

Birth of Bahá'u'lláh

Annually on November 12th Bahá'ís all around the world commemorate the Birth of Bahá'u'lláh, the Prophet-Founder of the Bahá'í Faith. Gatherings are held in local communities in homes, hired halls or Bahá'í centres. It is an opportunity for Bahá'ís and their friends to come together to share prayers, engage in artistic performances and enjoy refreshments. It is one of the nine Holy Days on which work is suspended to allow Bahá'ís to dedicate the day to celebrating the birth of 'the most precious Being ever to draw breath on this planet'.



The city of Tehran, Iran, where Bahá'u'lláh was born.

Bahá'u'lláh was born Mírzá Husayn-'Alí on November 12th 1817 in Tehran, the capital of Persia - now Iran - into a noble family. His father was a wealthy government minister. His son 'Abdu'l-Bahá said, 'From earliest childhood He was distinguished among His relatives and friends... In wisdom, intelligence and as a source

of new knowledge, He was advanced beyond His age and superior to His surroundings. All who knew Him were astonished at His precocity. It was usual for them to say, "Such a child will not live," for it is commonly believed that precocious children do not reach maturity.' Despite not having received a formal education, Bahá'u'lláh became known for His learning and wisdom.

The commemoration of Bahá'u'lláh's birth is a time to recall the new spiritual and social teachings that He brought for our modern age, teachings which are contributing to the progress of the world. Through His Writings, a unifying vision of the nature and purpose of humanity can be found. This, Bahá'ís believe, is crucially needed for humanity's progress.

