

# THE SHRINE OF BAHÁ'U'LLÁH

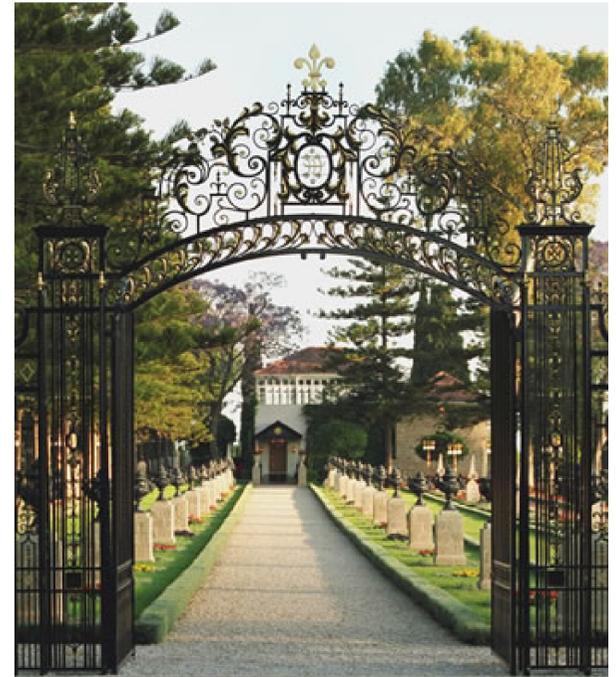
In the early hours of 29 May 1892, Bahá'u'lláh passed away at the Mansion of Bahjí. Nine days later His will was unsealed. It designated 'Abdu'l-Bahá as His successor and head of the Bahá'í Faith — the first time in history that the founder of a world religion had made explicitly clear whom people should follow after His death. This declaration of a successor is the pivotal provision of what is known to Bahá'ís as the "Covenant of Bahá'u'lláh." It has enabled the Bahá'í Faith to remain united around one central authority for over a century.



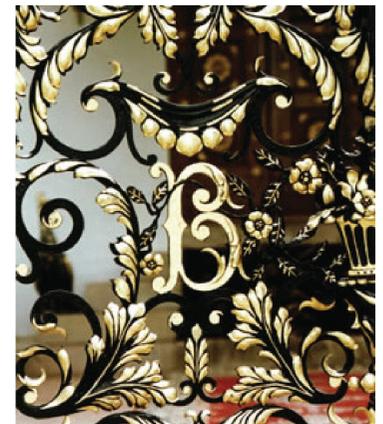
Shortly after the passing of Bahá'u'lláh, 'Abdu'l-Bahá sent this message: "The Sun of Truth, that Most Great Light, hath set upon the horizon of the world to rise with deathless splendour over the Realm of the Limitless. In His Most Holy Book He calleth the firm and steadfast of His friends: 'Be not dismayed, O peoples of the world, when the day-star of My beauty is set, and the heaven of My tabernacle is concealed from your eyes. Arise to further My Cause, and to exalt My Word amongst men.'"

Just after sunset on the day He passed away, Bahá'u'lláh was buried in a simple room in a house next to the Mansion of Bahjí. 'Abdu'l-Bahá, and after him Shoghi Effendi, the Guardian of the Bahá'í Faith, lovingly and painstakingly beautified the gardens surrounding the Shrine.

This is the holiest place on earth for Bahá'ís, where they turn to in prayer each day. Pilgrims come from all corners of the globe to pay their respects to Bahá'u'lláh and to rededicate their lives to the noble purposes that He set before humanity.



"Let each morn be better than its eve and each morrow richer than its yesterday. Man's merit lieth in service and virtue and not in the pageantry of wealth and riches. Take heed that your words be purged from idle fancies and worldly desires and your deeds be cleansed from craftiness and suspicion. Dissipate not the wealth of your precious lives in the pursuit of evil and corrupt affection, nor let your endeavours be spent in promoting your personal interest."



"The aim of this Wronged One in sustaining woes and tribulations, in revealing the Holy Verses and in demonstrating proofs hath been naught but to quench the flame of hate and enmity, that the horizon of the hearts of men may be illumined with the light of concord and attain real peace and tranquillity. From the dawning-place of the divine Tablet the day-star of this utterance shineth resplendent, and it behoveth everyone to fix his gaze upon it: We exhort you, O peoples of the world, to observe that which will elevate your station. Hold fast to the fear of God and firmly adhere to what is right. Verily I say, the tongue is for mentioning what is good, defile it not with unseemly talk. God hath forgiven what is past. Henceforward everyone should utter that which is meet and seemly, and should refrain from slander, abuse and whatever causeth sadness in men."

"O ye that dwell on earth! The religion of God is for love and unity; make it not the cause of enmity or dissension. In the eyes of men of insight and the beholders of the Most Sublime Vision, whatsoever are the effective means for safeguarding and promoting the happiness and welfare of the children of men have already been revealed by the Pen of Glory."