

A Tablet of 'Abdu'l-Bahá

He is God.

O thou who art steadfast in the Covenant! Thy numerous letters have arrived. God willing, replies will be written to each one of them.

Thou didst write concerning the Russian official. It is evident that, thanks to thine endeavours, he hath become somewhat attracted to the Cause; God willing, he will come little by little to believe in it entirely. Shouldst thou have in thy possession a copy of the *Narrative*, send him thereof however much he wisheth, and write to him that Mírzá Abu'l-Faḍl hath composed a treatise concerning this Cause, which hath been translated, and printed in America.¹ Let him request it of the friends in Paris, and likewise the book *Some Answered Questions*, which hath been rendered into the French and English tongues. If he is able, let him render the *Narrative* into the German tongue and likewise the translation of the Tablets Ṭarázát, Tajallíyát, Kalimát, Bishárát, and Ishráqát. In fine, whatever books there are about this Cause may be found with Mr. Dreyfus² in Paris: Let him obtain them from him.

Convey to the Russian lady³ the utmost loving-kindness on the part of 'Abdu'l-Bahá, and, so far as thou art able, strive to attract that respected personage to the Divine fragrances; for if once that virtuous matron becometh attracted and assured in faith and certitude, then, through the power of the confirmations of the Blessed Beauty, she will become in Western lands a brilliant candle.

Thou didst write concerning the disturbances in Bákú. Do thou have recourse to the government so that preventive measures may be taken; yet not in any adversarial fashion: rather, in a moderate manner state thou that such is contrary to justice and inimical to fellowship and love among all the subjects of the respected state.

In brief, I found myself exceedingly happy and satisfied with thee for thou hast arisen to serve the Cause of God. My hope is that thou wilt be assisted to perform outstanding services and become a means of exalting the Word of God.

Always extend to Count Tolstoy loving and heartfelt greetings and treat him with the utmost courtesy, as we are indeed commanded to behave in this way. Perchance he may become fair-minded. There are signs that his attitude hath improved and moderated. It is hoped that, God willing, it may improve further and that he may speak with justice about this Cause. It might be beneficial if thou wert to despatch to him, and others like him, the letter of this servant addressed to the believers of the East and the West⁴ which is translated and published in Russian.

The Glory of Glories rest upon thee.

—'Abdu'l-Bahá

1 Probably *Hujaj'ul Beheyveh (The Behai Proofs)*, translated by Ali Kuli Khan (New York: J. W. Pratt & Co., 1902). ←

2 Hippolyte Dreyfus-Barney. ←

3 Probably Isabella Grinevskaya. ←

4 A Tablet of 'Abdu'l-Bahá known as the Lawḥ-i-Sharq va Gharb (The Tablet of East and West, *Makátib-i-Haḍrat-i-'Abdu'l-Bahá*, vol. 1, pp. 307–24). ←