Abdu'l-Bahá's Travels to the West

San Francisco and Los Angeles 11-21 October 2021 Unity of Religion

Travels of 'Abdu'l-Bahá 31

Oakland, California

On 11 October, 'Abdu'l-Bahá went again to Mrs.Goodall's home in Oakland to meet with many children for Children's Day. They sang for him and he gave them candy and flowers.



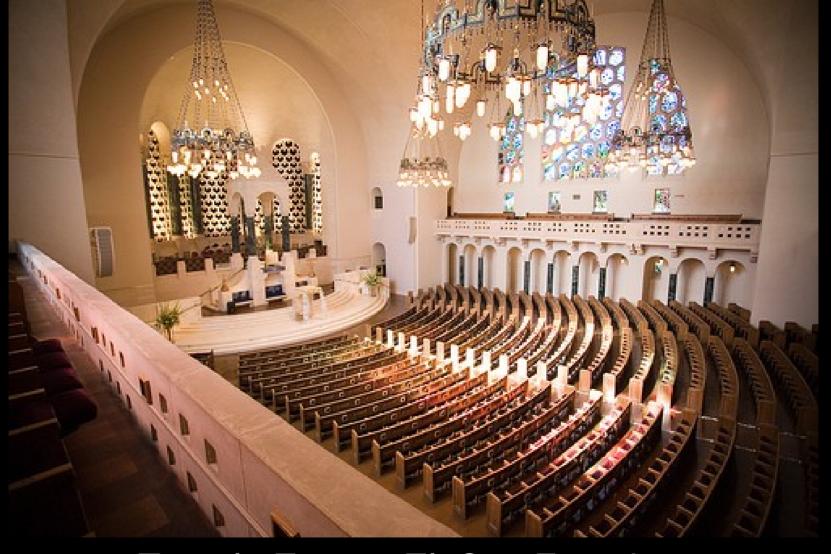
'Abdu'l-Bahá with children at Goodall home

San Francisco

On 12 October, 'Abdu'l-Bahá spoke at the Jewish Temple Emanu-El in San Francisco before about 2,000 people on the unity of religions.



Temple Emanu-El, San Francisco



Temple Emanu-El, San Francisco

Unity of Religions

Praise be to God! The medieval ages of darkness have passed away and this century of radiance has dawned, this century wherein the reality of things is becoming evident, wherein science is penetrating the mysteries of the universe, the oneness of the world of humanity is being established, and service to mankind is the paramount motive of all existence.

('Abdu'l-Bahá, *The Promulgation of Universal Peace*, 112)

Unity of Religions

The age has dawned when human fellowship will become a reality.

The century has come when all religions shall be unified.

The dispensation is at hand when all nations shall enjoy the blessings of international peace.

Unity of Religions

The cycle has arrived when racial prejudice will be abandoned by tribes and peoples of the world.

The epoch has begun wherein all native lands will be conjoined in one great human family.

For all mankind shall dwell in peace and security beneath the shelter of the great tabernacle of the one living God.

('Abdu'l-Bahá, The Promulgation of Universal Peace, 112)

'Abdu'l-Bahá in San Francisco



Visit to Phoebe Hearst

On 13-16 October, He visited the mansion of Mrs. Phoebe Hearst near Pleasanton. The wealthy widow of a US Senator and mother of journalist William Randolph Hearst, she led the first Western pilgrimage in 1898, started Bahá'í study classes in San Francisco with Lua Getsinger, and supported many Bahá'í activities and charitable causes. Her butler Robert Turner was the first African-American Bahá'í.

'Abdu'l-Bahá returned on 16-18 October to San Francisco.



Phoebe Hearst





Phoebe Hearst and Robert Turner her butler

Mrs. Phoebe Apperson Hearst, about 1900. (Library of Congress)





The first Western pilgrimage 1898

Hearst hacienda near Pleasanton California





Hearst hacienda near Pleasanton, California



Hearst hacienda near Pleasanton, California

Los Angeles

On 18-21 October, 'Abdu'l-Bahá took the train to Los Angeles to visit Thornton Chase's grave on 19 October. Thornton Chase became a Bahá'í in 1894, the first American believer. As a travelling salesman, he was able to teach in many places. He visited 'Abdu'l-Bahá in 1907 and wrote a book In Galilee. He died in Los Angeles while 'Abdu'l-Bahá was in California, so the Master visited his



Thornton Chase, first American Bahá'í



Thornton Chase

gravesite



Thornton Chase First American Bahá'í

Mr. Chase was of the blessed souls. The best time of his life was spent in the path of God.... The people will honor this grave.... This personage will not be forgotten.