

National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of the United Kingdom

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When replying please
refer to: GC-33027.A
6 September 2018

To whom it may concern

Dear Sir/Madam,

We are writing to you on behalf of one of your employees who is a member of the Bahá'í Faith. Bahá'ís observe nine Holy Days during the year that are associated with significant events in the lives of Bahá'u'lláh, the Prophet-Founder of the Bahá'í Faith, and the Báb, its Herald. On these nine days, Bahá'ís make an effort to be excused from work by their employer. The dates of these Holy Days for 2018/2019 are:

2018

9 November	Birth of the Báb
10 November	Birth of Bahá'u'lláh

2019

21 March	Naw-Rúz (Bahá'í New Year)
21 April	First Day of the Riḍván Festival
29 April	Ninth Day of the Riḍván Festival
2 May	Twelfth Day of the Riḍván Festival
24 May	Declaration of the Báb
29 May	Ascension of Bahá'u'lláh
10 July	Martyrdom of the Báb
29 October	Birth of the Báb
30 October	Birth of Bahá'u'lláh

These Holy Days are observed as beginning at sunset on the evening before the dates listed above, and ending on these dates at sunset, since days begin and end at sunset in the Bahá'í calendar. Please note that as the Bahá'í Holy Days are fixed considering characteristics of both the lunar and solar calendars, the dates provided above will vary slightly each calendar year.

It may interest you to know that the essential message of Bahá'u'lláh is that of unity. The Bahá'í Faith, the most recent of the world's independent religions, has more than five million believers who can be found around the globe in nearly every country and in many dependent territories. The Encyclopaedia Britannica Yearbook has listed the Bahá'í Faith as second only to Christianity in its geographic spread. Should you wish to know more about the Bahá'í Faith, information is available at www.bahai.org.uk, the official website of the Bahá'í community of the United Kingdom.

Thank you for your kind attention to this matter, and we hope that favourable consideration will be given to this request.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Patrick O'Mara', with a large loop at the top and a horizontal line at the bottom.

Patrick O'Mara,
Secretary