

5月19日 兄弟教堂

從自然到靈性意義上的兄弟關係

Because this is called the Church of Brotherhood, I wish to speak upon the brotherhood of mankind. There is perfect brotherhood underlying humanity, for all are servants of one God and belong to one family under the protection of divine providence. The bond of fraternity exists in humanity because all are intelligent beings created in the realm of evolutionary growth. There is brotherhood potential in humanity because all inhabit this earthly globe under the one canopy of heaven. There is brotherhood natal in mankind because all are elements of one human society subject to the necessity of agreement and cooperation. There is brotherhood intended in humanity because all are waves of one sea, leaves and fruit of one tree. This is physical fellowship which ensures material happiness in the human world. The stronger it becomes, the more will mankind advance and the circle of materiality be enlarged.

The real brotherhood is spiritual, for physical brotherhood is subject to separation. The wars of the outer world of existence separate humankind, but in the eternal world of spiritual brotherhood separation is unknown. Material or physical association is based upon earthly interests, but divine fellowship owes its existence to the breaths of the Holy Spirit. Spiritual brotherhood may be likened to the light, while the souls of humankind are as lanterns. The incandescent lamps here are many, yet the light is one.

At a time in the Orient when even physical brotherhood was not in existence Bahá'u'lláh appeared. At first He set forth the principles of physical brotherhood and afterward founded the spiritual brotherhood. He breathed such a spirit into the countries of the Orient that various peoples and warring tribes were blended in unity. Their bestowals and susceptibilities became one, their purposes one purpose, their desires one desire to such a degree that they sacrificed themselves for each other, forfeiting name, possessions and comfort. Their fellowship became indissoluble. This is eternal, spiritual fellowship, heavenly and divine brotherhood, which defies dissolution. Material

既然這裡是友愛教會，那麼，我想講一講四海一家方面的話題。人類之中潛藏著絕對的手足之情，因為所有人都是同一個上帝的僕人，都屬於同一個受天意保佑的大家庭。人類當中有著夥伴關係，因為所有人都被造生於這個不斷進化成長的世界，都被賦予智慧。人類之中有著潛在的兄弟關係，因為所有人都生活在同一個蒼穹之下的塵寰。人類天生就有同胞之愛，因為所有人都是同一個人類社會的成員，都離不開共識與合作。人類天性之中就有兄弟情義，因為所有人都是同一個海洋的波浪，都是同一棵樹的葉子和果實。這是物性的夥伴關係，它確保人類世界的物質幸福。它越是緊密，人類便越是進步，物質利益的範圍便越是擴展。

真正的兄弟情義是靈性的，因為物性的兄弟關係必然會分離。外在之存在界的戰爭能夠隔離人類，然而，在永恆的靈性兄弟世界裡，分離卻聞所未聞。物性或自然意義上的聯繫是基於世俗的利益，而神聖夥伴關係的存在仰賴聖靈的氣息。靈性上的兄弟關係就好比光，人類的靈魂就好比燈。這裡的白熾燈有很多，然而，它們放射的光都是相同的。

巴哈歐拉出現之時，東方世界連自然意義上的兄弟關係都沒有。他首先闡明了自然意義上的兄弟關係原則，接著建立了靈性上的兄弟關係原則。他將如此靈氣吹送給東方的國度，使得那裡的不同人群和交戰部落團結起來。他們的蒙恩和感懷變得一致，他們的目的變得合一，他們的願望變得相同，這些變化達到如此程度，以至於他們互相做出自我犧牲，拋棄名

civilization advances through the physical association of mankind. The progress you observe in the outer world is founded mainly upon the fraternity of material interests. Were it not for this physical and mental association, civilization would not have progressed. Now—praise be to God!—the indissoluble spiritual association is evident; therefore, it is certain that divine civilization has been founded, and the world will progress and advance spiritually. In this radiant century divine knowledge, merciful attributes and spiritual virtues will attain the highest degree of advancement. The traces have become manifest in Persia. Souls have advanced to such a degree as to forfeit life and possessions for each other. Their spiritual perceptions have developed; their intelligence has quickened; their souls are awakened. The utmost love has been manifested. Therefore, it is my hope that spiritual fraternity shall unite the East and the West and bring about the complete abolition of warfare among mankind. May it bind together individuals and members of the human family and be the cause of advancing minds, illuminating hearts and allowing divine bestowals to encompass us from all directions. May spiritual susceptibilities set hearts aglow with the message of glad tidings. May spiritual brotherhood cause rebirth and regeneration, for its creative quickening emanates from the breaths of the Holy Spirit and is founded by the power of God. Surely that which is founded through the divine power of the Holy Spirit is permanent in its potency and lasting in its effect.

Material brotherhood does not prevent nor remove warfare; it does not dispel differences among mankind. But spiritual alliance destroys the very foundation of war, effaces differences entirely, promulgates the oneness of humanity, revivifies mankind, causes hearts to turn to the Kingdom of God and baptizes souls with the Holy Spirit. Through this divine brotherhood the material world will become resplendent with the lights of Divinity, the mirror of materiality will acquire its lights from heaven, and justice will be established in the world so that no trace of darkness, hatred and enmity shall be visible. Humanity shall come within the bounds of security, the Prophethood of all the Messengers of God shall be established, Zion shall leap and dance, Jerusalem shall rejoice, the Mosaic flame shall ignite, the Messianic light shall shine, the

聲、財富和安逸。他們的夥伴關係變得牢不可破。這是永久的夥伴關係，美好和神聖的兄弟情義，它是不可瓦解的。物性的人類關係能夠促進物質文明的進步。你們所看到的外在世界的進步主要依賴於物質利益的互惠關係。如果沒有這種物性和智性的聯繫，就不可能有文明進步。讚美上帝！如今，牢不可破的靈性交往日漸明顯；因此無疑，神性文明已然建立，世界將取得靈性的進步和提升。在這個光明的世紀，神性知識、仁慈品性和靈性美德將獲得最高程度的發展。這些已在波斯初現端倪。那裡的人民已經進步到可以為彼此犧牲生命和財產的程度。他們的靈性悟力有了發展，他們的智能得到激發，他們的靈魂已被喚醒。至高仁愛已然顯現。有鑑於此，我希望，靈性的夥伴關係能夠將東方和西方團結起來，由此徹底杜絕人世間的戰爭。我還希望，這種關係能將個人與人類大家庭的成員緊密聯結，從而促進思想的提升和心靈的覺悟，使得神聖恩典能從四面八方籠罩我們。祈願靈性情感用神聖福音讓心靈煥發光彩。祈願靈性的兄弟情義帶來新生和復興，因為它的創造性更新源自聖靈氣息的作用，憑藉上帝之力締造。而由聖靈的神力所奠定者，其威力必定永遠，其效能必定恆久。

物性的兄弟關係不能阻止或消除戰爭，它也無法清除人類之間的差異。可是，靈性的夥伴關係卻能夠摧毀戰爭的真正根基，徹底抹消差異，傳播人類一體的理念，賦予人類新生，使人心轉向上帝的王國，使靈魂接受聖靈的洗禮。通過這種神聖的兄弟關係，物質世界將在神性光芒的照耀下熠熠生輝，物性之鏡將自上天獲取其光明，正義將穩立人間，從此不再有一絲黑暗，仇恨和敵意也將無處遁形。人類將生活於太平盛世，所有上帝使者的先知地位將

world will become another world, and humanity shall put on another power. This is the greatest divine bestowal; this is the effulgence of the Kingdom of God; this is the day of illumination; this is the merciful century. We must appreciate these things and strive in order that the utmost desire of the Prophets may now be realized and all the glad tidings be fulfilled. Trust in the favor of God. Look not at your own capacities, for the divine bestowal can transform a drop into an ocean; it can make a tiny seed a lofty tree. Verily, divine bestowals are like the sea, and we are the fishes of that sea. The fishes must not look at themselves; they must behold the ocean, which is vast and wonderful. Provision for the sustenance of all is in this ocean; therefore, the divine bounties encompass all, and love eternal shines upon all.

得以確立，錫安山^①將雀躍，耶路撒冷將歡喜，摩西之火將被點燃，彌賽亞之光將會照耀，世界將變成另一個世界，人類將被賦予另一種力量。此乃至大的神聖恩賜，此乃上帝王國的榮光，此乃光明的時代，此乃慈悲的世紀。我們必須認識到這些並為之努力，以使諸先知的至高意願現在能夠達成，所有的福音能夠實現。要信賴上帝的恩寵。你們不可顧慮自己的能力，因為神聖恩典能將一滴水變成海洋，將一棵幼苗變成參天大樹。確然，神聖恩澤就好比大海，我們是這大海裡的魚兒(上帝將以祂的富裕補償每一個人)。魚兒不可在意自己，必須在意浩瀚而神奇的海洋。一切生計供給盡在這海洋之中。可見，神聖恩澤浸潤萬物，永恆仁愛照耀一切。(自性像大海水，能滋養萬物)

①錫安山，Zion，《聖經·舊約》時代耶路撒冷城內兩山中的東山。公元前 10 世紀以色列與猶太之王大衛攻佔耶路撒冷城，在此建都。《聖經》裡常以錫安代稱耶路撒冷，是以色列人的上帝居所和做王之處，使用時多含預言意味。
——譯註

The question has been asked: Will the spiritual progress of the world equal and keep pace with material progress in the future? In a living organism the full measure of its development is not known or realized at the time of its inception or birth. Development and progression imply gradual stages or degrees. For example, spiritual advancement may be likened to the light of the early dawn. Although this dawn light is dim and pale, a wise man who views the march of the sunrise at its very beginning can foretell the ascendancy of the sun in its full glory and effulgence. He knows for a certainty that it is the beginning of its manifestation and that later it will assume great power and potency. Again, for example, if he takes a seed and observes that it is sprouting, he will know assuredly that it will ultimately become a tree. Now is the beginning of the manifestation of the spiritual power, and inevitably the potency of its life forces will assume greater and greater proportions. Therefore, this

有人提出這樣一個問題：在將來，人類的靈性進步會與物質進步並駕齊驅嗎？拿活的有機體來說，在它的初期或出生之時，其完全程度的發展不得而知或不可瞭解。發展和進步必然包含漸次的階段或程度。例如，靈性的發展可比喻為拂曉的晨光。在一開始，這晨光看起來會有些微弱和暗淡，但儘管如此，智者在觀看太陽升起之際就能預計它必然會運行到其最耀眼、最輝煌的程度。他確然知道這是太陽剛剛顯現之時，也知道隨後它會呈現更強大的威力和效能。再舉一例，如果他埋下一顆種籽，然後看到它發芽，那他必然會知道它終將長成一

twentieth century is the dawn, or beginning, of spiritual illumination, and it is evident that day by day it will advance. It will reach such a degree that spiritual effulgences will overcome the physical, so that divine susceptibilities will overpower material intelligence and the heavenly light dispel and banish earthly darkness. Divine healing shall purify all ills, and the cloud of mercy will pour down its rain. The Sun of Reality will shine, and all the earth shall put on its beautiful green carpet. Among the results of the manifestation of spiritual forces will be that the human world will adapt itself to a new social form, the justice of God will become manifest throughout human affairs, and human equality will be universally established. The poor will receive a great bestowal, and the rich attain eternal happiness. For although at the present time the rich enjoy the greatest luxury and comfort, they are nevertheless deprived of eternal happiness; for eternal happiness is contingent upon giving, and the poor are everywhere in the state of abject need. Through the manifestation of God's great equity the poor of the world will be rewarded and assisted fully, and there will be a readjustment in the economic conditions of mankind so that in the future there will not be the abnormally rich nor the abject poor. The rich will enjoy the privilege of this new economic condition as well as the poor, for owing to certain provisions and restrictions they will not be able to accumulate so much as to be burdened by its management, while the poor will be relieved from the stress of want and misery. The rich will enjoy his palace, and the poor will have his comfortable cottage.

The essence of the matter is that divine justice will become manifest in human conditions and affairs, and all mankind will find comfort and enjoyment in life. It is not meant that all will be equal, for inequality in degree and capacity is a property of nature. Necessarily there will be rich people and also those who will be in want of their livelihood, but in the aggregate community there will be equalization and readjustment of values and interests. In the future there will be no very rich nor extremely poor. There will be an equilibrium of interests, and a condition will be established which will make both rich and poor comfortable and content. This will be an eternal and blessed outcome of the glorious twentieth century which will be realized universally. The significance of it is that the glad tidings of great joy revealed in the promises of

棵樹。現在是靈性力量顯示的開始，其生命之力的效能必定越來越強勁和壯大。因此，我們身處的 20 世紀乃是靈性光明的黎明或起始，顯然，假以時日，它必然會發展。它將達到如此強度，以至於靈性光輝能夠戰勝自然之光，從而使得靈性情感凌駕於物性智力之上，聖光將驅散和消除塵世的黑暗。神醫將清除一切惡疾，慈悲之雲將傾灑恩雨。實在之陽將大放光芒，塵間各處將披覆美輪美奐的綠茵。靈性力量顯現的結果之一便是，人類世界將融入一種新的社會形態，上帝的正義將在人類事務的各個方面得到體現，人人平等將得到普世的確立。窮人將獲得更多的恩典，富人將得到永久的幸福。因為，儘管眼下富人享受最高程度的奢華生活，但他們卻無緣獲得永久幸福。這是由於永久幸福取決於給予，而無論何地的窮人卻都處於悲慘的困境。上帝偉大正義的顯現將使得窮人得到完全的報償和幫助，人類的經濟狀況將會有所調整，以使將來不再出現巨富或赤貧的現象。富人和窮人都將享受到這一新經濟方略的益處，因為，在某些規定和限制之下，富人將無法積累超越其限額的財富，而窮人也將擺脫匱乏和困苦的压力。富人可享受其華庭豪宅，窮人也會有舒適小屋。

這個問題的要旨在於，神聖正義必將顯現於人類的環境和事務之中，所有的人都將過上舒適和安逸的生活。這並非意味著人人都將平等劃一，因為地位和能力的不平等乃是合乎自然的。任何時候都必然會有富人和缺衣少食的人，但社會整體上將會實現價值和利益上的平等和調整。在未來，將不會有巨富或赤貧。利益的均等將會實現，使富人和窮人都能安逸和滿足的環境將會被營造出來。這將是榮耀的 20 世紀永久與福佑的結果，它必定能在全世界成

the Holy Books will be fulfilled. Await ye this consummation.

為現實。它的重要意義在於，啟示於神聖經書所許諾的極樂福音必將兌現。你們應該期待這一功德圓滿之日的來臨。