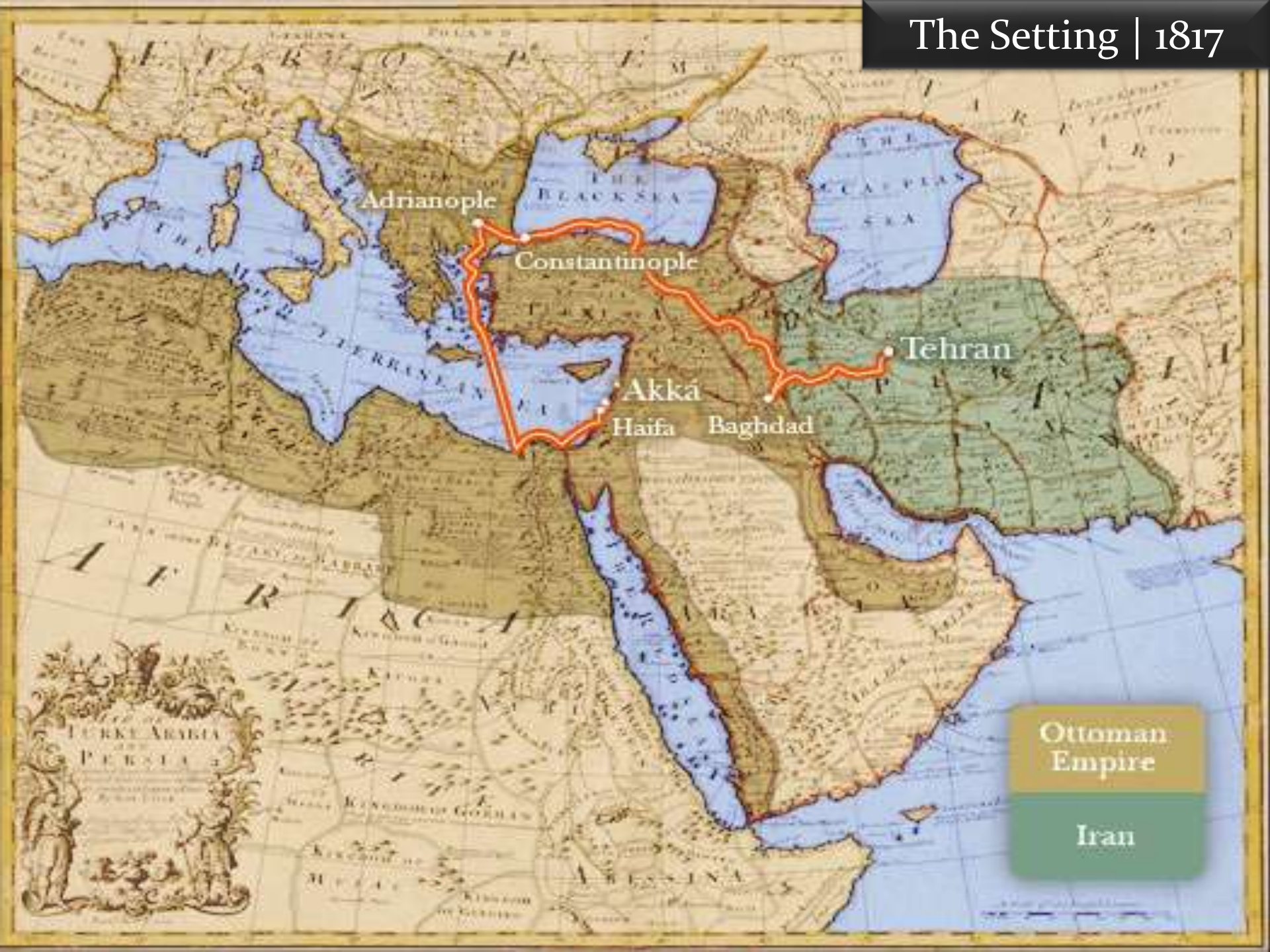


The Life of Baha'u'llah

A photographic narrative

1817 -1892





Adrianople

Constantinople

Tehran

Akkâ

Haifa

Baghdad

Ottoman
Empire

Iran

The childhood of Bahá'u'lláh



The city of Tehran, Iran, where Bahá'u'lláh was born

An early experience



Takur, in the north of Iran, where the family of Bahá'u'lláh had a house

Bahá'u'lláh as a youth



The house of Bahá'u'lláh in Takur, Mázindarán, destroyed by the government in 1981

Early adulthood



Another view of the house of Bahá'u'lláh in Takur, Mázingarán

"Father of the poor"



Bahá'u'lláh's room in His house in Takur, Mázindarán, kept in its original condition

A great love of nature



A garden at Bahá'u'lláh's house in Shimran

Ardent supporter of a new religion



Murgh-Mahallih, Bahá'u'lláh's summer residence in Shimran, on the lower slopes of the Elburz Mountains, Iran

Historic meeting at Badasht



A view of Badasht

Bahá'u'lláh tortured in Mázindarán



The mosque in Amul, Mázindarán, Iran

Government orders Bahá'u'lláh's arrest



The village of Afchih, near Tehran

Bahá'u'lláh faces His accusers



The village of Niyavaran near Tehran, where Bahá'u'lláh stayed overnight

A revelation from God



A view of the city of Tehran, where Bahá'u'lláh was imprisoned in 1852

Banishment from Iran | 1853 - 1863



Adrianople

Constantinople

Tehran

'Akká

Haifa

Baghdad

Ottoman
Empire

Iran

Exiled in the depths of winter



The mountains in western Iran which Bahá'u'lláh and His family had to traverse on their journey to Baghdad

Bahá'u'lláh arrives in Baghdad



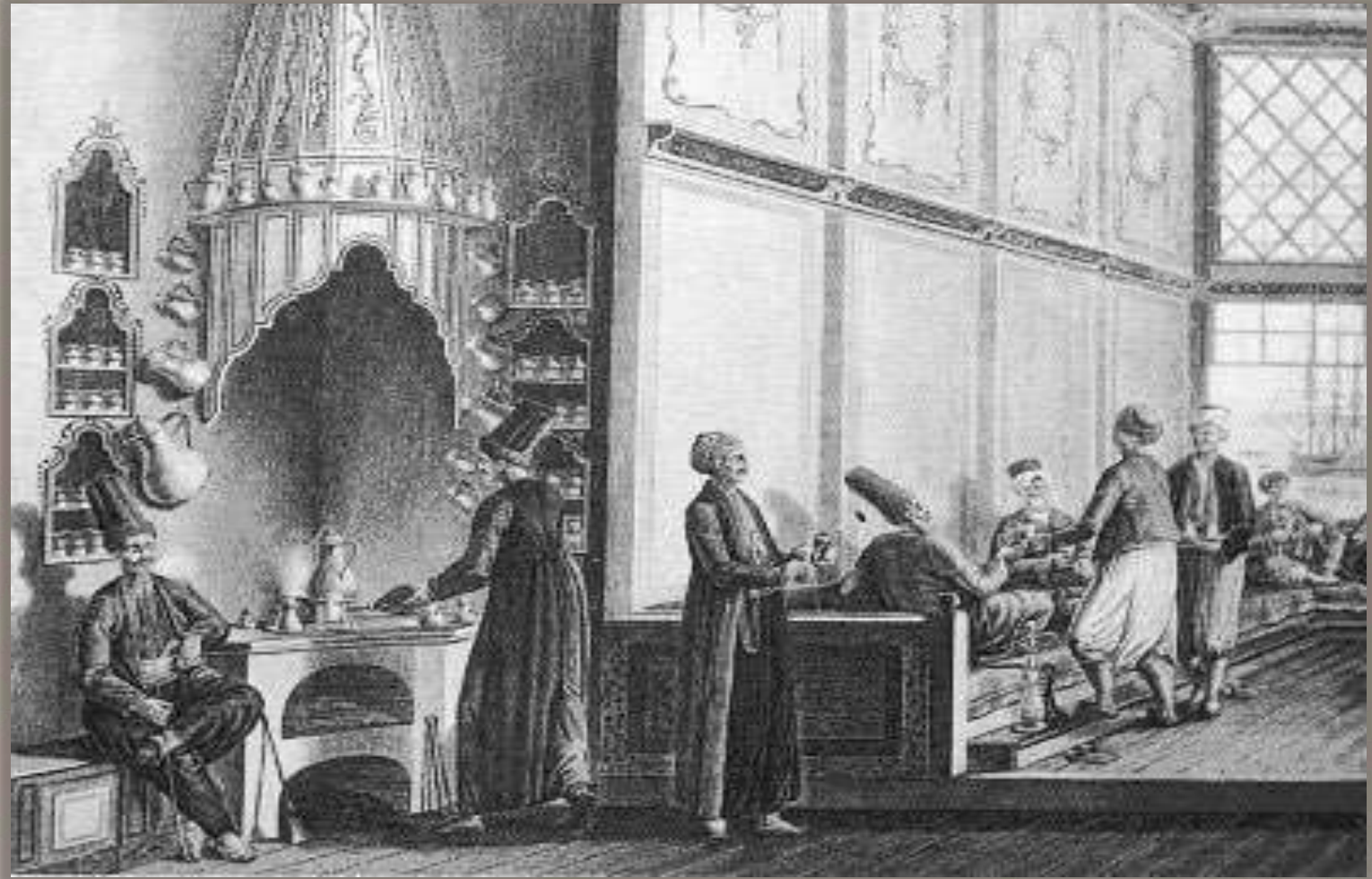
Historical view of Baghdad

Solitude in the mountains of Kurdistan



View of the mountains where Bahá'u'lláh stayed in Sulaymaniyyih

Return to Baghdad



A 19th-century Ottoman coffeehouse

Bahá'u'lláh declares His mission



Historical view of Baghdad and the Tigris River

Exile to Constantinople | 1863 -1863



The journey to Constantinople



Drawing of a kajavieh (howdah), a common mode of travel in Iran in the mid-1800s

Caravan reaches the Black Sea



The port town of Samsun, by the Black Sea in Turkey

Bahá'u'lláh arrives in Constantinople



View of Constantinople (now called Istanbul)

Bahá'u'lláh's enemies exile Him again



The Blue Mosque in Constantinople

Journey to Adrianople | 1863 -1868



Adrianople

Constantinople

Tehran

Baghdad

'Akká
Haifa

Ottoman
Empire

Iran

Perilous conditions



The bridge at Büyükçekmece, Turkey, which Bahá'u'lláh and His companions crossed on their way from Constantinople to Adrianople in December 1863

Arrival in Adrianople



A view of Adrianople (now called Edirne)

Bahá'u'lláh continues to attract followers



The Mosque of Sultan Salim in Adrianople

Reaction of the people



A modern view of the house of Rida Big, the residence of Bahá'u'lláh in Adrianople for one year. The Mosque of Sultan Salim is in the background

Bahá'u'lláh is poisoned



A recent view of the house of Rida Big, where Bahá'u'lláh stayed in Adrianople

The Tablet of Ahmad



Interior of Bahá'u'lláh's residence in Adrianople

Bahá'u'lláh writes to the rulers of the world



Interior of the Mosque of Sultan Salim

The Sultan orders Bahá'u'lláh's final exile



The interior of the Mosque of Sultan Salim

Arrival in Gallipoli



Gallipoli, Turkey, in a photo from modern times

Bahá'u'lláh arrives in the Holy Land | 1868 - 1877



The prison city of 'Akká



View of 'Akká from the Mediterranean Sea

Arrival at the sea gate



The sea gate where Bahá'u'lláh and His companions entered 'Akká in 1868

"The most desolate of cities"



One of 'Akká's narrow public passageways

The march to the prison



'Akkâ in recent times

The Sultan's sentence



A recent photograph of Al-Jazzar Mosque in 'Akká

The exiles are taken to the prison



Stairway and entrance to the prison of 'Akká

The entrance to the fortress



A recent photograph of the restored entrance to the citadel of 'Akká

An imposing citadel



The two windows farthest right on the second floor show the room that Bahá'u'lláh occupied in the prison

The barracks square



The barracks square of the prison. Bahá'u'lláh was first held in a room adjacent to the square and later moved to his cell on the second floor of the building in the center of the photo

Inside the citadel



A view of some of the cells that were occupied by the exiles. The room of Bahá'u'lláh is on the left

The cell of Bahá'u'lláh



The interior of the cell occupied by Bahá'u'lláh

Restrictions eased slightly



A view of the cell of Bahá'u'lláh after its restoration in 2004

Bahá'u'lláh's followers begin to visit 'Akká



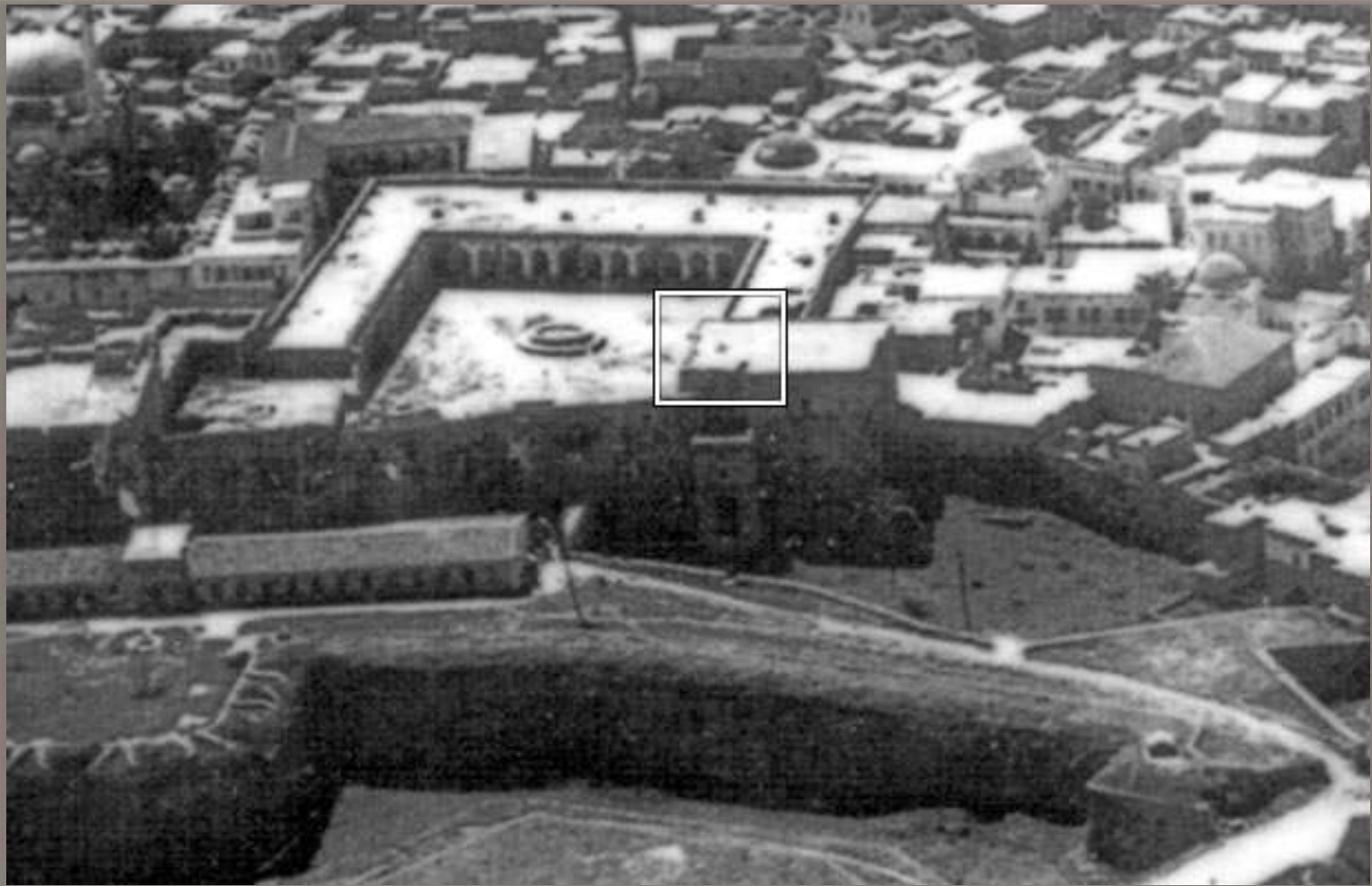
The view from the prison

A few pilgrims enter the prison



A view from one of the restored prison cells occupied by the exiles

A tragic accident



The skylight through which Mírzá Mihdí fell can be seen in this aerial photograph from 1917. The skylight is highlighted

The passing of Mírzá Mihdí



The skylight of the prison area, now restored,
where Mírzá Mihdí fell

The sacrifice of a son



During the restoration of the prison it was decided to leave untouched the floor where Mírzá Mihdí fell. The stairs to the roof are in the background

Bahá'u'lláh leaves the citadel



A view of the house of 'Údí Khammár from Genoa Square, located in the rear of the building now known as the House of 'Abbúd. The arched doorway on the right opens to the staircase to the second and third floors

The House of 'Údí Khammár



The interior of the house of 'Údí Khammár. The entrance to the room of Bahá'u'lláh is on the right

Bahá'u'lláh writes His “Most Holy Book”



Bahá'u'lláh's room in the house of 'Údí Khammár,
where He revealed the Kitáb-i-Aqdas

People of 'Akká increasingly show respect



Bahá'u'lláh's room in the house of 'Údí Khammár. After He moved to the adjoining House of 'Abbúd, this became the room of 'Abdu'l-Bahá

From hatred to admiration & respect



The House of 'Abbúd

Bahá'u'lláh in the House of 'Abbúd



A view of the House of 'Abbúd in more recent times

Greater numbers of pilgrims



The stairs leading to the upper floor of the House of 'Abbúd

The role of 'Abdu'l-Bahá



The main hall in the House of 'Abbúd, now decorated with historical items

Bahá'u'lláh's room in the House of 'Abbúd



The room Bahá'u'lláh occupied in the House of 'Abbúd

Balcony by the sea



Balcony outside Bahá'u'lláh's room on the second floor of the House of 'Abbúd

Life in 'Akká



A street scene in 'Akká

A caravanserai in 'Akká



The Khán-i-Avámíid, a caravanserai in 'Akká

The public bath



The large public bath in 'Akká where Bahá'u'lláh sometimes went, escorted by a guard

Bahá'u'lláh requests repairs to the aqueduct



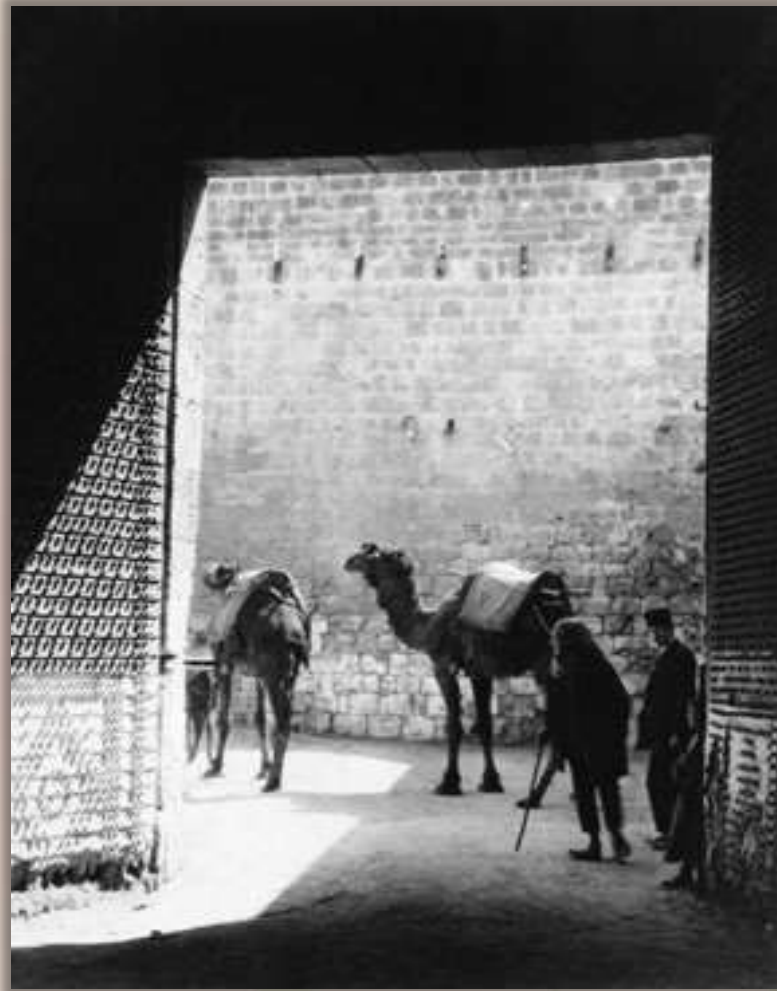
The aqueduct to carry water to 'Akká was built in about 1815 to replace an earlier one destroyed by Napoleon. By the time of Bahá'u'lláh's arrival, it had fallen into disrepair

Outside the city walls



The pines of Bahjí on the land of the Jamal brothers, site of the dinner which signaled that Bahá'u'lláh could leave the boundaries of the walled city

Restrictions are lifted



The land gate of 'Akká from inside the city.
Bahá'u'lláh left through this gate

Bahá'u'lláh leaves the walled city



A view of the land gate from outside the walls of the city

Arrival at Mazra'ih (1877)



The Mansion of Mazra'ih

A residence in the countryside



An aerial photograph of the village of Mazra'ih showing the mansion where Bahá'u'lláh lived. The Mediterranean Sea is in the distance

Mazra'ih and its surroundings



View of the Mansion of Mazra'ih from the east

The Mansion of Mazra'ih



The Mansion of Mazra'ih, view from the west

Bahá'u'lláh welcomes pilgrims at His home



The reception room at the Mansion of Mazra'ih, where Bahá'u'lláh often received guests

Many tablets are sent



During the time of Bahá'u'lláh, this staircase, which leads to the living quarters at the Mansion of Mazra'ih, was open to the outside. Sometime later, it was enclosed as shown

Two years at Mazra'ih



The anteroom just outside the room of Bahá'u'lláh in the Mansion of Mazra'ih. His room is located on the far left

A place of beauty



Interior of the room of Bahá'u'lláh at Mazra'ih

The Ridván Garden (1877)



Entrance to the Ridván Garden

"Verdant isle"



This photograph shows how the water flowed
on both sides of the garden

A favorite retreat



A view of the Ridván Garden outside 'Akká

A place to enjoy nature



The flower pots on the ground mark the location of the bench where Bahá'u'lláh often sat when He visited the garden. The river can be seen in the background

In the Ridván Garden



Recent view of the fountain and benches in the Ridván Garden

“Paradise”



The house in which Bahá'u'lláh stayed during His visits to the Ridván Garden.
The river can be seen in the foreground

Bahá'u'lláh's room at the Ridván Garden



Colorized photograph of the interior of the house where Bahá'u'lláh often spent the night when visiting the Ridván Garden

A place visited by pilgrims



The room of Bahá'u'lláh at the Ridván Garden as it looks today

Bahá'u'lláh moves to Bahjí (1879)



Historical photo of the Mansion at Bahjí where Bahá'u'lláh spent the final years of His life.

Recognition of Bahá'u'lláh continues to grow



A view of the Mansion of Bahjí from the south

“Lofty mansion”



A view of the mansion today from the south. The Bahá'í community has spent many decades beautifying the buildings and grounds where Bahá'u'lláh spent the final years of His life

Prophetic inscription



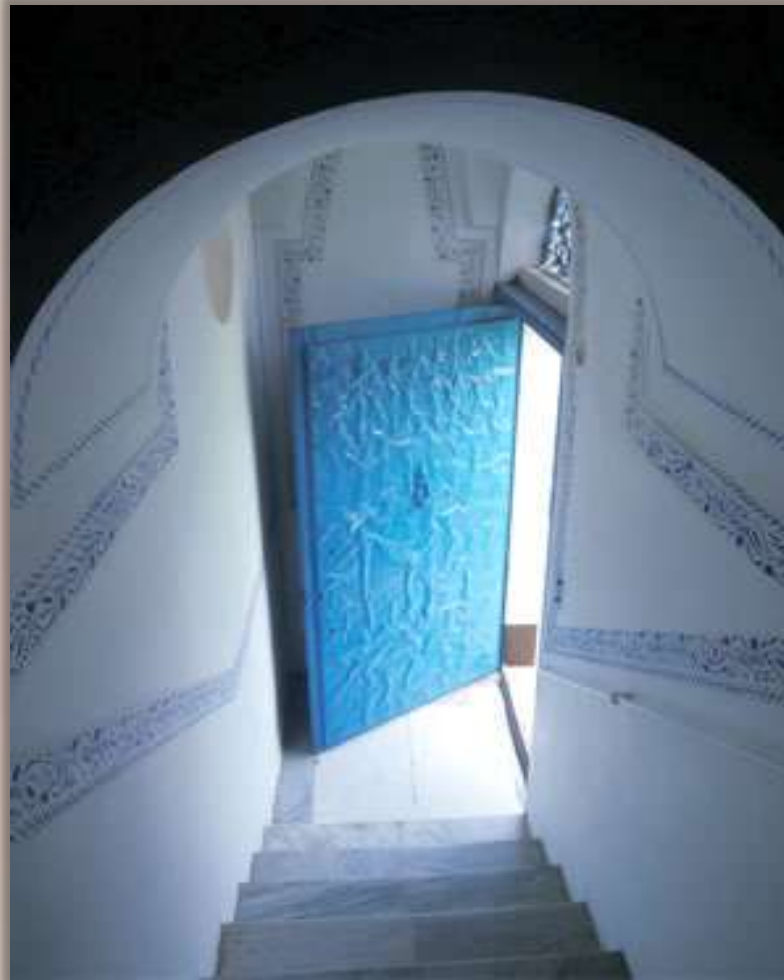
Entrance to the Mansion of Bahjí

A befitting residence



Detail of the knocker on the door to the
Mansion of Bahjí

Bahá'u'lláh's Revelation continues to unfold



Stairs that lead to the upper floor of the
Mansion of Bahjí

“Be worthy of the trust of thy neighbor...”



View of the southern balcony of the mansion

A beloved visitor



At left is the room where Bahá'u'lláh greeted many of His guests. It is also the room in which He passed away, in 1892

Days at Bahjí



The central hall of the upper floor of the Mansion at Bahjí. After the mansion was restored in the 1930s, the furnishings were put in place by Shoghi Effendi, the great-grandson of Bahá'u'lláh and Guardian of the Bahá'í Faith

Professor Browne meets Bahá'u'lláh



Room of Bahá'u'lláh at the Mansion of Bahjí

Haifa (1883)



This print shows Haifa around the time that Bahá'u'lláh made three visits, between 1883 and 1891

“The Lord is nigh – 1871”



A detail from one of the Templar houses in Haifa. The German inscription over the window translates to "The Lord is nigh — 1871."

Bahá'u'lláh on Mount Carmel



This spot at the foot of Mount Carmel is one of the places Bahá'u'lláh pitched His tent during a visit to Haifa

Visiting God's holy mountain



Tents used by Bahá'u'lláh in Haifa on Mount Carmel

Bahá'u'lláh indicates where the Báb should be interred



Circle of cypress trees near the Shrine of the Báb

The Shrine of the Báb



The completed Shrine of the Báb and gardens. The circle of cypress trees where Bahá'u'lláh stood can be seen on the right side of the Shrine

The Tablet of Carmel



The spot near where Bahá'u'lláh wrote
the Tablet of Carmel

Fulfillment of the Tablet of Carmel



View of the Bahá'í World Centre on Mount Carmel, Haifa

The passing of Bahá'u'lláh (1892)



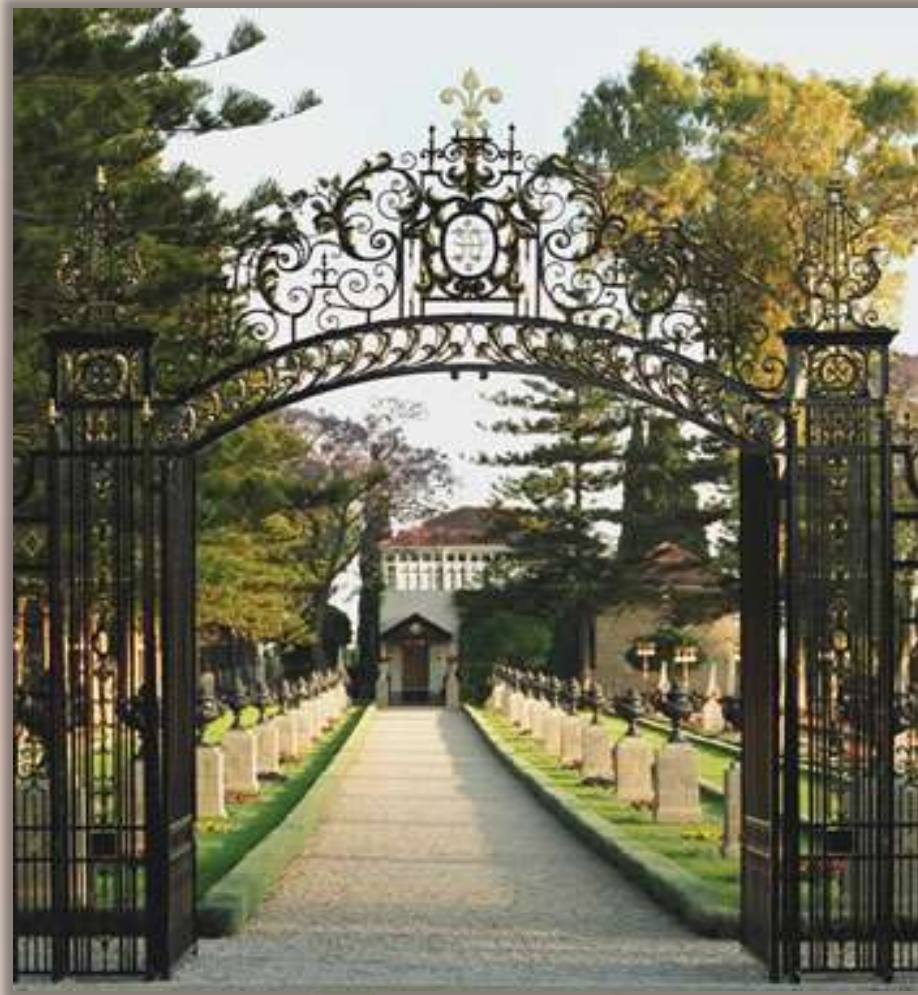
Room where Bahá'u'lláh passed away in 1892

"The Sun of Truth ... hath set"



The Mansion of Bahjí at night

The holiest place



Path leading to the Shrine of Bahá'u'lláh

Words of guidance



Entrance to the Shrine of Bahá'u'lláh

“..be illumined with the light of concord”



Shrine of Bahá'u'lláh at night

“O ye that dwell on earth!”



Detail of the gate leading to the Shrine of Bahá'u'lláh.

Taj of Bahá'u'lláh



A taj of Bahá'u'lláh displayed in His room at Bahjí

The robes of Bahá'u'lláh



Three of the robes worn by Bahá'u'lláh displayed in the Bahá'í International Archives

The kashkul of Bahá'u'lláh



The kashkul (alms bowl) Bahá'u'lláh used as He traveled through the mountains of Sulaymaniyyih as a dervish from 1854 to 1856.

Pen used by Bahá'u'lláh



Cut-reed pen and ink spoon used by Bahá'u'lláh

Pocket watch belonging to Bahá'u'lláh



Pocket watch, watch cord and fob belonging
to Bahá'u'lláh

A small bag used by Bahá'u'lláh



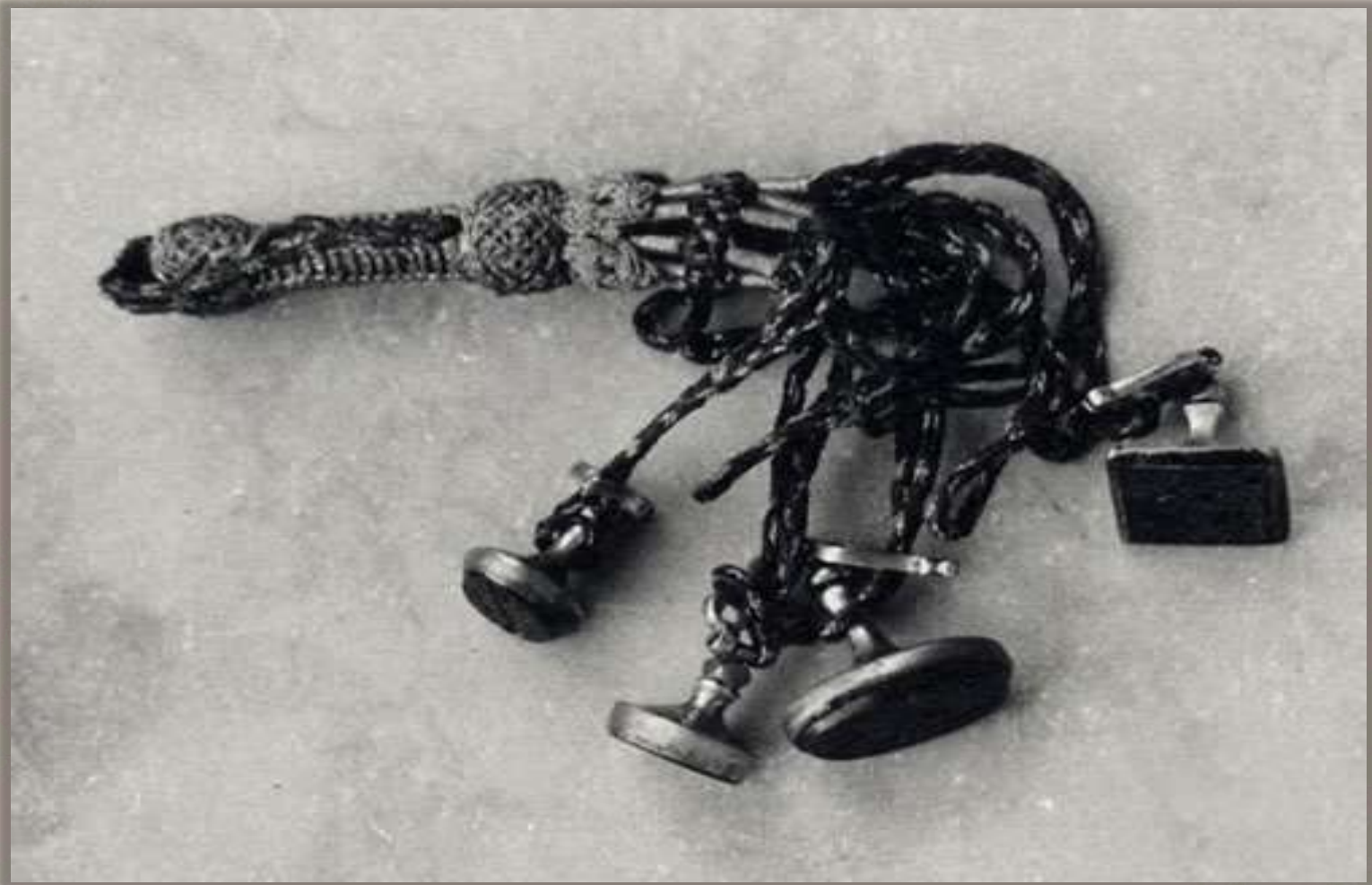
Brocade pouch belonging to Bahá'u'lláh

Prayer beads belonging to Bahá'u'lláh



Prayer beads belonging to Bahá'u'lláh kept at the Bahá'í International Archives in Haifa.

Seals of Bahá'u'lláh



Several of the carved seals of Bahá'u'lláh used to stamp letters or tablets
to verify the author

Design made from the seals of Bahá'u'lláh



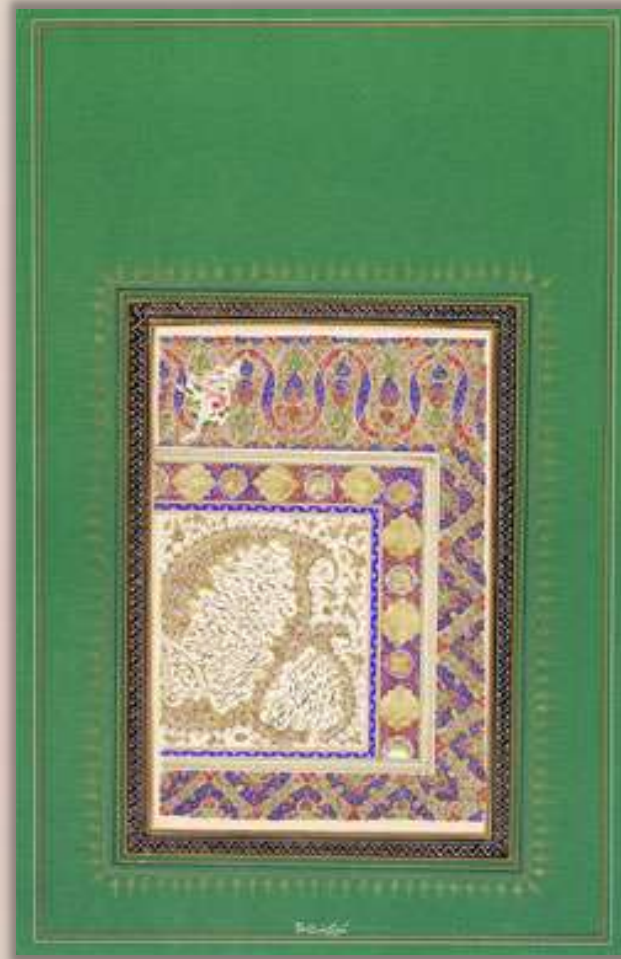
Impressions of the seals of Bahá'u'lláh,
displayed in an ornamental Persian design

Photograph of Bahá'u'lláh



The cabinet containing the photograph of Bahá'u'lláh is to the left in the set. The other cabinets contain paintings of Bahá'u'lláh and the Báb. They are located in the Bahá'í International Archives

Writings of Bahá'u'lláh in His own hand



Two verses of the Hidden Words (Arabic 68 and 69)
written in Bahá'u'lláh's handwriting. They were
illuminated some time later

Letter of Bahá'u'lláh to His daughter



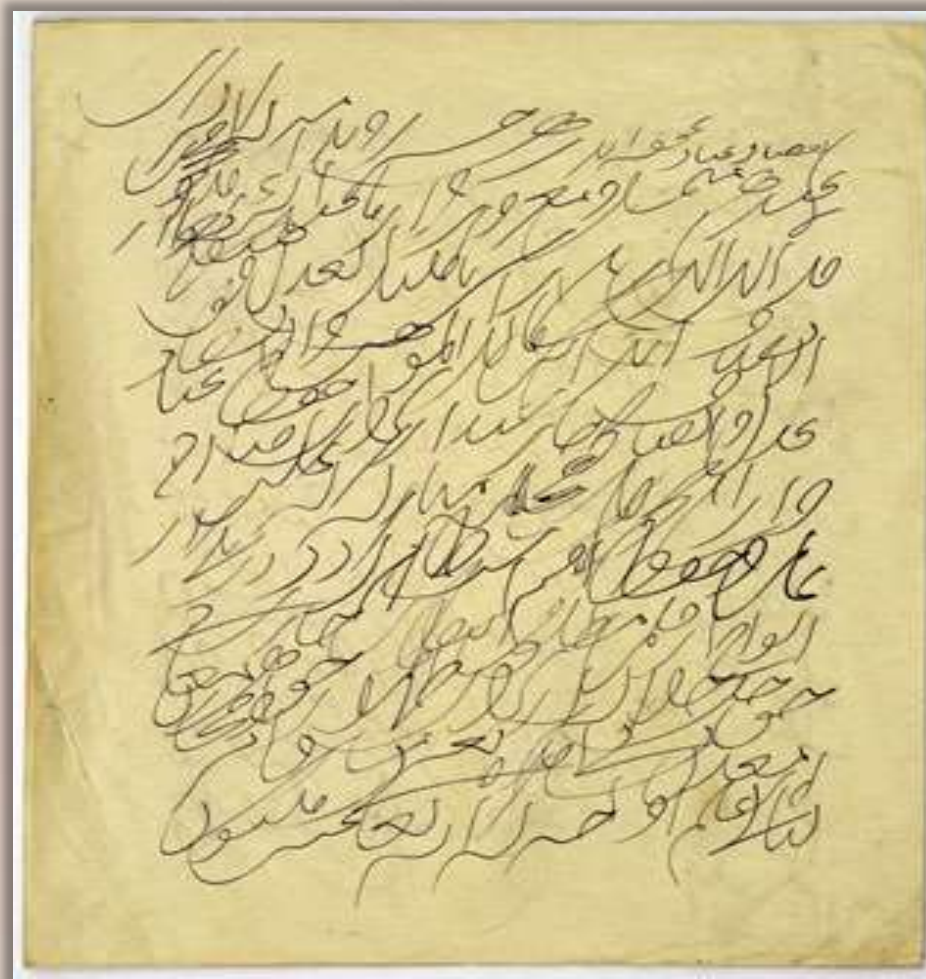
Letter written in Bahá'u'lláh's own hand and sent to His daughter, Bahíyyih Khánum, the Greatest Holy Leaf

Verses of Bahá'u'lláh written on the occasion of Ridván



Illuminated calligraphy of verses of Bahá'u'lláh revealed for the Festival of Ridván, displayed in His room at the Mansion of Mazra'ih

"Revelation" writing



Leaf from the Epistle to the Son of the Wolf (Lawh-i-Ibn-i-Dhi'b),
in the "Revelation" handwriting of Mirza Aqa Jan,
the secretary of Bahá'u'lláh

Tablet of the Holy Mariner



Copy of the Tablet of the Holy Mariner,
rendered in the calligraphy of 'Abdu'l-Bahá

The Most Holy Book



An illuminated copy of the Kitáb-i-Aqdas, commissioned by 'Abdu'l-Bahá in 1902