

# ABDUL BAHÁ, HEAD OF WIDE RELIGIOUS CULT, DIES IN SYRIA

Was 60 Years in Exile and in Prison for Teaching Oneness of All Creeds.

LONDON, Dec. 1.—The death of Abdul Baha Abbas, prophet and son of the founder of Baháism, "the universal religion," died Monday at Haifa, Syria, according to the Times Haifa correspondent. He visited the United States in 1912.

Never before Abdul Baha did the leader of an Oriental religious movement visit the United States. Born in Teheran, Persia, in 1844, Abdul Baha had passed sixty years in banishment and imprisonment. Those who try to follow his teachings number hundreds of thousands. There are thousands of Baháites in this country. The Bahá revelation, which had its inception in Persia in the middle of the last century, was first centered in a youth, Mirza Ali Mohammed by name, who called himself "the Bab," the gate through which men could arrive at the knowledge of God. His mission was to proclaim the coming of a great world messenger. After six years of teaching he was assassinated in 1850. Nineteen years later Baha-Ullah, the "Glory of God," appeared as the one heralded by the Bab. Since his death, in 1892, the movement had been under the guidance of Abdul Baha. After the overthrow of the Sultan by the Young Turks in 1907, Abdul Baha was released from the prison into which he had been thrown with his leader and other dis-

iples. He dwelt on Mount Carmel, near Haifa, the principal port of Palestine. Abdul Baha strove most earnestly to promote the brotherhood of man, the abolition of war and the oneness of religion. Abdul Baha believed that Bolshevism would prove an admonition to the irreligious world.

Abdul Baha Had 1,500 Active Followers Here. There are about 1,500 active followers of the Bahá movement in New York and vicinity. The principal "centres" or groups are in the Washington Square section; at Geological Hall, No. 226 West 58th Street; Bahá Library, No. 416 Madison Avenue; Rainbow Circle, No. 106 West 180th Street; the Persian Restaurant, No. 34 West 38th Street; Brooklyn headquarters, No. 235 Eastern Parkway, and No. 52 Greentree Place, Brooklyn; in Newark and other nearby towns.

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