

The Day Of The Covenant

(Adapted from 'Nine Holy Days' by Jackie Mehrabi)



Illustration by John Treeby

It was the half-light before morning and the world slept. Grey clouds crept across the sky and rain fell like a whisper on the earth. Trees and flowers, bushes and grass drank the rain as it reached their roots, and grew.

Suddenly the shower stopped and the light of the sun filled the sky and gently touched the ground. The trees and flowers, bushes and grass felt the sun as it warmed their leaves, and they grew.

This is like an agreement between the earth and the sky. When the rain falls and the sun shines, every thing on earth is able to live. But if the plants were to hide in some dark place where the rain does not fall and the sun cannot shine, they would wither and die.

In the beginning, before there was any living thing, God loved us and so He gave us life. He made an agreement: that He would never leave us on our own but

would always send Messengers of God to guide us. God kept His promise and because people listened to the wonderful teachings of the Messengers of God their hearts grew kind and their minds more wise. Although there were always some who would not listen -- like plants trying to grow in the dark. Each time the Messengers of God came They made an agreement with their followers: that one day a Great One would come Whose teachings would make all the people in the world love one another, and eventually there would be no more war.

The time came and God sent Bahá'u'lláh to live among men and to give the teachings of the New Day. Those who listened became new people, loving one another and understanding many things they had never understood before. But those who turned away are like plants in the darkness, and they will never know the truth unless they come out into the sunshine of the teachings of Bahá'u'lláh.



Illustration by Sara Lindsey