

BAHAI CULT LEADER EXPIRES IN SYRIA

Abdul Baha Abbas Had Spent
Last Twenty Years on
Mount Carmel.

VISITED AMERICA IN 1912

Persian Was Advocate of League of
Nations and Believer in
Equality of Sexes.

LONDON, Nov. 30.—Abdul Baha Abbas, leader of the Bahai movement, died at Haifar, Syria, Monday, according to a dispatch to The London Times.

Abdul Baha Abbas, as the third prophet of Bahalism always signed his name, although he has sometimes been called Abbas Effendi (Mr. Abbas) or Abdul Baha, was born in Shiraz, Persia, May 23, 1844. It was on that day that Mirza Ali Mohammed, also a Persian, and presently to be called the Bab, preached the first revelation of Bahalism, or, as it has been called, "the Wisdom of the East"—a practical idealism of thought and conduct. It claims not to be a religion, but the root of all constructive religions before, the disciples of the cult assert, they became corrupted by theology, dogmas, and politics. It is supposed to be a cult of harmony, of brotherhood, of infinite charity. It is said that Mirza received his first inspiration to found the cult in the words of Achmet the Turk: "Religion means the various ways in which God is worshipped." The late Prophet spent his life in seeking to have the various religions return to their ideal root which was to be obtained by harmonizing them.

There is an almond tree-shaded villa on Mount Carmel, which rises above the town overlooking the Bay of Acre, where Abdul Baha Abbas spent the last twenty years of his life. At the time of the World War, which he had several times foretold with uncanny detail, he had, to use his own words, "outlived persecution."

In 1912 he had visited the United States and was received not only by the societies of Bahalism, which had gradually grown up here, but also by several universities, notably Leland Stanford University, whose guest he was for several days.

During the worldwide debate over the League of Nations his messages from Mount Carmel were frequent and eloquent in favor of the League.

He also believed in the equality of the sexes.

When he visited New York the local adepts of Bahalism numbered 100, 80 of whom were women.

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