



*Happy Birth  
of the Báb!*

# Birth of Báb

Bahá'í

[Bab](#)



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 Bab” 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](#)

## Photo credit:

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This collection of information sheets on major holidays and cultural events is a joint partnership of the School of Information staff, the Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, and the Office of the Provost. Facts have been vetted by U-M's Association of Religious Counselors (ARC), and other campus groups. Public feedback is welcome; please email [DEIHolidayFacts@umich.edu](mailto:DEIHolidayFacts@umich.edu).

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