Abdu'l-Bahá's Travels to the West

London - Theosophical Society 30 September 1911 Bahá'í Principles

Travels of 'Abdu'l-Bahá 4

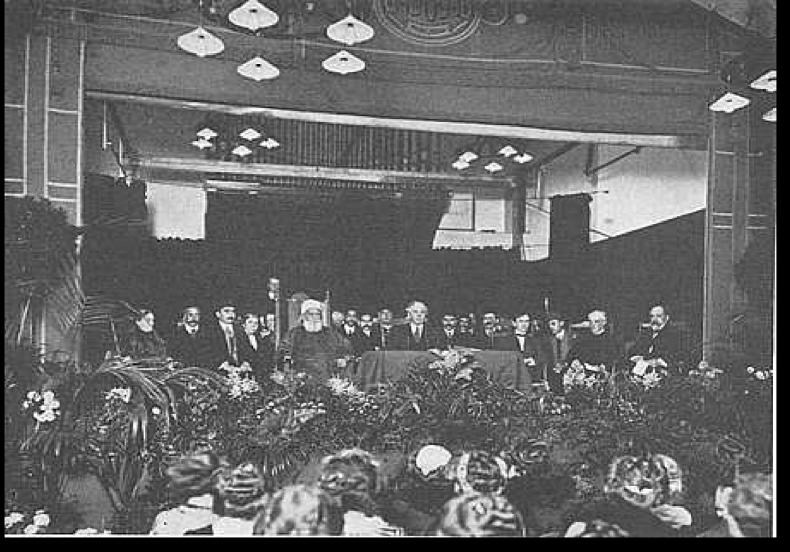


'Abdu'l-Bahá in London

Another address in London

At the new **Theosophical Society** Headquarters on 30 September 1911, 'Abdu'l-Bahá described the basic principles of the Bahá'í Faith.

...Bahá'u'lláh, like a bright star, rose from the horizon of Persia and shone with the great Light of Guidance, giving heavenly radiance and establishing the new Teaching.



'Abdu'l-Bahá speaking in London

Firstly: He lays stress on the search for Truth. This is most important, because the people are too easily led by tradition. It is because of this that they are often antagonistic to each other, and dispute with one another.

Secondly: Bahá'u'lláh taught the Oneness of humanity; that is to say, all the children of men are under the mercy of the Great God.... They are the branches, leaves, flowers and fruits of One Tree.

Man and woman both should be educated equally and equally regarded. It is racial, patriotic, religious and class prejudice, that has been the cause of the destruction of Humanity.

Thirdly: Bahá'u'lláh taught, that Religion is the chief foundation of Love and Unity and the cause of Oneness. If a religion become the cause of hatred and disharmony, it would be better that it should not exist.

Fourthly: Religion and Science are intertwined with each other and cannot be separated. These are the two wings with which humanity must fly. One wing is not enough.

Every religion which does not concern itself with Science is mere tradition, and that is not the essential. Therefore science, education and civilization are most important necessities for the full religious life.

Fifthly: The Reality of the divine Religions is one, because the Reality is one and cannot be two. All the prophets are united in their message....

Sixthly: Equality and Brotherhood must be established among all members of mankind. This is according to Justice. The general rights of mankind must be guarded and preserved.

Seventhly: The arrangements of the circumstances of the people must be such that poverty shall disappear, and that every one as far as possible, according to his position and rank, shall be comfortable.

Whilst the nobles and others in high rank are in easy circumstances, the poor also should be able to get their daily food and not be brought to the extremities of hunger.

Eighthly: Bahá'u'lláh declared the coming of the Most Great Peace. All the nations and peoples will come under the shadow of the Tent of the Great Peace and Harmony...

...that is to say, by general election a Great Board of Arbitration shall be established, to settle all differences and quarrels between the Powers; so that disputes shall not end in war.

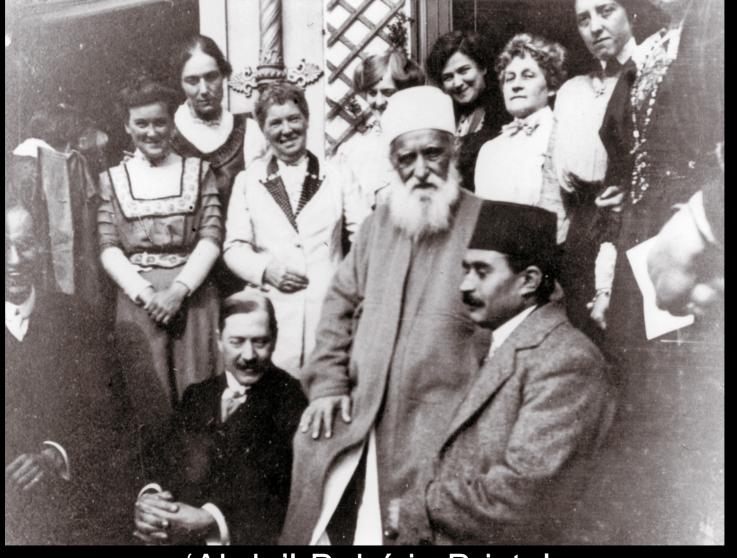
Ninthly: Bahá'u'lláh taught that hearts must receive the Bounty of the Holy Spirit, so that Spiritual civilization may be established.

For material civilization is not adequate for the needs of mankind and cannot be the cause of its happiness. Material civilization is like the body and spiritual civilization is like the soul. Body without soul cannot live.

Meetings in London and Bristol

On 17 September He addressed the congregation of Saint John the Divine. On 23-25 September he visited Bristol. He also made a visit to Oxford University. On 1 October He returned to Bristol to perform a wedding.

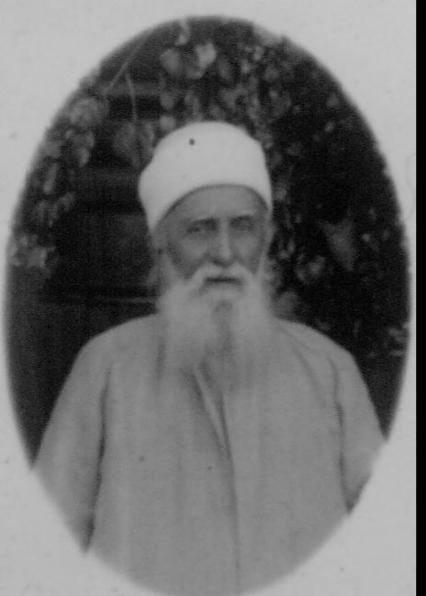
On 3 October He left London for Paris, France



'Abdu'l-Bahá in Bristol

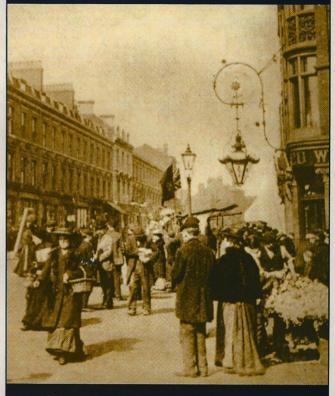


'Abdu'l-Bahá in Bristol



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Addresses & Notes of Conversations