

Tablets of the Divine Plan

Individual Examples

Bahá'í Geography 5
Teaching the Bahá'í Faith

Individual Examples

In one of the *Tablets of the Divine Plan*, ‘Abdu’l-Bahá mentions two early Bahá’í teachers as examples, Agnes Alexander who opened Hawai’i to the Bahá’í Faith in 1901, and who later went in 1914 to live in Japan and opened Korea to the Faith in 1921, and Alma Knobloch who went to live in Germany in 1907. He also expressed His regret at not being able to go Himself in a paragraph that is often quoted.

The plea of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá

O that I could travel, even though on foot and in the utmost poverty, to these regions, and, raising the call of “Yá Bahá’u’l-Abhá” in cities, villages, mountains, deserts and oceans, promote the divine teachings! This, alas, I cannot do. How intensely I deplore it! Please God, ye may achieve it.

(‘Abdu’l-Bahá, *Tablets of the Divine Plan*. Tablet to the Bahá’ís of the United States and Canada, 11 April 1916)

Agnes Alexander

Consider ye, that Miss Agnes Alexander, the daughter of the Kingdom, the beloved maidservant of the Blessed Perfection, traveled alone to the Hawaiian Islands, to the Island of Honolulu, and now she is gaining spiritual victories in Japan! Reflect ye how this daughter was confirmed in the Hawaiian Islands. She became the cause of the guidance of a gathering of people.

(‘Abdu’l-Bahá, *Tablets of the Divine Plan*. Tablet to the Bahá’ís of the United States and Canada, 11 April 1916)

Agnes Alexander
1900



Alma Knobloch

Likewise Miss Knobloch traveled alone to Germany. To what a great extent she became confirmed! Therefore, know ye of a certainty that whosoever arises in this day to diffuse the divine fragrances, the cohorts of the Kingdom of God shall confirm him and the bestowals and the favors of the Blessed Perfection shall encircle him.

(‘Abdu’l-Bahá, *Tablets of the Divine Plan*. Tablet to the Bahá’ís of the United States and Canada, 11 April 1916)



Fanny and Alma Knobloch

Agnes Alexander

At this time, in the Hawaiian Islands, through the efforts of Miss Alexander, a number of souls have reached the shore of the sea of faith! Consider ye, what happiness, what joy is this! I declare by the Lord of Hosts that had this respected daughter founded an empire, that empire would not have been so great! For this sovereignty is eternal sovereignty and this glory is everlasting glory.

(‘Abdu’l-Bahá, *Tablets of the Divine Plan*. Tablet to the Bahá’ís of the United States and Canada, 11 April 1916)



Agnes Alexander and Bahá'ís of Hawai'i 1909

The intention of the teacher

The aim is this: The intention of the teacher must be pure, his heart independent, his spirit attracted, his thought at peace, his resolution firm, his magnanimity exalted and in the love of God a shining torch. Should he become as such, his sanctified breath will even affect the rock; otherwise there will be no result whatsoever. As long as a soul is not perfected, how can he efface the defects of others. Unless he is detached from aught else save God, how can he teach severance to others!

Reading of the Tablets of the Divine Plan 1919

The remaining Tablets of the Divine Plan were sent to America after the war, to be read out at the national Bahá'í convention in New York City in 1919. 'Abdu'l-Bahá sent a message to Agnes Alexander, who was visiting the East Coast, to attend the convention, as it would make her very happy.

Agnes Alexander
1918

