

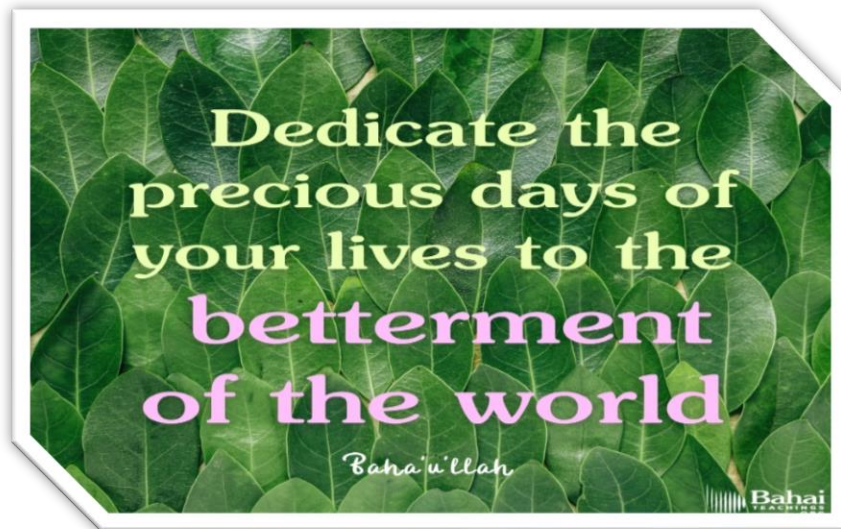


Port Alberni Nuggets

Volume 1, Issue No. 25

(Ilm, Knowledge), 177, B.E

Baha'i Quote of the Month



Baha'i Stories:

Answers

The Master spoke of the many letters He had answered that morning and of the packages still unopened. Mr. Kinney said: "I will write Your letters for You!" Our Lord: "Very good; very good. Write a letter and answer it yourself. Look into your heart and see the answer. The answer is what is written on the tablet of your heart. That which is written upon paper is subject to corruption and various accidents, such as consumption by fire and moth, but that which is inscribed on the tablet of the heart is imperishable and everlasting. A day will come when all My communications upon paper -- all My writing -- will be effaced. But that which I have inscribed upon the hearts will not be effaced. There is no end to it. For I write the Word of the Love of God upon the hearts, and the Word of God is eternal."
-The Diary of Juliet Thompson, page unknown

News and events:

News from our twin LSA of Jaipur, India

Plans are being made to attend via Zoom a feast in Jaipur and also join the ascension meeting of Addu'l-Baha.

We are pleased to inform you that the five-day intensive campaign organized by "State Bahá'í Training Institute Rajasthan" was completed from 1st to 5th October 2021. During this campaign, Ruhi organizers went on to complete 500+ activities in the Jaipur community by studying the second unit of Book-8 and then dividing into teams. October 1-5 The five-day intensive campaign concluded on Tuesday. With the Shivdaspura cluster becoming a cluster of 100+ activities, the Jaipur cluster has reached nearly 250 activities.

Below are the photos of organizers of the campaign and sample photos of children's classes, JY and devotional gatherings.



Bahá'í World News Service
Agriculture: BIC underscores role of farmers in policy-making



A gathering held by the Geneva Office of the BIC examined how knowledge generated by farmers can inform and strengthen international policies on food and agriculture.

BIC GENEVA — How is it that despite sufficient quantities of food being produced to feed the entire global population each year, food systems fall short of providing food security for all of humanity? To examine this question, the Geneva Office of the Bahá’í International Community (BIC) hosted a discussion during the United Nations global Food Systems Summit—the first major food summit since 1996 aimed at achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

The event specifically looked at the need to put farmers at the heart of discussions on food production and included the Deputy to the UN Special Envoy for the UN Food Systems Summit, the Secretary of the Committee on World Food Security, the Director for Knowledge Management and Learning at CARE International, representatives from the United Nations Development Programme, as well as Bahá’i-inspired organizations with related experience.

“Growing evidence suggests that improvements in rural productive sectors depend heavily on farmers and people engaged in local agriculture—something that has become ever more apparent during the pandemic,” said Simin Fahandej, a representative of the Geneva Office, at the gathering.

She added: “Yet, their voice and experience are largely missing from high-level conversations on food systems and policy-making processes.

“The bulk of decisions on agricultural policy and food security are typically made far from the rural settings and local realities that shape how policies will be implemented in practice.”

Drawing on the Bahá’í teachings, Ms. Fahandej continued to explain that, in order to achieve change, new conceptions of the role of farmers in society are needed. “Imagine what new possibilities can emerge if we embrace farmers as ‘the first active agent in human society’ and allow questions regarding the economic development of communities to begin with the farmer?”

On this basis, panelists explored how knowledge generated at the local level about food production by farmers and communities can inform international policies on food and agriculture.

Ever Rivera, a representative of the Bahá’i-inspired organization FUNDAEC with extensive experience in the fields of education and agriculture, described how narrow and limited conceptions need to be replaced with a more profound understanding of human nature that sees the nobility of every human being and protects each one against prejudice and paternalism.

Mr. Rivera elaborated further, describing FUNDAEC’s approach to developing capacity in people to contribute to the well-being of their societies, particularly in supporting initiatives aimed at food self-sufficiency.

“FUNDAEC promotes approaches that draw on the profound traditional knowledge of farmers and on the best practices of modern science, enabling farmers to enhance food production processes and to develop community structures and new systems that support collective well-being.

“These include the establishment of small groups of farmers who collaborate and support one another, the development of a village storehouse accessible to all, and changes in agricultural practices and in the distribution of produce to eliminate unnecessary intermediaries in bringing agricultural products to market.”

Discussions at the gathering also addressed the harmful impact of certain major challenges of environmental degradation, such as soil erosion, large-scale deforestation, and water shortages. Dr. Martin Frick, the Deputy to the Special Envoy for the UN Food Systems Summit, stated that “all of these wrongs can be righted, with no other means more effective than through food systems. And you will only achieve that by addressing issues of human dignity... and power imbalances.”

The Geneva Office of the BIC plans to release a statement on themes related to agriculture and food security as it continues to hold gatherings exploring these issues.

Sharing:

Laurand's sharing:

I love the Baha'i Faith. All the concepts and precepts given to us by Baha'u-llah are priceless. The laws he gave are a great gift that will accomplish a better world for all.

I am asked to be like Abdu'l-Baha, (Look at me, follow me, be as I am) for me an impossible task. Abdu'l-Baha had confidence in Himself, something I seem to lack. He lived a life of giving everything he had, again a quality of which I am bereft. Abdu'l-Baha showed great love for everyone he met; even if they treated him badly, I have never been able to accomplish that. Abdu'l-Baha had knowledge of every aspect of life, something missing in me.

Abdu'l-Baha appeared to understand whatever he read, again something I can't seem to accomplish. Abdu'l-Baha's love for God was shown through all his actions, which I wish dearly I could accomplish. Abdu'l-Baha seemed to be able to solve any problem he was confronted with; it would be nice if I could solve a little bit of life's problems. Yes, I would like to follow Abdu'l-Baha and be like him.

The task seems unachievable for me. I can show love for God and all His creatures which is probably the closest I can come to be like and follow Abdu'l-Baha.

Anne's sharing:

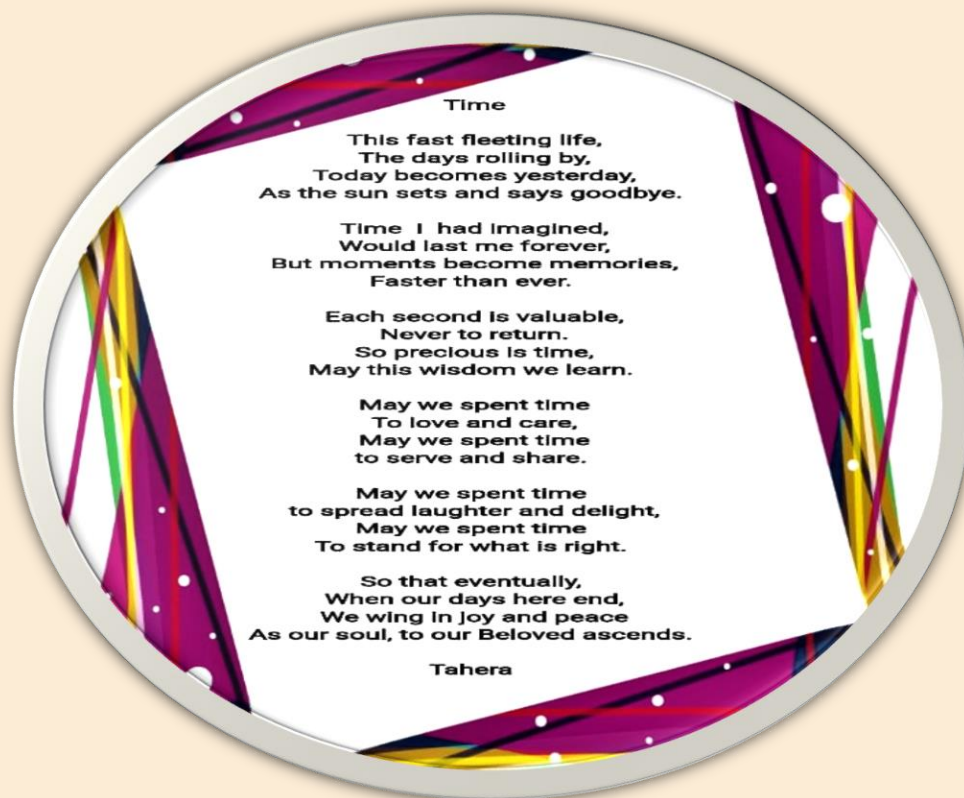
As you know, the students in my Social Justice class have to create and execute a project to better our community. Part of the process of engaging the kids is telling the story about two different kinds of teachers - the ones that think students are blank slates or the ones that believe they need to

"Regard man as a mine rich in gems of inestimable value. Education can, alone, cause it to reveal its treasures, and enable mankind to benefit therefrom." I always act this one out, getting the kids to visualize buckets on their desks while I either mime spooning learning into their buckets or standing back and helping them dig through their buckets of dirt and gems .. it's fun! Overall, they understand the concept.

... So my kids always get the 'gems' quote, and then, over the next couple of weeks, we learn about consultation and uplifting conversations. This year I added, "Be anxiously concerned with the needs of the age ye live in, and centre your deliberations on its exigencies and requirements." Baha'u'llah, Gleanings ... Ruhi Book 2, Section 1. We spent one whole class looking at this quote, taking it apart and getting personal meaning for it, which led to an amazingly magical consultation, brainstorming, and creation of ideas. The air sparkled, the kids were excited and motivated, and they all had an idea to bring to fruition.

A moral from this story? Baha'u'llah can change spirits and lives, even if we're not allowed to teach the Faith!!

Poem from Tahera



From the editor's desk:

Practical Economic Suggestions for Everyday Use (Part two)

Note: Due to the length of this material, it will be presented in many parts.

Since we do not have the Bahá'í economic system in place as yet, we may think that we cannot do anything to bring it about, and we must wait for its arrival. But that is not really true. There is so much we can do as individuals, and in our communities that is economic in nature, and we can do it without realizing that we are participating in economic activity. Our participation will set the example for the rest of the world and, at the same time, prepare the ground for the time when the World Commonwealth will come into being.

The Universal House of Justice reminds us that time has come to pay greater attention to the economic side of our lives and take steps to improve the economic prosperity of the world.

“Although Baha’u’llah does not set out in His Revelation a detailed economic system, a constant theme throughout the entire corpus of His teachings is the reorganization of human society. Consideration of this theme inevitably gives rise to questions of economics. Of course, the future

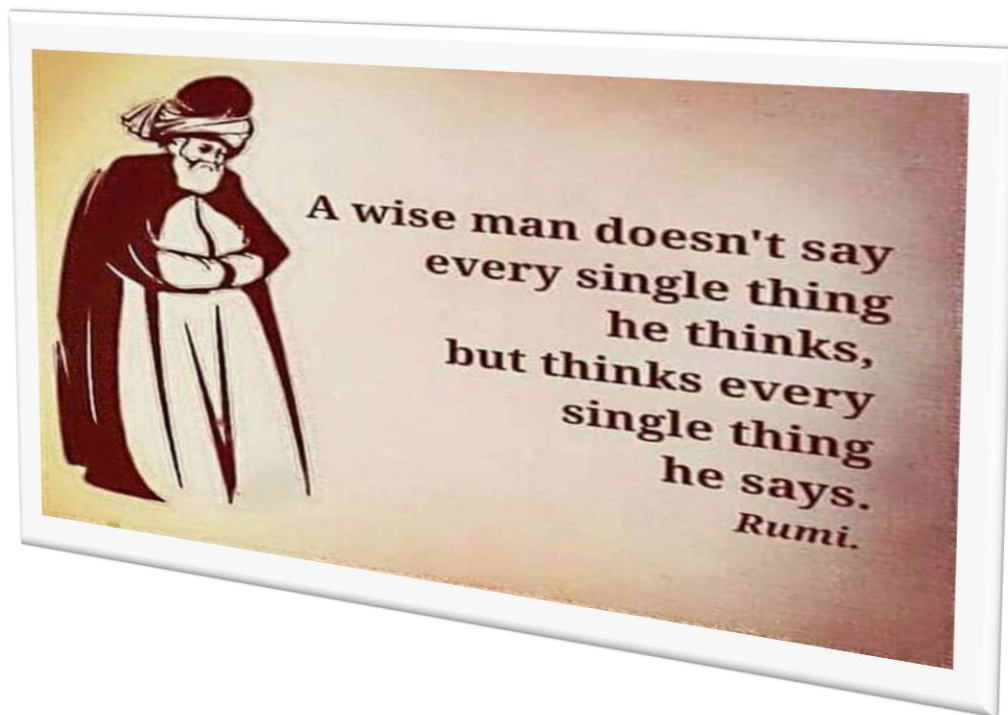
order conceived by Baha'u'llah is far beyond anything that can be imagined by the present generation. Nevertheless, its eventual emergence will depend on strenuous effort by His followers to put His teachings into effect today. With this in mind, we hope that the comments below will stimulate thoughtful, ongoing reflection by the friends. The aim is to learn about how to participate in the material affairs of society in a way that is consistent with the divine precepts and how, in practical terms, collective prosperity can be advanced through justice and generosity, collaboration and mutual assistance.” -The Universal House of Justice, March 1, 201

Unfortunately, money is a yardstick that we use to measure poverty, wealth, failure and success. My wish is that as we spiritually grow and expand our spiritual horizons, we will adopt a spiritual yardstick to measure our lives. Money cannot and should not be the only means of measuring our life's achievements.

Today, more than your heart and intellect, you need the power of your imagination because you are going to picture yourself in the future. Once you do that and grasp the beauty of peace, love and harmony and see how the sufferings and misery have been removed and man no longer has to fight to survive in his economic life, you will bring yourself back to the present and hopefully, you will start making small changes in your economic activities that will lead to the fundamental changes in order to lay the foundation of a new and wonderful economic behaviour based on spirituality and not greed.

Abdu'l-Bahá often talked about very complex subjects, but He made them simple and easy to understand, and my personal belief is that economics doesn't have to be daunting or confusing, especially when it comes to action. These suggestions are intended to be clear and straightforward to encourage you to participate in economic actions with increased awareness. They are meant for everyone, whether or not you are knowledgeable about economics. Hopefully, you may find these suggestions useful. They will empower you to act and help you realize what an incredible power we have as individuals to transform society in every way, including economic ways.

Famous quotes:



Upcoming Events:

Coming feast: Ilm, Knowledge, October 14, 2021, 7 PM

Next feast: Qudrat, Power, 2021, 7 PM

Contact us at bshams@telus.net