Birth of Báb

An observance of the anniversary of the birth on Oct. 20, 1819, in Shiraz, Persia (now Iran), of Siyyid ‘Ali-Muhammad, who later took the title of “the Báb,” meaning “the Gate.” The Báb is a prominent figure of the Baha’i Faith.

The Birth of Báb is a joyous event and one of the nine holy days of the year when work is suspended.

Date
- The date varies year to year. The Bahá’í day ends and a new one begins at sunset; consequently, the day on which a Feast or Holy Day is observed begins at sunset of the day before the Gregorian calendar dates listed.
- Link to Bahá’í calendar for year/date lookup.

Greetings
Wishing a celebrant “Happy Birth of the Báb” or “Happy Twin Birthdays” is welcome.

Common Practices and Celebrations
- Bahá’ís gather to pray and read from the Baha’i writings.
- It is a joyful celebration of singing, dancing and fellowship.

Common Dietary Restrictions
There are no dietary restrictions, but many follow a vegetarian diet of vegetables, fruits and grains.

Impact to U-M Community
- Those observing the Bahá’í Faith suspend work and school to celebrate the Birth of Báb.
- Link to U-M Guidance Regarding Conflicts.

U-M Campus Resources
- Maize Pages - Bahá’í, U-M
- Association of Religious Counselors, U-M

Information Sources
- Bahá’í Center of Washtenaw County, Ann Arbor
- YouTube Bahá’í Holy Day, the Birth of the Báb
- Bahá’í of the United States

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