

1935 Sep 16 Suleiman to Katrina – happy to be in the homeland
Ramallah

My dear cousin [wife] Katrina, may God preserve her. After kissing your cheeks and the cheeks of our beloved Fuad and Mary, I hope this gets to you and you are all in good health. I am writing to let you know that I have arrived to our beloved homeland in full health. I thank God for this. Everybody here is in good health.

George, thank God, has become a man, may God bless him. I was very happy because he is very diligent. This day I registered him at the Friends School, which is the best school.

I want to tell you that I love our country very much. It is clear to me that the situation here is better than the situation in America because business is plentiful. Until this moment I have not traveled anywhere because since the moment I arrived, people have been coming to greet me. I am inclined to go to Jerusalem and in the next letter I will tell you what happens.

Please write to me immediately. I have sent two packages from New York – the first containing clothes for the children and the second one containing jewelry (unreadable). Please let me know when you receive them and tell me about everything that happens at your end. I will let you know more in the next letter. Greetings to our dear children, Fuad and Mary and greetings to our godfather Hanna and his family and to brother Tawfiq El Aswad and his daughter and to our godfather Frank Lewis, and to everybody who asks about me. Also greetings to our cousin Khalil. From here, my father, mother, my sister Hilweh and her children and our dear son George send you greetings. Also our cousins and other relatives send you their greetings.

Your cousin who misses you,
Suleiman Jiryes Farhat

Translated by Salim Tamari