

Tablet Concerning the Day of the Martyrdom of His Holiness, the Exalted One (The Báb) ^[1]

by

Abdu'l-Bahá

He is the All-Glorious!

O thou honoured 'Alí Akbar! ^[2]

This day is the day of the Martyrdom of His Holiness, the Exalted One, may our heart be sacrificed for His sanctified blood.

This Day is the day in which this "Sun of Truth" concealed itself behind the clouds of providence.

This Day is the day in which this luminous Orb did set!

This Day is the day in which that Body, pure and without blemish or spot fell upon and rolled onto the blood soaked earth

This Day is the day in which His chest and His heart, immaculate and pure like unto a spotless mirror, was riddled by thousands of bullets!

This Day is the day in which that "Divine Lamp" became severed from Its physical frame!

This Day is the day in which the cries and lamentations of the Concourse on high are raised

This Day is the day in which the inhabitants of the Kingdom of God weep and moan, the eyes in tears and their hearts torn!

'Abdu'l-Bahá

[1] Provisionally translated from the Persian into English by Khazeh Fananapazir. Published in *Ayyam-i-Tis'ih* [The Nine Days], pages 187-88, Los Angeles: Kalimat Press, 1981. Originally written as "Lawh-i-Yawm-i-Shahádat-i-Hadrat-i-A'lá" in Persian. See: https://bahai-library.com/abdulbaha_day_martyrdom_bahauallah

[2] That is, Mullá 'Alí-Akbar-i-Shahmirzadí, known as Hají Akhund, one of the four Hands of the Cause appointed by Bahá'u'lláh Himself. Early in life, he frequented discussions of philosophy and religion, becoming extremely well-versed in the current of his times. He first came into contact with the Faith when he was about nineteen. He became on fire for Bahá'u'lláh upon reading the *Kitáb-i-Íqán* in 1861. He engaged in teaching, and was forced out of the city of Mashád as a result. He returned to his native city of Sháhmirzad in the province of Khurasan to teach there. He was imprisoned for the first time in Tihrán. Throughout his life, he was in prison a total of 6 times. In one of these cases, on the orders of Naṣiri'd-Dín Sháh and his son Kamran Mírzá, the Governor of Tihrán, he suffered imprisonment in Tihrán for 18 months in 1891, but was released. He attained the presence of Bahá'u'lláh twice, once in 1873, and the second time in 1888. He was the recipient of many Tablets from the Blessed Beauty, including one in which is revealed a special prayer for the Hands of the Cause.

Hají Akhund rendered many services, both to the Faith, and his country. It was Hají Akhund who interceded to Bahá'u'lláh on behalf of the people of Irán, begging for relief from a severe famine, which had been sent as a chastisement after the martyrdom of Badí. It was also this same Hají Akhund, with the aid of Jamál-i-Burujird, who, in 1867-68, helped to transfer the remains of the Báb from the Shrine of Imám-Zadih Ma'sum in Tihrán to the Mosque of Masha'u'lláh, in the village of Chashmih-'Alí, and from thence to the home of Mírzá Hasan-i-Vazir, again in Tihrán. See *The Revelation of Bahá'u'lláh*, Vol. 3, pp. 85-6, 200-1, 425-27, Vol. 4, 495-301 and *Memorials of the Faithful*, pp. 9-12 (MW's note).