

Bahá'u'lláh's Life: Mission of Peace Gift of Love

A Brief Timeline

The Life of Bahá'u'lláh

The highlighted area marks the time in which this story takes place.

1817 November 12

Birth of Bahá'u'lláh in Tíhrán, Iran

1844

Recognizes the Báb as a new Messenger of God

1852

Imprisonment in the "Black Pit" of Tíhrán

1853–1863

Exile in Baghdád, Iraq. From 1854–1856, He goes into the mountains to pray in solitude.

1863 April 22

Declares Divine Mission as Prophet-Founder of the Bahá'í Faith

1863–1868

Exile in Constantinople (Istanbul), then Adrianople (Edirne), Turkey. Begins writing letters to kings and rulers in 1867, urging world unity

1868

Last exile, to prison-city of 'Akká, Israel

1877

Finally free to live in countryside homes of Mazra'ih and then Bahjí, outside 'Akká

1892 May 29

Bahá'u'lláh passes away at Bahjí.

As the son of a nobleman in Persia (now Iran), Bahá'u'lláh could have spent His young adulthood living a life of luxury. But instead, He used His time and wealth to help the poor.

One day in 1844, when He was about 27, a student brought Him a scroll. It contained writings of a Messenger of God known as the Báb. The Báb taught that another Messenger would soon appear to bring an age of peace. The scroll had been sent by Mullá Husayn, the Báb's first follower, who had heard of Bahá'u'lláh's selfless work.

As Bahá'u'lláh read the Báb's words aloud, the student was "enraptured" by "the

sound of His voice and the sweetness of its melody." Bahá'u'lláh praised the Báb's "soul-stirring words" and said they had "regenerating power." He gave the student tea and some special sugar—rare gifts in Persia at that time—to take to Mullá Husayn, along with His appreciation and love. Mullá Husayn received the gifts with enthusiasm.

Bahá'u'lláh soon set out to share the Báb's teachings. Through persecution and difficulties, He remained courageous and steadfast. He became a leader among the Báb's followers. In time, He revealed the joyous news that He was the Messenger of God promised by the Báb.

Serving tea is an expression of hospitality in Persian culture. As shown in the first example, unscramble the letters in the tea leaves to find virtues shown by Bahá'u'lláh and His friends.

