

Contention and conflict

Bahá'u'lláh

Partial translation



Contention and conflict

"... Let none contend with another...Fear God, and lift not the hand of injustice and oppression to destroy what He hath Himself raised up; nay..."¹

"Ye have been forbidden in the Book of God to engage in contention and conflict, to strike another, or to commit similar acts whereby hearts and souls may be saddened. A fine of nineteen mithqáls of gold had formerly been prescribed by Him Who is the Lord of all mankind for anyone who was the cause of sadness to another; in this Dispensation, however, He hath absolved you thereof and exhorteth you to show forth righteousness and piety. Such is the commandment which He hath enjoined upon you in this resplendent Tablet..."²

"Should anyone wax angry with you, respond to him with gentleness; and should anyone upbraid you, forbear to upbraid him in return, but leave him to himself and put your trust in God, the omnipotent Avenger, the Lord of might and justice..."³

"Strife and conflict befit the beasts of the wild..."⁴

"Conflict and contention are categorically forbidden in His Book..."⁵

"God teacheth that conflicts and disputes are not allowable..."⁶



Babi Dispensation

The Bab strictly forbade saddening, striking or contenting with anyone. Multiple levels of punishments were prescribed. See Arabic Bayan, Wahid VII, Chapter XVIII & Wahid X, Chapter VI

1. Baha'u'llah, The Most Holy Book, para 73

2. Baha'u'llah, The Most Holy Book, para 148

3. Baha'u'llah, The Most Holy Book, para 153

4. Baha'u'llah, Lawh-i-Dunya

5. Baha'u'llah, Book of the Covenant


6. Selections from the Writings of Abdul-Baha no. 220






Islamic Dispensation

*"And not equal are the good deed and the bad. Repel [evil] by that [deed] which is better; and thereupon the one whom between you and him is enmity [will become] as though he was a devoted friend."*⁷



Christian Dispensation

*"Love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who mistreat you."*⁸



⁷. The Holy Qur'an, Fussilat 41: 34

⁸. Luke 6:27-28