

Christmas Dinner

There were many poor people in Haifa and 'Akká, where 'Abdu'l-Bahá lived. In fact, at the time, most people who lived there were poor. But He was sad to see there were also poor people in the rich countries of the West. He was especially sad when He saw rich people in London buying expensive Christmas presents when there were so many people around who did not even have enough bread to eat.

One day He visited a Salvation Army shelter where one thousand poor men had been invited for their Christmas dinner. 'Abdu'l-Bahá told them:

"All the Prophets of God were poor, His Holiness Moses was a mere shepherd.... The poor have ever been humble, and lowly; their hearts are tender.... Christ was poor; Bahá'u'lláh was poor. For forty years He was imprisoned in poverty.... Be ever happy; be not sad! Trust in God."

The men had rarely been spoken to with such love and understanding. Although they were very hungry, some of them forgot to eat while 'Abdu'l-Bahá was speaking.

Before He left, 'Abdu'l-Bahá gave the kind Salvation Army officers money to pay for another good meal for the men at New Year. When they heard this, the men jumped up from their seats and waved their knives and forks in the air and cheered!

This story is from the book *Three Gifts of Love*



Book Review

(reprinted from *The Scottish Bahá'í Newsletter*)

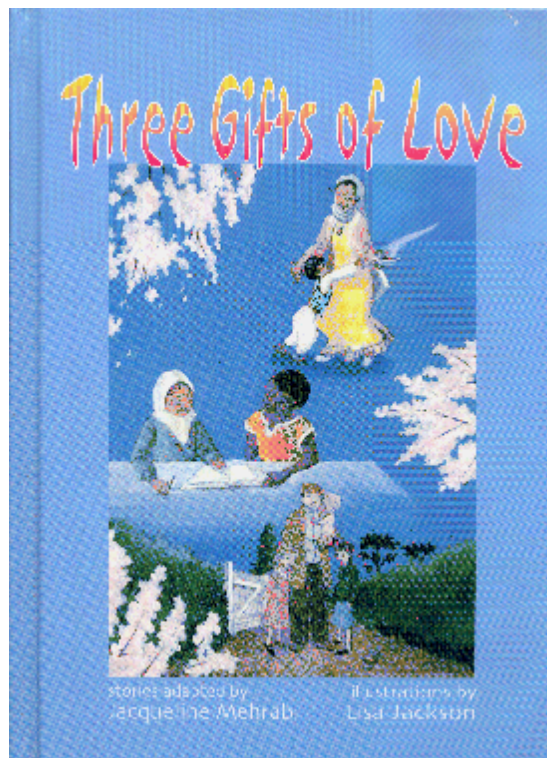
Three Gifts of Love

208 pages, hard cover, 210 by 148mm, over 80 b/w illustrations

Jacqueline Mehrabi's newest book for children and junior youth, with delightful illustrations by Lisa Jackson, is just published by Brilliant Books based in Belgium.

Three Gifts of Love, is a collection of wonderful and inspiring stories about the lives of Abdu'l-Bahá, The Purest Branch and Shoghi Effendi, adapted by Jackie Mehrabi to assist the younger members of the community to know and love them. The beautiful and true to life illustrations by Lisa Jackson give the book an extra dimension and bring these stories closer to one's heart.

As the art of story telling is becoming more and more a significant creative element of the sequence of courses, this book, with its treasury of stories about these special figures of our Faith, would be a valuable resource for parents in particular, as well as for anyone who enjoys story books.



Retail price: US\$18.95; 15.95 Euro (equiv. to approx. £11.50)

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