

# BAHA'U'LLAH

Dayspring Bahá'í Magazine for Children

Issues 96 and 97

A special double issue for the  
Bicentenary of the Birth of Bahá'u'lláh

## *Dayspring*

### **Produced under the auspices of the National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of the United Kingdom**

*Dayspring* is produced three times a year on an educational non-profit basis and seeks to nurture a love for God and mankind in the hearts of children. Material by children and adults of stories, plays, poems, artwork and news is warmly welcomed. Please note that under the terms of the Child Protection Act regarding publishing images of children, permission to do so is required from a parent or guardian.

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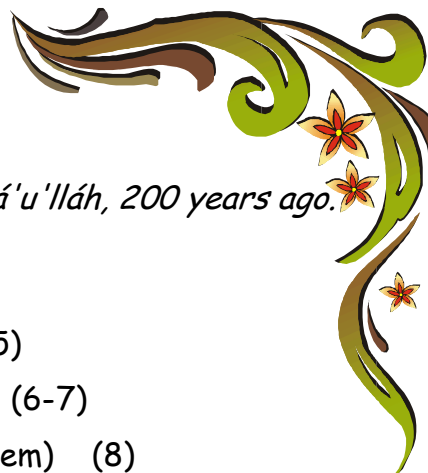
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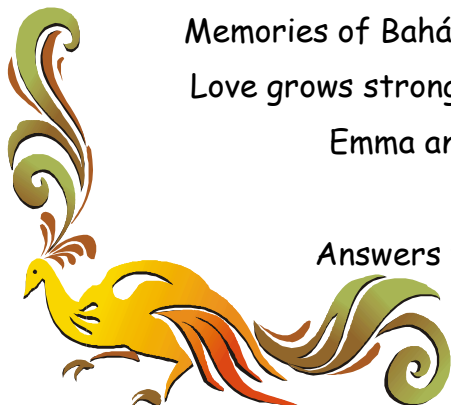
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Issues 96 and 97


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*“Glory be to Thee,  
O God,  
for Thy Manifestation  
of love to mankind!  
O Thou, who art our  
Life and Light,  
guide Thy servants  
in Thy Way....”*



**Bahá'u'lláh**



## Meeting Bahá'u'lláh

"My eyes, for the first time, fell upon  
Bahá'u'lláh.  
His kindly face,  
the majesty of His bearing,  
the sweetness of His smile. "

"He took me by the hand  
and walked with me along the market-street.  
From that moment all my sorrows vanished.  
My soul was flooded with joy."

*(From the Words of  
Shaykh Hasan-i-Zunúzí, 1851.)*



## The Heavenly Tree

There is a beautiful story about the land where Bahá'u'lláh was born.

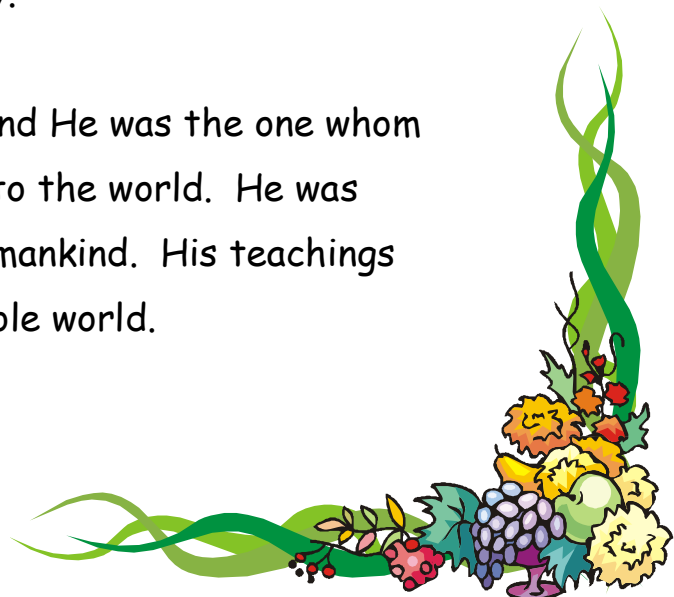
The story is that a Holy Tree would grow so tall that its branches would reach to heaven, and that delicious fruit would grow on the Tree, more sweet than plums or pomegranates. People would come from all over the world to eat the fruit, and this would be like spiritual food for all the nations.





Well, for hundreds of years the people came to climb the mountains, sail on the rivers and walk through the valleys in search of this Tree from heaven. But although they found trees covered in blossom, sweet-tasting fruit and sweet-smelling flowers, no-one could find the Holy Tree which would make them more kind and good and happy.

Then Bahá'u'lláh came, and He was the one whom God had sent to bring peace to the world. He was the Tree that would shelter mankind. His teachings are the fruit to unite the whole world.





**When Bahá'u'lláh  
Was Born**  
*by Susan Engle*



One day at dawn  
A Child was born  
A quiet Child  
A royal Child  
The Sun, the Light had come to Earth  
That dark November morn.

His mother said  
He never cried  
Amazing Child  
Contented Child  
The Prince of Peace, a gift from God,  
Had come to be our Guide.

This quiet Child  
Would wield no sword  
No angry voice  
No pounding fists  
He grew to use a Pen of Might  
To share God's sacred Word.

We celebrate  
That wondrous morn  
Because the Child  
That quiet Child  
Bahá'u'lláh, a gift from God,  
The Promised One, was born.





## The Birth of Bahá'u'lláh

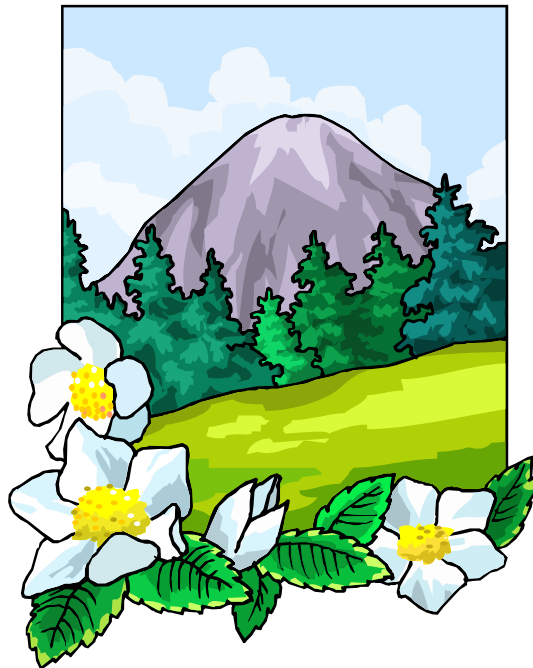
In the north of Persia there is a very beautiful place called Nur. It nestles beneath high mountains on one side, and the cool, refreshing blue Caspian Sea on the other. On the mountainsides are forests, and clear streams tumble their frothy way, over rocks and pebbles, down to the sea. On the other side of the mountains is the capital city of Tehran.

People in many countries had, for many years, been studying their holy Books and they were expecting Someone very special to appear in this world. In 1817, a very holy man named Shaykh Ahmad knew the Promised One would soon appear, and sure enough, while he was in Tehran, one night just before dawn, the very special Baby was born. This Baby was to become known as Bahá'u'lláh and He would bring a new Message from God, and a whole new way of life for all the people. Not many other people in the world knew that the "Promised One" had arrived that night. But maybe, somehow, the world itself knew, because at the moment of that birth, just as the dawn was breaking, many, many things had very quietly changed.

Did the moon begin to shine a little more brightly? Did the snows on the high mountains sparkle more clearly in the moonlight? Were the stars, as they looked down on this earth from light years away, twinkling a little more quickly? Was the breeze, blowing from this city, carrying a sweet fragrance? And if you were listening carefully, would you have heard more little animals than usual scurrying among the trees? And, as the sun began to rise on that very special morning, did the birds sing more beautifully than they had ever done before?

Shaykh Ahmad understood. But he needed to keep on travelling, for he wanted to teach people to watch and wait, so that they would recognise the new Message in years to come.

But already the world had changed. The "Promised One" had come.



## The Special Child

When Bahá'u'lláh was born, His mother saw that He was not like other children. For one thing, He never made a fuss or complained. As He grew up He became very kind and loving. He did not go to school but seemed to know things anyway.

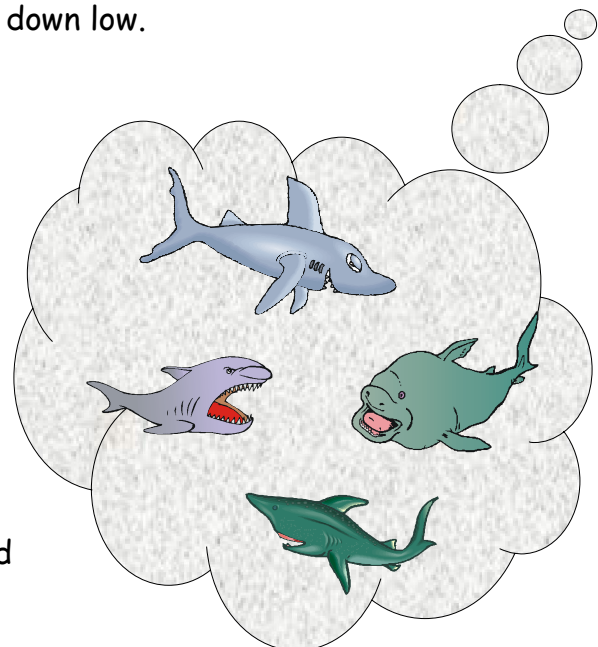


He would talk with wise and learned men and could even explain to them the most difficult parts of the holy writings. They were surprised at His clear and clever answers.

When He was five years old, Bahá'u'lláh had a dream. He dreamed He was in a garden and huge birds were flying above Him. They flapped their wings and swooped down low.

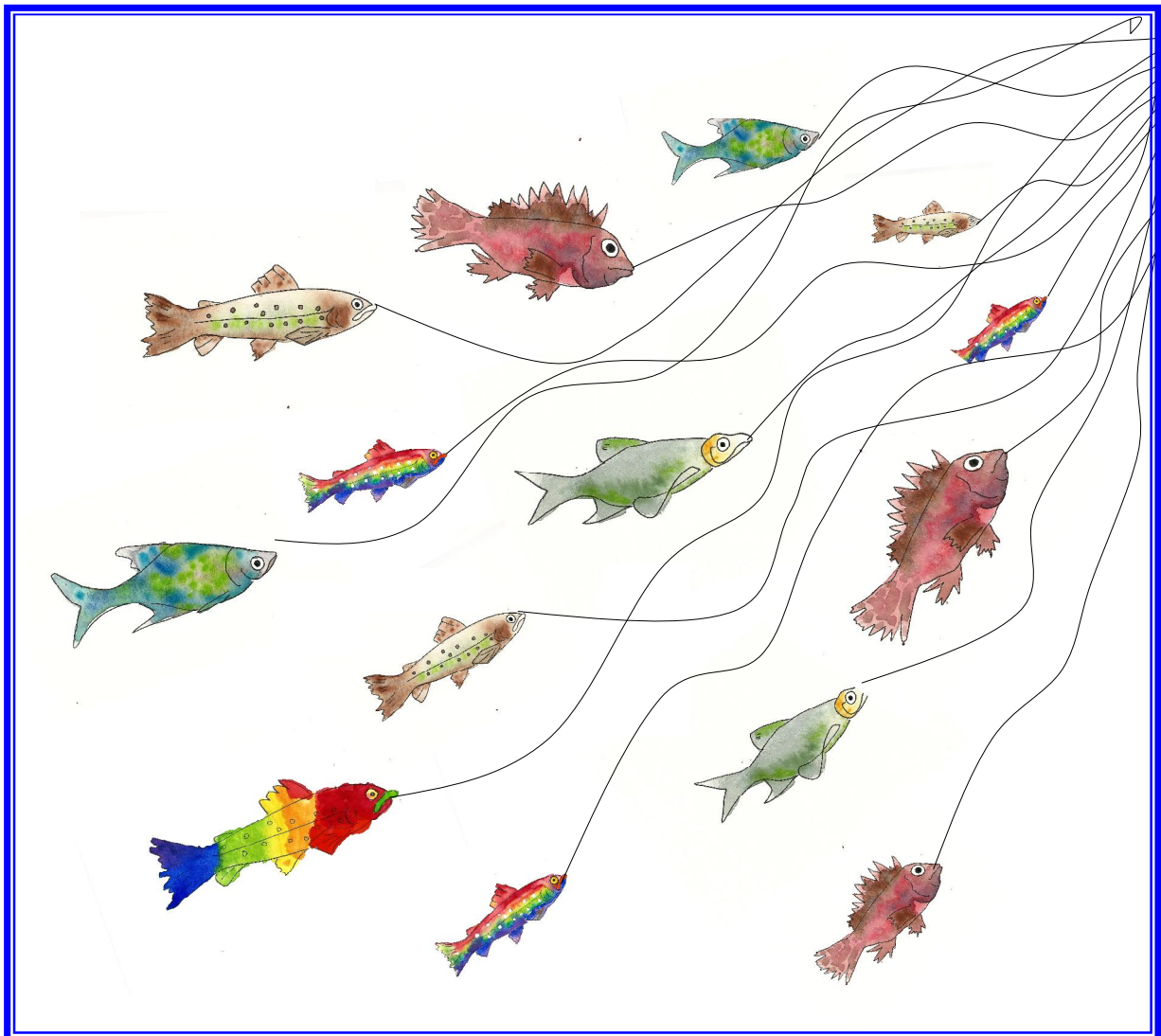
From all sides they began to attack Him, but He was not hurt or frightened. Then He found Himself swimming in the sea being attacked by fishes. They too were unable to harm Him.

Bahá'u'lláh's father also had a dream about his son. He also dreamed Bahá'u'lláh was swimming in the sea, and His body was shining in the water.



Hundreds of fishes, large and small, were attracted by the light and came swimming towards Him. Each one then held onto a stand of His hair as it floated on the water. Bahá'u'lláh continued to swim wherever He wished, with all the fishes following Him.

When a wise man was asked the meaning of these dreams, he said that the sea was like the world, and that all the fishes were like the people. He said that the nations of the world would be attracted by the light of Bahá'u'lláh and all would circle around Him. Some people would try to attack Him, like the fishes and birds in Bahá'u'lláh's dream. But nothing would be able to stop Him doing what God wanted Him to do.

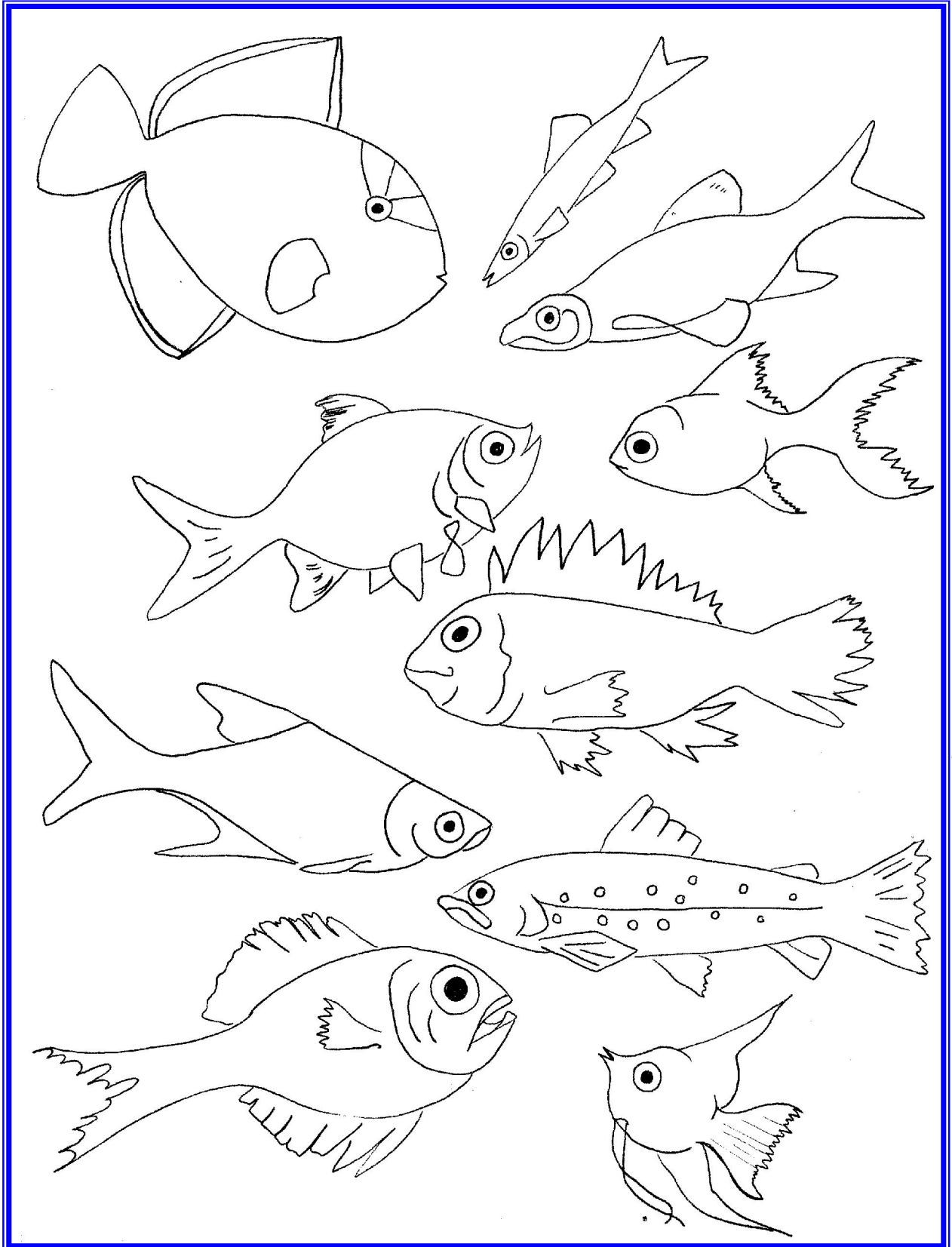


Because of these dreams and because Bahá'u'lláh was so clever, kind and good, people thought that He would be an important person in the government, or serve at the court of the King of Persia. But Bahá'u'lláh's father knew that his son was special and that God wanted Him to bring peace and love to the hearts of the people.

He built a house where Bahá'u'lláh lived in the summer, and this is part of a verse that he wrote above the door where everyone could read it:



**Some fish for you to colour  
to remind you of the dreams.  
(Fish are sometimes very brightly coloured!)**



# The Tree of Life (A play by Christine Abbas)



This is a very simple play that can be performed by one person or several. It is suitable for adults and children. It can be made more interesting by:

- putting lots of expression into the voices
- swirling coloured scarves
- using movement or dance
- playing background music
- if several people are involved there could also be a little group at the side for speaking and singing
- using your imagination!

## SCENE:

A person or people in interesting sleeping poses, but not lying flat on the floor.

*(sleeper/s awoken, stretch and yawn, and slowly rise)*

**Voice or voices:** I saw a tree. It stood so tall.

Its branches spread so wide. And on this tree there was fruit. Apples! And plums! *(with delight and excitement)* And oranges, and bananas, and figs and melons and strawberries and ... every kind of fruit you could imagine. And this fruit ... *(begins to pick and eat)* ... it was more delicious than any other, and all the people in the world came to eat it. When they ate it they felt happier and friendlier and more loving than they had ever done before. *(pause and think, then speak with determination)* I will find this tree and I will eat this fruit so that I can be happier and love all the world.



*(Song: "Blessed is the Spot" sung in background.)*

*(Actions can be put to each of the places mentioned.)*

**Voice:** I will go to every spot, knock on every door, and search every place. I will pass through every city and ask every person *(touch heart)*. Every mountain will I climb and every place of safety I shall seek, whilst every cave I will rest in and every valley I will travel. Every land I will visit and all the seas will I cross. Every island and even all the meadows will my foot-steps tread until I have found this heavenly tree and then I will eat this fruit. *(fade music)*

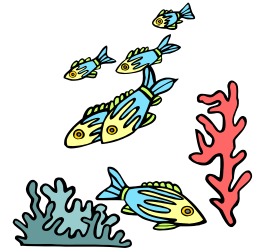


**Voice:** *(speaking in sad or disappointed tone)* I cannot find this wonderful tree. *(pause, then look as though people are passing)* Here are some others. I will ask them. Have you found the heavenly tree? *(no-one wants to be helpful)* Oh, where is the delicious fruit? Do you know where I can find the tree? And you?  
*(extremely sadly)* I have searched for many years and I am so tired, so tired ... so tired. *(falls back to sleep)*

*(Song: "Love Me that I may love thee" sung in background.)*

*(sleeper/s begin to wake up again)*

**Voice:** *(looking up and sounding more hopeful)* There was a baby. On the day that He was born the world seemed to cry out, "God is Most Great! God is Most Great!" He shone like a precious jewel. *(a blue or white silky scarf could be picked up from the floor and waved to represent the ocean)* In a dream His father saw Him swimming in the ocean. His body shone like the sun and His long black hair was floating around Him. *(use the scarf and gentle dance movements)* Many fishes saw the light and swam towards Him and each one held a hair. Although there were so many fish, He was able to swim wherever He wanted and the fish swam with Him. *(continue sea and graceful fishlike movements)*



*(Allow the scarf to float down to the floor or drape it over your shoulder and say this in a different tone of voice, as if you are trying to say something very important.)*

A wise man said the sea was all the world and this child was to be the King of all the world. Everyone would love Him and obey Him and the world would be a happier place. *(pause)*

*(speaking happily and more loudly)* Bahá'u'lláh! Bahá'u'lláh! His Name is Bahá'u'lláh and He will make the people happy. He will tell us many things and we will be happy. He is like a tree and His words are like the fruit. The heavenly tree and heavenly fruit. I have found the Heavenly Tree!

*(Song: "I have found Bahá'u'lláh in the early days of my life.")*

**Voice:** I want to share this heavenly fruit. *(turn to speak to the audience)* Would you like to have some heavenly fruit? Then we must search and find it. *(speak as you move off stage)* Come!

## Songs for the Play



### Blessed is the Spot

Em B7 Em

Bless-ed is the spot and the house and the place, and the

Em Em

cit - ty and the heart and the moun - tain, and the

Em Am

re - fuge and the cave and the vall - ey, and the land and the

B7 Em B7

sea and the is - land and the mea - dow where men - tion of God hath been

Em Am B7 Em

made, and His praise glor - i - fi - ed.



### Love Me that I may Love Thee

C F G7 C

Love Me that I may love thee. If thou love - est Me not,

C F G7 C

My love can in no wise reach thee. Know this, O ser - vant.

### I have found Bahá'u'lláh

G G G D7 G

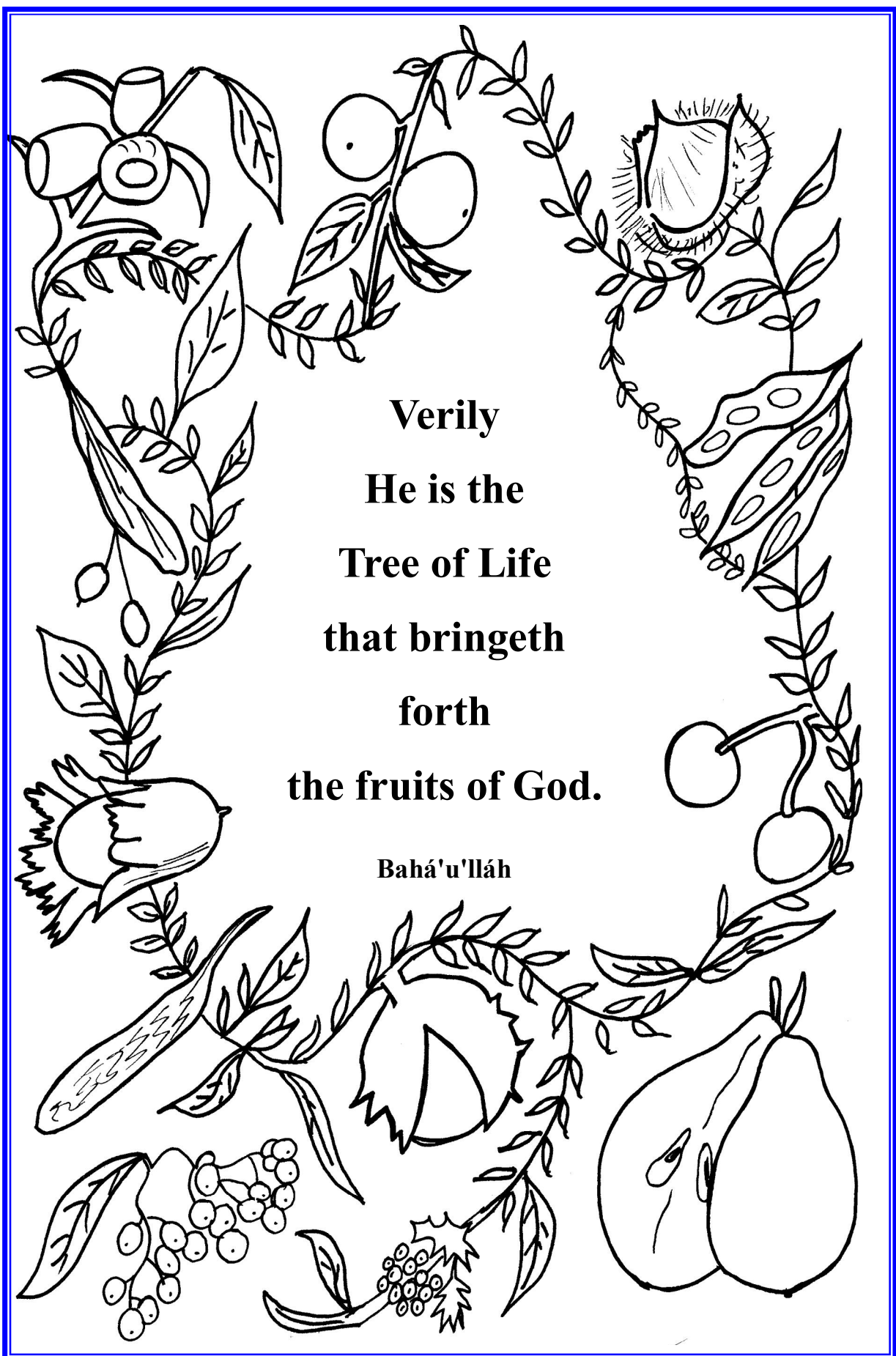
I have found Ba - ha - u - llah, in the ear - ly days of my life. I will

G G D7 G

keep Him in my heart and stay with Him for ev - er!







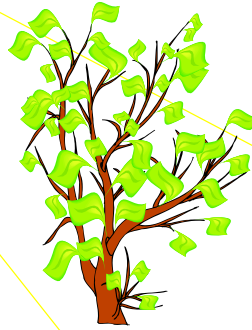
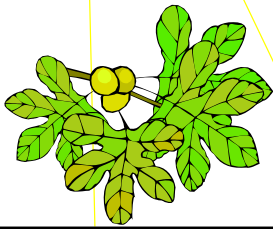
**Verily  
He is the  
Tree of Life  
that bringeth  
forth  
the fruits of God.**

**Bahá'u'lláh**

# What does it mean?

The power of God shines out all the time, just like the light of the sun.

Why is Bahá'u'lláh called the "Tree of Life"?



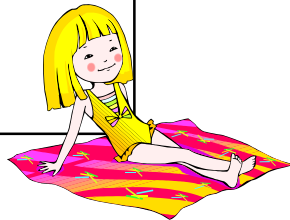
The leaves of a tree are always turned to the sun, to catch its light. The light of the sun pours upon the leaves and gives them life.

Bahá'u'lláh, the "Tree of Life" brings the Light of God into this world.

People are also like leaves on a tree. We get life from the tree and from the light of God. If we turn towards Bahá'u'lláh, and read His words, we can absorb the Light of God, just as leaves absorb the light of the sun.



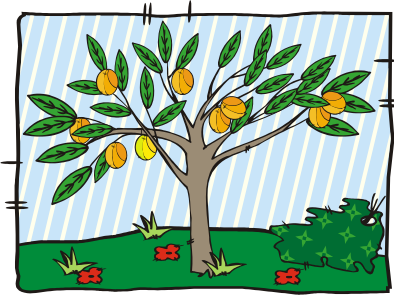
In nature, leaves change the air we breathe, making oxygen which our bodies need. Bahá'u'lláh, the "Tree of Life", gives our souls what they need.



If we pray for help, and read the words of Bahá'u'lláh, and do what He asks, we can be like leaves, making the world a nicer place.



Can you solve this message from 'Abdu'l-Bahá?



☞ ☹ □ □ ♀    ☞ □ ♀ !    ○ ☉ & ℳ    ☉ ● ●  
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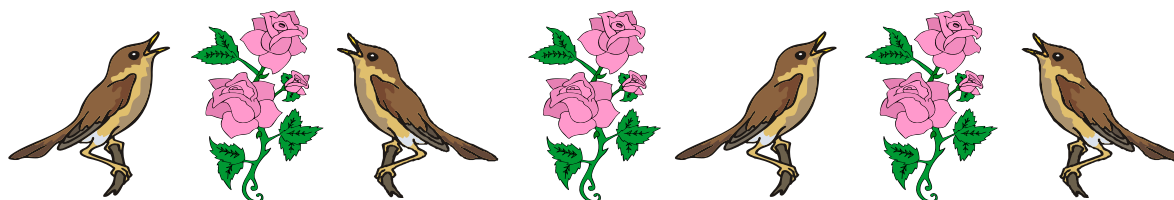
## The Ridván Garden

**B**ahá'u'lláh was staying for twelve days in the beautiful Ridván Garden in Baghdád. It was here that He first told some of the friends who were with Him that He was the Manifestation of God Who had been promised by Krishna, Moses, Zoroaster, Buddha, Jesus, Muhammad and the Báb. This was such an important time that Bahá'u'lláh called it the "King of Festivals" and the "Festival of God".

And He said that at that moment God forgave everyone all the wrong things they had ever done. It was as though the world had been born again and everything was good once more.

The Ridván Garden was full of roses, and early each morning the gardeners would pick them and put them in a pile inside Bahá'u'lláh's tent. The friends would gather to drink their morning tea in the presence of Bahá'u'lláh, and sometimes there were so many roses they could not see each other across the huge pile. Every day, Bahá'u'lláh sent armfuls of these roses to His friends in the city of Baghdád.

At night, Bahá'u'lláh did not sleep but walked in the garden among the flowers, chanting prayers in praise and love of God as the nightingales loudly sang in the trees above. He said that the nightingales sang all night because they loved the roses.



## The Nightingale



The nightingale is a symbol of beauty, eternal life, love and freedom from the world's troubles, and for thousands of years prophets and poets have written about this little bird and its beautiful voice. Sometimes

Bahá'u'lláh calls us nightingales and describes this world as being like a cage and heaven as a spiritual rose-garden that never fades:

"Release yourselves, O nightingales of God . . .  
and wing your flight to the rose-garden  
of unfading splendour."

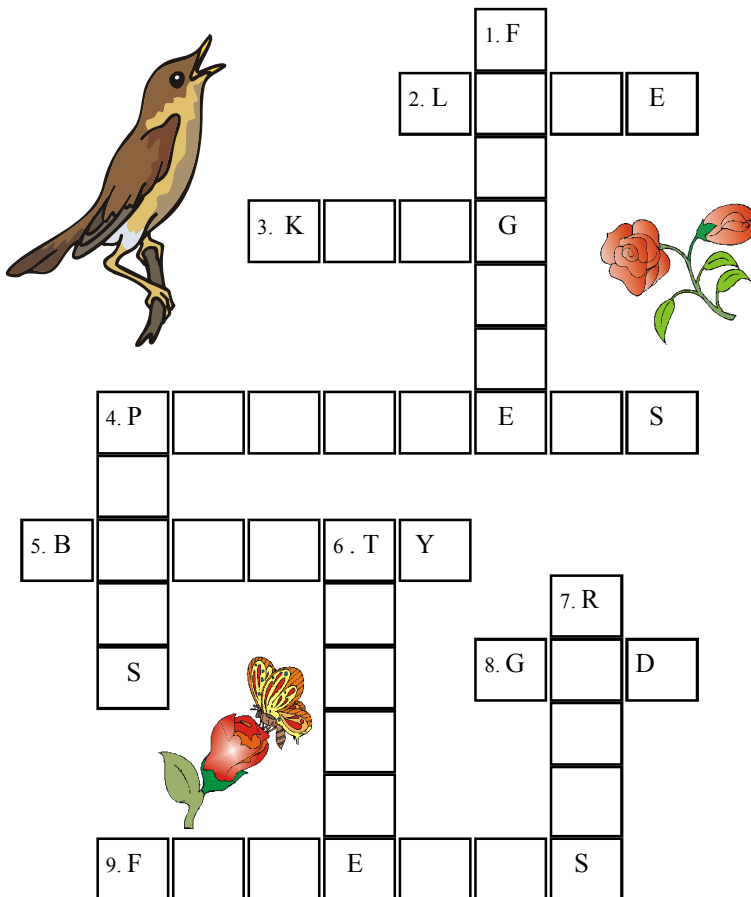
You can find most of the answers to the crossword in "The Garden of Ridván" story on the previous page, and the rest are from the above words.

### Down.

1. What did Bahá'u'lláh say happened that day to everyone? God F..... everyone. (7 letters)
4. As well as Prophets, who else has written about nightingales for thousands of years? (5 letters)
6. How many days did Bahá'u'lláh stay in the Ridván Garden? (6 letters)
7. What kind of flowers were growing in the garden? (5 letters)

### Across.

2. The nightingales were singing because of their l.... for the roses. (4 letters)
3. Bahá'u'lláh described this event as the K.... of Festivals.(4 letters)
4. As well as poets, who else has written about nightingales for thousands of years? (8 letters)
5. What was one thing the nightingales were a symbol of? (See top of page above. 6 letters)
8. Bahá'u'lláh called this great event the Festival of G... (3 letters)
9. Who did Bahá'u'lláh send the roses to in Baghdad? His F..... (7 letters)



# The Emperor and the Nightingale

(This story has been adapted from an old Chinese story)

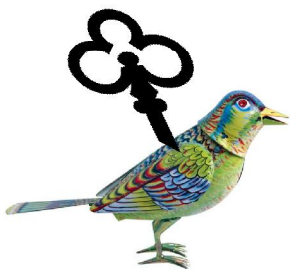
ANCIENT CHINA was the most beautiful place in the world — and the most beautiful thing in it was the song of the little brown nightingale in a forest by the sea.



When the Emperor of China heard the nightingale sing, its song was so beautiful it brought tears to his eyes. He ordered a gold cage for the little bird so that it could live in the palace and he could hear it sing all the time. Every day the nightingale sang for the Emperor, and everyone who heard it was happy.

One day, the Emperor of China received a gift from the Emperor of Japan. It was a tin bird covered in bright jewels. When it was wound up it sang. Everyone was very impressed. It had a rather tinny-sounding voice, but because of its bright colours everyone said "ooh!" and "ah!" and how marvellous it was. And they all wanted a turn to wind it up.

The Emperor and everyone at the court were so thrilled with the tin bird they forgot about the real nightingale, with its soft, warm feathers and beautiful song that came from the love in its heart. One day the little



nightingale became so sad it stopped singing and flew away. Everyone was so busy admiring the tin bird, nobody noticed the little nightingale had gone. They continued to turn the key of the tin bird so many times, one day it broke.



After that, there was no more singing in the palace.

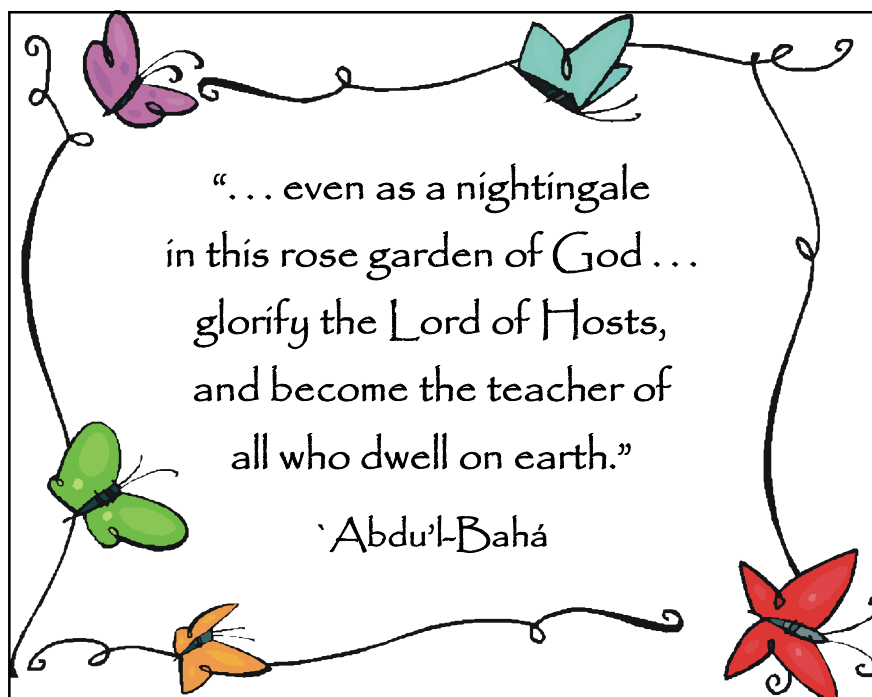
The Emperor was so sad he became ill and went to bed. He shut his eyes and began thinking how much he missed the little brown nightingale, even though it was not covered in jewels. He missed its sweet singing and realised it must have loved him very much to agree to live in a cage in the palace all those years instead of flying free in the forest.

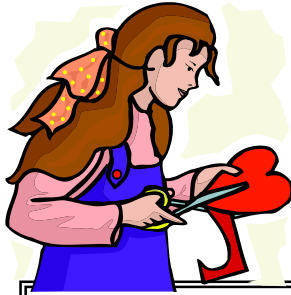
Suddenly, he heard a familiar sound — it was a bird singing outside his window. The little nightingale had returned!

It sang to him all through the night, and in the morning, when the servants tiptoed into the Emperor's room expecting to find him ill and sad, there he was, completely better, smiling and happy and calling out a cheerful: "Good Morning!" to everyone.



Every day the little nightingale flew back to its home in the forest, but every night it returned to sing to the Emperor.


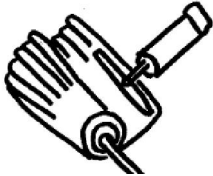


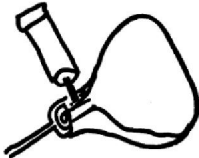
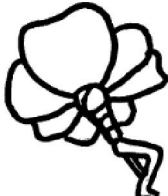




## Make some flowers to remind you of the Ridván Garden.

You will need:  
 Black paper for the centres; coloured tissue or crepe paper for the petals; green paper strips for the stems; sticks or wire for the stems; glue; scissors.

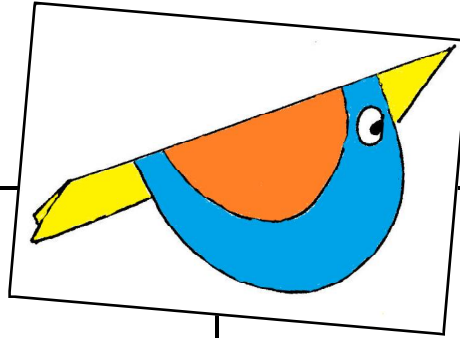


		
<p>1. Cut out a piece of black paper about 5cm long. Make cuts all along the top.</p>	<p>2. Wind it tightly around a stem and glue the edges.</p> <p>3. Splay out the cut frayed edge.</p>	<p>4. Cut 8 petal shapes out of coloured paper.</p>
		
<p>5. Shape the petals by stretching them with your thumbs.</p>	<p>6. Glue the base of the petals and stick them round the black centre.</p>	<p>7. Cut out a long thin strip of green paper. Glue it to the base of the flower, and wind it tightly down the stem.</p>

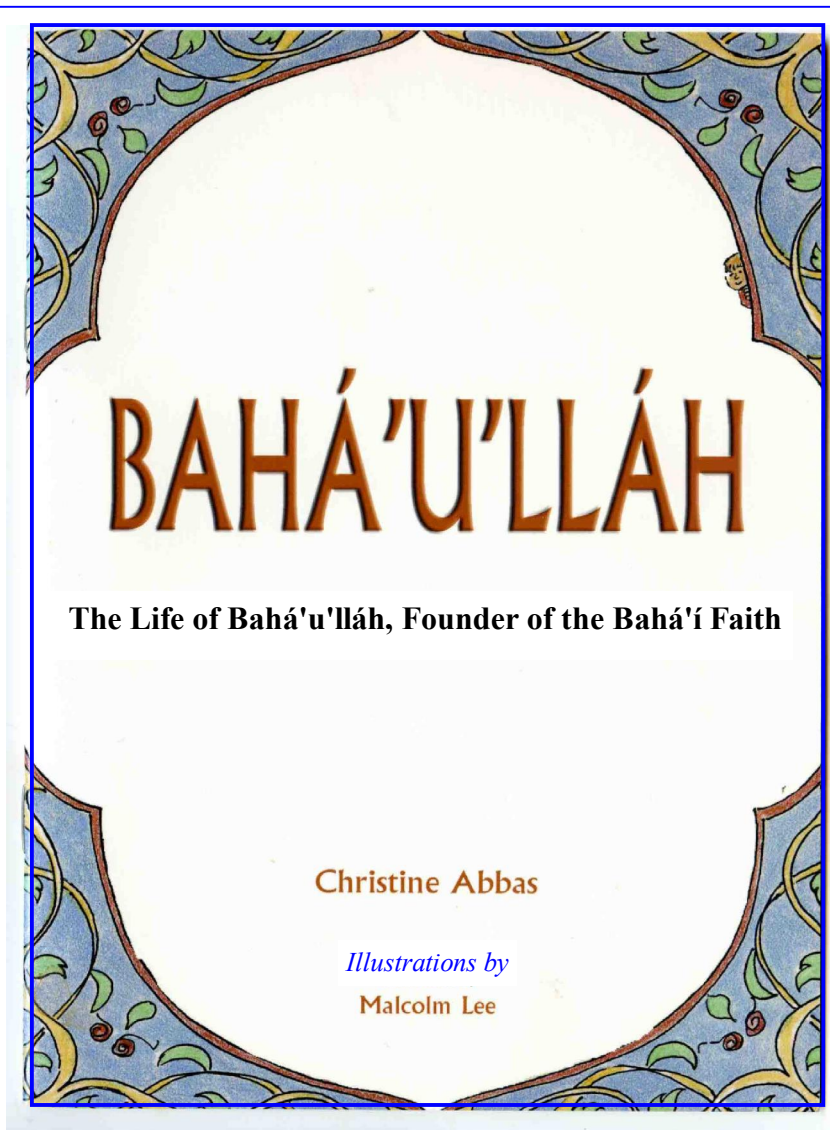




**Make some birds to remind you of the Ridván Garden.**



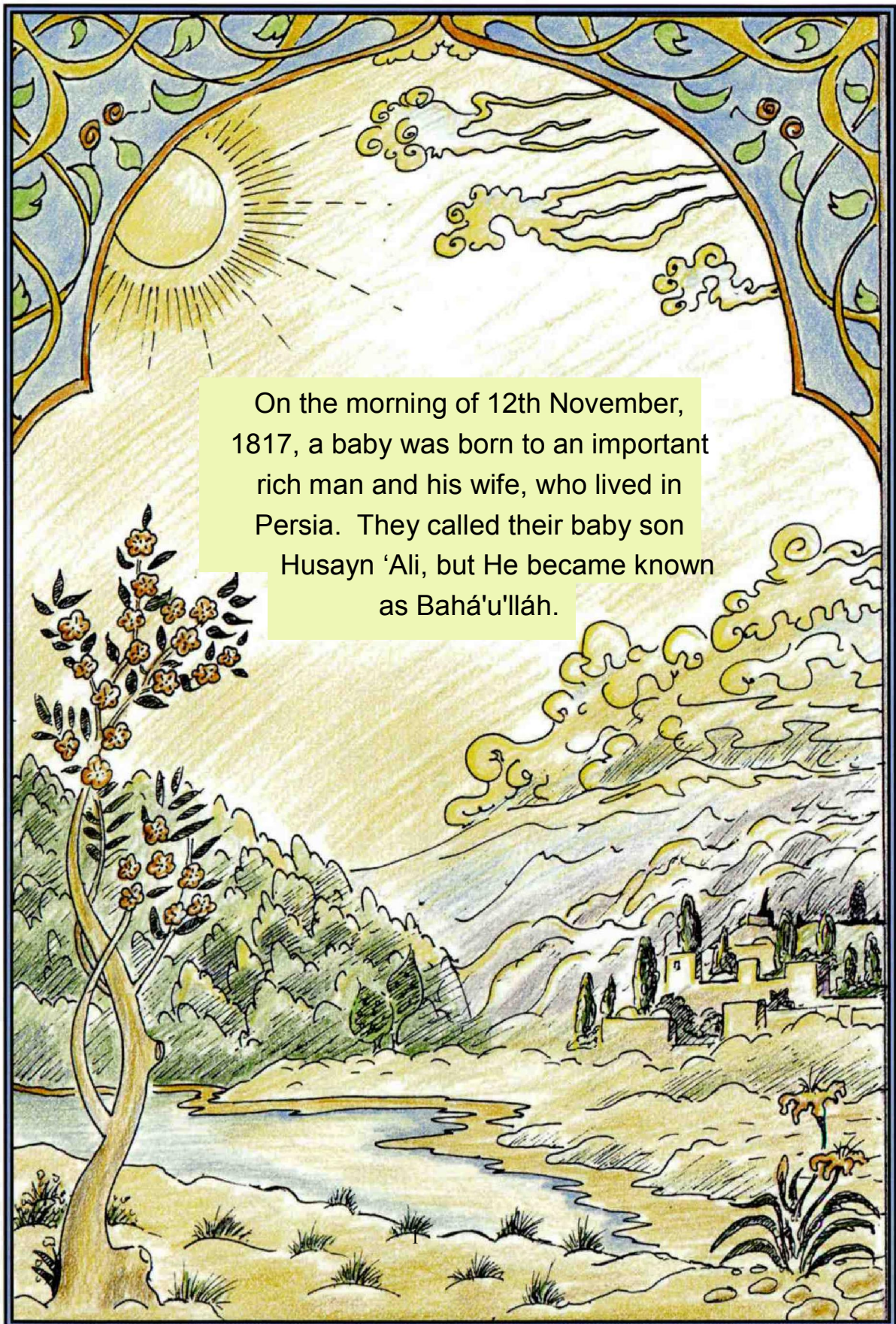
<p>1. Start with 3 rectangles of different coloured papers. 2. Fold two in half.</p>	<p>3. On the first piece, draw a half circle.</p>	<p>4. On the second piece, draw a smaller half circle.</p>
<p>5. Cut them both out.</p>	<p>6. Cut a thin strip off the third piece, and fold in half for the tail. 7. Snip a small triangle off the bottom.</p>	<p>8. Fold the rest of the paper in half, and cut off a triangle for the beak.</p>
<p>9. Open out the folded papers. 10. Stick them together with glue, as in the picture. 11. Fold the whole thing along the fold lines. 12. Draw and stick on little eyes. 13. Open slightly and you will have a bird!</p>		



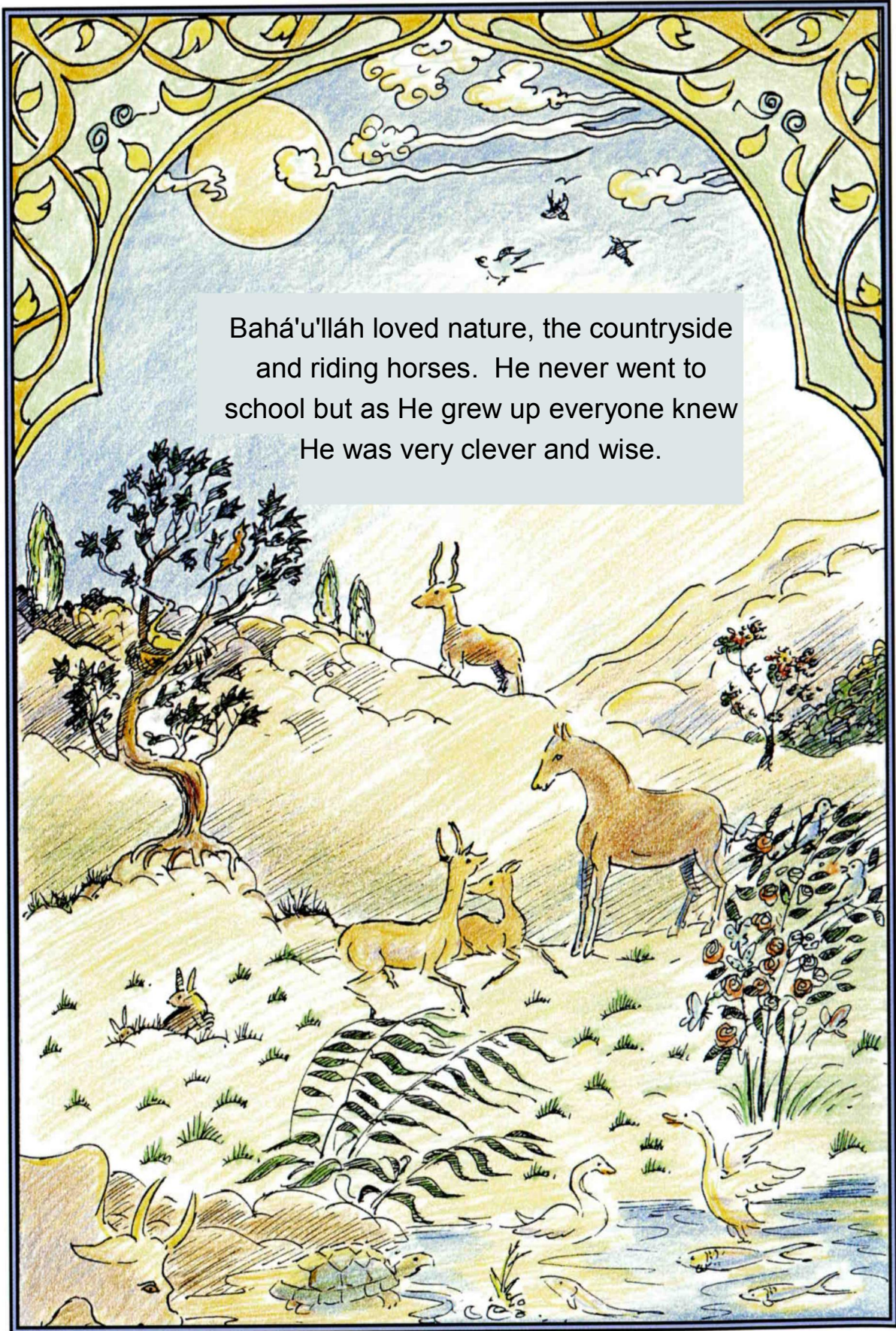
**The next 12 pages tell the story of the  
Life and Message of Bahá'u'lláh.**

**It was written by Christine Abbas, and the beautiful  
pictures were created by Malcolm Lee.**

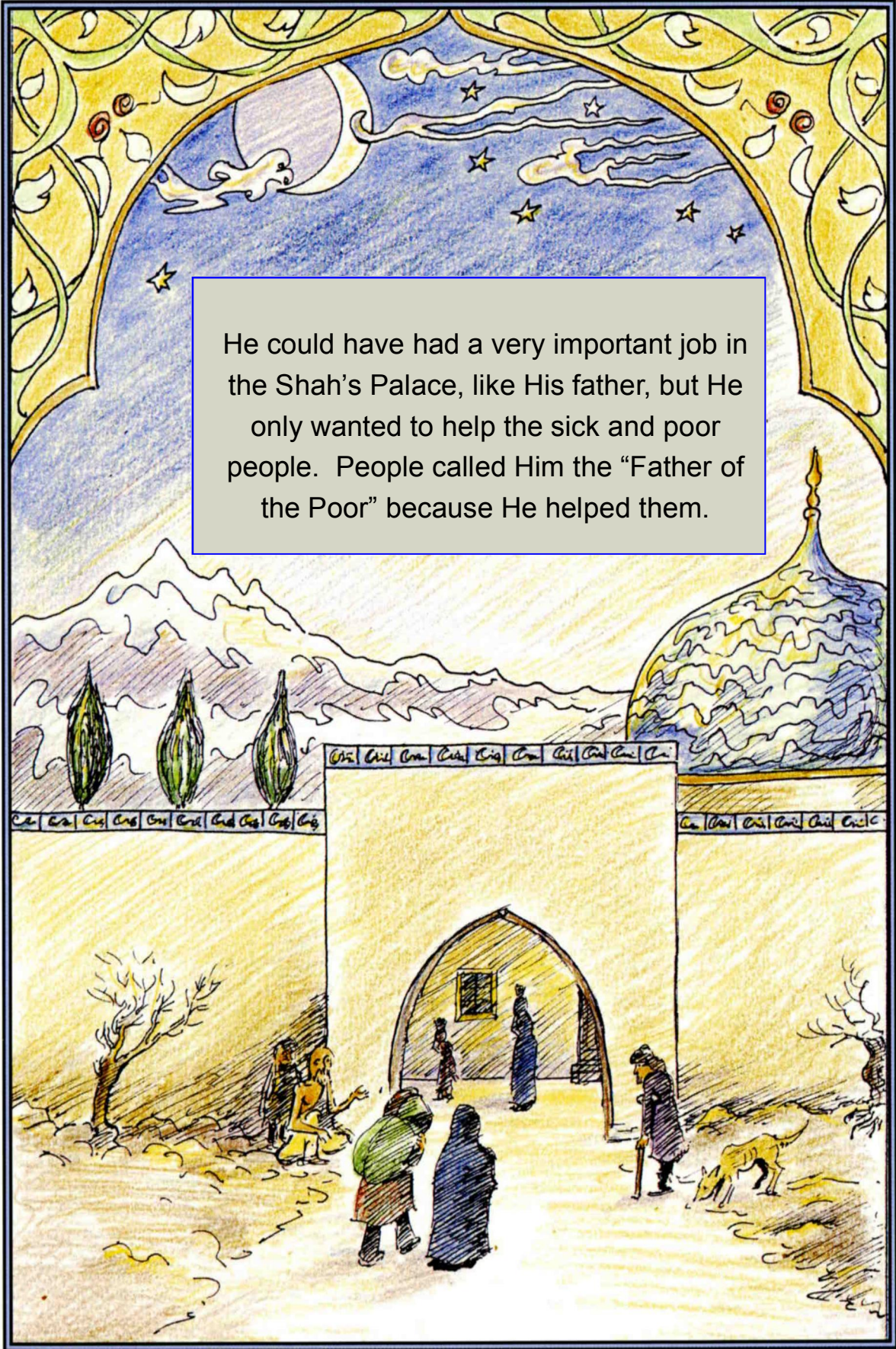
**Read it very carefully, because, on the last page of  
*Dayspring* you will find a quiz. See if you can answer all  
the questions, and then you could ask  
other people too.**



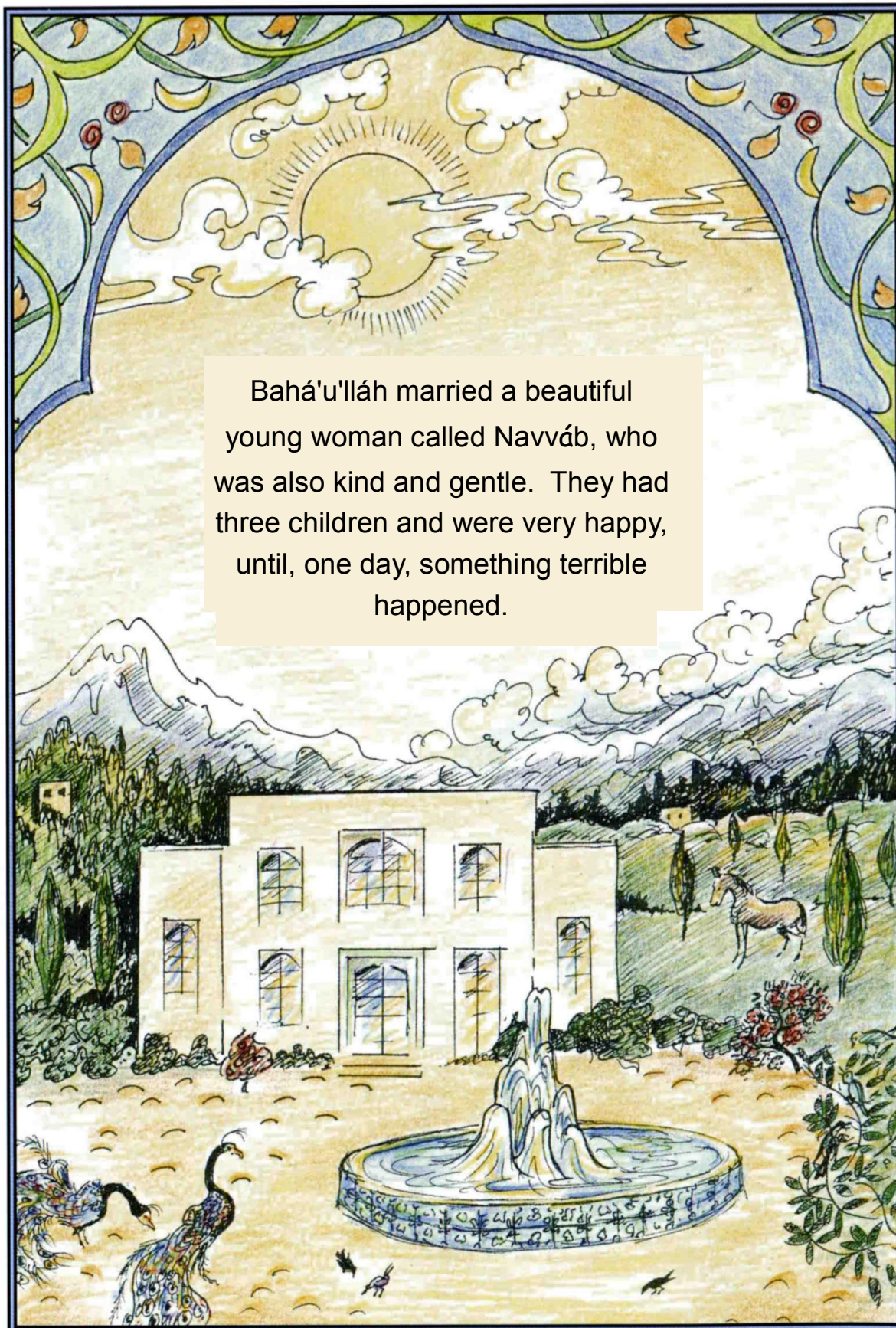
On the morning of 12th November, 1817, a baby was born to an important rich man and his wife, who lived in Persia. They called their baby son Husayn 'Ali, but He became known as Bahá'u'lláh.



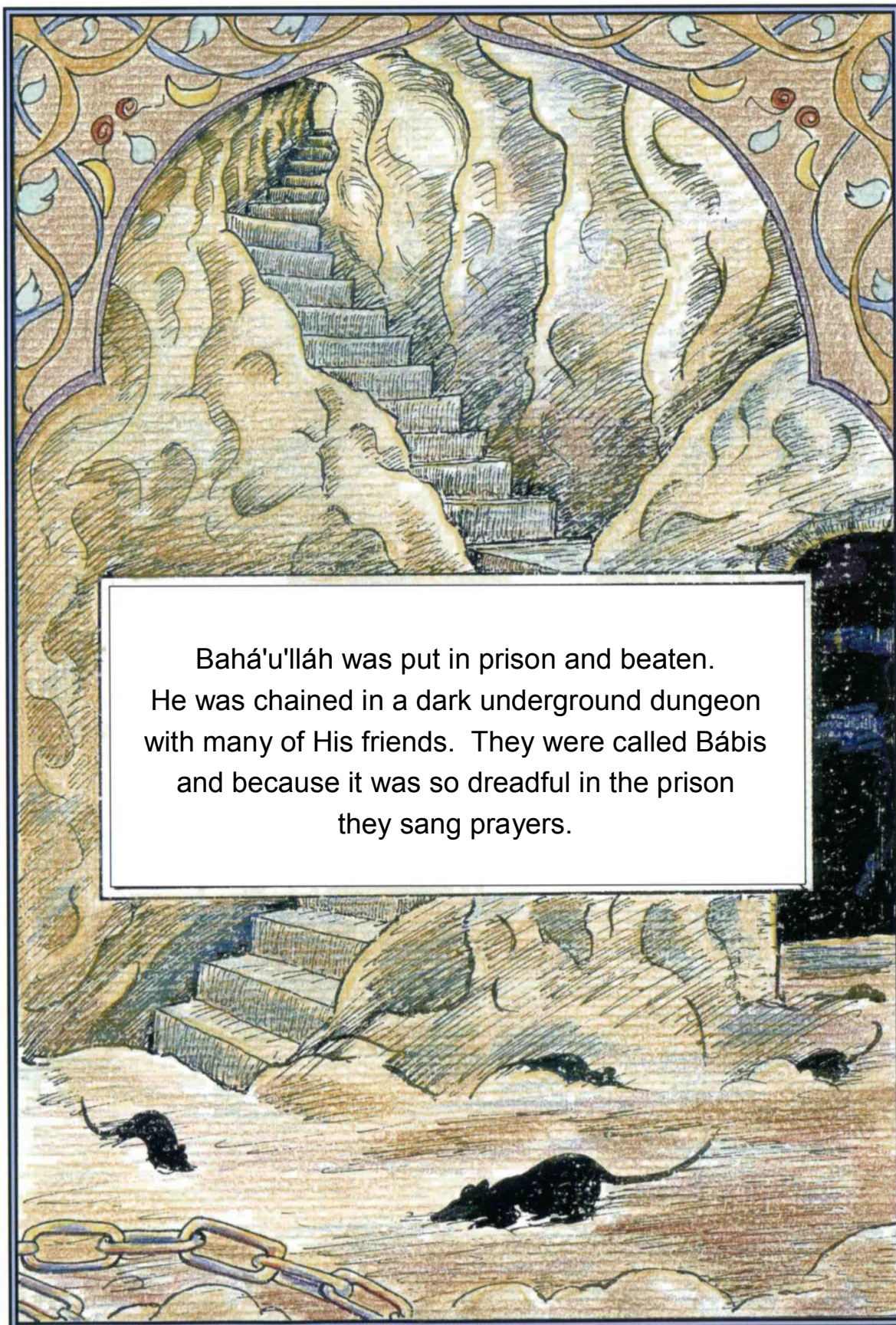
Bahá'u'lláh loved nature, the countryside and riding horses. He never went to school but as He grew up everyone knew He was very clever and wise.



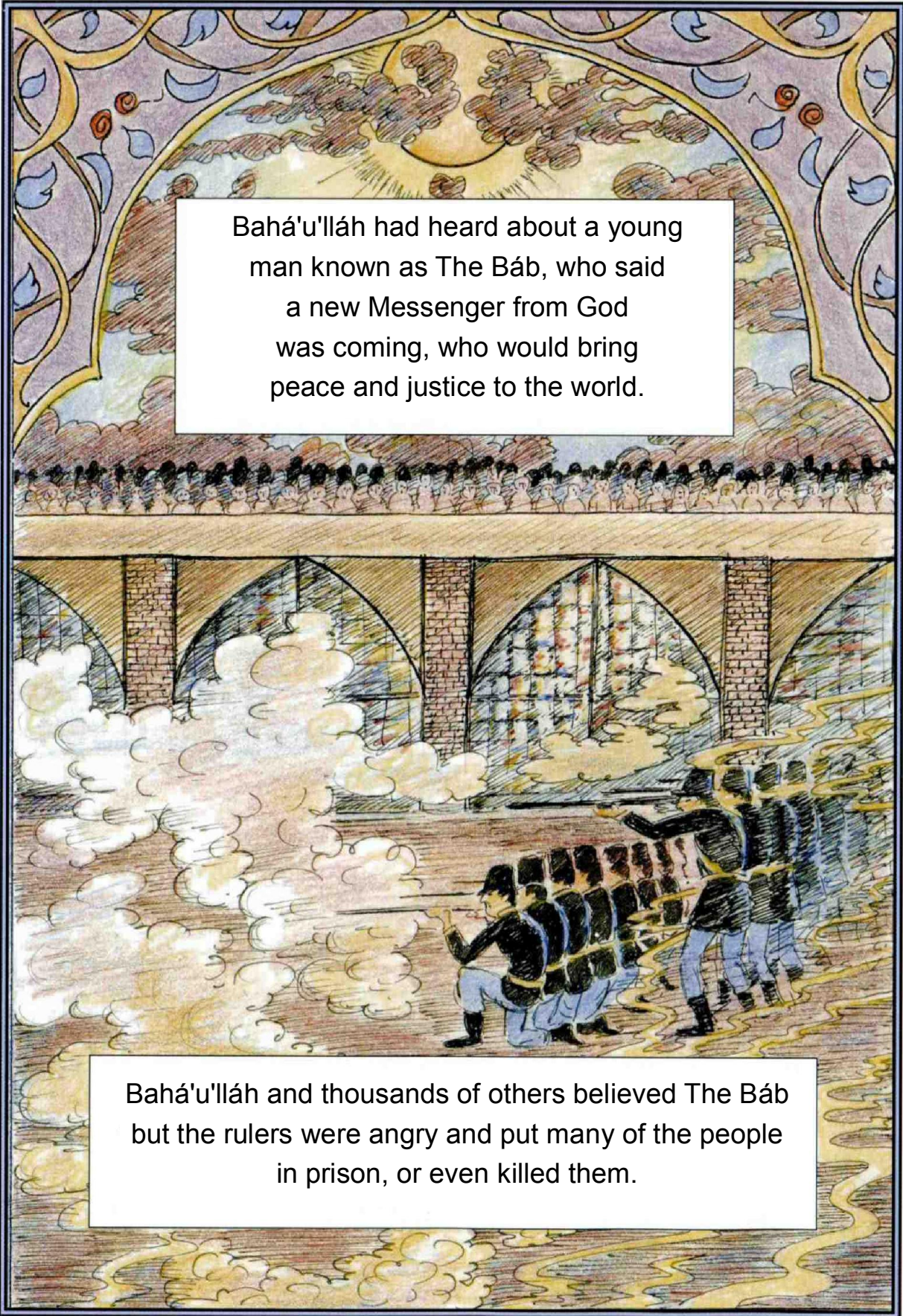
He could have had a very important job in the Shah's Palace, like His father, but He only wanted to help the sick and poor people. People called Him the "Father of the Poor" because He helped them.



Bahá'u'lláh married a beautiful young woman called Navváb, who was also kind and gentle. They had three children and were very happy, until, one day, something terrible happened.



Bahá'u'lláh was put in prison and beaten. He was chained in a dark underground dungeon with many of His friends. They were called Bábis and because it was so dreadful in the prison they sang prayers.



Bahá'u'lláh had heard about a young man known as The Báb, who said a new Messenger from God was coming, who would bring peace and justice to the world.

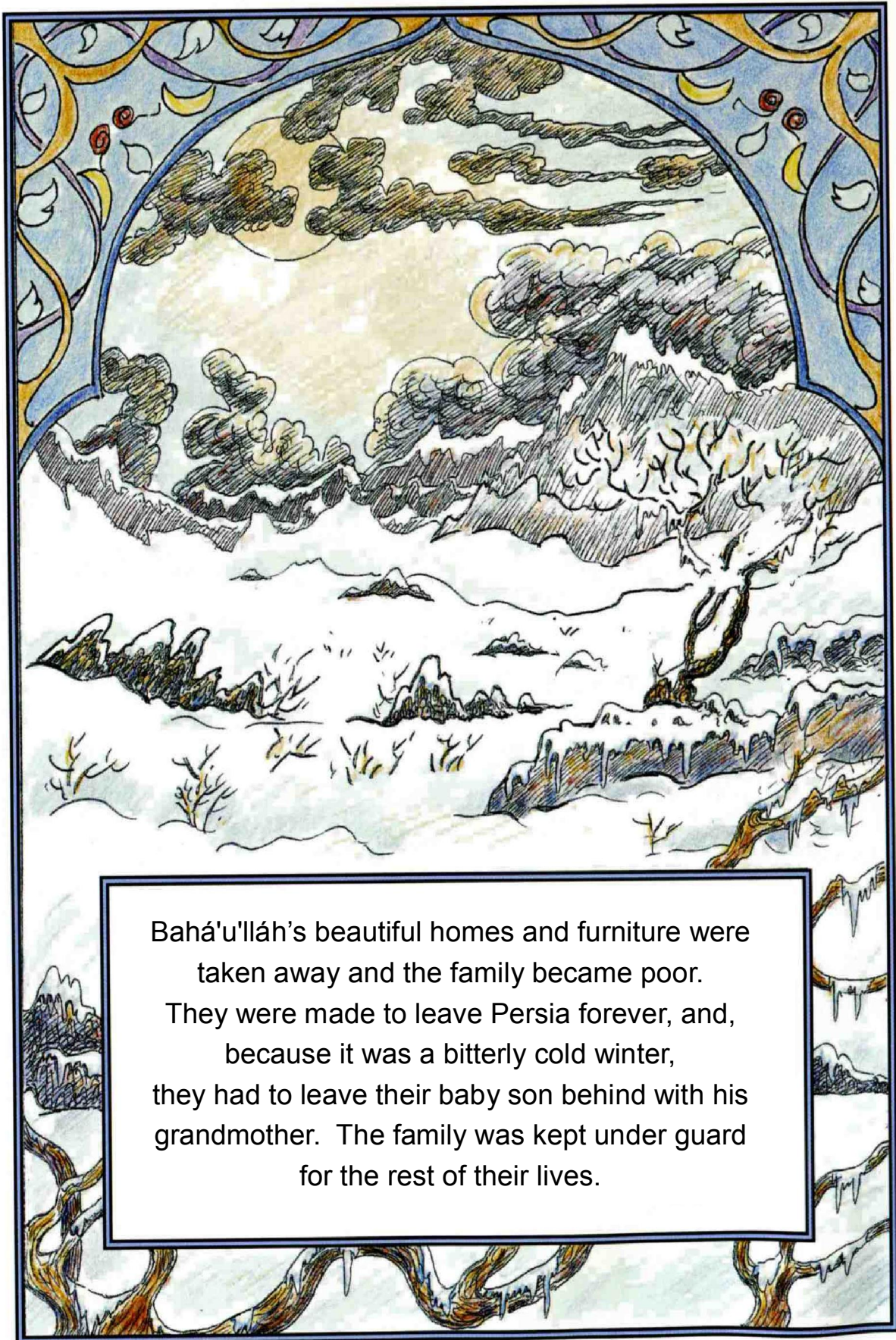
Bahá'u'lláh and thousands of others believed The Báb but the rulers were angry and put many of the people in prison, or even killed them.



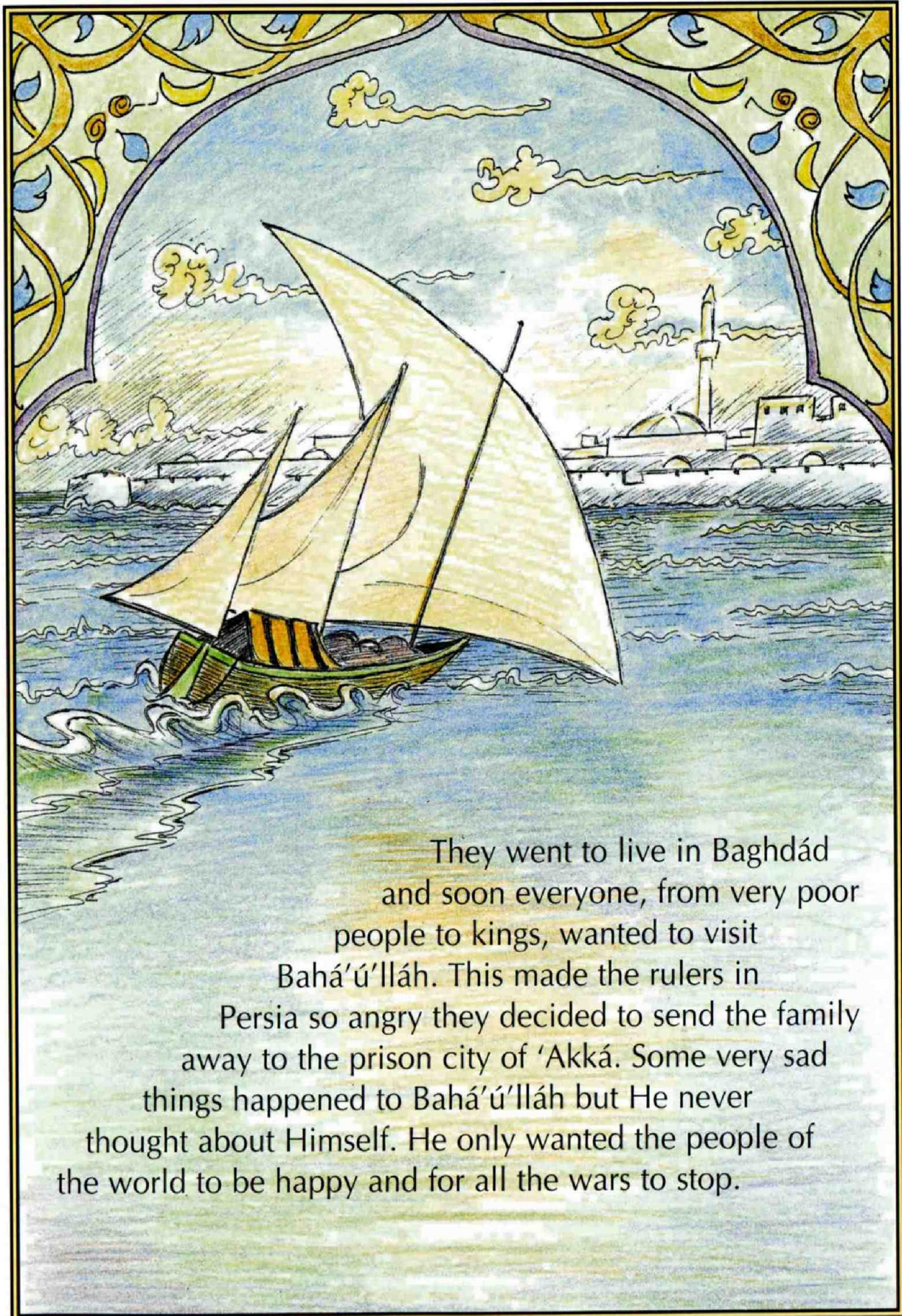


In that awful place a wonderful thing happened to Bahá'u'lláh. He had a special dream called a vision.

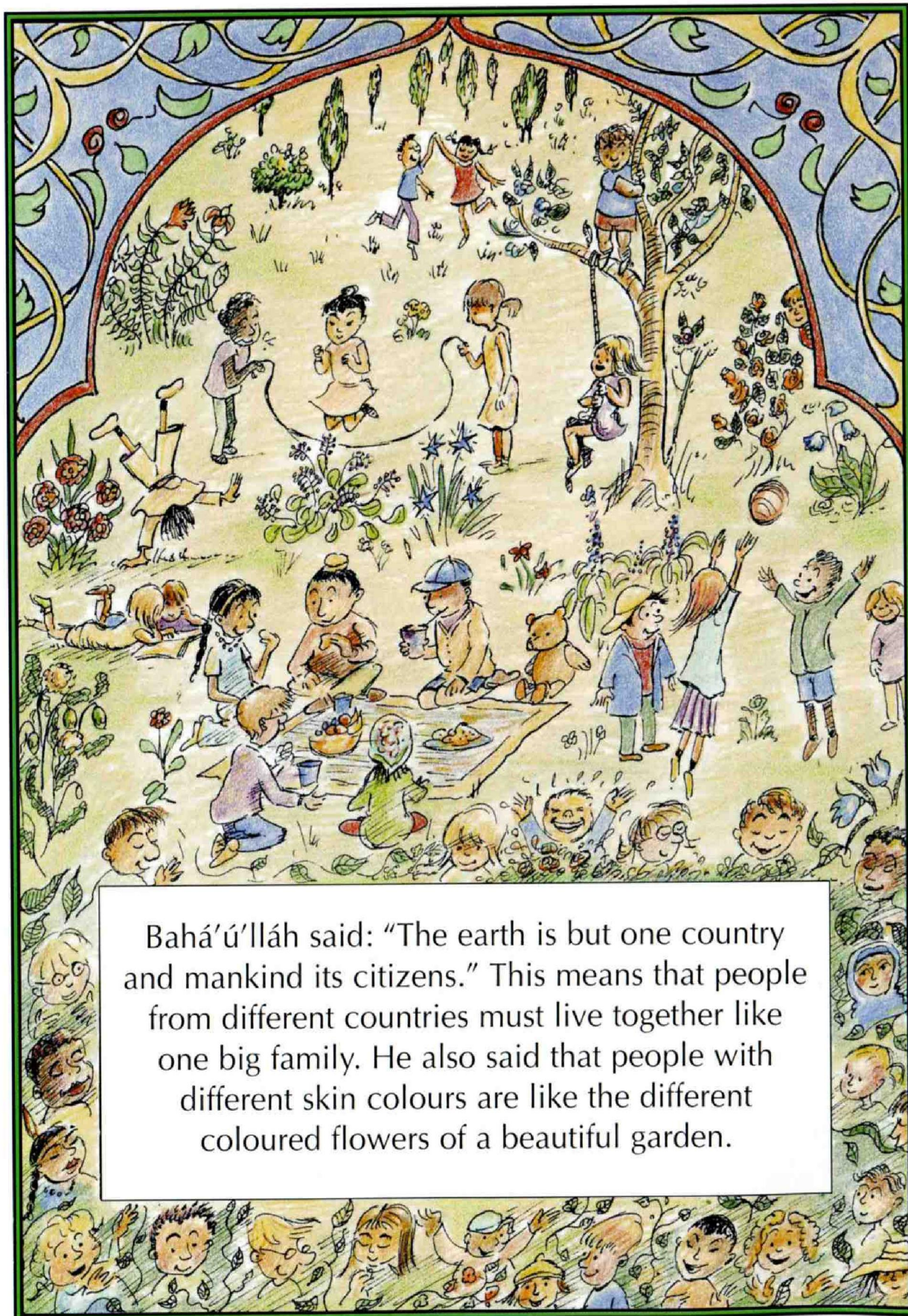
A beautiful angel told Bahá'u'lláh that He was to be the New Messenger and He was not to be afraid because God would help Him.



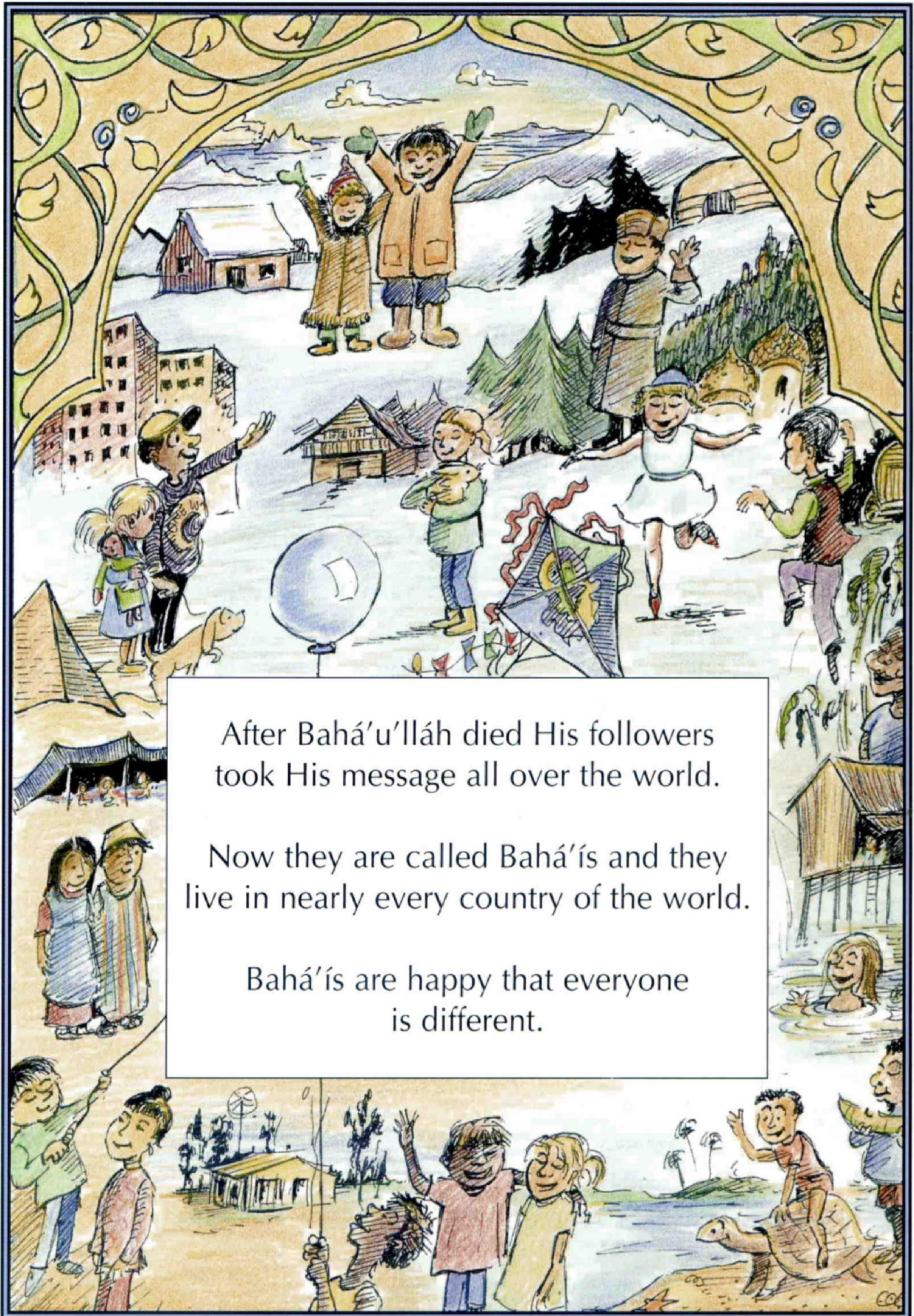
Bahá'u'lláh's beautiful homes and furniture were taken away and the family became poor. They were made to leave Persia forever, and, because it was a bitterly cold winter, they had to leave their baby son behind with his grandmother. The family was kept under guard for the rest of their lives.



They went to live in Baghdád and soon everyone, from very poor people to kings, wanted to visit Bahá'ú'lláh. This made the rulers in Persia so angry they decided to send the family away to the prison city of 'Akká. Some very sad things happened to Bahá'ú'lláh but He never thought about Himself. He only wanted the people of the world to be happy and for all the wars to stop.



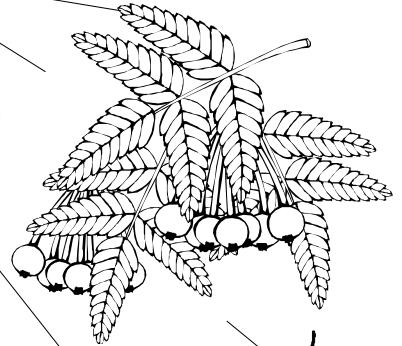
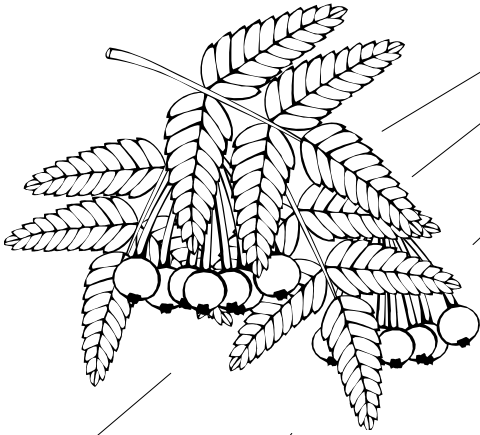
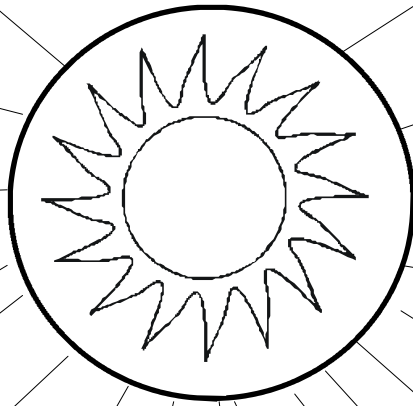
Bahá'í'lláh said: "The earth is but one country and mankind its citizens." This means that people from different countries must live together like one big family. He also said that people with different skin colours are like the different coloured flowers of a beautiful garden.



After Bahá'u'lláh died His followers  
took His message all over the world.

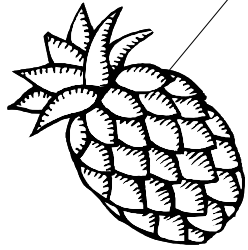
Now they are called Bahá'ís and they  
live in nearly every country of the world.

Bahá'ís are happy that everyone  
is different.



O Thou kind  
Lord!

Gather all people beneath  
the shadow of Thy bounty  
and cause them to unite  
in harmony,  
so that they may  
become as the rays of  
one sun, as the waves  
of one ocean,  
and as the fruit of one tree.



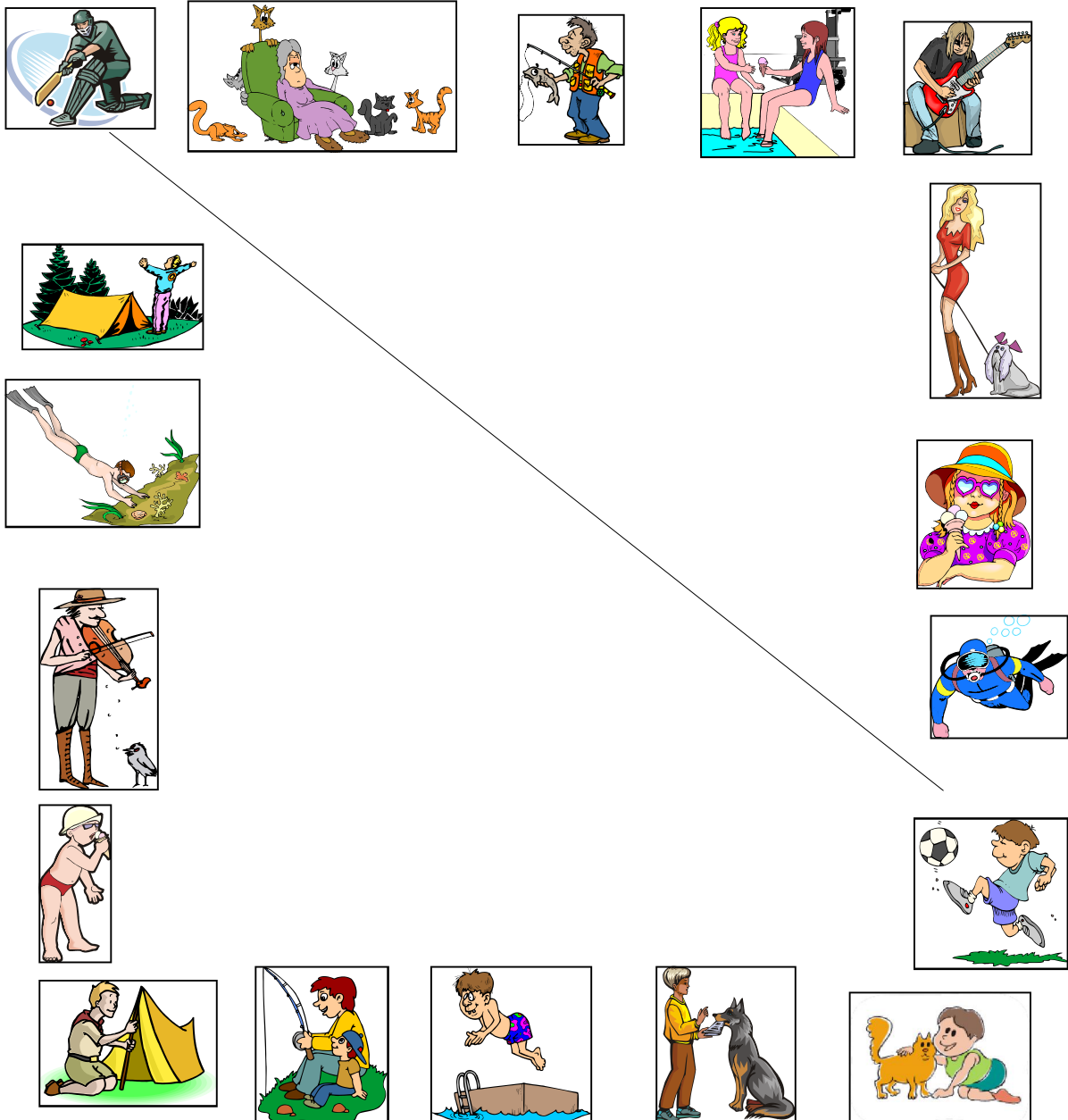
'Abdu'l-Bahá

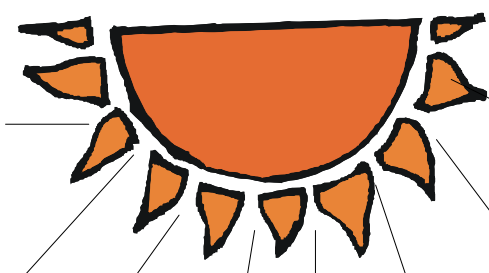


**The Light of Bahá'u'lláh shines on everybody.**  
**These people are very different, but at the same time they**  
**are quite like each other.**

- Use straight lines to join people who:
- |                    |                   |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| 1. play ball games | 2. have a dog     |
| 3. like cats       | 4. are female     |
| 5. go fishing      | 6. are male       |
| 7. can swim        | 9. like ice cream |
| 8. are young       | 10. are grown-up  |
| 11. play music     | 13. have fun      |
| 12. go camping     |                   |

Most people will have lines to lots of others,  
 so you may end up with a complex web.



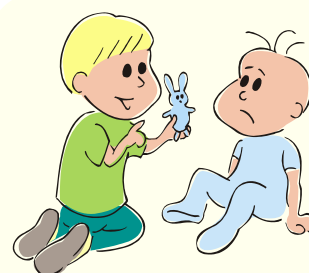


# What does it mean?

## The Light of Bahá'u'lláh

In the Bahá'í Writings Bahá'u'lláh is compared with the sun.  
Light pours from the sun and gives our bodies life.  
In the same way Bahá'u'lláh gives life to our souls.  
His power reaches us through His Spirit, which is compared with light.

Bahá'u'lláh tells us that when we are born His light is already inside us—that inside every heart His light is shining. But it is only a little light and to make it brighter we must feed it by praying and reading His Words. If we do this our light will grow; if we don't, it will become dim.



Our souls are like mirrors.  
If we turn them to Bahá'u'lláh they will become bright and shining with His light.

- If we keep our souls polished and clean they will be able to shine more brightly. We can do this by:
- Saying prayers every day.
  - Reading a little from Bahá'u'lláh's Writings each day.
  - Trying hard to follow Bahá'u'lláh's teachings.





## The mystery of "The Greatest Name"

In the religion of Islam there is a tradition that God has many Names. Among all of them, one is the Greatest Name. But which one? This has always been a mysterious secret. It is believed that the Greatest Name of God is especially powerful, but has never been revealed until the coming of Bahá'u'lláh.

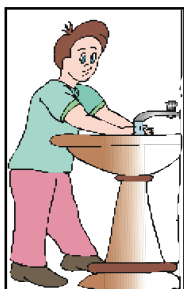
**We now know that the Greatest Name is "Alláh-u-Abhá"  
which means "God is the Most Glorious"**

The word "Alláh" —————→	means "God" in Arabic.
The word "Abhá" —————→	means "Most Glorious" in Arabic.

In the Kitáb-i-Aqdas, Bahá'u'lláh's Most Holy Book, Bahá'ís are told they should repeat the Greatest Name, "Alláh-u-Abhá", 95 times each day from the age of 15. First they are to wash their hands and face, then sit down facing in the direction of the Shrine of Bahá'u'lláh.

When they say "Alláh-u-Abhá" 95 times they are praising God 95 times.

In the time of Bahá'u'lláh there was a great calligrapher named Mishkín-Qalam. He was so skilled in the art of beautiful writing that his pieces of writing were admired as works of art. He wrote a version of the Greatest Name as a beautiful design, and it is used in many Bahá'í homes as a symbol of the Bahá'í Faith. On the next page you can see how Mishkín-Qalam made up his design, which means "O Glory of the Most Glorious".



**But the "Greatest Name", because it is truly the "greatest Name of God", must always be treated with great love. So be very careful how you treat the next page. If you decide to colour it in, wash your hands, and then colour it as nicely as you can.**



Ya	ا
Baha	با
ا	ا
Alaha	الها

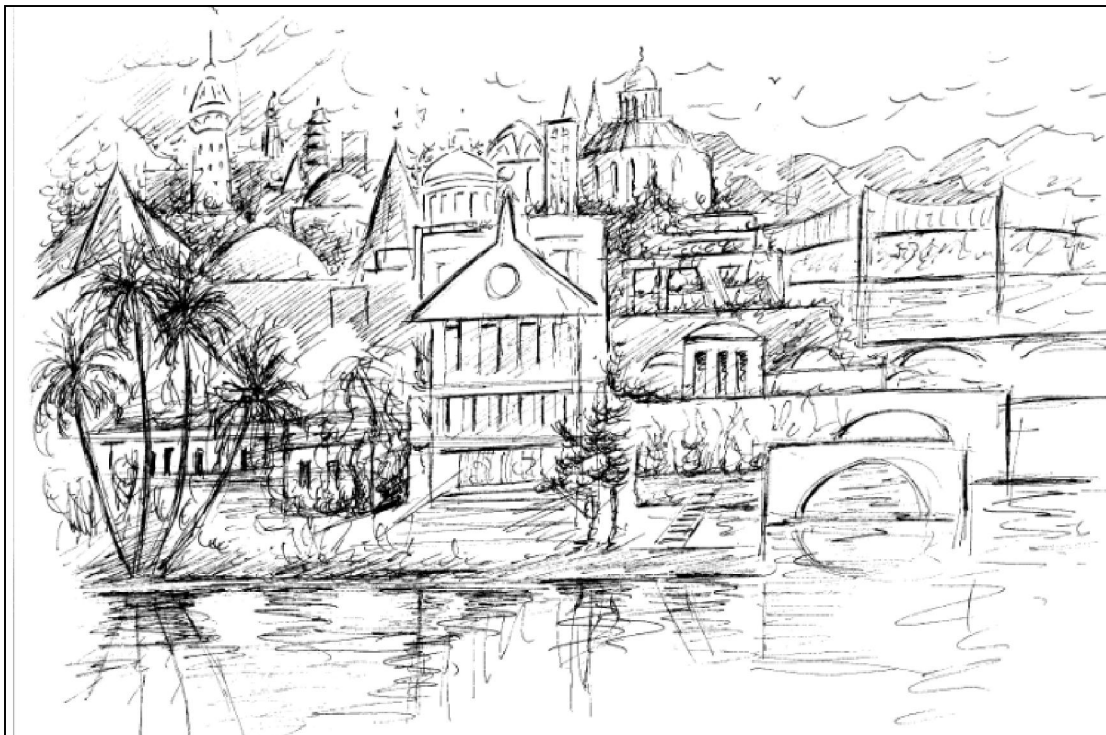
## The Kiss

One day Bahá'u'lláh was walking along a street in the town of Baghdád. As He walked, His long robe flowed behind Him and the people stopped and stared and wondered what it was that made them feel so happy. It was as if the King of Kings just passed by.

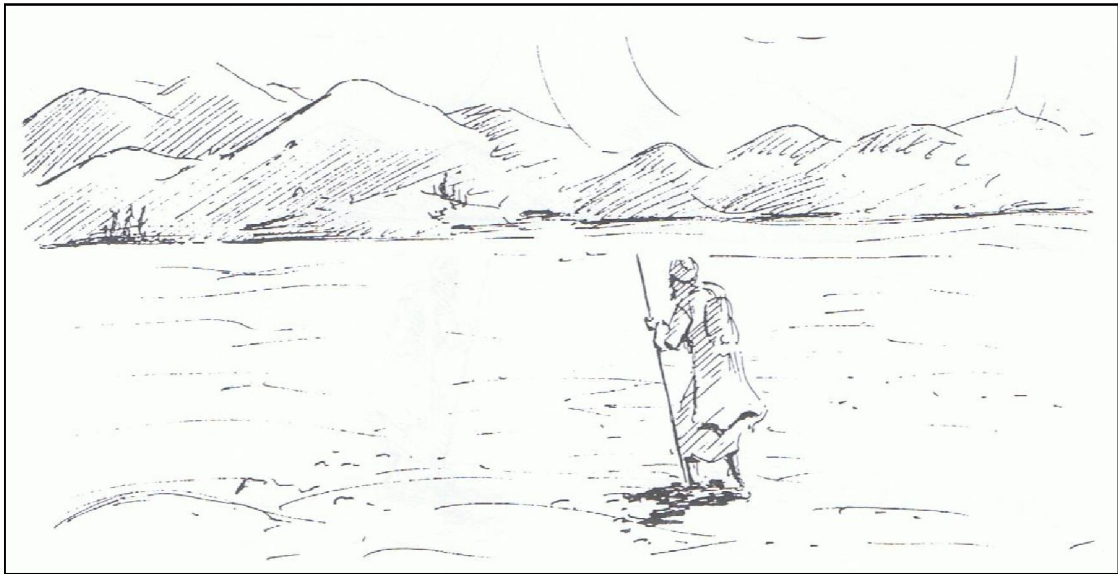
Bahá'u'lláh walked along the crowded paths and passed the little shops and houses. Finally, He came to a bridge across a river. Near the bridge was a ruined house, and in the house there lived a very poor and bent old woman. The old woman knew that every day Bahá'u'lláh would pass that way, and she was standing, waiting in the roadway.

Bahá'u'lláh was very pleased to see her. He always gave her food and money so that she was not hungry. When He left Baghdád He made sure that for the rest of her life she was properly looked after. He stopped and smiled and bent down low towards her. His eyes were full of love and tender understanding.

She lifted up her face and very gently kissed Him.



## The Poor Pilgrim



A group of pilgrims was travelling from Egypt to the Holy Land to see Bahá'u'lláh. Most of them were grand and rich, but one of them was a poor farmer and simply dressed.

On the long journey, the poor man thought that perhaps he was not good enough to meet Bahá'u'lláh. When they eventually arrived in 'Akká, Baha'u'llah sent a message inviting all of them to visit Him.

The poor man stood politely near the door, not walking into the room like all the others. Bahá'u'lláh was sitting on a couch, and there was an empty seat beside him. He warmly greeted all the friends, and soon the room filled up with people.


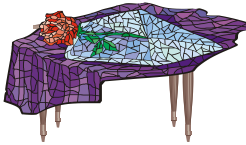


The poor pilgrim




Bahá'u'lláh looked past all the other pilgrims until He saw the poor man standing quietly near the door. Bahá'u'lláh's eyes were full of love and kindness. He smiled and beckoned to him, saying, "Come, sit next to Me!"

# Make a prayer corner for Bahá'u'lláh



You could make a very special place in your house for thinking about Bahá'u'lláh, and saying prayers.

<p>1. Find a quiet place—it could be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* a corner in your bedroom</li> <li>* the sitting room</li> <li>* in the hallway</li> <li>* even a space under the stairs.</li> </ul>	<p>2. Make sure it's tidy and clean.</p> 
<p>3. Find something to put things on. It could be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* a table</li> <li>* a chest of drawers</li> <li>* a cupboard</li> <li>* or even a stool.</li> </ul>	<p>4. Spread a clean cloth over the table.</p> 

5. Find things that remind you of Bahá'u'lláh, such as:

<p>* A light</p> <p>(Because Bahá'u'lláh was the Light of the world.)</p> 	<p>* A mirror</p> <p>(Because Bahá'u'lláh was a true reflection of God.)</p> 
<p>* Some fruit</p> <p>(Because Bahá'u'lláh was the "Tree of Life" Who brought forth "the fruits of God".)</p> 	<p>* A vase with some flowers</p> <p>(Roses would be lovely, because they are often in the Writings.)</p> 

6. Ask if you can put pictures on the wall near your prayer corner.

<p>* A prayer of Bahá'u'lláh that you've carefully written out.</p> <div style="border: 1px solid blue; padding: 10px; text-align: center;"> <p>✻ ✻ ✻ ✻ ✻ ✻ ✻</p> <p>✻ I bear witness, O my God, ✻ that Thou hast created me to know Thee and to worship Thee. ✻</p> <p>✻ ✻ ✻ ✻ ✻ ✻ ✻</p> </div>	<p>* A picture of the Shrine of Bahá'u'lláh.</p> 
<p>* A picture of the Greatest Name.</p>	

Your prayer corner might look like this



## Memories of Bahá'u'lláh

(Adapted and abbreviated from *The Chosen Highway*)

Bahá'u'lláh passed away in 1892, when His granddaughter, who was called Túbá Khánúm, was twelve years old. She told a visiting pilgrim about her life and that she could remember always being aware of the special holy feeling that surrounded her when she was with her beloved Grandfather. She said these memories were like a patchwork of pictures in her head, "strung together on the thread of love".

Bahá'u'lláh loved the countryside, and when the Master, 'Abdu'l-Bahá, heard Bahá'u'lláh say He had not seen flowers or greenery for nine years, He made a beautiful garden for Him to visit outside the town of 'Akká.

"Oh!" said Túbá. "Oh! the joy of the day when Bahá'u'lláh went to the beautiful Ridván (Paradise) garden, which had been prepared for Him with such loving care by the Master, the friends, and the pilgrims!

"The Master's heart was gladdened indeed to see His beloved Father, resting under the big mulberry tree, by the side of the little river rippling by, the fountain . . . splashing and gurgling. Only those who were there

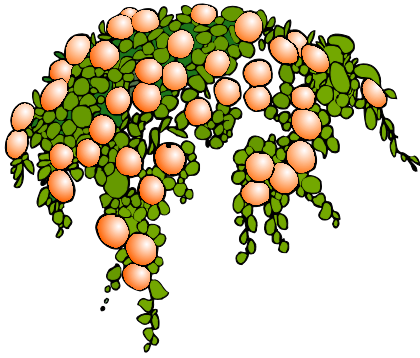
could realize what it meant to be surrounded by so many flowers, their colours and their scents, after the dull walls and bad smells of the prison city."



She said that their greatest joy was when Bahá'u'lláh took them for picnics in the Ridván Garden.

\* \* \*





"We children looked upon Bahá'u'lláh as another loving Father; to Him we carried all our little difficulties and troubles. He took an interest in everything which concerned us."

"How happy we were with Him. He was indeed the brightness of our lives in that time of difficulty."

"He used to send a servant to Beirut every year to buy material for our clothes. Bahá'u'lláh would then call for us to choose which we liked best for our frocks. My mother, my aunt, and the children would make this cotton material into garments."

"He was always punctual, and loved daintiness and order."

"Above all things, cleanliness was desirable to Him."

" 'Why not put on your prettiest frocks?' He would say to us."

"All our holidays, all our treats and our happiness came from Him in those days; when boxes of sweets were brought to Him He would set some aside for us."

" 'Let the dear children come in, and have some dessert,' He often said, when we were being sent off to bed. . . . He always welcomed us with loving words."

"How we adored Him!"

" 'Now children, tomorrow you shall come with Me for a picnic to the Ridván,' He would say, and our night was so full of joy we could scarcely sleep."



# Love grows strong with Bahá'u'lláh

Words by Elizabeth Emerson, music based on a folk tune

Love grows strong with Bahá'u'lláh  
Love that can unite us.  
Sing of a love that never ends  
And let ev'ry-body join in with the chorus:



*(Chorus):* Sing! Sing! Sing! Sing!  
Sing of the joys of God's love!  
Sing! Sing! Sing! Sing!  
Sing and let Him hear us!

Faith grows strong with Bahá'u'lláh  
Faith that can unite us.  
Sing of a faith that never ends  
And let ev'ry-body join in with the chorus:



*(Chorus):* Sing! Sing! Sing! Sing!  
Sing of the joys of God's love!  
Sing! Sing! Sing! Sing!  
Sing and let Him hear us!



Peace grows strong with Bahá'u'lláh  
Peace that can unite us.  
Sing of a peace that never ends  
And let ev'ry-body join in with the chorus.:



*(Chorus):* Sing! Sing! Sing! Sing!  
Sing of the joys of God's love!  
Sing! Sing! Sing! Sing!  
Sing and let Him hear us!

How many more verses can you make up?  
You could use 'Truth' 'Hope' 'Trust' etc.

C C F F C C G<sup>7</sup> G<sup>7</sup>

Love grows strong with Ba-ha' - u - llah love that can u - nite us.

C G<sup>7</sup> F C C G<sup>7</sup> C C

sing of a love that ne-ver ends and let ev-ry bo-dy join in with the cho - rus.

C G<sup>7</sup> F G<sup>7</sup> C F G<sup>7</sup> G<sup>7</sup>

Sing! Sing! Sing! Sing! Sing of the joys of God's love!

C G<sup>7</sup> F G<sup>7</sup> D D G G<sup>7</sup>

Sing! Sing! Sing! Sing! sing and let Him hear us!

Try adding actions in the choruses:



slap slap / clap clap / snap snap / tap tap

slap slap / clap clap / snap snap / tap tap

sun wave right / sun wave left / sun wave right / sun wave left

wriggle / wriggle wriggle / wriggle / snap snap right / snap snap left



# Emma and Alan

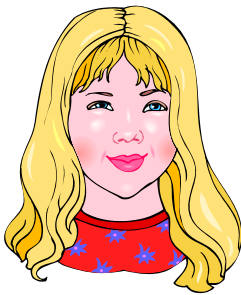
(Excerpts from *Song in the Ground*)

Emma parted the leaves to look into the next door garden, and there was a boy smiling at her.

"Who are you?" asked Emma, surprised to see him.

"A Bahá'í," he said, "and my name is Alan."

"Bahá'í?" she said in a voice of wonder. "I've heard that word but I don't know where!"



"I think God speaks to our souls when we say our prayers," said Alan.

\*\*\*

"God always loves us," Alan told Emma, "and from time to time He fills the world with a little more love and a

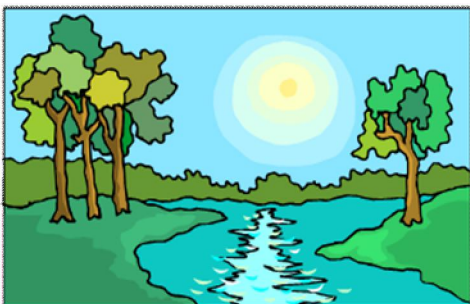


little more teaching to help us to be honest, loving and kind. Holy Ones come, like Krishna and Noah, Moses and Abraham, Zoroaster and Buddha, Jesus, Muhammad, the Báb and Bahá'u'lláh. They are filled with love and guidance from God and that love flows out to fill the whole world."

Emma felt she was being lifted up higher and could see all the world covered with light. Her heart seemed to dance, then fill to overflowing with a feeling of love for the whole of the universe.

\*\*\*

"Each time," said Alan, "God's love shines through Them, everything on earth becomes good and new, just like the spring after a long, cold winter, when new lambs are born and new crocuses grow."



"I feel that now," said Emma quietly, "I feel that everything in the world is new."

She looked at the marigolds bursting with sunshine; she felt the stones so warm with the sun.

"I'd like to know more," said Emma.

"Something exciting happened two hundred years ago," said Alan, "in the time our great, many times great, grandparents were born. The world was full of injustice and sadness and people had forgotten the true teachings of God. So God sent Bahá'u'lláh with a new Message of peace and said that heaven was coming to earth. And all over the world people wrote songs to tell of the coming of the *Glory of God*."

\*\*\*

That night Emma dreamed of a world full of love and knew that a new Day was dawning on earth. She heard the soft stir of the wind in the flowers — a wind full of forgiveness and warmth and love. The nightingales sang to the beautiful roses, and she saw how they blossomed because they were loved.

Bahá'u'lláh smiled and Emma could smell the perfume of roses around her bed.

\*\*\*

"The whole world's one!" shouted Emma from her bedroom window, when she woke up the following day.

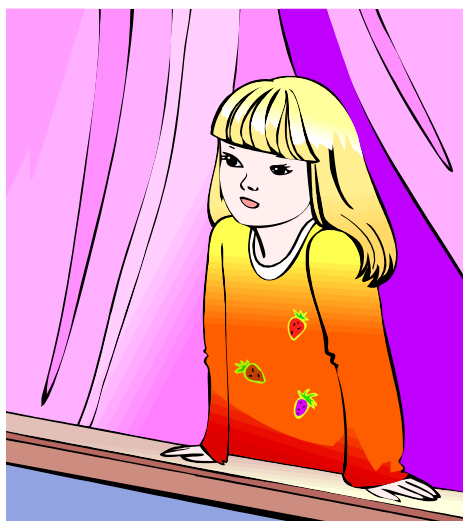
"I know!" laughed Alan from the garden below.

"The sky!" called Emma.

"The stars!" said Alan.

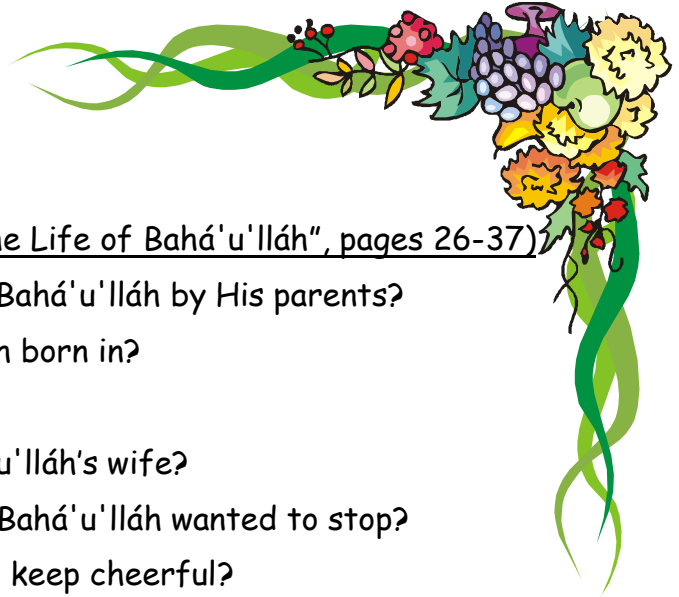
"The sea!" called Emma, as she jumped down the stairs and into the garden.

"The land as it goes down under the sea and comes up on the other side!" said Alan.



\* \* \* \* \*  
\* "One world!" said Emma. \*  
\* "One people!" said Alan. \*  
\* "One God!" sang Emma. \*  
\* \* \* \* \*

# A QUIZ



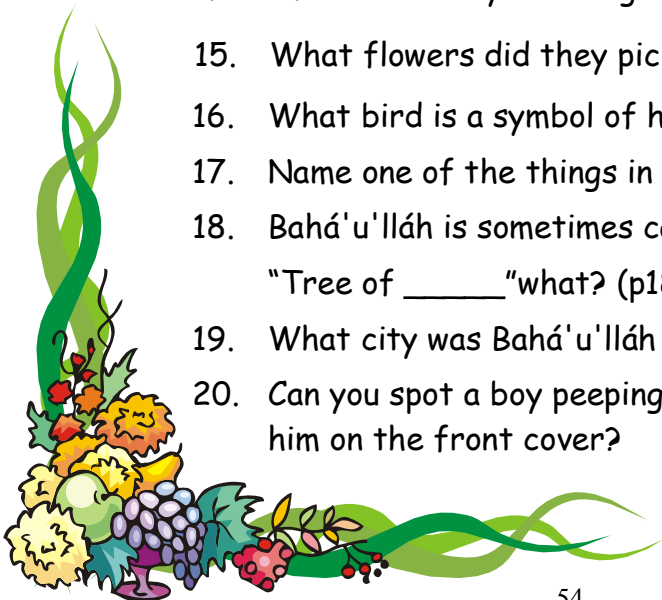
Here are some questions from "The Life of Bahá'u'lláh", pages 26-37)

1. What was the name given to Bahá'u'lláh by His parents?
2. What country was Bahá'u'lláh born in?
3. When was He born?
4. What was the name of Bahá'u'lláh's wife?
5. What was the terrible thing Bahá'u'lláh wanted to stop?
6. What did the prisoners do to keep cheerful?
7. Bahá'u'lláh said that people who look different from each other are like the "different coloured (\_\_\_\_\_what?) of a beautiful garden".
8. Who came to Bahá'u'lláh in a dream while He was in prison?
9. What was the name of the prison-city where Bahá'u'lláh was sent?
10. Who was called "Father of the Poor"?

Here are some questions from other places in the magazine:

11. What does the name "Bahá'u'lláh" mean? (p42)
12. There was an old, poor woman in Baghdad who waited every day to see Bahá'u'lláh walk past. What did she give Him? (p44)
13. What Bahá'í festival is known as "the King of Festivals"? (p20)
14. What was the name of the beautiful garden where Bahá'u'lláh and some of His followers stayed in Baghdad ? (p20)

15. What flowers did they pick in that garden? (p20)
16. What bird is a symbol of happiness in Persia? (p21)
17. Name one of the things in Bahá'u'lláh's dream (p10)
18. Bahá'u'lláh is sometimes called the "Tree of \_\_\_\_\_"what? (p18)
19. What city was Bahá'u'lláh born in? (p9)
20. Can you spot a boy peeping out on p26? Can you also find him on the front cover?



### Answers to Puzzles and Quiz:

**P19 Code:** "O Lord God! make all mankind as stars shining from the same height of glory, as perfect fruits growing upon Thy tree of life."

**P21: Crossword:**

Down: 1. FORGAVE 4. POETS 6. TWELVE 7. ROSES

Across: 2. LOVE 3. KING 4. PROPHETS 5. BEAUTY 8. GOD 9. FRIENDS

**P41 Code:** "May your hearts become clear and pure like unto polished mirrors in which may be reflected the full glory of the Sun of Truth."

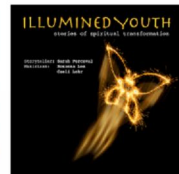
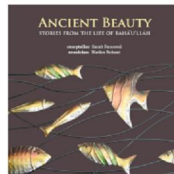
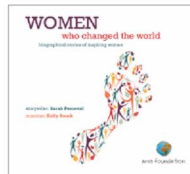
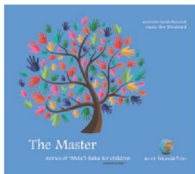
**P54: Quiz.**

1. Husayn Ali
2. Persia
3. 12 November, 1817
4. Navváb
5. wars
6. They sang prayers.
7. "flowers"
8. An angel
9. 'Akká
10. Bahá'u'lláh
11. "The Glory of God"
12. a kiss
13. Ridván
14. The Ridván Garden
15. roses
16. nightingale
17. birds or fish
18. "Tree of life"
19. Tehran
20. You'll need to look carefully!

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