

59-Friendship & Fellowship

Consort with all men, O people of Bahá, in a spirit of friendliness and fellowship. If ye be aware of a certain truth, if ye possess a jewel, of which others are deprived, share it with them in a language of utmost kindness and good-will. If it be accepted, if it fulfill its purpose, your object is attained. If anyone should refuse it, leave him unto himself, and beseech God to guide him.

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

The advent of the prophets and the revelation of the Holy Books is intended to create love between souls and friendship between the inhabitants of the earth. Real love is impossible unless one turn his face towards God and be attracted to His Beauty.

'Abdu'l-Bahá, *Tablets of 'Abdu'l-Bahá 'Abbás vol. 1-3*, 527.2

In this day the one who is favored in the threshold of grandeur is the one who offers the cup of faithfulness and bestows the pearl of gift to the enemies, even to the fallen oppressor, lends a helping hand, and considers every bitter foe as an affectionate friend.

'Abdu'l-Bahá, *Bahá'í World Faith*
('Abdu'l-Bahá section), 1.2

O ye lovers of this wronged one! Cleanse ye your eyes, so that ye behold no man as different from yourselves. See ye no strangers; rather see all men as friends, for love and unity come hard when ye fix your gaze on otherness. And in this new and wondrous age, the Holy Writings say that we must be at one with every people; that we must see neither harshness nor injustice, neither malevolence, nor hostility, nor hate, but rather turn our eyes toward the heaven of ancient glory.

'Abdu'l-Bahá, *Selections from the Writings of 'Abdu'l-Bahá*, 8.7

If you desire with all your heart, friendship with every race on earth, your thought, spiritual and positive, will spread; it will become the desire of others, growing stronger and stronger, until it reaches the minds of all men.

'Abdu'l-Bahá, *Paris Talks*, 6.11

Serve ye for the promotion of peace and concord and establish in this transitory world the foundation of friendship, fidelity, reconciliation and truthfulness.

‘Abdu’l-Bahá, *Tablets of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá ‘Abbás vol. 1-3*, 28.9

Thus the friends of God must... purify their sight, and look upon mankind as the leaves, blossoms and fruits of the tree of creation, and must always be thinking of doing good to someone, of love, consideration, affection and assistance to somebody. They must see no enemy and count no one as an ill wisher. They must consider every one on the earth as a friend; regard the stranger as an intimate, and the alien as a companion.

‘Abdu’l-Bahá, *Bahá’í World Faith*
(‘Abdu’l-Bahá section), 1.2

Let the beloved of God gather together and associate most lovingly and spiritually and happily with one another, conducting themselves with the greatest courtesy and self-restraint.

‘Abdu’l-Bahá, *Compilation of Compilations, Vol I*
(The Nineteen Day Feast), p. 425

I supplicate God that ye may become the army of that kingdom, in order that by the power of the Most Great Name, the friends of God may conquer this world through love, friendship and the strength of the Kingdom of peace; the human race become compassionate, and bloodshed and carnage be completely effaced from the universe.

‘Abdu’l-Bahá, *Bahá’í World Faith*
(‘Abdu’l-Bahá section), 120.2

What profit is there in agreeing that universal friendship is good, and talking of the solidarity of the human race as a grand ideal? Unless these thoughts are translated into the world of action, they are useless.

‘Abdu’l-Bahá, *Paris Talks*, 1.9

Lay not on any soul a load which ye would not wish to be laid upon you, and desire not for any one the things ye would not desire for yourselves. This is My best counsel unto you, did ye but observe it.

Bahá'u'lláh, *Gleanings*, p. 128

Ye are the fruits of one tree, and the leaves of one branch. Deal ye one with another with the utmost love and harmony, with friendliness and fellowship.

Bahá'u'lláh, *Epistle to the Son of the Wolf*, p. 14

With the utmost friendliness and in a spirit of perfect fellowship take ye counsel together, and dedicate the precious days of your lives to the betterment of the world and the promotion of the Cause of Him Who is the Ancient and Sovereign Lord of all.

Bahá'u'lláh, *Gleanings*, p. 184

Now is the time to cheer and refresh the down-cast through the invigorating breeze of love and fellowship, and the living waters of friendliness and charity.

Bahá'u'lláh, *Gleanings*, p. 7