

## ***The (Late) Mr. Ishraq Khavari's Books and Publications***

compiled by Adel Shafipour

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Proofread and edited by Adib Masumian and Arjen Bolhuis

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After Mirza Abu'l-Fadl, Mirza Asadu'llah Fadil Mazandarani (1881–1957) and 'Abdu'l-Hamid Ishraq-Khavari (1902–1972) are generally considered to be next in rank of the distinguished Iranian Bahá'í scholars. Fadil Mazandarani, whose mammoth nine-volume history of the Babi and Bahá'í religions, known as *Zuhūr al-Ḥaqq* (The Manifestation of Truth); five-volume Babi and Bahá'í dictionary, entitled *Asrār al-Āthār* (Mysteries in the Writings [of the Faith]); and four-volume compilation of hitherto unpublished writings of Bahá'u'lláh and 'Abdu'l-Bahá, known as *Amr va Khalq* ([The Kingdoms of] Revelation and Creation), have provided students and academicians of Bahá'í Studies with a wealth of knowledge and information about the early history and teachings of these religions. Mazandarani was also instructed by 'Abdu'l-Bahá – and later by Shoghi Effendi – to travel widely and make presentations on the teachings of these religions. Among the countries he travelled to were Iraq, India, the United States and Canada. In the early 1920s, Mazandarani delivered a series of pioneering presentations in the US on gender equality, racial harmony, religious tolerance, globalization, and constructive collaboration among the nations of the world.

'Abdu'l-Hamid Ishraq-Khavari is the last of the three most accomplished Persian scholars. He received his religious education at a seminary in Mashhad and was gaining prominence as a Shi'ite cleric when he converted to the Bahá'í religion in 1927. He devoted the rest of his life to Bahá'í research and activities until his death in 1972. This included compiling large volumes on Bahá'í history, teachings, laws, and ordinances.

Many of his works, particularly his nine-volume *Mā'idih-yi Āsmānī* (Heavenly Sustenance) – which, much like Mazandarani's *Amr va Khalq*, made a host of previously inaccessible writings of Bahá'u'lláh and 'Abdu'l-Bahá available to Bahá'ís – and the four-volume *Qāmūs-i Īqān* (A

Commentary and Dictionary of [the Book of] Certitude), are still among the most influential sources of research for Bahá'í Studies in Persian. A long list of Ishraq-Khavari's writings remains unpublished to this day. Here is a detailed description of 'Abdu'l-Hamid Ishraq-Khavari's works:

## *Books and Publications:*

### *Bahá'í Books (published):*

#### *1 - Aqdáhu'l-Faláh (The Chalice of Salvation)*

*There are two volumes of this title produced in response to questions mainly raised by seekers and refuters of the Faith. Ishraq-Khavari answered all these questions as Bahá'í travel teacher. The first volume was published by Mu'assisih-i Milli-i Matbu'at-i Amri in Tehran in 130 Badi/1974 A.D., and the second volume was published in 132 Badi/1976 A.D.*

#### *2 - Asrár-i-Rabbání (The Divine Mystery) - Three volumes*

*Asrár-i-Rabbání is a commentary on Shoghi Effendi's letter dated 105 Badi', or 1949 A.D. (Tawqí'-i-Riḍván Saniy-i-105 Badi') and addressed to the Bahá'í friends of the East. This letter is difficult to understand without consulting its contents and explanation. In this letter, Shoghi Effendi discusses and explains Bahá'í cycles, ages, eras, epochs and the sequence of events which took place up to that year, and it has many terminologies and brief historical comments. At the recommendation of the National Spiritual Assembly (NSA) of the Bahá'ís of Iran, Ishraq-Khavari wrote two volumes' worth of commentary for this letter. It took him over four months to prepare these books. He consulted over 50 different sources that some have compiled with different volumes. He wrote these books in 896 pages covering 340 topics. An amendment added to the end of the second volume defines over 900 words. The third volume of this commentary is devoted to the letter dated 108 Badi/1952 A.D. This book is mainly a recorded talk of Mr. Ishraq-Khavari done by Counselor Dr. Cyrus Naraghi. As one of Ishraq-Khavari's students, Dr. Vahid Rafati prepared*

these talks into a book of 256 pages covering over 61 topics. This book was published by Asr-i-Jadid in Germany in 2001.

### 3 - Áthár-i-Qalam-i-A'lá [“Traces of the Supreme Pen”], Volumes 3 and 4

There are numerous tablets and books by Bahá'u'lláh, over 100 volumes of which have been collected thus far. An attempt was made for further collection and publication, this collection of original manuscripts hosted many volumes under the title of *Majmú'iy-i-Áthár-i-Qalam-i-A'lá/INBAs*.<sup>1</sup> After that attempt, the National Spiritual Assembly of Iran made a publication of major tablets and writings of Bahá'u'lláh in seven volumes under the title of *Áthár-i-Qalam-i-A'lá*. There are some major tablets and writings of Bahá'u'lláh collected under the supervision of NSA of Iran and published in seven volumes by *Mu'assisih-i Milli-i Matbu'at Amri*, in Tehran. Volume 3 is a collection of *Mystical Writings of Bahá'u'lláh*, such as *Seven Valleys*, *Four Valleys*, *Gems of Divine Mysteries*, *The Ode of the Dove in Arabic*, and a poem in Persian called *Mathnaviy-i-Mubárak* [“Spiritual Couplets”]. It is published with a dictionary at the end of the book; annotations and edits were made by *Ishraq-Khavari*. *Áthár-i-Qalam-i-A'lá* volume 4 has a selection of major tablets that were revealed in Baghdad and Edirne. These rare manuscripts were compiled by *Ishraq-Khavari*. The third and fourth volumes of these series were prepared with his meticulous edits and annotations. Volume 3 and Volume 4 were published in 121 Badi/1964 A.D. and 125 Badi/1968 A.D. respectively.

### 4 - Ayyám-i-Tis'ih (The Nine [Bahá'í] Holy days) - One volume

This book explains in detail about the nine Bahá'í Holy days. It also contains all original documents and special tablets revealed and related to these nine Holy days. This book contains an introduction, seven chapters, and a conclusion. Chapter 1 is about the Birth of the Báb along with a Tablet of the Birth of The Báb, Tablet of the Vision, Tablet of Visitation for the wife of the Báb, and a brief history about His [the Báb] life. Chapter 2 is about the Birth of Bahá'u'lláh. It contains

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<sup>1</sup> - A prepared list of INBA's series at Baha'i Library Online by Dr. Ahang Rabbani and Mr. Riazati, there are given collection of Tablets and Writings of Bahá'u'lláh over 47 volumes. These writing do not include the *Kitáb-i-Badí'*, *Kitáb-i-Íqán*, and a few other major tablets of Bahá'u'lláh such as *Epistle to the Son of the Wolf*.

three tablets about the date of Birth (unpublished), a brief history of His birth and life before receiving His first intimation of revelation, an excerpt from 'Abdu'l-Bahá's oral utterance, and a part from Nabil's Narrative about Bahá'u'lláh's trip to Mazandaran Province. Chapter 3 is about the Declaration of the Báb. It contains the tablet of "Youth of Paradise", Tablet of the Bell, three talks from 'Abdul-Bahá, an excerpt from the writings about the importance of this day, a brief history of the day of the Declaration from Nabil's Narrative, a history of the trial of the Báb in Tabríz, Tablet of (Laylatu'l-Mab'ath) the Night of Declaration [of The Báb], and a tablet by 'Abdul-Bahá about Shiráz. Chapter 4 is about the Martyrdom of the Báb. This chapter contains a tablet about importance of this day, a brief history about the life and martyrdom of the Báb, a brief history of how the holy remains of the Báb were transferred to his Holy Shrine, Tablet of Visitation, and Tablet of Visitation for Imám Husayn. Chapter 5 is about the days of the Ridván Festival, and the importance of the first, ninth, and twelfth days; three tablets about Ridván Festival, Súratu's-Şabr (aka Lawḥ-i-Ayyúb), a tablet about His Manifestation at Ridván, a tablet revealed at the ninth day of Ridván (short tablet revealed in prison about Ridván), Tablet of (Ay Bolbolan Iláhi/O Divine Nightingales), excerpts from different tablets and writings about importance of the Ridván Festival, a tablet in honor of Elizabeth Herrick by Abdul-Bahá about Ridván, an excerpt from Muhammad Mustafa Baghdadi and Mirza Aqa Afnan about entering the Garden of Ridván, a talk by 'Abdul-Bahá at Bahjí on the ninth day of Ridván about the historical importance of Ridván, and a brief selection from Nabil's<sup>2</sup> original Narrative about Ridván. Chapter 6 is about Naw-Rúz; this chapter contains Tablet of Siyam/Fasting, Tablet of Eid Naw-Rúz, and excerpts about the importance of Naw-Rúz from the writings, and a talk and prayer by 'Abdul-Bahá about Naw-Rúz. Chapter 7 is about the Ascension of Bahá'u'lláh. This chapter contains the Kitáb-i-Ahd (Book of the Covenant), Surat'ul-Ghusn (Tablet of the Branch), Tablet of Maryam, talks by Abdul-Bahá about the suffering of Bahá'u'lláh, and the greatness of His Cause, a part from Nabil's Narrative about the suffering of Bahá'u'lláh, a brief account about the Ascension of Bahá'u'lláh, an ode by Mirza Mihdi Gulpaygani, and the Ziyarat-Namih (Tablet of Visitation). The conclusion of this book is about the Ascension of 'Abdul-Bahá. This chapter contains some prayers and writings of 'Abdul-Bahá, the Will and Testament of 'Abdul-Bahá, a brief excerpt about the ascension of Abdul-Bahá, and the Tablet of Visitation. There are two letters by the Guardian of the Faith. The first letter dated on

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<sup>2</sup> - This selection is from Nabil's unpublished chronicle, however, this piece has been published in Rahigh Makhtoum volume 1 / 2. I need to look and also in TZh volume 4, pp. ...

December 16, 1922, followed by a moving and beautiful prayer by the Guardian,<sup>3</sup> and a second letter dated December 19th, 1923, and a Dast Khat (a letter)<sup>4</sup> by the Greatest Holy Leaf to the Bahá'í friends in Persia about the ascension of 'Abdul-Bahá. This book has 576 pages, and was printed six times. The first to fifth editions were published by Mu'assisih-i Milli-i Matbu'at-i Amri, in Tehran in 103, 109, 121, 127, 129 Badi / 1947, 1953, 1965, 1973 A.D. The sixth edition was printed in India. This book is considered as one of the most published book among the Ishraq-Khavari's publications.

## 5 - Adhkáru'l-Muqarrabín (Remembrances of the Near Ones) - Three volumes

*This is a collection of prayers from Bahá'u'lláh, 'Abdul-Bahá, and Shoghi Effendi Rabbani. These three volumes upon instruction of NSA were collected and prepared in 104 Badi/1948 A.D. All Arabic prayers were prepared to be easily read. The first volume includes 81 prayers in 151 pages. The second volume has 68 prayers in 156 pages, and the third volume includes 14 prayers in 68 pages.*

## 6 - Dalíl va Irshád (Proof and Guidance)

*Al-Dalilu wa-al-Irshadu fi liqa'i rabbi al-'ibad is as the name indicates about the meaning of "the encounter with God" alluded to in numerous verses of the Qur'an and in many hadiths. This book written in response to the meaning of meeting with God at the time of resurrection in view of all religions of God, death, life after death and the eternal life of the soul, and other issues discussed. It is on theological belief in the Bahá'í Faith from a Sunni point of view. It is a discourse between Zaid and Khalid and all relevant questions continue through the book. The author of this book is Al-Hajj Ahmad Hamdi Al-Muhammad,<sup>5</sup> a Bahá'í from Iraq. He wrote this book in Arabic. The date of first printing is unknown. The third printing was published in Beirut in 1966. Upon*

<sup>3</sup> - A prayer by the Guardian, "O mighty God, Thou seest in the long Night..."

<sup>4</sup> - *Dast Khat* (handwriting) is used for the letters written by the Greatest Holy Leaf. These letters are a message of hope and inspiration for Baha'i community of Iran (Persia) to raise the banner of service to the highest degree of expectation of the beloved Master. It is very moving and beautiful.

<sup>5</sup> Al-Hajj Ahmad Hamdi Al-Muhammad - A biography of him recorded by Dr. Manouchehr Salmanpour in *Khúshih-há'í az Kharman-i-Adab va Hunar*, vol. 5, pp. 98–110.

*instruction of the NSA of Iran, Ishraq-Khavari translated it into Persian. This book was published by Mu'assisih-i Milli-i Matbu'at-i Amri, in Tehran in 126 Badi/1969 A.D.*

## 7 - Duruj-i-La'álíy-i-Hidáyat (The Pearls of Guidance) - Three volumes

*These are three volumes by Ishraq-Khavari published in old style of publication. It considered his first publication after the translation of Message of Bahá'u'lláh (Bahá'u'lláh and the New Era). It was published in Isfahan in 100 Badi/1944 A.D. These books were compiled and written as text books for the purpose of teaching and preparing of Bahá'í teachers while he was living in Isfahan. These materials were prepared based on the Book of Certitude (Kitáb-i-Íqán) and the Book of Fara'id, Burhán-i-Lámi' ("The Brilliant Proof"), Gulshan-i-Ḥaqá'iq and other apologias were used extensively. Volume 1 is 233 pages, volume 2 is 384 pages, and volume 3 is 605 pages. The third volume is mainly about biographical life and the history of religions of the past and their teachings, laws, and ordinances.*

## 8 - Ganj-i-Shaygan (A Royal Treasure)

*This book gives a brief summary of the place and time of the revelation of each well-known and major tablet of Bahá'u'lláh from the time of the Faith's birth, as early as the Siyah-Chal (Black Pit) in Tehran all the way through Baghdad, Istanbul, Edirne, and Akka periods. This book also contains some of the rare unpublished tablets such Lawḥ-i-Ḥaqq, Halih Yá Bishárat, Bulbul-i-Firáq, etc. This book was published by Mu'assisih-i Milli-i Matbu'at-i Amri, in Tehran in 124 Badi/1968 A.D.*

## 9 - Ganjiniy-i-Ḥudúd va Aḥkám (A Treasure-Trove of Laws and Ordinances) - One volume

*Ishraq-Khavari wrote a commentary for the Book of Aqdas (Kitáb-i-Aqdas) in four volumes. These books are called Ṭirázu'l-Aṭlas li'l-Kitábu'l-Aqdas. Later on for publishing purpose he selected and made an abridged version of these books in one volume and named it "Ganjiniy-i-Ḥudúd va Aḥkám". This book was first time printed in 466 pages by Mu'assisih-i Milli-i Matbu'at-i Amri, in Tehran in 102 Badi/1946 A.D.*

## 10 - Jannát-i-Na‘ím<sup>6</sup> (The Paradise of Na‘ím)

*These books are poetry by Na‘ím. They are also called Istidlál-i-Na‘ím. He wrote them to manifest proof of the Faith for Bahá‘í teachers. These books borrowed many excerpts from Qur’anic verses and some verses from the Bible such as the Gospel and the Torah, and from the Bayán (both Persian and Arabic). He wrote them in two volumes in his own handwritings to preserve the authenticity of his work. Later on, his son Abdu’l-Husayn Na‘ímí, a member of the NSA of Iran, published these books under the title of Gulzár-i-Na‘ím [Rose-Garden of Na‘ím]. Ishraq-Khavari edited and annotated these books and produced them in five volumes under the title of Tafşílu’d-Durr-i-Yatím fí Sharh-i-Ash‘ár-i-Na‘ím (Exposing a rare pearl in explanation of the Poetry of Náím). He wrote these books while he was in Iraq and dedicated to the presence of the Guardian. The Guardian of the Bahá‘í Faith postponed the publication in future. At a later time, Ishraq-Khavari summarized these books in two volumes and named them Jannát-i-Na‘ím [The Paradise of Na‘ím]. These two volumes were published by Mu‘assisih-i Milli-i Matbu‘at-i Amri, in Tehran. Volume 1 was published in 130 Badi/1974 A.D, and volume 2 was published in 131 Badi/1975 A.D.*

## 11 - Má’idiy-i-Ásmání (Heavenly Nourishment) - Nine volumes

*These are compilations and collections of many different tablets that feature over 833 tablets on different subjects. They are nine volumes that are compiled by Ishraq-Khavari while he was a travel teacher. When he went to different cities, he gathered and collected from Bahá‘í local libraries or believers, which they possessed, what they inherited from their ancestors or some of them were among eminent believers who were the recipients of many tablets. At a later time, he published those valuable volumes. Volumes 1, 3, 7, and 8 are all tablets of Bahá‘u’lláh that include 854 pages in 376 topics. Volumes 2, 5, and 9 are the writings of ‘Abdul-Bahá that include 507 pages in 395 topics and volumes 3 and 6 are the writings and letters of Shoghi Effendi Rabbani which are 189 pages in 62 topics. There was a volume 10, which was like an encyclopedic volume with definitions of different words, or historical contents. It was prepared but never published.*

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<sup>6</sup> - A detailed biography about Náím of Sidih, a superb poet, is in Eminent Bahá‘ís in the Time of Bahá‘u’lláh, pp. 129-141

*Má'idíy-i-Ásmání* was published for the first time by *Mu'assisih-i Milli-i Matbu'at-i Amri*<sup>7</sup>, in Tehran: volume 9 in 122 Badi/1965 A.D., volumes 1 and 9 in 128 Badi /1971 A.D., and volumes 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, and 8 were published in 129 Badi/1972 A.D. This valuable series can be found online in the Bahá'í Reference Library.

## 12 - Muḥádirát (Analytical Discussions) - Three volumes

*These books are about different subjects, and cover a very wide variety of topics on history, tablets, previous religions, biographies, etc. Ishraq-Khavari often cites writings of the Faith that are not found elsewhere, when a group of his Bahá'í students asked him different questions about different topics. Ishraq-Khavari used to hold a weekly session with his students and other interested parties. The class was in the form of people asking questions, and he answering them. Occasionally, these classes would focus on a particular book, like the Kitáb-i-Aqdas. However, more often they were free form. Typically, several of his students would be taking notes as Ishraq-Khavari spoke. As a result of some sessions he held in the early 1960s, these books were produced in three volumes. He responded and later on, he wrote them down and published them at their request with approval of NSA of Iran. The first two volumes are over 1100 pages. Volume 1 was published in Iran in 120 Badi/1964 A.D., and volume 2 published in 121 Badi/1965 A.D. by Mu'assisih-i Milli-i Matbu'at-i Amri in Tehran, and volume 3 was edited by Dr. Rafati and published by the Bahá'í Publishing Trust of Germany in 162 Badi /2005 A.D.*

## 13 - Núrayn-i-Nayyirayn (The Twin Shining Lights<sup>8</sup>)

*This book is about the sacrificial life of two followers of Bahá'u'lláh. The Twin Shining Lights or the Twin Luminous Orbs, were two stalwart brothers, natives of Isfahan, whom the Pen of Bahá'u'lláh, the Most Sublime Pen, extolled as Sultanu'sh-Shuhada' (the King of Martyrs) and Mahbubu'sh Shuhada' (the Beloved of Martyrs). Mirza Muhammad-Hasan, the King of Martyrs, was two years younger than his brother Mirza Muhammad-Husayn, the Beloved of Martyrs. They were beheaded in the city of 'Abbas the Great in the year 1879. Their deaths were planned, decreed and encompassed by three persons: Mir Muhammad-Husayn, the Imam-Jum'ih of Isfahan,*

<sup>7</sup> - Baha'í Publishing Trust in Tehran, Iran

<sup>8</sup> - A biography about these two brothers is in *Eminent Bahá'ís in the Time of Bahá'u'lláh*, pp. 33-51.



*stigmatized by Bahá'u'lláh as Raqsha' - the She-Serpent; Shaykh Muhammad-Baqir, another influential divine of that city whom the Most Sublime Pen singled out as Dhi'b -- the Wolf; and Sultan-Mas'ud Mirza, the Zillu's-Sultan, the avaricious, tyrannical son of Násiri'd-Dín Sháh who governed that city of immortal memory. It was the rapacity and the innate viciousness of those divines, combined with the greed and corruption of the Prince-Governor, which delivered those noble souls, whom all the inhabitants of Isfahan knew as selfless, upright and kindly men, into the hands of the executioner. He [Sultan-Mas'ud Mirza, the Zillu's-Sultan] was an early-appointed heir to the Throne but dismissed by committing an assault to the daughter of a well-reputed merchant that caused him to his dismissal. Ishraq-Khavari prepared this memoir for the first time. This book contains first hand materials and documents with detailed biography. This book was published by Mu'assisih-i Milli-i Matbu'at Amri, in Tehran in 123 Badi/1967 A.D.*

#### **14 - Payám-i-Bahá'u'lláh (From *Bahá'u'lláh and the New Era* by Dr. J.E. Esslemont)**

*This was an early translation of "Bahá'u'lláh and the New Era" by J.E. Esslemont that was done by Ishraq-Khavari. This book is considered his first Bahá'í book published in 1944 A.D. The translation of this book was not approved by the Guardian; the publication was eventually postponed, and the book was pulled out of circulation.*

#### **15 - Payám-i-Malakút (The Message of the Kingdom)**

*This book was first published in 104 Badi/1948 A.D. in 14 different treatises or booklets. At a later date it was printed in one volume in 467 pages under the title of "Payam Malakut". It is a detailed explanation of spiritual and social teachings of the Bahá'í faith based on many tablets and writings of the Central Figures of the Bahá'í Faith. In this book 14-15 topics are discussed in detail, topics such as: 1 – The equality between men and women; 2 – The elimination of prejudice; 3 - Religion must bring unity and amity; 4 - Oneness of God, oneness of mankind; 5 - International language and one script; and more.*

#### **16 - Qámús-i-Lawḥ-i-Shaykh Najafí (A Commentary on the Tablet to Aqa Najafi, or *The Epistle to the Son of Wolf*) - One volume**

*A detailed explanation of one of the major tablets of Bahá'u'lláh called Epistle to the Son of the Wolf. This commentary discusses the content from a historical and literal point of view. The book was edited by Dr. Vahid Rafati and published by Asre Jadid in Germany in 158 Badi /2001 A.D. (this book was announced by Payam Bahá'í as under publication, but somehow was not published; the reason is unknown to the present writer).*

## 17 - Qámús-i-Kitáb-i-Íqán (A Commentary on *The Book of Certitude*) - Four volumes

*These are four detailed volumes of commentary on the Kitáb-i-Íqán. These books are written by Ishraq-Khavari with a dictionary at the end of these volumes that explains all the difficult words in the Kitáb-i-Íqán. This commentary was prepared upon instructions of the NSA of Iran. For preparation of these books, he began in November 1966 up to March 1969, over 500 books and documents along with manuscripts consulted and the end result were four volumes. These four volumes include 2540 pages and over 497 topics with definitions of over 2000 words appended to the end of volume 4. These books were published by Mu'assisih-i Milli-i Matbu'at-i Amri, in Tehran in 128 Badi/ 1972 AD. There is an abridged version of these books published in one volume. This book is found at Bahá'í Reference library.*

## 18 - Rahíq-i-Makhtúm (The Choice Sealed Wine) – Two Volumes

*This is a commentary on the letter (Tawqí') of Naw-Rúz 101 Badi/1944 A.D. [the centennial letter also known as the Lawḥ-i-Qarn]. Similar to the book "God Passes By", Shoghi Effendi Rabbani wrote a letter to the Bahá'í friends of the East. This letter is very condensed and difficult to read. It has many terminologies and brief historical comments. Upon the recommendation of NSA of Iran, Ishraq-Khavari wrote two volumes of commentary for this letter. These two books include 1316 pages in 511 topics. In the end of the second volume, there are 1100 difficult words with the definition appended to the book. It took six months for Mr. Ishraq-Khavari to prepare these two valuable volumes. These books were published in 102 Badi/1946 A.D. Dr. Khazeh Fananapazir translated the Arabic portion of this letter and Mr. Ismael Velasco translated an introduction from French, which was composed by Hand of the Cause of God, Dr. Ali-Muhammad Varqá.*

## 19 - Sharḥ-i-Hál-i-Ḥadrat-i-Ghuṣnu'lláhu'l-Aṭhar (A Biography of the Purest Branch [Mírzá Mihdí])

*This is a brief biography about life of Mirza Mihdi (the Purest Branch), the son of Bahá'u'lláh who passed away at the age of 22 years old. Upon instruction of the NSA of Iran in 127 Badi/1971 A.D.m Ishraq-Khavari wrote a booklet of 25 pages. This booklet contains mainly tablets of Bahá'u'lláh and a very beautiful poem written by Nabil A'zam about the moving event of falling from the roof and the death of the Purest branch in the Barracks. It is a moving episode recorded in Nabil's original Narrative. It had been published in the honor of the centennial year of his ascension to Abhá kingdom.*

## 20 - Some Poetry by Ishraq-Khavari

*There are two poems by Ishraq-Khavari in “Tadh-karih/Tazkarih Shoari Qarn Awal Bahá'í [memoir of a Bahá'í poet at first Bahá'í centennial] “volume 1, pp. 55-68. The first ode is in Persian, a tribute to the Greatest Holy Leaf after her ascension to Abhá kingdom, and the second ode is in Arabic, about the signs that manifest in the Day of God. Both of them, he sent to the presence of beloved Guardian and received a kind confirmation from him.*

## 21 - Talkhísiy-i-Tárikh-i-Nabíl (An Abridged Persian Translation of *The Dawn-Breakers*)

*The Dawn-Breakers was first translated by Shoghi Effendi Rabbani from Nabil's original narrative in 1932 A.D. In his letter of 19 November 1931 A.D., he mentions that this book translated two third of Nabil's original narrative, along with annotations and footnotes of other historical manuscripts that he prepared and translated for the friends in the West. In 97 Badi /1941 A.D., Mr. Abdul-Jalíl Bey Saád <sup>9</sup> translated this book from English into Arabic. Jinab Ishraq-Khavari translated this book from Arabic into Persian. The footnotes and annotations, introduction and conclusion of this book he did not translate into Persian. He [Ishraq-Khavari] wrote this book*

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<sup>9</sup> - Mr. Abdul-Jalíl Bey Saád was a Baha'i from Egypt, He was appointed posthumously as a Hand of the Cause of God by Shoghi Effendi. He translated this book while he was transferred to a remote locality in Upper Egypt. For defending the Faith and writing in a series of 14 articles under the title of “The Bahá'í Faith is an Everlasting Truth”, they transferred him to a remote locality in Upper Egypt as a disciplinary action against him. The Arabic Nabil's Narrative, pp. 550. (A biography about him found in Baha'i World volume 9 - Pp.597-599 and Mu'assisih-i Ayyadi Amr'u'llah, pp. 790-795.)

in a fluent and simple language style. This book was printed by Mu'assisih-i Milli-i Matbu'at-i Amri, in Tehran in 104 Badi/ 1948 A.D.

## 22 - Tasbīh va Tahlíl (Praise and Glorification) - One volume

This book is in 322 pages and it has nine chapters. The first chapter contains all obligatory prayers (long, medium small); chapter 2 contains six tablets of fasting (Alwah Siyam); chapter 3 contains Lawḥ-i-Fará'id-i-Hajj<sup>10</sup> (a tablet for instruction of pilgrims). These tablets are: 1- Tablet for instruction of Hajj to the house of Bahá'u'lláh in Baghdad; 2- a Ziyarat Namih (tablet of visitation) for house of Bahá'u'lláh in Baghdad; 3- A tablet for instruction of Hajj to the house of the Báb in Shiráz. Chapter 4 contains six tablets revealed for the Festival of Ridván. Chapter 5 includes a tablet for marriage, and chapter 6 the long healing prayer. Chapter 7 has a tablet of visitation for Bahá'u'lláh in dream, chapter 8 has numerous tablets such as the Tablet of Ahmad, the Fire Tablet, two prayers for time of sleep, and three prayers for time of awaking, a prayer for leaving the house and a prayer for leaving the town. Chapter 9 includes a prayer for the time of an ascending soul reciting or chanting on his/her death bed, a prayer for the dead, Kalamat Alayat,<sup>11</sup>

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<sup>10</sup> - This tablet or Sura of Hajj Baghdad is in INBA No.37, pp. 66-81 (The major portion of this tablet selected by Ishraq-Khavari and printed in *Tasbih va Tahlil*, pp. 77-90. There is another Surih of Hajj in *Athar Qalam Alá*, volume 4, pp. 75-100 (Súrihs of Hajj).

During this period Bahá'u'lláh revealed the Súriy-i-Hajj (Súriy of Pilgrimage) for visiting the house of the Báb, sent the Tablet to Nabil, and directed him to go to Shiráz.

In this Tablet Bahá'u'lláh prescribes the rites which have to be performed when pilgrims visit the house of the Báb. He instructed Nabil to perform them on His behalf. When Nabil carried out these lengthy rites, which begin outside the city and continue all the way to the house and inside, he attracted a great deal of attention and passers-by concluded that he had lost his mind!

Having carried out the instructions of Bahá'u'lláh in Shiráz, Nabil received another Tablet, the Súriy-i-Hajj (Súriy of Pilgrimage) for the house of Bahá'u'lláh in Baghdád, and was directed to proceed to that city and perform the rites of pilgrimage for that house also on His behalf. With great devotion and enthusiasm, and in spite of a curious public, he succeeded again in carrying out the rites ordained by Bahá'u'lláh in this Tablet.

These holy observances were later affirmed in the *Kitáb-i-Aqdas* and will be implemented in the future when the Cause of Bahá'u'lláh is fully established and circumstances radically changed.

[Revelation of Baha'u'llah, vol. 2, pp. 240.]

<sup>11</sup> - This is a prayer for Havva and Maryam (Bahá'u'lláh's cousins), and Bahá'u'lláh called them *Hurufat-i-'Allin* (The Exalted Letters). This tablet is also titled *Musibat-i-Hurufat-i-'Alín*. This Tablet is in eight parts revealed by Bahá'u'lláh and dedicated to the memory of Mirza Muhammad-i-Vazir, a cousin who died in the province of Nur. He sent it at the hour of their loneliness and grief to Maryam, the sister of Mirza Muhammad, and Havva, his wife, to comfort and console them. Maryam and Havva were also cousins of Bahá'u'lláh. The last part of this Tablet was revealed particularly for Maryam and Havva. In this prayer Bahá'u'lláh poured His love and sympathy upon them both, and consoled them with tenderness love and affection. [Revelation of Bahá'u'lláh, vol. 1, pp. 122-126], [Iqlim Nour by Malik Khosravi, pp. 139-140, and Ganjih Shaygan, pp. 25-27].

and a tablet of visitation to be chanted at their shrine or grave site. The conclusion includes five prayers, the Tablet of Visitation and a dictionary of Arabic and Persian to the end of this book. This book was first published by Mu'assisih-i Milli-i Matbu'at-i Amri, in Tehran in 105 Badi/ 1949 A.D. and found in the Bahá'í Reference library.

## 23 - Tibyán va Burhán (The Explanation and the Proof) – Two volumes

*Al-Hajj Ahmad Hamdi Al-Muhammad a Bahá'í of Iraq<sup>12</sup> wrote these books in Arabic. Both books are istidlálíyyih (proof-texts). Al-Tibyan wal-al-Burhan was first published in 1947 (location unknown). The third printing was published in Beirut in 1954. It is composed of two volumes. It was written with a Sunni audience in mind. Volume 1 is about the return of Jesus and the appearance of the Mahdi at the End of Time. It is a discourse between Zaid and Khalid and all relevant questions continues throughout the books. Ishraq-Khavari translated these books from Arabic to Persian, as well as annotations and corrections made by him. The first volume was published by Mu'assisih-i Milli-i Matbu'at-i Amri, in Tehran in 105 Badi/1949 A.D. The second volume of this book discusses the true resurrection and eternal life of the soul, life after death, and immortality of soul. This book was published by Mu'assisih-i Milli-i Matbu'at-i Amri, in Tehran in 109 Badi/1953 A.D.*

## 24 - Taqvim-i-Tárikh-i-Amr (A Chronology of the History of the Cause)

*Chronological order of historical events in every year up to 1963. The book begins with the year 1811 A.D, which is the birth year of Hujjat [Muhammad Ali Zanjani] and ends with the statement issued by Universal House of Justice, dated at January 9, 1963, about the incarceration of Bahá'í friends in Morocco. This book written in 120 Badi and it needs to be used with care. It is not free of error. This book was published by Mu'assisih-i Milli-i Matbu'at-i Amri, in Tehran in 122 Badi/1966 A.D.*

## 25 - Taqrírat dar báriy-i-Kitáb-i-Mustatáb-i-Aqdas (Oral Remarks on the Kitáb-i-Aqdas)

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<sup>12</sup> - Al-Hajj Ahmad Hamdi Al-Muhammad - A biography of him recorded by Dr. M. Salman-Pour in Khousheh-Hay Az Kherman Adab va Honar, vol. 5, pp. 98 -110.

*Ishrâq-Khâvari held a weekly session with a group of young Bahá'í students in Tehran about the Kitáb-i-Aqdas in the summer of 1969 A.D. He would read a few verses of the Kitáb-i-Aqdas at each session and explain them to the students. The outcome was recorded on cassette tapes. Eventually, someone transcribed them in booklet form. Dr. Vahid Rafati edited this book and produced it into a book of 442 pages. This book was published by Mu'assisih-i Matbu'at-i Amri [Bahá'í Publishing Trust] in Germany in 154 Badí/1997 A.D.*

## 26 - Táríkh-i-Amríy-i-Hamadán (A History of the Cause in Hamadán)

*Táríkh-i-Amríy-i-Hamadán<sup>13</sup> (history of the Bahá'í Faith in Hamadán) by Abdu'l-Hamid Ishráq-Khâvari is a history written in 1309 Sh/1930 A.D. It records a detail of Tahirih's stay in Hamadan and incidents there in 1263/1847, 1268/1852, and 1269/1853. It is also a good source for the history of Bahá'ís of Jewish background and their conversion and hardship for the Faith, and other early converts and believers. This book was published by Mu'assisih-i Matbu'at-i Amri [Bahá'í Publishing Trust] in Germany in 161 Badí/2006 A.D.*

## 27 - Yádigár (Memento)

*There is a series of talks about different topics on the Bahá'í Faith by Ishráq-Khâvari. These talks were recorded on tapes. Dr. Vahid Rafati edited these talks into book, and added annotations to it. This book was published by the Bahá'í Publishing Trust in Germany in ... Badí / ... A.D.*

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<sup>13</sup> - Sources for Early Babi Doctrine and History, A Survey by Denis MacEoin, p. 179.

## *Non-Bahá'í Books (published):*

### 1 - A Biography about Ghulam Ahmad Qádiyání and His Claim<sup>14</sup>

*This is a book about the history and teaching of the sect of Islam called Ahmadiyya and its founder Ghulam Ahmad Qádiyání and his successor Bashir'u'ddin Mahmud. This book was compiled from many books, including one book by a knowledgeable person about this sect in Urdu language. It was published in Tehran in 1344 Sh/1965 A.D. This book was published by Mat bah Bayan in 48 pages.*

### 2 - Amín va Ma'mún (Amín and Ma'mún)

*This is an Arabic novel about Amín and Ma'mún. Both were Abbasid princes. The historical event was recorded in the History of Islamic Civilization, volume 5. Jurji Zaydān<sup>15</sup> wrote it as a novel in simple Arabic language. Ishraq-Khávārī translated it into Persian in 358 pages. This book was published by Vahid Dastjerdi's publishing trust in 1310 Shamsi/1931 A.D.*

### 3- Dúshíziy-i-Qírván<sup>16</sup> (The Virgin Maiden of Qírván)

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<sup>14</sup> - I would like to thank Dr. Omid Ghaemmaghami for sharing a PDF copy of this book with me.

<sup>15</sup> - Georgy Zeidan, [Jurji Zaydān] (b. 1278/1861, d. 1332/1914) was a historian, novelist, and publisher, a Lebanese Christian writer who immigrated with his family to Egypt following the Damascus riots of 1860. In the early twentieth century, Zeidan serialized his historical novels in the Egyptian newspaper Al-Hilál. These novels were extremely popular because of their clarity of language, simple structure, and the author's vivid imagination. His memoirs are a frank personal account of his childhood, education, and family and include nostalgic portrayals of Beirut during a period of increasing western cultural presence. Though written in 1908, they cover only the years up to 1883 and were not published until 1966. Mudhakkirāt Jurjī Zaydān, ed. Salāh U-Dīn Munajjid (Beirut: 1966); pt. 2, al-Madrasa al-kulliyya, ed. Nabīh Amīn Fāris, al-Abhāth 20 (1967): 323–55. There is an English translation by Thomas Philipp, the Autobiography of Jurji Zaidan (Washington, D.C.: Three Continents Press, 1990). (From Interpreting the Self: Autobiography in the Arabic Literary Tradition - Edited by Dwight F. Reynolds, p. 284)

<sup>16</sup> - قيروان qairawān, qairuwān (for كاروان q.v.), A caravan, a body of travelers; name of a city in Maghrib;- Qīrwān, The environs of a cultivated place; going through, viewing cities.

*Another Arabic novel by Jurji Zaydān, which Ishrāq-Khávārī translated and published by Vahid Dastjerdi's publishing trust. This book was published in 1310 Shamsi/1931 A.D.*

## ***Bahá'í Books (unpublished):***

### **1 - Áfāq va Anfus (in 19 volumes)**

*These Nineteen volumes were written extensively about his teaching trip from early day of his Bahá'í life all to the end of his traveling.*

### **2 - A Diary of Ustád Muḥammad Salmání (The barber of Bahá'u'lláh, a poet and His attendant servant)**

*A manuscript diary of Ustád Muḥammad Salmání along with his love-Poem (lyric poem/ghazal) prepared in one volume. Mr. Ishrāq-Khávārī edited and made corrections to this manuscript. This book or manuscript was translated by Marzieh Gail and published by Kalimát Press.*

### **3 - A Draft essay in Defense of Bahá'ís of Iran - One volume**

*There is no explanation given or any detailed explanation of this draft. I believe this draft was prepared at the request of the NSA of Iran in regards to the events of 1951, when the Haziratu'l-Quds of Tehran was demolished and other humiliation and assault done to the Bahá'í friends and the Faith in Iran, instances such as demolishing and damaging Bahá'í property, desecrating Bahá'í cemeteries, the martyrdom of the custodian of the Haziratu'l-Quds of Tehran, and other events.*

### **4 - Dá'iratu'l-Ma'árfu'l-Amrí (A Bahá'í Encyclopedia) - In nineteen volumes**



*These books are a unique Bahá'í encyclopedia. It is full of fresh materials and unique information about all relevant subjects and themes to Bahá'í Faith and literature. It is the first Bahá'í Encyclopedia written in Persian in alphabetical order. This encyclopedia was published electronically by H-Bahá'í in 16 volumes. There are some pages are missing.*

## 5 - Safar-Námiy-i-Laṭá'ifu'l-Athmár min Ḥadíqatu'l-Asfár (A Travelogue: "The Choicest Fruits from the Garden of Travels") - five volumes

*Mr. Ishráq-Khávarí wrote these five volumes about his teaching trips and recorded all his discussions with his seekers about the Faith. It is a response to refutation and criticism towards the Bahá'í faith. The writer of these few notes believes that Aqdáh Al-Faláh is similar to these books. There is a possibility that a summary of these five volumes made it into those two volumes. It called by Ishráq-Khávarí "A series of talks in response to refutation and criticism by refuters." So far, these books were never published.*

## 6 - Tafşílu'd-Durr-i-Yatím fí Sharḥ-i-Ash'ár-i-Na'ím (Exposing a rare pearl in explanation of the Poetry of Na'ím - Five volumes

*This is a detailed explanation of Na'ím's Poetry (a famous Bahá'í poet at the time of 'Abdu'l-Bahá). This book was written in five volumes, but Ishráq-Khávarí summarized these books in two volumes and published under the title of Jannát-i-Na'ím (The Paradise of Na'ím). The Poetry of Na'ím is explained in detail and in depth along with Qur'anic references.*

## 7 - Táríkh-i-Işfahán (A History of [the Cause in] Işfahán; unpublished)

*History of Bahá'is of Işfahan. So far, this book is not published.*

## 8 - Ṭirázu'l-Aṭlas li'l-Kitábu'l-Aqdas (A Commentary on the Book of Aqdas) -<sup>17</sup> Four volumes

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<sup>17</sup> - Sulaymání in Masabih Hidáyat volume nine (9), pp. 121, says "this book was written in five volumes".

*This is a detailed commentary on the Kitáb-i-Aqdas which written by Ishráq-Khávarí. At a later time, he made a summary of these volumes into one volume and published it under the name of Ganjinih- Hodoud va Ahkám (A treasure of Law and ordinances).*

## *Non-Bahá'í Books (unpublished):*

### 1 - Sufriy-i-Ghalandar (A Dervish's Tablecloth)

*This is a selection of prose and poetry by Ishraq-Khavarí from Persian literature (unpublished).*

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- 5-*Tadhkariy-i-Shu‘aráy-i-Qarn-i-Avval-i-Bahá’i*, volume 1, pp. 55-68
- 6-*Revelation of Bahá’u’lláh*, vol. 1, pp. 122-125
- 7-*Ganj-i-Sháygan (A Royal Treasure)*, pp. 25-27
- 8-*INBA*, vol. 37; pp. 66-81
- 9- *Má’idiy-i-Ásmání (Heavenly Nourishment)*, nine volumes
- 10- *Raḥiq-i-Makhtúm (The Choice Sealed Wine)*, two volumes
- 11- *Asrár-i-Rabbaní (The Divine Mystery)*, three volumes
- 12- *Qámús-i-Kitáb-i-Iqán (A Commentary on The Book of Certitude)*, four volumes
- 13- *Adhkáru’l-Muqarrabín (Remembrances of the Near Ones)*, three volumes
- 14- *Tasbíḥ va Tahlíl (Praise and Glorification)*, one volume
- 15- *Payám-i-Malakút (The Message of the Kingdom)*
- 16- *Duruḡ-i-La’álíy-i-Hidáyat (the pearls of guidance)*, three volumes
- 17- *Payám-i-Bahá’u’lláh (From Bahá’u’lláh and New Era by Dr. J.E. Esslemont)*
- 18- *Sharḥ-i-Ḥál-i-Ḥadrát-i-Ghuṣnu’lláhu’l-Aṭḥar (A Biography of the Purest Branch [Mírzá Mihdí])*
- 19- *Talkhísiy-i-Tárikh-i-Nabil (An Abridged Persian Translation of The Dawn-Breakers)*
- 20- *Ayyám-i-Tis’ih (The Nine [Bahá’i] Holy Days)*, one volume
- 21- *Aqdáhu’l-Faláḥ (The Chalice of Salvation)*
- 22- *Tibyán va Burhán (The Explanation and the Proof)*, two volumes
- 23- *Dalíl va Irshád (Proof and Guidance)*
- 24- *Taqvím-i-Tárikh-i-Amr (A Chronology of the History of the Cause)*
- 25- *Muḥádirát (Analytical Discussions)*, three Volumes
- 26- *Núrayn-i-Nayyirayn (The Twin Shining Lights)*
- 27- *Áthár-i-Qalam-i-A’lá*, volumes three and four
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- 29- *Jannát Na’ím (Paradise of Na’ím)*
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