

يا الاله  
بهاء

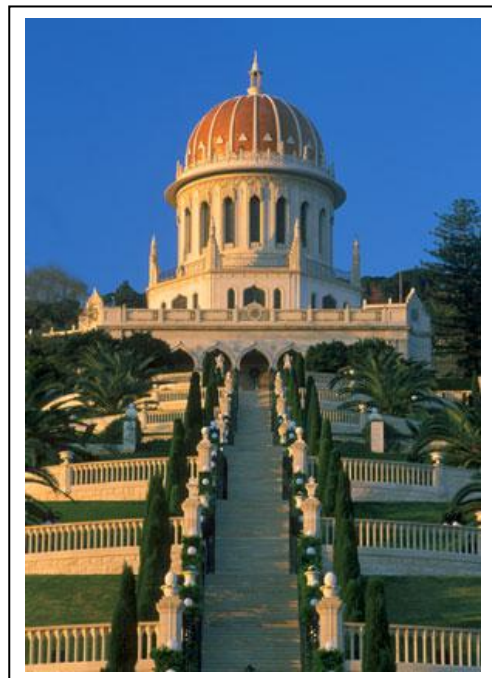
"Yá Bahá'u'l-Abhá" ". . . the symbol of the Greatest Name represents an invocation which can be translated either as 'O Glory of Glories' or 'O Glory of the All-Glorious'. The word glory used in this connection is a translation of the Arabic

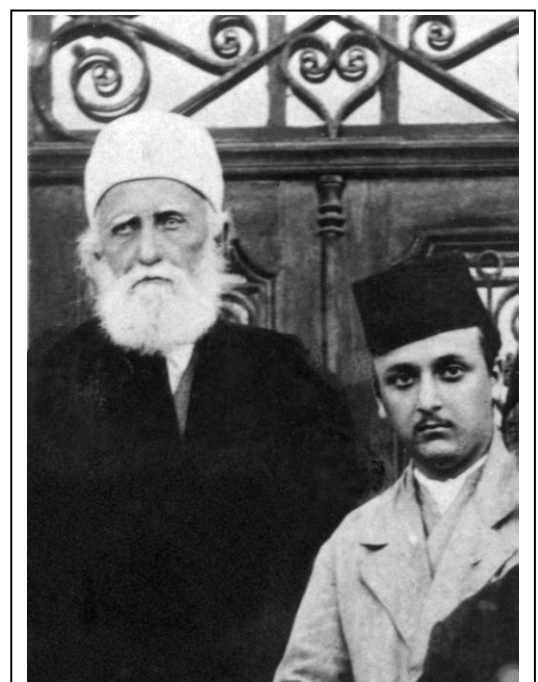
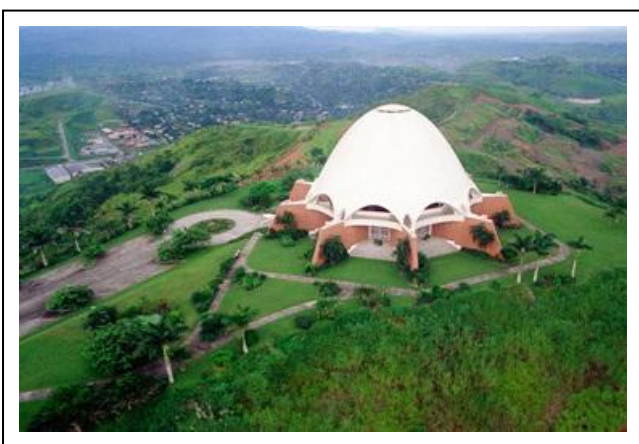
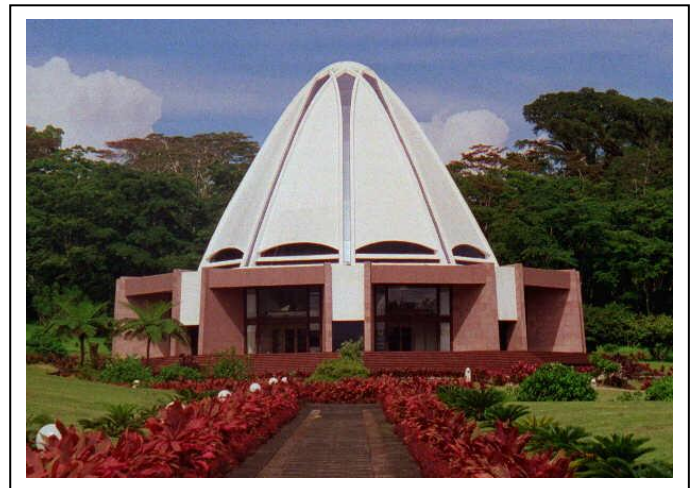
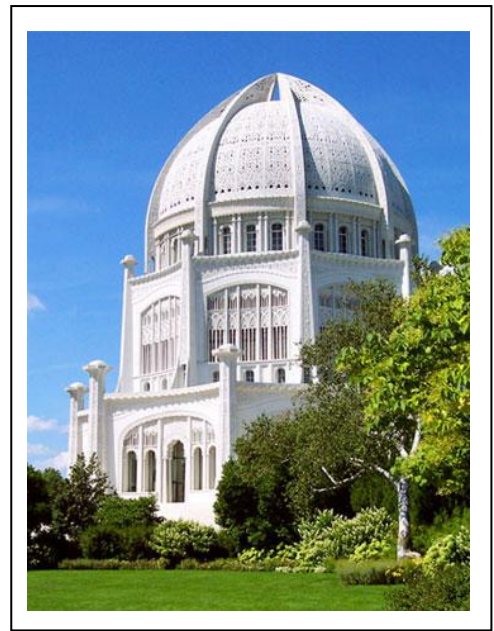
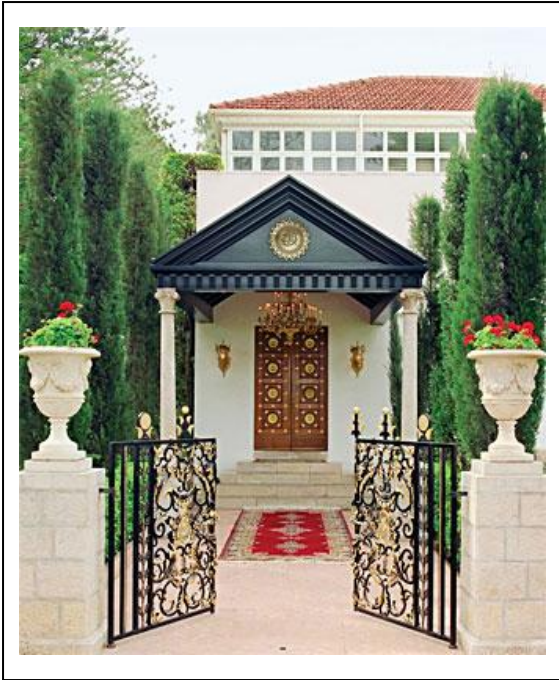


The purpose of the symbol that appears on Bahá'í ringstones and other Bahá'í identity jewelry is a visual reminder of God's purpose for man, and for Bahá'ís in particular. Bahá'í identity jewelry often is a conversation starter about the Faith and may be considered a teaching and proclamation aid. From top to bottom, the horizontal bars represent the world of God, the Creator, the world of His Manifestations, and the world of man. The vertical line joins the three horizontal bars together in



"A simple nine-pointed star is generally used by Bahá'ís as a symbol of their Faith. The number nine has significance in the Bahá'í Revelation. Nine years after the announcement of the Báb in Shiraz, Bahá'u'lláh received the intimation of His mission in the dungeon in Teheran. Nine, as the highest single-digit number, symbolizes completeness. Since the Bahá'í Faith claims to be the fulfillment of the expectations of all prior



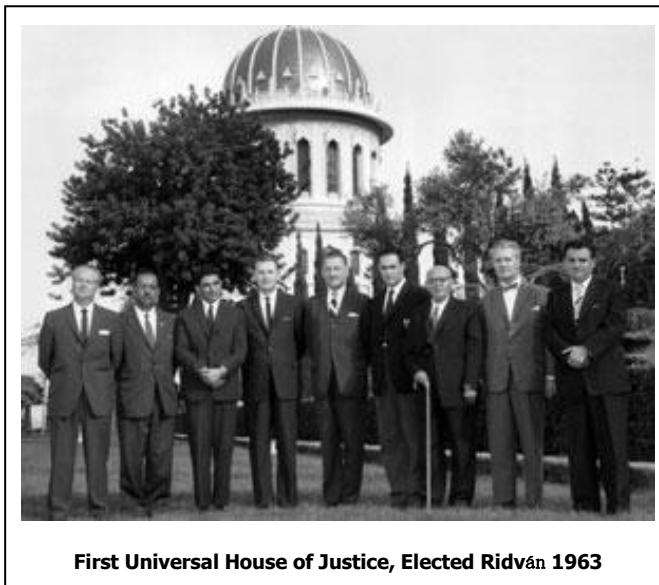
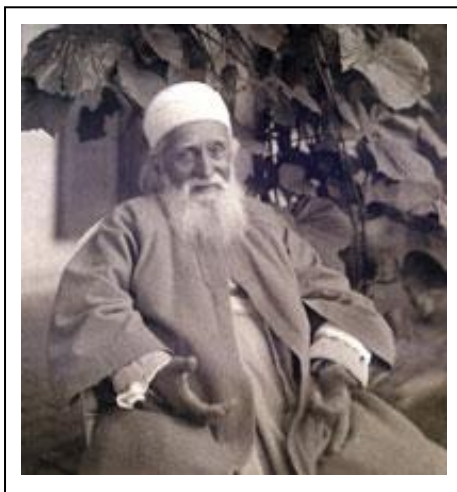




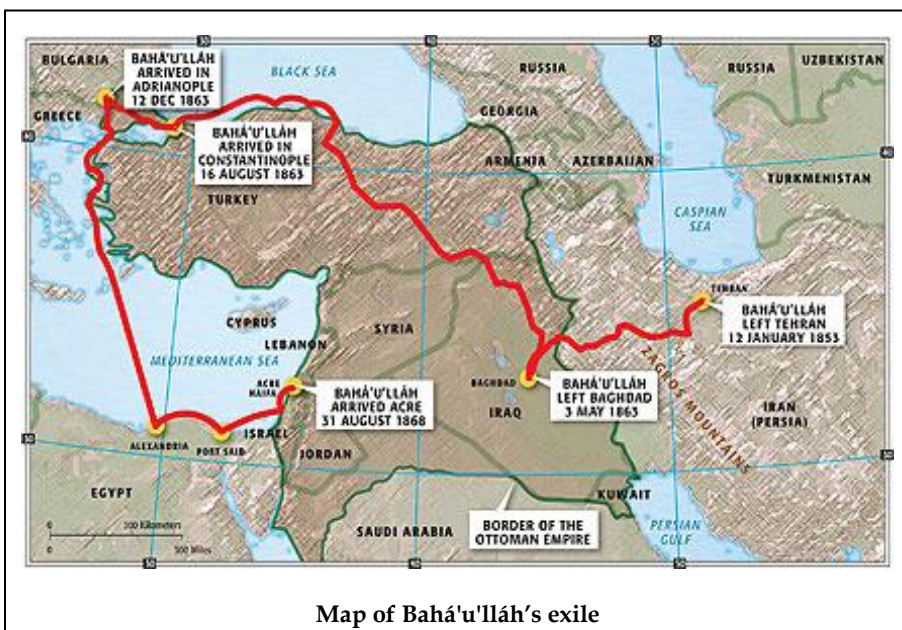
**Badí**



**Early Bábís**



**First Universal House of Justice, Elected Ridván 1963**



**Map of Bahá'u'lláh's exile**



**Mírza Abu'l-Fadl Gulpaygani**



**Mirzá Mihdí, the Purest Branch**



**Ásíyih Khánum, Navváb, the Most Exalted Leaf  
(and the Purest Branch)**



**Martha Root, Hand of the Cause**



**Mrs. Fariba Kamalabadi, Mr. Jamaloddin Khanjani, Mr. Afif Naeimi, Mr. Saeid Rezaie, Mrs. Mahvash Sabet, Mr. Behrouz Tavakkoli, and Mr. Vahid Tizfahm.**



**Keith Ransom-Kehler, first female Hand of the Cause and first American martyr**



**Iran -- members of the National Spiritual Assembly who disappeared in August in 1980. All are presumed to have been killed.**



**Amatu'l-Bahá Rúhiyyih Khánum**



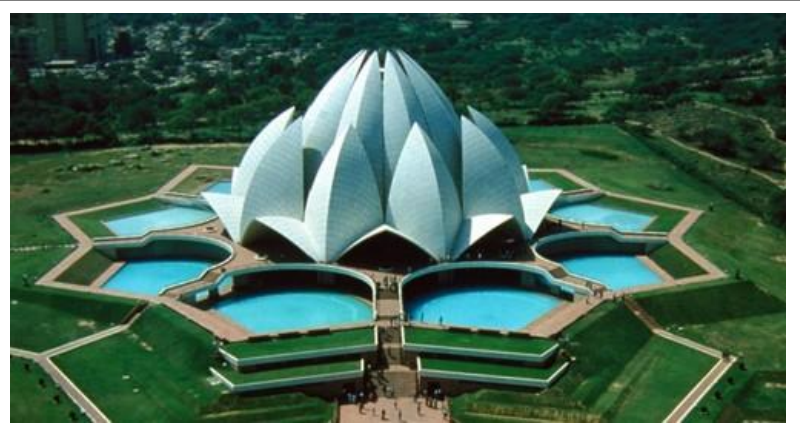
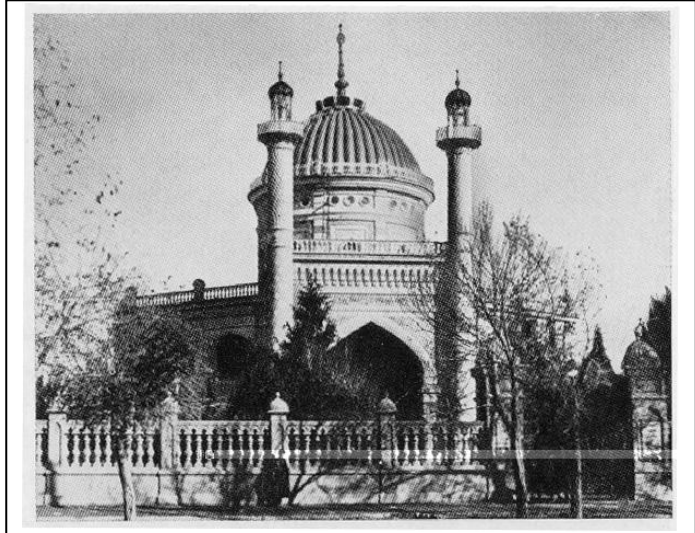
**Bahíyyih Khánum, the Greatest Holy Leaf**





In 1902, Ashgabad, the future capital of independent Turkmenistan, was the site of the Baha'i Faith's first ever *Mashriqu'l-adkhar* (الادكار مشرق, literally, "Dawning-place of the remembrance of God") or House of Worship. Bahá'u'lláh writes:

"O people of the world! Build ye houses of worship throughout the lands in the name of Him Who is the Lord of all religions. Make them as perfect as is possible in the world of being, and adorn them with that which befitteth them, not with images and effigies. Then, with radiance and joy, celebrate therein the praise of your Lord, the Most Compassionate. Verily, by His remembrance the eye is cheered and the heart is filled with light."



From 1926 onwards, the Soviets began to crack down on the community. The repression culminated in 1928, when the Ashgabad House was confiscated by authorities, and in 1938, when they arrested and exiled every adult male Baha'i to Siberia; the women and children were deported to Iran. In 1963 an earthquake irreparably damaged the foundations of the House and it was torn down.

