

BAHÁ'IS OF HIGHLAND NEWSLETTER

“When Bahá’u’lláh was still a child, the Vazír, His father, dreamed a dream. Bahá’u’lláh appeared to him swimming in a vast, limitless ocean. His body shone upon the waters with a radiance that illumined the sea. Around His head, which could distinctly be seen above the waters, there radiated, in all directions, His long, jet-black locks, floating in great profusion above the waves. As he dreamed, a multitude of fishes gathered round Him, each holding fast to the extremity of one hair. Fascinated by the effulgence of His face, they followed Him in whatever direction He swam. Great as was their number, and however firmly they clung to His locks, not one single hair seemed to have been detached from His head, nor did the least injury affect His person. Free and unrestrained, He moved above the waters and they all followed Him. The Vazír, greatly impressed by this dream, summoned a soothsayer, who had achieved fame in that region, and asked him to interpret it for him. This man, as if inspired by a premonition of the future glory of Bahá’u’lláh, declared: “The limitless ocean that you have seen in your dream, O Vazír, is none other than the world of being. Single-handed and alone, your son will achieve supreme ascendancy over it. Wherever He may please, He will proceed unhindered. No one will resist His march, no one will hinder His progress. The multitude of fishes signifies the turmoil which He will arouse amidst the peoples and kindreds of the earth. Around Him will they gather, and to Him will they cling. Assured of the unfailing protection of the Almighty, this tumult will never harm His person, nor will His loneliness upon the sea of life endanger His safety.””

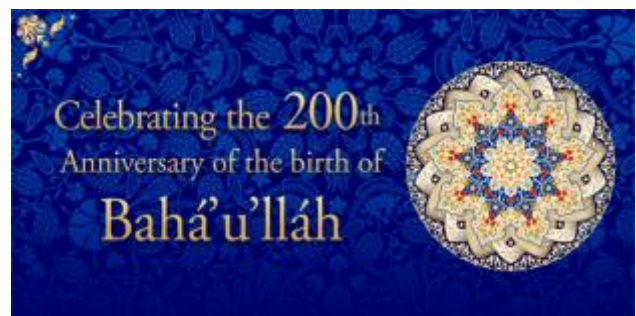
The Dawn-Breakers: Nabíl’s Narrative of the Early Days of the Bahá’í Revelation, pg. 119-120

Dear Friends,

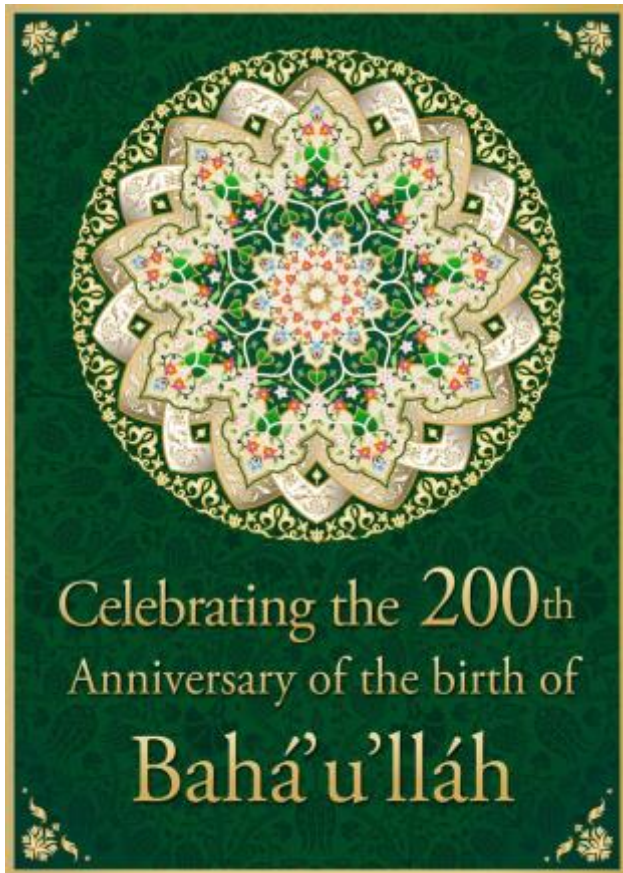
We are excited to bring to you the 17th issue of our newsletter! This month we will provide an excerpt from *Lamb-i-Ra’is* from the *Summons of the Lord of Hosts* by Bahá’u’lláh.

“When I was still a child and had not yet attained the age of maturity, My father made arrangements in Tibrán for the marriage of one of My older brothers, and as is customary in that city, the festivities lasted for seven days and seven nights. On the last day it was announced that the play “Sháh Sulṭán Salím” would be presented. A large number of princes, dignitaries, and notables of the capital gathered for the occasion. I was sitting in one of the upper rooms of the building and observing the scene. Presently a tent was pitched in the courtyard, and before long some small human-like figures, each appearing to be no more than about a hand’s span in height, were seen to emerge from it and raise the call: “His Majesty is coming! Arrange the seats at once!” Other figures then came forth, some of whom were seen to be engaged in sweeping, others in sprinkling water, and thereafter another, who was announced as the chief town crier, raised his call and bade the people assemble

for an audience with the king. Next, several groups of figures made their appearance and took their places, the first attired in hats and sashes after the Persian fashion, the second wielding battleaxes, and the third comprising a number of footmen and executioners carrying bastinados.



Finally there appeared, arrayed in regal majesty and crowned with a royal diadem, a kingly figure, bearing himself with the utmost haughtiness and grandeur, at turns advancing and pausing in his progress, who proceeded with great solemnity, poise and dignity to seat himself upon his throne.



At that moment a volley of shots was fired, a fanfare of trumpets was sounded, and king and tent were enveloped in a pall of smoke. When it had cleared, the king, ensconced upon his throne, was seen surrounded by a suite of ministers, princes, and dignitaries of state who, having taken their places, were standing at attention in his presence. A captured thief was then brought before the king, who gave the order that the offender should be beheaded. Without a moment's delay the chief executioner cut off the thief's head, whence a blood-like liquid came forth. After this the king held audience with his court, during which intelligence was received that a rebellion had broken out on a certain frontier. Thereupon the king reviewed his troops and despatched several regiments supported by artillery to quell the uprising. A few moments later cannons were heard booming from behind the tent, and it was announced that a battle had been engaged. This Youth regarded the scene with great amazement. When the royal audience was ended, the curtain was drawn, and, after

some twenty minutes, a man emerged from behind the tent carrying a box under his arm.

"What is this box," I asked him, "and what was the nature of this display?"

"All this lavish display and these elaborate devices," he replied, "the king, the princes, and the ministers, their pomp and glory, their might and power, everything you saw, are now contained within this box."

I swear by My Lord Who, through a single word of His Mouth, hath brought into being all created things! Ever since that day, all the trappings of the world have seemed in the eyes of this Youth akin to that same spectacle. They have never been, nor will they ever be, of any weight and consequence, be it to the extent of a grain of mustard seed. How greatly I marveled that men should pride themselves upon such vanities, whilst those possessed of insight, ere they witness any evidence of human glory, perceive with certainty the inevitability of its waning. "Never have I looked upon any thing save that I have seen extinction before it; and God, verily, is a sufficient witness!"



It behoveth everyone to traverse this brief span of life with sincerity and fairness. Should one fail to attain unto the recognition of Him Who is the Eternal Truth, let him at least conduct himself with reason and justice. Erelong these outward trappings, these visible treasures, these earthly vanities, these arrayed armies, these adorned vestures, these proud and overweening souls, all shall pass into the confines of the grave, as though into that box. In the eyes of those possessed of insight, all this conflict, contention and vainglory hath ever been, and will ever be, like unto the play and pastimes of children. Take heed, and be not of them that see and yet deny."

Announcements

- [Light of Unity Festival – Redlands](#)
- [Light of Unity Festival – Rancho Cucamonga](#)
- [29th Annual Desert Rose Bahá'í School](#)
- [ThanksGiving Dinner at Desert Rose Bahá'í School](#)

Letters/Communications

- **National Spiritual Assembly**
 - [Feast of Mashíyyat](#)
 - [Feast of Tz̧zat](#)
 - [Note on Bicentennial Congratulations from Senator Mark Warner](#)
 - [Bicentennial Congratulations from Senator Mark Warner](#)
- **Universal House of Justice**
 - [Online Portal to Info on Twin Holy Birthdays](#)
 - [Compilation on the Institution of Mashriqu'l-Adhqár](#)
 - [The Institution of Mashriqu'l-Adhqár](#)
 - [On Dedication of Bahá'í House of Worship in Battambang, Cambodia](#)

Talks/Presentations/Web

- [The Miller Prediction – Full Movie](#)
- [Seven Caribou Spirit Bowls “Seven Valleys towards Reconciliation” – Louise Profeit LeBlanc](#)

Links

- [Bahá'is of Banning](#)
- [Bahá'is of Claremont](#)
- [Bahá'is of Fontana](#)
- [Bahá'is of Rancho Cucamonga](#)
- [Bahá'is of Redlands](#)
- [Bahá'is of Riverside](#)
- [Bahá'is of San Bernardino](#)
- [Bahá'is of San Bernardino southwest](#)
- [Bahá'is of Upland](#)
- [Bahá'is of Yucaipa](#)
- [Highland Children's Classes](#)

Bahá'is of Highland

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