

`ABDU'L-BAHA

The passing of `Abdu'l-Baha November 27 1921.

The funeral took place on the morning of the 29th. A funeral, the like of which, Haifa, nay Palestine itself, had surely never seen. So deep was the feeling that brought so many thousands of mourners together, representative of so many religions, races and tongues.

"O God, my God!" the peoples wailed with one accord, "Our father has left us!"

People of every religion and race and colour, united in heart through the Manifestation of Servitude in the life-long work of `Abdu'l-Baha.

The triumphal procession, bearing aloft, in a wooden casket, the sacred remains of `Abdu'l-Baha, were preceded by chief officials of various governments, the heads of various religious communities, notables of Palestine, Jews, Christians, Moslems, Druses, Egyptians, Greeks, Turks, Kurds, Americans, Europeans, men women and children of all degrees, about ten thousand in number, all mourning the loss of their Beloved One.

A number of Christian priests, Latin, Greek, and Anglican, all preceded the coffin.

On reaching God's Mountain, Mt Carmel, where the sacred remains of `Abdu'l-Baha were to be laid to rest, each of the representatives of the world's religions gave an address concerning the life and station of their loved one.

The Christian spoke thus:

"I weep for the world, in that my Lord hath died: others there are who, like unto me, weep the death of their Lord..O bitter is the anguish caused by this heart-rending calamity! ...He hath educated the souls of men, hath been benevolent unto them, hath led them to the Way of Truth...Hear me O people! `Abbas is not dead, neither hath the light of Baha been extinguished! Nay, nay! This light shall shine with everlasting splendour...Fellow Christians! Truly ye are bearing the mortal remains of this ever lamented one to His last resting place, yet know of a certainty that your `Abbas will live forever in spirit amongst you...His reality...will never leave our minds, our thoughts, our hearts, our tongues.

Excerpts from "The Passing of `Abdu'l-Baha." 11-12