



## Letters to the Editor

I refer to the article by Philip Hainsworth in the May *UK Bahá'í Journal* about the British Bahá'ís in Africa. I would like to clarify some of the details.

During the two-year plan of Africa, which was before the Ten Year Crusade, my husband and I consulted with the National Spiritual Assembly of the UK about pioneering to Africa. I had not completed my training yet and we expressed our willingness for Abbas to go to Africa and I would join him as soon as I had finished. We received a directive from the beloved Guardian, through the National Assembly, that stated: *Abbas return Persia, Shomais go to Africa, deeply appreciate self-sacrifice – Shoghi*.

Abbas had the privilege of going on pilgrimage on his way to Persia. He was to go and remain in Yazd until I had settled in Africa, and then he could join me. The Guardian assured him that he would see his wife again. This separation lasted almost two years.

It is now five years since the passing of my husband, Abbas Afnan. At the time of his passing I received over 300 messages of loving sympathy, which I have read and reread, as well as contributions and they have sustained me throughout this time. It has not been possible for me to reply to each message, though I had intended to do so. I would love the friends to know that it is still highly appreciated. The Bahá'í community of Stratford-on-Avon has planted a tree by his resting place, with a message of remembrance on a plaque. The National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of Hungary have bought a Bahá'í centre in the city of Debrecen in his memory. The inauguration will be on July 21. Please remember Abbas in your prayers.

Dear friends,

One of the goals of the National Affairs Committee of the Faroe Islands is to open a youth/art cafe in the Bahá'í Centre in Torshavn, Faroe Islands. We think a place like that can play a vital role in reaching the youth in our country and teach them about the Faith especially since the youth seem to be more broad-minded than the older members of the population.

We would like to ask for your help in finding suitable people who would be willing to spend some time (at least six months) in the Faroe Islands and who preferably have some experience working on a task like this. We can offer room at the Centre and all the facilities there, kitchen and bathroom with shower. The Centre has just been renovated and has all kitchen utensils, tables chairs etc. It is a beautiful house situated in an area where many people pass every day near the centre of town.

In our community there is not much knowledge and no experience about projects of this nature so the individuals are pretty much on their own in that respect but we are willing and able to offer the assistance needed. It is very important that a project of this nature continues for a long time and therefore it is vital that youth that come here can stay for long time.

We will be ready to receive prospective pioneers (year of service) in the beginning of August so please if you know of anyone or can advertise in your Bahá'í magazines it would be greatly appreciated.

Warmest love,  
Shomais Afnan

For the National Affairs Committee of  
the Faroe Islands  
Bjorg Karlsdottir, secretary.

I have the great bounty of working at the Bahá'í National Centre in Canada and so I get the chance to read the UK Bahá'í Journal. In fact whenever it arrives we circulate it among the ex-British Bahá'ís before it goes into our library.

I noticed in the article by Philip Hainsworth on page 18 that he refers to Jalal Nakhjavani's children. In case this material is circulated elsewhere I just wished to let you know that the names of Mr Nakhjavani's children are Hoda and Mona not Mina. Mona's son is married to one of my daughters so we are close friends! Thank you all again for this lovely publication.

I wish you all the best as the new editor.  
With loving Bahá'í greetings,

Pixie MacCallum

Thanks so much for printing our letter in the Journal which arrived in record time (it usually takes 3 to 4 months and often never comes!!) Unfortunately our email address is wrong at the end of the letter and I wonder if you could print a correction? Our correct address is: [mortimores@waterford.sz](mailto:mortimores@waterford.sz) (the s at the end of mortimores was omitted which may have been our fault) God bless you and everybody there.

Clare Mortimore

BJUK welcomes letters on any topic of general interest. Personal attacks or denigratory comments will not be printed. Letters may be edited for brevity or clarity. Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the National Assembly nor the Editor.