

## 5 Starter Facts About Bahá'í

- 1. The Bahá'í faith was founded in the mid-19th century. Its supreme goal is universal peace. Today, there are ~5 million adherents worldwide.
- 2. Baha'ís believe God revealed himself to humanity through a series of Divine Messengers that brought teachings to address the needs and condition of humanity. Messengers are known by different names, such as Abraham, Moses, Buddha, Zoroaster, Jesus, and Muhammad, but all reflect the same divine purpose and are the chief educators of mankind.
- 3. There are nine annual Bahá'í holy days plus an annual fast. With the exception of New Year, Bahá'í holidays commemorate major events in the lives of the founders of the Bahá'í Faith.
- 4. The faith has no priesthood and no clergy. The governance of the Bahá'í community is with local spiritual assemblies, which have jurisdiction over all local affairs of the Bahá'í community.
- 5. The most holy text is the Kitáb-i-Aqdas, entrusted to Bahá'u'lláh from God. The text forms the book of Bahá'í laws. A historical account of the Bábí movement (The Dawn-Breakers) is considered one of three books that every Bahá'í should master.

Learn more at:

http://www.bahai.org/

These five points are not meant to be comprehensive or authoritative. We hope they encourage you to explore this spirituality more deeply and seek out members of this community to learn about their beliefs in action. In understanding our differences we will better understand our common humanity.

June 2018