

# Bahá'u'lláh's Life: Mission of Peace

## A Mysterious Tablet

### 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.

Imagine having a wish granted—before you even wish it! That happened to a man named Hájí Muhammad-Tahír.

Bahá'u'lláh taught peace and unity, but some religious and government officials felt threatened by His Bahá'í Faith. In 1868, they imprisoned Him in 'Akká (now in Israel). While He was there, the Hájí visited Him, traveling from Yazd, Persia (now Iran).

The Hájí met with Bahá'u'lláh every other day for nine months. He was so overwhelmed by Bahá'u'lláh's majesty that he could barely look at Him or speak a word. Once, when he gazed at Bahá'u'lláh's face, he was so awed that he spilled a cup of hot tea on himself without noticing it.

The Hájí wrote, "Whenever I came into the presence of the Blessed Beauty if there were anything I wanted to ask, I would say it by way of the heart and He would answer me invariably. I was so deeply impressed by His supreme power that I always sat in His presence spell-bound, oblivious of myself."

Hájí Muhammad-Tahír longed for a Tablet—or even a word—written in Bahá'u'lláh's own handwriting. But he did not request it. One day, Bahá'u'lláh told him that He *had* revealed a Tablet for him, but he would receive it in the future. Hájí Muhammad-Tahír was elated.

When he returned to Yazd, the Hájí taught many about the Bahá'í Faith. He was a brilliant speaker and knowledgeable about the Qur'án, the Bible, and other holy books. But officials did not

want him to spread Bahá'u'lláh's teachings. After some years, a death warrant was issued for the Hájí, and he decided to leave Yazd.



As the Hájí mounted his donkey in the dark of night, a devoted Bahá'í woman approached and handed him something. It was a Tablet in Bahá'u'lláh's handwriting! The woman had received it 24 years earlier, when Bahá'u'lláh was in Baghdád—long

before He was imprisoned in 'Akká. Bahá'u'lláh had said that its rightful owner would be known later. The woman knew in her heart that the Tablet was for the Hájí. He accepted it with deep joy. Bahá'u'lláh had written it when the Hájí was a child, before they had met in person!

Hájí Muhammad-Tahír was so inspired by Bahá'u'lláh that he shared the Bahá'í Faith with

hundreds of people. Though he was persecuted and imprisoned, he remained faithful until the end of his life, at age 100.



Hájí Muhammad-Tahír