

Baha'i



Baha'i Beliefs

- the abandonment of all forms of prejudice
- assurance to women of full equality with men
- recognition of the unity and relativity of religious truth
- the elimination of extremes of poverty and wealth
- the realization of universal education
- the responsibility of each person to independently search for truth
- the establishment of a global commonwealth of nations
- recognition that true religion is in harmony with reason and the pursuit of scientific knowledge

Baha'i Beginnings

- **Started as a spin off of the Shi'ite sect of Islam**
- **Bab-ud-Din in 1844 proclaimed himself the 12th imam**
- **Bab executed in 1850 and finally buried in Haifa**
- **Bab told of someone that would follow him (John the Baptist-like prediction)**
- **Husayn Ali becomes Bahauallah, the one depicted by Bab and begins the Baha'i faith**
- **Bahallah's son, Abbas Effendi succeeds father and becomes Abdul Baha**
- **Abdul Baha dies in 1921 and grandson, Shoghi Effendi, succeeds him**



Abdul Baha



**Shoghi Effendi,
the Guardian of the Bahá'ís**

Baha'i Views

- **Demythologized Quran**
- **Oneness of all people, races, sexes, etc.**
- **Independent search for truth**
- **Basic oneness of all religions**
- **All differences between people aren't relevant**
- **Religion and science are one**
- **Education critical**
- **One language necessary**
- **Extremes in wealth or poverty need to be eliminated**
- **World government should be established**
- **Service is as important as faith**
- **Peace and justice necessary for humankind**



Baha'i Temple, New Delhi

Baha'i misc.

- **Daily prayers**
- **Monogamy with consent of parents**
- **Home worship or in “churches”**
- **Iran isn't the place for Baha'is**
- **Estimates of 6 million followers**

WE ARE
Drops of One Ocean
Flowers of One Garden
Leaves of One Tree



ALL THINGS BEING EQUAL

One Woman's Journey



Cynthia Shepard Perry

UNITED STATES AMBASSADOR
RETIRED



International Headquarters



Bahá'í World Centre, Haifa

Baha'i

An interesting site: <http://www.bahai.org/>