

# **Names of *The Letters of The Living, in Order*, as They Believed in The Bab**

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## Remarks:

The objective of this short presentation is not to go into the details about the Letters of the Living. Rather, to present a newly found Tablet of the Bab (Source: Dr. Naer Saiedi)\* where He mentions their names and the order they believed in Him.

## Background:

- The “Letters of the Living” is the title given by the Bab to His first 18 followers.
- In Arabic/Persian: hurúf-i ḥayy, “حروف حيّ, the Living” / ḥayy.
- In Arabic two letters, has the numerical value of 18.
- Symbolic for the first 18 disciples, plus the Bab: 19.
- In Abjad, 19 is equal to the word vāḥid, “one” or “unit/unity”.
- The Bab links the 18 letters of the living with the concept of “return”.

**\*This Tablet is in Arabic and has not been translated into English. Dr. Saiedi, while serving at the research department in Haifa encountered this Tablet and shared his finding in a public talk available on his web site: [TALKS & LECTURES \(researchbahai.com\)](https://www.researchbahai.com).**

In one of the Bab's Tablets, which consisted of 19 chapters and was revealed on the description of the Quranic verse "Bismillahi'r-Rahmani' r-Rahim" (*In The Name of God, Most Gracious, Most Merciful. بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ*), He mentions the names of each of the letters of the living in order they believed in Him.

Initially, In this Tablet, the Bab mentions the names of Mirza Hadi Qazvini and Tahirih (captured in number 6 and 7 on the next slide) after the rest, because these two were led to the Bab by Muhammad Ali Qazvini. In fact Tahirih asked Muhammad Ali Qazvini to mention her name when he finds the Qaim (The Bab).

In the same Tablet, the Bab states that the Letters of the Living are 16+2 or equal to غيوب (*means unseen. This word consists of four letters, "Ghein" in abjad is equal to 1000 and He equates this to Himself, "Ya" and "Vav" will become 16 (10+6 respectively) and "Ba" is equal to 2. Hence 16+2*). The two individuals are Mirza Hadi Qazvini and Tahirih. Both of them became believers through Muhammad Ali Qazvini.

According to the Bab (in the same Tablet) the station of Tahirih is also equal to all the 17 Letters of the Living combined. She never met the Bab and the Bab, in another Tablet, states that because of what she asked of Muhammad Ali Qazvini, We accepted her as one of the Letters of the Living before she even knew it.

## Names of *the Letters of the Living in order* as appeared in the Bab's Tablet:

1. Mulla Husayn-i-Bushru'i (Note: full name, Mohammad Hossein),
2. Mulla Aliy-i-Bastami,
3. Mulla Ahmad-i-Ibdal-i-Maraghi'i,
4. Mulla Jalil-i-Urumi,
5. Mirza Muhammad-'Ali Qazvini (Note: Tahirih's cousin and brother in law),
6. **Mirza Hadi Qazvini (Note: brother of #5),**
7. **Tahirih (Note: cousin of #5 and #6),**
8. Mulla Hasan-i-Bajistani,
9. Muhammad-Hasan (Note: Mulla Hossein's brother),

10. Mirza Muhammad-Baqir, (Note: Mulla Hossein's nephew),
11. Siyyid Husayn-i-Yazdi,
12. Mirza Muhammad Rawdih-Khan-i-Yazdi,
13. Sa'id-i-Hindi,
14. Mulla Khuda-Bakhsh-i-Quchani or it might be Yusif Ali Ardabili? (Note: referred by the Bab as Ali in the above-mentioned Tablet),
15. Mulla Mahmud-i-Khu'i,
16. Mulla Baqir-i-Tabrizi,
17. Mulla Yusif Ali Ardibili (Note: the Bab referred to him as Mohammad in the above-mentioned Tablet),
18. Quddus.