

Abdu'l-Bahá's Travels to the West

Chicago, Hotel Plaza

2 May 1912

Consultation

'Abdu'l-Bahá and Leroy loas

In Chicago, 'Abdu'l-Bahá stayed at the Hotel Plaza. Leroy loas, 16 years old, had a great interest in Bahá'u'lláh and 'Abdu'l-Bahá and was eager to meet the Master. As they approached the hotel, Leroy said that they must hurry because the Master was leaving from the far side of the building. When his father asked how he knew, Leroy said he could see the light radiating from Him.

‘Abdu’l-Bahá and Leroy loas

They ran around the building and found ‘Abdu’l-Bahá leaving, just as Leroy said. The Master motioned them to come, and took Leroy’s hand. Leroy later said: “As I looked at the Master, I saw His physical form, but shining through it were flashes of light, flashes of light, bright and shining. The spiritual power simply flooded through Him and I was overcome.”



Leroy loas



First job

‘Abdu’l-Bahá and Leroy Loas

Leroy loved to watch ‘Abdu’l-Bahá’s eyes, which were “ever-changing, now stern, now loving, filled with all the pathos of the world and then again, all its joy. Everything was revealed in His eyes, what one saw depended entirely upon what the Master was thinking.”

'Abdu'l-Bahá and Leroy loas

When the Master looked into Leroy's eyes "It was as if He looked through you, as if He saw your soul, before your beginning and beyond your ending."



George Latimer (36), John Bosch (71)

Ioas
Family
1944

Anita
Sylvia
Leroy
Farrukh



Leroy Ioas
with
Amin Banani
and
Firuz
Kazemzadeh
1947



'Abdu'l-Bahá and Leroy Loas

Leroy Loas was elected to the National Spiritual Assembly in 1932 and was its chairman for fourteen years. He was named a Hand of the Cause in 1951, was called to Haifa to serve the Guardian in 1953 and remained until his passing in 1965, including as Secretary-General of the first International Bahá'í Council. A door of the Shrine of the Bab is named for him.

Leroy
loas

Geyserville
1960





Leroy loas

Hand of the
Cause of
God

Hotel Plaza, 2 May, Consultation

The Bahá'í administration started in Chicago with the election of the Bahá'í Temple Unity, so it is appropriate that 'Abdu'l-Bahá should speak at the Hotel Plaza about consultation.

Hotel Plaza, 2 May, Consultation

...consultation must have for its object the investigation of truth. He who expresses an opinion should not voice it as correct and right but set it forth as a contribution to the consensus of opinion, for the light of reality becomes apparent when two opinions coincide....

(‘Abdu’l-Bahá, [The Promulgation of Universal Peace](#), 31)

Consultation

Man should weigh his opinions with the utmost serenity, calmness and composure. Before expressing his own views he should carefully consider the views already advanced by others. If he finds that a previously expressed opinion is more true and worthy, he should accept it immediately and not willfully hold to an opinion of his own. By this excellent method he endeavors to arrive at unity and truth.

(‘Abdu’l-Bahá, [The Promulgation of Universal Peace](#), 31)

Consultation

Opposition and division are deplorable. It is better then to have the opinion of a wise, sagacious man; otherwise, contradiction and altercation, in which varied and divergent views are presented, will make it necessary for a judicial body to render decision upon the question. Even a majority opinion or consensus may be incorrect.

(‘Abdu’l-Bahá, [The Promulgation of Universal Peace](#), 31)

Consultation

A thousand people may hold to one view and be mistaken, whereas one sagacious person may be right. Therefore, true consultation is spiritual conference in the attitude and atmosphere of love. Members must love each other in the spirit of fellowship in order that good results may be forthcoming. Love and fellowship are the foundation.

(‘Abdu’l-Bahá, [The Promulgation of Universal Peace](#), 31)



Chicago
1912

