

with the Blessed Perfection Baha'u'llah, and consented to
 in every year of his youth he visited the located in Chi-
 Center of the Covenant, 'Abdu'l-Baha. He came to America in September, 1909, to
 the issues
 complete a course in medicine, graduating Volumes IV and V
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-there were 19 issues in each volume-Dr. line with Haifa from the
 center of the build- ing. In this photograph Dr.
 Bagdadi compiled and wrote the manuscript Bagdadi is seen
 in the form of pages, which were photo- digging the first shovelful of
 earth-the other friends present
 graphed, reduced to page size, etched on following him in breakzinc, which became the printing plates for ing the
 ground. It was indeed fitting that
 the Persian sections of the Star of the West Dr. Bagdadi should have this
 honor, and his
 -a total of 262 pages. His beautiful style association with this great
 event 1 is suffiof writing was distinctly Arabic in char- cient evidence
 of the esteem his fellowacter. Th:s labor was accomplished by Dr.
 believers had for his valiant and devoted la- bors for the Temple and the
 Bagdadi in addition to translating Tablets Cause of
 of 'Abdu'l-Baha and speaking on the Cause Baha'u'Ilah.
 wherever the opportunity arose-all this
 aside from his practice of medicine and sur- NOTEWORTHY QUALITIES OF DR.
 BAGDADI

gery. Mr. Windust spoke of the
 time when his
 family met 'Abdu'l-Baha in an upper room
 DR. BAGDADI WITH 'ABDU'L-BAHA
 at the home of Mrs. Davies in Chicago.
 IN CHICAGO When He saw the youngest child, He took
 Reference was made to the photograph of her upon His lap and called for
 someone to
 'Abdu'l-Baha, together with five of the Ori- bring candy for the little
 one. Dr. Bagdadi
 ental Baha'is, taken by Mr. Killius in Lin- instantly responded, leaping
 down the stairs
 coln Park, Chicago, in 1912. Standing di- two or more steps at a time,
 obtained the
 rectly behind 'Abdu'l-Baha, on the right, is candy, and sprang up stairs

with it, handing .

Dr. Bagdadi. In looking at this photograph, the bowl to 'Abdu'l-Baha as a courier would

one is impressed with the thought that our present an urgent message to a king. It was

beloved Guardian, Shoghi Effendi, has, in an impressive demonstration to many who

his cablegram, perfectly described the quali- witnessed it, of the divine qualities of "inties of Dr. Bagdadi. stant, exact

and complete obedience" Dr.

This photograph was taken directly across Bagdadi so remarkably possessed. the street from the Plaza Hotel. In this Mrs. Grace Ober also

testified to this outconnection, it is interesting to note that standing characteristic of Dr. Bagdadi, by

when it was taken, no one dreamed that in telling the following experience: "I was

this same part of Lincoln Park, the Chi- keeping house in New York for 'Abdu'l-ago Historical Society would erect the Baha and His party of

interpreters at the

splendid museum which stands there today. time when He attended the

Peace Conference at Lake Mohonk. Late at night, the

DR. BAGDADI'S DEVOTED LABOR FOR THE bell rang furiously and at the door stood Dr.

TEMPLE

Bagdadi, no hat upon his head, his hair

Shoghi Effendi, in his cablegram request- disheveled, and his clothes covered with dust.

ing the holding of this memorial gathering He rushed into the house saying 'Abdu'lfor Dr. Bagdadi, states : . . . "Advise Baha'i Baha had sent

him to bring a rug to Lake

Communities of Chicago and surrounding Mohonk at the earliest possible moment. I

regions hold befitting memorial gathering in begged him to have something to eat, to

Temple for which he so valiantly and de- bathe and rest for a little while. But quickly

votedly labored." . . . finding what he wanted he rushed away with

In this connection we were reminded by it. During the short time he was in the

Mrs. True, of the photograph taken on this house I learned that 'Abdu'l-Baha wished to

Temple site March 21, 1921, and published present a gift to the Secretary of the Peace

in the Star of the West, Volume XII, No.2. Conference, Mr. W . H . Short, Sec'y of the

It was the beginning of actual work for the

1 This breaking of ground for the actual construction of the first
Mailiriqu'l-Adhkar tion of the caissons to bed rock should not be
in America; that is, the breaking of ground confused with the boring oper-
ations begun on September 24, 1920, to obtain a core of soil strata
before beginning the digging of the caissons, which
caissons to bed rock-the one directly in began March 21, 1921.-Editors
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Friends assembled on Mailiriqu'l-Adhkar grounds, Chicago, March 21, 1921.
Dr. Zia M. Bagdadi digging first shovelful of earth.

New York Peace Society, before the close During these years Dr.
Bagdadi was a
of its sessions next day, and that it was nec- pillar of strength to the
Baha'is of America
essary that some one of His party go to the manifesting firmness in the
Covenant and
city for it and return at once. Dr. Bagdadi all that it implies. He alone
seemed to unhad instantly volunteered. He discovered derstand the deep
meanings of this most
there was no passenger train at that great characteristic-that is:
through the
hour and boarded a freight train, arriving power of the Covenant no one
can create a
in the condition I described. I learned sect or division in the Baha'i
Faith; through
later that in returning he again rode on a this most great
characteristic, the Center of
freight train as there was no other trans- the Covenant will protect the
Cause from
portation at that early morning hour. Dr. now until at least qne
thousand years, and
Bagdadi was the embodiment of the perhaps until thousands of
years have passed
quality of "Instant, exact and complete away.
obedience." Those who attended the
eighth session of
The chairman expressed the thought that the Baha'i Congress at Hotel
McAlpin, New
York City, April 30th, 1919,
everyone present at this memorial gather- will never forgetting, who knew Dr. Bagdadi, no doubt cher- get Dr.
Bagdadi's presentation of this most
ished in his heart and memory some par- important matter. Although he
had been
ticular remembrance or many remembrances ill for three days, he arose
to astonishing
of our dearly beloved Dr. Bagdadi. heights and depths of

understanding in this

address, unfolding all the qualities Shoghi
FIRMNESS IN THE COVENANT, AN OUT-
cablegram prompt-
STANDING QUALITY OF DR. BAGDAD!
"exem-

Effendi mentions in the

ing this memorial gathering--of

When 'Abdu'l-Baha came to America in
unquestioning loyalty,
1912, He awakened and began to educate
exertion"-combined with a
the Baha'is to the Most Great Characteristic
arresting and soul
of the Revelation of Baha'u'llah, namely,
address of that

plary faith, audacity,

indefatigable

dramatic appeal that was

stirring. This outstanding

The Center of the Covenant-that which
stenographithe previous Divine Manifestations did
'in Volume XI of the Star

remarkable Congress was taken
cally and printed

not bring. From that time until the day
of His ascension in 1921, He stressed its
importance with ever increasing emphasis,
AND BEING

of the West.

DR. BAGDAD! WRITES OF SEEING

thus preparing them for the hour when
His Will and Testament was brought to
Bagdadi wrote a

WITH BAHA'U'LLAH
In the year 1929, Dr.

light.

book telling of his birthplace

and travels in

IN MEMORIAM

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the Orient under the title, Treasures of the
WILHELM

MRS. LAURIE C.

East. In it he describes the peerless pano-
By Roy C. W I LHELM

rama of the Plain of 'Akka surrounded by
mountains and sea, in the center of which
tendency began

Mother's strong religious

is the Mansion of Bahji, located about one
religious fundamile from the Mediterranean and three miles
I do not recall her ever

with her mother who was
mentally though

from the town of 'Akka, Palestine. It was
she did not

having attended a church; and

here Baha'u'llah lived the last few years of
professional

believe that a system in which

His exile until He departed to .t he Supreme
was in accord

religionists "reached for hire

World in 1892 . Dr. Bagdadi tells that here,
example of Jesus.

with the admonitions and

when he was a child, he had the great privi-

During my early years

Grandmother often
lege of seeing and being with Baha'u'llah. spoke to me of so many of the
Bible prophe-
He wrote: cies being fulfilled and said
she believed the
"I had the greatest honor and privilege to Promised Age was near and we must
all be
see Baha'u'llah and sit at His feet many days watchful to recognize the
Great Day when
and nights in this Mansion. Here He used it came. Mother and father
were members
to hold my hand while walking to and fro of a denomination to which
they sent me in
in His large room, revealing Tablets, chant- my youth-though they were not
orthodox
ing the prayers with the most charming and in their views, rather they
shared Grandmelodious voice, while one of the attendants mother's beliefs
that the Creator of all hutook them down. Here I saw Him teaching
manity was interested in all humanity.
and blessing the pilgrims who came from all About 1890 Mother became
dissatisfied
lands. On hot days He would take me with with the churches and began
searching for
Him to the outer alcove of the Mansion reality. She investigated
various teachings
where it was somewhat cooler. I would including the philosophies of
the East, Christand in a corner with folded arms, my eyes tian Science,
etc. I sometimes wondered,
fixed on His incomparable countenance, "What next?" Mother also felt
deeply that
while the gentle breezes blew on His soft jet the Great Day was near, that it
might come
black hair which reached almost to the waist, even in our time-and how would
we be
flowing beneath the taj, like a crown, that able to recognize its
fulfillment!
covered His head and a part of His broad, Mother had a friend,
kindred in thought,
full, high forehead. in Miss Laura Jones, also of
our old home
"From His light-colored garments which town-Zanesville, Ohio: they often
met towere- similar to those of all the ancient gether, and wondered if
the Spirit might be
prophets, I had always inhaled the fragrance upon the earth at this time:
how shall we
of the pure attar of roses. At times He find Him, etc. Shortly after
the early 90's

would spend half an hour on the alcove, and Miss Laura moved to Chicago.
 There she
 my eyes would remain fixed on His majestic heard of the Baha'i Faith, and
 wrote to
 face. But whenever He glanced at me with Mother that she had found that
 for which
 His brown, piercing, yet most affectionate they had been seeking. In her
 letter she ineyes, then I had to turn mine away and look cluded some
 pamphlets, among which was a
 down on the floor. copy of the "Hidden Words."
 Mother read
 "At my birth, Baha'u'llah named me these, and accepted immediately.
 About
 'Zia' (Light) and gave me the Turkish title 1898 or 1899, when I was a
 traveling sales-
 'Effendi.' But on my first visit to Him, man, Mother mailed me a page
 from a newswhen He inquired about my health, I re- paper containing a
 photograph of 'Abdu'lplied in Arabic 'Mabsoot' (I am happy). He Baha and
 an article in which something was
 questioned, 'How is your father?' I an- said to the effect that many
 regarded Him as
 swered, 'Mabsoot'; and 'How is your a return of the Spirit. Having
 in mind
 mother?' He asked. 'Mabsoot' was my re- Mother's various explorations I
 was not so
 ply. He laughed heartily and after that He deeply impressed, but wrote
 upon the maralways called me Mabsoot Effendi (The gin, "Strange if
 true" and returned it to her.
 Happy One)."
 In 1901 and 1902, Mother and
 Father vis-

— In Memoriam: Dr. Zia M. Bagdadi (Used by permission of the curator)