

Abdu'l-Bahá's Travels to the West

Stuttgart, Germany

25 April-1 May 1913

Travels of 'Abdu'l-Bahá 50

'Abdu'l-Bahá
in Germany



Stuttgart

'Abdu'l-Bahá returned to Stuttgart on 25 April, but a bad cold made it difficult for him to talk. For a meeting scheduled that evening, a substitute speaker was found, but when He heard this He said: "*Physicians had made Him stay indoors, but His health was for the purpose of serving the Faith*". He walked into the hall and gave a talk on world peace in His full and powerful voice.



'Abdu'l-Bahá in Germany

Stuttgart

A meeting was arranged with the Kaiser, Wilhelm II, but he was not there.

At one meeting with the Stuttgart Bahá'ís, 'Abdu'l-Bahá saw a regiment of soldiers marching by.



German soldiers 1912

War

*They are ready to fight for their fatherland.
How barbarous it seems to send men who
do not even know each other, to the
battlefield in order to shoot each other down.
The Bahá'í Grand Army consists of the
invisible angels of the Supreme Concourse.*

(‘Abdu’l-Baha, in Earl Redman, *‘Abdu’l-Bahá in Their Midst*, Oxford: George Ronald, 2011, p. 323)

War

*Our swords are the words of love and life.
Our armaments are the invisible armaments
of Heaven. We are fighting against the
forces of darkness. O my soldiers, my
beloved soldiers! Forward! Forward! Have
no fear of defeat; do not have failing hearts.*

(‘Abdu’l-Baha, in Earl Redman, *‘Abdu’l-Bahá in Their Midst*, Oxford: George Ronald, 2011, p. 323)

War

Our supreme commander is Baha'u'llah. From the heights of glory he is directing this dramatic engagement. He commands us! Rush forward! Rush forward! Show the strength of your arms. Ye shall scatter the forces of ignorance.

(‘Abdu’l-Baha, in Earl Redman, *‘Abdu’l-Bahá in Their Midst*, Oxford: George Ronald, 2011, p. 323)

War

Your war confers life; their war brings death. Your war is the cause of the illumination of all mankind. Your war means victory upon victory. Their war is defeat upon defeat. Their war is the origin of destruction. There are no dangers before you. Push forward! Fire! Fire!

Stuttgart

This was just over a year before war engulfed the whole of Europe.

On 1 May 'Abdu'l-Bahá returned to Paris.