she committed that which caused the Pen to lament at her mention and the Tablet at her deeds and actions.

And she committed this for naught but to seize worldly goods and to exalt her station in the eyes of one whom God had raised up and in whose hand and grasp He had placed the reins of affairs. Thereby was the joy of the loved ones turned to sorrow, and their dignity to supreme terror, and their tranquility to weeping. To this beareth witness the Lord of all beings from this most exalted station and most glorious horizon. Verily, He is the Omnipotent over whatsoever He willeth through His binding and wondrous command.

O Tongue of Grandeur! It behoveth thee to make mention of thine handmaiden who was present before thy face at morn and eventide, that from the horizon of the Supreme Pen might shine forth the luminary of faithfulness. Say: The first splendor that hath shone forth from the horizon of bounty, and the first fragrance that hath wafted from the utterance of the Lord of eternity, and the first perfume that hath been diffused by the will of God, the Lord of all worlds, be upon thee, O handmaiden of Baha, leaf of the Tree of Faithfulness. I testify that thou didst turn unto thy Lord when most of His servants turned away from Him, and didst hear His sweetest call when it was denied to all save whom God, the Lord of the Kingdom of Names, did please.

Thou didst acknowledge that which God had revealed on a Day whereon the servants denied it, save whom God, the Lord of creation, did please. Thou art she who circled round the Throne of thy Lord and voiced His praise amongst the handmaidens. We beseech God, exalted be He, to send down upon thee, at all times, mercy from His presence and grace from His own Self. Blessed art thou, O handmaiden of God, and joy be unto thee, O handmaiden of God, in that the Lord of all creation maketh mention of thee in the world of creation.

By My life! The ocean of forgiveness hath surged at My mention of thee, and the fragrance of the All-Merciful's loving-kindness hath been stirred when I turned towards thee. I testify that thou didst believe in God and His Manifestation, His might, His grandeur and His majesty, and didst act in thy final days in such wise as God hath adorned with the ornament of His acceptance and illumined with the light of His good-pleasure. Thus hath the Supreme Pen spoken on this day whereon We have arisen to make mention of thee, O My handmaiden, and to recall that which thou didst perform in My days. We testify that thou hast attained unto that which most of the servants and handmaidens have failed to attain. Blessed art thou and blessed is he who remembereth thee and visiteth thee, by virtue of that which hath been sent down from the heaven of the will of thy Lord, the All-Forgiving, the All-Merciful. The glory of God rest upon thee, upon thy beginning and thine end, thine outer and thine inner being, and the mercy of God and His blessings.

Glory be unto Thee, O my God! I beseech Thee by this leaf who held fast to the Tree of Thy Revelation, and by the blood that was shed in the land of Ya in Thy path, and by their patience and fortitude, their humility and submissiveness, and by the tears that were shed in separation from Thee, and by the sighs that were raised in remoteness from Thee, that Thou forgive whosoever hath visited her and drawn nigh unto her resting-place and spoken that which the Tongue of Grandeur hath uttered in Thy prison. O Lord!

Illumine the hearts of Thy servants, then open before their faces the doors of Thy bounty. Verily, Thou art the Most Merciful of the merciful and the Fulfiller of the needs of them that seek Thee. There is none other God but Thee, the Single, the One, the Powerful, the All-Loving, the Bountiful.

BH01195: O Khalil! The All-Glorious Lord declares: Reflect upon…

In the Name of the One True God

O Khalil! The All-Glorious Lord declares: Reflect upon the oppression of the oppressors and the transgression of the aggressors. Whenever the effulgences of the Sun of Revelation shone forth from the horizon of the Will of Him Who conversed upon Sinai, all arose in opposition and clung to objection. Through the tyranny of heedless hosts, there befell the gems of existence that which caused the Lote-Tree of the utmost boundary to weep and raised the lamentation of the Supreme Paradise.

This Wronged One turned to the reformation of the world by God's command, and was a mighty fortress for nation and state and a manifest power, and had and hath no purpose save the glory of the latter and the exaltation of the former. All bear witness that this Wronged One had no intention save to extinguish the fire of hatred, and this extinguishing is praiseworthy when accomplished through the divine Kawthar of counsel and the Salsabil of heavenly wisdom. Today the purpose of the Wronged One is clear and evident as the sun—all have known and do know, and the denial by some of this most exalted station and sublime rank stems from enmity and hypocrisy, as every fair-minded and insightful one and every knowing and informed one doth testify.

O Khalil! The honored Amin mentioned thee, thus hast thou attained unto this supreme remembrance. Give thanks unto thy Lord for this great favor and this mighty grace.

O Amin! Some time ago the Most Holy, Most Great, Most Glorious, Most Exalted Tablet—which in one place is referred to as the Call, in another as the Spirit of Life, and in yet another station as the Glad-Tidings—was sent that you, together with him who standeth in service, might peruse it and deliver it to the noble embassy. O Amin! Those glad-tidings are luminous, spiritual, holy and radiant ordinances—in one respect they are the mightiest fortress for the servants, and in another they are the water of life for all who dwell in the land. The light of these glad-tidings hath shone forth from the Supreme Horizon and the Most Glorious Horizon and hath encompassed the world, yet their manifestations are not yet known—they shall become known later. We gathered them from the Books, Psalms and Tablets and compiled them in one Tablet that all might attain unto God's special favors and be freed and delivered from all else.

None is permitted to take a copy thereof; for ye have assuredly heard how the sister of this Wronged One, together with Dawlat-Abadi and others like unto him, have ascribed unto Yahya whatsoever hath been sent down from the heaven of the Divine Will. Even the Kitab-i-Íqan, which was revealed in the presence of and especially for Hadrat-i-Khal, they have attributed unto him. Thus have they clung to such lying inventions, for from themselves there hath appeared no matter worthy of mention. For forty years hath Dawlat-Abadi lived and remained before men's eyes; yet the two radiant luminaries, the two Hasans,

abide hidden in the chambers of the Most Exalted Paradise; and likewise Kazim and those who were with him have attained martyrdom.

Reflect then upon Janab-i-Habib, that spiritual soul and heavenly essence, and upon Janab-i-Ashraf. Consider: wherefore was Hadi suffered to live, and what was the cause of the martyrdom of souls beyond all reckoning? Was the life of the one due to his denial, and the martyrdom of the others to their confession—or rather to something even baser than this? Say: Be fair, O people, and be not of the unjust. No sooner had Hadi given ear than they named him a Babi. Time and again, again and yet again, he mounted the pulpit and uttered such words as would content the shaykh of the land of Sad. He ran to Mashhad, journeyed through divers regions, spoke a word in every place, and in every house he entered cast the seed of doubt.

Glorified be God! Have they indeed been content with such things and with these calumnies of his? By what proof did he believe in the Point of the Bayan, and by what evidence did he affirm the Prophets of former times? Say: Bring it forth, if ye be of them that speak the truth. Yet now he hath laid hold on the game of fraud, though in truth he hath never had knowledge of this Cause, for from the earliest days he was not with Us, nor was he able to read a single Tablet. Nevertheless, it hath been bruited abroad that he is a master of sciences and arts. Mirza Hadi seized the son of My brother, wrote out former Tablets in his name, and gave them to the people. We beseech God to aid him and to aid her unto pure truthfulness, unto turning unto Him, and unto repentance before the door of His forgiveness. He is, verily, powerful over all things.

God is witness and beareth testimony that My brother was powerless to comprehend that which was sent down from God, how much less, then, that such exalted words as these should proceed from him. Thus hath the Tongue of Grandeur spoken while walking within the palace which God hath made the seat of His mighty Throne and His exalted Seat. Our glory be upon Khalil and upon his son. Praise be to God that His grace encompassed him and His bounty enwrapped him, until he was enabled to arise in service to the friends of God. Blessed is he, and well is it with him, and with whosoever hath quaffed the choice wine of utterance from the hand of the bounty of his Lord, the All-Bounteous, the All-Bestowing, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

BH01221: O Amin! Upon thee be the peace of God…

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

O Amin! Upon thee be the peace of God and His loving-kindness. Thy letter was received. Praise be to God, it bore tidings of the health and well-being of the honored Afnan, upon him be the peace of the All-Merciful, and thyself and the other loved ones. God willing, proceed with utmost joy and fragrance in such wise that through the sweet-scented breezes of fellowship the people may be assisted to achieve unity, fellowship and concord. The favored community hath been afflicted. Now it is incumbent, nay obligatory, upon all to entreat the True One, exalted be His glory, that He may protect the believers and their cities and lands from the evil of the ungodly. Verily, He is the All-Powerful, the Almighty.

His first mercy in the world of contingent being was the casting forth of the blessed Word of Divine Unity. Praise be to God, then thanks be to Him, then glory be to Him and bounty, for He hath favored us with the Word of Unity, and hath made us know the sanctity of His Being, and hath taught us the transcendence of His Essence above all likenesses and comparisons. Verily, He is the Self-Sufficient, the Most Exalted.

This Wronged One hath, throughout the nights and days, commanded the servants of God unto whatsoever good and righteous deeds He hath revealed in the Book. However, in barren soil the seeds of counsel yielded no fruit and produced no growth. In place of trustworthiness appeared treachery, and in place of contentment, rebellion. We beseech Him, exalted be He, to assist those who have turned away to turn towards Him, and those who have calumniated to speak the truth. Verily, He is the All-Powerful, the Almighty. The letter thou didst send to this servant was perused. We beseech the True One to grant success and confirmation, and to illumine those in authority with the light of justice and fairness. Verily, He is the All-Bountiful, the Generous.

The petition and letter of the messenger, upon him be peace, was considered. In some matters truth was with him when he spoke, yet we must beseech the True One to protect him that he may hold fast to that which beseemeth him.

O Trustee! This is the Day wherein whatsoever hath been hidden and concealed in existence becometh manifest and evident. God, exalted be His glory, speaking of the Day of Resurrection, hath said: “The Day when all secrets shall be tried.” Now this hath been partially revealed that all may acknowledge with clear certainty that which He hath proclaimed and promised.

God willing, his honor Ali-Haydar, upon him be the peace and bounty of God, will act with kindness toward him, that is, assist him to the extent possible. Regarding what thou didst write about Haji Ali-Akbar, permission is granted that he proceed with A. and H. And likewise regarding Shamakh and Banab, that which they have requested shall be sent from here. And thou didst mention Zayn—We beseech God to make him steadfast. God willing, the evil deeds of the treacherous ones and calumniators have been and will be the cause of steadfastness and trustworthiness among the friends in all regions, that is, it increaseth their praiseworthy qualities. What they have asked for shall therefore be granted.

Thou didst mention Ahmad-i-Farsh. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to protect him and ordain for him the good of this world and the next, and to forgive his father. He is the One to Whose generosity all created things have testified, and to Whose mercy all contingent beings bear witness. There is none other God but Him, the Forgiving, the Possessor of Great Grace.

Divine mercy hath preceded all and His bounty hath encompassed all. He is the Hearer and the Answerer. The hands of the detached ones are raised toward the heaven of His mercy. His generosity and grace are the cause and reason for the appearance of hope. I swear by the Sun of Truth which hath shone forth from the horizon of Muhammad’s brow—peace be upon Him—that He hath never disappointed any supplicant, nor will He ever do so, and He hath never prevented any seeker from the ocean of His gifts. If there appeareth to be delay in the fulfillment of some hopes, this is due to His consummate wisdom,

which none knoweth save Him. Were this station to be unveiled, all would testify to that which hath been mentioned and hath flowed from the pen.

Say: O my God, my God! Thou seest Thy chosen ones and trustees in the hands of the calumniators and the treacherous ones who are consumed by the fire of greed, passion, tyranny and wickedness, who devour people's wealth without any proof from Thee or evidence from Thy presence, and who desire naught but harm to Thy trusted servants. I beseech Thee, O Lord, by the Most Great Word through which the Sun of Divine Unity hath shone forth from the horizon of the heaven of Thy Cause, and by which the hearts of Thy servants and creation have been illumined, to aid the heedless ones and calumniators to be trustworthy, religious, truthful and pure. O Lord! Help them to return to the court of Thy glory and the gate of Thy generosity. Verily, Thou art the Ever-Forgiving, the Pardoner, the All-Bountiful, the Kind, the All-Generous, the Compassionate. There is none other God but Thee, the Single, the One, the Powerful, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

Convey My greetings to the friends of that land. We counsel all to that which will elevate their stations and manifest their ranks, especially his honor the Shaykh, upon him be the peace and bounty of God, and his nephew. What thou hast mentioned in the letter of the Name of Bounty (Ism-i-Jud) hath been noted, and We ask confirmation and success for them in all conditions. Peace be upon thee and upon them and upon God's righteous servants.

BH01225: O my leaf! Upon thee be the peace…

He is the Comforter, the Consoler, the Bountiful, the Generous

O my leaf! Upon thee be the peace of God, His mercy and His bounty. The matter which takes precedence over all things and the cause which transcends all causes hath been recorded in the Book by the Most Bountiful Pen as being the station of meeting with God. All those who have drawn nigh, the sincere ones, the pure ones and the chosen ones have longed for this most holy, most exalted and most glorious station. However, God, exalted be His glory, in accordance with His consummate wisdom, hath opened the gate of reunion for some through His name, the Munificent, and the key of His name, the All-Bounteous. Blessed are they who have attained! And among these, He hath ordained death and departure from this world as one of the gates leading to the meeting with Him.

I swear by the Sun of Truth which hath risen above the horizon of the Prison that the mention of this most exalted station and supreme rank transcendeth all the pens of the world and the tongues of nations. Verily it is hidden in His knowledge and treasured in the stronghold of His protection. The empresses of the world and the queens of the nations have not attained unto this station, though at all times they have, in mosques and churches, in monasteries and temples, beseeched and implored this station from the heaven of divine grace. However, that noble lady and leaf who hath ascended, by the testimony of the Most Exalted Pen, hath attained unto this most glorious station. After the appearance and rising of this Luminary of bounty from the heaven of divine favor, they should not be saddened by God's irrevocable decree, but should engage with supreme joy in the remembrance and praise of the Lord of Power.

O my handmaiden! The love of children is a natural and mighty thing, and the cause and reason for its manifestation hath generally been due to external causes, for man hath loved and loveth the perpetuation of his name and mention, and the cause of this, in the sight of God and men, is primarily the perpetuation of traces, and children are reckoned as the greatest of man's traces. Therefore the heart is attached to them and clings to them. For this reason, the greatest sorrow appeareth after separation following union. However, the perpetuation of outward traces, whether through children or otherwise, is limited and transitory, and is reckoned among perishable things in the sight of God. That which is greater than this, which endureth in the divine Kingdom, is the Word of God, which abideth forever in the divine Book of the All-Merciful and the heavenly Scripture, and is more exalted and greater in the sight of the Lord, the Chosen One, than a hundred thousand children and traces.

This Wronged One beareth witness that that leaf attained unto the Word of God, and mention of her hath repeatedly flowed from the Tongue of Grandeur and hath been recorded in the Tablets by the Pen of God. He saith: The Day of God is the day of supreme joy, and this is that day the mention of which seized the sincere ones and those who have drawn nigh with joy, eagerness, attraction and rapture. In the Qur'an He saith:

> "…that thou mayest bring forth thy people from darkness into light and remind them of the days of God."

Praise be to God that that noble lady attained unto the mention of the Dawning-Place of the Light of Oneness in the aforementioned days.

Today the souls of the world, despite their outward life, are reckoned as dead in the sight of God, for those possessed of true life are souls who have attained unto the recognition of God. They are the possessors of eternal life and everlasting existence. And those dead who have received their portion from the breezes of revelation and the fragrances of inspiration, and have drunk from the Kawthar of recognition from the hand of bounty—they are alive and enduring in the sight of God. If the sweetness of the utterance of the All-Merciful be revealed from […] that which is concealed in the hidden treasure of the Most Exalted Pen, thou shalt find it until thy last breath, occupied with the praise and glorification of God, seeking martyrdom in His path. Verily thy Lord is the True and Faithful Rememberer.

We desire at this hour to make mention of My handmaiden and leaf who hath ascended unto the Most Glorious Companion, as a command from God, the Lord of all worlds.

The resplendent, gleaming and radiant Light shining from the horizon of the heaven of My mercy be upon thee, O My handmaiden, O thou who hast turned unto My horizon. I testify that thou didst leave thy dwelling place, turning thy face toward the Kaaba of God, the Lord of all men, and didst traverse the path, clinging to the Guide, until thou didst attain the Most Great Prison and didst hear the call from the Supreme Horizon, and didst witness that which flowed from the tongue of the Lord of all beings, at Whose appearance the limbs of the oppressors trembled and the hearts of the transgressors were troubled. We testify that thou didst attain unto recognition and didst acknowledge that which was sent down from the heaven of the loving-kindness of God, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

The glory and the light and the radiance from Us be upon thee, and We beseech God, exalted be He, to send down upon thee, at all times, mercy from His presence and grace from His own Self. Verily, He is the One Whose mercy hath preceded all created things and Whose grace hath encompassed all beings. The power of the world cannot frustrate Him, nor can the might of the nations prevent Him. He doeth what He willeth and ordaineth what He pleaseth. He is the Single One, the One, the Mighty, the Powerful, the Praised. Blessed is he who remembereth thy days and visiteth thee with that which hath been sent down from the heaven of thy Lord's Will. He is assuredly among those who remember, in the Book of God, the Lord of all worlds.

BH01242: O thou who gazest toward My horizon and drinkest…

He is the All-Mentioning, the All-Knowing!

O thou who gazest toward My horizon and drinkest the choice wine of My utterance! Hear My call from the horizon of tribulation. Verily, there is no God but Him, the Lord of all beings, Who is established upon the throne. He doeth what He willeth. The oppression of the oppressors hath not hindered Him, nor hath the might of the aggressors frightened Him. He hath manifested Himself and stood before all faces, calling out with the most exalted call:

> "The Promise hath come, and this is He Whom the Books of God, the Lord of all worlds, did herald!"

This is the Day whereon the Hidden One hath appeared, and through His appearance the rustling of the Lote-Tree beyond which there is no passing hath been raised in the All-Highest Paradise, and the murmuring of the Living Waters hath been heard in the Most Exalted Garden, and the Dove of the Cause hath warbled upon the highest branches. The Kingdom is God's, the Possessor of the Day of Judgment. Through Him did the Point speak and give glad tidings unto the servants, and the mysteries of God, the Lord of the Mighty Throne, were revealed. Verily, they who have been prevented from turning unto Him shall have no portion of the Most Great Ocean which hath surged before the faces of the nations and hath brought forth the pearls of wisdom and utterance from hidden shells, as a bounty from His presence. He, verily, is the All-Powerful, the Almighty.

Thy letter hath come before the Wronged One, and the servant in attendance before His Face hath presented it. We have revealed for thee that which hath caused rivers of remembrance and praise to flow from the solid rock. Blessed is he who hath turned, and taken, and drunk in My Name, the Lord of all who are in the heavens and on earth. We mentioned thee before in luminous Tablets as a mercy from Our presence upon thee and upon His believing servants.

O Nabil-i-Akbar! Upon thee be My glory! We have desired naught save to extinguish the fire of rancor and hatred, and to reform the souls of all who dwell in the realm of creation. To this testifieth all things and this perspicuous Book. The world hath been perfumed by the breezes of revelation, yet the people are afflicted with a grievous cold. They behold the light yet deny it, and hear the verses yet turn away from them. Verily they are in manifest loss. Among the people is he who believed, then denied, and wrongfully consumed the property of others, uttering that which none before him had ever uttered. Thy Lord is

verily the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. He cast the truth behind him when he followed the people, and through wealth was kept back from his ultimate end. Thus did his soul entice him. Verily, he is among the wrongdoers. He cast aside righteousness and piety when he was consumed by the fire of greed and passion. He hath committed that which hath caused every discerning soul to lament. Will his wealth profit him? Nay, by the Self of God, the All-Sufficient, the Most High! Will what he possesseth among the people avail him? Nay, by God's compelling and wise decree!

Say: O my God, my God! I beseech Thee by the lights of the dawn of Thy Manifestation, and by what was hidden and treasured in the ocean of Thy bounty and bestowal, and by Thy power that hath encompassed all created things, and by Thy sovereignty before which all possibilities have bowed down, and by Thy Most Great Name which hath caused the hearts of the nations to tremble, to assist Thy loved ones to be trustworthy and religious, lest there appear from them that which beseemeth not Thy days and Thy Manifestation. O Lord! Thou beholdest them clinging to Thy cord—disappoint them not of that which Thou hast ordained for Thy chosen ones among Thy sincere ones. O Lord!

Adorn them with the ornament of righteousness, then preserve them from the evil of self and passion. Verily, Thou art the Powerful over what Thou willest. There is no God but Thee, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. In the Persian tongue I make mention: in these days, heedless souls have, in their greed for wealth, turned away from the Truth. To such a degree are they aflame with the fire of avarice and desire that the pen is powerless to describe it. For a paltry sum they have turned their eyes away from the Euphrates of mercy and have rent asunder the veil of trustworthiness. They have committed that which hath caused the very essence of truth to weep. Out of love for His servants and creatures, beseech God that He may aid all to achieve what befitteth human dignity and grant them success in turning from estrangement to acceptance, from greed to detachment, and from treachery to trustworthiness. Verily thy Lord is the Ever-Forgiving.

That which is essential today in that land is the unity of the friends of God, as well as the observance of wisdom. Say: Know ye with clear certainty that corruption and contention have not been and are not worthy of the people of truth in this Revelation. That which hath outwardly been bestowed upon the kings and rulers—opposition to them is in no wise permitted. God hath ever been observant of the hearts of His servants, and His purpose is that they become enkindled with the fire of divine love and illumined by the light of His knowledge.

Praise be to God that patience, tranquility and detachment have reached such a degree that the friends allow themselves to be slain but do not slay. That which occurred in Ishqabad is the cause of joy and gladness to the Ancient Beauty, for the friends did not retaliate and chose martyrdom in the path of God.

In any case, thou must strive to reform and refine souls. Make mention of the friends of that land on behalf of this Wronged One and give them the glad tidings of God's grace and mercy. We beseech Him to aid all to perform such deeds as will diffuse the fragrance of His good pleasure and illumine the horizons of all lands. Verily, He is the All-Bountiful, the Munificent. The Light shining from the horizon of the Will of God be upon thee and upon those who hearken to thy words concerning this momentous News.

BH01269: O friends of God in Lahijan! The Wronged One…

He is the All-Hearing in His Most Luminous Station

O friends of God in Lahijan! The Wronged One hath appeared before the Wronged One and hath mentioned you purely for the sake of My Face, the Mighty, the Beloved. We make mention of you as a token of Our grace and a mercy from Our presence, for verily I am the All-Bountiful, the All-Compelling, the Self-Subsisting. We have mentioned you before in that whereby your names shall endure in the Book of God, the Lord of the seen and unseen.

O Asadu'llah! Hearken unto the call from the direction of thy Lord's loving-kindness, the Lord of all creation. He, verily, draweth thee nigh unto the Lord of the Throne, as doth testify the Mother Book on this promised Day. Mine enemies have inflicted upon My loved ones such wrongs as have caused the Pen to lament and the Tablet to cry out before the face of God, the Sovereign of all the kingdoms of existence. Recite the verses of thy Lord—they shall draw thee to a station wherein the Herald hath proclaimed:

> "The Kingdom belongeth unto God, the Lord of existence and of all the hosts."

Beware lest the oppression of the enemies prevent thee from drawing nigh unto the Lord of the Kingdom of Names. Leave them to their vain imaginings and hold fast unto the cord of God, the Mighty, the All-Loving.

Blessed is My servant who was named Muhammad-i-Sadiq. We testify that he was martyred in the path of God, the Lord of the Throne and of the dust, and the One Who hath dominion over what was and what shall be. We made mention of him before in a Tablet from whose horizon shone forth the light of My loving-kindness, as doth testify My inscribed Tablet. The glory from Us be upon him and upon thee and upon thy mother and upon thy kindred and upon those whom nothing whatsoever hath deterred from drawing nigh unto God, the One, the Single, the Mighty, the Renowned.

O Asadu'llah! Thy name hath appeared before the Face, and We have revealed unto thee this perspicuous Tablet that thou mayest rejoice in this Most Great Remembrance and render thanks unto thy Lord, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. Blessed is the servant who hath cast away transgression and wickedness and taken hold of righteousness and godliness, as bidden by the Ordainer, the Ancient of Days. We have sent down the verses and manifested the clear proofs. Joy be to him who hath witnessed and seen, and woe unto every heedless and remote one. We have mentioned thy father who hath ascended unto the Supreme Companion with a remembrance whereby have been enraptured the hearts of them that know. The glory be upon him and upon thee and upon those whom God hath related unto thee, from God, the Forgiving, the Generous. We have mentioned each one of them, both men and women, with that whereby the eyes of them that know have been solaced.

O Abu-Turab! The All-Bestower hath come at the final return, yet the people are in doubt and schism. The light hath shone forth through that which the Speaker of the Mount hath uttered, yet most of the people remain heedless and turned away. Their pride hath held them back from the Sovereign of the Manifestation, and their vain imaginings have veiled them from turning unto the Dayspring of certitude.

We make mention of thy son who was named Taqi and give him the glad-tidings of My grace and loving-kindness and the light of My bounty whereby the horizons have been illumined.

O Abd-i-Azim! The Lord of the Day of Judgment maketh mention of thee on this manifest Day with a remembrance whereby the fragrance of the All-Merciful hath wafted throughout all possibility. Say: Praise be unto Thee, O my God, for having guided me unto the horizon of Thy manifestation while the people were in darkness and error. I beseech from the heaven of Thy grace that which beseemeth Thy bounty, for Thou art the Mighty, the All-Bountiful. His be the praise and glory for having aided His loved ones to turn towards Him and for having sent down unto them that which shall endure throughout ages and centuries.

O Muhammad-i-Ibrahim! He Who was named Muhammad-i-Ali, who circled round the Throne time and again and appeared before the Face at eventide and at dawn, maketh mention of thee. It behooveth thee to render thanks unto God for having aided thee in a Cause from which the servants were held back on the Day of Return. We have mentioned the friends of God before and after, and We shall continue to mention them despite every ignorant deceiver.

O Ghulam-i-Qabli-Husayn! After thy departure from that great city, a fire of malice was ignited therein. The oppressor hath ripped open the she-camel of trustworthiness, devoured the sheep of equity, stung the temple of truthfulness, and committed that which hath caused the pens to lament. He cast truthfulness behind him, clinging to the delusions of his own self. Thus did his soul prompt him. Verily thy Lord is the Mighty, the All-Knowing. The Most Great Law hath wailed, and tears have flowed from the eyes of the faithful at morn and at eventide. He hath violated My sanctity after We had honored him among the servants, turned away from the Wronged One after We had made him a dawning-place for companions, united with God's enemy in causing Me harm, and together they have committed that which hath caused the temple of justice to swoon and the limbs of the chosen ones in the Most Exalted Paradise to quake. They have wrought that which the Pen is powerless to recount and which the Tablets cannot bear. We have mentioned thee before, and at this hour, as a token of Our grace, for verily I am the Mighty, the All-Bountiful.

O Pen! Turn thy face toward him who is named Sadiq, then give him to drink of what hath flowed from thee from the Euphrates of loving-kindness and favor. O Sadiq! Verily truthfulness lamenteth and weepeth, and at this moment, beneath the claws of the calumniators, it crieth out saying:

My God, my God! Deliver me through Thy bounty and save me through Thy grace. O Lord! Thou seest how the liar hath wronged me and imprisoned me in the jail of self and passion. I beseech Thee, O Lord of all being, by Thy power that hath encompassed the world and by Thy mercy that hath preceded all peoples, to deliver me. Verily Thou art the Powerful, the Mighty, the All-Bestowing.

BH01271: Tablet of Visitation for the Martyrs of the Land…

Tablet of Visitation for the Martyrs of the Land of Yazd

In My Name, the Sorrowful, the Joyous

O Most Exalted Pen! The greatest calamity hath come to pass, whereby the hearts of the chosen ones have melted, all things have lamented, and the dwellers of the cities of names have wailed. Say: The resplendent Light from the horizon of the heaven of bounty, and the Spirit whereby God quickened the denizens of the most exalted Paradise, and the Peace which God made the glory of Islam, and the manifest and radiant Prayer from the horizon of God's will, the Lord of the Day of Judgment, be upon you, O Dawning-places of glory and bounty, O Daysprings of detachment in creation, and Sources of beneficence throughout all regions.

I testify that through your remembrance, the hearts of lovers were attracted, and through the ascension of your spirits the decree of unity and concord was made manifest on the Day of the Covenant, the Concourse on High was made joyful, and through the light of your faces the cities of glory and splendor were illumined. I testify that by your calamity the rock cried out, the great cry was raised, and tears flowed from the people of the depths of oneness. I testify that by you and the light of your steadfastness was adorned the preamble of the Book of Faithfulness in the mortal realm of creation, and by your suffering the heart of Baha lamented, His Most Exalted Pen cried out, and the outpouring from the clouds of grace and bounty was cut off.

Alas, alas, O Treasures of faithfulness! Alas, alas, O Dawning-places of light in the heaven of praise and remembrance! Through your calamity the ocean of utterance was stilled from its waves, the Lote-Tree from its fruits, and the Sun from its radiance. Verily, those near unto God wandered through deserts and wilderness, mountains and valleys, seeking fragments of your bodies that perchance they might inhale from them the fragrance of the love of God, your Creator, your Beloved, your Goal, your Worshipped One, and your Quickener. Blessed are ye, and blessed is he who loveth you, visiteth you, and visiteth those who visit you.

I testify that ye have attained the most exalted station and the supreme height, and have reached a place wherein God Himself consoleth you, and consoleth your children, your families, and your descendants. Alas, alas, for the injustice whereby the hearts of the highest Paradise and the people of the cities of detachment behind the crimson sea were consumed! Blessed are ye, O Dawning-places of light among mankind, and blessed are ye, O Daysprings of names in creation!

The Wronged One hath ever been speaking of your remembrance, your praise, and what befell you in the path of God. A Countenance from among the countenances of the most exalted Paradise called out and said:

> "O Beloved of earth and heaven! Through Thy grief the universe well-nigh returned to nothingness. Have mercy upon the world, O Beloved of eternity!"

Verily, the Faithful Spirit at this moment hath descended from his most exalted station with hosts of angels and the Spirit to visit Thy loved ones and friends who quaffed the wine of martyrdom in Thy path.

Alas, alas, O Knights of the field of detachment! Alas, alas, O Manifestations of the mysteries of martyrdom in creation! I testify that through your calamity the Eye of God wept in His station and the Most Exalted Pen before His face. I testify that the verses lament your afflictions and the evidences cry out at your tribulations. Were it not for you, the mysteries of servitude would not have appeared among

creatures, nor the stations of submission and contentment among creation. Ye are they through whose arising to serve the Cause the servants arose to that which God desired in the final return.

I testify that through you the gate of generosity was opened upon the manifestations of existence, and the foundations of ranks and hosts were shaken. I testify that through your acceptance all created things turned toward the Dawning-place of names and attributes, and through your turning all contingent beings faced the source of verses. Blessed is the earth honored by your footsteps, the place adorned by your blood, and the spot made a repository for the fragments of your bodies. Through your grief, the breezes of God were withheld from wafting and the Pen from flowing. The fragrance of His garment testifies that the Mother Book laments over you on behalf of your mothers, and the maidens of Paradise cry out in place of your kindred and your sisters. Blessed are you all, the first and the last of you, your outward and your inward being, and the mercy of God and His blessings rest upon you.

Glory be unto Thee, O my God! Glory be unto Thee, O my heart's Desire! Glory be unto Thee, O my Hope! I beseech Thee by the blood of these souls and the pieces of their bodies, by their steadfastness, their patience and their forbearance, by their being enkindled with the fire of Thy love and their turning toward the light of Thy countenance, by their remembrance and their devotion in Thy days, by their sacrifice of their spirits in Thy path, and by their submissiveness and humility before the manifestations of Thy commandments and Thy laws, to adorn the hearts of the peoples with the light of Thy love and Thy knowledge. Then enable the princes of Thy earth and the learned ones of Thy lands to execute justice and equity in Thy realm.

O Lord! Thou seest Thy chosen ones in the hands of the oppressors who have cast behind their backs Thy covenant and Thy testament, who have denied Thy bounty and disputed Thy signs. I beseech Thee by the waves of the ocean of Thy mercy and the effulgent lights from the horizon of Thy tablets, and by those who have cast aside all else save Thee and have taken what Thou didst send down from the heaven of Thy will and the atmosphere of Thy desire, to transform the abasement of Thy loved ones into might through Thy power, and their poverty into wealth through Thy riches. Furthermore, I beseech Thee, O God of Names and Creator of heaven, by the blood that hath been shed in Thy path, O Lord of all beings, to forgive me and my parents, then fulfill my needs and what I have desired from the heaven of Thy bounty and the sun of Thy bestowals. Verily, Thou art the All-Forgiving, the Ever-Pardoning, the Almighty, the All-Merciful, the Generous.

BH01296: O Mihdi, read what the All-Merciful hath revealed…

He is the True One, the Knower of the Unseen!

O Mihdi, read what the All-Merciful hath revealed in the Qur'an:

> "O my son! If there be a matter the weight of a mustard seed, and though it be in a rock, or in the heavens, or in the earth, God will bring it forth."

All that was deposited in this blessed verse concerning misery and felicity, detachment and greed, trustworthiness and treachery, hath been made manifest and evident. Blessed is the eye which the veils of idle fancies have not prevented, and the ear which hath attained to hearing. Glory be to God! The

treacherous one hath claimed trustworthiness and opened the tongue of counsel. O Mihdi, that which was hidden in the breasts hath been revealed, for the Day wherein secrets are laid bare hath raised its banner, and that which was concealed in the eyes and hidden in the breasts hath, through His all-compelling Will, been made manifest and apparent. No condition of the Hour, and no secret of the Resurrection remaineth unrevealed; nay rather, that which no understanding, knowledge or learning hath comprehended hath been made manifest. The Truth, exalted be His glory, encompasseth and is not encompassed. Verses descend like rain, and evidences from before and after shine forth like the sun. Blessed is the eye that seeth and the ear that heareth, and woe unto the heedless!

Thy letter which thou didst send to the Name of God hath attained unto the Most Holy Court. Say: My God, my God! I beseech Thee by the station honored by Thy footsteps, and by the Names which have won the glances of Thine eyes of grace, and by the House wherein was raised Thy most sweet call and the most exalted shrill voice of Thy Pen—by Thy might, the lovers have been consumed by the fire of remoteness in Thy days. The force of separation hath so seized them that their spirits have well nigh departed from their bodies. Look, O my God, upon those who seek Thee with the eyes of Thy mercy, and deliver them from the torment of remoteness through the grace of Thy nearness.

Then make me, O my God, so firm in Thy love that the calumnies of the people and the doubts of those who have denied Thee and Thy signs shall not prevent me. O Lord! Open before the faces of the religions, through Thy name the All-Merciful, the gates of Thy grace and mercy, that they may return from their vain imaginings to the horizon of certitude through Thy power and bounty. Then ordain for me and for those who love Thee and have drunk the choice wine of Thy revelation from the hand of Thy bounty, every good thing Thou hast sent down in Thy perspicuous Book. Praise be unto Thee, O God of the worlds!

O Mihdi, upon thee be My Glory! Thou didst request permission to attain Our presence. In these days divine wisdom doth not permit such permission to be granted. Be patient, for thy Lord is the All-Patient, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. We beseech God to ordain that which His prevailing Will hath determined. In these days sorrows descend from every direction and the divine sheep are afflicted amidst wolves. Ask God, thy Lord, to protect His servants through His power and dominion, and to assist them in that whereby His Word may be exalted amongst His creation. Verily, He is powerful over all things. We make mention of thy brother, and We are the All-Mentioning, the All-Knowing.

O Ahmad! Hearken unto the call of God, the Single, the One. He draweth thee nigh unto His most exalted horizon and ordaineth for thee that which shall solace the eyes of the observers. The Glory be upon thee and upon thy mother and thy sister, and upon those who have believed in God, the Lord of the Throne, and upon My handmaidens who have believed in the Lord of the exalted Seat. We make mention of him who desired to attain My presence, who was named Muhammad-Hasan, and We give him glad tidings of My grace and We beseech God to ordain for him the reward of attaining the presence of Him Who conversed on Sinai. Verily, He is the Hearer, the Answerer.

And We make mention of him who was named Muhammad-Baqir and We beseech God to raise through him the standard of steadfastness and to strengthen him in His remembrance and praise and the service of His Cause. Verily, He is the Protector of those who remember Him and the Master of the sincere ones.

O Ali! Hear My call from the precincts of My prison and say: Praise be unto Thee, O my Goal and my Beloved, for having caused me to turn towards the Kaaba of Thy knowledge and to acknowledge that which the tongue of Thy grandeur hath spoken. I beseech Thee to ordain for me that which shall preserve me from turning to anyone but Thee. Verily, Thou art the All-Powerful, the Supreme, the Mighty, the Most Bountiful.

O Siyyid Mihdi! Upon thee be the everlasting glory of God. As to what thou hast asked concerning the Revelation, thou hast indeed spoken the truth, and the truth is with thee. We beseech God to make known unto all the station of this Revelation and teach them of its mighty tidings.

O people of God! Cast away what the people possess and take hold of My Book through My strength, My power, and My sovereignty. Then drink of the Kawthar of utterance in My Name and My remembrance, despite those who have turned away and disbelieved, even to the point of pronouncing judgment against God, the Lord of the mighty throne. Grieve not over anything. Turn with illumined hearts to the Most Sublime Horizon—this station wherein the Tongue of Grandeur speaketh, and around which circle the Most Exalted Paradise, the Supreme Heaven, and the company of those near unto God and the sincere ones.

The glory from Us be upon thee, O Mihdi, and upon those whose names thou hast mentioned at the end of thy letter, and upon thy other brother, and thy other sister, and upon every steadfast and firm servant in the Cause of God, the Lord of this exalted station.

BH01284: In My Name, the Caller between earth and heaven

In My Name, the Caller between earth and heaven

Blessed is He Who hath sent down the verses and made them a sign from His presence, an evidence from before Him, and a proof from His side. He, verily, is the One Who hath power over whatsoever He willeth. He giveth and withholdeth, and He is the Single, the One, the Mighty, the Unconstrained. Blessed is He Who hath manifested what was hidden in knowledge and raised up one who spoke the truth before the faces of the servants. He is the One Who caused His servant to speak forth His remembrance and praise in the prison, in such wise that neither the tyranny of the oppressor nor the cawing of every croaker who denied God’s right in the beginning and the end could strike fear into him.

O son of Abhar! There hath come before the Wronged One what thou didst send unto him who hath arisen to serve the Cause of God, the Lord of lords. Blessed is the soul that hath borne tribulations in the path of God, the Lord of the Day of Mutual Summoning. Blessed be thy tongue for having spoken the truth, and thy countenance for having turned toward God, the Revealer of verses. This is the Day wherein every hidden thing hath been revealed, every concealed thing made manifest, and every silent thing hath spoken, to the shame of those who have denied God and rejected His proof which hath encompassed all who are in earth and heaven.

O thou who speaketh in My Name and who hath arisen to serve My Cause! Hearken unto My call from the precincts of My prison. It verily draweth thee nigh and guideth thee unto the Most Great News, whereby existence hath been thunderstruck, the mountains crumbled, and the heaven of religions cleft

asunder. Give thanks unto God for having enabled thee in prison to make mention of Him and sing His praise, and to manifest that which was hidden from all eyes.

O son of Abhar! A hundred thousand praises be unto the Purpose of the world Who, through the Most Great Name, hath opened the gates of the hearts of nations. Through His Name, He hath transformed fear into tranquility, remoteness into nearness, and darkness into light. He is the One at Whose command the clamor of the aggressive doth not deter Him, nor do the doubts of the suspicious hold Him back from His purpose. By the life of God! This servant and His loved ones behold themselves immersed in an ocean of joy, for amid the uproar of these days, when grief hath come upon His Majesty the Sultan from every party save this party, who have not abandoned the bounds of respect and propriety. In truth, propriety hath a magnificent station with the Lord. Blessed is the soul that hath attained thereunto and hath not been deprived.

This Wronged One is bewildered and thoughtful through the nights and days: what hath befallen the divines of the age, the theologians of the time, and the sages of the era, that they have committed that which hath caused grief to the believers and the detached ones? O son of Abhar! This is the time for the manifestation of gratitude and the appearance of praise, for this party, after divine grace, celestial favor, and pre-existent mercy, hath shown no disrespect. Even while the pretenders are engaged day and night in intrigue and deception. Say: Praise be unto Thee, O my God, for having preserved Thy party through Thy power and sovereignty despite enemies and the appearance of the wicked ones. No harm hath come upon the blessed person of the Sultan from them. If this matter be denied in these days, its signs and manifestations shall surely encompass the world thereafter, and all shall acknowledge the appearance of divine grace and mercy. Verily, He doth not suffer the reward of the doers of good to be lost.

His honor and the other loved ones should repeatedly call the people to patience and forbearance, and not be distressed by the deeds of some. They should fix their gaze upon the horizon of the Cause, not upon the words and deeds of the servants. The essence of the Cause and the good intentions of this party are not hidden from His Majesty the Sultan and the Chief of Princes. If, out of wisdom, some matter should appear from the Sovereign Commander, one must hold fast to the cord of patience. This Wronged One beseecheth God to preserve and protect this party, lest some matter should appear that would lay waste the deeds and patience of forty years. No blessing and no food hath a sweetness that prevaileth over the sweetness of patience. Whatsoever appeareth from this party is for the sake of God, and the gaze of all is fixed upon the horizon of His favor. He is the One unto Whom all are drawn, Who bestoweth full recompense upon them that seek Him. There is none other God but He, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

Beseech ye the one true God that He may unveil before His Majesty the Sultan and His Highness the Grand Vizier that which will enable them to become aware of this Wronged One's purpose and aspirations. By God! They would then find themselves established upon a ship which no winds could move and no waves could harm. Thus hath the Wronged One spoken, as a token of His grace upon thee. Verily, He is the All-Bountiful, the Compassionate, the Most Generous. Thou hast ever been and continuest to be remembered.

Take hold of the Most Great Handle in the name of the Lord of all mankind and say: O my God, my God! I beseech Thee by the Dawning-Place of Thy signs and the Dayspring of Thy clear tokens to unveil unto Thy

servants that which Thou hast unveiled unto us through Thy power and Thy sovereignty. Thou art He through Whose Name Thou didst raise the standard of free will before the faces of the righteous and the wicked alike. There is none other God but Thee, the Omnipotent over whatsoever Thou willest, through Thy binding and perspicuous command.

BH01303: Praise be to the All-Giving Lord, the Master…

He is God, exalted be His glory, the Mighty and Powerful!

Praise be to the All-Giving Lord, the Master of origin and return, Who hath uttered that which leadeth to the advancement and elevation of existence, the tranquility of the world, and the order of nations, and Who hath adorned the Afnan among His servants with kinship unto Himself and illumined them with the rays of His special bounty and favor. And blessings and peace be upon His handiwork through whom the world was set ablaze with the fire of the love of God, through whom the gate of heaven was opened and the treasures of the Divine Throne and all that was stored therein were revealed, and upon His family and companions, the dawning-places of might and the daysprings of power, through whom authority was manifested, the rock cried out, the ocean of justice surged, and the fragrance of equity was wafted abroad. My spirit be a sacrifice for your service, your mention and your praise.

Your multiple letters arrived and gave fresh light to the eye and a new melody to the ear. We beseech God to strengthen your pen and to cause the ink to succeed in mentioning love and unity. In truth, from every word thereof the fragrance of the spirit was diffused. After perusal, We proceeded to the Most Great Prison where it was presented, and He declared:

He is the Helper, the Chosen One!

O My Afnan, O ʿAli, upon thee be the peace of God and His loving-kindness! Praise be to God Who hath granted health, bestowed strength, and confirmed thee in the recognition of His blessed Self. Were it not for His grace, who would be able to turn unto Him or recognize even a single one of His mentions? At all times the rain of grace and bounty descendeth from the clouds of mercy. We beseech Him to protect thee and to confirm thee in that which He loveth and is pleased with. Grieve not over the severe trials that have befallen through God's irrevocable decree, for after every hardship He hath promised ease, and after every intensity, relief. Throughout all ages people have experienced both hardship and relief, and afterwards they have attained to that which hath no equal. Say:

My God, my God! Thou seest me turning unto Thee and clinging to the cord of Thy generosity, the cord of Thy grace, the cord of Thy bestowal, and the cord of Thy bounty. I am surrounded on all sides by that which hath caused my limbs to quake and my heart to tremble. I beseech Thee, O Reformer of all affairs, by the One Who conversed on Sinai, and by the Light and its Manifestation, and by Thy Prophets and Thy chosen ones, and by Him through Whom and through Whose advent the heavens of Thy power and the spheres of Thy utterance were honored, to transform these sorrows into joy, this hardship into relief, this difficulty into ease, and this abasement into supreme glory. I testify that Thou art the One Who hath power over whatsoever Thou willest. Thou hearest and answerest, and verily Thou art the Forgiving, the Generous.

We send greetings to the loved ones in that land. Convey Our greetings to Muhammad Mustafa, upon him be the peace of God and His grace. Permission was sought previously for one of the loved ones and permission was granted. The other loved ones are mentioned in the presence of the Wronged One. We beseech God to confirm them all in fellowship, unity, love and concord, and in deeds that lead to the exaltation of their station. Verily, He hath power over all things. We have ever mentioned and continue to mention the loved ones. We beseech the Exalted One to protect them and to send down upon them blessings from the heaven of His bounty. Verily, He is the All-Bountiful, the Bestower, the Mighty, the Generous.

All praise and bounty belongs to God, inasmuch as He protected the companions of the prison with sovereignty, glory and grandeur, and bestowed love and affection upon them. I beseech His exalted Self to gather them beneath the banner of His generosity that hath encompassed all existence, and to aid them to achieve praiseworthy character and goodly deeds. Verily He is the Almighty, the All-Bountiful. This evanescent servant beseecheth and imploreth the Eternal Truth to adorn that blessed and auspicious being with the ornament of joy and delight, and to make manifest the means of gladness and felicity. Although according to the utterance of the Master, the people of grace, truthfulness, kindness and forbearance have ever reposed beneath the shade of His favor, for their glory is of God and their joy hath been and is in Him. This is why in one of the Tablets He saith: The dominion of the Afnan is established in the divine Kingdom, not in the earthly realm of water and clay. Verily He is the Almighty, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

It is hoped that through God's grace and favor that which beseemeth His generosity, bounty and munificence may be made manifest. I convey greetings and praise to the loved ones of that land, and I have mentioned and continue to mention each one of them. Verily our Lord is the Forgiving, the Merciful. The prayer that Haji—upon him be God's peace—requested was sent. It is hoped that they may attain unto it and drink from the choice wine of its utterance. Verily He is the Helper, the All-Bountiful.

BH01341: This is a Book which calleth aloud…

He is the Songster upon the Branch of Eternity!

This is a Book which calleth aloud in the world and summoneth all peoples to the Most Great Name, whereby the hearts of the Concourse on High were attracted and the hearts of them that denied God, the Creator of heaven, were perturbed. O thou who art present before the Countenance! Recount unto the people of cities and lands that which thou hast witnessed and heard, when thou didst take for thyself in the Pavilions of Grandeur a station that was exalted in the name of God.

Say: O people of the Furqan! The All-Merciful hath come with a sovereignty before which the hosts of earth and heaven cannot stand. This is attested by the Mother Book which speaketh in the final abode and proclaimeth: The appointed time hath come, and the Revealer of verses hath come from the horizon of might with a Cause before which have bowed the necks of those who established for themselves beneath the shadow of vain imaginings a station that was, from time immemorial, rejected through justice. Beware lest the contingencies of idle fancies withhold you from His Name, the Self-Subsisting. Cast away vain imaginings! The Lord of all beings hath appeared with a sovereignty that was witnessed in

truth. The Fire speaketh from the Lote-Tree, and the Light hath shone forth from this Horizon which was known by the name of God.

This is a Day wherein the divine Hill hath attained the presence of God and the call hath been raised from all things: The Spot hath been adorned through the advent of the Lord of all beings. Blessed art thou, O Land of Syria! The Morn of Manifestation hath breathed within thee, and thereby hath the fragrance of God been diffused throughout all else. Blessed is he who hath cast away that which the people possess and hath taken for himself a path unto Him. In this moment the cry of Zion hath been raised and Mount Carmel rejoiceth at the sea of attainment. Thus hath the matter been decreed through grace.

O Carmel! Thou didst taste the poison of separation through ages and centuries; now the honey of reunion hath come unto thee, inasmuch as the Countenance of the Ancient of Days hath turned toward thee from this direction which was recorded in the Mother Book by the Pen of the All-Merciful. The rapture of the utterance hath seized all created things. Blessed is the one whom neither the might of any oppressor nor the ascendancy of any aggressor hath weakened. He is of the people of Baha who were mentioned by the tongue of God in the Qayyumu'l-Asma'. This is a Tablet that hath been sent down in truth and hath given the world the glad-tidings of the manifestation of the Ancient of Days. Blessed is he who hath hearkened and hastened to a station that was illumined by the lights of His countenance. Thus hath the Most Exalted Pen spoken, and there hath appeared that which was hidden from the people, save whom God willeth. Verily, He hath power over all things.

O Abdul-Baqi! The countenance of the Ever-Abiding hath at this moment turned towards thee and maketh mention of that which will draw thee nigh unto God, the Lord of all worlds. We bear witness that thou didst attain unto His presence on this Day and didst turn unto God at a time when every heedless and remote soul had turned away from Him. And We testify that thou didst seek after the Ultimate Goal and the Most Exalted End, and God aided thee through the agencies of the heavens and earth until thou didst arrive upon the shore of the ocean of grandeur and didst attain unto that which had been recorded by the Pen of Revelation in the Books of the Messengers. Thou art he whom the clamour of the people did not frighten, nor did the might of those who denied the Day of Judgment hold thee back. Thou didst purpose, depart, and hasten until thou didst attain unto a place wherein the call of God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy, was raised. Blessed be thine eye for what it beheld and thine ear for what it heard.

When thou didst arrive in the Land of Ta, it was the hope of them that are nigh unto God that thou wouldst stand before the Hands of the Cause of God, convey My glorification unto them on My behalf, and give them the glad-tidings of My loving-kindness, My grace and My mercy that have preceded all who are in the heavens and on earth. We have not mentioned their names, in accordance with the wisdom from Our presence. Verily thy Lord is the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. Then make mention of My loved ones in that place, who have cast away what the people possess and taken hold of that which they were bidden in the Book of God, the Lord of the Mighty Throne.

Say: This is the Day of Victory, did ye but know it, and this is the Day of remembrance and praise. Blessed is he who hath uttered that which he was commanded in My Preserved Tablet, wherein have been sent down the mysteries of what hath been and what will be. Say: This is the Day whereon the Temple of Revelation was established upon the throne of Sinai, yet most of the people do not understand. Say: This

is the Day of Utterance, did ye but comprehend it, and this is the Day of distinction, would ye but judge with fairness. This is the Day whereon the Ark of the Bayan sailed upon the ocean of divine knowledge through this blessed, mighty and beloved Name. Say: O people of the earth! Beware lest the veils of glory hold you back from My Name, the Self-Subsisting, and beware lest names hold you back from God, the Possessor of this manifest station. Aid your Lord through the wisdom wherewith ye have been commanded in the Tablets of God, the Almighty, the Mighty, the Beloved.

Then make mention of My greetings unto thy family and those who are with thee, and recount unto them what thou hast heard from the tongue of God, the Possessor of the unseen and the seen. Thus hath the fragrance of utterance been wafted when the Tongue spoke forth from this praiseworthy station. The glory from Our presence be upon thee and upon those who have quaffed the choice wine of divine knowledge from the chalice of the bounty of God, the Lord of dominion and the Kingdom.

BH01357: Praise befitteth and is worthy of the Most Great…

In His Name, exalted be His station, the Bestower of gifts and favors!

Praise befitteth and is worthy of the Most Great Cause, which through the key of the Most Exalted Word hath unlocked the doors of hearts and souls, and adorned them with harmony and unity. Glorious is His utterance and mighty His proof, and there is no God but Him. On this blessed day the friends of God must be adorned with the crown of detachment and the luminous raiment of steadfastness, and must remain attentive and hold fast to this blessed Supreme Word, which is a penetrating sword for the opposers and an enduring bounty for those who have turned to Him.

O God! I beseech Thee by Thy Glory at its most glorious, and all Thy Glory is indeed glorious. O God! I beseech Thee by the whole of Thy Glory to make me steadfast in Thy Cause and in Thy love.

O Muhammad-Rida! Though thou art not present in body, thy traces are manifest and evident like thy very being. The greatest bounty is that these traces are companions and confidants in the rose-garden of the peerless Friend. Blessed art thou and happy art thou! Make mention of the friends in the land of Kha on behalf of the Wronged One. Say: O people of God! This is the day for the triumph of the Cause, and triumph is dependent upon and connected with deeds and character. Say: Behold ye the power of God and His sovereignty! And let them turn their gaze toward the land of Ya, where in an instant punishment was transformed into sweetness and tyranny into justice. Blessed is he who hath found and recognized, and woe unto the heedless!

O thou who hast turned thy face toward Me! Muhammad, upon him be My glory, sent thy letter to the Most Holy Court, and the Branch Diya, out of pure grace, requested a reply. At once this Most Great Tablet was revealed from the heaven of the bounty of the Lord of Eternity and sent forth. The spiritual youth, upon him be God's everlasting grace, and his honor Ibn-i-Ta'if-i-Marfu', upon him be God's eternal glory, have been and are mentioned. O youth! Thou hast ever been and art remembered. Should anyone ask thee about the Ark of God, say: Verily it is amidst the waves. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to assist His people to attain such steadfastness as would shake the foundations of the opposers and cause the hearts of the calumniators to tremble.

O spiritual youth! The cup of martyrdom hath another exhilaration and another rapture. The lovers in the city of Ya have attained that which the pens of the isles of knowledge and the tongues of the realms of utterance and inner meaning are powerless to describe. Blessed are they and happy are they! They are the horsemen in the field of love and faithfulness and the heroes in the arena of power and bounty. The eye of creation hath not seen the like of such souls, nor hath the ear of invention heard of such sacrifice. We beseech the Lord to ordain for His loved ones that which He hath ordained for them. Verily, He hath power over all things. From the heaven of grace was sent down that which is specially meant for the departed and elevated Sadr and his honor the elevated Mirza Ali, upon them be the glory of God and His care—that which its fragrance shall never cease and its traces shall never fade. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to send down upon them in this hour a mercy from His presence and a bounty from His own Self. Blessed is he who remembers them and visits them, for he is among the successful ones in a mighty tablet.

Convey greetings to each of the friends on behalf of the Wronged One. Say: Today is the day of victory and triumph; deprive not yourselves. The righteous deed of the son of the departed Ahmad, who ascended unto My horizon, and likewise the deed of him whom God related unto him, are before Our sight and have been recorded by the Supreme Pen in the crimson scroll. Happy are they both, and happy are they—meaning those souls who rendered assistance and joined in this benevolent act. Nothing whatsoever escapeth the knowledge of your Lord. He heareth and seeth, and He is the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing.

We have commanded the friends in the scriptures and tablets to justice, and forbidden them from oppression and corruption. They must, through the power and might of God, shun and avoid that from which the odor of corruption can be detected. This is a firm ordinance that hath been sent down and issued forth from the will of the Lord of eternity and the Most Great Name. Blessed is he who hath heard and acted upon that which God, the Ordainer, the Ancient of Days, hath ordained.

Glory be unto Thee, O my God! I beseech Thee by the blessed, hallowed, and most exalted Word, through whose dawning from the heaven of Thy will the ocean of immortality surged, the fragrances of bounty wafted, and the sun of faithfulness shone forth, to aid Thy loved ones to arise to serve Thee and to stand firm in Thy Cause with such steadfastness as cannot be deterred by hosts and ranks, nor by the roaring of those who have denied God, the Lord of bounty and the Lord of hosts. He is the Almighty, the Glorious, the All-Loving.

BH01417: O My handmaiden! My glory be upon thee! At…

He is the Compassionate, the All-Bountiful!

O My handmaiden! My glory be upon thee! At this hour the gate of utterance hath been opened, turning unto thee, that thou mayest give thanks unto thy Lord, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. O My leaf! The Divine Lote-Tree desireth to speak that which it spoke on the Mount of Knowledge unto the Son of Imran, that it may draw thee to the Dayspring of thy Lord’s loving-kindness, the Almighty, the All-Powerful.

O thou who hast turned towards My horizon! Verily, the heaven desireth to send unto thee a manifestation from among the manifestations of its sun, and a light from among the lights of its moon. Say: My spirit be a sacrifice for Thy tender mercy, O Lord of all being, Creator of all things, Sovereign of all names, Who gazeth upon all men and women, and Who speaketh that which draweth them nigh unto God, the Lord of all worlds!

O My handmaiden! Behold, behold the pearls which We have sent unto thee from this Most Great Sea, as a mercy from Us upon thee and upon those who have heard the Call and have said: "Praise be unto Thee, O Thou Who art the Beloved of all in the heavens and on earth!" O thou who art present before the throne! Hear My call time and again, repeatedly. Verily it is the water of life for the people of creation and the light of the All-Merciful amidst the followers of all religions. Blessed is he who hath heard, witnessed and seen, and woe unto the heedless! The wine of My choice nectar hath intoxicated the Concourse on High and the Supreme Paradise. They cry "Glory!" and "God is Most Great!" to this Name, at Whose appearance the limbs of the idolaters who violated God's Covenant and Testament trembled, and who denied that which was sent down from the heaven of His utterance in this mighty, exalted station.

Give thanks, give thanks and say: "Praise be unto Thee for having remembered me with verses that have attracted the hearts of those near unto Thee!" Glorify, glorify and say: "All praise be unto Thee, O Thou Who art the Sovereign of the Kingdom of Names, for having turned toward Thy handmaiden and revealed unto her that which hath brought solace to the eyes of those endued with knowledge!" Thus hath the Most Great Sea spoken forth in a station which God hath sanctified beyond the understanding of the sincere ones.

O My leaf! We have been encompassed by sorrows from all directions through that which the hands of those whom God created to aid My Cause have wrought, for they have instead aided Mine enemies who have pronounced judgment against Me with such injustice as hath caused the Holy Spirit to lament.

In the Persian tongue, hearken unto the call of the Wronged One: Though outwardly His Majesty the King and the Minister remain silent and have even shown some measure of kindness toward this community, inwardly they persist in and act according to their own desires. By My life! Their power and might shall not prevent Me. We have arisen before all faces and have cast upon all that which God hath taught Me, with a sovereignty that hath encompassed the whole earth. Every truthful and faithful one beareth witness unto this. Ere long the signs of God shall become manifest and resplendent from all directions. Neither the might of the oppressors nor the power of the heedless can prevent it. The divine signs penetrate all things and His Will is supreme. Can anyone prevent Him from exercising His sovereignty? Nay, by His own Self, the Truth! We have revealed that which was hidden from all eyes and treasured in the knowledge of God, the Lord of Lords.

Convey My greetings to all the handmaidens in that land. Say: O handmaidens of God! This is the day of supreme joy. With spirit and fragrance, occupy yourselves with the remembrance of the Beloved of all worlds. However, do not let go of wisdom, for adherence to it hath been revealed from the Supreme Pen in numerous Tablets, lest there appear that which would grieve the hearts of those of My handmaidens who have heard My call, who have won victory through My traces, who have witnessed that which hath been sent down from the heaven of My grace, and who have responded when the Call was raised

between earth and heaven. Thus hath the tongue of the Wronged One spoken at this precious and beloved hour.

Take a cup of tea in defiance of My turbaned enemies, then drink from it once for My love and again in remembrance of Me, the Mighty, the Beautiful.

The divines of Iran who for years have claimed knowledge, excellence and wisdom are found to be the most lost, most lying and most ignorant of the world, save whom God willeth. We beseech God to protect His servants and handmaidens. He is the One by Whose command all things have appeared and through Whose love they have moved and proclaimed:

> "This is the Day wherein He hath come, through Whom the lips of God's books have smiled, the Help in Peril, the Self-Subsisting."

The glory shining from the horizon of the Mother Book be upon thee and upon My handmaidens there, and upon all who are steadfast and firm.

For nearly three years, especially for My handmaiden and My spiritual leaf, upon her be My glory, there hath been revealed that which is as Kawthar for those near unto God and as Salsabil for the sincere ones. This time it was sent—give her these glad tidings. Verily her Lord is the Forgiving, the Merciful, and He is the All-Bountiful, the Generous.

BH01472: O son of Ashraf! Upon thee be the glory…

He is the Consoler, the Comforter, the Kind, the Generous!

O son of Ashraf! Upon thee be the glory of God, His grace, His bounty and His radiance! There hath come upon Us from the oppressors that which hath caused My heart to cry out, My Pen to lament, and the eye of My loving-kindness to weep when We beheld the sheep of God amidst the wolves of the earth and the She-Camel of God in the hands of the oppressors. Verily, the oppressor hath issued a decree to slay My She-Camel and sink My Ark. Therefore hath the Herald cried out from the right hand of the Throne of My majesty:

> "O the pity of it! The servants have broken God's Covenant and His Testament, violated the sanctity of His Cause, slain His chosen ones and His loved ones, and plundered their possessions with manifest tyranny!"

O Husayn! Upon thee be My glory and My loving-kindness. Hearken unto the Call from the direction of ʿAkka. Verily, there is no God but Him, the Single, the One, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. Blessed is thy father, and blessed is he who loveth him, and who standeth before his resting-place and remembereth him with what hath been revealed from the Supreme Pen at this manifest time.

Glory and remembrance and praise be upon thee, O Ashraf! I testify that thou didst witness the waves of the ocean of thy Lord's utterance and the effulgences of the Day-Star of His Cause, and thou didst attain unto that which most of mankind hath failed to attain. Thou art he who turned towards God in the earliest days when the Call was raised between earth and heaven, in such wise that neither the

happenings of the world nor the clamor of the ignorant could deter thee. Throughout thy days thou didst speak in praise of thy Lord, didst hold fast unto the cord of His grace, didst arise to serve Him, and didst guide His servants. Blessed art thou, and joy be unto thee, and unto him who remembereth thee and loveth thee and presenteth himself before thy grave and calleth to mind thy days and what befell thee from the dawning-places of oppression and the day-springs of tyranny.

Thou art he whom the might of the people did not weaken, nor did the hosts and ranks frighten. Thou didst acknowledge God and His signs, and didst attain His good-pleasure in His days. I testify that through thy ascension the ocean of forgiveness surged and the fragrance of the mercy of thy Lord, the All-Merciful, was diffused. The hands of grace and favor have caused thee to enter the Most Exalted Paradise, the description of which the pens are powerless to set forth and the tongues unable to express.

We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to send down upon thee, at all times, mercy from His presence and light from His nearness and loving-kindness from His side. Verily, He is the Forgiver, the Bountiful. There is no God but Him, the Single, the One, the Compassionate, the Generous.

And for him who presenteth himself before the tomb, it behooveth him to say:

> "My God, my God! I beseech Thee by this martyr who gave up his spirit in Thy path and deposited his body in Thy love between the hands of Thine enemies, and who denied not Thy Manifestation and Thy Revelation and Thy Cause that hath encompassed Thy earth and Thy heaven, to forgive me and my father and my mother and my kinsmen. Then ordain for me the good of the world to come and of this world. Verily, Thou art the Lord of all men, the Lord of the Throne on high and of earth below. There is no God but Thee, the Ordainer, the Ancient of Days."

O Husayn! I hope that thou wilt walk in the footsteps of thy father and appear amongst the servants in utmost sanctity and detachment. In truth I say, pure deeds and praiseworthy character have been and continue to be the helpers of God's Cause in this Most Great Revelation. Blessed is he who renounceth his desires and holdeth fast unto the fear of God. He is assuredly among those who are nigh unto God in My perspicuous Book. All the souls mentioned in thy letter have attained unto divine favors, and mention of each one hath flowed from the Tongue of Grandeur. We have remembered them before and do remember them at this time, and We give them the glad-tidings of God's bounty, His bestowal, His mercy and His favor.

Verily, He is the Manifest, the All-Knowing. At this moment the ocean of Mine utterance hath surged and the fragrance of My remembrance hath been diffused. Blessed are they and joy be unto them. We beseech God to aid them and assist them to serve the Cause, and to ordain for them the good of this world and of the world to come. Verily, He is the Generous, the Lord of great bounty. Convey My greetings to each of the relatives of the martyred departed one who have attained to recognition, and give them the glad-tidings of the favors of God, exalted be His glory. Likewise, make mention of the believing handmaidens on behalf of the Wronged One. We beseech God to ordain for them that which He hath ordained for His devoted handmaidens.

Verily, He is the Most Powerful of the powerful ones and the Most Merciful of the merciful ones. The glory shining forth from the horizon of the heaven of My mercy be upon thee and upon those who have quaffed the wine of steadfastness from the hands of My bounty, and upon every steadfast and firm one, and every faithful and trusted one.

BH01488: We have today left one place, intending for another…

He is the One Who speaketh before the rulers and the ruled

We have today left one place, intending for another, and We have spoken that whereby the hearts of the people were attracted, and all things spoke even as the Tongue hath spoken, and the Dove of the Cause hath called out in the Most Exalted Paradise:

> "He Who was hidden hath appeared, and He Who was promised hath come! Rejoice, O peoples of the earth, and respond to Him Who hath called you to His most exalted horizon and His most glorious station, which hath been the object of circumambulation of the Concourse on High throughout ages and centuries."

We passed by trees and rivers, and heard the rustling of the former in remembrance of the Lord of all beings, and the murmuring of the latter in remembrance of this Eternal Remembrance and Everlasting Light, whereby the ocean of oneness surged and the fragrance of God, the Lord of lords, was diffused. Blessed is he who hath dealt equitably in this Cause, and he who hath turned to the Dayspring of lights. This is the Day whereon the Temple of the Manifestation was established upon the throne of utterance, and spoke that whereby the sincere ones and they who are detached hastened unto God, the Revealer of verses.

O Andalib! Upon thee be the Glory of God and His favors. Thy letter hath come before Us. We perceived from it the fragrance of thy love, thy sincerity, thy steadfastness, thy remembrance, and thy wisdom for God and for His Face that shineth from the horizon of horizons. Say: O people! By God, He hath appeared Who was the object of the pure ones' desire, and through Him the sun of wisdom and proof hath shone forth in the realm of possibility. Exalted is the Most Merciful Who gave glad tidings to the servants of the mention of Him Who conversed with the Sinai, through Whom existence smiled and atoms spoke:

> "The kingdom, the dominion, the glory and the might belong to God, the Lord of the Day of Reckoning!"

O Andalib! By the life of God, the deeds of those who have cast godliness behind their backs, clinging to tyranny and wickedness while attributing themselves to the Dayspring of sanctity and holiness, have grieved Me. By this the Pen of God hath lamented in the most exalted station. We have revealed in the Tablets that which draweth the servants nigh unto the Mighty, the All-Bestowing. Among them are those who claimed My love and entry into the stronghold of My grace, yet committed that which caused My heart and My Pen to lament, and the eye of My inner being to weep at all times.

Say: O people! Fear God and follow not your desires. Follow Him Who hath come from the heaven of Command with power and sovereignty. We have enjoined upon you the fear of God and have revealed

that which draweth you nigh unto Him. Beware lest ye forsake what ye have been commanded in the Mother Book. We desire from you no recompense, and We have desired for you in the Most Exalted Paradise a station whose description pens are powerless to render. Cast away what ye possess and take what ye have been given from the Lord of all men.

We have, in this Revelation, forbidden the servants from conflict and corruption and that which troubleth men of understanding, and We have commanded them to conquer the citadels of hearts with the hosts of wisdom and utterance. Your Lord, the Mighty, the All-Knowing, beareth witness unto this. O My loved ones! Hold fast unto the cord of deeds and character, that there may appear from you that which shall attract the hearts of those in all lands. Know ye that the hosts of good character are the mightiest hosts in the world. Consider this, O ye who are endowed with insight! Through these shall your stations and ranks be elevated among the parties.

O Andalib! We have created souls for the victory of Our Cause, yet most of them have supported Mine enemies through deeds whereby the hosts of revelation and inspiration have lamented. This is what hath been sent down from My Most Exalted Pen, a command from Our presence, and I am the Mighty, the All-Bestowing. Remind the people of My verses and what hath been sent down from the kingdom of My utterance, that they might take for themselves a path to the Truth.

Say: Glory be unto Thee, O my God, my Lord, my Beloved, and my Purpose! I beseech Thee by the light of Thy Cause, whereby earth and heaven were illumined, and whereby all things were stirred when they recognized it, to assist Thy servants to return unto Thee, to turn repentant to the gate of Thy grace, and to hold fast unto the cord of Thy bounty. Verily, Thou art the Ever-Forgiving, the Generous, and verily, Thou art the All-Bountiful, the Forgiving, the Merciful.

O Lord! O Lord! O Lord! O Lord! O Lord! O Lord! O Lord! O Lord! O Lord! Sanctify Thy loved ones from the promptings of self and passion, and adorn them with the ornament of holiness among Thy servants, O Lord of all being and Sovereign of the hereafter and the former times! O Lord! Illumine their outward and inward beings with the light of Thy knowledge, then ordain for them every good thing Thou hast sent down in Thy Books, Thy Scrolls, Thy Scriptures and Thy Tablets. I testify that Thou art the One Who hath power over whatsoever Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the Bountiful, the All-Bestowing, the Mighty, the Wise.

BH01501: O Muhammad-Qabli-Mihdi! Hearken unto the call of God…

He is the All-Remembering, the All-Knowing, the All-Subduing, the Self-Subsisting!

O Muhammad-Qabli-Mihdi! Hearken unto the call of God which hath been raised from the precincts of the Prison, summoning all to a station which God hath sanctified from the idle fancies of the ungodly and the insinuations of the doubters, who have cast the Covenant of God and His Testament behind their backs and have uttered that which hath caused every fair-minded soul to lament and the tears to flow from the eyes of them that circle round the Throne at eventide and at dawn.

O Muhammad-Qabli-ʿAli! The Wronged One hath ascended the throne of Sinai and hath proclaimed unto all who are in the heavens and on earth that which draweth them nigh unto the Most Sublime Horizon

and preserveth them from such as have reclined upon the cushions of tyranny and whom the ornaments of the world have deluded, until they denied the Lord of all beings, Who came from the heaven of bounty with the standards of His signs.

O Muhammad-Kazim! Say: O God of Names and Creator of heaven! I beseech Thee by the Most Great Name, Who desireth naught but the reformation of the world and the edification of the nations, to illumine my face with the lights of Thy countenance and my heart with the light of Thy knowledge. Adorn my head with the crown of detachment and my temple with the robe of godliness. Thou art, verily, the Possessor of all things, and within Thy grasp lie the reins of all who dwell in the kingdom of creation. Thou doest what Thou willest through Thy power and ordainest what Thou pleasest through Thy sovereignty. There is none other God but Thee, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

O Muhammad-Qabli-Taqi! Upon thee be the everlasting glory of God. Say: O people, fear ye this Day! By God, that which was treasured in God's knowledge and concealed in His Books and Scrolls, and hidden from all eyes and sight, hath been made manifest.

O Hasan-Qabli-ʿAli! This is the Day whereon the ocean of oneness hath surged and whereon the Ark of God, the Lord of all beings and the Lord of the Throne on high and of earth below, hath sailed. Blessed is he who hath cast away the world and its ornaments and all that is therein, and hath held fast unto it and clung to the hem of the robe of his Lord's mercy, the Lord of the Final Return.

O Muhammad! Sanctify thine ear from the tales of bygone ages that thou mayest hear that which hath been raised from the Most Exalted Summit, the station which God hath made the circling-point of Sinai and the dawning-places of Revelation. Thus hath the Most Exalted Pen revealed that which was treasured within it, as a command from God, the Lord of all men.

O Abu'l-Hasan! Upon thee and upon My loved ones be My glory and My loving-kindness. Dost thou hear the call from the Most Sublime Horizon? This is the call whereby the Concourse on High and the dwellers of the Most Exalted Paradise have been enraptured. Well is it with him who hath turned and attained, and woe betide every heedless doubter.

O Husayn! Hear My call from the precincts of My prison. Verily, it will draw thee nigh unto My Kingdom and acquaint thee with My Message and My Path, and will aid thee to soar in My atmosphere and enable thee to serve My Cause, whereby the pillars of the people and all in the land were shaken, save those whom God, the Lord of the Day of Resurrection, did preserve.

O ʿAli! The Light hath shone forth and the Temple of Revelation hath been established upon the throne of Sinai. Thus hath the call been raised from every direction:

> "The Kingdom is God's, then the Power is His, then the Greatness is His."

Blessed is he who hath turned with a luminous face and an illumined heart to the Most Sublime Station.

O Javad! The helpless servants in these days are bewildered in the wilderness of doubts and idle fancies, and Hadi-i-Dawlatabadi, like the people of old, is nurturing this party. Say: Fear thou God, glorified be His majesty, and follow not the ways of them that are lost in fancy. Say: O Hadi! Present thyself before the

Face that thou mayest hear what the world's ear hath not heard since the beginning that hath no beginning. Present thyself that thou mayest behold that which hath no likeness or parallel. By the life of God! Baha counseleth thee for the sake of God, and desireth from thee and from the world neither recompense nor thanks.

O Muhammad-Qabli-Isma'il! Hear the call from the precincts of ʿAkka. Verily, it attracteth thee to the Most Sublime Horizon and draweth thee nigh unto Him Whom the power of princes hath not weakened, nor the might of divines frightened, nor the dominion of any oppressor deterred, nor the opposition of any rejecter hindered, nor the cawing of any crow impeded, nor the denial of those whose deeds have prevented them from acknowledging and testifying.

O Husayn! Hear thou the counsel of God and act according to that which thou hast been commanded. Beware lest the veils of the wicked prevent thee, or the clouds of them who heard the call and denied it, and who witnessed the signs and rejected them, enshroud thee. They are indeed servants who have cast the Truth behind their backs and have embraced that which they were forbidden in the Mother Book.

BH01518: He Calleth out at all times

He Calleth out at all times

Praise be to the Peerless Object of all desire, Who deserveth all praise and glory, for through the tokens of His Pen He hath subdued the kingdoms of earth and heaven. The clamor raised in places of darkness held Him not back from His purpose, nor did the calumnies of the people and the opposition of the hypocrites prevent His loved ones from turning unto Him. Through His most exalted Word He summoned the peoples of the nether world to the Dayspring of grace and bounty. Exalted be His might and supreme His sovereignty! He is the One, the Single, the Powerful, the Supreme, the Self-Subsisting.

O Siyyid Kazim! The servant who is present hath received thy letter which thou didst send unto him and laid it before His face. We have answered thee with that which God hath made a light in the darkness of the earth, and a Kawthar of life for the people of understanding, and the Most Great Medicine for the healing of the nations, and the hosts of power and might for His loved ones who were created to assist His Cause through wisdom and utterance. Thus hath the Tongue of Grandeur spoken from this station which hath been named the Most Great Prison and by the most beautiful names, as a token of His grace. He, verily, is the Truth, the Knower of things unseen. We have sent down the verses and manifested the Cause unto people who understand.

O thou who hast turned towards Me! We have found in thy letter the sweet savors of thy love and the fragrance of thy devotion, thy humility and thy submissiveness. Blessed art thou, and blessed thy tongue and thy pen. Thy Lord, verily, is the One Who hath power over whatsoever He willeth through His word "Be" and it is. We bear witness that thy mention hath attained the honor of acceptance before God, the Lord of the seen and the unseen.

In all conditions the cry of the Wronged One is raised, mentioning His loved ones in that which conduceth to their exaltation. He is the All-Bountiful, the Bestower, the Compassionate. That which beseemeth His loved ones today is steadfastness, for some of the servants are weak: at the mere mention of a name

they falter or turn away. Say: O people of the Bayan! By God, I have laid no claim to any matter, nor to any name. Fear ye God and follow not those who cling to the idols of names and are of them that turn aside.

Say: My God, my God! I am Thy servant and the son of Thy servant, clinging fast to Thee and to Thy verses. I beseech Thee by the treasures of Thy earth which come forth through Thy Name to manifest Thy Cause and exalt Thy Word, that Thou assist me and Thy loved ones in that which leadeth to the sanctification of Thy Being and the glorification of Thine Essence. Then assist me, O my God, with such steadfastness as cannot be hindered by hosts or ranks. Verily Thou art the Mighty, the Glorious, the Best-Beloved.

O Siyyid Kazim! Thou hast attained unto that whose fragrance shall never cease and shall endure through the eternity of the divine names. His honor Siyyid Javad, upon him be My glory and My loving-kindness, hath also mentioned thee. He is among those who turned towards Me in the early days, who attained Our presence and circumambulated the spot round which circle the Concourse on High. God willing, thou shalt, through wisdom and utterance, make the servants aware and guide them to the divine law. Praise be to God, His grace hath encompassed all: thou hast both attained this Tablet and art engaged in serving the Afnan of the Sacred Tree. We beseech God to assist him and thee to mention and praise Him with the wisdom We have sent down in a mighty Tablet. We make mention of thy mother, thy handmaiden, and give her the glad-tidings of her Lord's loving-kindness, and We ask Him to draw her nigh unto Him in all conditions. He, verily, is the Mighty, the All-Bountiful.

We make mention at this moment of thy brother whose name beginneth with Ha and Sin, that he may rejoice and be of the thankful. O Ha! Hearken unto the Call from the Supreme Horizon in the Prison of ʿAkka. God—there is none other God but He, the Single, the One, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. We have manifested the Cause despite every stubborn tyrant and sinful calumniator. Neither the weapons of the world nor the hosts of the nations hindered Us. We have revealed what We desired before all faces through a power that hath conquered all and a sovereignty that hath encompassed all who are in the heavens and on earth.

O Siyyid Sadiq! Thy name hath been presented before the Wronged One. We have mentioned thee with My Most Great Remembrance. Blessed art thou and blessed are they whom neither the doubts of the divines nor the signs of those who have denied the Day of Judgment have prevented. Say: My God, my God! I beseech Thee by the lights of Thy Throne and by the influence of Thy Word, to assist Thy loved ones in that which Thou lovest and art pleased with, and to unite their hearts through Thy Most Great Name, the Most Glorious. 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 All-Forgiving, the All-Merciful.

BH01526: This is a Book sent down by the Lord…

He is the One dawning from the horizon of the heaven of bounty.

This is a Book sent down by the Lord of Names and Creator of the heavens, that He may draw those who dwell in the realm of creation near unto the Most Exalted Horizon—the station wherein the Most

Glorious Pen proclaimeth: “The Kingdom, the Realm, the Sovereignty and the Dominion belong unto God, the Revealer of verses.” This is a day wherein the fragrance of bounties and favors hath been wafted from God, the Lord of creation. Blessed is he who hath inhaled the fragrance of the All-Merciful, and he who hath heard the Call when it was raised betwixt earth and heaven, and he whose tongue hath spoken before all religions: “The door of reunion hath been opened with the key of the name of God, the Most Glorious.” And blessed is he who hath heard and hastened, and woe unto every hesitant doubter.

God beareth witness that there is none other God but Him, and He Who hath come with the truth is, verily, the Lord of existence and the Sovereign of the seen and the unseen. When He appeared, He uttered a Word whereby the ocean of utterance surged, and the fragrances of the All-Merciful were diffused, and through it the trees spoke, the fruits appeared, the rivers flowed, the rocks trembled, and the righteous cried out:

> “Blessed is the land honored by His footsteps, and the spot adorned by His presence, and the air that received the fragrance of His revelation, and the house wherein His remembrance was raised, and the city that became renowned through His name, and the tongue that uttered His praise at morn and eventide.”

Say: This is a day wherein the heaven of knowledge hath been adorned with the stars of wisdom and utterance, and wherein the sun of proof hath shone forth from its horizon, as a bounty from God, the Lord of Lords. This is a day when the light of joy hath shone forth after the darkness of sorrows, and the carpet of manifestation hath been outspread, and the decree of gladness hath appeared, as the Hands of the bounty of the Lord of Destiny circulated His most pure wine at His most luminous station and His greatest scene. And God raised His station until He established Himself upon the throne of utterance and spoke that whereby the realities of all contingent beings were attracted.

Thereupon the rustling of the Sadratu’l-Muntaha was heard in the Abha Paradise, calling to the denizens of earth and heaven, saying:

> “Rejoice with exceeding gladness and impart the tidings that the Hand of Bestowal hath stretched out and opened the arena of delight in the name of God, the Blissful, amidst the dwellers of the Tabernacle of Glory in these days of unfading splendour.”

Blessed be God, the Originator of all things and the Lord of the Kingdom of Names, Who hath adorned the world through His Most Great Name, and from Whose Pen hath flowed that which attracted the hearts of the nations who, when they heard, turned unto Him and acknowledged that which the Tongue of Grandeur had spoken in the earliest of days. Then the Sadratu’l-Bayan called out from the highest Paradise, saying: “O dwellers of the cities of names and companions of the Crimson Ark! This is a day the like of which the eye of creation hath not seen, nor hath the vision of invention beheld its equal, inasmuch as the Lord of all beings hath willed to adorn the couch of one of His loved ones—who hath been named ʿAbdu’l-Baha by the Tongue of Grandeur—with a leaf from among the leaves of the Tree of Fidelity, whom God hath adorned with the ornament of martyrdom in His path and the sacrifice of spirit in His love.

And since her dowry in the Book of God was the sacrifice of bodies and souls, the King of Martyrs came forward himself and accepted that which was ordained by the Pen of Destiny—he who arose from the horizon of the world with the banner of detachment and sacrificed his spirit in this Straight Path and the Great News, whereby the realities of what was and what will be were made joyful. Command and judgment belong to God, the Mighty, the Help in Peril.

O God of the world and Creator of the nations! I beseech Thee by the Most Great Name to bless this union through Thy name, the All-Merciful. Then unite their hearts through Thy Name by which Thou didst unite hearts at the dawning-places of Thy Cause, the repositories of Thy laws, the descending-points of Thy knowledge, and the sources of Thy names. Then send down, O my God, upon them and upon those with them, the rain of Thy generosity from the clouds of Thy grace.

O Yahya! Hear the Call from the Most Exalted Summit and take the Book with a strength that the might of the world cannot weaken and with a power that the Pharaohs of the nations cannot prevent. Say: Praise be unto Thee, O Thou the Goal of them that are near and the Beloved of them that are detached, for having adorned my head with the crown of Thy utterance, and my temple with the ornament of Thy bounty, and my heart with the light of Thy knowledge. I beseech Thee by Thy Will, through which Thou hast subdued all created things and manifested all possibilities, to make me in all conditions steadfast in Thy service, speaking Thy praise, and assisting Thy Cause through wisdom and utterance. There is none other God but Thee, the Almighty, the Glorious, the All-Bountiful.

BH01517: Praise be to the One desired by the world…

He is God, exalted be His station, the Lord of Wisdom and Utterance!

Praise be to the One desired by the world, Who, in the Most Great Prison, hath spoken and made mention of that which attracteth and draweth the peoples. The acceptance or rejection of the servants, and the opposition and denial of the dwellers of the earth, have not prevented Him from His pervading Will and all-encompassing Purpose. By the command of the Lord of existence, He hath spoken before all faces that which hath been the cause of the exaltation of the world and the sanctification of the peoples.

O Ali-Qabli-Haydar! Upon thee be My glory and My loving-kindness. Thou hast ever been and art still mentioned in the presence of the Wronged One and before the Desired One. Verily, He is with thee under all conditions. Soon there shall appear in the earth that which hath been ordained for thee from My Most Exalted Pen, and the tongues of all beings shall speak of thy remembrance, thy praise, thy service, thy acceptance, and thy rising up in the Cause of thy Lord. By the life of God! Whatsoever hath flowed from the Pen hath been and shall be manifested, letter by letter.

Tablets were previously sent in the name of him who was imprisoned for My sake, and to the loved ones. That which hath not reached him, read ye, that ye may become aware of its contents, and afterward deliver them to His Eminence Jim, the Name of God, that he may be informed of that which hath been sent down from the heaven of the will of his Lord, the All-Explaining, the All-Knowing. And if possible, let them be given to the imprisoned Wronged One Himself—this would be acceptable and beloved in the sight of God.

O thou who hast arisen to serve My Cause! Blessed is Ibn-i-Abhar, for the sweet savors of joy and delight are evident from his condition and manifest from his letter. In the Tablet of the world, this most exalted Word hath been revealed from the Most Exalted Pen: O friends! Why this fear, and from whom this dread? The clay fragments of the world disintegrate with but a little moisture. The very act of gathering together causeth the dispersal of deluded souls. Conflict and contention are the attributes of the beasts of the field. Through the aid of the Lord, the sharp swords of the Babi community have been returned to their sheaths through goodly words and praiseworthy deeds. The righteous have ever conquered the cities of existence through their utterance.

Say: O friends! Let not wisdom slip from your grasp. Hearken with the ear of understanding to the counsels of the Most Exalted Pen. All the peoples of the world must be free from the harm of your hands and tongues. By clay fragments are meant those souls who, until now, have not understood the purpose of this Wronged One and are seen to be under the control of self and passion. Blessed are My friends and loved ones, for no unseemly act was manifested by them in the days of clamor.

If the Daysprings of the Cause and the Dawning-Places of judgment be not mindful in these days, they shall become mindful thereafter. We beseech God—and do ye beseech Him—that He may adorn His Majesty the King (may God assist him) and likewise the Amir'ul-Umara with the ornament of justice and fairness. The glory of existence lieth in justice, not in oppression. At present, falsehood and vainglory have prevented the world and its peoples from turning to the Truth. Soon shall come a day wherein God will raise up His patient and beneficent servants.

Say: My God, my God! Praise be to Thee for having remembered Thy servants in the prison when I was in the hands of the heedless. I beseech Thee by the lights of Thy countenance and the power of Thy Cause to preserve Thy loved ones with the hosts of the seen and the unseen. Then send down upon them from the clouds of Thy mercy and the heaven of Thy generosity the rains of Thy bounty and Thy gifts. O Lord! Disappoint not Thy chosen ones of the wonders of Thy grace and favor, and the manifestations of Thy bestowals and loving-kindness. Thou art He Whom the might of those who have broken Thy Covenant and Testament, who have disputed Thy signs, and who have denied Thy proof and Thy evidence, hath not hindered.

O Lord! I beseech Thee by the ocean of Thy utterance and its waves, and by the pearls hidden in its shells, to aid Thy servants to achieve the Most Great Steadfastness, whereby the hosts of the earth and their ranks shall not cause them to slip, nor shall their clamor and roaring frighten them. Verily, Thou art He through Whose power all created things have testified, and through Whose grandeur all possible things have borne witness. There is no God but Thee, the Almighty, the Glorious, the All-Bountiful.

The blessings and peace and the light shining from the horizon of the Abode of Peace be upon Thy chosen ones and Thy loved ones who have taken hold of Thy Book with a power from Thee and a sovereignty from Thy presence. Verily, Thou art the most powerful of the powerful and the most merciful of the merciful. There is no God but Thee, the Single, the One, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

BH01522: God testifieth that there is none other God but…

He is the All-Remembering, the All-Explaining, the All-Wise.

God testifieth that there is none other God but Him, and He Who speaketh among His servants is indeed the Lord of all creation. Through Him hath streamed from the Most Exalted Pen the Kawthar of immortality, and through Him hath surged the ocean of bounty in the kingdom of creation, and the Sun of grace hath shone forth from the horizon of God's will, the Lord of all men. Through Him were the mysteries revealed, the rivers made to flow, and the trees raised their voices in that which the Tree of Utterance spoke unto Moses, son of ʿImran. Blessed is the soul that hath turned unto Him, the ear that hath heard, and the eye that hath beheld what hath appeared through the Will of God, the Lord of might and power.

O people of God! In this year there hath befallen the Wronged One that which hath caused the dwellers of the Kingdom and the Realm of Glory to lament. We beseech God to adorn His servants with the ornament of justice and fairness, and to enable them to that which beseemeth these days. They who have exchanged trustworthiness for treachery, and godliness for tyranny and corruption—these are among the people of error in the sight of the Self-Sufficient, the Most High. And in it the Bird of Inner Meanings hath taken flight unto the Most Exalted Companion and the Most Glorious Horizon, whereby the Most Great Joy was transformed into the Most Great Sorrow, and the tears of the righteous were shed in manifestation of their love and expression of their affection. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to adorn the temples of His loved ones in this supreme calamity with the robe of patience. Verily, He is the Lord of Lords, and in His grasp is the reins of all choice.

O Tongue of Grandeur! Make mention of him who hath turned toward the Horizon of Revelation when the call of Him Who conversed on Sinai was raised—He through Whom the fragrance of utterance was diffused throughout all possibility and the sweet savors of the All-Merciful were wafted among all religions. Then make mention of his orientation and his turning, his humility and his lowliness, and his trust in the Dayspring of Lights. Blessed art thou, O ʿAbdu'l-Husayn, and blessed is thy name. I bear witness that thou didst attain unto the hearing of the Call when it was raised between earth and heaven, and thou didst turn and believe in God, the Lord of the Kingdom of Names, and didst acknowledge that which He revealed in His Most Holy Book and His Sacred Tablet, and that which His Tongue did speak. Thou art he whom the veils of the world and the clouds of the nations did not hinder. Thou didst rend them all asunder through the power of recognition and didst seek the ultimate goal, the supreme end, and the most exalted horizon, and thou didst advance and hasten until thou didst arrive at the station whereon He Who conversed on Sinai was established upon the Throne of Revelation, and the Herald called out from every direction:

> "O concourse of earth and heaven! This is the Day wherein God hath fulfilled His promise and revealed that which was hidden in His knowledge, and hath called all unto the carpet of His holiness and the courtyard of His companionship. Blessed is he who hath turned and attained, and woe unto every heedless doubter."

The Tongue of My Grandeur in the Most Great Prison doth once again in this moment testify that thou didst bear hardships in the path of thy Lord, and there befell you from the oppressors that which caused the hearts of those near unto God to tremble and the livers of the sincere to melt. Thou art he who attained unto the presence time and again, and drank the choice wine of reunion from the hands of grace and bounty, and recognized Him Who was veiled from all eyes, and heard the shrill voice of the Most Exalted Pen, and beheld that which was mentioned in the hearts of the chosen ones and inscribed in the Holy Books and Tablets.

Glorified art Thou, O God, O God of Names and Creator of heaven! I beseech Thee by Thy most great signs, and by the revelations of the Sun of Thy grace amidst all beings, and by the waves of the ocean of Thy mercy in the kingdom of creation, that Thou send down upon him from the heaven of Thy bounty that which beseemeth Thy generosity and bestowal. Then grant him, at all times, Thy enduring blessing and Thine eternal sustenance. O Lord! Adorn the temples of Thy loved ones with the vestures of patience and prosperity, and ordain for them that which will acquaint them with what Thou hast destined for them in the Supreme Paradise near unto Thy Most Great Mercy and Thy Most Mighty Favor.

O Lord! Ordain for him and his kindred that which will draw them nigh unto Thee and console them and comfort them in that which hath befallen them through the decree of Thy judgment. Then send down, O my God, upon them from the clouds of Thy generosity a blessing from Thee and a bounty from Thy presence. Then protect them from the hosts of the oppressors who have broken Thy Covenant and Thy Testament, who have denied Thy proof and Thy evidence, who have disputed Thy signs and have warred against Thy Self. Thou art He by Whose command the standard of power was hoisted upon the highest flagpoles and the banner of authority among all people. There is none other God but Thee, the Almighty, the All-Hearing, the All-Answering.

Volume 096: Akka 1307 A.H. (1889–1890), Part IV (2 of 4)

BH01561: This is a Book from the Wronged One…

He is the All-Glorious, the Most Manifest, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise!

This is a Book from the Wronged One to him who hath turned unto the Self-Subsisting and hath quaffed the choice wine, sealed, from the hand of His bounty on a day whereon the people turned away from God, the Sovereign, the Self-Subsisting. The verses have been sent down in such wise that the Kingdom of Utterance circleth round them, as attesteth He Who speaketh in every state, that there is none other God but Him, the Single, the One, the Powerful, the Mighty, the Loving. Verily, the Glory, in the ocean of tribulation, calleth unto them that love Him and soar in His atmosphere and have taken His Book with such strength as the hosts could not withhold. Can anyone reckon what He hath sent down from the heaven of His grace, and can anyone enumerate what hath befallen Him in the path of God? Nay, by the Lord of all existence!

O thou who gazeth upon My countenance! We have enjoined upon men righteousness and piety, and forbidden them tyranny and wickedness, yet they cast aside the former and chose the latter. I testify that

they have cast the decree of God behind their backs and have taken what they were bidden by the sources of fancy and idle imaginings. Say: O concourse of men! This is a Day whereon the Lord of Destiny calleth from His most great scene of contemplation and summoneth him who was named ʿAli-Qabli-Akbar, who turned to the Supreme Horizon in the earliest days, and was so transported by the rapture of the Call that he forsook what the people possessed and took what was ordained for him in his preserved tablet.

O thou who drinketh the choice wine of My utterance, the Kawthar of My bounty, and the Salsabil of My praise! His Holiness Rida—upon him be My glory and loving-kindness—acting as deputy at a time when the Luminary of permission was shining forth, set out for that Station and attained unto the privilege of pilgrimage. He hath accomplished in the path of God that which God hath adorned with the ornament of acceptance and good-pleasure. Verily, He is the One Who hath power over whatsoever He willeth, and He is the Truth, the Knower of things unseen.

Despite the upheaval of the world and the perfidy of most nations and the kindling of the fire of hatred, the True One, exalted be His glory, hath granted success and guided His loved ones to the stream of His love. Glory be to God! The treacherous ones and the highway robbers are present in every direction and stationed at every outpost; nevertheless the Most Exalted Pen moveth, its shrill voice is raised, and its call is loud. We testify that He is the One with power over whatsoever He pleaseth. Neither the onrush of the oppressors nor the tyranny of the aggressors can hinder Him.

The letters which you sent to this servant and likewise to other loved ones were all presented at the Most Holy Court and were honored to be heard. God willing, answers will be sent down from the heaven of will and dispatched, that the reality of existence may acknowledge His generosity and the essence of bounty His bestowal. Verily, He is the All-Bountiful, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

Habibu'llah—upon him be My glory and loving-kindness—after his return to the horizon of manifestation attained unto the presence and was sustained by the cup of reunion. He dispatched to the Most Holy Court a leaf adorned with the names of the loved ones, seeking the expression of bounty for each one, and each was blessed with that for which he was brought from nothingness into being, and there was sent down for each that which the treasures of earth cannot equal. Verily thou wert with Me and didst witness the waves of the ocean of My utterance and the effulgences of the sun of My loving-kindness. Blessed are the souls who seized each wave and were blessed thereby. Say: This wave was not hindered by hosts, and this power was not weakened by the transgressions of nations. The breaths of revelation have encompassed the world, and divine counsels and admonitions have been inscribed upon the tablets of existence. Soon shall the fair-minded arise and testify to a power that hath had no like in the world, and whose equal is non-existent.

O thou who standeth before the Throne! If there be delay in answering some, the reason and cause thereof is known. Ye should know with perfect certitude that the mention of each one hath been and is in the Most Holy Court. Say: My God, my God! Aid Thy loved ones to hold fast unto the cord of Thy good-pleasure in all conditions, then ordain for them that which will draw them nigh unto Thee at all times. Verily, Thou art the Self-Sufficient, the Most High. There is none other God but Thee, the Mighty, the All-Bountiful.

BH01563: O Ism-i-Jud! Upon thee be My glory and loving-kindness…

He is the Remembering One, the Speaking One, the Trustworthy, the All-Wise

O Ism-i-Jud! Upon thee be My glory and loving-kindness. The letters from the Land of Ta and the petitions of some to the Most Holy Court have been received and heard. Praise be to God, the loved ones of God are occupied with remembrance and praise and are, God willing, holding fast to the cord of unity. We beseech God to assist them and confirm them in what they have intended in His straight and manifest path. Responses to most have been sent down from the Kingdom of utterance and dispatched. We beseech God once again to enable them to hearken unto what hath been revealed and to achieve what He hath willed on His mighty and wondrous Day.

His honor Samandar, upon him be the glory of God, the Lord of destiny, hath mentioned Mulla Husayn, upon him be the glory and loving-kindness of God. Permission hath been granted for him to proceed to the regions of the Land of Ta. We make mention at this time of His honor Ali-Shir, upon him be the glory of God, and We bid him to patience and steadfastness in the face of divine trials. That which befell him also befell the Wronged One upon first entering the prison. How excellent was that which one of the loved ones of the All-Merciful spoke in the Dispensation of the Criterion—he who was named Sa'd in the Book of Names. He was among those who believed in the Presence of the Seal, may the spirit of all else be sacrificed for His sake, in the earliest days.

In his final days his sight was taken from him. Some of the loved ones said to him: "Thou shouldst beseech God thy Lord to restore thy sight." He, upon him be My glory, said: "The decree of God is dearer to Me than mine eye." We beseech God at this time to assist Ali-Shir and enable him to be steadfast, to admit his son into the most exalted Paradise, and to send down upon him at all times a spirit and mercy from His presence. He is verily the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous.

That which Ibn-i-Abhar, upon him be My glory and loving-kindness, hath mentioned regarding the mother who hath ascended to the Supreme Companion, and that which he hath desired, hath been adorned with the honor of acceptance and the ornament of divine good-pleasure. We made mention of her before her ascension and after her ascension in terms that no other mention can equal. Verily her Lord is the Compassionate, the Mighty, the All-Bestowing. Likewise, the deed of the Leaf, the wife of Rida'r-Ruh, and another Leaf, her daughter, hath been mentioned before the Wronged One, and permission to perform it hath at this time been sent down from the heaven of God's command. Blessed are they both. The glances of loving-kindness have ever been and continue to be directed towards His honor Marfu' and his relatives, both female and male.

O Ism-i-Jud! In view of what hath occurred from the Kingdom of divine decree, We have delayed in answering the letters of Samandar which were brought by the servant in attendance before the Countenance and which thou didst forward. We beseech God to send down hereafter that which will transform sorrows. No word hath been heard from His honor Javad, upon him be My glory and loving-kindness. We beseech God, exalted be His glory, to assist him in the victory of His Cause as He assisted him before, and to adorn all those of his household who dwell in that home with His special favors, and to set each one of them ablaze with such a fire as will cause the heedless souls to become enkindled.

We make mention at this time once again of him who was named Ali-Shir, that he may rejoice and be among the thankful ones. O Ali-Shir! Grieve not for what hath befallen thee. In all things place thy trust in God, the Lord of the worlds. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to ordain for thee the good of the hereafter and of this world, and to decree for thee the reward of one who hath drunk the choice wine of mystic knowledge from the hand of the bounty of his Lord, the All-Merciful, and who hath presented himself at the door and heard the Call from this luminous horizon.

The glory from Us be upon My loved ones there who have heard and responded, who have aimed at and attained, and upon those who have not broken God's covenant and His testament and who have acknowledged that which the Tongue of Grandeur spoke before the creation of the heavens and the earth. This year, in view of the sorrow that hath occurred, if His honor ʿAli-Shir should delay and make his pilgrimage to the Ultimate Goal and Most Exalted Summit in another year, it would be more fitting and appropriate. He verily assisteth His loved ones in all things. He is verily the Compassionate, the Forgiving, the Kind.

BH01620: Praise be to God that the verses of God…

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

Praise be to God that the verses of God are spread abroad and His fragrances diffused, and every day from the horizon of the Supreme Pen's heaven the Sun of utterance dawneth and the light of wisdom shineth forth. Blessed are those servants who have attained to beholding and hearkening thereunto.

O Ibn-i-Dakhil, upon thee be the Glory of God, the Mighty, the Beautiful! At this hour the Branch of the Divine Lote-Tree, who hath been named Badi'u'llah in the Book, hath attained to Our presence and presented thy letter in its entirety before the Most Holy and Exalted Court, and this response hath been sent down from the Source of Divine knowledge and the Dawning-Place of heavenly utterance, that thine eyes and the eyes of those who have been attracted by the Call when it was raised between earth and heaven might be solaced thereby, and who have attained to the choice wine of utterance from the hands of the bounty of their Lord, the Generous. Blessed art thou for having been present and witnessed the waves of the ocean of thy Lord's utterance, and for having attained to that wherewith God's Books and His Messengers had promised thee, both in the past and future. We beseech God to preserve thee and to aid thee with the hosts of wisdom and utterance, and to enable thee to reform and educate souls. He is verily the Helper, the Almighty, the Powerful.

Thou didst mention the pilgrimage to the House of God. Until now its ordinance hath been and remaineth concealed. We beseech God to reveal that which will draw people near unto Him. He is verily the All-Bountiful, the Generous.

As to what thou didst mention regarding Mirza Ibrahim-i-Shishvani, verily We made mention of him before his letter reached Our presence, and We revealed for him that whereby all things were attracted. Say: O Ibrahim! The Call hath been raised on the Mount of Knowledge, giving glad tidings unto all of Him Who conversed thereon, through Whose manifestation that which was hidden in God's knowledge was

revealed and that which was concealed from eyes and sight became evident. Say: O people! Cast aside what ye possess and take what hath been given you from God, the Commander, the All-Wise.

O Ibn-i-Dakhil! Beseech God that He may aid His loved ones to attain unto wisdom—wisdom which hath been revealed in the Tablets consisteth of deeds that cause the drawing nigh of the servants and the enlightenment of the people of the lands. Pure, contented and well-pleasing souls must guide and lead the women and men of the world to the Dawning-Place of Revelation and the Source of Inspiration through holy deeds and praiseworthy character. Today deeds and character are reckoned among the hosts of God, exalted be His glory, and these hosts have ever been and shall forever remain victorious. The decree of holy war and strife hath been erased from the Book by the finger of divine power.

From the loved ones of ʿIshqabad appeared that which caused the joy of the people of the Most Great Scene. After the martyrdom of one of the loved ones who was named Rida in the Book of Names, all held fast to patience and tranquility and adhered to what God had decreed in the Books and Tablets, and moreover interceded for the murderers and oppressors. This deed was adorned with the glory of acceptance and the ornament of divine good-pleasure. Now We beseech God to aid that company to unity, harmony, love and faithfulness. He is verily the Almighty, the Powerful, the All-Powerful.

Thou didst make mention of Rida. Verily We heard his cry and turned toward him from this direction and revealed for him from the heaven of grace that which shall endure as long as the kingdom and the heavenly dominion shall endure. We beseech God to aid him to be steadfast in this Cause whereby all were thunderstruck save whom God willed, the Lord of this exalted station.

O Ibn-i-Dakhil! Set ablaze the loved ones with the heat of the Divine Word, but with such a blaze as would cause attraction and be the cause of turning unto God and of unity, not of conflict and contention. Verily We have mentioned all and do mention them. Thy Lord is indeed the Forgiving, the Merciful. We make mention of My handmaidens and those who are with thee and those who hearken to thy mention in this wise mention. The Glory from Us be upon thee and upon those who are with thee and upon those through whom steadfastness hath been manifested among the people—such servants as God hath described in previous Books and in this Clear Tablet.

BH01614: God beareth witness that there is none other God…

He is the Just, the All-Knowing, the Wise.

God beareth witness that there is none other God but Him, and He Who hath come from the heaven of certitude is, verily, the Dawning-Place of His mighty signs and the Dayspring of His most excellent names. Through Him were unveiled the treasures of inner meanings and utterance throughout all creation, and the Dove of Knowledge warbled upon the loftiest branches: “Dominion belongeth unto Him Who hath appeared with the truth and Who in every state hath proclaimed: ʿVerily, I am God, there is none other God but Me, the Help in Peril, the Self-Subsisting.”’

This is an epistle from Us unto all that dwell on earth, that the sweet savors of revelation may draw them unto God, the Lord of existence. O peoples of the earth! Hearken unto My call, for verily it guideth you unto the path of God, the Lord of what was and what shall be. Cast away what ye possess. There hath

come unto you from God that which shall profit you and draw you nigh unto Him, and shall exalt you throughout all lands. He, verily, is the One, the Alone, the Mighty, the All-Loving.

O Ba! Hear the call from the Most Exalted Horizon. Verily, He shall transform thy sorrow into supreme joy, thy hardship into ease, thy distress into comfort, and thy exile into dwelling in God's native land, the Help in Peril, the Mighty, the Beloved.

The All-Glorious hath received thy letter and presented it before His Face. We have revealed for thee that which shall bring solace to all eyes. We have heard thy call and answered thee, and We have witnessed thy devotion and turned unto thee from this exalted station. The dwellers of the cities of My love have been overtaken with grief at what hath befallen thee from every oppressor who hath oppressed, and from every denier who hath disbelieved in God, the Lord of the seen and the unseen. There hath befallen thee what befell Us when the oppressors rose against Us and expelled Us from Our native land with such tyranny as caused the inhabitants of the Kingdom to lament.

O Ba! Upon thee be the Glory of God, the Lord of Names. Say: O my God, my Lord, my Support, and my Purpose! Were it not for tribulations in Thy path, how would the stations of Thy lovers be made manifest? And were it not for afflictions in Thy love, by what means would the conditions of Thy yearning ones be revealed? By Thy might! The companion of Thy loved ones are their tearful eyes, the solace of Thy seekers are their heart's lamentations, and the sustenance of those who long for Thee are the fragments of their hearts. How sweet is the deadly poison in Thy path, and how precious are the arrows of the enemies for the exaltation of Thy Word!

O my God! Give me to drink in Thy Cause what Thou desirest, and send down upon me in Thy love what Thou hast ordained. By Thy might! I desire only what Thou desirest, and love only what Thou lovest. I have placed my trust in Thee under all conditions. Verily, Thou art the All-Sufficient, the Most Exalted.

O Qaf-Ra! We read this prayer, and We have read it before in successive years. Read thou and be of those who rejoice. Verily, nothing escapeth His knowledge. He witnesseth and seeth, and He is the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing. Take wisdom and that by which the hearts of those who have been heedless of this Most Great Cause and this Mighty Message may be attracted.

In the Persian tongue, hearken unto the call of the Wronged One. We have enjoined wisdom upon all. The Divine Tablets bear witness to this truth. All friends must hold fast unto it and adhere to that which hath flowed from the Most Exalted Pen, for if they act according to what hath been commanded, they shall attain the most exalted station in this world and the next. Verily, thy Lord is the Mighty, the All-Knowing.

Counsel the loved ones regarding that which hath been revealed in the Tablets from the Dayspring of God's Will. Verily, He shall protect them, deliver them, and draw them nigh unto Him. He, verily, is the All-Hearing, the Trustworthy.

The answers to the petitions have been revealed and sent from the Kingdom of utterance. We beseech God to give them to drink, from the cups of His utterance, the Kawthar of His knowledge. Verily, He is the Protector of whosoever turneth unto Him, and He is the One, the Alone, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

One of the sons of the Friend and inheritors of Him Who conversed with God—upon him be the Glory of God, the Mighty, the All-Knowing—hath made mention of thee. We beseech God to adorn His servants with the ornament of faithfulness. When We perceived from him its fragrance, We made mention of him in such wise as hath spread abroad the sweet scents of the mercy of God, the Lord of the worlds. Convey My greetings unto him and give him the glad-tidings of My remembrance of him, and I am the All-Remembering, the All-Knowing.

The Glory be upon thee, and upon him, and upon those who have held fast unto wisdom and acted according to that which they were commanded in My perspicuous Book.

BH01618: In name of the One True Speaker

In name of the One True Speaker.

The Pen of the Wronged One beareth witness to the oneness of God, the Almighty, and testifieth that Haji Ghulam-Qabli-ʿAli, upon him be My Glory, attained the Most Holy Court and mentioned the friends in the presence of His Countenance, and each received his portion from the ocean of grace. How sweet is the fragrance of grace and favors on His Day!

O Ghulam-Qabli-ʿAli! Return to thy homeland with God's leave and favor, and in every land make mention of the people of God on behalf of the Wronged One. Say: Strive ye, and on this blessed day deprive not yourselves of the waves of the ocean of divine bounty. The gift of utterance is present and the feast of knowledge hath been sent down. Each one among the people of God must remember the Truth, exalted be His glory, through this most exalted Word: Verily He heareth and seeth, and He is the All-Hearing, the All-Knowing.

My God, my God! Praise be unto Thee for having illumined my heart through the effulgences of the lights of the Day-Star of Thy Revelation, and for having enabled me to turn unto Thee when most of Thy creatures turned away, and for having guided me through the light of Thy knowledge unto Thy path, and for having nurtured me through the hands of bounty and generosity to attain Thy presence in Thy days. O my Lord! I am Thy servant, and the son of Thy servant, and the son of Thy handmaiden. My hope is in Thy grace, my desire is Thy good-pleasure, my quest is to meet Thee, and my aspiration is to stand before the gate of Thy generosity.

I beseech Thee by the ocean of Thy knowledge, the heaven of Thy wisdom, the power of Thy Will, and the might of Thy Purpose, to make me steadfast in Thy Cause in such wise that neither the doubts of Thy creatures nor the veils of Thy servants shall hold me back. Ordain for me, O my God, that which beseemeth Thy pardon and bounty. Strengthen my children in that whereby my remembrance and my name shall endure throughout the eternity of Thy kingdom and Thy dominion. Verily, Thou art the Most Merciful of the merciful and the Omnipotent over what Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the Forgiving, the Merciful.

O Ghulam! The people of God who dwell in that land and its surroundings have each attained unto mention and are illumined by the lights of the Countenance. Give thou the glad-tidings unto all. In accordance with wisdom, not all names have been revealed by the Pen at this time, yet each standeth

before His Countenance and is present beneath the glance of His favor. Blessed are they and joy be unto them! Say: O people of God! The oppression of the oppressors and the lies of the liars shall soon return to nothingness, as ye have witnessed and heard. I swear by the Sun of Truth, there hath been ordained especially for you that which shall not be seized by extinction and shall abide for the duration of the kingdom and the realm.

Thou hast been in the Most Holy Court and art aware of the wisdom that hath been enjoined. All must walk in the path of truth and in all conditions keep their gaze fixed upon wisdom. Among the loved ones there are both the strong and the weak, and wisdom hath ever been the cause of preserving the strong and likewise the source of strength for the weak. We counsel all and beseech God that He may preserve all through trustworthiness, religious devotion, chastity and faithfulness, and guide them to His straight path. He is the Powerful, the Mighty.

Praise be to God! Thou didst attain unto His presence and didst convey the petitions of His friends to the Most Holy Court, and each was honored with His hearing. Blessed is the name that appeared before My Countenance, the heart that turned toward My Kingdom, the eye that beheld My horizon, the servant that soared in My atmosphere, the mention that was honored with My hearing, the wise one who held fast to My Book, the steadfast one whom the oppression of Mine enemies did not deter, the seeker who arose before the gate of My grandeur, the soul that made My remembrance and praise its concern and the promotion of My Cause. Upon it be My glory and the glory of those in My kingdom and dominion, and the glory of the Supreme Concourse and the most exalted Paradise, and the glory that hath shone forth from the horizon of My Will and Purpose, and the glory of all who are in the heavens and the earth.

We make mention in this station of My handmaidens who have believed in Me and in My verses, who have heard My call and turned toward My bright and luminous horizon.

BH01685: Praise sanctified above the mention of all contingent beings…

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

Praise sanctified above the mention of all contingent beings, the comprehension of created things, and the knowledge of existent things, befitteth the Most Holy and Most Exalted Court of Him Whom the tyranny of the oppressors, the calumnies of the slanderers, and the power of the opposers did not prevent or hinder from His purpose and from revelation. Throughout the nights and days the Supreme Pen hath been moving and engaged, detached from all else, in remembrance of the loved ones. That which hath flowed from it is the water of life for those who thirst in the arena of love and affection, and the spirit of life for the companions of grace and guidance. The penetrating influence of the Most Exalted Word hath encompassed the world, and the power of the Most Glorious Pen hath seized all. Say:

My God, my God! Thou seest me aflame with the fire of Thy love, attracted by Thy verses, and translating in the world of utterance that which Thou hast sent down from the heaven of Thy utterance and the atmosphere of Thy Will. O my Lord! I am Thy servant and the son of Thy servant. I have held fast to Thy cord, through whose movement all created things were moved by Thy power and sovereignty, and I have clung to the hem of Thy grace, through whose light Thy earth and heaven were illumined. I beseech Thee

by the pearls of the ocean of Thy knowledge and wisdom, and by the mysteries hidden in the sea of Thy utterance, to aid me to remember Thee and praise Thee, to exalt Thy Cause and manifest Thy Word with wisdom and utterance. Then protect me, O my God, from mine enemies, and make me to be of those whom neither the happenings of the world nor the chains of the wicked have prevented from drawing nigh unto Thee and turning toward the lights of Thy countenance. Verily Thou art the Powerful, the Mighty, the Most Generous.

Thy letter was read before the face of the Wronged One. Praise be to God, the fragrance of love, affection, humility and devotion wafted from it. We beseech God, exalted be His glory, to protect thee and cause thee to attain unto that which hath previously been sent down from the Supreme Pen. None can reject His command or repel that which hath been revealed from the heaven of His decree. He is, verily, the Powerful, the Mighty, the All-Bountiful.

Concerning thy mention of a certain person at the time his spirit was separated from his body: all events that have occurred have not been without purpose or reason. If thou wouldst reflect upon the deeds and deserts of certain souls, thou wouldst testify that whatsoever hath happened or will happen is pure justice, nay rather, pure bounty. And that which was witnessed, or will be witnessed, regarding the seizing of the existence of negation at the time of its return to its place—this too was pure bounty, for that deceitful dissembler acted, both outwardly and inwardly, in such wise that others besides God are incapable of reckoning it. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to exalt His Cause through thee and to reveal unto thee that which He hath sent down in thy Book. Verily He is the Powerful, the Protector of all who are in the heavens and on earth.

The Truthful, the Trustworthy hath said and continueth to say: “His mercy hath preceded the earth and heaven.” Should any soul reflect with penetrating vision upon the deeds of certain ones, he would testify that whatsoever hath occurred or will occur hath been from the ocean of bounty, mercy and bestowal, and were justice and desert to be considered, God forbid, its reckoning would not be possible. Reflect upon the matters that occurred in this past year in the great city: despite the utmost kindness shown to that person, out of pure greed and avarice he acted in such wise that were justice to be meted out, the scribes of the world would find themselves powerless to record his punishment. Through the instigation of the Shaykh of Yazd and his chief he acted in such manner as became clear and evident to the discerning ones among those souls. And likewise were the deeds of that heedless returning soul. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to aid His servants to return unto Him. Verily He is the Powerful over whatsoever He willeth, and He is the Ever-Forgiving, the Pardoner, the Merciful.

BH11876: Praise be to God Who was established upon…

He is the All-Hearing, the Speaking, the Answering One!

Praise be to God Who was established upon the throne of Sinai and spoke the Word whereby He set up the path and laid down the balance and blew the trumpet, whereat all who are in the heavens and earth were thunderstruck, save those whom the veils of the world did not prevent, nor the clouds of the nations hinder, nor were they frightened by the might of princes, nor weakened by the power of those who denied the Lord of Names. They all turned with their whole being to the Supreme Horizon and spoke

that which caused the limbs to tremble of those who turned away from the Truth and denied the final return. This is the Day wherein appeared that which was inscribed in the Tablet and concealed from eyes. Glorified be He through the movement of Whose finger all created things were set in motion, and through Whose will all beings cried out and glorified in His name, their Creator, at eventide and at dawn.

O Alif Ha! Hearken unto the voice of Him Who hath been wronged. He hath come with His name, the Self-Subsisting, and called all to the sealed wine. Among the people are those who heard and hastened and answered and drank in His name, the Mighty, the All-Bestowing. And among them are those who denied God's Cause and rejected His favor and spoke that which made the clouds to wail. And among them are those who pronounced sentence for the shedding of His blood through injustice whereat tears were shed and the hearts of the righteous were consumed.

O thou who speakest My praise and standest in service to My Cause! We have sent down for thee, both before and after, that whereby grace descended and the clouds rained down. We testify that thou hast drunk the wine of faithfulness from the hand of bounty and hast attained unto that which was recorded by the Most Exalted Pen and inscribed in the Scriptures and Tablets. We beseech God to make thee a standard of His name and a banner of His remembrance, and to give thee to drink from the Kawthar of life at all times. Verily He is powerful over whatsoever He willeth. There is none other God but Him, the Mighty, the All-Bountiful.

Thus hath the ocean of grace surged and the fragrance of God, the Lord of lords, wafted. When thou hast attained unto My verses, say:

My God, my God! Praise and thanksgiving be unto Thee for having enabled me to turn towards Thee when the men turned away from Thee—they who cast Thy Cause behind their backs and took their vain imaginings as lords besides Thee. O Lord! Thou seest me turning away from all else but Thee and holding fast to the cord of Thy bounty. I beseech Thee, O Lord of existence, by the stars of the heaven of Thy wisdom and the suns of the horizons of Thy utterance, and by the light of Thy Cause whereby Thy earth and heaven were illumined, and by the pearls hidden in the shells of the ocean of Thy power, to make me in all conditions detached from all else but Thee and clinging to the hem of the robe of Thy pardon and generosity. Thou seest, O my God, the supplicant standing before the door of Thy favor with hands raised toward the heaven of Thy grace. I beseech Thee not to disappoint him, by Thy bounty through which existence itself came to be, and by Thy generosity which hath preceded the world and the nations. There is none other God but Thee, the All-Bounteous, the Most-Generous, the All-Gracious, the Powerful, the Strong, the Almighty, the All-Powerful.

O thou who standest in My service, who makest mention of My praise, and uttereth My command! Upon Muhammad, My glory and loving-kindness rest! Throughout the nights and days thou hast dwelt secure and at rest beneath the canopy of loving-kindness. Time and again hath mention been made of thee, and that which hath streamed from the Pen of submission, contentment and steadfastness hath been dispatched unto the Most Holy Court. Praise be to God, thou art illumined by the light of recognition and art remembered by the Name of God, exalted be His glory. We beseech God to open before thy face the gates of bounties and favors, and to make thee a leader of the hosts of wisdom and utterance.

Verily, He is the One Who hath power over whatsoever He willeth, and in His grasp are held the reins of all affairs. Convey unto the loved ones the greetings, glorification and glory of the Wronged One. We beseech God that He may, at all times, cause all to attain unto that which is the cause of eternal salvation and everlasting remembrance. Verily, He is the Almighty, the Exalted, the All-Wise. The glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My mercy be upon thee and upon them that are with thee and love thee for the sake of God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH01720: He is the One speaking at the center…

He is the One speaking at the center of the world, that all peoples might turn to the horizon of the manifestation of God, the Lord of all worlds.

Blessed is the Lord Who hath spoken and caused all things to speak that there is none other God but Him, the Single, the One, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. Blessed are they who have turned with faces radiant and hearts illumined to the Most Exalted Horizon, whom neither the harm of the wicked nor the might of the evil ones nor the power of those who disbelieved in God, the Possessor of this wondrous Day, could deter. Blessed is Nabil, blessed is the traveler. God hath aided him to turn unto Him and enabled him to attain His presence and given him to drink of the pure Kawthar from the hands of the bounty of Him Who converseth on Sinai, Who speaketh before kings and subjects. By God! This is the Promised One, this is the One mentioned, this is He by Whose name and remembrance the hearts of them that know were attracted.

O Nabil! We have heard thy call time and again, and thy deeds have been accepted again and again, and We have answered thee at times with that which made the world rejoice and at other times with a mention that caused the hearts of the sincere to soar. Grieve not at the events of the world and the clamor of those who denied the Manifestation when He came with manifest sovereignty. Say: O concourse of men! Follow not those who denied the Most Great Scene and turned away from Him Who came with the banners of verses from God, the Mighty, the Powerful.

O Nabil! The Wronged One beareth witness to thy turning unto Him, thy drawing nigh, thy presence before His face and thy hearkening to that which was raised in the world from the Lord of eternity. This is a testimony that all the treasures of the world and whatsoever is with the nations cannot equal. Blessed art thou and blessed is he who loveth thee for the sake of God, the Lord of the mighty throne.

There hath come before the Wronged One what thou didst send previously and subsequently to Ism-i-Jud. We have sent down for thee that from which every one who turneth unto God hath found the fragrance of the loving-kindness of God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy. Thy mention and that wherewith thou didst call upon God have attained to His hearing. Give thanks unto thy Lord for this manifest grace. The world shall pass away but there shall endure for thee what hath been sent down before and after and at this time.

Convey My greetings to thy son who hath turned unto God while most of the servants who broke God's covenant and testament denied and rejected this Proof, before which all the proofs in the world have bowed down, as attesteth every fair-minded and discerning one, every knowing and informed one. We

have mentioned thee and those with thee as a favor from Us, and We are indeed the Bountiful, the Generous.

There hath come before the Wronged One what thou didst send and spend by My command and authority. We bear witness that thou hast fulfilled what was incumbent upon thee by the decree of the Book, and We have accepted thy deed, and We beseech God, thy Lord, to aid thee in that whose fragrance shall not be cut off through the perpetuity of this Name whereby He hath subdued all who are in the heavens and on earth.

O traveler! Grieve not at what thou hearest and seest. Verily He is with thee and guardeth thee and preserveth thee through the hosts of the seen and the unseen. Thy Lord is indeed the Powerful, the Triumphant, the Mighty. We have been with thee, hearing and seeing, and We are the Hearer, the Answerer.

Convey My greetings to the faces of those who are with thee and My loved ones there, and illumine them with the lights of My wondrous utterance from whose horizon the light hath shone forth and that which was hidden from the eyes of the heedless hath appeared.

When thou findest the fragrance of My remembrance and drinkest the choice wine of utterance from My words, say: My God, my God! Praise be to Thee for having caused me to attain unto Thy remembrance and to speak Thy praise and to hasten unto Thy good-pleasure and to stand firm in Thy love. O my Lord! I am Thy servant and the son of Thy servant. I have turned unto Thee with the turning of one who is assured, seeing, confident and informed. I beseech Thee by Thy Name whereby Thou hast illumined the world to set right my affairs and to ordain for me from the Pen of Thy decree that which will bring me into Thy presence. Then decree for me, O my God, that which will preserve me from the clamor of the heedless ones and the uproar of the treacherous ones. Verily Thou art the Mighty, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

BH01791: He dawneth from the horizon of proof

He dawneth from the horizon of proof

O thou who hast clung to the cord of deeds and utterance! How praiseworthy is thy service in the path of God and His love, and thy sincerity in His days, and thy turning to Him after His creatures turned away. We beseech Him, exalted be He, to assist thee in all conditions. He is verily the Self-Sufficient, the Most High.

Praise be to God, thy deed hath been accepted with honor, and the sign thereof is that his honor Fadl, upon him be the grace of God and His glory, hath mentioned thee and sent word to the Most Holy Court. Another sign is this Most Holy, Most Exalted Tablet which hath descended from the heaven of Will. By the life of God! Were its fragrances to pass over the decayed bones, thou wouldst behold them arising and speaking in praise of the Great News of God. And yet another sign is that thy mention endureth and persisteth in the Most Holy Court. Blessed art thou, and blessed is thy steadfastness, and blessed is he who hath given thee sustenance.

However, in this Most Great Revelation, the Divine Books have established gatherings of joy and illumined the arena of the world with the light of gladness and delight. Among the conditions of joy have been and shall be heavenly food and earthly bounties. They said to the Son of Mary that John the Baptist fasted and clung to asceticism and piety, while He and His companions ate and drank. The Spirit said:

> "John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say he hath a devil. The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, behold a gluttonous man."

To those of insight it is clear that by John is meant John the Baptist, and by Son of Man the Son of Mary.

It is evident that all matters depend upon command and prohibition that shine forth from the Dawning-Place of the Divine Will and Heavenly Purpose. If He should say "Fast" and no word of "Break the fast" follow it, one should fast until death. Therefore, until now whatever hath proceeded from thee hath been adorned with the ornament of acceptance. And now He commandeth: Eat and drink. This is what thou hast been bidden by the Most Merciful of the merciful. He hath created the bounties and blessings of the earth first for His chosen ones and His loved ones and His servants. Despite these bounties, should anyone deny himself—God forbid—the creation of things and their cause and fruit would be rendered vain.

In all conditions one must look to the blessed word "He doeth what He willeth and ordaineth what He pleaseth." Whatever proceedeth from the Source of Command is truth, in which there is no doubt. One must hold fast to it and render thanks. In one respect, the showing forth of bounty is thanksgiving for bounty. But some among the Shi'ite sect maintain their dwellings and attire in an unrefined state and consider this asceticism and the very essence of piety. Indeed, if these conditions arise from poverty, there is no harm in it and it is acceptable before God. But when means are available, whatsoever they manifest or bestow in charity is beloved in the sight of God. The Concourse on High and the sanctified spirits have their gaze fixed upon perfumed, pure and refined stations. Thus did the Herald declare that prayer offered in silk garments is more excellent before God. Likewise He said that if He knew which place thou wouldst choose as thy residence, He would even now command that it be built of diamond faces reflecting water.

That honored one should give thanks for having been the cause of the revelation of this Most Holy, Most Exalted Tablet. Today the people of Baha, if possible, should partake of delicate and fragrant foods. However, blessed is he who preferreth his brother over himself. He is assuredly among those who draw nigh unto God and who act according to His command. The glory from Us be upon thee and upon My friends in that land who have championed justice and fairness and have held fast to the cord of patience and composure. They are among the helpers in the Book of God, the Lord of all worlds.

BH01764: Praise befits the Lord of existence and the Sovereign…

In the Name of Him Who calls out in the midmost heart of contingent being!

Praise befits the Lord of existence and the Sovereign of the invisible and visible realms, Who with the banner of "He doeth whatsoever He willeth" shone forth and appeared from the horizon of the blessed word "except." Through His word of affirmation, effacement found no way, and the darkness of the world

did not prevent His Command's light from shining. With one pen He struck the ranks of the world. Neither the might of princes nor the clamor of divines prevented Him from His purpose, and He commanded all at the most great call to that which the All-Merciful revealed in the Qur'an: "Say: God! Then leave them to their vain discourses." This is that Word to which they who are immersed in the depths of oneness clung at the first turning. Blessed are they and joy be unto them. We testify that they are of the people of Baha and the companions of the Crimson Ark, from God, the Cleaver of daybreak and the Sender of winds.

O Muhammad, upon thee be My glory and My loving-kindness. Thy letters, each one before being written and after being written, before appearing and after appearing, have attained the honor of being seen by the King of the Kingdom of Names and heard by the Lord of all humanity. We have read what was inscribed on the tablet of thy heart by the pen of love in remembrance of God, the Lord of creation. He is with thee at all times, hearing and seeing, and He is the Mighty, the All-Seeing.

O Muhammad, the sorrows of the world have encompassed from all directions. Thou hast been and art aware of the power and influence of the Supreme Pen. Without veil or covering, on the Day of Return He summoned all to the horizon of manifestation and mentioned in most eloquent utterance the cause of salvation for all creation. Neither might nor wrath nor injustice nor oppression prevented Him from His purpose or held Him back from proclaiming the Most Exalted Word. And when the light of the Cause shone forth from the horizons of hearts and the call was raised from every direction, Hadi and his like emerged like wolves from behind the veil with swords of hatred and committed that which no oppressor had ever committed. This is the Day which the Desired One of all worlds mentioned in the Surih of Luqman:

> "O my son! If it be but the weight of a mustard-seed and though it be in a rock, or in the heavens, or in the earth, God will bring it forth. Verily, God is subtle, aware."

Those souls who transformed righteousness and piety into tyranny and transgression We expelled from this city merely to protect them. In the great city they united with certain atheistic, opposing, idolatrous souls and committed that which caused the City of God to weep and the pebbles of the desert to lament. When they observed the Wronged One outwardly without helper or assistant, they therefore committed that which caused pen and tablet to pause from recording and bearing mention. In brief, the signs of the Hour have become evident and the mysteries of the Resurrection apparent. The hidden thoughts of breasts and the treachery of eyes are witnessed. Blessed is he whom neither the events of the world nor the calumnies of those who denied the Day of Judgment caused to slip.

Say: My God, my God! Thou seest those who turned away from Thee and objected to Thee without any proof from Thee or evidence from Thy presence. I beseech Thee by the waves of the ocean of Thy utterance and by the splendors of the Day-Star of Thy grace and bounty to aid Thy servants to return unto Thee and to repent at the door of Thy generosity. Verily, Thou art powerful over what Thou willest through Thy word "Be" and it is.

The mentioned names have all attained unto the verses of God, and two Tablets were also revealed and sent specifically for two persons whom that person requested. If wisdom requires, bestow them, otherwise patience is preferable. Verily God is with the patient ones.

BH01818: The Book proclaims: Blessed is the one who deals…

He is the All-Seeing, the Ever-Present, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

The Book proclaims: Blessed is the one who deals kindly with the loved ones of God. The Tongue of Grandeur proclaims: Joy unto the servant who sheltered in his home those who have migrated unto God and treated them with the essence of love and affection. The Supreme Pen declares: Blessed art thou, O Letter Ta, for that which hath proceeded from thee befitteth thee and the days of God, the Lord of the worlds.

Though three stations are mentioned, all return to this Point which God hath sanctified from the knowledge of His servants. Verily He is the Hidden, though He is witnessed and seen; He is the Treasured, though thou seest Him manifest; He is the Moving while at rest, and He is at rest while moving; and He is the Euphrates through which God hath quickened His servants, before which the seas have bowed down and through which the trees have spoken. The Kingdom and the Dominion, and the Glory and the Sovereignty belong to Him Who hath come from the horizon of power with an authority that hath encompassed the world and with a command that hath encompassed all who are in the heavens and on earth.

Thy letter hath come before the Wronged One, and We have answered thee with this perspicuous Tablet. I counsel you and the friends to wisdom. Most of the loved ones heeded not the divine counsel. By the life of God! Had they acted upon it, each one would now be witnessed as the head of the world. Say: My God, my God! Aid Thy loved ones to act according to what Thou hast revealed in Thy Book, and enable them to hold fast unto the wisdom which Thou hast commanded all to observe in Thy Scriptures and Thy Tablets. I testify, O my God, that confirmation cometh from Thee and success proceedeth from Thee. Enable us to do what Thou lovest and pleaseth Thee. Verily, Thou art the Lord of the former and latter generations. There is none other God but Thee, the Almighty, the Powerful.

His honor, upon whom be the Glory of God, mentioned thy kindness in detail. Well is it with thee and pleasant it is unto thee. By the life of God! He hath attained unto the honor of My acceptance and been adorned with the ornament of My good-pleasure. This is a word that cannot be equaled by all the words of the world. Verily thy Lord is the Compassionate, the Bountiful.

We have desired to make mention of thy father as a token of grace from Us and as a mercy from Our presence. Verily thy Lord is the All-Bountiful, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. And We say at this moment: Upon thee, O Dawning-Place of forbearance, be the first wave that hath risen from the ocean of knowledge. I bear witness that thou hast ascended unto the Supreme Companion and attained the Most Glorious Horizon at this moment when the Pen of God, the Lord of Names, hath been moved to make mention of thee. We beseech God to send down upon thee a mercy from His presence and a blessing from His side at all times. He is verily the Almighty, the Glorious, the All-Bountiful.

O Muhammad-Taqi! Give thanks unto God for this most great favor and say: Unto Thee be praise and glory, and unto Thee be grandeur and splendor, for having aided me to turn towards Thee and made me

one of those who have won victory through Thy traces in Thy days. I beseech Thee to ordain for me the good of every world among Thy worlds. Verily Thou art the Ever-Forgiving, the Most Merciful.

We have made mention of him who was named ʿAli in the Book of Names, and We make mention of Mahmud that he may rejoice and be of the thankful. He whom I love hath mentioned him; We have mentioned him and have sent down for him that which hath solaced the eyes of the sincere ones.

Say: Beware, beware lest the doubts of the people hold thee back. Arise to serve the Cause with such steadfastness as cannot be shaken by the hints of those who have adorned their heads with turbans. We testify that they have been a barrier between God and His loved ones. The Tongue of Grandeur beareth witness to this in this exalted station. We beseech God to enable all to do what He loveth and pleaseth, and to draw them nigh unto Him. Verily He is the Most Merciful of the merciful ones and the Most Generous of the generous ones.

BH11717: He overshadoweth all that are on earth…

He overshadoweth all that are on earth and in heaven

O Ali, upon thee be the peace of God and His grace! Thou art witness and God beareth testimony that this Wronged One hath enjoined the people of God, night and day, through counsels and exhortations, to eschew that which is unworthy and to observe that which is befitting. The ladder of ascension hath ever been and shall continue to be goodly counsel and pure and sanctified deeds. Blessed are they whom wealth and riches have not kept back from the Self-Subsisting. These are the manifestations of detachment and the dawning-places of the fear of God. Upon them rest God's peace, His grace and His favor.

Thou art well aware of the deeds and doings of this community from times past. After this Wronged One repaired to Iraq, at all times was He engaged in the education of souls. The tongue spoke, the pen flowed, and gesture and sign were employed. In some instances, We illumined and moved creation through speech. At other times We were occupied in assisting the Cause of God through the pen. And occasionally We imparted the water of knowledge through the glance of Our eye and brow. Our purpose was to purify and refine the servants through all Our faculties and members, that perchance unity might be established among the peoples of the world and the fire of love be kindled. Well was it said of old:

> "Our eyebrows settle matters between us while we remain silent, and love speaketh."

O Ali, upon thee be God's grace and favor! In the Most Great Prison thou didst witness how We maintained, with love and fellowship, harmony among the many souls present there, despite their differing views and stations. From the beginning of the world until now, it hath not been heard that any of God's chosen ones entered prison with such a multitude. Now reflect upon the condition of this Wronged One, how with such love and grace He maintained this gathering, to such degree that most of them in all conditions fixed their gaze upon the horizon of God's Will.

In the days of Revelation, the people of light and of fire are both present. The people of light are known—"Thou shalt know them by their marks, the radiance of God, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise." And the

people of fire are those who rejected God's counsel and manifested rebellion and wickedness, who exchanged trustworthiness for treachery and justice for tyranny. God is witness and aware that We sent away from prison those servants who were uttering calumnies in the great city, solely to protect them, for their deeds had become known and each faced grave danger. We acted with pure grace and love, showing ultimate kindness. Yet those unjust ones did what all know and recognize. Greed and avarice deprived them of the mysteries of the Self-Sufficient Lord.

Now We beseech God to preserve all the friends in every land, that they may ever behold the light of godliness shining before their faces, hold fast unto it, and manifest such deeds and character that their fame may encompass the world, and from every city and region the banner of unity and the standard of accord may be seen. Thy letter arrived and was heard in the presence of this Wronged One. Blessed art thou, and joy be unto thee! Thou hast spoken that from which the near ones perceive the fragrance of love and fellowship. Thou hast truly shown goodwill. We beseech God to preserve and protect thee through His power.

Indeed thou hast manifested true friendship and sincere affection. We beseech God to protect thee and to guard thee through His power and sovereignty. Verily, He is powerful over all things. Peace be upon thee and upon those who are with thee and upon every steadfast and unwavering soul.

BH01874: Praise and glory beseem the Lord of the Kingdom…

In the Name of Him Who shineth forth from the horizon of the heaven of might.

Praise and glory beseem the Lord of the Kingdom of Names, Who through His all-pervading and invincible Will brought forth from nothingness, through the blessing of the Most Great Name, countless created things and adorned them with the ornament of existence, and through one drop from the ocean of His bounty adorned absolute nothingness with the garment of everlasting being. He is the Powerful One Whom the creation of the first and the last cannot prevent from His Will, and Whom the sovereignty and might of the hosts of rulers and ranks of divines cannot hinder. One flame from His Sinaitic Fire set ablaze the worlds of the seen and unseen with the heat of the love of God. Glorified be His signs, and exalted His power, and magnified His gifts and favors. There is none other God but Him.

Say: Glory be unto Thee, O my God, and glory be unto Thee, O my Heart's Desire! I render Thee thanks for having drawn me nigh unto Thee and for having made known to me Thy straight Path and Thy mighty Message. I beseech Thee by the light of Thy Cause and by the fire of the Tree of Thy Manifestation to make me known by Thy Name and one who summoneth to Thy remembrance amongst Thy servants. Thou art He, O my God, from Whom none in Thy days hath been disappointed, and none hath been prevented from entering the court of Thy holiness. I beseech Thee by Thy Name which Thou hast manifested at one time through the choice wine, and at another through the Kawthar of reality, and at times in the form of the Tree of Thy knowledge in the manifestation of Thy utterance, to make me detached from all else save Thee and to hold fast unto Thy cord. Verily Thou art the One Who hath power over whatsoever He willeth, and in Thy grasp are the reins of all who are in the heavens and on earth.

A mention from Us to him who hath turned to the supreme horizon and entered the seat of the throne with manifest love and heard the Call from the Dayspring of the utterance of God, the Mighty, the Wise.

O Ibrahim! Upon thee be the Glory of God, the Mighty, the Great! We have fulfilled Our promise and sent down for thee that which hath brought solace to the eyes of them that are nigh. Say: O people of the earth, fear God and follow not your desires. Cast them behind you, turning unto the horizon of the manifestation of God, the Lord of the worlds. Beware lest the veils of the people prevent you or the might of the oppressors frighten you. Say: O party of God, cast behind you doubts and allusions, then turn ye towards the horizon wherefrom hath shone forth the Sun of certitude, by the command of God, the Ordainer, the All-Wise. Beware lest the world prevent you from the mighty Message of God or the power of creation weaken you from drawing nigh unto the One, the All-Informed.

O Ibrahim! Make mention of My loved ones on My behalf and convey unto them greetings from this wronged Exile. Say: Beware lest the might of princes frighten you, and beware lest the doubts of the people of error prevent you from entering the depths of the sea of the oneness of God, the Goal of the mystics. Thus have We sent down the verses and expounded them in truth and sent them unto thee that thou mayest be of the thankful ones.

Take thou the Kawthar of eternity from the hands of the bounty of thy Lord and say:

My God, my God! Unto Thee be praise for having guided me unto Thy path and illumined my heart with the light of Thy knowledge. I beseech Thee by the ocean of Thy verses and by the mysteries treasured within Thy knowledge to aid the sovereign to turn unto Thee and to illumine him, O my God, with the light of Thy justice and to adorn him with the ornament of equity through Thy power and might and grandeur. O Lord! I am Thy servant and the son of Thy servant. I have turned unto Thee and have heard Thy most sweet call and the rustling of Thy Most Exalted Pen. I beseech Thee by Thy most great signs and by the manifestations of Thy bounty in the kingdom of creation to make me a helper of Thy Cause and one who acteth according to what Thou hast commanded me in Thy Book. Verily Thou art the All-Bountiful, the Generous. In Thy grasp are the reins of all things and the reins of the first and the last. There is none other God but He, the All-Bountiful, the Ever-Forgiving, the All-Merciful.

BH01907: Blessed be this Day wherein hath appeared what was…

He is the One dawning from the horizon of the heaven of bounty.

Blessed be this Day wherein hath appeared what was promised in the Torah and the Gospel and in the Psalms and the Qur'an—the Day wherein the All-Merciful hath sent down that which the perceivers failed to perceive and the reckoners failed to reckon its station. O peoples of the earth, rejoice within yourselves, for the Mother Book hath appeared and speaketh before the faces of the loved ones. The Kingdom and the Dominion belong to God, the Lord of Lords. Beware lest ye be frightened by the buzzing of flies or the barking of those who have denied God, the Lord of all men. This is the Day wherein the Call hath been raised from all directions and He Who was hidden from sight hath appeared. We beseech God to open before your faces the gates of His bounty and to give you to drink of the Kawthar of His utterance—he who drinketh thereof shall not be frightened by the might of any oppressor, nor weakened

by the power of any tyrant, nor saddened by the deed of any denier who hath disbelieved in God, the Lord of all beings.

O My handmaiden! O Sultan! Thy letter was delivered by ʿAbdu'llah, upon him be My glory, by the hand of the Most Pure Branch to the Most Great Horizon, and it was read before the Face. We make mention of thee with that which its fragrance shall never cease to endure throughout the kingdom of God, the Mighty, the Powerful. Rejoice thou in this most great bounty. Verily thy Lord is the All-Bountiful, the Generous.

We have desired to make mention of him who ascended to the Supreme Companion, having turned to God in His days. Blessed is he and joy be unto him. We testify that he acknowledged that which the Tongue of Grandeur did utter, and We were present at his ascension. The Concourse on High and the denizens of this exalted station bear witness to this. When his name was mentioned by My Most Exalted Pen, the ocean of forgiveness surged and the fragrance of the bounty of his Lord, the Forgiving, the Merciful, was diffused. We beseech God to send down upon him mercy from His presence and grace from His own Self. He is verily the Ruler, the Powerful, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. Thus did My Most Exalted Pen move at his mention, as a token of grace from Us and mercy from Our presence. Verily there is no God but Him. He doeth what He willeth and ordaineth what He pleaseth.

And We make mention at this time of Haji Qubl Baba who aimed for the Ultimate Goal and the Supreme Summit, traversing lands and mountains until he arrived at the Most Exalted Paradise before the face of his Lord, the Lord of all beings, and heard His sweetest call, and drank from the hand of bounty the wine of immortality. We testify that he attained unto that which was inscribed in the Books of God, the Lord of the worlds. His deeds were accepted and there was sent down for him that which attracted the hearts of the knowing ones. We make mention of his wife and those with her, and the village which God adorned with the presence of him who ascended and the appearance of My friends therein. And I am the All-Knowing Rememberer, the Kind, the Mighty, the Generous.

O ʿAbdu'llah! Convey My greetings to all. Blessed are My servants and handmaidens whom nothing whatsoever hath prevented from turning to the Most Exalted Horizon. Today the Mother Book speaketh and His bounty hath encompassed all. The eternal Kawthar hath been and ever shall be His mention. Blessed is the soul that hath attained and drunk thereof. Woe unto the heedless! Praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH01913: All praise, sanctified above mention and description, befitteth…

In the Name of the All-Merciful!

All praise, sanctified above mention and description, befitteth the Holy One, Who brought the contingent world to life and bestowed vitality through the breaths of divine knowledge, and raised aloft in the most exalted station the banner proclaiming that "there is none other God but Him"—glorified be His grandeur and mighty His proof, and there is no God but Him. Blessings and peace be upon His Light through which He illumined the world and made him the Seal of His Messengers and Prophets, choosing him from among His servants to manifest His Cause and exalt His Word, and through him guided the believers to

His straight path and His mighty Message, and upon his family and companions whom God made the standards of His victory throughout His lands and the banners of His power amidst His creation—blessings that shall never fade nor be forgotten, for He is the Mighty, the Bestower. There is none other God but Him, the One, the Chosen.

Your letters arrived repeatedly before, but nothing since then—although "nothing" itself contains much meaning, as it possesses the "h" with two eyes, the "y" adorned with two dots, and the "j" with three dots. In truth, all is concealed and hidden within nothingness.

As for what prompts the writing of this letter: first, mention of you and news of your health and wellbeing; and second, at this time they instructed me to inform you that this year sufficient wheat has not been obtained. What was acquired will not, God willing, suffice for the travelers and residents, and funds are not available. We tried to borrow from some but were unsuccessful. His honor Mirza Majdu'd-Din, upon him be God's peace, the Lord of all worlds, is aware of the situation and will explain. Therefore, as instructed, it would be appreciated if you could send whatever amount possible from the requested funds, so that pure and desirable wheat might be obtained. In this matter, it would be best if there is no delay. You yourself are aware of the gatherings and the coming and going of travelers. This matter truly carries great reward and recompense.

As for your mother, upon her be God's peace, she is occupied day and night in remembrance of God, seeking for you glory, wealth, blessing and bounty. God willing, the time of nearness and meeting will soon arrive and the remaining matters will be discussed in person.

Furthermore, among other matters is the following: the jointly owned cattle should be sent. Secondly, as to the price of Mustafa's mare, it had been agreed that five liras thereof should be paid by you, and that the remaining five liras should be paid by himself after the lapse of six months. Yet neither did you pay, nor did he himself discharge it. Now, therefore, remit your portion, for great delay hath already occurred. Moreover, ten liras had formerly been requested of you, that you should send them; but neither did you forward the money, nor did you write a reply to the letter. Therefore, act not this time as before. Write the answer, and remit the sum. It behoveth you, on this occasion, to order all affairs in accordance with what is desired.

Furthermore, peace be upon you and upon God's righteous servants. Also remember and glorify the honored friend Mirza Dhikru'llah and tell him no funds have yet been received from him. Peace.

Diya. Dated 12 Rabi' I.

BH01946: Praise be to God Who has subdued the world…

He is the Speaker, the Manifest One, the Attracted, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

Praise be to God Who has subdued the world through His sovereignty and attracted the nations through His signs, before Whose grandeur and power all things have acknowledged, and Whose glory, grandeur and bounty every tongue has confessed. Remembrance, praise, glorification and splendor be upon the

Hands of His Cause who have traversed the lands to exalt His Word, spread His traces, and manifest that which draws them near to Him and teaches them His straight path and His mighty Message.

O Mihdi! Upon thee be My glory and My loving-kindness. We have mentioned thee before with the verses of God, the Powerful, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. We heard thy call and answered thee, and saw thy turning and turned toward thee from the direction of My mighty Prison. Blessed art thou for having shattered the idols of vain imaginings with the arm of wisdom and utterance, and turned to the light when it shone forth from this manifest horizon. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to make thee the cupbearer of the Kawthar of proof in this glorious and wondrous Day, to attract thee through His verses, aid thee through His sovereignty, and draw thee nigh unto Him through His mighty and great bounty.

O thou who gazest upon the Countenance! The Trusted One, upon him be the glory of God, the Lord of the worlds, hath mentioned thee time and again. He loveth thee for the sake of God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy.

In the Persian tongue: hearken to the call of the true Wronged One: Throughout ages and centuries the heedless faction—that is, the Shi'ih—have occupied themselves with mention of successor, guardian, Shaykhi and fourth pillar, to such extent that they remain heedless and veiled from true unity. Glory be to God! Through names they are deprived of their Owner and Creator. The fruits of their deeds became manifest and evident on the day of the appearance of the Beloved of the worlds—their ranks and stations were seen to be the most remote, ignorant and lost of all the peoples of the world, for like wolves they sought to destroy the Eternal Beloved and Everlasting Goal. At first they engaged in cursing and reviling, and in the end they issued the verdict for and carried out the shedding of His most pure blood.

Say: My God, my God, and my Lord, my Lord, and my Sovereign, my Sovereign! I beseech Thee by Thy Lamp which the winds have assailed, and by Thy Name which Thou hast made the key to the door of grace and prosperity, to make me and Thy loved ones among those who have sacrificed their souls and their wealth in Thy path. O Lord! Aid us to achieve such steadfastness as cannot be shaken by the onslaught of the aggressive ones nor prevented by the oppression of the oppressors. Verily Thou art God, the Lord of the worlds and the Master of the Day of Judgment.

Convey My greetings to the loved ones in that land. We beseech God to aid them to achieve such steadfastness as names cannot cause to slip nor turn aside from the straight path and the mighty Message. A petition was sent to the Most Holy Court by his honor ʿAttar, upon him be the glory of God, the Mighty, the Chosen One. An answer was revealed and sent. God willing, may they attain to that which will cause the exaltation of the Word of God. In all conditions all must hold fast to wisdom, lest the clamor of the calumniators and the treacherous be raised. Command and judgment are in the hand of God, the Powerful, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. The glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My loving-kindness be upon those who have not broken My covenant and My testament, and upon thee and My loved ones there and in its surroundings who have drunk the choice wine of My utterance from the cup of My bounty and have said:

> “Praise be to Thee, O Beloved of the mystics and Goal of the hearts of them that are nigh and sincere!”

BH01970: This is a Book which the All-Merciful hath sent…

He is the One dawning from the horizon of the heaven of utterance.

This is a Book which the All-Merciful hath sent down for those on earth, that He might acquaint them with His path, guide them to His evidence, and teach them that which will make them trustees and preserve them from the wretched ones. Thus was the matter decreed in the Book of Names by God, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

O concourse of creation! The Promised Day hath come and that which was promised in the Books of God, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed, hath appeared. We have sent down the verses and manifested the clear proofs, yet most of the people are in evident doubt.

O Jalal! Hearken unto the call of the Self-Sufficient, the Most High, which hath been raised from the Prison. Verily it draweth thee nigh unto Him in all conditions. To this testifieth He with Whom is the clear Book. Thou didst turn to My horizon and attain My presence after My permission in numbered days, and at this time the command hath come from the Ancient Ordainer for thy return to thy home, that thou mayest remind the servants of the verses of thy Lord and acquaint them with His manifest and luminous path.

Say: O party of God! Be not grieved by the vicissitudes of the world, nor be ye disturbed by the might of the ungodly. Beware lest the veils of the heedless prevent you from turning toward God, the Lord of all worlds. Say: The world and its ornaments and favors and whatsoever hath been ordained therein shall pass away, but there shall remain for you that which hath flowed from the Pen of God, the Most High, in this exalted station.

Be thou eloquent in My praise, gazing toward My horizon and holding fast to My strong cord. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to adorn His servants with the ornament of virtues which hath been honored with the glory of acceptance and distinguished by the good-pleasure of God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy. We make mention of My party and My loved ones who have circled round My Cause and cast aside all else besides Me and heard My sweetest call from My most exalted horizon and acted in accordance with that which they were commanded by the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

O My loved ones! Be as light in brightness and as a mountain in steadfastness and as a spirit, swift to soar in this atmosphere wherein wafteth the fragrance of My wondrous utterance. Thus hath the Tongue of Grandeur spoken as a token of His grace, and He is the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous. We desire for you naught save that which shall draw you nigh unto a station wherein the atoms proclaim that there is none other God besides Him, the Single, the One, the Powerful, the Mighty.

Beware that ye dispute not with anyone or contend with any heedless and remote soul. We counsel you with that wherewith God counseled His servants in the earliest days concerning trustworthiness and godliness and that whereby your stations shall be exalted among the peoples. To this testify My Books

and My Scriptures and My Tablets and this luminous Tablet. God hath created you for the betterment of the world. To this doth testify this Lamp which proclaimeth at all times that there is none other God besides Him, the Powerful over what He willeth, the Protector of those in the heavens and on earth.

We make mention of thy mother and give her the glad-tidings of My remembrance of her. We beseech God to inscribe within her heart by the Pen of His handiwork: "This is a handmaiden of God, the Lord of the Throne and of the dust, and the Sovereign of His Day, the Mighty, the Wondrous." And We make mention of thy sister who hath ascended to the Supreme Companion. We beseech God to adorn her head with the crown of the words "Verily I am God's, the Lord of the Mighty Throne" and We beseech God to strengthen her and assist her and send down upon her the food of utterance at all times. Verily He is the Most Merciful of the merciful ones.

The glory that hath dawned from the ocean of My loving-kindness be upon thee and upon the servants of God who are steadfast and His steadfast handmaidens.

BH01954: Praise, glory, remembrance and splendor belong to the most…

He is seated upon the throne of utterance

Praise, glory, remembrance and splendor belong to the most holy and exalted court of that Beloved One who brought the world and its peoples to life through the breezes of revelation and adorned them with the ornament of eternal existence. He is the One with power, upon whose acceptance or rejection depend the deeds of all created things and the actions of all contingent beings. If a soul from the beginning that has no beginning to the end that has no end were to remember and worship the Self-Sufficient, Exalted Lord in wilderness, plains, mountains and hills, yet the fragrance of His good-pleasure does not emanate therefrom, it was not and is not acceptable. At a time when the Seat of the Throne of Utterance was in a certain place, someone described and mentioned a servant who was occupied night and day in remembrance of the Goal of all existence and in communion with the Fulfiller of needs.

We responded that if one who keeps vigil at night and remembers by day has gained His good-pleasure, it is surely accepted and beloved before God; otherwise it bears and has borne no fruit. Indeed, in such matters the known and unknown, piety and transgression, are judged the same. The Mother Book testifies to this, and verily He is the Truthful, the Trustworthy.

O thou upon whom be the glory of God, Lord of all beings! In the days of the Manifestation, pure and holy deeds and spiritual, pleasing character are beloved. Deeds are accounted before God as fruits of the Blessed Tree. Blessed are they that act, both men and women! However, their excellence depends upon permission; otherwise they have no station or mention before God, the Remembering, the All-Knowing.

At this dawn there descended from the heaven of will this decree: Break thy fast, O leaf of My Tree, for fasting when harmful yields and has yielded no benefit. Say: My God, my God! Thou seest Thy leaf clinging to the Tree of Thy Cause and holding fast to the hem of Thy grace. I beseech Thee to confirm her in that which Thou lovest and art pleased with. By Thy might! I have taken Thy good-pleasure, severed from the world's good-pleasure, and have turned to Thee, turning away from all who are in the heavens and earth save what Thy Will hath willed and Thy all-compelling Purpose hath desired for every small and

great thing. O My leaf, O My leaf! Take thou the chalice of eternity in the name of God, the Sovereign of the Kingdom of Names, then drink therefrom in His name, the Commanding, the Powerful. Verily I say, fasting and prayer have a great station before God, but their excellence exists in time of health, and when weakness comes, observance thereof is not permitted. Such is the decree of Truth—glorified be His majesty—before and after. Blessed are they that hear and act, both men and women!

Praise be to God, the Revealer of verses and the Manifester of clear proofs! Glory be to Thee, O God, O Goal of all contingent beings and Beloved of all created things! I beseech Thee to protect the people of Thy household from the harm of those who have broken Thy covenant and testament, denied Thy right, and disbelieved in Thy signs. Then send down upon them from the clouds of Thy mercy the rains of Thy bounty and grace. Then write for them by Thy Most Exalted Pen that which will exalt them in Thy name amongst Thy servants. Verily Thou art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest. There is no God but Thee, the Mighty, the Great.

The resplendent and shining Glory that dawns from the horizon of the heaven of My bounty be upon you, O people of the household, and upon those who are with you and love you and circle round you, and upon those who have taken for themselves a station in your vicinity. Verily He is the Confirmer, the Powerful, the Mighty, the Generous.

BH01968: The ocean of generosity has surged when the Supreme…

He is the Compassionate, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

The ocean of generosity has surged when the Supreme Pen moved in remembrance of one who ascended to the Most Glorious Horizon, as a grace from God and a mercy from Him. Verily He is the Mighty, the All-Bountiful. Through My remembrance the breeze of forgiveness has wafted from the All-Merciful. Blessed is he who has been mentioned and attained this Most Great Remembrance, at whose appearance all other remembrances bowed down.

O Ahmad, upon thee be the glory of God and His mercy. Rejoice in what We have revealed for thee at this time, by which the Concourse on High and the dwellers of God's dominion, the Mighty, the Bestower, were attracted. Then give thanks for what We have sent down to thee, by which the inhabitants of the Kingdom soared in the atmosphere of loving-kindness and favors. By My life, whenever remembrance emerged from the mouth of the Divine Will in this Most Exalted Station, the ocean of grace surged and the fragrance of the mercy of the Lord of Lords was diffused. The hidden Light in Our Name, the Generous, and the treasured Spirit in Our Name, the Merciful, be upon thee, O thou at whose calamity the Tongue of Grandeur uttered the Most Great Word whereby were created creatures known to none save God, the Mighty, the All-Knowing.

I testify that thou didst drink the choice wine of understanding from the hand of the bounty of thy Lord, the All-Merciful, and didst turn to the horizon of Manifestation and didst hear the call of Him Who conversed on Sinai when most of the servants turned away. Through thee the fragrances of love were diffused and a gate of the gates of Paradise was opened when the Tongue of God, the Mighty, the Bestower, spoke thy name. I testify that thou didst believe in God when the Light shone forth from the

horizon of Manifestation and didst acknowledge what was sent down from the Pen of Revelation in the Scriptures and Tablets. Thou didst hold fast to the Handle of Utterance such that the manifestations of pride and transgression, who cast the Command of God behind their backs and spoke that which caused the hearts of the people of understanding to lament, did not prevent thee. We bear witness that thou didst attain the light of certitude when the people were in heedlessness and perturbation. Blessed art thou for having attained unto the days of God and for being mentioned by His Most Exalted Pen when thou wert in Paradise with His chosen ones at eventide and at dawn.

It behooveth every soul to say: Glory be unto Thee, O my God, O God of Utterance and Goal of all creation! I testify to the sanctification of Thy Being and the detachment of Thine Essence, and by Thy might and sovereignty and greatness and power, I beseech Thee, O my God, by the spirits that have ascended to the heaven of Thy grace and by the lights whereby the horizons of the hearts of Thy chosen ones were illumined, to ordain for Thy lovers that which shall gladden the hearts of the sincere ones among Thy friends and whereby the eyes of those who are near unto Thee among the Hands of Thy Cause shall be consoled. Then I beseech Thee by this treasure wherein Thou didst deposit a trust from Thee, and by his tomb and his love and his remembrance and his praise and his turning unto Thee and his submissiveness and his humility when reciting Thy most great verses and beholding Thy mighty signs, that Thou forgive me and my father and my mother, then open before my face the door of Thy mercy with the lamp of Thy grace and send down upon me from the heaven of Thy bounty the rains of Thy loving-kindness.

O Lord! Thou seest me clinging to one of Thy loved ones whose mention was sent down from Thy Most Exalted Pen in Thy days and who heard Thy sweetest call from the horizon of the heaven of Thy Manifestation. I beseech Thee not to disappoint me of the wonders of Thy grace and mercy which Thou hast ordained for those who hastened to the field of martyrdom, yearning to enter the precincts of Thy glory and to attain the court of Thy holiness. Verily Thou art powerful over what Thou willest. There is no God but Thee, the Forgiving, the Generous.

BH02026: O people of Ha and Mim! Hear the call…

In the Name of Him Who is manifest before all faces!

O people of Ha and Mim! Hear the call of God, the Almighty, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. He hath mentioned you before in numerous Tablets which the tablets of the world and what the nations possess cannot equal. To this doth the Most Great Name bear witness in this exalted and glorious station.

O Muhammad-Quli! Upon thee be My glory and My loving-kindness. Sorrows have encompassed Me from all directions through what the hands of the oppressors have wrought. How many a servant claims faith within himself and steadfastness in the Cause of God, the Lord of the worlds, yet the Wronged One witnesses great hypocrisy. Were We to reveal what is in their hearts, they would lament for this Wronged and Exiled One. We have sent down the verses and manifested the clear proofs and raised up the Cause, yet the people are in evident ignorance. Say: Glory be to Thee, O my God! I beseech Thee by Thy Name, the All-Bountiful. Glory be to Thee, O my God! I beseech Thee by Thy Name, the All-Generous.

Glory be to Thee, O my God! I beseech Thee by Thy Name, the Chosen One, to deliver the Dawning-Place of Thy verses, the Manifestation of Thy clear proofs, and the Source of Thy commandments and ordinances from those who claim faith outwardly yet inwardly support Thine enemies. O Lord! I am Thy servant and the son of Thy servant. I have turned to Thee over successive years and Thou hast sent down from the heaven of Thy bounty clear verses. I beseech Thee by them and by their Revealer to strengthen me in the Great Steadfastness, lest there appear from me that which would cause the angels, the Spirit, and those who circle round the Throne to lament at morn and eve. There is no God but Thee, the Almighty, the Forgiving, the Bountiful.

O Muhammad-Quli! Convey greetings and glorification from the Lord of Majesty to the friends of that land of every kind. Say: By the Sun of Truth which hath shone forth from the horizon of the prison of Akka, each of you is mentioned in the presence of the Countenance and hath attained special favor. Some of the friends in their cities and lands considered themselves helpers of God's Cause, yet in their inmost hearts they are occupied with helping the enemies. Glory be to Him Who seeth and concealeth, and He is the All-Patient, the All-Concealing, the Compassionate, the Bountiful. We beseech God to confirm all in that which will cause the exaltation of His Cause. Glory be to God! In all ages most people took the calf as the station of Truth and worshipped it. Such is the condition of creation, except those through whose steadfastness the pillars of the idol and false god were shaken and every lying pretender was thunderstruck.

O My friends! This is the day of hearing and sight, and the time of victory and triumph. All must arise to serve the Cause through divine power and might, and must conquer hearts and souls through the hosts of wisdom and utterance. They are of the people of Baha and the companions of the Crimson Ark in God's clear Book. Today the friends of God are souls who gaze toward the highest horizon and hold fast to the cord of the Most Great Name. There is no distinction between them except in the station of steadfastness, precedence and knowledge. Say: Read what the All-Merciful hath revealed in the Qur'an—His exalted Word:

> "Verily the most honored among you in the sight of God is the most righteous of you."

This is the most holy and pure garment. Blessed is he who hath clung to it and adorned his temple with this sacred and luminous ornament. The glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My mercy be upon you and upon those who love you and hear your word concerning this Most Great and Mighty Announcement.

BH02032: Praise be to Him Who sendeth down the verses…

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

Praise be to Him Who sendeth down the verses and manifesteth the clear proofs, Who speaketh from the trees saying "I am the Powerful, the Unconstrained." He it is Who hath revealed the treasures of inner meanings and utterance for the preservation of man and the elevation of his station in the contingent world. We bear witness that there is none other God but Him. He hath ever described His Own Self as being beyond description by any save Him, and hath made him whom He hath chosen for His Cause the

Dawning-Place of His names and attributes. He speaketh of Him in all conditions and giveth glad-tidings unto the people of that which He hath ordained for them in His Most Great Book, wherein hath been inscribed that which was hidden from the nations, save whom His Will and Purpose hath chosen. Verily He is the Powerful over whatsoever He willeth, through His Name, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting.

And peace and blessings be upon Him and upon His family and companions, whom the whisperings of the idolaters did not deter, nor did the might of the oppressors frighten. They arose to promote the Cause with such power as stunned all created things and caused all possibilities to tremble. Through them did rivers flow among the servants, and that which was recorded by the Supreme Pen in the scriptures and tablets was made manifest.

Thy letter hath come before the Wronged One and the servant in attendance hath laid it before Him. We make mention of thee and reveal for thee that from which every seeker will inhale the fragrance of care and kindness. Blessed is the servant who hath cast away vain desire and laid hold on righteousness, and woe unto every one who hath turned away and rejected God, the Lord of all creation and the Lord of the throne on high and of the dust beneath. We have found from thy letter the fragrance of thy love and submission and thy trust in all things in God, the Lord of the Day of Resurrection. We beseech God to aid thee through His Cause and assist thee through His sovereignty and to make thee among those whom neither the commerce of the world, nor that which the nations possess, nor the treasures of princes, nor the hoards of ministers have deterred. They have advanced with supreme steadfastness and have said:

> "God is our Lord and the Lord of the angels and the Spirit, and the Lord of the mighty throne and the elevated seat."

O thou who soarest in the atmosphere of divine knowledge! We counsel thee to observe the glorious Law which the All-Merciful hath sent down in the Qur'an, and to act according to that which hath been revealed therein. Verily He is the Powerful, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. Moreover We counsel thee and the friends of God with that whose fragrance shall never pass away, and with those virtues through which the traces of them that are nigh unto God have been spread abroad and faces have turned toward God, the Lord of all worlds.

Say: My God, my God! Thou seest the people of Thy unity amongst the ungodly among Thy creation and the rejecters among Thy servants. I beseech Thee to preserve them through Thy might and power and sovereignty, and to aid them to act according to that which Thou hast commanded them in Thy Book, and to ordain for them the good of this world and the next. Verily Thou art the Lord of all creation and the Lord of the throne on high and of the dust beneath. There is none other God but Thee, the Almighty, the Powerful.

My God, my God! Thou knowest and seest how the ungodly have surrounded Thy domains and desire to seize Thy lands. I beseech Thee by Thy light whereby the earth of Thy wisdom and the heaven of Thy utterance were illumined, to protect Thy trusted servants from the oppression of the treacherous ones and the aggressors and the slanderers. Verily Thou art He from Whose knowledge nothing escapeth, and no power in the heavens or on earth can frustrate Thee. There is none other God but Thee, the Single, the One, the Powerful, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

BH02041: Praise befits and is worthy of the desired One…

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

Praise befits and is worthy of the desired One Who, through His complete power and all-encompassing grace, created servants who arose with supreme steadfastness in His Cause. What came from the peoples did not prevent them from the Ancient King, and neither what emerged or emerges from their mouths, nor what appears from their pens, nor what is born of their thoughts held them back from helping His Cause. Praise be unto Him, then thanks be unto Him, and we beseech Him to assist His Afnan in what He loves and is pleased with. There is no God but Him, the Lord of humanity and the Lord of the throne and earth. My spirit be a sacrifice for your mention and for your arising.

A letter from His Honor the Afnan, the honored Mr. M.H., upon him be the Glory of God the Most Glorious, arrived from the land of Ha. It was presented and by command was sent to your presence that you may consider it and act as befits, and whatever you deem good and proper, cling to it without delay. In all matters, act with perfect joy and fragrance and with dignity and composure. They said: "Whosoever puts his trust in God, He is sufficient unto him." Be not grieved by certain matters. At this time while walking They said to write to the Afnan Siyyid Muhsin, upon him be God's care and peace, to complete what was said in the presence, and if possible after being present in this land to set forth. We beseech God to grant him success and assist him and aid him through His might and power and sovereignty. Verily He has power over all things.

The honored Siyyid Aqa, upon him be God's peace and grace, is mentioned and does not leave the sight. The honored Haji, upon him be God's peace, and other friends have been and are mentioned. We beseech God to protect them from the evil of every transgressor and the oppression of every tyrant and the fabrications of every deceitful clamourer.

This evanescent servant conveys pure devotion and self-effacement to His Honor the honored master and magnificent star, Aqa Siyyid Muhsin, upon him be the Most Glorious Glory of God, and sends greetings and seeks from the ocean of divine favor blessings and good works for them. Verily He is our shelter and refuge and the shelter of all in the heavens and earths. And likewise I send greetings and express pure devotion to the beloved honored one, His Honor the Afnan Aqa Siyyid Aqa, upon him be the Most Glorious Glory of God. This evanescent servant—God the One is witness—has ever mentioned and mentions them and the masters and friends, upon them be God's peace, and seeks for each that which is peerless, and there has been and is no doubt that His gift has had and has no likeness. He is the Generous, possessed of great bounty. Glory and remembrance and praise be upon your honor and upon those with you and those who love you for the sake of God, our Lord and your Lord and the Lord of all the worlds. And praise be to Him for He is the goal of the worlds and the beloved of the sincere ones.

BH02043: All praise, sanctified from words, befitteth the Lord…

In the Name of Him Who is the Manifest, the Speaking, the Trustworthy

All praise, sanctified from words, befitteth the Lord of the Day of Judgment, Who hath illumined and adorned the world and its peoples with the lights of the Luminary of Manifestation, the One Who

conversed on Sinai. In all conditions, the banner "Verily, I am God" was raised from the right side, and the standard "He doeth whatsoever He willeth" was manifested and unfurled from the other direction. Exalted be His power, glorified His might, and magnificent His signs. There is no purpose save Him.

O Pen! Hearken unto that which the Lord of the worlds and Master of eternity hath spoken, then make mention of God's chosen ones, His sincere servants, His trustees and bearers of His mysteries. Let nothing among all things, nor any name among all names, hold thee back. Stand before the faces of the servants and say:

Glory be unto Thee, O my God! Praise be unto Thee for having guided me to Thy most exalted horizon and acquainted me with Thy Cause, whereby the limbs of those in the realm of creation have trembled. I beseech Thee by the lights of Thy countenance and the waves of the ocean of Thy bounty to transform the tyranny of Thy servants into justice, their turning away into turning toward the court of Thy glory, and their denial into acknowledgment of that which Thou hast revealed in Thy Book. O Lord! Thou art the Generous, possessed of great bounty. Make known unto them that which behooveth them in Thy days, and their return unto the seat of Thy throne, and their repentance at the door of Thy forgiveness. Thou art the Almighty through Whose command the Herald hath called out from every direction:

> "The dominion, the kingdom, the grandeur and the power belong unto God, the One, the Almighty, the Mighty, the All-Bountiful."

O Lord! Thou beholdest the oppressor seated upon the throne of tyranny, shedding the blood of Thy loved ones with such injustice that the Manifestations of justice have lamented. Glory be unto Thee, O my God! Glory be unto Thee, O my Purpose! Glory be unto Thee, O my Beloved! Thou seest me clinging to the cord of Thy grace and holding fast to the hem of the robe of Thy mercy. I beseech Thee by Thy sovereignty that hath encompassed all created things, and by Thy command that hath subdued all contingent beings, to ordain for the people of T and F that which will draw them nigh unto the pavilion of Thy glory and the canopies of Thy grandeur. Thou art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest. There is no God but Thee, the Mighty, the Strong, the Triumphant, the Wise.

O Lord! Illumine their hearts with the lights of Thy knowledge, then send down upon them from the clouds of Thy mercy the rains of Thy generosity and bounty. Thou art He to Whose power and sovereignty all names have testified, and to Whose might and grandeur all things have borne witness. By Thy glory! This servant desireth naught save the manifestation of Thy gifts and favors unto Thy servants and creatures. O Lord! I have heard the utterances of the idolaters in the land of Y, and have seen what hath befallen the sincere ones through that which the hands of the wicked have wrought. Where, O my God, is Thy power, Thy might, Thy justice and Thy sovereignty?

How many homes, O my God, wherein the sighs of weeping have been raised, and how many places wherein the cries of the trustees and chosen ones have appeared! I beseech Thee, O King of Kings, by the mysteries of Thy kingdom and the lights of the Orb of Thy justice, to seize the oppressors with the scourges of Thy wrath and the transgressors with the fire of Thy anger. Thou art the Almighty, to Whose power the layers of the earth and its pebbles have testified, and to Whose might the heavens and all that was created therein have borne witness. There is no God but Thee, the Mighty, the All-Forgiving.

The glory shining forth from the horizon of the heaven of proof be upon thee, O Muhammad-Qabli-ʿAli, and upon My loved ones and friends who have drunk the choice wine sealed with My Name, the Mighty, the Unconstrained.

BH02049: God beareth witness that there is none other God…

He is the Hearing, the Answering.

God beareth witness that there is none other God but Him, and He Who hath come with the truth is verily the Dawning-Place of the signs of God, the Lord of all worlds. Through Him was opened the door of bounty to the world and the ocean of knowledge surged among the peoples. But for Him, the verses would not have been sent down nor would the clear proofs have appeared. To this the Mother Book beareth witness in the final return.

O Ali! Hearken unto the call of the Wronged One. He maketh mention of thee from the precincts of the prison in such wise as to draw thee nigh unto God, the Lord of all religions. Blessed is the one whose strength is not weakened by the veils of the world and whose steadfastness is not shaken by the oppression of those who have disbelieved in God, the Lord of lords. Thy letter which thou didst send to the Name of Generosity, upon him be My glory, hath arrived. We have answered thee with this Tablet from whose horizon the lights have shone forth. We bear witness that thou hast turned to God and attained His presence and heard what the Son of Imran heard on the Mount of Knowledge. Blessed art thou and blessed is he who hath clung to the cord of God, the Revealer of verses.

We have desired to make mention of My loved ones there who heard the Call when it was raised in truth and answered their Lord, the Lord of all religions. O friends of God in Faran! Hearken unto the call of the Wronged One. He maketh mention of you and biddeth you show forth such steadfastness that neither the veils of names nor the idols of fancy and vain imaginings shall hold you back. Cast away what the people possess, turning with your hearts unto God, the Lord of the final return. Say: Beware lest the might of the world and the clamor of the peoples prevent you. Take ye hold of the Book of God with the power that proceedeth from Him and the strength that cometh from His presence. He will aid you with the hosts of the seen and the unseen. There is none other God but Him, the Single, the One, the Powerful, the Chosen One.

We make mention at this time of Mir Husayn with a mention whereby the hearts of the people of understanding are attracted. O Husayn! The Wronged One in prison maketh mention of thee even as He hath mentioned My loved ones at eventide and at dawn. And We make mention of Ali-Akbar and give him the glad-tidings of that which hath been sent down for him from the heaven of the bounty of his Lord, the Lord of all men. O Ali-Akbar! Know thou that the Call hath been raised at the Most Great Scene in the prison of Akka. Blessed is he who hath heard and woe unto every heedless doubter. And We make mention of him who was named Rajab-Ali who hath turned unto God, the Lord of mankind. Give thanks unto God thy Lord and praise Him for having moved the Most Exalted Pen to make mention of thee in days wherein all things have spoken saying:

> “The Promised One hath come! The command belongeth unto God, the Powerful, the Mighty, the Forgiving!”

At this time We make mention of My trusted ones and My chosen ones who have held fast unto the Sure Handle in the days of their Lord, the Lord of all men, and have acknowledged that which the Tongue of Grandeur had spoken before all things. There is none other God but Him, the Single, the One, the Mighty, the Help in Peril.

O ʿAli! We have illumined the world with the lights of the Sun of My utterance and have perfumed it with the fragrances of My revelation and adorned it with My manifestation which hath encompassed all who are in earth and heaven. Blessed is he who hath attained and woe unto every heedless doubter. Say: O people of the Bayan! The oceans of the world have surged through My remembrance and the trees have spoken even as the Tree of the Mount hath spoken. To this He beareth witness in Whose grasp is the reins of all mysteries. The glory shining forth from the horizon of the heaven of My mercy be upon thee and upon those who are with thee and who love thee for the sake of God, the Lord of lords.

BH02076: Praise be to God Who hath appeared through…

He is the Consoler, the Comforter, the Faithful Speaker

Praise be to God Who hath appeared through the kingdom of His utterance and revealed that which was treasured within His knowledge and hidden in the repository of His protection. He, verily, is the Truth, there is no God but Him, the Single, the One, the Mighty, the Powerful.

This is a Day wherein the Herald calleth out before the faces of all people and giveth them glad tidings of that which hath been ordained for them by the Most Exalted Pen in the Sacred Books and Tablets. He hath come for the life of the world and all that dwell therein. Blessed is the servant who hath attained unto the breezes of revelation in the days of God, the Lord of all mankind.

This is a Day wherein the Mother Book proclaimeth and guideth the people unto the horizon wherefrom hath shone forth the Luminary of God’s utterance, the Lord of all men.

Glory be unto Thee, O my God! Thou seest Thy servant standing before the door of Thy bounty, uttering Thy praise and seeking to enter Thy presence. I beseech Thee by the all-encompassing power of Thy verses, the might of Thy Will and the sovereignty of Thy Purpose, to assist Thy loved ones in that which Thou lovest and art pleased with. Then enable them to render such service as shall cause its fragrance to be diffused throughout the world. O my Lord! Deprive them not of the outpourings of Thy days. Verily, Thou art the One Who hath power over whatsoever He willeth, and in Thy grasp are the reins of all things past and future.

O thou who gazeth toward the horizon of God! We have desired to draw thee nigh through wings unsullied by the clay of idle fancies and vain imaginings, and through a will unhindered by the ranks of wickedness and indecency. Thy Lord, verily, is powerful over whatsoever He willeth. There is none other God but Him, the Mighty, the All-Bountiful.

And We have desired at this time to make mention of My handmaiden and My leaf who hath soared on the wings of longing unto God, the Lord of the Day of Mutual Meeting. O Pen! Say: The first fragrance from the breezes of revelation and the first light that hath shone forth from the lights of the Countenance be upon thee, O handmaiden of God, and upon those who circle round the Throne at eventide and at dawn. We testify that she turned when the Call was raised and answered her Lord with the word "Yea." We testify that she attained unto My days, held fast to My loving-kindness, clung to the hem of My mercy, and spoke My praise amongst My handmaidens and My leaves.

We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to send down upon her at all times the fragrances of His Name, the All-Merciful. By the life of God! At the moment We desired to make mention of her, the ocean of forgiveness surged and the fragrance of God's garment, the Lord of all religions, was diffused. Thus did the Sun of Grace shine forth from the horizon of God's will, the Lord of the beginning and the end. Blessed is she and joy be unto her! She turned when most handmaidens turned away, and she acknowledged when the denizens of the realm of creation denied, save those whom God, He Who is established upon the throne of His Name, the Mighty, the All-Bountiful, willed.

O Muhammad-ʿAli! Upon thee be My glory and My loving-kindness. When thou hast attained unto My Tablet and perceived the fragrance of My utterance and drunk from the ocean of My knowledge, say: My God, my God! Praise be to Thee for having given me to drink from the ocean of Thy bounty and guided me unto Thy mighty announcement and shown me Thy signs and caused me to hear Thy call. I beseech Thee to forgive Thy handmaiden who hath ascended unto Thee, then forgive those who have turned toward her resting place and visited her, by virtue of that which hath been sent down from Thy Most Sweet Tongue and Thy Most Exalted Pen. Verily Thou art the Lord of all mankind and the Lord of the Throne on high and of earth below. There is none other God but Thee, the Mighty, the All-Bountiful.

BH02109: This is a Book which the All-Merciful hath sent…

In the name of God, the One

This is a Book which the All-Merciful hath sent down for those who have turned to and believed in God, the Lord of Lords. O Jamalu'd-Din! Hearken unto the call of God, the True King, the Manifest One. He maketh mention of thee that thy remembrance may endure in the Mother Book. Say: Praise be to Thee, O my God, and glory be to Thee, O Beloved of my heart and He Who is mentioned in my inmost being, for having illumined my face with the lights of Thy countenance and enabled me to acknowledge that which Thou hast sent down from the heaven of Thy grace. I beseech Thee by the waves of the ocean of Thy utterance in Thy days to strengthen me to remain steadfast in Thy remembrance and praise. Then grant me, O my God, the Kawthar of Thy knowledge and the food of Thy heaven, and aid me through Thy bounty and Thy hosts. Verily Thou art the Almighty, the Glorious, the All-Bountiful.

O thou who gazest upon the countenance! The divine favor, grace and mercy concerning thee are more manifest than the sun at high noon. With this supreme bounty and greatest favor, thou must at all times hold fast to that which will exalt the Word of God, in such wise that from all directions the lights of remembrance and utterance may appear and become evident. Set aside all else save thy Lord and take

His Book through His name and power, and remind the people in His days. Verily He will be with thee and will strengthen thee as He pleaseth, and He is the Almighty, the Powerful.

In these days countless writings have gone to foreign lands, such that some from those parts have turned toward Iran to gain knowledge of this Most Great Cause, and having obtained what divine writings they could, have returned. The details of this will soon be spread abroad and you will become informed thereof. This Wronged One is not content that from you and Haji Faraju'llah, after much effort, no fruit or trace should appear. You must hold fast to the hem of steadfastness and grasp the strong cord of wisdom and utterance, that there may appear from you both that which befitteth this manifest Cause. Praise be to God that corruption, conflict and disputation have been erased from the Book, as every discerning one and every informed scholar doth testify. All must aid the Cause of the Goal of the world through praiseworthy character, good deeds, wisdom and utterance. It hath been repeatedly mentioned that the hosts are goodly deeds and praiseworthy character, and the commander is the fear of God. Blessed is he who hath recognized and joy be to him who hath held fast to what God, the Lord of the mighty throne and this noble station, hath desired.

In all conditions We beseech and implore the Self-Subsisting that He may aid thee and Haji to that which befitteth His Day. Effort is necessary and steadfastness obligatory, that perchance the hatred and rancor hidden in the hearts of the various groups may be stilled through the Kawthar of divine counsel and heavenly wisdom and utterance. This is the aim of this Wronged One, as all things and their traces, the trees and their fruits, the suns and their radiance, and the moons and their effulgence do testify. Blessed are they who attain and joy be to them who know. The glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of thy Lord's bounty be upon thee and upon those who are with thee and who hearken to thy words concerning this mighty and wondrous Cause.

BH02108: The Book of God speaks the truth: There…

He is the True Speaker from His most exalted horizon.

The Book of God speaks the truth: There is no God but Him, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting. The Fire calls out from the direction of the Mount, saying: "O people! The Promise has come, and He Who speaks is indeed the Promised One." The Balance proclaims: "O people of the earth! Fear the All-Merciful and be not of those who understand not." This is the Day wherein the Call has been raised from the most exalted horizon. Blessed are they who hear. The Path walks and says: "Draw nigh, O people, unto the Dawning-Place of bounty. The seal of the Choice Wine has been broken in the name of God, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting."

O Isma'il! Blessed art thou, for the Wronged One has turned toward thee from this praiseworthy station and remembers thee with that whereby all things have been adorned through the light of remembrance from God, the Powerful, the Mighty, the Loving. Give glad tidings to the servants of this Most Great Revelation, through which has been manifested what was hidden in the knowledge of God, the Lord of existence. Beware lest the doubts of the people prevent thee from serving the Cause, or their might frighten thee. Be a teacher of God's Cause in all conditions. Verily He will protect thee, aid thee, and inspire thee with that which will draw people near unto Him. He is the Truth, the Knower of the unseen.

Blessed art thou for having drunk the wine of revelation from the hand of the bounty of thy Lord, the Possessor of the seen and unseen.

O Ibrahim! Rejoice that the Lord of Eternity has turned toward thee from His Most Great Prison and revealed for thee that which has diffused the fragrances of utterance throughout all possibility. Exalted is the All-Merciful Who has come in the shadows of the clouds with a Cause before which armies cannot stand. Thy letter reached the Wronged One and the Trusted One, upon him be the Glory of God, the Lord of the worlds, delivered it. We read it and found from it the fragrance of thy sincerity, thy turning and thy devotion to God, the Lord of the Frequented Fane. Let not the words of those who have denied the Witness and the Witnessed grieve thee. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to make thee attracted by His verses, firm in His Cause, and detached from all else.

Verily He has power over what He willeth through His word "Be" and it is. Give glad tidings to the people of this Day which the Messenger foretold from God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy—the Day when mankind shall stand before the Lord of the worlds. Say: O concourse of divines! Fear the Lord of Names. He has come with verses that have attracted the hearts of those who know. Beware lest ye deprive yourselves of this bounty which has encompassed the seen and unseen. Blessed art thou, O Ibrahim, and joy be unto thee for having taken the wine of revelation from the hand of the bounty of thy Lord and drunk thereof in His name, the Mighty, the Wondrous.

We remember Mirza before Aqa with the verses of God, the Powerful, the Mighty, that the call of his Lord may attract him and draw him near. He is verily the Compassionate, the Generous. We remember My loved ones there and command them with that which will raise high the station of the Word among the servants, and We counsel them with that which God counseled His chosen ones in His perspicuous Book. We beseech God to preserve them and assist them with the hosts of verses. He is verily the Commander, the Strong, the Mighty. The Glory from Us be upon you and upon those who have heard, turned toward and answered the Herald of Grandeur in this exalted and glorious station.

BH02122: O My Afnan! Upon thee be My glory…

He is God—exalted be His glory—the Lord of wisdom and utterance.

O My Afnan! Upon thee be My glory and My loving care, and the mercy of thy Lord, the Compassionate, the Bountiful. He maketh mention of Himself through every remembrance and every name. He doeth whatsoever He willeth and ordaineth whatsoever He pleaseth. Thou hast, in truth, been remembered in the presence of the Wronged One by verses whereby the hearts of them that know have been drawn.

Thy letter hath reached the servant who standeth before the Countenance, and hath been received with acceptance and attentive hearing. We beseech God to open before your faces the gates of bounty and bestowal, and to exalt through you His remembrance in the world of creation and in the Concourse on high. Verily, He is the Omnipotent, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

Say: The Cause hath come, and the Cause is God's, the Lord of all the worlds. He it is by Whose command whatsoever hath been and whatsoever shall be hath appeared, and that which lay hidden in the earth and veiled from eyes hath been brought forth. He is, in truth, the Expounder, the All-Knowing.

Thou didst attain unto presence and meeting in appointed months, and thou hast spoken the truth in thy letter. We beseech God to deliver thee and the Afnan from those who have broken the Covenant of God and cast behind them His firm decree, and to assist them in that which beseemeth them. Verily, He is the All-Forgiving, the All-Merciful.

And we beseech God—blessed and exalted be He—to confirm My Afnan—upon whom be My glory and My loving care—to hold fast to that which profiteth him and exalteth his station, and through which the fragrance of trustworthiness is diffused throughout the land. Verily, He is powerful to do whatsoever He willeth, by His mighty and wondrous Word.

We have read what thou didst send him concerning the ordinances of thy Lord, and what We commanded him aforetime and hereafter. Verily, He is the Generous, the Possessor of great bounty. We have willed for him confirmation from the ocean of the loving care of God, the Omnipotent, the Almighty.

What that Afnan hath sent hath been examined. In truth he hath spoken rightly, and from the True One we ask for every confirmation. Say: O My Afnan! Grieve thou not for anything. Ere long shall the standards of guidance be raised among mankind, your stations be exalted, and God guide His servants through you. Verily, He is with him whom He loveth and whom He hath related unto His own Self.

Whatsoever hath flowed from the Pen hath appeared and will appear. In truth, the honoured Afnan, from the earliest days, have arisen to serve and to aid, to make mention and to praise. The recompense of these deeds is treasured with the Self-Sufficing, the Exalted. Pride is theirs, and favours are theirs; and every day the outpourings of loving-kindness are made manifest and shall continue to be made manifest. Thus hath the Most Exalted Pen spoken in this blessed, mighty, and wondrous Day.

As to Jinab Rida, after [the one called] an-Nabil: he hath for some time dwelt beneath the shade of the merciful loving care, and hath chosen for himself, nigh unto the mercy of his Lord, a radiant station. He hath repeatedly made mention of you. We beseech God—blessed and exalted be He—to write for you every good that He hath revealed in His perspicuous Book.

Make mention, on behalf of the Wronged One, of the friends in that land, and announce unto them glad-tidings through the effulgent manifestations of the lights of God's bounty. And make mention of the one referred to as Alâ-yi-Kuchak—upon him be the glory of God—remember him from Me, and give him glad tidings through My remembrance of him.

And at the close of the words say:

O my God, my God! I beseech Thee by Thy will whereby all created things were set in motion, and by Thy pervasive purpose that hath encompassed all things, to ordain for Thine loved ones that whereby their eyes may be gladdened and their stations exalted. Then grant them, O my God, Thine abiding bounty and Thy everlasting table. Verily, Thou art the All-Powerful, the Mighty, the All-Bestowing.

The glory that shineth from the horizon of the heaven of My mercy be upon you, O My Afnan, and upon My loved ones who have cast behind them vain imaginings and hastened unto the horizon of certitude.

BH02132: The Mother Book on the Day of Return proclaims…

In the Name of Him Who is the Guardian over all names!

The Mother Book on the Day of Return proclaims: O learned ones, recognize the value of this Day! This is that Day which the Torah foretold in the revealed words “Lead forth the people from darkness into light and remind them of the Days of God.” And the Desired One of all worlds declares in the Qur’an: “The Day when mankind shall stand before the Lord of the worlds.” Each of the divine Books is adorned with His mention and bears glad tidings of His appearance. This is the Book that has no likeness or equal, and from which all books have appeared and to which they return.

O people of God! The Most Great News has appeared and the wondrous Light shines forth. Gird up the loins of service and strive, that perchance those who are heedless may become aware of the Most Great News and hold fast to that which God has willed. This Wronged One remembers you at all times. We beseech God, exalted be His glory, to make each of you appear as a brilliant and radiant light among His servants, that all may follow your goodly deeds and praiseworthy character, and attain the station of nearness and the word of divine good-pleasure.

O son of Dhabih! Upon thee and those with thee be My glory! Thou hast ever been remembered and, God willing, shall continue to be. Repeatedly have thy letters reached the Most Holy Court and been seen and heard. Grieve not over anything, but in all matters place thy trust in God, the Lord of Revelation.

Some time ago the petition of the handmaiden of God, upon her be My glory, arrived. Indeed hardship has befallen, but first His Honour Haji, upon him be My glory, among the Afnan, must be consulted, and after receiving news and information, they may proceed to their ultimate goal and highest aim. In these days the affairs of the Afnan were somewhat disrupted and suspended, as the transactions in various regions, due to the treachery of certain covenant-breakers, were seen to be without effect or fruit. Therefore, no blame lies or has lain upon them. Say: My God, my God! Aid the treacherous to be trustworthy, the slanderers to be truthful, and the ungodly to return to the Tree of Thy oneness and the gate of Thy forgiveness and bounty. Verily, Thou art the Almighty, the All-Powerful.

Convey My greetings to the mother, sister and relatives, and illumine them with the splendors of the light of the Day-Star of divine utterance. We beseech God to aid and assist His Honor ʿAli, upon him be My glory, and to grant him success, and through His grace to open before him the gates of hope, bounty and wealth. He is the Powerful, the All-Able. There is no God but Him, the Most Glorious, the Most Luminous. We beseech the Causer of causes to manifest that which is the means of exaltation and elevation, and the cause of true profit and spiritual commerce. Verily, He is the All-Bountiful, the All-Generous.

Say: My God, my God! I beseech Thee by the Lamp of Thy Cause, which hath taken neither glass nor guard nor veil for its protection, to ordain for us that which will gladden our hearts and tranquilize our souls. Then open before our faces, through the key of Thy name the All-Bountiful, the gates of Thy mercy and loving-kindness. Verily, Thou art the Almighty, the Glorious, the All-Bestowing.

BH02130: Praise be to God Who hath manifested the Manifestation…

He is the One Warbling upon the Branches of the Divine Lote-Tree

Praise be to God Who hath manifested the Manifestation of His Self with a proof that hath encompassed all created things and a testimony whereby the fragrance of the All-Merciful hath been diffused throughout the contingent world, and Who hath revealed that which was hidden in knowledge and treasured in what He sent down in the Furqan. Praise be to God Who hath manifested one who hath proclaimed before all faces that there is none other God but Him, the Single, the One, the Powerful, the Mighty, the Bestower. Through Him the trumpet was blown and the Herald proclaimed: "The Kingdom is God's, the Lord of Lords!" Blessed is the ear that hath heard the Call, and the eye that hath beheld the Most Glorious Horizon, and the hand that hath taken hold of the Book of God with such strength as the hosts of the rejectors and the might of every perfidious doubter could not deter. He hath arisen before all mankind with such arising as the chains of men could not impede.

O My Most Exalted Pen! Turn from the most eloquent tongue to the luminous language and speak in Persian, that all may understand and their hearts may be drawn. This Wronged One in the Most Great Prison hath hearkened to thy call and hath turned for the sake of God, that He might draw thee to the horizon whence shineth the Day-Star of the bounty of the Lord of existence. Today everyone must seek the Sealed Wine, must purify their ears with the water of detachment from all they have heard, and likewise cleanse their eyes from whatsoever is unworthy. Then let them contemplate the signs of God, detached from all else but Him.

For ages and centuries the Shi'ih sect hath been occupied with the mention of names while remaining heedless and veiled from their Creator and Lord. Each day they cling to a deceiver and grasp the hem of one who sows doubt, warring amongst themselves. The recompense for these deeds became manifest on the Day of Reckoning, even as on the Day of Judgment they all assailed the Lord of Names with swords of rejection and spears of hatred. The divines of that people remain occupied to this day with rejection, revilement and cursing. By the life of God! The pulpits lament and the mosques wail and moan, yet ears that hear are lacking, save as God willeth.

We beseech God to assist thee in shattering the idols of fancy and vain imaginings with the hosts of wisdom and utterance, that thou mayest wholly depart from that sect and exert mighty efforts to protect the servants, lest helpless souls become afflicted as before in the well of vain fancies.

Say: My God, my God! Praise be to Thee for having given me to drink from the cup of Thy knowledge and guided me to Thy path and illumined my heart with the light of Thy recognition and enabled me to turn to Thee and hold fast to the cord of Thy bounty. My Lord! I beseech Thee by Thy straight path and by Thy Great Announcement, whereby the hearts of the idolaters were troubled and the limbs of the heedless trembled, to assist me to arise for Thy Cause and to make mention of Thee and praise Thee amongst Thy servants. My Lord! Aid me to make up for what hath escaped me in Thy days. I testify with my outer and inner tongue that Thou art God, there is none other God but Thee. Thou hast ever been powerful over whatsoever Thou hast willed through Thy word "Be" and it is. Verily we are God's and to Him shall we return.

BH02150: Glory be to Thee, O my God! I testify…

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

Glory be to Thee, O my God! I testify that Thy power hath encompassed all created things, and by the light of Thy Cause the earth and heavens were illumined. I beseech Thee by Thy generosity which hath encompassed all existence, and by Thy sovereignty which hath prevailed over the seen and unseen, and by Thy mysteries which were hidden from all eyes, to ordain for Thy chosen ones that which befitteth the heaven of Thy bounty. O Lord! They have acknowledged their poverty and confessed their weakness, therefore send down upon them that which will make them mighty in Thy kingdom and trusted ones in Thy lands. Then send down upon one of Thy servants that which befitteth Thy grace. O Lord! He hath turned to Thee and attained Thy presence. Then inscribe for Thy leaf and handmaiden, his wife, who hath turned with her heart to Thy horizon and acted according to what Thou commanded her in Thy Book. O Lord! Assist her through Thy bounty and generosity, then ordain for her what Thou hast ordained for Thy devoted handmaidens who are chaste and pure, who have held fast to the cord of Thy bounty and generosity and circled round Thy throne. Verily Thou art the Almighty, the Strong, the All-Conquering, the Powerful.

Sent by the Leaf, upon her be the Glory of God, wife of Muhammad-i-Rahim. He who hath attained should deliver five hundred tumans as commanded to Ali-Haydar, upon him be the Glory of God, and act according to what is mentioned in this leaf: Jamal, upon him be my Glory—twenty-five tumans; Nabil-i-Akbar, upon him be my Glory—twenty-five tumans; Mirza Haydar-Ali—twenty-five tumans; Ibn-i-Asdaq, upon them both be my Glory—twenty-five tumans; Ibn-i-Abhar, upon them both be my Glory—twenty-five tumans; Mirza Ali-Naqi, upon him be my Glory—twenty-five tumans. Ten tumans also from the Greater Mystery, the Most Exalted Leaf, upon her be the most glorious Glory of God, should reach Mulla ʿAli-Akbar to give to the handmaiden of God Layli. Five tumans also should reach the Fruit to be delivered to one of the handmaidens. Shaykh Muhammad also ten tumans, and twenty-five tumans also should be taken for the expenses of the Deputy, upon him be 966 [Baha'u'llah], and the remainder should be sent to the Trustee, upon him be the Glory of God, and whatever is intended regarding it will be made known for them to act upon.

O my God, my Lord and my Support! Those who have turned to the court of Thy glory and drunk the choice wine of revelation from the hand of Thy bounty and soared in the atmosphere of Thy love, desired to pay Thy rights which Thou didst send down in Thy Book. O Lord! They have spent in Thy love what Thou didst provide them from the treasuries of Thy bounty and favor. Ordain for them that which will draw them near unto Thee, then write down for them the good of every world of Thy worlds. Then I beseech Thee by Thy most exalted attributes to ordain for Thy handmaiden and leaf who hath attained to the payment of what was concealed from Thy Most Exalted Pen in Thy Scriptures and Tablets, the reward of those who circle round Thy throne and have won the privilege of hearkening to Thy call. O Lord! Thou seest that she hath done in Thy love what the queens of Thy earth were prevented from. Verily Thou art the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous, and in Thy grasp are the reins of all who are in the heavens and the earth.

BH02171: This is the Day wherein the gates of grace…

He is the All-Compelling, the Almighty, the Most Glorious, the All-Bountiful

This is the Day wherein the gates of grace, glory and bounty have been opened wide, and that which was hidden and treasured in the Book hath been revealed by command of God, the Lord of all men. Say: O concourse of earth! Hearken unto the Call that hath been raised from the direction of Akka, as a token of God's grace, the Lord of Lords. The treasures have appeared and the mysteries have emerged, inasmuch as He Who conversed on Sinai hath seated Himself upon the throne of Revelation in a spot which God hath made the Dayspring of Light and the Dawning-place of His signs. Say: O concourse of earth! Deprive not yourselves of this bounty, at whose appearance the Herald proclaimed: The Kingdom belongeth unto God, the Creator of creation. Say: O heedless ones! Fear God and follow not those who have denied God's proof and evidence and disbelieved in His signs. Thus have We sent down the Command and revealed that which lay hidden in God's knowledge, the Revealer of laws.

In the Persian tongue, hearken to the divine call. This call is the spirit of life for the people of the world and the greatest healing medicine for all nations. Whoso truly attaineth unto it is reckoned among those near to God and is inscribed by the Most Exalted Pen. Blessed is the one who hath arisen to serve and hath become aware of the station of religions recorded in the books of old and new. That which thou didst compose and recite hath reached the Wronged One, and from it We perceived the fragrance of thy love, thy mention and thy praise of God, the Lord of the worlds. Blessed be thy tongue—We testify that it hath spoken the truth and attained to the remembrance of God, the Lord of the mighty throne.

O thou who gazest upon the countenance! The power of sight was created for beholding, and the power of hearing was brought from non-existence into being to hearken unto this call raised from the Supreme Horizon. Praise be to God that through divine confirmation thou art occupied in this spiritual springtime with the mention and praise of the Goal of the world's desire. One bounty is thy being confirmed in remembrance and praise, and another bounty is thy being accepted and illumined with the light of His good-pleasure. By My life! The treasures of the world cannot be compared with this blessed word that hath shone forth from the horizon of the heaven of will.

Say: Praise be to Thee, O Goal of the worlds, and thanks be to Thee, O Beloved of those in the heavens and on earth! Say: My God, my God! I testify to Thy grace, Thy bounty and Thy generosity, and I acknowledge Thy sovereignty that hath encompassed Thy dominion, and the letter B whereby Thou didst bring forth existence from non-existence, and the letter H whereby the limbs of the nations who broke Thy Covenant and Testament trembled, and who acted in ways that caused the dwellers of the cities of Thy names and attributes to lament. I beseech Thee, O Possessor of existence and Lord of the seen and unseen, to make me one of those whom neither the world, nor its might, nor its weapons and artillery have prevented from drawing nigh unto Thee and turning toward the lights of Thy countenance. O my Lord! Ordain for me what Thou hast sent down in Thy Books for Thy chosen ones, then open before my face the doors of Thy blessing and bounty. Verily, Thou art the Almighty, the Glorious, the All-Bountiful.

BH02208: Praise befits and is worthy of the Lord…

He is the One Who speaks before the faces of the world.

Praise befits and is worthy of the Lord of Names and Creator of heaven, Who spoke forth through the Most Great Word. At that moment, the ocean of divine knowledge surged, and the fragrance of the All-Merciful wafted, and the light of certitude shone forth from the horizon of proof. Exalted, exalted is this most great bounty, and exalted is this generosity that has encompassed existence, and exalted is this grace that has encompassed all peoples!

O people of God! This day is the day of the most great steadfastness. The people of Baha are souls who have passed beyond the gulf of names and on the shore of the sea of reality have raised high the banner of true divine unity. Names, like the Shi'ih sect, did not prevent them from the light of divine unity. They are firmly attached to and focused on the Truth alone. These are they who are of the Crimson Ark, whose mention flowed from the Supreme Pen in the Qayyumu'l-Asma.

O Muhammad! The countenance of the Ancient One has turned toward you from the direction of His Most Great Prison, and has mentioned you in that whereby your mention shall endure in the Book of God, the Lord of lords. This is a day through whose mention God's books have been adorned, both of old and more recently. Blessed is he who has recognized and attained to its effusions, and woe to every heedless doubter. Say: O people! By God, the Day and the Self-Subsisting have come. He has broken the seal of His choice sealed wine. Come and drink thereof in His Name, the Protector of all who are in earth and heaven.

O Husayn! Hear the call of the Wronged One. He mentions you in that which will draw you near to God, the Dayspring of lights. When you find the fragrance of the All-Merciful's utterance, say: Praise be to Thee, O my God, for having given me to drink the Kawthar of Thy knowledge from the cup of Thy bounty, and for having illumined my reality with the light of Thy recognition, and for having made known to me Thy straight and manifest path and Thy mighty announcement. I beseech Thee by the Banner which Thou hast raised by Thy command upon the loftiest spots of Thy earth, and by the Standard which has been lifted up in Thy Name and speaks before the faces of Thy creation, to ordain for me that which befits the ocean of Thy generosity and the heaven of Thy bounty. O my Lord! I am Thy servant and the son of Thy servant. I beseech Thee not to disappoint me from that which Thou hast ordained for Thy chosen ones and trustees who have spent their wealth and their lives in Thy path. Verily Thou art powerful over what Thou willest. There is no God but Thee, the Mighty, the All-Bountiful.

We beseech God to assist you and likewise His loved ones to be steadfast, for the divine Cause in this Revelation is most mighty. Most of those who have turned to it thus far are unaware of the root of the Cause. The Mother Book bears witness to this in this lofty station. The lights of the Revelation of Him Who conversed with God have encompassed the world, yet eyes are veiled and prevented from beholding. We beseech God to assist all to draw near unto Him in all His worlds. Verily He is powerful over what He willeth, and He is the All-Bounteous. The glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My kingdom be upon the son of the martyr and upon you both and upon him who was named Mirza Aqa and upon every one who is steadfast, upright, firm and trustworthy.

BH11723: Praise befits and is worthy of the Lord…

He is the One Who speaks before the faces of the world.

Praise befits and is worthy of the Lord of Names and Creator of Heaven, Who uttered the Most Exalted Word. At that instant the ocean of recognition surged, the fragrance of the All-Merciful wafted, and the light of certitude shone forth from the horizon of proof. Exalted, exalted is this Most Great Favor! Exalted is this bounty that hath encompassed existence! And exalted is this generosity that hath embraced all peoples!

O people of God! This Day is the day of supreme steadfastness. The people of Baha are souls who have passed beyond the gulf of names and on the shore of the sea of reality have raised the banner of true unity. Names, like the Shi'ih faction, did not prevent them from the light of oneness. They are attached to and focused on the Truth alone. These are they who are among the companions of the Crimson Ark, whose mention flowed from the Supreme Pen in the Qayyumu'l-Asma'.

O Muhammad! The countenance of the Ancient One hath turned toward thee from the direction of His Most Great Prison and hath mentioned thee in such wise that thy remembrance shall endure in the Book of God, the Lord of lords. This is the Day through Whose mention God hath adorned His Books of old and of recent times. Blessed is he who hath recognized and attained unto its effusions, and woe unto every heedless doubter. Say: O people! By God, the Day and the Self-Subsisting have come. He hath broken the seal of His choice sealed wine. Draw nigh and drink thereof in His Name, the One Who rules over all who are in earth and heaven.

O Husayn! Hear the call of the Wronged One. He maketh mention of thee in such wise as will draw thee nigh unto God, the Dayspring of lights. When thou perceivest the fragrance of the All-Merciful's utterance, say: Praise be unto Thee, O my God, for having given me to drink the Kawthar of Thy knowledge from the cup of Thy bounty, for having illumined my reality with the light of Thy recognition, and for having made known to me Thy straight and manifest path and Thy mighty Message. I beseech Thee by the Banner which Thou didst raise by Thy command upon the loftiest spots of Thy earth, and by the Standard which hath been uplifted in Thy Name and speaketh before the faces of Thy creation, to ordain for me that which befitteth the ocean of Thy generosity and the heaven of Thy bounty. O Lord! I am Thy servant and the son of Thy servant. I beseech Thee not to disappoint me of that which Thou hast ordained for Thy chosen ones and trustees who have sacrificed their wealth and souls in Thy path. Verily Thou art the Almighty over what Thou willest. There is no God but Thee, the Mighty, the All-Bountiful.

We beseech God to assist you and likewise His loved ones to be steadfast, for the Divine Cause in this Revelation is most mighty. Most of those who have turned to it until now are unaware of its essential nature. The Mother Book beareth witness to this in this sublime station. The lights of the Revelation of Him Who conversed with God have encompassed the world, yet eyes are sealed and prevented from beholding. We beseech God to assist all to draw nigh unto Him in all His worlds. Verily He is the Almighty over what He willeth, and He is the All-Bounteous.

The Glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My kingdom be upon the son of the martyr, upon you both, upon him who was named Mirza Aqa, and upon every one who is steadfast, firm, and trustworthy.

Volume 096: Akka 1307 A.H. (1889–1890), Part IV (3 of 4)

BH02219: Blessed is the eye which hath on this day…

In the name of God, the Generous, the Mighty!

Blessed is the eye which hath on this day beheld the pearls of the ocean of utterance of the Lord of all worlds, and blessed is the ear which hath been honored to hear the call of the Lord of creation raised from the supreme horizon. The Book of God, which distinguisheth between truth and falsehood, ever calleth unto the people of divine unity, saying:

> "Act, O My loved ones, according to that which ye have been commanded."

For the station of hope is manifested through outward deeds, and fasting and prayer are as the sun and moon in the heaven of divine ordinances. Seize upon these twain through the power of thy Lord, O thou who soarest in the atmosphere of the love of God!

Convey My greetings to the friends and say: Be not like the Shi'ih sect, idle and vain. Hold fast to the cord of ordinances and grasp the hem of commandments. Glory be to God! The True One, exalted be His glory, hath bestowed hearing and sight and comprehending faculties [and His own incomparable Self], that all might thereby reflect upon matters and act upon that which profiteth them. Yet heedlessness and ignorance have deprived the servants of all these divine bounties and merciful favors. It is hoped that thou wilt, with wisdom and utterance, make the loved ones aware, that they may hold fast to the hem of deeds—deeds from which the fragrance of divine acceptance wafteth and which are adorned with the ornament of His good-pleasure.

Hadi of Dawlat-Abad is occupied with arranging the final section about the Shi'ih sect. The ocean of divine knowledge surgeth before his eyes, yet he searcheth after a mere pool. We beseech God to assist him to act with justice and to return. Verily He is the Mighty, the Powerful, and worthy to answer prayers. Peace be upon thee and upon God's righteous and sincere servants.

The electric current conveyed news of the destruction of the House. In these days all affairs have come to a standstill from every direction. The Afnans are in extreme difficulty. Surely you have heard that a group of Babis took their property and then denied it, raising disputes and contentions.

O physician, beseech the True One, exalted be His glory, that He may cause means to appear whereby the ruins of the world may be rebuilt, oppression be changed to justice, falsehood to truth, and poverty to wealth. O physician, upon thee be My glory! Had the people been worthy, verily the rain of divine mercy and the effulgences of the Sun of divine providence would have embraced all and raised them from the depths of abasement to the heights of glory. Nearly three hundred souls, young and old, are present in

this land—from this fact other matters become clear and evident to those of insight. Say: My God, my God! Aid Thy servants to turn unto Thee and draw nigh unto the court of Thy might. Then send down upon them from the heaven of Thy bounty a blessing and mercy from Thy presence. Verily Thou art the Powerful over whatsoever Thou willest, and in Thy grasp are the reins of all in the heavens and earth.

BH02241: O thou who drinkest the choice wine…

He is the One Who calleth from His mighty prison.

O thou who drinkest the choice wine from the hand of My bounty, O thou who soarest in My atmosphere, O thou who art consumed with grief at My sorrows and tribulations, O thou who art enkindled with the fire of My love! Hearken unto My call from the precincts of My prison. We, from the horizon of tribulation, summon and make mention of thee.

Thou knowest, and God knoweth, that the Ancient Beauty hath not spoken out of desire. He hath commanded all to righteousness and piety, and forbidden them transgression and wickedness. Yet the people have cast behind them My counsels and admonitions, and have committed that which hath caused the Pen and the Tablets to lament. They do what their desires command them. Lo! They are sunk in heedlessness and error.

By My life and thine! If thou wert to count My tribulations, thou couldst not number them. To this testify the Books of God, and behind them the Mother Book. We have heard thy lamentation in thy grief for thy Lord, and have recognized thy burning anguish at what hath befallen Him from His enemies. We beseech God, exalted be He, to grant thee a full reward. Verily He is the Mighty, the All-Giving.

We have taught them in Our Books and Tablets that which would exalt them among the servants, yet they have committed that which hath caused tears to flow from the eyes of the righteous. But My Most Exalted Pen payeth no heed to them, nor to the world and what hath been created therein. To this testify its shrill voice and what hath been revealed from it at eventide and at dawn.

Glory be to God! Kindness became the cause of wretchedness, and compassion the cause of hatred. For successive years We counseled them and made them aware of what would profit or harm them. But the counsels of God had no effect. Upon the deaf rock divine commands and prohibitions bestowed no benefit. Night and day they occupy themselves with calumnies. Due to the unworthiness of the servants these things have occurred and continue to occur.

Glory be to God! The luminary of justice should shine forth from the horizon of Iran. Now it shineth forth and is manifest from the horizon of Ishqabad. A hundred thousand regrets that the people of Iran are deprived and forbidden from the fruits of the blessed Tree which appeared therein. By the life of God! This is the recompense of their deeds in His days. Verily He is the Single, the One, the Mighty, the All-Knowing.

We beseech God to assist Iran to execute justice and fairness. Verily thy Lord loveth faithfulness in all conditions. In these days they should seek help and counsel from the Wronged One in its preservation

and protection. But heedlessness and ignorance have prevented man from that which would profit them. This is the recompense of deeds on the day of reckoning.

Each day foreign commands and ordinances gain influence, and through this influence the influence of the people of Iran is curtailed. Ask of God that He may awaken the slumberers and rouse them from sleep. Perchance they may hold fast to that which is the cause of success and prosperity. But alas! Soon will two fingers join together. Then shall ye behold them in manifest loss. Thus hath the Lord of all being made mention of that which was hidden from sight. Verily thy Lord is the Mighty, the All-Seeing.

BH02205: Praise be unto the Desired One Who, through His…

He is the Compassionate, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

Praise be unto the Desired One Who, through His absolute Will which is the station of the Most Exalted Word, brought the world from nothingness into being, made absolute existence manifest from pure non-existence, and through two letters brought forth the means of heaven and earth from annihilation to the realm of immortality. He is the One with power Who breathed into the Supreme Pen, which is the true form, a breath that adorned the decomposed bones with the ornament of eternal life and everlasting existence. Glory be unto Him, glory be unto Him! How great is His dominion, how exalted His station! There is no God but Him, the Single, the One, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

And blessings and peace and glory and splendor be upon the Hands of His Cause who did not break His covenant and testament, who traveled throughout the lands to exalt His Word and spread His signs—these are servants whom We made dawning-places of Our most beautiful names and Our most exalted attributes, and through them God gave His servants to drink of the Kawthar of recognition and the Salsabil of utterance. Verily He is the Single, the Powerful, the Mighty, the Bestower.

This is a letter from Us to him who attained the presence and drank the wine of revelation from the hands of the bounty of his Lord, the Generous, who stood before the Face and heard the Call which was raised in the prison of Akka, who attained the meeting and took the chalice of immortality from the hands of the bounty of his Lord, the Forgiving, the Merciful. We mentioned thee before in verses which all the remembrances of the world cannot equal, and We mention thee at this time with that which draws the hearts of the sincere ones.

O My Afnan! Upon thee be My glory and My loving-kindness. We testify that thou hast attained unto that which God hath revealed in His mighty Book. Grieve not at anything. Trust in God, the Lord of the worlds. We were with thee in all conditions. Verily thy Lord is the Powerful, the All-Knowing. Nothing escapes His knowledge. He heareth the call of His loved ones and answereth, and He is the Munificent, the Powerful, the Mighty.

One of My Branches who was named Diya in the Kingdom of Names hath appeared before Us and mentioned thee—We have remembered thee in this clear Tablet. That which thou didst send to the servant who is present before the Throne hath come before the Wronged One. We have read it and answered thee as a favor from God, the Lord of this exalted station.

Say: Praise be unto Thee, O my God, for having turned unto Thy face and sent down for me that which shall endure as long as Thy mighty and exalted Kingdom shall endure. I beseech Thee, O my Lord, by the waves of the ocean of Thy bounty and the effulgences of the Day-Star of Thy grace, to open before my face and the faces of my children the doors of Thy mercy and loving-kindness, and to ordain for us from the Pen of destiny that which shall profit us in every world of Thy worlds. Verily Thou art the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous, the Mighty, the Great.

O my Lord! Thou seest the essence of poverty turning toward the ocean of Thy grace and riches, the abased one toward the kingdom of Thy might, and the needy one toward the sun of Thy generosity. I beseech Thee not to disappoint him of that which Thou hast ordained for Thy chosen ones and trusted ones. Verily Thou art the Hearer, the Answerer. There is no God but Thee, the Mighty, the Wise.

BH02225: The Book of God hath been sent down…

He is the One manifest through justice and speaking through grace!

The Book of God hath been sent down in truth from the kingdom of His holy, mighty, praiseworthy utterance. The horizon of manifestation hath been illumined by the One Who conversed on Sinai, and the Spirit in the sacred valley proclaimeth: O people of the earth, abandon what ye possess, for God hath come with manifest sovereignty. Open your eyes—verily He standeth before your faces. Then hearken unto the shrill voice of His Pen, at whose ascension the realities of all things were attracted, and the Tongue of Grandeur spoke: The Kingdom belongeth unto God, the Lord of all worlds.

O Ghulam-Qabli-Husayn! Hear the call of the Wronged One—verily He mentioneth thee as a bounty from Him, and He is the All-Bountiful, the Generous. We have heard thy call and answered thee with a Tablet sent down from the heaven of thy Lord's bestowal, the Ancient of Days. We perceived the fragrance of thy love and mentioned thee with that whose fragrance shall never be cut off—to this every knowing, discerning one doth testify. Thank God that He hath turned toward thee from the prison-quarter and counseleth thee with that which shall elevate thy station among His servants. Verily He is powerful over whatsoever He willeth through His mighty, wondrous Word.

O Ali, upon thee be My glory! Hear My call from God's horizon, the Speaking, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. Say: Praise be unto Thee, O Lord of the world and Master of nations, for having given me to drink, from Thy generous hand, the cup of Thy recognition, and for having sent down to me from the heaven of Thy bounty that which hath diffused the fragrance of Thy loving-kindness. Thou art verily the Ever-Giving, the Forgiving, the Merciful. Set aside what the people possess and take the Book of God with such strength as the might of the world and the power of those who have denied the Day of Judgment cannot prevent. O Ali! The remembrance of God from the Divine Lote-Tree in the Most Exalted Paradise, at the right hand of the blessed, luminous Spot, that there is no God but Him, the Single, the One, the Mighty, the All-Knowing. Not an atom escapeth His knowledge—He heareth and seeth, and He is the Protector of all who are in the heavens and earths. Say:

My God, my God! Praise, glory, thanks and splendor be unto Thee for having turned toward Thy servant and sent down to him that which maketh known unto him Thy straight path and Thy mighty Message. I

beseech Thee by Thy manifest Book to make me steadfast through Thy power, firm through Thy might, and standing in Thy service. Verily Thou art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest. There is no God but Thee, the All-Bountiful, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

O Ja'far! Rejoice that the Lord of Destiny hath mentioned thee from His Most Great Scene with verses that all the books of the world cannot equal—to this every learned one who hath acknowledged that which the Tongue of Grandeur hath spoken in His mighty, wondrous Day doth testify. Say:

Praise be unto Thee, O my Best-Beloved, for having adorned me with the ornament of acceptance when all but those whom Thy mighty hand had taken denied. I testify that Thou art the Ever-Giving and that Thou art the All-Bountiful, the Mighty, the Inaccessible. My God, my God! I beseech Thee by the ocean of Thy knowledge and the heaven of Thy wisdom to assist Thy servants to turn unto Thee, to return unto the court of Thy bounty, and to arise before the manifestation of Thy gifts. Then write down for them, through Thy grace, that which shall profit them in all the worlds of Thy worlds, and ordain for them the good of the hereafter and of the former time. Verily Thou art the Possessor of the Kingdom of Names, and in Thy grasp is the dominion of all who are in the heavens and earths.

BH02239: O son of Rida! Upon thee be the Glory…

He is God, exalted be His station in wisdom and utterance!

O son of Rida! Upon thee be the Glory of God, the Speaker on Sinai, through Whom the hearts of the nations were attracted and the Tree of Utterance spoke forth: "The Kingdom belongeth unto God, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting!"

We have heard thy call and have addressed thee from the shore of the ocean of divine knowledge, and have sent down for thee that which will not change throughout the duration of the names of God, the Lord of existence. We have read thy letter and have sent unto thee the fragrances of revelation in the form of words. Verily thy Lord is the All-Bountiful, the Protector over what was and what shall be. Be thou steadfast in the Cause in such wise that the names shall not cause thee to slip from the extended path of God.

Say: O concourse of divines! Fear ye God and follow not your idle fancies. The Promise hath come and the Promised One calleth aloud before all faces. By the life of God! This is He Who was promised unto you in the Torah and the Gospel and the Psalms. Say: Your desires shall profit you not, nor shall the dawning-places of idle fancies and vain imaginings enrich you.

Blessed is thy father! He rent asunder the veils of mysteries with the finger of might, by the command of God, the Lord of Hosts. He advanced and hastened until he arrived and took the cup of detachment in the name of thy Lord, the Creator of new creation, and drank it despite the enemies, through this Name whereby the limbs of all names trembled save whom God willed. Blessed is he who hath attained, and woe unto every heedless one rejected. We bear witness that he heard the Call and said:

> "Here am I, O Lord of all men! I testify that Thou hast manifested Thyself and that which was promised in the Books of God, the Lord of what was and what shall be."

O thou! Hear the call of the Lord of the Kingdom of Names in the sweet Persian tongue, that joy and gladness may take hold of thee on this wondrous Day. The Most Exalted Pen beareth witness to thy turning, thy recognition and thy steadfastness. Great is the decree of this testimony and sublime its station. Know thou its worth and preserve it in the treasury of thy heart in the name of the Lord of creation.

Some souls have attained the presence and have been blessed from the cup of bounty of the Lord of the Kingdom of Names, yet remained deprived of a name from the Lord of the seen and unseen. The people of Baha are souls who were not deprived of the truth by the name of successor or mirror or the like. They passed beyond the river of names and sought the ocean of meanings. These aforementioned names and their manifestations are regarded and reckoned as servants by those immersed in the Most Great Name. The people of Baha are souls who are seated and mentioned in the Crimson Ark and the Luminous Book.

Say: O people! Be ye ashamed before the Lord of existence and turn ye unto His signs that ye may perchance recognize the station wherein a hundred thousand names have been and are being created by His Word. Would that they knew Who hath bestowed and created understanding!

O thou who gazest upon the Countenance! Blessed art thou and those with thee, and blessed is the leaf who hath heard her Lord's call through a mention from which was diffused the fragrance of her love and her steadfastness in this News whereby the feet of the mystics have slipped.

BH02223: He is the Ancient Commander

…He is the Ancient Commander

O thou who standeth in service to the servants and observeth the appearance of reform and the effacement of the signs of armaments! Know thou with clear certitude that all thou seest and hearest today shall pass away, and that which the Lord of mankind hath decreed and sent down for thee from the heaven of grace and bounty shall endure. By the life of God! The Cause shall not be harmed by their deeds and their words devoid of proof and evidence. Through their actions and oppression God shall raise up that which He desireth. To this beareth witness My Most Exalted Pen from its most sublime station. Glory be to God! His Majesty the Sultan, may God assist him, knoweth that this community wisheth well to all the peoples of the world, especially to the government and people of Iran. Nevertheless, there hath befallen the oppressed ones of the world that which hath caused the most great consternation. We beseech God to change it into the most great joy. Verily He is the All-Bountiful, the Effusive, the Almighty, the All-Powerful.

He is the All-Merciful, the Generous

The call hath been raised time and again from the Most Exalted Paradise, and We have given glad tidings of the coming of His Excellency Ali-Qabl-i-Akbar to the Prison for the sake of God, the Lord of destiny. Blessed is he! We make mention of him and love him for the sake of God, the Lord of the worlds. Thus hath the Tongue of Grandeur spoken and informed all of that which the hands of the oppressors have wrought….

BH02302: O Tiraz, praise be to God Who adorned thee…

He is the All-Remembering, the All-Knowing

O Tiraz, praise be to God Who adorned thee with the ornament of divine knowledge and illumined thy heart with the lights of certitude. Say: Praise be to Thee, O my God, for having shown me Thy signs and made known to me Thy straight and manifest path. I beseech Thee to ordain for me that which will draw me nigh unto Thee in all conditions. O Lord! I am Thy servant and the son of Thy servant. I have turned to the horizon of Thy Manifestation and have acknowledged that which Thou hast revealed in Thy Books. I beseech Thee not to deprive me of the Kawthar of Thy bounty nor to withhold me from the ocean of Thy grace. O Lord! Thou seest me yearning for the wonders of Thy generosity and bounty, and standing before the door of Thy favor. I beseech Thee not to disappoint me of that which Thou hast ordained for Thy chosen ones. Verily Thou art the Mighty, the Triumphant, the Powerful.

We make mention of him who was named Ghulamu'llah and give him the glad-tidings of My glorious and wondrous remembrance. O Ghulam! Hear My call and rejoice in My turning toward thee from this distant station. Say: Praise be to Thee, O Lord of the Kingdom, for having remembered me and revealed unto me that whose fragrance shall never cease, and manifested unto me that of which most of Thy servants remain heedless. I thank Thee, O my God, and praise Thee, O my Desire, and remember Thee, O my Hope, and beseech Thee, at this moment when I am clinging to the hem of the robe of Thy pardon and holding fast to the cord of Thy grace, to ordain for me a station within the precincts of Thy mercy and beneath the canopies of Thy grandeur. Verily Thou art the All-Bountiful, verily Thou art the Most Generous, verily Thou are the All-Forgiving, the Mighty, the Great.

O Inayatu'llah! The Wronged One maketh mention of thee and commandeth thee that which shall profit thee throughout the kingdom of earth and heaven, namely to commit thy affairs unto Him and place thy trust in Him. Verily He is the Almighty, the Unconstrained. He is with those who love Him and remembereth those who remember Him and aideth those who turn unto Him. He is the All-Merciful, the All-Bountiful. Say: Praise be to Thee, O my God, for having manifested and revealed unto Thy servants that which lay hidden within Thy knowledge and treasured within the repositories of Thine infallibility. I beseech Thee, O Thou through Whom the rivers of utterance have flowed throughout all possibility and through Whose Most Exalted Pen hath spoken amidst all religions, and I beseech Thee by the light of Thy Cause which, when it shone forth, illumined the earth and heaven, to ordain for me that which shall cause me to speak forth Thy praise and to stand firm in Thy love and to arise in Thy service. Verily Thou art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the Mighty, the All-Luminous.

O My Most Exalted Pen! Make mention of him who was named Abdu'llah, whom God brought forth from the loins of one of His loved ones, that he may rejoice in the utterance of his Lord, the All-Merciful, and be of those who are glad. Thy name hath attained unto Our presence and We have remembered thee from this station which God, the Lord of destiny, hath made His Most Sublime Vision. Thy Lord is verily the All-Forgiving, the Merciful. Say: My God, my God! Thou seest me standing before the door of Thy grace with the hands of hope upraised toward the heaven of Thy mercy. I beseech Thee not to disappoint

them through Thy bounty and generosity. Verily Thou art the All-Forgiving, the Merciful, and within Thy grasp are the reins of all who are in the heavens and on earth.

BH02286: We have sent down the verses and manifested…

He is the Hearer, the Answerer.

We have sent down the verses and manifested the clear proofs and called all to God, the Lord of Names and Attributes. The Cause of God has come and that which was hidden in His all-encompassing knowledge of what will be and what has been is now revealed. The fire of hatred was kindled when the Lord of all beings came with a sovereignty that encompassed the horizons. We have heard what has befallen you from God's decree, the Lord of the Final Return. We counsel you to patience, whereby your station shall be elevated before God, the Revealer of verses. Blessed is the servant from whom emanates the fragrance of patience in the days of God, the Mighty, the Self-Subsisting.

We make mention in the Persian tongue: Ever has the decree and destiny of God, exalted be His glory, existed among creation and continues to exist. Destiny, in one sense, is a divine herald among the servants, informing them of the changes and transformations of the world and its transience. However, patience in these circumstances is superior to most deeds. This is why the chosen ones and the near ones are content and thankful in these situations. The Seal of the Prophets, may the spirit of all else be sacrificed for Him, repeatedly experienced the passing of His children from this mortal world.

Read what God has revealed in His Book, His exalted Word: "Wealth and children are an ornament of the life of this world. But the good deeds which endure are better in thy Lord's sight for reward, and better in respect of hope." the ungodly gloated, for they saw that His Holiness was without issue. Thus the door of gloating was opened and the tongue of hatred moved, until Gabriel descended and recited the aforementioned verse in His presence. These words stemmed from ignorance and enmity. Had they reflected even slightly, they would have understood that the Book itself was an enduring proof and eternal traces. Every word that flowed from His blessed tongue was adorned with the ornament of eternity. However, the disease of prejudice in those days, and before and after, deprived most of the people of the world from the shore of the ocean of grace and bounty. the ungodly spoke such unseemly words that Gabriel again appeared and recited the blessed Surah "Verily We have given thee abundance," and from this verse the sterility of the opposers and fabricators became clear and evident.

Say: Praise be to Thee, O my God, for having illumined my heart with the light of Thy utterance and for having sent down to me that which has made my soul content with Thy decree. O my Lord! I am Thy servant and the son of Thy servant. I hold fast to the cord of Thy good-pleasure and the hem of Thy decree, and I glory in this among Thy servants. I beseech Thee, O Lord of the worlds Who hath appeared through the Most Great Name, to assist me to manifest that which Thou hast commanded me in Thy Book. 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. There is no God but Thee, the Forgiving, the Bountiful.

BH02304: O Furugh! Where is this thy radiance, and thy…

In the name of the Desire of the world

O Furugh! Where is this thy radiance, and thy light, and he who made mention of thee and spoke thy praise at eventide and dawn, and in the morning and at sunset? O Light! Where is thy call and thy remembrance and thy praise—this Most Great Announcement? And where are the sweet savors of your sincerity and the fragrances of your remembrances? And where is he who was among you and reminded you of the verses of God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy? And where is your crown and the banner which was raised among you through this Name, at which the limbs of the ungodly trembled?

O Ali! We have desired at this time to make mention of thee with a mention through which the atoms proclaim: "Dominion belongeth to Him Who revealeth the verses and manifesteth the proofs, Who hath come from the horizon of power with manifest sovereignty and with a mighty command!" When the attraction of My call and the sweet savors of My Tablets from the direction of My prison seize thee, arise and say: "Thine is the praise and the glory, and Thine the remembrance and the exaltation, for having turned toward Thy servant when I was in the hands of Thy creatures. And Thine is the praise, O Lord of Names, for having sent down unto me verses whose fragrance shall not cease throughout the duration of Thy kingdom and Thy dominion.

I testify that Thou art the All-Bountiful, before Whose manifestation all created things and the realities of all existing things have bowed down. O my Lord! I am Thy servant and the son of Thy servant. I stand before Thy face and make mention of Thee through what Thou hast sent down in Thy Books and Thy Scriptures and Thy Tablets. I desire naught save the wonders of Thy grace. Verily Thou art the Almighty, the Most Exalted, the Mighty, the All-Knowing. Thou doest what Thou willest and ordainest what Thou pleasest. Within Thy grasp are the reins of all who are in the heavens and on earth."

He who was named Muhammad-Rida hath appeared and made mention of thee once again. We have remembered thee with verses that cannot be equaled by the treasures of the earth nor by what the kings and rulers possess. Say:

> "Praise be to Thee, O my Creator, and glory be to Thee, O my Fashioner, and thanksgiving be unto Thee, O my Goal and my Lord and my Support, for having remembered me with that which shall speak forth Thy Name unto the end that hath no end. I testify that Thy grace hath preceded existence and Thy bounty hath encompassed both the seen and the unseen. I beseech Thee, O Creator of the world and Educator of the nations, to make me steadfast in Thy love and firm in Thy Cause in such wise that the doubts of them that have disbelieved in Thee and in Thy signs shall not cause me to slip. O my Lord! I am Thy servant. I have raised the hands of hope toward the heaven of Thy bounty. I beseech Thee not to deny me that which I have desired of the wonders of Thy generosity and the Sun of Thy grace. Verily Thou art the Almighty over what Thou willest, by Thy Name, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy. Moreover I beseech Thee by Thy Most Great Name, through which Thou hast subdued the cities of names, to ordain for my spouse and my offspring and those who are with me among them who have believed in Thee and in Thy signs and have answered when Thy call was raised, that which

beseemeth Thy greatness and Thy sovereignty and Thy generosity and Thy power. Verily Thou art the Almighty, the All-Bountiful, the Generous. There is none other God but Thee, the Commander, the Ancient of Days."

BH02262: Today from the waves of the Ocean of Utterance…

He is the Hearer, the Answerer!

Today from the waves of the Ocean of Utterance of the Goal of all worlds, this word was heard: O people of God and His chosen ones! Aid your Lord through what He hath revealed in His Book. Beware lest the clamor of the ignorant prevent you from drawing nigh unto God, the Lord of the worlds. Blessed is the ear that hath attained to hearing the Word of God and hath held fast with supreme steadfastness. Some immature ones in the world are deprived of the Names while claiming them. In the great city appeared that which made every person of insight aware of the deeds of those who accepted and those who turned away. Ask of God that He protect the servants from the vain imaginings of the previous people.

In the Dispensation of the Qur'an, conflict and contention arose over names—in the name of Imam, successor, chief, noble one, fourth pillar and the like—they engaged in battle, cursing, reviling and rejection. Yet on the Day of Reckoning not a single pure deed appeared from the divines and mystics of that group. All are aware that that group turned away and ultimately issued the decree for shedding the most pure blood of the Dawning Place of Divine verses.

Say: My God, my God! I beseech Thee by Thy power that hath encompassed all created things, by Thy sovereignty that hath surrounded all existence, and by the sovereignty of the Names whereby Thou hast subdued earth and heaven, to adorn Thy servants with the effulgences of the Day-Star of justice and equity. Thou art the Possessor of bounties and favors. O my Lord! Thou seest me turning toward Thee and detached from all else but Thee. Ordain for me that which befitteth the heaven of Thy generosity and the ocean of Thy grace. Thou art the All-Powerful, the Mighty, the All-Knowing.

They asked about "the meeting of the two seas." In earlier years the Most Exalted Pen wrote about the interpretation and inner meanings of the divine Books, and likewise about unveiling the symbols and allusions of the companions of the Bayan and their meanings—that which every person of knowledge hath testified to the Ocean of divine knowledge. However in these days We have not been and are not inclined to interpretation and inner meanings. These verses have been sent down from the heaven of the Manifestation of clear proofs: This is not the day for questions and answers. Rather it behooveth every soul, when hearing the Call from the Supreme Horizon, to arise and say: "Here am I, O Lord of Names! Here am I, O Thou in Whose grasp is the dominion of all in the heavens and earth!"

In these days you and the friends of God must hold fast with utmost joy and fragrance to that which is the cause of exalting the Word. You have been confirmed, praise be to God, in acceptance, turning and hearkening in days when most people of the world are seen to have turned away. Be not grieved. We beseech God to open before your face a door of His doors of grace and mercy. Verily He is powerful over what He willeth and He is the Forgiving, the Generous.

The Glory from Us be upon you and upon those who heard the Call and said “Yea, yea, O Lord of the Kingdom of Names and the Manifest One through Thy Most Great Name, the Most Glorious!”

BH02275: Praise that is sanctified above mention and utterance…

In the Name of the one God!

Praise that is sanctified above mention and utterance and all that exists in creation befitteth that Desired One Who, through a single decree, adorned existence from the realm of extinction and nothingness with the ornament of perpetuity and being. This decree in one station is the Most Exalted Word itself which hath been manifested from the tongue of grandeur before the creation of earth and heaven, and in another station is expressed as the Most Exalted Pen. All names and attributes appear from it and return unto it. Exalted be His power, great His dominion, and mighty His proof. There is no God but Him.

O thou who art attracted to God! Upon thee be the everlasting Glory of God. Blessed are they who in this Day have attained unto the lights of true divine unity. They are the dawning-places of the favors and bounties of God, exalted be His glory. And what is meant by true unity is that God hath no likeness or similitude. All bear witness that He was and is sanctified above peers and likenesses, and exalted above that which the hearts of servants have comprehended. Ask thou of God that He withhold not the servants from this most great bounty and deprive them not thereof. He is the Powerful, the Mighty, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

This is a Book from Us that thou mayest give thanks unto thy Lord, the Manifest, the All-Knowing. We have mentioned thee before with verses that all the books of the world and what is possessed by all peoples cannot equal. To this testifieth every assured and perceiving one. Grieve not for what hath befallen thee. We were with her at her ascension, and by the hand of grace We caused her to enter the Most Exalted Paradise as a mercy from Us and a favor from Our presence, and We are the Bountiful, the Generous. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to send down upon her each day a mercy from His presence. Verily He is the Forgiving, the Merciful. At her mention the ocean of forgiveness surged and the fragrance of God’s grace, the Lord of all religions, was diffused. Thus hath bounty been sent down and the divine table appeared from God, the Mighty, the Great.

O Baqir! Upon thee be My Glory. Give thanks unto thy Lord for what He hath caused to rain down upon her from the clouds of His grace, the showers of His generosity and mercy. Verily He loveth His chosen ones and handmaidens who have drunk the wine of steadfastness from the hand of His bounty. Thy Lord is verily the All-Merciful, the Generous. Say: Praise be unto Thee, O God of Names and Creator of heaven, for what Thou hast sent down for Thy handmaiden that maketh her immortalized in Thy Manifest Book. I beseech Thee, O my God and my Lord and my Support, to protect Thy loved ones from the evil of Thine enemies who have violated Thy Covenant and Testament, denied Thy signs, shown ingratitude for Thy favor, and disputed Thy proof which hath encompassed existence both seen and unseen.

Convey My greetings unto My loved ones and give them the glad-tidings of My grace and bounty and mercy which have preceded all who are in the heavens and earth. Say: Grieve not for what hath befallen

you in the path of God. Soon shall the wrongdoers see their return in the fire while ye shall behold your stations in the most exalted Paradise, near the mercy of your Lord, the Master of the Day of Judgment.

BH02299: O thou who gazest upon the Countenance and art…

He is the One Who gazeth from His most exalted horizon

O thou who gazest upon the Countenance and art present before the Throne! Praise be to God, blessed and holy deeds have been manifested in the path of God in the land of A and Sh. The fire of tyranny was ignited and, without any evidence or proof, one of the horsemen in the field of wisdom and utterance was martyred. Praise be to God that after the fire of oppression, the light of justice shone forth from the horizon of the glorious government's heaven. With complete determination and firm, decisive, steadfast resolve they investigated the matter and what had transpired with pure justice, and finally issued a decree whereupon the people of the city of fairness addressed the people of the city of justice with these words:

> "May your eyes be gladdened! He who was seated hath arisen, and he who was silent hath spoken."

For years justice had been deprived and no trace of it was found. Praise be to God, in these days it hath appeared from the horizon of power with standards and banners of victory.

Two mighty deeds were manifested by the friends in that land: first, refraining from retaliation against the oppressors, and second, interceding with the authorities on behalf of their enemies. O H! We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to adorn them on earth with such an ornament as would illuminate the dwellers of heaven. We ask of the True One to illumine them with the light of fellowship and unity and love and harmony. Today love and affection and friendship and unity are regarded as the greatest of all deeds in the sight of God.

Convey greetings from the Wronged One to the friends of that land. Say: O friends of God! The calumniators lie in ambush and the barking ones watch from their places of concealment. Guard your hearts and minds in the name of God, exalted be His glory.

O my God, my Adored One, my Object of worship, O Generous One, O Merciful One! Thou knowest and art aware that these servants have preserved the pearls of Thy love in the treasuries of their hearts and minds through Thy Name. We now beseech and implore Thee to protect and preserve us from the thieves and the treacherous ones. Thou art the Powerful, the Mighty.

O H! Thy deed is also regarded as among the most exalted of deeds before the Self-Sufficient, the Most High. Blessed are ye and joy be unto you! Give glad-tidings unto My loved ones of My mercy and My grace and My loving-kindness which have preceded existence both seen and unseen.

O thou who gazeth toward My horizon! His honor Zein, upon him be the Glory of God, the Most Glorious, and His all-embracing supreme mercy, sent the names of the friends to the Most Holy Court, and each one was favored with the glance of loving-kindness and mention by the Goal of the world's peoples. Rejoice in this mighty bounty! Rejoice in this brilliant, gleaming light! The good news and true glad-tidings

of this exalted Word cannot be equaled by all that exists in creation and whatsoever is therein. Thus hath the Sun of Bounty shone forth from My most glorious horizon, as a grace from My presence, and I am verily the All-Bountiful, the Generous.

The glory that shineth from the heaven of My Kingdom be upon you and upon those who have quaffed the Choice Wine sealed with My Name, the Self-Subsisting, the Self-Existing.

BH02298: O friends of the All-Merciful in Milan! The face…

O friends of the All-Merciful in Milan! The face of the Wronged One hath turned toward you from this destined Prison, and mentioneth you with that which causeth the rain of bounties and favors to shower from the clouds of your Lord's tender mercy, the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous. This is a Day wherein that which was hidden hath been revealed and that which was treasured hath appeared, by the command of God, the Ordainer, the All-Knowing. The fire of tyranny and wickedness hath been kindled, whereby the light of righteousness and godliness hath been veiled, through that which the hands of the oppressors have wrought in the land of Ya. They have kindled the fire of hatred and acted in such wise as hath caused every fair-minded one to lament and every just one to cry out, and tears to flow from the eyes of them that are nigh unto God.

With luminous speech hear ye the call of the Wronged One. Today victory lieth in that which hath befallen. Be not saddened, for that which hath occurred in the city of Ya shall cause the elevation of God's Cause and the exaltation of souls. Well is it with them that understand. The oppressors shall soon behold the recompense of their deeds from the presence of a just and mighty Lord.

O people of Milan and Saysan and their surroundings and environs! Ye have ever been and still are before Our gaze. Hearken unto the call of the Wronged One and hold fast unto that which beseemeth man. The opposers and deniers are like unto clods of earth—ere long shall the moisture of heedlessness and ignorance scatter and disperse them all. We cherish the hope that the friends in those regions will hold fast unto wisdom and utterance, and occupy themselves with the remembrance and praise of God. The barking ones and the deniers shall soon return to nothingness, having exchanged the eternal, everlasting dominion for fleeting days. Glory be to God! From the people of Iran are manifested savage and bestial traits—they are seen to be deprived of the heavenly table of divine favor and the eternal, everlasting bounty.

Praise be to God! The friends of those lands have ever been mentioned in the presence of the Wronged One. For each one hath been ordained that which the tongues of the world and the pens of nations are powerless to describe. Blessed are ye, and joy be unto you, and light be upon you! And woe unto the enemies of God who have denied His proof and cast behind them His evidence, following the vain imaginings of the heedless and the idle fancies of them that have turned away.

His honor Haji Muhammad Baqir and his son, upon them be His peace and loving-kindness, set out some days ago and, despite the turmoil of the world and the disorder of the way, intended the divine Ka'bah and attained thereunto. After arriving in this land he mentioned you, therefore this leaf hath been adorned with your remembrance. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to protect you with the

hosts of might and power, to draw you nigh unto Him, and to ordain for you that which shall endure as long as His glory and grandeur and dominion shall endure. Verily, He is powerful over all things. Light and remembrance and glory be upon you, O My friends and loved ones, and upon them that have cast away corruption and arisen to promote reform amongst the servants, and upon them that love you for the sake of God, the Lord of the mighty throne.

BH02255: Praise be to God Who hath opened before…

He is the Rememberer and the Remembered One

Praise be to God Who hath opened before the faces of His loved ones the gate of His presence, made known to them His path, given them to drink of the Kawthar of His knowledge, and sent down for them that which caused the river of His mercy to flow. The Tree of His Cause hath spoken amongst His servants. He is the Almighty Whom neither the might of the oppressors can weaken, nor the doubts of the suspicious and the hints of the transgressors prevent. Glory and exaltation be upon the Hands of His Cause who have arisen by His leave for the betterment of the world and the refinement of the souls of nations. Verily He is the Almighty over whatsoever He willeth. There is none other God but Him, the Single, the One, the Mighty, the All-Bountiful.

O Mahmud! Upon thee be the Glory of God, the Mighty, the Loving. Thy letter reached the Most Holy Court and from it wafted the fragrance of turning, attraction and steadfastness. Praise be to God that the clamor of the ungodly and the doubts of the atheists did not prevent or deprive thee from drawing nigh unto the supreme horizon. This is a mighty station. Say: Praise be to Thee, O my God, and glory be to Thee, O my Aim, and greatness and laudation be to Thee, O my Beloved, for having confirmed me in recognition and made known to me Thy straight path and Thy mighty Message. I beseech Thee by the waves of the ocean of Thy bounty to ordain for me that which will exalt me through Thy name amongst Thy servants. O Lord! I am Thy servant and the son of Thy servant, acknowledging what Thou hast revealed in Thy Books and clinging in all conditions to the cord of Thy bounty. I beseech Thee not to disappoint me from what lieth with Thee. Verily Thou art He to Whose generosity existence hath testified and to Whose grace the heaven hath borne witness. There is none other God but Thee, the Forgiving, the Merciful.

We desire in this moment to make mention once again of thy brother who ascended to the Supreme Companion. We testify that he stood firm in My service, spoke My praise, and drank the choice wine of My love from the hand of My bounty. We beseech God to send down upon him at all times mercy and loving-kindness from His presence, and to give him to drink, from the hands of the Manifestations of His might and Cause, the Kawthar of His bounty. Verily He is the All-Bountiful, the Effulgent, the Compassionate, the Generous. And We make mention in this station of thy wife, whom We mentioned in the Tablet of Bounty, as among those who believed in God and His signs, who attained unto His recognition and drank the Salsabil of knowledge in His days. Thus have We sent down verses from which surged the ocean of forgiveness and wafted the fragrance of God's loving-kindness, the Lord of the seen and unseen. And We have revealed for her that whose fragrances shall not cease throughout the duration of God's kingdom, the Sovereign of existence.

O Mahmud! Give thanks to thy Lord for having mentioned thee and thy brother and thy wife with verses that cannot be equaled by treasures. Say: My soul be a sacrifice for Thee, O Lord of Names, and my spirit be a sacrifice for Thee, O Sovereign of mankind! I beseech Thee to ordain for Thy loved ones that which will draw them nigh unto Thee and cause them to know what Thou hast intended in Thy Books and Scriptures. O Lord! Thou seest me clinging to Thy cord and detached from those who have disbelieved in Thee and Thy signs. There is none other God but Thee, the Almighty, the All-Bountiful, the Mighty, the Great.

BH02259: The resplendent Light that shineth, appeareth and riseth…

He is the Consoler, the Comforter, the All-Compelling over what was and what shall be!

The resplendent Light that shineth, appeareth and riseth from the horizon of God's manifestation, the Lord of all beings, and the sweet-scented fragrances wafting from the garment of grace and bounty, and the perfumes diffusing from this Most Exalted Station, be upon thee, O thou who hast dawned from the horizon of submission and acquiescence and who hast held fast to the Sure Handle.

I testify that thou didst aim for the ultimate goal, the furthest end, and the highest summit, and didst attain to that which was inscribed by the Pen of grace and splendor in the Books of God, Creator of the heavens and Sovereign of the Kingdom of Names. Thou art he whom the oppression of the oppressors did not deter, nor did the conditions of the transgressors and the might of those who denied the Day of Judgment frighten thee. Thou didst turn and hearken and say:

> "My spirit be a sacrifice for Thy manifestation, O Thou Who art imprisoned in the prison of ʿAkka, and my soul be a sacrifice for Thy call, O Thou in Whose grasp is the reins of all in the kingdom of creation!"

The Wronged One hath testified, and all things have borne witness, that thou didst drink the choice sealed wine through My Self-Subsisting Name, and didst acknowledge that which the Tongue of Grandeur uttered before the letters were mingled with the Word. Blessed art thou, and blessed is he who loveth thee and visiteth thy resting place and remembereth thee with that which hath been sent down from the Supreme Pen in this Most Glorious Station. And blessed is he who remembereth thy days through that which was revealed for thee before and after thy ascension. Thou art he whose head God adorned with the crown of acceptance and whose temple He beautified with the ornament of might and beauty, and guided thee to His straight path and acquainted thee with His Great Announcement, whereby the hearts of the oppressors were disturbed and the limbs of the ungodly trembled.

We were with thee at the time of thy ascension and revealed for thee that from which the Concourse on High and the Supreme Paradise found the fragrance of thy Lord's grace, bounty and mercy—verily He is the All-Bountiful, the Generous. I testify that at the time of revelation, the ocean of forgiveness surged from the right hand of thy Lord's will, the Most Merciful, and its fragrance wafted through all regions and the manifestations of generosity encompassed all peoples save him who denied God's manifestation, His sovereignty, His appearance, His power, His gifts and His bounty.

Glory be unto Thee, O my God, Possessor of existence and Manifestor of munificence! I beseech Thee by Thy Name, the Loving, and by this Station which Thou hast chosen for one of Thy loved ones, that Thou forgive me and those who have acknowledged Thy manifestation and Thy sovereignty and what was revealed in Thy Books, Thy Scriptures and Thy Tablets. O my Lord! Thou seest the sinner hastening to the ocean of Thy forgiveness, the silent one to the Kawthar of Thy utterance, and the abased one to the kingdom of Thy might. I beseech Thee to ordain for Thy loved ones and chosen ones, by the Pen of Thy grace, that which will draw them nigh unto Thee and cause them to enter the pavilion of Thy pardon and the gate of Thy bounty. Then decree, O my God, through this noble resting place, my needs and hopes and what I have desired from the heaven of Thy generosity and the sun of Thy bounty. Verily Thou art powerful over what Thou willest. Nothing escapeth Thy knowledge. There is no God but Thee, the Mighty, the August, the All-Bountiful.

BH02329: Lawh-i-Babu'l-Ata [Lawh-i-Banu-Qurayzih]

In the name of Him through Whom the gate of bounty was opened to all who are on earth and in heaven.

The atoms of created things bear witness and the realities of all contingent beings testify that this servant had and has no purpose in the manifestation and proclamation of the Cause except the salvation of the servants and the extinguishing of the fire of hatred and enmity. His call was raised in the nights and His lamentation in the early dawn, and His cry during the days. In the heavenly Books, according to what some of the parties have mentioned and continue to mention, there was the burning of books and the slaying of souls and the prevention of unity, which is the greatest means for the progress of the servants and the advancement of lands…

In my childhood, this wronged one read in a book by Mulla Baqir Majlisi about the raid on the Banu Qurayzah. From that moment I was distressed and full of sorrow, to the extent that my pen cannot express it—even though what happened was the decree of God, and its intent was only to foil oppressors.

But when the ocean of forgiveness and grace appeared, therefore in those days I beseeched God for that which was the cause of love, fellowship and unity among all who are on earth—until, on the second of the month of the Birth before the Dawning, all my mental states, my words and thoughts, were turned upside down, an inversion that bore the glad-tidings of the Ascent. This revolution was manifest for twelve days continuously and unremittingly. Afterwards, the waves of the ocean of utterance appeared, and the effulgences of the luminary of tranquillity were radiant. Then the matter eventuated in a time of full revelation (zuhu:r), when I attained to that which God rendered the basis of the joy of the worlds and the dawn of bestowal on all who dwell in the heavens and the earth. After the Most High Pen [Qalam-i A'la=the Bab], We abrogated all that which was the cause of hardship and discomfort and strife by Our decisive decree, and We revealed and implemented all that which was a source of concord and unity. No one denies the grace inherent in this revelation save those who are veiled and heedless, and the despised tyrants.

The revealed holy Tablets and the Tablet of the Call testify and bear witness. Blessed are the fair-minded and blessed is every truthful and trustworthy one. When thou hast heard My call from My Tablet and beheld what hath shone forth from its horizon as a token of My grace, say: My God, my God! Praise be to

Thee for having caused me to hear Thy call and for having acquainted me with that which was hidden in Thy knowledge and concealed from the eyes of Thy servants. I beseech Thee, O Sovereign of existence and Ruler of the seen and unseen, to assist me to remember Thee and to serve Thee and to serve Thy loved ones. Then confirm me in such steadfastness as cannot be changed by the conditions of Thy creation and the doubts of Thy servants. Thou art, verily, the All-Powerful, the Mighty, the All-Bountiful.

BH02343: The Supreme Pen hath revealed concerning the most great…

He is the Consoler, the Comforter, the Generous One!

The Supreme Pen hath revealed concerning the most great tribulation that which caused the Tablet to lament and raised the cry of the Names.

O My loved ones, My chosen ones, My leaves and My handmaidens! Be not grieved. By the life of God, after these sorrows, surging oceans of joy shall be witnessed. Night and day did the Nature of God lament and the Eye of Loving-kindness wept, although for those of insight and those near to God, whatsoever hath occurred hath been the cause of the exaltation of the Word of God and the advancement of souls. Yet outwardly, from all things—from mountains, trees and seas, even unto the pit and the pebble—lamentation and moaning were raised. Now We counsel all, both men and women, to patience and forbearance. We have loved patience and commanded it unto all, before and after, and at this evident time.

O My handmaiden and My leaf! Hearken unto My call from the direction of My prison. Verily, all the treasures of the earth and the adornment of its queens cannot equal it. He Who speaketh in every condition beareth witness to this, that there is none other God but Him, the Single, the One, the Mighty, the Powerful.

Know thou with clear certainty that God, exalted be His glory, is just, and assuredly according to the requirements of justice shall He requite those who led astray, the ungodly, the slanderers and the murderers. Not an atom escapeth His knowledge. He doeth what He willeth and He is the Powerful, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

Give thanks unto thy Lord, for He hath turned unto thee and revealed for thee from the heaven of utterance that which He hath made a proof unto all who are on earth. Thus hath the Tongue of Grandeur spoken, as a favor from Him unto His leaves who have drunk the cup of tribulation in the path of God, the Lord of all beings and the Possessor of Names.

Convey My greetings to the handmaidens of that land. Say to those who are with thee: Grieve not for what hath befallen My loved ones in My path. Soon shall the tender mercies of their Lord, the Generous One, encompass them. Death is inevitable for all; therefore if it occur in the path of the Peerless Friend, it is assuredly most exalted and most beloved, for that death is the cause of eternal life and the source of everlasting existence.

We beseech God to change the sorrow of His loved ones into the Most Great Joy and to ordain for them what He hath ordained for His chosen ones who have sacrificed what they possessed of wealth, souls and

bodies in His straight Path. Praise be unto Him, for He is the Goal of the mystics and the Beloved of the worlds.

The glory shining forth from the horizon of the heaven of My mercy be upon My martyrs and upon their bodies and fragments thereof and drops of their blood, and upon those who have circled round them and have been blessed with reading what God hath revealed concerning them from the heaven of His knowledge and utterance. Verily, He is the Single, the One, the Mighty, the All-Knowing.

BH02388: These are holy verses sent down in truth…

In the Name of the Single, the Peerless, the One!

These are holy verses sent down in truth from the clouds of a wondrous grace, whereby the hearts of the servants are purified from the defilement of self and desire, and they drink from cups whose admixture is the remembrance of the Beloved and the Dear One.

O servant! There hath appeared before the Beauty what thou didst mention in remembrance of God, thy Lord and the Lord of thy forefathers and the Lord of the mighty Throne. Blessed art thou for having rent asunder the veils of glory and entered beneath the shadow of thy Lord, the Mighty, the Exalted, and sanctified thyself from the association of every stubborn misbeliever.

However, strive within thyself in all thy days lest the whisperings of Satan cause thee to slip and lead thee astray from the path of glorious might and from the straight and holy way. Shun those who have disbelieved, then convey the Cause of thy Lord to those in whose hearts thou findest the fragrance of holiness and in whose faces thou seest the radiance of a luminous glory.

And if sorrow overtaketh thee, remember My sorrow and My tribulations. By God! I have been afflicted with trials which none can reckon save God Who encompasseth all things in the Mother Book.

This is the Book which speaketh now with truth that there is no God but Him, and that He Who appeared with the name of Husayn before Ali is verily His sovereignty, His grandeur, His majesty, then His manifestation and His concealment, and His might and power over all created things. And then the Tongue of Grandeur proclaimeth from behind the Most Exalted Pavilion: By God! This is verily Ali, then Muhammad, then Muhammad, then Ali. Follow Him, O peoples of the earth, and associate not partners with Him, for this would be an injustice from your own selves against God. Fear God and be among the pious in the Cause.

Do ye worship the calf and forsake Him Who created you by His command, by Whose light all who are in the heavens and earth are illumined, if ye be possessed of insight?

O people! Purify your ears that ye may hear My melodies, then your eyes that ye may behold My beauty. Thus hath God commanded you in all the Tablets and in this Tablet which hath appeared and shone forth from the horizon of the finger of your Lord, the Most High, the Most Exalted, and God is witness unto this.

O servant! Hear My call, then stand firm in the Cause and turn not unto what hath been created in the realm of origination. We have ordained for thee in the Tablet an exalted station, and We have reckoned what is in thy heart and are aware of what is in thy secret thoughts, and We shall decree for thee what We have intended for thee, and with Us is the knowledge of all things and the knowledge of the heavens and earth, if thou be informed thereof.

And the glory be upon thee and upon those with thee and upon those who have remained steadfast in this Cause wherefrom have slipped the feet of those in whose hearts was doubt concerning the meeting with their Lord and who were far removed from the path.

BH02397: Praise and thanksgiving, in another degree, belong especially…

In the name of the Peerless Beloved!

Praise and thanksgiving, in another degree, belong especially to the saints and chosen ones of God who would not exchange a single atom of the effulgent rays of the Sun of His love for all that was and shall be, and who, despite their need for all things in the world, have sounded the trumpet of divine independence before the faces of men, to the dismay of the enemies.

O Muhammad-Husayn! I testify that thou didst hear the Call and didst turn to God, the Lord of all men, on a day when the standards of rejection were raised from all directions and the banners of hypocrisy from every quarter. Thou art he who cast idle fancies behind thee, seeking the horizon of the manifestation of God, the Lord of the mighty throne. Thou didst advance and traverse the path until thou didst reach the valley of certitude and didst hear the Call from the Blessed Tree beyond which there is no passing:

> "Verily He is God, there is none other God but Him. His is the praise and the glory, His the grandeur and the splendor. He hath, through His Word, quickened the world as a token of His grace unto all peoples."

I ask, and We ask, the Gracious Lord and the Merciful Master to ordain for thee that which will exalt thee through His Name, and cause thee to hold fast to wisdom and utterance at all times, and to send down upon thee from the heaven of bounty the food of divine knowledge. He is verily the Powerful, the Mighty, the Bestower.

Remember the days when thou wert present before the Wronged One and didst witness what befell Him at the hands of tyrannous servants and oppressive people of the land. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to protect thee through His bounty and to aid thee through His sovereignty, and to ordain for thee that which will bring solace to thine eyes and the eyes of His loved ones. He is verily the All-Bountiful, the Gracious, the Forgiving, the Merciful.

In these days, through divine grace and infinite mercy, the loved ones dwell beneath the shade of the Blessed Tree in peace and tranquility. And Muhammad, upon him be the glory of God, the One, the Single, resides in its shade during the nights and tends the garden during the days. He loveth to be engaged in the service of his Beloved, where neither the heat of the sun, nor the cold of winter, nor any thing among all things, nor any cause among all causes can hinder him. To this testifieth He with Whom is

the knowledge of the Book. Nevertheless, in these days We have given him leave and sent him forth for the management of affairs in those parts. He is a blessed being who hath sought and continueth to seek the good and welfare of all, and in the dark abode of the world hath beseeched and continueth to beseech the divine light of morning for all peoples. However, O Muhammad-Husayn, this lamp is beset by tempestuous winds from every direction. The matter is in God's hands, the Powerful, the Almighty. The glory be upon thee and upon the steadfast and firm servants of God. Praise be to Him for He is the Goal of them that know.

BH02402: In My Name, Who surgeth before the seas…

In My Name, Who surgeth before the seas and their waves

Praise and glory, might and splendor befit the dwellers of the Crimson Ark, who are mentioned and recorded as "the people of Baha" in the Qayyumu'l-Asma. These are they who regard all else save God as non-existent, who through the Most Great Antidote have, with the aid of the True Physician, cured chronic ailments such as pride and vainglory, fear and trepidation, and the like. With perfect health, complete strength and firm steadfastness they have raised aloft the banner of triumph and hoisted the standard of victory. The hosts of exalted attributes and the character of the cherubim and the leader of righteousness—exalted be His eternal grace and everlasting bounty—Who through the melodies of the detached ones drew the earthly realm upward and bestowed upon it ascendancy over the heavens and beyond. Glorified be their stations, magnificent their power and their detachment! They hold fast to piety and are free and delivered from aught else.

O My Name! The letter of ʿAyn and Ta addressed to thee was presented before the Wronged One and was heard. Praise be to God, they are enkindled with the fire of love and illumined by the light of recognition. From the beginning they quaffed the choice wine of utterance. The clamor of the people diminished not their love, nor did the tumult of mankind hold them back from their orientation toward Him. We have mentioned him in numerous Tablets with such mention as caused the mountains to soar and the clouds to pass away. The taunts of the enemies prevented him not from the Most Exalted Horizon, nor did the might of the aggressors deprive him of longing, yearning, attraction and enkindlement. Gladden him on My behalf and remind him of My verses.

The grace of the True One, exalted be His glory, and His mercy and loving-kindness have ever encompassed His loved ones, and He hath counseled and guided the enemies unto that which is the cause of success and the source of prosperity. O My Name! Reflect upon the loving-kindness of God and the oppression of the oppressors. Say: My God, my God! Aid Thy servants to turn toward Thee and to be detached from all else save Thee, and assist them to be trustworthy and righteous and to observe that which Thou hast commanded them in Thy Book. O my Lord! Thou seest and knowest what hath befallen the Wronged One through their deeds, their calumnies and their tyranny. Seize them through Thy wrath, Thy might and Thy power, or aid them to return unto Thee and to repent before the gate of Thy pardon and Thy bounty. Verily Thou art the Generous, the Possessor of great bounty.

O ʿAttar! Upon thee and upon those with thee be the glory of the Chosen One. Convey to all the kindred greetings and praise from the Wronged One. All are mentioned in the presence of this Countenance and

are the recipients of bounty. The glory be upon thee from Us and upon My servants and My handmaidens and upon those whom nothing whatsoever hath deterred from God, the Creator of the heavens and the Lord of the Kingdom of Names.

BH02379: We have desired to send to one of My…

He is the Compassionate, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed!

We have desired to send to one of My loved ones the pearls of the ocean of My bounty and utterance, that thou mayest give thanks and say:

> "Praise be unto Thee, O Thou Who art the Goal of all who are in the heavens and on earth!"

The calumnies of those who have followed their selfish desires have not prevented Us, nor hath the oppression of the wrongdoers who outwardly show love but inwardly support Mine enemies and cast upon them the doubts of those who have denied the Day of Judgment, frightened Us.

O Isma'il! Hearken unto the call of the Wronged One. He mentioneth thee even as He mentioned thee before, and desireth naught save thy drawing nigh unto God, the Lord of the worlds. He who loved Me and soared in Mine atmosphere, who was named Nazir—upon him be My glory—came and mentioned thee. We have remembered thee in a Tablet adorned with the gems We have brought forth from the treasury of Mine wondrous utterance. By My life! My Tablets are not equaled by the tablets of the world, nor My mention by the mention of all who are in the heavens and the earth.

Say: O people of the Bayan! The Divine Lote-Tree hath been adorned with wondrous, fresh fruits and delicate, new produce. Behold, and be not of the heedless ones. By My life! He whom Satan hath led astray used to serve Me night and day, at morn and at eventide.

O thou who hast turned towards Mine horizon! Glorify on My behalf the Hands of My Cause, whom We have chosen for My remembrance amongst My servants and for the proclamation of My Most Great Call and My Great News. We beseech God to guard them, preserve them, and aid them with His hosts from on high.

O My loved ones! We have caused the rains of My mercy to descend from the clouds of My bounty, and have revealed that which was hidden in God's knowledge, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy. Blessed is he who hath cast away all else save Me and acted according to what hath been ordained in My perspicuous Book.

O Asadullah, O son of Nazir—upon thee be My glory! Thou hast been mentioned in the presence of the Wronged One. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to open before thy face, through the key of His Most Bountiful Name, the doors of His grace, wealth and riches, and to ordain for thee that which will draw thee nigh unto Him in all conditions. He is verily the Almighty, the Most Exalted, the All-Bountiful.

When thou hearest My call and attainest unto the recognition of My verses, say:

> “My God, my God! Praise be unto Thee for having guided me unto Thy station and honored me with Thy presence. I beseech Thee by the waves of the ocean of Thy bounty to make me detached from all else save Thee and sanctified from whatsoever is repugnant to Thy good-pleasure. O my Lord! I am Thy servant and the son of Thy servant who stood firm in Thy service. I beseech Thee to transform my sorrow into joy and my grief into gladness, and my remoteness into nearness. Verily Thou art the One Who hath power over whatsoever He willeth, and in Thy grasp are the reins of all who are in the heavens and on earth.”

The Glory shining, radiant and resplendent from the horizon of the heaven of My bounty be upon you both and upon those who have heard the Call and responded, saying:

> “Praise be unto Thee, O Beloved of the hearts of those who know!”

BH02454: Praise be befitting the Goal of the worlds Who…

In the Name of Him Who warbleth upon the branch of utterance!

Praise be befitting the Goal of the worlds Who, amidst the surging waves of the seas of sorrows, summoned the people of possibility to the horizon of the appearance of the Lord of Religions. One drop from the ocean of His utterance adorned the world with the ornament of eternal life, and one flame from the blessed Tree set ablaze the hearts and minds of the nations. He is the Sovereign of bounty and the Lord of existence—exalted be His grandeur, complete His proof, and perfect His evidence. There is no God but Him.

Say: Glory be unto Thee, O God, Lord of Names and Creator of earth and heaven! I beseech Thee by Thy Most Great Most Glorious Name and by Thy sweetest call which was raised from the prison of Akka, to assist me to serve Thy Cause with wisdom and utterance. O my Lord! Thou seest me clinging to the hem of the robe of Thy grace and holding fast to the cord of Thy bounty. I implore Thee by the stations which were honored by Thy footsteps, and by the houses wherein Thy mention was exalted, and by the hearts which Thou madest treasuries of the pearls of Thy love, and by the tongue which Thou made an interpreter of the mysteries of Thy knowledge, to open before my face the door of Thy mercy and to send down upon my outer and inner being from the clouds of Thy favors the rains of Thy knowledge and wisdom. Verily Thou art the All-Powerful, the Most Exalted, the Mighty, the All-Bountiful.

This is a missive from Us to him who turned, hastened, and appeared before the Face, and partook of the Kawthar of eternity from the hands of the bounty of his Lord, the Lord of all being, and drank once through His Name and again through His mention, the Mighty, the Wondrous. There hath come before the Wronged One what thou didst send to the Most Great Branch and Ism-i-Jud. We found from it the fragrance of thy sincerity and thy turning to the face of God, the Lord of the worlds. O thou who art mentioned before the Throne! We mentioned thee before in a Tablet that beareth witness to that which God Himself hath testified—that there is no God but Him, the Single, the One, the Powerful, the Mighty. Blessed art thou for having drunk the choice wine of My utterance and attained to the outpourings of My days and soared in the atmosphere of My love and spoken My beautiful praise. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to preserve thee and make thee a helper of His Cause and steadfast in His service, and

to ordain for thee what He hath ordained for His trusted ones and chosen ones. Verily He is the All-Powerful, the Most Exalted, the All-Merciful, the All-Bountiful.

And We make mention of thy wife, My handmaiden and My leaf. Give her the glad-tidings of My mention of her and illumine her with the light of My manifest utterance. We mentioned her before with that which the pearls of the seas and the mines of the mountains and the treasuries of the earth cannot equal. And I am verily the All-Bountiful, the All-Forgiving, the All-Compelling over all who are in the heavens and the earth. The glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My Kingdom be upon thee and upon her and upon those who are with you both and who love you both for the sake of God, the Lord of this exalted and glorious station.

BH02461: He heareth and is ready to answer

He heareth and is ready to answer

Glorified be God! Whenever those endowed with insight observe the signs of the mortality of anything that existeth in the world of being, they bear witness, nay, each thing in itself with its inner tongue doth testify, to the evanescence of all things. The royal seat becometh the perch of the owl and the spider replaceth the the chamberlain. With its inner tongue it declareth:

> “O discerning ones! Where have your thrones gone; where are your mighty palaces?”

Ruin followeth behind every edifice, as death followeth behind every life.

O Ahmad! The possessors of palaces one and all shall repair to their tombs. Though this morning they recline upon plush cushions, in the evening they shall rest in their sepulchers. And no one will be able to distinguish between the bones of the ruler and those of the ruled, nor between the skulls of kings and those of their subjects.

We beseech God, exalted be His glory, to construct with the hands of power and the masons of truth a house sanctified from extinction and mortality. Blessed be the soul who entereth within such a house! The origin, cause, and builder of this house is and hath ever been the Word of God, for death cannot touch His Word which abideth within the undying Book.

O Ahmad! The concerns of the days of God cannot be compared to the concerns of the world and the attainments of its peoples. Happy the soul that hath hearkened to the verses of God before his ascension, after his ascension, and during his ascension. Grieve thou not on account of that which hath befallen thee. Previously this exalted verse was revealed by the Pen of the Most High:

> “God, in truth, is the Most Patient, and He exhorteth you to observe befitting patience. He is the Concealer, and He admonisheth you to conceal the faults of men.”

The moment the report of the incident arrived, the blessed pavilion was upraised at the behest of the King of Destiny, and the souls present—that is, those who have taken a place under the shade of the canopy of the grandeur of their Lord, the Compassionate, the Bountiful, and those who circle round Him, both men and women—all gathered together to offer invocation and praise. Every letter thereof recited

before this Wronged One was the very breath of life. On that day the Concourse on high attained Our presence, and We sent down upon the one who ascended that whereof its traces and fruits shall never cease as long as the kingdom of God and His dominion shall endure.

Say: Praise be unto Thee, O my God, and thanks be unto Thee, O my Desire. I bear witness that Thou hast manifested Thy bounty and sent down Thy mercy in such wise that Thy servants and Thy creatures have been powerless to reckon them. O Lord! Ordain for him at all times that which beseemeth the ocean of Thy bestowal and the heaven of Thy generosity. Thou, verily, art the Lord of being and the One Who overshadoweth the seen and the unseen. There is no God but Thee, the One, the Single, the Mighty, the Loving.

Convey, on behalf of this Wronged One, My greeting of exaltation unto the leaves and the handmaidens, and keep them adorned with the brocade of remembrance and utterance.

BH02451: Sanctified praise and glorification, befitting and worthy, be unto…

In the Name of the Everlasting Speaker!

Sanctified praise and glorification, befitting and worthy, be unto the Holy Presence of the Self-Subsisting One, Who, despite being surrounded by enemies and the calumnies of the people of tyranny and corruption, hath caused the pearls of wisdom and utterance to appear and become manifest from the treasury of His Pen at all times. Exalted is the All-Wise, the Possessor of Great Bounty, Who through tribulation exalted His Cause, through abasement manifested His glory, and through imprisonment revealed His power, His sovereignty, His grandeur and His might. May the light that shineth from this luminous horizon, and the fragrances that are wafted from this noble station, rest upon the hands of His Cause who have not broken His covenant and testament, and who have arisen to make mention of Him and praise Him amongst His servants—they are honored servants who speak not until He hath spoken, and who act according to His bidding.

Glory be unto Thee, O Thou through Whose name the pearls of wisdom and utterance have appeared from the shells of the ocean of Thy knowledge, and the pavilion of understanding hath been raised before the faces of all religions through Thy power and might. I beseech Thee by the wonders of Thy verses, and the standards of Thy clear proofs, and that which the tongue of Thy grandeur hath spoken, to aid those who have turned away to turn towards Thee, the calumniators to be truthful, the deniers to acknowledge, and the irreligious to return to the gate of Thy pardon and forgiveness. Verily, Thou art the Powerful, the Mighty, the All-Bountiful.

O Javad, upon thee be the Glory of God and His loving-kindness. The letter of Husayn, upon him be the Glory of God, was received in Our presence and was favored with Our hearing. Praise be to God that from his letter was diffused the fragrance of recognition, turning unto God, and steadfastness. We have heard his call and have answered him with a Tablet that all the treasuries of the world cannot equal. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to forgive him and his wife who heard and responded and ascended unto God, the Lord of all worlds. We beseech God to send down upon her a mercy from His presence and to cause her to enter the highest Paradise as a bounty from Him. Verily, He is the Forgiving,

the Generous. And We beseech Him, exalted be He, to aid him to remain steadfast in this Cause whereby the feet of the mystics have slipped save whom God, the Lord of the Day of Judgment, hath willed.

Likewise mention was made of Ali-Akbar, upon him be My Glory, and Ali-Qabli-Askar and those with him, upon them be the Glory of God, and each one hath been favored with the waves of the ocean of utterance of the Desired One of all worlds. We beseech God to aid them to act with wisdom and with that which will attract the hearts of His servants. Verily, He is the Powerful, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. Mention was made of Ramadan-Qabli-Ali and Mulla Bahram, upon them be the Glory of God. We beseech God, the Lord of grace and bounty, to aid them both to make mention of Him and praise Him, and through them to open the doors of turning unto Him before the faces of His servants. Verily, He is powerful over all things. The Glory from Us be upon them and upon My handmaidens who have believed in the One, the All-Informed.

BH02502: This is the Day of the Most Great Manifestation…

In the name of the All-Knowing, the All-Powerful!

This is the Day of the Most Great Manifestation, and all things rejoice in remembrance of the Peerless Friend. The Mount is calling out in the Name of the Manifestation that the world hath been renewed by the breath of a new Revelation, and every seeker hath attained his desire. Carmel hath become the dwelling-place of the Friend, and Zion crieth out with the most exalted call. A great festival is established and supreme joy is manifest, yet the Shi'ih faction remaineth heedless and veiled.

O Salih! May God set right thine affairs and make manifest from thee that which befitteth His days, is adorned with His good-pleasure, and illumined with the light of His acceptance. He, verily, is the Almighty, the All-Powerful.

Thou didst mention a newborn child, and likewise the feast of ʿAli-Akbar. Praise be to the one true God that He confirmed them in offering hospitality to His chosen ones and loved ones. This is among the special confirmations of the Truth, exalted be His glory. He bestowed both the bounty and adorned it with the glory of His acceptance. Praise be unto Him! Again praise be unto Him!

As for the newborn, We have named him with the first pillar of the two names, and have made mention of him in such wise that his remembrance and name shall endure through the endurance of God's names. He is the Almighty, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

As for the Surih of Unity, the Shaykh of the land of Sad came to the land of Ta, inflamed with the fire of hatred, making mention that the divines should translate the Surih of Unity and distribute copies thereof to all people, that they might know that the Truth "begetteth not, nor is He begotten," while the Babis believe in divinity and lordship. In this connection, diverse answers have been sent down from the Supreme Pen, and a blessed Tablet was revealed in his name. God willing, thou shalt attain unto it and become informed of that which hath proceeded from the Tongue of Grandeur.

Rida-Quli hath ever been and still is remembered. He is among those who attained the presence and won the bounty of hearing the call of the Wronged One in His mighty prison. We make mention of all the

loved ones, and there hath been specially revealed for each one that which cannot be equaled by all the treasures of the world. Thus have We sent down the verses and dispatched them unto you, O My loved ones, that ye may give thanks unto your Lord, the Ordainer, the Ancient of Days, the All-Wise Revealer.

The Glory be upon you, then Peace be upon you, then Light be upon you, O loved ones of God and His friends! Verily, He hath turned toward you from this remote spot and made mention of you and of His handmaidens who have heard and turned toward God, the Peerless, the All-Informed. We make mention of My handmaiden who hath ascended to the Supreme Horizon. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to send down upon her the rain of His mercy and ordain for her in the highest Paradise a station beneath the canopies of His greatness and mercy. He, verily, is the Compassionate, the Forgiving, the Merciful.

BH02526: Praise be to the Goal of the world, Who…

In His Name, through which God united the hearts of His loved ones.

Praise be to the Goal of the world, Who in the midst of sorrows is occupied with the remembrance of His friends. Forever has this Wronged One been under threat, yet the threat had no effect and did not prevent His attention and acceptance. Before the face of the world and its peoples He revealed that which was the cause of life and the source of success and prosperity. Blessed is the soul that was attracted by the breezes of revelation and was guided to His most exalted horizon. Today, through the assistance of the Most Great Name, the pearls of certitude and knowledge are manifest and visible. Joy unto the one who turned with perfect certitude and, despite the enemies, drank the wine of immortality from the hand of bounty, and, detached from the world, held fast to the Most Great Name. Names did not prevent him, and doubts and allusions did not become a barrier.

O thou who hast turned unto the Countenance! Thy petition hath reached the most holy court. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to draw thee nigh in all conditions, to aid thee in that which He loveth and approveth, and to open before thy face the door of grace and bounty. He, verily, is the Lord of all creation. There is none other God but Him, the Forgiving, the Merciful.

O Mashhadi Baqir! Thy name was present before the Wronged One. We have mentioned thee as a favor from God, the Lord of the worlds. Rejoice in My remembrance which, by My life, cannot be equaled by anything thou beholdest on earth. Verily thy Lord is the True One, the All-Informed. The Glory be upon thee and upon thy family from God, the Mighty, the Generous.

O Asadu'llah! The Lord of the worlds hath mentioned thee with a mention that is as wings for soaring in the atmosphere of love and affection, and as light in the darkness of contingent being. We beseech God, exalted be He, to make thee steadfast in His love and to give thee to drink, from the hand of His bounty, the Kawthar of His knowledge at all times. He, verily, is the All-Bountiful, the Compassionate, the Generous.

O Faraju'llah! The Lamp of the world is afflicted amidst the winds. It is clear and evident to all that this Wronged One and the party of God have desired for all bounty, blessing and wealth. Nevertheless, they

show such enmity as hath had and hath no likeness. The Command is in God's hands, the Powerful, the Almighty. Blessed art thou for having turned and attained that which the near ones have attained.

O Abdul-Ali! Upon thee be My Glory! Convey My greetings to the handmaidens and leaves. Each one hath been and is mentioned before the Wronged One. Give them the glad-tidings of My remembrance and My loving-kindness which have encompassed existence, both the seen and the unseen. The Glory from Us be upon My loved ones and upon them and upon all who are steadfast, firm and upright. Bounty is in God's hands, the Lord of the worlds.

BH02524: H-S. Upon thee be the Baha of God…

He is God—exalted be His majesty in grandeur and power.

H-S. Upon thee be the Baha of God, the Lord of all worlds. The letters which thou hast continually sent unto this present servant have been received, and have attained the honor of being heard in the loftiness of glory. From every word thereof We perceived the fragrance of thy love and thy turning unto God, the One, the All-Informed. The wrongdoers of the world are occupied with oppression and take pride therein. This Wronged One, however, uttereth this prayer, which some time ago was revealed for one of the loved ones:

Glorified art Thou, O my God! But for the afflictions suffered in Thy path, how could the stations of Thy lovers be made manifest? And but for the calamities endured for Thy love, by what means could the conditions of Thy yearners be revealed? By Thy might! The companion of Thy lovers is the tear of their eyes, the intimate of Thy seekers the sighing of their hearts, the sustenance of them that hasten unto Thee the fragments of their livers. How sweet is the deadly poison in Thy path, and how precious the shafts of the enemies for the exaltation of Thy word! O my God, cause me to drink in Thy Cause whatsoever Thou desirest, and rain down upon me in Thy love whatsoever Thou hast ordained.

By Thy glory! I desire naught save what Thou desirest, and love none but that which Thou lovest. In all conditions have I put my trust in Thee. I beseech Thee, O my God, to raise up for the aid of this Cause such as are worthy of Thy Name and Thy sovereignty, that they may make mention of me amidst Thy creatures and lift up the banners of Thy victory within Thy realm. Thou, verily, art potent to do whatsoever Thou willest. There is no God but Thee, the Help in Peril, the Self-Subsisting.

Glory to Thee, O my Lord! Strengthen the hearts of Thy loved ones by Thy power and might, then protect them from the evil of Thine enemies. Then make them, O my God, dawning-places from the horizon of Thy greatness and daysprings from the daybreak of Thy power. O Lord! Adorn them with the ornament of justice and fairness, and illumine their hearts with the lights of gifts and favors. Thou art the One, the Single, the Mighty, the Great.

I beseech Thee, O Lord of Eternity and Master of the world and Goal of the nations, by the Most Great Name, to transform the throne of tyranny into the seat of Thy justice, and the chair of pride and oppression into the throne of humility and fairness. Verily, Thou doest what Thou willest, and Thou art the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

Convey My greetings to the friends, and We ask for all of them glory and bounty and steadfastness. Verily, God is the Hearer, the Answerer.

The calumnies of that heedless one were observed, and the sending of such things is not permitted henceforth. We have indeed committed all affairs to God, the Powerful, the Dominant, the Mighty. We beseech God to assist thee and to inscribe for thee a goodly reward, steadfast and enduring, in His perspicuous Book. Peace be upon thee and upon those with thee and upon God's righteous servants.

BH02537: Glory be to Thee, O Helper of Thy chosen…

He is the Preserver, the Generous One!

Glory be to Thee, O Helper of Thy chosen ones, and glory be to Thee, O Succourer of Thy pure ones! I beseech Thee by the light of Thy Cause which hath shone forth and appeared from the horizon of Thy will, and by the manifestation of the fire of the Tree of Utterance unto Moses, the Son of Imran, Thy Interlocutor and Thy Chosen One, to ordain for him who hath loved Thee and desired Thee every good thing Thou hast sent down from Thy Most Exalted Pen for the people of Baha and the companions of the Crimson Ark. Verily, Thou art the Almighty over what Thou willest, and within Thy grasp are the reins of all affairs. There is no God but Thee, the Speaker on Sinai, the Manifestor of Light, and the Lord of the Day of Resurrection.

The Most Great Branch arrived and mentioned the loved ones—may God's blessings be upon them—and that esteemed one in the Most Holy and Exalted Presence, and likewise what was known of that esteemed one and what appeared from him in the path of God—all was witnessed and attained the adornment of acceptance and the light of good-pleasure. We beseech God to manifest unto that esteemed one that which shall be adorned with the ornament of immortality in the book of the world. There is no doubt that the reward for these deeds will appear from God. Every good deed today is in truth recorded with God as the king of deeds and is inscribed and written by the Most Exalted Pen. We beseech Him, exalted be He, to assist thee through His grace and to ordain for thee what He ordained for His chosen ones before and after. Verily He is the All-Bountiful, the Generous.

Convey greetings from the Wronged One to the grief-stricken leaf. I swear by the Sun of Truth, there hath been ordained for her the reward of children whose fragrant remembrance of God hath not ceased and will not cease. It is hoped that she will preserve this most great bounty through patience and steadfastness in His exalted path. This mention must be appreciated, and its appreciation lieth in the good-pleasure of His friends. In times of tribulation, God willing, they will transform the garment of sorrow into the robe of supreme joy through the breezes of revelation and the light of countless favors. Verily He is the Guardian of His steadfast servants and maidservants.

O H! It is hoped that thou wilt be warmed by the heat of the divine verses in such wise that from thy movement and stillness may appear that which will attract minds and hearts. However, all matters are dependent upon and connected with wisdom and utterance. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to confirm thee and make thee successful in that whereby His Cause will be exalted amongst His servants. Verily He is powerful over all things. The glory from Us be upon thee and upon those who are

with thee and who love thee and upon those who have drunk the wine of revelation from this manifest cup.

BH02561: O friends of God in the lands! We counsel…

He is God, exalted be His station in wisdom and utterance!

O friends of God in the lands! We counsel you to show forth the most great steadfastness in this Most Great Announcement, whereby the limbs of all names have trembled except such as God, the Lord of the Day of Judgment, has willed. A letter has come before the Wronged One, and verily it has attained to be heard. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to ordain for His loved ones that which He has ordained for those who circle round the Throne at eventide and at dawn. O Rida! His honor Muhammad-Qabli-ʿAli, upon you both be My glory, sent thy letter to the Most Holy Court at a time when the arrows of tribulation were descending successively from the clouds of destiny.

We praise God for what He has willed, for He is the One Who is sought in the beginning and in the end. Praise be to God that from thy letter the fragrance of love was diffused. His honor Diya presented it before Our face and this Tablet is revealed in reply, that thou mayest give glad-tidings to all the friends in that land of the bestowals and verses that have been sent down, and of the mercy that has preceded. Blessed is the servant who has attained unto steadfastness. Today some have been seized by vain imaginings. We beseech God to preserve His loved ones from the doubts and allusions of men and to ordain for them that which will exalt them through His Name in His lands amongst His servants. Verily, He is the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing.

O Ghulam-Husayn! Thou didst seek permission to turn towards the spot where has been raised the Standard that there is no God but Him. We beseech God to inscribe for thee in one of the tablets of the Most Exalted Paradise the reward of nearness, of attaining His presence and of meeting Him. Verily thy Lord is the Lord of all creation. There is no God but Him, the Almighty, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious.

This severe year and what hath appeared therein have become an obstacle, therefore We have delayed in granting permission until God brings about His decisive and wise decree. We beseech God to set ablaze the friends of that land with the fire of love and to illumine them with the light of recognition. He is the Powerful and the Mighty.

O people of God! Ye have endured hardships and attained unto lofty stations. Preserve this most exalted station through the Name of the Lord of Names. Today is the day of wisdom and utterance. All must hold fast unto these two and occupy themselves with the prudent management of affairs. The Afnan of the Blessed Tree and the loved ones mentioned in the revealed Scripture must hold fast unto the teaching of God’s Cause, albeit with fragrance and joy. Thus hath God decreed at the beginning of days. The Glory shining forth from Us be upon My Afnan and My loved ones who have cast away what the people possess, clinging to the hem of the robe of God’s grace, the Commander, the All-Wise.

BH02559: O My handmaiden and My leaf! Jalal, who has…

He is the Speaker, He is the Manifest, and He is the Caller betwixt earth and heaven.

O My handmaiden and My leaf! Jalal, who has attained Our presence and gained the bounty of reunion, is he who speaks, he who is manifest, and he who calls out between earth and heaven. Jalal, who has drunk from the cup of reunion time and again, and has partaken of the chalice of meeting repeatedly, is present in the Prison Land and has sent thy petition to the Most Holy Court. Praise be to God that the fragrance of divine love wafted from it, and it bore true witness to the love of the friends and handmaidens of that land.

We beseech God to illumine all with the light of His knowledge and to attract them through the fire of His divine Singularity—that Fire which shone forth upon Moses, son of ʿImran, from the Sinai of recognition. Today the True One, exalted be His glory, watches over His servants and handmaidens, and at all times has He remembered them all with a remembrance whose standards shall ere long be raised throughout the world and whose banners shall wave triumphant upon the highest flags. Verily, He loves His servants and handmaidens.

Jalal has mentioned most of the friends, and each has been blessed with the lights of the lamp of reformation. We convey Our greetings and salutations to all the friends, and We bid them all to patience, steadfastness, love and affection. The purpose is that this span of earth be illumined with the light of love and that the differences of the peoples be transformed into unity.

With this supreme triumph and manifestation in view, We have borne hardships and have heard from every heedless one that which caused the Kingdom of utterance to lament. O people of God! Be not grieved. Ere long will God, exalted be His glory, adorn the embodiments of oppression with the raiment of justice and the temples of tyranny with the ornament of equity. Verily, He has power over all things.

Some time ago We made mention, and continue to make mention, of Mulla Shafi' and certain other friends. They have ever been and shall ever remain remembered. The absence of names has been and continues to be a requirement of wisdom. Each has received, through His grace and favor, the greatest portion from the ocean of divine verses. We testify that they have attained unto that for which God created His servants. We beseech the True One on behalf of all, that they may prove worthy to preserve this most exalted station and most glorious rank. Well is it with them and happy their lot!

O My handmaiden! Thy letter contained mention of the handmaidens of God, Mardiyyih and Samadiyyih. We make mention of them and send Our greetings to them from this Most Great Scene, and We give them the glad-tidings of God's loving-kindness, the Lord of destiny. We beseech God to give them to drink of His most pure Kawthar. Verily, He is the All-Forgiving, the All-Bountiful.

BH02545: In My Name which standeth above all names!

In My Name which standeth above all names!

This is a Book sent down by the Creator of the heavens and the Possessor of all things. He calleth all unto this most exalted station and this most glorious Paradise wherein the Most Great Throne hath been established through this Name, by which the hearts of the nations were stirred except for those who turned unto the Kaaba of God, detached from all who are in the heavens and the earth.

O thou who hast migrated, hear the call from the Prison of Akka—it will draw thee nigh unto God, the One, the All-Informed. Thou didst attain unto My verses before, and at this time as well, as a grace from My presence. Verily thy Lord is the All-Bountiful, the Generous.

O Muhammad, grieve not because of the world and its vicissitudes. Hold fast unto this Cord, through whose movement all created things were moved. Blessed is the servant who hath witnessed and seen, and woe unto the heedless.

We bear witness that thou didst forsake thy homeland and didst seek the most exalted homeland beneath the canopy of the grandeur of thy Lord, the Almighty, the Powerful. Thou didst advance and turn thy face until thou didst arrive before the Countenance and didst hear the call of the Wronged One from His lofty station. Blessed art thou for having sought the ultimate goal and for having drunk the choice wine of grace from the hand of the bounty of thy Lord, the Lord of all beings. Verily He is the Compassionate, the Generous.

Remind My loved ones in the lands on My behalf and illumine them with the light of My beauteous remembrance. Say: O people of God! Adversity and affliction have befallen you in His path, and ye have heard for love of Him what no ears of men have heard before. The Tongue of Grandeur beareth witness to this from this luminous horizon. Say: Beware lest the affairs of men grieve you or the might of those who have denied the Day of Judgment frighten you. Turn with your hearts unto the Kaaba of God, the Lord of the worlds. Thus have We set forth the verses and sent them unto Our loved ones, that their fragrances might attract them and draw them nigh unto the One, the All-Informed.

Verily thou, O Muhammad, hast heard the call of the Wronged One and hast drunk His sealed wine in His Name, the Self-Subsisting, and hast attained unto that which was recorded in the Books of God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy.

Rejoice in this remembrance and say: Praise be unto Thee, O my God, my Lord and my Support, for having guided me unto a station honored by Thy footsteps, wherein Thy call was raised and the sun of Thy grace shone forth from the horizon of Thy will. I bear witness that Thou hast manifested what was hidden from all eyes and concealed in the knowledge of God, the Possessor of this wondrous Day. O my Lord! I beseech Thee by the power of Thy most exalted Word and Thy sovereignty which hath encompassed all things, to ordain for me and those with me what Thou hast ordained for those of Thy servants who are nigh unto Thee and those of Thy creation who are sincere. Then send down upon us from the heaven of Thy bounty a mercy from Thy presence and a blessing from Thy side. Verily Thou art the Generous. There is no God but Thee, the Forgiving, the Merciful.

BH02650: O thou who gazest upon the Countenance! On this…

In His Name, through Whom the Hour and its signs have appeared!

O thou who gazest upon the Countenance! On this day the Tree of the uttermost boundary is manifest before the faces of humanity, laden with countless fruits, and the waves of the ocean of utterance are visible and present at the axis of contingent being. Nevertheless, the perverse ones and the barking dogs have arisen in denial and are occupied with rejection and protest. Say: Be fair, by God, and follow not those who have denied God's proof and His evidence, and who pronounced judgment against the Dawning-Place of His verses and the Herald of His Cause in the land of Ta. By the life of God! The dwellers of the highest Paradise and the exalted Garden have bewailed their deeds, as have those who circle round the Throne at eventide and at dawn.

Say: O people of the Bayan! Follow not that party, and deliver yourselves from the obstructing and intervening smoke. Leave unto themselves what they possess, and take what the seas and their waves have confessed, and the suns and their effulgences, and the moons and their lights, and the trees and their leaves and fruits, and the earth and its treasures and its rivers. Thus doth the Ancient Beauty and the Most Great Name teach you—He Who hath spoken and continues to speak. The Promise hath come, and the Promised One proclaimeth: "That which was hidden in hearts and minds hath appeared, and that which was inscribed by the Most Exalted Pen of God." Blessed is he who hath recognized and found and turned towards Him and hath said: "Praise be unto Thee, O Thou in Whose grasp is the reins of existence! There is none other God but Thee, the All-Knowing, the Commander, the Sovereign, the Mighty, the Powerful."

We beseech God to aid thee to assist His Cause through such wisdom and utterance as hath been sent down from the Pen of God in the Tablets. Praise the Desired One of the world Who hath mentioned thee with such mention as shall not be effaced through any assault and shall endure forever. Thus have We set forth the verses and sent them unto thee that thou mayest thank thy Lord, the Compassionate, the Bountiful. Convey My greetings to the loved ones. We beseech God to grant success that all may arise to assist His Cause with pure piety and complete detachment. In truth, the servants of the earth have been brought from nothingness into being specifically for this most great bounty. Blessed is the soul that hath drunk from the choice wine of utterance and attained to the will of God, exalted be His glory. The glory shining forth from the horizon of the heaven of My mercy be upon thee and upon thy wife and upon those with thee, and upon every male servant who hath heard and turned towards Him, and upon every maidservant who hath heard and turned towards Him and attained unto this Mighty Announcement and this Manifest Command.

BH02615: Glorified be God! In this hour the effulgences…

In His Name, the Protector over all names!

Glorified be God! In this hour the effulgences of the mercy of the Lord of the Worlds have dawned from the most exalted horizon, illumining the darkened world with the light of divine favor. Yet the eyes of those who manifest self and passion, tyranny and corruption remain deprived of witnessing it, and their ears are barred from the warbling of the birds circling round the Throne. How excellent is that power which breaks the chains of idle fancy through the Most Self-Subsisting Name and rends asunder the veils

of vain imaginings through the Name of the Lord of all beings, which passes beyond all else save God through the light of detachment and makes for the depths of the ocean of oneness.

O people of God! Some among the servants have been observed to be of such frail character that, like clods of earth, they fall apart at the slightest moisture.

O ʿAli-Qabli-Naqi, upon thee be My glory! He who beareth My Name, upon him be My loving-kindness, forwarded thy letter to the Most Holy Court. The fragrance of the love of the Desired One wafted from it. Blessed art thou and blessed is he who hath clung to My firm cord, detached from all the worlds.

Whenever through divine power the pavilion of glory was raised up and the lights of the manifestation of Him Who conversed on Sinai shone forth, a swarm of flies emerged from the thickets of hatred and set about undermining the Cause. Reflect upon God's concealment and patience, and likewise upon the greed and avarice of the antagonists and opponents. One who received the utmost kindness from the friends of the Cause arose in opposition and united with his own kind, busying himself with plundering possessions on the day of reckoning, selling the Joseph of trust for a few counted dirhams. He showed no mercy either to himself or to the Cause of God. Glory be to God! The deniers of the Bayan are still consumed by the fire of hatred. At the instigation of those treacherous souls they have arisen to commit betrayal.

Say: Praise be to Thee, O my God, and thanks be to Thee, O my Desire, for having kept the hems of Thy loved ones pure from the dust of treachery, lying and calumny. I beseech Thee, O King of the kings of the kingdoms of justice and fairness, by Thy command through which the lights of bounties and favors were made manifest, to make me steadfast in Thy love and a drinker of the choice wine of Thy revelation in every one of Thy days. O Lord! Take my hand with the hand of Thy grace, then open before my face the doors of Thy generosity and riches. Verily Thou art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest. The calumnies of Thy servants harm Thee not, nor do the descriptions of Thy creatures profit Thee. Thou doest what Thou willest through Thy power and ordainest what Thou desirest through Thy will. There is no God but Thee, the Powerful, the Mighty, the Unconstrained.

BH02643: O son of My name, O Husayn! Upon you…

He is the Compassionate, the All-Bountiful

O son of My name, O Husayn! Upon you both be My glory and My loving-kindness. A letter whose sender was ʿInayatu'llah hath reached the Most Holy Court. Praise be to God, the fragrance of love and devotion was wafted from it. Today the ocean of loving-kindness is surging and the Sun of generosity is shining. In every moment there hath been and continueth to be sent down from the heaven of divine loving-kindness that which mankind is powerless and incapable to reckon, inasmuch as in every letter lie hidden mysteries and in every word an ocean is treasured. Blessed is the soul that hath in this divine Day attained unto that which is the cause and source of everlasting remembrance.

O ʿInayat! Upon thee be My glory, and upon thy father and mother, and upon thy paternal uncles and aunts. I testify that ye turned towards the Most Sublime Horizon in the earliest days and were blessed with the sprinklings of the ocean of His bounty. We beseech God to give you to drink, from the hand of

His bestowals, the cup of steadfastness, lest ye be made to slip by the doubts of any denier, or the onslaught of any opposer, or the tyranny of any oppressor, or the veils of those who have denied the Day of Judgment.

O ʿAttar! Praise be to God, time and again, repeatedly hast thou been blessed with the mention and verses of the Most Exalted Pen. Convey My greetings to all the members of that household. They have all been and continue to be remembered. In these days the Trusted One hath repeatedly made mention of the loved ones and leaves of that household, and mention of each one hath issued forth and been manifested from the tongue of grandeur. Rejoice and say: Praise be to Thee, O God of the world! Then give thanks and say: Thine is the bounty, O Lord of all names! Then prostrate thyself and say: Glory be to Thee, O Glory of those who are in the heavens and on earth!

O son of My name, O Husayn! Upon thee be My glory. Make mention of the Truth on behalf of His loved ones and say: My God, my God! Aid Thy loved ones to make mention of Thee and to praise Thee, to serve Thy Cause and to stand firm in their love for Thee. Adorn their deeds with the glory of Thy acceptance and the light of Thy good-pleasure. O my Lord! Nothing is hidden from Thy knowledge, and neither the power of the world nor the might of the nations can frustrate Thee. I beseech Thee by the lights of Thy countenance and by Thy sovereignty that dominateth all who are in Thy earth and heaven, to preserve them from the evil of Thine enemies, to send down upon them from the clouds of Thy mercy a blessing from Thee, and to ordain for them that which Thou hast ordained for Thy chosen ones. Verily Thou art the Lord of the world and the Omnipotent over what Thou willest through Thy mighty and wondrous word.

BH02607: A remembrance from Us to one who has turned…

In the Name of God, the Manifest, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise

A remembrance from Us to one who has turned to the horizon from which has shone forth the Luminary of God’s utterance, the Lord of the worlds—through which the ocean of knowledge has surged in creation and the heaven of proof has been adorned with the stars of certitude. Exalted is God, the Powerful, the Mighty, the All-Knowing.

O Mir Aqa! Hearken unto the call from the direction of Akka. By God, ears were created to hear it. Blessed is he who has attained, and woe unto every heedless one, far removed. Say: Verily the eye was created for the Greatest Vision, and the heart for turning toward the direction of God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy. Is there one possessed of such steadfastness that names prevent him not from the Creator of heaven, nor do the hosts of the oppressors frighten him? Break the idols of the peoples through this Most Great Name, which has come from the horizon of power with a sovereignty that has conquered all who are in the heavens and on earth. The Trustworthy One has mentioned you; We make mention of you in this Clear Tablet, from whose horizon has shone forth that which has attracted the hearts of the mystics.

And mention of Jalil and those with him, whom We have mentioned in verses through which God has conquered the cities of the hearts of the lovers. O Jalil! Give thanks unto God for having revealed unto

thee that whose remembrance, fragrance, name and spirit shall never cease to endure, by the everlastingness of God, the King, the Just, the Powerful, the Mighty. Counsel My loved ones to be so steadfast that neither the name of the Prophet, nor the mention of the Successor, nor the names of the Noble One and the Chief, nor the Cords and the Pillars shall prevent them. Thus has the matter been decreed from the presence of an All-Wise Commander. Say: This is the Day of God wherein mention of aught else beseemeth not, if ye be of them that understand. This is the Revelation that the knowledge of none has encompassed—to this testify the Books of God, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. He is the One Whom God's Messengers have heralded. When He took His seat upon the throne, the Primal Point prostrated himself saying: "Verily, I am the first of them that worship." Thus have We set forth the verses and sent them unto thee that thou mayest be of the thankful ones.

The Glory be upon thee and upon thy son. Give him the glad-tidings of My loving-kindness, remind him of My verses, and illumine him with the lights of thy Lord's face, the Dawning One, the Gracious. Say: My God, my God! Aid me to be steadfast in Thy Cause and illumine my heart with the light of Thy knowledge. Then send down upon me that which will make me firm and steadfast in Thy love. O my Lord! I am Thy servant and the son of Thy servant. I have believed in Thee and in Thy verses and in what Thou hast revealed in Thy Books and Thy Scriptures and Thy Tablets. I beseech Thee by the waves of the ocean of Thy bounty to aid me in serving Thee and serving Thy loved ones. Verily Thou art the Powerful, the Mighty, the Most Generous. There is none other God but Thee, the Goal in both beginning and end.

BH02620: ʿAyn, Lam. Upon thee be the Glory of God…

He is the Expositor, the All-Knowing!

ʿAyn, Lam. Upon thee be the Glory of God, the Mighty, the All-Knowing, and His peace by night and by day. His honor Niyaz Effendi, upon him be the peace of God and His loving-kindness, hath arrived. All that was witnessed with the eye of truth showed that he had entirely made himself a suppliant at the Court of the Self-Sufficing, and had adorned himself with the outpourings of the All-Bountiful Lord. The Wronged One testifieth that he hath taken the Kawthar of meeting from the hands of bounty and hath drunk thereof in the name of God, Lord of all men, despite every ignorant remote one and every doubting mischief-maker. Mention of him hath repeatedly been made, and a station hath been sought for him from the Most Holy Court. Therefore the heavenly table of utterance, the bounty of recognition, and the fruits of certitude have been sent down from the heaven of the loving-kindness of the Goal of all the worlds. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to aid him in this world with the hosts of wisdom and utterance, and in the next with whatsoever hath been ordained in the Most Exalted Paradise for the companions of the Crimson Ark.

The sweet savors of His love are diffused in every time, and in every day he hath attained the presence time after time, and in each time We showed him the pearls of wisdom and utterance that were hidden in the treasuries of knowledge. It is hoped that all the friends will become assured of holding fast to that which preserveth those who believe in divine unity from the oppression of the idolaters. All must today beseech the True One to preserve the cities of the believers through the hosts of the seen and the unseen. Verily He hath power over all things. Every day they have conquered some portion of the earth.

Justice and fairness have vanished from the world and the oppressors of the age are ablaze with the fire of greed and passion. This is a blessed day—all, that is to say the people of unity, must unite and cling to the hem of the robe of divine grace and seek preservation and deliverance. He is the Powerful, the Mighty, the All-Knowing, the All-Seeing.

Convey greetings from the Wronged One to the friends in that land. For each one We seek bounty and blessing and wealth and glory. Verily God is the Mighty, the Powerful, the All-Bountiful. Let His honor Mihdi, upon him be the peace of God and His grace, turn [his attention], for a group of them have sought assistance and requested to meet with him. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to grant him the meeting with His friends in the ʿAyn and the Shin. Verily He is the Hearer, the Answerer. Peace and glory be upon thee and upon the friends of God and His loved ones who have turned unto Him and heard His call and recognized His path and acted according to what they were commanded in His perspicuous Book.

BH02582: Praise be to God Who sent down His proof…

He is the Dawning from the Horizon of the Heaven of Utterance

Praise be to God Who sent down His proof and made manifest His path and summoned the people to His most exalted horizon from which shone forth the Sun of Utterance and appeared that which was hidden in the treasuries of protection and preservation. Exalted, exalted be His dominion and exalted, exalted be His glory and power. And benediction and peace and glorification and splendor be upon the Hands of His Cause who have traveled through the lands to exalt His Word and elevate His Cause, whom God hath made lamps of guidance among His creatures and from whom have flowed rivers of wisdom and utterance amidst all religions. Then peace whose fragrance shall not cease to endure throughout the kingdom of God, the Lord of all worlds.

O Mushkin! Upon thee be the Glory of God, the Lord of the Day of Judgment. The letter sent from the direction of S reached the Most Holy Court and one of the Branches who is named Badi' presented it all and it attained the honor of being heard. Well is it with its sender. Praise be to God, your kinfolk are enkindled with the fire of divine love. We beseech God not to deprive any of them, whether female or male, from the ocean of bounty and heaven of grace, and to send down upon them from the clouds of His generosity that which will draw them near unto Him and make them among those whom the doubts of the world and the signs of the nations have not prevented from God, the Lord of the Mighty Throne.

And as for what you mentioned regarding the leaf of Tuba, this matter depends upon the consent of both parties and the approval of the parents. And if his honor S, upon him be My glory and loving-kindness and mercy, so desires, it shall attain the honor of approval. It is most clear and evident that for that leaf the aforementioned one is suitable and desirable. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to assist all to do what He loves and is pleased with, and to ordain for them in His days that through which the fragrance of grace and bounty may waft throughout the realm of creation.

O Mushkin! Mention of the aforementioned one, upon him be My glory, hath been revealed in Tablets before from the Supreme Pen. We beseech God to open before his face the gates of grace and riches and

to send down upon him from the heaven of generosity the rains of glory and bounty. Verily He is the One with power over whatsoever He willeth through His command "Be" and it is. Likewise your kinfolk are mentioned before the Wronged One. We beseech God to assist them through His sovereignty and to aid them with the means of earth and heaven. Verily He is the Lord of humanity and the Lord of the throne on high and of the dust below. There is no God but Him, the Mighty, the Powerful.

BH02627: This is a Book sent down in truth…

In the Name of Him Who is the Supreme Ruler over all names!

This is a Book sent down in truth on this Day unto him who hath believed in God, the Supreme Ruler, the Self-Subsisting, that the rapture of its utterance may so seize him that no one shall be able to deter him from the path of God, the Lord of all existence. We have indeed expounded the mysteries of the Book and revealed that which lay hidden in the knowledge of God, whereunto bear witness His favored servants. Among the people are those who have perceived the sweet savors of revelation and turned towards it, and those who have turned away, and those who have pronounced against Me that which hath caused the dwellers of the cities of justice to lament and tears to flow from their eyes.

Know thou then that My Name is upon thee, and My loving-kindness hath remembered thee. Thou didst send thy letter unto the Wronged One, and We have read it and made mention of thee, that thou mayest rejoice and render thanks. He, verily, is the Mighty, the Glorious, the All-Forgiving. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to aid thee to serve His Cause, to enable thee to voice His praise, to give thee to drink from the river of His mercy, and to send down upon thee that which shall gladden the hearts and souls. Grieve thou not at anything. Place thy trust at all times in the Truth, the Knower of things unseen. The wolves have encompassed Us from every side. The command is in God's hands, the Lord of the past and future. Neither the arrows of the enemies nor the swords of those who have disbelieved in God, the Lord of all existence, can withhold the glory of Baha.

Say: My God, my God! Praise be to Thee for having guided me, and all bounty be Thine for having given me to drink, and all glory be to Thee for having called me, and all thanksgiving be unto Thee for having remembered me, and all generosity be Thine for having made me to know Thee, and all grace be Thine for having taught me, and all favor be unto Thee for having caused me to hear and to behold Thy signs, Thy Book, and the Kawthar of Thy utterance. O my Lord! Thou beholdest me detached from all else but Thee and clinging unto Thee. Ordain for me that which shall draw me nigh unto Thee and profit me in every world of Thy worlds. O my Lord! Withhold me not from the ocean of Thy bounty nor from the Daystar of Thy Revelation. Thou art, verily, powerful to do what Thou willest through Thy might which hath encompassed those who are in the heavens and on earth.

As to what thou hast mentioned regarding thy service to My leaf and My handmaiden, upon her be My glory, this is a deed from which the fragrance of acceptance hath been wafted. I give thanks unto God for this manifest favor. We make mention of him who hath been named Muhammad-i-Qabli-Javad and give him the glad-tidings of God's loving-kindness, the Lord of all worlds. By the life of God! My remembrance excelleth the treasures of the earth and all that the kings and rulers possess. His station shall erelong be made manifest in the worlds of God, the Lord of this glorious and noble station. The glory of God rest

upon you, O people of God! Blessed are ye and they who have heard mention of you in this mighty Remembrance. Praise be to God, the Mighty, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

BH02663: Praise be to God Who sent the Messengers…

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

Praise be to God Who sent the Messengers and revealed the Books for the guidance of His creation, to draw them nigh unto the court of His glory, to cause them to hold fast to the cord of His bounty, and to turn them toward the lights of His countenance. He it is Who made manifest the Way and sent down the Proof, and commanded all to perform such deeds as would elevate their stations and ranks in His earth. Verily He is the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous.

And blessings and peace be upon the Mystery of existence and the Ocean of bounty, the One Who oversees what was and what will be, through Whom God joined the Kaf and the Nun, and through Whom appeared what was hidden and concealed from hearts and eyes. And upon His family and companions, the fountains of wisdom and utterance and the oceans of mercy and knowledge, through whom were raised the banners of triumph and victory and every hidden matter was revealed, and through whom the clouds rained down and rivers flowed and mysteries were unveiled and the call was raised between earth and heaven: “The Kingdom is God’s, the Overseer, the Self-Subsisting!”

Thy letter hath come before the Wronged One. We have mentioned thee in such wise as to attract hearts. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to ordain for thee every good thing He hath ordained for His chosen ones, and to write down for thee that which shall endure as long as His names endure. Verily He is powerful over what He willeth, and He is the Single, the One, the Mighty, the All-Loving.

Convey My greetings to the loved ones. God, exalted be His glory, is witness and testifier that the mention of you and the loved ones in the presence of the Wronged One hath been and is the cause of joy and gladness. We beseech God to spread through you the fame of justice, trustworthiness and steadfastness. Verily He is the One Who spreadeth, Who commandeth, the Ruler, the Ancient of Days.

Convey My greetings to Abdu’l-Ali. We beseech God to assist him and bestow His blessings upon him. The letter from his brother was read before the Wronged One and was heard, and its answer was graciously given. As in these days many petitions have arrived from that land, wisdom hath decreed that the answer to Ali and his son, who hath spoken in praise of God and His loved ones, be sent together with the answers to the petitions from that region; therefore it was sent. Let Abdu’l-ʿAli, upon him be God’s peace, be assured. Peace be upon you and upon those who love you and upon God’s sincere servants. Praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH02711: O Ibn-i-Asdaq! Upon thee be My glory and My…

He is the Manifest, the Resplendent, the One Who standeth before all men

O Ibn-i-Asdaq! Upon thee be My glory and My loving-kindness. We have heard the call of those who have been set ablaze with the fire of the love of God and who have arisen to serve His Cause with a clear covenant and firm pledge. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to aid them with the hosts of wisdom and utterance and to confirm them in that which will exalt His Cause. Verily, He is the Omnipotent over what He willeth. There is no God but Him, the Mighty, the Bestower.

Blessed is the spot which hath been honored at the beginning of Ridvan with the mention of its Lord, the All-Merciful, the Lord of all religions. Praise be to God that despite the turning away of the world and the blindness of the nations, the Hands of the Cause of God are arising with complete dedication to serve the Cause, and are, despite the enemies, drinking from the Kawthar of eternity in the Most Great Name.

O loved ones of God! Through your gathering and your love on His Day, the Primal Point smiled in the highest Paradise and said:

> "Well is it with you, O people of Baha! Ye are they who have fulfilled My Covenant and My Pledge. I bear witness that ye are the pearls of the shells of the ocean of utterance and the waves of the sea of your Lord, the All-Merciful. Blessed is the house honored by your footsteps wherein was raised the mention of My Beloved and your Beloved. I glory in the Supreme Paradise in your existence, your love, your gathering and your steadfastness. Blessed is the master of the house who hath arisen amidst all peoples to serve God, the Lord of Days."

At this time, his honor Ism-i-Rida, upon him be My glory and loving-kindness, by command and on behalf of the steadfast souls, set out for the Holy Place and at the end of the day attained to the presence and was adorned with acceptance. My God, My God! I beseech Thee by the mysteries hidden in Thy verses and by the lights shining from the horizon of Thy manifestation, to ordain for each one of the Hands of Thy Cause that which will enable them to raise the standards of Thy guidance among Thy creatures and the banners of Thy victory in Thy lands. O my Lord! Thou seest them turning to Thee and holding fast to the cord of Thy loving-kindness.

These are servants whom Thou hast mentioned in Thy Books, Thy Scriptures and Thy Tablets. Thou art He Who, O my God, hath exalted Thy Cause to such heights that thoughts are bewildered thereby and the limbs of the evil ones tremble. There is no city but hath been illumined with the lights of Thy mention. I beseech Thee, O Lord of Names and Creator of heaven, by Thy Name through which Thou hast subdued the cities of the earth and illumined the hearts of Thy servants, to aid them in all conditions to act in a manner befitting Thy days and Thy Manifestation, and worthy of Thy greatness and Thy sovereignty. There is no God but Thee, the Single, the One, the Powerful, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

BH02755: The Epistle of God, the Help-in-Peril, the Self-Subsisting

In the Name of Him through Whom the ocean of true understanding has surged in creation!

Exalted is the Ancient One, the Lord of great bounty! Exalted is the All-Powerful, the Lord of resplendent light! Exalted is the Generous One, the Lord of wise command! Exalted is the All-Glorious, the Lord of bounty and bestowal! And exalted is the Lord of Names, the One possessed of supreme grace!

O My Afnan! Upon thee be My glory, My loving-kindness and My mercy, which have preceded existence both seen and unseen. Reflect upon the tribulations of the Wronged One. A soul whom We sheltered for years beneath the canopies of grandeur and the shade of the Tree of loving providence has risen up in such opposition as hath neither precedent nor equal. By order of the King of Iran We proceeded to Iraq. After some time Our brother arrived there, and later, by decree of the Sublime State, We proceeded to the Land of Mystery. We observed that he had gone to Mosul and was awaiting Our arrival. Wherever We went, he came also. Later it became known that he had written to Hadi of Dawlat-Abad denying his own journeys and presence.

Glory be to God! He had suffered not a single blow in this Cause. Now he has united with one like unto himself, Shaykh Muhammad, and likewise with the son of Mulla Ja'far and Aqa Khan and two others, and every day they cling to new calumnies. Praise be to God Who hath revealed that which was hidden, that the manifestations of justice and fairness might become aware. Yet the Wronged One remaineth established in a Cause that all the hosts of earth and heaven cannot withstand, and uttereth His word with a power that the ranks of enemies cannot weaken.

We beseech God to aid thee to achieve that which befitteth His Day. O My Afnan! Be not grieved at what hath come to pass. Occupy thyself with teaching the Cause with spirit and fragrance, with wisdom and utterance. This beseemeth thy station, and God is witness to what I say.

The Most Great Branch, upon him be the glory of God, hath mentioned thee repeatedly. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to ordain for him and for thee that which shall endure as long as His kingdom, His dominion, His might and His sovereignty endure. Verily, He is powerful over all things. The glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My loving-kindness be upon thee and upon those who are with thee and who love thee and hearken to thy word concerning this most holy, most manifest, most pure, most mighty, most great Cause.

BH02810: O thou who hast turned to God, thy Lord…

He is God, exalted be He in bounties and favors!

O thou who hast turned to God, thy Lord, the All-Merciful, who circlest round the Kaaba of divine knowledge and uttereth His praise amidst the religions! Hearken unto the call of the Wronged One. He remembereth thee with that which will draw thee nigh unto God, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting. Thou hast ever been mentioned on the carpet of captivity in this land, and thy works are witnessed, thy poetry remembered, and thy praise heard. We beseech God to aid and assist thee in that which is conducive to the guidance of His servants.

Praise be to God, His Majesty Sultan Abdul-Hamid—may God, blessed and exalted be He, strengthen him—is personally occupied day and night with improving the affairs of his subjects and kingdom. Thou knowest and hast known that he hath never compromised with anyone, and whatsoever hath proceeded from his pen and tongue is the undoubted truth. In all matters and affairs, under the leadership of His Majesty the Sultan, the carpet of consultation is spread, and without regard for rank or station he hath

judged and continueth to judge with justice. Therefore all must supplicate the King of existence and the Lord of the seen and unseen for his protection. In truth he is the pride of most sovereigns.

Some among this people practice what is forbidden in God's Book and abandon what is commanded therein. During the days of Ashura, this Wronged One was occupied with commemorating the tribulation of the Prince of Martyrs, yet some cling to other practices, and this is a grievous error and a forbidden act. Although this people believe that the Imams—God's blessings be upon them—have risen from their graves, yet other groups, from the Shaykhis to those above them and the Fourth Pillar and the rest of the Shi'ih, all deny this matter. This is why every year in the month of Muharram strife ariseth and the fire of hatred is kindled. In most Tablets We have forbidden the servants from contention, conflict, corruption and whatsoever causeth grief to existence. Nevertheless there hath appeared that which causeth sorrow to those near and sincere. Verily He speaketh the truth and guideth the way, and He is the Single, the One, the Mighty, the Beautiful.

In truth, excessive hardship hath befallen thee in the path of God, the Lord of all beings, yet in His love deadly poison is the ultimate desire. We beseech God to guide all and illumine them with the lights of justice and fairness. Verily He is powerful over all things.

BH02815: O Abdullah! Upon thee be the peace of God…

He is the All-Seeing, the All-Informed

O Abdullah! Upon thee be the peace of God and His mercy. Praise be to God, thou art remembered before the face of the Wronged One and hast attained unto His bounty. It is hoped that the light of unity may illumine that land and its horizons, and that those who believe in the oneness of God may hold fast unto that which is conducive to the exaltation of the Word and the light of unity and the extinguishing of the fire of misbelief. Convey the greetings of the Wronged One to the loved ones of that land. We counsel all to perform pure and holy deeds. Some among the Babis have grown exceedingly indolent. They must hold fast unto the Law of God.

In this land all are acting according to it, fasting during the blessed month of Ramadan for the sake of God and offering prayers in obedience to His command. All in these regions and those regions must act in accordance with that which is the primary cause of the drawing nigh of people and the supreme reason for their turning to the Most Exalted Horizon. Say: My God, my God! Aid Thy servants who believe in Thy unity through the hosts of wisdom and utterance, then preserve them through Thy power and authority, then cause them to enter the fortress of Thy providence and ordain for them every good thing Thou hast sent down in Thy Book. Verily, Thou art the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous.

We make mention at this time of him who is named Habib—upon him be the peace of God and His loving-kindness—that he may rejoice and be among those who are assured and thankful. O Habib! We have mentioned thee before and sent it to another place. We beseech God to strengthen thee in all circumstances and to assist thee in that which He loveth and approveth.

Ye made mention of the souls of Mandali. This Wronged One once passed through that land. Their inner reality contradicteth their outer appearance. Verily thy Lord is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. In any

case, the loved ones of God must hold fast unto deeds and unto such conduct as hath been revealed in the Books from the Pen of the All-Wise. A servant without deeds is like a tree without fruit. We counsel all to trustworthiness, religiosity, chastity and faithfulness. We beseech God to assist all in that which He loveth and approveth and to ordain for them that which will solace their eyes and bring tranquility to their souls. Verily He is the Mighty, the All-Bestowing. Convey greetings to all the kindred, both male and female. We beseech God to preserve them and ordain for them that which will draw them near in all circumstances. Verily He is the Self-Sufficient, the Most Exalted. Peace be upon you and the mercy of God and His blessings.

BH02816: O ʿAbdu'llah! Upon thee be the peace of God…

In the Name of Him Who shineth from the horizon of the heaven of utterance!

O ʿAbdu'llah! Upon thee be the peace of God and His praise! From every quarter have appeared manifestations of rancor and sources of hatred, even though until now they have not attained their purpose and remain deprived of the Kawthar of utterance which is the cause of eternal life and the source of everlasting existence. They have cast aside truth and its sovereignty and have taken hold of idle fancy and its traces. Had the people recognized God's purpose in this Most Great Revelation, they would have circled round it and acted upon that which hath appeared from Him and been sent down from the heaven of His will.

O ʿAbdu'llah! The servant in attendance submitted thy petition and it attained the honor of being heard. The Most Great Branch sent Ibn-i-Abhar's letter to the Most Great Horizon. God willing, it shall receive its answer. Verily God is the All-Bountiful, the All-Generous. We beseech God to aid him with the hosts of utterance for the triumph of this Great Announcement.

We received the letter of Jinab-i-Samandar and its perusal and reading revealed that which is the cause of supreme kindness and infinite favors. Well is it with him and may it bring him joy! Soon shall God's consummate wisdom in what He hath manifested become apparent unto him. Verily He loveth him who loveth Him and doth not suffer to be lost the reward of the doers of good.

The servant present submitted what Qasim uttered in remembrance of God, His praise, His glory and His splendor. We have heard his call and have answered him with this perspicuous Book. We beseech God to strengthen him and My loved ones there in trustworthiness, chastity and fidelity, despite those who have made treachery their way, whom We testify are among the heedless.

O Qasim! I am encompassed by manifestations of enmity and treachery and hosts of calumny and hatred. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to aid His servants unto pure truthfulness and enable them to turn in repentance and return unto Him. Verily He is the Oft-Returning, the All-Generous.

O people of God! Be not grieved by the deeds of those who have denied the Day of Judgment. Say: O our God and our Lord! Thou seest us in the hands of Thy tyrannical servants. We beseech Thee by the sovereignty of the Names and by the Call which hath been raised between earth and heaven to protect us from the evil of Thy tyrannical servants who have shed the blood of Thy loved ones and cast aside Thy Book and violated Thy Covenant and disputed Thy proof. O Lord! Aid His Majesty the Sultan to assist the

oppressed that he may protect them from the evil of their enemies. Verily Thou art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest and Thou art the Mighty, the All-Conquering, the All-Powerful.

Volume 096: Akka 1307 A.H. (1889–1890), Part IV (4 of 4)

BH02789: The Book of God speaks forth with truth before…

He is the Truth, the Knower of the Unseen!

The Book of God speaks forth with truth before the faces of the world and summons them to the Lord of Eternity, Who has come from the heaven of utterance with a clear proof. Neither the veils of the people nor the doubts of those who have denied this manifest grace can hinder Him. The gate of heaven has been opened, and that which was hidden in knowledge and inscribed by the Supreme Pen in the books of the Messengers has appeared. O Shihab, rejoice in that the All-Bountiful has remembered thee in this Return with verses that surpass all that the people possess. He Who speaks in every condition bears witness to this, that there is none other God but Him, the Single, the One, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to exalt thee through His Name and to ordain for thee what He has ordained for those among His servants who are detached. Verily, He is the Hearer, the Answerer. Hearken unto My call from the direction of My prison, and adorn thy head with the crown of piety and thy temple with the ornament of detachment. Then aid thy Lord through wisdom and utterance. He verily aids whoever speaks His praise and gives glad tidings to the people of His glorious and wondrous appearance.

Having drunk the choice wine of revelation from the cups of My utterance, say: Praise be to Thee, O my God, and thanksgiving be unto Thee, O my Desire, for having enabled me to turn towards Thee and for having sent down to me that which Thou hast made the water of life for all creation. O my Lord! Thou seest me enkindled with the fire of Thy love, drawn to Thy verses, and detached from all else but Thee. I beseech Thee by the Lamp of Thy Cause, which the winds of hatred from those who have disbelieved in Thee and Thy signs have surrounded, who have cast behind them Thy laws and Thy commandments—O my Lord, I beseech Thee by the ships of Thy power which have sailed upon the seas of Thy names by Thy command, to make me in all conditions one who speaks Thy Name, stands firm in the service of Thy Cause, and holds fast to Thy strong cord and Thy rope, O Lord of all beings! Then write down for me from Thy Supreme Pen that which will preserve me from the evil of Thine enemies and draw me nigh unto Thy threshold. Verily, Thou art the Almighty, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

Moreover, I beseech Thee by the lights of Thy throne, by the mysteries that were hidden in Thy knowledge, and by the pearls of the sea of Thy wisdom, to open, through the key of Thy Name, the Self-Subsisting, the doors of mercy and blessing upon the faces of all, that they may draw nigh unto Thee and recognize what Thou hast ordained for them through Thy bounty and generosity. O Lord! Illumine their hearts with the light of Thy knowledge and adorn their temples with the ornament of piety. Verily, Thou art the Lord of all beings. There is none other God but Thee, the Mighty, the Wise.

BH02790: In My Name whereby the horizon of proof hath…

In My Name whereby the horizon of proof hath been illumined!

This is a Book sent down by the All-Merciful unto him who hath hearkened to the Call and turned unto God, the Lord of the mighty Throne. He is among those who have attained that which most of the servants have failed to attain, as doth testify this perspicuous Book that speaketh amongst men and summoneth all unto God, the Lord of lords.

O Muhammad-Sadiq! We bear witness that thou didst seek the ultimate goal and didst traverse the path until thou didst arrive at a place wherein was raised the remembrance of God, the Lord of creation. Blessed art thou and blessed is he who hath quaffed the choice wine of utterance from the hand of the bounty of his Lord, the Mighty, the All-Bountiful.

At this moment the permission to return hath dawned. Turn thy face toward thy native land. Rejoice thou in this irrevocable decree, the Mighty, the Wise. Return by God's might and power, and glorify the Wronged One before the faces of His loved ones, and give them the glad tidings of His mercy that hath preceded all and His loving-kindness that hath encompassed all in the heavens and the earth. We bear witness that thou wast present and didst hear My most sweet call and didst drink the Kawthar of meeting from the hands of the bounty of thy Lord, the Lord of this wondrous Day.

Say: Praise be unto Thee, O my God, and thanksgiving be unto Thee, O my Beloved, for having enabled me to attain unto Thy days, to speak Thy praise, to soar in Thy atmosphere, to hold fast unto Thy cord, and to seek the Kaaba of Thy presence. I beseech Thee, O God of existence and Lord of the seen and unseen, by the Lote-Tree which hath spoken in Thy name and called out to the servants in Thy days and summoned them to the Kawthar of Thy reunion, to ordain for me that which will draw me nigh unto Thee and preserve me and make me steadfast in Thy Cause and Thy love, in such wise that neither the ascendancy of names nor the fabrications of the enemies who have violated Thy Covenant and Thy Testament and have disbelieved in Thy signs and have disputed Thy proof shall hinder me.

O my Lord! Thou seest me turning unto Thee and detached from all else but Thee. I beseech Thee to make me a servant of Thy Cause in every world of Thy worlds. Thou art He Who doeth what He pleaseth by Thy sovereignty and ordaineth what He willeth by Thy command. Thou art the Almighty, the Most Exalted, the All-Bountiful.

O my Lord! Send down Thy blessings upon the Hands of Thy Cause who have traveled throughout the lands to exalt Thy Word and guide Thy creation. They are honored servants—no fear shall be upon them, neither shall they grieve. I beseech Thee, O my Beloved, by Thy most great signs and the lights of Thy Throne, O Lord of all humanity, to ordain for me that which will make me independent through Thy riches and mighty through Thy might. Verily, Thou art the Powerful, the Commander, the All-Knowing, the Mighty, the All-Bountiful.

BH02818: O Ali! Thy letter which thou didst send…

He is the Caller in the Kingdom of Utterance!

O Ali! Thy letter which thou didst send with Aqa Abdu'l-Ali hath been presented before the Wronged One and was honored with His hearing. From the earliest days thou hast been mentioned. O Ali! The friends must at all times increase in the warmth of divine love. Warmth is manifested through love, and love is achieved through turning towards Him. God willing, thou and the friends shall be enkindled by the fire of the Divine Lote-Tree, illumined by the light of recognition, and engaged in all conditions in service to the Cause. Today service to the divine Cause consists in making people aware of that which benefiteth them and deeds that cause the fire of hatred and animosity to be stilled in the hearts and minds of the various peoples.

Say: My God, my God! Praise be to Thee for having guided me, caused me to hear, given me to drink, and made me turn toward the court of Thy glory after the turning away of most of Thy creatures. I beseech Thee, O Possessor of the kingdoms of knowledge and wisdom, by Thy Name through which Thou didst subdue all possibility and by which the hearts of all religions were attracted, to assist me to make mention of Thee and to praise Thee with wisdom and utterance. O my Lord! Aid me and Thy loved ones to accomplish good deeds and righteousness. O my Lord! Thou seest me standing before the door of Thy generosity, clinging to the cord of Thy bounty. Ordain for me that which will cause me to be detached from all else but Thee and to hold fast to the ropes of Thy mercy and forgiveness. O my Lord! Ordain for me what Thou hast ordained for Thy chosen ones, then write down for me that which will draw me nigh unto Thee and strengthen me in Thy service. Verily Thou art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest. There is no God but Thee, the Forgiving, the Generous.

There hath been presented before the Wronged One that which thy son Ahmad—upon him be My glory—composed and recited before My face. We have answered him with verses that cannot be equaled by the treasures of the earth nor the wealth of all people. O Ahmad! We have heard how thou hast praised God, the Lord of the mighty throne, and We found in thy verses the fragrance of the love of God, the Goal of the mystics. We beseech Him to strengthen thee with the hosts of utterance, to aid thee in His remembrance, and to exalt thee through His name amongst His servants. Verily He is the All-Bountiful, the Powerful, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

Say: Praise be to Thee, O Ocean of Bounty, and thanksgiving be unto Thee, O Sun of Grace and Glory! I beseech Thee not to disappoint me of what Thou hast ordained for Thy chosen ones. Enable me to perform such deeds as are adorned with the glory of Thy acceptance. Then write down for me, O my God, that which will preserve me from the evil of Thy creatures and the doubts of Thy servants. Verily Thou art the Powerful, the All-Bounteous, the Mighty, the Great.

BH02851: By that Name that hath been raised…

By that Name that hath been raised from the most exalted horizon.

All praise befits the Desired One Who bestowed new life upon the withered servants, nay rather the dead ones, through the breathings of verses and the Kawthar of clear proofs, and Who made all things fresh and verdant through the breezes of the morn of His Revelation. He is the Powerful One Whom neither the might of the world nor the power of nations could deter from His purpose. Glorified be His dominion and exalted be His proof!

O Siyyid, formerly Mirza, hear what is raised from this Most Exalted Station. Verily it will attract thee and draw thee nigh unto God, the Lord of the worlds. Today the breathings of revelation are diffused, the banners of verses are unfurled, and the standards of guidance are manifest, yet the people remain heedless and veiled.

His honor, my brother, that is Asad, upon him be My Glory, has for some time been dwelling near the pavilions of grandeur and has been engaged in tending the garden. This service has been for the sake of God, as it is specially designated for the recreation of the friends and the chosen ones. Although through the oppression of the oppressors they have not found opportunity for recreation in the things of this earthly realm, yet as the intention was pure, the mystery of "were it not for thee" became manifest and evident from the essence of dust. We beseech God to cause all to attain to that which is the cause of the exaltation of existence and the advancement of souls. He is the One Who has power over whatsoever He willeth through His command "Be" and it is.

In any case, his honor my brother presented thy letter and this servant, present before His face, mentioned it all, and after its reading and perusal, this most wondrous and greatest Tablet was revealed from the heaven of the will of the Ancient King. Blessed is the ear that hath heard or heareth, and the eye that hath seen, and the hand that hath taken the Book of God, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting.

When thou hast drunk the choice wine of utterance from the cup of the bounty of thy Lord, the All-Merciful, say: O Lord of Religions! I beseech Thee by the Dawning-Places of Thy Revelation, the Manifestations of Thy Inspiration, and the Day-Springs of Thy verses, to aid this servant of Thine to such steadfastness as the clamor of the divines cannot prevent nor the shouting of the ignorant ones frighten. Verily Thou art powerful over what Thou willest. O my Lord! Thou seest the needy one hath made for the ocean of Thy generosity and the poor one for the sun of Thy grace. Ordain for him what beseemeth the heaven of Thy bounty and the sea of Thy munificence. Verily Thou art the Powerful, the Mighty, the Bestower. There is no God but Thee, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting.

BH02924: This day is the Day of God, and praise…

He is the One Who rules over all names.

This day is the Day of God, and praise and glorification belong to the Afnan and the loved ones, for they have girded up their loins with determination and have arisen to serve—an arising that knows no lassitude nor sitting.

O My Afnan, upon thee be My glory and loving-kindness! Thy letter reached the Most Holy Court. The sweet fragrances of love were wafted from it and diffused. Praise be to God Who confirmed thee, brought thee into His presence, caused thee to hear His sweetest call, and showed thee His Most Glorious Horizon. The days of thy presence in the court of the wronged ones are remembered. This remembrance shall never be erased from the divine Book and the ledger of the world. Blessed art thou and blessed is he who hath attained and loved thee for the sake of God, the Lord of the exalted Throne.

Convey to the loved ones of that land the greetings of the Wronged One. We beseech God to aid all to that which causeth the exaltation of the Word of God. Blessed is the soul that striveth to unite the hearts

and minds of the loved ones. Verily, he is among those who are nigh unto God in His mighty and praiseworthy Book. Praise be to God that oppression and wickedness have been transformed into righteousness and piety, and weapons into reform.

Say: My God, my God! Thou seest Thy Afnan and Thy loved ones in the hands of the oppressors among Thy creatures, who were so overcome with pride that they denied the parties of the world. But when the test came, they denied Thy right, disbelieved in Thy signs, broke Thy covenant and Thy testament, and disputed Thy proof. O Lord! Make known to them Thy straight path and Thy mighty Message. Verily, Thou art the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous.

O My Afnan, O Mahmud! Upon thee be the Glory of God, the Mighty, the Loving. The abominable Shi'ih party hath committed that which no oppressor hath ever committed. They martyred the Lord of existence while occupying themselves with cursing and reviling from their pulpits. We beseech God to seize them with His might or aid them to return unto Him. Verily, He is the Mighty, the Wise.

The Glory from Us be upon thee and upon those who are with thee and who hearken to thy words concerning the Cause of God, the Self-Subsisting, the Most High. The Tablets that were requested have been sent. We hope that they may drink from the Kawthar of the merciful utterances that which leadeth to everlasting steadfastness and eternal remembrance. Blessed are they that act, and blessed are they that know.

BH02920: O Bahram! The Day of Witnessing hath arrived…

In the name of the Persian Speaker!

O Bahram! The Day of Witnessing hath arrived. The sun decareth: "The All-Bountiful hath come!" And the heavens proclaim: "The All-Merciful hath come!" Today the light of the Sun of Truth hath encompassed the whole world. For the seas there is a new voice, for the books of knowledge a new name, for the mountains a new splendor, and for those who circle the point of adoration a new vesture and appearance. Blessed are those souls who, in this Day of Victory, have heard the call of the heavenly Friend and with pure and sanctified eyes set their faces towards His horizon.

The names mentioned in thy letter have each been illumined with the light of the utterance of the Desire of the world and remembered in His most holy court. Say: O Providence! O Most Kind! O King! O Succorer! Praise and laudation, gratitude and glory beseem Thee, for Thou hast deposited the treasure of recognition within the heart of man and raised up a precious existence from water and clay. Thou art the All-Powerful, Whom the power and might of men have failed to weaken, Whom the hosts of heedlessness and the armies of pride and affluence are powerless to deter from His purpose. When the darts of hate and rancor flew from all directions, Thou didst stand with perfect steadfastness and speak that which it beseemed Thee to say. The cruelty of Pharaoh did not prevent Thee from uttering Thy words, and the wrath of tyrants impeded not the execution of Thine all-pervasive will.

O Providence! Guide the high priests and assist them with the hosts of understanding and divine knowledge. Perchance they will guide Thy servants to the straight Path and deliver unto them the glad-tidings of the Great Announcement.

O Munificent One! Thy light is shining, Thy command compelling, and Thy wisdom pervading. Deprive not Thy loved ones of the ocean of Thy bounty, and write down and ordain for each one of them with the Pen of Thy loving-kindness that which is worthy of Thy grace in this Day. Thou art the Powerful. Thou art the Knowing, the Seeing.

O Providence! Enlighten the minds of the high priests that through their enlightenment they may awaken those who are fast asleep and guide them that have gone astray to the straight Path, until all become gathered beneath the shadow of the canopy of majesty and the tree of mercy, hearken unto that for which the faculty of hearing was called into being, and behold that for which the sense of vision was created. This Cause is Thy Cause. May all souls be offered up as a sacrifice to Thee.

BH02888: This is a Book which the All-Merciful hath sent…

He is the One Who speaks with justice in the Kingdom of utterance.

This is a Book which the All-Merciful hath sent down that it might draw the hearts of His servants to the horizon whence hath shone the Sun of divine knowledge, through a command from God, the Lord of all beings.

The Glory giveth glad-tidings unto all peoples, saying: Rejoice, O peoples of the earth, for the pavilion of glory hath been raised upon the highest ensigns and the canopies of grandeur upon a station whereof all beings are powerless to make mention.

We were walking in the house when thy praise arrived and that which proceeded from thy heart regarding this Most Great Remembrance whereby the nations were thunderstruck, save whom God, the Lord of lords, did will. We have heard what thou didst compose in praise of God and didst recite before the faces of His servants. Blessed art thou for having turned when the Call was raised and for having spoken in praise of thy Lord at eventide and at dawn. Blessed is the tongue that hath spoken in remembrance of the Truth and the hand that hath taken hold of the Book of God with power and authority.

Say: O peoples of the earth, fear ye God and follow not the daysprings of idle fancies and vain imaginings. We give you glad tidings of God's loving-kindness and grace, and make mention unto you of verses which, when revealed, perfumed all regions. Say: O heedless ones, do ye not see what hath appeared through My will and what My tongue hath uttered, and what had been hidden throughout all eternity hath been made manifest? Hearken unto the Call and cast aside what ye possess. By God! The heaven hath been cleft asunder and the Lord of Names hath come with power and sovereignty.

Thus hath moved the Most Exalted Pen in remembrance of His chosen ones whom neither the clamor of the world nor the hosts of the nations did frighten. These are the people of Baha in the crimson scroll. Thus hath the Tongue of Grandeur spoken in the prison of ʿAkka, through a command from the One Who is the Ordainer, the All-Compelling.

O My loved ones! Hear ye My call and then act in such wise as to exalt your stations in the world amidst all peoples. Beware lest the conditions of the world and its ornaments, its favors, its bounties and its colors hold you back from turning unto the Dawning-Place of God's revelation, the Lord of all men.

In closing, We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to give you to drink of His sealed wine through this Name through Whose manifestation the realities of all things were attracted and the Herald called out from the right side of the Most Exalted Paradise: The Kingdom belongeth unto God, the Possessor of this luminous Day. The Glory shining from the horizon of this heaven be upon you, O party of God, and upon those who have acted according to what they were commanded in the Book.

BH02856: All praise, sanctified from mention and description, beseemeth…

In His Name, Who doeth what He willeth and ordaineth what He pleaseth

All praise, sanctified from mention and description, beseemeth and befitteth the Desire of the worlds, Whom neither the opposition and objection of the peoples of the world could prevent, nor their acceptance and recognition could enhance in His station. He is the Almighty One Whom the might and power of princes cannot weaken, and Whom the rejection and denial of divines cannot withhold from His purpose. His is the bounty and the giving, His the remembrance and the glory. There is none other God but He, the Lord of all beings and the Lord of the throne on high and of earth below.

O Ali, upon thee be My glory and My loving-kindness! For a period beyond the reckoning of others We have outwardly made no mention of thee, and this hath been due to the requirements of divine wisdom, loving-kindness and compassion, for the heedless ones, the deniers and the opposers lie in wait to find some word and raise an uproar. I speak the truth—thou art remembered before Our presence and art the recipient of Our special favor. His power cannot be weakened by the denial of creation, nor can His sovereignty be erased by the fire of hatred. Reflect upon the penetrating influence of the Supreme Pen and the power of the Most Exalted Word. Its traces are manifest from every direction and its fruits evident from every quarter.

With one Pen We have engaged in the education of the peoples and the reformation of the world. Now matters have reached such a pass that from every region some news doth arrive and some effect is visible. Thou must needs, with wisdom and utterance, summon the servants to the Fountain of the Desire of all worlds. Hold fast unto wisdom and occupy thyself with service. Thy station with God is great—preserve it in His Name. The Cause of God is mighty—assuredly it shall encompass the world. In a Tablet to one of His loved ones these exalted words were revealed: Wherever We may be and whatever may befall Us, ye must occupy yourselves with the service of the Cause and the exaltation of His Word.

Soon shall the generality of mankind lament and bewail that which hath escaped them in this supreme Manifestation. With thy Lord is the knowledge of all things in His perspicuous Book. Make mention of the loved ones and give them the glad-tidings of the effulgences of the lights of the Day-Star of Divine Revelation. Soon shall they behold what hath been ordained for them from the presence of a Mighty, an Ancient Being.

BH02889: A Book sent down by the Wronged One…

He is God, exalted be His glory, the Wisdom and Utterance

A Book sent down by the Wronged One to His Afnan who believed in Him and His verses, who drank the choice wine of revelation from the cup of His bounty, who attained His presence and recognized His meeting, and who returned by His leave to his home as a mercy from Him and a favor from His presence. He is verily the Kind, the Generous. We beseech God to make the end of your affairs excellent and to send down upon you that which will transform sorrow into joy and grief into the Most Great Gladness. He is verily the Forgiving, the Merciful.

You have always been and continue to be remembered, and are favored with mention, attention and bounty. We must strive with complete determination to raise the blessed and goodly Word—which sometimes appears in human form, at times in the form of light, once in the image of the Tree, and another time in the likeness of the Sun—from earth to heaven, that people may be freed from the clay of idle fancies and vain imaginings and attain to what God has willed. His honor Haji Muhammad-Rida, upon him be My glory, mentioned you and sought bounty from the Wronged One for you. We beseech God to grant you every good thing He has sent down in His perspicuous Book. His honor Jalal, upon him be My glory, has been favored with the effulgences of the lights of the Daystar of permission, having repeatedly turned to Us and been illumined by Our presence and meeting. In truth he has rendered service from the earliest days until now. Should he return to you, gladden him with My mention and word of My good-pleasure.

O My Afnan! Upon you be My glory and loving-kindness. We have remembered his father and mother with a mention from which wafts the fragrance of gifts and favors. His companions were also specifically granted permission and bounty. Say: O Jalal! He does not allow to be lost the reward of the doers of good, the reward of those who act, and the reward of the reformers. God willing the world will be sanctified and purified from the darkness of rancor and hatred, that all may be illumined by the light of love and attain true tranquility.

My God, My God! Take the hands of Thy Afnan through Thy grace and bounty and Thy strength and power, and ordain for them that which will exalt them through Thy Name and make them ensigns of Thy guidance amongst Thy creation. Thou art verily the Powerful, the Mighty, the All-Bountiful.

The glory shining forth from the horizon of the heaven of bounty be upon you, O Afnans of the Tree, and upon those who are with you and who love you and who hear your words concerning the Cause of God, the Mighty, the Praised.

BH02853: Praise be to the Lord of Eternity, Who illumined…

Praise be to the Lord of Eternity, Who illumined hearts and minds with the lights of His Most Great Name and guided them to His straight path and His mighty announcement. Upon the near ones He placed the crown of “The Kingdom is God’s” and adorned them with the ornament of “I possess for myself neither benefit nor harm, neither life nor resurrection.” He is the Sovereign of existence and the Lord of the seen

and unseen. Through His exalted Word He conquered the people of the kingdoms of righteousness and piety, and through the radiance of the Sun of Truth He made them bright and illumined.

O Muhammad-Qabil-Baqir! Praise the Goal of the world that thou hast attained the honor of His presence and drunk from the cup of meeting Him. His grace is like unto the manifest and shining sun, and His bounty encompasses all. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to assist thee to achieve the most great steadfastness. Verily, He is the Lord of creation. There is no God but Him, the Mighty, the Powerful, the Bestower.

Convey the greetings of the Wronged One to the friends in that land and gladden them with the lights of the utterance of the Goal of all worlds. O My friends and loved ones! The Most Exalted Pen counsels you to righteousness and piety, trustworthiness and religious devotion, truthfulness and sincerity. Whatsoever hath appeared from the oppressors hath been and is the cause of the exaltation of His blessed Word.

O thou who hast turned to God! Give glad tidings to the people of that land with the mention of this Wronged One. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, once again, to make His loved ones the standards of His guidance and the banners of His victory. Verily, He is powerful over all things. The purpose of victory and triumph in all Tablets is wisdom and utterance, for these two are the hosts of Truth and are ordained to open the doors of hearts and minds. Blessed is he who hath forsaken corruption and taken hold of reformation by the command of the Ancient Ordainer.

My God, my God! Strengthen the hearts of Thy loved ones in such wise that the hosts of the heedless and the denial of the opposers shall not weaken them. Verily, Thou art the Mighty, the Supreme over all who are in the heavens and the earth. The glory be upon thee and upon thy son who was named Muhammad Aqa. We testify that he hath drunk the cup of immortality from the hands of bounty and hath attained unto that which was revealed in the Books of God, the Lord of the worlds. Praise be to God, the Lord of the Day of Judgment.

BH02909: This is a Day wherein the countenance of Justice…

In the Name of the one true God!

This is a Day wherein the countenance of Justice hath smiled, inasmuch as His Majesty the Sultan—may God assist him—hath been established upon the throne of grace. We testify that in his days he desireth naught save the development of the countries and the betterment of the affairs of the servants. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to protect him from the evil of his enemies and to exalt him through His sovereignty amidst His creation. O Shams, thy mention hath been made before the Wronged One. We beseech God to aid all to be trustworthy and religious, and to perform good deeds and display praiseworthy conduct. Verily He is the Hearing, the Answering, and worthy to respond.

Thou didst make mention of Suleyman. It is quite clear and evident that this Wronged One hath loved and doth love to meet with the friends. However, the cause and reason for prevention hath been and is the fire of jealousy of the opposers and deniers. Therefore in these days We have paused in giving permission for mention. Convey My greetings unto him, and let him remember God and say:

My God, my God! Praise be to Thee for having guided me unto Thy path, illumined my heart with the light of Thy knowledge, and honored me with Thy unity. I beseech Thee by the mysteries of Thy Book and the detachment of Thy Beloved and the steadfastness of His family and companions in support of Thy Cause, to assist me in Thy remembrance and praise and to enable me to perform that which Thou hast commanded me in Thy Book. Verily Thou art the Almighty, the Mighty, the All-Bountiful, the Bestower, the Forgiving, the Generous.

O Wronged One! I love to remember Thee as we remembered Thee before. This Wronged One hath at all times sought for the friends that which changeth not and which no extinction can seize. We beseech God to protect His servants from the evil of self and passion and transgression and immorality, and to grant them success and aid in righteousness and piety. He is the Powerful, the Mighty, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

Convey My greetings to the friends. We beseech the Lord of existence to aid them to observe the fast and prayer in this blessed month. Let them not be lazy like some Babis and remain without deeds. The Son of Mary hath said that a servant without deeds is like a tree without fruit, and a tree without fruit is fit for the fire. Peace be upon thee, O Shams, and upon those with thee and upon God's sincere servants. Praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH02855: In the Name of our Goal and the Goal…

In the Name of our Goal and the Goal of all who are in the heavens and on the earth

Praise, sanctified above mention by the Kingdom and description by the denizens of the Realm of Might, befitteth and beseemeth the Lord of the Divine Realm, Who through the Most Great Name raised high the Standard of "Verily I am the Lord of Ancient Days" before the faces of all peoples, and through His prevailing, conquering Will hoisted the Banner of "Verily He is God" upon the supreme horizon of hearts and minds, and from the treasuries of the Supreme Pen caused the pearls of wisdom and utterance to appear with such light and radiance that every possessor of vision and justice, beholding them, purified himself from the world and all who dwell therein and turned toward the peerless Friend. Glorified be His grandeur, exalted be His dominion, and glorious be His proof. There is no God but Him. Glory be to God! In this age the arena of the world hath become the supreme horizon through the light of the manifestation of the Lord of Destiny, and yet the worshippers of names remain debarred from beholding and deprived of witnessing it.

My God, my God! I beseech Thee by Thyself and by Thy power and sovereignty, and by the lights of the throne of Thy grandeur, and by the breezes of Thy revelation and the fragrances of Thy robe, and by the waves of the ocean of Thy grace amidst Thy servants, and by the manifestations of the sun of Thy justice for the ordering of Thy realm and the reformation of the affairs of Thy creation, to assist me and Thy servants to cling to the hem of the robe of Thy mercy and forgiveness, and to aid us to manifest weakness before the revelations of Thy power, and to return unto the gate of Thy bounty and the threshold of Thy grace. Verily Thou art the One Who hath power over whatsoever He willeth, and in Thy grasp are the reins of all who are in the heavens and earths.

The letter of that soul which was addressed to this servant was presented at the Most Holy Court after being seen, perused and read, and this is what the Lord of all mankind hath revealed in reply, exalted be His glory and mighty be the waves of the ocean of His utterance amongst His servants:

In My Name, the Light Shining from the Heaven of Bounty

Praise be to God Who hath subdued all in the realm of possibility through the sword of wisdom and utterance, and hath sent down from the heaven of inner meanings that which attracted the hearts of all religions, and hath manifested the mysteries that were treasured in the shells of the ocean of His name, the All-Bountiful. Verily He was and is powerful and supreme over what shall be and what hath been. There is no God but Him, the Single, the One, the Mighty, the Powerful, the All-Judging.

BH03042: O thou who soarest in My atmosphere, who gazest…

He is the Answerer ere the call is raised

O thou who soarest in My atmosphere, who gazest upon Mine horizon, and who hast turned thy face toward the lights of My countenance! Hear thou My call again and again, for verily it draweth thee unto a horizon from which hath dawned the Sun of the bounty of thy Lord, the Lord of the Day of Reckoning. The decree of the Trumpet hath appeared, the people of the graves have arisen, and He Who was hidden hath come with the standards of His signs.

Thy letter hath come before the Wronged One. We have inhaled from it the fragrance of thy sincerity and thy turning unto Him, when the servants turned away save those whom God, the Lord of creation, did will. We have ordained for those who are nigh what will draw them near unto the Most Great Sea, whose waves have appeared before the faces of religions. We have heard thy call and have answered thee with that which shall endure as long as the Kingdom of God, the Lord of Lords, shall endure.

When thou soarest on the wings of knowledge in the atmosphere of the love of the All-Merciful and drinkest the choice wine of utterance from the cup of the bounty of the Lord of all possibilities, say:

Glory be unto Thee, O my God! Praise be unto Thee for having guided me unto the ocean of Thy grace, and caused me to hear Thy most sweet call from Thy most exalted horizon, and shown me the traces of Thy Pen, and manifested unto me what was hidden in Thy knowledge. I beseech Thee, O my God, my Lord and my Master, by the Ark that moveth upon the sea of names through Thy will, and by the Light that hath shone forth from the horizon of the heaven of Thy bounty, and by the Tree that was revealed unto the Son of Imran on the Mount of Thy knowledge, to confirm me in steadfastness in Thy Most Ancient Cause and Thy Most Great News, whereby the feet of the nations have slipped save those whom Thou hast preserved through Thy power, Thy sovereignty, Thy majesty and Thy might.

O Lord! Thou seest me turning toward Thee, seeking the gate of Thy bounty, and beseeching Thy ancient pardon and Thy all-embracing generosity. O Lord! I am he who hastened unto the sea of Thy verses and attained the light of certitude upon beholding the lights of Thy countenance, and took for myself a station near unto Thy mercy. O Lord! I beseech Thee by the Most Great Word whereby Thou hast subdued all who are in earth and heaven, that Thou disappoint not him who is in need from the revelations of the

lights of the Sun of Thy riches, and ordain for me that which shall abide with me in every world of Thy worlds. Verily Thou art the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous. There is none other God but Thee, the Commander, the All-Knowing.

BH02952: This Wronged One hath from the earliest days until…

In the name of the All-Powerful Speaker!

This Wronged One hath from the earliest days until now been afflicted with tribulations and hardships at the hands of enemies, to such an extent as is beyond reckoning or limitation. Those who were shown the utmost favor—that is, those who were ignorant and were enabled to attain the ocean of knowledge, those who were poor and found their way to the horizon of wealth, those who in a few short years attained pure and holy blessings—were in the end so deceived by outward ornaments that they deviated from the straight path and engaged in unseemly deeds and actions. It was observed that the words and deeds of these souls would cause great corruption. Therefore, solely to preserve the Cause, the command to depart was issued.

Later they proceeded to the great city and committed that which caused the very essence of truth to weep and the hearts of the chaste maidens in the most exalted Paradise to burn. The divine counsels had no effect upon them. They abandoned righteousness and piety and occupied themselves with tyranny and depravity. By the life of God! There hath befallen Us that which hath caused every possessor of heart and vision and conscience to lament.

Say: My God, my God! Praise be to Thee for having guided me to the ocean of Thy bounty and for having remembered me in the prison when I was wronged at the hands of Thy servants. I beseech Thee, O Illuminator of the horizons and the One manifest on the Day of Meeting, by Thy Name through which the back of hypocrisy was broken, to assist me to be steadfast in Thy Cause and Thy love. O Lord! Deprive not Thy thirsty servant of the Kawthar of Thy grace, nor the poor one of the treasury of Thy generosity and bounty.

O Lord! Thou seest Thy servants who turned away from Thee after having turned towards Thee, and were deceived by their wealth until they denied Thy right and rejected Thy favors and cast aside Thy gifts. O Lord! I beseech Thee by Thy sovereignty which hath encompassed all things, seen and unseen, to aid them to return unto Thee and to seek forgiveness before the gate of Thy pardon and to turn in repentance before the throne of Thy bounty.

O Lord! Ordain for me all the good Thou hast sent down in Thy Book. Verily Thou art the Almighty, before Whose power the might of the world and the traces of nations were obliterated at the manifestation of Thy traces. There is no God but Thee, the All-Bountiful, the All-Generous, the Almighty, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

BH02996: The springtime of utterance has come, and the signs…

He is the All-Bountiful, the Possessor of Great Grace!

The springtime of utterance has come, and the signs of mercy and generosity have appeared from the April showers of God's loving-kindness, the Lord of all worlds. This is the Day whereon the tongue of existence speaks:

> "O my Lord! Deny me not the rain-showers from the heaven of Thy bounty, and deprive me not of the effulgences of the Orb of Thy bestowal. I beseech Thee, O Lord of the worlds, by Thy Most Great Name, to ordain for me every good thing Thou hast sent down in Thy Manifest Book. There is no God but Thee, the Forgiving, the All-Bountiful."

O thou who gazest upon the Countenance! In these days all things are engaged in joy and gladness, and are holding fast to the means of delight and attraction. A great festival is established—God willing, may all attain unto it. Blessed and great is this Day. Well is it with the soul that has acquired lofty stations and attained unto eternal life.

Praise be to God, that honored one has ever been and continues to be successful in spreading the divine verses. Convey My greetings to the friends. All are mentioned in the presence of this Wronged One. We counsel everyone to observe trustworthiness and godliness, and whatsoever God hath revealed in His Manifest Book. That honored one should set souls ablaze with the warmth of divine love and strengthen them in that which is befitting. Perchance through your efforts and those of the loved ones, the hidden rancor and hatred in the breasts of the various groups may be stilled and quieted by the Kawthar of counsel and utterance, and the point of unity may shine forth from the horizon of the Mother Book and adorn all directions with the light of accord.

Thou hast ever been and continues to be mentioned before this Wronged One. Say: O friends! Know ye the value of these days. Today the world is illumined by the light of the Divine Manifestation and the Mount is gladdened by His presence. Blessed are they who have attained unto this most great favor. The saplings of existence seek sustenance—they must be nourished at all times from the Kawthar of utterance, that all may appear and become manifest with delicate, radiant leaves and pure, sweet fruits. Bounty is in His hand and generosity is in His mighty grasp. He hath ordained for you that which will bring joy to the eyes and gladden the hearts. Verily thy Lord is the All-Bounteous, the Generous.

Peace and mercy be upon thee and upon those who are with thee and love thee for the sake of God, the Lord of the Mighty Throne.

BH03041: O My Afnan! Upon thee be My grace, My…

He is the One Who is manifest through justice and Who beholds through grace

O My Afnan! Upon thee be My grace, My mercy and My loving-kindness. The absolute Will and the penetrating Purpose of God, glorified be His majesty, hath unveiled what was hidden in hearts, that all might recognize and become aware of the Dawning-Place of sanctity and the Dayspring of holiness. One whom We sheltered for forty years beneath the canopies of the Most Great Mercy hath arisen to waste the Cause of God—the waters of all the world could not quench the fire of his rancor. Praise be to God, those who claimed knowledge and truth—from them appeared that which every person of insight hath testified and doth testify to their oppression, transgression, betrayal and falsehood. The originators of

these transgressions and calumnies were Shaykh Muhammad of Yazd and the resident of the island. Indeed, such wickedness hath appeared as hath no likeness or equal.

Whenever a seeker sets out for the Most Great Goal, they soil his pure hem with the dust of calumnies. For a time they spread rumors that Mirza Abu'l-Qasim the Custodian had stolen funds and gone to ʿAkka. And some time before, when his eminence Afnan H, upon him be My glory and loving-kindness, turned towards this land, after sending a telegram they reported that the aforementioned person had stolen ninety liras and some papers and departed. Furthermore, that which the Star (Akhtar) wrote before and after—his eminence is aware of it. They are entirely bereft of justice, fairness, truthfulness and trustworthiness.

In any case, the Hand of Power hath revealed that which was concealed. We beseech God to protect His loved ones from the whisperings of the heedless.

His eminence Ism-i-Jud, upon him be My glory, hath repeatedly mentioned you. His love for the Branches and Afnans of the Blessed Tree is manifest and evident like the sun. Grieve not over anything. Soon God will exalt His Cause and honor His loved ones and open before their faces the gates of His bounty and generosity. Verily He hath power over all things. The radiant, gleaming light be upon thee and upon those with thee and upon those who hearken to thy word concerning the Great News of God.

BH02960: All praise befitteth the Desired One Who…

All praise befitteth the Desired One Who, from the clouds of loving-kindness, hath showered the rain of mercy upon blessed and goodly soil….

O Husayn! O thou Preceptor! From His Most Great Prison, the countenance of the Ancient of Days is turned towards thee, and He teacheth thee that which will draw thee nigh unto God, the Lord of mankind. Blessed is that teacher who shall arise to instruct the children, and to guide the people into the pathways of God, the Bestower, the Well-Beloved…

O Mahmud! The Promised One hath come and that which was hidden in God's knowledge, the Lord of all worlds, hath been made manifest. We raised up from the letter Kha one who gave the people the glad tidings of this Revelation through which the Herald proclaimed: "The Kingdom belongeth unto God, the Mighty, the All-Praised." We manifested Ahmad (of Azghand) and sent forth Muhammad (Furughi) that they might give glad tidings to the peoples of earth and heaven of this resplendent and manifest Light. We had mentioned them before in verses that brought joy to the eyes of them that know….

At this moment the tongue of My loving-kindness maketh mention of him who sought My presence with My leave, entered the gate of My majesty, heard My sweet call and the scratching of My Most Exalted Pen. He was named Javan-i-Ruhani by God, the Almighty, the All-Powerful….

O Muhammad-Qabli! Today Carmel hath attained the presence of God, and every possessor of vision and hearing is blessed with beholding and hearkening. Glory be to God! The mysteries of the Resurrection and the signs of the Hour are all manifest, yet veiled from minds and understanding. Say: Praise be unto Thee, O my God, for having revealed unto me that which Thou hadst veiled from most of Thy servants. I

beseech Thee to make me steadfast in Thy Cause, firm, unshakeable and mighty. Verily, Thou art the Most Powerful of the powerful ones….

BH03046: O beloved! On this day the Greater Branch attained…

He is the Composer of Hearts

O beloved! On this day the Greater Branch attained the presence and presented your letter before the Face. These luminous verses were sent down from the heaven of the All-Merciful's will that you might read and rejoice and be among the thankful ones. By the life of God! There lies concealed in the utterance of the Supreme Pen a Kawthar such that were souls to attain but a drop thereof, all would attain eternal life, and were they to behold the hidden pearls therein, verily they would with their outward and inward tongues proclaim the blessed word "The Intended One hath come with manifest sovereignty."

O beloved! Upon thee be the glory of God, the Lord of the mighty throne. The smoke of ignorance hath deprived the servants from the shore of the divine ocean of knowledge. Beseech thou God to transform the smoke into light, that it may increase the power of vision of the servants and all may witness that for which they were created from nothingness into being. According to what was mentioned, afflictions have also befallen you from the oppressors—you have shared in the tribulations of the loved ones of the Throne. Blessed art thou for what hath befallen thee in the path of God from the transgressing among His servants.

Say: My God, my God! Thou didst say, and Thy word is the truth:

> "Were it not for tribulations in My path, how would the station of My lovers and those who yearn for Me become manifest? And were it not for calamities in My love, how would the position of those who seek Me be revealed?"

Praise be to God that thou hast shared in tribulations with His loved ones. This is from God's bounty unto thee. If sorrow hath come upon you, joy was also witnessed and was with you. And he is an Afnan, M.H., upon him be My glory and My loving-kindness. Verily His mercy hath preceded and His grace hath encompassed. He is the Mighty, the All-Bountiful.

We make mention of the Afnans of the Sacred Tree and give them glad-tidings of special favors. Jinab-i-Fadl and Abdul-Karim, upon them be My glory, My loving-kindness and My mercy, have repeatedly mentioned the tribulations that befell in the cities of ʿAyn and Shin, and answers were repeatedly sent. In truth they strove with perfect steadfastness and love to establish truth and vanquish falsehood. Their reward is with God, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting. Verily we are God's and to Him we return.

BH02995: The Day is come and the people are…

He is the All-Witnessing, the All-Informed

The Day is come and the people are in manifest veils. The Truth hath appeared and creation is in great denial. The Light hath shone forth from the horizon of manifestation and mankind is in thick delusion. O

concourse of men! The Lord of Destiny remembereth you from the direction of His Most Great Scene. Draw nigh and be not of them that hesitate. This is the Day of proof, were ye of them that know, and this is the Day of recognition, were ye of them that are certain. This is the Day whereon the Speaker of the Mount speaketh upon the throne of manifestation. Blessed is he who hath heard and believed, and woe unto every sinful denier.

O Husayn Baba, his honor Siyyid Taqi forwarded thy letter to the Most Holy Court where it attained the hearing of the Wronged One. Say: My God, my God! How can I remember Thee, after knowing that my remembrance befitteth not the court of Thy might nor ascendeth to the atmosphere of Thy holiness? I beseech Thee, O Thou the Purpose of the world and Beloved of the nations, by Thy Name through which Thou didst subdue the land and sea and illumined the hearts of creation, and by the power of Thy Pen and the influence of Thy Will, to assist Thy servants in Manshad to turn unto the path of guidance. Verily Thou art the Lord of the servants and Master of creation.

O my Lord! Enable its learned ones to turn unto Thee and to turn away from all else besides Thee. Then send down upon them that which will draw them to the court of Thy might and the carpet of Thy nearness. O my Lord! They are Thy servants and Thy creation. Vain imaginings and idle fancies have prevented them from drawing nigh unto Thy Self-Subsisting Name. I beseech Thee by Thy Key wherewith Thou hast opened the doors of hearts, to transform their remoteness into nearness, their sorrow into joy, their ignorance into knowledge, and their darkness into light. Verily Thou art the Lord of the Manifestation and the Sovereign of the seen and unseen. I testify, O my God, to Thy power and might, and I acknowledge that which Thou hast sent down from Thy Most Exalted Pen in Thy Books.

Ordain for me and for them that which will illumine us with the lights of the Daystar of Thy utterance, then preserve us from the promptings of self and passion, and adorn us with justice and the fear of God. Verily Thou art the Lord of all mankind and the Lord of the last and the first. There is none other God but Thee, the All-Merciful, the All-Bountiful.

BH03012: This is a Book that speaketh the truth…

In the Name of Him Who spoke upon Sinai from the Throne of Revelation!

This is a Book that speaketh the truth and bringeth glad tidings to the world through the Most Great Name, Who hath come from the horizon of power with the banners of verses and with manifest sovereignty. When the appointed time was come, He appeared with the truth and revealed that which was treasured in the knowledge of God and concealed from the eyes of them that are nigh. The affairs of men hindered Him not, nor did the oppression of such as denied the Day of Judgment frighten Him. Nothing escapeth His knowledge. He doeth what He willeth and ordaineth what He pleaseth. He is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

O thou who gazeth upon the Countenance and standeth before the Throne! Hear thou the call of Him Who hath been wronged. He turneth toward thee from the precincts of the Prison and maketh mention of thee with verses that equal not the ornaments and treasures of the earth. The Tongue of Grandeur

beareth witness to this from His exalted station. Thy letter was presented and one of My Branches read it. We answer thee as a token of grace from God, the Almighty, the All-Powerful.

We have heard thy call and that wherewith thou didst commune with God, the Lord of the Glorious Throne. Blessed art thou for having turned toward the horizon of Revelation, and for not having been hindered by the events of the world nor by the clamor of the nations who have violated God's Covenant and Testament, and have committed that which hath caused the Daysprings of Revelation to lament and the Spirit to wail in His glorious station.

We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to aid thee and to assist thee with the hosts of utterance, and to protect thee from the oppression of such as have cast the Command of God behind their backs, following the ways of the ignorant ones. When thou art blessed to hear My call and read My Tablet, say:

> "My God, my God! Praise be to Thee for having guided me unto Thy path, illumined my heart with the light of Thy knowledge, and caused me to hear Thy sweet call as it was raised betwixt earth and heaven, and shown me the traces of Thy Pen in the world of creation. O my Lord! Thou seest me turning toward Thee and holding fast to the cord of Thy grace. I beseech Thee not to deprive me of that which Thou hast ordained for Thy chosen ones and Thy loved ones. Then write down, O my God, that which will aid me in all the worlds of Thy worlds and will profit me through Thy bounty and generosity. Verily, Thou art the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous. There is none other God but Thee, the Mighty, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise."

We counsel thee to observe wisdom in all circumstances, lest the clamor of such as observe and deny be raised. Verily, we are God's, and to Him shall we return.

BH03062: Lawh-i-Amvaj (Tablet of the Waves)

He is the Bearer of Glad-Tidings, the Compassionate, the All-Bountiful.

Today the Mother Book proclaims before the faces of all parties the remembrance of the beginning and the end. In truth, these are days the like of which have never been seen before nor shall be seen again. Blessed are those souls whom the chains of the people did not prevent from the Truth—they stand firm upon the path and are adorned with trustworthiness and righteousness, which are among the requirements of the fear of God.

His honor [Abdallah], upon him be My glory and loving-kindness, has turned towards the regions of the friends and, with perfect seeking and excellent entreaty, has beseeched from the heaven of grace and bounty for each one that which is the cause and reason for eternal mention and everlasting praise. Therefore the ocean of utterance with the waves of proof and grace of the Desired One of all worlds has appeared—each wave speaking a remembrance.

The first wave proclaims: O concourse of friends! You are present in days whose mention adorns most of the books of the world. Today you must appear with the light of unity in such wise that all the world, from East to West, may be illumined by that light.

And the second wave proclaims: O people! The goodliest vesture in the sight of God in this day is trustworthiness. All bounty and honor shall be the portion of the soul that arrayeth itself with this greatest of adornments.

And the third wave proclaims: Blessed are ye, O people of Baha! It behooveth you to manifest that whereby His Essence will be sanctified from similitudes and likenesses, and His Reality purified from what hath been said and related.

And the fourth wave proclaims: O concourse of the loved ones! Set aside that which degradeth you and take up that which exalteth you through this Name whereby the fragrance of God, the Mighty, the Supreme, the Self-Subsisting, hath wafted.

Glory be unto Thee, O my God, my Lord and my Support! Protect Thy friends from the evil of Thine enemies, then assist them with the hosts of Thy power and Thy sovereignty, then make their every deed a lamp amidst the deeds of those on earth, that darkness may be changed to light. Verily Thou art the Master of Revelation and the Ruler on the Day of Resurrection. There is none other God but Thee, the Truth, the Knower of the unseen.

BH03059: Praise be to God, Who, through the sovereignty…

He is the Expounder, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

Praise be to God, Who, through the sovereignty of His Will, created the Israfal of utterance and bade him sound the trumpetâ€“and he is none other than My Most Exalted Pen. Thereupon were the heavens and the earth transformed, and men and women were struck with dread, save such as God, the Lord of all lords, hath willed. Then, when the pearls of knowledge and wisdom shone forth from the treasuries of the Pen of God, the Lord of creation, the seas were stirred, the fragrance of power was wafted abroad, the mountains passed away, the mysteries were revealed, and they that were in their graves arose. Thus hath the decree and the judgment gone forth from God, the Ordainer, the Chooser.

And blessings and peace rest upon the Hands of His Cause and the Words of His Book. We bear witness that they are of the people of Baha and the companions of the Crimson Ark which My Herald foretold by a command from God, the Lord of the Day of Return.

O Muhammad, upon thee be My Glory [Baha] and My loving-kindness! He who appeared before My face and soared in My atmosphere and drank the choice wine of reunion from the hand of My bounty hath made mention of thee. We make mention of thee through this mention at whose appearance all mentions and mysteries and lights did bow down in submission, and the Tongue of Grandeur did speak forth in the Most Great Prison:

> “Expression belongeth unto God, the Lord of the Sacred Place and Station!”

Blessed art thou in that thou didst follow guidance from God and didst turn unto Him when most of the servants turned away. We praise God, exalted be He, in that He aided thee to acknowledge that which He hath sent down in the Sacred Scrolls and Books and Tablets.

Take hold of the Book of God with a strength from Him, then make mention to the servants at all times. Say: O people! Fear ye God and deny not the Truth and His sovereignty. Turn with radiant faces unto God, the Revealer of verses. Blessed is the servant who did glorify on My behalf the remnant of the family of the martyrs in the Land of Ya and who performed that which is befitting in this blessed, mighty, and luminous Day.

Say: My God, my God! Praise be unto Thee for having remembered me in the prison of ʿAkka and for having sent down unto me that which did solace the eyes of Thy chosen servants. I beseech Thee to assist me in the service of Thy Cause and to enable me to do that which befitteth these days. 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.

BH03155: O My handmaiden! O companion! Today the world…

He is the All-Bountiful, the All-Generous

O My handmaiden! O companion! Today the world of existence is perfumed with the fragrant breezes of divine revelation, and the realm of the seen and unseen is illumined by the light of the Day-Star of manifestation. Blessed are the leaves of the Divine Lote-Tree who have attained to the lights of this Day and acted according to what is befitting. Happy are they!

O Fatimah! This Wronged One hath turned toward thee from the precincts of the prison. Give thanks unto thy Lord for this great bounty and this wise remembrance. We beseech God to make the leaves steadfast in His Cause in such wise that the winds of discord from the people of dissension may not tear them away or sever them from the Tree.

O Jewel! At this moment, from the Treasury of divine favor, this goodly word hath appeared—take hold of it with the power and sovereignty that is from Him, and be thou among the thankful in the days of thy Lord, the Forgiving, the Generous.

O Zahra! The expanse of the world is illumined by the light of godliness. The hosts of God this day are goodly deeds and praiseworthy character traits, and the commander of these hosts is the fear of God. Blessed is the handmaiden who hath held fast to the cord of godliness and acted according to what she was bidden in the Book of God, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

O Rabab! Today the true rebab is warbling through the movement of the divine finger—its melody giveth life and reneweth the soul. However, an ear worthy of hearkening to this melody is as rare as red sulfur. We beseech God to cause His handmaidens to attain unto the hearing of this call. Verily, He hath power over all things.

O Khadijah! Reflect upon Khadijah of a former time. Neither wealth nor property, neither blame nor persecution prevented her from God. She sacrificed her life and gave freely of her wealth. This is the station of that blessed leaf in the divine paradise.

O Kawkab, My handmaiden! Praise be to God that thou hast attained unto the mention of the Lord of all mention. We counsel thee and all handmaidens to observe supreme chastity and the most great purity,

and to that which will exalt your mention and your names amongst the servants and the loved ones. The glory from Us be upon My servants and My loved ones, and upon the Hands of My Cause whom God hath made the guides of His creation in His realm and the lamps of His Cause in His lands. Verily, He is the All-Bountiful, the Compassionate, the Mighty, the Great.

BH03093: Praise sanctified from mention and utterance befitteth the Goal…

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

Praise sanctified from mention and utterance befitteth the Goal of all contingent beings, Who through a single drop from the ocean of His bounty brought the world of existence into being, and adorned absolute nothingness with the ornament of being. He is the One with power before Whose might the tongues of all created things bear witness, and in the presence of Whose revelations of grandeur all are found submissive. Glorified be His might, glorified be His majesty, and glorified be His dominion. There is no God but Him. Blessings and peace be upon His Beloved, through Whom the celestial spheres were created and through Whom appeared the hidden and treasured mysteries concealed within the ocean of His knowledge, exalted be He, and upon His family and companions, whom He made lamps of guidance among the servants and standards of His signs throughout all lands—blessings whose fragrance shall never cease and whose light shall never set.

And now, thy letter was received. Praise be to God, the fragrance of love was wafted from it. Thou hast ever been remembered before the Wronged One and still art. We beseech God, the Lord of the throne and earth, and the Sovereign of the hereafter and this world, to assist you in His remembrance and praise and to open before your faces the doors of goodly deeds. Verily He is the Sender down of verses and the Revealer of clear proofs.

Jamal Effendi hath been adorned with praiseworthy and pleasing characteristics. We met with him several times. Praise be to God, he hath arisen to make good what was lost. Convey greetings to him from this Wronged One. We have counseled him with that which God hath counseled His servants in His perspicuous Book. God willing, from this good earth will spring forth good flowers. We beseech God to make him successful in all conditions in that which He loveth and is pleased with.

Convey greetings from the Wronged One to Kamal, and likewise to the mother and sister, upon whom be God's peace and loving-kindness. We beseech God to bring about circumstances that will be the cause of joy and gladness for all. The sister of Mirza is remembered before the Wronged One. We beseech for her divine confirmation and assistance. Bounty is in God's hand, and loving-kindness is in His grasp and power. We beseech Him to ordain for His loved ones that which will bring joy to their eyes and gladness to their hearts. Verily He hath power over all things and is worthy to answer prayer.

The perfume did not arrive. God willing, another will be sent.

BH03172: O Maryam, upon thee be the Glory of God…

He is the Hearing, the Answering One!

O Maryam, upon thee be the Glory of God, the Lord of Eternity! Thou didst seek forgiveness from the heaven of divine will. Verily He hath forgiven thee, and at thy mention the ocean of forgiveness did surge. Blessed art thou for having turned unto God, hearkened unto His call, and attained unto His verses. Thy Lord is verily the Mighty, the Helper, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

We have desired to make mention of thy daughter who was named Khadijih, upon the pathway of thy Lord, the Forgiving, the Generous. O Khadijah! Remember thy Lord and say:

> "Praise be unto Thee, O Lord of Eternity, for having turned unto Thy handmaiden and remembered her with a remembrance whereby the hearts of them that are nigh unto Thee were attracted."

O My handmaiden! Take My Book with a strength from Me and place thy trust in Him, then remember Him throughout the nights and days. Thus have We taught thee and commanded thee with that which shall be with thee in every world of the worlds of thy Lord, the Mighty, the Powerful.

O My handmaiden, O Fatimih! Thou hast been mentioned before the Wronged One, and there hath been sent down for thee from the heaven of the generosity of the Lord of Eternity that whose fragrance shall not be cut off and whose traces the passage of centuries and ages shall not efface. It behooveth thee to say:

> "Praise be unto Thee, O God of existence and Lord of the seen and unseen, for having remembered me in Thy prison. I testify that Thou art the All-Bountiful, the Forgiving, the Generous."

O Sahib! Thou hast been mentioned in the Most Holy Court and hast attained unto that for the recognition of which all have been brought from nothingness into being. Blessed is the handmaiden who hath attained and believed in God, the Lord of all worlds. And woe unto the handmaiden who hath turned away and been transformed into the likeness of her kind. Verily she is of the deniers in My perspicuous Book.

O Sultan! The All-Merciful maketh mention of thee with that which attracteth the hearts of the sincere ones. We have remembered thee and those who have believed in God, the One, the All-Informed. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to draw you nigh unto Him in every world of His worlds and to ordain for you that whereby your names shall endure on a Tablet that hath shone forth from the horizon of the luminary of God's loving-kindness—the One, the Single, the Mighty, the Great.

And We make mention of My handmaidens there and give them the glad-tidings of this bounty that hath encompassed all created things and this remembrance that hath preceded all existing things. Verily He is the Mighty, the All-Compelling over all who are in earth and heaven.

BH03118: In My Name, the Wronged One, the Stranger

In My Name, the Wronged One, the Stranger

Amidst the midst of tribulations We call upon the Lord of all beings and say: The wolves of abasement have surrounded Us from all directions—where is the light of Thy glory, O Thou Goal of them that know? And sorrows have encompassed Us—where is the lamp of Thy resplendent Name, O Thou Beloved of those in the heavens and on earth? Thou seest, O Goal of the world, what hath befallen Thy loved ones through the tyranny of Thine enemies—where is the sun of Thy justice, O Thou in Whose grasp is the dominion of the world and in Whose right hand is the reins of every wise command? O Lord! Thou hearest the howling of the enemies and what they say in Thy days—where are the manifestations of Thy sovereignty, O Thou in Whose hands are the reins of all in the kingdom of command and creation and the affairs of the first and the last?

O thou who gazest upon the Countenance! We have heard thy cry and have answered thee with this wondrous Tablet. If thou wouldst turn to Me with the ear of thine inmost nature, thou wouldst hear the lamentation of My heart and the crying of My soul at what hath befallen them that are nigh unto God.

I beseech Thee, O Lord of the Kingdom of Names, by Thy Most Great and Most Glorious Name, to aid Thy loved ones to such steadfastness as no intimations of the ungodly who have cast behind them Thy proof and Thy testimony, clinging to the idle fancies of the heedless, shall prevent them. O Lord! Thou seest how the Light hath been prevented from its radiance, and the Sun from its brightness, and the Ocean from its waves, through what the hands of the oppressors have wrought. I beseech Thee, O Cleaver of the Dawn, by the Lamp which the tempestuous winds have surrounded, to send down upon Thy chosen ones and Thy trusted ones, from the heaven of Thy bounty and the clouds of Thy generosity, the rain of Thy mercy. Thou art, verily, the One Who hath power over whatsoever He willeth through Thy mighty and exalted Word. O Lord! Guide all the people of Thy earth to turn to the door of Thy pardon and the ocean of Thy forgiveness, then preserve them from their desires. Thou art, verily, the Mighty, the Dominant, the Powerful, the All-Compelling.

When thou hearest the call from the horizon of tribulation, say: My God, my God! Praise be to Thee for having guided me unto Thy straight path and illumined my heart with the light of Thy merciful Name. I beseech Thee, O Bestower of bounties and the One manifest through the Most Great Name, not to disappoint me of that which Thou hast ordained for Thy steadfast servants. Thou art, verily, the All-Compelling, the Mighty, the All-Bountiful. There is none other God but Thee, the Ruler in the beginning and in the return.

BH03090: In My Name, the Manifest, the Luminous, the Holy…

In My Name, the Manifest, the Luminous, the Holy, the Mighty, the All-Wise!

Praise be to the Desired One, whose verses have encompassed all things and whose evidences have adorned the ancient world with a new attire. In the midst of tribulation, the banner of “He doeth whatsoever He willeth” hath been raised aloft. Who hath the power to prevent Him from His purpose?

O Haydar-ʿAli! There can be no doubt that thy grief hath been for the sake of God and that thou hast expressed sorrow in view of the sorrows of the Wronged One. In this station, blessed art thou! For today neither the grief nor the joy of the world is acceptable, save grief in His grief and joy in His joy.

O thou who hast turned unto Me! We have named this prison the Most Great Prison, and assuredly this name was not given without cause. However, We have, as a token of Our grace—and verily, I am the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous—concealed its mysteries and future manifestations from the eyes of Our loved ones.

Outwardly, no cause for imprisonment is evident, for the power of God, exalted be His glory, hath transformed it into the Most Exalted Paradise, despite the nose of the mighty one. In every corner He hath spread a carpet and raised a call. At first, the governor's palace was consumed by fire; the decree which that heedless ruler had sent concerning these wronged ones to this place perished along with the palace. The subsequent rulers, being unaware of the circumstances, knew not how to proceed, for neither the decree nor the previous ruler remained. The Cause of God, day by day, grew in elevation, and its power became manifest from every direction. In none of the prisons was such ascendancy witnessed, for this manifest injustice was visited upon those who circle round the Throne without any cause. Were the doubters to reflect on what hath come to pass, all would cling to the hem of the robe of certitude and turn unto the Supreme Horizon. Verily, the Cause is in His hands—He doeth what He willeth and ordaineth what He pleaseth. And He is the Mighty, the All-Praised.

The light shining from the heaven of My mercy and the fragrances of My utterance be upon thee and upon those whom nothing whatsoever, no affair of any kind, hath prevented from God, the Lord of all worlds.

BH03131: In My Name, Who standeth before all!

In My Name, Who standeth before all!

This is a Book which the Wronged One hath sent down unto him who hath believed in God, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting. This is a Day wherein the treasures of the earth and its secrets have been revealed, and its tidings have been recounted before the Face. Thus hath the Tongue of Grandeur spoken as He walked in the most exalted station.

O thou who gazest upon the Face! Sorrows have encompassed Us by reason of that which hath befallen the Daysprings of submission and contentment in the land of Ya. We beseech God to aid the oppressors to turn unto Him and to repair to the gate of His pardon and bounty. Verily, He is the Almighty, the Exalted, the Unconstrained.

Say: O people of the Bayan! Fear ye the All-Merciful, then judge with fairness concerning that which hath appeared at this Station which God hath made the point round which circle them who are nigh unto Him from all eternity. Say: O people! That which was hidden in knowledge hath appeared, and He Who was promised in the Scriptures and Tablets hath come. Fear ye the All-Merciful, O people of creation, then approach with radiant faces and take hold of the Book of God with such strength that the might of them who have disbelieved in the Return shall not deter you. Thus have We sent down the verses and expounded them in truth and dispatched them unto thee that thou mayest rejoice and be of them who are thankful in the Mother Book.

When thou hearest My call and drinkest the choice wine of My utterance, turn thy face toward the Kaaba of My Revelation and say: My God, my God! Praise be to Thee for having guided me and given me to drink and caused me to know Thee. I beseech Thee by Thy most great signs and by the lights of Thy countenance from the most sublime horizon, and by Thy Name through which Thou didst subdue the kingdom of names, to open before my face the doors of Thy grace and bounty, then send down upon me from the clouds of Thy generosity the rain of Thy munificence. Verily, Thou art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest, and in Thy grasp are the reins of the affairs of the first and the last.

Thou art He Who, O my God, hath called Thyself the All-Bountiful; therefore Thou beholdest the poor one standing before the gate of Thy riches, and Thou hast called Thyself the All-Merciful; therefore Thou seest the sinner before Thy face. I beseech Thee to deal with me as befitteth Thy most excellent names and supreme attributes. Verily, Thou art the Bestower of gifts and the Omnipotent over what Thou willest. There is no God but Thee, the Almighty, the Exalted. Command and judgment are in the grasp of Thy power, O Thou Who art the Possessor of all being and the Ruler of all existence.

BH03064: Today the key to the treasures of earth…

In the name of the faithful Friend!

Today the key to the treasures of earth and heaven and the gates of guidance has been and is the Supreme Pen. Blessed is the eye that attains to the vision of its traces and the ear that is adorned with hearing its call.

O my handmaiden and my leaf! Your call has repeatedly been heard and the answer has likewise descended repeatedly from the heaven of loving-kindness. Give thanks to the Goal of the worlds that He has confirmed you and bestowed upon you that which the divines, men and women of the earth have been deprived and forbidden from, except whom God wills.

Say: O handmaidens, know ye the value of the days of God and His station. All divine Books have given and give glad tidings of it, and likewise the Prophets and Messengers. This Day has no likeness or parallel. The ocean of utterance is at all times surging in the realm of possibility, and sanctified pure ears hear from its waves “The Truth has come.” The attraction of the revelation of the Mount has encompassed all, and the rustling of the Divine Lote Tree has set ablaze the tree of Sinai.

Rejoice, O My handmaiden, in that the countenance of the Ancient One hath turned toward thee from His Most Great Prison, and mentioned thee in such wise that all things have been moved and drawn in their inmost reality.

Say: My God, my God! Praise be to Thee for having guided me, caused me to hear, shown me, and made me know Thy Call, Thy verses, Thy laws and Thy commandments. I beseech Thee, O my Lord, by the choice wine of Thy Most Glorious Name whereby all on earth and in heaven were intoxicated, and by the pearls hidden in the shells of the ocean of Thy bounty, and by the lights shining and blazing from the horizon of the heaven of Thy utterance, to make this handmaiden of Thine in all conditions attracted to Thy verses, speaking Thy praise and arising to serve Thee. Verily Thou art the Powerful One to Whom all

created things have testified and all contingent beings have confessed. There is no God but Thee, the Mighty, the Dominant, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

His honor Salman attained to presence and meeting, and carried out on thy behalf what thou desired, and We testify that he attained to acceptance. Verily thy Lord is the Compassionate, the Mighty, the All-Loving.

The splendor from Us be upon thee and upon the handmaidens who have believed in God, the Lord of the ranks and hosts.

BH03091: Praise be to God that His verses have encompassed…

He is God, exalted be His station in bounties and favors

Praise be to God that His verses have encompassed the world and the manifestations of His grandeur have testified to His oneness. From the ocean of generosity He brought the world of existence into being and made manifest the path of guidance and error. Exalted be His dominion and His proof and His utterance! And prayers and peace be upon Him through whom the fragrance of divine unity was diffused among the servants and the breezes of revelation were cut off from the lands, and upon His family and companions through whom the banner of divine knowledge was raised among the religions—prayers whose fragrance never ceases and whose end cannot be reckoned.

Your letter arrived and praise be to God it was adorned with the light of devotion, steadfastness and detachment. In truth, this is the station of the friends today, as you mentioned. We beseech God to assist all to that which befits His loved ones. Great joy was obtained from reading the letter. Previously it was intended to send to His Majesty the King of Iran, may God assist him, that which would testify to the trust and sincerity of this oppressed community. Glory be to God! Despite all having testified to the sanctity and purity of the intentions of this oppressed community, yet there occurred that which caused the Pen to lament and the ink to weep. Therefore the intention was changed and suspended, as despair resulted from the deeds that appeared.

We beseech God to bestow the reward of the righteous deed which you intended and to record it from the Supreme Pen in the Book of Deeds. It appears the traveler was also arrested. From this incident it becomes clear that there has appeared from its instigator that which is contrary to the world-adorning view of the government. However, this Oppressed One beseeches God for that which is the cause of the exaltation of the government and the advancement of the nation. Verily He is the Hearer, the Answerer. Convey greetings to the friends. All have been and are remembered. Peace and remembrance and glory be upon you and upon every steadfast and firm one.

BH11622: O thou who hast turned unto My horizon…

He is the Dawning-Place from the heaven of grace!

O thou who hast turned unto My horizon and who hast held fast unto the cord of My loving-kindness! We beseech God to assist all His loved ones in that which hath dawned forth and shone resplendent from the

horizons of the heavens of divine Tablets regarding the conditions of teachers. Praise be to God that in these days two deeds have become manifest from the loved ones of the lands of ʿAyn and Shin, and both have been crowned with acceptance and illumined with the light of His good-pleasure. The first was the manifestation of supreme oppression in such wise that […] and they did not protest. Whatsoever they witnessed and heard they left to God, clinging in all conditions to gracious patience and sublime tranquillity. The second was their intercession on behalf of enemies before the princes. In truth, that which was manifested is accounted before God as the most excellent of deeds.

Now beseech ye God and supplicate Him that He may illumine them with the light of unity and concord, lest there appear from them that which would grieve the hearts of them that aid the Cause.

O Zaynu'l-Muqarrabin! This Wronged One beseecheth God to adorn the sovereign of Iran with the light of justice and fairness. In recent years his majesty's heart hath turned toward the oppressed ones. It is hoped that gradually the fruits thereof may emerge from the unseen into the visible realm, and from concealment into the arena of manifestation, inasmuch as this Wronged One hath loved and still loveth faithfulness, and hath desired to behold the realm of Iran as it behooveth. We beseech God to assist his majesty in that which He loveth and is pleased with.

As to what thou didst mention regarding the laws, God willing, they shall be sent hereafter. And concerning Ibn-i-Abhar and the means of his comfort, this matter is acceptable before God. The sun of permission hath dawned from the heaven of divine laws and ordinances. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to make all his deeds as one remembrance, a pure deed, and a resplendent light, that the Lord may assist him with the hosts of wisdom and utterance throughout all possibility. Verily He is the Helper, the Strong, the Mighty, the Powerful.

Glory and remembrance and praise be upon you both and upon My loved ones in that land and upon those who are with you and who have hearkened unto your words concerning this Most Great Announcement and this Straight Path.

BH03092: Praise be unto the one true God Who, through…

He is the Hearer, the Witness, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed

Praise be unto the one true God Who, through His Most Great Word, hath instilled love and affection between the hearts of His chosen ones, and illumined them with the light of unity and concord. This blessed Word hath in every age and Dispensation been mentioned by a name and manifested with fruit and effect. In one station it is the luminous, resplendent, adorned and speaking Tree whose roots are in the earth while its branches reach above the heavens. Blessed be the Lord Who hath desired naught from the dawning of the Sun of Manifestation save the unity of the hearts of humanity. Exalted be His will, established His sovereignty, perfected His proof, and completed His testimony. There is no God but Him. Blessings, praise, peace and glory be upon those who have arisen to serve His Cause and who have spoken His remembrance and praise amongst His servants. These are servants through whom the banner of divine unity was raised to the highest station and the standard of detachment was hoisted upon the loftiest heights.

O My Afnan! Upon thee be My glory and loving-kindness. Thy letter hath come before Our face and attained the honor of being seen and heard. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to open before thy face the doors of grace and bounty, to protect thee from every oppressive ignorant one and from every illness and ailment, and to give thee to drink, from the hands of His Most Glorious Name, the Kawthar of healing. Verily He doeth as He willeth and in His grasp are the reins of all things. There is no God but Him, the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous.

When thou hast attained unto the Tablet of God and its effect, and drunk the choice wine of mystic knowledge from the cup of His utterance, say: My God, my God! Thou seest me standing before the door of Thy grace, clinging to the hem of Thy bounty and generosity. I beseech Thee by the mysteries of Thy Cause which none knoweth save Thyself, to ordain for me from Thy Most Exalted Pen that which will profit me in all the worlds of Thy worlds and will exalt me through Thy Name. Verily Thou art the Self-Subsisting through Thy Command, the One Who standeth over all things through Thy sovereignty, the Manifest through Thy signs and the Hidden through Thy mysteries. There is no God but Thee, the Mighty, the All-Bestowing. The glory from Us be upon thee and upon My leaves and handmaidens and upon those who hearken unto thy word concerning the Cause of God, thy Lord, the Lord of the Day of Mutual Calling.

BH03258: This is a Book which the Wronged One hath…

He is seated upon the throne of divine knowledge in the kingdom of utterance.

This is a Book which the Wronged One hath sent down unto him who hath turned unto God and attained His presence—the All-Compelling, the Self-Subsisting—and who hath faced the Dayspring of Revelation and responded when the Call was raised from the direction of God, the Lord of what was and what shall be.

O Ahmad-i-Mirza, hearken unto the Call from the direction of ʿAkka: Verily, there is none other God but Me, the Single, the One, the Powerful, the Mighty, the Loving. We have remembered those who turned toward Us when the people turned away, and We have sent down unto them from the heaven of justice that which consoleth the eyes.

Say: O people, be fair in what hath appeared in truth and follow not the sources of fancy and idle imaginings. Say: The proof hath been sent down and the fountain hath gushed forth and that which was hidden in God's knowledge, the Lord of existence, hath appeared. We have sent down the verses and manifested the clear proofs, as witnessed by honored servants who have attained the choice wine of steadfastness from God, the Lord of the seen and unseen.

Beware lest the affairs of the world sadden thee or the clamor of every heedless and veiled one frighten thee. Soar, O Ahmad, on the wings of detachment in the atmosphere of thy Lord's love, the Lord of creation. Verily thy Lord assisteth whom He willeth through His word "Be" and it is.

When thou hast drunk the choice wine of everlasting life from the hands of the bounty of the Lord of Names, say: O Creator of the heavens! I beseech Thee by Thy most great signs, and the manifestations of Thy sovereignty among all beings, and by Thy radiant and manifest light, and Thy firm and unshakeable Cause, to aid me to be steadfast in Thy Cause and to arise in Thy service. O my Lord! Thou knowest and

seest that I have taken no helper for myself other than Thee, nor any supporter besides Thee. I beseech Thee, O Light of the world, by Thy Most Great Name through which the limbs of the nations trembled, to ordain for me from Thy Most Exalted Pen that which will draw me nigh unto Thee and cause me to enter the precincts of Thy glory. O my Lord! Thou seest the weak one clinging to the cord of Thy strength. I beseech Thee not to deprive him of what is with Thee. Verily Thou art the All-Forgiving, the Bountiful, and in Thy grasp are the reins of all who are in the heavens and on earth.

O Shafi', the sections were sent. We beseech God that He may deliver them. He is the Powerful, the Mighty.

BH03279: This is a day wherein the Tree of Utterance…

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

This is a day wherein the Tree of Utterance hath spoken at the heart of creation concerning that which hath appeared in the realm of origination and that which hath befallen its branches. Sorrows have encompassed Me by reason of your grief, as witnessed by the Divine Lote-Tree and its branches. Oceans of inner meanings have flowed from the Pen of Utterance, and the verses are their waves. The Maid of Heaven hath wailed in the most exalted Paradise, and the tears of dawn are her weeping. The heaven of existence hath changed by reason of what hath befallen it, and the redness visible on the horizon is its sighing.

He is the Consoler, and He is the Comforter.

O My Afnan! Upon thee be the glory of God, His loving-kindness, His peace, His grace and His bounty. That honored and ascended handmaiden did, throughout the nights and days, cherish the desire to attain the presence and meet the Afnan. Her heart was yearning, her tongue speaking, her eyes watching, and her being waiting. However, God's irrevocable decree intervened and that which was inscribed in the Tablet was made manifest.

O My Afnan! This clay-coated world was not and is not worthy of pure, tender hearts and holy, gentle temples. Therefore, movement is more beloved than stillness, and ascension more excellent than remaining. Were God, exalted be His glory, to unveil the hidden mysteries even to the extent of a needle's eye, all would turn to Him and seek ascension. However, in accordance with the requirements of wisdom, they remain concealed. He doeth what He willeth and ordaineth what He pleaseth. He is the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

We have revealed for her that which the riches of the world and the mention of all nations cannot equal. That which will bring solace to the eyes of her people and the handmaidens of the earth hath been ordained for her. We beseech God to send down upon her at all times a blessing from His presence and a mercy from His side. Verily, He is the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous, the Ever-Forgiving, the Most Merciful.

We make mention of the son and console him with that which hath been sent down in the Tablet from God, the Almighty, the Powerful. Peace and glory be upon thee and upon him and upon those who are there, and upon all who are steadfast and firm.

BH03238: In My Name, through Whom the ocean of bounty…

In My Name, through Whom the ocean of bounty surgeth before the faces of all peoples

God beareth witness that there is none other God but He, and that He Who hath come from the horizon of power with the banners of signs is verily the Dawning-Place of God's loving-kindness, the Lord of all worlds. Through the light of His utterance have earth and heaven been illumined, and the Speaker on Sinai hath been established upon the throne of Revelation. Thereupon did all things proclaim:

> "He Who was hidden in knowledge and inscribed by the Most Exalted Pen in the Books of God, the Mighty, the All-Praised, hath appeared."

Beware lest ye prevent yourselves from drawing nigh unto Him, and beware lest the oppressors' might cause you to fear. Cast away today what the people possess and take what ye have been commanded by One All-Knowing, All-Wise.

Thy letter hath come before the Wronged One and achieved the honor of being heard, as a grace from God, the Lord of the Day of Judgment. We have heard thy call and have answered thee with that whose fragrance shall never cease to endure throughout the kingdom of earth and heaven. To this the Mother Book beareth witness on this wondrous Day. We love for Our loved ones to attain Our presence before the Throne and to stand before the Gate, but the oppressors have come between Us and them. To this every discerning soul beareth witness.

Say: My God, my God! Praise be unto Thee for having given me to drink the Kawthar of Thy utterance from the hand of Thy bounty, and for having made known to me Thy path and guided me to Thy gate which Thou hast opened to all in Thy earth and Thy heaven. I beseech Thee, O Thou in Whose grasp are the reins of all beings and in Whose right hand are the reins of all creation, by the penetrating power of Thy Word throughout all possibility, and by the authority of Thy most exalted Word in the kingdom of creation, and by Thy Most Great Name which hath caused the limbs of the nations to quake, to ordain for me the reward of one who hastened unto Thee until he arrived in the court of Thy might and heard the shrill voice of Thy Most Exalted Pen and Thy most sweet call.

O Lord! Make me not deprived of what Thou hast ordained for Thy chosen ones and pure ones, through Thy bounty and generosity. I am Thy servant and the son of Thy servant, holding fast to the cord of Thy grace and acknowledging what Thou hast revealed in Thy Book. Thou art verily the One with power over whatsoever Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the All-Bountiful, the Generous. There is none other God but Thee, the Almighty, the Ever-Forgiving, the All-Merciful.

BH03183: In the name of the Peerless Friend! Today…

In the name of the Peerless Friend! Today is a victorious day, for the fragrance of the One Who conversed on Sinai is diffused therein. Blessed is the soul that hath attained unto His fragrance and been illumined by His light.

O leaves and handmaidens! Hold fast unto the Sacred Tree with such power and might that neither the oppression of the oppressors nor the turning away of the deniers shall be able to separate you therefrom. This blessed Day hath been mentioned in the presence of God and designated as the Day of God. Strive that ye may attain unto its fruits. Whoso attaineth thereunto hath attained unto everlasting life and eternal blessing.

O My handmaidens and leaves! It is hoped that ye will be moved by the breezes of the will of God, exalted be His glory, and become detached and free from all else but Him. The days of the first and the last cannot compare with this Day, for the King of Manifestation is seated upon the throne of bounty before all faces. Blessed are the men and women who circle round it, who have taken their portion from this most great favor and received their share from the ocean of knowledge.

O my handmaiden! My Name, upon him be My glory, sent thy letter to the Most Holy Court, and it attained unto the hearing of the Lord of Names. Blessed art thou for having attained unto that which most of the servants and handmaidens have not attained. Blessed be Tuba who hath attained unto My remembrance in My Most Great Prison and drunk the choice wine of utterance from the hand of the bounty of the Lord of eternity. We give her the glad-tidings of My loving-kindness and My mercy, which have preceded all who are in the heavens and on earth.

Convey My greetings to the handmaidens who have turned towards Me. By the life of God! There hath been sent down from My Most Exalted Pen for them that which shall never cease to be mentioned as long as the kingdom and the realm endure. This everlasting bounty is the cause and means of eternal life, and bounty in the first rank and station is that remembrance which is sent down from the Most Exalted Pen specifically for the servants and handmaidens. Happy are they that attain!

The glory from Us be upon thee, O My handmaiden, and upon those with thee, and upon every handmaiden who hath attained unto this glorious and wondrous Day.

BH03212: Praise befitteth and is meet for the Lord…

He is the Manifest, and He is the Speaker.

Praise befitteth and is meet for the Lord of all desires Who, on the Day of Rising, through His most exalted Word, made manifest that which was hidden in breasts, the betrayal of eyes, and all concealed conditions. Through the power of the Most Exalted Pen He subdued all things, and through the potency of utterance He gave glad-tidings of the appearance of the Interlocutor of the Mount to all who dwell in the realm of possibility. He is the Speaker, He is the Pen, and He is the Tablet, despite every remote denier and every sinful opposer.

O Varqa! Upon thee be the loving-kindness of God, the Lord of all beings. Three petitions from thee were received, and for each a specific answer was sent down from the Most Exalted Horizon of grace. Say: Praise be unto Thee, O Lord of existence, and glory be unto Thee, O Sovereign of the seen and unseen, and bounty be unto Thee, O Thou in Whose grasp are the reins of all names, and unto Thee be grace and glory, O Lord of Varqa, his Helper and his Sustainer. We beseech God, exalted be He, to assist thee in that which We commanded thee during thy presence. Verily, He is the Compassionate, the Kind, the Forgiving.

ʿAziz and Ruh are remembered through divine grace and are recipients of favor. In all conditions We have commanded and continue to command the friends to wisdom and utterance, and We beseech God to enable them to do that which He loveth and approveth. The Glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My utterance be upon thee and upon those who are with thee and who love thee for the sake of God, the Lord of the mighty Throne and the exalted Seat.

O ʿAziz! God's might turned unto thee, and this is a word that hath appeared and continueth to appear from the mouth of Truth, exalted be His glory. Say: I testify that every mighty one prideth himself in standing before Thy gate and Thy mighty Message. O Spirit! The Spirit calleth out saying:

> "Here am I, O Lord of the world! I testify that Thou hast established Thyself upon the throne of manifestation and hast spoken that which the Mount spoke. I testify that Thou hast revealed Thyself and hast shone with Thy brilliant, resplendent light upon all in the world. I beseech Thee to make me known through Thy name and steadfast in Thy service. Verily, Thou art the Almighty, the Powerful."

BH03282: O Ibrahim! Upon thee be the glory of this…

He is the All-Seeing, the All-Perceiving, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise

O Ibrahim! Upon thee be the glory of this Most Great Announcement, whereby God hath fulfilled His promise and manifested His sovereignty, whereby He hath broken the seal of His choice sealed wine and revealed the mysteries of His hidden Name. Blessed is he who hath turned unto it, taken it, and drunk thereof in His Name, the All-Compelling, the Self-Subsisting.

O Ibrahim! Verily the Friend remembereth thee from this station, when He was set ablaze with the fire of the love of God which was revealed by a spark thereof unto Moses, son of Imran, on the Mount of utterance. Thereby were hearts and souls drawn unto Him.

Say: O people of the earth! Fear ye the All-Merciful, and oppose not Him through Whom the sincere ones have soared unto the Kingdom of Meeting, and the pure in heart unto the heaven of nearness and reunion. Exalted is this bounty which hath encompassed all existence, both seen and unseen.

Say: Turn ye, O people, unto the horizon wherefrom hath shone forth the Sun of proof from God, the Almighty, the Glorious, the Best-Beloved. This is a Day wherein the veils have been rent asunder, the mysteries revealed, and that which was hidden in knowledge and concealed from eyes and sight hath been made manifest.

Arise to serve the Cause of thy Lord, then speak amongst the servants with the signs of God, the Lord of what was and what shall be. We made mention of thee before with decisive verses, and We have now sent down unto thee that whereby the realities of all things are drawn and breasts are dilated.

Say: None hath any protection today save through this Cause, at whose appearance the books of the peoples bowed down in submission. Blessed are they who know. Blessed is he who hath heard and witnessed what God hath witnessed. And woe unto every perfidious denier who rejected God's proof and evidence, and committed that which caused the near ones to lament.

Take hold of the Book with strength and say: Praise be unto Thee, O Lord of the worlds, and glory be unto Thee, O Possessor of existence. Thus have We sent down the verses unto thee once again, that thou mayest rejoice and arise to aid the Cause with wisdom and utterance. Verily thy Lord is the Helper, the Almighty, the Glorious, the Best-Beloved.

The glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My loving-kindness be upon thee and upon those who have acted according to that which they were bidden by God, the All-Compelling, the Self-Subsisting.

BH03302: O Muhammad! Upon thee be My peace and My…

He is the All-Compelling, the Self-Subsisting

O Muhammad! Upon thee be My peace and My glory and My mercy and My loving-kindness! When thou desirest to visit the land of Ya and beholdest the darkness and light of that city, pause, facing towards it, and say: The resplendent Light shining from the horizon of God's mercy, and the perfumed Spirit made manifest by the command of God, Lord of all beings, be upon you, O company of martyrs and dawning-places of submission in the realm of creation and sources of resignation before the faces of the enemies. Blessed are ye and joy be unto you! I testify that ye have attained unto that which most of the servants have failed to attain, and have spent whatsoever ye possessed of wealth and souls and bodies and beings.

I testify that through your detachment the sun of detachment hath shone forth from the horizon of creation, and through your God-fearingness the light of piety hath beamed forth amidst all beings. Ye are they through whose submissiveness necks have bowed down, and through the lights of whose countenances the horizons have been illumined, and through whose steadfastness its decree hath appeared throughout the land among the servants. Blessed are ye and joy be unto you, unto your first and your last, your outward and your inward, and the mercy of God and His grace and the loving-kindness of God and His glory. Through you the lights of unity have appeared and the mysteries of detachment have emerged and all things have proclaimed: By God, the Day hath come and that which was treasured in knowledge and concealed within the pavilion of God's protection, Lord of the mighty throne, hath appeared.

And I testify that ye answered your Lord when His call was raised, and turned towards Him when He appeared with His sovereignty prevailing over all who are in the heavens and earths. He, verily, is the Single, the One, the Powerful, the Mighty, the Great.

O Muhammad! Upon thee be the glory of God, the Single, the One. We have sent down for those who were martyred in the path of God that whereby the tears of those near unto God have fallen and the sighs of the sincere ones have ascended—they whom the doubts of the world deterred not, neither did the clamor of the nations who denied God's proof and His evidence and disbelieved in the Day of Judgment frighten them. The kingdom and the dominion belong unto God, the Lord of this noble station. The glory shining forth from the horizon of the heaven of My bounty be upon thee and upon thy wife. Give her the glad-tidings of My loving-kindness and My mercy and that which hath been sent down for her from the heaven of My grace, which hath encompassed existence both seen and unseen.

BH03203: O Ali Asghar who hath attained the presence…

O Ali Asghar who hath attained the presence and gained the bounty, of Milan, He is the Mighty, the Chosen One

Great is the grace of God, exalted be His glory, and all-encompassing is His bounty. Today thou art mentioned before the Lord of mankind on this most excellent of days, and art recorded and inscribed by the Most Exalted Pen. Today the eye proclaims with the most exalted call: "I swear by the Sun of Truth, I have never seen the like of this Day!" Likewise the ear proclaims with the most exalted call: "None hath ever heard the like of this Call which is raised morn and eve from the most exalted horizon!" The loved ones of God—they who have transcended earth and heaven—must arise with perfect steadfastness to promote the Cause and hold fast to that which will ensure the preservation of the Word and the exaltation of being. O Ali-Qabli-Asghar! Praise be to the Goal of the world and the Sovereign of nations Who hath enabled thee to attain that whereof the peoples of the world are deprived, save whom God willeth. At this moment thy portrait was presented before the Face of the Wronged One and attained that which surpasseth all reckoning. Say:

Praise be to Thee, O Spirit of the world and Light resplendent and shining amidst the nations! I beseech Thee by Thy Most Great Name through which the cities of Thy knowledge and wisdom were illumined, to number me among those whom Thou hast mentioned in Thy mighty Book—of whom Thou didst say, and Thy word is the truth: "On them shall be no fear, neither shall they grieve." O my Lord! Aid me to shatter the idols of vain imaginings and to rend asunder the veils of such as have turned away from the Sacred Spot and the Station. Then I beseech Thee, O God of Names, by Thy Command which hath encompassed earth and heaven, to grant me success in all conditions.

I testify, O my God, to Thy grace and bounty and generosity and favors, that Thou hast called me to the horizon of Thy Revelation and the ocean of Thy verses and the Dayspring of Thy inspiration and the Source of Thy laws, and hast enabled me to arise before the gate of Thy grandeur and to hearken unto Thy call and to behold Thy signs. O Lord! Illumine me with the lights of Thy knowledge, then cause me in all conditions to turn toward Thee and to hold fast to Thy cord. Verily Thou art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the Forgiving, the Generous.

BH03410: In My Name, the Speaker among all peoples!

In My Name, the Speaker among all peoples!

O chosen ones of God and His loved ones! Know ye with clear certitude that whatsoever befalleth you of adversity and tribulation, or aught else, hath been and remains the cause of the exaltation of the Word of God, despite every aggressive transgressor and every heedless doubter. None hath been or is capable of extinguishing the light of God's Word. Abasement in His path is manifest glory, and poverty in His love is evident wealth. Reflect upon the most mighty brother—the Word of God so seized him that from his movements and stillness fruits and effects became manifest. He was a tree bearing fruits, and a Lote-Tree bearing praise and remembrance.

O My loved ones in Taft! Recognize the exalted station and make mention of it through that which hath been sent down from My Most Exalted Pen. Blessed is he who loved him and made mention of him before and after his ascension. When he attained unto the Divine Scroll, the gate of knowledge was opened and the light of steadfastness encompassed him, such that in his every word influence was manifest. By the life of God! The wine of My utterance so seized him that neither the veils of the wicked nor the coverings of the evil ones prevented him, nor did the armies and hosts of the earth frighten him. He spoke that which he was commanded before all faces. Glorified be He Who caused him to speak, made him to know, and drew him nigh unto Him. He is the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous.

All the kindred in the Most Great Prison are mentioned before the face of the Wronged One. The sincere ones shall soon behold outwardly that which hath been ordained for him by God's will, the Mighty, the Great.

O Muhammad-Husayn! We beseech God that He may aid thee to illumine and adorn the people of the world through wisdom and utterance with the light of true oneness and the effulgences of the Luminary of inner meaning. Verily, He giveth to whomsoever He willeth whatsoever He pleaseth and withholdeth. He is the Single, the One, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. The glory from Us be upon thee and upon those who heard the Call and said: "Yea, yea, O Lord of all beings!" and "Here am I, here am I, O Beloved of the hearts of the knowers and Goal of them that are nigh!"

BH03437: In My Name, through which the Resurrection hath appeared…

In My Name, through which the Resurrection hath appeared amongst mankind.

O Mihdi! Dost thou find within thyself the strength to arise for this Cause, whereby feet have slipped? And dost thou perceive in thine inmost being that which would draw thee nigh unto this station, before which necks have bowed in submission? Say: Nay, by Thy glory, except through Thy power and Thy grace which have encompassed all regions.

There hath appeared before the Wronged One he who loved Me and made mention of thee. We have sent down upon thee from the heaven of bounty that which cooleth the eyes and minds. O Mihdi! Hearken unto the call of the Lord of Names from the direction of Akka. Verily, He maketh mention of thee and commandeth thee to that which will draw thee nigh unto God, the Lord of lords.

We have manifested that which was hidden in knowledge and treasured with God, the Lord of the Day of Return. Among the people are those who have acknowledged and confessed, and those who have denied and disbelieved in the proof and evidence. Thus have We recounted unto thee what hath befallen Us

from those who have cast the Command of God behind their backs and have chosen for themselves that which leadeth them astray from the straight path.

When thou attainest unto My Tablet and drinkest the choice wine of utterance from the cup of My bounty, say: Praise be unto Thee, O my God, for having sent down unto me that whereby my name shall endure in the kingdom of names and my remembrance in the Book of Remembrance. I beseech Thee, O Sovereign of the world, Lord of eternity and Beloved of the nations, by the Most Great Name, through Whose appearance names were altered and pillars did quake, to make me steadfast in Thy love, firm in Thy Cause, and vocal in Thy praise with wisdom and utterance. O my Lord! I am he who hath acknowledged what Thou hast revealed in Thy Book and manifested through the tongue of Thy will. I confess to Thy greatness, Thy sovereignty, Thy power and Thy might. Ordain for me through Thy Pen that which shall make me mindful of Thy name and a herald of Thy Cause amongst Thy servants. Thou art He Whom nothing can weaken, no power can prevent, and the clamor of those who are heedless of the mysteries of Thy chosen Name cannot frighten. There is none other God but Thee, the Almighty, the Glorious, the All-Bountiful.

BH03309: In My Name, the One dawning from the horizon…

In My Name, the One dawning from the horizon of the heaven of knowledge

Praise be to God Who hath caused the pearls of wisdom and exposition to appear from the ocean of utterance. He is the King at Whose right hand was raised the banner “The Kingdom is God’s” and at Whose left the standard “He doeth whatsoever He willeth.” The power of princes and divines weakeneth Him not, nor doth the might of the powerful and learned prevent Him. There is no God but Him, the Creator of the heavens and the Lord of the Kingdom of Names, the Lord of this world and the next.

O Baqir, O Bassar! Upon thee be the Glory of God, the All-Powerful, the All-Forgiving. My Name Ali-Akbar hath mentioned thee. We make mention of thee in this perspicuous Tablet that thou mayest thank thy Lord, the Forgiving, the Merciful.

Be not grieved at the calamity that hath befallen thee. Read what the All-Merciful hath revealed in the Qur’an:

> “Wealth and children are an adornment of the life of this world: But the good deeds which endure are better in thy Lord’s sight for reward, and better in respect of hope.”

Know thou with certain knowledge that this blessed verse was revealed after the ascension of the sons of the Apostle to the Supreme Horizon. That child is and hath been preserved with the true Trustee. God hath made him a treasure for thee, a store for thee, and an honor for thee. He is verily the Most Merciful of the merciful ones and the Most Generous of the generous ones.

Grieve not over anything. Place thy trust in all matters in God, the Lord of the worlds. He is with thee and hath heard thy call, and He is the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing. Convey My greetings to the kindred and give them glad tidings of God’s grace, exalted be His glory. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to

assist you in that which He loveth and approveth, and to unite hearts. He is verily the Almighty, the Mighty, the Beloved.

The mention of the loved ones hath been and is before the Wronged One. In these days a letter arrived from one of the Afnan of the Blessed Tree, upon him be the Glory of God, the Most Glorious, wherein mention was made of all the loved ones, and each one was remembered with the divine mention. We beseech God to grant them success in unity and harmony and draw them nigh unto Him. Glory be upon thee and upon My loved ones and My handmaidens who have believed in the One, the All-Informed.

BH03366: Blessed art thou, O Andalib, in that the Most…

He is the One Who speaks at the axis of contingent existence.

Blessed art thou, O Andalib, in that the Most Great Ocean hath turned toward thee from this Spot with waves of wisdom and utterance, that thou mayest rejoice and proclaim: “All existence is a sacrifice unto Thy grace!” Thou dost speak and say: “My spirit is a sacrifice unto Thy bounty!” and cry out with the most exalted call: “O Lord of all beings and Sovereign of the throne on high and of the dust below! I beseech Thee by the heaven of Thy grace and the ocean of Thy generosity and the stars of Thy gifts to assist Thy loved ones to serve Thy Cause and to aid Thy servants. Verily Thou art the Omnipotent over whatsoever Thou willest, and within Thy grasp are the reins of all who are in the heavens and on earth.”

Blessed be thy tongue, O Andalib, in that it hath spoken in praise of God, the Lord of the worlds. God hath made thy heart a repository of His remembrance, that there might appear from it the pearls of remembrance and praise in this Cause which, when it dawned from the horizon of Will, caused all existence to swoon away save those rescued by the hand of Will. Verily thy Lord is the All-Merciful, the Bountiful.

Thy letter was present before the Wronged One, and one of My Branches presented it before My face. We have remembered thee in this perspicuous Tablet.

O Andalib! In the great city a group have gathered and resorted to calumnies, that perchance they might bring God’s Cause to naught. However, all their deeds through the instigation of the instigators are manifest and evident. We beseech God to guide them to return and assist them to make good what they have lost.

Make the loved ones intoxicated with the chalice of utterance of the Lord of Religions and the Kawthar of divine knowledge, that they may arise to aid the Cause with utmost joy and detachment and righteousness and fear of God. Say: Beware lest ye be frightened by the authority of any oppressor or the cawing of any crow or the clamor of those who have cast behind them the God of Names, clinging to what they possess of idle fancies and vain imaginings.

The Glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My Kingdom and the Light radiating from My Supreme Dominion be upon thee and upon those who have heard thy call and acknowledged what hath been sent down from God, the Ordainer, the All-Wise. And praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH03382: This is a Book which God hath sent down…

He is the All-Seeing, the All-Informed

This is a Book which God hath sent down from the heaven of His Will as a favor unto all created things. Blessed is the soul that hath laid hold on it, despite those who cast it behind their backs and denied the Proof of God, the Revealed, the Bidding, the Ancient. O My loved ones in Ishq! Hear ye My call, for verily it hath been raised in truth and by it have been attracted the hearts of them that are brought nigh. We have sent down unto each one of you clear verses which, when revealed, caused all things to proclaim: "The Evidence hath come from the presence of the All-Merciful!" Blessed is he who hath recognized, and woe unto the heedless. O Muhammad-Rida! He Who hath been wronged remembereth thee from the shores of Akka and counseleth thee to manifest the Most Great Steadfastness in this Cause whereby the feet of the mystics have slipped save whom God hath willed—thy Lord, the Lord of the mighty Throne. He who circled round Me, who was named Muhammad-ʿAli, hath mentioned thee time and again. We have sent down that which shall cause the eyes of the sincere ones to rejoice.

We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to aid thee and His loved ones and preserve you from the evil of His enemies who have broken His covenant and His testament, and who have disbelieved in His proof which hath encompassed all who are in the heavens and on earth.

And We make mention of My handmaiden who was named Zahra and give her the glad-tidings of God's loving-kindness, the Lord of all the worlds. And My other handmaiden who was named Ma'sumih—verily My grace hath encompassed both male and female who have turned with steadfastness toward My horizon—a steadfastness which the doubts of the suspicious have failed to prevent. O My loved ones and My leaves! Remember your Lord at all times, then thank Him for having aided you to recognize Him Whom the East and the West have denied, save those who came unto God with illumined hearts.

O Muhammad-Qabli-Rida! Say: My God, my God! Praise be unto Thee for having guided me and caused me to hear and for having sent down unto me that which hath diffused the fragrance of Thy loving-kindness. I beseech Thee, O Thou Who rulest the Kingdom, by Thy most excellent names and Thy most exalted attributes, and by Thy Most Great Name through which the limbs of the nations have quaked, to assist me to serve Thy Cause and to act according to that which Thou hast commanded me in Thy perspicuous Book. Verily Thou art the Almighty, the Most Exalted, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

BH03419: O thou who gazest upon the Face and art…

He is the Consoler, the Comforter, the Compassionate, the All-Bountiful!

O thou who gazest upon the Face and art present before the Gate! Although this new affliction hath outwardly caused grief, yet since she hath ascended in these days and her mention floweth from pen and tongue, these two bounties shall cause the grief to vanish and shall guide thee to patience and tranquility, which are the characteristics of the loved ones of God. Death and life are two gates for the manifestation of divine grace, bounty and mercy. Today is the day of bounty, mercy and generosity. Assuredly the sprinklings of the ocean of mercy shall embrace her, and in this moment He maketh mention of her with these wondrous and sublime remembrances. He is the Forgiving, the Merciful.

We have desired to make mention of My handmaiden and My leaf with a remembrance whose fragrance shall never be cut off nor shall it be effaced, through the eternity of God's kingdom, the Lord of all worlds. The first light that shone forth from the horizon of the heaven of God's bounty and the first splendor that dawned and gleamed upon thee, O My handmaiden and My leaf! I testify that thou didst attain unto that which was inscribed in the Tablet, and didst hear the Call, and didst drink the choice wine of understanding from the hand of the bounty of thy Lord, the All-Merciful, and didst turn toward the prison after the turning away of all who are on earth save those whom God did desire, the Lord of the mighty throne.

And We bear witness that thou wast present and didst hear the Call from the supreme horizon. Verily thy Lord is the Helper, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to send down upon thee at all times mercy from His presence and light from His own Self and bounty from His side. Verily He is the Bestower, the All-Bountiful. Glory and remembrance and praise be upon thee, O handmaiden of God, and upon those women who have believed in the One, the All-Informed. And We beseech God to adorn the temples of His loved ones in this affliction with the ornament of patience and fortitude. Verily He is the Most Patient and hath commanded all to beautiful patience. We beseech God to assist all to read what hath been revealed for thee on this glorious and wondrous day.

BH03414: In My Name, the Summoner between earth and heaven!

In My Name, the Summoner between earth and heaven!

O My trustees in the lands and My chosen ones among the servants! Upon you be My glory and My loving-kindness.

In the days when the darkness of fear had seized all, this Wronged One stood forth and spoke before the faces of the princes and divines of Iran. The friends and loved ones would lament day and night for this Wronged One, for the enemies were beyond counting and their chief was an oppressive and proud man. The heedlessness of pride had so seized him that he saw none but himself, and through various plots and schemes he lay in wait for a time when he could snatch the Ancient Beauty from the earth. But God, through His sovereignty, prevented him and, through His power, banished him, and through His will manifested what He wished and desired. He is the One around Whom circle power and might and grandeur and authority.

And when the light of the Word shone forth, the essence of tyranny emerged from behind the veil with the swords of idle fancies and vain imaginings, and wrought that which caused the Tablet and the Pen to weep, and tears to flow from the Divine Eye.

From the earliest days We have been under the rule of the oppressors, but in the Most Great Prison His Majesty the King, Sultan Abdul-Hamid Khan—may God strengthen him—has acted with kindness and compassion toward this Wronged One. In truth, in his days justice was gladdened and tyranny was concealed. Glory be unto Him Who strengthened him and seated him upon the throne of justice and fairness. He is, verily, the Lord of bounties and favors.

O Muhammad-Qabli-Hasan! Praise the Goal of the world Who remembers thee in the Most Great Prison. Say: Praise be unto Thee, O my God, and thanksgiving be unto Thee, O my Glory! I beseech Thee by the lights of Thy Kingdom and the mysteries of Thy Dominion to ordain for me that which will make me a banner of Thy Name amongst Thy servants. Then open before my face the door of Thy grace. Verily, Thou art the Powerful over what Thou willest, and in Thy grasp are the reins of all who are in the heavens and on earth.

BH03434: O Muhammad-ʿAli! Your petition reached the Most Holy Court…

He is the One dawning from the horizon of the Kingdom of Utterance.

O Muhammad-ʿAli! Your petition reached the Most Holy Court. Praise be to God, you have drunk from the choice wine of the utterance of the Goal of all worlds and attained unto the knowledge of God, which is the first cause and greatest reason for the appearance of contingent beings and the manifestation of created things. Your prose and verse were present before Us and the glance of favor was directed toward them.

O thou who art mentioned before the Wronged One! The Cause is mighty. In the first step, each of the loved ones who intends the supreme horizon must act according to what the All-Merciful hath revealed in the Furqan and hold fast to it—His exalted Word: “Say: God; then leave them to their vain discourses.” And in the second step, with the tongue of nature, turning toward the Kaaba of God, the Guardian, the Self-Subsisting, they must utter this blessed word: “I have abandoned the religion of a people who believe not in God and who deny the Hereafter.” We hope that those who seek the ultimate goal and supreme summit will ascend from the realm of names by the ladder of detachment and attain to the heaven of inner meanings.

When the attraction of the Call from the Supreme Horizon takes hold of thee, say:

> “O Creator of heaven and God of the Kingdom of Names! I beseech Thee by the Word through which Thou didst revive all who are in earth and heaven, and by Thy Command through which Thou didst unite all peoples, to make me detached from all else save Thee and steadfast in Thy love, in such wise that names may not prevent me from turning to the court of Thy holiness and entering the depths of the ocean of Thy oneness. O my Lord! Thou seest me turning toward Thee and holding fast to the cord of Thy bounty. Ordain for me in all conditions that which will draw me nearer unto Thee. Verily Thou art the Self-Sufficient, the Most Exalted.”

We convey greetings to the loved ones and command them to the supreme steadfastness. We beseech God to assist them in what He loveth and pleaseth and to make them among those whom neither the might of the servants nor their strength and power hath prevented from turning toward God, the Single, the One, the Powerful, the Mighty.

BH03311: Praise be to God Who hath sent down His…

In the Name of Him by Whom the ocean of utterance surged in the contingent world!

Praise be to God Who hath sent down His verses and manifested His clear tokens and caused all things to speak forth that there is none other God but Him, the Single, the One, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. And blessing and praise and glory and splendor be upon them whom God hath made the guides of His creation and the manifestations of His Cause and the dawning-places of His revelation and the treasury of the pearls of His utterance and the repository of the mysteries of His days—they whom neither the veils of the peoples nor the might of the world prevented from hearing the call and turning unto Him, saying:

> "Yea, yea, O Lord of the Kingdom of Names! Yea, yea, O Master of humanity and Lord of the Throne on high and of the dust below!"

Thus did the Tongue of Grandeur speak forth when seated upon the throne of utterance, to the shame of every ignorant one who denied what was sent down from God, the Self-Subsisting, the All-Compelling.

O Tongue of Grandeur! Make mention of one of thy leaves and a handmaiden from among thy handmaidens who believed in God and His verses and acknowledged what was revealed in His Book and confessed what appeared in His days, that the fragrance of forgiveness may waft over her from all directions and the hands of the All-Merciful may cause her to enter the highest paradise. Thus did the ocean of bounty surge and the fragrances of care and favor wafted from God, the Lord of all things and the Sovereign over all who are in earth and heaven.

O Pen! Say: The first light that shone forth from the horizon of the heaven of utterance before the faces of religions—Upon thee, O leaf of the Tree of Faithfulness and speaker in praise of the Lord of humanity! I testify that thou didst turn to the Supreme Horizon when most handmaidens turned away from it, and didst take the choice sealed wine and drink thereof in My Name, the Self-Subsisting, and didst attain unto that which was inscribed in the Books of God, the Lord of the worlds. The glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My mercy be upon thee and upon every servant who turned and every handmaiden who turned and remembered thy days and visited thy resting place and read what hath been sent down in this time from the heaven of the utterance of God, the Lord of all who are in the heavens and earths.

BH03575: In My Name which is sanctified above all names!

In My Name which is sanctified above all names!

O ʿAbdu'l-Baha! We have named thee with this name at this time that thou mayest glory in that which hath moved the Tongue of Grandeur in His mighty prison. Be thou vocal in My praise, hold fast unto My cord, cling to the hem of My mercy, be detached from all else save Me, and be adorned with the fear of God, the Lord of all worlds. We have mentioned thee before in numerous Tablets and with such praise that before it the mention of the world and the descriptions of servants fade into nothingness. Thy Lord is, verily, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

Say: Praise be unto Thee, O my Best-Beloved, my Desired One, my God, for having named me ʿAbdu'l-Baha on this night wherein the tongue of Thy grace hath spoken. I beseech Thee by the oceans of Thy knowledge, the heavens of Thy wisdom, the power of Thy will, and the penetrating influence of Thy purpose, to assist me to serve Thy Cause and guide Thy creatures. Thou art, verily, the Almighty, the Powerful, the Omnipotent.

Repeatedly have thy letters arrived and been heard by Us. We beseech God to open before thy face the door of His bounty. He is, verily, the Compassionate, the Bountiful. Concerning what thou didst mention regarding the affairs of the handmaiden of Baha and the Leaf of Paradise—although We have commanded the loved ones concerning her in that which is the cause of great reward and recompense, We again make mention of it. Blessed is the servant who acteth according to that which he hath been commanded, and blessed is the handmaiden who hath attained unto that which hath been inscribed in My Books, My Scriptures and My Tablets. Thy Lord is, verily, the Commander, the Almighty, the All-Wise.

Convey My greetings to the loved ones, and likewise to those related. Verily, We have mentioned all with My loving-kindness and My mercy, and We have counseled them to remain firm to such a degree that the people of the Bayan who follow their idle fancies and are heedless of My manifest Command and My mighty Message shall not prevent them. The Glory shining forth from this luminous horizon be upon thee and upon My righteous servants and My handmaidens who have hearkened and have said:

> "Praise be to Thee, O Lord of the mighty Throne and Possessor of the exalted Seat!"

BH03502: Glory be to God! Oppression and hatred have reached…

He is manifest before the faces of the world.

Glory be to God! Oppression and hatred have reached such a state that description and interpretation fall short of mentioning it. Forbearance hath become the cause of severity, and kindness hath led to wrath. They deny every righteous deed and make every easy thing difficult. How long, O my God, wilt Thou leave Thy wronged servants in the hands of the oppressors among Thy servants and the transgressors among Thy creatures? I beseech Thee, O Ocean of Generosity, by Thy Most Great Name, to make known to those who hate the fruits of their deeds and actions. Then enable them to turn back unto Thee. Verily Thou art the Powerful, the Mighty, the All-Bountiful.

O Jalal! Upon thee be the Glory of God, the Lord of the Day of Reckoning. On this day, which is the first day of the blessed Ramadan, the Wronged One is fasting. The petition of Ism-i-Jud hath attained the Most Holy Court, and thy mention was recorded therein. Therefore have We sent down for thee that whereby all things have soared unto God, the Lord of all beings.

Say: My God, my God! Praise be to Thee for having made known to me the Dawning-Place of Thy verses and inspired me with the wonders of Thy remembrance. I beseech Thee by the lights of Thy Most Great Name and the mysteries hidden in Thy knowledge, O Lord of eternity, to deliver Thy loved ones from the evil of every oppressor. Then preserve them, O my God, through Thy grace and Thy hosts and Thy sovereignty, and ordain for them that which will draw them nigh unto Thee. Verily Thou art the Powerful, the Mighty, the All-Bountiful.

Convey the greetings of the Wronged One to the loved ones in that land and give them the glad-tidings of the special favors of God, exalted be His glory. His honor Mulla Ahmad-ʿAli, upon him be My glory, was present and besought for each one that which hath been and ever shall be sanctified from peer and likeness. Be thankful and say: Praise be unto Thee, O God of all who are in the heavens and the earth.

That which was sent through Ism-i-Jud hath arrived and been accepted. The Glory be upon thee and upon those who have turned to and believed in God, the Single, the One, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

Volume 097: Akka 1307 A.H. (1889–1890), Part V (1 of 4)

BH03503: Glory be unto Thee, O my God! Thou seest…

He is the Single, the One, the Unique!

Glory be unto Thee, O my God! Thou seest one of Thy friends who hath turned unto Thee, detached from all else save Thee, clinging to the cord of Thy bounty, and who hath taken none beside Thee as helper, protector or object of his desire. I beseech Thee, O Ultimate Goal of the near ones and Utmost Hope of the sincere ones, by Thy Name through which Thou didst deliver the Interlocutor from Pharaoh and his hosts, and Thy Beloved One named Muhammad from Abu Jahl and his followers, to ordain through Thy Most Exalted Pen for him who is named Karim the good of the hereafter and of this world. O Lord! Thou seest him standing in service to Thy friends and speaking Thy praise amongst Thy servants. O Lord! Thou art the All-Bountiful, the Generous, the Ever-Forgiving, the Merciful. Ordain for him that which will exalt him through Thy Name and draw him nigh unto Thee in all conditions. Verily, Thou art the Self-Sufficient, the Most High.

O Karim! Thou hast been and art remembered before the Wronged One. In these days many have attained, and from the sweets that were sent each received a portion. These sweets have no equal, for they were sent with utmost love and affection and in delicacy have reached the highest summit. They were sent for the sake of God and we gave them away for the sake of God. Well done to the sender, and blessed and wholesome be it to the distributor and giver! We beseech God to assist thee in that which will cause His Cause to be manifested and elevated. In every instance mention of thee hath issued from the tongue and flowed from the Pen. Assuredly unending fruits are ordained for these mentions. Soon shall the sincere ones behold the effulgences of their Lord's lights, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. The glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of thy Lord's bounty be upon thee and upon thy son and those with thee and those who love thee for the sake of God, the Lord of the worlds. We send greetings to the loved ones of that land and give them the glad-tidings of the lights of the Sun of Truth. Blessed are they that attain, and joy be to them that are steadfast.

BH03531: This is a Book which the All-Merciful has sent…

He is the One Who speaks the truth!

This is a Book which the All-Merciful has sent down to him who has turned and hearkened and said:

> "Yea, O Thou Who art the Goal of all who are in the heavens and on earth! I am he who has taken Thee as his Lord and has forsaken the religion of a people who believe not in Thee and in Thy signs."

Thus has the matter been decreed by My Most Exalted Pen at this hour. Blessed is He Who has appeared and revealed what He desired and caused all things to speak that there is none other God but Him, the Single, the All-Informed.

Say: O people! He Who was promised in the Books of God and concealed from His servants has come. Thus did the Tongue of Grandeur speak as He walked in His sacred and luminous place. This is the Day wherein have appeared the hidden pearls from the ocean of God, the Lord of all worlds. Blessed is he who has heard the Call and turned and said: "Praise be to Thee, O Thou Goal of the mystics!" The verses have been sent down and the evidences have appeared, yet the people remain in manifest heedlessness. Joy be to the servant who has turned and attained, and woe to the heedless!

Say: O people! Be fair in what has appeared in truth and be not of those who denied God's proof and His evidence and committed that which caused the dwellers of Paradise and those who circle round the Throne to lament, both morn and eve.

When the rapture of the Call takes hold of thee, turn thy face toward the Kaaba of God, the Help in Peril, the Self-Subsisting, and say:

> "Praise be to Thee, O Lord of the world, and glory be to Thee, O Desire of the nations, for having remembered me in the prison when I was in the hands of those who disbelieved in the Day of Judgment! I beseech Thee by the rustling of the Divine Lote-Tree and the lights of Thy Throne, O Lord of all beings, to make me one of those who have sacrificed their souls and all they possessed in Thy path. O Lord! Thou seest the lowly one seeking the tent of Thy glory and the thirsty one the Kawthar of Thy utterance. I beseech Thee not to disappoint him of what he desires from the ocean of Thy bounty and the heaven of Thy grace. Verily Thou art God, the Powerful, the Mighty, the Bountiful."

BH03486: The Peerless Friend, while imprisoned among His enemies…

He is the Hearer, He is the Answerer

The Peerless Friend, while imprisoned among His enemies, is occupied with remembrance and praise. He has had and has no purpose except the reformation of the world and all that is therein, that perchance the world-consuming sun of ignorant fanaticism may be extinguished and the East and West of the world may become connected and united in all respects. However, the heedless ones and the atheists have prevented this and deprived the servants of the ocean of bounty. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to deliver the servants from their heedlessness and protect them from His enemies and draw them nigh unto Him through His grace and generosity and send down upon them from the clouds of generosity the rains of His mercy. Verily, He is powerful over all things.

O Hasan-ʿAli! Thy letter was presented before the Wronged One. We heard thy call and have responded with this blessed Tablet, that thou mayest read it and be of the thankful ones. In the Tablets We have commanded all to observe wisdom, and wisdom consists in such deeds and character as will cause the attraction and drawing nigh of the servants. However, some have committed that which was not befitting the divine days. We counsel thee to manifest such deeds and character as will cause the exaltation of the

station of the servants. Hearken unto the counsel of the Wronged One. Verily He will assist thee through His grace, and He is the All-Bountiful, the Generous.

Return to thy locality is not permitted in these days. Remain for a time in another place, placing thy trust in God, until God bringeth thee tidings from His presence—a command from His presence. Say: My God, my God! I am Thy servant and the son of Thy servant. I have turned to the heaven of Thy bounty and the ocean of Thy generosity. I beseech Thee by the pearls of the shell of the sea of Thy bestowal and the breaths of Thy revelation and the nobility of Thy days to protect me from the evil of Thine enemies. O my Lord! Thou seest me turning unto Thee and holding fast to Thy cord. Ordain for me that which will draw me nigh unto Thee and protect me from the evil of Thine enemies. Verily Thou art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest and in Thy grasp are the reins of all affairs. There is no God but Thee, the All-Merciful, the All-Forgiving.

BH03451: Verily the rock crieth out and the people hear…

Verily the rock crieth out and the people hear not. Verily the divine tree calleth and the people comprehend not. Verily the fire speaketh and the people perceive not. And the Lord of Sinai speaketh and most of the people know not. They pass by the signs and look not. They behold the Most Great Scene and yet turn away from it. They come before the Countenance and recognize not. They hear the Call and perceive not.

And among them is one who hath gathered My writings without My leave, seeking naught but to harm Me. Thus did his soul entice him, and he is today among those who are heedless in My perspicuous Book. We beseech Him to protect His verses from such as these, to draw them nigh unto Him and to make them of the fair-minded. Blessed is the servant whom vain desire hath not prevented from pure sincerity, and whom names have not frightened from turning to God, the All-Informed.

We have heard thy call and made mention of thee. We have seen thy turning to Us and We have turned to thee. Let not the doubts of those who have denied the Day of Judgment prevent thee. Take hold of the Book with the power that proceedeth from Him, and be not of the patient ones. He will assist thee and protect thee and aid thee with the hosts of utterance. Thy Lord is verily the Almighty, the All-Powerful. Grieve not at anything, but in all matters place thy trust in God, the Lord of the Mighty Throne.

Glorified be He Who hath sent down the verses and manifested the Cause as He wished and willed. He is verily the Commander, the All-Wise. Nothing escapeth His knowledge, nor do the affairs of the world and the clamor of nations prevent Him. He doeth what He willeth and ordaineth what He pleaseth.

When thou findest the fragrance of My utterance and drinkest the choice wine of My knowledge, say: My God, my God! Praise be to Thee for having illumined my heart with the light of Thy knowledge and enabled me to acknowledge that which Thou hast sent down in Thy Book. I beseech Thee by the Point through which Thou didst detail the scrolls of Thy lovers in Thy kingdom, to assist me to be steadfast in Thy Cause. Thou art verily the Almighty, the All-Bountiful, the Mighty, the All-Informed.

BH03522: To be typed

To be typed.

BH03588: O My Leaf! Upon thee be My glory…

He is the Compassionate, the All-Bountiful!

O My Leaf! Upon thee be My glory and My loving-kindness. There hath appeared before Me at this moment one of My Branches who hath been named Diya (Radiance) in My perspicuous Book. We have commanded him to write for thee that which hath been sent down from the heaven of My bounty and the atmosphere of My loving-kindness, that thou mayest render thanks unto thy Lord, the Forgiving, the Merciful.

The Word of God which today floweth and descendeth from the Supreme Pen is among those righteous deeds which have been recorded in the divine Books and Tablets. All things shall return to extinction. His word is exalted: "All things shall perish save His Face." Blessed is the soul that hath today attained unto the divine Word which hath appeared from the Eternal Pen. This Word shall not be overtaken by extinction. This is the deed that shall not be erased from the Book. Blessed is the soul that hath attained unto it. This Wronged One beareth witness at this moment that that leaf hath attained thereunto. Give thanks unto thy Lord for this great bounty. Praise thy Lord for this glorious remembrance.

Adorn thyself with the ornament of trust, resignation and submission, and say: My God, my God! Praise be unto Thee for having remembered me in Thy Most Great Prison, and thanksgiving be unto Thee for having revealed unto me that which shall endure as long as Thy dominion and Thy kingdom, Thy glory and Thy sovereignty shall endure, O God of the worlds! I have resigned my affairs unto Thee and placed my trust in Thee. Verily Thou art the Gracious, the Bountiful, the Forgiving, the Merciful. I beseech Thee to ordain for me and those with me that which will draw us nigh unto Thee and profit us. Verily Thou knowest us better than we know ourselves. There is none other God but Thee, the Truth, the Knower of things unseen.

By Thy glory, O my Best-Beloved and my Heart's Desire! This handmaiden and leaf of Thine loveth naught but what Thou lovest and desireth naught but what Thou desirest. I beseech Thee by the fragrances of the morn of Thy manifestation and the lights of the Sun of Thy utterance to ordain for me that which will solace mine eyes and bring rest to my heart. Then cause me to be content with Thy good-pleasure and to hold fast unto the cord of Thy bounty. Verily Thou art the Almighty, the Glorious, the All-Bountiful.

BH03763: O Muhammad-Baqir! Hearken unto the Call from the direction…

He is the All-Remembering, the All-Knowing.

O Muhammad-Baqir! Hearken unto the Call from the direction of ʿAkka. Verily, it guideth thee unto the path of God, the Lord of all worlds. We have remembered thee before, and at this time with a remembrance whereby the hearts of the sincere ones have been attracted. We beseech God to assist

thee and His loved ones, and to aid you in that which will draw you nigh unto Him. Verily, He is the Almighty, the All-Powerful.

The Greater Branch hath appeared before Our face and mentioned thee in such wise that We perceived from him the fragrance of thy love and thy turning and thy submission to God, the Lord of the Glorious Throne. It behooveth Us and others on this day to beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to protect His Cause and His religion from those who have disbelieved in Him and His verses, and have denied His sovereignty which hath encompassed all who are in the heavens and on earth.

In truth, the light of utterance hath encompassed all who are in the realm of possibility, and the signs of the Sun of divine bounty are manifest from every direction. Blessed is the eye that seeth and the ear that heareth, and woe unto the heedless ones!

Say: My God, my God! I testify to Thy oneness and Thy singleness, and to Thy might and Thy greatness and Thy sovereignty and Thy power and Thy strength and Thy dominion. Thou hast ever been sanctified from the mention of aught else but Thee and exalted above the description of any other than Thee. I beseech Thee, O Thou Who bestoweth abundant favors, by Thy Most Great Name and by Thy Prophets and Thy Messengers and by Him Whom Thou hast chosen through Thy power and made the Dawning-Place of Thy mighty signs and the Manifestation of Thy beauteous names, to protect me and Thy loved ones from the oppression of those who have violated Thy covenant and Thy testament. O my Lord! Thou seest me turning toward Thee and clinging to the hem of the robe of Thy mercy. I beseech Thee not to disappoint me of that which Thou hast ordained for Thy chosen ones by the Pen of Thy decree. O my Lord! Open before my face and before those who are with me a door from the doors of Thy bounty and grace. Verily, Thou art the Almighty, the Exalted, the All-Bountiful.

BH03757: O ʿAbdu'l-Husayn! Praise be to God Who caused thee…

He is the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing

O ʿAbdu'l-Husayn! Praise be to God Who caused thee to hear His sweetest call, guided thee to His most luminous path, made thee know His way and taught thee His evidence. He, verily, is the Single, the One, the Mighty, the Powerful.

O ʿAbdu'l-Husayn! Thy letter hath arrived and We have heard that which thou didst call upon God, the Lord of the Throne and the Owner of the Earth, the Sovereign of Destiny and Master of Decree. Blessed be thy tongue for having attained to the remembrance of God, the Lord of the kingdom of earth and heaven, and blessed be thine ear for having hearkened unto His call when it was raised from the realm of might, and happy be thy heart for having turned and thy face for having been directed. We beseech Him, exalted be He, to send down upon thee from the clouds of His grace that which shall make thee one who exalteth His Cause and standeth firm in His service. He, verily, is the Mighty, the All-Bountiful, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

When thou hearest My call, say:

> “My God, my God! Deprive me not of the wonders of Thy grace, nor forbid me from the river of Thy mercy. O my Lord! I am Thy servant and the son of Thy servant. I believed in Thee when I heard Thy call. I testify that Thy grace did encompass me, Thy mercy did precede me, Thy bounty did make me know Thee, and Thy loving-kindness did teach me. I beseech Thee, O Originator of all things and Sovereign over all names, by Thy perspicuous Book and Thy mighty News, to aid me to do what Thou lovest and approvest. Then ordain for me the good of this world and the next. Verily, Thou art the Lord of the Throne and of the dust. There is none other God but Thee, the All-Bountiful, the Mighty, the Great.”

Convey My greetings to the loved ones and say: This Wronged One, Who hath become the object of the world’s hatred, maketh mention of you. The calumnies of the oppressors, the denial of the infidels, and the fire of the ungodly have not prevented the Tongue of Grandeur from remembrance. In all conditions He hath been looking toward the loved ones and speaking that which beseemeth. Thus hath the Tongue of My grandeur spoken in the kingdom of Mine utterance. Blessed is he who hath heard and attained, and woe unto the heedless ones.

BH03594: Praise be to God Who hath aided His servants…

He is the Manifest Book

Praise be to God Who hath aided His servants to turn unto Him and revealed unto them that which was hidden in knowledge, and assisted one of His leaves to act according to what He hath sent down in His Book. We beseech God to aid His servant who hath been named Muhammad-Rahim to perform such deeds as will diffuse the fragrance of divine acceptance, and to open before his face the gate of grace and bestowal. Verily, He is the One Who hath power over whatsoever He willeth. And salutation and remembrance and glory be upon every servant who hath turned with his heart to the Most Exalted Horizon and upon every leaf who hath clung to the Sadratu’l-Muntaha. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to assist them with the hosts of the unseen and the visible and to draw them nigh unto Him. Verily, He is the Almighty, the All-Powerful.

O My leaf! Thy letter was received and thy deed was adorned with the ornament of acceptance. God hath fulfilled for you both what He promised you in a Tablet from among the Tablets. Verily, He is the All-Bountiful, the All-Generous. In all conditions occupy yourselves with the mention and praise of the Goal of all the worlds. Verily, He hath heard and heareth your mention, and He is the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing.

Convey to the handmaidens of that land the greetings of the Wronged One, and ʿAli-Qabla’l-Ha hath made mention of thy deed which hath been manifested in the path of God, and praise be to God, thou hast attained His good-pleasure and been adorned with acceptance. Verily, He doeth what He willeth and ordaineth what He pleaseth, and He is the Commander, the All-Wise. All the people of that household have been and are remembered in the presence of the Wronged One. Convey greetings to all of them and give them the glad-tidings of what God hath revealed. The petition of some hath been presented before the Most Holy Court. God willing, an answer shall be sent hereafter. The glory from Us be upon you, O My servants, and upon you, O My handmaidens, and upon every steadfast and firm one.

BH03671: God testifieth that there is none other God but…

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

God testifieth that there is none other God but Him, and He Who hath come from the heaven of proof is verily the Hidden Secret and the Treasured Symbol. Whoso loveth Him hath loved God, and whoso turneth unto Him hath turned unto God. He hath appeared and manifested what He desired, a Command from God, the Lord of Creation. God testifieth that He is the Truth, there is none other God but Him, and He Who speaketh is verily the Perspicuous Book and the Mighty Fortress, and through Him the Trumpet was blown and all who are in the heavens and earth were thunderstruck, save whom God willed, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

O My Most Exalted Pen! Hearken unto the call of thy Lord, the Most Glorious, Who calleth from the city of ʿAkka. Then make mention of one of My leaves and one of My handmaidens and say: Upon thee be glory and upon thee be praise from God, the Lord of all mankind, and upon thee be peace from God, the Lord of all names. We beseech God, the Lord of the Throne and earth, and the Lord of the Hereafter and of the former times, to adorn thee with the ornament of His pardon and forgiveness and to send down upon thee mercy from His presence. I testify that through My mention at this hour, the ocean of forgiveness surged from the right hand and the light of pardon shone forth from the presence of One tender and generous.

Blessed art thou, O My handmaiden, for My tongue hath been moved to make mention of thee and the rustling of grace was raised from the Tree of My loving-kindness, and joy be unto thee for there hath flowed in thy remembrance from My Most Exalted Pen the Euphrates of the mercy of God, the Lord of the worlds. I beseech Thee, O God of existence and Lord of the seen and unseen, by the pearls of the ocean of Thy generosity and by the lights of the sun of Thy bounty, to send down upon Thy handmaiden from the heaven of Thy munificence the rains of Thy most great mercy. Verily Thou art the Lord of all beings. Thou doest what Thou willest and ordainest what Thou pleasest. There is none other God but Thee, the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous.

BH03619: As We were walking in the prison, there came…

He is God, exalted be His glory, the Pardoning, the Bountiful, the Forgiving

As We were walking in the prison, there came from the heaven of utterance the Bird of Divine Knowledge, warbling in such wise as to draw unto it the hearts of those who have turned unto God, the Lord of Lords. We heard what it spoke and sent it to the Concourse on High with such mention as caused the sweet-scented breezes of the All-Merciful's utterance to waft throughout all possibility. O Abdullah! Thou wert mentioned before the Wronged One and present before His face, as the Mother of the Bayan doth testify from the most exalted station. The Pen hath borne witness to thy presence before the countenance of the Ancient King. Blessed art thou and blessed is he who hath quaffed the choice wine of revelation from the hand of the bounty of his Lord, the Possessor of all existence.

Grieve not at anything, for verily He is with thee and will guard thee with the hosts of the unseen and will inspire thee with that which will gladden thy heart and the hearts of them that are possessed of

understanding. We have desired to give thee glad-tidings of a mercy that hath preceded existence. Thy Lord is, verily, the Mighty, the All-Bountiful. God hath forgiven thy father, and at My mention of him the oceans of gifts and favors surged. We adorned him at the time of his ascension with the ornament of My love and sent down for him that which brought solace to all eyes. We beseech God to send down upon him, at all times, a mercy from His presence, a blessing from His side, and sustenance from His court.

He is verily the Almighty, the Glorious, the All-Bountiful. He hath been mentioned by one who hath loved Me and soared in My atmosphere and arisen to serve Me and to make mention of Me amongst My servants. We testify that he hath taken for himself, beneath the canopies of My grandeur, a station whereunto none hath attained save him who hath sacrificed his spirit and all that he possessed in the path of God, the Lord of all religions. The glory shining forth from the horizon of My utterance be upon him and upon thee and upon all who have not been hindered by the veils of glory from turning to the All-Possessing, the Most High.

BH03774: This is the Day of arising, and the Ancient…

He is the All-Wise Helper!

This is the Day of arising, and the Ancient Beauty is established upon the Most Great Throne. The Light is shining, the Fire is blazing, the Ocean is surging, the Atmosphere is adorned. We beseech God to grant strength unto man and to increase his vision, that all may behold with their own eyes and become aware.

O Taj'd-Din! Praise be to God that thy head hath been adorned with the crown of divine recognition. Thou didst purpose to reach the true Ka'bih and didst attain to His presence, and from the hand of bounty thou didst drink the cup of meeting. All this is from God's grace upon thee. Verily, My Most Exalted Pen beareth witness to thy turning toward the horizon of light, thy orientation toward the Countenance, thy standing before the Gate, and thy hearkening unto the Call of Him Who conversed on Sinai when He was established upon the throne of Revelation.

Thy Lord is verily the All-Bountiful, the Generous One. He preserveth the recompense of His servants' deeds in the treasuries of His protection and manifesteth unto them His grace and His mercy. He is the All-Forgiving, the Generous. There is none other God but He, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to assist thee to guide the servants and to make mention of Him throughout the lands. Convey My greetings to the loved ones in that land and illumine them with the splendors of the light of divine providence. Verily, He is with His loved ones, He heareth and seeth their deeds and whatsoever their tongues do utter. He is the Hearing, the Answering One.

In this day, unity and harmony are accounted before the Throne as the most excellent of all deeds. Blessed are they who occupy themselves with bringing hearts and souls together. They are of the people of Baha, to which the Kingdom of Utterance in this exalted station doth testify.

The glory from Us be upon thee and upon whosoever hath heard the Call from the Most Exalted Horizon and hath said:

> "Praise be unto Thee, O Thou the Goal of all who are in the heavens and on earth!"

BH03758: O ʿAli-Qabli-Nabil! Thy grief hath saddened Me. We have…

He is God, exalted be His glory, the Gracious, the Bountiful

O ʿAli-Qabli-Nabil! Thy grief hath saddened Me. We have mentioned thee in divers Tablets which We sent thither, and in them have We given thee glad tidings of God's loving-kindness and bounty, and of His grace and generosity. We desire now to send down for thee that which shall cause thy mention to endure throughout the eternity of His names and attributes and the Kingdom of God, the Revealer of verses. Grieve not over anything. He is with thee under all conditions. He heareth thy call and the sighing of thy heart. He is the Mighty, the All-Knowing.

By the life of God! We have revealed for thee that which hath caused all things to turn towards thee and to hear what hath been sent down in thy name in the Scriptures and Tablets. The evidences of thy Lord have encompassed the world. Blessed is he who hath heard and seen, and woe betide every heedless one who hath denied the proof of God, the Lord of lords.

Thy letter hath reached the Wronged One. We have answered thee with this Tablet, at whose revelation the Bayan hath bowed down in submission. When thou attainest unto My Tablet and that which hath been sent down from the heaven of My bounty, say: Praise be unto Thee, O my God, for having remembered me with a remembrance through which the fragrances of Thy loving-kindness have been wafted amongst the religions. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to assist thee to remain steadfast in this great steadfastness and to ordain for thee that which shall draw thee nigh unto Him. He is the Mighty, the All-Bountiful.

My God, my God! Thou seest Thy servant who is called ʿAli-Qabli-Nabil turning unto Thee, clinging to Thy cord, and detached from all else but Thee. I beseech Thee to ordain for him that which shall exalt him through Thy name amongst Thy servants and in Thy service throughout Thy lands. I testify, O my God, that he hath believed in Thee and in Thy signs, and hath drunk the choice wine of faith from the cup of Thy bounty and the Kawthar of certitude from the hand of Thy grace. I beseech Thee to open before his face the doors of Thy mercy, Thy gifts and Thy favors, and to ordain for him that which shall profit him in every world of Thy worlds. Verily Thou art the Generous, the Possessor of great bounty. There is no God but Thee, the Mighty, the Forgiving, the Merciful.

BH03606: Verily the Book crieth out before the faces…

He is the Hearing, the Answering One!

Verily the Book crieth out before the faces of the world: The Hidden One hath appeared, Who was concealed from eyes and inscribed in the Books of God, the Lord of Lords.

O My Afnan! Upon thee be My glory and My loving-kindness. Be not grieved by what hath befallen thee, for ye are the dawning-places of the joy of the world and the daysprings of gladness to the nations. That which will cause the lamp to shine hath been ordained for you in the Tablets. Soon shall the believers behold that which hath been ordained for you from God, the Powerful, the Mighty, the Bestower.

Though the calumnies of the calumniators have encompassed all, yet the Wronged One remaineth seated upon the throne of utterance at all times. If darkness denieth Him, the Sun beareth witness to His light and sovereignty, and acknowledgeth His grace and bounty. In all conditions, with utmost joy and gladness, delight and expansion, be ye engaged in the mention and praise of the Lord of the kingdoms of grace, mercy and loving-kindness. After nights come days, and after sorrow cometh joy. We beseech God, the Lord of what was and what will be, to preserve thee and assist thee and confirm thee in that which will endure as long as His names endure. Verily He is the Lord of the mighty Throne and the exalted Seat.

Repeatedly hath the Most Great Branch, upon Him be My glory and loving-kindness, made mention of you and your labors. Blessed is he who turneth unto you and heareth from you that which draweth him nigh unto God, the Lord of the worlds. By the life of God! Mention of you and your services in the path of God have been inscribed by the Most Exalted Pen in the Crimson Book. With complete determination ye must arise to serve the Cause of the Lord of all beings. This is your station, as all things bear witness, and beyond them We are the All-Knowing, the All-Informed Witness.

The glory from Us be upon thee and upon those who are with thee and who love thee and hearken to thy word in this mighty, wondrous Cause.

BH03662: Glory be to God! This Wronged One was manifestly…

He is the Wise Counsellor, the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous.

Glory be to God! This Wronged One was manifestly wronged when they brought Him from the Land of Mystery to the prison of ʿAkka, and certain friends, intending to reach their ultimate goal, circled round about. As fate would have it, a certain person engaged in deeds that threatened his very life. Therefore, this Wronged One summoned him and counseled him with wise exhortations and loving advice, sending him from the Most Great Prison to the Great City. By the life of God! We had no purpose except to protect him. Yet after his return and departure, he conducted himself in the Great City in ways that are best left unmentioned.

His Honor Haji Mirza Siyyid Hasan Afnan had no thought except to remain secluded in this land. All are aware and can testify to what has been mentioned, for they have reached an age where coming and going has become difficult for them. They rely upon God and are content with whatever befalls them. Nevertheless, in league with Akhtar, they wrote concerning the aforementioned Siyyid, who is the most learned and distinguished of Iran’s scholars, that which has caused the people of the cities of justice to lament. This Wronged One has in all conditions remained grateful and silent.

Later it became known that the editor of Akhtar had formed a close alliance with one of the opposers, and moreover, seeing this Wronged One without helper or assistant, showed his valor and inflicted that which pen and tongue are ashamed to mention. Now a few have united to harm this Wronged One, but naught shall befall Us except that which God hath prescribed for Us. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to aid all to return, to repent, and to be truthful. Verily, He is powerful over all things.

BH03742: O friends of God in the B and H…

He is the One Who Warbles upon the Branches

O friends of God in the B and H, and O My loved ones in the H and S! Hearken unto My call when the trumpet is sounded, and those in the graves arise, and all things proclaim: “The Kingdom belongeth to God, the Almighty, the Self-Subsisting!” Ye have ever been and continue to be remembered before the Wronged One. Ye dwell in your homes while the Wronged One is confined in a mighty prison. He maketh mention of you and summoneth you to the supreme horizon. Today the gate of grace is opened wide and the ocean of bounty is manifest, and the Sun of Truth shineth forth and is evident—nay, speaking—from the horizon of the heaven of God’s will. Blessed is the eye that hath attained to behold, and the ear that hath been enabled to hear. Today the friends must fix their gaze upon that which the All-Merciful hath revealed in the Qur’an: “Say: God; then leave them to their vain disputes.” Whosoever attaineth unto this station hath attained unto the most great steadfastness. Neither the clamor of the enemies’ chains nor the commotion of the parties shall thereafter prevent him from turning to the Lord of all beings.

Today trust and orientation toward the Beloved are essential, that perchance there may appear from the friends that which shall endure forever in God’s Book. He is verily the Helper, the All-Bountiful. We beseech God to protect His party and to sanctify them from the doubts of the barking ones and the hints of the opposers. Blessed is the soul that hath attained unto the ornament of detachment and been illumined with the light of godliness. Such a one is the knight in the arena of inner meanings and utterance. Blessed be they who possess insight and they who hear. Command and will and protection are from God, the Lord of the worlds. O Abdu’l-Ali! Thy name was present before the Wronged One and He made mention of thee in such wise as to attract the hearts of the believers. We beseech God to strengthen thee with such steadfastness as the hosts of the world and the armies of the oppressors shall not prevent. Praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH03661: Glorified be God! Today the divine verses have encompassed…

In the name of the one true God!

Glorified be God! Today the divine verses have encompassed all things, and from the Dayspring of divine revelation at every moment there appears and rises a utterance the like of which the eye of the world and the ears of nations have never seen or heard. And pearls of wisdom and utterance are at every moment manifest and visible from the treasury of the Supreme Pen. By God’s life! Those possessed of knowledge and insight are incapable and powerless to determine its worth and station.

Nevertheless, some have turned away from the utterance of the Lord of all names and occupy themselves with the buzzing of flies. Say: O people of the Bayan! Open your eyes! Today is not the day for mentioning names. Pass by that which is neither worthy nor befitting. Defile not the Day of God with mention of this one and that one.

Verily He hath appeared and come, despite those who follow self and passion. This Wronged One hath ever been and is afflicted in the hands of the heedless, and in the midst of tribulations uttereth the Most

Great Word and is occupied with the mention of the loved ones. Beseech ye God that He may enable all to that which is adorned with the glory of acceptance.

One pure deed performed for the sake of God is mentioned before God as above the heavens. Strive that ye may attain to that which is illumined with the light of His good-pleasure.

Blessed is the All-Bountiful Who hath appeared and revealed that which draweth the people nigh unto the Most Sublime Horizon—the station wherein all things proclaim: The Promise hath come and the Promised One hath appeared with a sovereignty that hath conquered all who are in earth and heaven.

Be thou thankful unto thy Lord for this Tablet from whose horizon hath shone the Sun of bounty from God, the Lord of the Kingdom of Names. The glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My utterance be upon thee and upon those who have not broken God's Covenant, the Lord of creation.

BH03761: O Muhammad! Upon thee be My glory and My…

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

O Muhammad! Upon thee be My glory and My peace! The breezes of revelation have perfumed the world of justice and fairness, and the hand of power hath unlocked the doors of grace and bounty with the Most Great Name. The purpose of God—glorified be His majesty—in creating the means of heaven and earth hath been the ease, comfort and progress of His servants. However, in most souls, tyranny and wickedness have overcome righteousness and piety, and kept them from drawing nigh unto God. The world-consuming greed hath encompassed creation, save whom God willeth. We beseech God to aid thee in uniting hearts and bringing souls together, and likewise in performing good deeds and developing praiseworthy character traits, and in that which the All-Giving hath revealed in the Book.

The first divine bestowal after the realization of existence hath been commands and prohibitions, and each is a clear fortress and manifest army for the protection of the servants. Some time ago thy letter was presented before the Wronged One, mentioning certain souls. A Most Holy, Most Exalted Tablet was sent especially for each one. We beseech God to aid all to perform deeds. By the life of God! This Wronged One and those who accept Him in this land hold fast to the strong cord of fasting and prayer and the deeds mentioned in the Book. Convey My greetings to the friends. It is hoped that henceforth souls will attain the answers to their petitions as before. At the end of the Book We counsel all to trustworthiness, religiosity, truthfulness and purity. Blessed is he who hath cast away vain desire and held fast to the Sure Handle. Peace and glory be upon thee and upon God's loved ones there, and the mercy of God and His blessings and bestowals and favors.

BH03640: Praise, glory, thanksgiving and splendor befit the Absolute Sovereign…

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

Praise, glory, thanksgiving and splendor befit the Absolute Sovereign Who attracted weak creation through the light of utterance and adorned it with the ornament of supreme power. Through one blessed word He caused the new creation to blaze like a sphere of fire and sent it forth with a mission. He is the

Powerful One Whom the might of the world did not prevent and the power and dominion of nations did not hold back from His purpose. Glorified be His majesty and universal be His bounty!

O thou who hast turned! Hear the call of the Wronged One. Verily He guideth thee to the path of God, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting, and teacheth thee that which will draw thee nigh unto Him. He is, verily, the One with power over whatsoever He willeth through His word "Be" and it is.

Thy letter hath come before the Wronged One and was read by one of My Branches who was named the Light in the Book of Names. We have answered thee with this Tablet as a grace from Our presence and a favor from Our side, that thou mayest thank thy Lord, the Possessor of the Promised Day. When thou attainest unto My Tablet and findest the fragrance of My utterance, say:

My God, my God! Praise be to Thee for having given me to drink from the Kawthar of Thy knowledge, guided me to Thy path, attracted me through Thy verses, and caused me to attain unto Thy days and to recognize the Dawning-Place of Thy signs and the Dayspring of Thy clear proofs. I beseech Thee by the Crimson Scroll and by what was revealed therein of Thy greatest signs, and by Thy Name, the Self-Subsisting, through which Thou didst break the seal of Thy Choice Wine, that Thou make me among those whom the oppression of the oppressors hath not prevented from drawing nigh unto Thee, nor the clamor of the heedless from turning to the door of Thy grace. O Lord! I am Thy servant and the son of Thy servant. I have desired from the heaven of Thy bounty that which will make me steadfast in Thy love and firm in Thy Cause. O Lord! Disappoint me not from the ocean of Thy generosity and the heaven of Thy bestowal. Verily Thou art the Powerful, the Compassionate, the Mighty, the All-Bountiful.

BH03743: O My loved ones! Hear ye My call. Verily…

He is the Consoler, the Compassionate, the Forgiving, the Merciful!

O My loved ones! Hear ye My call. Verily it draweth you unto My horizon, and exalteth you among My servants, and maketh mention of you through that which hath appeared in My wondrous Day. We have revealed the verses and manifested that which was hidden in the Books of God, the Lord of all worlds. And We have sent down from the heaven of proof that which hath attracted the hearts of the sincere ones. Blessed are ye, inasmuch as ye have cast away vain imaginings and taken hold of that which hath been sent down from the heaven of the bounty of your Lord, the Forgiving, the Merciful.

Sorrow not for what hath befallen you. By My life! We have sent down unto him who hath ascended unto Us that which causeth the Table to descend from the heaven of the favor of his Lord, the Compassionate, the Bountiful. Through My remembrance of him hath the fragrance of loving-kindness and bounty been diffused—to this testifieth he who possesseth knowledge of the Book from God, the Mighty, the Powerful.

We counsel you to patience and forbearance, from which the believers perceive the fragrance of loving-kindness and detachment, and the sincere ones inhale the sweet savors of righteousness. Thus hath the Pen spoken from this Most Exalted Station, as a mercy from Him, and He is the Mighty, the Praised.

Be ye in such a state that the happenings of the world grieve you not in this Day wherein the Lord of the Kingdom of Names calleth from this glorious and transcendent Spot. Verily, sorrow is forbidden save for that which hath befallen Us at the hands of the oppressors. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to comfort you and console you, and to open before your faces the doors of His bounty, and to ordain for you that which He hath ordained for His chosen ones and trusted ones. Verily, He is the Powerful over what He willeth. There is no God but Him, the Mighty, the Powerful. Nothing whatsoever escapeth His knowledge. He hath witnessed what hath befallen you and hath spoken that whereby your names and remembrances shall endure throughout the kingdom of the Mighty, the Praised.

The splendor shining forth from the horizon of the heaven of My bounty be upon My loved ones and upon My handmaidens who have turned unto Me, and have hearkened, and have believed in God, the Lord of the exalted Throne.

BH03597: The Hidden Secret hath been revealed in truth…

He is the True Counselor

The Hidden Secret hath been revealed in truth with a sovereignty that encompasseth all the worlds. Verily, He is the One concealed within the treasury of God's protection, Who hath appeared through grace by a command that was in truth witnessed. Through Him the Cry was raised up, all things gave utterance, and the Herald proclaimed from the Most Exalted Paradise:

"O people of creation, be your eyes cheered, for He Who was promised in the Mother Book hath come!" When the appointed time arrived, the Light shone forth from the horizon of manifestation, and the Mount called out. By God! The Tree cried out and the Rock exclaimed, and the Command was decreed in truth by God. Aid your Lord, the All-Merciful, through wisdom and utterance, and follow not him who was far removed from the Dayspring of Revelation. This is a Day wherein the fragrance of God hath wafted. Blessed is he who hath chosen for himself a path unto Him. Fear God, O people! By God, the Day hath come and that which was hidden behind the veils of light hath appeared, and God is witness to what I say.

We heard thy call and answered thee, and sent thee a Tablet that was sealed with the seal of glory. Through it the mountains passed away and the earth shone with the light of the Command. Blessed is he who hath witnessed and seen, and woe unto every denier who was veiled from the truth. When thou hearest the call from the Tree of Knowledge, say: "Glory be unto Thee, O my God! I am Thy servant and the son of Thy servant. Aid me to shatter the idols of self and passion, and adorn me with the ornament of righteousness and piety. O my Lord! Thou seest the ignorant seeking the ocean of Thy knowledge, the remote one the court of Thy nearness, and the seeker the Dayspring of Thy Manifestation.

I beseech Thee to assist me in that which will guide people to Thy path. Thou art He Whose power and sovereignty the signs have testified, and Whose bounty and bestowals all things have witnessed. Ordain for me what Thou hast ordained for Thy chosen ones who have turned unto Thee and aided Thy Cause through the wisdom that was inscribed in the Tablet."

BH03598: My God, my Lord, my Support and my Goal!…

In the Name of God, the Most Merciful, the Most Compassionate

My God, my Lord, my Support and my Goal! I bear witness before You, Your Messengers, Your chosen ones, the sincere among Your servants, those near to You among Your creation, and Your angels, that I have believed in You and in Your signs, and have acknowledged Your oneness and Your singleness, and whatsoever You have sent down in Your Books, Your Scriptures, Your Psalms and Your Tablets. I hold fast to Your sure handle and cling to the hem of Your mercy. O Lord of all beings, Lord of the throne on high and of the earth below! I beseech You, O King of Kings, Merciful to the servant, Sovereign of the realms of might and kingdom, by Your Beloved One through Whose advent You honored the heavens of Your power and spread the signs of Your oneness among Your servants, and by the waves of the ocean of Your knowledge among religions in the contingent world, to assist Your servants in that which You have commanded them in Your Book, then enable them to perform what You have ordained for them through Your binding command and Your firm decree.

By Your might, O Ultimate Goal of the mystics and Purpose of the sincere ones, this Wronged One has in all conditions held fast to the cord of Your commandments and ordinances. I beseech You to enable Him to perform such deeds whereby You distinguish between the obedient and the rebellious, truth and falsehood, light and darkness. O my Lord! Enable Your servants to do what You love and are pleased with, and ordain for them the good of this world and the next. I testify that You have commanded Your creation to that which draws them near to You and preserves them from the evil of self and passion, and from tyranny and wickedness. I testify that Your power has encompassed all created things and Your mercy has preceded all contingent beings.

I beseech You not to disappoint those who have set their faces toward the gate of Your grace, nor the sincere ones from the wonders of Your bounty and generosity. Verily You are the Almighty, the Glorious, the Unconstrained.

Your letter was received. God has commanded all to righteousness and piety, and forbidden them from tyranny and wickedness. O servant, patience and protection of the child is necessary. Peace be upon you and upon God’s righteous servants.

BH03935: O My handmaiden and My leaf! Repeatedly have We…

He is God, the Compassionate, the All-Bountiful!

O My handmaiden and My leaf! Repeatedly have We heard thy cry, and despite encompassing tribulations and mighty calamities, have We sent down a reply. The glance of His grace and mercy hath ever been and still is directed towards His loved ones. We bear witness that thou hast attained unto the presence and hast recognized the sanctity of My Being and the detachment of My Essence from all that the people possess. The mention of him who hath believed, upon him be My glory, hath ever been and still is before the Most Holy Court. We, verily, have purified Our loved ones and illumined them with the light of acceptance and adorned them with the ornament of love and kindled them with the fire that shone forth on the Mount of Knowledge upon the son of Imran.

O thou who hast believed, give thanks unto thy Lord, and O My leaf, render thanks unto thy Master, for He hath made mention of you both while in prison in various Tablets. We beseech God to aid you both in that whereby your mention shall endure in My Perspicuous Book. The Trustee, upon him be the glory of God, the Lord of all worlds, hath acted according to thy wish and the light of hospitality hath risen and shone forth from the horizon of the garden. Blessed is he in what he hath done and blessed are ye both in what ye have accepted. The decree is manifest, the bounty is present, and the table hath been sent down. It behooveth every soul to render thanks unto their Lord for this manifest grace.

The Primal Point—may the spirit of all else but Him be sacrificed for His sake—hath said, exalted be His mention:

> "Should anyone drink a cup of water at your home, it is greater than if every soul should drink the water of its own existence, nay, than all things."

O My servants, would that ye could comprehend! Praise be to God, thou hast attained unto that whereof the people of the earth are deprived, save whom God willeth, the Lord of the mighty Throne.

The glory from Us be upon you both and upon My loved ones there and upon My leaves who have clung to the Tree that speaketh by night and by day:

> "O peoples of the earth! Let your eyes be solaced, for the Promised One hath come and the Hidden One hath been revealed with manifest sovereignty!"

BH03797: God willing, may the friends of God be illumined…

He is the One Who speaks in the Kingdom of Utterance.

God willing, may the friends of God be illumined by the light of His Cause and be set ablaze with the fire of the blessed Tree—a blazing that will seize the world of existence and guide to the ocean of manifestation.

This Day is the Day of God wherein hath appeared that which had never appeared before. To this testifieth every fair-minded and discerning one, every knowing and informed one. The purpose of this Wronged One is to illumine the world with the light of unity and to transform the enmity and hatred between the various peoples into love and concord. We have obliterated from the Book strife and corruption, conflict and warfare and the like, and have enjoined upon all that which is praiseworthy. Well is it with them that act accordingly. The wrongdoers, however, have changed what is praiseworthy into that which is blameworthy and have concealed the virtues of this Revelation behind the veils of self and passion. But God will manifest that which He willeth. He is the Mighty, the Powerful, the All-Bountiful.

You must, under all conditions, be occupied with the remembrance of the Self-Sufficient, the Most High. Verily, He is the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

Say: My God, my God! Praise be to Thee for having given me to drink from the Kawthar of Thy utterance in Thy days and for having made me to know the Dawning-Place of Thy verses and the Dayspring of Thy clear tokens. I beseech Thee by Thy most sweet call which was raised betwixt earth and heaven, and by

Thy bounty which hath encompassed all existence, and by the light of Thy Cause whereby both the unseen and the visible have been illumined, to make me well-pleased with Thy good-pleasure, willing that which Thou willest, steadfast in Thy service, and speaking Thy praise amongst Thy servants. Thou art He Whose will and mercy have preceded all things, and Whose grandeur and power have encompassed all things. Thou ordainest as Thou pleasest. There is none other God but Thee, the Almighty, the All-Powerful, the All-Compelling, the All-Potent.

The glory shining forth from the horizon of the heaven of My bounty be upon thee and upon those who have turned towards the straight path of God and His momentous and most great announcement.

BH03894: This is a Book which the Wronged One hath…

He is the One dawning from the horizon of the heaven of utterance

This is a Book which the Wronged One hath sent down unto him who hath believed in God, His verses, His evidences, that which He hath revealed in His Book, and that which the tongue of His grandeur hath spoken forth when He was established upon the throne of His Name, the All-Loving. Thy letter hath come before the Wronged One. We have answered thee through this blessed and irrevocable Tablet. Praise be to God that thou hast attained unto the days of thy Lord and hast partaken of the sealed wine. God, exalted be His glory, hath assisted thee through the causes of the heavens and earth and hath guided thee to the supreme horizon. In the days when all turned away and clung to that which they possessed, remaining heedless and veiled from that which is with God, thou didst in truth attain unto this supreme bounty.

Preserve this station through His Name. Thou didst seek permission to attain His presence. At this time it hath been granted, and the luminary of permission hath dawned and appeared from the horizon of the heaven of God's command. However, this permission dependeth upon the requirements of wisdom. Ye must in all conditions be mindful of wisdom. At the time of attaining His presence thou shalt receive the answer to that which thou didst ask from the heaven of grace. He, verily, is the All-Merciful, the Bountiful. Say:

Glory be unto Thee, O my God! I beseech Thee by Thyself and by Thy Books, Thy Scriptures, Thy Scrolls and Thy Tablets, and by that which lay hidden therein of the mysteries of Thy knowledge, and by the Sovereign of Names through Whom Thou didst subdue all who are in earth and heaven, to inspire me at all times with that which will draw me nearer unto Thy Name, the All-Merciful. Moreover, ordain for me a light from the lights of the horizons of Thy generosity, that it may accompany me in every world of Thy worlds. O my Lord! I am the poor one, and Thou art the Strong, the Almighty, the All-Powerful. I am the supplicant, and Thou art the All-Hearing, the All-Answering. I beseech Thee not to disappoint me of that which is with Thee. Verily, Thou art the Ever-Forgiving, the All-Merciful.

BH03828: A remembrance from Us to her who turned, who…

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

A remembrance from Us to her who turned, who heard and who said:

"Here am I, O Lord of Eternity! Here am I, O Thou the Goal of all in the heavens and the earth!"

O My handmaiden, O My leaf! Hearken unto the call of the Wronged One Who hath been imprisoned for having summoned the people unto God, the Lord of all worlds. We desired light for the servants, but they desired for the Wronged One the fire of hatred and malice. Know thou assuredly that they are among the abased ones. Know that the glance of God's loving-kindness hath been and continueth to be directed towards thee. Sorrow not over anything. In all matters place thy trust in God, the Lord of the exalted Throne. Say: My God, my God! Leave me not alone, for Thou art the Best of inheritors. My God, my God! Forsake me not in solitude, for Thou art the Forgiving, the Merciful. My God, my God! Through Thy power, ordain for me a helper and protector.

O handmaiden of God! Today the decree of lineage is lifted, for nobility and exaltation depend solely upon God, glorified be His majesty. This Tablet is a manifest book and a great bounty. The world will change but this will not change. Every life is followed by death and every glory by abasement, but the glory of the Divine Word hath been and will continue to be eternal, its perpetuity sanctified from extinction and its rising sanctified from setting. No word that hath been recorded by the Most Exalted Pen can be erased, nor can centuries and ages alter it. Give thanks unto God that He hath sent down this Tablet from the heaven of His will in thy name, and say: Praise be unto Thee, O God of the worlds, and glory be unto Thee, O Beloved of those who are in the heavens and on earth!

BH03933: O my handmaiden! His honor Muhammad-Qabli-Taqi, upon him be…

In the name of the one Friend!

O my handmaiden! His honor Muhammad-Qabli-Taqi, upon him be the glory of God, has departed from his outward homeland for the love of God, intending to reach his most exalted homeland. Praise be to God, the means, by the command of the Causer of causes, assisted him and He confirmed him with the hosts of the seen and unseen, until he attained unto the sea and its waves, and the sun and its effulgence. And now he is occupied in service. We beseech God to assist him in all conditions. Verily He is the All-Sufficient, the Most Exalted.

He sent thy mention to the Most Holy Court, and this Tablet hath shone forth from the heaven of grace. Give thanks unto thy Lord for this clear Tablet and this mighty Book. We make mention of the handmaidens of that land and counsel them to be chaste and pure, that all may be sanctified from self and passion, may gaze toward the Most Exalted Horizon, and cling to the hem of His grace.

We make mention of My handmaiden, thy daughter, who hath ascended unto God, the Lord of all worlds. We beseech Him, exalted be He, to cause her to dwell in the highest Paradise through His mercy. Verily He is the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous.

The glory from Us be upon My male and female servants who have turned unto Him and have attained unto the recognition of the Announcement of God, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

O youth! The Wronged One mentioneth thee again at the end, that thou mayest give thanks unto Him Who hath come from the heaven of the Cause with the banners of the favors of thy Lord, the Mighty, the

Bestower. Say: Unto Thee be thanks, O my God, and unto Thee be praise, O my Goal, and unto Thee be glory, O my Beloved, for that Thou didst assist me with the means of the heavens and earth until Thou didst cause me to be present before the throne of Thy grandeur and the seat of Thy power, and didst cause me to hear that for the hearing of which ears were created, and didst show me that for beholding whose lights eyes were fashioned. I beseech Thee not to disappoint me of that which is with Thee. Verily Thou art the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous, and Thou art the Mighty, the Chosen One, and the Omnipotent, the All-Powerful over those who dwell in the kingdom of names and attributes.

BH03862: The Day hath come, yet the people have turned…

The Day hath come, yet the people have turned away from it. He Who was promised in His Books and Scriptures hath appeared, yet most of the people remain asleep. They stirred not at the Call when it was raised in truth, nor did they lift their heads when the Cry was raised with justice. We bear witness that they are recorded among the most lost in the Book of God, the Lord of all worlds.

Say: O people, fear God and follow not the desires of those who have denied God, the Master of the Day of Judgment. Arise to serve the Cause with such resolve that neither the oppression of the tyrannical nor the schemes of the treacherous can hold thee back.

Say: This is the Day with which God hath adorned His Books and Scriptures and Tablets. To this the Mother Book beareth witness from this exalted station.

Say: O people, fear ye God and follow not those who have taken lords unto themselves besides God. Follow Him Who hath come unto you and commandeth righteousness and piety—verily He is among the sincere counselors in this manifest time. He walketh and speaketh that which exalteth the Word of God and your stations. Blessed is he who hath heard and attained, and woe unto those who turn away.

This is a Day wherein verses have been sent down before the faces of the loved ones who have left their stations, turning toward the Most Exalted Station in the All-Glorious Horizon, until they arrived and heard and attained that which was inscribed by the Most Exalted Pen in the Books of the Prophets and Messengers.

When thou hearest the Call and art overtaken by the intoxication of the wine of utterance from the All-Merciful, say: My God, my God! Praise be unto Thee for having given me to drink, from the hand of Thy bounty, Thy sealed wine. I beseech Thee by Thy Name through which the Ark of Utterance sailed upon the sea of Thy knowledge by Thy leave and command, to assist me in that which befitteth Thy Manifestation and Thy emergence and Thy might and Thy grandeur and Thy choice. Verily Thou art the Omnipotent over whatsoever Thou willest, and in Thy grasp are the reins of all things, of the former and latter generations.

BH03938: O friends of God and His party! Hearken unto…

He is the Hearer, the Answerer

O friends of God and His party! Hearken unto the call of the Wronged One. Verily I say, the people of the Bayan are today observed to be deprived of the recognition of the Divine Day and its conditions. Say: O concourse of the heedless ones! This is the Day of God wherein none is mentioned save Him, and neither names nor that which is with the learned shall profit you. Cast aside the dawning-places of idle fancies and take what ye are commanded in His perspicuous Book. Today the sun speaketh "The All-Bestowing hath come" and the sea uttereth "The Creator of the heavens hath appeared" and the Mountain rejoiceth and is occupied with the Dayspring of Revelation. Strive that the colors and things and means of these two days may not withhold you from the everlasting bounty and eternal food.

In that land is present His Holiness the Afnan of the Divine Lote-Tree, upon him be the glory of God, the Dawning-Place of the Light of Oneness. Present yourselves before him at all times, and be engaged in the recitation of the decisive verses. Through them shall be kindled in your hearts the fire of the love of God and the light of His knowledge, and from the horizon of the heaven of your hearts shall rise the sun of His utterance. Verily He is the One Who, through His word, hath power over all things and dominion over all things through His sovereignty which hath conquered all who are in the heavens and earth. Praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

And We make mention of Ahmad-i-Qabl-i-ʿAli, upon him be My glory, and We give him the glad-tidings of that which We have manifested in his name—the pearls of wisdom and utterance from the treasuries of the Pen of his Lord, the All-Merciful. Blessed is he in that he hath turned and attained in days wherein most of the servants have turned away, save whom God hath willed, the Powerful, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy. And We have sent down for him another Tablet that he may rejoice and be of those who are firmly established in this Cause whereby the limbs of the ungodly have quaked and the tribes of the earth have lamented, save whom God hath willed, the Expounder of this wondrous exposition.

BH09181: We have remembered, and do remember, the friends…

He is the Ordainer, the Ancient of Days

We have remembered, and do remember, the friends in that land with a remembrance that shall endure and abide, and whose fragrance shall never cease from the world. Rejoice, O My loved ones, in this mighty bounty. We exhort all men unto that which shall redound to the exaltation and glory of the Word of God amidst His servants. Likewise, in such matters as conduce to the advancement of being, the upliftment of souls, and, above all, the education of children, it behoveth all to hold fast thereto. We have enjoined this upon you in sundry Tablets and in My Kitab-i-Aqdas. Blessed are they that act accordingly.

We beseech God to assist them all and to bestow upon them the grace to carry out this binding command which hath shone forth and been revealed from the Pen of the Ancient of Days. Beware lest the buzzing of flies affright you, or the power of the oppressors weaken you. With the power of faith, and with wisdom and utterance, guide the people unto the shore of the Most Great Ocean. By the Sun of Truth! the clamour of the heedless and the denials of the wayward are, in the sight of God, more contemptible than the buzzing of a fly—yet most of the people understand not.

O party of God! Hold fast to the hem of His most pure robe and be free and detached from the world and all that is therein. Blessed are ye, and joy be unto you. We bear witness that ye have attained unto that which no people before you have attained. To this doth the Tongue of Grandeur testify in this perspicuous moment. The glory be upon you and upon whosoever hath attained unto the knowledge of God, the Lord of all worlds.

In every city a teacher from among this party must be appointed for the instruction of children, and means must be provided for the teacher's livelihood, that he may with complete peace of mind occupy himself with what is required. We beseech God to assist the teachers through His might and power, and to grant them success in the education of His servants' children. Verily, He is powerful over all things and ready to answer.

BH04120: O Muhammad-Quli! Upon thee be the eternal glory…

O Muhammad-Quli! Upon thee be the eternal glory of God.

We have mentioned thee time and again and have given thee the glad tidings that thy deeds have attained the honor of acceptance. Give thanks to thy Lord for this manifest bounty.

Say: Praise be unto Thee, O my God, for having illumined my heart with the light of Thy knowledge and manifested in my deeds Thy good-pleasure, the mighty, the exalted. I beseech Thee by the treasuries of Thy knowledge and the repositories of Thy wisdom, and by Thy Most Great Command and Thy Most Ancient Name, to assist me in all conditions to serve Thee and to serve Thy loved ones, and to ordain for me that which befitteth Thy glory and Thy majesty, Thy Cause and Thy sovereignty. Verily, Thou art the Almighty, the All-Powerful.

Praise be to God, thy deed hath been accepted and it cannot be equaled by the deeds of nations who were heedless of the Cause and denied God, the Lord of the worlds. The Wronged One maketh mention of thee at a time when sorrows and grief have encompassed Him from all directions. Two heedless ones in the great city have arisen to bring about ruin, and with a few dirhams have led Akhtar astray to publish calumnies. But far, far be it! Soon shall they witness their own impotence and the recompense of their deeds from God, the Just, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. Through these intrigues they have sought to become acceptable to the enemies and the wicked among creation.

However, the Wronged One giveth thanks to God for what hath befallen Him and respondeth, saying: I do not complain of My distress and sorrow. I am content with His decree and His destiny, and I praise Him for what hath come upon Me in His path. To this testify the pebbles of the earth and their essence, and this truthful, trustworthy Tongue.

The glory from Us be upon the people of Baha who have taken hold of the Book, detached from every remote oppressor and every doubting ignorant one.

BH04059: The Divine Book, in most melodious tones within…

He is God, the Triumphant, the Manifest, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise

The Divine Book, in most melodious tones within the paradise of the All-Merciful's love, makes mention of the friends and summons all, in the sweetest voice, to the supreme horizon and the most glorious and transcendent station, saying: O friends of God and His trusted ones! Hearken unto this call that is raised from the most exalted horizon, and deprive not yourselves of the outpourings of these days, the wavelets of the Most Great Ocean, and the breezes of revelation. This is the Day of manifestation, and He Who conversed on Sinai gives glad tidings unto all. The people of God must, with the utmost joy and radiance, aid the Cause through goodly deeds and praiseworthy character. The hosts of God in this most mighty Revelation have ever been virtuous conduct, and it is incumbent upon every soul to hold fast unto it, as commanded by God, the Lord of all worlds.

O Aqanus! Thou art remembered before the Wronged One, and this most wondrous and most holy Tablet hath been revealed in thy name. Blessed art thou, for thou hast inhaled the fragrances of revelation and perceived the sweet-scented perfume of the verses of God, and hast attained unto this greatest bounty, in comparison with which the oceans of the world appear as but a drop. Beseech thou God—exalted be His glory—to aid thee to teach His Cause and to remain steadfast therein. Say: Praise be to Thee, O my God, and thanksgiving be unto Thee, O my Desire, for having illumined my heart with the light of Thy Cause and guided me unto Thy straight path. I beseech Thee, by the lights of the dawn of Thy Revelation, to assist me in making mention of Thee and in praising Thee with wisdom and utterance. Thou art, verily, the Almighty, the Glorious, the Bountiful.

BH03971: Light belongs to God, glory belongs to God, authority…

He is the One Who speaks before the faces of all peoples.

Light belongs to God, glory belongs to God, authority belongs to God, splendor belongs to God, and power belongs to God! He is the One Who, through His Most Exalted Word, guided those on earth from sheer heedlessness to the horizon of awareness and led them to the shore of the ocean of knowledge. His Word is the greatest elixir for the transformation of contingent beings and the elevation of the realities of existing things. Exalted be His sovereignty, exalted be His power, exalted be His dominion, and mighty be His proof! O Ali, upon thee be My glory! My Name Ali-Before-Akbar forwarded thy letter and petition to the Divine Presence and the Source of heavenly outpourings. It was honored with His gaze and attention. At this moment, one of the Branches of the Blessed Tree, His Holiness Diya, is present before Us. We have commanded him to pen this Tablet, from whose horizon's heaven hath shone forth the light of God's mercy, the Lord of the worlds.

Thou hast ever been and art still remembered. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to aid thee and His loved ones to that which will cause His Cause to be exalted amongst His servants. Verily, He is the Powerful, the Mighty, the All-Bountiful. Convey My greetings to the loved ones in that land. We counsel thee and My loved ones to trustworthiness, religiosity, truthfulness and purity. Verily thy Lord is He Who speaketh in His Most Mighty, Most Glorious Name amongst mankind. O Ali, convey greetings from this Wronged One to Mihdi. We have mentioned him before with verses that no remembrances can equal. Say: Be not grieved by the world's events, its hardship, its constraints, and its bounties. We beseech God

to open before thy face the gates of grace and bestowal. Verily He is the Lord of the Throne and earth, and He is the Hearing, the Responding One. Glory be upon you all.

BH04107: In My Name, the Remembering, the Speaking, the All-Knowing…

In My Name, the Remembering, the Speaking, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

O thou who hast turned to the Supreme Horizon! Hearken unto My most sweet call. Verily it guideth thee unto a station wherein thou shalt find naught save the breathings of revelation and wherein thou shalt witness naught but the dawning-lights of the Day-Star of the utterance of God, the Lord of all worlds. He hath appeared and made manifest His Cause that He may draw men nigh unto the Kaaba of God, the Almighty, the All-Glorious, the Most Great.

Say: O people! The veils of idle fancy have been rent asunder by the Finger of the Self-Subsisting. Cast away what ye possess and take hold of that which hath been sent down from the heaven of the will of your Lord, the Mighty, the All-Praised. He who loved Me and soared in the atmosphere of My love and drank the choice wine of Mine utterance from the cup of My bounty hath made mention of thee. We make mention of thee in this Tablet that shineth with manifest light.

Say: O people of the Furqan! Fear ye the All-Merciful, then judge with fairness concerning that which hath appeared in truth, and be not of the transgressors. O people of the Spirit! He Who ascended unto the heaven of proof hath come and mentioneth unto you a Cause from God, the Lord of all worlds. O people of the Torah! The Revealer of verses hath come and the Mount crieth out: “Ye have attained unto the Presence!” And the Tree exclaimeth: “O people of the earth! Open your eyes, for this is your Lord Who was promised by the tongue of them that drew nigh and of the Messengers.”

Beware lest ye deprive yourselves of the Most Pure Fountain which floweth from the Pen of God, the Master of the Day of Judgment. This is not the day to tarry when ye have heard the Call from the Supreme Horizon. Hasten, and be not of the patient ones. Thus have We sent down the verses and dispatched them unto thee that thou mayest be of the thankful ones.

And We desire to make mention of him who ascended unto the Supreme Companion, who was named ʿAli-Akbar in the Book of Names. Verily thy Lord, the All-Merciful, is the All-Compassionate, the All-Bountiful.

BH04007: God, exalted be His glory, hath created His servants…

In the Name of the one true God! The All-Glorious!

God, exalted be His glory, hath created His servants for His recognition. Blessed is the one who hath turned unto Him and attained unto true divine unity, which is the station wherein the Ancient Being is sanctified from all else save Him and His Essence is purified from all things. The abominable Shi’ites have not attained unto this most exalted station and sublime rank, and yet they count themselves among the believers in unity.

O friend! The handmaiden of God hath repeatedly mentioned thee, therefore We make mention of thee in this Most Holy, Most Exalted Tablet. We counsel thee to be trustworthy, religious, truthful and sincere. We beseech God to assist thee in that which leadeth to elevation and is the cause of exaltation. The friends have ever been and continue to be remembered, and for each We seek that which shall cause their name and fame to endure.

Say: O my God, my God! I testify to Thy oneness and Thy singleness. Thou hast no likeness in creation nor any equal in invention. I beseech Thee to ordain for me that which will draw me nigh unto Thee. Verily Thou art the Almighty, the Powerful.

Convey My greetings to the kinswoman. We have mentioned her mother time and again. We mentioned her before and mention her now, and We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to protect her and ordain for her the good of this world and the next. We make mention of Abdolbaha with such remembrance as will attract the hearts of the righteous.

We counsel all to perform good deeds and manifest praiseworthy character. Be not idle like the Babis. Do what God hath revealed in the Book. Peace be upon you and upon God's righteous servants.

BH04110: O Ja'far! Zaynu'l-Muqarrabin, upon thee be My glory…

He is the One Who gazeth from His Most Exalted Horizon

O Ja'far! Zaynu'l-Muqarrabin, upon thee be My glory and loving-kindness, hath time and again made mention of thee—that is, mention of the loved ones of that land—and from the heaven of divine utterance hath thy remembrance been sought. Therefore hath this Most Holy, Most Exalted Tablet been revealed. Blessed are they who drink from the oceans of inner meanings that lie hidden within the Words of God. Happy are they, and joy be unto them. Whatsoever was manifested by the loved ones in that land during the days when the fire of hatred was ablaze hath been accepted with honor, for the fragrance of being wronged wafteth therefrom, and God hath loved and continueth to love the wronged one. Being wronged is like the first ornament for the temple of man, and like a crown for the head of all who dwell within the realm of possibility.

In these days both men and women of that land have attained unto the mention of God. We have heard your sighing and lamentation, and have witnessed what hath befallen you. Blessed are ye for having shown patience. How excellent is the reward of them that are patient, as recorded in the Book of God, the Lord of all worlds! Cast behind you your sorrows, and take up the goblets of prosperity in the name of the Cleaver of the Dawn and the Sender of the Winds. Then drink therefrom the Salsabil of patience in My Name, and the Kawthar of resignation in remembrance of Me, the Mighty, the Wondrous. Let not the barking of the aggressive ones, which hath been raised from the right and the left, grieve you. God will soon seize them through His power, His might and His sovereignty. He, verily, is the Almighty, the Powerful. There hath befallen you what hath befallen Us. Blessed are ye, and joy be unto you, for having followed, in times of hardship, the example of the Lord of the Kingdom of Names. He is with you, witnessing and beholding. The glory from Our presence be upon you and upon those who have clung to the hem of the loving-kindness of their Lord, the Forgiving, the Generous.

BH04035: The Mystery of God from the Tree of Light…

He is the One Who rules over earth and heaven!

The Mystery of God from the Tree of Light upon the Spot of Manifestation has truly been witnessed. This is the Day wherein mysteries have been revealed, the trees have spoken, and the Lote-Tree of the Far Boundary has given glad tidings to the denizens of the Most Exalted Paradise and the Supreme Heaven of the appearance of Him Who conversed on Sinai, which was recorded by the Most Exalted Pen in the Tablet.

O people of names! Do not deprive yourselves from the Dayspring of the Cause, and follow not the vain imaginings of those who were, through justice, debarred from the Ocean of Light. Say: Beware lest the veils of glory prevent you from the Dawning-Place of Beauty. Cast aside that which is imaginary and take what you have been given on this Day, wherein the Sun of Utterance has shone forth from a horizon which was mentioned in the Book by the name of God.

Your name was present before the Wronged One. We have mentioned you with verses that nothing in existence can equal. Thus did the ocean surge and the fragrance waft through this Name, whereby the limbs of every idolater who was remote from the horizon of nearness did tremble.

When the attraction of My choice wine takes hold of you and My call draws you, say:

> "My God, my God! Praise be to Thee for having remembered me, and thanks be to Thee for having strengthened me, and glory be to Thee for having guided me. I beseech Thee by the rain-showers of the spring of Thy mercy and the lights of the Orb of Thy manifestation to ordain me as one of those whom no oppressor's wrong nor the power of any wicked one deterred, who with supreme steadfastness turned to Thee and gave up their lives in Thy path, O Lord of all beings! Then write down for me, through Thy bountiful favors, that which will make me detached from all else save Thee and holding fast to the cord of Thy bounty. Verily Thou art the One with power over whatsoever Thou willest, and within Thy grasp are the reins of all names. There is none other God but Thee, the Forgiving, the Generous."

BH04103: O people of Baha and companions of the Crimson…

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

O people of Baha and companions of the Crimson Ark! Hearken unto the call of God, the Lord of all beings, which hath been raised from this most exalted horizon. Verily, there is none other God but Him, the Single, the One, the Powerful, the Mighty, the Great. This is the Day wherein that which was recorded by the Supreme Pen in the Books of God, the Lord of this Great Announcement, hath been made manifest—the Announcement whereby the hearts of the idolaters were sorely troubled. We have observed thy turning and thy drawing nigh, and We have turned unto thee from this distant Shore and made mention of thee with that which gladdeneth the eye of true knowledge and attracteth the hearts of the sincere ones. Blessed is the stranger who hath sought the shelter of God, the Lord of all worlds, and

blessed is the poor one who hath laid hold on the cord of wealth from the presence of One mighty and powerful. When thou hearest the shrill voice of My Pen and findest My remembrance, say:

My God, my God! Praise and thanksgiving be unto Thee, and glory and splendor be upon Thee, for having sent down unto me from the heaven of Thy will that which hath raised me to the kingdom of Thy utterance and the heaven of Thy bounty. I beseech Thee by the Kawthar whereby Thou didst quicken Thy servants and creatures and didst manifest that which lay hidden within Thy knowledge, to make me one of them who have not been heedless of Thy remembrance and whom the hosts of vain imaginings have not kept back from turning unto Thee in Thy days. O Lord! Ordain for me what Thou hast ordained for Thy chosen ones who have forsaken the religion of a people that believed not in Thee and Thy signs, and who have turned unto Thee with radiant faces in Thy days. O Lord! I am Thy servant and the son of Thy servant. I have drunk the wine of true knowledge from the cup of Thy bounty and the Kawthar of utterance from the ocean of Thy grace. I beseech Thee to ordain for me that which shall make me rich through Thy riches and detached from all else besides Thee. Verily, Thou art the Powerful, the Single, the One, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

BH04146: In My Name which is sanctified above all names!

In My Name which is sanctified above all names!

Verily the Light hath shone forth in this hour from Mine evident horizon and hath called out with the most exalted call, saying:

> "O people of the realm of creation! That which was spoken of in the Books of God hath appeared, and He for Whose manifestation and advent the worlds were created hath come. Blessed is he who hath heard and recognized and said: 'I testify to that which the Books of God, the All-Compelling, the Self-Subsisting, have testified.' This is the Day wherein the Mother Book hath appeared and speaketh before all faces, yet most of the people understand not. They have cast the Book of God behind their backs and taken that which was forbidden them in My preserved Tablet."

O Ahmad! By God, the Cause hath appeared and the attraction of the Call hath seized all who are in earth and heaven, except those who have broken the Covenant and disbelieved in God, the Lord of existence. Blessed art thou for having turned unto Him and heard and attained unto the verses of God, the Mighty, the Glorious, the All-Loving.

When thou hast attained unto the Tablet of God and its effects, say:

> "My God, my God! Praise be to Thee for having opened before my face the door of Thy knowledge, and made known to me Thy path, and shown me Thy signs, and strengthened me in that which most of Thy creatures were hindered from. I beseech Thee by Thy Most Exalted Word whereby Thou hast subdued the kingdom of names, and by the revelations of the lights of the Sun of Thy Manifestation, to make me steadfast in Thy love and speaking forth Thy praise amongst Thy servants. O Lord! Thou seest the poor one standing before the door of Thy bounty, and him who seeketh after the ocean of Thy grace. I beseech Thee not to disappoint

him through Thy generosity and munificence. Verily Thou art the One Who hath power over whatsoever He willeth, and in Thy grasp are the reins of the kingdom of earth and heaven. There is none other God but Thee, the Almighty over what was and what shall be."

BH04141: He speaks before the faces of all

He speaks before the faces of all

Today countless treasures of divine knowledge have appeared from the treasury of the sciences of the Lord of all beings. Say: O servants of God, exalted be His glory! He has manifested Himself solely for the advancement and elevation of your stations. Strive that perchance you may not lag behind the peoples of the past in recognition, but rather surpass them.

O you who gaze toward the horizon of the Manifestation! Sorrows have encompassed this Wronged One from all directions, for it is observed that this people, namely the people of the Bayan, are far lower and more worthless than the previous people. For those people heard from the Burning Bush the words "Verily I am God" and did not deny it, while these people, despite the fact that the Herald mentioned completely the movements, stillness, words and deeds of this Wronged One, nevertheless all turned away and rose up in opposition, and committed that which caused the Lord of the heavens to take to the dust of exile and choose a dwelling place.

Were I to reveal to you and to My loved ones what has befallen Me at the hands of those who claimed to love Me, you would lament as those who have lost their children lament, and weep as lovers weep in separation.

Say: Praise be to Thee, O my God, for having turned toward this servant of Thine and sent down unto him that which every letter thereof testifieth to Thy grace and bounty and might and grandeur and loving-kindness. I beseech Thee, O King of Kings and Compassionate to the downtrodden, to aid them to turn toward Thee and face the lights of Thy countenance. Verily Thou art the Almighty, the All-Compelling, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

BH04274: A letter from the Sorrowful One to him who…

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

A letter from the Sorrowful One to him who desired to drink from the Kawthar of utterance from the hand of the bounty of his Lord, the Most Merciful, that he might hear the rustling of the breezes from the garden of divine knowledge. He Who was hidden in knowledge and veiled from sight hath come. We have sent down the verses and manifested the clear proofs and commanded all to that which will exalt their stations among the peoples. Blessed is he who hath ears and attaineth unto hearing, and blessed is he who hath eyes and beholdeth that which hath appeared through God's will, the Lord of lords.

Thy name was mentioned before the Wronged One. We make mention of thee with verses whose fragrance shall never cease to perfume the kingdom of God, the Mighty, the All-Bestowing. When thou hast attained unto the traces of My Most Exalted Pen and drunk the choice wine of revelation from the

hand of the bounty of the Lord of all beings, say: My God, my God! Praise be to Thee for having given me to drink from the Kawthar of Thy utterance and guided me to the Dawning-Place of Thy lights and enabled me to recognize the Manifestation of Thy Self and witness Thy signs. I beseech Thee, O Bestower of gifts and Dispeller of adversities, by Thy Most Great Name through which the ocean of Thy utterance surgeth before the faces of Thy servants and the sun of Thy bounty shineth from the horizon of Thy will, to number me among those whom Thou hast mentioned in Thy Book when Thou didst say—and Thy word is the truth—"Men whom neither merchandise nor traffic beguile from the remembrance of God."

O Lord! I am Thy servant and the son of Thy servant. I desire naught save that which will make me steadfast in Thy Cause and hold fast to the cord of Thy commandments and ordinances. O Lord! Ordain for me that which will draw me nigh unto Thee in all conditions. Verily Thou art the Self-Sufficient, the Most High. There is none other God but Thee, the Protector, the Mighty, the All-Bountiful.

BH04318: O thou who art present before the Wronged One!…

In the Name of the Forgiving, the Merciful

O thou who art present before the Wronged One! We testify that thou didst attain the presence of the Countenance and didst hear what the tongue of the Wronged One spoke forth in His mighty prison. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to aid thee in that which will draw thee nigh unto Him in all conditions. Verily, He is the All-Bountiful, the All-Generous. We counsel thee with that which beseemeth man—trustworthiness, religious devotion, righteousness and prosperity. And We beseech God to aid thee to act according to that which thou hast been commanded in His perspicuous Book. Grieve not over anything. Place thy trust in all matters in the Almighty, the All-Powerful. Say:

My God, my God! Praise be to Thee for having illumined my face with the light of turning toward Thee and my heart with the lights of Thy knowledge. I beseech Thee, O Lord of the worlds and Beloved of the nations, by the effulgences of the Orb of Thy grace, to open before my face the doors of Thy bounty and bestowal. Then send down upon me from the clouds of Thy generosity the rains of Thy mercy. Then forgive me and my father and my mother and whosoever hath clung to the cord of Thy gift. Verily, Thou art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the All-Bountiful, the All-Generous.

Convey the greetings of the Wronged One to the loved ones of God wherever they may be. God is witness and testifier that this Wronged One hath remembered the friends during the nights and days and hath sought steadfastness for each one from the Truth. Some of those who claimed to love passed by their Lord heedlessly. We beseech God to aid all to justice and fairness. Verily, He is the Mighty, the Bestower. The glory shining forth from the horizon of the heaven of God's mercy be upon thee and upon those who have acknowledged the oneness of God, the Lord of the mighty throne.

BH04139: Today two calls are raised: the first…

In His Name Who dawns forth from the horizon of the heaven of utterance!

Today two calls are raised: the first is the call of the All-Merciful, and the second is the call of Satan. Those souls who, upon hearing the second call, utter the word "yea"—such souls are deprived of the Kingdom of utterance and the heaven of bounty. They are the manifestations of tyranny and lewdness, and the dawning-places of infidelity and transgression. Blessed are those souls who have attained to the hearing of the first call and have responded with "Here am I, O my God, here am I!" Upon them be the glory of God, His bounty, His light and His splendor.

O people of God! Hold fast unto the reformation of the world and its peoples, and be detached from corruption. This is the divine counsel which hath streamed forth and been sent down from the Eternal Pen. Man tasteth the cup of death but once; now if this should come to pass for the sake of God, its fragrance would perfume the world of existence.

The Wronged One speaketh through thy tongue: Praise be unto Thee, O my God, for having made known unto me Thy path, sent down unto me Thy verses, shown forth unto me Thy proofs, given me to drink from the cup of Thy knowledge, guided me to Thy announcement and caused me to speak forth Thy praise. I beseech Thee by the light of Thy knowledge which hath shone forth from the horizon of the heaven of Thy bounty, and by the fire whereby the hearts of them that are nigh unto Thee among Thy servants and the sincere ones among Thy creatures have been set ablaze, to make me assured through Thy grace, steadfast in Thy Cause, and thoughtful of the manifestations of Thy power. O my Lord! I am Thy servant and the son of Thy servant. Thou seest the hands of my hope upraised toward the heaven of Thy bounty. I beseech Thee not to disappoint me nor to withhold from me. Verily Thou art the All-Bountiful, verily Thou art the Most Generous, verily Thou art the Forgiving, the Merciful.

BH04184: These servants should offer thanks and praise…

In the name of the One Incomparable, All-Knowing God.

These servants should offer thanks and praise to the Lord of all beings at all times, for through His all-encompassing grace and pre-existent mercy He has confirmed us and blessed us with recognition of His sacred Being. Glorified be His bounty, magnificent His grace, perfect His sovereignty, and there is no God but Him!

Blessed art thou for having attained unto the days of thy Lord and for having received that whose fragrance shall never cease to perfume the air, throughout the duration of His glorious and wondrous Kingdom. Blessed art thou for having turned to the Trusted One who hath arisen to serve the Cause of God by night and by day, at dawn and at dusk. He hath remembered thee and desired for thee a bounty from God, the Mighty, the Beautiful.

We have heard what was asked and have answered it, for We are the One who hath power over whatsoever He willeth through Our clear command. Give thou the glad-tidings to My loved ones there and illumine them with the lights of their Lord's utterance, the Mighty, the Powerful. The glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My Kingdom be upon thee and upon My servants and handmaidens who were not held back by the veils of glory from drawing nigh unto the Dayspring of Beauty, and whom the might of those who denied the Day of Judgment did not frighten.

O people of God! Be not grieved by the world's vicissitudes, and follow not the manifestations of idle fancies who have broken the Covenant of God, the Mighty, the Praised. How many a learned one hath been barred from the Most Great Ocean, and how many an ignorant one hath heard and hastened and partook and drank and said:

> "Praise be unto Thee, O Thou Who art the Goal of all in the heavens and earth!"

Praise be unto Him, for He is the Beloved of the sincere ones and the Hope of the hearts of the mystics.

BH04340: O ʿAbdu'r-Ra'uf! Upon thee be the Glory of God…

In His Name through Whom the fragrance of the All-Merciful has wafted throughout creation

O ʿAbdu'r-Ra'uf! Upon thee be the Glory of God, the Forgiving, the Kind. Today it is incumbent upon all to manifest such attributes and characteristics as will attract the hearts and souls. Today goodly deeds are among the mightiest hosts in the world. Blessed is he who attains thereto, and woe unto the heedless. Corruption, conflict, war and strife have been strictly forbidden in the Book. The loved ones of God must appear before all people adorned with the ornament of trustworthiness, truthfulness and purity, and must strive with all their might to foster the unity of hearts and fellowship of souls. When the standard of justice is raised, the hosts of fancy and idle imagination will flee. Blessed are they who know. God willing, may you be confirmed in supreme steadfastness and in that which draws people near unto God, the Lord of all mankind. O thou who gazest upon His countenance! Remember God, thy Lord and the Lord of thy forefathers, and say:

My God, my God! Withhold not Thy servants from the waves of the ocean of Thy bounty, nor drive them away from standing before the gate of Thy grandeur. O Lord! Illumine their faces with the lights of Thy countenance and their hearts with the lights of Thy knowledge. Then ordain for them the reward of those who have circled round Thy will. O Lord! They are Thy servants and Thy creation, turning toward Thy most exalted horizon, clinging to the cord of Thy bounty, O Lord of all beings, and awaiting the wonders of Thy grace, O Master of earth and heaven. I beseech Thee not to disappoint them through Thy generosity which hath encompassed existence and through Thy light whereby the lands were illumined. Verily Thou art the Master of creation. There is none other God but Thee, the Mighty, the All-Bountiful.

BH04320: O thou who hast emigrated in the path…

He is the One Who prevaileth over all names!

O thou who hast emigrated in the path of God! We bear witness to thy turning and devotion and presence before the face of the Wronged One when He was imprisoned through that which the hands of the oppressors had wrought.

The Glory, at the pivot-point of tribulation, calleth out to His loved ones and acquainteth them with that which draweth them nigh unto the One, the All-Informed. That which lay concealed in the hearts of those who believed and then denied, who drew nigh and then turned away, who acknowledged and then rejected, and who wrongfully consumed the property of others, hath been made manifest. Lo! They are

among the heedless. The world hath deluded them with its ornaments and embellishments, and they have committed that which hath caused the hearts of the sincere ones to melt.

O Abu'l-Qasim! Blessed art thou for having turned toward the Prison and attained the presence of the Wronged One and heard that which was promised thee in the Books of God, the Lord of all worlds. Through thy presence God hath forgiven thy father as a token of His grace, for He is the Most Merciful of the merciful. Through thy turning unto Him the ocean of forgiveness surgeth and the light of the pardon of thy Lord, the Compassionate, the Mighty, the All-Knowing, doth encompass thee.

Say: Praise be unto Thee, O my God, for having guided me unto Thy path and caused me to enter Thy house and enabled me to hear Thy call. I beseech Thee by Thy Most Great Signs and by the lights of Thy Throne, O Lord of all beings, to assist me and Thy loved ones to remember Thee and praise Thee and to arise to serve Thee. O Lord! I am the poor one, and within Thy grasp are the reins of grace and bounty. Ordain for me that which will draw me nigh unto Thee and make me steadfast in Thy Cause in such wise that the howling of wolves will not prevent me from turning toward Thee, O Lord of Lords! Verily Thou art the Ruler in the beginning and in the return. There is no God but Thee, the Mighty, the All-Bestowing.

BH04330: O Ba-Qaf! Upon thee be My glory and loving-kindness…

He is the One manifest through His signs and speaking before the faces of His creation

O Ba-Qaf! Upon thee be My glory and loving-kindness. In these days the Sun of Utterance is risen before the faces of all religions, and the Lord of the unseen and seen is manifest and evident without any veil. Blessed is the soul that hath inhaled the fragrances of His manifestation and hastened to the court of the Friend. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to assist His loved ones in that whereby His Cause will be exalted amongst His creation, and to open before their faces the gates of grace and favor, and to reveal through them His sovereignty and His might and His power. Verily He is the All-Powerful, the All-Compelling, the Mighty, the All-Bountiful.

We bear witness that thou didst hear and hasten and present thyself before the Face, and didst attain unto that which was inscribed by the Pen of the Ancient of Days in a Tablet which none hath known save the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. We heard thy call and have called thee from this Most Exalted Station, and have remembered thee with that which will draw thee nigh unto the Mighty, the Unconstrained. We beseech God to ordain for thee and thy son that which will draw you both nigh unto Him in all conditions. Say: My God, my God! I testify that Thou hast appeared and hast made manifest that which was hidden in knowledge and concealed from Thy servants.

I beseech Thee, O Lord of the kingdoms of grace and bounty, by Thy Most Effulgent, Most Holy, Most Great, Most Glorious Name, to assist me and those with me to remain steadfast with such steadfastness as the hosts of the world cannot shake nor the might of nations cause to slip. O my Lord! I am Thy servant and the son of Thy servant, turning toward the waves of the ocean of Thy utterance. I beseech Thee not to disappoint me of Thy generosity which hath encompassed existence, nor of Thy bounty which hath encompassed the world. Verily Thou art the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

BH04179: This Wronged One hath at all times summoned…

In the Name of God, the Possessor of Names and Creator of Heaven

This Wronged One hath at all times summoned the servants to the Most Exalted Horizon and hath beseeched and continues to beseech from the Self-Sufficing, the Most High, whatsoever leadeth to the sanctification and purification of His servants. We testify that He is the All-Bountiful, He is the Ever-Flowing, the Forgiving, the Merciful.

Say: My God, my God! Thine is the bounty and the bestowal, and Thine the generosity and glory, and Thine the mention and the splendor. I testify to the sanctification of Thy Being from all else but Thee and the purification of Thine Essence from aught besides Thee. The wings of the birds of the hearts of Thy creation cannot soar into the atmosphere of knowing Thee. All things have acknowledged their powerlessness to ascend unto the heaven of Thy nearness and every knower hath confessed his inability to make mention of Thy wisdom and Thy utterance. I beseech Thee by Thy sovereignty which hath encompassed the world and by Thy Most Great Name whereby Thou hast subdued the nations to ordain for me steadfastness in Thy remembrance and praise and in acting according to what Thou hast sent down in Thy Book. O my Lord! Thou seest the suppliant knocking at the door of Thy bounty and the poor one hastening to the horizon of Thy riches. I beseech Thee by the treasure which Thou hast manifested through Thy power to send down upon me from the clouds of Thy generosity a blessing from Thee and a favor from Thy presence. Verily Thou art the Powerful, the Supreme, the Mighty, the All-Bountiful.

He who loved Me, who is named Niyaz, upon him be My glory and My mercy, hath made mention of thee. We have remembered thee with that which no mention can equal. The Command is in the hands of God, the Lord of earth and heaven and the Possessor of bounty and bestowal. Glory be upon the people of Baha who have cast aside what the people possess, fixing their gaze upon that which is with God, the Lord of Lords.

BH04355: O Mirza, O Ahmad! Hearken…

He is the Expounder, the All-Wise.

O Mirza, O Ahmad! Hearken to that which the Pen uttereth in this Most Great Prison: Verily, there is no God but He, the One, the Single, the All-Powerful, the Unconstrained.

Thou hast attained unto My remembrance—that remembrance which God hath ordained to endure with the enduring of His Most Beautiful Names and His most exalted Attributes.

Say: Unto Thee be praise, O Thou in Whose grasp lie the reins of all who are in the heavens and on the earth! We have made mention of My loved ones in that land and have made them known.

Say: O party of God! Be not sorrowful on account of aught; rather rejoice in that with which the Ancient Beauty hath heralded you, and in His remembrance of you through verses at the descent of which Scriptures and Tablets bowed down in utter submission.

O My loved ones! Let not the might of the feeble affright you, nor the buzzing of flies deter you.

O Ahmad! A small band of wolves hath compassed Us about and committed such deeds as have caused the dwellers of the Supreme Paradise and the hallowed Countenances in the loftiest chambers to lament and wail.

This is the Day whereon the countenance of the world hath smiled, for the God of the Throne hath established Himself upon the seat of the Bayan in power and in sovereignty. Thus did the Tongue of Grandeur speak, while the Wronged One was wrapped in a wondrous sorrow.

Say: O people! Be ye assured that the Wronged One, at every moment, summoneth the realm of being unto God, the All-Powerful, the Almighty, the All-Bountiful. Him neither the baleful gleams of the wicked can hinder, nor the veils of those who have disbelieved in the Beginning and in the Return.

He hath gone forth from the horizon of the House, speaking forth this Name at whose utterance the very limbs of the Names have quaked, and the hearts of every oppressor who break the Covenant have been made to tremble.

The glory from Our presence rest upon thee, and upon those who have cast aside vain imaginings and laid hold on that which hath shone forth from the horizon of the heaven of certitude.

BH04194: Praise be to the Intended One, Who is worthy…

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

Praise be to the Intended One, Who is worthy and deserving, Who illumined the hearts of the believers with the light of recognition and tormented the ungodly with the fire of heedlessness. Glorified be His majesty and universal be His favors. There is no God but Him. And blessings and peace be upon His chosen ones and His friends who spent their wealth and souls to manifest His Cause and exalt His Word, and through whom His commandments and laws were spread among His servants. These are honored servants upon whom there is no fear, neither shall they grieve. Say:

My God, my God! I testify that Thy mercy hath preceded all created things and Thy grace hath encompassed all possibilities. I acknowledge the sanctification of Thy Being and the abstraction of Thine Essence from the recognition of all existences. I beseech Thee by the lights of Thy Kingdom and Thy Dominion, and by Him through Whom Thou hast guided the servants to the ocean of Thy recognition and the sun of Thy grace, that Thou forgive me and those who have drunk the wine of unity from the cup of Thy bestowal. O my Lord! I am Thy servant and the son of Thy servant. I beseech Thee to assist me in all conditions to turn to Thee and to repent at the door of Thy generosity. Then ordain for me the good of the hereafter and of this world. Verily Thou art the Lord of the Throne and the dust. There is no God but Thee, the Forgiving, the Generous.

Mention was made in the letter of Nur-Muhammad. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to make him one who drinks from the cup of certitude at all times and to ordain for him that which will exalt him among the religions. Verily He is the Mighty, the Bestower. The glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of grace be upon you, O friends of God and His chosen ones.

BH04248: The Day hath come, yet the people remain…

In the Name of Him through Whom the fragrance of the All-Merciful was wafted throughout creation!

The Day hath come, yet the people remain in evident drunkenness. The stone doth speak and giveth glad tidings unto men of the Most Great Vision, yet most of them are fast asleep. The trees call out to the righteous, saying:

> "Blessed are ye for having attained unto the recognition of the Hidden Secret and the Treasured Book, and for having believed in it when the servants denied it, save whom God, the Lord of the worlds, did will."

We have heard thy call and turned toward thee, and have sent down for thee that which hath attracted the hearts of them that know. Say: O peoples of the earth! Exchange doubt for certitude, and vain imaginings for assurance. Thus doth your Lord, the All-Merciful, command you, as He did aforetime and doth now in this perspicuous moment. Say: Aid your Lord through wisdom and utterance, and follow not the ways of the oppressors who shed blood and consume the substance of men wrongfully. We bear witness that they are among the treacherous ones in the Book of God, the Lord of the mighty throne.

Take thou My choice-sealed wine in My Self-Subsisting Name, then drink thereof in My Name and say:

My God, my God! Thou seest me turning unto Thee and acknowledging that which Thy Books and Thy Messengers have uttered. I beseech Thee by the ocean of Thy verses and the heaven of Thy bounty, and by the Word through which Thou didst bring existence out of nothingness and didst guide them to Thy Most Great Name, to make me submissive at the revelation of Thy verses and the manifestation of Thy clear tokens. Then ordain for me the reward of those who have attained unto the Kawthar of Thy presence and the Tasnim of reunion with Thee. O Lord! Deny not the supplicant at the door of Thy bounty, and disappoint not the hopeful one at the dawning-place of Thy generosity. Verily Thou art the Almighty over what Thou willest, and in Thy grasp are the reins of all affairs. There is none other God but Thee, the Mighty, the Kind, the Forgiving.

BH04268: This is a Book sent down by the Lord…

He is the Speaker in His Most Glorious Station

This is a Book sent down by the Lord of Names as He walks in this Most Exalted Spot wherein the atoms proclaim: "The Kingdom belongs to God, the Revealer of verses." O companions in all regions! Hearken to the call of your Lord, the All-Bestowing. He remembers you with that which draws you near unto Him. He is verily the One with power over whatsoever He willeth, and He is the Mighty, the Self-Subsisting. The river of mercy hath flowed and the shrill voice of the Pen of bounty hath been raised. Blessed is he who hath heard and responded, and woe unto every denying infidel. This is a Day wherein the gates of generosity have been opened unto the world, and wherein the Herald calleth out: "Draw nigh, O concourse of servants, unto a station wherein the call of your Lord, the Lord of creation, hath been raised."

Of no profit to you is that which ye and the people possess on this Day whereon He Who conversed on Sinai hath been established upon the throne of Revelation and the Dove of Utterance hath warbled upon the highest branches. Rejoice, O peoples of the earth! The banner of tyranny hath been rolled up and the light of justice hath shone forth from the horizon of God's will, the Lord of Religions. Thus hath the matter been decreed and the All-Merciful hath come with clear proof. Blessed is the servant who hath heard, and woe unto every misbeliever who hath turned away from God, the Lord of all beings. O My loved ones! Be not grieved by anything. Aid your Lord through that which He hath ordained in the Scriptures and Tablets.

Rejoice, O My loved ones, in the appearance of My grace and the Day Star of My bounty. Beware lest ye deprive yourselves of this bounty to which the Mother Book itself beareth witness. The glory shining forth from the horizon of the heaven of My loving-kindness be upon you, O Manifestations of My names, and upon those who have hastened and said: "Praise be unto Thee, O Thou in Whose grasp is held the reins of all created things!"

BH04323: O thou who gazest toward the Most Exalted Horizon…

In the Name of Him through Whom the Light hath shone forth from the horizon of Manifestation!

O thou who gazest toward the Most Exalted Horizon and standeth in service to the Cause of the Lord of all beings! Hearken unto the Call from the Supreme Summit—God, there is none other God but He, the Single, the One, the Powerful, the Mighty, the Unconstrained. He doeth what He willeth and ordaineth what He pleaseth, and He is the Protector of all who are in the earth and heaven. We testify that thou hast drunk the choice wine of revelation from the chalice of thy Lord's bounty, the Mighty, the All-Bestowing. Blessed art thou and blessed is he who hath loved thee for the sake of God, the Lord of all men. We beseech God to protect thee and those who are with thee from those who have denied God's proof and His evidence, and who have disbelieved in His signs at the beginning and the end.

Say: My God, my God! I beseech Thee by the waves of the ocean of Thy grace and the effulgences of the lights of the Sun of Thy utterance, to ordain for me and for those who are related to this Thy servant that which befitteth the heaven of Thy generosity and bounty. O Lord! Thou seest Thy loved ones in the hands of the oppressors among Thy servants and the treacherous among Thy creatures. O Lord! Adorn those on earth with the light of trustworthiness and godliness, then aid them to return to the gate of Thy grace and to turn in repentance to the court of Thy glory. Verily Thou art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

And We make mention of him who is with thee—convey to him My greetings and remind him of My verses and give him the glad tidings of God's loving-kindness, the Lord of all worlds. We beseech Him, exalted be He, to aid him in all conditions. Verily He is the Self-Sufficient, the Most High. There is none other God but He. He witnesseth and seeth, and He is the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing. The splendor of God, the Forgiving, the Merciful, be upon you.

BH04346: O Pen! This Wronged One hath at all times…

In the Name of the One God

O Pen! This Wronged One hath at all times been watching over His loved ones, and in most of His Tablets We have, for the sake of God, mentioned that which is the cause of glory and exaltation and is the source of divine bounty and favor, that perchance the breaths of revelation might illumine all with the light of unity, fellowship and love. Yet until now all remain heedless save whom God hath willed—thy Lord, the Lord of all worlds. Thy name hath come before the Wronged One. We have revealed for thee that which all the treasures of those in the heavens and earth cannot equal. Say: O God, Most Generous, Most Merciful! I testify to Thy oneness and singleness, and I beseech from Thee that which endureth through the eternity of Thy names and attributes.

Thou art the Possessor of existence and the Sovereign of the seen and unseen. O Lord! A poor one hath turned toward the ocean of Thy wealth, and a supplicant hath approached the door of Thy generosity. Deprive him not. Thou art He through Whose bounty all atoms of creation bear witness, and Thou art He to Whose giving all created things confess. This servant of Thine hath detached himself from all else and hath clung to the cord of Thy bounty and the hem of Thy generosity, and in all conditions gazeth toward Thee and is thankful to Thee. If Thou answerest, Thou art praised in Thy command, and if Thou rejectest, Thou art obeyed in Thy decree. Thou art He before Whose manifestation all are seen as powerless and wanting. O Generous One! Leave not this servant to himself. Thou art the Powerful, the Mighty, and the Lord of bounty and bestowal.

BH04354: O peoples of the earth! Take heed lest…

He is the All-Powerful over whatsoever He willeth through His firm and mighty command!

O peoples of the earth! Take heed lest the veils of glory prevent you from turning unto God, the One, the All-Powerful, the Mighty, the Great. Beware lest vain imaginings hold you back from the Dawning-Place of certitude, or the oppression of those who have denied the Day of Judgment fill you with fear. The gates of forgiveness and bounty have been opened wide, for the Dove of Paradise hath warbled upon the branches. Mercy and grace and generosity belong unto God, the Lord of all the worlds. Say: O concourse of divines! Should you fear for your faith, preserve the Tablets of God in the treasuries of trust and detachment. When ye stand before the presence of the Lord of all beings on the Day of Rising, and He asketh you by what proof ye believed in Him Who appeared, then bring forth the Tablets and say: By this blessed, holy, mighty and beloved Book.

Then shall the hands of all created things be raised toward you, taking therefrom and placing upon their eyes the fragrance of the divine utterance. This is what ye have been commanded in this Tablet from God, the Speaker, the True, the Trustworthy. When thou attainest unto the Tablet of God and His traces, turn thy face toward the Kaaba of God, which speaketh before the faces of the world: “There is none other God but Him, the Commander, the All-Wise,” and say: Unto Thee be praise, O Lord of Names, and unto Thee be glory, O Goal of the hearts of them that know. I beseech Thee by Thyself and by Thy Manifestation and by the City wherein was established the throne of Thy grandeur, and by the breezes

wherein wafted the fragrance of reunion with Thee, and by the ocean of Thy greatest signs and the manifestations of Thy power in the kingdom of creation, to enable me to serve Thy Cause in Thy days and to make mention of Thee amongst Thy servants. Verily Thou art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest, and in Thy grasp are the reins of every wise command.

BH04367: Praise be to God Who hath sent down…

He is the Herald in the Kingdom of Utterance

Praise be to God Who hath sent down from the heaven of His bounty the blessing of His recognition and the table of His utterance, and hath called all to partake thereof as a grace from His presence and a mercy from His court. He, verily, is the All-Bountiful, the Mighty, the All-Generous.

Thy letter hath come before the Wronged One. We have read it and respond to thee with this clear Book, each letter of which beareth witness to the oneness of God and His singleness, and to the Most Great Announcement. It testifieth to that which the Tongue of Grandeur testified before the creation of His heaven and His earth—that there is none other God but Him. His are the dominion and the kingdom, the majesty and the power. He is the Omnipotent over what was and what shall be, and the All-Compelling over all who are in the heavens and on earth.

We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to aid thee to remember and praise Him, and to make thee among those whom neither veils have hindered from turning unto Him nor doubts from drawing nigh unto His august gate. When thou art seized by the rapture of the Call, say:

> “Glory be unto Thee, O my God, O Lord of the Kingdom of Names and Creator of heaven! I beseech Thee by the ocean of Thy verses and the manifestations of Thy grandeur amidst Thy creation, and by those whom the might of the people deterred not from the Daysprings of Thy Revelation and the Dawning-Places of Thine inspiration, to make me steadfast in Thy love and holding fast to the cord of Thy bounty. My Lord! Ordain for me of Thy generosity and munificence that which will make me independent of all else save Thee, and mighty among Thy creatures, and firm and immovable in Thy Cause. Verily, Thou art the Omnipotent, the Mighty.”

BH04601: In My Name, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise

In My Name, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise

O Naqqash! Give thanks to God, blessed and exalted be He, that your name was mentioned before the Wronged One and He revealed for you that which cannot be equaled by all the treasures of the world. To this bears witness the Lord of Eternity, Who speaks from this Most Exalted Station and Most Glorious Horizon in the prison of ʿAkka. There is no God but Him, the Mighty, the Bestower. We have turned toward you as a favor from Us on a day in which sorrows have encompassed Us from those who cast the Cause of God behind their backs, clinging to the vain imaginings and idle fancies they possess. We commanded all to be trustworthy, religious, truthful and pure, and to do that which draws them near to God, the Lord of Lords. They violated My covenant and broke My testament and turned away from My

countenance and committed that which caused the dwellers of the pavilion of My glory to lament. To this bears witness the One Who possesses the Mother Book. Soar upon the wings of certitude in the atmosphere of thy Lord's loving-kindness, the All-Merciful, and say:

My God, my God! I have forsaken the religion of a people who believed not in Thee and in Thy signs. I cast away what they possessed, yearning for that which is with Thee. I beseech Thee by the sweet-scented breezes of Thy verses and the mysteries of Thy Books, Thy Scrolls and Thy Tablets, to protect me from the evil of Thine enemies who disbelieved in Thee and in what Thou didst send down from the heaven of Thy bounty. O my Lord! I am Thy servant and the son of Thy servant. I have believed in Thee and in what hath appeared in Thy days. I beseech Thee by the wonders of Thy generosity and bounty—verily Thou art the All-Bountiful, the Generous. There is no God but Thee, the Forgiving, the Merciful.

BH04586: O Ata'u'llah! Divine bestowals are beyond reckoning. He bestowed…

He is the One Who speaks in the Kingdom of Utterance.

O Ata'u'llah! Divine bestowals are beyond reckoning. He bestowed existence and granted being. And another bestowal: He ordained means, and through these means He bestowed order upon the world and granted comfort to souls. Reflect upon the blessings of God. And after outward bestowals, He granted inner bestowals. He confirmed His servants in turning to Him, in recognition, in remembrance and praise, in giving and unity. Who can reckon His favors? It behooveth thee to hold fast unto that which He hath revealed in His perspicuous Book in His words:

> "If ye should count the blessings of God ye shall not be able to number them."

Among the great blessings whose signs and fruits are hidden from sight has been and is death. Were the tongue of utterance to occupy itself at this point with mention of the consummate hidden wisdoms therein, all would testify to its lofty station and exalted rank. Whatsoever appeareth from the True Divine Physician is acceptable and beloved in the sight of them that are nigh and them that are detached. Therefore must that sapling of the garden of love grow through the living waters of the utterance of the Desired One of the worlds, and attain at all times unto choice fruits. And whatsoever hath appeared, know it to be from God. If thou attainest unto this station, thou shalt in all conditions be speaking in praise and thanksgiving to God. The glory from Us be upon thee and upon them that are with thee and upon My friends there whose names We have concealed through a wisdom from the presence of a wise Commander.

BH04413: O saplings of existence! It is hoped…

He is the One Who speaks the truth in the Kingdom of Utterance

O saplings of existence! It is hoped that in this divine springtime and luminous day you will be made fresh and verdant by the rain-showers from the cloud of the grace of the Lord, and that from your movement to right and left may be heard the blessed words "The Beloved has come!" Today verses are being revealed at every moment and evident signs appear before all faces. The friends must hold fast to service to the Cause and cling to that which will cause the exaltation of the Word of God. O Joseph! You have

attained to that which most of the people of the earth are deprived of. You have approached and attained the presence and heard what Moses heard from the Blessed Tree. The Supreme Pen bears witness to your turning and devotion.

Say: Praise be to Thee, O my God, for having made mention of me and caused me to hear and to behold Thy call and Thy signs and the horizon of Thy manifestation. I beseech Thee, O King of earth and heaven, by Thy Name which holds sway over the seen and unseen, and by Thy greatest signs which have encompassed existence, and by Thy Cause through which the idol and the evil one have wailed, to make me steadfast in Thy love and firm in Thy service and a helper to Thy religion. Then write down for me, O my God, that which Thou hast ordained for Thy sincere ones and ardent lovers and those who long for Thee. Verily Thou art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest, by Thy Name, the Mighty, the Wondrous. The glory which proceedeth from Us rest upon thee and upon those who have attained the presence of the Countenance and have heard the call of God, the Lord of the mighty throne.

BH04438: Praise be befitting and worthy of the intended Lord…

He is the Manifest One, speaking before all faces.

Praise be befitting and worthy of the intended Lord Who, through His Most Exalted Word, illumined the world of kingdom and dominion with the lights of the manifestation of Him Who conversed upon Sinai, and raised up the banner “The Kingdom is God’s” upon the hearts and minds of His servants. The opposition of the world and the objections of the peoples did not prevent Him from the Most Great Cause. Through the power of the Most Exalted Pen and the penetrating influence of the Most Great Word, He conquered the cities of hearts and minds. Glorified be His majesty, and exalted be His power, and magnified be His greatness, and there is no God but Him.

Your brother hath appeared before the Wronged One and mentioned thee. We have made mention of thee with that which causeth the sincere ones to inhale the fragrance of grace and favors. Blessed is the face that hath turned toward the Ancient Countenance, and the eye that hath beheld His traces, and the ear that hath heard His call, and the tongue that hath voiced His praise before the faces of the parties.

When thou drinkest the choice wine of My utterance from the chalices of My words, say: Praise be unto Thee, O my God, for having remembered me and sent down unto me that which shall endure as long as Thy names endure. I beseech Thee, O Mystery of Being and Lord of the seen and unseen, by the Crimson Scroll which none hath read save Thyself, and by Thy Greatest Signs which Thou hast sent down from the heaven of Thy will, to ordain for me that which shall make me steadfast in Thy Cause in such wise that neither armies shall prevent me nor ranks frighten me nor power weaken me. O my Lord! I am Thy servant and the son of Thy servant. Ordain for me that which befitteth Thy Manifestation and Thy days. Verily Thou art the Almighty, the Powerful, and worthy to answer.

BH04380: In My Name, the Expounder, the Trustworthy!

In My Name, the Expounder, the Trustworthy!

Today the Book crieth out with the most exalted call that the Mother Book hath come, all things herald the appearance of the Lord of all beings, and the Concourse on High speaketh this word:

For the veiled ones—death! For the frozen ones—pain! The King of Kings of days hath come, that Hidden One by name hath come!

And so forth as hath issued from My tongue in the kingdom of Mine utterance. O Ali-Muhammad, upon thee be My glory! We made mention of thee before, and at this hour with a mention whereby the hearts of them that are nigh have been attracted. Beware lest the veils of names hold thee back from their Creator, and the colors of the world from its Fashioner. Cast away what is with the people, then turn thy face to the Kaaba of My loving-kindness and say:

My God, my God! Praise be to Thee for having guided me and mentioned me and illumined my heart with the light of Thy knowledge. I beseech Thee by Thy Most Great Book whereby Thou hast guided the peoples, to confirm me in that which befitteth Thy Revelation and Thy establishment upon the throne of Thy mighty Name. O my Lord! Aid me to be so steadfast that the veils of the ignorant ones and the allusions of the clamorous ones shall not prevent me. O my Lord! I am Thy servant and the son of Thy servant. I beseech Thee by Thy bounty that hath encompassed existence and by the light of Thy Cause whereby hearts and minds have been illumined, to make me steadfast in Thy love, firm in Thy Cause, established in Thy praise and unwavering in Thy remembrance. Thou art indeed the All-Remembering, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. We make mention of thy wife who hath turned with her heart to her Lord. We beseech God to preserve her through His power and sovereignty. He is verily the Preserver, the Mighty, the Powerful.

BH04591: He speaketh with justice and manifesteth with grace

He speaketh with justice and manifesteth with grace.

O Muhammad-Qablur-Rafi', the wondrous bearer of the manifestation of divine mercy—they martyred him with the worst of all the world's torments. There was no purpose in sending him except for the dawning of the luminary of grace upon all the world. God is witness and testament to this most great mention among the peoples.

O Muhammad-Rafi' Dawlatabadi and those with him have intended to steal the Book of God—that is, the Persian Bayan and Ahsanul-Qisas. Since these two clear Books are adorned with utterances that give glad tidings to all of the appearance of the Great Announcement, they have therefore intended to destroy them. It is obligatory and incumbent upon all the friends of Truth that whosoever possesses them should preserve them and guard them from this rebellious and transgressing band.

In any case, the Pen is astonished—they have attributed the Book of Iqan, which was revealed from the heaven of grace in response to the Afnan Haji Mir Siyyid Muhammad (upon him be the glory of God and His forgiveness and mercy and bounty), to Yahya, saying it is from him, even though that heedless one was never with Us. Say: My God, my God! I beseech Thee by the ocean of Thy verses and the sun of Thy bounty to preserve Thy Books from the evil of the heedless ones and the theft of the oppressors. Then open before my face the door of Thy bounty with the key of Thy Most Great Name, and ordain for me

that which will protect me from the transgressors among the peoples. Verily Thou art the Powerful, the Mighty, the All-Bestowing.

BH04599: O Mihdi! Upon thee be the everlasting Glory…

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

O Mihdi! Upon thee be the everlasting Glory of God! Canst thou cast aside all that the people possess, and canst thou stand before the faces of all who are in the heavens and on earth, and art thou able to cast aside the parties and what they possess and take up the Tablet of God by His command and through His sovereignty? Say: No, by thy life, except through Thy might and power! I bear witness that Thou hast subdued all created things with a power before which the hosts of those in the heavens and on earth cannot stand.

He who loved Me and soared in My atmosphere hath made mention of thee. We make mention of thee in this perspicuous Book. Be thou steadfast in the Cause of God and in His love, such that neither the hints of the learned nor the power of princes shall cause thee to slip. Verily thy Lord is the Ordainer, the All-Wise, and the All-Knowing Counsellor.

Preserve this Tablet in the sleeve of detachment, and when God asks thee by what proof thou hast believed in Him, bring it forth and say: By this blessed, mighty and wondrous Book. Beware lest the events of the world sadden thee. Come forth from the horizon of silence, speaking forth this Name whereby the limbs of them that broke God's covenant and denied the Day of Judgment were made to quake.

Thus hath the Tongue of Grandeur spoken forth in the prison of Akka, that the utterance might render thee detached from all contingent things and cause thee to cling to the hem of the robe of God's mercy, the Mighty, the Bountiful. The light that shineth resplendent and gleameth forth from the horizon of the heaven of My kingdom be upon thee and upon those who, when they heard the Call, said:

> "Yea, yea, O Thou Who art the Goal of all names! Here am I, here am I, O Thou Beloved of the hearts of them that know!"

BH04441: In My Name, the Ever-Abiding after the passing…

In My Name, the Ever-Abiding after the passing of all things!

Praise sanctified beyond mention and glorification befitteth the Most Great Word, through whose fragrances the world of names and attributes hath been illumined, perfumed and adorned. The penetrating power of this blessed Word hath no peer or likeness, despite those who have denied the penetrating influence of the Word and its power. The Word of the people of the Furqan was dependent and conditional upon the Seal of the Prophets, and likewise the Gospel, and before it the Torah, until the Words ended with this Word which, when established upon the throne of manifestation, spoke and declared:

> “I am the All-Powerful, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. Through My command the light of penetrating influence hath shone forth and the mysteries of God, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting, have appeared.”

O My Afnan! Upon thee be My glory and My loving-kindness. The heedless ones have spoken and continue to speak according to their desires. They have passed by the station that God hath made the point of adoration of the most exalted Paradise and the highest Heaven, and have remained and do remain worshippers of the idol of fancy and imagination. Blessed art thou for having cast away vain imaginings and taken hold of the Book of God, the Sovereign of days and the Master of all peoples. We beseech God to preserve thee and guard thee and to send down upon thee that which will draw thee nigh unto Him in all conditions. Verily He is the Self-Sufficient, the Most Exalted.

The light shining from the horizon of the heaven of My bounty be upon thee and upon My loved ones and friends who were not held back by the derision of the ungodly, the doubts of the opponents, and the cawing of the ravens. In all conditions, authority and command belong to God, the Lord of all worlds.

BH04418: In the Name of God, the One, and peace…

In the Name of God, the One, and peace be upon him after whom there shall be no Prophet.

This is an epistle from the Wronged One to him who hath attained unto recognition, acknowledged the oneness of God, and confessed that which He hath revealed in His perspicuous Book. O Zayn! Glad tidings of concord and unity have a mighty effect in the world. All factions among the peoples have attained unto lofty stations, save the odious Shi’ih faction. Each day, like unto Pharaoh, they sink one or two spans deeper, and perceive it not. Glory be to God! The change in the taste of that faction every morning consists of one, two or three curses which emerge from the treasury of denial. They consider themselves the most exalted people in the world, and likewise the most learned, the most excellent and the most high, whereas in the estimation of those possessed of insight they were and are not even mentioned, and in the sight of the Concourse on High they are regarded as lower than animals.

In any case, beseech ye God that He may enable all to attain unto that which is the cause of elevation and exaltation. In these days news hath arrived from the land of Ta concerning the unity and concord of the friends. Praise be to God, that faction hath abandoned corruption and contention, and hath laid hold on that which conduceth to the reformation of the world and the education of the souls of nations. Make mention of the friends on behalf of the Wronged One. God willing, may they be set ablaze with the fire of the love of God and illumined by the light of His knowledge. The peace shining forth from the horizon of the Abode of Peace be upon thee and upon them that are with thee and hearken unto thy words concerning righteousness and piety, and upon every one who is steadfast and upright.

BH04579: O thou who art beloved of God! Upon thee…

In the Name of the Beloved of the Worlds!

O thou who art beloved of God! Upon thee be my glory! The days thou wert present have bestowed upon thee a mighty claim before the Lord, blessed be His glory, inasmuch as He confirmed thee in thy early

youth and guided thee to the station of nearness and sanctity. His grace hath encompassed thee and His loving-kindness hath taken hold of thee and rendered thee sanctified and detached from former idle fancies. Say: Praise be unto Thee, O my God, for having guided me unto the Dayspring of Thy Revelation and the Dawning-Place of Thy signs, and for having illumined my heart with the light of Thy knowledge and honored me and brought me into Thy presence and caused me to hear Thy call. I beseech Thee to make me steadfast in Thy love and firm in Thy Cause in such wise that neither the hosts nor the ranks nor the tyrants and Pharaohs of the earth shall prevent me. Verily Thou art the Almighty, the Glorious, the All-Bountiful.

Convey My greetings to the loved ones in that land. We make mention of his honor Nurullah, upon him be My glory, and upon ʿAli-Qabli-Akbar and Muhammad and Rif'at and Badi', upon them be the peace of God and His loving-kindness. We beseech God, glorified be His majesty, on behalf of each one, for blessing and bounty and health and protection and well-being and recognition and certitude and steadfastness. Verily He hath power over all things. Whenever wisdom requireth and the time is right and Jinab-i-Nazir, upon him be My peace and loving-kindness, deemeth it advisable, that honored one may proceed thither with My handmaiden. We beseech God to preserve you both and to vouchsafe unto you that which He hath ordained for His near servants. Verily He is the All-Bountiful, the Kind, the Trustworthy.

BH04498: Say: Praise be unto Thee, O my God…

In His Name, the Manifest above all things!

Say: Praise be unto Thee, O my God, and thanksgiving be unto Thee, O my Goal, and glory be unto Thee, O my Beloved! I testify to Thy power which hath conquered all created things, and to Thy sovereignty which hath encompassed all existence, and to the oneness of Thy Essence and attributes, and that Thou art God, there is none other God but Thee. Thou hast ever been supreme over all who are in Thy earth and heaven, and wilt ever continue to be as Thou hast been before. There is none other God but Thee, the Mighty, the Bestower.

O Lord! I am Thy servant and the son of Thy servant. I desire to turn toward the lights of Thy countenance. I know not, O my God, by which of Thy attributes to describe Thee and by which of Thy remembrances to remember Thee. I testify, O my God, to that which all created things have testified, that Thou canst not be described by any description save Thine own, nor remembered by any remembrance save Thine own.

I beseech Thee, O Lord of all names and Ruler of all men, by the hidden treasures in Thy Pen, to make me one who speaks Thy praise, who stands firm in Thy service, and who gazes toward Thy horizon. Thou art verily the Mighty, the Powerful, the Most Bountiful.

O Lord! Ordain for me that which befitteth the heaven of Thy bounty and the ocean of Thy grace. Thou art verily the Supreme One over all who are in Thy earth and heaven. There is none other God but Thee, the Mighty, the All-Bountiful.

Magnify, O my God, Thy trusted ones and Thy chosen ones whom Thou hast made the Hands of Thy Cause amongst Thy creation, and through whose high endeavors Thou hast opened the doors of the hearts of Thy servants. Verily Thou art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the Mighty, the All-Knowing.

BH04433: The essence of praise and the reality of glorification…

The essence of praise and the reality of glorification befit the sacred threshold of His Holiness Baha, Who through His supreme Word raised high the banner “He doeth whatsoever He willeth” upon the highest horizon of the heart, and unfurled the standard “Verily I am God” upon the most exalted pole of the world. Exalted be His Cause and mighty His utterance, and there is no God but Him.

Ahmad, upon him be My glory, attained Our presence and mentioned thee. We make mention of thee in this wondrous and glorious Tablet. Today clamor is raised from every direction and the divine call is lifted from the horizon of the prison of Akka. Blessed is the soul that hath attained unto hearing and is illumined with the true light of oneness. Some souls have been seized by vain imaginings, whereat My heart hath grieved and My Pen hath lamented. Say: O people, reflect upon the previous party. They clung to the base things and remained heedless and veiled from that which is most exalted. Each day they took a lord unto themselves, and yet counted themselves among the people of unity.

O Mihdi, upon thee be My glory! Hadi of Dawlatabad hath appeared with an oppression that hath no equal and shall have none, and through darkness hath been deprived of light. No path leadeth to fairness in his court, and justice findeth there no dwelling place. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to aid him to turn in repentance to the gate of His forgiveness and to return unto Him, and to enable him to make good what hath escaped him in His days. Verily He is the Powerful, the Mighty. There is no God but Him, the All-Bountiful, the Generous.

BH04554: This is the Day wherein mysteries have been unveiled…

He is the Manifest Book.

This is the Day wherein mysteries have been unveiled, and rivers have flowed, and the Tongue of Grandeur hath spoken from the prison of Akka. The Kingdom and the Dominion belong unto God, the Lord of Lords. We have sent down the verses and manifested the clear proofs, yet most of the people remain heedless and in error. Say: We have laid no claim to Prophethood, nor to successorship, nor to that which the people possess. To this testifieth He Who is the Self-Subsisting, and he who hath knowledge of mysteries. O thou who art remembered by the Prisoner! There hath come upon Us in the prison that which hath caused all things to lament. To this beareth witness the Book of God before the faces of the parties.

Cast away what the people possess and take hold of the Book of God with such strength as shall not be prevented by the doubts of those who have disbelieved in the Beginning and the Return. Say: He hath come with the truth and revealed that which lay hidden from time immemorial. Soar on the wings of detachment in this atmosphere, then remember thy Lord at eventide and at dawn. Say: O people! The

Day hath come which was mentioned and inscribed by the Pen of God in the Scriptures and Tablets. Grieve thou not at anything. Hold fast unto the Bayan, then through it aid thy Lord, the Revealer of verses. When thou hearest My sweetest call and the sound of My Most Exalted Pen from the prison of Akka, say: My God, my God!

Thou seest the Wronged One among His enemies. I beseech Thee by Thy sovereignty that hath subdued the names, to make me steadfast in Thy Cause, and speaking in Thy praise, and arising to serve Thy loved ones. Then open before my face the door of Thy mercy. Verily, Thou art the All-Powerful, the Mighty, the All-Bountiful.

Volume 097: Akka 1307 A.H. (1889–1890), Part V (2 of 4)

BH04515: In My Name, the All-Subduing over all that are…

In My Name, the All-Subduing over all that are on earth and in heaven.

This is a Book sent down by the King of the Kingdom of Names to the people of creation. Blessed is he who hath heard and responded, and woe unto every heedless and remote one.

O peoples of the earth! Hearken unto the Call that draweth you to the Most Exalted Horizon and bringeth you near unto the One, the All-Informed. Follow not the desires of those who have denied the Proof of God and His evidence, and have turned away from Him through Whom the light of Revelation hath shone forth from the horizon of Sinai and the Tree hath cried out: The Kingdom belongeth unto God, the Lord of the worlds.

O party of God! Rejoice in that the Wronged One hath turned toward you from the precincts of the Prison and revealed for you that which refresheth the eyes. We counsel you with that which will exalt your station before God, the Lord of the mighty Throne.

When the breezes of Revelation stir thee and the breaths of inspiration attract thee, turn with thy heart toward the Kaaba of mankind and say: Praise be unto Thee, O Revealer of verses and Manifester of clear tokens, for having given me to drink the Kawthar of Thy utterance from the chalice of Thy bounty, and glory be unto Thee for having guided me unto Thy straight path and acquainted me with Thy mighty Message, through whose appearance the great terror appeared among mankind and all things proclaimed: The Kingdom and the Dominion and the Grandeur and the Majesty belong unto God, the One, the Peerless, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

O my Lord! Thou beholdest me turning toward Thee and clinging to Thy cord. I beseech Thee not to leave me to myself. Protect me through Thy hosts and ordain for me from the Pen of Thy decree the reward of attaining Thy presence. Verily Thou art the All-Bountiful, the Generous, and within Thy grasp lieth the dominion of all who are in the heavens and on the earth.

BH04469: The Wronged One testifies to the oneness and singleness…

He is the Manifest One, speaking before the faces of all men.

The Wronged One testifies to the oneness and singleness of God, to His greatness and sovereignty, His glory and power, His knowledge and all-encompassing nature. He has made the ornament of His Cause that which He revealed in His Book—He doeth whatsoever He willeth and ordaineth what He pleaseth. He is the Powerful, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy.

O thou who holdest fast to the cord and gazeth toward grace! Know that in this day Justice lamenteth by reason of what hath befallen it at the hands of the hosts of the oppressors—they who denied God's proof and evidence and rejected His bounty which descended from the heaven of His generosity. We testify that they are among the most lost in God's Book, the Lord of all worlds.

Behold the people and their heedlessness—they have taken the drop and cast the ocean behind them. Thus have their souls enticed them, and they are today among the transgressors in My mighty Book. He who loved Me hath mentioned thee. We make mention of thee through a Tablet from whose horizon shineth the light of God's loving-kindness, the Lord of this wondrous Day.

Say: Praise be to Thee, O my God, for having remembered me and sent down to me from the heaven of Thy bounty that which shall cause my mention to endure through the eternity of Thy Name, the All-Encompassing over all who are in the heavens and earth. I beseech Thee, O Thou Desire of the world and Beloved of the nations, by Thy manifestation in the world and Thy seating upon the throne of utterance in Thy Most Great Prison, to ordain for me that which will draw me nigh unto Thee and assist me to serve Thy loved ones. Verily Thou art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest. There is no God but Thee, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

BH04575: O thou who art mentioned before the Wronged One…

He is the Protector of all who are in the heavens and earth!

O thou who art mentioned before the Wronged One, hear My call from the direction of My prison. Verily there is no God but Him, the Single, the All-Informed.

O Ali, upon thee be My Glory! Ibrahim, thy brother, upon him be My Glory and loving-kindness! In truth he hath arisen to serve and hath attained to My grace. He hath mentioned thee repeatedly. We make mention of thee through this clear remembrance.

Say: O Land of Kaf, where is thy ascension and thy mention and thy call and thy vibration in the days of God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy? Today all must be engaged in the remembrance of the Lord of the Day of the Covenant with perfect attraction and longing.

Say: O people of God, regard the time as precious. By the life of God, all the pearls of the seas of the world cannot equal a single moment of this time. Time is an honored essence and a magnificent treasure. Know ye its value and hold fast unto that which beseemeth it.

O Ali, verily We made mention of thee before, and We make mention of My handmaiden who hath ascended to the Most Glorious Horizon and the Supreme Companion. We make mention of her with a remembrance whose fragrance shall endure as long as My most beautiful names and supreme attributes endure. Verily thy Lord is the Compassionate, the Generous.

I make mention of the loved ones in that land and convey My greetings, and We counsel that which is the cause of the exaltation of the Word of God. The Glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My Kingdom be upon My loved ones and My friends who have heard My call and have turned and have said:

> "Here am I, O Thou Goal of all who are in the heavens and the earth!"

BH04512: This is the Book which God, the Self-Subsisting…

This is the Book which God, the Self-Subsisting, the All-Compelling, hath sent down unto him who hath believed in Him and in His signs, that he may render thanks unto his Lord, the Compassionate, the All-Bountiful.

O Muhammad-Qabl-Baqir! The Promise hath come to pass, and He Who was promised crieth out with His most exalted Call: "The Kingdom is God's, the Lord of the mighty Throne!" Arise to serve the Cause, then speak forth that which thy Ancient Lord hath spoken. We counsel thee and those who have believed to fear God, thy Lord and the Lord of thy forebears of old. The clamor hath been raised throughout all regions. Blessed is he who standeth firm, whose foot hath not slipped from the straight Path of God. Blessed is he who hath drawn nigh, who hath not violated God's Covenant and His Bond, and who hath not denied His momentous Announcement.

When thou hast attained unto My Tablet and found the fragrance of revelation from My garden of knowledge, say: "Praise be unto Thee, O my God, for having made known unto me Thy path, shown me Thy signs, caused me to hear Thy call, and sent down unto me that whose fragrance shall never cease to endure through the eternity of Thy Name, the All-Compelling over all names. Thou art, verily, the Omnipotent over whatsoever Thou willest through Thy commanding, the Mighty, the Wondrous.

O my Lord! I beseech Thee by Thyself and by Thy signs and by Thy servant who hath mentioned me before Thy face, to aid me to remain steadfast in the Greater Steadfastness, whereby neither the doubts of the divines nor the might of princes shall hold me back. Thou art He through Whose bounty all things have testified, and through the power of Whose command all contingent beings exist. Thou doest what Thou willest and ordainest what Thou pleasest. Thou art, verily, the Omnipotent, the Mighty, the All-Praised.

O my God! I beseech Thee to ordain for me and my brother that which Thou hast ordained for Thy chosen ones and trusted ones. Then write down for us that which will draw us nigh unto Thee and exalt us through Thy Name amongst Thy servants. Verily, Thou art the All-Bountiful, the All-Giving, the Omnipotent, the Mighty, the All-Generous."

BH04478: He Who was recorded by the Most Exalted Pen…

He is the Hearer, the Answerer!

He Who was recorded by the Most Exalted Pen in the Scriptures and Tablets has come. This is the Day wherein God has given glad-tidings to His servants and sent down for them that which brings solace to their eyes. Those who have denied God's grace and mercy are in error and schism. They have cast the Book of God behind their backs and taken up that which was forbidden them in the Mother Book.

O Muhammad-Rahim! The All-Bountiful has come with a sovereignty that has conquered all who are in earth and heaven. Take heed lest the might of the oppressors prevent thee or the hosts of the wicked cause thee to fear. Take hold of the Book of God with a power from Us and an authority from Our presence. Verily thy Lord is powerful to do as He pleaseth through His sovereignty which has conquered all who are in the realm of possibility.

Say: O people! Fear God and follow not the doubts of those who have disbelieved in God, the Lord of the Day of Reckoning. When thou hearest the call from the Most Exalted Horizon, say: Praise be to Thee, O Lord of all mankind, and glory be to Thee, O Lord of the throne on high and of the dust beneath, for having caused me to hear Thy call and witness Thy signs, and for having raised me to the heaven of Thy nearness and enabled me to make mention of Thee in the night season and at dawn.

My God, my God, my Goal and my Adored One! Thou seest me detached from all save Thee and clinging to Thy cord. I testify that Thou didst create me to know Thee and didst manifest me to serve Thee and serve Thy loved ones. I beseech Thee, O Bestower of bounties and Lord of all peoples, to ordain for me through the Pen of Thy will that which shall render me a helper of Thy Cause and one who speaks Thy praise amidst the factions. There is no God but Thee, the Mighty, the All-Bestowing.

BH04440: Praise be sanctified above mention and utterance unto Him…

Praise be sanctified above mention and utterance unto Him Who is the Object of all possible things, Who befitteth and deserveth that by the finger of power He rent asunder the concealing veils and removed the intervening shrouds from between. Exalted be His greatness and elevated be His dominion. There is no God but Him.

Glorified art Thou, O my God! Thou hearest the cry of Thy Baha at all times, and his lamentation amidst the peoples. I beseech Thee by the light of Thy Cause and the fire of Thy Lote-Tree of the Mount to ordain for him who hath turned toward Thee the good of the hereafter and of the former time, and to decree for him that which will draw him to the Most Exalted Horizon. Verily Thou art the Powerful One Whom the prevention of those who prevent and the might of the oppressors hath not withheld from drawing nigh unto Thee and entering the precincts of Thy manifestation. Thou art verily powerful over what Thou willest and in Thy grasp are the reins of all who are in the heavens and the earth.

O Muhammad-Taqi! In this year of sorrows the afflictions have erased joy and gladness. The savage beasts from the isles of tyranny and ignorance have torn the divine sheep. A fire of oppression hath been kindled in the land of Ya that the eye of creation hath never seen its like. The oppressor hath committed

that which hath caused all things to lament. Say: My God, my God! I beseech Thee by Thy might and Thy grandeur and Thy Cause and Thy power to protect Thy trusted ones with the hosts of the unseen and the visible. Then send down upon them from the clouds of Thy mercy the rains of Thy utterance. Then open before my face the door of Thy mercy which hath preceded all who are in the heavens and the earth. There is no God but Thee, the Caller on the Day of Judgment.

BH04598: O Mihdi! The petition of Ism-i-Mihdi, upon him be…

He is the All-Knowing Speaker.

O Mihdi! The petition of Ism-i-Mihdi, upon him be My glory and My loving-kindness, was sent to the Most Holy Court. We heard your call and have answered it with this Most Mighty, Most Holy Tablet. O Mahdi! Today none but God is mentioned. This is that Day concerning which He spoke to the Son of Imran on the Mount of Knowledge, saying: “Lead forth the people from darkness into light and remind them of the days of God.” And the Seal of the Prophets gave glad tidings of it, saying: “The Day when mankind shall stand before the Lord of the worlds.” All books and scriptures, psalms and tablets speak of this Revelation and what hath been manifested therein. Blessed is the soul that hath heard and attained unto it.

O Mahdi! Time and again hath thy mention been made at the Most Holy Court, and there hath been revealed and sent down from the Divine Pen that whose fragrance shall endure and persist. Blessed art thou and blessed are they who have heard and said:

> “Praise be to Thee, O Lord of the worlds, and glory be to Thee, O Thou Who art the Goal of all who are in the heavens and on earth.”

We make mention of thy father and beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to draw him nigh unto Him and to send down upon him, at all times, mercy from His presence, grace from His own Self, and a sign from His direction. Verily He is the Most Merciful of the merciful ones and the Most Generous of the generous ones. There is none other God but Him, the Single, the One, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

Make mention of the loved ones on behalf of the Wronged One and give them the glad tidings of the light of the utterance of Him Who is the Goal of the worlds. Verily thy Lord is the All-Merciful, the Bountiful, and He is the Forgiving, the Merciful.

BH04582: O Zaynu’l-ʿAbidin! Upon thee be the glory of God…

He is the Dawning Place from the horizon of the heaven of utterance!

O Zaynu’l-ʿAbidin! Upon thee be the glory of God, the Lord of all worlds. We have desired to make mention of thee at this time with that which will attract thee to the Supreme Horizon, the Station wherein the Call hath been raised. Blessed is he who hath heard and attained unto hearkening, and woe unto the heedless one who hath denied the Cause of God, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

O master craftsman! We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to give thee to drink from the Kawthar of divine knowledge at all times, and to ordain for thee that which will exalt thee through His name amongst His servants. Verily, He is the Guardian of those who do good. Grieve not at the vicissitudes of

the world—soon shall they pass away, while that which hath flowed from this wondrous and glorious Pen shall endure. We have commanded the servants to that which will preserve them from the evil of those who have denied the Day of Judgment. Among the people are those who have hastened and acted, those who have not heard, and those who have heard and turned away. Blessed is he who hath turned towards God, and woe unto the deniers and the heedless ones. May the resplendent and effulgent glory rest upon thee, thy children, thy family, and those who are with thee, from God, the Compassionate, the Generous.

O My loved ones in that land! Hearken unto the call of the Wronged One. He desireth naught save your protection, your deliverance, and your drawing nigh unto God, the Lord of the mighty Throne. Beware lest vain imaginings prevent you from turning to the Supreme Horizon, or idle fancies from the Self-Subsisting One Who hath come with manifest sovereignty. Cast away what is with the people and take what ye have been commanded in the Book of God, the Master of this wondrous Day. We give glad tidings unto you and My handmaidens of God's loving-kindness, His grace and His mercy which have preceded all who are in the heavens and on earth. Praise be to God, the Lord of all worlds.

BH04464: God beareth witness that this Day is His Day…

In the name of the Most Holy, the Most Sacred Lord!

God beareth witness that this Day is His Day, and this Revelation His Revelation, and these verses His verses, and this Book His Book. By His command were the standards raised in the cities of names and attributes, and by His Name were the banners lifted up amongst the peoples. He is the Hidden Treasure and the Concealed Name. Through Him was opened the gate of mysteries, and the trees did speak, and the Herald called out from every direction:

> "O denizens of the highest Paradise and the most exalted Garden! The eyes of the people of the Crimson Ark have been gladdened by the establishment of the Glory upon the throne of faithfulness. He hath counseled all with that which will elevate their stations and draw them nigh unto the All-Bountiful in their final return."

This is a missive from Us to him who hath attained unto My days, who hath spoken My praise, who hath held fast unto My cord, and who hath acted according to that which was commanded in the Book. O thou who art mentioned before the Wronged One! Bear thou witness even as God hath borne witness, then recite what hath been sent down in the Tablet of the verses of thy Lord, the Dayspring of lights. This is the station wherein My Herald spoke at the mention of My Name, saying: "I am, verily, the first to worship Him." When thou soarest on the wings of utterance in the atmosphere of the love of the All-Merciful, say: "Praise be unto Thee, for having moved Thy Most Exalted Pen in My Name in the prison of Akka. I testify that Thou hast spoken and caused all things to speak in such wise as to enrapture the hearts of the righteous." Thus have We expounded the verses and sent them unto thee, that thou mayest give thanks unto thy Lord, the Mighty, the Chosen One. The Glory shining, dawning and radiating from the horizon of the heaven of My grace be upon thee and upon those whom the world hath not prevented from God, the Cleaver of the daybreak.

BH04518: This is a noble Book sent down from God…

He is the One manifest through grace.

This is a noble Book sent down from God, Lord of the worlds. Verily it guides the servants to the straight path and preserves them from every wicked oppressor, and gives them to drink of the Kawthar of inner meanings and Tasnim, and draws them near to God, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. Blessed is everyone who has sought today the station wherein the call was raised from the Ultimate Tree: "The Kingdom belongs to God, the Mighty, the Loving!"

O you who gaze upon the Face and are present before the Throne! Hear the call from the direction of Akka. Verily it guides you to a place where names are not mentioned and wherein are seen the effulgences of the lights of the Luminary of God's manifestation, the King, the Just, the Powerful, the Mighty. Blessed art thou for having attained unto this Most Great Cause whereby the limbs of every doubting scholar have trembled.

When thou hast drunk the choice wine of revelation from the cup of My utterance and found the fragrance of My verses, say:

> "My God, my God! Praise be to Thee for having guided me and honored me and caused me to hear and to see that which most of Thy servants were prevented from, and for having given me to drink of the Kawthar of Thy bounty and for having illumined my heart with the light of Thy knowledge. I beseech Thee by Thy station which Thou hast sanctified from the description of all created things and the mention of all existing things, and by the heaven of Thy utterance which Thou hast raised up by Thy command, to inscribe my name among the company of Thy lovers and devoted ones whom neither the ornaments of the world nor the oppression of the nations prevented from turning to Thy court and sacrificing their spirits in Thy love. O Lord! Ordain for me through Thy bounty that which Thou hast ordained for them. I testify that Thou art the Possessor of existence and the Sovereign of the seen and unseen. There is none other God but Thee, the Mighty, the Loving."

BH04402: We have desired at this time to make mention…

In His Name, through Whom the light of God, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise, has shone forth!

We have desired at this time to make mention of him who made mention of Me and turned towards My horizon on a day whereon was revealed that which had been hidden in the knowledge of God, the Lord of the mighty Throne—a day whereon the concealed was unveiled and the treasured was brought forth, and every wise command. Say: O peoples of the earth! Fear God and dispute not His verses. Judge fairly concerning that which has been revealed in truth, and be not of the wrongdoers. Through the nights and days you were beseeching your Lord, the Mighty, the All-Knowing, to send unto you one who would guide you to His straight path. When the promise came to pass, He came with grace, and on His right was the banner of "He doeth what He willeth" and on His left the standard whereon was inscribed by the Pen of Grace: "The Lord of Justice hath come with a manifest and radiant light." Thereupon you rose up against

Him and pronounced sentence to shed His pure and luminous blood. When thou hast taken the chalice of Mine utterance in My Name and drunk therefrom in remembrance of Me, say:

My God, my God! I beseech Thee by the ocean of Thy utterance and the light of Thy knowledge and Thine establishment upon the throne of Thy proof, to ordain for me and for Thy loved ones that whereby Thy Cause may be exalted amongst Thy creation. O my Lord! Thou seest me turning away from all else save Thee and turning towards the horizon of Thy grace. Ordain for me that which will draw me nigh unto the court of Thy might and the precincts of Thy holiness. Then write down for me the good of this world and of the world to come. Verily Thou art the Lord of all mankind. There is none other God but Thee, the Single, the One, the Powerful, the Mighty, the Great.

BH04439: In My Name that overshadoweth all names

In My Name that overshadoweth all names

Praise be to the Ancient King Who, through His Most Great Name, transformed separation into reunion and illumined the darkness of remoteness with the light of nearness. He is the One with such power that the veils of the world did not prevent Him from beholding the lights of the Ancient King, nor did the veils of the peoples hold Him back from turning toward Him. Glorified be His majesty, exalted His utterance, and sublime His proof. There is no God but Him. This is the Day wherein the Mother Book speaks and calls the servants to the Mighty, the Bestower. Blessed is the ear that has attained to hearing the Call, and the eye that has beheld the signs, and the hand that has taken hold of God's Tablet with such power that neither the hosts of the world nor the armies of the oppressors could weaken it.

O thou who gazest toward My horizon! When thou hearest My call from the direction of My prison, say:

My God, my King, my Object of worship and adoration! Praise be unto Thee for having given me to drink, from the hand of Thy bounty, the wine of Thy utterance, and for having illumined my heart with the light of Thy knowledge. I beseech Thee by the call of Thy Cause and by the sovereignty of Names, through which Thou hast subdued the cities of the hearts of Thy servants, to make me in all conditions to hold fast to Thy cord. O my Lord! I am Thy servant and the son of Thy servant. I find no refuge for myself except under the shadow of the pavilions of Thy mercy, and no shelter save the tabernacle of Thy bounty and protection. I implore Thee not to deprive me of the stream of Thy mercy and the ocean of Thy generosity. Thou art, verily, the One Who hath power over whatsoever He willeth, and in Thy grasp are the reins of all who are in the heavens and on earth. There is no God but Thee, the Single, the One, the Powerful, the Mighty, the Great.

BH04809: This is a Book sent down by the Wronged…

He is the All-Merciful, the All-Bountiful!

This is a Book sent down by the Wronged One to him who hath quaffed the choice sealed wine and drawn nigh unto God, the All-Possessing, the Self-Subsisting. He is among those who have arisen to aid the Cause and have striven in God's path—His manifest and straight Path.

O Ba! Thy letter hath arrived and the Wronged One hath heard thy call on a day when the people turned away and denied God's proof, the Lord of what was and what shall be. We have mentioned thee before and sent thee pearls of wisdom and utterance from this Most Great Sea. Verily thy Lord is the All-Powerful, the Mighty, the Loving.

O Alif! Hearken unto the call from the direction of ʿAkka—it draweth thee to His praiseworthy station.

O Qaf before Ra! Give thanks to thy Lord, for He hath aided thee to be steadfast and hath manifested through thee that which caused the Evil One to lament. We counsel thee and those who have believed to wisdom.

Blessed is he who hath cast tyranny behind him, holding fast to My manifest justice, and blessed is he who hath cast oppression behind him, holding fast to fairness—he is of those brought nigh. And joy be to him who hath shattered the idols of corruption and shortened matters to the reformation of the world and what lieth therein—he is of those who have aided God's Cause, the Mighty, the All-Praised.

Convey My greetings to the faces of My loved ones who have cast away transgression and indecency and taken hold of righteousness and piety from the presence of One Who is wise and informed. The splendor shining from the horizon of the heaven of My mercy be upon thee and upon My loved ones who have not broken God's covenant, the All-Powerful, the Almighty. And praise be to God, the Mighty, the All-Praised.

BH04617: Praise be to God Who hath brought forth…

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

Praise be to God Who hath brought forth from the shells of the ocean of His Most Great Name the pearls of wisdom and utterance, and made them a proof from His presence and a testimony from His realm. Verily, He is the One with power over whatsoever He willeth, and in His grasp is the dominion of all the first and the last.

This is a Book sent down in truth from the heaven of God's Will, the Lord of the worlds. Herein is mentioned he who hath cast away ignorance and turned toward the celestial dominion of God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy.

Thy name was present before the Wronged One, and he who loveth Me made mention of thee. We make mention of thee through this remembrance by which the Call hath been raised from the Supreme Horizon and that which was hidden in God's knowledge, the Lord of the mighty Throne, hath been made manifest.

When thou hearest My call, turn thy face toward Me and say:

> "My God, my God! Praise be to Thee for having guided me to the Dayspring of Thy signs and the Manifestation of Thy clear tokens. I beseech Thee by the Light that hath shone forth from the horizon of Sinai and by the Fire that blazed within the Tree of Revelation, to make me in all conditions enabled to remember and praise Thee and to call out Thy Name amongst Thy servants. O Lord! Thou art the Generous One and within Thy grasp is the dominion of all who are in the heavens and on earth. O Lord! Thou beholdest the ignorant one knocking at the

door of Thy knowledge and the lowly one seeking the city of Thy might. I beseech Thee by the mysteries of Thy Book and by the lights of Thy countenance not to disappoint him from the gate of Thy grace nor to debar him from the shore of the ocean of Thy bounty. Verily, Thou art the Almighty, the Glorious, the All-Bountiful."

BH04625: Praise be to God alone, and blessings upon Him…

He is the One Who protects all who are on earth and in heaven.

Praise be to God alone, and blessings upon Him after Whom there is no Prophet. O thou who drinkest the choice wine of utterance, upon thee be the peace of God, the Lord of all religions.

At this time thy letter was received. Praise be to God, the fragrance of trust, steadfastness and love wafted from it, thus bringing joy and delight. This joy is sanctified from change. We have instructed Diya'u'llah at this very moment to write and send the reply in Our presence. We beseech God to assist thee and aid thee in improving the affairs of His servants. Verily He is the All-Bountiful, the Compassionate, the Generous.

Thou hast ever been and art still before Our sight. In these days petitions have arrived from the land of Kha, including the petition of thy brother, the honored Ahmad, upon him be the peace of God and His care. The friends have been safe and at peace, except in ʿIshqabad where oppressors have transgressed against justice and martyred one of its manifestations. However, the glorious Russian government has shown the utmost consideration and assistance.

Say: My God, my God! I beseech Thee by the lights of Thy Kingdom and the mysteries of Thy Books and by that which lay hidden in the shells of the ocean of Thy power, to assist me in that which Thou hast commanded me in Thy Book. O my Lord! I have turned to Thee, detached from all else but Thee. Ordain for me that which will exalt me amongst Thy servants, by Thy Name. Verily Thou art the Powerful, the Mighty, the Unconstrained.

BH04619: Praise be to God Who hath sent down…

In the Name of Him Who is supreme over all names!

Praise be to God Who hath sent down the verses and revealed the clear tokens on a day when by His light the earth and heaven were illumined, that He might draw all men nigh unto Him. He, verily, is the Mighty, the All-Bountiful. We have turned toward those who have turned toward Us, and have forsaken every deceitful oppressor. Blessed is the servant who hath cast away vain desire, clinging to the hem of the robe of his Lord's mercy, the All-Bounteous. We have heard thy mention and have remembered thee, and have witnessed thy turning toward Us. We have sent down for thee that which hath caused the seas to surge and the fragrance of God, the Lord of the beginning and the end, to waft abroad.

Say: O people! The Self-Subsisting is come, and the command is God's, the Almighty, the Unconstrained. Beware lest ye deprive yourselves of this most great bounty. Cast away what the people possess and take what ye are bidden by God, Who illumineth the horizons. Thus hath the Pen spoken by command of the

Ancient King. Blessed is he who hath heard, and woe unto every denier who hath turned away from God, the Lord of creation. The glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My bounty be upon thee and upon those whom the censure of the censurer or the tyranny of the oppressor hath not kept back, who have turned with radiant hearts to the Most Sublime Horizon, despite those who have disbelieved in God, the Lord of all men.

BH04903: He speaketh in the heart of the world

He speaketh in the heart of the world

O Abdullah, upon thee be the Glory of God! From every direction the arrows of tribulation have encompassed thee, yet the Supreme Pen hath, under all conditions, continued to make mention of His loved ones. The clamor of the people of the world hath not prevented the Ancient Beauty from His purpose. Through His complete power He hath raised up His Cause without any helper or supporter, to such a degree that now kings and subjects, the learned and the ignorant among the peoples, are occupied day and night in making mention of it. This is a matter the like of which hath never been witnessed. Glory be to God! Despite the manifestation, appearance and all-encompassing nature of the verses, some among the people of Iran have hesitated while most have arisen in opposition, even though this Wronged One hath had and hath no purpose except reformation.

In time they shall behold the wrath and anger of God and shall lament over what hath escaped them in His days. Abdullah, who circled round Me and dwelt in My presence, hath sent thy letter to My holy court in the place named Bahji, and one of My Branches named Badi' hath read it. We have answered thee through this clear Tablet. Meet each of the Hands of the Cause and convey to them the greetings and salutations of the Wronged One, and likewise to the loved ones in that land. We beseech God to assist them through His sovereignty, to aid them through His verses, and to adorn them with the lights of His Kingdom. Verily He is powerful over all things. The Glory be upon thee and upon them from God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy.

BH04697: Praise be to the All-Powerful, All-Wise Lord Who distinguished…

In the Name of the one true God

Praise be to the All-Powerful, All-Wise Lord Who distinguished man from other created things through the jewel of utterance. Through the union of creation, infinite manifestations appeared and countless arts and knowledge came into being from non-existence. Exalted be His wisdom, and glorified be His power, might, grandeur and sovereignty!

O my handmaiden, O my leaf! The glance of favor has been directed to you from the Prison. All the servants and handmaidens of the world were adorned with the ornament of existence from nothingness for the recognition of this Day, yet all remain heedless and veiled from the fruit of existence, save whom God willeth. Through divine grace you have attained eternal life and been confirmed in the recognition of the Great Announcement and the Straight Path.

Glorify your Lord, then praise Him and say: Praise be to Thee, O my God, for having illumined my heart with the light of Thy knowledge and enabled me to turn toward Thee. O Lord! I testify to Thy oneness and singleness, and that Thou art God, there is no God but Thee, the Single, the One, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. O Lord! I beseech Thee by the penetrating power of Thy utterance and the manifestation of Thy grandeur amongst Thy servants to make my will annihilated in Thy will and my desire in Thy desire. O Lord! Verily, Thy handmaiden and the daughter of Thy handmaiden has placed her trust in Thee and committed her affairs unto Thee. Ordain for me from the ocean of Thy bounty and the heaven of Thy generosity that which will make me content with Thy good-pleasure. Verily, Thou art the Mighty, the Glorious, the All-Bountiful.

BH04652: We desire to make mention of the manifestations…

He is the One by Whose Name, the Self-Subsisting, the seal of His choice wine was broken.

We desire to make mention of the manifestations of love and affection, that they may swim in the ocean of divine knowledge and glorify their Lord, the Mighty, the All-Bountiful. Blessed are they who have shattered the idols of vain imaginings in the name of the Friend of these days and have turned with illumined hearts unto God, the Lord of the Day of Mutual Calling.

O thou who art mentioned before the Wronged One! Hear the call from the precincts of Akka. He will assist thee in that which will draw thee near unto God, the Lord of mankind.

Behold, then remember the previous people and what they possessed and what they committed on the day whereof the Books of God, the Mighty, the All-Bestowing, gave glad tidings. They were awaiting the appearance of God and His Cause, but when He came with the truth, they pronounced judgment against Him with such tyranny as caused all things to lament, and beyond them those possessed of the knowledge of the Book. We beseech God to assist thee to stand firm with supreme steadfastness in this Cause which hath caused the limbs of every heedless doubter to quake.

Say: My God, my God! Aid me in that which befitteth Thy days and ordain for me that which will draw me nigh unto the court of Thy glory and the precincts of Thy holiness. O my Lord! Drive me not from the door of Thy bounty, and deprive me not of the ocean of Thy mercy. Thou seest, O my God, my condition and knowest what lieth within my heart. I beseech Thee to illumine my heart with the light of Thy knowledge, then cause me to arise in remembrance of Thee, in Thy praise, and in service to Thy Cause. Verily, Thou art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest. There is no God but Thee, the Mighty, the Unconstrained.

BH04658: We have, both formerly and recently, commanded the friends…

In the name of the one true God!

We have, both formerly and recently, commanded the friends of God to that which beseemeth His Day. Blessed is the soul that hath held fast unto that which God hath willed and clung to the hem of piety. Time and again hath this word flowed from the Most Exalted Pen: “Assist your Lord through deeds and goodly character.” We beseech God that He may confirm those who have emigrated unto Him to assist His Cause. By the Sun of Truth! The influence of pure deeds and praiseworthy character is greater and

mightier than the influence of the ranks and hosts on high. Its power and might cannot be weakened by the power of the world's armies. We beseech God to assist His loved ones in such deeds as will cause the exaltation of His Word. Praise be to God that thou hast emigrated from thy homeland, seeking the Ultimate Goal and the Most Exalted Horizon, and hast attained to His presence.

We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to aid thee and His loved ones there to such steadfastness as nothing whatsoever can prevent, and to ordain for you what He hath sent down in His Book for His chosen ones. Verily He is the Protector of the emigrants and the Goal of them that seek Him. We have made mention of the friends in that land, both men and women. We beseech God to ordain for them the good of the world to come and of this world. Verily He is the Lord of the Throne on high and of the dust beneath, and He is the Forgiving, the Merciful. The glory be upon you, O people of Baha! Blessed are ye and blessed is he who loveth you and hearkeneth unto your words concerning this Most Great Announcement.

BH04811: This is a Book which the Wronged One hath…

He is the One Who speaks from the horizon of utterance.

This is a Book which the Wronged One hath sent down unto him who hath believed in the Self-Subsisting, the All-Compelling—He Who hath raised up the heaven of utterance as a command from His presence and hath sent down therefrom that which hath attracted the hearts of those who have drawn nigh, those whom the affairs of men have not kept back from the Most Sublime Vision. They have taken hold of the Book of God with a power that neither the might of the world can weaken nor the ascendancy of them that have denied this blessed, mighty and wondrous Day can prevent.

O concourse of the Furqan! Fear ye the All-Merciful. He hath indeed come with the truth with a sovereignty that hath encompassed all who are in the heavens and on earth.

Thy name was mentioned in the presence of the Wronged One, and We make mention of thee in this perspicuous Book. We have indeed read what thou didst compose in praise of God, the Object of the knowledge of the mystics. We bear witness that thou hast attained unto acceptance and hast spoken that which hath been honored with acceptance before the Ordainer, the Ancient of Days.

Say: Praise be unto Thee, O my God, for having illumined my heart with the light of Thy knowledge and sent down unto me from the clouds of Thy bounty that whose fragrance shall never cease throughout the duration of Thy dominion and Thy kingdom. O Lord! Thou seest me turning toward the ocean of Thy mercy and the sun of Thy generosity. I beseech Thee by the splendors of the morn of Thy Manifestation and by that which lay hidden in Thy knowledge, to open before the faces of Thy loved ones, through the key of Thy grace, that which shall gladden their eyes and tranquilize their souls. Thou art He Whose mercy hath preceded His wrath and Whose generosity hath encompassed Thy servants. I beseech Thee by Thy bounty which hath encompassed all existence to ordain for me that which shall make me steadfast in Thy love and a helper to Thy Cause through wisdom and utterance. Verily Thou art the Almighty, the Glorious, the All-Bountiful.

BH04889: O Aqa Kuchik! My hope is that divine grace…

In the Name of the one true God!

O Aqa Kuchik! My hope is that divine grace may take hold of thee and His loving-kindness encompass thee, in such wise that thy small station may be made manifest as great and thou mayest rise from the horizon of detachment. He is the One with power Who hath made manifest from a single point the knowledge of what was and what shall be. Today the waves of the ocean of mercy are manifest and visible before all faces. The Sun of Truth hath dawned from the horizon of the prison of ʿAkka, rising and shining forth. That which had no likeness or equal hath appeared. Blessed is the soul that hath comprehended the station of the Day of God and attained as behooveth it.

Say: O people of the Bayan! That which lay treasured in the divine repository of knowledge hath appeared. Were the excellences of this Day to be mentioned, verily the heavens and earth and all things would appear in the form of books and psalms and scrolls. Take thou the chalice of utterance in the name of thy Lord, the Most Merciful, then drink therefrom at My bidding, the Mighty, the Wondrous. Verily He preserveth whoso turneth unto Him, and aideth him with His hosts, and assisteth him through His grace. He, verily, is the All-Bountiful, the Generous. Strive that thou mayest attain unto that which shall endure in the Book of God and be adorned with everlasting life. The fragrance of a single deed performed purely for His sake in the Day of God is reckoned as the chief of deeds before God and is recorded by the Most Exalted Pen. We beseech God to confirm and assist all. He is the Powerful, the Mighty.

BH04824: The Most High and All-Sufficient Lord has ever gazed…

He is the All-Knowing Counselor.

The Most High and All-Sufficient Lord has ever gazed with the glance of loving-kindness and bounty upon men and been turned towards them. O ʿAbdu'l-Husayn, upon thee be My glory! One of the Branches who is named Badi' brought thy letter into the presence, and after it was presented at the Most Holy Court, this Tablet was revealed from the sacred heaven and sent forth, that thou mayest find from it the fragrance of God, the Help in Peril, the Self-Subsisting. Blessed art thou and joy be unto thee, for thou hast attained unto the Most Great Word in thy love for the Lord of all humanity.

Thy letter was adorned with these words:

> "If you wish to know the state of this servant, praise and thanks be to God that I am intoxicated with the mention of the Peerless One of the world, Who in these days of His presence and manifestation has enabled me to offer praise and achieve true knowledge of Him."

Praise be to God Who enabled thee to turn to Him in His days and caused to proceed from thee a word whose fragrance shall endure throughout the continuance of His names and attributes.

Say: My God, my God! Praise be to Thee for causing me to hear Thy call and guiding me to Thy supreme horizon, when most of Thy servants and creatures were debarred therefrom. I beseech Thee by the lights

of Thy countenance and the effulgences of the Orb of Thy grace to make me in all conditions one who quaffs the wine of Thy Revelation, gazes toward Thy horizon, soars in the atmosphere of Thy love, and holds fast to Thy firm cord. O Lord! Aid me to serve Thy Cause and Thy loved ones, and ordain for me every good thing Thou hast sent down in Thy Book. Verily Thou art the All-Bountiful, the Generous. There is no God but Thee, the Forgiving, the Merciful.

BH04804: The Book of God at all times summoneth…

In the Name of the One True God

The Book of God at all times summoneth the peoples of the earth unto the Most Exalted Horizon with the loudest call. Today His mercy hath encompassed all, and the Sun of His grace shineth resplendent from the horizon of the heaven of His Will, and the light of His justice is radiant. Yet the heedless servants remain deniers and turn away. Glory be to God! They behold the signs yet deny them, they hear the call yet turn aside from it. In this day the Mount Sinai crieth out "The Manifestation hath come!" and the Divine Lote-Tree giveth to all the glad-tidings of That which hath appeared. Yet the people remain heedless and veiled. At this hour thy name was mentioned before the Wronged One, wherefore this Most Holy, Most Exalted Tablet hath been sent down from the heaven of favor and dispatched unto thee, that thou mayest drink therefrom of My sealed wine.

Say: Praise be unto Thee, O my God, for that which hath flowed from Thy Most Exalted Pen in remembrance of me, whereby my name shall endure through the eternity of Thy Most Beautiful Names. O Lord! Withhold me not from the ocean of Thy bounty, nor from the heaven of Thy grace, and ordain for me all the good Thou hast sent down in Thy Book. Verily Thou art the One Who hath power over whatsoever He willeth, and in Thy grasp are the reins of all who are in the heavens and on earth. O Lord! Thou seest the poor one seeking the heaven of Thy bestowals and the weary one yearning for the ocean of Thy utterance. I beseech Thee by Thy power and Thy sovereignty and Thy majesty and Thy might, that Thou wilt not disappoint me of that which I desire from the heaven of Thy bounty and the Sun of Thy generosity. There is no God but Thee, the Almighty, the All-Powerful.

BH04899: O My people! Hearken unto My call. The Wronged…

He is the One Who standeth before the followers of all religions.

O My people! Hearken unto My call. The Wronged One hath turned towards you, and desireth naught except to draw you nigh unto the Most Great Ocean, from whose waves can be heard: "There is none other God but I, the Single, the All-Informed," and from the rustling of whose trees can be heard: "The Chosen One hath come with manifest sovereignty," and from the murmuring of whose rivers can be heard: "The Kingdom and Dominion belong to God, the Almighty, the All-Powerful," and from the whistling of whose winds can be heard: "The gate of prosperity hath been opened in the name of your Lord, Who controlleth the winds, Who hath come with such power that none in the heavens or on earth can withstand Him."

O thou who art mentioned before the Wronged One! The Call hath been raised in such wise as to embrace the whole world, yet most of the people remain heedless. Say: O peoples of the earth! Come ye to the Dayspring of the signs of your Lord, the Mighty, the Great. Beware lest the veils of the world or the veils of the peoples who have violated My Covenant and followed their desires in My Cause—these indeed are among the froward in My Perspicuous Book—hold you back.

When thou dost inhale the fragrance of the utterance of thy Lord, the All-Merciful, say: Praise be unto Thee, O Lord of Kings, and thanksgiving be unto Thee, O Sovereign of the Kingdom! I beseech Thee by Thy Name, the Self-Subsisting, through which Thou didst break the seal of Thy Choice Wine, to make me steadfast in Thy service, holding fast to Thy cord and clinging to the hem of Thy mercy. O my Lord! Thou seest me turning unto Thee and detached from all else but Thee. I beseech Thee not to disappoint me of that which Thou hast ordained for such of Thy servants as are nigh unto Thee. Verily Thou art the All-Forgiving, the All-Bountiful, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

BH04700: Praise befitteth the Lord of Bounty and the Sovereign…

In the name of Him Who is sovereign over all names.

Praise befitteth the Lord of Bounty and the Sovereign of existence Who, through a single word, illumined the world with the light of His manifestation and adorned the ears of mankind with the hearing of "The All-Merciful hath come." Blessed is the soul that hath attained and found its way to the court of His throne. O thou who art mentioned before the Wronged One! A single word from among the words which, on the first day of the Manifestation, streamed forth from the tongue of grandeur and descended from the supreme horizon of the heart, is the protector, preserver, helper and succorer of all—and that word is the blessed word "He doeth whatsoever He willeth." And the reason for its revelation is that every seeker might, through this exalted word, guard himself from idle fancies and vain imaginings and recognize God as the One with authority. Some, despite acknowledging this word, uttered that which caused grief to the Concourse on High.

Say: O servants! Have mercy upon yourselves. Reflect upon that which hath appeared and turn ye unto the evidences. The fruit of the blessed Tree hath ever been and shall ever be its signs. Blessed are they that attain thereunto. O My loved ones! Guide ye the people to the straight path of God through wisdom and utterance. However, what is essential and of first importance is to purify one's existence with the Kawthar of counsels from corruption, conflict, rancor and hatred. Thus hath God spoken, thus hath He commanded, and thus hath He decreed. Blessed are they that act, blessed are they that are fair-minded, and blessed are they that are steadfast.

BH04786: That which hath caused all the Books…

In the Name of the All-Seeing One from the horizon of the heaven of utterance!

That which hath caused all the Books of the world to bow down hath been revealed, and that which was hidden in the knowledge of God, the Lord of all worlds, hath appeared. This is a Day wherein God hath manifested Himself unto the people of Baha even as He manifested Himself on Sinai unto Moses, son of

ʿImran. Blessed is he who hath witnessed and seen, and woe betide the heedless! Is there any possessor of hearing who heareth My call, and is there any possessor of sight who beholdeth My horizon, and is there any possessor of hands who taketh hold of the Book of God, the Mighty, the All-Wise? Heedlessness hath encompassed those on earth by reason of that which their hands have wrought without leave from God, the Ordainer, the Ancient of Days.

O thou who hast turned thy face toward the Countenance! We have turned toward thee from the precincts of the Prison and have sent down for thee that which causeth the hearts of them that are nigh to soar and the realities of the sincere to be drawn forth. When thou hast known and heard, turn toward the Kaaba of God, the Mighty, the Powerful, and say:

My God, my God! Unto Thee be praise for having enabled me to turn toward Thee, and unto Thee be glory for having acquainted me with Thy announcement, and unto Thee be thanksgiving for having caused me to hear Thy most sweet call and the shrill voice of Thy Most Exalted Pen. I testify in this my station, by Thy bounty, O God of Names, and by Thy generosity, O Sovereign of kings and princes: O Lord! Thou beholdest me between the hands of the heedless among Thy servants and the oppressors among Thy creatures. I beseech Thee by the mysteries concealed within Thy knowledge and treasured within Thy Book to aid me in Thy remembrance and praise and in arising to serve Thee. Thou art, verily, the All-Bountiful, the Mighty, the All-Wise.

BH04801: In the Name of Him Who speaketh…

In the Name of Him Who speaketh from the Burning Bush, Who is established upon the throne of Manifestation

The Book of God speaketh the truth, yet the people remain heedless. The eye of creation hath never beheld the like of their condition. The wine of idle fancy hath so seized them that they have been prevented from recognizing the Lord of all beings, Who speaketh before all faces. He Who was hidden in knowledge and promised in the Books of God, the Mighty, the All-Praised, hath come. This is the Day whereon My Most Exalted Pen hath spoken from the Most Sublime Horizon, and wherein the rustling of the Divine Lote-Tree hath been raised, yet the people know not. This Day they have cast away what is with God and taken what their own selves and desires have commanded them.

Thus have their souls enticed them to turn away from God, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. Say: O people, be fair in your judgment regarding this Light through which the worlds of inner meaning and utterance have been illumined, and through which the door of divine presence hath been opened before all who are in earth and heaven, and the Dove of Utterance hath warbled upon the highest branch of divine knowledge. By God! The Object of all being hath come, at Whose manifestation the kingdom of God, the Mighty, the Inaccessible, hath smiled. Say: That which ye possess will profit you not this Day. Leave it for whosoever desireth it and take what ye are bidden by the All-Bountiful One.

This is better for you, did ye but know. Say: Cast aside the mere droplet and hasten to the Most Great Ocean which calleth out before the faces of all peoples: “Might and power belong unto God, the Lord of

all worlds!" Thus hath the Pen spoken as a grace from Him unto thee, that thou mayest give thanks and say: "Praise be unto Thee, O God of all who are in the heavens and on earth!"

BH04897: O Rid□a! Upon thee be the glory of God…

He is the One Who calleth out in truth.

O Rid□a! Upon thee be the glory of God, the Lord of Names. The call of the Lord of all that dwell on earth hath been raised from the supreme Horizon in the Prison of ʿAkka. The swords of the dissenters and the wrongs of the wrongdoers have failed to hinder Him. With complete and unassailable power, before the faces of both the righteous and the wicked, He hath made manifest the Cause of God.

The cruelty of the peoples of the world and the denial of the nations have not withheld Him from voicing His Cause. Every fair-minded soul who hath observed and known will testify. By the Sun of Truth that hath shone forth from the firmament of this prison, the aim hath been naught but the betterment of the world and the refinement of the nations—nothing else whatsoever.

And yet, notwithstanding, there hath come to pass that which hath had no likeness nor peer. They have beheld the Wronged One without helper or succour, whilst every day they display their pomp and vaunt their power. This Wronged One, however, relying upon God, remaineth still, and with this word speaketh:

> "O my God, my God! By Thy might, Thy power and Thy sovereignty! I have accepted all tribulations in Thy path, that Thy Word may be exalted and Thy Cause may exert its influence throughout Thy dominion. Were it not for trials endured in Thy love, my being and my non-being, my life, my manifestation and my continuance would avail me nothing. I beseech Thee, O Desire of the world, by Thy Most Great Name, to ordain for whoso hath turned unto Thee and attained unto Thy remembrance the choicest good of every world among Thy worlds. Verily, Thou art the All-Bountiful, the Lord of surpassing grace. There is no God but Thee, the All-Forgiving, the Most Merciful."

BH04935: O My leaf and My handmaiden! Hearken unto My…

In the Name of Him through Whom the ocean of bounty surgeth before the faces of all peoples!

O My leaf and My handmaiden! Hearken unto My call from the precincts of My prison. Verily He remembereth thee and doth remember thee at this hour as a grace from His presence, and He is the All-Bountiful, the Generous. When the fragrance of the Tablet taketh hold of thee, arise and say:

> "Glory be unto Thee, O my God! All praise be unto Thee for having remembered me and all glory be unto Thee for having sent down upon me from the heaven of Thy grace that which shall immortalize me in Thy Manifest Book. I beseech Thee by the Euphrates of Thy mercy and the ocean of Thy bounty to ordain for me through the Pen of Thy grace that which shall profit me in all the worlds of Thy worlds. Moreover, ordain for me the good of this world and the world to come. Verily, Thou art the Lord of the Throne on high and of the dust below. O my Lord! Thou knowest me better than I know myself. I know not what profiteth me. I have laid

hold of Thy cord and have committed my affairs unto Thee. Do with me as Thou willest. Verily, Thou art the Forgiving, the Merciful."

We have desired to make mention of thy mother from among the people of the household and to give her the glad-tidings of God's loving-kindness, the Goal of them that are endued with insight. Grieve thou not over anything, nor over the happenings of the world and its manifestations. By the life of God! There hath been ordained for you, the people of the household, that which the tongues are powerless to recount and the pens unable to describe. This is attested by honored servants. Forget not God's favor unto thee. Be thou enkindled with the fire of My love and speaking in praise of My beauteous praise. The glory of God rest upon you all, upon your first and your last, your outward and your inward, and the mercy of God and His blessings.

BH05126: This is a Book which the Wronged One hath…

He is the Ordainer, the Ancient of Days.

This is a Book which the Wronged One hath sent down unto him who hath acknowledged and recognized the Revelation of God, and His sovereignty, glory and power, that the attraction of the Call may draw him to a station wherein he shall behold naught save the effulgences of the lights of the Most Great Luminary, through Whom the limbs of the nations who violated God's Covenant and Testament did quake, and who denied that which appeared from Him, until they pronounced sentence to shed His blood through an injustice at which the near ones lamented.

O Husayn! Thy call hath been heard. We beseech God to ordain for thee that which shall preserve thee, draw thee nigh unto Him, and profit thee. Verily, He is the Protector of them that remember Him.

God's earth hath been and is vast, and the earth of knowledge is vaster still and sanctified from limitations. Thou didst desire to change thy residence—there is no harm in this. We beseech God to open before thy face the gate of His grace and bounty. Verily, He is the All-Bountiful, the Generous.

Each of the names mentioned in thy letter hath attained unto that for which hearing, sight and heart were created from nothingness to apprehend. Convey My glorification unto them, remind them of My verses, and illumine them with the light of My utterance. We beseech God to aid them to remain steadfast in this Cause whereby the feet of the divines of Iran who cast their God behind them and followed their desires have slipped. Lo! They are accounted among the most lost in God's Book, the Lord of the Mighty Throne.

BH05206: O thou who art mentioned before the Wronged One!…

In His Name, the All-Compelling over all names!

O thou who art mentioned before the Wronged One! This is a day wherein everyone who hath turned towards God, the Lord of the mighty throne, hath attained, and everyone possessed of hearing hath heard God's sweetest call from this luminous horizon, and everyone possessed of sight hath beheld His signs throughout His lands. He, verily, is the Helper, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. We have manifested

the Cause and sent down the verses, yet most of the people remain heedless. They have cast God behind their backs, clinging to idols. They are indeed among the most lost in God's Book, the Lord of all worlds. We counsel thee and those who have believed to be patient and forbearing, and to act in ways that will exalt the Word of God, the Mighty, the Powerful.

Thy letter hath come before the Wronged One, sent by him who was named Ghulam-Qabl-Husayn, and the servant in attendance before Us hath presented it. We have answered thee with this clear Book, that thou mayest find from it the fragrance of My loving-kindness and the sweet-scented breezes of My verses, which have encompassed all who are in the heavens and on earth. Grieve not over anything that hath appeared in the land. Verily thy Lord will protect thee and guard thee with His exalted hosts. Thus hath the Tongue spoken in this mighty prison. He ordaineth for thee the reward of attainment both in the latter and former life. Verily He maketh mention of him who mentioneth Him and ordaineth for him every good thing which He hath sent down in His mighty Book. Glory be upon thee and upon every servant who hath arisen to serve the Cause of his Lord, the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous.

BH05240: In My Name that hath manifested above the Most…

In My Name that hath manifested above the Most Exalted Horizon!

O My leaf! The Divine Lote-Tree calleth thee, and O My handmaiden! the Beloved remembereth thee. Thou canst glory in the two most great favors among the handmaidens. Verily thy Lord's grace hath encompassed the world and His mercy hath preceded the peoples. He is the Almighty, the Protector of all who are in the heavens and earths.

Say: Glory be unto Thee, O my God! Praise be unto Thee for having illumined my heart with the light of Thy knowledge, honored me with Thy presence, shown me Thy signs and caused me to hear Thy call. I beseech Thee by the Dayspring of Thy Cause, the Dawning-Place of Thy Revelation and the Ocean of Thy knowledge to ordain for this handmaiden of Thine that which shall aid her to remain steadfast in Thy Cause.

O Lord! I am Thy handmaiden and the daughter of Thy handmaiden. I beseech Thee by Thy resplendent Light and Thy gleaming Name to ordain for me that which shall enable me to remember Thee, praise Thee and serve Thy Cause. Thou art the All-Bountiful, Whose bounty is attested by all created things and Whose power is witnessed by all contingent beings. Thou givest and withholdest. In Thy grasp are the reins of all existence and the control of the seen and unseen. There is no God but Thee, the Mighty, the Powerful.

Convey my greetings to my leaves and handmaidens. We beseech God, exalted be He, to ordain for them every good thing that He hath sent down in His Scriptures and Tablets, and to decree for each one of them the reward of presence and attentiveness. He is the Lord of all creation and the Lord of the Throne on high and of earth below. There is no God but Him, the Single, the One, the Mighty, the Wise.

BH05133: This is a noble Book sent down from God…

He is the One Who calleth from His most exalted horizon.

This is a noble Book sent down from God, the Lord of the worlds. Verily it guideth men unto their goal and draweth them nigh unto Him and maketh them know His straight path. Thy name was mentioned in the presence of the Wronged One, Who hath remembered thee in this perspicuous Book. He, verily, loveth him who hath loved Him, and remembereth him who hath remembered Him, and He is the Kind, the All-Bountiful.

When thou beholdest the waves of the ocean of Mine utterance and hearest My call, say: "My God, my God! I have turned toward Thee and have fled from self and passion unto Thee, O Lord of all men. I testify to Thy oneness and Thy singleness, and I acknowledge that which hath appeared from the heaven of Thy commandments and ordinances. I beseech Thee, O Thou by Whose love the hearts of them who are nigh unto Thee have been set ablaze, and by Whose verses the hearts of them that are endued with understanding have been drawn, by the Ark that hath sailed upon the sea of utterance, and by the Light that shineth from the horizon of proof, to make me one of them who have cast away all else save Thee and have taken hold of Thy Book.

O my Lord! The weak one hath laid hold on the cord of Thy power, and the poor one on the hem of Thy riches. I beseech Thee not to disappoint him in that which he seeketh from the heaven of Thy grace and the sun of Thy bounty. Send down, then, upon him from the clouds of Thy mercy that which shall strengthen him to make mention of Thee and to praise Thee and to serve Thy Cause. Verily, Thou art He Whom nothing whatsoever can frustrate. Thou doest what Thou pleasest through Thy sovereignty and ordainest what Thou willest. Thou art, in truth, the Almighty, the All-Powerful."

BH05204: He is the One Who rules over whatsoever He…

He is the One Who rules over whatsoever He willeth, and He is the One Who speaketh in the Kingdom of Names.

O thou who soarest in the atmosphere of the love of the All-Merciful! The Wronged One of the world remembereth thee in His Most Great Prison, even as He remembered thee before with verses which extinction shall never overtake. Verily thy Lord hath adorned them with a permanence that the centuries and ages shall not alter. Thou hast been remembered before His Countenance at eventide and at dawn. By My life! There hath been ordained for you that which shall gladden all existence and delight all eyes.

His honor Haji Muhammad-Rida, upon him be the Glory of God, hath verily chosen for himself a lofty station beneath the canopies of grandeur. For some time he hath attained the presence and been blessed with hearing the call. He made mention of thee before the Wronged One, wherefore this Tablet hath been revealed, from each letter of which shineth forth the Day-Star of God's loving-kindness, the Lord of all worlds. Nothing in existence can be compared with it, as doth testify unto this the Mother Book in this exalted station.

Grieve thou not over anything. Verily He is with thee, and He is the All-Bountiful, the All-Generous. We beseech Him to open before thy face the gates of bounty and bestowal, and to cause to descend from the clouds of His mercy the rains of glory and exaltation. There is none other God but He, the One Who hath power over all things through His word, the Mighty, the Wondrous.

The light shining from the heaven of My loving-kindness be upon thee and upon whosoever loveth thee and hearkeneth unto thy word concerning this momentous News.

BH05125: 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 on a day when sorrows encompassed Him from all sides, and He left the people behind Him, speaking in remembrance of the friends of God and His loved ones. Thus hath the matter been decreed from the presence of an ancient Commander. Blessed art thou for having drunk the choice wine of meeting from the cup of the bounty of thy Lord, the Compassionate, the Merciful. When the intoxication of My utterance taketh hold of thee, turn thy face toward the Prison and say:

The light shining from the horizon of God's loving-kindness, the Lord of all worlds, and the glory dawning from the will of God, the Goal of them that know, be upon you, O friends of God, His chosen ones, the party of God and His hosts. O Abdu'l-Ahad, blessed art thou for having been bidden to make mention of God's friends at this manifest time. We make mention of Our friends in all Our lands and beseech Him, exalted be He, to preserve them and protect them through His might and sovereignty, to aid them to remember and praise Him, and to enable them to help His Cause through His clear proofs and signs. He is verily the Powerful, the Mighty, the Great. O Abdu'l-Ahad, upon thee be My glory. The honored Name of Jud, upon him be My glory and loving-kindness, hath repeatedly made mention of thee. Time and again have thy mention and thy name flowed from the Most Exalted Pen. Blessed art thou and blessed is he who hath attained unto that which hath been sent down in the Book of God, the Mighty, the All-Praised. The glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My loving-kindness be upon thee and upon them that have believed in the One, the All-Informed.

BH05022: Praise befitteth the Lord of existence and the Sovereign…

In the name of the One True God, the All-Knowing.

Praise befitteth the Lord of existence and the Sovereign of the seen and unseen, Who hath illumined the realms of hearts and minds with the lights of His Most Great Name, and guided them to the Supreme Horizon in the prison of ʿAkka. He is the One whose power the might of the world could not weaken nor deter from His purpose. Glorified be His majesty and exalted His dominion! Glory be unto God! The claimants of divine love have broken the Covenant and joined the enemies. Neither kindly counsels nor wise exhortations have proved effective. We beseech God—glorified be His majesty—to adorn His servants with the ornament of justice and fairness. He is the Powerful, the Mighty. There is no God but Him, the Most High, the Most Exalted.

Convey My greetings to the loved ones and say: Since the fate of the Wronged One is a cause of grief, We have refrained from mentioning it. The divine Ark is encompassed by waves, and the divine Lamp by winds. We beseech God to manifest that which is the cause and source of truthfulness, trustworthiness, religiosity, justice and fairness. The world and its peoples bear witness that this Wronged One hath

desired naught save the exaltation of the Word and the advancement of existence. Blessed is he who hath adorned his head with the crown of justice and his temple with the ornament of fairness. Woe unto the deniers and they that have turned away.

BH05009: I speak the truth when I say that every…

He is the One dawning from the horizon of the Kingdom of Utterance!

I speak the truth when I say that every soul, in turning to the Most Exalted Horizon, must purify their hearing from the false tales that have circulated among the various sects through the Kawthar of divine utterance, and must cleanse their breast from the impressions of idle fancies and vain imaginings. Then with penetrating vision must they turn to the signs of God. Thus will the Cause become manifest to them, and what God has purposed in this manifest Revelation and mighty Announcement.

Your name was mentioned before the Wronged One, and We have turned toward you from the precincts of the Prison and revealed for you that which has attracted the hearts of those near unto God. Today one must fix one's gaze upon the Most Great Horizon and with one's entire being hold fast to that which has been ordained. Blessed art thou for having rent asunder the veils of idle fancies and turned toward God, the Lord of all men.

Say: Praise be unto Thee, O Lord of the Kingdom of Utterance, and glory be unto Thee, O Thou in Whose grasp are the reins of all religions, for having caused me to hear Thy call and having revealed unto me that which draws me nigh unto Thee. I beseech Thee by the breathings of Thy Revelation whereby the Trump was sounded and those in the graves arose, to make me one of them who have turned toward Thee, detached from all else but Thee, in such wise that nothing that hath been created in the world shall prevent me from remaining steadfast in Thy Cause and following that which Thou hast commanded me in Thy Book. Verily Thou art the Almighty, the Glorious, the All-Bountiful.

BH05013: Blessed is He Who hath sent down the verses…

In the Name of Him Who speaketh in the Most Great Prison

Blessed is He Who hath sent down the verses and manifested the evidences and called all to the horizon wherefrom the Light shone forth, when He Who conversed with God was seated upon the throne of Revelation and spoke that whereby hearts and minds were attracted. Say: O people, fear ye God! He hath come with the truth with a sovereignty that hath conquered both the unseen and the visible. Beware lest the veils of glory prevent you from turning toward God, the One, the All-Informed. Blessed is he who hath cast away vain desire, taking hold of that which was enjoined upon him in My Mighty Book. Take heed lest the events of the world sadden thee or the doubts of the nations prevent thee from drawing nigh unto God, the Lord of existence. When thou inhales the sweet savors of revelation from My utterance and art seized with the wine of the Kawthar of My knowledge, say:

My God, my God! Praise be unto Thee for having guided me unto Thy straight path. I beseech Thee by the mysteries of Thy Book and the pearls of the ocean of Thy bounty to make me steadfast in Thy service and vocal in Thy praise. O my Lord! Thou seest the weary one making for the kingdom of Thy utterance, the

sightless one for the heaven of Thy knowledge, and the feeble one for the horizon of Thy power. I beseech Thee, O God of the world and Speaker amongst the nations, by Thy grace and Thy hosts, and by Thy might and Thy grandeur, to make me in all conditions firm in Thy Cause and steadfast in Thy love. Verily Thou art the Powerful over whatsoever Thou willest through Thy word "Be" and it is.

BH04948: In the Name of Him through Whom was manifested…

In the Name of Him through Whom was manifested that which lay hidden in the knowledge of God, the Lord of all worlds!

Praise be to God Who hath spoken a Word whereby the fragrance of the Bayan was diffused and the ocean of certitude surged, and all things proclaimed: O peoples of earth and heaven! The Hidden One hath come with manifest sovereignty. Turn ye unto Him with radiant faces, and follow not the sources of idle fancies and vain imaginings. Say: O people! By God, He Who was treasured and concealed, hidden from all eyes and vision, hath come! When the appointed time was fulfilled, He shone forth from the horizon of the heaven of the divine Command with a sovereignty that hath conquered both earth and heaven. Say: Beware, O people, lest ye forsake that which profiteth you, and beware lest ye follow any veiled learned one. Say: This is the Day of God, did ye but know it, and this is His Call which hath been raised from the horizon of the prison of Akka by a command against which armies cannot prevail. Have mercy upon yourselves, then turn ye to the Kaaba of God, the Mighty, the All-Loving.

When thou hast drunk the choice wine of revelation from the hand of thy Lord's bounty, say: Praise be to Thee, O my God, for having remembered me while I was in an impregnable prison. I beseech Thee to rain down upon me from the clouds of Thy bounty the showers of Thy mercy which have preceded existence in both the unseen and visible worlds. Praise be to Thee and thanks be to Thee, O Thou in Whose grasp are the reins of glory and majesty!

BH05016: Some of the hypocrites outwardly claim agreement while inwardly…

He is the Expositor, the All-Knowing!

Some of the hypocrites outwardly claim agreement while inwardly they conspire with enemies. Each day they speak a new lie and busy themselves with calumnies. But the Wronged One speaks the truth before all faces—neither do the clamors of the heedless sadden Him, nor the tales of the ancients. Say: O people, fear God and follow not in the footsteps of those who denied God's proof and testimony and disbelieved in the Day of Judgment. We found you turning toward Us, so We turned to you and counsel you with that which will exalt your station and the station of those whom the doubts of the barking ones did not cause to slip. Blessed art thou, for My Pen hath moved to make mention of thee in this spot which was once named Ridvan and at another time the Garden. Thy Lord is verily the Forgiving, the Generous. Say:

Praise be to Thee, O my God, for having given me to drink from the cup of Thy knowledge and adorned me with the ornament of Thy love. I beseech Thee not to withhold from me the pearls of the ocean of Thy utterance, nor the revelations of the Sun of Thy bounty. Thou art verily the All-Bountiful, to Whose grace

and bounty and generosity and benevolence all existence, both seen and unseen, hath testified. There is no God but Thee, the Almighty, the Powerful. O my Lord! Thou seest me turning toward Thee and holding fast to Thy Book. I beseech Thee to assist me in serving Thee and in serving those near ones among Thy loved ones whom neither the confederations of the oppressors nor the utterances of the infidels did frighten. There is no God but Thee, the King, the Truth, the Manifest One.

BH05601: O Ali, upon thee be the eternal glory…

He is the Hearing and the Answering

O Ali, upon thee be the eternal glory of God. God willing, mayest thou be favored with special bounties, hold fast to the cord of righteousness, and cling to the hem of detachment. This Day is a Day whose attributes have been recorded and inscribed by the Most Exalted Pen in the divine Books. Every mystery is revealed and the fruit of every deed is manifest. We beseech God to aid thee in that which shall be mentioned in the Crimson Tablet.

It would have been advisable that before departing from Abadih, they should have inquired of the Afnan, upon them be the glory and mercy of God, regarding the matter of selling properties, and then departed. In any case, there has been and is no harm. We beseech God to ordain for you the reward of attaining His presence and meeting, and to record it with the Most Exalted Pen. He is verily the Compassionate, the Generous.

Now if they send the honored ones to the Land of Ta for some time, this deed would be acceptable in the sight of God and attain His good-pleasure. Perchance sorrows may be transformed into joy and delight through meeting with the kindred.

Say: My God, my God! Aid me to perform that which will diffuse the fragrance of Thy acceptance, then open before me, through the key of bounty, the door of Thy generosity and bestowal. Verily Thou art the All-Bountiful, and verily Thou are the Ever-Flowing, the Forgiving, the Merciful.

BH05496: This is a Book which the Wronged One hath…

He is the Hearer, the Answerer, the Compassionate, the Generous.

This is a Book which the Wronged One hath sent down unto him who hath believed in God, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting—He Who hath made it the Kawthar of Life for all created things and a Sign of eternity for the peoples. Blessed is he who hath heard and attained, and woe unto every heedless one who hath turned away from God, the Lord of the seen and unseen.

O Husayn! Thy letter hath arrived. From it We perceived the fragrance of thy love and thy turning unto Him on this Day wherein the servants have turned away from God, the Lord of existence. They hear the verses and deny them, they behold the clear proofs yet turn aside from them. Verily they do not understand. The proof and evidence have appeared, calling throughout all possibility unto God, the Single, the One, the Mighty, the Beloved. Say: Praise be unto Thee, O my God, for having made known unto me Thy path and guided me unto it through Thy bounty, and for having shown me Thy signs in Thy

days. I beseech Thee, O Thou Who art the Goal of them that have recognized Thee, by Thy Books and Thy Scriptures and Thy Tablets, and by Thy Most Great Name whereby the limbs of the nations have trembled, to ordain for me all the good Thou hast sent down in Thy Book and manifested amongst Thy servants.

Then ordain, O my God, for my son that which will exalt him through Thy Name and cause him to hold fast unto Thee and unto Thy verses. Then assist him to remain steadfast in Thy Cause and in Thy love with great constancy. Verily Thou art the Mighty, the Powerful, the All-Bountiful.

BH05584: O Buzurg! Upon thee be the Glory of God…

In His Name, Who is established upon the Throne of Utterance

O Buzurg! Upon thee be the Glory of God and His loving-kindness. Today the Call hath reached its most exalted pitch, yet the hearing of the world of being is debarred from hearkening unto it. The purpose of this Call is to make ready the ears of the people of the realm of possibilities to hearken unto the Most Exalted Word, which none hath comprehended save God, the Lord of all beings, and the Lord of the Throne on high and of the earth below. The Day is God's Day and the Cause is His Cause, yet the tales of former times and the veils of names have prevented the parties from witnessing and hearkening. Say:

My God, my God! I testify that Thou didst create me for Thy knowledge and didst manifest me to arise in service to Thee and to Thy loved ones. O my Lord! Thou seest me clinging fast to Thee and to that which hath appeared from Thy presence. I beseech Thee by the joy of Thy Beloved at His ascension unto Thee, and by the rapture of the Primal Point at the mention of the Most Glorious, and by Thy radiant and resplendent light shining from the horizon of the heaven of Thy Revelation, to make me in all conditions one who speaketh forth Thy Name, who gazeth toward Thy horizon, who moveth by Thy will, and who holdeth fast to the hem of Thy robe. O my Lord! Thou seest me enkindled with the fire of Thy love. I beseech Thee to aid me to perform such deeds as befit Thy Revelation and Thy days. Verily Thou art the Powerful over whatsoever Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the Ruler, the Commander, the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing.

BH05617: O Mihdi! Thy name was mentioned in the presence…

He is the All-Commanding, the All-Wise!

O Mihdi! Thy name was mentioned in the presence of the Wronged One. We make mention of thee with such remembrance as will gladden the hearts of the people of the cities of the Bayan. Verily thy Lord is the Almighty, the All-Compelling over all who are in the heavens and earths. Praise be to God that thou hast attained to mention, praise and service of the Cause. The loved ones of that land are all remembered in the Most Great Presence and have attained His favors. We beseech God that He may aid all to that which will cause the exaltation of the Word of God. Likewise We counsel all to wisdom, for that which is contrary to wisdom hath been and will ever be the cause of harm.

Ere long will the people of the earth turn towards God, for the Will of God is sovereign and all-encompassing. There hath been and is no need for corruption. That which hath come to pass hath, praise

be to God, been the cause of reformation, inasmuch as oppression hath been made manifest thereby. The helpless servants have been prevented from the Truth by those possessed of ulterior motives, but soon shall the veils be rent asunder and eyes shall be blessed with beholding the light of the Sun of Truth. Today oppression is the most beauteous adornment for the temple of the loved ones, and likewise it is the supreme cause for the turning of the servants unto God. Convey My greetings to the loved ones and make mention of Me. The glory be upon thee and upon them and upon those who have testified to that which God hath testified, that there is none other God but Him, the Most Exalted, the Most Great.

BH05484: In My Name, which God made as a crown…

In My Name, which God made as a crown for the head of the Bayan.

A Book which the All-Merciful hath sent down for whosoever hath hearkened to the Call and answered his Lord, the Compassionate, the Generous, on a Day whereon every heedless one turned away, every idolater denied, and every wrongdoer disbelieved in God, the Lord of all worlds. Ism-i-Jud hath mentioned thee, wherefore We make mention of thee, and I am the All-Knowing Rememberer.

Say: O peoples of the earth! The Most Great Key hath appeared and that which was hidden in God's knowledge hath been revealed, and I am the All-Seeing Witness. The Salsabil hath flowed from the Most Exalted Pen of God, and I am the All-Informed Explainer.

Say: O company of the heedless! Fear God and follow not the promptings of Satan. O people! By God, the Day hath come and all things cry out "The Kingdom is God's, the Goal of all who have known Him!" O assemblage of men! The Most Great Spectacle hath appeared and the Lord of Destiny is established upon the throne of His Great Name. Turn ye unto Him and be not of them that turn aside.

Thus have We adorned the preamble of the Book of Grace with the verses of God, the Almighty, the All-Powerful. Give thanks unto God thy Lord, for He hath sent down for thee that which calleth out in the wilderness of the Tablet. Blessed is he who hath found the fragrance of God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy, and woe betide him who hath turned away from that which hath appeared in truth from the presence of the Lord of the Day of Judgment. Glory be upon thee and upon every steadfast, upright one.

BH05385: In My Name that holdeth dominion over all names!

In My Name that holdeth dominion over all names!

Day after day bringeth joy and expansion—joy from what? From the wine of divine love in this luminous morn. And expansion from what? From the infinite outpouring of the Lord's bounty. O Ghulam who was formerly Husayn! The leaf thou didst send hath attained unto Our presence and been honored by the glance of Our loving-kindness. Blessed art thou in having turned unto the Most Sublime Horizon and attained unto that which lay hidden in the treasury of infallibility and was inscribed by the Most Glorious Pen in the Books of the Messengers. The names have been blessed through the mention of their Lord—a bounty unto thee and unto them from God, the Lord of all worlds. When thou attainest unto the presence of My loved ones, gladden them with the tidings of My loving-kindness and My mercy which

have preceded all who are in the heavens and on earth, and My grace which hath encompassed all existence, both seen and unseen.

O Ghulam! Give thanks unto God, then praise Him for having aided thee and brought thee into His presence, where thou didst hear His sweetest call from His Most Glorious Horizon. He hath sent down for thee and His loved ones that which cannot be equaled by all the treasures of the world—to this doth bear witness the Lord of all creation in His mighty prison. The splendor shining from the heaven of My mercy be upon thee and upon My chosen ones who have quaffed the wine of steadfastness from the hands of the bounty of their Lord, the Generous. There is none other God but He, the Almighty, the Everlasting, the All-Glorious, the All-Wise.

BH05444: In My Name, that is mentioned in the Books…

In My Name, that is mentioned in the Books and Tablets!

He who hath loved Me and drunk the choice wine of attainment from the hand of My bounty hath desired to return to the twigs of the Tree and the loved ones of the blessed Word, bearing new gifts and wondrous presents of divine utterances and heavenly words. We have therefore sent down from the heaven of grace and bounty the table of utterance and the blessing of inner meanings. Blessed is he who hath attained unto them, and woe unto the heedless!

When thou hast attained unto this trace of My Most Exalted Pen, turn thy face toward thy Lord, the Lord of all mankind. Say: Praise be unto Thee, O my God, for having enabled me to turn toward Thy horizon and for having made known unto me Thy Cause, whereby the trumpet was sounded and all who are in the heavens and on earth were struck down, save those whom God preserved through His Most Great Name. We beseech God to make thee one of those who have spread abroad the signs of God and that which hath been sent down from His presence. Verily He is the Almighty, the Glorious, the All-Bountiful.

We make mention in this station of thy mother and thy sister, and give them the glad-tidings of My loving-kindness, and likewise thy wife who hath attained unto the days of God and found the fragrance of His garment, the Mighty, the Well-Beloved. The Glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My loving-kindness be upon My twigs and upon thee and upon My loved ones who have not broken God's Covenant, the Lord of the Mighty Throne. Praise be unto Him, for He is the Goal of them that know and the Beloved of the worlds.

BH05603: O ʿAli before Muhammad! We beseech God, blessed…

He is the Consoler, the Comforter!

O ʿAli before Muhammad! We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to assist you to be patient and forbearing in whatsoever hath befallen you through His firm and irrevocable decree. Verily, there is no God but Him. He doeth what He willeth and ordaineth what He pleaseth. He is the Almighty, the Powerful, the All-Praised.

When thou receivest My Tablet, turn thy face toward him who was named Ahmad in My perspicuous Book and say: The first fragrance that wafted from the verses of God, the Lord of all beings, and the first light that shone forth from the horizon of the heaven of bounty be upon thee, O thou who hast quaffed the wine of revelation from the hands of the loving-kindness of thy Lord, the Lord of all names. I testify that thou didst love thy Lord when His call was raised, and didst turn unto Him when most of His servants turned away. Thou art he whom the might of the world did not weaken, nor did the power of the nations prevent thee from turning to the horizon of Revelation and hearing the voice of Him Who conversed on Sinai.

Throughout thy days thou wast a servant, steadfast, holding fast and clinging to all that was revealed from God, thy Lord and the Lord of thy forefathers of old. O my God, my Lord, my Support! I beseech Thee, by this most pure sepulcher, to ordain for me and for them that visit it the good of this world and the world to come. Verily, Thou art the Lord of all beings. There is none other God but Thee, the All-Forgiving, the Most Generous.

BH05596: O Abdul-Husayn! Today the rustling of the Divine Lote…

He is the Dawning One from the horizon of the Kingdom of Utterance!

O Abdul-Husayn! Today the rustling of the Divine Lote Tree is raised up, and in every moment a word is heard and continues to be heard therefrom. Blessed are those ears that were not deprived of hearing the Word of God by the tales of former times. That which was hidden has been revealed through the all-compelling Supreme Will. The manifestors of conjecture and idle fancy seized upon an imaginary thing and clung to it. But the Hand of Divine Power removed the veil and rent asunder the covering, revealing what was hidden in the breasts before the faces of the world. You have undoubtedly heard of the calumnies that appeared from the Shaykh of Yazd in the great city.

Reflect upon the power of Truth—He revealed both guide and follower as they truly were, that all might, through His divine protection and grace, deliver themselves from the pit of fancy and hold fast unto Him. In these days the guide and follower are, God forbid, engaged in deeds that cause loss in this world and the next, yet they remain heedless and veiled from themselves and what they possess. Praise be to God, and His is the grace and bounty, He protected and made aware His party. This is a mighty favor and a great bounty. Blessed are they that attain!

BH05363: In this year there occurred that which caused…

In this year there occurred that which caused the All-Seeing Eye to weep and the Pen of God to lament. O Abu'l-Qasim! The delusions of the previous party have emerged—the notorious Dawlat-Abadi has denied the Book of God and has intended to eliminate it. This grief is greater than all the griefs of the world. His followers say this Text is not authentic. It was said: bring forth the text which you possess. They mentioned that that too is not authentic. The tale of the deluded ones of the past has emerged. By the life of God! This incident has closed the door of joy and gladness and delight and expansion. Say: My God, my God! I beseech Thee by the sighs of Thy Baha and by His tears to protect Thy Book from the oppressors who desired to erase it in Thy days.

O my Lord! Aid them not in what they intended. Verily Thou art powerful over what Thou willest and within Thy grasp is the reins of those in the heavens and the earth. Likewise they have intended to erase the Book which was named the Qayyumu'l-Asma. In any case, the people of Baha and the companions of the Crimson Ark must, at all times, beseech the True One, exalted be His Glory, for the protection of His Book. He is the Powerful, the Mighty. The splendor shining from the horizon of the heaven of My mercy be upon thee and upon those who heard the call and answered their Lord, the Hearing, the Responding.

BH05386: Glorified is He Who hath sent down the verses…

He is the Glorious, the Most Glorious!

Glorified is He Who hath sent down the verses and manifested the clear proofs as a token of His grace. Verily He is the Compassionate, the Bountiful. Blessed is the servant who fulfilleth his promise and believeth in that which is best. He is indeed among the people of Baha in My perspicuous Book.

O ʿAli-Akbar! This is the Day of God and the Most Exalted Pen is engaged in mentioning and occupied with the friends. His honor Jamal-i-Ismi made mention of thee and this most holy, most exalted Tablet was revealed. Say: Praise be unto Thee, O God of Names, and thanksgiving be unto Thee, O Thou Who hath remembered me in Thy prison. I testify that Thou art the Most Merciful of the merciful.

And We make mention of him who hath ascended unto God, who was named Amu before Husayn, and We beseech God, exalted be He, to send down upon him mercy from His presence and to forgive him through His grace and bounty. Verily He is the One Who hath named Himself the Forgiver in the Book of Names and the Bestower in this perspicuous Tablet. We make mention of him who is named Ali Askar—on him be the Glory of God, the Possessor of Destiny—so that he may rejoice and be of those who are thankful. O ʿAli before Askar! The Lord of mankind hath made mention of thee from His Most Great Scene. Verily thy Lord is the All-Bountiful, the Bestower, the Almighty, the Powerful.

The glory from Our presence be upon thee and upon those who have turned unto the Supreme Horizon and have said:

> "God is our Lord and the Lord of the mighty Throne and the elevated Seat."

BH05361: Praise be sanctified above all loftiness and sublimity, above…

He is the Manifest, He is the Speaker!

Praise be sanctified above all loftiness and sublimity, above all mention and utterance, above all description and exposition—praise that befits and is worthy of the most holy, most sacred, most exalted Court of the Desired One, Who, at a time when sorrows have encompassed Him from all directions, remains occupied with the remembrance of His loved ones. The tyranny of the world, the assault of nations, the croaking of the croakers and the clamor of the doubters have not held Him back from His purpose. Night and day, the Most Exalted Pen moves and speaks of that which elevates the stations of His chosen ones. Glorified be His bounty, exalted be His bestowal, His mercy has preceded all and His favors have encompassed all. There is no God but Him.

O thou who gazest upon the Countenance! Thy name was mentioned in the presence of the Wronged One. We make mention of thee through verses that cannot be equaled by the books of the people. To this beareth witness the Tongue of My grandeur in the kingdom of My wondrous utterance. When thou hearest the Call that hath been raised amidst all peoples, say:

> "O Lord of all names and Creator of the heavens! I beseech Thee by Thy exile, by the wrongs Thou hast suffered, and by Thy imprisonment, to open before my face the gate of the city of Thy knowledge. Then ordain for me, through the Pen of Thy decree, that which will enable me to make mention of Thee, to praise Thee, and to serve Thy loved ones. Thou art the Great One, to Whose greatness all created things have testified, and the Mighty One, to Whose might all possible things have confessed. There is no God but Thee, the Lord of names and attributes."

BH05475: The Book of God speaketh with truth…

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

The Book of God speaketh with truth that which draweth people nigh unto His Straight Path. Through it the fragrance of the Revelation was diffused and the Light of Remembrance shone forth from the horizon of Sinai, yet most of the people remain heedless. O thou who art mentioned before the Wronged One! The verses have encompassed all directions and the Call hath been raised from the Most Exalted Horizon, summoning all peoples unto God, the Lord of the worlds. Say: O people, fear God and follow not your idle fancies. Follow ye Him Who hath come to you with the treasures of the heavens and earth. This is the Day wherein every hidden thing hath been revealed, every concealed mystery hath emerged, and every tongue hath proclaimed: The Truth hath come with a sovereignty that hath conquered all things great and small.

O people of the Bayan! The All-Merciful hath come, and that which ye possess shall profit you not this day. Cast it aside in My Name, then turn ye toward the light of the Countenance, as commanded by God, the Ordainer, the Most Praiseworthy.

When thou hast attained unto My verses, turn thy face toward God and say: Praise be unto Thee for having made Thyself known unto me, for having enabled me to turn toward Thee, and for having made clear unto me Thy straight and manifest path. I beseech Thee, O Thou the Goal of the world, to withhold me not from that which Thou hast ordained for Thy chosen ones. Verily Thou art the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous.

The glory shining forth from the horizon of My Kingdom be upon My loved ones who have not broken My Covenant and who have held fast unto My sure cord.

BH05591: This is the Day whereon the Most Great Name…

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

This is the Day whereon the Most Great Name calleth aloud among the nations and giveth them glad tidings of this Manifestation, at Whose appearance the Mount declared:

> "The Promised One hath come, and through Him the Hidden One hath been revealed, and those in the graves have arisen."

Blessed is he who hath turned unto Him and attained. Woe betide the heedless!

Say: This is not the Day of suppositions and vain imaginings. The horizon of the world hath been illumined by this Luminary, at Whose rising the Dove cooed, and the Cock of the Throne crowed, and the Nightingale sang, and the Mystic Bird warbled upon the branches.

O servants of the All-Merciful! By God, that which was hidden in the knowledge of God, the Lord of the worlds, hath appeared. This is the Day whereon the Divine Lote-Tree calleth out and the Rock crieth aloud with this Great Name. Be ye as leaves when the winds of the Will of your Lord, the Lord of the Covenant, blow. Thus doth He Who hath with Him the Mother Book command you.

Say: Cast away what ye possess and take what ye are bidden by One All-Knowing, All-Informed. We have found the fragrance of thy love and have heard thy call. We have remembered thee in this Tablet and have revealed for thee that which gladdeneth the eyes of them that are nigh unto God. Be thou steadfast in the Cause and speaking in praise of thy Lord, the All-Forgiving, the All-Wise.

Thus have We opened unto thee the gate of recognition with the key of Our Name, the All-Merciful. Blessed is he who hath drawn nigh and recognized and said: "Praise be unto Thee, O Beloved of them that know!" The glory be upon thee and upon those who have turned unto God with manifest certitude.

BH05282: In My Name, the Mighty, the Great

In My Name, the Mighty, the Great

Today the call is raised from all directions, and the light of the Cause is dawning and visible from the horizon of the heaven of the prison. The ocean of utterance surgeth before the faces of all religions, and the Sun of Truth is witnessed above all heads. Blessed is the soul that hath attained unto the bounties of the divine days and become detached and free from all else. Take thou the chalice of utterance in the name of thy Lord, the All-Merciful, then drink therefrom through this Cause whereby all who are in the heavens and on earth were thunderstruck, save those whom the hand of divine power took hold of and saved through His grace—and He is the All-Bountiful, the All-Generous.

We make mention of all the friends. Praise be to God that that which hath had no likeness or equal hath appeared. He hath forbidden all servants in the Tablets from corruption, conflict and contention with a mighty forbiddance from His presence. Now must all gird up the loins of endeavor and arise to serve the Cause, and guide and lead the people of the earth to the straight path of God through kindly counsels, wise exhortations, wisdom and utterance. This is the greatest service in the sight of the Lord of eternity. Blessed is he who hath heard and arose and acted, and woe unto the heedless. And praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH05581: O My loved ones in all lands! This Wronged…

In the Name of the One Peerless Friend

O My loved ones in all lands! This Wronged One had a brother whom He sheltered beneath the tabernacles of grandeur and upon whom He bestowed such favors as had no likeness or equal. But when he saw himself elevated to the highest station, pride overtook him. By the life of God! He even attempted to shed the blood of this Wronged One. We therefore abandoned him to himself and repaired to another house in order to preserve God's Cause, the Lord of all worlds. Yet that oppressor and his followers perpetrated day after day such deeds as caused the very essence of reality to weep. They incited Ahmad-i-Kirmani, and that unjust one recorded in writing that which was the greatest cause of harm to this Wronged One. Likewise they prompted Ibn-i-Rajab-ʿAli to reject and revile this Wronged One in ways that astounded the Concourse on High. Thus did there befall the Wronged One such treatment from those whom We had protected throughout the days and nights. When thou hearest what hath befallen My Self, say:

> "My God, my God! Adorn the temples of the heedless with the light of acceptance, the deniers with the ornament of recognition, and the idolaters with the radiance of unity and oneness. O my Lord! Aid them to return to the gate of Thy forgiveness. Verily Thou art the Ever-Forgiving, the Mighty, the All-Bountiful."

BH05561: O son of Dhabih! Upon thee and upon thee…

He is the Mighty, the All-Bestowing!

O son of Dhabih! Upon thee and upon thee be My glory and My loving-kindness. That which thou didst send hath been accepted. Thou didst mention the verse of ʿAttar—upon him be the glory of the Chosen One. All are mentioned at the Most Holy Court and have attained His special favors. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to aid all to perform such deeds as will cause His irrevocable, holy, mighty and wondrous Cause to be exalted. We make mention of Khadijih, the wife of Hasan, and give her the glad-tidings of God's loving-kindness—the Lord of this luminous station. We have remembered her before and before that, and We ask for her the greatest steadfastness in this Mighty Announcement.

We make mention of thy brother Habibu'llah—upon him be My glory—and We seal this Tablet with his remembrance that he may rejoice and be of those who are thankful. Remember him on My behalf and proclaim upon him My mighty and wise Command. Convey to all those who are related greetings and glorification from the Wronged One. Verily He loveth His loved ones and handmaidens, as a grace from His presence, and He is the Mighty, the All-Bountiful. Say: My God, my God! I beseech Thee by Thy signs that have encompassed the horizons, and by Thy Name through which Thou hast subdued all names, to open before my face, through the key of Thy bountiful Name, the door of grace and bestowal. O my Lord! I testify that Thou knowest better than I, and Thou knowest what profiteth me in all the worlds of Thy worlds. Verily Thou art the Mighty, the Ever-Flowing.

BH05451: In this day We have arisen through the grace…

He is the One Who speaks the Truth.

In this day We have arisen through the grace of God, the Lord of the worlds, and directed Ourselves to another place which We have made the Most Great Scene of Vision for mankind. When We arrived, We revealed that whereby the stones soared, the trees cried out, and the hearts of the righteous were drawn in rapture. Exalted is this lofty station and this moment wherein the call of God, the True King, the Manifest Justice, was raised.

Thy letter hath arrived and the servant in attendance before the Throne presented it. We have answered thee with a Tablet that speaketh before all faces—the Kingdom is God's, the Lord of the worlds. Carmel hath been honored by the advent of its Lord, and the breezes of reunion have quickened it after the fire of separation had destroyed it. Thus hath the decree been fulfilled from God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy.

O thou who gazest upon My horizon and art adorned with the ornament of My love! Hear My call, for verily it attracteth thee and draweth thee nigh unto a station which God hath made the circling-point of the Concourse on High and His near angels. Beware lest the clamor of the divines or the doubts of those who have denied God's truth and His proof and have committed that which hath caused every informed soul to weep, prevent thee or veil thee. We beseech God to aid thee and to reinforce thee with the hosts of wisdom and utterance, that thou mayest thereby help the Cause of thy Lord, the Mighty, the Glorious, the Wondrous.

The glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My mercy be upon thee and upon those who have hearkened and responded to their Lord, the Forgiving, the Bountiful.

BH05279: To be typed

To be typed.

BH05258: Praise be to God Who hath manifested what He…

Praise be to God Who hath manifested what He desired and sent down from the heaven of bounty that whereby the hearts of those who have drawn nigh were attracted, and praise be to God Who hath sent down from the clouds of generosity His eternal table and His everlasting grace. Blessed is he who hath attained thereunto, and woe betide the heedless. This is a Day wherein all things speak and give glad tidings unto the servants of the manifestation of our Lord, God, the Mighty, the Great. Glorified be He Who hath spoken before all faces and called the servants unto His glorious horizon. O Nasru'llah, when thou didst hear the call from the direction of My prison and found the sweetness of My utterance, say:

My God, my God! Praise be to Thee for having […] unto Thy path and illumined my heart with the light of Thy knowledge. I beseech Thee by the lights of Thy countenance and the mysteries of Thy Cause to ordain for me the reward of meeting Thee and of attaining unto presence before Thy throne. O my Lord! I am Thy servant and the son of Thy servant. I have turned unto Thee and desired from the wonders of Thy bounty that which will preserve me from the evil of Thine enemies and guard me from the oppressors among Thy creatures. Thou art He to Whose greatness and power and might and loftiness and sovereignty every thing hath testified. There is none other God but Thee, the All-Bountiful, the Generous,

and the Omnipotent over whatsoever Thou willest, by Thy Most Great Name, the Manifest. There is none other God but Thee, the Single, the One, the Powerful, the Commander on the Day of Judgment.

BH05522: The Divine Lamp is visible amidst the winds…

In the name of the one God

The Divine Lamp is visible amidst the winds and bears witness through divine destiny and decree. The events of the world and oppression of nations cannot prevent it from appearing and giving light. It has not taken glass and crystal for its own protection, and has sought eternal illumination for all. Yet the servants have attempted to extinguish the light with swords of hatred. We beseech God to illumine them with the light of justice and adorn them with the ornament of fairness. Verily He is the Lord of gifts and favors.

O Light of God! Jinab-i-Nazir, upon him be My glory and loving-kindness, made mention of thee, and likewise of the mother and sister. We beseech God not to deprive any from the Euphrates of mercy and the waves of the ocean of loving-kindness. The whole world was created for this blessed Day, yet the people have arisen in rejection and blindness, and have issued the decree for shedding His blood. Such is the condition of the heedless and the deed of the opposers.

Say: Praise be unto Thee, O my God, for having remembered us in Thy prison and revealed unto us that which draws us to the horizon of Thy manifestation. O Lord! Illumine our faces with the lights of Thy countenance, then ordain for us the reward of those who have attained Thy presence and drunk the choice wine of Thy utterance. Verily Thou art the Almighty, the Forgiving, the Merciful. Glory be upon you and upon those who have attained the recognition of God, the Lord of all worlds.

BH05626: O My Leaf! O My handmaiden! Say: Praise be…

He is the Hearer, the Answerer

O My Leaf! O My handmaiden! Say: Praise be to Thee for having given me to drink, from the hand of Thy bounty, the wine of Thy knowledge, and for having guided me to Thy path, and shown me Thy signs, and sent down upon me from the heaven of Thy generosity the tokens of Thy greatness. I beseech Thee, O Creator of the world, by the Most Great Sea Who walketh in the prison and uttereth that whereby the fragrance of revelation and inspiration hath been diffused among Thy servants and Thy creatures, and by the lights of Thy countenance and the power of Thy most exalted Word, to ordain for this handmaiden of Thine the good of this world and the next. There is no God but Thee, the All-Bountiful, the Almighty, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. Write down, then, for me and for Thy devoted handmaidens that which will draw us nigh unto Thee and exalt us through Thy name amongst Thy handmaidens.

O my Lord! Thou seest Thy handmaiden turning unto Thee, detached from all else but Thee, and clinging to the hem of the robe of Thy pardon and bounty. I beseech Thee to open before her face, through the key of Thy Most Great Name, the doors of grace and bestowal. Verily, Thou art the Potent over what Thou willest, and in Thy grasp are the reins of all things past and future. Light and glory and praise and laudation rest upon Thy loved ones and chosen ones and trustees, who broke not Thy Covenant and

Testament, and who arose to aid Thy Cause with such power as to shake the hearts of the doubtful and the heedless. There is no God but Thee, the Single, the One, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

BH05256: Today We arrived at the garden and revealed unto…

He is the One Who calls out with truth

Today We arrived at the garden and revealed unto thee, O Joseph, that which attracted the hearts of the sincere ones. We have remembered Our loved ones with a remembrance through which the horizons of the heavens of wisdom and utterance were illumined. Verily thy Lord is the All-Powerful, the Almighty. Say: O people! The call hath been raised from the direction of Akka and by this most sweet call were set ablaze the hearts of the Concourse on High. Blessed is he who hath turned and heard, and woe unto the heedless ones. This is a day wherein the proof hath appeared and the evidence hath called out before the faces of all religions. By God! The Desired One hath come with manifest sovereignty that neither the power of princes feareth Him nor the clamor of divines who have changed God's favor for that which they possess preventeth Him. We testify that they are among the transgressors. O concourse of divines in Persia! Be fair concerning that which hath appeared with truth and be not of the oppressors. O thou who hast turned, when thou attainest unto My utterance say:

My God, my God! Praise be to Thee for having remembered me and revealed unto me that through which the fragrances of Thy loving-kindness and the sweet savors of Thy mercy were wafted. I beseech Thee by Thy hidden mysteries and Thy shining lights and by Thy Most Great Book which Thou hast sent down to the peoples, to assist me in serving Thee and serving Thy loved ones. Then protect me from the evil of Thine enemies who have disbelieved in Thee and in Thy signs. There is no God but Thee, the Almighty, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

BH05587: O people of God! This is His Day…

O people of God! This is His Day and His Cause. Blessed is the soul that hath attained unto true divine unity. The people of the past never attained the fragrance of unity, much less its station. Each day they would ascribe a partner unto God, and yet deemed themselves to be believers in His unity. And on the Day of Judgment their rank and station became evident to the Concourse on High and the dwellers of the Most Exalted Paradise. After twelve hundred years of supplication, yearning, searching and hope, they martyred the Pride of the World and Lord of Nations with the most grievous torment. True unity is to turn unto the horizon of the one Manifestation; to exceed this is accounted as misbelief in the Book of God. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to illumine all with the light of His unity and oneness, and to draw them nigh unto Him. Verily He is the Almighty, the One Who doeth as He willeth through His firm and mighty command.

O Yusif! Take the Book by My command and say: Praise be unto Thee, O my Goal and my Beloved, for having caused me to hear Thy call and behold Thy signs. I beseech Thee to assist me to be steadfast in Thy Cause in such wise that the swords of earth and heaven shall not prevent me. Verily Thou art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest. There is no God but Thee, the Almighty, the All-Conquering, the All-Powerful.

BH05259: Praise be to God Who hath manifested the grace…

He is the Dawning One from the horizon of the heaven of proof

Praise be to God Who hath manifested the grace of utterance, sent down the table of certitude, opened wide the gate of bounty, and caused all things to speak! There is none other God but Him, the Mighty, the Chosen One. This is a day wherein the ocean of generosity hath surged and the fragrance of God, the Lord of lords, hath wafted. O thou who art mentioned before the Wronged One! Hear My call and take hold of My Book with a power that the doubts of those who have turned away from God, the Revealer of verses, cannot prevent. Say: O people, fear ye God! There hath been sent down from the heaven of bounty that which no treasures of earth can equal, as doth testify the Mother Book in its final abode.

Be not grieved by the vicissitudes of the world and what hath befallen you from those who denied the proof of God when it was sent down from the heaven of grace with an authority before which the hosts of earth and heaven cannot stand. Take the cup of utterance from the hand of the bounty of thy Lord, the All-Merciful, then drink therefrom by this Name whereby the pillars of all lands have trembled. We beseech God to aid thee to serve His Cause and draw thee nigh unto Him. Verily He is the Mighty, the Chosen One. Thus have We sent down the verses and dispatched them unto thee as a grace from God, the Lord of creation.

The glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My bounty be upon thee and upon those whom the names have not held back from drawing nigh unto God, the Dawning Place of lights.

BH05268: Praise be to Him Who conversed on Sinai, Who…

In the Name of Him Who hath caused the Trumpet to be sounded

Praise be to Him Who conversed on Sinai, Who is established upon the throne of Manifestation and speaketh, saying: “The Kingdom belongeth unto God, the Lord of all worlds!” This is the Day wherein the ocean of utterance surgeth and the fragrance of certitude is wafted abroad. Blessed is he who hath found and recognized, and woe unto the heedless! This is the Day wherein the Glory speaketh from the horizon of tribulation: “Glory be to God, the Mighty, the All-Praised!” Nothing whatsoever hath prevented Him. He hath come from the horizon of power with sovereignty that hath encompassed all who are in the heavens and on earth. Say: O people, follow not the ignorant ones. Follow Him Who is the Dawning-Place of knowledge, as bidden by God, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

We have succored you and commanded you to be trustworthy and religious, and to hold fast to this mighty cord. Among the people are those who have heard and acted, and those who have turned away and denied the bounty of their Lord, the Compassionate, the Generous. Fear thou not those who have broken God’s Covenant and Testament and disbelieved in the Day of Judgment. Turn with a radiant face and take hold of the Book of God with a might that the hosts of the oppressors cannot weaken. Aid the Lord through wisdom and utterance, not by the sword and spear. Thus hath the matter been decreed by God, the Lord of the mighty throne. The Glory from Us be upon the people of Baha who have heard and said: “Praise be unto Thee, O God of all who are in the heavens and on earth!”

BH05276: Today the Mother Book calls out to all…

He is the All-Supporting, the All-Knowing

Today the Mother Book calls out to all from the highest horizon and imparts the Most Exalted Word. Can any hearing ear be found and can any seeing eye be observed that might discover that for which they were brought from nothingness into being? Glory be to God! In these days the embodiment of tyranny counsels the Dayspring of Justice. Say: May God shut your mouth! Counsel your own self, O heedless one, and be not of the wrongdoers. The world of existence came into being for the recognition of this blessed Day, yet the people of the earth are occupied with fleeting colors and remain heedless and veiled from the effulgences of the light of the One Who conversed on Sinai. Say:

Glory be to Thee, O my God! Praise be to Thee for having caused me to soar on the wings of longing in the atmosphere of Thy knowledge, and adorned me with the ornament of certitude in Thy days, and illumined my heart with the light of Thy manifestation. I beseech Thee by those who were so attracted by Thy verses that they hastened to the place of sacrifice in their longing to meet Thee and offered up their souls in Thy path, to ordain for me that which will make me speak forth Thy praise and drink the choice wine of Thy revelation and turn toward the lights of Thy countenance at all times. O my Lord! Thou seest me standing before the door of Thy grace, asking for Thy bounty and generosity. I beseech Thee not to withhold from me what Thou hast ordained for Thy loved ones. Verily Thou art the Compassionate, the Generous. There is no God but Thee, the Mighty, the Great.

BH05891: Praise be unto Thee, O my God, for having…

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

Praise be unto Thee, O my God, for having enabled Thy loved ones to turn towards the horizon of the heaven of Thy Manifestation, and for having shown them Thy path whereby those who are nigh unto Thee were guided to the court of Thy presence and reunion with Thee.

I beseech Thee, O Illuminator of the world and Creator of nations, by Thy Most Great Name through which Thou didst raise the standards of Thy power among Thy creatures and the banners of Thy guidance in Thy lands, to ordain for Thy chosen ones the reward of those who have attained unto Thy presence and have quaffed the choice wine of revelation from the hand of Thy bounty. Verily, Thou art the All-Bountiful, He Whose generosity all created things and all contingent beings have witnessed. There is no God but Thee, the Compassionate, the Generous.

Magnify, O my God, the countenances of those whom Thou hast related to Thy Name, the Sacrifice, who arose in the earliest days to serve Thee and to serve Thy loved ones. Thou seest this Youth speaking Thy praise and glorification. Ordain for him that which befitteth Thy glory and Thy power. Verily, Thou art the Almighty, the Glorious, the All-Bountiful. There is no God but Thee, the Lord of the beginning and the end. He is the Confirmer.

The message from the spiritual friend His Honor Ghulam-Ali, upon him be the Glory of God, consisting of one piece of needlework termeh of his own making, was received through His Honor the esteemed Afnan Haji Siyyid Ali, upon him be the Most Glorious Glory of God, in the year 1307.

BH05819: The rivers have flowed, the fruits have appeared…

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

The rivers have flowed, the fruits have appeared, and the trees have spoken forth. The Kingdom and the Realm, the Grandeur and the Dominion belong unto God, the Lord of all men. O Muhammad-Qabl-Karim! Thou hast been mentioned by Him Who circleth around Me, soareth in Mine atmosphere, uttereth My praise, and hath acknowledged that which My chosen ones have acknowledged—they who have not broken the Covenant. Give thanks unto God for this bounty which cannot be equaled by the treasures of earth nor by that which lieth concealed in the seas. How many a servant hath turned toward My horizon and spoken that which My Tongue hath spoken at morn and eventide! When thou attainest unto My Name, say:

> "Praise be unto Thee, O my God, and thanksgiving be unto Thee, O my Desire, for having sent down unto me that which draweth me nigh unto Thee in all conditions. O Lord! I am Thy servant and the son of Thy servant, standing before the door of Thy bounty. I beseech Thee by the Sovereign of Names, Who hath subdued earth and heaven, to cause me to hold fast to Thy cord and cling to Thy robe. Thou art, verily, the Almighty, the Unconstrained. O Lord! Ordain for me what Thou hast ordained for Thy loved ones and chosen ones whom the veils of glory have not hindered from drawing nigh unto the Dawning-Place of Beauty. Thou art, verily, the Almighty, the All-Glorious, the All-Bountiful."

BH06000: He called out before the faces of men

He called out before the faces of men

O My leaf! Hear thou My call from the direction of My prison. Verily, He desireth to make mention of thee with a mention whereat, when its light dawned forth from the horizon of the will of the All-Merciful, the ocean of joy surged in all creation and the fragrance of gladness wafted among all religions. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to roll up the carpet of sorrows and griefs and to make all aware of the station of death and what appeareth therefrom. Verily, He is the Mighty, the All-Bountiful. By My life! In death are treasured God's consummate wisdom and His hidden mysteries. Blessed is the people that hath laid hold on the cord of patience and resignation and hath been content with God's decree, the Mighty, the Self-Subsisting.

Convey My greetings to the handmaidens of God. Today all things, the Concourse on High, the divine Books and holy Scriptures, some in the innermost mystery and others openly and manifestly, are engaged in joy and delight, for this is the Most Great Day of rejoicing. At this hour the Lord of Destiny maketh mention of thee and His handmaidens, and through verses shining forth from the horizon of the heaven of bounty, showeth His loving-kindness. Know thou the station of this most exalted Word, then rejoice

with a joy that no sorrow shall follow. Verily thy Lord is He Who commandeth in the beginning and in the end.

BH05777: The Divine Lote Tree declares: O leaf! Blessed art…

In the name of the Everlasting Speaker

The Divine Lote Tree declares: O leaf! Blessed art thou, for in the earliest days thou didst attain to recognition and devotion. This is a blessed day, for which no likeness or similitude hath been ordained. It speaketh of its Creator and Originator. The mysteries of this Day have been sent down and revealed from the Most Exalted Pen in divine Books and Tablets. Say: Praise be unto Thee for having remembered me and for having accepted my devotion and recognition. I beseech Thee by Thy acceptance and good-pleasure, and by Thy manifestation and power, to cause me in all conditions to speak Thy praise among Thy handmaidens. Thou art, verily, the All-Powerful, the Mighty, the All-Bountiful.

O my Lord! I beseech Thee by the pavilion of Thy glory and the tabernacles of Thy grandeur to protect this Thy handmaiden through the hosts of Thine invisible realm, and to open before her face the door of Thy grace, the door of Thy mercy, and the door of Thy bounty. Thou art, verily, the All-Powerful, before Whose manifestation the power of the world and the might of nations were rendered impotent. There is no God but Thee, the Mighty, the Great, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. The glory shining forth from the horizon of My will be upon thee and upon My leaves and handmaidens who have heard My call and turned unto My horizon and have said:

> "Praise be unto Thee for having manifested Thyself through Thy Most Great Name unto all who are in the heavens and on earth."

BH06004: In My Name, through which the fragrance of God…

In My Name, through which the fragrance of God has wafted throughout the world and among the nations

O My leaf and My handmaiden! The call is subtle and penetrating. At all times it appears in My Name and its influence is manifest and evident. It is the attracter of hearts and minds. Whosoever attains unto its hearing passes beyond the world and all therein and holds fast to that which befits My days. The doubts of the suspicious and the intimations of the atheists do not prevent him from the Most Great Ocean and the Mighty Announcement. Reflect upon the power of the Supreme Word. It is ever in motion. In these days its effects are manifest and evident from every direction. It has aimed at the rulers of the earth so that all may become aware of that from which they are now veiled.

Say: Power is Thine, O Thou in Whose grasp are the reins of all affairs! And might is Thine, O Thou through Whom the call was raised upon the Mount! And sovereignty is Thine, O Thou in Whose grasp are the reins of all choice! I beseech Thee by the revelations of the lights of the Sun of Thy grace and by the hearts that have melted in Thy love to aid me to be steadfast in Thy Cause. Then exalt me through Thy Name among Thy handmaidens and leaves and chosen ones and servants. Verily Thou art the Powerful, the Mighty, the All-Bountiful.

BH05863: This is a Book which the All-Merciful hath sent…

He is the Witnessing, the Hearing, the Answering One!

This is a Book which the All-Merciful hath sent down unto all who are in the realm of possibility, that it may draw them nigh unto Him. He, verily, is the Mighty, the Bountiful. This is a Day wherein the shrill voice of My Most Exalted Pen hath been raised, calling the servants unto a station which God hath made the seat of His mighty throne. O concourse of His loved ones! The Lord of the Kingdom of Names hath taken His seat upon the throne of ʻHe doeth whatsoever He willeth,' despite every learned one who hath cast the truth behind his back and followed the manifestations of idle fancies—they who have violated God's Covenant, the Lord of all worlds.

My name Mihdi, upon whom be My Glory, hath sent thy letter into the presence of the Countenance, and the servant who standeth before the Throne presented it. Thereupon did the ocean of utterance surge before the faces of all religions, and there was sent down for thee that which will draw thee near unto God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy.

Rejoice thou in this most great favor and supreme bounty, and say: Praise be unto Thee, O Lord of all mankind and Sovereign of both this world and the next, for having turned toward Thy servant from the direction of Thy Prison and revealed unto me that which hath diffused the fragrance of Thy garment amongst Thy servants. O my Lord! I am Thy servant and the son of Thy servant. I have turned toward Thee, holding fast unto Thee and detached from all else besides Thee. Ordain for me, through Thy grace and bounty, that which will preserve me from the doubts of such as have denied Thee and Thy signs. Verily, Thou art the Almighty, the Powerful, the All-Knowing.

BH05732: Praise be unto the Desired One Who, through His…

He is God, exalted be His glory, the Forgiving, the All-Bountiful.

Praise be unto the Desired One Who, through His grace and bounty, hath directed His will toward the guidance of the peoples of the world. Blessed is the eye that hath attained unto His signs and the ear that hath hearkened unto His call from the horizon of the prison of ʻAkka.

O Hatim, upon thee be the glory of God, the Lord of eternity! Thy mention hath been made in the presence of the Wronged One, and this most sublime and wondrous Tablet hath been sent down especially for thee from the heaven of divine Will, that thine eyes may be consoled thereby and thy heart may rejoice. When thou attainest unto it, say: Praise be unto Thee, O God of all men and Lord of the Kingdom of Names, for having remembered me and revealed unto me that which speaketh of Thy grace, Thy bounty, Thy generosity and Thy loving-kindness. I beseech Thee to make me steadfast in Thy love and enabled to voice Thy praise amongst Thy servants. Thou art, verily, the Almighty, the Glorious, the All-Bountiful.

O my Lord! Thou seest me drawn to Thy verses, voicing Thy praise, awaiting the wonders of Thy mercy and bounty, and clinging to the cord of Thy power. I beseech Thee to ordain for me that which Thou hast ordained for Thy trusted ones and Thy chosen ones among Thy servants. Thou art, verily, the Almighty,

unto Whose power and sovereignty the atoms bear witness, and all created things to Thy greatness and might. Thou art, in truth, the All-Bountiful, the Ever-Flowing, the Almighty, the Glorious, the Unconstrained.

BH05659: In My Name which dawns from the horizon…

In My Name which dawns from the horizon of the heaven of utterance!

Today the divine call is raised from the direction of the prison, and the lights of the Luminary of Manifestation shine forth from the horizon of Sinai, and the light of grace is radiant and the fire of justice is ablaze. Blessed is the soul that has been freed and liberated from that which the people possess and has turned to that which is with God. Such a one is among the companions of the Crimson Ark that was revealed and made manifest from the Supreme Pen in the Qayyumu'l-Asma'. O My Afnan, O Muhammad-i-Qabl-i-Baqir! Upon thee be My glory! Praise be to God, thou hast been and art beneath the glance of the loving-kindness of the Desired One of the worlds. Thou didst attain aforetime unto a mention that is immortalized and enduring in the Book of God. Give thanks unto thy Lord for this great bounty. Praise thy Lord for this manifest remembrance. Say:

Praise be unto Thee, O my God, for having remembered me in Thy prison. I beseech Thee by Thy most great signs and the dawning-places of Thy mighty evidences to ordain for me that which will make me independent through Thy riches and renowned through Thy name amongst Thy servants. O my Lord! Thou seest the supplicant turning to the heaven of Thy generosity and the thirsty one to the Kawthar of Thy mercy. Verily Thou art the All-Bountiful, the Generous. There is no God but Thee, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

BH05815: We have sent down the verses and manifested…

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

We have sent down the verses and manifested the clear proofs, yet the people remain in evident blindness. This is a remembrance from Us to him who hath turned towards My direction and attained unto My recognition and spoken My praise amidst My servants, that he may rejoice and be of the thankful ones.

This is a day wherein the Tongue of Grandeur hath given glad tidings unto His servants of His manifestation and appearance and His sovereignty. Verily He is the Truth, there is no God but Him. He doeth what He willeth and ordaineth what He pleaseth, and He is the Commander, the All-Wise. Take heed lest the clamor of the oppressors disturb thee or the whisperings of the deluded ones who have denied the signs of God, the Lord of the worlds, cause thee to fear.

Say: In the Name of God and by God! Then turn thy face toward the Prison and say: Praise be unto Thee, O God of the world and Desire of the nations, for having given me to drink, from the hand of Thy bounty, the cup of Thy recognition. I beseech Thee by Thy radiant and manifest light, and by Thy firm and mighty command, and by the places which were honored by Thy footsteps and the houses wherein arose Thy sighs, to make me steadfast, patient, speaking and standing firm in Thy days upon Thy Cause. Then make

me unwavering in Thy love such that the books of the people and whatsoever they possess shall not prevent me from this Book which speaketh before all faces that there is no God but Him, the Single, the One, the Mighty, the Wondrous.

BH05925: In My Name, the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing!

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

This is a Day wherein the gate of the presence of God hath been opened unto all who are in earth and heaven, and there hath appeared that which lay hidden in God's knowledge, the Lord of all worlds. O peoples of the earth! Hearken unto the call of Him Who hath been wronged, then turn with radiant faces unto God, the Source of this clear utterance. Say: A single word thereof excelleth all the books of the people, as attested by the Scriptures of God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy. This is a Day whereon God's chosen ones and His messengers have sung His praise. Blessed is he who hath recognized His most exalted station and attained unto that which hath flowed as the Salsabil of everlasting life from the Pen of God, the All-Bountiful, the Gracious. We have heard thy cry and have called out to thee from the Mount of Knowledge—the place whereon is established the throne of thy Lord's mercy, the All-Merciful. Give thanks and say:

Praise be unto Thee, O Thou Who art the Beloved of the hearts of them that know Thee! Beware lest names hold thee back from their Creator. Cast away what the people possess and take hold of God's Tablet with the power granted by Him and the sovereignty bestowed by Him, and say: There is none other God but Thee, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. I bear witness that Thou hast brought forth the pearls of wisdom and praise from Thy Most Exalted Pen, and hast guided Thy servants unto Thy announcement at which the limbs of the idolaters have quaked. Praise be unto Thee, O God of the worlds!

BH05645: Praise be to God Who hath sent down…

In His Name Who summoneth between earth and heaven!

Praise be to God Who hath sent down the verses and manifested the clear proofs and caused all things to speak that there is none other God but Him, the Single, the One, the Powerful, the Mighty. This is the Day wherein the Banner of Revelation hath been raised upon the highest standards, and the Ensign of Guidance hath been hoisted in the most exalted station. Blessed is he who hath cast away vain desire and taken hold of guidance, and woe unto them that turn away.

O thou who gazest toward the horizon of Revelation! Hear what the Speaker of the Mount uttereth, through Whom the mysteries were revealed and the rivers flowed and the trees spoke forth: "The Kingdom and the Realm belong unto God, the One, the Chosen!" We have witnessed thy turning unto Us, wherefore We have turned unto thee and mentioned thee with that which attracteth the hearts of the righteous. Blessed art thou and blessed is he who hath believed in God, the Lord of all beings. When thou hast attained unto My Tablet and drunk the choice wine of utterance from the cup of My words, say: "My God, my God! I beseech Thee by Thy Great Announcement and by Thy Mighty Book and by the effulgent lights of the Daystar of Thy Name, the Powerful, to make me steadfast in Thy love. Thou art verily the

Mighty, the Powerful, the All-Bountiful. O my Lord! Thou beholdest me turning toward Thy Most Exalted Horizon and turning away from those who have denied the Dawning-Place of Thy most beautiful Names. Then open before my face the door of Thy mercy. Thou art verily the Mighty, the Chosen One."

BH05728: In My Name, the One Manifest before all peoples

In My Name, the One Manifest before all peoples.

The essence of praise and glory beseemeth the Peerless Beloved Who, in the Most Great Prison, despite the sorrows that have descended and the tribulations that have rained down, hath occupied His tongue with the mention of His loved ones and His Pen with that which draweth them nigh unto Him. Blessed is he who hath quaffed the choice wine of revelation from the words of his Lord, the Compassionate, the Bountiful.

We have sent down the verses and manifested the clear proofs, yet the people remain in evident veils. Take hold of the hem of thy Lord's mercy and say: My God, my God! I beseech Thee to make me steadfast in Thy service, gazing toward Thy horizon, and clinging to Thy mighty cord. Thou art, verily, the Powerful, the Mighty, the All-Knowing.

O my Lord! Leave me not to myself. Take my hand with the hand of Thy power and deliver me from the clay of the vain imaginings of Thy servants. Thou art, verily, powerful over whatsoever Thou willest, and within Thy grasp is the dominion of all who are in the heavens and the earth.

Then I beseech Thee, O my God, by Thy Name, the Self-Subsisting, and by Thy sealed choice Wine, and by Thy manifest Light, and by Thy Call from the Mount whereby the graves were raised up and the darkness was illumined, to aid me in all conditions to make mention of Thee and to praise Thee amidst Thy creation, and ordain for me that which Thou hast ordained for them that are near unto Thee and are sincere in their love. Thou art God, there is none other God but Thee, the Strong, the Triumphant, the Mighty, the Omnipotent.

BH05641: In My Name, the One burning with the fire…

In My Name, the One burning with the fire of My love!

Praise be to God Who hath manifested that which was hidden in His knowledge and caused all things to proclaim that there is none other God but He, the Almighty, the Self-Subsisting.

O Muhammad-Javad! The appointed time hath come, and the Promised One calleth aloud from the prison of ʿAkka, summoning the people of the kingdom of creation unto the horizon of God, the Dawning-Place, the Luminous. God hath transformed the prison into the exalted Paradise and manifested therein His power and sovereignty; yet most of the people remain heedless. He who hath traveled through the lands to spread My Word and diffuse My writings hath made mention of thee. We make mention of thee and reveal for thee that which shall gladden the eyes of them that are nigh.

When thou receivest My Book, say:

> “Praise be to Thee, O my God, for having guided me unto Thy path and illumined my heart with the light of Thy verses. I beseech Thee by Thy binding Command and by Thy Most Great Name, whereby the hearts of the nations were stirred, to ordain for me the good of this world and the next. Then forgive my father and me, through Thy bounty and generosity which have encompassed all who are in the heavens and on earth. O Lord! I am Thy servant and the son of Thy servant, holding fast to Thy cord. I beseech Thee not to disappoint me of the wonders of Thy bounty and generosity. Verily, Thou art the One Who hath power over whatsoever He willeth. There is none other God but Thee, the Almighty, the Powerful.”

BH05760: Glorified is He Who hath sent down whatsoever He…

He is the All-Knowing Expositor.

Glorified is He Who hath sent down whatsoever He desired from the heaven of bounty. Verily He is the One Who hath power over whatsoever He willeth through His binding and wise command. O my handmaiden and my leaf! Blessed art thou for having turned unto God, the Almighty, the All-Powerful, on a day wherein the handmaidens of the earth turned away, save those who turned and believed in the One, the All-Informed. When thou hast attained unto My verses and heard My call, say:

My God, my God! Praise be to Thee for having remembered me in the prison and for having sent down for this Thy handmaiden that which shall endure in her name among Thy handmaidens. Thou art, verily, the One with power over whatsoever Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the All-Forgiving, the All-Merciful. And peace and blessings be upon My male and female servants who have recognized that which hath been sent down from the heaven of My utterance and hath shone forth from the Daystar of My bounty. O my Lord! Ordain for her what Thou hast ordained for Thy chosen ones, Thy sincere ones, and Thy leaves who circle round Thy throne at eventide and dawn, and in the evening and at daybreak. There is none other God but Thee, the Commander, the Judge on the Day of Meeting.

The glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My loving-kindness be upon thee, O My handmaiden, and upon My handmaidens who have heard the call and turned unto it with illumined hearts. Verily they are among the devout ones in the Book of God, the Mighty, the Wondrous.

BH05642: Praise be to God Who hath revealed Himself…

In the Name of Him Who speaketh the Truth

Praise be to God Who hath revealed Himself and spoken that whereby the heaven was cleft asunder, the earth was rent, the mountains were scattered, and men were struck down save whom God, the Lord of lords, did will. Through Him the Herald proclaimed from all directions:

> “O peoples of the earth! Cast away what ye possess. He Who was promised in the Books of God, the Self-Sufficient, the Most High, hath come.”

This is the Day wherein the gate of grace hath been opened and the Day-Star of justice hath shone forth from the horizon of God’s will, the Lord of lords. We have beheld thy devotion and have turned unto

thee, and have sent down for thee that which doth bring solace to all eyes. Say: O people of the Bayan! Judge fairly in this Cause and follow not every heedless doubter. The verses have been sent down in such wise that the sincere ones are powerless to reckon them. Fear God, O people, and follow not every idolatrous infidel. Blessed art thou for having shattered the idols of vain imaginings through the power of thy Lord, the Lord of all mankind. Say: Praise be to Thee, O my God, for having aided me to remember Thee and extol Thee, and to turn toward Thy horizon and to direct myself to the lights of Thy countenance. I beseech Thee to make me steadfast and firm in Thy love and upright in the service of Thy Cause. Verily Thou art the Almighty, the Exalted, the Unconstrained.

Volume 097: Akka 1307 A.H. (1889–1890), Part V (3 of 4)

BH05646: Praise be to God Who hath spoken and caused…

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

Praise be to God Who hath spoken and caused all things to speak that there is none other God but Him, the Single, the One, the Powerful, the Almighty. The Light hath shone forth and He Who conversed on Sinai hath been established upon the throne of Revelation and the Herald hath cried out before His face:

> "O peoples of the earth! This is He with Whose mention God hath adorned His Books, and this is He by Whose name hearts have been enraptured. Through Him the Herald hath called out and the Lord of Creation hath decreed. Blessed is the servant who hath heard and responded, and woe betide every heedless doubter."

O thou who gazeth toward My most exalted horizon and who art present before the Throne despite the enemies, hearken unto the shrill voice of My Pen, and the rustling of the Lote-Tree of My utterance, and the flowing of the Kawthar of My knowledge, and the stirring of the breezes of the dawn of My Revelation whereby the morn of exposition breathed forth and the night of rejection grew dark, through a command from God, the Lord of the mighty Throne. When thou hast taken the choice wine of My utterance and drunk it in My Name, say:

> "My God, my God! Praise be to Thee for having guided me to Thy resplendent light and Thy gleaming Cause, and to Thy bounty that hath encompassed all created things, and Thy mercy that hath preceded existence itself. I beseech Thee to make me steadfast, firm and upright in Thy Cause and in Thy love. Thou art, verily, the All-Powerful, the Mighty, the All-Bountiful. There is none other God but Thee, the Ordainer in the beginning and in the return."

BH05802: The appointed time hath come, and God hath appeared…

In the Name of Him Who shineth from the horizon of eternity

The appointed time hath come, and God hath appeared with manifest sovereignty. O people of the earth, fear ye God! Verily He hath appeared and hath manifested that which He desired as a token of His grace, for He is the All-Bountiful, the Generous. This is the Day whereof God gave tidings in His Books and

Scriptures. Blessed is he who hath recognized and attained, and woe unto the most lost ones! By the life of God! The Wronged One desireth naught save the salvation of the world and the exaltation of the nations. Of this beareth witness that which hath flowed from the Pen of God's command, the Lord of all worlds. Beware, O people, lest ye cast behind you the Book of God. Set aside what the people possess and take hold of that which ye have been commanded by One All-Wise, All-Commanding. When thou attainest unto My Book and hearest My Call, say:

My God, my God! Praise be to Thee for having guided me unto Thy path and illumined my heart with the light of Thy manifestation. I beseech Thee by Thy Most Great Name to assist me to be steadfast in such wise that the clamor of the peoples who have denied Thy proof and Thy testimony and have disbelieved in Thy Day which Thou didst announce through the tongue of the Prophets and Messengers shall not hinder me.

Light and glory and praise and laudation rest upon Thee and upon them who have not cast away the Covenant of God and His Testament and who have acted according to that which hath been enjoined in His Mighty Book.

BH05803: The Day of God hath come, yet the people…

In the Name of Him Who standeth before all faces!

The Day of God hath come, yet the people know it not. The Luminary of Manifestation hath shone forth from the horizon of Sinai, yet most of the people perceive it not. Say: O people! Answer Him Who speaketh this Day, and follow not the manifestations of fancy and idle imaginings. Clear ye the way, for verily the Guide hath come beneath the canopies of light. The Cause is in the hands of God, the Lord of the Day of Resurrection. Blessed is the ear that hath heard the Call, and the tongue that hath answered its Lord, and the hand that hath taken His sealed Tablet. The smoke hath enveloped all who dwell in the realm of creation, and that which was hidden in God's knowledge, the Lord of existence, hath been made manifest.

Nothing whatsoever escapeth His knowledge. He heareth and seeth, and He is the Mighty, the Glorious, the Best-Beloved. O people! Remember your Lord, the All-Merciful, and follow not every ignorant outcast. This is a Day wherein the Ocean saith to the dry land: Blessed art thou, since God hath honored thee with His footsteps. O concourse of earth! Grieve not for aught, for by God, the Promise hath come, and this is the Promised One Who walketh in the mansion and calleth all unto God, the Mighty, the Loving. Thus hath My Pen spoken by My command, and I am, verily, the One Who overseeth what hath been and what shall be.

BH05835: He Who was hidden hath appeared, and He Who…

He Who was hidden hath appeared, and He Who was concealed hath emerged, and He Who was promised hath come—He at Whose advent the earth did quake and the heavens were rent asunder. O people of the earth, fear God and follow not the desires of those who have denied God's Proof and His Testament, and have rejected that which the Lord of all beings hath brought. Say: Beware lest the doubts

of men prevent you from the truth. Turn with radiant faces toward the Most Exalted Horizon. He ordaineth for you that which shall profit you in the world to come and in this world.

When thou hearest My call and perceivest the fragrance of My Revelation, turn with thy whole being toward the Most Exalted Station and the Ultimate Goal and say: My God, my God! Praise be to Thee for having guided me unto the horizon of Thy Revelation, and glory be to Thee for having given me to drink from the Kawthar of Thy love, and grandeur and praise be to Thee for having made known to me Thy station which God hath made the circling-point of the Supreme Paradise and the Most Exalted Garden.

O Lord! I beseech Thee by Thy signs and Thy clear tokens, and by the mysteries hidden in Thy knowledge, and by the lights of Thy countenance in Thy prison, to assist Thy servants in that which befitteth Thy days, and to grant them such steadfastness as shall cause the feet of the ungodly among Thy servants and the deniers among Thy creatures to quake. Verily Thou art the Almighty, the All-Glorious, the All-Bountiful.

BH05842: The Book hath been sent down from the Ultimate…

He is the All-Remembering, the All-Knowing

The Book hath been sent down from the Ultimate Goal, when the All-Bestowing had ascended the throne of His Most Great Name. Blessed is he who hath cast away the book of his own self and taken hold of the Book of God, the Lord of all worlds. They who have turned away from the Countenance are among the most lost in the Book of God, the Master of the Day of Judgment. And they who have turned towards it are among the people of the Crimson Ark, whom God hath mentioned in the Qayyumu'l-Asma. Verily, He is the Omnipotent over whatsoever He willeth. There is none other God but He, the Single, the One, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. When thou findest the fragrance of the Bayan, say:

Praise be unto Thee, O Lord of creation, for having adorned me with the ornament of recognition and illumined my heart with the light of utterance. I beseech Thee by Thy Most Great Signs, and by Thy Most Beautiful Names, and by the Light that hath shone forth from the horizon of Sinai, and by Thy Command whereby the people of the graves arose, to make me in all conditions turned towards Thee, speaking Thy praise, and steadfast in Thy love. O my Lord! I am Thy servant and the son of Thy servant. I have believed in Thee and in Thy verses, and I acknowledge that which the tongue of Thy grandeur hath spoken. I beseech Thee not to deprive me of any good that Thou hast sent down in Thy Book. Verily, Thou art the Omnipotent over what Thou willest. There is none other God but Thou, the All-Forgiving, the All-Merciful.

BH05861: The Book of God is at all times speaking…

In the Name of the Wronged One of the horizons!

The Book of God is at all times speaking, and the Sun of Truth is shining and manifest from the horizon of the heaven of the divine Command. Blessed is the soul whom neither the might of the oppressors nor the clamor of the deniers hath kept back from turning toward the Most Exalted Horizon. The Day is the Day of God—all must be focused on Him and detached from all else. One deed performed on this Day cannot be equaled by the deeds manifested in centuries and ages past. Blessed art thou for having attained unto that which was sent down in the Books of God. Thou hast indeed reached the ultimate goal and the most

exalted summit, and turned toward Him when the people turned away. Thou hast attained the presence before His countenance, heard the Call, and achieved that which most of the servants have failed to achieve. Say:

Glorified art Thou, O my God! Unto Thee be praise for having guided me, taught me, caused me to know Thee, and fed me from the table of recognition, and given me to drink from the Kawthar of utterance. My Lord! I beseech Thee by Thyself and by Thy most great signs to assist me in that which Thou hast commanded me in Thy Book. Then make me and Thy loved ones to be among those who hold fast to the cord of wisdom and to that whereby the hearts of Thy servants are attracted. Then ordain for me that which will exalt me among Thy creation through Thy Name and make me rich through Thy riches. Verily Thou art the Powerful, the Mighty, the All-Bountiful.

BH05872: This is a Book sent down by the Lord…

He is the One with power over whatsoever He willeth.

This is a Book sent down by the Lord of Names, and He hath made it a herald of His Name amongst His servants, that it may guide all to His path and illumine hearts with the knowledge of God, the Lord of the worlds.

O ye people of the Kingdom! Hearken unto the call of the Lord of Might. He maketh mention of you with that which shall draw you nigh unto a station which God hath made the circling-point of Sinai—a command from His presence, and He is the Strong, the Commanding, the All-Wise.

We have heard thy call and make mention of thee. We beseech God to aid thee in His remembrance and praise and in service to His Cause. He is the Guardian of them that remember Him. Thus hath My Most Exalted Pen spoken in this Most Holy, Most Luminous, Most Glorious Spot, that thou mayest give thanks unto thy Lord, the All-Forgiving, the Most Generous.

When thou hast received the Tablet, turn thy face toward the Kaaba of God, the Mighty, the Great, and say: My God, my God! My soul is a sacrifice for Thy remembrance, and for Thy tender care a sacrifice. I testify that through Thee the Sun of bounty hath shone upon the world and the hearts of the nations have been illumined with the light of recognition. I beseech Thee, O Thou Who sendeth down the verses, by Thy Cause that dominateth earth and heaven, and by the revelations of the lights of the Day-Star of Thy manifestation among mankind, to make me one who speaketh forth Thy Name and who acteth according to that which Thou hast commanded me in Thy Book. Verily Thou art powerful over whatsoever Thou willeth. There is none other God but Thee, the Single, the One, the Dominant over all who are in the heavens and on earth.

BH05896: This is a Tablet revealed in truth, from whose…

He is the One Who dominates all names through His Most Glorious Name

This is a Tablet revealed in truth, from whose horizon has shone forth the sun of God’s bounty, the Lord of the Mighty Throne. Blessed is he who, though far, has aimed for the Ultimate Goal, and blessed is he

who, though near, has believed in God, the Lord of the Exalted Seat. We have heard your call and have answered you with this Clear Book. Verily it will draw you to the Most Exalted Horizon and give you to drink of the Water of Life from the hand of your Lord's bounty, the All-Bountiful. When you find the fragrance of My utterance and behold the pearls of My remembrance which We have brought forth from the treasuries of My Pen, say:

My God, my God! You see Your lovers among the wolves of Your earth, and those who long for You among the enemies of Your Self. I beseech You, O Goal of the world and Beloved of the nations, by the rustling of Your Sacred Tree, and the stirring of the breezes of the springtime of Your mercy, and the murmuring of the Fountain of Your knowledge in Your paradise, to ordain for me that which will keep me steadfast in Your remembrance and praise, such that the oppression of any oppressor and the clamor of those who have disbelieved in You and denied Your proof and evidence and turned away from meeting You will not prevent me. O my Lord! I am Your servant and the son of Your servant. I have turned to You and committed my affairs to You. Write down for me what You will. I testify that You know me better than I know myself. Ordain for me what will profit me in all the worlds of Your worlds. Verily You are the All-Powerful, the All-Bounteous, the Mighty, the All-Knowing.

BH06011: This is the Day for the triumph of God's…

In His Name, the All-Praising, the All-Lauded!

This is the Day for the triumph of God's Cause. All must hold fast to the cord of grace and beseech from God that which ensures the preservation of name and mention in the Book that hath no peer. Today the Mother Book speaketh and the Mother of the Bayan is manifest. The Lord of the Kingdom of knowledge doth speak. O people! The Mount Sinai is visible with joy and delight, for it hath attained the presence of Him Who conversed upon it and is gladdened and rejoiced by the sweet call of the Blessed Tree. Blessed is the ear that hath been privileged to hear, and the eye that hath beheld. Praise be to the Lord of all being, Who hath forbidden His loved ones from corruption, conflict and contention, and kept them sanctified therefrom. Happy and blessed are they, for they have acted in accordance with that from which the Light of truthfulness and reformation hath shone forth resplendent. They have hearkened with their inner ears to divine counsels and have not permitted transgression thereof. These are the souls whose mention was revealed aforetime in the Perspicuous Book—His exalted Word:

> "honored servants who speak not until He hath spoken, and who do as they are bidden."

Glory be upon the people of Baha and the companions of the Crimson Ark.

BH06378: O Muhammad, praise be to the Lord…

In the Name of the One True God

O Muhammad, praise be to the Lord of the worlds Who purified thee from the Shi'ih sect and what they possess with the water of the Bayan of His chosen ones, and guided thee to His Most Holy Court. O Muhammad, upon thee be My glory!

For twelve hundred years they deemed themselves the most learned and accomplished of men, yet when the divine breath wafted and the horizons of the hearts of those who turned to Him were illumined with the light of the manifestations of the Luminary of Revelation, all turned away and occupied themselves with cursing and execration. They committed that which caused the Tablet and the Pen to weep and lament.

Say: Praise be to Thee, O my God, for having made known to me Thy path and guided me to the recognition of the Dayspring of Thy verses and the Dawning-Place of Thy inspiration. O my Lord! I am Thy servant and the son of Thy servant. I beseech Thee by Thyself and by Thy chosen ones to assist me to be steadfast in Thy Cause in such wise that names shall not hold me back from Thy Most Great Name, nor shall the might of the oppressors prevent me from turning to Thee and drawing near to the gate of Thy bounty. Verily Thou art the Almighty, the Exalted, the All-Bountiful. There is none other God but Thee, the Mighty, the All-Munificent.

BH06125: Praise befitteth and is meet for the [Creator]…

He is the Mighty, the Great

Praise befitteth and is meet for the [Creator] of the world Who, through His [all-encompassing] grace and penetrating will, brought creation from nothingness into being. He is the Omnipotent One Who bestowed the ornament of existence upon absolute nothingness and guided the ignorant to the horizon of knowledge. Exalted be His greatness and sublime be His power, there is no God but Him.

O thou who art mentioned before the Wronged One! Give thanks to thy Lord for having enabled the Wronged One to turn toward thee and direct His gaze to thy face. Verily He chooseth whom He willeth and remembereth who remembereth Him and openeth the door before the face of him who [knoweth Him]. He is the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous.

O ʿAbdu'l-Husayn! Be not distressed by the [irrevocable] decrees of God. One of His loved ones hath declared ["Through tribulation cometh loving-kindness"]. Hold fast to His cord and be detached and free from all else. Convey greetings from the Wronged One to the loved ones in that land […] and mention the kinfolk on behalf of the Wronged One and give them the glad-tidings of the effulgences of the lights […] of the worlds. Verily He is the Compassionate, the Generous, the Most Merciful of the merciful. And the Glory be upon thee and upon His loved ones who have believed in God, the One, the All-Informed.

BH06345: O my handmaiden and my leaf! Upon thee be…

In the Name of the One Peerless God!

O my handmaiden and my leaf! Upon thee be My glory and My loving-kindness. I testify that thou didst purpose to attain the Most Exalted Station, and from an earthly abode didst turn thy face toward the House of God, and didst attain unto that for which thou wast created from nothingness into being.

Reflect upon the loving-kindness and mercy of God, exalted be His glory. He attracted thee through the heat of His love and caused to arise within thy perceptive powers attraction and rapture, and through

earthly and heavenly means guided thee to the Seat of Revelation and caused thee to arrive thereat. Who is able to praise Him as He deserves to be praised?

The days of attainment unto His presence have not faded from memory, and whatsoever thou didst hear from the tongue of grandeur, preserve it in His name and conceal it in the treasury of thy being from those who are faithless, whether men or women.

Convey on behalf of this Wronged One greetings and peace to the handmaidens and leaves of God, that all may partake of the Kawthar of divine utterance and the Salsabil of the remembrance of the All-Merciful, and attain thereunto. He is the Powerful, the Mighty, and He is the All-Knowing, the All-Seeing.

BH06301: The Divine Call is raised at all times…

In the Name of the One God!

The Divine Call is raised at all times from the Prison of ʿAkka, making mention of His chosen ones and likewise of His handmaidens. O Land of Qaf! Blessed art thou in that the fragrance of the divine utterance from the All-Merciful hath been wafted within thee, and there hath been sent unto thee that which hath attracted the cities and regions, by the command of God, the Lord of all men. We beseech God that He may assist all the people of that land, both men and women who have submitted, to be steadfast, inasmuch as the barking ones have at all times striven and continue to strive to lead astray the souls that have turned unto Him and are assured.

O My leaf! Upon thee be My glory! God hath specially revealed for each one that which is the cause of eternal life. Blessed is the soul that hath held fast unto it—such a one is accounted before God, the Lord of all beings, as one of the people of Baha. We counsel the relatives of the late and elevated one to be patient and forbearing, and to serve and care for his honor Samandar. We beseech God to assist all to do what He loveth and is pleased with. Verily He is the Powerful over what He willeth, and He is the Single, the One, the Powerful, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

BH06038: Today the Most Great Book speaketh forth “The Lord…

He is the One Who endureth after the extinction of all things.

Today the Most Great Book speaketh forth “The Lord of Eternity hath come!” The prison-fortress boasteth in the heaven of glory, inasmuch as it hath been honored by the presence of its Lord. The Word of God hath been made manifest amongst men. We beseech God that He may enable all to witness and hearken unto it. By the life of God! Were all the peoples of the world to hearken unto the Truth and turn towards it in such wise that neither the swords of the world could deter them nor the might of nations could withhold them—hearken thou unto the counsels of the Most Exalted Pen and strive that perchance thou mayest attain unto that which no eye in all ages hath beheld. At every moment the Book speaketh forth a word, and the Spirit uttereth a new and wondrous counsel. At all times there can be heard from all things that which is the prime cause for the guidance of the peoples and the supreme means for the salvation of all. We beseech God that He may not withhold His servants and deprive them of the verses of the garden of inner meanings. Verily He is the Hearer, the Answerer.

Glory be upon thee and upon whosoever hath hearkened unto that which hath been raised from the Most Great Prison on the part of God, the Mighty, the All-Bestowing.

BH06224: The call hath been raised from the Crimson Tree…

He is the All-Seeing, the All-Informed

The call hath been raised from the Crimson Tree in the Most Exalted Paradise:

> "God, there is none other God but Him, the Single, the One, the Powerful, the Mighty, the All-Knowing!"

The rapture of this call hath seized the Concourse on High, while most of the people remain heedless. The intoxication of vain imaginings hath so seized them that they have cast the Book of God behind their backs. Verily, they are in evident doubt.

O My handmaiden! Hearken unto My call. Verily it will raise thee up among the handmaidens and draw thee nigh unto God, the Single, the All-Informed. Say:

Praise be unto Thee, O Sovereign of existence, and thanksgiving be unto Thee, O Lord of the seen and unseen! I beseech Thee by the lights of Thy countenance and by that which hath shone forth from the horizon of bounty through Thy command and will, to make me among those women who have believed in Thee and Thy signs, and who circle round Thy throne by night and by day. Then ordain for me that which Thou hast ordained for those devoted women who, upon hearing the call, responded "Here am I, O Lord of the Kingdom of Names!" and "Here am I, O Thou in Whose grasp lieth the reins of all on earth and in heaven!" There is none other God but Thee, the All-Bountiful, the Powerful, the Mighty, the Generous.

BH06018: In the name of God, exalted be His glory!…

In the name of God, exalted be His glory! He is God, exalted be His station in wisdom and utterance!

Praise be to God Who hath sent down the verses and manifested the evidences and caused the atoms to speak that there is none other God but Him. He is the One with power over whatsoever He willeth and the Ruler over whatsoever He desireth. He is the Prevailing, the Self-Subsisting, the Mighty, the All-Praised.

O Muhammad! We bear witness that thou hast aided the Cause of God, the Lord of all worlds, and hast taken hold of the Book of the wicked ones through the power of thy Lord, the Chosen One, and hast spoken that which the Tongue of Proof hath spoken before the faces of all religions. The Kingdom and the Dominion and the Greatness and the Power belong unto God, the Lord of Lords.

Say: Glory be unto Thee, O my God! Thou seest how the oppressor hath cast aside Thy justice. Glory be unto Thee, O my God! Thou seest how the one who hath turned away hath denied Thee and Thy signs. I beseech Thee by the fish in the depths of the ocean of Thy oneness and by the mysteries of Thy Book which walketh and speaketh "There is none other God but Me, the Single One, the Powerful, the Mighty, the All-Bestowing," that Thou open before my face the door of Thy mercy and Thy grace, and that Thou

send down upon me from the clouds of Thy generosity the rains of Thy bounty. Verily, Thou art the Ruler over whatsoever Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the Mighty, the All-Bountiful, and the Giving, the All-Generous.

BH06364: O Samandar! Grieve not over anything, for grief…

He is the Manifest One, speaking before all the world.

O Samandar! Grieve not over anything, for grief is blameworthy save for grief on the Day of God, and naught else is worthy of mention. We have revealed for him who hath ascended that which hath caused the Tree of Faithfulness to yield fruit in the realm of creation, and there hath been sent down that whereby the realities of existence were drawn forth. Give thanks unto thy Lord for this great favor. O Samandar! The Most Great Announcement hath proclaimed by itself, and the effects of His Pen concerning what hath come to pass have encompassed the world. By the life of God! At the time of the revelation of that Word from the mouth of Grandeur, the atoms cried out: "Glory be to God, the Revealer of verses!" There appeared at that time what had never appeared before, and all contingent beings were perfumed with the musk of utterance. Blessed is every patient and grateful one, and happy is he who hath attained unto the call of Him Who conversed on Sinai.

The peace of Glory be upon thee and upon the people of Baha who have not exchanged trustworthiness for treachery, nor truth for falsehood, nor justice for tyranny. Thus hath the Pen spoken when the Lord of Eternity was seated upon this glorious and exalted station.

BH06346: O My handmaiden! O My leaf! O aunt…

O My handmaiden! O My leaf! O aunt of the Most Holy Court! Mahd-i-ʿUlya was present before the Face and, representing that leaf and the daughter-leaf and the other daughter, offered visitation which was graciously accepted. Blessed art thou and blessed are they! We send Our greetings upon you all and upon those women who have believed in God, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting.

The leaves of the land of Kaf have always been and continue to be remembered before the Face of the Divine Lote-Tree, especially those women who emigrated from that land and were blessed with the fragrance of revelation and the perfume of divine inspiration.

O lady! Upon thee and upon thy daughters be the glory of God and His grace, and the bounty of God and His bestowal. The True One, exalted be His glory, has infinite worlds. We beseech Him to bless you with His presence and meeting in all those worlds. Think not this a mere promise—whatsoever has been recorded by the Pen of Destiny is immediate. To this testify My tongue of grandeur, My pen of will, and the servants of My pavilion of infallibility.

We send greetings to the other emigrant handmaiden of God, Khatun, that these greetings may attract her to a horizon wherein naught is seen save God, the Lord of all worlds.

The Glory be upon you, O My leaves and My handmaidens before God, the Almighty, the All-Powerful.

BH06221: The Day hath come and the Cause hath appeared…

He is the Most Great, the Most Exalted

The Day hath come and the Cause hath appeared, and that which was hidden from all eyes hath been revealed. O thou who gazest upon the countenance! We desired that which would draw the servants nigh unto the Most Exalted Paradise, yet they desired to shed My blood. This is naught but error in the Day of God, the Mighty, the Most High. Say: O people! The light hath shone forth and the trumpet hath been blown and the mountains have been moved. Fear God, O people, then aid your Lord through wisdom and utterance and through that which will draw you nigh unto the shore of this Sea whose waves cry out and inform the people of that which hath dawned and appeared. Thus hath the matter been decreed from before God, the Powerful, the Choice One. When thou receivest My letter, turn thy face toward the Kaaba of the Bayan and say:

O God of the All-Merciful! Praise be unto Thee for having given me to drink, from the cup of Thy bounty, the Kawthar of Thy grace. I beseech Thee, by the dwellings wherein Thy remembrance and praise have been raised, and by the cities wherein the throne of Thy grandeur hath been established, to ordain for me that which will make me steadfast in Thy Cause, such that neither the masses and multitudes would prevent me, nor the oppression of the aggressors and the tyranny of every sinful transgressor would frighten me.

BH06337: O Asadu'llah! Upon thee be the Glory of God!…

He is established upon the throne of utterance.

O Asadu'llah! Upon thee be the Glory of God! These are days wherein the oppressor glorieth in his tyranny and displayeth might and majesty. Glory be to God! The colors of the world have so deluded him that he hath become heedless of the consequences of his deeds. By the life of God! He hath surpassed in tyranny the oppressor of Damascus the Spacious. In the Tablet to the Sultan these words were revealed:

> "Where is he who ruled in Zawra, and where is he who tyrannized in Fayha?"

By Fayha is meant Damascus. O Asad! The day of the oppressor is short. Soon shall he witness his punishment. Verily thy Lord is the Avenger, the Mighty, the Subduer. The loved ones in that land must hold fast unto wisdom, and wisdom is such deeds and character as will cause people to draw nigh. How excellent is that which he who loved Me hath done in the City of Love! We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to aid thee and His loved ones with the hosts of wisdom and utterance. Verily He is the Mighty, the All-Bountiful.

BH06395: This is the Day that hath been mentioned…

In the Name of the Desire of the world!

This is the Day that hath been mentioned in all the Books and Scriptures, revealed by the Most Exalted Pen and recorded and inscribed in the Crimson Tablet. Blessed is the soul that hath recognized the Day of God and hath arisen to serve His Cause as befitteth it.

O Abdul-Karim! Upon thee be the glory of My Name, the Most Bountiful. This Wronged One testifieth that thou and thy companion left your outward homeland, intending to reach the most exalted homeland. The tyranny of the oppressors, the turning away of the deniers, and the cawing of the ravens did not prevent you from turning towards Him. Trusting in God, you advanced and crossed land and sea until, through the aid of God—exalted be His glory—the Creator of the heavens and earth, you arrived at the Most Great Prison. You heard the Call with your own ears and attained the presence of the Horizon of Revelation.

The reward and recompense for this deed is preserved and treasured with the Trusted One. I swear by the Sun of Truth, this station hath no equal.

Say: Praise be unto Thee, O my God, for having guided me, honored me, shown me, and caused me to hear. I testify that Thou art the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous, the Most Munificent.

BH06132: Praise be to the Goal of the world Who…

In the Name of the One Peerless God

Praise be to the Goal of the world Who, through the Most Great Name, enabled the hearts and souls of His loved ones to attain true unity and spiritual love. Exalted be His grace and glorious His proof! O thou who art mentioned before the Countenance! Thy call hath been heard and thy name illumined by the light of attainment to His presence. Give praise to the Goal of the world Who confirmed thee and granted thee a portion from the ocean of awareness. His bounty hath encompassed the world and His mercy hath preceded all else. Blessed is the soul that hath detached itself from all else and turned unto Him. Say: O servants! The true assayers exist through God's command—they observe and recognize all things. Strive that ye may attain unto the everlasting light and eternal bounty. Say:

My God, my God! Praise be to Thee for having given me to drink from the Kawthar of Thy knowledge through the hand of Thy bounty, and for having made me aware of the horizon of Thy Manifestation, and adorned me with the ornament of Thy love. I beseech Thee not to withhold from me that which Thou hast ordained for the Dawning-Places of Thy names and attributes. Verily Thou art the Powerful, the Mighty, the Bountiful. Glory be upon him who hath loved Me and soared in Mine atmosphere, and upon thee and upon everyone who is steadfast and firm.

BH06282: In My Name, the Protector of all who are…

In My Name, the Protector of all who are in earth and heaven.

This is a Book sent down in truth and a Cause manifested with justice from God, the Lord of the worlds.

Say: O peoples of the earth, fear God and follow not the desires of those who have denied the Day of Judgment. When you find the fragrances of My Day and hear what has been raised by My Command amongst My servants, turn with the lights of submission and contentment, then thank Him for having guided you to His path and made known to you His Announcement—at whose appearance all things proclaimed:

> “The Kingdom, the Dominion, the Grandeur and the Might belong to God, the Exalted, the All-Praised.”

We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to assist His servants in that which will draw them near to Him and to ordain for them what will exalt them through His Name among His creation. Verily, He is the Powerful over what He willeth, and in His grasp is the dominion of all things, of the former and the latter ones.

O Lord! I beseech Thee by Thy Most Great Light and Thy Mighty Announcement to open before my face the door of Thy mercy and Thy grace, then ordain for me what Thou hast ordained for Thy chosen ones and trusted ones. I testify that Thou art the Powerful over what Thou willest. There is no God but Thee, the All-Forgiving, the All-Merciful.

BH06249: The verses of God, the Powerful, the All-Knowing…

He is the Manifest Book.

The verses of God, the Powerful, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise, have been sent down, and that which was hidden in knowledge and treasured in the sanctuary of God’s protection, the Lord of all worlds, hath been revealed. This is a Book sent down in truth, calling the people to the horizon wherefrom hath shone the Luminary of utterance, by the command of an all-wise Ordainer. We have made mention of those who desired to be remembered, and commanded them to turn their faces toward the sacred and luminous countenance of God. Blessed is he who hath heard the call and responded; woe unto the heedless!

Say: O people of the Bayan! Fear ye the All-Merciful, and be not of the transgressors. The verses have filled the East and the West of the earth. Judge fairly concerning that which hath appeared in truth, and be not of the wrongdoers. The Wronged One was silent—the Will of God, the Powerful, the Mighty, caused Him to speak. He was still—the Hand of Divine Grace moved Him, by the command of the Strong, the Powerful, the Mighty, the Great. God’s Will hath triumphed over the will of His servants. He hath manifested what He wished and desired, for He is the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous. The Glory from Us be upon thee and upon those who have quaffed the choice wine of revelation from the hand of the bounty of their Lord and have drunk thereof in His name, the Mighty, the Wondrous.

BH06356: O thou who gazest upon the Countenance!…

He is the Hearing and the Answering

O thou who gazest upon the Countenance! By the life of God, hearts and souls have melted, and the very pillars have been consumed by what hath befallen the Wronged One from the arrows of the idolators. In these days, sorrow upon sorrow and grief upon grief have appeared, for it hath been heard that an oppressor hath attempted to obliterate the Bayan and likewise the Qayyumu’l-Asma’. By His truth, this is an injustice whose fire consumeth the world and its peoples. Glory be to God! The words of the former party have resurfaced—they say “This Bayan is not that Bayan,” just as they said “This Qur’an is not that Qur’an.” We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to aid the calumniators to pure truthfulness, the deniers to firm acknowledgment, and the opposers to manifest acceptance. Verily He is the Most

Merciful of the merciful ones and the Fulfiller of the needs of all who ask. When thou hast attained unto My verses and heard My call, say:

> "My God, my God! Praise be to Thee for having given me to drink from the cup of Thy bounty and nurtured me by the hands of Thy tender care. I beseech Thee not to disappoint me of that which Thou hast ordained for Thy chosen ones, Thy trusted ones, and Thy sincere ones. Verily Thou art the Almighty, the Forgiving, the Kind."

BH06037: In this day the world is illumined…

In the Name of the one incomparable God!

In this day the world is illumined by a new light and gladdened by a new command. In the inner essence of the Sacred Books a great celebration is taking place—all are speaking the praise of God, yet most of humanity remains veiled and heedless of this most great joy.

Say: My God, my God! Praise be unto Thee for having guided me to Thy path and illumined my heart with the light of Thy utterance. O my Lord! I am Thy servant and the son of Thy servant, turning toward the Dayspring of Thy verses and the Dawning-Place of Thy clear signs. I beseech Thee, O God of Names and Creator of heaven, by Thy Most Exalted Word through which Thou didst illumine the hearts of them that are nigh unto Thee with the light of Thy knowledge and revealed unto them that which the tongues were prevented from mentioning, to ordain for me in all conditions nearness unto Thee, steadfastness in Thy love, and arising to serve Thee.

Then I beseech Thee by Thy most great signs and the manifestations of Thy grandeur amidst mankind to ordain for Thy servants that which Thou hast ordained for the people of Baha. Verily Thou art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest.

O my Lord! Thou hearest the sighing of the hopeful ones and the moaning of the yearning ones. I beseech Thee not to withhold them from the court of Thy nearness, nor from the Kawthar of Thy presence and the Salsabil of reunion with Thee. Verily Thou art the All-Bountiful, the Generous, the All-Bestowing, the Forgiving, the Merciful.

BH06341: O My handmaiden, upon thee be My glory! Today…

He is the Hearing and the Answering

O My handmaiden, upon thee be My glory! Today belongeth unto the Truth, for the Speaker of the Mount is seated upon the throne of Manifestation and the call of the Lord of Names is raised from the horizon of ʿAkka before the faces of the divines and princes. The tribulations of the world did not prevent Him, nor did the clamor of enemies hold Him back from uttering the Word. O My leaf! He who loved Me and soared in the atmosphere of My love hath mentioned thee. We make mention of thee in this perspicuous Tablet. The divines and learned ones of the earth departed this ephemeral world yearning for the blessed word "O My servant", while thou in His days hast attained unto the blessed word "O My

handmaiden". Know thou the worth of this exalted word and preserve it in the treasury of thy heart in the name of the Beloved of the worlds. Say:

My God, my God! Thou seest Thy handmaiden who hath turned unto Thee and directed herself toward the horizon of Thy Manifestation. I beseech Thee not to disappoint her of that which Thou hast ordained for Thy handmaidens who circle round Thy most great throne at morn and eventide. Verily Thou art the All-Bountiful, the Self-Sufficient, the Most Exalted. The glory which proceedeth from Us rest upon thee and upon them who have heard and turned unto God and believed in Him, the Almighty, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

BH06019: Praise be to God Who hath sent down…

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

Praise be to God Who hath sent down from the clouds of His bounty upon His servants and people of His lands the rain of wisdom and utterance, and hath acquainted them with His Straight Path and His Great News, through which the Herald proclaimed:

> "By God! The Lord of creation hath come with a sovereignty that hath encompassed all in the heavens and on earth."

Blessed is he who hath cast away vain desire and laid hold of guidance, despite every heedless and remote one.

O thou who art mentioned before the Prisoner! The Promise hath come, and the Promised One proclaimeth with the most exalted call:

> "O concourse of earth and heaven! Fear ye the Lord of all mankind, and be not of the wrongdoers."

This is the Day whereon He Who conversed on Sinai hath been established upon the throne of Revelation, and that which was hidden in God's knowledge, the Lord of all worlds, hath been made manifest. We beseech God to aid thee to remember and praise Him, and to make thee steadfast in this Cause whereby the feet of every heedless doubter have slipped.

The Glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My bounty be upon thee and upon those who have cast away the scroll of Satan and taken hold of the Book of God, the Lord of the Mighty Throne. Praise be to God, the Lord of this most exalted station and the Sovereign of the sublime Seat!

BH06020: Praise be to God Who aided thee to turn…

He is the All-Witnessing, the All-Informed

Praise be to God Who aided thee to turn towards Him in days wherein the servants have turned away from the horizon of Revelation, save whom God, the Lord of the worlds, hath willed, and enabled thee to acknowledge Him when every heedless one denied Him, and hath sent down for thee from the heaven of grace that which shall endure through the duration of His Name, the Guardian over the worlds. That

which thou didst send hath come before the Wronged One and hath been accepted through His mercy, for He is the All-Bountiful, the All-Generous. Say:

My God, my God! Praise be to Thee for having given me to drink from the cup of Thy utterance and illumined my heart with the light of Thy recognition and adorned my head with the crown of Thy love and my temple with the ornament of Thy grace. I beseech Thee, O Possessor of the kingdom of names, by Thy Name through which Thou hast subdued the earth and heaven, to ordain for me that which will protect me from the evil of Thine enemies and draw me nigh unto Thee and exalt me through Thy Name amongst Thy creation. Thou art verily the All-Bounteous, Thou art verily the All-Generous, Thou art verily the All-Forgiving. O my Lord! Thou seest me standing before the door of Thy grace, hoping for the wonders of Thy bounty and generosity. I beseech Thee to write down for me that which will make me rich through Thy riches and mighty through Thy might. Thou art verily the Single, the One, the Powerful, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

BH06119: Exalted, exalted is He Who hath manifested His Cause…

He is the Dawning-Place from the horizon of the heaven of proof

Exalted, exalted is He Who hath manifested His Cause with clear authority! Exalted, exalted is He Who hath borne tribulations for the salvation of all who are in the heavens and on earth! Exalted, exalted is He Who hath stood before all faces and spoken that which draweth the servants nigh unto the One, the All-Informed! Exalted, exalted is He from Whose most sweet call wafteth the fragrance of grace and bounty! Blessed is he who hath found, and woe unto the heedless!

O thou who hast turned to the Kingdom! Hear the call of God, the Sovereign of the Realm of Might, Who hath come with a power before which all created things have bowed down, and with a dominion that hath encompassed all who are in the heavens and on earth. Let not the opposition of men grieve thee in the Cause of thy Lord, the Possessor of Destiny. Cast away what they possess—a command from Us—and take what We have sent down for thee in this ancient Tablet. We have commanded the servants to that which profiteth them in the hereafter and in this world, yet they have cast behind them that which they were bidden and have taken the dawning-places of idle fancies as lords besides God. They are indeed among those who shall not be mentioned in this glorious and exalted station. Give thou glad tidings to My loved ones on My behalf, then recite unto them what hath been sent down from the Kingdom of the utterance of thy Lord, the Almighty, the All-Powerful.

BH06339: In My Name, through which the verses have descended…

In My Name, through which the verses have descended from the heaven of the bounty of God, the Lord of all worlds!

O My maid-servant! Your name was present before the Throne and your mention was made on the most holy court. Blessed art thou for having attained to that which the honored women of the world are deprived of, except whom thy Lord willeth. This Wronged One beseecheth God to strengthen that maid-servant and other maid-servants in steadfastness, orientation toward Him, and detachment. O My maid-

servant! The devoted maid-servants have always been mentioned before the Divine Presence and before the Throne. He who loved Me hath mentioned thee, whom neither the hosts of the world nor the might of the oppressors could deter.

We have mentioned thee in this Tablet with a mention by which the hearts of the mystics are attracted, and We desired to mention thy son who hath ascended unto God, the Lord of the Mighty Throne. By My life! When We desired to mention him, the ocean of forgiveness surged and the fragrance of the loving-kindness of thy Lord, the All-Merciful, was diffused. Verily thy Lord is the Compassionate, the Generous. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to send down upon him at all times mercy from His presence and loving-kindness from His Own Self. Verily He is the Hearer, the Answerer. There is no God but Him, the Single, the One, the Mighty, the Powerful.

BH06359: O people of God! The enemies lie in wait…

In the Name of the One Peerless God, the Almighty

O people of God! The enemies lie in wait and strive to extinguish the divine light. Those who have turned away from the Bayan are observed to be far baser than those who turned away from the Qur'an. They have manifested an oppression without peer or likeness, despite having witnessed with their own eyes that on the Day of Judgment, the Shi'ih people's adherence to what they possessed proved of no benefit to them, and in the presence of the All-Compelling they were accounted among the people of the fire. Say: O people! Deny not the Day of God. The frontispiece of the divine Books is adorned and embellished with the mention of this Day. Open your eyes, that perchance ye may attain unto that for which ye were created from nothingness into being. O thou who gazest toward My horizon! It behooveth thee to say:

My God, my God! Praise be to Thee for having turned toward me from the direction of Thy Most Great Prison and mentioned me in that which hath attracted the hearts of the nations. I beseech Thee by the light of Thy countenance, whereby the horizon of the world was illumined, to assist me to preserve what Thou hast given me through Thy bounty, O Thou Who art the Possessor of existence and by Thy sovereignty, O Thou Who art the Sovereign of the seen and the unseen. I testify that Thou art the One Who hath power to do what He willeth through Thy mighty and exalted Command.

BH06360: O people of God! The Call is raised high…

He is the One Who calls between the heavens and the earth!

O people of God! The Call is raised high, the Cause is manifest, the Light is shining forth, the precincts of Sinai are adorned and illumined by the Speaker, the great festival is established, the attraction of the Word hath seized all who are in the realm of possibilities, the signs of the Supreme Pen are apparent from all directions. We beseech God to protect the ears of His loved ones from the calumnies of some. In the arena of "He doeth what He willeth" the mentions of the world have been and are non-existent. Say: Hold fast unto this Most Great Remembrance and be not of the heedless ones. When thou hearest My utterance, say:

My God, my God! Praise be to Thee for having guided me to the heaven of Thy bounty and made me know the Dayspring of Thy verses and the Dawning-Place of Thy clear tokens. I beseech Thee by Thy mercy which hath preceded all created things and by the light of Thy countenance whereby all contingent beings were illumined, to ordain for me that which will draw me nigh unto Thee and cause me to speak Thy praise. Verily Thou art the All-Bountiful, the All-Generous.

May the Glory shining resplendent from the horizon of the heaven of proof rest upon thee and upon those who have turned and said:

> "Praise be to Thee, O Lord of all possibilities, and glory be to Thee, O Thou Who art the desire of those in the heavens and on earth."

Praise be to Thee, O Lord of the worlds.

BH06383: O peoples of the earth! Hearken unto…

In the Name of the Mighty, the All-Bestowing

O peoples of the earth! Hearken unto that which the Mother Book calleth out unto you from your final goal. He desireth naught in His dominion save to draw you nigh unto God, the Lord of all worlds. Beware lest the ornaments of the world hold you back from the Dawning-Place of God's revelation, the Mighty, the Praised One. Blessed is the servant who hath cast away whatsoever is in the world, holding fast to this mighty cord through whose movement all created things have been set in motion. Thus hath the Pen spoken forth when the Ancient King was walking in this exalted mansion. We have heard thy call and have remembered thee, and have sent down for thee that which hath diffused the fragrance of God's loving-kindness, the Lord of the mighty throne. When thou art moved by the motion of My Pen, say:

My God, my God! I testify that through Thy manifestation the ocean of knowledge hath surged within creation and the sun of learning hath shone forth from the horizon of the heaven of proof. I beseech Thee, O Thou Who hast subdued the world through Thy command whereby Thou hast illumined the hearts of the nations, and by Thy radiant and gleaming light and Thy mighty and great sovereignty, to ordain for me that which shall prevent me from turning to aught else but Thee and shall draw me nigh unto the court of Thy glory. Thou art indeed the All-Bountiful, unto Whose might and grandeur and power all created things have testified. There is none other God but Thee, the Single, the One, the Powerful, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

BH06592: Glorified art Thou, O Thou at Whose remembrance…

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

Glorified art Thou, O Thou at Whose remembrance the seas have spoken, at Whose praise the mountains have testified, at Whose description the rivers have flowed, and at Whose attributes the suns have shone! All things have borne witness to Thy oneness and singleness, and to Thy greatness and sovereignty, and to Thy power and might. I beseech Thee by Thy Most Great Name, whereby the hearts of the nations were shaken, save those whom Thy Will hath desired and Thy Purpose hath chosen, to

ordain for him who hath loved Thee amongst mankind and turned to Thee in the earliest days, and who hath inhaled the fragrance of Thy revelation and the sweet-scented breeze of Thine inspiration, and hath drunk Thy choice sealed wine through Thy Name, the Self-Subsisting, and hath done in Thy path that which the Tongue of Thy grandeur hath testified to when Thou wert seated upon the throne of Thy grace, that which will exalt him among Thy servants and draw him nigh unto Thee.

O my Lord! He is the one whom neither the might of the world nor the power of the nations hath deterred from drawing nigh unto Thy most exalted horizon and Thy most glorious manifestation. O my Lord! Thou seest him in all conditions clinging to the cord of Thy loving providence and holding fast to the hem of Thy bounty. I beseech Thee not to disappoint him of that which is with Thee. There is no God but Thee, the All-Bountiful, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

BH08802: This is a mention from the Wronged One…

He is the All-Hearing, the All-Answering

This is a mention from the Wronged One to him who hath acknowledged the oneness of God and His singleness, and that He is the First and the Last, the Manifest and the Hidden. There is no God but Him, the Single, the One, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. We have heard thy call and have answered thee, and have remembered thee with a remembrance whereby hearts are attracted.

We counsel thee and My loved ones unto righteousness and goodly deeds and the fear of God, and unto that which will draw thee nigh unto God, thy Lord and the Lord of all worlds. Say: Glory be unto Thee, O my God! I beseech Thee by Thy Prophets and Thy chosen ones and Thy loved ones to send down upon me from the heaven of Thy bounty a grace from Thee and a mercy from Thy presence. Then open before my face the doors of Thy gifts and favors. Verily Thou art the All-Bountiful, the Compassionate, the Bestower, the Generous. There is no God but Thee, the All-Forgiving, the All-Merciful.

BH06844: O ʿAbdu'l-Baqi! The essence of justice is witnessed beneath…

He is the One Who gazeth from the Most Glorious Horizon.

O ʿAbdu'l-Baqi! The essence of justice is witnessed beneath the talons of oppression. Beseech thou the True One that He may illumine the world through the lights of the Luminary of His Revelation, that all may be purified from the desires of self and passion, may set their faces toward the Most Exalted Horizon, and may turn from that which is unseemly unto that which is befitting. That which hath befallen the Divine Phoenix hath caused the lovers in the cities of the Kingdom to change their garments. In this most great calamity the loved ones must be the cause of joy and patience and consolation. God hath made death a door to His grace, yet most men know it not. Convey thou the greetings of the Wronged One to His loved ones and kinsfolk, and remind them of the verses that have been sent down. Verily, He is with His sincere servants. There is none other God but Him, the Single, the One, the Powerful, the All-Compelling over all who are in the heavens and on the earth. The Glory be upon you, O loved ones of God and His party, and upon all who have sought the Sealed Wine in the Name of God, the All-Compelling, the Self-Subsisting.

BH06887: O My leaf! Existence itself is shrouded in dust…

He is the Comforter, the Compassionate, the All-Bountiful!

O My leaf! Existence itself is shrouded in dust and the hearts have melted at what hath befallen thee. We beseech God to comfort and console thee, to send down upon thee what shall transform thy sadness into joy, and to adorn thee with the ornament of befitting patience and fortitude, which He hath admonished His servants to observe in this Dispensation.

O My handmaiden! Know that death is the most great door of God's mercy through which is revealed what is now hidden from the eyes. What is death but the transference of the soul from its nether abode to its exalted habitation. Through it the carpet of joy is rolled out and the standard of delight is unfurled. The command is in the hand of God, the Lord of the worlds, and the Most Great Name through Whom the limbs of the nations have quaked.

We ask God, exalted and glorified be He, to acquaint all men with the outcome of shedding this mortal garment and the beneficial effects of departing from this world to enter the celestial realm. I swear by My life! The true believer, after his ascension, shall find himself in a state of eternal peace and everlasting bliss. God, verily, is the Merciful, the Bountiful, and He is the Forgiving, the Compassionate.

BH06725: A Book from Us unto him who hath turned…

He is the One Who gazeth from His Most Exalted Horizon.

A Book from Us unto him who hath turned toward the horizon of the Cause when every ignorant and remote one turned away from it. He Who is the Lord of Eternity doth testify from the Most Great Prison that He is God, the Powerful, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. This is the Day whereon the Most Exalted Pen hath been stirred, and all who are in earth and heaven were thunderstruck, save those whom God, the Lord of all worlds, hath willed. Nothing whatsoever escapeth His knowledge. He heareth at all times the call of them who are nigh unto Him, and beholdeth the deeds of those who have believed in God when He came from the heaven of proof with a clear exposition. When thou hast quaffed the choice wine of My utterance, say:

My God, my God! Praise be to Thee for having guided me in Thy days and enabled me to recognize the Dawning-Place of Thy signs and the Dayspring of Thy clear tokens. I beseech Thee by Thy Most Great Book and its words and letters, and by Thy Cause whereby the ocean of knowledge surged before the faces of all religions, to make me steadfast in Thy Cause and firm in Thy love. Verily Thou art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the Mighty, the All-Praised.

BH06849: O Ali, upon thee be My glory and My…

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

O Ali, upon thee be My glory and My loving-kindness! We have arisen this day in an exalted station and have remembered thee with such remembrance as no remembrance in the heavens and earth can equal, and through which the fragrances of revelation have been diffused and the perfume of the garment

wafted abroad. Blessed art thou and blessed is he who hath attained in the days of God, the Lord of the worlds. Tribulations have encompassed Us from all directions through that which the hands of the oppressors have wrought. The Wronged One calleth aloud and saith:

> "Thine is the bounty, O Lord of existence! Thine is the generosity, O Master of the world! And Thine is the glory, O Desired One of all names, in that Thou hast caused Thy servant to turn unto Thee and to speak Thy praise. Verily, Thou art the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous."

Rejoice in that the Tongue of Grandeur hath desired to make mention of the leaf who hath returned unto the Tree. By My life! Through My remembrance the ocean of forgiveness hath surged and the fragrance of pardon and beneficence hath been wafted. Thy Lord is verily the Compassionate, the Generous. We beseech God to send down upon her at all times a blessing from His presence and a mercy from His side. He, verily, is the Most Merciful of the merciful ones and the Most Generous of the generous ones.

BH06848: O ʿAli, upon thee be My glory! This Wronged…

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

O ʿAli, upon thee be My glory! This Wronged One, at a time when sorrows have encompassed Him from all directions, maketh mention of His loved ones and giveth them the glad-tidings of the bounty of the Lord of all beings. Blessed art thou, for thou hast attained unto My remembrance whereby God hath quickened such multitudes as the pens of the world and the understanding of the nations are powerless to reckon. Say: Praise be unto Thee, O Thou Who hast remembered me in Thy Most Great Prison, and glory be unto Thee, O Thou to Whom I have turned when I was among the peoples. I beseech Thee to assist me to make mention of Thee and to praise Thee and to serve Thy Cause in such wise that the clamor of those who have broken Thy Covenant and Testament may not deter me. Muhammad hath appeared before the face of the Wronged One and made mention of thee. We have remembered thee in this perspicuous Tablet that thou mayest be assured that thou art mentioned before the Seat of Him Who hath revealed and made manifest that which lay hidden in the knowledge of God, the Mighty, the Praised. The glory from Us be upon thee and upon those who have arisen and proclaimed:

> "The Sovereign Lord hath come and sovereignty belongeth unto God, the Lord of the Mighty Throne!"

BH06410: Praise be to God Who hath illumined the world…

He is established upon the Throne above the celestial spheres

Praise be to God Who hath illumined the world through the lights of His Most Great Name and caused all things to speak forth that there is none other God but Him, the Single, the One, the Powerful, the All-Knowing.

O My leaf! Hearken thou unto My call. Verily He hath remembered thee and him who hath ascended unto the Supreme Companion, the station which was illumined by the lights of the countenance of his Lord, the Mighty, the Praised.

O My handmaiden! Upon thee be My glory! Thou hast ever been and continuest to be remembered. Through divine bounty and the mercy of the All-Merciful thou hast drunk from the cup of bestowal and turned toward the most exalted horizon. Say: Praise be unto Thee, O Creator of heaven and Lord of the Kingdom of Names, for having turned toward Thy handmaiden and sent down for her that which brought solace to the eyes of those who dwell secluded in their chambers. I beseech Thee to ordain for me what Thou hast ordained for Thy handmaidens who circle round the Throne at eventide and at dawn. There is none other God but Thee, the Powerful, the Hearer, the Answerer. The glory from Us be upon thee and upon My handmaidens there, as a mercy from Our presence and a favor from Our court, and verily I am the All-Bountiful, the All-Generous.

BH06795: O Ahmad, upon thee be the Glory of God…

He is manifest through bounty and speaks with justice!

O Ahmad, upon thee be the Glory of God, the Single, the One! Today from the City of Lovers successive glad tidings arrive. At one time they give the good news of the turning of Ali-Qabli-Akbar to the prison in the path of God, the Lord of Destiny, and at another time of the orientation of Amin toward the mighty fortress and manifest prison in the path of God, the Lord of the Worlds. Attraction and longing have seized all. Those deeds which His Majesty the Sultan himself denied concerning this party and testified to their sanctity and purity, they have now attributed to this party, and they have seized two souls from among the firm and steadfast ones. Glory be to God! They seized the wicked Ahmad-i-Kirmani who confessed to his error and to writing the seized document, yet this did not lead to the manifestation of justice and fairness.

> “They accuse those whom the True One hath made trustees of the seventh sphere.”

The resplendent, brilliant light be upon thee and upon those who love thee for the sake of God, the Lord of the Worlds.

BH06854: O ʿAndalib! Thou didst seek reunion and presence…

O ʿAndalib! Thou didst seek reunion and presence, and hast attained to this station. The Supreme Pen beareth witness that the smoke of the calumniators and oppressors of the world hath darkened the atmosphere. In view of the sorrows that have befallen Us and the upheavals that have appeared, We have permitted thee to tarry and have bestowed its reward. Praise be to God that thou hast attained to victory and art occupied with teaching. Blessed art thou, and blessed is he who loveth thee, and blessed is he who hearkeneth unto thy words concerning this wise Remembrance.

As to Abu’l-Fadl, upon him be My glory and loving-kindness, in these days he and Mirza Abdu’l-Karim and others, upon them be the glory of God, are occupied with the assistance of the Wronged One. O Andalib! Upon thee be My glory and loving-kindness. Praise be to God, the effects of divine counsels have become manifest in the East and West, for in that land the manifestations of self and passion martyred one of the friends of God. Through this hath appeared that which We counseled them before: “To be killed is better for you than to kill.” Well is it with them that act, and woe unto them that have forsaken. The glory from

Us be upon thee and upon them that have soared in the atmosphere of the love of their Lord, the All-Merciful, and have aided His Cause through wisdom and utterance.

BH06865: O Muhammad, upon thee be My glory, and O…

He is the One singing on the highest branches!

O Muhammad, upon thee be My glory, and O Afnan, upon thee be My peace! O thou who gazest toward My horizon, upon thee be My mercy! Grieve not over the happenings of the world. Thou art he who hath committed his affairs unto Him and placed his trust in Him. Verily, He is with His servants who trust in Him.

Say: Glory be unto Thee, O my God, the God of all beings, the Educator of all created things, the Revealer of verses and the Manifest through clear evidences! Praise be unto Thee for having made Thyself known unto me in Thy days and having given me to drink of the Kawthar of Thy knowledge on a day wherein most of Thy servants and creatures denied Thy grace. I beseech Thee by the light of Thy countenance and the fire of the Tree of Thy Cause to draw me nigh unto Thee, that I may drink of Thy sealed nectar from the hand of Thy bounty and the cup of Thy generosity. Verily, Thou art the Possessor of all existence, both unseen and seen. And We make mention in this station of him who hath been named Husayn—upon him be My glory and My loving-kindness—and We give him the glad-tidings of God's grace, His mercy, His loving-kindness and His favors. Verily, He is the Powerful, the Compassionate, the Forgiving, the Merciful.

The Glory from Us be upon thee and upon him and upon those who are with you both on this blessed, mighty and wondrous Day.

BH06852: O Ali-Akbar! The Lord of Power hath turned toward…

O Ali-Akbar! The Lord of Power hath turned toward thee from the Most Great Scene and hath favored thee with His attention. Say: Praise be unto Thee, O Thou the Goal of the world!…

O Ahmad Bey! Ahmad came and they rejected Him, they called Him a liar. Noah came and they attributed madness to Him. Moses came and they called Him a sorcerer. The Point came and they named Him a mischief-maker. The Promised One came and they said that which causeth the pen to be ashamed to mention and the ink to seek forgiveness for recording. As We have previously said:

To the veiled ones death, to the frozen ones pain,

The King of Days hath come, that perfect Treasury hath come,

That Hidden Mystery hath been revealed, to the chagrin of the masses hath come,

That divine Emperor with His royal crown,

With His "I am God" diadem, like the morn from darkness hath come.

Blessed are they who are intoxicated today with the choice wine of divine love and content with His remembrance, and woe unto those who are heedless and have strayed from the circle of unity. We

beseech God to assist all to do that which He loveth and pleaseth. Verily, He is the Lord of all creation and the Lord of this world and the world to come….

BH06868: O Muhammad-Husayn! Blessed be thine acceptance, blessed be thine…

He is the Compassionate, the All-Bountiful.

O Muhammad-Husayn! Blessed be thine acceptance, blessed be thine arrival. Well is it with thee, for thou hast drunk the choice wine of revelation from the hand of the bounty of thy Lord, and happy art thou, for thou hast attained unto the heavenly table of utterance which God hath sent down from the heaven of divine knowledge. However, the first commandment of God is the recognition of Him, exalted be His glory, while the last is steadfastness in His Cause. And the manifestation and appearance of this steadfastness is mighty indeed. Beseech thou God that He may enable thee to attain such a station wherein the things of the world shall not prevent thee nor hold thee back from turning unto Him. Verily thy Lord is the Hearer, the Answerer of prayer. Say:

O my God, my God! Thou seest Thy sheep amidst the wolves of Thy earth, and the manifestations of Thy name, the All-Merciful, among the dawning-places of unbelief and rebellion. I beseech Thee, O Thou Who didst deliver the Beauty from the depths of tribulation and didst preserve Him from the hosts of enemies, to make me steadfast in Thy Cause and firm in holding fast to Thy cord. O my Lord! Thou seest the suppliant standing before the door of Thy bounty. I beseech Thee, O Lord of all being, by Thy might, not to deprive him of the kingdom of Thy riches. Verily Thou art the Bestower, the Mighty, the All-Bounteous.

BH06814: O handmaiden of God! Your letter was present before…

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

O handmaiden of God! Your letter was present before the Face of the Wronged One and attained to being seen and heard. Regarding what you mentioned about Jinab-i-Amin, he has taken refuge in the fortress of the blessed word “The poor is under God’s protection.” Who can breach the city that is built upon smooth rock? In truth, the outward means of the world have fled from him, and the reason and cause for this is clear and evident. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to open before his face the door of wealth. Verily He doeth what He willeth and in His grasp are the reins of the affairs of all, from the first to the last.

A sum was remitted which Jinab-i-Habibullah, upon him be God’s peace, was to deliver to him. If it has not reached him, it should be given to you—this would be acceptable and attain to the glory of His good-pleasure. We beseech God to assist His friends to set right each other’s affairs. Verily He is the Powerful, the Unconstrained. Make mention of the kinfolk on behalf of the Wronged One. Soon will He open the doors of prosperity upon the faces of His loved ones and His friends with the keys of His gifts and favors. Verily He is the Powerful, the Almighty, and worthy to answer prayer.

BH06890: O my leaf, O my handmaiden! The gaze…

In the name of the Kind Friend:

O my leaf, O my handmaiden! The gaze of God's loving-kindness, exalted be His glory, has ever been and continues to be upon you. Praise be to God, you are adorned with the ornament of service to God's Cause. I swear by the Sun of Truth which has risen from the horizon of the prison of ʿAkka that this most glorious and exalted station was bestowed upon you before all other women on earth. Be thankful to your Lord for this great bounty. Soon your stations shall become manifest and evident in the world. The station and rank of these two brilliant Lights is unlimited—all the pens in the world are powerless and incapable of describing it.

Say: My God, my God! Praise be to Thee for having guided Thy handmaiden to Thy straight path and illumined her heart with the light of Thy mighty announcement. I beseech Thee, O Lord of existence and Sovereign of the seen and unseen, by the ocean of Thy generosity and the heaven of Thy grace, to ordain for me all the good Thou hast sent down in Thy Book. O my Lord! Thou seest Thy handmaiden clinging to Thee and holding fast to the hem of the robe of Thy mercy. I beseech Thee not to deprive her of the sun of Thy grace and the heaven of Thy mercy. Thou art verily the Mighty, the All-Bountiful.

BH06823: In My Name that speaketh in the Kingdom!

In My Name that speaketh in the Kingdom!

O Most Great Sea! Reveal the pearls that lie concealed within thee to him who hath turned unto thee, that thou mayest draw him to the Most Exalted Horizon and bring him nigh unto his All-Glorious Lord, Who hath come from the horizon of power with the standards of utterance. We have heard thy call and have addressed thee from the Mount of Knowledge, and have sent down unto thee that which hath attracted the hearts of the righteous. Say: O people of the earth! The gate of heaven hath been opened, and the Lord of the Kingdom of Names hath come with a might that hath prevailed over all who are in earth and heaven. When thine eyes have been solaced by beholding the signs of thy Lord and thine ears have been blessed by hearkening unto them, say:

Praise be unto Thee, O Lord of all things and Sovereign over all names, for having sent down unto me that whose fragrance shall never cease to endure throughout the continuance of Thy names and attributes. I beseech Thee by the fruits of the Tree of Thy utterance and by the light that shineth from the horizon of the heaven of Thy proof, to make me in all conditions to be attracted by Thy verses, to soar in Thy atmosphere, to hold fast unto Thy cord, and to remain steadfast in Thy Cause whereby feet have slipped. Thou art, verily, the All-Powerful, the Mighty, the All-Knowing.

BH06528: A remembrance revealed by the Lord of the Throne…

He is the One Who rules over all names

A remembrance revealed by the Lord of the Throne and of the dust beneath. Happy is he that hath heard and said: Praise be unto Thee, O Lord of the kingdom of names! and glory be unto Thee, O Thou in Whose grasp are held the reins of earth and heaven. I beseech Thee by Thy Name through which Thou didst knit together the hearts of Thy loved ones, didst make known unto them Thy path, and didst teach them that which would draw them nigh unto Thee in Thy days, that Thou mayest ordain that I, under all conditions,

be attracted by Thy verses, be severed from all save Thee, and cling tenaciously to Thy strong cord. O Lord! Strengthen my frame for the service of Thy Cause, illumine mine eyes with the light of beholding Thee, and then throw open before the faces of Thy servants the gates of reunion with Thee.

O my Lord! Thou seest me turning toward the heaven of Thy bounty and awaiting the wonders of Thy generosity. I beseech Thee by the rain-showers of the springtime of Thy mercy to send down upon me that which will purify me from the mention of any save Thee and draw me near to the court of Thy holiness. Verily, Thou hast power over whatsoever Thou will. There is no God but Thee, the Mighty, the Great.

BH06645: In My Name that overshadoweth all names!

In My Name that overshadoweth all names!

We have sent down the Book and made manifest the proof and caused all things to speak that there is none other God but Him, the Single, the One, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. Blessed is the servant whom vain desire hath not kept back from the Lord of all beings, and whom the world hath not withheld from drawing nigh unto the kingdom of the favors of his Lord, the Generous. The Wronged One hath heard thy call and perceived the fragrance of thy love, and hath sent down for thee that which will protect thee from the arrows of the evil ones. Beware lest the colors of the world hold thee back from God, the Lord of all worlds.

Say: O people of the Bayan, cast aside what ye possess and take what ye have been given from the presence of an ancient Bestower. The Bayan profiteth you not except through this mighty and exalted Book. Fear ye God and deny not Him Who hath come for your salvation and made known to you the straight path of God. Thus have We sent down the verses and made manifest the Cause as a grace from Us upon thee, that thou mayest be of the thankful ones. The Glory from Us be upon thee and upon those who have taken hold of the Book with power and acted according to what they were commanded by One Who commandeth, the All-Knowing.

BH06482: These are the days of manifestation and exultation, days…

He is the Helper, the Sustainer.

These are the days of manifestation and exultation, days of joy and delight. All things cry out morning and evening: “The Day is come!” Yet the people remain behind a mighty veil. Thou hast been mentioned before the Wronged One and hast attained to that which hath been revealed in the Book of God, Lord of the mighty Throne. We have rent asunder the veils and revealed the Cause—a Command from the presence of an ancient Commander. We bear witness that thou hast attained unto My presence and My meeting, and hast heard the call of the Wronged One in His mighty prison. Say:

> “My God, my God! Praise be unto Thee for having honored me with Thy days and with the recognition of the Dawning-Place of Thy verses and the Dayspring of Thy clear signs. I beseech Thee by Thy sealed Wine and by Thy Name, the Self-Subsisting, to make me steadfast in Thy love, speaking Thy praise and arising to serve Thy Cause. Ordain for him who is with me from

the wonders of Thy bounty and the jewels of Thy bestowal. O my Lord! Thou seest that he hath turned toward Thee and appeared before Thy face, and the might of the wicked ones hath not deterred him. Verily Thou art the Self-Sufficient, the Most High. Unto Thee return all matters in their beginning and their end."

BH06853: O Ali! He who hath loved Me and turned…

In the Name of Him Who is manifest from the horizon of the world!

O Ali! He who hath loved Me and turned unto My horizon hath made mention of thee. We make mention of thee with that which hath caused the fragrance of the All-Merciful to be diffused throughout all creation. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to aid thee to serve His Cause and to assist thee in His remembrance and praise. Verily, He is the Mighty, the Powerful. In the midst of tribulations do We remember the friends of God and His chosen ones who have hearkened unto His call and acted in accordance with that which was enjoined upon them in His perspicuous Book. O Ali! Rejoice that the countenance of Him Who was wronged hath turned toward thee from the direction of the prison, and hath made mention of thee with that which surpasseth the mention of those who are nigh and the praise of the sincere ones. Say:

O my Lord! I testify to Thy unity and Thy oneness, and that Thou art God, there is none other God but Thee, the Mighty, the Powerful. I beseech Thee to assist me in that which beseemeth Thy days and befitteth the court of Thy glory. O my Lord! Thou seest the weak one clinging to the cord of Thy strength, and him who was far off drawing nigh unto the horizon of Thy nearness. I beseech Thee not to disappoint him of that which lieth with Thee. Verily, Thou art the All-Bountiful, the Mighty, the All-Wise.

BH06543: A remembrance from Our presence to him who has…

A remembrance from Our presence to him who has turned to God, the Help in Peril, the Self-Subsisting. Verily it draws the hearts of the servants to God, the Lord of existence. Say: O concourse of princes and divines, deal with equity in this Cause, through which the Luminary of utterance has shone forth from the horizon of the heaven of God's will, the Mighty, the Well-Beloved. How long will ye worship idols while ye perceive not? Say: The idols are but your vain desires, did ye but know. Hearken unto My call and cast away that which keeps you back from God, the Lord of what was and what shall be.

O Muhammad! Give thanks unto God, the Lord of the Throne, for that the Goal of the World hath turned unto thee from the Prison of ʿAkka and revealed for thee that whose fragrance shall never cease to endure throughout the eternity of names and attributes. Verily thy Lord is the Truth, the Knower of things unseen. We beseech God, exalted be He, to aid thee and grant thee success in that which He loveth and is pleased with, and to send down upon thee that which shall make thee firm, steadfast and upright in His Most Great Cause and His Mighty Message. The glory shining forth from the horizon of the heaven of My utterance be upon thee and upon those who have heard the call and said:

"Here am I, O Goal of the World! Here am I, O Lord of the seen and the unseen!"

BH06841: O Sun of Truth, send one of Thy effulgences…

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

O Sun of Truth, send one of Thy effulgences unto him who hath turned toward Thee and desired to direct his steps to the Kaaba of God, the Lord of all lords. The Hidden hath appeared and the Treasured One hath come with a Command that hath enraptured the hearts of the righteous.

O thou who gazest upon the Countenance! Hear the Call of the Wronged One. He giveth thee glad tidings of that which hath been ordained for thee by God, the Lord of all beings. Say: O people of the earth! This is a Day wherein secrets have been unveiled, rivers have flowed forth, and all things have proclaimed: The kingdom belongeth unto God, the Mighty, the All-Knowing, Who hath appeared and manifested that which was hidden in knowledge and inscribed by the Supreme Pen in the Scriptures and Tablets. Thus hath My Most Exalted Pen sung from the most exalted station by the command of God, the Cleaver of the Dawn.

O people of the Bayan! Fear God, and follow not the vain desires of those who have broken God's Covenant and Testament, and denied His proof and evidence. Thus have the banners of grace come and the standards of guidance been raised through the bounty of God, Who causeth the rivers to flow.

BH06401: I testify, O my God, that Thou art God…

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

I testify, O my God, that Thou art God, and that there is none other God but Thee. Thou hast created all things through Thy power and shown them the paths of Thy justice, Thy grace and Thy bounty. Among them are those who have broken Thy covenant and Thy testament, and among them are those who have acknowledged what hath been revealed in Thy Book, who have turned to Thy most exalted horizon, who have attained unto Thy most sublime traces and who have hearkened unto Thy most sweet call. O Lord! Ordain for them that which will make them among those whom neither the clamor of men nor the veils of glory have deterred from drawing nigh unto Thee, O Revealer of verses and Manifester of clear signs!

O Lord! Assist the heedless to turn unto Thee and to arise before the gate of Thy grandeur. Verily Thou art the Almighty, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. O Lord! Send down from the clouds of Thy generosity upon those who have turned to Thee and acted according to that which Thou hast commanded them in Thy Book a token of Thy grace and a mercy from Thy presence. Then open before their faces the gate of munificence, O Lord of all being and Sovereign of the seen and unseen! There is none other God but Thee, the Ever-Forgiving, the All-Merciful.

BH06449: Verily We have desired to mention one among…

He is God, exalted be His station in wisdom and utterance.

Verily We have desired to mention one among the servants and give him glad tidings of that which hath been ordained for him from God, the Lord of all worlds. We have turned toward him from the prison and

revealed that whereby all things have soared, turning toward the Kaaba of God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy.

O ʿAbdu's-Samad! Hear My call, for verily it will draw thee nigh unto the One, the All-Informed. He who loved Me hath mentioned thee, wherefore have We remembered thee in this perspicuous Tablet. Say:

My God, my God! Nearness to Thee is my life, and Thy presence is the ultimate object of my hope. To circle round Thee is the desire of them that are nigh unto Thee and the hope of the sincere ones. I beseech Thee by the waves of the ocean of Thy bounty, and by the Point through which Thou didst reveal Thy Books, Thy Scriptures and Thy Tablets, and by Thy Command that hath dominated all who are in Thy earth and heaven, and by the influence of Thy Will and the encompassing power of Thy Purpose, to make me steadfast in Thy love, enkindled with the fire of Thy Cause, and detached from all else but Thee. O my Lord! Thou seest me acknowledging Thee and Thy signs. I beseech Thee to ordain for me that which will preserve me and draw me nigh unto Thee. Verily Thou art the Mighty, the Powerful, the All-Bountiful.

BH06511: In My Name that speaketh before all men!

In My Name that speaketh before all men!

Praise be to the Ancient Lord Who, with the hand of power, hath raised up the standard of "There is none other God but Him" in the most exalted station and unfurled the banner of "The Command is God's" before the faces of all religions. Glorified be His greatness and exalted be His dominion! O Asad! Upon thee be the Glory of God, the One, the Self-Subsisting! Thy name was mentioned before the Wronged One. We have turned unto thee and revealed for thee the pearls that lay hidden in the treasuries of wisdom and utterance, that thou mayest render thanks unto thy Lord, the All-Bountiful. Say:

My God, my God, my Lord and my Support! I testify that through Thee the names of divine knowledge have been adorned with the stars of utterance and the ocean of generosity hath surged before the faces of the nations. I beseech Thee by Thy mysteries that lie concealed within Thy Book and by the splendors of the Day-Star of Thy bounty to ordain for me and for Thy loved ones that which will draw us nigh unto Thee and cause us to speak Thy praise. O Lord! Thou art the All-Bountiful, the Lord of great bounty. Aid us to make up for what hath escaped us in Thy days. Verily Thou art the All-Powerful, He to Whose manifestation and might all created things have testified, and to Whose grandeur and sovereignty all contingent beings have borne witness. There is none other God but Thee, the All-Bounteous, the All-Generous.

BH06712: A Book sent down by the Wronged One…

He is the Speaker of Truth

A Book sent down by the Wronged One to him who hath believed in the Self-Subsisting, when He came with the truth with manifest sovereignty. He speaketh before all faces: "The Kingdom is God's, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting," and beareth witness that there is none other God but Him. He hath manifested that which was hidden in the veils of the Unseen and concealed from hearts and minds. Blessed is he who hath heard the Call and turned to God, the Lord of the seen and unseen.

Thy mention hath come before Us. We make mention of thee in this irrevocable Tablet, through which, when it appeared, all things proclaimed:

> "The Lord hath come with a sovereignty that hath encompassed all that was and that shall be."

When thou attainest unto My verses, turn thy face toward the Kaaba of God and say:

Praise be unto Thee, O my God and my Desire, for having made me to know Thy Day, and caused me to hear Thy Call, and shown me the traces of Thy Most Exalted Pen, whereby all things were attracted. I beseech Thee, O Light of the hearts of them that seek Thee, by Thy sealed Wine and Thine irrevocable Command, to make me strong through Thy power, that the might of the people may not prevent me from turning to the splendors of Thy countenance and gazing toward Thine horizon. Verily Thou art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the Mighty, the Beloved.

BH07362: O Ba'i, upon thee be the Glory of God!…

In the Name of the Everlasting Speaker!

O Ba'i, upon thee be the Glory of God! Hearken unto the counsel of God and give ear to His commandments, and convey them, saying: O friends of God! The standard of piety hath ever been victorious and triumphant. Hold ye fast unto it. Verily, He commandeth you to righteousness and piety, and forbiddeth you transgression and wickedness. In this day must the friends take hold of such means as will conduce to victory, attraction and acceptance, that the servants of the earth may draw nigh and attain unto the hearing of that for which the ear was created from nothingness. Should they hearken unto the counsels of the true Well-Wisher and act accordingly, they shall assuredly attain unto the supreme blessing and unto glory and exaltation. The glance of Our loving-kindness hath ever been and still is directed towards thee. Be thou not sorrowful. Verily, He is with such of His servants as are doers of good. He heareth and seeth, and He is the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing.

BH11890: Ha, Sin. The shrill voice of the Most Exalted…

In the name of the One Incomparable Knower!

Ha, Sin. The shrill voice of the Most Exalted Pen and the rustling of the Lote-Tree of the Uttermost Boundary are raised up. Blessed is the soul that hath attained unto hearing them. O thou who art mentioned before the Wronged One! I say in truth that today the cause of the exaltation and elevation of existence is the fear of God. Convey the counsel of the Truth unto the people. Say: O people! Strive that perchance ye may drink of the sealed wine in the name of the Self-Subsisting Lord. Today the denizens of the most exalted Paradise and the companions of the most high Heaven give each other glad tidings of the appearance of Him Who conversed on Sinai, for the attraction of the Call hath seized all and the dawning of the Sun of Beauty hath transformed all. They move without purpose. Blessed are those servants who have not deprived themselves of the fragrances of these days and have grasped and clung to the hem of holiness and the cord of sanctity. The glory from Us be upon thee and upon those who are with thee and who love thee for the sake of God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH07358: O thou who art mentioned before the Wronged One!...

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

O thou who art mentioned before the Wronged One! Hear My call from the direction of My prison. Verily, He hath testified and doth testify to the oneness of God and His singleness, and to the sanctification of His Essence and the transcendence of His Being above whatsoever the created things have comprehended or will comprehend. There is no God but Him, the One, the Self-Sufficient, the Most Exalted.

We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to assist thee in that which He loveth and is pleased with, and to draw thee nigh unto Him in all conditions. Say: Glory be unto Thee, O my God! I bear witness unto that which Thy Books, and Thy Messengers, and Thy chosen ones, and Thy trusted ones have borne witness, and I beseech Thee by Thy Greatest Signs and by the pearls of the ocean of Thy knowledge, O Lord of all beings, and by the Lord of the world and the Support of the nations, through Whom Thou didst raise the standards of Thy names amongst Thy servants and the banners of Thy guidance in Thy lands, that Thou mayest enable me to do that which Thou hast commanded me in Thy Book. I am he who hath clung to the cord of Thy bounty, detached from all else but Thee, and hoping for the wonders of Thy grace. Verily, Thou art the All-Bountiful, the Generous, and the One, the Single, the All-Forgiving, the All-Merciful.

BH07387: O ʻAbbas! This is a day wherein the King...

In the name of the peerless Lord.

O ʻAbbas! This is a day wherein the King of mankind is established upon His throne and His gaze of loving-kindness hath been and continueth to be directed towards His loved ones. His friends are at all times blessed with the remembrance of Him Who conversed on Sinai. We beseech God to pour forth upon them in all circumstances the choice sealed wine.

O people of God! Know ye the value of this divine Day. Today the call is raised from the most exalted horizon and the Purpose of all beings hath appeared through the Most Great Name. Blessed is the eye that hath been cleansed from the ophthalmia of self and passion and hath beheld and recognized the One Beloved in His new attire.

Say: My God, my God! Praise be to Thee for having sent down unto me that which shall endure as long as Thy dominion and Thy kingdom endure. O my Lord! Have mercy upon Thy servant who hath turned unto Thee and hath clung to the hem of the robe of Thy bounty. Then ordain for him that which shall profit him in this world and the world to come. Verily Thou art the All-Powerful, the Mighty, the All-Bountiful.

BH07367: O Ha! Hear thou the call of the Wronged...

O Ha! Hear thou the call of the Wronged One. Praise be to God that whatsoever hath been manifested at the Threshold hath clearly distinguished truth from falsehood. We cherish the hope that He may ordain thee to be a standard among the standards of His Name and an ensign among the ensigns of His mention,

that thou mayest arise to serve Him, detached from all else, and speak that which behooveth thee. The lies of that false one are evident, and his words are exposed. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to aid the heedless to return, the slanderers to speak truth, the treacherous to be trustworthy, and the opposers to turn towards Him. Verily He is the Self-Sufficient, the Most High, the Ever-Forgiving, the Almighty, the All-Bountiful. Thy mention hath ever been and continueth to be before the Wronged One. Give thanks unto thy Lord for this manifest favor. All that thou beholdest today shall pass away, but that which the Most Exalted Pen hath uttered shall endure in the Scriptures and Tablets. The Glory be upon thee and upon those with thee and thy family, and upon all who are steadfast, upright, firm and trustworthy.

BH06965: We make mention of those days when thou wert…

He is the All-Knowing Expounder and He is the Kind, the Generous.

We make mention of those days when thou wert present with thy uncle—upon him be God's mercy and grace—before Our face, and ye both heard what the Tongue of Grandeur uttered in His mighty prison. O ʻAbdu'l-Husayn! Upon thee be My glory and My loving-kindness. We made mention of thee before thy presence, during thy presence, and after thy presence, with such remembrance as diffused the fragrance of the loving-kindness of God, thy Lord, the Lord of all worlds. Blessed are ye both! We bear witness that ye both drank the choice wine of attainment from the hands of the bounty of your Lord, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. We bid thee to show forth beautiful patience in whatsoever hath come upon thee through God's irrevocable decree. We counsel thee and those who have believed to manifest calm, dignity and perseverance, which We have enjoined upon all in My perspicuous Book. Remember what thou didst witness and hear when thou wert present before Our face. Verily thy Lord is the Wise Commander. The Glory be upon thee and upon those who are with thee and who love thee for the sake of God, the Lord of this noble station.

BH07241: This is a Book which the Wronged One hath…

He is the One Who speaks in the Kingdom of Utterance.

This is a Book which the Wronged One hath sent down to guide all on earth to the Straight Path of God, to purify them from the tales of old, and to make them hear what hath been sent down from the Kingdom of God, the Lord of the worlds. O peoples of the earth! Cast aside the days and names. The Day of God hath come with a light by which the heavens and earths were illumined. Turn ye toward the ocean of meanings by the command of One mighty and powerful. When the attraction of My call taketh hold of thee, say:

> "Glory be unto Thee, O my God! I beseech Thee by Thy Name through which Thou didst open the door of Thy mercy unto the faces of Thy servants and didst aid them that were detached through the hosts of Thy wisdom and Thy utterance, to assist Thy servants to perform that from which the fragrance of Thy good-pleasure may be wafted. O my Lord! I am Thy servant and the son of Thy servant. I have turned to Thee, beseeching the ocean of Thy favor and the heaven of Thy bounty. O my Lord! Aid me to serve Thee with such steadfastness as cannot be

hindered by names nor by what the opposing parties possess. Verily Thou art the Sovereign of the beginning and the return. There is none other God but Thee, the Mighty, the All-Bestowing."

BH06909: In the Name of Him through Whom the light…

In the Name of Him through Whom the light of utterance hath shone forth from the horizon of the Will of God, the Lord of all worlds.

Praise be to God Who hath manifested His Cause, fulfilled His promise, and spoken that which draweth mankind nigh unto Him. He is the One Who ruleth, before Whom all kings have acknowledged their servitude, their powerlessness at the revelation of His might, their poverty at the dawning of the Day-Star of His riches, and their ailments before the surging waves of the ocean of His healing. He, verily, is the Almighty, the Glorious, the All-Bountiful.

When thou hast attained unto the Tablet of God and His signs, and hast quaffed the choice wine of utterance from the chalice of His bounty, say: Glory be to Thee, O my God! I beseech Thee by Thy Name that holdeth sway over all names, and glory be to Thee, O my God! I beseech Thee by Thy sovereignty that hath encompassed all things, to send down upon this servant of Thine from the clouds of Thy bounty a blessing from Thee and a mercy from Thy presence. Then write down for me, O my God, that which shall profit me in every world of Thy worlds. Thou art He to Whose greatness and power all created things have testified. There is none other God but Thee, the Almighty, the Glorious, the Unconstrained.

BH07336: O my handmaiden! Blessed art thou, for thou hast…

In the name of the merciful Lord!

O my handmaiden! Blessed art thou, for thou hast been granted permission, having attained in the days of God to hearing the word "O My handmaiden!" This bounty hath been and is the greatest of divine bounties. In truth, in the first station and primary rank, the faculty of hearing was created solely for hearkening unto the blessed Word. Blessed is the soul that was not prevented by the vanities of the world and its colors from turning towards Him and was not held back from drawing nigh unto Him.

Say: Praise be unto Thee, O my God, for having caused me to hear Thy call and guided me to Thy path and given me to drink of the Kawthar of Thy love. I beseech Thee by Thy Hidden Book, which none has comprehended save Thyself, to ordain for this handmaiden of Thine and Thy other handmaiden the good of the world to come and of this world. O my Lord! Withhold not Thy handmaidens from drawing nigh unto the ocean of Thy utterance and turning towards the horizon of Thy Manifestation. Verily Thou art the All-Bountiful, the Generous. There is no God but Thee, the Forgiving, the Merciful.

BH06924: In My Name, through which the fragrance…

In My Name, through which the fragrance of the All-Merciful has wafted throughout creation.

Today the Book proclaims among the parties: “The Bestower has come!” This Day is the Day of bounty, mercy and generosity, yet the people of the world remain veiled, nay, turned away, save whom God wills. The saplings of the world have appeared from one Tree, and the drops from one Sea, and all existence from one Soul. Nevertheless, they have clung to that which causes difference, separation and discord. O thou who art mentioned before the Wronged One! Purify thy heart with the water of thy Lord’s utterance, the Wronged, the Stranger, and say: I beseech Thee, O Thou in Whose grasp is the reins of all beings and in Whose right hand are the reins of all creation, and I beseech Thee by the Dawning-Places of Thy names and the Daysprings of Thy attributes, and by the light of Thy Word which has shone forth from the horizon of the heaven of Thy Tablets, to ordain for me that which will draw me nigh unto Thee and will accompany me in every world of Thy worlds. Verily Thou art the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous, and in Thy grasp are the reins of all who are in the heavens and on earth.

BH06940: The Fire proclaims that there is none other God…

He is the All-Remembering, the All-Wise

The Fire proclaims that there is none other God but Him, the Mighty, the Bestower. The Light calls out that He Who was mentioned in the Books of God, the Lord of Lords, has come. The Kingdom makes mention of Him Who has come with the truth from the heaven of bounty with power and sovereignty. The Mount speaks and says: “Blessed am I in that I have attained unto Him Who conversed with Him Who guided Moses to the path of God, the Lord of all creation.” Zion cries aloud with joy: “The hearts have turned towards Him from all directions.” And Carmel was moved by what was revealed unto it from Him Who ascended to heaven by a command before which all names have bowed down. When thou hearest the Call from this most exalted Station, say: “Praise be unto Thee, O Creator of all things, for having illumined my heart with the light of Thy knowledge and for having revealed unto me that whereby the hearts of the chosen ones were attracted. I beseech Thee by Thy Manifestation and by Thy Name which has shone forth from the horizon of Thy Most Exalted Pen to aid me in Thy remembrance and in serving Thy loved ones. Thou art, verily, the Almighty, the Mighty, the All-Bountiful.”

BH07226: The Supreme Pen makes mention of the people…

He is the Mighty, the Great!

The Supreme Pen makes mention of the people of that household. By My life! The departed and blessed one who was named Muhammad-ʿAli, upon him be My glory and mercy, and those related to him have ever been and are remembered in the Most Holy Court. We beseech God to open the door of His favor through the Most Great Name and withhold not from His loved ones His everlasting bounties and eternal sustenance. He is the Powerful, the Mighty, the All-Knowing, the All-Seeing.

Your letter was received and this most mighty, most holy Tablet was graciously revealed in reply, that ye may give thanks unto your Lord, the Mighty, the All-Bountiful. O My leaf and My handmaiden! We beseech God to aid thee to love and protect and turn unto the people of that household. He is the Helper and He is the Kind.

My God, my God! I beseech Thee by the waves of the ocean of Thy bounty and the effulgences of the Daystar of Thy Manifestation to ordain for them and for Thy loved ones that which befitteth Thy glory and Thy grandeur and Thy Manifestation and Thy power. There is no God but Thee, the Forgiving, the Generous.

BH07317: O son of Alif and Ha! We have desired…

He is the Remembering and the Remembered

O son of Alif and Ha! We have desired to make mention of him once again, as a favor from God, the Lord of all beings. Say: My God, my God! Thou seest and knowest that one of Thy loved ones hath ascended unto Thy Most Exalted Companion and hath sought Thy Most Glorious Horizon. I testify, O my God and the God of all created things, my Lord and the Lord of all contingent beings, that Thy servant Ahmad, upon whom be Thy glory and Thy mercy, believed in Thee and in Thy signs, and turned toward the heaven of Thy Cause in Thy earliest days when most of Thy creation turned away from Thee. I testify that he drank the choice wine of life from the cup of Thy bounty and the Kawthar of utterance from the chalice of Thy generosity and grace. He it is, O my God, who acknowledged that which was sent down from the heaven of Thy favor and confessed to that which the tongue of Thy grandeur had spoken. O Lord! Send down upon him from the clouds of Thy loving-kindness the rains of Thy mercy, and from the heaven of Thy generosity that which will draw him near unto Thee in all conditions. Verily Thou art the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous.

BH07388: O Abdu'r-Rahim! I bear witness to that which God…

He is the All-Witnessing, the All-Informed

O Abdu'r-Rahim! I bear witness to that which God hath witnessed, that there is none other God but He, the Single, the One, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. O Abdu'r-Rahim! Thy letter hath been seen and thy call hath been heard. Today steadfastness is necessary, for the deniers and the opposers have firmly girded the loins of ignorance to lead the people astray. Soon will there arrive in that place those who croak, who have surpassed Satan himself in turning away and in opposition. The eye of the world hath not seen and will never see the like of such denying souls. They have broken the Covenant, severed the cord, and cast fidelity aside. They are indeed among the most lost. God willing, may the friends in that land manifest such steadfastness that none shall find cause for denial. Say: O my God, my God! I have cast aside all else but Thee, holding fast to the cord of Thy bounty and bestowal. O my Lord! Aid me to perform such deeds as may be adorned with the ornament of Thy acceptance. Then ordain for me through Thy power that which shall draw me nigh unto Thee in all conditions. Verily Thou art the All-Bountiful, the All-Generous. There is none other God but Thee, the All-Forgiving, the All-Merciful.

BH07096: Glorified is He Who hath sent down the verses…

In the name of the All-Knowing Speaker!

Glorified is He Who hath sent down the verses and revealed what was hidden from all eyes and sight. He hath come for your salvation and teacheth you what will draw you nigh unto Him. He is verily the Powerful, the Mighty, the Bestower.

Thy name was mentioned before the Wronged One through one of My Branches who is named Diya' in the Kingdom of God, the Lord of Lords. We have sent down for thee that which will exalt thee in the days of thy Lord and acquaint thee with what was concealed from the servants.

Say: Praise be unto Thee, O my God, for having appeared and made manifest Thy Cause through a sovereignty that hath conquered all who are in earth and heaven. I beseech Thee by the movement of Thy Finger and the manifestations of Thy power and decree to aid the servants to turn unto Thee and to arise to serve Thee.

O Lord! I am Thy servant and the son of Thy servant. I have turned to Thee, detached from all else but Thee. Ordain for me that which shall be a light from Thee, to accompany me in every world of Thy worlds and guide me to the threshold of Thy nearness and the court of Thy glory. Verily Thou art the Powerful, the Mighty, the All-Bountiful.

BH07396: O Ali, upon you be God's eternal peace!...

In the Name of God, and blessings be upon Him after Whom there will be no Prophet

O Ali, upon you be God's eternal peace! In truth, this Wronged One has had and has no desire except for the refinement of souls and the extinguishing of the fire of hatred and animosity in hearts. We counsel you to perform goodly deeds and display praiseworthy conduct, and to follow what God has revealed in His Perspicuous Book. Deeds take precedence over words. By the Sun of Truth, this Wronged One fasts during the blessed month of Ramadan and stands in prayer and remembrance during its nights and dawns. Cling firmly to obligatory prayer and fasting. Verily, the religion of God is like unto heaven; fasting is its sun, and obligatory prayer is its moon. In truth, they are the pillars of religion whereby the righteous are distinguished from those who transgress His commandments. We entreat God, exalted and glorified be He, that He may graciously enable all to observe that which He hath revealed in His Ancient Book. Some are deprived of meaning through mere words, and through speech are prevented from deeds. Verily God speaks the truth and guides the way, and He is the Single, the One, the Mighty, the Beautiful.

BH06905: In My Name that overshadoweth all names

In My Name that overshadoweth all names.

We have arisen speaking in remembrance of God, and wonderstruck at the manifestations of His grandeur and the power of His Most Exalted Pen and the sovereignty of His Most High Word.

A Branch from among My branches came forth and asked from the heaven of My grace mention of one of My loved ones. Thereupon the ocean of My bounty surged and the fragrance of My mercy was wafted, and We made mention of him with verses that have perfumed existence both seen and unseen.

When thou hearest My call and drinkest the choice wine of immortality from the chalice of My bounty, say: My God, my God! Praise be to Thee for having guided me, and thanks be to Thee for having made me know Thee, and glory be to Thee, O Thou Who art the King of the Kingdom of Names, for having sent down unto me from the heaven of Thy utterance the signs of Thy grace. I beseech Thee, O my Lord, by the movement of Thy Pen of destiny, and by the Tablet that beareth the mysteries of Thy knowledge and wisdom, and by the Light that shineth from the horizon of Thy bounty, to forgive me and whomever hath sought Thy abundant mercy and Thy all-encompassing favor. There is no God but Thee, the Almighty, the Glorious, the All-Bountiful.

BH07035: Praise be to the Lord of Revelation Who, through…

He is the Most Great Proof!

Praise be to the Lord of Revelation Who, through the Most Great Name, hath illumined the world of names with the light of guidance. He is the Most Great Name and the Lord of all worlds and peoples. Blessed is he who saith and will say:

> "O my God! I beseech Thee by Thy Glory at its most glorious to ordain for me what Thou hast ordained for Thy chosen ones and trusted ones. Verily Thou art the All-Bountiful. There is none other God but Thee, the Self-Sufficient, the Most High."

O Muhammad after Siyyid, upon thee be My Glory! My Name, upon whom be My glory and loving-kindness, hath appeared before Me and asked God, his Lord and thy Lord, to seek permission for thee to attain unto this blessed and praiseworthy station. Therefore hath the luminary of permission shone forth from the horizon of the will of God, the Lord of the worlds. We beseech God to draw thee and His loved ones nigh unto His Great Announcement and His Straight Path, and to cause thee and them to attain unto this blessed, most holy, most luminous, most great, mighty and wondrous station. Glory be upon thee and upon My loved ones who have quaffed the wine of steadfastness from the hand of the bounty of their Lord, the All-Forgiving, the All-Bountiful.

BH07050: We have illumined the friends with the effulgent rays…

He is God, exalted be His station in bounty and grace.

We have illumined the friends with the effulgent rays of the Orb of love and enkindled them with the fire of the blessed Tree. We beseech God to aid all to perform such deeds as will cause the exaltation of the Word of God and the elevation of human station. Verily, He is the Hearer, the Answerer. Say: My God, my God! Praise be to Thee for having guided me to the recognition of the Dawning-Place of Thy Revelation and for having illumined me with the light of Thy knowledge. I beseech Thee by Thy Beloved One through whom Thou hast manifested the pearls of Thy wisdom and utterance, and hast made Him the Dayspring of Thy revelation and the Source of Thy inspiration, and through whom Thou hast opened the doors of knowledge to Thy servants and revealed Thy sovereignty and power throughout Thy lands, to aid me to perform such deeds as are adorned with the glory of Thy acceptance.

Then write down for me, O my God, the good of this world and the next, and rain down upon me from the clouds of Thy mercy that which will draw me nigh unto Thee, O Thou in Whose grasp are the reins of the kingdom of names. There is no God but Thee, the Omnipotent, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

BH07233: The Book of God speaks: “Verily there is no…

He is the One Who speaks and remembers in the Kingdom of Utterance.

The Book of God speaks: “Verily there is no God but Me, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.” It guides people to His mighty, praiseworthy path. Blessed is he who hears and turns towards it, and woe to those who turn away.

We have sent down the verses and manifested clear proofs, yet most people remain heedless. They have cast the Book of God behind their backs and followed every remote oppressor.

O people of the Bayan! Fear the All-Merciful and be not of those who have broken God’s covenant and His pledge, and denied what was sent down from His presence. They are indeed among the most lost in God’s mighty, exalted Book.

Take thou the Kawthar of immortality in the name of thy Lord, the Most Glorious. He will preserve thee and draw thee nigh unto a station wherein all things proclaim:

> “The kingdom, the dominion, the grandeur and the might belong to God, the Lord of the worlds.”

Thus have We sent down the verses and dispatched them unto thee that thou mayest be of the thankful ones.

Grieve not over worldly events. Hold fast to the cord of thy Lord’s tender mercy, the All-Forgiving, the Compassionate.

BH07423: O Mahmud! O thou who art turned unto…

He is the Eternal, the Everlasting, the Most Luminous, the Most Glorious

O Mahmud! O thou who art turned unto the splendors of the Countenance, who soarest in the atmosphere of grace, who gazest upon the horizon of Revelation, and who hast drunk the choice wine of utterance from the hands of Him Who conversed upon Sinai! Hearken unto the Call of God, the Mighty, the Loving. He hath revealed unto thee that whose fragrance shall never fade, and hath caused thee to hear that whose mention shall never cease, and hath inspired thee with that whose light shall never be obscured. Verily thy Lord is the All-Bountiful, the Mighty, the Best-Beloved. The Most Great Branch hath appeared before the Face and mentioned thee with such mention as caused the sweet savors of love and steadfastness to waft abroad.

We have answered thee through this Tablet from whose horizon shineth the luminary of thy Lord’s mercy, the Ordainer of all things. Convey My greetings unto the faces of My loved ones, then assist your Lord through wisdom and utterance and through that which befitteth this promised Day, at whose

mention the very lips of existence smiled and the Herald proclaimed from every direction: “The kingdom belongeth unto God, the Possessor of this frequented Station!” The light shining and beaming from the heaven of grace be upon thee and upon thy brethren whom We have mentioned in the Crimson Book by My Most Exalted Pen, and upon every patient and thankful one.

BH07011: As attested by all divine Books, this blessed Day…

In the name of the peerless One!

As attested by all divine Books, this blessed Day hath been adorned with the ornament of distinction and named the Day of God. The Cup-Bearer of the Kawthar of eternity from His bountiful hands bestoweth the wine of faithfulness. How excellent is the soul that aimed and reached its goal! We beseech God to make the heedless aware and guide the true seekers to the river of mercy. Say: My God, my God! Praise be to Thee for having remembered me in the prison when I was in the hands of the aggressive ones among Thy creatures. I beseech Thee, O Thou Who controlleth the winds and Who causeth the dawn to break, by Thy command through which Thou didst open the gates of bounty unto all nations, to assist me to serve Thy Cause in such wise that nothing whatsoever may prevent me, O Thou Lord of all beings and Sovereign of the kingdom of names. O my Lord! Thou seest me among Thy servants who have violated Thy Covenant and Testament. I beseech Thee not to disappoint me from the ocean of Thy generosity and the heaven of Thy bounty. Verily Thou art the All-Bountiful, the Generous. There is no God but Thee, the Forgiving, the Merciful.

BH07239: This is a Book which God, the Help…

He is the Hearer, the Answerer

This is a Book which God, the Help in Peril, the Self-Subsisting, hath sent down unto him who hath turned towards Him, attained His presence, and won that which was inscribed by the Most Exalted Pen in His perspicuous Book. O thou who art present before the Wronged One! Hearken unto that which the Tongue of Grandeur hath spoken: He is, verily, none other God but Him, the Single One, the Powerful, the One, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. Blessed art thou for having forsaken thy homeland out of longing for the homeland of God. Thou didst depart and traverse the path until thou didst arrive at this Spot which God hath made the object of circumambulation for the Concourse on High and the angels brought nigh.

Rejoice thou in this Most Great Tablet and this holy, mighty and wondrous utterance. Say: Praise be unto Thee, O my God, for having caused me to hear Thy call and behold Thy station, and for having illumined my heart with the light of Thy knowledge and given me to drink, from the hand of Thy bounty, the Kawthar of Thy utterance. I beseech Thee by the lights of Thy throne to aid me to stand firm in Thy Greatest Steadfastness, and to send down upon me from the heaven of Thy favor a mercy from Thee and a grace from Thy presence. Verily Thou art the Powerful over whatsoever Thou willest through Thy binding and wise command.

BH07380: O Rayhan! God willing, thou shalt summon the servants…

In His Name, the Pure One, the Speaker before the world

O Rayhan! God willing, thou shalt summon the servants, with spirit and fragrance, to the horizon of the appearance of the Lord of Religions. Great is this Day and mighty is this Cause, and the Word of God hath been and continueth to be the cause and reason for the enkindling of hearts and souls. God willing, may the people of Baha be assisted to do that which will cause the servants to turn toward the most exalted horizon. The divine Word is penetrating and the traces of the Mighty Pen are from God. We beseech Him not to forbid or deprive anyone from the waves of the ocean of utterance. He is the One with such might that the tongues of creation have testified to His grandeur and sovereignty and power. Blessed is the soul whom the doubts of the aggressive ones and the veils of the heedless ones prevented not from the Law of God nor held back from hearkening unto His Word. The glory shining forth from My kingdom's horizon be upon thee and upon thy son and thy family and upon those who have acknowledged and recognized that which the Tongue of God, the Mighty, the All-Subduing, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise, hath spoken.

BH07382: In the Name of Him through Whom the Luminary…

In the Name of Him through Whom the Luminary of utterance hath shone forth from the horizon of possibility! O Salar-Ibrahim! The Friend and He Who conversed with God have come, and the Kingdom proclaimeth "The dominion belongeth unto God, the Possessor of existence!" The Mount hath attained to the presence of the Manifestation and hath cried out "Arise! Greatness belongeth unto God, the Lord of what was and what shall be!" The rapture of the Call hath seized all who are in earth and heaven. Blessed is the ear that hath attained unto hearing it, and the heart that hath turned toward it, and the eye that hath beheld the Dayspring of light. When the rapture of My Call seizeth thee, turn thy face toward My direction and say:

My God, my God! The intoxication of Thy utterance hath seized me and the sweetness of Thy Call hath attracted me. I beseech Thee by Thy might and power to make me known by Thy name and inscribed by Thy Pen. Verily Thou art the Omnipotent over what Thou willest, and in Thy grasp are the reins of the hidden and the manifest.

The splendor shining from the horizon of the heaven of My kingdom be upon thee and upon thy brothers and thy family and those who are with thee, and upon every mighty one whom armies and hosts have not frightened.

BH07337: In My Name which warbles upon the branches!

In My Name which warbles upon the branches!

O My handmaiden, upon thee be My glory! Hearken unto My call from the direction of My prison. Verily it will draw thee nigh unto the court of My glory and the carpet of My holiness, and will guide thee to My straight path.

When thou hearest the rustling of the Tree of My utterance, say:

> "My God, my God! Thou seest a handmaiden from among Thy handmaidens and a leaf from among Thy leaves who hath turned toward the horizon of Thy manifestation, and hath heard Thy sweetest call, and hath witnessed Thy signs, O Lord of all beings! I beseech Thee by Thy

most great favors and by the drops of the ocean of Thy utterance in the kingdom of creation to ordain for her that which Thou hast ordained for those who circle round the Throne at eventide and at dawn. O Lord! I am a leaf among Thy leaves and a handmaiden among Thy handmaidens. I have desired from the heaven of Thy bounty the suns of Thy grace, Thy mercy and Thy giving. Verily Thou art the All-Bountiful, the Ever-Flowing, the Giver, the Forgiving, the Merciful."

That which thou didst send hath appeared before the Face and hath attained the honor of acceptance. The mercy of God be upon thee. Verily thy Lord is the All-Bountiful, the Generous.

BH06919: He dawns from the Most Exalted Horizon!

He dawns from the Most Exalted Horizon!

Today it is incumbent upon all the peoples of the world to turn with their hearts toward the Beloved. The divine promises recorded and inscribed in the books of the past and present have all become manifest and evident. Blessed are the children of Abraham and the heirs of Moses whom the vain imaginings of the Pharisees did not prevent from the Book of God and did not hold back from turning to the Truth. O Yehuda, convey My greetings to your brother on behalf of the Wronged One. We beseech God to confirm him in that which befits His days. Say: My God! Unto Thee be praise and glory, and unto Thee be light and splendor! Thou seest this servant of Thine who hath turned to the ocean of Thy bounty and the heaven of Thy generosity. I beseech Thee by Thy mercy which hath preceded all created things and by Thy providence which hath encompassed all contingent beings, to give me to drink, from the hand of Thy bounty, the Kawthar of Thy knowledge. Then ordain for me all the good Thou hast destined for those of Thy servants who are near unto Thee and those of Thy creatures who are sincere. Verily Thou art the Almighty, the Glorious, the All-Bountiful.

BH06903: Your name hath been mentioned in the presence…

He is seated upon the throne of manifestation

Your name hath been mentioned in the presence of the Wronged One, and this Most Holy, Most Exalted Tablet hath been revealed for the sake of God, that it may draw thee and His loved ones unto a station wherein the cry of every atom hath been raised: "The kingdom belongeth unto God, the Lord of the mighty throne!" We counsel the loved ones of God to purify and sanctify themselves, and to perform such deeds as will cause the exaltation of His servants. No host hath been or is mightier than pure deeds and radiant character, and the guardian and leader of these hosts hath ever been and shall ever be the fear of God. We cherish the hope that certain souls who are afflicted beneath the talons of carnal desires and are unaware, who commit reprehensible acts and justify their permissibility, may rend asunder the veils of self and be adorned with the light of godliness.

Say: Glory be unto Thee, O my God! Praise be unto Thee for having remembered me in such wise as to preserve my name in Thy Book. I beseech Thee, O God of all beings and Educator of all created things, to

aid Thy loved ones to that which shall cause the standards of Thy triumph and victory to be raised amidst Thy creation. Verily Thou art the Almighty, the Glorious, the All-Bountiful.

BH07036: Praise be to the Beloved of the world Who…

He is the All-Bountiful, the All-Forgiving, the Most Merciful

Praise be to the Beloved of the world Who repeatedly confirmed that soul and caused him to attain the supreme heights and the most exalted horizon. This is a great bounty and a mighty favor. Know thou his station and preserve him through the Name of the Goal of all the worlds. Say:

My God, my God! Thou hast informed me of the clamor of the clamorous ones in Thy cities and domains, and of the doubts of the doubtful ones in Thy days. I beseech Thee by the treasuries of Thy verses and the dawning-places of Thy commandments and laws to preserve me from the suggestions of the heedless ones and the whispers of those who have denied the Day of Judgment. O my Lord! Thou seest my heart turning toward the horizon of Thy Revelation, my face set toward the lights of Thy countenance, and my hand upraised toward the heaven of Thy bounty. I beseech Thee by the ocean of Thy generosity not to send it back empty in Thy days nor at a loss at the manifestations of the lights of the Orb of Thy Revelation. Verily Thou art the Almighty, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

O Siyyid Qabil-i-Husayn! Thou hast attained unto that which was inscribed and recorded by the Most Exalted Pen in the divine Books. The first station and the supreme rank is the station of submission and contentment. If thou attainest unto this lofty and most exalted station, thou shalt have attained unto all good. This is the most perfect and most exalted Word that hath shone forth from the horizon of the heaven of the Most Glorious Will. Take hold of it and be of them that are at peace. In these days thy mention hath repeatedly appeared and flowed from the Tongue and the Pen. This is a mighty station. Most of the chosen ones and pure ones sacrificed their lives in yearning for these days. Were the details to be mentioned, it would transform and change the world. However, in view of the requirements of divine wisdom, We remain silent and still. The Command is in the hand of God, the Lord of the mighty Throne and the elevated Seat.

BH07235: This is a Book which the All-Merciful hath sent…

In the Name of Him Who shineth from the horizon of the heaven of proof!

This is a Book which the All-Merciful hath sent down in a mansion adorned by His remembrance, the Mighty, the Wondrous. Therein hath the Call been raised both morn and eve, and that which was treasured in knowledge and concealed from the eyes of them that are nigh unto God hath been made manifest. O thou who art mentioned before the Wronged One! We have heard thy cry and have answered thee through this perspicuous Tablet. We have beheld thy turning unto Us and have turned unto thee. Verily thy Lord is the All-Compassionate, the All-Bountiful. We have sent down for thee that which shall endure as long as His most excellent names and exalted attributes endure. Blessed are they that hear and blessed are they that attain!

When thou hast quaffed the choice wine of My utterance and attained unto hearkening to My call, say: My God, my God! Praise be to Thee for having guided me unto Thy Most Great Announcement and for having given me to drink of the Kawthar of knowledge before the faces of the peoples. I beseech Thee, O Thou Lord of the worlds, by the waves of the ocean of Thy bounty and the mysteries of Thy Book, to ordain for me through Thy Most Exalted Pen the good of this world and of the world to come. Thou, verily, art the Powerful over whatsoever Thou pleasest. There is none other God but Thee, the All-Bountiful, the Ever-Forgiving, the Bestowing, the Generous.

BH07261: O Generous One, O Merciful One! I bear witness…

O Generous One, O Merciful One! I bear witness to Thy oneness and Thy singleness, and I beseech from Thee that which endureth forever in the dominion of earth and heaven. Thou art the Possessor of the Kingdom and the Sovereign of the seen and unseen. O my Lord! A poor one hath turned toward the ocean of Thy riches, and a supplicant hath drawn nigh unto the hem of Thy bounty. Deprive him not, for Thou art He through Whose bounty all atoms of creation bear witness, Thou art He to Whose generosity all created things testify. This servant hath detached himself from all else and clung to the cord of Thy generosity and the hem of Thy grace, and in all conditions gazeth toward Thee and rendereth thanks unto Thee. Whether Thou dost grant his plea—praised art Thou in Thy command, or dost refuse it—exalted art Thou in Thy decree. Thou art He before Whose manifestation all are seen as powerless and wanting. O Generous One! Leave not this servant to himself. Thou art the Powerful, the Mighty, the Lord of bounty and bestowal.

BH07351: O friends of God! His honor Nabil-i-Akbar, upon him…

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

O friends of God! His honor Nabil-i-Akbar, upon him be the peace of God, the Lord of Names, hath beseeched God, the Lord of the Kingdom and the Dominion, to give them to drink from this most pure chalice His crimson wine. When anyone drinketh thereof, the call is raised from the most exalted horizon:

> “Well is it with thee, O thou who hast turned unto God, and pleasant be it unto thee, O thou who gazest and art attracted to the most sublime Summit!”

We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to ordain for each one of His loved ones that which shall cause the fragrance of His mention and His Name to endure uninterruptedly amongst His servants, and to send down upon him from the heaven of His grace that which shall draw him nigh unto Him in all conditions. He, verily, is the Self-Sufficient, the Most Exalted. Rejoice ye in His days! Praise be to God, the friends in this land acted during the blessed month of Ramadan with spirit and fragrance in accordance with that which was revealed from the All-Knowing Commander and Ancient Ruler. The station of man is revealed through deeds. Deeds are the fruits of the Tree of existence. Blessed are they that act, and blessed are they that know. Praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds!

BH07564: In these days the dwellers of Paradise…

He is the All-Seeing, the All-Informed

In these days the dwellers of Paradise and the holy retreats have given and continue to give glad tidings unto all. The first glad tiding is that His Holiness ʿAli-Qabli-Akbar, upon him be the Glory of God, the Lord of Power, hath arrived at the Manifest Prison, and likewise His Holiness the Trusted One hath entered into the mighty prison, and there hath befallen them in the path of God that which hath caused the fruits upon the trees and the waves of the seas to lament, and the people of the pavilion of glory in this exalted station. Soon shall the oppressor find himself in grievous torment. Al-Mahmud, upon him be My Glory, hath attained the presence and achieved that which was recorded in the Books and Tablets. We have commanded him and thee and those whom We have mentioned before to teach this Cause with the wisdom wherewith We have adorned this glorious and luminous Tablet. The Glory be upon thee and upon My loved ones there. Convey My greetings unto them and give them the glad tidings of this manifest bounty.

BH07926: O thou who hast turned towards the horizon…

He is the All-Commanding, the All-Wise!

O thou who hast turned towards the horizon of the Revelation! Thy letter which thou didst send to one of My loved ones who hath taken for himself a station beneath the canopy of glory and the pavilions of the grace of his Lord, hath come before Us. We have read it and answer thee through this perspicuous Tablet. Be thou assured through the grace of thy Lord. He hath ordained for thee the good of the hereafter and of this world. He is the Forgiving, the Merciful.

Say: Glory be unto Thee, O my God! Praise be unto Thee for having given me to drink from the cup of Thy recognition and nearness in Thy days. I beseech Thee to assist me under all conditions to serve Thy Cause. Verily Thou art the Self-Sufficient, the Most Exalted.

As to what thou didst mention regarding union and connection—We have commanded the loved ones of God to consult concerning all matters, and the wisdom which We have revealed its decree in the Scriptures and Tablets. Take what wisdom requireth, placing thy trust in God, the Revealer of commandments and ordinances.

The Glory be upon thee and upon those with thee, from God, the Revealer of verses.

BH07802: The Book of God speaketh the truth, yet most…

He is established upon the throne of utterance.

The Book of God speaketh the truth, yet most people comprehend not. Say: O people, fear ye God and follow not your idle fancies. Follow Him Who hath come with the truth with manifest sovereignty. Whenever verses were sent down and clear proofs appeared, the people differed concerning them. Among them were those who turned away, and those who denied them. Thus did their souls entice them. They are indeed among the most lost ones in this perspicuous Tablet.

O Qanbar! Blessed is the servant who hath believed in his Lord, and blessed is the soul who hath heard and responded, saying:

> "I testify that Thou hast appeared and manifested Thy Most Great Cause and Thy Mighty Message."

I beseech Thee by the breezes of Thy revelation, the dawning-places of Thy verses, and the sources of Thy commandments and laws, to aid me to serve Thee and to serve Thy loved ones.

O my Lord! Thou seest me turning toward the horizon of the heaven of Thy manifestation, hoping for the wonders of Thy grace and generosity. I beseech Thee not to disappoint me from what Thou hast ordained for Thy assured servants and Thy near ones. Verily, Thou art the Almighty, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

BH07634: Thy mention hath been made in the presence…

In the name of the Peerless Friend

Thy mention hath been made in the presence of the Wronged One, and thy name hath been inscribed by the Pen of Divine decree. Give thanks unto thy Lord for this well-beloved grace.

O handmaid of God! The mention of the servants of God, the divine trees, the submissive handmaidens, and the chaste leaves is fixed and immortalized in the Book of God. Blessed is the handmaid who hath attained, and the leaf who hath clung to the Divine Lote-Tree whose rustling hath been raised up. Verily, she is among those who have attained in My perspicuous Book.

Say: Praise be unto Thee, O Lord of the worlds, and glory be unto Thee, O Thou the Goal of the nations! I beseech Thee by those who have circled round Thy Most Great Throne and visited Thy countenance in Thy days, and who have not broken Thy Covenant and Testament, to ordain for me the reward of a handmaid who hath drunk the wine of reunion from the cup of Thy bounty and bestowal, and hath beheld the horizon of manifestation in Thy days. Verily, Thou art the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous, the Compassionate, the All-Powerful, the Almighty. There is no God but Thee, the Mighty, the Beautiful.

BH07818: A Book from Us to him who hath believed…

He is the Hearer, the Answerer

A Book from Us to him who hath believed in God, the Lord of all worlds, that the breezes of Revelation may draw him to a station wherein neither the might of the oppressor nor the power of the infidels shall frighten him. Verily, they who have turned away this Day are in manifest error. We beseech God to aid all to do what He loveth and is pleased with, and to draw them nigh unto Him. He, verily, is the Most Merciful of the merciful ones and the Answerer of the prayers of them that supplicate Him.

O Muhammad-Hashim! Thy letter hath come before Us. From it We perceived the fragrance of thy love and thy humility and lowliness before God, the Lord of the mighty Throne. Blessed art thou and blessed is he who hath attained to the recognition of this manifest Announcement. We counsel thee and them who have believed to manifest such virtues as shall diffuse the fragrance of divine acceptance, and to perform such deeds as shall guide mankind to the straight Path of God.

The glory be upon thee and upon My loved ones in that place and upon every people that hath believed in God, the Single, the All-Informed.

BH07937: O people of God! The opposers and deniers have…

O people of God! The opposers and deniers have raised the standard of hypocrisy and are uttering calumnies the like of which have never been seen. The vain imaginings of the former people have been renewed. Glory be to God! For one thousand two hundred years they cried "O Truth!" but when the rays of the Sun of Revelation shone forth from the horizon of the heaven of manifestation, they confronted it with sword and spear, pronounced death sentence upon His most pure blood, and martyred Him. Though cursing has been forbidden, otherwise in this station the Tongue of Grandeur would have pronounced "The curse of God be upon the wrongdoing people."

O My loved ones! Consort with the peoples of the world with spirit and fragrance, that perchance they may perceive the sweet savors of the utterance and attain unto that which God hath desired. Blessed art thou for having heard the Call, turned to it and responded to thy Ancient Lord Who hath come with manifest sovereignty. The glory from Us be upon thee and upon those who have quaffed the choice wine of utterance in My Name, the All-Compelling over all possibility.

BH07896: O my Afnan, upon thee be My glory…

He is God, exalted be His glory in wisdom and utterance

O my Afnan, upon thee be My glory and loving-kindness. My Name Mihdi, upon whom be My glory, forwarded thy letter to the Most Holy Court. Praise be to God, from every letter thereof wafted the fragrance of trust, resignation and longing. Say: Glory be unto Thee, O my God, my Lord, my Master and my Support! All praise be unto Thee for having enabled me to turn towards the lights of Thy countenance, to direct myself to the horizon of Thy Revelation, and to arise to serve Thee. O my God, by Thy Most Great Name and Thy Most Ancient Command! O my God, by Thy most brilliant Light and Thy most pure Robe! O my God, by Thy Name through which the mountains were moved, the Cry was raised, the heaven was cleft asunder and the earth was rent—to ordain for me a cup from the Kawthar of meeting Thee, a chalice from the Salsabil of attaining unto Thee, and an ocean from the choice wine of nearness unto Thee. Verily Thou art the One Who hath power over whatsoever He willeth. There is none other God but Thee, the Most Exalted, the All-Compelling, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

BH07939: O Hasan! Upon thee be the Glory of God…

In the Name of Him Who calleth between earth and heaven!

O Hasan! Upon thee be the Glory of God, the Mighty, the Trusted. We make mention this day of My friends and loved ones whom the affairs of men have not prevented from turning to the Most Exalted Horizon. They have advanced and said:

> "Here am I, O Revealer of Verses! Here am I, O Manifestation of Clear Signs!"

I beseech Thee by Thy most sweet call and the shrill voice of Thy Most Exalted Pen to assist me to serve Thy Cause and to arise before the gate of Thy bounty and might, O Thou Goal of the world and Beloved of nations! I desire for myself naught save what Thou hast ordained for me, and I wish only what Thou wishest. I beseech Thee by the ocean of Thy verses and the heaven of Thy grace to protect me from the evil of Thine enemies and inspire me with that which will cause Thy Cause to be exalted in Thy realm. Verily Thou art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest. There is no God but Thee, the Forgiving, the Bountiful. The glory from Us be upon thee and upon thy son and upon those who have turned and believed in God, the One, the All-Informed.

BH07597: In My Name, the Compassionate, the All-Forgiving

In My Name, the Compassionate, the All-Forgiving

Praise befitteth and is worthy of that Desired One Who, with the finger of power, rent asunder the veils and summoned all to the Lord of existence and the Sovereign of the seen and the unseen. He is the One Who is so powerful that the armies of the world cannot weaken Him, nor can the clamor of the peoples hold Him back from His purpose. Glorified be His greatness, exalted His dominion, all-encompassing His proof, and there is no God but Him. O ʿAbdu'l-Khaliq, this Wronged One hath made mention of thee in the Most Great Prison. The mention of the loved ones hath ever been and continueth to be in the Most Exalted Court. Strive thou that perchance in this glorious, wondrous, luminous and spiritual Day thou mayest attain unto that which is the cause of eternal mention and everlasting praise. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to attract thee through His verses, draw thee nigh through the breaths of His Revelation, cause thee to reach the horizon of His good-pleasure, enable thee to hear His call and behold His signs. Verily He is the All-Bountiful, the Ever-Flowing, in the beginning and in the return.

BH07817: This is a Book which the Lord of creation…

In the Name of Him Who is the Overseer of all names!

This is a Book which the Lord of creation hath sent down unto him who hath attained His presence and quaffed the choice wine of everlasting life from the hands of the bounty of his Lord, the Compassionate, the All-Bountiful.

O My Afnan! Upon thee be My glory and My loving-kindness. We testify that thou hast been mentioned in the presence of the Wronged One and hast held fast unto His strong cord and His resplendent hem.

Say: Glory be unto Thee, O my God! Thou seest how sorrows have surrounded the Afnan. I beseech Thee by the Tree which Thou hast raised up by Thy command amongst Thy servants, and by the Light which hath shone forth from the horizon of the heaven of Thy bounty, to rain down upon me from the clouds of Thy grace the showers of Thy gifts.

O my Lord! Aid them to achieve such steadfastness as cannot be hindered by the hosts of the world nor the ranks of the nations. O my Lord! Make known unto them their stations with Thee and what Thou hast ordained for them through Thy bounty and generosity. O my Lord! Change their grief into the Most Great

Joy, their sorrow into gladness, and their loss into profit. Verily Thou art the One Who hath power over whatsoever He willeth, and within Thy grasp are the reins of all who are in the heavens and on earth.

BH07602: I am the Wronged One in the midst…

I am the Wronged One in the midst of the people

In this Most Great Revelation, the bounty and mercy and loving-kindness of God, exalted be His glory, have reached such a station that all the pens of the world and tongues of the nations are powerless and incapable to mention it. We have, in this blessed and luminous Day, removed the seal of the Choice Wine before the faces of the people, that all may turn with perfect devotion and partake of what the hands of the Lord of all being bestow, and drink thereof. O Hasan! We beseech God that He may assist thee and grant thee whatsoever befitteth His bounty. In all conditions fix thy gaze upon the Truth. Jinab-i-Amin, upon him be My Glory and loving-kindness, hath mentioned thee, and this Most Holy, Most Exalted, Most Glorious Tablet hath been revealed in thy name. Blessed art thou and blessed is he who hath attained unto His signs in His days. He is indeed of the people of Glory in the Kingdom of God, the Lord of the worlds. Glory be upon thee and upon every steadfast and firm one.

Volume 097: Akka 1307 A.H. (1889–1890), Part V (4 of 4)

BH07973: O Muhammad-Qabl-i-Baqir! Upon thee be My glory and My…

In the Name of Him Who is the Overseer of all Names

O Muhammad-Qabl-i-Baqir! Upon thee be My glory and My loving-kindness. The Supreme Pen beareth witness to thy steadfastness, thy attachment and thy turning unto God. This exalted Word which hath flowed from the Most Glorious Pen is, in the sight of God, greater than all things. Say: Praise be unto Thee, O God of all who are in the heavens and on earth! In these days some vain imaginings have appeared among certain ones who claim to love God. Ask thou of God that He may protect all and safeguard them from the fire of self and passion and preserve them. He is verily the Powerful, the Mighty. Praise be to God that thou hast ever been and continuest to be remembered. The glory proceeding from Us be upon thee and upon thy son who attained unto the presence and meeting with his Lord and drank the choice wine of bounty from the hands of the favor of God, the Lord of the Mighty Throne. All thy sons have been honored with special favors and divine Tablets. Happy are they!

BH07450: How wonderful are the waves of the ocean…

How wonderful are the waves of the ocean of the utterance of God, the Lord of the world!

O friends of God in all lands, the mysteries of the Divine Book that from the beginning of creation until now were hidden from sight have become manifest and evident. Turn your faces and hearts in acceptance. Blessed is the servant who today has attained to witnessing and hearing, and with complete determination has seized the pearls from the shells of grace. I swear by the Lamp of the world that whosoever has attained to this station sees all else besides God as more insignificant than all things. O

people of Baha! Crimson ruby-colored arks have been specifically appointed for you—enter them in My Name, the Mighty, the Triumphant, the Powerful. We heard your call and answered with these revealed verses. By My life, the divine utterance will not change and His commands will not be erased from the Book. Say: Praise be to Thee, O my God, for having guided me and illumined my heart with the light of Thy Name, the Radiant, the Shining, the Mighty, the Wondrous.

BH07592: O party of God! The opposers and deniers have…

O party of God! The opposers and deniers have raised the standard of hypocrisy and utter calumnies unprecedented, reviving anew the vain imaginings of the former peoples. Glory be to God! For twelve hundred years they cried "O Truth!", yet when the effulgences of the Sun of Revelation shone forth from the horizon of the Heaven of Sinai, they advanced with sword and spear, pronounced the death sentence against His most pure blood, and martyred Him. Were it not that cursing is forbidden, the Tongue of Grandeur would surely have pronounced in this station "The curse of God be upon the wrong-doing people."

O My loved ones! Consort with the peoples of the world in a spirit of joy and fragrance, that perchance they may detect the sweet-scented breeze of the divine utterance and […] Blessed art thou […] who heard the Call and turned unto it and responded to thy Ancient Lord Who came with manifest sovereignty. The splendor from Our presence be upon thee and upon those who have quaffed the choice wine of utterance in My Name, the Help in Peril, the Self-Subsisting.

BH07599: Praise be to the King of Kings Who, through…

In the Name of God, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise

Praise be to the King of Kings Who, through His mighty Name, raised the banner of Divine Unity upon the most exalted of standards and established the emblem of His All-Bountiful Name in the highest station. Exalted be His power and great be His sovereignty, and glorified be His might. And blessings and peace be upon the Chief of the Tribes, through whom earthquakes appeared and the Nightingale of Utterance warbled upon the highest branches that there is none other God but Him, the Single, the One, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. And upon His family and companions, through whom the ocean of divine knowledge surged in the contingent world and the fragrance of the All-Merciful wafted among all religions—blessings that the happenings of the world cannot alter nor their fragrance be cut off from among the peoples. O physician! Upon thee be the peace of God and His loving-kindness. Hearken unto the counsel of this Wronged One and exhort all unto it, that perchance the servants may become aware and attain unto that which in this Day is the cause of exaltation and elevation.

BH07637: The tyrannical Wolf and his son have considered…

In the Name of the Mighty, the Bountiful!

The tyrannical Wolf and his son have considered and do consider the hand of God to be chained up. Say: O ye sources of tyranny and corruption, the hand of God has been and is outstretched, despite you and your followers and those who have led you astray. It is hoped that the hands of victory and triumph will

be made manifest and will make manifest the Cause of God. However, I truthfully say unto you: know with absolute certitude that victory and triumph in this Most Great Revelation have been through balanced and enkindled utterances. Blessed are they who have detached themselves from their own desires and have held fast unto the Will of God—these are indeed of the people of Baha in the Book of God, the Lord of the Mighty Throne. Blessed art thou, for thou hast attained unto that which shall never fade away. Say: Praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds. The glory of God rest upon thee and upon My loved ones, from One Who is All-Knowing, All-Wise.

BH07692: The Blessed Tree at this moment makes mention…

In His Name Who dawns from the horizon of the heaven of utterance!

The Blessed Tree at this moment makes mention of its leaves with a mention that is the cause of guidance and the means of attaining unto God, glorified be His majesty. Blessed is the ear that has succeeded in hearing its rustling. Today the Hand of Bounty bestows the Kawthar of eternity. Blessed is the soul that has turned unto it and attained thereunto. That leaf must, throughout the nights and days, be occupied with the remembrance and praise of the Lord of all mankind, inasmuch as He has confirmed and guided her until she attained the presence before His Face and heard the call of her Lord, the All-Merciful, for the hearing of which ears were created. This is a mighty bounty and a great favor.

Say: Praise be unto Thee, O Lord of the world, for having brought me before Thy throne and caused me to hear Thy call and behold the horizon of Thy Revelation. I beseech Thee to make my deeds worthy of Thy gracious acceptance and adorned with the ornament of Thy good-pleasure. Verily Thou art the Almighty, the Exalted, the All-Bountiful.

BH07928: O thou who gazest upon the Face! The ornaments…

In His Name, the One with power over all names!

O thou who gazest upon the Face! The ornaments of the world of creation have prevented the people of the realm below from turning to the highest horizon. They are occupied with these things and are heedless and veiled from the Truth. Soon shall the hand of power roll up the carpet of the wicked. In all conditions the world proclaims and makes all aware of its own change, transformation and evanescence. Blessed is the soul that clings to the Truth and is heedless of aught else. When thou hast been privileged to hearken unto My sweetest call, say:

Praise be to Thee, O Lord of all beings and Sovereign of the kingdoms of justice and bounty! I beseech Thee by the ocean of Thy verses, and the sun of Thy loving-kindness, and by Thy resplendent and radiant light, and Thy unique and wondrous Cause, to ordain for me that which will make me detached from all else but Thee and holding fast to the hem of the robe of Thy mercy. Verily, Thou art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest. There is no God but Thee, the Single, the One, the Powerful, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

BH07938: O people of God and His servants! The Divine…

He is the Most Exalted, the Most High

O people of God and His servants! The Divine Day which was recorded and inscribed by the Most Exalted Pen in all the heavenly Books hath appeared, yet the people remain heedless and veiled therefrom, save whom God willeth. We beseech God to aid thee with His confirmation in assisting His Cause, and to manifest through thee that which is illumined with the light of steadfastness. Say: Praise be unto Thee, O my God, for having remembered me, and thanks be unto Thee, O my Beloved, for what Thou hast revealed unto me. I testify that Thou wert hidden in the eternity of eternities, and didst manifest Thyself out of Thy grace unto Thy servants and Thy loving-kindness unto Thy creation. I beseech Thee by the stations wherein the blood of Thy loved ones was shed in their longing to meet Thee, and by the Call which was raised throughout all regions by Thy command and Thy power, to ordain for me that which will draw me unto Thee and cause me to enter beneath Thy holy canopy. There is no God but Thee, the Forgiving, the Generous, the Mighty, the Great.

BH07988: In My Name, the One Who calls…

In My Name, the One Who calls in the Kingdom of Names!

O My leaf and My handmaiden! Thou hast ever been and art remembered. Give thanks unto thy Lord, the Most Glorious, for this manifest bounty.

Say: Glory be unto Thee, O my God and the God of all names, my Creator and the Creator of the heavens! And glory be unto Thee, O God of the world and Lord of the nations! I beseech Thee by the ocean of Thy verses and the effulgences of the Sun of Thy grace to aid me to manifest great steadfastness before the faces of the handmaidens. O my Lord! Thou seest Thy leaf clinging to the Tree of Thy bounty and generosity. I beseech Thee not to disappoint her of that which is with Thee. Verily, Thou art the All-Bountiful, the Effusive, the Forgiving, the Generous.

O My handmaiden! Thou hast mentioned that handmaiden of God who hath ascended to the Supreme Companion. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to cause her to enter the Most Glorious Paradise, to send down upon her mercy from His presence and grace from His own Self, and to forgive her through His bounty which hath encompassed existence and through His generosity which hath encompassed all who are in the heavens and the earth.

BH08023: Today the attraction of divine unity is manifest…

In the Name of the All-Knowing, the One

Today the attraction of divine unity is manifest and the fragrances of revelation are diffused in such wise that they have perfumed the world of existence. O people of God! You must be witnessed in such a manner that neither the might of the people nor the oppression of those tyrannical souls shall make you sorrowful. One transformation lies ahead, and that is God’s irrevocable decree. It has seized and continues to seize every soul. If this transformation, which they have called death, occurs for the sake of

God, no excellence can match it and no station can compare with it. However, blessed art thou if at the time of ascension the spirit is detached and free from all else save God. Give thanks for having attained in this moment to this perspicuous Tablet, and be thou of them that render thanks.

BH08529: O thou who standest before the Kaaba of God…

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

O thou who standest before the Kaaba of God, the All-Possessing, the Self-Subsisting! This standing shall not be overtaken by sitting, nor shall slumber nullify its decree.

Say: Praise be unto Thee, O God of all beings and Educator of all created things, for having caused me to be enkindled with the fire of Thy love and illumined with the light of Thy knowledge. O my Lord! Here before Thy face I have brought my frame, my body, my form, my sight, my hearing, my spirit and my heart, and I desire to entrust them into the hands of Thy loving-kindness.

Everything, O my God, beareth witness to Thy bounty, Thy protection, Thy generosity and Thy bestowals, and calleth upon Thee in this moment by Thy name, the Preserver, the Faithful. O my Lord! Strengthen my limbs to arise in Thy service and to act according to what Thou hast commanded me in Thy perspicuous Book.

There is no God but Thee, the Single, the One, the Commander, the Ruler, the Mighty, the Great.

BH08018: My God, my God! Praise be to Thee…

…My God, my God! Praise be to Thee for having guided me to Thy path and for having given me to drink, from the hand of Thy bounty, the Kawthar of Thy utterance. I beseech Thee, O Creator of the world and Educator of the nations, by Thy Most Great Name through which the mysteries of what was and what shall be were revealed and the might of God, the Help in Peril, the Self-Subsisting, was made manifest, to make me enkindled with the fire of Thy love, attracted by Thy verses, and holding fast to the wisdom whose decrees Thou hast sent down in Thy Scriptures and Tablets. Then ordain for me, O my Goal and my King, that which shall make me mighty through Thy might, articulate in Thy praise, and content with Thy good-pleasure. Verily, Thou art the All-Compelling, the Ever-Forgiving, the Almighty, the Compassionate, the Bountiful.

O my Lord! I am Thy servant and the son of Thy servant, hoping for the wonders of Thy grace. I beseech Thee by Thy Cause through whose manifestation the ocean of bounty surged and the fragrance of Thy gracious Name, O Creator of all things, was diffused, to make my deeds adorned with the ornament of Thy good-pleasure. Verily, Thou art the Almighty, the Peerless, the One, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

BH08591: O Muhammad-Quli! The world hath been encompassed by tyranny…

He is the All-Remembering, the All-Knowing!

O Muhammad-Quli! The world hath been encompassed by tyranny, and the clouds of hatred have prevented the lights of the Sun of Justice from shining forth. Calumnies have gained currency, and the

oppressor claimeth to be oppressed. Glory be to God! Such heedlessness hath seized upon the servants that they have forsaken the imperishable kingdom for the sake of two fleeting days, and are occupied with transgression and wickedness. Say: My God, my God! I beseech Thee by Thy Light which shone forth before the creation of the sun and its radiance, and by Thy Mercy which hath preceded the earth and the heaven and all that is therein, to make me steadfast in Thy love and firm and immovable in Thy Cause. O my Lord! Ordain for me that which will draw me nigh unto Thee and will be with me in every world of Thy worlds. Verily Thou art the Almighty, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise, and the Supreme, the Mighty, the Great.

BH08507: O My handmaiden, upon thee be My glory! My…

In the name of the peerless Lord

O My handmaiden, upon thee be My glory! My Name "Beauty" hath made mention of thee and hath beseeched from the Most Holy Court that which would cause thy remembrance to endure in the Crimson Book. His wish was accepted and attained the honor of His good pleasure and confirmation. Therefore, this Most Holy, Most Exalted Tablet hath been sent down from the divine holy heaven that thou mayest drink from its letters the Kawthar of the utterance of the Goal of all the worlds and be illumined by the lights of the Day-Star of unity. Say: Praise be unto Thee, O Lord of all beings, and glory be unto Thee, O Thou Who art the Goal of earth and heaven, for having guided this handmaiden of Thine to Thy path and for having made mention of her in the Most Great Prison—a bounty from Thy presence. I beseech Thee to ordain for me that which will assist me to remain firm in Thy love and Thy Cause. Thou art, verily, the Single, the One, the Mighty, the All-Wise.

BH08021: The Mother Book says: Today all things manifest…

In the name of the ocean and its pearls

The Mother Book says: Today all things manifest a joy which pens are powerless and unable to describe, for they are present before the countenance of the Manifestation and are uttering praise and glorification. O My Leaf! We have mentioned thee before, and at this time with verses that rejoice the hearts of those near unto God. When thou dost inhale the fragrance of My utterance, say:

> "My God, my God! Unto Thee be glory for having guided me to Thy mighty Announcement, and unto Thee be praise for having ordained for me what Thou hast ordained for Thy sincere handmaidens and faithful servants. I beseech Thee by the Mount and Him Who conversed upon it to decree for me what Thou hast decreed for Thy handmaidens who circle round the throne of Thy grandeur and speak Thy praise. O my Lord! I am Thy handmaiden and the daughter of Thy handmaiden. I have desired from the heaven of Thy grace that which befits the Sun of Thy bounty and the Ocean of Thy generosity. Verily Thou art the All-Bountiful, the Powerful, the Mighty, the Bestower."

BH08496: O My Afnan! Upon thee be My glory…

He is the One manifest and speaking before all faces.

O My Afnan! Upon thee be My glory and My loving-kindness. This Wronged One, in the midst of sorrows, hath summoned and continueth to summon all created things unto the Truth.

My grief—the least portion thereof Jacob did not recount,

And all the afflictions of Job are but part of My tribulation.

Despite encompassing sorrows, on the right hand is seen the adorned banquet hall and on the left the battlefield. The tyranny of the oppressors and the croaking of the croakers have been and are as the buzzing of flies. Before the faces of the world We stand, speaking that which God hath willed. The tongue of utterance hath not been prevented by the cruelty and harm of the people of the contingent world. Blessed be God, Lord of the mighty throne and the elevated seat! The glory from Us be upon thee and upon them that are with thee and who love thee for the sake of God and hearken unto thy word concerning His Great Announcement.

BH08400: This is a Book sent down by the Wronged…

He is the Compassionate, the Forgiving, the Bountiful!

This is a Book sent down by the Wronged One in the prison of Akka to him who hath turned unto the Dawning-Place of Revelation and believed in God, the Single, the All-Knowing.

O Ali-Qabli-Akbar! Hear the Call from the Most Exalted Horizon—verily it guideth thee and draweth thee and bringeth thee nigh unto the Dayspring of God's Cause, the Lord of all worlds.

When thou hearest My call, turn thy face toward My direction and say:

> "My God, my God! I beseech Thee by the blood of Thy lovers which was shed in the land of Ya, and by their patience and steadfastness and submission and contentment, and by the mysteries of Thy Book and the fragrances of Thy verses, to ordain for me that which will preserve me through Thy hosts and guard me by Thy sovereignty. O my Lord! Thou seest me turning unto Thee and detached from all else but Thee. I beseech Thee to open before my face the doors of Thy mercy and Thy bounty. Verily Thou art the Almighty, the Glorious, the All-Bountiful."

BH08515: O Amin! Upon thee be the peace of God…

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

O Amin! Upon thee be the peace of God, the Lord of all worlds. The Wronged One is not the Tree that spoke forth on Mount Sinai. He is but a servant who hath believed in God and His verses. By My life! I observe prayer and fasting and follow what the All-Merciful hath revealed in the Qur'an. Beware lest thou be of those who have cast the deeds behind their backs and clung to mere words. We counsel thee with what God hath revealed in His perspicuous Book. Say: My God, my God! Aid me in that which Thou hast commanded me. I beseech Thee by the Beloved (Muhammad)—concerning whom the tongue of Thy power spoke "Were it not for Thee, I would not have created the celestial spheres"—and by His family

and companions, to ordain for me that which shall profit me in this world and the next. Verily Thou art the Lord of the throne and the dust, and within Thy grasp is the reins of all who are on earth and in heaven. There is none other God but Thee, the Single, the One, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

BH08541: O Hasan! The Wronged One hath turned toward thee…

He is the Rememberer and the Remembered One

O Hasan! The Wronged One hath turned toward thee, He Who hath been made a target for the arrows of the oppressors. There hath befallen Me that which hath caused the Faithful Spirit to lament. We desired salvation for them, yet they have committed that which hath caused every informed one to cry out. He who knoweth not his right hand from his left hath perpetrated that which hath given rise to the most great terror on this blessed and luminous Day. We have sent down the verses and manifested unto the servants that whereby the eyes of them that are nigh unto God have been solaced. We desired naught save the exaltation of their stations, as He in Whose possession is a perspicuous Book doth testify. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to assist His servants through the hosts of revelation and inspiration, and to draw them nigh unto Him at all times. The glory from Us be upon thee and upon thy brother and upon all who are steadfast, firm and upright.

BH08546: O Haydar-Qabli-Ali, upon thee be My glory and loving-kindness!…

In His Name, the Most Glorious

O Haydar-Qabli-Ali, upon thee be My glory and loving-kindness! That which hath been decreed by His Eminence Haydar-Ba'di-Ali, upon him be My everlasting glory, concerning Ibn-i-Ashraf, upon them both be the glory of God and His loving-kindness, hath been accepted. Blessed is he and joy be unto him! We testify that he hath attained unto that which was inscribed by the Pen of Command in the Books of God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy. And blessed is he who hath loved him and hearkened unto his call and remembered him in this Cause, the irrevocable, the mighty, the great. Likewise, the intention of a male and female servant in the path of God hath been crowned with the glory of His good-pleasure. Happy are they and blessed are they! However, the second deed sufficeth, therefore in every year His Eminence the aforementioned one, upon him be the fragrances of Him Who conversed on Sinai, shall set aside one vahid in his name. Thus hath the Command gone forth from the Dayspring of God's wisdom, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

BH07999: In My Name, the Manifest One, Who standeth…

In My Name, the Manifest One, Who standeth in the Kingdom of Utterance.

The absolute Will of God hath revolutionized the world. Who is able to prevent His sovereignty? By the life of God! That which hath been made manifest in this Most Great Revelation is a mighty cause for the reformation of the world and the refinement of the souls of all peoples.

O people of God! Hold fast unto means. As was formerly revealed: God hath refused to cause things to happen save through their means.

O people of God! Let not the oppression of the oppressors sadden you. The Cause of God hath encompassed the world. Soon shall the standard of divine sanctification be raised through you and in your name throughout the world.

We hope that all may be assisted to establish the word “God doeth whatsoever He willeth” in hearts and souls. Verily He aideth His loved ones and enableth them to achieve that which will exalt them in His lands amongst His servants. Verily He is powerful over all things.

BH08556: O Shukru’llah! There hath befallen the Wronged One…

He is the Compassionate, the All-Bountiful!

O Shukru’llah! There hath befallen the Wronged One that which hath caused the rock to cry out, and the Divine Lote-Tree to lament that which hath been inflicted upon Me by the hosts of the oppressors.

How many a servant hath claimed to love Me and to stand firm in My Cause, yet when the test came through a command from My presence, he denied Me and committed that which caused the dwellers of My glorious Kingdom to weep.

Say: My God, my God! Aid Thy servants to assist Thy Cause through the wisdom which Thou hast sent down in Thy perspicuous Book.

When Thou dost inhale the fragrance of the garment of My utterance, say: My God, my God! I beseech Thee by the lights of Thy countenance and by the light which hath shone forth from the horizon of the heaven of Thy Revelation, to ordain for me and for those who have believed in Thee and Thy signs every good thing which Thou hast ordained for those of Thy servants who are nigh unto Thee and for those of Thy creation who are sincere. Verily, Thou art the Almighty, the Exalted, the All-Praised.

BH08065: O Pen! Make mention of him who hath been…

He is the Hearer, the Answerer

O Pen! Make mention of him who hath been named Muhammad, the son of him who turned towards My countenance and soared in Mine atmosphere and migrated with Me and heard My sweetest call when it was raised betwixt earth and heaven. We testify that he is among those near to God, the Lord of Hosts. Verily he hath a station and rank with his Lord. Blessed is he who maketh mention of him and reciteth what We have revealed for him in this praiseworthy station. O Muhammad! When thou hast attained to hearing Mine verses, say: Praise be to Thee, O my God, for having remembered me in Thy Most Great Prison and for having revealed unto me that which the knowledge of the peoples hath failed to comprehend. O Lord! I am Thy servant and the son of Thy servant. Aid me in that which beseemeth Thy days and enable me to perform such deeds as may win the honor of Thine acceptance. Verily, Thou art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the Help in Peril, the Self-Subsisting.

BH08589: O Muhammad-Husayn! All books and scriptures and every fair-minded…

In the Name of Him through Whom surgeth the ocean of utterance!

O Muhammad-Husayn! All books and scriptures and every fair-minded learned one have lamented with My lamentation. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to transform the sorrow of His loved ones into manifest joy. Grieve not for what hath befallen you at the hands of the armies of the oppressors. God shall soon seize those who have wronged, for He is the most severe in retribution. Nothing escapeth His knowledge. He heareth the sighing of the oppressed and the wailing of the oppressors. Say: Praise be to Thee, O my God, for having guided me to Thy sheltering shade and to Thy mighty announcement. I beseech Thee by Thy resplendent signs and Thy decisive verses to protect me and Thy loved ones from the evil of those who have denied Thee and Thy signs. O Lord! Thou seest me detached from all else but Thee and turning unto Thee. I beseech Thee not to disappoint me of the wonders of Thy gifts and favors. Verily Thou art the All-Forgiving, the All-Bountiful.

BH08559: O Samad! Thou hast been mentioned before the Wronged…

He is the Hearer, the Answerer

O Samad! Thou hast been mentioned before the Wronged One in verses at whose revelation the verses themselves have bowed down in humility. Thy letter hath come before the Wronged One and from it We have inhaled the fragrance of thy love and thy turning unto God, the Lord of the worlds. Blessed art thou and blessed is he who hath guided thee to the straight path of God. Having quaffed the choice wine of understanding from the cup of My utterance, say: O people! Fear ye God and be not of the heedless ones. Do that which the All-Merciful hath revealed in the Qur'an. He will, through His power and sovereignty, protect you and guard you. He, verily, is the most able of the able ones. Grieve not over anything. In all matters place thy trust in God, the Almighty, the Powerful. We beseech Him to assist thee in that which He loveth and is pleased with, and to ordain for thee that which will draw thee to His luminous horizon. Blessed is he who hath turned in devotion, and he who, being endowed with vision, hath witnessed, and he whose countenance hath been set towards God, the One, the All-Informed.

BH08031: Today the Voice of the Lord of Power…

He is the All-Hearing in His Most Luminous Station

Today the Voice of the Lord of Power is raised from the Most Great Horizon. Blessed is the state of the one who has attained recognition and received their portion from the ocean of utterance. O people of Baha, hear what the All-Merciful has revealed in the Qur'an. Concerning the Beloved's ascension, He quotes one of the Prophets saying:

> "Verily, I have abandoned the religion of a people who believe not in God and who are disbelievers in the Hereafter."

Blessed is the one whose tongue of truth has uttered this most exalted word. By God's life! Such a one will find himself detached and free from all else. Blessed art thou for having heard and responded to the

call of thy Lord. We beseech God to protect thee from the evil of His enemies and to make thee among those who shall have no fear nor shall they grieve. Praise be to God, the Lord of what was and what shall be.

BH08414: This is a Book sent down through grace…

In the Name of Him Who is the All-Compelling over all names

This is a Book sent down through grace from God, the All-Compelling, the Self-Subsisting, that He might guide the people to the Euphrates of His mercy, from whose murmuring can be heard that the gate of heaven hath been opened and the Lord of the Kingdom of earth and heaven hath come. Blessed is he whom vain imaginings have not weakened, and blessed is he whom the veils of every barking dog have not caused to sit idle—one who hath denied God. When thou hearest the call from Mine all-highest horizon, say:

Glory be unto Thee, O my God! I beseech Thee by the ocean of Thy power and the law of Thy commandments, and by the sea of Thy mercy and the Euphrates of Thy grace, and by Him through Whom the idols of vain imaginings were cast down in Thy realm and the banners of divine signs were raised up amongst Thy servants, to make me a helper of Thy Faith, steadfast in Thy service, hastening to do that which pleaseth Thee, and an aid to Thy loved ones. Verily Thou art powerful to do what Thou willest, and within Thy grasp are the reins of all who are in the heavens and on earth.

BH08509: O My handmaiden and My leaf! Verily the Divine…

He is the Confirmer, the Powerful, the All-Knowing

O My handmaiden and My leaf! Verily the Divine Lote-Tree remembereth thee and hath revealed for thee that which shall endure throughout the kingdom of earth and heaven, and hath ordained for thee that which none knoweth save God, thy Lord and the Lord of the mighty Throne. He hath confirmed thee in turning unto Him and caused thee to be present through the agencies of the heavens and earth at a station whereon was established the throne of thy Lord's loving-kindness, and made thee to hear His most sweet call, and showed thee that which was withheld from all in the realm of creation. Be thou thankful unto thy Lord and say:

Glorified art Thou, O my God! Praise be unto Thee for having awakened me and made me aware of Thy mighty announcement and Thy straight path. I beseech Thee by Thy Most Exalted Word whereby Thou hast guided Thy servants and drawn them nigh unto Thee, that Thou write down for me the good of this world and the world to come. Verily Thou art the Lord of all mankind. There is none other God but Thee, the Overseer, the Self-Subsisting.

BH08527: By the light of My Cause whereby earth…

By the light of My Cause whereby earth and heaven were illumined! O thou who drinkest the choice wine of My utterance, hearken to My call. Verily it draweth thee unto a horizon from which hath shone forth the Day-Star of God's loving-kindness, the Lord of all worlds.

Remember thou the days wherein thou wert present before the Throne and didst hear what the Tongue of Grandeur did speak. Verily there is no God but Him, the Single, the One, the Powerful, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

Say: Glory be unto Thee, O my God! I beseech Thee by the mysteries of Thy knowledge which none hath known save Thee, and Glory be unto Thee, O my God! I beseech Thee by Thy Most Great Name which hath spoken that there is no God but Thee, and Glory be unto Thee, O my God! I beseech Thee by this perspicuous Book which moveth in this glorious and wondrous station, to ordain for me from the Pen of destiny that which will draw me nigh unto Thee and cause me to speak forth Thy beauteous praise. Verily Thou art God, there is no God but Thee, the Powerful, the Mighty, the All-Praised.

BH08553: O Salar! Thy Lord, the Unconstrained, remembereth thee…

He is the Unconstrained in whatsoever He willeth

O Salar! Thy Lord, the Unconstrained, remembereth thee from the precincts of His Most Great Prison, wherein the lamentation of all things hath been raised, every learned one hath wailed, every mystic hath cried out, and tears have flowed from all eyes. This is a Tablet that hath been sent down in truth and calleth the servants unto God, the Mighty, the Loving. We desire naught but reformation, as doth testify He with Whom is the preserved Book. When thou didst discover the fragrance of the utterance of Him Who conversed on Sinai in this Revelation, and didst hear the Call from the Supreme Horizon, turn and say:

Praise be unto Thee, O my God, and thanksgiving be unto Thee, O my Creator, and glory be unto Thee, O Thou in Whose grasp are the reins of all things and in Whose right hand are the destinies of all affairs! I beseech Thee to ordain for me that which shall profit me and draw me nigh unto Thee. Verily, Thou art the Almighty over whatsoever Thou willest through Thy word “Be” and it is.

BH08584: O Tongue of Grandeur! Make mention of him who…

He is the Single, the One, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed

O Tongue of Grandeur! Make mention of him who circumambulated around Thy House and stood before all faces in service to Thy Cause—he whom the veils of the divines did not withhold, nor was he prevented by the sources of idle fancies of those who denied the proof of God and His evidence, who disbelieved in His signs and disputed His Cause. Thus did the Pen speak when the Ancient Beauty was established upon His mighty throne. The greatest terror hath appeared, and the people are in manifest loss. They have taken vain imaginings as their lord instead of God. Thus did their souls entice them. Verily, they are accounted among the idolaters in the Book of God, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. Grieve thou not over anything, for thou hast attained unto My verses which cannot be equaled by the treasures of the earth nor by that which the kings and rulers possess. The splendor shining from the horizon of the heaven of My mercy be upon thee and upon him who loveth thee for the sake of God, the Lord of the Throne and of the dust, the Master of the Hereafter and of the former times, and the Speaker in this resplendent station.

BH09171: In My Name, the All-Bountiful, the Chosen One!

In My Name, the All-Bountiful, the Chosen One!

O My leaf, O My handmaiden, O My spiritual one! He hath made mention of thee, before and after, with that which its fragrance shall never be cut off, and hath revealed for thee that whose decree shall never change. Rejoice, then be gladdened, and say:

> "Thine be the praise, O my God, and Thine be the glory, O my Beloved, and Thine be the thanksgiving, O my Desired One and my Comfort, inasmuch as Thou hast made me to know Thy Cause, and hast given me to drink, from the hand of Thy bounty, the Kawthar of Thy utterance, and hast guided me to Thy Announcement whereby the pillars of dominion and kingdom were shaken and the hearts of the proud were perturbed. O Lord! Thou seest me clinging to Thee and to that which hath appeared from Thee. I beseech Thee to assist me in all conditions to remember Thee and to remember those who have circled round Thy Most Great Cause and Thy Mighty Announcement. That which thou didst send hath reached and attained unto My glorious and resplendent station."

BH08978: He it is Who speaketh before all faces

He it is Who speaketh before all faces.

The Book of God speaketh concerning all else, yet the people understand not. The Light hath shone forth and the Speaker of Sinai hath appeared, yet most among the people perceive not. O Muhammad-Hasan! The Lord of the worlds maketh mention of thee with that which shall draw thee nigh unto the All-Knowing, the One. We have sent down the verses and manifested the clear proofs. Blessed is he who hath witnessed and seen, and woe unto every heedless and veiled one. He hath risen from the horizon of the heaven of utterance in the name of thy Lord, the All-Merciful. Beware lest the doubts of those who have denied the Cause of God, the Lord of what was and what shall be, hold thee back. He who loved Me made mention of thee, wherefore have We remembered thee in this irrevocable Tablet. Beware lest thou follow the vain desires of those who have disbelieved in the Promised Day. The glory from Our presence be upon thee and upon those who have heard and said: "The dominion belongeth unto God, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting."

BH09178: Day after day is a time of joy…

He is the Manifest, the Protector.

Day after day is a time of joy, for God's carpet has been spread throughout the realm of the world by His absolute and penetrating Will, through the blessing of the Most Great Name. And the Hidden and Treasured One, Who was forever concealed in the divine treasury of infallibility, has in these days been made manifest—a bounty from His presence upon the world. Verily He is the All-Bountiful, the Generous. Arise thou by My leave and take the chalice of utterance in My Name before the faces of My creation, then drink from it the wine of My bestowal once by My command and again through My love, the Mighty, the Beloved. We beseech God to assist thee to exalt His Word and elevate His Cause. Verily He is the

Generous, the All-Flowing. There is no God but He, the Mighty, the All-Bountiful. We ask God to elevate thee through His Name amongst His servants. Verily He is powerful over all things.

BH09137: O ʿAli! We mentioned thee before, and Nabil desired…

He is the One Who speaks in the Kingdom of Utterance.

O ʿAli! We mentioned thee before, and Nabil desired to make mention of thee at this time. We make mention of thee once again. I am the Most Great Ocean—were it to cast upon the servants the pearls of wisdom and utterance throughout the continuance of the dominion of earth and heaven, naught would be diminished from it. To this testifieth that which hath proceeded and continueth to proceed from it, and every fair-minded and clear-sighted one. We beseech God to raise up through thee and His chosen ones the standards of trustworthiness, after they were reversed in the great city. Verily thy Lord, the All-Merciful, is the Almighty, the All-Powerful. The glory from Us be upon thee and upon thy wife and upon those with thee, and upon those who have not changed God's favor within themselves and who, when they heard, turned towards and responded to their Lord, the Kind, the Generous.

BH08835: Glory be to Thee, O my God! Thou seest…

He is the One Who stands, Who is manifest, Who speaks before all faces

Glory be to Thee, O my God! Thou seest a young child, the son of one who bears my name—upon him be my glory—clinging to Thy All-Bountiful Name and to Thy Most Great Name. I beseech Thee, O Lord of the worlds and Master of nations, by the Most Great Name, to protect him with the hosts of the unseen and the seen, and ordain for him what Thou hast ordained for Thy chosen ones and trusted ones. Then rain down upon him from the clouds of Thy mercy the rains of Thy bounty and generosity. Verily, Thou art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest, and in Thy grasp are the reins of all affairs of the first and the last. O my God, bestow Thy blessings upon him and upon those with him in the household, and upon those who have aided Thy Cause and drunk the choice wine of utterance from the cup of Thy bounty. Verily, Thou art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest. There is no God but Thee, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

BH09107: O thou who art present before the Throne…

He is the manifest Speaker

O thou who art present before the Throne and gazing upon the Countenance! While in the prison of Akka, We were conversing with all things when We heard the cry and lamentation of nature. We asked: "What aileth thee? In the daytime We hear thy cry, in the nighttime thy lamentation, and at dawn thy moaning." Whereupon it cried out saying: "O Lord of the worlds! the ungodly have sunk Thy crimson Ark and slaughtered Thy white She-Camel, and desired to extinguish Thy light through the fire of hatred that blazed in their hearts. By Thy might and majesty! The lover cannot bear to see what hath befallen Thee at the hands of Thine enemies. I beseech Thee to transform the fire into light, sorrow into joy, and pus into pure wine. Verily Thou art the Almighty, the Glorious, the All-Bountiful."

BH09154: O Muhammad-Qabli-Hasan! In these days the fire of tyranny…

He is the Most Glorious, the All-Glorious!

O Muhammad-Qabli-Hasan! In these days the fire of tyranny hath been kindled by the hand of the oppressor, and the pure blood of a company of near ones and sincere ones hath illumined the earth. None there is to help or show mercy to the dismembered bodies. The morning breeze passeth over them and saith: Woe, woe unto you, O people of Ya! Ye have arisen to extinguish the lights of inner meaning and have wrought that which shall never be erased from the book of justice. Ere long shall the hand of justice decree the punishment that is due. Shame upon you and upon every oppressor! The oppression of the friends of God and His chosen ones is of those from whom the Fire itself seeketh refuge with the Mighty, the All-Compelling.

BH09076: O Asad! Upon thee be the peace of God…

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

O Asad! Upon thee be the peace of God and His loving-kindness. The letter of Ali-Qabel-Akbar, upon him be My glory and loving-kindness, was presented before Us and Badi'u'llah read it in Our presence. This answer hath been revealed from the Most Exalted Pen: We testify that he is of the people of this Most Great Scene and among the Hands of the Cause before God, the One Who holdeth all destiny. We beseech God to preserve him, to aid him, and to enable him to achieve all good that He hath sent down in His Books and Tablets. We testify that he arose to serve My Cause in the earliest days with such steadfastness as was not hindered by the croaking of frogs, nor the mewing of cats, nor the grunting of swine. The Glory from Us be upon him and upon those whom neither profit nor trade deterreth from drawing nigh unto God, the Lord of the Mighty Throne.

BH08992: A Book which the Wronged One hath sent down…

In the Name of Him Who is the All-Knowing Rememberer

A Book which the Wronged One hath sent down to him who hath attained, time and again, unto verses which all the books of the earth cannot equal. To this beareth witness this perspicuous Tablet and this Speaker, the Mighty, the All-Knowing. O Abu'l-Hasan! Mention of thee hath repeatedly flowed from the Supreme Pen. The Wronged One hath loved faithfulness and hath ever gazed and continueth to gaze upon it. Blessed art thou and blessed is he who loveth thee. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to ordain for thee that which will exalt thee through His Name amongst His servants, and to write down for thee the reward of him who circumambulated the Sadratu'l-Muntaha in the Most Exalted Paradise. Verily thy Lord is the Forgiving, the Merciful, and He is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. The splendor shining from the horizon of the heaven of My loving-kindness be upon thee and upon those who are with thee and who love thee for the sake of God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy.

BH09120: O Hakim, upon thee be My glory! This blessed…

O Hakim, upon thee be My glory! This blessed Tablet was revealed in the previous year but there was delay in its dispatch. The events of the days and the clamor of the people have been the cause of prevention and the reason for delay in the outpourings of the True Bestower of bounties, both then and now. Your letter arrived afterwards. Praise be to God, the fragrance of acceptance and steadfastness wafted from it.

Say: My God, my God! Thou seest me turning toward Thee, detached from all else but Thee. I beseech Thee by the Word through which Thou didst manifest from nothingness the Sign of eternity, to ordain for me that which will benefit me in every world of Thy worlds.

O my Lord! Thou seest the poor one standing before the gate of Thy riches, and the beggar seeking the ocean of Thy bounty. I beseech Thee to send down upon him from the clouds of Thy grace that which will draw him nigh unto Thee. Verily Thou art the Most Powerful of the powerful ones and the Most Merciful of the merciful ones.

BH09079: O Isma'il! Upon thee be the Glory of God…

In the Name of Him Who is the Guardian over all names!

O Isma'il! Upon thee be the Glory of God, the Mighty, the Beautiful! This is the Day wherein the Hidden Treasure hath been revealed and the breeze of God, the Lord of what was and what shall be, hath wafted. They who have turned unto Him are indeed the people of Baha in the Book of God, the Guardian, the Self-Subsisting. Blessed is the one who was not deterred by the cawing of the cawers who denied God's proof and His evidence, and wrought that which caused the near ones to lament. Take hold of God's Tablet with a strength from Him and a power from His presence. Beware lest the veils of them who have disbelieved in the Witness and the Witnessed prevent thee. Thus hath warbled the Dove of Utterance upon the loftiest branches, as a command from God, the Lord of existence. The glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My loving-kindness be upon thee and upon those who are with thee, from God, the Lord of what was and what shall be.

BH09155: O Muhammad-Qabl-i-Sadiq! Hear the Call from the Supreme Horizon…

In the Name of Him by Whom the ocean of generosity surged among the worlds!

O Muhammad-Qabl-i-Sadiq! Hear the Call from the Supreme Horizon—verily there is no God but Him, the Mighty, the Bestower. He verily draws thee nigh unto the Dayspring of grace and aids thee to turn toward the lights of the Countenance and acquaints thee with what was hidden from the servants. Praise be to God that thou hast drunk from the Salsabil of utterance of the Lord of Religions and partaken of the choice sealed wine. Now thou must arise with complete determination to preserve it, for the barking ones are occupied with leading astray and the deniers lie in wait at their posts. Verily thy Lord, He is the Truth, the Knower of the unseen. There is no God but Him, the Single, the Mighty, the Loving. Thy letter hath arrived and We have answered thee with this perspicuous Tablet. We beseech Him, exalted be He, to reward what thou hast done in His path. He verily is the Rewarder of the sincere ones.

BH09031: A Tablet revealed by the Wronged One to him…

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

A Tablet revealed by the Wronged One to him who has turned to God, the Mighty, the Beloved, who was named Rida in the Book of Names and who bore witness to that which God did bear witness unto on the Promised Day.

O Rida! Hearken unto the Call, for verily it attracteth thee and draweth thee nigh unto a praiseworthy station. Every edifice hath been raised in My Name, and every station hath been exalted through My remembrance, yet most of the people understand not. They have violated My Covenant, denied My right, and disputed My signs, except for him whom the hand of thy Lord's will, the Sovereign of the kingdom of earth and heaven, hath delivered.

Say: O my God, my God! Illumine the hearts of Thy servants with the light of Thy knowledge, adorn them with the ornament of Thy love, and ordain for them that which will draw them nigh unto Thy court. Verily, Thou art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the Mighty, the All-Forgiving.

BH08936: The gate of utterance has been opened…

He is the One Who has sovereignty over what has been and what will be!

The gate of utterance has been opened and the verses of God, the Lord of lords, have been sent down. That which was hidden from sight has been revealed and the mysteries of the Cause have emerged from God, the Sender of verses. Blessed art thou for having turned, having heard, and having attained the presence of the signs of God, the Lord of Return. Say: Praise be unto Thee, O my God, for having given me to drink from the Kawthar of utterance through the hands of Thy bounty and for having caused me to hear Thy most sweet call when most of Thy servants were prevented from hearkening unto it. I beseech Thee by the Most Exalted Word and the Most Great Sign to protect me from the evil of Thine enemies and to ordain for me the good of this world and the next, through Thy grace and generosity. Verily Thou art the All-Bountiful, the Generous. There is no God but Thee, the All-Forgiving, the All-Merciful.

BH09095: O My handmaiden, O My leaf! Your letter was…

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

O My handmaiden, O My leaf! Your letter was received. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to ordain for you what He has ordained for the leaves who circle round the Will of God, the Lord of the worlds, and to open before your face the gates of grace and bounty. Verily, He is powerful over all things. Convey greetings and glorification from this Wronged One to the leaves of the Sacred Tree who have emigrated and attained. Give them the glad-tidings of His grace. Verily, God is the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous. Likewise, make mention of the believing handmaidens, if they are found. We beseech God to aid them all to achieve that which hath been revealed by the Supreme Pen in the Book. Verily, He is the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing, and He is the Powerful, the Mighty, the Answerer of prayers.

BH09109: O thou who art mentioned before the Wronged One!…

He is the All-Hearing, the All-Witnessing, the All-Responding

O thou who art mentioned before the Wronged One! We testify that thou hast heard the Call and turned towards it, and hast uttered that which the Tongue of Grandeur hath uttered:

> "There is none other God but Him, the Single, the One, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise."

And We testify that thou didst attain unto the Station and didst hear what the Blessed Tree spoke forth from the Sinai of divine knowledge. Say: Glory be unto Thee, O my Lord, the All-Merciful! I beseech Thee by the mysteries of Thy Book and the lights of Thy Throne to open before my face, through the key of Thy Most Great Name, the door of Thy nearness and meeting. I testify, O my God, to Thy bounty and generosity, to Thy might and grandeur and power. I beseech Thee by the Dawning-Places of Thy Cause and the Daysprings of Thy Revelation and the Manifestations of Thy Self, to aid me in Thy service and in steadfastness in Thy Cause. Verily, Thou art the Almighty, the All-Compelling, the Most Powerful, the All-Bountiful.

BH09318: Thou seest, O God of Names and Creator…

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

Thou seest, O God of Names and Creator of all things, Thy loved ones in the hands of the oppressors among Thy creatures who have cast behind them Thy Book and taken the book of their own selves in Thy days. I beseech Thee, O Thou through Whose Name the mysteries of the Resurrection and its signs were revealed, and the earth was cleft asunder, and its treasures emerged, and that which was hidden therein appeared, to assist Thy handmaiden and this leaf among Thy leaves to turn toward Thee at all times. Thou art verily the Almighty, the Powerful, the All-Bountiful. O Lord! Send down upon her and upon her children, from the heaven of Thy bounty, the rain of Thy blessings. Verily Thou art the All-Bountiful, to Whose greatness and power and exaltation and sovereignty all created things have testified. Thou art verily the Almighty, the All-Generous, the All-Forgiving, the All-Bountiful.

BH09651: O Khalil, who hath attained Our presence and won…

He is the Answerer

O Khalil, who hath attained Our presence and won Our good-pleasure! Upon thee be My glory and My loving-kindness. At this hour the ocean of utterance is surging and the Sun of bounty is shining from the horizon of the heaven of the prison, though outwardly it is night and known among the Arabs as a dark night. At this moment the countenance of favor hath turned toward thee and the Most Exalted Pen is moved to write thy name, and saith: Blessed are the days wherein thou wert present before the Wronged One, and didst hear His sweetest call, and behold His most luminous horizon. We beseech God to assist thee and ordain for thee that which shall gladden thine eyes and the eyes of them that love thee. He, verily, is the All-Bountiful, the All-Generous, and within His grasp is the kingdom of the dominion of the heavens and earth.

BH09642: O thou who hast fixed thy gaze upon My…

He is the Enlightener, the Helper, the Generous!

O thou who hast fixed thy gaze upon My countenance, grieve not over that which hath befallen thee by the decree of God, the Lord of Lords. Give thanks to Him for His grace, His bounty, and His favor. We, in truth, were with him at the end of his days in this world and at the beginning of his days in the presence of the most exalted Companion. At the moment he ascended the angels and the Spirit received him as bidden by God, the quickener of the dead. Oh, would that at the moment of his ascension he had been adorned with the light of trust in God, had committed his affairs to His hands, and been submissive to His destiny and decree. Verily, Mine exalted Pen longeth to console thee and to transmute thy sadness into joy and gladness. He, verily, is the Lord of Revelation and perspicuous is His name, the Ever-Forgiving.

BH09636: In My Name that overshadoweth all names

In My Name that overshadoweth all names.

O people of the household of J! Praise be to God, ye have attained unto the light of faith. Now strive ye, that perchance ye may receive your portion from the ocean of utterance of Him Who is the Goal of all worlds. The Wronged One hath ever made mention and continueth to make mention of His handmaidens.

When thou hast drunk the choice wine of utterance from the cup of My bounty, say: My God, my God! Praise be to Thee for having caused me to recognize the Dawning-Place of Thy signs and the Dayspring of Thy clear tokens, and for having illumined all hearts with the light of Thy knowledge. I beseech Thee by Thy sovereignty and by that whereby the hearts of Thy chosen ones were attracted, to ordain for him who hath turned to Thee the good of this world and of the world to come. Verily, Thou art the Lord of all creation. There is none other God but Thee, the Commander, the Ruler, the Mighty, the All-Knowing.

BH09381: Glorified art Thou, O my God! I beseech Thee…

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

Glorified art Thou, O my God! I beseech Thee by Thy light which hath shone forth upon the world, and by the fire of Thy Lote-Tree whereby the hearts of the nations have been set ablaze, and by the lights of Thy Manifestation and the Call raised upon Thy Mount, to aid Thy servants to turn toward the lights of Thy countenance. O Lord! Thou art the Generous One—all created things bear witness to Thy generosity, and all beings testify to Thy grace. I beseech Thee not to disappoint Thy loved ones from the ocean of Thy bounty and the heaven of Thy munificence. Then ordain for those who have turned to Thee and attained to Thy recognition that which Thou hast decreed for the sincere among Thy servants. Then preserve them, O my God, from the evil of Thine enemies who have disbelieved in Thee and in Thy signs. Verily Thou art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest. There is no God but Thee, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

BH09713: O Nayyir! Praise be to God that the effects…

He is the All-Commanding, the All-Wise.

O Nayyir! Praise be to God that the effects of your deeds are manifest from every direction. The Sun of Utterance hath testified, and the Moon hath declared “Well done! Well done!” The fragrances of your mention in establishing the Cause of the Lord of the Kingdom of Names have illumined and continue to illumine the horizons with the light of unity. The recompense of no one hath been nor ever shall be lost with God. The Supreme Pen hath testified to the acceptance and steadfastness of the aforementioned one and thyself, and likewise to the handmaidens and leaves ye have mentioned—all that which hath been conducive to the exaltation of the Word of God. Well done to you both! Well done to you both! Thus hath your Lord spoken in your praise. Verily, He is your Guardian and He loveth you for His resplendent, sanctified, mighty and wondrous Face.

BH09658: O Sahhaf! Upon thee be favors and bounties…

…O Sahhaf! Upon thee be favors and bounties. For long periods thou hast dwelt beneath the canopies of grandeur and hast been blessed with hearkening unto the revealed verses. I testify that thou hast heard the Call, quaffed the choice wine, and attained unto the meeting and the vision of the Most Exalted Horizon. Blessed art thou, and joy be unto thee. My right over thee is great, and My favor toward thee is mighty. Give thanks unto God, thy Lord and the Lord of thy forefathers and the Lord of all who are in the heavens and on earth. Glory be upon thee and upon whoever hath attained unto this Great Announcement….

BH09378: Glorified art Thou, O my God! I beseech Thee…

He is the Giver, the All-Bestowing!

Glorified art Thou, O my God! I beseech Thee by the waves of the ocean of Thy bounty and the effulgent lights of the Sun of Thy providence, and by the hidden mysteries treasured within Thy Books, to elevate me through Thy Name amongst Thy servants. Then grant me the sweetness of Thy utterance, through which the power of Thy most exalted Will and the might of Thy Most Supreme Pen have been made manifest. My God, my God! Thou seest me turning toward Thee and clinging to Thy Sure Handle, through whose movement the spheres of inner meanings and utterance have revolved, and the gems of wisdom and knowledge have appeared from the mine of man. I beseech Thee by the fragrances of Thy verses and the raising up of the standards of Thy guidance in Thy lands, to make me in all conditions one who is attracted by Thy verses and who speaks forth Thy praise. Verily, Thou art the Powerful, the Supreme, the Mighty, the Most Bountiful.

BH09666: O ʿAbdu’l-Husayn, upon thee be My glory! The Wronged…

He is the One Warbling upon the Branches

O ʿAbdu’l-Husayn, upon thee be My glory! The Wronged One hath turned toward thee from the precincts of the Prison on this Day wherein all things have proclaimed sovereignty and dominion, might and power

belong unto God, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. Blessed is the face that hath turned toward the lights of the Countenance, and the tongue that hath uttered praise of the Lord of the Throne, and the heart that hath turned and said:

> "Praise be unto Thee, O Self-Sufficing Lord, for having guided me unto Thy Most Great Path and made known unto me Thy Great Announcement."

I beseech Thee by Thy Most Great Signs, whereby Thou hast subdued the kingdom of names, to make me steadfast in Thy love and firm in Thy Cause in such wise that neither the hosts of the Pharaohs shall prevent me nor the might of them that have denied the Day of Judgment shall frighten me.

BH09668: O Abdullah! The Hidden Treasure and the Concealed Name…

In the Name of Him Who is the Overseer of all Names

O Abdullah! The Hidden Treasure and the Concealed Name have been made manifest. Blessed is the servant who hath seen, and woe unto the heedless! O Abdullah! Thou hast been mentioned in the presence of the Wronged One, to which the Most Great Book beareth witness in this luminous station. Say: My God, my God! Thou seest me clinging fast unto Thee, acknowledging that which the Tongue of Thy grandeur hath spoken, and confessing that which Thou hast revealed in Thy Books and Thy Tablets. Disappoint me not from the wonders of Thy grace and bounty, for Thou art the Sovereign of existence and the Lord of the seen and unseen. O my Lord! Take my hand with the hands of Thy grace and mercy and generosity, and illumine my heart with the light of Thy knowledge. Then write down for me, with Thy Most Exalted Pen, that which Thou hast written for Thy chosen ones. Verily, Thou art the Almighty, the Glorious, the All-Bountiful.

BH09663: O ʿAbdu'r-Rahim! We have manifested that which was hidden…

He is the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious

O ʿAbdu'r-Rahim! We have manifested that which was hidden from eternity, and We have sent down that which was treasured in the knowledge of God, the Lord of the worlds. We came for the guidance of the servants and to draw them nigh unto God, the One, the All-Informed. Yet they rose against Us and pronounced sentence to shed Our blood without any command from God, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. Blessed art thou in that the clouds of generosity have rained upon thee through a command from the Lord of eternity and the Greatest Name, that thou mayest know and be of the thankful ones. The splendor from Us be upon thy son and thy other son. We have remembered them both with a remembrance which God hath made the cause of the life of the world. Of this beareth witness He with Whom is a perspicuous Book.

BH09662: O Abdul-Baqi! Today from the right hand…

He is the One Who speaks with truth and observes with justice.

O Abdul-Baqi! Today from the right hand of the Throne the pavilion of the feast is adorned, and from the left the field of battle is visible. The clamor of the heedless has become the cause of a great celebration in the Supreme Concourse—the tribes of angels and the Spirit give each other glad tidings and prepare to welcome, for verily the blessed spirit of Mihdi has intended the Supreme Companion. By the life of God, he took and drank the wine of steadfastness from the hand of his Lord, became intoxicated, intended the meeting, and attained unto it. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to preserve you for the service of His firm and mighty Cause. Verily He is the Answerer of those who call and the Beloved of the hearts of those drawn nigh.

BH09679: He dawneth from the horizon of utterance

He dawneth from the horizon of utterance

O ʿAli-Ahmad, upon thee be the Glory of God, the Single, the One! He remembers thee with that which draws thee near and commands thee with that which shall cause thy mention to endure throughout the days of God, the Lord of the worlds. Verily the wolf howls in the land of Ya, and therein do the near ones lament for what hath befallen the chosen ones of God and His trusted ones. By the life of God! The wolves of the world have torn apart and beheaded the true Josephs. Would divine justice accept such oppression? Nay, by His own Self, the Truth! Soon will He seize the oppressors with a mighty vengeance from His presence. Nothing whatsoever escapeth His knowledge. He doeth what He willeth and ordaineth what He pleaseth. He is the All-Commanding, the All-Wise.

BH09644: O Aqa Dadash! The world lies asleep upon…

He is the Confirmer, the Powerful, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise

O Aqa Dadash! The world lies asleep upon the couch of heedlessness and is veiled. The Divine Call from the prison of ʿAkka hath been raised in such wise that for the fair-minded no power to deny remaineth. Blessed are they whom their own idle fancies have not prevented nor held back from drawing nigh. These are the Hands of His Cause amongst mankind and the cupbearers of the Salsabil of divine knowledge amidst all religions. O Aqa Dadash! Rejoice thou in that We have named thee Husayn in the Book of Names. Be thou thankful and say:

> “My God, my God! I beseech Thee by the Dawning-Places of Thy Revelation and the Daysprings of Thine inspiration to ordain for me all the good Thou hast sent down in Thy Book. Verily, Thou art the Powerful over whatsoever Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the Ruler in the beginning and in the end.”

BH09638: O My loved ones in that land! Blessed are…

He is the One warbling at this moment upon the Branch of Utterance!

O My loved ones in that land! Blessed are ye, and joy be unto you, for having turned unto and gained victory through God’s Cause and His Manifestation, and for having drunk the choice wine of utterance from the hand of the bounty of your Lord, the Merciful, the Compassionate. O Baqir! Blessed art thou,

and blessed is thy tongue, for having spoken in remembrance of this Most Great News. We have mentioned thee before, and at this hour with that which shall endure through the eternity of My Most Great Name, the All-Glorious. And We make mention of him who was named ʿAli-Before-Asghar with verses that surpass all the treasures of kings and all that the sovereigns possess. The glory from God, the Mighty, the All-Compelling, the Supreme Ruler of all in the heavens and earths, be upon you both and upon those with you and upon your mother.

BH09688: O Fadlu'llah! Upon thee be the Glory of God…

He is the All-Hearing from the Exalted Horizon

O Fadlu'llah! Upon thee be the Glory of God and His grace and bounty! He heareth from His most exalted horizon. The blessed days and precious time are passing. We beseech God to assist His loved ones in that which will cause the exaltation of His Word, and through the aid of sincere friends and loved ones may truth be delivered from the claws of falsehood. The oppressor of the great city hath dealt a mighty blow to the liver of truth. That unjust one arose in tyranny and committed that which is the cause of the most great sorrow. We beseech God to assist the oppressors to turn back and repent. Verily He is the Forgiver of sins. The Glory be upon thee and upon those who have believed in God, the Mighty, the Loving.

BH09207: My God, my God! Adorn my head…

…My God, my God! Adorn my head with the crown of Thy love, my breast with the light of Thy knowledge, and my heart with the effulgences of the Orb of Thy recognition. O my Lord! Thou seest me clinging to the cord of Thy grace and standing before the door of Thy bounty. I beseech Thee by the mysteries of Thy Cause, the power of Thy Will, and the ascendancy of Thy Purpose, to assist the heedless to return unto Thee and to repent before the manifestation of Thy Revelation. Verily, Thou art the Almighty, the Powerful, the All-Bountiful. O my Lord! Thou seest Thy loved ones amidst the wolves of Thy earth and beneath the claws of those among Thy servants who hate them. I implore Thee to protect them with Thy hosts and to ordain for them every good thing which Thou hast sent down in Thy Book. Verily, Thou art the All-Forgiving, the Kind. There is none other God but Thee, the Mighty, the Loving.

BH09647: O Haji Sha'ban, upon thee be the glory…

He is the One established upon the Throne.

O Haji Sha'ban, upon thee be the glory of thy Lord, the Most Merciful! Today the Wronged One is at times seated upon the throne of joy, inasmuch as from all directions glad-tidings and felicitations are manifest, and at other times He is established upon the seat of sorrow, for the lamentation and mourning of all things can be heard. In the land of Ya, barking has been raised. The heedless oppressor, imagining that he hath conquered a realm, hath arranged a great celebration at night. Through this deed his measure of understanding and perception hath become evident. Soon shall he bewail his own self and shall behold it in grievous torment. The glory from Us be upon thee and upon those who have quaffed the wine of revelation from the hand of the bounty of their Lord, the All-Bountiful.

BH09564: The Tablet of God hath verily been sent down…

In His Name through Whom surgeth the ocean of utterance!

The Tablet of God hath verily been sent down in truth, and from the horizon of its heaven hath shone forth the luminary of proof from the presence of the All-Merciful. Thus hath the matter been decreed from before One mighty, powerful, and ancient. Blessed is he who hath turned and taken and attained, and woe unto the heedless! O Ja'far-Qabli! Hear what the All-Merciful revealed in the Qur'an: "The Day when mankind shall stand before the Lord of the worlds." Say: O people! Fear ye God and follow not your idle fancies. Turn with radiant faces unto the Ultimate Tree from whose rustling is heard "Glory and Greatness belong unto God, the Mighty, the Great!" Verily We have manifested the Cause and sent down the Book as a grace from before Us, and We are in truth the Ancient Sender-down.

BH09205: O Muhammad Firuzi in Alif and Ya! Say: O…

O Muhammad Firuzi in Alif and Ya! Say: O my God, my God! Preserve this servant from the evil of self and desire, and adorn him with the light of righteousness and godliness. O my Lord! Thy servant maketh mention of Thee, and his eyes have ever been expectant of Thine infinite favors. Open, then, the door of Thy mercy and bestow Thy portion. By a single exalted word didst Thou call the world of existence into being, and didst adorn it with all manner of sustenance and bounty and countless favors. Thou art the Bestower, the Powerful. There is none other God but Thee, the Most Exalted, the All-Glorious.

The glory shining forth from the heaven of My loving-kindness rest upon thee, and upon thy son who is named Aqa-Buzurg, and upon thy other son who is named Aqa-Kuchak—upon all those who have cast away desire and taken hold of that whereunto they were commanded by God, the Lord of mankind, the Possessor of gifts and favours.

BH09692: O Muhammad-Qabil-Hasan! Hearken unto the Call of God…

He is the All-Witnessing, the All-Informed

O Muhammad-Qabil-Hasan! Hearken unto the Call of God, the Self-Subsisting, the All-Compelling. We have turned unto thee and made mention of thee in such wise as all the treasures of the earth cannot equal. Let not the happenings of the world grieve thee, nor the might of hosts weaken thee. In every Tablet and every Book have We counseled the servants to hold fast to wisdom and utterance in this Cause, whereby limbs have quivered and hearts have been troubled. Blessed art thou for having attained unto My remembrance, through which God quickeneth His servants and acquainteth them with His straight Path. Glorify thy Lord and say: Praise be unto Thee for having given me to drink, from the hand of Thy bounty, the Kawthar of Thy knowledge. I beseech Thee to assist me in that which will draw me nigh unto Thee. Verily Thou art the Truth, the Knower of things unseen.

BH09711: O Nasru'llah! Victory has come, yet the people remain…

He is the Helper, the All-Knowing

O Nasru'llah! Victory has come, yet the people remain behind a manifest veil. The Day has come, yet the people remain in grievous error. The Hidden One has been made manifest, yet most people remain among the heedless. We have ordained victory through remembrance and utterance. Blessed is he who has recognized, and woe unto every heedless and remote one. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to assist His party to serve His Cause and to confirm them in that which will exalt their station. Verily, He is the Protector, the Almighty over all who are in the heavens and earths. The glory from Us be upon you and upon those with you and upon My handmaidens there who have turned and believed in God, the Mighty, the Powerful.

BH09505: Say: Glory be to Thee, O God—my…

Say: Glory be to Thee, O God—my Lord, my Master, and my Support! Thou seest the wronged one standing before the gate of Thy justice, and the ignorant one making for the shore of the ocean of Thy knowledge. I beseech Thee by the breathings of Thy Revelation whereby the hearts of Thine loved ones were drawn, and by the nights enshrined within the pearls of the deep of Thy grandeur, to decree for me—by the Pen of destiny—the reward of him who hath hearkened unto Thy sweetest call and unto the rasping of Thy most exalted Pen.

And by the lights of Thy throne, and the wellsprings of Thy bounty and Thy bestowals, I implore Thee to forgive me through Thy generosity that hath encompassed all created things; and by the light of Thy Cause that hath dawned from the horizon of the Mount, to write down for me that which Thou hast written for Thine elect and Thy chosen ones. Verily Thou art powerful to do whatsoever Thou willest. There is no God but Thee, the Mighty, the All-Bestowing.

BH09594: In the Name of Him through Whom surgeth…

In the Name of Him through Whom surgeth the ocean of bounty and wafteth the fragrance of God, the Lord of all worlds!

This is a Book that speaketh the truth and summoneth all who are on earth unto the straight path of God. This is a Day wherein the Mother Book speaketh before the faces of the peoples, while the people are in manifest error. My tongue and My pen bear witness that thou hast turned and hearkened and attained unto the signs of God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy. Say: Praise be unto Thee for having guided me unto Thy horizon and caused me to hear Thy call when the people were wrapped in profound darkness. Preserve the Tablet of God even as thou preservest thine eyes, and say: Thanksgiving be unto Thee, O Thou the Goal of the world, and praise be unto Thee, O Thou the Beloved of those who are in the heavens and on earth.

BH09629: O My handmaiden who hast held fast…

In the name of the Goal of the world and the peoples

O My handmaiden who hast held fast to the cord of My loving-kindness! He who hath loved Me and arisen to serve My Cause and found the fragrances of revelation from the direction of My mercy hath made mention of thee. We have remembered thee in this perspicuous Tablet. In this day it is incumbent

and obligatory upon all the world to hold fast to the cord of grace and to cling to the hem of Him Who speaketh from the Sinai of Revelation. However, the promptings of self and passion have debarred all from the most holy court and sacred precincts, save those whom the hands of the loving-kindness of their Lord, the Mighty, the Powerful, have delivered. We beseech God that He may aid thee and make thee steadfast and firm in His most great Cause. He is verily the Powerful, the Mighty, the All-Knowing, the All-Seeing.

BH09673: O Ali, thou didst seek deliverance from the ocean…

He is the All-Hearing from the Exalted Horizon

O Ali, thou didst seek deliverance from the ocean of wonderment, yet this station was besought of God, glorified be His majesty, by the Seal of the Prophets in His words “Lord, increase my wonderment in Thee.” Therefore, thou shouldst not be saddened by wonderment, for this wonderment is the very essence of certitude. Praise be to God that in this divine Day thou hast attained to acceptance, recognition and orientation, and hast been honored by the traces of the Most Exalted Pen. Say: Praise be to Thee, O Thou Goal of the world, and glory be to Thee, O Thou Beloved of the nations! I beseech Thee by Thy power which hath conquered all things to assist me to remember Thee and praise Thee and to hold fast unto Thy cord. Verily, Thou art the Mighty, the Glorious, the All-Bountiful.

BH10088: O ʿAbdu’l-Karim! Upon thee be the Glory of God…

He is the One Who has power over whatsoever He willeth in His Most Great Name!

O ʿAbdu’l-Karim! Upon thee be the Glory of God, the Lord of the Day of Judgment. The effects of tyranny and oppression have encompassed the world and have prevented the trees of the garden of inner meanings from bearing fruit. O Karim! The saplings of divine favor have been planted in the true garden and have been watered from the Kawthar of grace, but some weakness has overtaken them; therefore grafting is necessary. And it is hoped that its grafting will be taken from the divine Lote-Tree and the Tree of detachment and will form a connection. Verily thy Lord hath power over all things.

BH10065: O Javad, upon thee be the Glory of God…

He is the Helper and the Preserver.

O Javad, upon thee be the Glory of God and His grace! The Most Exalted Pen hath willed from the Most Glorious Horizon to make mention of thee, that thou mayest find the fragrances of the utterance of God, the Lord of the worlds. Say: My God, my God! I beseech Thee by the fire of the Tree which shone forth in the Mount of Knowledge upon the Son of Imran, to strengthen me in such wise that through my speech Thou mayest open the doors of the ears of the world to hearken unto Thy call, O Lord of all nations. O my Lord! I am he who asketh at Thy door, and Thou art the All-Forgiving, the Ever-Pardoning, the Most Bountiful. The Cause is in the grasp of the power of God, the Lord of the Mighty Throne, the Master of the kings of the past and the future.

BH10091: O ʿAli, upon thee be My glory! Praise be…

He is God, exalted be His station in wisdom and utterance

O ʿAli, upon thee be My glory! Praise be to God, thou hast attained unto His grace. Verily, he who was with thee was prevented by his desires from drawing nigh unto the Lord of all mankind. God did bestow true grace and manifest destiny was transformed, yet today he remaineth heedless, as the Wronged One doth testify from His mighty prison. We beseech God that He may aid him, that perchance he may not be afflicted with his ultimate destiny. By the life of God! Were he to recognize, he would arise to serve the Cause with his very being, but vain imaginings have held him back from the Dayspring of divine commandments and ordinances. The glory that proceedeth from Us rest upon thee and upon those who are with thee.

BH09966: In My Name that standeth before all people

In My Name that standeth before all people

Say: Praise be to Thee, O Lord my God, my Master and my Support! Thou seest me turning away from all else save Thee and advancing toward the horizon of the heaven of Thy bounty. I beseech Thee by the lights that shine forth from Thy Most Exalted Pen and by the waves of the ocean of Thy utterance before the faces of the enemies, to make me strong through Thy power and steadfast in Thy remembrance and praise amidst Thy servants. O Lord! Thou seest this poor one making his way to the Dayspring of Thy riches and the Dawning-Place of Thy knowledge. I implore Thee not to disappoint him of that which Thou hast ordained for Thy chosen ones. Verily Thou art the Mighty, the Most Exalted, and within Thy grasp are the reins of all affairs in the beginning and the end.

BH10120: O my leaf! Upon thee be my salutations! Thy…

He is God!

O my leaf! Upon thee be my salutations! Thy letter was received and attained the honor of being heard and was adorned with the glory of acceptance. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to assist thee in that which He loveth and is pleasing unto Him, and to enable thee to mention Him and praise Him among His handmaidens and leaves, and to ordain for thee the good of the hereafter and of this world. The members of the Most Holy Family and the Exalted Cradle are present before the Face and, on behalf of that leaf, attained the honor of visitation and were adorned with the glory of acceptance. God willing, thou wilt be enabled to achieve that whose fragrance is eternal and everlasting. The kingdom shall pass away, but that which hath been revealed in the Kingdom of God, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise, shall endure.

BH10014: We bear witness that thou hast attained unto turning…

He is the One Who standeth established over the Cause with power and sovereignty.

We bear witness that thou hast attained unto turning toward the Supreme Horizon when mankind turned away from it save those who held fast to this mighty Cord. Say: O people! Abandon what ye possess and take what ye have been commanded by the Ancient Ordainer. Beware lest vain imaginings withhold you from the Lord of all days or idle fancies from His luminous horizon. We have remembered thee before and after and in this exalted and glorious station. Take the Tablet with the power of God, the Lord of the wondrous Throne. Thus hath the Tongue of Grandeur spoken that thou mayest thank thy Lord, the Compassionate, the Bountiful.

BH10070: O Hasan! Upon thee be the Glory of God…

He is the All-Knowing Speaker!

O Hasan! Upon thee be the Glory of God, the Lord of the hidden and the manifest! Praise be to God, thou hast attained unto the pearls of might and bounty from the ocean of divine grace and the Dawning-Place of the Light of the All-Merciful's mercy. Say: Praise be unto Thee, O my Eternal Lord, for having remembered me with verses that neither the pearls of all the seas nor the treasures of all lands can equal. I testify that Thou art the Mighty, the All-Bountiful. I thank Thee for remembering me and for turning toward me from the prison, and for accepting what I have done in love for my Lord, the Mighty, the Self-Subsisting. We testify that thy deed hath been adorned with the ornament of acceptance and honored by the mention of God, the Lord of all mankind.

BH10089: O Abdullah! God hath come with manifest sovereignty…

He is the All-Remembering, the All-Knowing

O Abdullah! God hath come with manifest sovereignty, which the people have denied and from which they have turned aside, except such as God, the Lord of the worlds, hath willed. Blessed is the servant who hath cast away what is possessed by the people, turning unto God, the Single One, the All-Informed. Joy be unto thee for having attained unto the remembrance when He Who conversed on Sinai was established upon the throne of revelation with a sovereignty that hath conquered all who are in the heavens and on earth. We beseech God to assist His loved ones to remember Him, to praise Him, and to spread His signs. Verily He is the Almighty, the Powerful, the Great. And We make mention of Haie and those who are with him, both women and men. Verily his Lord is the All-Bountiful, the Almighty, the All-Powerful.

BH10104: O Muhammad-Husayn! The oppressor of the land of Ya…

He is the One Who speaks with justice.

O Muhammad-Husayn! The oppressor of the land of Ya has kindled a fire that will not be extinguished. Soon the recompense of his deeds will seize him. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to assist His servants in that which befits His days and is worthy of His station. Verily, He is the All-Bountiful, the Generous. Say: Praise be to Thee, O my God, for having given me to drink the Kawthar of Thy utterance from the hand of Thy bounty. O Lord! Have mercy on whoever holds fast to Thee and to Thy verses, and

leave him not in the hands of the oppressors among Thy creatures. Thou art He by Whose command every clear Book was sent down and every wise decree ordained.

BH10075: O Haydar! The Wronged One hath made mention…

In the Name of Him Who is sovereign over all names!

O Haydar! The Wronged One hath made mention of thee from His Most Great Prison with a remembrance from which hath flowed the Water of Life for all contingent beings. Exalted be the All-Merciful Who hath manifested His Self and caused all things to speak that there is none other God but Him, the Ordainer, the Ancient of Days. Say: All praise be to Thee, O my God, for having given me to drink from the cup of Thy bounty and for having caused me to know the Dawning-Place of Thy signs and the Dayspring of Thy clear tokens. I beseech Thee by Him Whom Thou didst name ʿAli in Thy Book, who was martyred in Thy path in the Land of Ya, to open through the key of Thy Most Great Name the doors of Thy grace and bounty unto all peoples. Verily, Thou art the Powerful over whatsoever Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the Truth, the Knower of the unseen.

BH09818: Praise befitteth the Lord of existence and the Sovereign…

He is the Single, the One, the Mighty, the All-Knowing

Praise befitteth the Lord of existence and the Sovereign of the seen and unseen, Who hath conquered all created things through the light of utterance and hath guided them to the supreme horizon and the most exalted heights which are illumined with the dawning-place of the Lord of Names. Exalted be His grandeur, and exalted His dominion, and exalted His utterance! O My loved ones in all lands! Hearken unto the call of the Wronged One. Verily it draweth you nigh unto God, the Help in Peril, the Self-Subsisting. O ʿIsa Beg! Thy letter hath arrived and been honored to be heard. We beseech God, the Creator of the heavens, to ordain for thee the good of this world and of the next. Verily He is the Powerful over whatsoever He willeth through His mighty and wondrous Word.

BH10039: O Iskandar! The tongue of the Wronged One at…

He is the Hearing, the Responding One!

O Iskandar! The tongue of the Wronged One at all times speaks the blessed verse “Verily there is no God but Him, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting.” The True One Himself bears witness to the manifestations of the Wronged One’s bounties toward His chosen ones and loved ones. When thou hast attained to hearing the Call that hath been raised from the Most Exalted Horizon, say: “My God, my God! Aid me to serve Thy Cause, then write down for me the reward of attaining Thy presence. O my Lord! Thou knowest that separation from Thee hath consumed me and remoteness from Thee hath destroyed me. I beseech Thee by Thy Most Great Signs and by the Crimson Ark to assist me to serve Thy loved ones among Thy servants. Verily Thou art the Powerful, the Mighty, the Wise.”

BH10103: O Muhammad Taqi! Today We find Ourselves…

He is the All-Commanding, the All-Wise.

O Muhammad Taqi! Today We find Ourselves in the prison of ʿAkka, and sorrows encompass Us from those who have denied Our verses, disputed Our proof, violated Our Covenant, cast aside Our testament, and shown ingratitude for Our bounty. The degrees of grief have reached their end, and We give thee the glad-tidings of Our uprising, Our steadfastness, Our all-encompassing power, Our remembrance, Our sovereignty and Our might. Thus have We sent down that which will solace thine eyes and gladden thy heart, and cause thee to say with thy outer and inner tongue: The Kingdom and the Realm, the Power and the Dominion belong to God, our Lord and the Lord of all who are in the earth and the heavens.

BH10109: O Muhammad-Qabli-ʿAli! The Day hath come and the people…

He is the Manifest One, the Self-Subsisting before all faces

O Muhammad-Qabli-ʿAli! The Day hath come and the people are in manifest loss. This is a Day wherein God hath revealed what was hidden in the breasts and the treachery of the eyes. He is verily the Powerful, the Mighty. And in it He hath fulfilled His promise and manifested His sovereignty and proclaimed before the faces of the world:

> "O people! The Promised One hath come! He is verily the One Who spoke on Sinai. Blessed is he who hath recognized and attained, and woe unto them that sleep. Blessed art thou for having heard and turned unto Him, and woe unto him who hath denied God's proof and His evidence, and committed that which caused the rocks to cry out and raised the lamentation of the sincere ones."

BH09747: The Bayan crieth out and saith: O people! Make…

He is the One Who standeth supreme over His Cause and watcheth from His horizon.

The Bayan crieth out and saith: O people! Make Me not a veil between you and your Lord. He Who revealed Me hath commanded you not to make of Me a proof in the days of God, the Lord of the worlds. His word is the truth: I am but as a ring upon His finger and as a leaf among the leaves of His garden. Thus hath the matter been decreed by God, the Lord of the Day of Judgment. We bear witness that thou hast hearkened unto the call of thy Lord and acted according to what thou wast bidden in His perspicuous Book. The glory from Us be upon thee and upon those who have quaffed the wine of steadfastness when its seal was broken by this glorious and wondrous Name.

BH09804: In these days the signs of the effulgences…

In the Name of God, the Educator of all contingent beings!

In these days the signs of the effulgences of the dawning-place of Revelation are manifest and evident from the horizons. The Day of the Peerless Friend hath appeared, and through the triumph of the divine

Day the world hath been illumined. Blessed are they who, with clear certitude, have set their faces toward the station of the Lord of the Worlds.

O Nuriyyih! The maidens of the most exalted chambers have turned toward thee and have loved and continue to love thy mention. We beseech God, exalted be His glory, to account thee as one of the leaves of the blessed Tree that is neither of the East nor of the West, and to record thee in the Crimson Book by the Most Exalted Pen. Blessed art thou and blessed is the handmaiden who hath loved thee for the sake of God, the Lord of the mighty Throne.

BH09958: Say: Glory be to Thee, O God, Lord…

Say: Glory be to Thee, O God, Lord of the kingdom and of the Kingdom, Sovereign of majesty and dominion! I beseech Thee by the Mother Book which hath spoken in the Retreat, and by the light that hath shone forth in the hearts of them that are endued with understanding, to make me, in all conditions, one that looketh toward Thee, that speaketh Thy praise, and that standeth at the gate of Thy bounty.

O Lord! Thou seest him who hath turned unto Thee, and hath come to drink of the Kawthar of Thy bestowals. Disappoint him not of that which Thou hast ordained for Thine elect through the Pen of Thy decree; neither debar him from serving Thy Cause in Thy days. Verily Thou art the Almighty, to Whose power all created things have borne witness; Thou art the Sovereign Whose dominion hath encompassed all who are in the heavens and on the earth.

The rivers have flowed, the traces have appeared, and the trees have spoken: earth and heaven, greatness and dominion, belong to God, He Who layeth low the necks of men.

BH10028: Happy art thou in that the Speaker of Sinai…

He is the One Who stands before the faces of those who sit

Happy art thou in that the Speaker of Sinai hath desired to make mention of thee on this Day whereon the call hath been raised from every direction, and the rivers have flowed, and the trees have spoken forth:

> “The dominion of earth and heaven belongeth unto God, the Almighty, the Most Exalted, the One Who chooseth as He pleaseth.”

Say: Praise be unto Thee, O Lord of all beings and Master of all days, for having given me to drink of the choice wine of Thy knowledge from the hand of Thy bounty, and for having sent down unto me that which caused the ocean of knowledge to surge in Thy realm. I beseech Thee to make me one of those who have circled round Thy will and acted in accordance with what they were bidden in the Scriptures, Books, Psalms and Tablets.

BH10067: O people of God! Today the ocean of utterance…

In the Name of the Mighty, the Great!

O people of God! Today the ocean of utterance is surging and the pearls of wisdom and exposition are appearing and visible from their shells. We beseech God that He deprive you not, and in every moment bestow upon you a portion of the fruits of the Tree of Grace. Beware lest the veils of the world and its manifestations and colors prevent you. Arise to promote the Cause with complete dedication and great steadfastness, and summon humanity unto truth through wisdom and utterance. Verily, He will assist you and aid you in that which will draw you nigh unto the court of His might. He is truly the All-Bountiful, the Mighty, the Bestower.

BH10468: O ʿAzizu'llah, verily I say unto thee: through…

In the Name of the One All-Knowing God!

O ʿAzizu'llah, verily I say unto thee: through the effulgences of the Luminary of divine utterance, the Desired One of all worlds, the universe hath been illumined, and through the Kawthar of the presence of the Lord of all creation, all things have been purified and sanctified. Blessed be the ear that hath heard the divine call raised from the supreme horizon, and blessed be the eye that hath beheld the lights of the manifestation of Him Who conversed on Sinai. We beseech God to honor thee and adorn thee with the light of His special favors. He is, verily, powerful and mighty over all things.

BH10455: O Rajab-ʿAli! Your brother who circumambulated the Kaaba…

He is the All-Powerful, the Unconstrained

O Rajab-ʿAli! Your brother who circumambulated the Kaaba of God, the Lord of what was and what shall be, hath made mention of you. Say: My God, my God! Thou seest Thy loved ones beneath the talons of Thine enemies and hearest their cries and lamentations in Thy days. I beseech Thee by Thy loved ones whom the oppressors have torn limb from limb in the land of Ya, and by their blood and dismembered parts, to protect Thy loved ones through Thy power and deliver them from the wickedness of Thy creation. Verily, Thou art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest and in Thy grasp is the reins of all affairs of the first and the last ones.

BH10384: Praise be unto Thee, O my God, and thanksgiving…

In the name of Him through Whom the light hath shone forth from the horizon of manifestation.

Praise be unto Thee, O my God, and thanksgiving be unto Thee, O my Desire, and glory be unto Thee, O Lord of earth and heaven, for having caused me to recognize Thy manifest Cause and Thy mighty Message, and for having given me to drink, from the chalice of Thy bounty, the wine of Thy presence, and for having made me to hear Thy most sweet call while Thou wert seated upon the throne of bounty. I beseech Thee, O Lord, O Desire of all hearts, to open before my face the door of Thy mercy and Thy riches. Verily, Thou art the Powerful, the Mighty, the All-Bountiful.

BH10413: O Ahmad! Today the irrevocable Cause hath appeared…

He is the All-Observant, the Well-Wisher, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise

O Ahmad! Today the irrevocable Cause hath appeared from the Lord of nations and the Adorner of the world. He verily guideth all unto God, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting. Rejoice thou in that the Wronged One hath remembered thee from His Most Great Prison and aided thee to hearken in days wherein the fire of hatred was kindled. We counsel thee and those who have believed to show forth such steadfastness as will cause the heaven of idle fancies to be cleft asunder, the earth of vain imaginings to be split open, and the mountain of the people's conceit to crumble. Thy Lord is verily the Powerful over whatsoever He pleaseth through His cherished and mighty command.

BH10467: In My Name, the Speaker before the faces…

In My Name, the Speaker before the faces of the servants!

O Abdul-Rasul! Verily the Truth speaks: The Day has come, yet the people are in manifest loss. They have cast behind their backs the Most Great Profit, clinging to the vain imaginings of their ignorant ones. Verily they are in grievous loss. Rejoice in My remembrance of thee, then give thanks to thy Lord, the All-Bountiful. He has turned toward thee from the direction of the Prison and remembered thee with that which no mention of any discerning mystic or learned sage can equal. We have remembered Our loved ones in various Tablets, then him who attained My presence and was named Baha'i in My Luminous Tablet.

BH10472: O ʿAli, upon thee be My glory! There hath…

He is the Hearing, the Answering One!

O ʿAli, upon thee be My glory! There hath come upon Us from him whom We sheltered for numbered years that which hath caused all things to lament and raised the crying of earth and heaven. Thus hath the matter been decreed from before God, the Commander, the All-Wise. We had mentioned thee before, and before before, through verses that diffused the fragrance of revelation and illumined the hearts of them that are nigh. Glory be from Us upon thee and upon thy kindred and upon them that are with thee, who heard the call and answered their Lord, the Speaker, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

BH10474: In My Name that overshadoweth all names!

In My Name that overshadoweth all names!

O ʿAli-Akbar! The oppressor of the land of Ya has sought to extinguish the light and has committed that which none from the beginning of the world until now has ever perpetrated. I swear by the light of utterance that whatsoever he hath wrought hath been and is the cause of the exaltation of the blessed Word, despite himself and those who are with him and love him. The true glad-tidings are that the friends of God have intended to ascend and have sacrificed their lives in the path of the Goal of all the worlds. Blessed art thou for this clear Book which hath been sent down unto thee.

BH10442: O Hasan! Hear the Call of God, the Lord…

He is the All-Knowing Speaker

O Hasan! Hear the Call of God, the Lord of the hidden and manifest, from the green Tree upraised in the blessed, luminous land. He verily guideth thee unto His path and protecteth thee from the evil of those who have disbelieved and denied the proof of God, the Lord of all worlds. Thy letter hath arrived and We have read it, and have revealed for thee that which hath diffused the fragrances of the verses of thy Lord. He, verily, is the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous. Remember thy Lord at all times, and glorify on My behalf My loved ones who have turned unto Him and have said:

> "Praise be unto Thee, O Thou Who art the Goal of all who are in the heavens and on earth."

BH10416: In My Name, the Speaking, the Trustworthy!

In My Name, the Speaking, the Trustworthy!

O Iskandar! Upon thee be My glory and My loving-kindness! The world hath been encompassed by the dark smoke of ignorance and foolishness. All affairs proceed contrary to outward appearance—the mountain walketh upon the path, and from barren soil spring forth new and varied flowers. It is as though the Resurrection hath come to pass and the mysteries of the Hour been revealed. Blessed is he who hath been illumined by the light of awareness and knowledge. Glory be from Us upon thee and upon those who have heard and said:

> "God, there is no God but He, the Single, the One, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise."

BH10489: O Mashhadi Rida! The Lord of Names declareth…

In the Name of Him Who is established upon the Throne of Utterance!

O Mashhadi Rida! The Lord of Names declareth: The Kingdom belongeth unto God, the Lord of all the worlds. And the Lord of Creation declareth: Glory be unto God, the Object of the mystics. And the Divine Lote-Tree proclaimeth: He Who conversed on Sinai hath come, speaking: Verily there is none other God but Me, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. He whom ʿAli, who hath held fast to the cord of God, the Sure Handle, hath mentioned thee. We have commanded him to return that he may make mention of you and that those whom God hath related unto him may rejoice in meeting him. Verily thy Lord is the Compassionate, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. Blessed be they whom the oppression of the oppressors hath not deterred from drawing nigh unto God, the Peerless, the All-Informed.

BH10465: O Abbas! The King of mankind today makes mention…

He is the Almighty, the Most Great

O Abbas! The King of mankind today makes mention, with utmost joy and gladness, of the people of the Carpet. They were seven souls who, in the Land of Ya, ascended due to the oppression of the peerless oppressor and attained the most great martyrdom. Blessed art thou, O Abbas, in that God hath caused thee to be mentioned in connection with His Most Great Announcement and His firm Command. Thank God, thy Lord, for having aided thee to turn towards Him when most of the servants turned away, and guided thee to His straight Path.

BH10483: O Muhsin! Upon thee be My glory! We have…

He is the One Who speaks in the Kingdom of Utterance!

O Muhsin! Upon thee be My glory! We have arisen this day speaking in remembrance of thee and in remembrance of him who hath ascended unto God, the Lord of the Mighty Throne. Thou hast attained unto My Tablet, My loving-kindness and My mercy which have preceded all who are in the heavens and on earth. We have revealed that which lay hidden in knowledge and concealed behind the veil of light and sealed with the seal of God, the Lord of the Exalted Throne. Rejoice thou in My remembrance of thee, then make mention of My loved ones. We have remembered them aforetime and aided them to turn towards God on a day wherein most of the servants turned away from God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy.

BH10460: O Ramadan! The proof hath come, yet most…

In the Name of Him Who speaketh before all!

O Ramadan! The proof hath come, yet most of the people understand not. Say: Praise be to Thee, O my God, for having guided me unto Thy straight path and Thy mighty announcement. I beseech Thee by the blood that was shed in the land of Ya, and by Him Whom Thou didst name Mihdi in Thy Most Great Prison—who sacrificed himself in Thy path out of longing to attain Thy presence—and by the cry of Thy lovers and the lamentation of them that love Thee, to aid me to perform such deeds as shall diffuse the fragrance of Thy acceptance and good-pleasure. Verily Thou art the Generous, the Lord of great bounty. There is no God but Thee, the Single, the All-Informed.

BH10458: O Rida! Upon thee be the Glory of God…

He is the Compassionate, the All-Bountiful

O Rida! Upon thee be the Glory of God, the Lord of Names and Attributes! Praise be to God, thou art adorned with the ornament of sincerity and art voicing the blessed Word of Unity. The most excellent of all deeds and actions is the recognition of God, exalted be His glory. Thou hast attained unto this. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to aid thee and confirm thee in that which He loveth and is pleased with, and to ordain for thee that which will gladden thee and exalt thee in all His worlds, whereby thine eyes and the eyes of His loved ones may be solaced. Verily, He is the All-Bountiful, the Gracious. There is none other God but Him, the One, the Unique, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

BH10166: The Ocean desires to send thee the pearls…

He is the One Who speaks with justice

The Ocean desires to send thee the pearls of wisdom and utterance, that they may attract thee and draw thee near unto God, the Lord of mankind. Blessed is thine ear, in that it hath been honored to hearken, and thine eye, in that it hath been ennobled to behold the traces of God, the Lord of Lords. Thou wert mentioned in the presence of the Wronged One. Verily thy Lord loveth His loved ones and sendeth down

for them that which shall endure as long as His names and attributes endure. He, verily, is the All-Bountiful, the Ever-Flowing. The Glory be upon thee and upon them who were not hindered by utterance from their Lord, the All-Merciful, who took what was sent down for them and cast away what the servants possessed.

BH10308: God testifieth that there is none other God but…

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

God testifieth that there is none other God but Him. His is the grace and bounty, His the generosity and munificence, His the grandeur and favors. He it is Who transmuteth hardship into ease, and poverty into wealth, and abasement into glory, and darkness into light. I beseech Him to ordain for whosoever hath turned unto Him a blessing from the heaven of His bounty and a mercy from the clouds of His generosity. Verily He is the One Who hath power over whatsoever He willeth through His word "Be" and it is. The Command is in the hand of our Lord, the Guardian, the Self-Subsisting. There is none other God but Him, the Mighty, the Beloved.

BH10493: O thou who hast turned thy face unto Mine…

In the Name of Him by Whom the fragrance of God, the Sovereign, the Self-Subsisting, hath been wafted!

O thou who hast turned thy face unto Mine Own! My Pen remembereth thee at this moment. Blessed is the servant by whose name the tongue of My grandeur hath been moved, and blessed is he who hath turned towards God, the One, the All-Knowing. We have sent down the verses and manifested the clear proofs, yet most of the people remain heedless. Say: Praise be unto Thee, O my God, for having guided me unto Thy path and revealed unto me that which shall endure as long as Thy names endure. Ordain for me that which is best for me. Verily, Thou art the Most Merciful of them that show mercy, and the Fulfiller of the needs of them that cleave fast unto Thee.

BH10724: This is what hath shone forth from the horizon…

This is what hath shone forth from the horizon of utterance

O Muhammad! Upon thee be the peace of God and His loving-kindness. Thou hast ever been and art remembered, and the glance of loving-kindness is directed towards thee, and the tongue of loving-kindness speaketh thy praise, and the heart of loving-kindness is turned towards thee, for God hath made thee a treasure and hath deposited within thee the pearls of His love, the Mighty, the Wondrous. Blessed be your gathering, and your remembrance, and your utterance, and your love, and your fellowship, and your intentions, and your purposes in the path of God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH10607: The Wronged One testifieth to God's unity and oneness…

He is the Mighty!

The Wronged One testifieth to God's unity and oneness, to His might and grandeur and sovereignty. We bear witness that there is none other God but Him, the Truth, the Knower of things unseen. Within His

grasp is the reins of all affairs. He doeth what He willeth and decreeth what He pleaseth, and He is the Mighty, the Loving. We beseech Him at this hour to ordain for His loved ones that which will draw them nigh unto Him and exalt them through His name, and send down upon them a blessing from His presence. Verily He is the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous.

BH10728: O Muhammad-Rida! The Wronged One beareth witness to thy…

He is the Helper!

O Muhammad-Rida! The Wronged One beareth witness to thy turning, thy acceptance, thy presence, and thy arising before the gate which was opened unto all who are in the heavens and on earth. We bear witness that thou hast drunk the choice wine of utterance from the hand of the bounty of thy Lord, the Most Merciful, and hast attained unto that which was inscribed by the Most Exalted Pen in the Books of God, the Lord of the worlds. We counsel thee to remain steadfast in this Cause whereby the feet of the mystics have slipped, save those whom God, the Lord of the worlds, hath willed.

BH10667: This is the station of submission and contentment. It…

He is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed

This is the station of submission and contentment. It behooveth him who hath quaffed the living waters of immortality from the hand of bounty—he who hath been designated by the letter Ha by the Most Exalted Pen, and by another name in the Book of Names—to entrust all affairs unto God, the Lord of the Beginning and the End, and to say:

> "O my God! I have willed what Thou hast willed. I have placed my trust in Thee, and I am certain that Thou art the Trustworthy, the All-Wise. I have committed the reins of all affairs into the grasp of Thy Will, and have chosen what Thou hast chosen. Verily, Thou art the Mighty, the Unconstrained."

BH10720: O All-Bountiful One! Upon thee be the glory…

He is the All-Bountiful, the Lord of Great Grace!

O All-Bountiful One! Upon thee be the glory of God, the Lord of the worlds! In these days mention of thee hath repeatedly been revealed from the Supreme Pen. The Most Great Branch was present at this moment and made mention of thee. We have remembered thee with that which hath no equal among all remembrances. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to make thee mighty amongst His servants and eloquent in His praise throughout His lands. Verily He is the Mighty, the All-Bestowing. The Glory from Us be upon thee and upon those who are with thee, both men and women.

BH10710: O Aziz! Upon thee be My Glory! We have…

In the Name of the Self-Subsisting Lord over all names!

O Aziz! Upon thee be My Glory! We have indeed glorified thee through thy turning to My horizon, and adorned thee with the ornament of My love, and delivered thee through My grace, and guided thee to My path, and illumined thee with the light of My presence, and given thee to drink, both morn and eve, from the Kawthar of My knowledge. Say: Praise be unto Thee, O my God, for having manifested unto me that which was inscribed by the Most Exalted Pen, and for having sent down unto me that whose fragrance shall never cease throughout the duration of Thy kingdom and Thy dominion. Thou art, verily, the Almighty, the All-Glorious, the All-Bountiful.

BH10679: O Iskandar! We have turned toward thee…

He is seated upon the throne of utterance

O Iskandar! We have turned toward thee from the precincts of the Prison and have sent down for thee that which will attract thee to the supreme horizon, the station wherein the Call hath been raised. When thou hearest and attainest unto it, say: Praise be unto Thee, O Thou Who art the Goal of the hearts of them that know and the Beloved of those who dwell in the heavens and the earth. Convey My glorification unto thy sons, and remind them of My verses, and illumine them with the light of My loving-kindness which hath encompassed both worlds.

BH10732: O Mihdi! Hear the call from the direction…

He is God, exalted be He!

O Mihdi! Hear the call from the direction of God, the All-Protecting, the Self-Subsisting. He remembers you with a remembrance from which you will drink the waters of steadfastness in the Cause of God, the Mighty, the Loving. Soon will the cawing of the cawers rise up in that place. This is what We informed the servants of before, and We inform you as a grace from Us. Verily your Lord is He Who has sovereignty over what was and what will be. The glory from Us be upon you and upon those who have taken the Book of God before all faces.

BH10701: O Rida! Verily the Wronged One is in manifest…

He is the All-Commanding, the All-Wise

O Rida! Verily the Wronged One is in manifest sorrow. My sorrow is not for the martyrdom of My loved ones, nor for what hath befallen Me at the hands of the divines of the Qur'an, nor from the kings and rulers. That which hath befallen Me is such as I do not wish to mention. To this My Most Exalted Pen beareth witness in this Great Prison. He who circled round Me made mention of thee. We make mention of thee in this wondrous Tablet. We beseech God to give thee to drink, from the cup of His bounty, the choice wine of His utterance. Verily, He is the All-Giving, the All-Bountiful.

BH10739: O Yahya! The promise hath come to pass…

He is the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious

O Yahya! The promise hath come to pass, and the Spirit crieth out among the servants. Verily, those who lay claim to knowledge and wisdom have debarred themselves from this bounty that hath encompassed all regions. We have tested them and found them in wondrous doubt. Blessed art thou for having cast away vain imaginings and taken hold of the Book by the command of God, the Lord of all religions. The glory from Us be upon thee and upon those whom We have mentioned at this time through verses that have encompassed the earth and the heavens.

BH10649: The food from heaven is the knowledge of God…

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

The food from heaven is the knowledge of God, and His everlasting bounty is His wondrous remembrance. The verses are what hath appeared from His presence—to this testifieth everyone possessed of insight and knowledge. O My loved ones! Hear ye My call, and be not of the heedless. Beware lest ye deny God and His Most Great and Supreme Sovereignty. A Book hath spoken with truth, did ye but know it. Verily it hath been sent down from God, the Help in Peril, the Self-Subsisting. It giveth glad tidings of what hath been ordained for them—that is, for mankind. Blessed are the people who understand.

BH10960: O Muhammad! Upon thee be the peace of God…

O Muhammad! Upon thee be the peace of God and His glory! The sorrows that have come have rolled up the carpet of joy. Glory be to God! At one moment my heart rejoiceth because of it, and at another I find it in manifest grief. The poet of Shiraz hath well said:

“If the wind were to fall upon me it would carry me away,

for no one remaineth beneath this garment.”…

BH10819: This is a remembrance from Us to him who…

He is the All-Remembering, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed

This is a remembrance from Us to him who hath believed in the One, the All-Knowing, he whose name was presented before the Wronged One in this exalted station. Verily, We arose this day and desired this station which We have mentioned time and again, and have revealed therein that whereby the fragrance of utterance hath been wafted throughout all creation.

BH10929: O Rida! Upon thee be the Glory of God…

He is the One Who has dominion over all names

O Rida! Upon thee be the Glory of God, the Sovereign of the Kingdom of Names! Hearken unto the Call from this Spot which God hath made the point round which circle them that are nigh unto Him and His Messengers. Verily, there is none other God but Him, the Single, the One, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. We have witnessed thy turning unto Us, whereupon We turned unto thee, and We heard thy call,

whereupon We called out unto thee from this glorious and wondrous Spot. Verily thy Lord is the All-Bountiful, the Almighty, the All-Forgiving, the Most Generous.

BH10942: O Ali! We have remembered all My loved ones…

He is the Mighty, the Great

O Ali! We have remembered all My loved ones and have sent down for them that which bringeth joy to the eyes of them that know. Say: My God, my God! Aid me to serve Thy Cause and to perform such deeds as may be adorned with the glory of Thy acceptance. O my Lord! I am Thy servant and the son of Thy servant. Deprive me not from the door of Thy grace, and disappoint me not from that which lieth with Thee. Verily, Thou art the All-Bountiful, the All-Generous.

BH10954: O My Pen! Make mention of him who hath…

He is the Almighty in the Supreme Concourse

O My Pen! Make mention of him who hath been named ʿAli-Aqa, that he may rejoice in that which the Tongue of Grandeur hath moved with his name, and in that which God hath made to be revealed unto him as a light amidst the darkness of the earth, and as a fire in the Lote-Tree of the Bayan, and as a manifestation in the world and the Most Great Name amongst the peoples. Thus have We sent down that which We desired from the heaven of Our loving-kindness that hath encompassed all who are in the heavens and on the earth.

BH10914: O Aqa Khan! The divine fragrances have been wafted…

He is the Most Exalted, the All-Glorious

O Aqa Khan! The divine fragrances have been wafted, yet the people remain in manifest remoteness. They have cast the Cause of God behind their backs, clinging to the vain imaginings of the heedless. Among men are those who have taken their own desires as lord instead of God—verily they are among the abased ones. Give thanks to thy Lord for having sent down unto thee that which all the remembrances of the world and whatsoever is with the nations cannot equal. To this doth this perspicuous Tablet bear witness.

BH10951: O Ghulam-Ali! We beseech God to confirm the people…

He is God!

O Ghulam-Ali! We beseech God to confirm the people of that land so they may hear from you that which you impart for the sake of God. Blessed is the servant who hearkens to your counsel and to that which your tongue hath uttered concerning the Cause of God, the All-Subduing, the Self-Subsisting. The friends in that land are remembered in the presence of God and have attained His grace. The glory of God rest upon you and upon them from God, the Mighty, the Powerful.

BH10921: O Hasan! The Wronged One turns to thee…

He is the Most Exalted, the All-Glorious

O Hasan! The Wronged One turns to thee and counsels thee with that which will exalt God's Cause amongst His servants, and with those virtues which We have ordained as hosts for this Cause—the Cause that hath made the pillars of existence to quake and hath thrown into commotion all hearts and minds. The glory rest upon thee and upon thy children and thy wife. Gladden them with the remembrance of My having remembered them, and illumine them with the light of My glorious and beloved utterance.

BH10858: In My Name through which the Book has called…

In My Name through which the Book has called out!

O Mahmud! Upon thee be the Glory of God, the Mighty, the Loving! Say: Glory be unto Thee, O my God! Thou seest me clinging to the cord of Thy bounty and holding fast to the hem of Thy grace. I beseech Thee by the waves of the ocean of Thy utterance and the effulgences of the Orb of Thy proof to number me with such as were not held back by swords from drawing nigh unto Thee, nor by cannons from turning toward the lights of Thy countenance. Verily, Thou art the One Who hath power over whatsoever He willeth through Thy word "Be" and it is.

BH10959: O Muhammad, upon thee be My glory! The Most…

He is the Manifest, the Speaking One, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise

O Muhammad, upon thee be My glory! The Most Great Ocean desires to reveal unto thee what lay hidden within His shells of the pearls of wisdom and utterance, that thou mayest be assured through thy Lord's bounty and give thanks to Him at eventide and at dawn. Glorify the name of thy Lord and say: Praise be unto Thee, O Thou Who hast guided me and remembered me and illumined me with the light of Thy knowledge when I was oppressed among the hands of the ignorant.

BH10956: O Muhammad after Mirza! We have turned unto thee…

He is the Most Exalted, the All-Glorious!

O Muhammad after Mirza! We have turned unto thee at this time and revealed unto thee pearls from the shells of My wondrous ocean of utterance. When thou attainest unto them, arise from thy place and turn toward the Kaaba of God, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise, and say:

> "Praise be unto Thee, O Thou the Desire of the world, for having adorned my being with the ornament of Thy remembrance, the mighty, the wondrous. I beseech Thee to ordain for me that which will draw me nigh unto Thee. Verily, Thou art the All-Powerful, the Commander, the All-Wise."

BH10962: O Muhammad-Qabli-Hasan! The Light crieth out and saith: O…

He is the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious!

O Muhammad-Qabli-Hasan! The Light crieth out and saith: O ye that lie buried in the graves! By God, He Who conversed with Moses from the Burning Bush hath appeared. Why do I see you among the dead? Arise from the sepulchers of self and desire, then hearken unto the call of your Lord, the Most High, the Most Glorious. Beware lest the veils of them that doubt and the whisperings of the heedless shut you out. The dominion of earth and heaven is in the grasp of the power of our Lord, the Almighty, the All-Powerful.

BH10961: O Muhammad-Ja'far! The trees hear My call…

He is the Most Exalted, the All-Glorious

O Muhammad-Ja'far! The trees hear My call in the morning and the evening, at nightfall and at dawn. By My life! In the early hours My ears hear My own call. Were anyone to hear it, they would rush from their home crying out and saying:

> "My soul be a sacrifice for Thee, O Thou through Whose name the lights have shone forth! I beseech Thee by Thy bounty and generosity not to disappoint me in attaining that which Thou hast ordained for Thy chosen servants."

BH10969: O Muhammad-Qabli-Mihdi! You have been mentioned in the presence…

He is the Single One, the All-Informed

O Muhammad-Qabli-Mihdi! You have been mentioned in the presence of the Wronged One for successive years, and We have previously revealed for you that which, were We to cast it upon the world, all things would proclaim:

> "The appointed time has come, and He Who reveals the verses has appeared with His proof and His evidence!"

Blessed is he who has attained, and woe unto every heedless and remote one. The glory from Us be upon you and upon every steadfast and upright one.

BH10930: O Rida! We were speaking in remembrance of God…

He is the Most Exalted, the All-Glorious!

O Rida! We were speaking in remembrance of God, the Lord of all beings. The leaf sent by Zaynu'l-Muqarrabin, upon him be My glory and loving-kindness, was presented before the Wronged One, and therein was thy name. We make mention of thee with this wondrous and glorious mention. Blessed is the ear that hath been honored to hear My call, and the eye that hath been privileged to behold My horizon, and the hand that hath taken hold of My manifest and perspicuous Book. We beseech God to aid thee and those who have believed to remain steadfast in this momentous Announcement.

BH10910: O thou who art present before the Wronged One!…

He is the Ordaining, the All-Wise

O thou who art present before the Wronged One! Turn towards Iran, which is beloved and acceptable. Say: Glory be to Thee, O my God! I beseech Thee by the sighs of those who are enkindled with Thy love, and by the tears of them who are near unto Thee in their separation from Thee, to ordain for me that which will draw me nigh unto Thee. Then open before my face the doors of Thy bounty and bestowal, and that which will profit me in all the worlds of Thy worlds. Verily, Thou art the Powerful, the Mighty, the All-Bountiful.

BH10939: O ʿAbdu'l-Baha! Upon thee be My glory! Repeatedly have…

He is the Speaker, the Rememberer, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed

O ʿAbdu'l-Baha! Upon thee be My glory! Repeatedly have thy letters been presented before the Wronged One and attained the honor of His presence. Say: Glory be unto Thee, O my God! I beseech Thee by Thy Most Glorious Name, through which the limbs of all names have trembled, and glory be unto Thee, O my God! I beseech Thee by Thy Greater Signs, through whose fragrances all things have been attracted, to illumine my deeds with the light of Thy acceptance. Verily, Thou art the Generous, the Bountiful, the Mighty, the Loving.

BH11182: O Muhammad! Upon thee be My glory and My…

He is the All-Bountiful

O Muhammad! Upon thee be My glory and My mercy. Well known is it that this Wronged One loveth His friends and their presence is beloved. However, they must observe what is wise for the Cause and what the exigencies of the time require. Excellent is that which ʿAbdu'l-Karim, upon whom be My glory and loving-kindness, hath uttered. Verily We were with him and heard what he said.

BH11109: Say: Glory be unto Thee, O my God! I…

He is the Hearer, the Answerer!

Say: Glory be unto Thee, O my God! I beseech Thee by Thy bounty and Thy hosts, and by the Light through which the cities of Thy knowledge and wisdom were illumined, to ordain for me that which will draw me nigh unto Thee, and to decree for me that which will render me independent through Thy riches and steadfast in Thy love. Verily, Thou art the All-Powerful, the Mighty, the Unconstrained.

BH11000: My Most Supreme Pen desireth to make mention, first…

He is the Expounder, the Resplendent, the Generous

My Most Supreme Pen desireth to make mention, first and foremost, of My Afnan who turned unto My in the early days, who arose to serve My Cause and uttered My praise…

BH11074: Glory be unto Thee, O God of the unseen…

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

Glory be unto Thee, O God of the unseen and the seen! I beseech Thee by Thy Name, the All-Loving, which hath encompassed all that is seen and unseen, to ordain for him who hath turned unto Thee a station beneath Thy shade. Verily, Thou art the All-Bountiful, the Generous. Verily, Thou art the All-Outpouring, the Merciful. Verily, Thou art the Munificent, the Giver, the Mighty, the All-Knowing.

BH11144: O Akbar! The Lord of Destiny mentions thee…

He is the All-Wise

O Akbar! The Lord of Destiny mentions thee from the Most Great Scene with verses that neither the world nor what hath been ordained therein can equal. Rejoice with this most great rejoicing and say: Praise be unto Thee, O Lord of Destiny, for having remembered me while I was imprisoned in the hands of the heedless. I testify that Thou art the Most Merciful of the merciful. There is no God but Thee, the Manifest, the Speaking, the All-Knowing.

BH11174: O ʿAli-Akbar! We have enjoined upon all trustworthiness…

He is the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious.

O ʿAli-Akbar! We have enjoined upon all trustworthiness and godliness, and that whereby their stations may be elevated amidst the peoples. Yet the people have turned away from the truth and committed that which causeth the mountains to lament. We beseech God that He may enable all to remain firm in this Cause, through which feet have slipped.

BH11187: O Mahmud! The first glad-tidings that hath become manifest…

He is seated upon the throne of utterance

O Mahmud! The first glad-tidings that hath become manifest in these days is the turning of His Holiness Ali-Qabl-i-Akbar toward imprisonment in the path of God, and likewise the acceptance of His Holiness the Trustee and his entry into the mighty prison in the path of God, the Lord of all worlds….

BH11072: Glorified art Thou, O God of Names and Creator…

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

Glorified art Thou, O God of Names and Creator of heaven! I beseech Thee by the leaves of the Divine Lote-Tree, and by its fruits, branches, boughs and rustling, that Thou change the fire of separation from Thy loved ones into the light of reunion with Thee, and their remoteness into nearness unto Thee. Verily, Thou art the Ancient One, possessed of great bounty. There is none other God but Thee, the Mighty, the Generous.

BH11148: In My Name through which the ocean surgeth

In My Name through which the ocean surgeth

O My handmaiden! Upon thee be My glory and My loving-kindness. Rejoice in My remembrance of thee. By the life of God! The pearls in the ocean's shells and all that lies hidden in the mines cannot compare with My utterance. Verily thy Lord is the Powerful, the Mighty, the All-Bountiful. We have made mention of Our servant who hath been named Muhammad Mihdi in the Book of God, the Mighty, the All-Praised.

BH11178: O Ghulam-Husayn! Blessed art thou and blessed is thy…

He is the Dawning Place from the horizon of proof!

O Ghulam-Husayn! Blessed art thou and blessed is thy name. We beseech God to assist thee in that which befitteth this Revelation, at whose appearance the sun and its effulgences were thunderstruck, and the limbs of the earth and its standards trembled, except for those whom God, the Lord of this wondrous and glorious Day, willed otherwise.

BH11159: O Hasan! Thy name hath been mentioned in Our…

He is the Most High, the Most Glorious

O Hasan! Thy name hath been mentioned in Our presence, and We have revealed for thee that which attracteth the hearts of them that are endued with understanding. Grieve thou not over anything, but place thy trust in all matters in God, the Lord of the Day of Return. He will exalt thee through His remembrance and ordain for thee that which shall abide with thee in all conditions.

BH11161: O Husayn! Say: O people of the Bayan! Fear…

He is the Most Exalted, the All-Glorious.

O Husayn! Say: O people of the Bayan! Fear ye the All-Merciful. This is that Husayn Who was promised in the Book of God, the Lord of lords. Verily, He hath appeared after the Qa'im with a Cause before which all who are in earth and heaven shall not stand. Cast away your vain imaginings. By God! The light of certitude hath dawned from the horizon of God's will, the Lord of all men.

BH11193: O Mirza Hasan! We were engaged in remembering thee…

He is the Most Exalted, the All-Glorious!

O Mirza Hasan! We were engaged in remembering thee when the cry of all things was raised in remembrance of this Remembered One, through Whom the mountains and the seas and the trees have spoken. Blessed is he who is adorned with the ornament of fairness, and woe unto them that turn away and deny! Give thanks unto thy Lord for having caused thy name to endure in His mighty Book.

BH11184: O Muhammad-Qablih-Rahim! Sorrows have encompassed Me because We summoned…

In the Name of Him Whom God hath made the Sovereign of Names!

O Muhammad-Qablih-Rahim! Sorrows have encompassed Me because We summoned the servants unto their Lord, the All-Merciful. We called them unto the light, yet they desired for Us the fire. What aileth these people that they understand not a single word from God, the Lord of the glorious Throne and the Lord of the exalted Seat!

BH10987: I beseech Thee, O God of Names and Sovereign…

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

I beseech Thee, O God of Names and Sovereign over all things, by the lights of Thy Kingdom and Thy Dominion, to rain down upon him who hath turned unto Thee the showers of Thy mercy from the clouds of Thy grace. O Lord! Assist him through Thy bounty and ordain for him that which befitteth the heaven of Thy generosity. Verily, Thou art the All-Bountiful, the Forgiver, the Merciful.

BH10992: My God, my Lord, my Beloved, my Goal! I…

My God, my Lord, my Beloved, my Goal! I have come unto Thee and I beseech of Thee that which is the cause of Thy forgiveness. Thou art the Ocean of bounty and the Lord of existence. From time immemorial Thy glance hath been the cause of the appearance of bounty and bestowal. Deprive not Thy servants and withhold them not from the sacred precincts of nearness. Thou art the Bestower, the Kind. There is none other God but Thee, the Mighty, the All-Bountiful.

BH11061: Glorified be He Who has manifested the Cause, sent…

He is the All-Seeing, the All-Informed

Glorified be He Who has manifested the Cause, sent down the verses, and caused all things to speak forth His most resplendent, most glorious remembrance. He it is Who has broken the seal of the choice sealed Wine through His Name, the Self-Subsisting, and Who has elevated the station of His Afnan and their kinship to Himself as a bounty from His presence. Verily, He is the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous. Praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH11079: God testifies that He is the All-Powerful, the All-Compelling…

He is God, exalted is He!

God testifies that He is the All-Powerful, the All-Compelling, the Self-Subsisting. He has appeared and revealed whatsoever He willed. Nothing escapes His knowledge. He is the Truth, the Knower of the unseen. He gives to drink the choice sealed wine through His Name, the Self-Subsisting, and gives glad tidings to His branches of that which hath been ordained for them from His Most Exalted Pen—that which cannot be mentioned by any mention. And He is the Mighty, the Unconstrained.

BH11110: Say: Glory be unto Thee, O my God…

In the Name of the Eternal, the Everlasting

Say: Glory be unto Thee, O my God, and glory be unto Thee, O my Beloved and my Heart's Desire! I beseech Thee by the ocean of Thy verses and by the Ark which Thou hast ordained for the people of Thy Baha, to open before my face the door of Thy bounty and to ordain for me that which shall profit me through Thy Name amidst Thy creation. Thou art, verily, the All-Powerful, before Whose manifestations of power the very essence of might hath confessed its powerlessness. There is none other God but Thee, the Almighty, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

BH11114: Each day doth the wolf devour one…

He is the All-Knowing!

Each day doth the wolf devour one of the sheep of God. O my God! How long wilt Thou look on and be patient? Justice requireth that judgment be passed upon him, and equity demandeth retribution for his deeds, that security and peace may be established. O Thou Help in Peril! By Thy might! All existence is bewildered at Thy patience, O Possessor of the unseen and the seen!

BH11334: O Siyyid-i-Qabli-Hashim! Calamities have encompassed Us from all directions…

He is the One Who has dominion over all names.

O Siyyid-i-Qabli-Hashim! Calamities have encompassed Us from all directions through that which the hands of those who disbelieved in God, the Lord of all beings, have wrought, and who objected to Him through Whose word was revealed that which was hidden in knowledge and concealed from eyes.

BH11339: O Abbas! The Revealer of Verses remembers you…

He is the Manifest One.

O Abbas! The Revealer of Verses remembers you and the Manifestor of Evidence has turned toward you and makes mention of you through that which the trees have uttered: "The Kingdom belongs to God, the Powerful, the Unconstrained," and the seas: "By God! He hath come Who was mentioned in the Books of God, the Mighty, the Bestower."

BH11214: My God, my God! Adorn Thy servants…

…My God, my God! Adorn Thy servants with the ornament of justice and fairness, illuminate their hearts with the light of Thy knowledge, and crown their heads with the diadem of steadfastness in Thy Cause. Make known unto them, O my God, the manifestations of Thy grace and the revelations of Thy bounty. Thou art, verily, the Mighty, the Glorious, the All-Knowing.

BH11350: O Mirza! Hearken unto the call of God…

He is the One Who rules over all names

O Mirza! Hearken unto the call of God, the Lord of Names, which has been raised from the precincts of the Prison, as a token of His grace unto thee, that thou mayest be thankful and say:

> "Here am I, O Beloved of the world! Here am I, O Thou the Goal of all nations! Here am I, O Thou Who art wronged at the hands of the oppressors!"

BH11351: O Mirza Hashim! Rejoice in that the Supreme Pen…

He is the Concealed One

O Mirza Hashim! Rejoice in that the Supreme Pen hath made mention of thee from the Most Glorious Horizon, and hath sent down for thee that whose fragrance shall never be cut off, so long as the Kingdom of God and His most beautiful names and most exalted attributes shall endure. Thus hath the matter been decreed from before God, the Lord of all beings.

BH11306: Blessed is the condition of the servant of Abtan…

He is the Mighty

Blessed is the condition of the servant of Abtan, for the time of breaking the fast has come—a time of joy and gladness for all Muslims. The late Alusi one night attained the presence and said "O my Lord, my tears of grief sadden me while my tears of joy gladden me."

BH11434: O Alif before Sin! Hear the Call of God…

He is the Powerful, the Mighty.

O Alif before Sin! Hear the Call of God, the Most Exalted. Verily it hath been raised from the direction of Akka, and it maketh mention of those who have cast behind their backs all names, clinging fast to that which is with God, the Lord of Lords.

BH11419: The horizon of the world hath been illumined…

He is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

The horizon of the world hath been illumined by the Most Great Light, and all things have proclaimed:

> "The Sovereign hath come! The Kingdom belongeth unto God, the Mighty, the Loving!"

BH11450: O Hand of God! The Jews said "God's hand…

He is the Manifest One

O Hand of God! The Jews said “God’s hand is chained up.” Say: No, by His very Self, the True One! Indeed He doeth what He willeth and ordaineth what He pleaseth. Within His grasp are the reins of all matters and in His right hand are the reins of all created things.

BH11538: This Day is God’s Day, and this Cause His…

…This Day is God’s Day, and this Cause His Cause. Happy is he who hath renounced this world, and clung to Him Who is the Dayspring of God’s Revelation….

BH00005: Lawh-i-Ibn-i-Dhi’b (Epistle to the Son of the Wolf)

Section 1: “Praise be to God, the Eternal that perisheth…”

In the name of God, the One, the Incomparable, the All-Powerful, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

Praise be to God, the Eternal that perisheth not, the Everlasting that declineth not, the Self-Subsisting that altereth not. He it is Who is transcendent in His sovereignty, Who is manifest through His signs, and is hidden through His mysteries. He it is at Whose bidding the standard of the Most Exalted Word hath been lifted up in the world of creation, and the banner of “He doeth whatsoever He willeth” raised amidst all peoples. He it is Who hath revealed His Cause for the guidance of His creatures, and sent down His verses to demonstrate His Proof and His Testimony, and embellished the preface of the Book of Man with the ornament of utterance through His saying: “The God of Mercy hath taught the Qur’an, hath created man, and taught him articulate speech.” No God is there but Him, the One, the Peerless, the Powerful, the Mighty, the Beneficent.

The light that is shed from the heaven of bounty, and the benediction that shineth from the dawning-place of the will of God, the Lord of the Kingdom of Names, rest upon Him Who is the Supreme Mediator, the Most Exalted Pen, Him Whom God hath made the Dawning-Place of His most excellent names and the Dayspring of His most exalted attributes. Through Him the light of unity hath shone forth above the horizon of the world, and the law of oneness hath been revealed amidst the nations, who, with radiant faces, have turned towards the Supreme Horizon, and acknowledged that which the Tongue of Utterance hath spoken in the kingdom of His knowledge:

> “Earth and heaven, glory and dominion, are God’s, the Omnipotent, the Almighty, the Lord of grace abounding!”

Give ear, O distinguished divine, unto the voice of this Wronged One. He verily, counselleth thee for the sake of God, and exhorteth thee unto that which will cause thee to draw nigh unto Him under all conditions. He, in truth, is the All-Possessing, the Exalted. Know thou that the ear of man hath been created that it may hearken unto the Divine Voice on this Day that hath been mentioned in all the Books, Scriptures, and Tablets. Purify thou, first, thy soul with the waters of renunciation, and adorn thine head with the crown of the fear of God, and thy temple with the ornament of reliance upon Him. Arise, then, and, with thy face set towards the Most Great House, the Spot round which, as decreed by the Eternal King, all that dwell on earth must circle, recite:

“O God, my God, and my Desire, and my Adored One, and my Master, and my Mainstay, and my utmost Hope, and my supreme Aspiration! Thou seest me turning towards Thee, holding fast unto the cord of Thy bounty, clinging to the hem of Thy generosity, acknowledging the sanctity of Thy Self and the purity of Thine Essence, and testifying to Thy unity and Thy oneness. I bear witness that Thou art the One, the Single, the Incomparable, the Ever-Abiding. Thou didst not take unto Thyself a partner in Thy dominion, nor didst Thou choose a peer for Thyself upon earth. All created things have borne witness unto that which the Tongue of Thy grandeur hath testified ere their creation. Verily Thou art God; there is none other God but Thee! From everlasting Thou wast sanctified from the mention of Thy servants, and exalted above the description of Thy creatures. Thou beholdest, O Lord, the ignorant seeking the ocean of Thy knowledge, the sore athirst the living waters of Thine utterance, the abased the tabernacle of Thy glory, the poor the treasury of Thy riches, the suppliant the dawning-place of Thy wisdom, the weak the source of Thy strength, the wretched the heaven of Thy bounty, the dumb the kingdom of Thy mention.

“I testify, O my God, and my King, that Thou hast created me to remember Thee, to glorify Thee, and to aid Thy Cause. And yet, I have aided Thine enemies, who have broken Thy Covenant, who have cast away Thy Book, disbelieved in Thee, and repudiated Thy signs. Alas, alas, for my waywardness, and my shame, and my sinfulness, and my wrong-doing that have withheld me from the depths of the ocean of Thy unity and from fathoming the sea of Thy mercy. Wherefore, alas, alas! and again alas, alas! for my wretchedness and the grievousness of my transgressions! Thou didst call me into being, O my God, to exalt Thy Word, and to manifest Thy Cause. My heedlessness, however, hath deterred me and compassed me about, in such wise that I have arisen to blot out Thy signs, and to shed the blood of Thy loved ones, and of the dawning-places of Thy signs, and of the daysprings of Thy revelation, and of the repositories of Thy mysteries.

“O Lord, my Lord! and again, O Lord, my Lord! and yet again, O Lord, my Lord! I bear witness that by reason of mine iniquity the fruits of the tree of Thy justice have fallen, and through the fire of my rebelliousness the hearts of such of Thy creatures as enjoy near access to Thee were consumed, and the souls of the sincere among Thy servants have melted. O wretched, wretched that I am! O the cruelties, the glaring cruelties, I inflicted! Woe is me, woe is me, for my remoteness from Thee, and for my waywardness, and mine ignorance, and my baseness, and my repudiation of Thee, and my protests against Thee! How many the days during which Thou didst bid Thy servants and Thy loved ones to protect me, whilst I commanded them to harm Thee and to harm them that Thou didst trust!

And how numerous the nights during which Thou didst graciously remember me, and didst show me Thy path, whilst I turned away from Thee and from Thy signs! By Thy glory! O Thou Who art the Hope of such as have acknowledged Thy unity, and the Desire of the hearts of them that are rid of all attachment to any save Thee! I find no succorer except Thee, nor king, nor refuge, nor haven besides Thyself. Alas, alas! My turning away from Thee hath burnt up the veil of mine integrity, and my denial of Thee hath rent asunder the covering cast over mine honor. O would that I were beneath the depths of the earth, so that my evil deeds would remain unknown to Thy servants!

Thou seest the sinner, O my Lord, who hath turned towards the dawning-place of Thy forgiveness and Thy bounty, and the mountain of iniquity that hath sought the heaven of Thy mercy and pardon. Alas,

alas! My mighty sins have prevented me from approaching the court of Thy mercy, and my monstrous deeds have caused me to stray far from the sanctuary of Thy presence. Indeed, I am he that hath failed in duty towards Thee, and hath broken Thy Covenant and Thy Testament, and committed that which hath made the dwellers of the cities of Thy justice, and the dawning-places of Thy grace in Thy realms, to lament. I testify, O my God, that I have put away Thy commandments, and clung to the dictates of my passions, and have cast away the statutes of Thy Book, and seized the book of mine own desire.

O misery, misery! As mine iniquities waxed greater and greater, Thy forbearance towards me augmented, and as the fire of my rebelliousness grew fiercer, the more did Thy forgiveness and Thy grace seek to smother up its flame. By the power of Thy might! O Thou Who art the desire of the world and the Best-Beloved of the nations! Thy long-suffering hath puffed me up, and Thy patience hath emboldened me. Thou beholdest, O my God, the tears that my shame hath caused to flow, and the sighs which my heedlessness hath led me to utter. I swear by the greatness of Thy majesty! I can find for myself no habitation save beneath the shadow of the court of Thy bounty, nor any refuge except under the canopy of Thy mercy.

Thou seest me in the midst of a sea of despair and of hopelessness, after Thou didst cause me to hear Thy words "Despair not." By Thy power! My sore injustice hath severed the cord of my hope, and my rebellion hath darkened my face before the throne of Thy justice. Thou beholdest, O my God, him who is as one dead fallen at the door of Thy favor, ashamed to seek from the hand of Thy loving-kindness the living waters of Thy pardon. Thou hast given me a tongue wherewith to remember and praise Thee, and yet it uttereth that which hath caused the souls of such of Thy chosen ones as are nigh unto Thee to melt, and the hearts of the sincere amongst the dwellers of the habitations of holiness to be consumed.

Thou hast given me eyes to witness Thy signs, and to behold Thy verses, and to contemplate the revelations of Thine handiwork, but I have rejected Thy will, and have committed what hath caused the faithful among Thy creatures and the detached amidst Thy servants to groan. Thou hast given me ears that I may incline them unto Thy praise and Thy celebration, and unto that which Thou didst send down from the heaven of Thy bounty and the firmament of Thy will. And yet, alas, alas, I have forsaken Thy Cause, and have commanded Thy servants to blaspheme against Thy trusted ones and Thy loved ones, and have acted, before the throne of Thy justice, in such wise that those that have recognized Thy unity and are wholly devoted to Thee among the dwellers of Thy realm mourned with a sore lamentation.

I know not, O my God, which among my evildoings to mention before the billowing ocean of Thy favor, nor which of my trespasses to declare when face to face with the splendors of the suns of Thy goodly gifts and bounties.

> "I beseech Thee, this very moment, by the mysteries of Thy Book, and by the things hid in Thy knowledge, and by the pearls that lie concealed within the shells of the ocean of Thy mercy, to reckon me among such as Thou didst mention in Thy Book and describe in Thy Tablets. Hast Thou decreed for me, O my God, any joy after this tribulation, or any relief to succeed this affliction, or any ease to follow this trouble? Alas, alas! Thou hast ordained that every pulpit be set apart for Thy mention, and for the glorification of Thy Word, and the revelation of Thy Cause, but I have ascended it to proclaim the violation of Thy Covenant, and have spoken unto

> Thy servants such words as have caused the dwellers of the Tabernacles of Thy majesty and the denizens of the Cities of Thy wisdom to lament. How often hast Thou sent down the food of Thine utterance out of the heaven of Thy bounty, and I denied it; and how numerous the occasions on which Thou hast summoned me to the soft flowing waters of Thy mercy, and I have chosen to turn away therefrom, by reason of my having followed my own wish and desire! By Thy glory! I know not for which sin to beg Thy forgiveness and implore Thy pardon, nor from which of mine iniquities to turn aside unto the Court of Thy bounteousness and the Sanctuary of Thy favor. Such are my sins and trespasses that no man can number them, nor pen describe them. I implore Thee, O Thou that turnest darkness into light, and revealest Thy mysteries on the Sinai of Thy Revelation, to aid me, at all times, to put my trust in Thee, and to commit mine affairs unto Thy care. Make me, then, O my God, content with that which the finger of Thy decree hath traced, and the pen of Thy ordinance hath written. Potent art Thou to do what pleaseth Thee, and in Thy grasp are the reins of all that are in heaven and on earth. No God is there but Thee, the All-knowing, the All-Wise."

O Shaykh! Know thou that neither the calumnies which men may utter, nor their denials, nor any cavils they may raise, can harm him that hath clung to the cord of the grace, and seized the hem of the mercy, of the Lord of creation. By God! He, the Glory of God (Baha), hath spoken not from mere impulse. He that hath given Him a voice is He that hath given a voice unto all things, that they may praise and glorify Him. There is none other God but Him, the One, the Incomparable, the Lord of strength, the Unconditioned.

They whose sight is keen, whose ears are retentive, whose hearts are enlightened, and whose breasts are dilated, recognize both truth and falsehood, and distinguish the one from the other. Recite thou this prayer that hath flowed from the tongue of this Wronged One, and ponder thereon with a heart rid of all attachment, and with ears that are pure and sanctified, be attentive to its meaning, that haply thou mayest inhale the breath of detachment and have pity upon thyself and upon others:

> "My God, the Object of my adoration, the Goal of my desire, the All-Bountiful, the Most Compassionate! All life is of Thee, and all power lieth within the grasp of Thine omnipotence. Whosoever Thou exaltest is raised above the angels, and attaineth the station: Verily, We uplifted him to a place on high!'; and whosoever Thou dost abase is made lower than dust, nay, less than nothing. O Divine Providence! Though wicked, sinful, and intemperate, we still seek from Thee a seat of truth,' and long to behold the countenance of the Omnipotent King. It is Thine to command, and all sovereignty belongeth to Thee, and the realm of might boweth before Thy behest. Everything Thou doest is pure justice, nay, the very essence of grace. One gleam from the splendors of Thy Name, the All-Merciful, sufficeth to banish and blot out every trace of sinfulness from the world, and a single breath from the breezes of the Day of Thy Revelation is enough to adorn all mankind with a fresh attire. Vouchsafe Thy strength, O Almighty One, unto Thy weak creatures, and quicken them who are as dead, that haply they may find Thee, and may be led unto the ocean of Thy guidance, and may remain steadfast in Thy Cause. Should the fragrance of Thy praise be shed abroad by any of the divers tongues of the world, out of the East or out of the West, it would, verily, be prized and greatly cherished. If such tongues, however, be deprived of that fragrance, they assuredly would be unworthy of

any mention, in word or yet in thought. We beg of Thee, O Providence, to show Thy way unto all men, and to guide them aright. Thou art, verily, the Almighty, the Most Powerful, the All-Knowing, the All-Seeing."

Section 2: "We beseech God to aid thee to be…"

We beseech God to aid thee to be just and fair-minded, and to acquaint thee with the things that were hidden from the eyes of men. He, in truth, is the Mighty, the Unconstrained. We ask thee to reflect upon that which hath been revealed, and to be fair and just in thy speech, that perchance the splendors of the daystar of truthfulness and sincerity may shine forth, and may deliver thee from the darkness of ignorance, and illumine the world with the light of knowledge. This Wronged One hath frequented no school, neither hath He attended the controversies of the learned. By My life! Not of Mine own volition have I revealed Myself, but God, of His own choosing, hath manifested Me. In the Tablet, addressed to His Majesty the Shah—may God, blessed and glorified be He, assist him—these words have streamed from the tongue of this Wronged One:

> "O King! I was but a man like others, asleep upon My couch, when lo, the breezes of the All-Glorious were wafted over Me, and taught Me the knowledge of all that hath been. This thing is not from Me, but from One Who is Almighty and All-Knowing. And He bade Me lift up My voice between earth and heaven, and for this there befell Me what hath caused the tears of every man of understanding to flow. The learning current amongst men I studied not; their schools I entered not. Ask of the city wherein I dwelt, that thou mayest be well assured that I am not of them who speak falsely. This is but a leaf which the winds of the will of thy Lord, the Almighty, the All-Praised, have stirred. Can it be still when the tempestuous winds are blowing? Nay, by Him Who is the Lord of all Names and Attributes! They move it as they list. The evanescent is as nothing before Him Who is the Ever-Abiding. His all-compelling summons hath reached Me, and caused Me to speak His praise amidst all people. I was indeed as one dead when His behest was uttered. The hand of the will of thy Lord, the Compassionate, the Merciful, transformed Me."

Now is the moment in which to cleanse thyself with the waters of detachment that have flowed out from the Supreme Pen, and to ponder, wholly for the sake of God, those things which, time and again, have been sent down or manifested, and then to strive, as much as lieth in thee, to quench, through the power of wisdom and the force of thy utterance, the fire of enmity and hatred which smouldereth in the hearts of the peoples of the world. The Divine Messengers have been sent down, and their Books were revealed, for the purpose of promoting the knowledge of God, and of furthering unity and fellowship amongst men. But now behold, how they have made the Law of God a cause and pretext for perversity and hatred. How pitiful, how regrettable, that most men are cleaving fast to, and have busied themselves with, the things they possess, and are unaware of, and shut out as by a veil from, the things God possesseth!

Say: "O God, my God! Attire mine head with the crown of justice, and my temple with the ornament of equity. Thou, verily, art the Possessor of all gifts and bounties."

Justice and equity are twin Guardians that watch over men. From them are revealed such blessed and perspicuous words as are the cause of the well-being of the world and the protection of the nations.

These words have streamed from the pen of this Wronged One in one of His Tablets:

> "The purpose of the one true God, exalted be His glory, hath been to bring forth the Mystic Gems out of the mine of man—they Who are the Dawning-Places of His Cause and the Repositories of the pearls of His knowledge; for, God Himself, glorified be He, is the Unseen, the One concealed and hidden from the eyes of men. Consider what the Merciful hath revealed in the Qur'an: No vision taketh in Him, but He taketh in all vision, and He is the Subtile, the All-Informed!"

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 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 Baha, 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 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 hath involved the two Nations, how both sides have renounced their possessions and their lives. How many the villages that were completely wiped out!

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 insure 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 thick clouds are the exponents of idle fancies and vain imaginings, who are none other but the divines of Persia. At one time We spoke in the language of the lawgiver; at another in that of the truth-seeker and the mystic, and yet Our supreme purpose and highest wish hath always been to disclose the glory and sublimity of this station. God, verily, is a sufficient witness!

Consort with all men, O people of Baha, 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.

By "divines" in the passage cited above is meant those men who outwardly attire themselves with the raiment of knowledge, but who inwardly are deprived therefrom. In this connection, We quote from the Tablet addressed to His Majesty the Shah, certain passages from the "Hidden Words" which were revealed by the Abha Pen under the name of the "Book of Fatimih," the blessings of God be upon her!

> "O ye that are foolish, yet have a name to be wise! Wherefore do ye wear the guise of the shepherd, when inwardly ye have become wolves, intent upon My flock? Ye are even as the star, which riseth ere the dawn, and which, though it seem radiant and luminous, leadeth the wayfarers of My city astray into the paths of perdition."

And likewise He saith:

> "O ye seeming fair yet inwardly foul! Ye are like clear but bitter water, which to outward seeming is crystal pure but of which, when tested by the Divine Assayer, not a drop is accepted. Yea, the sunbeam falls alike upon the dust and the mirror, yet differ they in reflection even as doth the star from the earth: nay, immeasurable is the difference!"

And also He saith:

> "O essence of desire! At many a dawn have I turned from the realms of the Placeless unto thine abode, and found thee on the bed of ease busied with others than Myself. Thereupon, even as the flash of the spirit, I returned to the realms of celestial glory, and breathed it not in My retreats above unto the hosts of holiness."

And again He saith:

> "O bond slave of the world! Many a dawn hath the breeze of My loving-kindness wafted over thee and found thee upon the bed of heedlessness fast asleep. Bewailing then thy plight it returned whence it came."

Those divines, however, who are truly adorned with the ornament of knowledge and of a goodly character are, verily, as a head to the body of the world, and as eyes to the nations. The guidance of men hath, at all times, been, and is, dependent upon such blessed souls. We beseech God to graciously aid them to do His will and pleasure. He, in truth, is the Lord of all men, the Lord of this world and of the next.

O Shaykh! We have learned that thou hast turned away from Us, and protested against Us, in such wise that thou hast bidden the people to curse Me, and decreed that the blood of the servants of God be shed. God requite him who said: "Willingly will I obey the judge who hath so strangely decreed that my blood be spilt at Hill and at Haram!" Verily I say: Whatever befalleth in the path of God is the beloved of the soul and the desire of the heart. Deadly poison in His path is pure honey, and every tribulation a draught of crystal water. In the Tablet to His Majesty the Shah it is written: "By Him Who is the Truth! I

fear no tribulation in His path, nor any affliction in My love for Him. Verily God hath made adversity as a morning dew upon His green pasture, and a wick for His lamp which lighteth earth and heaven."

Set thine heart towards Him Who is the Kaaba of God, the Help in Peril, the Self-Subsisting, and raise thou thine hands with such firm conviction as shall cause the hands of all created things to be lifted up towards the heaven of the grace of God, the Lord of all worlds. Turn, then, thy face towards Him in such wise that the faces of all beings will turn in the direction of His shining and luminous Horizon, and say: "Thou seest me, O my Lord, with my face turned towards the heaven of Thy bounty and the ocean of Thy favor, withdrawn from all else beside Thee. I ask of Thee, by the splendors of the Sun of Thy revelation on Sinai, and the effulgences of the Orb of Thy grace which shineth from the horizon of Thy Name, the Ever-Forgiving, to grant me Thy pardon and to have mercy upon me.

Write down, then, for me with Thy pen of glory that which will exalt me through Thy Name in the world of creation. Aid me, O my Lord, to set myself towards Thee, and to hearken unto the voice of Thy loved ones, whom the powers of the earth have failed to weaken, and the dominion of the nations has been powerless to withhold from Thee, and who, advancing towards Thee, have said: 'God is our Lord, the Lord of all who are in heaven and all who are on earth!"'

O Shaykh! Verily I say, the seal of the Choice Wine hath, in the name of Him Who is the Self-Subsisting, been broken; withhold not thyself therefrom. This Wronged One speaketh wholly for the sake of God; thou too shouldst, likewise, for the sake of God, meditate upon those things that have been sent down and manifested, that haply thou mayest, on this blessed Day, take thy portion of the liberal effusions of Him Who is truly the All-Bountiful, and mayest not remain deprived thereof. This indeed would not be hard for God. Dust-made Adam was raised up, through the Word of God, to the heavenly throne, and a mere fisherman was made the repository of Divine wisdom, and Abu-Dhar, the shepherd, became a prince of the nations!

This Day, O Shaykh, hath never been, nor is it now, the Day whereon man-made arts and sciences can be regarded as a true standard for men, since it hath been recognized that He Who was wholly unversed in any of them hath ascended the throne of purest gold, and occupied the seat of honor in the council of knowledge, whilst the acknowledged exponent and repository of these arts and sciences remained utterly deprived. By "arts and sciences" is meant those which begin with words and end with words. Such arts and sciences, however, as are productive of good results, and bring forth their fruit, and are conducive to the well-being and tranquility of men have been, and will remain, acceptable before God. Wert thou to give ear to My voice, thou wouldst cast away all thy possessions, and wouldst set thy face towards the Spot wherein the ocean of wisdom and of utterance hath surged, and the sweet savors of the loving-kindness of thy Lord, the Compassionate, have wafted.

We deem it advisable, in this connection, to recount briefly some past events, that perchance they may be the means of vindicating the cause of equity and justice. At the time when His Majesty the Shah, may God, his Lord, the Most Merciful, aid him through His strengthening grace, was planning a journey to Isfahan, this Wronged One, having obtained his permission, visited the holy and luminous resting-places of the Imams, may the blessings of God be upon them! Upon Our return, We proceeded to Lavasan on account of the excessive heat prevailing in the capital. Following Our departure, there occurred the

attempt upon the life of His Majesty, may God, exalted and glorified be He, assist him. Those days were troublous days, and the fires of hatred burned high.

Many were arrested, among them this Wronged One. By the righteousness of God! We were in no wise connected with that evil deed, and Our innocence was indisputably established by the tribunals. Nevertheless, they apprehended Us, and from Niyavaran, which was then the residence of His Majesty, conducted Us, on foot and in chains, with bared head and bare feet, to the dungeon of Tihran. A brutal man, accompanying Us on horseback, snatched off Our hat, whilst We were being hurried along by a troop of executioners and officials. We were consigned for four months to a place foul beyond comparison. As to the dungeon in which this Wronged One and others similarly wronged were confined, a dark and narrow pit were preferable.

Upon Our arrival We were first conducted along a pitch-black corridor, from whence We descended three steep flights of stairs to the place of confinement assigned to Us. The dungeon was wrapped in thick darkness, and Our fellow prisoners numbered nearly a hundred and fifty souls: thieves, assassins and highwaymen. Though crowded, it had no other outlet than the passage by which We entered. No pen can depict that place, nor any tongue describe its loathsome smell. Most of these men had neither clothes nor bedding to lie on. God alone knoweth what befell Us in that most foul-smelling and gloomy place!

Section 3: "Day and night, while confined in that dungeon…"

Day and night, while confined in that dungeon, We meditated upon the deeds, the condition, and the conduct of the Babis, wondering what could have led a people so high-minded, so noble, and of such intelligence, to perpetrate such an audacious and outrageous act against the person of His Majesty. This Wronged One, thereupon, decided to arise, after His release from prison, and undertake, with the utmost vigor, the task of regenerating this people.

One night, in a dream, these exalted words were heard on every side:

> "Verily, We shall render Thee victorious by Thyself and by Thy Pen. Grieve Thou not for that which hath befallen Thee, neither be Thou afraid, for Thou art in safety. Erelong will God raise up the treasures of the earth—men who will aid Thee through Thyself and through Thy Name, wherewith God hath revived the hearts of such as have recognized Him."

And when this Wronged One went forth out of His prison, We journeyed, in pursuance of the order of His Majesty the Shah—may God, exalted be He, protect him—to Iraq, escorted by officers in the service of the esteemed and honored governments of Persia and Russia. After Our arrival, We revealed, as a copious rain, by the aid of God and His Divine Grace and mercy, Our verses, and sent them to various parts of the world. We exhorted all men, and particularly this people, through Our wise counsels and loving admonitions, and forbade them to engage in sedition, quarrels, disputes and conflict. As a result of this, and by the grace of God, waywardness and folly were changed into piety and understanding, and weapons converted into instruments of peace.

During the days I lay in the prison of Tihran, though the galling weight of the chains and the stench-filled air allowed Me but little sleep, still in those infrequent moments of slumber I felt as if something flowed

from the crown of My head over My breast, even as a mighty torrent that precipitateth itself upon the earth from the summit of a lofty mountain. Every limb of My body would, as a result, be set afire. At such moments My tongue recited what no man could bear to hear.

We shall herewith cite a few passages from Tablets specifically revealed to this people, so that every one may know of a certainty that this Wronged One hath acted in a manner which hath been pleasing and acceptable unto men endued with insight, and unto such as are the exponents of justice and equity:

> "O ye friends of God in His cities and His loved ones in His lands! This Wronged One enjoineth on you honesty and piety. Blessed the city that shineth by their light. Through them man is exalted, and the door of security is unlocked before the face of all creation. Happy the man that cleaveth fast unto them, and recognizeth their virtue, and woe betide him that denieth their station."

And in another connection these words were revealed:

> "We enjoin the servants of God and His handmaidens to be pure and to fear God, that they may shake off the slumber of their corrupt desires, and turn toward God, the Maker of the heavens and of the earth. Thus have We commanded the faithful when the Daystar of the world shone forth from the horizon of Iraq. My imprisonment doeth Me no harm, neither the tribulations I suffer, nor the things that have befallen Me at the hands of My oppressors. That which harmeth Me is the conduct of those who, though they bear My name, yet commit that which maketh My heart and My pen to lament. They that spread disorder in the land, and lay hands on the property of others, and enter a house without leave of its owner, We, verily, are clear of them, unless they repent and return unto God, the Ever-Forgiving, the Most Merciful."

And in another connection:

> "O peoples of the earth! Haste ye to do the pleasure of God, and war ye valiantly, as it behooveth you to war, for the sake of proclaiming His resistless and immovable Cause. We have decreed that war shall be waged in the path of God with the armies of wisdom and utterance, and of a goodly character and praiseworthy deeds. Thus hath it been decided by Him Who is the All-Powerful, the Almighty. There is no glory for him that committeth disorder on the earth after it hath been made so good. Fear God, O people, and be not of them that act unjustly."

And again in another connection:

> "Revile ye not one another. We, verily, have come to unite and weld together all that dwell on earth. Unto this beareth witness what the ocean of Mine utterance hath revealed amongst men, and yet most of the people have gone astray. If anyone revile you, or trouble touch you, in the path of God, be patient, and put your trust in Him Who heareth, Who seeth. He, in truth, witnesseth, and perceiveth, and doeth what He pleaseth, through the power of His sovereignty. He, verily, is the Lord of strength, and of might. In the Book of God, the Mighty, the Great, ye have been forbidden to engage in contention and conflict. Lay fast hold on

whatever will profit you, and profit the peoples of the world. Thus commandeth you the King of Eternity, Who is manifest in His Most Great Name. He, verily, is the Ordainer, the All-Wise."

And yet again in another connection:

"Beware lest ye shed the blood of any one. Unsheathe the sword of your tongue from the scabbard of utterance, for therewith ye can conquer the citadels of men's hearts. We have abolished the law to wage holy war against each other. God's mercy hath, verily, encompassed all created things, if ye do but understand."

And yet again in another connection:

"O people! Spread not disorder in the land, and shed not the blood of any one, and consume not the substance of others wrongfully, neither follow every accursed prattler."

And still again in another connection: "The Sun of Divine Utterance can never set, neither can its radiance be extinguished. These sublime words have, in this day, been heard from the Lote-Tree beyond which there is no passing: 'I belong to him that loveth Me, that holdeth fast My commandments, and casteth away the things forbidden him in My Book."'

And still again in another connection:

"This is the day to make mention of God, to celebrate His praise, and to serve Him; deprive not yourselves thereof. Ye are the letters of the words, and the words of the Book. Ye are the saplings which the hand of Loving-kindness hath planted in the soil of mercy, and which the showers of bounty have made to flourish. He hath protected you from the mighty winds of misbelief, and the tempestuous gales of impiety, and nurtured you with the hands of His loving providence. Now is the time for you to put forth your leaves, and yield your fruit. The fruits of the tree of man have ever been and are goodly deeds and a praiseworthy character. Withhold not these fruits from the heedless. If they be accepted, your end is attained, and the purpose of life achieved. If not, leave them in their pastime of vain disputes. Strive, O people of God, that haply the hearts of the divers kindreds of the earth may, through the waters of your forbearance and loving-kindness, be cleansed and sanctified from animosity and hatred, and be made worthy and befitting recipients of the splendors of the Sun of Truth."

In the fourth Ishraq (splendor) of the Ishraqat (Tablet of Splendors) We have mentioned:

"Every cause needeth a helper. In this Revelation the hosts which 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."

In the third Tajalli (effulgence) of the Book of Tajalliyat (Book of Effulgences) We have mentioned:

"Arts, crafts and sciences uplift the world of being, and are conducive to its exaltation. Knowledge is as wings to man's life, and a ladder for his ascent. Its acquisition is incumbent

> upon everyone. The knowledge of such sciences, however, should be acquired as can profit the peoples of the earth, and not those which begin with words and end with words. Great indeed is the claim of scientists and craftsmen on the peoples of the world. Unto this beareth witness the Mother Book in this conspicuous station."

In truth, knowledge is a veritable treasure for man, and a source of glory, of bounty, of joy, of exaltation, of cheer and gladness unto him. Happy the man that cleaveth unto it, and woe betide the heedless.

It is incumbent upon thee to summon the people, under all conditions, to whatever will cause them to show forth spiritual characteristics and goodly deeds, so that all may become aware of that which is the cause of human upliftment, and may, with the utmost endeavor, direct themselves towards the most sublime Station and the Pinnacle of Glory. The fear of God hath ever been the prime factor in the education of His creatures. Well is it with them that have attained thereunto!

The first word which the Abha Pen hath revealed and inscribed on the first leaf of Paradise is this:

> "Verily I say: The fear of God hath ever been a sure defence and a safe stronghold for all the peoples of the world. It is the chief cause of the protection of mankind, and the supreme instrument for its preservation. Indeed, there existeth in man a faculty which deterreth him from, and guardeth him against, whatever is unworthy and unseemly, and which is known as his sense of shame. This, however, is confined to but a few; all have not possessed, and do not possess, it. It is incumbent upon the kings and the spiritual leaders of the world to lay fast hold on religion, inasmuch as through it the fear of God is instilled in all else but Him."

The second word We have recorded on the second leaf of Paradise is the following:

> "The Pen of the Divine Expounder exhorteth, at this moment, the manifestations of authority and the sources of power, namely the kings and rulers of the earth—may God assist them—and enjoineth them to uphold the cause of religion, and to cleave unto it. Religion is, verily, the chief instrument for the establishment of order in the world, and of tranquillity amongst its peoples. The weakening of the pillars of religion hath strengthened the foolish, and emboldened them, and made them more arrogant. Verily I say: The greater the decline of religion, the more grievous the waywardness of the ungodly. This cannot but lead in the end to chaos and confusion. Hear Me, O men of insight, and be warned, ye who are endued with discernment!"

It is Our hope that thou wilt hear with attentive ears the things We have mentioned unto thee, that perchance thou mayest turn men away from the things they possess to the things that God possesseth. We entreat God to deliver the light of equity and the sun of justice from the thick clouds of waywardness, and cause them to shine forth upon men. No light can compare with the light of justice. The establishment of order in the world and the tranquillity of the nations depend upon it.

In the Book of Utterance these exalted words have been written down and recorded:

> "Say, O friends! Strive that haply the tribulations suffered by this Wronged One and by you, in the path of God, may not prove to have been in vain. Cling ye to the hem of virtue, and hold fast to the cord of trustworthiness and piety. Concern yourselves with the things that benefit mankind, and not with your corrupt and selfish desires. O ye followers of this Wronged One! Ye are the shepherds of mankind; liberate ye your flocks from the wolves of evil passions and desires, and adorn them with the ornament of the fear of God. This is the firm commandment which hath, at this moment, flowed out from the Pen of Him Who is the Ancient of Days. By the righteousness of God! The sword of a virtuous character and upright conduct is sharper than blades of steel. The voice of the true Faith calleth aloud, at this moment, and saith: O people! Verily, the Day is come, and My Lord hath made Me to shine forth with a light whose splendor hath eclipsed the suns of utterance. Fear ye the Merciful, and be not of them that have gone astray."

Section 4: "The third word we have recorded…"

The third word we have recorded on the third leaf of Paradise is this:

> "O son of man! If thine eyes be turned towards mercy, forsake the things that profit thee, and cleave unto that which will profit mankind. And if thine eyes be turned towards justice, choose thou for thy neighbor that which thou choosest for thyself. Humility exalteth man to the heaven of glory and power, whilst pride abaseth him to the depths of wretchedness and degradation. Great is the Day, and mighty the Call! In one of Our Tablets We have revealed these exalted words: 'Were the world of the spirit to be wholly converted into the sense of hearing, it could then claim to be worthy to hearken unto the Voice that calleth from the Supreme Horizon; for otherwise, these ears that are defiled with lying tales have never been, nor are they now, fit to hear it.' Well is it with them that hearken; and woe betide the wayward."

We pray God—exalted be His glory—and cherish the hope that He may graciously assist the manifestations of affluence and power and the daysprings of sovereignty and glory, the kings of the earth—may God aid them through His strengthening grace—to establish the Lesser Peace. This, indeed, is the greatest means for insuring the tranquillity of the nations. It is incumbent upon the Sovereigns of the world—may God assist them—unitedly to hold fast unto this Peace, which is the chief instrument for the protection of all mankind. It is Our hope that they will arise to achieve what will be conducive to the well-being of man. It is their duty to convene an all-inclusive assembly, which either they themselves or their ministers will attend, and to enforce whatever measures are required to establish unity and concord amongst men.

They must put away the weapons of war, and turn to the instruments of universal reconstruction. Should one king rise up against another, all the other kings must arise to deter him. Arms and armaments will, then, be no more needed beyond that which is necessary to insure the internal security of their respective countries. If they attain unto this all-surpassing blessing, the people of each nation will pursue, with tranquillity and contentment, their own occupations, and the groanings and lamentations of most

men would be silenced. We beseech God to aid them to do His will and pleasure. He, verily, is the Lord of the throne on high and of earth below, and the Lord of this world and of the world to come.

It would be preferable and more fitting that the highly honored kings themselves should attend such an assembly, and proclaim their edicts. Any king who will arise and carry out this task, he verily will, in the sight of God, become the cynosure of all kings. Happy is he, and great is his blessedness!

In this land, every time men are conscripted for the army, a great terror seizeth the people. Every nation augmenteth, each year, its forces, for their ministers of war are insatiable in their desire to add fresh recruits to their battalions. We have learned that the government of Persia—may God assist them—have, likewise decided to reinforce their army. In the opinion of this Wronged One a force of one hundred thousand fully-equipped and well-disciplined men would suffice. We hope that thou wilt cause the light of justice to shine more brightly. By the righteousness of God! Justice is a powerful force. It is, above all else, the conqueror of the citadels of the hearts and souls of men, and the revealer of the secrets of the world of being, and the standard-bearer of love and bounty.

In the treasuries of the knowledge of God there lieth concealed a knowledge which, when applied, will largely, though not wholly, eliminate fear. This knowledge, however, should be taught from childhood, as it will greatly aid in its elimination. Whatever decreaseth fear increaseth courage. Should the Will of God assist Us, there would flow out from the Pen of the Divine Expounder a lengthy exposition of that which hath been mentioned, and there would be revealed, in the field of arts and sciences, what would renew the world and the nations. A word hath, likewise, been written down and recorded by the Pen of the Most High in the Crimson Book which is capable of fully disclosing that force which is hid in men, nay of redoubling its potency. We implore God—exalted and glorified be He—to graciously assist His servants to do that which is pleasing and acceptable unto Him.

In these days enemies have compassed Us about, and the fire of hatred is kindled. O peoples of the earth! By My life and by your own! This Wronged One hath never had, nor hath He now any desire for leadership. Mine aim hath ever been, and still is, to suppress whatever is the cause of contention amidst the peoples of the earth, and of separation amongst the nations, so that all men may be sanctified from every earthly attachment, and be set free to occupy themselves with their own interests. We entreat Our loved ones not to besmirch the hem of Our raiment with the dust of falsehood, neither to allow references to what they have regarded as miracles and prodigies to debase Our rank and station, or to mar the purity and sanctity of Our name.

Gracious God! This is the day whereon the wise should seek the advice of this Wronged One, and ask Him Who is the Truth what things are conducive to the glory and tranquillity of men. And yet, all are earnestly striving to put out this glorious and shining light, and are diligently seeking either to establish Our guilt, or to voice their protest against Us. Matters have come to such a pass, that the conduct of this Wronged One hath, in every way, been grossly misrepresented, and in a manner which it would be unseemly to mention. One of Our friends hath reported that among the residents of the Great City (Constantinople) he had heard with the greatest regret someone state that, each year, a sum of fifty thousand tumans was being despatched from his native land to Akka! It hath not, however, been made clear who had disbursed the sum, nor through whose hands it had passed!

Briefly, this Wronged One hath, in the face of all that hath befallen Him at their hands, and all that hath been said of Him, endured patiently, and held His peace, inasmuch as it is Our purpose, through the loving providence of God—exalted be His glory—and His surpassing mercy, to abolish, through the force of Our utterance, all disputes, war, and bloodshed, from the face of the earth. Under all conditions We have, in spite of what they have said, endured with seemly patience, and have left them to God. In answer to this particular imputation, however, We have replied, that if that which he affirmeth be true, it behooveth him to be thankful to Him Who is the Lord of all being, and the King of the seen and unseen, for having raised up in Persia One Who, though a prisoner and with none to help and assist Him, hath succeeded in establishing His ascendency over that land, and in drawing from it a yearly revenue.

Such an achievement should be praised rather than censured, if he be of them that judge equitably. Should anyone seek to be acquainted with the condition of this Wronged One, let him be told that these captives whom the world hath persecuted and the nations wronged have, for days and nights, been entirely denied the barest means of subsistence. We are loth to mention such things, neither have We had, nor do We have now, any desire to complain against Our accuser. Within the walls of this prison a highly esteemed man was for some time obliged to break stones that he might earn a living, whilst others had, at times, to nourish themselves with that Divine sustenance which is hunger! We entreat God—exalted and glorified be He—to aid all men to be just and fair-minded, and to graciously assist them to repent and return unto Him. He, verily, heareth, and is ready to answer.

Glorified art Thou, O Lord my God! Thou seest what hath befallen this Wronged One at the hands of them that have not associated with Me, and who have arisen to harm and abase Me, in a manner which no pen can describe, nor tongue recount, nor can any Tablet sustain its weight. Thou hearest the cry of Mine heart, and the groaning of Mine inmost being, and the things that have befallen Thy trusted ones in Thy cities and Thy chosen ones in Thy land, at the hands of such as have broken Thy Covenant and Thy Testament. I beseech Thee, O my Lord, by the sighs of Thy lovers throughout the world, and by their lamentation in their remoteness from the court of Thy presence, and by the blood that hath been shed for love of Thee, and by the hearts that have melted in Thy path, to protect Thy loved ones from the cruelty of such as have remained unaware of the mysteries of Thy Name, the Unconstrained. Assist them, O my Lord, by Thy power that hath prevailed over all things, and aid them to be patient and long-suffering. Thou art the All-Powerful, the Almighty, the All-Bountiful. No God is there but Thee, the Generous, the Lord of grace abounding.

In these days there are some who, far from being just and fair-minded, have assaulted Me with the sword of hatred and the spear of enmity, forgetting that it behooveth every fair-minded person to succor Him Whom the world hath cast away and the nations abandoned, and to lay hold on piety and righteousness. Most men have until now failed to discover the purpose of this Wronged One, nor have they known the reason for which He hath been willing to endure countless afflictions. Meanwhile, the voice of Mine heart crieth out these words: “O that My people knew!” This Wronged One, rid of attachment unto all things, uttereth these exalted words: “Waves have encompassed the Ark of God, the Help in Peril, the Self-Subsisting. Fear not the tempestuous gales, O Mariner! He Who causeth the dawn to appear is, verily, with Thee in this darkness that hath struck terror into the hearts of all men, except such as God, the Almighty, the Unconstrained, hath been pleased to spare.”

O Shaykh! I swear by the Sun of Truth Which hath risen and shineth above the horizon of this Prison! The betterment of the world hath been the sole aim of this Wronged One. Unto this beareth witness every man of judgment, of discernment, of insight and understanding. Whilst afflicted with trials, He held fast unto the cord of patience and fortitude, and was satisfied with the things which have befallen Him at the hands of His enemies, and was crying out: "I have renounced My desire for Thy desire, O my God, and My will for the revelation of Thy Will. By Thy glory! I desire neither Myself nor My life except for the purpose of serving Thy Cause, and I love not My being save that I may sacrifice it in Thy path.

Thou seest and knowest, O my Lord, that those whom We asked to be fair and just, have, unjustly and cruelly, risen up against Us. Openly they were with Me, yet secretly they assisted My foes, who have arisen to dishonor Me. O God, my God! I testify that Thou hast created Thy servants to aid Thy Cause and exalt Thy Word, and yet they have helped Thine enemies. I beseech Thee, by Thy Cause that hath encompassed the world of being, and by Thy Name wherewith Thou hast subjected the seen and unseen, to adorn the peoples of the earth with the light of Thy justice, and to illuminate their hearts with the brightness of Thy knowledge. I am, O my Lord, Thy servant and the son of Thy servant.

I bear witness unto Thy unity, and Thy oneness, and to the sanctity of Thy self and the purity of Thine Essence. Thou beholdest, O my Lord, Thy trusted ones at the mercy of the treacherous among Thy creatures, and the calumniators amidst Thy people. Thou knowest what hath befallen Us at the hands of them whom Thou knowest better than we know them. They have committed what hath torn the veil from such of Thy creatures as are nigh unto Thee. I beseech Thee to assist them to obtain that which hath escaped them in the days of the Dawning-Place of Thy Revelation and the Dayspring of Thine Inspiration. Potent art Thou to do what pleaseth Thee, and in Thy grasp are the reins of all that is in heaven and all that is on earth."

The voice and the lamentation of the true Faith have been raised. It calleth aloud and saith: "O people! By the righteousness of God! I have attained unto Him Who hath manifested me and sent me down. This is the Day whereon Sinai hath smiled at Him Who conversed upon it, and Carmel at its Revealer, and the Sadrah at Him Who taught it. Fear ye God, and be not of them that have denied Him. Withhold not yourselves from that which hath been revealed through His grace. Seize ye the living waters of immortality in the name of your Lord, the Lord of all names, and drink ye in the remembrance of Him, Who is the Mighty, the Peerless."

We have, under all circumstances, enjoined on men what is right, and forbidden what is wrong. He Who is the Lord of Being is witness that this Wronged One hath besought from God for His creatures whatever is conducive to unity and harmony, fellowship and concord. By the righteousness of God! This Wronged One is not capable of dissimulation. He, verily, hath revealed that which He desired; He, truly, is the Lord of strength, the Unrestrained.

We once again refer unto some of the sublime words revealed in the Tablet to His Majesty the Shah, so that thou mayest know of a certainty that whatever hath been mentioned hath come from God: "O King! I was but a man like others, asleep upon My couch, when lo, the breezes of the All-Glorious were wafted over Me, and taught Me the knowledge of all that hath been. This thing is not from Me, but from One Who is Almighty and All-Knowing. And He bade Me lift up My voice between earth and heaven, and for

this there befell Me what hath caused the tears of every man of understanding to flow. The learning current amongst men I studied not; their schools I entered not.

Ask of the city wherein I dwelt, that thou mayest be well assured that I am not of them who speak falsely. This is but a leaf which the winds of the will of thy Lord, the Almighty, the All-Praised, have stirred. Can it be still when the tempestuous winds are blowing? Nay, by Him Who is the Lord of all Names and Attributes! They move it as they list. The evanescent is as nothing before Him Who is the Ever-Abiding. His all-compelling summons hath reached Me, and caused Me to speak His praise amidst all people. I was indeed as one dead when His behest was uttered. The hand of the will of thy Lord, the Compassionate, the Merciful, transformed Me.

Can anyone speak forth of his own accord that for which all men, both high and low, will protest against him? Nay, by Him Who taught the Pen the eternal mysteries, save him whom the grace of the Almighty, the All-Powerful, hath strengthened.

Section 5: "Look upon this Wronged One, O King…"

"Look upon this Wronged One, O King, with the eyes of justice; judge thou, then, with truth concerning what hath befallen Him. Of a verity, God hath made thee His shadow amongst men, and the sign of His power unto all that dwell on earth. Judge thou between Us and them that have wronged Us without proof and without an enlightening Book. They that surround thee love thee for their own sakes, whereas this Youth loveth thee for thine own sake, and hath had no desire except to draw thee nigh unto the seat of grace, and to turn thee toward the right-hand of justice. Thy Lord beareth witness unto that which I declare.

> "O King! Wert thou to incline thine ears unto the shrill voice of the Pen of Glory and the cooing of the Dove of Eternity, which on the branches of the Lote-Tree beyond which there is no passing, uttereth praises to God, the Maker of all Names and the Creator of earth and heaven, thou wouldst attain unto a station from which thou wouldst behold in the world of being naught save the effulgence of the Adored One, and wouldst regard thy sovereignty as the most contemptible of thy possessions, abandoning it to whosoever might desire it, and setting thy face toward the Horizon aglow with the light of His countenance. Neither wouldst thou ever be willing to bear the burden of dominion save for the purpose of helping thy Lord, the Exalted, the Most High. Then would the Concourse on high bless thee. O how excellent is this most sublime station, couldst thou ascend thereunto through the power of a sovereignty recognized as derived from the Name of God!"

Either thou or someone else hath said:

> "Let the Surih of Tawhid be translated, so that all may know and be fully persuaded that the one true God begetteth not, nor is He begotten. Moreover, the Babis believe in his (Baha'u'llah's) Divinity and Godhood."

O Shaykh! This station is the station in which one dieth to himself and liveth in God. Divinity, whenever I mention it, indicateth My complete and absolute self-effacement. This is the station in which I have no control over mine own weal or woe nor over my life nor over my resurrection.

O Shaykh! How do the divines of this age account for the effulgent glory which the Sadrah of Utterance hath shed upon the Son of Imran (Moses) on the Sinai of Divine knowledge? He (Moses) hearkened unto the Word which the Burning Bush had uttered, and accepted it; and yet most men are bereft of the power of comprehending this, inasmuch as they have busied themselves with their own concerns, and are unaware of the things which belong unto God. Referring to this, the Siyyid of Findirisk hath well said: "This theme no mortal mind can fathom; be it even that of Abu-Nasr, or Abu-ʿAli Sina (Avicenna)." What explanation can they give concerning that which the Seal of the Prophets (Muhammad)—may the souls of all else but Him be offered up for His sake—hath said?: "Ye, verily, shall behold your Lord as ye behold the full moon on its fourteenth night."

The Commander of the Faithful (Imam Ali)—peace be upon him—moreover, saith in the Khutbiy-i-Tutunjiyyih: "Anticipate ye the Revelation of Him Who conversed with Moses from the Burning Bush on Sinai." Husayn, the son of Ali—peace be upon him—likewise saith: "Will there be vouchsafed unto anyone besides Thee a Revelation which hath not been vouchsafed unto Thyself—A Revelation Whose Revealer will be He Who revealed Thee. Blind be the eye that seeth Thee not!"

Similar sayings from the Imams—the blessings of God be upon them—have been recorded and are widely known, and are embodied in books worthy of credence. Blessed is he that perceiveth, and speaketh the pure truth. Well is it with him who, aided by the living waters of the utterance of Him Who is the Desire of all men, hath purified himself from idle fancies and vain imaginings, and torn away, in the name of the All-Possessing, the Most High, the veils of doubt, and renounced the world and all that is therein, and directed himself towards the Most Great Prison.

O Shaykh! No breeze can compare with the breezes of Divine Revelation, whilst the Word which is uttered by God shineth and flasheth as the sun amidst the books of men. Happy the man that hath discovered it, and recognized it, and said:

> "Praised be Thou, Who art the Desire of the world, and thanks be to Thee, O Well-Beloved of the hearts of such as are devoted to Thee!"

Men have failed to perceive Our purpose in the references We have made to Divinity and Godhood. Were they to apprehend it, they would arise from their places, and cry out: "We, verily, ask pardon of God!" The Seal of the Prophets—may the souls of all else but Him be offered up for His sake—saith: "Manifold are Our relationships with God. At one time, We are He Himself, and He is We Ourself. At another He is that He is, and We are that We are."

Aside from this, why is it that thou didst not mention those other stations which the Abha Pen hath disclosed? The tongue of this Wronged One hath, many a day and night, given utterance to these sublime words:

> "O God, my God! I bear witness to Thy unity and Thy oneness, and that Thou art God, and that there is none other God but Thee. Thou hast everlastingly been sanctified above the mention of any one but Thee and the praise of all else except Thyself, and Thou wilt everlastingly continue to be the same as Thou wast from the beginning and hast ever been. I beseech Thee, O King of Eternity, by the Most Great Name, and by the effulgences of the Daystar of Thy Revelation upon the Sinai of Utterance, and by the billows of the Ocean of Thy knowledge among all created things, to graciously assist Me in that which will draw Me nigh unto Thee, and will detach Me from all except Thee. By Thy glory, O Lord of all being, and the Desire of all creation! I would love to lay My face upon every single spot of Thine earth, that perchance it might be honored by touching a spot ennobled by the footsteps of Thy loved ones!"

By the righteousness of God! Idle fancies have debarred men from the Horizon of Certitude, and vain imaginings withheld them from the Choice Sealed Wine. In truth I say, and for the sake of God I declare: This Servant, this Wronged One, is abashed to claim for Himself any existence whatever, how much more those exalted grades of being! Every man of discernment, while walking upon the earth, feeleth indeed abashed, inasmuch as he is fully aware that the thing which is the source of his prosperity, his wealth, his might, his exaltation, his advancement and power is, as ordained by God, the very earth which is trodden beneath the feet of all men. There can be no doubt that whoever is cognizant of this truth, is cleansed and sanctified from all pride, arrogance, and vainglory. Whatever hath been said hath come from God. Unto this, He, verily, hath borne, and beareth now, witness, and He, in truth, is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

Beseech God to grant unto men hearing ears, and sharp sight, and dilated breasts, and receptive hearts, that haply His servants may attain unto their hearts' Desire, and set their faces towards their Beloved. Troubles, such as no eye hath beheld, have touched this Wronged One. In proclaiming His Cause, He, in no wise, hesitated. Addressing Himself unto the kings and rulers of the earth—may God, exalted be He, assist them—He imparted unto them that which is the cause of the well-being, the unity, the harmony, and the reconstruction of the world, and of the tranquillity of the nations. Among them was Napoleon III, who is reported to have made a certain statement, as a result of which We sent him Our Tablet while in Adrianople. To this, however, he did not reply. After Our arrival in the Most Great Prison there reached Us a letter from his Minister, the first part of which was in Persian, and the latter in his own handwriting. In it he was cordial, and wrote the following:

> "I have, as requested by you, delivered your letter, and until now have received no answer. We have, however, issued the necessary recommendations to our Minister in Constantinople and our consuls in those regions. If there be anything you wish done, inform us, and we will carry it out."

From his words it became apparent that he understood the purpose of this Servant to have been a request for material assistance. We, therefore, revealed in his (Napoleon III's) name verses in the Suratu'l-Haykal, some of which We now quote, that thou mayest know that the Cause of this Wronged One hath been revealed for the sake of God, and hath come from Him:

“O King of Paris! Tell the priest to ring the bells no longer. By God, the True One! The Most Mighty Bell hath appeared in the form of Him Who is the Most Great Name, and the fingers of the will of Thy Lord, the Most Exalted, the Most High, toll it out in the heaven of Immortality, in His name, the All-Glorious. Thus have the mighty verses of Thy Lord been again sent down unto thee, that thou mayest arise to remember God, the Creator of earth and heaven, in these days when all the tribes of the earth have mourned, and the foundations of the cities have trembled, and the dust of irreligion hath enwrapped all men, except such as God, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise, was pleased to spare.

Say: He Who is the Unconditioned is come, in the clouds of light, that He may quicken all created things with the breezes of His Name, the Most Merciful, and unify the world, and gather all men around this Table which hath been sent down from heaven. Beware that ye deny not the favor of God after it hath been sent down unto you. Better is this for you than that which ye possess; for that which is yours perisheth, whilst that which is with God endureth. He, in truth, ordaineth what He pleaseth. Verily, the breezes of forgiveness have been wafted from the direction of your Lord, the God of Mercy; whoso turneth thereunto, shall be cleansed of his sins, and of all pain and sickness. Happy the man that hath turned towards them, and woe betide him that hath turned aside.

“Wert thou to incline thine inner ear unto all created things, thou wouldst hear: ‘The Ancient of Days is come in His great glory!’ Everything celebrateth the praise of its Lord. Some have known God and remember Him; others remember Him, yet know Him not. Thus have We set down Our decree in a perspicuous Tablet.

“Give ear, O King, unto the Voice that calleth from the Fire which burneth in this verdant Tree, on this Sinai which hath been raised above the hallowed and snow-white Spot, beyond the Everlasting City; ‘Verily, there is none other God but Me, the Ever-Forgiving, the Most Merciful!’ We, in truth, have sent Him Whom We aided with the Holy Spirit (Jesus Christ) that He may announce unto you this Light that hath shone forth from the horizon of the will of your Lord, the Most Exalted, the All-Glorious, and Whose signs have been revealed in the West. Set your faces towards Him (Baha’u’llah), on this Day which God hath exalted above all other days, and whereon the All-Merciful hath shed the splendor of His effulgent glory upon all who are in heaven and all who are on earth. Arise thou to serve God and help His Cause. He, verily, will assist thee with the hosts of the seen and unseen, and will set thee king over all that whereon the sun riseth. Thy Lord, in truth, is the All-Powerful, the Almighty.

“The breezes of the Most Merciful have passed over all created things; happy the man that hath discovered their fragrance, and set himself towards them with a sound heart. Attire thy temple with the ornament of My Name, and thy tongue with remembrance of Me, and thine heart with love for Me, the Almighty, the Most High. We have desired for thee naught except that which is better for thee than what thou dost possess and all the treasures of the earth. Thy Lord, verily, is knowing, informed of all. Arise, in My Name, amongst My servants, and say: O ye peoples of the earth! Turn yourselves towards Him Who hath turned towards you. He, verily, is the Face of God amongst you, and His Testimony and His Guide unto you. He hath come to you with signs which none can produce.’ The voice of the Burning Bush is raised in the midmost heart of the world, and the Holy Spirit calleth aloud among the nations: Lo, the Desired One is come with manifest dominion!’

Section 6: “O King! The stars of the heaven…”

“O King! The stars of the heaven of knowledge have fallen, they who seek to establish the truth of My Cause through the things they possess, and who make mention of God in My Name. And yet, when I came unto them in My glory, they turned aside. They, indeed, are of the fallen. This is, truly, that which the Spirit of God (Jesus Christ) hath announced, when He came with truth unto you, He with Whom the Jewish doctors disputed, till at last they perpetrated what hath made the Holy Spirit to lament, and the tears of them that have near access to God to flow.

“Say: O concourse of monks! Seclude not yourselves in your churches and cloisters. Come ye out of them by My leave, and busy, then, yourselves with what will profit you and others. Thus commandeth you He Who is the Lord of the Day of Reckoning. Seclude yourselves in the stronghold of My love. This, truly, is the seclusion that befitteth you, could ye but know it. He that secludeth himself in his house is indeed as one dead. It behooveth man to show forth that which will benefit mankind. He that bringeth forth no fruit is fit for the fire. Thus admonisheth you your Lord; He, verily, is the Mighty, the Bountiful. Enter ye into wedlock, that after you another may arise in your stead.

We, verily, have forbidden you lechery, and not that which is conducive to fidelity. Have ye clung unto the promptings of your nature, and cast behind your backs the statutes of God? Fear ye God, and be not of the foolish. But for man, who, on My earth, would remember Me, and how could My attributes and My names be revealed? Reflect, and be not of them that have shut themselves out as by a veil from Him, and were of those that are fast asleep. He that married not (Jesus Christ) could find no place wherein to abide, nor where to lay His head, by reason of what the hands of the treacherous had wrought. His holiness consisted not in the things ye have believed and imagined, but rather in the things which belong unto Us. Ask, that ye may be made aware of His station which hath been exalted above the vain imaginings of all the peoples of the earth. Blessed are they that understand.

“O King! We heard the words thou didst utter in answer to the Czar of Russia, concerning the decision made regarding the war (Crimean War). Thy Lord, verily, knoweth, is informed of all. Thou didst say: ‘I lay asleep upon my couch, when the cry of the oppressed, who were drowned in the Black Sea, wakened me.’ This is what We heard thee say, and, verily, thy Lord is witness unto what I say. We testify that that which wakened thee was not their cry but the promptings of thine own passions, for We tested thee, and found thee wanting. Comprehend the meaning of My words, and be thou of the discerning. It is not Our wish to address thee words of condemnation, out of regard for the dignity We conferred upon thee in this mortal life.

We, verily, have chosen courtesy, and made it the true mark of such as are nigh unto Him. Courtesy is, in truth, a raiment which fitteth all men, whether young or old. Well is it with him that adorneth his temple therewith, and woe unto him who is deprived of this great bounty. Hadst thou been sincere in thy words, thou wouldst have not cast behind thy back the Book of God, when it was sent unto thee by Him Who is the Almighty, the All-Wise. We have proved thee through it, and found thee other than that which thou didst profess. Arise, and make amends for that which escaped thee. Erelong the world and all that thou possessest will perish, and the kingdom will remain unto God, thy Lord and the Lord of thy fathers of old.

It behooveth thee not to conduct thine affairs according to the dictates of thy desires. Fear the sighs of this Wronged One, and shield Him from the darts of such as act unjustly.

“For what thou hast done, thy kingdom shall be thrown into confusion, and thine empire shall pass from thine hands, as a punishment for that which thou hast wrought. Then wilt thou know how thou hast plainly erred. Commotions shall seize all the people in that land, unless thou arisest to help this Cause, and followest Him Who is the Spirit of God (Jesus Christ) in this, the Straight Path. Hath thy pomp made thee proud? By My Life! It shall not endure; nay, it shall soon pass away, unless thou holdest fast by this firm Cord. We see abasement hastening after thee, whilst thou art of the heedless. It behooveth thee when thou hearest His Voice calling from the seat of glory to cast away all that thou possessest, and cry out: ‘Here am I, O Lord of all that is in heaven and all that is on earth!’

> “O King! We were in Iraq, when the hour of parting arrived. At the bidding of the King of Islam (Sultan of Turkey) We set Our steps in his direction. Upon Our arrival, there befell Us at the hands of the malicious that which the books of the world can never adequately recount. Thereupon the inmates of Paradise, and they that dwell within the retreats of holiness, lamented; and yet the people are wrapped in a thick veil!”

And further We have said:

> “More grievous became Our plight from day to day, nay, from hour to hour, until they took Us forth from Our prison and made Us, with glaring injustice, enter the Most Great Prison. And if anyone ask them: For what crime were they imprisoned?’ they would answer and say: They, verily, sought to supplant the Faith with a new religion!’ If that which is ancient be what ye prefer, wherefore, then, have ye discarded that which hath been set down in the Torah and the Evangel? Clear it up, O men! By My life! There is no place for you to flee to in this day. If this be My crime, then Muhammad, the Apostle of God, committed it before Me, and before Him He Who was the Spirit of God (Jesus Christ), and yet earlier He Who conversed with God (Moses). And if My sin be this, that I have exalted the Word of God and revealed His Cause, then indeed am I the greatest of sinners! Such a sin I will not barter for the kingdoms of earth and heaven.”

And further We have said: “As My tribulations multiplied, so did My love for God and for His Cause increase, in such wise that all that befell Me from the hosts of the wayward was powerless to deter Me from My purpose. Should they hide Me away in the depths of the earth, yet would they find Me riding aloft on the clouds, and calling out unto God, the Lord of strength and of might. I have offered Myself up in the way of God, and I yearn after tribulations in My love for Him, and for the sake of His good pleasure. Unto this bear witness the woes which now afflict Me, the like of which no other man hath suffered. Every single hair of Mine head calleth out that which the Burning Bush uttered on Sinai, and each vein of My body invoketh God and saith: ‘O would I had been severed in Thy path, so that the world might be quickened, and all its peoples be united!’ Thus hath it been decreed by Him Who is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

> “Know of a truth that your subjects are God’s trust amongst you. Watch ye, therefore, over them as ye watch over your own selves. Beware that ye allow not wolves to become the shepherds of the fold, or pride and conceit to deter you from turning unto the poor and the desolate. Arise thou, in My name, above the horizon of renunciation, and set, then, thy face towards the Kingdom, at the bidding of thy Lord, the Lord of strength and of might.”

And further We have said:

> “Adorn the body of Thy kingdom with the raiment of My name, and arise, then, to teach My Cause. Better is this for thee than that which thou possessest. God will, thereby, exalt thy name among all the kings. Potent is He over all things. Walk thou amongst men in the name of God, and by the power of His might, that thou mayest show forth His signs amidst the peoples of the earth.”

And further We have said:

> “Doth it behoove you to relate yourselves to Him Who is the God of mercy, and yet commit the things which the Evil One hath committed? Nay, by the Beauty of Him Who is the All-Glorified! could ye but know it. Purge your hearts from love of the world, and your tongues from calumny, and your limbs from whatsoever may withhold you from drawing nigh unto God, the Mighty, the All-Praised. Say: By the world is meant that which turneth you aside from Him Who is the Dawning-Place of Revelation, and inclineth you unto that which is unprofitable unto you. Verily, the thing that deterreth you, in this day, from God is worldliness in its essence. Eschew it, and approach the Most Sublime Vision, this shining and resplendent Seat. Shed not the blood of anyone, O people, neither judge ye anyone unjustly. Thus have ye been commanded by Him Who knoweth, Who is informed of all. They that commit disorders in the land after it hath been well ordered, these indeed have outstepped the bounds that have been set in the Book. Wretched shall be the abode of the transgressors!”

And further We have said:

> “Deal not treacherously with the substance of your neighbor. Be ye trustworthy on earth, and withhold not from the poor the things given unto you by God through His grace. He, verily, will bestow upon you the double of what ye possess. He, in truth, is the All-Bounteous, the Most Generous. O people of Baha! Subdue the citadels of men’s hearts with the swords of wisdom and of utterance. They that dispute, as prompted by their desires, are indeed wrapped in a palpable veil. Say: The sword of wisdom is hotter than summer heat, and sharper than blades of steel, if ye do but understand. Draw it forth in My name and through the power of My might, and conquer, then, with it the cities of the hearts of them that have secluded themselves in the stronghold of their corrupt desires. Thus biddeth you the Pen of the All-Glorious, whilst seated beneath the swords of the wayward. If ye become aware of a sin committed by another, conceal it, that God may conceal your own sin. He, verily, is the Concealer, the Lord of grace abounding. O ye rich ones on earth! If ye encounter one who is

poor, treat him not disdainfully. Reflect upon that whereof ye were created. Every one of you was created of a sorry germ."

And further We have said:

"Regard ye the world as a man's body, which is afflicted with divers ailments, and the recovery of which dependeth upon the harmonizing of all of its component elements. Gather ye around that which We have prescribed unto you, and walk not in the ways of such as create dissension. Meditate on the world and the state of its people. He, for Whose sake the world was called into being, hath been imprisoned in the most desolate of cities (Akka), by reason of that which the hands of the wayward have wrought. From the horizon of His prison-city He summoneth mankind unto the Dayspring of God, the Exalted, the Great. Exultest thou over the treasures thou dost possess, knowing they shall perish? Rejoicest thou in that thou rulest a span of earth, when the whole world, in the estimation of the people of Baha, is worth as much as the black in the eye of a dead ant? Abandon it unto such as have set their affections upon it, and turn thou unto Him Who is the Desire of the world. Whither are gone the proud and their palaces? Gaze thou into their tombs, that thou mayest profit by this example, inasmuch as We made it a lesson unto every beholder. Were the breezes of Revelation to seize thee, thou wouldst flee the world, and turn unto the Kingdom, and wouldst expend all thou possessest, that thou mayest draw nigh unto this sublime Vision."

We bade a Christian dispatch this Tablet, and he informed Us that he transmitted both the original and its translation. God, the Almighty, the All-Knowing, hath knowledge of all things.

One of the sections of the Suratu'l-Haykal is the Tablet addressed to His Majesty, the Czar of Russia—may God, exalted and glorified be He—assist him:

"O Czar of Russia! Incline thine ear unto the voice of God, the King, the Holy, and turn thou unto Paradise, the Spot wherein abideth He Who, among the Concourse on high, beareth the most excellent titles, and Who, in the kingdom of creation, is called by the name of God, the Effulgent, the All-Glorious. Beware that nothing deter thee from setting thy face towards thy Lord, the Compassionate, the Most Merciful. We, verily, have heard the thing for which thou didst supplicate thy Lord, whilst secretly communing with Him. Wherefore, the breeze of My loving-kindness wafted forth, and the sea of My mercy surged, and We answered thee in truth. Thy Lord, verily, is the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. Whilst I lay, chained and fettered, in the prison of Tihran, one of thy ministers extended Me his aid. Wherefore hath God ordained for thee a station which the knowledge of none can comprehend except His knowledge. Beware lest thou barter away this sublime station."

And further We have said: "He Who is the Father is come, and the Son (Jesus Christ), in the holy vale, crieth out: Here am I, here am I, O Lord, my God!', whilst Sinai circleth round the House, and the Burning Bush calleth aloud: The All-Bounteous is come mounted upon the clouds! Blessed is he that draweth nigh unto Him, and woe betide them that are far away.'

> "Arise thou amongst men in the name of this all-compelling Cause, and summon, then, the nations unto God, the Mighty, the Great. Be thou not of them who called upon God by one of His names, but who, when He Who is the Object of all names appeared, denied Him and turned aside from Him, and, in the end, pronounced sentence against Him with manifest injustice. Consider and call thou to mind the days whereon the Spirit of God (Jesus Christ) appeared, and Herod gave judgment against Him. God, however, aided Him with the hosts of the unseen, and protected Him with truth, and sent Him down unto another land, according to His promise. He, verily, ordaineth what He pleaseth. Thy Lord truly preserveth whom He willeth, be he in the midst of the seas or in the maw of the serpent, or beneath the sword of the oppressor."

Section 7: "And further We have said: "Again I say…"

And further We have said:

> "Again I say: Hearken unto My voice that calleth from My prison, that it may acquaint thee with the things that have befallen My Beauty, at the hands of them that are the manifestations of My glory, and that thou mayest perceive how great hath been My patience, notwithstanding My might, and how immense My forbearance, notwithstanding My power. By My life! Couldst thou but know the things sent down by My Pen, and discover the treasures of My Cause, and the pearls of My mysteries which lie hid in the seas of My names and in the goblets of My words, thou wouldst for longing after His glorious and sublime Kingdom, lay down thy life in the path of God. Know thou that though My body be beneath the swords of My foes, and My limbs be beset with incalculable afflictions, yet My spirit is filled with a gladness with which all the joys of the earth can never compare."

Likewise, We mention some verses from the Tablet of Her Majesty, the Queen (Queen Victoria)—may God, exalted and glorified be He, assist her. Our purpose is that haply the breezes of Revelation may envelop thee, and cause thee to arise, wholly for the sake of God, and serve His Cause, and that thou mayest transmit any of the Tablets of the kings which might have remained undelivered. This mission is a great mission, and this service a great service. In those regions distinguished divines are numerous, among whom are those Siyyids who are renowned for their eminence and distinction. Confer with them, and show them what hath flowed out of the Pen of Glory, that haply they may be graciously aided to better the condition of the world, and improve the character of peoples of different nations, and may, through the living waters of God's counsels, quench the hatred and the animosity which lie hid and smolder in the hearts of men. We pray God that thou mayest be assisted therein. And this, verily, would not be hard for Him.

> "O Queen in London! Incline thine ear unto the voice of thy Lord, the Lord of all mankind, calling from the Divine Lote-Tree: Verily, no God is there but Me, the Almighty, the All-Wise! Cast away all that is on earth, and attire the head of thy kingdom with the crown of the remembrance of Thy Lord, the All-Glorious. He, in truth, hath come unto the world in His most great glory, and all that hath been mentioned in the Gospel hath been fulfilled. The land of

> Syria hath been honored by the footsteps of its Lord, the Lord of all men, and North and South are both inebriated with the wine of His presence. Blessed is the man that hath inhaled the fragrance of the Most Merciful, and turned unto the Dawning-Place of His beauty, in this resplendent Dawn. The Mosque of Aqsa vibrateth through the breezes of its Lord, the All-Glorious, whilst Batha (Mecca) trembleth at the voice of God, the Exalted, the Most High. Every single stone of them celebrateth the praise of the Lord, through this Great Name."

And further We said: "We make mention of thee for the sake of God, and desire that thy name may be exalted through thy remembrance of God, the Creator of earth and of heaven. He, verily, is witness unto that which I say. We have been informed that thou hast forbidden the trading in slaves, both men and women. This, verily, is what God hath enjoined in this wondrous Revelation. God hath, truly, destined a reward for thee, because of this. He, verily, will pay the doer of good, whether man or woman, his due recompense, wert thou to follow what hath been sent unto thee by Him Who is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. As to him who turneth aside, and swelleth with pride, after that the clear tokens have come unto him, from the Revealer of signs, his work shall God bring to naught. He, in truth, hath power over all things. Man's actions are acceptable after his having recognized (the Manifestation). He that turneth aside from the True One is indeed the most veiled amongst His creatures. Thus hath it been decreed by Him Who is the Almighty, the Most Powerful.

"We have also heard that thou hast entrusted the reins of counsel into the hands of the representatives of the people. Thou, indeed, hast done well, for thereby the foundations of the edifice of thine affairs will be strengthened, and the hearts of all that are beneath thy shadow, whether high or low, will be tranquillized. It behooveth them, however, to be trustworthy among His servants, and to regard themselves as the representatives of all that dwell on earth. This is what counselleth them, in this Tablet, He Who is the Ruler, the All-Wise. And if any one of them directeth himself towards the Assembly, let him turn his eyes unto the Supreme Horizon, and say: 'O my God! I ask Thee, by Thy most glorious Name, to aid me in that which will cause the affairs of Thy servants to prosper, and Thy cities to flourish. Thou, indeed, hast power over all things!' Blessed is he that entereth the Assembly for the sake of God, and judgeth between men with pure justice. He, indeed, is of the blissful.

> "O ye members of Assemblies in that land and in other countries! Take ye counsel together, and let your concern be only for that which profiteth mankind, and bettereth the condition thereof, if ye be of them that scan heedfully. Regard the world as the human body which, though at its creation whole and perfect, hath been afflicted, through various causes, with grave disorders and maladies. Not for one day did it gain ease, nay, its sickness waxed more severe, as it fell under the treatment of ignorant physicians, who gave full rein to their personal desires, and have erred grievously. And if at one time, through the care of an able physician, a member of that body was healed, the rest remained afflicted as before. Thus informeth you the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. We behold it, in this day, at the mercy of rulers, so drunk with pride that they cannot discern clearly their own best advantage, much less recognize a Revelation so bewildering and challenging as this."

And further We have said: “That which God hath ordained as the sovereign remedy and mightiest instrument for the healing of the world is the union of all its peoples in one universal Cause, one common Faith. This can in no wise be achieved except through the power of a skilled, an all-powerful, and inspired Physician. By My life! This is the truth, and all else naught but error. Each time that Most Mighty Instrument hath come, and that Light shone forth from the Ancient Dayspring, He was withheld by ignorant physicians who, even as clouds, interposed themselves between Him and the world. It failed therefore, to recover, and its sickness hath persisted until this day. They indeed were powerless to protect it, or to effect a cure, whilst He Who hath been the Manifestation of Power amongst men was withheld from achieving His purpose, by reason of what the hands of the ignorant physicians have wrought.

> “Consider these days in which He Who is the Ancient Beauty hath come in the Most Great Name, that He may quicken the world and unite its peoples. They, however, rose up against Him with sharpened swords, and committed that which caused the Faithful Spirit to lament, until in the end they imprisoned Him in the most desolate of cities, and broke the grasp of the faithful upon the hem of His robe. Were anyone to tell them: The World Reformer is come,’ they would answer and say: Indeed it is proven that He is a fomenter of discord!’, and this notwithstanding that they have never associated with Him, and have perceived that He did not seek, for one moment, to protect Himself. At all times He was at the mercy of the wicked doers. At one time they cast Him into prison, at another they banished Him, and at yet another hurried Him from land to land. Thus have they pronounced judgment against Us, and God, truly, is aware of what I say.”

This charge of fomenting discord is the same as that imputed aforetime by the Pharaohs of Egypt to Him Who conversed with God (Moses). Read thou what the All-Merciful hath revealed in the Qur’an. He—may He be blessed and glorified—saith: “Moreover We had sent Moses of old with Our signs and with clear authority to Pharaoh, and Haman, and Qarun: and they said: Sorcerer, impostor!’ And when He came to them from Our presence with the truth, they said: Slay the sons of those who believe as He doth, and save their females alive,’ but the stratagem of the unbelievers issued only in failure. And Pharaoh said: Let me alone, that I may kill Moses; and let him call upon his Lord: I fear lest he change your religion, or cause disorder to show itself in the land.’ And Moses said: I take refuge with my Lord, and your Lord from every proud one who believeth not in the Day of Reckoning.”’

Men have, at all times, considered every World Reformer a fomenter of discord, and have referred unto Him in terms with which all are familiar. Each time the Daystar of Divine Revelation shed its radiance from the horizon of God’s Will a great number of men denied Him, others turned aside from Him, and still others calumniated Him, and thereby withheld the servants of God from the river of loving providence of Him Who is the King of creation. In like manner, they who, in this day, have neither met this Wronged One nor associated with Him have said, and even now continue to say, the things thou hast heard and hearest still. Say: “O people! The Sun of Utterance beameth forth in this day, above the horizon of bounty, and the radiance of the Revelation of Him Who spoke on Sinai flasheth and glisteneth before all religions. Purge and sanctify your breasts, and your hearts, and your ears, and your eyes with the living waters of the utterance of the All-Merciful, and set, then, your faces towards Him. By the righteousness

of God! Ye shall hear all things proclaim: ʻVerily, He the True One is come. Blessed are they that judge with fairness, and blessed they that turn towards Him!"'

Among the things they have imputed to the Divine Lote-Tree (Moses) are charges to the falsity of which every discerning man of knowledge, and every wise and understanding heart, will witness. Thou must, no doubt, have read and considered the verses which have been sent down concerning Him Who conversed with God. He—may He be blessed and glorified—saith: "He said: Did We not rear thee among us when a child? And hast thou not passed years of thy life among us? And yet what a deed is that which thou hast done! Thou art one of the ungrateful.' He said: I did it indeed, and I was one of those who erred. And I fled from you because I feared you; but My Lord hath given Me wisdom and hath made Me one of His Apostles."' And elsewhere He—may He be blessed and exalted—saith: "And He entered a city at the time when its inhabitants would not observe Him, and found therein two men fighting, the one, of His own people; the other, of His enemies.

And he who was of His own people asked His help against him who was of His enemies. And Moses smote him with His fist and slew him. Said He: This is a work of Satan; for he is an enemy, a manifest misleader.' He said: O my Lord! I have sinned to mine own hurt, forgive me.' So God forgave Him; for He is the Forgiving, the Merciful. He said: Lord! because Thou hast showed me this grace, I will never again be the helper of the wicked.' And in the city at noon He was full of fear, casting furtive glances round Him, and lo, the man whom He had helped the day before, cried out to Him again for help.

Said Moses to him: Thou art plainly a most depraved person.' And when He would have laid violent hands on him who was their common foe, he said to Him: ʻO Moses! Dost Thou desire to slay me, as thou slewest a man yesterday? Thou desirest only to become a tyrant in this land, and desirest not to become a peacemaker."' Thine ears and thine eyes must needs now be cleansed and sanctified, that thou mayest be able to judge with fairness and justice. Moses Himself, moreover, acknowledged His injustice and waywardness, and testified that fear had seized Him, and that He had transgressed, and fled away. He asked God—exalted be His glory—to forgive Him, and He was forgiven.

O Shaykh! Every time God the True One—exalted be His glory—revealed Himself in the person of His Manifestation, He came unto men with the standard of "He doeth what He willeth, and ordaineth what He pleaseth." None hath the right to ask why or wherefore, and he that doth so, hath indeed turned aside from God, the Lord of Lords. In the days of every Manifestation these things appear and are evident. Likewise, they have said that about this Wronged One, to the falsity of which they who are nigh unto God and are devoted to Him have borne, and still bear, witness. By the righteousness of God! This Hem of His Robe hath ever been and remaineth unsullied, though many have, at the present time, purposed to besmirch it with their lying and unseemly calumnies.

God, however, knoweth and they know not. He Who, through the might and power of God, hath arisen before the face of all the kindreds of the earth, and summoned the multitudes to the Supreme Horizon, hath been repudiated by them and they have clung instead unto such men as have invariably withdrawn themselves behind veils and curtains, and busied themselves about their own protection. Moreover, many are now engaged in spreading lies and calumnies, and have no other intention than to instill distrust into the hearts and souls of men. As soon as someone leaveth the Great City (Constantinople) to

visit this land, they at once telegraph and proclaim that he hath stolen money and fled to Akka. A highly accomplished, learned and distinguished man visited, in his declining years, the Holy Land, seeking peace and retirement, and about him they have written such things as have caused them who are devoted to God and are nigh unto Him to sigh.

Section 8: "His Excellency, the late Mirza Husayn Khan, Mushiru'd-Dawlih…"

His Excellency, the late Mirza Husayn Khan, Mushiru'd-Dawlih,—may God forgive him—hath known this Wronged One, and he, no doubt, must have given to the Authorities a circumstantial account of the arrival of this Wronged One at the Sublime Porte, and of the things which He said and did. On the day of Our arrival the Government Official, whose duty it was to receive and entertain official visitors, met Us and escorted Us to the place he had been bidden to take Us. In truth, the Government showed these wronged ones the utmost kindness and consideration. The following day Prince Shuja'u'd-Dawlih, accompanied by Mirza Safa, acting as the representatives of the late Mushiru'd-Dawlih, the Minister (accredited to the Imperial Court) came to visit Us.

Others, among whom were several Ministers of the Imperial Government, and including the late Kamal Pasha, likewise called on Us. Wholly reliant on God, and without any reference to any need He might have had, or to any other matter, this Wronged One sojourned for a period of four months in that city. His actions were known and evident unto all, and none can deny them except such as hate Him, and speak not the truth. He that hath recognized God, recognizeth none other but Him. We have never liked, nor like We, to make mention of such things.

Whenever high dignitaries of Persia came to that city (Constantinople) they would exert themselves to the utmost soliciting at every door such allowances and gifts as they might obtain. This Wronged One, however, if He hath done nothing that would redound to the glory of Persia, hath at least acted in a manner that could in no wise disgrace it. That which was done by his late Excellency (Mushiru'd-Dawlih)—may God exalt his station—was not actuated by his friendship towards this Wronged One, but rather was prompted by his own sagacious judgment, and by his desire to accomplish the service he secretly contemplated rendering his Government. I testify that he was so faithful in his service to his Government that dishonesty played no part, and was held in contempt, in the domain of his activities.

It was he who was responsible for the arrival of these wronged ones in the Most Great Prison (Akka). As he was faithful, however, in the discharge of his duty, he deserveth Our commendation. This Wronged One hath, at all times, aimed and striven to exalt and advance the interests of both the government and the people, not to elevate His own station. A number of men have, now, gathered others about them, and have arisen to dishonor this Wronged One. He, nevertheless, beseecheth God—hallowed and glorified be He—to aid them to return unto Him, and assist them to compensate for that which escaped them, and repent before the door of His bounty. He, verily, is the Forgiving, the Merciful.

O Shaykh! My Pen, verily, lamenteth over Mine own Self, and My Tablet weepeth sore over what hath befallen Me at the hands of one (Mirza Yahya) over whom We watched for successive years, and who, day and night, served in My presence, until he was made to err by one of My servants, named Siyyid Muhammad. Unto this bear witness My believing servants who accompanied Me in My exile from

Baghdad to this, the Most Great Prison. And there befell Me at the hands of both of them that which made every man of understanding to cry out, and he who is endued with insight to groan aloud, and the tears of the fair-minded to flow.

We pray to God to graciously assist them that have been led astray to be just and fair-minded, and to make them aware of that whereof they have been heedless. He, in truth, is the All-Bounteous, the Most Generous. Debar not Thy servants, O my Lord, from the door of Thy grace, and drive them not away from the court of Thy presence. Assist them to dispel the mists of idle fancy, and to tear away the veils of vain imaginings and hopes. Thou art, verily, the All-Possessing, the Most High. No God is there but Thee, the Almighty, the Gracious.

I swear by the Daystar of God's Testimony that hath shone from the horizon of certitude! This Wronged One, in the daytime and in the night-season, occupied Himself with that which would edify the souls of men, until the light of knowledge prevailed over the darkness of ignorance.

O Shaykh! Time and again have I declared, and now yet again I affirm, that for two score years We have, through the grace of God and by His irresistible and potent will, extended such aid to His Majesty the Shah—may God assist him—as the exponents of justice and of equity would regard as incontestable and absolute. None can deny it, unless he be a transgressor and sinner, or one who would hate Us or doubt Our truth. How very strange that until now the Ministers of State and the representatives of the people have alike remained unaware of such conspicuous and undeniable service, and, if apprized of it, have, for reasons of their own, chosen to ignore it! Previous to these forty years controversies and conflicts continually prevailed and agitated the servants of God.

But since then, aided by the hosts of wisdom, of utterance, of exhortations and understanding, they have all seized and taken fast hold of the firm cord of patience and of the shining hem of fortitude, in such wise that this wronged people endured steadfastly whatever befell them, and committed everything unto God, and this notwithstanding that in Mazindaran and at Rasht a great many have been most hideously tormented. Among them was his honor, Haji Nasir, who, unquestionably, was a brilliant light that shone forth above the horizon of resignation. After he had suffered martyrdom, they plucked out his eyes and cut off his nose, and inflicted on him such indignities that strangers wept and lamented, and secretly raised funds to support his wife and children.

O Shaykh! My Pen is abashed to recount what actually took place. In the land of Sad (Isfahan) the fire of tyranny burned with such a hot flame that every fair-minded person groaned aloud. By thy life! The cities of knowledge and of understanding wept with such a weeping that the souls of the pious and of the God-fearing were melted. The twin shining lights, Hasan and Husayn (The King of Martyrs and the Beloved of Martyrs) offered up spontaneously their lives in that city. Neither fortune, nor wealth, nor glory, could deter them! God knoweth the things which befell them and yet the people are, for the most part, unaware!

Before them one named Kazim and they who were with him, and after them, his honor Ashraf, all quaffed the draught of martyrdom with the utmost fervor and longing, and hastened unto the Supreme Companion. In like manner, at the time of Sardar Aziz Khan, that godly man, Mirza Mustafa, and his fellow

martyrs, were arrested, and despatched unto the Supreme Friend in the All-Glorious Horizon. Briefly, in every city the evidences of a tyranny, beyond like or equal, were unmistakably clear and manifest, and yet none arose in self-defence! Call thou to mind his honor Badi', who was the bearer of the Tablet to His Majesty the Shah, and reflect how he laid down his life. That knight, who spurred on his charger in the arena of renunciation, threw down the precious crown of life for the sake of Him Who is the Incomparable Friend.

O Shaykh! If things such as these are to be denied, what shall, then, be deemed worthy of credence? Set forth the truth, for the sake of God, and be not of them that hold their peace. They arrested his honor Najaf-ʿAli, who hastened, with rapture and great longing, unto the field of martyrdom, uttering these words: "We have kept both Baha and the khun-baha (bloodmoney)!" With these words he yielded up his spirit. Meditate on the splendor and glory which the light of renunciation, shining from the upper chamber of the heart of Mulla Ali-Jan, hath shed. He was so carried away by the breezes of the Most Sublime Word and by the power of the Pen of Glory that to him the field of martyrdom equalled, nay outrivalled, the haunts of earthly delights. Ponder upon the conduct of Aba-Basir and Siyyid Ashraf-i-Zanjani. They sent for the mother of Ashraf to dissuade her son from his purpose. But she spurred him on until he suffered a most glorious martyrdom.

O Shaykh! This people have passed beyond the narrow straits of names, and pitched their tents upon the shores of the sea of renunciation. They would willingly lay down a myriad lives, rather than breathe the word desired by their enemies. They have clung to that which pleaseth God, and are wholly detached and freed from the things which pertain unto men. They have preferred to have their heads cut off rather than utter one unseemly word. Ponder this in thine heart. Methinks they have quaffed their fill of the ocean of renunciation. The life of the present world hath failed to withhold them from suffering martyrdom in the path of God.

In Mazindaran a vast number of the servants of God were exterminated. The Governor, under the influence of calumniators, robbed a great many of all that they possessed. Among the charges he laid against them was that they had been laying up arms, whereas upon investigation it was found out that they had nothing but an unloaded rifle! Gracious God! This people need no weapons of destruction, inasmuch as they have girded themselves to reconstruct the world. Their hosts are the hosts of goodly deeds, and their arms the arms of upright conduct, and their commander the fear of God. Blessed that one that judgeth with fairness. By the righteousness of God! Such hath been the patience, the calm, the resignation and contentment of this people that they have become the exponents of justice, and so great hath been their forbearance, that they have suffered themselves to be killed rather than kill, and this notwithstanding that these whom the world hath wronged have endured tribulations the like of which the history of the world hath never recorded, nor the eyes of any nation witnessed.

What is it that could have induced them to reconcile themselves to these grievous trials, and to refuse to put forth a hand to repel them? What could have caused such resignation and serenity? The true cause is to be found in the ban which the Pen of Glory hath, day and night, chosen to impose, and in Our assumption of the reins of authority, through the power and might of Him Who is the Lord of all mankind.

Remember the father of Badi'. They arrested that wronged one, and ordered him to curse and revile his Faith. He, however, through the grace of God and the mercy of his Lord, chose martyrdom, and attained thereunto. If ye would reckon up the martyrs in the path of God, ye could not count them. Consider his honor Siyyid Isma'il—upon him be the peace of God, and His loving-kindness—how, before daybreak he was wont to dust, with his own turban, the doorstep of My house, and in the end, whilst standing on the banks of the river, with his eyes fixed on that same house, offered up, by his own hand, his life.

Do thou ponder on the penetrative influence of the Word of God. Every single one of these souls was first ordered to blaspheme and curse his faith, yet none was found to prefer his own will to the Will of God.

O Shaykh! In former times he that was chosen to be slain was but one person, whereas now this Wronged One hath produced for thee that which causeth every fair-minded man to marvel. Judge fairly, I adjure thee, and arise to serve thy Lord. He, verily, shall reward thee with a reward which neither the treasures of the earth nor all the possessions of kings and rulers can equal. In all thine affairs put thy reliance in God, and commit them unto Him. He will render thee a reward which the Book hath ordained as great. Occupy thyself, during these fleeting days of thy life, with such deeds as will diffuse the fragrance of Divine good pleasure, and will be adorned with the ornament of His acceptance. The acts of his honor, Balal, the Ethiopian, were so acceptable in the sight of God that the "sin" of his stuttering tongue excelled the "shin" pronounced by all the world. This is the day whereon all peoples should shed the light of unity and concord. In brief, the pride and vanity of certain of the peoples of the world have made havoc of true understanding, and laid waste the home of justice and of equity.

O Shaykh! That which hath touched this Wronged One is beyond compare or equal. We have borne it all with the utmost willingness and resignation, so that the souls of men may be edified, and the Word of God be exalted. While confined in the prison of the Land of Mim (Mazindaran) We were one day delivered into the hands of the divines. Thou canst well imagine what befell Us. Shouldst thou at some time happen to visit the dungeon of His Majesty the Shah, ask the director and chief jailer to show thee those two chains, one of which is known as Qara-Guhar, and the other as Salasil. I swear by the Daystar of Justice that for four months this Wronged One was tormented and chained by one or the other of them. "My grief exceedeth all the woes to which Jacob gave vent, and all the afflictions of Job are but a part of My sorrows!"

Section 9: "Likewise, ponder thou upon the martyrdom of Haji…"

Likewise, ponder thou upon the martyrdom of Haji Muhammad-Rida in the City of Love (Ishqabad). The tyrants of the earth have subjected that wronged one to such trials as have caused many foreigners to weep and lament for, as reported and ascertained, no less than thirty-two wounds were inflicted upon his blessed body. Yet none of the faithful transgressed My commandment, nor raised his hand in resistance. Come what might, they refused to allow their own inclinations to supersede that which the Book hath decreed, though a considerable number of this people have resided, and still reside, in that city.

We entreat His Majesty the Shah,—may God, hallowed and glorified be He, assist him—himself to ponder upon these things, and to judge with equity and justice. Although in recent years a number of the faithful have, in most of the cities of Persia, suffered themselves to be killed rather than kill, yet the hatred

smouldering in certain hearts hath blazed more fiercely than before. For the victims of oppression to intercede in favor of their enemies is, in the estimation of rulers, a princely deed. Some must have certainly heard that this oppressed people have, in that city (Ishqabad), pleaded with the Governor on behalf of their murderers, and asked for the mitigation of their sentence. Take, then, good heed, ye who are men of insight!

O Shaykh! These perspicuous verses have been sent down in one of the Tablets by the Abha Pen:

> "Hearken, O servant, unto the voice of this Wronged One, Who hath endured grievous vexations and trials in the path of God, the Lord of all Names, until such time as He was cast into prison, in the Land of Ta (Tihran). He summoned men unto the most sublime Paradise, and yet they seized Him and paraded Him through cities and countries. How many the nights during which slumber fled from the eyes of My loved ones, because of their love for Me; and how numerous the days whereon I had to face the assaults of the peoples against Me! At one time I found Myself on the heights of mountains; at another in the depths of the prison of Ta (Tihran), in chains and fetters. By the righteousness of God! I was at all times thankful unto Him, uttering His praise, engaged in remembering Him, directed towards Him, satisfied with His pleasure, and lowly and submissive before Him. So passed My days, until they ended in this Prison (Akka) which hath made the earth to tremble and the heavens to sigh. Happy that one who hath cast away his vain imaginings, when He Who was hid came with the standards of His signs. We, verily, have announced unto men this Most Great Revelation, and yet the people are in a state of strange stupor."

Thereupon, a Voice was raised from the direction of Hijaz, calling aloud and saying:

> "Great is thy blessedness, O Akka, in that God hath made thee the dayspring of His Most Sweet Voice, and the dawn of His most mighty signs. Happy art thou in that the Throne of Justice hath been established upon thee, and the Daystar of God's loving-kindness and bounty hath shone forth above thy horizon. Well is it with every fair-minded person that hath judged fairly Him Who is the Most Great Remembrance, and woe betide him that hath erred and doubted."

Following upon the death of some of the martyrs, the Lawh-i-Burhan (Tablet of the Proof) was sent down from the heaven of the Revelation of Him Who is the Lord of Religions:

"He is the Almighty, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise! The winds of hatred have encompassed the Ark of Batha (Mecca), by reason of that which the hands of the oppressors have wrought. O thou who art reputed for thy learning! Thou hast pronounced sentence against them for whom the books of the world have wept, and in whose favor the scriptures of all religions have testified. Thou, who art gone far astray, art indeed wrapt in a thick veil. By God Himself! Thou hast pronounced judgment against them through whom the horizon of faith hath been illumined. Unto this bear witness They Who are the Dawning-Places of Revelation and the Manifestations of the Cause of thy Lord, the Most Merciful, Who have sacrificed Their souls and all that They possessed in His straight Path.

The Faith of God hath cried everywhere, by reason of thy tyranny, and yet thou disportest thyself and art of them that exult. There is no hatred in Mine heart for thee nor for anyone. Every man of discernment

beholdeth thee, and such as are like thee, engulfed in evident folly. Hadst thou realized that which thou hast done, thou wouldst have cast thyself into the fire, or abandoned thine home and fled unto the mountains, or wouldst have groaned until thou hadst returned unto the place destined for thee by Him Who is the Lord of strength and of might. O thou who art even as nothing! Rend thou asunder the veils of idle fancies and vain imaginings, that thou mayest behold the Daystar of knowledge shining from this resplendent Horizon.

Thou hast torn in pieces a remnant of the Prophet Himself, and imagined that thou hadst helped the Faith of God. Thus hath thy soul prompted thee, and thou art truly one of the heedless. Thine act hath consumed the hearts of the Concourse on high, and those of such as have circled round the Cause of God, the Lord of the worlds. The soul of the Chaste One (Fatimih) melted, by reason of thy cruelty, and the inmates of Paradise wept sore in that blessed Spot.

"Judge thou fairly, I adjure thee by God. What proof did the Jewish doctors adduce wherewith to condemn Him Who was the Spirit of God (Jesus Christ), when He came unto them with truth? What could have been the evidence produced by the Pharisees and the idolatrous priests to justify their denial of Muhammad, the Apostle of God when He came unto them with a Book that judged between truth and falsehood with a justice which turned into light the darkness of the earth, and enraptured the hearts of such as had known Him? Indeed thou hast produced, in this day, the same proofs which the foolish divines advanced in that age. Unto this testifieth He Who is the King of the realm of grace in this great Prison.

Thou hast, truly, walked in their ways, nay, hast surpassed them in their cruelty, and hast deemed thyself to be helping the Faith and defending the Law of God, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. By Him Who is the Truth! Thine iniquity hath made Gabriel to groan, and hath drawn tears from the Law of God, through which the breezes of justice have been wafted over all who are in heaven and on earth. Hast thou fondly imagined that the judgment thou didst pronounce hath profited thee? Nay, by Him Who is the King of all Names! Unto thy loss testifieth He with Whom is the knowledge of all things as recorded in the preserved Tablet.

"O thou who hast gone astray! Thou hast neither seen Me, nor associated with Me, nor been My companion for the fraction of a moment. How is it, then, that thou hast bidden men to curse Me? Didst thou, in this, follow the promptings of thine own desires, or didst thou obey thy Lord? Produce thou a sign, if thou art one of the truthful. We testify that thou hast cast behind thy back the Law of God, and laid hold on the dictates of thy passions. Nothing, in truth, escapeth His knowledge; He, verily, is the Incomparable, the All-Informed. O heedless one! Hearken unto that which the Merciful hath revealed in the Qur'an: 'Say not to every one who meeteth you with a greeting,"Thou art not a believer."' Thus hath He decreed in Whose grasp are the kingdoms of Revelation and of creation, if thou be of them that hearken. Thou hast set aside the commandment of God, and clung unto the promptings of thine own desire. Woe, then, unto thee, O careless one that doubtest! If thou deniest Me, by what proof canst thou vindicate the truth of that which thou dost possess? Produce it, then, O thou who hast joined partners with God, and turned aside from His sovereignty that hath encompassed the worlds!

“Know thou that he is truly learned who hath acknowledged My Revelation, and drunk from the Ocean of My knowledge, and soared in the atmosphere of My love, and cast away all else besides Me, and taken firm hold on that which hath been sent down from the Kingdom of My wondrous utterance. He, verily, is even as an eye unto mankind, and as the spirit of life unto the body of all creation. Glorified be the All-Merciful Who hath enlightened him, and caused him to arise and serve His great and mighty Cause. Verily, such a man is blessed by the Concourse on high, and by them who dwell within the Tabernacle of Grandeur, who have quaffed My sealed Wine in My Name, the Omnipotent, the All-Powerful.

If thou be of them that occupy such a sublime station, produce then a sign from God, the Creator of the heavens. And shouldst thou recognize thy powerlessness, do thou rein in thy passions, and return unto thy Lord, that perchance He may forgive thee thy sins which have caused the leaves of the Divine Lote-Tree to be burnt up, and the Rock to cry out, and the eyes of men of understanding to weep. Because of thee the Veil of Divinity was rent asunder, and the Ark has foundered, and the She-Camel was hamstrung, and the Spirit (Jesus) groaned in His sublime retreat. Disputest thou with Him Who hath come unto thee with the testimonies of God and His signs which thou possessest and which are in the possession of them that dwell on earth?

Open thine eyes that thou mayest behold this Wronged One shining forth above the horizon of the will of God, the Sovereign, the Truth, the Resplendent. Unstop, then, the ear of thine heart that thou mayest hearken unto the speech of the Divine Lote-Tree that hath been raised up in truth by God, the Almighty, the Beneficent. Verily, this Tree, notwithstanding the things that befell it by reason of thy cruelty and of the transgressions of such as are like thee, calleth aloud and summoneth all men unto the Sadratu’l-Muntaha and the Supreme Horizon. Blessed is the soul that hath gazed on the Most Mighty Sign, and the ear that hath heard His most sweet Voice, and woe to whosoever hath turned aside and done wickedly.

“O thou who hast turned away from God! Wert thou to look with the eye of fairness upon the Divine Lote-Tree, thou wouldst perceive the marks of thy sword on its boughs, and its branches, and its leaves, notwithstanding that God created thee for the purpose of recognizing and of serving it. Reflect, that haply thou mayest recognize thine iniquity and be numbered with such as have repented. Thinkest thou that We fear thy cruelty? Know thou and be well assured that from the first day whereon the voice of the Most Sublime Pen was raised betwixt earth and heaven We offered up Our souls, and Our bodies, and Our sons, and Our possessions in the path of God, the Exalted, the Great, and We glory therein amongst all created things and the Concourse on high.

Unto this testify the things which have befallen Us in this straight Path. By God! Our hearts were consumed, and Our bodies were crucified, and Our blood was spilt, while Our eyes were fixed on the horizon of the loving-kindness of their Lord, the Witness, the All-Seeing. The more grievous their woes, the greater waxed the love of the people of Baha. Unto their sincerity hath borne witness what the All-Merciful hath sent down in the Qur’an. He saith: ‘Wish ye, then, for death, if ye are sincere.’ Who is to be preferred, he that hath sheltered himself behind curtains, or he that hath offered himself in the path of God? Judge thou fairly, and be not of them that rove distraught in the wilderness of falsehood.

So carried away have they been by the living waters of the love of the Most Merciful, that neither the arms of the world nor the swords of the nations have deterred them from setting their faces towards the ocean of the bounty of their Lord, the Giver, the Generous.

> "By God! Troubles have failed to unnerve Me, and the repudiation of the divines hath been powerless to weaken Me. I have spoken, and still speak forth before the face of men: 'The door of grace hath been unlocked and He Who is the Dayspring of Justice is come with perspicuous signs and evident testimonies, from God, the Lord of strength and of might!' Present thyself before Me that thou mayest hear the mysteries which were heard by the Son of Imran (Moses) upon the Sinai of Wisdom. Thus commandeth thee He Who is the Dawning-Place of the Revelation of thy Lord, the God of Mercy, from His great Prison."

Thereupon hath the cry and the lamentation of the true Faith been raised once again, saying: "Verily, Sinai calleth aloud and saith: O people of the Bayan! Fear ye the Merciful. Indeed have I attained unto Him Who conversed upon me, and the ecstasies of my joy have seized the pebbles of the earth and the dust thereof.' And the Bush exclaimeth: O people of the Bayan! Judge ye fairly that which hath in truth been manifested. Verily the Fire which God revealed unto the One Who conversed with Him is now manifested. Unto this beareth witness every man of insight and understanding."'

We have made mention of certain martyrs of this Revelation, and have likewise cited some of the verses which were sent down concerning them from the kingdom of Our utterance. We fain would hope that, rid of all attachment to the world, thou wilt ponder the things which We have mentioned.

It behooveth thee now to reflect upon the state of Mirza Hadi Dawlat-Abadi and of Sad-i-Isfahani (Sadru'l-'Ulama), who reside in the Land of Ta (Tihran). No sooner had the former heard that he had been called a Babi than he became so perturbed that his poise and dignity forsook him. He ascended the pulpits and spoke words which ill befitted him. From time immemorial the clay clods of the world have, wholly by reason of their love of leadership, perpetrated such acts as have caused men to err. Thou must not, however, imagine that all the faithful are such as these two. We have described unto thee the constancy, the firmness, the steadfastness, the certitude, the imperturbability and the dignity of the martyrs of this Revelation, that thou mayest be well-informed.

My purpose in citing the passages from the Tablets to the kings and others hath been that thou mayest know of a certainty that this Wronged One hath not concealed the Cause of God, but hath proclaimed and delivered, in the most eloquent language, before the face of the world, the things He had been commissioned to set forth. Certain faint-hearted ones, however, such as Hadi and others, have tampered with the Cause of God and have, in their concern for this fleeting life, said and done that which caused the eye of justice to weep and the Pen of Glory to groan, notwithstanding their ignorance of the essentials of this Cause; whereas this Wronged One hath revealed it for the sake of God.

Section 10: "O Hadi! Thou hast gone unto My brother…"

O Hadi! Thou hast gone unto My brother and hast seen him. Set now thy face towards the court of this Wronged One, that haply the breezes of Revelation and the breaths of inspiration may assist thee and

enable thee to attain thy goal. Whoever gazeth this day on My signs will distinguish truth from falsehood as the sun from shadow, and will be made cognizant of the goal. God is aware and beareth Me witness that whatever hath been mentioned was for the sake of God, that haply thou mayest be the cause of the guidance of men, and mayest deliver the peoples of the world from idle fancies and vain imaginings. Gracious God! Until now they that have turned aside and denied Me have failed to recognize Who despatched that which was delivered unto the Herald—the Primal Point! The knowledge of it is with God, the Lord of the worlds.

Exert thyself, O Shaykh, and arise to serve this Cause. The Sealed Wine is disclosed in this day before the faces of men. Seize it in the name of thy Lord, and quaff thy fill in remembrance of Him Who is the Mighty, the Incomparable. Night and day hath this Wronged One been occupied in that which would unite the hearts, and edify the souls of men. The events that have happened in Persia during the early years have truly saddened the well-favored and sincere ones. Each year witnessed a fresh massacre, pillage, plunder, and shedding of blood. At one time there appeared in Zanjan that which caused the greatest consternation; at another in Nayriz, and at yet another in Tabarsi, and finally there occurred the episode of the Land of Ta (Tihran). From that time onwards this Wronged One, assisted by the One True God—exalted be His glory—acquainted this oppressed people with the things which beseemed them. All have sanctified themselves from the things which they and others possess, and have clung unto, and fixed their eyes upon that which pertaineth unto God.

It is now incumbent upon His Majesty the Shah—may God, exalted be He, protect him—to deal with this people with loving-kindness and mercy. This Wronged One pledgeth Himself, before the Divine Kaaba, that, apart from truthfulness and trustworthiness, this people will show forth nothing that can in any way conflict with the world-adorning views of His Majesty. Every nation must have a high regard for the position of its sovereign, must be submissive unto him, must carry out his behests, and hold fast his authority. The sovereigns of the earth have been and are the manifestations of the power, the grandeur and the majesty of God. This Wronged One hath at no time dealt deceitfully with anyone. Every one is well aware of this, and beareth witness unto it.

Regard for the rank of sovereigns is divinely ordained, as is clearly attested by the words of the Prophets of God and His chosen ones. He Who is the Spirit (Jesus)—may peace be upon Him—was asked: “O Spirit of God! Is it lawful to give tribute to Caesar or not?” And He made reply: “Yea, render to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s and to God the things that are God’s.” He forbade it not. These two sayings are, in the estimation of men of insight, one and the same, for if that which belonged to Caesar had not come from God, He would have forbidden it. And likewise in the sacred verse: “Obey God and obey the Apostle, and those among you invested with authority.”

By “those invested with authority” is meant primarily and more especially the Imams—the blessings of God rest upon them! They, verily, are the manifestations of the power of God, and the sources of His authority, and the repositories of His knowledge, and the daysprings of His commandments. Secondarily these words refer unto the kings and rulers—those through the brightness of whose justice the horizons of the world are resplendent and luminous. We fain would hope that His Majesty the Shah will shine forth

with a light of justice whose radiance will envelop all the kindreds of the earth. It is incumbent upon every one to beseech the one true God on his behalf for that which is meet and seemly in this day.

O God, my God, and my Master, and my Mainstay, and my Desire, and my Beloved! I ask Thee by the mysteries which were hid in Thy knowledge, and by the signs which have diffused the fragrance of Thy loving-kindness, and by the billows of the ocean of Thy bounty, and by the heaven of Thy grace and generosity, and by the blood spilt in Thy path, and by the hearts consumed in their love for Thee, to assist His Majesty the Shah with Thy power and Thy sovereignty, that from him may be manifested that which will everlastingly endure in Thy Books, and Thy Scriptures, and Thy Tablets. Hold Thou his hand, O my Lord, with the hand of Thine omnipotence, and illuminate him with the light of Thy knowledge, and adorn him with the adornment of Thy virtues. Potent art Thou to do what pleaseth Thee, and in Thy grasp are the reins of all created things. No God is there but Thee, the Ever-Forgiving, the All-Bounteous.

In the Epistle to the Romans Saint Paul hath written: “Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God; the powers that be are ordained of God. Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God.” And further: “For he is the minister of God, a revenger to execute wrath upon him that doeth evil.” He saith that the appearance of the kings, and their majesty and power are of God.

Moreover, in the traditions of old, references have been made which the divines have seen and heard. We beseech God—blessed and glorified be He—to aid thee, O Shaykh, to lay fast hold on that which hath been sent down from the heaven of the bounty of God, the Lord of the worlds. The divines must needs unite with His Majesty, the Shah, and cleave unto that which will insure the protection, the security, the welfare and prosperity of men. A just king enjoyeth nearer access unto God than anyone. Unto this testifieth He Who speaketh in His Most Great Prison. God! There is none other God but Him, the One, the Incomparable, the Almighty, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

Wert thou, for the sake of God, to ponder, though it be but for an hour, upon the things which have occurred in former times and more recently, thou wouldst turn away from the things thou dost possess unto the things which belong unto God, and wouldst become a means for the exaltation of His Word. Hath, from the foundation of the world until the present day, any Light or Revelation shone forth from the dayspring of the will of God which the kindreds of the earth have accepted, and Whose Cause they have acknowledged? Where is it to be found, and what is its name? Since the Seal of the Prophets (Muhammad)—may all else but Him be His sacrifice—and before Him the Spirit of God (Jesus), as far back as the First Manifestation, all have at the time of Their appearance suffered grievously. Some were held to be possessed, others were called impostors, and were treated in a manner that the pen is ashamed to describe. By God! There befell Them what hath made all created things to sigh, and yet the people are, for the most part, sunk in manifest ignorance! We pray God to assist them to return unto Him, and to repent before the door of His mercy. Potent is He over all things.

At this moment the shrill voice of the Most Sublime Pen hath been raised, and hath addressed Me saying:

> "Admonish the Shaykh even as Thou hast admonished one of Thy Branches (sons), that haply the breezes of Thine utterance may attract and draw him nigh unto God, the Lord of the worlds."

"Be generous in prosperity, and thankful in adversity. Be worthy of the trust of thy neighbor, and look upon him with a bright and friendly face. Be a treasure to the poor, an admonisher to the rich, an answerer to the cry of the needy, a preserver of the sanctity of thy pledge. Be fair in thy judgment, and guarded in thy speech. Be unjust to no man, and show all meekness to all men. Be as a lamp unto them that walk in darkness, a joy to the sorrowful, a sea for the thirsty, a haven for the distressed, an upholder and defender of the victim of oppression. Let integrity and uprightness distinguish all thine acts. Be a home for the stranger, a balm to the suffering, a tower of strength for the fugitive.

Be eyes to the blind, and a guiding light unto the feet of the erring. Be an ornament to the countenance of truth, a crown to the brow of fidelity, a pillar of the temple of righteousness, a breath of life to the body of mankind, an ensign of the hosts of justice, a luminary above the horizon of virtue, a dew to the soil of the human heart, an ark on the ocean of knowledge, a sun in the heaven of bounty, a gem on the diadem of wisdom, a shining light in the firmament of thy generation, a fruit upon the tree of humility. We pray God to protect thee from the heat of jealousy and the cold of hatred.

He verily is nigh, ready to answer." Thus hath My tongue spoken unto one of My Branches (sons), and We have mentioned it unto such of Our loved ones as have cast away their idle fancies, and clung unto that which hath been prescribed unto them in the day whereon the Daystar of Certitude hath shone forth above the horizon of the will of God, the Lord of the worlds. This is the day on which the Bird of Utterance hath warbled its melody upon the branches, in the name of its Lord, the God of Mercy. Blessed is the man that hath, on the wings of longing, soared towards God, the Lord of the Judgment Day.

The one true God well knoweth, and all the company of His trusted ones testify, that this Wronged One hath, at all times, been faced with dire peril. But for the tribulations that have touched Me in the path of God, life would have held no sweetness for Me, and My existence would have profited Me nothing. For them who are endued with discernment, and whose eyes are fixed upon the Sublime Vision, it is no secret that I have been, most of the days of My life, even as a slave, sitting under a sword hanging on a thread, knowing not whether it would fall soon or late upon him. And yet, notwithstanding all this We render thanks unto God, the Lord of the worlds. Mine inner tongue reciteth, in the daytime and in the night-season, this prayer:

> "Glory to Thee, O my God! But for the tribulations which are sustained in Thy path, how could Thy true lovers be recognized; and were it not for the trials which are borne for love of Thee, how could the station of such as yearn for Thee be revealed? Thy might beareth Me witness! The companions of all who adore Thee are the tears they shed, and the comforters of such as seek Thee are the groans they utter, and the food of them who haste to meet Thee is the fragments of their broken hearts. How sweet to my taste is the bitterness of death suffered in Thy path, and how precious in my estimation are the shafts of Thine enemies when encountered for the sake of the exaltation of Thy Word! Let me quaff in Thy Cause, O my God and my Master, whatsoever Thou didst desire, and send down upon me in Thy love all Thou

didst ordain. By Thy glory! I wish only what Thou wishest, and cherish what Thou cherishest. In Thee have I, at all times, placed My whole trust and confidence. Thou art verily the All-Possessing, the Most High. Raise up, I implore Thee, O my God, as helpers to this Revelation such as shall be counted worthy of Thy Name and of Thy sovereignty, that they may remember Thee among Thy creatures, and hoist the ensigns of Thy victory in Thy land, and adorn them with Thy virtues and Thy commandments. No God is there but Thee, the Help in Peril, the Self-Subsisting."

Thereupon the voice of the true Faith was lifted up, calling aloud again and again and saying:

> "O concourse of the earth! By God! I am the true Faith of God amongst you. Beware that ye deny Me not. God hath manifested Me with a light that hath encompassed all that are in the heavens and all that are on earth. Judge ye equitably, O people, My manifestation, and the revelation of My glory, and the radiance of My light, and be not of them that act unjustly."

Section 11: "O Shaykh! This Wronged One beseecheth God…"

O Shaykh! This Wronged One beseecheth God—blessed and glorified be He—to make thee the one who will open the door of justice, and reveal through thee His Cause among His servants. He, verily, is the All-Powerful, the Almighty, the All-Bounteous.

O Shaykh! Entreat thou the one true God to sanctify the ears, and the eyes, and the hearts of mankind, and to protect them from the desires of a corrupt inclination. For malice is a grievous malady which depriveth man from recognizing the Great Being, and debarreth him from the splendors of the sun of certitude. We pray and hope that through the grace and mercy of God He may remove this mighty obstacle. He, verily, is the Potent, the All-Subduing, the Almighty.

At this moment a Voice was raised from the right-hand of the Luminous Spot: "God! There is none other God but Him, the Ordainer, the All-Wise! Recite Thou unto the Shaykh the remaining passages of the Lawh-i-Burhan (Tablet of the Proof) that they may draw him unto the horizon of the Revelation of his Lord, the God of Mercy, that haply he may arise to aid My Cause with perspicuous signs and exalted testimonies, and may speak forth amongst men that which the Tongue of Testimony hath spoken: 'The Kingdom is God's, the Lord of the worlds!"'

"Peruse thou the Kitab-i-Iqan (Book of Certitude) and that which the All-Merciful hath sent down unto the King of Paris (Napoleon III) and to such as are like him, that thou mayest be made aware of the things that have happened in the past, and be persuaded that We have not sought to spread disorder in the land after it had been well-ordered. We exhort, wholly for the sake of God, His servants. Let him who wisheth turn unto Him, and him who wisheth turn aside. Our Lord, the Merciful, is verily the All-Sufficing, the All-Praised. O concourse of the kindreds of the earth! This is the day whereon nothing amongst all things, nor any name amongst all names, can profit you save through this Name which God hath made the Manifestation of His Cause and the Dayspring of His Most Excellent Titles unto all who are in the kingdom of creation.

Blessed is that man that hath recognized the fragrance of the All-Merciful and been numbered with the steadfast. Your sciences shall not profit you in this day, nor your arts, nor your treasures, nor your glory. Cast them all behind your backs, and set your faces towards the Most Sublime Word through which the Scriptures and the Books and this lucid Tablet have been distinctly set forth. Cast away, O people, the things ye have composed with the pen of your idle fancies and vain imaginings. By God! The Daystar of Knowledge hath shone forth above the horizon of certitude.

"O thou who art gone astray! If thou hast any doubt concerning Our conduct, know thou that We bear witness unto that whereunto God hath Himself borne witness ere the creation of the heavens and of the earth, that there is none other God but Him, the Almighty, the All-Bounteous. We testify that He is One in His Essence, One in His Attributes. He hath none to equal Him in the whole universe, nor any partner in all creation. He hath sent forth His Messengers, and sent down His Books, that they may announce unto His creatures the Straight Path.

"Hath the Shah been informed, and chosen to close his eyes to thine acts? Or hath he been seized with fear at the howling of a pack of wolves who have cast the path of God behind their backs and followed in thy way without any clear proof or Book? We have heard that the provinces of Persia have been adorned with the adornment of justice. When We observed closely, however, We found them to be the dawning-places of tyranny and the daysprings of injustice. We behold justice in the clutches of tyranny. We beseech God to set it free through the power of His might and His sovereignty. He, verily, overshadoweth all that is in the heavens and on earth. To none is given the right to protest against any one concerning that which hath befallen the Cause of God. It behooveth whosoever hath set his face towards the Most Sublime Horizon to cleave tenaciously unto the cord of patience, and to put his reliance in God, the Help in Peril, the Unconstrained. O ye loved ones of God! Drink your fill from the wellspring of wisdom, and soar ye in the atmosphere of wisdom, and speak forth with wisdom and eloquence. Thus biddeth you your Lord, the Almighty, the All-Knowing.

"O heedless one! Rely not on thy glory, and thy power. Thou art even as the last trace of sunlight upon the mountain-top. Soon will it fade away as decreed by God, the All-Possessing, the Most High. Thy glory and the glory of such as are like thee have been taken away, and this verily is what hath been ordained by the One with Whom is the Mother Tablet. Where is he to be found who contended with God, and whither is gone he that gainsaid His signs, and turned aside from His sovereignty? Where are they who have slain His chosen ones and spilt the blood of His holy ones? Reflect, that haply thou mayest perceive the breaths of thine acts, O foolish doubter! Because of you the Apostle (Muhammad) lamented, and the Chaste One (Fatimih) cried out, and the countries were laid waste, and darkness fell upon all regions. O concourse of divines! Because of you the people were abased, and the banner of Islam was hauled down, and its mighty throne subverted. Every time a man of discernment hath sought to hold fast unto that which would exalt Islam, ye raised a clamor, and thereby was he deterred from achieving his purpose, while the land remained fallen in clear ruin.

> "O My Supreme Pen! Call Thou to remembrance the She-Serpent (Imam-Jum'ih of Isfahan) whose cruelty hath caused all created things to groan, and the limbs of the holy ones to quake. Thus biddeth Thee the Lord of all names, in this glorious station. The Chaste One (Fatimih)

hath cried out by reason of thine iniquity, and yet thou dost imagine thyself to be of the family of the Apostle of God! Thus hath thy soul prompted thee, O thou who hast withdrawn thyself from God, the Lord of all that hath been and shall be. Judge thou equitably, O She-Serpent! For what crime didst thou sting the children of the Apostle of God (King of Martyrs and Beloved of Martyrs), and pillage their possessions? Hast thou denied Him Who created thee by His command ʿbe, and it was'? Thou hast dealt with the children of the Apostle of God as neither Ad hath dealt with Hud, nor Thamud with Salih, nor the Jews with the Spirit of God (Jesus), the Lord of all being. Gainsayest thou the signs of thy Lord which had no sooner been sent down from the heaven of His Cause than all the books of the world bowed down before them? Meditate, that thou mayest be made aware of thine act, O heedless outcast! Erelong will the breaths of chastisement seize thee, as they seized others before thee. Wait, O thou who hast joined partners with God, the Lord of the visible and the invisible. This is the day which God hath announced through the tongue of His Apostle. Reflect, that thou mayest apprehend what the All-Merciful hath sent down in the Qur'an and in this inscribed Tablet. This is the day whereon He Who is the Dayspring of Revelation hath come with clear tokens which none can number. This is the day whereon every man endued with perception hath discovered the fragrance of the breeze of the All-Merciful in the world of creation, and every man of insight hath hastened unto the living waters of the mercy of his Lord, the King of Kings. O heedless one! The tale of the Sacrifice (Ishmael) hath been retold, and he who was to be offered up hath directed his steps towards the place of sacrifice, and returned not, by reason of that which thy hand hath wrought, O perverse hater! Didst thou imagine that martyrdom could abase this Cause? Nay, by Him Whom God hath made to be the Repository of His Revelation, if thou be of them that comprehend. Woe betide thee, O thou who hast joined partners with God, and woe betide them that have taken thee as their leader, without a clear token or a perspicuous Book. How numerous the oppressors before thee who have arisen to quench the light of God, and how many the impious who murdered and pillaged until the hearts and souls of men groaned by reason of their cruelty! The sun of justice hath been obscured, inasmuch as the embodiment of tyranny hath been stablished upon the throne of hatred, and yet the people understand not. O foolish one! Thou hast slain the children of the Apostle and pillaged their possessions. Say: Was it, in thine estimation, their possessions or themselves that denied God? Judge fairly, O ignorant one that hath been shut out as by a veil from God. Thou hast clung to tyranny, and cast away justice; whereupon all created things have lamented, and still thou art among the wayward. Thou hast put to death the aged, and plundered the young. Thinkest thou that thou wilt consume that which thine iniquity hath amassed? Nay, by Myself! Thus informeth thee He Who is cognizant of all. By God! The things thou possessest shall profit thee not, nor what thou hast laid up through thy cruelty. Unto this beareth witness thy Lord, the All-Knowing. Thou hast arisen to put out the light of this Cause; erelong will thine own fire be quenched, at His behest. He, verily, is the Lord of strength and of might. The changes and chances of the world, and the powers of the nations, cannot frustrate Him. He doeth what He pleaseth, and ordaineth what He willeth through the power of His sovereignty. Consider the she-camel. Though but a beast, yet hath the All-Merciful exalted her to so high a station that the tongues of the earth made mention of her and celebrated her praise. He, verily,

> overshadoweth all that is in the heavens and on earth. No God is there but Him, the Almighty, the Great. Thus have We adorned the heaven of Our Tablet with the suns of Our words. Blessed the man that hath attained thereunto, and been illumined with their light, and woe betide such as have turned aside, and denied Him, and strayed far from Him. Praised be God, the Lord of the worlds!"

O Shaykh! We have enabled thee to hear the melodies of the Nightingale of Paradise, and unveiled to thine eyes the signs which God, by His all-compelling behest, hath sent down in the Most Great Prison, that thine eye might be cheered, and thy soul be well-assured. He, verily, is the All-Bounteous, the Generous. Arise thou through the power of His testimony to serve the Cause of God, thy Lord, the God of Mercy. If thy faith be fearful, seize thou My Tablet, and preserve it in the bosom of trust. And when thou enterest into the place of resurrection, and God asketh thee by what proof thou hast believed in this Revelation, draw forth the Tablet and say: "By this Book, the holy, the mighty, the incomparable."

Thereupon all will lift up their hands towards thee, and will seize the Tablet, and will press it to their eyes, and will inhale therefrom the fragrance of the utterance of God, the Lord of the worlds. Were God to torment thee for having believed in His signs in this Revelation, for what reason could He then torment such as have disbelieved in Muhammad, the Apostle of God, and before Him in Jesus, the Son of Mary, and before Him in the One Who conversed with God (Moses), and before Him in the One Who is the Friend of God (Abraham), and as far back as the One Who was the First Manifestation, Who was created by the will of thy Lord, the Potent, the All-Encompassing.

Thus have We sent down Our verses unto one before thee, and recalled them unto thee, in this day, that thou mayest understand, and be of them who are well assured. O thou who assumest the voice of knowledge! This Cause is too evident to be obscured, and too conspicuous to be concealed. It shineth as the sun in its meridian glory. None can deny it unless he be a hater and a doubter.

At this moment it behooveth us to turn unto the Desired One, and cleave unto these most sublime words: "O God, my God! Thou hast lighted the lamp of Thy Cause with the oil of wisdom; protect it from contrary winds. The lamp is Thine, and the glass is Thine, and all things in the heavens and on earth are in the grasp of Thy power. Bestow justice upon the rulers, and fairness upon the divines. Thou art the All-Powerful, Who, through the motion of Thy Pen, hast aided Thine irresistible Cause, and guided aright Thy loved ones. Thou art the Possessor of power, and the King of might. No God is there but Thee, the Strong, the Unconstrained." Say thou also: "O God, my God!

I yield Thee thanks inasmuch as Thou hast made me to drink of Thy Sealed Wine from the hand of the bounty of Thy Name, the Self-Subsisting. I entreat Thee by the splendors of the Dayspring of Thy Revelation, and by the potency of Thy Most Sublime Word, and by the might of Thy Most Exalted Pen, through Whose movement the realities of all created things have been enraptured, to aid His Majesty the Shah to render Thy Cause victorious, and to turn towards the horizon of Thy Revelation, and to set his face in the direction of the lights of Thy countenance. Assist him, O my Lord, to draw nigh unto Thee. Help him, then, with the hosts of the heavens and of earth.

I implore Thee, O Thou Who art the Lord of all Names and the Maker of the heavens, by the light of Thy Cause, and by the fire of the Lote-Tree of Thy loving-kindness, to help His Majesty to reveal Thy Cause amidst Thy creatures. Open, then, before his face the doors of Thy grace, and Thy mercy, and Thy bounty. Potent art Thou to do what pleaseth Thee by Thy word: ʻBe, and it is.”’

Section 12: “O Shaykh! We had seized the reins…”

O Shaykh! We had seized the reins of authority by the power of God and His Divine might, as He alone can seize, Who is the Mighty, the Strong. None had the power to stir up mischief or sedition. Now, however, as they have failed to appreciate this loving-kindness and these bounties, they have been, and will be, afflicted with the retribution which their acts must entail. The State officials, considering the secret progress of the Extended Cord have, from every direction, incited and aided Mine adversaries. In the Great City (Constantinople) they have roused a considerable number of people to oppose this Wronged One. Things have come to such a pass that the officials in that city have acted in a manner which hath brought shame to both the government and the people.

A distinguished siyyid, whose well-known integrity, acceptable conduct, and commercial reputation, were recognized by the majority of fair-minded men, and who was regarded by all as a highly honored merchant, once visited Beirut. In view of his friendship for this Wronged One they telegraphed the Persian Dragoman informing him that this siyyid, assisted by his servant, had stolen a sum of money and other things and gone to Akka. Their design in this matter was to dishonor this Wronged One. And yet, far be it from the people of this country to allow themselves to be deflected, by these unseemly tales, from the straight path of uprightness and truth. Briefly, they have assaulted Me from every side, and are reinforcing Mine adversaries. This Wronged One, however, beseecheth the one true God to graciously assist every one in that which beseemeth these days. Day and night I fix My gaze on these perspicuous words, and recite:

> “O God, my God! I beseech Thee by the sun of Thy grace, and the sea of Thy knowledge, and the heaven of Thy justice, to aid them that have denied Thee to confess, and such as have turned aside from Thee to return, and those who have calumniated Thee to be just and fair-minded. Assist them, O my Lord, to return unto Thee, and to repent before the door of Thy grace. Powerful art Thou to do what Thou willest, and in Thy grasp are the reins of all that is in the heavens and all that is on earth. Praise be unto God, the Lord of the worlds.”

The time is at hand when whatsoever lieth hid in the souls and hearts of men will be disclosed. This Day is the Day whereof Luqman spoke unto his son, the Day which the Lord of Glory announced and with which He acquainted Him Who was His Friend (Muhammad) through these, His words—exalted be He:—“O my son! Verily, God will bring everything to light, though it were but the weight of a grain of mustard-seed, and hidden in a rock or in the heavens or in the earth; for God is Subtile, informed of all.” This Day the deceitful of eye, and all that men’s breasts conceal, are made known and laid bare before the throne of His Revelation. Nothing whatsoever can escape His knowledge. He heareth and seeth, and He, in truth, is the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing. How very strange that they discern not between the trustworthy and the treacherous!

Would that His Majesty the Shah of Persia—may God perpetuate his sovereignty—would inquire from the Consuls of the honored Persian Government who have been in this country, that he might become acquainted with the activities and behavior of this Wronged One. Briefly, they have incited a great many such as Akhtar and others, and are busying themselves in spreading calumnies. It is clear and evident that they will surround with their swords of hatred and their shafts of enmity the one whom they know to be an outcast among men and to have been banished from one country to another. This is not the first time that such iniquity hath been perpetrated, nor the first goblet that hath been dashed to the ground, nor the first veil that hath been rent in twain in the path of God, the Lord of the worlds. This Wronged One, however, remained calm and silent in the Most Great Prison, busying Himself with His own affairs, and completely detached from all else but God. Iniquity waxed so grievous that the pens of the world are powerless to record it.

In this connection it is necessary to mention the following occurrence, that haply men may take fast hold of the cord of justice and truthfulness. Haji Shaykh Muhammad Ali—upon him be the glory of God, the Ever-Abiding—was a merchant of high repute, well-known unto most of the inhabitants of the Great City (Constantinople). Not long ago, when the Persian Embassy in Constantinople was secretly engaged in stirring up mischief, it was noticed that this believing and sincere soul was greatly distressed. Finally, one night he threw himself into the sea, but was rescued by some passers-by who chanced to come upon him at that moment. His act was widely commented upon and given varied interpretations by different people. Following this, one night he repaired to a mosque, and, as reported by the guardian of that place, kept vigil the whole night, and was occupied until the morning in offering, ardently and with tearful eyes, his prayers and supplications.

Upon hearing him suddenly cease his devotions, the guardian went to him, and found that he had already surrendered his soul. An empty bottle was found by his side, indicating that he had poisoned himself. Briefly, the guardian, while greatly astonished, broke the news to the people. It was found out that he had left two testaments. In the first he recognized and confessed the unity of God, that His Exalted Being had neither peer nor equal, and that His Essence was exalted above all praise, all glorification and description. He also testified to the Revelation of the Prophets and the holy ones, and recognized what had been written down in the Books of God, the Lord of all men. On another page, in which he had set down a prayer, he wrote these words in conclusion:

> "This servant and the loved ones of God are perplexed. On the one hand the Pen of the Most High hath forbidden all men to engage in sedition, contention or conflict, and on the other that same Pen hath sent down these most sublime words: 'Should anyone, in the presence of the Manifestation, discover an evil intention on the part of any soul, he must not oppose him, but must leave him to God.' Considering that on the one hand this binding command is clear and firmly established, and that on the other calumnies, beyond human strength to bear or endure, have been uttered, this servant hath chosen to commit this most grievous sin. I turn suppliantly unto the ocean of God's bounty and the heaven of Divine mercy, and hope that He will blot out with the pen of His grace and bounteousness the misdeeds of this servant. Though my transgressions be manifold, and unnumbered my evildoings, yet do I cleave tenaciously to the cord of His bounty, and cling unto the hem of His generosity. God is witness, and they that

> are nigh unto His Threshold know full well, that this servant could not bear to hear the tales related by the perfidious. I, therefore, have committed this act. If He chastise me, He verily is to be praised for what He doeth; and if He forgive me, His behest shall be obeyed."

Ponder, now, O Shaykh, the influence of the word of God, that haply thou mayest turn from the left hand of idle fancy unto the right hand of certitude. This Wronged One hath never acted hypocritically towards any one, in the Cause of God, and hath loudly proclaimed the Word of God before the face of His creatures. Let him who wisheth turn thereunto, and let him who wisheth turn aside. If these things, however, that are so clear, so manifest and indubitable, be denied, what else can be deemed acceptable and worthy of credence in the estimation of men of insight? We beseech God—blessed and glorified be He—to forgive the aforementioned person (Haji Shaykh Muhammad-ʿAli), and change his evil deeds into good ones. He, verily, is the All-Powerful, the Almighty, the All-Bounteous.

Such things have appeared in this Revelation that there is no recourse for either the exponents of science and knowledge or the manifestations of justice and equity other than to recognize them. It is incumbent upon thee, in this day, to arise with celestial power and dissipate, with the aid of knowledge, the doubts of the peoples of the world, so that all men may be sanctified, and direct their steps towards the Most Great Ocean and cleave fast unto that which God hath purposed.

Every one who hath turned aside from Me hath clung to his own idle words, and therewith voiced his objections to Him Who is the Truth. Gracious God! Such references as have been made to Divinity and Godhead by the holy ones and chosen ones of God have been made a cause for denial and repudiation. The Imam Sadiq hath said: "Servitude is a substance, the essence of which is Divinity." The Commander of the Faithful (Imam Ali) answered an Arab, who had questioned him concerning the soul, as follows: "The third is the soul which is divine and celestial. It is a divine energy, a substance, simple, and self-subsistent." And further he—peace be upon him—said: "Therefore it is the Most Sublime Essence of God, the Tree of Blessedness, the Lote-Tree beyond which there is no passing, the Garden of Repose."

The Imam Sadiq hath said: "When our Qa'im will arise, the earth will shine with the light of her Lord." Likewise, a lengthy tradition is attributed to Abi-Abdi'llah—peace be upon him—in which these sublime words are found: "Thereupon will He Who is the All-Compelling—exalted and glorified be He—descend from the clouds with the angels." And in the mighty Qur'an: "What can such expect but that God should come down to them overshadowed with clouds?" And in the tradition of Mufaddal it is said: "The Qa'im will lean His back against the Sanctuary, and will stretch forth His hand, and lo, it shall be snow-white but unhurt. And He shall say: This is the hand of God, the right hand of God, that cometh from God, at the command of God!"' In whichever manner these traditions are interpreted, in that same manner let them also interpret that which the Most Sublime Pen hath set down.

The Commander of the Faithful (Imam Ali) hath said: "I am He Who can neither be named, nor described." And likewise He hath said: "Outwardly I am an Imam; inwardly I am the Unseen, the Unknowable." Abu-Ja'far-i-Tusi hath said: "I said to Abi Abdi'llah: You are the Way mentioned in the Book of God, and you are the Impost, and you are the Pilgrimage.' He replied: O man! We are the Way mentioned in the Book of God,—exalted and glorified be He—and We are the Impost, and We are the Fast, and We are the Pilgrimage, and We are the Sacred Month, and We are the Sacred City, and We are

the Kaaba of God, and We are the Qiblih of God, and We are the Face of God."' Jabir hath said that Abu-Ja'far—peace be upon him—spoke to him as follows: "O Jabir!

Give heed unto the Bayan (Exposition) and the Ma'ani (Significances)." He—peace be upon him—added: "As to the Bayan, it consisteth in thy recognition of God—glorified be He—as the One Who hath no equal, and in thy adoration of Him, and in thy refusal to join partners with Him. As to the Ma'ani, We are its meaning, and its side, and its hand, and its tongue, and its cause, and its command, and its knowledge, and its right. If We wish for something, it is God Who wisheth it, and He desireth that which We desire." Moreover, the Commander of the Faithful (Imam Ali)—peace be upon him—hath said: "How can I worship a Lord Whom I have not seen?" And, in another connection, he saith: "Nothing have I perceived except that I perceived God before it, God after it, or God with it."

O Shaykh! Ponder upon the things which have been mentioned, perchance thou mayest quaff the Sealed Wine through the power of the name of Him Who is the Self-Subsisting, and obtain that which no one is capable of comprehending. Gird up the loins of endeavor, and direct thyself towards the Most Sublime Kingdom, that haply thou mayest perceive, as they descend upon Me, the breaths of Revelation and inspiration, and attain thereunto. Verily, I say: The Cause of God hath never had, nor hath it now, any peer or equal. Rend asunder the veils of idle fancies. He, in truth, will reinforce thee, and assist thee, as a token of His grace. He, verily, is the Strong, the All-Subduing, the Almighty.

While there is yet time, and the blessed Lote-Tree is still calling aloud amongst men, suffer not thyself to be deprived. Place thy trust in God, and commit thine affairs unto Him, and enter then the Most Great Prison, that thou mayest hear what no ear hath ever heard, and gaze on that which no eye hath ever seen. After such an exposition, can there remain any room for doubt? Nay, by God, Who standeth over His Cause! In truth I say: On this day the blessed words "But He is the Apostle of God, and the Seal of the Prophets" have found their consummation in the verse "The day when mankind shall stand before the Lord of the worlds." Render thou thanksgiving unto God, for so great a bounty.

O Shaykh! The breezes of Revelation can never be confounded with other breezes. Now the Lote-Tree beyond which there is no passing standeth laden with countless fruits before thy face; besmirch not thyself with idle fancies, as have done the people aforetime. These utterances themselves proclaim the true nature of the Faith of God. He it is Who witnesseth unto all things. To demonstrate the truth of His Revelation He hath not been, nor is He, dependent upon any one. Well nigh a hundred volumes of luminous verses and perspicuous words have already been sent down from the heaven of the will of Him Who is the Revealer of signs, and are available unto all. It is for thee to direct thyself towards the Ultimate Goal, and the Supreme End, and the Most Sublime Pinnacle, that thou mayest hear and behold what hath been revealed by God, the Lord of the worlds.

Section 13: "Ponder a while upon the verses concerning…"

Ponder a while upon the verses concerning the Divine Presence, which have been sent down in the Qur'an by Him Who is the Lord of the kingdom of names, perchance thou mayest discover the Straight Path, and be made an instrument for the guidance of His creatures. Such a one as thou must needs in this day arise to serve this Cause. The abasement of this Wronged One as well as thy glory shall both pass

away. Strive thou, that haply thou mayest achieve a deed the fragrance of which shall never fade from the earth. Concerning the Divine Presence there hath been sent down what no denier hath been or is now able to refute or repudiate. He—blessed and exalted be He—saith: "It is God Who hath reared the heavens without pillars thou canst behold; then mounted His throne, and imposed laws on the sun and moon: each traveleth to its appointed goal.

He ordereth all things. He maketh His signs clear, that ye may have firm faith in the Presence of your Lord." He also saith: "To him who hopeth to attain the Presence of God, the set time of God will surely come. And He is the Hearer, the Knower." And further He—exalted be He—saith: "As for those who believe not in the signs of God, or that they shall ever attain His Presence, these of My mercy shall despair, and these doth a grievous chastisement await." And likewise He saith: "And they say, What! when we shall have lain hidden in the earth, shall we become a new creation?' Yea, they deny that they shall attain the Presence of their Lord."

And likewise He saith: "They truly doubt the Presence of their Lord. He, verily, overshadoweth all things." And likewise He saith: "Verily, they who hope not to attain Our Presence, and find their satisfaction in this world's life, and rest on it, and who of Our signs are heedless—these! their abode the fire, in recompense of their deeds!" And likewise He saith: "But when Our clear signs are recited to them, they who look not forward to attain Our Presence, say, Bring a different Qur'an from this, or make some change in it.' Say: It is not for Me to change it as Mine own soul prompteth. I follow only what is revealed to Me: verily, I fear, if I rebel against My Lord, the punishment of a great day."

And likewise He saith: "Then gave We the Book to Moses—complete for Him who should do right, and a decision for all matters, and a guidance, and a mercy, that they might believe in the Presence of their Lord." And likewise he saith: "They are those who believe not in the signs of the Lord, or that they shall ever attain His Presence. Vain, therefore, are their works; and no weight will We allow them on the Day of Resurrection. This shall be their reward—Hell. Because they were unbelievers, and treated My signs and My Apostles with scorn." And likewise He saith: "Hath the history of Moses reached thee? When He saw a fire, and said to His family, Tarry ye here, for I perceive a fire; haply I may bring you a brand from it, or find at the fire a guide.' And when He came to it, He was called to, O Moses!

Verily, I am Thy Lord; therefore pull off Thy shoes, for Thou art in the holy vale of Towa. And I have chosen Thee; hearken then to what shall be revealed. Verily, I am God, there is no God but Me. Therefore, worship Me."' And likewise He saith: "Have they not considered within themselves that God hath not created the heavens and the earth and all that is between them but for a serious end, and for a fixed term? But truly most men believe not that they shall attain the Presence of their Lord." And likewise He saith: "What! Have they no thought that they shall be raised again for the Great Day, the Day when mankind shall stand before the Lord of the worlds?"

And likewise He saith: "We heretofore gave the Book to Moses. Have thou no doubt as to His attaining Our Presence." And He saith: "Aye! But when the earth shall be crushed with crushing, crushing, and thy Lord shall come and the angels rank on rank." And likewise He saith: "Fain would they put out the light of God with their mouths! But though the infidels hate it, God will perfect His light." And likewise He saith: "And when Moses had fulfilled the term, and was journeying with His family, He perceived a fire on the

mountain side. He said to His family: Wait ye, for I perceive a fire, haply I may bring you tidings from it, or a brand from the fire to warm you.' And when He came up to it, a Voice cried to Him out of the Bush from the right side of the Vale in the sacred Spot: O Moses, I truly am God, the Lord of the worlds!"'

In all the Divine Books the promise of the Divine Presence hath been explicitly recorded. By this Presence is meant the Presence of Him Who is the Dayspring of the signs, and the Dawning-Place of the clear tokens, and the Manifestation of the Excellent Names, and the Source of the attributes, of the true God, exalted be His glory. God in His Essence and in His own Self hath ever been unseen, inaccessible, and unknowable. By Presence, therefore, is meant the Presence of the One Who is His Vicegerent amongst men. He, moreover, hath never had, nor hath He, any peer or likeness. For were He to have any peer or likeness, how could it then be demonstrated that His being is exalted above, and His essence sanctified from, all comparison and likeness? Briefly, there hath been revealed in the Kitab-i-Iqan (Book of Certitude) concerning the Presence and Revelation of God that which will suffice the fair-minded. We beseech Him—exalted be He—to aid every one to become the essence of truthfulness, and to draw nigh unto Him. He, verily, is the Lord of strength and power. No God is there but Him, the All-Hearing, the Lord of Utterance, the Almighty, the All-Praised.

O thou who art reputed for thy learning! Bid men to do that which is praiseworthy, and be not of such as tarry. Observe thou with a keen eye. The Sun of Truth shineth resplendently, at the bidding of the Lord of the kingdom of utterance, and the King of the heaven of knowledge, above the horizon of the prison-city of Akka. Repudiation hath not veiled it, and ten thousand hosts arrayed against it were powerless to withhold it from shining. Thou canst excuse thyself no longer. Either thou must recognize it, or—God forbid—arise and deny all the Prophets!

Reflect, O Shaykh, upon the Shi'ih sect. How many the edifices which they reared with the hands of idle fancies and vain imaginings, and how numerous the cities which they built! At length those vain imaginings were converted into bullets and aimed at Him Who is the Prince of the world. Not one single soul among the leaders of that sect acknowledged Him in the Day of His Revelation! Whenever His blessed name was mentioned, all would say: "May God hasten the joy His coming will bring!" On the day of the Revelation of that Sun of Truth, however, all, as hath been observed, have exclaimed, saying: "May God hasten His chastisement!" He Who was the Essence of being and Lord of the seen and unseen they suspended, and committed what made the Tablet to weep, and the Pen to groan, and the cries of the sincere to break forth, and the tears of the favored ones to flow.

Meditate, O Shaykh, and be fair in what thou sayest. The followers of Shaykh-i-Ahsa'i (Shaykh Ahmad) have, by the aid of God, apprehended that which was veiled from the comprehension of others, and of which they remained deprived. Briefly, in every age and century differences have arisen in the days of the manifestation of the Daysprings of Revelation, and the Dawning-Places of inspiration, and the Repositories of Divine knowledge, differences which have been caused and provoked by lying and impious souls. To expatiate on this is not permissible. Thou art thyself better acquainted and more familiar with the idle fancies of the superstitious and the vain imaginings of the doubters.

In this day, this Wronged One requesteth thee and the other divines who have drunk of the cup of the knowledge of God, and are illumined by the shining words of the Daystar of Justice, to appoint some

person, without informing any one, and despatch him to these regions, and enable him to remain a while in the island of Cyprus, and associate with Mirza Yahya, perchance he may become aware of the fundamentals of this Faith and of the source of the Divine laws and commandments.

Wert thou to ponder a while, thou wouldst bear witness unto the wisdom, and the power, and the sovereignty of God, exalted be His glory. The few who were unaware of this Cause, and had not met Us, have spoken in such a manner that all things, and those souls who are well assured, pleased, and pleasing unto God, have testified unto the imposture of these heedless ones. Wert thou now to exert thyself, the truth of this Cause would be made apparent unto mankind, and the people would be delivered from this grievous and oppressive darkness. Who else but Baha can speak forth before the face of men, and who else but He can have the power to pronounce that which He was bidden by God, the Lord of Hosts?

This heedless one hath now clung to the practice of Rawdih-khani (traditional lamentation for the Imam Husayn). He—I swear by God—is in evident error. For it is the belief of this people that during the Revelation of the Qa'im, the Imams—may the peace of God be upon them—have arisen from their sepulchres. This verily is the truth, and no doubt is there about it. We beseech God to bestow upon the superstitious a portion of the living waters of certitude which are streaming from the wellspring of the Most Sublime Pen, that all may attain unto that which becometh these days.

O Shaykh! While hemmed in by tribulations this Wronged One is occupied in setting down these words. On every side the flame of oppression and tyranny can be discerned. On the one hand, tidings have reached Us that Our loved ones have been arrested in the land of Ta (Tihran) and this notwithstanding that the sun, and the moon, and the land, and the sea all testify that this people are adorned with the adornment of fidelity, and have clung and will cling to naught except that which can ensure the exaltation of the government, and the maintenance of order within the nation, and the tranquillity of the people.

O Shaykh! We have time and again stated that for a number of years We have extended Our aid unto His Majesty the Shah. For years no untoward incident hath occurred in Persia. The reins of the stirrers of sedition among various sects were held firmly in the grasp of power. None hath transgressed his limits. By God! This people have never been, nor are they now, inclined to mischief. Their hearts are illumined with the light of the fear of God, and adorned with the adornment of His love. Their concern hath ever been and now is for the betterment of the world. Their purpose is to obliterate differences, and quench the flame of hatred and enmity, so that the whole earth may come to be viewed as one country.

On the other hand, the officials of the Persian Embassy in the Great City (Constantinople) are energetically and assiduously seeking to exterminate these wronged ones. They desire one thing, and God desireth another. Consider now what hath befallen the trusted ones of God in every land. At one time they have been accused of theft and larceny; at another they have been calumniated in a manner without parallel in this world. Answer thou fairly. What could be the results and consequences, in foreign countries, of the accusation of theft brought by the Persian Embassy against its own subjects? If this Wronged One was ashamed, it was not because of the humiliation it brought this servant, but rather because of the shame of its becoming known to the Ambassadors of foreign countries how incompetent and lacking in understanding are several eminent officials of the Persian Embassy.

"Flingest thou thy calumnies into the face of Them Whom the one true God hath made the Trustees of the treasures of His seventh sphere?" Briefly, instead of seeking, as they should, through Him Who occupieth this sublime station, to attain unto the most exalted ranks, and to obtain His advice, they have exerted themselves and are striving their utmost to put out His light. However, according to what hath been reported, His Excellency the Ambassador Mu'inu'l-Mulk, Mirza Muhsin Khan—may God assist him—was, at that time, absent from Constantinople. Such things have happened because it was believed that His Majesty the Shah of Persia—may the All-Merciful assist him—was angry with them that have attained and revolve round the Sanctuary of Wisdom.

God well knoweth and testifieth that this Wronged One hath, at all times, been cleaving fast unto whatever would be conducive to the glory of both the government and the people. God, verily, is sufficient Witness.

Describing the people of Baha, the Most Sublime Pen hath sent down these words: "These, verily, are men who if they come to cities of pure gold will consider them not; and if they meet the fairest and most comely of women will turn aside." Thus hath it been sent down by the Most Sublime Pen for the people of Baha, on the part of Him Who is the Counsellor, the Omniscient. In the concluding passages of the Tablet to His Majesty the Emperor of Paris (Napoleon III) these exalted words have been revealed: "Exultest thou over the treasures thou dost possess, knowing they shall perish? Rejoicest thou in that thou rulest a span of earth, when the whole world, in the estimation of the people of Baha, is worth as much as the black in the eye of a dead ant? Abandon it unto such as have set their affections upon it, and turn thou unto Him Who is the Desire of the world."

Section 14: "God alone—exalted be His glory…"

God alone—exalted be His glory—is cognizant of the things which befell this Wronged One. Every day bringeth a fresh report of stories current against Us at the Embassy in Constantinople. Gracious God! The sole aim of their machinations is to bring about the extermination of this servant. They are, however, oblivious of the fact that abasement in the path of God is My true glory. In the newspapers the following hath been recorded: "Touching the fraudulent dealings of some of the exiles of Akka, and the excesses committed by them against several people, etc…." Unto them who are the exponents of justice and the daysprings of equity the intention of the writer is evident and his purpose clear. Briefly, he arose and inflicted upon Me divers tribulations, and treated Me with injustice and cruelty.

By God! This Wronged One would not barter this place of exile for the Most Sublime Habitation. In the estimation of men of insight whatsoever befalleth in the path of God is manifest glory and a supreme attainment. Already We have said: "Glory to Thee, O my God! But for the tribulations which are sustained in Thy path, how could Thy true lovers be recognized; and were it not for the trials which are borne for love of Thee, how could the station of such as yearn for Thee be revealed?"

Such abasement hath been inflicted that each day they spread fresh calumnies. This Wronged One, however, cleaveth to seemly patience. Would that His Majesty the Shah of Persia would ask for a report of the things which befell Us in Constantinople, that he might become fully acquainted with the true facts. O Shah! I adjure thee by thy Lord, the God of Mercy, to look into this matter with the eye of

fairness. Is there to be found a just man who will judge in this day according to that which God hath sent down in His Book? Where is the fair-minded person who will equitably consider what hath been perpetrated against Us without any clear token or proof?

O Shaykh! Ponder the behavior of men. The inmates of the cities of knowledge and wisdom are sore perplexed asking themselves why it is that the Shi'ih sect, which regarded itself as the most learned, the most righteous, and the most pious of all the peoples of the world, hath turned aside in the Day of His Revelation, and hath shown a cruelty such as hath never been experienced. It is incumbent upon thee to reflect a while. From the inception of this sect until the present day how great hath been the number of the divines that have appeared, none of whom became cognizant of the nature of this Revelation. What could have been the cause of this waywardness? Were We to mention it, their limbs would cleave asunder. It is necessary for them to meditate, to meditate for a thousand thousand years, that haply they may attain unto a sprinkling from the ocean of knowledge, and discover the things whereof they are oblivious in this day.

I was walking in the Land of Ta (Tihran)—the dayspring of the signs of thy Lord—when lo, I heard the lamentation of the pulpits and the voice of their supplication unto God, blessed and glorified be He. They cried out and said:

> "O God of the world and Lord of the nations! Thou beholdest our state and the things which have befallen us by reason of the cruelty of Thy servants. Thou hast created us and revealed us for Thy glorification and praise. Thou dost now hear what the wayward proclaim upon us in Thy days. By Thy might! Our souls are melted and our limbs are trembling. Alas, alas! Would that we had never been created and revealed by Thee!"

The hearts of them that enjoy near access to God are consumed by these words, and from them the cries of such as are devoted to Him are raised. Time and again have We, for the sake of God, admonished the distinguished divines, and summoned them unto the Most Sublime Horizon, that perchance they might, in the days of His Revelation, obtain their portion of the ocean of the utterance of Him Who is the Desire of the world, and remain not utterly deprived thereof.

In most of Our Tablets this most weighty exhortation hath been sent down from the heaven of His all-encompassing mercy. We said:

> "O concourse of rulers and divines! Incline your ears unto the Voice calling from the horizon of Akka. Verily, it aideth you to proceed aright, and draweth you nigh unto Him, and directeth your steps towards the station which God hath made the Dayspring of His Revelation and the Dawning-Place of His splendors. O peoples of the world! He Who is the Most Great Name is come, on the part of the Ancient King, and hath announced unto men this Revelation which lay hid in His knowledge, and was preserved in the treasury of His protection, and was written down by the Most Sublime Pen in the Books of God, the Lord of Lords. O people of Shin (Shiraz)! Have ye forgotten My loving-kindness and My mercy that have surpassed all created things, and which proceeded from God Who layeth low the necks of men?"

In the Kitab-i-Aqdas (Most Holy Book) the following hath been revealed:

> “Say: O leaders of religion! Weigh not the Book of God with such standards and sciences as are current amongst you, for the Book itself is the unerring Balance established amongst men. In this most perfect Balance whatsoever the peoples and kindreds possess must be weighed, while the measure of its weight should be tested according to its own standard, did ye but know it. The eye of My loving-kindness weepeth sore over you, inasmuch as ye have failed to recognize the One upon Whom ye have been calling in the daytime and in the night season, at even and at morn. Advance, O people, with snow-white faces and radiant hearts, unto the blest and crimson Spot, wherein the Tree beyond which there is no passing is calling: Verily, there is none other God beside Me, the Omnipotent Protector, the Self-Subsisting!’ O ye leaders of religion in Persia! Who is the man amongst you that can rival Me in vision or insight? Where is he to be found that dareth to claim to be My equal in utterance or wisdom? No, by My Lord, the All-Merciful! All on the earth shall pass away; and this is the face of your Lord, the Almighty, the Well-Beloved. We have decreed, O people, that the highest and last end of all learning be the recognition of Him Who is the Object of all knowledge; and yet behold how ye have allowed your learning to shut you out, as by a veil, from Him Who is the Dayspring of this Light, through Whom every hidden thing hath been revealed. Say: This, verily, is the heaven in which the Mother Book is treasured, could ye but comprehend it. He it is Who hath caused the Rock to shout, and the Burning Bush to lift up its voice upon the Mount rising above the Holy Land, and proclaim: The Kingdom is God’s, the sovereign Lord of all, the All-Powerful, the Loving!’ We have not entered any school, nor read any of your dissertations. Incline your ears to the words of this unlettered One, wherewith He summoneth you unto God, the Ever-Abiding. Better is this for you than all the treasures of the earth, could ye but comprehend it. Whoso interpreteth what hath been sent down from the heaven of Revelation, and altereth its evident meaning, he, verily, is of them that have perverted the Sublime Word of God, and is of the lost ones in the Lucid Book.”

Thereupon We heard the groaning of the true Faith, and said unto it: “Wherefore, O true Faith, do I hear Thee cry out in the night season, and groan in the daytime, and utter Thy lamentations at daybreak?” She made reply: “O Prince of the world that standest revealed in the Most Great Name! The heedless ones have hamstrung Thy white She-Camel, and caused Thy Crimson Ark to founder, and wished to put out Thy Light, and to veil the face of Thy Cause. Wherefore hath the voice of My lamentation been lifted up, as well as the voice of the lamentation of all created things, and yet the people are for the most part unaware.” The true Faith hath laid fast hold, in this day, on the hem of Our bounty, and circleth about Our Person.

O Shaykh! Enter thou My presence, that thou mayest behold what the eye of the universe hath never beheld, and hear that which the ear of the whole creation hath never heard, that haply thou mayest free thyself from the mire of vague fancies, and set thy face towards the Most Sublime Station, wherein this Wronged One calleth aloud: “The Kingdom is God’s, the Almighty, the All-Praised!” We fain would hope that through thine exertions the wings of men may be sanctified from the mire of self and desire, and be made worthy to soar in the atmosphere of God’s love. Wings that are besmirched with mire can never

soar. Unto this testify they who are the exponents of justice and equity, and yet the people are in evident doubt.

O Shaykh! Protests have been voiced against Us from every side—protests such as Our pen craveth pardon for setting down. Nevertheless, by reason of Our great mercy, We have replied unto them, in accordance with the understanding of men, that haply they may be delivered from the fire of negation and denial, and become illumined with the light of affirmation and acceptance. Equity is rarely to be found, and justice hath ceased to exist.

Among others, these perspicuous verses have, in answer to certain individuals, been sent down from the Kingdom of Divine knowledge:

> "O thou who hast set thy face towards the splendors 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.' 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 Exalted, the Most High!' 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.' Have the stars fallen?' Say: Yea, when He Who is the Self-Subsisting dwelt in the Land of Mystery (Adrianople). 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 splendors 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 that have gone astray have said: When were the heavens cleft asunder?' Say: While ye lay in the graves of waywardness and error.' Among the heedless 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, hear 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 15: "These are verses We sent down previously, soon…"

These are verses We sent down previously, soon after Our arrival in the prison-city of Akka, [BH02116] and We have sent them unto thee, that thou mayest be acquainted with what their lying tongues have spoken, when Our Cause 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 fountain-head 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.

Further, in another Tablet, We have said:

> "O thou who hast fixed thy gaze upon My countenance! 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: 'O 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."

This Wronged One hath, at all times, summoned the peoples of the world unto that which will exalt them, and draw them nigh unto God. From the Most Sublime Horizon there hath shone forth that which leaveth no room unto any one for vacillation, repudiation or denial. The wayward, however, have failed to profit therefrom; nay, it shall only increase their loss.

O Shaykh! It is incumbent upon the divines to unite with His Majesty, the Shah—may God assist him—and to cleave day and night unto that which will exalt the station of both the government and the nation. This people are assiduously occupied in enlightening the souls of men and in rehabilitating their condition. Unto this testifieth that which hath been sent down by the Most Sublime Pen in this lucid Tablet. How often have things been simple and easy of accomplishment, and yet most men have been heedless, and busied themselves with that which wasteth their time!

One day, while in Constantinople, Kamal Pasha visited this Wronged One. Our conversation turned upon topics profitable unto man. He said that he had learned several languages. In reply We observed:

> "You have wasted your life. It beseemeth you and the other officials of the Government to convene a gathering and choose one of the divers languages, and likewise one of the existing scripts, or else to create a new language and a new script to be taught children in schools throughout the world. They would, in this way, be acquiring only two languages, one their own native tongue, the other the language in which all the peoples of the world would converse.

> Were men to take fast hold on that which hath been mentioned, the whole earth would come to be regarded as one country, and the people would be relieved and freed from the necessity of acquiring and teaching different languages."

When in Our presence, he acquiesced, and even evinced great joy and complete satisfaction. We then told him to lay this matter before the officials and ministers of the Government, in order that it might be put into effect throughout the different countries. However, although he often returned to see Us after this, he never again referred to this subject, although that which had been suggested is conducive to the concord and the unity of the peoples of the world.

We fain would hope that the Persian Government will adopt it and carry it out. At present, a new language and a new script have been devised. If thou desirest, We will communicate them to thee. Our purpose is that all men may cleave unto that which will reduce unnecessary labor and exertion, so that their days may be befittingly spent and ended. God, verily, is the Helper, the Knower, the Ordainer, the Omniscient.

God willing, Persia may be adorned with, and attain unto, that whereof she hath thus far been deprived. Say:

> "O Shah! Exert thyself so that all the peoples of the world may be illumined with the effulgent splendors of the sun of thy justice. The eyes of this Wronged One are turned towards naught save trustworthiness, truthfulness, purity, and all that profiteth men."

Regard Him not as a traitor. Glorified art Thou, O my God, and my Master, and my Mainstay! Aid Thou His Majesty the Shah to execute Thy laws and Thy commandments, and show forth Thy justice among Thy servants. Thou art, verily, the All-Bounteous, the Lord of grace abounding, the Almighty, the All-Powerful. The Cause of God hath come as a token of His grace. Happy are they who act; happy are they who understand; happy the man that hath clung unto the truth, detached from all that is in the heavens and all that is on earth.

O Shaykh! Seek thou the shore of the Most Great Ocean, and enter, then, the Crimson Ark which God hath ordained in the Qayyum-i-Asma for the people of Baha. Verily, it passeth over land and sea. He that entereth therein is saved, and he that turneth aside perisheth. Shouldst thou enter therein and attain unto it, set thy face towards the Kaaba of God, the Help in Peril, the Self-Subsisting, and say:

> "O my God! I beseech Thee by Thy most glorious light, and all Thy lights are verily glorious."

Thereupon, will the doors of the Kingdom be flung wide before thy face, and thou wilt behold what eyes have never beheld, and hear what ears have never heard. This Wronged One exhorteth thee as He hath exhorted thee before, and hath never had any wish for thee save that thou shouldst enter the ocean of the unity of God, the Lord of the worlds. This is the day whereon all created things cry out, and announce unto men this Revelation, through which hath appeared what was concealed and preserved in the knowledge of God, the Mighty, the All-Praised.

O Shaykh! Thou hast heard the sweet melodies of the Doves of Utterance cooing on the boughs of the Lote-Tree of knowledge. Hearken, now, unto the notes of the Birds of Wisdom upraised in the Most Sublime Paradise. They verily will acquaint thee with things of which thou wert wholly unaware. Give ear unto that which the Tongue of Might and Power hath spoken in the Books of God, the Desire of every understanding heart. At this moment a Voice was raised from the Lote-Tree beyond which there is no passing, in the heart of the Most Sublime Paradise, bidding Me relate unto thee that which hath been sent down in the Books and Tablets, and the things spoken by My Forerunner, Who laid down His life for this Great Announcement, this Straight Path.

He hath said—and He, verily, speaketh the truth: "I have written down in My mention of Him these gem-like words: 'No allusion of Mine can allude unto Him, neither anything mentioned in the Bayan."' And further, He—exalted and glorified be He—saith, concerning this most mighty Revelation, this Great Announcement: "Exalted and glorified is He above the power of any one to reveal Him except Himself, or the description of any of His creatures. I Myself am but the first servant to believe in Him and in His signs, and to partake of the sweet savors of His words from the first-fruits of the Paradise of His knowledge. Yea, by His glory! He is the Truth. There is none other God but Him.

All have arisen at His bidding." Such are the words sung by the Dove of Truth on the boughs of the Divine Lote-Tree. Well is it with him that hath given ear unto its Voice, and quaffed from the oceans of Divine utterance that lie concealed in each of these words. In another connection hath the Voice of the Bayan called aloud from the loftiest branches. He saith—blessed and glorified be He: "In the year nine ye will attain unto all good." On another occasion He saith: "In the year nine ye will attain unto the Presence of God." These melodies, uttered by the Birds of the cities of Knowledge, conform with that which hath been sent down by the All-Merciful in the Qur'an. Blessed are the men of insight; blessed they that attain thereunto.

O Shaykh! I swear by God! The River of Mercy floweth, and the Ocean of Utterance surgeth, and the Sun of Revelation shineth forth resplendent. With a detached heart, and a dilated breast, and an utterly truthful tongue, recite thou these sublime words that have been revealed by My Forerunner—the Primal Point. He saith—glorified be His utterance—addressing his honor, Azim: "This, verily, is the thing We promised thee, ere the moment We answered thy call. Wait thou until nine will have elapsed from the time of the Bayan. Then exclaim: Blessed, therefore, be God, the most excellent of Makers!' Say: This, verily, is an Announcement which none except God hath comprehended. Ye, however, will be unaware on that day." In the year nine this Most Great Revelation arose and shone forth brightly above the horizon of the Will of God.

None can deny it save he who is heedless and doubteth. We pray God to aid His servants to return unto Him, and beg forgiveness for the things they committed in this vain life. He, verily, is the Forgiving, the Pardoner, the All-Merciful. In another connection He saith: "I am the first servant to believe in Him, and in His signs." In like manner, in the Persian Bayan, He saith: "He, verily, is the One Who, under all conditions, proclaimeth: I, in very truth, am God!"' and so on—blessed and glorified be He. That which is meant by Divinity and Godhead hath previously been stated. We have in truth rent the veils asunder and disclosed that which will draw men nigh unto God, Who layeth low the necks of men.

Happy the man that hath attained unto justice and equity in this Grace that hath encompassed all that is in the heavens and all that is on earth, as bidden by God, the Lord of the worlds.

O Shaykh! Hearken unto the melodies of the Gospel with the ear of fairness. He saith—glorified be His utterance—prophesying the things that are to come:

> "But of that Day and Hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father."

By Father in this connection is meant God—exalted be His glory. He, verily, is the True Educator, and the Spiritual Teacher.

Joel saith: "For the Day of the Lord is great and very terrible; and who can abide it?" Firstly, in the sublime utterance set forth in the Gospel He saith that none is aware of the time of the Revelation, that none knoweth it except God, the All-Knowing, Who is cognizant of all. Secondly, He setteth forth the greatness of the Revelation. Likewise, in the Qur'an He saith: "Of what ask they of one another? Of the Great Announcement." This is the Announcement, the greatness of which hath been mentioned in most of the Books of old and of more recent times. This is the Announcement that hath caused the limbs of mankind to quake, except such as God, the Protector, the Helper, the Succorer, hath willed to exempt. Men have indeed with their own eyes witnessed how all men and all things have been thrown into confusion and been sore perplexed, save those whom God hath chosen to exempt.

Section 16: "O Shaykh! Great is the Cause, and great…"

O Shaykh! Great is the Cause, and great the Announcement! Patiently and calmly ponder thou upon the resplendent signs and the sublime words, and all that hath been revealed in these days, that haply thou mayest fathom the mysteries that are hid in the Books, and mayest strive to guide His servants. Hearken with thine inner ear unto the Voice of Jeremiah, Who saith: "Oh, for great is that Day, and it hath no equal." Wert thou to observe with the eye of fairness, thou wouldst perceive the greatness of the Day. Incline thine ear unto the Voice of this All-Knowing Counsellor, and suffer not thyself to be deprived of the mercy that hath surpassed all created things, visible and invisible. Lend an ear unto the song of David. He saith: "Who will bring me into the Strong City?" The Strong City is Akka, which hath been named the Most Great Prison, and which possesseth a fortress and mighty ramparts.

O Shaykh! Peruse that which Isaiah hath spoken in His Book. He saith: "Get thee up into the high mountain, O Zion, that bringest good tidings; lift up Thy Voice with strength, O Jerusalem, that bringest good tidings. Lift it up, be not afraid; say unto the cities of Judah: 'Behold your God! Behold the Lord God will come with strong hand, and His arm shall rule for Him."' This Day all the signs have appeared. A Great City hath descended from heaven, and Zion trembleth and exulteth with joy at the Revelation of God, for it hath heard the Voice of God on every side. This Day Jerusalem hath attained unto a new Evangel, for in the stead of the sycamore standeth the cedar. Jerusalem is the place of pilgrimage for all the peoples of the world, and hath been named the Holy City. Together with Zion and Palestine, they are all included within these regions. Wherefore, hath it been said: "Blessed is the man that hath migrated to Akka."

Amos saith: “The Lord will roar from Zion, and utter His Voice from Jerusalem; and the habitations of the shepherds shall mourn, and the top of Carmel shall wither.” Carmel, in the Book of God, hath been designated as the Hill of God, and His Vineyard. It is here that, by the grace of the Lord of Revelation, the Tabernacle of Glory hath been raised. Happy are they that attain thereunto; happy they that set their faces towards it. And likewise He saith: “Our God will come, and He will not be silent.”

O Shaykh! Reflect upon these words addressed by Him Who is the Desire of the world to Amos. He saith:

> “Prepare to meet thy God, O Israel, for, lo, He that formeth the mountains and createth the wind, and declareth unto man what is his thought, that maketh the morning darkness, and treadeth upon the high places of the earth, the Lord, the God of Hosts, is His name.”

He saith that He maketh the morning darkness. By this is meant that if, at the time of the Manifestation of Him Who conversed on Sinai anyone were to regard himself as the true morn, he will, through the might and power of God, be turned into darkness. He truly is the false dawn, though believing himself to be the true one. Woe unto him, and woe unto such as follow him without a clear token from God, the Lord of the worlds.

Isaiah saith: “The Lord alone shall be exalted in that Day.” Concerning the greatness of the Revelation He saith: “Enter into the rock, and hide thee in the dust, for fear of the Lord, and for the glory of His majesty.” And in another connection He saith: “The wilderness and the solitary place shall be glad for them; and the desert shall rejoice, and blossom as the rose. It shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice even with joy and singing: the glory of Lebanon shall be given unto it, the splendor of Carmel and Sharon, they shall see the glory of the Lord, and the splendor of our God.”

These passages stand in need of no commentary. They are shining and manifest as the sun, and glowing and luminous as light itself. Every fair-minded person is led, by the fragrance of these words, unto the garden of understanding, and attaineth unto that from which most men are veiled and debarred. Say: Fear God, O people, and follow not the doubts of such as shout aloud, who have broken the Covenant of God and His Testament, and denied His mercy that hath preceded all that are in the heavens and all that are on earth.

And likewise, He saith:

> “Say to them that are of a fearful heart: be strong, fear not, behold your God.”

This blessed verse is a proof of the greatness of the Revelation, and of the greatness of the Cause, inasmuch as the blast of the trumpet must needs spread confusion throughout the world, and fear and trembling amongst all men. Well is it with him who hath been illumined with the light of trust and detachment. The tribulations of that Day will not hinder or alarm him. Thus hath the Tongue of Utterance spoken, as bidden by Him Who is the All-Merciful. He, verily, is the Strong, the All-Powerful, the All-Subduing, the Almighty. It is now incumbent upon them who are endowed with a hearing ear and a seeing eye to ponder these sublime words, in each of which the oceans of inner meaning and explanation are hidden, that haply the words uttered by Him Who is the Lord of Revelation may enable His servants to

attain, with the utmost joy and radiance, unto the Supreme Goal and Most Sublime Summit—the dawning-place of this Voice.

O Shaykh! Wert thou to perceive, be it less than a needle's eye, the breaths of Mine utterance, thou wouldst abandon the world and all that is therein, and wouldst set thy face towards the lights of the countenance of the Desired One. Briefly, in the sayings of Him Who is the Spirit (Jesus) unnumbered significances lie concealed. Unto many things did He refer, but as He found none possessed of a hearing ear or a seeing eye He chose to conceal most of these things. Even as He saith: "But ye cannot bear them now." That Dawning-Place of Revelation saith that on that Day He Who is the Promised One will reveal the things which are to come. Accordingly in the Kitab-i-Aqdas, and in the Tablets to the Kings, and in the Lawh-i-Ra'is, and in the Lawh-i-Fu'ad, most of the things which have come to pass on this earth have been announced and prophesied by the Most Sublime Pen.

In the Kitab-i-Aqdas the following hath been revealed: "O Land of Ta (Tihran)! Let nothing grieve thee, for God hath chosen thee to be the source of the joy of all mankind. He shall, if it be His Will, bless thy throne with one who will rule with justice, who will gather together the flock of God which the wolves have scattered. Such a ruler will, with joy and gladness, turn his face towards, and extend his favors unto, the people of Baha. He indeed is accounted in the sight of God, as a jewel among men. Upon him rest forever the glory of God, and the glory of all that dwell in the kingdom of His revelation." These verses were revealed previously.

Now, however, the following verse hath been sent down: "O God, my God! Baha beseecheth Thee and imploreth Thee, by the lights of Thy countenance and the billows of the ocean of Thy Revelation, and the effulgent splendors of the Sun of Thine utterance, to aid the Shah to be fair and equitable. If it be Thy wish, bless Thou, through him, the throne of authority and sovereignty. Potent art Thou to do what pleaseth Thee. There is none other God but Thee, Who hearest, Who art ready to answer." "Rejoice with great joy, O Land of Ta (Tihran), for God hath made thee the dayspring of His light, inasmuch as within thee was born the Manifestation of His glory.

Be thou glad for this name that hath been conferred upon thee—a name through which the Daystar of grace hath shed its splendor, through which both earth and heaven have been illumined. Erelong will the state of affairs within thee be changed, and the reins of power fall into the hands of the people. Verily, thy Lord is the All-Knowing. His authority embraceth all things. Rest thou assured in the gracious favor of thy Lord. The eye of His loving-kindness shall everlastingly be directed towards thee. The day is approaching when thy agitation will have been transmuted into peace and quiet calm. Thus hath it been decreed in the Wondrous Book."

And likewise, in the Lawh-i-Fu'ad, and in the Tablet of the King of Paris (Napoleon III), and in other Tablets, there hath been revealed that which will lead every fair-minded person to testify unto the power, and the majesty, and the wisdom of God—exalted be His glory. Were men to observe with the eye of justice, they would be made aware of the secret of this blessed verse: "Neither is there a thing green or sere, but it is noted in a distinct writing," and would comprehend it. On this day, however, men's repudiation of the truth hath prevented them from understanding what hath been sent down in truth by Him Who is the Revealer, the Ancient of Days. Gracious God! Perspicuous signs have appeared on every

side, and yet men are, for the most part, deprived of the privilege of beholding and of comprehending them. We beseech God to bestow His aid, that all men may recognize the pearls that lie hid within the shells of the Most Great Ocean, and exclaim: “Praised be Thou, O God of the world!”

O concourse of the fair-minded! Observe and reflect upon the billows of the ocean of the utterance and knowledge of God, so that ye may testify with your inner and outer tongues that with Him is the knowledge of all that is in the Book. Nothing escapeth His knowledge. He, verily, hath manifested that which was hidden, when He, upon His return, mounted the throne of the Bayan. All that hath been sent down hath and will come to pass, word for word, upon earth. No possibility is left for anyone either to turn aside or protest. As fairness, however, is disgraced and concealed, most men speak as prompted by their own idle fancies.

O God, my God! Debar not Thy servants from turning their faces towards the light of certitude, that hath dawned above the horizon of Thy will, and suffer them not to be deprived, O my God, of the oceans of Thy signs. They, O my Lord, are Thy servants in Thy cities, and Thy slaves in Thy lands. If Thou hast not mercy upon them, who, then, will show them mercy? Take Thou, O my God, the hands of such as have been drowned in the sea of idle fancies, and deliver them by Thy power and Thy sovereignty. Save them, then, with the arms of Thy might. Powerful art Thou to do what Thou willest, and in Thy right hand are the reins of all that is in the heavens and all that is on earth.

In like manner, the Primal Point saith: “Behold ye Him with His own eyes. Were ye to behold Him with the eyes of another, ye would never recognize and know Him.” This referreth to naught else except this Most Great Revelation. Well is it with them that judge fairly. And likewise, He saith: “The year-old germ that holdeth within itself the potentialities of the Revelation that is to come is endowed with a potency superior to the combined forces of the whole of the Bayan.” These glad-tidings of the Bayan and of the Books of former times have been repeatedly mentioned under divers names in numerous books, that perchance men might judge equitably that which hath arisen and shone forth above the horizon of the will of God, the Lord of the Mighty Throne.

O Shaykh! Tell the people of the Bayan:

> “Ponder ye these blessed words. He saith: ‘The whole of the Bayan is only a leaf amongst the leaves of His Paradise.’ Be fair, O people, and be not of such as are accounted as lost in the Book of God, the Lord of the worlds.”

The blessed Lote-Tree standeth, in this day, before thy face, laden with heavenly, with new and wondrous fruits. Gaze on it, detached from all else save it. Thus hath the Tongue of might and power spoken at this Spot which God hath adorned with the footsteps of His Most Great Name and Mighty Announcement.

And likewise, He saith: “Ere nine will have elapsed from the inception of this Cause, the realities of the created things will not be made manifest. All that thou hast as yet seen is but the stage from the moist germ until We clothed it with flesh. Be patient, until thou beholdest a new creation. Say: ‘Blessed, therefore, be God, the most excellent of Makers!”’ And likewise, He hath said regarding the power of this Revelation: “Lawful is it for Him Whom God will make manifest to reject him who is greatest on earth,

inasmuch as such a one is but a creature in His grasp, and all things adore Him. After Hin () a Cause shall be given unto you which ye shall come to know."

And also He saith: "Know thou with absolute certainty, and through the firmly established and most irrevocable decree, that He—exalted be His glory, and magnified be His might, and sanctified be His holiness, and glorified be His grandeur, and lauded be His ways, maketh each thing to be known through its own self; who then can know Him through any one except Himself?" And further, He saith—exalted and glorified be He: "Beware, beware lest, in the days of His Revelation, the Vahid of the Bayan (eighteen Letters of the Living) shut thee not out as by a veil from Him, inasmuch as this Vahid is but a creature in His sight. And beware, beware that the words sent down in the Bayan shut thee not out as by a veil from Him."

And again, He—exalted be He—saith: "Look not upon Him with any eye except His own. For whosoever looketh upon Him with His eye, will recognize Him; otherwise he will be veiled from Him. Shouldst thou seek God and His Presence, seek thou Him and gaze upon Him." And likewise, He saith: "Better is it for thee to recite but one of the verses of Him Whom God shall make manifest than to set down the whole of the Bayan, for on that Day that one verse can save thee, whereas the entire Bayan cannot save thee."

Section 17: "O people of the Bayan! Be fair, be…"

Say: O people of the Bayan! Be fair, be fair; and again, be fair, be fair. Be ye not of them who have made mention of the Manifestation of the Cause of God in the daytime and in the night season, and who, when He, through His grace, appeared, and when the Horizon of Revelation was illumined, pronounced against Him such a judgment as hath provoked the lamentations of the inmates of the Kingdom and of the Realm of Glory, and of such as have circled about the will of God, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

Meditate upon these sublime words. He saith: "I, verily, am a believer in Him, and in His Faith, and in His Book, and in His Testimonies, and in His Ways, and in all that proceedeth from Him concerning them. I glory in My kinship with Him, and pride Myself on My belief in Him." And likewise, He saith: "O congregation of the Bayan and all who are therein! Recognize ye the limits imposed upon you, for such a One as the Point of the Bayan Himself hath believed in Him Whom God shall make manifest, before all things were created. Therein, verily, do I glory before all who are in the kingdom of heaven and earth." By God! All the atoms of the universe groan and lament at the cruelty perpetrated by the froward among the people of the Bayan. Whither are gone they who are endued with insight and hearing? We beseech God—blessed and glorified be He—to summon them and exhort them unto that which will profit them, and withhold them from that which will harm them. He, in truth, is the Strong, the All-Subduing, the Almighty.

And likewise, He saith: "Suffer not yourselves to be shut out as by a veil from God after He hath revealed Himself. For all that hath been exalted in the Bayan is but as a ring upon My hand, and I Myself am, verily, but a ring upon the hand of Him Whom God shall make manifest—glorified be His mention! He turneth it as He pleaseth, for whatsoever He pleaseth, and through whatsoever He pleaseth. He, verily, is the Help in Peril, the Most High." And likewise, He saith: "Were He to make of every one on earth a Prophet, all would, in very truth, be accounted as Prophets in the sight of God." And likewise, He saith: "In the day of

the revelation of Him Whom God shall make manifest all that dwell on earth will be equal in His estimation.

Whomsoever He ordaineth as a Prophet, he, verily, hath been a Prophet from the beginning that hath no beginning, and will thus remain until the end that hath no end, inasmuch as this is an act of God. And whosoever is made a Vicegerent by Him, shall be a Vicegerent in all the worlds, for this is an act of God. For the will of God can in no wise be revealed except through His will, nor His wish be manifested save through His wish. He, verily, is the All-Conquering, the All-Powerful, the All-Highest."

Briefly, in every instance He hath stated that which is conducive to the conversion, the advancement, the exaltation, and the guidance of men. A few unfair ones, however, have become a veil, and an insurmountable barrier, and debarred the people from turning towards the lights of His Countenance. We pray God to cast them out by His sovereignty, and seize on them with His seizing power. He, verily, is the Lord of Strength, the Mighty, the All-Wise.

And likewise, He saith:

> "He—glorified be His mention—resembleth the sun. Were unnumbered mirrors to be placed before it, each would, according to its capacity, reflect the splendor of that sun, and were none to be placed before it, it would still continue to rise and set, and the mirrors alone would be veiled from its light. I, verily, have not fallen short of My duty to admonish that people, and to devise means whereby they may turn towards God, their Lord, and believe in God, their Creator. If, on the day of His Revelation, all that are on earth bear Him allegiance, Mine inmost being will rejoice, inasmuch as all will have attained the summit of their existence, and will have been brought face to face with their Beloved, and will have recognized, to the fullest extent attainable in the world of being, the splendor of Him Who is the Desire of their hearts. If not, My soul will indeed be saddened. I truly have nurtured all things for this purpose. How, then, can anyone be veiled from Him? For this have I called upon God, and will continue to call upon Him. He, verily, is nigh, ready to answer."

And likewise, He saith: "They will even refuse unto that Tree, which is neither of the East nor of the West, the name believer, for were they so to name Him, they would fail to sadden Him." Hath thine ear, O world, heard with what helplessness these words were revealed from the dayspring of the will of Him Who is the Dawning-Place of all names? He saith: "I have educated all men, that they may recognize this Revelation, and yet the people of the Bayan refuse to concede even the name believer to that blessed Tree that belongeth neither to the East nor to the West." Alas, alas, for the things which have befallen Me! By God! There befell Me at the hands of him whom I have nurtured (Mirza Yahya), by day and by night, what hath caused the Holy Spirit, and the dwellers of the Tabernacle of the Grandeur of God, the Lord of this wondrous Day, to lament.

Likewise, refuting certain disbelievers, He saith: "For none knoweth the time of the Revelation except God. Whenever it appeareth, all must acknowledge the Point of Truth, and render thanks unto God." They that have turned aside from Me have spoken even as the followers of John (the Baptist) spoke. For they, too, protested against Him Who was the Spirit (Jesus) saying: "The dispensation of John hath not yet

ended; wherefore hast thou come?" Now, too, they that have repudiated Us, though they have never known Us and have been at all times ignorant of the fundamentals of this Cause, knowing not from Whom it proceeded or what it signifieth, have spoken that which hath made all created things to sigh and lament.

By My life! The mute can never confront the One Who incarnateth in Himself the kingdom of utterance. Fear God, O people, and peruse, then, that which hath been sent down with truth in the eighth Chapter of the sixth Vahid of the Bayan, and be not of such as have turned aside. He, likewise, hath commanded: "Once every nineteen days this Chapter should be read, that haply they may not be veiled, in the time of the revelation of Him Whom God shall make manifest, by considerations foreign to the verses, which have been, and are still, the weightiest of all proofs and testimonies."

John, son of Zacharias, said what My Forerunner hath said: "Saying, repent ye, for the Kingdom of heaven is at hand. I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance, but He that cometh after Me is mightier than I, Whose shoes I am not worthy to bear." Wherefore, hath My Forerunner, as a sign of submissiveness and humility, said: "The whole of the Bayan is only a leaf amongst the leaves of His Paradise." And likewise, He saith: "I am the first to adore Him, and pride Myself on My kinship with Him." And yet, O men, the people of the Bayan have acted in such a manner that Dhi'l-Jawshan, and Ibn-i-Anas, and Asbahi have sought and still seek refuge with God against such deeds. This Wronged One hath, in the face of all religions, busied Himself day and night with the things that are conducive unto the exaltation of the Cause of God, whereas those men have clung unto that which is the cause of humiliation and injury.

And likewise, He saith: "Recognize Him by His verses. The greater your neglect in seeking to know Him, the more grievously will ye be veiled in fire." O ye among the people of the Bayan that have turned aside from Me! Ponder upon these most sublime words, that have proceeded from the wellspring of the utterance of Him Who is the Point of Knowledge. Hearken ye, at this moment, unto these words. He saith: "On that Day, the Daystar of Truth will address the people of the Bayan and will recite this Surih of the Qur'an: ʿSay: O ye unbelievers! I worship not that which ye worship, and ye do not worship that which I worship. I shall never worship that which ye worship, neither will ye worship that which I worship.

To you be your religion, to Me My religion."' Gracious God! Notwithstanding these lucid statements, and these shining and luminous tokens all are occupied with their vain imaginings, and are unaware of, and veiled from, the Desired One. O ye that have gone astray! Awake from the sleep of heedlessness, and give ear unto these words of My Forerunner. He saith: "The tree of affirmation, by turning aside from Him, is accounted as the tree of denial, and the tree of denial, by turning towards Him, is accounted as the tree of affirmation." And likewise, He saith: "Should anyone lay claim unto a Revelation, and fail to produce any proof, do not protest, and sadden Him not." Briefly, this Wronged One hath, night and day, been uttering the words: "Say: O ye unbelievers!", that haply this may be the means of awakening the people, and may adorn them with the adornment of fairness.

And now, meditate upon these words, which diffuse the breath of despair, in His sorrowful invocation unto God, the Lord of the worlds. He saith:

> “Glorified art Thou, O My God! Bear Thou witness that, through this Book, I have covenanted with all created things concerning the Mission of Him Whom Thou shalt make manifest, ere the covenant concerning Mine own Mission had been established. Sufficient witness art Thou and they that have believed in Thy signs. Thou, verily, sufficest Me. In Thee have I placed My trust, and Thou, verily, takest count of all things.”

In another connection He saith: “O Sun-like Mirrors! Look ye upon the Sun of Truth. Ye, verily, depend upon it, were ye to perceive it. Ye are all as fishes, moving in the waters of the sea, veiling yourselves therefrom, and yet asking what it is on which ye depend.” And likewise, He saith: “I complain unto thee, O Mirror of My generosity, against all the other Mirrors. All look upon Me through their own colors.” These words were sent down from the Source of the Revelation of the All-Bounteous, and were addressed to Siyyid Javad, known as Karbila’i. God testifieth, and the world beareth Me witness that this Siyyid stood by this Wronged One, and even wrote a detailed refutation against them that turned aside from Me.

Two communications, moreover, in which he hath borne witness unto the Revelation of the True One, and in which the evidences of his turning away from all else but Him, are clear and manifest, have been sent by Us to Haydar-ʿAli. The handwriting of the Siyyid is unmistakable, and is known unto everyone. Our purpose in doing this was that perchance they that have denied Us might attain unto the living waters of acknowledgment, and such as have turned aside be illumined with the light of conversion. God is My witness that this Wronged One hath had no purpose except to convey the Word of God. Blessed are the fair-minded, and woe betide them that have turned aside. They that have turned away from Me have schemed many a time, and acted deceitfully in divers ways.

They have, on one occasion, secured a picture of this Siyyid, and pasted it on a sheet with that of others, surmounted by the portrait of Mirza Yahya. Briefly, they have seized upon every means in order to repudiate the True One. Say: “The True One is come evident as the shining sun; O pity that He should have come into the city of the blind!” The afore-mentioned Siyyid admonished the deniers, and summoned them unto the Most Sublime Horizon, but failed to impress these stones that can take no imprint. Concerning him they have said things against which he sought refuge with God—exalted be His glory. The supplications which he hath sent to this Holy Court are now in Our possession. Happy are the fair-minded.

Ponder now upon the complaint of the Primal Point against the Mirrors, that haply men may be awakened, and may turn from the left hand of idle fancies and imaginings unto the right hand of faith and certitude, and may be made cognizant of that wherefrom they are veiled. It is indeed for the purpose of recognizing this Most Great Cause that they have come out of the world of non-existence into the world of being. And likewise He saith:

> “Consecrate Thou, O my God, the whole of this Tree unto Him, that from it may be revealed all the fruits created by God within it for Him through Whom God hath willed to reveal all that He pleaseth. By Thy glory! I have not wished that this Tree should ever bear any branch, leaf, or fruit that would fail to bow down before Him, on the day of His Revelation, or refuse to laud Thee through Him, as beseemeth the glory of His all-glorious Revelation, and the sublimity of His most sublime Concealment. And shouldst Thou behold, O my God, any branch, leaf, or fruit

upon Me that hath failed to bow down before Him, on the day of His Revelation, cut it off, O My God, from that Tree, for it is not of Me, nor shall it return unto Me."

Section 18: "O people of the Bayan! I swear…"

O people of the Bayan! I swear by God! This Wronged One hath had no other intention except to manifest the Cause He was commissioned to reveal. Were ye to incline your inner ears unto Him, ye would hear from every limb and member and vein and even from every single hair of this Wronged One that which would stir and enrapture the Concourse on high and the world of creation.

O Hadi! The blind fanaticism of former times hath withheld the hapless creatures from the Straight Path. Meditate on the Shi'ih sect. For twelve hundred years they have cried "O Qa'im!", until in the end all pronounced the sentence of His death, and caused Him to suffer martyrdom, notwithstanding their belief in, and their acceptance and acknowledgment of, the True One—exalted be His glory—and of the Seal of the Prophets, and of the Chosen Ones. It is now necessary to reflect a while, that haply that which hath come between the True One and His creatures may be discovered, and the deeds which have been the cause of protest and denial be made known.

O Hadi! We have heard the moaning of the pulpits which, as attested by all, the divines of the age of this Revelation have ascended, and from which they have cursed the True One, and caused such things to befall Him Who is the Essence of Being and His companions as neither the eye nor the ear of the world hath seen or heard. Thou hast now summoned, and art still summoning the people, claiming to be His vicegerent and mirror, despite thine ignorance of this Cause as a result of thy not having been in Our company.

Every one of this people well knoweth that Siyyid Muhammad was but one of Our servants. In the days when, as requested by the Imperial Ottoman Government, We proceeded to their Capital, he accompanied Us. Subsequently, he committed that which—I swear by God—hath caused the Pen of the Most High to weep and His Tablet to groan. We, therefore, cast him out; whereupon, he joined Mirza Yahya, and did what no tyrant hath ever done. We abandoned him, and said unto him: "Begone, O heedless one!" After these words had been uttered, he joined the order of the Mawlavis, and remained in their company until the time when We were summoned to depart.

O Hadi! Suffer not thyself to become the instrument for the dissemination of new superstitions, and refuse to set up once again a sect similar to that of the Shi'ihs. Reflect how great the amount of blood which hath been spilt. Thou amongst others, who hast laid claim to knowledge, and likewise the Shi'ih divines, have, one and all, in the first and ensuing years, cursed the True One, and decreed that His most holy blood be shed. Fear God, O Hadi! Be not willing that men be again afflicted with the vain imaginings of former times. Fear God, and be not of them that act unjustly. In these days We have heard that thou hast striven to lay hands on and destroy every copy of the Bayan.

This Wronged One requesteth thee to renounce, for the sake of God, this intention. Thine intelligence and judgment have never excelled, nor do they now excel, the intelligence and judgment of Him Who is the Prince of the World. God testifieth and beareth Me witness that this Wronged One hath not perused

the Bayan, nor been acquainted with its contents. This much, however, is known and is clear and indubitable that He hath ordained the Book of the Bayan to be the foundation of His works. Fear God, and meddle not in matters which far transcend thee. For twelve hundred years they that resemble thee have afflicted the hapless Shi'ihs in the pit of vain fancies and idle imaginings. Finally, there appeared, on the Day of Judgment things against which the oppressors of old have sought refuge with the True One.

Apprehend now the cry of Him Who is the Point as raised by His utterance. He supplicateth God that if there should appear from this Tree—which is His blessed Self—any fruit, or leaf, or branch that would fail to believe in Him, God should cut it off forthwith. And likewise, He saith:

> "Should any one make a statement, and fail to support it by any proof, reject him not."

And yet, now, though supported by a hundred books, thou hast rejected Him and rejoicest therein!

Again I repeat, and plead with thee to carefully scrutinize that which hath been revealed. The breezes of utterance in this Revelation are not to be compared with those of former ages. This Wronged One hath been perpetually afflicted, and found no place of safety in which He could peruse either the writings of the Most Exalted One (the Bab) or those of any one else. About two months after Our arrival in Iraq, following the command of His Majesty the Shah of Persia—may God assist him—Mirza Yahya joined Us. We said unto him:

> "In accordance with the Royal command We have been sent unto this place. It is advisable for thee to remain in Persia. We will send Our brother, Mirza Musa, to some other place. As your names have not been mentioned in the Royal decree, you can arise and render some service."

Subsequently, this Wronged One departed from Baghdad, and for two years withdrew from the world. Upon Our return, We found that he had not left, and had postponed his departure. This Wronged One was greatly saddened. God testifieth and beareth Us witness that We have, at all times, been busied with the propagation of this Cause. Neither chains nor bonds, stocks nor imprisonment, have succeeded in withholding Us from revealing Our Self. In that land We forbad all mischief, and all unseemly and unholy deeds. Day and night We sent forth Our Tablets in every direction. We had no other purpose except to edify the souls of men, and to exalt the blessed Word.

We especially appointed certain ones to collect the writings of the Primal Point. When this was accomplished, We summoned Mirza Yahya and Mirza Vahhab-i-Khurasani, known as Mirza Javad, to meet in a certain place. Conforming with Our instructions, they completed the task of transcribing two copies of the works of the Primal Point. I swear by God! This Wronged One, by reason of His constant association with men, hath not looked at these books, nor gazed with outward eyes on these writings. When We departed, these writings were in the possession of these two persons. It was agreed that Mirza Yahya should be entrusted with them, and proceed to Persia, and disseminate them throughout that land. This Wronged One proceeded, at the request of the Ministers of the Ottoman Government to their capital.

When We arrived in Mosul, We found that Mirza Yahya had left before Us for that city, and was awaiting Us there. Briefly, the books and writings were left in Baghdad, while he himself proceeded to Constantinople and joined these servants. God beareth now witness unto the things which have touched

this Wronged One, for after We had so arduously striven, he (Mirza Yahya) abandoned the writings and joined the exiles. This Wronged One was, for a long period, overwhelmed by infinite sorrows until such time when, in pursuance of measures of which none but the one true God is aware, We despatched the writings unto another place and another country, owing to the fact that in Iraq all documents must every month be carefully examined, lest they rot and perish. God, however, preserved them and sent them unto a place which He had previously ordained. He, verily, is the Protector, the Succorer.

Wherever this Wronged One went Mirza Yahya followed Him. Thou art thyself a witness and well knowest that whatever hath been said is the truth. The Siyyid of Isfahan, however, surreptitiously duped him. They committed that which caused the greatest consternation. Would that thou wouldst inquire from the officials of the government concerning the conduct of Mirza Yahya in that land. Aside from all this, I adjure thee by God, the One, the Incomparable, the Lord of Strength, the Most Powerful, to carefully look into the communications addressed in his name to the Primal Point, that thou mayest behold the evidences of Him Who is the Truth as clear as the sun. Likewise, there proceeded from the words of the Point of the Bayan—may the souls of all else but Him be sacrificed for His sake—that which no veil can obscure, and which neither the veils of glory nor the veils interposed by such as have gone astray can hide.

The veils have, verily, been rent asunder by the finger of the will of thy Lord, the Strong, the All-Subduing, the All-Powerful. Yea, desperate is the state of such as have calumniated Me and envied Me. Not long ago it was stated that thou hadst ascribed the authorship of the Kitab-i-Iqan and of other Tablets unto others. I swear by God! This is a grievous injustice. Others are incapable of apprehending their meaning, how much more of revealing them!

Hasan-i-Mazindarani was the bearer of seventy Tablets. Upon his death, these were not delivered unto those for whom they were intended, but were entrusted to one of the sisters of this Wronged One, who, for no reason whatever, had turned aside from Me. God knoweth what befell His Tablets. This sister had never lived with Us. I swear by the Sun of Truth that after these things had happened she never saw Mirza Yahya, and remained unaware of Our Cause, for in those days she had been estranged from Us. She lived in one quarter, and this Wronged One in another. As a token, however, of Our loving-kindness, our affection and mercy, We, a few days prior to Our departure, visited her and her mother, that haply she might quaff from the living waters of faith, and attain unto that which would draw her nigh unto God, in this day.

God well knoweth and beareth Me witness, and she herself testifieth, that I had no thought whatsoever except this. Finally, she—God be praised—attained unto this through His grace, and was adorned with the adornment of love. After We were exiled and had departed from Iraq to Constantinople, however, news of her ceased to reach Us. Subsequent to Our separation in the Land of Ta (Tihran), We ceased to meet Mirza Rida-Quli, Our brother, and no special news reached Us concerning her. In the early days we all lived in one house, which later on was sold at auction, for a negligible sum, and the two brothers, Farman-Farma and Hisamu's-Saltanih, purchased it and divided it between themselves. After this occurred, We separated from Our brother.

He established his residence close to the entrance of Masjid-i-Shah, whilst We lived near the Gate of Shimiran. Thereafter, however, that sister displayed toward Us, for no reason whatever, a hostile attitude. This Wronged One held His peace under all conditions. However, Our late brother Mirza Muhammad-Hasan's daughter—upon him be the glory of God and His peace and His mercy—who had been betrothed to the Most Great Branch (Abdu'l-Baha) was taken by the sister of this Wronged One from Nur to her own house, and from there sent unto another place. Some of Our companions and friends in various places complained against this, as it was a very grievous act, and was disapproved by all the loved ones of God.

How strange that Our sister should have taken her to her own house, and then arranged for her to be sent elsewhere! In spite of this, this Wronged One remained, and still remaineth, calm and silent. A word, however, was said in order to tranquilize Our loved ones. God testifieth and beareth Me witness that whatever hath been said was the truth, and was spoken with sincerity. None of Our loved ones, whether in these regions or in that country, could believe Our sister capable of an act so contrary to decency, affection and friendship. After such a thing had occurred, they, recognizing that the way had been barred, conducted themselves in a manner well-known unto thyself and others. It must be evident, therefore, how intense was the grief which this act inflicted upon this Wronged One.

Later on, she threw in her lot with Mirza Yahya. Conflicting reports concerning her are now reaching Us, nor is it clear what she is saying or doing. We beseech God—blessed and glorified be He—to cause her to turn unto Him, and aid her to repent before the door of His grace. He, verily, is the Mighty, the Forgiving; and He is, in truth, the All-Powerful, the Pardoner.

In another connection He, likewise, saith: "Were He to appear this very moment, I would be the first to adore Him, and the first to bow down before Him." Be fair, O people! The purpose of the Most Exalted One (the Bab) was to insure that the proximity of the Revelation should not withhold men from the Divine and everlasting Law, even as the companions of John (the Baptist) were prevented from acknowledging Him Who is the Spirit (Jesus). Time and again He hath said: "Suffer not the Bayan and all that hath been revealed therein to withhold you from that Essence of Being and Lord of the visible and invisible." Should any one, considering this binding injunction, cling unto the Bayan, such a one hath, verily, passed out of the shadow of the blessed and exalted Tree. Be fair, O people, and be not of the heedless.

And likewise, He saith: "Let not names shut you out as by a veil from Him Who is their Lord, even the name of Prophet, for such a name is but a creation of His utterance." And likewise, He, in the seventh chapter of the second Vahid, saith: "O people of the Bayan! Act not as the people of the Qur'an have acted, for if ye do so, the fruits of your night will come to naught." And further, He saith—glorified be His mention: "If thou attainest unto His Revelation, and obeyest Him, thou wilt have revealed the fruit of the Bayan; if not, thou art unworthy of mention before God. Take pity upon thyself. If thou aidest not Him Who is the Manifestation of the Lordship of God, be not, then, a cause of sadness unto Him." And further He saith—magnified be His station: "If thou attainest not unto the Presence of God, grieve not, then, the Sign of God. Ye will renounce that which can profit them that acknowledge the Bayan, if ye renounce that which can harm Him. I know, however, that ye will refuse to do so."

Section 19: “O Hadi! Methinks it is by reason…”

O Hadi! Methinks it is by reason of these indubitable utterances that thou hast determined to blot out the Bayan. Give ear unto the voice of this Wronged One, and renounce this oppression that hath made the pillars of the Bayan to tremble. I have been neither in Chihriq nor in Mah-Ku. At the present time statements have been circulated among thy disciples identical with those made by the Shi’ihs who have said that the Qur’an is unfinished. These people also contend that this Bayan is not the original one. The copy in the handwriting of Siyyid Husayn is extant, as is also the copy in the handwriting of Mirza Ahmad.

Regardest thou as one wronged he who in this world was never dealt a single blow, and who was continually surrounded by five of the handmaidens of God? And imputest thou unto the True One, Who, from His earliest years until the present day, hath been in the hands of His enemies, and been tormented with the worst afflictions in the world, such charges as the Jews did not ascribe unto Christ? Hearken unto the voice of this Wronged One, and be not of them that are in utter loss.

And, likewise, He saith: “How many the fires which God converteth into light through Him Whom God shall make manifest; and how numerous the lights which are turned into fire through Him! I behold His appearance even as the sun in the midmost heaven, and the disappearance of all even as that of the stars of the night by day.” Hast thou ears, O world, wherewith to hear the voice of the True One, and to judge equitably this Revelation Which, as soon as it appeared, Sinai exclaimed: “He that discoursed upon Me is come with evident signs and resplendent tokens, in spite of every heedless one that hath gone far astray, and of every lying calumniator, who hath wished to quench the light of God with his calumnies, and blot out the signs of God through his malice. They, verily, are of such as have acted unjustly in the Book of God, the Lord of the worlds.”

And likewise, He saith: “The Bayan is from beginning to end the repository of all of His attributes, and the treasury of both His fire and His light.” Great God! The soul is carried away by the fragrance of this utterance, inasmuch as He declareth, with infinite sadness, that which He perceiveth. Likewise, He saith to the Letter of the Living, Mulla Baqir—upon him be the glory of God and His loving-kindness: “Haply thou mayest in eight years, in the day of His Revelation, attain unto His Presence.”

Know thou, O Hadi, and be of them that hearken. Judge thou equitably. The companions of God and the Testimonies of Him Who is the Truth have, for the most part, suffered martyrdom. Thou, however, art still alive. How is it that thou hast been spared? I swear by God! It is because of thy denial, whereas the martyrdom of the blessed souls was due to their confession. Every just and fair-minded person will bear witness unto this, inasmuch as the cause and motive of both are clear and evident as the sun.

And likewise He addresseth Dayyan, who was wronged and suffered martyrdom, saying: “Thou shalt recognize thy worth through the words of Him Whom God shall make manifest.” He, likewise, hath pronounced him to be the third Letter to believe in Him Whom God shall make manifest, through these words: “O thou who art the third Letter to believe in Him Whom God shall make manifest!” And likewise He saith: “Should God, however, be willing, He will make thee known through the words of Him Whom God shall make manifest.” Dayyan, who, according to the words of Him Who is the Point—may the souls of all else but Him be sacrificed for His sake—is the repository of the trust of the one true God—exalted

be His glory—and the treasury of the pearls of His knowledge, was made by them to suffer so cruel a martyrdom that the Concourse on high wept and lamented.

He it is whom He (the Bab) had taught the hidden and preserved knowledge and entrusted him therewith, through His words: "O thou who art named Dayyan! This is a hidden and preserved Knowledge. We have entrusted it unto thee, and brought it to thee, as a mark of honor from God, inasmuch as the eye of thine heart is pure. Thou wilt appreciate its value, and wilt cherish its excellence. God, verily, hath deigned to bestow upon the Point of the Bayan a hidden and preserved Knowledge, the like of which God hath not sent down prior to this Revelation. More precious is it than any other knowledge in the estimation of God—glorified be He! He, verily, hath made it His testimony, even as He hath made the verses to be His testimony."

This oppressed one, who was the repository of the knowledge of God, together with Mirza Ali-Akbar, one of the relatives of the Primal Point—upon him be the glory of God and His mercy—and Abu'l-Qasim-i-Kashi and several others suffered martyrdom through the decree pronounced by Mirza Yahya.

O Hadi! His book which he hath entitled "Mustayqiz" is in thy possession. Read it. Although thou hast seen the book, peruse it again, that haply thou mayest obtain for thyself a lofty seat beneath the canopy of truth.

In like manner, Siyyid Ibrahim, concerning whom these words have flowed from the Pen of the Primal Point—magnified be His utterance:

> "O thou who art mentioned as My friend in My scriptures, and as My remembrance in My books, next to My scriptures, and as My name in the Bayan"

—such a one, together with Dayyan, hath been surnamed by him (Mirza Yahya) Father of Iniquities and Father of Calamities. Judge thou fairly, how grievous hath been the plight of these oppressed ones, and this notwithstanding that one of them was occupied in serving him, whilst the other was his guest. Briefly, I swear by God, the deeds he committed were such that Our Pen is ashamed to recount.

Reflect a while upon the dishonor inflicted upon the Primal Point. Consider what hath happened. When this Wronged One, after a retirement of two years during which He wandered through the deserts and mountains, returned to Baghdad, as a result of the intervention of a few, who for a long time had sought Him in the wilderness, a certain Mirza Muhammad-ʿAli of Rasht came to see Him, and related, before a large gathering of people, that which had been done, affecting the honor of the Bab, which hath truly overwhelmed all lands with sorrow. Great God! How could they have countenanced this most grievous betrayal? Briefly, We beseech God to aid the perpetrator of this deed to repent, and return unto Him. He, verily, is the Helper, the All-Wise.

As to Dayyan—upon him be the glory of God and His mercy—he attained Our presence in accordance with that which had been revealed by the pen of the Primal Point. We pray God to aid the heedless to turn unto Him, and such as have turned aside to direct themselves towards Him, and them that have denied Him to acknowledge this Cause, which, no sooner did it appear than all created things proclaimed:

> "He that was hidden in the Treasury of Knowledge, and inscribed by the Pen of the Most High in His Books, and His Scriptures, and His Scrolls, and His Tablets, is come!"

In this connection it hath been deemed necessary to mention such traditions as have been recorded regarding the blessed and honored city of Akka, that haply thou mayest, O Hadi, seek a path unto the Truth, and a road leading unto God.

In the name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful.

The following hath been recorded concerning the merits of Akka, and of the sea, and of Aynu'l-Baqar (The Spring of the Cow) which is in Akka:

Abdu'l-ʿAziz, son of Abdu'-Salam, hath related unto us that the Prophet—may the blessings of God and His salutations be upon him—hath said:

> "Akka is a city in Syria to which God hath shown His special mercy."

Ibn-i-Mas'ud—may God be pleased with him—hath stated: "The Prophet—may the blessings of God and His salutations be upon Him—hath said: ʿOf all shores the best is the shore of Askelon, and Akka is, verily, better than Askelon, and the merit of Akka above that of Askelon and all other shores is as the merit of Muhammad above that of all other Prophets. I bring you tidings of a city betwixt two mountains in Syria, in the middle of a meadow, which is called Akka. Verily, he that entereth therein, longing for it and eager to visit it, God will forgive his sins, both of the past and of the future. And he that departeth from it, other than as a pilgrim, God will not bless his departure. In it is a spring called the Spring of the Cow. Whoso drinketh a draught therefrom, God will fill his heart with light, and will protect him from the most great terror on the Day of Resurrection."'

Anas, son of Malik—may God be pleased with him—hath said: "The Apostle of God—may the blessings of God and His salutations be upon Him—hath said: ʿBy the shore of the sea is a city, suspended beneath the Throne, and named Akka. He that dwelleth therein, firm and expecting a reward from God—exalted be He—God will write down for him, until the Day of Resurrection, the recompense of such as have been patient, and have stood up, and knelt down, and prostrated themselves, before Him."'

And He—may the blessings of God and His salutations be upon Him—hath said: "I announce unto you a city, on the shores of the sea, white, whose whiteness is pleasing unto God—exalted be He! It is called Akka. He that hath been bitten by one of its fleas is better, in the estimation of God, than he who hath received a grievous blow in the path of God. And he that raiseth therein the call to prayer, his voice will be lifted up unto Paradise. And he that remaineth therein for seven days in the face of the enemy, God will gather him with Khidr—peace be upon Him—and God will protect him from the most great terror on the Day of Resurrection." And He—may the blessings of God,—exalted be He—and His salutations be upon Him—hath said: "There are kings and princes in Paradise. The poor of Akka are the kings of Paradise and the princes thereof. A month in Akka is better than a thousand years elsewhere."

The Apostle of God—may the blessings of God and His salutations be upon Him—is reported to have said:

> "Blessed the man that hath visited Akka, and blessed he that hath visited the visitor of Akka. Blessed the one that hath drunk from the Spring of the Cow and washed in its waters, for the black-eyed damsels quaff the camphor in Paradise, which hath come from the Spring of the Cow, and from the Spring of Salvan (Siloam), and the Well of Zamzam. Well is it with him that hath drunk from these springs, and washed in their waters, for God hath forbidden the fire of hell to touch him and his body on the Day of Resurrection."

The Prophet—may the blessings of God and His salutations be upon Him—is stated to have said:

> "In Akka are works of supererogation and acts which are beneficial, which God vouchsafed specially unto whomsoever He pleaseth. And he that saith in Akka: Glorified be God, and praise be unto God, and there is none other God but God, and most great is God, and there is no power nor strength except in God, the Exalted, the Mighty,' God will write down for him a thousand good deeds, and blot out from him a thousand evil deeds, and will uplift him a thousand grades in Paradise, and will forgive him his transgressions. And whoso saith in Akka: I beg forgiveness of God,' God will forgive all his trespasses. And he that remembereth God in Akka at morn and at eventide, in the night-season and at dawn, is better in the sight of God than he who beareth swords, spears and arms in the path of God—exalted be He!"

The Apostle of God—may the blessings of God and His salutations be upon Him—hath also said:

> "He that looketh upon the sea at eventide, and saith: God is Most Great!' at sunset, God will forgive his sins, though they be heaped as piles of sand. And he that counteth forty waves, while repeating: God is Most Great!'—exalted be He—God will forgive his sins, both past and future."

The Apostle of God—may the blessings of God and His salutations be upon Him—hath said:

> "He that looketh upon the sea a full night is better than he who passeth two whole months betwixt the Rukn and the Maqam. And he that hath been brought up on the shores of the sea is better than he that hath been brought up elsewhere. And he that lieth on the shore is as he that standeth elsewhere."

Verily, the Apostle of God—may the blessings of God, exalted be He, and His salutations be upon Him—hath spoken the truth.

Volume 099: Akka 1308–1309 A.H. (1890–1892), Part I (1 of 3)

BH00238: Lawh-i-Dunya (Tablet of the World)

Section 1: "In My Name, calling aloud in the Kingdom…"

In My Name, calling aloud in the Kingdom of Utterance

Praise and thanksgiving beseem the Lord of manifest dominion Who hath adorned the mighty prison with the presence of their honours ʿAli Akbar and Amin, and hath illumined it with the light of certitude, constancy and assurance. The glory of God and the glory of all that are in the heavens and on the earth be upon them.

Light and glory, greeting and praise be upon the Hands of His Cause, through whom the light of fortitude hath shone forth and the truth hath been established that the authority to choose rests with God, the Powerful, the Mighty, the Unconstrained, through whom the ocean of bounty hath surged and the fragrance of the gracious favours of God, the Lord of mankind, hath been diffused.

We beseech Him—Exalted is He—to shield them through the power of His hosts, to protect them through the potency of His dominion and to aid them through His indomitable strength which prevaileth over all created things. Sovereignty is God's, the Creator of the heavens and the Lord of the Kingdom of Names.

The Great Announcement proclaimeth: O people of Persia! In former times ye have been the symbols of mercy and the embodiments of affection and kindliness. The regions of the world were illumined and embellished by the brightness of the light of your knowledge and by the blaze of your erudition. How is it that you have arisen to destroy yourselves and your friends with your own hands?

O Afnan, O thou that has branched from Mine ancient Stock! My glory and My loving-kindness rest upon thee. How vast is the tabernacle of the Cause of God! It hath overshadowed all the peoples and kindreds of the earth, and will, ere long, gather together the whole of mankind beneath its shelter. Thy day of service is now come. Countless Tablets bear the testimony of the bounties vouchsafed unto thee. Arise for the triumph of My Cause, and, through the power of thine utterance, subdue the hearts of men. Thou must show forth that which will ensure the peace and the well-being of the miserable and the downtrodden. Gird up the loins of thine endeavour, that perchance thou mayest release the captive from his chains, and enable him to attain unto true liberty.

Justice is, in this day, bewailing its plight, and Equity groaneth beneath the yoke of oppression. The thick clouds of tyranny have darkened the face of the earth, and enveloped its peoples. Through the movement of Our Pen of glory We have, at the bidding of the omnipotent Ordainer, breathed a new life into every human frame, and instilled into every word a fresh potency. All created things proclaim the evidences of this world-wide regeneration. This is the most great, the most joyful tidings imparted by the Pen of this Wronged One to mankind. Wherefore fear ye, O My well-beloved ones? Who is it that can dismay you? A touch of moisture sufficeth to dissolve the hardened clay out of which this perverse generation is moulded. The mere act of your gathering together is enough to scatter the forces of these vain and worthless people.

Strife and conflict befit the beasts of the wild. It was through the grace of God and with the aid of seemly words and praiseworthy deeds that the unsheathed swords of the Babi community were returned to their scabbards. Indeed through the power of good words, the righteous have always succeeded in winning command over the meads of the hearts of men. Say, O ye loved ones! Do not forsake prudence. Incline your hearts to the counsels given by the Most Exalted Pen and beware lest your hands or tongues cause harm unto anyone among mankind.

Referring to the land of Ta (Tihran) We have revealed in the Kitab-i-Aqdas that which will admonish mankind. They that perpetrate tyranny in the world have usurped the rights of the peoples and kindreds of the earth and are sedulously pursuing their selfish inclinations. The tyrant of the land of Ya (Yazd), committed that which hath caused the Concourse on High to shed tears of blood.

O thou who hast quaffed from the wine of Mine utterance and hast fixed thy gaze upon the horizon of My Revelation! How strange that the people of Persia, who were unrivalled in sciences and arts, should have sunk to the lowest level of degradation among the kindreds of the earth. O people! In this blessed, this glorious Day, deprive not yourselves of the liberal effusions of bounty which the Lord of abounding grace hath vouchsafed unto you. In this Day showers of wisdom and utterance are pouring down from the clouds of divine mercy. Well is it with them who judge His Cause with fairness, and woe betide the unjust.

Every man of insight will, in this day, readily admit that the counsels which the Pen of this Wronged One hath revealed constitute the supreme animating power for the advancement of the world and the exaltation of its peoples. Arise, O people, and, by the power of God's might, resolve to gain the victory over your own selves, that haply the whole earth may be freed and sanctified from its servitude to the gods of its idle fancies—gods that have inflicted such loss upon, and are responsible for the misery of their wretched worshippers. These idols form the obstacle that impedeth man in his efforts to advance in the path of perfection. We cherish the hope that the Hand of divine power may lend its assistance to mankind and deliver it from its state of grievous abasement.

In one of the Tablets these words have been revealed: O people of God! Do not busy yourselves in your own concerns; let your thoughts be fixed upon that which will rehabilitate the fortunes of mankind and sanctify the hearts and souls of men. This can best be achieved through pure and holy deeds, through a virtuous life and a goodly behaviour. Valiant acts will ensure the triumph of this Cause, and a saintly character will reinforce its power. Cleave unto righteousness, O people of Baha! This, verily, is the commandment which this Wronged One hath given unto you, and the first choice of His unrestrained Will for every one of you.

O friends! It behoveth you to refresh and revive your souls through the gracious favours which in this Divine, this soul-stirring Springtime are being showered upon you. The Day-Star of His great glory hath shed its radiance upon you, and the clouds of His limitless grace have overshadowed you. How high the reward of him that hath not deprived himself of so great a bounty, nor failed to recognize the beauty of his Best-Beloved in this, His new attire. Watch over yourselves, for the Evil One is lying in wait, ready to entrap you. Gird yourselves against his wicked devices, and, led by the light of the name of the All-Seeing God, make your escape from the darkness that surroundeth you. Let your vision be world-embracing, rather than confined to your own self. The Evil One is he that hindereth the rise and obstructeth the spiritual progress of the children of men.

It is incumbent upon every man, in this Day, to hold fast unto whatsoever will promote the interests, and exalt the station, of all nations and just governments. Through each and every one of the verses which the Pen of the Most High hath revealed, the doors of love and unity have been unlocked and flung open to the face of men. We have erewhile declared—and Our Word is the truth -: Consort with the followers of all religions in a spirit of friendliness and fellowship.' Whatsoever hath led the children of men to shun

one another, and hath caused dissensions and divisions amongst them, hath, through the revelation these words, been nullified and abolished. From the heaven of God's Will, and for the purpose of ennobling the world of being and of elevating the minds and souls of men, hath been sent down that which is the most effective instrument for the education of the whole human race.

The highest essence and most perfect expression of whatsoever the peoples of old have either said or written hath, through this most potent Revelation, been sent down from the heaven of the Will of the All-Possessing, the Ever-Abiding God. Of old it hath been revealed: Love of one's country is an element of the Faith of God.' The Tongue of Grandeur hath, however, in the day of His manifestation proclaimed: 'It is not his to boast who loveth his country, but it is his who loveth the world.' Through the power released by these exalted words He hath lent a fresh impulse and set a new direction to the birds of men's hearts, and hath obliterated every trace of restriction and limitation from God's holy Book.

This Wronged One hath forbidden the people of God to engage in contention or conflict and hath exhorted them to righteous deeds and praiseworthy character. In this day the hosts that can ensure the victory of the Cause are those of goodly conduct and saintly character. Blessed are they who firmly adhere unto them and woe betide such as turn away therefrom. O people of God! I admonish you to observe courtesy, for above all else it is the prince of virtues. Well is it with him who is illumined with the light of courtesy and is attired with the vesture of uprightness. Whoso is endued with courtesy hath indeed attained a sublime station. It is hoped that this Wronged One and everyone else may be enabled to acquire it, hold fast unto it, observe it, and fix our gaze upon it. This is a binding command which hath streamed forth from the Pen of the Most Great Name.

This day when the gems of constancy that lie hid in the mine of men's inner selves should be made manifest. O people of Justice! Be as brilliant as the light and as splendid as the fire that blazed in the Burning Bush. The brightness of the fire of your love will no doubt fuse and unify the contending peoples and kindreds of the earth, whilst the fierceness of the flame of enmity and hatred cannot but result in strife and ruin. We beseech God that He may shield His creatures from the evil designs of His enemies. He verily hath power over all things.

All praise be to the one true God—exalted be His glory—inasmuch as He hath, through the Pen of the Most High, unlocked the doors of men's hearts. Every verse which this Pen hath revealed is a bright and shining portal that discloseth the glories of a saintly and pious life, of pure and stainless deeds. The summons and the message which We gave were never intended to reach or to benefit one land or one people only. Mankind in its entirety must firmly adhere to whatsoever hath been revealed and vouchsafed unto it. Then and only then will it attain unto true liberty.

The whole earth is illuminated with the resplendent glory of God's Revelation. In the year sixty He Who heralded the light of Divine Guidance—may all creation be a sacrifice unto Him—arose to announce a fresh revelation of the Divine Spirit, and was followed, twenty years later, by Him through Whose coming the world was made the recipient of this promised glory, this wondrous favour. Behold how the generality of mankind hath been endued with the capacity to hearken unto God's most exalted Word—the Word upon which must depend the gathering together and spiritual resurrection of all men.

Whilst in the Prison of ʿAkka, We revealed in the Crimson Book that which is conducive to the advancement of mankind and to the reconstruction of the world. The utterances set forth therein by the Pen of the Lord of creation include the following which constitute the fundamental principles for the administration of the affairs of men:

First: It is incumbent upon the ministers of the House of Justice to promote the Lesser Peace so that the people of the earth may be relieved from the burden of exorbitant expenditures. This matter is imperative and absolutely essential, inasmuch as hostilities and conflict lie at the root of affliction and calamity.

Second: Languages must be reduced to one common language to be taught in all the schools of the world.

Third: It behoveth man to adhere tenaciously unto that which will promote fellowship, kindliness and unity.

Fourth: Everyone, whether man or woman, should hand over to a trusted person a portion of what he or she earneth through trade, agriculture or other occupation, for the training and education of children, to be spent for this purpose with the knowledge of the Trustees of the House of Justice.

Fifth: Special regard must be paid to agriculture. Although it hath been mentioned in the fifth place, unquestionably it precedeth the others. Agriculture is highly developed in foreign lands, however in Persia it hath so far been grievously neglected. It is hoped that His Majesty the Shah—may God assist him by His grace—will turn his attention to this vital and important matter.

Section 2: "Were men to strictly observe…"

Were men to strictly observe that which the Pen of the Most High hath revealed in the Crimson Book, they could then well afford to dispense with the regulations which prevail in the world. Certain exhortations have repeatedly streamed forth from the Pen of the Most High that perchance the manifestations of power and the dawning-places of might may, sometime, be enabled to enforce them. Indeed, were sincere seekers to be found, every emanation of God's pervasive and irresistible Will would, for the sake of His love, be revealed. But where are to be found earnest seekers and inquiring minds? Whither are gone the equitable and the fair-minded? At present no day passeth without the fire of a fresh tyranny blazing fiercely, or the sword of a new aggression being unsheathed. Gracious God! The great and the noble in Persia glory in acts of such savagery that one is lost in amazement at the tales thereof.

Day and night this Wronged One yieldeth thanks and praise unto the Lord of men, for it is witnessed that the words of counsel and exhortation We uttered have proved effective and that this people hath evinced such character and conduct as are acceptable in Our sight. This is affirmed by virtue of the event which hath truly cheered the eye of the world, and is none other than the intercession of the friends with the high authorities in favour of their enemies. Indeed one's righteous deeds testify to the truth of one's words. We cherish the hope that men of piety may illumine the world through the radiant light of their conduct, and We entreat the Almighty—glorified and exalted is He—to grant that everyone may in this

Day remain steadfast in His love and stand firm in His Cause. He is, in truth, the Protector of those who are wholly devoted to Him and observe His precepts.

O people of God! Countless are the realms which Our Pen of Glory hath revealed and manifold the eyes to which it hath imparted true enlightenment. Yet most of the people in Persia continue to be deprived of the benefits of profitable counsels and remain sorely lacking in useful sciences and arts. Formerly these sublime words were especially revealed by the Pen of Glory in honour of one of the faithful, that perchance those that have gone astray may embrace the Truth and become acquainted with the subtleties of the Law of God.

The unbelievers and the faithless have set their minds on four things: first, the shedding of blood; second, the burning of books; third, the shunning of the followers of other religions; fourth, the extermination of other communities and groups. Now however, through the strengthening grace and potency of the Word of God these four barriers have been demolished, these clear injunctions have been obliterated from the Tablet and brutal dispositions have been transmuted into spiritual attributes. Exalted is His purpose; glorified is His power; magnified is His dominion!

Now let us beseech God—praised be His glory—to graciously guide aright the followers of the Shi'ih sect and to purge them of unseemly conduct. From the lips of the members of this sect foul imprecations fall unceasingly, while they invoke the word Mal'un' (accursed)—uttered with a guttural sound of the letter ayn—as their daily relish.

O God my God! Thou hearest the sighing of Him Who is Thy Light (Baha), hearkenest unto His lamentations in the daytime and in the night season and knowest that He desireth naught for Himself but rather seeketh to sanctify the souls of Thy servants and to deliver them from the fire with which they are beset at all times. O Lord! The hands of Thy well-favoured servants are raised towards the heaven of Thy bounty and those of Thy sincere lovers are lifted up to the sublime heights of Thy generosity. Disappoint them not, I entreat Thee, in that which they seek from the ocean of Thy favour and from the heaven of Thy grace and the day-star of Thy bounty. Aid them, O Lord, to acquire such virtues as will exalt their stations among the peoples of the world. Verily Thou art the Powerful, the Mighty, the Most Generous.

O people of God! Give ear unto that which, if heeded, will ensure the freedom, well-being, tranquillity, exaltation and advancement of all men. Certain laws and principles are necessary and indispensable for Persia. However, it is fitting that these measures should be adopted in conformity with the considered views of His Majesty—may God aid him through His grace—and of the learned divines and of the high-ranking rulers. Subject to their approval a place should be fixed where they would meet. There they should hold fast to the cord of consultation and adopt and enforce that which is conducive to the security, prosperity, wealth and tranquillity of the people. For were any measure other than this to be adopted, it could not but result in chaos and commotion.

According to the fundamental laws which We have formerly revealed in the Kitab-i-Aqdas and other Tablets, all affairs are committed to the care of just kings and presidents and of the Trustees of the House of Justice. Having pondered on that which We have enunciated, every man of equity and discernment will readily perceive, with his inner and outer eyes, the splendours of the day-star of justice which radiate

therefrom. The system of government which the British people have adopted in London appeareth to be good, for it is adorned with the light of both kingship and of the consultation of the people.

In formulating the principles and laws a part hath been devoted to penalties which form an effective instrument for the security and protection of men. However, dread of the penalties maketh people desist only outwardly from committing vile and contemptible deeds, while that which guardeth and restraineth man both outwardly and inwardly hath been and still is the fear of God. It is man's true protector and his spiritual guardian. It behoveth him to cleave tenaciously unto that which will lead to the appearance of this supreme bounty. Well is it with him who giveth ear unto whatsoever My Pen of Glory hath proclaimed and observeth that whereunto he is bidden by the Ordainer, the Ancient of Days.

Incline your hearts, O people of God, unto the counsels of your true, your incomparable Friend. The Word of God may be likened unto a sapling, whose roots have been implanted in the hearts of men. It is incumbent upon you to foster its growth through the living waters of wisdom, of sanctified and holy words, so that its root may become firmly fixed and its branches may spread out as high as the heavens and beyond.

O people of the world! Among the bounties of this Most Great Revelation is this: that whatsoever is the cause of dissension, corruption, and discord We have blotted out from the Book, and whatsoever is the source of fellowship, unity, and concord We have inscribed therein. Bliss be unto them that act accordingly.

Time and again have We enjoined, and still do enjoin, the friends to shun whatever yieldeth the odor of corruption—nay rather, to flee therefrom. The world is in travail, and the thoughts of men are diverse. We beseech God to adorn them with the light of His justice and to make known unto them that which shall profit them under all conditions. Verily, He is the Self-Sufficing, the Most Exalted.

Heretofore We uttered this most exalted word: Those souls who are related to this Wronged One must, in the hour of bestowal and bounty, be as the raining cloud, and in restraining the insistent self be as a blazing flame. Praised be God! In these days there hath appeared that which is a cause of astonishment. As hath been heard, a certain person entered the seat of sovereignty in Iran and, by his own design, brought a number of eminent men under his sway. In truth, this is a station for lamentation and woe. What hath come to pass that the manifestations of supreme glory have chosen for themselves utter abasement? Whither hath constancy fled? Where is self-respect gone? The sun of greatness and wisdom hath ever dawned and shone from the horizon of the heaven of Iran; yet now matters have declined to such a degree that some among its men have made themselves the playthings of the ignorant.

That same person hath written concerning this community, in the newspapers of Egypt and in the encyclopaedia of Beirut, that which caused the possessors of knowledge and learning to marvel. Thereafter he repaired unto Paris and printed a journal entitled Urvatu'l-Vuthqa, which he sent unto the regions of the world and also forwarded to the prison of Akka, thereby making a show of affection, though his purpose was but to make amends for what had gone before. Be that as it may, this Wronged One chose silence concerning him. We beseech God to protect him and to illumine him with the light of justice and fairness. Unto Him it belongeth to speak.

O God, my God! Thou seest me standing before the door of Thy forgiveness and benevolence, turning my gaze toward the horizon of Thy bountiful favors and manifold blessings. I beg of Thee by Thy sweet accents and by the shrill voice of Thy Pen, O Lord of all mankind, to graciously aid Thy servants as it befitteth Thy days and beseemeth the glory of Thy manifestation and Thy majesty. Verily potent art Thou to do what Thou willest. All they that dwell in the heavens and on the earth bear witness to Thy power and Thy might, to Thy glory and Thy bounty. Praise be to Thee, O Lord of the worlds and the Well-Beloved of the hearts of all such as have recognized Thee.

Thou seest, O my God, the essence of poverty seeking the ocean of Thy wealth and the substance of transgression looking toward the heaven of Thy forgiveness and tender mercy. Grant Thou, O my God, that which beseemeth Thy great glory and befitteth the loftiness of Thy boundless grace. Thou art in truth the All-Bountiful, the Lord of grace abounding, the Ordainer, the All-Wise. No God is there but Thee, the Most Powerful, the All-Compelling, the Almighty.

O people of God! In this day everyone should fix his eyes upon the horizon of these blessed words: ʻAlone and unaided He doeth whatsoever He pleaseth.' Whoso attaineth this station hath verily attained the light of the essential unity of God and is enlightened thereby, while all others are reckoned in the Book of God among the followers of idle fancy and vain imagination. Incline your ears to the Voice of this Wronged One and safeguard the integrity of your stations. It is highly necessary and imperative that everyone should observe this matter.

Unveiled and unconcealed, this Wronged One hath, at all times, proclaimed before the face of all the peoples of the world that which will serve as the key for unlocking the doors of sciences, of arts, of knowledge, of well-being, of prosperity and wealth. Neither have the wrongs inflicted by the oppressors succeeded in silencing the shrill voice of the Most Exalted Pen, nor have the doubts of the perverse or of the seditious been able to hinder Him from revealing the Most Sublime Word. I earnestly beseech God that He may protect and purge the people of Baha from the idle fancies and corrupt imaginings of the followers of the former Faith.

O people of God! Righteous men of learning who dedicate themselves to the guidance of others and are freed and well guarded from the promptings of a base and covetous nature are, in the sight of Him Who is the Desire of the world, stars of the heaven of true knowledge. It is essential to treat them with deference. They are indeed fountains of soft-flowing water, stars that shine resplendent, fruits of the blessed Tree, exponents of celestial power, and oceans of heavenly wisdom. Happy is he that followeth them. Verily such a soul is numbered in the Book of God, the Lord of the mighty Throne, among those with whom it shall be well. The glory which proceedeth from God, the Lord of the Throne on High and of the earth below, rest upon you, O people of Baha, O ye the companions of the Crimson Ark, and upon such as have inclined their ears to your sweet voices and have observed that whereunto they are bidden in this mighty and wondrous Tablet.

BH00309: Tremors have seized the tribes, and turmoil hath encompassed…

Section 1: "Tremors have seized the tribes, and turmoil hath…"

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

Tremors have seized the tribes, and turmoil hath encompassed the dwellers of earth, save whom God hath willed. That which hath appeared hath transcended the power of comprehension. Conjecture hath no path to what hath been manifested, and fancy hath no movement in this arena for Persia. Glorified be the All-Bountiful, the Possessor of Great Grace! The King of Names hath astounded the manifestations of might and wealth, and realms which their men had imagined to be free from decline now show evident cracks. Indeed, the fair-minded and discerning are increasingly amazed, for the outward causes in no way correspond to what hath transpired. Praise be to God Who hath appeared and made manifest His Cause, and made all things speak according to His Will, despite every heedless doubter.

May the light that shineth and blazeth from the heaven of bounty and generosity be upon the Afnans of the Divine Lote-Tree and its loved ones, whom neither clamor nor that which hath appeared in the realm of creation hath frightened. The lights are astounded by their radiance, all who are steadfast by their steadfastness, and all who are influential by their influence. These are they who see death in His love as a gateway to His mercy, and martyrdom in His path as a crown that telleth of His glory and sovereignty. It is naught but the door to rest and tranquility from the All-Merciful. Blessed is he who pondereth upon it and upon the mysteries deposited therein.

Glory be unto Thee, O my God! Thou seest the Afnans of Thy Lote-Tree amidst the enemies of Thy Self and the wolves of Thy earth, who desire naught in the kingdom but to extinguish the light of Thy Cause and quench the fire of Thy love. I beseech Thee, O Educator of the world and Goal of the nations, by Thy Most Great Name and by the Manifestations of Thy supreme Word, through whom Thou hast adorned Thy cities and lands, to protect him who hath acknowledged Thy manifestation and appearance, then guard him from the oppression of those who have violated Thy covenant and denied Thy signs. O Lord! I beseech Thee by the Word whereby hearts and minds were attracted, to protect the lamps of Thy guidance from the violent winds. Verily, Thou art the Revealer of verses and the Lord of names and attributes. There is no God but Thee, the Almighty, the All-Bountiful.

May my spirit be a sacrifice for your steadfastness, your constancy, and your utterance. The two exalted letters, each of which truly shineth as a lamp, have illumined the heart and pillars, and brought to remembrance the days of presence and meeting. Their mention is the cause of remembrance, and their reading the cause of awakening. From each word the fragrance of the detached ones wafteth. The servant beseecheth his Lord to raise your honor for the exaltation of His Cause and the elevation of His Word. Verily, He is the Most Powerful of the powerful ones. And after the recitation, reading, and contemplation, having aimed for the supreme height, it was presented before the countenance of Him Who conversed on Sinai and was blessed with the honor of His attention. Thereupon the ocean of grace and bounty surged, and He revealed that whereby the realities of all things were attracted. His word, exalted be His glory:

In My Name, the Manifest, the Speaker before the faces of the world

The fire of oppression and tyranny has been kindled, and every treacherous one has arisen with lies and calumnies, consumed by the fire of greed and passion—a recompense for his deeds in this worldly life. We beseech God to illumine all regions and to ordain for His servants that which will draw them nigh unto Him and guide them to His straight path. They have denied God and His signs, and have rejected what hath appeared from Him. Thus have their souls enticed them. God will soon seize them as He seized those before them. Verily, He is the One Who hath power over whatsoever He willeth through His mighty and wise command.

Glory be to God! Although it hath become clear and evident to all, the rejected souls inflamed with the fire of tyranny and wickedness have not yet awakened. However, to those endowed with vision and those who possess the Most Sublime Vision, good deeds are clearly distinguished from evil ones. They have committed that which hath no parallel in the world. In all circumstances, We have commanded the loved ones of God to patience and tranquility, lest there occur that which is contrary to what hath been ordained, both aforetime and hereafter. We have sent down the verses and manifested the clear proofs, and have commanded all to that which will exalt them and adorn them among the servants—yet they have wrought that which causeth every just and discerning one to lament. Greed hath taken hold of their reins, and they have devoured the wealth of the people. We testify that they have cast behind them that which was sent down from the heaven of God's Will, the Lord of creation, and have taken that which their passions commanded them. They are indeed in darkness and error.

Although they witness at all times the evanescence of the world and its variations and passing away, they have clung to deeds and actions from which even Satan would shrink. Today the verses have encompassed all regions, and the rivers of wisdom and utterance flow and are visible before all faces, and the Sun of Truth shineth resplendent above all heads. Yet this hath had no effect upon the manifestations of turning away and the dawning-places of heedlessness. However, whatsoever hath been revealed in the Tablets from the Pen of God hath all come to pass and will continue to do so. There is no doubt in this: verily these have been sent down from God, the Mighty, the Glorious, the All-Knowing.

Despite the lack of means and the differences both internal and external, the Cause of God hath encompassed all, and now most are observed to be searching and seeking. Soon will God's Cause encompass the East and the West of the earth, and there shall appear that which the All-Merciful hath revealed in the Qur'an through His words: "The unbeliever shall say, 'Would that I were dust!"' Each day some harm befalleth and some falsehood becometh manifest, yet since it occurreth in the path of God, it is beloved and acceptable. Praise be to God!

That honored one is aware that nothing but goodness hath been shown by the Afnan towards that heedless one. Nevertheless, through the instigation of certain ones, he hath acted in such a way regarding people's property that now the people of the great city testify to his falsehood, wickedness, and treachery. We beseech God to make the heedless ones aware and not to deprive the world of the lights of the Day-Star of justice and equity. That honored one's journey at such a time became a cause of grief. Hidden matters have become evident and clear. Previously, there was expressed to the Afnan, Aqa Siyyid Mirza, upon him be the Glory of God, that which was expedient for the time and conducive to the

exaltation of the Word. Negligence in affairs and the latter matter have caused delay and suspension in outward occupations. However, that blessed soul must, under all circumstances, manifest such joy and gladness as shall cause all to rejoice. Every sorrow that befalleth is, in the sight of God, one of the keys of His bounty, mercy, loving-kindness, grace and munificence, whereby the portals of joy and gladness shall ere long be thrown open.

We have previously mentioned: O Afnan! Your dominion is established in the divine Kingdom, not in the earthly soil of water and clay. All that exists must be placed for sale and given to the creditors. Now they have accepted this matter, but had it been done before these matters arose it would have been more beloved and excellent in the sight of God and men. All must consult together and act according to what they deem advisable. We beseech God to assist them, grant them success, and ordain for them that which will exalt them through His Name amongst His servants. Verily, He is the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous.

His Holiness Afnan (A. and H.), upon him be the Glory of God the Most Glorious, had no desire to travel to the land of Ha. When the letter from His Holiness Afnan Haji Siyyid Mirza, upon him be the Glory and Grace of God, arrived, it was sent to him to consider and act as he deemed appropriate, for it was known to God that his journey to the land of Ha would bear no fruit whatsoever. Indeed, these exalted words were heard from the Blessed Tongue: They said that if his journey to that land would have borne any fruit, We would certainly have commanded him to proceed in that direction.

Section 2: "It is strange that His Holiness Afnan Haji…"

It is strange that His Holiness Afnan Haji Siyyid Mirza still writes that if Aqa Siyyid Ahmad had gone to India, matters would not have turned out this way. During those days, someone from that land arrived in Beirut and did not speak well of certain affairs of the honored ones. Even if His Holiness A. and H., upon him be the Glory of God, had gone to that region and the accounts were settled, where would the funds have been found to pay the creditors? In those days, some understood the details and would not deal with him in trade at all.

Now he must, detached from all else, hold fast to what has been commanded. Whatever was present in the house was given without discussion. Among these, the remaining balance of the late Haji Shaykh, upon him be the Glory and Favor of God, amounting to six hundred and seven Ottoman liras, was paid in cash, which included some of his own funds that he had relinquished. When in the early days of the arrival of Samandar, upon him be the Glory of God the Most Glorious, he sent two thousand tumans through the late Haji Shaykh, upon him be the Glory of God—one thousand tumans in silk and one thousand in cash—to the Most Holy Court, after being presented it was not accepted until, considering the distress of the aforementioned one, they accepted it to remain with him for trading purposes. After the loss occurred, the deceased was commanded to pay his brother's debt from that amount, and Samandar also agreed to pay it, though it appears difficult that he would be able to do so.

And considering the helplessness of His Holiness Afnan Haji Siyyid Mirza, upon him be the Glory of God the Most Glorious, who had written in his letter that Shaykh knows this money was not ours, now what answer shall we give to the creditors? This matter was settled after the aforementioned payment was

made. Likewise, His Holiness Afnan Aqa Siyyid Ahmad, upon him be the Glory of God the Most Glorious, after proceeding to the Threshold, received all possible assistance, both apparent and hidden, and His Holiness Afnan Aqa Mirza Muhsin, upon him be the Glory and Might of God, knows of some matters, and other affairs have also occurred of which His Holiness may be aware of some.

The honored Amin, upon him be the Glory of God, also gave some funds, and he too was instructed not to demand repayment. Divine favor has always been with them, both openly and secretly, but what emanated from them was not befitting, and after the arrival of Mirza's letter, absolutely Jinab-i-A.H. was not prohibited from proceeding, nor was there an explicit command given, for it was stated that it has been and would be fruitless and would yield naught but embarrassment. This was expressed to his honor Afnan, Haji Siyyid ʿAli, upon him be the Glory of God, the Most Glorious, and a firm decree was issued that you must send an account statement so it would become clear to all what has entered the storehouse in Beirut, what has left, and what remains.

What is evident and visible here is that there is a plot of land acquired in Haifa, whose value has now increased. According to the command, it must be auctioned and the proceeds given to settle debts, with everyone's knowledge. Similarly, there is a house which, having met with the blessed approval, was purchased, though it is small, being around one hundred liras and some change. Until now, no ruling has been issued regarding this matter. Regarding the land, a command was issued to his honor Afnan to proceed with all haste to ʿIshqabad for the sale of properties. I beseech God, exalted be His glory, to moderate the negligence and delay of Afnan. Verily, He has power over all things. And in all circumstances, one must act according to the command with trustworthiness, religious devotion and justice. Verily, He aids those who hold fast to trustworthiness and justice. Indeed, He is the Guardian of those who do good.

In any case, a brief account of each matter has been submitted, as these days are more suited to other mentions and other utterances. It would be better that I submit that your supplications were presented before His presence at the designated times, and in response to each one was revealed that which no treasure could equal and no mention could fulfill. In one instance, these exalted words were revealed from the Source of verses and the Manifestation of clear proofs. His word, exalted be His utterance:

O My Afnan! Upon thee be My glory, My loving-kindness and My mercy. We testify that thou hast been with Me from the earliest days, and hast attained to the hearing of the Call and the beholding of the Supreme Horizon, and We have known from thee what We have known from none else. He is thy Helper in all conditions. We beseech God to transform your sorrow into an ocean of joy and delight, and to ordain for you that which will attract all things. The servant in attendance here hath recited before Our face what thou didst send regarding the mention of God and His praise, from every word of which was wafted the fragrance of detachment, trust and supplication. We beseech Him, exalted be He, to open through thee the doors of goodly things and to raise through thee the standards of triumph throughout all lands and the banner of victory amongst the servants. He is, verily, the Lord of creation and the Omnipotent over whatsoever He willeth.

We make mention of all the Afnans. We hope they will succeed in acting according to that which hath flowed from the Most Exalted Pen. When deeds are pure and sanctified, man is assured and joyous

before God and within himself. The pen cannot adequately describe this station. Your honor is aware to the extent possible. We beseech Him not to withhold the rain of His grace, bounty and generosity, nor to deprive His Afnans. Should a soul be confirmed even slightly and take one step beyond this world, he will witness what hath been ordained for those related to Him, namely the Afnans whom He hath claimed as His own. By the Sun of Truth, all would be bewildered, nay thunderstruck, at beholding it, except whom God willeth—their Lord, their Master, their Manifestation and their Sovereign.

Repeatedly have they mentioned that which hath been recorded in the inner reality of the world, which no obliteration can affect nor seizure take hold of. That they have made mention of his honor the Afnan Nuru'd-Din Hasan, upon him be the Glory of God, the Most Glorious—after presenting these supreme words, the obvious is known. As commanded, they have acted and continue to act in accordance with wisdom.

They repeatedly mentioned the difficulty and necessity of that honored one's migration from Fars, until news arrived of his arrival in that land. This servant clingeth to the hem of that honored one's special favors and beseecheth him to manifest that which will cause the exaltation of God's Cause. Verily, He is powerful over all things. I convey greetings and nothingness to the honored Afnans of that land, upon them be the Glory of God and His favors, and I beseech from the ocean of divine generosity that which is the cause of glory and exaltation. Nothing escapeth His knowledge. He worketh and judgeth, and He is the Commander, the All-Knowing.

I make mention of all the friends of God and convey glorification, praise and greetings. It is hoped that all will be assisted to achieve what God loveth and is pleased with. Glory and remembrance and praise be upon your honor and upon those who are with you and who love you and who hearken to your words concerning God's Great Announcement and His Wise Remembrance.

The servant 6 Muharram al-Haram 1308

As instructed, mention was made of giving money to the Beloved; yet it is better that the matter remain concealed.

BH00860: Praise be to the Goal of the worlds Who…

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

Praise be to the Goal of the worlds Who hath manifested in that land whatsoever distinguisheth those who have turned towards Him from those who have turned away, the truthful from the false, the slanderers and corruptors from the reformers. All those corruptions are clear and evident, their source being from the Island and his disciple who is in that land. Now that honored friend must ponder who is the guide and who the guided. I beseech God to make manifest penetrating vision and to sanctify some eyes from the ophthalmia of self and desire.

O my brother! The path of God is clear and evident from all else. The turning away souls deem it necessary to lie and slander, as thou hast witnessed and dost witness. They have attributed to the Afnan—whose sanctity and purity every fair-minded one doth testify to—that which all the atoms of

creation bear witness is false. Inform the people—meaning those souls who were and are in other cities—that perchance they may become aware and hold fast to righteousness and piety instead of tyranny and wickedness.

O my God, my Adored One, my Object of worship! Purify Thy servants from falsehood, doubt, hatred, tyranny and wickedness, that they may turn from what they possess to what Thou possessest. Thou art the Powerful, the Mighty. O God! Thou knowest the intentions of the sincere and obedient among Thy servants. Have mercy and confirm all servants generally in truthfulness, trustworthiness, sincerity and purity. Thou art powerful over that which is the cause of salvation for all. Disappoint not those who hope in Thee and deny not those who seek Thee. Verily Thou art God, the Powerful, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy.

The letter of that spiritual friend arrived. Christ said to His disciples: "O sheep of God, I wish to send you among wolves." Now what hath befallen that spiritual friend is even greater than that. However, after the presentation of that friend's letter before the countenance of the Master, He said: Be not grieved by what hath befallen thee, and despair not of God's justice. His justice shall ultimately seize the oppressors and liars, and His grace shall not deprive His loved ones. He is the Owner of existence and the Sovereign of the seen and unseen. Speak thou of truth with complete assurance and perfect trust and resignation, and remain firm and steadfast in setting affairs aright. Verily He aids every oppressed one, every trustworthy one, and every truthful one. Hold fast to the cord of His favor which hath preceded all who are in the heavens and on earth.

O Zaynu'l-'Abidin! Praise God, glorified be His majesty, that thou hast become aware of the deeds and actions of the Island. Behold what his disciple doeth. They have ever been and continue to be engaged in corruption. Trustworthiness, religion and truthfulness are as rare as the phoenix among that party, as thou hast witnessed. Say: O my God, my God! Aid the slanderers to truthfulness, the oppressors to justice, and the treacherous to trustworthiness. Verily Thou art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest through Thy word "Be" and it is.

The honored gentleman, his holiness the Afnan, has arrived and attained the presence, and will soon return. Concerning all the persecution inflicted thus far—that is, from those individuals who received the utmost love and kindness from the honored Afnans, upon them be the Most Glorious Glory of God—they showed patience and left it to God. However, praise be to God, all that was falsely claimed has become clear and evident to all. By God's grace, what they have said has become known to the wise ones and the manifestations of justice. Glory be to God! They consider their honor to lie in persecuting this community, for this community has had and has no one but the Truth. Due to having no helper or supporter from the earliest days until now, they have endured what none but God knows. The oppression of this community reached such a point that in one city, on the word of a single attendant, twenty people were martyred. In any case, persecuting the oppressed is easy and unimpeded, but if at any time or moment the sun of justice should appear or shine forth, the deeds of all will become clear and evident.

Glory be to God! This servant is greatly astonished that in that city, not enough just and fair-minded souls can be found to protect even one oppressed person. Despite the Afnans' acknowledgment—upon them be God's peace—of the kindness and love of His Excellency the Iranian Minister (may God strengthen

him), how is it that such matters occur? Someone wrote from Beirut about a telegram that caused astonishment, for the Iranian Consul himself has risen to harm his own subject and has accused him of theft. What has been observed thus far is that those souls who reside in these parts have been and are the most obedient and best subjects of the exalted government of Iran. However, these matters are proof of their oppression and the manifestation of the stations of the detached ones.

That spiritual friend should act with justice and fairness in all conditions, speak with truthfulness, and ask from God whatever they hope and long for. We beseech God to assist you and make you successful, and to make you helpers of His Cause through compassionate counsels and wise advice, and through virtues that have won the glory of acceptance and pleasure before God, Creator of heaven. In all matters we have trusted in Him and committed our affairs to Him, and at all times we pray for those who have risen to humiliate this community, and we ask God not to deprive us and them of the adorning of justice.

If deemed advisable, mention to His Excellency the Deputy and First Vice-Consul that this latest action of Muhammad ʿAli in making accusations of theft is true testimony to the truth of their previous actions. However, by way of counsel I submit that in all cases the honored Iranian ambassadors (may God strengthen them) should exert their utmost effort in protecting individuals and preserving dignity and station, for if they are subjects, they are God's trust with them, and if they are not subjects, human compassion requires kindness.

From the very moment of Our arrival in this land until now, whensoever the envoys of the Sublime State have come to these regions and inquired as to which party hath, in all respects, remained obedient, this party it was and is. Whatsoever hath befallen them they have endured with patience. How many the events that, in this land, have transpired wholly at variance [with propriety], yet not a word was spoken, nor any matter set forth; for whatsoever came to pass—its truth or its falsity—was as manifest and luminous as the sun. These few words, likewise, have been set down inasmuch as it was deemed possible that, after their presentation before the officials in authority, they might become aware of that which hath been inflicted upon this wronged party. Nevertheless, in all circumstances do We render thanks and praise unto God, and entreat Him for that measure of assistance which He loveth and is well-pleased with. Verily, He is the All-Powerful, the Almighty.

BH01124: Praise be to God, the Sovereign of earth…

He is God—exalted be His station, the Most Great and All-Powerful

Praise be to God, the Sovereign of earth and heaven, the Lord of might and power. He hath revealed through the Pen of Destiny that which preserveth and guardeth His servants and causeth them to hold fast to the cord of pardon, bounty, grace and glory. He, verily, is the Lord of all mankind and the Master of the beginning and the end. Were it not for His grace, who would recognize His straight Path and His manifest and brilliant Way? We praise and thank Him until that Day whose end hath not appeared and whose bounties are limitless. And may the resplendent prayers that shine forth from the horizon of God's Will rest upon His chosen ones, His loved ones, and the Hands of His Cause, whom He hath described in His Book with the words "No fear shall be upon them, nor shall they grieve."

My spirit be a sacrifice for your remembrance! Your noble letter arrived like the arrival of the Beloved to the lover, or like the descent of spring rains upon the luminous and receptive ground. God knoweth that the servant found in its words and letters that which transformed the most great sorrow into the greatest joy. We beseech Him, exalted be He, to preserve you, to assist you, and to cause you to speak that which will attract the heart of every seeker, every aspirant, and every one who hath turned unto Him. Verily our Lord, the Most Merciful, is the Hearer, the Answerer of prayers, the Compassionate, the All-Powerful, the Forgiving, the Merciful.

When I had read and understood it, I approached the Most Great Spot and presented it before the Lord. He—may our souls be a sacrifice for Him—said:

> "O Muhammad Mustafa! Upon thee be the peace of God, the Lord of all beings. We have enjoined upon all wisdom and utterance, conciliation and harmony, religion and faithfulness. However, they who claim love and fellowship have cast behind their backs that which they were commanded and have chosen that which hath kindled the fire of corruption. We beseech God to aid His loved ones to that which will exalt their station in the earth. He, verily, is the Hearer, the Answerer of prayers."

The Wronged One beareth witness that the Sultan who was named ʿAbdu'l-Hamid—may God assist him—was holding fast to the cord of justice and equity and was detached from tyranny and oppression. All affairs return unto him, and he—may the All-Merciful assist him—was seated upon the throne of consultation, at all times consulting with the ministers and the learned ones regarding affairs, choosing what the people chose. He possessed sound judgment and penetrating and brilliant intelligence. It behooveth all to beseech God to assist him, preserve him, and aid him through His might, His sovereignty, His strength and His power. Verily, He is powerful over all things. Nothing hath appeared from him that would grieve Us, and We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to preserve him and assist him henceforth in protecting the oppressed and succouring the poor and needy. We counsel Our loved ones to observe religion and trustworthiness, and that which would gladden the heart of the Sultan. He, verily, is the Almighty, the Glorious, the Bestower.

We have read the letter of Mim—may God, exalted be He, assist him. He hath spoken with truth and justice and hath mentioned Muhammad Mihdi and the sons of the Deputy in a manner befitting them. We beseech God to assist them and enable them to act in accordance with that which they have been commanded in the Book of God, the Lord of all worlds. We beseech Him, exalted be He, to protect them from the evil of enemies and to ordain for them that which will draw them near unto Him in all conditions. He, verily, is the Self-Sufficient, the Most High. We send greetings from this Spot to My loved ones and My friends, and We counsel them with that which would gladden the hearts of the world.

Blessed is he who hath heard and acted upon that which the All-Merciful hath revealed in the Qur'an, and woe unto every heedless doubter. Verily the servant loveth to make mention of His Honor Mim, upon him be 9 66 [Baha'u'llah], the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. Praise be to God that there hath appeared from His presence that which hath silenced the lying tongues. Verily our Lord is the Compassionate, the All-Bountiful. We beseech the Lord to manifest through his presence the standards of trustworthiness, guidance, chastity and fidelity, and to open before his face the door of His grace. Verily He is the One with

power over whatsoever He willeth through His All-Wise Name. And I send greetings upon the faces of the friends that were transformed for the sake of God from the buffetings of the oppressors and tyrants.

I beseech Him, blessed and exalted be He, to assist His loved ones to spread the verses of wisdom, fellowship, love and unity, that the world may be illumined by the light of security and peace. Verily He is the Mighty, the All-Bountiful.

At the end of the Book, the tongue of the Lord spoke in remembrance of the fruit of the heart, the son of His Honor Mim—upon them both be the peace and loving-kindness of God—and said: Verily We desired to seal this remembrance with mention of him who was named ʿAbdu'l-Husayn, that he may rejoice and be among the triumphant.

O my Lord! I beseech Thee by the lights of Thy throne and by that which hath appeared from Thy presence, and by this lamp which hath been beset by tempestuous winds from every direction, that Thou protect him and Thy loved ones there, and ordain for him and for them that which shall never cease to shed its fragrance throughout the eternity of Thy names and attributes. Verily Thou art the Revealer of verses and the Manifester of clear proofs. There is no God but Thee, the Mighty, the All-Bestowing.

The servant greeteth him and maketh mention of him through the loving-kindness of the Lord, and remindeth him of verses that cannot be prevented by the might of those in the kingdom of creation.

O God, my God, my Lord and my Support! Ordain for him and for Thy loved ones there that which befitteth the ocean of Thy grace and the heaven of Thy bounty. Verily Thou art the Powerful, the Mighty, the Most Generous.

And I send greetings upon the delight of eyes and the loved ones of God who are there, and I ask for them every good thing He hath ordained, and every glory He hath decreed, and every light He hath sent down, and every splendor and loftiness He hath raised up.

O God of the world and Beloved of the nations! Ordain for Thy loved ones that which shall protect them from the calumnies of every liar and the opposition of every opposer. Verily Thou art the Powerful, the Mighty, the All-Knowing.

The servant 26 Muharram 1308

BH00131: Praise and thanksgiving belong, in the first degree…

Section 1: "Praise and thanksgiving belong, in the first degree…"

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

Praise and thanksgiving belong, in the first degree, to His Beauty and, in the second degree, to His chosen ones who, in such an age when the world of limitations and restrictions has reached its end, have arisen with perfect steadfastness to open the gate of a temperate, acceptable, and balanced freedom of expression. The insinuations of the opposers and the doubts of the transgressors did not prevent them from the Lord of the Day of Judgment. Despite being surrounded by enemies from all directions, the

oppression of tyrants, and the waves of armies of wickedness and vice, they were not deprived of hearing the Call raised from the Most Exalted Horizon. Exalted be His Glory, universal His bounty, and mighty His dominion! Verily the servant speaks and presents:

My God, my God! Open the gates of hearts with the keys of Thy most beautiful Names and illumine them with the lights of Thy utterance in Thy Days. Aid them to return unto Thee and to acknowledge what Thou hast revealed in Thy Books, Thy Scriptures, Thy Scrolls, and Thy Tablets. O Lord! Thou seest and knowest what hath appeared from the calumniators and the heedless ones who have made treachery a crown for their heads and falsehood an ornament for their temples. I beseech Thee, O Sovereign of existence and Educator of the seen and unseen, by Thy greatest signs and Thy traces in the kingdom of creation, to send down from the clouds of Thy mercy that which will transform darkness into light and falsehood into truth. Verily, Thou art the All-Bountiful, the Almighty, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

O thou who art mentioned in my heart and upon my tongue! Multiple letters from that beloved of the heart have arrived, their fragrance testifying to love, affection, detachment, and steadfastness. Whenever each arrived in the Most Holy, Most Exalted Court, it attained the honor of being presented and heard, but due to the multitude of pressing matters, there was delay in response. In truth, the decree of delay in this station is not permissible in any station, for the All-Knowing Lord of the Unseen and that beloved one bear witness to the sincerity of love and purity of that honored one, and likewise to the annihilation of the will of these servants in the Will of God. Moreover, the traces that have come to that honored one are more than can be counted, and surely you will say that new and fresh expressions have another splendor in the heart, and this word is truth, there is no doubt in it.

It is hoped that henceforth, through the favors of the Goal of the worlds, there shall appear from this servant that which will renew the remembrance of the chosen ones and increase the joy and delight of true friends. Glorified is He Who has subjected the wills of the servants to His Will and their wishes to His Wish, and He is the Commander, the Ruler, the Mighty, the Great.

And after turning and becoming aware, intending the station of grandeur, after presenting before the Throne of Grace, the Tongue of Grandeur spoke these verses, Mighty be His utterance and Glorious His proof:

I am the Wronged One, the Stranger

All things bear witness to My rising, My remembrance, My praise, My steadfastness, My care, My grace, and My mercy. Blessed is he who hath heard and attained. He is, before God, the Lord of the worlds, among the people of Baha and the companions of the Crimson Ark. Say: O people! This is not the day of your questioning, your mention, your speech, and your call. It behooveth you to turn with your ears to the Most Exalted Horizon that ye may hear what hath been raised therein. By the life of God! What ye possess will not profit you. Cast it away by a power from Us and a strength from Our presence, and take with hands of submission the Book of God, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

O Ali-Akbar! Upon thee be My glory, My loving-kindness and My mercy. Verily most of the people have not recognized this Day and its station. They utter that which the ignorant of the earth uttered before. Thus have their souls enticed them. They are indeed among the lost, the wrongdoers, the transgressors,

and the heedless. They have not perceived the fragrance of the Day of God, nor have they recognized what hath been revealed therein. We bear witness that they are but worthless creatures in the sight of God, the Mighty, the Praised. They have cast the Truth behind their backs, clinging to their vain imaginings and idle fancies.

The ears say: O my God, my Lord and my Support! I beseech Thee by the Power that hath encompassed all created things to protect me from the roaring of Thine enemies and from hearkening to that which proceedeth from the mouths of the ignorant among Thy creatures. My Lord! I testify that Thou didst create me to hearken unto Thy most sweet call and the shrill voice of Thy Most Exalted Pen. I beseech Thee to assist me to manifest that for which Thou hast created me. Verily, Thou art the Almighty, the All-Powerful.

Glory be to God! The immature ones of the world have said that which caused the ears to lodge their complaint before Him. His honor knoweth that the Truth, exalted be His glory, hath revealed in the Kingdom of grace that which is the cause of the exaltation of the peoples of the world. Every person of understanding and fairness beareth witness to that which hath appeared from the treasury of the Most Exalted Pen. In truth, the Luminary of utterance hath so manifested itself that no excuse remaineth for the peoples of the world. Consider the idle words of Hadi, the son of Mirza Yahya. By the Sun of Truth! No heedless one in this age hath uttered such words. It is not known what he hath understood of the Truth and what he comprehendeth of usurpation. From all his utterances, conduct and deeds, the station and condition of that party hath become evident and clear. Say: Thou wert not with thy father, thou didst not see thy father, and thou art not aware of the Cause of God. Fear God and be not of the calumniators.

As to what thou hast mentioned that “they have usurped my father’s right”—these are the same meaningless utterances of the past spoken for the sake of leadership, and such words and their like have caused the stations and ranks of the chosen ones and successors to be lost. The Prince of Martyrs, exalted be his deed, said: “O my brother, what manner of compromise was this that thou didst make?” He replied that it was due to lack of trust in the friends. He asked: “Why didst thou make the acceptance of money the main pillar of the compromise?” Most of the companions objected and reviled and rejected that holy being. In truth, a reprehensible matter appeared, for the basis of the compromise was set as the customs revenues of Kufa and Jahrum of Fars.

The Lord of Lovers was greatly saddened by this incident. But poor Hadi knew not what to say. He and others cling to fabricated claims of persecution that they might thereby cast hatred into the hearts of the servants. Whenever anyone goes to Cyprus they say that the night before or the day before people came from Akka to kill so-and-so. Had they found the people to be fair-minded, they would never have uttered such words, for all know that for years he dwelt in complete comfort under protection. By the life of God! Not a single blow struck him, but the disease of prejudice is severe. We beseech God to grant healing that all may speak with justice and fairness and reflect upon what hath occurred.

During this time not a drop of his blood or that of his associates was shed in God’s path. The lands themselves bear witness to this. But the people were and are worshippers of vain imaginings.

O Ali-Qabli-Akbar! With the dawning rays of the Sun of Divine favor, exalted be His glory, they intended the martyrdom of the Desire of the worlds, and when that which was hidden in their breasts was revealed, they spoke that which thou hast heard. After this incident, this Wronged One left his wives and children safe and sound, and departed. To this beareth witness every truthful and trustworthy one, and every fair-minded and well-informed person.

Say: O Hadi! Thy father was not a man of wisdom. Throughout his life he occupied himself with pastimes and diversions. Were it not for the attention and favor of this Wronged One, neither thou, nor thy father, nor the Cause of God would have existed. Be fair: neither thou, nor thy sister, nor Siyyid Muhammad-i-Isfahani, nor Mirza Hadi-i-Dawlat-Abadi were ever with Us, nor were ye aware of the essence of the Cause. For the sake of God, ponder upon the divine verses, or present thyself that perchance the breezes of revelation may make thee aware and grant thee that for which thou wert brought from nothingness into being.

O Hadi! Go to the prison of the government and ask the deputy to show thee the chain known as Salasil, and likewise the last chain known as Qarahguhar, that thou mayest become aware of the tribulations and afflictions of the Wronged One. For four months did the Wronged One bear the weight of these chains, as well as other afflictions which most of the people of that region have heard of and know about.

O Hadi! An unseemly word hath proceeded from thee. We did not usurp thy father's rights; rather, We have been and are his protector, helper and benefactor. This statement is, first of all, very old and meaningless, and the station of the Letters of the Living hath, in the eyes of those possessed of keen sight and attentive ears, been degraded by such words. For if their right was to earthly clay and water, that is of no account to those who are detached, who have passed beyond this mortal world of dust and have set their faces toward the immortal divine Kingdom. And if the right mentioned refers to divine bounties and the mysteries of sacred Books, no one hath power to lay claim to these. Had We been present in that time, We would certainly have forbidden them from uttering such unseemly words.

O Hadi! Leave aside these mentions and reflect upon the penetrating power of the Supreme Pen and the authority of the Most Exalted Word, which, without armies and hosts, hath achieved the Most Great Victory. Such a victory hath never been witnessed by the people of impregnable fortresses and mighty strongholds from the beginning of the world until now. Those who have uttered such words did so at a time when some of the lands, villages and cities of the world were under Islamic rule, whereas now this people do not possess even a hand's breadth of earth that could be subject to seizure or usurpation.

O Hadi! Whither has thy perception fled? It beseemeth not man to utter vain imaginings. We have borne all the afflictions of the earth for the exaltation of God's Cause. When the world of darkness was somewhat illumined by the dawning light of the Day Star of divine guidance, thou and thy father and others emerged from behind the veil with the swords of hatred. Instead of being grateful, thou dost complain. Were the events of the past to flow from the Most Exalted Pen and be made manifest, the very mountain of thy being would be crushed. He Who possesseth the Mother Book beareth witness unto this. Furthermore, this Wronged One hath never claimed vicegerency, deputyship, guardianship, succession, leadership, nobility or to be the fourth pillar. The Primal Point testified to this station in His words: "He

verily speaketh in every condition, saying: ‘Verily, I am God,”’ and so forth as revealed through the tongue of revelation.

O Hadi! Thy words reveal that thou hast not recognized the establishment of Him Who conversed on Sinai upon the throne of Manifestation. The world is a different world and the Cause a different Cause. Open thine eyes that perchance thou mayest become aware and attain unto the splendors of the Day of God. Be fair—had it not been for this Wronged One, would thy father have possessed such power and strength as to arise before the faces of the world and speak that which transformed the darkness of vain imaginings into the light of certitude? Be fair and be not of the wrongdoers. This Wronged One arose to proclaim the Cause in days when the limbs of the world trembled with fear. Were it not for Baha, who would have dared to speak before the faces of the world and deliver the verses of God, the Lord of all worlds? He hath said that should anyone produce a single verse, reject him not. Ponder this utterance, that perchance thou mayest become aware of the wrong committed against this Wronged One. Now, despite countless revealed verses and manifest proofs, thou dost continue to instill hatred in the hearts of the weak. Nothing but falsehood hath appeared from you in every matter.

Haji Siyyid Javad was with this Wronged One; his petitions in his own handwriting still exist, and We sent two of his letters to the land of Ya and other regions wherein appeared that which proved the truth and still exists. Nevertheless, they have obtained his photograph and included it with some other photographs and that of Mirza Yahya, made copies of all and distributed them among the people.

Where is justice? Whither has fairness fled? Apart from all this, would ye be content that another sect like the Shi’ih sect should appear in the world? What was manifested on the Day of Judgment from their thousand and two hundred years of deeds? Reflect, and with the power of justice and fairness, break the back of tyranny and oppression. By God! We desire naught for thee but good, and We desire only to guide thee to the straight path of God and His mighty Message. For a thousand and two hundred years that sect considered themselves the most learned and distinguished of all people, yet on the Day of Judgment they were seen to be the most lost. From the year sixty until now, all the divines have been engaged in cursing and vituperation from their pulpits. By God! We hear the lamentation of the pulpits saying:

> “O my God! Thou didst create us for the exaltation of Thy Word, Thy remembrance, Thy praise, and Thou hearest, O my God, the wailing of the dwellers of Thy Paradise and the inhabitants of Thy sacred precincts. O Lord! Deliver us from these embodiments of tyranny and oppression, and adorn us with Thy near servants and sincere trusted ones.”

Now again they are occupied with forming a party like the Shia party, bringing up mentions of succession and casting hatred in people’s hearts against a station from which naught but the Most Great Mercy was manifest, which nurtured and protected thy father and those with him under the wing of loving-kindness. Rend asunder the veils of idle fancy! I swear by the Sun of Truth shining from the horizon of the prison of Akka that no purpose was intended save the guidance of the servants. Say: In the name of God and by God, and arise from thy station, turning toward the Kaaba of God, the All-Compelling, the Self-Subsisting, and say:

> "My God, my God! I have abandoned the community of people who believed not in Thee and Thy signs. Aid me to purify hearts and souls through the Kawthar and the Euphrates and the Salsabil that have flowed from the mouth of Thy Will and Purpose."

Section 2: "O Hadi! Beseech God not to afflict His…"

O Hadi! Beseech God not to afflict His servants anew with the vain imaginings of the Shia party. Those same imaginings were transformed into bullets and on the Day of Retribution were visited upon the Lord of the world. This Wronged One's purpose hath never been and is not religious leadership, but rather to purify the world from the calumnies and falsehoods of the past, and likewise to extinguish the fire of hatred hidden and concealed in the hearts of the various parties. We have sacrificed Our life for the reformation of the world and the education of the peoples.

Some were not and are not worthy to hearken unto this call, for in the first instance they must ascend the steps of names and aim for the heaven of inner meanings. Not every weak one is capable of this arena, and not every horseman is worthy of this field.

O Hadi! Great is the Cause of God. Reflect upon the Twin Luminous Lights, that is, Hasan and Husayn, and be fair: despite their glory, wealth and exaltation, they freely sacrificed their lives at the feet of the Beloved of the worlds. Likewise other souls, which all have heard about and know. And consider the conduct of Mirza Hadi Dawlat-Abadi, who for successive years remained concealed behind a veil, but when the Ishqabad affair and the favors of His Majesty the Sultan became apparent in Tehran, and likewise when the light shone forth from the influence of the Supreme Word and the power of the Most Exalted Pen, and the Cause became manifest and the Euphrates flowed, he rushed forth.

Would that he had remained in his initial concealment, for no sooner did he hear himself called a Babi than he mounted the pulpit and uttered that which caused the eyes of the Concourse on High to weep blood. In those days both His Honor Ashraf was seized and that same word was spoken concerning him. Now Ashraf lies beneath the earth while the other moves about with throne and pomp. What was the cause of the first one's martyrdom and what was the reason for the second one's survival? Know thou and thou shalt know, and the world shall know that the first one's martyrdom was due to truthfulness, sincerity and sacrifice, while the second one's survival was due to falsehood, denial and hypocrisy.

He was the only one of that party who was heard to have come forth—and would that he had not left his house and had not uttered what he uttered! Yea, they have attributed and continue to attribute every good thing to themselves.

Among them was Siyyid Isma'il-i-Zavari'i who was with this Wronged One in Iraq, and the matter concerning him hath been revealed in detail from the heaven of utterance in another place. Blessed is he who hath witnessed and seen and shown justice in the Cause of God and the penetration of His most exalted Word. One night he came wearing the turban of the Imam, and went to the Gate, and afterward proceeded to the place of sacrifice, and turning toward the House, performed that which caused the company of them who are detached to be astonished. Although that deed was not permissible, yet the

fire of love had taken possession of his entire being. There occurred no meeting between him and Mirza Yahya—to this testifieth he who was with Us in Iraq.

Hearken thou unto the voice of this Wronged One. Know thou of a certainty that the Successor is he who hath bidden the servants to serve Me, and the Guardian is he who hath stood before My gate, and the Leader is he who hath announced to the people My Manifestation before My face, and the Qa'im is he who hath informed the servants of the heaven of My utterance and the ocean of My bounty. We beseech God to grant all the grace to return. Time and again there hath flowed from the Most Exalted Pen mention of stations that would suffice, yet the servants have departed from justice and are bereft of fairness, save whom God willeth.

Hearken thou unto this Wronged One and speak not with unseemly words and unacceptable imaginings of the Shi'ih sect, and beseech God to sanctify the Cause from the like of that party. From the earliest days until now, luminous, holy and speaking Tablets have rained like the rain from Iraq and the Land of Mystery and the Most Great Prison upon those regions, until it hath reached this stage that in Sudan someone made mention and now a hundred thousand souls have arisen to serve him. The testament of this Wronged One is that thou shouldst ponder upon the Shi'ih sect and their deeds and words on the Day of Resurrection and Manifestation, that perchance thou mayest return unto the truth and deliver thyself from vain imaginings. By the life of God! Baha hath not uttered, nor will He ever utter, aught from mere desire, but rather that which will draw the people nigh unto the Most Sublime Horizon. And peace be upon him who followeth guidance.

Glory be to God! The breaths of pride and leadership have seized the deniers, who at every moment cling to some word and worship some name. Were they to reflect for but a moment, they would bring themselves from the darkness into the blessed realm of light. Every possessor of life should ponder what has been manifested, and likewise consider by what proof and by what evidence he has clung to the Point of the Bayan, and likewise before that to Muhammad the Messenger of God. The All-Bountiful has withheld from all the recompense of their deeds. They have denied the Lord of Dominion, Whose verses have encompassed the world and Whose evidences are more luminous than the sun, notwithstanding that each of the attributes that has dawned from the horizon of will is a supreme proof and a most brilliant and glorious evidence. When all were veiled, He arose before all faces and, without veil or covering, made all aware of that which would draw them near and profit them.

Praised be God! Through the potency of the Most Exalted Word, this Cause is now noised abroad in all gatherings of divines, rulers, and mystics, and all are busied with the investigation thereof. For this bounty it behoveth all to render thanks; yet, contrariwise, they have complained and still complain. At a time when afflictions and adversities assail from every side, and spears are hurled from every direction, the friends and the chosen ones were guided unto that which befitteth these days and were inspired accordingly. Among the places concerned is Istanbul, wherein each day they attribute some theft to a certain person and refer it to Him Who is the Manifestation of the Ocean of sanctity. Formerly they ascribed such a matter to Jinab-i-Nazir, upon whom be the glory of God; of this ye have assuredly heard. And in these days likewise, when His Holiness Afnan, Jinab-i-Alif-Ha, upon whom be the Most Glorious Glory of God, purposed to journey unto this region, the opponents resorted to fresh devices, and

informed the embassy and others that the aforesaid person had stolen ninety liras in cash, together with certain banknotes, and had fled to ʿAkka.

In brief, all these calumnies were spread abroad from the island, and Shaykh Muhammad Yazdi, through the instigation of that hidden wrongdoer, became the cause and occasion of these lying events. It is said that Akhtar, his daughter, hath been given in marriage to the son of Mulla Ja'far Kirmani. Though in these days the station of the Dayspring of holiness and purity be concealed from some, yet erelong shall the veil be lifted, and all shall bear witness unto that which hath streamed and been revealed from the Most Exalted Pen in books, pages, and Tablets. This servant beseecheth his Lord to transmute the injustice of the oppressors into justice, their darkness into light, and their turning away into turning unto Him. He, verily, is the Mighty, the All-Bountiful.

Some time ago Jinab-i-Habib of the blessed Green Land, upon whom be the Baha and loving-kindness of God, addressed a letter to His Holiness Ism-i-Jud, upon whom be the Most Glorious Baha of God, and therein made mention that Hadi Dawlat-Abadi had arrived in that land with a company and equipage, and had taken up residence in the house of His Holiness Khalil, upon whom be the Baha of God. From the beginning of the Cause the glance of favor was directed towards him, and Tablets and sacred Writings were repeatedly sent unto him. Entreat ye God that He may preserve him from the deadly poison. Verily, this servant, in nights and days, beseecheth his Lord to protect His servants from the evil of those who have broken His Covenant and Testament, disbelieved in Him and in His signs.

And for the sake of God and for His good-pleasure, this servant maketh known unto the friends that they should arise, through the power and might of God—glorified be His majesty—to do that which shall conduce to the protection of the servants of God, lest a faction should appear in the land like unto the party of the Shi'ah. In the name of the Vicegerent they gloried exceedingly; yet when the Day of Reckoning was made manifest, the divines of that people, one and all, pronounced sentence for the martyrdom of the Sovereign of being—He by Whose power a hundred thousand vicegerents have been and are created—and, with utter injustice, hanged Him and put Him to death. This single instance sufficeth as proof of the virtues of that people.

It is hoped that Jinab-i-Khalil, upon whom be the Baha of God, will not forget the covenant of His Holiness the Glorious One, but will deliver himself from the water and clay of that people, and will arise, with celestial power, to render assistance.

Praised be God! Once again have men's eyes been veiled by the same coverings of former times, and their ears likewise have grown accustomed to lying and unworthy words. We beseech God to graciously enable all to attain unto that which beseemeth them. At one time among times this exalted utterance was revealed and streamed forth from the tongue of the Lord of mankind. Blessed and exalted be He! He saith:

> "O people of Baha! Return ye unto the Writings, and sanctify your ears from the unworthy falsehoods of men, lest ye become afflicted, as in former days, with the pit of vain imaginings. This is the Sun of counsel that hath shone forth from the horizon of the heaven of the Most Exalted Pen. Blessed are they that behold, and blessed are they that hear."

End.

This servant is confounded—nay, the very world of justice and fairness is confounded. The Author of the Bayan—may my soul and all else save Him be a sacrifice unto Him—hath declared: “And I have written a jewel in mention of him, which is this: that he is not to be consulted by My sign, nor by that which hath been revealed in the Bayan.” And in another place He saith—exalted be His mention—“If any soul bring forth but one verse, reject it not.” For what end were these utterances revealed? What was intended thereby? Blessed are the fair-minded.

At all times they have resorted unto devices and stratagems the like of which hath not been heard. This servant, in every season, hath sought for all that which would conduce unto the success and salvation of all. Yet from this servant—though all know that he hath ever been in the presence and is cognizant of all affairs—they inquire not; rather do they question heedless souls concerning that whereunto they cleave. In truth they have laid hold on the cord of idle fancy and vain imaginings, and have clung to the hem of falsehood.

Likewise Jinab-i-Habib of Khadra—upon him be the Baha and loving-kindness of God—hath written that Jinab-i-Nayyir and Jinab-i-Sina, upon them both be the Baha of God, arrived in that land, and that the نائبِ شاهزاده—may God assist him—sought a meeting with them. They, however, inasmuch as it lay beyond the bounds of wisdom, promised him an interview upon their return. Now, should any soul journey unto those regions bearing certain Tablets and books, and converse with the aforesaid dignitary and with such as seek, in wisdom and utterance, it may be that a true thirsty one will direct his steps toward the Most Great Ocean and attain unto that which is intended. O my God! Withhold not the seekers from beholding the horizon of Thy Revelation, nor the wayfarers from the Dayspring of Thy inspiration and the Source of Thy divine intimations. Thou, verily, art powerful to do whatsoever Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the Ordainer, the All-Wise.

Some years ago they had written that one of the well-known friends who was in that land had been summoned. Yet in that meeting they attained not unto that which they desired, for the person who appeared before them, and with whom they sought an interview, concealed the Cause and in no wise uttered a word that might kindle the heart or become the cause of turning unto Him. I beseech God—glorified be His majesty—that in such occasions He may inspire His loved ones with that which shall cause faces to turn toward the lights of His countenance. He, verily, is powerful over all things.

Hadi Dawlat-Abadi hath passed through those regions, and in some measure the poison hath already exerted its effect upon him. Wherefore it is necessary that one of the detached souls should, for the sake of God, turn his steps toward those parts. The purpose is this: that once again there should not arise in the world a faction like unto the Shi’ah. In this matter the friends must exert their utmost endeavor, as a mercy unto the servants and a bounty unto them. In these days, moreover, that honored soul must likewise hold fast unto the cord of kindness and forbearance, for upon most men the foul odors of irreligion have, so far as possible, passed; therefore, by reason of but a single utterance cast among them, they disclose that which was hidden, and the fire of dissension is kindled.

We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to grant Your Honor success and to strengthen you, even as He hath strengthened you in nights and days, to establish His Cause through wisdom and utterance. No deed hath been lost, nor shall it ever be lost. Likewise, from the book which hath ever been privileged to attain the presence, that which was written concerning Hadi ibn Yahya shall not be effaced. The purpose, however, was to inform others, not him, for he hath not been, nor is he now, worthy of service unto the friends in that land.

Unto the friends of that region I convey greetings, praise, glorification, and Baha. It is hoped that, with tranquillity, dignity, patience, and steadfast endurance, they may bring these days of upheaval to their close. God willing, from each one of them there shall appear that which will cause the fire of hatred to be stilled and the Most Exalted Word to be uplifted. We beseech God to illumine the world with the lights of the resplendent Luminary of the Bayan. He, verily, is powerful to do whatsoever He willeth. Baha, remembrance, and praise be upon Your Honor, and upon those who are with you and love you and heed your word in the Cause of God, our Lord and your Lord, and the Lord of them that are nigh unto Him and of the sincere.

The servant 18th of Safar 1308

BH01373: Praise be to God Who hath aided His loved…

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

Praise be to God Who hath aided His loved ones to be patient and forbearing, and enabled them to remain steadfast in whatsoever He hath willed, through His Name, the All-Compelling, the Chosen One. He it is Who hath made manifest His Path and revealed that which was hidden from the eyes of His servants. By this He desired naught except the salvation of His creation and the protection of His creatures from the wolves of His earth. Verily, He is the Almighty over whatsoever He willeth through His binding and wise command. And blessings and peace be upon the Lord of Yathrib and Batha, through whom the gates of Names were opened unto all beings, and upon his family and companions, the oceans of bounty and the heavens of generosity and high resolve—blessings whose sweet fragrances and scents shall never cease throughout the duration of His Name, the One Who dominates all names.

O beloved of my heart and thou who art mentioned in my soul! Thy letter arrived, and in truth it was like a trade yielding the profit of two or three years in ʿAkka. Among the profits that neither change nor alter is the mention of the Master concerning that spiritual beloved, and another profit is thy submission and contentment in all matters, and yet another is thy turning to the heaven of the favors of God, exalted be His glory. Were anyone to count the profits of these days, he could not reckon them, for these days possess endless mercy. I beseech the one true God to bestow upon thee from the heaven of bestowal countless blessings. Verily, He is the Compassionate, the Generous.

After reading and reciting, it was presented before the Master's presence. He said:

> "O ʿAli, upon thee be the peace of God and His grace. Thou hast ever been and will continue to be mentioned in the gathering of the believers. Thy letter arrived and the servant in attendance mentioned it before His face. Praise be to God, from all its letters and words

> wafted the fragrance of faithfulness and sincerity. We beseech God, exalted be He, to assist thee and aid thee in that which He loveth and is pleased with, and to send down upon thee from the heaven of His generosity and the clouds of His grace a blessing from Him, a gift from His presence, and a mercy from His side. Verily, He is the One through Whose Name the gates of generosity were opened to the world and the fragrance of divine knowledge was diffused among the nations. The oppression of the oppressors cannot prevent Him from that which He willeth. Verily, He is the Almighty in the beginning and in the end. We make mention of My loved ones there who were with Me in all conditions. We beseech God to open through them the gates of grace and bounty unto all beings and to aid them in that which will draw them nigh unto Him. Verily, He is the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing. There is no God but He, the Mighty, the Glorious, the All-Bountiful."

This servant, at all times, hath besought and continues to beseech relief for that beloved one, and God willing, his relief is near, for His loved ones and friends have no purpose save Him. In this land of exile, they have chosen their abode in His path. In such circumstances, His grace will surely not abandon them. This matter hath been recorded and inscribed in all books, both of old and recent times.

Regarding the funds that were mentioned, according to thy arrangement and by the command of the Beloved of hearts, his honor Aqa Rida (upon him be the Most Glorious Beauty) hath acted accordingly. We hope that in these days we may all attain the honor of presence and meeting. With the All-Bountiful Lord, no matter is difficult. We beseech Him to aid thee in His service, to exalt you through His Name, and to ordain for you that which will set right all your affairs. Verily, He is the Answerer of those who supplicate and the Beloved of sincere hearts.

As for the matter of consultation regarding the distribution of goods in those parts, after it was presented, He said:

> "Last year too they intended to distribute for the payment of debts and relief from difficulties, and We did not approve. However, afterwards it was observed that distribution is closer to piety and deliverance, for that honored one hath endured much hardship and left his home and dwelling. This is not acceptable to Us. Therefore, if action is taken according to last year's intention, it would be good, both for thy relief and for the manifestation of the love and affection of the companions."

This servant, in all conditions, beseecheth and imploreth God, exalted be His glory, for the relief of that beloved of the heart and for tranquility in the shade of the pavilion of glory, namely the Mansion of Bahji. I cling to the hem of His generosity that He may open a new door and protect and purify that beloved one from all sorrows. He is the Powerful, the Mighty.

Salutations, praise, mercy, and glory be upon you and upon the companions of guidance.

The servant 23 Safar 1308

BH03637: Praise be unto the Omnipotent Lord, Who is worthy…

He is God, exalted be His glory and power!

Praise be unto the Omnipotent Lord, Who is worthy and deserving of all glorification, for having gathered together in this land—which in the estimation of men is a place of exile for murderers and thieves—through His all-encompassing power and supreme might, a company of the oppressed. Through His supreme grace, His infinite bounty and His greatest mercy, He hath transformed the circumstances of imprisonment. In truth, He hath adorned hell itself with the ornaments of the paradise of Eden. Exalted be His might and glorified be His dominion! Glory be to God! This power, more manifest than the sun itself, remaineth unperceived by all save the oppressed ones of the world….

I beseech God at all times to grant that which will cause unity and harmony among the hearts and souls of the friends of God, exalted be His glory, in such wise that no place remains for sorrows and no station exists for troubles. Although in one respect:

The grief that for the Loved One's sake we bear Is sweeter far than any joy elsewhere; The ruby, lacking sunlight, shines not bright— And Love, in sorrow's sea, knows no despair

In truth, when love appears, all books are rolled up. Blessed is the soul that is warmed by the heat of love and illumined by its light. Such a one transforms darkness into light and the unseemly into beauty….

BH01210: Praise be to the peerless Lord who, despite…

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

Praise be to the peerless Lord who, despite the convulsions of the world, the hatred of certain peoples, the calumnies of the slanderers, and the clamor of the deceivers, guided and led His loved ones to the Most Great Prison. Glory be to God! Despite a thousand intrigues and evil whisperings, through His absolute, prevailing, and penetrating Will, He gathered an assembly beneath the Blessed Tree, bringing together the sincere ones and the believers. During the nights and days, He favored each one with a mention and adorned each with a gift. His is the greatness and the power, His is the glory and the might and the will. He ordaineth as He pleaseth, and He is the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

For a time no outward news or trace had come from that beloved of hearts, upon him be the glory of God, the Lord of creation, and this caused distress among many, as from every quarter they were inquiring and seeking news, O Trusted One, until news arrived of arrival in the land of H and M. The servant beseecheth his Lord to protect His loved ones from harm and tribulation, and from rancor and hatred. Verily He is the Almighty, the All-Powerful.

And when news of arrival was presented before the Throne, the Tongue of Grandeur spoke these exalted words—exalted be His utterance and His proof:

> "O Amin, upon thee be My glory and My loving-kindness! Ever hast thou been and art remembered in the Most Holy Court. In these days, consummate wisdom hath required that thou shouldst proceed to the region of Kha and visit Ibn-i-Asdaq, upon him be the glory of God.

Then shall appear what We have purposed. Verily thy Lord is the Ordainer, the Ancient of Days."

After receiving the letter and becoming informed, proceed at once to the destination. Thus hath the matter been decreed by the All-Commanding, the All-Wise. Patience is forbidden after the manifestation of the divine will from the presence of the Mighty, the Powerful.

Say: My God, my God! Praise be to Thee for having enabled me to turn to Thee and for revealing to me what was hidden and concealed from the eyes of Thy creatures. I beseech Thee, O Fulfiller of the needs of all seekers, to assist Thy Cause through wisdom and utterance. Strengthen, O my God, Thy loved ones to remain steadfast in Thy love and service. O Lord! Thou seest Thy trusted servant traversing the lands to manifest Thy Cause and exalt Thy Word. Aid him, O my God, with the hosts of revelation and inspiration, and with the angels on high. Verily Thou art the All-Bountiful, and within Thy grasp are the reins of all who are in the heavens and on earth.

Convey My greetings to the loved ones in every land and set them ablaze with the fire of utterance of the Lord of religions. In these days certain blessed Tablets have been revealed from the heaven of oneness, specifically for one who ascended in the land of Sh. We were with him at the time of his ascension. Verily thy Lord is the Most Merciful of the merciful ones and the Goal of them that know. Beseech God, exalted be His glory, to grant steadfastness to His loved ones, lest the names prevent them from their Owner, their Quickener, their Slayer, and their Creator. Glory be to God! Hadi of Dawlatabad hath raised a standard and desired to guide the people. Say: Be silent, O heedless one, and bridle thy self, O ignorant one! By God's life, thou art not the horseman of this field. We invited him to attend and listen, but pride seized him such that he cast the Cause behind him and committed that which caused the denizens of the pavilion of glory to lament. He who possesseth the Supreme Tablet beareth witness to this. The End.

This servant has ever been distressed and saddened by the tribulations of this Most Great Announcement and what hath been visited upon it by the enemies, to such extent that he seeth no deliverance for himself therefrom, for the Truth did arise to promote His Cause for forty years, without helper or assistant, and through the power of His Word did set the world in motion, such that from all directions they arose to investigate this Cause. And when the light became resplendent and the Cause manifest, the deniers emerged from behind the veil and wrought that which every possessor of ears heard and every person of insight witnessed. It behooveth us to overlook what he and his followers have done.

After His ascension until now, the same message that His Holiness Afnan, Alif and Ha, upon him be the Most Glorious Glory of God, had sent, was received. Nothing else has been received since then. Therefore it became necessary to inform that beloved one, for they had instructed that whenever it becomes necessary to inform of a matter, inform [him]. Thus was this detail submitted. The Command is in God's hands—He doeth and decreeth as He pleaseth, and He is the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous. That beloved one's journey to the land of Kha to see His honor Ibn-i-Asdaq, upon him be [the Glory of God] 966, is necessary and should not be delayed in any way. Upon receiving word they should set forth at once.

I convey greetings, glorification and light to all the loved ones wheresoever they may be, and I beseech steadfastness for all on this day, for that is the most excellent of all deeds before [the Most High]. Glory and praise and benediction be upon you and upon those with you and those who love you and hearken unto your words concerning the Cause of our Lord, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. The servant. 17 [Rabi'u'l-Avval 1308]

BH00276: Praised be the peerless Lord and the incomparable Object…

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!

Praised be the peerless Lord and the incomparable Object of all desire, Who hath not deprived His loved ones of the cause of existence and the source of being. He hath given glad tidings unto all and, in the Books of the past and present, promised this blessed Day which is the Lord of all days. In truth, were all the pens of the world and the tongues of all nations to attempt to describe and enumerate the attributes of this Most Great Day, they would surely find themselves powerless to do so. Glorified be He Who hath manifested Himself, sent down His verses, chosen His loved ones, and aided them to make mention of Him and praise Him, to teach His Cause and carry out His commandments and laws.

These are the servants whom He hath described by the tongue of His grandeur in His Books, His Scrolls and His Tablets. Through them His names and attributes are made manifest among His servants. The servant beareth witness to that which God hath witnessed, that they are honored servants who speak not until He hath spoken and who act by His command. Neither do the ornaments of the world distract them, nor do the affairs of men occupy them from drawing nigh unto God, the Creator of heaven and the Lord of the Kingdom of Names.

The exalted letter, like a brilliant star, illumined the realm of being, for it was adorned with the mention and praise of the Object of all the world's desire. From each of its letters wafted the fragrance of love and diffused the sweet-scented breeze of affection. In truth, in this Day, should a soul attain unto recognition and steadfastness, he is the head of the world and the heart of nations. Well is it with him! Praise be to God, that spiritual friend hath attained unto this most exalted station. I beseech God that He may, day by day, nay, moment by moment, aid and assist him to make mention and praise of Him and to serve His Cause. Verily, He is the All-Powerful, the Almighty.

After reading, beholding, and experiencing joy and gladness, it was taken to the highest horizon and most exalted summit, and was presented before the countenance of the Lord of all beings, attaining the honor of His attention. Then the Tongue of Grandeur spoke that which caused the fragrance of grace and favors to waft to all regions. Exalted be His utterance and glorified His praise, and there is no Beloved besides Him.

He is the All-Speaking, the All-Knowing.

O Nazim! What can this Wronged One mention when hearing ears are as rare as the philosopher's stone, and what can He reveal when eyes are afflicted with the dust of idle fancies and prevented from seeing?

The atoms of all created things bear witness that today the call of the Lord of Names is raised from the Prison of Akka, and the effulgences of the Sun of Truth are manifest and evident from this horizon. The Most Great Name hath appeared in such wise that the fair-minded ones from diverse communities are all bewildered and amazed. In the days and nights the Pen of the Lord of all beings moveth, despite the denial of the wicked, the indifference of the heedless, the prevention of the envious, and the oppression of the corrupt. The signs and traces of the Blessed Tree have become somewhat manifest from every direction and quarter. Say: Exalted is God, the Sovereign, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting! Exalted is He Who hath manifested His Cause despite every ignorant rejected one! Exalted is He Who hath revealed from the Pen the mysteries of eternity—blessed are they who know!

From the earliest days, when the fire of wrath was kindled and the world trembled at the might of the oppressors, this Wronged One, with no helper or supporter, raised aloft the standard of "There is none other God but Him." With the finger of power He rent asunder the intervening veils that had become obstacles and cast them aside. Before the faces of all He proclaimed His Cause and revealed sacred and blessed Tablets specifically for the kings and rulers—some reached their destination while others were withheld. Neither the clamor of the people prevented Him, nor did the flame of hatred and enmity hold Him back from calling out. God is aware of what befell Him in the days and nights. We bore what no one else hath borne. The love of God made every poison sweet as honey, and every wrath a mercy.

When the effects of the Most Exalted Word and the power of the Supreme Pen became manifest, those who were concealed and veiled emerged from behind the veil with lying tongues and sharp swords to attack the Wronged One, and secretly engaged in stirring up government officials. Nevertheless, We concealed it and left it to God. Glory be to God! Although the waves of the divine ocean of utterance and the effulgences of the Daystar of the Lord's Revelation were visible and manifest before all faces, and likewise the Lote-Tree of the utmost boundary appeared with countless fruits and its rustling was raised at all times, saying "O people! The Promised Day is come, deprive not yourselves of its outpourings"—despite this, all remained heedless and turned away, save those souls who held fast to the firm handle and whose hearts were freed and detached from all else but God.

When thou dost inhale the fragrant breeze of thy Lord's utterance and drink the wine of joy from the cup of His bounty, say: My God, my God! Thou seest Thy chosen ones in the hands of the oppressors and Thy trusted ones under the rule of the treacherous. I beseech Thee by Thy horizon from which the Daystar of utterance shone forth upon all possibility, and by Thy Name through which Thou didst subdue all religions, to assist me and Thy loved ones to attain such steadfastness as would render powerless the promptings of the heedless and the doubts of the wayward. O my Lord! Thou seest me turning toward Thee and detached from all else but Thee. Ordain for me that which will exalt me through Thy Name amongst Thy servants and through my relationship to Thee in Thy lands. Then open before the faces of Thy loved ones the gates of Thy grace and bounty. Verily, Thou art the Almighty Whom the power of the world cannot weaken, nor can the conditions of the nations prevent. There is none other God but Thee, the Strong, the Triumphant, the All-Powerful.

Despite the sorrows inflicted, the successive calumnies and the tribulations that have descended, the True One, exalted be His glory, makes mention of His loved ones and gives them the glad-tidings of His

special favors. That which hath been sent down from the heaven of divine Will specifically for that spiritual friend testifieth to a bounty and generosity that hath no likeness, and a gift the like of which hath never come into existence from nothingness. Exalted is our Lord, exalted is His bounty, exalted is His gift, and exalted is His generosity. He is verily the All-Bountiful, the Kind, the Compassionate.

The Most Great Glad-Tidings is that the prayer of that spiritual friend was presented before the countenance of the Lord of all beings at a certain time and was honored to be heard, and when it was concluded these sublime words were revealed from the heaven of verses, manifest and evident. His blessed and exalted Word:

> "O thou who hast held fast to My cord! We testify that thou hast attained unto My utterance time and again, and unto My verses repeatedly. Blessed are thine ears and thine eyes and thy heart, inasmuch as they have attained unto hearing, witnessing and understanding. By the life of God! No mention from among My mentions can equal the mentions of the world and the books of nations. To this beareth witness the Most Great Name in this station which God hath made the point of circumambulation of the most exalted Paradise and the supreme Heaven. Blessed is he who hath acknowledged and confessed that which the Tongue of Grandeur hath spoken when seated upon the throne of utterance before the faces of all religions. Verily those who have been prevented from hearing have no share of this ocean from whose waves can be heard: 'There is none other God but I, the All-Bountiful, the Generous.' We have heard that wherewith thou didst commune with God. We have answered thee through this perspicuous Book, at whose appearance the Kingdom of Utterance bowed down in its longing to hearken unto the call of God, the Lord of the exalted Throne. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to aid thee in His remembrance and praise, and in the promotion of His Cause with wisdom and utterance. Blessed is he who hath heard and acted upon that which he was commanded. He is truly among the triumphant ones by the Pen of God, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. Give thou glad-tidings unto My loved ones on My behalf and remind them of that which hath been sent down from the heaven of My tender mercy and the atmosphere of My loving-kindness, that joy and gladness may take hold of them and draw them unto a station wherein the call of God, the sovereign Lord, the Just, the Manifest Truth, hath been raised."

For the proof of His all-encompassing and perfect grace, no mention of created things nor description of contingent beings is necessary or needed, for the utterance itself is a truthful witness to His infinite grace. A hundred thousand thanks unto the Desired One Who caused that soul to attain unto a mention before which the remembered ones of the world bow down in humility and submission. Soon that which is hidden shall be made manifest. None can repel His command or avert His judgment. He doeth what He willeth and ordaineth what He pleaseth. He is the Single One, the Unique, the All-Powerful, the Almighty.

Concerning what was written at the time of the ascendancy of longing and yearning, attraction and rapture, I know it as though some disorder of the senses and confusion of mind had befallen this evanescent one, for what are these mentions, and what meaning have these utterances, where to speak them and before whom to express them? However, since it is divine madness, excellent is this madness, and since it is the frenzy of love for the Eternal Beloved, excellent is this disorder. Would that all the

people of the world were, like me, mad with love for Thee! Excellent is what you mentioned, for after these stages were presented, they smiled. From every direction of the seat of divine tokens grace and mercy were manifest. In truth, that soul and this servant, nay all created things, are incapable of offering thanks for even the least of His bounties and mercy. In such case, one must enter the realm of madness and make such mention as would cause the blessed lips to smile. For now, you have attained this greatest bounty. Well is it with you!

Section 2: "With regard to the matter of movement…"

With regard to the matter of movement which was made contingent upon wisdom, after this matter was presented They said:

Praise be to God that you have attained unto recognition, acceptance, mention, praise and attention, and have partaken of the sealed wine and received your portion from the ocean of utterance of Him Who is the Desired One. All this is from God's bounty unto you. We testify that the grace hath encompassed thee, mercy hath preceded thee, and the Call hath attracted thee. We beseech God to ordain for thee from His Most Exalted Pen that which will draw thee nigh unto Him in all conditions. Verily He is the Self-Sufficient, the Most High.

In all circumstances keep your gaze fixed upon wisdom and hold fast unto its requirements. Verily, should He desire, He would record for thee the reward of attaining His presence, of appearing before His countenance, of hearkening unto His call, and of standing before the door of His bounty. Thy Lord ordaineth what He pleaseth for whomsoever He willeth. He is the Single, the One, the Powerful, the Unconstrained.

Concerning what was written about your brother who is named Mirza Siyyid Mihdi, upon him be the Glory of God, and likewise the mention of his ardor, his drawing nigh, his praise and mention, and his hospitality—these matters were presented and heard in the Most Holy, Most Exalted Presence. One Blessed Tablet was specifically revealed for him from the heaven of the Divine Will and was sent, and likewise another Blessed Tablet was revealed specifically for his wife, upon her be the Glory of God. We hope they will drink from the hidden oceans in the divine verses and attain unto the fragrance of the utterance of the Desired One of all worlds.

Mention was made of the honored wife and the other wife, upon them be the Glory of God, and likewise of their offspring and progeny, upon them be the Glory of God. After presentation in the Most Holy Presence, these manifest verses were revealed—His words, blessed and exalted be He:

He is the All-Mentioning, the All-Knowing

O Nazim! We have made mention of thee time and again with such mention as hath diffused the fragrance of God's loving-kindness, the Lord of all worlds. And We have mentioned those who were with thee, both female and male. Verily thy Lord is the Compassionate, the Generous. Nothing whatsoever escapeth His knowledge. He seeth and mentioneth, and He is the Witness, the All-Knowing.

Hearken in the Persian tongue that all may hear and become aware of God's loving-kindness. Convey to each one greetings from the Wronged One, offer them from the cup of utterance of the Desired One of all worlds, and give each one the glad-tidings of God's loving-kindness—exalted be His glory—a loving-kindness that hath preceded existence itself. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to ordain for each one of them that which will profit them and exalt them. Verily He hath power over all things. Thou and those with thee have attained unto verses that cannot be equaled by the fruits of trees nor by what appeareth from the seas and rivers. Verily thy Lord is the Expositor, the True One, the Trustworthy. The Glory from Us be upon thee and upon them, and upon every believing man and believing woman in God, the Single, the All-Informed.

This servant also conveyeth greetings, praise and salutations to each one, and beseecheth from God—exalted be His glory—whatsoever is the cause of glory, blessing and joy for all. Verily our Lord is the Hearer, the Answerer.

We make mention of Jinab-i-Aqa Mirza Muhammad-Sadiq, upon him be the Glory of God. In truth, whosoever is mentioned before the Countenance of the All-Mentioned is the recipient of the Most Great Favor, even though he may not have attained the station of acceptance, attention and nearness to the Most Exalted Station, which is the station of presence and proximity. Yet the Hand of Providence will seize him and, in due time, will draw him to its loftiest heights. This is among the hidden pearls concealed within the Treasury of Divine Remembrance. Thus did the Herald, the Primal Point—may the spirit of all else be sacrificed for His sake—declare that all exists for the sake of being mentioned but once in His presence. After this matter was presented before the Throne of the Intended One, these decisive verses were revealed from the Kingdom of Utterance—exalted and glorified be His words:

> "O Muhammad-Sadiq! We have mentioned thee before, and at this hour with verses from which the mystics perceive the fragrance of the mercy of thy Lord, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting. Hearken unto the Call raised in truth from the direction of Akka, as a token of God's grace, the Lord of existence. Cast aside what the people possess and take what thou hast been given of this Announcement, through which differences have appeared among the various sects. Verily, thy Lord is the Truth, the Knower of the unseen. Blessed is he who hath heard My mention, the rustling of the Sadratu'l-Muntaha of My grace, the flowing of the Kawthar of My utterance, and the murmuring of the breezes of the dawn of My manifest and impregnable Revelation. From this station, We send Our greetings upon thee and upon thy wife who hath believed in God, the Mighty, the Loving. We beseech God to aid her at all times and to mention her in such wise that her remembrance shall endure throughout the kingdom of earth and heaven. We make mention of the two daughters and give them glad tidings of God's loving-kindness, the Mighty, the Beloved. We beseech God to draw them all nigh unto Him and to open before their faces the gates of grace and bounty. Verily, He is the Omnipotent over whatsoever He willeth through His command Be,' and it is."

This servant likewise maketh mention of each one and beseecheth from the Truth confirmation and assistance for them. My God, my God! These are Thy servants and handmaidens. I beseech Thee by Thy Most Exalted Word, through which Thou hast created all things, to assist them in that which will cause

Thy Cause to be exalted among Thy servants. O Lord! Thou seest them clinging to Thee and to Thy verses, and holding fast to the hem of the robe of Thy mercy. I beseech Thee not to deprive them of the ocean of Thy generosity and the heaven of Thy grace. Thou art, verily, the Omnipotent, the Mighty, the Wise.

They made mention of the honored mother—upon her be the Glory of God. After this was presented, He said: "O Nazim, O thou who gazest upon the Countenance! We make mention of thee and those with thee—the mother, the brother, the wife, and those who are with them—and give them glad tidings of the Most Great Favor from this Momentous Announcement. We beseech God to ordain for thee and for them the good of the hereafter and of this world. Verily, He is the Mighty, the Generous. Say: Praise be unto Thee, O my God, for having remembered me and those with me through Thy mercy that hath preceded existence and through Thy grace that hath encompassed all in the heavens and the earth.

We make mention of him who was named ʿAli-Akbar and his wife, and give them glad tidings of Our acceptance of them, which nothing in existence can equal. To this doth the Lord of creation bear witness in this exalted station. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to aid them, draw them nigh, and open before their faces the gates of goodly deeds. Verily, He is the Guardian of good deeds. There is no God but Him, the Forgiving, the Merciful. The Glory from Us be upon you all."

Another glad-tiding is that a most mighty and holy Tablet hath been revealed from the heaven of grace and bounty specifically for his honor Aqa Mirza Sadiq, upon him be the Glory of God. This evanescent servant beseecheth and imploreth the True One to confirm him in teaching the Cause, a service whose mention hath ever been and shall forever be immortalized in the Books, Scriptures and Tablets. We hope that he may drink from the Kawthar of utterance and become a cup-bearer of the divine wine. Verily our Lord is the Hearer, the Answerer.

I convey greetings and glory to the loved ones of that land, and I seek divine confirmation that all may drink from the chalice of unity and arise, united and in complete accord, for the reformation of the world and the refinement of the souls of all peoples. Blessed is the one who hath sanctified himself from whatsoever pertaineth to the ways of savagery and the deeds of the predators of the earth, and who hath adorned the servants with kindness and care in that which will protect and preserve them from self and passion. Command and bounty and justice are in the hand of God, our Lord and the Lord of the mighty throne. Praise be unto Him, for He is the Goal of all Prophets and Messengers. Glory and remembrance and praise be upon you and upon those with you and upon those who have attained unto this most mighty Day and this most great, most wondrous, mighty and impregnable Revelation.

The servant 15 Rabi'u'th-Thani 1308

BH00531: All praise, thanksgiving, mention, glorification, tribute and honor befit…

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

All praise, thanksgiving, mention, glorification, tribute and honor befit the Peerless Beloved, Who hath illumined the world of existence with the light of justice. He is the Being through Whose command absolute nothingness is adorned with the ornament of being. Exalted is His utterance and mighty His proof! All glory and splendor rest upon His trustees, mystics, and Hands of His Cause, whom God hath

adorned with the ornament of trustworthiness among all people and ordained for them that which shall draw them nigh unto Him in all conditions. Verily, He is the Self-Sufficient, the Most High.

The servant beseecheth his Lord not to withhold from all lands the effulgent rays of the Orb of His justice and trustworthiness. They who have cast trustworthiness behind their backs—these cannot be truly accounted as human, nor befit its station and rank. To this testify the Books of God, our Lord and the Lord of the mighty Throne.

Thereafter, the letters of that beloved of heart descended like the spring rain upon this evanescent servant—a rain that made fresh the tree of being. Glorified be the loving kindness of our Lord, His grace and His mercy that have preceded us from every direction! Verily, He is the Source of good deeds.

After reading and reciting these, he repaired to the Most Exalted Station and the Supreme Summit, and presented them before the Countenance of the Lord of all being, both seen and unseen. Thereupon the Ancient Countenance turned toward the servant and spoke that which perfumed the world with the fragrance of utterance. He spoke, and His word is the truth:

He is the All-Knowing Expositor

O Trustee! Upon thee be the Glory of God, the Lord of the worlds! We bear witness that thou hast attained unto that which was inscribed by the Supreme Pen in His Books, Psalms and Tablets, and hast quaffed the choice wine of utterance from the chalice of His bounty, and hast held fast unto His cord and clung to the hem of the robe of His mercy that hath preceded all in the heavens and the earth. We make mention of thee and those who have believed with a mention that attracteth the world and adorneth it with that which draweth it nigh unto God, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

O Trustee! Verily, He created creation to make them treasuries of His justice, repositories of the pearls of His Covenant, dawning-places of His trustworthiness, and daysprings of His religion. To this testify the dwellers of My celestial kingdom and My realm of might, and those who circle round the Throne at all times. He hath made the prison the circling-place of the Supreme Concourse and the Most Exalted Paradise. Blessed is he whom God hath enabled to achieve this praiseworthy deed.

O thou who standeth firm in My service! In most Tablets We have enjoined the servants of God to observe trustworthiness, religiosity, justice and fairness, and forbidden them from transgression and immorality, commanding them to righteousness and godliness. Yet this increased not the heedless save in loss. Had the servants acted according to the will of God, exalted be His glory, the earth would now be beheld as one adorned, luminous and sanctified expanse.

Say: My God, my God! I beseech Thee by Thy Glory at its most glorious, and all Thy Glory is indeed glorious. O God! I beseech Thee by the whole of Thy Glory to adorn Thy loved ones with the ornament of justice and illumine them with the light of trustworthiness. Verily, Thou art the Almighty over what Thou willest, and in Thy grasp are the reins of all things, both seen and unseen.

This prayer was a treasure of divine loving kindness, first cast upon the heart of the Seal of the Prophets—may the spirit of all else be sacrificed for His sake—and then unto others. In this prayer is

found the Most Great Name, and He saith that were the servants to know or recognize the station of this prayer, they would assuredly strive to obtain it even by the sword. We beseech the True One to open the doors of grace and bounty through the key of His gracious Name. Verily, He hath power over all things.

Your letters that you sent to this servant all achieved presence and were heard. Praise be to God, from their words and letters wafted the musk of divine love. What you mentioned regarding that distinguished person who has arisen wholly to serve the Cause—you have spoken truly. Indeed, his like is rare to find. All the friends and loved ones should arise to support him. This is a deed that would not be manifest from anyone in days other than the days of God. This is a great confirmation and a great success.

O Amin! From the beginning of the Cause, regarding debts, a firm and mighty ruling was revealed from the Divine Pen, and we sent copies thereof to various regions, and likewise we sent it to you as well. In no way was it considered as it deserved. What was befitting was revealed. Blessed is he who reads and hears and acts. By God's life, the treasures of earth cannot compare with what was revealed from the All-Giving Pen regarding this matter. Blessed are they who act, and blessed are the fair-minded. Today all the friends of God must be treasuries of the pearls of divine attributes, for the hosts of virtuous character are the mightiest hosts in the world. Blessed is the soul who with these hosts conquers the citadels of hearts. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to assist the people of Baha to perform deeds from which will waft the fragrance of His acceptance and the sweet scent of His good-pleasure. Verily, He is powerful over all things.

O Amin! A great deed was manifested by that distinguished person—they were and are mentioned in God's presence. Blessed are those souls who acted as he did. Love of gold and silver did not prevent them from doing what the time required. Assuredly, for any soul who acts for the sake of God in what was mentioned, divine relief will encompass them and that will become manifest which imagination and fancy cannot tread upon and before which they will find themselves powerless. O friends of God! We counsel you with that whereby your stations and ranks will be elevated. Beware lest the events of the world and its ornaments and bounties prevent you. Verily your Lord, the Most Merciful, is the Counselor, the Compassionate, the Generous.

Concerning the matter of religion, that which every fair-minded soul would assuredly hold fast to hath been repeatedly recorded by the Supreme Pen. His Holiness the Afnan, the honored Haji Siyyid Ali, upon him be the Glory of God, the Most Glorious, was commanded to proceed to Ishqabad for the sale of properties and the payment of debts. By the life of Our Purpose! Were they to act in accordance with what they have been commanded, the gates of blessings and goodly gifts would be opened before their faces, and God would exalt them among His servants through His Name. Verily, He is the Mighty, the All-Bountiful.

The honored Afnans and the loved ones must all strive earnestly to settle the debts. This is the day of service, of earnest endeavor, of justice and fairness. As commanded, We write again to His Holiness the Afnan, the honored Haji Siyyid Mirza, upon him be the Glory of God, the Most Glorious, that which will cause the manifestation of God's grace and favor, exalted be His Glory. The servant, throughout the nights and days, beseecheth God, the Lord of the Throne and the Lord of the Chair, and the Possessor of the heavens and earths, to assist His Afnans in that which He loveth and is pleased with, and to aid them

to achieve that detachment whereby their stations shall be made manifest among all possibilities. Verily, He is the Mighty, the Bestower.

In truth, His Holiness the Worker, upon him be the Glory of God, the Most Glorious, is a man of action; they have accomplished a great deed. Should the honored Afnans, upon them be the Glory of God and His grace, be negligent in this matter, it would cause great sorrow. In any case, I convey to all the loved ones greetings and praise, glorification and exaltation, remembrance and glory. God, the All-Knowing, beareth witness that they are forever remembered in my heart, and for each one I have sought and continue to seek that which befitteth the favor of God, exalted be His Glory.

The letter from the beloved of hearts His Holiness Ali-Qabl-i-Akbar, upon him be the Glory of God, the Most Glorious, was received. After presenting it, they said that he must not be sorrowful at all, as these matters are dependent upon the decree of God, exalted be His glory. Repeatedly have His own kin first made declarations and with the utmost earnestness made their requests, and after acceptance, recanted. And they said: "O Ali-Qabl-i-Akbar, these matters have not and will not cause sorrow. What causes the greatest sorrow are the deeds of certain ones. Repeatedly in the Tablets hath this exalted word been revealed: 'My affliction is not My imprisonment, nor what hath befallen Me from Mine enemies, but rather the deeds of My loved ones who claim connection with My Being yet commit that which causeth My heart and My pen to lament.'

However, in view of the weakness of some, forbearance is necessary, for if ones like you were to object, it would cause the fire of hatred to be kindled. I truly say that patience and overlooking are necessary in certain matters. The divine counsels and heavenly exhortations are a mighty mirror for the sanctification, detachment and ascent of the servants unto righteousness. And if after the appearance of this matter it proves ineffective, silence is preferable.

In all the parties of the world these things have appeared. Consider the Cause of the Seal of the Prophets, may our souls be a sacrifice for Him. Not only men but women too became apostates, including the sister of Umm-Salama, upon her be the Glory of God, and five other handmaidens who clung to the cords of the deluded ones and returned to their former state. And since in these days the Sun of Truth is shining, grace hath therefore taken precedence and giving and receiving have raised two banners from the right and the left. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to protect all through the hosts of the seen and unseen and to aid them to remain steadfast in this mighty Cause."

Praise be to God that beloved of hearts, namely His Holiness Ali-Qabl-i-Akbar, upon him be the Glory of God, the Most Glorious, is engaged in service and occupied with guiding people. The work of teaching is a mighty matter and His Holiness is successful therein. By the testimony of His Holiness the Present One, may our souls be a sacrifice for Him, the dwellers of the pavilion of infallibility and grandeur have also said that he should never be sorrowful. His answer will be sent again. I beseech God to manifest that which will cause the exaltation of His Word. Verily, He is the Hearer, the Answerer.

As to the affairs of this prison, praise and thanks be to God, all are well and healthy. Blessed be God, this year the Most Great Prison hath been honored by numerous souls; from every direction they have turned and arrived. However, henceforth His Holiness should cause those who desire to attain the presence to

remain where they are. The reasons for prohibition are present; for the Cause, it is not free from harm. And they said that if they act according to what was mentioned before, in truth the reward of attaining the presence and meeting will be recorded for them. Verily, He is powerful over all things. Glory and remembrance and praise be upon you and upon them that are detached and steadfast and firm and upright and standing firm in the Cause of our Lord and the Lord of all who are in the heavens and the earth.

The servant 29 Rabi'u'th-Thani 1308

BH11804: Glory be to the Lord of the world…

Glory be to the Lord of the world, and thanks be to the Hands of His Cause, and praise be to the Trustees of His House of Justice, who, in their endeavours to raise aloft His Word and exalt His utterance, have renounced themselves and all created things, and are regardful of and tenaciously adhering to whatsoever will promote the Cause of God. We fain would hope that there may appear from these chosen ones of God, who are related to the Most Great Name, that which in the realm of action shall be the king of deeds, and in the realm of speech the prince of utterances. Through the benevolent exertions of these souls, the world is radiant and luminous with the light of justice and equity. Glorified be the majesty of God, our Lord and the Lord of the Mighty Throne….

BH08276: God testifieth that there is none other God but…

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

God testifieth that there is none other God but Him. His is the creation and the command. He guideth and withholdeth, giveth and taketh away, causeth to die and quickeneth to life, and He is the Ever-Living, the Manifest, the Articulate, established upon the throne. He doeth what He willeth and ordaineth what He pleaseth. He is the Mighty, the All-Praised.

Glory be unto Thee, O my God! Aid Thou Mihdi, who hath emigrated from his homeland out of love for meeting Thee and standing before Thy gate. O Lord! Ordain for him what Thou hast sent down in Thy Book for those who are nigh unto Thee among Thy creatures. Verily, Thou art the Mighty, the Powerful, the All-Bountiful.

9 He is the Helper

The letter of Aqa Mirza Mihdi, upon him be the Glory of God […] was received by the servant in Jamadiyu'l-Avval 1308 [A portion of the receipt which is marked with […] in the text of the Tablet has been erased in the original copy of the blessed Tablet]

BH10754: O my God, my God! I beseech Thee…

…O my God, my God! I beseech Thee by the waves of the ocean of Thy mercy, and by the pearls hidden in the depths of Thy bounty, and by Thy Prophets and Thy Messengers and Thy Books and Thy Scriptures, to aid me to remember Thee and praise Thee, and to practice righteousness and godliness through Thy care

and Thy bestowal. Ordain for me the good of this world and the world to come. Verily, Thou art the Lord of all names, and within Thy grasp is the dominion of all who are in the heavens and on earth….

BH01189: Praise, glory, thanksgiving and splendor belong unto Him Who…

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

Praise, glory, thanksgiving and splendor belong unto Him Who, blessed and exalted be He, through earthly and heavenly means, has enabled those thirsting after true love to attain the waters of reunion, and guided those seeking the presence of Him Who conversed on Sinai to the most exalted station and the loftiest summit. Glorious is His bounty, mighty is His grace, pre-existent is His mercy, and there is no God but Him.

My spirit be a sacrifice for your remembrance, your utterance, and your steadfastness! Your letter, which is the dawning-place of the inscriptions of the world of love, illumined like a lamp the city of heart and soul with its light. In truth it was a helpful assistant and trustworthy messenger, for it brought glad tidings of your blessed self's well-being, as well as the arrival of the leaves of the Tree of Mercy. Perfect joy was attained, and after its perusal and observation, it was presented before His presence and achieved the honor of His attention, whereupon these exalted words issued forth from the Source of utterance and the Dawning-place of wisdom. His words, may our spirits be a sacrifice for Him:

He is the Kind, the All-Bountiful!

O My Afnan! Upon thee be the peace of God and His loving-kindness. Thou hast ever been and art still mentioned in the presence of the Wronged One. The glances of love and bounty have been directed toward thee, and the numerous Tablets that have shone forth from the Dayspring of love and faithfulness bear witness to that which hath flowed from the tongue of utterance. We testify to that which thou hast mentioned, and thou thyself hast borne and dost bear witness to the stations and degrees of special favors. This grace and bounty shall be made manifest both in the realm of creation and in the kingdom of divine bestowal. Soon shall they who are nigh unto God witness that which they were promised in the Book of God, the Lord of all worlds. Be thou not grieved at anything. Put thy trust in Him Who hath strengthened thee, caused thee to know Him, brought thee into His presence, and enabled thee to hear the call of the Wronged One in His Most Great Prison. Say:

My God, my God! Praise be to Thee for having shown me the waves of the ocean of Thy utterance and caused me to hear Thy most sweet call through the tongues of Thy Messengers and Thy chosen ones. I beseech Thee by the fragrance of Thy garment in Yathrib and Batha, and by the breezes of Thy Revelation amongst mankind, to number me among such as have aided Thy Cause, raised the standards of Thy guidance and the banners of Thy utterance. Then open before my face, through the key of Thy Most Great Name, the doors of bounty, munificence and grace. Verily, Thou art the Almighty over what Thou willest. There is no God but Thee, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. O my Lord! Thou seest me turning toward Thee, clinging to Thy cord, and hoping for Thy grace and bounty. I beseech Thee not to deny me the pearls within the shells of the ocean of Thy generosity, O Thou Who art the Possessor of all existence and the Lord of the seen and unseen.

We send Our greetings to those who are in thy presence, and We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to protect them by His sovereignty and to ordain for them that which befitteth His grace and generosity. Verily, He is the Munificent, the All-Bountiful. There is no God but Him, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

Mention thou, on behalf of the Wronged One, the honored Ibn and the leaves, each one of them, and illumine them with the splendors of the Day-Star of the Cause. They have had and continue to have permission to turn toward Him. Whenever wisdom and timing require it, let them turn toward Him. We beseech God to manifest that which is the cause of joy and the source of gladness. Verily, He is the All-Bountiful, the Mighty, the Great.

Praise be to God! Loving-kindness, compassion and mercy are manifest and evident from every word. That honored master has ever been remembered in the heart and concealed in the human reality. I hope that this love may neither change nor be altered—though it entered with mother's milk, it shall not depart with the soul. God willing, its departure has not been ordained and never shall be. That which I have beseeched and continue to beseech from God, exalted be His glory, through nights and days and at every hour, has been and remains protection, bounty, wealth, and service to the Cause—which is the greatest of divine bounties. I hope that through your presence in those regions there may be manifested that which will lead the servants to the stream of divine will and enable them to attain that for which they were created. Verily our Lord is the Almighty, the Powerful, and worthy to answer prayer.

To each of the kinsmen and visitors I convey greetings, praise, glory and splendor, and I beseech God, exalted be His glory, for eternal remembrance and everlasting favor for each one. Verily He is the Fulfiller of needs, the Revealer of verses, and the Lord of all names and attributes. Regarding what was written about Aqa Muhammad-ʿAli, upon him be the Glory of God [Baha'u'llah], after it was presented, He wrote:

> "His turning and devotion have attained the glory of acceptance, as a favor from Us to My Afnan, upon him be My peace and loving-kindness."

End quote. I convey greetings to the friends of that land and beseech for them that which bears the renown of the Beloved. Verily supplication is from the servant and its answer from God, the Forgiving, the Merciful. Peace, praise, remembrance and glory be upon you and upon those with you and those who love you for the sake of God, the Lord of the worlds and the Goal of all who are in the heavens and on earth.

The servant 12 Jamadiyu'l-Avval 1308

BH02652: I am the Answerer from the Most Sublime Horizon

I am the Answerer from the Most Sublime Horizon

O Ali! The vain imaginings of the people of the Furqan are clear and evident to all, yet the people of the Bayan are seen to be even more heedless. For twelve hundred years they cursed one another over mention of the Successor and similar matters, and issued verdicts for each other's blood to be shed. Now the same sayings of old and fresh imaginings have emerged among those who count themselves among

the people of the Bayan. The world bears witness that this Wronged One has, throughout the days and nights, reminded the servants of that which leads to exaltation, ascendancy, detachment and the fear of God, and has taught them. None of the deniers appeared openly but remained concealed behind clouds and veils, yet when the light of the Cause shone forth they emerged with swords of hatred. Blessed is the soul that has rent asunder the veils of names and clung to the Day of God and what hath appeared therein. By God's life! The former people are recorded with God as being worse than the idolaters. Each day they clung to some cause and uttered some mention, ascribing partners to God. We testify they are among the most lost in Our clear Book.

Convey My greetings to the loved ones. Verily We have mentioned them before and after, and aided them with a spirit from Our presence. To this bears witness He Who speaks: There is none other God but Him, the True One, the Knower of the unseen. Say: O people of the earth! Cast away what ye possess, then turn your faces to the Most Sublime Horizon, the place wherefrom the call has been raised that your Lord, the All-Merciful, is the Almighty, the Supreme, the Self-Subsisting. Say: The Day is come but ye recognize it not. The Hidden is revealed but ye perceive it not. Take ye the Book of God with His strength, then assist it with the hosts of utterance, a command from His presence. He is truly the Supreme over what was and what shall be.

Blessed art thou, for the Pen moves to make mention of thee while the Lord of Eternity is in the Most Great Prison. Say: Praise be to Thee, O Lord of existence, Who hath appeared through Thy name, the All-Loving, for having remembered me in Thy prison and revealed for me what no treasures can equal. I beseech Thee to make me steadfast in Thy love such that the doubts of those who have denied Thy proof, turned away from Thy testimony, and disputed Thy verses which have encompassed the kingdom of earth and heaven, shall not cause me to slip. The glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My manifestation be upon thee and upon those who have acted according to what they were commanded in My preserved Tablet….

Volume 099: Akka 1308–1309 A.H. (1890–1892), Part I (2 of 3)

BH11604: Praise be unto the one true God, Who hath…

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 the one true God, Who hath adorned the world of being and the kingdom on high with the presence of the perfect man, Who hath commanded justice that the very root of the tree of oppression might be plucked from the earth and returned to that which is meet and destined for it. Glory be unto Him! Glory be unto Him! How great is His dominion, how mighty His utterance! His consummate wisdom is manifest and evident in all things, and the luminary of His Cause shineth resplendent and ready above all things. Blessed is he who hath turned unto Him, and blessed the helper who hath arisen to render Him victorious, and blessed the supporter who hath aided Him in the days of His imprisonment.

And peace and blessings be upon the Hands of His Cause who have traversed the lands to exalt His Word, who have not violated His Covenant and Testament, and who have attained unto the choice wine of revelation in His days. These are among the most exalted of creatures in His Book. The angels and the Spirit pray for them by His leave. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to aid them and assist them in a manner befitting their connection to His firm and mighty Cause. We are all, verily, among those who return unto Him.

May my spirit be offered up for your remembrance! Your esteemed letter from Baku and from other places hath shone forth like a brilliant light and hath been the cause and means of illumining this heart that was afflicted with the darkness of sorrows. The mention and remembrance of the Afnan is a true sustenance, for through it is strength imparted to one's being. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to assist His Afnan in a manner befitting His days. Verily, He is the Revealer of verses and the Fulfiller of needs. After reading it, we proceeded to the Most Exalted Station, and after attaining presence and receiving full permission, all of it was presented before the countenance of the Lord of the worlds and was honored to be heard. This is what the Tongue of the All-Merciful uttered in the Kingdom of utterance—blessed and exalted be His Word:

He is the All-Commanding, the All-Wise

O My Afnan! Upon thee be My glory and My loving-kindness! In view of the world's lack of capacity, countless calamities have encompassed the nations. This Wronged One hath informed all of that which would protect and elevate them. The outpourings of God's Most Great Ocean have, in the days of His Manifestation, been lavished upon all creation. God, exalted be His glory, beareth witness that this Wronged One hath desired naught but the triumph of His Cause, the exaltation of His Word, and the guidance of all humanity. I speak the truth, and for the sake of God do I speak: Today the people of Baha must arise to aid the Cause, and with spirit and joy, with wisdom and utterance, must revive and refresh those who are withered and faded, turning them from that which they possess to that which God possesseth, and clinging to that which draweth souls near unto Him.

Your honor and all the Afnan know well what the deeds of this community were before and what they became thereafter. the ungodly and the deluded ones among the people of the Bayan have now, contrary to the past, outwardly clung to that which leadeth to attainment and meeting. Jinab-i-Haydar-Ali hath written that Hadi of Dawlatabad hath arrived in the Land of Ta and on Fridays ascendeth the pulpit to commemorate the tribulations of the Prince of Martyrs. In Iraq, some have engaged, without divine permission, in revelry and merriment during the first of Muharram, conduct which is opposed to all the peoples of the world. Until now some of that land's inhabitants have imagined that this community, God forbid, hath not and doth not love the Prince of Martyrs, peace be upon him; nay, that their hearts are aflame with the fire of hatred and animosity.

In truth this matter hath caused the stumbling of souls, for they know not the bounty and grace that were manifested on that Day. Moreover, these companions know with absolute certitude that His Holiness hath arisen from the grave by God's leave; therefore the Concourse on High, the dwellers of the All-Highest Paradise and the Supreme Heaven are all engaged with Him in joy and gladness. In any case, while the veils of ignorance and unawareness persist, one must adhere to the customs of the people for

the sake of drawing near and guiding souls. Most people are ignorant, and this ignorance hath resulted from lack of education. The turbaned ones in Iran, devoid of justice, have uttered that which was born of fancy and conjecture, and most are still unable to rend these veils asunder unless divine grace assist them and deliver these poor ones.

The people of the Bayan are observed to be even more veiled than those souls. They themselves acknowledge that after the Qa'im will come the Manifestation of Husayn, and all the Prophets will gather beneath His standard. Nevertheless they see yet deny, they witness yet recognize not. Indeed, the proofs of truth are beyond counting, but hearing ears are lacking. Those who were clinging to that which is rejected now make show of that which is accepted. Deception hath reached such a point that the pen is powerless to describe it.

This Wronged One hath, from the beginning until now, commanded all to perform such deeds as would guide souls and draw them near, and hath dedicated two days of Muharram to Husayn ibn ʿAli, peace be upon him—the first by virtue of the Primal Point's deputyship, and the second in his own right. Blessed is the soul that hath done what was commanded in the Book. O party of God! Hold fast to pure morals and praiseworthy deeds, for these two attract the hearts and minds of the world. God, exalted be His glory, has in this Revelation ordained these two as helpers and supporters. The people of Baha must with complete determination hold fast to these two and occupy themselves with the conquest of hearts and minds. We beseech God, the Most High, to aid them and assist them in that which will cause His Cause to be exalted amongst His servants. In truth, the companions of love, upon them be the glory of God, His mercy and His care, have attained to that which hath had and hath no likeness or equal. We hope that henceforth they will behave toward all people as would a kind and loving father and exert utmost effort in preserving a pure and goodly reputation.

O ʿAli, O Afnan! Make mention of all the friends on behalf of the Wronged One and give them the glad-tidings of God's bounty and mercy. We beseech God to manifest through you that which will cause the people of the world to become detached. From the Land of Ta numerous petitions have arrived, but he who stands in service hath shown submission and contentment. No complaint hath been manifested from him; rather, with complete determination he hath striven to prevent these reports from reaching the Most Holy Court. Blessed is he and happy is he. All the Afnan and friends must arise to reward this rare and meritorious deed. Verily, God is the Helper, the All-Wise, and He is the Enabler, the All-Knowing.

God is witness and testifier that from the deeds of him who stands in service hath appeared that which causeth joy and happiness to those near and sincere. This evanescent servant saith: My God, my God! Take the hands of Thy Afnan and Thy loved ones and assist them in the service of Thy Cause. Thou seest them, O my God, holding fast unto Thee and unto Thy Strong Cord. Send down, then, upon them the rain of Thy mercy from the clouds of Thy grace, and open before their faces the doors of Thy bounty and generosity. Verily, Thou art the Powerful, the Commander, the Wise. In view of the deed manifested by him who stands in service, it is certain that divine reward shall reach this pure and holy deed, and in this world and the next shall clothe this deed with eternal honor and everlasting acceptance.

Verily our Lord is the All-Bountiful, the Generous. In these days, mention of this praiseworthy deed hath repeatedly been heard from the tongue of grandeur. Inevitably grace shall encompass, mercy shall be

bestowed, and the hand of power shall assist. Verily, He hath power over all things. He answereth him who calleth upon Him and giveth unto him who asketh of Him. There is no God but He, the Forgiving, the Merciful.

Section 2: "Concerning what thou didst write about the friends…"

Concerning what thou didst write about the friends in Badkubih, upon them be the glory of God, the Lord of Oneness, they are truly aflame and mention of them hath been and is repeatedly made in the Most Holy Court, especially the teachers who are the cause of the turning of the servants and their orientation toward the Source and Return. We ask and beseech God to increase their determination and steadfastness in such wise that they may become known and mentioned among the people of the world for their service to the Cause. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to exalt His loved ones there and make firm their feet upon the path. Verily, He is the Mighty, the Bestower. Within His grasp are the reins of all affairs and in His right hand is the kingdom of the dominion of earth and heaven.

Regarding what you wrote about the attention of Karbila'i Qasim, upon him be the Glory of God, after presenting it they said that in these days the cold weather and the turbulence of the sea do not allow for travel, but permission has been granted that whenever the severity of cold subsides, there would be no objection to his turning towards the prison. This is what the Wise Commander has ordained.

As for what you wrote concerning the stay of the beloved of hearts, Jinab-i-Varqa, upon him be the Most Glorious Glory of God, that he should stay for some time—truly today all must be engaged in service to the Cause, and service to the Cause is teaching. God willing, may all be assisted. They said:

> "O Varqa! Upon thee be the Glory of God, the Lord of all beings. God willing, thou art holding fast to divine counsels and, detached from all else, art clinging to Him. This station is the most glorious of stations and the cause of the turning of hearts and faces. Praise be to God, thou hast repeatedly attained His presence, meeting, vision and hearing. He verily will assist thee and aid thee, and He is the All-Bountiful, the Generous, the Forgiving, the Merciful."

The sons are remembered before His face and are blessed with grace and mercy. We beseech God to assist them in His remembrance, His praise, and His service, the Mighty, the Exalted.

God willing, may that beloved of hearts make the servants aware of the divine verses and what hath appeared from His presence, and awaken them from the slumber of heedlessness. In these days the servants are seen to be better than before; most have intended to understand this Cause. Now that beloved one must, while in that land, engage in guiding people with the utmost joy and fragrance. They have repeatedly made teaching conditional upon wisdom, lest something occur that might cause the weak to waver. You have been present in the prison and have seen and witnessed the wisdom with which the chosen ones are commanded. It is hoped that all the chosen ones in that land will hold fast unto wisdom and act in ways that cause the nearness of the servants. Verily our Lord is the Compassionate, the Generous. Please gladden the eyes of Azizu'llah and Ruhu'llah, upon them be the Glory of God, who are truly remembered in heart and tongue and are visible before His face. We beseech God, our Lord, to ordain for them what beseemeth His greatness, His favors, His generosity and His gifts. He is verily the

Hearer, the Answerer. God willing, these prayers will be answered. Verily our Lord is the Forgiving, the Merciful.

Regarding what you wrote about the Afnan, Aqa Mirza Abu'l-Hasan, upon him be the Most Glorious Glory of God, he has arrived and attained the honor of presence and meeting, and was honored at the feast the previous night. We beseech God to assist him and ordain for him glory and wealth. He is verily the Lord of all beings and He is the Powerful, the Mighty.

Concerning your request for permission to return and bring one or two souls with you, after presenting it in the Most Holy and Exalted Presence, it was honored with acceptance—may my soul be a sacrifice for His favor. It is hoped that from your honor will appear that which is befitting, so that its fame may encompass the world and straighten the crookedness of this faithless world. This matter is most precious and desirable, and surely divine confirmations will assist and make it manifest. He is verily the Generous, the Possessor of Great Grace.

Concerning what you wrote about the land of the Holy Shrine, God willing, it will be arranged and accomplished. For nearly a month or more during these days, the heavens have both wept and lamented due to the heedlessness of the heedless ones and the oppression of the oppressors. Therefore, the paths were blocked and the ways forbidden. However, when divine grace provides assistance and the paths and ways become temperate through the spring breezes of the All-Merciful, your honor's instructions will be carried out. Verily our Lord is the Helper, the Enabler, the Powerful, the Wise. Glory and remembrance and praise be upon your honor and upon those who love you and hear your words concerning the Cause of God, our Lord, the Lord of the visible and invisible, the Lord of all worlds, and praise be to Him for He is the Master of the Day of Judgment.

Regarding what you mentioned about sending trees and their saplings and the hidden fruits therein, which in truth are the very essence of mysteries—indeed these matters are worthy of eternal praise and remembrance, for the purpose is the presence of the delicate, blessed, gathered fruits before the face of the Intended One and His chosen ones, saints and servants. Therefore, every person of capability should consider this according to their ability, especially the Afnan of the Blessed Tree, upon them be the Most Glorious Glory of God, who are themselves related. Surely they have not hesitated and will not hesitate in services that are in the name of the Truth, exalted be His glory. We beseech God to assist them, exalt them, strengthen them, and open before their faces the gates of grace, wealth and glory.

Verily He is the Giver, the Forgiving, the Mighty, the Great. And we beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to enable its supporter, its receiver, its sender, and its bearer who takes and delivers to the place God has ordained for its planting. Then we beseech Him, exalted be He, to ordain for the sender what befits His generosity and bounty, and to make his remembrance as enduring as the endurance of the trees and their fruits in the earth. Verily He is the Protector of those who intend by their deeds and actions the benefit of the servants and the prosperity of lands. Verily He hears the voice of whoever calls upon Him and remembers whoever communes with Him, and He is the Fulfiller of needs from before and after. Verily He is the Single, the One, the Powerful, the Mighty, the Unconstrained.

BH11863: Know thou that religion is as heaven; and fasting…

…Know thou that religion is as heaven; and fasting and obligatory prayer are its sun and its moon. We entreat God, exalted and glorified be He, to graciously aid everyone who acteth according to His will and good-pleasure….

BH00159: God beareth witness that there is none other 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!

God beareth witness that there is none other God but Him. He hath manifested His Cause amidst His servants with such sovereignty as no opposition or neglect could impede, and with such power as none in all lands could weaken. He hath spoken before all faces, declaring:

> "The Promise hath come, and the Promised One is He. He hath appeared with such authority as none in the heavens or on earth can withstand."

He desireth naught save the preservation of His creation and their drawing nigh unto the court of His glory. Blessed are they who have hearkened unto that which hath been raised up through the will of our Lord, the Lord of the Throne on high and of the dust beneath. Woe betide every barking dog who hath followed his base desires and idle fancies. There is none other God but Him, the Single, the One, the Powerful, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

The pearls of praise and remembrance which were wrapped in the garments of words and expressions became the cause of true joy and spiritual delight. From their fragrance divine ecstasy was manifest, and from their perfume eternal gladness was attained. After the appearance of the delicate pearls of love and affection from the shells of remembrance and utterance, having sought audience, he presented himself before the countenance of the Lord of all beings. After the appearance of the luminary of permission, the entire letter was presented and achieved the honor of His good-pleasure and acceptance, for each word thereof testified to the devotion, orientation and sincerity of that beloved of hearts. It is hoped that at all times they may be occupied with service to the Divine Cause, that perchance the heedless ones of the world may become aware and those who have turned away from among the peoples may be blessed with acceptance. In any case, after the letter was heard, these exalted words shone forth from the Dayspring of utterance, the Goal of all the worlds. His word, exalted be His glory and sublime be His utterance:

In His Name, the One Who prevaileth over what was and what shall be!

The Book of God speaks before the faces of all else, and with the blessed word "The Promised One is come" does it herald. By God! The rapture of His Revelation hath struck the Divine Lote-Tree; its rustling is raised high, its murmuring is manifest upon the rivers, and upon the seas appear the pearls of knowledge and wisdom that from the beginning of creation until now were hidden and concealed from the eyes of men. Like the sun they have risen, like light they shine forth. Glory be to God! The

heedlessness of the factions hath reached such a pass that the Truth, exalted be His glory, hath veiled the mysteries of the Book.

Zion crieth out, Jerusalem is filled with delight, from the right hand Mount Carmel proclaimeth: “O people of the churches! Kings and subjects waited for centuries and ages, and now the Beloved of all existence appeareth before all faces, yet ye are heedless. O friends! The true Friend is manifest and the Luminary of bounty, by the will of the Sovereign of existence, hath risen and shineth forth. Why have ye become heedless? Are ye deprived of the Speaker of the Mount through poverty, or through wealth have ye become negligent of this supreme blessing?

The Dawning-Place of Glory is come, the Manifestation of Beauty is come, mentioning His branches [shu’b] in every land and calling all to the Kingdom of nearness and meeting. O leaves and fruits of that Tree! The Wronged One is occupied with your remembrance in the prison of Akka. Why do ye tarry? The light of acceptance shineth from the Dawning-Place of union—why do ye remain bewildered? Its light appeareth like fire from the most exalted Standard, and its call is raised above all else. O servants! Ye are the saplings of My bounty. I planted you with the hand of loving-kindness and watered you from the clouds of grace with that water which is mentioned in every Book and recorded by the Pens of favor and bounty. Now is the time to show forth your service, and the moment to manifest your love. With divine power and celestial might, aim ye for the ultimate goal and the supreme summit.

O My branch in Berlin! He Who said ʻI shall come’ is come, and His signs of grace have encompassed the world. That peerless Friend is come, that incomparable Companion hath rent asunder the veil. Hasten! Hasten! It is the time of attainment. Come! Come! The hidden treasure is manifest, the concealed store is apparent. The promises of the Books are fulfilled and the signs of the Scriptures are witnessed. Deprive not yourselves and remain not portionless.

O Ibn-i-Asdaq! Convey My greetings to the sacred land of Kha. Say: O Mashhad! Forget not thy station. Through God’s grace all the land of Kha hath been freshly adorned with the blood of contentment. Exalted is this supreme bounty! Say: O land of Kha! O people of the cities and regions! The Chosen One is come with mysteries, that Hidden and Veiled One is come with light and radiance. Today all things are enraptured and engaged in joy, absorbed in supreme delight. Why are ye silent and withered? The water whereby all things are made alive floweth from the right hand of the Merciful One’s utterance. Make mention of the loved ones on behalf of the Wronged One—a mention that shall add to the Divine Lote-Tree and deliver the entire world from aught else but the Friend, drawing them unto Him and attracting them to Him.

Gracious God! The people of God suffered themselves to be killed rather than kill. During the events that came to pass, they were the embodiments of utter meekness and even interceded on behalf of the murderers before the governor. Yet the envy and hatred of the heedless only increased; this bountiful grace held no value in their eyes and brought forth no fruit or result. But on account of the meekness of the people of God and their lack of any aid or helper, he who is the possessor of armaments arose to redress the wrongs. Absolute meekness yieldeth many a result and beareth many a fruit.

Now pride, wealth, heedlessness and error have deprived most from justice and fairness. Outwardly justice is proclaimed, while inwardly there is great agitation and pure oppression. In the capital they have gathered several souls who outwardly speak words from which the fragrance of love is diffused, while inwardly they arrange dry wood for kindling the fire of hatred, and the flames of self and passion and lies and calumny from thence are continuous. Yet these souls consider themselves aware and God heedless. Evil indeed is what they imagine. In any case, these are the days for the revelation of what is hidden in hearts and the betrayal of eyes. Soon will the recompense of their deeds reach them. Verily He is ever watchful. There is no God but Him, the Mighty, the Powerful, the All-Seeing.

The servant has presented thy letter and mentioned it before the Countenance. We have answered thee with that from which the fragrance of loving-kindness is diffused. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to assist thee and enable thee to that whereby His Cause may be exalted among His servants, His remembrance in His lands, and His name among His loved ones. Mention thou the oppressed one to Ali, upon him be the glory of God. Say: O Ali! The eyes behold the Tree and its fruits and leaves and branches, yet deny them. Say: O people! Fear God. The ocean is before your faces. Behold its illumined pearls and manifest waves, and be not of those who broke the Covenant and denied the favor of God, the Lord of the worlds. O Ali! God willing, the answer to your previous petitions will be graciously given. Verily He loves His loved ones and adorns them with the ornament of His loving-kindness. He is indeed the All-Bountiful, the All-Generous.

The effulgent rays of the Divine Luminary of utterance have so encompassed all things that verily all are powerless and incapable of reckoning them. From the earliest days until now there hath been revealed that which appeareth difficult and arduous to compile. That Beloved One and the fair-minded bear witness unto that which hath been sent down from the heaven of the Beloved of all creation. In truth, the Kingdom of utterance hath been revealed, yet minds and ears are wanting. According to the divine command, what is now required are those matters that conduce to fellowship and constitute the cause of unity, and teaching with wisdom and utterance in such wise as to remain somewhat veiled from view. For after all that hath come to pass and been made manifest, though this people have been slain yet have they in no wise retaliated, nevertheless the malice of evil souls hath increased.

It is not known what they say concerning this matter and to what pretext they cling. One of God's loved ones was hanged in the land of Sad and martyred, and afterwards his blessed remains were burned, and in ʿIshqabad they committed that which caused the denizens of Paradise to break forth in lamentation, yet the loved ones offered no resistance. As soon as the ruler of that city arose to establish justice and execute his judgments with equity, heedless souls abandoned truthfulness, sincerity, trustworthiness and fidelity, and arose to censure and persecute. Now the tyranny of the oppressors shineth even as the sun. They oppress and rejoice, yet they perceive not. Soon shall they receive the recompense of their deeds, for they have to deal with the Just, the All-Wise. Verily He is the One Who hath power over whatsoever He willeth through His word "Be" and it is.

Glory be to God! This servant is amazed at what this Hadi-i-Dawlat-Abadi is saying. From the beginning of the Cause he had no knowledge whatsoever. He and Siyyid Muhammad and their like acted solely out of desire for leadership, doing that which causeth loss in this world and the next. Siyyid Muhammad Isfahani

was one of the servants and accompanied Us from Iraq. After his opposition became manifest in the Land of Mystery, We banished him. Later it was heard that he called himself “Quddus”. In truth he was a fitting Quddus for this heedless party. As for Mirza Hadi Dawlat-Abadi, the Supreme Pen hath repeatedly recorded mention of his transgression, heedlessness and denial. In recent times, in the Tablets that were revealed, He summoned him that perchance he might present himself and be attracted by the breaths of revelation, but no effect was manifested therefrom.

By the life of our Lord! He acteth like those four false ones who are the inventors of spurious laws and the builders of imaginary cities. Now consider the heedlessness of this wicked soul who hath repeatedly cast into hearts and minds enmity and hatred for the Lord of existence and the Sovereign of the seen and the unseen. He hath witnessed the requital of the deeds of the former party, yet he hath committed that which causeth the eye of certitude to weep.

It is incumbent and obligatory upon the friends of God, exalted be His glory, who are the manifestations of justice and fairness, to protect the servants from the vain imaginings of the former party, lest they be afflicted anew. I beseech God to protect and assist this party in such wise that they may regard all else as non-existent and as naught, and arise with complete steadfastness to exalt the Word.

The heedless souls possess not an atom of understanding, for they have met or encountered various persons and have used their words as proof to destroy the truth and establish falsehood, despite His saying that no one should look to aught but the Truth on the Day of His Manifestation. He emphasizes greatly, lest on that Day they should turn away from Him by clinging to the Bayan, saying—exalted be His mention: “I have written an essence regarding His mention, which is that He shall not be indicated by My indication nor by what was revealed in the Bayan.” And yet the entire Bayan is adorned with the mention of this Cause and was revealed specifically for this Cause. That Holy Being repeatedly stated that whatever goodly mention appears in the Bayan was intended for Him.

Day and night He was occupied with the mention of the Most Great Name. When the station of the manifestation of this most exalted and blessed verse was reached, which was revealed in the early days in the Qayyumu’l-Asma—exalted be His mention: “O Remnant of God! I have sacrificed my entire being for Thee and have wished for naught but martyrdom in Thy love and crucifixion in Thy path.” In any case, I beseech God to remove the soreness from eyes that all may attain to that which they are deprived of today.

Mention was made of Mirza Muhammad Husayn, son of Fa’iz, upon him be the glory of God. After it was presented before the Most Holy and Most Exalted Presence, this supreme utterance was revealed—exalted be His glory: Praise be to God that they have attained to the days through His grace and have turned to that which all others have neglected. All this is through God’s bounty and mercy. God willing, they shall attain to the Divine Tablet, exalted be His glory. This servant also conveys greetings to them and ever beseeches God for the elevation of their station. Verily our Lord is the Powerful, the All-Bountiful, the Answerer.

Mention was made of the friends. Praise be to God, the breezes of revelation have seized them all, and after being presented before the Most Holy and Most Exalted Presence, holy, luminous and blessed

tablets have been revealed from the heaven of bounty. God willing, may they attain unto them and receive their portion and share from the hidden oceans within the exalted words. Verily our Lord is the Generous Giver.

The souls that were mentioned in the letters of that beloved of the heart, from before and before before, have all attained to the hearing of the Lord of all beings, and it is hoped that there may be revealed for all that which will bestow portions upon the world and confirm them in their turning to God. I beseech and implore God to grant the grace of true hearing, for in truth whoever attained thereunto turned to God and became occupied with that which beseemeth mention, praise and attention. Blessed are they that hear and blessed are they that drink.

Mention was made of the honored leaf Diya'ul-Hajiyyih, upon her be the Glory of God. Several months ago, two Tablets were sent specifically for her and the honored leaf Agha Shahzadih, upon them both be the Glory of God. God willing, they will attain to them. And now too it was stated that, God willing, another Most Glorious Tablet which is the cause and means of life in infinite worlds shall be graciously bestowed specifically upon Diya'ul-Hajiyyih.

Section 2: "The decorative paper that was sent arrived…"

The decorative paper that was sent arrived and praise be to God, it was honored with wondrous, sublime divine verses, as the Hidden Words in Arabic and Persian as well as certain other Tablets were written upon it. In truth, this paper was honored with that for which all the papers of the world were created and brought into being. Glory be to God! The divines of Iran have not to this day attained to an atom's weight of understanding and knowledge, while paper has attained to it.

From what has recently been observed and estimated, nearly a hundred volumes have been sent down from the heaven of grace and bounty upon the peoples of earth and heaven. Nevertheless, the divines of those regions are still reclining upon the couch of vainglory—nay rather, they are sleeping—nay rather, they are dead. The servant beseecheth His Lord to raise up one through whom their heads may be lifted up in His days. Verily our Lord is the All-Bountiful, the All-Forgiving, the Most Merciful.

Mention was made of his honor Ibn-i-Shahid, upon him be the Glory of God. After it was submitted to the Most Holy, Most Exalted Presence, these sublime words appeared from the Dawning-Place of Will. His word—exalted be His glory:

Ibn-i-Shahid has ever been and still is remembered. Whenever We have mentioned Our loved ones, mention of him too has been sent down from the heaven of favor. In these days too, should God will and desire it, a Most Holy, Most Exalted, Most Luminous Tablet shall be graciously bestowed as a bounty from His presence, for He is the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous. End quote.

Mention was made of his honor Bujistani, upon him be the eternal Glory of God. After it was submitted before the Seat of Grace, these manifest verses were sent down from the heaven of favor. His word—exalted be the pearls of His utterance above similitude and comparison:

I am the All-Glorious, the Most High

Praise be to God, his honor Ali has repeatedly attained to the outpourings of the true Outpourer. We have sent down upon him from the heaven of My utterance the verses of My grace and bounty, that he may rejoice and be of the thankful. This is My Book which We have sent down to him once again. Verily he is God's herald among His servants and the guide of creation to His path, and he is the one attracted, the speaker, the all-knowing. O Ali! Nothing whatsoever escapeth thy Lord's knowledge. We heard thy call when thou wert present before the faces of My loved ones. Verily thy Lord is the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. He seeth and heareth, He commandeth and judgeth, He doeth what He willeth and decreeth what He desireth.

He who desired Me and soared in Mine atmosphere hath mentioned thee. We have mentioned thee in this perspicuous Book. He beareth witness before all faces and speaketh, saying: O people! The Day hath come—dominion belongeth unto God, the Lord of the worlds! Beware lest the events of the world or the affairs of those who have denied the Day of Judgment sadden thee. Say: O loved ones of God! He desireth to behold you upon thrones, facing one another. Blessed is he who casteth away what he hath and taketh what I have commanded him from the presence of One mighty, faithful. Convey My greetings from Our presence to the faces of those who are with thee, both female and male. Verily thy Lord loveth him who loveth Him and mentioneth those who have turned toward Him with radiant faces. He is the All-Forgiving, the Most Merciful. The Glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My bounty be upon thee and upon those who have recognized this Great Announcement wherewith the All-Merciful hath given glad-tidings in the Qur'an and by whose name the Books of the Messengers have been adorned. End.

This is what was sent down for Ibn-i-Shahid, upon him and his son be the Glory of God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy. His word—mighty be His utterance and exalted His proof:

He is the All-Knowing Witness

This is the Day in which He Who was hidden hath appeared, and He Who was promised hath come, and He Who was concealed hath emerged. Blessed is the servant who hath heard and seen, and woe unto the heedless. Say: O people, fear God, then open your eyes. Verily the Great News standeth before your faces. Behold, and be not of the doubters.

We have remembered thee time and again, and have remembered thy father who attained the supreme martyrdom in the days of God, the Almighty, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. The angels and the Spirit received him at his ascension, and I am the All-Knowing, the All-Informed Witness.

When thou didst inhale the fragrance of My utterance and didst gain illumination from the light of My verses in My Tablet, say: Praise be to Thee, O my God, for having given me to drink from the ocean of Thy bounty the Kawthar of Thy grace, and for having caused me to turn toward the horizon of Thy Manifestation through Thy mercy which hath preceded Thy earth and Thy heaven. I beseech Thee by the pearls hidden in the treasuries of Thy Pen and the jewels concealed within the shells of the ocean of Thy grandeur, to assist me under all conditions to mention that which will draw Thy servants nigh unto the court of Thy glory and the carpet of Thy holiness.

O Lord! I am he who hath taken none other but Thee for his Lord, and hath chosen none other but Thee for his helper and supporter. O Lord! Thou seest the trustees of Thy earth in the hands of the treacherous among Thy creation, and those who have turned toward Thee among the ones who have turned away from among Thy servants. I beseech Thee by the waves of the ocean of Thy bounty and the mysteries hidden in Thy Book and Thy knowledge, not to disappoint me from that which is with Thee. Verily Thou art the Almighty, the Mighty, the All-Bountiful.

The glory shining from the horizon of My Kingdom be upon thee and upon those who love thee for the sake of God, the Supreme, the Mighty, the Chosen One.

This was revealed for Haji Abu-Talib, upon him be the glory of God

In the name of the All-Knowing Lord

The Sun of Truth hath called out from the horizon of the heaven of utterance, summoning all to that which draweth them nigh, benefiteth them and exalteth them. But the ears of the servants, being polluted with false tales of old, are deprived of hearing, save whom God willeth. O Abu-Talib! Hearken unto the eternal call with pure and attentive ears. If thou succeedest in hearing, thou shalt witness all else but God as non-existent, and shalt turn with all thy might toward the horizon of the Manifestation.

Today the breezes of revelation have perfumed the worlds of the seen and unseen, and the traces of the Most Exalted Pen have encompassed all. Blessed is every hearer who hath attained unto hearing, and every seer who hath been honored with beholding and meeting. He who loved Me hath mentioned thee; We have remembered thee in this Clear Book whereby all things have spoken, and the Most Exalted Paradise. O people! The Self-Subsisting hath come, and through Him the seal of the choice sealed wine hath been broken. Turn ye and drink, and be not of the heedless ones.

The Cause of God is more manifest than the sun in midheaven, yet passion and desire have kept the servants far from the most holy and exalted court. Say:

My God, my God! Withhold not Thy loved ones from the ocean of Thy bounty and the sun of Thy knowledge. Thou seest them, O my God, holding fast to the cord of Thy grace and clinging to the hem of Thy mercy. Ordain for them that which will draw them nigh unto Thee and acquaint them with Thy straight path and Thy mighty Message. There is none other God but Thee, the Forgiving, the Merciful.

O Lord! It behooveth the days and Thy Cause to be manifested among the peoples with such power that neither the might of rulers nor the ascendancy of those who have denied Thy right and pronounced judgment against Thy trustees and the hands of Thy Cause with such tyranny as hath caused every stone to lament and every kernel to cry out, and the tears of them that know to flow. Praise be to Thee, O Thou Who art the Goal of the world and the Glory of those who are in the heavens and on earth.

This was revealed for Shaykh Muhammad, upon him be the glory of God

In My Name that is sanctified from all names

O Muhammad, upon thee be My Glory! Today the outpourings of the All-Bountiful One have encompassed all things, and the waves of the ocean of utterance are manifest and visible before the faces of the world. The path is clear, the proof is sent down, mercy hath preceded, and bounty hath descended. Yet the people remain veiled. The hand that was created to grasp the divine Book is seen to seize unjustly the wealth of others and to possess it. The ears and eyes have become two steeds for the self and passion. Glory be to God! Impure deeds have occupied all with that which profiteth them not and deprived them of nearness unto God. They were created for the meeting with Him and were brought from nothingness into being for His service, yet they have become heedless of that which is with God, being occupied with that which they possess.

Say: My God, my God! Cleanse the eyes of Thy creation from the ophthalmia of vain imaginings and illumine their hearts with the lights of Thy Name, the All-Knowing. O my Lord! Make known to them Thy path and strengthen them in that which Thou hast commanded them in Thy Book. Verily Thou art the Powerful One Whom no might can frighten, no hosts can prevent, and no power of those who have denied Thee, disputed Thy signs, broken Thy Covenant and cast away Thy Book can weaken. There is no God but Thee, the Self-Subsisting, the Mighty, the Powerful, the Omnipotent, the August, the Great.

And this is what was revealed for His Honor Mirza Qasim Khan Mustawfi, upon him be the Glory of God:

In the Name of the Mighty Speaker

This Day hath no peer or likeness, inasmuch as the Ancient Beauty is seated upon the Most Great Throne. The attraction of His Revelation hath seized the worlds of the seen and the unseen. Blessed is the soul that hath not been deprived by the world and whatsoever is therein of ornaments, bounties and colors, and hath not been kept back from drawing nigh unto God. Say: O people of God! The Day is your Day and the time is your time. Why do ye fear and of what are ye afraid? Through the weakness of the servants, the leaders of the former party seized the reins of all and occupied them with their own desires. Through names they turned the people away from the straight path—sometimes in the name of the successor, at times in the name of the chief, and in the name of Shaykhi and Bala-Sari and the Fourth Pillar they sent the helpless people to hell-fire, as ye have all seen and heard and continue to hear. Until now they are engaged in cursing God, exalted be His glory, from their pulpits, and now again Dawlat-Abadi hath caused the servants to descend from the loftiest heights to the lowest depths through these same names.

Say: O people of God! Abandon these names. Today that which all servants, from the first to the last, have beseeched and hoped to attain from God hath been made manifest. Blessed is the ear that hath not been deprived of hearkening unto the Word of God by the traditions, stories and proofs of the former party. Say: O servants! With the finger of detachment and reliance rend asunder the veils and adorn yourselves with the ornament of the fear of God. What was the outcome of the deeds of the former party and what did they achieve? Blessed is he who hath cast them and their vain imaginings behind him and taken what he was commanded from the heaven of the bounty of his Lord, the Standing One, the Manifest, the Speaking, the Mighty, the Clear.

Thus have We sent down the verses and dispatched them unto thee that thou mayest be among the joyous ones, among the successful ones, among the steadfast ones, and that thou mayest say in all conditions: Praise be unto Thee, O Lord of the worlds and God of all who are in the heavens and on earth.

The names mentioned have been honored with the lights of the Sun of Oneness and eternal praise and utterance. For each name a Tablet was revealed and sent down from the heaven of divine will. We hope that each one may attain unto new and everlasting life through the verses revealed by the True One, glorified be His majesty. Verily our Lord is the Gracious Helper and the Merciful, the Compassionate. Mention was made of those connected to you, and for each one a most mighty and holy Tablet was revealed and sent down from the heaven of the bounty of the Lord of all beings. Verily He giveth and withholdeth, and He is the Mighty, the Unconstrained.

Convey my greetings and glorification to the loved ones of that land and its surroundings. God is my witness that I have ever sought and continue to seek the sealed wine for each one in the Most Holy Court, that all may become intoxicated with this everlasting wine and eternal blessing—an intoxication that increaseth consciousness and understanding. Should man attain unto the effects of this wine, he would consider all else but God as non-existent. No occasion or station would remain for the barking ones and the infidels. In these days the loved ones of God must drink and give others to drink with hands of sincerity and purity, of love and faithfulness. Verily our Lord is the Mighty, the Powerful, and He is the All-Bountiful, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

Glory and remembrance and praise be upon you and upon those who are with you and love you and upon every firm, steadfast, unwavering and upright believer. Praise be to God, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

BH00247: O God, my Adored One, my Object of worship…

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!

O God, my Adored One, my Object of worship, the Gracious, the Merciful, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise, the All-Forgiving, the Concealer of faults, the All-Bountiful! Thou beholdest Thy loved ones amidst heedless souls, and Thy sheep among wolves who have denied the Day of Judgment. O Lord! Thou seest the righteous among the wicked, and the virtuous among those who have denied Thy Chosen Name. I beseech Thee by Thy gifts and favors, by the lovers of Thy Beauty and the lights of Thy horizons, to protect Thy chosen ones, then aid them with the hosts of Thy unseen realm, and make them the ensigns of Thy guidance and the manifestations of Thy power.

O Lord! Thou hearest the cry of them that are nigh unto Thee and the lamentation of the sincere ones. I beseech Thee by Thy radiant Light and Thy resplendent Cause to open before our faces the doors of Thy grace and bounty. Verily, Thou art the Forgiving, the Compassionate, the Bountiful. O Lord! Bless Thy loved ones and magnify those faces that have traversed lands to exalt Thy Cause, Thy remembrance and Thy praise, and who have been afflicted in Thy love with that which caused the dwellers of the pavilion of Thy sanctity and grandeur to lament. There is no God but Thee, the Omnipotent, the Almighty.

The letter from that beloved of the heart arrived repeatedly, praise be to God. The glad tidings of your well-being and health brought renewed joy. All the letters bore witness to the devotion, acceptance, steadfastness and service of that beloved of the heart. After reading and observing, they were taken to the Most Exalted Paradise and presented before the countenance of the Lord of all beings, attaining the honor of His attention. Then the Tongue of Grandeur spoke these exalted words, blessed and exalted be His utterance:

O Amin! Upon thee be the glory of God, His care and His mercy. The servant in attendance submitted thy letters before His presence. Blessed art thou for having confined thy affairs to the love of God, His praise and the service of His Cause. We testify that thou didst hear and respond, and didst succeed time and again in attaining that which God revealed in the books of the past and future. Verily thy Lord is the Compassionate, the Bountiful. He it is Who aided thee and through thee set right the affairs of His loved ones. Thou hast ever been and art still beneath the glances of His care, and hast been a helper and supporter of His servants. God willing, henceforth too thou shalt hold fast to that which causeth the exaltation of His Word and the elevation of His station. We testify that thou didst turn to Him when people turned away, and believed in Him when most of the servants denied Him. Say:

My God, my God! I am Thy servant and the son of Thy servant. I beseech Thee to assist me in uniting the hearts of Thy loved ones and setting right their affairs in Thy days. I testify, O my God, to my poverty and Thy wealth, my powerlessness and Thy might, my weakness and Thy strength. I beseech Thee by the ocean of Thy mercy and the heaven of Thy wisdom to aid me in that which Thou lovest and art pleased with. Then I beseech Thee, O God of Names and Creator of heaven, by Thy Most Great Prison and Thy tribulations among the nations, and by Thy utterance through which Thou didst subdue the world, to make me a banner of Thy Name and an ensign of Thy love. Verily Thou art powerful over what Thou willest, and in Thy grasp are the reins of all affairs. There is no God but Thee, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting.

Convey My salutations and glorification to the faces of My loved ones who have spoken in My praise and have arisen to serve My Cause, and whom the names have not prevented from turning to My countenance and clinging to the hem of My mercy. We beseech God to keep all steadfast in service to the Cause in such wise that all that is possessed by men shall not prevent them from drawing nigh unto God and turning to Him. These are the companions of the Ark of God that were mentioned before. They must engage in guiding humanity with utmost joy and fragrance, wisdom and utterance. O Amin! I say in truth that wisdom consists in deeds that guide the servants to the court of the Friend. In some lands they have done that which hath caused the servants to become remote and to flee. We counsel all to love, mercy and fellowship. Verily He is the Lord of creation, the Merciful to His servants, the Protector of lands. There is none other God but He, the Commander in the beginning and in the end.

Praise be to the one God Who granted success and made that noble person the center of service for His loved ones, upon whom be His glory and praise. This servant has ever beseeched and continues to beseech that He may cause that beloved one to attain all the bounties of His days and make him the cause of agreement and unity. He is the Powerful, the Helper.

Mention was made of the honored beloved, His Name Jamal, upon him be the Most Glorious Glory of God, and likewise their degrees of devotion, arising and steadfastness were recorded. After being submitted to His presence, these verses were revealed—exalted be His glory:

O Amin! Upon thee be My glory! Convey My glorification to My Name Jamal and give him the glad tidings of the effulgences of the light of God's grace, exalted be His glory. As thou didst mention, Jamal, upon him be the glory of God, the Self-Sufficient, the Most High, hath given his wealth, family and children in the path of God and wishes to surrender them to thee. In truth this is a beautiful mention, for the purpose is spending in the path of God, exalted be His glory. Blessed is he. This deed of his was accepted before the Throne. Praise be to God, he hath ever been and continues to be engaged in remembrance, praise and service to the Cause.

This servant conveys glorification and glory to them, offers salutations and praise, and beseeches God, exalted be His glory, for that which will cause the exaltation and elevation of His Word. Praise be to God, his honor has been and continues to be engaged in remembrance, praise and service. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to protect his honor with the hosts of the invisible and visible realms. Verily He is the All-Bountiful, the Kind, the Forgiving. The payment for the feast which he and Qurratu'l-ʿAyn Hubbu'llah, upon him be the glory of God, gave has been received and God willing the means for a feast before the Throne of the Lord will be prepared. Verily He is the Gracious, the Generous.

Mention was made of Aqa Mirza ʿAli Khayyat, upon him be the glory of God. After being submitted to the Most Holy Court, these verses were revealed from the heaven of the grace of the Manifestation of clear proofs—exalted be His glory:

He is the Expositor, the All-Knowing

O Ali, after Mirza! The call hath been raised from the prison of Akka in such wise that the hearts of kings and rulers have been stirred thereby. The breezes of revelation have seized them. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to aid them and strengthen them to champion His mighty and glorious Cause. Yet the lamp is amidst tempests, as testifieth He with Whom is the knowledge of the former and latter generations. O Ali! The Trusted One hath made mention of thee and of thy ardor and thy service in My path. We make mention of thee in this perspicuous Book. Say: Praise be unto Thee, O Desire of the world and Lord of the nations, for having remembered me in the prison and guided me to Thy straight path. Blessed art thou for having sought the ultimate goal and attained that which God hath sent down in His mighty Book. Thus hath the tongue of grandeur spoken and called all to the Mighty, the All-Praised.

This servant likewise conveyeth greetings and glory unto him, and I beseech God, exalted be His glory, to adorn him and all the loved ones with the ornament of wisdom, that all may hold fast unto it and with heart and soul seek the supreme horizon.

And as for the mention made of the spiritual friend, Jinab-i-Aqa Mirza Ali-Asghar (Isku'i), upon him be the glory of God, verily he speaketh in remembrance of the Truth and is ablaze with the fire of love. After presentation at the Most Holy and Most Exalted Court, these manifest verses were sent down from the heaven of bounty of the Manifestation of clear signs. His word, exalted be His majesty, universal be His favors, and glorified be His remembrance:

He is the Compassionate, the All-Bountiful!

O Amin! Upon thee be the manifest light! The fire of divine love hath warmed the world of being, and the effulgences of the Sun of Revelation have shone forth from every direction. Say: Come, O ye who are endowed with insight! Say: Come, O ye who are possessed of vision! Be fair, O dawning-places of equity and manifestations of justice, in that which hath appeared in truth. Justice is a great gift of God, exalted be His glory. Blessed are they who have attained thereunto, and woe unto the heedless! O Mir Ali-Asghar! Upon thee be the most resplendent light of God! Hearken unto the melodies of the Dove of My utterance and the warbling of the Nightingale of My praise.

Verily it will draw thee to a station wherein thou shalt behold naught save the effulgences of the Light of My Cause, the firm, the impregnable. Thou hast attained unto My mention aforetime, which when it flowed from the tongue of My grandeur, all things proclaimed: By God, there hath appeared that the like of which hath never appeared in creation! To this beareth witness the Lord of invention in this wondrous, this glorious moment. Say: O concourse of the opposers in the Bayan! Be fair in God's sight concerning that which hath appeared in truth, and follow not the imaginings of those who have disbelieved in the Day of Judgment. The Day is come, yet the people are in grievous blindness.

Blessed art thou for having turned toward the supreme horizon when every heedless doubter turned away therefrom. We bear witness that thou didst hear what was raised from the prison of Akka and didst turn unto it when the servants turned away, save whom God willed, the Mighty, the Powerful.

O Mir-Qabil-ʿAli! Hearken unto the everlasting Call of God. Verily it attracteth thee even as it attracted the hearts of them that are brought nigh. Say: The Glory of God speaketh not of His own desire, but rather by that which is commanded by God, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. I was still, and the hand of Will moved me; I was asleep, and the breathings of the Lord of creation awakened me; I was silent, and the Will of God, Lord of all worlds, caused me to speak. Say: Fear ye God, O people, and deny not Him through Whom the Trump was sounded, and the Speaker of Sinai spoke, and the hidden mysteries in God's Books, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy, were revealed.

O Amin! Send unto him the breathings of revelation that they may attract him and draw him nigh unto the Peerless, the All-Informed. Verily thou hast mentioned him, and We have mentioned My loved ones in the Land of Ta in such wise as cannot be equaled by all the books of the world. To this beareth witness this wondrous Book. The Glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My mercy be upon them and upon those who have taken the chalices of mystic knowledge and drunk therefrom in My Name which God hath made the Point of Adoration for all names and the Dawning-Place of His Cause for all who are in the heavens and on earth.

Section 2: "Make mention of the loved ones…"

Make mention of the loved ones in the Land of Ta on behalf of the Wronged One. They have attained unto My mention before and after, and among them is he who was named Mihdi, whom thou didst mention in thy pages. We beseech God to preserve him and assist him to serve His Cause. Verily He is the Protector of the sincere ones. Praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

Divine verses have been revealed in such measure as transcendeth computation and is sanctified from limitation. It is hoped that the men of this age will arise with perfect determination to educate mankind—an arising that is sanctified from sitting down and from alteration. Verily God, our Lord, is powerful over all things.

As to what was written concerning the spiritual friend, his honor Aqa Siyyid ʿAli (Khalaj-Abadi), upon him be the Glory of God, after being submitted before the Ancient Beauty, this conclusive command was revealed, these are His—exalted be His glory—words:

Whatsoever the consultation of them that are brought nigh and the sincere ones approveth, and that which your honor deemeth advisable, may be carried out. Likewise these sublime words were revealed from the Dawning-Place of bounty, the Source of verses—exalted be His utterance: His honor Siyyid ʿAli, upon him be My Glory and My favor, hath turned and hath attained unto that which is the foremost station in the book of the world and the highest rank in the scroll of nations. We testify that he hath turned and attained and won that which the honored servants have won, and hath heard the Call of the Wronged One, and hath witnessed that which God hath witnessed, that there is none other God but Him, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting. Convey My greetings unto him and illumine him with the lights of My wondrous utterance. The resplendent and gleaming Light be upon My loved ones who have not broken My Covenant and My Testament and have acted according to that which was enjoined upon them in My perspicuous Book.

Time and again, repeatedly, that loved one attained to the remembrance of God, His eternal grace and everlasting bounty. Well is it with thee and blessed art thou! The beloved of the heart, His honor Haji Mirza Haydar-Ali, upon him be the Most Glorious Beauty of God, God willing, will succeed in guiding the people. They were instructed to move about those lands with wisdom for a time and then return to the land of Ta. His presence in the land of Ta is, in wisdom, more conducive to acceptance before God, the Lord of the Mighty Throne. From the earliest days until now, he has been and remains steadfast in service and holding fast to the cord of God's Cause.

We beseech God to manifest through him that which will draw the servants nigh unto the Dawning-Place of His signs and acquaint them with His straight path. In truth, the service of that loved one is most great, for he must needs occupy himself with setting aright the affairs of the friends according to the Most Exalted Command, as indeed he does. The purpose of the journey of the beloved of the heart, His honor Haydar-Ali, upon him be God's eternal glory, to the region of Kha is that certain souls who have previously intended to turn toward the Most Exalted Horizon might attain to the station of supreme steadfastness.

The spiritual loved ones, their honors Nayyir and Sina, upon them be God's most luminous light and most resplendent glory, they too have turned toward those regions. Mention of them has been and continues to be made in the Most Holy Court. Certain holy Tablets have been revealed from the heaven of the Will of God, exalted be His glory, specifically for those souls who have made request. God willing, these will be sent hereafter. Their deeds and mention have all been recorded before the Lord, exalted and sanctified is He. On one occasion these blessed supreme words flowed from the tongue of the Lord of all beings, exalted be His utterance:

> “Verily they have drunk the wine of love from the cup of My bounty and have attained unto My remembrance and praise. Upon them be My glory and My loving-kindness and My mercy which has preceded all who are in the heavens and the earth.”

And mention was made of the spiritual loved one, his honor Aqa Mirza Mu’min, upon him be the Glory of God. After it was presented before His countenance, He said:

> “We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to protect him and those with him and to make mention of them in such wise as will cause their deeds to endure on this straight path and mighty announcement.”

In these days the letter of the beloved of the heart of His Honor, Ibn-i-Ismu’llah al-Asdaq—upon them both be the Most Glorious Baha of God—hath reached this servant, and previously as well mention of him had repeatedly been made. Praised be God, he standeth fast in service and holdeth firmly unto whatsoever God willeth. Time and again there was heard from the Blessed Tongue, concerning him, that which causeth joy unto the near ones and the sincere. The Tablets which that beloved of the heart had requested especially for certain of the friends have been sent down from the heaven of the divine Will. It is hoped that the receptive ones, despite the deniers, may drink of the sealed wine and hold fast unto that which beseemeth the Days of God. The most holy and exalted Tablet which was revealed from the heaven of the will of the Lord of mankind in the name of the spiritual loved one, Jinab-i-Aqa Mirza ʿAbdu’l-Baqi—upon him be the Baha of God—was dispatched, that, God willing, they may drink from the Kawthar of the utterance of the Desire of all the worlds that which is the cause of everlasting life.

And as to what they had written concerning the letter of the spiritual loved one, Jinab-i-Haji Aqa—upon him be the Baha of God—after it had been presented in the Most Holy and Inviolable Presence, these blessed words were revealed. He, verily, is the Help in Peril, the Self-Subsisting.

> “O thou who art mentioned! Hearken unto the call of the Wronged One. Verily, it draweth thee nigh unto God, the Lord of lords, and attracteth thee unto a station wherein naught is heard save the remembrance of God, the Mighty, the Powerful, the Bestowing. O Haji Aqa! Thy remembrance is the remembrance of one who arose to serve Me and turned unto Me when My servants turned away from Me. We have remembered thee with that whereby they who are near unto God perceive the fragrance of the loving-kindness of God, the Lord of mankind. Verily, We exhort thee and those who have believed unto that which is seemly and unto that whereby your remembrance shall abide in the Book of God, the Dayspring of lights, when thou hast attained unto My verses and inhaled the fragrance of My utterance.”

Say: My God, my God! Praise be unto Thee for having guided me, and enabled me, and strengthened me, and taught me, and made me to know Thee. I beseech Thee by the sanctity of Thy Being and the detachment of Thine Essence from all else besides Thee to ordain for me that which befitteth the heaven of Thy generosity and the ocean of Thy bounty. Thou art verily the Almighty, the All-Glorious, the All-Forgiving.

This servant beseecheth God—exalted be His glory—on behalf of each of the sincere ones and those who have turned towards Him, for that which hath no likeness or equal.

My God, my God! Aid Thy loved ones to turn their faces toward the light of Thy countenance and to cling to the hem of Thy mercy. Thou art verily the One Who hath power over whatsoever He willeth. There is none other God but Thee, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

The funds sent by them for the transcription of the divine Books, as well as the ornamented, embellished and gilded papers have arrived, and his honor, the Pride of Scribes, His Holiness the Name of God Zaynu'l-Muqarrabin, upon him be the Glory of God, the Most Glorious, is engaged in transcribing them. God willing, they will arrive. In truth, this matter too is reckoned as service to the Cause of God, and if they are able to send repeated supplies of paper, it would be acceptable in the sight of God and adorned with the glory of His good-pleasure.

In these days mention was made in the Most Holy Court of the spiritual friend who stands ready to serve, regarding His Holiness the Afnan, Haji Siyyid Ali, upon him be the Glory of God, the Most Glorious, who, in accordance with the command, hath proceeded to the City of Love for the sale of properties and the payment of debts. Firm and mighty decrees have been issued to all the friends that they should strive to the extent possible in his affairs—that is, he who stands ready to serve—and should endeavor to rectify whatever hath transpired. Although at one time they said:

> "O servant in attendance! The recompense and reward for the deeds of him who stands ready to serve rest with God, exalted be His glory."

In truth, that which hath been manifested from him hath few equals. His deed shall never be erased from the Book of God. Verily, He doth not suffer the reward of the doers to be lost. And they said that all the Afnans should arise to do that which befitteth his deed. Although God, exalted be His glory, hath been and is the Helper, yet every soul must manifest his own service. Thus hath My tongue spoken in the kingdom of My utterance, as a mercy from My presence, and He is the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous.

Thanks be to God, mention of them hath repeatedly issued from the Tongue of Grandeur. The servant beseecheth his Lord to aid him and ordain for him every good thing which He hath sent down in His perspicuous Book.

O spiritual friend, Jinab-i-Aqa Muhammad Hasan, upon him be 966 [Baha'u'llah]. As commanded, convey greetings. Several rings adorned with the Greatest Name should be sent. This is from the bounty of our Lord upon him. Verily, He is the All-Bountiful, the Generous. Likewise, as commanded, convey greetings to His Honor, the revered beloved, Ismu'llah Jamal, upon him be the Most Glorious Glory of God; and His Honor, the revered beloved, Jinab-i-ʿAli-Qabl-i-Akbar, upon him be the Most Glorious Glory of God; and the beloved of the heart, His Honor Ibn-i-Abhar, upon them both be the Most Glorious Glory of God. God willing, wondrous, exalted and sacred Tablets will descend from the heaven of bounty and be sent in the future.

This servant conveys greetings, praise, glory and splendor to each of these gentlemen, and begs for their steadfast and unwavering confirmation. Verily, He is the Hearer, the Answerer. Glory, remembrance 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 27 Jamadi'ul-Avval 1308

BH01211: Praise be unto the peerless Lord, Who is worthy…

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

Praise be unto the peerless Lord, Who is worthy and deserving, Who hath adorned the lands of holy and tranquil souls with the flowers of knowledge and wisdom through the rain of His mercy and utterance. His will hath no impediment and His purpose no veil or barrier. His is the praise and the glory, and His the remembrance and the splendor, for having illumined the hearts of His sincere servants with the light of His knowledge and adorned them with the ornament of His sanctification and holiness. He is the Self-Subsisting, to Whose power and dominion the tongues of His servants and creation bear witness. There is none other God but Him, the Single, the One, the Mighty, the All-Bountiful.

And blessings and peace be upon His Beloved One, the Dawning-Place of His knowledge and the Dayspring of His verses, and upon His family and companions, through whom the call was raised and the banner of unity was planted in the world of creation—blessings that the passage of time cannot alter. Verily, He is the Mighty, the Bestower.

The servant perceived the fragrance of your letter before its appearance and arrival. This testifieth and will continue to testify to the loftiness of your love and the excellence of your affection in God, the Lord of the Throne and earth, the Master of the hereafter and the former times.

O beloved of my heart! Your words have stirred me and your utterances have gladdened me. After reading and reciting, I approached a place that God hath sanctified from the idle fancies of heedless creatures. When I arrived, I presented what was in your letter, whereupon the Master—may our souls be sacrificed for His sake—spoke:

"O thou who art mentioned before the Wronged One! We have heard thy call and perceived from thy letter the fragrance of sincerity and supplication unto God, the Self-Sufficient, the Most High. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to adorn thee in all conditions with the ornament of righteousness and fear of God, to protect thee from the evil of enemies, to give thee to drink at all times from the cup of recognition, and to ordain for thee from the Pen of Destiny that which will draw thee near unto Him and assist thee in that which thou hast been commanded in His Book. Verily, He is the Almighty Whom the veils of the deluded cannot hinder, nor the imaginings of the heedless. There is none other God but Him, the Single, the One, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

O Rida! Upon thee be My peace. Thou art ever remembered in the gathering of the captives. Blessed art thou for having drunk the choice wine of certitude and utterance in praise of God, the Lord of the worlds and the Goal of all peoples. We beseech Him, exalted be He, to open before thy face the door of His bestowal, to rain down upon thee from the clouds of His generosity the showers of His bounty and the outpourings of His mercy, to protect thee with the hosts of power and might, and to assist thee in good deeds. Verily, He is the Guardian of good deeds and the Revealer of verses. There is none other God but Him, the Mighty, the All-Knowing."

Praise be to God that the glad tidings of that spiritual beloved's health and well-being arrived and became the cause of joy and delight. God is witness that I have ever been thinking of you and have ever beseeched the Self-Sufficient, the Most High for your well-being. However, since you have been in the service of Jinab-i-Amin—upon him be God's peace, protection and mercy—complete assurance and certitude was attained. I beseech God, exalted be His glory, to preserve and protect him, to strengthen him through His might and exalt him through His loving-kindness. Moreover, mention of him was heard at times from the Master's tongue. Surely this mention must have an effect in the world. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to send down upon him from the heaven of His grace the rains of blessing and favor.

Verily, He is the Lord of creation and in His grasp are the reins of all who are in the heavens and on earth. The gift that was sent in their name has arrived. Praise be to God Who hath manifested from His presence that which indicateth His love and affection. Think not that there was any hesitation in accepting what was sent. Nay, by the very Self of the Lord, this servant beareth witness that it was accepted with supreme acceptance. The gaze of them that are endued with certitude is fixed upon love and purpose and the sender, not upon aught else. Love hath its aspects and stations. It is the teacher of hearts and souls and the revealer of mysteries. And since this deed was adorned with the ornament of love, its acceptance transcendeth all acceptance and is approved by His loved ones and chosen ones.

Concerning what you wrote about this servant's intention to gather the means for the garden remaining firm and steadfast—this is among the aspects of love, for when a hundred cometh, ninety is also with us. When love is established, its conditions and effects are present. This condition can never be separated or divided from that which is conditioned by it. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to preserve you and draw you nigh. Verily, He is the Lord of grace and confirmation, the Helper of them that do good amongst His servants, and the Ultimate Goal of them that know in His kingdom.

The apple of my eye, his honor Aqa Mirza Mustafa—upon him be 9 6 6 [Baha'u'llah]—hath repeatedly made mention of you. Indeed, each of the existing chosen ones hath made and continueth to make mention of you, and all beseech from God, exalted be His glory, whatsoever constituteth the supreme ladder for ascent and exaltation. Verily God is the Generous Giver. Nothing escapeth His knowledge. He doeth what He willeth and ordaineth what He pleaseth. He is the Mighty, the Powerful, the Omnipotent. Peace and remembrance and mercy be upon you and upon God's righteous servants. Praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

The servant, 9th of Jamadiyu'th-Thani 1308

Since they had inquired about the previously sent grape vines, the grape vines that were sent as gifts—as their cuttings arrived here dried up—therefore remained barren and unfruitful.

BH00967: Praise be sanctified above all that hath been…

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

Praise be sanctified above all that hath been and shall be, befitting that Self-Subsisting Lord Who, through the light of His creative Word "Be!", hath enabled sheer nothingness to attain the mantle of existence.

The blessed word “and it is!” hath been and ever shall be a witness to this manifest and resplendent power. The convulsions of the world and the oppression of nations have neither prevented nor deterred Him from His purpose, though at times, in accordance with the requirements of consummate wisdom, the manifestations of grace and favor are made to pause. And since most have no access to the City of understanding of this station, they become possessed of vain imaginings.

Glorified art Thou, O my God, my Lord, and my Support! I beseech Thee by the oceans of Thy patience and forbearance, and by Thy power and might, to enable the ignorant to draw nigh unto the City of Thy knowledge, and the rulers to the court of Thy justice. Thou art verily the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous, and within Thy grasp lie the reins of all who are in the heavens and on earth.

May my spirit be a sacrifice unto your mention and utterance, your arising and your steadfastness! For some time, outwardly no news had been received from your honour, although praise be to God, repeatedly from the tongue of the Goal of the world was heard, specifically concerning your honour, that which is the cause of eternal joy and gladness. And after attaining the presence on this day, these exalted words were revealed and sent down from the tongue of grandeur, exalted be His utterance and magnificent His proof:

In My Name, the Wronged One

O My Afnan! Upon thee be My glory and the glory of all who are in My kingdom! This Wronged One is afflicted each day with fresh calumnies. Glory be to God! Lies and calumnies have reached such a point as cannot be recounted or expressed. Each soul who turneth toward this direction, from behind the hill arriveth word that he hath stolen large sums of money from merchants and brought it to Akka. Although these matters are the cause of grief, yet since they are for the sake of God they are the water of life and are in truth the manifestation of joy and delight. The world and all that is therein, in relation to God, blessed and exalted be He, are loved and accepted, but if this relationship be severed they are not worth a penny. Praise be to God, whatsoever hath befallen Us, its purpose is clear and evident to the Afnan of the Divine Lote-Tree, manifest as the sun and apparent to all. Deeds are the mirror of existence and the record of rank and station. Say:

My God, my God! Praise be to Thee for having revealed unto me that which was concealed from Thy servants and treasured up through Thy power and might. I beseech Thee, O God of Names and Creator of heaven, by the lights of Thy justice and the manifestations of Thy sovereignty, to assist the heedless to turn unto Thee and to face the door of Thy bounty. Then open unto me, O my Master and my King, the doors of Thy mercy and Thy generosity in every world of Thy worlds. Verily, Thou art the Almighty, the Glorious, the All-Bountiful.

Verily each of these mentions is a key to unlock a door, and when its time cometh it shall open a matter from God, the Opener, the Bountiful. O Afnan! Upon thee be My loving-kindness, My grace and My mercy. For some time now Afnan, Haji Mirza Abu’l-Hasan, upon him be the Glory of God, hath attained the presence and dwelt in the vicinity, and their affairs have been in upheaval. Although these upheavals are the means of tranquility and assurance, for the Afnan were created for the promotion of God’s Cause—when outwardly restricted, inwardly they are engaged in service to the Cause of God, blessed and

exalted be He. Your honor is aware and can testify to what was mentioned. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, first to set right his affairs through His bounty and generosity, and to ordain for him that which shall profit and enrich him, and to strengthen him in all His worlds. Verily He is the All-Bountiful, the Generous Giver. Your honor must also strive diligently to the extent possible to set right [their affairs]. I beseech the True One in all conditions for whatsoever conduces to glory, exaltation and grace. Verily He is powerful over all things.

The Greater Branch hath repeatedly made mention of your honor and sought [divine] confirmation and grace. We beseech God to fulfill the needs of His Afnan through His might, power and sovereignty. Convey greetings to the Afnan on behalf of the Wronged One. They are remembered in all conditions and are recipients of grace. We beseech God to exalt them through His Name and make them banners of His guidance amongst His creation. Verily He is the Hearer, the Answerer. The Glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My mercy be upon you and upon those who are with you and who love you and hearken unto your words concerning this manifest Cause. End.

The upheavals that have arisen have made manifest matters that had remained concealed. A certain soul, toward whom the utmost favor had been shown, hath at length, by reason of the instigations of the slanderers, occupied himself night and day with such designs. In truth, what a wondrous veil hath been rent asunder! So much so that even when His Holiness Afnan, Jinab-i-Aqa Siyyid Ahmad—upon him be the Most Glorious Baha of God—turned his steps toward this region, they sent word by telegraph in his wake unto Beirut that Siyyid Ahmad and his servant, Nasru'llah, had stolen a sum of money in cash together with certain banknotes and had directed their course unto that land. Shaykh Muhammad Yazdi is occupied with such matters as these, that his own condition and the condition of him who misled him may be made manifest. Verily, God is the Expounder, the All-Wise. Today is the day wherein the hidden things of men's breasts and the treachery of their eyes are laid bare. God, the Most High, the Most Great, hath spoken the truth.

Attention to the rectification of the affairs of that honored Afnan—upon him be the Baha and loving-kindness of God—who is resolved to set forth, dependeth upon the care of Your Honor, and assuredly you will extend such attention as lieth within your power. Unto the gentlemen, the Afnans of the Divine Lote-Tree—upon them be the Most Glorious Baha of God—I convey abasement, utter self-effacement, glorification, and Baha. The one God beareth witness to the condition of this servant, that they have ever been remembered in the Most Holy Presence; of this supreme bounty there can be no doubt, and the divine Books, both before and after, testify and bear witness thereto.

This evanescent servant hath in all conditions besought, and still beseecheth, the All-Sufficing, the Most Exalted, for whatsoever may conduce to their exaltation and advancement. Assuredly, whatsoever hath been submitted, and whatsoever is submitted, is attended by acceptance; with the bountiful, deeds are not hard to accomplish. The Most Glorious Baha and the most exalted praise rest upon Your Honor, and upon whoso loveth you and heedeth your word, your remembrance, and your utterance in proclaiming the Message of God, the Most Great, and His manifest Cause. Praise be unto Him, inasmuch as He is the Best-Beloved of all the worlds.

The servant 9 Jamadiyu'th-Thani 1308

BH04698: Praise befitteth the Lord of all being, Who through…

In the Name of the Desire of the worlds!

Praise befitteth the Lord of all being, Who through a single drop from the ocean of His generosity brought the world of existence into being, and through the radiance of the Day Star of His Most Great Name illumined both the world and all nations. His purpose in this supreme mercy and mighty favor hath been and still is the recognition of Him by His servants. Blessed is the servant who hath taken and drunk from the hand of bounty the living waters of immortality. He is of the people of Baha, who in the Qayyumu'l-Asma hath been mentioned and recorded by the Supreme Pen. Blessed is he and joy be unto him.

O my God and my Lord! Withhold not Thy servants from entering the crimson Ark of rubies which Thou hast ordained specifically for the people of Baha. O Lord! Thou seest Thy servant turning toward the horizon of Thy prison. I beseech Thee by the light of Thy Cause, whereby Thy earth and heaven were illumined, to aid me to serve Thy loved ones. Verily Thou art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest. There is no God but Thee, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise….

BH02958: Praise befitteth that Most Glorious, Most Exalted, Most Great…

Praise befitteth that Most Glorious, Most Exalted, Most Great, Most Holy, Self-Subsisting Lord Who, through one blessed word shining forth from the heaven of His Will, illumined the world of utterance and adorned it with the pearls of knowledge. Glorified be His majesty, boundless His grace, and there is no God but Him. He is the One Who hath power to manifest diverse letters from a single letter, and from these He brought forth the realms of words, and revealed the hidden pearls concealed within the shells in the ocean of His power. Within this utterance lie hidden the seas of knowledge and wisdom which none can manifest save through His might and power and grandeur and sovereignty….

This day is sanctified above all days, for it is attributed to the Truth. Blessed is he who hath attained to circumambulation of the Kaaba of God and hath clung to the hem of His mercy….

O party of God! This is the day of service and assistance. With the Kawthar of utterance quicken the dead and guide the wayward to the dawning-place of nearness. Ye are the cup-bearers of the Salsabil of utterance, the Desired One of all worlds. Soon shall the carpet of the world be rolled up. Every created thing, with its outer and inner tongue, beareth witness to its transformation and evanescence. Blessed are they that hear!

That which today taketh precedence over all matters and is acceptable in the presence of Him Who conversed on Sinai is the manifestation of unity and concord from the horizons of the heavens of hearts. Blessed is he who hath made his paramount concern the unification of the hearts of My loved ones.

O party of God! We counsel you to such deeds as will cause the exaltation of God's Word and lead to the acceptance of the people of the world….

BH00666: Praise be to the Lord of all desires…

He is the Most Holy, Most Great, Most Exalted, Most Glorious!

Praise be to the Lord of all desires, the Sovereign of the unseen and seen realms, the Manifestation of names and attributes, Who with one exalted Word adorned absolute nothingness with the ornament of existence, and through it illumined the visible and invisible cities with the light of vision and knowledge. Exalted be His glory and His power, and exalted be His light and radiance! Light, radiance, remembrance and glory be upon those who have arisen to aid His Cause and uphold His commandments and laws, whose feet have not slipped through the doubts of the people nor the intimations of the idol-worshippers. They heard and turned to Him; they recognized and spoke, until they arose to serve His Cause, the Impregnable, the Inaccessible, the Mighty, the Wise.

O beloved of my heart! The words and utterances which bore the sweet fragrances of love and unity have arrived—the arrival of an ocean of praise and remembrance for one who is truly thirsty and spiritually athirst. After their arrival, perusal and contemplation, such a state of joy was attained that pen and ink fail to describe it, for from each word thereof wafted the fragrance of the love of the Desired One of all worlds. Blessed are ye and joy be unto you for that which hath flowed from the fountain of your love, the river of your knowledge. We beseech God to assist you and draw you nigh unto Him in all conditions. Verily, He is the Self-Sufficient, the Most High. And after the manifestation of joy and gladness, having aimed for the supreme heights and most exalted horizon, and after complete permission was granted, the verses and prose which flowed from the pen and ink of love and affection were presented. This is what the Lord of all men hath spoken in reply—exalted be His utterance and magnificent His proof, and there is no Beloved besides Him.

He is the Speaking One, the Compassionate, the Generous.

O Muhammad-Qabli-ʿAli! Upon thee be My glory and loving-kindness. The people of that house and station have ever been present before the countenance of the Lord of all men and have been remembered with most wondrous praise. The honored and exalted Ha-Qabli-Sin, who hath ascended unto the Most Sublime Horizon, was blessed with special favors, and We revealed for him, before and after his ascension, that which brought solace to eyes and manifested mysteries. We testify that he arose to serve the Cause with such power as was not weakened by the affairs of men, and drank the nectar of immortality from the hands of bounty with such steadfastness as was not shaken by the conditions of the divines nor the might of princes nor the clamor of every remote barking dog. We testify that he attained unto that which was inscribed by the Supreme Pen in the Books of God, the Lord of the Mighty Throne. He hearkened when the Call was raised, hastened and said:

> “Yea, yea, O Thou Goal of the hearts of them that know! Here am I, here am I, O Beloved of all who are in the heavens and on earth!”

Thus did the Lord of existence manifest His grace and mercy that hath preceded all things. Verily thy Lord is the All-Bountiful, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

O Muhammad-Qabli-ʿAli! Give thanks unto God, thy Lord, for having aided thee to turn unto Him and for having revealed unto thee in the Most Great Prison that whereby the Tree was transformed into Fire and cried out, saying:

> “O concourse of earth and heaven! The Lord of all creation hath come with sovereignty encompassing the unseen and the seen, and with a Cause before which all the armies of the world are powerless.”

To this doth the Most Great Name bear witness in this mighty, exalted Station. Thy letter hath come before the Wronged One, and from it We perceived the fragrance of thy remembrance of this Most Great Announcement, whereby the hearts of the sincere were set ablaze. Blessed be thy tongue for having spoken the truth, and thy pen for having manifested before the face of the Lord of Names, in this exalted station, the pearls of remembrance and praise. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to strengthen thee through His sovereignty and to assist thee through His power, and to record for thee, with the Pen of His grace and the ink of His bounty, the reward of attaining His presence. He, verily, is the Single, the One, the Powerful, the Mighty. The glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My Kingdom be upon thee and upon them that are with thee and love thee for the sake of God, the Lord of the worlds.

We wish to make mention of My leaf and My handmaiden who hath turned unto and believed in God, the Mighty, the Wise. O My leaf! Hearken unto My call from this Spot which God hath made the point round which circle them that are nigh unto Him and them that believe in His unity. We have mentioned thee aforetime in verses that shall neither be effaced nor altered throughout centuries and ages, and God hath made them to endure in His perspicuous Book. Rejoice thou in these glad-tidings whose light hath shone forth from the horizon of the heaven of the utterance of thy Lord, the Speaking, the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing. Blessed art thou and they that are with thee. We have sent down for you that which will draw you nigh unto God, the Lord of the exalted Throne.

O ʿAziz! Upon thee be the glory of God and His loving-kindness. Thou hast attained unto turning toward Him and unto the praise of thy Lord, through Whom was manifested that which was hidden in knowledge and treasured in the protection of God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy. The servant who is present hath submitted that which God cast into thy heart, and We have found therefrom the fragrance of orientation and turning unto Him. Verily thy Lord is the Remembering, the Speaking, the All-Knowing. Give thanks unto God for having brought forth from the treasury of thine utterance the pearls of His knowledge. He, verily, is the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous. Say:

My God, my God! Praise be to Thee for having honored me with Thy days and illumined me with the lights of Thy knowledge. I beseech Thee by the ocean of Thy verses and the heaven of Thy grace, and by the Lamp that hath taken neither guard nor veil unto itself, to make me known by Thy Name and steadfast in the service of Thy Cause. I beseech Thee, O Lord of the worlds, to open through the key of Thy All-Bountiful Name the doors of Thy favors, Thy mercy and Thy riches. Verily, Thou art the Almighty over what Thou willest, and in Thy grasp are the reins of all affairs of the first and the last. The glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My grace be upon thee, upon thy tongue, upon thy heart and thy devotion, upon those who are with thee, and upon every steadfast and firm one, and every faithful and trusted one.

Praise be to God! After the arrival of the letter another world appeared and another fragrance was diffused, for that which emanated from the essence of the heart was each a radiating light and a shining

brilliance in praise and glorification of the Goal of the world and the Beloved of nations. After its presentation and recitation the Tongue of Grandeur spoke this blessed word—exalted be His utterance:

> "O servant in attendance, divine confirmation hath encompassed the dear one, upon him be My glory. Blessed be it unto him and may it be wholesome unto him."

In truth, in the earliest days, despite the turning away of most people, he attained the Kawthar of utterance in such wise that he was adorned with the ornament of acceptance and illumined with the light of good-pleasure. At the time of its presentation and recitation, the lips of the Intended One were smiling and the face of the Beloved was radiant and joyous. No deed until now has been lost nor shall it be. Mention and praise in these days, known as the Day of God, is considered the most excellent of remembrances. I have beseeched and do beseech God, exalted be His glory, for confirmation in mentioning and praising His loved ones. Praise be to God, the people of that household have, from the earliest days until now, been blessed with beholding the signs, reading the verses, and turning to the horizon of the Manifestation.

Blessed are they and joy be unto them. His honor, the departed and elevated one, upon him be the Most Glorious Glory of God, was mentioned most often in the presence of the Goal of the worlds. By the life of our Lord, he was repeatedly remembered in His presence and was blessed with special favors. At all times the assistance of grace reaches the elevated one in the Most Exalted Paradise. Verily our Lord is the All-Bountiful, the Generous, the Compassionate, the Forgiving, the Merciful. I make mention of all the relatives and beseech God, exalted be His glory, for each one that which is the cause of exaltation and the means of elevation. Verily He fulfilleth the rewards of the doers of good and granteth the needs of the sincere ones.

As for their seeking permission to attain the presence and their supplication, after its presentation He said:

> "In these days the wisdom to which all are commanded does not permit it. We bid thee to patience and forbearance and We beseech God to record for thee the reward of those who hastened and turned until they attained the presence and heard My mighty and wondrous call."

In truth, the reward of attaining the presence hath been written, recorded and confirmed for that spiritual loved one. Now it is fitting that not only "blessed be it unto your honor" be mentioned but also "may it be wholesome unto your honor" be said. Praise be to God, the Bestower of this lofty station and this mighty and wondrous mention. The dominion and the kingdom and the majesty and the power belong to God, the One, the All-Informed. Glory and mention and praise be upon you and upon those who are with you and upon every one who hath arisen with supreme steadfastness to establish this Most Great and Mighty Cause.

The servant 9 Rajab 1308

Volume 099: Akka 1308–1309 A.H. (1890–1892), Part I (3 of 3)

BH00056: God, there is no God but Him, Who speaks…

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

God, there is no God but Him, Who speaks in all things that there is no God but Him. His is the glory and the majesty, the power and the beauty, and He is the One Who distinguishes through His Word between truth and falsehood, darkness and light, ignorance and knowledge, acceptance and rejection. He is the One with power, Whose might all things acknowledge and Whose praise is celebrated by all in the kingdom of command and creation. He is the Mighty, the Unconstrained. Glory and praise, grandeur and splendor, exaltation and eminence be upon the Hands of His Cause, who did not break His covenant and testament, and who traveled through cities and villages to exalt His Word, guide His creation, manifest His Cause, and spread His signs. The servant beseeches his Lord to strengthen them, prosper them, protect them, guard them, aid them, support them, and inspire them with that which will draw the servants near to the horizon of care and favors.

O beloved of my heart! The traces of the pen which were cast upon the page from a tender and gentle heart did truly open the gate of reunion and brought to remembrance the days of that beloved one's presence, and in one respect were a harbinger. God knoweth that from each of its words wafted such a fragrance of the love of the Beloved of the worlds that none had any choice or pause save to exclaim "Blessed be God Who inspires His loved ones with that which attracts the hearts of those who have turned towards Him." Exalted be our Creator, our Protector, and our Helper! After perusal and reading, it was taken to the Most Exalted Station and the Most Holy, Luminous, and Resplendent Spot, and was presented before the countenance of the Lord of Names, attaining the honor of His attention. This is what the Lord of the Beginning and the End spoke, exalted be His glory:

In My Name, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious

Thy name was presented and We heard thy call and found the fragrance of thy love, thy sincerity, and thy turning to God, the Mighty, the Great. The servant who was present offered up that which thou didst commune with God, Who hath taken for Himself a station in the prison, and therein raised His call and manifested His Cause and His sovereignty, and spoke before the faces of His servants, and opened the gate of His grace, and raised the heaven of His utterance, and adorned it with the lights of His verses. He, verily, hath power over whatsoever He willeth, and in His grasp is the rein of utterance, and He is the Single One, the Mighty, the Bestower.

O Son of My Name! Upon thee be My glory and loving-kindness. The sinners shall be known by their marks. This is the Day wherein the secrets of hearts and the betrayal of eyes shall be revealed. Today in the Great City there hath appeared that which was hidden. They have clung to calumnies that have no likeness, neither now nor ever. Yahya and Shaykh Muhammad have sought after their own kind and are engaged in corruption. No sooner doth anyone turn towards this land than instantly telegraph messages

arrive claiming that such-and-such person hath committed theft and gone to ʿAkka. Among these was the honored Afnan, Aqa Siyyid Ahmad, upon him be the Glory of God, the Most Glorious.

Shortly after he set out for the Most Holy Court, before his arrival in Beirut, telegraph messages arrived claiming that Siyyid Ahmad and his companions had stolen money and were traveling thither for this reason. Thus have their souls seduced them. The station whose sanctity and detachment all fair-minded ones testify unto, the sources of oppression have sought to besmirch with the dust of calumnies. Mushiru'd-Dawlih Mirza Husayn Khan—may God forgive him—witnessed the arrival of the Wronged One and His conduct, speech and deeds in the Great City, and understood, and made mention of it in the assemblage of the companions of the government and nation.

Praise be to God Who hath revealed what was hidden in the hearts of the heedless and the idolators. We beseech Him to cause His loved ones to circle round His will with such steadfastness as shall cause the hearts of the oppressors and transgressors to tremble.

Today the Cause of God is as manifest as the sun and hath appeared with such power as hath neither been seen nor heard. Nevertheless, the oppressor of Dawlat-Abad, as soon as he heareth that a soul hath turned towards the Faith, either he himself or some other calumniator like him hasteneth with all manner of schemes to lead astray. Say: My God, my God! Illumine the hearts of Thy servants with the light of Thy knowledge, then cast upon them that which shall preserve them from the evil of Thine enemies. Unfairness hath reached such a pass that they have denied the bounty of this Revelation. While Yahya is occupied in flight and he remaineth concealed in his house, the Wronged One standeth before the faces of all. At times in prison, at times beneath chains. When the effulgences of the light of the divine Sun of utterance did somewhat shine forth, they emerged from behind the veil and committed that which causeth the realities of all things to weep and lament, and the Spirit of the Cause to be seen crying out.

Among other things, he met with Khalil in Sabzivar and spoke words whereof God Himself is aware. Yet wondrous indeed is it that Khalil should have granted such a heedless one admittance. Say: O Khalil! Know thou that the deeds of Hadi, from the first, are but guile and deception, whereby he entered into this Cause. Cleanse thou thy skirt from his whisperings and from the whisperings of his like. In the earliest days of Islam souls such as these heedless ones committed deeds whose fruit, on the Day of Reckoning, was this: that the Lord of existence was hanged and martyred.

O Khalil! In truth I declare that such souls were not with us, nor were they from the beginning cognizant of the nature of this Cause. Turn thou unto the Writings, that the truth may be made manifest unto thee. Today the fragrances of the divine verses have encompassed the world; the seal of the choice Wine hath been broken in the Name of the Self-Subsisting. Deprive not thyself thereof. Arise, through the power and might of God, to serve the Cause. The world passeth away, but that which is with God endureth. From the beginning of Islam until this hour, not one among the divines hath been truly aware of the manner of His Revelation, and among the party of the Shi'ah there hath been naught but cursing and abuse.

O Khalil! Look from the horizon of the House in thy Lord's name. Say: O people! Hear! Hear! By God, the shrill voice of the Most Exalted Pen hath been raised from the prison of Akka. Behold! Behold! The Light hath shone forth and radiated from the heaven of God's will, the Lord of the worlds. O Khalil! Ask none,

for We sent thee aforetime verses that all the treasuries of kings and what the servants possess cannot equal. To this doth the Lord of creation bear witness in this glorious and wondrous station.

O Khalil! God willing, through the grace of the All-Glorious Lord thou shalt not again fall into the well of vain imaginings. Consider the learned and ignorant among the Shi'ih faction. They counted themselves the greatest, most exalted, most learned and most God-fearing on earth, and the cause was one like Hadi. O Khalil! Reflect on the edifices they built and repaired with hands of fancy and idle imagination. Consent no more that such vain imaginings should arise. Alas! Alas! Those imaginings were transformed into tyranny and the great terror appeared, and thou hast heard what they brought to pass. Even now the divines are engaged in cursing and reviling from their pulpits. Consider the reason for this, that perchance thou mayest drink the wine of certitude from the hand of the bounty of the Goal of the world's desire, and mayest not consent that another faction like the former should appear in the land. Preserve the servants by a command from the Ordainer, the Ancient of Days.

O Khalil! In the days when the darkness of might had seized the world, none appeared save this Wronged One, yet when the light of the Cause partly dawned they attacked this Wronged One with swords of hatred. What behooveth thee today is to arise with the utmost humility and submission, and turning toward God's Kaaba, to utter these exalted words:

My God, my God, my Lord and my Support! I beseech Thee by the waves of the ocean of Thy utterance, by the mysteries hidden in Thy Book, and by the verses sent down from the clouds of Thy bounty, to aid me to detach myself from all else but Thee and to hold fast to the cord of Thy loving providence. O Lord! Assist me to remain steadfast in the Greater Steadfastness and to turn to Thy gate which Thou hast opened to all in earth and heaven. Thou art the Omnipotent over what Thou willest. There is no God but Thee, the Commander, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. O Lord! Protect Thy servants from the whisperings of the calumniators and the cawing of those who caw, who have broken Thy Covenant and Testament, denied Thy verses, and disputed Thy proofs and evidence. Verily Thou art the All-Bountiful, the Omnipotent, the Almighty. There is no God but Thee, the All-Giving, the Compassionate, the Generous.

O Khalil! Upon thee be the Glory of God! In past years, verses were repeatedly revealed from the heaven of bounty especially for thee and sent through Ibn-i-Asdaq, upon him be My glory. Read them, detached from the world; verily they will draw thee to God, the Lord of the Mighty Throne. Reflect well upon the former party, what was their recompense on the Day of Resurrection and what befell them, that perchance ye may not again fall into the snare. The Sunnis and the community who were detested by all the people of Iran, without any teaching, through mere association, a group accepted the Faith, and a person in Sudan claimed to be the Mihdi and a hundred thousand gathered around him, while the oppressive and unjust Shi'ih committed that which no tongue hath power to describe.

This is the day of the verse which saith: "The Day when mankind shall stand before the Lord of the worlds," and likewise He saith: "We verily sent Moses with Our signs, saying: 'Bring forth thy people from darkness into light and remind them of the days of God.' In this surely are signs for every patient, grateful one." Although the days of the Manifestation are also counted among the days of God, these days are specifically the days of God mentioned in the divine Books.

O Khalil! Those souls like Hadi and others are considered by the believer as the first to believe, and by the disbeliever as the first to deny. By the life of God! He is not among the horsemen of the arena of knowledge and wisdom. I say in truth: Take hold of the Book with such might that neither armies nor ranks shall deter thee, and with such power that the oppression of tyrants and the clamor of aggressors shall not weaken it.

His is the grace, bounty and bestowals, in that He hath revealed to His servants the pearls of the treasures of His knowledge and the jewels of the repositories of His utterance. Verily, He is the One with power over whatsoever He willeth, and He is the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous. In truth every fair-minded one is bewildered and every possessor of justice is astonished, for the party that considered itself the most excellent and exalted of all the peoples of the world—on the Day of Reckoning there appeared from them that which had never occurred from the beginning of the world until now. At one time He said: O servant present! The lamentations and wailing of the pulpits of Iran are raised high, and with most eloquent tongue they cry out saying:

> "O God! O Lord! O Support! O Goal! O Beloved! Thou didst create us for Thy mention and praise and graciously ordained us thus. Now we have become the abode of the enemies of Thy Self. Thou art the All-Hearing and the All-Seeing. Thou hearest what they say and hast witnessed what they have done and what they do."

And now again some are engaged in organizing such a party.

This servant, in view of the love and sincerity that has existed for his honor, deemed it necessary to mention certain matters that have transpired, for the ungodly have resorted to trickery and deception, turning their attention to anyone with whom they have heard a conversation. All are aware that these souls had been hidden for years from the sovereign power of the days, and when through the might of the King of Kings the Cause was raised up and the call was heard from every quarter and the luminary of utterance shone forth from every direction, they emerged with swords of hatred and animosity. Surely they are aware how many souls, attracted by the utterance of the Desired One of the worlds, set out for the place of sacrifice and freely offered up their lives at the feet of the Lord of all beings.

However, as soon as Mirza Hadi heard that he was called a Babi, his very foundations were seized with trepidation, and for the sake of two days of earthly life, he forsook eternal life and everlasting existence, and spoke from the pulpit that which befitted none but himself. By the life of our Purpose, he uttered that which caused the Holy Spirit to lament. In every place he mounted a pulpit and spoke, and from one pulpit he disavowed the Faith and thus saved himself from death.

O beloved of my heart! His very existence bears witness to his hypocrisy, while the Twin Luminous Lights, his honor Ashraf, and before them his honor Kazim—upon them all be the Most Glorious Glory—the martyrdom of each stands as a clear testimony to their faith, recognition, steadfastness and certitude. Those possessed of insight and hearing, were they to contemplate and observe with the eye of fairness and the ear of justice all that hath been manifested from the beginning of this Most Great Revelation until now, would all proclaim: "We turn toward Thee, O God of the worlds!" Glory be to God! Despite the sacrifice of holy souls, their spirits and possessions, as well as their arising to serve the Cause before the

faces of mankind, the deluded ones continue to wander in the wilderness of heedlessness and the desert of vain imaginings.

Although all know that he and his like had no knowledge of the essence of this Cause, for they were not with the Truth. This servant has been present in service for nearly forty years, and all are aware of this fact; yet none have inquired of this servant that they might be illumined by the light of truth, and that there might not appear again that which would become the cause of countless afflictions and endless tribulations.

In any case, this ephemeral one has spoken and continues to speak for the sake of God, that his honor might be aware and arise to serve the Cause with manifest certitude—an arising that will find no sitting and will not be altered. The Desired One, Who through divine power and the might of the Lord arose before the faces of princes and divines, did not seek concealment nor resort to veiling, but proclaimed the divine laws and ordinances. They have avoided Him because they are worshippers of vain imaginings, and his honor is aware of the Tablet to the Sultan which was sent from the Most Holy Court, and likewise the letters to the kings. O beloved of my heart! The opposers have manifested an oppression that has had and has no equal, and in previous years, Tablets were repeatedly revealed and sent specifically for his honor, and his honor Ibn-i-Ismu'llah al-Asdaq—upon him be the Most Glorious Glory of God—was charged with conveying them.

Take hold of the reins of the Cause with the power from God, our Lord and your Lord and the Lord of the Mighty Throne, then guide the people to His straight path and His mighty Message.

Now close to one hundred volumes of verses and evidences have been sent down from the heaven of divine will. The calumnies have reached such a state that every possessor of truthfulness, justice and fairness bears witness to the oppression of those heedless souls. For the sake of God I shall relate one account, that the station of the slanderers and liars might become somewhat known.

Section 2: "One day the honored Haji Siyyid Javad, known…"

One day the honored Haji Siyyid Javad, known as Karbila'i, upon him be the Most Glorious Glory of God, attained the presence and submitted that His Holiness's uncle Haji Mirza Siyyid Muhammad and the other uncle, upon them both be the Glory of God, had attained the pilgrimage of Najaf and Karbila and were now returning with the intention of going back to their homeland. The Ancient Beauty asked, "Have you said anything to them?" He submitted "No." He commanded, "Why not? You should be engaged in teaching the Cause of God. Now go, convey Our greetings and bring them into Our presence." He guided them to the court of glory and majesty.

The next day they returned with His Holiness's uncle and attained the presence, but only the elder uncle came, without his other brother. After attaining the presence, the waves of the ocean of utterance of the Goal of all the worlds appeared in such wise that none could enumerate them. Finally He said,

> "We do not wish for you to remain deprived of the blessed Tree that has grown up in your midst and is adorned with the fruits of wisdom and utterance."

He submitted,

> "My Master, for one thousand two hundred years we have heard that the Qa'im dwells in well-known, famous cities, and that His children each exist in those cities in perfect glory and grandeur, and that if anyone mentioned a word about His birth, they would immediately seize him and shed his blood. Moreover, what became of the account of the sacred precinct? Where did the mention of the sea and the carpet go? And likewise we have heard from all the divines of the Shi'ih party that His Holiness will come and appear and will pay the debts of the Shi'ihs and will conquer the whole earth, and likewise mentions that this servant is unable to relate, as it would prolong the discourse. Finally they say that He is your sister's son—how can this servant accept this? What was said before is now contrary to what is manifest as the sun. I know not what is my duty."

Then the Tongue of Grandeur spoke this most exalted word:

> "O uncle! Now return to your dwelling and properly consider the traditions and aforementioned doubts and whatever causes your hesitation, and come back with your brother. If God wishes, He will transform doubts into decisive verses. Verily He has power over all things."

The next day he came without his brother and mentioned the doubts one by one, and the answer was revealed. And what was revealed became known among the servants as the Epistle to the Uncle, and later due to consummate wisdom the name "Uncle" was removed and it became known as the Book of Certitude. Now this same Mirza Hadi has claimed to his followers that the Book of Certitude is from Mirza Yahya. All the Afnan are present—you may investigate so that the falsehood of these slanderers may become clear and evident. It is hoped that you will overlook the unseemly statements of those people and turn to the sacred texts. The Cause will become as clear as the sun to you.

O my God, my God! This is Thy servant and Thy devotee. Thou knowest and seest that he speaketh not of his own accord, but rather by what Thou hast caused him to know through Thy grace and taught him through Thy sovereignty. I beseech Thee, O Thou the Desire of the world and the One manifest through the Most Great Name, to assist Thy servants to turn unto Thee and to repent at the door of Thy grace. Then enable them to make amends for that which hath escaped them in Thy days. Verily Thou art the Almighty, the Mighty, the Unconstrained. There is none other God but Thee, the Lord of the beginning and the end.

According to His command, whatever hath been revealed in the name of Mirza Hadi Dawlat-Abadi and is in the possession of the friends should be gathered and written down and delivered by trustworthy hands to Jinab-i-Khalil, upon him be the glory of God, that he may examine them, and likewise the Books of Verses. Then let them be taken back. It has been some years since a Tablet was specifically revealed in his name, although previously verses were repeatedly revealed and sent in his name, each one a manifest proof and a shining evidence for the establishment of the Cause. Ere long from all corners of the world the cry of "Yea, yea!" and "Here am I, here am I!" shall be raised, for there hath been and is no escape for

anyone. We beseech God, our Lord and the Lord of the Throne on high and of earth below, to assist all to do that which He loveth and desireth.

Mention was made of His Holiness, the departed and forgiven, the late Jinab-i-Fa'iz, upon him be the glory of God, the Most Glorious. After it was submitted to the Most Holy, Most Exalted Presence, these sublime and decisive words were revealed specifically for him. The Lord, exalted and sanctified be He, speaketh thus:

He is the Expositor, the Compassionate, the Generous

God testifieth that there is none other God but Him, and he who hath attained in His days is indeed the attainer, and was thus named by His holy, mighty and wondrous tongue. We testify that he attained unto faith in the early days and drank the choice wine of knowledge from the hands of the bounty of his Lord, the All-Merciful. He it is whom God adorned with the ornament of supreme steadfastness, such that neither the clamor of the people nor the roaring of those who denied the final judgment could deter him.

O Fa'iz! Upon thee be My glory, My loving-kindness and My mercy. Rejoice thou in the Most Exalted Paradise, inasmuch as the Lord of all beings hath made mention of thee in the prison of Akka. Blessed be thy tongue for having acknowledged the unity of God, the Lord of the Throne on high and of earth below, and for having confessed that which the Supreme Pen hath revealed from the Most Glorious Horizon.

Blessed be thy heart for having turned to the horizon of Revelation and thine ear for having heard the call of Him Who conversed upon Sinai when it was raised in truth—the call whereby the Trump was sounded, the inhabitants of the graves arose, and the Day of Resurrection appeared. Blessed be thine eyes—We testify that they attained unto the signs of God and unto the vision of those who cast the world behind their backs, turning unto the Dayspring of His verses, the Dawning-Place of His evidences, and the Source of His laws. Blessed be thy face for having turned toward His direction, and thine ear for having heard His sweetest call when it was raised betwixt earth and heaven. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to send down upon thee from the heaven of His generosity the rains of His mercy, to grant thee of the fruits of the Tree beyond which there is no passing, both morn and eve, and to open before thee at all times the gates of loving providence, grace and beneficence. Verily He is the Compassionate, the Mighty, the All-Bountiful.

Glorified art Thou, O my God, my Lord, my Support, my Goal and my Beloved! I testify to the oneness of Thy Being and to the sanctity of Thy Self above all likeness and comparison. I acknowledge Thy power, Thy sovereignty, Thy majesty and Thy might. I beseech Thee, O God of all beings and Goal of all creation, by the standards of Thy signs and the banners of Thy guidance, by the resplendent, shining Light that hath dawned from the horizon of Thy Will through Thy command and might, by the rustling of the Sadratu'l-Muntaha and the flowing of the Kawthar of life in the Most Exalted Paradise, and by this most pure dust and this sanctified tomb, to fulfill my needs and forgive me, my father and mother, and those who have believed in Thee and Thy signs. O Lord! Ordain for me the good of the hereafter and this world, and that which Thou hast ordained for Thy chosen servants who were not hindered by the doubts of the world nor the intimations of the nations from turning toward the court of Thy glory and drawing nigh unto the

precincts of Thy majesty. Verily, Thou art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the Forgiving, the Merciful.

Praise be to God! After mention was made of the ascension of his honor the departed one, upon him be the Most Glorious Glory of God, this servant beheld before him the waves of the ocean of grace and forgiveness. From all directions, great mercy and supreme bounties were directed towards the departed one. It is hoped that his sons will take his station and hold fast to that which befitteth these days. Mention of them was also made in the Most Holy Court. Thanks be to God, and glory be unto Him, and bounty be His, for there appeared from the Tongue of Grandeur that which made up for what was lost. This servant beseecheth from God, exalted be His glory, whatsoever is the cause of success and confirmation. Exalted is the grace of these days, and His bounty, and His mercy, and His favor. Specifically regarding the deceased one, there appeared from the Tongue of Grandeur that which hath caused him to attain unto eternal life and everlasting bounty. Well is it with him and pleasant it is unto him. According to the Command, mention ye his sons and relatives, upon them be the Glory of God, and counsel them to patience and resignation. Verily, He is the Compassionate, the Forgiving, the Merciful.

The names mentioned in the letter of that beloved of hearts were presented before the Throne of God, exalted be His glory, and each attained unto that which hath no likeness or equal. This is what was revealed for his honor Rafi'—upon him be the Glory of God—His blessed and exalted Word:

He is the All-Knowing, the All-Wise

This is a day wherein the trees of the Most Exalted Paradise have yielded the fruits of wisdom and utterance, wherein the stream of the water of life hath flowed forth in the name of God, the Lord of all possibilities, and the light hath shone forth from the horizon of manifestation, inasmuch as He Who conversed with God hath been established upon the throne of utterance. Exalted is the All-Merciful Who hath come with power and sovereignty. O Rafi'! Upon thee be My wondrous Glory. Rejoice in that We have turned toward thee from this Scene whereby the horizons have been illumined, and We have mentioned thee with a mention before which all mention boweth down when it appeareth from the Tongue.

Hold thou fast unto the cord of bounty and cling to the hem of the mercy of thy Lord, the Possessor of the Kingdom of Names. Beware lest the sayings of the heedless sadden thee or the doubts of those who have denied God, the Lord of all men, veil thee. Take thou the Book with a strength from Us. Verily, it will draw thee nigh unto the supreme horizon, the station wherein the Caller hath cried out: "The Kingdom belongeth unto God, the Lord of all men." Say: Praise be unto Thee, O Lord of all beings, and thanksgiving be unto Thee, O Possessor of this world and the next, and glory be unto Thee, O Lord of the throne and the dust, for having guided me and drawn me nigh and revealed unto me that which shall endure through the eternity of Thy names and attributes. Verily, Thou art the Almighty, the Powerful, the All-Bountiful.

And this is what was revealed for Jinab-i-Yusuf Khan, upon him be the Glory of God:

He is the Trustworthy Speaker

This is a Book that walks and proclaims: “The Promise has come to pass and this is the Promised One at Whose appearance all things spoke forth: ‘By God, the Beloved of all who are in the heavens and earth has appeared!”’ This is the Day wherein that which was hidden throughout all eternity has been made manifest. To this testifies He Who spoke before all faces: “The Kingdom is God’s, the Lord of all worlds!” O Yusuf Khan! He Who loved Me and drank the choice wine of utterance from the cup of My bounty hath made mention of thee. We have made mention of thee through verses that surpass all that hath been witnessed upon the earth or hidden in its strata. Thus hath the Tongue of Grandeur spoken as a token of His grace, for He is the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous. Take thou the chalice of utterance in the name of the Beloved of all creation, then drink therefrom. Verily it will draw thee to a station wherein all atoms proclaim: “The Kingdom, the Dominion, the Grandeur and the Might belong to God, the Almighty, the Most Glorious, the All-Praised!”

And this is what was revealed for Jinab-i-Mirza Hidayat, upon him be the Glory of God:

In My Name, the All-Powerful, the Supreme Ruler over all names

Blessed art thou, O Hidayat, for God hath guided thee to His Most Great Announcement and His Straight Path. The joy of the Revelation hath taken possession of the realms of the unseen and the seen, yet most people remain heedless. They have cast behind their backs what they were commanded in the Book and have taken up that which was forbidden them, having followed every suspicious deceiver. Purify thy heart with the water of detachment and thy tongue with the Kawthar of utterance, and say:

> “My God, my God! Thine is the bounty, for Thou hast given me to drink of the Kawthar of immortality, and Thine is the glory, for Thou hast guided me to Thy most exalted horizon. I testify that Thy grace hath encompassed earth and heaven. I beseech Thee by the lights of Thy throne and the mysteries of Thy Book and by Him through Whom the limbs of Thy servants have trembled, to make me so steadfast in Thy love that neither names shall prevent me from drawing nigh unto Thy court, nor things from turning to the lights of Thy countenance. O my Lord! Thou seest this servant of Thine clinging to the cord of Thy bounty and awaiting the manifestations of Thy pardon and generosity. I beseech Thee not to disappoint him of that which lieth with Thee. Verily Thou art the Almighty, the All-Forgiving, the Most Merciful.”

This is what was revealed for His Honor Mirza Muhammad-Husayn, upon him be the glory of God

In the Name of Him Who is the Bounteous, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise

O thou who gazest upon the Countenance! We have purposed to make mention of thee in this hour, in this Most Great Prison, that the attraction of thy Lord’s Call might seize thee and draw thee nigh unto Him. He, verily, is the Almighty over whatsoever He willeth, and He is the All-Bountiful, the Ever-Forgiving, the All-Generous. When the Light dawned forth and the Speaker of Sinai gave voice, the servants turned away therefrom—some were prevented by Names from recognizing their Creator, others were beguiled by the world and its embellishments, whilst yet others seized the Book with such strength as the hosts of earth and all therein could not weaken. Blessed is God, the Lord of the worlds, Who hath appeared through the Most Great Name, by which the trees have spoken forth: “The sovereignty is God’s, the Possessor of this glorious Station!”

O Muhammad-Husayn! hearken unto the Call of God, the Lord of all the worlds. He, verily, maketh mention of thee with that which shall draw thee nigh unto Him, for He is the Most Merciful of the merciful. Place thy trust in all matters upon God, the Almighty, the All-Powerful. Deliver the people through wisdom and eloquent utterance, and acquaint them with God's straight Path. Beware lest that which the people possess deter thee from My Name, the Self-Subsisting, and beware lest the might of every oppressor far removed weaken thee. Set aside the world and all that is therein, and take hold of that which hath been revealed in My luminous Book. Thus hath the Dove of Divine utterance warbled upon the branches, by command of Him Who is the Ordainer, the All-Wise.

This is what was revealed for His Honor Shaykh Isma'il—upon him be the glory of God

Section 3: "The Straight Path hath appeared and the Balance…"

In the Name of Him Who is the Forgiver, the Compassionate

The Straight Path hath appeared and the Balance hath been set. Command belongeth unto God, the Powerful, the Mighty, the Bountiful. The trembling of the Revelation hath seized them that lie in the graves, and every hidden thing hath been made manifest, through the grace of God, the Lord of lords. We have heard thy call and have summoned thee from the right side of the luminous Vale, from the verdant Tree. God, there is none other God but Him, the Single, the One, the Powerful, the All-Forgiving.

O Shaykh, O Isma'il! Know thou that the two most luminous Lights, Hasan and Husayn, hastened to the place of sacrifice in their longing to attain My presence. They came and were present and achieved what was ordained for them by God, the Lord of creation. Neither the world and its colors, nor the trees and their fruits held them back. They came forward and gave up their lives in the path of God, the Lord of the Day of Judgment. How many a servant hath advanced to the place of sacrifice and returned not, having sacrificed his soul in the love of God, the Dawning-Place of lights. When thou art blessed with My call and drinkest the choice wine of My utterance, say:

> "My God, my God! Praise be unto Thee for having illumined my heart with the light of Thy knowledge and guided me to the Dawning-Place of Thy Revelation and the Source of Thy inspiration. I beseech Thee by it and by its sovereignty and by its might and its glory to make me a helper of Thy Cause and one who standeth in service to it, in such wise that the doubts of the world and the opposition of the nations shall not cause me to slip. Verily, Thou art the Powerful, the Supreme, the Mighty, the All-Knowing."

This was revealed for his honor Haji Muhammad upon him be the Glory of God.

In My Name, the Mighty, the All-Bountiful

The Cause hath come, and that which was hidden from sight hath been made manifest. The verses have been sent down and the evidences have appeared, while the people remain in heedlessness and error, save those who have cast behind their backs all vain imaginings, turning unto God, the Lord of religions. The Dawning-Place of God's Revelation hath come, through which the tribes have lamented and earthquakes have appeared. Thus hath the matter been decreed from before God, the Lord of the

Beginning and the End. O Muhammad! Be thankful that the One, the Single, hath made mention of thee from the precincts of the Prison, whereby the hearts of the servants have been attracted. Say: O peoples of the earth!

Hearken unto the Call that hath been raised from the Most Exalted Horizon. Beware lest the vain imaginings of those who have denied God's Cause when it came with clear proof and evidence withhold you. O people! This is the Day of God, and this is the Day that was mentioned in the Books, the Psalms and the Tablets. Beware lest ye deprive yourselves of this Cause through which the fragrance of utterance hath been wafted throughout all possibility. Thus hath the Book spoken as it walketh in the most exalted station. Among the people is he who hath said: "Doth the Book walk?" Say: Yea, by the Lord of lords, it walketh and speaketh, nay it eateth, in spite of every doubting denier.

We beseech God to aid thee to attain such steadfastness whereby the feet of all mankind shall stand firm, and to assist thee in His remembrance and praise, and to cause thee to speak that which shall attract the hearts of people of understanding.

This was revealed for his honor Aqa Mirza Ahmad upon him be the Glory of God.

He is the Answerer through Wisdom and Utterance.

Glory be to God! The light of the revelation of Him Who conversed with God on Sinai hath illumined the world, and the divine verses and proofs have encompassed all things to such a degree that no possibility of denial or rejection remaineth for the fair-minded. Blessed is he who hath attained to hear and see with his own ears and eyes. Glory be to God! Heedlessness hath reached such a state that they have given precedence to the Letters over the Mother Book. Say: O people of the Bayan, cast away your vain imaginings! By God, the Truth, the Sun of Certitude hath dawned from the horizon of God's Will, the Lord of the worlds. Free yourselves from the chains of names and proceed with freedom toward the Most Exalted Station and the Supreme Summit.

Today the fragrances of divine verses are diffused and hidden mysteries are manifest and visible. Deprive not yourselves and turn from what ye possess to what God possesseth. Today the ocean of bounty is surging and the heaven of grace is uplifted. Blessed is the soul whom the opposition of the turban-wearers hath not prevented from drawing nigh, nor held back from turning toward God. Thus doth the Wronged One make mention of thee on this darksome night that thou mayest give thanks and say:

> "Praise be unto Thee, O Thou Who art the Goal of all in the heavens and the earth."

Thanks be to God that each of the mentioned names hath attained unto the choice wine of the utterance of the Goal of all the worlds. We hope they will drink thereof and make it incumbent upon themselves to protect, according to their ability, the servants from the vain imaginings of the heedless Shi'ih party. Let them not be deprived of the Names and their Possessor. For twelve hundred years they said "O Successor" and remained deprived and forbidden from the Truth, exalted be His glory. At last their deeds, actions and words bore the fruit of shedding the Most Pure Blood. They said "O Ali" yet martyred the Lord of existence by Whose word a thousand Alis are created. In brief, this Day is the Day of God. Blessed

is the soul that drinketh from this cup, detached from all else. Divine confirmation cometh from God, the Lord of Names and Attributes.

Mention was made of the beloved of the heart, His Holiness Haydar-Ali, upon him be the everlasting glory of God. According to the command, he was bidden to visit the friends and return. That beloved of the heart must be engaged in service night and day, and be vocal in the mention and praise of God. The companions of this Most Great Revelation must be so steadfast that neither the world nor whatsoever is therein of servants, things, colors, ornaments and books shall hold them back from the Supreme Horizon. Perchance the true treasures may be revealed—those men who consider all save God as utter nothingness. The barkers are many, appearing in every city and land. This is among the tidings that flowed from the Supreme Pen in Iraq, the Land of Mystery, and the first Most Great Prison.

This land too hath not been and is not free of barkers. I convey greetings to the beloved of the soul, Haydar-Ali, upon him be the glory and favor of the All-Merciful, and I beseech God, exalted be His glory, for his assistance. Praise be to God, he is mentioned in His presence and hath attained His favor. I convey greetings, mention and praise to the friends of that land, and I beseech for them that which will cause the exaltation of the Word of God and the elevation of their station.

Mention was made of the spiritual friend Aqa Ahmad, upon him be the glory and favor of God. After it was presented before the Most Holy and Exalted Presence, these sublime, decisive and blessed verses were revealed especially for him from the heaven of the Will of the Lord of Names and Attributes. His words, exalted be His utterance and mighty His proof:

He is the Compassionate, the All-Bountiful

Praise, in its essence, and thanksgiving, in its reality, beseech the holy threshold of nearness to the Desired One, Who, through His pervading, attractive, and absolute Will, brought forth the wondrous creation from sheer nothingness and adorned it with the ornament of being. This creation is sanctified and purified from that which is possessed by the people—that is, the former party and the Bayan and what they possess—for without this wondrous decree, in the first station and primary rank, none other would be true. Blessed is the breast that is sanctified from the world's impressions through the Name "O Pure One," and blessed is the ear that is purified from the false tales of the nations. These are the people of Baha and the companions of the Crimson Ark, whose mention was revealed, established, fixed and inscribed by the Supreme Pen in the Qayyumu'l-Asma'.

O Ahmad! Upon thee be My glory and My loving-kindness. Thou hast ever been and art still remembered. The letters thou didst send to this servant who is present have each been honored to be heard and distinguished by a special glance of favor. Blessed art thou and blessed is thy father, through whose presence God hath adorned the surface of the earth, and through whose body He hath adorned its depths. By My life! We have revealed for him that which cannot be equaled by all the treasures of the world, nor by the utterances of the learned, nor by the sighs of the mystics, nor by the lamentations of the philosophers. The intention of the learned, mystics and philosophers in these stations are those souls who adorn themselves with outward means while inwardly they are barriers preventing the peoples of

the world; otherwise the true mystic, the spiritual scholar, and the divine philosopher are, in the arena of the manifestation of the Lord of religions, seated upon the throne of certitude.

O Ahmad! God willing, thou shalt be even as an enkindled fire and as a light shining and radiant, in such wise that all may find the divine path through the warmth of thy love, distinguish truth from falsehood, and attain to such steadfastness that the movement of the world will not move them and the clamor of the nations will not cause them to slip. Convey to the loved ones of that land and its surrounding regions greetings and peace from the Wronged One. Say: Rejoice in that the Lord of existence and the Sovereign of the seen and the unseen hath turned towards you and hath mentioned you with a mention He hath made the sovereign of mentions and their source. It behooveth them to say:

> "Praise be to Thee, O Beloved of earth and heaven! Glory be to Thee, O Sovereign of the most exalted Paradise! Thanks be to Thee, O Thou through Whose Name the supreme Paradise hath bowed down in submission! We beseech Thee, O Beloved of the world and Desire of the nations, to aid us to arise to serve Thy Cause in such wise that the hosts and ranks shall not prevent us. O Lord! Thou seest us detached from all save Thee and holding fast to the cord of Thy power. Ordain for us that which beseemeth Thy bounty, Thy giving, Thy mercy and Thy favors. Verily, Thou art the Almighty over what Thou willest, and in Thy right hand are the reins of all who are in the heavens and on earth."

The glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My mercy be upon thee and upon those whom God hath related to thee and upon those who love you for the sake of God, the Lord of this mighty and exalted station.

This lowly one also conveyeth unto them greetings, praise, glory and light. God is witness and testifier that they have not been forgotten and will ever occupy a station in the court of the utterance of the Desired One of the worlds. It is hoped that from the trees of being there shall appear pure and goodly fruits that will cause the exaltation of the Word of God and the world will become blessed with the bounty of nearness. Verily our Lord is the Almighty, the Powerful, and worthy to answer.

Concerning what was written about the esteemed son of the late, exalted Mulla Ghulam-Rida, upon him be the Glory of God, the Most Glorious: Some time ago, a Most Holy, Most Exalted Tablet was specifically revealed for him, as well as a prayer of visitation from the Tongue of Grandeur, and these were sent forth. In truth, the effulgences of the light of God's grace—exalted be His glory—in relation to him and his esteemed son are even as a brilliant, resplendent light. His is the praise, His the thanks, His the glory, and His the splendor. I beseech God to grant them assistance and confirmation. After mention was made of his name before the Seat of the Purpose of all worlds, these decisive verses were revealed. He says, blessed and exalted be He:

"O Mihdi! Upon thee be My glory and My loving-kindness. Some time ago verses were sent down from the direction of the Most Great Throne, through which the ocean of forgiveness surged and the fragrance of thy Lord's loving-kindness, the All-Merciful, was diffused, and through which the Sun of grace shone forth and that which shall endure throughout the kingdom of My dominion and My realm became manifest. Verily, thy Lord is the All-Forgiving, the All-Merciful. That which hath no end hath appeared,

that thou mayest give thanks unto thy Lord, the All-Knowing Expositor." Time and again hath mention been made from the Most Exalted Pen of him who ascended to the Supreme Horizon. Give thanks and say: "Praise be unto Thee, O Ocean of bounty, and thanks be unto Thee, O Lord of eternity! I beseech Thee to assist me to serve Thy Cause in such wise that the hindrance of them that hinder, the harm of the oppressors, the fire of the aggressors, and the opposition of the opposers shall not hold me back."

As to what thou didst ask concerning the house, thou mayest use it to pay the debts of him who hath ascended unto Us. This behooveth thee and those who have laid hold on this firm cord. Say: Praise be unto Thee, O God of all who are in the heavens and on earth!

O son of My Name, the Most Truthful, the Most Holy! He who hath ascended to the Most Glorious Horizon hath attained unto that which most of mankind hath failed to attain. Give glad-tidings to Mihdi—upon him be My glory—and to those who are with him, of God's loving-kindness, the Lord of all worlds. Praise be to God! The gaze of My loving-kindness is fixed upon thee. Give thou glad-tidings, one by one, to all who are related, of God's grace and bounty. All are mentioned in the Most Holy Court and have been adorned with His special favors and have attained thereunto. That which hath been ordained for them is such that were less than a needle's eye thereof to be revealed, all would be thunderstruck, save whom God willeth, the Lord of the Mighty Throne.

Thou shouldst manifest such justice that its fame may encompass those regions. This beseemeth thee and thy kinship to this Most Holy, Most Great, Most Mighty, Most Luminous Cause. Be thou as a fire amongst the righteous ones, that all may find from thee the warmth of the love of God, the Lord of the exalted Throne and Seat. Time after time hast thou been blessed, and again and again hast thou heard that which, were it to be cast upon the mountains, would cause them to soar with longing for the mention of God, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. Thus hath the tongue of My loving-kindness spoken, as a grace from My presence, that the rapture of utterance might seize thee and render thee moved and attracted, soaring in the atmosphere of thy Lord's love, the All-Merciful, the Most Compassionate.

This servant also conveys greetings, glorification and Baha to each of the kinfolk, and beseeches for them from the wondrous and infinite grace and mercy of God that which will cause the fruits of existence to appear. It is hoped that this supplication may be honored with acceptance and the world may benefit from these fruits, for these are the days of revelation and bounty and favor and sustenance encompass all. Verily our Lord is the Generous Giver, and He is the Hearer, the Answerer. The spirit and praise and remembrance and glory and exaltation and grandeur be upon you and upon those related to you and upon those who love you and upon the companions of the Crimson Ark who make no mention of names and their kingdoms, nor of mirrors and their suns. These are in truth, in very truth, the people of Baha in the Book of God, the Lord of all worlds.

The servant 19 Rajab 1308

BH11872: The Hidden and Inaccessible One, glorified be His majesty…

Section 1: "The Hidden and Inaccessible One, glorified be His…"

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

The Hidden and Inaccessible One, glorified be His majesty and exalted be His grandeur, willed to manifest Himself and uttered the word “Be!” Whereupon the Point appeared, and from it emerged what was and what will be. His Books were detailed, bearing what lies in the unseen and the visible. These are the table of His knowledge and the bounty of His utterance, through which He breathed into all things His verses that caused hearts and souls to be attracted. Glory and splendor be upon the treasuries of the pearls of His knowledge and the repositories of the gems of His wisdom—those who have arisen to aid His Cause, detached from all else save Him, and holding fast to His cord for the spread of His commandments and laws. These are the people of Baha in the Book of Names, from the Lord of all beings, Who came from the heaven of mystic knowledge with wisdom and utterance.

My spirit be a sacrifice for your mention and your words! Your exalted letter, like the light of dawn, illumined the expanse of heart and soul and adorned the dwelling of existence. I beseech and implore the Truth, exalted be His glory, to assist that beloved of hearts to teach the Cause and spread its traces with wisdom and utterance. Verily, He is the Powerful, the Mighty, the All-Bountiful. The Divine Knowledge was greatly delighted and boundlessly rejoiced at reading the letter. After its reading and recitation, it was taken to the Most Exalted Summit and presented before the countenance of the Lord of all beings, achieving the honor of His attention. This is what the Desired One hath revealed in this unfurled tablet. His word, mighty be His utterance and glorious His proof:

In My Name, the Wronged One, and in My Name, the Self-Subsisting

A remembrance from Us to the one who turned towards and attained the presence while most of mankind turned away—they who cast the Cause of God behind their backs, clinging to the cords of conjecture and fancy. The Light hath shone forth and the Sun hath risen and the Herald hath called out, yet the people remain in strange doubt. God created His servants for the recognition of the Dayspring of His signs and the Manifestation of His Self, yet they have cast aside what God intended, holding fast to the hem of their desires. They are indeed in heedlessness and error. The wine of vainglory hath so intoxicated them that they are debarred from that which profiteth them, turning instead to the source of tyranny and oppression.

We reared one of Our brothers and protected him beneath the canopies of Our grandeur. Yet when the Light shone forth he turned away from Us and arose in such oppression that the Pen lamented and the ink cried out. By the life of God, he sought to shed My blood, having been led astray by one of Our servants. When We departed from among them, he arose and uttered that which caused the tears of the righteous to flow. My soul is bewildered by his deeds, as are the Concourse on High, the exalted Paradise, and the companions of the Crimson Ark. To this the Mother Book beareth witness in the most exalted station.

God hath, through His power and sovereignty, transformed the prison into the Most Exalted Paradise. Say: O people, behold the power and dominion of God, how He opened the prison gate with the key of His Name, the All-Glorious, the All-Bountiful. The servant in attendance before Us hath presented thy letter, and after permission was granted, We heard it and answer thee with these verses from whose horizons shine forth the suns of wisdom and utterance. We found from thy letter the fragrance of thy love and thy turning towards Us. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to assist thee with that

which shall cause thy remembrance to endure in this station which God hath made the circling-point of the Manifestations of His signs.

O My Afnan! Upon thee be My glory and My loving-kindness. We have risen this day speaking thy name and mentioning that by which the hearts of the chosen ones were attracted. Take the chalice of eternity in the name of thy Lord, the Most Glorious, then drink therefrom despite the enemies, and say: Praise, glory, gratitude and splendor be unto God for having guided me to a Revelation that hath stunned the hearts of the wicked and strengthened me to turn towards Him through the means of the heavens and earth, until I came, attained His presence, heard His sweetest call and beheld His most glorious horizon. I beseech Him by the ocean of His bounty and the heaven of His giving to aid me in that which He loveth and is pleased with, lest there appear from me that which is unseemly. Verily, He is the Omnipotent over whatsoever He willeth through His sovereignty that hath encompassed all created things.

O my Lord! I am Thy servant and the son of Thy servant. I have turned with my whole being unto Thee, turning away from all else besides Thee. I beseech Thee by Thy Cause through which Thou hast subdued the world and the nations to send down upon me in all conditions that which will draw me nigh unto Thee, O Thou in Whose grasp are the reins of deeds and hopes. O my Lord! Thou seest the poor one standing before the gate of Thy bounty, turning toward the Kaaba of Thy presence. I beseech Thee by Thy Day wherein Thou didst blow the Trumpet and reveal the realities of all things and unite the hearts, to make me circle round Thy will in such wise that I shall not breathe except by Thy leave and Thy desire. Verily, Thou art the Omnipotent, the Mighty, the All-Bountiful.

We make mention at this time of one of the Afnan who hath been named Mirza—upon him rest My Glory and My loving-kindness and My mercy. We have, aforetime, exalted him and made mention of him in diverse Tablets, as a token of Our grace and as a gift from Our presence. Verily thy Lord doeth as He willeth, through His Name, the One Who hath dominion over all who are in earth and heaven.

O Mirza! Upon thee be My Most Glorious Glory. Hearken unto the Call from the horizon of ʿAkka. Verily, neither the treasures of the wealthy, nor the jewels of princes, nor the riches of the learned can compare with it. Thy Lord is, in truth, the Almighty, the Unconstrained. Neither the tribulations of the world, nor its might, nor the denial of those who have disbelieved in the Beginning and the End could hinder Him. O Mirza! Take hold of the Book with the strength that cometh from Him, then act in accordance with that which thou hast been commanded by God, the Lord of Daybreak.

We have exalted thee for My recognition and the service of My Cause. Cast aside what the people possess and take what We have sent down for thee from the most exalted Station. We desire to show thee a mighty measure of detachment, that We may make thee a door to this Cause, through which the Herald hath proclaimed: The Kingdom belongeth to God, the Lord of Lords. Deprive not thyself of that which We have ordained for thee. Leave the people and what they possess. He commandeth thee with that which will draw thee nigh unto Him in all conditions. Give thou the glad-tidings of My remembrance to My Afnan, that the rapture of the verses may so seize them that neither the happenings of the world nor the oppression of those who have denied the Revealer of verses may cause them grief. Say: Fear not, neither be ye sorrowful. Arise from the horizon of the House with a sovereignty at whose manifestation all created things have bowed down. Say: We have exalted you and made mention of you in such wise as

no mention can equal. Soon shall appear that which ye were promised in the Book. Nothing whatsoever escapeth His knowledge. He witnesseth and seeth, and He is the Mighty, the All-Seeing.

O My Afnan! We have desired to make mention of Afshar who has arisen to serve the Cause and hath spoken in praise of God, the Lord of all beings. Blessed be his tongue, and blessed be his heart for having turned towards My horizon, and blessed be his ears for having heard the verses of God, the Manifestor of clear proofs. Now We speak in Persian after the most eloquent tongue that thou mayest rejoice and be of the thankful ones. God, exalted be His glory, spoke two words to the Son of Imran on the Mount of Knowledge, and now He hath opened before thee a book and hath spoken that which is an everlasting treasure for thee. Strive that this station may not be effaced or altered. Thou hast indeed exerted great effort regarding Ali-Haydar, upon him be My Glory and My favor. In truth, noble services have appeared from him. It behooveth all to recognize the station of his services and to act as is befitting.

His Honour Afshar, upon him be My Glory, hath truly well comprehended the degrees of knowledge of the Shi'ih. That which hath flowed from his pen hath been accepted before the Face. Glory be to God! The Shi'ih party have not had and do not have more than two words of truth, and that is their verbal confession of the Divinity and the Prophetic Mission. For one thousand two hundred years they played at succession, and finally martyred their Master with manifest tyranny. The Most Great Law and God, the Lord of the worlds, have lamented their oppression. In the days when they were engaged in service in the name of the Apostle of God—may the spirit of all else but Him be sacrificed for His sake—the Cause reached such a station that the tongues of those who praised were powerless to extol it and those who would enumerate were incapable of counting its virtues. But when they altered it and set about arranging partners, power was transformed into impotence and glory into abasement.

The Exalted One—may the spirit of all else but Him be sacrificed for His sake—sayeth that the bodies of the Letters of the Living are at the station of the spirits of the former Imams. Observe ye the Bayan and make the people aware, that perchance they may not again become afflicted with vain imaginings. The station of the Letters of the Living is that of servitude, and they were created by a word, and one of those souls was Mulla Baqir. The purpose is that souls may attain to the lights of the Sun of true unity. Say: O Afshar! He Who is the Chosen One remembereth thee at this time even as He remembered thee before. Verily He is the All-Knowing, the Expositor.

Those souls who were not with Us and were unaware of the Cause, when they observed that the effulgences of the revelations of the lights of the Most Glorious Sun had somewhat illumined the world, they rushed forth from behind the veil with the swords of hatred, and now they are occupied with forming a party like unto the Shi'ih party. They have taken fancy as their lord besides God. Thus have their souls enticed them, and today they are among the most lost ones in My perspicuous Book.

Section 2: "O Afshar! Upon thee be My Glory…"

O Afshar! Upon thee be My Glory and My favor. Hearken unto My call from the direction of My prison, then illumine the hearts of the world with the light of My Cause, the Dawning, the Mighty, the Wondrous. Say: O people of the earth! Come, that I may give you to drink of the Kawthar of utterance in the name of our Lord, the Most Merciful. Then hasten with illumined hearts to the horizon of the revelation of Him

Who conversed on the Mount, in the prison of Akka. Beware lest the roaring of men frighten you, or the whisperings of those who have denied the Day of Judgment prevent you.

We have remembered thee time and again with that whereby thy remembrance and thy name shall endure in the Book of God, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. The glory shining forth from the heaven of My mercy be upon thee and upon those who are with thee and who hear thy words concerning this Cause whereby the limbs of the ungodly have quaked with fear.

Verily We have made mention of the Alif and Fa, and We desire to make mention of him who was named Muhammad before Isma'il, that the sweet fragrances of God's revelation, the Lord of the Mighty Throne, may attract him. O Isma'il! Behold and then remember those who turned toward the place of sacrifice in the path of God, the Lord of all beings, and who spent what they possessed of wealth and life in their longing to attain the presence of God, the Possessor of this exalted and glorious station.

Say: O company of the heedless! Be fair in what hath been manifested in truth, and be not of the wrongdoers. Is Ashraf, who turned toward God and sacrificed himself in His path, better, or Hadi, who, when he heard the clamor, was disturbed and fear seized his limbs, and he ascended the pulpit and spoke that which caused the Faithful Spirit to lament? By God! His life testifieth to his hypocrisy, while the ascension of the former beareth witness to his acceptance and his constancy, whereby bewilderment seized every servant who turned to God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy. Blessed art thou, inasmuch as the countenance of the Wronged One hath turned toward thee from His remote prison. Say: Praise be to Thee, O God of the world, for having caused me to hear Thy call and to behold Thy signs, and for having enabled me to draw nigh unto Thee through the means of the heavens and earth. I beseech Thee, by the ocean of Thy Most Bountiful Name, to ordain for me what Thou hast ordained for Thy chosen ones. Verily, Thou art the One Who hath power over whatsoever He willeth through Thy mighty and wondrous command.

Verily We desired to make mention of him who was named Ibrahim and give him the glad-tidings of God's bounty and generosity, and We counsel him with that which will draw him nigh unto a station wherein the atoms proclaim: The kingdom belongeth unto God, the Powerful, the Almighty. O Ibrahim! From the beginning, heedless souls remained concealed from manifest authority and were occupied with their own protection, but when the divine light shone forth from the horizon of the heaven of the Lord's will, they emerged from behind the veil and brought about that which hath no equal. Say: My God, my God! Aid the heedless to be fair in Thy Cause and to be just concerning what hath appeared from Thee, and enable them to return to the gate of Thy bounty. Verily, Thou art the Powerful over what Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the Ordainer, the Ancient of Days. End.

Praise be to God, the honored nobleman, His Holiness the Afnan, Haji Siyyid Mirza, upon him be the Glory of God, the Most Glorious, hath from the beginning until now been successful in serving the Cause and hath held fast to the mighty cord of God, and hath been mentioned and continues to be mentioned in the Most Holy and Exalted Court of the Desired One of all worlds—may the spirit of all who are in the kingdoms of Command and Creation be a sacrifice unto Him. When his luminous letter arrived mentioning the funds that remained with His Honor the deceased and martyred one who was martyred in the path of God, Haji Shaykh Muhammad-ʿAli, upon him be the Glory of God, the Most Glorious, he had

written that the honored deceased one himself knew it was not our money, so now what answer shall we give to its owners? Henceforth no one will come near us. After this matter was presented in the Most Holy and Exalted Court of our Beloved and the Beloved of all who are in earth and heaven, these exalted words shone forth from the dawning-place of the heaven of divine favor—mighty is His utterance and glorious His proof:

O servant in attendance! Write to his honor Afnan, upon him be my glory and my loving-kindness: You made no mention of the affairs of Beirut and Constantinople, and from the beginning no permission was sought nor consultation undertaken, despite all being commanded to this. Nevertheless, the sum of six hundred and seven Ottoman liras which was the House's funds and was present was delivered to his honor Afnan, upon him be my glory and loving-kindness, for him to send. Verily, were He to wish, He could pay the debts of the world. Thy Lord is indeed the One with power over whatsoever He willeth.

Read the Tablet of Ra'is and the Tablets to the Kings that thou mayest be assured that all affairs are in His grasp—He turneth them as He pleaseth, and He is the Single, the One, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. Grieve not over anything. Place thy trust in all matters in God, the Master of the Day of Judgment. Hold fast unto that which We have commanded thee, then act according to what We have imparted unto thee before and after. Verily We desire thee and love thee and command thee to that which shall profit thee in the Hereafter and in this world. To this testifieth that which hath appeared from Me before the faces of princes and sovereigns.

In truth, after the arrival of His missive, whatever was outwardly possible, He commanded its execution. His honor Afnan, the venerable Haji Siyyid Ali and his honor Aqa Mirza Muhsin, upon them both be the Glory of God the Most Glorious, are aware of what transpired and remained undisclosed. The favors of the True One, exalted be His glory, towards his honor exceed the reckoning of this servant and others. I beseech Him and implore Him to open the gates of grace, bounty and generosity with the key of the Most Great Name, and to assist his honor to act according to that which he is commanded. It is hoped that He will illumine and purify the hearts and souls so that whatever has been and is being submitted may be answered. Verily our Lord is the All-Bountiful, the All-Generous.

Mention was made of his honor Afnan, the venerable Haji Mirza Muhammad, upon him be the Glory of God the Most Glorious. In truth, he has been and is deserving of the favors of the True One, exalted be His glory. His love and devotion are firm and steadfast. And after his mention was submitted to the Most Holy and Most Exalted Court, these manifest verses were revealed from the heaven of grace. He says, exalted be His utterance and mighty be His proof:

In My Name, the One Who dominates all names

O Muhammad, O Afnan! Upon thee be My mercy and My glory! We have mentioned thee before in verses through which the fragrance of bounties and favors was diffused, and We make mention of thee at this time in such wise as will draw thee nigh unto God, the Lord of the worlds. I bear witness that thou wast remembered before the Wronged One at all times. Thy Lord is verily the All-Merciful, the Generous.

We remember thy presence, thy meeting, and thy standing before the Gate. Nothing whatsoever escapeth the knowledge of thy Lord. He witnesseth, seeth and heareth, and He is the All-Hearing, the All-

Seeing. We make mention of the Afnan—upon him be My glory and My loving-kindness—and give him the glad tidings of that which hath been ordained for him by God, the Lord of the Mighty Throne. By the life of God! That which hath been ordained for him cannot be equaled by all the treasures of the world. He Who possesseth the knowledge of all things in a clear Book beareth witness to this. We beseech God to open before his face the doors of grace and bounty. He, verily, is the Almighty over what He willeth. There is none other God but Him, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

We make mention of the Leaves who have been blessed by that which was inscribed by the Most Exalted Pen in the Books of God, the Mighty, the All-Praised. Blessed are they and joy be unto them. We testify that they have turned toward the Most Exalted Horizon and have heard His sweetest call when it was raised from the Prison of Akka, and they have attained unto that which was inscribed in the Tablets of God, the Lord of this resplendent Day. The glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My loving-kindness be upon thee and upon My loved ones who have not broken My Covenant and My Testament, and who have testified to that which the Tongue of Grandeur hath spoken: Verily there is none other God but Him, the Single, the One, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

This servant also conveyeth greetings to them and to the friends. God is witness and testifier that the honored ones and friends are ever mentioned by tongue and recorded by pen. Their remembrance and love have not left the heart, nor will they ever. Their mention hath another effect and another fruit. They are the trees in the garden of God's remembrance. I beseech Him, exalted be His glory, to send down from the clouds of grace and heaven of bounty that which will cause their exaltation and elevation.

My God, My God! Let not these fruits fall from the Tree, and in every moment bestow the water of bounty. Thou art the Mighty, the Powerful, the Bestower, the All-Knowing. Bounty and giving are in Thy grasp. There is none other God but Thee, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious. Glory and mention and praise be upon 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 24th of Rajab 1308

The sum of thirty-eight tumans was not received, but receipt was written.

BH09331: Praise be unto the King of the realm…

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 unto the King of the realm of earth and heaven, Who hath, through His Most Exalted Word, adorned the realities of existence with the ornament of recognition and illumined all hearts with the light of true knowledge. Today, praise be to God, the Sun of true unity hath dawned from the horizon of divine Will, yet the deluded ones shall not attain unto this station nor achieve success therein. Beseech ye God that He may, purely for His sake, strengthen all faces and hearts in such wise that the affairs of this world and its ornaments and colors may not prevent them from the Most Exalted Horizon, and may establish

them firmly in His manifest Faith. Verily, He is the Omnipotent over whatsoever He willeth. There is none other God but Him, the Single, the One, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

Thy noble letter, which was as a vessel bearing the fragrance of love, when its seal was broken, diffused its sweet perfume throughout all existence. Praise be to God Who granted confirmation and, through countless means, bestowed the grace of recognition, acceptance and attention. His bounty brought existence into being and guided it to the path of His justice. After perusing and reading it with joy and delight, it was taken to the Most Exalted Court and Supreme Height, and presented before the countenance of the Lord of Names, after which permission was granted. This is what the Tongue of Grandeur spoke after hearing it. His word, exalted be His utterance and mighty His proof, and there is no God but Him:

In My Name, through which the ocean of God's knowledge, the Self-Subsisting, the All-Compelling, hath surged!

O thou who gazeth upon the Face and speaketh among the servants! Say: O peoples of the earth! By the True God, the Call hath been raised from the prison of Akka—a Call in whose yearning to hear it countless souls have perished. My Tongue in this glorious and wondrous station beareth witness to this. This is the Day wherein the ocean of God's utterance, the Lord of all worlds, hath surged. Blessed is he who hath turned towards it and been moved by His Most Great, His Most Bountiful Name. Say: O people! Deprive not yourselves of this bounty wherewith God hath adorned the preamble of His Books, His Scrolls, and His holy and luminous Tablet. Cast away what ye possess, turning unto the Most Exalted Horizon, and shatter the idols of vain imaginings with the hosts of wisdom and utterance. This is better for you than all ye possess. Thus hath the Tongue spoken in the kingdom of utterance. Blessed are they that hear!

O thou who soarest in My atmosphere! With complete determination, guide the heedless ones to the horizon of divine knowledge. Blessed is the breast that, having been sanctified from the tales and traces of the past, hath turned unto the Mother Book. Today the Euphrates of wisdom and utterance floweth from the right hand of the throne of the All-Merciful, and from the treasury of the Most Exalted Pen appear and shine forth the pearls of knowledge and the gems of understanding.

Say: O people! Be fair! Defile not existence with unseemly false statements and fabricated stories. By the Sun of knowledge that shineth resplendent from the most exalted horizon of utterance, from the beginning of the world until now no Revelation like unto this hath appeared. He is the Interlocutor of Sinai Who sitteth upon the throne of Revelation. He is the Great News mentioned in the former Books, Whose advent the Prophets and Messengers foretold unto all peoples. Take ye, O people, the Book of God with the power that proceedeth from Him, and be not of the heedless ones. God hath ordained for them that turn unto Him, the Lord of all worlds, that which no tongue or pen can recount or enumerate. Fear ye God, then turn with radiant faces unto this Cause by the command of this Wise Ordainer.

O Mim! Upon thee be My glory and My loving-kindness! Aid thou the Cause of God through the hosts of wisdom and utterance, and through that which draweth the people nigh unto His glorious and wondrous horizon. He, verily, will be with thee and will strengthen thee through His sovereignty and will reinforce thee through His hosts. He, verily, is potent over all things. Blessed is thy pen for having caused to flow

from it that which hath been adorned with the ornament of acceptance, a mercy from God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy.

The affairs of the Shi'ih sect are well known to thee. In truth, that which thou hast mentioned is the cause of the people's acceptance and guidance, were ye to be fair-minded. This Wronged One hath, through divine power and might, openly proclaimed before the faces of both high and low, without any veil or concealment, whatsoever would lead to the guidance, salvation and tranquility of mankind. The hindrance of the hinderers and the tyranny of the oppressors did not prevent Him from revealing mysteries. In all conditions We have spoken forth counsels and admonitions, and when the light of the Sun of Proof shed its radiance from the horizons of hearts, all arose to extinguish that manifest and gleaming Light, save whom God wished.

Although We have, in the Books, Tablets, Scriptures and Epistles, forbidden conflict, corruption and strife, and have commanded that which leadeth to salvation, nearness unto God, goodly deeds and praiseworthy character, yet glory be to God! Though the Sun of Truth is shining, the ocean of knowledge and wisdom is surging, the rivers of bounty are flowing, and the Sacred and Blessed Tree is speaking, all are found to be veiled save a few, and few of My servants are truly thankful.

Say: O people! Fear ye God and follow not your desires. Follow Him Who hath come unto you with a clear authority. In the great city, a few have arisen in opposition and are occupied in destroying the Most Exalted Word. One who hath dwelt for more than forty years beneath the pavilions of grandeur, in comfort and at rest, hath today united with a few others and is manifesting boundless oppression. Each day they have committed that which hath caused grief to those who are nigh unto God and are sanctified. They have seized upon the calumnies of armies and the lies of multitudes, and are engaged in warfare. Thus hath God revealed what was hidden in their breasts and the treachery of their eyes.

His Honour Afnan, A. and H., upon whom rest My glory and loving-kindness, turned towards this direction. Subsequently, through telegraph they informed that Siyyid Ahmad and his companions had stolen a sum of cash as well as paper currency and had gone to Akka. And regarding His Honour the Great Afnan, upon whom be the Most Glorious Baha of God, who in this land had and hath no thought save seclusion, they have written that which they themselves testify is false. These matters have come to light so that all might recognize Yahya and become aware of what this Wronged One hath endured. The mysteries of the Surih of Luqman have in these days become manifest and visible. However, these matters and their like are absolute nothingness. Their mention is due to consummate wisdom, that the loved ones might discover and recognize.

Say: O people! By God, the Tree speaketh, the Fire uttereth, and the Light mentioneth and calleth out: "The Beloved of all in the heavens and earth hath come!" Thereupon the call was raised from every direction: "Blessed art thou, O Akka, in that God hath made thee the dawning-place of His revelation and the dayspring of His inspiration, and hath honored thee with His presence. Happy art thou, O Akka, in that the Call hath been raised within thee and there hath appeared that which was hidden and treasured in knowledge and concealed from eyes of those who are related."

Convey My greetings to each one from this Wronged One and give them glad tidings of the verses revealed from the heaven of oneness, that all may behold themselves freed and detached from that which the people possess and turn unto that which is with God. The splendor shining from the horizon of the heaven of bounty be upon thee and upon them that are with thee and love thee and hearken to thy words concerning this Cause which God hath made sanctified from all likeness and similitude, and hath caused it to dawn and shine forth from the horizon of grace unto all who are in the heavens and on earth.

A hundred thousand thanks unto the Purpose of all the worlds Who, through the breezes of His verses, hath made hearts and minds receptive and bestowed fellowship. Glory be unto Him, glory be unto Him! His is the greatness and the power, the might and the choice. He is the Potent One Who illumined the breasts of the sincere ones with the light of His favor and set hearts ablaze with the fire of His love. This fire hath diverse effects—it sendeth some to the field of sacrifice and establisheth others upon the throne of detachment. Night and day the Tongue of Grandeur uttereth that which uniteth hearts. How many nights did the Eye of Grandeur, out of love for His loved ones, remain sleepless and slumberless. Verses are sent down like copious rain. Glory be to God! The unfair ones in the world remain heedless and veiled unto this day. They distinguish not between the fire of the Divine Lote-Tree and the fire of self and passion. Their nature is to turn away and their practice is to close their eyes. In truth, perplexity upon perplexity!

The people of the Furqan cling to the Book of God—all have seen and read it. The companions of the Spirit—peace and glory be upon Him—cling to the Gospel, and all have seen that the entire utterance of that All-Knowing Expounder doth not exceed a portion. And now, at every moment, there is being revealed that which all the pens of the world are powerless to record and all the tongues of the nations are unable to recount.

Section 2: “Now, with utmost humility, I submit: O my…”

Now, with utmost humility, I submit: O my God, my Beloved, my Generous One, my Merciful One! Thou didst create Thy servants and bring them from nothingness into being for Thy recognition. Deprive them not now. Thou art that Maker Whose craftsmanship throughout the world and Whose evident means among the nations all testify to Thy power and acknowledge Thy grace and bounty. Were Thou to withhold these from them, who would acknowledge Thy power and confess Thy sovereignty? O my Lord! Every person void of understanding beareth witness to Thy power, sovereignty and greatness. Deliver Thy loved ones, by Thy generous hands, from the clay of idle fancies and preserve them through the hosts of Thy revelation and inspiration. Thou art the Powerful, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

The expressions of gratitude, sincerity, evanescence and nothingness which thou didst manifest before the appearance of Him Who conversed upon Sinai—may the spirit of all who are in the kingdom of command and creation be a sacrifice unto His remembrance—verily from these the fragrance of detachment, purity, submissiveness, humility and faithfulness wafteth. And after the presentation of this matter in the Most Holy and Most Exalted Court, these words shone forth from the tongue of the Beloved of the worlds—exalted be His utterance and His proof:

In My Name, the One Who appeareth before all faces

O thou who soarest in My atmosphere, who gazest toward My horizon, who turneth unto the lights of My countenance, who speaketh in My praise, and who holdeth fast unto the cord of My bounty! Hear thou My call on this Day which hath been named the Day of God in the Books and Tablets. Say: O people! Hear ye, hear ye! The call hath been raised from the direction of Akka, and the ocean of utterance hath surged before the faces of all religions, and the Sun of proof hath shone forth with a light at whose appearance all other lights have bowed down. O people! Fear ye God, then judge with fairness concerning that which hath appeared in truth. Verily it draweth you to the most exalted station. O people! Deny not the proof of God and His evidence. Turn with your hearts unto God, the Lord of Lords.

We have heard that wherewith thou hast called upon God, and We found from it the fragrance of thy love, thy turning and thy devotion to the Mighty, the Bestower. Glory be to God! The people of the Furqan, despite what hath appeared from the Tongue of Grandeur—that He is verily the Messenger of God and the Seal of the Prophets—assert that the breezes of revelation and the fragrances of inspiration have been cut off after His Holiness, and this blessed word concludeth with His exalted saying:

> "The Day when mankind shall stand before the Lord of the worlds."

By the testimony of the Furqan, the Day is the Day of God and the Manifestation is the Manifestation of God. Nevertheless, none hath understood. The source of ignorance, falsehood, conflict and corruption hath said that the Surih of Unity must be translated, for the Babis believe in Lordship and Divinity. Say: O people! Be fair! If the breezes of revelation are cut off, who shall guide the servants and who shall be? If ye hearken to the words of the Truthful Informer, after the Seal cometh the Manifestation of God, and all books bear witness to this.

They have likewise said that the prayer recited at dawn during the blessed month of Ramadan, which is adorned with this Name, must be abandoned—despite their having given glad tidings that the Most Great Name is present and mentioned in this prayer. The signs, manifestations and allusions of this Most Great Revelation have encompassed the whole world, yet the people remain veiled from that which is with God by that which is with them. In brief, they have denied the virtue of this prayer and forbidden its recitation. Such is the condition of the divines, let alone the condition of the ignorant. We testify that they are the ignorant ones, and those beneath them are superior to them.

The Primal Point—may the spirit of all else be sacrificed for Him—hath said: "Verily He speaketh in every condition, 'I, verily, am God. There is none other God but Me, the Lord of all things. All besides Me are My creation. O My creation! Worship ye Me."' In the beginning of the Bayan He hath described the One Who shall be made manifest with that which hath been mentioned. Blessed are they who behold and they who attain!

O thou who gazeth upon the Countenance! It is incumbent upon you and upon all to take hold of the reins of the Cause by God's leave, that perchance this people may not be afflicted with the vain imaginings of the previous people. This is accounted among the most excellent of deeds before the Self-Sufficient, the Most Exalted.

O Ahmad! The ears of the world were created to hear this Call. This Call is a radiant light that awakens the friends and shows the way, and is a blazing fire. One manifestation of it struck the Tree of Sinai, raising

the cry “Verily, I am God,” and struck the Spirit, whereupon it departed from the realm of body and flesh, seeking the eternal station, and the fourth heaven became the seat of ascendancy. O Ahmad! They knew not the Day of God and are deprived of the Sun of Truth. But what says the Shi’ih party? If their deeds matched their words, where is the fruit thereof? And if the Tree of Branches was planted, where are its leaves and boughs?

They recite “the Day when mankind shall stand before the Lord” yet are deprived of it. Read what the All-Merciful hath revealed in the Qur’an: “Though it be of 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. Verily, God is subtle and informed.” O Ahmad! The Pharaoh of the age hath emerged from behind the clouds with the sword of hatred. Surely thou hast heard the details. The Wronged One of the horizons counseleth all to protect the servants, that perchance the veils of idle fancies may not again intervene and prevent the people from the manifestations of the Luminary of the Revelation. Verily, He is powerful over all things.

Say: O people, fear God! That which was never manifest in creation hath appeared, and that which was inscribed by the Supreme Pen hath come. Cast aside what the people possess, turning unto God, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting. We beseech God to assist thee and enable thee to do what He loveth and pleaseth. Verily, He is the Protector of the doers of good. Say: Praise be to Thee, O my God, for having caused my name to flow from Thy Pen. I testify that Thou hast appeared and manifested what was hidden in knowledge and concealed in the treasury of Thy protection. Thou art, verily, the Almighty, the Powerful. I beseech Thee, O Desire of the world and Quickener of nations, by the Light which the veils of the peoples could not withhold, to assist me to arise to serve Thee and to aid Thy Cause with wisdom and utterance. Thou art, verily, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

This servant also conveyeth to them greetings, praise, remembrance and glory, hoping that they may rend asunder the veils of the people with the finger of steadfastness, that they might attain to that for which they were adorned with the ornament of existence. The Command is in God’s hands, our Lord and your Lord and the Lord of the mighty throne.

As to the matter of printing, praise be to God, it hath been accepted. The Most Great Branch of God—may my spirit and being be offered up for the dust of His footsteps—hath, according to the command, considered it. In truth, the ignorance and waywardness of the former people is evident from what hath been mentioned. Blessed is he who hath been just in what hath appeared, and blessed are they who have attained. Glory and praise and remembrance be upon you and upon those who are with you and who love you and hear your words concerning the proof of God’s Manifestation, the Lord of all worlds.

In this hour the servant attained the presence. The Ancient Beauty turned to him and said: We wish to make mention of the son of him who loved Us, who turned to God, attained, arrived, received and drank the Kawthar of utterance from the hand of the bounty of his Lord, the Lord of all beings. We have made mention of him before and at this moment, and We testify that he is among those who have attained. O Muhammad, upon thee be the glory of God! Convey My greetings to him and give him the glad-tidings of My loving-kindness. He hath attained to the standing which was foretold in the Qur’an:

> “The Day when mankind shall stand before the Lord of the Worlds.”

This servant also conveyeth greetings and glory unto him, and beseecheth from the Dawning-Place of the Most Great Bounty His favors for him. Verily our Lord is the Hearer, the Answerer, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy. That which he sent hath been adorned with the ornament of acceptance, as a grace from our Lord and your Lord and the Lord of this flourishing Prison. The glory and the remembrance and the praise be upon thee once again, and upon him, and upon every patient and grateful one.

Volume 100: Akka 1308–1309 A.H. (1890–1892), Part II (1 of 3)

BH00568: Bisharat (Glad-Tidings; =Lawh-i-Nida)

This is the Call of the All-Glorious which is proclaimed from the Supreme Horizon in the Prison of ʿAkka

He is the Expounder, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

God, the True One, testifieth and the Revealers of His names and attributes bear witness that Our sole purpose in raising the Call and in proclaiming His sublime Word is that the ear of the entire creation may, through the living waters of divine utterance, be purged from lying tales and become attuned to the holy, the glorious and exalted Word which hath issued forth from the repository of the knowledge of the Maker of the Heavens and the Creator of Names. Happy are they that judge with fairness.

O people of the earth!

The first Glad-Tidings which the Mother Book hath, in this Most Great Revelation, imparted unto all the peoples of the world is that the law of holy war hath been blotted out from the Book. Glorified be the All-Merciful, the Lord of grace abounding, through Whom the door of heavenly bounty hath been flung open in the face of all that are in heaven and on earth.

The second Glad-Tidings

It is permitted that the peoples and kindreds of the world associate with one another with joy and radiance. O people! Consort with the followers of all religions in a spirit of friendliness and fellowship. Thus hath the daystar of His sanction and authority shone forth above the horizon of the decree of God, the Lord of the worlds.

The third Glad-Tidings concerneth the study of divers languages. This decree hath formerly streamed forth from the Pen of the Most High: It behooveth the sovereigns of the world—may God assist them—or the ministers of the earth to take counsel together and to adopt one of the existing languages or a new one to be taught to children in schools throughout the world, and likewise one script. Thus the whole earth will come to be regarded as one country. Well is it with him who hearkeneth unto His Call and observeth that whereunto he is bidden by God, the Lord of the Mighty Throne.

The fourth Glad-Tidings

Should any of the kings—may God aid them—arise to protect and help this oppressed people, all must vie with one another in loving and in serving him. This matter is incumbent upon everyone. Well is it with them that act accordingly.

The fifth Glad-Tidings

In every country where any of this people reside, they must behave towards the government of that country with loyalty, honesty and truthfulness. This is that which hath been revealed at the behest of Him Who is the Ordainer, the Ancient of Days.

It is binding and incumbent upon the peoples of the world, one and all, to extend aid unto this momentous Cause which is come from the heaven of the Will of the ever-abiding God, that perchance the fire of animosity which blazeth in the hearts of some of the peoples of the earth may, through the living waters of divine wisdom and by virtue of heavenly counsels and exhortations, be quenched, and the light of unity and concord may shine forth and shed its radiance upon the world.

We cherish the hope that through the earnest endeavours of such as are the exponents of the power of God—exalted be His glory—the weapons of war throughout the world may be converted into instruments of reconstruction and that strife and conflict may be removed from the midst of men.

The sixth Glad-Tidings is the establishment of the Lesser Peace, details of which have formerly been revealed from Our Most Exalted Pen. Great is the blessedness of him who upholdeth it and observeth whatsoever hath been ordained by God, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

The seventh Glad-Tidings

The choice of clothing and the cut of the beard and its dressing are left to the discretion of men. But beware, O people, lest ye make yourselves the playthings of the ignorant.

The eighth Glad-Tidings

The pious deeds of the monks and priests among the followers of the Spirit1—upon Him be the peace of God—are remembered in His presence. In this Day, however, let them give up the life of seclusion and direct their steps towards the open world and busy themselves with that which will profit themselves and others. We have granted them leave to enter into wedlock that they may bring forth one who will make mention of God, the Lord of the seen and the unseen, the Lord of the Exalted Throne.

The ninth Glad-Tidings

When the sinner findeth himself wholly detached and freed from all save God, he should beg forgiveness and pardon from Him. Confession of sins and transgressions before human beings is not permissible, as it hath never been nor will ever be conducive to divine forgiveness. Moreover such confession before people results in one's humiliation and abasement, and God—exalted be His glory—wisheth not the humiliation of His servants. Verily He is the Compassionate, the Merciful. The sinner should, between himself and God, implore mercy from the Ocean of mercy, beg forgiveness from the Heaven of generosity and say:

O God, my God! I implore Thee by the blood of Thy true lovers who were so enraptured by Thy sweet utterance that they hastened unto the Pinnacle of Glory, the site of the most glorious martyrdom, and I beseech Thee by the mysteries which lie enshrined in Thy knowledge and by the pearls that are treasured in the ocean of Thy bounty to grant forgiveness unto me and unto my father and my mother. Of those who show forth mercy, Thou art in truth the Most Merciful. No God is there but Thee, the Ever-Forgiving, the All-Bountiful.

O Lord! Thou seest this essence of sinfulness turning unto the ocean of Thy favor and this feeble one seeking the kingdom of Thy divine power and this poor creature inclining himself towards the daystar of Thy wealth. By Thy mercy and Thy grace, disappoint him not, O Lord, nor debar him from the revelations of Thy bounty in Thy days, nor cast him away from Thy door which Thou hast opened wide to all that dwell in Thy heaven and on Thine earth.

Alas! Alas! My sins have prevented me from approaching the Court of Thy holiness and my trespasses have caused me to stray far from the Tabernacle of Thy majesty. I have committed that which Thou didst forbid me to do and have put away what Thou didst order me to observe.

I pray Thee by Him Who is the sovereign Lord of Names to write down for me with the Pen of Thy bounty that which will enable me to draw nigh unto Thee and will purge me from my trespasses which have intervened between me and Thy forgiveness and Thy pardon.

Verily, Thou art the Potent, the Bountiful. No God is there but Thee, the Mighty, the Gracious.

The tenth Glad-Tidings

As a token of grace from God, the Revealer of this Most Great Announcement, We have removed from the Holy Scriptures and Tablets the law prescribing the destruction of books.

The eleventh Glad-Tidings

It is permissible to study sciences and arts, but such sciences as are useful and would redound to the progress and advancement of the people. Thus hath it been decreed by Him Who is the Ordainer, the All-Wise.

The twelfth Glad-Tidings

It is enjoined upon every one of you to engage in some form of occupation, such as crafts, trades and the like. We have graciously exalted your engagement in such work to the rank of worship unto God, the True One. Ponder ye in your hearts the grace and the blessings of God and render thanks unto Him at eventide and at dawn. Waste not your time in idleness and sloth. Occupy yourselves with that which profiteth yourselves and others. Thus hath it been decreed in this Tablet from whose horizon the daystar of wisdom and utterance shineth resplendent.

The most despised of men in the sight of God are those who sit idly and beg. Hold ye fast unto the cord of material means, placing your whole trust in God, the Provider of all means. When anyone occupieth

himself in a craft or trade, such occupation itself is regarded in the estimation of God as an act of worship; and this is naught but a token of His infinite and all-pervasive bounty.

The thirteenth Glad-Tidings

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 Ministers of the House of Justice that they 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 Bahá! 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 favorably 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 fourteenth Glad-Tidings

It is not necessary to undertake special journeys to visit the resting-places of the dead. If people of substance and affluence offer the cost of such journeys to the House of Justice, it will be pleasing and acceptable in the presence of God. Happy are they that observe His precepts.

The fifteenth Glad-Tidings

Although a republican form of government profiteth all the peoples of the world, yet the majesty of kingship is one of the signs of God. We do not wish that the countries of the world should remain deprived thereof. If the sagacious combine the two forms into one, great will be their reward in the presence of God.

In former religions such ordinances as holy war, destruction of books, the ban on association and companionship with other peoples or on reading certain books had been laid down and affirmed according to the exigencies of the time; however, in this mighty Revelation, in this momentous Announcement, the manifold bestowals and favors of God have overshadowed all men, and from the horizon of the Will of the Ever-Abiding Lord, His infallible decree hath prescribed that which We have set forth above.

We yield praise unto God—hallowed and glorified be He—for whatsoever He hath graciously revealed in this blessed, this glorious and incomparable Day. Indeed if everyone on earth were endowed with a myriad tongues and were to continually praise God and magnify His Name to the end that knoweth no end, their thanksgiving would not prove adequate for even one of the gracious favors We have mentioned in this Tablet. Unto this beareth witness every man of wisdom and discernment, of understanding and knowledge.

We earnestly beseech God—exalted be His glory—to aid the rulers and sovereigns, who are the exponents of power and the daysprings of glory, to enforce His laws and ordinances. He is in truth the Omnipotent, the All-Powerful, He Who is wont to answer the call of men.

BH02686: Prefatory letter and note to the Bisharat

Introduction

In the name of Him, Who binds together the hearts, in the name of Him, the Great, the Beloved

Praise be to God, Who having increased the friendship of [His] chosen ones and their love, caused a new remembrance and a new word to appear every day from the treasuries of the hearts in such manner that attracted prepared and faithful souls. Exalted is His utterance and exalted is His argument, and there is no God but Him.

The letter of that spiritual friend overwhelmed the [whole] being and opened the gate of joy and delight. Indeed, exultation and joy having assumed shape appeared in the form of a leaf of paper. Its arrival is [the source of] exultation and its fragrance is a blessing. We ask [God], the True One, that this blessing will not change [or] be replaced and will not be withheld by the Heaven of Will, because He is the Excellent, the Generous. A letter from friend to friend is a great blessing. Its station is so high that the gems of oceans cannot equal it. At certain moments [lit. at one moment of moments] this most high Word arises from the Dawn of the Utterance of the One Who is the Desire of the denizens of the world. His Word [reflects] the full grandeur of His Utterance. If there is a way to conceive an analogy or parallel for the breezes of Revelation, it is the breezes of the utterance of a true friend. The truth is God's [who is] the Most High and Great.

After the arrival of the letter, [its] consideration [lit. contemplation] and reading, it was directed to the Horizon of the Heaven of Command and was reported on in His presence. He decreed: 'Praise God [Who] is embarked on a Cause which is the means of the tranquillity of [His] servants and the peace of the inhabitants of the lands. We testify that He planted the lotus-tree of love with a mighty hand [lit. hand of firmness] and watered it with the spring rain of closeness and benevolence. This tree will soon be made manifest by visible and invisible fruits. These ripe fruits are, by God's grace, abiding and everlasting.'

Some of the Divine ordinances contained in sundry epistles were sent to this spiritual friend a little while ago. After the report on them in the Most Holy Realm, He decreed: 'Write down and send the ordinances and commands which have so far been collected, to wit the commands which are the cause of the grace of God, glorified be He.' They have now been collected, reported on [in His] presence and sent. [We] hope that the inhabitants of the world will become aware of that which profits them and will hold fast to

it. We ask [God], the True One: May He increase the light of love at any time. For He is the All-Mighty and is quick in responding to prayers. 22nd January 1891 corresponding to 11th Jamadi uth-thani 1308

Badi'

Prefatory note to the text of Bisharat

…These Divine ordinances and commands, formerly revealed in sundry epistles, in the Kitab-i-Aqdas, in the Illuminations' (Ishraqat), Effulgences' (Tajallıyat), ʿOrnaments' (Tarazat), etc., have, agreeably to the Supreme and Most Holy Command, been collected, that all may become cognizant of the grace, mercy, and favour of God (great is His Glory!) in this Most Mighty Manifestation and this Great Announcement, and may engage in praise and thanksgiving to the Desired Object of all the inhabitants of the world. Verily He helpeth His servants unto that which He willeth, for He is the Wise Ordainer.

BH02600: Universal praise hath appeared from the Kingdom of divine…

He is God, exalted be His majesty, His greatness and His power.

Universal praise hath appeared from the Kingdom of divine favor, and in this station thanksgiving from all things is necessary, for from its rustling is heard the blessed word "Verily, I am God's greatest handiwork", though only sanctified and refined ears can hear it—others have no share or portion in this call. In the first station and primary rank, the hearers of this sweetest call have been the chosen ones and near ones, through whom God's straight path and His mighty Cause were made manifest, and through whom the Lamp of existence spoke both eve and morn concerning that which was revealed and appeared—that which had been hidden from sight. The kingdom belongeth unto God, the One, the Chosen.

The letter of that beloved of the heart arrived after his return, and after its perusal and reading it was taken to the Holy Presence and submitted. He said:

> "O Rida! Upon thee be the peace of God, the Lord of Names and Creator of heaven. We have heard thy call. Praise be to God, thou art successful in attaining unto contentment, reconciliation and goodness. This is a testimony which this Wronged One hath given and giveth before those possessed of hearing ears, penetrating vision, and the gathering of the assured and sincere ones. Thou wert with Us in thy childhood and grew to maturity beneath the sheltering grace of God, the Lord of the worlds, and thou didst migrate with the Wronged One until imprisonment ended in the Most Great Prison. We beseech Him, exalted be He, to make thee and those with thee among those who have no fear and who do not grieve. Verily, we are God's and unto Him do we return."

Thus did it end.

Praise be to God, that beloved of the heart hath ever been engaged in remembrance and steadfast in service. The greatest of all great bounties is that from the beginning of days thou wert nurtured in the shadow of thy Lord and didst grow and develop. Thou wert with Him and art with Him, and assuredly the end is too sacred for mention by this evanescent one and those like him. By the testimony of the Beloved,

the end hath been and is good. I beseech God, exalted be His glory, that this most great bounty may endure as long as the kingdom and the heavenly realm endure. And whatever was commanded should be given to the loved ones—take from the aforementioned amount and give it. The blessed month of Ramadan hath come, assistance to some is necessary. We beseech God to send down upon His loved ones a blessing from His presence and a bounty from His own Self. The receipt was also sent. Peace, mercy and glory be upon you and upon those with you and upon His loved ones and chosen ones.

BH04834: Your letter, that opening word adorning the preface…

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

Your letter, that opening word adorning the preface of the book of love, illumined the heart with the light of joy. After perusal it was brought to the Most Holy and Most Exalted Presence and presented, that is, whatever had been mentioned and submitted. He said:

He is the Preserver, the Helper!

O Rida, O thou who circlest round Me and gazest toward My horizon and turnest thy face toward My countenance! The servant in attendance hath appeared and read that which thou didst commune with God, the Lord of the worlds, and presented what was inscribed in another leaf. We beseech Him, exalted be He, to assist thee to attain continuous connection in all conditions, in such wise that no separation may affect it, nor any remoteness or severance overtake it. Verily, He is the Hearer, the Answerer. The Glory from Us be upon thee and upon him who was named Habibu'llah in the Book of Names, and upon his mother and his two sisters. Convey My greetings unto them and give them the glad-tidings of My remembrance.

The mention of trustworthiness and faithfulness in your letter proved touching. He said: God willing, may you ever be and continue to be adorned with these two most precious and radiant garments.

That which you sent attained the presence and was honored with apportionment. In the words of Jinab-i-Ism-i-Jud, upon him be the Most Glorious Glory of God, may it endure. The servant beseecheth his Lord for your preservation, your continuance, and your steadfastness in what you are upon in His mighty and impregnable Cause.

BH06760: To the presence of the beloved of hearts, Jinab-i-Haji…

…To the presence of the beloved of hearts, Jinab-i-Haji Siyyid Javad, upon him be the glory of God and His grace, I convey greetings and express my sincere devotion. His missive truly caused the appearance of joy and gladness. The remembrance of friends is auspicious to the Friend. At this moment there is no more time, as it is the day of writing in His presence. We beseech Him, blessed and exalted is He, to assist us and grant us success in that which He has commanded in His perspicuous Book. Peace, remembrance and glory be upon you, upon those with you, and upon God's friends and chosen ones there and in every quarter, near and far.

BH00162: Praise be befitting unto the Lord of all beings…

Section 1: "Praise be befitting unto the Lord of all…"

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

Praise be befitting unto the Lord of all beings, Who through His Most Exalted Word summoned the dwellers of the mortal realm to the highest horizon and bestowed upon them a portion of the sealed wine. This Word is, in one station, the water of life unto them that are dead through self and desire, and in another station, it is a shining light for the guidance of the inhabitants of earth and heaven. At times it appeareth in the form of fire—it is the cause of divine love's warmth appearing in the hearts and minds of all peoples. And at times it is as a sovereign seated upon the throne of bounty and grace. It is the ocean of favor wherein are hidden the pearls of wisdom and utterance. It is the heaven of justice from which the stars of trustworthiness and religion are visible. Blessed is the soul that hath, through this radiant and effulgent light, set out for its true homeland, and joy be to the one who hath turned towards the Most Great News. Exalted be the majesty of God and His dominion, exalted be His remembrance and His utterance, and mighty be His proof. There is no God but Him.

Glory be unto Thee, O God of the world and Goal of the nations! Thou knowest and seest that one of Thy chosen servants hath turned to Thy servant who was named Diya' in the Book of Names, and desired to mention him in the court of Thy might and the sanctuary of Thy holiness. I beseech Thee, O Lord of the worlds, by Thy Most Great Name through which Thou hast caused the rain of generosity to descend upon the nations, and by Thy sovereignty which hath encompassed all existence both seen and unseen, and by the waves of the ocean of Thy mercy, and by the splendors of the luminary of Thy grace, to ordain for him and for those whom he hath mentioned in his letter that which will draw them nigh unto Thee and give them to drink of the water of everlasting life from the hand of Thy bounty, and attract them to the atmosphere of Thy might and the heaven of Thy mercy. Then write down for them, with Thy Most Exalted Pen, the reward of attaining Thy presence, O Lord of all beings and Lord of the throne on high and of the dust beneath. There is no God but Thee, the Forgiving, the Generous.

Thy letter was received, and as it was a bearer of a petition intended for the Possessor of the Point of Existence and the King of the seen and unseen, after its presentation and permission before the Seat of Justice, all of it was presented and was honored to be heard. Then the waves of the ocean of utterance appeared and the sun of grace shone forth from the horizon of the bounty of our Lord, the Most Merciful. He spoke, and His word is the truth: In My Name, the Manifest, the Speaker, the All-Knowing.

O Na'im! Upon thee be My glory! One of the Branches named Diya' appeared before Me with thy letter. Blessed be thy tongue for having uttered the praise of God, and thy heart for having turned unto Him, and thy face for having been directed towards the light of His countenance, and thy pen for having flowed with His remembrance, and thy heart for having given birth to the maidens of remembrance and utterance. We beseech God to aid thee and to assist thee, and to make what hath flowed from thy tongue a treasure for thee with Him. Verily, He is the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous.

This is a Day wherein all things have been stirred up by the breezes of Revelation, yet most of the people are in evident doubt. The Sun of Utterance hath dawned from the horizon of the heaven of proof, and the Dove of Knowledge hath warbled upon the highest branches. O concourse of creation! Your Lord, the All-Merciful, hath come with power and sovereignty. Beware lest ye deprive yourselves from drawing nigh unto Him. Cast away what ye possess, turning unto God, the Lord of all men. The treasures of the earth shall profit you not; cast them behind you and take what hath been given you by God, the Lord of Lords.

Blessed art thou, O Na'im, for having attained unto My bounty, which is My favor in one station and My knowledge in another, and My grace which We sent down aforetime and afterwards, and on this Day which hath been named the Day of God in the Scriptures and Tablets. Beware lest the happenings of the world grieve thee or the clamor of the nations prevent thee from My Choice Wine, whose seal We have broken with the fingers of might and power. We have desired to give thee to drink thereof cup after cup and chalice after chalice, that it may take thee from thyself and attract thee to a station whereon hath been raised the banner of grandeur by the command of God, the Commander, the All-Wise.

Say: O people! Fear God and follow not the dawning-places of idle fancies and vain imaginings. This is a Day wherein the Call hath been raised in the prison of ʿAkka. Blessed is he who hath heard and responded, and woe unto every heedless doubter. We have adorned the preamble of the Book of Existence with this Name at which the limbs of the wicked have quaked. When thou hearest My call and takest and drinkest the choice wine of My utterance, turn with thy heart to the Dawning-Place of inspiration and say:

Praise be to Thee, O my God, and thanksgiving be unto Thee, O my Aim, and glory be unto Thee, O Beloved of my heart, and bounty be unto Thee, O my Adored One, for having guided me unto Thy path, given me to drink of the wine of Thy bestowal, and shown me Thy signs. I beseech Thee by the Lote-Tree beyond which there is no passing, and by its fruits and its rustling, and by the flowing rivers and their murmuring, and by the breezes of Thy Day and their whistling, to manifest through me that which will draw the people nigh unto the court of Thy grace and the threshold of Thy nearness. O Lord! Thou beholdest me speaking Thy praise amongst Thy servants and holding fast unto the cord of Thy bounty, O Lord of existence and Sovereign of the seen and unseen! There is none other God but Thee, the Bestower, the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous.

Verily, We desire at this time to make mention of him who was attracted by My verses and achieved the spreading of My writings throughout My lands and spoke My praise amidst My servants—he who was named Sina in the Tablet of Names. We testify that he turned, hastened, heard and answered his Ancient Lord. O Sina! Hearken unto My Most Glorious call from the horizon of the Prison of Akka. Verily, it attracts thee and draws thee nigh unto God, the Lord of all worlds. We have mentioned thee time and again, and answered thee repeatedly, and revealed for thee that which shall be immortalized in My perspicuous Book. We have heard thy call and that which the tongue of thy heart hath uttered. Verily thy Lord heareth and seeth, and He is the Hearing, the Responding. We testify that thou didst turn to the Most Exalted Horizon when every heedless and remote one turned away. Thou didst take hold of the Book of God with a power from Him and didst convey His Cause in such wise that neither the might of princes nor the

doubts of the divines could deter thee. Verily thy Lord was with thee in all conditions. He is the Hearing, the All-Seeing.

Say: O concourse of the earth! The promised Day hath come, and the Promised One calleth from His glorious station, summoning all unto the straight Path of God. Beware lest the world and whatsoever is therein prevent you from turning toward the light of His Countenance. Turn ye, and be not of the heedless ones. The ocean of utterance hath surged in creation before the faces of all religions. Hear! Hear! And be not of them that hesitate. O Sina! This is the Day wherein the lips of Sinai smiled at meeting its Interlocutor, and the Tree at its Speaker. Blessed is the ear that heard, called out and said:

> "Thine is the praise, O Thou Who art the Goal of all who are in the heavens and on earth!"

We have mentioned thee in numerous Tablets and preserved thee through a company of angels drawn nigh.

O My Most Exalted Pen! Turn thy face toward him who was named Nayyir in My Luminous Book, then make mention of him in such wise as to attract the hearts of the sincere ones. We have heard thy call and answered thee with a Tablet wherewith God hath adorned the preface of His Preserved Book. We testify that thou didst traverse the lands to spread the signs of thy Lord, the Speaking, the All-Knowing. Say: O people! The Day that was promised in the Books of God, the Mighty, the Praised, hath come. Beware lest ye deprive yourselves of that which hath been manifested therein through truth. Fear God and be not of the wrongdoers.

Your remembrances have been presented, and that which dawned from the horizon of your hearts in praise of your Creator, Who came with manifest sovereignty. We found therein the fragrance of your sincerity and your turning unto Him, and your steadfastness in this Cause whereby the limbs of the servants trembled, save those whom the hand of thy Lord's power delivered—the Strong, the Mighty, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. This is the Day wherein the rustling of the Lote-Tree of the Uttermost End and the flowing of the Kawthar of utterance in the Supreme Paradise were raised high, yet the people remain behind a thick veil. Blessed is the power that rent asunder the veils and cast away names, turning unto the Ocean of Knowledge, from whose waves one heareth:

> "The gate of heaven hath been opened and the Lord of the Kingdom of Eternity hath come with a Cause before which all the hosts of the heavens and earth cannot stand."

Thus have We remembered thee and cast upon thee that which attracteth thee once and again, raising thee to a station beyond which the remembrances and descriptions of the servants are cut off. To this testifieth He Who speaketh in every condition that there is none other God but Me, the Forgiving, the Merciful.

Praise be to God! The light of utterance hath dawned from the horizon of the Will of Him Who is the Desire of all worlds—a dawning that hath illumined all hearts and souls. Blessed is this Day, for the hidden treasure hath been revealed and the concealed mystery hath become manifest. I beseech God not to debar or deprive His servants from the shore of the ocean of mercy. Glory be to God! Despite the doors of divine favors being flung wide, the Sun of Truth shining forth, and the rivers of bounty flowing, most

are seen to be veiled and debarred on this Day which is attributed to God, known by Him, and recorded by the Eternal Pen in the divine Books as the Day of God. Nevertheless, they remain occupied with their own like and heedless of that which is with God. This Prisoner declareth:

My God, my God! I testify to Thy sovereignty that hath encompassed all created things, to Thy power that hath subdued all possibilities, and to the sanctification of Thy Being and the exaltation of Thine Essence above the description of all creatures. I beseech Thee, O Lord of the worlds and Beloved of the nations, by Thy Most Great Name through which the door of the hidden treasure was opened and the pearls concealed in the shells of the ocean of Thy hidden knowledge were revealed, to assist Thy servants to draw nigh unto Thee and to turn unto the lights of Thy countenance in Thy days. O Lord! Make known to them Thy straight path and Thy mighty Message, and enable them to return to the door of Thy mercy and to draw nigh unto the court of Thy glory. O Lord! Deny them not through Thy grace and bounty. I testify, and all things testify, to Thy power, Thy sovereignty, Thy greatness and Thy might. There is none other God but Thee, the Single One, the Unique, the Protector of all that is in the heavens and the earth.

Mention was made of Master Ibrahim Saffar, upon him be the Glory of God, the Chosen One. After being presented before the Seat of Justice, these brilliant verses were sent down from the heaven of the Lord of the Kingdom of Names. His word—exalted be His utterance and mighty His proof:

He is the All-Knowing Expositor

O Saffar! The Wronged One of the world hath turned toward thee from the Most Great Prison and maketh mention of thee. Rejoice thou in this most great favor that hath encompassed existence both seen and unseen. I testify to that which God hath testified: There is none other God but He, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting.

O Ibrahim! The Friend of all regions sent sacrifices to the place of martyrdom, yet none took notice. These are souls who gave their lives and uttered not an unseemly word. Indeed, they manifested such power, might and detachment as had no likeness or equal. The pens of the world and tongues of nations are powerless to praise them and fall short of describing them. Each one shone forth from the horizon of the heaven of detachment like the sun, neither concealed by the clouds of idle fancies nor veiled from light by the mists of vain imaginings. Glorified be He Who aided them and brought them into being! Thus hath the Tongue of Grandeur spoken at this moment from His exalted station. The resplendent and manifest glory be upon thee and upon thy son who turned toward God, the Lord of the Mighty Throne, and attained recognition at a time when ignorance had encompassed most of creation to such extent that they turned away from the Speaking One, the Manifest, the All-Knowing.

This is what was revealed for Mirza Husayn, upon him be the Glory of God.

He is the Protector, the Self-Subsisting.

O Husayn! Upon thee be My Glory! This blessed Day is associated with Truth and in it hath appeared that which no eye in the world hath seen its like. The bounty of utterance is manifest, the table of knowledge is descended, the ocean of generosity is surging, and the sun of divine knowledge is shining from the horizon of the heaven of proof. Yet the people remain heedless, for the veils of fancy have so seized them

that they cannot distinguish nearness from remoteness, nor knowledge from ignorance. Blessed is the soul that hath passed beyond tales of doubt, allusions, conjectures and fancies, and hath turned toward the horizon of certitude. Such a one is of the people of Baha and the companions of the Crimson Ark. When thou findest the fragrance of utterance, say:

> "Praise be unto Thee, O my Lord, the All-Merciful, for having illumined my heart with the light of Thy knowledge, enabled me to turn unto Thee, and guided me to Thy path and to Thy Great Announcement, whereby the limbs of Thy creatures have trembled, save those whom Thou didst deliver by Thy power. O Lord! Thou seest Thy servant turning unto Thee and clinging to Thee and to Thy sovereignty. I beseech Thee to make me firm, steadfast and upright in Thy Cause and in Thy love. Verily Thou art the All-Powerful over what Thou willest, and Thou art the Mighty, the All-Bountiful."

Section 2: "This Prisoner beseecheth God, exalted be His glory…"

This Prisoner beseecheth God, exalted be His glory, to send down especially for His loved ones that which is everlasting and enduring, which centuries and ages cannot alter, and which armies and hosts cannot erase. Thou art He Who is so powerful that the denial and opposition of the wicked cannot prevent Thee from Thy purpose nor hold Thee back from showing forth Thy bounty.

Mention was made of Aqa Murad-ʿAli-i-Kirmani, upon him be the Glory of God. After being submitted before the Luminous Countenance, these words shone forth from the horizon of the Divine Will. He saith, blessed and exalted be He:

He is the Single One, the All-Informed

O Murad! Upon thee be the Glory of God, the Lord of creation! Hear the call of the Desired One from the direction of the Most Great Prison. Verily He will strengthen thee, prosper thee, and bring thee nigh unto the Most Exalted Paradise, the Station wherein the Call was raised and the mysteries of what was and what will be were revealed, and whereby the Lote-Tree of the Uttermost Boundary and the Green Tree in the Supreme Paradise spoke, and the Dove of Utterance warbled upon the branch of possibility. The dominion of earth and heaven belongeth unto God, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting. This is a Day wherein every one possessed of ears hath heard the mention of all things, and every one possessed of sight hath beheld the horizon of Revelation.

Grieve not over anything, nor over the vicissitudes and changes of the world. Hold fast unto that which beseemeth this Day wherein the Mount hath been seized by the rapture of the utterance of thy Lord, the Possessor of existence. Verily the Hijaz crieth out, and Batha speaketh, and Yathrib hath exclaimed saying: "Glory be unto thee, O Akka, in that the Throne of Justice hath been established upon thee and the Tongue of Grandeur hath spoken: Grandeur belongeth unto God, the Lord of the seen and the unseen."' Thus have We sent down the verses and dispatched them unto thee that thou mayest rejoice and give thanks unto thy Lord, the Mighty, the All-Forgiving.

And this is what was revealed for Aqa Muhammad, son of him who attained the recognition of our Lord, the All-Merciful, in these days. He saith, mighty be His utterance, great His verses, and glorious His proof:

He is God, the Manifest, the Speaking, the All-Knowing

O Muhammad! Upon thee be My glory! We have mentioned thee before in verses from which there flowed the rivers of wisdom and utterance throughout all contingent being. Exalted is thy Lord, the All-Merciful, Who hath turned toward thee from the precincts of the Prison and remembered thee in such wise as to attract the hearts and souls. Blessed art thou and blessed are they whom names have not kept back from their Lord and Sovereign. Verily thy Lord is the Omnipotent over whatsoever He willeth through His word "Be," and it is. Say: O people of the Bayan! Fear the All-Merciful and follow not your idle fancies. Follow the Truth, the Knower of things unseen, Who hath come from the horizon of power with the standards of His signs.

Read, then be fair, and be not of those who behold the light yet deny it. That which was never manifest in the world hath appeared, and He hath come through Whose remembrance the Bayan was adorned, and before it the Qur'an, and before it the Torah, the Gospel and the Psalms. Beware lest ye deprive yourselves of that which hath been manifested in truth. Cast away the people and what they possess, then your conjectures and imaginings. Thus doth He command you from Whose presence is a preserved Tablet. The resplendent, effulgent light be upon thee and upon those who have hearkened unto the call and have said: "Here am I! Here am I! O Thou Lord of the seen and unseen!"

This was revealed for Ustad Hasan of K. Upon him be the Glory of God.

In My Name, the One with Power over all names.

O Hasan! Upon thee be My Glory! The Treasure hath appeared and the mysteries have been revealed and the trees have put forth leaves, yet the people hear not. This is the Day wherein the Mount calleth out: "By God! The Lord of the Manifestation hath come, and He is my Interlocutor through Whom hands were raised toward God, the Mighty, the Loving, and through Whom the eyes of those near unto God were gladdened, and all things proclaimed: 'Glory and Dominion belong unto God, the Lord of the Promised Day!"' O concourse of kings! Turn with radiant faces toward the Supreme Horizon, the Station wherein the Sovereign was established upon the throne of utterance and spoke that whereby the dwellers of the graves arose. O company of the heedless! Be fair before God—by what proof did ye believe in God's Messengers of old, and by what evidence do ye turn away from Him at Whose call all things have spoken and at Whose rising all within the kingdom of creation have arisen to serve the Cause of God, the All-Forgiving, the Most Kind? Read what ye possess and We shall read what We possess, that ye may recognize the Dawning-Place of God's Manifestation and the Dayspring of all matters.

This is the Day wherein the murmuring of the Water of Life hath been raised throughout all contingent being, yet most of the people comprehend not. They have cast justice aside and taken injustice as their helper instead of God. Verily, they are accounted among the most lost in My preserved Tablet. Say: Praise be unto Thee, O my God, for having sent down unto Thy servant Thy greatest signs and manifested unto him Thy mighty evidences. I beseech Thee to assist me in that which shall cause my remembrance to endure among Thy servants, and to aid me in deeds from which the fragrance of Thy good-pleasure may be diffused. Thou art, verily, the Omnipotent, the Mighty, the Beloved.

This was revealed for Muhammad-Rida. Upon him be the Glory of God and His loving-kindness.

He is the One Who ruleth over all names.

We have made mention of thee time and again, and have sent down unto thee that which hath diffused the fragrances of divine Revelation throughout the world. To this beareth witness the Mother Book in its ultimate retreat. We have made mention of them that have believed when, as the Voice was raised from the mouth of God's Will, the Concourse on High cried out:

> "O peoples of the earth! This is your Lord, the Most Glorious, Who hath come from the heaven of bounty with power and sovereignty."

This is the Day that hath been inscribed by the Most Exalted Pen, in the Sacred Scrolls and Tablets. Say: O people of the Bayan! Die in your wrath! The Hidden Treasure hath appeared, and He Who was concealed in God's knowledge, the Lord of all men, hath been made manifest. Say: The Sun hath risen, and the Light hath shone forth, and the Fire in the Tree on Sinai doth call aloud and give glad-tidings unto the people of this Revelation which was promised in the Books of God, the Lord of Lords. Can anyone stand before Him in the presence of all creation? Can any horseman gallop with Him in the arena of wisdom and utterance? Fear ye the All-Merciful, and follow not your desires. Follow Him Who calleth you unto God, the Lord of all Religions. Thus hath the Most Exalted Pen spoken in the prison of Akka, as bidden by God, the Almighty, the All-Bountiful.

And this is what was revealed for His Honour ʿAli-Muhammad, upon him be the glory of God:

In My Name, the Compassionate, the Generous

O Muhammad! Thou hast been blessed by My mention time and again, and by My favor repeatedly. O Tailor! Upon thee be the glory of God, the Revealer of verses. Behold, then remember what We revealed in the Tablet to His Majesty the Sultan, may the All-Merciful assist him. We said: We were sitting beneath a sword suspended by a thread, not knowing whether it would fall soon or after a while. The matter is in God's hands, the Lord of the worlds. Remember My loved ones on My behalf and say: The lamp is surrounded by winds, yet it hath taken neither guardian nor protector. To this testifieth the Mother Book which is with Him. The glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My mercy be upon thee and upon My loved ones who have turned unto My horizon, who have attained unto My mention and My traces, and who have drunk the choice wine sealed from the hand of My bounty. We testify that they are My loved ones in the Hereafter and in this world, and We beseech God to open before their faces the doors of grace, favor, and bounty. Verily, He is the Lord of existence and in His grasp is the dominion of all who are in earth and heaven.

And this is what was revealed for His Honour Haydar, upon him be the glory of God, the Lord of destiny:

He is the All-Bountiful, the Generous

O Haydar! Upon thee be My glory and My glorification. Hear My call at this time when sorrows have encompassed Me from those who have violated the Covenant and Testament. They have cast the ocean of utterance behind their backs, turning unto the daysprings of fancy and idle imagination. By My life! They worship idols and know not. We testify that they are among the most lost in God's Book, the Lord of

the Kingdom. Say: O people of the Bayan! The Sun of Truth hath risen from the horizon of Will and the rivers of wisdom and utterance have flowed. Fear God, O daysprings of fancy! This is the Day wherein the earth hath revealed its treasures, the heaven its mysteries, the sun its radiance, and the Tree its fruits.

Cast away your vain imaginings, then hasten unto God, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting. We have mentioned thee before and have sent unto thee that which hath diffused the fragrances of utterance throughout all possibility. To this testifieth the Book of God, the Lord of what was and what shall be. Glorify My loved ones on My behalf, remind them of My verses, and illumine them with the light of My favor. Verily thy Lord is the All-Bountiful, the Mighty, the Forgiving. And We remember My handmaidens who have believed in God, the Lord of this exalted station. Glory be upon thee and upon them from God, the Knower of the unseen.

He is the Hearing, the Answering.

O Pen! Make mention of him who was named Shaykh Muhammad, son of him who turned to My countenance, soared in My atmosphere, migrated with Me and heard My sweetest call when it was raised between earth and heaven. We testify that he is among those near to God, the Lord of Hosts. Verily he hath a station and rank with his Lord. Blessed is he who maketh mention of him and readeth what We have revealed for him in this praiseworthy station.

O Muhammad! When thou hast been blessed to hearken unto My verses, say: Praise be unto Thee, O my God, for having remembered me in Thy Most Great Prison and revealed unto me that which the understanding of nations hath failed to grasp. O Lord! I am Thy servant and the son of Thy servant. I have turned unto Thee, detached from all else but Thee. I beseech Thee by the lights of the hearts of Thy loved ones and their submission when reading Thy verses and Thy signs, and by the hidden mysteries of Thy knowledge which were veiled from understanding and sight, to make me steadfast in Thy love such that neither the mighty tempests of injustice nor the storms of every rejected misbeliever may move me. O Lord! Ordain for me from Thy Most Exalted Pen that which will preserve me from all else save Thee and draw me nigh unto Thee. Verily, Thou art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the Omnipotent, the Supreme, the Mighty, the Loving.

O Na'im! Upon thee be My glory! Each of the mentioned loved ones hath drunk from the cup of bounty and received his portion from the effulgences of the light of the Sun of proof. Say: My God, my God! Praise be unto Thee throughout the everlasting dominion of the Kingdom, and glorification be unto Thee throughout the eternal sovereignty of the Realm of Might, for having turned toward Thy servant from the direction of Thy Prison—he whom Thou didst aid to turn toward Thee in the days of Thy Manifestation and gave to drink from the Salsabil of bounty through Thy generosity and grace. I beseech Thee, O Lord of the worlds, by the lights of Thy countenance and by the Tree beyond which there is no passing, from which Thy call was raised, to aid Thy servants and creatures to make up for what hath escaped them in Thy days. Verily Thou art the Omnipotent, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. The glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My mercy be upon thee and upon those who have believed in God and His signs, and turned unto Him when His call was raised, and upon every one steadfast, upright and trustworthy.

Glad tidings! Glad tidings! For the ocean of utterance hath appeared in the pole of contingent being with such waves as the eye of creation hath not seen from the beginning of the first beginning until now, nor shall it see the like thereof. In this luminous dawn, when granted audience, was heard that of which each letter was a spirit for bodies and a light for the lands. Glory be to God! The Sun of proof shineth from one direction, the Sun of utterance riseth from another direction. The tongues of the world fall short and are powerless to mention that which was observed and witnessed.

My God, my God! Withhold not Thy loved ones from drawing nigh unto Thee and turning toward the court of Thy might. I beseech Thee by Thy Most Exalted Word, which the sincere ones behold as the Water of Life for the renewal of contingent being, and the near ones see as the light of the All-Merciful in the lands, and the detached ones as the Most Great Mystery among the nations, and the believers as the healing medicine for the sick—blessed is he who hath heard and seen, and happy is he who hath drunk the water of immortality and been seized by the rapture of the Call to a station wherein he seeth naught save God, the Single One, the Omnipotent, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

Make mention of each of the loved ones in that land on behalf of the Prisoner and convey greetings, and illumine them with the light of the utterance of the Desired One of the worlds. Verily He loveth His loved ones and remembereth them with that whereby their stations are exalted. He is the Protector of the doers of good, the Helper of the sincere ones, and the Master of the Day of Judgment. Praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds. The glory and the remembrance and the praise and the light that hath shone forth from the horizon of God's will, the Lord of Names, be upon thee and upon God's loved ones there who have cast away the world, holding fast to the Luminous Handle, by the command of God, the Lord of the worlds.

Diya', On the 23rd of the month of Sha'ban in the year 1308.

BH11215: My God, my God! Withhold not Thy loved ones…

…My God, my God! Withhold not Thy loved ones from the ocean of Thy bounty, nor disappoint them of what lieth with Thee of the wonders of Thy generosity and the sun of Thy grace. I beseech Thee, O Illuminator of the horizons with the light of the Covenant, to ordain for Thy loved ones every good thing Thou hast sent down in Thy Book and destined for Thy chosen ones. Verily, Thou art the Mighty, the Glorious, the All-Bountiful….

BH05734: Praise be to the Lord of creation Who, through…

Praise be to the Lord of creation Who, through His Most Exalted Word, bestowed upon the people of the mortal realm the Kawthar of divine knowledge. The water of life and the fountain of existence have ever flowed and continue to flow from the Divine Word. He is the Bestower of eternal life and everlasting existence. Blessed is the soul that perceived His fragrance and hastened toward His direction, in such wise that neither the means of the world, nor its wealth and riches, nor its ornaments could deter him from his purpose. With complete power did he turn and partake thereof. Glorified be the Creator, glorified be the Originator, glorified be the Bestower Who, through a single word, granted heavenly sustenance and true bounty, which is the knowledge of God's Own Self, exalted be His glory. Like the spring showers of the All-

Merciful, He caused the rain of wisdom and utterance to pour upon the earth of the hearts of them that are sincere and devoted, that all might attain the fruits of their own being and become aware of the purpose for which they were brought forth from nothingness into the realm of existence. This bounty cannot be comprehended by the understanding of the world, nor can the pens of nations enumerate it….

BH10938: We love thee and those whom thou seest adorned…

We love thee and those whom thou seest adorned with the ornament of trustworthiness and piety, and with that which they have been commanded concerning truthfulness and chastity in the Book of God, the Lord of the Mighty Throne. Blessed is the soul that hath found the fragrance of utterance and heard that which hath been sent down from God, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. God hath willed to aid His Cause through the hosts of deeds and character. Blessed is he who hath recognized and attained, and woe unto the heedless and the deniers….

O servant in attendance! For twelve years We associated and consorted with the people of Iraq with perfect love, harmony and favor. At the time of Our departure from the house and arrival in the garden which was named Ridvan, most of the officials and notables of the government and country were grieved to witness it, and some of the princes wept. In truth, a new resurrection arose….

We make mention of all Our loved ones and counsel them to observe trustworthiness, which is God's trust amongst all things, and righteousness, which God hath made a shelter for such of His servants as are nigh unto Him and a stronghold for such of His bondsmen as are sincere in their faith, and whatsoever will exalt their stations among the peoples….

BH00824: Praise be to the One God, whose Call…

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

Praise be to the One God, whose Call is matchless, whose mention is matchless, and whose Revelation is matchless. Uniqueness befitteth Him and peerlessness is the station of His loved ones, how much more His own Essence, exalted be He—nothing can be likened unto His likeness. There is no God but Him, the Single, the One, the All-Compelling, the Self-Subsisting.

Light and radiance, glory and splendor be upon the Hands of His Cause, who broke not His covenant and disputed not His verses, who responded when they heard and turned towards Him when the people were in manifest rejection. We beseech God to guide all to the horizon of His grace and draw them nigh unto Him. Verily, He is powerful over all things.

O beloved of my heart! The letters sent from the city of Qaf arrived one after another like the spring rain. Praise be to God, each of these letters was a clear book mentioning the Purpose of all who are in the heavens and earth. After their perusal and reading, they were presented before the presence of the Lord of the Day of Resurrection. This is what the Tongue of Grandeur spoke, exalted be His glory and mighty be His utterance:

O Amin! Upon thee be the glory of God, the Lord of the worlds. Praise be to the Purpose of the world Who granted thee success in serving His Cause and confirmed thee in that which its mention shall endure throughout the kingdom of earth and heaven. All that thou didst mention regarding the friends was heard. We beseech God to enable all to achieve the most great steadfastness, such that neither ranks and multitudes nor the means and colors of the world shall prevent them from the straight path. Say: O people of the earth! This is the Day of God wherein none is mentioned save Him. Fear God and be not of the heedless ones. Cast away what ye possess and take what ye are commanded by God, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

O Amin! From the beginning of days until now thou hast stood firm in service, held fast to the hem of trustworthiness, and clung to the cord of steadfastness. This is from the bounties of the Day of God which have encompassed thee. The affairs of God are entrusted to thee. That which hath appeared from thee in service to the Cause thus far hath been attested to by the Tongue of Grandeur. Blessed art thou and joy be unto thee. We beseech God to enable all to achieve that which will cause the exaltation of His Cause.

He who standeth in service hath indeed been blessed with special favors. The Tongue of Grandeur in the most exalted station beareth witness to his service and his turning unto God. What thou didst mention regarding him is the truth, no doubt therein. Divine success and confirmation are present at his right hand and his left. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to exalt him through His Name, to assist him with His hosts, and to strengthen him through His bounty. Verily, He is powerful over what He willeth, and He is the Single, the One, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

O Amin! In all conditions, keep thy gaze fixed upon God and His attributes. The purpose is that all should be pleased with thee. The Most Exalted Pen hath testified concerning thee to that which causeth the exaltation of the Word of God. However, following the example of God, exalted be His glory, in all conditions is beloved, especially for thee who art associated with Him, mentioned through Him, and known by Him. The fragrance of thy character should be so diffused that no one would find cause for discussion. Verily, He hath aided thee and will aid thee and will be with thee, and He is the Compassionate, the Trustworthy.

We behold the friends of that land with loving-kindness, remember them with grace, and turn to them with love. Praise be to God, they are engaged in service and illumined with the light of recognition. Soon shall they witness the rewards of their deeds and what God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy, hath ordained for them. Due to the arrival of the Most Great Branch and the coming and going of the friends, the response to Jamal and ʿAli-Akbar—upon them be My glory and loving-kindness—was delayed. God willing, they shall attain hereafter to what is befitting. Give them glad tidings, and to My friends, from God, the Bestower, the Generous.

Praise be to God, the grace and loving-kindness of the True One, exalted be His glory, hath ever been and continueth to be directed towards His servants. The sincere ones and those drawn nigh, by the testimony of God—exalted be His glory—are present before the Seat of Justice. Happy are they!

Regarding what you wrote about Ghulam—upon him be the glory of the All-Merciful—having allocated funds to be delivered over four months by him who serveth the Cause—upon him be the glory of God

and His loving-kindness—they commanded that two months thereof be [delivered] to the teachers—upon them be the glory of God, His loving-kindness and His mercy. O Trustee! Those assured souls must be considered until God openeth before their faces the gates of His blessings. Verily, He is the Powerful, the Unconstrained.

It is submitted that in the Most Holy Presence, unless funds are needed they are not accepted. For some time no funds reached this land until a debt of three hundred liras accumulated, hence those funds were allocated. Yesterday Ism-i-Jud—upon him be the glory of God and His loving-kindness—arrived and mentioned the receipt of the allocated funds.

Regarding the purchase of land in Haifa previously mentioned, most of the shares from various places, namely Egypt, Port Said, Beirut, and Akka, were, according to instructions, returned to their owners since no land was found to purchase. The manager of this matter was our Master, His Holiness the Blessed Branch, Aqa Mirza Badi'u'llah—may my spirit be a sacrifice for his coming—therefore whatever they deemed appropriate was done and the remainder is being returned these days. After the arrival of your beloved letter, the command was again issued to proceed to that land for some days that if found, they may purchase it in your name. This is from God's grace upon you and upon the sincere ones and those drawn nigh among His servants.

As for the Leaf—upon her be the glory of God—after submission to the Most Holy and Most Exalted Presence, they commanded that these matters and affairs pertaining to rights revert to you. Thus it hath ever been and God willing shall continue to be. If she seeketh to attain the presence, you should make arrangements and send her. If she proceedeth with ʿAli-Akbar it is acceptable, as he originally mentioned this matter, or with another person who meets with his approval.

You should be engaged in the refinement of souls and the exaltation of the Word in all regions with perfect detachment. We beseech God to assist you, to aid you, and through you to raise the standards of His acceptable [virtues] among His servants. Verily, He hath power over all things.

Other matters will be sent later, God willing. Five Most Holy, Most Exalted Tablets along with papers have been received and sent. God willing, may they reach their owners.

I have been and am remembering all the friends, and I beseech God for His grace and bounty towards all. Verily He is [the Mighty, the Powerful]. Glory, remembrance and exaltation be upon you and upon God's friends and chosen ones there, and upon every steadfast, faithful, firm and upright believer. Praise be to [God, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise].

The servant. On the 7th of the Blessed Month of Ramadan 1308.

Your honor should review the papers, as some may [again] be sent.

BH06925: Today the essence of praise is speaking "There…

Today the essence of praise is speaking "There is no God but Him," and the reality of thanksgiving is proclaiming "He is the First and the Last, the Manifest and the Hidden."…

O My Afnan! Today is the day for the revelation and manifestation of what lies within all existence. Read what the All-Merciful hath revealed in the Qur'an in the Surih of Luqman: 'O my son! If there be the weight of a mustard seed and it be in a rock, or in the heavens, or in the earth, God will bring it forth.' The divine hand of power has revealed that which was hidden. The secrets of hearts and the treachery of eyes are all manifest and evident. Yet discerning ears, penetrating vision, and enlightened hearts are rare. We beseech God to aid His servants to justice and fairness. He is the Possessor of gifts and favors."…

BH00279: While We were pacing in the house and hearing…

Section 1: "While We were pacing in the house…"

He is the True and Trusted Expounder

While We were pacing in the house and hearing the discourse of the earth, suddenly there arose a call from the Most Exalted Paradise: "O concourse of earth and heaven! Glad tidings, glad tidings, for 'Ali-Qabli-Akbar hath turned towards the prison for the sake of God, the Lord of Destiny!" Then the call was raised again from the Most High Paradise: "O people of the Crimson Ark! Rejoice, for the Trusted One hath arrived at a mighty fortress and a manifest prison for the sake of God, the Lord of all the worlds!"

Today is the day of joy and delight. By My life, in the Concourse on High a feast of gladness hath been spread that shall never be folded up, for on this day the lovers in the city of unity and concord have, with utmost yearning, spent their souls in the path of the Luminary of the horizons and sacrificed them for the sake of the Peerless Beloved. The might of bloodthirsty oppressors did not prevent them, nor did the fire of bestial wrath deter them from their purpose. Today in the city of lovers melodies are raised and spiritual, delicate whispers are heard. Blessed are the ears that have attained to hearing and have not been deprived of the Most Sweet Call and the rustling of the Most Exalted Pen.

Fresh news has arrived from the land of Ta and Ya. His Majesty the King (may God strengthen him) has seized a group of people, including two souls from among the people of Baha and companions of the Crimson Ark, even though all bear witness that this community's purpose has been and continues to be the reformation of the world and the refinement of the peoples' souls. The reported cause of this seizure was that certain letters and papers were found in inns and marketplaces that were deemed contrary to the views of the government and nation, and it was suspected that some of these were from this community.

I swear by the Sun of Truth that today shines forth from the horizon of the prison of Akka that this community has ever been and continues to be sanctified and pure from unseemly deeds and rejected actions. These matters and their like are from the base elements among the people. The people of Baha have, without any veil or covering, openly stated before the faces of princes and divines whatsoever would cause the unity and accord of the servants of God, as well as the prosperity of lands, hoping thereby to remove the foundation of corruption and strife from the earth and to transform the world's weapons into means of reformation. God is witness and His Majesty the King (may God strengthen him) can testify to what has been mentioned.

For forty years this community has been subjected to the lash of oppressors, to such an extent that even children have been slain. How many sons have been beheaded before their fathers' eyes! Homes and possessions have been plundered and pillaged. Yet not one from this community has uttered a word of protest or risen in defense. Among the incidents that occurred was the event in Ishqabad, and likewise what transpired in the land of Sad that caused the pen and paper to lament.

The most grievous matter that caused the greatest sorrow was when a known person arrived in Akka from a prominent figure and made certain statements—we seek refuge in God from such statements, the mention of which is in no way permissible, for the darkness of oppression has veiled, nay obliterated, the light of justice. No soul can be found who would raise a breath for the sake of God and hear the petitions of the oppressed ones of the world. Is there any ear that would hear what has befallen Us, and any eye that would behold Our tears? We beseech God to adorn the rulers with the ornament of justice and the learned with the light of fairness, and to aid them to turn unto Him. Verily, He is the Forgiving, the Oft-Returning.

And when that person's demands were not accepted, he and his sender rose up in enmity. They martyred an illustrious Siyyid from among the descendants of the Prophet and the progeny of the Virgin in the land of Sad, and afterward burned and dismembered his luminous and pure body. Through this all things lamented, but the people remain in heedlessness and error. And from that day until now, matters have manifested with utmost oppression and enmity. The properties of this oppressed community have been seized each day under some pretext. Now multiple deeds exist in hand, but they remain concealed until God comes with His light of justice.

Among those apprehended in the land of Ta was Siyyah Effendi. When his master learned of this dire news, fear seized his very being, dreading that hidden secrets would be revealed and concealed animosities would become manifest. Glory be to God! Despite His Majesty the King having maintained justice in every station and having striven to the utmost of his ability for the development of his lands and the comfort of his subjects, those who attained exalted positions and became treasurers through royal favors have plotted harm against him. Yet His Majesty remained unaware of these enemies within. In any case, when he heard the news of Siyyah's arrest, he kindled in the land of Ya such a fire of oppression as had no equal or parallel, hoping perhaps through these actions to purify and exonerate himself.

As for the account of the Land of Ya [Yazd], on the twenty-third night of the blessed Ramadan, the governor of that land, by order of the chief oppressor, moved against the friends of God. They seized Aqa Ali and Aqa Ali-Asghar (upon them be the glory and mercy of God) in the mosque of Shaykh Hasan-i-Sabzivari. With utmost degradation, they were taken by the governor's deputy, Haji Nayib, into his presence. After the fire of tyranny and wrath was kindled, they were sent to prison where, as reported, they were relieved of their worldly possessions and released. Later, by order of the governor, these two along with several other innocent souls were seized again. The names of these holy beings are recorded and inscribed by the Pen of Justice in the divine ledger.

At the place of their arrest, these innocent ones were bound in chains, and along the way the tyrannical people struck them with sticks, stones and chains until they were brought before the governor, who was greatly pleased. Then the clergy were summoned and incited. Praise be to God, these holy souls showed

forth the utmost steadfastness—neither their power prevented them from the straight path, nor did their wrath deprive them of the light of certitude. To whatever they were asked, they gave complete and sufficient answers.

Then the order for imprisonment was given, and in prison they extracted payment. On Monday morning, the honorable governor Jalal'ud-Dawlih summoned Aqa Shaykh Hasan and his sons Shaykh Baqir and Shaykh Ja'far, as well as Aqa Siyyid Ali the teacher with two other sons, and a group of other clergy. They threw a rope around the neck of the innocent Aqa Ali-Asghar in their presence, and took him and six others with that most pure body, with trumpets, drums and music. Behind the telegraph office, they beheaded the divine philosopher, His Holiness Mulla Mihdi. While still alive, they cut open his stomach and stoned him. Then they took his pure body to another quarter and set it on fire. They also beheaded Aqa ʿAli at the door of one of the clergy's houses, raised his head on a spear, and made his pure body a target for stones of hatred.

As reported, they brought the divine mystic Mulla Ali-i-Sabzivari to Shaykh Hasan's door, but that one intoxicated with the wine of "Am I not your Lord?" said to the people: "In the land of Taff, the Prince of Martyrs (may my soul be sacrificed for him) said Is there any helper who will help me?' This servant says ʿIs there any observer who will observe me?"' Glory be to God! From these sublime words the light of detachment dawned. We testify that he drank the wine of immortality from the hands of his Lord's bounty, the Kind, the Compassionate. The sealed wine so overtook him that he passed beyond the world and all within it, and sacrificed his life—the most precious thing in existence—in the path of the Friend. Him too they beheaded, and stoned his blessed body. The attraction and longing of the lovers on that day astonished the Concourse on High.

Section 2: "Can anyone be found in the world who…"

Can anyone be found in the world who would protect the sheep from the wolves for the sake of God and in His path? Have the kings of the earth reserved all matters for their own preservation? What answer will they give before the divine throne of justice?

O Times! O bearer of words and source of news! Pause for an hour over the oppressed ones of Iran and observe how the dawning-places of justice and the daysprings of equity suffer under the sword of the oppressors. Children are left without milk, and families are captive in the hands of the wicked. The earth is adorned with the blood of lovers, and the sighs of those near to God have set the world of being ablaze.

O kings of the earth! Ye are but the manifestations of power, and might, and the daysprings of glory, and grandeur, and authority of God. Cast your eyes upon the state of the oppressed. O manifestations of justice! The tempestuous winds of rancor and hatred have extinguished the lamps of virtue and piety. At daybreak the breezes of divine mercy passed over the charred and scattered remains, and from their whispering were heard these sublime words: "Woe, woe unto you, O people of Iran! Ye have shed the blood of your friends, and ye perceive it not. Were ye to become aware of your deeds, ye would flee to the wilderness and lament your tyranny and cruelty. O misguided people! What sin had the children committed? It is reported that in those days some from among the followers of the Spirit (Jesus)—upon

Him be the peace and mercy of God—secretly sent sustenance, and out of pure compassion aided those oppressed ones. We beseech God to aid all to do that which is pleasing unto Him.

O newspapers of the cities and lands! Have ye heard the moaning of the oppressed and their lamentations, or have these remained concealed from you? We hope that ye will investigate and proclaim that which hath occurred, that perchance your wise counsels and admonitions may awaken the heedless servants and adorn them with the ornament of justice.

O Mihdi! Blessed art thou! We bear witness that God was with thee when thou didst speak the truth. We testify that thou didst drink the choice wine of martyrdom in His path and didst sacrifice thyself for the exaltation of His Word. My tongue and My Pen bear witness that thou didst champion the Cause of God with true championship, and didst endure with patience that which befell thee at the hands of His heedless servants.

And they also beheaded Jinab-i-Aqa Muhammad-Baqir at the house of Sadr'ul-ʿUlama and stoned him. They took two brothers to the Shah Square—they beheaded Aqa Asghar and drove Aqa Hasan with blows of clubs to the end of the square. One of the prince's attendants said to him, who was the youngest of all, "Come and speak ill [of the Faith] and I will buy you and give you money." That sapling of the garden of divine love replied, "What shall I say? You do what you are ordered and carry it out." At that moment, a cruel one struck his blessed side with a sword, and several others with daggers cut that sacred body into pieces, and another oppressor thrust a spear into that breast which was a treasury of divine love.

Then the executioner came and severed the head, placed it on a spear, and took it to the house of Aqa Shaykh Hasan Mujtahid. Then they committed acts which no one before or since had done and which the eye of creation had never witnessed. It is reported that the Shaykh gave a reward to the executioner. Then they paraded the head through the streets and dragged the pure bodies on the ground while people struck them with stones and sticks. They threw them into pits, and the Noble Prince ordered the city to be illuminated and people to engage in revelry and offer congratulations.

That night they repeatedly gathered at the doors of the martyred innocents' homes playing music, while the families of the oppressed locked their doors in fear and dread. God alone knows what was said and done and what befell those innocent ones. They released two of Jinab-i-Mulla Mihdi's sons to bring three hundred tumans. So far they have martyred seven people and imprisoned several others. It is not known what they will do to those souls and other servants. Verily our Lord is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. One of those souls spoke words that were most touching—when the Noble Prince Jalal'ud-Dawlih told one of the confident and assured believers to deny and repudiate [the Faith] to be freed, that elder of the city of the Bayan said:

> "For forty years I have awaited this day when my white beard would be stained with blood in the path of God."

From these words his stations of love and devotion became manifest and evident. Blessed are they that understand.

According to what they have written, these abhorrent acts were not from His Majesty the King of Iran, may God strengthen him, and no order was issued from the government. In truth, for several years His Majesty, may God strengthen him, has dealt with the oppressed ones of the world with kindness and mercy. This order and others like it were issued by the Noble Prince Zillu's-Sultan, and it is said that when he heard news of the arrest of Siyyah [the wanderer], he wanted through these acts to dispel certain suspicions. God knows best. It is not for us to mention what we know. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to make known to His Majesty the Sultan what has been hidden from him. Verily He is the Hearer, the Answerer.

Some time ago, papers were discovered in homes and localities and were brought to the sublime presence of His Majesty the King—may God strengthen him. Certain enemies attributed these to the Babis. His Majesty stated that no such actions had ever been witnessed from this community, and that this deed must be from a person who had taken refuge at the Shrine of Abdul-Azim and resided there. He then commanded that this person be seized and expelled from the borders of Iran. After his expulsion, papers were again found daily in some homes and marketplaces containing whatever would cause sedition and corruption. After seeing these papers, orders were given to arrest two members of this community. These two took solemn oaths and submitted with utmost humility that, by divine grace, the hem of this community is sanctified and pure, for this community is loyal to both government and nation, and is free and clear of such unseemly falsehoods.

In brief, through divine justice, the determination of His Majesty, and the earnest efforts of loyal government servants, the author of the papers was caught. His name is Ahmad, from Kerman. Upon his arrest, he confessed to his deed. When asked about the reason and cause, he stated that enmity towards the Babi community had compelled him to write these papers, his purpose being to once again afflict this oppressed community. All know that this oppressor has harbored and continues to harbor the utmost enmity towards this community and is aflame with the fire of hatred, for he is of the opposition party and his antagonism is clear and evident as the sun.

O King! I adjure thee by God's justice and sovereignty, and by the Manifestations of His grace and the Dawning-places of His signs, to investigate so that the truthfulness of these oppressed ones and their freedom from corruption and their well-wishing may become clear and evident in the royal presence. O King! I swear by the Sun of Truth that this community is loyal to the government, for they are wise. Their character is adorned with praiseworthy manners and their nature with spiritual, pleasing qualities. We hope that through the radiance of His Majesty the King's sun of justice, the people of the world may be adorned and illumined with the ornament of rest and tranquility. Command and rule are within the grasp of God's power, the Lord of the mighty throne and the exalted seat.

Three letters were sent from the Land of Ya describing the kindling of the fire of hatred and the martyrdom of souls who were content, pleasing and assured. However, the contents of each contradicted the others. Through pure grace, a tablet was revealed from the heaven of will corresponding to each one. Blessed are they who attain! And this blessed scroll is one of them. Blessed are they who read!

BH01128: The appearance of trials and tribulations in the Land…

The appearance of trials and tribulations in the Land of Ya".

He is the Ever-Abiding Speaker.

The eye of justice weeps and equity laments. Glory be to God! In Iran, pride is taken in tyranny, oppression, cruelty and the behavior of savage beasts of field and prairie. The wolves of the isles of ignorance have torn the divine sheep. Great loss they count as mighty gain. Today the lamentation of all things is raised in the land of Ya, and the cry and moan of the Josephs of inner meaning ascends from the well of the oppressors' station. A grievous wound has been inflicted upon the breast of justice and a mighty blow dealt to the temple of equity. The gazelles of the wilderness of love and purity are pursued by the hunters of malice, and shameless tyrants chase after the children in their cradles. The station of justice and its hosts are established through oppression and its armies. In Iran, mercy is like the phoenix—known by name but without trace—and equity is like the philosopher's stone—mentioned but unseen.

On the twenty-third night of Ramadan, a great cloud of dust and smoke arose from the hatred and malice of the deniers and opposers, such that it veiled, nay obliterated, the effulgent rays of the Sun of Justice. Two helpless and unaided souls, Aqa Ali and Aqa Ali-Asghar—upon them be the glory of God and His favors—were seized without cause or reason in the mosque of Shaykh Hasan-i-Sabzivari. They were taken with utter humiliation by the deputy of the governor, Haji Na'ib, before His Excellency, where they were subjected to various punishments and then imprisoned. It is reported that they seized whatever worldly goods they could and then released them. Thereafter another smoke arose from the dawning-places of tyranny and vice, and that was the seizure of sacred souls for a second time.

Seven souls were taken, among them the honored Mulla Ali-i-Sabzivari and likewise the honored Mulla Mihdi—upon them both be the glory of God and His favors. His Excellency said to one, "Recant and you will be freed." That true seeker replied, "For forty years I have awaited this day, and praise be to God, today I have attained it." And another, while being paraded through the markets with executioners, attendants and footmen, proclaimed: "O people! The Lord of the Martyrs said Is there any who will help me?' and I say, 'Is there any who will behold me?"' In brief, the fire of hatred was so intensely kindled that the pen is powerless to describe it. These two blessed souls and the others sacrificed their lives with complete steadfastness.

The blood of these souls has caused the people of Iran to now hear certain utterances and remain silent, and even accept them. The people of Iran would not walk with any foreigner, for they regarded all, God forbid, as unclean and would never consider speaking with them. Now through the grace of this Most Great Revelation, the gates of knowledge have been opened. That excessive savagery, rejection and protest have been lifted, and He gave glad-tidings of His presence and meeting to all and enabled them to attain it. The blood of the lovers performed miracles throughout the horizons, dispelled the causes of remoteness with the whips of utterance, and established nearness in its rightful station and abode. Now most associate with all parties and truly love them—indeed, such love toward all has become manifest that its appearance was considered impossible by the servants. Blessed be the Generous One, the Lord of great bounty. Now all have become sight that they might see, and hearing that they might hear. The hosts

of acceptance have removed denial. Reflect upon the penetrating power of the Supreme Pen and the potency of the Most Exalted Word—how He transformed and drew near.

In any case, they martyred these souls with the worst torments of the world. They put a rope around one and dragged him to the edge of town while beating and driving the rest behind him—some with stones, some with sticks, some with chains, and some with weapons. They cut those holy temples to pieces, then burned them and threw their bones into pits. It is reported that a thousand fled to the wilderness—it is not known where they went or what became of them. In those days, no one inquired about the families and children of those oppressed ones, nor approached them out of fear. Those wronged ones remained without sustenance. It is said that some from the community of Christ—may God strengthen them—secretly assisted them without anyone's knowledge and sent them daily provisions.

O spiritual friend! Today the wailing of pebbles rises from the wilderness and the moaning of trees is loud. That night, by government order, the people celebrated and held a great festival as if they had conquered a territory. Glory be to God! Oppression and ignorance reached such a degree as to astound all in the heavens and earth. Soon shall they see the recompense of their deeds, for after every injustice the light of justice dawns, and after every tyranny the sun of equity shines forth. In all conditions, we beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to aid His servants to turn to Him and to make amends for what has escaped them at all times. Verily, He is the Mighty, the All-Knowing.

BH10385: Praise be to God that in this luminous dawn…

…Praise be to God that in this luminous dawn the vernal showers of mercy have, by the leave of the Most High, renewed and adorned the world. This bounty and favor is especially evident in the holy land. And the showers of the All-Merciful's mercy, descending from the clouds of the Supreme Pen, shall adorn the lands of assured hearts and souls that are well-pleased and acceptable with the flowers of inner meanings, utterance, wisdom and exposition. How great and boundless is this favor! Well is it with them that understand. This blessing is such that all the peoples of the world find themselves powerless and incapable of rendering thanks for it….

BH00685: Praise be to God! Your letter was a true…

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

Praise be to God! Your letter was a true glad tiding, for it conveyed the health and well-being of that beloved of the heart. Today one must offer thanks for such tidings, for the world is in turmoil, the air is in upheaval, and affairs are scattered. After its reading, We repaired to the Sacred Place where it was presented, and the tongue of favor spoke these words:

O thou who gazeth upon the Countenance! The letters which thou didst send to the Branches and to the servant who is present were all laid before this Wronged One and their contents were made known. Praise be to the Lord of existence Who hath assisted and continueth to assist His loved ones in all matters, and Who hath opened wide the gates of nearness and reunion before their faces. This is among the great bounties of the Truth, exalted be His glory. In the days when the fire of the calumnies of the

opposers and deniers was ablaze and the doors of joy, gladness, delight and expansion were shut, this Wronged One was and is occupied with the remembrance of His loved ones.

O thou who art mentioned in the presence of the Wronged One! Know thou with clear certainty that varying winds have encompassed the Lamp of the world; nevertheless, It hath had and hath no purpose save reformation. It behooveth that honored one and the friends to occupy themselves with the remembrance of God, the Most Exalted, by night and by day, and to beseech Him to preserve the Lamp. However, in one station, the Kingdom of utterance speaketh these words:

Thou seest, O my God, that the winds of hatred have encompassed Thy Lamp from all sides, and It declareth: O my God! I have surrendered my will to Thy will and my desire to the revelation of Thy desire. By Thy might! I desire not myself and my survival except to arise to serve Thy Cause, and I love not my being save for sacrifice in Thy path. O my Lord! Thou seest and knowest that they from whom we desired justice and fairness have arisen against us with tyranny and oppression. Outwardly they were with me, but inwardly they aided mine enemies who arose to violate my honor. My God, my God! I testify that Thou didst create the princes and ministers to champion Thy Cause and exalt Thy Word, yet they have aided Thine enemies. I beseech Thee by Thy Cause that hath encompassed existence and by Thy Name through which Thou hast subdued the seen and the unseen, to adorn the people of the earth with the light of Thy justice and to illumine their hearts with the radiance of Thy knowledge.

O my Lord! I am Thy servant and the son of Thy servant. I testify to Thy unity and Thy singleness, and to the sanctity of Thy Being and the detachment of Thine Essence. O my Lord! Thou seest Thy trusted ones in the hands of the treacherous among Thy creatures and the slanderers among Thy creation, and Thou knowest what hath befallen us from those of whom Thou art more aware than we are. They have committed that which hath rent asunder the veil of them that are nigh unto Thee among Thy creatures. I beseech Thee to aid them to regain what hath escaped them in the days of the Dawning-Place of Thy Revelation and the Dayspring of Thine inspiration. Verily Thou art the Almighty over what Thou willest, and within Thy grasp is the reins of all who are in the heavens and on earth.

O thou who gazeth upon the horizon of Revelation! Upon thee be My glory! We have beseeched and continue to beseech from God good, blessing, attention, detachment, confirmation and success for His loved ones. We hope that all may attain to that which is the cause of the glory of existence and the exaltation of the servants. Verily, He is powerful over all things. The loved ones of that land have ever been and are beneath the glances of favor. Convey to each one of them greetings from the Wronged One. We beseech God to adorn them all with the raiment of trustworthiness and righteousness and to illumine them. He is the Powerful, the Mighty. There is none other God but Him, the Most Exalted, the Most High.

Praised be God! His grace hath at all times encompassed and continueth to encompass all things. We cherish the hope that through His bounty the gates of mercy may be opened from every direction, and all may be enabled to achieve that which will exalt His blessed Word.

As regards what was written concerning the son of that departed and exalted soul upon whom be the Glory of God and His mercy, it was presented and gained the honour of being heard. Thus hath the Kingdom of Utterance spoken. He is the All-Hearing, the All-Knowing.

O thou who gazest upon His countenance! The world hath been encompassed by successive and interlinked tribulations. I do not complain of My distress and sorrow to anyone. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to open before the faces of His loved ones the gates of His grace and mercy, and to confirm them in trustworthiness and religious devotion, and in that which will draw them nigh unto Him. Verily, He hath power over all things.

They have surely heard of the affairs of the Afnan. Conditions have become so unstable that when some of the friends make drafts for the Huquq, the Afnan are unable to honour them. This matter hath caused visible impediments. In these days, a sum was owed on the house. Finally, matters reached such a state that We had to request funds from the Land of Ta. According to the letter of the Trustee written in the name of Jud, upon him be the Glory of God, he had collected from some and in every city he must deliver profits to their owners. Now affairs here are as described, therefore nothing can be drafted to the Afnan, nor can they be charged with matters requiring immediate payment. Thus is this Wronged One perplexed. Aqa Ali-Haydar and the Trustee have also been afflicted. The honored Afnan Haji Siyyid Ali has gone to ʿIshqabad where, as bidden, all properties have been put up for sale that perhaps… Thus this Wronged One beseecheth God to grant relief to all. He is the Bestower, the Almighty.

The Afnan have not, until now, squandered anyone's property. They have many claims of various kinds, but their collection has been delayed. This Wronged One, and that soul, and all the loved ones should beseech from God whatsoever will cause the fragrance of trustworthiness and detachment to be diffused. God, exalted be His glory, hath said: "Verily, with hardship goeth ease." It is hoped that affairs will be set right. With the generous, tasks are not difficult. That soul should not be sorrowful. The affairs of the world have ever alternated between hardship and ease, yet bounty is from God and generosity from Him. Assuredly these hardships will be followed by mercy, and this difficulty by ease. Soon will He fulfill His promise and manifest that which beseemeth His might, His majesty and His generosity.

Convey My greetings to the loved ones in that land. God willing, may all be enabled to accomplish such deeds and actions as will cause their eternal remembrance. Verily, He loveth His servants, and He is the Forgiving, the Generous. End.

In truth, matters have been greatly disturbed, and that which some have referred has remained delayed. However, now the honored Afnan gentlemen—His Honor Haji Siyyid Mirza, His Honor Haji Siyyid Muhammad, and His Honor Haji Siyyid Ali, upon them be the Glory of God—have firmly girded up their loins to settle the debts, and the imperative command has been issued from the Source of Authority that all properties should be sold and the debts paid. Indeed, all have adhered to this and there has been no laxity in carrying out the decree. They have announced that they will sell whatever they possess in Ishqabad, and seekers from every direction have come forward for the purchase of the properties. Now, according to the news received, they are occupied with this matter day and night. The servant beseeches His Lord to assist them and to open before their faces the gates of His mercy and grace. Verily, He is the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous.

The loved ones of that land are, by God's grace and mercy, mentioned in the presence of their Lord, and the glances of His loving-kindness are directed towards them. It is certain that ere long that which shall cause the greatest joy will become manifest, for their intentions are all pure, and God, exalted be His glory, loves His servants, especially His trusted ones. If all attain unto this station, divine relief will assuredly come and encompass all. Verily, He has power over all things. Peace and praise and remembrance and glory be upon you and upon those with you and upon God's loved ones there.

BH00661: God testifieth that there is none other God but…

He is God, exalted be His glory, the Almighty and the All-Powerful

God testifieth that there is none other God but Him. He doeth whatsoever He willeth and ordaineth whatsoever He pleaseth. He is the Almighty, the Most Glorious, the All-Praised. My limbs and members bear witness that there is none other God but Him. He guideth whom He willeth and leadeth astray whom He pleaseth. He is the Omnipotent over all things, and in His grasp are the reins of all affairs. Neither the turning away of men, nor their deeds, nor the utterances of every heedless and veiled one can hinder Him. He is the One Who created creation for His knowledge, made known unto them His path, perfected His proof, and manifested His clear evidence, the Mighty, the Wondrous.

O beloved of my heart, thou who art mentioned in my inmost being and reality! In all conditions there appeareth that which beareth witness to your love, your turning to God, and your arising to serve God and His loved ones—they who have cast behind their backs all else but God and have committed what their passions have commanded them. These, verily, are among those who have gone astray.

The spiritual messenger and embodied temple of wisdom, namely the honored Shaykh-ʿAli, hath arrived—an arrival like water to the withered saplings in the garden of inner meanings. Blessed be God Who hath aided His loved ones to make mention of Him, to praise Him, to serve His Cause, and to arrange what He hath willed through His bounty and grace. Verily, He is the Most Generous of the generous ones and the Most Merciful of the merciful ones.

The one mentioned was in truth like soil and the Euphrates to that which was planted in the garden. At first his virtues were concealed, but later they became manifest in such wise as to cause wonderment among the dwellers of that place. A hundred thousand thanks be unto the True Object of Worship Who confirmed His loved ones in that which is the cause of everlasting remembrance. Indeed, the person mentioned was peerless in the science of cultivating palm trees and their offspring, as evidenced by clear and manifest proof, namely that his service was rendered in such a station that every knowledgeable scholar and wise sage would testify to it, both outwardly and inwardly. Glory be to God! As his deeds were for the sake of God, they illumined the world of deeds at this station. Now is the station of the blessed word which declareth:

> "Verily, He doth not suffer the reward of the righteous to perish."

It is hoped that the fruits of his deeds will remain preserved in the scrolls of glory. A testimony that testifieth to the truth and uprightness of his deed is his attainment unto His presence before his desire. A good deed hath a pleasing reward, for the Judge of Justice is God, exalted be His glory. Praise be to God,

the unexpected divine bounty encompassed him. Though he is now unaware of it, the time will come when he shall become conscious thereof. Verily, He is the All-Wise Teacher and the All-Knowing Expositor.

The letter from your honor, which contained wondrous and sublime mentions, brought joy to all limbs and members, for it was adorned with that which all today behold. Should he and all the pens in the world attempt to describe its virtues and fruits, verily the pens would be exhausted while it would remain steadfast in its station. However, I beseech God, exalted be His glory, to perfume and illumine the world with the fragrance of love of that beloved of the heart. Verily, He is powerful over all things. I ask and hope from the True One that He may transform the difficulties of your honor into ease and grant a portion thereof to the people of the earth. Verily, He is the Munificent Bestower.

And after expressing greetings before His presence, He said: O Muhammad! The sea and its waves, the sun and its effulgences, and the Kingdom of utterance and its verses are manifest, radiant and shining before all faces, yet the blind hath no share or portion thereof. This Wronged One hath, throughout the nights and days, spoken forth loving counsels and wise exhortations, and hath had, and hath, no purpose save the manifestation of fellowship, unity, love and harmony. Nevertheless, from the beginning of His days until now, He hath been afflicted in the hands of the heedless. Every possessor of sight and hearing hath hearkened unto the call of the Wronged One and beheld the horizon of Revelation. We beseech God that through the endeavors of those endowed with sight and hearing, He may guide and awaken the heedless to the holy, pure and luminous City.

O Muhammad! On this triumphant day the attraction of the Call hath seized all things, and ere long shall wondrous and exalted creatures, brought forth by the Most Great Word in the All-Highest Paradise, adorn and bless the earth with their footsteps. He, verily, is the Powerful, the Mighty. The river of mercy hath encompassed all, and the light of utterance hath illumined all creation. Blessed is the soul that hath attained unto His recognition and freed itself from all else. O Muhammad! Upon thee be the peace of God and His loving-kindness.

Ere long shall the fruits of thy deeds become manifest in the schools of the world and the gatherings of nations. Thy Lord, verily, is the Almighty, the Powerful. Give the friends in that land their portion of the flowing river of mercy and the effulgences of the new and wondrous Luminary, and gladden them with exalted and decisive verses. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to aid and strengthen them to exalt His Cause through wisdom and utterance. He, verily, is the Mighty, the Glorious, the All-Bountiful.

That which is the cause and means of God's infinite bounties hath ever been mentioned and continueth to be mentioned, and that dear one hath, with complete assurance and perfect devotion, held fast unto that which is itself the cause of the opening of all sealed doors. Our Lord is indeed the All-Bountiful, the Gracious, the Almighty, the All-Knowing, the Wise. I convey greetings to the friends in that land and beseech God to grant each one such endeavor that their deeds and actions may be accepted in the sight of all, though the essential purpose is that deeds be adorned with acceptance by God, exalted be His glory. Yet since in all things the means are present and their relation to God is evident, whatsoever is spoken is beloved and acceptable. We beseech God to aid them, assist them, and make them of those who have achieved the supreme steadfastness in His most holy, most luminous, most exalted Cause.

The beloved of the heart of ʿAbdu'l-B.H. hath ever been and continueth to be remembered. In truth, their prayers, which issued from the tongue of Truth, to this day remain sweet and established in the soul. It is hoped that in all conditions they may be assisted in raising aloft the Word and in exalting the Cause of God, the Lord of all worlds. Verily our Lord is the One Who hath power over whatsoever He willeth, and in His grasp are the reins of all who are in the heavens and on earth. Glory and majesty belong unto God, the Mighty, the Most Praised.

Praise be to God that the sent palms became the ornament of the luminous garden with utmost honor. We moved them with infinite prayers and salutations, and in the name of God deposited them in God's treasure which is the earth. This deed was accomplished through His favor; its elevation, manifestation and fruits now rest with God, exalted be His glory. Praise be to God, two palms were planted in the name of ʿAbdu'l-Baha, upon Him be the Most Glorious Beauty of God, and it is hoped that, as the intention was pure, their manifestation will bestow a portion upon the realm of trees, and God, exalted be His glory, will make them the dawning-place of the growth of the world's trees. Verily, He is powerful over all things. And two more were planted in His name. The outward deed is complete, and the inner manifestation is in the hand of God, Lord of the mighty throne.

Furthermore, truly His Honor Aqa ʿAli, upon him be 966 [Baha'u'llah], has labored greatly in this journey and his work was evidently for the sake of God, therefore it was accepted, as witnessed by his repeated attainment of the presence and his being received once or twice at night, and his supplication to God for the mention of good for all. And now that it is the twentieth night of the honored month of Shawwal, their mention flows from the tongue of the Beloved thus: This is true bounty and eternal preceding mercy. Blessed be he, then joy be unto him. He has attained the presence and returned by leave of Him Who possesseth all, and this is the manifest triumph. I beseech God, exalted be His glory, to cause him to attain that which befits the station of the believers and the sincere ones. Verily, He is the All-Bountiful, the All-Generous. Peace and praise and remembrance and glory be upon you and upon those with you and those who love you for the sake of God, the Goal of all worlds and the Beloved of all who are in the heavens and the earth.

BH02558: O My Afnan! Upon thee be My peace…

…O My Afnan! Upon thee be My peace and My glory! In truth, justice hath vanished and oppression is manifest. From every direction the fire of tyranny is ablaze while the light of justice is concealed. God is My witness, and the Manifestations of His names and attributes bear testimony, that the purpose of raising the call was that the ears of all possibility might be cleansed, through the waters of utterance, from false tales, and become ready to hearken unto the blessed, supreme Word that hath appeared from the treasury of knowledge. Blessed are the fair-minded!

This Wronged One hath never had, nor hath, any desire of His own. God is My witness, and the Manifestations of justice bear testimony, that the purpose of mention and utterance hath been the refinement of souls and the extinction of the fire of hatred through wisdom and utterance. Your honor and the other loved ones who are illumined with the light of detachment and adorned with the ornament of fairness bear witness to the truthfulness of this Wronged One and to His known character.

For nigh upon forty years We have forbidden the servants, through compassionate counsels and wise exhortations, from corruption, conflict and contention. This purpose, through the absolute Divine Will and His aid, gained influence in the realms of Persia, to such an extent that when they heard evil, they spoke good; when they witnessed ugliness, they showed forth beauty; when they were slain, they interceded on behalf of their slayers. Nevertheless, neither from the government nor from the people did anyone take notice. How many vain imaginings appeared by night and day, in word and writing, while the wronged ones of the world clung to the cord of patience and held fast to the hem of resignation, uttering not a word in response. The Seal of the Prophets and Guide of all paths—may the spirit of all else be sacrificed for His sake—hath said: "O Abu Dharr! For everything there is an evidence: the evidence of intellect is contemplation, and the evidence of contemplation is silence." And likewise He hath said: "O Abu Dharr! The most excellent worship is silence." By God! In all instances of oppression and tyranny, We have shown patience and left matters to God….

BH00207: Praise be to that Omnipotent Lord Who 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

Praise be to that Omnipotent Lord Who befitteth and deserveth all glorification, Who hath transformed the weakness of His servants on the Day of Return into strength and hath bestowed distinction in such wise that He hath sent forth, through His conquering might and overwhelming power, without any weapon, the Wondrous Name unto a realm adorned with ranks of armies and successive multitudes. Indeed there hath appeared a power that hath no likeness in the world nor any peer among the nations. Were the servants to ponder upon this, they would cast away all they possess, turning unto God, the Lord of Lords. Prayers, peace, glory and splendor be upon the friends of God and His chosen ones who have arisen to unite the hearts of His servants and have acted according to what they were commanded in the Book. He, verily, is the Mighty, the Bestower. My spirit be a sacrifice unto your remembrance and unto your service.

The exalted letters of Your Holiness arrived like showers of mercy. Each was a key to the gate of joy and a gift for the gladness of hearts. After reading and contemplating them, they were directed to the Supreme Heights and were presented before the countenance of the Lord of all beings, attaining His presence and hearing. His utterance, mighty be His exposition and glorious His proof:

O My Afnan! Upon thee be My glory and My loving-kindness. Each of thy letters was a manifest glad-tiding and an evident joy. Praise be to God that thou hast witnessed, with both outer and inner sight, the waves of the ocean of utterance and hast taken up thy station beneath the blessed Lote-Tree. This bounty hath no likeness, and this grace hath had and hath no equal. The world and its ornaments, its embellishments and its colors shall by inevitable decree return to nothingness, while that which hath been revealed from the Supreme Pen and hath streamed forth from the clouds of mercy shall endure and remain established. We testify that there is no God but Him. His are the glory and the splendor, the grandeur and the majesty. He giveth unto whomsoever He willeth whatsoever He desireth, and He withholdeth. Verily, He is the Powerful, the Unconstrained.

The worlds of dominion and kingdom have all borne and continue to bear witness to this supreme grace that hath encompassed the world and its peoples, and hath manifested that which the Daysprings of knowledge and the Dawning-places of utterance are powerless to mention and describe. Nay rather, all have acknowledged their impotence and confessed their shortcoming. Blessed is the soul that hath held fast to the Self-Subsisting Name, and hath taken and quaffed the choice-sealed wine from the hand of divine bounty. Praise be to God that that Afnan is the cup-bearer of the choice wine and the bestower of rank and station. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to make thee a herald of His Name, a harbinger of His Revelation, one who standeth in service to His Cause and speaketh forth His praise, and to ordain for thee that which will exalt thee through His Name and honor thee through His glory.

He, verily, is the One Whom the conditions of men have not hindered, nor hath the might of princes deterred. He hath come with a power before which the power of the world stood powerless, and with signs at whose appearance the signs of the nations were obliterated. He, verily, is the Most Great Book, the Speaker, the One Who remembereth before the faces of all who are in the heavens and the earth.

Your letters which were sent to this servant were each adorned with the light of divine unity and aflame with the fire of the divine Lote-Tree. Great is the station of this Day, for the Ancient Lord hath appeared in manifest sovereignty, speaking and conversing upon the Mount of Knowledge. Blessed is the ear and eye that hath attained to witnessing and hearing. The loved ones of that land are each remembered before the Wronged One with a mention that is, with God, more memorable than the most memorable mention, and hath been inscribed by the Supreme Pen. Say: O people of God! Be not saddened by the calumnies of the servants, the oppression of the oppressors, the turning away of those who turn away, and the cawing of the crows.

Had people recognized the excellence of My Day, they would have cast away the treasures of the world, turning to My horizon from which hath shone forth the Day-Star of My Revelation, whereby the heavens and earths were illumined. Glory be to God! The Tongue of Utterance speaketh upon the Mount of Knowledge before the faces of all religions, and divine verses descend like the spring rains of God. Yet the servants remain barred from drawing nigh and deprived of witnessing. Glad tidings, O My loved ones, for how the Wronged One hath turned toward you and mentioned you with a mention whereat the Most Exalted Paradise and the Supreme Heaven spoke forth:

> “O people of earth and heaven! The gate of generosity hath been opened and the Ancient Lord hath appeared with a sovereignty before which all that the people possess cannot stand—they who abandoned what they were commanded and did what they were forbidden in the Book of God, Lord of the Mighty Throne.”

In most pages the Pen that revealeth verses hath been occupied with mentioning His loved ones. Happy are they and blessed are they. All must hold fast to love, fellowship, unity and harmony, and must speak with the tongue of truth these exalted words which were previously revealed from the Pen of Utterance:

> “Death to the veiled ones! Pain to the frozen ones! The King of kings hath come! That perfect Treasure hath come! That hidden Mystery hath been made manifest! To the chagrin of the base multitude!”

By the Sun of Truth! Today the oppressors, transgressors and all they possess are as a handful of dust before the Lord of Lords—nay, more contemptible still. Arise to promote the Cause through heavenly power and divine might, but with wisdom and utterance. Wisdom consists in deeds and actions that cause the people of earth to turn unto God. O My loved ones! I do not wish for any of you to be tainted with the dust of rancor and hatred. In truth I say: Your essential realities were created from light. You must be radiant and effulgent before all faces, in such wise that the people of East and West may be guided by and attain unto that light. Verily your Lord, the All-Merciful, is the Forgiving, the Kind, the Compassionate, the Generous, possessed of great bounty. In all conditions We have beseeched and do beseech God, exalted be His glory, for the protection of His loved ones. Verily He is the Hearer, the Answerer. There is no God but Him, the Single, the One, the Mighty, the All-Informed.

This day is specially dedicated to His Holiness the Prince of Martyrs, Husayn ibn Ali. A visitation tablet was revealed from the Tongue of Grandeur, and Mirza Mihdi, glory be upon him, had previously requested it. Now it is sent that the sincere ones may recite it. Say: O My loved ones! The deed of that holy one among the manifest deeds in the world is as the sun among the stars. Blessed is the soul who, in the days of Ashura, mentioned that Essence of being with this Most Great Remembrance and Most Perfect, Most Complete Word, and who attained to its recitation. Say: Take the tablet of God with a power from Him and a strength from His presence, then do what ye have been commanded by One Wise in Command.

His letters are in truth eloquent harbingers of the fellowship and unity of His loved ones, and likewise of the rectification of matters that have occurred and become manifest through Him. Such lofty and goodly deeds are truly befitting of Him. This servant beseeches his Lord to manifest unto His Afnan that which will cause them to appear among His servants like suns in the horizons. One letter caused sorrow and grief, but praise be to God, it was not long before the details became clear. A soul like unto a spiritual beloved, his honor Aqa Mirza ʿAbdu'l-Karim, upon him be the glory of God and His favors, who is mentioned before the Throne and inscribed in the Book—surely his grief becomes the cause of grief to the loved ones and friends.

One envelope from Him wherein you had written the details did not arrive, but praise be to God, it arrived afterwards, mentioning his deliverance and his sanctity, and this became the cause of supreme joy after complete anguish, and evident ease after great hardship. Praise be to God that the matter did not become doubtful and there became manifest to all that which was the cause of his success, triumph and sincerity of deed. After this matter was presented before the Most Holy Court, these exalted words were revealed:

"O My Afnan! Upon thee be My glory! Glorify on My behalf the countenance of ʿAbdu'l-Karim—upon him be My glory—and illumine him with the lights of My utterance. Then recite unto him that which hath been sent down from the heaven of My grace. It behooveth him to render thanks unto God throughout the nights and days, inasmuch as He hath manifested that which was the cause of supreme joy to the loved ones of God and His chosen ones, and to them that are nigh unto Him among His creation. The Most Great Host and the Manifest Helper! Today it is pure and goodly deeds—by My life, through them God glorieth before His near angels. Blessed is he and joy be unto him!

O ʿAbdu'l-Karim! The Tongue of the Ancient of Days at this moment, on thy behalf, rendereth thanks unto Its own Self and uttereth and maketh mention of the blessed word of praise, for the praise that befitteth His Most Holy and Most Exalted Court is the praise that appeareth from the horizon of the utterance of the Goal of all the worlds. Say: Unto Thee be thanks, and unto Thee be praise, and unto Thee be bounty, and unto Thee be glory! Thou beholdest me, O my God, confessing to my powerlessness and the powerlessness of all on earth, acknowledging my poverty and the poverty of all in the lands. I beseech Thee, O Ocean of Generosity, by the heaven of Thy bounty and the Sun of Thy munificence, to aid me and Thy loved ones in that which will exalt Thy Cause and manifest the sanctification of Thy Being from all else but Thee, and the detachment of Thine Essence from aught else save Thee.

I beseech Thee by Thy Most Sweet Call and Thy Most Beautiful Names, and by the manifestations of Thy power in the kingdom of creation, and by Thy Announcement whereby earthquakes seized the tribes of Thy earth and the limbs of them that turned away from among Thy creatures trembled, to make Thy loved ones in this station the manifestations of Thy mercy, the dawning-places of Thy forgiveness, the sources of Thy attributes and the daysprings of Thy bounty, that their station may thereby be exalted among Thy servants. O Lord! We are Thy servants and Thy creation. We have turned toward Thee, detached from all else but Thee. I beseech Thee by Thy Lamp which the winds have encompassed, and by the light of Thy Cause which the doubts of the people of error have not veiled, to open before the faces of Thy loved ones the doors of Thy providence, and to ordain for them that which beseemeth the Ocean of Thy generosity and the Sun of Thy glory. Verily, Thou art the Almighty, the Most Exalted, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise."

In truth I say the friends are at most times present before My face and are adorned with the luminous ornament of divine remembrance. We beseech God to manifest from them each day that which will draw them nearer unto Him. Verily He is the Forgiving, the Merciful.

O Afnan! You mentioned the Afnans, upon them be the glory of God, His care, mercy and grace. At the moment of presentation before Him, the sun of joy rose and shone from the horizon of the House. Blessed are they both and joy be unto them. They have done what was befitting of them in the days of their Lord. At their mention, the river of God's care flowed and the ocean of His bounty and remembrance surged. We testify that they have done that which has diffused the fragrance of sincerity and steadfastness among all creatures. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to inscribe for them from His Most Exalted Pen that which nothing can equal—neither what is treasured on earth nor what is seen in heaven. Thus has the Pen of My loving-kindness moved in the field of My utterance, as a bounty from Me, and I am the Mighty, the All-Bountiful.

Section 2: "Surely you too were pleased with what was…"

Surely you too were pleased with what was manifested. This Wronged One testifies that the mention of this praiseworthy deed has attracted the people of the cities of love and detachment. My tongue in My prison bears witness to this, as a mercy from Me to all who are in the heavens and on earth. Praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

Glory be to God! The mention of this matter caused joy to those who circle round the Lord of all beings and the dwellers of the Most Glorious Pavilion, and they all uttered: “Praise be to Thee, O God of the world!” This bounty has no end and this ocean no shore. It behooveth the people of God to hold fast to the cords of the Lord of the world’s generosity, to thank Him, praise Him, mention Him and describe Him for having enabled them and aided them in that which is befitting of His days. Verily He is the Helper, the All-Knowing, the Confirmer, the Generous. That which has become the cause of the exaltation of the station and elevation of the ranks of His loved ones has been made manifest. I beseech Him to protect them and to ordain for them that which will gladden their hearts and tranquilize their souls. He is verily the Powerful, the Chosen One, the Mighty, the All-Bestowing.

As for your mention of the payment of debts and the resolve of the friends of that land and their assistance—all was presented, and He made special mention of each one in such wise that the very rocks of the world beseeched God for the power of hearing, that they might attain unto that which was revealed. Verily He is the Powerful, the Mighty, and worthy to answer. All your deeds during this journey have been adorned with the ornament of acceptance and the glory of His good-pleasure. This is the greatest of all the world’s bounties, now and forever. And all that you wrote regarding the dominion of this land was presented before Him and was honored to be heard. The Most Great Branch—may my spirit and being be offered up for the dust of His footsteps—specifically commanded that what was mentioned should be adhered to. He said the intention of the Afnan is in itself effective and beneficial. This is the truth, there is no doubt therein.

The servant beseeches his Lord to ordain for His Afnan that which will attract the hearts of the world and the souls of the nations. Verily He is the Hearer, the Answerer. There is no God but Him, the Single, the All-Informed.

After the submission of the petition, other tidings arrived—verily, fresh glad-tidings were manifested—and these concern the account of a banquet which Jinab-i-Hajji Alif and Ha, upon them be the Glory of God, did offer unto the righteous and the strangers alike. Blessed be he for this deed! This is indeed a meritorious act, inasmuch as it is the cause of the turning of souls toward God. After submission before the Sacred Threshold of the Most Inaccessible and Most Holy, this utterance was sent down from the Kingdom of Divine Knowledge, His Word—exalted be His glory:

O Afnan! Upon thee be my glory! The aforementioned feast was among the requirements of divine wisdom. This deed hath been adorned with the ornament of acceptance. We testify that it was indeed a crown upon the heads of deeds and a sun in the heaven of actions. Convey my glad-tidings unto him and remind him of what hath been revealed by my Pen. By my life! He hath done what behooveth the days of his Lord. I have illumined him with the light of my utterance and my good-pleasure that he may rejoice and be among the thankful ones. Such deeds are a mighty cause for the unity of hearts and the turning of faces toward the Lord of all existence.

Today all must hold fast to that which causeth the nearness and attraction of the peoples of the world. O Afnan! Glad-tidings! Glad-tidings! In these days the Orator of utterance ascended the pulpit in the City of Lovers and proclaimed with the most exalted call: “O people of the Most Exalted Paradise and O Manifestations of the Supreme Heaven! Rejoice and be glad in that the lovers have hastened to the place

of sacrifice on the Day of the Covenant!" Then the Herald called from another direction: "This is the day wherein the companions of the Crimson Ark have attained victory through that which befell the Lord of all creation in the Land of Ta. God, the Lord of Destiny, hath illumined the prison-land through the arrival of ʿAli-before-Akbar."

Then the Herald called from the right of the luminous spot: "O concourse of earth and heaven! This is the day wherein the Trusted One arrived at a manifest prison in the path of God, the Lord of all the worlds."

Glory be to God! The oppressors imagine that through these afflictions and the kindled fire, the divine light and the fire of the Lord's Tree will be extinguished and destroyed. The Wronged One testifieth that were all who are in the heavens and earth to gather to extinguish the light, they would find themselves utterly powerless. The Books of God have testified to this, both in the past and future. Blessed are they who understand.

The Afnan and the loved ones of that land all bear witness that the people of God have never intended, nor do they intend, conflict, corruption or disputation with anyone. For nearly forty years they have endured and resigned themselves to countless hardships and tribulations. Nevertheless, the fire of hatred in the breasts of the people of hypocrisy is observed to be greater than before. God hath sealed their hearing, their sight, and their understanding, for through these rejected satanic deeds they earn everlasting punishment and perceive it not. Soon shall perish the world and all that they possess, and they shall find themselves in grievous torment.

The protection of His Majesty the Most Great Emperor, may God assist him, hath become the cause of the inflammation of the fire of hatred. For some time they have been secretly engaged in instigation and zealously seeking means of oppression, until in these days the hidden contents of the breasts of the oppressors have become manifest and evident. Surely they have heard some of what hath transpired. Convey greetings to the General of that land on behalf of these people who are scattered throughout the world, and say: This people, in view of the favor that hath shone forth from the horizon of the heaven of justice of His Majesty the Emperor, are all looking unto him and holding fast unto his good-pleasure.

For this reason the oppressive souls have instigated a group against this wronged people, and have again stained the soil of some lands with blood shed in the path of God. We beseech God to assist that Dawning-Place of justice and equity in protecting this wronged band. Verily, He is powerful over all things. In truth, the cause and reason for this hatred is the manifestation of the favor that His Majesty the Most Great Emperor hath shown toward these wronged ones. We beseech God to assist His Majesty in protecting His flock. Verily, He is the Helper of those who help and the Supporter of the just ones. There is none other God but Him, the Single, the One, the Powerful, the Mighty.

Your Excellency should mention to the General all that has transpired. It is hoped that His Honor will convey to His Imperial Majesty what will evoke His favor and ensure the protection of these oppressed ones. This servant, nay the world itself, is astonished that although these wronged ones have been and continue to be more submissive and humble than all other groups in Iran, and have obeyed whatever was commanded and ordained, and in all circumstances and instances of oppression and transgression did not raise a hand nor resort to defense—as the General himself and the noble officers of the illustrious

government (may God assist it) have known and know—yet every day some evil from the wicked people becomes manifest. His oppression of us is intense and evident; We have no recourse save to make it known

Let us see what the justice of His Imperial Majesty requires and commands. They have repeatedly stated that the purpose of these declarations is to inform, so that all may become aware and cognizant of the oppression of the tyrannical souls and the patience of these wronged ones. In truth, the matter is in God's hands. He doeth what He willeth and ordaineth what He pleaseth. He is the Protector, the Helper, the Succourer. Praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

The servant, in closing, beseecheth God, his Lord, to protect His loved ones through the hosts of the seen and the unseen, and to exalt them through His Name amongst all peoples. Verily, He is the Guardian of the doers of good and the Lord of those who place their trust in Him. There is no God but Him, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

In all conditions, I beseech the True One, exalted be His glory, to assist these wronged ones in that which is the cause of the Most Great Steadfastness. Verily, our Lord is the Helper, the Almighty, the Powerful, the All-Knowing. In these days, the Throne is established in Haifa, together with a company of those who circle round it, the emigrants, and the travelers. Praise be to God, all are adorned with piety and illumined with the light of detachment. Each day they attain the honor of presence and meeting. This is a peerless, mighty grace. I beseech Him, exalted be He, to ordain for His loved ones that which befitteth the heaven of His bounty. Verily, He is the Almighty, the All-Powerful.

A further submission is that several months ago, a sacred Tablet known as Nida [Proclamation] and Bisharat [Glad-Tidings], was dispatched according to the command of the Lord of the Unseen and the Seen. This Tablet contains laws that were scattered throughout the Most Holy Book and other Tablets, which the Blessed Being Himself gathered together. In that Tablet it was mentioned so that all may know and discover those laws that are the cause of tranquility for the peoples of the world, the comfort of nations, the elimination of discord and dissension, and the establishment of unity and harmony, and that they may raise their voices in praise and gratitude to the Goal of all the world's peoples. In truth, the most great favor hath been made manifest, but the unjust ones of the earth have risen in such opposition that the Concourse on high are engaged in lamentation and weeping. O my God! O my God! Protect Thy servants, then aid them through Thy power and might. Verily Thou art the Most Powerful of the powerful and the Most Merciful of the merciful.

Until now, no news of the arrival of that most mighty, most holy Tablet hath been received, and if it hath arrived, it must needs be translated so that their Majesties the kings—may God assist them—may become aware of its purpose and know of a certainty that this Community hath had and hath no purpose save the removal of corruption and the manifestation of justice and fairness. I beseech the True One to cause that Tablet to reach its destination. Verily He is the Powerful, the Commander, the All-Wise. Glory and remembrance and praise be upon your honor and upon those who are present before you and who hearken unto your words and your mention of the Cause of God, our Lord and your Lord and the Lord of all who are in the heavens and the earth. And praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

Volume 100: Akka 1308–1309 A.H. (1890–1892), Part II (2 of 3)

BH00340: Praise be to the Goal of the world Who…

Section 1: "Praise be to the Goal of the world…"

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

Praise be to the Goal of the world Who hath revealed that which was hidden in hearts and souls, Who hath distinguished the righteous from the wicked like unto light from darkness, and made them manifest. Exalted be His might and great be His dominion! And blessings and peace be upon the Lord by Whom was inscribed the decree of lordship among creation, through Whom shone forth the light of unity and were raised the banners of victory and triumph amidst all created things, and upon His family and companions whom God made the shepherds of His flock and guides of His servants, and upon every steadfast and upright one, and every knower who hath uttered that which he was commanded in His perspicuous Book.

And then, my spirit be a sacrifice for your remembrance and your utterance! Your esteemed letter was the source of true joy and spiritual delight, for every word thereof testified to the oneness of God, exalted be His glory, and to your health and well-being. After reading and perusing it, I sought the Presence, and after receiving permission to enter, I presented it before Him. He said:

"O My Afnan! Upon thee be My peace and My glory! We were walking in the house when We heard a call, as though the caller were giving Me glad tidings of that which had befallen the friends of God and His chosen ones. This is the day wherein the Most Great Branch turned toward the Prison for the sake of God, the Lord of destiny. Then We heard again from the right side: 'O people of the Crimson Ark! Rejoice in that the Trustworthy One hath turned toward a mighty fortress and a manifest prison for the sake of God, the Lord of the worlds."'

In truth, this is a day of joy and gladness. By My life, in the City of Lovers a feast of delight hath been spread that shall never be folded up, for on this day the lovers in the City of Unity and Concord, with utmost longing, sacrificed their souls and offered them up for the sake of the One Beloved. The might of bloodthirsty oppressors deterred them not, nor did the wrathful tongues of the savage ones hold them back from their purpose. How wondrous, nay doubly wondrous, that which hath come to pass—the like of which the eye of time hath never witnessed! Without cause or reason, suddenly the fire of hatred was kindled. On the twenty-third of the blessed month of Ramadan, the wolves of the earth set upon the divine sheep. Without proof or evidence, such tyranny was unleashed that caused the realities of existence to weep. Those possessed of hearing can this day hear the lamentation of all things. They seized those who were the dawning-places of virtues and the daysprings of refinement. First they took all they possessed, then with diverse torments put seven souls to death, in such wise that every soul who heard of it wailed in grief.

One of those souls uttered these exalted words: "O people! The Prince of Martyrs—may the spirit of all else be sacrificed for His sake—cried out in the land of Taff, Is there any who will help me?' This lowly one declareth, Is there any who will behold me?"' It is reported that some they hanged and set ablaze, while

others they cut to pieces and burned. One of those souls addressed these exalted words to the tyrannical commander, saying: “For forty years have I awaited this day, that this hair of mine might be dyed with my blood in the path of God.” In brief, they first commanded them to recant and curse this Wronged One. They refused, and with supreme steadfastness acknowledged that which was written in the divine Books of old and of recent times.

These events had no connection to the land of Ta. They wrote that when Zillu’s-Sultan merely heard that the Wanderer had been seized, fearing lest secrets be revealed, he commanded his son to do what transpired, that perchance he might once again render His Majesty the King—may God assist him—heedless, lest he become aware of his internal enemy. After despairing of the wronged ones of the world, he martyred Siyyid Ashraf in the land of Sad with unprecedented tyranny. The purpose of all these deeds was that the secrets of his breast and the treachery of his eye might remain concealed.

O Afnan, upon thee be My glory! Thou knowest that this Wronged One hath in all Tablets forbidden this party from corruption, conflict and contention. The writing of anonymous letters and casting them before houses and in streets is the way of the ignorant and the base ones of the earth. By the blood of the martyrs in the land of Ya, We have had and have no purpose save the reformation of the world and the edification of the souls of the peoples. This party hath, without concealment or veiling, mentioned before the faces of rulers and divines that which conduceth to the exaltation, elevation, comfort and tranquility of the peoples of the world. By the life of God! Their purpose is to serve the government and nation, not to engage in that which would lead to corruption, conflict and contention. To this testifieth every fair-minded and discerning one, and every learned and informed one. Never hath any incident or movement from these souls been witnessed in the land. God is sufficient witness to this.

In the land of Ta [Tehran] they arrested two of these companions, and likewise Sayyah and his associate. According to reports, Sayyah threw himself from the window attempting to escape, but broke his leg and was unable to flee. Praise be to God for this—your honor knows in detail what his purpose was. This Wronged One intended to send a few words to His Majesty the King of Iran, may the All-Merciful strengthen him, that perhaps contrary to what has passed, he might grasp those things that ensure the perpetuity of his government and the preservation of his glory, and in all conditions do what befits his station. These are those words:

O King! It behooveth, nay it is imperative upon Your Majesty in such days as these that the justice of God’s shadow on earth inquire of Sayyah Effendi, the true minister of the noble court: What was the purpose of your journey to Akka in that known year? By whose direction was it made? What was your objective? And what response did you receive? However, this has not yet been sent, for it is not known whether Your Majesty will hearken unto the petitions of the wronged ones of the world. By My life! This Wronged One has ever held fast to that which prevents corruption and preserves order. Though forty years have passed, during which in every year the hosts of self and passion have assailed the innocent and shed pure and holy blood, yet none arose in defense. All have held fast to the cord of divine commands and clung to the hem of His laws, and continue to do so. This matter is as clear and evident as the sun. Either His Majesty the King of Iran—may God preserve him—and the ministers and princes of the government have not noticed, or they have noticed and deemed it expedient to turn a blind eye.

Section 2: "Would that someone could be found with whom…"

Would that someone could be found with whom this Wronged One might make a firm and binding covenant that this community, so long as they exist in Iran, would arise to serve the government—a covenant that the passage of centuries and ages would not alter, and that time would not erase. However, since there are many deceivers in the world, the acceptance of this matter is difficult. God knows that whatsoever this Wronged One mentions is adorned with the ornament of truth and is sanctified from erasure and change. We beseech God to aid the ministers of Iran to look upon matters with the eye of justice and fairness. Verily, He is the Lord of gifts and favors.

This evanescent servant beseeches from the Eternal Truth that which brings assurance to hearts and justice to souls. For forty years this community has dwelt in the domains of this eternal empire, and during this time no opposition has appeared from any soul. If occasionally an outcry has been raised, its cause has been certain Iranian officials, as in this year when they have groundlessly harassed some in Baghdad, as though they understood their own glory to lie in the abasement of the servants of God. Nevertheless, none uttered a word, bearing tribulations for the sake of God. And since they are commanded to patience, submission and contentment, they therefore hold fast to the cord of trust and cling to the hem of resignation.

From the day that His Majesty Sultan Abdul-Hamid Khan—may God, the Blessed and Exalted, strengthen him—ascended the throne of sovereignty, he has striven day and night in the affairs of the realm and the comfort of his subjects. Upon merely hearing that a place has caught fire, he personally rises to extinguish it. In truth, he is a sign of God's mercy unto creation. Wherever there appears the slightest famine, that blessed being immediately convenes an assembly under his leadership and takes whatever measures are necessary for its relief. In all hardships he is the helper of the nation, and in all matters the well-wisher of his subjects. None denies his grace save the envious deceiver. Indeed, among the Ottoman sultans none like this blessed being has appeared—or if one has, this community was not aware of it.

In any case, it is necessary and obligatory for this community to beseech God, exalted be His glory, night and day for the might, wealth, exaltation and health of that blessed being. Verily, God is the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing.

This servant is greatly perplexed, for this time in Iran there has appeared that which had no cause, and from what they have done they had a purpose, which was to remove doubts and conceal misdeeds. Every fair-minded person will understand from what has been mentioned who and what was the source and origin of these affairs. Now it has become necessary for this servant to mention somewhat of what has occurred, that perhaps the hand of divine power may raise up a soul who would hold fast to justice and fairness.

This week these reports arrived: On the night of the 23rd of the blessed Ramadan, they seized two souls in the mosque of Shaykh Hasan Sabzavari and brought them before the governor. After much torment and extraction of money, they released them. Then they seized those two souls again along with five others—each of whom was like a lamp illumined with proper conduct and virtuous character—and in public thoroughfares struck them with stones, clubs and chains until they reached the presence of His

Excellency, expressing joy and delight at the abasement and humiliation of those friendless and helpless souls, doing what no eye has seen nor ear has heard. Then they summoned the clergy and incited them until they issued a decree, after which they placed a rope around one person in their presence, dragging that innocent one forward and taking the other six behind him. Some they beheaded in various places and some they cut into pieces, and those pure and holy bodies they burn with fire. Then they command the Jews to take those bones and cast them into pits. God knows that tongue and pen are ashamed of what they have done. And some have written that they placed one person before a cannon.

In brief, oppression reached such a point that Justice itself wept. At night they were occupied with revelry and merry-making, the whole city was illuminated with lamps, and instruments of pleasure were at hand. The rabble of the city went about with drums and tambourines, uttering curses and imprecations. Such tumult ensued that the people of the city complained of the chaos that occurred that night. The wives and children of those martyrs remained that night without helper, companion or sustenance. It is reported that subjects of foreign powers, with utmost love and kindness, secretly sent provisions and assisted the oppressed ones to the extent possible. And it is reported that His Majesty the Shah of Iran was unaware and uninformed of these matters, all of which occurred by order of the governor of the Land of Sad [Isfahan], whose purpose was to keep His Majesty—may God strengthen him—ignorant of these hidden secrets.

Glory be to God! Such occurrences will precipitate the time when, by the decree of the clergy, all people will rise against the government itself. Great astonishment has overtaken me that they were content to create such disgrace and chaos by these manifestations of suspicion and fancy. God is witness and aware that if there had been the slightest fault or misconduct by those souls, this servant and his Master would not have mentioned them. The peerless One God is witness that after divine grace and heavenly favor, the attention of this people is fixed upon royal justice. Now I beseech that Your Majesty personally investigate what has occurred and make inquiries, that what is hidden may be revealed and enemy distinguished from friend, and that you may turn your attention to assisting these oppressed ones of the world. This servant beseeches his Lord to assist His Majesty the Sultan to look after his oppressed subjects and the just servants of God. Verily He is powerful over what He willeth, and He is the Single, the One, the Compassionate, the Generous.

At this point the Master—may our spirits be sacrificed for Him—uttered these sublime words:

> “What was the fault of Mu’inu’l-Mulk that they dismissed him? He in no way neglected his service and duties. Praise be to God that through him and his name no harm occurred. If you reach his presence, convey greetings from the Wronged One and say: ‘Patience, O Mu’inu’l-Mulk, if adversity befalls, for the end of beautiful patience is beautiful. After the darkness of night comes the light of morning, and after the eclipse of the sun its radiance and splendor become manifest.’ We beseech God, blessed and exalted, to assist him and enable him to practice justice whose fragrance and traces will not cease. Verily He is the Bestower, the Commander, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.”

End quote.

Every day this servant has been and is anticipating news of Your Honor's health and well-being, and surely you will show kindness and make it known. Peace, praise, remembrance and glory be upon Your Honor and upon those who love you and hear your word for the sake of God, the Lord of the worlds.

The servant 19 Dhi'l-Hijjih 1308

BH02288: The gate of the Most Exalted Paradise hath been…

He is the Speaker before the faces of the world!

The gate of the Most Exalted Paradise hath been opened, and there hath come forth therefrom one of the Countenances, and she proceeded until she stood above the head and called out with the most exalted call: "O concourse of earth and heaven! By God, this is the Day whereof the Books of God, both past and future, have given glad tidings!" And she pointed with her finger and said: "This is the Promised One and the Lord of Hosts, through Whose manifestation the Mount was blessed by its Interlocutor, and the Lote-Tree by its Sustainer and its Purpose!" The rapture of the Revelation hath seized all things—they celebrate, glorify and clap their hands. Thus hath the call been raised from every direction. Blessed is he who hath heard and responded, and woe unto every heedless doubter!

Thy name was mentioned before the Wronged One, and thou wast remembered by Him Who loveth Me, who was named the Beloved—upon him be My glory. We have turned unto thee and revealed for thee that which hath diffused the fragrance of bounties and favors. Beware lest the clamor of the heedless sadden thee, or the might of those who have denied God, the Lord of lords, frighten thee. Take the Book with strength from Us, then read it with joy and delight unto the people of creation. Say: O people, be fair for God's sake and follow not the imaginings of the people of error.

O Yunus! He Who was treasured in the eternity of eternities hath appeared, and He Who was promised in the Books of God, the Self-Sufficient, the Most High, hath come. We beseech God to assist the heedless to return and repent before the gate that hath been opened to all who are in the heavens and on earth.

When thou hearest My sweetest call and the rushing of My Most Exalted Pen, turn with thy heart unto God, the Lord of all beings, and say:

> "Praise be unto Thee, O Revealer of verses and Lord of names and attributes, for having given me to drink the Kawthar of Thy utterance and guided me to Thy path! I beseech Thee to make me so steadfast in Thy love that neither the oppression of the Pharaohs nor the might of tyrants shall prevent me. I beseech Thee, O Purpose of all creation and Educator of all beings, by the ocean of utterance which surgeth in Thy name, and by the fragrance of the All-Merciful which was stirred by Thy command, and by the lights of the dawn of Thy Revelation, and by the hidden mysteries in Thy Books, to make me humble before Thy loved ones, speaking of Thy remembrance and praise, and arising to serve Thy Cause. I testify, O my God, that Thy Cause is great, great indeed! Assist me, O my God, to hold fast unto it and cling to its hem. Then ordain for me, O my God, from Thy Most Exalted Pen the good of this world and the next. Verily Thou art the Beloved of all beings and the Lord of the throne on high and of the dust below."

We make mention of thy father and give him the glad tidings of God's loving-kindness, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy. We mentioned him before and at this time in such wise that his remembrance shall endure in My perspicuous Book. We testify that he turned, attained the presence, and achieved that which most of creation failed to achieve. He who speaketh "there is none other God but He, the Single, the One, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed" beareth witness to this. Glory, remembrance and praise be upon thee and him from One mighty and wise.

BH02717: O Javad! The world hath been transformed…

He is the Mighty, the Great

O Javad! The world hath been transformed, for the Kingdom of utterance hath been renewed. All that existeth hath been adorned with a new and wondrous attire. This Day, verily, is unlike all other days, and this Revelation is the sovereign of all revelations. The denizens of land and sea circle round the Most Great Scene. The mountains cry out: "The All-Possessing, the Most High hath come!" The birds of the all-highest Paradise warble: "The Lord of the Kingdom of Names hath been made manifest! The call is raised from the Prison of ʿAkka. The virtues of the Day of God cannot be reckoned or confined. Blessed are they who are endowed with sight and hearing, who have attained unto vision and hearkening." The hearing saith unto the sight: "This day the Most Great Scene is adorned—be thou aware!" And the sight saith unto the hearing: "Hearken thou and bear witness that the Throne of thy Lord hath established itself upon Carmel, and the Lord of all being, the Sovereign of the seen and the unseen, is seated thereon. A mighty festival hath been prepared, and a wondrous celebration hath appeared. God willing, may you receive a full portion of this eternal supreme bounty and everlasting joy and gladness!"

O daughter of Mishkin! Upon thee be My manifest glory! Today the Truth hath appeared amongst creation without veil or covering, and the light of Revelation hath illumined the realm of Sinai, and the Sun of Truth the world of existence. Strive that ye may not remain deprived. The ocean of divine generosity is surging and the fragrance of the Word of God is all-compelling. Glory be to God! The powers of sight and hearing and understanding have been created for this Day, for the Purpose is manifest, and the singing of the birds is raised, and the Countenances offer the chalice of immortality from the hands of bounty, while the angels cry "Happy and welcome! Blessed is he who hath cast away the world and taken what hath shone forth and appeared from the horizon of the heaven of the Ancient of Days, Who speaketh before the faces of the nations."

O people of Sad! The lamp hath ever been and shall ever be in the midst of winds. The peoples of the world exist to aid the Wronged One, and yet they secretly busy themselves helping His enemies. Thus hath the Pen spoken and the Herald proclaimed: The Kingdom and the Dominion and the Glory and the Grandeur and the Majesty belong unto God, the Lord of the seen and the unseen. The Glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My mercy be upon you and upon those who have hearkened and turned and have said: We have believed in Thee, O Beloved of the hearts of them that know, and Goal of all who are in the heavens and on earth!

BH05223: O ʿAli! Do not despair of God's spirit…

He is the Manifest Book and the One Who speaks on the Day of Judgment.

O ʿAli! Do not despair of God's spirit and mercy, and grieve not over anything in the days of God, the Lord of the mighty throne. Be content with what has been ordained and fix thy gaze upon the Supreme Horizon from which the Mount received its Interlocutor, and the Tree its Caller, and the Beloved attained the presence of God, the Lord of the exalted throne. When thine eyes are consoled by beholding My traces and thou findest the fragrances of revelation from My Pen, say:

My God, my God! Praise be to Thee for having turned toward Thy servant and for having accepted him who hath turned toward Thee. Thanks be to Thee for having caused me to hear Thy most sweet call from the shrill voice of Thy Most Exalted Pen, and for having acquainted me with the Dawning-Place of Thy verses, the Dayspring of Thy mysteries, the Treasury of Thy knowledge, and the Source of Thy commandments and ordinances. O Lord! Verily Thy servant was standing before the door of Thy bounty and awaiting the wonders of Thy generosity. I beseech Thee by the waves of the ocean of Thy mercy and the splendors of the sun of Thy grace to make me in all conditions steadfast in Thy remembrance and the service of Thy Cause. O Lord! Praise be to Thee for having heard my call and sent down for me that which shall endure through the eternity of Thy names and attributes. I testify that Thy grace hath encompassed existence both seen and unseen, and Thy mercy hath preceded all who are in the heavens and on earth. There is no God but Thee, the Almighty, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

BH05620: In My Name that overshadoweth all names

In My Name that overshadoweth all names

O My Leaf! I testify that thou hast attained unto My days and turned toward My horizon, and hast drunk the choice wine of revelation from the hand of My bounty, and hast taken, with the hand of submission, My Tablet and My traces. Blessed art thou and blessed is he who hath attained unto this Cause, the mighty, the wondrous, through which the light hath shone forth from the horizon of manifestation and the Sadratu'l-Muntaha hath given glad tidings unto all creation that the Lord of the Kingdom of Names hath come with a power before whose manifestation the power of the world stood powerless, and with a sovereignty that hath conquered all who are in the heavens and on earth.

O My handmaiden! Hearken, hearken unto the call of Him Who hath been wronged, as He calleth thee from the precincts of the prison with an utterance sweeter than sugar and more luminous than the sun and moon. Say: Praise be unto Thee, O my God, and thanksgiving be unto Thee, O my Beloved, and glory be unto Thee, O Glory of those who are in the heavens and on earth, for having caused me to turn toward Thee and to speak Thy praise and to be attracted by Thy verses and to be detached from all else besides Thee. O my Lord! I am Thy handmaiden and the daughter of Thy handmaiden. Thou hast made me one of the leaves of the Blessed Tree in Thy days.

I beseech Thee to assist me in Thy remembrance and praise through the wisdom which Thou hast sent down in Thy Books. Then ordain for me that which beseemeth the ocean of Thy bounty and the heaven of

Thy grace. Verily, Thou art the All-Powerful, the Most Generous. There is no God but Thee, the Munificent, and Thou art the Ever-Forgiving, the All-Merciful.

BH05493: This is a Book sent down by the Wronged…

He is the Witness, the All-Hearing, the Mighty, the All-Knowing!

This is a Book sent down by the Wronged One to him who hath taken the Dawning-place of verses as his helper and turned unto Him when the servants turned away, save him who drank the choice wine of revelation from the hand that was mighty in the name of God. We have heard thy call and turned toward thee, and observed thy turning unto Us, and have sent down for thee the heavenly table of utterance from a heaven that was exalted in the name of God. Nothing whatsoever escapeth His knowledge. He witnesseth and seeth, and He hath power over all things.

When thou hearest My call and art illumined by the light of My lamp, say: My God, my God! Praise be to Thee for having guided me and mentioned me, and glory be to Thee for having caused me to hear Thy call and to behold the traces of Thy Most Exalted Pen, whose rustling hath been raised up. I beseech Thee, O Lord of the kingdom of earth and heaven, and Sovereign of grandeur and might, by Thy Most Great Book whereby Thou hast guided the peoples, to make me one who drinketh Thy choice wine, who gazeth toward Thy horizon, who hearkeneth unto Thy call, who speaketh in Thy praise, who holdeth fast to Thy cord, and who cleaveth to the hem of Thy robe. O my Lord! I am Thy servant and the son of Thy servant, turning unto Thee, detached from all else but Thee. I beseech Thee not to disappoint me of that which lieth with Thee, and to ordain for me, O my God, that which will draw me nigh unto Thee in all conditions. Verily Thou art the Almighty, the Mighty, the All-Bountiful.

BH05885: This is a Book sent down in truth…

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

This is a Book sent down in truth from God, the Lord of the worlds, that He might draw the people to a station illumined by the lights of the utterance of God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy. O My Most Exalted Pen! Make mention of him who hath turned to the Countenance and responded when thy shrill voice was raised throughout the world, and who hath believed in God, the Mighty, the All-Informed. We have heard thy call, We have turned toward thee and sent unto thee the fragrances of revelation, that thou mayest give thanks unto thy Lord, the Lord of the Mighty Throne. This is a Day whereon the Dove of Paradise warbleth and the Tongue speaketh in the kingdom of utterance through a command from the presence of a wise Ordainer.

When thou hast quaffed the choice wine of utterance from the cup of the bounty of thy Lord, the All-Merciful, say: My God, my Master and my Support! I testify to Thy Manifestation and to Thy Books which Thou hast sent down from the heaven of Thy Will, and to the movement of Thy Pen whereby Thou hast subdued the cities of hearts and souls. And I testify to Thy oneness and Thy singleness. I beseech Thee, O Thou Who art the Possessor of existence and the Forgiver of sins, by the lights of Thy countenance through which the Sun of Thy bounty hath shone upon existence, and by Thy Most Great Name which

hath encompassed the world, to assist me to be steadfast in Thy Cause in such wise that neither the oppression of tyrants nor the injustice of pharaohs may frighten me. Then write down for me that which will draw me nigh unto Thee in all conditions. Verily, Thou art the Self-Sufficient, the Most Exalted.

BH08859: Glorified art Thou, O Lord of all beings…

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

Glorified art Thou, O Lord of all beings and God of all things that exist! I testify with my outward and inward tongue to Thy manifestation and Thy revelation, to the sending down of Thy verses and the demonstration of Thy clear signs, and to Thy independence from all else and Thy sanctification above all others. I beseech Thee by the might of Thy Cause and the power of Thy Word to aid him who desires to carry out that which Thou hast commanded him in Thy Book and to perform that which will diffuse the fragrance of Thy good pleasure. Verily, Thou art the Mighty, the All-Bountiful, the Forgiving, the Generous.

He is the Helper

The letter of the beloved of the heart, AB, upon him be the glory and loving-kindness of God, containing six English pounds, has been received by this servant through his honor the beloved of the heart who bears the two Most Exalted Names, MH, upon him be the Most Glorious Glory of God, in the year 1308.

BH09404: Glory be to Thee, O Thou Who art…

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

Glory be to Thee, O Thou Who art the Lord of all beings and the Ultimate Aim of all creation! I testify with the tongue of both mine inner and outer being that Thou hast revealed and manifested Thyself, that Thou hast sent down Thy verses and demonstrated Thy proofs, and that Thou art independent of anyone besides Thee and sanctified above all else except Thyself. I ask Thee, by the glory of Thy Cause and the power of Thy Word, graciously to assist them that have arisen to discharge what hath been enjoined upon them in Thy Book, and to perform that whereby the fragrance of Thine acceptance may be shed abroad. Thou, verily, art the Powerful, the Gracious, the Forgiving, the Bountiful.

BH09249: We have desired to make mention of Our loved…

He is the Most High, the Most Glorious

We have desired to make mention of Our loved ones in that land whose names were not mentioned before the Face, that they may rejoice in the remembrance of God, the Mighty, the All-Bountiful. O people of God! Blessed are ye, inasmuch as ye have quaffed the wine of utterance from the chalice of the bounty of the Lord of all Religions. The Wronged One counseleth you with that which will exalt your stations among men. Take hold of the Book of God with such strength as cannot be hindered by the hosts of the wicked. Verily, the Lamp calleth out saying: Look ye, look ye in all conditions. Beware lest the veils of the world withhold you from this Lamp which God hath lit through His power and His might from His

presence. He is verily the All-Conquering, the Unconstrained. Glory be upon you, O friends of God and His party, and upon My handmaidens who have believed in God, the Dawning-Place of Lights.

BH10094: O Ali, say: O my God and my Lord!…

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

O Ali, say: O my God and my Lord! I beseech Thee by Thy Name, and by Thy Cause, and by Thy might, and by Thy power, and by Thy sovereignty, and by Thy greatness, and by Thy dominion, and by Thy majesty, that Thou aid me to remain steadfast in Thy Cause in such wise that neither the oppression of the wicked ones nor the clamor of the enemies shall hold me back. Verily, Thou art the All-Powerful, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

At the conclusion of this message, we make mention of thy wife who hath turned unto God, attained His presence and visited the House. We beseech Him, exalted be He, to aid her, to assist her and to make her firm in His love and in His remembrance and in His praise. Verily, He hath power over all things and is worthy to answer prayer.

BH04749: Glorified art Thou, O Thou in Whose grasp lie…

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

Glorified art Thou, O Thou in Whose grasp lie the reins of all things! Glorified art Thou, O Thou in Whose right hand is the kingdom of immortality! Glorified art Thou, O Thou by Whose command the Names are made manifest! Glorified art Thou, O Thou by Whose will all who are in earth and heaven appeared!

I testify to Thy manifestation and Thy revelation and Thine establishment upon the throne of “He doeth whatsoever He willeth,” and to Thy power which hath encompassed the kingdom of immortality. O my Lord! Thou seest one of Thy leaves who hath sought the tree of Thy utterance and hath left her homeland out of longing to attain Thy presence. The hands of Thy might and the hosts of Thy invisible realm did aid her until she arrived at Thy Most Great Prison and attained Thy presence and heard Thy verses and beheld Thy horizon. O my Lord! Assist her through Thy sovereignty and aid her through Thy bounty and bestowal. Then send down unto her that which shall endure as long as Thy names endure and the manifestations of Thy attributes.

Verily Thou art the Ruler over whatsoever Thou willest and the Ordainer of whatsoever Thou desirest. Moreover I beseech Thee by Thy generosity which hath encompassed all existence to ordain for her every good thing Thou hast ordained for Thy branches and every grace Thou hast written down for Thy leaves. Then make that which she hath sent be adorned with the ornament of Thy acceptance and the glory of Thy good-pleasure. Verily Thou art the Mighty, the Most Bountiful, the Powerful, the Generous. There is no God but Thee, the Supremely Powerful, the Most High, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. And praise be unto Thee, for verily Thou art the Goal of all worlds.

BH10831: Glorified art Thou, O Thou Who art the Self-Subsisting…

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

Glorified art Thou, O Thou Who art the Self-Subsisting One of Names and the Possessor of the throne on high and the earth below! I beseech Thee by Thy Most Great, Most Impregnable, Most Holy, Most Mighty, Most Glorious Name to ordain for whosoever hath turned unto Thee and carried out what Thou hast revealed in Thy Book the reward of every steadfast one whom neither the tyranny of the servants nor the clamor of the lands hath deterred. Verily, Thou art the All-Bountiful, the All-Generous, and within Thy grasp lie the reins of all who are in the heavens and on earth.

BH11699: In this Day the clear and manifest Book lifteth…

In this Day the clear and manifest Book lifteth up its call, summoning all mankind unto that which draweth them nigh unto God. Well is it with them—yea, well is it with them—who have caught the perfumed breeze that passed at dawn from the dwelling-place of the lovers of the divine Court. This breeze is able to quicken the dust of hidden mysteries and cause the buried secrets to return unto life and manifestation.

Today the world is a field of sacrifice and a garden of detachment; therein the signs of renunciation have appeared and the tokens of severance are made plain. The cloud of fleeting existence hath been scattered, and the lote-tree of the All-Merciful's mercy hath cast its shade over all the worlds. Blessed are the souls who have received their share of these existing breezes and have thereby attained an everlasting triumph.

The day is the day of the manifestation of the lovers of God, and at every moment, throughout all horizons, from the City of Detachment a cry is raised and deeds of sacrifice appear. Neither the oppression of the oppressors, nor the ascendancy of the aggressors, nor the clamor of the deceivers, nor the proofs and ordinances of the deniers, have been able to debar the lovers from the light of longing, or to deprive them of the eternal bounty. In sacrifice and in the ranks of yearning, how many souls there are who have taken the lead and outstripped all others.

Praise be to God that thou hast been kindled by the fire of Divine love and hast attained unto the light of the Revelation of Him Who conversed upon Sinai. Thy remembrance is mentioned in the arena of the lovers, and thou art seen adorned with the most radiant and most holy robe of steadfastness. Thy letter, which bore the jewels of love and unity, and was fraught with the knowledge and affection of the Lord of creation, was read in the assembly of the friends beyond the veil. Praise be to God that its beginning was adorned with the mention of the honored Afnan, and that its ending was illumined with the seal of acceptance.

Blessed art thou and well is it with thee! The Wondrous One beseecheth His mighty and bountiful Lord to open before thy face a door such as the eye of creation hath never beheld, to grant thee His presence and His meeting time after time and again after again, and to make thee attracted by His verses, severed from all save Him, and soaring in His atmosphere—not with the wings of birds, but with that attraction of the Manifestation by whose word the Concourse on high and the dwellers of the exalted Paradise were

drawn. He, verily, is the friend of him who befriendeth Him, and He strengtheneth him who cometh unto Him with a humble and sound heart.

At one of those times when His Holiness, the Desired One and Beloved of Grandeur, was seated upon the throne of joy, this servant submitted the petition into His presence. Praise be to God, with full permission it was presented, and I attained the honor of hearing the words of the Lord of mankind. At that moment the sea of utterance was surging with such a majesty, and the signs of proof were shining with such a moonlike splendor and radiant light, that all the pens of the world and all powers of comprehension are unable to preserve or set it down in writing. Your honored self hath yourself attained that presence and witnessed it; thus there is no need to describe it.

After that, these exalted words were uttered by the Desire of the worlds. Exalted and glorified be He! He said:

> "O ʻAziz! Upon My Afnan be My glory and My loving-kindness. The Branch was present before the Face and read that which thou hadst sent unto Him. We answered thee with wondrous praise and with a clear Book."

In these days, lamentations arise from the land of Ridvan, for causes that have brought sorrow and lamentation to the Concourse on high. Glorified be God! The oppressors have spread corruption through the horizons and have revealed deeds that sadden the denizens of the Most Exalted Paradise. Yet today the lovers, with utmost attraction and yearning, hasten toward the presence of the King of all horizons and attain their supreme desire. The melody of the lovers is raised through the lands; blessed is he who hath heard and attained, and woe betide the heedless.

The friends have been remembered, that they may not be deprived of the cup of detachment nor barred from the remembrance of the Possessor of creation; for the gate of utterance hath been opened and that which encompasseth the throne of the kingdom and of the Kingdom hath been sent down. Great is His loving-kindness; His mercy hath preceded all things.

We beseech God—exalted and glorified be He—to make them heralds of His Name, severed from all else but Him. Verily He answereth the supplication of them that ask, and He is the Beloved of all who dwell in the heavens and on the earth.

Convey greetings and salutations to the friends, and entreat for them from the Lord that which is the cause of abiding existence and the ornament of souls. Verily He is the All-Powerful, the Almighty.

These words are written not from self, but by reason of the overflowing waves of divine mercy. We trust that His bounty will not be withheld, and that His servants will not be deprived of the most great effulgences. These days are precious, and the opportunity is fleeting. Though from ʻAkka the means of writing are constrained, yet there is hope that hereafter the Hand of bounty will be outstretched, the sealed mysteries will be disclosed, the hidden countenances will appear in their chambers, and the veil will be lifted. By God! the kingdom of the heavens and the earth beareth witness to this utterance.

This Prisoner sendeth abundant salutations unto the Afnan, upon whom be the glory of God. At all times, whether in movement or in repose, they are remembered and singled out for divine favour, illumined by the light of oneness and adorned with the remembrance of the loved ones. Upon them be greeting, magnification, and glory.

We ask of God—exalted be His glory—from the table of His oneness and the bounty of His everlasting grace, that which He alone can bestow. Verily He is the Hearer, the Answerer.

Remembrance, praise, might, and glory be upon you, O friends of God, and upon those who have attained that which the sincere and the near ones have attained. Praise be to God, the Possessor of whatsoever hath been and whatsoever shall be.

This Tablet was sent in a most holy and secure manner unto the beloved friends.

Dated the eighth of Muharram, in the year 1309 of the Hijrah. [the transcription of the original Tablet is uncertain]

BH01383: Praise be to God that the gates of attainment…

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

Praise be to God that the gates of attainment unto His presence are opened wide, their outward key being the pen and ink, and their inner key being the grace of God, the Lord of all creation. We praise Him and thank Him for having guided us in days wherein the fire of oppression hath been kindled in all regions through the doings of the manifestations of tyranny. And blessings and peace be upon the Dayspring of existence, the Lord of Revelation, and the Dawning-Place and Rising-Point of God's most excellent names, and upon His kindred and companions who were the lamps of grace amidst all creation and the suns of bounty unto all beings—eternal blessings whose fragrance shall never cease throughout the duration of the manifestations of His attributes. My spirit be a sacrifice unto your honour.

Your blessed letter was received and after it was read before the countenance of the Lord, He said: O ʿAli-Akbar! The smoke of tyranny hath darkened the world of justice and veiled the light of equity. The heedless souls are encompassed by the hosts of transgression, wickedness, self and passion, to such extent that they have no purpose save their own desires and no beloved save this world. Veils of denial have prevented their eyes from recognizing what is right, and the lusts of passion have obscured their faculty of understanding, to such degree that they count loss as profit and abasement as glory. Heedlessness hath reached such a point that they slay their own Lord with their own hands and abandon their friend to the enemy. Glory be to God! The oppressors of the earth have reached such a state of tyranny that the Pharaohs and tyrants of the world seek refuge in God from their deeds.

O Mihdi, upon thee be My glory! In the early dawn the breezes passed over those pure and holy bodies, and from their whispers these exalted words were heard:

> "Woe unto you! Woe unto you! Woe unto you! Woe unto you! O people of Ya! Ye have martyred your own masters with the swords of tyranny and transgression, and ye perceive it not. Soon shall the recompense of your deeds encompass you. At that time ye shall find

> neither helper nor supporter, neither protector nor friend. Have ye grown heedless of the power of divine justice, or have ye obtained a letter of immunity from His might? By God's life! All the concourse of the near angels and the cherubim lament and shed tears of blood. O Mihdi! Who hath assisted the families and children of the martyrs? Who hath consoled them? Who hath cared for them? Who hath given them bread and water? The Pen lamenteth, the Most Great Name weepeth."

Say: My God, my God! Thou seest what hath befallen Thy chosen ones and loved ones at the hands of the oppressors among Thy creatures. I beseech Thee by Thy sovereignty which hath encompassed all existence, and by Thy Name whereby Thou hast subdued both the seen and the unseen, to assist the oppressors in achieving justice and equity, and to make known to them what hath proceeded from them throughout the nights and days. O Lord! Take the hands of the oppressed ones through Thy power and might, then protect them from the evil of Thine enemies. Verily Thou art the Powerful, the Supreme, the Mighty, the All-Bountiful.

Convey greetings and glorification from this Wronged One to the people of that household. The glory from Us be upon them and upon those who love them for the sake of God, the Lord of the mighty throne. Praise be to God, all are mentioned in the presence of the Wronged One and are illumined by the light of His utterance.

In these nights and days, mention of the martyrs of the land of Ya hath been and is being heard from the tongue of Grandeur. Thus far, they have been mentioned several times and recorded in Tablets. Blessed are they, and joy and delight be unto them, for they have attained unto that which hath been the ultimate desire of the sincere ones and the ultimate will of those near unto God. Although the oppression is beyond reckoning, yet such bounty hath been manifested toward them that no knowledgeable recorder could ever describe it. We praise God, blessed and exalted be He, for the wonders of His generosity, His favors, His grace and His gifts. Verily He is the Helper of those in distress and the Succourer of the oppressed. There is none other God but Him, the Forgiving, the Merciful.

I beseech God to preserve your honour forever and adorn you with the ornament of health. Verily He is the Hearer, the Answerer.

Furthermore, I convey greetings and glorification to those related to your honour, and I beseech infinite favors and boundless grace for each one of them. Verily He is the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous.

Regarding what you wrote about mentioning the petition, it is known that your honour deliberately does not open the trusts, and moreover, the favors of God, exalted be His glory, toward your honour are beyond mention and reckoning. Therefore, what occurred was submitted and was accepted.

And concerning what you asked about the oil, the amount that was commanded was two rotls. Peace and praise and remembrance and glory be upon your honour and upon those who are with you and love you, and upon those who are assured and unified, and praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

The servant 14 Muharram 1309 Five glasses were received.

BH02567: O beloved of my heart! The receipt of thy…

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

O beloved of my heart! The receipt of thy honored letter brought supreme joy. May its fragrance perfume the realm of love and fidelity, and may its sweet scent adorn the world of remembrance and utterance. Glorified be our Lord and His mercy that hath preceded all who are in the heavens and the earth. After being presented before our Lord, may our spirits be sacrificed for Him, He said:

> "O Husayn! Upon thee be the grace of God, the Lord of the Day of Judgment."

Convey mention to Haji Baha'i and My loving-kindness on behalf of the Wronged One. We beseech God to give him to drink, at all times, from the Kawthar of life from His hand of bounty, whereby He hath cast down the banners of the idolaters and taken hold of the reins of all in the heavens and the earth.

Nabil, upon him be My glory and loving-kindness, is mentioned and the answer to his letter hath been revealed and will be sent. Give him the glad-tidings of My remembrance of him, My turning toward him, and My loving-kindness unto him.

We make mention of his honor Siyyid, previously Javad, upon him be the glory of God, the Lord of creation. His letter arrived this night and the Most Great Branch presented it before His presence. Praise be to God, it was adorned with steadfastness, sincerity, acceptance and firmness. We beseech God to send down upon him at all times a blessing from His presence and a bounty from His own Self. Verily He is the Mighty, the All-Bestowing.

Likewise ʿAli-Akbar, upon him be the glory of God, the Lord of Power, and the other friends, both men and women, are mentioned before the Wronged One and are adorned and illumined with infinite favors. We beseech God to protect them through His sovereignty and to guard them through His verses and to ordain for them that which will exalt them through His name amongst His servants. Verily He hath power over all things.

This servant also conveyeth greetings and glorification unto all and beseecheth God to aid them in that which He loveth and approveth. Verily He is the Lord of the Throne and earth and He is the Helper, the All-Wise.

The beloved of the heart, his honor Haji Siyyid Javad, upon him be the glory of God, His loving-kindness and His grace, is mentioned at all times before our Lord. This servant conveyeth unto him greetings, glorification, remembrance and splendor, and beseecheth for him that which befitteth His generosity, exalted be His glory. Verily He is the Giver, the Munificent, the Generous, the Bountiful.

Praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds. Mercy, loving-kindness, grace and bounty be upon you and upon every servant who hath believed in God and His signs and acted according to that which He hath commanded in His perspicuous Book.

BH03475: The honored Afnan, upon whom be the peace…

He is God, exalted be His glory, the Forgiving, the All-Giving!

The honored Afnan, upon whom be the peace of the All-Merciful: Thou hast repeatedly attained Our presence—praised be God!—and art mentioned before the Wronged One and hast been the recipient of special favors. With complete determination thou must endeavor to guide all people and, through the Most Great Name, conquer the hearts of all who dwell on earth. This is not difficult for God to accomplish. The assault of the oppressors and the clamor of the malicious ones have somewhat subdued the friends in various lands. We cherish the hope that through the light of the Manifestation of Him Who conversed with Moses and through the fire of the Blessed Tree, the world will be set ablaze.

O My Afnan! Upon thee be My glory! Your station is to guide the servants, that those who turn to God may drink from the hand of bounty the water of everlasting life and thereby quicken the world. Through God's grace—exalted be His glory—thou art mentioned and recorded in the Book as one of the Afnans of the Tree and as one of the Hands of the Cause. The flowing blood of the martyrs will surely awaken the world and its peoples. By God's life! None can reckon its effects and manifestations; pen and ink cannot venture into that realm. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to make known to the oppressors what they have wrought in this transient world and to bring them near to the punishment that hath been ordained for them in this world and the next.

We remember all the friends in that land and beseech God on behalf of each one that which will cause the exaltation of goodly deeds and praiseworthy character. Thou didst mention Muhammad. Praise be to God, he hath attained recognition and is illumined by the light of understanding. We beseech God to ordain for him that which will cause him to speak His praise, to arise to serve Him, and to turn his gaze toward His horizon. Verily He is the Hearer, the Answerer of prayer. May glory and light rest upon his father, who attained My presence time and again, and upon every steadfast and trusted one. Praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH02207: Praise and thanksgiving beseem the Lord of existence…

He is the Ever-Abiding that perisheth not

Praise and thanksgiving beseem the Lord of existence and the Sovereign of the seen and unseen, Who hath made the tyranny of oppressors and the dominion of rulers the cause and means of exalting His Most Great Word. At times He exalteth His Cause through the hands of the oppressors, and at other times through the hands of His loved ones, who regard the heedless as mere handful of dust and who speak that which the Supreme Pen hath spoken in the Most Sublime Horizon. These are men whom neither the ornaments of the world nor the treasures of princes can distract from the remembrance of this News wherewith God hath gladdened His Books, His Scriptures and His Tablets. Blessed is he who hath clung fast thereunto and hath turned toward the court of His glory, and woe betide the heedless ones.

O spiritual friend! The letters sent by thee were received. One of them was from his honor Shaykh Abu'l-Qasim, upon him be the peace of God and His glory. Blessed is he and joy be unto him, for from the

words of his letter wafted the fragrance of love for the Lord of the Pen and the divine quill. By "Pen" is meant and hath ever been meant the Most Exalted Pen. It is the divine trumpet and the opener of the gates of the Lord's mercy and bounty. By its song have been enraptured the hearts of them that are endued with understanding and are sincere. Blessed is he who hath truly hearkened to its song, for he seeth himself detached from all things and standing at the gate of grace with such steadfastness as the hosts of rulers and divines and the denizens of the earthly realm cannot deter him. After perusal and review it was brought before His presence. This is what was revealed from the tongue of the Lord, may our souls be offered up for His sake.

He is the All-Hearing, the Answering.

Praise be to God Who hath opened wide the gate of true understanding before the faces of all created things through the key of His Most Merciful Name, and hath guided all unto that path. O Shaykh, peace be upon thee! Today these pages are illumined with the light of justice, for His Majesty Sultan Abdul-Hamid hath seated himself upon the throne of equity. Verily, tyranny and oppression have no place therein. In truth, he is occupied day and night with the affairs of both government and people. Today the eye of the world is brightened by him, and the equitable among God's servants are well pleased with his decrees. From the first day of Our imprisonment in the Most Great Prison until now, no adverse action hath been witnessed from His Majesty. Whenever the cry of the oppressed hath been raised from any quarter, he hath personally attended thereto and acted as befitteth his glory and might. All the people of his realm repose beneath the shade of the tree of his grace. Who is that lost one whom his favor hath not sought?

It therefore behooveth all of this community to supplicate the Self-Sufficient Lord with utmost humility and devotion for his protection and victory. Verily, He is the All-Powerful over whatsoever He willeth, and in His grasp are the reins of grace and bounty. He is God, the Strong, the Prevailing, the Mighty.

This Wronged One hath ever besought and cherished the hope that God—glorified and exalted be He—may enable His loved ones to attain unto that which shall cause the manifestations of holiness and sanctity to appear among His servants. Praised be God, corruption, contention, disputation, and warfare have been forbidden—explicitly and in unmistakable terms—in the Book. It is hoped that they who have turned unto Him will hold fast unto whatsoever God hath willed and act in accordance with that whereunto they have been commanded. Perchance the rancor and hatred that blaze within hearts and souls may, through the Kawthar of divine counsels and the Salsabil of heavenly admonitions, be stilled, and mankind attain unto that which is the cause of deliverance and assurance.

Unto the friends in that land We convey Our greetings, and We exhort them unto righteousness and piety. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to strengthen them, to protect them through the hosts of power and might, and to draw them nigh unto Him under all conditions.

His honor ʿAkkash, upon him be the peace of God, the Lord of all names, together with his kinsmen, is remembered in the presence of this Wronged One. His honor Muhammad, upon him be the peace and glory of God, hath been forwarding and continues to forward letters from that quarter to this Wronged

One. Due to the sorrows that have befallen Us, replies are sometimes delayed and at other times dispatched immediately.

The effulgences of the Sun of divine favor are of such intensity that truly all the pens of the world and its peoples are powerless to reckon them. Whenever mention was made of any one of His loved ones before their Lord, the ocean of utterance would surge in such wise as to astound the world of existence. Despite encompassing sorrows and trials that have befallen Us, that which is a Clear Book for the preservation of God's servants and the prosperity of lands hath been revealed in every instant. This Prisoner beseecheth God that He may adorn the people of that place with the ornament of trustworthiness and godliness, and with that whereby their stations may be exalted in the earth. As for his honor's request for permission to attain Our presence, after the setting of the Sun permission was granted and made manifest. Well is it with him!

The letter from his honor Shams, upon him be the peace of God, was received. Praise be to God, as it was adorned with the mention and praise of God—exalted be His glory—and gave voice to the blessed word of divine unity, its fragrance brought forth joy and its words opened the gate of gladness. Thanks be to the Goal of all the worlds that His loved ones are holding fast to the recognition of His oneness and acknowledging that which hath been sent down from His presence.

O God, my God! Thou seest Thy loved ones turning their hearts to Thee, and holding fast unto the cord of Thy ordinances and laws. I beseech Thee by the waves of the sea of Thine utterance, and by Him through Whom Thou didst adorn the heavens of Thy might, to graciously protect them by the aid of Thy hosts. O God! Thou beholdest Thy lovers in Iran in the clutches of hate and enmity. I beg of Thee, by Thy mercy which hath preceded the contingent world, to raise up from the earth those who will be moved to aid and protect them, and to preserve their rights and the restitution due to them by those who broke Thy Covenant and Testament, and perpetrated such acts as made the inmates of the cities of Thy justice and equity to lament. Thou art, verily, the All-Powerful, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

Glory be to God! In the land of Ya (Yazd) in Iran, wolves have attacked the friends and the faithful, and have committed that which causeth the tears of those near unto God and the sighs of the sincere ones to fall and ascend. That misguided party showed no mercy to innocent children who remained without sustenance for several days, and it is reported that the followers of His Holiness the Spirit of God (Jesus Christ), peace be upon Him, provided assistance and secretly sent life-sustaining provisions. Although these acts were committed to extinguish the light, yet God hath made tribulations the cause of the exaltation of His Cause and the means for the upliftment of His Word, despite their will. Verily, He is the Just, the Wise. Soon will God raise up from the drops of the blood of the oppressed men who will help His friends and loved ones. Assuredly, after the darkness of tyranny, the light of divine justice shall shine forth, and after oppression, the sun of equity shall cast its rays. Verily, our Lord is the Just, the Compassionate, the Generous.

After reading and reciting the letter of his honor Shams, upon him be the peace of God, we approached the court and it was presented in the presence of the Lord and was honored to be heard. He—may our souls be sacrificed for Him—said:

In the Name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful

O Shams, upon thee be the peace of God! His honor Muhammad, upon him be the peace of God and His care, forwarded thy letter to the Wronged One, and His Holiness the Branch Diya presented it. Blessed art thou for We have found from thee the fragrance of steadfastness and of humility and submissiveness before God, the Lord of the Mighty Throne. Although encompassing sorrows have descended, yet the door of mention and utterance is open. We beseech God to write down for thee and His loved ones, from the Pen of His grace, a bountiful reward in His Book, to protect you from the evil of His enemies, to illumine you with the lights of His oneness, to assist you in performing the deeds which He hath sent down from the Pen of His justice, and to ordain for you that which He hath ordained for His chosen ones who have sacrificed their souls and their wealth in His path, and to send down upon you from the clouds of His grace the rain of His mercy. Verily, He is powerful over all things.

Mention of Akkas had previously flowed from the Pen, and We desire to mention him once again at the end of the Book, that he may rejoice and be among the thankful ones. O Akkas! Thy call hath been heard and thy mention hath been made before the Wronged One. The wolves in the land of Ya have torn the divine sheep. Today the lamentation and wailing of all things is raised. The manifestations of tyranny and wickedness, and the dawning-places of self and desire, have wrought that which hath no likeness or parallel. We beseech God to aid the enemies to return unto Him and to turn repentant to the door of His grace. Verily He is the Powerful over whatsoever He willeth through His word “Be” and it is.

Convey greetings from the Wronged One to the men and women servants in that land. Each one is mentioned and hath attained a bounty. We counsel all to righteousness and forbid them from evil, that all may be adorned with the ornament of godliness and attain the acceptance of the Desired One. Verily He is the Most Merciful of the merciful ones and the Most Generous of the generous ones.

In the city of Yazd the workers of tyranny and wickedness wrought that which caused lamentation and wailing to arise from the solid rock. Hearts that were treasuries of the pearls of divine love were cut out, and temples that were illumined with the light of steadfastness were cut to pieces, then burned and cast into pits. And from the rushing winds of divine mercy that passed over those burned bodies, these words were heard:

> “Alas! Alas! O people of Iran! Ye have martyred your true friends at the bidding of your enemies. O misguided party! What was the sin of the children and families? Soon shall the recompense of your deeds encompass you, and ye shall wail and lament and find no helper, for ye have become deserving of divine wrath. The hand of justice is manifest and evident, and hath not and will not overlook the oppression of the oppressors. Verily He is the Commander, the Just, the Wise.”

I convey greetings to the friends in that land, and I beseech the Almighty Incomparable One to grant each one bounty, wealth and glory. Verily He is the Giver, the Powerful, the All-Bountiful. Glory and praise and honor be upon thee and upon God’s loved ones there and in all regions, who have recognized that which God hath sent down in His perspicuous Book.

10th of Safar 1309 Diya’

BH00808: Praise and glory befit the Composer of hearts…

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

Praise and glory befit the Composer of hearts and souls Who, despite the countless flames of hatred and enmity, did not desist from His purpose, but through His Most Exalted Word attracted and united. Praise be to God Who united hearts and manifested from this unity what He desired. Verily, He is the Master of creation in both beginning and end.

The flowing pen of that beloved of the heart somewhat consoled and brought solace to this grief-stricken heart from the oppression of the earth. Were it not for the gentle breezes of love for His loved ones, the heart would burst and existence would not be sustained. After reading, proceeding toward the supreme heights, it was presented before His face. His mighty utterance states:

O thou who gazest toward the horizon of justice and turneth to the lights of grace! In these days this Wronged One moveth in a world of despair, for the labors of forty years and the manifest, all-encompassing favors have all been observed to be wasted and fruitless. How many saplings of hope We planted and cultivated with hands of grace and bounty in various lands, yet no fruit thereof is visible and no trace apparent, for the poisonous winds intervened and prevented the waters of mercy. Night and day the Supreme Pen moved in kind counsels and wise admonitions, removing discord, contention, strife and enmity through the power and might of the Kingdom of utterance. Nevertheless, neither are the rulers content nor the divines pleased. The toil of those mentioned years was scattered to the winds, and now the lamp is observed amidst tempests. None of the rulers of Iran comprehended why this Most Great Party maintained such silence and stillness, and what caused their lack of resistance and defense.

O thou who gazest upon the Countenance! The nobles of that land fell upon the pure and holy bodies like wolves of the earth and committed that which caused the Most Great Sorrow. In brief, the beasts of the isles of heedlessness have surrounded the rulers. Beseech God to protect the rulers. By Thy life, O Observer! They have no helper and no champion; they cry out for help but none assists them, for the darkness of oppression hath seized the world. None with understanding is observed who might comprehend. At every moment a new fire is kindled and wailing and lamentation is raised. This Wronged One beseeches God to transform the fire of oppression into the light of justice, and tyranny into equity.

My God, my God! I beseech Thee by the Dawning-Places of Thy verses and the Manifestations of Thy Cause, and by the Seat whereon He Who conversed with Thee on Sinai sat, and by the Throne which Thou hast adorned through its connection to the Dayspring of Revelation, to transform the turning away of Thy servants into acceptance, their denial into acknowledgment, and their oppression into justice. O my Lord! Thou seest Thy chosen ones and loved ones in a position where from all sides are heard the barking of the dogs of self and passion. I beseech Thee to protect them through Thy sovereignty and ordain for them that which will make them powerful through Thy might and wealthy through Thy bounty. Verily, Thou art the All-Bountiful, the Bestower, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

O beloved of my heart! A year has passed during which, in outward matters, disturbances have appeared. The evil ones of the earth, due to their enmity towards the honored Afnan, upon them be the Glory of

God the Most Glorious, have resorted to calumnies that have caused delays in affairs. We hope that this stillness will swiftly be transformed to motion and this delay to movement—a movement and swiftness that will attract the world and teach a new way.

In certain nights and days, mention of you has been and is made in the presence of the Master. Repeatedly He has said:

> "We beseech God to soon make manifest means that will cause the elevation of the station of Nazir, glory be upon him."

This servant states with clear certainty that assuredly after these difficulties and these complex and perplexing matters, and these hindering doubts and suspicions, all shall be transformed—difficulties to ease, hardship to facility, and doubts and suspicions to the light of certitude. Praise be to God Who has ordained for His loved ones that which nothing can equal. Verily He is the Powerful through His Most Exalted Name.

The hardship and constraints in your affairs have repeatedly been mentioned. We hope that the Opener of Doors and Turner of Hearts will manifest for His loved ones that which brings peace and tranquility. I convey greetings and praise to the loved ones of that land, and I beseech God, exalted be His glory, for bounty, generosity and grace for each one, whereby the fame of His loved ones may be raised among His servants. Verily He is the Powerful, the Mighty.

In these days what has occurred is that His Excellency the Ambassador Mu'in-ul-Mulk has made representations seeking benefit in his affairs, as the Persian government has summoned him, but having become aware of their intentions he has delayed his return and has sought counsel. For some time he has been showing love and friendship. He [Baha'u'llah] said:

> "We beseech God, exalted be His glory, to transform this outward friendship into true love. He is the Powerful and the Mighty."

Regarding what you wrote about proceeding to a certain place for the supreme martyrdom, after it was presented He said:

> "The honored Overseer, upon him be God's peace and glory, has repeatedly attained this bounty. In the path of God most of his days have been spent in exile and hardship. How many taunts he has heard and torments he has tasted! Each of these instances is cause for martyrdom and reason for sacrificing one's existence. And if something appears that causes a Tablet to be sent, we shall entrust it to that devoted one. Praise be to God, that beloved one has attained to that which has no equal. This mention of martyrdom is mighty. Assuredly that beloved one knows and recognizes its worth and station."

This servant also beseeches God to accompany and share the same purpose, that perhaps he may succeed in sacrificing his spirit in the path of his Lord and King. Verily our Lord is the Helper, the Wise.

At this moment mention was made by the Master of the spiritual beloved and apple of our eye, His honor Aqa Mirza Habibu'llah, upon him be the Glory of God. He said:

> "O Habib! Upon thee be My peace and glory! God is witness and the heart testifies that the gaze of favor has been and is directed towards thee. We beseech God to manifest through thee that which will cause the exaltation of the blessed, goodly Word. Convey greetings to the leaf on behalf of the Wronged One. We send greetings to all the loved ones of that place—his honor Nuru'llah and Muhammad and the others—and we counsel them to pure, holy and sanctified deeds."

O my God, my God! I beseech Thee to gather Thy loved ones beneath the shade of the Tree of Thy providence, then rain down upon them from the heaven of Thy mercy the showers of Thy glory and bounty. Verily, Thou art the All-Powerful, the All-Forgiving, the All-Bountiful.

This servant also conveys greetings, remembrance and glory to that spiritual friend, and I beseech God, exalted be His glory, to grant that delight of the eyes boundless grace. Verily our Lord is the Bestower, the Mighty, the Bountiful.

Greetings, remembrance and glory be upon you and upon those with you, and upon those who are sincere and devoted. And praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

The servant 14 Safar 1309

BH01114: Praise be to God Who hath trained His loved…

He is God, exalted be His station, the Mighty, the Powerful

Praise be to God Who hath trained His loved ones in His path through adversity and tribulation, that all may fix their gaze upon Him and turn unto Him in all conditions, whether in hardship or ease, in poverty or wealth. Thus hath He caused that spiritual friend to be ever engaged in His praise and remembrance. In truth, this is a mighty station. The servant beseecheth his Lord to enable all to attain unto this and to assist them in that which beseemeth His Revelation and His days. Verily, He is powerful over all things.

The letters of that spiritual friend have been received time and again, and after reading each one, We presented them before the Face of the Lord. He heard them and said—sweet are His words:

> "O thou who drinkest the wine of My love! Hearken unto My call from the direction of My prison. Verily it draweth thee nigh unto God, the One, the All-Informed, even as it drew thee nigh before. He is verily the All-Bountiful, the Generous."

Praise be to God, the inner matters are confirmed and known, while the outward affairs are contingent upon the requirements of consummate wisdom. Every time hath its effect and every moment its fruit. Knowledge is with the Eternal God. We beseech Him, exalted be He, to open before thy face, through the key of His Name, the All-Giving, the gates of His grace, mercy and bounty, and to rain down upon thee from the clouds of His generosity the showers of His blessings and riches. He is verily the Compassionate, the Generous, the Munificent, the Merciful.

Recite what the All-Merciful hath revealed in the Qur'an:

> “And whosoever feareth God, He will make for him a way out, and will provide for him from whence he expecteth not. And whosoever putteth his trust in God, He will suffice him. God will surely accomplish His purpose. God hath set a measure for all things.”

Recite this blessed revealed verse every day. He is the Source of grace and bounty, the Dawning-Place of mercy and glory. God willing, the closed door shall open and suspended matters shall be set in motion.

O Siyyid Farajullah, upon thee be the peace of God. Thy mention hath been made before the Wronged One, and We beseech God to send down that which will exalt thy station. In these days Iran is in turmoil, the fire of oppression is ablaze, truthfulness, sincerity and justice are concealed, while tyranny, corruption and oppression prevail. Glory be to God! Most of the people of Iran are observed to be deprived of human virtues. They have ever cursed and reviled the Sunnis while praising themselves, but divine justice did not remain hidden and shone forth like the sun from the horizon of will. This Wronged One beareth witness that no party in the world hath been more heedless, more rejected, and more foolish than the Shi’ih party. They are sheer ignorance, yet consider themselves the repository of knowledge. Their deeds testify to their station and rank. They martyred the Lord of the world and all beings in such wise that rocks cried out in lamentation, yet to this day they remain unaware of their unseemly acts. They martyred the King of the throne of faith in the name of infidelity, yet they perceive it not. In any case, beseech and We beseech God not to deprive any of His servants of His grace and favor.

O Thou one God! Make the heedless aware, guide Thy poor ones to the ocean of Thy riches, and cause Thy opposers to taste the sweetness of turning unto Thee. Thou art the Powerful One Whom the power of the world hath not and cannot prevent. We testify that Thou art the Strong, the Triumphant, the Mighty, and worthy to answer prayer.

We make mention of the friends and beseech for each a manifest bounty. Blessed is he who holdeth fast unto the Covenant and fulfilleth his pledge to his Lord, the Master of the Day of Separation. In these days tidings that are the cause and source of grief have arrived continuously, but since they have come to pass in the path of God, they were instantly transformed into joy. In truth, the station of the lovers and their characteristics have become and are becoming evident and manifest through trials and tribulations, and that which hath no likeness or parallel hath been revealed by the Pen of Truth concerning them.

The servant beseecheth God that He deprive not His servants of the wonders of His mercy and confirm them in returning and repenting unto Him. He is the Powerful, He is the Unconstrained. I convey greetings and praise to the friends in that land, and I implore God, exalted be His glory, to open a door that shall never be shut. Verily, He is the All-Bountiful, the All-Generous. As to what was written regarding the funds, according to His command it will be mentioned to some, but its receipt appeareth difficult, as this year the wheat trade in this land hath greatly increased. The friends and others are each occupied with acquiring it; most have been unsuccessful and remain idle.

If it be possible to receive it from someone in that land, it would seem preferable. We beseech God to make easy these most difficult matters and to keep that spiritual loved one joyous in all conditions. Verily, He is near to the doers of good and the One Who setteth aright the affairs of them that are detached. Praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds. Peace and praise and remembrance and glory be upon you and

upon God's friends there, and upon the sincere ones and the believers among His servants, and upon every steadfast and firm one, and every faithful and trustworthy one.

The servant 14 Safar 1309

BH06627: Divine grace and mercy have ever encompassed and continue…

He is God, exalted be His glory in wisdom and utterance

Divine grace and mercy have ever encompassed and continue to encompass His loved ones. Today is the day of mention and praise, of service and faithfulness. It is hoped that this fresh sapling of the garden of inner meanings may, beneath the shade of the Blessed Tree, attain to the highest station which is the ultimate growth of trees. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to preserve thee and cause thee to speak in His remembrance and praise, to draw thee nigh unto Him, and to open before thy face the gate of pardon and bestowal, of blessing and abundance. Verily He is the Lord of all creation. He ordains as He pleaseth for His loved ones and chosen ones, whom He hath raised up among His servants through His name and remembrance. Verily He is their Lord, their Beloved, their Goal, their Helper and their Succourer, and He is the All-Bountiful, the All-Generous. Peace and light and radiance be upon thee and upon thy father who arose to serve humanity in the early days, and upon all who are steadfast and upright. Praise be to God, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

BH10993: Praise be to the Lord of existence who hath…

Praise be to the Lord of existence who hath made manifest the Path and guided His servants unto it….

My God, my God! Deprive not Thy servants of the wonders of Thy bounty, and grant them their portion from the Kawthar of Thy utterance in such wise that it may seize them from themselves and draw them nigh unto Thee, O Lord of the worlds and Master of nations. There is none other God but Thee, the Omnipotent over what was and what shall be….

O Abul-Fadl! Upon thee be the Glory of God, the Lord of Justice. Thou hast ever been and art still remembered. Blessed art thou and joy be unto thee. We beseech God to protect thee that thou mayest remember Him and be occupied with His praise. We hope that in this Revelation the loved ones may attain unto the lights of true Divine Unity, not like the Shi'ih sect who each day would carve an idol with their own hands and worship it. Among them was one who claimed to be the Fourth Pillar, who every year would write a refutation of the Primal Point and commit such acts as caused the dwellers of the highest Paradise to weep and lament. We beseech God to aid all to do that which He loveth and pleaseth. Verily He is the Lord of creation, the Lord of the Last and the First….

BH01329: These are My days—days which, by the testimony…

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

These are My days—days which, by the testimony of God, have had, and have no, peer or likeness. All created things are occupied in acclaim and exaltation through the call of the Lord of Names, inasmuch as

the banner of the Revelation of Him Who spake on Sinai hath been lifted up and made manifest upon the loftiest station of the world, plainly visible to all. In truth, for no one, whether he be eloquent or speechless, remaineth any room for denial or objection. Unto this beareth witness every man of understanding and insight, and every soul endowed with radiant vision.

And further: the letter of that spiritual loved one was received, and it testified to his turning unto God, his receptivity, his supplication, and his detachment. After it had been read and its contents noted, it was raised toward the heaven of bounty and laid before the countenance of the Lord—may my soul, in the Kingdom of Command and of Creation, be a sacrifice for His advent. After full permission had been granted, the letter was presented. Thereupon was uttered by the Tongue of Grandeur this word, as a grace from His presence—and He, verily, is the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous. Exalted and glorified be He.

In My Name that overshadoweth all names

O Ghulam-ʿAli! This is a day wherein the Primal Point calls out, the Mother Book cries aloud, and all things lament for what has befallen the friends of God in the land of Ya. The wolves have surrounded the dawning-places of divine gifts and favors, and have committed that which has caused My heart, My pen, My outer being and My inner being to weep. The oppressor has denied God's proof, His evidence, His greatness and His sovereignty. At present he is beset on every side—beset in such wise that sleep and repose have been taken from him. The bearer of the Divine Tablet, namely Badi', proceeded by the command of God, exalted be His glory, yet, through the treachery of the faithless one, he feared, received not the Tablet, and was not enabled to chant and read it. Now letters, even as deadly poison, are sent unto him from every quarter, and he hath no remedy save to peruse them. Thus doth he, against his will and under compulsion, drink the cup of foul corruption.

Glorified be God! Is there to be found any fair-minded man, any just soul, or any well-wisher of government and people, who will acknowledge the favours set forth in the Tablet, that haply he may arise to repair that which hath escaped him? Yet alas, alas! Falsehood and vainglory have withheld him, and still withhold him, from yielding to the Cause of God. We bear witness that he is wrapt in a manifest veil. Nevertheless, this Wronged One proclaimeth these exalted words.

My God, My God! Prevent not the Sultan from turning to the ocean of Thy knowledge, and deprive him not from the depths of the sea of Thy oneness which was the bearer of Thy mysteries and the treasury of Thy wisdom and knowledge. O Lord! Aid him to return unto Thy court and to acknowledge his errors before the gate of Thy forgiveness. Verily Thou art the All-Bountiful, the Generous. There is no God but Thee, the Forgiving, the Merciful.

O Ghulam-Qabil-ʿAli! The servant in attendance before Me hath presented thy letter, and after permission was granted, We have answered thee with this clear remembrance, that thou mayest read and be of the thankful ones. Two most wondrous, most mighty, most holy and most glorious Tablets, specifically for those who have turned unto God, were sent in the handwriting of the Greater Branch, that they may bring forth from the ocean of My words the pearls of My knowledge, as a grace from Me unto thee and unto those who have turned and have said:

> “The Kingdom and the Dominion, and the Glory and the Might belong unto God, the Lord of the Day of Judgment.”

Make mention of the loved ones on behalf of the Wronged One, then recite unto them what We have sent down from the heaven of My will that encompasseth all who are in the heavens and the earth. End.

Praise be to God that in this divine springtime the flowers of wisdom and inner meanings have sprouted from the soil of hearts. Blessed is he who hath recognized, and woe unto the deniers! In truth, there hath been sent down from the heaven of divine favor, specifically for thee and the two souls mentioned—upon them be 96 [Baha’u’llah]—that which hath had and shall have no likeness, and shall endure for as long as His most beautiful names endure. This servant conveyeth greetings and glorification to each one. It is hoped that at all times they will arise to serve the Cause and engage, with the utmost endeavor, in teaching with wisdom and utterance. Verily our Lord assisteth His loved ones to serve Him and enableth them to make mention of Him, to praise Him, and to exalt His Word. He, verily, is the Answerer of prayers and the Lord of all the worlds.

Should ye meet the friends of God, convey on behalf of this servant greetings and glorification. We beseech God to gather His loved ones beneath the canopies of His grace and to grant them His presence, the Mighty, the Wondrous. Glory and remembrance and praise be upon you and upon those who have attained unto the Most Great Steadfastness in the Cause of God, our Lord and the Lord of all who are in earth and heaven. There is no God but Him, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious.

The servant 11 Rabi’u’l-Avval 1309

BH11117: By the life of God, the Afnan possess…

…By the life of God, the Afnan possess a station whereby if they hold fast unto it, whatever they desire will be realized and made manifest….

The manifestations of the Luminary of bounty and the effulgences of the Sun of loving-kindness in relation to the Afnan have appeared and been witnessed to such a degree that all pens are powerless and incapable of enumerating them….

BH08570: O ʿAli-Akbar! Give thanks to the Lord of Power…

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

O ʿAli-Akbar! Give thanks to the Lord of Power, that He confirmed thee and deprived thee not of the outpourings of His ocean of knowledge. The divines of Iran throughout ages and centuries clung to vain imaginings and held fast to idle fancies, for they became manifestations of that which the All-Merciful had not sent down in the Qur’an. His blessed and exalted Word states:

> “And if there be the weight of a mustard seed and it be in a rock, or in the heavens, or in the earth, God will bring it forth.”

The heedlessness and darkness that lay concealed in the innermost reality of those souls became manifest in the days of the dawning of the Sun of Truth, and that darkness turned to lead and descended upon the Lord of the world. We take refuge with God from the deeds of those who broke the Covenant and committed that which caused the Faithful Spirit to lament.

BH10009: The Great Announcement proclaimeth: O people of God! Do…

He is the Great, the All-Bountiful

The Great Announcement proclaimeth: O people of God! Do not afflict yourselves as did the party of the Shi'ih, and deprive not yourselves of the light of the Sun of true divine unity.

Whosoever ascribeth partnership or similarity to the Lord of Batha (may the spirit of all else be sacrificed for His sake), such a one is deprived of the light of true divine unity.

The Imams (upon them be the peace of God) were created by His Word, and received their portion and share from the ocean of His grace and bounty before creation itself. To this beareth witness the Mother Book in its final return. He, verily, is the Mighty, the All-Bestowing.

BH11050: Praise be to the Lord of the Kingdom, Who…

He is the Expositor, the All-Knowing!

Praise be to the Lord of the Kingdom, Who illumined the world with the lights of the Most Great Name and raised high the pavilion of "Verily I am God" despite His enemies. Blessed is the soul that hath attained unto true unity and become detached and free from all else but God. Such a one is Our friend and among the people of the Ark of Our grace.

BH00165: Praise befitteth and is worthy of the Everlasting Speaker…

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 and is worthy of the Everlasting Speaker Who, at a time when the fire of hatred was ablaze in all regions and directions, made mention of His loved ones through the Kawthar of utterance and the Salsabil of exposition, and gave them glad tidings. The instruments of abasement and the devices of tyranny and heedlessness did not prevent the Sun of Justice from shining forth—exalted be His station, glorified be His utterance, and there is no God but Him. Blessed is this day and most great is this Cause, for the Great Announcement is established upon the throne of manifestation. I beseech and implore God, glorified be His Majesty, that He protect and preserve His servants from being tainted with falsehood and calumny like the Shi'ih sect. Verily, He is powerful over all things and worthy to answer prayers.

O beloved of my heart! Thy noble letter arrived like a spiritual messenger and illumined the realm of existence with the light of joy, for from each of its words wafted the fragrance of humility, submissiveness, and complete turning toward God. In truth, the mention of the Beloved has been and

ever will be the cause of love and unity among hearts. We hope that this supreme grace will remain sanctified and holy, and not be veiled by the dust of the vain imaginings of the former people. Verily our Lord is the Mighty, the Powerful. After experiencing this joy and delight, and reading and learning of its contents, We turned toward the Kingdom of Utterance and presented it before the countenance of the Lord of Religions, and it attained the honor of His attention. His utterance, mighty be His words and glorious His proof:

In My Name, the One Who standeth before all faces

O Son of My Name! Upon thee rest My glory and loving-kindness. Thou must, in all conditions, gaze upon and hold fast to this blessed verse revealed in the Qur'an: "He doeth what He willeth and ordaineth what He pleaseth." In truth, this blessed verse hath been and continues to be the hosts of divine protection. Train the loved ones through this exalted word and preserve them from vain imaginings that neither nourish nor enrich. The word "He doeth what He willeth" is a mighty sign and an adorned and knowing teacher. Blessed is the soul that truly cleaveth thereunto; such a one is, in all conditions, protected and preserved.

O Son of Asdaq the Most Holy! Thou must be occupied with service to the Cause at all times, and be confident in the grace of the Truth. He is thy Helper, thy Sustainer, and thy Protector. Know thou with clear certainty that every word that shineth forth from the horizon of the heaven of divine knowledge is established and verified in the heavenly scrolls and the crimson tablet, of which the Mother Book is but a part. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to assist His servants to achieve such steadfastness as cannot be shaken by vain imaginings and doubts, nor by the suspicions of those who have denied God, the Self-Subsisting, the Guardian.

The manifest oppression that hath befallen in the land of Ya hath grieved this Wronged One to such a degree that He findeth Himself powerless to make mention and utterance in that realm. O thou who gazest upon the Countenance! The Most Great Calamity hath come to pass and the Supreme Affliction is witnessed. Assuredly, the greatest portion of this sorrow hath reached that honored one. Although through the cries and lamentations of all things, domination and conquest were transformed into triumph and victory, and through that which came to pass, the Cause of God was exalted—exalted be His power, His sovereignty, His Cause, and His dominion—yet man remaineth bewildered by those souls who count the supreme loss as the greatest gain and are unaware. What heedlessness hath encompassed them and what deed hath become a barrier!

O thou who art mentioned at the Throne! Concerning the martyrs, upon them be the Glory of God, the Most Mighty, the Most Luminous, the Most Glorious, that which shall endure throughout the perpetuity of God's kingdom and dominion hath been revealed. Happy are they and joy be unto them. We have bidden Zaynu'l-Muqarrabin, upon him be My glory and loving-kindness, to send unto thee some of that which hath been revealed. We beseech God to assist him in that which He hath commanded. Verily, He is the Hearer, the Answerer.

For some time the Seat of the Throne was in the land of Haifa, and in most times the voice of nature was raised. We said: What aileth thee, O Nature, that We hear thy cries in the nights, thy lamentations in the

days, and thy moaning at dawn? Thereupon she raised her voice, crying out and saying: O Sovereign of existence! The idolaters have sunk Thy crimson ark and have hamstrung Thy white She-camel, and they desire to extinguish Thy light. Therefore have my cries and the cries of all things been raised, and my lamentations and the lamentations of those in earth and heaven. O Supreme Being! I beseech Thee by Thyself and by Thy most sweet call and the shrill voice of Thy Most Exalted Pen to protect Thyself from the cannons of the enemies and the swords of the wicked ones. Verily, Thou art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest, and in Thy grasp are the reins of all affairs of the first and the last. Repeatedly was this cry heard when We were engaged in revealing a new tablet, and mention of it hath been recorded in that blessed tablet. To this testifieth this Book that moveth and speaketh: There is no God but Me, the Single, the Powerful, the Commander, the All-Wise.

My God, my God! Thou seest me circling around Thy will and gazing toward the horizon of Thy bounty. In truth, this utterance and this will are the greatest of deeds and words in the sight of God. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to give thee to drink at every moment from the cup of this most exalted station and this highest rank. Verily, He is the Lord of all beings, the Lord of the throne and the earth.

O thou who drinkest the choice wine of meeting before the face of the Lord of Names! Convey to all the loved ones of that land greetings from the Wronged One. Say: Today is the day of service and triumph, and no triumph is greater than the guidance of humanity, nor shall there ever be. All must hold fast unto this and guide others to the straight path. Say: Beware lest anything prevent you or any matter keep you from turning to the station wherefrom the call is raised at all times.

O son of Asdaq the sanctified! Counsel everyone to justice, fairness, steadfastness, and harmony. They must shun any matter from which they detect even an atom’s weight of corruption. This is the divine counsel that hath been revealed and sent down from the Pen of Command in scriptures and tablets. Blessed are they that act, and blessed are they that understand.

It is hoped that the loved ones will at all times drink from the cup of the greatest steadfastness, for if they attain unto this, the breezes of idle fancies and vain imaginings will not keep them from the straight path, and each one will manifest such power as to see the world as but a shadow. In these days it hath been repeatedly stated that this is the day of triumph and victory. Praise be to God, the hand of bounty hath been so manifestly extended as to encompass the world. At all times the chalice of utterance is present. Blessed are they that ask and they that drink. Whosoever turns, attaineth forthwith, without delay or hindrance.

As to what thou didst write regarding the journey of the beloved of hearts, Haji Mirza Haydar-Ali, upon him be the Glory of God, the Most Glorious, and the beloved of hearts Aqa Mirza Asadu’llah, upon him be the Glory of God, the Most Glorious—the truth of the matter is this: From Khidra, the spiritual friend Haji Muhammad Kazim, upon him be the Glory of God, wrote that these two holy and well-pleasing souls, upon them be the Glory of God, had arrived in that land and the governor sought to meet them. However, as it was not expedient in wisdom, they passed through without meeting. After this matter was presented before the Most Holy Court, it was commanded that that honored one, together with the aforementioned person, should proceed to that land and, if possible, meet him, so that through this

meeting it might become known and evident that the non-meeting of those two souls was due to the requirements of wisdom, not cowardice and fear.

As for my beloved Aqa Mirza Asadu'llah, upon him be the Glory of God, the Most Glorious, he went solely to see his brothers, and two years ago the spiritual friend Mulla Ali, upon him be the Glory of God, specifically requested his presence, but permission was not granted from the Most Holy and Most Exalted Court, until this year when they specifically sought permission to go see their brothers—nothing beyond this matter was ordained.

As regards the Huquq, it was never mentioned in the Most Holy Presence. That beloved of the heart is well aware that some years ago the King of Martyrs, may our souls be sacrificed for him, supposed that in the Land of Purpose the means of livelihood were straitened. For this reason he instructed the revered beloved, His Holiness Ismu'llah Jamal, upon him be the Most Glorious Beauty of God, to proceed specifically to the Land of Kha to collect Huquq.

When this news reached the Most Holy Presence, He immediately summoned this servant and revealed a wondrous and most mighty Tablet forbidding that matter. Indeed, the most severe prohibition was manifested therein, and at the time of its revelation the verses were so overwhelming that none save the Revealer Himself was aware of their import. Subsequently, His Holiness Ismu'llah, upon him be the Most Glorious Beauty of God, sent a petition to the Most Holy Presence expressing dismay that this servant's services were never accepted. Some of the friends, including the sons of Khalil and the heirs of Kalim, upon them be the Glory of God, had out of love, sincerity, eagerness and longing given a sum, which if rejected would cause disappointment to all. They had restricted the sum a thousandfold, and this servant submitted in the Most Holy Presence that if it were accepted it would bring joy, happiness and hope to all hearts. Thereafter the command was issued to distribute that sum, and specifically fifty tumans were designated for each of the friends. It was distributed in its entirety, and the souls in those lands bear witness to what was issued from the Source of Commands.

Likewise when the friends of Faran, upon them be the Glory of the All-Merciful, intended to make pilgrimage and pay Huquq, after their arrival their contributions were accepted and returned to them. The honored lady Darvish-Khuda, upon her be the Glory of God, appealed in the Most Holy Presence requesting that the funds be accepted as they had long since been set aside from their own property. Nevertheless, with boundless kindness and favor, He again accepted and returned them, and not a dinar was taken except from His Honor the Siyyid, upon him be the Glory of God, who was with them—thirty-five tumans were accepted and distributed. Ten tumans of this were bestowed upon Mishkin-Qalam, upon him be the Glory of God, and the remainder was given to the friends of the Land of Kha.

Surely that beloved one is aware of this, and moreover knows how many souls are gathered in the prison. There have always been debts and still are, especially in these days when a sum was requested by command from a designated source and went to pay debts. And if at times a small amount was recorded as being available, it was given to the friends of that land. Someone also gave a sum to His Honor Afnan and His Honor Amin to deliver, which until now has not been accepted but was not rejected, as modesty and embarrassment prevented it. It remains available but has not been used. That beloved one and others are aware of all that has been mentioned.

Yes, some years ago complaints from certain ones reached the Most Holy Presence but were completely ignored and no reply was sent. O beloved of my heart, reflect on the bounties of God. The glances of His favor have ever been and still are directed toward us.

Concerning His Holiness Ismu'llah Al-Asdaq, upon him be the Most Glorious Glory of God, that which was revealed, every letter thereof was indicative of loving-kindness, bounty and mercy. Repeatedly, when the deceased and elevated leaf, the wife of the departed and exalted Haji Mirza Hasan, upon them both be the Glory of God and His mercy, was present, the Tongue of Grandeur would make mention of that beloved one and of His Holiness Ismu'llah—a mention which, were it to be cast upon the mountains, thou wouldst see them stirred by the utterance of God, the Lord of the worlds. Together with the blessed word "He doeth as He willeth," outward considerations were not lost sight of, in the hope that they would become aware of that which hath been made manifest and convey unto the servants of God that which would cause the exaltation of the Word and the advancement of souls. And if at times there be delay in sending replies to the letters of that beloved of the heart, it hath been due to confidence and lack of opportunity, as communications arrive continuously from every direction. In truth, time hath become as scarce as the philosopher's stone.

Section 2: "In these days certain news hath arrived…"

In these days certain news hath arrived from the land of Ta that hath caused astonishment. Among these is the report that Siyyid Jamalu'd-Din Afghani hath drawn the prominent figures of Iran unto himself with the chains of fancy and vain imaginings, to such extent that they have become partners with him in corruption. That person, while in Egypt, manifested the utmost enmity towards this community without any cause, and wrote that which befitted himself alone. Likewise in Beirut he wrote a letter and gave it to Butrus who was engaged in publishing the encyclopedia, and that ignorant one, unaware, printed it in his book and distributed it. Later he went to Paris and in that city published a newspaper which he named ʿUrvatu'l-Vuthqa.

Every week he would send it to His Holiness the Most Great Branch—may my spirit and being be offered up for the dust of His most pure footsteps—and expressed friendship, requesting that whatever He wished would be sent for publication. However this request was not accepted. Afterwards he set out for Iran, and they have surely heard the details of what followed. In any case, it is strange that such a person should confirm noble souls in spreading his corruption. Glory be to God! What happened to steadfastness? Where did wisdom and knowledge go? However, I beseech God, exalted be His glory, that He may assist him to return.

O my God, my God! Aid the heedless to return unto Thee and to repent before the gate of Thy forgiveness. Then make known unto them that which beseemeth Thy days. O my Lord! Change their corruption into reformation, their hatred into love, and their calumnies into truth. Verily, Thou art the Almighty, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

As regards what you wrote concerning the wicked ones, the corrupt ones, and the clamor of the agitators and deniers, it is clear and evident. For they consider this community orphaned, with no father to protect them and no mother to lament their afflictions. Certainly a community without helper becomes the

target of the arrows of the ignorant and the swords of the opposers. In a land where justice is absent and equity is severed, such a realm becomes an arena for the manifestations of rancor and hatred. They do what they please and say what they desire. This oppressed community has associated and continues to associate with perfect love and firm kindness, and has never intended aught but good for any soul. Nevertheless, what they have done during the nights and days, and what they have wrought! In any case, after these matters were presented before the Throne of Justice, these manifest and decisive words shone forth from the Dayspring of Will—exalted be His utterance and how glorious His might and mention:

> "O Son of My Name! Upon thee be My glory! Reflect upon the heedlessness of that party. They regard the greatest loss as profit and count the most grievous tyranny as justice. By the life of God! Soon shall they behold the recompense of their deeds, and punishment shall seize them from every direction. They shall seek victory but shall not be victorious, they shall cry for help but none shall help them."

However, whatsoever tyranny hath been inflicted in this Cause by the oppressors and the transgressions of the opposers have caused the exaltation of the Word of God. In the land of Ya, the enemies, according to their own belief, have aided the resplendent Law. How evil is that which they have imagined and how vain is that which they have done and continue to do! Know thou with clear certainty that whatever may occur shall cause the raising of the banner of victory and triumph. Who is able to change that which God hath ordained through His power and sovereignty? All are powerless before the manifestations of His might and weak before the dawning of the lights of His power. We beseech God to make known to them that from which they are veiled in His days and that which they have visited upon His chosen ones and loved ones. He is verily the Helper, the All-Knowing, the Almighty, the Most Glorious, the All-Wise.

We counsel the loved ones to such deeds and actions as will cause the attention of people and result in the turning of souls. Had they acted from the beginning until now according to what was revealed, they would now witness the rulers and divines of that land circling round. But that which was decreed hath been decreed, as a command from God, the Ancient Ruler.

Mention was made of the just ruler and the learned divine—may God, the Blessed, the Most High, assist them both. Assuredly their reward shall appear from God. Not a single atom's weight of deeds shall be left unrecompensed or erased. Verily our Lord is the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. And after presentation in the Most Holy, Most Exalted Presence, this supreme blessed word was revealed from the Source of Utterance, the Lord of all beings—glorified be His majesty:

"O servant in attendance! The Son of My Name who hath arisen to serve My Cause hath beseeched for that learned one that which shall cause the perpetuation of his name and mention. This supplication is adorned with the glory of His good-pleasure and illumined with the light of His acceptance. A special Most Holy, Most Exalted Tablet shall be revealed from the heaven of favor and sent to him. Should the fragrance of acceptance be inhaled, let him convey it, that perchance he may attain unto eternal life through the divine utterances that lie hidden and concealed within the words, and his mention may be recorded by the Pen of the All-Bountiful in the Book. Beseech thou God that He may, in a single hour, enable the divines of that land to hearken unto the revealed verses.

Assuredly they would become detached from all that they possess and turn unto that which is with God, and would arise to educate and guide the servants. Say: My God, my God! I beseech Thee by Thy luminous verses, whereby the realities of all things have been attracted, to assist Thy servants in that which befitteth Thy days. Then kindle their hearts with the fire of the Tree of Thy Manifestation, that it may set ablaze the world and its peoples. Verily, Thou art the Mighty, the All-Conquering, the Powerful, the All-Praised. End.

It is hoped that the light of the Cause may illumine all hearts and souls, and guide all to the horizon of manifestation. If His Excellency, may God, blessed and exalted be He, assist him, would reflect even briefly upon what they possess concerning the conditions of previous manifestations, they would surely transcend what the people possess and seek from the Self-Sufficient, the Transcendent, that which is without likeness or peer. Concerning what was previously written in the green missive about Mirza Hadi Dawlat-Abadi having shown him the utmost affection and having written to him that no news had been received from you until now—what is mentioned in this regard is correct and there is no doubt in it. Some of the revealed verses should be sent to him that he may find for himself a path to the Beloved. The One God is witness that there hath been and is no purpose save the teaching of the servants and their guidance. Every fair-minded soul hath testified and doth testify to this.

As for what was written concerning travel to various parts, this matter is necessary, for heedlessness has been and continues to be present in man. Your travel to various parts will surely cause awareness, steadfastness and firmness. After this matter was presented before the Divine Throne, the Tongue of Grandeur spoke this exalted word—His blessed and exalted Word: "O son of My Name! Upon thee be My Glory! The very act of moving for the sake of God has been and continues to be influential in the world. In previous Books, the station of the sincere ones turning to different regions for the guidance of the servants has been recorded and inscribed. Attention to the land of Ta is necessary, for the relatives associated with you have rights and must attain their due. This Wronged One has ever beseeched from God, exalted be His glory, that which causes detachment from all else. How wonderful is this exalted station!

> "The teachers must be taught such utterances as will cause the nearness, attraction and enkindlement of souls. In the revealed Tablets, whatever they desire has been sent down. Regarding detachment, mighty verses have been revealed, and likewise concerning God-consciousness, attention and migration. Concerning each virtue and attribute, that which has been revealed would, if imparted, attract beings to the highest summit and ultimate goal. You should strive to gather these so all may attain that which causes the elevation of being and the exaltation of souls. We beseech God, blessed and exalted is He, to assist you in all conditions to attract hearts. Verily He is the Hearer, the Answerer."

Time and again was heard from the Tongue of Grandeur mention of your attention to the land of Ta. What you wrote about this matter is indeed correct and complete, and the Truth Himself, exalted be His glory, has confirmed their rights. Therefore your attention is necessary—both meeting with relatives and association with the friends and the reformation of souls. In these days news from the land of Ta has repeatedly arrived, and the prisoners remain in their original state. However, it was understood from

some petitions and correspondences that His Majesty the Sultan, may God assist him, and the esteemed Viceroy have testified to this community's lack of corruption and have outwardly shown love and consideration. The reason for the delay in their freedom and release from prison is not known. Praise be to God that those two steadfast, firm and upright souls are content and grateful in all conditions. We beseech God to manifest in His days that which befits His Manifestation, His grandeur, His generosity and His sovereignty. Verily He is the Answerer of those who ask.

Mention was made of the spiritual friend, Jinab-i-Aqa Mirza Habibullah, upon him be the Glory of God. After presentation before the Seat of the Lord, these clear verses were revealed from the heaven of grace—His blessed and exalted Word:

In My Name, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise

O beloved! Thou hast attained unto the presence, drunk from the cup of immortality, beheld the supreme horizon, and hearkened unto the call of God, the Most Mighty, the Most Glorious. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to make thee a servant of His Cause, firm in His love, and steadfast in this Cause whereby every heedless one hath lamented, every denier hath cried out, every distant transgressor hath moaned, every seeker hath found peace, every hearer hath achieved victory, and every turning one hath been drawn nigh. Thus did the Pen speak when the Wronged One was walking in this exalted and glorious spot. All they that are related to My Most Holy Name have been and are mentioned before the Throne, and there hath been sent down for them from the heaven of grace and bounty that which no earthly thing can equal. The Lord of Names beareth witness to this, verily He is the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. Convey My greetings from the Wronged One unto them and give them glad tidings of that which hath been sent down for them at this time.

This servant also conveyeth greetings and salutations unto them and their kin, and likewise unto the loved ones of that land, and I seek that which preserveth name and mention. Verily our Lord is the Helper, the Succourer.

Furthermore, convey on behalf of this servant greetings and salutations unto the spiritual friend, His Holiness Mulla Ali, upon him be the glory of God. His previous letters and his latest letter sent from Ishqabad through the spiritual friend Haji Muhammad Kazim, upon him be the glory of God, were received. Any delay in reply is due to the press of work. I beseech God to assist this servant in carrying out the service with which he hath been charged. It is hoped that replies to his letters will be sent later. Glory, remembrance and praise be upon you, upon those with you, and upon the loved ones of God who have fulfilled His covenant and His testament, and who have acted according to that which they were commanded in His perspicuous Book. And praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

The servant 24 Rabi'u'l-Avval 1309

BH04862: O Muhammad-i-Qabl-i-Taqi! Upon thee be My glory and My…

…O Muhammad-i-Qabl-i-Taqi! Upon thee be My glory and My care. Today the lord of knowledge is the knowledge of God. Whosoever acknowledges and confesses His oneness is recorded in the Book of Names by the Supreme Pen as one of the people of Baha and companions of the Crimson Ark. In one of

the revealed scriptures these verses have been sent down: In the first step, one who turns to God must observe and act according to this Most Great Verse: Say: God; then leave them to their vain disputes.' And in the second step, one must hold fast to this blessed verse and recite it: I have abandoned the religion of a people who believe not in God and who are themselves disbelievers in the Hereafter.' The meaning of step' in these stations is turning towards God.' Blessed are they that understand.

…the word that today takes precedence over all is the blessed phrase 'O my God! I beseech Thee by Thy most glorious Beauty and all Thy Beauty is indeed glorious.' Today the world of utterance circles around this exalted word, for today it is God's touchstone and the dawning-place of divine trials. In one station this word is the decisive statement, and it is the firm and impregnable barrier between the true believers and the idolaters. In another station it is the sharp sword that separates truth from falsehood. The ignorant one of the land of Sad has forbidden the servants from reciting it. Woe unto him! He has deprived himself and his people from the fragrances of God's Most Great Name. He shall soon see the recompense of his deed, through a command from the presence of the wise Commander….

BH08300: Strange it is that the King of Iran hath…

…Strange it is that the King of Iran hath not yet become aware of the divine favor, patience and forbearance. We have beseeched and continue to beseech the Truth that He may enlighten the sovereign. His true enemy is his son Zillu's-Sultan—all know this. He sent the Wanderer to the Most Great Prison specifically to bring about great mischief, and when prevented, he rose in opposition. The King accepted his delusions and calumnies and surrendered the cities and domains of God to the greatest wolf of the world. In all the world none hath matched or matcheth him in wickedness and hypocrisy. Some time ago We uttered this most exalted word:

> "Verily, he hath drunk of the blood of the loved ones what neither the Tigris nor the Euphrates nor the Oxus nor the Jaxartes can equal."

…

BH10160: Today the gates of utterance are opened wide…

He is the One Who calls out at the heart of the world!

Today the gates of utterance are opened wide, and the Luminary of divine knowledge has dawned from the heaven's horizon of the Lord of Religions. The seas of knowledge and arts are surging, and the Sun of Truth is shining forth manifest from the prison's celestial horizon. Blessed is he who hath not deprived himself and remained not bereft of the bounty of these days. Blessed art thou and blessed is he who hath quaffed the choice wine of bestowal from the hand of the bounty of his Lord, the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous. He is indeed among the triumphant ones in His perspicuous Book.

BH02970: Praise and glory be to the Beloved of all…

Praise and glory be to the Beloved of all horizons, Who on this day of separation seized the people of discord…

O Afnan! In certain lands they have forbidden the recitation of the dawn prayer, for its first name is a manifest light in the darkness of the earth and a cutting sword for the deniers and the rejectors. They have denied that which they previously took pride in acknowledging. The recompense of deeds lieth in wait. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to seize them through His sovereignty or to aid them to acknowledge His Revelation and His Cause. Verily, He hath power over all things….

BH00707: Praise, glorification, thanksgiving and splendor belong exclusively…

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

Praise, glorification, thanksgiving and splendor belong exclusively to the True Thankful One, Who through this Most Exalted Word summoned His servants to the supreme heights, as He, exalted be He, saith: "Be thankful unto Me and I will be thankful unto you." Were one to comprehend the sweetness of this utterance, he would seek the True Intended One. Glory be to God! What days are passing while the servants remain heedless thereof. Today the gate of grace is opened wide and the lights of the Luminary of utterance, the Desire of all worlds, have embraced the world; yet despite this, they remain occupied with vain imaginings and deprived of the effulgences of the Sun of proof. The servant beseecheth his Lord to assist His servants to turn towards the gate of His bounty. Verily, He is the Mighty, the Powerful. My spirit be a sacrifice for your orientation and your drawing nigh!

The blessed letters, of which in truth every character was a key to the gate of joy, arrived. God is aware how much gladness and delight was attained. In truth, at this station the tongue is forbidden to set limits. And after attaining unto it and comprehending the meanings concealed therein, it sought the most exalted station and the Most Glorious Throne. After permission was granted, it was presented. His blessed and exalted Word: "O My Afnan! Upon thee be My glory and My loving-kindness!" By God's life, thou hast been and art mentioned in the Most Holy Court. Today the divine treasures and the repositories of eternal wealth are present and visible, and at all times, from the Treasury of the Supreme Pen, the pearls of wisdom and utterance specifically for the Afnan are made manifest. No thanks befitteth this most exalted station, and no praise attaineth unto this most glorious rank. However, purely through grace and loving-kindness, the Tongue of Grandeur hath, on behalf of His Afnan, offered praise and thanks. Glorious is His bounty and mighty His bestowal! There is none to enrich save Him, and none to give save Him.

O My Afnan! In this year there occurred that which caused the most great consternation, but God made it a support for His Cause and an aid for the exaltation of His Word. Though outwardly it was grievous, inwardly it contained incalculable mercy and loving-kindness for those assured, steadfast and firmly-rooted souls, and for all the peoples of the world. Soon will its fruits become manifest and evident, and through it God will elevate the stations of those who are near and sincere, and abase the stations of the ungodly and the antagonists. Repeatedly have your letters attained the Most Holy Court, and from them wafted the fragrance of love, steadfastness, submission and contentment, especially in this year. Well is it with thee and pleasant it is to thee! Say:

Praise be unto Thee, O my God, for having caused one of Thy Afnan to turn unto Thee, who hath believed in Thee and Thy sovereignty, and hath quaffed the choice wine of knowledge from the cup of Thy bounty

and the Kawthar of life from the chalice of Thy nearness and presence. I testify that Thou hast raised me to a station which the hands of Thy creation can never attain. I beseech Thee at this moment, by Thy manifest light, Thy straight path, and Thy momentous announcement, to ordain for me that which shall endure as long as Thy most excellent names and exalted attributes endure. O Lord! Transform the losses of Thy loved ones into the greatest gain, then set right their affairs through Thy grace, O Thou Who art the Lord of eternity and Who art manifest through the Most Great Name.

By Thy might, O God of all beings and Educator of all created things, I love to stand at all times before the gate of Thy grandeur and the throne of Thy commandments and ordinances, and to hear Thy most sweet call and the shrill voice of Thy Most Exalted Pen before Thy face, O Lord of all humanity and Lord of the throne on high and of the earth below. O Lord! Take my hand with the hands of Thy power, then preserve me from the evil of Thine enemies who have disbelieved in Thee and Thy signs, and who have denied Thy Manifestation and Thy proof. There is no God but Thee, the Almighty, the Powerful, the Generous.

The servant who is present hath appeared and presented before the Face that which thou didst send. We have answered thee through this sealed Book and have mentioned thee in this witnessed Tablet. Today what is essential is the Afnan's adherence to that which preserveth their stations. Praise be to God, the Word of God is mentioned and effective in all regions. The rulers of the earth, may God assist them, have sought merely to be informed of the laws of this Most Great Manifestation, and they were sent. Although at present no matter worthy of mention is evident, there is no doubt that hereafter the exaltation of the Most Great Word and the elevation of the stations of His loved ones will become clear and manifest to all like unto the sun.

This Wronged One hath never regarded any matter or thing except the manifestation of that which indicateth detachment from all else save God. For this ocean there must needs be ships, and for this heaven countless suns are ordained, and for this Book innumerable books are recorded and written. The Mother Book in this exalted and glorious station beareth witness unto this. The glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My Cause be upon you and upon those who are with you and upon those who love you and recognize your station from God, the Ancient of Days.

The very utterance of the Desired One of all worlds is a true testimony and an eloquent witness to the grace, favor, mercy and kindness of God, exalted be His glory, towards the Afnan. No expositor is needed. The Praiser and Describer hath been and is God Himself, exalted be His glory. In truth, the people of the world cannot be said to possess ears, for had they possessed them, they would not have remained deprived and veiled. It is a cause for a hundred thousand regrets that despite the descent of the heavenly food of wisdom and utterance and the bounty of meanings and exposition, all are occupied with their own treacheries and vain imaginings. Soon shall they see the recompense of their deeds in this vain life. Verily our Lord is the Just, the Wise. They have abandoned the station wherein naught is seen save the mention of God and His verses and evidences, and are circling round the dawning-places of heedlessness and ignorance. In all circumstances, I beseech God, exalted be His glory, to forgive all and not to deprive them of the Salsabil of utterance and the Kawthar of knowledge in His days. He is the Mighty Bestower.

Praise be to God, the Land of Purpose and its surroundings remain tranquil until now. Although the followers of the Shi'ih sect consider the people of these parts to be infidels, nevertheless they outwardly

show love. His Majesty the Sultan of these realms—may God, the Blessed, the Most High, assist him and strengthen his government—has shown the utmost kindness toward the great claimant of Iran. Twice were matters sent to his presence, and both times he responded favorably and as desired. Although his honor Afnan, Aqa Siyyid Ahmad—upon him be the Most Glorious Beauty of God—counted the great personage among the loved ones, his inner reality differed from his outward appearance. Finally, from the Most Holy Presence the secrets of his heart were revealed that they might be aware. After his dismissal he showed love, even to the point of consulting the Dayspring of Divine Knowledge regarding his affairs. The dismissal of the governor took place and although he was not, and is not, free from temporizing, yet he came to realize the harmlessness and peaceful nature of this community. I beseech God, exalted be His glory, to assist all and confirm them in that which is the cause of salvation for all. Verily, He is the Hearer, the Answerer, and He is the Forgiving, the Merciful.

The Branches of the Blessed Tree—may my spirit be sacrificed for the dust of their footsteps—each showed kindness, and likewise the various groups and those who circle round all expressed that from which wafted the fragrance of love. Furthermore, whatever was sent during this period has all arrived and been graciously accepted. Well done to your honor, and congratulations to your honor. To the presence of the honored Afnans of the Divine Lote-Tree—upon them be, from every direction, His most glorious splendor—I offer mention, praise, glory and light, and I beseech God, exalted be His station, to manifest through them that which will cause the exaltation of His Cause. Verily our Lord is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed, and the Fulfiller of the needs of every seeker who takes refuge in Him. Glory, praise, mention and exaltation be upon your honor and upon those who love you, remember you, and through you draw near unto God, our Lord and your Lord and the Lord of this noble station and the resplendent horizon.

The servant 27 Jamadiyu'th-Thani 1309

BH00397: Praise befitting and worthy of the Lord…

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 befitting and worthy of the Lord of the throne on high and earth below, Who by His conquering might transformed the opposition of the ungodly into acceptance, and adorned the calumnies of the slanderers with acknowledgment and repentance. Exalted be His Cause and exalted be His proof! The noble letter, like a spiritual messenger, illumined and adorned the heart and soul with the light of remembrance and utterance. In truth it brought joy and bestowed bounty. This bounty is specific to the heart, and after gaining knowledge and understanding, and experiencing gladness, delight and joy, it sought the most impregnable, most exalted, most holy, most elevated station. It was presented before His presence, and these manifest verses were revealed from the heaven of will. His word, exalted be His utterance and mighty be His proof:

In My Name, the Speaker, the Trustworthy

This is a Day wherein the Mother Book calleth aloud, and summoneth all unto the All-Glorious, the Bountiful. He, verily, is the Lord of all mankind and the Ruler in both the beginning and the end. Blessed is

the strong one whom neither the happenings of the world nor the doubts of those who have disbelieved in God, the Lord of Lords, have weakened. Say: O people, fear God and follow not every doubtful idolator. This is a Day wherein the Light hath shone forth from the horizon of Sinai, and the Temple of the Manifestation hath been established upon the throne of divine knowledge by God, the Lord of Religions.

O servant of God! We have heard thy call and have answered thee with these verses which God hath sent down from the heaven of grandeur and power. Beware lest the affairs of men sadden thee or the veils of those who have disbelieved in God, the Lord of all beings, hold thee back. We bear witness that thou hast drunk the choice wine of reunion from the hand of My bounty and hast attained unto My presence—a presence which no words can equal, nor the deeds of those who have not broken God's Covenant, the Revealer of verses. We have remembered thee and given thee glad tidings before, and at this time, through My loving-kindness which hath encompassed all horizons. Soon shall all that thou seest today perish, but there shall endure for thee that which We have adorned with His mention in the Tablets. By My life! Thy grief hath grieved Me, and that which hath befallen thee at all times. We have been with thee in all conditions, have heard thy call, and have sent down in thy name that which hath illumined the earth and the heavens.

Cast aside thy sorrows in My name and take the cup of joy through My remembrance. Then drink thereof at eventide and at dawn. Convey My greetings unto My loved ones and remind them of that which beseemeth the days of God, the Mighty, the All-Knowing. Say: O party of God! Beware lest ye follow vain imaginings. Purify your hearts from the mention of aught else but Me, that I may turn unto them at morn and eventide.

In Persian do I speak, that thou mayest understand and be of the thankful in the days of thy Lord, the Master of the Day of Reckoning. O servant of God! Upon thee be My glory and My loving-kindness. At the beginning of night We were walking and communing with all things. The servant presented thy letter and submitted all of it before Our face, and after its completion, suddenly the gates of the treasuries of wisdom and utterance were opened and the ocean of divine knowledge surged. That which was revealed transcended the comprehension of the Manifestations of verses and the understanding of the Dawning-places of clear signs.

I beseech God, exalted be His glory, to assist thee in that which causeth the attention of the servants and the steadfastness of all in the land. Gladden the friends through God's bounty and favor. Today is the day of mention and praise, of steadfastness and adherence. Soon shall affairs be changed and skins shall quiver—the recompense of those who have disbelieved in the signs of God and denied what hath appeared from Him. By My life! The breezes of chastisement shall encompass them and their joy shall be changed to supreme sorrow. Thus hath spoken the Lord of Destiny while speaking from His exalted station.

Say: O party of God! Know ye with certain knowledge that whatsoever occurreth is the cause of the exaltation of His Word and the elevation of His Revelation. Who can prevent that which God hath raised up in truth and manifested through His sovereignty before the faces of all who are in the heavens and the earth? Say: Know ye the value of these days and recognize your station. The names of the party of God and their remembrances have been and shall be recorded in the books of the world. Blessed are the souls

whose deeds have attained unto divine acceptance—these are they who are nigh unto God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy. And blessed is the one who hath apprehended the station of the Day of God and hath attained unto the mention of the Desire of the world.

Say: O people of the Furqan! Fear ye the All-Merciful, and arise to make amends for that which hath escaped you in the days of your Lord, the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing. This evanescent servant hath ever been and continueth to be turned towards the direction of God's loved ones. The remembrance of the friends of God quickeneth the soul and refresheth and gladdeneth the spirit. Glory be to God! In these days, once again the gates of utterance have been unlocked by the intention of the Lord of all beings, and the effulgences of the Day-Star of Revelation are manifest from all directions. Nevertheless, most remain dejected and sorrowful. God is My witness that whenever this servant remembereth the martyrs of the Land of Ya, he declareth with a myriad visible and invisible tongues:

> "Would that I had been with them! Would that I had heard their cry! Would that I had circled round them!"

The fragrance of that shed blood hath perfumed the world of justice and equity. The oppressors of the world have, by their own hands, cut their own throats, and perceive it not. By the life of Our Purpose! His promise is assured in the Book wherein neither falsehood nor hypocrisy can enter. The Lord of the Covenant beareth witness unto this in this luminous night.

For days and nights the mention of those martyrs hath flowed from the Tongue of Grandeur in such wise that the Holy Spirit was filled with longing and the Spirit of Utterance cried out "Would that I had been!" What heedlessness hath seized the world! We hope that sanctified and assured souls will hold fast unto the Cause of God and remain detached from all else. This year numerous differences have arisen, and from every direction a clamor hath been raised. Some pure and truthful souls have been sullied with vain imaginings. Most strange it is that steadfast, assured and upright souls should cling to the doubts and idle fancies of heedless apostates. The people of the Crimson Ark must manifest such steadfastness that all upon earth shall find themselves powerless to prevent them. We hope that such souls will be raised up and become manifest in these blessed, luminous and promised days beneath the shade of the divine Lote-Tree of the Beloved of all worlds. These are the pearls of God's treasuries. Well is it with them that attain.

Section 2: "The loved ones of that land have been…"

The loved ones of that land have been and are before Our gaze. We beseech God to aid them in that which leadeth to steadfastness, glory and assurance. Verily our Lord is the Almighty, the Powerful. There is no God but Him, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. This is the day to manifest love and affection. Say: O friends, deprive not yourselves. Blessed a hundred thousand times is the soul that at the time of utterance holdeth fast unto the divine verses and reciteth them, for its effects are unlike those of all who dwell on earth. The power of hearing is lost. The Call of God is raised from the prison of ʿAkka, yet the ears of the world and its peoples are prevented from hearkening, save whom God willeth.

We beseech God, exalted be His glory, to manifest in these days such souls from among His loved ones as shall set the world ablaze and, detached from their own selves, occupy themselves with teaching God's Cause and exalting His Word. Verily He is the Answerer. There is no God but Him, the Single, the One, the All-Hearing, the All-Uttering, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy.

As to what was commanded that this servant should, on behalf of Your Honor, attain unto the King of deeds and its possessors—at this moment, when one hour and five minutes have passed from the night of the twenty-ninth of Jamadiyu'th-Thani, having turned towards the Most Exalted Horizon and the Supreme Summit, after seeking permission and leave, he attained unto that which is the hope of all peoples, first and last. Praise be to God, he was honored with acceptance and adorned with His good-pleasure. Well is it with your honor! But another petition is that mention of Your Honor has been and continues to be made in the Most Holy Court, and assuredly its fruit and effect will appear in the visible world.

Praise be to God, they have attained unto that which was the ultimate hope of all the Prophets and Messengers—may the Glory of God rest upon them. If outward matters are sometimes delayed in their ordering, this is assuredly due to the requirements of the wisdom of God, exalted be His Glory. And we hope that the Tree of your seeking will yield ripe and fresh fruit. We hold fast to a Cause from which the fragrance of eternity wafts. Whatever comes to pass is beloved to the soul and the purpose of the spirit. We have placed our trust in Him and committed all affairs unto Him. Verily He is the All-Bountiful, the Possessor of Great Grace.

On one side was a letter in the handwriting of the spiritual loved one, Jinab-i-Aqa Hasan Aqa, upon him be the Glory of God. For a time there had been no outward news of him, but praise be to God, this time that which is the cause of joy and gladness appeared. After its reading and presentation before the Throne of the Lord, exalted be His glory, these brilliant verses were revealed—His words, blessed and exalted is He:

O Hasan! We and thou and the world and nations have come from the unseen to the visible realm, from extinction to immortality, and from sheer nothingness to the world of existence for the exaltation of the Word of God. Were it not for His service and the service of His loved ones, by what means could the hearts of servants find joy? By My life, gladness lies in His remembrance, delight in the spreading of His traces and the diffusion of His verses, joy in the mention of His manifestation, and yearning is to arise to serve His chosen ones. We beseech God, blessed and exalted is He, to assist the letter Nun and thee in that which befits His days and is worthy of His manifestation and sovereignty. Convey greetings and salutations from the Wronged One to His loved ones.

The Glory in such days as these stands as a herald before the faces of the world, speaking, remembering, standing, firm and steadfast in the Cause of God, the Lord of nations. All must become intoxicated with the Kawthar of the utterance of the Goal of all the worlds and summon those who are in the realm of possibility to the most exalted horizon. Say: Know your worth and recognize your station. For years you have endured hardships, heard reproaches, and borne difficulties. By My life, this station is most precious. You must preserve it in the name of Truth and, through the hosts of revelation and inspiration which are the divine verses and heavenly evidences, make the people aware and deliver them from heedlessness. These are the counsels of the Most Exalted Pen recorded in various Tablets.

These two days are not worthy of mention, let alone attention to them. The loved ones must protect the servants lest they become afflicted with the vain imaginings of the former party. By the life of God, this Wronged One had no purpose or thought save the exaltation of the Word and the manifestation of the Cause. The enemies are beyond counting. Now the people of Baha must assist Him and turn from what they possess to what God possesses. Know with clear certainty that they have held fast and continue to hold fast to that which causes the elevation and advancement of His friends. The loss of the former party on the Day of Reckoning is most strange. Reflect, O My loved ones, and be among those who are discerning and steadfast.

O Hasan! Upon thee be the Glory of God, the Lord of the hidden and the manifest. Praise be to God that thou hast attained the presence and thy name hath been mentioned from the Tongue of Grandeur on this night. We beseech God, blessed and exalted is He, to assist thee and grant thee success in the service of His Cause, and to give thee to drink, at all times, the Kawthar of utterance from the chalice of certitude. Verily, He is the Powerful, the Mighty, the Bestower.

God is witness and testifier that thou hast ever been before the sight of this servant. It is hoped that from that spiritual loved one there shall appear in the divine days that which shall never lose its fragrance. There is no doubt that these days and all that is witnessed shall return to nothingness. Therefore, to the extent possible, one must attain the good-pleasure of the Beloved. That which appears from Him is everlasting and shall not perish. In these days the people have become receptive to the divine verses and heavenly words: therefore, one must gird up the loins of service firmly and engage in that which promotes the Cause of God. This servant beseeches from the True One that He may aid the loved ones of that land and its surroundings to be firm, steadfast and unwavering, to be faithful and trustworthy, and to attain that which will elevate their stations before God, our Lord and the Lord of all that is seen and unseen, and the Lord of the mighty throne.

Praise be to God, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. Glory, remembrance and praise be upon the Presence of Light, and upon you, and upon every assured believer who is firm and steadfast, who has clung to pure servitude unto God, the True One, and has arisen to promote the Cause of God, detached from all the worlds. And praise be to God, our Lord and the Lord of all who are in the heavens and the earth.

The servant 29 Jamadiyu'th-Thani 1309

BH03817: Praise be to the one peerless God Who, through…

He is the Compassionate, the All-Bountiful

Praise be to the one peerless God Who, through the Most Great Name, illumined the world and its peoples with the light of true divine unity, and adorned and raised high the pavilion of world order through the radiance of the Sun of Manifestation. Exalted be His dominion and glorified be His power! The letter of that honored friend arrived and, praise be to God, from every word of it wafted the fragrance of love, fellowship, affection and unity. After its perusal and review, it was taken to the Most Exalted Station and presented before the countenance of the Lord of all beings. These are His mighty words:

> "We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to preserve him through His hosts and guard him through His sovereignty and give him to drink from the chalice of steadfastness and to rain down upon him from the clouds of grace the showers of His mercy."

O thou who gazest upon the Face! My branch Diya' brought thy letter to the Most Holy Court, and likewise the letter of Husayn, upon him be My glory. We have answered thee with this Manifest Tablet. Grieve thou not over anything. Put thy trust in God, the Lord of all worlds, and commit thy affairs unto Him. He will assuredly assist thee through His Name, the All-Conquering, the Almighty. The glory from Us be upon thee and upon those with thee who hearken unto thy words concerning this Most Great Announcement and this Straight Path.

We hope that matters will be set right, and if at times there is delay, this is due to the requirements of God's consummate wisdom. When the time cometh and the hour arriveth, that which hath been revealed from the Pen of God, the Help in Peril, the Self-Subsisting, shall be made manifest unto thee. Convey My greetings and praise to the loved ones in that land, and for each I seek that which will cause them to turn unto Him. Verily our Lord is the Answerer of prayers and the Goal of the hearts of them that are nigh unto Him.

Written on the 2nd of Rajab 1309. Diya'.

Volume 100: Akka 1308–1309 A.H. (1890–1892), Part II (3 of 3)

BH10814: Praise befitteth and is meet for the Lord…

He is God, exalted be His glory in wisdom and utterance!

Praise befitteth and is meet for the Lord of the Day of Judgment, Who hath illumined the contingent world with the lights of utterance and adorned it with the blessed word "The Kingdom is God's." Neither the might of the ungodly nor the clamor of the heedless could prevent the penetration of His perfect Word, nor could the power of the aggressors weaken the authority of His Most Exalted Pen. With but a single pen He arose against the whole world, and gave glad tidings to all of the Great Announcement which was among the irrevocable promises of God, and guided them. Yet weak eyes were prevented from beholding the horizon of manifestation, and ears that heard not were deprived of hearkening to the Most Sweet Call and the shrill voice of the Most Exalted Pen. Glorified be His dominion and magnified be His proof. There is no God but Him.

My God, my God, my Lord, my Support, my Goal, my Beloved and the Ultimate Object of my desire! Thou seest the turning of Thy loved ones to the horizon of Thy manifestation, their orientation to the lights of Thy countenance, and their arising to serve Thy Cause. I beseech Thee, O my Lord, by the Call that was raised from Thy most exalted horizon, by Thy Light wherewith the earth and heaven were illumined, and by the Fire of Thy Lote-Tree whereby Thou didst guide Moses on Mount Sinai, to ordain for whosoever hath turned unto Thee in Thy days and made mention of Thy servant, the Wondrous One, Who hath been imprisoned in the jail of Thine enemies, that which beseemeth the heaven of Thy bounty and bestowal. O

my Lord! Thou knowest that he desired naught but to demonstrate his love for Thee in this Day wherein the fire of hatred hath been kindled in the breasts of the worshippers of names. O my Lord! Guard him through Thy grace, then aid him through Thy power and sovereignty that he may arise to serve Thee among Thy servants and assist Thee through wisdom and utterance. Verily Thou art the Confirmer, the Mighty, the Bountiful.

Then I beseech Thee, O God of Names and Creator of earth and heaven, to ordain for me from Thy Most Exalted Pen the recompense of those who have aimed at the Ultimate Goal and the Most Exalted Summit, and whom the attraction of Thy verses seized in such wise that they turned to the place of sacrifice and spent their wealth and souls in Thy path, O Lord of all beings and King of the kingdom of names. Verily Thou art powerful over what Thou willest and in Thy grasp are the reins of all in the earth and the heavens.

Thy letter, which was as a lucid book, set forth in the mention and praise of the Lord of the Day of Judgement, hath reached this Wronged One, and through it the portals of joy and gladness were flung open; for from its words there breathed the fragrance of the love of God, exalted be His glory. Blessed is the pen that moved upon the mention and glorification of Him, and blessed the heart which God hath made the treasury of His love and the repository of His remembrance. Verily, there is none other God but He. He doeth whatsoever He willeth and ordaineth what He pleaseth. He, verily, is the Almighty, the All-Lauded.

After it had been read, observed and pondered, it directed its face toward the Most Exalted Station and the Most Sublime Summit; then, after permission had been obtained, it was presented before the Face of the Lord of all being, and attained to the honour of the Blessed Glance and the bounty of being hearkened unto. This is that which God hath caused to issue from the treasuries of His Most Exalted Pen:

In My Name, the Speaker, in the Kingdom of utterance, before the faces of all religions!

Today, the Most Great Glad-Tidings, vouchsafed from the Mother Book in this blessed Manifestation unto all the dwellers of earth, is the effacement of the ordinance of holy war from the Book. Blessed the ear that hath heard the Call of God, the Lord of lords, and the tongue that hath spoken forth His remembrance before the faces of them that are in the heavens and on the earth. O thou who gazest upon the Face, and art remembered in the presence of the Wronged One! Notwithstanding all this, in the days of the Manifestation of the True One—glorified be His majesty—certain of the servants have arisen in aversion, in such wise that the Concourse on high and the denizens of the cities of the Names are occupied with lamentation and wailing.

In one of the Tablets this exalted word hath been sent down from the heaven of the Will of the Lord of the Day of Recompense: Were the entire power of the spirit to be transmuted into the power of hearing, it might then be said that it is worthy to hearken unto this Call which hath been raised from the Supreme Horizon; otherwise, these ears, befouled with lying tales, are, and have ever been, unfit and unworthy to hearken thereunto. Today the Kingdom of utterance standeth expectant, eager to hearken unto the exalted words that have shone forth from the treasury of the knowledge of God.

Glorified be God! In this Most Great Manifestation, through the attracting power of the Word of Him Who is the Desire of the world, the lovers of all regions have arisen to expend whatsoever they possessed of bodies and of souls, of honour and of wealth. How many a sincere one and one nigh unto God hath freely sacrificed life and substance at the foot of the Friend! The sun of the world hath never witnessed the like of that which hath appeared. The soul that turneth aside beholdeth, in the mirror of its own being, naught save its own likeness. Never hath the arena of the severed ones and the race-course of the near ones been the field of motion for such souls.

According to the saying of Tumanski, the Russian, he regarded the Book of God with the eye of his Muhammadan belief; today the Primal Point proclaimeth: "Verily, I am the first of the worshippers."

In these days the Most Exalted Pen is engaged in the writing of a reply to the objections of the Shaykh of the land of Sad, and, among other matters, the mention of certain martyrs hath been sent down in that lucid Book. In this station as well their names are again commemorated, that perchance the bond-slaves of passion and desire, of rebellion and lewdness, may be awakened, and may turn from oppression unto justice, and from tyranny unto equity. In this Most Great Manifestation the world hath been set in motion. Glorified be God! In the days of the Point—may the souls of all else but Him be offered up for His sake—what came to pass did so of necessity: the adversaries rose up in cruelty and aggression, and this company likewise arose in self-defence. But in this Dispensation, how many are the souls who, with utmost eagerness and longing, have set their faces toward the seat of sacrifice and have freely offered up their lives!

Say: Hast thou not heard the mention of Husaynayn—who, in the land of Sad, despite honour, wealth, and worldly station, were not shaken by the might and tyranny of the oppressors? They expended, in the path of the one true Friend, their very souls—spirit and sweet-scented life—which are the most precious and exalted of all things in the world.

And reflect upon that noble one, Siyyid Isma'il of Zavareh, and what issued from him. So powerfully did the Word of God attract him that, turban and all, in the early dawn he swept the threshold of the House; and afterwards, on the bank of the river, with his own hand he sacrificed his life. This deed, though in outward seeming not acceptable, yet the attraction of the Divine Utterance wrested all choice from his grasp, and he performed that which filled the Concourse on high with astonishment—how much more the people of the realm of dust! Verily, the attraction of the Call laid hold upon Yathrib and Batha, in such wise that Batha cried out and exclaimed:

> "Blessed art thou, O ʿAkka, in that thou hast quaffed the cup of reunion from the bounteous hand of thy Lord, the Lord of all that is!"

This Prisoner also maketh mention of certain other martyrs. Among them is that martyr, Mulla Kazim—upon him be the glory of God, the All-Glorious, the All-Praised—who, together with a number of souls, before Husaynayn, attained unto the supreme martyrdom in the land of Sad. By the command of the tyrant of that land they hewed that most holy body limb from limb and then consigned it to the flames.

And as to Hadrat Badi', who was the bearer of the Tablet addressed to His Majesty the Shah, in whose honour this blessed verse hath been sent down from the Most Exalted Pen: "Exalted and blessed be He:

When his creation was perfected and his form made good, We despatched him as a ball of firea€¦" to the end of His exalted words—surely ye have heard in full the story of that spiritual lover. The majesty of kingship and its pomp did not withhold him. With power and might he arose, directed his steps, and proclaimed the Cause of God, in such wise that from the Supreme Paradise and the All-Glorious Garden the cry "Grandeur belongeth unto God!" was raised on high.

Likewise that knower of the Kingdom, Najaf-ʿAli, who turned his face toward Mashhad and uttered these words:

> "We have found Baha, and that for which our blood is the price."

Then, with perfect joy and longing, he offered up his life.

And likewise that true attracted one and heavenly divine, Mulla ʿAli-Jan—upon him be the glory of God, His light and His mercy—who with such ardour set out for the field of sacrifice that the people of insight and they that behold with the Most Great Vision are busied with his mention and praise. In very truth, tongue and pen alike are powerless and fail to depict that Light of Divine Oneness.

Glorified be God! The martyrs of this Most Great Manifestation are beyond all reckoning; if ye should attempt to number the martyrs of God, ye would never be able to compute them. The noble Ashraf and Aba Basir, in the land of Za', freely offered up their lives. There is no land but hath been crimsoned with the blood of the lovers; the Lord of the Day of the Covenant Himself beareth witness unto this truth. In the land of Ta, in the land of Sad, and in other lands besides, there hath repeatedly come to pass that before which the Pen hath wept and the Tablet hath raised the cry of lamentation.

This servant, for the sake of brevity, hath been content with that which hath already been mentioned. Assuredly that honoured one hath heard thereof, and the soul that turneth aside hath likewise heard and knoweth it full well—if so be he be among the fair-minded. Today the Kingdom of the Bayan is speaking forth, and the Cause hath been manifested in such wise that the very Essence of Invention hath beheld no likeness unto it.

Should he turn unto the Writings, the Kawthar of the Bayan would lay hold upon him in such a manner that, barefoot and bareheaded, he would arise and set his face toward the seat of martyrdom. Now, well-nigh a hundred volumes of resplendent verses and weighty treatises have been revealed and are manifest. Divers souls, by night and by day, are engaged in their transcription; the emigrants and travellers are all well aware of that which hath been recorded. Blessed are they that attain, and every truthful, discerning soul!

Objections resembling those already mentioned were formerly raised by one of the servants of Shiraz. The honoured ʿAndalib sent the full account into Our presence, and from the heaven of grace an answer was sent down and despatched. According to command, I forwarded that reply, that it may be perused.

Convey My greetings and glorifications unto the loved ones, especially unto him whom God hath exalted through His Name and His sovereignty, and whom He guardeth by the hosts of the unseen and the seen. Verily, He is the All-Powerful, the All-Able.

4th of Rajab, 1309 A.H.

BH11416: The grace of God knows no bounds, and His…

…The grace of God knows no bounds, and His favors no end. For His loved ones, after the severance of the means of nearness and union, He ordained other means and named them pen and ink. His is the praise in all conditions…

BH02221: Tablet to the Israelites

In the Name of God, the Lord of Hosts!

He hath come through Whom all things were revolutionized, and the Call hath been raised from the horizon of the Prison of Akka. O son of Khalil, O Abdu'llah, hear this call with the ear of thy soul.

A new day hath appeared and a fresh morn hath come. Today from the wilderness the voice of the Burning Bush is raised, proclaiming "He Who is the Lord of the Kingdom of Names hath come!" The Mount of Sinai is witnessed in supreme joy, for it converseth with its Beloved and drinketh from one cup and partaketh of one food with the Lord of its desire. The Promised City hath descended from the heaven of divine will, and the Ancient Beauty is seen in the desert, crying "Here am I! Here am I!"

Today the Covenant of Israel is renewed, and We have made firm covenants with your fathers Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. It had drawn so near unto extinction that weakness and decline were nigh to seize it, but through one exalted word it was strengthened again and made firm. When His holiness Abraham was suspended in the air, the great angel came to him and asked "Hast thou any need?" He replied "Not from thee!" This word set all ablaze—weakness was transformed to strength, silence to speech, and muteness to utterance.

O Children of Israel and heirs of Abraham and Moses! Today Jerusalem crieth out with most eloquent speech "The All-Merciful hath come!" and in the wilderness declareth "Here am I! Here am I!" Deprive not yourselves.

O ʿAbdu'llah, thy letter hath attained Our presence and been adorned with the light of appearance. We beseech God to assist thee in that which causeth the fire to appear in the Tree of thy Being. Hearken to the cry of Zion which with loudest voice giveth glad tidings to all, yet the servants are deprived of the ocean of knowledge, being occupied with self and heedless of the Worshipped One. The sighs of Palestine have moved the world of being, yet its children are seen to be bewildered and perplexed.

Moses with but one staff struck the kingdom of creation—weakness took no hold of him and laxity found no way, for the very soul of his soul was gladdened and rejoiced by the light of the divine presence. Arise through divine power and heavenly wisdom, that perchance from the trees of existence the fruit of the Tree of Sinai may appear and become manifest.

We beseech God to assist thee in that which is the cause of fellowship and truth. He is the Mighty One Who hath ever caused, and will forever cause, the rain of His special mercy to shower from the clouds of grace upon the children of Abraham and the heirs of Moses. Arise in the name of God, the Lord of Hosts,

and strive for the betterment and elevation of the world, that they may attain to that which is the cause of abiding immortality and everlasting life. We beseech God for that which is the cause of guidance for the Israelites. He is the Powerful, the Mighty, the All-Knowing, the All-Seeing.

Glory and peace be upon those who have turned to Him and have said "Praise be to Thee, O God of all who are in the heavens and earths!"

BH02044: In My Name, which speaketh before the faces…

In My Name, which speaketh before the faces of all people!

Praise be unto the Lord of all creation, sanctified from all mention and description, Who, through His complete power and conquering might, hath transformed the prison of ʿAkka into the Most Exalted Paradise. Blessed is he who hath beheld, and blessed is he who hath attained to hear the warbling of the birds of wisdom and utterance in the garden of true knowledge. Say: O people of God! Know ye the worth of this Day. Today the Lord of Destiny, from the Most Great Scene, calleth unto all and inviteth them to the highest horizon. Blessed is the soul that hath not been deprived of the outpourings of the All-Bountiful in these days.

O thou who gazeth toward My horizon! Some time ago a glorious Tablet was revealed in thy mention, wherein was recorded in detail thine encounter with the Dayspring of the ignorance of the world. Blessed art thou and joy be unto thee! We testify that thou didst seek out the Kaaba of God, the Help in Peril, the Self-Subsisting, and didst traverse land and sea until thou didst attain the spot which God hath made the circling-place of the Concourse on High, the Most Glorious Paradise, and the Most Exalted Garden, and didst hear the call of God, the Lord of existence and the Educator of the seen and unseen.

We beseech God to illumine the friends of those regions with the lights of the Sun of true unity. Until now the former people have been numbered among the ungodly in the arena of the people of unity. And in this Most Great Revelation, despite the signs that have encompassed the world and a power and might the like of which hath never been witnessed, we observe that some who count themselves among the learned and insightful, and whose mention hath even flowed from the Most Exalted Pen, are still somewhat afflicted with vain imaginings. Say: My God, my God! Sanctify Thy loved ones from idle fancies and vain imaginings, and illumine them with the lights of the Day-Star of Thy Revelation. Then send down upon them from the clouds of Thy grace that which will draw them nigh unto Thee, and assist them to stand firm in the Greater Steadfastness, that the doubts of the people and the idle fancies of the nations and the vain imaginings of those who have denied Thy proof and Thy testimony and have rejected Thy bounty may not cause them to slip. Verily, Thou art the Almighty, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

While We were walking in the house and speaking of the mysteries of the Revelation, the Greater Branch entered with what thou hadst sent to him and to Ism-i-Jud, and read them before Our face. We have answered thee with this clear Tablet. Convey My greetings to all the loved ones. Say: Today it behooveth all to protect the servants, according to their capacity, from former superstitions. Today the ocean of grace is surging and the sun of justice is shining and manifest. Blessed is the soul that hath preserved itself through the Name of Truth and hath arisen to aid the Cause. Such a one is of the people of Baha and

the companions of the Crimson Ark. Say: O people of God! This is the Day of assistance, and assistance hath been and shall be through utterance. We beseech God to aid all and illumine them with the lights of the Day-Star of Revelation. He is the Powerful, the Mighty. There is no God but Him, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious. The glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My kingdom be upon thee and upon those who are with thee and who love thee and hearken to thy word in this irrevocable and mighty Cause.

BH09604: In the name of Him Whom God hath made…

In the name of Him Whom God hath made a proof unto all who are in the heavens and on earth!

O son of My Afnan who soared in My atmosphere and attained My presence and drank the choice wine of My utterance and established for himself a station beneath My shadow! We bear witness that he is among those who have attained in My perspicuous Book, and We have ordained for him that which the treasuries of the world and all that the kings and rulers possess cannot equal. Say: Glory be to Thee, O my God! I beseech Thee by Thy Most Glorious Name, whereby the limbs of the idolaters were made to quake, to ordain for me through Thy Most Exalted Pen that which will profit me in all the worlds of Thy worlds and preserve me from the evil of Thine enemies. Verily, Thou art the Almighty, the All-Glorious, the All-Bountiful.

BH04472: He speaks, and His word is the truth: Blessed…

He speaks, and His word is the truth: Blessed is he and joy be unto him, for he has attained unto My service throughout all his days. Verily We make mention of him and My handmaiden and My leaf who has attained unto her relationship to My Cause, the Mighty, the Wondrous. And We make mention of the beloved upon him be My glory and those with him…

BH10542: To be typed

To be typed.

BH02460: Glorified be God! From one perspective, all things are…

He is God, exalted be His glory, the All-Wise, the All-Eloquent

Glorified be God! From one perspective, all things are seen to be in motion, assisting and guiding; while from another view, the greatest genus and highest species remain heedless and veiled. A tree stands manifest and evident before the mansion—by the life of our Purpose and your Purpose—its leaves moving in such a way as to captivate the heart of every seeing one and awaken every heedless one. A few years ago, two movements appeared from it which were truly the cause of wonderment to people of understanding. In one instant, it fell to the ground from the force of violent winds, and in another instant, through the confirmation of other winds, it rose up and leaned against another tree. Glory be to God, again glory be to God! The movements of things increase the blindness of those without vision, while bestowing a new adornment upon the awakened ones.

The cause and reason for this mention was the letter of that spiritual beloved, for after its presence, perusal and reading, I became aware of that beloved's remembrance and my own heedlessness, and I lamented. With lamentation and yearning it was presented before the Face and He said—may our spirits be sacrificed for Him:

> "O Rida, upon thee be the peace of God, the Lord of Names and Creator of Heaven. Thy letter arrived and thy call was heard. Blessed art thou, and blessed be thy cry and thy yearning in the love of God, thy Lord and the Lord of thy forebears. We beseech God to protect thee and to aid thee with the hosts of the seen and the unseen, and to send down upon thee from the clouds of mercy the rains of blessing and grace, and to ordain for thee the good of the hereafter and this world, and to provide thee with what He hath written for His chosen ones and His trusted ones. Verily He is the All-Forgiving, the All-Bountiful, and the Most Merciful of the merciful. And We beseech Him to preserve the beloved and those who love thee, and to exalt him through His Name for His service. Verily He is powerful over all things."

O beloved of my heart! The letter arrived and was presented. Perfect kindness was manifest. In truth it brought this evanescent one to the world of remembrance. Furthermore, God is witness and aware of what the hosts of love accomplished and how the banners of remembrance held sway. The servant beseeches his Lord to grant him your meeting and presence, and to confirm him and you in what He loves and is pleased with. He is the Purpose in the hereafter and this world. Glory and praise be upon you and upon those with you and those who love you for the sake of God, the Lord of the worlds. And praise be to God, the Purpose of the mystics.

They said that if Mirza Mahmud and Rida would come one day with their father, it would be beloved. This is glad tidings from the servant to you.

BH02602: Praise be to the Lord of all mention…

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

Praise be to the Lord of all mention and the Manifestor of mysteries, sanctified above all remembrance and thought, Who hath sent down the verse and made manifest the bounty. The purpose of this bounty hath been the appearance of mercy, and from mercy the gathering of the community, and from gathering and assembly the unity of hearts and oneness of souls, and from this unity and oneness mutual assistance, that all servants might become as one soul and all lands as one region. May all spirits be sacrificed for His will, for there hath been and is no purpose save unity, fellowship, accord and love. We hope that all may attain to that which He loveth and pleaseth.

O thou who walkest with the Wronged One! The letter which thou didst send to this servant was heard and attained the honor of acceptance, and the promise of the Beloved's bounty. The matter of the garden of Na'mayn and the appointed day depends upon that honored one. Convey on behalf of the Wronged One greetings to the handmaiden of God, the Leaf, his wife, upon her be the Glory of God. Say: Blessed art thou and joy be unto thee. We beseech God to adorn thee with that which will cause the

devoted women in the most exalted chambers to remember thee, and to exalt thee through His Name amongst His handmaidens and leaves. Verily He is the Almighty, the Mighty, the All-Bountiful.

The letter of the beloved, upon him be My Glory and loving-kindness, was seen. From every word thereof wafted the fragrance of sincerity and devotion. What he mentioned somewhat lightened the sorrows that have befallen Us. None knoweth what hath befallen the Wronged One save God, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting. That honored one is aware what was the bounty from the Wronged One's part and what was the enmity from those people. In any case, the letter of the beloved, upon him be My Glory, was read by all, and it contained the glad tidings of the well-being of the emigrants and of thy visitation which thou didst perform by proxy the day before—this was accepted. Give him the glad tidings of My remembrance of him and My turning toward him from this distant shore.

God willing, may he hold fast to the counsels of the Wronged One and strive diligently in the acquisition of sciences and arts, for knowledge and wisdom are two shining ornaments for the head and brow. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to adorn him with that which will make him honored among His servants. We make mention of all the leaves and children of the household, and We beseech from God bounty for each one. Taraz Effendi, upon him be My Glory, hath been and is remembered. The Glory be upon you, and the mercy of God, and His blessings.

BH09738: My Lord, my Lord! Thou seest Thy servant Rida…

My Lord, my Lord! Thou seest Thy servant Rida standing firm in Thy service and speaking forth Thy praise, and Thou knowest that in the early days he was with the Wronged One and emigrated with Him until he arrived in the prison. He hath reached maturity beneath Thy shadow and in Thy service. I beseech Thee to send down upon him from the heaven of Thy bounty the grace of Thy generosity and the table of Thy munificence. Then send down healing from Thy presence upon my leaf and his daughter, and purify her from every disease and illness. We testify that healing is by Thy command and in Thy grasp. There is no God but Thee, the Forgiving, the Generous, and Thou art the Kind, the Merciful.

BH09821: Regarding the stone—verily it is necessary…

He is God!

Regarding the stone—verily it is necessary that it be fashioned. The Branch wrote "Glory be upon those who act and upon those who have acted in the path of the Lord of the worlds."

As for thy desire to attain the presence—thou art welcome, the door is open and He Who is beseeched responds.

And concerning what thou mentioned about divine confirmation, assistance and compensation for what hath passed—verily He is the Protector of every beneficent one and every sincere and trustworthy one. He will compensate for what hath passed, for He is the Kind, the Generous.

As for the almonds—their time hath not yet come; let them remain with thee.

And as for the gaz—We have sent it to thee; use it as thou pleasest, though the Wronged One preferreth it pure, without almonds.

BH10435: O thou who hast dawned from the horizon…

O thou who hast dawned from the horizon of faithfulness! My Branch hath appeared before Me and read what thou didst send. We perceived from him the fragrance of devotion and the most great steadfastness. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, that there may be manifested from thee and from those who are with thee that which will guide the people to the path of righteousness. They have sought permission to attain Our presence. We beseech God to grant thee what thou hast desired from the heaven of His bounty and the ocean of His bestowals. He is the Mighty. Peace and remembrance and glory be upon thee and upon those in thy household, from God, the Lord of all men.

BH10990: Praise be to God Who has aided His servant…

He is God, exalted be He!

Praise be to God Who has aided His servant to be content with His good-pleasure in service to His Cause, and enabled him to circle round His precincts and dwell in His presence. We beseech Him to open before his face and that of his son the gates of grace, bounty and bestowal. Verily, He is the Lord of all beings, the Lord of the throne on high and of the earth below.

BH10462: O Siyyid Asadu'llah! We beseech God that He may…

He is the One Who speaks before the faces of all men

O Siyyid Asadu'llah! We beseech God that He may aid thee to be steadfast in this Most Great Announcement and enable thee to achieve that which befits His days. Say: Praise be unto Thee for having sent down to me from the heaven of Thy utterance the signs of Thy generosity and grace. I beseech Thee by the Light that shone forth from the horizon of Sinai and by the Fire which Thou didst manifest from the Tree of Revelation, to make me firm in Thy love, steadfast in Thy Cause, and speaking in Thy praise. Verily Thou art the Powerful, the Mighty, the Unconstrained.

BH11837: All praise be to the one true God Who…

All praise be to the one true God Who hath assisted His loved ones to observe the Fast and hath aided them to fulfill that which hath been decreed in the Book. In truth, ceaseless praise and gratitude are due unto Him for having graciously confirmed His loved ones to perform that which is the cause of the exaltation of His Word. If a man possessed ten thousand lives and offered them all to establish the truth of God's laws and commandments, he would still be beholden unto Him, since whatsoever proceedeth from His irresistible decree serveth solely to benefit His friends and loved ones….

BH00603: Praise be to God, that the bounty of verses…

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

Praise be to God, that the bounty of verses hath been made manifest and the feast of clear proofs hath been sent down. Pure hearts and souls have been adorned with the wondrous ornament of fellowship. Praise befitteth the Lord of existence and the Educator of the seen and unseen, Whose remembrance knoweth no pause and Whose utterance no barrier can restrain. His Will is triumphant and His Purpose all-encompassing. Exalted be His might, sublime be His majesty, glorified be His sovereignty. There is no God but Him.

In these days, although news of the health and well-being of your honor and the honored Afnans—upon them be the glory of God and His favors—is manifest and evident in the realm of the Lord of religions, yet fresh mention hath another sweetness and delight. Some time ago your esteemed letter arrived like a spiritual messenger. Indeed, both joy and sorrow were evident from it. Its joy dispelled the melancholy of the realms of grief and weariness, while its sorrow added to the sadness of these days. However, since these tribulations, afflictions, losses and upheavals have occurred in the days of the Peerless Beloved and in His most exalted path, they are in truth the dawning-place of the world's joy and the dayspring of the nations' delight—if the world and its peoples should attain, or if we should attain, to the recognition of this station. The Command is in God's hand—He doeth whatsoever He willeth and ordaineth whatsoever He desireth.

After reading and reviewing, we proceeded to the presence of the Lord of creation. After permission was granted, it was presented and achieved the honor of being heard by the Lord of all being. This is what was revealed in reply from God, the Lord of the beginning and the end. Exalted be His utterance and sublime be His proof:

In His Name, the One Who prevaileth over all names

O thou who art mentioned before the Wronged One and who standeth before the Gate! Hearken unto that which the Lord of Lords uttereth from His abode. Verily He attracteth thee, draweth thee nigh, delivereth thee from the sorrows and vicissitudes of the world, and maketh thee one who speaketh His praise, who turneth toward the lights of His countenance, and who standeth firm in the service of His Cause both at eventide and at dawn.

Today from the Dawning-Place of the Supreme Pen, the Sun of steadfastness hath risen and shone forth, and from the Source of utterance the river of divine knowledge floweth. Blessed is he who hath found and partaken thereof, and woe unto the heedless.

The True One, exalted be His glory, hath in this Most Holy, Most Exalted Day manifested Himself through all names. Blessed is the servant who hath inhaled the fragrance of His utterance and attained unto that which was recorded by the Pen of Revelation in the Scriptures and Tablets.

O My Afnan! Upon thee be My glory and My loving-kindness. This exalted Word was previously revealed from the tongue of the Lord of the Kingdom of Names, and again at this manifest hour it hath appeared. The Afnans of the Divine Lote-Tree were created for the service of the Cause. In all conditions and circumstances they must hold fast unto that which will cause its exaltation and elevation, and the manifestation of that which is now hidden from minds and eyes.

O My Afnan! By the life of God! Soon shall be revealed that which hath been inscribed by the Pen of the Ancient of Days. The Mother Book beareth witness unto this. Today thou must hold fast unto those means which cause the upliftment of the Word and the advancement of existence, and which become the cause of attraction and enkindlement and the eagerness of those who have turned to God and are filled with longing.

In the Tablet of the World this exalted Word was revealed: "O My Afnan! Upon thee be My glory and My loving-kindness." The pavilion of God's Cause is mighty. It hath encompassed and will continue to encompass all the peoples of the world. The day is your day, and a thousand tablets bear witness. Arise to assist the Cause, and with the hosts of utterance occupy yourselves with the conquest of the hearts and souls of the people of the world.

That Afnan must, in these days, hold fast unto that which is the cause of joy and gladness to the peoples of the world. Be not grieved by loss and the like, for the cause and occasion thereof hath been failure to turn unto the command of the Commander; and the cause of such failure to turn hath been the pardon and bounty of the Desire of all the worlds. Thereunto bear witness My books, My scrolls, My Tablets, and whatsoever We have sent down in this Prison which God hath made the loftiest of stations.

And this loss likewise, since its source and causes have been of this world, hath not been, nor is it, worthy of sorrow; for perchance this very loss may prove the means of blessing and the occasion of ease for the peoples of the world. Even as, toward the close of the reign of the late king, Fath-'Ali Shah—may God have mercy upon him—some hurt and injury befell My father each day, and none was aware of the wisdom and mystery thereof, until at length the divine Purpose and the lordly Will did, in some measure, rend the veil, and the reason and cause thereof became manifest and clear as the light of the sun; for had those conditions remained, the manifestation of this Cause from the Dayspring of Proof would have been difficult.

In brief, with thy Lord are the treasures of knowledge. Grieve not, neither fear. Rejoice with My Most Great Gladness, and be made glad through the joy of thy Lord, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. That which is needful today are such means as have been and are the cause of the drawing nigh of men. Had the servants of God in other lands acted according to that whereunto the people of Baha in the Most Great Prison have acted, by now the greater part of mankind would have turned unto God and attained unto that which is the cause of everlasting life in the Paradise of utterance.

In Muharram and in the blessed month of Ramadan, the True One hath acted, and still acteth, in such wise as is meet and seemly. Say: O people of Baha! Take hold of the Book of God with strength derived from Him, and then act according thereto. Verily, He shall protect you and guard you through His sovereignty, and shall exalt you by His Name among His servants. He, in truth, is the Mighty, the All-Bounteous.

Say: My God, my God! I beseech Thee by the blood that hath been shed in Thy path, and by that which hath befallen the Manifestation of Thyself in the Land of Ta through the tyranny of Thine enemies and the injury inflicted by the wicked ones among Thy creatures, to aid Thy servants to turn unto Thee and to

arise to serve Thy Cause. Verily Thou art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the Mighty, the All-Munificent.

The Glory shining and gleaming from the horizon of the heaven of My bounty be upon you, O My Afnans, and upon those who have quaffed the wine of divine knowledge from the chalice of My utterance and who hearken unto your words concerning this manifest Cause and this mighty Announcement.

Praise, glory, remembrance and thanksgiving be unto God, for in these days when the fire of sorrows was kindled from all directions and the light of the Cause was concealed, the Lord of all beings was occupied with the mention of His loved ones. Such bounty hath appeared in the world as hath no peer or likeness. In these blessed days, at all times, the tongue of Grandeur speaketh and maketh mention of His pre-existing mercy and all-encompassing favor, and He hath ordained for His loved ones that which no tongue or pen can describe. The servant beseecheth Him to protect His loved ones from the oppression of the oppressors, the malice of the ungodly, and the wrath of the transgressors. Verily, He hath power over all things.

They had expressed anxiety over the vicissitudes of the times and the straitening of circumstances. After these were presented, these exalted words were revealed from the Kingdom of Utterance—exalted be His utterance and magnificent His proof: O My Afnan! Upon thee be My glory and My loving-kindness. Such matters are among the conditions of the days of Revelation. A Cause of which all people were heedless in its early days must needs give rise to clamor, discord and upheaval. However, afterwards all shall be transformed by the command of the True Ordainer: tyranny into justice, agitation into tranquility, remoteness into nearness, denial into acceptance, aversion into attraction, poverty into wealth, and want into abundance. All this was decreed by thy Lord as an irrevocable fate. Didst thou but know what hath been ordained for thee and for those with thee, thou wouldst soar on the wings of longing and find thyself firmly established, steadfast, well-anchored and joyous in this firm, mighty and wise Cause.

Ye should conduct yourself in such wise as to cause the hearts and souls to be attracted and enkindled. Hearken unto the counsel of the Wronged One: verily it will protect thee, deliver thee, and exalt thy station both outwardly and inwardly. Thy Lord is, in truth, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

At all times should ye rejoice in the special favors of God, exalted be His glory. In every word of the Divine utterances is concealed the water of life. They have ever drunk and continue to drink therefrom. Henceforth, however, they must fix their gaze upon His commandments and ordinances, and cleave instantly to whatsoever is enjoined. God willing, may that assembly ever be warmed and enkindled through your presence. This servant hath repeatedly besought this from God, exalted be His glory, and continueth to do so. Verily He is the Hearer, the Answerer.

O honored one, his eminence the Afnan, the esteemed Haji Siyyid Muhammad, upon him be the Most Glorious Beauty of God! You have ever been and continue to be remembered. This servant conveys greetings, glorification and radiance to you and to all the other honored Afnans of the Sacred Tree—upon them be all His most glorious splendor—and to the friends of God and the friends of the friends of God. I submit my petition and beseech from the Mine of Generosity, for each one, that which is everlasting and eternal. Verily our Lord is the Answerer and the Fulfiller of the needs of those who are near and those

who are sincere. Glory and remembrance and praise be upon your honor and upon those who love you and who hearken to your words concerning the Cause of our Lord and your Lord and the Lord of all who are in the heavens and the earth.

BH01873: Praise, sanctified above mention and utterance, befitteth the Purpose…

In the name of the one true God!

Praise, sanctified above mention and utterance, befitteth the Purpose of all creation, Who with one blessed and most exalted Word weighed and judged the world by the balance of justice. From this Word at times floweth the Kawthar of eternity, and at times the breathings of the Holy Spirit are diffused therefrom. It is the River of Life unto all who dwell in the realm of possibility, and it is the Sign of the Ancient of Days amidst the peoples and the Dawning-Place of inspiration for the attraction of all beings. Exalted be its power, exalted be its sovereignty, and all-encompassing be its light through its manifestation! The trumpet was sounded and they that lay in their graves arose, and through its orientation all created things turned to the lights of the Countenance, and through its movement all contingent beings were moved in the precincts of the Throne.

O Fadl! Upon thee be the Glory of God, the Lord of Justice. At all times in the Most Great Prison thou hast been and art remembered by the Pen and Tongue of the Ancient Lord. Praise be to God that thou hast drunk the choice wine of utterance from the hand of bounty in the name of the Lord of Religions. This is the day of assistance. Blessed is he whom neither the pharaohs of the people nor the tyrants of the age have prevented from rendering assistance. Thou art he whom neither the clamor of the barking ones nor the might of the oppressors deterred. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to make thee an assistant to His Faith, a guardian of His remembrance, and one who standeth firm in service to His mighty Cause. Thus hath the Tongue of Certitude spoken in the Kingdom of Utterance, as a grace from God, the Lord of this wondrous Day.

When thou receivest My Tablet and findest from it the fragrance of My utterance, say: My God, my God! Unto Thee be glory, for having guided me unto the horizon of Thy manifestation, illumined me with the lights of Thy grace and mercy, caused me to speak forth Thy praise, and shown me the signs of Thy Pen. I beseech Thee, O Lord of the Kingdom of Names and Creator of earth and heaven, by the rustling of the Divine Lote-Tree and by Thy most sweet utterance whereby the realities of all things were attracted, to elevate me through Thy Name amongst Thy servants. I am he who hath sought at all times to stand before the gate of Thy bounty and to attain the presence before the throne of Thy justice. O Lord! Cast not away him who hath clung to the cord of Thy nearness, and withhold not him who hath sought Thy most exalted station, the supreme summit, and the ultimate end—the station wherein the atoms cry out with most eloquent utterance:

> “The dominion, the kingdom, the grandeur and the might belong to God, the Powerful, the Mighty, the Bestower!”

O Fadl! Upon thee be My glory and My loving-kindness. Inform the friends that this is the Day of Utterance. The people of the world must be guided by the hosts of wisdom and proof, and be led to the

shore of the ocean of recognition. The Cause of God is greater than every great thing. In the Tablet of the World this most exalted Word hath been revealed from the Most Exalted Pen:

> "Through the movement of the Most Exalted Pen a new spirit of inner meanings was breathed by the command of the True Commander into the bodies of words, and its effects are visible and manifest in all things of the world. This is the Most Great Glad-Tidings that hath flowed from the Pen of the Most Great Name. Blessed are they that are endued with true understanding."

When thou perceivest the breathings of revelation and art seized by the lights of the Countenance, say: Praise be unto Thee, O my God, for having guided me unto the horizon of Thy manifestation and made me to be mentioned by Thy Name. I beseech Thee by the dawning of the lights of the Sun of Thy bounty and the waves of the ocean of Thy generosity to ordain in my utterance a trace of Thy most exalted Word, whereby the realities of all things may be attracted. Verily, Thou art the Powerful over what Thou willest through Thy mighty and wondrous Word.

BH00902: This is a Book from God, the Lord…

In the Name of Him Who is seated upon the Throne of "He doeth as He willeth!"

This is a Book from God, the Lord of Names, to the people of Baha who speak not except that which the Tongue of Grandeur and Glory hath spoken, and who follow not every lying pretender. These are they who have quaffed the wine of steadfastness through the bounty of their Lord, the Chosen One.

Soon shall ye hear the call of a cawing crow; pay no heed to him but rather leave him to himself, turning unto the Qiblih of all horizons.

The proof hath been perfected through this proof which hath appeared in truth, and the lights have culminated in this horizon wherefrom hath dawned the Sun of grandeur and power. Blessed is the soul that educateth the servants through the ordinances of God which have been sent down in the Scriptures and Tablets.

Say: Were someone to appear every day, the Cause of God would not be established in the cities and lands.

This, truly, is a Revelation which revealeth itself only once every five hundred thousand years. Thus have We removed the barrier and lifted the veils.

Blessed is he who hath recognized the purpose of God—whoso knoweth it, his heart rejoiceth and he remaineth steadfast in the Cause in such wise that all creation cannot deflect him therefrom. We have disclosed in this Tablet one of the mysteries of this Revelation, and have concealed that which is hidden lest the clamor of the ungodly be raised. By God! None hath comprehended it save according to his capacity. Should a soul discover the fragrance of this Raiment, he would be so attracted as to soar beyond contingent existence. Were We to expound what We have revealed in this Tablet, all the pens would not suffice, nor would oceans of ink be adequate. Despite this condition which transcendeth thought, thou

hearest what the people of error speak concerning Me. We have unveiled unto thee a mystery from the mysteries as a grace from Us upon thee, that thou mayest thank thy Lord, the Mighty, the All-Knowing.

O My Name! We have revealed in most of the Tablets that the Cause is mighty, mighty indeed. Yet none hath reflected upon its greatness save whom thy Lord, the Mighty, the Bestower, hath willed. We have left the people of idle fancies to wander in the wilderness of self and passion, that they might occupy themselves with the vain imaginings they possess. Verily thy Lord is the Self-Sufficient, the Most Exalted. The banner of "There is none other God but Him" hath been raised, yet they speak that which they have heard from every ignorant multitude. Thus have We given thee glad-tidings through the Word which hath appeared in the raiment of innovation between earth and heaven. Say: Praise be unto Thee, O Thou Who hast encompassed me with Thy grace and reminded me of that wherewith Thou hast not reminded the chosen ones.

Know thou that the Tablet of Laws hath been sent down from the Dayspring of the revelation of thy Lord. We shall soon send it in truth as a command from Us. Verily thy Lord is the Protector, the Chosen One. We have also revealed unto thee a Tablet before this and sent it through another channel, that thou mayest be assured that His mention hath preceded all mention. We beseech God to assist thee in promoting His Cause and to enable thee to do that which He loveth and which pleaseth Him at all times. The glory be upon thee and upon those who speak that which the Tongue of the Bayan hath spoken at the midmost heart of creation. There is none other God but Him, the Mighty, the Protector, the One, the Single, the Powerful, the All-Compelling.

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

I bear witness that He hath testified for His Own Self that He cannot be known through aught else but Him, nor can He be comprehended save through Himself. O God! With what face shall I turn to Thy Kingdom of Abha, and with what tongue shall I supplicate and implore Thee? O my God! This sinful servant hath borne every transgression, sin and iniquity that falleth within the compass and reckoning of Thy knowledge. Yet with utmost boldness and assurance he standeth at the door of Thy hope, seeking Thy pardon and forgiveness, and beseeching Thy ancient and wondrous grace and bounty. Verily Thou art the All-Forgiving, the All-Merciful, and verily Thou art the All-Bountiful, the Lord of surpassing grace.

O my God! In this state, having closed mine eyes to myself—for verily I possess neither profit nor harm, neither life nor resurrection for my own self—I make representation to Thy chosen ones, Thy pure ones and Thy loved ones. Since in God's Most Holy Book, the Most Holy, and in the Tablets revealed in Iraq, and in the wondrous and sublime Scriptures and Tablets of this land, mention hath been made of the rising of the croaking in the cities and regions, therefore that hidden and treasured Tablet which some years ago was revealed from the heaven of the Most Glorious Will—exalted be His glory—in the name of His Holiness the Name of God, Mihdi, upon him be all the most glorious glory of Abha, hath been written and sent at the beginning of this letter, that the friends of the All-Merciful may exert their utmost effort in preserving and protecting the House of God's Manifest Cause, the Lord of all worlds, and may safeguard the weak ones. Verily our Lord is the Helper, the Almighty, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

Furthermore, a matter whose clarification is among the most momentous and important of affairs is that this servant heard a rumor that some of the friends in outlying regions have imagined that the letters sent in the name of this servant to them and other friends were—God forbid—jointly authored, meaning that what was written expressly from the tongue of the True One, exalted be His glory, was from the True One, while the letter's beginning, from the point of "In the Name of our Lord", and the opening exordium and prayers, up to the point of [words such as] "what you had sent was presented to the Supreme Horizon and Most Exalted Summit, and attained the honor of being heard before the countenance of the Lord of Names, and in response these exalted words were revealed from the Source of verses, exalted be His glory and universal be His favors"—that such passages were authored by this servant.

I seek God's forgiveness from this great idolatry! How could one who is mute speak before the Kingdom of Utterance? Glory be to my Lord that I should be among the idolaters! Likewise, after the word "end", the passages that were recorded subsequently were all from the True One, exalted be His glory. I briefly submit that not a single word was from this servant—all were revealed from the Kingdom of God, my Lord and your Lord and the Lord of all who are in heaven and on earth. At all times, letters that were in this servant's name were, after permission, read in the Most Holy and Most Exalted Presence, and He would command "Take up the pen," and all responses from beginning to end would be revealed from the blessed mouth and recorded. And this was not specific to this servant; rather, repeatedly there was revealed from the Tongue of Grandeur, in the voice of those circling round and about Him, that which was a clear book for all the worlds.

Now we must all have mercy upon ourselves and the Cause of God, lest any word be uttered that might again lay the foundation of a new idolatry upon the earth. May God protect us and you, O community of believers, from such thoughts and imaginings. I am naught but a recording servant in His presence, and the Speaker is God, my Lord, the Utterer, the Revealer, the All-Knowing, the Ancient of Days.

The Glory and the Remembrance and the Praise be upon you, O people of Baha and companions of the Crimson Ark, and praise be to God, the Lord of the Throne and earth, and the Master of the hereafter and the former times.

The servant On the 4th of Dhi'l-Hajjih al-Haram, in the year 1309.

BH00003: Kitab-i-'Ahd (Book of the Covenant)

Although the Realm of Glory hath none of the vanities of the world, yet within the treasury of trust and resignation We have bequeathed to Our heirs an excellent and priceless heritage. Earthly treasures We have not bequeathed, nor have We added such cares as they entail. By God! In earthly riches fear is hidden and peril is concealed. Consider ye and call to mind that which the All-Merciful hath revealed in the Qur'an: 'Woe betide every slanderer and defamer, him that layeth up riches and counteth them.' Fleeting are the riches of the world; all that perisheth and changeth is not, and hath never been, worthy of attention, except to a recognized measure.

The aim of this Wronged One in sustaining woes and tribulations, in revealing the Holy Verses and in demonstrating proofs hath been naught but to quench the flame of hate and enmity, that the horizon of

the hearts of men may be illumined with the light of concord and attain real peace and tranquillity. From the dawning-place of the divine Tablet the day-star of this utterance shineth resplendent, and it behoveth everyone to fix his gaze upon it: We exhort you, O peoples of the world, to observe that which will elevate your station. Hold fast to the fear of God and firmly adhere to what is right. Verily I say, the tongue is for mentioning what is good, defile it not with unseemly talk.

God hath forgiven what is past. Henceforward everyone should utter that which is meet and seemly, and should refrain from slander, abuse and whatever causeth sadness in men. Lofty is the station of man! Not long ago this exalted Word streamed forth from the treasury of Our Pen of Glory: Great and blessed is this Day—the Day in which all that lay latent in man hath been and will be made manifest. Lofty is the station of man, were he to hold fast to righteousness and truth and to remain firm and steadfast in the Cause. In the eyes of the All-Merciful a true man appeareth even as a firmament; its sun and moon are his sight and hearing, and his shining and resplendent character its stars. His is the loftiest station, and his influence educateth the world of being.

Every receptive soul who hath in this Day inhaled the fragrance of His garment and hath, with a pure heart, set his face towards the all-glorious Horizon is reckoned among the people of Baha in the Crimson Book. Grasp ye, in My Name, the chalice of My loving-kindness, drink then your fill in My glorious and wondrous remembrance.

O ye that dwell on earth! The religion of God is for love and unity; make it not the cause of enmity or dissension. In the eyes of men of insight and the beholders of the Most Sublime Vision, whatsoever are the effective means for safeguarding and promoting the happiness and welfare of the children of men have already been revealed by the Pen of Glory. But the foolish ones of the earth, being nurtured in evil passions and desires, have remained heedless of the consummate wisdom of Him Who is, in truth, the All-Wise, while their words and deeds are prompted by idle fancies and vain imaginings.

O ye the loved ones and the trustees of God! Kings are the manifestations of the power, and the daysprings of the might and riches, of God. Pray ye on their behalf. He hath invested them with the rulership of the earth and hath singled out the hearts of men as His Own domain.

Conflict and contention are categorically forbidden in His Book. This is a decree of God in this Most Great Revelation. It is divinely preserved from annulment and is invested by Him with the splendour of His confirmation. Verily He is the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

It is incumbent upon everyone to aid those daysprings of authority and sources of command who are adorned with the ornament of equity and justice. Blessed are the rulers and the learned among the people of Baha. They are My trustees among My servants and the manifestations of My commandments amidst My people. Upon them rest My glory, My blessings and My grace which have pervaded the world of being. In this connection the utterances revealed in the Kitab-i-Aqdas are such that from the horizon of their words the light of divine grace shineth luminous and resplendent.

O ye My Branches! A mighty force, a consummate power lieth concealed in the world of being. Fix your gaze upon it and upon its unifying influence, and not upon the differences which appear from it.

The Will of the divine Testator is this: It is incumbent upon the Aghsan, the Afnan and My Kindred to turn, one and all, their faces towards the Most Mighty Branch. Consider that which We have revealed in Our Most Holy Book: When the ocean of My presence hath ebbed and the Book of My Revelation is ended, turn your faces toward Him Whom God hath purposed, Who hath branched from this Ancient Root.' The object of this sacred verse is none other except the Most Mighty Branch [Abdu'l-Baha]. Thus have We graciously revealed unto you Our potent Will, and I am verily the Gracious, the All-Powerful. Verily God hath ordained the station of the Greater Branch [Muhammad Ali] to be beneath that of the Most Great Branch [Abdu'l-Baha]. He is in truth the Ordainer, the All-Wise. We have chosen the Greater' after 'the Most Great', as decreed by Him Who is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

It is enjoined upon everyone to manifest love towards the Aghsan, but God hath not granted them any right to the property of others.

O ye My Aghsan, My Afnan and My Kindred! We exhort you to fear God, to perform praiseworthy deeds and to do that which is meet and seemly and serveth to exalt your station. Verily I say, fear of God is the greatest commander that can render the Cause of God victorious, and the hosts which best befit this commander have ever been and are an upright character and pure and goodly deeds.

Say: O servants! Let not the means of order be made the cause of confusion and the instrument of union an occasion for discord. We fain would hope that the people of Baha may be guided by the blessed words: 'Say: all things are of God.' This exalted utterance is like unto water for quenching the fire of hate and enmity which smouldereth within the hearts and breasts of men. By this single utterance contending peoples and kindreds will attain the light of true unity. Verily He speaketh the truth and leadeth the way. He is the All-Powerful, the Exalted, the Gracious.

It is incumbent upon everyone to show courtesy to, and have regard for the Aghsan, that thereby the Cause of God may be glorified and His Word exalted. This injunction hath time and again been mentioned and recorded in the Holy Writ. Well is it with him who is enabled to achieve that which the Ordainer, the Ancient of Days hath prescribed for him. Ye are bidden moreover to respect the members of the Holy Household, the Afnan and the kindred. We further admonish you to serve all nations and to strive for the betterment of the world.

That which is conducive to the regeneration of the world and the salvation of the peoples and kindreds of the earth hath been sent down from the heaven of the utterance of Him Who is the Desire of the world. Give ye a hearing ear to the counsels of the Pen of Glory. Better is this for you than all that is on the earth. Unto this beareth witness My glorious and wondrous Book.

BH02307: Ziyarat-Namih (Tablet of Visitation)

The praise which hath dawned from Thy most august Self, and the glory which hath shone forth from Thy most effulgent Beauty, rest upon Thee, O Thou Who art the Manifestation of Grandeur, and the King of Eternity, and the Lord of all who are in heaven and on earth! I testify that through Thee the sovereignty of God and His dominion, and the majesty of God and His grandeur, were revealed, and the Day-Stars of ancient splendor have shed their radiance in the heaven of Thine irrevocable decree, and the Beauty of

the Unseen hath shone forth above the horizon of creation. I testify, moreover, that with but a movement of Thy Pen Thine injunction “Be Thou” hath been enforced, and God’s hidden Secret hath been divulged, and all created things have been called into being, and all the Revelations have been sent down.

I bear witness, moreover, that through Thy beauty the beauty of the Adored One hath been unveiled, and through Thy face the face of the Desired One hath shone forth, and that through a word from Thee Thou hast decided between all created things, causing them who are devoted to Thee to ascend unto the summit of glory, and the infidels to fall into the lowest abyss.

I bear witness that he who hath known Thee hath known God, and he who hath attained unto Thy presence hath attained unto the presence of God. Great, therefore, is the blessedness of him who hath believed in Thee, and in Thy signs, and hath humbled himself before Thy sovereignty, and hath been honored with meeting Thee, and hath attained the good pleasure of Thy will, and circled around Thee, and stood before Thy throne. Woe betide him that hath transgressed against Thee, and hath denied Thee, and repudiated Thy signs, and gainsaid Thy sovereignty, and risen up against Thee, and waxed proud before Thy face, and hath disputed Thy testimonies, and fled from Thy rule and Thy dominion, and been numbered with the infidels whose names have been inscribed by the fingers of Thy behest upon Thy holy Tablets.

Waft, then, unto me, O my God and my Beloved, from the right hand of Thy mercy and Thy loving-kindness, the holy breaths of Thy favors, that they may draw me away from myself and from the world unto the courts of Thy nearness and Thy presence. Potent art Thou to do what pleaseth Thee. Thou, truly, hast been supreme over all things.

The remembrance of God and His praise, and the glory of God and His splendor, rest upon Thee, O Thou who art His Beauty! I bear witness that the eye of creation hath never gazed upon one wronged like Thee. Thou wast immersed all the days of Thy life beneath an ocean of tribulations. At one time Thou wast in chains and fetters; at another Thou wast threatened by the sword of Thine enemies. Yet, despite all this, Thou didst enjoin upon all men to observe what had been prescribed unto Thee by Him Who is the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

May my spirit be a sacrifice to the wrongs Thou didst suffer, and my soul be a ransom for the adversities Thou didst sustain. I beseech God, by Thee and by them whose faces have been illumined with the splendors of the light of Thy countenance, and who, for love of Thee, have observed all whereunto they were bidden, to remove the veils that have come in between Thee and Thy creatures, and to supply me with the good of this world and the world to come. Thou art, in truth, the Almighty, the Most Exalted, the All-Glorious, the Ever-Forgiving, the Most Compassionate.

Bless Thou, O Lord my God, the Divine Lote-Tree and its leaves, and its boughs, and its branches, and its stems, and its offshoots, as long as Thy most excellent titles will endure and Thy most august attributes will last. Protect it, then, from the mischief of the aggressor and the hosts of tyranny. Thou art, in truth, the Almighty, the Most Powerful. Bless Thou, also, O Lord my God, Thy servants and Thy handmaidens

who have attained unto Thee. Thou, truly, art the All-Bountiful, Whose grace is infinite. No God is there save Thee, the Ever-Forgiving, the Most Generous.

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BH00168: Praise be to God, the King, the All-Bountiful, Who…

Section 1: "Praise be to God, the King, the All-Bountiful…"

He is God, exalted be His glory, the Lord of majesty and glory.

Praise be to God, the King, the All-Bountiful, Who hath created man, taught him the art of utterance, guided him unto the gardens of knowledge and true understanding, and illumined his heart with the effulgences of the Sun of wisdom and exposition. Exalted is His command, which the minds of men can never apprehend, nor can the intellects of all that dwell on earth encompass. The reach of human fancy and conjecture can never grasp the hem of His knowledge.

He it is Who hath adorned the Book of existence with the brocade of the mysteries of unveiling and vision, and hath breathed into the inmost heart of man that which sanctifieth him above hints and limitations, and conducteth him unto his praiseworthy station on that Day which is His promised, witnessed Day, and maketh him to know His decreed, appointed Cause. Blessed is he who purifieth his hearing from idle tales, and his heart from unworthy fancies and imaginings, and who standeth in calm and dignity to hearken unto the call of his Lord, the All-Glorious, the All-Chosen.

Verily, that call is raised from the hollows of the mountains, from the thickets and the forests, from the crags and the hill-tops, in such wise that every lowly and lofty one can hear it; yet none recognize it save they who have attained unto perfection, those who have repaired unto the river-bed of knowledge and wisdom, who wing their flight with the pinions of detachment in the atmosphere of divine unity, who quaff from the cups of everlasting, imperishable wine, and are enkindled with the lights of the All-Sufficing that shine from the Sun of eternity. May God stablish their feet, exalt in both worlds their station, prolong their rising up for the guidance of the people, increase, in His remembrance, their rapture and their yearning, and enable them to attain their goal beneath the banners of His mention and praise.

O ye who cherish hopes, and ye lords of discernment! Consider the handiwork of your Lord, the Most Exalted, and ponder His might, the Possessor of names, the Producer of all things. He verily hath created the creation through His power, and hath distinguished man by His knowledge and His wisdom. He hath bestowed upon him the light of reason, that by it he may be marked out amongst His creatures, may walk therewith in the darkness of allusions and symbols, and not be lost in the wildernesses of veils and imaginings. It is the means of salvation, the very cause of life. Through it man is distinguished above all other created things. By its aid he ordereth his affairs, refraining from evil deeds, and by this light is he guided unto the knowledge of his Lord, the All-Forgiving.

It behoveth every soul to strive to know God, exalted be He, through the guidance of this light, to contemplate by its power the signs and traces of God, and to weigh every matter therewith, and to examine all things in its balance. Should he abandon this manifest light and follow those that are deluded, his distinction would be effaced. For every species among created things followeth its leader and obeyeth its driver without reflection, perception or discrimination, since it is incapable of possessing its own self or ordering its own affairs, and hath perforce surrendered its reins into another's hand. Is it seemly, then, that man should walk under the guidance of another, even as a blind man, when his Lord, the All-Informed, hath vouchsafed unto him sight and insight, whereby he can order his own concerns and those of others, be himself guided and guide his fellows without recourse to any beside him?

Strange and wondrous is it that men should be content with the lowest station, whilst wings have been given them wherewith they may soar unto the loftiest pinnacle and the most exalted centre. In the knowledge of God, imitation is not permissible: nay rather, earnest striving, exertion and reflection upon the tokens of power, meditation upon the mysteries of creation, and advancement, under the guidance of the light of reason, upon the highway of knowledge and wisdom are indispensable. Were imitation herein allowable, none would have the right to cavil at any one of the religions; for each hath followed the opinions of its divines and walked in the footsteps of its leaders, even as the All-Glorious, the All-Knowing, hath announced in His mighty Book:

> "Verily we found our fathers following a certain religion, and we, verily, are walking in their footsteps."

And if it be said that, by reason of the differing degrees of men in knowledge and perfection, this is impossible for every individual, we answer: we do not deny seeking assistance; but he from whom aid is sought must needs fulfil certain conditions which may on no account be overlooked, as is evident unto the people of insight, they who behold the Most Great Outlook. And yet, even then, it behoveth no soul to surrender its assent save after complete and searching investigation, each according to his capacity and understanding. Thus hath He revealed: "God tasketh not any soul beyond its power."

If we observe the present days with discernment, we shall behold the people wandering distracted in their desires and lusts. None occupieth himself with learning save for the sake of leadership and the acquisition of influence. Indeed, they bar the people and withhold them from reflection and careful enquiry, lest their own ascendancy and authority be diminished. They are well-pleased with the ignorance and heedlessness of their fellow-men, that they may safeguard their rank and compass their designs. They glory in their knowledge, whereas knowledge is but a single point, which the ignorant have multiplied; they boast of their worship, whereas reflection for but one hour excelleth the adoration of seventy years.

We beseech God, exalted be His glory, to protect us from the thieves of the highway, and to conduct us, through investigation and discernment, unto the gardens of His knowledge. Verily He is over us watchful, compassionate.

O thou noble savant, thou distinguished and peerless one! May God prolong thy days, exalt in both worlds thy station, enable thee, through His bounty, to attain what thou desirest, and vouchsafe thee

what thou lovest and approvest. The star of knowledge hath arisen from the horizon of thy book, and the light of true recognition hath shone from the lamp of thy letter which thou didst despatch unto one of the friends, thereby seeking to establish love and loyalty purely for the sake of thy Lord, the Possessor of names. This lowly one perused it with the eye of close attention, and apprehended what thou hadst written therein of the subtleties of utterance. Well done, O thou illustrious one! Thine is the recompense with God for thy quest after the proof and thy endeavour to establish the straight path unto the All-Glorious, the All-Beautiful.

Yet, in this age, wherein the faculties of man have developed, and he hath surpassed past nations in knowledge and understanding, and wisdom and exposition have been manifested, it beseemeth us not to cling to what hath been or shall be uttered of the illusions of the people of error. Nay rather, we must dispel the murky fancies by drawing upon the shining lights of the sciences. Let the discerning one ponder what hath transpired in former centuries. Had the people of truth clung unto idle suppositions, they would never have discovered the hidden mystery nor the treasured sign. How could it be otherwise, when the people, in the days of the appearance of the Prophets—upon them be peace and blessings—were as wanderers in the deserts of allusions and vain imaginings, holding fast to what was then current among them, and expecting the manifestation of the Truth in accordance with their own fancies? Had they been themselves upon the truth, the laws would not have become diversified, nor would the wondrous ordinances have been revealed; rather would the first law have sufficed all mankind.

Let thine eminence, then, reflect upon this noble verse, whereof He, exalted be He, saith: “The Jews have said: ʿThe hand of God is chained up.” Did they utter such a phrase with their tongues, whilst professing the oneness of the All-Merciful and exalting the Book which the noble Prophet confirmed through His mighty Revelation? Nay rather, in that they confined the manifestation of the Cause of God within the compass of their own imaginings, and awaited the rising of the Sun of Prophethood in a manner consonant with their own thoughts and understandings, and asserted that He could not appear save in the form delineated and set down in their books, therefore did God—magnified be His glory—reveal this blessed verse in His mighty Book and ancient Word.

Were we, then, to cling to what hath been said aforetime and follow it unreservedly, we should be imitating those people in their idle suppositions and meagre understanding. Can we fix a limit to the attributes after having confessed the unity of the Essence? How shall we, after the tongue of the Revelation hath proclaimed His sanctity above all limitation, set bounds unto the manifestation of His Cause by what is unworthy of His praiseworthy station? For He verily is the One Who chooseth as He willeth, and the Ruler in the beginning and in the end.

And if it be said that these utterances are established by verses and traditions, we reply: this saying is sound and this judgment manifest; yet it behoveth, first, to establish the authenticity of the tradition from its beginning unto its end; and secondly, to acquire a knowledge of the inner meanings of the verses, of the circumstances of their revelation, of their connection one with another, and of the distinction between what is clear and what is ambiguous therein. In like manner, one must understand the meanings, allusions, occasions and contexts of the recorded traditions.

Should a follower of another religion desire to be illumined by the light of Islam, he would find himself bewildered between acceptance and rejection by reason of the abundance of divergences and the dearth of unity and concord. If he holdeth fast to the noble Book and clingeth to its outward meaning alone, he will not find his heart at rest concerning this matter. And if he turneth unto the transmitted traditions, he will behold a people who deny and a party who affirm. Each faction holdeth fast to what is in its own hand, and denieth what another hath established by its own proofs and evidences. What then shall the poor seeker do, and how shall he swim in this perilous sea?

It behoveth us, therefore, to lay hold of that which the generality of the people have agreed to be authentic—that is, the well-known Book of God—and to accept from the transmitted traditions only such as are in harmony therewith. Were I to expound this theme at length, the discourse would be unduly prolonged and we should be led far from the goal. I shall therefore but append, to the close of each section, such allusions as the occasion requireth and the explanation demandeth—albeit the tongue is restrained from full utterance by reason of the multitude of objectors and oppressors. Wisdom requireth naught but that every possessor of a right be given his due, and this in accordance with the receptivity of souls, the exigencies of circumstances, the suitability of the time, and the harmony of place and dwellers therein.

How, then, can limitation be imposed upon His acts and attributes after the unity of His Essence hath been confessed? Hath He not revealed in His perspicuous Book: “My covenant shall not reach the wrong-doers”? And again: “Thou bringest forth the living out of the dead, and Thou bringest forth the dead out of the living.” Can there be any restriction to the effusion of the All-Bounteous, or any limit to the outpourings of His mercy? “He chooseth for His mercy whomsoever He willeth, and none shall question that which He willeth.” And again: “Thou seest no flaw in the creation of the All-Merciful. Repeat the gaze: seest thou any fissure?”

Notwithstanding all this, the people, even of old, turned aside and cavilled at the rising of the Sun of Prophethood and the shining forth of the light of knowledge and wisdom upon Him—blessings and salutations rest upon Him—for they were expecting His manifestation in their midst according to their fancies, whereas He appeared from a quarter which they had never conceived. Wherefore He said—and His word is truth: “God knoweth best where to place His Message.”

Let us return unto what was aforetime mentioned, and say: should anyone desire to recognize the Promised One and apprehend His manifestation in the realm of being, unto what saying shall he hold, by what matter shall he cling, with what word shall he be satisfied, and by what remembrance shall his heart be at peace? The Christians expect His appearance and descent from heaven upon the clouds with great power and glory. The Jews await His manifestation from the lineage of David, His sitting upon the throne, and the promulgation of the ordinances of the Torah in both East and West. The people of Islam, for their part, look for One to arise from among the house of Hashim, albeit they differ in their views, as is evident unto thine eminence: among them are those who believe that He hath gone into occultation and will appear in the world; others await His very birth; some say that He shall be of the Arabs, and some aver that He will be of the Persians and not of the Arabs.

And since thine eminence is fully apprised of the details, there is no need to prolong the discourse. How then shall the seeker be satisfied, and by which of all these diverging claims shall the eager one lay hold, save by forsaking the branching streams and returning unto the primal, ever-abiding River? For if a man of understanding turn but for a while unto the root, he will not be estranged, by these manifold differences, from the original Reality.

Consider, with the eye of discernment and certitude, these matters that have been mentioned and these stories that are current among men. Is it possible that the Orb of everlasting Being should dawn according to such opinions, mutually opposed and utterly at variance? Nay, He, exalted be He, is assuredly powerful to do what He willeth, and none shall question that which He desireth; yet nevertheless doth wisdom require that events should come to pass in accordance with the exigencies of circumstances and conditions. Hath He not said: “Had We made him an angel, We had surely made him a man, and thus confused for them what they themselves confuse?” And in another station: “We have sent no Messenger save with the tongue of his people.”

If, then, we lay aside the outer husks and hold fast unto the inner realities, all difference shall vanish and unity be made manifest. Was it not, through the rising of the Sun of Muhammad from the horizon of Prophethood, that the proof of God was perfected for all these differing nations? For all these sects, despite their divergences and variety of thoughts, were existent in those days. If we say that the proof was not fulfilled in their case, how can their unbelief be condemned? And if we affirm the contrary, they will protest against us and repudiate our belief, since they saw not His appearance, upon Him be prayers and peace, in a manner consonant with their own conceptions; for this cause they denied Him in those days and continue to deny Him still.

Yet in truth, because they understood not the symbols and failed to grasp the realities, they interpreted all that had been mentioned aforetime according to their own fancies and imaginings, and awaited the rising of the Sun of Prophethood in conformity with their own idle suppositions. For this reason were they veiled and held back. Had they but taken hold of the meanings and abandoned the mere words, they would neither have differed concerning the matter nor been heedless of the Truth.

Section 2: “We therefore say: it is inevitable…”

We therefore say: it is inevitable that the proof be completed and the favour perfected; and that He—upon Him be the most excellent blessings and peace—did in very truth appear in a manner that fulfilled the promises cherished by the divers communities, but on condition that the gaze be turned unto the reality itself and the eyes be closed to the differences of words. Hath He not said: “We make no distinction between any of His Messengers”? And did not the Prophet—upon Him be prayers and peace—declare: “As for the bricks, I am that brick”? How can this be interpreted outwardly, in view of the multiplicity of persons, the remoteness of times one from another, and the diversity of tongues? How can bodies be made one, and shall a man of insight and discernment acquiesce in such a thing in this station? This can in no wise be concealed from them that are endued with knowledge.

But if we abandon metaphor and lay hold upon the essence of the truth, we shall behold them as one Light, shining in the realm of being and proclaiming the unity of the loving King and the greatness of the

All-Praised, the Glorified. Exalted are Their stations above the reach of human expression; hallowed is Their effacement from any limitation whatsoever. The minds of men can never fathom Their true reality, nor can the setting of Their Sun be conceived. Glory be to Him Who hath brought Them into being and manifested Them in the realm of existence. He, verily, is the Victorious, the Powerful, the Almighty, the All-Merciful.

O thou eminent savant! Verily He, exalted be He, hath created man for the knowledge of Him and for entrance beneath the shadow of His mercy. He hath conveyed unto him His outpourings through the Manifestations of His Cause, the Dawning-Places of His Revelation, the Sources of His bounties and the Recipients of His inspirations. He hath conferred upon the creation sight and insight that they may behold Them, recognize Them, make Them the means of approach unto Him, and, through knowing Them, enter the gardens of His knowledge and the Paradise of His grace and loving-kindness.

And when some souls, by reason of their failure to attain unto the heights of knowledge and to be illumined by the light of realities, were unable to apprehend, He vouchsafed unto them a proof from His presence and an evidence from His side, in the tongue of the people and according to the demands of the age, in such wise that they stood powerless to produce the like thereof. Thus were They shown to be the mines of potency and power and the sources of knowledge and wisdom. Yet inasmuch as the time of the appearance of outward miracles passeth away and the possibility of repeating them is cut off, He, the True One—exalted is His mention—hath spoken, and His word is truth:

> "Had We sent down unto thee a Book inscribed on parchment, and they had touched it with their hands, the unbelievers would still have said: This is naught but manifest sorcery.' And they say: Why hath an angel not been sent down unto him?' Had We sent down an angel, the matter would indeed have been decreed and they would have been granted no respite. And had We made him an angel, We had assuredly made him a man, and thus confounded for them what they themselves confound."

And in the Surih of Hud He saith: "Perchance thou wilt omit somewhat of what is revealed unto thee, and be straitened thereby in thy breast, because they say: Why hath not a treasure been sent down unto him, or an angel come with him?' Thou art but a warner, and God is Guardian over all things. Or do they say: He hath forged it'? Say: 'Bring then ten Surihs like unto it, forged, and call whomsoever ye can besides God, if ye be truthful. And if they answer you not, know then that it hath been sent down with the knowledge of God, and that there is no God but He. Will ye then submit?"'

And in the Surih of the Children of Israel He proclaimeth: "Say: If men and jinn should band themselves together to produce the like of this Qur'an, they could not produce the like thereof, though they should back one another with all their strength. Verily We have set forth for men, in this Qur'an, every kind of parable, yet most men refuse aught but disbelief. And they say: We will by no means believe in thee until thou cause a spring to gush forth from the ground for us, or thou have a garden of date-palms and vines, and cause rivers to flow abundantly in the midst thereof, or thou cause the heaven to fall upon us in pieces, as thou hast claimed, or bring God and the angels before us face to face, or thou have a house adorned with gold, or thou ascend up into heaven; and even then will we not believe in thy ascension until thou send down unto us a book that we can read.' Say: Glorified be my Lord!

Am I aught but a man, a Messenger?' Naught hath kept men back from believing, when guidance came unto them, but that they said: Hath God sent a man as a Messenger?' Say: Had there been angels walking at ease on earth, We would surely have sent down unto them from heaven an angel as a Messenger."'

And in the Surih of al-A'raf He saith: "They will ask thee concerning the Hour: When shall it be fixed?' Say: The knowledge of it is with my Lord alone. None shall reveal it at its appointed time but He. Grievous is it in the heavens and on earth. It shall not come upon you but suddenly.' They will ask thee as though thou wert familiar therewith. Say: The knowledge of it is with God alone, but most men know not.' Say: I have no power over mine own benefit or hurt save as God willeth. Had I known the unseen, I should have multiplied good unto myself and no evil would have touched me. I am but a warner and a bearer of glad-tidings unto a people that believe."'

O thou distinguished and noble one! Ponder upon these lucid verses. Do they establish that which the people claim, or do they confirm that which we are seeking to set forth? Undoubtedly, the appearance of signs and evidences is one of the prerogatives of the divine Manifestations; verily They are the Dawning-Places of power and might, the embodiments of knowledge and wisdom. Yet whenever the people sought to bring forth some marvel, desired to fathom some hidden mystery, and made the fulfilment of their desires the very proof of His Mission, they were answered by verses such as these.

Hath He not said: "They will ask thee concerning the spirit. Say: The spirit proceedeth at My Lord's command."' And again: "They ask thee concerning the new moons. Say: They are appointed times for men."' It behoveth us to reflect upon such verses, to apprehend their realities and the purpose of their revelation. For what reason did none of those things which the people demanded come to pass? Rather, in every station, God made His noble Qur'an the proof from His presence unto all the peoples, and for those bygone generations it became a conclusive testimony and a sure guidance. Shall we today cling to the very objections which the people of old advanced? Hath He not declared: "This is the way of God that hath been beforetime; thou shalt not find any change in the way of God"?

O thou virtuous one! In this blessed Day it behoveth thee to abandon these limitations and fly, with the wings of divine unity and detachment, in the atmosphere of holiness that is exalted above all defining. Then shall the stars of oneness and singleness shine forth upon the firmament of thy heart.

Inasmuch as I behold objections from them that shut their eyes, and aversion on the part of the heedless from this manifest station, I have confined myself, in answering thee, to allusions wherefrom the perfect knower may apprehend the gems of exposition and the subtleties of elucidation. And since thine eminence is of the people of understanding and the lords of reason, I have been content with hints enshrined within the repository of words.

Moreover, if we are to accept some of the traditions and believe in certain stations, shall we thereupon affirm what befell in former times, yet deny what we witness in these days, despite the presence of transmitters and eye-witnesses? Whoso looketh with keen vision upon the Scriptures will find them replete with true promises: some of these have been fulfilled in our own day, as this community beareth witness; others have not yet come to pass, and we await their fulfilment. If it be said, "No weight can be attached to the testimony of this people and their transmitters", we ask: have ye any proof that outstrips

this? Do the Christians accept what the Muslims have claimed? Do the Jews admit what the Christians assert? Nay, such matters have no standing in this station that we should base the proof thereon. For he who is the Source of revelation and inspiration and the Manifestation of the tokens of divine unity among men is verily able, by the command of our Lord, the All-Knowing, the All-Informing, to achieve whatsoever He willeth.

Yet we must not adduce such matters as these for the establishment of the Manifestation. His very proof is His verses, and His very existence is His evidence. He hath said—and His word is truth: "Extinguish the lamp, for the morn hath broken." This Cause hath now exalted its fame and the radiance of its light hath encompassed the horizons. The tokens of power have compassed the world, and the people of certitude have faithfully observed the Covenant. Let the people reflect upon the constancy and firmness displayed by this community in the days of adversity and hardship, amidst the cruelty of the wicked and the tyranny of rulers. Hath He not said: "Then wish for death, if ye be truthful"? Is not what hath been manifested by these souls sufficient in this station? Whoever is unaware of the events that befell them should refer to the records and acquaint himself with what they have suffered, and then judge with fairness concerning them.

O thou noble and dearly-loved friend! Wert thou to endeavour to read all that hath flowed from the Pen of the Source of the Cause, thou wouldst find thyself wholly unable. The swiftest scribes are powerless to record it and the readers incapable of perusing it. Within it are such mighty signs as would suffice for whole centuries; such realities and meanings as the learned ones fail to compass; such wisdom and exposition as would quicken the dead. What do we seek from Truth but the realities of things? He it is Who is the Possessor of the Point of knowledge; and knowledge is but a single point which the ignorant have multiplied.

Were it not for consideration for the time, the exigencies of the place and its people, I would have expatiated in this station and prolonged the discourse. But I content myself with the perspicacity of thine eminence, the keenness of thine insight and the original purity of thy nature. Reflect upon the existing Writings and the rapidity of their outpouring—such that the swiftest writer is incapable of setting them down—while He Who revealed them never entered a school, frequented no academy, acquired no science, and sat not as a learner before any teacher. Consider, with an attentive gaze, those who claim knowledge and understanding and who in these days hold fast the reins of the people. Are they able, with such swiftness, to compose even a portion of such discourse? And how could numerous volumes, replete with eloquence and fluency, exhortation and counsel, novel meanings and wondrous wisdom, interpretation of verses and elucidation of obscurities, be thus revealed?

Consider also this company and what hath appeared from the steadfast. They have witnessed such sufferings as no eyes have beheld; they have borne such calamities as none can number. Yet naught hath increased in them but certitude and firmness. Have they attained unto this station without beholding the proofs of their Lord, the All-Knowing, the All-Informing? Would any sane mind attribute madness unto them? Nay, by our Lord, the Almighty, the Self-Subsisting! Such a thing is inconceivable of a great multitude among whom are men of learning and insight, of distinction and gnosis, of wisdom and refinement. They have renounced their leadership, their wealth, their honour, their prosperity and their

ease. Some have laid down their lives in the path of the All-Merciful, attaining unto the spirit and the fragrance of reunion; others have forsaken their homelands to exalt the mention of their Lord, the All-Bountiful. Their remembrance hath filled the lands, and all peoples have acknowledged their constancy.

O my beloved! How long wilt thou remain in the depths of obscurity and the darkness of decline? It behoveth thee to arise from thy place, for the Sun of meanings hath shone forth with the lights of wisdom and exposition, and its effulgences have encompassed all existence. Where are the people of search, that they may apprehend the hidden mystery and grasp the treasured symbol? "Each party rejoiceth in what it possesseth." Verily we are God's, and unto Him shall we return. From thee and such as thou is required steadfastness and fidelity in exalting the mention of the Cause amongst mankind; from thy Lord cometh succour and confirmation; and from this community, after reliance upon the All-Forgiving, cooperation and assistance in all matters.

O God, Thou Creator of nations, Thou Conqueror by Thy Most Great Name! I beseech Thee by the pre-existence of Thy Essence and the sanctity of Thy names and attributes to stir, through Thy overpowering might and Thy subduing power, the lofty hearts of Thy servants, that they may recognize Thy Cause, which is hallowed above all limitation and exalted above the fancies and idle imaginings of men; that they may arise to that whereby their stations in Thy kingdom and dominion will be uplifted, and their mention in the realms of command and creation be exalted, through Thy Name, O my Lord.

Shouldst Thou abandon Thy creatures to their imaginings, they will never be able to rend asunder the Greatest Veil or turn themselves toward the Most Luminous Horizon; for the veils of idle fancy have shrouded their hearts throughout the passage of days. I entreat Thee to assist them to attain unto the knowledge of Thee and to sever themselves from all that is in the realm of contingency, that they may enter beneath the canopy of Thy mercy, O our God, the Almighty, the All-Merciful.

Grant, O Lord, that Thy servants who are learned may, in their writings and utterances, lay hold upon justice, that they may discern what Thou hast willed for them in the appearances of Thy Manifestations in the realms of Thy dominion; that they may guide the seekers unto the gardens of Thy knowledge and wisdom; that they may be empowered to direct the wayfarers and those endowed with capacity unto the river of Thy mercy. I bear witness that Thou art the Possessor of the reins of bounty and the Judge in equity. Thou bestowest upon whomsoever Thou wilt whatsoever Thou desirest. Verily, Thou art the All-Powerful, the Most Exalted, the Mighty, the Peerless. Praise be unto Thee, O God of the worlds, Desire of them that know, and Hope of the sincere!

BH00199: I have attained thy letter which was adorned…

Section 1: "In the Name of God, the Most Holy…"

In the Name of God, the Most Holy, the Most Inaccessible, the Most Mighty, the Most Glorious!

I have attained thy letter which was adorned with the mention of the Desired One and embellished with praise of the Beloved of the worlds. Blessed art thou for having turned unto the Qiblih of all peoples, and set thy face toward the countenance of thy Lord, and art numbered among those who have attained. The letter which thou didst address to this servant, this humble one, brought joy to this evanescent servant's

heart. We beseech God to aid thee to love Him and to gain His good-pleasure, and to make thee among those who are steadfast in His Cause in such wise as to be detached from all the worlds.

As for thy request that thou be mentioned in the Most Holy and Most Glorious Presence, and thy seeking of forgiveness—this servant presented himself before His countenance and made his petition. Then did the sun of grace and forgiveness dawn forth from the horizon of revelation in such wise that this poor servant is powerless to describe it. And as for what thou didst desire regarding the meeting, this is what hath been revealed from the Dayspring of utterance—exalted be His glory:

> "We beseech God to ordain for him what he desireth and to strengthen him to remain steadfast in this Cause whereby the mountains have been scattered, and to write down for him that which shall solace his eyes and gladden his heart and bring tranquility to the hearts of them that know."

Regarding thy question about spiritual condition—most of those who make claims in these days have been and will continue to be merely people of words rather than of true spiritual state. All matters are held within the grasp of divine power, confined and limited. Whosoever moveth contrary to His good-pleasure is counted among the people of words, even should he be immersed in the ocean of spiritual state and sailing upon the depths of silence and quietude. And whosoever turneth unto the Truth and obeyeth His commandments is remembered as being among the people of spiritual state in both beginning and end.

The spiritual state that is beloved in the sight of God today is the acknowledgment of His unity, the recognition of His oneness, the sanctification of His Being from any likeness, the elevation of His Self above all similarity, the carrying out of what He hath commanded in His Book, and the avoidance of carnal desires, deceptive allusions, and conjectural, imaginary interpretations.

This is not the day of interpretation [ta'wil], for the winds of explicit declaration are blowing. O my beloved! Most have taken God's Cause as a plaything and considered it as children's sport. They have turned away from His commandments and accepted His prohibitions, yet still count themselves as accepted and consider themselves to be of the Truth before all people. God is sanctified above what they have said. Ears were created to hearken unto God's commandments, not for rejected, imaginary suppositions. As thou hast observed, certain souls in the past were deprived of the divine law and abandoned the decree of the Book, yet still counted themselves among the people of inner meaning. We testify that they found neither the fragrance of the inner nor the outer meaning, but wandered in the wilderness of suppositions and idle fancies—verily, they are among the most lost!

Today the people of spiritual state are those souls who have been attracted by the sweetness of the divine Word in such wise that all who dwell on earth cannot prevent them from turning to the countenance of the Ancient of Days, and they are assured of and act upon what hath been revealed in the Book. This is the station of the people of spiritual state, and whosoever is otherwise hath been and shall remain among the people of mere words.

And as to what you had written—what the intention of God in the expressions "man yazhar" and "u yazhar" [transliterations uncertain] might be—no such wording is found in the Bayan. Rather the

expressions are “man zahara” and “man yazhara”: man zahara, the one who appeared in the year sixty, who gave glad tidings to mankind of man yazhara, the one who hath appeared at the Pole of the world and who calleth the nations unto God, the Sovereign, the Self-Subsisting. All that was revealed in the Bayan was intended for this Most Great Manifestation, as attested by what was revealed therein and in the Tablets of God, the Mighty, the Generous.

As to your question about God’s favors and wrath toward His servants—we seek refuge in God from His wrath and anger—this is very clear and evident. “Turn not unto those with whom God is wroth.” The signs of divine wrath are visible in those people who act contrary to His good-pleasure and wander in the wilderness of error. And God’s good-pleasure is not imaginary—one who acts in accordance with what the All-Merciful has ordained in the Tablets has attained His good-pleasure and walks the path of His contentment. Blessed is he and those like him. Such heedless, deluded souls are tormented in all divine worlds, and these souls have chosen wrath for themselves unknowingly. Otherwise, His mercy has preceded all things.

Observe that in the Most Holy Court there has been and will be naught but mercy. Then when a Command shines forth from the Dawning-Place of Command, whoever turns toward it and acts according to what God has willed is numbered among the people of mercy. And for one who remains remote and deprived, this same divine Word which was pure mercy becomes pure wrath in regard to the one who turns away. Some manifestations of this wrath appear in the turning away of the soul in this visible world, but all of it appears after the ascension of the spirit. We seek refuge in God and turn unto Him. Verily He is the Forgiving, the Merciful.

Likewise consider God’s favors which today shine forth from the horizon of loving-kindness. For instance, when He mentions someone favorably in one of the Tablets, that very thing becomes the cause of the perpetuation of that person’s remembrance in the world of remembrance and his spirit in the world of spirits. By Him Who made me His servant! Were I to describe for you this most mighty, most exalted station, its description could not be completed by pen and ink. Your Lord, the Possessor of all creation, bears witness to this. Blessed is the soul that has attained His favors and preferred His commandments over the imaginings of all else.

We beseech God to grant us steadfastness in His love and detachment from all the worlds. Verily He is the Answerer of prayers and the Most Merciful of the merciful.

And as to what you asked about Divine Unity [tawhid], this station has been elaborately explained in numerous tablets from the Divine Authoritative Pen, sufficient for all the peoples of the world. You should endeavor to collect, as much as possible, the Persian and Arabic books that have been revealed from the Divine Source in this Most Great Revelation. There remains no knowledge except that which has been mentioned in the tablets of my Lord and your Lord, and no station except that which has been detailed therein. In one of the Persian tablets He says, exalted be His glory and sublime be His praise: The purpose of Divine Unity is not to consider two as one, rather its purpose is to consider the One as sanctified above all, for He is not associated with His creation nor is He known through any other than Himself.

And one should observe the lights of His manifestations in all things, that is, to see all things sustained by Him and dependent upon Him. This is the station wherein He says "God was, and there was nothing else besides Him." He has ever been, in the heights of inaccessibility and in the summit of exaltation, sanctified above all things and ever shall be. Some who count themselves among the people of Divine Unity are walking on the shore of idolatry and wandering in the wilderness of multiplicity, yet they do not perceive it. In another place He says, exalted be His remembrance: "Through My Name were raised the banners of Divine Unity and were planted the standards of detachment" to the end of His holy utterance, exalted be His remembrance.

And these stations depend upon acceptance of the Truth, for if a person should practice Divine Unity his entire life, yet if from the Pen of the Cause a word of negation is revealed concerning him, he would be counted among the people of misbelief. As you observe, most nations today utter the blessed words "There is no God but God," yet in the sight of God they were not and will not be considered among the people of Divine Unity, as the Supreme Pen has testified in most tablets to the misbelief of those souls. Today it is incumbent upon the one who turns to God not to look to what he or others possess. He must purify his ears from all that the people possess to hear the divine utterances, that he might attain to what God has intended. In brief, whosoever is accepted today is counted among the people of Divine Unity, and without this he is deprived and forbidden.

Were this servant to mention all that has been revealed from the heaven of the divine will regarding these stations, a book would have to be composed, and these times do not permit such undertakings. We beseech God to assist you in His service, His praise and His remembrance. Verily, He is the Protector of those who remember Him.

Regarding your question about the state of one who claims that these pilgrims to the Ka'bah of the Divine Purpose go as Muslims and return as infidels, or who interprets this, or claims "I am a certain person"—I call God, His angels, His Messengers, His Prophets, His chosen ones, the denizens of His realms of glory, and the bearers of His throne to witness that such words proceed only from those who wander in the wilderness of heedlessness and pride, and who tread the paths of wickedness and evil.

By Him Who illumined the dawn of utterance with the lights of His countenance and brightened the horizon of certitude with the manifestations of His presence—were anyone to recognize the excellence of these days and become aware of that which is hidden from mankind, he would surely kiss the feet of one who has turned toward the Court of the Divine Purpose, would prefer the dust of his footsteps to all he possesses, would honor and magnify him, would stand before him in humility, would be submissive to his deeds, would not raise his voice above his voice, and would not speak in his presence without his consent. For the seeing sage and the informed mystic perceives in one who has sought the Intended One and turned toward the face of the Beloved naught but the love of God and the manifestation of His grace, the affection of God and the expressions of His favors.

Whoso is deprived of this most mighty, most impregnable station is indeed blind, by the Lord of the Hereafter and of the former times. Such a one cannot be counted among humans; nay, the beasts are superior to him. To this testifies everyone who has turned his gaze from human limitations toward the

most pure horizon, this greatest of vistas wherein the Lord of destiny proclaims in the most exalted call between earth and heaven: "There is no God but Him, the Almighty, the Self-Subsisting."

This is the station of travelers who have emigrated for the sake of God, who have turned toward the Beloved by God's leave, and who move by God's good pleasure. This is the station of the sincere emigrant and the agreeable traveler. If one truly has the love of God in his heart, he will see himself as utterly effaced before those souls who have returned from the presence of the Beloved after attaining to the Ka'bah of the Divine Purpose, even though outwardly these pilgrims may be deprived of apparent knowledge. For today nothing is required save divine love and following His commandments, as mentioned.

Section 2: "These words are not specifically about all pilgrims…"

These words are not specifically about all pilgrims—this station belongs to those pilgrims who have entered the pavilion of certitude and truly attained to the love of God. Consider earthly lovers: if someone comes from their beloved's presence, even with a disapproving countenance, the lovers welcome him and show him the utmost kindness. This is the station of earthly lovers, as mentioned. Now observe the lovers of the Countenance of the All-Merciful—those who have truly drunk from this cup and attained this everlasting draught. They surely show perfect humility before those who seek the Ka'bah of the Lord of the worlds. These are the companions of glory in the Tablet of eternity, as attested by His Most Exalted Pen. In brief, the people of insight behold in the pilgrims the signs of their Intended One and are humble and submissive before these signs. Blessed is he who in His days has attained the fragrance of God and has preferred Him above all else.

And as to the matter of interpretation [ta'wil] and prophetic claims, even as thou didst write:

> "None knoweth the interpretation of the Bayan of God save His own Self, Who holdeth sway over all things, and those who have attained unto the lights of meanings and utterance from Him; these know according to their degree and measure."

Thus hath the All-Merciful ordained; yet most of the people understand not. This much, however, is clear and well established: whatsoever is the Divine intent in the Tablets is outwardly, manifestly, plain and evident; and no one hath been, nor shall ever be, commissioned to interpret the words of God. We bear witness that the interpreters in this Day are none other than the people of vain imaginings. We beseech God that we may hold fast unto the cord of explicit utterance, and tread with the utmost steadfastness the path of His good-pleasure.

And as to the matter of prophetic claims: on this theme diverse utterances have streamed from the Pen of the Divine Will. Yet this servant will mention one of the sayings of the All-Merciful, revealed in the Persian tongue, that no room may remain for any soul to indulge in interpretation or advance a claim, and that the world may become apprised of that which is pure and unmistakable declaration. Exalted be His glory! He saith:

> "Many are the deluded, and each hath become afflicted with some vain conceit. We forbade the people from that which is imagined, that they might hold fast unto the Sovereign Who is

> manifest. Yet some have clung unto and fastened themselves upon their own selfish fancies. In the wilderness of illusion they wander, and have accounted themselves among the people of unveiling; in the desolation of heedlessness they walk, and have reckoned themselves the champions of the arenas of vision. By My life! They are indeed of the deluded; they are indeed of the distracted; they are indeed of the heedless; they are indeed of the abased. And that which mere children have understood, unto that have they not yet attained. For every child knoweth this much: that if with each passing day a new Manifestation were to appear, the Cause of God and the ordinances of the Lord would remain, amongst mankind, suspended, obstructed, and deprived of effect."

Say: O people! If passion has barred you from the Dawning-Place of guidance, at least do not transgress the bounds of fairness. If one were to show the slightest fairness, they would never utter a word that would cause division among the people and discord among the loved ones. Rather, they would strive with all their might and power to exalt the Most Great Name with penetrating effort and lofty endeavor. By My life! They are asleep, and were you to behold them with My eyes, you would find them among the dead.

At the time of Our migration from Iraq, We informed most of the servants about what had appeared and would appear, such that were the revealed Tablets to be read, all would testify to what hath flowed in this Tablet from the truthful, trustworthy Pen. Say: O people! If ye desire the water of life, by God it hath indeed flowed in His name, the Most High, the Most Glorious. Blessed are they who drink thereof! And if ye desire power, lo, it hath dawned from My horizon—exalted be your Lord, the Lord of all worlds! If ye desire the verses, they have indeed filled the horizons—fear ye God and be not among the deluded ones! If ye desire clear proofs, they have appeared in their essence and have shone forth each day from this manifest horizon.

Say: Draw ye the servants through this Name whereby the Cry hath been raised, the Hour hath come to pass, earthquakes have seized all the tribes, the heaven hath been cleft asunder, the earth hath been split, the mountains have been scattered, and that which was sent down in the Tablets of God, the Almighty, the Sovereign, the Mighty, the Great, hath appeared. Whoso claimeth a station, attraction, rapture or yearning without this Name, he is among the most lost, even should he utter all expressions, cause rivers to gush forth from rocks, subjugate the winds, and cause the clouds to rain. Thus have We sent down the Command on this blessed night wherein the Tongue of Grandeur speaketh through His Most Great Name, and the Kawthar of utterance hath flowed from the Kawthar of thy Lord's mouth, the All-Merciful. When thou hast attained, arise, then lift up thy hands and say: Praise be to Thee, O God of all who are in the heavens and the earth.

As the Pen of the Ancient of Days and the Most Great Name now declares: should anyone appear with all the signs before the completion of a full thousand years—each year comprising twelve months according to what was revealed in the Furqan, and nineteen months according to what was revealed in the Bayan, with each month being nineteen days—you must never believe them. In one of the Tablets it is revealed:

> "Whosoever lays claim to a Cause before the completion of a full thousand years is verily a lying impostor. We beseech God that He might graciously help him to retract and repent.

> Should he repent, God will surely turn unto him. If he persists in his claim, God will assuredly send one who will deal mercilessly with him. Verily God is severe in punishing!"

For the harm of such souls returns to the Divine Tree itself and has been and will be the cause of dissension, disputation, strife, the wavering of weak hearts, and the instability of the Cause among the people. We beseech God to make them aware of their own selves and aid them in what He desires. Verily thy Lord is the All-Forgiving, the All-Merciful.

Say: Deem not the Cause of God as a plaything, O ye who possess understanding. Be not content with the bitter sea when the sweet and flowing waters are surging. Ponder upon the divine utterances and gaze upon them with penetrating vision, that perchance ye may attain unto a drop from the oceans of inner meanings that lie concealed within the Bayan, and in this spiritual dawn deprive not yourselves and the servants of God from the wafting breezes of the divine garment. By the Essence of the Ancient of Days! Baha weeps over you and laments for you, and desires naught for Himself, and has endured the harm of all who are on earth for your deliverance, salvation, and turning unto God, the Mighty, the All-Praiseworthy.

This servant hopes that through the bounty of the All-Merciful, all may reach the shore of certitude in such wise that they may see themselves as utter nothingness and witness God as the Everlasting, the Eternal, and the Self-Subsisting over all. God willing, your honor must at all times be engaged in serving the Truth, that is, guiding heedless souls and, through goodly remembrances and wondrous utterances, drawing veiled souls to the direction of divine unity. Conflict and contention have never been and will never be praiseworthy. If heedless souls become aware through words of counsel, then excellent is the aim; otherwise, avoidance of such souls is necessary and obligatory. In this Revelation, reprehensible deeds and ego-driven conditions have never been and will never be acceptable. Surely you have heard how some of the people of the Bayan and their false leaders were immersed in the sea of passion and held fast to and practiced reprehensible deeds, but in this Most Great Revelation such things have never been countenanced—all have been explicitly forbidden. Blessed is he who acts according to what has been commanded by the Truth and abstains from what the people practice.

O beloved! Arise to assist the Cause of God with such steadfastness as may lead to the firmness of souls. Convey my greetings to each and every one of the loved ones in that land. Sublime tablets have been revealed for them from the heaven of the All-Merciful's Will and shall, God willing, be sent later. That which is essential today and takes precedence over all deeds has been and shall ever be steadfastness. Consider how two souls, each among the most heedless and wicked of men, went to Gilan and what mischief they caused. One claimed "I am the Most Great Branch," and those souls who were in that land immediately accepted him. The other claimed truth for himself, and him too they accepted.

Loss be upon the seeker and the sought! Though later the falsehood of both was made clear to them and they returned to the truth, from the beginning they should not have paid heed to such souls. Rather, through the power of faith and the strength of the love of the All-Merciful, they should have arisen to discipline those two souls. The cause of these matters has been the vain imaginings of some. Each day a call is raised, and from every corner a calf appears, and the people, weak and inconstant, no sooner hear the lowing of the calf than some, unaware, fall down in worship before it.

Your chief concern must be to make the loved ones in that place steadfast in the Cause of God, in such wise that they regard all else as non-existent. Consider the time of Moses: after He repaired to Mount Sinai to receive divine ordinances and heavenly commands, and when thirty had become forty complete days, He returned to find many people turned away and deprived of the truth by the lowing of a calf. He said:

> "O My people! For years I dwelt among you with divine verses, heavenly proofs, manifestations of power and expressions of oneness, calling you to the truth, yet you have still not fully turned to the lights of the Ancient Countenance. How is it that by the mere lowing of a calf you have become worshippers and adorers?"

O brother! Bewilderment upon bewilderment! To the extent possible, you and the honored ones dwelling in that land must strive that all may drink from the wine of steadfastness and remain firm and immovable as a mountain in the Cause of God. We beseech God to protect them, to aid them, and to send down for them that which will make their remembrance endure among all remembrances, their spirits among all spirits, and their bodies among all bodies. Verily, He is the Protector of whosoever turns to Him and the Answerer of whosoever calls upon Him. He doeth what He willeth through His sovereignty. There is none other God but Him, the Forgiving, the Generous.

BH00262: By God, O Ismi Jim! Thy letter hath been…

Section 1: "By God, O Ismi Jim! Thy letter hath…"

He is the Compassionate, the All-Loving, the Forgiving, the Merciful!

By God, O Ismi Jim! Thy letter hath been read before the Throne, and from it I perceived the fragrance of thy love for God. To this My Most Exalted Pen beareth witness on this night wherein the Ancient Beauty speaketh that which hath diffused the sweet savors of life throughout all worlds. When thou attainest unto this, arise and say: "Praise be unto Thee, O God of all worlds!"

O Ismi Mim! Hearken unto the call from the precincts of the Prison. By My life! My tongue beareth witness to thy love for God and thy turning towards Him. Be thou assured through thy Lord's grace and say: "Praise be unto Thee, O Beloved of all worlds!"

O Ismi Alif! The Alif of creation testifieth that thou art the one who hath heard the call and turned towards the Supreme Horizon, who hath held fast unto that which is good and remained steadfast in the love of thy Lord when every mighty and trusted one was shaken.

O Ismi Lam! Thy Lord, the All-Knowing, calleth thee from His Most Great Throne and beareth witness unto that which shall gladden thine eyes and rejoice thy heart, and the fragrance of loving-kindness embraceth all, both young and old. Grieve not over anything, for verily He heareth and seeth, and will send down unto thee that which shall gladden the hearts of them that know. By My life! Wert thou to inhale the fragrances of these verses, thou wouldst soar with longing and cry out within thy house:

> "Thine is the bounty, O Thou in Whose grasp is the kingdom of the heavens and earth!"

We created thee and nurtured thee and caused thee to hear and showed thee My gracious countenance.

O Ismi Jamal! Upon thee be the glory of God, now and in times past and times to come. Thou art he who hath held fast unto the Most Great Name and hath borne tribulations in the love of God, the Lord of all worlds. We were with thee when thou didst enter the prison, and there were with thee a numbered company. Verily thy Lord is the All-Seeing, the All-Informed.

Make mention of him who was named Ali-Akbar (the honored Haji Mirza Ali-Akbar who ascended in the prison). He is among those who fulfilled God's Covenant and Testament and was martyred in My straight Path. We make mention of him at this hour and say: Upon thee be the glory of God and the glory of those in the Supreme Concourse and the glory of those who have attained unto this wondrous Cause. O ʿAli-Akbar! Thou hast entered the tomb while the Beloved of the world maketh mention of thee from this exalted station. Thou art he who turned thy face unto thy Lord's countenance and traversed land and sea until thou didst reach the shore of the Sea, each drop whereof proclaimeth:

> "The appointed time is fulfilled and the All-Merciful hath come with manifest sovereignty."

Thou didst turn to the horizon of Revelation and didst stand before the Gate, and didst attain unto the lights of the countenance and didst hear the call of God, the Supreme, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy. Thou wert in the precincts of His mercy for numbered days, then by His leave didst return and enter the prison in His love. Verily thy Lord is the Witness, the All-Hearing.

Blessed is he who remembereth him after him with that which the Supreme Pen hath uttered in this exalted station. We testify that he is among those who gave up their spirits in the love of their Lord on a day when the feet of the mystics did slip. We make mention of him and those who are with thee that all may witness God's grace and mercy. He is verily the Bestower, the Forgiving, the Generous. Then We give thee yet another glad-tiding. Verily thy Lord is the Bearer of Glad-Tidings, the All-Informed. We have forgiven thy brother who hath ascended unto God, and We testify that he is among those who turned unto the Supreme Horizon and reached the ultimate goal. All this is of My grace unto thee, that thou mayest be of the thankful. He is in the Most Sublime Horizon—to this the tongue of My grandeur beareth witness in this luminous station.

We make mention in this station of him who was named ʿAli-Naqi, that his remembrance may endure through the everlasting Name of God, the Sovereign, the Mighty, the Most Powerful, the All-Praised. O Most Exalted Pen! Make mention of him with joy and fragrance, then bear witness unto him as the All-Merciful hath borne witness. Verily thy Lord is the All-Knowing, the Trustworthy. Say: Blessed art thou, O thou who hast ascended to the Most Exalted Companion and hast turned towards the Most Resplendent Station. I testify that thou didst hear the Call, didst respond, didst believe, and wast among the triumphant. Thou art he whom the affairs of creation did not prevent from the Truth. Thou didst arise to make mention and offer praise amidst the concourse of creation, and didst turn thy face toward the Face of God, shining from this luminous horizon. Blessed are they who have attained unto this station, and joy be to all who have turned unto God, the Mighty, the Beautiful.

We further make mention of him who was named ʿAndalib, who soared in the atmosphere of the love of the All-Merciful and attained unto the revelation of God in His wondrous Day. We make mention of him

with the most excellent remembrance and send unto him the fragrances of verses from this Station wherein the Tongue of Grandeur proclaimeth: The Kingdom belongeth unto God, the Mighty, the Inaccessible. The Ancient Beauty addresseth him, saying: Upon thee be the praise of God, O thou who didst speak in remembrance of thy Lord, and upon thee be the glory of God, O thou who didst gaze upon the Dawning-Place of thy Lord's grace, the All-Knowing. Thus have We remembered those who heard the Call of God, turned unto Him with their hearts, and witnessed what the All-Merciful witnessed when He was established upon His mighty throne. Joy be unto them and blessed are they in that they have, in this hour, attained unto the Kawthar of the remembrance of their Lord, the Almighty, the Omnipotent. Can the treasures of the world be compared with this bounty? Nay, by My Most Great Name! Yet most of the people are fast asleep.

Glad-tidings upon glad-tidings, in that the Countenance of the Ancient One hath turned from the direction of His Most Great Prison towards him who was named Muhammad-Ali (the honored Aqa Muhammad-Ali of Sangsar who ascended unto God), who attained unto the recognition of God, the Lord of creation. We make mention of him with the melody of God, the Lord of the Beginning and the End, with a remembrance through which the fragrance of the Divine Raiment wafteth throughout the world and the sweet scent of the All-Merciful is diffused throughout all possibility. Thou art he who turned toward the Qiblih of all horizons and believed in Him from Whom most of the servants have turned away. Blessed art thou in that thou hast attained unto the choice wine of life which the fingers of thy Lord's bounty have proffered amongst all possibilities.

I testify that thou didst draw nigh, didst turn toward Him, didst recognize, didst take, and didst drink in the name of God, the Lord of all religions. Is there any possessor of ears who will hear the melody of God? Is there any possessor of sight who will behold the lights of the Countenance? Is there any possessor of smell who will detect the fragrance of joy that hath clung to the back of God, the Almighty, the Glorious, the Bestower? Thou art in the Most Exalted Companion, and thy Lord, the Most Glorious, seeth thee and maketh mention of thee that His mention may be a sign unto all who dwell in creation.

O Jamal! We have heard from thee that which testified to thy humility before God, thy submissiveness before His countenance, thy helplessness and supplication before God, the Almighty, the Glorious, the All-Bountiful. He verily is with thee at all times and maketh mention of thee and those who are with thee. He is the Mighty, the All-Seeing. From this most exalted Station and most sublime Spot We send Our greetings to thy family and those who are related to thee. Thy Lord is verily the All-Wise, the Unconstrained. Nothing whatsoever escapeth His knowledge. He mentioneth whomsoever He willeth with that which shall cause his remembrance to endure throughout the kingdom of God, the Lord of all beings.

O Jamal! Thy letter hath attained unto the presence of Him Who is the Lord of all names, and its answer hath been sent down from the heaven of divine Will in such wise that each word thereof beareth witness to the bounty of the Beloved of the world and His loving-kindness. Bear thou witness to this and be of them that are thankful. For each of the names mentioned in thy letter, wondrous and sublime verses have been revealed.

O Jamal! By the Sun of love that shineth from the horizon of the world with most brilliant radiance and most glorious light, were all men at any given hour to turn with sanctified and pure hearts, hearken unto the Call of God, and witness the ways of the leaves of the Lote-Tree beyond which there is no passing, verily none would be deprived of the ocean of divine bounty and all would attain, in this glorious dawn, unto the grace of God. Yet they remain heedless, and thy Lord is verily the All-Witnessing, the All-Informed.

The members of thy household and thy kindred are all remembered before the Throne, and all have been and shall continue to be the recipients of divine favor. Grieve not over anything, for that which shall gladden hearts hath been ordained for thee. Thy Lord is verily the True One, the Informed, the Trustworthy.

O Ismi Jamal! At this moment the countenance of thy Lord hath turned towards him who is named Buzurg, that he may inhale the fragrances of revelation and speak in praise of his Lord, the All-Informed. Verily, he who turneth unto God, God turneth unto him as a token of His grace, and I am the All-Knowing. Whosoever uttereth this Most Great Name is assured that he hath been mentioned before the Throne. Thy Lord beareth witness unto this, and I am the Witness. Convey My greetings unto his face and say: By God! Thou hast attained the most great victory, for the Lord of Eternity hath made mention of thee in this Preserved Tablet. Rejoice thou in the bounty of thy Lord and render thanks unto Him. Thy Lord is verily the All-Hearing.

This is a Day wherein all things have been stirred up by the Call of Him Who is the Lord of Names, and from every atom of existence can be heard glorification, praise, and movement out of longing for this manifestation of God in this clear station. O Jamal! Bear thou witness, then observe, then mention what thou didst witness with thine own eyes when thou wert standing before the Gate and the countenance of God, the Lord of all worlds, was turned toward thee. Rejoice thou in My bounty, then in My loving-kindness, then in My gifts and My mercy which have preceded all things, and in My ocean of generosity which hath encompassed all worlds. As for those whom thou didst mention who have turned toward the Wronged One, give them the glad tidings of My remembrance of them, that they may be of them that rejoice.

Section 2: “The servant who is present hath presented before…”

The servant who is present hath presented before the Throne every name that was mentioned in thy letter, and We have revealed for each that by which the fragrance of grace hath wafted between the heavens and the earth. Blessed are they for having attained unto the knowledge of God in His days and for having held fast unto His luminous cord.

O people of Ta! By the life of God, the Intended One remembereth you and calleth unto you from this remote spot, and summoneth you to a station that shall never perish. Verily your Lord, the All-Knowing, is the Faithful Witness. We have mentioned you time and again—rejoice ye in the bounty of your Lord and be of them that render thanks. Be gladdened by the turning of the countenance of God toward you from this wondrous horizon. Say: Praise be unto Thee, O God of the worlds and Lord of eternity, for having

moved Thy Most Exalted Pen in our name, and for having wafted therefrom the fragrance of Thy loving-kindness to these servants. We testify that Thou art the All-Bountiful, and we are of them that supplicate.

As for what thou didst mention concerning the people of Ha and Mim, We have sent down verses unto them as a token of Our grace, for verily We are the All-Bounteous. And We have sent down for the followers of Moses therein what thou didst desire of thy Lord's grace, the Most Merciful. And We make mention of the people of Shin and Sin and Mim who have attained unto the choice wine of immortality, whose seal hath been broken by the finger of the Will of the Creator of all things. Blessed are they, and again blessed are they, and excellent is their final abode. O My loved ones in Shin! By God, the Lord of Names hath mentioned you in verses that shall never be effaced throughout the kingdoms of creation. To this doth the Lord of invention Himself bear witness, and beyond Him every knowing and informed one.

O Rida! Time and again hast thou heard the call. Hearken thou in this final instance and turn with thy most pure countenance toward the Most Great Scene, and with thy most illumined heart toward the horizon of the revelation of thy Lord, the Almighty, the All-Bestowing. Say: Unto Thee be praise, O Lord of eternity, and unto Thee be glory, O Thou in Whose grasp is the reins of all existence. I testify that Thou hast drawn me nigh, honored me, caused me to know Thee, and made me hear Thy most sweet call in the kingdom of creation. Thou art indeed the All-Bounteous, the Most Generous. I beseech Thee by the Most Great Name to make me eloquent in Thy remembrance and to aid me to stand firm with supreme steadfastness in Thy Cause, whereby the names were transformed and all the tribes of the earth lamented, save those whom Thy grace, which hath encompassed all possibility, did choose.

We make mention of those who are there, that the fragrance of their Lord's verses may stir them, and We send Our greetings from this spot upon their faces, and We counsel them with that which beseemeth these days.

O My Most Exalted Pen! Make mention of him who is named Talib, that he may rejoice in My remembrance and arise to serve this Cause whereby feet have slipped. O Talib! Hearken unto the call of the Wronged One. By God, He desireth for thee naught save that which shall draw thee nigh unto God, the Lord of the seen and unseen. Act thou in accordance with that which We counseled thee aforetime with the tongue of truth, then take fast hold of the hem of thy Lord's mercy, the Cleaver of the dawn. Say: O my Lord! Praise be unto Thee for having caused me to know and taught me and shown me. I have turned with my whole being unto Thee, and I beseech Thee not to leave me to myself. Verily Thou art the Almighty, the All-Bountiful.

We make mention of My loved ones in Sin. Say: Rejoice in My remembrance and praise. By the life of God, there shall endure for you that which hath flowed from this Pen that hath testified there is none other God but I, the Almighty, the All-Glorious, the Most Bountiful. We behold you in the love of God and His Cause, and We counsel you to observe supreme steadfastness, for through it are raised the standards of victory between earth and heaven, and the nightingale of eternity warbleth in the air that there is none other God but He, the Almighty over all existence. Take ye the choice wine of utterance in My Name, then drink thereof through My remembrance that hath encompassed all regions. Blessed are ye for having been honored by the mention of God and for having turned toward Him on a day whereon feet have slipped.

O My Pen! Turn towards the people of Mim who have quaffed the choice wine of divine knowledge in the days of the All-Merciful and have attained unto this glorious remembrance. We have heard the call of each one of you and We behold you as ye are, through the grace of God, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

We make mention of him who hath been named Ali in the Kingdom of Names, that he may hearken to the call of his gracious Lord. O Ali! Make thyself ready to hearken unto the call of thy Lord, the Most Glorious, which hath been raised from this supreme horizon and most exalted vista, that thou mayest witness what the Concourse on High hath witnessed. Verily thy Lord is the Expositor, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy. Arise to serve thy Lord in such wise as to astonish all else beside thee. Thus doth the Pen of Command enjoin thee from this luminous station. Hold fast unto the cord of steadfastness and cleave unto the hem of thy Lord's mercy and say:

O God of Names, Creator of the heavens, and Lord of all things! I beseech Thee by Thy Name through which the backs of the idols were broken, to make me one who uttereth Thy praise and remembereth Thee among Thy creation. Then aid me to serve Thy Cause. Verily, Thou art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

O Ali! When the cawing of the raven is raised in those parts, leave him to himself and turn thy heart toward the horizon of thy Lord's Revelation, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy. Thus hath thy name flowed from the tongue of the Wronged One, and there hath been sent down for thee that which shall preserve thy name among the heavens and the earth.

And We make mention of him who hath been named with Ba, Za, Ra and Kaf, that the rapture of his Lord's verses may seize him in such wise that he will arise and cry out:

"By God! The Beloved hath appeared and the All-Merciful hath come with His mighty throne!"

Say: O people! Squander not God's Cause among you. Abandon what ye possess and take what hath come to you from God, the Lord of all worlds. This is a day wherein neither the treasures of the world nor the assistance of nations shall profit you. Put your trust in God and turn unto His luminous horizon. Thus doth your Lord teach you, that you may remember Him among His servants and be among the steadfast.

The Ancient Beauty turneth His face toward the land of Nun and maketh mention of those who have believed in God, the Lord of what was and what shall be. O Muhammad! Rejoice in that the One, the Single, remembereth thee from this most exalted station, that thou mayest arise to celebrate the praise of thy Lord Who is imprisoned in God's path, the Supreme, the Self-Subsisting. Say: By God! God hath made the prison a palace of ruby wherein speaketh the Lord of the Kingdom: "Verily, there is none other God but Me, the Mighty, the Beloved." Be steadfast in thy love for thy Lord, for the raven caweth among the servants. Leave him to himself and hold fast unto the cord of God, the Lord of the seen and the unseen. Thus hath there flowed from the Pen of the All-Merciful the water of life—drink thou thereof and say: "Praise be unto Thee, O God of the world, and thanksgiving be unto Thee, O Lord of existence!"

O Mahmud! Your Lord makes mention of you from this Praiseworthy Spot and calls you with a call which, were those who dwell on earth to perceive its fragrance, they would assuredly abandon all they possess

and soar in the atmosphere of the love of your Lord, the Mighty, the Loving. Having attained unto the verses of God, preserve them, then recite them by night and by day. By the life of God! Through them the horizons are illumined and hearts are enlightened. Let not the affairs of the world grieve thee. Under all conditions, fix thy gaze upon this horizon from which the Most Great Name proclaims: "The Kingdom is God's, the Lord of all kings!" Say: O servants of the All-Merciful! Is there among you one with ears to hear the call of God, and is there among you one with eyes to behold that which hath appeared on the Promised Day? Say: He ordaineth for whomsoever He willeth the reward of His presence. Thus hath the matter been decreed in a preserved Tablet. How many a servant drew nigh yet failed, and how many a servant attained His presence while being in a remote place. Thus doth God teach you through His grace. He, verily, is the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

We make mention of those who have believed in God in the land adorned with the letter Mim in this exalted Tablet. O people of Mim and Za (Mazandaran)! Rejoice in the remembrance of God and turn with illumined hearts toward the Sinai whereon the Lord of Revelation proclaimeth:

> "The Kingdom is God's, the Single, the One, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed!"

We make mention of those who have drunk the choice wine of revelation and have attained unto the recognition of God in this resplendent morn. Blessed are ye for having heard, turned unto, and believed in God, the Lord of the worlds. Ye are in your abodes while the tongue of the Wronged One maketh mention of you from this Spot round which circle the Concourse on High, then the dwellers of the cities of names, and those who circle round the mighty throne. Well is it with you, and pleasant is it for you, O chosen ones of God and His loved ones! Blessed be your faces for having turned, your hearts for having advanced, your souls for having soared, your eyes for having beheld, and your tongues for having uttered the praise of God, the True King, the Manifest.

We counsel you to steadfastness in the Cause of God, for it shall profit you in this world and the next. Verily your Lord, the All-Merciful, is the All-Knowing. Take the chalice of life in My name, the All-Merciful, in defiance of those who have rejected the proof when it appeared from God, the Mighty, the Beautiful. Then drink therefrom once in His name and again in remembrance of Me, the Wondrous, the Inaccessible. Thus doth He Who is imprisoned in God's path make mention of you, and thus doth He Who is established upon this noble station remind you. The glory be upon you from God, the Goal of the mystics. And praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH00270: Praise be unto Him Who is the Object…

Section 1: "Praise be unto Him Who is the Object…"

In His Name, the Most Holy, the Most Inaccessible, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious

Praise be unto Him Who is the Object of all existence, Who, through His prevailing Will and consummate wisdom, hath adorned the ranks of utterance and, through these spiritual hosts, hath taken possession of illumined hearts and minds. His hosts are the breaths of divine revelation, and through but one exalted word, His commanding Will hath conquered the people of the realm below and the Concourse on high. The power of the world boweth in submission before His power, and the books of nations are humbled

before His utterance. The oppression of the oppressors hath not stayed the influence of His word, nor hath the prevention of the preventers impeded the power of His Pen. Each day the cry of the oppressed is raised from every direction, and at every moment the fire of the wicked is ablaze.

Yet the fire of the malice of the evil-doers hath had no effect upon the righteous, nor hath the cruelty of the impious kept them back from drawing nigh unto the Truth, inasmuch as they are enkindled with the fire of the love of God and illumined by the light of the Sun of His Cause. Every person of insight is amazed, and every one possessed of knowledge is deep in thought—particularly in these days when in the City of the Lovers there is tumult and commotion.

The First Speaker hath ascended the pulpit of love and is established upon the throne of sacrifice, speaking forth these blessed words:

> "O concourse of lovers! The breaths of divine revelation have attracted the heart and wrested all free will from the grasp of power. My desire is to sacrifice my soul for the One Beloved, that perchance the dead world may come to life and the withered souls may be refreshed."

Glory be to God! At that moment such rapture and attraction appeared among the company of lovers as the pens of the world are powerless to describe. Glorified be the majesty of our Lord, exalted be His Cause, and hallowed be His Name and His power! Each day, nay, each moment, He bestoweth the sealed wine in His blessed Name, the Self-Subsisting, yet few are they that seek it, and none are found worthy to receive it.

Glorified art Thou, O God of existence and Educator of the seen and unseen! I beseech Thee by Thy Name, the All-Loving, through which the Euphrates of Thy love hath flowed from the right hand of Thy throne and the rain of Thy mercy hath descended from the heaven of Thy bounty, to [aid] Thy loved ones to be patient in Thy days and to endure when Thy decree and destiny are made manifest. Blessed is the liver that melteth in Thy love, the heart that is pierced by separation from Thee, the blood that is shed in Thy path, the head that is raised to exalt Thy Word, and the throat that met the rope of the enemies to manifest Thy Cause and the cord of the wicked ones in longing to meet Thee and to demonstrate Thy power.

O Lord! Thou seest us circling round the throne of Thy will and the Kaaba of Thy purpose, our spirits awaiting the wonders of Thy Cause. O Lord! Accept from us, through Thy grace and generosity, that we may sacrifice it before Thy face in Thy days, though it befitteth not the court of Thy might and majesty, nor is worthy of the carpet of Thy grandeur and glory. Yet I beseech Thee by the mysteries hidden in Thy knowledge and the pearls treasured in the shells of the ocean of Thy wisdom, to accept from us that which is unworthy of Thy Cause and its sacrifice in Thy love.

O Lord! I am Thy servant and the son of Thy handmaiden. I am certain that our deeds befit not the glory of Thy splendor, nor are worthy of Thy presence, nor of the threshold of Thy gate which Thou hast, through Thy bounty, opened unto all existence, both seen and unseen. By Thy might, O Thou Desired One of all creation and Beloved of all possible beings, the hearts of Thy loved ones find no rest save in martyrdom in Thy path, and their souls rejoice in naught but the shedding of their blood in Thy love. Blessed is the land whereon Thy lovers are distressed, and the soul that hath attained the glances of the

eyes of Thy mercy, and blessed is the spot adorned with the blood of Thy loved ones and over which pass the breezes of the morn of the appearance of Thy grace.

O Lord! Thou seest and knowest that the Son of the Wolf hath devoured Thy sheep and slain Thy she-camel. Because of this, the livers of Thy loved ones have melted and the hearts of Thy chosen ones have burned. O Lord! Thou seest the tears of those near unto Thee flowing before Thine eyes because of what hath befallen Thy loved ones in Thy lands. Alas! Alas! Grief hath consumed me, and patience hath well-nigh departed and left me. By Thy grandeur and sovereignty, it is grievous to Thy servant Badi' to see Thee wronged in the hands of the tyrants among Thy creation and the oppressors among Thy servants. Alas! Alas! The serpent hath bitten the Beloved with such injustice that the dwellers of the pavilion of Thy greatness and glory have lamented.

Glorified art Thou, O my God, my Lord, my Support, my Beloved, and the Ultimate Object of my hope! I beseech Thee by Thy bounty through which existence came to be, and by Thy Name through which Thou didst rend asunder the veils of fancy, and by the Staff wherewith Thou didst cleave the sea and destroy the swords of time, to ordain for Thy loved ones from Thy Most Exalted Pen that which will draw them to the highest summit. O Lord! Thou seest them turning unto Thee and holding fast to the hem of Thy generosity and bounty. Then I beseech Thee, O God of Names, by Thy most great signs and by Thy mysteries which were treasured in Thy Pen and hidden in Thy knowledge, to aid me and Thy chosen ones to stand firm in Thy love and Thy Cause. Thou art, verily, the Almighty, the All-Powerful.

O Lord! Adorn the countenance of the sovereign with the lights of the sun of justice and equity, and illumine therewith his heart, his outer and inner being. O Lord! Cause him to ascend unto the heights of mercy, compassion and bounty, then inspire him with that which will draw him nigh unto Thee, O Lord of all beings and God of the throne on high and of the dust below. O my Lord! Enable him to do that which Thou dost love and with which Thou art well-pleased, that he may turn unto the lights of Thy countenance and protect Thy flocks from the wolves of the earth and its evil ones. Verily, Thou art the Almighty, Whom nothing among all things can frustrate, nor any name among all names, nor the injustice of those who have disbelieved in the Day of Judgment whereon the sovereignty crieth out:

> "Unto God belongeth the dominion of earth and heaven, and He is the Possessor of the Great Announcement!"

Glory be to God! This Day speaketh forth, yet the people hear not; the Light calleth aloud, yet mankind perceiveth not. We beseech God to enable His servants and draw them nigh unto Him. Verily, He is the Almighty, the All-Powerful.

The letter of that honored friend arrived, and from its horizon the sun of love shone forth resplendent. In truth, all its words and phrases appeared as a divine tree, speaking forth "I have turned my face toward Him Who hath created the heavens and the earth." Its call was heard. Exalted be God, the True King, the Manifest, Who caused it to speak in His days, revealed it through His will, and planted it through His grace. We beseech God to strengthen it with a power that shall never be succeeded by silence, even for less than a moment. Verily He is the Mighty, the Bestower.

Thereafter, having turned toward the Most Exalted Kingdom, it was presented before His Countenance. At that moment, the waves of the ocean of favor and the effulgences of the Sun of Truth were manifested in such wise that this servant is powerless to describe and incapable to express them. After a time, the Tongue of Grandeur spoke, saying—exalted be His majesty and all-encompassing be His bounty:

I am the All-Seeing, the All-Knowing

O thou who hast quaffed the wine of My utterance and who standeth to serve My Cause! Hearken unto My call from the Divine Tree which hath been raised up in the Most Exalted Paradise through My will and desire and My command that hath encompassed all existence. Verily there is none other God but Him, the Single, the One, the All-Compelling, the Self-Subsisting.

O Ali! The ocean of My loving-kindness hath surged and the Sun of My grace hath shone forth as a bounty from My presence upon My servants, yet they have denied that which hath appeared, turning away from God, the Lord of all that was and shall be. They have cast the Book of God behind their backs, clinging to their own idle fancies and vain imaginings. We have opened the gate of reunion, yet they turn aside therefrom. We have revealed from the Most Exalted Pen the pearls of knowledge and wisdom, yet they remain far removed from them. The mysteries have been unveiled, the signs have been spread abroad, and the fruits have appeared, yet they remain heedless thereof. They have abandoned that which they were bidden to observe, clinging to that which they were forbidden. Lo! They understand not. They have cast aside that which would profit them and taken that which harmeth them. Lo! They know not. Soon shall they behold their recompense in justice from God, the Lord of all being.

O Akbar! Upon thee be My glory and My loving-kindness. The Son of the Wolf hath proven more wicked than his deprived father. Today in the arena of oppression none precedeth him. Reflect upon the grace and bounty of the Wronged One, and upon the wickedness of the people from the beginning of the Cause until now. We protected certain souls in such wise that none save God is aware thereof. The rejection of corruption led to the martyrdom of the Beloved. Blessed is he, then blessed is he! By the life of God, he hath attained unto a station which the sincere ones and those drawn nigh eagerly seek. Praise be to God, he was adorned with the crown of steadfastness and illumined by the effulgences of the light of the countenance.

Convey My greetings to the friends. Say: Beware lest ye be grieved by the doings of the wicked or the onslaught of the ungodly. By My life! He who hath ascended hath attained unto the Most Great Joy. We beseech God, exalted be He, to assist His loved ones to remember Him and praise Him, that they may commemorate His days, His detachment, His orientation toward Him, and His spending in the path of God, the Lord of all worlds. We beseech of God that He may assist all to act with wisdom and utterance, and to act in accordance with what He hath revealed in the Book. End.

Section 2: “O My beloved! The imprisoned Badi’ makes mention…”

O My beloved! The imprisoned Badi’ makes mention of you and says: Praise be to God, glory be to God, that you are illumined by the rays of the manifestations of the Sun of Truth and are mentioned and recorded in the remembrance of the Purpose of the world and in the traces of the Most Exalted Pen.

Beyond this, no station remains for the mention of this servant, nor any rank for his praise before the Ocean of Praise and the Sun of Utterance. His power has encompassed the world and His grace has embraced all peoples. His Will is manifest and His Purpose all-pervasive. Blessed be the name of our Lord!

Each day, through the attraction of the Most Exalted Word and the traces of the Supreme Pen, the essence of detachment appears before the faces of men, offering itself in sacrifice, yet none perceives it. What has caused the heedlessness of the people, and by what proof and evidence have they turned away from the Purpose of all worlds, clinging to their own vain imaginings? In truth, the malady of vain imaginings is severe and requires a perfect remedy, and the sickness of idle fancies is strong and needs a potent medicine. Glory be to God! His power is manifest and God's sovereignty is dominant and evident; nevertheless, all remain heedless. We beseech Him to make the point of ink in this day the cause of unity and the source of enkindlement.

Today the fire is visible and speaking in the Blessed Tree, and the light is dawning from the horizon of manifestation. Blessed are they whom the false tales of old did not prevent or deprive from the Lord of all beings. In these days, these wronged ones are observed between the greatest sorrow and the most profound joy—from one direction, the ocean of joy is surging, and from another, the waves of grief are visible.

In these days the seat of the throne has been Akka, and a missive from His Holiness the Desired One reached the people of the palace. His blessed and exalted Word states:

> "Know ye that the oppressor has hamstrung My she-camel, and the wolf has devoured My sheep, and the spotted snake has bitten those who love Me. I do not complain of what has befallen My loved ones, but the Manifestations of My Cause and the Dawning-Places of My wisdom do complain. Say: My God, my God! Change the sorrow of Thy loved ones into joy, their grief into delight, their agitation into tranquility, their abasement into glory, their weakness into strength, and their powerlessness into might. O my Lord! I beseech Thee by the sovereignty of Thy Will, the all-encompassing nature of Thy power, and the ocean of Thy might, to make Thy loved ones the dawning-places of Thy name the All-Patient and the rising-places of Thy name the All-Forgiving. Then make known to those who were heedless in Thy days the mysteries of Thy Most Great Name and Thy momentous News, and what they missed at the dawning of the Day-Star of Thy manifestation. Then assist them to be fair-minded. Verily, Thou art the Mighty, the Powerful, the Bestower."

From reading this most holy, most great Tablet, hearts were consumed and boundless grief descended, until another Tablet adorned with the traces of the Supreme Pen was read. His blessed and exalted Word states:

> "He is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. What news is this today that causes the body to ascend and the spirit to soar in flight? The news is this: the Ridvan of the Most Exalted Paradise has given glad tidings to the Ridvan of the Supreme Paradise that a pure, holy, blessed spirit from the city of lovers has sacrificed itself and now seeks the Most Glorious Goal and circles round the gathering-place of the Supreme Concourse, and at this moment arrives. Today the

lovers have another ecstasy and another attraction. My God, my God! Assist Thy servants to be truthful and to acknowledge Thy signs. Verily, Thou art the Powerful, the All-Knowing."

Through this blessed Tablet came such relief and joy that the pen is powerless to describe it. Were it not for the joy of what came after, we would have been destroyed by the grief of what came before. The purpose of these mentions is that your honor might become aware of the events that have occurred and the details of the prison land, that perhaps what is mentioned may become the cause of the guidance of the people.

O my God, my God! Drive not Thy servants from the door of Thy bounty, and deprive them not from the ocean of Thy mercy. Lead them, though it be with a whip, to the right hand of Thy throne, then grant them to partake, in this Day, of the pure wine of Thy loving-kindness. Thou art, verily, the All-Powerful, the Almighty. There is no God but Thee, the All-Forgiving, the All-Merciful.

Thereafter, this servant proceeded to the seat of the throne, and upon arrival in that most holy and exalted Court, the Tongue of Grandeur was heard to utter these words:

Glorified art Thou, O my God! Were it not for tribulations in Thy path, how would the station of Thy lovers be made manifest? And were it not for afflictions in Thy love, by what means would the rank of those who long for Thee be revealed? By Thy might! The companion of Thy loved ones is the tears of their eyes, the solace of those who seek Thee is the sighing of their hearts, and the sustenance of those who hasten unto Thee is the fragments of their livers. How sweet is the deadly poison in Thy path, and how precious are the arrows of the enemies for the exaltation of Thy Word! O my God! I love, in Thy love, whatsoever Thou hast ordained. By Thy might! I desire naught save what Thou desirest, and I love naught except what Thou lovest. In all things have I placed my trust in Thee.

This prayer was previously revealed for one of the friends, and in these days it was heard again from the Tongue of Grandeur. Blessed are they who read it and drink from the living waters concealed within the words of the Best-Beloved of the worlds. O My beloved! The fragrance of divine revelation refreshes the soul and bestows a new spirit. May the True One guide the opposers of the Cause and grant them fairness. They have manifested such tyranny that the very repositories of oppression and treasuries of hatred, both past and future, are astounded—how much more so ordinary mortals. That beloved one and this Prisoner must seek steadfastness for all. Verily, He is the Helper, the Hearer, the Answerer.

In these days the loved ones of Faran dwell in the vicinity and have attained the presence. Each day they have drunk from the cup of bounty, the water of reunion. The ocean of attainment is surging—exalted be the Gracious One, possessed of great bounty! They are truly in fervor, enkindled with the fire of love and illumined with the light of knowledge. Last night, which was the twentieth of Jumada'l-Ula, they were summoned to the palace and were blessed with special favors. Praise be to God! The tempestuous, devastating winds of the ungodly and atheists did not prevent the steadfast from the Manifest Cause of the Lord of the Worlds. At one time, these exalted words were heard from the ocean of verses. His blessed and exalted Word:

> "Let not the friends be sorrowful. The tyranny of enemies is the cause and means for the manifestation of justice in the world. The tyranny of Pharaoh brought forth the justice of Moses."

Indeed, these tyrannies of the world have been and are followed by the Most Great Justice. The power of God was not prevented by clamor, nor was it barred by the opposition of the opposers. That beloved one knew and knows the reason for that reprehensible deed. The rejection of corruption became the cause and means of the greatest bounty for the departed, elevated martyr. All matters return to the Truth. We beseech Him to cause all to attain that which leads to the exaltation and elevation of existence. Verily, He has power over all things.

Convey greetings and salutations from this prisoner to the friends in that land. I beseech and implore God, exalted be His glory, to protect them all and make them like the surging ocean and the fire kindled in the Sacred Tree. Those friends who were recently honored to attain Our presence—including Ibn-i-Attar, Aqa Mirza Buzurg, and others—have been and continue to be remembered. In these days a letter arrived from Attar mentioning the captives. We beseech God to assist him in that which He loves and is pleased with, and to open before his face the gates of wealth and prosperity. Verily, He is the Lord of all creation, there is no God but Him, the Opener, the Giver, the All-Bountiful, the All-Generous.

The Most Great Branch and the Greater Branch, may my soul be sacrificed for them both, and His Holiness Diya'u'llah, may the spirits of all in the Kingdom be sacrificed for him, send their greetings and salutations, as do the members of the pavilion of chastity and grandeur. They have said:

> "Praise be to God, he has been and continues to be mentioned in the arena of grace, the Most Great Scene and the Most Pure Station."

We beseech God to assist him in all matters and conditions. Verily, He is the Powerful, the Mighty, the Unconstrained.

Responses to some of the petitions were sent in this dispatch. God willing, may each one receive their share of the precious pearls of utterance hidden in the treasuries of divine words and attain unto them. The light shining forth from the horizon of the Word of God be upon you and those with you.

I convey remembrance, greetings and salutations to His Holiness Jamal, upon him be the Glory of God, and to Ibn-i-Abhar, upon him be the Glory of God. In these days, responses to their petitions and those of some others and handmaidens will arrive. According to the people's saying, the place of all is empty, but according to our saying, all are mentioned, present and existing. We beseech God on behalf of all for that which you seek and love. Glory be upon you and upon those with you and in your household and upon every steadfast and assured one.

Badi'

BH10646: Praise befitteth and is meet for the Lord…

Section 1: "Praise befitteth and is meet for the Lord…"

In the name of God, the Lord of the Manifestation, Who spoke on the Mount!

Praise befitteth and is meet for the Lord of minds and hearts Who, through His Beloved Name, adorned the non-existent world with the light of being, and guided it from sheer nothingness to the realm of immortality. He bestowed upon non-existence the ornament of existence, and illumined the darkness of aversion with the light of acceptance. Through one exalted Word which shone forth from the horizon of the heaven of will, the ocean of knowledge surged, the sun of wisdom dawned, and the heaven of knowledge and insight was upraised. Glorious is His bounty, mighty His sovereignty, exalted His utterance, and there is no God but Him.

And blessing and peace and glorification and glory and remembrance and praise be upon the Hands of His Cause, who drank from the hands of bounty the choice wine of the most great steadfastness. These are servants whom neither the hosts of the wicked nor the ranks of the evil ones did frighten, and who performed that which they were bidden by God, the Lord of the Day of Return.

Your letter, which was in truth a sign of love shining forth from the horizon of the pen of detachment, arrived. Praise be to God, from each word the fragrance of trust, acceptance and devotion wafted. After observing and reading it, it was taken to the Supreme Heaven, and after attaining the presence before the face of the Lord of all beings and receiving full permission, the letter was presented and was honored to be in His presence and to be heard. At that moment, the ocean of utterance surged in such wise that this servant and all things are incapable and powerless to write and enumerate it. God knows what He revealed, and at the end of the utterance, what the perceptive faculty grasped were these manifest verses. His mighty utterance, exalted be His proof:

O Haydar-ʿAli! The Branch, His Holiness Badi'u'llah, presented your letter in its entirety before His face. Blessed art thou for having turned to the Supreme Horizon and attained that which was mentioned in the Books of the Prophets. We beseech God to strengthen thee with such steadfastness as cannot be prevented by the hosts of the world and their ranks, nor by the might of princes and their swords, nor by the doubts of the divines and their rejection. Verily, He is the One Who has power over whatsoever He willeth through His binding and wise command. Well is it with thee for having drunk the wine of revelation from the hand of thy Lord's bounty when most of the servants were debarred therefrom.

This is from God's grace unto thee. Be grateful and say: Praise be unto Thee, O Lord of the servants, and glory be unto Thee, O Glory of the worlds! Let not the doings of the wicked grieve thee, nor the power of the oppressors frighten thee. Take the Book of God with strength from Him and authority from His presence, then read it before those who have denied this manifest Light. Say: O peoples of the earth! Fear ye the Lord of the Throne and be not of the heedless ones. The banner of divine knowledge hath been raised on the right hand of the Throne and the standard of piety on its left. Thus hath the matter been decreed, yet most people are in evident error.

This is the Day wherein the Sinai smiled at its Interlocutor and the Herald called out between earth and heaven: O peoples of the earth! The Promise hath come, and the Promised One calleth you unto God, the Lord of the worlds. This is the Day which God hath adorned with His mention of His near servants. Cast away what the people possess and take what ye have been given from God, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. We desire naught from you. We mention you for the sake of God. Verily, He is powerful over all things.

Say: Glory be unto Thee, O my God! I beseech Thee by the light of Thy Cause, and the potency of Thy Word, and the power of Thy Pen, to transform the heedlessness of the world into knowledge and wisdom. Then open before the faces of Thy loved ones the gates of inner meanings and utterance. O my Lord! Thou seest me and Thy loved ones in the hands of the oppressors among Thy creatures. I beseech Thee to transform their tyranny into justice and their oppression into equity. Then send down upon them from the heaven of Thy power that which will transform their fear into tranquility, their weakness into strength and might, and their agitation into supreme steadfastness. Verily, Thou art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest, and in Thy grasp are the reins of all affairs. There is no God but Thee, the Mighty, the All-Forgiving.

Glory be to God! The rain of loving-kindness from the heaven of mercy of the Desired One of the worlds hath descended in such wise that none hath been nor is capable of reckoning it. These days are different days, and their fragrance is sweet and perfumed. The Sun shineth with new splendors and effulgences, and the Tree of Sinai is adorned with the ornament of divine wisdom. Glory be to God! From the water is heard “The All-Bestowing hath come!”, from the trees “The Chosen One hath come!”, and from all things “The Lord of all names hath appeared!” The fragrances of revelation have perfumed the world, and the breezes of inspiration have seized all creation.

O people of God! This Prisoner at this moment beseecheth from the Lord of all worlds, for each one of you, that which is everlasting and eternal. He is the One Who, by the shrill voice of the Pen, attracted the world, and through the power of the Word adorned creation with the ornament of detachment and trust. The Prisoner and all created things bear witness to His power and might, to His glory and dominion.

My God, my God! Withhold not Thy servants from drawing nigh unto the Most Great Ocean which surgeth in Thy name before the faces of all nations. I beseech Thee, O Revealer of verses and Manifestor of clear tokens, by the mysteries hidden in Thy knowledge and the pearls treasured in the vaults of Thine infallibility, to aid me and Thy loved ones to remember Thee, to praise Thee, and to spread Thy signs throughout Thy realm. Then protect them, O Lord of existence, from all things seen and unseen, from the croaking of the croakers, the imaginings of the heedless, and the doubts of the suspicious ones. Verily, Thou art the Most Merciful of the merciful and the Fulfiller of the needs of the sincere ones.

Mention was made of Mashhadi Mihdi, upon him be the glory of God, and likewise mention was made of certain other loved ones. After these were presented before the Most Holy and Most Exalted Presence, there was revealed for each one that which is the Dawning-Place of the Light of Truth and the Day-spring of divine loving-kindness. It is hoped that all may drink from the ocean of utterance of the Desired One of the worlds and not remain deprived. This is what was revealed for Mashhadi Mihdi:

He is the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous

O Mashhadi Mihdi! Praise be to the Desired One of the world Who hath made the world fresh and verdant through His manifest verses, and made manifest the hidden and treasured mysteries like unto the sun. Exalted be His power and great be His signs! Today the loved ones of God must hold fast to unity and harmony and occupy themselves with teaching the Cause. From this blessed day the divine fragrance of the Day of God wafteth. Blessed is he who hath found and attained, and woe unto the heedless! Praise be to the One Who existeth, Who aided thee and illumined thee with the light of recognition. Say: Praise be to Thee, O my God, for having illumined my heart with the light of Thy knowledge and for having sent down unto me that which shall endure as long as Thy sovereignty endureth.

I beseech Thee, O Lord of the worlds, by Thy Most Great Name through which Thou didst open the door of bounty unto all who are in earth and heaven, and by the lights of Thy Kingdom and the mysteries of Thy Dominion, to make me steadfast in Thy Cause and firm in Thy love in such wise that neither the world nor aught therein shall prevent me from turning toward the court of Thy glory and drawing nigh unto Thee. Verily, Thou art the Almighty, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

And specifically for ʿAli-Asghar-i-Milani a Tablet was previously revealed and that same one is being sent. This Prisoner hath repeatedly heard mention of him from the tongue of Grandeur. Blessed is he and blessed are they that have attained.

Section 2: "And this is what was revealed for Muhammad-Ja'far-i-Usku'i…"

And this is what was revealed for Muhammad-Ja'far-i-Usku'i:

In My Name that is sanctified from all names

O Muhammad-Qabl-Ja'far! The Lord of Power hath turned toward thee from the direction of His Most Great Prison and maketh mention of thee, that My remembrance may draw thee to the Kingdom of Mine utterance and bring thee near unto My glorious and resplendent court. Should anyone ask thee concerning Baha, say: Verily, He is under the claws of hatred by reason of that which the hands of the oppressors have wrought. By God's life! The tribulations prevent Him not from making mention of God, the Lord of the Kingdom of Names. He hath stood before the faces of all the world and spoken that which shall guide them to the path of God, the Lord of all worlds. Nothing whatsoever hath deterred Him, neither hath the might of His enemies frightened Him, nor the ranks of them that harbor hatred.

His appearance amongst men and His establishment upon the throne without veil or covering bear witness to this. Say: Praise be unto Thee, O my Beloved and my heart's Desire, for having guided me to the horizon of Thy knowledge, honored me with visiting Thy holy places, and mentioned me in Thy prison. O my Lord! Thou seest me clinging to the cord of Thy justice. Ordain for me that which shall profit me among Thy servants. By Thy name! Verily, Thou art the All-Bountiful, the Generous.

O Haydar-Qabl-Ali! We have heard the cry of the lovers from Ishqabad and have succored them through Our grace, and We have sent forth ʿAbdu'l-Karim despite the enemy's displeasure. We have been with them in all conditions. Verily thy Lord is the All-Powerful, the Self-Subsisting, the Most High. And We have heard the call of Our loved ones in Usku. We give them the glad-tidings of Our grace and Our mercy, which have preceded existence in both the seen and unseen realms. However, We counsel all to such

deeds and character as will cause the servants to draw nigh unto the Dayspring of God's Cause and the Dawning-Place of His divine light. Should they hold fast to that which hath been revealed in the divine tablets, they shall witness all the world turning toward God. We beseech Him to aid all in that which will exalt His Word.

As for the request for attaining His presence, after it was presented before the Countenance of the Desired One, these sublime words were revealed in response from the Source of verses and the Lord of names and attributes—may my spirit be a sacrifice for His utterance. His exalted Word and mighty proof states: Permission for attaining presence in these days is contrary to wisdom. We beseech God to ordain its reward to be specifically revealed from the Supreme Pen and recorded in the Crimson Book. And regarding His Holiness the Trustee who is now imprisoned for the sake of God, a command hath been revealed from the heaven of God's firm decree concerning these matters. If they succeed in carrying it out, truly the reward of attaining His presence shall be recorded by the Supreme Pen. Verily He is the All-Bountiful, possessed of great bounty, and He is the All-Commanding, the All-Wise.

The mention of the loved ones of ʿIshqabad hath repeatedly been made in the presence of God, exalted be His glory, and His Holiness Afnan hath repeatedly mentioned each one and presented their names. Praise be to God, all have drunk from the ocean of bounty and received their portion and share of the sealed wine through His blessed name, the Self-Subsisting. Well is it with them.

At this hour, two hours after nightfall, the supplication which that honored one mentioned at the end of the book was presented and read in the Most Holy and Most Exalted Presence, and the Tongue of Grandeur spoke these verses in response—exalted be His utterance and His proof, and glorified be His majesty and His sovereignty:

O thou who gazest upon the horizon of Revelation! The Most Great Branch presented thy supplication in most eloquent terms before Our presence. Blessed art thou for having turned unto Him when the people turned away, and for having recognized the Manifestation of Him Who conversed upon Sinai when those in all lands denied Him. Say: O my Lord! I beseech Thee by Thy power that hath subdued all who are in earth and heaven, and by Thy Name through which Thou hast made the Kingdom of Names to be subservient, and by the Crimson Ark which Thou hast specially ordained for the people of Baha, to make me known through Thy Name and steadfast in the promotion of Thy Cause.

O my Lord! This is a day wherein the ocean of Thy bounty hath surged and the fragrance of Thy grace hath wafted. I beseech Thee not to disappoint Thy servants from turning to the Dayspring of Thy gifts and favors. O my Lord! Thou hearest the sighing of those who long for Thee and the cry of those who love Thee in their separation and remoteness from Thee. I beseech Thee to ordain for them, by Thy Most Exalted Pen, the reward of attaining Thy presence and meeting Thee. Verily Thou art the Mighty, the Prevailing, the All-Powerful, the All-Wise.

As to the mention made of Abbas-Ali-i-Iskayi, who wrote and sent glad tidings of the steadfastness and devotion of the people of that land—after this was presented in His presence, that which all the pens of the world are powerless to describe was again revealed concerning him and the friends of Isku. According to His command, that honored one should mention them all and give them glad tidings through the

effulgent lights of the utterance of Him Who is the Goal of all beings. Verily our Lord is the Helper, the All-Wise. There is no God but Him, the Mighty, the Great.

Mention was made of the handmaidens of God. After presentation in His presence, a special mention was revealed for each one. His blessed and exalted Word:

In My Name, the Remembering, the All-Knowing

O Mother of Ali-Akbar! Rejoice in what hath been sent down for thee from the heaven of thy Lord's loving-kindness, that which hath attracted the hearts of the devoted ones in the loftiest chambers of the Most Exalted Paradise. Thus have We sent down for thee that which testifieth to thy acceptance and thy turning unto God, the Lord of all worlds.

O Mother of Muhammad-Ja'far! The Wronged One hath remembered thee at this hour with verses whose fragrance shall not cease to perfume the air for as long as God's kingdom shall endure, the Mighty, the Powerful.

O Mother of Mashhadi-Ali! The divine call is raised from the direction of the Prison and maketh mention of thee, that thou mayest give thanks unto thy Lord, the Master of the Day of Judgment.

O Mulla Baji! Thy mention was made before the Wronged One and there was revealed that which nothing hidden in earth or heaven can equal, to this thy Ancient Lord doth testify.

O Mother of Mir-Muhsin! Say: Praise be unto Thee, O my God, for having made me one of Thy handmaidens and for having revealed unto me Thy verses which were the hope of them who are nigh unto Thee.

O sister of Muhammad-Qabli-ʿAli! All the servants and handmaidens of the earth were brought from nothingness into being for the recognition of God. Yet on the Day of Resurrection most remained heedless and veiled, while thou didst attain thereunto. Say: Praise be unto Thee, O Lord of the worlds, and glorified art Thou, O Beloved of them that know, for having sent down unto me from the precincts of Thy prison that which brought solace to the eyes of the steadfast ones in their exalted station. Ye must all, throughout the nights and days, be engaged in praising and thanking God, inasmuch as He hath favored the handmaidens of that land with verses the like of which hath never been seen.

The glory shining forth from the horizon of the heaven of My kingdom be upon My loved ones and My handmaidens who have believed in God, the Lord of the mighty throne. By the life of our Beloved! On this luminous night the ocean of divine utterance surgeth in such wise that none hath been or is capable of measuring or recording it. Thus hath His grace encompassed His servants and handmaidens. It behooveth Me and you to hold fast unto the cord of God in such wise that neither the hosts of the oppressors nor the ranks of the transgressors—they who have denied God's proof and evidence, disbelieved in His verses, and cast aside His laws on this wondrous and glorious Day—can turn us away therefrom. Light and glory, remembrance and praise be upon you, O company of the sincere and the detached. Authority and dominion belong unto God, our Lord and the Lord of all who are in the heavens and the earth.

Badi'

BH00399: A certain person in this city was among…

A certain person in this city was among the divines of the greater city, and Aqa Jan had dealings with him. He had related to him in detail, saying “I am the Sword of Truth, and soon most lands will be conquered by my hand.” That ignorant scholar, though far from the path of truth, spoke a good word, as if the Holy Spirit had spoken through his tongue. Thus, immediately after the slaying of the idolaters, he appeared with the Pasha of the city over Aqa Jan’s corpse and declared: “This accursed one claimed ʿI am the Sword of Truth.’ Now it has become clear that the Sword of Truth was that which struck his waist and consigned him to the lowest depths of hell.” In any case, praise be to God, after this incident and the return of the idolaters to the lowest depths of hell, the rains of mercy poured forth night and day, after having been withheld for several years during which people were afflicted with famine and hardship.

When We were in Adrianople, that vile one had written a letter to someone. Among other things, We observed that he had stolen a passage from a Tablet revealed in Iraq and written it in his own name. That passage was: “We are as the sun rising and as the moon shining.” That heedless wretch did not realize that the domain of the Phoenix has never been, nor ever will be, the playground of flies, and darkness has no right to claim to be the sun. By God! Since he found some people weak and foolish, he therefore arose with his personal fabrications, such that some have taken his forged writings and read them. The writer and reader have both lost. Through various whisperings and intrigues he prevented people from the Lord of mankind, and through previous delusions led some astray.

Thus did a certain person meet this servant in the marketplace and said he wished to meet with me for an hour, on the condition that no one else be present. This servant had never seen him before. I said “Very well.” A time was set and he came. Various matters were discussed and it became clear that he had dealings with that one who associated partners with God. He mentioned, “I have been told you are of the Shi’ih.” At this point such laughter overcame this servant that all self-control was lost. That person was astonished and asked the reason for the laughter. I said: “O helpless one! Your Shi’ih who are scattered throughout Iran like pebbles—what station have they achieved, or what rank have they held with God, that you now wish to follow in the footsteps of those rejected delusions? Have you not seen that they were all false and in clear error, such that they martyred the exalted Truth with their own hands? Lo! The curse of God be upon the wrongdoing people!”

After these words were delivered he became very thoughtful. Then, for the sake of God, I imparted to him some of the exalted words I had heard from the Source of the Cause. It was observed that he was not devoid of capacity. Among other things, I said to him: “Reflect thou upon that which was held by the Shi’ih and which they accounted as the foundation of their sect and nation—which of these was truth? And now dost thou wish, following those idle fancies and lying words, to enter the ocean of divine truth and wisdom? Did these Shi’ih of whom thou speakest comprehend the meaning of the Resurrection? He said: No. I asked: Did they recognize the Balance? He said: No. I asked: Did they understand the gathering and raising of the dead? He said: No. That which was mentioned among them concerning the Qa’im—was their understanding of it true? He said: No. Then I stated that you yourself witness that all was false. Now this matter which they have told you—how do you know it to be true?

Then I sat upright facing him and spoke what I had preserved of the verses of God, the King, the Supreme, the Self-Subsisting, and I conveyed to him that which I was commanded by God, the Mighty, the Beloved. I said: O servant! Have you not heard what the Tongue of Grandeur pronounced when He was established upon His throne, supreme over all that is seen and unseen? He said—and His word is the truth: "Cast aside what you possess of vain imaginings, then hearken unto what the tongue of your Lord, the Mighty, the All-Knowing, doth speak. How long will ye follow your desires? The Sun of Guidance hath risen—turn ye unto it, sanctified from that which was aforetime mentioned by your divines.

By God! This is the Manifestation of God and the sign of His hiddenness from all else. It cannot be compared with what was mentioned in the eternity of eternities, nor can it be known through the words of the people of contention. Draw nigh unto Him with illumined eyes and radiant faces. Thus have ye been commanded in the Tablets from God, the Powerful, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed." And His word—exalted be His grandeur—addressing someone: "We behold thee immersed in the pool of the veiled ones and the waters of the heedless ones' imaginings. Come forth therefrom through My name and My sovereignty. Arise and immerse thyself in this Most Great Ocean, every drop whereof proclaimeth 'There is none other God but Me, the Powerful, the Exalted, the Mighty, the Generous."'

I said: O man! For the sake of God do I speak, and purely for God do I utter this reminder: cast away these vain imaginings, and rise above these foul, circumscribed, and fancied stations, that upon the wings of the mercy of the All-Merciful thou mayest ascend unto the heavens of the ordinance of thy Lord, and attain thereunto. Today is the day of "Say: God, then leave them to sport in their wanton dispute." Verily, this blessed verse was, in former times, revealed especially for this Day, inasmuch as in this Manifestation it hath become clear and manifest that the True One, alone and unaided, is sovereign over all, and hath not taken unto Himself, nor will He ever take, either partner or peer. Though in former ages the followers of divers creeds did confess and acknowledge this truth, yet most of them were liars, for every day they assigned a partner unto God. Thereupon, in that station, this servant set forth and declared whatsoever was meet and fitting. Then was it asked: What is the duty for today? I replied: To act in accordance with this very verse which I have recited.

Leave these imagined souls and their sayings, and enter thou into the sweet and wondrous expanse, that thou mayest quaff the everlasting wine from the verse of the mercy of the All-Merciful, wherein He saith that through a Revelation hath the law of wondrous newness been established, and that this is the wondrous One of the heavens and the earth. Pass beyond both before and after; behold the Manifestation through the eye of the Manifestation itself, for all, in this Most Great Revelation, have been commanded thus, and this is a bounty peculiar unto this Dispensation.

Then did I mention that certain feeble souls had been withheld by those wicked ones from Him Who is the Chosen One through utterances such as these. Even so did Yahya write unto some, saying, "Thou art of my Shi'ah," the intent of which expression is evident enough. Perished is every lying book. Behold now where is the station of the words of that foul soul, and where the station which the Lord of lords hath desired for His servants! O brother! Cast away all these unworthy and narrow words of former times, and soar upon wondrous wings in the fragrant and wondrous air, that through the grace of God thou mayest drink of the wondrous wine and attain unto the understanding of this wondrous Cause. Furthermore,

some among the servants have complained of certain acts committed by weak souls who circle round about, and have attributed them unto God, exalted and glorified be He.

Thus did one person say: How can it be that, notwithstanding the manifestation of Truth and the exaltation of this Cause which hath encompassed the world, certain souls, who ascribe themselves unto God, should busy themselves with unseemly deeds? In truth, this saying proceedeth from the heedlessness of that heedless one. It is as though he had never heard that verse, famous amongst men, wherein it is said: Should all created things become faithless, not a speck of dust would settle upon the hem of His majesty. One day, while I stood in the court of the Throne, He turned His face toward the Face of God and said: "Hast thou heard that the sincere are in grievous peril?" O thou servant standing before the Throne! The outward divines differed among themselves concerning the companions of the Apostle, as to what soul the name of companion might truly apply. Some have said that the companions are those souls who remained in the presence of that blessed Person for one year or more and arose to strive in the path of God.

Others have said that whosoever confessed the word of divine unity and met the Apostle is accounted among the companions, though it were but once. Yet others have said that this name applieth unto those souls whom the Apostle Himself specifically addressed by that title. Still others have said that they are those souls who were trusted in His sight and were present with Him both in journey and at home. But the greater number of the divines have declared: Everyone who embraced Islam and beheld the Prophet—may the blessings of God be upon Him and upon His companions—even for the briefest space, is indeed of the companions. According to this reckoning, at the Farewell Pilgrimage there were forty thousand souls with Him, and on the day of His ascension, in Medina, one hundred and twenty-four thousand persons were gathered together. By the latter opinion, the name of companion is truly applicable unto all these souls; yet only a few there were who drank from the limpid waters of the wine of certitude and entered the Source of the outpourings of the All-Merciful.

In brief, utterances of this sort have proceeded from heedlessness and continue so to proceed. We beseech God to aid all men unto that which He loveth and approveth. O friends of God! Be not content with hearing alone, and bind not your hearts to the vain imaginings of former times. By God! Today wicked souls have, through ancient delusions, withheld the weak from the divine way. Hearken ye unto the plea of this servant who serveth before the Throne, and stand with steadfast feet upon the path of oneness. So manifest is the Truth that none is left any excuse to turn aside. All the Books of God testify thereto and point thereunto. Thus it was that some time ago one of the friends, who was from among diverse peoples, presented a petition, and in that petition set forth two traditions which, in ancient books, had been translated from the Greek tongue into Arabic.

The first passage: "Satan shall appear in the Isle of Qaf and shall prevent the people from the All-Merciful. When that time cometh, turn ye toward the Holy Land, from whence passeth the Breath of God." And Qaf is Cyprus, and this is well known, even as all the Turks call Cyprus "Satan's Isle." And the Holy Land is known to be that wherein the Seat of the Throne is now established.

The second passage: "There shall appear the Beloved in the isle attributed unto Him. He is short of stature, abundant of beard, narrow of brow and breast, yellow of eye and hair. Upon His back is hair like

unto mail, and upon His breast hair like unto a cave. When that time cometh, draw ye nigh unto Carmel, even though it be with thy all. Then turn ye toward the Holy Valley, the Land of Gathering, the snow-white Spot." It is known that Habab is the name of Satan, and it says he will appear in the island attributed to him, which is Cyprus, known as Satan's Island. And it says "When that time comes draw near to Carmel"—Carmel being the mountain facing Akka—"even if crawling on your chest, then turn toward the Holy Valley, the land of gathering, the white spot"—these three being titles of the land of Akka, as is well-known to all and mentioned in the books.

Would that someone would go to Cyprus and witness with their own eyes all these aforementioned attributes in that person. In any case, O servants of God, the Truth needs not these mentions, and such mentions are purely out of grace, as this lowly servant thought that through such things some might awaken from the sleep of heedlessness. Otherwise, God is sanctified above the mention of this or that. He cannot be known except through Himself, nor can He be described except by what His Essence has described for His Essence. All else is created by His command and returns to its place in the worlds of His creation and invention.

We hope that as the petitions of this servant were submitted purely for the sake of God, they may prove a healing for hearts and a light for breasts, that all may arise in the love of God in such wise that none will have any excuse to turn away or object, and may consider as utter nothingness all that the ungodly have said or will say. Therefore I say: I turn to Thee in repentance, O my God, for what I have ventured in Thy presence. Forgive me by Thy sovereignty and grace, for Thou art the Most Generous of the generous ones. And praise be to Thee, O God of the worlds.

The servant of God.

BH00423: Lawh-i-Haqqu'n-Nas

In the name of God, the Merciful, the Compassionate.

Praise be to God, who has fulfilled what He revealed to all of His prophets and His messengers, and announced to all people the glad tidings of His days. Among them is the day He promised us in His incorruptible book with the words: the day when "God will provide for each out of His abundance." That day, in truth, is this day, for He has provided for all who have entered beneath His shelter in this day from the wealth of His knowledge and His wisdom, in such wise that He has entrusted the reins of knowledge into the hands of His most insignificant servant, and the care of His humblest subject, who holds fast to the cord of His love during the days of His revelation.

Praise be to God, who inspires whom He desires with the hosts of His revelation and casts the light of His knowledge into the hearts of whom He pleases. No God is there but Him, who is so manifest through the manifestation of Himself that He has no veil except the light of His beauty and no cover besides the profusion of His manifestation.

Blessings and peace be on His most honored friend and the prince of His creation, and on his family and his supporters, who have arisen at his bidding and remained steadfast in his love.

Your letter was read, and it is the source of gladness and joy. God willing, this blessing may always be our companion and this confirmation continue, if from time to time you would inquire about, and have compassion for, the state of those who wander in the wilderness of disappointment and humiliation. May God recompense you with the best of rewards and confirm you in that which He pleases and desires.

You have asked how the administration of justice in the world after death and the requital of the rights of the people during the Great Resurrection, which is known as the Day of Judgment, should be understood and conceived, given that these worldly adornments, possessions, and legal rights sought after in this vain life do not exist in the worlds after death. And even supposing they did exist, they would yield no profit and bear no fruit for those to whom they are due. Therefore, how can justice be said to be administered in those worlds? For instance, it is said that God is merciful and may sometimes waive what is due to Him and grant His pardon, but He does not waive the rights of the people, so they may receive what is justly theirs.

O beloved of my heart! You have asked about a matter that is very abstruse and difficult to explain, for understanding this question depends on understanding and comprehending the days after death and on true knowledge of the Day of Resurrection. Comprehending these two mysteries requires a pure heart and a sanctified ear, and not every ear is worthy of hearing this divine glad tiding. How can the ear that does not hear the blast of the trumpet and the sound of the horn coming from the heaven of this Revelation still hear the singing of the birds? But, since I am compelled to answer your request, I will respond with brevity and limit myself to setting forth certain comparisons and likenesses. There is no power or strength except in God, the Incomparable, the All-Compelling.

I submit, therefore, that whatever is seen and heard in this temporal world, this world of limitations—of every name and description, of every form and attribute—also has a presence and manifestation in every world of the worlds of God suitable to and befitting that world, where it appears and is revealed by another name and description, and in another form with other attributes. The death of things witnessed in this world applies to the form and the body only, not to the reality and the essence. Without a doubt, the realities of things appear in different guises and have diverse manifestations in every world, and countless realities are revealed in every world.

Those mature philosophers who have drunk the choice wine of true understanding have acknowledged the embodiment of deeds. The All-Glorious states: “He will requite them for their [acquired] attributes (wasf).” The Dayspring of the Revelation of the All-Merciful has declared: “The people will be requited for their deeds, with reward being the consequence of good deeds and punishment the consequence of wrongdoing.” It is evident, then, that deeds will be preserved and every [acquired] attribute will continue to exist, so that through the attribute or deed itself requital can be given. Every [acquired] attribute a person possesses and every deed he commits, therefore, will reveal itself and take on a particular form in each world “so that He may requite each soul for what it has done. He, indeed, is swift in calling to account.”

Whenever we desire to make statements and give analogies that are easy to understand and comprehend, in order to explain this theme and expound on the nature of the manifestations of things in the innumerable worlds, I consider no analogy more befitting than that of the dream world. It is said that

“sleep is the brother of death,” so may you recognize the brother by the likeness of his brother. Consider how in the world of vision you see certain things, and later while awake in this world, you interpret and explain them by referring to other names, forms, and representations. Then after a lapse of time, something very similar to what you interpreted and explained is witnessed.

Therefore, O my brother, when you dream and see such a thing in the world of vision, it will have another name and attribute there different from that which it has here. Recognize, then, that this same difference in forms applies to the world after death. And know of a certainty that while the reality and the essence are one, the form and the representation will vary.

If you are unable to grasp this theme through your own experience, then refer to the interpretations of the wise among those who interpret dreams, for they have an interpretation for every statement and every action, and for each thing they have an explanation. The most truthful of speakers, in His book, mentions Joseph’s vision (upon him and the Lord of our age be peace) and his interpretation of the dreams of two other individuals. Now consider. What kind of world is that wherein his father and mother are seen as the sun and the moon, and his brothers appear in the form of stars? And what is this world wherein the reverse is seen: the sun and the moon in the form of his father and mother, and the stars in the form of his brothers? He says (exalted be his sovereignty),

> “I saw eleven stars, and the sun and the moon; I saw them bowing down before me.”

The interpretation of this vision became clear once Joseph was established upon the throne of glory, and Jacob and Joseph’s eleven brothers prostrated themselves at his feet.

Now, since this question has become established and ascertained, it is evident that the rendering of each due takes place in every world in a manner befitting that world. Otherwise, assuredly the administration of justice could not be fulfilled.

I will set forth another analogy for you that, by this means, you may more easily comprehend the topic of our discourse and realize your aim. Suppose that during the season of spring someone should steal the seeds and grains of another individual and then plant those seeds in his own garden, so that after a time they grow into tender young bushes, and, finally, during the summer season, they are ready for harvest. Then it happens that a just king, during this same summer season, desires to redress the injustice done to the wronged one. What will his course of action be? Will he take steps to replace the lost seeds or grains, or will he return the shrubs themselves with their fruit on them?

Certainly, you would say the bushes, even though this form is not the same as that form, and this name and this attribute are unlike the name and the attribute the seeds had in the spring. Perhaps you would assert that those same seeds and grains no longer exist in the summer season. And assuming they did exist and the very same seeds could be returned, this would provide no benefit or gain to their owner, for the season of spring, which is the time of planting, has already passed, and the seeds and grains would be of no use.

However, it is clearly incorrect to say that the seeds no longer exist and provide no benefit, for in truth and fact, those seeds and grains do exist and have appeared in the form of the bushes and their fruit, which are superior and more valuable.

How often it happens that justice is dispensed in this very world while you remain unaware. Such is the case when one's adornments and possessions become the cloak of tests and afflictions, and tests and afflictions appear in the form of possessions. Often it happens that the loss of these possessions is the reason and cause for dispelling one's afflictions. In this case, there is no distinction between losing one's possessions through spiritual causes and losing them through the oppression of another. Although the oppressor has seized and stolen your property, he has also removed the cause of your affliction and brought it on himself. Is any better method of dispensing justice conceivable? No, by the Lord of the worlds!

Were I to explain and remove the veil from the manifestations of the deeds, acts, and words that appear in limitless and manifold forms in the worlds of God, it is feared, on the one hand, that sanctified souls would forsake their bodies and ascend to the seats of the glory of the All-Merciful; and, on the other, that the wicked and perverse would perish out of fear for what they have committed during their futile lives.

How I long for spiritual attributes, goodly deeds, and truthful and beneficial words! For the outcome of these is an upraised heaven, an outspread earth, rising suns, gleaming moons, scintillating stars, crystal fountains, flowing rivers, gentle breezes, sublime palaces, lofty trees, heavenly fruits, rich harvests, warbling birds, crimson leaves, and perfumed blossoms. Thus I say:

> "Protect me, protect me, O my Lord, the All-Merciful, from blameworthy attributes, wicked deeds, unseemly acts, and deceitful and injurious words!"

For the outcome of these is realized in the contingent realm as hell and hellfire, and the infernal and fetid trees, as utter malevolence, loathsome things, sicknesses, misery, pollution, and war and destruction. Great God! To disclose more than this is not permissible. I declare that all majesty and greatness belong to God, the Incomparable, the All- Compelling.

I will present another example from the realm of divine legislation, which corresponds to the world of creation, by referring to the application of religious law. God willing, to the extent you are informed of the divine worlds, you will recognize and understand the metaphorical nature of this world, and will be able to extend it to the limitless worlds. I relate a parable from the religious law of Islam and the law preceding it, of which you are aware and which you acknowledge. Should a Christian, in accordance with religious law and ordinance, owe a jar of wine and a piece of pork to a debtor, and later on both should become Muslims, what course should the deputies of the sacred law follow in order to redress the right of the wronged and requite the overdue debt owed to him? For in Islam, wine and pork are unlawful and have no value, and will yield no benefit to the one to whom they are due. You have no recourse except to say: either they should compensate the creditor with goods that are lawful in Islam, or they should award him its monetary value in conformity with what legal experts consider equitable and fair. Similar judgments in some legal cases are mentioned and recorded in the books of the jurists.

Should I desire it, I could unfold for you many more analogies, both common and abstruse. Through the power of God and His might, I am able to do this. But I refrain from this lest our discourse become protracted and cause you to become weary and inattentive. Thus, I conclude this discourse and give praise to God, who has guided us to recognize His Most Great Name and has acquainted us with that whereof the peoples of the world are unaware.

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BH00744: The Book of God, the All-Compelling, the Self-Subsisting

The Book of God, the All-Compelling, the Self-Subsisting

He is the Witness, the Hearer, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed

Praise be to the Self-Subsisting Lord, Who is worthy and deserving, Who through the hands of bounty hath bestowed the choice-sealed wine upon all the peoples of the world. The waves of the ocean of His wrath did not withhold His mercy, and the chains of kings and sovereigns did not prevent the tongue of His grandeur from speech. He is the Speaker of Sinai and the Lord of Revelation Who, through His exalted Word, bestowed new life upon the dwellers of the graves, and engaged them in service. None knoweth them save He Who speaketh in the Most Great Prison before the faces of all nations:

> "The King hath come! The Kingdom is God's, the All-Compelling, the Self-Subsisting!"

Glory, radiance, light and splendor be upon the hands of the Cause of God who have aided His Cause throughout all lands and regions. These are servants whom We have made keys to the doors of knowledge and understanding in the contingent world. Exalted is the All-Merciful Who hath assisted them to arise to serve His firm and mighty Cause.

The honored Branch hath presented before Me thy letter which thou didst send to the Beloved, upon him be My glory and loving-kindness, and he read it before My face. We answer thee with verses whereby all things were attracted and the atoms cried out before all faces: "The Kingdom is God's, the Almighty, the Exalted, the Unconstrained!" Should anyone ask thee about the Glory, say: "By God's life! He is under the claws of hatred, yet He remembereth His loved ones with that which the fragrance thereof shall never cease to endure, by the perpetuity of God, the Lord of the hidden and the manifest." O Fadlu'llah! Hear the call from the horizon of ʿAkka—verily there is no God but He, the Single, the One, the Mighty, the Exalted, the All-Knowing.

Nothing whatsoever escapeth His knowledge. He witnesseth and seeth, and He is the Mighty, the All-Bestowing. Blessed art thou for having remembered thy Lord at a time when the factions had surrounded Him from all sides. Say: This is the Day of Victory; aid ye it through remembrance and utterance. Thus hath the All-Merciful decreed in the Scriptures and Tablets. The eyes of the pure ones in the Most Exalted Paradise have wept by reason of that which hath befallen the friends of God in the City of Ya. Thus was the matter decreed from God, the Lord of lords. By God's life! Through this God hath aided His Cause and exalted it to a station beyond which all mention is cut off. Soon shall the sincere ones behold the power

of God and His sovereignty. Thus did the Tongue of Grandeur speak as He walked in the mansion which God had made the Dayspring of lights.

O ʿAli-Qabli-Muhammad! We have mentioned thee before in a Tablet through which the fragrances of God were wafted to all regions. Thou wert mentioned before the Throne through verses at which feet have slipped save those who were encompassed by the tender mercies of their Lord, the Lord of all men. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to unite through thee the hearts and to strengthen thee in all conditions. Read what We have revealed in Our Most Holy Book and give glad-tidings thereof to My servants who have arisen to serve My Cause, who have soared in My atmosphere, and who have spoken that which the tongue of My grandeur hath spoken from the most exalted station. Say: O people! This is the Day of Teaching. Cast aside what ye possess, clinging to the cord of God, the Lord of the Day of Resurrection. The glory from Us be upon thee and upon those who love thee for the sake of God, Who is supreme over the Sacred Place and the Station.

O Muhammad-Qabli-Hasan! The loved ones of the earth and the letter Mim have always been and continue to be before Our sight. No veil separateth between the Wronged One and them. To this beareth witness the Mother Book and beyond it the Tongue of God, the Mighty, the All-Bountiful. O My loved ones! This is the Day of triumph and the Day of utterance. Arise to teach the Cause of God, and in all conditions bestow with spirit and fragrance, with wisdom and utterance, from the choice sealed wine which hath been unsealed by the finger of the bounty of the Lord, the Self-Subsisting, that perchance the heedless ones of the world may find their way to the ocean of awareness and arise to render service. O party of God, His loved ones and His chosen ones! Shun ye whatsoever giveth forth the odor of mischief, and adorn yourselves with the ornament of patience and resignation. By the life of God! The recompense of your deeds hath not been, nor shall ever be, lost, but is preserved and treasured with the Trustee. Rejoice ye in this word which no words in the world can equal. To this beareth witness the Lord of Eternity at this manifest time.

We wish at this time to make mention of him who was named Javad in the Book of God, which speaketh in the final return. O Javad! That which hath appeared is such as no eye in the world hath seen the like thereof, nor hath any ear in the realm of possibility heard its parallel. Yet certain deluded ones are seen who, like unto the people of the Bayan and the Qur'an, cling to the cord of idle fancies and are deprived of the lights of the Day-Star of certitude. Say: O people! Today the ocean of inner meanings is surging and the sun of divine knowledge is shining and manifest. Have mercy upon yourselves and the Cause; be not once again the cause of dissension.

Fix your gaze upon the horizon of the one true Revelation. This is the station of true unity and the light of divine wisdom. The former people claimed a new Lord each day, and you have seen and heard what was the fruit thereof on the Day of Judgment. Blessed art thou and blessed is he who hath cast away idle fancies in the days of God, the Lord of lords. Make mention of the loved ones on behalf of the Wronged One and give them the glad tidings of that which hath been sent down from the heaven of the mercy of the All-Merciful and the bounty of the All-Glorious, that the utterance of the All-Merciful may attract them and draw them nigh unto Him at all times.

O Pen! Make mention of him who hath loved Me and cast away all else, holding fast unto that which hath been sent down in the Psalms and Tablets. We wish to end this Tablet with his mention, that he may rejoice in the bounty of his Lord, the Lord of creation. We testify that he hath attained unto that which was recorded and inscribed by the Most Exalted Pen in the Book of God, the Mighty, the All-Bestowing. O thou who gazest upon the Countenance! Hearken unto the call of the Wronged One in the Persian tongue. In these days that hath come to pass which causeth the heart of the world to be sorrowful. The martyrdom of assured souls hath been and continueth to be the cause of the exaltation of the Word, yet some have added that which is not worthy of mention. Glory be to God! Those who considered themselves the daysprings of steadfastness are seen to be the dawning-places of vain imaginings. Prayer for this Wronged One is necessary.

O Haydar-Ali! Should anyone ask thee about the Lamp, say: By God, it is amidst the winds! And should anyone ask thee about the Tree, say: It is beneath the swords of malice! Have they not read the Most Holy Book? Have they not discovered the fragrance of its verses? Tribulation, hardship, martyrdom, adversity and torment in the path of God are sweeter than honey and constitute a supreme bounty. However, the suspicions of certain loved ones have caused the heart to melt. By My life! Hearts have been consumed by the waves of hatred that have encompassed the Ark of God, the Lord of all beings. Convey My greetings, glory, mention and splendor to the true loved ones. We beseech God to aid all to that which will cause the exaltation of His Word. He is the Powerful, the Mighty. Under all conditions, occupy thyself with the refinement of souls. Verily He teacheth you, preserveth you, and aideth you through the hosts of wisdom and utterance, from God, the Mighty, the Bestower. The glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My Kingdom be upon thee and upon My loved ones who have cast the world behind them, and have stood before all faces saying:

> "God is our Lord, the Lord of our forebears, and the Lord of the mighty throne and the elevated seat."

Blessed is Ali-Akbar, whom We informed beforehand of his captivity and what would befall him from the hosts of the oppressors. These assured and contented souls were mentioned aforetime by the Supreme Pen. Verily We informed him of this as a bounty from God, the Mighty, the Powerful. Blessed is he who remembereth him, assisteth him and respondeth to him on this blessed, mighty and wondrous Day. Convey My greetings to his wife and give her the glad-tidings of My loving-kindness and mercy which have preceded all things. There is no God but Him, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. At this moment We make mention of him who was named Amin in My perspicuous Book. We beseech God to protect him from the evil of the heedless ones, to aid him through the hosts of the exalted ones, and to draw him ever closer unto Him. Verily He is the Most Merciful of the merciful. Praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH00743: Eulogy for Ashraf

He is the All-Bountiful, the Possessor of Great Grace

Rapture and ecstasy have appeared in the City of Lovers, for a precious gem among gems [Mulla Ashraf] has sought its mine, and a lover among lovers has outstripped all others and sacrificed himself in the path of the Desire of all worlds. The wolf has devoured, the oppressor has slain, and the serpent has opened its

mouth and swallowed. Glory be to God! Deeds that cause wonder to the Concourse on High have no effect upon ignorant servants. The events of the days and the appearance of lights and the manifestation of mysteries are visible before all faces, yet they are seen to be without effect and observed to be fruitless, for rebellion has cut down the tree of worthiness and erased hope from hearts. Until now, the light of the Cause and its grace and essence have not appeared in the being of the servants. Ask thou of God to transform and change this. Verily, He is the Generous, the Bountiful.

Upon thee be the light of God and His mercy, and the glory of God and His favor. The event in the land of Sad was the cause of preventing corruption. When the intention and purpose of the oppressors was not accepted, they arose to tyranny. Thou art witness, and those near to God and the sincere ones bear testimony, that this Wronged One protected those souls through the hosts of exhortations, counsels, wisdom and utterance. However, due to the lack of mention of this supreme favor, it remained concealed, and its concealment is preferable with God to its disclosure. They are innocent of what I do, and I am innocent of what they do. However, We counsel all the friends to patience and forbearance. All must fix their gaze upon the Most Exalted Horizon. Commit all affairs to God, exalted be His glory. Blessed are they who put their trust in God, who have relied in all matters upon God, the Lord of the Day of Resurrection.

Know thou with clear certainty that these great oppressions prepare the way for supreme justice. The tyranny of Pharaoh prepared the way for the justice of Moses, and the hand of power brought forth from his house that which he strove with all his might to avoid and whose removal he sought. The power of God is above their power, and the Cause of God is above their commands, and the Will of God is above their wills.

Thy letter which thou didst send with Ism-i-Jud was presented before the Wronged One, and whatsoever was mentioned therein was heard. Thou didst seek martyrdom and hast asked about its station from God, exalted be His glory, both before and after. The Most Exalted Pen beareth witness to thy martyrdom. Be grateful to thy Lord for this manifest grace.

The Supreme Pen testified to the martyrdom of the King of Martyrs before his physical martyrdom, uttering these sublime words:

> “Verily the martyr walketh and speaketh and serveth the Cause of his Lord.”

Several years before his ascension, his name was recorded by the Supreme Pen in the register of martyrs. Today, your service and support of the Most Great Cause surpasseth any other deed. Glory be to God! The blind of the world are deprived of sight, and the deaf are forbidden to hear.

O thou who speaketh in My name and uttereth My praise! The sheep of God are surrounded by wolves, having had and having no guardian or protector save God. Your honor must act with the utmost wisdom and hold fast to that which is needful in this day. First, in towns and cities where the fire of sedition is ablaze, it is not permissible to turn in that direction. Justice and fairness in Iran have become like the phoenix. For a time His Majesty the King had endeavored to protect the sheep of God. In any case, they have had and continue to have superiority over other servants. His kindness, mercy and favor have had

and have no comparison to others. From the land of Sad they have mentioned and sent forth calumnies. We do not wish to reveal that which is concealed behind the pavilion of knowledge.

Second, regarding those friends who are observed to be distressed and fearful in adversity and hardship, no blame resteth upon such souls. How is the state of a bird that beholdeth an eagle, and the condition of a sheep that seeth wolves on all sides? The utmost kindness must be shown to such souls, and even if they commit a wrong deed or utter an unseemly word, one must hold fast to gracious patience and take refuge in the greatest concealment, which is one of the fruits of God's Name, the Concealer. For if someone's oversight is mentioned, it would cause grief and embarrassment to that helpless one, and this is not beloved before God. The condition of this Wronged One is known to all, and His purpose is clear, and never hath He considered, nor doth He consider, the preservation of His own self.

In the Tablet to the King, these exalted words were revealed from the Supreme Pen, the meaning of which in Persian is this: This Wronged One is seated beneath a sword suspended by a thread or a hair; it is not known whether it will fall now, or in another hour, or another day. Many times We were imprisoned, and like captives We were paraded through streets and bazaars, and all that befell Us and We bore was for the purpose that all the peoples of the world might be sanctified from rancor and hatred and be illumined with the light of love, fellowship and unity.

In any case, in these days it is not permissible to turn towards the lands of Shin and Sad. The accepted souls—the three and the fourth, upon them be the glory of God—have both friends and enemies. The satans of the earth and its wolves have been and are lying in wait. Therefore, your honor's entry into that land is not advisable. In the land of Sad, someone from that land must now arise to serve and hold fast to wisdom, illumining hearts and minds with the light of utterance. We beseech God to raise up therein one who will remember Me and aid Me, whom oppression will not deter from justice, nor clamor from steadfastness in the Cause of God, the Lord of the Mighty Throne. In these days it is not permissible to mention the names of the friends at the head of holy Tablets. However, without names, Tablets have been sent written by the two Branches and the servant, and the number of ha by the Greater Branch. We have commanded Jud to mention the details of the bestowal of Tablets.

Mention hath been made of Jinab-i-Mirza Mihdi Khan, upon him be the Glory of God. He verily witnesseth and seeth, and He is the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing. Let them be confident in God's grace and assured of His bounty. Praise be to God, from the earliest days they drank from the Kawthar of utterance and received a great portion from the sealed wine. We send greetings and salutations to him and the loved ones of that land, and We give them the glad-tidings of the effulgences of the Sun of Truth. In these days their mention hath again been revealed from the Most Exalted Pen. Should We wish, We would send it as a token of Our grace, for thy Lord is verily the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous. Make mention of all the loved ones in those regions on behalf of the Wronged One. Say: Be not grieved by the oppression of the oppressors. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to make known unto you the stations of those who turned towards Him and responded when the Call was raised between earth and heaven, and who drank the wine of steadfastness from this Cup which glorieth over the seas.

O Haydar-ʿAli, upon thee be My glory! Say:

My God, my God! With Thee are the treasuries of sight and hearing. I beseech Thee by Thine eye that sleepeth not, and by Thy Name through which Thou didst subdue all created things, and by the ocean of Thy verses and the kingdom of Thine utterance, that Thou deprive not Thy servants of beholding and hearkening. Thou art, verily, the Lord of all men. There is none other God but Thee, the All-Bountiful, the All-Seeing. O my God! Send Thy blessings upon Thy chosen ones and Thy trusted ones, whom the swords of the world could not frighten, nor could the veils of those who denied the Day of Judgment prevent. Verily, Thou art the Almighty, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

BH00767: Praise befitteth the Lord of existence and the Sovereign…

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

Praise befitteth the Lord of existence and the Sovereign of the seen and unseen, Who, through a single effulgence from the Day-Star of His Name, the Self-Subsisting, hath made manifest the mysteries of the blessed words “And when the trumpet is blown a second time, at once they will be standing and looking on.” Great indeed is this Day, and greater still are its requirements.

O Nasr, upon thee be the Glory of God, Lord of destiny! Today the secrets of hearts and the treachery of eyes are visible before all faces. Beseech the True One that He deprive not His servants of the outpourings of the Lord of creation on the Day of Return. Man’s life in this world is like a breeze that enters through one door and exits through another. Today the friends of the Desired One of all worlds, who have drunk from the ocean of knowledge and are gazing toward the horizon of the All-Merciful, must, with utmost love, spirit, fragrance, wisdom and utterance, awaken the heedless and rouse the slumbering ones.

Say: O friends! Today is the dawn of the Day of Justice. Strive that ye may become manifestations, daysprings and dawning-places of goodly deeds and spiritual, praiseworthy characteristics. In these days man is able to acquire that which ensures eternal permanence and everlasting life.

His honor Asad, upon him be My glory, presented himself with thy letter. Praise be to God, the fragrance of service and steadfastness emanated therefrom. Today one must hold fast unto any matter from which wafteth the fragrance of justice, equity and goodness, purely for the sake of God, Lord of existence and Commander on the Promised Day. This binding command hath ever been revealed from the Wise, the All-Knowing Commander, as witnessed by the divine Books. He hath commanded all to righteousness and piety, and forbidden transgression and wickedness. Blessed is the city that the vicissitudes of time have not prevented from the light of religion, trustworthiness and chastity. These blessed words have shone forth like the Most Great Luminary from the horizon of divine Tablets. Blessed is he who hath recognized and acted accordingly, and woe unto the heedless ones.

O Nasr! Thou knowest that outwardly the utmost kindness was shown to one who was present at the Sacred Threshold, yet that faithless one, consumed by the fire of greed and passion, melted down the trust and dealt a mighty blow to justice and fairness. He committed that which had no equal. His treachery was ever manifest and evident, yet the Name “the Concealer” veiled it until at last, through the temptation of God’s enemy, he rent asunder the veil. Now in the City of Divine Justice lamentations are

raised, for the harm of his deeds hath affected the Very Tree. The Afnan assisted him, and the friends' commercial dealings were referred to him from every direction. Nevertheless, he preferred greed to contentment, and likewise oppression to justice.

I swear by the Sun of Truth which hath shone forth from the heaven of will—not a single dinar from those two treasuries rightfully belonged to him. We confirmed this matter for his benefit—namely his trading at the Sacred Threshold—and likewise for the manifestation of the light of trustworthiness among the people. Yet that unjust one occupied himself with falsehood and betrayal day and night, until finally with the hands of greed and avarice he kindled a fire that consumed the vitals of trustworthiness, religion, truthfulness and sincerity. Glory be to God! In the station of faithfulness appeared faithlessness, and in the station of trustworthiness appeared treachery. We beseech God to aid him to return and repent. He, verily, is the Ever-Forgiving, the Pardoning, the Generous. Treachery, greed and oppression have reached such a state that their eradication is impossible save through the Will of God, the Lord of the Throne and of the dust, the Master of the Last and the First.

That which thou didst mention regarding the consultative assembly and its members hath been accepted. The loved ones of God must at all times occupy themselves with that which conduceth to the refinement of souls, the elevation of beings, and the exaltation of the Word of God. Its appearance dependeth upon the consultation of the trustees of the House of Justice. Blessed are they who have arisen to serve the world. The effects of such souls shall lead the world from hardship to comfort, from poverty to wealth, and from abasement to glory. We beseech God to assist them in righteousness and piety, and to open before their faces the doors of grace, mercy, blessing and abundance. Verily, He doeth what He willeth, and in His grasp are the reins of all things. He doeth and judgeth, and He is the Ordainer, the Ancient of Days, the All-Knowing Ruler.

Praise be to God that his honor Muhammad-Quli hath been enabled to serve mankind. God willing, the very intention shall prove penetrating and effective, and universal fruits shall appear therefrom. All must at all times fix their gaze upon this exalted word: "O people of Baha! Aid ye the Lord through deeds and character!" The influence of deeds is more potent than the influence of words. Goodly deeds and spiritual qualities are each a herald of truth amongst the servants. The triumph of God's Cause dependeth upon these hosts. Perchance souls may arise for the sake of God and deliver the servants from the oppression of the ravenous ones of the earth, that corruption may be transformed into reformation, war into peace, and discord into concord. Say: "My God, my God! Adorn Thy servants with the ornament of Thy attributes and qualities, that there may appear that which Thou hast purposed for them through Thy bounty and generosity."

O Nasr! By the life of God, this Wronged One, though in the dragon's mouth, calleth all unto the horizon of the All-Merciful. Say:

> "Hold fast, O people, to the hem of piety, for verily it delivereth the servants and draweth them nigh unto God, the Lord of creation."

The loved ones of God in those regions must assist the aforementioned soul to the extent possible. Every deed that appeareth today is recorded as the most excellent of deeds by the Most Exalted Pen. Blessed are they that act!

Thou didst mention his honor Mirza Muhammad, upon him be My Glory. Praise be to God, he is confirmed in remembrance and glorification and in that which causeth the love of God to be diffused throughout all regions. We beseech the Most High to assist him and confirm him in the Greater Steadfastness. The corrupt ones of the Threshold are occupied with spreading false and slanderous reports. Glory be to God! Every person of insight is astonished that one whose treachery is evident as the sun still claimeth religiosity and trustworthiness. Now the property of a number of the companions is suffering and afflicted in the grip of the treacherous one's betrayal. O Nasru'llah! In the land of exile, in prison, there hath befallen this Wronged One that which the pen and ink are powerless to recount. Convey My greetings to the loved ones of that land and give them the glad-tidings of the favors of God, glorified be His majesty. Each is illumined by the lights of the Sun of Grace. We have refrained from mentioning names due to wisdom's requirements; however, the companions of the Crimson Ark are present before the Face and standing at the Door. Blessed are they! Likewise, gladden the handmaidens of that land with special favors. Say:

O my God, my God! Praise be unto Thee for having manifested unto Thy servants the billowing oceans of Thy utterance and the effulgent rays of Thy Revelation. I beseech Thee, O Sovereign of existence, by Thy mighty cord and Thy perspicuous utterance, and by Thy Most Exalted Word wherewith Thou didst once again quicken such of Thy servants as have drawn nigh unto Thee, to assist Thy loved ones and Thy chosen ones to attain unto such steadfastness as shall not be shaken by the doubts of the nations, nor by the clamor of the croakers, nor by the onslaught of those who have denied the Day of Judgment. O Lord! Aid them through the wisdom Thou hast sent down in Thy Books, Thy Scrolls, and Thy Tablets. Then send down upon them from the heaven of Thy mercy the rains of bounty and bestowal, and ordain for them that which shall draw them nigh unto the court of Thy glory and the carpet of Thy fellowship. Verily, Thou art the Omnipotent, the Almighty. There is none other God but Thee, the Single, the One, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

BH00764: O Ism-i-Sin! God calleth thee from this manifest station…

He is the Blessed and Exalted!

O Ism-i-Sin! God calleth thee from this manifest station. Verily, there is none other God but Him, the Powerful, the Most High, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. That which thou didst send to Ism-i-Jud hath come before Our presence, and the servant standing before the Throne hath read it. Verily thy Lord is the All-Hearing. We have heard and answered thee, even as We answered thee before. Verily thy Lord is the All-Bountiful. Grieve not over separation, for He remembereth thee through His Name, the Near One. Hold fast to the cord of teaching with wisdom and utterance, that haply the people of creation might turn unto the countenance of their Lord, the All-Knowing. Blessed is he who hath adorned himself with this robe and followed the command of his Lord. Verily thy Lord is the All-Wise. We make mention of thee

and thy brother. Blessed be he and thou, and whoso hath attained unto the recognition of God in this wondrous Day.

We make mention of Kaf and Dal who have believed in God, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting. Say: Hearken unto the call from the tongue of the Wronged One from this known quarter. Verily, there is none other God but Him, the Mighty, the Beloved. Say: Hold fast to the cord of [My love] and cling to the hem of My Name, the All-Loving. Abandon all else but Me and soar in My atmosphere, then drink what hath been ordained in the kingdom of My favors and the dominion of My providence. Verily thy Lord is the All-Compassionate. We have made mention of thee in numerous tablets. Arise to remember thy Lord in such wise that hearts may be attracted thereby. By the life of God! Shouldst thou inhale the fragrances of thy Lord's verses, thou wouldst forsake all who are on earth and arise to make mention of this Prisoner.

O My Most Exalted Pen! Make mention of him who hath spoken in remembrance of thee and become renowned for thy praise, that he may rejoice in thy bounty which hath encompassed the horizons. O Ashraf! The servant in attendance hath recited what thou didst compose in remembrance of God, the Lord of all mankind. Well is it with thee, then blessed art thou for having occupied thyself with that which hath brought joy to the Concourse on High and those who circle round the Throne at eventide and at dawn. We make mention of thee even as We mentioned thee before, whereunto testifieth that which hath flowed from My [swift-moving] Pen. Beseech God to make thee steadfast in this Most Great Cause and eloquent in that which shall endure throughout the ages. Make mention of thy Lord amongst the people, that perchance they may abandon what they possess and take hold of that which hath come unto them from God, the Lord of all beings. Glory be upon thee and upon that which hath proceeded from thee in praise of thy Lord, the All-Bestowing.

O Ism-i-Jud! Hearken to the call of the Desired One Who maketh mention of thee from this praiseworthy station. The servant who is present hath laid before Us that which thou didst send to Ism-i-Jud who hath migrated with God, the Lord of what was and what shall be. We make mention of thee and thy son and those who are with thee, that ye may give thanks unto God, the Lord of the seen and unseen.

O Javad! Make thyself ready to hearken unto the verses of thy Lord, then hear what the Lord of creation calleth unto thee from this forbidden station. Verily, the Hidden Mystery speaketh with My tongue and hath not been made manifest except through My Revelation, which is established upon the throne in this Most Great Prison and proclaimeth:

> "There is none other God but I, the True One, the Knower of things unseen."

Say: O loved ones of the All-Merciful in the realm of possibility! Turn with illumined hearts toward the White Spot, this station wherefrom the Dayspring of Glory proclaimeth: "There is none other God but I, the Mighty, the Witnessed." Hold fast unto the cord of My remembrance and abandon all else—those who have cast the path of God behind their backs and followed every vain imagination. Rejoice in what hath been mentioned by the tongue of thy Lord, then make mention of My loved ones through these words whereby the graves have been quickened. Say: Despair not of the mercy of your Lord. Rejoice in the choice wine of My beloved remembrance.

Say: O My loved ones! Hold fast unto the cord of unity. By the life of God! Through it shall the Cause of God be exalted and His sovereignty be made manifest among all who witness and are witnessed. Say: Divide not the Word of God. Gather ye together around that which I have commanded you in My perspicuous Tablet. Act according to that which the All-Merciful hath sent down in His Most Holy, Sacred and Blessed Book.

O Pen! Make mention of him who hath been named Diya in the Kingdom of Names. Say: Rejoice in this most great favor and cling to this exalted station. By the life of God! This is the Day of remembrance and praise. Leave all else and speak forth this wondrous remembrance. Say: O people of the graves! By God! The trumpet hath been sounded and the mountains have passed away and the heaven hath come with a manifest command. Arise and turn with shining faces toward the Supreme Horizon. Beware lest the world hold you back from this mighty favor. No day like this day shall come unto you, nor any remembrance like this wise remembrance. God shall soon make manifest that which hath appeared from His loved ones and shall exalt them in truth as a grace from His presence. He, verily, is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

Say: Ye were created for My remembrance and praise. To this doth the Tongue of My grandeur bear witness in the pavilion of My glory and the tabernacle of My mighty Command. Act in such wise as would gladden the Concourse on High, not in that which would delight the people of the world. By My life! It shall perish, while there shall endure for you in My Kingdom that which the pens are powerless to describe. Say: Thus doth the Wronged One make mention of you, though sorrows encompass Him. He, verily, is the Expositor, the All-Knowing.

O friends! Beseech God, glorified and exalted be He, that He may enable all to succeed in matters that will perpetuate their remembrance. All must be like unto the morning star, radiant and resplendent from the horizons of the heaven of divine love. That which is possible to be manifested in these days cannot be manifested at any other time. Therefore, all must arise to compensate for what hath escaped them, for that which is lost today can never be retrieved. He verily speaketh the truth and guideth to the Way. Convey wondrous and sublime greetings to all the loved ones of God. Though not all names were mentioned, all are remembered before His Countenance, and those souls who have newly turned to the stream of divine knowledge are blessed with God's favors. Blessed are they for having cast away all else and taken hold of this Name, whereby all souls were shaken except such as God hath willed. All friends must engage in teaching God's Cause with perfect unity and harmony, and must in all conditions observe wisdom, lest that occur which may disturb the hearts.

We make mention of him whom God hath adorned with My servitude, he who is named ʿAbdu'l-Husayn. O servant! The servant who is present hath come and presented before the Countenance thy letter which thou didst send to Ism-i-Jud, and the Lord of creation maketh mention of thee in this perspicuous scroll. Rejoice in that thou hast been mentioned by My Most Exalted Pen, and in that the face of thy Lord hath turned toward thee from this distant station. Be thou of such character that the sincere ones may inhale from thee the fragrance of steadfastness in this mighty Cause. Blessed art thou for having attained unto the recognition of God and for having known the Beloved when every heedless doubter turned away. Thus have We mentioned thee that thou mayest rejoice and give thanks unto thy Lord, the Stranger.

O Pen! Make mention of the handmaidens who have remembered their Lord and turned toward God, the Lord of all worlds. O My handmaidens! Blessed are ye and blessed is every maidservant who hath believed in God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy. We make mention of every leaf who hath held fast to the Tree of the Cause and hath called upon her Lord, the Almighty, the Powerful. We have heard your call and have turned toward you from the direction of My mighty Throne. God counseleth His handmaidens with that which beseemeth His days and His Name, whereby the mightiest idol hath lamented and the back of every distant misbeliever hath been broken.

We make mention of her who hath turned toward God and hath attained the honor of visiting the House in this Most Great Prison. Verily her Lord, the Most Merciful, is the Munificent Giver. O My handmaiden! Thy letter was presented and what was contained therein was read before the Throne, and We have answered thee as a grace from Our presence, and We are the Answerer. Hold thou fast unto the cord of sanctity, then make mention of that which thou wast bidden before the Countenance. He, verily, is the Counselor, the All-Knowing. Glory be upon the people of Baha and upon those handmaidens who have believed in God, the All-Informed.

Volume 102: Akka 1873–1892 year unknown, Part II (1 of 2)

BH01367: O thou, My friend! By the life of God!…

He is the Most Holy, the Most Great!

O thou, My friend! By the life of God! The tale of sacrifice hath returned, together with that which lay hidden in the knowledge of God, the Lord of all worlds. The Bird of Fidelity hath winged its flight from the branch of this world unto the furthermost Lote-Tree, through that which the hands of the unjust have wrought. We bear witness that he abideth in a joy wherewith no joy in all creation can compare, while his loved ones are plunged in grief, mourning for him such that all things lament with them. Verily, thy Lord is He Who expoundeth all things, the All-Knowing.

By God! They have profited in their commerce, whilst the oppressors have suffered loss. Verily, they are indeed in manifest perdition. Hath My name, Husayn, suffered loss because he offered up his spirit in the path of God? Or rather they who wronged him, in that they followed every depraved and wayward soul? Oppression hath reached such a pass that the tongue is powerless to describe it, though behind it standeth One Who counteth all things and knoweth all things. They have kindled a fire whose blaze shall not be quenched throughout the world. Thus doth He in Whose presence is the knowledge of all things inform thee in a perspicuous Book.

O Khalil! Behold how plainly and manifestly the truth of the True One and the waywardness of falsehood have been revealed. All bear witness that from that Wronged One there hath proceeded the utmost love, compassion, and loving-kindness toward all peoples and kindreds, and that no act contrary thereto—that is, no act that might be the cause of sedition or the occasion of corruption—ever appeared from him. And how many were the destitute abroad whom, in days of dire distress, he did assist! To this every truthful soul beareth witness, and beyond them thy Lord, the All-Informed.

Should any soul reflect upon him and upon that which, through the bounties of his Lord, became manifest from him, he would, with the eye of certitude, perceive that in all that hath come to pass there was, and shall be, a mighty wisdom. The Most Great Sacrifice and the Supreme Immolation have been made manifest in this mighty Cause. In ʿIraq, when he attained the Divine Presence, such loving-kindness streamed forth concerning him from the Source of the Cause that certain souls, lost in the wilderness of idle fancy, gave utterance to words. Thereupon did the True One, by His consummate power, raise up that Lote-Tree unto a station whereof none is aware save His own Self, the All-Knowing; and for him He sent down blessing from His presence and mercy from His nearness. Verily, He is the All-Powerful, the Almighty.

Diverse letters from him reached the Throne, and in them he besought God, his Lord, the Sovereign of the world to come and of the world that now is, that He might ordain for him the Most Great Martyrdom. By thy life, O Khalil! Through his calamity all other calamities have been effaced. To this beareth witness thy Lord, the wronged and lonely One. We have sent down for him from the heaven of grace that which the kingdoms of earth and heaven can never equal. Ere long shall God cause that which he hath sown in the land of Bayan to spring forth. Verily, He is the Almighty, Whom neither the hosts of the world nor the ranks of the oppressors can hinder.

O Khalil! That divine Lote-Tree which the hand of the Sovereign Will hath planted in the blessed and goodly land hath ever been, and shall continue to be, watered by the blood of the sincere and the true believers in the divine unity. Soon shall the effect of the deeds of the oppressors appear and be made manifest in the earth. Did the oppressor imagine that God was heedless of that which he hath wrought? Nay, by His own Self, the Self that overshadoweth all worlds! By His own true Self! He shall bring to pass in the earth, openly and visibly, that which He hath revealed in the Book. To this beareth witness whoso hath been endowed with insight from God, the Lord of all worlds.

Peruse the Suriy-i-Ra'is and other Tablets. By the life of God, thy heart and the hearts of the true knowers shall rejoice at that which hath been revealed therein. Were He to so desire, He could seize all who dwell on earth with but a single word from Him; yet doth He manifest His Cause through the wisdom that lay hidden in His all-encompassing knowledge. By the Sun shining above the horizon of power! Had this world possessed any worth, the Ancient Beauty would not have dwelt for long years within the Most Great Prison. Man, so long as he remaineth in this world, is in truth ever in the agonies of death—save those empty and detached hearts that, through the divine eye, behold all things.

God willing, it behoveth thy honor, according to thy capacity, to cast the spirit of peace and assurance into illumined hearts, that tranquillity may overtake them after their agitation, and joy after their sorrow. Thus doth He Who remembereth thee in this exalted station command thee.

O Khalil! A mighty event hath been brought to pass in the world—though one greater than it hath already appeared, as thou thyself art witness and testifiest. Yet because for a long time the hand of power had preserved it, and thereafter this irrevocable decree was suddenly made manifest, it hath become the cause of lamentation, mourning, and trembling. But with thy Lord there is that which shall rejoice hearts after this grievous sorrow. Say: This is a martyrdom whose effects have gone forth throughout the world, and God shall ere long make it manifest in truth. Verily, He is powerful to do whatsoever He willeth.

The glory be upon thee, and upon those who have hearkened unto thy words in the Cause of God, the Lord of the Day of Judgment.

BH01037: O Nur! The Lord of Manifestation in the Mount…

He is God, exalted be His glory in wisdom and utterance!

O Nur! The Lord of Manifestation in the Mount of knowledge, which is the prison-abode of the Desire of all worlds, maketh mention of thee. The purpose is that the Divine Call may attract His people and confirm them in that which will cause the exaltation of the Word of God. Night and day We have made mention of the loved ones and commanded them to chastity, purity and trustworthiness. Some have become aware and have drunk the Kawthar of knowledge from the hand of the bounty of God, exalted be His glory, while others have denied and opened their mouths in ingratitude for God's favor. They have done that which caused the sighs of those near unto God to ascend and the tears of the sincere ones to flow.

Glory be to God! The heedless servants are occupied with what they possess and are negligent and veiled from what is with God. The people of the Bayan have been seen to be the most oppressive of all peoples. Woe unto them and away with them! They have denied the verses of God after their revelation and have rejected His favor after its manifestation. Say: Fear ye God and invalidate not the Cause through what ye possess. Soon shall ye return and find yourselves in the lowest depths of the fire.

Thy letter which thou didst send to this servant was presented at the Most Holy Court and attained the honor of being heard. Blessed art thou, O Nur! Thou art he who hath attained unto My days and dwelt beneath My shadow. Behold, then remember when thou didst stand before the Countenance and didst attain unto the verses of God, the Lord of all worlds. Blessed art thou and thy father who believed in the Day wherein the limbs of all names trembled for fear of God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy. We testify that he hath attained unto the Most Exalted Station and the Most High Rank. We beseech God, exalted be He, to send down upon him at all times that which beseemeth the heaven of His mercy and the ocean of His bounty. Verily, He is the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous.

Mention was made in thy letter of several names, each of whom hath been honored with the verses of the Most Exalted Pen that they may give thanks unto their Lord, the Forgiving, the Generous. This is what hath been revealed for his honor Mirza Sadiq, upon him be the glory of God.

He is the Hearer, the Answerer

A mention from Us to him who hath attained unto the lights of the Countenance and believed in God, the One, the All-Informed. O Sadiq! We make mention of thee in truth and counsel thee with that whereby the Cause of God, the Lord of this wondrous Day, may be exalted. Say:

My God, my God! Thy most sweet call hath attracted me. I beseech Thee by Thy Most Great Signs and the breaths of Thy Revelation, O Lord of all beings, to assist me in that which beseemeth Thy days, then cause me in all circumstances to hold fast unto Thee and unto Thy verses. Verily Thou art the Powerful over what Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the Mighty, the Powerful.

And We make mention of him who is named Muhammad, who hath turned unto God, the Mighty, the Wise. O Muhammad! Hold fast unto divine wisdom and cling unto His grace. Each day the Herald of Glory hath given and giveth tidings unto the servants, and that which is acceptable and beloved today is the teaching of God's Cause. Blessed is he who hath, with spirit and joy, guided the people of the world to the Purpose of the worlds.

And We make mention of Javad who hath attained unto the Most Exalted Horizon, and We counsel him with that which beseemeth the days of God, the Lord of all worlds. And We make mention of him who is named Muhammad-Baqir and give him glad tidings of God's tender mercy, his Lord. We have made mention of them in numerous Tablets, one letter of which cannot be equaled by all the treasures of the earth. To this testifieth every discerning knower.

And We make mention of him who is named Muhammad-Isma'il that he may rejoice in the remembrance of his Lord and be of the thankful ones.

O Abdu'r-Rahim! Hearken unto the call from the direction of Akka. Verily, He hath made mention of thee in that whereby the hearts of the Concourse on High were attracted and the eyes of those near unto God were solaced.

O Mahmud! The Wronged One is in the Most Great Prison, remembering His loved ones with a fragrance that will never cease to endure throughout the Kingdom of God, the Mighty, the Praised.

We make mention of him who was named Muhammad-ʿAli and counsel him to manifest great steadfastness in this Cause which hath made the limbs of all names to quake. Thus hath the Tongue of Grandeur spoken, while established upon the throne of utterance in this exalted station.

O ʿAbdu'l-Karim! The Countenance of the Ancient One hath turned toward thee, counselling thee to be trustworthy and religious, and to that whereby the Cause of God, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed, may be exalted.

We make mention of Muhammad-Husayn with a remembrance by which hearts and souls are attracted. We beseech God to make thee steadfast and firm in this Most Great Cause and this Mighty Announcement.

O ʿAbdu'llah! Blessed is the ear that hath heard My call, and the eye that hath beheld the traces of My Pen, and the face that hath turned toward the lights of My luminous countenance.

O Darvish-ʿAli! Thy name was present before the Wronged One. The Countenance of the Ancient One hath turned toward thee from the direction of His Most Great Prison, remembering thee with a remembrance wherewith the books of the world have been adorned. Blessed is he who hath witnessed and recognized, and woe unto the heedless.

We make mention at this time of him who was named ʿAbdu'l-Karim, and We cast upon him from the verses of his Lord that he may be among those who are firm in this Cause whereby feet have slipped and the hearts of the doubters have been troubled.

O Ghulam-Rida! The Lord of Names maketh mention of thee at this time, and of all the friends, and counselleth all to that which will exalt the Word of God amongst His creatures. O people of God! In Our Tablets We have commanded all to unity and harmony, for harmony hath ever been and remains the cause of the exaltation of the Word. The triumph of the Cause cometh through the hosts of goodly deeds and character, and through the fear of God, the Lord of all worlds. O people of Baha! Hold fast unto that which hath flowed from the Most Exalted Pen. God willing, through the grace of the True One, exalted be His glory, all shall be and have been assisted in that which is His good-pleasure.

O Nur! Convey greetings from the tongue of the Wronged One to all the kindred. Give them the glad-tidings of My loving-kindness and remind them of My verses. The kindred of the Name of Kamal have always been and are before Our sight, both before and after his ascension. After his ascension there was revealed from the Most Exalted Pen, specifically for him, that which hath no likeness or parallel. Verily, We purified him at the time of his ascension and forgave him as a bounty from Our presence, and drew him nigh unto Us and caused him to enter the Most Exalted Paradise as a mercy from Our presence. Verily thy Lord is the All-Merciful, the Most Compassionate. All praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH01365: O My namesake! The letters from the Afnan…

In the name of the one true God

O My namesake! The letters from the Afnan which ye have forwarded were received. This servant perused them all and made mention thereof. Praise be to God, they have attained through His grace and are gathered beneath the shadow of the Divine Lote-Tree. Mention was also made of Jinab-i-Muballigh, of Jinab Mirza Aqa, and of the other Afnan—upon them be My glory. God willing, they shall be confirmed in remembrance, in praise, and in service to the Cause.

As to what Jinab Afnan-i-Nabil—upon him be My glory—had previously written concerning the matter of Jinab Mulla Rajab—upon him be the glory of God—it was accepted. Let half the revenues of that land be distributed among the poor of that same land. Yet let them strive that all the people be occupied with some craft or undertaking; for from the heaven of divine bounty there descendeth a blessing from Him. He, verily, is the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous. Let them cling firmly to this injunction. Other modes of apportionment, such as had obtained aforetime, have not been, nor are they now, worthy of the station of man. We desire to behold Our loved ones engaged in work, not waiting in idleness. The Most Exalted Pen hath enjoined upon all that whereby their honour, their station, and their rank may be exalted. Ere long that which hath shone forth from the ocean of the Divine Will shall be witnessed upon earth. The command is in His grasp: He doeth what He willeth and ordaineth what He pleaseth, and He is the Ordainer, the All-Wise.

There is a prescribed ruling for the Huququ'llah. After the House of Justice hath come into being, the law thereof will be made manifest, in conformity with the Will of God.

Thou hadst mentioned Jinab A. and S. of the land of Sad. God grant that they may attain unto the Most Great Steadfastness, and that they may deal with the family of Sultanu'sh-Shuhada with the utmost love. Their service before God is that which hath been set forth. Well is it with them that give ear. A Tablet

hath been revealed especially for them and will be sent. As to Jinab Mirza Sadiq, God willing, he shall be confirmed in that which God loveth. Some time ago the mention of them all flowed from the Most Exalted Pen, and hereafter also, if God so willeth, they shall attain thereto. Blessed is he who maketh mention of Sad and of that which hath befallen therein.

Sorrows and calamities have compassed the world about, and assuredly that which hath been spoken shall come to pass. Consider ʿUbaydu'llah the Second: verily he is one of the evil deeds of the Wolf and of the Viper. How many lands and souls were consumed and laid waste by the flame of the fire of his self! If the servants attain not unto repentance and return, they shall behold that which no eye hath seen. The end belongeth to the God-fearing.

And that which was set forth by the wish of Jinab Afnan Sayyid Qabl-Mim—upon him be My glory—was accepted. Blessed is he! The True One beareth witness that in what they have spoken they are sincere, and that their deed hath been, and still is, for God. The divine Tablet which in former years was revealed and sent especially for them standeth as witness and testimony unto this. Verily, He is the Witness, the All-Informed. Yet must they perform, with utmost joy and gladness, whatsoever appeareth from the Dayspring of the Cause, that they may be reckoned among those souls who have drunk from the ocean of Divine good-pleasure. By the life of God! this station is exceedingly exalted. Even as the Point of the Bayan hath declared, all must strive to attain unto the word of contentment.

Their request was accepted: let it remain in their own possession, and let them engage in trade. Whatever profit is realized, let one half thereof be for their own use, and let the other half be expended according to whatsoever command shall be issued. In truth, We have accepted this sum; and the sign of its acceptance is this: that one hundred tumans thereof should be sent to two places. One half should be sent to Alexandria, unto Jinab Aqa Muhammad, and be set apart for the orphans of Aqa ʿAli Qarabaghi—upon him be My glory—who, in Egypt, ascended unto the highest companionship. The other half should be delivered in the land of Kaf unto Umm-i-Haram, for debts have been incurred; and regarding the remainder, let them act according to that which hath been mentioned.

And as for the matter of Jinab Mirza Muhammad, one of the Afnan—upon him be My glory—the decree hath gone forth, and bounty hath reached its utmost, through the munificence of his Lord, the Bestowing, the Generous.

O Mahdi! These pure deeds—their effects penetrate and pervade the earth, even as the deeds of corrupt souls are the cause and occasion of the world's afflictions and disasters. Likewise, these holy and sincere acts, which are manifested for the sake of God, have been and shall continue to be the cause of life and the source of beneficent outpourings. Unto all the Afnan We convey Our glorification and bear unto them glad tidings. God willing, they have been and shall remain assisted and confirmed. It behoveth them to render thanks unto God in the nights and in the days, inasmuch as He hath aided them through His grace, made known unto them His path, caused them to speak His praise, enabled them to witness that from which the eyes of most men were withheld, and made them to hear that whereunto none in all the lands hath attained save whomsoever God, the Lord of the Day of Judgement, hath willed.

The glory from Us rest upon them.

BH11708: Meet and befitting is the praise of the Most…

Meet and befitting is the praise of the Most Great Name, inasmuch as by His most exalted Word He hath illumined the people of the realm of dust with the light that distinguisheth truth from falsehood, and hath encompassed the Sovereign of existence, both the unseen and the seen. The sealed wine is made present, the Kawthar is manifest, the Salsabil is flowing before all; and blessed is he who hath turned thereunto, who hath taken and drunk thereof, in His Name—the All-Protecting, the Self-Subsisting.

Glorified art Thou, O God of earth and heaven! I beseech Thee by Thy Most Great, Most Exalted, Most Noble, Most Mighty, Most High, Most Splendid Name, to confirm Thine loved ones and Thy chosen ones in that whereby Thy Cause may be exalted among men and Thy wisdom made manifest throughout the lands. Verily Thou art the Possessor of creation, the Speaker at the beginning and at the end.

A gracious letter, fragrant and embodied with generosity, was received—one that bore witness to steadfastness, attraction, and love. After it was read and its meaning apprehended, the intention was formed to attain the presence of the Possessor of creation. The entire letter was submitted, and, by permission, acceptance was attained.

He—exalted be His utterance and mighty His proof—hath said:

> "He is the Counsellor, the All-Knowing. O Mihdi! Upon thee be My glory and My care. The noble Iqbal—upon him be the glory of God, His care and His grace—hath been remembered repeatedly before the heaven of the loved ones of that land. Praise be to God! All have, through supreme favor and the remembrance of the Lord of mankind, attained success."

At this moment the sacred Branch of the Blessed Lote-Tree was admitted into the Presence, and mention was made of thee. We beseech God, the Lord of the Mighty Throne and the Exalted Seat, to confirm thee in the service of His Cause, and to raise thee up by His Name among His servants. Verily He is powerful over all things. Glory be upon thee, and upon thy father and mother, thy sisters and brothers, and upon those whose kinship God hath ordained with thee. Verily He is the Mighty, the Generous.

Convey abundant greetings unto all. O Mihdi! The friends of God in that land have ever been remembered and are still remembered. Hold thou fast unto the means whereby the servants are drawn nigh. Blessed is he who doeth that which he is commanded in the manifest Book.

All grace is God's; all bounty is God's. He loveth His loved ones and remembered them aforetime with verses whereby hearts were drawn and mountains took flight. This Prisoner, in all conditions, beseecheth God—exalted be His glory—to preserve His loved ones. Ask thou, therefore, of the All-Generous that which is sanctified, ordained, and exalted, even that which transcendeth all understanding. Verily He is the Hearer, the Answerer, the Most Bountiful, the All-Bestowing, the Compassionate, the Forgiving, the Merciful.

Mention hath been made of Jinabi Muhammad-Quli and of Mashhadi ʿAli—upon them be the glory of God. After their names were submitted at the Most Holy Court, the radiant light of assurance shone forth upon the horizon of the heaven of the Will of God, our Lord and the Lord of the mighty Throne.

He—glorified be His Word and exalted His signs—hath said:

> "O Mashhadi Muhammad-Quli! Thou hast been remembered before My presence and before the most noble Branches. We have remembered thee with verses whereat all who dwell in the heavens and on the earth were thunderstruck, save such as held fast unto My firm Cord and clung unto My shining hem. Blessed art thou for having mentioned Me before the Wronged One, through that which preserveth true knowledge by the everlasting endurance of My Name, the All-Protecting, over the former and the latter. And let Mashhadi ʿAli be likewise remembered, that he may render thanks unto God, his Lord, and be of the victorious."

Hearken unto the Call! It hath been raised from the Pole of the world: there is no God but Him, the One, the All-Knowing. We bear witness and give glad tidings unto thee and unto Our loved ones of that which hath been ordained for them by My Most Exalted Pen in My mighty, wondrous Book.

In truth, this is a bounty greater and mightier than all else, that the remembrance of God should conclude in serenity and assurance, until hearing, sight, insight, and justice all bear witness unto favors beyond all reckoning. Blessed is he who hath attained unto His remembrance in His days; such a one is numbered among the near ones in the sight of God, our Lord and the Lord of the Exalted Seat.

The letter of Jinab-i-Dust-Karam Haydar-ʿAli—upon him be the glory of God—hath been received and its veil removed. It is hoped that by the splendors of these manifest signs the worlds of hearts and souls may be illumined. Verily our Lord is the All-Bountiful, the Generous.

This Prisoner conveyeth greetings and magnification unto all the loved ones, and is ever engaged in the remembrance of the Lord and in invoking His sanctifying mercy. Remembrance, glory, magnification, and praise be upon thee and upon the friends of God in all regions. Praise be to God, the Possessor of gifts and bounties.

BH01446: O friends of God and His party! Today…

He is God, exalted is He in justice and bounty!

O friends of God and His party! Today the light of justice has become veiled, nay obliterated, by the oppression of the world's oppressor, for grievous blows from the wicked ones have been inflicted upon His blessed body. In the land of Ya, clamor has been raised; pure and assured souls have been seized out of sheer wickedness and for the taking of money, bound with ropes in utmost humiliation, and the masses struck them with chains, stones and clubs, and brought them before the exalted deputies—the dawning-places of tyranny and vice, the daysprings of self and passion. After seizing whatever possessions they had, they martyred them with the most grievous torment.

The Pharaoh of the age said to one of those blessed souls, "Come, recant." In reply he said: "For forty years I have awaited this day, and praise be to God, today I have attained unto it." Another, while passing before the faces of the oppressors, uttered these exalted words: "O people! The Lord of the Martyrs said Is there any who will help me?' and this servant says Is there any who will behold me?"' His purpose was that that oppressed one yearned for the draught of martyrdom rather than awaiting a helper. At these

blessed words, the tears of the denizens of Paradise descended and the sighs of the people of Paradise ascended.

Glory be to God! In these days two mighty things have appeared: from the right, the banquet of the friends, and from the left, the battle of the wicked ones. The Wronged One of the world would recite one verse befitting the pavilion of the feast, and reveal another verse in remembrance of the martyrs. And in these days the greatest glad-tidings was mentioned in the Most Great Scene, and that was the ascension of one of the friends to the Supreme Companion and the Most Glorious Horizon. Exalted be His grace that hath encompassed the world and all peoples, and exalted be His utterance whereby the Concourse on High and the dwellers of the seat of the throne have been enraptured.

He who was named Abdu'llah in the Book of Names—we testify that he turned to the Lord of mankind in the earliest days when most in the land turned away, and we testify that he acknowledged what the Tongue of Grandeur spoke in the prison of Akka and before it, and recognized God, His sovereignty, His Manifestation, and His power amidst His world and His creation. He it is who endured hardships and tribulations out of love for God, the Lord of Names, and there befell him at the hands of the enemies that which caused the people of the pavilion of purity and chastity in the Most Exalted Paradise to weep.

We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to send down upon him in every moment mercy from His presence and loving-kindness from His own Self. Verily He is the Mighty, the Bestower. And we beseech Him, exalted be He, to establish his station in the shade of the Divine Lote-Tree and give him to drink of the Kawthar of immortality from the hands of grace and bounty. Verily He is the Powerful over what He willeth. There is no God but He, the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous, the Forgiver, the Mighty, the Bestower.

The Wronged One testifieth that at his mention the ocean of forgiveness surged and the fragrance of his Lord's loving-kindness was diffused, and the Herald called out from the Kingdom of Utterance:

> "O people of the earth! Hear, then know that through his ascension and rising, the lips of the Concourse on High and the people of the pavilion of glory in the Most Exalted Paradise have smiled."

Blessed is he who remembereth him with what hath been revealed from My Most Exalted Pen in this Most Holy, Most Exalted, Most Glorious Station. We beseech God to comfort his sons, his family and his loved ones, and to adorn them with the ornament of patience and composure. Verily He is the Mighty, the Powerful, the Unconstrained.

We send greetings to the friends of that land and counsel them with that which will exalt their stations amongst the servants. O physician, upon thee be My salutation and My glory. We beseech God to aid thee in that which He loveth and is pleased with, and to assist thee in that which will draw thee nigh unto Him in all conditions. Praise be to God! Mention of you hath been and is before the Wronged One. We hope that henceforth thou wilt hold fast unto that which will cause the world of utterance to testify to the loftiness of thy station and thy exalted rank. His honor Mirza Zaynu'l-Abidin, upon him be the peace of God and His loving-kindness, must in all conditions fix his gaze upon the Truth.

Praise be to God! He hath spent all his days in the love of God and hath been occupied in offering praise unto Him. We beseech God to protect him and to open before his face the door of His loving-kindness. Verily, He is powerful over all things. All the friends are remembered in the presence of the Wronged One. For each one We ask that which is the cause of success and prosperity. The command is in the hand of God, the Lord of what was and what shall be. Verily, we are God's, and to Him shall we return.

BH01576: Praise be sanctified above all expression and understanding, befitting…

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

Praise be sanctified above all expression and understanding, befitting the Most Holy, Most Exalted Presence of the Intended One, Who has made manifest the hidden mysteries within hearts and minds, and has confirmed the decree revealed by the All-Merciful in the Qur'an:

> "Though there be the weight of a mustard-seed and it be in a rock, or in the heavens, or in the earth, God will bring it forth. Verily God is subtle, informed of all things."

The secrets of breasts and treacherous glances have been made so evident that none has any way to deny.

O Afnan, upon thee be My glory and loving-kindness! In days which, through the tyranny of the oppressors and the rejection of the followers of religions, were like the darkest night, this Wronged One arose before the faces of all to render assistance, such that the effulgences of the light of the Luminary of Revelation became manifest from every direction. None can deny this save he who is deprived of justice and fairness. Then emerged from behind the wine-jars the embodiments of tyranny with swords of hatred, and there appeared from them that which testified to their lies and to the calumnies of their own selves, whereat the Tablet lamented and My glorious, wondrous Pen cried out. One whom We had, from the beginning of days, granted a place beneath the pavilions of grandeur and appointed watchful eyes to protect, at last united with others like himself and issued decrees to oppress and seize people's property. Each day some falsehood appears and some harm arrives. To whoever turns toward this spot they attribute something. They seized money through theft and brought it to Akka, and oppression reached such a point that they even attributed to Aqa Siyyid Ahmad that which befitted their own selves.

God is witness, and the atoms of creation bear testimony, that the Greater Afnan came to this land solely for seclusion, not trade. They have written concerning him that which proclaimed their own heedless, idolatrous selves. But glory be to Him—nothing among all things has prevented Him from what He desired, nor any grief from among griefs. He has spoken and continues to speak before all faces with a power that the hosts of the world cannot weaken and with a sovereignty that the ranks of nations cannot prevent. We beseech God to give all to drink from the Kawthar of His justice and bounty, to cause them to return unto Him, and to aid them to turn repentant to His gate. Verily He has power over all things.

To everyone the corruption of those souls has become evident and clear. Glorified be He Who has manifested what was in their breasts and hearts, and glorified be He Who has ascended the throne of utterance and given glad tidings to all of the appearance of their Lord, the All-Merciful. Verily He is the Almighty, the Glorious, the Bestower.

Your supplication arrived. Blessed be your tongue for having uttered that which has diffused the fragrance of God throughout all things, and blessed be your heart for having turned to Him on a day wherein appeared what had been hidden from all eyes. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to raise you up through His sovereignty and draw you nigh through His verses, and through you to raise up the standards of His victory and the banners of His might, and to ordain for you what He has sent down in His Book for His chosen ones who were not prevented by the world and its ornaments and colors, who arose and said: "O concourse of earth and heaven! By God, He Who created them both has come with a Cause before which all in the kingdom of names cannot stand firm." To this testifies the Most Great Book which speaks among the nations, and He chose imprisonment for Himself for the salvation of the world. Blessed is he who has turned, found, recognized and said: "Praise be to Thee, O Beloved of the world, and glory be to Thee, O Desired One of all in the heavens and earths."

Convey greetings from the Wronged One to the loved ones of that land. Say: Hold fast to wisdom and occupy yourselves with teaching. Say: This is the Day of God—recognize its station and what has been ordained therein from the presence of a Mighty, Powerful One. The glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My mercy be upon you and upon your family and upon those who love you and hear your word concerning this Most Great Announcement and this mighty Cause. Praise be to Him, for He is the Goal of those who know.

BH01667: O thou who gazeth upon the Countenance and standeth…

He is the One Who calleth before the faces of all peoples.

O thou who gazeth upon the Countenance and standeth before the Gate! Hearken unto that which hath been raised from the rustling of the Sadratu'l-Muntaha in the prison of ʿAkka. Verily it attracteth thee and draweth thee nigh unto God, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting. The mysteries have been revealed, yet most of the people understand not. The verses have been sent down, yet they hear not. We have manifested that which was hidden. Verily thy Lord is the Omnipotent over whatsoever He willeth through His word "Be" and it is.

O son of My Name! Upon thee be My glory and My loving-kindness. Thou hast ever been mentioned in the presence of the Countenance. We beseech God that He may aid thee in such deeds as are the cause of sanctification and the source of detachment. The Son of Mary said unto His companions that they should emigrate from any land for the sake of God and the exaltation of His Word, taking nothing with them from that land, not even its dust, meaning that neither their garments nor their limbs should be soiled with dust. Praise be to God, thou hast been favored with His special bounty and the gaze of His loving-kindness hath at all times been directed towards thee.

Say: My God, my God! Aid this Thy servant in that whereby Thy Cause may be exalted amongst Thy servants and Thy signs may be spread throughout Thy lands. O my Lord! Thou seest me clinging unto Thee and detached from all else beside Thee. I beseech Thee by the burning of the hearts of Thy lovers in their separation from Thee, and by the yearning of those who long for Thee in their remoteness from Thee, to aid me in that whereby the hearts of Thy creation may be attracted and the stations of Thy friends may be exalted. O my Lord! Thou art the Generous, possessed of great bounty. Ordain for me in

all conditions that which will draw me nigh unto Thee. Verily Thou art the Self-Sufficient, the Most Exalted.

Glory be to God! Although the veils of idle fancies and vain imaginings have been rent asunder by the finger of divine Will, and the Pen of the Lord of all mankind hath been engaged day and night in counsels and admonitions, yet now it is observed that veils greater than before have withheld the people. Hadi of Dawlatabad, despite having mounted the pulpit and repeatedly uttered that which caused the hearts of them that are nigh unto God to melt, is now again occupied with nurturing the Shi'ih party. Not for a single moment did he turn with pure intention to the divine verses. Time and again did We mention him and summon him with kindly counsels and admonitions to the straight path of God, yet no effect was manifest.

It is incumbent, nay obligatory, upon that honored one and the other friends to protect the weak servants from the claws of his hatred, lest they be afflicted as were the previous party. Although these are the days of God, exalted be His glory, and ears should at all times be turned to the supreme horizon that they may hear that which appeareth from the Kingdom of Utterance of God, the Lord of all worlds, yet some are observed to be deprived of the Truth and clinging to vain imaginings through a name among names or a word among words of the barking ones.

Say: My God, my God! Protect Thy friend whom Thou hast mentioned in verses that are not equaled by the mention of the world, from the whisperings of them that have turned away from Thee. Verily Thou art the Omnipotent, the Mighty, the Unconstrained.

The letter of Jinab-i-Fa'iz, upon whom be the glory of God, His loving-kindness and His mercy, which thou didst send hath attained the Most Holy Court, and the answer hath been sent down from the heaven of favor. Let him rejoice and be of them that are thankful. Say: Grieve not over anything. Soon will God open before thy face the gate of joy and gladness. O son of My Name! Great favor hath been shown towards him. We have commanded him to that which is the cause of eternal life and everlasting sovereignty.

Say: My God, my God! Aid him in that which beseemeth Thy days, then assist him with the hosts of the unseen and the visible, then open before his face the doors of bounties and favors. Verily Thou art the Omnipotent over what Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the Mighty, the Great.

Convey greetings from the Wronged One to the friends of that land. The glory from Us be upon thee and upon him who heareth thy word concerning this Most Great News.

BH11606: The Most Exalted One, He is God, Exalted be…

The Most Exalted One, He is God, Exalted be His Glory in Wisdom and Utterance

O Ibn-i-Abhar! Upon thee be My peace, My loving-kindness and My mercy. The letter thou didst send through Badi'u'llah attained the honor of being heard at His presence. Praise be to God, it was adorned with the mention of God, the All-Glorious, the Most High, and was illumined with the lights of divine love. We beseech God to confirm thee in service to His Cause. Should thou turn, with wisdom and utterance,

toward the land of Za, it would be acceptable in the sight of God, and from there to other lands. Verily thy Lord is the All-Explaining, the All-Knowing.

Likewise, the letter thou didst via Ism-i-Jud, upon him be My glory and loving-kindness, was mentioned before His presence. These days are the days of God. Thou must engage in teaching the Cause for the sake of God, that perchance the turning away of the servants may be transformed into acceptance, their unbelief into faith, and their misbelief into unity. The grace of God hath been and ever will be infinite. How strange that some souls, for the sake of the fleeting colors of this world and a life of but two days, have remained deprived of God's eternal bounties and everlasting life. Beseech God that through the finger of the Hands of His Cause—that is, souls who are firm, steadfast, assured and well-pleasing—He may rend asunder the veils, dispel the clouds of glory, and remove the intervening barrier. He is the Powerful, the Mighty.

Thou didst mention Fakhru'd-Din, upon him be My glory. We make mention of him at this hour with the verses of God, the Lord of all worlds, and give him the glad-tidings of My grace and My mercy, for I am the Gracious Herald. O Fakhru'd-Din! He who loveth Me hath made mention of thee, and We make mention of thee in this perspicuous Book. Verily He loveth those who love Him and remembereth those who remember Him, as a mercy from His presence, for He is the All-Bountiful, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy. Cast aside what the people possess and take what thou hast been given from God, the Powerful, the Almighty. Beware lest what the servants possess should prevent thee from the Lord of creation, or the gloating of the transgressors sadden thee. Take hold of the Book with the strength from Us and the wisdom from Our presence. Verily thy Lord is the Commanding, the All-Knowing.

Say: My God, my God! Praise be to Thee for having enabled me to turn unto Thee and to face toward Thy horizon. I beseech Thee by the tabernacle of Thy glory and the pavilion of [Thy protection], and by Thy Cause through which Thou hast subdued Thy servants and Thy creation, to make me steadfast, firm and upright in Thy Cause. Then write down for me, O my God, by Thy Most Exalted Pen that which will draw me near unto Thee in all conditions. Verily Thou art the Self-Sufficient, the Most High.

O Ibn-i-Abhar! At this moment We make mention of thy mother who turned unto God, heard and believed in God, the Mighty, the Beautiful. We have previously made mention of her in such wise that its fragrance will never cease to endure throughout the eternity of My Best Names, and I am the Faithful Witness Who speaketh. Blessed is she and joy be unto her for having fulfilled her covenant and not having broken her pledge. Blessed is she and those who love her for the sake of God, the Mighty, the Great. Convey My greetings unto her face and remind her of that which hath been sent down from the heaven of bounty, and give her the glad-tidings of My mercy that hath preceded all who are in the heavens and on earth.

Thou didst mention the new believer. Make mention of her on behalf of this Wronged One and say: O My handmaiden! The world was created for the knowledge of God, glorified be His majesty. Yet when the Purpose was made manifest and the proof was perfected and the verses were revealed and the evidences were resplendent, all turned away and occupied themselves with denunciation and cursing. Praise be to God Who, through His grace, saved thee and guided thee. Thou hast attained unto that which hath no

peer nor likeness. Give thou glad tidings unto My handmaidens of My grace and remembrance and mercy and bounty which have encompassed all existence both seen and unseen.

Convey on behalf of this Wronged One greetings to the uncle and his namesake. Their mention hath been made in the presence of this Prisoner and each hath attained unto the verses and favors of God. We beseech God to assist them and enable them to celebrate His praise and glorification and to serve His Cause, the Mighty, the Wondrous. The Glory be upon thee and upon those who have hearkened and responded, and upon those women who have believed in God, the One, the Peerless, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

BH02040: Jinab-i-Amin, upon him be the Glory of God, arrived…

He is God, exalted be His glory, the All-Wise, the All-Eloquent

Jinab-i-Amin, upon him be the Glory of God, arrived and brought a register containing the names of the people of God and His loved ones from the servant, upon him be the Glory of God. Among them was mentioned Afnan from the land of Sh and China and H and B, upon them be the Most Glorious Glory of God, as well as the friends of Sh and its dependencies, men and women, upon them be the Glory of God, and the loved ones of the land of T, upon them be the Glory of God, and the land of K and the land of A and B and the land of Q, and likewise the friends of Z and Baku, upon them be the Glory of God, and the loved ones of the Great City and S and M, upon them be the Glory of God.

And likewise was mentioned in that document Jinab-i-Haji Mirza Haydar-Ali and Haji Mirza Husayn, upon them both be the Most Glorious Glory of God, and Aqa Ali Haydar, upon him be the Glory of God, and mention was made of Jinab-i-Aqa Mirza Siyyid ʿAli and Aqa Mirza Muhammad-Baqir, upon them both be the Glory of God. And they desired that on behalf of the aforementioned souls they might repeatedly attain the presence and be honored with visitation.

Praise be to God that the people of God who dwell in the cities and lands of God, exalted be His glory, have been blessed with the effulgences of the Sun of Providence and adorned with the traces of the Most Exalted Pen. Blessed are they and joy be unto them.

And they have made Jinab-i-ʿAli and Muhammad-Baqir partners in their deeds of visitation and feasting and attention and presence, and now they have again sought permission to attain the presence by proxy and to hold several feasts with tea and other things on behalf of the aforementioned loved ones. This has been adorned with the ornament of acceptance and it was commanded that they should engage in feasting and Jinab-i-Amin in service.

The people of God must give thanks, for in days when the standards of discord were raised in all regions and the fire of hatred was ablaze in the breasts of most people, and the True One was wronged and imprisoned in the Most Great Prison, the hand of power was manifest and the blessing of the presence was witnessed, and the aforementioned one arose to serve and feast on behalf of the loved ones. These are deeds that have had and will have no equal. O Amin! Give him the glad tidings of the acceptance of what he desired. Verily thy Lord is the Compassionate, the Generous.

Praise be to God, the Mighty, the Wise. The Glory be upon you and upon them and upon those who have acknowledged that which the Tongue of Grandeur hath spoken. Verily, there is none other God but Him, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting.

Again it is mentioned that they have sought permission for themselves and the two aforementioned souls, upon them be the Glory of God. This matter has been adorned with the ornament of acceptance and the sun of permission has risen and shone forth from the horizon of the heaven of God's will. However, they must in all circumstances be mindful of wisdom, that nothing contrary to its requirements may occur. If it accords, then attendance is beloved, and if not, the reward of His presence is written for them. Verily He is the Powerful, the Mighty.

O Amin! Give the glad tidings to the servant that God hath forgiven his father and mother and hath mentioned them in such wise that the fragrances of grace and mercy shall endure through the eternity of His most beautiful names. Verily He is the Compassionate, the Forgiving, the Merciful.

BH02354: O My Afnan, upon thee be My glory!...

He is God, exalted be His station in wisdom and utterance.

O My Afnan, upon thee be My glory! From the rustling of the Divine Lote Tree in the Most Exalted Paradise this word is revealed: "Be Mine that I may be thine." Praise be to God, they have attained and succeeded, and are illumined and adorned with the lights of the Most Great Steadfastness.

O My Afnan, upon thee be My glory and My loving-kindness! Thy letter which thou didst send to the Afnan, upon him be My glory and My loving-kindness, was seen. Every letter thereof was illumined with the light of unity and voiced the words "there is none other God but Him." Reflect upon God's loving-kindness—the letter hath attained to this most exalted station and supreme height, while those who considered themselves the most learned and knowledgeable among nations have deviated from the Path and returned to their own abode. I testify that the grace hath encompassed you, and the mercy is with you, and the bounty is yours.

Regarding the matter mentioned to his honor Afnan Muhsin, upon him be My glory, that which is now intended was mentioned. From the first day that honored one hath arisen with complete dedication to serve the Lord of all beings. This is a testimony uttered by the Tongue of Grandeur in His Most Great Prison. In truth, that honored one is numbered among the inheritors of this Cause. Let him act in whatever way he deemeth advisable. The purpose is that there should appear in that land that which will cause the exaltation of the Word of God. The Command is in His hand—He doeth what He willeth and ordaineth what He pleaseth. The glory and the remembrance and the greatness be upon you and upon those who are with you and who love you for the sake of God, the Lord of the worlds.

O helper of God's Cause! If wisdom permiteth, inform some of that which befitteth not the days of God and is unacceptable before His Presence. Some of the servants make their own interpretations to justify certain things as lawful, without any evidence from God. Until now no word hath been revealed from the Most Exalted Pen exposing the deeds of such souls, for the Name "the Concealer" hath ever clung to the

hem of grace. Therefore concealment hath taken precedence. Verily He is the Concealer Who seeth and concealeth, and He is the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

Although in these days the ocean of forgiveness is surging and the sun of grace is shining from the highest horizon of the world, yet for every deed there is ordained its own effect. Today those servants who gaze toward the Greatest Scene must hold fast to such deeds from which the fragrance of sanctity is wafted and which cause the people of the world to turn towards God. Most strange, utterly strange, are those souls who for the sake of a moment's pleasure deprive themselves of God's good-pleasure which is the cause of eternal life and everlasting bounty. We beseech God to assist them to return and to adorn them with the ornament of fear of God. Verily He is the Lord of all beings and the Lord of the throne on high and of earth below.

BH02480: To be typed

To be typed.

BH02640: The adorned letter, bearing the name of the Most…

In the Name of God, the All-Merciful.

The adorned letter, bearing the name of the Most Great Branch, hath arrived and been perused. We beseech God—exalted be His glory—that He may enable you to do that which is conducive to the interests of the Cause.

Concerning trade, inasmuch as you wrote with wisdom in view, We approve. Yet in that land the means requisite for profitable commerce are not to be found, unless the Hand of power should itself provide the necessary instruments. In this matter all are commanded to engage in trade, and most especially the Branches. No doubt He will manifest unto you that which is best for you.

As to the matter of Jinab-i-Ashraf, the command had already gone forth for his return to Iran, for the affairs of his son are left pending there, and care for children and offspring is in the divine Books enjoined and made obligatory.

Write another brief piece, and in like manner compose and send certain short passages. The travellers are eager and hopeful to obtain whatsoever is possible, and no negligence should be shown in acquiring it—that is, the useful sciences. This ordinance is set forth in the perspicuous Book, and is of universal application.

Zayn al-Muqarrabin had asked certain questions. The same document was forwarded, and he hath requested from you an answer; therefore send what hath been written.

As to Jinab-i-Nazir, God willing, through the grace of God he may be blessed, gladdened, content, and thankful. Whatever arrived from that land in his name was forwarded—that is, it had already been sent on.

During this journey a letter from Mirza Abu'l-Hasan arrived. He had spoken therein of the despair arising from the conduct of his family; that is, his letter did in some measure indicate despondency. Yet from the Land of Mim a recommendation was made. Beyond this, all dependeth upon divine confirmation and upon what merit may require. Let Jinab-i-Nazir leave the matter unto God and not be distressed.

Above all, permanence in this land is uncertain. In every case, God willing, affairs shall come to pass in conformity with His good-pleasure. The matter is in the hand of God: He doeth whatsoever He willeth.

Convey greetings unto the friends—that is, unto the souls who are present. Some time ago, something was sent especially to the Afnan in reply to the petitions. God willing, it hath arrived.

Peace be upon you, and the mercy of God, and His blessings.

Let not Jinab-i-Ashraf be sorrowful. Verily, He will assist him through a grace from His presence. We beseech the Most High that He may enable him to do that which is meet and seemly.

The honoured Afnan are present together with a number of travellers, and all are seen to be in the utmost joy and gladness. The Afnan had previously been in Beirut. Out of wisdom, permission for the renewed presence of his son was not granted. We have given leave to Hadrat-i-Kabir—upon him be the glory of God—should he wish to remain, that is, to stay in Beirut.

BH02611: May the meadows and fields of the hearts…

He is.

May the meadows and fields of the hearts of lovers ever be illumined by the Sun of the Beauty of the Beloved, and may the pools in the lands of yearning souls ever overflow and be immersed in the Kawthar of the ruby-red lips of the Beloved. We hope that as long as that Lamp of spiritual beauty shines forth in the horizons of manifestation, these lamps of hearts will be set ablaze by it, and as long as that Living Water flows in the inner realms of contingent being, these souls will be refreshed by it.

God willing, may the rains of separation ever pour down from the clouds of union upon the gathering places of loving hearts and the stations of yearning souls, not through any merit of their own, and may that Spring cause fragrant flowers to grow in these gardens at all times, so that through the joy of this atmosphere, the minds of spirits veiled by darkened forms may become pure and clean, and behold themselves naked in the presence of the Beloved. Indeed, each soul has an ordained capacity and every thing has a fitting rank and station wherein it is mentioned.

However, some are given a prescribed sustenance according to a known measure and reckoning, while others receive an undefined portion from the treasury of "Thou givest sustenance to whom Thou willest without account." One is brought to a limited reward after traversing the stages of limitation and annihilating the degrees of existence, while another is raised up in his very place of sitting from the invisible and visible realms and drawn to the ultimate goal and shown the bow-length nearness of the Worshipped One.

What more can be said? How many brands have been placed upon the faces of lovers, and how many yearning souls have been consumed in separation! When the pen reached the description of this state, the power of expression withdrew and the book of explaining this separation was rolled up.

The rest of this tale comes without words, To the heart of one who possesses the light of soul

In any case, in all conditions praise with joy and give thanks with delight, for you have been rewarded before the labor and mentioned before remembrance, for He is the ever-Powerful, the Doer without being questioned, the Ever-Living, the Almighty, the All-Encompassing, the Most High.

To the travelers in the land of India, the arrivers at the Kaaba of certitude, and the seekers of the face of the Beloved—to each one by whatever name and title is fitting and suitable—He makes mention in loving unity through the stages of oneness. Although there was no previous connection or precedence, the new custom caused the ancient covenant to be forgotten, as it is said: Love for You has abrogated mention of what came before. And peace.

BH02994: God, blessed and exalted, has said: "If ye would…

God, blessed and exalted, has said:

> "If ye would count the favors of God, ye cannot reckon them."

Among these favors are mention and praise, and utterance and expression….

To continue: the handwritten lines upon that exalted page were submitted in the Holy Presence, and the bounties of the Dawning-Place of clear tokens and the Day-Spring of verses—their description, in truth, is exalted above all the stations of this world, not for me alone, but for all the cherubim of the celestial realm….

Write to Husayn Effendi to pray for matar [rain], that God may send rain. Apparently, lack of rain hath become a barrier and kept thee from the Source. God willing, rain will come, roads will be adorned and closeness attained. Tabasha in ʿAkka may not be less than tabasha in Haifa. We beseech God to protect thee, aid thee, confirm thee, render thee successful and bring thee close to Him. He is the Mighty and Powerful. He is the Answerer of prayers…

Day and night We beseech God, glorified be His grandeur, to send to this servant [Khadimu ʿllah] that bough of the Blessed Tree, His honour the solace of the world Aqay-i Husayn Effendi, upon him be peace from the All-Merciful, that the eyes of the longing souls may be brightened and the hearts of the yearning ones may be gladdened and assured. One cannot wish better than this from an offspring. May the world be ever green and verdant through his name, and may humanity rejoice and be enamoured of his love. The beauty of the world is evident and manifest. However, its adornments are trees, and trees are adorned with leaves. Therefore, the exalted leaf, the fruit of the Tree, her honour Diya'iyyih Khanum, upon her be God's Glory, serving the light of eternity, His Highness Husayn Effendi, upon him be a thousand glories and a thousand praises, is engaged in looking after essential affairs. Most certainly, he needs such a companion, and that is the Leaf of the Beauteous Tree, exalted above praise….

BH03003: This evanescent servant has been blessed by the fragrant…

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

This evanescent servant has been blessed by the fragrant breezes wafting from your noble letter, which diffused the sweet-scented perfume of love and affection and the fragrance of sincerity towards God, the Lord of creation. I beseech and implore God, exalted and mighty be He, to perpetually sustain your honor upon this pleasing path and exalted favor. Some time ago, when your gracious letter was received by this servant, a detailed response was submitted along with two Most Holy, Most Exalted Tablets—one specifically for the Leaf and another for the Wondrous Leaf, upon them both be the glory of God—and these were dispatched from that direction. Therefore, this time, due to complete preoccupation, there was no opportunity to write in detail.

What can this evanescent servant say? In these days he is so occupied that not a moment's respite can be found. Outwardly, I have not seen and do not see this weak existence capable of performing this momentous task. Thus it is that divine confirmations provide assistance, otherwise how could this greatest of tasks and this evanescent, weak and lowly servant be reconciled? Likewise, this time Most Mighty, Most Exalted Tablets have descended from the heaven of oneness specifically for that beloved one and the honored and revered Aqa Aqa Mir Siyyid ʿAyn Allah, and the Leaf, and the Wondrous Leaf, and the son, and these were sent through Rafi'. God willing, they will attain to their perusal.

I request from your kindnesses that you convey to his honor the aforementioned Aqa, upon him be the glory of God, expressions of pure devotion and utter self-effacement, and the Most Wondrous, Most Exalted, Most Sublime, Most Glorious salutation on behalf of this servant. Her Holiness the Leaf, upon her be the glory of God, and likewise the sons, upon them be the glory of God—the conveying of wondrous and exalted salutations depends on your kindness and favors.

The servant of God.

All the Branches and Twigs of the Blessed Tree and the members of the pavilion of divine infallibility remember your honor with wondrous and exalted remembrances and glorify you with jewels of praise. Verily, glory be upon you and upon those with you.

BH03036: O Asad! Upon thee be My glory! The letter…

He is the Guide to His Straight Path!

O Asad! Upon thee be My glory! The letter of His Honor Abu'l-Fadl—upon him be My glory—which he wrote to thee was present before Me and I gave ear to it. Praised be God, every word of his words testified to his endeavor and service purely for the sake of God. In the land of H, the luminary of detachment rose and shone forth from the horizon of his deeds. Verily thy Lord is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

This year complaints have been received from some teachers in various regions, despite what hath repeatedly been revealed from the Supreme Pen concerning the qualifications of teachers—that which

hath perfumed the world of detachment with its fragrance. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to assist His loved ones in that which will attract the hearts of His servants. Verily He is powerful over all things. The deeds and actions of every soul reveal his station and rank. Blessed are they who are endowed with insight! However, the arrival of Abu'l-Fadl in any land hath been and is the cause of the enkindlement of souls. Reports about him have repeatedly arrived from the land of A, and an answer that would be the cause of awareness and the key to wisdom was sent. All must today hold fast to means that will cause the acceptance of those outside the Faith, that they may come and find. Some deeds and words are the cause of flight and denial, while others are proof of nearness and acceptance. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to make him a guide to His creation in His kingdom. Verily He is the Powerful, the Unconstrained.

The souls whom they have mentioned have each attained unto the waves of the divine ocean of utterance, and there hath been revealed from the Supreme Pen that which shall not change. We give glad tidings to Our loved ones there and make mention of them with that which will remind them and draw them nigh unto the Great Announcement of God. The glory from Us be upon him and upon the loved ones of God who are there, and upon those whom nothing whatsoever hath prevented from God, the Powerful, the Mighty, the Bestower.

O Asad! One of My Branches who was named Badi' presented himself with the letter of His Honor Fadl—upon him be My grace and My glory. He received an answer and sent it forth. We beseech God to assist all in that which He loveth and is pleased with. Verily He is powerful over all things.

BH03100: A mention from Us to him who attained…

He is the One dawning from the horizon of the heaven of proof.

A mention from Us to him who attained to acceptance on a day wherein the men who claimed knowledge without any proof from God, the Lord of the worlds, turned away. Through their turning away the people turned away, whereby there befell the Lord of the world that which caused the Faithful Spirit to lament.

O My Afnan! Upon thee be My glory and My mercy and My loving-kindness. The servant in attendance hath presented that wherewith thou didst call upon God, the Lord of earth and heaven and Lord of the mighty throne. He read it before Our face. We found therein that which beseemeth thee in the days of thy Lord, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. We have heard and answered thee. Verily He is the Hearing, the Seeing. We bear witness that thou hast arisen to serve the Cause and hast manifested that whose fragrance shall never be cut off throughout the endurance of the names and attributes of God. Verily thy Lord is the True, the Faithful.

Say: My God, my God! I desire to remember Thee in such wise that from the very stones Thy remembrance and praise might be raised up, and from the seas Thy glorification and Thy celebration of unity. O my Lord! Aid me in such remembrance whereby there might appear in all things a tongue speaking of Thy verses and testifying to what Thou hast manifested in Thy days. Thou art He to Whose power and might and grandeur and dominion all created things have testified. Write down for me then from Thy Most Exalted Pen what beseemeth Thy grace and Thy favors and Thy generosity and Thy gifts.

O my Lord! How can I recount the wondrous tokens of Thy loving-kindness? By Thy glory, O Thou Goal of the world and Beloved of the nations! I see myself powerless to enumerate them, much less to render thanks for them. Through Thy grace Thou hast shown me what was withheld from Thy Moses on the Mount of Rapture and caused me to hear what Thy Beloved heard in His night ascent. I beseech Thee, O Lord of Names and Creator of heaven, by Thy Name through which the mysteries were revealed and rivers flowed from rocks, and by the pearls of the ocean of Thy knowledge and the splendors of the lights of Thy countenance, to draw me nigh unto Thee in the manifest exterior even as Thou hast drawn me nigh in the interior. Then preserve me, O my God, from the evil of Thine enemies who violated Thy Covenant and Thy Testament, who disputed Thy verses and denied Thy proof. There is no God but Thee, the Powerful, the Mighty, the All-Compelling.

BH03304: The Divine Day calleth out by itself and summoneth…

He is Powerful over whatsoever He willeth, and He is the Protecting, the Self-Subsisting.

The Divine Day calleth out by itself and summoneth those on earth to the most exalted horizon. This Day in one station is a brilliant light that guideth those near unto God to the straight path and bestoweth awareness of the momentous announcement.

O Vav! Upon thee be My glory and My loving-kindness. At this time one of My Branches, who was named Diya' in the Crimson Book, was present and We made mention of thee with verses that have encompassed those in the heavens and on earth.

And in another station this Day is the Water of Life for all who dwell in the realm of possibility. It is the true Salsabil and the spiritual Kawthar. From the hand of bounty It bestoweth upon the thirsty that which is the cause of everlasting life. Say: Well is it with them that drink!

O Ra! Upon thee be My glory and My loving-kindness. The whole world hath been created for the recognition of this blessed Day, and yet most of the people of the world are deprived, save whom God, thy Lord, willeth.

And in one station It possesseth the Book of the world and with It are the secrets of all peoples. At one time thou seest It seated upon the throne of utterance, teaching the people that which draweth them nigh, causeth them to know, and profiteth them. At another time thou beholdest It interpreting for all the different groups. Thus hath My Most Exalted Pen spoken at this blessed and manifest time. And were the mysteries of this Day to be mentioned, thou wouldst see all rendered unconscious save a few.

O Varqa! Upon thee be the glory of God, the Lord of the Kingdom of Names. Praise be to God that thou didst attain and act upon that which was imparted in the presence. Blessed art thou and blessed is he who hath heard thy call concerning the Cause of thy Lord. Time and again in these days hast thou been mentioned by the Most Exalted Pen. We beseech God to assist thee to conquer hearts through the name of thy Lord, the Mighty, the Beloved.

O thou who art dear at the Throne! Thou art mentioned and hast attained unto grace. O Spirit of God! Give thanks unto God for having assisted thee, granted thee success, brought thee into His presence, and

caused thee to hear His sweetest call from His most exalted horizon. Glory be upon you and upon those who love you and hearken to your words in this mighty Book.

BH03393: He has dawned from the horizon of the heaven…

He has dawned from the horizon of the heaven of utterance

This is the day wherein the attraction of the Call that was raised from the direction of ʿAkka hath seized Mount Sinai. Thereupon all things cried out:

> "At Thy service, O Lord of Names and Creator of heaven! Blessed be the city that hath attained unto Thy presence, and the land that hath been honored by Thy footsteps. Woe betide him who hath heard and denied the announcement of God, the Mighty, the Wise."

And Carmel called out:

> "Praise be unto Thee, O Desire of the world and Beloved of the nations, for having manifested Thyself and honored me with Thy presence after the fire of separation from Thee had well-nigh destroyed me. I testify that through Thee was fulfilled that which was recorded in the Books and inscribed by the Pen of God, the Lord of the worlds."

Then the Call was raised from Bethlehem saying:

> "At Thy service, O Thou through Whom the ocean of knowledge surged before the faces of all religions! At Thy service, O Thou through Whom the gate of reunion was opened when Thou didst give Thy lovers to drink, from the hand of Thy bounty, the Kawthar of Thy presence! I beseech Thee by the breathings of Thy verses and by that which hath been raised from the direction of Thy prison, to aid Thy people to acknowledge Thy Manifestation and to confess that which Thou hast revealed through Thy grace. I testify that Thou hast fulfilled Thy Covenant and that which Thou didst promise to Thy loved ones and servants in Thy Books and Tablets, and Thou hast come from the horizon of power with Thy great glory."

Hearken unto the Call of the Lord of all being in the luminous tongue: Today Mount Sinai is gladdened by the presence of its Beloved and with the most exalted call giveth the glad-tidings unto all things, while Zion speaketh the word "Hasten ye!" Blessed is the soul that hath drunk from the imperishable Kawthar and hath attained unto the hearing of the Call.

O thou who hast turned unto Us! We have heard thy call and from the direction of the prison have turned toward thee and made mention of thee with verses that shall never change nor be effaced. Say: My God, my God! Aid me to remember Thee and to praise Thee amongst Thy servants with the wisdom Thou hast sent down in Thy Book. I beseech Thee to enable me to arise to serve Thee and to mention that which hath appeared in Thy days. Verily Thou art the Mighty, the Powerful, the All-Bountiful.

BH03392: Praised be God, your letters have arrived in constant…

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

Praised be God, your letters have arrived in constant succession. Each one was a testimony to trust, turning unto God, assurance, steadfast adherence, and supplication; and the blessing of health hath in every condition been the key that opened the door of joy and gladness.

Jinab-i-Afnan and the Afnan—upon them be the grace of God, His bounty, and His splendour—have been and continue to be with you; wherefore estrangement hath neither station nor effect. This is of the bounty of God.

Concerning the printing of the pages and books, whatsoever hath been done is good; yet it should be done in the name of the Afnan, or of some other person, and not in your own name. The mention of Badi' was intended only in jest, and for no other purpose.

As to the books, whatever needed to be said was mentioned; Mishkin accepted it and hath begun the work. Mention was also made to certain others. In these days petitions have arrived in your name from Jinab-i-Mirza Hasan, the calligrapher—upon him be Baha'u'llah's glory. Until now they have not become aware of your journey. This time a reply is being sent, but hereafter it was commanded that Jinab Muhammad and ʿAli should send unto you paper, pen, ink, and books. They arrived and were delivered.

With regard to the books, in whatsoever manner you acted, you have attained the grace of acceptance; for the obtaining of every book hath become easy. Whatever of the handwriting of the Wronged One is in existence, preserve it separately.

We beseech God that He may confirm the honoured Afnan in all conditions. Verily, He is powerful over all things. All are at all times occupied in your remembrance. We ask God to ordain for you that whereby the ensigns of His Cause may be raised amidst the signs of His might and sovereignty. Verily, He is the All-Powerful, the Almighty.

Glory be upon you and upon those who love you, circle around you, and hearken unto your words in this great Announcement.

The latest news is this: on this night We gave his wife in marriage to Jinab ʿAbdu'l-Karim. We beseech God, through His bounty and loving-kindness, to bring harmony between the two.

BH11587: Lawh-i-Bismi al-Mazzah (the Humorist)

In My Name, the Humorist

We are the lovers of Thy face, The dwellers in Thy dwelling-place, Enthralled by every tress of grace—

I seek Thy goodly pleasure's light, I seek Thy presence day and night, For Thee I yield my soul outright.

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

We are the gazelles of Thy plain, The fishes of Thy mystic main, Who seek Thy law, Thy path attain.

I seek Thy beauty's deathless ray, I seek Thy glory's bright array, Our souls for Thee we cast away.

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

We are the envoys of Thy court, The circlers of Thy sacred fort, The servants of Thy high behest and port.

I seek reunion with Thy light, I seek Thy splendor burning bright, For Thee I yield myself outright.

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

We are love's slain ones at Thy door, The dead whom severance wounded sore, In Thy Name selfless evermore.

I seek Thy trial and Thy pain, I seek Thy doom, whate'er befall or reign, Our souls for Thee are gladly slain.

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

We are the birds ensnared by Thee, The fish enmeshed in Thy vast sea, The cupbearers of Thine ecstasy.

I seek Thy faithfulness divine, Yea, even Thy cruelty as wine, For Thee I yield this life of mine.

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

We are the circlers of Thy prison, The warders where Thy light hath risen, The keepers of Thy secret vision.

I seek Thy call's awakening fire, I seek Thy breath, The heart's desire, Our souls for Thee to dust retire.

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

We are the drinkers of Thy cup, The bearers of Thy heaven up, The seers of Thy treasure deep laid up.

I seek Thy praise in every tongue, I seek Thy song forever sung, For Thee my soul is loosed and flung.

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

We are the maddened by Thy glance, The guardians of Thy hid expanse, The knowers of Thy mystic trance.

I seek Thy vesture and Thy sign, I seek Thy robe in every line, Our souls for Thee in offering shine.

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

O Furughiyyih, this Tablet reached the honored lady and now reacheth thee. Give thanks unto the Desired One of the world that He hath crowned thee with the crown of nearness. Be thou thankful unto thy Lord for this great bounty.

O honored lady! The Truth sometimes speaketh in the tongue of the people. This very leaf is witness and proof thereof. We commanded the servant in attendance to write and send it. The glory be upon you and upon those who love you for the sake of God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH03560: O Thou, the Creator of every wondrous creation

O Thou, the Creator of every wondrous creation

This is what hath been revealed from the heaven of eternity, and in it there is set forth the station wherein the Beauty of god hath mounted the Throne of a Great Name. He verily hath been promised in all the Scriptures under every name, if ye are those who know. In the Bayan he was named as He who shall be made manifest, and He shall appear in the Mustaghath with evident authority.

Say: By God! This is the day the like of which the eyes of the unseen have not witnessed; how much less the eyes of those who have shut themselves out as by a veil. Blessed is he who appeareth in utmost humility in this day in the presence of God, and readeth this Tablet before his Throne, so that the hearing of the Lord may listen to its melodies, which have been altered in the past betwixt heaven and earth. In this manner shall this Name be mentioned in a seat which god hath sanctified beyond the description of the people of the world. Our intention in whatever hath been revealed in this Tablet is none other but My own Self which is supreme over all creation.

Whosoever awaiteth a Manifestation after Me is indeed among the lost. And He who shall be manifest after the thousand years will speak in My Name. And He who shall come in the time of the Mustaghath will bear witness unto Me, and proclaim that I am God, the Lord of heaven and earth. No one hath wholly comprehended this Revelation, except to a prescribed measure. He verily knoweth all things. Hold fast after Me unto the Branches that have branched from this Ancient Root. From them will the fragrance of My garment be shed throughout the world, and none shall inhale it, save those who turn their faces towards Him, and remain steadfast.

It behooveth you, O people of Baha, to be firm in the Cause of god in all circumstances, and beware lest ye follow every ignorant transgressor. After the Aghsan, a lofty station hath been ordained for the servant in attendance before the Throne. It is seemly that ye should revere the Kith and Kin among whom was manifested the Beloved of the Worlds, and who believed in God, the Mighty, the All-Praised. Thus was it revealed in the Bayan, and in this luminous Tablet. Whosoever turneth away from them is of the disbelievers and who joined partners with God, and is among the truly lost, unless he expresseth repentance, for He is the All-Forgiving, the Compassionate.

BH11762: Concerning what you wrote about Jinab-i-Mulla Husayn and his…

Concerning what you wrote about Jinab-i-Mulla Husayn and his son, upon them be the Glory of God, a special Most Holy, Most Exalted mention was made for them and sent; it is strange that it has not arrived. Similarly, all your requests have been answered one by one and sent. Instructions have been given to bring funds to that region. After receiving them, safeguard them and send word. Likewise, whatever arrives from anywhere should remain in that land until word is received.

Regarding agriculture, He has given a general ruling in these matters, which is that it is obligatory for every soul to engage in a profession, agriculture, or craft, and that very work itself is worship in the sight of God, even if one tarries but a day in any land. Thus, in the days of departure from Iraq, although preparations were being made for migration, nevertheless they were engaged in farming, and at the time of departure it was commanded that the harvest be distributed among the friends.

This is what has flowed from the Pen of the utterance concerning you:

O Nabil-i-Qabli Husayn! Upon you be the remembrance of God and His praise. Grieve not over anything. Verily, He is with whoever aids his Lord. Glorify thy Lord with praise at all times. Affairs shall proceed according to what God hath willed. Some of the friends in that land, due to hardship and difficulty, are in need of solace. Be thou a comforter on behalf of this Prisoner. They have not been and will not be forgotten. According to the exigencies of the time, means, and consummate wisdom, the outpourings of the All-Merciful from the heaven of mercy shall be bestowed, both outwardly and inwardly.

Convey My Great Glory unto thyself and unto them that are with thee and unto those who have believed in God, the Single, the All-Informed.

BH03876: We have heard thy call and witnessed thy turning…

He is the All-Seeing, the All-Informed

We have heard thy call and witnessed thy turning unto Me, thy devotion and thy burning in separation from thy Lord. We had previously made mention of thee in such wise that through it the sweet savors of the All-Merciful were wafted throughout all creation. We beseech God to aid thee and enable thee to remember Him, to praise Him and to serve His Cause. He, verily, is the Almighty, the Sovereign, the Self-Subsisting.

When thou hast quaffed the choice wine of revelation from the cup of My utterance and found 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 tokens have attracted me. I beseech Thee by the Word through which they that are nigh hastened to the place of sacrifice, to ordain for me, by Thy Most Exalted Pen, the reward of attaining Thy presence, of standing before Thy countenance, and of appearing 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 cause me, under all conditions, to hold fast to the cord of Thy grace and to act according to what Thou hast commanded me in Thy Book. Verily, Thou art the Almighty over whatsoever Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the All-Strong, the All-Powerful.

He hath loved and continueth to love His chosen ones, and hath come for their meeting and the manifestations of His bounty and favor. 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 in turmoil, for one from among the people of hatred occupied the seat of government for a period. Although he hath now returned to hell—meaning he was dismissed—yet until now the land hath not become settled. Therefore We have paused in giving permission to utter the Word. Verily, He is the All-Bountiful, the Generous, the Forgiving, the Merciful. We beseech of Him whatsoever is conducive to the good of this world and the next. Verily, He is powerful over all things and worthy to answer.

BH03814: Praise be to God that despite the flames…

He is the Hearer, the Answerer.

Praise be to God that despite the flames of hatred burning in the hearts of the heedless and oppressors, the light of grace shines forth from the horizon of the heaven of His bounty. Today from the rustling of the leaves of the Lote-Tree beyond which there is no passing was heard “The Glory has come,” and from its branches wafted the fragrance of the All-Merciful. Blessed is the servant whom the might of the people did not deprive of the light of this Day, who detached himself from what he possessed in hope of that which is with God.

O Haji Aqa! Thy letter which thou didst send to Muhammad, upon him be My glory, was presented before the Most Holy and Exalted Presence. It attained the honor of being seen and was read by one of My Branches who was named Diya in the Supreme Horizon. We have answered thee with this Clear Tablet that thou mayest rejoice and be of those who are thankful.

Jinab-i-Amin, upon him be My glory, hath mentioned thee, and likewise mentioned the book which his honor Zaynu’l-Muqarrabin, upon him be My glory, is engaged in transcribing. Say:

Praise be to Thee, O my God, my Lord and my Desire, for having remembered me in days wherein sorrows have encompassed Thee from all directions. I beseech Thee by Thy mercy which hath preceded all created things, by Thy bounty which hath encompassed all contingent beings, and by Thy Name through which Thou didst assist Thy loved ones and chosen ones, to make me steadfast in Thy Cause and firm in Thy service. O Lord! I am Thy servant and the son of Thy servant. I have turned to Thee, detached from all else but Thee. I beseech Thee by Thy generosity which hath encompassed existence and by Thy Manifestation through which the Mount smiled, to enable me to perform such deeds as will diffuse the fragrance of Thy good-pleasure. Then ordain for me, O my God, through Thy Name, that which will exalt me in Thy dominion. Verily Thou art the Possessor of the kingdom and the realms above, and in Thy grasp are the reins of all who are in the heavens and on earth. And praise be to Thee, O Lord of the worlds.

BH03956: O ʿAli, O Akbar! Thou hast mentioned the opposers…

He is the Helper, the All-Wise!

O ʿAli, O Akbar! Thou hast mentioned the opposers in the land of Sad. The world is in upheaval. The Pharaohs of the past have been resurrected. Dawlatabadi and his followers have become afflicted with delusions that have had and have no equal. The Shi’ih party stands in the first rank with that party. It is not known to what they cling, to what they turn, and from what they turn away. By the life of God, they have been and are worshippers of idle fancies and names. The former party arranged for themselves lords equal to the numerical value of the name Javad, yet they still counted themselves as believers in unity.

Your honor hath not fallen short in service, mention and teaching, but heedless souls are not susceptible to guidance. Now there exist the equivalent of all the books, nay more, yet they have said what they have said. They have passed over the station wherein the Primal Point—may the spirit of all else be sacrificed for Him—declared “Verily I am the first of the worshippers,” and have clung to a station of which they have not been and are not aware. Would that the people knew who exalted Him and who mentioned Him!

The requirements of wisdom in those days, for the protection of the Source of the Cause from God, were manifest. After the rending of veils, endless hardships, writing through nights and days, and arising before the faces of all people, veils thicker than before are seen to have appeared and become barriers. It behooveth thee to beseech God to purify the ears for hearkening unto what hath been revealed from His presence, and the eyes for beholding His signs. Verily He is powerful over all things.

Convey greetings from this Wronged One to the loved ones of that land. The light from Our presence be upon thee and upon those who love thee for the sake of God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH04250: We have risen this day through God's bounty, mercy…

In the Name of the One True Friend

We have risen this day through God's bounty, mercy, grace and bestowal, and We were speaking in remembrance when My Greater Branch arrived and mentioned you and what was manifested from you in My days and your days. We have remembered you with a remembrance that no remembrance can equal, and We have revealed for you that whose fragrance shall never be cut off, and We have turned toward you with a favor that all the treasures of the heavens and earth cannot equal.

O Buzurg, O My Afnan! Upon you be My glory and My mercy. The Tongue of Grandeur and the Most Exalted Pen bear witness that your days were adorned with service to the Cause of God. In truth, you performed that which became the cause of the Most Great Remembrance in God's Book, and assuredly the reward for what was manifested shall be made manifest. Verily He is with you and heareth your call and seeth your turning and orientation toward Him. He is indeed the Compassionate, the Generous, the True, the Faithful.

All that you sent arrived in days when the regions of the world were darkened through the tyranny of the oppressors while the Wronged One was established upon the Most Pure and Luminous Throne in the prison of ʿAkka. The oppressors imagined that what they had wrought would extinguish the light of God's Cause. How evil was that which they imagined! Soon they shall witness its exaltation and ascendancy and the appearance of that which hath been ordained by the Pen of God, the Lord of all worlds.

Say: O people! By God's life, that which never appeared in the world hath appeared. Blessed are they who possess understanding. The resplendent, radiant Glory shining from the horizon of My Most Exalted Pen be upon you and upon those who are with you and who love you and hearken to your words concerning this mighty and wondrous Cause.

BH04912: O Greater Branch! Due to your departure, the matter…

He is the Almighty

O Greater Branch! Due to your departure, the matter of the Tablets has been delayed, the departure of Mulla Muhammad-ʿAli has been postponed, the blessed Cause is in suspension, and both Barkih and Barkih are in regret. Indeed, due to your departure most matters are suspended and still, nay rather, they

appear disordered. How excellent was what was said—that from its rising and setting two cities were turned upside down.

Your letters from before and after arrived and the Most Great Branch sent them and they were seen. According to what was mentioned, the matter of the sale was not established on a firm, solid foundation. The sale by some people appears flimsier than a spider's web. In any case, time is needed—it must be made so firm that no thought of change would occur. Then whatever is expedient, after reflection and consultation, carry it out. Verily He is the Protector of the doers of good. Praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

Now when five hours remain till sunset, his honor Diya has come and beseeched that mention be made of you, and the Supreme Pen intended to make mention after sleep, but due to Diya's insistence this Tablet was written before sleep.

May his honor Majd be preserved and joyous, God willing. Glory be upon you and upon those who love you and mention you and who are with you, and upon Husayn who attained to My service and emigrated with Me, and upon every insightful one who has turned towards Me.

BH05250: For a number of years Huquq was not accepted…

For a number of years Huquq was not accepted… However, in recent years We have, in view of the exigencies of the times, accepted the payment of the Huquq, but have forbidden solicitation thereof. Everyone must have the utmost regard for the dignity of the Word of God and for the exaltation of His Cause. Were a person to offer all the treasures of the earth at the cost of debasing the honour of the Cause of God, were it even less than a grain of mustard, such an offering would not be permissible. All the world hath belonged and will always belong to God. If one spontaneously offereth Huquq with the utmost joy and radiance it will be acceptable, and not otherwise. The benefit of such deeds reverteth unto the individuals themselves. This measure hath been ordained in view of the necessity for material means, for "averse is God from putting aught into effect except through its means". Thus instructions were given to receive the Huquq….

BH05252: From the time of your departure until now, it…

He is God, exalted be His glory.

From the time of your departure until now, it hath not become known what ye have done, or what ye are doing. In every matter, write daily and inform us fully of the affairs there and of your own condition, that due knowledge may be obtained. ʿAbdu'l-Ghani hath arrived and brought no letter from you; likewise several of the people of that place have come hither, yet were without news of you. This matter became the cause of sorrow to some.

In the dispatch of messengers, from both sides—that is, from here and from there—negligence is in no wise permissible. Jinab-i-Haji ʿAli hath for some time been subjected to hardship; yet the toil of the garden hath proved more beneficial. God willing, he may remain preserved and occupied with the

necessary affairs. His Holiness the Most Great Branch made mention that, despite what had been written, no report hath arrived.

In brief, prolonged delay serveth no useful purpose. Accomplish speedily that which hath been intended, and come. And write daily of your circumstances. Peace be upon you, and upon Abdu'r-Ra'uf, and upon Haji Ali, and upon all those with you among the sincere servants of God.

Some of the Afnan have arrived, and some have likewise come to Beirut. In these days, your presence before the Countenance is required. This servant, too, instead of planting the saplings of men, is occupied with planting trees; and the necessary matters have remained suspended and deferred. The command is in His hand.

BH05651: Praise be to God! The tree of the garden…

He is God.

Praise be to God! The tree of the garden hath yielded its fruit, and in the autumn ye have eaten and carried away the fruits of the spring therefrom. This child, in a single night, hath traversed a path of a thousand years. If ye did not partake thereof, the labourers at least have eaten. God willing, ye too shall yet partake. Your departure caused the swift world of writing to come to a standstill. What God hath willed hath come to pass. Haji Abdu'llah—upon him be greeting—God doth indeed confirm in service. Entrust unto him the planting of the trees and saplings, for he, by the help of God, brought forth brightness out of blackness, and transformed the mire of the old garden into limpid water. These powers were of God's grace; otherwise, no profit would ever have come from that black soil, nor would he have been able to endure the hardships that befell Haji Abdu'llah.

Unto every soul We assigned a service: unto you, attendance and the writing of tablets; unto him, digging, lifting, and planting. Tomorrow, which is Monday afternoon, it would be well if ye come, for many matters of writing have remained long delayed and one to assist is needed. As for Jinab-i-Aqa Mirza Musa, seize hold of Majd, and he in turn of ʿAli, and tell him: "The lemons of the palace have not arrived." He will say, "They are coming," and will send them on. Let him send also a hundred oranges.

BH05999: O Niyaz! Upon thee be the Glory of God…

O Niyaz! Upon thee be the Glory of God and His radiance and His light and His praise! Thy mention hath been made in the assembly of the oppressed ones of the world. We beseech God to assist thee in that which will cause the exaltation of His Word and the advancement of existence. In truth, in these days His Majesty Sultan Abdul-Hamid Khan—may the All-Merciful strengthen him—is established upon the throne of justice. In his reign, oppression hath no place and tyranny no splendor. His sovereignty hath excelled in justice and beneficence. We beseech God, exalted be He, to assist the divines of Egypt—may God strengthen them—and their Khedive in justice and fairness. Verily, He is the Possessor of gifts and favors.

It is hoped that His Highness the Khedive—may God strengthen him—will hold fast unto that which is the cause of the dawning and appearance of the light of unity amongst the servants. Through God's grace and favor, in the early days, signs of goodness appeared from him and the light of justice shone forth. O

my God, my God! Illumine his heart with the light of Thy unity and assist him to carry out what Thou hast decreed in Thy perspicuous Book. Glory and majesty and exaltation and power be upon the friends of God and His chosen ones who have not broken His binding Covenant and His firm Testament. Praise be to God, for He is the Goal of all who know.

BH11645: Praise be to God! Tribulations are evident from every…

Praise be to God! Tribulations are evident from every direction, and afflictions are countless and beyond reckoning….

Thou didst mention the treatise of Athim and its seizure. Well done! That heedless violator was occupied until his final days in rejecting his Lord. After claiming the utmost heights of sciences and arts and spending his life in idle fancies and conjectures, what did he achieve? By the life of our Lord! Sinful in name and precious among cattle. From the beginning of the Cause, every year he wrote a treatise rejecting the Dawning-Place of wisdom and the Repository of knowledge. It is not known what he understood from the appearance of the honored Shaykh, may God's mercy and care be upon him. He attained not a drop of that ocean nor was he successful in comprehending a single letter of that Book. And now he hath realized what he hath done. Verily, the seeing one beholdeth the sinner in the fire. Had he, for one hour, detached from self and desire, reflected upon that which was manifested, he would have attained that which is the cause of success and prosperity. But he achieved not the deed that would lead to this station, and thus he returned to his origin. Verily, we are God's and to Him do we return….

BH05695: O Ali! The glance of favor hath been directed…

O Ali! The glance of favor hath been directed towards you. Were it not for this, that which hath appeared from you would not have appeared.

Concerning what you wrote about the weakness of the servants and the heedless souls' lack of attention to the exalted Truth—verily you speak truly. Indeed, the face of the world hath been turned toward irreligion. In all years, nay in all months, nay in all days, it hath been far from faith, certitude and knowledge, and close to conjecture and vain imaginings. For a time it shall continue thus, even as the duration thereof hath been revealed and recorded in the Book of God. But be not thou sorrowful, for the effulgences of the Sun of Truth shall assuredly absorb the superfluous moistures of nature and shall gather together the scattered letters.

This matter is not confined to this age alone, but it hath ever been thus from ancient times, even as a drop from the hidden drops in the divine ocean of knowledge hath been revealed in the holy Tablet of Wisdom.[BH00223] Blessed is he who hath beheld and read it and hath said:

> "Praise be unto Thee, O Thou Who maketh clear to the world!"

After the passing of the time mentioned in the Book, suddenly shall the Cause of God be upraised and all souls shall turn unto it. Verily thy Lord is the True Informer, the Speaking One, the Faithful Utterer.

BH05707: And concerning the blessed verse, they made mention…

And concerning the blessed verse, they made mention that the person in question had said: ʻThey have altered the verses,' and had written ya'ti Allah in place of ya'tihum Allah": it is clear and evident that no change was intended, rather it was a reference to the meaning of the verse. The original verse is "Do they wait for naught else than that God should come unto them [ya'tihum Allah] in the shadows of the clouds." This meaning exists and has existed in previous books.

The purpose is that the servants should understand and discover the meanings and allusions of the divine verses. This blessed book was revealed in Iraq and printed in India, but before comparison and collation, his honor Mirza Haydar-ʻAli, upon him be the Glory of God and His favors, requested its correction from the Land of Sad. According to instructions some have engaged in collation and God willing after correction it will be sent to that land as well.

This is the truth of the matter that was mentioned, but regarding the station of gathering and separation in that book an explanation was given. Say: All is from God. I conclude these words with what the All-Merciful has revealed regarding knowledge: God blots out whatever He wills and confirms, and with Him is the Mother of the Book.

BH05808: The lamentations of all things have risen up because…

He is the All-Victorious, the Manifest One

The lamentations of all things have risen up because of what befell the people of Baha in the land of Ya. Verily, ʻAli advanced to the place of sacrifice and offered up his spirit in the path of God, the Lord of all beings. He sacrificed his life in such wise that the light of steadfastness shone forth resplendent from his luminous brow. The Manifestations of God's Most Beautiful Names in the Most Exalted Paradise have gloried in his presence, his sacrifice and his steadfastness. The winds passed over his blessed body and lamented, and from their howling these words were heard:

> "Woe, woe unto the people who with their own hands martyred the Lord of existence!"

O thou who gazest upon the Countenance and soarest in His atmosphere! There hath befallen the loved ones of God that which no eye in all the world hath ever witnessed. We desire to make mention of thee and give thee glad-tidings of that which hath appeared from My loved ones and chosen ones. Blessed is he who maketh mention of them and remembereth their remembrance and presenteth himself before their graves, saying:

> "I testify that ye have attained unto that which none before you have ever attained. Ye are the manifestations of detachment in all creation and the dawning-places of sacrifice amidst the people of hypocrisy. Upon you rest the Spirit and upon your first and your last, your outward and your inward, and God's mercy and His blessings and His favors and His grace."

BH05822: There hath come before Us that wherewith thou didst…

He is the Most Wondrous, the Most Wondrous!

There hath come before Us that wherewith thou didst commune with God, the Lord of all worlds, and We have heard the moaning of thy heart in separation from thy Lord. Verily thy Lord is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. We have accepted that for which thou didst supplicate the Lord of the throne and of earth. Verily thy Lord is the Forgiving, the Merciful. We have ordained for thee what We have desired and have decreed for thee in the Book a mighty good. Thus hath the matter been decreed from the presence of One All-Knowing, All-Wise.

They that object to you are themselves wrapped in a manifest veil. Be not grieved by those who speak according to their desires. Stand firm in that wherein ye are and put your trust in God, the Single, the One, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy. Among the people are those who worship their own desires and imagine they worship their Ancient Lord, and among them are those who cling to a name from among the names while turning away from Him Who is named. By My life, they are all in manifest error. Ye are under the wing of grace. Blessed are ye and they that are with you and they that hear your words concerning this Wise Remembrance.

Say: By the Lord of the signs! The Revelations have ended with this mighty Announcement. Whoso layeth claim to a Revelation before the completion of a full thousand years, such a one is assuredly a lying impostor. And whoso interpreteth this verse differently, verily he is of those who have gone astray. We beseech God to aid you to love Him and to grant you every good from His presence. He, verily, is the Powerful, the Mighty.

BH06136: Regarding the agreed-upon sum about which was written before…

Regarding the agreed-upon sum about which was written before—the intention was that your honor should record whatever has reached you, meaning the original capital, and also record whatever amount has been given to people and spent by the command of the Ancient Beauty, such as tea and household expenses—record all of it. The intention is that you should write the details.

And regarding this matter, you should not be grieved at all. Concerning what actually occurred with the opium—He said it was not permissible, but “Verily We have forgiven it, and it is from Us.” With such a blessed word, it is not permissible for your honor to be grieved. Praise be to God, the fragrances of the good-pleasure of God, exalted be His glory, have been and will continue to be wafting, and complete attention regarding your honor has been and continues to be observed. Also record whatever special funds were spent and lost in this transaction, so that it may be known how much remains today. God willing, may you be joyous at all times in the remembrance of God and gladdened by the fragrances of His bounty.

BH06363: He says, exalted be His utterance and exalted be…

He says, exalted be His utterance and exalted be His proof:

O Samandar! Upon you be My glory! What you wrote regarding Eliyahu was heard, but they sometimes appear as those enraptured and at other times less than that. Without permission they brought along another person. After arrival he interceded for a group in this land, therefore We pardoned him and he

attained the honor of Our presence. Assuredly, had he come with permission his station would have been different.

O Samandar! Most act according to their own will, but Jinab-i-Mihdi who was with him appeared very poor, therefore forbearance was shown and the light of grace accepted him. We beseech God to aid him to remain steadfast in this mighty Cause. Blessed are those souls who act according to His will. By the life of God! He is the One Who influences, He is the One Who pervades, He is the Protector, He is the All-Encompassing. Ask of God that He may aid all and cause them to attain His good-pleasure, that all wills may be annihilated in His Will and all determinations in His Determination, and that upon the brow of the world may be witnessed the blessed words "The Command is God's, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting." The Glory be upon you and upon those with you.

BH06757: Mihdi had a special Tablet, which this servant suddenly…

He is God, exalted is He

Mihdi had a special Tablet, which this servant suddenly took to deliver to the travelers. Therefore the heading remained without a name. As for recent news, on Friday night we arrived unexpectedly at the house of Kalim, and on Saturday night we intended to return. Aqa Mirza Muhammad-Quli requested that we stay, which was accepted. Now that it is Saturday morning, this letter is being written in his house, and your place is very empty.

O Navvab! The climate of Haifa, according to what was mentioned, has not benefited you. We beseech God to assist you, protect you and help you.

O Leaf of the Divine! This woman from Isfahan, that is Munirih, has forgotten your covenant and like the tick of Adrianople has clung to the Most Great Branch, having had and having no attention turned to that direction. However, as promised, we will send her.

O Diya'u'llah! Present a petition in your own handwriting. May Badi'u'llah and his secretary dwell and rest beneath the shade of the Divine Lote Tree of Mercy. Convey greetings to all the men and women. The glory be upon you.

BH06505: Several Most Holy and Most Exalted Tablets have been…

Several Most Holy and Most Exalted Tablets have been graciously bestowed upon the Afnan who are present in that land. God willing, they will attain unto them. And one Tablet has also been revealed from the heaven of divine mercy and sent especially for the son of his eminence Aqa Mirza Muhsin, upon him be Baha'u'llah's glory—let them deliver it. By the life of God, there hath been revealed for him on various occasions that which no eye hath seen nor mind conceived. And a Tablet hath also been revealed from the right hand of the Throne especially for his eminence Haji Siyyid Javad, upon him be Baha'u'llah's glory. God willing, it will reach him and he will attain everlasting life through its fragrant breaths.

Likewise, in response to the petition of Aqa Mirza Muhammad-Taqi, a Tablet hath been revealed—let them deliver it to him. And another Tablet for his eminence Aqa Mirza ʿAbdu'l-Husayn, who was

mentioned in your letter. Again regarding the matter of the two hundred tumans that must be delivered with utmost haste to the specified individual so that he may act according to what God hath desired, that is, deliver it according to the draft. Similarly, the Servant wrote acknowledging receipt of some funds and this was sent.

BH07049: Thy handwriting reached the Blessed Lote-Tree. Praise be…

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

Thy handwriting reached the Blessed Lote-Tree. Praise be to God, from it there breathed the fragrance of detachment and of the fear of God. God willing, mayest thou be confirmed under all conditions. I make mention of Shu'a' of the horizon, and beseech for him mighty confirmations. Convey greetings unto the Afnan on behalf of the Wronged One.

Concerning the sacred writings, act in whatever manner is deemed wise and conducive to their preservation. Keep with thee the Bayan, together with whatever is in the handwriting of Yahya, Mirza Ahmad, and Aqa Siyyid Husayn. It hath not been, nor is it, expedient that the souls in that land should turn their attention thereto, for considerations of wisdom's sake, since they are burdened with wives and children.

In the matter of the writings, We have granted permission that thou act according to whatsoever thou deemest prudent. This, too, is a second time that leave hath been vouchsafed.

The glory rest upon thee, and upon those who are with thee and who serve thee for the sake of God.

Concerning the funds, full particulars were set forth in another letter. God willing, may they be aided unto that which is most fitting and seemly—that is, the Afnan, upon him be My glory.

BH07402: O My Branch! Upon thee be My glory. According…

He is the Almighty in His Most Exalted Homeland.

O My Branch! Upon thee be My glory. According to what hath been written, a number have fallen afflicted with fever. Therefore, on behalf of the Wronged One, inquire concerning the condition of Vahid and his mother, and write thereof. Likewise do We beseech the True One for the friends in that place, that He may graciously bestow upon all a speedy healing.

Gawhar Khanum and her mother are remembered. For Ruhiyyih Khanum in particular, two cloaks have been sent; give them to her in this name, that she may be gladdened.

Make mention of Jinab-i-Haji Ali, Aqa Muhammad, Aqa Siyyid Asadu'llah, Aqa Ali, and Aqa Muhammad-ʿAli—upon them be My glory. Likewise, convey glory and greetings to the members of that honored household.

The glory rest upon thee and upon whoso loveth thee and hearkeneth unto thy word. A quantity of apples hath been sent; distribute them there. Peace and glory be upon Afnan Aqa Muhammad-Hadi—

upon him be My glory and My mercy. Praise be to God, they are remembered, and have attained unto presence and meeting.

BH07403: O My Branch! Thy letter arrived from Port Said…

He is the Almighty.

O My Branch! Thy letter arrived from Port Said. God willing, may such letters ever continue to reach Us. From Egypt, gather sweetness; from India, sugar; and from the world's great school, draw thy portion of knowledge and forbearance, of arts and sciences, and of manifold attainments. Though thy separation hath, indeed, caused the hearts and souls of the loved ones of God to burn with anguish, yet perchance God will bring thereby some new matter to pass, and the breezes of thy purity for His sake may spread throughout those regions and perfume their cities and their outskirts. Verily, He is potent over all things. Peace be upon thee, and upon everyone who hath turned toward the Most Exalted Horizon and believed in God, the Lord of Names and the Fashioner of heaven.

And further: whatsoever may be needful, receive it from Jinab-i-Siyyid ʿAli. We send takbir unto the faces of the loved ones of God who have held fast to justice, enjoined righteousness, and clung to the hem of trustworthiness, truthfulness, and fidelity. Thus doth the Wronged One remember everyone who hath believed, feared God, and wrought that which he was commanded by God, the Creator of all things.

Mustafa, God willing, is enabled and assisted. Peace be upon you.

BH07391: O servant in attendance! God created thee and provided…

He is the Commander, the All-Wise

O servant in attendance! God created thee and provided for thee and nurtured thee and made thee a servant to His Own Self, that thou mayest give thanks unto thy Lord, the All-Bountiful. He hath lavished His favors upon thee as a grace from His presence, for He is the All-Bounteous, the Forgiving, the Merciful.

Know thou moreover that God hath preferred the two Branches above all My brothers and their sons, and above thee and above those who have believed in Him and in His manifest Book. Hold fast to the hem of faithfulness with the hands of submission and contentment. This is My counsel to thee and My bidding upon thee. Verily thy Lord is the Commander, the All-Wise.

O sons of My brothers! God hath adorned you with the ornament of His kinship among creation. Know ye this mighty station. Beware lest anything hold you back from God and from that which ye have been commanded by Him. Verily He is the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing. We beseech God to assist you in serving My Cause and to ordain for you that which will draw you nigh unto God, the Lord of all worlds. Forget not My counsel and deny not My verses. Follow that which ye have been commanded in this wondrous Tablet.

BH07269: May the curse of God rest upon the people…

He is.

May the curse of God rest upon the people who interposed themselves between Us and you; may God confound the servants who wronged you and became a veil between you and the dawning of the lights of the Divine Face.

O My Majd! Grieve not that We have bidden thee desist from arising in the gatherings, for therein lieth a wisdom which the fettered souls cannot comprehend. Remember, at every moment, My exile, then My anguish, then the afflictions I have borne amidst the dwellers of the graves—those who have not arisen from their sepulchres, nor purified themselves from the dross of ancestral tradition—even after the Bugle hath been sounded, whereby all the denizens of nearness have risen from behind the veils of light. Ere long will God draw you nigh through the Manifestation of His own Self, whose countenance shineth resplendent in these impenetrable, murky darknesses.

See thou, then, that thou dost not squander thy days, nor leave thy soul idle therein. Strive to acquire knowledge and to perfect thy hand in writing, for both are well-pleasing and acceptable before thy Lord, the Mighty, the All-Powerful, the All-Praised. Beware lest thou transgress the ordinance of thy Lord; then put thy whole trust in Him in all thine affairs. The Spirit be upon thee from this Stranger—the solitary, the wronged and sore-afflicted.

BH07272: The Most Great

The Most Great.

Majd saith, “Write.” I say, “I know not aught.” He saith, “Thou art the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.” He saith, “Behold me.” I reply, “I see thee not.” He saith, “Thou art the All-Seeing, the All-Informed.”

It would seem that he hath, in some measure, apprehended that which the True One hath uttered: from the blessed word, “I know not,” he hath perceived the nothingness and futility of vain and perishable sciences, which profit not; and from the perfect word, “I see not,” he hath understood the meaning of turning away from all save God.

O Majd! By My life! With Me is the knowledge of what hath been and what shall be, and beyond them both that whereof none hath been made aware save His own Self, He Who overshadoweth all that is seen and all that is witnessed.

Render thanks unto the Beloved of the worlds that thy dwelling hath, this day, been made the Most Great Vantage-Point and the seat of the Most Great Throne. Thou didst invite the Ancient Beauty, and from dawn even unto eve wast occupied in His service. Say: All praise be unto Thee, O Beloved of the worlds! We beseech God to enable thee to serve Him throughout all days. Verily, He is potent over all things.

BH07963: O My Branch! Upon thee be My glory…

He is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed

O My Branch! Upon thee be My glory and My loving-kindness. Thy letter was received. Thy compositions are indeed the most great remedy for the sorrows of the world, and each one, corresponding to a different clime, brought joy to many who perused it. They have been and ever shall be a source of eternal gladness. Nevertheless, thou shouldst not be sad. If some work or occupation should arise that would keep thee busy, well and good; otherwise thy writings are better and more acceptable than any work or occupation. The one named after God is exactly as thou hast mentioned—he hath both a family and a shop. Thy missives are the highest and most excellent gifts in all the world.

Until now no news hath been given to the mother. If the affairs there truly bear fruit, very well; but if they are a source of sorrow and distress, return would be preferable. In any case, the good-pleasure of the Afnan is best and most fitting.

BH07445: When God desires a thing, He need but say…

When God desires a thing, He need but say unto it "Be" and it is. Praise be to God, title [to the property] was obtained. Blessed is he who has attained unto this Cause, whose decree was established in the days of God, the Lord of the worlds.

At the beginning of arrival in the Most Great Prison in the military barracks, His blessed word, exalted be He: "The River Jordan has joined with the Most Great Sea…" Although for this blessed verse which was sent down from the heaven of divine will there are many meanings, yet one manifestation from the sun of its meanings dawned after the acquisition of this land, for this new land was adorned with the ornament of God's Name and is near to the River Jordan—and this is the river that was recorded and mentioned in the divine Books of old, and perhaps it will join [with the Sea] in the future as well. All knowledge is with God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH07608: Thy letter hath been received, and the account…

He is God.

Thy letter hath been received, and the account of thy circumstances is now known. Praise be to God: health is present.

In all conditions the loving-kindness of the True One—glorified be His majesty—attendeth thee. On Saturday, at the end of the month, He departed from Qasr-Mazra'ih. Deprived of the effulgent rays of the Sun of His presence, the Wronged One turned His face toward the Garden; and from thence, on the night of Sunday, He proceeded and entered the Ancient House.

As for the ladies, they have arrived in the land of ʿAkka; and all, by night and by day, were and are awaiting news, and sought tidings at every turn. Majdu'd-Din hath been sent in particular, that he might be informed of thy state. The purpose is this: delay not to send glad news, for a company of women, in any case, are of little patience and tender of heart; to show consideration unto them is, in the sight of God, accounted among commendable deeds.

Peace and Baha be upon you, and upon those who are with you and who love you for the sake of God, the Lord of the worlds, the Most Great.

BH07962: O My Greater Branch! Today, if the cloud showeth…

He is God, the All-Powerful, the All-Knowing.

O My Greater Branch! Today, if the cloud showeth forth any favor, it must be considered before the writing of the Tablet, for afterwards no remedy appeareth save reconsideration and revision. In such revision there is indeed some toil, yet since it proceedeth from the Supreme Pen, everlasting ease lieth hidden therein.

We beseech the peerless God to preserve thee and those who are with thee. Jinab-i-Aqa Muhammad, Aqa Siyyid Asadu'llah, Aqa ʿAli, and Aqa Husayn—we make mention of them all. God willing, may Jinab-i-Aqa Ibrahim be enabled to render service and to fulfill that which is meet and seemly.

The glory rest upon you and upon those who are with you. A Tablet was sent; send word in writing. Inquire, on behalf of the Wronged One, concerning the condition of the mother, and likewise of Gawhar Khanum and those with her; also Aqa Shu'a'u'llah, Aminu'llah, and Musa Effendi; and likewise Baqa'i, Aqa ʿAmmu Quli.

BH11823: In My Name, the Caller between earth and heaven!

In My Name, the Caller between earth and heaven!

One of My Branches, who hath been named Badi'u'llah, hath presented thy letter before Our Countenance. We answer thee through this perspicuous Tablet. By God! There hath appeared what hath never appeared in the world, and the Speaker of Sinai hath spoken that which, were it to be cast upon the mountains, they would take flight, and were it cast upon the earth, its treasures would be revealed, and were it cast upon the heaven, it would be cleft asunder instantly. Blessed art thou, inasmuch as thou hast quaffed the choice wine of utterance from the hand of the bounty of thy Lord, the All-Merciful, and hast attained unto that which was inscribed by the Most Exalted Pen in the Crimson Tablet. Thus hath the Ancient Beauty spoken from this exalted station. Take hold of the Book with such strength that the power of the aggressors shall not prevent thee.

The glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My loving-kindness be upon thee and upon those who have turned unto the Most Sublime Horizon and have said: "Here am I, here am I, O Lord of all beings!" and "Here am I, here am I, O Thou Who art the Goal of those who are in the heavens and on earth!"

BH07614: Your letter made mention of Nabil. Blessed are you…

Your letter made mention of Nabil. Blessed are you for what you mentioned of him. We testify that he attained to what was revealed in the Books of God, and We testify that his tongue was created for the remembrance of God, his sight for beholding the signs of his Lord, the Possessor of Names, and his ear for

hearkening to His sweetest call. From the beginning until now he has been speaking words of praise and glory. Great is the reward of this station and this deed, and from the Tongue of Grandeur he was named Nabil-i-A'zam. Blessed is he who has recognized his station and mentioned him according to what was revealed from the Pen of God, the Lord of all worlds.

After reading and reviewing this Tablet, you should visit the resting place of Nabil, upon him be My glorious and resplendent glory, that he may read what was revealed for him from the Pen of God, the All-Knowing Speaker, and witness what has been recorded in his name in this wondrous Tablet. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to assist His Cause through him. Verily He is the Almighty, the Ancient of Days.

BH07956: O servant in attendance! Thou didst mention that his…

He is the All-Seeing, the All-Informed

O servant in attendance! Thou didst mention that his honor Javad, upon him be the Glory of God, had inquired about the papers sent by Afnan, upon him be the Glory of God and My loving-kindness. Whatsoever hath been sent from the first day until now hath been pleasing and good, acceptable and beloved. All that was sent hath been adorned with the ornament of acceptance, through God's grace, the Lord of all worlds. They have sent every kind, and all are adorned with pure love.

The papers attributed to thee—two books from the inimitable pen of the Greater Branch—have been written, and in this there is abundant good which none can comprehend save the All-Informed. Likewise with their other items—in truth they have all been a form of sacrifice.

In these days when all stand in enmity save whom God willeth, verily the heedless one seeketh to prevail over Us through oppression and armies, while We seek victory over him through the Near One, the Strong, the Mighty, the Powerful. Neither the power of the powerful nor the fierceness of the wicked shall deter Us.

BH08450: Your letters were received, and each one was…

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

Your letters were received, and each one was as a gate opening upon joy and gladness. Every word thereof bore witness to health and well-being. Praise be to Him in every condition.

According to what was written, ye have purposed to journey unto Egypt, and your object is to meet with the friends and to fulfill the promise made unto the honored one well known. Convey to each of them loving greetings. God willing, may all attain unto that which is the cause and the means of everlasting life.

O My loved ones! Verily, the Wronged One remembereth you at all times, and beseecheth God, the Lord of all worlds, to throw open before your faces the portals of mercy, grace, and bounty. He, verily, is the All-Bountiful, the Generous.

The glory rest upon Your Honor, and upon whosoever loveth you, and hearkeneth unto your word, and is honored by meeting you, and upon everyone who hath come into your presence, and upon every steadfast and upright soul.

BH08451: Thy former letters were fraught with grief, inasmuch…

He is God, the Dispeller of sorrows, the Bestower of joy, the All-Generous.

Thy former letters were fraught with grief, inasmuch as they betokened thy distress and troubled state. The world possesseth neither such worth nor station that souls like unto thee, or the Afnan, should suffer themselves to be saddened by it, or by its happenings and changing conditions. Praised be God, ye have attained unto that which hath had, and can have, neither likeness nor peer. Since ye possess this, what further seek ye?

Let the saying of the poet be fulfilled: this is best and best-beloved of all. Having One such as Thee, O Bountiful Lord, what need remaineth for aught beside Thee? Why then should there be sorrow or dejection? These two brief days shall pass away, and we shall enter a realm wherein the treasuries of grace and bounty are laid up in store. All this is of the bounty of God, the Lord of all worlds.

Convey, on behalf of the Wronged One, loving greetings and takbír unto Jinab-i-Afnan. By My life! the True One is with him under all conditions, and He is the Self-Sufficient, the Most Exalted.

BH11038: O Ism-i-Jud! Upon thee be My Glory! Two letters…

O Ism-i-Jud! Upon thee be My Glory! Two letters from Javad, upon him be the Glory of God and His loving-kindness, which he had written to thee were presented before the Divine Presence…. He is among those souls who, in the early days, turned to the Countenance of God, at a time when the peoples of the world were as though blown down by the blast of the trumpet like hollow palm trunks, save those whom God willed otherwise. We beseech the Self-Sufficient, the Most High, in all conditions to aid him at every moment to that which shall endure throughout the kingdom of earth and heaven.

Concerning what he wrote about Ibn-i-Abhar, upon him be the Glory of God—praise be to God, he hath been and is favored by God's grace. His is the right to cast the world behind him, turning unto God, the Lord of Eternity, with such detachment as to draw all beings to that horizon whereby every loftiness hath been made loftier and every height more elevated—that Station which God hath made the circling-point of the Concourse on High and the Manifestations of His Names and Attributes. And I am the All-Commanding, the All-Wise. Some time ago the sun of permission shone forth from the horizon of grace and We summoned him to the Most Great Scene. We beseech God, exalted be His glory, to enable him and deprive him not of the Kawthar of His presence. However, his coming was delayed; perchance another matter shall transpire….

BH08017: My God, my God! Praise be unto Thee…

…My God, my God! Praise be unto Thee for having given me to drink the choice wine of Thy knowledge and guided me unto the Dayspring of Thy verses and the Dawning-Place of Thy inspiration. I beseech Thee

by the most exalted Paradise and what Thou hast ordained therein for Thy trusted ones and chosen ones, and by the Tree which Thou hast planted by the hand of Thy power, to make me steadfast, firm and upright in this Cause whereby the feet of the world have slipped save those rescued by the hand of Thy power. O Lord! Withhold not from me that which Thou hast willed of the wonders of Thy bounty. Ordain for me that which will draw me nigh unto Thee. Verily, Thou art the Almighty, the Powerful….

BH08555: O Samandar! Upon thee be the glory of God…

O Samandar! Upon thee be the glory of God and His grace. We bear witness that from the beginning of the Cause thou didst turn to it and hast been occupied in service. Thy service and mention and praise have reached such a station that it is likely the noble scribes have become powerless to record it. This is a great bounty. The letter which thou didst write to the Greater Branch attained the honor of being heard, and these few words have appeared from the divine ocean of knowledge concealed within the Most Exalted Pen, and it hath testified and doth testify on thy behalf. Convey greetings to all the friends of that land on behalf of the Wronged One and give them the glad-tidings of the loving-kindness of the Beloved of the worlds. The glory be upon you from God, the Lord of the worlds.

Ahmad, son of Shaykh Balqa, hath attained and now dwelleth beneath the shade of the Tree. Verily thy Lord is the Compassionate, the Generous.

BH08205: A mention from Us to him who hath remembered…

He is God, exalted is He

A mention from Us to him who hath remembered Me and attained unto My presence and heard My call and appeared before My face by My leave. He hath been named Husayn in My perspicuous Book. Upon thee be My glory and My loving-kindness. Thou hast ever been remembered at the Most Holy Court and continue to be so. Arise with utmost dedication to serve the Cause, that perchance the heedless servants may become aware and arise to do what behooveth them. As for what thou didst write regarding the Unity Company, the Greater Branch presented it and it was graciously accepted. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to open before the faces of His loved ones the gates of His bounty and mercy and loving-kindness. Verily He is the Almighty, the All-Powerful. The glory shining forth from the horizon of the heaven of My utterance be upon thee and upon him who loveth thee for the sake of God, the Lord of the worlds.

BH08639: Assuredly, take the funds, yet in such wise…

He is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

Assuredly, take the funds, yet in such wise as is seemly and agreeable—that is, let no cause of estrangement or ill-feeling arise. If, in truth, a trade be found which may become the means of ease and of expending in the path of God, then surely to cleave unto it is accounted and recorded, in the sight of God, among the most excellent of deeds; and, when means permit, assistance will be forthcoming in due course.

Convey, on behalf of this Wronged One, greetings, glory, and praise unto the honored Afnan, upon whom be the glory of God. We beseech God to open before their faces the doors of His bounties, and likewise those of all the other friends.

Glory be upon you. Replies to the petitions will hereafter be sent. Do thou also forward the replies to the servants of God, especially to Mirza Ḥasan—upon him be the glory of God.

BH09021: All have attained the presence in the adornment…

He is the Most Holy, the All-Sanctified.

All have attained the presence in the adornment of health and well-being. Jinab-i-Amin arrived from the sacred Threshold and, in accordance with the command, returned again unto Iran. Glory be to God! Within the circle of the Persian government, tyranny is the ruler, while justice hath been deposed and is nowhere to be found.

O Greater Branch! Say: O my God, let the couch of oppression be changed for me into the throne of Thy justice, and the seat of wickedness and lewdness into the pavilion of righteousness and piety. Verily, Thou art powerful to do whatsoever Thou willest.

Outwardly they show forth love and support; inwardly—God forbid!—a covetous design toward that government hath existed, and still existeth, beyond all doubt. Perchance, hereafter, greed may be changed into moderation.

The Afnan are remembered and are before Our gaze. The dissemination of these lines is not permitted at present.

BH08772: O His Eminence Diya'u'llah! God willing, through the tender…

He is the Remembering, the All-Knowing.

O His Eminence Diya'u'llah! God willing, through the tender mercies of the All-Merciful and the outpourings of the Almighty, thou and the household may be happy and rejoicing, and may abide, under the shade of the blessed Lote-Tree, in rest and tranquillity.

It is beloved that, even as the rays of the light which shine from the horizon of guidance are all derived from the Sun of Truth and as the temper of the air is altered by changing conditions, ye should, without delay, direct your steps to the court of the Beloved, and with your whole attention turn toward the dawning-place of the lights of His Face. Your mention, in one wise or another, is recorded in every book; nevertheless, this special Tablet hath been sent down and despatched unto you, that thou mayest give thanks unto thy Lord and be of them that make mention of Him.

Convey, on My behalf, unto Majd, ʿAbd, Dhikr, Wahid, Ishraq, Mustafa, Rida, Khalil and Dhabih, unto each and every one, My remembrance and glorification, for His bounty hath encompassed all the worlds.

BH09184: Praised be God alone, and salutation be upon…

He is God, exalted is the station of His wisdom and utterance.

Praised be God alone, and salutation be upon the One after whom there is no prophet. O Husayn Effendi! Upon thee be God's peace and His favour. Yesterday We were in Junaynih. Some pomegranate was found and sent. We instructed Mustafa, should he find something else in the city, to procure it and send it with the pomegranate. A small sum of money was also sent.

We greet the chaste one, thy mother, Diya Khanum, Khanum Effendi, Jamaliyyih, Habibih, Jani Bagum, and those residing in the House. We commit them to God's care, glorified is His grandeur.

Remembrance, praise and salutation be upon all of you and also His mercy and blessings.

BH08767: Remind Jinab-i-Mim va Sin to succeed in paying…

"Remind Jinab-i-Mim va Sin to succeed in paying the Huquq, for some have not succeeded and do not succeed, therefore God has made and makes their rights subject to strangers or to children who have preference over them," to the end of His sweet utterance.

When I reminded them, they said:

> "Let these six hundred ashrafis be held in trust with you, and give fifty tumans from it as a draft to Haji Amin."

Since I had previously endowed the crystal shop next to the mosque and the property of Zaman-Abad and others, and according to the law of the Kitab-i-Aqdas all endowments revert to the Huquq, therefore you must be content with this. I submitted that these endowments would revert later, and now something must be done that will serve the needs of the Cause today.

BH08778: Regarding the carpet, a prominent Christian whose house…

Regarding the carpet, a prominent Christian whose house is now the seat of the Throne has requested that this carpet be obtained for him, and he will pay for it himself. Therefore, the measurements were given to Haji Mirza Ali Akbar to give to Haji Amin so that he could purchase it when traveling to the Most Holy Court and bring it back, receiving payment from the aforementioned person. This is the essence of the matter, but Haji Ali Akbar took it upon himself to complete this service and was unsuccessful, and this delay did not sit well with the Christian gentleman. The purpose is that these details should be known to you.

BH09568: It hath been some time since ye departed. God…

He is God, exalted be He.

It hath been some time since ye departed. God willing, ye will return ere long. In all matters place your trust in God; He it is Who helpeth and succoureth. Write each day of your condition. There is an intention to go to Mazra'ih, yet it remaineth dependent upon your return. Convey My praise unto Jinab-i-Badi'. It

had been intended that he should come quickly together with Jinab-i-Nazir; what was the cause of the delay? A number have now turned their attention unto that region; God willing, they shall attain unto safety.

Certain things were sent. We remember Ali-Rida and Dhikru'llah. Convey My praise unto Janab-i-Nazir and Haji Ali. That which We requested from Haji Ali hath arrived; may God reward him with the best of rewards. Baha be upon you and upon those who love you. The members of the household and Haji Abdu'llah send greetings.

BH09684: O Greater Branch!

O Greater Branch!

Upon thee be the glory of God, the Lord of all worlds. The servant in attendance here hath a fever; therefore this reply hath been written. Let Majdu'd-Din write the Tablets. Thou shouldst assuredly act in accordance with whatsoever the physician hath prescribed. Suspend writing altogether. Let Majdu'd-Din set down the account of the circumstances. As for the medicine, though it possesseth efficacy, its use in these days requireth caution. Inform the physician of the present condition. If the physician insists, then use but a very little of it. The favor of God hath been, and still is, with thee; it shall not depart from you.

To all I convey greetings. Glory be upon you, and upon those who are with you and love you and hearken unto your words. Whatever may be needed, write, that it may be sent. As to the rest, We beseech God to gather us together once again. Verily, He is the Answerer of prayers.

BH09685: O My Branch! Upon thee be My glory, My…

O My Branch! Upon thee be My glory, My mercy, and My loving-kindness. Thy letter in thine own hand brought an indescribable joy; all were made glad thereby. Concerning that which thou didst write regarding the printing of the books, it is hoped that these matters may be brought to completion with delight and fragrance.

Convey to the Afnan My praise, My greeting, and My Baha. All are remembered, and through the grace of the Lord are illumined. This land hath been, and still remaineth, as in former times. The honored Akhund, if he hold fast, shall assuredly attain, in this world and in the world to come, unto that which beseemeth him.

There is no time. His Holiness Shu'a' and Janab-i-Khavar are remembered. The Tablets for Shaykh Salman will be sent hereafter. Say: We have forgiven thee; verily thy Lord is, in truth, the Forgiving, the Merciful.

BH09193: Ask after that poor sister who left that house…

Ask after that poor sister who left that house with several ailments and has settled in the utmost joy, tranquility and dignity in the home of His Honor Kalim, and by God's grace is in perfect comfort. You know that it is the nature of that person in question that whatever he commits, after committing it he spreads it around to others under a different name, and soon it will become clear to all of you. Praise be to God,

the honored exalted sister is dwelling in perfect comfort under the shade of the Divine Throne, established in the station of dignity, and truly these days that she is passing in her life are the real days. Be completely assured and at peace regarding all aspects.

BH09304: Regarding what was written about the foreign person…

Regarding what was written about the foreign person from Europe, it was submitted to Him, and He said that if such souls take the Writings and send them to their own country, there is no harm. However, if they spread them about in that land, it will cause mischief.

Whatever is given must be correct. Some copies of the Iqan that exist in this land have not all attained the standard of correctness.

If the book which the Greater Branch recently sent to Zaynu'l-Muqarrabin, containing the Tablets to the Kings, is given, it would be best—but only after gaining confidence. And God speaks the truth, and He mentions the proof, and guides the way.

BH09708: Lawh-i-Abdu'l-Majid

He is God, exalted is He

O Nabil, My greetings upon you. ʿAbdu'l-Majid from Maraghih has requested permission to come. He must seek permission from his native land. Permission has not been and is not granted for Alexandretta, Beirut, Jaffa, Haifa and places near and far, except for their inhabitants. However, We have pardoned him and We beseech God to assist him to visit His House and draw him nigh unto Him and enable him to do that which He loves and is pleased with. Let him turn to the Wronged One. O Nabil, let them come and be content with a stay of a few days, and afterward pass like a breeze over the friends and be the cause of joy to hearts.

BH10097: O Greater Branch! In truth, after your departure this…

He is the Truth, the Knower of the Unseen

O Greater Branch! In truth, after your departure this scene appears as the Most Great Prison. We beseech God, glorified be His majesty, to make it blessed and to make the ultimate consequences of the journey the greatest good. Always write about your circumstances—mention and news are beloved, even if they are already known.

Jinab-i-Nazir was delayed for several days due to changes in the weather, and surely they have been saddened by separation from your presence. According to the saying of those who came before: in the spiritual path, whatever comes before the seeker is for their good. Peace be upon you and upon those who are with you and who love you and serve you for the sake of God, the Exalted, the Great.

BH10129: In My name the Oppressed, from my most great…

In My name the Oppressed, from my most great Prison.

By My life, My grief, My tribulation and My affliction, if from this moment until the Day that hath no end the Supreme Pen were to address itself as “O Wronged One,” it would be justified. Every manner and kind of oppression hath been inflicted upon the Daysprings of Light and Dawning-places of Revelation, both in the past and present, yet that which hath befallen this Wronged One is without parallel or precedent….

BH10253: The exalted letter of the honored Afnan—upon…

The exalted letter of the honored Afnan—upon him be all remembrance and glory—was given by this servant to the servant who was present before the Throne. After beholding it He conveyed unto that honored one innumerable expressions of glorification and mentioned that a prayer from his honor had been received. And at the time when the precincts outside the prison were illumined by the lights of reunion, this servant submitted it in the Most Holy Court, and it was graciously accepted. Blessed is his station, and again blessed is his station. God willing, may he ever and always be eloquent in the praise of God and speak in wondrous remembrances of Him.

BH10240: Haji ʿAli—may God preserve him—hath…

He is the Almighty.

Haji ʿAli—may God preserve him—hath arrived, bringing with him a letter from Majdu’d-Din. We inquired of him concerning thee, yet he had no news. He spake at length, and then said:

> “A man goeth forth; a messenger is resolved; the post is watched and awaited.”

Therefore was this word written, that ye may be gladdened through the effulgent rays of the words, and may turn your faces toward the Friend. Glory be upon you, and upon them that are with you, and upon all who love you and follow you.

Convey, on Our behalf, to His Honour Majd—upon him be My glory—and to Mustafa, that poor soul, and to ʿAbdu’l-Karim, the helpless one, and to Takbir, Our remembrance and greeting.

BH10344: The appointed time hath been fulfilled, and the promise…

He is the Ever-Abiding, the Mighty, the Most Generous.

The appointed time hath been fulfilled, and the promise hath come to pass—an ordinance from God, the All-Subduing, the Self-Subsistent.

His Honour the Afnan—upon him be the glory of the All-Merciful—hath attained the presence, hath turned his face in devotion, and hath been privileged to meet [the Beloved]. Now must he set his steps toward his homeland with spirit and fragrance; let him not tarry, for by My oath, the people of that land shall be quickened anew by the Spirit of utterance, and shall be kindled with an everlasting, deathless life.

Give him glad-tidings from My presence, and of that which hath flowed in his behalf from the Most Exalted Pen. In truth, the glance of loving-kindness is upon him. We beseech the True One to preserve him from enemies, to keep alight his warmth and ardour, and to protect him from every bane.

Verily, He is the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous. Praise be to God, the Lord of all the worlds.

BH10476: O Greater Branch! Upon thee be the peace…

He is the Self-Sufficing, the Most Exalted.

O Greater Branch! Upon thee be the peace of God and His glory. We have become indebted. Aqa Siyyid Javad advanced a sum of money, and We gave Our word that We would repay it today. If thou bring with thee an amount of fifty tumans from the trust funds, the promise will be fulfilled. Two days later, if God so willeth, it will be restored. The matter is in His hand: He doeth, ordaineth, and commandeth; He giveth and withholdeth; and He, verily, is the Ordainer, the Ruler, the Unconstrained, the Strong, the Almighty.

Glory, and its very essence and secret, be upon you, and upon whoso loveth you for the sake of God.

Volume 102: Akka 1873–1892 year unknown, Part II (2 of 2)

BH10477: O Greater Branch! O Diya! O Badi'! O Mahd!…

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

O Greater Branch! O Diya! O Badi'! O Mahd! God willing, through divine favor, turn ye with utmost joy and gladness unto the Most Exalted Horizon. For these two days the weather here hath been fair; thereafter, the matter resteth in His hand. Assuredly, do not delay, but set forth and come. Thus hath the Pen spoken in this exalted station.

Howbeit, the clouds have somewhat obscured the moonlight; notwithstanding this, it is still very pleasant. If it be not possible for all to come at once in sufficient number, then let some come today and others tomorrow. Upon you be My glory.

BH10478: O My Branch! Upon thee be My glory. All…

O My Branch! Upon thee be My glory. All are well. Beneath the shadow of the Blessed Lote-Tree they are occupied with the remembrance and praise of the Lord of Names. Thy specimens reached Us, and, God willing, from time to time others likewise will arrive. They were accepted and found pleasing. We beseech God that, through thy being, He may bestow upon the people of composition grace and blessing, honor and prosperity, fair penmanship and perfection.

Glory and peace be upon you, and upon My Afnan, from the presence of God, the Lord of all worlds.

Thy new script [khatt-i-jadid] is exceedingly fine. God willing, mayest thou be confirmed in all things.

BH10508: Blessed the man who will read it [the Kitab-i-Aqdas]…

Blessed the man who will read it [the Kitab-i-Aqdas], and ponder the verses sent down in it by God, the Lord of Power, the Almighty. Say, O men! Take hold of it with the hand of resignation…

By My life! It hath been sent down in a manner that amazeth the minds of men. Verily, it is My weightiest testimony unto all people, and the proof of the All-Merciful unto all who are in heaven and all who are on earth

BH10243: We have mentioned the sovereign—may God assist…

…We have mentioned the sovereign—may God assist him—in most of Our Tablets with a mention whose fragrance shall endure and persist. However, His Majesty hath not recognized the value of this bounty and hath paid no heed to forty years of service. Now he is afflicted with that which none save God is aware of. His rest and sleep have been cut off by God's command….

BH10191: We enjoin Our brothers and their sons to love…

He is the Mighty, the Wise!

We enjoin Our brothers and their sons to love My Branches and to render them services. We have nurtured them and protected them and guided those among them who were guided to My straight path. O My kinsmen and sons of My brothers! Fear God and dispute not about My verses and My Branches. This is what We counseled you before and in this perspicuous Tablet.

BH10321: My Most Exalted Pen beareth witness unto the people…

He is the All-Seeing, the All-Informed

My Most Exalted Pen beareth witness unto the people of Baha that there is none other God but Me, the All-Compelling, the Self-Subsisting. God hath heard the cry of him who hath turned unto His Face and perceived the fragrance of His garment in the days of his Lord, the Mighty, the All-Loving. O people of God! Rejoice in this Most Great Remembrance through which every hidden mystery hath been made manifest. He remembereth and praiseth His own Self, and remembereth His Afnan after His Aghsan, then those who have held fast unto that which is praiseworthy. Glory be unto him who hath shown justice in the Cause of God, the Lord of what was and what shall be.

BH10405: And as to the question about items found along…

And as to the question about items found along the way, God's decree is that if they are found in cities and villages, a crier must make one proclamation and inform the people of that city or village. If the owner is found, they shall return it and collect the crier's fee. Otherwise, they shall wait nineteen days. If the owner is not found, it reverts to the finder. And if it occurs in the wilderness, its limit is set at two units in the Book of God.

BH10496: O Nazir! The Greater Branch was present and made…

O Nazir! The Greater Branch was present and made mention of thee. Praise be to God that for years thou hast dwelt beneath the shade of the Divine Lote-Tree, and this Wronged One hath been with thee in all conditions. We beseech God to open before thy face the portals of His bounty and bestowals, to give thee to drink from the Kawthar of His utterance, and to ordain for thee all the good that He hath sent down in His Book. Verily He is the All-Bountiful, the Generous. Peace and glory be upon thee and upon thy son Habibu'llah. We beseech God to assist him to remember and praise Him, and to aid him in that which will draw him nigh unto Him. Verily He is the Ever-Flowing, the All-Forgiving, the All-Merciful.

BH10530: Today the sacred precinct of the garden is adorned…

Today the sacred precinct of the garden is adorned by a company; yet that noble place is empty, inasmuch as the Wronged One is not present. Diya'u'llah—upon him be the Baha of God—was present and discharged the office of representation. This servant, upon him be glory, and the others as well, inwardly and outwardly, in heart and in manifest form, send their greetings, and have been and remain expectant of thy coming. We send greetings also to Majd and Rida—upon them both be glory—and likewise to Haji ʿAli and the others.

BH10714: O Greater Branch! Upon thee be the glory…

He is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

O Greater Branch! Upon thee be the glory of God, the Lord of the Throne, and the peace of God, the Lord of the Seat. Thy letter hath reached Us; We have read it and have answered thee with this manifest Tablet.

We beseech God to enable thee to perform a deed that shall endure through the abiding of the kingdom of earth and of heaven. Glory be upon thee, and upon all who love thee, who circle round thee, and who hearken unto thee to learn that which draweth them nigh unto God, the Lord of all the worlds.

Convey, on Our behalf, to His Honour Majdu'd-Din and to our Amir ʿAli Zahir-ul-Islam, the glory of God be upon them both.

BH10673: Verily, this evanescent servant proclaimeth before the face…

He is the One with power over whatsoever He willeth through His word "Be" and it is!

Verily, this evanescent servant proclaimeth before the face of the world that regarding the conflict between the two powers, the Will of God hath ordained thus: after the complete weakening of the Ottoman state, other powers shall intervene and establish peace.

After a time all the governments on earth will change. Oppression will envelop the world. And following a universal convulsion, the sun of justice will rise from the horizon of the unseen realm.

Thus hath spoken the Tongue of manifest truth.

BH11905: In truth, the Naddafs have attained unto the fruit…

In truth, the Naddafs have attained unto the fruit of existence. My Pen beareth witness to their detachment, My tongue to their acceptance, and My heart to their steadfastness in the Cause of God, the Self-Subsisting, the All-Compelling. They are among those souls who from the earliest days until now have been occupied with His praise and glorification and have been assisted in unity in His path, exalted be He. Today is the day of deeds and not of words, and their deeds are a truthful witness and faithful testimony to their love, detachment and service. They have been created through the conquering Will of God and are related unto Him. Well is it with them and joy be unto them.

BH10749: The means for selling are not available…

He is God

The means for selling are not available, and in no wise would it be deemed advisable at present. Even if something should be found now, matters more necessary and more important than that are at hand. Command resteth in the hand of God: He doeth whatsoever He willeth and is not asked of that which He willeth. He is the ordainer of what He chooseth. Glory be upon thee and upon those who love thee for the sake of God.

Convey our greetings to Amr—namely Mahd-i-ʻUlya—and to the others as well. Today the intention was to turn in this direction; why then did they defer it?

BH10888: The climate of those regions is hot; one should…

He is God.

The climate of those regions is hot; one should avoid eating what is unsuitableâ€“namely hot and heavy foods. God, exalted be His glory, is the Protector and the Helper; yet He hath ordained means and hath commanded recourse unto them. Whatever effort is exerted in the acquisition of useful sciences is beloved. As for the means of trade, up to the present no suitable means for that have appeared; thereafter, God will do whatsoever He willeth. All are enjoined unto thisâ€”that is, to be occupied with some manner of work.

BH10899: O Ism-i-Jud, upon thee be My glory! The letter…

O Ism-i-Jud, upon thee be My glory! The letter of Mulla Ali, upon him be My glory, was considered. Write a reply to him and on behalf of the Wronged One show loving-kindness to him and the other people of that land. He asked about two matters. First, regarding the washing of the feet in winter and summer—both have one ruling. In both cases lukewarm water is preferable, though there is no harm in using cold water.

BH10796: Regarding the letter of Mirza Ghulam-ʻAli

Regarding the letter of Mirza Ghulam-ʻAli:

Concerning what they wrote about marriage—it is not permissible to forgo it, for it is among God's traditions established among creatures, as has been revealed in detail from the Holy Kingdom in the Most Holy Book. All must act according to it.

And regarding that honored one's journey to the Most Holy Court, permission is granted to journey for a few days and return.

BH10890: Likewise, We have enjoined upon all to engage…

Likewise, We have enjoined upon all to engage in some occupation. Blessed is he who beareth burdens but causeth none to bear his own. Let him engage in craft and profession—a single coin earned thereby is, in the sight of God, more beloved than the treasure that is gathered unrightfully and made ready.

BH10800: According to the utterance of Zarangiz, Aqa Diya came…

He is the Mighty, the Beloved

According to the utterance of Zarangiz, Aqa Diya came, and through the words, "We strengthened them with a third," even so was it with Aqa Badiʿ. Therefore was this Tablet, which hath shone forth from the horizon of the heaven of loving-kindness, sent down. God willing, ye have attained, and shall attain, unto every good. Should ye cast off indolence, ye shall be made recipients even of "We strengthened them with the alif." The glory be upon you, and upon such as are with you and love you.

BH11057: Your mention was submitted before the Most Holy Court…

Your mention was submitted before the Most Holy Court. In reply He hath said:

> "There hath appeared, in this very hour, from the treasury of the utterance of God, the Lord of all the worlds, this Most Exalted Word: Glory from Our presence, and peace from Us, be upon My Greater Branch, and upon My Afnan, and upon those who are with them from among the loved ones of God, the Mighty, the All-Praised."

BH11138: O My brethren! We admonish you, your children…

He is the All-Knowing.

O My brethren! We admonish you, your children, and all who are in the world, concerning My Branches: beware lest ye oppose them, or commit that which grieveth them. Unto them belongeth the most exalted station and the loftiest rank among you. Fear God, and be not of the wrongdoers.

Hearken unto that whereunto God hath enjoined you, and be not of the heedless.

BH11188: O concourse of servants! The Wronged One announceth unto…

O concourse of servants! The Wronged One announceth unto you, from the presence of the Lord of creation, that the ordinance of holy war hath been lifted from the Book. Thus hath the Lord of all mankind decreed in the world to come.

We have committed the reins of attire and of beards into your own hands: do ye as ye please. Thus hath the luminary of permission dawned from the horizon of the Most True One, the Lord of the Day of Resurrection.

BH11299: A letter addressed to the people of Ta was…

He is God, exalted is He

A letter addressed to the people of Ta was written and sent. Should it be deemed expedient, its details may be communicated orally to Vakil-i-Akhtar—whether by Jinab-i-Ha and Sin, or by some other person; otherwise, let it be.

BH11356: To be typed

To be typed.

BH11247: By His power He seized the Liar…

By His power He seized the Liar—that is, Sadiq of the Land of Ta—and no one became aware of it, and He seized the second one (meaning Haji Mulla Ali Mujtahid-i-Kuni), and likewise before these two, the Wolf and the She-Serpent.

BH11443: O Greater Branch! God willing, matters stand…

O Greater Branch! God willing, matters stand in a state of rectitude. Come today, for four Tablets must be written; therefore make haste and present thyself without delay.

By the Pen of Nazir. Baha be upon thee, upon the men, and upon the women as well.

BH11399: According to the Command, before detailing the minimum taxable…

According to the Command, before detailing the minimum taxable limits of things, they should act according to what was revealed in the Qur'an—meaning that for whatever is subject to zakat, they should act according to what was revealed in the Qur'an.

BH11466: The resplendent, brilliant, radiant Peace from God, exalted be…

The resplendent, brilliant, radiant Peace from God, exalted be His glory, be upon thee, O Greater Branch, and His mercy.

BH11505: The Greater Branch and Nabíl are specially designated…

The Greater Branch and Nabíl are specially designated for the person of the visitor. In accordance with your promise, you had requested a Tablet; accordingly, it was sent.

BH11559: May his honor Diya', glory be upon him, attain…

May his honor Diya', glory be upon him, attain to that which is beloved and pleasing.

BH11568: He who visiteth Ukht and Masih in Rayy, it…

He who visiteth Ukht and Masih in Rayy, it is as though he hath visited Me.

BH11586: Lawh-i-Band-i-Man

To be typed.

BH11595: Lawh-i-Shaykh Abdu'l-Husayn

To be typed.

BH11584: Lawh-i-Afnan-i-Yazd va Shiraz

To be typed.

BH00026: The Most Exalted Pen hath stirred and desireth…

Section 1: "The Most Exalted Pen hath stirred and desireth…"

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

The Most Exalted Pen hath stirred and desireth to make mention of His loved ones who have turned towards the Dawning-Place of the Revelation of their Lord, the Mighty, the All-Praised, that the fragrant breezes of remembrance may draw them to the loftiest Summit and the ultimate Goal, and bring them nigh unto God, the Lord of all worlds.

O people of God! There hath been sent unto you a Book inscribed by the Pen of God, the Lord of the mighty Throne. Take hold of the Book with such steadfastness as shall not be prevented by the doubts of those who claim knowledge without clear proof or an enlightening Book. These are they who have violated God's Covenant and His Testament throughout ages and centuries, as doth testify the Source of mysteries from this glorious and impregnable station. They are those who denied God's favor after its revelation and pronounced judgment against Him Whom they were wont to remember night and day, at morn and at eventide.

The divines of various sects denied Muhammad, the Apostle of God, and the doctors of the Torah denied the Spirit when He came with manifest sovereignty. The Concourse on high and the dwellers of Paradise have lamented their oppression, were ye of them that know. Through them hath appeared sedition, and unto them hath it returned, yet most of the people are heedless. Observe, then remember when the Revealer of the Bayan came, how the divines turned away from Him, denied Him and His verses, until they pronounced judgment that His most pure and holy blood be shed. They awaited the days of God and

His appearance, yet when the horizon of the heaven of Revelation shone forth and the One Who conversed on Sinai came, they unsheathed against Him the swords of hatred. Thus did their souls prompt them to that which kindled the flames of hell. Through their turning away, the princes and those who followed them in their deeds turned away. Verily, they are among the most lost in the Book of God, the Master of the Day of Judgment. They violated God's Covenant and His Testament, denied His right and cast His Book behind them. They are assuredly among the oppressors.

O people of God! Hearken unto that which the Pen of God uttereth in this exalted station. Beware lest ye be hindered by the doubts of the divines, or the intimations of the mystics, or the might of princes. Turn with radiant faces and with supreme steadfastness, and take the cup of everlasting life from the hands of the favor of your Lord, the All-Glorious. Then drink thereof before the faces of men, once in My Name, and again in remembrance of Me, the Mighty, the Wondrous. Let not the clamor of the sects frighten you. The world and all that ye behold today shall perish, but the sovereignty and dominion shall remain with God, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. How many a learned one hath been debarred from the All-Knowing, and how many an unlettered one hath hastened and taken of My sealed wine and drunk in My Name, the Self-Subsisting. Verily, he is among those who are near unto Me in My mighty Book.

O people of Dal and Ha! We have caused you to hear the shrill voice of the Most Exalted Pen. Hearken once again to the call of your Lord, the All-Glorious, from the divine Lote-Tree raised upon the luminous spot. Verily, He acquainteth you with the mystery of unity and guideth you to the straight path. We have appeared and made manifest that which was hidden in knowledge and treasured in the vaults of your Lord's protection, the Mighty, the Powerful. The pavilion of glory hath been raised upon the most exalted standard, and the banner of 'Verily He is God' hath been hoisted upon the most sublime station, yet most of the people are turning away. Say: If ye deny this Light and that which hath appeared from it, by what proof do your souls find tranquility? Bring it forth then, and be not of the patient ones. Say: This is the Day wherein nothing from among all things shall profit you. Fear ye the Lord of Names and be not among the abased ones. Observe, then remember what the hands of the people of the Bayan have wrought. They have written that which hath caused every faithful friend and trusted messenger to cry out.

Say: O people of the Bayan! The Lord of all men hath come on the Day of the Appointed Time and calleth you unto God, the Master of the Day of Mutual Calling. Fear ye God and be not of the lost. Say: Cast aside your idle fancies and vain imaginings, turn ye unto God and then return unto Him. He, verily, is the Ever-Forgiving, the All-Merciful. Say: Do ye object to Him by Whose acceptance the Bayan was conditioned and God, the Mighty, the Beauteous, hath written? Say: The books of the world shall profit you not this day, nor what all peoples possess, except through this Book through whose revelation the denizens of the Kingdom have proclaimed: "The sovereignty belongeth unto God, the command unto God, the greatness unto God, the Powerful, the All-Loving, the Gracious!" Say: O people of the Assembly! Through you have the pillars of justice been shaken, equity hath grieved and the eyes of them that are nigh unto God have wept. Your tongues have uttered what the tongue of Nadr spoke before the face of the Messenger: "O God! If this be the truth from Thee, then rain down stones upon us from heaven or bring upon us a grievous chastisement."

Verily, My Most Exalted Pen lamenteth and saith:

> “O people of Kaf and Ra, be fair in the Cause of God and in what hath appeared in this Revelation, and be not of them that turned away from the Truth when it came with manifest sovereignty.”

This is He Who arose in the earliest days before the faces of all men and summoned all unto God, the Goal of them that know, and concealed not Himself nor preserved Himself for less than a moment, whereunto every fair-minded and discerning one doth testify. Is he who hath manifested himself better, or he who remaineth behind the veil? Fear ye God and be not of the transgressors. Blessed is he who speaketh the truth, and woe unto every lying one who is moved by the winds of self and desire and is stirred however they wish. Thus doth the Wronged One recount unto you and counsel you as a token of His grace, and He is the All-Counseling, the All-Knowing.

We mentioned you at the outset of the Book as a mercy from Our presence and a command from Us, and We are the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous. Blessed art thou, O My Name, for having entered the Spot of Paradise, the place whereon the lights of the Countenance have shone forth from the Dayspring of Beauty with a clear command, and for having attained the presence of God, the Most High, the Most Exalted, and for having heard the call of thy Lord, the Most Merciful, the Most Compassionate. The breezes of revelation have wafted upon thee from the direction of inspiration from God, the Almighty, the Mighty, the All-Knowing.

O Ancient Beauty! Give glad tidings unto him who standeth before the Throne of what hath been ordained for him by Thy Most Exalted Pen in a preserved Tablet. Say: Verily, thy arrival upon the shore of the Most Great Sea is better for thee than whatsoever hath been created on earth. Thy Lord, verily, is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. Take thy portion again and again from this surging sea and deprive not thyself of what hath been ordained for it by the Pen of the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing. Say: O party of God! Say “In the Name of God” and “By God,” then take a handful from the Water of Life and sprinkle it upon all created things, that they may be cleansed from the veils of humanity and be brought nigh unto the Most Sublime Vision, this hallowed and resplendent Station.

Should thou find one who turneth toward thee, impart unto him the verses, then reveal unto him the pearls of wisdom and utterance from the ocean of thy Lord’s mercy, the Mighty, the Wise. And shouldst thou see one who turneth away, turn thou away from him, placing thy trust in God, the Lord of all worlds. O party of God! Object ye not unto them that object unto you. Leave them to their idle talk, turning toward the Single One, the All-Knowing. Whosoever openeth his lips today in remembrance of this Most Great Remembrance, the Concourse on High shall circle round him with standards of light. Thus hath it been ordained from the presence of a Mighty, Ancient Ordainer.

Say: O people of the Bayan, know ye that behind the Mount of Power God hath men who aid Him with the hosts of wisdom and utterance in such wise that neither the might of the world nor the opposition of the nations can deter them. They testify to that which God Himself hath testified: “There is none other God but I, the Ordainer, the All-Wise.” Blessed are they whom the clamor of the people hath not saddened in the path of God, the Lord of creation, nor have they been deterred by the censure of the censorious.

O My Name! Give glad tidings to the loved ones concerning the Tablet of God and its influence. Verily, We have revealed for them that which giveth assurance to the hearts of the pure ones and causeth the hearts of the ungodly to quake. Say: O people! He hath come from the Supreme Horizon with God's momentous announcement, the Most High, the Most Great, and in His hand is a proof: weigh it in the balance of truth and by whatsoever proofs ye possess from the Prophets and Messengers. When it was made manifest, the proofs of the world bowed down before it. Fear God and be not of the wrongdoers. Beware lest ye reject the truth by that which ye possess. Fear God and be not of the heedless. These are the verses of God sent down through grace, through which the fragrance of utterance hath been wafted throughout all possibility. Fear the All-Merciful and be not of the transgressors.

Verily, We have made manifest the Hidden Scroll, determined and sealed, which was inscribed by the Finger of Power and concealed behind the veils of the unseen—a bounty from Us, and I am the Mighty, the All-Bountiful. Nothing escapeth the knowledge of your Lord, nor doth any matter defeat Him. He hath manifested and caused to appear whatsoever He willeth. He, verily, is the Powerful, the Unconstrained.

Say: The Last Turn hath come, and We have stretched forth the Hand of Power and revealed from Our Most Great Mystery, concerning the pure truth, a mystery less than what can be counted. Thereupon did the dwellers of Sinai swoon away at the Dawning-Place of this crimson Sign upon the Spot of Sinai. Thus did the All-Merciful come upon the clouds of proof, and all things proclaimed: "The Kingdom belongeth unto God, the Lord of Lords!"

Those who dispute God's proof and His authority—these are they whom their desires have overcome and returned them to their abode in the fire—evil the abode of every denying infidel! Blessed is he who hath turned to the Supreme Horizon, clinging to His verses, holding fast to His robe, uttering His praise, and arising to serve His Cause whereby feet have slipped.

When the Morn of Manifestation unfurled its standard and the Interlocutor of the Mount came with the banners of signs and the emblems of clear proofs, the people turned away and opposed Him with tyranny whereat the clouds cried out:

> "Beware lest ye shut the door of bounty in your own faces. Fear God, O people of the Book! Beware lest ye do what the former party did on the day when the Rock cried out, the Great Cry was raised, and the mountains passed away."

Say: Cast aside your vain imaginings. By God, they shall not profit you! He Who was established upon the Throne in the beginning of days hath testified to this. Blessed is he who hath attained unto the day wherein the shrill voice of the Supreme Pen was raised and the Tongue of Grandeur spoke:

> "Come ye, come ye, O people of the earth! This is the day wherein He Who was hidden in the eternity of eternities hath been made manifest."

We counsel you with that wherewith We counseled Our loved ones aforetime: to be trustworthy, truthful, pure, chaste, loving and faithful. Leave what the people possess, taking what ye have been given from God, the Lord of all men.

We make mention of him who was named Ali-Akbar, who believed in God on a day wherein hearts melted with the fear of God, the Lord of the Final End. We bear witness that thou didst turn and hear the Call and respond to thy Lord when the people of the cities and lands turned away. Turn with thy heart to the Most Exalted Horizon, then adorn thyself with the ornament of godliness and thy heart with trust in God, the Lord of humanity, and thy tongue with that which hath been sent down in the scriptures and tablets. Walk the path of divine good-pleasure with God's dignity and tranquility, that His signs may be manifested through thee in the world. This is what thou hast been commanded by thy Lord, the Mighty, the Bestower.

Blessed is the soul that hath been enkindled by the fire which the All-Merciful hath ignited in creation, from whose sighing is heard "The Intended One hath come with a sovereignty that neither the ranks of the divines nor the hosts of princes could dismay." He calleth out with the most exalted call before all who are in earth and heaven: "The Promise hath come, and this is what was recorded in the Book by the Pen of God, the Revealer of verses." Blessed art thou for having been mentioned by the Pen of Revelation when the Wronged One was in the hands of the wicked. Soon shall the world and all that is therein perish, and there shall endure for thee what hath been sent down from God, the Lord of the Throne and of the dust.

O Moses! Hear the Call from the Blessed, Eternal, Ancient Tree: "The Kingdom is God's, the Cleaver of Dawn!" The tale of the Mount and its Interlocutor hath returned, speaking in this Revelation: "Verily, there is no God but Me, the Single, the One, the Mighty, the All-Forgiving." The world hath been set ablaze by the fire of thy Lord's love, yet the people remain heedless and veiled. Say: By God! The Revealer of verses hath come with the standards of proof and utterance. Fear God, O people of the Bayan, and be not of those who awaited My days, yet when I manifested Myself, they denied Me. To this beareth witness the Mother Book. Thus hath the ocean revealed its waves and the light its radiance.

Blessed is he who hath seen and turned towards it, and woe unto every denier and infidel. This is a day wherein the Point of the Bayan circleth round the throne of his Lord, the All-Merciful, and the Point of the Furqan giveth glad tidings to the world of the Lord of Eternity. The Spirit, in the wilderness of longing, saith: "Here am I, here am I, O Desired One of the nations! Here am I, here am I, O Light of the horizons! Through Thee was manifested that which was hidden in knowledge and recorded in the books of God, the Lord of all men."

Section 2: "O Abu'l-Hasan! The Wronged One, Who hath come…"

O Abu'l-Hasan! The Wronged One, Who hath come from the heaven of utterance with proof and testimony and hath summoned all unto God, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed, maketh mention of thee. He it is for Whose path the gems of existence have sacrificed their souls and all they possessed. Thus were hearts and souls attracted by the call of thy Lord, the Mighty, the Great.

Hearken unto the scratching of My Most Exalted Pen from the right hand of the luminous Spot, from the Divine Lote-Tree before the faces of all peoples. Verily there is none other God but Him, the Single, the One, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. We have created ears to hearken unto My sweetest call, and eyes to behold the lights of the Countenance from the supreme horizon, and tongues to make mention of Me

and praise Me in the kingdom of creation, and hands to grasp My Book and hold fast unto My mighty cord.

The world hath appeared for My Self, and the ocean of knowledge hath surged through My Name, and the sun of utterance hath shone forth through My mention, the Mighty, the Wondrous. Say: O concourse of the earth! Open your eyes, for We have adorned the heaven of utterance with the stars of certitude. Draw nigh with illumined hearts and radiant faces. By God! The ocean of knowledge hath surged before the world, and the fragrance of God, the Mighty, the Wise, hath been wafted.

This is the Day whereon the Tongue of the All-Merciful hath spoken in the kingdom of utterance, and the horizon of the world hath been illumined by the Great Name, and all things have testified that, by God, the Day hath come and the people are in manifest doubt. Blessed is he who hath shattered the idols of vain imagination and hath arisen to serve God, the Lord of the Throne on high and of the dust below, with such steadfastness as neither the hosts and ranks could hinder, nor the battalions and legions could frighten. He spoke before all faces that which was a light unto the righteous and a fire unto the wicked. Verily thy Lord is the Omnipotent over whatsoever He willeth. There is none other God but Him, the Single, the One, the Strong, the Powerful.

Give thanks unto God for having made mention of thee in the prison and revealed for thee that which shall be a treasure for thee in His mighty and lofty Kingdom. Grieve not at anything. Convey the Cause of thy Lord with wisdom and utterance. This is what thou hast been commanded by the Omnipotent, the Ancient of Days. Thus hath the Treasury revealed its secrets and the Lote-Tree its fruits. Blessed is he who hath witnessed and seen and said: “Praise be unto Thee, O Thou the Desire of the worlds!”

O Muhammad-Taqi! Hear the call from the supreme horizon from God, the Lord of Names. Verily there is none other God but Me, the Forgiving, the Generous. Blessed is he who hath testified to that which God hath testified, and hath acknowledged that which His Tongue hath acknowledged when He was seated upon the Throne and when the Light was shining from the horizon of Zawra and in this mighty Prison. Take hold of the Book of God with such strength from Him that the divines of the age shall not prevent thee. Be thou vocal in thy Master’s praise and steadfast in service to His Cause. Verily He hath sent down for thee the proof and made clear His straight path.

This is a Day that cannot be equaled by centuries, and this is a Cause before which the hosts of the heavens and earth cannot stand. To this testifieth every truthful and perceiving one. Say: My God, my God! Thou seest the poor one hath sought the gate of Thy riches, and the sick one hath hastened to the ocean of Thy healing, and the wronged one hath desired Thy justice and favors. I beseech Thee by the lights of the morn of Thy manifestation and by the Word whereby the hearts of Thy chosen ones were attracted, that Thou deprive me not of the outpourings of Thy days and the breaths of Thy verses.

O Lord! Thou seest me turning toward Thy supreme horizon and holding fast to Thy cord, O Lord of all being and Sovereign of the hereafter and the first life. I beseech Thee not to disappoint me of that which is with Thee and that which Thou hast ordained for Thy chosen ones who have not broken Thy covenant and Thy testament, who have hastened to the place of sacrifice out of longing to meet Thee, and who have offered up their spirits in Thy path. I beseech Thee, O God of Names and Creator of heaven, by Thy

Most Exalted Name, to forgive me and my parents and whosoever hath held fast to Thy cord and clung to the hem of Thy robe. O Lord! Thou art He through Whose generosity all creation hath testified, and through Whose bounty all beings have borne witness. There is none other God but Thee, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

O ʿAli-Akbar! The grace of thy Lord God hath encompassed the horizons, yet most men do not understand. The hidden Cause of God and His treasured Secret have been made manifest, yet most of the people perceive it not. This is the Day wherein all things proclaim: O peoples of the earth! The horizon of the Revelation hath been illumined with the Light of the divine utterance, and the All-Merciful hath come with manifest sovereignty. When the Promise came to pass and the Promised One appeared, the divines arose in opposition and perpetrated that which caused the denizens of Paradise and the Concourse on High to weep at eventide and at dawn. There hath befallen Us in God's path that which had never befallen anyone before. To this testifieth He Who in every state proclaimeth: There is none other God but Me, the All-Protecting, the Self-Subsisting.

O peoples of the earth! This is the Day of God, yet ye recognize it not, and this is the Day of divine utterance, yet ye remain silent. Remember what the All-Merciful hath revealed in the Qur'an:

> "The Day when mankind shall stand before the Lord of the worlds."

This is the Day wherein We behold the people of the Bayan drunken, though they be not drunken, but severe indeed is the chastisement of God. This is the Day wherein thy Lord hath come and the verses have encompassed the Manifestations of Names and Attributes. Blessed is he who hath attained, and woe unto them that have turned away. We counsel thee and those who have believed to observe what beseemeth the days of God, the Lord of the mighty throne. The discourse of idle fancies hath returned, and most of the people are wandering distraught. O people! Fear God, and follow not the desires of every froward oppressor. This is the Day wherein that which was hidden from all eyes and treasured in the knowledge of God, the Mighty, the All-Praised, hath been revealed.

O ʿAli-Akbar! Hearken unto the call from the right side of the vale, the station wherein the Tongue of Grandeur did speak: "The Kingdom is God's, the One, the All-Knowing!" Thy name was mentioned in the presence of the Wronged One, and We make mention of thee through this wondrous remembrance, at whose appearance the remembrances of the world did humble themselves and around which circled the Concourse on High, bearing the banners of verses. To this doth the Mother Book testify in this exalted station. When thou dost inhale the fragrance of utterance and art seized with the intoxication of the Salsabil of knowledge, say:

"My God, my God! Thy separation hath destroyed me, Thy remoteness hath consumed me, as have the tribulations that have 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 call. My sight desireth to behold the effulgences of the lights of Thy most exalted horizon; deprive it not of that which Thou hast manifested for it. My God, my God! How is it that I hear the call of the servants but hear not Thy call, and see Thy creation but see not the Dayspring of Thy Revelation and the Dawning-Place of Thy verses? Blessed is he

who hath inhaled the fragrance of Thy garment and hath been seized by the breezes of Thy days, until he became detached from all else but Thee.

> "I beseech Thee, O my Lord, the All-Merciful, by the kingdom of Thy utterance, and by the ocean which the ships of the world cannot contain, and by the Ark which the waves of the malice of the 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 intended 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 the evening: By God! I am the Straight Path and I am the Balance whereby all small and great are weighed. O Lord! Deprive not Thy servants of the rustling of the Lote-Tree of the Uttermost End and the scratching of Thy Most Exalted Pen. Thou art He Who hath testified through Thy generosity to all created things and through Thy grace to all existing things. There is none other God but Thee, the Revealer of verses and the Lord of earth and heaven."

We have revealed for thee what We have revealed for none other of Our loved ones, as a grace from Our presence, that thou mayest thank thy Lord, the All-Forgiving, the All-Bountiful. Say:

> "My God, my God! If Thou shouldst prevent me from drawing nigh unto Thee and from standing before Thy throne and from presenting myself at the gate of Thy majesty, then inscribe for me, with Thy Most Exalted Pen, the reward of meeting Thee and of those who soared in the atmosphere of longing and yearning until they attained Thy presence and heard Thy sweetest call and beheld Thy most glorious horizon. I beseech Thee, O God of existence and Lord of the seen and unseen, by Thy imprisonment and Thy wrongs and what hath befallen Thee at the hands of Thy creation, not to disappoint me of what is with Thee nor to withhold from me that wherewith Thou didst quicken them that are in their graves. Thou art, verily, the Lord of the Manifestation, seated upon the throne on the Day of Resurrection. There is none other God but Thee, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise."

O Husayn! The Wronged One remembereth thee for the sake of God, the Mighty, the Beautiful, even as He hath remembered the servants and called them to the most exalted horizon, the station wherein the Tree exclaimed:

> "There is none other God but Me, the Lord of the exalted Throne!"

The All-Bountiful hath come in the final abode; among the people are those who denied Him, those who turned away, and those who manifested great tyranny. Say: O people of the earth! By God, the All-Merciful hath come with the kingdom of proof. Hasten, and be not of them that hesitate. Beware lest the cup of names prevent you from the Kawthar of eternity. Cast away what is with the people, holding fast to that which is with God, the Mighty, the Wise. Say: O people! Withhold not yourselves from the Dayspring of Revelation. By God, the verses have been sent down, the evidences have appeared, and the Sun of utterance hath shone forth from the horizon of the heaven of proof. Fear ye the All-Merciful and be not of them that are far removed. Come, come, O concourse of men, that I may show you the Most

Great Vision and cause you to hear the call of God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy. Thus hath the ocean of knowledge manifested the waves of utterance and the heaven of inner meanings its stars. Blessed are they that attain!

O My handmaiden! Hearken unto My call from the direction of My prison, when Mine enemies who denied the Resurrection and its signs, and the Hour and its tokens, encompassed Me. Verily, they are among the abased ones. Blessed is thy son who ascended unto God and partook of the Choice Sealed Wine when it was unsealed by the hand of power and might.

O ʿAli-Rida! The Lord of Names and Creator of the heavens makes mention of thee. Verily, He came with the banners of verses and the standards of clear proofs on a Day wherein the pillars of existence were shaken through fear of God, the Lord of Lords. We bear witness that thou didst turn, believe, and respond to thy Lord when He came with power and sovereignty. Thou didst attain, before thy ascension, to the fragrance of the knowledge of thy Lord, and after it to the verses of God, the Lord of creation. Blessed is the soul that hath won mention by My Most Exalted Pen, and the face that hath turned unto the Countenance, and the heart that hath turned toward the horizon whence shone forth the Luminary of proof and evidence. O people of Baha! Take hold of the Book of God with the strength that proceedeth from Him, and be not of them that disbelieved in God, the Lord of all mankind.

O Siyyid Muhammad! Rejoice in the bounty of thy Lord. Verily, He maketh mention of thee from the direction of the Prison with verses that the centuries and ages cannot alter. Hearken, hearken! The Most Exalted Pen desireth to converse with thee. Behold, behold! The Ancient Countenance hath turned toward thee from His Most Great Prison. When thou hast heard and seen, arise and say: Praise be unto Thee, O Desire of the world, and glory be unto Thee, O Illuminator of the horizons! The world hath been set ablaze by the verses of thy Lord, and utterance is filled with wondrous doubt. Behold the Most Exalted Horizon with thine eyes, then hearken unto its call with thine ears. This is what thou hast been commanded in the Scriptures and Tablets. Whoso regardeth it with other than His eye shall never know it. This is what God hath made specific to this Revelation, which when it appeared caused the limbs of all names to quake, the heavens to be cleft asunder, and the lands to lament. Thus have We sent down the verses unto thee and dispatched them to thee as a grace from Our presence, and I am the Mighty, the All-Bountiful.

O Siyyid Ja’far! The Greatest Scene hath been adorned and the Hidden Secret hath been revealed, and the Lord of Destiny calleth out, saying: O concourse of humanity! The Hour hath come and the moon hath been cleft asunder. Blessed is the servant who hath witnessed and attained, and woe unto every denying impostor. Beware lest the doubts of the people of the Bayan prevent thee. Arise and say: O people, fear God and be not of the companions of error. Say: O party of God! This Day is your day. Remember your Lord, the Most Merciful, with wisdom and utterance, and follow not every misbeliever who hath disbelieved in God, the Revealer of verses. This is a Day wherein the Way crieth out: Look ye, look ye, O people of Baha! By God, I was created for you, despite those who caused their people to dwell in the abode of perdition. And the Guide crieth out and calleth: O party of God! God hath manifested me for you. Turn ye unto Him and be not of those who denied their Lord in the beginning and the end.

Section 3: “O Mahmud! The Promised One maketh mention…”

O Mahmud! The Promised One maketh mention of thee from His glorious station and giveth thee glad tidings of God’s tender care—thy Lord, the Lord of the Day of Reckoning. Hold thou fast unto His grace, arise to serve His Cause, and voice His praise at eventide and at dawn. We have sent down the verses and revealed unto men that which draweth them nigh unto the Most Exalted Horizon. Turn ye unto Him, O ye that are endowed with insight!

Know thou that the Concourse of the Bayan have denied this bounty the like of which the eye of creation hath never beheld. These have followed their desires and disbelieved in Him Who hath come from the Dayspring of Power with God’s verses—the Omnipotent, the Unconstrained. Thus have their deeds been made to seem fair in their eyes, and they are this day numbered among the wayward before the Self-Sufficient, the Most High. Say: Fear ye God! He hath come with verses that all the books of the world cannot equal, as testifieth He in Whose grasp is the Kingdom of proof and evidence. Say: Come ye, that I may show you what hath been sent down from the Kingdom of utterance and cause you to hear what the Dove of Paradise warbleth upon the loftiest branches. By God! What the people possess cannot this day compare with God’s verses. Ponder ye, O men of understanding! By what proof can they who deny this Cause establish their claims? Say: Produce it, O sources of delusion!

O Siyyid ʿAli-Akbar! He hath come from the heaven of Command bearing the banner of “He doeth what He willeth.” Doth it beseem anyone to turn away? Nay, by My Self that overshadoweth the earth and the heavens! That which was never manifested hath been made manifest, yet the people remain in strange delusion. They worship vain imaginings and comprehend not; they worship idols yet perceive not. They have adorned their heads with turbans—they are astray and lead others astray, yet they know not. They have lost who denied God’s verses after their revelation and turned away from Him through Whom the letter K was conjoined with the letter N and every hidden matter was revealed. Thank thou God, thy Lord, that He hath aided thee to turn unto Him on a day wherein men have turned away from God, the Self-Subsisting, the All-Compelling.

We have desired to make mention of him who was named ʿAli-Akbar, who turned toward the Most Exalted Horizon and traversed land and sea until he reached the shore of the Most Great Sea and heard the Call from the Dayspring of his Lord’s utterance, the Lord of Names, and beheld what no eye hath beheld. We testify that he heard and turned and hastened until he entered the right Valley—the place wherein the fragrance of God, Lord of the seen and unseen, was diffused, and he testified to that whereunto God hath testified: that there is none other God but Him, the Truth, the Knower of things unseen. He heard the rustling and the whispering and beheld the Most Great Sign from the Divine Lote-Tree beyond which there is no passing, and that which hearts and minds have never apprehended.

He believed in God on a day wherein the divines of the earth and its doctors, and those who followed them without clear proof from God, the Mighty, the All-Loving, disbelieved. And We make mention of his son whom We named Badi’, and his mother who heard and responded and took the cup of nearness and meeting, drinking therefrom in the name of her Lord, the Lord of existence. O Mother of Badi’! Grieve not

at anything. We counsel thee to be patient and forbearing, even as We have counseled Our handmaidens before thee. Verily thy Lord is the All-Patient, the All-Appreciating.

O Pen! Make mention of him who was named Ja'far and remind him of the days of God, lest the doubts of those who have disbelieved in the Witness and the Witnessed prevent him. This is a day wherein none save He should be mentioned. Say: Fear ye the All-Merciful, O people of the Bayan, and oppose not Him Who hath come from the heaven of proof with the standards of divine knowledge, would that ye might know!

Say: O people of the Bayan! Slay Me not with the swords of rejection. By God, I was sleeping when the hand of your Lord, the All-Merciful's will awakened Me and commanded Me to raise My voice between earth and heaven. This is not of Mine own accord, could ye but know it. Were He to find anyone else speaking forth and standing up for this Cause, He would not have raised Me up nor caused Me to speak a word, nor would I have manifested Myself amongst these people. To this testifieth the Book whose verses have been inscribed by the Pen of God, the Lord of what was and what shall be. The All-Chosen hath taken from My hands the reins of choice, and raised Me up as He pleased and caused Me to speak as He desired. He, verily, is the Omnipotent over whatsoever He willeth through His word "Be" and it is.

O Pen! Blessed art thou for having rendered Me well-pleased with thee, for thou hast spoken in such wise concerning the stations of the servants. We beseech God to reward thee with the most excellent reward and to strengthen His loved ones to remain steadfast in this irrevocable Cause.

O Siyyid Husayn! There hath befallen Me in God's path that which hath caused the Concourse on High to lament, and the dwellers of the Most Exalted Paradise, and those who circle round God's Throne, the Lord of the Kingdom. O peoples of the earth! Fear God and deny not Him through Whom God's Cause was manifested from the Beginning that hath no beginning, through Whom every Messenger was sent and every Book was revealed. He hath spoken: "There is no God but Him, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting."

O My Most Exalted Pen! We bid thee be silent, for the people of the Bayan are within thy hearing, that they might hear that wherewith they object to God, the Lord of what was and what shall be. We stood before all faces in days wherein skins trembled from the might of princes and divines. Then, when the waves of hatred subsided, there arose from behind the veil the buzzing of flies, and they committed what none before them had committed. Thus have We sent down the verses and dispatched them unto thee that thou mightest thank thy Lord, the Sovereign of all sovereigns. Beware lest anything whatsoever prevent thee from the Lord of all names. Cast aside what the people possess, holding fast to that which thou hast been commanded by God, the Ever-Forgiving, the All-Kindly.

O Ali! The Wronged One makes mention of thee and remindeth thee of the verses of God, the Lord of the mighty throne. My Name, upon Him be My glory, was presented with a letter bearing thy name. We make mention of thee from the precincts of the Prison, that thou mayest rejoice and be of them that render thanks. This is the Day wherein the ocean of divine knowledge hath surged and the fragrance of the All-Merciful hath wafted. Blessed is he who hath seen and found; woe unto the heedless ones.

O Ali! Remember Ali who advanced to the place of sacrifice in the Land of Ta, and offered up his spirit in the path of God, the Lord of all worlds. How many a sacrifice hath offered up his life in My path, and how many a learned one hath given his soul for My Name, the Mighty, the Wondrous. Say: O people of the Bayan! Leave Me to deal with the people of the Furqan. They have surrounded Me. Fear God, and be not of the wrong-doers. Say: Can that which ye possess profit you after ye have accepted My Cause? Be fair, and be not of them that turn aside. All things have passed away, and this is the face of your Lord, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. How many a learned one hath turned away, and how many an unlettered one hath hastened, and drunk, and said:

"Praise be to Thee, O Thou the Goal of them that know Thee!"

Be thou in all conditions reliant upon God, thy Lord and the Lord of thy forefathers. Say: My God, my God! Thou knowest what is with me, and I know not what is with Thee. I testify that the reins of knowledge are in Thy right hand, and understanding is within the grasp of Thy power. I beseech Thee by the Word whereby Thou hast subdued all who are in earth and heaven, to ordain for me through Thy Most Exalted Pen that which shall profit me in every world of Thy worlds. Thou, verily, art the Powerful, the Almighty.

O Ali-Asghar! Observe, then reflect upon the world and what hath occurred therein. It will guide thee and lead thee to a station wherein thou wilt find thyself detached from all else save God and clinging to His sure cord. It showeth thee its passing, its extinction, its changes, and what hath transpired therein by the decree of the Mighty, the Powerful. Be thou steadfast in the Cause, firm in thy love, truthful in thy speech, fair in all matters, and trustworthy in financial affairs. Thus doth the Most Glorious Pen counsel thee from this most exalted station. Verily thy Lord is the Counselor, the All-Knowing. The clamor hath been raised throughout all regions, and that which We foretold you hath come to pass, when the Light was shining from the horizon of Iraq, and in the Land of Mystery, and in this mighty Prison.

Nothing hath appeared from the Cause but that We had informed the people of it in the Book. Verily thy Lord is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. O people of Dal and Ha! We counsel you to act in accordance with that which hath been sent down from the Pen of the Command of your Lord, the Almighty, the Mighty, the Great. Thus hath the sun of knowledge shone forth from the horizon of the loving-kindness of your Lord, the Most Merciful. Give thanks and say: "Praise be to Thee, O Thou the Goal of the worlds!"

O Hasan! We bear witness that he who hath turned and hearkened is assuredly among the sincere ones in a perspicuous Book. The beginning of all things is the knowledge of God, and its end is steadfast adherence to whatsoever hath been sent down from the heaven of His Will that overshadoweth all who are in the heavens and on the earth. Whoso hath on this day quaffed the sealed wine of My Name, the Self-Subsisting, he verily is of the people of Baha in the Book of God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy. And whoso hath turned away from this Cause, he is assuredly among the companions of the Fire. Say: O people of the Bayan! Were the matter in My hands, I would not have revealed Myself.

Fear ye God and oppose not Him Who hath come with what ye possess of the tokens of the Messengers. I was seated when your Lord, the Almighty, the All-Powerful, raised Me up; I was silent when He caused Me to speak through His firm and irrevocable command; I was asleep when He awakened Me and revealed unto Me that which no reckoner, however learned, can reckon. Say: Read ye what hath been

sent down from the Supreme Pen and what ye possess, then judge with fairness and be not of the transgressors. I bewail My grief and sorrow unto God. O my Lord! Pour forth upon Me patience and make Me victorious over the wrongdoing people.

O Muhammad-ʿAli! The gate of heaven hath been opened and the Lord of Names hath come with a company from the Supreme Concourse. Blessed is he who hath advanced, and woe unto them that have turned aside. Through Him hath the pavilion of glory been raised up, and the Trumpet hath been sounded, and all who are in the heavens and on earth were thunderstruck, save them who have come unto the All-Merciful with illumined hearts. By God's life! Were anyone to become aware of what hath befallen Me in the path of God, he would lament with the lamentation of the bereaved ones. The people of the Bayan have denied the proof of God and His testimony, save them who have perceived the sweet savors of Revelation and have testified to that whereunto God hath testified: that there is none other God but I, the Forgiving, the Generous.

We have heard thy call and have answered thee with verses that all thou beholdest today cannot equal. Give thanks unto God, thy Lord, for this great bounty. This is a day wherein that which lay hidden in the knowledge of God and treasured within the hearts of them who are nigh unto Him hath been made manifest. Say: This is God's Book speaking in your midst; hearken ye thereunto and be not of the heedless ones. God hath revealed Himself through His Name, the All-Merciful, unto all who are in the realm of possibility. Among the people are those who have advanced and attained, those who have turned aside, and those who have disbelieved in God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy.

God hath men behind the Throne who aid Him with the hosts of utterance and exposition. They, verily, are among those who are brought nigh in a clear Book. Neither the doubts of the worshippers of names nor the veils of the transgressors can hinder them.

O Qasim! Hearken unto the call of the Wronged One. He counseleth thee with that which shall cause the Cause of God, thy Lord, the Lord of the mighty throne, to be exalted. They who have taken their vain imaginings as lords besides God, these are the companions of the fire in the Book of God. Blessed is he who hath recognized, and woe unto the deniers. When thou hast gained access to My letter and discovered the fragrance of Mine utterance, say: My God, my God! I testify that Thou hast created me to know Thee and to enter the precincts of Thy glory, to stand before Thy gate and to appear in Thy presence. O my Lord! Prevent not mine ear from hearkening to Thy call, nor mine eyes from beholding the Dayspring of Thy Revelation, the Dawning-Place of Thy Cause, the Manifestation of Thy Self and the Source of Thy commandments. O my Lord! Thou beholdest the tears of them that are nigh unto Thee in their separation from Thee, and the sighs of the sincere ones in their remoteness from Thee. Have mercy upon Thy servants and Thy creation, and withhold them not from that for which Thou didst create them. Thou, verily, art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest.

O my Lord! My heart hath melted by reason of the length of days of separation from Thee. I beseech Thee by the breezes of Thy Revelation, the mysteries of Thy Book, the waves of the ocean of Thy knowledge and the effulgences of the lights of the Orb of Thy manifestation, to ordain for me that which will draw me nigh unto Thee. If Thou deniest me, O my God, that which I desire through Thine irrevocable decree, then write down for me from Thy Most Exalted Pen the reward of attaining Thy presence. Verily,

Thou art He Whom nothing whatsoever can frustrate, nor can any name among all names hinder Thee. There is none other God but Thee, the Strong, the Mighty.

Section 4: "O Muhammad-Baqir! We have seen thy name…"

O Muhammad-Baqir! We have seen thy name and have made mention of thee in this wondrous remembrance, that this remembrance may render thee steadfast and firm in such wise that neither doubts may cause thee to slip, nor intimations prevent thee, nor the power of the world weaken thee, nor the might of the nations frighten thee. Verily, thy Lord is the All-Merciful, the Bountiful. By God! The pens have been humbled when the Most Exalted Pen was set in motion, yet the people understand not. They have turned unto the daysprings of idle fancies, turning away from God, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting. The verses pass them by at all times, yet they turn aside therefrom. They worship idols and perceive it not, and they say that which the ancients never said.

Say: My God, my God! I beseech Thee by the ocean of Thy verses, the heaven of Thy bounty and the sun of Thy generosity, to aid me in that whereby the sincere ones may inhale the fragrance of steadfastness in Thy Cause. O my Lord! Make me not deprived of the breezes of Thy days, nor prevented from hearkening unto Thy verses. Ordain for me through Thy Most Exalted Pen the good of the world to come and of this world. O my Lord! I testify that I am neither worthy of the wonders of Thy grace nor deserving of that which Thou hast sent down unto me from the heaven of Thy bounty. I beseech Thee by the ships of Thy power and the oceans of Thy might—they whom neither the might of kings hath prevented from drawing nigh unto Thee, nor the power of monarchs from gazing toward Thy horizon—O my Lord! to ordain for me that which beseemeth Thy generosity and grace. Verily, Thou art the Forgiving, the Kind.

O Abdul-Rahim! The wolves and evil ones of the earth have encompassed the Wronged One. They have denied Him after He came with verses that all the books of the world and whatsoever the nations possess cannot equal, and with a proof whereby the horizons of meanings and utterance were illumined. Blessed is the soul that hath testified to that whereunto the Most Exalted Pen hath testified. Woe unto every heedless one who hath disputed the verses of God, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting. How many a learned one hath been prevented by his learning from the Known One, and how many an ignorant one hath quaffed the wine of reunion from the cup of the bounty of his Lord, the Possessor of the seen and unseen. We counsel all with wisdom, even as We counseled the servants aforetime, and I am the All-Knowing Counselor.

O concourse of the Bayan! Stretch forth your hands in supplication, for the Most Great Ocean is moved to cast upon you the pearls of wisdom and utterance. He, verily, is the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous. Blessed is he who hath been illumined by the lights of the Kingdom and by that which hath been cast upon him from this Great Announcement—that which hath been mentioned at one time as the Ocean, at another as the Most Exalted Pen, and yet at another as the Speaker of Sinai and the Divine Lote-Tree in the Crimson Tablet, and as the Hidden Secret and the Treasured Mystery in the Books of God, the Mighty, the Beauteous. They that have turned away, these have no portion in the Book of God, the Lord of all worlds.

O Zaynu'l-ʿAbidin! My Pen lamenteth and recounteth what hath befallen Me at the hands of the oppressors. Verily, he whom We sheltered for successive years beneath the wing of grace hath risen in opposition and committed that which hath caused the eyes of the knowing to weep. By God's life! He hath drawn against My face the sword of denial, having been led astray by one of My servants, then raised his own voice in protest—to this every truthful and trustworthy one beareth witness.

O Concourse of the Bayan! Judge fairly, by God: who is it that hath raised up the Cause and protected him whom ye had taken as a friend unto yourselves? Fear God, and be not of them that deny. We protected him from the sun's heat and winter's cold; yet when he felt secure, he sought to shed My blood—thus did his soul entice him, and he became one of the transgressors. We have endured in God's path that which hath melted the hearts of the sincere. My kinsmen and friends denied Me through the tyranny of princes and divines, until they drove Us from the Land of Ta to Zawra, thence to the Land of Mystery, and thence to this Most Great Prison, wherein hath been kindled the fire of hatred, which no eloquent tongue or swift pen can describe.

O Husayn! Accept what is good as a command from God, the Lord of all worlds. Adorn thy head with the crown of trustworthiness and thy temple with the fear of God, the Lord of the Mighty Throne. Forget not God's favor—He hath manifested the Dawning-Place of His signs and aided thee to recognize Him on a day when lamentation arose between earth and heaven through the deeds of the heedless. We counsel thee and them that have believed to preserve that which ye have been given by God, the Goal of them that know. How many a king hath been deprived of recognition, and how many a bondsman hath attained to his Lord's grace! How many a seeing one hath been forbidden to behold, and how many a blind one hath seen and said:

> "Praise be unto Thee, O Thou Who didst remember me when I was in the hands of the oppressors!"

How many a mighty one hath been weakened by the power of the Manifestation, and how many a weak one hath scattered the hosts of vain imaginings in his Lord's name, the Strong, the Triumphant, the Powerful! Thus have We caused the weak to inherit what belonged to the strong—a command from Us, for verily We are powerful to do this.

When thou hearest the Call, turn with thy heart to the Most Sublime Horizon and say:

> "Praise be unto Thee, O Lord of the world, for having aided me, made me know Thee, and guided me to Thy straight path. I testify that the Path is Thy path, the Manifestation Thy Manifestation, and the Command Thy Command, the Mighty, the Wondrous."

O Muhammad-Qabli-Jim! The Dawning-Place of verses makes mention of thee, that perchance the people may discover the fragrance of their Lord, the All-Merciful, on a Day whereon the Herald proclaimed: "The Kingdom is God's, the One, the All-Forgiving!" We make mention of thee for the sake of God, that He may cause thee to be steadfast upon the straight path. Be detached from all else save Him, fixing thy gaze upon His horizon, and voicing His praise by night and by day. That which the people possess will profit you not this Day. Cast it aside at My bidding and take hold of that which ye are commanded by God, the Lord of Lords. Say: O people of the Bayan!

Fear God and follow not idle fancies and vain imaginings. Follow Him through Whose Name the Standard of the Cause was hoisted upon the most exalted station. Say: Have mercy upon yourselves and upon Him through Whom the Most Great Luminary shone forth from the horizon of the world, and through Whom the All-Merciful came with power and sovereignty. Were it not for the Glory of God, who would have raised up the Cause? Be fair-minded and be not of those who denied the Proof and the Testament. Thou didst stand before all faces, extolling the praise of God, the Lord of all mankind. But when the Cause was elevated, clamor arose in the cities and lands. Thus was the matter decreed, while the people remained in wondrous doubt.

O Ibn al-Muhajir! Hearken unto the call of thy Lord which is raised from the precincts of the Prison, summoning all unto the Dayspring of verses. This is a Book from Us to all who dwell on earth, that it may draw them to the horizon whence the lights have shone forth, and remind them of that which hath been sent down from the Supreme Pen in the Scriptures and Tablets. That whereof We informed the servants aforetime hath come to pass, when Zawra became the seat of the Throne, and I am the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

O peoples of the earth! Be fair in this Cause through which the Dove of Paradise warbled upon the highest branches. There is none other God but He, the Single, the One, the Mighty, the Chosen. Through Him the path of God was made manifest in the world and the decree of the Balance came forth. This is a Day wherein the hidden Treasure hath appeared and the mountains have passed away like clouds. Blessed is the soul that hath attained unto the ornament of justice; woe unto every oppressive infidel! O Supreme Pen! Say: O people of the Bayan! Fear the All-Merciful and be not of the companions of error. Weigh what hath been sent down from the Kingdom of utterance with the balance of justice and fairness. By God's life! I desired not to manifest Myself, nor to utter a word, but God's Will overcame Mine, and He manifested Me as He wished and desired. Through this there befell Me that which caused the Supreme Paradise to lament, and those who circle round the Throne at eventide and at dawn. Verily, he whom We reared up sought to shed My blood. When the Cause was made manifest, he raised an outcry within himself, clinging to calumnies that have no standing with God, the Lord of all men.

O Mirza! The Lord of Names makes mention of thee from this Spot which God hath made the Dawning-place of His remembrance. My Most Exalted Pen lamenteth and weepeth by reason of what hath befallen Me at the hands of those who have denied the Beginning and the End. They make mention of the Point of the Bayan, yet pronounce judgement against Him Who sent Him. They recite the verses, yet deny their Revealer. Take heed, O ye who are endued with insight! They behold God's bounty, yet deny it; they hear God's verses, yet turn away from them. These are assuredly the companions of the fire. O peoples of the earth! By God, We have come only to purify your souls from rancor and hatred.

To this beareth witness He with Whom is the Mother Book. The ocean of utterance hath surged and the fragrances of the All-Merciful have wafted. Turn ye, O people, with radiant faces toward the horizon wherefrom the regions have been illumined. Thus have We adorned the pages of the Book of Revelation with mention of Him Who conversed with the One Who conversed with the Fire. Blessed is he who hath recognized, and woe unto every doubting ignorant one. O servants of the All-Merciful! When a clamorer cometh unto you, leave him to himself, placing your trust in God, the Source of inspiration. Oppose not

any soul; if ye detect from anyone the fragrance of animosity, leave him to his devices, clinging to the hem of the robe of your Lord's loving-kindness, the Cleaver of the dawn. The qualities that befit man are love, trustworthiness, forgiveness and faithfulness, and that whereby his being may be sanctified amidst all peoples.

O Ibn al-Naddaf! He Who was rejected by the servants maketh mention of thee, after having come from the Dayspring of the Cause with a proof before which the proofs of those who clung to their vain imaginings and idle fancies were brought low. O son of the cotton-carder! Hearken unto the Call that hath been raised in truth—verily it guideth thee unto the straight path and casteth upon all who dwell on earth the Word of God, the Lord of what is and what hath been.

O people of the Bayan! By God, I was sleeping when the Will of God, the Revealer of verses, awakened Me, and I was silent when He made Me speak that which cannot be equalled by what the servants possess, and I was seated when He raised Me up through His power—and He is the Almighty, the Unconstrained. If My transgression be My verses and My proofs, indeed the Point of the Bayan preceded Me, and before Him the Messengers of God, the Lord of the beginning and the return.

O people of the Bayan! If the Point charged you to turn away, what have ye done to this Light that hath shone forth from the horizon of justice? He charged you to turn towards it, yet ye arose to reject it. The clouds cried out because of it, and He commanded you to be submissive, yet ye advanced against it with spears and swords. O followers of error! Ye have turned away from Him at Whose recognition the Countenance of Knowledge smiled throughout all possibility. Say: Hear, for the sake of the All-Merciful, what the Point spoke in the Bayan: "If ye help Him not, grieve Him not." Ye cast the Command of God behind your backs and committed that which caused hearts to melt. By God, the Bayan was revealed solely for My remembrance and gave glad tidings to the servants only of My Manifestation, whereby the lights have shone forth. By God, the Beloved was submissive to My remembrance, how much more to My Self! Be fair and be not of the unjust and tyrannical.

Say: If ye be in doubt, read the verses of God and what ye possess, then judge fairly, O men of insight! By God, the Wronged One desired not your faith—He summoned you unto Himself for the sake of God, the Lord of all men. Behold, then remember when I stood before all faces on a day wherein souls were agitated and eyes were dazed. Verily He said:

> "If He should come to you with a sign, oppose Him not,"

yet ye denied Him after He came to you with that which the Books and Tablets cannot rival.

O people of the Bayan! Fear the All-Merciful and shed not the blood of Him Who aided you through the nights and days with the hosts of revelation and inspiration. When the Remembrance reached this point, I heard the lamentation of My Most Exalted Pen, whereby arose the wailing of the Most Exalted Paradise and the Crimson Ark, and the eyes of the righteous shed tears. By God, I heard the cry of the Point of the Bayan and His sorrow for My sake, and the outcry of the chosen ones in this grief whereby the Tree lamented and the pillars were shaken.

O son of the cotton-carder! How many a learned one was barred from the Goal, and how many an unlettered one was seized by the wine of the Bayan, casting aside the world in his longing to attain the presence of God, the Revealer of verses. How many a scholar was kept back from the Most Great Ocean, and how many a cotton-carder hastened, and drank, and said: "Praise be to Thee, O Dawning-place of bounty and grace!"

Section 5: "Blessed is he who hath attained…"

Blessed is he who hath attained to the remembrance of the Lord of the worlds in the Most Great Prison and hath testified to that which the All-Merciful hath testified in the most exalted station. Blessed is the name that hath attained to the movement of My Most Exalted Pen, and the stranger who hath sought his Most Glorious homeland, and the distant one who hath drawn nigh unto God, the Manifestor of clear tokens. Blessed is the knower who hath known the Known One, and the seeker who hath attained and said:

> "Praise be unto Thee, O Thou in Whose grasp are the reins of all religions!"

Blessed is he who hath drunk the Kawthar of immortality from the hand of bounty and bestowal, and he who hath inhaled and perceived the fragrance of the garment as it was wafted abroad through all regions. Blessed is the poor man who hath sought the ocean of wealth, and the sick who hath turned towards the Day-spring of healing, and the weak who hath drawn nigh unto the horizon of power. Blessed is the blood that hath been shed in My path, and the earth that hath been honored by My footsteps, and the breeze that hath wafted from the direction of My loving-kindness upon all who are in the lands. Blessed is the sea upon which sailed the Ark of My Cause, and the mountain whereon was raised the pavilion of My glory, and the face that hath been illumined by the light of My days. Blessed is the house wherein My remembrance hath been raised, and the atmosphere through which the fragrances of revelation have been diffused, both morn and eve.

The world hath been illumined by the Luminary of the Most Great Name, yet the people remain heedless and astray. The locusts of hatred have spread abroad; thus hath the Most Exalted Pen informed you when the Light was shining from the horizon of Iraq. O people of the earth! Hear My call from around My throne, that it may draw you nigh unto God, the Lord of all men. He Who was created to serve Me hath denied Me—take heed, O ye who are endowed with insight! He whom I sheltered beneath the wing of grace for successive years hath sought to shed My blood. By God! The All-Merciful hath come with power and sovereignty. Say: O concourse of the earth! Is there any among you who can contend with the Knight of inner meanings in the arena of wisdom and utterance? Nay, by My Self, the True One! To this testifieth He with Whom is the knowledge of all things in the Book.

O Most Exalted Pen! Turn thy face toward Dal and Ha, then make mention of Ali-Rida, whose name was present before the Wronged One when He was in the hands of the wicked. We have seen thy remembrance and have remembered thee, that thou mayest rejoice and give thanks unto thy Lord, the Mighty, the All-Bountiful. We have sent down the verses and manifested the clear tokens. Blessed is he who hath heard and seen; woe unto every denier and infidel! When the promise came to pass and the Promised One appeared, the people rose against Him with such tyranny as the eye of creation had never

beheld. Say: Die in your wrath! He hath come at Whose advent the world's foundations trembled and feet did slip, save those who broke not their covenant and followed that which God had revealed in the Book.

Say: O people of the earth! None hath the right to test God, his Lord, or to try Him. Rather, it is His to test His servants. He is the All-Powerful, the Unconstrained. Cast away what ye possess and what the people possess. Fear God and follow not your desires. Follow Him Who hath come with verses that have encompassed the cities. We have sent down for the people of Manshad that which will guide the fair-minded and direct them unto God, the Cleaver of the Dawn. Whoso hath attained unto My good-pleasure this day, he is of the people of God in the Scriptures and Tablets. We desire naught from you. We remind you for the sake of God. Whoso believeth, it is for his own sake; whoso turneth away, verily God is the Self-Sufficient, the Most High. O people of the earth! Hearken! By God, this is the call that was heard by the Beloved in His ascension, and by Moses on the Mount of Joy, and by the Spirit when He ascended unto God, the Revealer of laws and ordinances. Thus hath the Tongue of Grandeur spoken, while the people were in doubt and schism.

O son of Abu-Talib! The Wronged One makes mention of those on earth in such wise as to remind them and draw them nigh unto the Dayspring of divine inspiration. The Wronged One hath come for the salvation of the world, yet the peoples have risen against Him with such tyranny as hath caused the horizons to darken. How many a night when sleep fled from Mine eyes, and how many a day when I lay in chains and fetters. They that dwell in the kingdom of creation and command have lamented My tribulations—to this testifieth every fair-minded one and every learned one whom knowledge hath not kept back from Him Who is the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. O Pen! Announce unto the world this most great Revelation.

Say: O people! Fear ye God and be not of them that have denied God's proof and testimony when He came with the kingdom of His signs. This is He of Whom Muhammad, the Apostle of God, gave you tidings. Fear God, O concourse of factions! This is He Whom ye have mentioned throughout centuries and ages. Through Him every doer of deeds drew strength, every distant one drew nigh, every lowly one was exalted, every speechless one spoke forth, and every seated one arose. The world hath been stirred with longing for His presence, yet most of the people remain heedless and in dissension. Read ye what ye possess and what hath been sent down from the heaven of the will of your Lord, the Lord of the Day of Resurrection, that ye may discover what hath been concealed from you. Verily, your Lord, the All-Merciful, is the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous.

We make mention of him who was named Husayn, whose name was present before the Wronged One, and We counsel him with that wherewith We have counseled most of the servants. I have come from the Dayspring of grace to reform the world. Blessed is he who hath testified to that whereunto God hath testified. Woe unto every denying deceiver. Blessed is he who hath quaffed the choice wine of utterance from the gracious hand of his Lord, the All-Merciful. Woe unto every one who hath turned aside and risen in opposition. I swear by God! I cannot recount what hath befallen Me at the hands of the wicked doers.

O My Pen! Lament for My sake and for what hath befallen Me from the tyrants among My creatures, and say: My God, my God! I was sleeping, Thou didst awaken Me and raise Me up and cause Me to speak.

Then Thou didst leave Me beneath the claws of hatred. Thou dost see and hear what hath befallen Me and what they have said concerning Me. By Thy might, O my God and O Thou Who art mentioned in my heart! Were all who dwell on earth and in heaven to unite to harm Baha, the mention of Thy praise would not cease to flow from His tongue, nor would He pause for less than a moment in revealing that which Thou hast commanded Him to reveal amongst Thy servants.

By Thy grandeur and sovereignty! O Thou through Whose nearness the lands were stirred and through Whose separation hearts were melted! I would not exchange the abasement I have suffered in Thy path for the glory of the world, nor this weakness for the power of the nations, nor this poverty for the wealth of all who are on Thy earth. All that hath befallen Me in Thy love is the desire of My heart and the beloved of My soul. To this bear witness the dwellers in the cities of Thy justice and the sincere ones among Thy servants and Thy creation. O Lord! Thou knowest that I have desired naught save the freedom of Thy servants and their deliverance from the chains of idle fancy and vain imagining. Aid them, O my God, in that which Thou lovest and art pleased with. Verily, Thou art the All-Powerful, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

O Abu'l-Hasan! How many a servant has been held back by the world, and how many a servant has rent asunder the veils, turning with devotion unto God, the Lord of all worlds! Be thou steadfast in the Cause and eloquent in proclaiming this momentous News. A leaf hath been presented before the Wronged One, adorned with the names of those who have believed in God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy. We have sent down for each one that which will draw him nigh unto the All-Knowing, the One acquainted with all things. We counsel you once again to observe justice and equity and to preserve this Book that guideth you to the straight path of God. We make mention of those whose names were not presented in the prison, and give them the glad-tidings of the bounty of their Lord, the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous. The beginning of all things is the recognition of God, and its end is steadfastness in His Cause. Thus hath it been ordained by the Powerful, the Ancient of Days.

Say: O people of the Bayan! Your opposition cannot prevent the waves of the ocean nor the sun from its radiance. Observe, then be fair, and be not of the ignorant ones. God shall soon raise up men who will aid the Wronged One with wisdom and utterance. He, verily, is the All-Knowing, the One acquainted with all things. And We make mention of My handmaidens in that land who have believed in God when He came with a wondrous Cause, who have attained unto His days, who have hearkened and turned toward the Most Exalted Horizon when the heroes of the earth were in manifest doubt. He is with you under all conditions, hearing and seeing, and He is the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing.

Rejoice in that your mention hath flowed from the Tongue of Grandeur while the Wronged One was in a mighty prison. We beseech God to assist you, to grant you success, and to ordain for you that which befitteth the heaven of His bounty and the ocean of His grace. He, verily, is the Most Merciful of the merciful. We make mention of Abu'l-Husayn and counsel him with that which hath been sent down in the Book of God, the Lord of the Mighty Throne. Take hold of the Book with the strength that cometh from Him—verily, He loveth them that act. It is permitted unto thee and unto those who have believed in that land to read that wherewith We have communed with God, the Lord of the Exalted Throne. He is the Rememberer and the Remembered.

My God, my God! Thy separation hath consumed me, Thy remoteness hath burned me, Thy distance hath melted me, Thy remembrance hath kindled me, and Thy call hath stirred me. By Thy might and Thy beauty! Were anyone to search the hearts of Thy lovers, they would find them pierced by the arrows of Thy separation, and their livers burned by the fire of being kept from Thee. O my Lord! I sense the fragrance of Thy manifestation, yet know not which spot hath been illumined by the light of Thy knowledge, adorned with the splendors of Thy countenance, and honored by Thy presence. I beseech Thee by Thy beauty that shineth forth from Thy most exalted horizon, and by the mysteries of Thy knowledge, O Thou Who art the Lord of all names and Creator of the heavens, to ordain for Thy servants the privilege of attaining unto Thy presence and standing before the gate of Thy grandeur.

O my Lord! I testify that Thou hast created ears to hearken unto Thy call in Thy Day, and eyes to behold the lights of the Dawning-Place of Thy Revelation, the Dayspring of Thy signs, and the Source of the manifestations of Thy power and favors. O my Lord! Deprive not the ears of that for which Thou didst create them, nor the eyes of that for which Thou didst fashion them. Thou art He Whose mercy hath preceded all created things and Whose grace hath encompassed all beings.

O my Lord! The sweet fragrances of the garment of Thy Revelation have seized me, and the verses of Thy grandeur have so attracted me that I have forgotten myself and my own being and all that hath been created in Thy earth and heaven. Alas, alas! I know not by what deed I may stand before Thy face that might diffuse the fragrance of Thy good-pleasure. Nay, by Thy might! Thy grace hath encompassed me and Thy bounty hath emboldened me. This servant hath been assured of Thy grace and bounty, and of the acceptance of whatsoever hath proceeded from me in Thy days. By Thy might and majesty, Thy power and Thy beauty! I long to lay my face and my brow upon every spot of Thy earth, that perchance it might fall upon soil honored by the footsteps of Thy chosen ones and Thy messengers.

I beseech Thee, O Creator of the heavens, by the Daysprings of Thy power and might, to ordain for me that which shall profit me in every world of Thy worlds. Then grant me that which is best in Thy Book. Verily, Thou art the All-Bountiful, the Generous, the Compassionate, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. And I beseech Thee, O Lord of eternity and Source of bounty, by Thy Most Great Signs and by Thy Most Great, Most Glorious Name, to make me one who circleth around Thy Throne and standeth before the gate of Thy grandeur in every world of Thy worlds. Then adorn my temple, my heart, and my breast with the lights of Thy knowledge and with the ornament of acceptance, through Thy bounty and generosity.

O my Lord! This is a Day wherein the ocean of Thy bounty hath surged and the horizon of the world hath been illumined by the light of Thy grace. I beseech Thee not to withhold from me that which is with Thee, and to ordain for me that which beseemeth Thy mercy and Thy gifts, and which is worthy of Thy greatness and Thy sovereignty. Verily, Thou art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the All-Forgiving, the All-Bountiful.

And may blessings and peace and glory and splendor rest upon Thy loved ones and Thy chosen ones who have not broken Thy Covenant and Thy Testament, and who have acted according to what they were bidden in Thy Manifest Book. These are servants who have cast aside all association with others, holding fast to the light of unity, through Thy grace. Verily, Thou art the Most Exalted, the Most Great.

Volume 103: Akka 1868–1892 year unknown, Part I (2 of 5)

BH00138: This is the Day wherein the Book speaketh before…

Section 1: "This is the Day wherein the Book speaketh…"

He is the Dawning-Place above the horizon of the heaven of utterance!

This is the Day wherein the Book speaketh before the face of all humanity: "There is no God but Him, the Mighty, the Bestower!" My Name, upon Him be My glory, hath appeared at the dawning of the Sun of Manifestation, and mentioned are the names of those who have sought the Ultimate Goal, the Supreme Summit, and the Highest Aim. Among them are those who attained and drank and triumphed, those who intended and hastened, those who acknowledged a single drop from the Most Great Ocean, and those whom the wine of recognition so intoxicated that they soared in the atmosphere of their Lord's love, the All-Merciful, and were set ablaze with the fire of their Lord's Cause, the Compassionate, the Mighty, the Gracious. Verily do We make mention of every name mentioned before His countenance, for He is the Mighty, the All-Bountiful.

O Nasru'llah! The Wronged One hath mentioned thee aforetime with a mention before which all mentions bow down. We counsel thee and those who have believed to that whereby the signs of the All-Merciful may be made manifest in all possibility, and His Cause be exalted amongst His servants. When the morn of Revelation unfurled its standard and the Speaker of Sinai came forth, the divines arose in opposition. Among them were those who pronounced Him an infidel, those who turned away, those who objected, and those who unjustly pronounced against Him, whereby the veil of sanctity was rent asunder and the eyes of the righteous shed tears. Thus did their souls entice them. We bear witness that they are among the companions of the Fire.

Say: O people of the Bayan! Cast aside your vain imaginings. Beware lest ye act as they acted aforetime. Fear the All-Merciful and be not of those who turned away from God, the Lord of Lords.

O Qasim! Cast aside what the people possess, taking hold of My Book with such strength that neither armies nor swords shall deter thee.

Say: O people of the earth! We have shown you the evanescence of all ye possess and caused you to hear mention of departure at all times. Cast aside your surmises and idle fancies; take what ye have been given from God, the Lord of all mankind. Be thou steadfast in serving My loved ones, speaking My praise, and holding fast to the cord of My loving-kindness. Thus doth the Wronged One command thee from the most exalted station.

We make mention in this station of Muhammad-Qabli-ʿAli, whose flesh was mingled with the flesh of his Lord, his blood with His blood, his body with His body, and his bones with the bones of his Lord, the Mighty, the Bestower. My Most Exalted Pen beareth witness that he hath attained unto that which none before him attained, and there befell him that of which no ear hath heard the like. Upon him be My glory and the glory of My Kingdom and My Dominion, and the people of the cities of justice and fairness. Blessed art thou, O Muhammad, in that thou hast attained unto the choice wine of utterance from thy

Lord, the All-Merciful. Thus hath the Sun of proof shone forth from the horizon of the heaven of thy Lord's loving-kindness, the Lord of all beings.

O ʿAbdu'l-Karim! The All-Bountiful hath come, yet every possessor of doubts turned away from Him. The ocean of generosity hath surged before all existence, yet most of the people are in astonishing delusion. They have cast the Command of God behind their backs. Verily, they are among the veiled ones in the sight of God, the Revealer of verses.

Aqa Mirza Muhammad-i-Qazvini

O Muhammad! We have mentioned thee aforetime and at this moment, and there hath come before the Wronged One what thou didst send to My Name, the Mihdi. We answer thee again through this Tablet which hath shone forth from the horizon of thy Lord's loving-kindness, the Subduer of the winds. Blessed is the essence that opposition hath not prevented and the spirit that bodies have not veiled from this horizon before which, when it shone forth, the spirits prostrated themselves. And blessed is he who hath attained unto the mention of his Lord on this Day wherein the horizons have arisen in hypocrisy.

Aqa Mirza Abu-Talib

O Abu-Talib! Thou art he who hath sought the Most Exalted Goal and traversed land and sea until thou didst arrive at the Valley of the Noble One wherein was raised the call of the Glorious One:

> "Verily, there is none other God but Me, the Protector over what is and what hath been."

Thou wert present and beheld what was hidden from the peoples of the world and heard what the Primal Point heard. The Mother Book that is with Him beareth witness to this. Remind the servants of what thou hast seen and heard, and be so firm in the Cause that neither the veils of the divines nor the power of princes shall deter thee. Place thy trust in all matters in God, the Lord of all men. Convey My greetings to the faces of My loved ones who have turned to the Most Exalted Horizon and testified to that which God hath testified at the beginning and the end.

O Ali Ashraf! Give thanks unto God for having honored thee with this Cause whereby the hearts of the idolaters were disturbed and the hearts of the righteous were assured. We have made mention of thee and those who have believed, as a token of grace from Us. Verily thy Lord is the Mighty, the All-Bountiful.

O Aqa Bala! The Lord of creation mentioneth thee from His Most Great Prison in such wise as will draw thee nigh unto God, the One, the Peerless, the Mighty, the Forgiving. We counsel thee and those who have believed with the wisdom We have sent down through grace in the Scriptures and Tablets. Take hold of that which ye are commanded and follow not those who have violated God's covenant and testament—they are assuredly among the wayward. Thus doth the Pen of the Most Merciful move in the arena of wisdom and utterance that ye may be drawn to a station wherein naught is seen save the signs of God, the Manifester of clear evidences. We make mention of thy brother who is named Qasim and give him glad tidings of God's loving-kindness and grace, and counsel him with that whereby the station of man is exalted in the realm of possibility.

O Abdul-Khaliq! Behold and then remember when the Creator came, the creation turned away with such rejection that the clouds wailed. They turned away and denied until they pronounced judgment against Him without any proof or evidence. Set aside creation and what it possesseth, clinging to the Truth that calleth from the highest horizon of the world: “There is none other God but Me, the Mighty, the All-Knowing.” Most people are playing with the clay of their vain imaginings. By God! They are more contemptible than flies in the sight of the Self-Sufficient, the Most High. Blessed are the people of Baha who have mounted, in His Name, the crimson ark that moveth over land and sea by His Name, the Protector over all names. Be steadfast in My Cause, speaking My praise, soaring in My atmosphere, and clinging to My robe which God, the Lord of all raiment, hath ordained. We have found from thee the fragrance of My love and have mentioned thee with a call whereby the realities of remembrance were attracted. Say: By God! The Hidden One hath appeared and those of Sinai were thunderstruck save him whom God preserved as a grace from Him and protected through the hands of power.

O Siyyid! The Lord of the world mentioneth thee from His Most Great Prison that thou mayest rejoice and be in a state of gladness and delight. Let not the affairs of creation sadden thee. Fix thy gaze upon the Most Exalted Horizon and hold fast to the cord of God, the Sender of rains. Say: O people of the Bayan! Associate not partners with God and dispute not about the verses whereby your faith in God, the Lord of creation, is established. Say: Set aside what ye possess and take what is with God. He verily guideth you to the straight path. The glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My loving-kindness be upon the people of Baha who have cast aside all else, turning unto the Dayspring of lights.

Karbila’i Iskandar

O My Pen! Make mention of him who is named Iskandar and give him glad tidings of that which hath shone forth from the horizon of the All-Merciful as the Day-Star of utterance, that he may rejoice and be of them that are thankful. Thou hast attained unto the mention of My Most Exalted Pen aforetime and at this hour. Beware lest anything sadden thee or the might of them that have denied the Lord of the Day of Judgment cause thee to fear. Take hold of the Book with strength from thy Lord and say: O people! Fear ye God and be not of the wrongdoers. Behold what hath shone forth from the horizon of proof, then hearken unto that which hath been raised from the Lote-Tree of utterance: Verily, there is none other God besides Me, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

This is the Day whereon the Point of the Bayan crieth out, saying: O people of the realm of possibility! By My life, the world hath been honored by the lights of the Manifestation, and everyone possessed of a sense of smell perceiveth the fragrance of His perspicuous raiment. Beware lest ye deprive yourselves of the outpourings of your bountiful Lord or be veiled by the veils of the heedless. Blessed is the soul that hath cast the world behind it out of longing for the presence of the Ancient of Days. He is assuredly of the people of Baha in the Book of God, the Lord of all worlds. We counsel all to manifest supreme steadfastness, lest the doubts of the people of the Bayan, who have exchanged the grace of God for unbelief, cause them to slip.

They are indeed of them that have gone astray, as recorded in a clear tablet. We beseech God to assist thee and aid thee, that there may appear from thee that whose fragrance shall never be cut off. Verily, He is the Forgiving, the Merciful.

Mulla Sadiq

O Sadiq! We counsel thee with supreme wisdom even as We counseled thee when thou wert standing before the door and didst hear the call of God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy. Say: Wisdom is the head and master of deeds. Hold fast unto it, as bidden by an ancient Commander. Remember My days and what thou didst hear from My tongue and what thou didst witness from this most exalted horizon. Thus doth the Lord of Names command thee. Take hold and be of them that act. Let not anything prevent thee. Remind thyself, then remind the souls of the servants, that they may discover the fragrance of utterance and be of them that are assured. The days shall pass more swiftly than lightning, yet most of the people know not. Say: Fear ye God and follow not your desires. Follow the Book of God, for verily it hath been sent down in truth from His presence, and He is the Truth, the Knower of the unseen. Say: This is the Day of remembrance, yet ye are silent. Say: This is the Day of service, yet ye are sleeping, and this is the Day of hearkening, yet ye are as dead. Blessed is the soul over which the breezes of its Lord's will have passed, and it hath arisen saying:

> "Praise be unto Thee, O God of the worlds and desire of them that have recognized Thee, for having awakened me and guided me unto Thy straight path."

Mirza Israfil Hakim

We make mention of thee and pronounce upon thee Our blessing as a favor from Our presence, and I am verily the All-Bountiful, the Most Generous. O Israfil! By the life of God, We have sounded the Trumpet, whereupon all who are in the heavens and earth have swooned away, save whom God, thy Lord and the Lord of thy forefathers, willeth. By it earthquakes have seized the tribes of the earth, every learned one hath been perturbed, every foot hath slipped, every wise one hath lamented, every prince hath been struck with terror, every mystic hath been bewildered, and every seeing one who sought hath attained. How many a learned one hath been kept back from the Cause, and how many an ignorant one hath hastened and said: "I believe in Thee, O Thou Desire of the mystics!" How many a maidservant hath heard and turned and attained, and how many a hero hath denied and turned away from God, the Mighty, the Beautiful. O Israfil! Remember thy Lord at all times, and hold fast in all conditions to His firm cord.

Iskandar Qap

O Iskandar! The Lord of Power has come for the life of humanity, yet the people seized Him and imprisoned Him in this remote place. Behold and remember when the Spirit came, the divines of the Torah turned away from Him and pronounced judgment against Him unjustly—every atom cried out at this, as every fair-minded and knowing one will testify. The Comforter has come in truth, yet the people are in manifest error. You have not yet recognized Him who came to them with a sovereignty that has conquered all who are in the heavens and the earth, and with His mighty glory. I am indeed the heaven whereunto the Son of Mary ascended, as the Tongue of Grandeur bears witness, though most of the people are heedless. Give thanks unto God that He has made mention of thee while the Seat of the Throne was in a mighty prison.

Iskandar Mulla-Ughli

O Iskandar! Behold and remember when Muhammad, the Apostle of God, came—the divines of the Torah and the Gospel turned away from Him. Among the people were those who denied Him, those who turned away from Him, and those who rose up to oppress Him, whereat the foundations of patience were shaken and the eyes of those near to God shed tears. The divines pronounced judgment against Him as they had pronounced judgment against the Spirit before Him. The Books of God, both past and future, bear witness to this, as doth this wronged and lonely One. When thou hast attained unto My verses and found the fragrance of My utterance, turn thy face toward God and say:

"Praise be unto Thee, O Thou Who art the Goal of the Prophets and the Messengers!"

I beseech Thee to make him steadfast in Thy remembrance and in the service of Thy Cause. Verily, Thou art the Almighty, the Powerful.

We make mention of thy brother who desired to drink from the Kawthar of utterance from the hand of the bounty of his Lord, the Generous. Give him My glad-tidings and greet him, that he may rejoice and be of those who render thanks.

Haji Muhammad Mihdi

O Muhammad Mihdi! The Lord of the worlds makes mention of thee as a bounty from Him, and He is the All-Bountiful, the Generous. Purify thine ear from what thou hast heard that thou mayest hearken unto the call of God, the Lord of all worlds. This is a Day wherein every confident one has been shaken, every learned one has been terrified, every silent one has cried out, and the Tongue of Grandeur has testified that sovereignty belongs to God, the Most High, the Most Great. Say: O people! Help your Lord, the Most Merciful, and be not of the heedless ones. Know then that victory has been ordained in the remembrance and utterance, even as was revealed at the beginning of this Manifestation, and most of the people are witnesses thereof.

We have forbidden the servants to wage war and to contend. Among them are those who committed what We forbade and transgressed the bounds set by God, the Master of the Day of Judgment, and among them are those whom God has pardoned as a bounty from Him, for He is the Forgiving, the Merciful. Say: Cast not the ordinances of God behind you, and do what ye are commanded by One All-Knowing, All-Wise. Those who have found the fragrances of revelation are among the most exalted of servants before God, the Hearing, the Answering. And he who is prevented is among the most lost of servants before God, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

Muhammad Hanifih

We make mention of thy brother and counsel him with what befits the days of his Lord, the Master of this wondrous Day. O Pen! Make mention of him who is named Muhammad, who has drawn near to the Most Great Sea to drink and to be of the thankful ones. Say: The Day has come, yet most of the people are at ease. The Light has appeared, yet most of the people have turned away. Say: Take hold of the Book of God with the power granted by Him and cast aside that which keeps you from it. This is God's command unto you, if ye be of those who know. If your eye causes you to stumble in this, pluck it out for love of your Lord's Cause, the All-Merciful, the Generous. Blessed is he who has attained unto My days,

recognized My path, hastened with his heart to My horizon, and arisen to serve My mighty Cause. We have made mention of thee that the remembrance might attract thee to a station wherein thou wilt recognize My clear and straight path.

Section 2: "Aqa Mir ʿAllam…"

Aqa Mir ʿAllam

O Mir! The Prisoner remembereth thee from the prison-ward with that which draweth thee nigh unto God, the All-Subduing, the Self-Subsisting. In the earliest days We stood before the faces of all the world, with the banners of verses on Our right and the standards of clear proofs on Our left, and We called all unto God, the Sovereign of what was and what shall be. The factions rose against Us with swords of tyranny—among them were those who claimed authority over God, and those who turned away and denied what was sent down from God, the King of Kings. Say: This is a light whereby the world is illumined, and a fire whereby are consumed the hearts of every ignorant outcast. Say: O people, judge fairly concerning that which hath appeared in truth, and follow not every veiled scholar. Thus surgeth the ocean of utterance before the face of the All-Merciful, yet most of the people understand not.

Aqa Mirza Abdu'l-Ali

O Abdu'l-Ali! The remembrance of God from the Lote-Tree beyond which there is no passing, before the face of the Lord of all mankind, hath verily been upraised. Blessed is he who hath heard the Call; he is indeed among the righteous recorded by the Pen of Revelation in the Book of the Exalted Ones. Say: O people of the Bayan, come ye, come ye, that He may show you God's most sublime horizon and cause you to hear His sweetest call, at whose raising the Prophets and Messengers stood forth, crying "Yea, verily, O Lord of Names and Creator of the heavens!" Blessed is the eye that hath beheld the horizon of Revelation, the ear that hath heard the Call of Him Who conversed on Sinai, and the heart that hath turned to the Station illumined by the lights of His Countenance.

Say: Do ye deny the ocean and its waves, the sun and its radiance? Fear ye the All-Merciful and be not of them who denied God's grace and favors, and follow not every denier who is far from truth. Judge fairly, O people of the Bayan, concerning your Lord's Cause. Have ye not witnessed the waves of My ocean of utterance and the effulgent lights of the sun of My wisdom's heaven? Fear God and refute not the truth with what ye possess. Soon shall ye return to your stations and be questioned about your deeds in this world. Then shall ye find yourselves in manifest loss.

Karbala'i Aqa Kishi

We make mention of thy brother and beseech God to strengthen him that he may find for himself a path unto God. O thou who hast turned to the Countenance! Hear the call of the Wronged One from the prison-ward; verily He summoneth thee to a station that hath been raised up in God's name. This is a Day wherein the Book calleth out with its most exalted voice and summoneth all to a horizon radiant with the lights of His Countenance.

O people! Cast aside that which keepeth you from the Lord of Destiny, Who hath come from the Source of Command with the banners of verses and with a sovereignty that encompasseth all the worlds. Thus moveth the Most Exalted Pen when it was between the fingers of thy Lord, that thou mayest give thanks and remain firm and steadfast in the Cause.

Karbala'i Aqa Dadish

O thou who art turned towards the Truth! Praise God for this Most Great Remembrance which hath guided mankind to a path raised up by God's command. We counsel thee and those who have believed in that which hath been sent down in a Book inscribed by the Pen of Revelation in truth. Say: O peoples of the earth! Weigh what We have against what ye possess. Be fair and follow not every ignorant one who is deprived of justice. Thus have the rains of knowledge and wisdom poured down from this heaven which hath been raised up in truth, and God is witness to what I say.

The friends of God

Verily We make mention of the friends of God in that place, whose names have not been mentioned outwardly, and We counsel them with that which We have counseled before, for verily I am the Compassionate, the Bountiful. Take ye the Book of God as a command from Him, then recite His verses with the melodies of them that are attracted. Blessed is the servant who hath turned unto Him and attained, and woe unto them that turn aside! We counsel you to be steadfast lest your feet slip through the hints of the learned and the doubts of the babblers. These have denied God and rejected that which He hath sent down from His glorious and wondrous Kingdom.

Handmaidens of God: We make mention of My handmaidens there and give them glad tidings of My mercy which hath preceded all and My grace which hath encompassed all existence. We beseech God to assist them in that which He loveth and approveth, and to ordain for them that which shall gladden the eyes of the devoted ones who have attained in the early days to the recognition of God, the Lord of the worlds.

Friends of God: We make mention at this time of the friends of God in Kukachay and remind them of the verses of God, the All-Subduing, the Self-Subsisting. Blessed is the soul that hath attained unto the mention of My Most Exalted Pen and hath testified to that whereunto God Himself hath testified: that there is none other God but Me, the Subduer of what was and what shall be.

Ismail Bey

O Ismail! The Ancient Beauty hath turned toward thee from His Most Great Prison and revealed for thee that which hath perfumed the world of being with the fragrance of the All-Merciful, that thou mayest rejoice and be of them that fear not, neither are they grieved. Thy name was presented before Us and We have remembered thee in this blessed and irrevocable Tablet. We have adorned thee with the ornament of remembrance, and likewise My loved ones there who have not broken God's Covenant and His Testament, but have held fast unto the cord of their Lord's loving providence, the Mighty, the Loving. Joy be unto you and blessed are ye for having attained unto the remembrance of God and the traces of His Most Exalted Pen, when the seat of the Throne was this glorious and forbidden station. Thus have the

breezes of revelation been wafted abroad when the Tongue of Grandeur did proclaim: There is none other God but Me, the Mighty, the Beloved.

Tiflis Friends of God

O loved ones of the All-Merciful in Tiflis! Hearken unto that which hath been raised from the right hand of the luminous spot on the crimson earth from the Divine Lote-Tree, at whose rustling all things proclaimed: The Desire of the world and the Most Great Name is come, through Whom the gates of meaning and utterance have been opened in the world of being. Exalted be God, the Creator of what was and what shall be! By God's life! There is not a single verse but My Most Exalted Pen hath revealed it, as attesteth His preserved Tablet. Blessed be your faces for having turned, your hearts for having accepted, your eyes for having beheld, and your ears for having heard the Call of God, the Lord of the seen and the unseen. Thus have We adorned the Kingdom of proof with My remembrance and the Heaven of exposition with that which My tongue hath uttered in this exalted station.

Aqa Baba

O Aqa Baba! The Lord of the world maketh mention of thee and giveth thee glad tidings of His turning toward thee from this station wherein the Ancient Beauty hath been imprisoned through that which the hands of the deniers of the Witness and the Witnessed have wrought. Be thou at all times observant of My most exalted horizon, attentive to My sweetest call, and take hold of My Book, at whose revelation all the books of the world have bowed down, as attesteth His inscribed Tablet.

Aqa Sattar

O Concealer! The Concealer makes mention of thee from this station which hath been named by the Most Beautiful Names, and He calleth and sayeth: This is the day wherein the Mount was honored by the presence of its Interlocutor, and the Tree by its Manifestation, and the Books by their Revealer, yet most of the people understand not. By God! Every matter hath been revealed and every mystery hath emerged, and rivers of life have flowed from the rocks, yet the people perceive not. They hear the verses of God and deny them, and they behold His signs and then object to them. Say: Fear God, O people, and follow not every rejected ignorant one. Thus have We sent down the verses as a grace from Our presence that ye may give thanks unto your Lord, the Sovereign of the Kingdom.

Aqa Mirza ʿAli

O ʿAli! Behold and then remember when We sent forth the Spirit with clear signs; the Jews and their divines rose against Him and unjustly condemned Him, whereat every stone lamented and every clod cried out and eyes shed tears. Behold and then remember the concourse of the Furqan who wept in the mosques and upon the pulpits over its letters, yet when their Lord came they slew Him unjustly—an act which erased all mention of joy and gladness from the Book of Lovers. They condemned Him Whom they had mentioned throughout ages and centuries. Thus did their souls prompt them, and today they rejoice not. They surrounded the Bird of the Most Exalted Paradise with the talons of hatred and wrought that which caused the eyes to cease their flow and the sun to withhold its radiance and the clouds their manifest outpouring. By the life of God! The people of the Bayan who turned away from the All-Merciful

are more lost than any faction, more remote than any remote one, and more reprobate than any reprobate. They arose in opposition in such wise as caused the denizens of the heavenly dominion to lament.

Karbala'i Akbar

O Akbar! He Who holdeth dominion over destiny maketh mention of thee at a time when sorrows have encompassed Him from those who disbelieved in the All-Merciful and denied this bounty which hath shone forth from the horizon of the world and this light which hath gleamed amongst the nations. Verily thy Lord is the Truth, the Knower of the unseen. Nothing escapeth His knowledge. From His Most Exalted Pen have been sent down the secrets of what hath been and what shall be. Neither the clamor of the world nor the veils of the nations can hinder Him. He hath come with the greatest of signs and revealed what He willeth with power and sovereignty. Say: O people of the Bayan! Fear God and refute not the truth with what ye possess, and be not of them who denied God's proof and His testimony when He came unto the final goal. If ye deny this Revelation, by what proof can ye establish that which ye possess? Bring it forth and be not of the people of error. Fear God, O people of the Bayan, and oppose not Him through Whose command every Prophet hath spoken and every Messenger hath uttered speech. Thus doth the Most Exalted Pen counsel you from its most exalted station.

Aqa ʿAbdu'r-Ra'uf

O ʿAbdu'r-Ra'uf! The Kind One calleth thee, He Who hath been imprisoned in the path of God, the Lord of lords. He it is Who arose in the earliest days before the faces of all people and summoned all unto God, the Lord of all men. Were it not for Him, the decree of the Book would not have been revealed and the Sun of Revelation would not have shone forth from the horizon of the heaven of proof. Verily, He hath come with the truth and mentioned that which He was commanded in the Tablet. Whoso believeth, it shall be to his benefit, and whoso turneth away, it shall be to his detriment. Verily He is sanctified and exalted above mention and utterance. Thus hath the ocean of My knowledge surged and the sun of My proof shone forth and the rains have poured down from the heaven of My grace.

Karbala'i Yusuf

O Yusuf! We made mention of thee before and make mention of thee at this time as a grace from My presence, and I am the Mighty, the All-Bountiful. Say: My God, my God! I perceive the fragrance of Thy raiment and love Thy mention and praise and nearness to the seat of Thy throne, whereon is established the temple of Thy grandeur. Ordain for me through Thy grace, O my God, that which centuries and ages cannot alter, that it may endure as long as Thy names endure and serve as a sign of Thee amongst Thy servants and creation. O Lord! Thou seest me turning toward Thee and speaking Thy praise. I beseech Thee not to withhold from me the waves of the ocean of Thy bounty and the effulgences of the sun of Thy generosity. Thou art He Whom the affairs of the world cannot hinder, nor can the clamor of nations prevent. He doeth what He willeth through His power. There is none other God but Thee, the Mighty, the Glorious, the All-Bountiful.

O ʿAli-Akbar! Hear what the Sun speaketh, to which the Book hath borne witness: Verily there is none other God but Him, the Mighty, the All-Knowing. Thou hast indeed attained unto the waves of the ocean

of My remembrance aforetime and the effulgences of the Luminary of My utterance, as witnessed by the Mother Book. Behold the creation and the weakness that hath encompassed them. They have cast behind their backs Him through Whose name every truth hath been manifested, turning instead to the source of vain imaginings. By God! The very atoms should weep for this Light that hath been prevented from shining forth by reason of what the hands of the wicked have wrought. They drink corruption while fleeing from the Living Waters that lie before their faces. Thus hath Satan made their deeds seem fair unto them, and they remain in doubt and schism. Neither their deeds nor their remembrance nor their turning profit them, as witnessed by all things and those who circle round the Throne at morn and eventide. Grieve not at anything, but trust in the One, the All-Informed, throughout all days.

O My Name! There have come before the Wronged One the names of those mentioned by the Truthful One. We make mention of them as a grace from Us, for verily We are the Mighty, the Glorious, the Bountiful. Blessed is he and those whom he hath mentioned, and whoso hath held fast to the cords of God, the Lord of all mankind.

O Kazim! Rejoice in My mention of thee. By God! Nothing in all creation can compare with it, as thy Lord doth testify, seated upon the throne of wisdom and utterance. Be steadfast in the Cause and speak in praise of thy Lord, detached from those who have denied the Beginning and the Return. Blessed is the servant who hath attained unto the choice wine of My utterance and the sweet waters of My mercy and My grace that have encompassed all regions. When the Standard of Revelation was raised to its loftiest station, the people denied it—some rejected it, some turned away, some objected, and some approached with sword and spear. Were We to recount what befell Us, all created things would lament and spirits would be severed from bodies. Thus have We arranged the verses in clear evidence and sent down from the heaven of knowledge that which hath attracted the hearts of the righteous.

O Muhammad! Hear the call of the Single One from the prison quarter. He mentioneth thee purely for the sake of God, the Revealer of verses. By God's life! Were anyone to hearken to My sweetest call, the attraction of the verses would seize him in such wise that he would leave all created things, turning toward God, the Manifestation of clear evidences. Say: O people! Fear God and commit not what the people of the Furqan committed, nor what the Jewish divines and idolaters committed before them.

O Pen! Make mention of him who hath been named Muhammad, that he may give thanks unto his Lord, the Mighty, the Glorious, the All-Seeing. Praise God that thy mention hath flowed from the ocean of grace and thou hast been mentioned by the Dayspring of Certitude. Hold fast to the cord of thy Lord's loving kindness and say:

O my God, my God! I have turned to Thee with my whole being. I beseech Thee by the Ark which at times soareth in the air with the wings of detachment, and at other times moveth across the land by Thy power which holdeth sway over all humanity, and traverseth the sea by Thy Name which exerciseth dominion over all who are in the heavens and on earth, to make me steadfast in Thy Cause whereby hearts have been sorely troubled and feet have stumbled. O my Lord! Deprive not Thy servants of the sweet savours of Thy days, nor keep them back from the pavilions of Thy grace which have been raised above the most exalted standards. The glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My mercy be upon you, O My

loved ones, and upon My handmaidens who have believed in God, the Lord of creation. Praise be to God, the Lord of all beings.

BH00271: Tafsir-i-Va'sh-Shams (Commentary on the Surih of the Sun)

Section 1: "All praise be to God Who caused…"

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

All praise be to God Who caused the dove of utterance to warble upon the twigs of the tree of exposition with diverse melodies that there is none other God but Him. He hath brought the worlds into being and created all possibility through His Primal Will, whereby He hath created all that was and all that shall be. And praise be to God Who hath adorned the heaven of reality with the sun of meaning and knowledge, whereon hath been inscribed by the Most Exalted Pen: "The Kingdom belongeth unto God, the Omnipotent, the Overshadowing, the Self-Subsisting"—Who hath manifested the Most Great Ocean gathered from the water flowing from the Source of the letter Ha', which leadeth to the Most Ancient Name, wherefrom the Primal Point was differentiated and the all-embracing Word appeared and Truth and Law came forth, and whereby the believers have soared into the atmosphere of revelation and presence, and the sincere ones unto the manifestation of their Lord, the Mighty, the Loving.

And blessings and peace be upon the Dayspring of the Most Beautiful Names and the Most Exalted Attributes, in every letter of Whose name are treasured all names, and through Whom existence, both seen and unseen, hath been adorned—Who was named Muhammad in the Kingdom of Names and Ahmad in the Realm of Eternity—and upon His family and companions from this Day until the Day whereon the Tongue of Grandeur shall proclaim: "The Kingdom belongeth unto God, the One, the All-Compelling!"

Thy letter hath come before Us and We have taken note of thine allusions therein. We beseech God to aid thee in that which He loveth and is pleased with, and to draw thee nigh unto the shore of the sea which surgeth in the name of thy Most Exalted Lord, wherein every drop proclaimeth that there is none other God but Him, and that He is verily the Creator of names and the Originator of the heavens.

O thou who asketh! When thou intendest to reach the sacred precincts and the Sinai of nearness, purify thy heart from all else but Him, then put off the sandals of idle fancies and vain imaginings that thou mayest behold with the eye of thy heart the revelations of God, the Lord of the Throne and of the dust. For this is the Day of revelation and witnessing—separation hath passed and union hath come, and this is through the grace of thy Lord, the Mighty, the Beloved. Leave question and answer to the people of dust. Soar on the wings of detachment unto the atmosphere of the nearness of thy Lord's mercy, the Most Merciful, the Compassionate.

Say: O people! The Primal Point hath been differentiated, the all-embracing Word hath been completed, and the sovereignty of God, the Overshadowing, the Self-Subsisting, hath been made manifest. Say: O people! Ye occupy yourselves with the rivulet while the sweet sea surgeth before your faces—what aileth you that ye comprehend not? Do ye speak of the knowledge ye possess after He hath appeared Who stood at the Point of Knowledge, from which all things have appeared and unto which they have returned

and reverted, and from which have appeared the decrees of God and the knowledge which had ever remained treasured within the protection of your Lord, the Most High, the Most Great? Leave allusions to their people and seek the station wherein ye shall find the fragrances of knowledge from its atmosphere.

Thus doth counsel you this servant, whose every limb and vein beareth witness that there is none other God but Him. He hath ever been in the heights of grandeur and glory and the summit of loftiness and majesty. And those whom He hath sent with truth and guidance—these are the Daysprings of His revelation among His creation, the Dawning-Places of His command among His servants, and the Recipients of His inspiration in His creation. Through them have the mysteries appeared, the laws been ordained, and the Cause of God, the Omnipotent, the Mighty, the Unconstrained, been made manifest. There is none other God but Him, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

O questioner! Know that people take pride in knowledge and praise it, yet this servant complains of it. Were it not for knowledge, the Beauty would not have been imprisoned in the Most Great Prison of Akka, nor would He have drunk the cup of tribulation at the hands of His enemies. Rhetoric has distanced me, the science of meanings has brought me low, mention of union has disjointed my limbs, brevity has become the cause of prolixity in my hardship and tribulation, morphology has turned me from rest, syntax has erased joy and delight from my heart, and my knowledge of God's mysteries has become chains around my neck. Despite this, how can I mention what you asked about the verses sent down from the heaven of might and grandeur, verses whose meaning has bewildered the minds of the wise and to whose heights the birds of understanding have failed to soar?

The wings of this bird have been clipped by the shears of envy and hatred. If this bird, whose primary and secondary feathers have been cut, could find wings to fly in the atmosphere of meanings and utterance, it would warble upon the branches of the tree of knowledge and exposition such melodies as would cause the hearts of the sincere to soar to the heaven of longing and attraction, where they would behold the effulgences of their Lord, the Mighty, the Bestower.

But now I am prevented from revealing what is treasured, from expanding what is condensed, and from disclosing what is hidden. Rather, we must conceal rather than reveal. Were I to speak of what God has taught me through His grace and bounty, people would disperse from around me and flee, save those who have drunk from the Kawthar of life from the cups of the words of their Lord, the All-Merciful. For every word sent down from the heaven of revelation to the Prophets and Messengers is filled with the pure water of meanings, utterance, wisdom, and exposition. Blessed are they who drink thereof.

However, since We have perceived from you the fragrance of love, We shall mention briefly what you have asked, that you may detach yourself from the people of metaphor who have turned away from the truth and its mystery, clinging instead to their own suppositions and idle fancies, even after it was revealed aforetime that "conjecture profiteth nothing against truth" and in another place, "truly some suspicion is a sin."

Then know that the sun mentioned in the blessed Surah has diverse applications. In its primary rank, in the station of divine unity and the ancient, heavenly sanctuary, it is a mystery of God's mysteries, a protection from God's protections, treasured in God's treasuries, concealed in God's knowledge, sealed

with God's seal. None has comprehended it save the One, the Single, the All-Informed, for in that station it is the Primal Will itself and the dawning of Divine Unity, shining forth by itself upon the horizons, illuminating whoever turns toward it. Just as when the sun rises, its radiance encompasses the world, except for lands that are veiled by some obstacle. Observe how lands without roofs and walls are illumined by it, while those with walls are prevented from its radiance. Similarly, behold how the Sun of Truth shines forth with the lights of meanings and utterance upon all creation. Whoever turns toward it is illumined by its lights, and their heart is brightened by its radiance and effulgence. But whoever turns away finds no portion thereof, for between them and it stands the veil of self and desire. Thus they remain far from the manifestation of the Sun of Truth that has dawned from the horizon of the heaven of names.

Then in another sense it [the word "sun"] is applied to the Prophets of God and His chosen ones, for they are the suns of His names and attributes amidst His creation. Were it not for them, no one would be illumined by the lights of divine knowledge. As thou observest, each of the peoples of the earth hath been illumined by one of these radiant Suns, and he that denieth hath been deprived thereof. For instance, the followers of Christ were illumined by the Sun of His knowledge until the Orb of the horizons dawned from the horizon of Hijaz. Those among the Christians and other peoples who denied Him were deprived of that Sun and its rays. Their very denial became as a wall between them and the Light that shone from the horizon of the Cause of thy Lord, the Mighty, the Help in Peril.

And in another sense it is applied to the friends of God and His loved ones, for they are the suns of divine guardianship among all creatures. Were it not for them, darkness would envelop the whole earth, save whom thy Lord willeth. And it hath diverse other applications. If ten scribes were to appear before Us and We were to dictate unto them for a year or two, they would witness their own impotence. And were it not for the denial of certain ignorant ones, We would extend the time further and the Pen of God, the All-Praised, would transcend all limitations.

Know thou that just as thou art convinced that there is no end to His words, be likewise convinced that their meanings also have no end—but this is known only to their Interpreter and the treasurers of their mysteries. Those who look into books and use them to oppose the Manifestation of divine authority are dead, not living, even though they walk and talk and eat and drink.

Alas! Alas! Were that which hath been treasured within the heart of Baha, of that which His Lord, the Lord of all names, hath taught Him, to be revealed, those whom thou seest on earth would fall senseless. How many meanings are there that words cannot contain! How many of them have no expression and have been given neither statement nor allusion! And how many of them cannot be uttered because their time hath not come, as it hath been said:

> "Not all that is known can be disclosed, nor is the time ripe for all that can be disclosed, nor are the people capable of hearing all for which the time is ripe."

And there are those whose mention dependeth upon knowledge of the Dawning-Places wherein We have expounded the sciences and revealed what was hidden. We beseech God to enable thee and assist thee to know the Source of knowledge, that thou mayest become independent of those who claim knowledge

without clear proof or illuminating Book. Hold fast to the Source of knowledge and its Mine, that thou mayest find thyself independent of all who claim knowledge without clear evidence or an illuminating Book.

Section 2: "And in another sense it is applied…"

And in another sense it is applied to the Most Beautiful Names, whereby each Name of God, exalted be He, becometh a sun shining upon the horizons. For instance, observe the Name of God "the All-Knowing"—it is a sun that hath risen from the horizon of the will of thy Lord, the Most Merciful, and its lights, effects and splendors shine upon the temples of knowledge. Know thou that any true knowledge thou findest with the learned ones who follow not their own desires, who acknowledge the Cornerstone of divine decree and hold fast to the firm Handle—know that it is truth and its knowledge is a ray from the rays of this Sun.

We have interpreted the Names and explained their mysteries, splendors, lights, outer and inner meanings, the secrets of their letters, and the wisdom of their composition in the Book We wrote for one of Our loved ones who asked about the Names and what they contain. Know thou that the Word of God, blessed and exalted be He, in its primary reality and first station, comprehendeth meanings that most people are veiled from perceiving. We testify that His words are perfect, and in each word of His are concealed meanings that none hath understood save His own Self and those endowed with the knowledge of the Book. There is no God but He, the Mighty, the Powerful, the Bestower.

Know then that the interpreters who have interpreted the Qur'an were of two kinds: those who neglected the outward meaning and interpreted it according to the inner meaning, and those who interpreted it according to the outward meaning and neglected the inner meaning. Were We to mention their statements and explanations, such weariness would overtake thee as would prevent thee from reading what We have written for thee. We have therefore omitted their mention in this place. Blessed are they who have taken both the outward and the inner meanings—these are servants who have believed in the all-embracing Word. Know that whoso taketh the outward meaning and abandoneth the inner is ignorant, and whoso taketh the inner meaning and abandoneth the outward is heedless, and whoso taketh the inner meaning while maintaining the outward meaning is a perfect sage. This is a word that hath shone forth from the horizon of knowledge—recognize its worth and value its price highly. We make mention of Our purpose through allusions in Our signs and words. Blessed is he who apprehendeth it, for he is of those who have attained.

Say: O people! By God, the Dove hath warbled on the branches, the Cock of the Throne hath crowed with wisdom and utterance, and the wings of the Peacock have spread in the Garden of Paradise. How long will ye slumber on the couch of heedlessness and error? Arise from the beds of passion and turn unto the dawning-place of the mercy of your Lord, the Lord of eternity and the Revealer of names. Beware lest ye object to him who calleth you unto God and His ways. Fear God and be not of the heedless ones.

Then know that the Blessed and Exalted One hath sworn to His Prophet by the sun of Divinity, the sun of Providence, the sun of the Divine Will, the sun of Purpose, the sun of Names, and by the lights of these

suns and their effulgences, their manifestations, their appearances, and their influences, and by the visible sun that shineth from the horizon of this exalted heaven.

“And by the moon when it followeth it”—and the moon is the station of Providence which followed the sun of Prophethood, that is, appeared after it to establish the Prophet’s Cause amongst the servants. Were We to mention the stations of the moon, thou wouldst find the book to be of great volume.

“And by the day when it revealeth it”—the intended meaning of the day in its primary reality is every day wherein appeared a Prophet from among God’s Prophets and His Messengers to establish His remembrance amongst His servants and to execute His laws among His creatures, wherein the Manifestation of the Cause revealed Himself to the manifestations of all things, and on that day the lights of the sun appear and it revealeth them in this sense, that is, in it and through it the sun of Prophethood illumined and shone forth.

“And by the night when it enshroudeth it”—the intended meaning of night is the veil of Oneness behind which was concealed the Primal Point, which, after Its descent from Its station, became established in the seat of Unity, the station of Primary Unity, from which came the flexible alif, and beneath the veil of Primary Unity It appeared with the moving alif, which is the upright alif, and the enshrouding is the veil, and that which is enshrouded is the Primal Point, which was the reality of the sun of Prophethood.

“And by the heaven and That which built it”—heaven hath diverse applications among the people of truth: the heaven of meanings, the heaven of mystical knowledge, the heaven of religions, the heaven of knowledge, the heaven of wisdom, the heaven of grandeur, the heaven of loftiness, the heaven of glory—and That which built it means He Who created these mentioned heavens and what thou seest outwardly.

“By the earth and its expanse”—The meaning of “earth” is the earth of hearts, which is vaster than earth and heaven, for the heart is the Most Great Throne for the establishment of thy Lord’s revelation, Creator of nations and Fashioner of bones. Verily it is the earth wherein God hath deposited the seeds of His knowledge and love, that from it may spring forth the ears of knowledge and certitude. Say: O people! Today is the day of sowing. Sow ye in your hearts, with the hands of certitude, that which ye have been given by your Lord, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. For “earth” there are countless meanings, and We have chosen but one of them. “And its expanse” means: and by Him Who spread it forth by His power and the sovereignty of His command.

“By the soul and Him Who perfected it”—The soul hath many ranks and diverse stations. Among them are the heavenly soul, the celestial soul, the divine soul, the godly soul, the holy soul, the assured soul, the content soul, the well-pleased soul, the inspired soul, the reproving soul, and the commanding soul. What is meant in that which was revealed is the soul which God made comprehensive of all deeds, whether of acceptance or rejection, of error or guidance, of faith or unbelief. “And Him Who perfected it” means: and by Him Who created it and established it.

“And inspired it with its wickedness and its righteousness” means He taught it and informed it of its wickedness—that is, the deeds which profit it not and distance it from its Lord and Creator—and its righteousness—that is, He inspired it with that which sanctifieth it from what is forbidden. In other words, He created it and made known to it the path of guidance and error, truth and falsehood, light and

darkness. Then He commanded it to abandon what was forbidden and to turn toward what was commanded.

“Successful indeed is he who purifieth it”—this is the answer to the oath, meaning that he hath prospered who purifieth it, who cleanseth it from imperfections and desires and from all that is forbidden in the Book. Consider those who have purified their souls in these days. By My life! They are the prosperous ones. They are men whom neither the world nor all that is therein hath prevented from turning toward the Straight Path. They are the exemplars of this blessed verse, who have made righteousness their garment and have clung to the hem of their Lord’s grace in these days wherein feet have slipped. We bear witness to that which God hath witnessed, and We acknowledge that which hath been sent down from Him. Verily He is the Truth, and after truth there is naught save error.

“And failed indeed is he who corrupteth it” means he hath lost who hath corrupted it, who hath neglected it and hath not purified it, who hath not restrained it from what was forbidden and hath not commanded it to what was enjoined.

“Thamud denied through their transgression”—Thamud, as mentioned in the Books, were a people to whom God sent Salih, peace be upon him. They denied him after he commanded them to good and forbade them evil. They followed not God’s command and obeyed not that which they were commanded, and abandoned God’s command and His ways until they hamstrung the she-camel.

“So their Lord destroyed them for their sin” means God was wroth with them and made them a lesson to the worlds. But in truth, whoever turneth away from the Truth is of Thamud, from whatever lineage he may be. Soon shall punishment encompass them even as it encompassed the factions of old. Verily thy Lord is the Mighty, the Powerful. And praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

We have not mentioned what the commentators have said in their interpretation of the blessed Surah, for their books of interpretation are readily available among the people. Whosoever wishes to examine their commentaries and explanations may consult their books. They have interpreted the sun as the visible sun, and likewise with the moon, and to the end of the Surah they have followed the path of the literal meaning and have contented themselves with what they possess. However, We have interpreted it in ways not mentioned in the books. We beseech God to make each letter of what hath been mentioned a chalice of meanings and knowledge, and to give thee to drink therefrom that which shall sever thee from all that His good-pleasure abhorreth and shall draw thee nigh unto the station which He hath ordained for His chosen ones. Verily, He is the All-Forgiving, the All-Merciful. And praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds.

Glorified art Thou, O my God! I beseech Thee by Thy Name through which all things proclaim Thy praise, to open the eyes of Thy creatures that they may behold the manifestations of Thy mighty oneness and the dawning-places of the Sun of Thy bounty. O Lord! Leave them not to themselves, for they are Thy servants and Thy creation. Draw them, through the Most Exalted Word, to the Dayspring of Thy most excellent names and the Treasury of Thy most exalted attributes. Thou art, verily, the All-Powerful over what Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the Almighty, the All-Wise.

BH00286: In the Name of Him through Whom the Herald…

Section 1: "In the Name of Him through Whom…"

In the Name of Him through Whom the Herald called out on the Day of Return: "The Kingdom belongs to God, the Lord of all beings!"

O Zayn! Upon thee be My glory and My loving-kindness! There hath come before the Wronged One the letter sent to thee by him who was named Husayn in the Book of Names. We testify that from this Most Exalted Horizon he hath attained the choice wine of revelation and, through the grace of his Lord, the All-Merciful, hath taken and drunk from the cup of recognition in His name, the Mighty, the Wondrous. We have read his letter and answered him with a remembrance before which all remembrances bow down, with an utterance around which all utterance circles, and with a Book that proclaimeth before the faces of the world:

> "The gate of heaven hath been opened and the Lord of Names hath come with the hosts of revelation and inspiration!"

Blessed is he who hath heard and attained, and woe unto the heedless!

O Husayn! Hear the call from the direction of the Wronged One—verily there is no God but Him, the Peerless, the All-Informed. He hath come for the salvation and life of the world. To this testifieth He Who proclaimeth in every state: "There is no God but Me, the Mighty, the All-Praised!" Thy letter hath attained unto the hearing of the Wronged One, and He hath sent down for every name mentioned therein that which beareth witness to His grace, His bounty and His mercy that hath preceded all who are in the heavens and the earth.

Jinab-i-Mir Muhammad-ʿAli, upon him be 66-9 [Baha'u'llah]:

O Pen! Make mention of him who was named Muhammad-ʿAli, that this remembrance may draw him near unto God, the One, the Single, the Peerless, the Mighty, the Generous. Blessed is the temple adorned with the ornament of detachment, and blessed is the head honored with the crown of godliness from God, the Lord of the worlds. Say: Shatter the idols of vain desire through the name of the Lord of all humanity, and follow not every deluded remote one. Say: O people! The Day hath come, and the Self-Subsisting calleth out from the most exalted horizon: Fear God and be not among the oppressors! Cast aside the sources of idle fancies, turning unto the Self-Subsisting Who hath come with an authority before which neither the hosts of Pharaohs nor the ranks of tyrants can stand.

Thus hath the Pen spoken when the Wronged One was established upon this exalted station. Take hold of the Book of God with the power from Him, then read what hath been sent down therein from One All-Knowing, All-Informed. The glory be upon thee, upon thy wife and thy son. We beseech God to assist them in what He loveth and is pleased with, and to ordain for them the good of the hereafter and of this world. Verily, He is powerful over all things.

Jinab-i-Mirza Abu'l-Qasim, upon Him be the glory of God:

O Abu'l-Qasim! He Who is encompassed by sorrows mentioneth thee that thou mayest thank thy Lord, the Master of the Day of Judgment. By the life of God! The Most Exalted Pen hath raised its shrill voice at all times, yet most of the people are heedless. They have not heard the Cry, nor the Call, nor the lamentation of those near ones who have lamented for what hath befallen Us at the hands of the oppressors. We counsel thee to fear God and to observe trustworthiness, which God hath made a wealth for His servants and a treasure for His creation. Verily, He is the Almighty, the Powerful. Give thanks unto God for that the Wronged One hath mentioned thee in this Great Prison. The glory be upon thee, upon thy brother, and upon whoso is with thee and hath attained unto the Kawthar of utterance from the hands of the bounty of his Lord, the Kind, the Forgiving, the Merciful.

Jinab-i-Ustad ʿAli, upon Him be the glory of God:

O Ali! The world hath been illumined by a Light that hath shone forth and gleamed from the highest horizon, yet the people have turned away therefrom and opposed it, following the sources of conjecture and idle fancy—they who have broken the Covenant and disbelieved in God, the Lord of all worlds. This is the Day wherein the Mount calleth out: "My Interlocutor hath come!" and the Light proclaimeth: "My Creator hath appeared!" The rapture of this Revelation hath seized all things, and the highest Paradise hath trembled with longing to attain the presence of God, Lord of the throne and of the dust, and Sovereign of this wondrous Day. Take hold of the Book of God with the strength that cometh from Him and say: "Praise be unto Thee, O Thou Who hast remembered me, and glory be unto Thee, O Thou Who hast honored me with the tokens of Thy Most Exalted Pen and remembered me when I was heedless of Thee. I testify that Thou hast appeared and hast manifested that whereby the dwellers of the graves have arisen, and the Dove of Revelation hath warbled upon the branch of the Mount. The appointed time hath come, and the abode of signs hath appeared through a manifest command."

Jinab-i-Ustad Hasan Sabbagh, upon Him be the glory of God:

O Sabbagh! Hear the call from the direction of Akka—verily there is no God but Him, the Single, the All-Informed. He hath created all things through a word from Him; He is the Powerful, the Mighty. We have preferred white above all other colors. Verily thy Lord doeth what He willeth and ordaineth what He pleaseth. It is the mother of colors in the Book of God, the Mighty, the Great. Blessed is he who is dyed with the dye of God, which is sanctification from the world and its colors and all that is therein. Thus hath spoken the Tongue of the Wronged One while in the hands of the oppressors. We counsel thee and those who have believed to show forth the utmost steadfastness in this Cause, whereby the feet of those who claimed knowledge without clear proof or manifest Book have slipped.

O My loved ones in Jowshaqan! Hearken unto the call of the Wronged One, Who hath borne all tribulations for the manifestation of God's Cause, the Lord of all worlds. We counsel you to wisdom and utterance, and to those virtues which We have made the hosts of the Cause in this mighty Announcement. Aid your Lord through goodly deeds and through that which We have revealed in a Tablet from whose horizon the light of your Lord's command, the Strong, the Powerful, hath shone. The glory from Us be upon you and upon the handmaidens of God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy.

O My loved ones in Badegan! We make mention of My loved ones in Badegan that the remembrance may draw them to the highest horizon and bring them near unto God, the Mighty, the Great.

Jinab-i-Mirza Mahmud, upon Him be the glory of God:

O Mahmud! We have heard thy call and have answered thee; thy name was present and We mentioned thee with a wondrous mention. Take hold of the Book of God with the strength that cometh from Him and say:

> "Praise be to Thee, O Thou the Goal of the world, for having caused me to hear Thy call and to behold the tokens of Thy Pen, and for having guided me to Thy path. I beseech Thee to aid me to be steadfast in this Cause whereby the skin of the deniers who heard and turned away when the All-Merciful came with a mighty proof hath quivered."

Let not the affairs of the world sadden thee, nor the doubts of any heedless one far removed from God hold thee back. Arise to serve My Cause with wisdom and utterance, then give thanks to thy Lord, the Compassionate, the Generous. He hath guided thee to His path and hath mentioned thee in His prison with the tongue of the Dayspring of His verses, the Dawning-place of His clear tokens, and the Source of His luminous, resplendent Command.

Ghulam-ʿAli, upon Him be the glory of God:

O Ghulam-ʿAli! Hearken unto the call of Him Who standeth before the faces of the world, speaking by the command of God, the Lord of Religions. We have arisen and summoned the servants unto that which thou wast bidden by the One True God, the Chosen One. The happenings of the world and the books of nations have not deterred Us, as doth testify He with Whom is the Mother Book. We have manifested the Cause and revealed the verses by the command of God, the Lord of all men. Blessed is he who hath gathered the fruits of My Lote-Tree and hath attained unto My Cause, at Whose appearance all necks were humbled.

Muhammad Aqa, upon Him be the glory of God:

O Muhammad! The Wronged One remembereth thee at this hour when His sighs have ascended and His tears have fallen by reason of what hath befallen the Cause of God from them that denied Him when He came with power and dominion. They awaited the days of the Manifestation, yet when the ocean of utterance surged in the realm of possibility and the Dayspring of the Cause appeared, they turned away and denied the proof and the evidence. We counsel thee and them that have believed in that which beseemeth the Lord of Days. Blessed is the strong one whom the might of the people hath not shaken, and the steadfast one whom the power of the wicked hath not deterred. Thus hath the Pen spoken when the Wronged One was in the Most Great Prison through that which the hands of the evil ones have wrought.

Muhammad Sadiq, upon Him be the glory of God:

O Muhammad-Sadiq! Hast thou heard the call of thy Lord when it was raised in truth, and hast thou beheld His signs when they encompassed the horizons? When thou findest the fragrance of that which

hath been revealed from My Most Exalted Pen, say: Praise be unto Thee, O Lord of all beings and God of the throne on high and of earth below, for having enabled me to turn unto Thee and to acknowledge that which Thy tongue hath uttered. I beseech Thee by Thy greatest signs and the manifestations of Thy Will amongst all created things, to make me and them that have believed to be among such as hold fast unto the cord of Thy commandments and laws. Then assist us, O our God, with the hosts of wisdom and utterance. Verily Thou art the Mighty, the Glorious, the All-Bountiful. Then ordain for us that which shall be a treasure with Thee. Verily Thou art the Mighty, the All-Munificent.

Badaqan—And We make mention of the servants of God there whose names were not mentioned before the Face, and We remind them of My verses and give them the glad-tidings of God's loving-kindness, the Lord of Lords. The glory from Us be upon them and upon the leaves who have clung to the Tree which was planted by the hand of power in the midst of Paradise. Is there any with hearing to hear the melodies of My Pen and the cooing of the Dove of My utterance upon the branches? Blessed is the servant whom the ornaments of the world have not kept back from the Lord of nations, and the heart that hath been illumined with the light of faith.

Section 2: "Zavarih—O Husayn! Upon thee be…"

Zavarih—O Husayn! Upon thee be the glory of Husayn. We have heard thy call and what thou didst mention regarding the enkindlement of God's loved ones in Qaf. We bear witness that they have attained when the All-Bountiful came with the kingdom of utterance. We make mention of them with My remembrance and remind them of My verses and give them the glad-tidings of God's loving-kindness, the Lord of the final end. Thou didst mention him who ascended to the Supreme Companion, who was named ʿAbdu'r-Rahim in the Book of God, the Lord of creation. He ascended with the light of certitude and the Concourse on High received him with the banners of verses, and We mentioned him before his ascension and after it with that whose fragrance shall not cease to endure as long as the Book of God, the Mighty, the All-Bestowing, shall endure. And We make mention of his sons at this time and We beseech God to aid them to be so steadfast that neither the hosts of the world nor the doubts of them that denied when the Desired One came with might and power shall deter them.

To Aqa Mirza Mihdi, son of him who ascended unto God:

O Mihdi! Hear thou the call of the Wronged One. Verily He hath appeared before all faces without veil or covering. Hast thou not heard His call betwixt earth and heaven? Hast thou not witnessed His power which neither the might of princes nor the oppression of the divines who denied the Manifestation when He came from the Mount of Knowledge with God's proof, the Self-Sufficient, the Most High, could weaken? Husayn made mention of thee, and We too make mention of thee as a token of Our grace, for I am verily the All-Knowing Rememberer. Blessed art thou for having turned toward the horizon of the Cause when the Wronged One was in the most desolate of lands. We beseech God to aid thee to be steadfast and to reinforce thee with the hosts of utterance that thou mayest establish thy Lord's Cause amongst all peoples. We make mention of thy wife and give her glad tidings of her Lord's mercy which hath preceded the earth and the heavens.

O My loved ones! The Wronged One calleth unto you from the Most Great Prison with that which shall exalt God's Cause, the Revealer of verses. I have witnessed in the prison that which I love not to witness and have heard that which I love not to hear. To this testifieth He with Whom are the treasuries of wisdom and utterance. That hath befallen Me at which all things have lamented, yet the people are wrapped in heedlessness and veils.

Aqa Siyyid Mahmud, upon Him be the glory of God:

O Mahmud! He Who hath come with an irrevocable decree from God, the Supreme Ordainer, the Self-Subsisting, maketh mention of thee. Husayn made mention of thee, and We too make mention of thee that thou mayest give thanks unto thy Lord, the Mighty, the Loving. Arise to serve the Cause of thy Lord, then remind the servants of that which hath appeared and shone forth from the most exalted horizon. Thus hath the Mother Book spoken forth in this praiseworthy station. When the wine of My utterance hath taken hold of thee, say:

My God, my God! I testify that Thou hast manifested Thy Cause, guided Thy servants, made known unto them Thy path, shown them Thy horizon, and sent down unto them Thy proof. Some have turned away and some have turned toward Thee. I beseech Thee, O Lord of the worlds and Goal of all peoples, by Thy Most Great Name, to aid Thy servants to turn toward Thee, to acknowledge that which Thy tongue hath uttered, and to act according to what Thou hast revealed in Thy Book. Verily Thou art the Omnipotent over what Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the Truth, the Knower of things unseen.

The loved ones in Hamadan: We make mention of the land of Ha and Mim, that God's loved ones who believed in Him when He came with His choice-sealed wine may rejoice thereby. O My loved ones in that land! We made mention of you before with a mention by which hearts were attracted, and We make mention of you at this time when the Wronged One is between the jaws of wolves through that which the hands of every malicious oppressor have wrought. Aid ye your Lord through utterance. We have lifted the decree of holy war by the sword and have made it to be waged through refinement, goodly character and knowledge. Blessed is he who hath cast away his vain desire, taking hold of My preserved tablet.

O Exalted Pen! Make mention of My loved ones in Dawlatabad and give them the glad-tidings of the loving-kindness of their Lord, the Possessor of existence. O My loved ones in that place! Hearken unto My call. Verily, there is none other God but He, the Single, the One, the Powerful, the Mighty, the Loving. We have mentioned you before and have sent down for you that which caused the Most Exalted Paradise to be stirred. My inscribed Tablet beareth witness to this. We have veiled your names as a wisdom from Our presence and as a protection from Us. We beseech God to aid you to champion His Cause through remembrance and utterance, and to make you ensigns of love amongst all people. Verily, He is the One Who has power over whatsoever He willeth through His word "Be" and it is. We behold those who have turned towards the Countenance and We hear their mention of this Cause whereby hearts have been perturbed and souls have lamented. The glory rest upon you and upon those whom neither the ranks of the world nor the cannons and armies have deterred.

The loved ones of God in Khalajabad: O Temple of Utterance! Turn thy face towards My loved ones in Khalajabad, then bring forth from the ocean of utterance the pearls of wisdom and explanation. Verily,

Thou art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest and within Thy grasp are the reins of all affairs. O loved ones of God in that place! We have mentioned you before and have acquainted you with God's extended path, and We have revealed for you that which has brought solace to the eyes of the people of the cities of knowledge and wisdom. To this beareth witness He Who summons all to the horizon of the Revelation from God, the Lord of the unseen and the seen.

Give thanks unto God for having aided you to turn towards Him and for having sent down for you that whereby your mention shall endure amongst His servants. Verily, He is the Powerful over what was and what shall be. Nothing whatsoever escapeth His knowledge. He witnesseth and seeth, and He is the Speaker, the Hearer, the Mighty, the Beloved. Soon shall the cawing be raised in that place. This is what We have informed you of before, did ye but know. This is the Day which Muhammad, the Apostle of God, and before Him the Gospel, the Torah, and the Psalms have foretold. Blessed is he who hath laid hold on the Most Great Cord and clung to the hem of the mercy of his Lord, the Sovereign, the Self-Subsisting.

The loved ones of God in Shahabad: We make mention of My loved ones in Shahabad and counsel them to perform pure deeds for God, the Lord of the worlds. Hearken unto My call. Verily, it will draw you nigh unto God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy. Beware lest the doubts of the cawing ones debar you from the straight path of God. Take hold of the Book of God with the strength that proceedeth from Him and follow not every heedless sinner from among those who have violated God's covenant and His testament by following the promptings of the Evil Ones. Thus hath the Pen spoken when the Wronged One was in His mighty prison. Blessed are ye for having turned towards the Most Exalted Horizon when every transgressor and doubter turned away. Ye have drunk the choice wine of utterance from the hands of the bounty of your Lord, the Most Merciful. We counsel you to be steadfast in this Most Great Cause whereby the hearts of the deceivers have been perturbed.

The loved ones of God in Sultanabad: O Thou Who art wronged! Make mention of Thy loved ones in the land of Sin and Lam and give them the glad-tidings of the loving-kindness of their Lord, the Compassionate, the Generous. O My loved ones in that place! We have mentioned each one of you in the Crimson Scroll by My Most Exalted Pen as a bounty from God, the Powerful, the Mighty. We mentioned you before with that which all the treasures of kings cannot equal. Ye have attained unto the traces of the Most Exalted Pen, to this doth testify He with Whom is the clear Book. Rejoice, then give thanks to your Lord, the Most Merciful, for this great bounty. We have mentioned the names as a command from Us. Verily your Lord, the Most Merciful, is the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. We beseech Him to aid you in His remembrance and praise, and in steadfastness in this wondrous Cause.

O Husayn! We have made mention of the loved ones of God in Nun and Jim in various Tablets. Their names were present before the Wronged One, and We revealed for each one of them that which brought solace to the eyes of the sincere ones. From this station We send Our greetings to them and bid them to deeds and virtuous conduct. Thus have We counseled Our loved ones before and after. Blessed are they who act!

The glory from Our presence be upon His loved ones and chosen ones who were moved neither by the tempests of hatred nor the storms of adversity. They heard the Call from the Most Exalted Horizon and said:

> “Here am I, O Thou Goal of the mystics! Here am I, O Thou Who art worshipped by all who are in the heavens and on earth!”

BH00320: This is a remembrance from Us to those who…

Section 1: “This is a remembrance from Us to those…”

He is the Most Ancient, the Most Great, the Most Exalted, the Most High!

This is a remembrance from Us to those who have held fast to the cord of God, the Sure, and have clung to the hem of the robe of their Lord, the All-Forgiving, the All-Bountiful.

O Solomon! The fragrance of the All-Merciful hath been wafted throughout creation. Turn unto Him with a luminous heart. We have seen thy name and have revealed unto thee this perspicuous Tablet that thou mayest give thanks unto thy Lord, the Mighty, the All-Praised.

O Judah! The Lord of Names in the prison of ʿAkka hath turned toward thee with a countenance whereby the heavens and earth were illumined. Blessed is he who hath seen, and woe unto the heedless! O Solomon! We have seen thy name and have made mention of thee with a remembrance from whose horizon hath shone the sun of thy Lord’s loving-kindness, the Mighty, the All-Wise. We counsel thee and them that have believed with that whereby the Cause of God, the Lord of all worlds, may be exalted.

O Mihdi! The Lord of inner meanings maketh mention of thee with a remembrance whereby the fragrance of utterance hath been diffused throughout all creation. Give thanks unto thy Lord for this great favor. Beware lest the affairs of the world withhold thee from the Lord of Eternity. Cast away what the people possess and take what thou hast been bidden by thy Lord, the Commander, the Ancient of Days.

O Chayim! We have turned toward thee from the precincts of the Prison and have sent down unto thee that wherefrom those near unto God perceive the fragrance of God, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting. Take hold of the verses of God with the strength that proceedeth from Him and say:

> “Praise be unto Thee, O Thou Who hast remembered me in Thy Most Great Prison and hast turned toward me from Thy far-distant station.”

O Lalehzar! We make mention of those who have believed in God and have turned unto the Most Sublime Horizon. Blessed is he who hath seen with insight and heard with hearing ears the call of God, the Sovereign, the Mighty, the All-Loving. Beware lest human affairs grieve thee and withhold thee from the Lord of Decree. Thus have We commanded thee. Act according to what thou hast been bidden for the sake of God, thy Lord, the Most Merciful, the Compassionate.

O Nasir! The Almighty hath heard thy call and hath answered thee with exalted words and brilliant verses. By the life of God! He shall suffice thee throughout the dominion of earth and heaven. O Joseph! We make mention of thee even as We made mention of thy father. Verily, thy Lord is the All-Remembering, the All-Informed. Rejoice in My favor unto thee and My remembrance of thee in My Great Prison.

O Isaac! The Lord of the Covenant maketh mention of thee on this Day of Meeting. Give thanks and say: "Praise be unto Thee, O Thou in Whose grasp is the dominion of existence." We counsel those who have believed to manifest deeds and virtuous character. Verily, thy Lord doeth what He willeth through His word "Be," and it is.

O Joseph! Hear the call from the Most Exalted Word in the prison of ʿAkka: "There is none other God but Me, the Almighty, the All-Powerful." We have sent the Messengers and revealed the Books as a grace from Us, and We are verily the All-Bountiful, the All-Wise.

O Benjamin! The All-Wise maketh mention of thee from this Most Exalted Station which God hath made as a canopy for Himself, that thou mayest give thanks unto thy Lord, the Mighty, the All-Knowing. Arise to serve the Cause with supreme steadfastness. Say:

> "Glory be unto Thee, O Lord of Names! I beseech Thee to make me steadfast in Thy Cause and to hold fast unto Thy Most Great Name."

O Mihdi! The Promised One hath come and the Herald hath proclaimed: "The Kingdom is God's, the Lord of the Day of Judgment." Among the people are those who have turned away, those who have denied, those who have pronounced judgment against Us without clear proof or illuminating Book, and those who have forsaken the world out of their longing for the Most Great Name. Thus hath the matter been decreed, and most of the people are among the ignorant.

O Jacob! The story of Job hath returned, and the Intended One is in grievous affliction. Sorrows have encompassed Him from all directions by reason of what the hands of the idolaters have wrought. O people of God! Be not grieved by what hath befallen Us. God shall soon exalt His Cause through His grace, and He is verily the Almighty, the All-Powerful.

O Mihdi! Verily We summon the world unto light while they call Me unto fire. By this have the dwellers of the Most Exalted Paradise wailed, yet most of the people are fast asleep. Reflect upon the greatness of thy Lord's patience despite His power and His mighty dominion.

O Yari! We have mentioned thee before and at this hour with that whereby thy remembrance shall endure in the Book of God, thy Lord and the Lord of thy forefathers. Say: O people of the earth! By God, the Friend from the Kingdom of utterance doth call out: O peoples of the earth! The Glorious One hath come with a manifest Cause. Cast aside the books of the world and hold fast unto this wondrous Book. By God! Verily it is the Mother Book, speaking throughout the world and calling all unto the Most Great Name. To this testifieth every discerning knower. Arise to serve the Cause with a power that the hosts of the world cannot weaken. Verily thy Lord is the Ordainer, the All-Wise.

O Khudadad! Hearken unto that which the Lord of Creation calleth out on the Day of Return:

> "Verily there is none other God but Me, the Mighty, the Bestower."

Blessed is the servant who hath turned toward the Most Exalted Horizon, and woe unto every heedless and remote one. Take thou the chalice of recognition in My Name, then drink therefrom through My wise remembrance. Thus did My Most Exalted Pen move when the Wronged One was in a mighty fortress.

O Solomon! The Lord of all creation mentioneth thee that the rapture of remembrance might seize thee and bring thee to a station wherein naught is heard save the verses of thy Lord, the Almighty, the All-Powerful. Beware lest the clamor of the divines hold thee back from the Lord of Names, or the might of princes from the Creator of the heavens. Soon shall all thou seest today perish, and there shall remain for thee what hath flowed from the Most Exalted Pen in this wondrous Tablet. We make mention in this station of him who heard My call, turned unto My face, attained unto My days, and ascended unto the Most Glorious Companion, being among the triumphant. He was named Aqajan in the Tablet of the All-Merciful. Blessed is he and blessed is he who remembereth him according to what was revealed for him from the presence of a trusted Speaker. We have remembered him before and after, and I am the All-Knowing Rememberer.

O Moses! The Speaker of Sinai hath come, and the Temple of Revelation proclaimeth, saying:

> "Look and thou shalt behold Me, the One powerful over whatsoever I will through My blessed, mighty, and great Word."

Be thou vocal in My remembrance, steadfast in the service of My Cause, turned toward My face, and advancing toward My luminous horizon.

O Chayim! The Bestower hath come, riding upon the clouds, yet the people behold and do not give thanks. He Who was hidden in the Books of God and inscribed by the Most Exalted Pen hath appeared, yet most of the people do not understand. The divines have taken for themselves lords besides God. Indeed, they are the ignorant ones, though they perceive it not. Say: O people! The Self-Subsisting hath come and proffereth unto you His sealed wine. Come ye, and be not among the slumberers. The Most Great Name hath appeared for the life of the world, yet most of the nations do not comprehend. Blessed is he who hath laid hold on the Most Firm Handle and clung to the hem of the robe of his Lord's loving-kindness, the Sovereign of all sovereigns. Be thou in such wise that neither the ranks of princes nor the intimations of divines grieve thee. Thus doth the Pen of Revelation counsel thee as it moveth upon the Tablet.

O Rubin! This is the Day wherein the Call hath been raised from the Most Exalted Horizon, yet the people do not hear. That which was hidden in knowledge and treasured in the repositories of thy Lord's power, He Who overshadoweth what was and what shall be, hath been made manifest.

O Aaron! Say: The Speaker (Moses) prostrated before the face of God, and Aaron circled round His throne, and the Spirit proclaims:

> "The Object of all desire has come! The Kingdom is God's, the Protector, the Self-Subsisting!"

We counsel thee and those who have believed to show forth the supreme steadfastness in this Cause whereby the hearts of the men of insight have been troubled and the foundations of those who denied the Witness and the Witnessed have been shaken. Say: O children of the Friend! By God, the Glorious One has come and calls you to a station wherein the call has been raised from God, the Sovereign of the Kingdom. Grieve not at anything, place thy trust in God in all matters. Verily He protects whomsoever He willeth through His authority, and He is the Truth, the Knower of the unseen.

O Moses! The Tree of the Cause has been raised up and calls out to the world: “O Moses! Verily I am God, the Lord of the worlds!” This is the right valley on the right side of the Garden of Paradise, and it proclaims with the most exalted call: “There is no God but Me, the Mighty, the Great!” When thou hearest My call and findest the sweetness of My utterance and knowest the mysteries of My Kingdom, arise and say: “Praise be unto Thee, O Lord of the world and Educator of the nations, for having made known unto me the Dawning-Place of Thy signs and having manifested unto me Thy clear tokens. I beseech Thee by the Most Great Sign and the manifestations of Thy Cause in creation to make me steadfast in Thy remembrance and praise amongst Thy servants. Verily Thou art the Omnipotent over what Thou willest, and within Thy grasp are the reins of all who are in the heavens and on earth.”

Section 2: “O Solomon! Be wise in My days. Beware…”

O Solomon! Be wise in My days. Beware lest things prevent thee from the Lord of Names or the might of princes veil thee. Arise and say: “God is our Lord and the Lord of all on earth and in heaven.” Thus doth thy Lord teach thee from the Kingdom of eternity that thou mayest thank Him and be of them that stand firm. Thus have We mentioned thee and sent down for thee the verses and expounded them in truth and dispatched them unto thee. Give thanks and say: “Praise be to Thee, O Thou the Goal of the worlds!”

O Ishmael! Dost thou know what hath appeared in My age and in My days? How many sacrifices have We sent to the place of martyrdom who gave up their lives in this straight Path! We have a sacrifice in Iraq who slept turning toward the House, and his throat was cut in his longing to meet God, the Mighty, the Beautiful. And We have a sacrifice in Sad—by the life of God, the Concourse on high were amazed by him—and likewise another sacrifice, and before them another sacrifice. Verily thy Lord recounteth unto thee what hath appeared in His mighty Day. And We have a sacrifice in Ta who was circled round by the Concourse on high, who was named “The Wondrous” in My Wondrous Book.

And We have another sacrifice who was named ʿAli in the Book of God, the Lord of the worlds. He advanced to the place of sacrifice with such steadfastness as amazed the denizens of the highest Paradise and those who circle round the throne of God, the Great. He proceeded, and with him proceeded the angels and the Spirit and the souls of those brought near and the sincere ones. He reached the station and took the cup of martyrdom in the name of the Lord of Names and drank thereof with spirit and fragrance, with a love that enraptured the dwellers of the highest Paradise and the Lote-Tree of the utmost boundary. Blessed is he and pleasant it is unto him and unto those who remember him through what the All-Merciful hath revealed after his ascension. He verily is the Rememberer, the Forgiving, the Generous.

By God the True One! The Spirit (Jesus) hath circled round My Cause and the Speaker (Moses) calleth out before My face, yet the people are among the dead. They were not awakened by the Call nor by the Cry when it was raised in truth. Verily thy Lord is the Expositor, the Mighty, the Praised. And I have sacrifices in the land of Ta and Ya, to which testifieth the Lord of Names and the Creator of heaven from His exalted station.

O ʿAziz! The Mighty One remembers thee, He Who accepted abasement in the path of God, the Mighty, the All-Knowing. Say: By God, abasement in His path is glory, poverty is wealth, mercy is comfort, and

adversity is healing. Blessed is he who attains unto that which My Most Exalted Pen hath uttered, and woe unto the oppressors who have denied the rights of God and His loved ones, and have wronged in such wise as caused the dwellers of the cities of names and those who circle round My mighty throne to lament.

O Solomon! Hearken once again to the call of thy Most Glorious Lord, which hath been raised from the highest horizon, and be thou of the thankful. He hath sent down for thee that which shall endure as long as the kingdom and the realm endure. Of this doth testify the Preserved Tablet in His presence.

O Elijah! The Lord of all creation remembers thee and counsels thee to remember God in all conditions. Be thou steadfast in the Cause and speak forth that which the All-Merciful hath revealed in the Book. Read what hath been sent down from the Kingdom of Utterance. It will draw thee to the court of nearness, of holiness, and of reunion. Grieve not over anything and place thy trust in all matters in God, the Lord of Lords.

O Ezekiel! The Glorious One hath come, and the Friend is at His right hand, calling:

> "O people of the Torah! The Revealer of verses hath come with clear evidences. Beware lest what ye possess prevent you from Him by one of Whose revelations the dwellers of Sinai were thunderstruck and the limbs of the righteous did tremble, save him whom the hand of power did rescue and raise to the most exalted station."

Take hold of the Book of God with the strength that cometh from Him, then make mention of Him amongst the servants with wisdom and utterance.

O Pen! Make mention of him who is named Khudadad that he may give thanks unto his Lord, the Lord of creation, Who remembers him in His Most Great Prison—this station wherein the Tongue of Grandeur doth proclaim: "The kingdom belongeth unto God, the One, the Chosen!" Thus have We sent down the verses and manifested the evidences as a grace from Us, and verily I am the Generous, the Bountiful. Blessed are they who have not broken the Covenant of God and His pledge; these are indeed the people of this station.

O Solomon! The Wronged One makes mention of thee and counsels thee with that which will make manifest the station of man in the contingent world. Hold fast unto the Most Great Cord and cling to the hem of thy Lord, the Lord of the Return. Thus hath flowed the river of knowledge from the Pen of thy Lord, the All-Merciful, that thou mayest give thanks and arise to serve the Cause in the evening and at dawn.

O My Most Exalted Pen! Make mention of him who hath been named Mirza Aqa, and give him the glad-tidings of the loving-kindness of his Lord, the Mighty, the All-Bountiful. Say: By the life of God! A single verse from among the verses of God outweigheth the treasures of earth and heaven. Blessed is he who hath attained unto His mention, hath turned unto His horizon, hath arisen to serve Him, hath uttered His praise, and hath soared in an atmosphere wherein naught can be heard save the rushing winds of the mercy of his Lord, the Mighty, the All-Forgiving. Thus hath the Dove of the Pen warbled upon the

branches, as a token of grace from God, the Manifestation of all religions. Glory be unto you, O children of the Friend and heirs of Him Who conversed with God, from One Who is the Daybreak.

O Most Exalted Pen! Make mention of those whose names were not mentioned before the Face, and say: O people of God! We counsel you with that which will draw you nigh unto Him, and We strengthen you to remain steadfast in this Cause whereby the feet of the mystics have slipped. We have heard your cries and lamentations by reason of that which hath befallen you in the path of God, the Lord of all lords. We have been with you in all conditions. We bear witness and We see, and verily I am the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing.

Grief hath seized you when ye heard the gloating of the enemies. Rejoice ye now, for the Lord of all beings speaketh unto you. He is with those who love Him and make mention of Him at eventide and at dawn. We counsel you to be trustworthy, religious, to perform goodly deeds and to manifest praiseworthy conduct, and with that which will exalt you to the most sublime station. That which ye behold shall perish, but that which We have built with the hands of knowledge shall endure. It changeth neither from the sun nor from the rains. Rejoice in My remembrance of you. By the life of God! It is a treasure for you with God, the Lord of all beings. The glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My Kingdom be upon you and upon those who have held fast unto certitude, turning away from idle fancies.

We make mention of My handmaidens and the sons and daughters of My loved ones, as a token of grace from Me, and I am the Generous, the All-Bountiful. O handmaidens of God! The Wronged One remembereth you from His prison cell and counseleth you to manifest pure devotion unto God, the Lord of all men. It behooveth you to hold fast unto the cord of God and to cling to the hem of His mercy, which hath preceded all who are in earth and heaven. O sons and daughters of My loved ones! Rejoice in My remembrance, then give thanks unto your Lord, the Mighty, the Unconstrained. Soon will there come unto you one who will croak to lead you astray from the path. Leave him behind you, turning unto God, the Lord of the Day of Judgment.

Thus hath the Sun of loving-kindness shone forth from the horizon of grace, and the verses have been sent down in truth. Rejoice in this bounty which hath no equal in the possession of His servants. He who hath attained My presence and soared in My atmosphere and visited the Temple of the Ancient of Days as your representative hath appeared, and this blessed deed, whose decree hath been sent down in the Book of God, the Manifester of clear evidences, hath been accepted before the Face. The glory that hath dawned resplendent from the horizon of My loving-kindness be upon you and upon those who have cast away what the people possess, yearning for that which is with God, the Revealer of verses.

BH02186: Praised be God, Who hath made Himself known unto…

Section 1: “Praised be God, Who hath made Himself known…”

Praised be God, Who hath made Himself known unto us, taught us His Cause, made plain unto us the paths of truth and certitude, and manifested, for the sake of His bounty unto all the worlds, that which it behoveth Him to bestow. We thank Him in every state with that thanksgiving whereof utterance hath been made in His Book and the knowledge of which He, through His grace and sovereignty, hath imparted

unto us. And may exaltation and glory rest upon those who have stood firm in His Cause, voiced His praise, attained unto the honour of hearkening to His call, turned toward the horizon of His bounty, and drawn nigh unto the ocean of His Most Great Name.

Praised be God, Who hath distinguished the realms of creation through the Most Exalted Word; through it have idle fancies been made to ebb and the oceans of knowledge to surge. Exalted is the Ever-Abiding One, Who hath illumined the world with the Most Great Name and ordained for the nations that which draweth them nigh unto the court of might, grandeur and glory, and unto the dawning-place of power, strength and majesty. From all eternity He hath been sanctified above mention and praise, and He shall ever remain exalted above that which the people of creation may speak concerning Him. Since the path unto Him is cut off, and every proof and testimony falleth short of His Reality, we describe Him only as He hath described His own Self by His own Self for His own Self, and we make mention of Him only with that wherewith He hath made mention of Himself through Himself for Himself: verily, no God is there but He, the All-Subduing, the Self-Subsisting.

And now: The servant hath attained unto the bounty of your letter, which was a token of your love for the Beloved of the worlds and of your turning toward the Object of the knowers. I lauded God for that whereby He hath confirmed you in making mention of Him among His creatures and in your rising up to diffuse His traces throughout His dominion. We entreat our Lord, the All-Merciful, to cause us at all times to hearken unto that wherewith the Dove warbleth betwixt earth and heaven, and to ordain for you the good of the life to come and of this first life.

The details of that honoured one's correspondence were submitted in the Sacred Presence. He said: God willing, their words will be such as draw hearts and cause souls to take wing in the atmosphere of meanings and exposition. The substance that enkindleth the world of the Divine Will and the Word of God is His Will and His Word themselves; they verily are the red sulphur that hath been, and shall be, the cause of the ignition of all things. God grant that the cold hearts of heedless souls may, through this divine sulphur, be set aflame and turn toward the Shore of the All-Merciful.

Thus far. As to what you had written regarding the Risali-i-Suluk [The Seven Valleys], which hath been revealed in the Persian tongue: this treatise was sent down, ere the dawning of this Revelation, in the language of the people. The reason for its revelation was that a certain person—learned and mystically minded, and of the people of Sunni Islam—had, while in Iraq, addressed a petition to the Sacred Court. Wherefore, in accordance with divine wisdom, this treatise was revealed in a form current among that people.

In this day, whosoever turneth his face toward the Most Exalted Horizon and becometh truly conscious of what is set forth therein concerning the Seven Valleys or Seven Stages, hath attained them all; for in this Manifestation the veils of idle fancy have been rent asunder. All, once they have attained unto the knowledge of the True One, are commanded to acquire sciences that are profitable, and to abandon vain and illusory pursuits. We beseech God to assist His servants to attain that which He desireth for them of the wondrous tokens of His bounty, His grace and His loving-kindness. Verily, He is the Protector of them that turn unto Him and the Lord of the sincere. These utterances have been heard from the tongue of Truth—blessed are they that attain thereunto.

The honoured Muhammad-Mustafa is among those whom God hath succoured to arise in His service; and erelong shall that which he hath sown in Iraq spring forth in full verdure, for He verily is the Wise Cultivator.

As for the shop and what concerneth it: that which hath come to pass will, God willing, prove good, and we beseech the True One to cause a goodly outcome to appear therefrom. It is incumbent upon all the loved ones in that region to strive with utmost earnestness and endeavour for the proper conduct of your affairs. Although the True One hath ever been, and remaineth, all-sufficient, yet the merit of righteous deeds returneth unto the very souls who perform them. We entreat God to aid them in love for you and in whatsoever rejoiceth thy tender and noble heart.

Moreover, this lowly, mortal servant hath had, and hath, no knowledge of the condition of the honoured sister, nor hath he heard from the Tongue of Eternity any word concerning her that would bespeak her turning unto God or the reverse thereof. On one of the holy nights, while present before the Throne, a Tablet, special to Jinab Mahmud, her esteemed brother, was sent down; and in that Tablet this blessed verse was revealed—His word, exalted be His majesty:

> "Verily We have made mention of thee and do make mention of thee in truth, for We love faithfulness, and We have made it one of the greatest of Names. Ponder that which hath flowed from the Most Exalted Pen, that thou mayest find therein the fragrance of the Beloved."

When this servant was, in the Holy Presence, engaged in transcribing it, lo, a fire was suddenly enkindled within his heart; for I called to mind the night when I was in the house of Jinab-i-Dhabih—upon him be the glory of God—and she too was there. It was from her that I first heard the mention of the Beloved, as she was reciting those verses which had been sent down from the Dawning-Place of the Bayan, the Revealer of the verses: "Rashh-i-ama az jazbih-yi-ma mirizad …" (Tis from Our rapture that the clouds of realms above are raining down) unto the end. With rapture, ecstasy, and inward attraction did she chant them, such that, from the wafts of her melodies, it was as though the very mouldering bones were stirred to motion by the attraction of the divine Bayan; and this servant clearly beheld how the power of that voice encompassed all the people of creation and summoned them all to the seat of the manifestation of guidance.

Convey, on behalf of this mortal servant, words of glorification unto her, and say: What hath become of those wondrous strains, those impregnable melodies, that yearning and that burning in the love of the Luminary of the horizons? Since this verse concerning faithfulness hath descended from the Source of the Lord of Names, this servant, out of regard for faithfulness, hath ventured to make so bold, in the hope that, in some wise, she may once again be drawn and enkindled by the marvellous divine harmonies and the songs of the birds of the crimson Ark, that she may attract all the handmaidens of the All-Merciful and draw them unto the Friend.

And I further called to mind that day when she had taken up a sword and, unveiled, had wished to leave the house, crying aloud in the name of God, until the people of that household seized and restrained her. Say unto her: Today is the day of that same attraction and longing, for this is the Naw-Ruz of days and the

Prince of all seasons. O world, surge forth from thy very soul; cry out from thy breast; bestir thyself with all thy frame; and from thy lips quaff the wine of the remembrance of the Beloved. Arise in His love and cry "drink and be inebriated", that sense and consciousness may be carried away, and that the hidden celestial Herald may, within the hearts, become vocal with the mention of the Beloved.

These words have I set forth, having regard unto faithfulness; for, since in the beginning I drank the wine of the Bayan of the All-Merciful from the beaker of her mention, I have desired now that she may taste, from this most wondrous, most exalted, most holy and most sweet chalice, somewhat of the state of this servant.

Strange it is that, on this Most Great Day, when all the world is enkindled with the fire of the Word of the Ancient King, no news is heard from that land, nor is any warmth made manifest. Yet, God willing, that well-beloved one will kindle the friends with the remembrance of the Lord of lords—that is, those souls who, through the forged and "Ja'fari" breathings, have been shut out from the shore of the Divine Oneness. Say unto them: Ye apprehended not the Word of Truth, nor did ye distinguish the Right from the wrong. Ye did not even ponder so far as this: What became of those promises of Mulla Ja'far, who, every three months, would assure his intimates of a "Ja'fari" manifestation—that is, the manifestation of his own self? All are aware of this matter, and yet they have remained unawakened. O thou beloved, remind the people with these utterances, that haply they may not, in this Most Great Day, be deprived of the grace of the Ancient King.

Section 2: "The people are weak, and the veil…"

The people are weak, and the veil is thick. Where is the hand of certitude that, in the Name of the Lord of all the worlds, will rend it asunder and cause the light of the heart to shine forth from behind that veil? In any case, let that cherished one not desist from teaching with wisdom and with utterance; for, erelong, this world shall be ended and pass away. God willing, ye must, through the confirmations of God, arise to serve, that its effect may be made manifest in the realm of existence. We beseech God to succour those who have turned, yet then have halted, and not to debar them from the ocean which hath encompassed whomsoever is in the heavens and on the earth. Those hapless ones are unaware: false and lying traditions have estranged those souls who had turned in receptivity. Yet we hope that all may drink from the cup of nearness and quaff from the crimson wine of certitude. Blessed are they, then blessed are they! May it be well for them, then well for them!

In accordance with the command, it is that the will of the late Jinab Haji—upon him be the glory of God, His mercy, His care, His grace and His bounties—should be carried into effect; for We desire not that, after him, aught be done contrary to his good-pleasure. Thus shall the blessings be sent down upon you from the heaven of the bounty of your bounteous Lord. And in whatsoever he hath made no bequest, let recourse be had to the Book of God—that is, the Most Holy Book—and let men act in accordance with that which hath been sent down therein.

Thus far. As to what ye had written—that, should circumstances so require, certain exalted utterances which would conduce to the education of the people and the encouragement of souls might be set down and forwarded, that they may be printed in the aforesaid paper—this servant would state: whatsoever

hath, in very truth, been the cause of the training and the means of the progress of mankind hath, from time immemorial and shall forevermore, flowed from the Pen of the Most High. Yet the many have been, and still are, heedless of it; and the mind of the world hath taken but scant share from that rose-garden of meanings which is the source of order and of moderation.

Now, with phrases that are the cause of trial, of tumult, and of the constriction of the world, do they speak, and in them do they glory. Even though, in these days, the face of the world is set toward recklessness, licence and irreligion, yet erelong shall there appear, in the world of the Kingdom, keen-sighted eyes and attentive ears, and the wide-spread carpet shall be rolled up, even as it hath been rolled up aforetime. Certain terms are now current among the peoples in foreign lands and elsewhere, and all alike, learned and unlearned, make mention thereof, and each layeth claim to the qualities they imply—such words as “civilization”, “freedom”, “humanity”, “love”, “unity”, “fraternity”, “liberty”, “equality”, and the like. Lengthy and wide-ranging explanations and commentaries on these expressions are set forth in the newspapers of the world.

In such a station it behoveth the Tongue of Truth to utter but this word: “Bring forth your deeds, if ye be of the truthful!” What is witnessed today is this: that if a tree were to come into the hands of the people beneath whose shade the tokens of true humanity and whatsoever lieth above it might be set forth, they would surely hew it down and burn it. We entreat God—glorified and exalted be He—for the rising of the sun of justice from the horizons of the hearts of men, that haply they may speak the word of truth and act in accordance therewith.

And as to what ye have written concerning Jinab Mirza, may God, exalted be He, aid him: God willing, through his loving and compassionate counsels, the inmates of the hell of ignorance and oppression may attain unto the bliss of justice and equity. We beseech Him, exalted is He, that Akhtar may become a mirror for the people of insight, that they may behold therein the present condition and that which is veiled behind the curtain of the future.

Moreover, the full text of your letter was submitted in the Sacred Presence. He said: That which should appear from the Pen hath already appeared; whatsoever should be spoken hath been spoken; and whatsoever should be made manifest in the assemblage of the world shall, if God so willeth, be made manifest. For the present, patience and silence are most beloved and are accounted among the most meritorious of all deeds. Thus far.

He is the Most Holy, the Most Glorious

It is submitted that the book of that honoured one—which, in very truth, was a volume of love for the Lord of creation, and a scroll of affection and unity—illumined the eyes of this most lowly servant, and refreshed and rejoiced his heart. The wafting of its remembrances strengthened the inmost mind of the soul, and the sweet breezes of its tidings bestowed gladness upon the spirit. This servant had thought that, in reply to that distinguished personage, he would set forth at length a description that would indicate and attest the degrees of sincerity, affection, unity and love; but, through lack of time, he was deprived of this bounty. Hereafter Jinab Samandar—upon him be the glory of God—will relate the details.

By night and by day this servant is occupied; therefore on this occasion only this brief letter hath been submitted. Pardon is hoped.

Likewise the honoured master, Jinab Mulla ʿAbdu'r-Razzaq, upon him be the glory of God, hath written an epistle to this servant. Never was there opportunity to send him a separate reply. The company who attained and entered the Sacred Court are all witnesses thereto; wherefore, convey to him the glorification, remembrance and greetings of this servant. God willing, at all times may he be busied, with wisdom and with utterance, in giving victory to the Cause of the All-Merciful.

Furthermore, the letter from the honoured Mirza Sami' Khan and Mirza Rahim Khan, upon them be the glory of God, hath been received. Praise be to God, from the heaven of the divine Will a Most Mighty, Most Holy Tablet, specially for them, hath been sent down and despatched; and likewise a Tablet hath been revealed especially for the loved ones of God who dwell in Kakun. Let that honoured one recite it, in particular, for the friends in that place.

Moreover, regarding the arrangement that was made there on behalf of the travellers: it was laid before the honoured Ismu'l-Jud, upon him be the glory of God, and He graciously accepted it. It is evident that such matters as pertain to charity and goodly deeds have ever been acceptable at the heavenly Throne; and this particular provision—especially inasmuch as it hath occurred in that honoured house—hath been, and will remain, beloved. Yet, in accordance with the command, no soul among the friends is to make any demand upon any one; whosoever, of his own accord, hasteneth forward and attaineth unto this bounty—blessed is he! God will richly recompense him with twice what he hath expended in His path; verily He is the All-Forgiving, the Most Bountiful.

Convey most fervent praise to all the friends, and, on behalf of this mortal one, submit unto them: The Kawthar of life is flowing—drink, drink thereof! The true bounty is descending—partake, partake thereof! The ocean of favours is surging—boil therewith, cry out therefrom! And, in the assemblage of the people of Baha—who are enraptured with the crimson wine of remembrance and praise, and are, by reason of the burning of separation, in lamentation—gladden this poor servant and thrall with a single draught.

Glory be upon you, O people of Baha.

BH00357: May my spirit and being be offered up…

In the Name of the One True God!

May my spirit and being be offered up as a sacrifice unto Thee! From the intimations of the divine utterances, this servant hath understood that with the emergence of a fresh ordeal, the breezes of the All-Merciful have been cut off from the hearts of most of humanity, and they have been deprived of the shore of ancient glory, save those who have detached themselves wholly from all things and have held fast to the Most Firm Handle in these days wherein the standards of His decree have been raised aloft and the cawing of the ravens hath been lifted up between earth and heaven. These are they whose hearts God hath sanctified from the winds of self and passion, and hath made them to be numbered with the pure ones.

For a long time all paths were cut off and all ways were blocked. Now that one of the friends is departing, I trouble you with these few words. You have observed that although in all the Tablets the tribulations of these grievous days were foretold, yet all were found to be disturbed. The purpose of these announcements from the Pen of the All-Powerful was that all might be informed, lest on that Day they turn away from the King of Oneness due to worldly events. Verily there is no escape from divine destiny, and in the time when the winds of tests blow, none shall find refuge. All are seen as dried leaves before fierce winds, except those whom thy Lord willeth.

Although all were forbidden from causing corruption—by God besides Whom there is none other God—such was the prohibition that in some Tablets it was revealed that should harm befall this servant, it would be more acceptable than for any of those associated with the Truth to harm anyone. As you have observed in all the Tablets, He says that victory is through wisdom and utterance, not through contention, objection, warfare and conflict. Nevertheless what was destined came to pass. Things reached such a point that these actions became an excuse for the deniers of the Bayan to cling to, attributing to the Truth all that they had perpetrated during this long period. Yet you know that in the books written by the deniers previously, they explicitly and without ambiguity prescribed the killing of all souls and issued such rulings.

From the first arrival in Iraq, the Ancient Beauty forbade everyone, especially in this land where after arrival He repeatedly prohibited all from conflict, contention, bloodshed and other reprehensible and unacceptable deeds. Nevertheless each person committed, according to their own desires, things that were forbidden in all the Tablets. Thus most unknowingly commit all that is prohibited, and the harm of all returns to the Truth, as all know that whatever occurs they say is from the Source of the Cause. Especially in this wondrous Revelation which is afflicted between internal and external enemies. I know not what has happened that people have entirely forgotten all they have seen and heard of the deeds of Truth, while the unseemly actions of the deniers have become so prominent in their sight.

Now observe the deeds of the True One and those of other than He. You have been informed of the details of the Ancient Beauty's arrival in Istanbul and have heard from everyone how He departed with such honor, wealth and independence, and for four months associated with no one and made no demands, such that His conduct was praised even by enemies, let alone by the friends. For six months the one who associated partners with God went to Istanbul on behalf of the Manifestation of the Letter ʿAyn and the Essence of Nun and the Primal F, entering every door and beginning complaints until they inquired from Istanbul from the Holy Presence what was being given to these people in every city.

He replied: Give these greedy souls all that you send, that perhaps they may cease their disgraceful behavior, and the fire of their greed would be stilled, and they would not send women to beg daily, nor run about for a morsel of bread. They sold the Truth and all that pertains to it for a few dirhams. Although there were only nine persons who had come to this land, Siyyid Muhammad and that known person claimed, "We are twenty," until they were given fourteen tumans to Siyyid Muhammad himself and twenty-six tumans to that mentioned person from the funds that were specifically sent for the servants. Nevertheless, they write to various places saying, "We have no bread and are destitute."

By God, double what the government was sending was being spent in every city and given to all. Now observe the deed of Truth and the deed of its opposite. I know not what garment they have clothed this deed in, that they mention it among the people of the Bayan.

O my Siyyid and my beloved, you know not how deceitful and crafty they are, and how confident they are that whatever they say will be heeded. Thus one day, when one of his wives forbade him concerning certain matters, saying that it was not befitting for him to commit certain acts, he replied,

> "Be assured, whatever I write, the people of the Bayan will accept it."

By God, besides Whom there is none other God, what I have here submitted is the pure truth, and indeed he understood correctly, as you observe how different these two deeds are from each other—that one the path of the All-Merciful, and this one the path of Satan. From the one wafts the fragrances of divine detachment, and from the other emanates satanic exhalations. Yet no one is aware. He has denied the money for which he sent you the receipt and which is now in his possession. What more can I submit? And you know not what vile accusations that impure soul made against the Ancient Beauty in the great city. However, praise be to God, they are absolute nothingness and utter non-existence. Although your grief is known, and all matters are visible in the presence of the King of Names and Attributes, still the heart awaits news from you outwardly.

Say to his honor Dhib on my behalf to convey greetings, and inform him that these are the days mentioned in the Tablets, and likewise the Point of the Bayan (may the spirit of all else be sacrificed for Him) foretold that all would turn away from the Most Holy Shore, as now the clamor of the ungodly has been raised and each soul has returned to his own station. In these days the ungodly have spread new rumors, as someone has claimed that verses are not proof, and likewise they have rejected miraculous deeds and manifestations of grace, knowledge and perfection—for their purpose has been to deny whatever has appeared from the Truth. That misbeliever was asked what then constitutes proof of the Truth, and he said something else. By God, they have clung to such a vain imagination that the imaginings of all nations and peoples of the earth are as nothing compared to their fancy.

Now observe how the Point of the Bayan (may the spirit of all in the kingdoms of existence be sacrificed for Him) removed such imaginings, yet these ungodly souls have returned to them. It seems they have taken stupidity, deceit, lies, calumny and begging as proof, and counted hatred, rancor and hypocrisy as evidence. Now passing over all this, say to the opposers that if you have not seen that imaginary being, you have seen Siyyid Muhammad Isfahani whom you have taken as a guide, while turning away from the Truth through whom you have witnessed and understood all divine proofs. O people of fairness, say by what evidence have you taken as guide such a one from whose countenance the signs of misbelief and error are manifest? Although such a person is fitting for people, as most inhabitants of earth from various sects are still idol-worshippers.

Moreover, this much hath been known and witnessed: that this servant hath not sought the things of this world, nor cherished any desire for leadership. Even so have I myself served the people of the Bayan, and still do serve them; I have been the servant of all. For fourteen years I have consorted, by day and by night, with that veiled soul. Yet, notwithstanding this, the word of this servant is held of no account,

whereas the word of Siyyid Muhammad Isfahani—who, at most, in ʿIraq met him but in two or three gatherings, and was never in the least informed of any matter—is heard and accepted, although they have ever disclaimed one another and held each other in derision, as indeed most have witnessed during this journey of exile.

Consider now this imaginary being. Reflect upon him: after the corruption he wrought in the land of Ta, he fled and concealed himself in Iraq. By God, beside Whom there is none other God! such was his fear that, when certain of the loved ones came to Iraq and, in the presence of the Ancient Beauty, sought a meeting with him, he would say:

> "Whence is it known that these souls are believers and bear love, and are not spies? Perhaps they have come solely to discover my whereabouts and report them unto mine enemies."

So it was that whenever the slightest tale or rumor arose, he would take flight.

And now, throughout all this period during which, out of fear for his life, he hath hidden himself in women's garments, he layeth claim to detachment, and ascribeth unto God all that which he hath inwardly wrought. This, though the Ancient Beauty hath remained manifest in the midst of enemies, and all are aware that each year he would summon a virgin from the outlying regions. By God, the Almighty! I have neither heard nor seen that any soul hath passed his days in this world in such ease and indulgence as he. Yet now he writeth what he writeth and saith what he saith.

I cherish the hope that Your Excellency may wholly sever yourself from this company and remain occupied with the praise of the Self of God. By God! I have no aim save this: that I long to admonish the loved ones of God, that haply the sincere may not be veiled by the illusory coverings of these temples of idolatry—beings whose true reality is made manifest by their deeds.

Likewise convey my greetings to his honor N.S. and say that this is a day wherein the breaths of steadfastness and certitude must waft from pure hearts, for these are the days about which they have foretold that soon a pack of wolves will emerge from the thickets of hypocrisy. They have also foretold that Satan will appear in different forms in every land—to some in the form of written sheets, to some in the form of messengers, and to some in the form of letters. In short, he has appeared in all forms until that which was revealed in the Tablets is fulfilled. Furthermore, God willing, your honor should remain steadfast in the Cause of Truth to such a degree that all are amazed. As the way was blocked, no bold step was taken until now, and even now only a brief mention is made until, God willing, a detailed account can be presented later.

Convey my greetings to his honor Z.M. and say that by God, besides Whom there is no other God, the Truth has informed of what was sent to you and to the one who sent it to you from the renowned city. One year ago, in a special Tablet addressed to him—which your honor may have seen since copies of it may exist in that land—some of the passages revealed in this connection are these, exalted be His grandeur:

> "Soon there shall come before you that which will cause the Youth to show aversion, and you will be commanded by a command. Then turn not towards it and leave it behind you by the

> power of your Lord, the Everlasting, the All-Wise. This is of the tidings of the unseen which We have informed you with truth that you may act according to what you have been commanded by the All-Informed Commander. All this is from My love for you, and all things, of what has been and will be created, bear witness to this, and then this Faithful Pen."

Again, out of love for you, it is submitted that God willing, you should remain firm in the Cause of God and not be deprived of the breaths of the All-Merciful by Satan himself. By the Truth, if you would reflect even briefly on recent events, you would confirm this servant and become steadfast in the Cause of God. Blessed are they who are firmly rooted. And if in these days you would examine those Tablets that were previously revealed and sent to your honor, it would be most beloved, for some matters were foretold to your honor personally. Blessed are they who read and who perceive.

Furthermore, convey infinite greetings to his honor J., upon whom be the praise of God. The intention was to submit a special letter to each of the gentlemen, but in consideration of current circumstances, this has been postponed.

And convey to the friends of God, both men and women, who are today seated upon the cushions of steadfastness, the greetings of this evanescent servant, particularly to your brother and those who are related to your honor.

And further, two brief exalted Tablets have been revealed from the Most Great Scene specifically for your honor and for J, and have been dispatched. And the spirit and glory and might and splendor be upon you and upon those who are today among the steadfast in the Cause of God.

BH11866: May my spirit be sacrificed for thee! The flowing…

He is the Most Holy, the Most Glorious

May my spirit be sacrificed for thee! The flowing pen of your holiness has stirred all pillars and roots. Willingly have we drunk from its cup the wine of love and joy. And since it indicated the good health of your eminence, it brought the utmost gladness and delight, and was presented before His face. This is what the Tongue of Grandeur spoke: We beseech God to strengthen him at all times, draw him near in all seasons, and grant him what hath been ordained for him from the All-Merciful. He is verily the Mighty, the Bestower.

Regarding what had been written inquiring about the divine utterances in the assembly, that which remains in this servant's memory is hereby presented: On the first night, at the time of the evening prayer, He proceeded to the Pasha's assembly where a large gathering had congregated, all in utmost trepidation and anxiety. The Ancient Beauty reclined at the head of the assembly and remained entirely silent, as the attendees were occupied in consultation and discourse among themselves. None accompanied Him to that assembly save His Holiness the Most Great Branch, may my spirit be sacrificed for the dust of His holy steps. Then the Pasha arose and stated that "You should proceed to another location, as we now wish to interrogate these prisoners." Thus did the Beauty of Unity proceed to another place known as the administrative chamber. In that place, the Two Most Great Branches, Aqay-i-Aqa Mirza Muhammad-Quli, Aqa Muhammad-Ali Isfahani, Aqa Muhammad-Javad, and Aqa Muhammad-

Husayn ibn Haji Ali-ʿAskar were present before Him, along with some officers and others from the palace. He remained there until the seventh hour, continuously revealing verses of grandeur. Among other things, He said to this servant, “Do you remember the verses that were revealed the night before?” Then He recited those verses in the most exalted tone, and those verses are:

In the Name of the Everlasting, the Eternal, the Mighty, the Great

The ocean of tribulation hath surged, and its waves have encompassed the Ark of God, the Help in Peril, the Self-Subsisting. Fear not, O Mariner, the tempestuous winds, for He Who causeth the dawn to break is with thee in this darkness that hath enveloped the worlds. Put thy trust in God under all conditions, and fear not the blasts of the winds of hatred. Take refuge in God, thy Lord, the All-Powerful, the All-Knowing. He protecteth whom He willeth through His authority; He is verily the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

In the midst of darkness, the Face was radiant with a light that encompassed all who are in the heavens and on earth. In that state, We summoned all creation unto God, and the gathering of those who disbelieved in God when He came with a wondrous Cause did not frighten Us.

The thief hath stolen what was revealed from the Throne and presented it to those who rule over the servants. Thus did that remote misbeliever. Say: Die in thy fury, O ignorant one! Dost thou imagine that thou canst outstrip Us? Nay, by My Name through which the fragrance of the Spirit hath wafted over all things small and great! We delivered the Cause through Our messengers, for verily We were powerful. Then We spread it through the hands of those who turned away. The scheming of schemers shall not harm it.

The slinking whisperer came with My Book before the people, thinking thereby they would assault the Dayspring of the Cause and thereby degrade the station of God before all else. Thus did his soul entice him, and the word of punishment from the presence of the Mighty, the All-Encompassing, was fulfilled against him. Say: Thereby is His Cause exalted, His verses spread abroad, and this Remembrance elevated, whereby every wise matter hath been ordained.

Would that the servants would gather against Us and shed Our blood in this straight Path! We have sacrificed what We possessed in the path of God, as attested by the tribulations We are in, and behind them the Pen whereby the Cause of God, the Mighty, the Wise, hath been established. Say: I await the day wherein I shall behold Myself among the parties of the armies of the oppressors. By God! Then shall they hear what they have never heard before, and see what no eyes of those gone before have seen. He is verily the Ruler over what He willeth, and He is the Strong, the Mighty.

Say: O lowly gnat! Canst thou soar with the Dove in this atmosphere wherein the birds of the world have never soared? All that befalleth Us is a mercy unto Us, as every discerning believer doth testify. The atoms weep at Our affliction, while We are in manifest joy. We have manifested gladness from the horizon of sorrows. He doeth what He willeth and ordaineth what He pleaseth.

At that time, they paid no attention whatsoever to the officials. The Blessed Countenance was turned toward the Most Great Branch and the Greater Branch, may my spirit be sacrificed for them both, and

some of the loved ones who were present in service. Then the ocean of the All-Merciful's utterance surged forth. Among other things He said:

"God, the Blessed and Exalted, revealed to one of His Prophets in His revelation: 'By My glory and majesty! I shall surely cut off the hope of every hopeful one who hopes in other than Me, clothe him with the garment of disgrace before all people, and remove him far from My grace and relief. Does My servant hope in other than Me in times of hardship, while its key is in My hand? What is wrong with Me that I see My servant turning away from Me when I have given him what he has not asked of Me? Should I be asked and not be generous? Never! Does not generosity and munificence belong to Me? Are not this world and the next in My hands?

If everyone in the heavens and earth were to ask Me the equivalent of the heavens and earth, and I were to grant it, this would not diminish My dominion by even as much as a gnat's wing.'" And similar utterances which are mostly not remembered continuously flowed from the All-Merciful's lips. "He partook of the cups of utterance from the wine of thy Lord, the All-Merciful's mention." What can I say of how the signs of power, grandeur and sovereignty poured forth and descended on that blessed night! "The Salsabil of utterance was bestowed upon all contingent beings, the ocean of generosity sprinkled upon the nations, and the mystery enshrouded in mystery was revealed to all in the unseen and visible realms." Many of the utterances have completely vanished from this servant's memory. Some that remain in mind have been presented.

Later, at the seventh hour, one of the officers came and took away the Ancient Beauty, the two Most Great Branches, and Aqay-i-Aqa Mirza Muhammad-Quli. The Ancient Beauty and the Greater Branch were placed in a location adjacent to the prison, Aqay-i in another place, and the Most Great Branch in the prison under strict guard. This servant and the other friends were imprisoned under strict guard in a very dark place in the same building.

On the second night, a telegram came from the governor and they changed the Ancient Beauty's location to a high domed chamber above the prison. This was at the time of the evening prayer, and the Most Great Branch, the Greater Branch and Aqay-i were also in the Most Holy Presence. The stay in the dome was thirty-eight and a half hours. Then again on Thursday, at the fourth hour after sunrise, they summoned them to the building for questioning. While proceeding to the assembly, the Tongue of Grandeur uttered these words repeatedly:

> "You have taken hold of your own principles and cast the principles of God behind your backs. What is wrong with you that you do not understand?"

After the Pasha and the members of the assembly arrived, they apologized saying that they were obliged to investigate since three people had been killed and all the people of the city were frightened and terrified, therefore the law must be followed. Apparently the poor man had no knowledge even of the law.

When they inquired about His blessed name and homeland, stating that according to law these questions must be asked and recorded, He declared: "It is more evident than the sun." When asked again, He said: "It is not befitting to mention the name. Look at the government decree which you have." Then, with

utmost gentleness, they requested that He Himself declare it. Thereupon, the Temple of Grandeur sat upright upon the chair and spoke with the tongue of power and might: “My name is Baha’u’llah and My dwelling place is Nur.” Then the Ancient Beauty turned to the Mufti and said, may His grandeur be exalted: “Had you known, We would have caused you to hear the cooing of the Dove of Grandeur upon the branch of the Divine Lote-Tree, that you might understand the meaning of ʿServitude is a substance, the essence of which is Lordship.”’

Those present were stunned by this eternal Word of God. Then, addressing all present, He said: “What is the purpose of this gathering and these questions and answers? If you wish, I will acknowledge what is your intention and the desire of your hearts, for I do not wish to remain in this world even for a moment.” And He recited verses from the Surih of the Kings, including this blessed passage: “I have never passed by a tree, but My heart addressed it saying: ʿO would that thou wert cut down in My name, and My body crucified upon thee in My Lord’s way.”’ During His utterance, the foundations of the All-Merciful were seized with trembling. Then He arose and the Beauty of the All-Knowing turned toward another place outside the gathering.

O my master, what can I say? It was a wondrous day and a wondrous time. In some souls the Sun of the Word of God shone forth and they showed forth love. In truth, this servant is incapable of mentioning the divine utterances. The author of the Mathnavi has mentioned something appropriate to this station:

That discourse which the Prophet spoke that day, If it should strike the night, would turn it day;

That dark night would become bright as the morn, But I cannot speak that sacred tongue now born.

You know what says the sun in Aries To herbs and plants in gardens such as these;

You know what says that pure and flowing stream To plants and flowers that on its borders gleam.

Verily, this servant was and shall ever be powerless to make mention of the divine utterances and heavenly terms.

Subsequently the Pasha sent word requesting a return to the house and sought pardon for what had transpired. They said return to the original prison was preferable as some were imprisoned there. Certain ones came into His presence and submitted that the townspeople were in commotion and the prisoners could not be brought out—it would be better to wait a few days. Then they returned to the house at eleven o’clock in the day.

From the beginning of departure from the sanctuary until the final return thereto, sixty-nine and a half hours had elapsed: five and a half hours’ stay in the serai the first night, eighteen and a half hours in the prison adjoining the barracks, thirty-eight and a half hours in confinement in the tower above the barracks, and seven hours’ stay in the serai the second time. In truth it was observed that this letter had become very lengthy, therefore I have confined myself to this much, although the fire of love cries out “Is there more?” and by whatever means possible seeks to make mention and cause trouble. We beseech God to assist your honor and this servant and all the friends to remember and praise Him. Verily He is powerful over all things.

As to what you wrote concerning Muhammad Mustafa, upon him be the Glory of God, having sent a copy of the Beirut newspaper—its origin was not from Beirut but was printed in London. The details are that some Europeans came and strove earnestly to attain the presence but were not accepted. They spent some days in the service of the Most Great Branch—may my spirit be a sacrifice unto the dust of His sacred feet—and after returning to their countries, they recorded the details which were published in newspapers. In Beirut they translated the London newspaper which was in English into Arabic and printed some parts, while refraining from mentioning others for fear of the government, as in the original newspaper which is now in this servant's possession they wrote of the afflictions as well.

Similarly newspapers came from Prussia where they also gave details and questioned how the Sublime State had not acted according to this matter but rather had arisen to cause harm—all of these are in this servant's possession. However, after the recent events, a malicious person from this land sent a letter to the director of the Beirut press, and that poor man unknowingly printed it in Al-Najah. Although in his own mind what he wrote was out of enmity, in reality he proclaimed the Cause without understanding. Regarding this the blessed verse was revealed:

> "Verily We have proclaimed the Cause through the agency of Our messengers, for verily We were powerful. Then We spread it through the hands of those who turned away. Verily the scheming of the schemers shall not harm it."

Furthermore I request that you convey the expressions of evanescence, nothingness and sincerity of this transient servant to each of the friends, especially to Zaynu'l-Muqarrabin, Haji Abdu'l-Majid, Aqa Muhammad-Rida, Aqa Muhammad-Sadiq, and Aqa Abdu'llah—convey to all the Most Glorious and Most Wondrous greetings. The Branches of the Divine Lote-Tree remember your honor with wondrous and sublime mention, and likewise the friends trouble you with expressions of boundless sincerity.

Verily the spirit, glory and splendor be upon you and upon those with you and those who love you.

The servant 66 [of God] Dated 20 Safar

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BH00370: This is a remembrance from Us for him who…

Section 1: "This is a remembrance from Us for him…"

He is the All-Witnessing, the All-Informed.

This is a remembrance from Us for him who hath attained the lights of the Divine Countenance and heard the call of the Wronged One whilst He was in this great Prison. Hearken yet again unto the summons, for it strengthens thee and draweth thee nigh unto God, the Lord of all worlds.

O Siyyid Qabl-Mihdi! We have made mention of thee, caused thee to hear, and disclosed unto thee a bounty from Our presence, that thou mayest give thanks unto thy Lord, the One Who ruleth over

whatsoever is in the heavens and on the earth. Say: By God! The dwellers of the Mount have circled round the Manifestation; and when they awoke they exclaimed:

> "We bear witness that Thou hast appeared, and hast brought forth what was hidden in the Book and treasured in the hearts of the Messengers."

Beware lest the turning away of the people—those who have denied the Proof and testimony of God and repudiated this Most Great Announcement—hinder thee.

O Siyyid Qabl-Hashim! When in this very hour the shrill voice of My Pen is raised, the angels and the Spirit descend to hearken to that which hath been sent down from the presence of God, the Lord of all worlds. God hath made this station the place of circumambulation for the Concourse on high, whilst most men remain in heedlessness. They have cast the Book of God behind their backs, clinging instead to the idols that are in their hands. They have broken His Covenant and His Testament; verily, they are, in His perspicuous Book, among the greatest of losers. Where are the ears that they may hear the shrill of the Most Exalted Pen which hath been uplifted in this lofty station? Where are the embodiments of steadfastness, that they may arise to champion this mighty Message? Where are the eyes that they may behold the horizon of the Manifestation in this rank, wherein the Tongue of Grandeur proclaimeth: "The kingdom is God's, the One, the All-Informed"? Thus have We made mention of thee, even as We made mention of thee aforetime in the gathering. Give thanks, and say: "Praise be unto Thee, O Desire of them that truly know!"

O Hasan! Say: O concourse of deniers from among the people of the Bayan! By what proof have ye believed, and by what evidence have ye turned away from this Cause, through which the ocean of divine knowledge hath surged within the realm of being before the faces of all religions, and the Lote-Tree, planted in the Supreme Paradise, hath cried aloud: "Fear God, O people, and be not of the rejecters"? He for Whom the Books of God in former times gave glad tidings hath indeed come, and of Whose mention the tongues of the Messengers have spoken. O Hasan! Take hold of the Book of God with power. Let not the might of the wrongdoers weaken thee—those who claim faith in the Bayan yet deny its Revealer. Verily, they are among the most abased. The Glory from Our presence rest upon thee and upon thy brother. Remind him, on Our behalf, and give him the glad-tidings of My mercy which hath outstripped every lesser and greater thing.

O Muhammad Qabl-Baqi! By God! The gate of heaven hath been flung open, and the Lord of the Kingdom of Names hath come forth, summoning all unto that which bringeth them near unto Him. Verily, He is the Most Bountiful, the All-Forgiving, the Most Merciful. Hasan—upon him be My glory—hath stood before My face and made mention of thee, whereupon We, in turn, have remembered thee, that thou mayest give thanks unto thy Lord, the All-Powerful, Whom neither the wrong of the wrongdoers hath hindered nor the might of the idolaters made afraid. He arose before all faces and cried:

> "O people! Fear God, and be fair in this Announcement whereof Muhammad, the Messenger of God, and, before Him, every faithful Messenger, did give you tidings. He hath come for your salvation and for the rectification of your affairs; verily, He is the All-Powerful, the All-Knowing,

the All-Wise. Cast aside your idle fancies in the days of your Lord, and then turn with hearts made luminous toward the dawning-place of certitude."

Thus hath the Tongue of Grandeur spoken in this most exalted station, which God hath made the Greatest Outlook among mankind and hath called, in His wondrous Tablet, by the Most Beauteous Names. Glory be upon thee, and upon him who is named Jawad. We counsel him and those who have believed—through whom their stations have been exalted among the peoples—for he is indeed a sincere counsellor, the All-Knowing.

O Rida! Hearken thou unto My call. By the life of God! Wert thou to hearken unto it as is meet and right, it would uplift thee to a station wherein neither the winds of doubt nor the hints of such as have disbelieved in the Day of Reckoning could stir thee. Give thanks unto God, thy Lord, inasmuch as the Wronged One hath turned His face toward thee from this distant quarter. And when thou beholdest the billows of the ocean of Thy Lord's mercy and findest the sweet savours of His utterance, then say:

"O my God, my God! Unto Thee be praise for that Thou hast opened the doors of hearts and adorned them with the light of Thy knowledge, and unto Thee be thanksgiving, O Lord of Names, for that Thou hast made mention of Thy loved ones in Thy prison, before Thy servants who heed Thee not. O Lord! By the breezes of the dawn of Thy Manifestation, whereby the dwellers of the graves have arisen at Thy command, make me firm in Thy love, that the doubts of the people and the allusions of them that have denied Thy Cause and repudiated Thy bounty may not withhold me. Verily, Thou art the All-Powerful, the All-Subduing, the Self-Subsistent."

O Zayn al-Ábidin! The Wronged One maketh mention of thee at this moment with that which draweth thee nigh unto the City of Baha, in whose very atoms are heard the words: sovereignty, power, might and choice. Unto God, the Desire of the sincere, be all praise, whenever thou hearest the shrilling of the Pen of the All-Glorious. Say:

"O my God, my God! Unto Thee be praise, inasmuch as Thou hast strengthened me to recognize Him Who hath manifested Himself for the quickening of Thy servants and for their preservation from whatsoever debarreth them from drawing nigh unto Thee, from holding fast unto Thy cord and clinging to the hem of Thy bounty. O Lord! Thou beholdest the hungry at the gate of the kingdom of Thy grace, the thirsty before the Euphrates of Thy mercy, and the poor beneath the shadow of the canopies of Thy favour. I entreat Thee, by the ocean of Thy knowledge and the heaven of Thy bounty, to make me, in all conditions, one who speaketh Thy praise, gazeth toward Thy horizon, and is well-pleased with what Thy Pen of decree hath ordained. Verily, Thou art He Who, by His word Be', bringeth all things into being."

O Ghulam Qabl-Husayn! The Kingdom of the Kingdom hath descended, yet the people perceive it not. The Realm of Might calleth aloud, but men lend not an ear. The Mother Book speaketh, and the Mother of the Bayan lamenteth, and yet most of the people understand not. He at Whose behest the ocean of divine knowledge hath surged throughout the realm of being, at Whose command the orb of the Bayan hath risen from the horizon of proof, and by Whose revelation the verses have been sent down and the

clear tokens made manifest—Him have the people denied, for that they have followed idle fancies and vain imaginings. Say: Were it not for the Glory—Baha—of Him Who hath manifested the Cause in the mortal world of creation; of Him Who speaketh before the faces of princes and divines; of Him Who sendeth down that which maketh the very limbs of those who disbelieved in God, the Lord of the unseen and the seen, to quake and tremble—were it not for this Baha, how would the truth of the Cause be made known? The Glory from Our presence be upon thee and upon thy brother. Magnify him on Our behalf, and remind him of this mighty, wondrous Cause.

O Ahmad! Is there any soul who will renounce all save God and lay hold of that which hath been enjoined in this irrevocable Tablet? Is there one who will arise to make mention of the Wronged One, severed from all that are on earth? Is there any of might whom the doubts of the people of the Bayan—those who have turned away from God, the Lord of existence—shall not weaken? If thou drinkest the Kawthar of My utterance, traced by My Pen, then say:

> "O my God, my God! I entreat Thee by Thy might, Thy protection, Thy greatness and Thy power, to guard me from the mischief of the doubts of Thine enemies—those who have denied Thy proof and Thy testimony, turned away from Thy signs that have encompassed the world, and disbelieved in Thy Manifestation, Thy rising and Thy sovereignty. Verily, Thou art powerful to do what Thou wilt. There is no God but Thee, the All-Forgiving, the Tender."

O Muhammad! The cloud of bounty longeth to pour upon thee the showers of wisdom and utterance, that it may cleanse thee from all else but Me and draw thee nigh unto Mine own Self through such steadfastness as shall not suffer thee to be hindered by the doubts of them that have turned away and disbelieved in God, the Lord of the Kingdom. When thou dost inhale the fragrances of My utterance, then say:

> "O my God, my God! Unto Thee be praise, inasmuch as Thou hast given me to drink, from the hand of Thy bounty, the chalice of Thy knowledge, and hast guided me to the dawning-place of Thy recognition, the day-spring of Thy Cause and the Manifestation of Thine own Self. I beseech Thee, O Lord of existence and King of the unseen and the seen, to inscribe for me, with Thy Most Exalted Pen, that which will make me steadfast upon Thy straight Path, one who speaketh Thy praise and standeth before Thy servants in Thy service. O my God! I, who was in truth non-existent, Thou by Thy grace hast brought into being, through Thy favour, Thy might and Thy power. I beseech Thee that Thou wilt not deprive me, in Thy days, of that which Thou hast ordained for Thy chosen ones. Verily, Thou art the All-Powerful, the Mighty, the Loving."

Section 2: "O Ramadan-Qabl-ʿAli! Verily the Trumpet-blast hath been raised…"

O Ramadan-Qabl-ʿAli! Verily the Trumpet-blast hath been raised, the Path hath been set up, the Balance hath been established, the Book hath been sent down and the Cause made manifest, and yet most of the people have disbelieved, denied, turned away and cavilled. They have uttered against this Wronged One that which no oppressor hath ever spoken, and wrought that which no Pharaoh nor tyrant of the earth ever wrought. Say:

> "O my God, my God! Unto Thee be praise for having vouchsafed unto me the bounty of Thy verses and the Table spread from Thy heaven, and for having sent down to me that which none of the things of Thy earth can match. O my Lord! Thou beholdest me turning toward Thee and setting my face unto Thy horizon. I entreat Thee by Thy Will and Thy Desire, and by those stations that were honoured by Thy coming, to ordain for me that which shall profit me in the life to come and in this first life. Verily, Thou art the Lord of all that are; there is no God but Thee, the True One, the Knower of things unseen."

Say: O My Most Exalted Pen! Make mention of him who is named Abu'l-Qasim in the Book of God, the Lord of all the worlds, that he may rejoice and give thanks unto his Lord, the Compassionate, the Gracious. The call hath been raised, the dawning-place of the Names hath appeared, while the people are sunk in manifest doubt. They have turned away from Him Who hath come from the horizon of grace with a mighty proof; they have denied the testimony of God and His Cause, for that they have walked in the footsteps of the evil-doers. If thou drinkest the wine of Revelation and hearest the call, then say:

> "Unto Thee be praise, O Lord of all that are and King of earth and heaven, for having guided me to Thy straight Path and made mention of me in Thy Most Great Prison, when I was amidst Thy heedless servants. I entreat Thee by the Lamp of Thy Cause, which the winds have encompassed from every side, to make me steadfast in Thy Cause, holding fast to Thy cord and severed from all save Thee. Verily, Thou art powerful to do what Thou wilt. There is no God but Thee, the All-Forgiving, the Most Merciful."

O Pen! Make mention of him who is named Usta Haji, that he may hearken to Thy call from the quarter of My prison, make mention of Me and My praise amongst My servants, and be of them that rejoice. By the life of God! The Wronged One maketh mention of thee at a time when sorrows have encompassed Him because of those who have denied the proof and testimony of God, and turned away from that Countenance unto which the faces of the chosen and the holy have been directed. Thus have their souls prompted them; and to-day they are sunk in vain imaginings. Take thou the Book with power! Let not the doubts of the idolaters—such as have broken the Covenant, clinging to what is in their hands of the idle fancies of the suspicious—keep thee back. The Glory from Our presence be upon the people of Baha—those whom naught in the realm of being, nor aught that hath been created in this world, hath been able to withhold. These are they whose station God hath described in the Qayyumu'l-Asma'. Blessed is he who hath known their rank and attained to their service, and woe betide the heedless!

O Muhammad-Baqir! In this hour the Wronged One of the world maketh mention of thee, that haply thou mayest attain unto the Most Great Steadfastness, in such wise that the doubts of the people of rancour and lewdness shall not shut thee out from the Supreme Horizon. Shouldst thou meet such as, from among the people of the Bayan, have turned away, say unto them that in establishing this Cause he is in need of no other proof. Is not His own Word, and the verses and clear tokens revealed from His presence, the supreme testimony? Fear God, and be not of the wrong-doers. Hold fast unto this exalted word which flowed from the tongue of the Herald. He saith—and I have caused its gem to be recorded in his remembrance—that in the Day of His Manifestation, this one (the Bab) shall not be consulted by His own indication, nor by aught that hath been mentioned in the Bayan, and that in one station He

declareth: “Beware, beware in the Day of His coming lest thou be veiled by the leaves of the Bayan; for all these were created at His behest.”

And again: “Beware, beware lest thou be veiled by the words sent down in the Bayan…” and so on, until His blessed saying: “By the extinction of the Point, to-day the acceptance of this Wronged One is made the very hinge upon which the mission of all the Messengers dependeth. No soul should suffer himself to be veiled, by what is in the Bayan, from Him Who sent it down and from its Revealer—for all the Bayan is but His mention, and a single leaf among the leaves of the Kingdom of His utterance.” From God, exalted be His glory, I beseech that He may make thee steadfast in such wise that the doubts of heedless souls shall not affect thee nor become a veil between thee and Him. Verily, He is the All-Powerful, the All-Seeing.

O Husayn! Upon thee be My glory. We are faithful to the promise; and We have effaced the names that were mentioned, each one of whom hath attained unto the writings of God. Give thanks, and say:

> “Unto Thee be praise, O Desire of the world! Unto Thee be thanksgiving, O Glory of all who are in the heavens and on the earth!”

Say to the deniers of the Point: If but a single verse be manifested, deny it not! Behold, all the heavenly Books have been sent down, and yet the deniers have uttered that which no tyrant hath ever uttered, and have wrought that which the Pharaohs and the despots of the earth never wrought. Beseech thou God to purify the hearts from the doubts of the suspicious and the insinuations of the clamorous, that they may become worthy of the effulgent splendours of the lights of the Most Great Luminary. Verily, He is powerful over all things.

At this juncture We make mention of him who is called ʿAbdu’l-Husayn, that the breezes of remembrance may draw him and bring him nigh unto God, the All-Subduing, the Self-Subsisting. Magnify him, and My loved ones there, with praises. We have made mention of those who have turned their faces to this Countenance, with verses that have attracted hearts and souls alike. Say: O company of God! This is the Day of remembrance, of praise, and of service unto the Cause. Strive that, for the sake of a few fleeting days, ye be not debarred from the eternal, heavenly Kingdom of your Lord.

We make mention of thy wife, and give her glad-tidings of the loving care of God, the Lord of existence. O My handmaid! My call hath been raised in the Most Exalted Horizon, and the Tongue of Grandeur proclaimeth:

> “The kingdom is God’s, the Lord of whatsoever hath been and shall be.”

How many a people hath been kept back from drawing nigh, and how many a nation hath come forward and attained unto the knowledge of God, the Mighty, the Loving. We make mention of thy sister as well, and give her glad-tidings in that We have remembered her. Blessed is she, and every community that hath attained unto the knowledge of God in the promised Day.

The Glory from Our presence rest upon those who have not broken My Covenant, who have not denied My love and My proof, who have hearkened unto My verses and taken hold of My Book with power,

whom neither the scriptures of the world nor the clamour of them that have disbelieved in the testimony of God, the Lord of the unseen and the seen, have been able to withhold.

BH00374: My spirit and heart be a sacrifice unto thee!...

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

My spirit and heart be a sacrifice unto thee! Thy gracious letter hath reached this lowly servant, and I have attained unto that which the dove of love for our Lord, the Mighty, the Invincible, warbled upon the twigs of its letters and the branches of its words. I have heard the sighs of the fire of thy longing in separation from the Beloved of all horizons. O what a spirit is that fire from which the lights of hearts are made manifest, and by which the lamps of love are kindled in the hearts and breasts, as though it were ignited in the tree of the heart, proclaiming at every moment that there is no God but Him, the Inaccessible, the Mighty, the Most Glorious.

The blessed letter, which was the breath of life itself, bestowed new life and granted boundless spirit, for it was perfumed with the fragrance of the garment of the love of the Beloved. Praise be to God that the sweet-scented breezes from the Ridvan of the mention of the Countenance of Glory and Majesty continually waft from the direction of sanctified hearts and pure souls, and the banners of steadfastness and constancy are raised upon the mountains of hearts and minds. We beseech Him, exalted be He, to extend these musk-laden spiritual breezes through winds that pass over the Ridvan of His glorious and beloved Name, that all created things may be perfumed by these fragrant missives, and all birds may warble in the atmosphere of meanings and utterance. Verily, there is no God but Him, the Mighty, the Glorious, the All-Bountiful.

After the blessed letter was presented before the Most Holy and Luminous Countenance, the Sun of inexhaustible grace dawned and shone forth from the horizon of the favor of the Lord of creation upon that essence of faithfulness, and the water of divine mercy flowed from the right hand of the Celestial Throne. Well is it with thee, for the glances of holiness and the gaze of nearness have been directed towards thee, and the Tongue of Grandeur hath spoken thy name, and the Pen of Power hath moved for thy sake. A Tablet of transcendent glory hath been specifically sent down from the heaven of loftiness and majesty. We beseech God to grant thee the bounty of attaining His presence and contemplating Him.

God willing, they should, through divine grace, be engaged at all times in rendering assistance to the Cause of God. For the sake of God, they should guide people to the Ancient Law. The Tongue of God hath ever proclaimed this word: It behooveth the sincere ones among the loved ones of God to nurture, with utmost kindliness and compassion, the frozen earth with the water of oneness, that there may grow from it that which God hath purposed for it. They should not consider that some are dormant or remote from the Fountain of nearness. They should awaken every soul through goodly exhortations and exert mighty efforts to unite the hearts of the loved ones of God. This matter hath been greatly emphasized, for all have ever been commanded to manifest love and unity. Nevertheless, certain matters are heard which are not pleasing in the sight of God. The world is not worthy of attention, such that it should cause conflict and contention among the loved ones. Ye must surely give attention to this matter.

It hath been revealed by the divine Pen that in every city several souls should gather specifically to consult about teaching God's Cause, determining what manner is most advisable and proceeding accordingly. Wondrous and sublime utterances have been specifically revealed from the Court of Divine Unity regarding this matter. God willing, they shall be sent later, for this is the most important of all matters. Likewise, it hath been revealed from the Divine Throne that it is necessary to guide, with wisdom and goodly counsel, any of the kindred who have remained distant from the Fountain of Grace and are occupied with worldly desires and passions, and also those souls who were within the Bayan but later became veiled by veils, for God desireth that none of these souls should remain deprived. Verily, He is the Forgiving, the Merciful.

Furthermore, it would be most praiseworthy if souls would, purely for the sake of God, proceed to various regions such as Gilan and other places to teach His Cause. However, the teachers must possess those qualities which have been set forth in the Arabic treatise on conduct revealed by the Pen of God in Iraq. The purpose is that these souls should walk for God, in God, and towards God.

The Divine Command hath issued that the loved ones of God should walk among men with the character of Truth. As can be seen, the greater the afflictions and the more severe the calamities that befell Us, the more firmly did We engage in the promotion of the Cause. Thus did We send forth the Call in the form of a Tablet unto the Pole of all lands, even unto him whom We desired, and all who are in the heavens and on earth were thunderstruck save whom thy Lord willed. Yet in all circumstances wisdom must be observed, and one must deal with people with kindness and compassion, for they are weak. Had they known, they would have circled round the Countenance. The heedless must have a wise counselor—such is God's decree. All must be seen in complete humility and must, in truth, gird up their loins to serve. Had people heeded the counsels of the Pen of the Divine Command, ye would have beheld all on earth illumined with the lights of guidance and adorned with the Most Glorious Beauty.

No sooner had some measure of tranquility been established in the land than certain ignorant ones in every city laid claim to divinity. Thus from the year when the Most Great Light dawned above the horizon of Iraq until now, numerous souls have cast aside piety and raised the standards of rebellion and transgression. These souls have caused upheaval and revolution in the lands. Ere long ye shall witness that from every land a calf will raise its call. All this We foretold at the time of Our departure from Iraq. Observe how the previous Manifestation informed all peoples of this Most Great Manifestation, even as the son of Zachariah heralded the Son of Mary. They have emphasized this to such a degree that they have said that should anyone speak His verses, none would deny Him.

It is quite clear that they would not have uttered such words and their like except after having knowledge of this Most Great Manifestation; otherwise such words would never have been sent down from the heaven of the Divine Command. For it is observed that most people have spoken words and thereby followed the path of pride and arrogance, and were not and shall never be mentioned before God. They have regarded the Cause of God as futile and have not reflected that were God's Cause to be of this nature, it would never become firmly established.

In brief, the Primal Point—may the spirit of all else be sacrificed for Him—in those days, in view of the existence of this Manifestation and Its dawning, concluded the entire Bayan with this Most Great

Remembrance, lest the people of the Bayan be debarred from the All-Merciful. Otherwise, no previous Manifestation had ever foretold a subsequent Manifestation in such manner. If the intention of the Point of the Bayan were what people have understood, then since most people speak verses according to their own fancy, all of them should be true. Any person of understanding would realize how far these people are from the fountain of knowledge and how they have failed to grasp the meaning. By My life! That Point of existence had no purpose except to exalt this Divine Word. Some time ago, the most ignorant of men came with two others like himself from Iran to the great city and, according to his fancy, uttered verses and made claims. He is but in manifest loss and error. God willing, the loved ones of Truth must protect the Sanctified House from the heedless hosts of the ungodly and must counsel the pretenders.

The Kitab-i-Badi', which hath been revealed from the Source of Divine Revelation through the tongue of one of the loved ones, should be studied assiduously and promulgated among the servants of God, that perchance they may turn from the path of passion unto the way of guidance, and from the heights of vainglory may seek refuge in the depths of humility and submission.

It is evident that this Prisoner hath forsaken comfort, glory, prosperity, life itself and the like for the life of the world, and hath shown no compromise with anyone on earth in the Cause of God, much less with others. Now must all unite to exalt this all-embracing Word and, with the utmost diligence and wisdom, engage in teaching God's Cause with prudence and forbearance. We beseech God to aid them in this. By My life! Were they to become aware of this Revelation and its sovereignty, they would be thunderstruck, let alone draw nigh unto it. Most are ignorant to this day. None hath recognized the divine Tree and its sovereignty, majesty and power, save whom thy Lord willeth. Therefore an expounder is needed. God willing, ye must occupy yourselves with serving the Cause in a manner that befitteth and beseemeth it. We beseech God to make thee a key to unlock the doors of hearts and minds, and to aid thee to assist His Cause. He, verily, is the Mighty, the Powerful. Thus hath the Tongue of Grandeur spoken.

Likewise was revealed from the right hand of the Throne: O Ali! From the day that the designated Tablet, which hath been named the Cry, the Hour, and the Trump, was sent forth, the idolaters and deniers have arisen with utmost scheming and plotting. Though outwardly nothing is apparent, thy Lord verily is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. With utmost determination they have sought and continue to seek the Ancient Beauty. In these days, each day witnesseth a fresh occurrence in this land. By the truth of God, never hath there been, nor shall there ever be, any grief from these matters and whatsoever hath occurred before or shall occur hereafter. With such joy doth the Ancient Beauty sit upon the Most Great Throne that were but a whiff thereof to waft over the inhabitants of earth, all would perish from delight, gladness and ecstasy. However, the grief is that the servants are weak, and the Truth, out of kindness and mercy, summoneth them to the ultimate destination through an ocean of tribulations and ordeal, yet these veiled souls perceive it not.

O Ali! Exert your utmost effort and protect the edifice of the Cause from the thieves. Consider the physical house: if its guardians be overcome by sleep, surely thieves will enter, but if the guardians remain vigilant in their protection and guard, they shall never gain access. Now it behooveth the sincere ones among the loved ones of God to exercise the utmost endeavor and protect God's Cause and His edifice from the thieves. Many a thief appeareth in the guise of a guardian. Be ye vigilant and be not of

the heedless. Say: Stand guard at the gate, then drive away the evil ones with the flame of the mention of My Name, the Mighty, the Impregnable.

And regarding the names that were mentioned, they were presented before the Throne, and supreme loving-kindness hath shone forth from the Dayspring of the Cause specifically for each one, and the Tongue of Grandeur specifically uttered these words: "The glory of God be upon them." However, in these days, due to the severity of circumstances, the sending of Tablets is forbidden. Yet I hope they will be revealed from the Most Holy Court and dispatched. Verily, He is powerful over all things.

Concerning what you wrote about Nabil, upon him be the glory of God, the Sovereign, the Mighty, the Glorious—it brought much joy and gladness, for he is among those souls who spent time in the presence of the Throne. Few are the souls who have attained to that which he hath attained. By the truth of Truth, this servant was much perplexed and saddened regarding his situation, for there had been perfect fellowship and intimacy with him. I greatly regretted the delay in mentioning him. Praise be to God that after the arrival of your letter, sorrow was transformed into joy. We beseech God to assist him to make mention of Him, enable him to serve Him, and make him a champion of His Cause among the worlds.

Convey infinite expressions of devotion and most glorious, most exalted greetings from this evanescent one to Aqa Muhammad Hasan, his brother—upon them both be the glory of the All-Merciful. I once heard specific mention of him from the Tongue of Grandeur, and from that time until now, mention of him hath remained in the heart of this evanescent one.

As for what you wrote concerning the loved ones throughout the inhabited earth, that all are steadfast in their love for God, the Most Glorious—God willing, through your endeavors and influence, they should be aflame at all times. Convey infinite greetings to all from this evanescent one.

Regarding what you wrote about the daughter of His Name the Luminous—upon him be the glory of God, the Most Glorious—although that sanctified soul, upon him be the breezes of intimacy, requested that she be counted among the servants of the Most Holy House, this servant specifically presented this matter before the Presence:

> "It behooveth that she be taken by one who turneth unto God, the Mighty, the Praiseworthy."

Thus was the matter decreed by the Pen of Wisdom, and the sun of permission shone forth from the horizon of thy Lord's utterance, the Most High, the Great.

Convey wondrous and sublime greetings specifically to the honored father and mother—upon them both be the mercy of God, His blessings, His grace and His loving-kindness—and likewise to the family members, upon them be the glory of God, His remembrance, the radiance of God, His lights. And the spirit, glory and splendor be upon you, O people of Baha and His loved ones. May the spirit of the servant of Baha be a sacrifice for you.

BH00375: Praise be to God Who hath sent down…

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

He is the Present One, He is the All-Seeing One!

Praise be to God Who hath sent down the verses and manifested the clear proofs and caused all things to speak of His remembrance and praise. He it is Who revealed the Books and sent forth the Messengers as a grace from His presence, and made them guides for all people and lamps of guidance and success. Through them the clouds poured forth their rain and the earth yielded its fruits, and there appeared what had been hidden in His knowledge and stored in the treasuries of His protection. We bear witness that there is none other God but Him, acknowledging His oneness and confessing His singleness. He hath ever been in the heights of power, might and majesty, and will ever abide in the exaltation of glory, grandeur and magnificence. There is none other God but Him, the Self-Sufficient, the Most High.

And peace, shining forth from the horizon of the heaven of His bounty, be upon His loved ones who were not held back by the veils of the world from turning unto the Most Great Name, and whom the might of nations did not frighten. They turned with illumined hearts and radiant faces toward the supreme horizon and uttered that which the Tongue of Grandeur had uttered before the creation of all things:

> "Verily, there is none other God but Him, the One, the Single, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise."

O people of God! The Wronged One remembereth you from the precincts of the Prison and calleth you unto God, the Lord of the worlds. He remembereth you with what hath been revealed from His Most Exalted Pen and giveth you glad tidings of what hath been ordained for you from the presence of a mighty and ancient Lord. Hearken unto the call from the precincts of the Prison, from the Lote-Tree planted in the land of saffron, from the presence of the Most Merciful: Verily, there is none other God but Him, the One, the Single, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. Beware lest the veils of humanity hold you back from the Lord of the Throne and Earth, or the conditions of those who have denied the Day of Judgment cause you grief. Ye are the hands of His Cause amongst His servants and the standards of guidance in His lands. Know your stations, holding fast to the grace of God, the Forgiving, the Generous. This is the Day which was announced in God's Books of old and of which every trusted Messenger gave tidings.

O people of God! We counsel you with that whereby the Cause of God shall be exalted among His servants and your stations shall be made manifest among the peoples. Verily, He is the Sincere Counsellor, the Compassionate, the Merciful. Take hold of the Book of God with the power granted by Him and follow not the desires of those who have turned to the daysprings of idle fancies, turning away from His straight path. This is He Who hath come with the Kingdom of Utterance from the presence of the Most Merciful. Fear God and be not of the heedless. Blessed is the soul that hath attained unto My knowledge, soared in My atmosphere, and held fast unto My strong cord. That which was promised in the Books of God and concealed in His all-encompassing knowledge hath appeared. Every secret hath been revealed and the ocean of knowledge hath surged among all possibilities. Exalted is the Most Merciful, the Manifestation of this mighty Message.

O ʿAli-Qabl-i-Muhammad! Hearken unto the Voice of the Wronged One, and remind His loved ones of that which hath been sent down from the heaven of the Will of their Lord, the Master of this wondrous Day. Say: The Kawthar of life hath flowed from the Pen of the All-Merciful. Draw ye nigh, O people, and be not of the heedless ones. Beware lest anything whatsoever debar you from the Lord of Names. Cast away your idle fancies. By God! The horizon of the heaven of utterance hath been illumined with the light of certitude. This is a Day wherein naught shall profit you save this Name, at Whose appearance all names have bowed down in submission, whereupon the limbs of every heedless and remote one have quaked.

O people! Deprive not yourselves of the breezes of the days of your Lord, the Mighty, the Great. The ocean of knowledge hath surged, and the luminary of proof hath shone forth from the horizon of the Will of your Lord, the Mighty, the All-Knowing. My Most Exalted Pen beareth witness that thou hast turned towards God, the Lord of Names and Creator of the heavens, and traversed land and sea until thou didst arrive at a place wherein the remembrance of God, the Lord of all who are in the heavens and on earth, was exalted, and didst attain the presence of the Wronged One, and didst hear His call, and didst succeed in reaching a horizon from which the Sun of utterance hath shone forth by the command of One Who is the Mighty, the Ancient of Days.

Thou wert present, and didst hear, and didst witness that which the divines and theologians of Persia were prevented from attaining. Thus have We expounded the verses unto thee that thou mayest know and be of the thankful ones. Say:

My God, my God! Praise be unto Thee for having strengthened me, and made me to know Thee, and caused me to hear and to see, and brought me near until I stood before the gate of Thy bounty and grace, and attained unto that which most of Thy servants were deprived of. O Lord! The light of Thy countenance drew me, and the fragrances of Thy Revelation seized me, and separation from Thee weakened me, until Thou didst bring me into Thy presence, and gave me to drink, and provided me with that which was inscribed by Thy Most Exalted Pen in Thy Books and Tablets. O Lord! I beseech Thee by Thy Most Great Signs, and Thy manifestations in the kingdom of creation, and by the waves of the ocean of Thy utterance amidst all possibilities, and the effulgences of the sun of Thy proof upon all religions, that Thou deprive me not from attaining Thy presence and standing before the throne of Thy grandeur. Then write down for me, O my God, that which Thou hast written for Thy chosen ones and Thy loved ones, whom neither the might of kings deterred from turning to Thy Kingdom, nor the clamor of the peoples prevented from facing the light of Thy dominion.

My God, my God! Thou seest me clinging to Thee, holding fast to the hem of the robe of Thy grace, turning to Thy horizon, and speaking Thy praise. I beseech Thee by the lights of Thy countenance to assist me to be steadfast in Thy love in such wise that neither the doubts of Thy servants nor the signs of those in the lands shall prevent me from drawing nigh unto Thee and circling round Thy throne. My God, my God! I know of a certainty that Thou didst create me to know Thee and to exalt Thy Word and to arise to serve Thy Cause. I beseech Thee in all conditions, O Thou the Most Exalted, the All-Glorious, not to deprive me of that for which Thou didst create me, and nurture me for its days, and strengthen me to turn unto it.

By Thy might, O God of Names and Creator of heaven! Nothing in the world gladdens me save the manifestations of Thy grace, the tokens of Thy loving-kindness, the signs of Thy mercy, and the evidences of Thy bounty and tenderness. I beseech Thee, O Lord of Eternity and Sovereign of the world, by Thy Most Great Name, to ordain for me all the good Thou hast sent down in Thy Book. Verily, Thou art He Whom nothing whatsoever can frustrate, nor can the Daysprings of Names render powerless. Thou doest what Thou pleasest through Thy sovereignty and ordainest what Thou willest through Thy power.

O Lord! I beseech Thee by the fire in the hearts of Thy lovers and the light of the countenance of Thy sincere ones to forgive me and my father whom Thou hast caused to attain unto the station Thou didst ordain for him. O Lord! Purify him through that which hath flowed from the Pen of Thy grace. I testify that Thy forgiveness hath encompassed all created things and Thy mercy hath preceded all contingent beings. O Lord! This is a day whereon the ocean of forgiveness hath surged before Thy face and the clouds of bounty have rained the showers of generosity and bestowal upon the hearts of Thy chosen ones. I beseech Thee not to deprive him of the effulgences of the lights of Thy generosity. Verily, Thou art He to Whose generosity all things have testified. There is none other God but Thee, the All-Bountiful, the Ever-Forgiving, the Most Generous.

O Ali-Muhammad! Give thanks to God for this supreme bounty! The Wronged One hath turned toward thee from His Most Great Prison and given thee tidings of that which all the treasures of earth and all that the kings and rulers possess cannot equal. Give thanks to God by night and by day, then make mention of Him at all times. He hath aided thee to turn unto Him and hath made thee know His straight and manifest path. Take thou the garment of utterance to the loved ones of the All-Merciful, that they may discover from it the fragrance of the bounty of their Ancient Lord, the All-Bountiful. Verily He will aid them and will acquaint them with that which most of mankind hath been prevented from knowing. To this beareth witness the Truth, the Speaking, the Manifest One.

Section 2: “Make mention of Ha before Sin—upon…”

Make mention of Ha before Sin—upon him be My glory and the loving-kindness of God, the Lord of the worlds. Say: Thou wast mentioned before the Wronged One in the Most Great Prison and hast attained that whose fragrance shall endure as long as the Most Beautiful Names of God and His supreme attributes endure. To this testifieth every discerning one. Blessed art thou for having turned unto a station from which the people have turned aside, though they were created to serve His manifest Cause. They awaited My days through centuries and ages, yet when the appointed time came and I revealed Myself, they denied Me, rejected My verses and turned away from My proof, until they pronounced sentence to shed My blood with such injustice as caused the Supreme Paradise and the dwellers of this exalted station to lament.

Hear thou the call, time and again, from the Supreme Pen: Verily there is none other God but Him, the Speaking, the All-Wise. Be thou steadfast in the service of My Cause and vocal in My praise with the wisdom We have sent down in the Holy Books and Tablets. Hold thou fast unto it in all conditions, as bidden by the Mighty, the Bestower. Let not the intimations and the power of princes sadden thee. Hold fast unto the cord of the loving-kindness of thy Lord, the Master of all creation. Soon shall the world and

all thou seest today perish, and there shall endure for thee that which hath been ordained by the Pen of God, the Lord of Lords.

When thou hast attained unto My verses and found the breezes of revelation, say: Praise be unto Thee, O Lord of Names, for having mentioned me while Thou wert wronged at the hands of them that disbelieved in God when He came with power and sovereignty. Verily He will be with thee and will help thee through His grace, and He is the Mighty, the All-Bountiful.

We have found the fragrance of thy love and thy turning unto Him, and thy humility and submissiveness. We have mentioned thee in verses that shall not be effaced throughout centuries and ages. We beseech God to aid thee, make thee successful, and grant thee the blessing of His presence. Verily He is powerful over whatsoever He willeth. There is none other God but Him, the One, the Chosen One. Thou didst desire to attain the presence of the Wronged One, having been seized by the breezes of revelation in the days of thy Lord, the Self-Sufficient, the Most High. Give thanks unto God for having illumined the horizon of permission with the sun of acceptance from thy Lord, the Almighty, the Mighty, the Bestower. Fix thy gaze upon the horizon of wisdom, as bidden by thy Lord, the Master of the Day of Return.

We make mention of thy mother and give her the glad tidings of God's favors and bounty. Convey unto her face greetings from the Wronged One. Verily, He is the Protector of every servant who hath believed and every maidservant who hath turned towards the Dayspring of Lights. O My handmaiden and My leaf! Glorify thy Lord with praise, then make mention of Him at eventide and at dawn. Verily, He hath made mention of thee with a mention before which all mention hath bowed down in humility. Say: Praise be unto Thee, O my God, for having awakened me through the breezes of Thy Revelation and enabled me to turn towards Thee, O Lord of Lords! I beseech Thee not to withhold from me that which Thy Most Exalted Pen hath ordained for Thy handmaidens who have turned towards Thee in days when most of the inhabitants of the land turned away from Thee.

O thou who gazest upon the Countenance! The Sun of loving-kindness hath shone forth upon thee once again, as We desired to make mention of thy wife, whose mention was made before the Wronged One, Who hath called the people unto God, the Lord of all men. O My handmaiden! Hearken unto My call. Verily, He hath made mention of thee with a mention whose fragrance shall endure throughout the duration of thy Lord's kingdom, the Subduer of winds. We beseech God to aid thee and draw thee nigh unto Him at all times, and to ordain for thee through His Most Exalted Pen the best of the hereafter and of this world. Verily, He is the One with power over whatsoever He willeth. There is none other God but He, the Mighty, the All-Forgiving.

O name of Ha and Sin! We have desired to make mention of thy son, whom We mentioned before as a token of Our grace, and I am the Mighty, the Compelling. We beseech Him, exalted be He, to strengthen thee and enable thee to remember and praise Him, and to ordain for thee that which befitteth His grace and bounty. Verily, He is the Almighty, the Guardian over those who are in the heavens and on earth.

And We make mention of thy daughter who hath attained the honor of serving thee in the days of God, the Manifestor of clear proofs. O My leaf! The Wronged One hath turned toward thee from the precincts of the Prison and calleth thee with the most exalted call and summoneth thee unto God, the Dayspring of

verses. Blessed is the leaf that hath clung to the Tree of Proof, and the servant who hath held fast to the cord of God, the Lord of all religions.

And We make mention of thy other daughter and give her the glad tidings of My loving-kindness which hath encompassed the horizons. We beseech Him, exalted be He, to enable her and ordain for her that which shall profit her in every world among the worlds of her Lord, the Illuminator of lights. And We make mention of My loved ones whom the doubts of the people have not prevented from God, the Guardian, the Self-Subsisting.

This is a day whereon all things have spoken forth:

> "The appointed time hath come, and that which was hidden in God's knowledge, the Lord of existence, hath been made manifest."

O people of God! His mercy hath preceded you as a bounty from God, the Lord of the seen and unseen. Verily, He hath aided you and drawn you nigh until He caused you to recognize the ocean of His knowledge and the heaven of His grace and the sun of His generosity, the Guardian over what was and what shall be. Nothing whatsoever escapeth Him. He doeth what He willeth by His sovereignty, and He is the Truth, the Knower of things unseen. Not an atom's weight in the heavens or in the earth escapeth His knowledge. With Him is the knowledge of all things in a Preserved Tablet. Take ye the chalice of salvation in the name of your Lord, the Creator of all things, then drink ye therefrom in defiance of those who have disbelieved in the Witness and the Witnessed.

By God! The verses have been sent down and the signs have appeared, yet the people do not understand. Rejoice in the loving-kindness of your Lord and say: Unto Thee be praise and glory, O Lord of Names, for having enabled us to recognize the Dawning-Place of Thy Revelation and guided us to Thy path and drawn us nigh until Thou didst cause us to hear Thy most sweet call which hath been raised betwixt earth and heaven. We beseech Thee not to disappoint us of that which is with Thee. Verily, Thou art the Almighty, the All-Loving, the All-Forgiving. The splendor shining forth from the horizon of the heaven of My dominion be upon you, O My loved ones, and upon those whom neither ranks nor hosts have deterred from turning to the Praiseworthy Spot.

O name of Ha and Sin, upon thee be My glory! We make mention, at the end of the Book, of thy sister whose days in this world have come to an end, and who remained subject to the will of her Lord, the Sovereign of the Kingdom of Names and the Ruler of all humanity. We beseech Him, exalted be He, to forgive her and purify her from the defilement of this world, as a token of His grace. He, verily, is the All-Powerful, the Mighty, the All-Loving. Rejoice, O My handmaiden, in that the Tongue of Grandeur hath made mention of thee in this spot round which circle them that are nigh unto God. We beseech Him to ordain for thee what He hath ordained in the Most Exalted Paradise. He, verily, is the One Who has power over whatsoever He willeth through His word "Be" and it is. The glory be upon thee and upon those handmaidens who have believed in God, the Lord of the Unseen and the Seen.

BH00380: Praise be to God Who hath taught the art…

Section 1: "Praise be to God Who hath taught…"

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

Praise be to God Who hath taught the art of exposition through the mysteries of truth, caused to flow from the Pen the symbols of knowledge and wisdom, and clothed in the raiment of manifestation that which lay concealed within existence. We praise Him with such praise as hath adorned the preamble of the Primal Book and caused to shine forth from the Daysprings of Reality the effulgences of the First Creation, whereby the receptacles of being were immersed in the depths of revelation and witness, and the essences of things accepted the limitations of multiplicity, and after testing and trial ascended unto the heights of understanding and knowledge, forsaking their determined limitations and soaring unto the heaven of sanctity on wings of detachment.

And blessings and peace be upon the Guarded Mystery, the Hidden Symbol, and the Treasured Secret, Who in every world among the worlds of God, the Mighty, the Exalted, is called by one of the names of glory and majesty, and in every station is described by one of the attributes of grandeur and magnificence—He Who was honored by the address "But for thee, I would not have created the celestial spheres," and Who was adorned with the words "When thou didst throw, it was not thou who threw, but God who threw." And peace be upon His family and companions, an everlasting, eternal, ancient peace.

O God! O Thou through Whose Most Great Name every sick one is immersed in the ocean of healing, and every abased one is seated upon the throne of might and ascension! The mystics and their hearts have been bewildered by the wonders of Thy manifest creation, and the wayfarers have wandered distracted in the wilderness of knowing a trace of Thy firm wisdom. Thou didst create existence from nothing by Thy Word of command, and didst deliver them from the wilderness of the darkness of ignorance through the radiance of the lights of Thy knowledge. When Thou didst observe their inability to know what would harm or benefit them, Thou didst send among them, by the sovereignty of Thy power, pure spirits, luminous persons, and spiritual temples in their form and likeness, that they might teach them what would draw them nigh unto Thee and sanctify them from all that beseemeth them not in Thy presence. This was of Thy beauteous wisdom and Thy sublime grace and compassion, for Thou hast never compelled anyone in anything, but hast given all the choice of acceptance or rejection.

This being so, were the Manifestation of Thy Cause to appear among them in His true spiritual reality and divine attributes, none would have any excuse to reject His Cause, and all would enter beneath the shadow of His Command without distinction between the felicitous and the wretched, the spiritual and the physical. Such acceptance would not be according to the seeking and capacity inherent in the receptivities of the servants' beings. Verily, Thy Name, the Just, must needs differentiate between them in reward and recompense, for reward and punishment are bound to deeds, and deeds are bound to intention, and intention is bound to the seeking of created things. For this reason hath Thy consummate wisdom necessitated the sending of Thy Prophets in human form, combining both worlds, that the capacity, seeking and receptivity of existence might be made manifest in accepting Thy grace and being illumined by the lights of the Dawning-Place of Thy unity and the Source of Thy singleness.

I beseech Thee, O my God, to assist us to bear what Thou hast entrusted to us of the trust of Thy love, and enable us through Thy power and might to preserve it from the hands of the thieves. Disappoint us not of Thy mercy, and drive us not from the gate of Thy loving-kindness, for Thou hast named Thyself the Most Merciful, the Most Compassionate. There is no God but Thee, the Mighty, the Generous.

O thou bird soaring in the atmosphere of love with the wings of affection and the pinions of sincerity and unity! That which was inscribed by the pen and traced upon the tablet in letters from the book of the heart hath been received. When thy love for the loved ones of thy Lord was confirmed, I was commanded to write the reply. I have therefore complied with the decisive decree, and God is He Who guideth to the path of truth.

O thou beloved! I have seen thy letter and understood what thou didst ask concerning the noble Qur'anic verse and the true effulgence manifest in the mirrors of its holy words. Know thou that for the verses of God, exalted be His glory, there are meanings beyond counting and truths beyond reckoning. Were one to desire to reveal that which lieth concealed within the repository of utterance, all the pens in the world would prove powerless to write, and all the scrolls of the nations insufficient to record it. For those endued with knowledge and wisdom, there is in every station an explanation.

Know thou furthermore that each letter of these sacred words hath two aspects—one turning toward the inner meaning and one toward the outer. Would that we could find attentive ears and receptive hearts that could bear to hear the realities of meaning contained within God's Book and become illumined by the lights of the suns dawning from the horizons of God's words! Alas! Alas! Due to the people's lack of capacity, naught appeareth upon the daysprings of the pages save a mere atom of the effulgences of meaning contained within the verses of the Lord of the Day of Judgment.

How can I reveal that which I have not been permitted to disclose? Consummate wisdom requireth that explanation be given only to seekers. Where is the seeking? And how can all that is known be uttered when its time hath not come and its people are not present? By thy Lord, the Lord of the heavens and earth! The dove of utterance in this station hath melodies that attract hearts and notes that cause souls to soar upon hearing them. But alas! All regret! It cannot reveal its warbling for fear of the hunter of envy, the snare of malice, the net of denial, and the arrows of objection and pride.

Since the tongue is fettered and utterance restrained, I shall explain to thee one letter from the book of knowledge and wisdom, leaving aside what is fundamental to the reality of the Qur'an lest souls be disturbed and pillars shake, until the time cometh and the steed of the Pen gallopeth in the arena of exposition and explanation.

O thou questioner! Know that in these mentioned verses there are multiple stations, from the blowing of the trumpet to the illumination of the earth with light. With those possessed of truth and knowledge, all these stations are established in every world. Just as they confirm these in specific receptacles, so too are they realized in absolute, abstract acceptances. As we believe these ranks in the return, we can determine them in the beginning.

We say that the True One, exalted be His station, was alone in His Essence and there was nothing with Him, as mentioned in the sacred tradition: "I was a hidden treasure and loved to be known, so I created

creation that I might be known." When He loved to make Himself known and be described with sanctification and transcendence, He created. He manifested through the lights of His Name, the Creator, and the abstract realities became determined in the world of the particles. In that world, we interpret the first blast as the words "Am I not your Lord?" and the swooning as from the grandeur of God's supreme Word. Then He blew a second time in the trumpet of power with compassion and mercy, and lo! they arose [from their graves] looking about.

Section 2: "O beloved friend! Know thou that created things…"

O beloved friend! Know thou that created things, with their varying degrees and diverse natures, accept manifestation and visibility only in accordance with their receptivity, yearning, and capacity. For among the essential and established divine attributes is justice. Having affirmed this, we say: How can existence be brought into being except in accordance with acceptance and acquiescence? For the matter resolves to one of four possibilities: either compelling all to obedience, or compelling all to disobedience, or compelling some to obedience and others to disobedience, or giving each its due according to the capacities of contingent beings.

The first two possibilities are invalid, for the purpose of creating contingent beings is the knowledge of God, exalted be His station, and the intent of this knowledge is to convey benefit and mercy to creation. Were we to assume compulsion in either obedience or disobedience, free will would be eliminated, and with its elimination obligation would be nullified, and with its nullification reward and punishment would fall outside the circle of righteousness. It befits not the Just and Wise One to bestow paradise on one who has not performed what merits it, or hell on one who has not done what warrants it. To grant reward after compulsion to obedience is futile, for one has not acted according to his capacity by choice but was compelled, just as if you force someone to pray who would not have prayed without compulsion—his prayer stems not from submission to God's command but from fear for himself. No rational being would accept such superficial action, how much less the Just and Wise One whose wisdom encompasses all atoms and whose knowledge comprehends all contingent things.

Similarly, compelling disobedience and then punishment during the state of compulsion would be naught but miserliness, and miserliness befits not the Merciful One whose mercy encompasses all and whose bounties overflow.

The third possibility is likewise invalid, for its existence would establish preference, and preference without justification accords not with justice—glory be to the Just Ruler, that He should favor some and deprive others.

Having invalidated these three possibilities, the fourth is established: dealing with things according to their seeking, receptivity, station and capacity. This befits the Just and Wise One, the Generous and Merciful One. If you desire clarification of this truth, consider the lamp—suppose it represents the Creative Word, and suppose the degrees of rays around it represent determined essences. These rays, according to their varying receptivities, are established in different positions of proximity and remoteness—some in utmost nearness and connection, some in furthest distance and separation, and

some in intermediate states. In the outpouring of the All-Bountiful there is no disparity or increase or decrease; rather, the differences in degrees arise from variations in seeking.

This being the case, no argument remains for the remote one against the Absolute Bestower, for according to his own acceptance and seeking has he settled in that station. Otherwise, there is no suspension in the bounty of the Generous One, no cause for distancing from the source of bounty and generosity, no aversion of the Creator from the created without reason. As God, exalted be He, has said: "Thou seest no imperfection in the creation of the All-Merciful."

When thou hast comprehended what We have mentioned and understood what We have explained, thou wilt recognize the dawning of the Divine Word upon the receptive vessels of creation in the world of the atoms, and thou wilt realize the first blast in the forms of power and the second blast in the realm of simplicity and mercy.

As for the swooning, except whom God wills, it is the swooning of all contingent and determined beings except man, by the will of the All-Merciful, as God the Exalted has said in the Holy Qur'an:

> "We offered the Trust to the heavens and the earth and the mountains, but they refused to bear it and were afraid of it; but man bore it. Lo! he is unjust, ignorant."

And as for the mentioned rising, it is the response of all things through their acceptance of what the Absolute Bestower has given them according to their seeking, acceptance and capacity.

And as for the shining forth, it has manifold ranks and stations, among them the manifestation of the Hidden Essence in the realm of Divine Unity to Itself by Itself, and the contemplation of Its Beauty and Majesty in that station by Its Own Being unto Its Own Being without the existence of any of Its creation. In this station "God was, and there was nothing besides Him," and now it is as it has ever been. And among them is the appearance of the true lights in the station of Divine Oneness in the Muhammadan Reality, the First Determination and Mystery of Eternity. He said, and His word is the truth: "But for thee, I would not have created the spheres," and "Thou didst not throw when thou threwest, but God threw," and He—may my spirit be a sacrifice for Him—said: "I am He and He is I, except that He is He and I am I," and in another station: "I was a Prophet while Adam was between water and clay." And among them is the appearance of the gleamings of light upon the Tree of Sinai and the manifestation of His mighty mystery to Moses, He Who spoke with God. Blessed be God, the Mighty, the Wise. His bounty knows no cessation, nor His mercy any delay.

O thou beloved! Whenever the Pen desires to reveal meanings and wisdom, the exigencies of the time restrain its reins and prevent it from revealing the realities of thy Lord's verses. I beseech God to make known to thee the reality of expression without its appearing in the visible world. He is indeed the Generous, the Bestower. There is no God but Him, the Gracious, the Mighty, the Helper.

As for what is meant by "earth," it is the earth of receptivity, meaning that it shone with the light of the knowledge of its Lord and perceived the manifestation of the Sun of Recognition of its Creator according to its capacity and seeking. And as for the rest of the blessed verse, it indicates the testing and trial in this world, for this world is the world of experience and testing, that the blessed may be distinguished from

the wretched, light from darkness, and the misguided from the guided. God the Exalted has said: “And they did not become divided until after clear evidence came to them—a Messenger from God reciting purified pages.” Through the existence of tests, the balance of justice is established, judgment is rendered among creation with justice and grace, and His word is made manifest: “And judgment will be rendered between them with truth, and they will not be wronged.”

O God! O Originator of existence and Sovereign of the unseen and the visible! I beseech Thee by Thy all-encompassing mercy and Thy prevailing and all-embracing compassion to open the eyes of humanity that they may behold Thy Most Great Vision and turn toward Thy direction, detached from their desires and holding fast to the cord of Thy commandments and ordinances. Thou seest them in weakness and lowliness, O Thou Who holdest the kingdom of might and power! Deliver them from the depths of idle fancies and vain imaginings and guide them to Thy path, O my Lord, the Mighty, the All-Knowing. Leave them not to themselves and their desires. Take their hands with the sovereignty of Thy power, for in Thy hand is the kingdom of grace and bounty. There is no God but Thee, the Omnipotent over what Thou willest.

O God! Send Thy blessings upon the Mystery of Eternity, the Bearer of the Most Great Name, and the Mystic Symbol concealed and treasured, and upon his family and his companions, with an enduring, eternal, everlasting, ancient peace.

BH00383: In My Name, Who speaketh in the midst…

Section 1: “In My Name, Who speaketh in the midst…”

In My Name, Who speaketh in the midst of tribulations

True praise and the essence of glorification beseemeth and befitteth the people of Baha, whom neither the riches, ornaments, and colors of the world of creation prevented from turning to the Most Exalted Horizon, nor were they hindered by the power of tyrants and the authority of oppressors. Through the light of piety and the penetrating influence of the Supreme Word, they adorned the world with a new life and an enduring existence. These are they whom the commerce of the world occupied not, nor did it keep them from turning to the Ancient King. In tribulations they are patient, and in adversities they are tranquil, inasmuch as they have detached themselves from creation and clung unto the Truth. Exalted be their stations and sublime their steadfastness! We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to elevate them among His servants and to adorn them with the ornament of justice in His kingdom, and to ordain for them that which will make them the letters of His Book and the words of His Tablets. Verily, He is the Ruler over what He willeth and the Commander of what He desireth. There is none other God but Him, the Possessor of all creation and the Ruler over all lands.

O Haydar-Qabli-ʿAli, upon thee be My Glory! Thou hast ever been and art still remembered in the presence of the Wronged One. Praise be to God that thou hast attained unto that which was recorded and inscribed by the Eternal Pen in the divine Books. That which thou didst mention concerning the devotion and enthusiasm of the loved ones in the Land of Alif and Ra hath been heard. Praise be to God that from the earliest days the light of faith hath dawned, appeared and shone forth from the horizon of

that land's heaven, and especially in this time when from the heaven of bounty of the King of Oneness wondrous and sublime verses have been sent down and dispatched. We beseech God to give them to drink, from the cups of His verses, the Kawthar of His knowledge, and from the goblets of His utterance, the Salsabil of His love and good-pleasure. And we beseech Him to aid them in that which will cause the Cause of God to be exalted above all else.

A mention has been revealed from the Most Exalted Pen concerning departure from the Land of Sad—the intention is that prolonged stay is not permitted in a city wherein dwells the Wolf. This word had previously issued forth from the Kingdom of God's Command. Most princes and leaders outwardly show love while inwardly they are engaged in stirring up opposition. Glory be to God! Until now, the mighty deeds and great favors of this Wronged One are not known and no one is aware of them. For nearly forty years We have forbidden the people of God from conflict, corruption, murder, plunder and reprehensible deeds and actions, such that all would testify, were they to be fair, that the supreme grace hath been manifested from this Wronged One.

Previously, every year the fire of war was ignited, as all have seen and heard. But after this Wronged One's arrival in Iraq, no one moved except as this Wronged One desired. Despite the enmity of the heedless and the hatred of the barking ones, not a soul arose to retaliate or defend. The divine counsels and heavenly admonitions had such effect that although they killed and martyred the friends, the friends killed not but left matters to God. Nevertheless neither government nor people showed satisfaction, as though unaware of this deed and hitherto unconscious of this greatest mercy and mightiest favor.

Ask ye God to grant awareness and bestow justice. In most Tablets We have mentioned His Majesty the Shah—may God assist him—and have beseeched protection and safeguarding for him from God. In brief, the good deeds of this Wronged One remain concealed while manifestations of denial are countless. What has happened that the ministers and princes pay no heed to measures that would ensure the protection, preservation and tranquility of the world and its peoples? Today one can hold fast to matters that cause the permanence of government and progress of nation, but future days shall not possess this virtue. To this beareth witness He with Whom is the light of knowledge and utterance.

O Haydar-Ali! If thou wouldst for a few days repair to the land of Kha and fix thy gaze upon wisdom, perchance there might sprout and appear from the Sadratu'l-Muntaha a fruit that would prove the means of mankind's deliverance. The revealed Tablet that was sent down in the name of His Honour Nabil-i-Akbar, and likewise another Tablet specifically revealed for His Honour Muhammad-Ali from the heaven of utterance—if these are in thy possession, it would be well. In truth these two Tablets are one and should be bound in a single volume, along with such Suras and Tablets as are the cause of attraction and joy, and the means of guidance and gladness. However, in all circumstances the observance of wisdom is greater than all else. Previously We wrote to thee concerning the preservation of the Tablets, and there is no need to repeat it.

Two years ago in the verdant land, a certain person who was known to this Wronged One sought to meet one of God's loved ones, his purpose being to understand and discover that which was intended by this Most Great Revelation. He did meet with one of the loved ones, yet from that meeting no fruit was garnered, for the session ended in concealment and secrecy, and due to wisdom the matter remained

hidden. For wisdom there is a known measure and limit, for if wisdom be observed to such a degree, the people would remain deprived and excluded. In all things moderation is necessary. Now if thou shouldst purpose to journey to those parts to visit and meet the loved ones, results would become manifest. Assuredly, a deed performed for the sake of God will give rise to wondrous and sublime effects and will be adorned with the ornament of influence.

Should some behold certain of the revealed Books, Verses and Tablets, this would be well-pleasing and acceptable in the sight of God, for most of the people, being unaware of the root of the Cause, have been and continue to be held back from drawing nigh unto God by the calumnies of the falsifiers and the claims of the cawers. That which is incumbent upon all today is that they should, for the sake of God, observe with their own eyes that which hath appeared and been revealed, and should, in the path of God, be wholly devoted to protecting His servants, that perchance the people of God may not be afflicted with the vain imaginings of the Shi'ih faction. The names have become idols of the people—these must be shattered and cast down by the arm of power and might; and by power and might is meant the power and might of wisdom and utterance. By the life of God! This power hath been and remaineth triumphant, and neither the ranks of the world nor the swords of the nations can weaken or prevent it.

Verily thy Lord knoweth and declareth, but most people know not. Ask thou of God that He may reveal the treasures deposited in the earth, and likewise men whom no power can weaken, no strength can disable, and no veils or glories of the earth can hold back. They aid the Cause through speech and utterance. We testify that they are God's loved ones in His earth and His chosen ones in His lands. Blessed is he who heareth and respondeth, and who acteth in accordance with that which hath been enjoined in the Book.

Section 2: "Concerning those souls for whom thou didst request…"

Concerning those souls for whom thou didst request Tablets, some were sent previously, and now sacred Tablets have been sent specifically for the souls A and R, sons of the late F, and likewise for the sons of the departed R. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to aid them in His remembrance, His praise and the service of His Cause. Verily, He hath power over all things. The people of that land have ever been mentioned in the presence of the Wronged One, but neither complete concealment nor complete disclosure is desirable, for verily the wolf howleth and the dog barketh. O Haydar-ʿAli! Supplicate confirmation for all. In that land the seed of wisdom and utterance hath been deposited. Soon will appear that which God, the Lord of the worlds, hath purposed. In every land thou visitest, make mention of the loved ones on behalf of the Wronged One, that their hearts may be attracted by the remembrance of God, the All-Possessing, the Self-Subsisting. Make mention of the loved ones of Shahrud. The glance of Our loving-kindness is directed towards them.

We beseech God to preserve them all from the poisonous winds of doubts. Consider the baseness of Hadi. He hath lately uttered words which no discerning ear hath ever wished to hear, nor will. Now "Mirror" and "Successor" and the like have appeared. Say: Cast away these names that obstruct and hold fast unto that which beseemeth the days of God. Today the Speaker on Sinai is seated upon the throne of Revelation, speaking forth, and the Tree is adorned with ripe fruits and is manifest. Say: O my God, my God! I beseech Thee by Thy most great signs, by the rustling of the Divine Lote-Tree, and by the shrill

voice of Thy Most Exalted Pen, to assist Thy loved ones to attain unto such steadfastness as shall not be prevented by the hosts of doubts, nor by the ranks of allusions, nor by names and attributes.

The people of Baha behold the truth and are detached and free from aught else. The weak ones of the world have clung to the calumnies of the past. They have turned away from the ocean and cling to a pond. They are deprived of the rays of the sun and have turned to the source of darkness. Justice and equity have been laid to rest in Iran and are hidden from all eyes and sight. O Haydar-Ali! These wronged ones were slain in the land of Sad and Ishq, yet they showed no opposition nor raised a hand, but held fast to patience and resignation. Nevertheless, the enmity of the people of Iran is observed to be far greater and more complete than before. Upon return, they did that which causeth the tears of those near unto God to flow. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to adorn His lands with His gifts, favors, bounty and loving-kindness. Verily, He hath power over all things.

For forty years this Wronged One hath, by God's will, exalted be His glory, outwardly protected His Majesty the King. Yet no fruit is visible and no trace is manifest. We thank and praise and say: O Illuminator of existence and Concealer of matters! I beseech Thee by the Dawning-Place of Thy Manifestation, the Dayspring of Thy signs, and the Treasury of the pearls of Thy knowledge and wisdom, to assist the heedless to turn toward the ocean of Thy bounty and the sun of Thy grace. Then ordain for them, O my God, that which Thou hast ordained through Thy munificence and loving-kindness. Verily, Thou art the Mighty, the Unconstrained.

O Haydar-ʿAli! That which is needed today is to prevent the servants from approaching the Most Exalted Horizon. In truth I declare and with the tongue of reality I mention that every lover who is enkindled with the fire of longing and attainment must act according to what was previously mentioned. By the life of God, in this case he will be recorded by the Supreme Pen in the Crimson Book as one of those who have attained His presence and meeting, and as one of the companions of witnessing and hearkening. Give this glad tiding to the servants. That which hath been revealed and flowed from the Pen of God remaineth and endureth in such wise that neither effacement shall overtake it nor change alter it. Verily thy Lord is the Elucidator, the Compassionate, the Mighty, the Bestower. The path is long and its hardships many. Today all must hold fast to the Divine Word and cling to His Will. That which is revealed from the Kingdom of Command is beloved and to be obeyed. Blessed are they that know and they that act.

Convey greetings from this Wronged One to the loved ones of that land, especially to him who soared in the atmosphere of My love and shone forth from the horizon of detachment in My days, and who drank the choice wine of revelation from the cup of My bounty—he who was named ʿAli before Haydar. Upon him be the glory of God, the Lord of destiny and the Most Sublime Vision. Indeed they have performed that which none else hath manifested in this age. We beseech God to aid all to that which befitteth this accepted and praiseworthy deed.

The letter of Jinab-i-Amin—upon him be My glory and loving-kindness—arrived, but since outwardly there remaineth no time, the answer is deferred to another occasion. They are ever mentioned in the presence of this Wronged One and are aided to serve. God willing, they may be as an ocean of bounty unto all and as rivers of compassion and love towards everyone. We have aforetime declared: "We have created souls in various stages." Therefore the Hands of the Cause must show forbearance, for these are

the days of Revelation when mercy and kindness have preceded. His honor the Trustee hath shown forbearance from his first arrival in the Most Great Ocean until now. We beseech God to assist him and strengthen him with the hosts of the seen and unseen to mention Him, praise Him and serve His Cause, the firm, the impregnable.

Jinab-i-Ibn-i-Abhar shall remain in that land. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to make him a promoter of His Cause in such wise that the tongues of all beings shall speak of his mention, his arising, his steadfastness, and his humility and submissiveness before God, the Lord of the worlds. We send him greetings from this Most Exalted Station and give him the glad tidings of what hath been revealed in this Clear Tablet. O Ibn-i-Abhar! Upon thee be the glory of God, the Lord of destiny. The aforementioned household hath been mentioned and hath attained unto the honor of acceptance. Give them both My glad tidings and We beseech God to assist them and ordain for them that which will draw them nigh unto Him. Verily He is the Hearing, the All-Seeing. The glory shining from the horizon of the heaven of My utterance be upon you, O My loved ones, and upon My maidservants who have turned unto God, heard, and believed in God, the Single, the One, the Mighty, the Luminous.

BH00405: The Tablet of God, the Supreme, the Self-Subsisting

Section 1: "Praise be to God Who hath appeared..."

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

Praise be to God Who hath appeared from the Dayspring of His signs, the Dawning-Place of His evidences, and the Source of His commandments and ordinances. He is the One through Whom mysteries were revealed, trees did speak, rivers did flow, and oceans did surge. Blessed is he who hath attained unto His knowledge, heard His call, and acted according to that which was commanded in His Book. And woe unto him who hath cast His Book behind him, disputed His verses, denied His proof, and rejected His testimony whereby the doors of bounties and favors were opened, and the Luminary of Justice shone forth from all directions, and the Herald proclaimed:

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

The Light shining from the horizon of God's will, the Lord of Lords, and the Glory dawning from the horizon of Divine Will and favors, and the glorification manifest from the tongue of the Lord of creation be upon the hands of His Cause who broke not His covenant and testament, who aided His Cause amongst His servants, and who spoke His praise throughout His lands. These are the keys to the doors of hearts and souls, and the dawning-places of the names of God, the Sovereign of sovereigns. Through them the clouds did rain, and the treasures of the earth were revealed, and whatsoever was hidden therein and concealed beneath its layers.

Glorified art Thou, O Lord of existence and the One Who holdeth dominion over the seen and unseen! I beseech Thee by Thy Most Great Name, through which the mysteries of the Books and whatsoever was recorded in the Scrolls were made manifest, to assist Thy loved ones to aid Thy Cause through wisdom and utterance. O my Lord! I beseech Thee by Thy power that hath encompassed all created things, and by

Thy might that hath surrounded all existence, to make me and Thy chosen ones the standards of Thy guidance in Thy land and the banners of Thy Cause amidst Thy creation.

Thou seest, O my God, what the oppressors and pharaohs have wrought. O Lord! Take the reins of their pride in the grasp of Thy power, and the bridles of their rebellion in the right hand of Thy will. Aid the oppressed with Thy hosts, then protect them from the evil of Thine enemies who have denied Thee and Thy signs, and who have risen to frustrate Thy Cause. 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. There is none other God but Thee, the Supreme, the Most Exalted, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise.

O thou who soarest in the atmosphere of My love! As to what they have mentioned regarding the enthusiasm of the friends in that land, praise be to God, they have drunk the choice wine of utterance from the hands of the bounty of the Goal of all the worlds, and have attained unto that which God hath revealed in His Books. Illumine each one of them with the light of utterance from the Wronged One. They are the primary temples who have drunk the Kawthar of utterance from the hand of the bounty of the Dawning-Place of the Light of Oneness, and who have attained unto the station of maturity through the aid of the Most Exalted Word. We have mentioned them before, and at this time with verses from each letter of which have flowed the rivers of wisdom and utterance throughout all possibility. Blessed are they and happy are they. We bear witness that they have attained unto the hearing of My sweetest call and the rustling of My Most Glorious Pen. These are servants whom God hath described in His Books of old and to come. Verily, He is the Protector of those who do good, and He wasteth not the reward of the doers of good.

We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to aid them to achieve such steadfastness as cannot be shaken by the hosts of the world nor the power of the nations. Verily, He is the Almighty, the Glorious, the All-Bountiful.

Mention hath been made of him who remembereth and counseleth. Verily, he hath attained unto acceptance and hath spoken in remembrance and praise. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to strengthen him with the hosts of utterance and to guard him through His might and power which have encompassed all regions. O […]! Verily We have heard thy call and made mention of thee aforetime in a Tablet that hath shone forth from the luminous horizon of God's loving providence, the Lord of all worlds. Blessed is the tongue that hath spoken My remembrance, and the heart that hath attained the warmth of My love, and the eye that hath been honored to behold My traces, and the hand that hath taken My Book, detached from the earth and its ornaments, its favors and its wealth.

O Ta, the Wronged One maketh mention of thee from the precincts of the Prison with that which shall assist thee to quicken souls once again and to refine them. Verily thy Lord is the All-Knowing Speaker. Say: O people, cast away what ye possess of idle fancies and vain imaginings, and take what hath been given you from God, the Lord of the mighty Throne. Say: My God, my God! Illumine the hearts of Thy servants with the lights of Thy knowledge and adorn their heads with the crowns of Thy love and their temples with the robes of detachment in Thy days. Verily Thou art the Powerful over whatsoever Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the Mighty, the Powerful, the All-Wise.

God willing, may His glory be glorified, may He ordain for that honored one the living waters. O concourse of the dead! May they attain unto new life through the breezes of utterance. Verily He is the One Who hath power over whatsoever He willeth through His word “Be” and it is.

Mention was made of Mirza ʿAbdu’l-Husayn who hath intended to attain the Most Exalted Horizon. Blessed is he and well is it with him. We beseech God, blessed and exalted be He, to aid him to serve His Cause and to adorn him with the ornament of steadfastness in such wise that the names shall not prevent him from their Owner, their Quickener and their Ordainer.

O ʿAbdu’l-Husayn, hearken with the ear of thy soul to the call of the Wronged One […] The year the Shi’ih faction was devoted to mere names while heedless of the Truth […] Pride reached such a state that they […] When the dawn of the Day of Manifestation broke, all inflicted upon the Dayspring of Divine Revelation and the Fountainhead of heavenly inspiration that which caused the white stone to lament […]

Say: My God, my God! I testify to Thy Manifestation and Thy establishment upon the throne of knowledge at the midmost heart of contingent being, and to Thy standing before the faces of all religions. I beseech Thee, O Lord of the Kingdom and Sovereign of might, by Thy Name through which Thou didst subdue the hearts of the nations and by the light of Thy Cause wherewith Thou didst illumine the world, to protect me from the evil of the oppressors. O my Lord! I am Thy servant and the son of Thy servant. I have turned to Thee, detached from all else but Thee, and I desire from Thee the wonders of Thy bounty and bestowal. O my Lord! Disappoint me not from the ocean of Thy utterance and the sun of Thy generosity. Verily Thou art powerful over whatsoever Thou willest. There is none other God but Thee, the Forgiving, the Merciful.

Mention was made of his honor Ibrahim. We make mention of him from this most exalted station and give him the glad-tidings of that which hath been sent down for him from the heaven of God’s utterance, the Lord of all worlds. O Ibrahim! Hear the call from the Most Exalted Pen—sovereignty belongeth unto God, the Mighty, the Wise. We beseech God to grant thee the heavenly table that hath been sent down from the heaven of the bounty of thy Lord, the Generous, for it is His utterance through which the hearts of those who are nigh and the sincere ones have been attracted. Say: Praise be to Thee, O my God, for having given me to drink of Thy sealed wine and for having made known to me Thy straight path. I beseech Thee to adorn me with the ornament of trustworthiness amongst Thy creatures, then open before my face, through the key of Thy Most Great Name, the doors of grace and […]

Section 2: “Bounty and generosity are Thine, verily Thou art…”

Bounty and generosity are Thine, verily Thou art the One with power over whatsoever Thou willest. There is no God but Thee, the Single, the One, the Mighty, the Omnipotent. O Ghulam-Qabl-Husayn! We have counseled the friends of God, both past and present, in numerous Tablets concerning trustworthiness, religious devotion and chastity. However, most heeded not what God counseled and exchanged righteousness and godliness for […] and wickedness. Soon shall they find themselves in manifest loss. The bounty of this Revelation has been beyond […]. […] what strife, contention and corruption have been strictly forbidden in the Holy Books and Tablets. We beseech God that He may aid thee in that which will

cause the sanctification of the servants and the exaltation of His Word. Verily He is the Helper, the Counselor, the All-Wise.

O Rida-Qabli! He who loved Me made mention of thee, and We make mention of thee with wondrous mention. The horizons have been filled with the signs of thy Lord, the Master of the Day of Meeting, yet the people are in evident doubt. We beseech God to aid thee to rend all veils asunder and draw thee nigh unto Him. Verily He is the Mighty, the All-Knowing.

We make mention at this time of him who was named ʿAli, then of him who hath raised in the edifice of God that which none of My Branches hath raised—he who was named Badi'u'llah in My perspicuous Book. We beseech God to protect them both and aid them in that which befitteth this blessed, mighty and wondrous Day. Verily He heareth that which proceedeth from the mouths of His servants. Thy Lord is, in truth, the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing.

O My loved ones! This Day is the Day of assistance, albeit through wisdom and utterance. We counsel all to such deeds as will cause the peoples of the world to turn towards Him. Some in various regions have departed from wisdom. We beseech God to grant them success and aid them in that which will attract the hearts of His servants. Verily He is the Mighty, the Omnipotent.

O Khalil! Upon thee be My glory and mercy. Each of the souls mentioned hath attained unto the Most Great Remembrance […]. Today the station of the Word of God is not known to some. Blessed is the affliction of one who hath attained unto this with evident certitude. Know ye that every word […] that hath issued forth from the mouth of the Will in the name of anyone is like unto a lofty, towering and blessed Tree, whose fruits, signs and leaves are ever fresh and verdant. Blessed are they that understand and they that have attained.

The glory that hath dawned from the horizon of the heaven of My Kingdom be upon you, O My loved ones, and upon those whom the names have not prevented from drawing nigh unto God, the One, the Single, the Mighty, the Powerful.

O My Most Exalted Pen! Blessed art thou for that which We have caused to appear through thee of the pearls of wisdom and utterance, and that wherewith the ocean of exposition hath surged throughout creation. Exalted is the All-Merciful Who hath caused all things to speak even as the Tree of the Mount spoke unto Moses, son of Imran. Make mention of him who loved Me and drank the choice wine of reunion from the hand of My bounty when he was present before the Wronged One with such humility as caused all directions to bow down before it. Verily, he was named Ali-ʿAskar in the Book of Names by God, the Revealer of verses. Blessed art thou for having inhaled the fragrance of utterance and having set thy face towards the Ultimate Goal and the Supreme Summit, until thou didst attain His presence and win that which most of the servants were debarred from. We made mention of thee before, and We make mention of thee now with that which causeth the hearts of them that are nigh to be attracted in the Tablet of God, the Lord of lords. Be thou steadfast in the Cause of thy Lord in such wise that the might of […]

The Glory which hath dawned from Us be upon thee and upon those who have turned towards thee and have said: "Praise be unto Thee, O Lord of all mankind!" We make mention of Our loved ones in Mim and

Ya and give them glad tidings of that which hath been ordained for them by the Most Exalted Pen in the Books and Tablets. Blessed art thou, O Land of Mim and Ya, by reason of that which God hath manifested in thee through His beloved one who was named with Alif and Ha, whose mention We have sent down in the Crimson Scroll from My Most Exalted Pen. Blessed is he and blessed is he who loveth him, as decreed by the Lord of creation.

Verily, We have mentioned and continue to mention Our loved ones there who were not held back by swords from drawing nigh unto God, the Dayspring of Inspiration. Take ye the cup of steadfastness from the hand of bounty, then drink therefrom in the name of your Lord, the Mighty, the Bestower. Grieve not over that which hath proceeded from every lying impostor who hath exchanged trustworthiness for treachery and truth for falsehood. Indeed, they have cast the Book of God behind their backs and have denied His verses, before which all remembrances bow down when they are revealed. Rejoice in My remembrance, then aid Me through deeds from which the fragrance of acceptance is wafted. Thus hath the Pen spoken while the Wronged One was in the hands of the wicked. The splendor of the All-Merciful shall come upon you.

O friends of that land! We have made mention of you and continue to do so. Blessed is the face that hath turned, the heart that hath advanced, the tongue that hath spoken, and the hand that hath taken hold of My perspicuous Book. These are the days of revelation and He Who conversed on Sinai is seated upon the throne of utterance. Strive ye, that haply ye may attain unto that which is everlasting and enduring.

Jinab-i-Amin—upon him be My glory and loving-kindness—hath repeatedly made mention of the friends of that land and its surroundings and hath sent word to the Most Holy Court. We beseech God to assist you to remain steadfast in His Cause and to adorn you with the ornament of His bounty. Today the Pen is in joy, and the Tablet in rapture and delight. Blessed is the soul that hath been awakened by the call of the Most Exalted Pen and hath arisen to serve the Cause of God.

Give thanks unto your Lord for this great bounty and this loving-kindness which hath no peer in all creation nor likeness among His servants. Make mention of the devoted handmaidens on behalf of the Wronged One and illumine them with the lights of the utterance of Him Who is the Goal of all existence. The resplendent and gleaming Light shining from the horizon of the heaven of proof be upon you, O My loved ones, and upon you, O My handmaidens, and upon all who are steadfast in all regions in the Cause of God, the Lord of Names and Attributes.

BH00436: Praise be to God Who hath opened wide…

Section 1: “Praise be to God Who hath opened wide…”

He is the Compassionate, the Answerer, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise

Praise be to God Who hath opened wide the portals of arts and knowledge through the key of His Most Holy, Most Great, Most Glorious Name, whereby He hath pitched the pavilion of glory at the most exalted station in the realm of creation, and through which He hath caused the waves of the ocean of utterance to surge, and the stars of the heaven of divine knowledge to shine, and the sun of remembrance to shed its radiance, and the earth of certitude to yield its treasures, and the mountains their mines. Exalted,

exalted is He Who hath revealed through it the mysteries of His Book and that which lay hidden in His knowledge and was veiled from the eyes of His servants. Praise be to God Who hath opened upon the countenance of His Glory the gate of His tribulation and destiny, and sent down upon Him from the heaven of His bounty the verses of His grace and the standards of His utterance. He, verily, is the Almighty, the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

Not a thing escapeth His knowledge. He adorneth whomsoever He willeth with the ornament of His bounty and generosity, and divests whomsoever He pleaseth of the garments of His might and majesty. He, verily, is the Sovereign, the Mighty, the Bountiful. There is none other God but Him, the Single, the One, the Powerful, the All-Wise. We bear witness that there is none other God but Him, and that He Who hath come from the horizon of the heaven of utterance is the Hidden Secret and the Treasured Mystery, at Whose manifestation all things proclaimed:

> "The Kingdom is God's, Lord of the Throne on high and of earth below, the Lord of the world to come and of this world."

O thou who standest before the Gate and who, in thy final goal, seeketh after God, the Lord of all men! Know thou that We bear witness that thou hast drunk the choice wine of the love of God, the Lord of the worlds, and hast turned toward His horizon while most of the people were turning away. We beseech Him, exalted be He, to strengthen thee with His sovereignty and to aid thee in manifesting His Cause in such wise that thou mayest arise before the faces of His servants and take the chalice of utterance from the hands of the bounty of thy Lord, the All-Merciful, and drink therefrom despite those who denied Him Whom the Concourse on High and the dwellers of the Most Exalted Paradise have recognized, as well as those who circle round the Throne of their Lord, the Mighty, the Bountiful, at eventide and at dawn.

Say: O people of God! By the life of God, We had taken for Ourself a brother and aided him to serve Our Cause before Our face, and revealed for him that which diffused the fragrance of God's utterance throughout all else. We then raised him to a station beyond which the stations of the servants and the reach of those in all lands were cut off. But when he saw himself in that most holy, most noble, most mighty, most exalted station, pride seized him until he turned away from God, the Lord of the Day of Resurrection and He Who conversed on Sinai. I beseech Thee, O God of the world and Desire of the nations, to aid him and those who turned away to return unto Thee and to repent at the door of Thy mercy. Thou knowest that I summoned him in all conditions unto Thee until he drew against Me the sword of hatred and there appeared from him that which caused the limbs of all things to quake. O Lord! Help him to return to the door of Thy mercy, which Thou hast opened through Thy Most Great Name unto all peoples. Verily, Thou art the Almighty, the Powerful, the All-Bountiful.

O thou who gazeth toward the horizon of utterance and who holdeth fast to the cord of the loving-kindness of thy Lord, the All-Merciful! Know thou with certain knowledge that the Wronged One desireth naught but the exaltation of the Word of God and the manifestation of His Cause amidst His servants. By this hath the fire of envy and hatred been kindled. Beseech thou God, thy Lord, to quench it through the living waters of His utterance. Verily, He is the One Who hath power over whatsoever He willeth through His mighty and wondrous Word. Blessed art thou, O Sadiq, in that God hath aided thee to turn unto Him, to hold fast to His cord, and to cling to the hem of His mercy.

Hear thou in the Persian tongue the divine call from the direction of the Prison of ʿAkka. Verily it draweth thee unto a station wherein the ranks of the world and the doubts of nations shall not prevent thee from drawing nigh unto the All-Informed One. All created things bear witness that this servant's purpose in arising and bearing the wrongs of mankind hath been that bonds might be loosened and the captive set free. Should any soul deny or stray from its shelter, it mattereth not; nay rather, we are grateful, for afterwards the difference will become clear and distinction made between pearl and potsherd. Say: O my God, my God! I beseech Thee by Thy radiant light. O my God, my God!

I beseech Thee by Thy all-embracing remembrance and by Thy dawning, gleaming Name to transform the abasement of Thy loved ones into glory and their weakness into strength. Thou art verily the Powerful, the All-Knowing, the Wise. Glory be unto Thee, O my God! I beseech Thee by the poverty of Thy lovers to open before their faces the gates of Thy wealth. Thou art verily the Bountiful, the Generous. O Lord! I beseech Thee by the Word whereby were attracted the hearts of all things and the souls of all beings, and by the Light whereby were illumined the hearts of the sincere ones, and by Thy sovereignty wherewith Thou didst subdue all names, to ordain for me by Thy Most Exalted Pen that which shall abide with me in every world of Thy worlds. Thou art He to Whose power testifieth all in existence, both seen and unseen. There is none other God but Thee, the Bountiful, the Generous.

We beseech God to aid thee to serve His Cause and to enable thee to hold fast unto whatsoever leadeth to the exaltation of His Word and the manifestation of His Cause. Say: O people! By God, the Promised Day hath come and the Book hath been sent down and the Throne hath been adorned by the Lord of all men, yet doubt stirreth in hearts. This is naught but a wondrous matter. O people! The Day hath come and the Self-Subsisting calleth out: The Kingdom is God's, the Lord of Lords! O thou who gazest upon the Countenance! Should anyone ask thee concerning the Ark of God, say: Verily it is amidst the waves. Thus did My tongue speak aforetime in the kingdom of My utterance, and at this moment: Verily My brother whom We reared over successive years hath risen up before the kingdom of utterance and committed that which caused the near ones and the sincere to weep at eventide and at dawn.

Thus did the Wronged One suffer at the hands of him whom We had raised to the most exalted station. Would anyone deny what hath flowed from the Pen? Nay, by My life, save he who casteth justice behind him, clinging to tyranny and oppression. I beseech Thee, O Joy of the World, to transform the sorrows of Thy servants into gladness. Thou art verily the Kind, the Forgiving. Take once again the cup of utterance from the hand of the bounty of thy Lord, the All-Merciful, then drink therefrom in His Name through which He subdued the kingdoms of wisdom and utterance. He is verily the Powerful through His sovereignty and the Manifest through His signs. There is none other God but He, the Commander, the Wise.

Section 2: "O Sad! This is a Book that calleth…"

O Sad! This is a Book that calleth out from every direction: O Manifestations of Names and Attributes! The Revealer of Verses hath come with the standards of knowledge and wisdom. Nothing escapeth His knowledge. He heareth the call of His loved ones and answereth them through His grace and mercy. He is the Powerful, the Mighty, the All-Bestowing. O thou who gazest upon the Countenance! We bear witness that thou didst attain and win the choice wine of immortality from the hands of bounty and what is in the

Crimson Scroll from the Pen of God, the Lord of all men. Thou art he whom God did strengthen to turn towards Him in His days, and caused to speak His praise, and revealed unto thee what was hidden from all eyes and sight.

As to what was asked concerning the blessed word "He" appearing in the garment of "I," and hidden in "I am the One Witnessed," and its restriction in this Revelation: For the Daysprings of Divine Revelation and the Manifestations of His Cause there is, in every station, an utterance, and at every rank, a mention. At times they speak with "Verily, I am God," and at other times they utter "I am a servant who hath believed in God." Since this word hath been revealed in this Dispensation, it is specific thereto. For the birds of the Paradise of inner meanings, it is a melody when they are seated upon the throne of "I have with God a station," speaking with an utterance transcending the limited expressions current among men. The aforementioned word is but a single word, yet in the eyes of those endowed with insight, it hath been revealed from the King of Words through the Dawning-Places of Divine utterance, according to time and station, that which the world of existence is powerless and incapable of comprehending.

O thou who dwellest in My vicinity and drinketh the choice wine of My utterance! This Wronged One hath not attended schools nor engaged in formal discourse. Out of pure bounty to thee are these few words mentioned and shall continue to be mentioned. In stations where they regard the purpose of creation and its effects, they ask about all matters and manifest the utmost servitude. And when they behold the signs deposited within existence, they speak that which transcendeth comprehension and minds. Thus it is that in one station, looking toward the expression of humility, submissiveness and utter poverty, they utter "My Lord, show me," and the purpose of this word is to express powerlessness, nothingness and evanescence before the manifestation and appearance of the might and grandeur of God, exalted be His glory.

In brief, the Manifestations of God at times express power, wealth and independence, and at times they express weakness, poverty and evanescence. The purpose of these two stations, two mentions and two utterances hath been and is to demonstrate the power and might of God, exalted be His glory.

As to what was asked concerning the blessed verse about the Son of Mary, this word is clear and evident. According to the opinion of the learned ones, it is a rhetorical question meaning "Didst thou say…?" Since the followers of Christ believe in the trinity, meaning the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, therefore the purpose of the verse was to reject the statements and beliefs of that people. In the innermost mystery He says: "Glory be unto Thee! Glory be unto Thee! Thou knowest what is in my soul, and Thou art the All-Knowing, the All-Informed. I seek Thy forgiveness for what the heedless say. Glory be unto Thee! I am of those who repent."

And as to what was asked concerning the verse "God forgiveth not that partners should be set up with Him; but He forgiveth anything else," it is incumbent in this day upon this party to beseech from the Truth that He may enable them to attain unto true Divine Unity. Every soul who fixeth his gaze upon and cleaveth unto God, glorified be His majesty, and Him alone, is reckoned before God as one of the people of unity and is accepted; otherwise he is accounted among the idolaters. Thus were the Shi'ih party idolaters while they counted themselves believers; they were ignorant while they deemed themselves

learned. From the recompense of deeds on the Day of Judgment, the stations of that party are manifest and evident as the sun.

And as to what thou didst mention concerning the Unseen and the knowledge of the Prophets, there hath been and is no doubt that knowledge of the Unseen is exclusively reserved to the Ancient Being, glorified be His majesty, and all the Prophets unanimously acknowledge this fact. “None knoweth the Unseen save He” is established and proven. Likewise the blessed verse “No vision can grasp Him, but His grasp is over all vision,” for the impenetrable Unseen hath been and ever shall be hidden, and outward vision is powerless and incapable of beholding and comprehending it. These outward eyes have not been and are not capable of beholding even outward things, much less that which is concealed behind the veils of the Unseen.

The Wronged One testifieth with His outer and inner tongue that “No vision can grasp Him, but His grasp is over all vision, and He is the All-Subtle, the All-Informed.” Both the outer and inner eye are powerless and incapable of beholding. If thou wouldst hear from Me, purify thy heart and pen and tongue from that which beseemeth not the days of God, then confine thy affairs to teaching His Cause and guiding His creation. And now that honored one should speak of that which causeth eagerness and longing, and is the cause of ascent and elevation in those immersed in the sea of sanctity. These mentions are the cause of pause. We beseech God to give thee to drink of a cup whose effect shall sanctify thy being from the words of them that are veiled, and purify thine essence from the doubts of the suspicious ones and the uncertainties of the barking ones.

There hath been and is no doubt that in this Most Great Revelation there hath appeared that which existed not before. The Cause hath attained to such a station that the Primal Point—may the spirit of all else be sacrificed for Him—hath spoken “I am the first of the worshippers.” We beseech of the Truth that He may sanctify that honored one through the Kawthar of holy utterance. Verily He is powerful over all things. Say: My God, my God! Praise be unto Thee for having guided me unto the horizon of Thy manifestation and caused me to hear Thy sweetest call and the rustling of Thy Most Exalted Pen. My Lord! Rear me according to Thy will and not my will. Then make me a standard of Thy Name in Thy lands and an ensign of Thy Cause amongst Thy servants. I testify to my poverty and Thy wealth, my powerlessness and Thy might. I beseech Thee by Thyself and by Thy signs and Thy standing before the faces of Thy creation, to remember me in all conditions at Thy mention, O Thou through Whose Name the Mother Book hath spoken in the final abode.

BH00445: May my spirit be sacrificed for you!

May my spirit be sacrificed for you!

The blessed letter that you had previously sent arrived later, bringing joy to heart and soul. Praise be to God, once again the holy spiritual breezes and true intimations of divine companionship were inhaled from the paradise of meaningful love. I was blessed with the jewels of wisdom and utterance, and with exquisite novel expressions and sublime words. That which you confided in God, your Lord, was repeatedly presented before the Throne, time and time again. Once more, countless suns of favor have risen and shone forth from the horizon of grace of the King of Names, specifically for your honor. Blessed

be your tongue for having mentioned the Beloved of the worlds and for having spoken with the raptures of those attracted and the melodies of the yearning ones. By God, through these the hearts of the sincere were attracted and the souls of the lovers were enthralled.

Regarding the names previously mentioned, unique and wondrous Tablets were revealed and sent for each one. Blessed are they, for their names were mentioned by the Pen of Revelation and the gaze of God was directed toward them from this Great Prison. However, the names were not mentioned in the Tablets, for wisdom's sake. Your honor may dispense them as appropriate, for each Tablet is specifically for one of those names that were mentioned before the Throne, and their names have been recorded in a mighty Tablet. As for the names of the people of S that you wrote about in your subsequent letter, God willing, they will be revealed and sent later. That beloved one should not mention divine favors to all until the Tablets arrive. And regarding the Tablets that you mentioned Aqa Mirza ʿAli-Naqi had requested, wondrous and sublime Tablets were revealed and sent. Give him the glad-tidings and convey infinite greetings from this evanescent one.

Again it hath been revealed from the right hand of the Divine Command: Some people have been and are requesting special worldly ornaments from the Most Holy Court, and this is exceedingly far from justice and fairness. From the beginning of this Revelation until now, never have We made any intimation to anyone regarding such matters—holy is the hem of the Cause from the mention of such things, much less their practice. It is incumbent upon all to counsel such souls and to declare unto them what cometh from God. The Herald of Divine Unity proclaimeth from the realm of Godhead: O ye loved ones! Soil not the holy hem with the clay of earthly things, and speak not according to the promptings of self and desire.

I swear by the Sun of the horizon of the Cause, which shineth with utmost brilliance and light from the heaven of the prison, that they who have turned to the Qiblih of existence must today be sanctified and detached from the seen and the unseen. If they engage in teaching, they must do so with pure intent, in a spirit of complete detachment and independence, with lofty purpose and a sanctified nature, turning to all regions with the fragrances of the All-Possessing. It behooveth such souls to make their provision trust in God and their raiment the love of their Lord, the Most Exalted, the Most Glorious, that their words may take effect.

Those souls who today fix their gaze upon the desires of self and the ornaments of this vanishing world are seen to be exceedingly remote. In most times, there have been no outward ornaments in the court of the All-Merciful, and those who circled round were in great hardship. Nevertheless, never hath there shone forth from the Dayspring of the Supreme Pen any mention of the world or word indicating it. And if any soul was blessed to send a gift to the Most Holy Court, it was accepted as a token of grace, although were We to desire all the riches of earth and take possession thereof, none would have the right to question it. No deed hath been or will be more abhorrent than to beg among people in the name of God.

It is incumbent upon that soul and the friends of God to summon the people to the most great detachment and the most great sanctification, that the fragrance of His most glorious Robe may be inhaled from His loved ones. However, the wealthy must be mindful of the poor, for the station of the patient among the poor is great in the sight of God. By My life! No station can equal it save what God

willeth. Blessed is the poor one who is patient and concealing, and blessed is the rich one who giveth and preferreth others.

God willing, the poor should strive and engage in crafts and trades, for this hath been made obligatory upon everyone in this most great Revelation and is accounted among good deeds in the sight of God. And whoso acteth upon it, the hidden assistance of God will assuredly encompass him. He enricheth whomsoever He willeth through His grace. He, verily, hath power over all things.

Likewise, from the Dayspring of the merciful Will, words have shone forth concerning the protection of souls and the education of the people of the nation and realm, the benefits of which shall reach all who are on earth, were they to hearken to what hath been sent down from the heaven of the Command. At present it is not expedient that these be sent. They remain suspended in the heaven of Will until such time as the divine Purpose shall determine they be sent. The Command is in His grasp. Strive earnestly in the education of souls, for this hath been and shall remain among the most important of all things.

And glory be upon thee, O thou who hearest Our call in the remembrance of thy Lord, the Powerful, the Mighty, the All-Possessing.

According to the Most Holy and Supreme Command, send copies of this letter with haste to the land of [Ya] and Shin and Sad and other countries. Furthermore, twenty tumans have been allocated to be delivered to you for the children of Ismu'llah-il-Munir-il-Anvar, upon him be the Most Glorious Baha. Furthermore, that person has been given the choice; He said:

> "If they follow the truth, what is on earth is theirs, otherwise thy Lord is the best of inheritors."

However, it is incumbent upon all to be attentive to their condition at the time of acceptance. The Glory be upon thee and upon those who have turned with radiant faces toward the Most Glorious Horizon and have detached themselves from the worlds.

Likewise, from the Dawning-place of the utterance of the All-Merciful, say to the loved ones of God that the first quality of humanity is fairness, and all matters depend upon it. Let them reflect somewhat upon the tribulations and afflictions of this Prisoner, Who has spent His entire life in the hands of enemies, and every day was afflicted with a fresh trial in the path of divine love, until the Cause of God was raised up among the servants. Now if someone should arise and, following his own imaginings, occupy himself secretly and openly with causing division among the people—is such a one to be accounted among the fair-minded? Nay, by His Self, the One Who rules over the worlds! By My life, My heart laments and Mine eyes weep for the Cause of God and for those who say what they understand not and imagine within themselves that which they perceive not.

Today it behooveth all to cling to the Most Great Name. There is no refuge or haven save Him. They must unite the people. Should anyone, though he be dwelling in the highest heights of grandeur, utter words that would cause division among the people, divert them from the shores of the Most Great Ocean and turn their attention to any direction save the praiseworthy station which is manifested within human limitations and directions, all existence beareth witness that he is deprived of the breezes of the All-Merciful. Say: Be fair, O people of understanding. He that is unfair hath no humanity.

God is aware of all souls and what they possess. The forbearance of God hath caused people to become heedless, for He doth not rend asunder the veil before its time, and due to the precedence of mercy, wrathful manifestations have been prevented. Therefore most people, being engaged secretly in that which they commit, have imagined God to be unaware of it. Nay, by His All-Knowing and All-Informed Self! All is visible and evident in the mirror of His knowledge. Say: Praise be to Thee, O Concealer of the weaklings' faults, and praise be to Thee, O Forgiver of the heedless ones' sins! We forbade the people from following delusion that they might recognize the sovereign Truth and that which appeareth from His presence.

Now they are seen to be afflicted with the vain imaginings of their own selves. By My life, they themselves are the deluded ones and perceive it not, and that which they utter is delusion though they comprehend it not. We beseech God to assist all and to make them know Him and their own selves. By My life, whoso attaineth unto His knowledge soareth in the atmosphere of His love and detacheth himself from the worlds, turning not his attention to all who are on earth, how much less to those who speak according to their desires that which God hath not permitted them.

Say: Today is the day of hearkening. Hearken unto the voice of the Wronged One. Speak ye in the name of Truth, and be adorned with the ornament of His remembrance, and illumined with the lights of His love. This is the key to hearts and the polish of existence. He who remaineth heedless of that which hath flowed from the Finger of Will is in manifest error. Righteousness and uprightness are conditions of faith, not difference and corruption. Convey that which thou hast been commanded by the Trustworthy One.

The Glory be upon thee, O thou who rememberest My Name, who gazeth toward My direction, and who uttereth the praise of thy Gracious Lord.

At one time, I was present before the Throne, and He commanded: Write to Ali—O Ali! In certain places, some have outwardly clung to one of the branches of this Divine Tree, seeking thereby to lead weak souls from the shore of oneness to the wilderness of misbelief and error. In truth, these people's secret purpose was never and is not the branch of the Tree, but rather their own selfish desires. God will reveal what is in their souls and what is hidden in their breasts. Verily, He is the All-Knowing, the All-Wise. People must be strictly forbidden from entering such places, and every possible effort must be made to protect the Cause from all directions, lest the evil ones find a way to infiltrate.

O Ali! Strange indeed are the people who each day soar with a different desire and wander in a wilderness. These souls never truly sought the branch, nor will they; rather, they have made him a means for attracting people to themselves. God protect us and you from the evil of such as these. Out of consideration for past mercy, We have not exposed the secret of these souls in this instance, that perchance they might become aware and feel remorse. They have also deceived some village folk with their vain imaginings. If someone could, with wisdom and kindness, guide these weak ones to the shore of the might of oneness, it would be praiseworthy.

And the Glory be upon you and those with you.

This servant submits that since the veil has not been rent in this instance and counsels of loving kindness have been sent down from the Pen of Command to those souls, therefore, as commanded, your honor

should also not expose them but speak with perfect wisdom, that perchance they might become aware. Otherwise, God will rend the veil. Verily, He is the Powerful, the Mighty.

Your honor knows that it is now nearly ten months since this petition was submitted, and likewise a petition to his honor the illustrious Nabil (upon him be the remembrance of God, the Mighty, the Beautiful), along with certain passages from the Most Holy Court that needed—indeed, absolutely needed—to be delivered. It was delayed all this time and did not arrive, so it has been sent by a new route. We hope, God willing, that it will arrive soon. Furthermore, two special cloaks have been bestowed, one for his honor Nabil and one for your honor. Upon you be the Glory of God and His remembrance.

As commanded, at least once every month, the friends of God in whatever land they reside should, either collectively or individually, read whatever divine utterances have been revealed in this leaf and meditate upon them.

BH00447: God testifies that there is no God but Him…

In the Name of the Most Invincible, Most Exalted, Most Holy, Most Glorious

God testifies that there is no God but Him and that ʿAli-Qabli-Nabil is His servant and His Glory. The days of servitude have passed and the Glory has appeared with a sovereignty that has encompassed all created things. Then the clamor was raised from all who are in the heavens and earth except those whom We protected from the depths of fire and whom We saved through Our grace. Thus were We powerful over all things and predominant over all in the kingdom.

Say: O people! The thunderbolt of the Cause has come to you, then the breezes of torment. Beware that you show mercy to [yourselves] and do not dispute with Him Who has come to you with all the signs and Who speaks to you at all times that which the Ancient Being spoke within His breast. The reins of patience and forbearance have been taken from Him and He speaks as He wishes and is not questioned about what He wishes, and verily He has power over all things. And whenever I became powerless before Him:

> "O my Lord! Have mercy upon my soul and leave me not in the hands of the wicked. You witness how these wolves have surrounded me, yet He does not hear from me and speaks in all things that ʿI am God, there is no God but Me. I created all possible things for the knowledge of My Self and brought beings into existence to attain My presence.' And then I manifested My Self in truth as a grace from Us, and thus was the matter decreed from the direction of wisdom in truth."

Say: O people! By God the Truth, verily He speaks now and utters what He wishes and wills, and I am not able to prevent Him. And if I try to prevent Him, by God He will not hear from me. Verily He is the Truth, there is no God but Him, and He is wise over all things.

O people! You cannot slay me with the swords of your rancor. By God, verily your Beloved has manifested me in truth, and all created things bear witness to this, if you be informed thereof. O people! If this be my sin, then ʿAli came to you before with what I have brought you, and before him Muhammad the

Messenger of God, and before him the Spirit. Thus has the matter been from time immemorial, if you be aware thereof. Fear God and dispute not His signs, war not against His Self, and deprive not yourselves of the mercy that encompasses the worlds.

Then know, O thou who gazest upon the Countenance, that from the thicket of hypocrisy has emerged a band of wolves, and among them is he who cried out within himself: "Is God able to make sweet bitter, or black white?" Say: Yea, by my Lord! Verily He is powerful over what He wishes. He changes all things at every moment, if you be discerning thereof. Nothing in the heavens and earth can frustrate Him. Rather, impotence is an attribute of His servants, while He has ever been sanctified beyond the description of His creation and powerful over all things.

And among them is he who said that this Manifestation has appeared too soon, and this is not from God's practice that has gone before. Say: Yea, by my Lord! This is that innovation the like of which the eye of creation has never witnessed, and thus does the Tongue of Truth speak in the heaven of mighty and lofty glory. Beyond that, say: Verily He has ever been manifest above all things, but you did not recognize Him because the veils of fancy and desire seized you. Every possessor of knowledge beareth witness to this truth: If ye would judge fairly within yourselves and ponder upon those days when the Day-Star of the horizons shone forth from the quarter of Iraq—by God!

No eye there was but witnessed from Him what none other had witnessed, and heard what none among all created things had heard. Such indeed was the matter, did ye but know it. God Himself walked among you and spoke unto you with His holy tongue, yet ye knew Him not and remained veiled from His presence. Say: By God! After Me no ear shall hear what was heard from My tongue, nor shall any eye behold what was witnessed in My beauty. But when We found you veiled by fancy and desire, We concealed Our countenance and manifested it not to you, though it was shining like the sun from a glorious horizon.

Say: O people! Fear God and act not as did the people of the Furqan towards ʿAli. Be ye ashamed before God Who created you for this Day and gave you glad tidings of this Manifestation in all the Tablets through a sublime and exalted Pen. And thou, O Zaynu'l-Baqa, grieve not because of these people and what proceedeth from their mouths. Leave their mention, their selves, and all that pertaineth unto them, then turn thy face unto thy Lord and be steadfast in His path. Take heed lest thou be impatient in the Cause of thy Lord. Rather, speak forth between earth and heaven as We commanded thee before and now command thee again, as a token of Our grace unto thee and unto those who hearken unto thy words concerning God, thy Lord, and who take refuge in the shadow of thy Lord's protection, remaining faithful to the truth.

Be thankful unto God thy Lord for having purified thee from the defilement of these people. Leave them and all their followers—they are but as a handful of clay in thy Lord's sight, nay less than that, wert thou to know. Purify thine ear that thou mayest hear what the Dove of the Cause warbleth in all things. By the True God! Then wilt thou hear the call from all that hath been created between earth and heaven. Thus have We rent asunder the veil by Our command, for verily We have power over all things. We have uttered a Word and suspended it in the air—it verily attracteth the essences of all created things while casting aside their accidents. It is the magnet of divine attraction, remembered before the Throne.

Through it God separateth light from darkness, the fortunate from the wretched, the rejector from the acceptor. Thus doth He what He willeth by His command, and He is indeed wise over all things.

Know thou that what thou hast called unto God, thy Lord and the Lord of the worlds, hath come before Us. We have heard the sighing of thy heart and the lamentation of thy soul, and We have accepted from thee both what thou hast done and what thou hast not done, as a grace from Our presence, that thou mayest be among the thankful. We have aided thee in the Cause and shall continue to aid thee as We wish, by Our command, for verily We are the Commander. We have distinguished thee among all creation through Our love, wherefore thou shouldst glory among the concourse of the worlds. Be thou steadfast in the Cause in such wise that thou seest naught in existence save My hallowed, mighty and luminous Beauty, and beholdest all else besides God thy Lord as dust kneaded with brackish water. They have no mention or name with thy Lord today, save those who have ascended unto God and attained the riches of the heavens and earth, and verily it is for the love of thy Lord. He who hath it not is indeed the poorest of creatures—to this every discerning and fair-minded person beareth witness.

Thou dost not ride upon the camel, nor dost thou disgrace thy Lord, for We have forgiven thee before thy asking and clothed thee in the robe of forgiveness before all creation. Therefore keep this to thyself, then thank God thy Lord for having enabled thee to recognize His Self and to stand before His presence, and for having detached thee from all else besides Him. Verily He is the All-Merciful, the Most Compassionate. Blessed art thou for having entrusted thy affairs to the Best Bestower, the Most Excellent Helper, and the Most Great Trustee. Be thou therefore assured in thyself through God's might and power, then turn thy face toward the House and say:

> "O my Lord! Praise be unto Thee for what Thou hast bestowed upon me from the wonders of Thy favors and enabled me to entrust my affairs to Thy Self, the Almighty, the Mighty, the All-Knowing."

Thus doth God single out whom He willeth through His grace and purify his heart from the defilement of the idolaters.

As to what thou hast mentioned regarding Huquq and such matters, We have verily appointed thee as a trustee from Our presence over all the worlds. All that thou hast done, committed and performed, We have accepted from thee. Grieve not within thyself but be assured through the grace of thy Ancient Lord. There have shone forth from the horizon of thy Lord's fingers resplendent words and consummate wisdom, which We have sent unto thee that thou mayest witness and be of those who are well-informed. We desired in this Tablet to inform thee of what hath befallen Us, but We have restrained the Pen from mentioning sorrows lest thou be disturbed within thyself and grieve for what hath befallen the Self of God, the Supreme, the Mighty, the Self-Subsisting.

Say: By God! There hath befallen Us what hath not befallen any of the Manifestations of old, and I have been tried in the mouth of the serpent, and none knoweth this save My mighty and beloved Self. At first he desired to slay Me, but when God frustrated his desire, he then arose to calumny, and there flowed from his pen that which he himself witnessed, showing no shame before Him Who created and nurtured him, and taught him morning and evening. When he saw the people were foolish, he committed this sin

within himself and was among those who play. Had people possessed illumined vision, they would surely have witnessed in his calumnies his falsehood and would have discovered what lay within his breast of hatred for God and enmity toward Him. But the people do not understand. Would that thou hadst been informed of the essence of his affair, but We have veiled it as a wisdom from Our presence which none comprehend save those who are endowed with understanding. Days passed during which no one could mention what befell God, the Supreme, the Self-Subsisting. We showed patience and concealed matters until God should bring about His purpose. Verily He is the Almighty over all things, doing what He willeth through His command "Be" and it is.

Your letter has reached the Exalted Presence, and as to what you mentioned regarding the transactions that have occurred—what is done is done, be not troubled. You are trustworthy in the sight of God. Arise at all times to aid the Cause. What is beloved in the sight of God today has been and will ever be the recognition of His Being. Whosoever guideth a soul shall have ordained for him an infinite reward.

O Zaynu'l-Muqarrabin! God, exalted be His mention, hath not manifested such falsehood in any people as He hath in the people of the Bayan. For in every people, a thousand or more or less years would pass before one would appear by whom the truthful could be distinguished from the false, and the believer from the misbeliever. But since the people of the Bayan regarded themselves as the most discerning among the peoples of the earth and superior to all creation—to such extent that they considered all others veiled while deeming themselves as having recognized God and among those who had attained His presence—therefore but one breath of test blew, and it caused them all to fall back to the lowest station of previous peoples.

Thus they have argued against God with the same arguments that the foremost among the followers of the Furqan used at the time of the manifestation of the Point of the Bayan—may the spirit of all else be sacrificed for His sake—and they inflicted upon the Truth what they inflicted. Away with such wrongdoing people! Indeed, they have uttered words and advanced proofs such as no people had ever advanced, even though the veils have not yet been lifted, and what hath been mentioned is less than can be counted in the sight of God. Yet these immature servants have raised such objections as no people had ever raised at the time of a Manifestation.

Soon will the tablets of fire spread to all regions. Leave them behind you, then turn toward God, the Mighty, the Beautiful. And regarding the names mentioned in your letter of those who have ascended unto God, verses from the heaven of glory have been specially revealed for each one and sent in a scroll. God willing, it will have reached you and you will deliver them. And the glory be upon you and upon him who hath occupied the seat of independence in this firm and wondrous Cause.