

Meeting 'Abdu'l-Bahá in 'Akká

As soon as Thomas heard about the Bahá'í Faith he longed to meet 'Abdu'l-Bahá. He and an American Bahá'í left Paris as soon as they could and travelled to Port Said in Egypt to wait for permission to visit Him.

When Thomas first arrived in Akká he and his companion were shown into a long room. At one end there was a group of men in oriental clothing. None of them looked as Thomas had imagined 'Abdu'l-Bahá to look. He felt ill and weak, thinking he had failed to recognise 'Abdu'l-Bahá. He was confused and his head was filled with questions and doubts. Why had he made such a long and difficult journey? Why had he given up all his plans and come here to see a prisoner? He was feeling very sad and depressed.

Then suddenly a door opened and in the opening he saw such a dazzling, bright light that it looked like the sun rising. The light was so brilliant that Thomas jumped to his feet, and out of this light he saw 'Abdu'l-Bahá coming towards him.

All the confusion and questions in Thomas's mind totally vanished.

He was only allowed to stay for two days in Akká but this time was spent totally in The Master's loving care. Thomas burned away in this love and from then on completely devoted his life to The Bahá'í Faith.

