

Shoghi Effendi: The Guardian



Shoghi Effendi adored his grandfather, ‘Abdu’l-Bahá, and spent as much time as possible with him. After college, he was “glad and privileged” to help ‘Abdu’l-Bahá as a secretary. Then he went to Oxford University in England. During this time, in 1921, ‘Abdu’l-Bahá passed away.

Heartbroken, Shoghi Effendi returned to Israel. He learned that ‘Abdu’l-Bahá had appointed him to lead the Bahá’í Faith. It was a huge responsibility—and he was only 24! Shoghi Effendi was overwhelmed and said he needed “health, strength, self-confidence and spiritual energy.” He turned to nature and traveled for eight months. He loved hiking in the Swiss Alps. The journey renewed him.

In later years, he hiked and biked on the peaceful slopes. He called himself a mountaineer.

As head, or Guardian, of the Bahá’í Faith, Shoghi Effendi inspired the global Bahá’í community. He wrote about 26,000 letters and began building the Bahá’í World Center. After years of dynamic service, at age 60, he died suddenly, in 1957.

Bahá’ís elected an international council, the Universal House of Justice, as envisioned by Bahá’u’lláh. Today, this body continues Shoghi Effendi’s work to help establish, in his words, “the unity of the human race and the peace of all mankind.”

Find the correct path through the mountains. Then write the letters in order, to see a message from Shoghi Effendi to kids.

