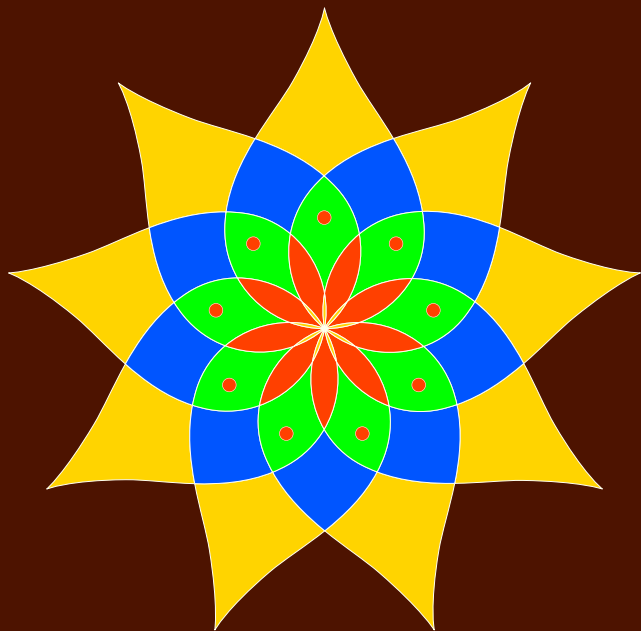


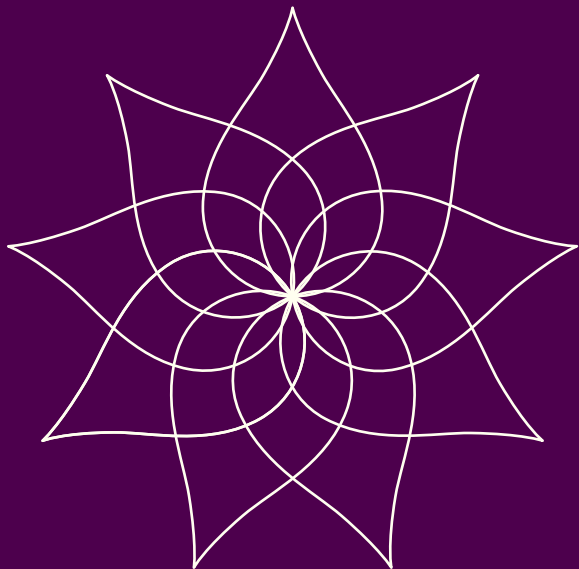
*The
Hidden Words
From the Persian*



*Revealed by
Bahá'u'lláh*

*Graphic Design by
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*The
Hidden Words
From the Persian*

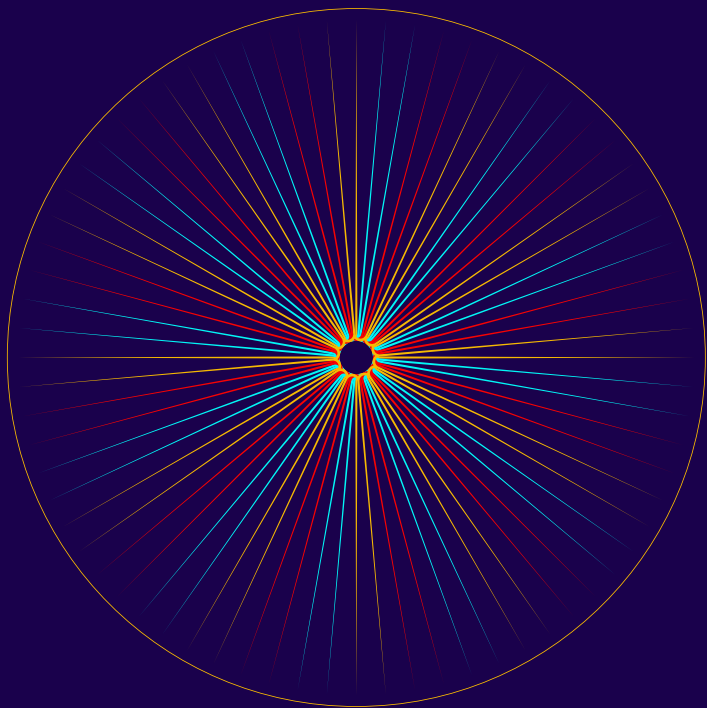


*Revealed by
Bahá'u'lláh*

*Translated by Shoghi Effendi
With the assistance of some English friends*


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*In the Name of the Lord of
Utterance, the Mighty.*

*O Ye People that Have Minds to
Know and Ears to Hear!*



*The first call of the
Beloved is this:
O mystic nightingale!
Abide not but in the
rose garden of the
spirit. O messenger of
the Solomon of love!
Seek thou no shelter
except in the Sheba of
the well-beloved, and
O immortal phoenix!
dwell not save on the
mount of faithfulness.
Therein is thy habita-
tion, if on the wings of
thy soul thou soarest
to the realm of the
infinite and seekest to
attain thy goal.*

Bahá'u'lláh

The Hidden Words, Persian 1

O Son of Spirit!

The bird seeketh its nest; the nightingale the charm of the rose; whilst those birds, the hearts of men, content with transient dust, have strayed far from their eternal nest, and with eyes turned towards the slough of heedlessness are bereft of the glory of the divine presence. Alas! How strange and pitiful; for a mere cupful, they have turned away from the billowing seas of the Most High, and remained far from the most effulgent horizon.

Bahá'u'lláh

The Hidden Words,
Persian 2



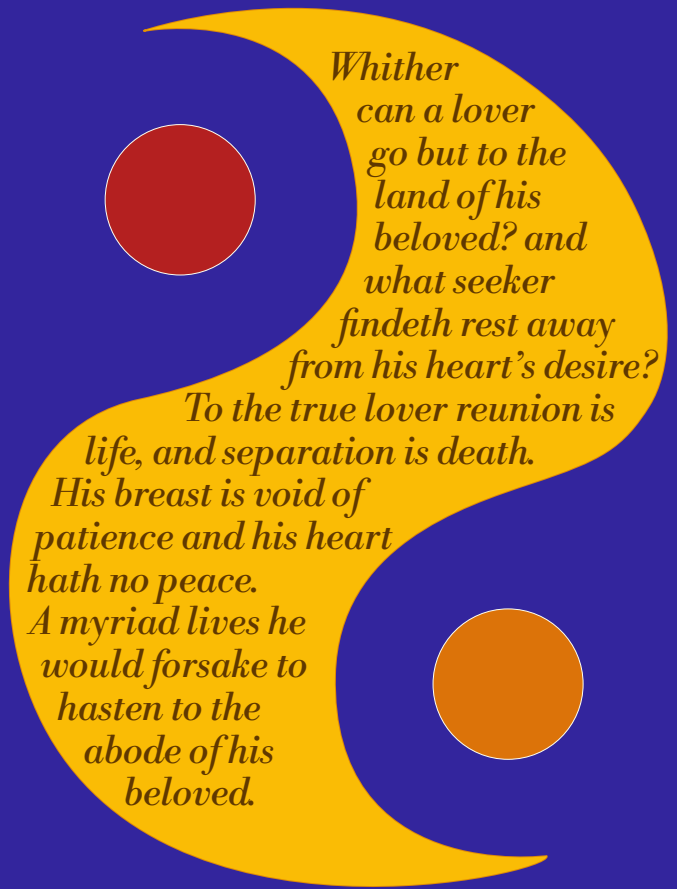
O Friend!

*In the garden of thy heart plant
naught but the rose of love, and from
the nightingale of affection and desire
loosen not thy hold. Treasure the
companionship of the righteous and
eschew all fellowship with the ungodly.*

Bahá'u'lláh

*The Hidden Words,
Persian 3*

O Son of Justice



*Whither
can a lover
go but to the
land of his
beloved? and
what seeker
findeth rest away
from his heart's desire?*

*To the true lover reunion is
life, and separation is death.
His breast is void of
patience and his heart
hath no peace.
A myriad lives he
would forsake to
hasten to the
abode of his
beloved.*

Bahá'u'lláh

The Hidden Words, Persian 4



O Son of Dust!

Verily I say unto thee: Of all men the most negligent is he that disputeth idly and seeketh to advance himself over his brother. Say: O brethren! Let deeds, not words, be your adorning.

Bahá'u'lláh

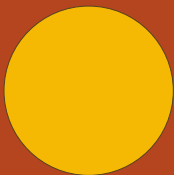
The Hidden Words, Persian 5





*O Son of Earth!
Know, verily, the heart wherein
the least remnant
of envy yet lingers, shall
never attain My
everlasting dominion,
nor inhale the sweet
savors of holiness
breathing from
My kingdom of
sanctity.*

*Bahá'u'lláh
The Hidden Words,
Persian 6*



O Son of Love!

Thou art but one step away from the glorious heights above and from the celestial tree of love. Take thou one pace and with the next advance into the immortal realm and enter the pavilion of eternity. Give ear then to that which hath been revealed by the Pen of Glory.

Bahá'u'lláh
The Hidden Words,
Persian 7

O Son of Glory!

Be swift in the path of holiness, and enter the heaven of communion with Me. Cleanse thy heart with the burnish of the spirit, and hasten to the court of the Most High.

Bahá'u'lláh

The Hidden Words, Persian 8



O Fleeting Shadow!

Pass beyond the baser stages of doubt and rise to the exalted heights of certainty. Open the eye of truth, that thou mayest behold the veiless Beauty and exclaim: Hallowed be the Lord, the most excellent of all creators!

Bahá'u'lláh

The Hidden Words, Persian 9



O Son of Desire!

Give ear unto this: Never shall mortal eye recognize the everlasting Beauty, nor the lifeless heart delight in aught but in the withered bloom. For like seeketh like, and taketh pleasure in the company of its kind.

Bahá'u'lláh

The Hidden Words, Persian 10




O Son of Dust!

Blind thine eyes, that thou mayest behold My beauty; stop thine ears, that thou mayest hearken unto the sweet melody of My voice; empty thyself of all learning, that thou mayest partake of My knowledge; and sanctify thyself from riches, that thou mayest obtain a lasting share from the ocean of My eternal wealth. Blind thine eyes, that is, to all save My beauty; stop thine ears to all save My word; empty thyself of all learning save the knowledge of Me; that with a clear vision, a pure heart and an attentive ear thou mayest enter the court of My holiness.



Bahá'u'lláh
The Hidden Words,
Persian 11

O Man of Two Visions!



*Close one eye
and open the other.
Close one to the world
and all that is therein, and
open the other to the
hallowed beauty of
the Beloved.*

Bahá'u'lláh
The Hidden Words,
Persian 12


O My Children!

*I fear lest, bereft of the melody
of the dove of heaven, ye will
sink back to the shades of utter
loss, and, never having gazed
upon the beauty of the rose,
return to water and clay.*

Bahá'u'lláh
The Hidden Words,
Persian 13



O FRIENDS!



*Abandon
not the everlasting
beauty for a beauty
that must die, and
set not your affections
on this mortal world
of dust.*

Bahá'u'lláh

*The Hidden Words,
Persian 14*

*O Son of Spirit!
The time cometh
when the nightingale
of holiness will no
longer unfold the
inner mysteries and
ye will all be bereft
of the celestial
melody and of
the voice from
on high.*

Bahá'u'lláh
*The Hidden Words,
Persian 15*

O Essence of Negligence!

*Myriads of mystic
tongues find utter-
ance in one speech,
and myriads of
hidden mysteries
are revealed in a
single melody; yet,
alas, there is no ear
to hear, nor heart
to understand.*

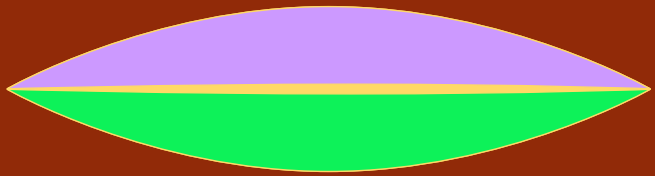
Bahá'u'lláh

*The Hidden Words,
Persian 16*

O Comrades!

*The gates that open
on the Placeless stand wide
and the habitation of the loved
one is adorned with the lovers'
blood, yet all but a few remain
bereft of this celestial city, and
even of these few, none but the
smallest handful hath been
found with a pure heart and
sanctified spirit.*

Bahá'u'lláh
The Hidden Words,
Persian 17



*O Ye Dwellers in the Highest Paradise!
Proclaim unto the children of assurance
that within the realms of holiness, nigh
unto the celestial paradise, a new
garden hath appeared, round which
circle the denizens of the realm on high
and the immortal dwellers of the
exalted paradise. Strive, then, that ye
may attain that station, that ye may
unravel the mysteries of love from its
windflowers and learn the secret of
divine and consummate wisdom from
its eternal fruits. Solaced are the eyes of
them that enter and abide therein!*

Bahá'u'lláh

The Hidden Words, Persian 18





O My Friends!

Have ye forgotten that true and radiant morn, when in those hal-
lowed and blessed surroundings ye
were all gathered in My presence
beneath the shade of the tree of life,
which is planted in the all-glorious
paradise? Awestruck ye listened as I
gave utterance to these three most
holy words: O friends! Prefer not
your will to Mine, never desire that
which I have not desired for you, and
approach Me not with lifeless hearts,
defiled with worldly desires and
cravings. Would ye but sanctify your
souls, ye would at this present hour
recall that place and those surroun-
dings, and the truth of My utterance
should be made evident unto all of you.

Bahá'u'lláh

The Hidden Words, Persian 19

O Ye That Are Lying as Dead on the Couch of Heedlessness!

Ages have passed and your precious lives are well-nigh ended, yet not a single breath of purity hath reached Our court of holiness from you. Though immersed in the ocean of misbelief, yet with your lips ye profess the one true faith of God. Him whom I abhor ye have loved, and of My foe ye have made a friend. Notwithstanding, ye walk on My earth complacent and self-satisfied, heedless that My earth is weary of you and everything within it shunneth you. Were ye but to open your eyes, ye would, in truth, prefer a myriad griefs unto this joy, and would count death itself better than this life.

Bahá'u'lláh

The Hidden Words, Persian 20

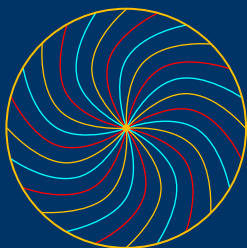


O Moving Form of Dust!

I desire communion with thee,
but thou wouldst put no trust
in Me. The sword of thy rebel-
lion hath felled the tree of thy
hope. At all times I am near
unto thee, but thou art ever far
from Me. Imperishable glory I
have chosen for thee, yet
boundless shame thou hast
chosen for thyself. While there
is yet time, return, and lose
not thy chance.

Bahá'u'lláh

The Hidden Words, Persian 21



O Son of Desire!

The learned and the wise have for long years striven and failed to attain the presence of the All-Glorious; they have spent their lives in search of Him, yet did not behold the beauty of His countenance.

Thou without the least effort didst attain thy goal, and without search hast obtained the object of thy quest. Yet, notwithstanding, thou didst remain so wrapt in the veil of self, that thine eyes beheld not the beauty of the Beloved, nor did thy hand touch the hem of His robe. Ye that have eyes, behold and wonder.

Bahá'u'lláh

The Hidden Words, Persian 22



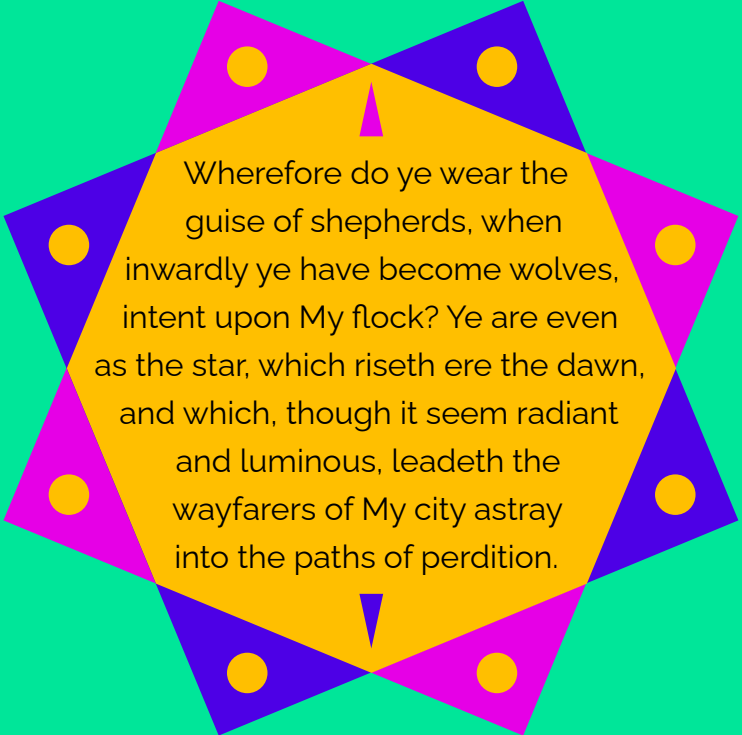
O Dwellers in the City of Love!

Mortal blasts have beset the everlasting candle, and the beauty of the celestial Youth is veiled in the darkness of dust. The chief of the monarchs of love is wronged by the people of tyranny and the dove of holiness lies prisoned in the talons of owls. The dwellers in the pavilion of glory and the celestial concourse bewail and lament, while ye repose in the realm of negligence, and esteem yourselves as of the true friends. How vain are your imaginings!

Bahá'u'lláh

The Hidden Words, Persian 23

O Ye That Are Foolish,
Yet Have a Name to Be Wise!



Wherefore do ye wear the
guise of shepherds, when
inwardly ye have become wolves,
intent upon My flock? Ye are even
as the star, which riseth ere the dawn,
and which, though it seem radiant
and luminous, leadeth the
wayfarers of My city astray
into the paths of perdition.

Bahá'u'lláh
The Hidden Words,
Persian 24

O Ye Seeming Fair
Yet Inwardly Foul!

Ye are like clear
but bitter water, which
to outward seeming is
crystal pure but of which,
when tested by the divine
Assayer, not a drop is
accepted. Yea, the sunbeam
falls alike upon the dust and
the mirror, yet differ they in
reflection even as doth the
star from the earth: nay,
immeasurable is
the difference!

Bahá'u'lláh
The Hidden Words,
Persian 25

O My Friend in Word!

Ponder awhile.
Hast thou ever
heard that friend
and foe should
abide in one heart?
Cast out then the
stranger, that the
Friend may enter
His home.

Bahá'u'lláh

The Hidden Words,
Persian 26



O Son of Dust!

All that is in
heaven and earth I
have ordained for thee,
except the human heart,
which I have made the
habitation of My beauty and
glory; yet thou didst give My home
and dwelling to another than Me;
and whenever the manifestation
of My holiness sought His own
abode, a stranger found He there,
and, homeless, hastened unto the
sanctuary of the Beloved.

Notwithstanding I have
concealed thy secret
and desired not
thy shame.

Bahá'u'lláh

The Hidden Words,
Persian 27



O Essence of Desire!

At many a dawn have I turned from the realms of the Placeless unto thine abode, and found thee on the bed of ease busied with others than Myself. Thereupon, even as the flash of the spirit, I returned to the realms of celestial glory and breathed it not in My retreats above unto the hosts of holiness.

Bahá'u'lláh
The Hidden Words,
Persian 28

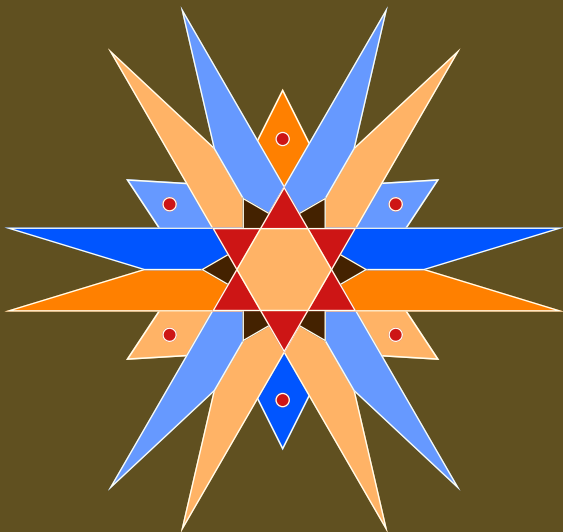


O Son of Bounty!

Out of the wastes of nothingness, with the clay of My command I made thee to appear, and have ordained for thy training every atom in existence and the essence of all created things. Thus, ere thou didst issue from thy mother's womb, I destined for thee two founts of gleaming milk, eyes to watch over thee, and hearts to love thee. Out of My loving-kindness, 'neath the shade of My mercy I nurtured thee, and guarded thee by the essence of My grace and favor. And My purpose in all this was that thou mightest attain My everlasting dominion and become worthy of My invisible bestowals. And yet heedless thou didst remain, and when fully grown, thou didst neglect all My bounties and occupied thyself with thine idle imaginings, in such wise that thou didst become wholly forgetful, and, turning away from the portals of the Friend didst abide within the courts of My enemy.

Bahá'u'lláh

The Hidden Words, Persian 29

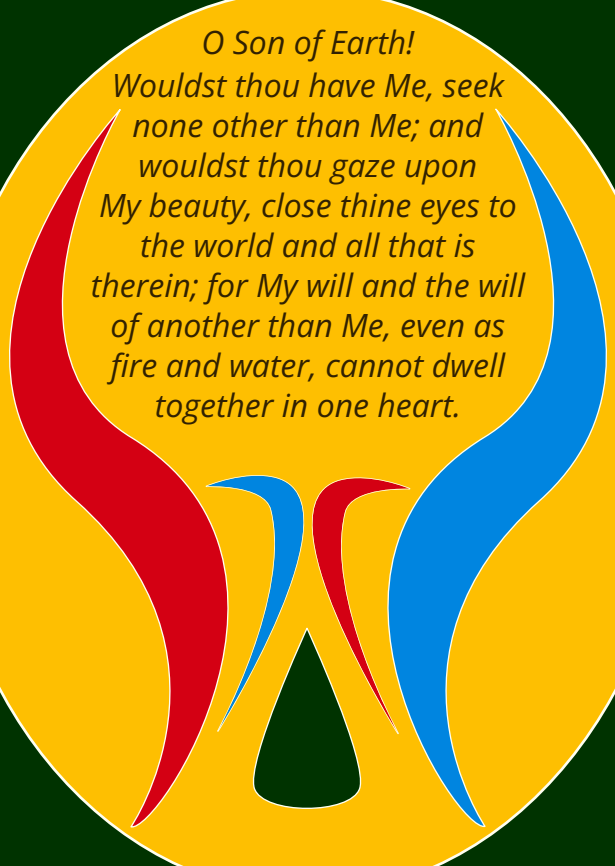


O Bondslave of the World!

Many a dawn hath the breeze of
My loving-kindness wafted over
thee and found thee upon the
bed of heedlessness fast asleep.
Bewailing then thy plight it
returned whence it came.

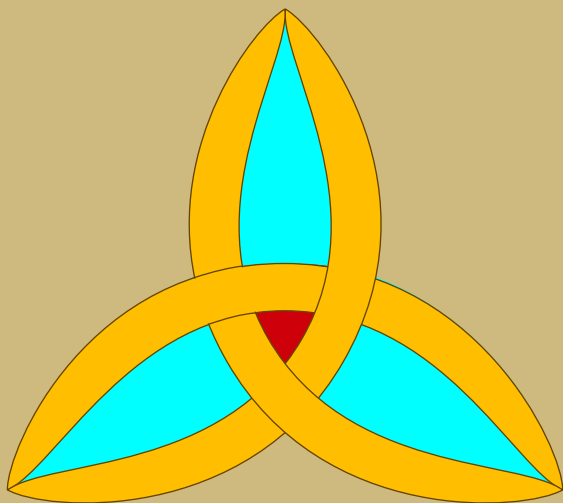
Bahá'u'lláh

The Hidden Words, Persian 30



*O Son of Earth!
Wouldst thou have Me, seek
none other than Me; and
wouldst thou gaze upon
My beauty, close thine eyes to
the world and all that is
therein; for My will and the will
of another than Me, even as
fire and water, cannot dwell
together in one heart.*

Bahá'u'lláh
The Hidden Words,
Persian 31



O Befriended Stranger!

The candle of thine heart is lighted by the hand of My power, quench it not with the contrary winds of self and passion. The healer of all thine ills is remembrance of Me, forget it not. Make My love thy treasure and cherish it even as thy very sight and life.

Bahá'u'lláh

The Hidden Words,
Persian 32

*O My Brother!
Hearken to the
delightful words of
My honeyed tongue,
and quaff the stream of
mystic holiness from My
sugar-shedding lips. Sow
the seeds of My divine
wisdom in the pure soil of
thy heart, and water them
with the water of certitude,
that the hyacinths of My
knowledge and wisdom
may spring up fresh and
green in the sacred
city of thy heart.*

Bahá'u'lláh

*The Hidden Words,
Persian 33*



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, Persian 34



O MY FRIENDS!

Quench ye the lamp of error,
and kindle within your hearts the
everlasting torch of divine
guidance. For ere long the assayers
of mankind shall, in the holy
presence of the Adored, accept
naught but purest virtue and deeds
of stainless holiness.

Bahá'u'lláh

The Hidden Words,
Persian 35

O Son of Dust!

*The wise are they
that speak not unless
they obtain a hearing,
even as the cup-bearer, who
proffereth not his cup till he
findeth a seeker, and the lover
who crieth not out from the
depths of his heart until he gazeth
upon the beauty of his beloved.
Wherefore sow the seeds of
wisdom and knowledge in the
pure soil of the heart, and keep
them hidden, till the hyacinths of
divine wisdom spring from the
heart and not from mire and clay.*



Bahá'u'lláh

*The Hidden Words,
Persian 36*

O My Servant!

Abandon not for that which perisheth an everlasting dominion, and cast not away celestial sovereignty for a worldly desire. This is the river of everlasting life that hath flowed from the wellspring of the pen of the merciful; well is it with them that drink!

Bahá'u'lláh

The Hidden Words,
Persian 37



O Son of Spirit!

*Burst thy cage asunder, and
even as the phoenix of love
soar into the firmament of
holiness. Renounce thyself
and, filled with the spirit of
mercy, abide in the realm of
celestial sanctity.*

Bahá'u'lláh
The Hidden Words,
Persian 38



O Offspring of Dust!

Be not content with the ease of a passing day,
and deprive not thyself of everlasting rest.
Barter not the garden of eternal delight for the
dust-heap of a mortal world. Up from thy
prison ascend unto the glorious meads above,
and from thy mortal cage wing thy flight unto
the paradise of the Placeless.

Bahá'u'lláh

The Hidden Words, Persian 39

O My Servant!

A decorative border of yellow lines forms a diamond shape around the central text. It consists of a horizontal line at the top, a horizontal line at the bottom, and two vertical lines on the left and right sides. Diagonal lines connect the corners of these lines to form a diamond.

Free thyself
from the fetters of
this world, and loose
thy soul from the
prison of self. Seize
thy chance, for it will
come to thee no
more.

Bahá'u'lláh

The Hidden Words,
Persian 40

*O Son of My
Handmaid!*

*Didst thou behold
immortal sovereignty,
thou wouldst strive to
pass from this fleeting
world. But to conceal
the one from thee and
to reveal the other is a
mystery which none but
the pure in heart can
comprehend.*

Bahá'u'lláh

*The Hidden Words,
Persian 41*

O My Servant!

Purge
thy heart
from malice
and, innocent of
envy, enter the
divine court of
holiness.

Bahá'u'lláh
The Hidden Words,
Persian 42

O My Friends!
Walk ye in the
ways of the good
pleasure of the Friend,
and know that His
pleasure is in the pleasure of
His creatures. That is: no man
should enter the house of his
friend save at his friend's
pleasure, nor lay hands upon
his treasures nor prefer his
own will to his friend's, and in
no wise seek an advantage
over him. Ponder this, ye
that have insight!

Bahá'u'lláh

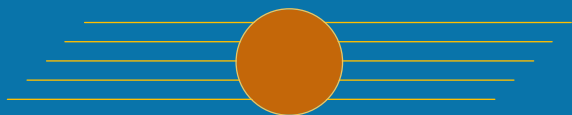
The Hidden Words,
Persian 43

O Companion of My Throne!

Hear no evil, and see no evil, abase not thyself, neither sigh and weep. Speak no evil, that thou mayest not hear it spoken unto thee, and magnify not the faults of others that thine own faults may not appear great; and wish not the abasement of anyone, that thine own abasement be not exposed. Live then the days of thy life, that are less than a fleeting moment, with thy mind stainless, thy heart unsullied, thy thoughts pure, and thy nature sanctified, so that, free and content, thou mayest put away this mortal frame, and repair unto the mystic paradise and abide in the eternal kingdom forevermore.

Bahá'u'lláh

*The Hidden Words,
Persian 44*



Alas! Alas! O Lovers of Worldly Desire!

Even as the swiftness of lightning ye have passed by the Beloved One, and have set your hearts on satanic fancies. Ye bow the knee before your vain imagining, and call it truth. Ye turn your eyes towards the thorn, and name it a flower. Not a pure breath have ye breathed, nor hath the breeze of detachment been wafted from the meadows of your hearts. Ye have cast to the winds the loving counsels of the Beloved and have effaced them utterly from the tablet of your hearts, and even as the beasts of the field, ye move and have your being within the pastures of desire and passion.

Bahá'u'lláh

The Hidden Words, Persian 45

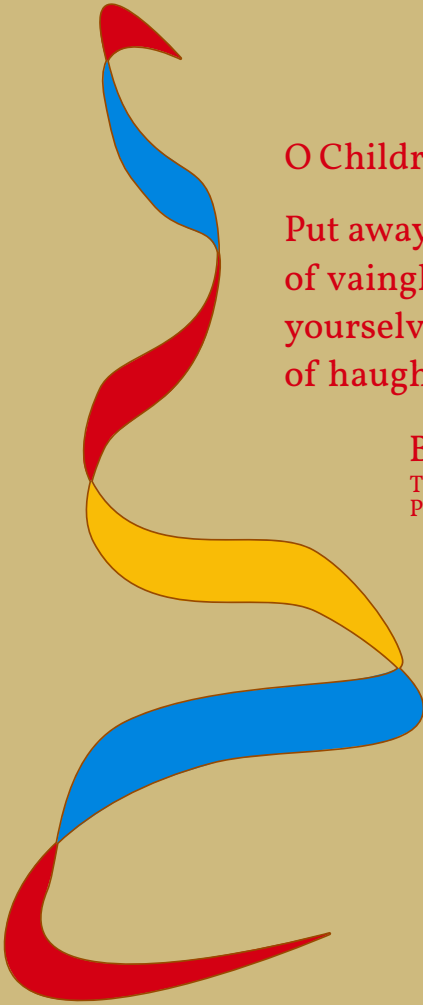


O Brethren in the Path!

Wherefore have ye neglected the mention of the Loved One, and kept remote from His holy presence? The essence of beauty is within the peerless pavilion, set upon the throne of glory, whilst ye busy yourselves with idle contentions. The sweet savors of holiness are breathing and the breath of bounty is wafted, yet ye are all sorely afflicted and deprived thereof. Alas for you and for them that walk in your ways and follow in your footsteps!

Bahá'u'lláh

The Hidden Words,
Persian 46



O Children of Desire!

Put away the garment
of vainglory, and divest
yourselves of the attire
of haughtiness.

Bahá'u'lláh

The Hidden Words,
Persian 47

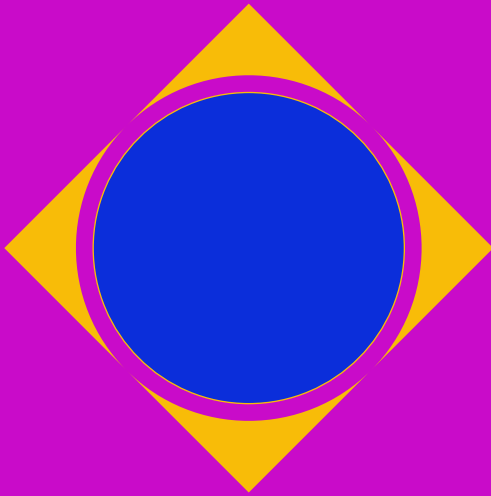


O Brethren!

Be forbearing one with another and set not your affections on things below. Pride not yourselves in your glory, and be not ashamed of abasement. By My beauty! I have created all things from dust, and to dust will I return them again.

Bahá'u'lláh

The Hidden Words,
Persian 48



O Children of Dust!

Tell the rich of the midnight sighing
of the poor, lest heedlessness lead
them into the path of destruction, and
deprive them of the Tree of Wealth. To
give and to be generous are attributes
of Mine; well is it with him that
adorneth himself with My virtues.

Bahá'u'lláh
The Hidden Words,
Persian 49

O Quintessence of
Passion!

Put away all
covetousness
and seek
contentment;
for the covetous
hath ever been
deprived, and
the contented
hath ever been
loved and
praised.

Bahá'u'lláh

The Hidden Words,
Persian 50

O Son of My Handmaid!

Be not troubled in poverty nor confident in riches, for poverty is followed by riches, and riches are followed by poverty. Yet to be poor in all save God is a wondrous gift, belittle not the value thereof, for in the end it will make thee rich in God, and thus thou shalt know the meaning of the utterance, “In truth ye are the poor,” and the holy words, “God is the all-possessing,” shall even as the true morn break forth gloriously resplendent upon the horizon of the lover’s heart, and abide secure on the throne of wealth.

Bahá’u’lláh

The Hidden Words, Persian 51



O Children of Negligence and Passion!

Ye have suffered My enemy to enter
My house and have cast out My
friend, for ye have enshrined the love
of another than Me in your hearts.

Give ear to the sayings of the Friend
and turn towards His paradise.

Worldly friends, seeking their own
good, appear to love one the other,
whereas the true Friend hath loved
and doth love you for your own sakes;
indeed He hath suffered for your

guidance countless afflictions. Be not
disloyal to such a Friend, nay rather
hasten unto Him. Such is the daystar
of the word of truth and faithfulness,
that hath dawned above the horizon
of the pen of the Lord of all names.

Open your ears that ye may hearken
unto the word of God, the Help in
peril, the Self-Existent.

Bahá'u'lláh

The Hidden Words, Persian 52



O YE THAT PRIDE
YOURSELVES ON MORTAL RICHES!

Know ye in truth that wealth is a mighty barrier between the seeker and his desire, the lover and his beloved. The rich, but for a few, shall in no wise attain the court of His presence nor enter the city of content and resignation. Well is it then with him, who, being rich, is not hindered by his riches from the eternal kingdom, nor deprived by them of imperishable dominion. By the Most Great Name! The splendor of such a wealthy man shall illuminate the dwellers of heaven even as the sun enlightens the people of the earth!

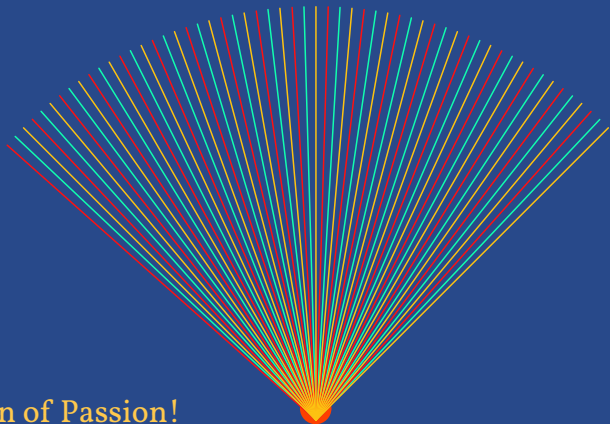
Bahá'u'lláh
The Hidden Words,
Persian 53



*O Ye Rich Ones on
Earth!*

*The poor in
your midst are
My trust; guard
ye My trust,
and be not
intent only on
your own ease.*

*Bahá'u'lláh
The Hidden Words, Persian 54*

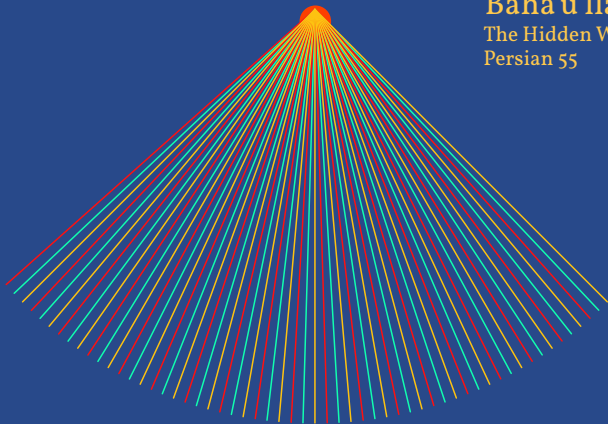


O Son of Passion!

Cleanse thyself from the defilement of riches
and in perfect peace advance into the realm of
poverty; that from the wellspring of detachment
thou mayest quaff the wine of immortal life.

Bahá'u'lláh

The Hidden Words,
Persian 55





O My Son!

The company of the ungodly increaseth sorrow, whilst fellowship with the righteous cleanseth the rust from off the heart. He that seeketh to commune with God, let him betake himself to the companionship of His loved ones; and he that desireth to hearken unto the word of God, let him give ear to the words of His chosen ones.

Bahá'u'lláh
The Hidden Words,
Persian 56

O Son of Dust!

*Beware! Walk not with the ungodly
and seek not fellowship with him,
for such companionship turneth
the radiance of the heart into
infernal fire.*

Bahá'u'lláh
The Hidden Words,
Persian 57



O Son of My Handmaid!

Wouldst thou seek the
grace of the Holy Spirit,
enter into fellowship with
the righteous, for he hath
drunk the cup of eternal
life at the hands of the
immortal Cupbearer and
even as the true morn doth
quicken and illumine the
hearts of the dead.

Bahá'u'lláh

The Hidden Words,
Persian 58

O
HEEDLESS
ONES!




Think not
the secrets
of hearts are
hidden, nay,
know ye of a
certainty
that in clear
characters
they are
engraved
and are
openly
manifest in
the holy
Presence.



Bahá'u'lláh
The Hidden Words,
Persian 59

O FRIENDS!



Verily
I say,
whatsoever
ye have
concealed within
your hearts is to
Us open and
manifest as the day;
but that it is hidden
is of Our grace
and favor, and
not of your
deserving.

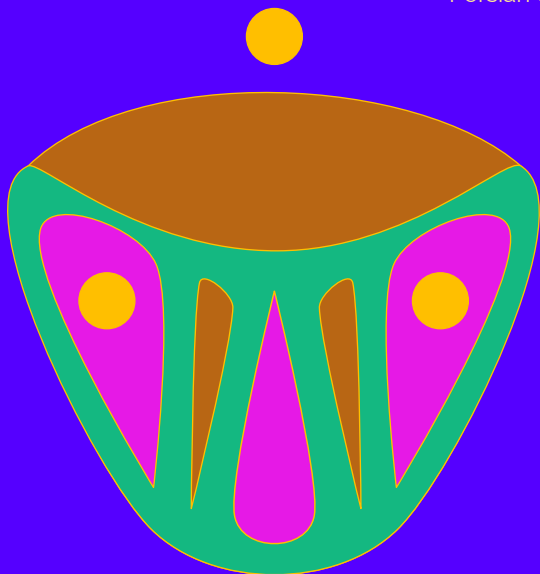
Bahá'u'lláh
The Hidden Words,
Persian 60

O Son of Man!

A dewdrop out of the fathomless ocean of My mercy I have shed upon the peoples of the world, yet found none turn thereunto, inasmuch as everyone hath turned away from the celestial wine of unity unto the foul dregs of impurity, and, content with mortal cup, hath put away the chalice of immortal beauty. Vile is that wherewith he is contented.

Bahá'u'lláh

The Hidden Words,
Persian 61



O Son of Dust!

Turn not away thine eyes from the matchless wine of the immortal Beloved, and open them not to foul and mortal dregs. Take from the hands of the divine Cupbearer the chalice of immortal life, that all wisdom may be thine, and that thou mayest hearken unto the mystic voice calling from the realm of the invisible. Cry aloud, ye that are of low aim! Wherefore have ye turned away from My holy and immortal wine unto evanescent water?

Bahá'u'lláh

The Hidden Words, Persian 62

O YE PEOPLES OF THE WORLD!

Know, verily, that an
unforeseen calamity
followeth you, and
grievous retribution
awaiteth you.

Think not that which
ye have committed
hath been effaced in
My sight.

By My beauty! All your
doings hath My pen
graven with open
characters upon
tablets of chrysolite.

Bahá'u'lláh
The Hidden Words,
Persian 63

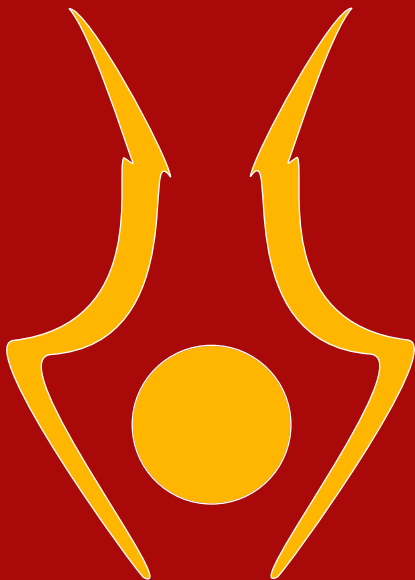


Withdraw your hands from tyranny,
for I have pledged Myself not to
forgive any man's injustice. This is My
covenant which I have irrevocably
decreed in the preserved tablet and
sealed with My seal of glory.

Bahá'u'lláh

The Hidden Words, Persian 64

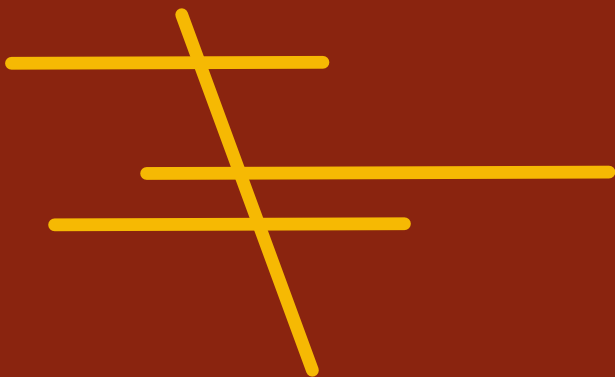
O REBELLIOUS ONES!



My forbearance hath emboldened you and
My long-suffering hath made you negligent,
in such wise that ye have spurred on the
fiery charger of passion into perilous ways
that lead unto destruction. Have ye thought
Me heedless or that I was unaware?

Bahá'u'lláh

The Hidden Words,
Persian 65



O Emigrants!

The tongue I have designed for the mention of Me, defile it not with detraction. If the fire of self overcome you, remember your own faults and not the faults of My creatures, inasmuch as every one of you knoweth his own self better than he knoweth others.

Bahá'u'lláh

The Hidden Words,
Persian 66



O Children of Fancy!

Know, verily, that while the
radiant dawn breaketh
above the horizon of eternal
holiness, the satanic secrets
and deeds done in the gloom
of night shall be laid bare
and manifest before the
peoples of the world.

Bahá'u'lláh
The Hidden Words,
Persian 67



O Weed that
Springeth
Out of Dust!

Wherefore have not
these soiled hands of thine
touched first thine own
garment, and why with
thine heart defiled with
desire and passion dost
thou seek to commune with
Me and to enter My sacred
realm? Far, far are ye from
that which ye desire.

Bahá'u'lláh
The Hidden Words,
Persian 68



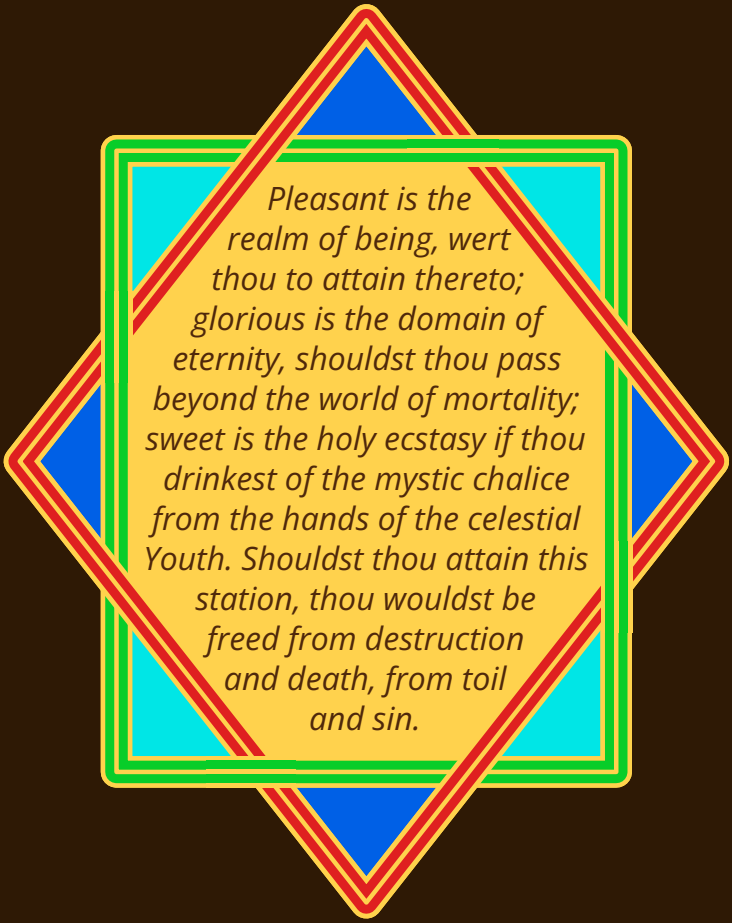
O Children of Adam!

Holy words and pure and goodly deeds ascend unto the heaven of celestial glory. Strive that your deeds may be cleansed from the dust of self and hypocrisy and find favor at the court of glory; for ere long the assayers of mankind shall, in the holy presence of the Adored One, accept naught but absolute virtue and deeds of stainless purity. This is the daystar of wisdom and of divine mystery that hath shone above the horizon of the divine will. Blessed are they that turn thereunto.

Bahá'u'lláh

The Hidden Words,
Persian 69

O Son of Worldliness!



Pleasant is the realm of being, wert thou to attain thereto; glorious is the domain of eternity, shouldst thou pass beyond the world of mortality; sweet is the holy ecstasy if thou drinkest of the mystic chalice from the hands of the celestial Youth. Shouldst thou attain this station, thou wouldst be freed from destruction and death, from toil and sin.

Bahá'u'lláh

The Hidden Words, Persian 70

O My Friends!

Call ye to mind that covenant ye have entered into with Me upon Mount Párán, situate within the hallowed precincts of Zamán. I have taken to witness the concourse on high and the dwellers in the city of eternity, yet now none do I find faithful unto the covenant. Of a certainty pride and rebellion have effaced it from the hearts, in such wise that no trace thereof remaineth. Yet knowing this, I waited and disclosed it not.

Bahá'u'lláh

The Hidden Words, Persian 71

O My Servant!

*Thou art even as a finely
tempered sword concealed
in the darkness of its sheath
and its value hidden from the
artificer's knowledge. Where-
fore come forth from the
sheath of self and desire that
thy worth may be made
resplendent and manifest
unto all the world.*

Bahá'u'lláh

The Hidden Words, Persian 72



O My Friend!

*Thou art the daystar of the
heavens of My holiness, let
not the defilement of the
world eclipse thy
splendor.*

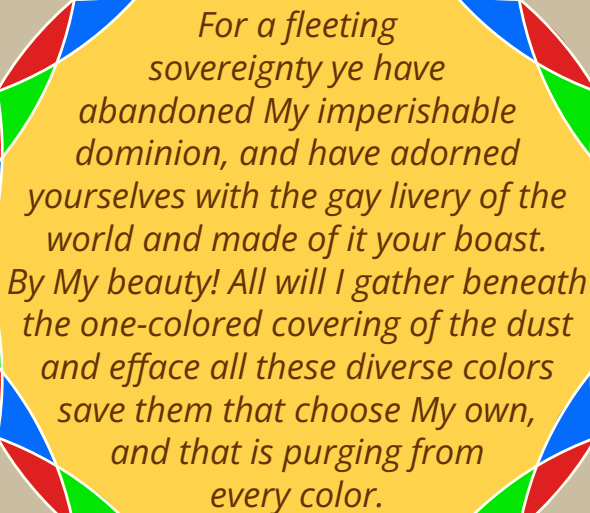
*Rend asunder the veil
of heedlessness, that
from behind the
clouds thou mayest
emerge
resplendent and
array all things
with the apparel
of life.*

Bahá'u'lláh

The Hidden Words, Persian 73



O CHILDREN OF VAINGLORY!

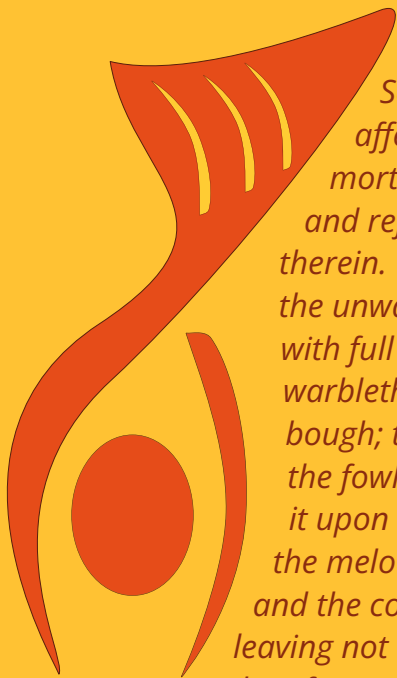


*For a fleeting
sovereignty ye have
abandoned My imperishable
dominion, and have adorned
yourselves with the gay livery of the
world and made of it your boast.
By My beauty! All will I gather beneath
the one-colored covering of the dust
and efface all these diverse colors
save them that choose My own,
and that is purging from
every color.*

Bahá'u'lláh

The Hidden Words, Persian 74

O CHILDREN OF NEGLIGENCE!



Set not your affections on mortal sovereignty and rejoice not therein. Ye are even as the unwary bird that with full confidence warbleth upon the bough; till of a sudden the fowler Death throws it upon the dust, and the melody, the form and the color are gone, leaving not a trace. Wherefore take heed, O bondslaves of desire!

Bahá'u'lláh

The Hidden Words, Persian 75

O Son of My Handmaid!

*Guidance hath ever
been given by words, and
now it is given by deeds. Everyone
must show forth deeds that are pure
and holy, for words are the property
of all alike, whereas such deeds as
these belong only to Our loved ones.
Strive then with heart and soul to
distinguish yourselves by your deeds.
In this wise We counsel you in
this holy and resplendent
tablet.*

Bahá'u'lláh

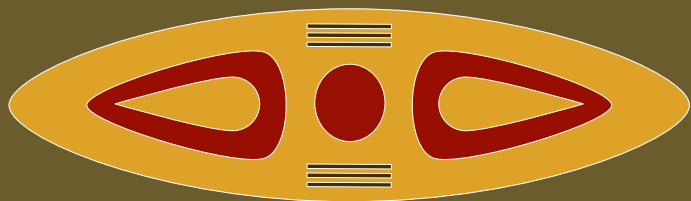
The Hidden Words, Persian 76

O Son of Justice!

In the night-season the beauty of the immortal Being hath repaired from the emerald height of fidelity unto the Sadratu'l-Muntahá, and wept with such a weeping that the concourse on high and the dwellers of the realms above wailed at His lamenting. Whereupon there was asked, Why the wailing and weeping? He made reply: As bidden I waited expectant upon the hill of faithfulness, yet inhaled not from them that dwell on earth the fragrance of fidelity. Then summoned to return I beheld, and lo! certain doves of holiness were sore tried within the claws of the dogs of earth. Thereupon the Maid of heaven hastened forth unveiled and resplendent from Her mystic mansion, and asked of their names, and all were told but one. And when urged, the first letter thereof was uttered, whereupon the dwellers of the celestial chambers rushed forth out of their habitation of glory. And whilst the second letter was pronounced they fell down, one and all, upon the dust. At that moment a voice was heard from the inmost shrine: "Thus far and no farther." Verily We bear witness to that which they have done and now are doing.

Bahá'u'lláh

The Hidden Words, Persian 77



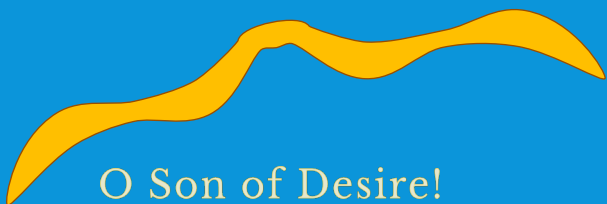
O Son of My Handmaid!

*Quaff from the tongue of the merciful
the stream of divine mystery, and
behold from the dayspring of divine
utterance the unveiled splendor of the
daystar of wisdom. Sow the seeds of
My divine wisdom in the pure soil of
the heart, and water them with the
waters of certitude, that the hyacinths
of knowledge and wisdom may spring
up fresh and green from the holy city
of the heart.*

Bahá'u'lláh

The Hidden Words, Persian 78





O Son of Desire!

How long wilt thou
soar in the realms of
desire? Wings have I
bestowed upon thee,
that thou mayest fly
to the realms of mystic
holiness and not the
regions of satanic
fancy. The comb, too,
have I given thee that
thou mayest dress My
raven locks, and not
lacerate My throat.

Bahá'u'lláh

The Hidden Words,
Persian 79

O My Servants!

Ye are the trees of My garden; ye must give forth goodly and wondrous fruits, that ye yourselves and others may profit therefrom. Thus it is incumbent on every one to engage in crafts and professions, for therein lies the secret of wealth, O men of understanding!

For results depend upon means, and the grace of God shall be all-sufficient unto you. Trees that yield no fruit have been and will ever be for the fire.



Bahá'u'lláh

The Hidden Words, Persian 80

O My Servant!

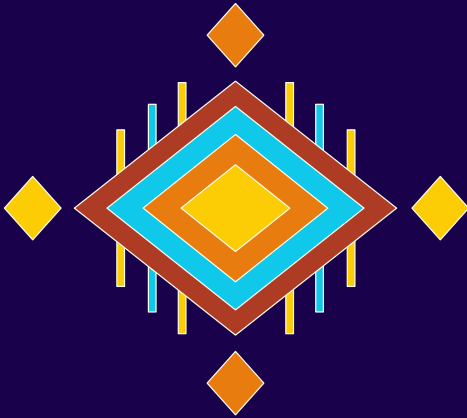
The basest of men are they that yield no fruit on earth. Such men are verily counted as among the dead, nay better are the dead in the sight of God than those idle and worthless souls.

O My Servant!

The best of men are they that earn a livelihood by their calling and spend upon themselves and upon their kindred for the love of God, the Lord of all worlds.

Bahá'u'lláh

*The Hidden Words,
Persian 81 & 82*



The mystic and wondrous Bride, hidden ere this beneath the veiling of utterance, hath now, by the grace of God and His divine favor, been made manifest even as the resplendent light shed by the beauty of the Beloved. I bear witness, O friends! that the favor is complete, the argument fulfilled, the proof manifest and the evidence established. Let it now be seen what your endeavors in the path of detachment will reveal. In this wise hath the divine favor been fully vouchsafed unto you and unto them that are in heaven and on earth. All praise to God, the Lord of all Worlds.