

Abdu'l-Bahá's Travels to the West

Paris, L'Alliance Spiritualiste

9 November 1911

Power of the Spirit

Travels of 'Abdu'l-Bahá 7

First public talk in Paris

Paris, 9 November 1911

‘Abdu’l-Bahá’s first public talk in Paris was His discourse at L’Alliance Spiritualiste, Salle de l’Athenée, in St. Germain

‘Abdu’l-
Bahá’s
apartment
at 4 Avenue
Camoëns



'Abdu'l-Bahá
at 4 Avenue
Camoëns



Discourse at L'Alliance Spiritualiste

In the Western world material prosperity has triumphed, whilst in the East the spiritual sun has shone forth. I am very glad to see such an assembly as this in Paris, where spiritual and material progress are met together in unity.

(‘Abdu’l-Bahá, *Paris Talks*, p. 83)

Discourse at L'Alliance Spiritualiste

Man—the true man—is soul, not body; though physically man belongs to the animal kingdom, yet his soul lifts him above the rest of creation.

(‘Abdu’l-Bahá, *Paris Talks*, p. 83)

Discourse at L'Alliance Spiritualiste

Behold how the light of the sun illuminates the world of matter: even so doth the Divine Light shed its rays in the kingdom of the soul. The soul it is which makes the human creature a celestial entity!

(‘Abdu’l-Bahá, *Paris Talks*, p. 83)

Discourse at L'Alliance Spiritualiste

By the power of the Holy Spirit, working through his soul, man is able to perceive the Divine reality of things. All great works of art and science are witnesses to this power of the Spirit.

(‘Abdu’l-Bahá, *Paris Talks*, p. 83)



'Abdu'l-Bahá in Paris