

## ***A reflection about the writing of Baha'u'llah***

### ***"A self-assessment learning "***

*"The revelation of Baha'u'llah systematic review",* was an outstanding course to help students to understand Baha'u'llah's writing and to relate tablets or writings with the event of revelation and provide themes and the reason behind the revelation. My journey started with reading and reflecting on the writings of the Blessed Beauty and I had the privilege of going to the world centre while doing this course. Visiting the Shrine of the twin manifestations and other holy places that Baha'u'llah visited, enabled me to reflect and relate specific writings to the location of the revelation and allowed me to further connect and understand Baha'u'llah's banishment and exile in Akka. Upon completion of this course, I was able to grasp a basic understanding of the important work of Baha'u'llah and the situation and history of the time of the revelation of different work of Bahauallah. Furthermore, I became more conscious of the importance of deepening, I was wafted with the breezes of His words that awakened me to deepen on the ocean of His writings. In this journey I visited some of the writings of Baha'ullah such as :

- Rashh I Ama revealed in Black Pit dungan.
- Kitab Iqan, Seven, four Valley, Lawh-i-Kullu'-Ta'ám , Al-Qaṣīda al-warqā'īya, Hidden Words, Tablet of the Holy Mariner revealed in Baghdad.
- Sury-i-Haykal and other tablets revealed to the kings revealed when Baha'u'llah was in the Barrack.
- Kitab Aghdas, Tablet of Fire *Lawh-i-Ihtirāq*, some of the tablets revealed after Kitab Aghdas such as, Ishraghat, Tajalliyāt , Bisharat, Lawh-i-Hikmat and the Epistle to the Son of the Wolf while He was in Akka.

In this reflective writing I will summarise my understanding of some of the writings that really touched me while I was visiting it.

## My view and understanding of some of writings of Baha'u'llah

### ***Rashh i- Ama***

This journey helped me to understand an overall view of Bahau'llah's writings, His exile and banishment from Siyah chal "black Pit" dungeon to Akka Bahji which He passed away. I was really touched with His Work in Siyah chal "Rashhe Ama' and the mystical revelation of receiving the Word of God to Him from Maid of heaven and the situation of siyah chal at the time. I was amazed when I found out about the mystic meaning behind number twelve : the length of revelation which has been 12 days commencing from His birthday second of Muharrum, continued for twelve day while he was in Black Pit dungeon ( 1852 A.D). Pointing out to Maid of Heaven as a Spirit of God that has revealed to Him in such a poetic writings make it more incredible to know about His Divine utterance and stunning language that the writing has been presented.

Looking deeply in the **Hidden words** of Baha'u'llah and comparing it with Seven valley, I understood that the writing of the Blessed Beauty are all interrelated and when we read one another and meditate, it help us to understand the concept better. Bahau'llah teaches us morals and virtues of living , having a Bahai life and to detach ourselves from material world in Hidden words. Whereas in **Seven valley**, Baha'u'llah is showing us the spiritual journey of true seekers towards the valley of poverty and absolute nothingness. And then it has mentioned that this stage known as the furthestmost state of mystic knowers or further stage of homeland lovers, then the true seekers in this spiritual journey attends to four stage or station, which the first commence with the city of heart 's citadel or the first entrance to the city of the heart (Page.44, The seven Valley extract from ebook).

The Blessed Beauty has also mentioned about the characteristic of the true seekers in His other writings such as Lowh hikmat, Kitab Iqan, Hidden words, the Epistle to the Son of the Wolf. In the Seven Valleys, my favourite Valley was the Valley of Love, because love is the

beginning of the seeker journey after searching truth!!! . The valley that the true seeker is burning with the fire of love which nothing can stop him/her in this path. The valley that seeker sees His beloved in any object, the seekers searches everywhere to find the beloved, like when Majnon was searching for Layli everywhere!!!

It reminded me the quote from Rumi

*“The first minute I heard my love story I started looking for you, not knowing how blind that was. Lovers don’t finally meet somewhere they are in each other’s all along”*

Reflecting on myself, throughout my years, I had been constantly seeking to find a knowledgeable teacher to teach me about the faith, not knowing how blind I was. The real teacher is the Blessed Beauty and I need to deepen to the ocean of His words. He has revealed the writing base on the capacity of mankind, in fact if we don’t understand something , is because we haven’t had enough courage to search and finding the answer . The good example is jinab Abul- adael who was very knowledgeable in Islamic religion and law, and repeated reading the kitab-Iqan hundred times and upon 99 times of reading Iqan, he wasn’t quite getting it and then he had different view and understanding of Iqan he repeated reading it again and again until he reached hundred times of reading Iqan.

The rumi quote helped me to find the answer within myself and by meditating on Bahauallah’s words, when He utters:

*Immerse yourselves in the ocean of My words, that ye may unravel its secrets, and discover all the pearls of wisdom that lie hid in its depths.*

### **Epistle of the Son of Wolf**

I understood the importance of this epistle and the re - revelation of the Word of God. I would like to put more time and effort to study it, as I believe this Epistle is not only for the Shaykh Muhammad-Taquí Esfahani, but it was revealed for mankind to change their way of life and strive to live better, to sincerely ask for forgiveness and move on if they have failed

previously on tests. Bahauallah has testified that if they take a steps towards God, and beg for His forgiveness He will answer their prayer , will forgive their sins.

### **Low-i Hikmat**

Low-i-Hikmat changed my view of thinking about the stories that has been said in the past about other religions.

God revealed His words through manifestation. I studied that entire creation has been commenced from heat generation and interaction of active force and its recipient and all the creation has started through that. I understood to look deeper in the word of God, Bahauallah stated that the Words of God has no syllable or sound or substance therefore it is beyond our understanding and it has awakened me to look more deeply towards creation and utterance of divine words of God.

It reminds me of “Nay “that “Flute” that is from the breath and the sound is upon who is playing it. Indeed spiritual and physical world has merged together and created harmony in this world for us to live gain spiritual knowledge and awareness through the manifestation of God.

I also learnt about the history of the past that was written in Quran and other books, comes with deeper meaning and the Blessed Beauty telling us that time of telling old story has passed and in this day He wants the believers to read His Words and writing and act base on knowledge of the faith and wisdom. He wants the believer to understand the essence of His Words and utter ourselves with it not to follow superstitious.

Lowh-i- Hikmat opened the new door for me to understand more about the importance of this great revelation. Familiarise myself with the English terms of writings which was incredible. Some words such as “In Mazolum” has been used a lot in Persian pointing to himself whereas in English has been translated to “ Wrong one” which I found it difficult to understand and related it to Him at the beginning!!!

Now I have more knowledge about Bahauallah’s writing and I can say I can relate the tablets and their potency with the situation of the revelation.

### **Kitab Iqan**

**“The book of certitude” which is known as the book which concludes “The Bayan”**  
*Nevertheless the Kitab Iqan that is one of the greatest writing of Baha’u’llah, is very*

*challenging to understand and I think this book itself, needs separate course for study and reflection. Iqan is completing Bayan that has written by The Bab. Iqan is disclosing the key concept of comparative religion and interpreter the prophecy of symbols. He opens the eyes of readers to the new way of thinking , explains the mystery of man and the relation between manifestation of God and mankind, the attribute of true seekers.*

### **Apply learning in to practice and community building**

During this course I was almost everyday meditating and thinking about the different writings and would discuss anything that it was capturing my heart with my family.

I believe before we change anything or have effect on anyone , we need to change ourselves and our attitude , then when our words and action become harmonised with virtues then we can make a change and difference to others .

I opened my house with dawn prayer and my family supporting it and we are having regular weekly dawn prayer at 6.30 am.

In summary the revelation of Baha'u'llah systematic review , helped me to familiarise myself with the writings of Bahauallah and enable me to interrelate the event, exile and suffering of Bahauallah with the specific types of His writings. I know some of the important works of Bahauallah, the reason and background history behind revealing some of the tablets and the important writings.

I was encouraged to read and meditating upon the writings and make it as a habit to reflect and talk about it in daily life with my family and friends. I am building my confident by building capacity in myself and this course made me ready to offer my help in assisting different activities and helping the needs of the community such as teaching children in Monash Bahai Sunday school .I offered myself to be substitute teacher and so far I have been substitute teacher twice in Bahai Sunday school , once I thought prep group and last week I thought grade 9 who were studying Kitab Aghdas. In this session I was able to use Wilmette institute material to teach them about the history and summarise the content of the kitab Aghdas, as well as talking about the obligatory prayer which is one of the important law of Kitab Aghdas to year 9 students.