

The Feast of Masá'il (Questions)

Music/Persian chant

1. O Divine Providence! This assemblage is composed of Thy friends who are attracted to Thy beauty and are set ablaze by the fire of Thy love. Turn these souls into heavenly angels, resuscitate them through the breath of Thy Holy Spirit, grant them eloquent tongues and resolute hearts, bestow upon them heavenly power and merciful susceptibilities, cause them to become the promulgators of the oneness of mankind and the cause of love and concord in the world of humanity, so that the perilous darkness of ignorant prejudice may vanish through the light of the Sun of Truth, this dreary world may become illumined, this material realm may absorb the rays of the world of spirit, these different colours may merge into one colour and the melody of praise may rise to the kingdom of Thy sanctity. Verily, Thou art the Omnipotent and the Almighty!

Selections from the Writings of 'Abdu'l-Bahá, #68

۱. ای پروردگار این جمع یاران تواند و بجمال تو منجذبند و بنار محبت
مشتعلند این نفوس را ملائکه آسمانی نما و بنفخه روح القدس زنده فرما لسانی
ناطق بخش و قلبی ثابت عطا فرما قوت آسمانی ده و سنوحات رحمانی بخش و
مروج وحدت بشر فرما و سبب محبت و الفت عالم انسانی فرما تا ظلمات مهلکه
تعصب جاهلی بانوار شمس حقیقت محو و زائل گردد و اینجهان ظلمانی نورانی
شود و این عالم جسمانی پرتو جهان روحانی گیرد و این الوان مختلفه مبدل بیک
رنگ گردد و آهنگ تسبیح بملکوت تقدیس تو رسد توئی مقتدر و توانا.

2. Man is the supreme Talisman. Lack of a proper education hath, however, deprived him of that which he doth inherently possess. Through a word proceeding out of the mouth of God he was called into being; by one word more he was guided to recognize the Source of his education; by yet another word his station and destiny were safeguarded. The Great Being saith: 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.

Tablets of Bahá'u'lláh, p. 63

۲. انسان طلسم اعظم است و لکن عدم تربیت او را از آنچه با اوست محروم نموده. بیک کلمه خلق فرمود و بکلمه اخری بمقام تعلیم هدایت نمود و بکلمه دیگر مراتب و مقاماتش را حفظ فرمود. " حضرت موجود میفرماید "

انسان را بمثابه معدن که دارای احجار کریمه است مشاهده نما بتربیت جواهر آن بعرصه شهود آید و عالم انسانی از آن منتفع گردد.

3. The education and training of children is among the most meritorious acts of humankind and draweth down the grace and favour of the All-Merciful, for education is the indispensable foundation of all human excellence and alloweth man to work his way to the heights of abiding glory. If a child be trained from his infancy, he will, through the loving care of the Holy Gardener, drink in the crystal waters of the spirit and of knowledge, like a young tree amid the rilling brooks. And certainly he will gather to himself the bright rays of the Sun of Truth, and through its light and heat will grow ever fresh and fair in the garden of life...

For the inner reality of man is a demarcation line between the shadow and the light, a place where the two seas meet; it is the lowest point on the arc of descent, and therefore is it capable of gaining all the grades above. With education it can achieve all excellence; devoid of education it will stay on, at the lowest point of imperfection.

Every child is potentially the light of the world—and at the same time its darkness; wherefore must the question of education be accounted as of primary importance. From his infancy, the child must be nursed at the breast of God's love, and nurtured in the embrace of His knowledge, that he may radiate light, grow in spirituality, be filled with wisdom and learning, and take on the characteristics of the angelic host.

Selections from the Writings of 'Abdu'l-Bahá, #103

۳. تعلیم اطفال و پرورش کودکان اعظم مناقب عالم انسان و جاذب الطاف و عنایت حضرت رحمان زیرا اسّ اساس فضائل عالم انسانیت و سبب تدرّج باوج عزّت جاودانی چون طفل در کودکی تربیت شود مانند نهال در جویبار علم و دانش بعنایت باغبان گلشن احدیّت از زلال معانی بنوشد و البتّه پرتو شمس حقیقت گیرد و بشعاع و حرارتش در گلشن وجود طراوت و لطافت بی نهایت یابد...

زیرا حقیقت انسانیّه خطّ فاصل بین الظلّ و النور و مجمع البحرين و نهایت قوس نزول است لهذا استعداد جمیع مراتب دارد بتربیت اکتساب فضائل کند و از عدم تربیت در اسفل درجات نقائص ماند.

هر طفلی ممکنست که سبب نورانیّت عالم گردد و یا سبب ظلمانیّت آفاق شود لهذا باید مسئله تربیت را بسیار مهمّ شمرد و اطفال را از کودکی از پستان محبّت الله شیر داد و در آغوش معرفت الله تربیت نمود تا نورانی گردند رحمانی شوند علم و دانش آموزند و خلق و خوی فرشتگان یابند.

Music/Persian chant

4. Every man of discernment, while walking upon the earth, feeleth indeed abashed, inasmuch as he is fully aware that the thing which is the source of his prosperity, his wealth, his might, his exaltation, his advancement and power is, as ordained by God, the very earth which is trodden beneath the feet of all men. There can be no doubt that whoever is cognizant of this truth, is cleansed and sanctified from all pride, arrogance, and vainglory. Whatever hath been said hath come from God. Unto this, He, verily, hath borne, and beareth now, witness, and He, in truth, is the All-Knowing, the All-Informed.

Epistle to the Son of the Wolf, p. 34

۴. انسان بصیر هر هنگام بر ارض مشی مینماید خود را خجل مشاهده میکند چه که بیقین مبین میدانند که علت نعمت و ثروت و عزّت و علوّ و سموّ و اقتدار او باذن الله ارضی است که تحت جمیع اقدام عالم است * و نفسیکه باین مقام آگاه شد البتّه از نخوت و کبر و غرور مقدّس و مبرّاست آنچه گفته شد من عند الله بوده اینه شهد و يشهد و هو العليم الخبير * از حقّ آذان واعیه و ابصار حدیده و صدور منشرحه و قلوب مقبله مسئلت نمایند شاید عباد مقصود را بیابند و بشطر دوست توجّه نمایند *

5. O ye friends of God! True friends are even as skilled physicians, and the Teachings of God are as healing balm, a medicine for the conscience of man. They clear the head, so that a man can breathe them in and delight in their sweet fragrance. They waken those who sleep. They bring awareness to the unheeding, and a portion to the outcast, and to the hopeless, hope.

If in this day a soul shall act according to the precepts and the counsels of God, he will serve as a divine physician to mankind, and like the trump of Isráfíl, he will call the dead of this contingent world to life; for the confirmations of the Abhá

Realm are never interrupted, and such a virtuous soul hath, to befriend him, the unfailing help of the Company on high. Thus shall a sorry gnat become an eagle in the fulness of his strength, and a feeble sparrow change to a royal falcon in the heights of ancient glory.

Wherefore, look not on the degree of your capacity, ask not if you are worthy of the task: rest ye your hopes on the help and loving-kindness, the favours and bestowals of Bahá'u'lláh—may my soul be offered up for His friends! Urge on the steed of high endeavour over the field of sacrifice, and carry away from this wide arena the prize of divine grace.

Selections from the Writings of 'Abdu'l-Bahá, #8

۵. ای یاران الهی دوستان حقیقی طیبیان حاذقند و تعالیم الهی دریاق رحمانی و درمان وجدانی مشامهای مزکوم باز نمایند و از طیب مشموم نصیب موفور بخشند خفتگانرا بیدار کنند غافلانرا هوشیار فرمایند محرومانرا نصیب بخشند و مأیوسانرا امیدوار فرمایند الیوم اگر نفسی بموجب وصایا و نصائح الهیه روش و حرکت نماید عالم انسانیرا طیب روحانی گردد و مردگان امکانیرا صور اسرافیل شود زیرا تأییدات ملکوت ابهی پی در پی است و نصرت ملاً اعلی همدم هر نیک پی پشه ضعیف عقاب قوی گردد و عصفور نحیف شهباز اوج عزت قدیم شود لهذا نظر باستعداد و قابلیت خویش ننمائید بلکه اعتماد بر عون و عنایت و فضل و موهبت جمال مبارک روحی لأحبائه الفداء نمائید و در میدان جانفشانی سمنند همت را جولان دهید تا گوی الطاف را از این میدان وسیع براباید.

6. The essence of wealth is love for Me; whoso loveth Me is the possessor of all things, and he that loveth Me not is indeed of the poor and needy. This is that which the Finger of Glory and Splendour hath revealed.

Tablets of Bahá'u'lláh, p. 62

۶. رَأْسُ التَّجَارَةِ هِيَ حَبِّي بِهِ يَسْتَعْنِي كُلُّ شَيْءٍ عَنِ كُلِّ شَيْءٍ وَ بَدُونَهُ يَفْتَقِرُ كُلُّ شَيْءٍ عَنِ كُلِّ شَيْءٍ وَ هَذَا مَا رُقِمَ مِنْ اصْبَعِ عَزْمَنِيرِ .

Music/Persian chant