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Tablet of Aḥmad

لوح احمد

AUTHOR	TRANSLATOR	PARAGRAPHS	SOURCE
Bahá'u'lláh	Shoghi Effendi	17	Arabic

Revealed in Adrianople and addressed to a believer named Aḥmad, this Tablet has been invested by Bahá'u'lláh with a special potency and significance. Its central imagery draws on the metaphor of fire and water: "Be thou as a flame of fire to My enemies and a river of life eternal to My loved ones."

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1
هُوَ ٱلسُّلْطَانُ ٱلْعَلِيمُ ٱلْحَكِيمُ

He is the King, the All-Knowing, the Wise!

2
هَذِهِ وَرْقَةُ ٱلْفِرْدَوْسِ تُغَنِّي عَلَى أَفْنَانِ سِدْرَةِ ٱلْبَقَاءِ بِأَلْحَانِ قُدْسٍ مَلِيحٍ وَتُبَشِّرُ ٱلْمُخْلِصِينَ إِلَى جِوَارِ ٱللهِ وَٱلْمُوَحِّدِيْنَ إِلَى سَاحَةِ قُرْبٍ كَرِيْمٍ وَتُخْبِرُ ٱلْمُنْقَطِعِيْنَ بِهَذَا ٱلنَّبَأِ ٱلَّذِي فُصِّلَ مِنْ نَبَأِ ٱللهِ ٱلْمَلِكِ ٱلْعَزِيْزِ ٱلْفَرِيْدِ وَتَهْدِي ٱلْمُحِبِّينَ إِلَى مَقْعَدِ ٱلْقُدْسِ ثُمَّ إِلَى هَذَا ٱلْمَنْظَرِ ٱلْمُنِيرِ

Lo, the Nightingale of Paradise singeth upon the twigs of the Tree of Eternity, with holy and sweet melodies, proclaiming to the sincere ones the glad tidings of the nearness of God, calling the believers in the Divine Unity to the court of the Presence of the Generous One, informing the severed ones of the message which hath been revealed by God, the King, the Glorious, the Peerless, guiding the lovers to the seat of sanctity and to this resplendent Beauty.

3
قُلْ إِنَّ هَذَا لَمَنْظَرُ ٱلْأَكْبَرُ ٱلَّذِي سُطِرَ فِي أَلْوَاحِ ٱلْمُرْسَلِينَ وَبِهِ يُفْصَلُ ٱلْحَقُّ عَنِ ٱلْبَاطِلِ وَيُفْرَقُ كُلُّ أَمْرٍ حَكِيْمٍ

Verily this is that Most Great Beauty, foretold in the Books of the Messengers, through Whom truth shall be distinguished from error and the wisdom of every command shall be tested.

قُلْ إِنَّهُ لَشَجَرُ ٱلرُّوْحِ ٱلَّذِي أَثْمَرَ بِفَوَاكِهِ ٱللهِ ٱلْعَلِي ٱلْمُقْتَدِرِ ٱلْعَظِيْمِ

Verily He is the Tree of Life that bringeth forth the fruits of God, the Exalted, the Powerful, the Great.

4
أَنْ يَا أَحْمَدُ

O Ahmad!

فَٱشْهَدْ بِأَنَّهُ هُوَ ٱللهُ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا هُوَ ٱلسُّلْطَانُ ٱلْمُهَيمِنُ ٱلْعَزِيزُ ٱلْقَدِيرُ

Bear thou witness that verily He is God and there is no God but Him, the King, the Protector, the Incomparable, the Omnipotent.

وَٱلَّذِي أَرْسَلَهُ بِٱسْمِ عَلِيٍّ هُوَ حَقٌّ مِنْ عِنْدِ ٱللهِ وَإِنَّا كُلٌّ بِأَمْرِهِ لَمِنَ ٱلْعَامِلِينَ

And that the One Whom He hath sent forth by the name of Ali [1] was the true One from God, to Whose commands we are all conforming.

5
قُلْ يَا قَوْمِ فَٱتَّبِعُوْا حُدُوْدَ ٱللهِ ٱلَّتِي فُرِضَتْ فِي ٱلْبَيَانِ مِنْ لَدُنْ عَزِيزٍ حَكِيْمٍ

Say: O people be obedient to the ordinances of God, which have been enjoined in the Bayan by the Glorious, the Wise One.

قُلْ إِنَّهُ لَسُلْطَانُ ٱلرُّسُلِ وَكِتَابُهُ لَأُمُّ ٱلْكِتَابِ إِنْ أَنْتُمْ مِنَ ٱلْعَارِفِينَ	Verily He is the King of the Messengers and His book is the Mother Book did ye but know.
6 كَذَلِكَ يُذَكِّرُكُمُ ٱلْوَرْقَاءُ فِي هَذَا ٱلسِّجْنِ	Thus doth the Nightingale utter His call unto you from this prison.
وَمَا عَلَيهِ إِلَّا ٱلْبَلَاغُ ٱلْمُبِينُ	He hath but to deliver this clear message.
فَمَنْ شَاءَ فَلْيُعْرِضْ عَنْ هَذَا ٱلنُّصْحِ وَمَنْ شَاءَ فَلْيَتَّخِذَ إِلَى رَبِّهِ سَبِيلاً	Whosoever desireth, let him turn aside from this counsel and whosoever desireth let him choose the path to his Lord.
7 قُلْ يَا قَوْمِ إِنْ تَكْفُرُوْا بِهَذِهِ ٱلْآيَاتِ فَبِأَيِّ حُجَّةٍ آمَنْتُمْ بِاللهِ مِنْ قَبْلُ	O people, if ye deny these verses, by what proof have ye believed in God?
هَاتُوْا بِهَا يَا مَلَأَ ٱلْكَاذِبِينَ	Produce it, O assemblage of false ones.
8 لَا فَوَ ٱلَّذِي نَفْسِي بِيَدِهِ لَنْ يَقْدِرُوْا وَلَنْ يَسْتَطِيعُوْا وَلَوْ يَكُوْنُ بَعْضُهُمْ لِبَعْضٍ ظَهِيرًا	Nay, by the One in Whose hand is my soul, they are not, and never shall be able to do this, even should they combine to assist one another.
9 أَنْ يَا أَحْمَدُ	O Ahmad!
لَا تَنْسَ فَضْلِي فِي غَيبَتِي	Forget not My bounties while I am absent.
ثُمَّ ذَكِّرْ أَيَّامِي فِي أَيَّامِكَ ثُمَّ كُرْبَتِي وَغُرْبَتِي فِي هَذَا ٱلسِّجْنِ ٱلْبَعِيدِ	Remember My days during thy days, and My distress and banishment in this remote prison.
وَكُنْ مُسْتَقِيمًا فِي حُبِّي بِحَيثُ لَنْ يُحَوَّلَ قَلْبُكَ وَلَوْ تُضْرَبُ بِسُيُوْفِ ٱلْأَعْدَاءِ وَيَمْنَعُكَ كُلُّ مَنْ فِي ٱلسَّمٰوَاتِ وَٱلْأَرَضِينَ	And be thou so steadfast in My love that thy heart shall not waver, even if the swords of the enemies rain blows upon thee and all the heavens and the earth arise against thee.
10 وَكُنْ كَشُعْلَةِ ٱلنَّارِ لِأَعْدَائِي وَكَوْثَرِ ٱلْبَقَاءِ لِأَحِبَّائِي وَلَا تَكُنْ مِنَ ٱلْمُمْتَرِينَ	Be thou as a flame of fire to My enemies and a river of life eternal to My loved ones, and be not of those who doubt.

11 وَإِنْ يَمَسَّكَ ٱلْحُزْنُ فِي سَبِيلِي أَوِ ٱلذِّلَّةُ لِأَجْلِ ٱسْمِي لَا تَضْطَرِبْ	And if thou art overtaken by affliction in My path, or degradation for My sake, be not thou troubled thereby.
12 فَتَوَكَّلْ عَلَى اللهِ رَبِّكَ وَرَبِّ آبَائِكَ ٱلْأَوَّلِينَ	Rely upon God, thy God and the Lord of thy fathers.
لِأَنَّ ٱلنَّاسَ يَمْشُوْنَ فِي سُبُلِ ٱلْوَهْمِ وَلَيْسَ لَهُمْ مِنْ بَصَرٍ لِيَعْرِفُوْا اللهَ بِعُيُوْنِهِمْ أَوْ يَسْمَعُوْا نَغَمَاتِهِ بِآذَانِهِمْ	For the people are wandering in the paths of delusion, bereft of discernment to see God with their own eyes, or hear His Melody with their own ears.
وَكَذَلِكَ أَشْهَدْنَاهُمْ إِنْ أَنْتَ مِنَ ٱلشَّاهِدِينَ	Thus have We found them, as thou also dost witness.
13 كَذَلِكَ حَالَتِ ٱلظُّنُوْنُ بَيْنَهُمْ وَقُلُوْبِهِمْ وَتَمْنَعُهُمْ عَنْ سُبُلِ اللهِ ٱلْعَلِي ٱلْعَظِيمِ	Thus have their superstitions become veils between them and their own hearts and kept them from the path of God, the Exalted, the Great.
14 وَإِنَّكَ أَنْتَ أَيْقِنْ فِي ذَاتِكَ بِأَنَّ ٱلَّذِي أَعْرَضَ عَنْ هَذَا ٱلْجَمَالِ فَقَدْ أَعْرَضَ عَنِ ٱلرُّسُلِ مِنْ قَبْلُ ثُمَّ ٱسْتَكْبَرَ عَلَى اللهِ فِي أَزَلِ ٱلْآزَالِ إِلَى أَبَدِ ٱلْآبِدِينَ	Be thou assured in thyself that verily, he who turns away from this Beauty hath also turned away from the Messengers of the past and showeth pride towards God from all eternity to all eternity.
15 فَٱحْفَظْ يَا أَحْمَدُ هَذَا ٱللَّوْحَ	Learn well this Tablet, O Ahmad.
ثُمَّ ٱقْرَأْهُ فِي أَيَّامِكَ وَلَا تَكُنْ مِنَ ٱلصَّابِرِينَ	Chant it during thy days and withhold not thyself therefrom.
فَإِنَّ اللهَ قَدْ قَدَّرَ لِقَارِئِهِ أَجْرَ مِائَةَ شَهِيدٍ ثُمَّ عِبَادَةِ ٱلثَّقَلَيْنِ	For verily, God hath ordained for the one who chants it, the reward of a hundred martyrs and a service in both worlds.
كَذَلِكَ مَنَنَّا عَلَيْكَ بِفَضْلٍ مِنْ عِنْدِنَا وَرَحْمَةٍ مِنْ لَدُنَّا لِتَكُوْنَ مِنَ ٱلشَّاكِرِينَ	These favors have We bestowed upon thee as a bounty on Our part and a mercy from Our presence, that thou mayest be of those who are grateful.
16 فَوَ اللهِ	By God!

مَنْ كَانَ فِي شِدَّةٍ أَوْ حُزْنٍ وَيَقْرَأُ هَذَا ٱللَّوْحَ بِصِدْقٍ مُبِينٍ يَرْفَعُ اللّٰهُ حُزْنَهُ وَيَكْشِفُ ضُرَّهُ وَيُفَرِّجُ كَرْبَهُ	Should one who is in affliction or grief read this Tablet with absolute sincerity, God will dispel his sadness, solve his difficulties and remove his afflictions.
17 وَإِنَّهُ لَهُوَ ٱلرَّحْمٰنُ ٱلرَّحِيْمُ	Verily, He is the Merciful, the Compassionate.
وَٱلْحَمْدُ للهِ رَبِّ ٱلْعَالَمِينَ	Praise be to God, the Lord of all the worlds.

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