

1: An Introduction to the Baha'i Faith

*An Introduction to the Baha'i Faith (Introduction to Religion) [Peter Smith] on www.enganchecubano.com *FREE* shipping on qualifying offers. Peter Smith traces the development of the Baha'i faith from its roots in the Babi movement of mid-nineteenth century Iran.*

The oneness of mankind "It is not for him to pride himself who loveth his own country, but rather for him who loveth the whole world. The earth is but one country and mankind its citizens. The oneness of religion "All these divisions we see on all sides, all these disputes and opposition, are caused because men cling to ritual and outward observances, and forget the simple, underlying truth. It is the outward practices of religion that are so different, and it is they that cause disputes and enmity -- while the reality is always the same, and one. The Reality is the Truth, and truth has no division. These attributes of truth are also human virtues inspired by the Holy Spirit. Independent investigation of truth "Furthermore, know ye that God has created in man the power of reason, whereby man is enabled to investigate reality. God has not intended man to imitate blindly his fathers and ancestors. He has endowed him with mind, or the faculty of reasoning, by the exercise of which he is to investigate and discover the truth, and that which he finds real and true he must accept. If it be the cause of discord and hostility, if it leads to separation and creates conflict, the absence of religion would be preferable in the world. Every so often a new Prophet is sent to humanity to update religion to the current needs of mankind. These Prophets bring essentially the same spiritual message to mankind; in a form that meets the needs of the people of Their time. They all have but one purpose; their secret is the same secret. To prefer one in honor to another, to exalt certain ones above the rest, is in no wise to be permitted. Every true Prophet hath regarded His Message as fundamentally the same as the Revelation of every other Prophet gone before Him The measure of the revelation of the Prophets of God in this world, however, must differ. Each and every one of them hath been the Bearer of a distinct Message, and hath been commissioned to reveal Himself through specific acts. It is for this reason that they appear to vary in their greatness It is clear and evident, therefore, that any apparent variation in the intensity of their light is not inherent in the light itself, but should rather be attributed to the varying receptivity of an ever-changing world. Every Prophet Whom the Almighty and Peerless Creator hath purposed to send to the peoples of the earth hath been entrusted with a Message, and charged to act in a manner that would best meet the requirements of the age in which He appeared. It is not possible to fly with one wing alone! Should a man try to fly with the wing of religion alone he would quickly fall into the quagmire of superstition, whilst on the other hand, with the wing of science alone he would also make no progress, but fall into the despairing slough of materialism. The honored members of the consulting body must with all freedom express their own thoughts, and it is in no wise permissible for one to belittle the thought of another, nay, he must with moderation set forth the truth An international auxiliary language "It behoveth the sovereigns of the world -- may God assist them -- or the ministers of the earth to take counsel together and to adopt one of the existing languages or a new one to be taught to children in schools throughout the world, and likewise one script. Thus the whole earth will come to be regarded as one country. Universal education "Unto every father hath been enjoined the instruction of his son and daughter in the art of reading and writing and in all that hath been laid down in the Holy Tablet. He that putteth away that which is commanded unto him, the Trustees of the House of Justice are then to recover from him that which is required for their instruction, if he be wealthy, and if not the matter devolveth upon the House of Justice. Verily, have We made it a shelter for the poor and needy. He that bringeth up his son or the son of another, it is as though he hath brought up a son of Mine; upon him rest My Glory, My Loving-Kindness, My Mercy, that have compassed the world. The elimination of all forms of prejudice " So long as these prejudices survive, there will be continuous and fearsome wars. Equality of men and women "To accept and observe a distinction which God has not intended in creation is ignorance and superstition. The fact which is to be considered, however, is that woman, having formerly been deprived, must now be allowed

equal opportunities with man for education and training. There must be no difference in their education. Until the reality of equality between man and woman is fully established and attained, the highest social development of mankind is not possible. The poor in your midst are My trust; guard ye My trust, and be not intent only on your own ease. Some we find with numerous courses of costly and dainty food; whilst others can scarce find sufficient crusts to keep them alive. Whilst some are clothed in velvets, furs and fine linen, others have insufficient, poor and thin garments with which to protect them from the cold. This condition of affairs is wrong and must be remedied. Now the remedy must be carefully undertaken. It cannot be done by bringing to pass absolute equality between men. Universal peace "The time must come when the imperative necessity for the holding of a vast, an all-embracing assemblage of men will be universally realized. Such a peace demandeth that the Great Powers should resolve, for the sake of the tranquillity of the peoples of the earth, to be fully reconciled among themselves. Should any king take up arms against another, all should unitedly arise and prevent him. If this be done, the nations of the world will no longer require any armaments, except for the purpose of preserving the security of their realms and of maintaining internal order within their territories. He assumed the title of The Bab Gate. He first announced to the people of His native land His own station as an independent Messenger and He also prepared the way for the coming of another Manifestation messenger of God, a Prophet who would announce His station soon after The Bab. Eventually 20, Babis would be put to death for their beliefs. The Bab Himself was imprisoned and was executed in July of Many Babis were also imprisoned. He was sent to the prison city of Akka Acre in Palestine. He would stay in and around Akka until the end of His life in In each locality, nine-member boards known as Local Spiritual Assemblies are elected annually. The Universal House of Justice also consists of nine members and is elected every five years by members of the National Spiritual Assemblies throughout the world. Some of these volumes can be found at your local public library.

2: Twelve Bahai Principles – An Introduction | The Bahai Insider

Introduction to the Bahá'í Faith by Shoghi Effendi The Shrine of the Báb [Herald and Forerunner of Bahá'u'lláh], located on the side of Mt. Carmel in Haifa, Israel.

A Brief Introduction to Bahai Tuesday, 13 January Cultural Diversity The Bahai faith is the youngest independent religion of the world, which was founded in the mid 19th century by Mirza Husayn Ali , son of a government minister in Tehran Iran. Origin and History of Bahai The Bahai religion originally grew out of the Babism faith, which was founded in by Mirza Ali Mohammad of Shiraz Iran who proclaimed a spiritual doctrine emphasising the forthcoming appearance of a new messenger of God who would overturn old beliefs and customs. Before Baha Ullah died in , he appointed his eldest son, Abdul-Baha , to be his successor, lead the Bahai community and act as the authorised interpreter of his teachings. The Bahai community is governed according to general principles proclaimed by Baha Ullah and through institutions created by him that were elaborated and expanded by Abdul-Baha. In building a unified network of local, national and international governing councils the Bahai community has, comparative to other religions, social or political movements, achieved unity and is free of any schism. Demographics The Bahai population has greatly and rapidly increased in number and spread all around the globe. There are more than 5 million Bahais in the world, with the largest communities residing in India, Iran, Africa, Latin America and relative to its population size, in some Pacific Islands. More than 2, different ethnic and tribal groups represent the Bahai faith. The Bahai community has a unique system of global administration, with freely elected governing councils over 17, places where there are organised Bahai communities with elected local councils Local Spiritual Assemblies and national elected bodies National Spiritual Assemblies. God, who in his essence is unknowable, can be made known to man through manifestations through His messenger, including Abraham, Krishna, Moses, Zoroaster, Jesus, Muhammad, the Bab, and Baha Ullah. Baha Ullah being the most recent in this succession of divine Messengers. All these messengers were sent at various stages of human progress as part of a divine plan to educate the human race. Essentially, they all taught an identical truth. According to Baha ullah, God has set in motion historical forces that are breaking down traditional barriers of race, class, creed and nation and that a time will come when universal civilization will be achieved. Purpose of Life Human beings are spiritually from a different order than that of animals and all other living things. According to Baha Ullah, everything in creation is capable of reflecting some of the divine attributes; human beings alone have the capacity to reflect them all. Therefore, our purpose in life is to develop this potential and show these divine attributes in our actions. As many of these divine attributes as possible must be acquired perfected. Baha Ullah distinguishes between two types of human nature: The higher aspect is what makes us truly human and so we must constantly struggle to ensure that our higher side overcomes our animal side. Marriage is considered as a commitment of two people from one to the other, and their mutual attachment of mind and heart. The spiritual aspects of this union are more important than the physical union. He also stressed emphasis on the spiritual nature as being more essential aspect of marriage than the physical aspect i. Separation or divorce is permitted according to the Bahai scriptures. Nevertheless, it is strongly discouraged because in Bahai faith it is unity of the family at the foundation level, which subsequently leads to unity of the society. Therefore, separation or divorce should be avoided as it leads to social disintegration as well as disruption of the family and must be left as the absolute last resort. However, it is a spiritual obligatory upon every Bahai to pray daily and regularly, to fast 19 days a year from sunrise to sunset , to abstain from alcohol or any substances that may have affect ones mental-state, to practice monogamy, to obtain the consent of parents to marriage and to attend the 19 Day Feast on the first day of each month of the Bahai calendar which involves prayer through reading of the sacred texts, discussing community activities and issues, enjoying the company of each other in order to ensure universal participation in the affairs of the community and the cultivation of the Bahai fraternity. There is no hierarchical organisation of priesthood and no formalised rituals in the worship. In the temples, the

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services consist of recitation of the sacred scriptures but there is no preaching.

3: Introduction to the Bahá'í Faith

The Bahá'í faith is one of the youngest among major religions of the world and is an abrahamic religion like Islam, Christianity etc. It was founded by Bahá'u'lláh in Iran in and.

Here is an independent view of the same. A new article will be uploaded every Thursday. Starting with a claim to be the Bab or Gate of the hidden Imam Mahdi as , the Bab slowly expanded his scope to claim to be the Mahdi himself and subsequently even made a claim of being God Read More. Incidentally, the Bab never claimed to be an independent prophet – this claim was made popular by the Bahais to establish that the Bab brought a new religion. Ali Mohammed Bab recanted several times from his claims – this is denied by the Bahais, but the proofs against them are overwhelming. There are atleast 4 recorded instances of his recantations Read More. Ali Mohammed Bab revealed a book called the Bayan, in two different languages Arabic and Persian , both of which remained incomplete until his death. The death of the Bab was followed by a period of strife in the Babi community and a brief power struggle between Mirza Hussain Ali self named Bahauallah and his half brother Mirza Yahya, Subhe Azal. An acrimonious exchange of letters and words ensued between the brothers who even accused the other of plotting to murder the other subsequent to which Bahauallah prevailed. Bahauallah declared himself to be He whom God shall make manifest. Ironically, this was only about few years after the death of the Bab and much earlier than he had prophesized. When Mirza Husayn Ali saw that his disciples accepted anything that he said as divine revelation, he went as far as claiming to be the Creator of Gods! Hereafter, the Bahai script went wrong. A prophecy by Abdul Baha that the successorship of the Faith would vest in the sons of Shoghi was falsified as Shoghi died in London under mysterious circumstances Read More. However, it was under Shoghi Effendi that the Bahai Faith was transformed into a large and extensive organization administered by the Universal House of Justice that imitated organizational models prevalent in the West, for the administration of and structured propagation of the sect in the world. Herein lies the origin of the Bahai Principles. These principles were created by Abdul Baha years after the death of his father – in fact Bahauallah never presented the Bahai Faith in the form as was presented by Abdul Baha. Abdul Baha claimed that his father had gifted humanity with a series of pure principles, the likeness of which could not be found anywhere else. When explaining each principle, he would refer to the scattered utterances of his father and try to find words from Bahauallah that would relate them to him. However, this effort would never satisfy any seeker of the truth who knew that these principles were not written by Bahauallah, but rather compiled years after his demise, by his son, Abdul Baha. More noteworthy is the fact that these principles, while drafted by Abdul Baha, contradict some of the tenets of the Bahai Faith as outlined by Bahauallah. For example, Abdul Baha declared that women and men are equal and neither has an advantage upon the other. He introduced this kind of thinking as a principle from the principles of Bahauallah. This is while in the opinion of Bahauallah, men are without doubt superior to women. The principles that have been attributed to Bahauallah and the Bahai Faith do not have a set number and have been referred to as being between four and eighteen in various Bahai works. Bahai books also conflict in their order. However, they are most commonly famous as the twelve principles. The most important of these include: Our arguments shall be based on facts and logic. These, therefore should appeal to those seeking the independent investigation of truth. Staying Away From Prejudice The articles will be compiled avoiding any sort of sympathy for any particular individual, group, or religion. This method was used by the authors of this book when analyzing the statements of the founders of The Bahai Faith to seek the truth using the divine blessing of reason. For reason, is the sole solid divine means to determine truth from falsehood. Using Original Bahai Sources The method used in this study when quoting Bahai literature is to use primary sources, and specific references to authentic books and texts that are approved of by the Bahai authorities. These references – from primary authentic sources – are cited as footnotes so that the readers can easily have access to the exact phrases without having to refer to the original sources. All quotes have been extracted from genuine Bahai sources endorsed by the

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UHI and clear references have been presented. A single approach has been taken in analyzing each principle. Each principle has been analyzed in a separate chapter with respect to the following perspectives:

4: The Baha'i Faith in Guyana - Introduction

Peter Smith traces the development of the Baha'i faith from its roots in the Babi movement of mid-nineteenth century Iran, through the lives and work of its prophet-founder, Baha'u'llah (), and his successors, to its contemporary emergence as a worldwide religion.

5: Bahá'í- faith - An Introduction - World Religion News

Baha'i Publications Bookstore. A new four-fold introductory pamphlet on the Bahá'í- Faith. Included are brief descriptions of the Founders of the Bahá'í- Faith, the oneness of God and humanity, community-building activities centered on social and spiritual transformation, and more.

6: The Baha'i Faith: a short introduction

The Baha'i faith is the youngest independent religion of the world, which was founded in the mid 19th century by Mirza Husayn Ali (), son of a government minister in Tehran (Iran). Mirza Husayn Ali is known to the world as 'Baha Ullah' and regarded by Bahais as the most recent in the line of Messengers of God.

7: A Brief Introduction to Bahai - The Commisceo Global Blog - Perfect for Culture Vultures

Bahá'í- Faith - An Introduction This section covers some of the very basic points of knowledge about the Bahá'í- Faith and serves as an introduction for the other topics. Bahá'u'lláh claimed that he had come to unite the world in one common faith.

8: The Baha'i Faith: An Introduction - Tiferet Journal

An Introduction to the Baha'i Faith. References For those interested in reading more about the Bahá'í- Faith, a few references are listed below.

9: Introduction to the Baha'i Faith by Shoghi Effendi

The Baha'i Faith - in the World Community -- Pamphlet This short pamphlet give a high level overview of the fundamental principles and beliefs of the Baha'i Faith, its history, administration and world context.

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