

Birth of Bahá'u'lláh

The Birth of Bahá'u'lláh, the Prophet-Founder of the Bahá'í Faith, is celebrated by Bahá'ís around the world between the months of Qudrat and 'Ilm.³ The Birth of Bahá'u'lláh is always preceded the day before by the Birth of the Báb and these two days are known as the Twin Holy Days.



Tehran, Iran, where Bahá'u'lláh was born

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 also 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'.

Bahá'u'lláh was born Mírzá Husayn-'Alí 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 age, teachings which are contributing to the progress and prosperity of mankind. Through His Writings, a unifying vision of oneness of mankind and of the nature and purpose of humanity can be found. This, Bahá'ís believe, is crucially needed for humanity's progress.

³ The Gregorian date shifts in accordance with the timing of Naw-Rúz and falls between the 21 October and 14 November, depending on the year. A full list of corresponding solar dates for the birthdays of Bahá'u'lláh and the Báb over the next fifty years is available.

