
**Funeral Oration of Mr. Ilmo Au
Head of Department of Religious Affairs,
Estonian Ministry of Interior (translated from Estonian)**

The Preacher writes in his book Ecclesiastes: 'There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven ...'. Thereafter we can read that there is a time to be born and a time to die, a time to laugh and a time to mourn.

Unfortunately, a man cannot take as much time for himself as he desires, he can only use the time which is given to him.

We know that according to the Bahá'í teachings, the human body is a temporary means of developing the soul, and when that target is acquired the body is put away and the soul steps into a more perfect, more free world.

Nevertheless, the arrival at the world in heaven doesn't mean that one will lose what he once has achieved here in this material world.

Therefore, we can say that around us there are and will again be people, who do not disappear together with the time given to them, but who seem to live on through their lifework.

When remembering Brigitte Lundblade we think about her in many aspects starting from the following: she was a worthy representative of the Hasselblatt family that was bound up with Estonia from as early as the 17th century. She re-awakened the Bahá'í faith in the religious and cultural life of Estonia and arranged for the first time in our country's history a devotional gathering to celebrate World Religions Day. She taught our people by word as well as by individual example the virtues, the Wisdom and the Truth which were brought upon us by Bahá'u'lláh. To these things we add the dimension of what her family and loved ones had with her.

We will remember Brigitte Lundblade as a person, who with a dignified composure and her personal work and activities taught and guided us by way of goodness and love to the values of how to create unity.

I'll join in the prayer written by Bahá'u'lláh: 'Blessed is the soul which, at the hour of its separation from the body, is sanctified from the vain imaginings of the peoples of the world. Such a soul liveth and moveth in accordance with the Will of its Creator, and entereth the all-highest Paradise. The Maids of Heaven, inmates of the loftiest mansions, will circle around it, and the Prophets of God and His chosen ones will seek its companionship.'

(Bahá'u'lláh, Gleanings from the Writings of Bahá'u'lláh, p. 156)
