

Bahá'u'lláh's Life: Mission of Peace Bravery in Baghdád

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

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

1863–1868

Exile in Constantinople (Istanbul), then Adrianople (Edirne), Türkiye. 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.

One night, an angry mob of 100 men with swords stormed through the streets of Baghdád (now in Iraq). They had been told that Bahá'u'lláh was a dangerous enemy, and they marched to attack His house.

Did Bahá'u'lláh run away or gather His own army of soldiers? No, He opened the doors to His home and welcomed them in! "They are our guests," He said to His friends who offered to protect Him.

The men were shocked when Bahá'u'lláh served them rosewater sherbet and tea. He talked with them, and His kind words and actions soothed their anger. The men left as friends instead of enemies.

Bahá'u'lláh was a follower of the Báb, a Messenger of God who taught that a Promised One would soon appear to unite humanity. Why would anyone want to harm Him?

Bahá'u'lláh was admired by many in Baghdád. Visitors from diverse faiths and backgrounds flocked to His house and praised His wisdom. Government and religious leaders grew jealous. They spread lies to turn people against Him.

A friend begged Bahá'u'lláh to stay safely at home, but He refused. He wrote, "We have lighted the fire of love . . . We shall not run away . . ."

Bahá'u'lláh continued to meet with friends each day to share the Báb's message of love. When He saw His enemies

on the street, He greeted them and even joked with them! They were so surprised at His calm confidence that



In Baghdád, Bahá'u'lláh walked along the Tigris River to reach coffeehouses, where He often shared the Báb's teachings.

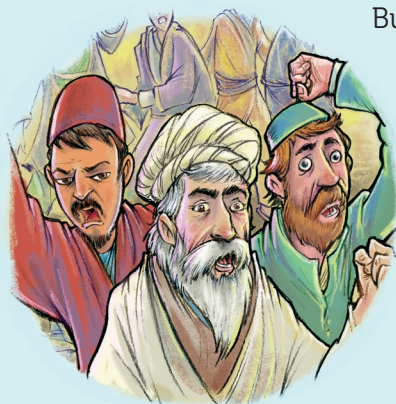
they didn't dare to harm Him.

One man named Ridá even tried to kill Bahá'u'lláh—twice! The first time, he went to the public bathhouse with a pistol hidden in his robe. But when he saw Bahá'u'lláh, he was too afraid to carry out his plan. Later, Ridá took his pistol and waited on the street for Bahá'u'lláh.

But when He appeared, Ridá became so confused that he froze and dropped his weapon. Bahá'u'lláh turned to His brother and said, "Pick up his pistol and give it to him, and show him the way to his house; he seems to have lost his way."

Frustrated, the envious leaders sent false stories about Bahá'u'lláh to the Sháh (King) of Persia.

Finally, their lies led to Bahá'u'lláh's exile with His family to Constantinople (now Istanbul, Türkiye) in 1863.



An angry mob went to Bahá'u'lláh's house.

“The source of courage and power is the promotion of the Word of God,
and steadfastness in His Love.” — Bahá’u’lláh

Before leaving, Bahá’u’lláh declared that He was the Promised One that the Báb had foretold. His mission was to bring peace to humanity. He called the 12 days surrounding His joyous announcement “the King of Festivals.”

For the rest of His life, Bahá’u’lláh faced exile and persecution, but He never wavered in His mission. Today, His teachings inspire millions to act with courage, stand for justice, and build welcoming communities. We can all do our part to create unity and a brighter world.



Today, Bahá’ís come from all over the globe to pray at the Shrine of Bahá’u’lláh near Akká, Israel.

Find 18 words related to courage and trust in God. Search forward, backward, up, down, and diagonally.

	C O N F I D E N C E G N P N F	
Bravery	E H C R A X X I Q F I E O R K	Light
Calm	C A A A W I M Q U V A I I I H	Love
Challenges	N R T L Y M T E N C T E N L M	Messenger
Confidence	E M K Z L R E H E A N D O O G	Patience
Determination	I O Y Z Q E F S N D N X D F H	Peace
Faith	T N C A L M N I S E B S X D E	Respect
Friends	A Y X I P O M G S E I J B F U	Trust
Harmony	P K G E C R V S E W N T L R Y	Unity
Kindness	R H J K E I E E T S J G V R T	Wisdom
	T Q M T H E J S I Q L O E O I	
	Y R E V A R B F P F K H U R N	
	C D R K D N I S L E V A H D U	
	B Q F P U P R Y D S C H W Q I	
	Z H T C K I P T S U R T U L C	