

Abdu'l-Bahá's Travels to the West

San Francisco, Oakland, Sacramento
21-26 October 1912

Teaching the Bahá'í Faith

Travels of 'Abdu'l-Bahá 32



'Abdu'l-Bahá in Oakland

Teaching the Bahá'í Faith

On 21-25 October 1912, 'Abdu'l-Bahá returned to San Francisco and Oakland. He was asked by the youth how to teach the Faith.

Teaching the Bahá'í Faith

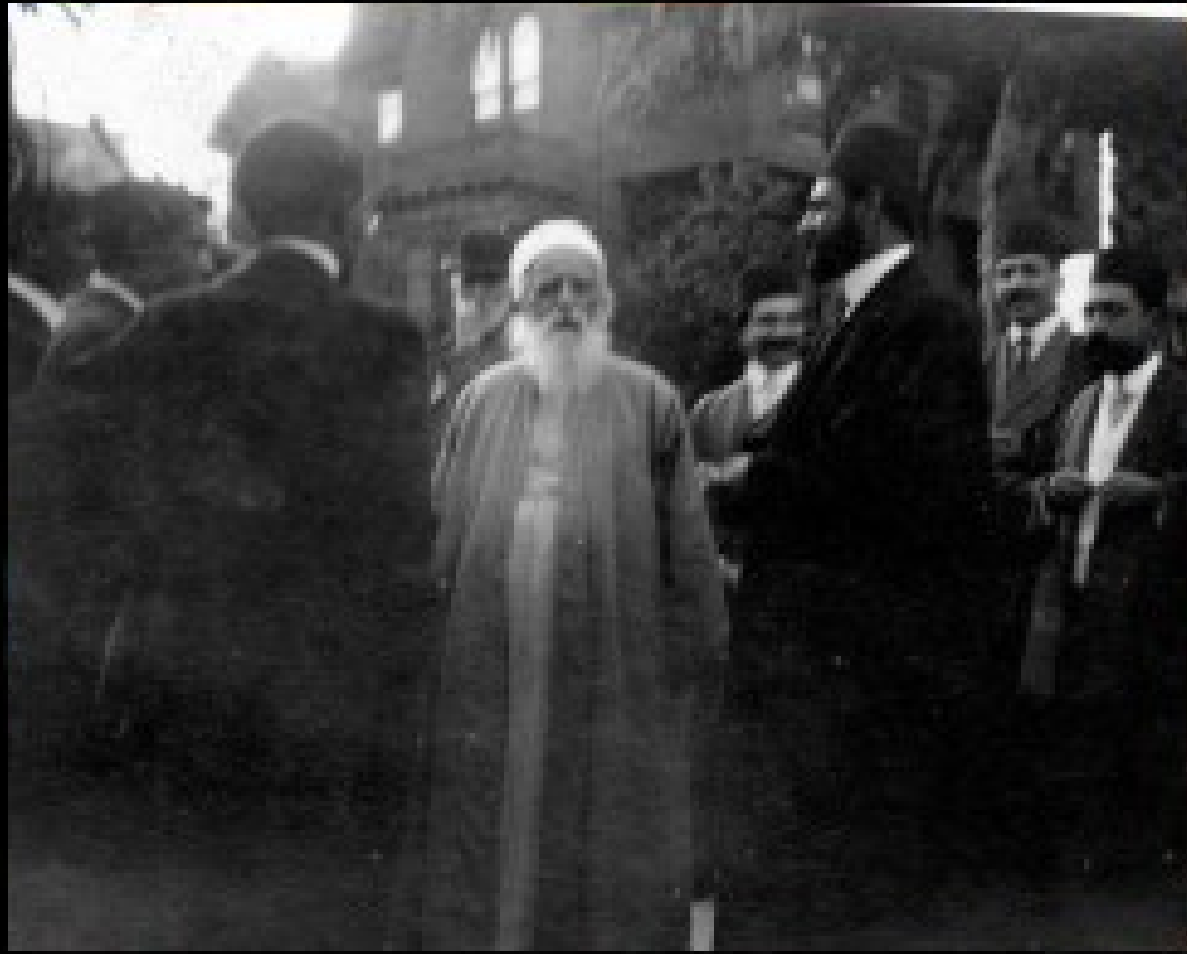
One way is limited teaching; another way is unlimited teaching. Teaching in a limited way consists of the following, namely: explaining the proofs and evidences in regard to the principles of Bahá'u'lláh, quoting prophecies....

(‘Abdu’l-Bahá in Earl Redman, ‘Abdu’l-Bahá in Their Midst, Oxford: George Ronald, 2011, p. 238)

Teaching the Bahá'í Faith

Teaching in an unlimited sense consists of the following and is very good, very great; the teacher himself (or herself) becomes the standing proof of Bahá'u'lláh....

Bahá'u'lláh has educated this person. He has awakened this soul. He has quickened this life... He has made her a sun. This is the unlimited teaching.



'Abdu'l-Bahá with Indian students in Oakland

Teaching the Bahá'í Faith

He told one of the youth:

When you wish to teach, turn your heart to Bahá'u'lláh, and say what enters your mind.

(‘Abdu’l-Bahá in Earl Redman, *‘Abdu’l-Bahá in Their Midst*, Oxford: George Ronald, 2011, p. 238)

Shopping

‘Abdu’l-Bahá stopped briefly in Sacramento, California, on 25-26 October before taking the train East. When He saw people shopping in the hotel boutiques, He noted:

Shopping

Regard how negligent these people are! All the insignificant objects are considered by them as means of happiness. How negligent they are! Like unto animals, they eat, they sleep, they walk, they sing, they dance, and, according to their belief, they think they are having a good time.



'Abdu'l-Bahá in California

International Peace

On 26 October, He spoke to a large audience in the Hotel Sacramento about peace.

International Peace

May the men of affairs in this democracy uphold the standard of international conciliation. Then may altruistic aims and thoughts radiate from this centre toward all other regions of the earth, and may the glory of this accomplishment forever halo the history of this country. May the first flag of international peace be upraised in this state.

(‘Abdu’l-Bahá in Earl Redman, *‘Abdu’l-Bahá in Their Midst*, Oxford: George Ronald, 2011, p. 241)

First flag of international peace

His wish was fulfilled on 26 June 1945 when the United Nations Charter was signed in San Francisco, and the flag of the United Nations was unfurled for the first time.

United
Nations
flag

