

29-Kindness

The divine religions must be the cause of oneness among men, and the means of unity and love; they must promulgate universal peace, free man from every prejudice, bestow joy and gladness, exercise kindness to all men and do away with every difference and distinction.

'Abdu'l-Bahá, *Selections from the Writings of 'Abdu'l-Bahá*, 13.1

O Son of Spirit!

My first counsel is this: Possess a pure, kindly and radiant heart, that thine may be a sovereignty ancient, imperishable and everlasting.

Bahá'u'lláh, *The Hidden Words of Bahá'u'lláh*, Arabic 1

O Dwellers of My Paradise!

With the hands of loving-kindness I have planted in the holy garden of paradise the young tree of your love and friendship, and have watered it with the goodly showers of My tender grace; now that the hour of its fruiting is come, strive that it may be protected, and be not consumed with the flame of desire and passion.

Bahá'u'lláh, *The Hidden Words of Bahá'u'lláh*, Persian 4

Our aim is that thou shouldst urge all the believers to show forth kindness and mercy and to overlook certain shortcomings among them, that differences may be dispelled; true harmony be established; and the censure and reproach, the hatred and dissension, seen among the peoples of former times may not arise anew.

Bahá'u'lláh, *The Call of the Divine Beloved*, 3.7

A kindly tongue is the lodestone of the hearts of men. It is the bread of the Spirit, it clotheth the words with meaning, it is the fountain of the light of wisdom and understanding.

Bahá'u'lláh, *Epistle to the Son of the Wolf*, p. 15

Let them at all times concern themselves with doing a kindly thing for one of their fellows, offering to someone love, consideration, thoughtful help. Let them see no one as their enemy, or as wishing them ill, but think of all humankind as their friends; regarding the alien as an intimate, the stranger as a companion, staying free of prejudice, drawing no lines.

'Abdu'l-Bahá, *Selections from the Writings of 'Abdu'l-Bahá*, 1.3

Wherefore must the loved ones of God associate in affectionate fellowship with stranger and friend alike, showing forth to all the utmost loving-kindness, disregarding the degree of their capacity, never asking whether they deserve to be loved. In every instance let the friends be considerate and infinitely kind.

‘Abdu’l-Bahá, *Selections from the Writings of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá*, 8.8

O people of Bahá! Ye are the dawning-places of the love of God and the daysprings of His loving-kindness. Defile not your tongues with the cursing and reviling of any soul, and guard your eyes against that which is not seemly.

Bahá’u’lláh, *Fountain of Wisdom*, 3.24

Then, O ye friends of God! Ye must not only have kind and merciful feelings for mankind, but ye should also exercise the utmost kindness towards every living creature.

‘Abdu’l-Bahá, *Bahá’í World Faith*, (‘Abdu’l-Bahá section), 72.1

Show forbearance and benevolence and love to one another. Should any one among you be incapable of grasping a certain truth, or be striving to comprehend it, show forth, when conversing with him, a spirit of extreme kindness and good-will. Help him to see and recognize the truth, without esteeming yourself to be, in the least, superior to him, or to be possessed of greater endowments.

Bahá’u’lláh, *Gleanings*, p. 8

O ye loved ones of the Lord! This is the hour when ye must associate with all the earth’s peoples in extreme kindness and love, and be to them the signs and tokens of God’s great mercy. Ye must become the very soul of the world, the living spirit in the body of the children of men.

‘Abdu’l-Bahá, *Selections from the Writings of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá*, 7.2