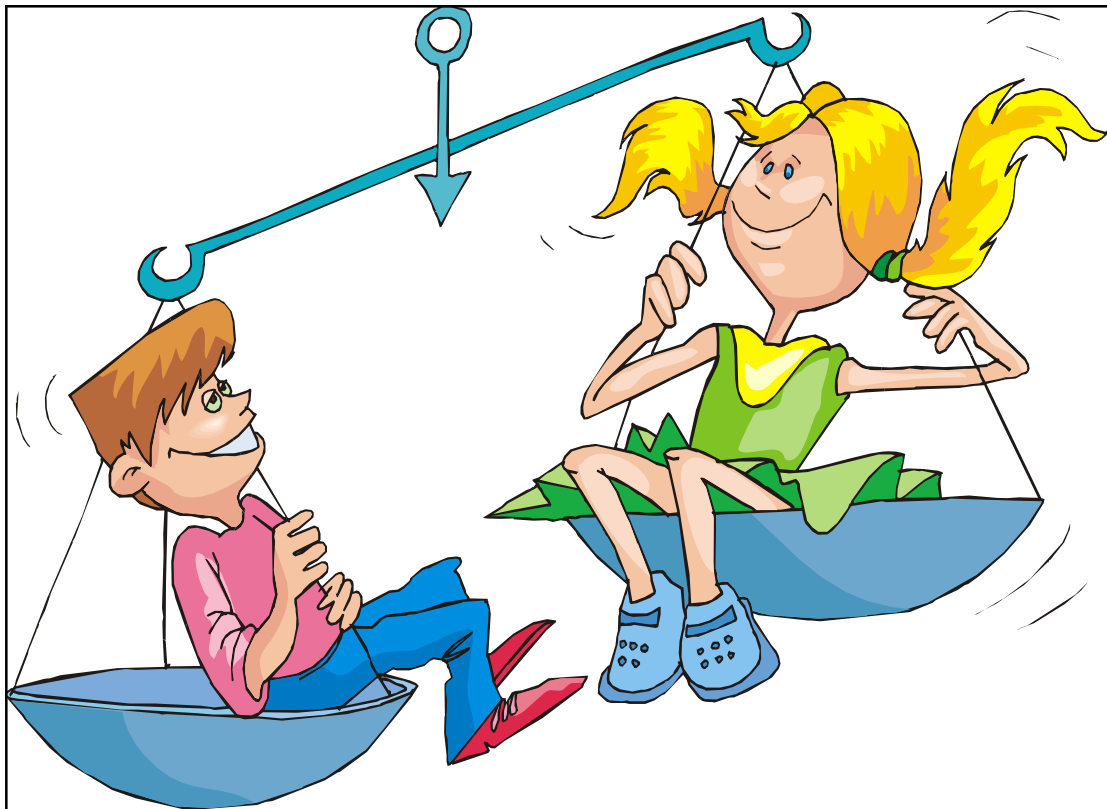


DAYS PRING



A Bahá'í Magazine for Children

Issue 95

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.

Dayspring Team: Maggie Manvell & Jackie Mehrabi (editors), David Merrick (web-master), Janet Fleming Rose (proofreader), Helena Hastie (distributor).

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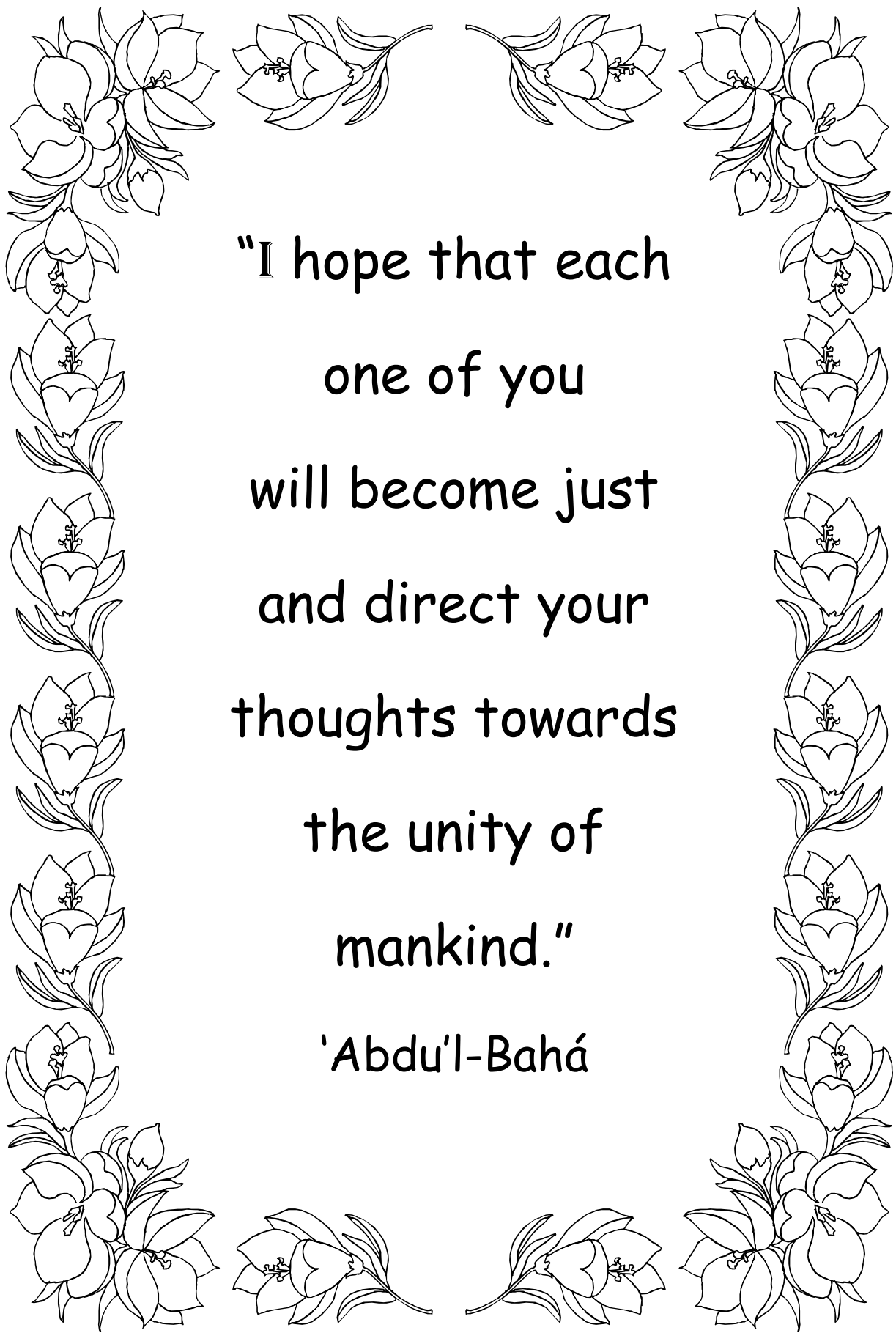
pp.22-23: "Táhirih — The Pure One." Images kindly provided by the Táhirih Justice Center.

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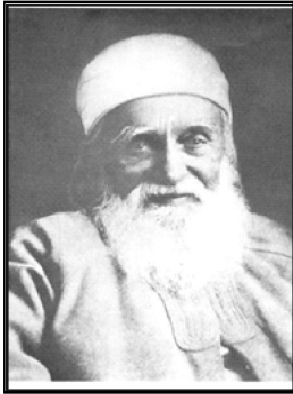
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**November 2016—February 2017
Issue 95**



"I hope that each
one of you
will become just
and direct your
thoughts towards
the unity of
mankind."

'Abdu'l-Bahá



Meeting 'Abdu'l-Bahá

The Unjust Shopkeeper

One day, when 'Abdu'l-Bahá was living in the prison-city of 'Akká, He needed to buy charcoal so the Bahá'ís could cook their food. But the people in the town were not friendly and refused to sell Him any. So 'Abdu'l-Bahá ordered some from a merchant who lived outside the town. He paid the merchant and waited for it to be delivered.

However, when the driver with the camel-load of charcoal reached the town, he was stopped by a shopkeeper who took it for himself, saying, "This is better charcoal than I can get!" Not only did he take the charcoal, but he refused to return the money 'Abdu'l-Bahá had paid for it.

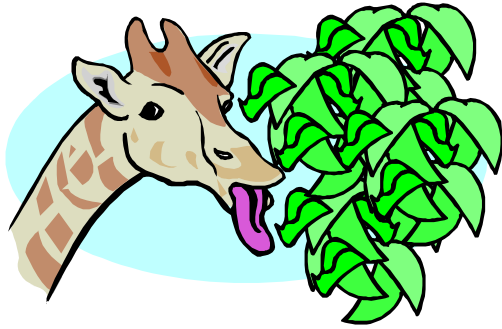
When 'Abdu'l-Bahá heard what had happened, He went to the man's shop. It was full of customers, so He quietly went in and sat down. For three hours the shopkeeper ignored 'Abdu'l-Bahá, Who patiently waited, saying nothing. At last, when all the customers had left, the shopkeeper asked Him why He was a prisoner in the city. 'Abdu'l-Bahá said He had only done what Christ had done — He had told people about a new message from God.

The shopkeeper was at first very angry when 'Abdu'l-Bahá said this, and rudely asked, "What could you know of Christ?" 'Abdu'l-Bahá politely told him and explained many wonderful things about the meaning of the teachings of Jesus. When the man realised how wise 'Abdu'l-Bahá was and how much He knew, he became ashamed of his own unjust behaviour.

"The coal is gone," he said, "I cannot return that to you, but here is the money you paid for it."

He then walked with 'Abdu'l-Bahá to the door and down the street, treating Him with the greatest respect. Since that day, he and 'Abdu'l-Bahá became good friends, and their families also.





Giselda, Gerald and the Aardvark

Giselda the young giraffe had a beautiful little brother called Gerald. She loved him very, very much, and if he was unhappy, Giselda was unhappy too. When he was born, he was very contented. He was able to stand up straight away, and because his legs and neck were so long, he was just the right height to be able to reach their mother's milk. But now he had grown quite a lot, and he felt ready to start eating the same food as the other giraffes.

There was a problem though. The sweetest, most tender leaves were right up in the tops of the trees. Poor Gerald was not tall enough to reach them. Even Giselda found it difficult, and she was a lot taller than him. Oh dear! Poor Gerald! He could hear all the other giraffes munching happily, but he just could not make his neck stretch far enough. And the harder he tried, the more tired and hungry he became. It just wasn't fair!

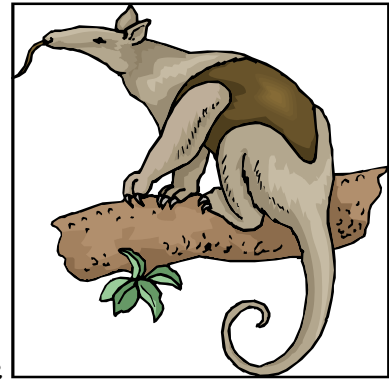


Giselda had broken a branch off for him, and he had nibbled the few leaves in no time at all, but then he wanted the sweet leaves at the top of the tree even more, because he liked them so much.

Giselda couldn't sleep that night. She dozed off, and then kept waking, because she was trying to think of a way to make it fair for Gerald, and help him reach the leaves. Every idea she had was no use at all. But one time when she woke, she heard a rustling in the grasses, and looked around. The moon was very bright, and she saw something moving across the grass. What could it be? Animals creeping up in the night were a bit scary, but this one didn't look dangerous. It had a plump grey body, short legs, and a long tail with an interesting curl in it. It had a very long nose, and, strangest of all, out of its

mouth came a long, flickering and quivering tongue.

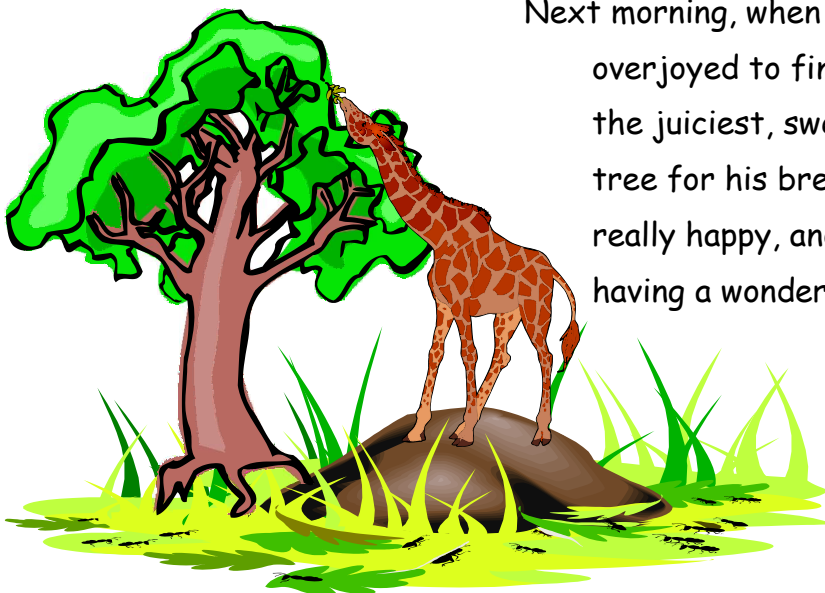
Suddenly, Giselda knew what this animal must be. She had never seen one before, but she'd heard her mother talk of a strange animal that lived on the grasslands and ate the most odd things. Instead of juicy leaves, or even grass, it lived on ants. And it spent most of its time digging big holes in the ground to try and find some. It was an aardvark!



Giselda had a wonderful idea! She'd never spoken to an aardvark before, and she wasn't sure he'd understand. But when she quickly explained that she would like him to dig a hole, and make a big pile of earth under one of the trees, he seemed to understand at once.

Giselda chose a tree that had lots and lots of really juicy leaves, and showed the aardvark that she would like to have a pile of earth right underneath it. The aardvark seemed very happy to do just as she asked, and in no time at all there was a pile of earth under the tree, and it was just the right size for Gerald to stand on. The aardvark was really happy too, because while he was digging, he'd found a whole nest —full of delicious, crunchy ants.

Giselda thanked him over and over again, but the aardvark just gave one last, quivering flick of its tongue, and went plodding away into the night. Giselda settled down to enjoy a deep, dreamless sleep, happy to have made things fair for Gerald at last.



Next morning, when they woke, Gerald was overjoyed to find that he could reach the juiciest, sweetest leaves on the tree for his breakfast. Giselda was really happy, and the aardvark was having a wonderful sleep, because his tummy was full of ants.

Bahá'u'lláh has given us this important message about Justice. Can you work out what it says?

The b  n  e  l o v e d

r  o b  a  i n g s

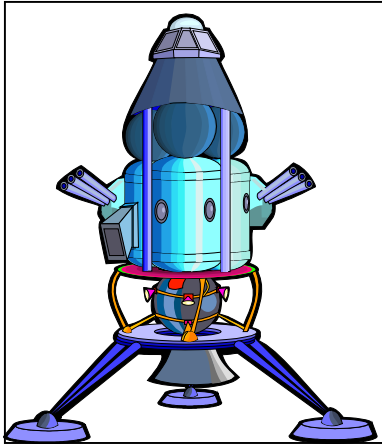
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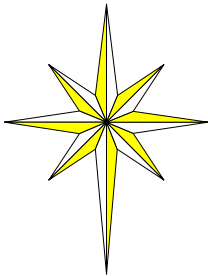
r  o M  l o v i n g  g d n e s s .

Zia's Visit to the Shining Planet



Zia lived in a place where people were used to travelling about in spaceships. In fact, Zia had a small spaceship of his own. He loved it. It had a rocket launcher underneath, a safe, pressurised cabin, and long strong legs for landing on rough ground, because, when you land on a new planet, you never know what kind of surface it might have. Zia's spaceship also had big, wide feet so it wouldn't topple over on rocks or stones.

Zia hadn't been into space very often, but he spent a lot of time thinking about it, and he was always making plans. One day, he was looking through his telescope as usual, when he spotted a beautiful bright star that



he hadn't noticed before. He knew that it wasn't really a star, but a planet, so it wasn't all that far away. It was shining so brightly that Zia made up his mind to go there on his next trip. He started making plans and kept looking at the beautiful shining planet through his telescope, and he got more and more excited.

At school he told his friends about it.

"Oh," said one. "Don't go there. Someone told me it's a horrible place—all boggy and muddy."

Another said, "I heard that it's covered in wild jungle."

A third friend said, "I was told there are fierce animals that bite."

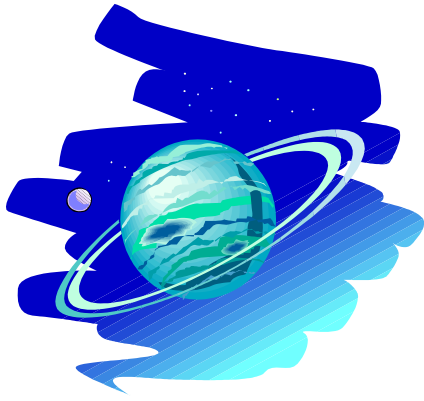
"Do you know someone who's been there?" asked Zia.

"Well, no," his friends admitted, "but that's what people say."

Zia decided to ask the man next door, because he'd made a lot of journeys into space.

"No. I've never been that far," said the man. "But I've heard it's not as nice as it looks! I've heard that the people who live there are very cruel and will boil you in oil as soon as you land!"





Zia thanked him for this information, but in his own mind he thought this didn't sound very likely. "After all," he thought, "why would they want to do that?"

Zia decided to ask one more person, and this time he chose someone very wise. This man was a scientist, and he'd studied the stars and planets.

The scientist said, "Well, Zia. If your parents agree, you could go and see." He smiled at Zia. "I don't think you will come to harm. It will be like a real scientific investigation."

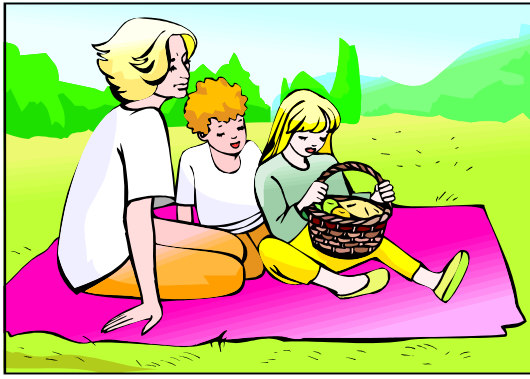
Now, you might think that all the awful reports would put Zia off going to that shining planet, in spite of what the scientist had said, but that's not what happened. He felt he just had to go there and find out for himself. More than ever, now, he wanted to explore this dangerous, unfriendly, but shining planet. So he finished making all his plans, got together lots of things to eat, and put all the information he needed into his computer. At last he was ready to set off.

It was quite a frightening journey, because all the way Zia was thinking about the terrible things people had told him. But he was determined to see it with his own eyes.

At last his space ship landed and Zia climbed out, wondering what he would find. To his relief there was no wild jungle and the ground was not at all boggy. It was firm, and covered with fresh green grass and tiny coloured flowers. He looked very carefully all around, but there were no fierce animals to be seen. Instead, some rabbits were feeding peacefully on the grass. Zia carefully took off his helmet and very slowly breathed in. The air tasted sweet and clean, and he could hear birds singing in the trees nearby.

"What a lovely place," he thought. And he unpacked his space buggy to go exploring.





He crossed a river and soon found himself on a little track that was easy to drive along. He followed it, and came out into a big grassy open space among the trees. Some people were sitting on the grass. What a surprise! They were a family, just like his own, having a picnic. Zia was quite

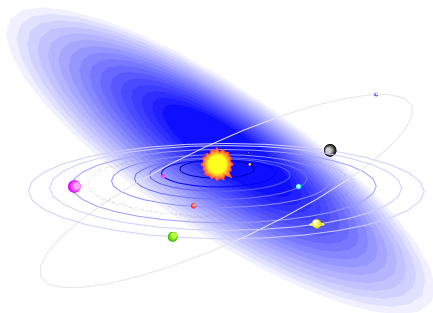
nervous about meeting them, because of what he'd been told about the people on this planet. But they didn't look at all unfriendly, and they didn't seem to have any hot oil to boil him in. Zia climbed out of his buggy and slowly approached them. Surprised, they jumped to their feet. It was a scary moment! But instead of being unkind to him, they greeted Zia like a friend, and invited him to sit down and share their delicious food.

Zia told them where he'd come from, and a little about what it was like on his own planet. Then the family told Zia about their lives, and the place they lived. What was really very strange, and surprised Zia very much, was that these children were just like him, and their mother was a bit like his mother, too. And, even more surprising, their world was like his, and very beautiful.



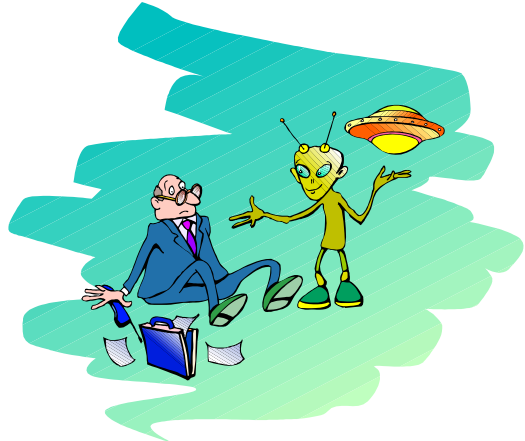
Zia was quite disappointed when it was time for him to go back to the space ship. As he flew off he waved goodbye to his new friends. He was thinking what a lot he would have to tell the people at home.

Zia was so glad that he'd been brave enough to come and find out for himself. And he decided that in future he would not be put off by what others said. He would always look for himself, and make up his own mind.

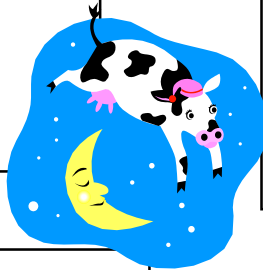


"And," he decided, "when I'm talking to people, I'll only tell them what I really know, and I won't tell them things just because other people have said them."

SPACE JOKEs



Q: What was the first animal in space?
A: The cow that jumped over the moon!



Q: Why did the baby cow go to outer space?
A: To visit the Milky Way.

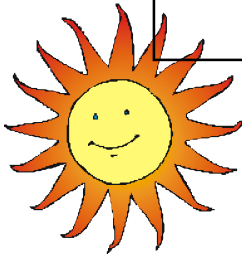
Q: Why did the cow go in the spaceship?
A: It wanted to see the moooooooon!

Q: How do you get a baby astronaut to sleep?
A: You rocket!

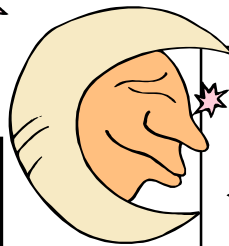


Q: What kind of music do planets sing?
A: Neptunes!

Q: Why did the sun go to school?
A: To get brighter!



Q: What do you call a crazy spaceman?
A: An astro-*nut*.



Q: How does the man-in-the-moon cut his hair?
A: Eclipse it!

Q: What do you call an alien with four eyes?
A: An aliiiiien!

Q: What kind of plates do they use in space?
A: Flying saucers!



Q: How does an astronaut shave?
A: With a laser blade!



Bahá'u'lláh told us that He likes us to see
with our own eyes.

Can you decode this Message?

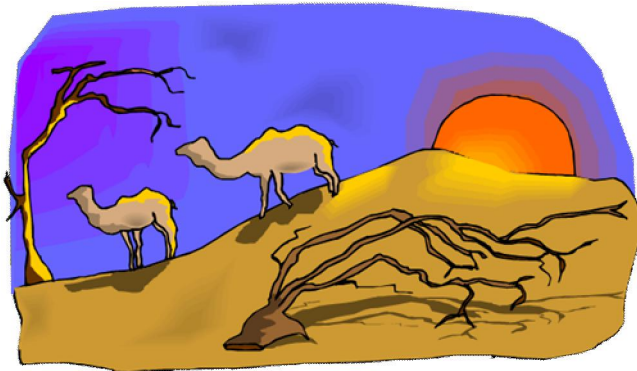


A large blue-bordered box containing six rows of icons for decoding. Each row consists of a sequence of icons followed by a dashed line for writing the decoded letter.

- Row 1: ❄️ 👉 👈 👈 👉 👉 🩸 ❄️ 👈 👉 😞 🏠 ✝️ 👈 👈 🏠 👈 🙌 😞 😞
- Row 2: ❄️ 👉 🖐️ ☠️ 👈 🩸 🖐️ ☠️ 🔥 ⚡ ⚡ ✨ 🩸 🖐️ 👈 👈 ❄️ 🖐️ 🩸
- Row 3: 😊 ✝️ 🩸 ❄️ 🖐️ 👈 👈 👈 . 👈 ✨ 🖐️ ❄️ 🩸 🙌 🖐️ 👈 ❄️ 👉 🏠 ✝️
- Row 4: 🩸 👈 🙌 😞 ❄️ 🩸 👈 👈 ✝️ 🖐️ ❄️ 👈 ❄️ 👈 🖐️ ☠️ 👈 🏠 ✝️ ☠️
- Row 5: 👈 ✨ 👈 🩸 🙌 ☠️ 👈 ☠️ 🏠 ❄️ ❄️ 👈 ☀️ 🏠 ✝️ 👈 👈
- Row 6: ❄️ 👈 👈 👈 ✨ 👈 👈 🩸 🏠 👈 🏠 ❄️ 👈 👈 ☀️ 🩸 .

🙌	👈	👉	👈	👈	👈	👈	👈	🖐️	😊	😞	😞	🔥 ⚡
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
☠️	🏠	🙌	✈️	☀️	🩸	❄️	✝️	✝️	✝️	✝️	✨	☀️
N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z

Missing Mules



Many people were travelling with Bahá'u'lláh from Baghdad to Constantinople. They travelled for days through deserts and mountains and lonely places. At night they

slept in tents or in the shelter of a rock or tree.

Along the way they met an Arab traveller who was travelling alone with two mules carrying his belongings. He asked if he could join them as it was safer to travel together through the wild countryside.

One night they all stayed near a village at the foot of a mountain. When they awoke the following morning they found that someone had stolen the two mules belonging to the Arab traveller. Bahá'u'lláh asked some of the officials in the village to find the mules, but they did not know where they were.

Everyone was packing up ready to leave when the Arab traveller cried out to Bahá'u'lláh, "You are leaving and I shall never see my mules again!" He loved his mules and was very upset.

At once Bahá'u'lláh told everyone to stop. He said they would not leave until the mules were found.

One of the officials guessed who the thief was — he was sure it was the headman of the village. So he went to the headman and told

him to immediately return the mules or else he would put him in prison. The headman offered some money instead, but Bahá'u'lláh would not accept it. He knew that the Arab traveller did not want the money, he just wanted his mules back!

Eventually the headman gave in and admitted he was the thief and returned the mules. People were amazed, for such a thing had never happened before in that lawless village. No stolen property had ever been returned, nor even payment offered to the rightful owner.

Bahá'u'lláh gave presents to everyone who had helped to find the mules. He gave a soft woollen shawl to one person, a beautiful book to another, and a sword with a jewelled handle to a third.

Everyone was very happy. As Bahá'u'lláh and His companions left to continue their journey, the people from the village came out of their houses and cheered because the mules had been found. They waved flags and beat on drums and everyone was smiling.

And the happiest person of all was the grateful Arab traveller!



The Arab traveller



Building Spiritual Muscles

Practising Justice and Fairness

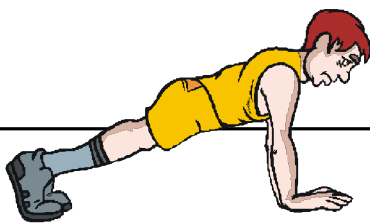
Bahá'u'lláh brought justice, fairness and mercy to the world. He asked us to **“judge with fairness and act with justice”**.

We can build our spiritual muscles by trying to do this. We make choices all the time and everything we do affects other people.

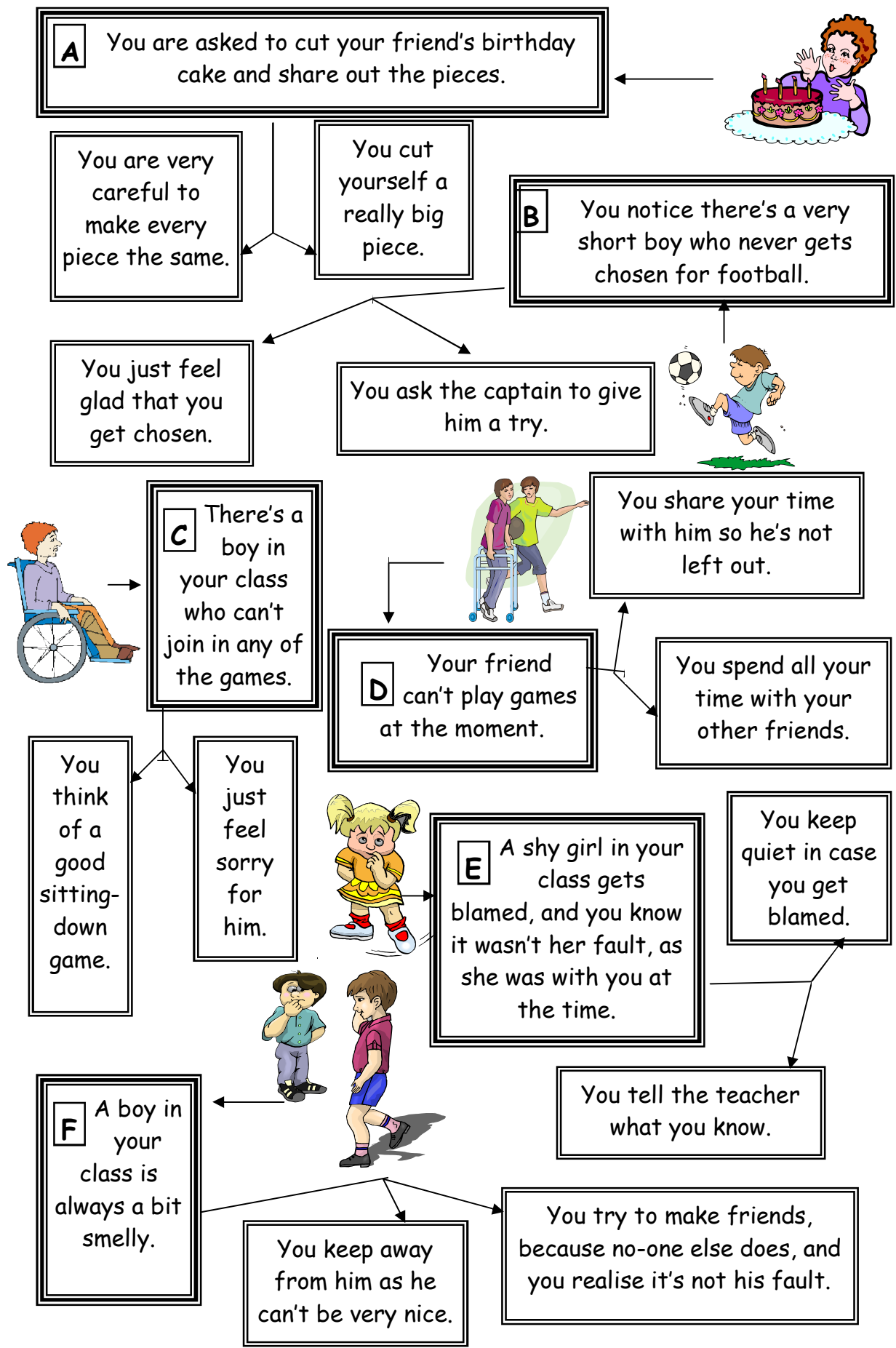
- To practise justice, we could try to share things fairly.
- To be fair to other people we could think about how things are for them, and try to help them join in with what we're doing.
- To be just we would always tell the truth.
- We would think if something was right before we did it.
- We wouldn't just copy what other people are doing if it's not kind or helpful.



You can try to build your spiritual strength by practising making the right choices.

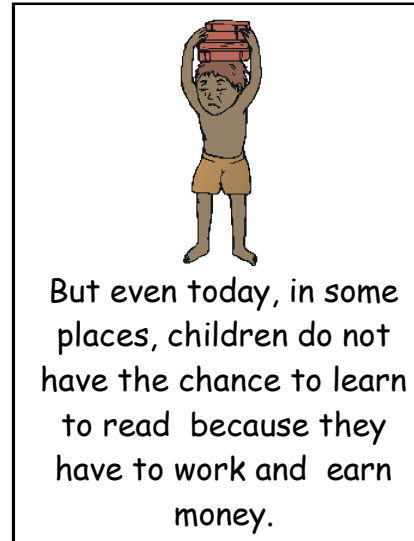
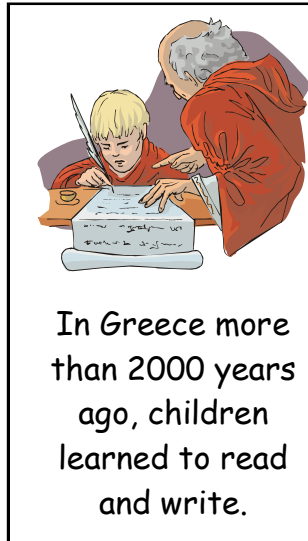
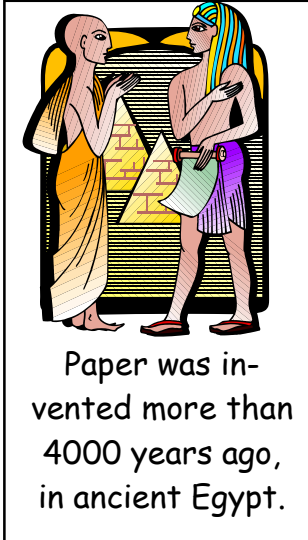


Look at the boxes on the next page. Choose the actions that show justice, fairness or kindness. If you think you could do each fair thing, lightly colour its border green. Colour the borders of the other boxes red.

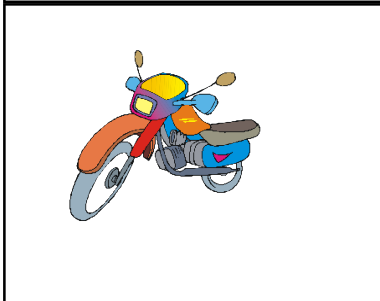


The world could be a fairer place.

Some countries are much richer than others, which means they have more schools, hospitals and doctors for their people.



In richer countries

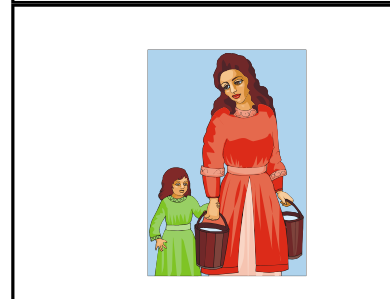
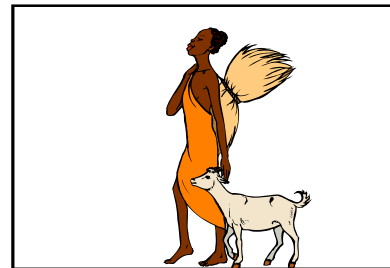


For centuries people have been inventing ways of travelling, to make their lives easier, and to help them move heavy things.

But even today, those who are very poor have to walk everywhere and carry heavy loads.

Some people have to go miles every day to fetch their water, which is very heavy.

In poorer countries



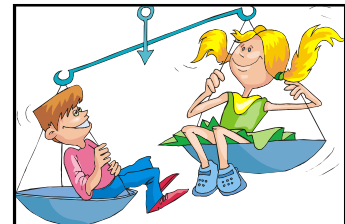
Bahá'u'lláh has taught us how to make a fairer world.

- 1) The different peoples of the world are like one family. Everyone needs to care about the others. When rulers do things they should think about how the rest of the world will be affected, as well as their own countries.



Bahá'u'lláh said:
"The earth is but one country and mankind its citizens."

- 2) To make this happen, rulers and their people need to talk together and try to understand other points of view. Rulers need to do this between the different countries too.
- 3) When one country has a problem, the other countries should all help to solve it. They should all work together.
- 4) There should be one language that everyone can speak, as well as their own. That way people of different countries can understand each other.
- 5) All children must get an education. Until they can read and write people can't get information and have no power. And, if they can read, people can find out for themselves what Bahá'u'lláh has taught us about justice.



Bahá'u'lláh said: **"Bend your minds and wills to the education of the peoples . . . of the earth"**

- 6) Men and women are equally important. Girls should get an education just as good as boys get. Women, as well as men, should be listened to when decisions are being made.
- 7) The land should be used very carefully for growing crops to feed everyone.

Bahá'u'lláh said: **"Special regard must be paid to agriculture."**

Follow the lines to see what would make life better and more fair for these children.



Fill in the missing words:

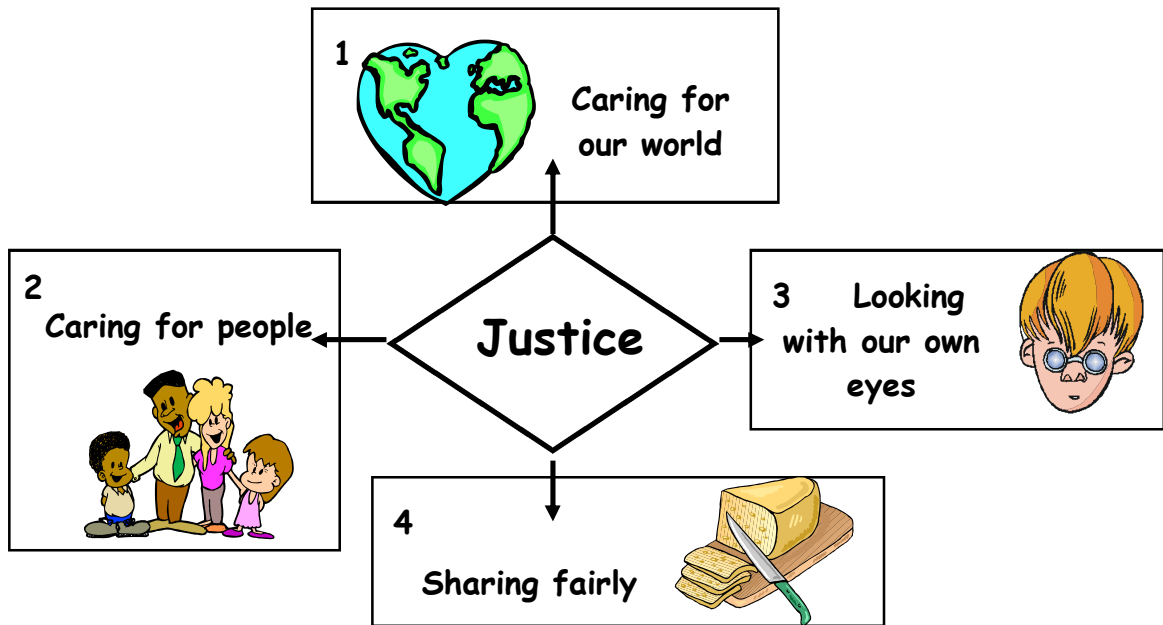
Bahá'u'lláh told us that all m _____ is like a very large f _____. He said the earth is really o __ country. People should c ___ about each other. If they all spoke the same l _____ they would u _____ each other better. This would help them t ____ and s _____ each other's problems.

Men and women are _____. Girls and boys should all get an e _____. The growing of c _____ is very important and 'special regard must be paid to a _____'.

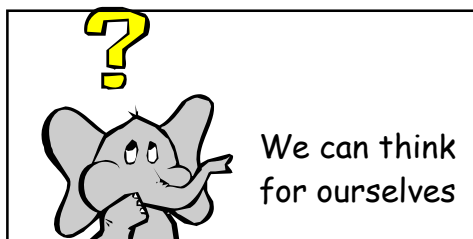
one	mankind	care	talk	understand	solve
language	education	equal	crops	agriculture	family

Everyday Justice

We can check everything we do from the Diamond of Justice below.



We make choices all the time. And everything we do has an effect: on ourselves, on other people or on the environment.



Táhirih — The Pure One.

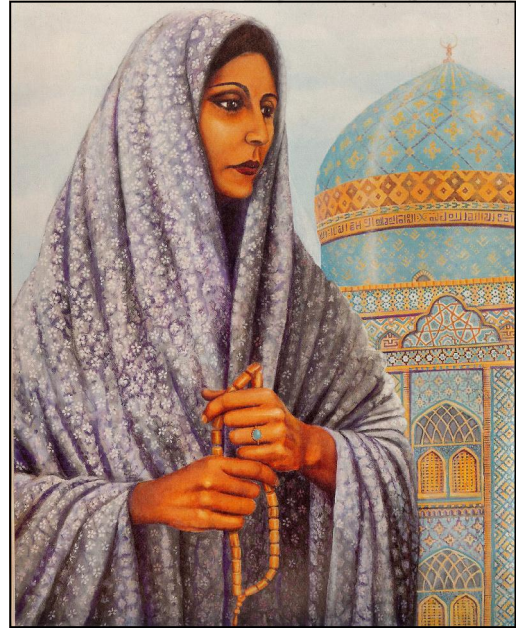
Táhirih was born into a very rich family, exactly 200 years ago in Persia, where girls were treated very differently from boys, and the lives of women were completely different from those of men. Only boys learned to read and gain knowledge. Girls were not encouraged to know anything outside their own family, and even as adults, were not supposed to have conversations with men about anything important.

Táhirih was quite different, even as a little girl. When the boys of her family were getting their lessons she would hide behind a curtain and listen. She learned everything they learned, and was very thoughtful and clever. When she thought about things she didn't copy other people's ideas, but developed her own. She began to write beautiful poetry, and saw things with her own eyes.

Soon she began to give talks about the things she believed to be true, and although it was forbidden for a woman to do such a thing, people flocked to hear. Once, at a wedding, she gave a talk which was so full of new ideas that people left the party to come and listen. One of her new ideas was that girls should be allowed to learn and think for themselves and talk about their ideas. She taught that women should be treated with proper respect and be given an equal place in the important affairs of the world.

Táhirih was different in another way too. Although she was famous for being very beautiful, and was also very rich, instead of thinking about these things she was much more interested in exciting ideas about how the lives of women and girls could be improved.

At that time women had to wear veils across their faces, and it was strictly forbidden for any man, outside the family, to see a woman's bare face. Such a thing would have been shocking. And yet, Táhirih felt so strongly about women being treated fairly, that she once went into a conference where men were gathered, without her veil. This was considered an act of great impurity. Most of the men found this very upsetting, but Bahá'u'lláh was there, and named her 'The Pure One'. She had done this shocking thing for pure reasons.





Táhirih removing her veil at the Conference of Badasht

Táhirih was also very, very brave. Her bold way of speaking, in public, about her new ideas, was dangerous. She knew this, but still she spoke out. Even when she was put in prison she carried on talking about them. She was even treated with violence, but it did not stop her, and she knew her ideas would continue on. She is reported to have said,

"You can kill me as soon as you like but you cannot stop the emancipation of women."

'Abdu'l-Bahá said of Táhirih:

**"With such magnanimity and courage she gave her life,
startling and thrilling all who saw her.
She was a truly great heroine."**

The Táhirih Justice Centre

Unfortunately many girls and women still suffer from unfair treatment, just because they are female. In the United States of America the Táhirih Justice Centre has been set up in memory of Táhirih, who spoke out for justice for women. Women and girls coming into the country can contact the Centre for help and may be given legal advice, places they can go to get help with finding a home, with looking after their children, and with escaping from bad treatment.

Amazing Stories from the Dawn-Breakers

(Stories adapted by Jacqueline Mehrabi and illustrated by Malcolm Lee.

Published by Bahá'í Publishing Trust of India)

(The story so far: The religious leaders and the government have ordered the Báb to be killed because He has brought new teachings from God and they do not want things to change. The Báb is being led by guards through the streets of Tabriz when a young man, called Anís, leaps from the crowd and kneels at His feet, begging to go with Him. The religious leaders do everything they can to make Anís deny his faith in the Báb, but he refuses, and says they must be mad because they want to kill the Promised One!)

Part 39

Martyrdom of the Báb

(July 1850)

The Báb and Anís were handed over to the leader of the army regiment. His name was Sám Khán. He was a good man and just. He knew the Báb had not done anything wrong and did not want to kill Him or any of His followers.

"I am a Christian," he explained to the Báb, "and have no bad feelings towards you."

The Báb comforted Sám Khán and said that if he was sincere, God would make something happen so that he would not have to obey the order to kill Him.

The Báb and Anís were hung by ropes to a large nail hammered into the wall of the barrack square, next to the cell where they had been imprisoned the night before.

It was noon and very hot. To get a good view, 10,000 people stood on the flat roofs of the houses and along the walls under the blazing sun. They watched as the first row of soldiers slowly raised their guns.

"Fire!" shouted Sám Khán, and the sound of gun shots filled the air.

"Fire!" he repeated, and the second row fired.

"Fire!" he ordered, and the third row of soldiers obeyed.

When the smoke from the guns cleared, everyone gasped in astonishment. Although a total of seven-hundred and fifty soldiers had fired their guns, they had all missed. Anís was standing unhurt on the ground, surrounded by broken

pieces of rope — and the Báb had disappeared!

The soldiers rushed around in a frenzy looking for the Báb. They found Him just a few feet away, back in the prison cell. He was with His secretary, quietly finishing a conversation which a guard had rudely interrupted earlier that day.

When the guards searching for the Báb burst into His cell, He calmly told them He had now finished His conversation and they could continue to carry out their orders.

Sám Khán knew God had answered his prayer to make something happen to prevent him from having to kill the Báb. He refused to order his soldiers to shoot again and told them to put down their guns and leave the barrack square. Another regiment volunteered to take over, and the Báb and Anís were once again tied to the nail on the wall.

The Báb looked with love and sadness at the people.

"Had you believed in Me," He said, "every one of you would have followed the example of this youth. The day will come when you will have recognised Me; that day I shall have ceased to be with you."

The soldiers fired, and this time the gentle Báb and His young companion were killed.

A sadness fell over the city, and a gale swept through the streets, filling the air with dust and blotting out the light of the sun. Although most of the people did not understand that the Báb was a Manifestation of God, they had heard many wonderful things about Him. And some of those watching knew in their hearts that the Báb was the Promised One they had been waiting for. . .



(Continued . . .)

Part 40

The Shrine of the Báb

Hájí Sulaymán Khán was a believer who lived in Tíhrán. Before he became a Bábí he had been an officer in the king's army. When he heard that the Báb was in danger, he immediately set out for Tabríz hoping to rescue Him.

But he arrived too late. The Báb had already been killed by a firing squad and His holy body had been taken to the edge of a dried-up moat outside Tabríz. Although Sulaymán Khán was too late to save the life of the Báb, he decided to rescue the bodies of the Báb and His young disciple, Anís, who had been martyred with Him. He planned to take them to a safe place until it was possible to have them properly buried.

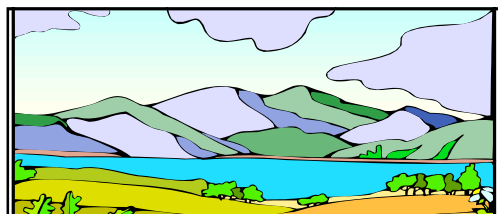
The mayor of Tabríz offered to help Sulaymán Khán. He knew a man who would be able to rescue the bodies from the moat without any trouble.

That night the man went to the moat. Forty soldiers had been ordered to guard the bodies to make sure no one took them away and buried them.

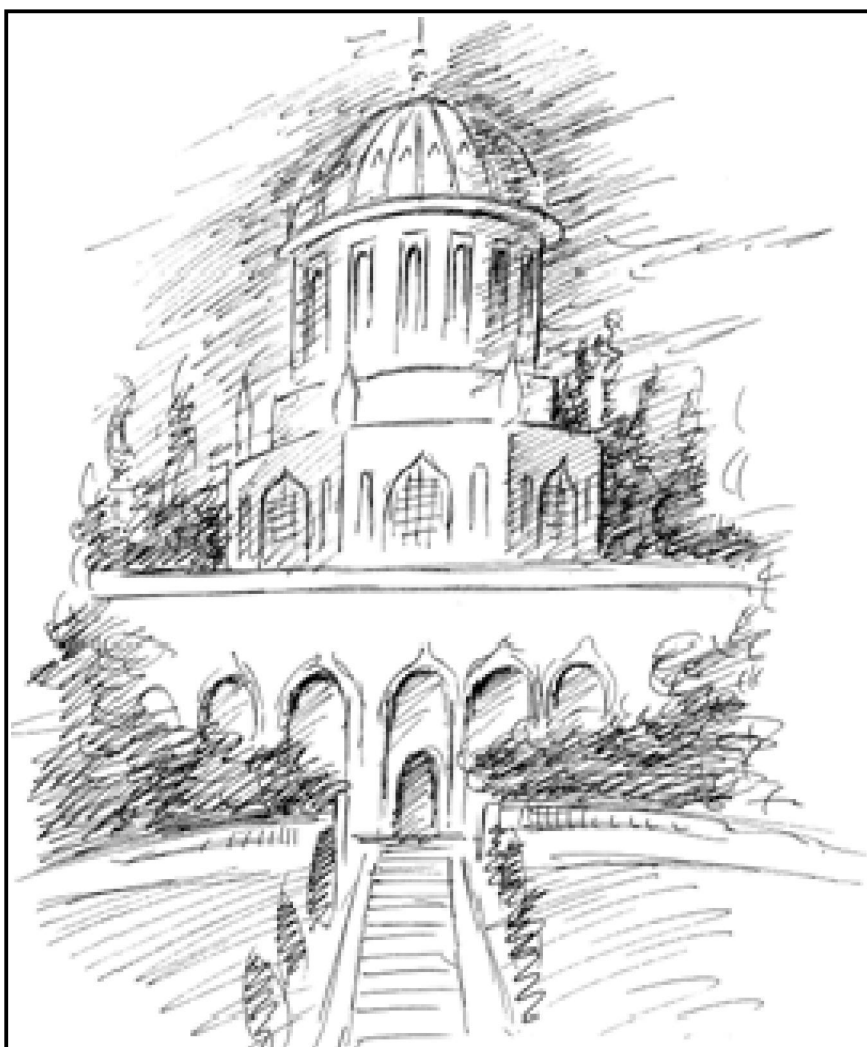
Ten of the soldiers were on duty when the man arrived, but it seems they had fallen asleep and did not see him. He quietly lifted the bodies of the Báb and Anís and took them to Sulaymán Khán, who was waiting in the town.

Sulaymán Khán's heart filled with love when he saw them. There was a peaceful smile on the face of the Báb. And Anís's arms were around Him as though he had been trying to protect Him from the soldiers' bullets. Sulaymán Khán placed them both gently in a casket with flowers and hid them in a silk factory that belonged to one of the believers.

Many years later the casket was secretly taken by boat to the prison-city of 'Akká in the Holy Land. From there the bodies were taken across the bay to be buried in a beautiful Shrine on the side of Mount Carmel.



Today, a gold-leafed dome has been built on top of the Shrine of the Báb, and the mountain is ablaze with flowers. Millions of men, women and children travel from all over the world to pray at this Holy Spot. They remember the pure and beautiful life of the Báb, and how He said that He had come to tell us about the coming of Bahá'u'lláh, Whose teachings will unite the world.



From a letter written by the Báb to His first disciples:

*"Let your light shine before the eyes of men.
Such must be the purity of your character . . .
that the people of the earth may through you
recognize and be drawn closer to the heavenly Father
Who is the Source of purity and grace."*



The Kitáb-i-Aqdas ~ The Most Holy Book

Lesson Thirty-One

Bahá'u'lláh says in the Kitáb-i-Aqdas (v. 30):

"The Lord hath ordained that in every city a House of Justice be established . . ."

1. **Every year**, in almost every town or village in the world where there are nine or more Bahá'ís, nine of their members are elected to plan their local activities. Each group of nine people is called a Local Spiritual Assembly. In future it will be called a **Local House of Justice**.
2. **Every year**, in almost every country, nine Bahá'ís are elected to serve on a National Spiritual Assembly to plan its national activities. In future it will be called a **National House of Justice**.
3. **Every five years**, nine people are also elected to serve on the **Universal House of Justice**, which is for the whole world. 'Abdu'l-Bahá says the Universal House of Justice is "the source of all good" and "is under the protecting power of Bahá'u'lláh Himself". He says that we should turn to the Universal House of Justice for guidance.



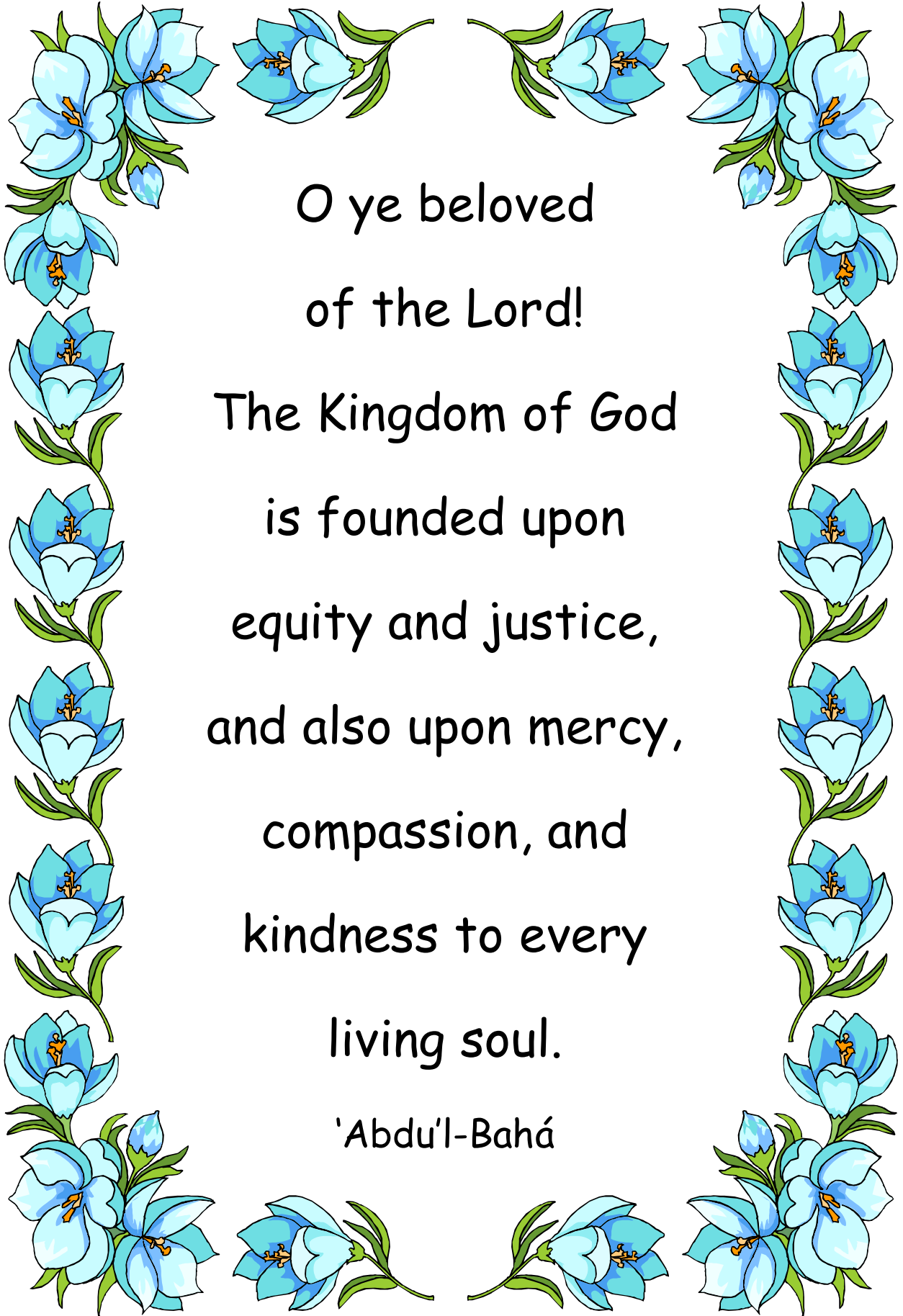
Let us all pray and do our best
to bring justice and peace
to the world.
Bahá'u'lláh says that one day
it will come!

The Seat of the Universal House of Justice on Mount Carmel



"By this body [The Universal House of
Justice] all the difficult problems are to be
resolved . . . that all the regions of the world
may become even as Paradise itself."

Bahá'u'lláh



O ye beloved
of the Lord!

The Kingdom of God
is founded upon
equity and justice,
and also upon mercy,
compassion, and
kindness to every
living soul.

'Abdu'l-Bahá

Answers to puzzles

P8 A message from Bahá'u'lláh about Justice:

"The best beloved of all things in My sight is justice." "Justice is My gift to thee and the sign of My loving-kindness."

P13 Another message from Bahá'u'lláh about seeing with our own eyes:

"The best beloved of all things in My sight is justice." "By its aid thou shalt see with thine own eyes and not through the eyes of others."

P20 The answer to making life better and more fair:

Bahá'u'lláh told us that all *mankind* is like a very large *family*. He said the earth is really *one* country. People should *care* about each other. If they all spoke the same *language* they would *understand* each other better. This would help them *talk* and *solve* each other's problems. Men and women should be *equal*. Girls and boys should all get *education*. The growing of *crops* is very important and "special regard must be paid to *agriculture*".

Advert

Audio stories of 'Abdu'l-Bahá for children

Anis Foundation is delighted to announce a newly released collection of simple and inspiring stories for younger children. The CD is re-told and narrated by Sarah Perceval from the book *Stories of 'Abdu'l-Bahá* by Jacqueline Mehrabi.

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