

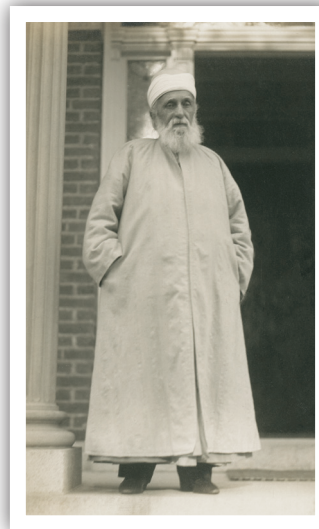
HOME OF HARMONY

In the early 1900s, a time of racial tension, Agnes Parsons was prominent in Washington, D.C. She mostly moved in elite, wealthy circles of politicians and diplomats. After becoming a Bahá'í, she embraced the Faith's principle of unity in diversity.

When 'Abdu'l-Bahá visited the U.S. in 1912, Agnes invited him to stay in her home. She hosted receptions where he spoke to hundreds of guests about the oneness of humanity. Eight years later, he astounded her by asking her to organize a convention for race amity. She was concerned about her abilities, but 'Abdu'l-Bahá inspired her.

Agnes and her friends hosted a groundbreaking convention in 1921. Speakers and musicians came together to celebrate interracial harmony. 'Abdu'l-Bahá said the event would cause "the enlightenment of America." Similar gatherings were held around the country.

Today, the Parsons home will continue to foster unity by housing the Bahá'í Office of Public Affairs and its efforts to promote peace and social discourse. As 'Abdu'l-Bahá said, "We must strive unceasingly . . . to advance humanity toward the nobility of its true and intended station."



Left: 'Abdu'l-Bahá at the home of Agnes and Arthur Parsons, where he stayed in April 1912.

Below: When Agnes Parsons passed away in 1934 after many years of service, a friend wrote, "Absolutely no one can fill her place."



Find words related to the story. Look up, down, forward, backward, and diagonally.

Action
Amity
Change
Convention
Diversity
Generosity
Guests
Home
Hospitality

E	Q	Y	T	S	V	J	Z	K	Y	R	E	E	H	C	T	X	H	F
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G	U	E	S	T	S	A	Y	T	I	L	I	B	O	N	M	T	E	S

Humanity
Inspire
Justice
Nobility
Oneness
Peace
Race
Service
Unity

