

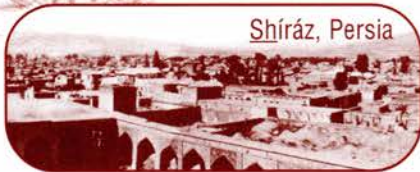
IN THE DAYS OF THE HERALD

THE BÁB'S LIFE AND MISSION

OCTOBER 20, 1819

The Birth of the Báb

At His birth in Shiráz, Persia (now Iran), the Báb was named Siyyid 'Alí-Muhammad. "Siyyid" is a title given to the descendants of the Prophet Muhammad.



Shiráz, Persia

1834

An Honest Merchant

At 15, Siyyid 'Alí-Muhammad began work as a merchant for His uncles. He was well-respected for His honesty and attention to every detail.

OCTOBER 1842

The Báb's Marriage

Siyyid 'Alí-Muhammad married Khadijih Bagum. They had one son, Ahmad, who died soon after his birth.

1843

A Glimpse of a Revelation

One night, Siyyid 'Alí-Muhammad had a dream of which He said, "the Spirit of God had permeated and taken possession of My soul . . . and the mysteries of His Revelation were unfolded before My eyes."

MAY 23, 1844

The Declaration of the Báb in Shiráz, Persia

Mullá Husayn walked across Persia seeking the Promised One of Islam. At two hours and 11 minutes after sunset on May 22, Siyyid 'Alí-Muhammad announced to Mullá Husayn: "I am the Báb, the Gate of God . . ."

DECEMBER 1844

Public Announcement in Mecca, Arabia

While on pilgrimage to the holiest shrine of Islam (the Kaaba in Mecca), the Báb announced His Station three times to the large crowd of fellow-pilgrims.



The Kaaba

JUNE 1845

The Báb's First Arrest

The Báb's claim to be the Promised One brought joy to those who believed Him, but angered and confused others. The Governor of Shiráz ordered His arrest, and the Báb became a prisoner for the rest of His life.

JULY 1847

Imprisonment in Máh-Kú (The Open Mountain), Persia

Captive in a dark castle, the Báb revealed His Holy Book, the Persian Bayán.



Máh-Kú

APRIL 10, 1848

Transfer to Chihriq (The Grievous Mountain), Persia

His jailors and the people in Máh-Kú grew to love the Báb. Government officials transferred Him to a more remote prison in northern Iran. There, He revealed the Arabic Bayán.



Chihriq

JUNE 26–JULY 17, 1848

Conference of Badasht, Persia

Bahá'u'lláh called a meeting of the Báb's followers. In the village of Badasht, 81 Bábís learned about the new laws of the Báb, including the equality of women and men.

1819–1843

1844–1848



JULY 1848

Challenge in Tabriz, Persia

The Báb told the gathered religious leaders and the 17-year-old prince that He was the Promised One of Islam. The authorities decided to punish the Báb by beating the soles of His feet 11 times.

OCTOBER 1848– MAY 1849

Battle of Fort Tabarsí

At Fort Tabarsí, 313 Bábís defended themselves against an army of 12,000 men. After eight months, the Bábís were tricked into surrendering, and most were killed. When the Báb learned of the tragedy, He was “crushed with grief, . . . Tears rained continually from His eyes, . . .” and He did not want to eat.



MAY 1850

Attacks on Bábís in Cities of Zanján and Nayríz, Persia

Bábís were forced to defend themselves against armies and angry mobs. The Bábís showed great courage, but they were outnumbered. Beginning in 1845, over 20,000 were martyred throughout Persia.

JUNE 1850

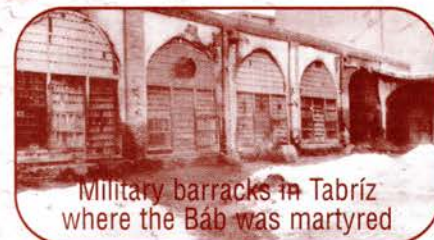
A Precious Gift

The Báb sent His rings, seals, Tablets, and pen cases to Bahá'u'lláh as gifts. On one scroll of fine blue paper, the Báb had written a tablet with 360 versions of the word “Bahá” in the form of a star.

JULY 9, 1850

The Martyrdom of the Báb

In Tabriz, 750 soldiers fired on the Báb and His follower, Muhammad-'Alí. When the smoke cleared, they were found unharmed. At noon, the second attempt to kill the Báb and His companion was successful. A dust storm arose that blocked the sun from noon until night.



Military barracks in Tabriz where the Báb was martyred

1863

The Báb's Mission Is Fulfilled

The Báb told the Bábís that they should find the next Messenger of God, “Him Whom God shall make manifest.” On April 22, 1863, Bahá'u'lláh announced that He was the One the Báb had foretold. ✨

1848–1849

1850–1863