

Abdu'l-Bahá's Travels to the West

Chicago, 3-5 May 1912
Zoo and Children's Meeting
Education

Chicago Zoo

'Abdu'l-Bahá asked to go to the Chicago zoo. He had never seen a large zoo, so they made ready to go. Someone told Him that, since this was spring, most of the animals would have new babies and they would keep in hiding.

Chicago Zoo

As they approached the animals, He motioned to the others to stay behind and He went forward on His own. As He approached each cage, the small animal-mother brought out all her babies to show Him, then hurried them back to safety and protection from the following friends.



Chicago Zoo



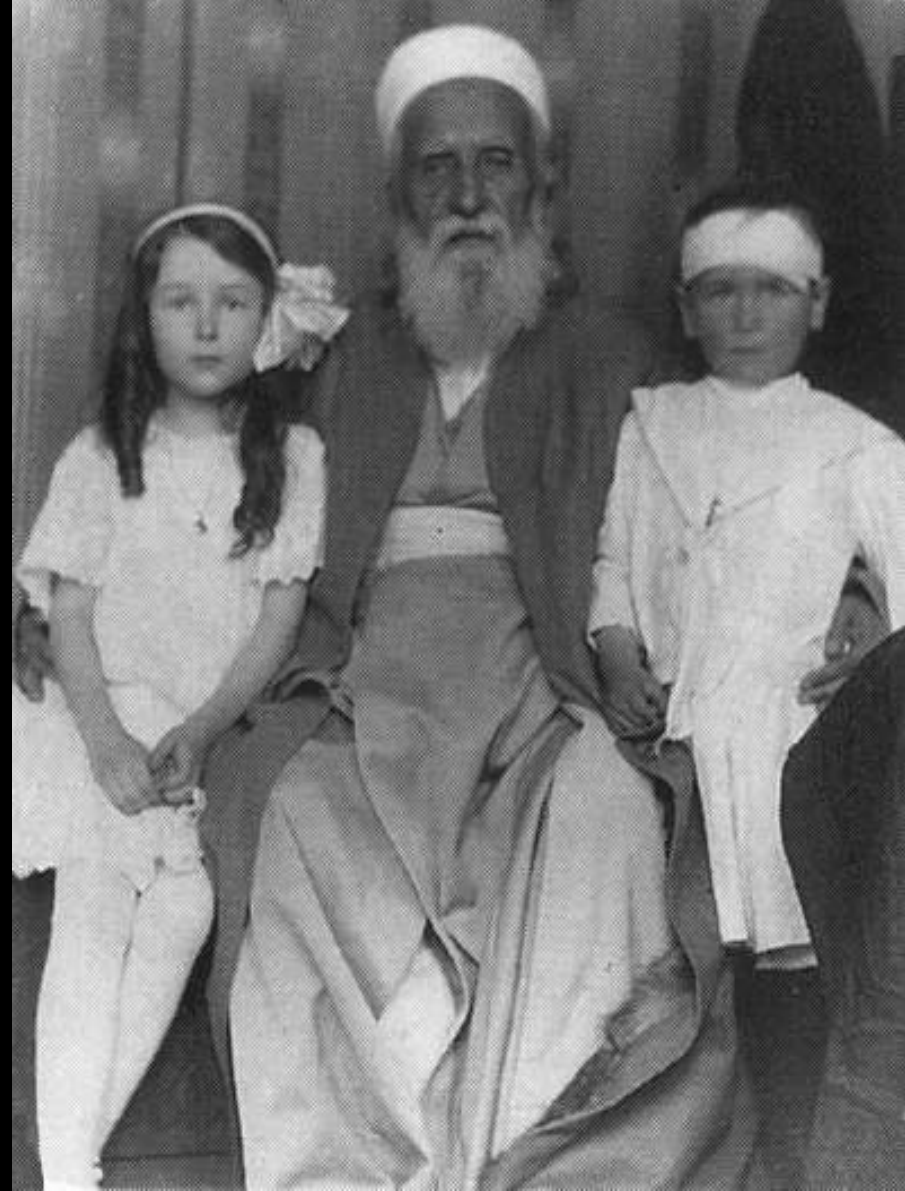
Children's Meeting

On 5 May, 'Abdu'l-Bahá met with a group of 35 children in the hotel's salon. They sang for him and He called each child to Him individually and asked them to tell Him their names. He spoke briefly to them.



'Abdu'l-Bahá
with
Children

Chicago
1912



Children

My hope is that your parents may educate you spiritually and give you thorough moral training. May you develop so that each one of you shall become imbued with all the virtues of the human world. May you advance in all material and spiritual degrees. May you become learned in sciences, acquire the arts and crafts, prove to be useful members of human society and assist the progress of human civilization.

(‘Abdu’l-Bahá, [The Promulgation of Universal Peace](#), 39)

Children

May you be a cause of the manifestation of divine bestowals—each one of you a shining star radiating the light of the oneness of humanity toward the horizons of the East and West. May you be devoted to the love and unity of mankind, and through your efforts may the reality deposited in the human heart find its divine expression.

(‘Abdu’l-Bahá, [The Promulgation of Universal Peace](#), 39)

Lincoln Park

Afterwards, 'Abdu'l-Bahá invited them all to Lincoln Park across the road from the hotel for a photograph. He greatly enjoyed the children.



With children in Lincoln Park, Chicago, 1912



Lincoln Park, Chicago, 1912

Lincoln Park,
Chicago, 1912





Lincoln Park, Chicago, 1912



Lincoln Park, Chicago, 1912

Departure from Chicago

'Abdu'l-Bahá left Chicago for Cleveland on 6-7 May, on to Pittsburgh on 7-8 May, then back to Washington, D.C., 8-11 May 1912



'Abdu'l-Bahá in Cleveland, Ohio, 1912



'Abdu'l-Bahá in Cleveland, Ohio, 1912