

1935 Oct 19 Suleiman to Katherine – business instructions, missing family, registered George in Friends School

Envelope:

Mrs. S G Farhat

221 8th Lane

South San Francisco, California USA

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Ramallah, Palestine

To my dear cousin Katrina,

Greetings, etc. Kissing your cheeks...

Received your dear letter and was very happy to hear about your condition and that you and dear Fuad and Mary are in good health. You tell me that the people where you deposited the tables need a monthly rent of five reals/dollars. This is unjust. I have sent them some intercession indicating that I cannot pay more than 5 or 6 reals/dollars annually. We agreed on these terms before I left the merchandise [*awaiii*] there. Do not take the items back; try to sell them and pay them some money before they make their own demands. Don't take the merchandise until it is sold. You can put an advert in the paper that you are inclined to sell, and then sell the house and sell everything and come here, you and the children because I cannot leave my property here and return [*to America*].

Also, conditions in our homeland are much better than they are in America. One can open a shop of any sort and that will generate income much better than America. And here one is in one's homeland and not a stranger. As for George, I registered him in the Friends School and he is very diligent, may God protect him. He is studying hard and he has become a man – bless him.

Tell me about Mary and Fuad. I hope they are happy and I hope they obey you. May God bring them back in safety so that we will see each other and we will never separate again. No more going back and forth to America, which has exhausted us. I hope that none of our enemies would disrupt our relations for we only have each other. You have nobody better than me, and I have nobody better than you. Only us can take care of the children for the children need their mother as much as they need their father in order to get a proper education. And so that they will become independent. Do not listen to anybody. Come back soonest and I think you understand what I mean.

May God protect you. Peace to our beloved Fuad and Mary. Kiss them on my behalf. Greetings to our godfather/best man Hanna El K'eibni and his wife and to our godfather Frank Lewis and his folks, and greetings to brother Tawfik Asward and his daughter and our cousin Khalil and to everybody who asks about me on your end. From here, my mother, father, George, my sister and her children send their full greetings.

Wishing you a long life,

Your cousin Suleiman Jiryas Farhat

Ramallah