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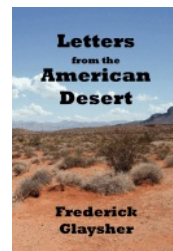
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Letters from the American Desert: Signposts of a Journey, A Vision

Frederick Glaysher. Cloth. Preface. Earthrise Press, 2008. 172 pages. \$19.99

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Frederick Glaysher invokes a global vision beyond the prevailing conceptions entrenched in postmodernism and postmodernity.

In *Letters from the American Desert*, Glaysher reflects on the cultural, political, and religious history of Western and non-Western civilizations, pondering the dilemmas of postmodernity, in a compelling struggle for spiritual knowledge and truth. Fully cognizant of the relativism and nihilism of modern life, Glaysher finds a deeper meaning and purpose for the individual and the world community in the writings and global vision of Baha'u'llah, as expressed in the Reform Bahai Faith. Confronting the antinomies of the soul, grounded in the dialectic, Glaysher charts a path beyond the postmodern desert.

Alluding to Martin Luther and W. B. Yeats at All Souls Chapel, Glaysher calls Reform Bahais and others to consider the universal, moderate form of the Bahai Teachings as interpreted by Abdu'l-Baha, Baha'u'llah's son, who had spoken throughout the West in Europe, England, and the United States from 1911 to 1913. Abdu'l-Baha's message of the oneness of God, all religions, and humankind holds out a new hope and vision for a world in spiritual and global crisis. Far from a theocracy, the Reform Bahai Faith envisions a modest separation of church and state as the will of God, in harmony and balance with universal peace, in a global age of pluralism, where religious belief is a distinctive mark of the individual, not communal identity.

In addition to the letters written to Mrs. Elinor Gaines, an older Bahai from Glaysher's hometown of Rochester, Michigan, during the late 1980s to mid '90s, reflecting on literary and cultural matters, as well as Bahai, the book includes the 95 Theses, On Bahai Liberty, the Reform Bahai Articles, Abdu'l-Baha's Covenant, and book reviews of Juan Cole, William Garlington, and Sen McGlinn, along with other writings relevant to the renewal of the Reform Bahai Faith.

Frederick Glaysher lived in Japan, on the Colorado River Indian Tribes Reservation in Arizona; on the central farmlands of Illinois, and on the Mississippi River, ultimately returning to his suburban hometown of Rochester, Michigan, witnessing everywhere the maladies of modernity, as only an inspired writer can.

ORDERS: USA: Ingram Book Group, Baker & Taylor
UK and Europe: Bertram, Blackwell, Waterstones, WHSmith, Amazon, et al.
Available Online worldwide. Check your preferred bookseller.

Also by Frederick Glaysher:

The Grove of the Eumenides: Essays on Literature, Criticism, and Culture.

ISBN: 9780967042183. Cloth. 337 pages. 2007. \$34.95.

The Bower of Nil: A Narrative Poem. ISBN: 0967042178. Cloth. 71 pages. 2002. \$21.95.

Into the Ruins: Poems. ISBN: 0967042127. Cloth. Preface. 73 pages. 1999. \$19.95.