

# Bahai in dual 127th anniversary celebrations Sunday: Declaration of ...

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## Bahai in dual 127th anniversary celebrations Sunday

### *Declaration of the Bab Ascension*

### *of Baha'u'llah's dates May 23-29*

CHICAGO, Ill. — On May 23, the Baha'is of Chicago will join Baha'is around the world in observing the Declaration of the Bab and the 127th Anniversary of the birth of the Baha'i Faith.

On May 23, 1844 in Shiraz, Iran (then Persia) a young man, known as the Bab (Gate), announced His Mission as a Prophet of God and as heralding the beginning of a new universal cycle and a new age for mankind. He also asserted that the coming of a greater Prophet from God was at hand and Whose coming would fulfill the prophecies of all the great religions.

Because of His teachings, the Bab and His followers were persecuted by the Muslim clergy. These persecutions persisted during His imprisonment and banishment and culminated in His public martyrdom in 1850 at Tabriz, Iran. Some 20,000 of

his followers were also martyred during the early history of the Faith.

The Promised One foretold by the Bab, Baha'is believe is Baha'u'llah, Founder of the Baha'i Faith. Baha'u'llah's name means "The Glory of God."

Since 1844, the Baha'i Faith has spread to cover 300 countries and territories. Baha'is believe that all religions come from the same Divine Source and that all are a progressive unfoldment of God's Word for man. Baha'u'llah, they believe, is the latest but not the last of God's Messengers and that His teaching are the Divine remedy for the problems of this age.

May 23 is also the Birthday of 'Abdu'l-Baha, the eldest son of Baha'u'llah. He was born on May 23, 1844, the day the Baha'i Faith began. He shared per-

secution, exile, and imprisonment with His Prophet-Father. He was appointed by Baha'u'llah as the Center of the Covenant. After His release from prison in 1908, he visited Europe and the United States. He died in 1921.

On Mt. Carmel in the Holy Land is a golden dome shrine which overlooks the Bay of Haifa. Within this edifice are the holy remains of the Bab. The World Center of the Baha'i Faith is also located on Mt. Carmel.

On May 29th, Baha'is all over the world will commemorate the Ascension of Baha'u'llah, Prophet-Founder of the Baha'i Faith. It was on this day in 1892 that Baha'u'llah died. He was born in 1817 and because of his teachings He spent more than forty years of His life in exile, banishment and as a prisoner.

Baha'is believe that Baha'u'llah is the latest in a series of Divine Messengers sent by God since the beginning of man's existence. His com-

ing ushers in the Age of Fulfillment mentioned in all the prophecies of the past. They see His teachings and laws as those necessary to bring about world peace, world unity, and the Kingdom of God on earth.

Members of the Chicago Baha'i Community will attend the Baha'i Caribbean Conference being held in Kingston, Jamaica, May 21-23, 1971.

Over 550 American Baha'is will attend the Caribbean Conference and have chartered the ship, S. S. New Bahama Star for the purpose. The ship will also serve as a floating institute with daily classes on various aspects of the Baha'i Faith.

Chicago Baha'is going on the Caribbean cruise are:

Mr. Benjamin Mashaw, Miss Marie Nash, Mrs. Juanita Reeves, Mr. and Mrs. Habib Yagangegi, Mrs. Juliette Buford, Mrs. Pearl Fields, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Smith, Mrs. Mary A. Allen, Dr. Quintilla B. Smith,