

AYYÁM-I-HÁ CHEER

"It behooveth the people of Bahá, throughout these days, to provide good cheer for themselves, their kindred and, beyond them, the poor and needy . . ." —Bahá'u'lláh

Ayyám-i-Há is on its way, bringing the warmth of love and fellowship to chilly winter days. From February 26 to March 1, Bahá'ís and friends around the world celebrate this festival of joy, generosity, hospitality, and preparation for the Bahá'í Fast.

Friends, families, and communities gather to do service projects, exchange gifts, and have fun together. You might bake cookies for your teachers or share a meal with someone in need. Maybe a neighbor would love a visit or an invitation to a party.

Try these ideas to add a cozy glow to your Ayyám-i-Há festivities.

SPECTACULAR CIRCLES



Start with two 8"x20" colored papers. Fold accordion style: make 1" fold at short end, then flip paper and make 1" fold on other side. Continue to end. Fold short ends together, tape at center, and open to form half-circle. Repeat with second paper.

Tape two papers together to form a circle. Make circles of various sizes and colors. Hang on the wall for an inviting photo backdrop.

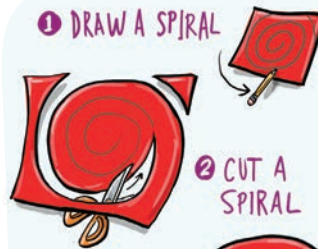
UNITY PYRAMID

Divide into groups of six. Give each team a sturdy rubber band, six 24" pieces of string, and six plastic cups. Tie the strings, evenly spaced, to the rubber band.

Work together to build a pyramid without touching the cups. Each person holds a string, and teams cooperate to stretch the rubber band around a plastic cup, then place it on their pyramid. No touching the cups with hands, even if they fall on the floor.



1 DRAW A SPIRAL



2 CUT A SPIRAL

3 ROLL ALONG SPIRAL



KINDNESS BOUQUET

Draw spiral on 4"x4" colored paper. Cut along spiral lines, then roll paper from outside toward center. Repeat, then glue each paper rose to green pipe cleaner stem.*

On slips of paper, write acts of kindness, such as "Send a loving note to a relative" or "Help your sibling with a chore." Tape one to each stem, and arrange roses in a vase. Family members select one service to do each day of Ayyám-i-Há.

PRAYER MOSAICS

Ask friends to think of a favorite prayer or something they're praying about. Give everyone a 4"x4" white paper.

Using colored pencils or markers, decorate squares with images or designs inspired by the prayers. Attach squares to a poster board for an inspiring mosaic.



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* Find more details on making spiral roses at brilliantstarmagazine.org/uploads/play/Roses.pdf