

THE COVENANT OF GOD WITH MANKIND

During the last twelve years of His life Bahá'u'lláh wrote about many subjects. He also received Bahá'í pilgrims who made their way with great difficulty from Persia and other lands.

Bahá'u'lláh guided the Bahá'í communities so that they could organise their affairs. Instead of having clergy, He told the believers to elect their own councils and always to consult together to find the best way of doing things.

For the first time in history the entire human race is becoming aware that people everywhere are the same, and that the whole world is one home. Because we are now able to understand this, we can all become a part of helping to build this new world civilization.

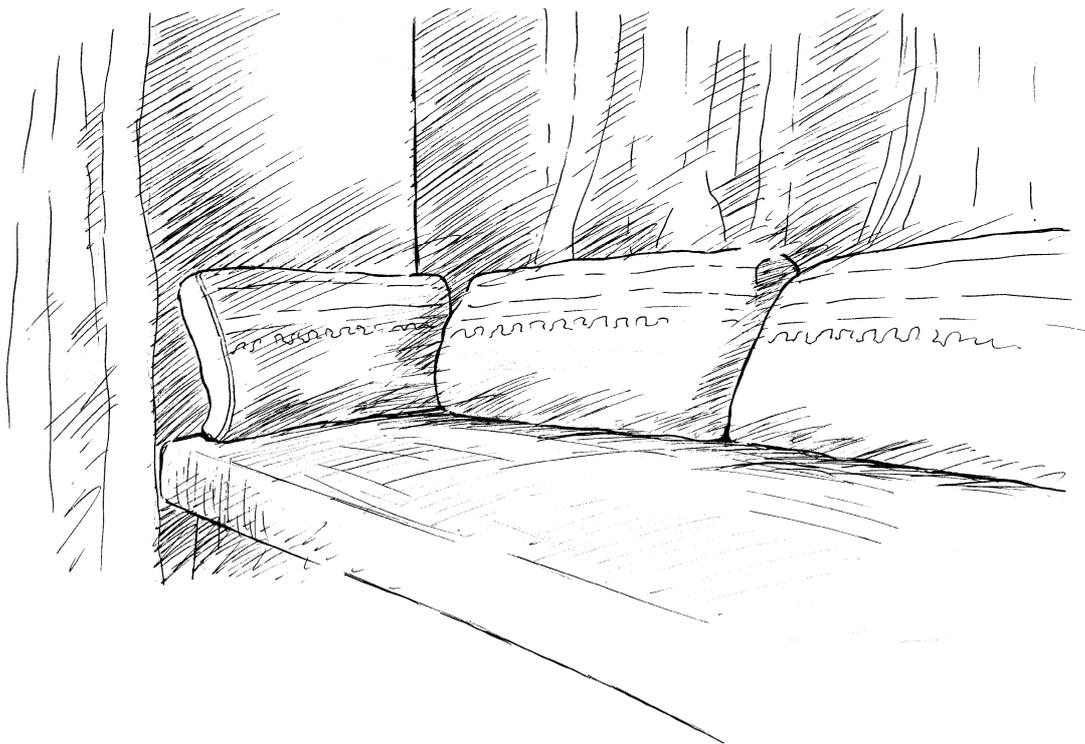


Bahá'u'lláh died on 29 May 1892. His followers are still united and they come from every country of the world, proving that the human race can learn to live and work together.

Two years before Bahá'u'lláh died, an Englishman called Edward Granville Browne visited Him. Edward Browne wrote these words about Bahá'u'lláh.

"... In a corner where the divan met the wall sat a wondrous and venerable figure.... The face of Him on whom I gazed I can never forget, though I cannot describe it. Those piercing eyes seemed to read one's very soul; power and authority sat on that ample brow.... No need to ask in whose presence I stood, as I bowed myself before one who is the object of a devotion and love which kings might envy and emperors sigh for in vain! A mild dignified voice bade me to be seated, and then continued:

'Praise be to God that thou hast attained!.... Thou hast come to see a prisoner and an exile.... We desire but the good of the world and the happiness of the nations; that all nations should become one in faith and all men as brothers; that the bonds of affection and unity between the sons of men should be strengthened; that diversity of religion should cease, and differences of race be annulled -- what harm is there in this? Yet so it shall be; these fruitless strifes, these ruinous wars shall pass away, and the "Most Great Peace" shall come.'"



Questions:

- a) Instead of having clergy telling us what to do, how do Bahá'ís make decisions?
- b) What can we understand for the first time in history?
- c) When did Bahá'u'lláh die?
- d) What proves that the human race can live and work together?
- e) Who visited Bahá'u'lláh in 1990?
- f) What does Edward Granville Browne say about Bahá'u'lláh's eyes?
- g) What did Edward Granville Browne do when he met Bahá'u'lláh?
- h) What eight things did Bahá'u'lláh say He desired?
- i) What did Bahá'u'lláh say would come?
- j) Bahá'u'lláh has given us all the teachings we need to live in peace. What must we do now?

