DAYSPRING



A Bahá'í Magazine for Children Issue 81

Dayspring

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

Photographs of children: Under the terms of the Child Protection Act, great care must be taken in the publishing of images of children. Parental permission must be received. Permission must be given in writing or by email direct from the child's parent or guardian.

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- pp.6-7. The story of the shepherdess is from *Stories for Children* (BPT UK, 1970).
- P.11. The Jubilee picture to colour in was designed by Pauline Weston Thomas for Fashion-Era.com
- p.12. Different versions of this rhyme can be found on various websites.
- p.13. Lorrie Fozdar kindly supplied the bunting pattern, and the recipe on pp.24-25.
- p.24. The photograph of the meeting with the Queen and part of the report is from the *Bahà'ì World News Service*, February 2012.
- pp.20-21. The story of the throne and the garden is from Star of the West Vol IX No. 16, p. 184.

March – June 2012 Issue 81

"A just king is the shadow of God on earth." Bahá'u'lláh

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"O kings

of the earth! ...

Your people are your

treasures."

Bahá'u'lláh



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Meeting 'Abdu' I-Bahá

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"Lua "

There was a believer called Lua who was a wonderful teacher of the Cause of God. She became a Bahá'í in 1897 and was one of the first believers in the West.

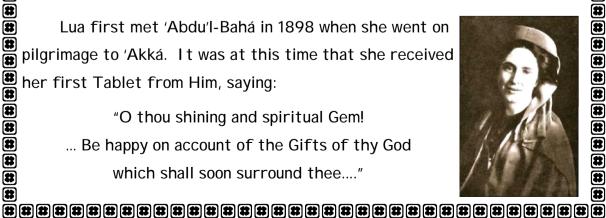
***** 'Abdu'l-Bahá sent Lua on an important mission. He asked her to take a special letter from Him to the <u>Sh</u>áh of Persia, asking him to protect the Bahá'ís in Persia (I ran), where many of them were being killed. The Sháh **(#**) and his Prime Minister were on a visit to Paris, where Lua also happened to **a** be visiting at the time.

When Lua arrived at the hotel where the Sháh was staying, she was told by a secretary that she would need to give the letter to the Prime Minister but that he could not see anyone as his son was dying. Lua sent a message asking if she would be able to see him the next day if his son was healed. The Prime Minister sent a message back saying yes.

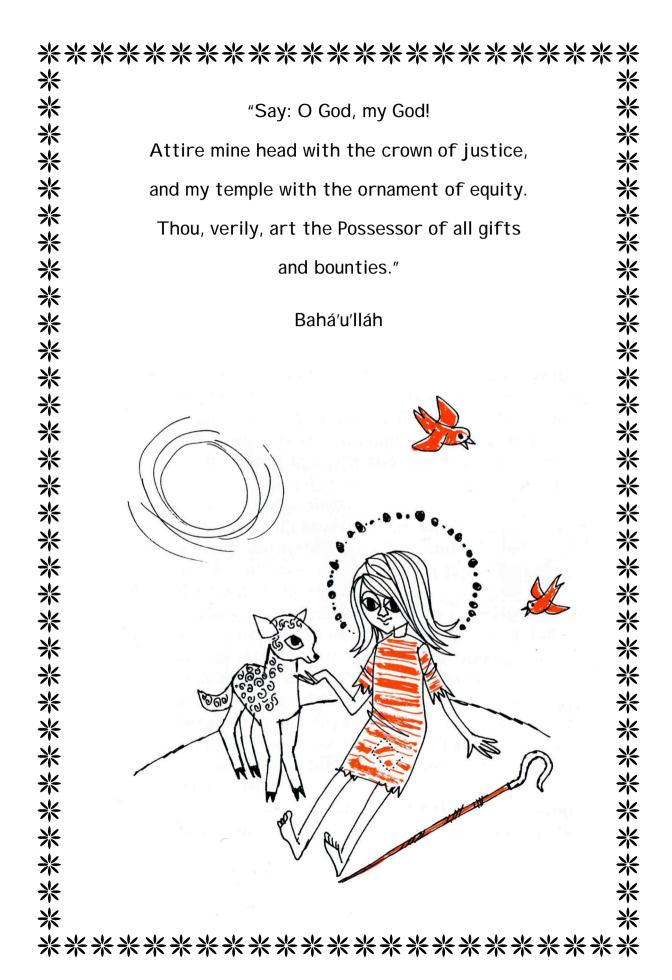
That night Lua asked the Bahá'ís in Paris to join her in saying healing prayers for the Prime Minister's son. They prayed all through the night. When Lua returned to the hotel the following morning she was told that the boy was getting better. And this time she managed to see the Sháh himself. She handed him the letter, and a petition from the Bahá'ís in France, and he said he would do everything in his power to stop the killings. And they did stop for a while.

Lua first met 'Abdu'l-Bahá in 1898 when she went on pilgrimage to 'Akká. It was at this time that she received her first Tablet from Him, saying:

> "O thou shining and spiritual Gem! ... Be happy on account of the Gifts of thy God which shall soon surround thee "



**************** 米 米 The Shepherdess's Crown 米 米 by J.M. Illustrated by Tony Shearing A little shepherdess was caring for the sheep on the hill. Her * dress was thin and her feet were bare. Sometimes she wished 米 米 that she was rich with a silken dress and silver shoes and a 米 ****** palace to live in and lots of toys. Until one day her grand-* father told her: 米 "Some little girls are real princesses with golden crowns 米 and a hundred servants. But everyone can wear a crown of 米 * good things like being kind and being wise and telling the truth 米 * and loving others. Like seeing the sheep are warm in winter *********** 米 and have enough grass and are well looked after. Every good thing that you do is like a beautiful jewel to put in your 米 ★ crown." 米 The little shepherdess sat on the hill and looked at the 米 米 wispy white clouds and the high-flying birds and the sun * shining gold in the sky. And nobody saw that her dress was 米 * thin and her feet were bare, for on her head there shone a 米 crown of light and love and truth and happiness. 米 **********



A Special Diamond Jubilee Letter on behalf of the National Spiritual Assembly

"To the Bahá'ís and their friends: We are happy to inform you of the forthcoming Big Jubilee Lunch due to take place on Sunday 3rd June 2012, to celebrate Her Majesty the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. It is hoped that as many friends as possible will participate in this exciting activity ... to encourage as many people in the UK as possible to have lunch with their neighbours ... to foster ... a sense of togetherness."

The idea for the Big Jubilee Lunch has come from a charity called the Eden Project (Eden being a heavenly garden).

"The letter from the National Assembly says that this is "a wonderful way to bring neighbours together", "to strengthen bonds of friend-ship", "to build community" and "to have meaningful conversations" with others. It will also show "the unique contribution each individual has to offer."

You could take part in a party if one is being held in your street, or someone may be inviting a few neighbours and their children to a party in their garden or house, with food, music and decorations. As your contribution to the party, you may like to make the bunting on page 12, or make the cake on pages 24-25.



The Young Queen Elizabeth

Elizabeth Alexandra Mary was born April 21, 1926 in London. She and her younger sister, Margaret, lived in a four-story house at Piccadilly in London. It was a relaxed, happy childhood and the princesses spent most of their time with their parents, who even sometimes joined in with their pillow fights!



Princess Elizabeth as a baby with her parents.

The two young princesses were parents.

educated at home and had a governess called Marion Crawford. She sounds very nice and not very strict because everyone called her "Crawfie" for short. Their studies included French, mathematics, history and geography. They also took dancing, singing and art lessons.



Princess Elizabeth, her mother, and Princess Margaret

As a child, Elizabeth's family knew her as "Lilibet", a nickname given to her by her little sister, Princess Margaret, who could not pronounce "Elizabeth" as a child. The two princesses liked to play hopscotch and hide and seek, and at weekends they would go to their parents' house in Windsor where they enjoyed working in the park.

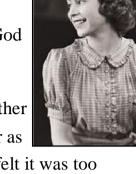
When Princess Elizabeth was nine years old, her

grandfather, King George V, died. At first, her uncle (her father's older brother) then became king, but he only ruled for six months. So Princess Elizabeth's father became king instead.

The second World War broke out and it was a difficult time for everyone. Planes flew overhead dropping bombs on the cities, and many children had to leave their homes and their parents and live with other families in the countryside where it was safer.

In 1942, when she was 16, Princess Elizabeth sent a message over the radio to all the children in the country, telling them, "in the end, all will be well, for God will care for us and give us victory and peace."

She registered at a labour exchange like many other girls her age when she was 18. She wanted to volunteer as a nurse in bombed out areas of London, but her father felt it was too dangerous, so she learned to drive and repair heavy vehicles instead.





When Princess Elizabeth was 21, she married Prince Philip of Greece. She had first met Prince Philip when she was 13. They had kept in touch over the years and fallen in love. Princess Elizabeth called him "my viking prince"! Over the years they had four children, Charles, Anne, Andrew and Edward.

In 1952, when Princess Elizabeth was 26, her father, King George VI, suddenly died. She was very sad as she loved him dearly. Because she did not have any brothers and she was the oldest girl, she then became Queen Elizabeth II.

This year, 2012, is the sixtieth anniversary of the day she became Queen.

Street parties and services will be held all over the United Kingdom to celebrate. And we will be joining in the celebrations too.





You can use this idea for any celebration — to decorate your room, or to string up in the garden. It can be used for parties and Holy Days.

Bunting

You will need: A pencil, string, A4 paper, scissors, sticky tape, a ruler

- 1) Draw a triangle on a piece of paper
- 2) Cut out the triangle and use it as a template to draw around your other pieces of paper
- 3) Fold the top of each triangle over the string, and fasten with sticky tape
- 4) Continue folding and sticking the triangles for as long as you want your bunting to be (for example, 12 or more triangles long)

Optional Extras!
Use coloured paper
or colour-in the
plain paper with
patterns or shapes.
Decorate with
stickers or use
shiny paper

A Rhyme to Remember some Kings and Queens

This is a useful rhyme for memorising the order of succession to the English Throne from William the Conqueror (in 1066) right through to the present day (2012). Queen Elizabeth II is not only Queen of England but also of Scotland, Wales, Northern I reland and 16 other countries. She can trace her ancestry back to King Alfred the Great in 871.

Stee means Stephen. Harry means Henry. Ned means Edward. Bessie means Elizabeth. Twain, means two.

Willie, Willie, Harry, Stee,

Harry, Dick, John, Harry Three,

Neds One-Two-Three, Richard Two,

Harrys Four-Five-Six... then who?

Edwards Four-Five, Dick the Bad,

Harrys (twain), Ned Six (the lad),

Mary, Bessie, James you ken,

Then Charlie, Charlie, James again...

Will & Mary, Anne of gloria,

Georges (4!), Will Four, Victoria,

Edward Seven next and then

Came George the Fifth in 1910.

Ned the Eighth soon abdicated,

So George the Sixth was coronated,

Then Number Two Elizabeth.

And that's all, folks, I'm out of breath!

Translated into names, the order of succession is: William I, William II, Henry I, Stephen, Henry II, Richard I, John, Henry III, Edward I, Edward II, Edward III, Richard II, Henry IV, Henry V, Henry VI, Edward IV, Edward V, Richard III, Henry VII, Henry VIII, Edward VI, Mary I, Elizabeth, James I (& VI of Scotland), Charles I, Charles II, James II, William III & Mary I, Anne, George I, George II, George III, George IV, William IV, Victoria, Edward VII, George V, Edward VIII, George VI, Elizabeth II.

Martha Root

"...we are filled with admiration for that unique and great-hearted apostle of Bahá'u'lláh, our dearly-beloved Martha Root, who under trying circumstances and almost single-handed in her efforts, has so wonderfully paved the way for the universal recognition of the Cause of God."

Shoghi Effendi



Hands of the Cause of God

Martha Root (1872- 1939)

Martha was born in America in 1872. She seemed to be an ordinary little girl – or so people thought! She was not a great beauty like some girls, although she did have lovely eyes and a smile that lit up her face and made your heart feel warm inside. She was very intelligent and what she did when she grew up was amazing.





When Martha was born, Bahá'u'lláh was still alive and living in the prison-city of 'Akká, but she had no way of knowing this when she was a child because His message about the unity of mankind had not yet reached America. However, Martha and Her

parents loved God and they were a very close and loving family.

Martha liked books and writing. She was also curious about other places, and when she was 14 she went on a visit to the Niagara Falls in Canada by herself, paying for the trip from money she had made from her writing.



When she was 17, she saved enough money from writing articles for magazines to travel to Europe. After

that she went to university and became a teacher. Later, she worked as a journalist writing for newspapers about cars and their owners, as cars were new and exciting and had just been invented. As the "Car" editor, she sailed to France in 1902. And a year later she came to the British Isles to write about car-racing in Ireland.

It was in 1908, when she was back in America, that Martha first heard about the teachings of Bahá'u'lláh. She was at a meeting about religion when a

Bahá'í called Roy Wilhelm mentioned that he had just come back from a trip to the East and had learned about a new religion that taught about the brother-hood of mankind.

Martha became interested, so Roy Wilhelm sent her some books about it.



But at first Martha did not read them. Instead, she passed them on to other people whom she thought would be interested. Then one day she picked up one of the books and began to read it and found that she agreed with everything it said. She began to go to Bahá'í meetings and before long she became a Bahá'í.

A few years later she met 'Abdu'l-Bahá when He visited America, and her life changed completely. 'Abdu'l-Bahá wrote a series of letters to the Bahá'ís in America and Canada asking them to travel to other countries to tell people about Bahá'ú'lláh and the new message He had brought from God. Martha was one of the first people to go. In 1915, in the middle of the First World War, she set off to visit places such as Greece, Italy, Egypt, India, Japan and Hawaii.

In 1918 she wrote to 'Abdu'l-Bahá to say she wanted to travel around the

world to tell people about the Faith.

And this she did – not once, but four times. Everywhere she went she taught the Faith – on boats and trains, in 400 colleges and universities, by writing articles in newspapers and by handing out thousands of small books on the Faith.



Martha Root with Bahà'ì friends in Australia

Her friend Roy Wilhelm worked hard back in America to make money to pay for these books, which he sent to her so she could give them to everyone she met. She had many adventures on her travels. Bundled up in layers of warm clothes, she went by mule over the high, cold Andes Mountains, telling her guides about Bahá'ú'lláh as she went, and hoping the mules wouldn't lose their footing on the narrow ledges, which would have caused everyone to fall to their deaths thousands of feet below. At another time she was caught up in a revolution and could have been killed.



As well as meeting ordinary people,

Martha contacted members of royal families, including the Emperor of Japan, King Faizal of Egypt, King Haakon of Norway, and King Zog of Albania. She also wrote to Queen Marie of Rumania and visited her eight times. Queen Marie was a granddaughter of Queen Victoria.

Martha sent Queen Marie a book called *Bahá'u'lláh and the New Era* written by John Esslemont of Scotland, and the Queen was so interested she



Queen Marie of Rumania, who became a Bahà'ì

read it into the small hours of the morning. Two days later she asked Martha to come and see her in the palace.

"These teachings are the solution of the world's problems," she told Martha. "The beautiful truth of Bahá'u'lláh is with me always, a help and an inspiration."

She became a Bahá'í, and her daughter, Princess Eleanor, also declared her faith in Bahá'u'lláh.

Queen Marie wrote several articles praising the Bahá'í Faith, and these were published in nearly two hundred

newspapers in America and Canada and then translated and published in many other countries of the world.

If Martha had not visited the Queen, she may never have heard about Bahá'u'lláh.

Shoghi Effendi called Martha Root "a star-servant of the Faith of Bahá'u'lláh". And after she died, in Hawaii in 1939, he announced that she was a Hand of the Cause of God.

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CROSSWORD ABOUT MARTHA ROOT The answers are in the story on pages 15, 16 & 17									
Clues Aer	000				Chag Do				

Clues Across

- How many times did Martha Root 1. travel around the world?
- 4. Who was Queen Marie of Rumania's grandmother? Queen
- How did Martha travel over the 6. Andes Mountains? On a
- The first name of the person who told Martha about the Faith Wilhelm.

- Shoghi Effendi said that Martha Root 2. was "A servant of the Faith of Bahá'u'lláh."
- Martha liked and writing. 3.
- 5. Martha wrote about car-racing where?
- 6. Miss Root's first name.
- 7. How many times did Martha meet Queen Marie?
- 8. The first name of the Queen of Rumania.

Queen Marie of Rumania wrote to the newspapers, saying:

If ever the name of

Bahá'u'lláh

or 'Abdu'l-Bahá

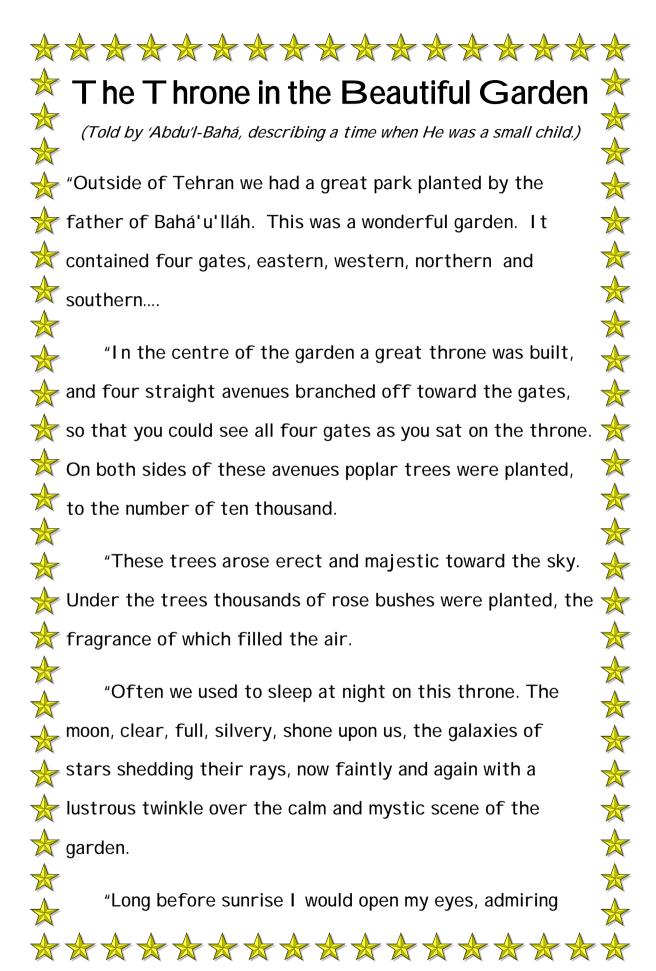
comes to your attention,

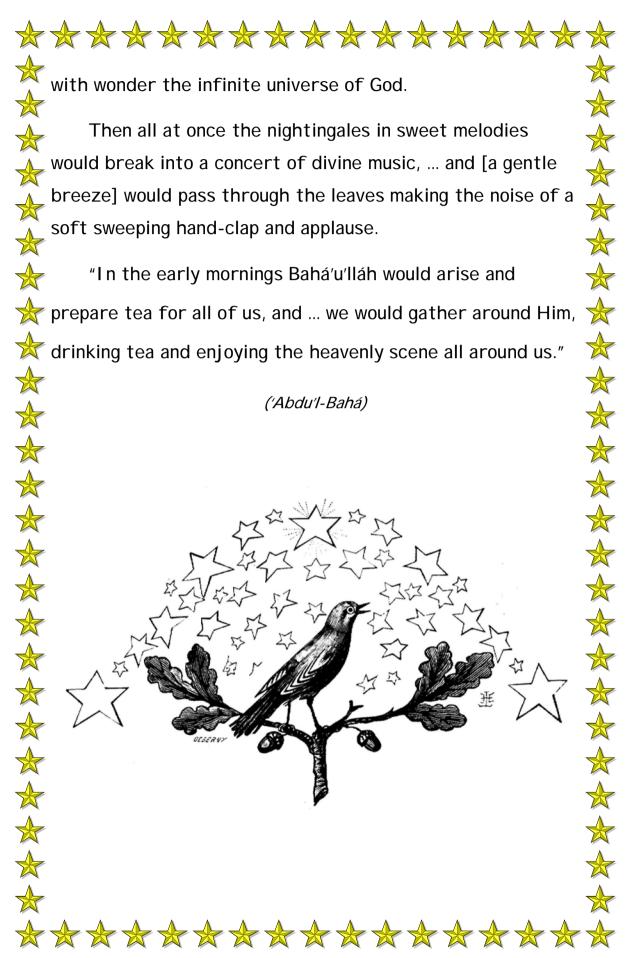
do not put their writings from you.

Search out their books,

and let their glorious, peace- bringing,
love-creating words and lessons
sink into your hearts as they have into mine...

Seek them and be the happier.





Bahá'ís Meet the Queen

The very first official event to mark the 60th Anniversary of Queen Elizabeth II Accession to the throne was held at Lambeth Palace in London on Wednesday, 15th February 2012.

Among those representing the Bahá'í Faith from the UK were two young Bahá'ís— Liam Stephens from the isle of Skye and Nasrin O'Kane from Northern Ireland. Also present were Paddy O'Mara, Secretary of the National Spiritual Assembly, and Shirin Fozdar-Foroudi, member of the Counsellors for Europe.

Representatives from all the nine major religious groups in the United Kingdom were invited to show the Queen and Prince Philip a treasure of significance to their Faith.

The treasure the Bahá'ís showed was the precious but simple robe worn by 'Abdu'l-Bahá, reminding us of His life of constant service to others, a life that brought love, wisdom and comfort to everyone.

Some beautiful words of 'Abdu'l-Bahá about the oneness of mankind and the oneness of religion had been beautifully framed for the ceremony:

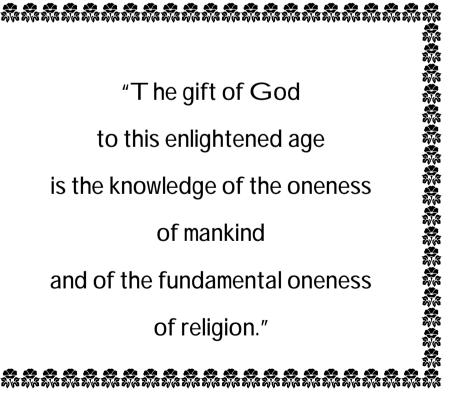
The Queen spoke of how widespread the Bahá'í community seemed to be. And Prince Philip was particularly interested in the fact that Liam was from the Isle of Skye and wondered how someone from the Hebrides had become a Bahá'í; and so Liam explained to him how he had come to embrace this most recent of the world's religions.

At the reception that followed, the Archbishop of Canterbury said how wonderful it was that the Diamond Jubilee celebrations began with an event that brought together all the major Faith communities in the United Kingdom, and how they played an important role in society. And the Queen too spoke on the theme of religious unity, saying,

"Our religions provide critical guidance for the way we live our lives and for the way in which we treat each other."



The Queen looking at the robe worn by 'Abdu'l-Bahá and at His words below which were in the frame on the table:



A BATTENBERG JUBILEE CAKE

IMPORTANT! Ask permission first before baking this cake. Do not do this on your own without an adult present in case you burn yourself.

When one of Queen Victoria's grand-daughters married Prince Louis of Battenberg in 1884, this cake was created to celebrate their wedding.

Ingredients:

150g Butter, softened
150g Caster sugar
150g Self raising flour
3 large eggs, beaten
30ml milk
3 drops of pink food colouring
100g Apricot jam
200g Ready rolled marzipan



Equipment: One 15cm (6in) square cake tin, greased with butter, with the bottom of the tin lined with baking parchment and with a thick layer of foil down the centre as a divider, OR two 22x12cm (8x4in) loaf tins greased with butter, with the bottom of the tins lined with baking parchment.

Preheat the oven to 180°C (350°F), Gas Mark 4.

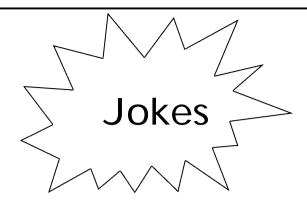
- In a large bowl beat together the butter and sugar until pale and fluffy. Slowly add the beaten eggs. Add the flour and continue beating. Stir in the milk.
- Place half of the mixture into another bowl and carefully add the food colouring until you have a nice shade of pink. Stir well.
- If using one tin, put the pink cake mixture into one side of the tin and the plain cake mixture into the other side of the tin. If using 2 tins (easier!), then put the pink cake mixture into one tin, and the plain cake mixture into the other tin.
- Bake for about 25 minutes or until a skewer inserted into the middle of the cake comes out clean. ASK AN ADULT TO DO THIS BIT!

- Leave in the tine or tins for 10 minutes and then turn out on to a wire rack and leave until completely cool.
- Warm the jam slightly, cut the sponges to the same size, and then in half lengthways. Brush one long side of a pink cake with jam. Take a piece of plain cake and put it next to the pink one, and stick them together. Brush the top of this joined-together cake with jam.
- Now take another piece of pink cake, brush a long-side with jam, and place it above the plain piece below do this in a way that the jam is on the inside. Place a piece of plain cake next to it (above the pink cake), sticking them together with the jam, to make a chequered pattern.
- Lay out the marzipan and brush it with some more jam. Place the sponge onto the
 marzipan and wrap the marzipan around the cake hiding the seam underneath.
 Smooth the marzipan and trim it up so that you can see the chequered pattern at
 the ends.

Leave for half an hour and then serve cut into slices.







What gets bigger and bigger when you take more and more away from it?



A hole!

What goes ha, ha, ha, plop, plop, plop?

Three monsters laughing their heads off!



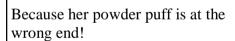
Tom: Do you have holes in



What starts with an 'e' and ends with an 'e' but only has one letter in it?

An envelope!

Why does the rabbit have a shiny nose?





Tom: Then how do you get your legs

Jack: Certainly not!

your trousers?

through?



Waiter, waiter, do you call this a three-course meal?

Yes, sir: two chips and a pea!

Why couldn't the butterfly go to the ball?

Because it was a moth ball!



A lady went into a pet shop and said: "I want a parrot for my little boy."

"I am sorry, madam," said the shopkeeper. "We don't do swops!"



What did one wall say to the other wall?

I'll meet you at the corner!

Amazing Stories from the Dawn-Breakers

Stories adapted by Jacqueline Mehrabi and illustrated by Malcolm Lee

(The story so far: The Báb has been questioned by the authorities in Tabríz. He told them He was the Promised One of all religions. This made them very angry because they did not want to believe it. They beat Him on the soles of His feet with a stick, and the stick also wounded His face. A British doctor called Dr Cormick bathed His face for several days afterwards and the Báb told him about the teachings of Bahá'u'lláh.)

Part 26

Táhirih is Rescued

Although the Báb was a prisoner, His teachings were spreading throughout the land. People in the smallest villages had heard about them. It was decided to hold a conference in a village called Badasht, and everyone was encouraged to attend. It was to be held at the same time as the Báb was travelling to Tabríz to be questioned.

Táhirih heard the news while she was in I ráq busy telling people about the

Báb. She was a wonderful speaker and both men and women came to hear her.

When men came she had to sit behind a curtain so they could not see her. In those days people thought it was not polite or proper for men and women to be together in the same room, unless they were



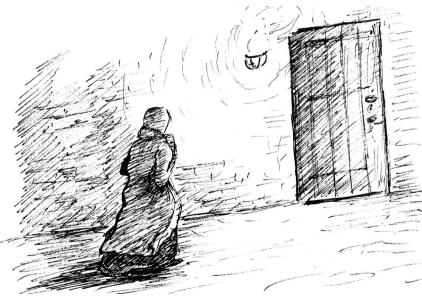
members of the same family. Táhirih also wrote beautiful poetry and she was famous in Persia and I ráq and beyond.

Not long after she arrived in her home town of Qasvín, trouble broke out. Someone attacked her uncle, who was a stern and sometimes unjust religious leader. This uncle had always said bad things about the Faith of the Báb, and when he was killed, the authorities thought Táhirih was to blame. Of course, she had nothing to do with this dreadful act, but all the same she was imprisoned in her father's house and many innocent Bábís were killed, even though the person responsible for the act had already confessed.

Although she was confined in her father's house and not allowed to leave,

Táhirih was not too worried. She said, "If my Cause is the Cause of Truth, God
will rescue me within nine days."

When Bahá'u'lláh heard that Táhirih had been imprisoned, He arranged to rescue her and bring her to the safety of His house in Tihrán. He sent instructions to someone called Khátun-Ján to go to help Táhirih to escape.



That night KhátunJán set out, dressed
as a beggar woman,
with a letter from
Bahá'u'lláh to give to
Táhirih. Nobody
took any notice of
her when she arrived

delivered the letter. She waited outside while Táhirih followed the instructions in the letter and got ready to leave. When she was ready, she slipped through the door and joined Khátun-Ján, and the two women walked quickly though the streets until they came to the city wall.

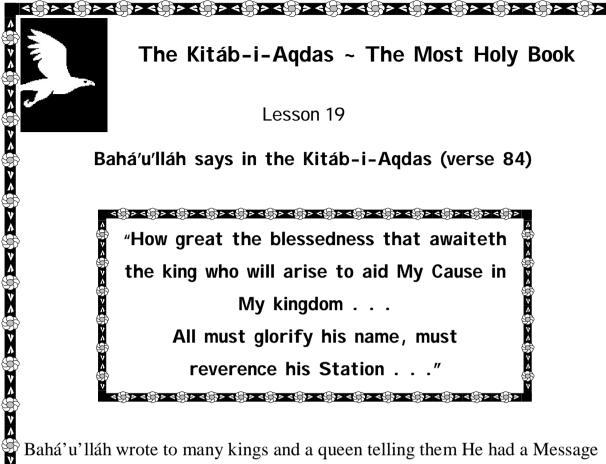
Khátun-Ján's husband was waiting for them. No one noticed as they walked through the gate. Outside were three horses Bahá'u'lláh had sent for them. Táhirih, Khátun-Ján and her husband rode all through the night, keeping well away from the main roads so they would not be seen.

They came to Tihrán and waited until the gates into the city were unlocked the following morning. Then they made their way to the house of Bahá'u'lláh.

Back in Qazvín, people were running around trying to find Táhirih! All night long they searched the houses in the area and could not understand how she could have escaped unnoticed. Some of them remembered how she had said that God would rescue her, and they became believers.



(*To be continued...*)



The Kitáb-i-Aqdas ~ The Most Holy Book

Lesson 19

Bahá'u'lláh says in the Kitáb-i-Aqdas (verse 84)

ঞ্জি> <ঞ্জি> "How great the blessedness that awaiteth the king who will arise to aid My Cause in My kingdom . All must glorify his name, must reverence his Station . . . "

Bahá'u'lláh wrote to many kings and a queen telling them He had a Message from God that would bring peace to the world. But most of them were too proud to listen to His words. When they received these wonderful Letters, they were at the height of their power, but one by one they lost their thrones, either because of wars or their own people rising up against them. They were overthrown and ended up with nothing.

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All except one, and that was Queen Victoria.

When Queen Victoria received her letter, she did not ignore it like the others did. She did not know much about the Faith because there were no books in English about it at the time, but she was just and polite and is reported to have said that if Bahá'u'lláh's Message was of God, it would survive.

In His Letter to Queen Victoria, Bahá'u'lláh praised her for two things in particular. One was that she was trying to stop slavery in the world. The

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other was for allowing ordinary people to vote for the government. Many had never had the freedom to vote in this way before.

Queen Victoria was a good queen, and while she did not become a Bahá'í, her granddaughter Queen Marie and her great-granddaughter Princess Eleanor did.

There was also a king who later became a Bahá'í. His name was King Malietoa Tanumafili II, and he lived from 1913—2007. For 40 years he was King of Samoa. He told many people about the teachings of Bahá'u'lláh, and during his life-time a beautiful Bahá'í Temple was built in his country.



Queen Victoria of Great Britain and Ireland



Queen Marie of Rumania and her daughter Princess Eleanor



King Malietoa Tanumafili II of Samoa

Bahá'u'lláh wrote these loving words to Queen Victoria:

"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."

