

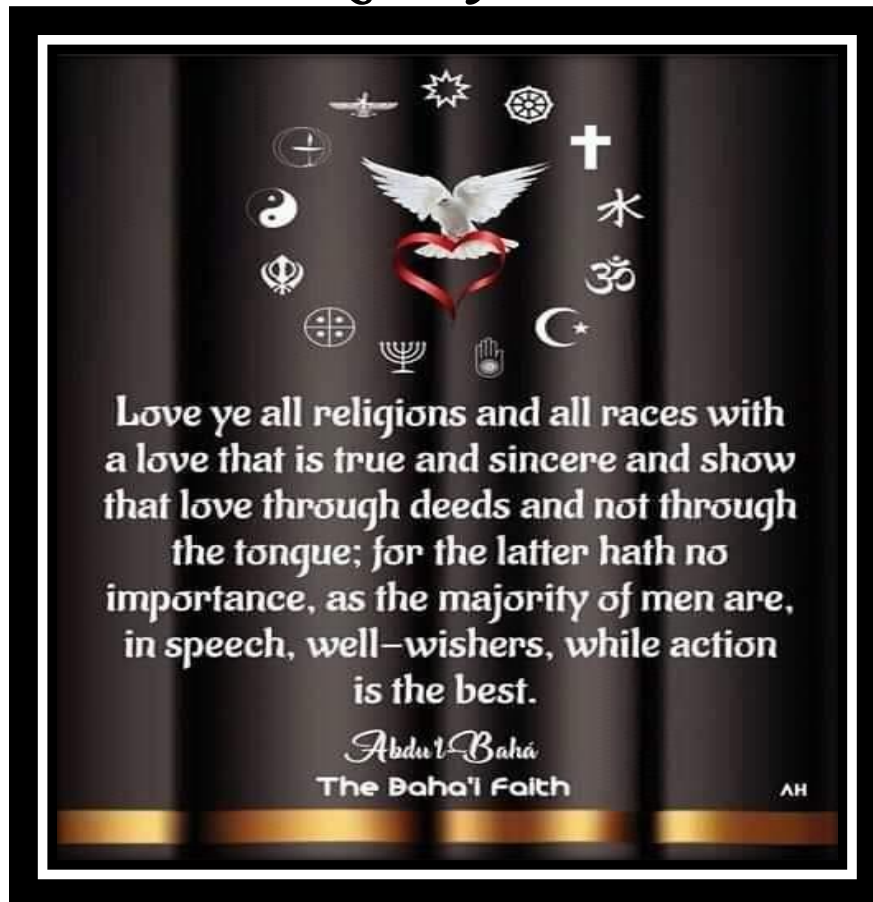


Port Alberní Nuggets

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Baha'i Quote of the Month



Baha'i Stories:

“The Master knew the day and hour...”
(part one)

Shoghi Effendi and Lady Blomfield wrote, in “The Passing of `Abdu'l-Bahá”:

We have now come to realize that the Master knew the day and hour when, His mission on earth being finished, He would return to the shelter of heaven. He was, however, careful that His family should not have any premonition of the coming sorrow. It seemed as though their eyes were veiled by Him, with His

ever-loving consideration for His dear ones, that they should not see the significance of certain dreams and other signs of the culminating event. This they now realize was His thought for them, in order that their strength might be preserved to face the great ordeal when it should arrive, that they should not be devitalized by anguish of mind in its anticipation.

Out of the many signs of the approach of the hour when He could say of His work on earth, "It is finished," the following two dreams seem remarkable. Less than eight weeks before His passing the Master related this to His family:

I seemed to be standing within a great Mosque . . . in the place of the Imam himself. I became aware that a large number of people were flocking into the Mosque; more and yet more crowded in, taking their places in rows behind me, until there was a vast multitude. As I stood I raised loudly the "Call to Prayer." Suddenly the thought came to me to go forth from the Mosque.

When I found myself outside I said within myself, "For what reason came I forth, not having led the prayer? But it matters not; now that I have uttered the Call to Prayer, the vast multitude will of themselves chant the prayer . . ."

A few weeks after the preceding dream the Master came in from the solitary room in the garden, which He had occupied of late, and said, "I dreamed a dream and behold the Blessed Beauty ... came and said unto me, 'Destroy this room!'"

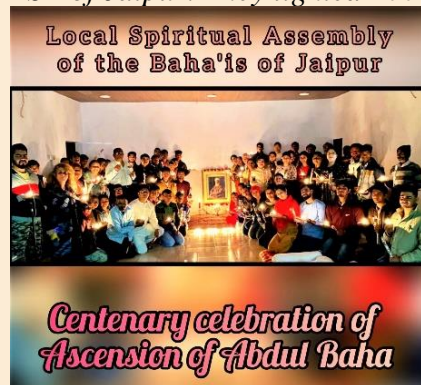
The family, who had been wishing that He would come and sleep in the house, not being happy that He should be alone at night, exclaimed, "Yes Master, we think your dream means that you should leave that room and come into the house." When He heard this from us, He smiled meaningly as though not agreeing with our interpretation. Afterwards we understood that by the "room" was meant the temple of His body. – Hasan M. Balyuzi, 'Abdu'l-Bahá: The Centre of the Covenant of Bahá'u'lláh, pp. 457-460.

News and Events:

Local News:

News from our twin LSA of Jaipur, India

Our community was so happy to celebrate the centenary of the Ascension of Abdu'i-Baha with our twin LSA of Jaipur. They lighted 100 candles for this occasion.



COP26: BIC delegation offers principles and proposals for climate action



GLASGOW, United Kingdom — Over the last two weeks, representatives of the Bahá'í International Community (BIC) have been participating in discussions at the 2021 United Nations Climate Change Conference, known as COP26, highlighting the need for rethinking the relationship between society and the natural world.

“Humanity is at a pivotal moment when it must recognize its essential oneness—that we all share the same atmosphere and that cooperation among all nations is needed in order to address the pressing, existential questions that we will face in the coming decades,” says Daniel Perell, a representative from the New York Office of the BIC at the conference.

Mr. Perell was joined in the BIC delegation to the conference by Serik Tokbolat from Kazakhstan, Peter Aburi from Kenya, and Maja Groff from the Netherlands.

In their contributions to discussions, the BIC representatives offered a number of concrete proposals. “There is a need for a mechanism to coordinate aspects of humanity’s relationship with the natural world,” said Mr. Perell.

“Such a mechanism could, for example, serve to mobilize financial resources around environmental goals, and oversee their distribution. It could support national governments in transitioning away from environmentally harmful policies to establishing more sustainable alternatives.”

Mr. Perell continued, explaining that while this is just one possible way of organizing efforts, the important thing is to ensure that consensus is followed through to implementation and that any approach or mechanism to address climate change is viewed holistically. He stated: “Ultimately, disparate environmental governing bodies and treaties, if brought together under one umbrella, would ensure greater coherence in governance systems that oversee climate change.”

The twelve-day conference concludes on Friday and has brought together more than 120 world leaders, as well as numerous civil society organizations, journalists and media outlets, businesses, and climate activists in Glasgow, Scotland, to examine global efforts addressing climate change.

In their contributions to discussions, the BIC representatives explored moral questions related to consumption and excessive materialism that are associated with the exploitation and degradation of the environment.

“Development is often measured in terms of expanding the ability to acquire material goods. Notions of what constitutes progress must be urgently re-examined before climate change leads to irreversible consequences,” said Dr. Tokbolat.

Mr. Aburi expanded further, stating: “Movement in this direction will require economic arrangements to be disciplined according to lofty ideals and the common good.”

Other themes highlighted by the BIC delegates at different forums included the role of international structures in addressing environmental challenges, which the BIC has explored in its statement “A Governance Befitting: Humanity and the Path Toward a Just Global Order.”

At a discussion held by the International Environment Forum, a Bahá’í-inspired organization, Ms. Groff explained how greater collaboration and the sharing of knowledge among countries can significantly contribute to climate action. “We have a suggestion for a global climate policy clearinghouse so that states can share experiences, learn from best practices, and really accelerate the implementation of climate policies,” she said.

The BIC representatives also noted the important role that individuals can play in addressing climate change.

“The pandemic has shown us the power of local action by individuals. We have seen a real galvanizing force toward the common good among families, friends, and neighbors,” said Mr. Perell at a discussion held by the World Wildlife Fund.

He added: “This is a source of hope from which we can draw lessons and apply them to discussions in these forums as we collectively confront the multiple challenges that humanity is facing.”

Sharing:

Anne’s sharing:

“... the true worth of artists and craftsmen should be appreciated, for they advance the affairs of mankind.” – Baha’u’llah

The kids in my classes are always tasked with making a positive impact on the community, whether it’s art or a project that helps transform the society around us. Here are two of our newly painted trash cans:



Laurand's sharing:

Abdu'l-Baha said, "Look at me, follow me, be as I am." Imagine a world where everyone followed this advice. No one would go hungry. No one would be left out in the cold. Everybody would be looking after all other people before themselves. No one would be wanting. (It would be Utopia, an imagined place or state of things in which everything is perfect) Abdu'l-Baha lovingly gave and gave and gave. His whole life was a life of giving. Avarice would disappear. The long-awaited time for world peace would finally arrive. I pray that I could be more like Abdu'l-Baha and give my little bit to achieve his request.

"O SON OF MAN! Rejoice in the gladness of thine heart, that thou mayest be worthy to meet Me and to mirror forth My beauty." -Hidden Words of Baha'u'llah

Poem by Tahera

O Abdul Baha! O Master!
 How I wish to be like Thee
 Shower Thy blessings
 Recreate me

Fill me with joy
 The one that you possessed
 That radiant smile
 Full of hope and zest

Give me Thy kindness
 The love that in your veins flowed
 Thy utter humility
 With servitude you glowed

Bestow Thy strength
 Thy will power strong
 For tests and trials
 How Thy heart would long.

Make me like Thee
 May my actions speak
 To teach far and near
 May I always seek.

Tahera

Practical Economic Suggestions for Everyday Use (Part Four)

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

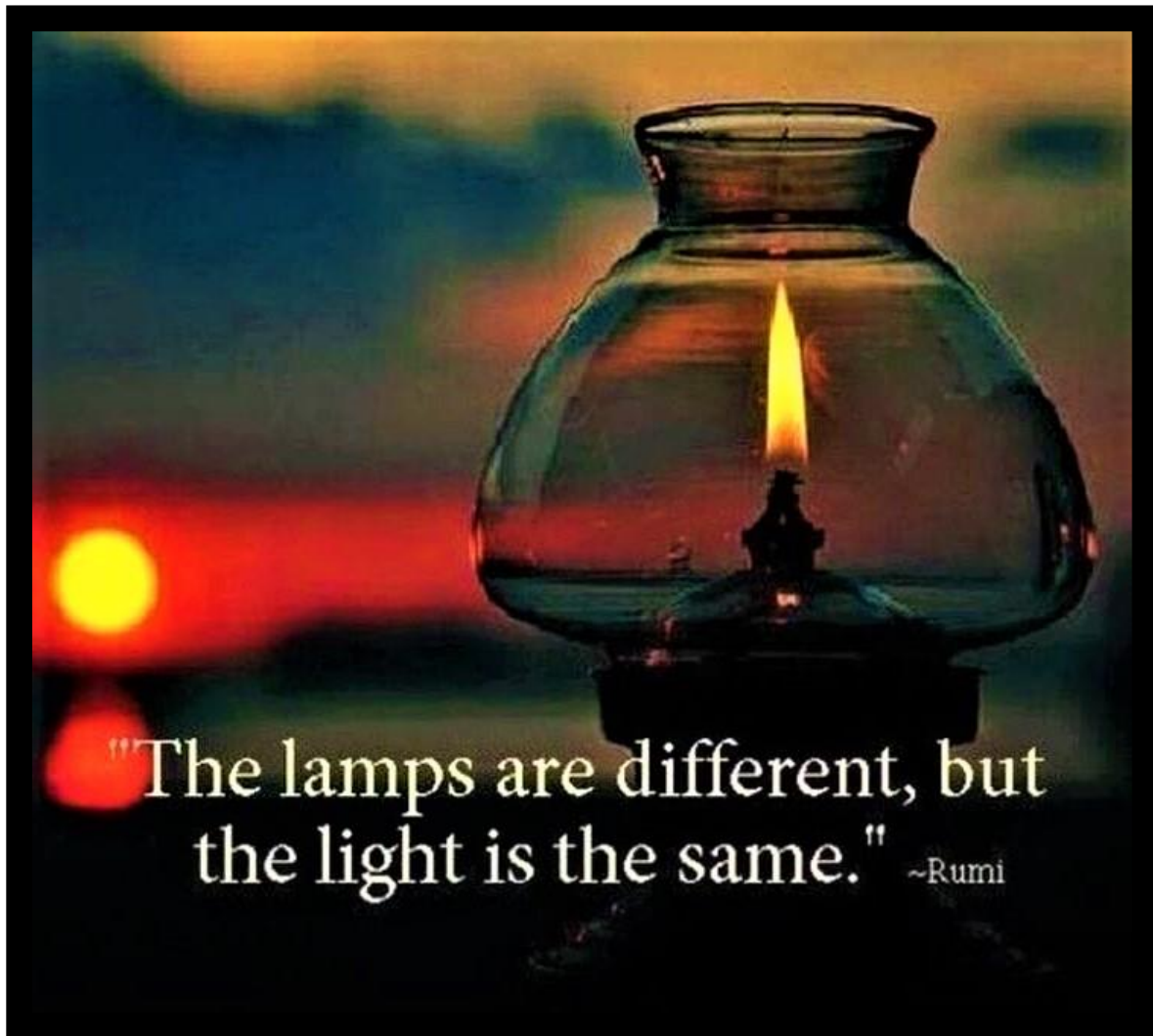
Based on the Baha'i Writings, the suggestions below may hopefully help you bring about this fundamental change in your character and everyday economic actions. There are 53 suggestions, but we discuss nine on this blog.

This list of suggestions may seem overwhelming, and you may not be able to practice all those that apply to your situation. But you have to remember that it is not about the results; it is about sincere and wholehearted efforts. It is a pure intention that counts.

19. **Increase your economic and business knowledge.** *The more we know about how economics works, the better we will be able to forecast the future.*
20. **Volunteer for service** whenever possible with the spirit of service, following Abdu'l-Bahá's example, *Who served mankind all of His life.*
21. **Give to the Bahá'i Fund and also support worthy charitable organizations.** *Every act of giving is a small step towards reducing the gap between rich and poor.*
22. **Have or adopt a financial goal in life.** *As we have teaching plans in the Faith and other goals and plans in our life, it is vital to have an individual financial plan. Goals encourage discipline. This is very important. It is almost impossible to have a comfortable financial life without planning.*
23. **Avoid debt** as much as possible since too many financial burdens damage the quality of spiritual and human life. **Investigate the rate of interest** on mortgages, loans and credit to reduce cost. *Volumes can be written about this subject. Debts are one of the most destructive factors that should be avoided.*
24. **Create a habit of saving.** *Life is full of uncertainty and change and having some money for a rainy day creates peace of mind. Saving should be part of our financial goals. It is a wonderful habit to have. It is not easy to save with the pressure of our consumer mentality today, but nevertheless, it is crucial.*
25. **Spread the word about honest and fair businesses and professionals.** *It is like giving them free advertising. They need all the help they can get. It has a very enabling power helping honest people and businesses.*
26. **Don't buy the latest models** if the old ones are in working order and provide the same service. *Having the latest of everything creates an unnecessary economic burden for an individual which in turn decreases the quality of life. Be practical about material possessions. But it is hard not to want to purchase the latest model of car when everyone is doing the same.*

27. **Avoid keeping up with the Joneses.** That is the worst kind of spending. It is also a sign of spiritual and emotional immaturity. And we see it happen every day. It is regrettable that people want the approval of others, while their spiritual destiny is in jeopardy.

Famous quotes:



Upcoming Events:

Coming feast: Masa'il, Questions, December 10, 2021, 7 PM

Next feast: Sharaf, Honor, December 29. 2021, 7 PM

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