

ANNOUNCEMENT TO THE KINGS AND RULERS

Some people did not like these teachings which God revealed through Bahá'u'lláh. They were only interested in having power and money and did not want anything to change, even if it was for the better. And they made life very difficult for Bahá'u'lláh.

Among these people were kings and important rulers, and Bahá'u'lláh wrote to them, telling them to be kinder to the people in their countries. He told them to turn to God, to look after the poor, to judge the Cause of God fairly, and to bring peace to their own countries and to the world. But most of them did not listen.

Bahá'u'lláh was eventually sent further and further away from His own country until He arrived at the prison city of 'Akká, in the Holy Land. Here He continued to write to the kings and rulers and warned them that if they did not listen to what God was saying, their countries would suffer and they themselves would lose their power and authority. And this is just what happened. One by one they lost most of their land, their riches and their importance.



But there was one queen who was praised by Bahá'u'lláh. She was Queen Victoria of Great Britain. She was the only monarch who did not lose her kingdom. Bahá'u'lláh praised her because she tried to stop slavery in the countries over which she had power, and because she allowed the people in her country to vote and choose for themselves who they would like to have in their government.

Another special letter was sent to the rulers and presidents of America. In this letter Bahá'u'lláh told them to use justice to protect the weak.

Questions:

- a) Why did some people not like these teachings of Bahá'u'lláh?
- b) Who were some of these people?
- c) What did Bahá'u'lláh tell them to do?
- d) What was the name of the town where Bahá'u'lláh was eventually sent?
- e) What happened to the kings and rulers who ignored Bahá'u'lláh's letters?
- f) Two letters are mentioned here -- who were these to?
- g) Why did Bahá'u'lláh praise Queen Victoria?
- h) What did Bahá'u'lláh tell the rulers and presidents of America to do?

