

The Kindness of 'Abdu'l-Bahá



Once 'Abdu'l-Bahá was to entertain the Governor of Akká - who was a very important person! 'Abdu'l-Bahá had only one coat, which was quite old and worn. His wife felt that 'Abdu'l-Bahá should look as smart as possible for His meeting with the Governor, so she ordered a fine new coat for Him.

When the time for the meeting came, the coat was laid out for 'Abdu'l-Bahá to put on. He was surprised and asked what had happened to His old one. His wife explained that she thought He should have a smart new coat for His meeting with the Governor, but 'Abdu'l-Bahá did not agree. He asked for His old coat back, and

ordered that the new one should be taken back to the shop. He explained that for the price of this expensive new coat, five cheaper ones could have been made, and four could have been given to poor people who had no coats at all.

'Abdu'l-Bahá wanted only one simple coat so that others could have one too.



When 'Abdu'l-Bahá was released from prison, He made plans to visit some of the countries of the West. He was no longer a young man, and was not in the best of health because of all the years He had been in prison. Even so he made arrangements to travel simply and cheaply. He did not choose the most comfortable method of travel, because He preferred to save His money to share with poorer people.

When He arrived in London, the believers there were so overjoyed to be with Him, they wanted to give Him the very best of everything. He was taken to the home of Lady Blomfield.

She wanted so much to please Him!

What could she do to show how much she loved Him?

When it was time for the first meal, she presented course after course of the most wonderful food she could prepare.

'Abdu'l-Bahá thanked her for such a beautiful meal - and for all the fruit and flowers, but very gently explained that it would have been better to share all those courses of food with the poor and hungry.

