

# Abdu'l-Bahá's Travels to the West

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Travels of 'Abdu'l-Bahá 8

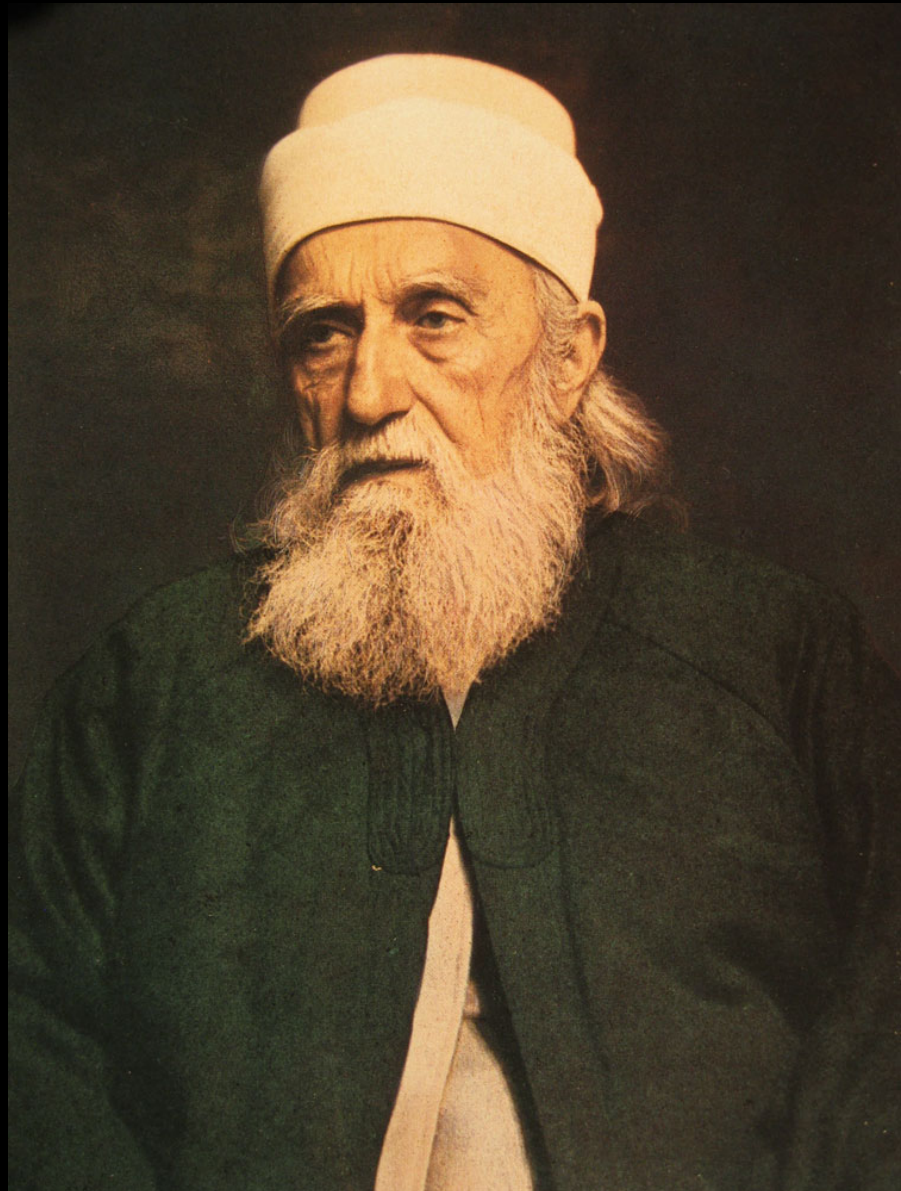
# Principles of Bahá'u'lláh

Theosophical Society, November 1911

'Abdu'l-Bahá described eleven principles out of the Teachings of Bahá'u'lláh, which He then explained in the following morning meetings at His apartment. Here is His summary.

(*'Abdu'l-Bahá, Paris Talks*, pp. 127-133)

'Abdu'l-Bahá  
in Paris



First principle of Bahá'u'lláh  
*The Search for Truth*

*Man must cut himself free from all prejudice and from the result of his own imagination, so that he may be able to search for truth unhindered. Truth is one in all religions, and by means of it the unity of the world can be realized.*

(‘Abdu’l-Bahá, *Paris Talks*, pp. 127-133)

Second principle of Bahá'u'lláh  
*The Unity of Mankind - 1*

*The one all-loving God bestows His divine Grace and Favor on all mankind; one and all are servants of the Most High, and His Goodness, Mercy and loving Kindness are showered upon all His creatures. The glory of humanity is the heritage of each one.*

(‘Abdu’l-Bahá, *Paris Talks*, pp. 127-133)

Second principle of Bahá'u'lláh  
*The Unity of Mankind - 2*

*All men are the leaves and fruit of one same tree, they are all branches of the tree of Adam, they all have the same origin.*

(‘Abdu’l-Bahá, *Paris Talks*, pp. 127-133)

Third principle of Bahá'u'lláh  
Religion should be the Cause  
of Love and Affection - 1

*Religion should unite all hearts and cause wars and disputes to vanish from the face of the earth, give birth to spirituality, and bring life and light to each heart.*

(‘Abdu’l-Bahá, *Paris Talks*, pp. 127-133)

Third principle of Bahá'u'lláh  
Religion should be the Cause  
of Love and Affection - 2

*If religion becomes a cause of dislike, hatred and division, it were better to be without it, and to withdraw from such a religion would be a truly religious act.*

(‘Abdu’l-Bahá, *Paris Talks*, pp. 127-133)



Fourth principle of Bahá'u'lláh

## *The Unity of Religion and Science*

*We may think of science as one wing and religion as the other; a bird needs two wings for flight, one alone would be useless. Any religion that contradicts science or that is opposed to it, is only ignorance—for ignorance is the opposite of knowledge.*

(‘Abdu’l-Bahá, *Paris Talks*, pp. 127-133)

Fifth principle of Bahá'u'lláh  
*Prejudices of Religion, Race or Sect  
destroy the foundation of Humanity*

*All the divisions in the world, hatred, war and bloodshed, are caused by one or other of these prejudices.*

*The whole world must be looked upon as one single country, all the nations as one nation, all men as belonging to one race.*

Sixth principle of Bahá'u'lláh  
*Equal opportunity of the  
means of Existence -1*

*Every human being has the right to live; they have a right to rest, and to a certain amount of well-being. As a rich man is able to live in his palace surrounded by luxury and the greatest comfort, so should a poor man be able to have the necessaries of life.*

Sixth principle of Bahá'u'lláh  
*Equal opportunity of the  
means of Existence - 2*

*Nobody should die of hunger; everybody should have sufficient clothing; one man should not live in excess while another has no possible means of existence.*

(‘Abdu’l-Bahá, *Paris Talks*, pp. 127-133)

Seventh principle of Bahá'u'lláh  
*The Equality of Men -  
equality before the Law*

*The **Law** must reign, and not the individual; thus will the world become a place of beauty and true brotherhood will be realized. Having attained solidarity, men will have found truth.*

(‘Abdu’l-Bahá, *Paris Talks*, pp. 127-133)

## Eighth principle of Bahá'u'lláh

# *Universal Peace*

*A Supreme Tribunal shall be elected by the peoples and governments of every nation, where members from each country and government shall assemble in unity. All disputes shall be brought before this Court, its mission being to prevent war.*

(‘Abdu’l-Bahá, *Paris Talks*, pp. 127-133)

Ninth principle of Bahá'u'lláh  
*That Religion should not concern itself  
with Political Questions*

*Religion is concerned with things of the spirit, politics with things of the world. Religion has to work with the world of thought, whilst the field of politics lies with the world of external conditions.*

(‘Abdu’l-Bahá, *Paris Talks*, pp. 127-133)

Tenth principle of Bahá'u'lláh  
*Education and Instruction of Women*

*Women have equal rights with men upon earth; in religion and society they are a very important element. As long as women are prevented from attaining their highest possibilities, so long will men be unable to achieve the greatness which might be theirs.*

(‘Abdu’l-Bahá, *Paris Talks*, pp. 127-133)



Eleventh principle of Bahá'u'lláh

*The Power of the Holy Spirit, by which alone  
Spiritual Development is achieved*

*It is only by the breath of the Holy Spirit that spiritual development can come about. No matter how the material world may progress, no matter how splendidly it may adorn itself, it can never be anything but a lifeless body unless the soul is within, for it is the soul that animates the body; the body alone has no real significance. Deprived of the blessings of the Holy Spirit the material body would be inert.*

'Abdu'l-Bahá  
in Paris

