Baha'i

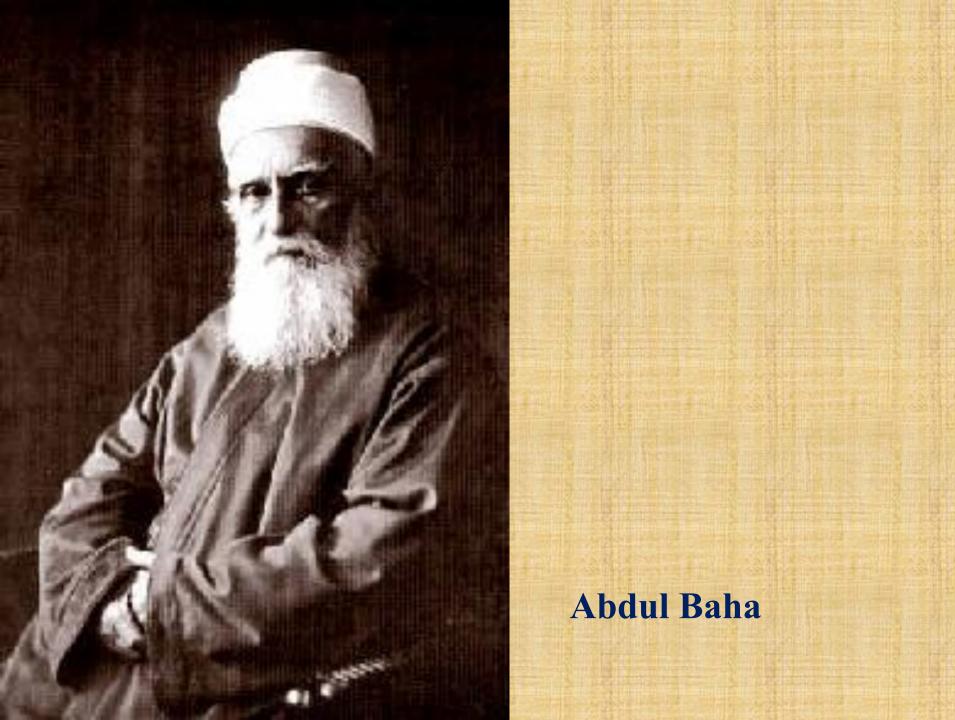


Baha'i Beliefs

- the <u>abandonment of all forms of prejudice</u>
- assurance to women of full equality with men
- recognition of the unity and relativity of religious truth
- · the elimination of extremes of poverty and wealth
- the realization of <u>universal education</u>
- the responsibility of each person to independently search for truth
- the establishment of a global commonwealth of nations
- recognition that true religion is in harmony with reason and the pursuit of scientific knowledge

Baha'i Beginnings

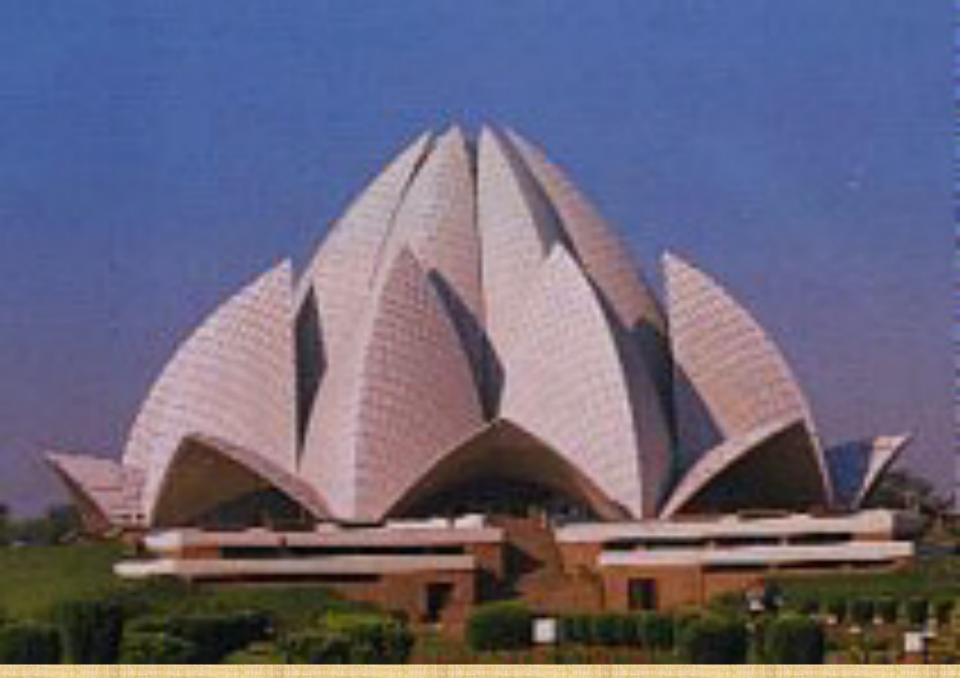
- Started as a spin off of the Shi'ite sect of Islam
- Bab-ud-Din in 1844 proclaimed himself the 12th imam
- Bab executed in 1850 and finally buried in Haifa
- Bab told of someone that would follow him (John the Baptist-like prediction)
- Husayn Ali becomes Bahaullah, the one depicted by Bab and begins the Baha'i faith
- Bahallah's son, Abbas Effendi succeeds father and becomes Abdul Baha
- Abdul Baha dies in 1921 and grandson, Shoghi Effendi, succeeds him





Baha'i Views

- Demythologized Quran
- · Oneness of all people, races, sexes, etc.
- Independent search for truth
- Basic oneness of all religions
- All differences between people aren't relevant
- Religion and science are one
- Education critical
- One language necessary
- Extremes in wealth or poverty need to be eliminated
- World government should be established
- Service is as important as faith
- Peace and justice necessary for humankind

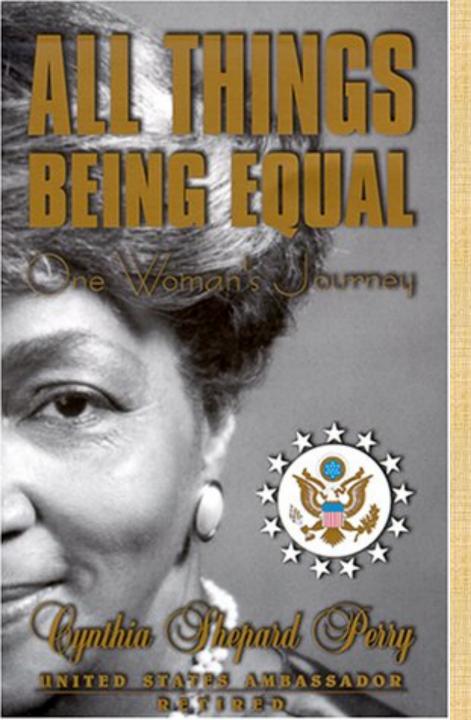


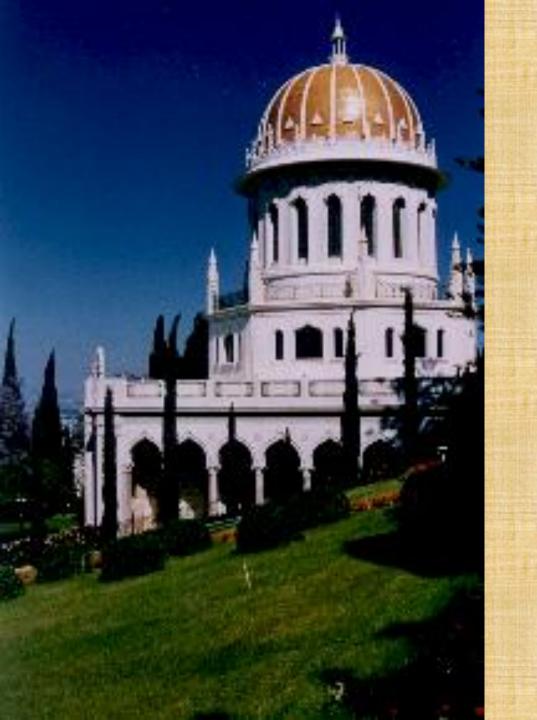
Baha'i Temple, New Delhi

Baha'i misc.

- Daily prayers
- Monogamy with consent of parents
- · Home worship or in "churches"
- · Iran isn't the place for Baha'is
- Estimates of 6 million followers







International Headquarters



Bahá'í World Centre, Haifa



An interesting site: http://www.bahai.org/