

Sources include (but are not limited to – these are simply the major sources found/used):

Bahaikipedia (http://bahaikipedia.org/Main_Page)

Ocean (<http://www.bahai-education.org/ocean/>)

Bahá'í Library Online (<http://bahai-library.com/>)

Boise Baha'í Faith “A Brief History of the Bahá'í Faith” (<http://www.bci.org/boise/history.htm>)

UK Baha'i Heritage Documents (<http://users.whsmithnet.co.uk/ispalin/heritage/docs.htm> /
<http://www.btinternet.com/~iain.s.palin/heritage/docs.htm>)

Note 1: in many instances, the wording used is that found in the source material. Though the odd source is referenced, to identify every reference would make this work of inordinate length, and its compilation unduly laborious for what is, after all, an activity intended only as a means of relaxation from the development of the Kitab-i-Aqdas Project. This compilation is thus built on the efforts of others, and as such cannot be regarded as an original work.

Note 2: It must be noted that I am not a historian, and have no training in this field. The value to the future of this compilation will be determined by those with such knowledge and skills; for myself, it simply appeases a level of curiosity.

Note 3: Only dates where the actual day, month and year are known have been entered. At a later time, a return will be made to compile the more nebulously stated dates (should time so allow). In the meantime, these other events can be found by visiting the sources used.

Note 4: There has been no attempt to include the dates of letters written. To do so would make my task onerous rather than enjoyable, interesting as such an exercise would be. It is left to others with greater patience and a better eye for detail to compile such a valuable listing. Nor have the individual dates of talks given by 'Abdu'l-Baha, as found in “The Promulgation of Universal Peace” or other of his Talks been included – this level of detail is for later, when detailing His travels through the western countries.

Note 5: It has been decided not to include dates that specifically relate to the various individuals and branches of Covenant-breakers unless those activities have a direct affect on the Bahá'í Faith. Dates of expulsion, dates of birth and death are in most cases the limit of dates in this chronology. Their (the individuals and the groups) internal difficulties and machinations can be followed up easily if needed/desired, and their progress (or rather, lack thereof), though instructive and educational, does not as such bear on the progress and advancement of the Cause of God. They are treated, thus, in the same way as other events etc. that lie outside the ever-evolving Cause of the Blessed Beauty (though a comparison of the forward movement of the Light of Bahá'u'lláh and the retrogression being experienced in the world at large, a task left for future qualified historians, will prove a most interesting and illuminating exercise).

1815

May 5: Birth of Mirza Muhammad-Hasan, known as Mirzay-i-Shirazi

1817

November 12: Birth of Bahá'u'lláh: founder of the Bahá'í Faith. Born Mirza Husayn 'Aliy-i-Nuri, at dawn in Tihiran, Iran

1819

October 20: Birth of the Báb in Shíráz

1829:

March 29: Birth of Nabil-i-Akbar in the village Naw-Firist, near Birjand in the district of Qa'in

1831

July 29: Birth of Apostle of Bahá'u'lláh and noted historian Nabil-i-A'zam

1842

December 3: Birth of Phoebe Hearst ('Mother of the Faithful') in Franklin County, Missouri

1843

January 10: The army bombards Karbilá and on entry massacres a large portion of the population, even those taking refuge in the Shrines of Imám Husayn or 'Abbás. 22 persons found trampled to death in the home of Siyyid Kázim. (Nabil's Narrative, p. 12) (see also "The Dawn Breakers", p .36)

December 31: passing of Sayyid Kazim

1844

January 22: Mullá Husayn-i-Buṣhrú'í returns to Karbilá. (Nabil's Narrative, p. 19) (The Dawn Breakers, p .47)

February 7: Birth of Shaykh Kazim-i-Samandar, designated by the Guardian of the Bahá'í Faith Shoghi Effendi an 'Apostle of Bahá'u'lláh'

May 22: The Báb makes His declaration in Shíráz to Mullá Husayn 2 hours, 11 minutes after sunset, and writes the first chapter of the Qayyúmu'l-Asmá' (Commentary on the Súrih of Joseph)

May 23: Birth of 'Abdu'l-Bahá

December 12: The Báb, accompanied by Quddus, arrives in Mecca on pilgrimage.

December 20: The Báb stands at the Ka'bih (holiest shrine of Islam) and declared three times in the presence of 100,000 pilgrims that He was the Qa'im (the Promised One) awaited by Shi'ih Muslims

1845

January 10: The Báb reaches Medina

January 16: An edict was issued in Baghdad condemning the Báb as an unbeliever.

July 7: The Báb is publicly interrogated, struck in the face and released into the custody of His uncle.

1846

January 15: Biela's comet was observed to have broken into two

September 23: The Báb is arrested in Shíráz at the house of His uncle, and is released on the condition that He leave the area.

1847

February 22: Birth of Disciple of 'Abdu'l-Bahá and Hand of the Cause Thornton Chase

March 29: A tent is pitched for the Báb on the slopes of a hill outside of Kulayn where He stayed with His escort for 20 days

April 1: A letter and gifts from Bahá'u'lláh are received by the Báb, delivered to His Hands by Mulla Muhammad-Mihdiy-i-Kandi.

1848

March 20: Mullá Husayn visits the Báb at the fortress of Máh-Kú

April 9: The Báb is removed from the fortress of Máh-Kú by orders of Hájí Mírzá Áqásí

April 10: The Báb is transferred to the fortress of Chihriq by orders of Hájí Mírzá Áqásí

June 26: Conference of Badasht begins, and runs till the 17th July

July 21: Mullá Husayn hoists the Black Standard and marches with 202 other Bábís from Mashad to Mazindaran

September 4: Muhammad Shah, intending to order the death of Bahá'u'lláh, dies, and is succeeded as Sháh of Persia by 17-year old Násiri'd-Dín Sháh.

September 4: Hájí Mírza Aqásí, chief antagonist of the Báb and the Antichrist of the Bábí Faith, is expelled from the capital.

October 10: Mullá Husayn and 71 fellow Bábís are besieged at Fort Tabarsi, eventually to be surrounded by twenty thousand soldiers.

October 20: Quddús arrives at fort Tabarsí

1849

February 1: the beseiged at the fort of Shaykh Tabarsí finish digging a well to obtain their needs for water

February 2: At dawn, Mullá Husayn leads his last sortie at the Shrine of Shaykh Tabarsí and is mortally wounded.

February 19 and 20: The famous Seven Martyrs of Tihrán are martyred.

May 10: Battle of fort Tabarsí ends after a negotiated surrender in which the victors promise to let the Bábís go. Immediately afterward, the victors break their oath and kill many of the defenders.

May 11: Quddús, escorted by Prince Mihdí Qulí Mírzá, arrives in Bárfurúsh

May 16: Quddús, prominent disciple of the Báb, and the eighteenth and final Letter of the Living is tortured and executed.

1850

May 16: The first of the believers in Zanján is martyred

June 29: Vahíd is mutilated and killed in Nayríz.

July 9: The Báb is publicly executed in Tabriz.

1851

January 8: Hujjat, wounded in the right arm by a bullet 19 days before and in severe pain and fever, passes away while saying his prayers. (Nabíl's Narrative, p. 170)

August 28: Bahá'u'lláh arrives in Karbilá, Iraq for the start of a 10 month pilgrimage, during which He spread the Báb's Teachings to the people.

1852

August 15: Angry Bábís (acting on their own volition) make a failed attempt to kill Nasser al-Din Shah

1853

January 12: Bahá'u'lláh and His family begin their journey to Baghdad following His exile from Tehran.

April 8: Bahá'u'lláh and His family complete the trip from Tehran to Baghdad following His exile

1854

April 10: Bahá'u'lláh retreats to the Sulaymaniyah mountains within Kurdistan

1855

March 5: Birth of John Henry Hyde-Dunn, appointed posthumously as a Hand of the Cause of God by Shoghi Effendi

August 1: Birth of John Bosch, founder of the Bosch Baha'i School

1856

March 19: Bahá'u'lláh returns to Baghdad after His period of seclusion in the Sulaymaniyyih mountains of Kurdistan.

March 19: Louis Bourgeois, architect and designer of the Baha'i House of Worship in Wilmette, Illinois, is born in Saint-Célestin-de-Nicolet, Quebec.

1861

November 1: Birth of Corinne True, Hand of the Cause of God

1862

February 7: Birth of Edward Granville Browne in Uley, Gloucestershire.

May 10: The Persian ambassador requests that the Ottomans move the Bábís farther from Persia.

1863

March 26: Bahá'u'lláh reveals the Tablet of the Holy Mariner

March 26: The Governor General of Baghdád invites Bahá'u'lláh to Istanbul and provides Him with a sum of money for the journey. Bahá'u'lláh accepts, but gives all the money to the poor.

April 22: Bahá'u'lláh declares himself to be He whom God shall make manifest in the Garden of Ridván in Baghdad on the eve of his exile to Constantinople, (Istanbul).

April 30: Bahá'u'lláh's family joins Him in the Garden of Ridván (the Ninth Day of Ridván)

May 3: Bahá'u'lláh leaves the Garden of Ridvan at noon on the first leg of His journey to Constantinople

August 13: Bahá'u'lláh departs by steamer from the port of Sámson to Constantinople.

August 16: Arrival of Bahá'u'lláh in Constantinople at noon

October 19: Bahá'u'lláh reveals the Tablet of the Bell (Lawh-i-Naqus) in His own Hand

December 12: Arrival of Bahá'u'lláh in Adrianople after a journey of 12 days. There had been brief halts at Kuchik-Chakmachih, Buyuk-Chakmachih, Salvári, Birkas, and Baba-Iski during journey

1864

August 15: Diyá'u'lláh is born to Fátimih and Bahá'u'lláh.

1865

November 30: Birth of Margaret Stevenson, the first New Zealand Bahá'í

1866

March 10: Baha'u'llah, the members of His own family and one servant change residence from the house of Amru'llah to the house of Rida Big

December 1: Bahá'í pioneer Marion Jack is born in Saint John, New Brunswick.

1868

July 26: Sultan 'Abdu'l-'Aziz orders the perpetual banishment of Bahá'u'lláh.

August 12: Departure of Baha'u'llah from Adrianople

August 12: Mirzá Yahyá responds to Bahá'u'lláh's public claim by also claiming he was a messenger of God.

August 21: Bahá'u'lláh departs from Gallipoli by steamer for Haifa and then by sail to 'Akká.

August 31: Bahá'u'lláh arrives in the prison city of 'Akká.

September 2: The Governor of 'Akká, on a visit to the Bahá'ís in the city barracks shortly after their arrival, is deeply impressed by 'Abdu'l-Bahá and is moved to improve their conditions.

1869

February 12: Fu'ad Pasha dies in Nice, France, of a heart condition

May 1: Nabil meets Bahá'u'lláh.

May 12: Birth of Hand of the Cause of God, Clara Dunn

1870

January 14: May Ellis Bolles, later known as May Maxwell, is born in Englewood, New Jersey.

June 23: Mirzá Mihdí dies in 'Akká after falling through a skylight.

November 4: Bahá'u'lláh is released from the prison barracks to house within 'Akká at the house of 'Udí Khammár.

1871

October 16: The famous writer and critic, Matthew Arnold, makes a brief reference to the Faith in an address that he gave to the Birmingham and Midland Institute (Great Britain).

November 1: Birth of Lua Getsinger

1872

January 23: Murder of Siyyid Muhammad, Aqá Ján Big and another companion Covenant-breaker in 'Akká

August 10: Birth of prominent Bahá'í and "foremost travel teacher in the first Bahá'í Century", Martha Root

1873

March 1: Baha'u'llah reveals the Lawh-i-Ru'ya in the house of 'Udi Khammar

March 8: Marriage of 'Abdu'l-Bahá and Munírih Khánun.

June 7: Amelia Collins, prominent Bahá'í and Hand of the Cause is born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

1874

May 15: Charles Mason Remey is born

May 19: Birth of Hand of the Cause and Disciple of 'Abdu'l-Bahá John Esslemont

June 6: Louis Gregory is born in Charleston, South Carolina.

November 14: Birth of Hand of the Cause William Sutherland Maxwell

1875

February 7: Birth of Haji Mirza Habibu'llah in Shiraz

July 21: Birth of Hand of the Cause of God, Agnes Alexander

September 17: Birth of Hand of the Cause of God Roy C. Wilhelm

1876

April 14: Birth of Hand of the Cause of God Keith Ransom-Kehler

May 30: Sultan 'Abdu'l-Aziz is deposed and is either assassinated or commits suicide.

June 14: Birth of Hand of the Cause of God George Townshend.

August 31: 'Abdu'l-Hamid II becomes Sultan, upon which the banishment decree of Sultan 'Abdu'l-Aziz is relaxed.

1879

March 17: Martyrdom of Haji Siyyid Muhammad-Hasan (the King of the Martyrs) and Jahi Siyyid Hummad-Husayn (the Beloved of the Martyrs).

1881

March 24: Mirza Yahya is freed by the British administration in Cyprus

1882

September 15: Khadijih-Bagum, wife of the Báb, dies in Shíráz.

1883

April 8: Birth of Elizabeth Hopper, Knight of Bahá'u'lláh named for pioneering to the Madeira Islands

1885

March 27: Birth of Knight of Bahá'u'lláh Charles Dunning

1896

February 15: Birth of distinguished Bahá'í Leroy Ioas, Hand of the Cause and Secretary General of the International Bahá'í Council.

1887

April 7: Horace Holley, prominent Bahá'í and Hand of the Cause is born in Torrington, Connecticut.

April 13: Bahá'u'lláh uses the term 'Hand of the Cause' for the first time to refer to an individual with certain responsibilities, in a Tablet revealed in honour of Ibn-i-Asdaq.

June 16: Birth of Adelbert Mühlischlegel, Hand of the Cause of God and prominent German Bahá'í

1888

January 20: Aqa Mirza Aqa and his son Aqa Siyyid Aqa attain the presence of Bahá'u'lláh for the first time

1889

March 29: Edward G. Browne gives a presentation on the Faith before the Essay Society in Newcastle-upon-Tyne

April 9: Upheaval at Najafabad.

April 26: Baha'u'llah reveals a Tablet in honour of Ibn-i-Abhar, which makes it clear that he had already been designated a Hand of the Cause.

July 17: The "Son of the Wolf" drives over a hundred Bahá'ís out of their cities near Isfahan.

November 16: Birth of Hand of the Cause of God Shu'a'u'llah 'Ala'i

1890

April 15 to 20: Edward Granville Browne of Cambridge University, interviews Bahá'u'lláh four times and visits with 'Abdu'l-Bahá at Bahjí.

August 4: Date on the first of the 12 letters sent to Edward Granville Browne by 'Abdu'l-Baha

1891

February 15: Edward G. Browne gives a lecture about the Baha'i Faith at the South Place Institute in London

February 23: Edward G. Browne gives a lecture to Pembroke College Literary Society in England (Martletts), at which the Faith was discussed at length

April 3: Date of the second letter addressed by 'Abdu'l-Baha to Edward G. Browne

May 19: Execution of the Seven Martyrs of Yazd.

August 19: Date of the third letter sent to Edward G. Browne by 'Abdu'l-Baha

1892

May 24: Birth of Knight of Bahá'u'lláh Mildred Clark

May 29: Ascension of Bahá'u'lláh 8 hours after sunset in Bahjí, 'Akká.

June 7: Unsealing and reading of Bahá'u'lláh's Kitáb-i-'Ahd at Bahjí.

June 16: 'Abdu'l-Bahá sends His first message to the Bahá'í world calling for steadfastness.

June 25: Edward G. Browne is advised of the ascension of Bahá'u'lláh in a letter dated this day by Mirza Badi'u'llah

1893

March 24: Date on the fourth of 12 letters sent to Edward G. Browne by 'Abdu'l-Baha

September 23: First public mention of the Bahá'í Faith in North America. In a session of the World's Parliament of Religions in Chicago, the Reverend George A. Ford, a Syrian missionary, reads a paper talking about Bahá'u'lláh.

1895

February 20: Death of Mirza Muhammad-Hasan, known as Mirzay-i-Shirazi

1896

February 15: Birth of distinguished Bahá'í Leroy Ioas, Hand of the Cause and Secretary General of the International Bahá'í Council.

April 19: Nasirid Din Shah is assassinated by an originator of the constitutional movement in Iran and Bahá'ís are blamed.

May 13: Birth of prominent Hand of the Cause of God and International Bahá'í Council member, Ugo Giachery

1897

March 1: Shoghi Effendi, the great-grandson of Bahá'u'lláh, is born of 'Abdu'l-Bahá's eldest daughter in the House of Abdu'lláh Pasha.

May 21: Louisa A. Moore becomes a Bahá'í, and is later designated by the Guardian as "the mother teacher of the West". She marries Edward Getsinger and becomes Lua Getsinger.

June 16: Birth of Adelbert Mühlischlegel, Hand of the Cause of God and prominent German Bahá'í

1898

October 30: Mirza Diyá'u'lláh passes away

November 11: Khayru'lláh arrives in Akka. 'Abdu'l-Bahá calls him "Bahá's Peter"

November 13: Ground breaking ceremony for the Shrine of the Báb.

December 10: Arrival of the first group of Western pilgrims, totalling 15 in number, in 'Akká.

December 21: Birth of Hand of the Cause of God Dorothy Baker

1899

January 31: Arrival of the Báb's remains in the Holy Land.

February 16: Birth of Hand of the Cause of God Hermann Grossman

December 3: Charles Mason Remey becomes a Bahá'í.

1901

February 1: Fifth of 12 letters written by 'Abdu'l-Baha to Edward G. Browne

April 8: Letter addressed by 'Abdu'l-Baha to Edward G. Browne, the sixth of a total of 12

August 20: Sultan 'Abdu'l-Hamid re-imposes confinement of 'Abdu'l-Bahá et al. within the walls of 'Akká

November 2: Birth of John Robarts, prominent Canadian Bahá'í and Hand of the Cause of God

November 26: First celebration of the Day of the Covenant in North America

1902

September 15: Mirza 'Azizu'llah visits Count Leo Tolstoy and speaks at length about the history, teachings, and station of Bahá'u'lláh

November 28: Commencement of the construction of the of the Mashriqu'l-Adhkár of 'Ishqábád with the laying of the cornerstone.

1903

March 21: 'Abdu'l Baha writes to the “House of Spirituality” of Chicago giving permission for it to collect and preserve the Tablets sent to Believers in America.

June 7: 'Abdu'l-Bahá reveals Tablet calling for the erection of a Temple in America.

1905

April 29: Birth of Hand of the Cause 'Alí-Akbar Furútan

May 23: First Nineteen Day Feast in the West held in New York City, consisting of devotional and social parts.

1906

March 16: Birth of Universal House of Justice member (1963 to 1988) Borrah Kavelin

April 6: Ethel Rosenberg writes to 'Abdu'l-Baha with questions about the Tablet of Wisdom.

September 29: Birth of Universal House of Justice member (1963 to 1987) Charles Wolcott.

1907

July 19: The Chicago Bahá'í Assembly files for incorporation, the first Bahá'í community to achieve legal status.

1908

January 17: Birth of Ruth Katharine Meyer, Knight of Bahá'u'lláh, named for pioneering to Margarita Island.

March 21: The “House of Spirituality” of Chicago writes to the American Friends regarding the collection together of the Tablets of Abdu'l-Baha.

September 7: Hand of the Cause of God and well celebrated author Hasan Balyuzi is born.

1909

March 21: The mortal remains of the Báb are laid to rest in the Shrine of the Báb after 59 years in hiding.

March 21: Opening of the first American Bahá'í Convention in Chicago at the home of Corinne True.

March 21: First printing of Volume 1 of “Tablets of 'Abdu'l-Baha”

April 27: Sultan Abdu'l-Hamid II is deposed.

July 16: Muhammad-'Ali Shah abdicates after an armed revolt.

August 20: Birth of Paul Haney, Custodian and Hand of the Cause

December 9: Birth of Gertrude Blum, Knight of Bahá'u'lláh named for pioneering to the Solomon Islands.

1910

February 14: Birth of Ola Pawlowska, Knight of Bahá'u'lláh named for pioneering to St. Pierre and Miquelon.

March 4: Passing of Hájí Mullá `Alí-Akbar Shahmírzádí (known as Hájí Ákhúnd), Hand of the Cause of God and Apostle of Bahá'u'lláh

March 21: First issue of Star of the West magazine (first named simply "Bahá'í News").

August 8: Mary Sutherland Maxwell, later to be known as Amatu'l-Bahá Ruhíyyih Khanum, is born in New York City to parents May Maxwell and William Sutherland Maxwell.

August 10: Though in very poor health due to his long imprisonment, 'Abdu'l-Bahá journeys to Egypt to spread the Faith accompanied by Shoghi Effendi.

August 29: 'Abdu'l-Bahá leaves the Holy Land for the first time in forty-two years, journeying to Egypt.

1911

March 27: “The Christian Commonwealth” publishes another discourse by 'Abdu'l-Bahá, given at the City Temple, London

March 28: Birth of Hand of the Cause and prominent American Bahá'í William Sears.

August 11: 'Abdu'l-Bahá sails for Marseille

September 4: 'Abdu'l-Bahá's arrival in London

September 10: 'Abdu'l-Bahá gives his first address to a Western audience in City Temple, London. The

English translation is spoken by Wellesley Tudor Pole.

October 1: Regina Nur Mahal Khanum, and Mirza Yuhanna Dawud are married by 'Abdu'l-Bahá

October 3: 'Abdu'l-Baha begins his first first visit to Paris, which lasts 9 weeks till 2 December.

December 28: Birth of Universal House of Justice member (1963 to 1993) Hugh Chance

December 28: Mirza Abul Fazl Gulpaygan writes "The Brilliant Proof", in Syria

1912

January 1: 'Alí-Muhammad Varqá, prominent Bahá'í, Hand of the Cause and trustee of Huqúqu'lláh is born

March 25: 'Abdu'l-Bahá boards the S.S. Cedric in Alexandria, heading for the United States

April 11: 'Abdu'l-Bahá arrives in New York City for his visit to North America.

April 29: Mírzá Yahyá dies and is buried as a Muslim

May 1: 'Abdu'l-Bahá lays the foundation stone for the first Bahá'í House of Worship in the West at Wilmette, Illinois.

June 19: 'Abdu'l-Bahá confers upon New York City the title of "City of the Covenant". On the same day, he explains to the believers there His station as the Centre of Baha'u'llah's Covenant.

June 29: 'Abdu'l-Bahá hosts first Unity Feast at the Wilhelm properties in W. Englewood, New Jersey.

September 9: 'Abdu'l-Bahá's visit to Montreal ends.

September 30: death of Disciple of 'Abdu'l-Bahá and Hand of the Cause Thornton Chase

October 19: 'Abdu'l-Bahá visits the grave of Thornton Chase in Inglewood, California.

December 5: 'Abdu'l-Bahá sets sail on the S.S. Celtic from New York for Liverpool

1913

January 1: Letter written by 'Abdu'l-Bahá published in "The Christian Commonwealth" (Selections from the Writings of 'Abdu'l-Bahá, pp.288-89)

January 4: Birth of Malietoa Tanumafili II

January 21: 'Abdu'l-Bahá departs London for Paris

January 21: 'Abdu'l-Baha begins his second second visit to Paris, which lasts till 30 March.

January 29: An article on the Faith written by Professor Cheyne appears in "The Christian Commonwealth"

February 9: Date on the last of the 12 letters sent to Edward Granville Browne by 'Abdu'l-Baha

February 12: 'Abdu'l-Bahá addresses the Paris Esperanto group

February 13: 'Abdu'l-Bahá delivers an address to the Paris Theosophical Society at the Theosophical Headquarters, 59 Avenue de la Bourdonnois

February 17: 'Abdu'l-Bahá answers questions asked by theologians of Paris at Pasteur Monnier's Theological Seminary

April 4: 'Abdu'l-Baha visits Esslingen, Germany

May 13: Birth of prominent Australian Bahá'í and Hand of the Cause Collis Featherstone

June 13: 'Abdu'l-Bahá embarks at Marseilles on the steamer S. S. Himalaya, arriving at Port Said in Egypt four days later.

June 17: 'Abdu'l-Baha visits Egypt and stays till 2 December.

November 5: 'Abdu'l-Bahá's return to the Holy Land.

1914

January 3: Birth of Universal House of Justice member (1968 to 1993) David Ruhe

January 9: Birth of John Ferraby, Hand of the Cause, and Custodian of the Bahá'í Faith

January 21: Passing of Mirza Abu'l-Fadl in Cairo

March 14: Birth of Richard Nolen, Knight of Bahá'u'lláh named for pioneering to Azores.

June 28: The heir to the Austrian throne is assassinated in Sarajevo. 'Abdu'l-Bahá instructs all pilgrims to leave the Holy Land.

July 28: Austria declares war on Servia.

August 4: England declares war on Germany.

November 1: Miss Agnes B. Alexander reaches Japan for the first time

1915

January 19: Mirza Fadlu'llah Khan Banan from Shiraz arrives in Haifa with gifts from the Baha'is of Shiraz for 'Abdu'l-Bahá

April 19 to 25: first Bahá'í International Congress, held in San Francisco.

1916

March 26: Tablets of the Divine Plan - "Tablet to the Bahá'ís of of the Northeastern States" (Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Connecticut, Vermont, Pennsylvania, New Jersey and New York) revealed by 'Abdu'l-Bahá

March 27: Tablets of the Divine Plan - "Tablet to the Bahá'ís of of the Southeastern States" (Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee, Kentucky, Louisiana, Arkansas, Oklahoma and Texas) revealed by 'Abdu'l-Bahá

March 29: Tablets of the Divine Plan - "Tablet to the Bahá'ís of of the Central States" (Michigan, Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska and Kansas) revealed by 'Abdu'l-Bahá

April 1: Tablets of the Divine Plan - "Tablet to the Bahá'ís of of the Western States" (New Mexico, Colorado, Arizona, Nevada, California, Wyoming, Utah, Montana, Idaho, Oregon and Washington) revealed by 'Abdu'l-Bahá

April 5: Tablets of the Divine Plan - Tablet to the Bahá'ís of Canada (Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario, Alberta, British Columbia, Yukon, Mackenzie, Keewatin, Ungava, Franklin Islands) and Greenland revealed by 'Abdu'l-Bahá

April 8: Tablets of the Divine Plan – Tablet to the Baha'is of the United States and Canada revealed by 'Abdu'l-Baha

April 11: Tablets of the Divine Plan – Tablet to the Baha'is of the United States and Canada revealed by 'Abdu'l-Baha

April 19: Also April 20 and April 22. Tablets of the Divine Plan – Tablet to the Baha'is of the United States and Canada revealed by 'Abdu'l-Baha

1917

February 2: Tablets of the Divine Plan - 'Abdu'l-Bahá reveals His "Tablet to the Bahá'ís of the Northeastern States" of the United States: Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Connecticut, Vermont, Pennsylvania, New Jersey and New York.

February 3: Tablets of the Divine Plan - 'Abdu'l-Bahá reveals His "Tablet to the Bahá'ís of the Southeastern States" of the United States: Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee, Kentucky, Louisiana, Arkansas, Oklahoma and Texas

February 7: A reply was received in Japan from 'Abdu'l-Bahá addressed to and in reply to letters sent by Mr. Kikutaro Fukuta. This was the first Tablet received addressed to a Japanese resident in Japan.

February 8: Tablets of the Divine Plan 'Abdu'l-Bahá reveals His "Tablet to the Bahá'ís of the Central States" of the United States: Michigan, Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska and Kansas

February 15: Tablets of the Divine Plan - 'Abdu'l-Bahá reveals His "Tablet to the Bahá'ís of the Western States" in the United States: New Mexico, Colorado, Arizona, Nevada, California, Wyoming, Utah, Montana, Idaho, Oregon and Washington

March 8: Tablets of the Divine Plan - "Tablet to the Bahá'ís of of the United States and Canada" revealed by 'Abdu'l-Bahá

April 6: United States enters World War I.

February 21: Tablets of the Divine Plan - 'Abdu'l-Bahá reveals His "Tablet to the Bahá'ís of Canada and Greenland" : Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario, Alberta, British Columbia, Yukon, Mackenzie, Keewatin, Ungava, Franklin Islands—and Greenland

December 9: General Allenby enters Jerusalem. Major Wellesley Tudor Pole risks court martial to alert the British Cabinet to the danger of 'Abdu'l-Bahá.

1918

February 6: A brief mention of the Baha'i Faith made by Edward G. Browne in a paper read by him before the British Academy

August 3: Birth of Universal House of Justice member (1963 to 1982) Amoz Gibson

September 23: 'Akká is liberated by British and Indian cavalry; 'Abdu'l-Bahá is again freed.

December 23: Ahmad Sohrab leaves the Holy Land to take the Tablets of the Divine Plan to America.

1919

January 29: Shoghi Effendi advises Dr Baghadi in the United States that “nearly a hundred Tablets had been revealed for the Bahá’ís in America; some had been sent and others would follow” (H.M. Balyuzi, “‘Abdu'l-Bahá – The Centre of the Covenant”)

April 13: Passing of Phoebe Hearst, aged 76.

April 26 to May 1: first Convention of the Covenant held in New York City. The 14 Tablets of the Divine Plan are unveiled.

July 22: Martha Root leaves New York on the first of many teaching journeys for the Faith

September 2: Passing of Hand of the Cause of God Hájí Mírzá Ḥasan-i-Adíbu'l-'Ulamá (known as Mírzá Ḥasan or Adíb)

December 17: 'Abdu'l-Bahá's replies to a letter addressed to Him by the Executive Committee of the Central Organization for a Durable Peace. It was despatched to the Committee at The Hague by the hands of a special delegation. See “Tablet to the Hague” by 'Abdu'l-Bahá.

1920

April 10: Clara and Hyde Dunn arrive in Sydney, Australia.

April 27: ‘Abdu’l-Bahá is knighted by the British Empire in recognition of his humanitarian work during World War I. The ceremony took place in the garden of the Military Governor of Haifa.

April 27: The design for the Mashriqu'l-Adhkar at Wilmette, Illinois, was finally chosen by the forty-nine delegates present at the Twelfth Annual Convention of Bahá’í Temple Unity, being held at the Hotel McAlpin, New York.

September 24: Excavation begins for the foundation of the North American House of Worship in Wilmette, Illinois.

December 1: passing of Lillian Kappes in Tihran

December 20: Construction begins on the House of Worship in Wilmette, Illinois.

December 27: Death of Haji Mirza Haydar-'Ali in Haifa

December 27: Opening of the first All-India Bahá’í Convention in Bombay

1921

April 29: Birth of Adib Taherzadeh, prominent Bahá’í and Universal House of Justice member (1988 to 2000)

August 20: Agnes Baldwin Alexander becomes the first Bahá’í to visit Korea

November 28: ‘Abdu’l-Bahá passes away in Haifa, aged 78, and appoints Shoghi Effendi as the Guardian in his Will and Testament.

December 29: Shoghi Effendi arrives in Haifa, accompanied by Lady Blomfeld and his sister Rouhangeze.

1922

January 3: Master’s Will and Testament officially read and the Guardianship inaugurated.

January 7: The Will of 'Abdu'l-Bahá is read to a gathering of Bahá’ís from many countries.

January 16: The Greatest Holy Leaf cables news of the Guardianship to the Bahá’ís of the world.

January 19: Shoghi Effendi writes a letter to the Persian believers, stating his intention to soon form the Universal House of Justice.

January 20: Birth of Roy Fernie, Knight of Bahá’u’lláh named for pioneering to the Gilbert and Ellis Islands.

January 26: Shoghi Effendi writes his first letter to the Bahá’ís of Japan

January 30: Covenant-breakers forcibly seize the keys to the Shrine of Bahá’u’lláh

February 27: Shoghi Effendi writes to Professor Auguste Forel, enclosing an English translation of 'Abdu'l-Bahá's letter to Dr Forel.

April 9: Work commences on the new Western Pilgrim House.

December 10: Formation of the first Local Spiritual Assembly in Canada in Montreal.

December 15: Shoghi Effendi returns to Holy Land to resume duties as Guardian.

1923

February 12: Horace Holley writes the “Introduction” to the compilation “*Bahá’í Scriptures*”

February 16: Declaration of the first native Hawaiian Bahá’í (Mae Tilton Fantom) on Maui.

March 12: Shoghi Effendi calls for the establishment of Local and National Bahá’í Funds.

April 4: Birth of Rahmatu'lláh Muhájir, Hand of the Cause of God and Knight of Bahá’u’lláh

October 13: The National Spiritual Assembly of Britain holds its first meeting. It becomes the National Spiritual Assembly of the British Isles in 1930, and the National Spiritual Assembly of the United Kingdom in 1972

1924

January 8: Birth of Universal House of Justice member (1963 to 2003) Hushmand Fatheazam

1925

May 10: Verdict of the Islamic Court in Egypt pronouncing the Faith to be an independent religion.

November 22: Death of Hand of the Cause and Disciple of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá John Esslemont

1926

January 5: Death of Edward G. Browne in Canbridge. He is buried beside his wife at Elswick Cemetery, Newcastle-on-Tyne

January 30: Martha Root's first interview with Queen Marie of Romania, in Controceni Palace, Bucharest

February 14: Dust from the Tomb of Bahá'u'lláh brought back by pilgrims (including Margaret Stevenson) from the Holy land, was placed in a ceremony into the soil of New Zealand at the Stevenson's home

June 24: Birth of Enoch Olinga, Hand of the Cause of God and Knight of Bahá'u'lláh for British Cameroon.

October 19: Birth of author and theologian Udo Schaefer

1927

March 26: Martyrdom of Aminu'l-'Ulama' in his home in Ardibil, Persia, stabbed by an assassin.

August 1: Bahá'í Summer School opened at Geyserville, California on a property donated by John Bosch.

1928

January 19: Martha Root again meets Queen Marie of Romania in the Royal Palace in Belgrade

May 27: passing of Haji Abdu'l-Hasan Amin, Trustee of Huququ'lláh

October 25 to Nov 13: League of Nations upholds the Bahá'í claim to the house of Bahá'u'lláh in Baghdad. The government of Iraq refuses to transfer the property to the Bahá'ís.

December 2: Birth of Universal House of Justice member (1963 to 2005) Ian Semple

1929

February 14: Work begins on three additional chambers of the Shrine of the Báb.

February 24: Birth of Universal House of Justice member (1993 to 2005) Douglas Martin

March 3: League of Nations Council resolution upholds the Bahá'í Community's claim to Bahá'u'lláh's house in Baghdád.

June 2: Birth of (John) Roger White, poet, historian, novelist, editor, visual artist, dancer

November 27: Restoration of the Mansion at Bahjí begins.

1930

March 10: Ahmad Sohrab files a petition for naturalisation as an American citizen in the United States District Court, New York.

1932

January 6: Birth of Catherine Huxtable, Knight of Bahá'u'lláh named for pioneering to the Gulf Islands.

February 17: The “first local Bahá'í Assembly, that of Chicago, adopted papers of incorporation which, together with those adopted by that of New York City on 31 March of that year, were to become a pattern for such instruments throughout the world.” (Century of Light, p. 57)

March 31: Adoption of papers of incorporation by the Bahá'í Assembly of New York City which, together with those adopted by the Chicago Baha'i Assembly on 17 February 1932, became a “pattern for such instruments throughout the world.” (Century of Light, p. 57)

July 15: Bahá'u'lláh's daughter the Greatest Holy Leaf, Bahíyyih Khánum, passes away about one hour after midnight.

1933

October 23: Death of Keith Ransom-Kehler, Hand of the Cause of God

1934

January 1: Queen Marie of Romania writes to Martha Root

February 16: Martha Root meets with Queen Marie of Romania in Controceni Palace

May 10: Tax exemption for Bahá'í properties on Mt. Carmel announced.

1935

March 3: Birth of Universal House of Justice member (1982 to 2008) Glenford Mitchell

September 20: Birth of prolific author and founding member of the Association for Bahá'í Studies, William S. Hatcher

1936

February 4: Martha Root meets with Queen Marie of Romania in Controceni Palace, Bucharest

November 12: Birth of Universal House of Justice member (1987 to -) Dr Peter Khan

1937

March 24: Marriage of Shoghi Effendi and Mary Maxwell (Ruhiyyih Khanum)

March 30: Birth of Universal House of Justice member (1988 to -) Hooper Dunbar

April 21: First Seven-Year Plan launched.

1938

March 15: Passing of Mrs Thornburgh-Cropper, one of the first Baha'is in the west, possibly the first Baha'i resident in England.

April 28: Ascension of Munírih Khánum, wife of 'Abdu'l-Bahá.

1939

January 24: The Egyptian Ministry of the Interior writes to the Ministry of Justice enclosing a copy of the Bahá'í Laws relating to personal status

February 21: The Grand Mufti of Egypt receives correspondence from the Ministry of Justice which included the copy of the Bahá'í Laws on personal status sent to it by the Ministry of the Interior

March 11: Based on the copy of the Bahá'í laws on personal status received by him, the Grand Mufti of Egypt issues his judgement that a Bahá'í is not a Muslim, and determines that Baha'is cannot be buried in a Muslim cemetery.

September 28: Death in Hawaii of prominent Bahá'í and "foremost travel teacher in the first Bahá'í Century", Martha Root

October 3: Shoghi Effendi designates Martha Root as a Hand of the Cause

December 25: Bodies of the Purest Branch and of the mother of 'Abdu'l-Bahá re-interred on Mt Carmel

December 31: Passing of Lady Blomfield

1940

March 1: Passing of Mrs May Maxwell in Buenos Aires. The Guardian accords her the station of a martyr.

1941

February 11: Passing of Margaret Stevenson in New Zealand to the Abha Kingdom

February 17: Death of John Henry Hyde-Dunn, appointed posthumously as a Hand of the Cause of God by Shoghi Effendi

March 28: "The Promised Day is Come" signed by Shoghi Effendi

April 30: Date on "the first letter received by the British National Spiritual Assembly in which the secretarial part was written by, and signed, "R. Rabbani" (Amatu'l-Baha Ruhiyyih Khanum)" (The Unfolding Destiny of the British Isles Community, p. 142)

October 27: Birth of Universal House of Justice member (1993 to -) Dr. Farzam Arbab

1942

March 13: Passing of Hand of the Cause of God Siyyid Mustafa Rumi

June 25: Passing of Hand of the Cause of God 'Abdu'l-Jalil Bey Sa'd

1943

January 13: Birth of Universal House of Justice member (2000 to -) Kiser Barnes
September 4: First Local Spiritual Assembly is formed in Alaska at Anchorage.

1944

January 22: The last corrections to Shoghi Effendi's "Prospect and Retrospect" made and preparations commenced to send it onward to Horace (Holley?).

1945

October 24: Formal inauguration of the United Nations

1946

January 10: The first General Assembly of the United Nations convened in London
April 21: Second Seven-Year Plan launched.
December 13: Passing of Hand of the Cause of God Muhammad Taqi-i-Isfahani
December 15: Completion of plans for erection of arcade of the Shrine of the Báb.

1947

April 21: Formation of the first Local Spiritual Assembly in Amsterdam in the Netherlands

1948

March 7: Shoghi Effendi decides to commence work on the Shrine of the Báb superstructure.

1949

January 21: Shoghi Effendi meets in person with Mr Ben Gurion, Prime Minister of the Provisional Government of Israel, in the private home of the Prime Minister on Mt Carmel.
April 30: The Bill to incorporate the National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of Canada given Royal assent

1950

January 20: World Religion Day established by the National Spiritual Assembly of America
April 28: Passing of Mrs Mary Basil-Hall (Parvine), daughter of Lady Blomfield
July 9: Completion of the Arcade and Parapet of the Shrine of the Báb on Mt. Carmel.
December 16: Mazra'ih leased from Israeli authorities

1951

January 3: Mr Jalal Nakhjavani from Persia is the first Baha'i to arrive in Tanzania, Dar es Salaam
January 9: Formation of the International Bahá'í Council by Shoghi Effendi
February 4: Mrs. Claire Gung (Auntie Claire) of Germany arrives in Tanzania. Even though the second person to arrive in Tanzania, as she commenced her journey from the United Kingdom before Mr Nakhjavani she was awarded the title of Knight of Baha'u'llah
July 30: Louis Gregory dies in Eliot, Maine; he is posthumously appointed as a Hand of the Cause by Shoghi Effendi.
August 2: First Bahá'í pioneers to Uganda: Musa Banani (later a Hand of the Cause) and Ali Nakhjavani (later a member of the Universal House of Justice) with family, and Philip Hainsworth.
December 23: Passing of Hand of the Cause of God, Roy C. Wilhelm
December 24: First contingent of 12 Hands of the Cause appointed by Shoghi Effendi announced (cables of appointment had been sent the previous day) - Dorothy Baker, Amelia E. Collins, 'Ali-Akbar Furutan, Ugo Giachery, Hermann Grossmann, Horace Holley, Leroy Ioas, William Sutherland Maxwell, Charles Mason Remey, Tarazu'llah Samandari, George Townshend, Valiyyu'llah Varqa

1952

February 29: Second contingent of seven new Hands of the Cause announced by Shoghi Effendi - Shu'a'u'llah 'Ala'i, Musa Banani, Clara Dunn, Dhikru'llah Khadem, Adelbert Muhlschlegel, Siegfried Schopflocher, Corinne True
March 8: Shoghi Effendi enlarges the first International Bahá'í Council, and names its eight members

March 26: Appointment of Ruhyyih Khanum to the rank of Hand of the Cause

March 29: Death of Hand of the Cause William Sutherland Maxwell

1953

February 12 to 18: Ten Year World Crusade launched at the first Intercontinental Teaching Conference in Kampala, Uganda.

April 29: Shoghi Effendi places a small silver box “containing a fragment of plaster from the ceiling of the Báb's prison cell in the Castle of Mah-Ku, beneath one of the gilded tiles in the first row” of the dome of the Shrine of the Bab. (Ugo Giachery, Shoghi Effendi - Recollections)

April 29: to May 6 - The All-America Intercontinental Teaching Conference is held in Chicago, Illinois, United States of America.

May 1 to 6: Dedication of the House of Worship in Wilmette, Illinois.

July 21 to 26: 14 Hands of the Cause attended the European Intercontinental Teaching Conference, one of the conferences launching the 10 Year Crusade.

July 27: Passing of Hand of the Cause of God, Siegfried Schopflocher

October 7 to 15: the Asian Intercontinental Teaching Conference was held in New Delhi, India, the first international Bahá'í gathering in the East.

October 20: Frances Heller arrives in Hong Kong.

November 20: Formation of the Israel Branch of the Bahá'ís of Canada

December 6: Shoghi Effendi appoints Jalal Khazeh a Hand of the Cause of God.

December 7: Cablegram from Shoghi Effendi to the Bahá'í world “announcing the elevation of Jalal Khazeh to” the “rank of Hand of Cause”.

December 19: First Baha'i of Malaya (Malaysia) Yankee Leong declares in Seremban.

1954

January 10: Passing of Hand of the Cause of God, Dorothy Baker

March 19: Shoghi Effendi appoints Paul E. Haney a Hand of the Cause of God

April 6: The Guardian directs the Hands of the Cause of God to appoint Auxiliary Boards in each continent of the globe to act as their deputies and advisers.

April 12: Shoghi Effendi accepts the bid made by the firm of Enrico Pandolfini, of Pietrasanta for the supply of the obelisk that marks the place the first Mashriqu'l-Adhkar of the Holy Land is to be built. Unable to be built at the time, though all the materials were delivered, the announcement of the successful conclusion of the project was made by the Universal House of Justice on 19 December 1971.

May 1: Cynthia Olsen arrives in Guam. She is later named a Night of Baha'u'llah by Shoghi Effendi

October 1: Anthony and Mamie Seto arrive in Hong Kong

October 1: The land of Mount Carmel transferred to the title of the National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of Canada, Israel Branch. Title deed is for Parcel No. 304, Block 10811, Mount Carmel, Haifa.

October 22: “Approve star for graves.” - cable from Shoghi Effendi.

October 22: Mr and Mrs Suleimani arrive by ship in Keelung, Taiwan

1955

January 3: Shoghi Effendi accepts by cable the final estimate for marble for the Archives

September 23 to 25: First International conference to be held in Japan, the International Teaching Conference, held in Nikko. Subsequently known as the Nikko Conference. (Japan Will Turn Ablaze, p. 87 and p. 97)

November 12: Death of Hand of the Cause and trustee of Ḥuququ'lláh, Valíyu'lláh Varqá

November 15: Shoghi Effendi announces by cablegram the appointment of 'Alí Muhammad Varqá as Hand of the Cause of God and trustee of Huququ'lláh, to succeed his father who had passed to the Abha Kingdom.

1956

April 21: Formation of the first Local Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of Tainan, Taiwan

April 21: Formation of the first Local Spiritual Assembly of Guam

November 11 and 12: First All-Taiwan Teaching Conference held in Tainan, Taiwan

December 20: Publication in the Official Gazette of the Government of Israel of the issue of an expropriation order against the Covenant-Breakers in possession of the Holy Shrines at Bahji. This order was immediately appealed by the Covenant-Breakers to the Supreme Court.

1957

January 5: Birmingham Teaching Conference held (United Kingdom)

February 19: Passing of Dr John George Mitchell, Knight of Bahá'u'lláh for Malta, at the age of 50

March 25: Death of Hand of the Cause of God George Townshend

March 27: Appointment by Shoghi Effendi of Agnes Alexander as Hand of the Cause

April 21: Election of the second Local Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'is of Tainan, Taiwan

April 21: Election of the first Local Spiritual Assembly of the Baha'is of Canberra, the last capital city in Australia to form such.

May 31: The Supreme Court in Israel finds in their judgement against the Covenant-Breakers, resulting in their removal from the properties in Bahji.

September 28 to 30: First Bahá'í Summer School held in Taiwan

October 2: Shoghi Effendi sends cables of appointment to the third contingent of Hands of the Cause - Hasan Balyuzi, Abu'l-Qasim Faizi, H. Collis Featherstone, John Ferraby, Rahmatu'llah Muhajir, Enoch Olinga, John Robarts, William Sears

November 4: Shoghi Effendi passes away, aged 61, from a heart attack in London

November 9: The funeral of Shoghi Effendi is held in London.

November 18 to 25: Inaugural Conclave of the Hands of the Cause of God in Bahji

November 19: The Hands of the Cause of God declare that no will had been left by the Guardian and no successor was, or could be, named.

November 25: Unanimous proclamation of the 27 Hands of the Cause of God, Mansion of Bahá'u'lláh Bahji, 'Akká

December 2: Title to the Shrine of Bahá'u'lláh, the Mansion of Bahjí, and all other buildings and lands which the Covenant-breakers had owned there transferred to the United States National Spiritual Assembly.

1958

January 1: Passing of Lillian Stevens, a founder member of the first Torquay Spiritual Assembly in 1938. (UK)

January 23 to 28: Intercontinental Conference, Kampala, Uganda

January 26: Cornerstone of African Temple in Kampala laid

March 21 to 24: Intercontinental Conference, Sydney, Australia

March 22: Cornerstone of the Australian House of Worship in Sydney laid.

April 11: Keith and Edith Danielsen-Craig arrive in Taiwan and settle in Taipei. Second couple to pioneer to Taiwan

April 20: Death of Ahmad Sohrab

April 26: Election of the first National Spiritual Assembly of France

June 12: The central body of the Hands of the Cause of God released a definitive statement explaining that second Guardian could not be named because Shoghi Effendi had not left a will nor designated a successor

July 25 to 29: Intercontinental Conference, Frankfurt, Germany.

September 21 to 29: Intercontinental Conference, Singapore

October 5: First Bahá'í wedding of Malaya takes place between Tony Fernandez and Betty

October 10 to 12: Second Taiwan Bahá'í Summer School held in Taipei

1959

February 1: Completion of the Bahá'í Home for the Aged in Wilmette, Illinois.

October 10 to 12: Third Bahá Summer School held in newly constructed Taiwan Bahá'í Centre. The highlight of the Summer School was the official opening of the Centre

1960

July 12: Horace Holley, prominent Bahá'í and Hand of the Cause passes away in Haifa, Israel.

July 26: Cable from the Hands of the Cause of God to all National Spiritual Assemblies announcing expulsion of Mason Remey and declaring him to be a Covenant Breaker.

August 3: Cable from the Hands of the Cause of God announcing the expulsion as Covenant Breakers of John Carre, Barnard Fillon, Moneer Darakhshan, Joel Marangela, Jaques Soghomonian, Donald Harvey, John Byers and Mary Wilkin

November 18: Passing of Hand of the Cause of God, Clara Dunn

November 20: Laying of the cornerstone of the House of Worship in Frankfurt

1961

January 15: Dedication of the House of Worship in Kampala, Uganda.

January 17: The three scholars appointed by a Muslim court in the case against the Local Spiritual Assembly of Ankara lodge documents and authenticated proofs with the court that the Faith is an independent religion

April 3: Death of Corinne True, Hand of the Cause of God

April 21 to May 5: Election of 21 National Spiritual Assemblies throughout Latin America – Argentina, Dominican Republic, Mexico Bolivia, Ecuador, Nicaragua, Brazil, El Salvador, Panama, Chile, Guatemala, Paraguay, Colombia, Haiti, Peru, Costa Rica, Honduras, Uruguay, Cuba, Jamaica, Venezuela

July 15: Judges in the case against the Local Spiritual Assembly of Ankara disregard the findings of the scholars and “declared that the Bahá’í Faith was a 'Tarighat' ” (Ministry of the Custodians, p. 308)

September 16: Dedication of the House of Worship in Sydney, Australia by 'Amatu'l-Bahá Ruhíyyih Khánum

October 22: First Bahá’í wedding in Malaysia conducted, Mr. Sivalingam and Miss Puvaneswary married.

November 5: The call for the election of the Universal House of Justice is made by the Hands of the Cause in their message to the Bahá’í world

December 7: An article appears in the nationally prominent Moroccan newspaper Al Alam, lamenting the decline of Islam and attacking the Bahá’í Faith.

1962

January 1: Amelia Collins, prominent Bahá’í and Hand of the Cause passes away in Haifa, Israel

April 10: Arrest of the first five of 14 Baha'is by the Moroccan authorities

October 31: Fourteen Moroccan Bahá’í men, arrested in Nador in April, are “tried before the Criminal Court of Nador on charges of rebellion and disorder, attacks on public security, constitution of an association of criminals, and attacks on religious faith.” (The Universal House of Justice, Messages 1963 to 1986, p. 19)

December 10: Fourteen Moroccan Bahá’í men, arrested in Nador in April, were found guilty of the charges of rebellion and disorder, attacks on public security, constitution of an association of criminals, and attacks on religious faith, and were sentenced.

December 14: The Regional Court of Nador in Morocco announces its verdict in the case of the 14 Baha'is brought before it.

1963

January 18: First Bahá’í marriage in Taiwan between Miss Yeh Chan-ching and Mr Yang Su-thou

January 31: Roger Baldwin, Chairman of the International League for the Rights of Man,, “appearing before the U.N. sub-commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities” that in case of the Moroccan Government case against the Local Spiritual Assembly of Ankara, that all charges stem from the one charge “of injuring the Islamic faith.” (Ministry of Custodians, p. 415)

February 18: Tribute to the Bahá’í Faith in the United States Senate by Senator Kenneth B. Keating

March 31: King Hassan H of Morocco, in a television interview before a nation-wide audience in the United States, declared that the Bahá’í Faith was not a religion. It was, he said, "against good order and also morals."

April 9: Conclave of the Hands of the Cause of God begins.

April 21: to April 23. The First International Convention is held in Akka / Haifa, Israel, for the election of the first Universal House of Justice

April 21: The first Universal House of Justice is elected by representatives of 56 National Spiritual Assemblies gathered in Haifa, in synchronization with the end of the Ten Year Crusade. Election was held at the home of 'Abdu'l-Bahá, 7 Haparsim Street, Haifa. Members elected were : Charles Wolcott, Ian C. Semple, Hugh E. Chance, 'Ali Nakhjavani, Lutfu'llah Hakim, Amoz E. Gibson, H. Borrah Kavelin, David Hofman, Hushmand Fatheazam.

April 28: to May 2. Holding of the World Congress in the Royal Albert Hall, London

April 30: Presentation of the members of the first Universal House of Justice

April 30: Reading of the first message of the Universal House of Justice at the World Congress in London, England.

June 7: Declaration by the Hands of the Cause residing in the Holy Land, “releasing all their functions, rights and powers conferred upon them by the Declaration of the Hands, November 25, 1957, to the Universal House of Justice.” (Ministry of the Custodians, p. 432)

July 31: Death of pioneer and notable Bahá’í Genevieve Coy

August 25: The Universal House of Justice advises the Baha'i world that the temple in 'Ishqabad had been demolished and the site cleared, due to damage sustained in the earthquakes of 1948. (The Universal House of

Justice, Messages 1963 to 1986, p. 12)

December 13: Bahá'í prisoners in Morocco were released under order of the Supreme Court after having been imprisoned under threat of death.

1964

April 21: The Universal House of Justice launches a Nine Year Plan

April 26: Election of the first National Spiritual Assembly of the Hawaiian Islands

May 5: Death of Richard Nolen, Knight of Bahá'u'lláh named for pioneering to Azores.

July 4: Dedication of the Mother Temple of Europe in Langenhain, Germany.

October 8: Incorporation of the National Spiritual Assembly of Vietnam

October 21: Death of Roy Fernie, Knight of Bahá'u'lláh named for pioneering to the Gilbert and Ellis Islands.

December 10: Death of Alyce Janssen, Knight of Bahá'u'lláh named for pioneering to Spanish Morocco.

1965

March 19: Incorporation of the National Spiritual Assembly of Korea

May 5: Incorporation of the National Spiritual Assembly of Tanzania

June 11: Incorporation of the National Spiritual Assembly of Kenya

June 27: Death of 'Alí Akbar Rafi'í Rafsanjání, Knight of Bahá'u'lláh named for pioneering to Morocco, International Zone.

July 22: Death of distinguished Bahá'í Leroy Ioas, Hand of the Cause and past Secretary General of the International Bahá'í Council.

1966

March 31: Eduardo Duarte Vieira died in prison in Portuguese Guinea (now Guinea-Bissau) after months of harassment and beatings because of his faith. He was designated the first African martyr.

April 7: Passing of Ali-Kuli Khan (Nabilu'd-Dawlih) in Washington, D.C.

October 19: Death of Malcolm King, Knight of Bahá'u'lláh named for pioneering to British Guiana.

October 25 to November 11: Hand of the Cause of God Mr Tarázu'lláh Samandari visits Taiwan

1967

February 18: Incorporation of the National Spiritual Assembly of Philippines

May 3: Death of Elizabeth Hopper, Knight of Bahá'u'lláh named for pioneering to the Madeira Islands.

May 27: Death of Knight of Bahá'u'lláh Mildred Clark

June 30: Incorporation of the National Spiritual Assembly of Cameroon

October 8: Laying of the foundation stone of the Mother Temple of Latin America, Panama City

October 25: Death of Catherine Huxtable, Knight of Bahá'u'lláh named for pioneering to the Gulf Islands.

December 11: The Baha'i Campus Club was started at the University of New Brunswick, Canada

December 25: Death of Knight of Bahá'u'lláh Charles Dunning

1968

January 2: Passing of Dorothy (Effie) Baker, one of the first two Australian Believers

February 19: His Highness Malietoa Tanumafili II, of Western Samoa, embraces the Faith, the first ruling Monarch to do so.

April 21: Election of Amoz Gibson, 'Ali Nakhjavani, Hushmand Fatheazam, Ian Semple, Charles Wolcott, David Hofman, H. Borrah Kavelin, Hugh Chance and David Ruhe to the Universal House of Justice

June 21: Establishment of the Continental Board of Counsellors by the Universal House of Justice

June 22 to 23: First National Bahá'í Youth Conference in the United States, held in Wilmette, Illinois

July 7: Death of Hand of the Cause of God Hermann Grossmann

August 10: Death of Lutfu'lláh Hakím, Universal House of Justice member (1963 to 1968) and International Bahá'í Council member.

September 2: Death of Hand of the Cause, Tarázu'lláh Samandarí.

1969

January 1: the Fredericton Baha'i community in Canada becomes a registered charitable organization

August 21: Passing of Knight of Bahá'u'lláh Miss Evelyn Baxter

1970

February 12: (United Nations) The Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations unanimously recommends that the Bahá'í International Community's application for consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council, be approved.

May 27: The Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) of the United Nations approves the recommendation by the Committee on Non-Governmental Organisations of February 12 1970, that the Baha'i International Community be granted consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council

December 8: Government of Taiwan grants Certificate of Registration to register the Bahá'í Faith as a religion

1971

January 1: Death of Hand of the Cause of God, Agnes Alexander

September 4: Death of Hand of the Cause of God, Musa Banani

October 29: Passing of Dr Habib Mu'ayyad to the Abha Kingdom

December 19: Erection of Obelisk on Mt. Carmel to mark site of future Mashriqu'l-Adhkár.

1972

April 28: to 2 May - Holding of eight oceanic and continental conferences in La Paz, Bolivia; Rose Hill, Mauritius; Monrovia, Liberia; Djakarta, Indonesia; Suva, Fiji; Kingston, Jamaica; Sapporo, Japan; Reykjavik, Iceland (The Universal House of Justice, Messages 1963 to 1986, p. xlv)

April 28: to May 2 - International Teaching Conference held in Panama City. The Mother Temple of Latin America in Panama was dedicated during this Conference on April 29.

April 29: Dedication of the Mother Temple of Latin America in Panama

November 26: Adoption of the Constitution of the Universal House of Justice

1973

March 1: Formation of the first Local Spiritual Assembly in Fredericton, Canada. It is the last provincial capital in Canada to reach this milestone.

March 15: Mazra'ih is purchased.

April 21: The Universal House of Justice launches a FiveYear Plan.

April 26: to 2 May - Third International Convention held in the Holy Land

June 5: Establishment of the International Teaching Centre by the Universal House of Justice.

September 5: Death of John Ferraby, Hand of the Cause, and Custodian of the Bahá'í Faith

1974

February 4: Death of Charles Mason Remey

February 7: Announcement of the design for the Permanent Seat of the Universal House of Justice.

July 13: Dedication of the John Bosch Bahá'í Summer School in Santa Cruz, California.

1975

January 14: The House of 'Abdu'lláh Páshá in 'Akká is purchased.

June 17: Announcement of beginning of excavation for the Seat of the Universal House of Justice.

1976

September 12: Malietoa Tanumafili II of Western Samoa visits Shoghi Effendi's grave in London, England.

1977

April 1: Reginald King, a Covenant Breaker who had declared himself the Second Regent, dies.

December 12: The world's first Bahá'í cultural and educational radio station in Ecuador makes its first broadcast

1978

September 30 to October 1: Bahá'í Studies Seminar held in Cambridge

1979

January 27: Foundation Stone Ceremony, site of future House of Worship, Western Samoa, with His Highness Malietoa Tanumafili II.
January 16: Shah Muhammed Reza Pahlavi leaves Iran, never to return
February 1: Ayatollah Khomeini returns to Iran from exile in France
February 8: Mansur Farhang of Sacramento State University appears on nationally syndicated public television networks in the United States with false accusations against the Bahá'í community in Iran in an attempt to justify the oppressive measures instigated against that community
April 1: Declaration of the Islamic Republic of Iran following a public referendum
April 21: The Universal House of Justice launches a Seven Year Plan.
September 8: The House of the Báb in Shiraz, Iran is destroyed by Revolutionary Guardsmen, and later razed by the government.
September 16: Death of Enoch Olinga, Hand of the Cause of God and Knight of Bahá'u'lláh for British Cameroon. Murdered by unknown gunmen.
October 24: Publication by the Universal House of Justice of the compilation on “Inspiring the Heart”
December 29: Death of Rahmatu'lláh Muhájir, Hand of the Cause of God and Knight of Bahá'u'lláh

1980

January 18: Publication by the Universal House of Justice of the compilation on “Divorce”
February 12: Hand of the Cause of God and well celebrated author Hasan Balyuzi dies.
March 31: Publication by the Universal House of Justice of the compilation on “The Importance of Prayer, Meditation and the Devotional Attitude”
July 29: Death of Adelbert Mühlischlegel, Hand of the Cause of God and prominent German Bahá'í
August 13: Translations of the Long Healing Prayer and of the Fire Tablet sent by the Universal House of Justice to the Bahá'í world
November 19: Death of Hand of the Cause, Abu'l-Qásim Faizi
October 26: Publication by the Universal House of Justice of the compilation on “Attendance at National Spiritual Assembly Meetings”

1981

March 16: Execution by Government firing squad of Mihdi Anviri and Hidayatu'llah Dihqani in Shiraz
April 29: Martyrdom by firing squad of Yadu'llah Vahdat, Ihsanu'llah Mihdizadih, Sattar Khushkhu, by order of the Islamic Revolutionary Court, Shiraz, and with approval of the High Court of Justice, Tihiran.
August 24: Publication by the Universal House of Justice of the compilation on “The Assistance of God”
November 23: Publication by the Universal House of Justice of the compilation on “Excellence In All Things”
December 5: The Bahá'í cemetery in Tihiran seized “by order of the Revolutionary Court, 5 caretakers and 8 temporary workers arrested, and cemetery closed. “ (The Universal House of Justice, Messages 1963 to 1986, p. 510)

1982

February 9: Imprisonment of Mr Yadu'llah Sabiriyan in Even Prison (Iran). He was later executed by firing squad, exact date unknown.
April 12: Mr Ihsanu'llah Khayyami of Urumiyyih is martyred in Iran, after a few months of imprisonment and intense but unsuccessful pressure to recant his Faith
April 26: Imprisonment of Mr 'Abbas Aydil-Khaniv in Zanjan. In April 1985 he was transferred to Tihiran and was executed August 1, 1985.
April 29: Mr 'Azizu'llah Gulshani of Mashhad is martyred in Iran after being imprisoned for many months
May 28: Mr Suleiman A. Suleimani receives award from His Excellency Lee Teng-Hui, Governor of Taiwan, for his “contribution to the religious welfare of the people of Taiwan.”
April 12: The Universal House of Justice announces the successful achievement of the objective to issue “a compilation of letters to” the Greatest Holy Leaf “and statements about her by Bahá'u'lláh, 'Abdu'l-Bahá, and the beloved Guardian, and her own letters” to mark the 50th anniversary of her passing. (The Bahá'í World, Vol. XVII)
July 17: First gathering held in the Permanent Seat of the Universal House of Justice on Mt. Carmel was a seminar on the life of the Greatest Holy Leaf (The Bahá'í World, Vol. XVII)
November 18: Publication by the Universal House of Justice of the compilation on “Family Life”
December 3: Death of Paul Haney, Custodian and Hand of the Cause, in a motor vehicle accident.

1983

January 1: Martyrdom of Hidayat Siyavushi in Shiraz, by hanging. The third of five Bahá'ís sentenced to death on 23 September 1982.

January 11: The Universal House of Justice sends a translation of a prayer of 'Abdu'l-Bahá for martyred Bahá'ís and their relatives to the Baha'i world

January 13: The Universal House of Justice publishes the compilation on “The Importance of Deepening Our Knowledge and Understanding of the Faith”

January 31: The Universal House of Justice takes up its permanent seat.

February 1: The Universal House of Justice announces that it had occupied its newly constructed seat on Mt Carmel (See also January 31 1983)

February 24: Inauguration of the Bahá'í Vocational Institute for Rural Women at Indore, India

March 12: Mrs Tuba Za'irpur, Yadu'llah Mahmudnizhad and Rahmatu'llah Vafa'i are martyred by being hung, in Shiraz. Their bodies are buried in the Baha'i cemetery without knowledge or presence of relatives. Their executions were not announced

May 5: Imprisonment in Evin Prison (Iran) of Mr Kamran Lutfi and Mr Ramin Rahimiyan. Both subsequently executed by firing squad, exact date unknown.

June 16: Execution by hanging in Shiraz of Dr Bahram Afnan, Mr Bahram Yalda'i, Mr Jamshid Siyavushi, Mr 'Inayatu'llah Ishraqi, Mr Kurush Hoqbin, Mr 'Abdu'l-Husayn Azadi

June 18: Ten Bahá'í women are hanged in Shiraz, Iran after being arrested for teaching religious children's classes to Bahá'í youth. They are : Mrs Nusrat Yalda'i (mother of Bahram, hanged 16 June), Mrs 'Izzat Janami Ishraqi (wife of 'Inayatu'llah, hanged 16 June), Miss Ru'ya Ishraqi (daughter of above), Mrs Tahirih Siyavushi (wife of Jamshid, hanged 16 June), Miss Muna Mahmudnizhad (daughter of Yadu'llah, executed 12 March), Miss Zarrin Muqimi-Abyanih, Miss Shahin (Shirin) Dalvand, Miss Akhtar Thabit, Miss Simin Sabiri, Miss Mahshid Nirumand

August 29: Iran's Prosecutor-General announces the formal banning of all Bahá'í religious institutions in the country, and declares membership in them and service to them to be criminal offences.

October 20: The Universal House of Justice issues a letter to the Bahá'í world outlining the principles of the Faith concerning social and economic development.

1984

May 5: Execution in Tabriz by Iranian authorities of Mr Jalal Payravi (imprisoned 22 October 1981), Mr Maqsd 'Alizadih (imprisoned 27 January 1982)

May 15: Execution in Tihran by Iranian authorities of Mr 'Ali-Muhammad Zamani and Mr Jahangir Hidayati

September 1: Dedication of the House of Worship in Apia, Western Samoa.

November 16: Passing of Hand of the Cause of God Shu'a'u'llah 'Ala'i

1985

February 25: Martyrdom by execution of Mr Ruhu'llah Bahramshahi in Yazd

March 5: Martyrdom by execution of Mr Nusratu'llah Subhani in Tihran

July 4: The Universal House of Justice publishes the compilation on “The Law of Huququ'llah”

August 1: Martyrdom of Mr 'Abbas Aydil-Khani, executed in prison in Tihran. His grave was accidentally discovered near Tihran. He had been imprisoned on 26 April 1982 in Zanjan.

August 9: The Universal House of Justice publishes the compilation on “Peace”

August 28: Mr Rahmatu'llah Vujdani is executed by firing squad in Bandar, 'Abbas (Iran)

October 18: Remains of Mirza Muhammad-Quli re-interred in new cemetery on a hillside looking across Lake Kinneret and the hills of Galilee towards the Qiblih of the Faith.

November 17: The Universal House of Justice announces the interment of the remains of Mírzá Muhammad-Qulí in new Bahá'í cemetery looking towards the Qiblih

December 13: The United Nations General Assembly adopts their first resolution on human rights that specifically mentions the situation of the Bahá'ís in Iran.

1986

January 1: The Universal House of Justice publishes the compilation on “Women”

January 2: The Universal House of Justice announces in a letter to the Baha'is of the world the inception of the fourth epoch of the Formative Age

January 2: On the closing day of the Counsellors' Conference, the Universal House of Justice announced certain features of the Six Year Plan and the methods by which the national goals were to be worked out in consultation between the Counsellors and National Spiritual Assemblies. (The Universal House of Justice, Messages 1963 to 1986, p. 717)

February 5 : The Universal House of Justice publishes the compilation on “The Epochs of the Formative Age”

April 21: The Universal House of Justice launches a Six Year Plan.

August 3: Sir Thomas Davis, Prime Minister of the Cook Islands, visits Israel to consult with the Universal House of Justice on world peace.

November 13: Death of Dhikru'lláh Khádem, Hand of the Cause of God

December 24: Dedication of the House of Worship of the Indian Subcontinent in New Delhi, India.

1987

January 26: Death of Universal House of Justice member (1963 to 1987) Charles Wolcott.

October 3: The Bahá'í Faith becomes the sixth world religion to join the Network On Conservation and Religion of the World Wide Fund for Nature.

1988:

February 17: Statement by the Bahá'í International Community, “Eliminating Religious Intolerance”, to the forty-fourth session of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights.

February 19: Statement by the Bahá'í International Community, “Eliminating Torture”, to the forty-fourth session of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights.

August 31: “...the Universal House of Justice appointed a task force to study possibilities open to the Bahá'í International Community in connection with the observance of 1990 as International Literacy Year and to suggest means by which the worldwide Bahá'í community could promote a new approach to basic education inspired by the Teachings of Bahá'u'lláh.” (1 January 1989, International Teaching Centre, “Task Force on Education”)

1989

February 8: Statement by the Bahá'í International Community, “Eliminating Racism”, to the forty-fifth session of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights.

February 9: Statement by the Bahá'í International Community, “Right to Development”, to the forty-fifth session of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights.

February 15: Statement by the Bahá'í International Community, “Creating a Universal Culture of Human Rights”, to the forty-fifth session of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights.

July 5: Death of prominent Hand of the Cause of God and International Bahá'í Council member, Ugo Giachery

October 11: Official approval by the Local Town Planning Committee and City Council of Haifa of the Town Planning Scheme for the initiation of the Projects on Mt Carmel

1990

February 9: Statement by the Bahá'í International Community, “Right to Development”, to the forty-sixth session of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights.

February 20: Passing of Hand of the Cause of God, Jalal Khazeh

February 24 to 25: The Soviet Union's first national Bahá'í conference in six decades was held in Moscow.

March 21: The Bahá'ís in Cluj, Romania, form the first Local Spiritual Assembly in Eastern Europe since World War II.

April 21: Two Knights of Bahá'u'lláh settle on the island of Sakhalin, the last remaining territory named by Shoghi Effendi in his Ten Year Crusade.

September 29: Death of prominent Australian Bahá'í and Hand of the Cause Collis Featherstone

1991

June 18: Death of John Robarts, prominent Canadian Bahá'í and Hand of the Cause of God

September 16: Publication by the Universal House of Justice of the compilation on “Prayers and Passages from the Holy Writings”

1992

March 18: Word of the secret execution of Mr. Bahman Samandari in Irán is made known, the first execution since 1988.

March 25: Death of Hand of the Cause and prominent American Bahá'í William Sears

April 21: The Holy Year begins, in commemoration of the centenary of the passing of Bahá'u'lláh.

May 28: The Roll of Honor of the Knights of Bahá'u'lláh is placed in a chamber at the door of the inner sanctuary of the Shrine of Bahá'u'lláh.

August 27: The 44th session of the Sub-Commission of Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities of the United Nations passes a resolution drawing attention to the renewed persecution of religious minorities and summary killings of Bahá'ís.

October 17: Death of Helen Hornby, author of "Lights of Guidance"

November 23 to 26: The Second Baha'i World Congress begins in New York City.

November 23: The Special Representative's report to the United Nations General Assembly was released and, in relation to the Bahá'ís, was the strongest one to date.

December 18: The United Nations General Assembly passed a strong resolution making special reference to the treatment of the Bahá'í community and expressing regret that "the Islamic Republic of Iran has not given adequate follow-up to many of the recommendations contained in the previous reports."

1993

January 6: The Universal House of Justice announces the appointment of the International Panel of Spanish Translations of Bahá'í Literature

January 6: Long time well known Bahá'í Dizzy Gillespie passes

February 12: Statement by the Bahá'í International Community, "Human Rights and Extreme Poverty", to the forty-ninth session of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights.

February 18: Statement by the Bahá'í International Community, "Eliminating Religious Intolerance", to the forty-ninth session of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights.

March 5: The Universal House of Justice announces to the Bahá'í world that the English translation of the Kitáb-i-Aqdas, "*copiously annotated*", will be released at Náwruz.

March 10: A strong resolution was passed at the 49th Session of the Commission on Human Rights by a margin of 22 votes to 11, with 14 abstentions, noting "that there was no appreciable progress in the Islamic Republic of Iran towards improved compliance with human rights standards in conformity with international instruments."

March 21: The Kitáb-i-Aqdas is released in English with commentary.

April 10: Death of (John) Roger White, poet, historian, novelist, editor, visual artist, dancer

April 21: The Universal House of Justice launches a ThreeYear Plan.

June 5: Death of Gertrude Blum, Knight of Bahá'u'lláh named for pioneering to the Solomon Islands.

1995

August 4: The Fourth World Conference on Women begins in Beijing, China; the conference is attended by more than 500 Bahá'ís and an official delegation from the Bahá'í International Community.

1996

April 21: The Universal House of Justice launches a FourYear Plan.

1997

April 21: The National Spiritual Assembly of Rwanda is reformed

1998

March 25: Death of Universal House of Justice member (1963 to 1993) Hugh Chance

May 23: Four Bahá'í Regional Councils elected for the first time in the United States in regions corresponding to the regions of the Tablets of the Divine Plan.

1999

April 21: National Spiritual Assemblies formed in Latvia, Lithuania and Macedonia

November 26: The Universal House of Justice announces the advent of the upcoming "One-Year" and "Five-Year" plans

December 28: The Universal House of Justice announces that the laws of fasting, obligatory prayers,

ablutions and chanting the Greatest Name 95 times per day are now binding on all Bahá'ís.

2000

January 1: Presentations of the Bahá'í World Center are televised as part of the new millennium celebrations and are viewed by over one-billion persons around the world.

January 19: Amatu'l-Baha Rúhíyyih Khánúm passes away aged 89.

January 26: Death of Adib Taherzadeh, prominent Bahá'í and Universal House of Justice member

2001

January 16: Message from Universal House of Justice announcing inception of the fifth epoch of the Formative Age

January 16: Dedication of the seat of the International Teaching Center

January 18: The announcement is made that 9 Baha'is have been placed under arrest in Egypt

February 11: President Clinton (United States of America) said he was deeply troubled that the death sentences had been reaffirmed for Sirus Zabihi-Moghaddam and Hadayet Kashefi-Najafabadi and the same sentence had been imposed on Manucher Khulusi.

April 21: Within the Ridván Message for BE 158 (2001), the Universal House of Justice announces the launch of the Five Year Plan

May 22: Opening of the Terraces on Mt Carmel

December 16: Philip Hainsworth, one of the six Bahá'ís who founded the Bahá'í community in Uganda in 1951, passes away at the age of 82

2003

November 26: Death of Hand of the Cause 'Alí-Akbar Furútan

2004

April 2: Death of Ola Pawlowska, Knight of Bahá'u'lláh named for pioneering to St. Pierre and Miquelon.

2005

November 27: Death of prolific author and founding member of the Association for Bahá'í Studies, William S. Hatcher

2006

March 29: Death of Ruth Katharine Meyer, Knight of Bahá'u'lláh, named for pioneering to Margarita Island.

April 4: Egyptian administrative court recognizes the independence of the Bahá'í Faith

2007

February 2: A golden tile from the Shrine of the Báb is offered on permanent loan to the Dutch Roof Tile Museum in Alem (<http://www.bahaiworldnews.org/story/513>).

March 5: Start of Bahaikipedia - The Bahá'í encyclopedia

May 10: The first IPUE (<something> planning and utilization of energy) session for Malaysia was held. The only other country to be selected to be the pioneer country was Chile.

May 11: Malietoa Tanumafili II passes away

September 23: Passing of Dr. 'Alí-Muhammad Varqá, the longest surviving Hand of the Cause of God.