

TO UNDERSTAND THE STATION OF THE BÁB

THE ISLAMIC PROPHECIES PREDICTING THE COMING OF THE BÁB AND DESCRIBING HIS STATION

**SPIRITUAL QUALITIES RELEVANT TO THIS TOPIC:
DETERMINATION, EXCELLENCE, FAITHFULNESS, PRAYERFULNESS**

Say: O people of the earth! Behold this flamelike Youth that speedeth across the limitless profound of the Spirit, heralding unto you the tidings: “Lo: the Lamp of God is shining,” and summoning you to heed His Cause which, though hidden beneath the veils of ancient splendour, shineth in the land of Iraq above the day-spring of eternal holiness.

Bahá'u'lláh, *The Kitáb-i-Íqán*, p. 147

Shoghi Effendi wishes me also to express his deep-felt appreciation of your intention to study the Qur'án. The knowledge of this revealed holy Book is, indeed, indispensable to every Bahá'í who wishes to adequately understand the writings of Bahá'u'lláh.

Written on behalf of Shoghi Effendi,
The Importance of Deepening our Knowledge and Understanding of the Faith, p. 38

GOAL: TO UNDERSTAND THE STATION OF THE BÁB

TOPIC: THE ISLAMIC PROPHECIES PREDICTING THE COMING OF THE BÁB AND DESCRIBING HIS STATION

LEARNING OBJECTIVES AND SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES



KNOWLEDGE OBJECTIVES

- To know the meaning of the concept of prophecies
- To know some of the Islamic prophecies predicting the coming of the Báb

SUGGESTED LEARNING ACTIVITIES

- Share Islamic prophecies about the coming of the Báb.
- Discuss as a group how each prophecy was fulfilled in the appearance of the Báb.
- Visually demonstrate the process of succession in Islam and use this to have the learners discover the connection between Islamic succession and the Station of the Báb.



WISDOM OBJECTIVES

- To understand that the Báb fulfilled prophecies from Islam
- To understand that prophecies can be misinterpreted

SUGGESTED LEARNING ACTIVITIES

- Work in groups to discuss the various connections between Islam and the Bahá'í Faith, creating large poster board illustrations of these discoveries to share with the rest of the class.
- Use analogies with complex meanings and demonstrate the varieties and layers of meanings embedded in the analogies.

TOPIC: THE ISLAMIC PROPHECIES PREDICTING THE COMING OF THE BÁB AND DESCRIBING HIS STATION



SPIRITUAL PERCEPTION OBJECTIVES

- To perceive the oneness and the interconnection that exists between Islam and all other religions
- To perceive prophecies as spiritual guidance for mankind

SUGGESTED LEARNING ACTIVITIES

- Use visual arts, dance or drama to demonstrate the connection between the religions of the past.
- Use group activities to examine the two types of prophecies in each religion—one connecting the religion to the next religion, and one prophecying the advent of the Promised One.
- Reflect on the importance of the purity of heart and spirit for finding the answer to prophecies.



ELOQUENT SPEECH OBJECTIVES

- To recount the Islamic prophecies that predict the coming of the Báb
- To describe how the Báb fulfills these prophecies

SUGGESTED LEARNING ACTIVITIES

- Work individually or in groups to prepare presentations on the various divine prophecies and their fulfillment in the appearance of the Báb.
- Share learners' various artwork on this concept.
- Prepare a question and answer session where knowledgeable Bahá'ís can come to respond to the others' questions about Islamic prophecies.

GOAL: TO UNDERSTAND THE STATION OF THE BÁB

TOPIC: THE ISLAMIC PROPHECIES PREDICTING THE COMING OF THE BÁB AND DESCRIBING HIS STATION

Sample Activities

ACTIVITY: ISLAMIC PROPHECIES OF THE PROMISED ONE

KNOWLEDGE OBJECTIVE: To know some of the Islamic prophecies predicting the coming of the Báb

WISDOM OBJECTIVE: To understand that prophecies can be misinterpreted

INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS AND LEARNING TOOLS: Education directed towards recognition of God; Use of drama; Use of the arts

SUGGESTED TIME FOR ACTIVITY: 10 MIN. PLUS PREPARATION

Materials Needed:

- Costumes, optional

Advance Preparation:

Plan a ten-minute role-play involving 2-3 teachers—adults or youth—who will act out being Mullás (Islamic priests), debating the meanings of the prophecies from the Holy Qur’án. The Mullás end their debate in confusion. Use some of the prophecies listed below to create the role-play; additional references can be found on Resource Page 10.

- Muhammad was the “Warner” of “That Day” when “Our Lord will gather us together.”
- The “Qá’im” (He Who ariseth) and the “Mihdi” (One Who is guided) is to be preceded by the “Deliverer of the Latter Days.”
- Sunnis await the Return of Christ; Shí’ihs await the Return of the Imám Husayn.
- The 12th Imám will come 1000 years after the ascension of the 11th Imám. His ascension was in the year 260 A.H., the Báb’s Declaration was in 1260 A.H.
- The “Age of Hiding” will be terminated, the “New Cycle of Discoveries” will be inaugurated.
- We are seeking “The Lord of the Age.”
- We are expecting two “Messengers” and two “Trumpet-Blasts.”
- “The remaining twenty and five letters” will be made manifest, out of the “twenty and seven letters” of all Knowledge.
- Siyyid Kazim teaches that the Promised One of Islam will be: of pure lineage, illustrious descent, of the seed of Fátimih, more than 20 and less than 30 years of age, medium height, abstains from smoking, is free from bodily deficiency.

1. Present your prepared role-play.
2. Encourage the students to listen carefully to the prophecies being discussed by the “Mullás,” and note them down.



TOPIC: THE ISLAMIC PROPHECIES PREDICTING THE COMING OF THE BÁB AND DESCRIBING HIS STATION

ACTIVITY: PROPHECIES EXPLAINED

WISDOM OBJECTIVE: To understand that the Báb fulfilled prophecies from Islam

ELOQUENT SPEECH OBJECTIVE: To recount the Islamic prophecies that predict the coming of the Báb; To describe how the Báb fulfills these prophecies

INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS AND LEARNING TOOLS: Education directed towards recognition of God; Use of consultation; Use of reasoning

SUGGESTED TIME FOR ACTIVITY: 45 MIN.

Materials Needed:

- chart paper or white board and markers
- colored cardstock cut into playing card size
- copies of Resource Pages 11-14

1. Encourage the students to chart a group list of the prophecies from their notes and observations of the role-play.
 2. Discuss the need for spiritual insight to see what prophecies mean.
 3. Write down, next to each prophecy, how the Báb fulfills it: that He is “the Deliverer of the Latter Days;” that He terminated the “Age of Hiding,” etc.
 4. Provide copies of Resource Pages 11-14. Invite the students to work in teams of two to:
 - select one prophecy and its explanation;
 - carefully read aloud that prophecy and its explanation at least twice;
 - discuss the meaning of the prophecy and its explanation until they understand it;
 - choose a respectful but lively body movement to represent that prophecy and explanation;
 - practice explaining their prophecy and demonstrating their body movement.
 5. After all students have prepared their explanations and movements, invite all the students to stand in a circle. Invite the students to share their explanations and movements in the group. The class briefly repeats each explanation and movement. After completing the first cycle, initiate a learning game: rotating rapidly around the circle, invite each student to repeat each explanation and movement in turn until all students can successfully complete the cycle.
 6. After the students have learned these prophecies and explanations, discuss: Why is it important for us to understand how the Báb fulfills the prophecies of Islam and other religions? When and where can we share these prophecies with others? How does understanding these prophecies deepen our own love for the blessed Báb?
 7. Encourage the students to share at least one prophecy with a family member or friend before the next class. Remember to invite the students to describe what happened when they shared these prophecies at the beginning of the next class.
- The teacher circulates among the students to assist as needed during this process.

GOAL: TO UNDERSTAND THE STATION OF THE BÁB

TOPIC: THE ISLAMIC PROPHECIES PREDICTING THE COMING OF THE BÁB AND DESCRIBING HIS STATION

ACTIVITY: PROPHECIES FROM SOME OF THE WORLD’S RELIGIONS

SPIRITUAL PERCEPTION OBJECTIVE: To perceive the oneness and the interconnection that exists among all religions

INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS AND LEARNING TOOLS: Education directed towards recognition of God; Engage the mind and heart; Use of consultation; Use of reasoning

SUGGESTED TIME FOR ACTIVITY: 45 MIN.

Materials Needed:

- copies of Resource Page 15
- *The Eternal Voice, 1844 AD: Pinpoint Target of All Faiths*, if available
- *Thief in the Night* or *The Prince of Peace* by William Sears, if available

1. Revisit the chart created in a previous activity that lists prophecies from Islam concerning the Báb.
2. Encourage the students to recall any prophecies they might know from other religions. Compare those that they know of with their list from Islam.
3. Encourage them to supplement their knowledge with research of other faiths’ prophecies, using sources such as *The Eternal*
4. Encourage students to examine common threads of these prophecies, such as dates, role of the Promised One, conditions of the Day of His Coming, etc. Encourage them to make a verbal presentation of their findings.
5. Consult together about the similarities and interconnectedness of all religions.

ACTIVITY: STORIES OF FULFILLMENT

WISDOM OBJECTIVE: To understand that the Báb fulfilled prophecies from Islam

INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS AND LEARNING TOOLS: Direct use of Bahá’í sacred writings; Use of stories; Use of consultation

SUGGESTED TIME FOR ACTIVITY: 30 MIN.

Materials Needed:

- *The Central Figures: The Báb, Volume Three* (available 2004)

1. Invite several capable students to read aloud to the class one of the stories provided for this topic in *The Central Figures: The Báb, Volume Three*.
2. Discuss the related questions provided in the appendix of that book.
3. Invite other students to read aloud the quotations provided in that chapter. Read each quotation at least twice. Discuss the meaning of the quotation.
4. Encourage the students to select one of these stories to retell to another person—child, youth, or adult—before the next class.

TOPIC: THE ISLAMIC PROPHECIES PREDICTING THE COMING OF THE BÁB AND DESCRIBING HIS STATION

ACTIVITY: USE A SENSORIAL EXPERIMENT AS A METAPHOR FOR SPIRITUAL INSIGHT

SPIRITUAL PERCEPTION OBJECTIVE: To perceive prophecies as spiritual guidance for all mankind

INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS AND LEARNING TOOLS: Education directed towards recognition of God; Engage the mind and heart; Use of science; Use of reflection

SUGGESTED TIME FOR ACTIVITY: 30 MIN.

Materials Needed:

- copy of *The Hidden Words*
- flashlight

Advance Preparation: Place a flashlight in view, but to the side.

1. Share Bahá'u'lláh's Hidden Word No. 12 from the Persian:

O MAN OF TWO VISIONS!

Close one eye and open the other. Close one to the world and all that is therein, and open the other to the hallowed beauty of the Beloved.

2. Discuss: Why do we need spiritual insight to understand prophecies? Have you ever tried to understand by thinking and thinking about something but not come to a conclusion? Has anyone ever had the experience that when we quit thinking and worrying so hard (close one eye), and instead open our hearts to God and ask for the answer through prayer (open the other eye) we get our answer at last? It takes spiritual eyes to understand prophecies and to recognize the Báb.
3. Invite one student to imagine that his or her hands are very, very cold, and to look around for a source of heat with which to warm them. Allow the student a few seconds to look around.
4. Then invite the student to sit down, close his or her eyes, and open his or her other senses to find heat.

5. Have a partner shine the flashlight on the student's hands: first from up high, then closer and closer. When does he or she feel the heat? Does it take concentration? Does it take opening up a new sense?

6. Discuss the experiment: does one think of heat when one sees a flashlight? Most of us only think of light, but there is also heat.
7. Discuss: Why do we need to open other senses in this experiment? Why do we need to use spiritual insight or open our spiritual "eyes," to understand religious prophecy?
8. Explain that the Manifestation of God explains prophecies in a way that helps us understand their true meaning. For example, Bahá'u'lláh provides many explanations of prophecy in the *Kitáb-i-Íqán*. This is one of the great gifts of knowledge that God has given us in this New Day.



TOPIC: THE ISLAMIC PROPHECIES PREDICTING THE COMING OF THE BÁB AND DESCRIBING HIS STATION

Resource Pages

Some Prophecies of Islam

Qur'án 11:102-7: ...In that is a Sign for those who fear the penalty of the Hereafter: that is a Day for which mankind will be gathered together: that will be a Day of Testimony. Nor shall We delay it but for a term appointed. The day it arrives, no soul shall speak except by His leave: of those [gathered] some will be wretched and some will be blessed.

Qur'án 50:20: And the Trumpet shall be blown: that will be the Day whereof Warning [had been given]. And there will come forth every soul: with each will be an [angel] to drive, and an [angel] to bear witness.

Qur'án 39:68-69: And there shall be a blast on the Trumpet, and all who are in the Heaven and all who are on the earth shall expire, save those whom God shall vouchsafe to live. Then shall there be another blast on it, and lo! arising they shall gaze around them: and the earth shall shine with the light of her Lord.

Qur'án 7:30: He will return you (on the Day of Judgment) reverted back to when you were first created. A section guided, and a section will go astray.

Qur'án 43:61: And [Jesus] shall be a Sign [for the coming of] the Hour of Judgment: therefore have no doubt about the [Hour], but follow ye Me: this is a Straight Way.

Qur'án 7:32: Every nation hath its set time. And when their time is come, they shall not retard it an hour; and they shall not advance it.

Set Time: According to Muhammad, He left two legacies to His followers -- "the Book of God and My Descendants." The first period in the Islamic cycle was the actual ministry of the Seal of the Prophets and the twelve Imams who were His descendants. The second period of the Islamic cycle was a determined time for the people to whom His Revelation had been sent: "From the Heaven to the Earth He governeth all things: hereafter shall they come up to him on a day whose length shall be a thousand of such years as ye reckon."

(Qur'án 32:4) The last of the Imams passed away in the year 260 AH. The lunar year of 1260 AH (260 + 1000) is 1844 of the solar Christian calendar, and it corresponds with the Biblical prophecy of Revelation 11:3. 1260 AH is also exactly 2300 years from the decree of Artaxerxes to rebuild Jerusalem, as foretold in Daniel 8:14 of the Old Testament.

A Book for Each Age: It was revealed in the Súrih of the Counsel that Islamic laws are as those given to Noah, Abraham, Moses and Jesus. Although this clarifies that religion is one, it is apparent that the laws do change from one Revelation to another. The laws of the Torah, the Bible, and the Qur'án are not all the same. God promised in the Qur'án that He would judge on the Day of Resurrection concerning matters of difference (Qur'án 22:68), and revealed: "Whatever verses we cancel, or cause thee to forget, we bring a better or its like. Knowest thou not that God hath power over all things?" (Qur'án 2:100) In the early period of the Bahá'í Faith, which began in 1844, The Báb (the "Gate") not only declared that his mission was to proclaim the imminent advent of "He Whom God will make Manifest," but wrote the first of the Faith's divinely inspired Books, the Bayán. "O people of the Bayán! Those who embrace the Truth must turn unto Me, as ordained in the Book and divine guidance will be vouchsafed to whosoever attaineth My presence." (~ The Báb)

See also *Selections from the Writings of the Báb*, p. 59-60

source: <http://www.1844prophecies.homestead.com/>

TOPIC: THE ISLAMIC PROPHECIES PREDICTING THE COMING OF THE BÁB AND DESCRIBING HIS STATION

Prophecies Explained

Prophecy

O the misery of men! No Messenger cometh unto them but they laugh Him to scorn.

Qur'án 36:30

Each nation hath plotted darkly against their Messenger to lay violent hold on Him, and disputed with vain words to invalidate the truth.

Qur'án 40:5

Explanation

Not one single Manifestation of Holiness hath appeared but He was afflicted by the denials, the repudiation, and the vehement opposition of the people around Him.

Bahá'u'lláh, *The Kitáb-i-Íqán*, p. 4

Prophecy

...The sun [shall] be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken....

Matthew 24:29

Explanation

...The terms “sun,” “moon,” and “stars” primarily signify the Prophets of God, the saints, and their companions, those Luminaries, the light of Whose knowledge hath shed illumination upon the worlds of the visible and the invisible.

In another sense, by these terms is intended the divines of the former Dispensation, who live in the days of the subsequent Revelations, and who hold the reins of religion in their grasp. If these divines be illumined by the light of the latter Revelation they will be acceptable unto God, and will shine with a light everlasting. Otherwise, they will be declared as darkened, even though to outward seeming they be leaders of men....

Bahá'u'lláh, *The Kitáb-i-Íqán*, pp. 35-6

Prophecy

Immediately after the tribulation of those days ... then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven...

Matthew 24:29-30

Explanation

As to the words—“Immediately after the oppression of those days”—they refer to the time when men shall become oppressed and afflicted, the time when the lingering traces of the Sun of Truth and the fruit of the Tree of knowledge and wisdom will have vanished from the midst of men, when the reins of mankind will have fallen into the grasp of the foolish and ignorant, when the portals of divine unity and understanding—the essential and highest purpose in creation—will have been closed, when certain knowledge will have given way to idle fancy, and corruption will have usurped the station of righteousness. Such a condition as this is witnessed in this day when the reins of every community have fallen into the grasp of foolish leaders, who lead after their own whims and desire.... What “oppression” is more grievous than that a soul seeking the truth, and wishing to attain unto the knowledge of God, should know not where to go for it and from whom to seek it? For opinions have sorely differed, and the ways unto the attainment of God have multiplied. This “oppression” is the essential feature of every Revelation. Unless it cometh to pass, the Sun of Truth will not be made manifest. For the break of the morn of divine guidance must needs follow the darkness of the night of error.

Bahá'u'lláh, *The Kitáb-i-Íqán*, p. 29-31

TOPIC: THE ISLAMIC PROPHECIES PREDICTING THE COMING OF THE BÁB AND DESCRIBING HIS STATION

Prophecy

When the heaven shall be cloven asunder...
Qur'an 82:1

Explanation

By "heaven" is meant the heaven of divine Revelation, which is elevated with every Manifestation, and rent asunder with every subsequent one. By "cloven asunder" is meant that the former Dispensation is superseded and annulled.
Bahá'u'lláh, *The Kitáb-i-Íqán*, p. 44

Prophecy

And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.
Matthew 24:31

Explanation

And now, concerning His words: "And He shall send His angels...." By "angels" is meant those who, reinforced by the power of the spirit, have consumed, with the fire of the love of God, all human traits and limitations, and have clothed themselves with the attributes of the most exalted Beings and of the Cherubim.
Bahá'u'lláh, *The Kitáb-i-Íqán*, pp. 78-9

Prophecy

On the day when the heaven shall give out a palpable smoke, which shall enshroud mankind: this will be an afflictive torment.
Qur'an 44:10

Explanation

The symbolic term "smoke" denotes grave dissensions, the abrogation and demolition of recognized standards, and the utter destruction of their narrow-minded exponents. What smoke more dense and overpowering than the one which hath now enshrouded all the peoples of the world, which hath become a torment unto them, and from which they hopelessly fail to deliver themselves, however much they strive?
Bahá'u'lláh, *The Kitáb-i-Íqán*, pp. 76-7

Prophecy

On that day shall the heaven be cloven by the clouds.
Qur'an 25:25

What can such expect but that God should come down to them overshadowed with clouds?
Qur'an 2:210

Explanation

These "clouds" signify, in one sense, the annulment of laws, the abrogation of former Dispensations, the repeal of rituals and customs current amongst men, the exalting of the illiterate faithful above the learned opposers of the Faith. In another sense, they mean the appearance of that immortal Beauty in the image of mortal man, with such human limitations as eating and drinking, poverty and riches, glory and abasement, sleeping and waking, and such other things as cast doubt in the minds of men, and cause them to turn away. All such veils are symbolically referred to as "clouds."... Even as the clouds prevent the eyes of men from beholding the sun, so do these things hinder the souls of men from recognizing the light of the divine Luminary.
Bahá'u'lláh, *The Kitáb-i-Íqán*, pp. 71-2

Prophecy

The wolf and the lamb shall feed together.
Isaiah 65:25

Explanation

Such is the binding force of the Word of God, which uniteth the hearts of them that have renounced all else but Him, who have believed in His signs.... Furthermore, how numerous are those peoples of divers beliefs, of conflicting creeds, and opposing temperaments, who, through the reviving fragrance of the Divine springtime, breathing from the Ridván of God, have been arrayed with the new robe of divine Unity, and have drunk from the cup of His singleness! This is the significance of the well-known words: "The wolf and the lamb shall feed together."

Bahá'u'lláh, *The Kitáb-i-Íqán*, pp. 112-3

TOPIC: THE ISLAMIC PROPHECIES PREDICTING THE COMING OF THE BÁB AND DESCRIBING HIS STATION

Prophecy

Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.
Matthew 5:5

And We desire to show favour to those who were brought low in the land, and to make them spiritual leaders among men, and to make of them Our heirs.
Qur'án 28:5

Explanation

It hath been witnessed in this day how many of the divines, owing to their rejection of the Truth, have fallen into, and abide within, the uttermost depths of ignorance, and whose names have been effaced from the scroll of the glorious and learned. And how many of the ignorant who, by reason of their acceptance of the Faith, have soared aloft and attained the high summit of knowledge, and whose names have been inscribed by the Pen of Power upon the Tablet of divine Knowledge.

Bahá'u'lláh, *The Kitáb-i-Íqán*, p. 146

Prophecy

According to the tradition, Mufaddal asked Sadiq saying: "What of the sign of His manifestation, O my master?" He made reply: "In the year sixty, His Cause shall be made manifest, and His Name shall be proclaimed."

Bahá'u'lláh, *The Kitáb-i-Íqán*, pp. 253-4

All the Imams were put to death except perhaps the last, who died as a child, in 260.... Then there was utter silence in Islam till the rise of the Báb in 1260. Hence the importance of the "Year Sixty."

Marzieh Gail, *Six Lessons on Islam*, p. 33

Explanation

No sooner had that eternal Beauty revealed Himself in Shiraz, in the year sixty, and rent asunder the veil of concealment, than the signs of the ascendancy, the might, the sovereignty, and power, emanating from that Essence of Essences and Sea of Seas, were manifest in every land.

Bahá'u'lláh, *The Kitáb-i-Íqán*, p. 234

Prophecy

And if ye be in doubt as to that which We have sent down to Our Servant, then produce a Surah like it, and summon your witnesses, beside God, if ye are men of truth.

Qur'án 2:23

Explanation

Behold, how lofty is the station, and how consummate the virtue, of these verses which He hath declared to be His surest testimony, His infallible proof, the evidence of His all-subduing power, and a revelation of the potency of His will. He, the divine King, hath proclaimed the undisputed supremacy of the verses of His Book over all things that testify to His truth.

Bahá'u'lláh, *The Kitáb-i-Íqán*, p. 205

The Prophets "endowed with constancy," whose loftiness and glory shine as the sun, were each honoured with a Book which all have seen, and the verses of which have been duly ascertained. Whereas the verses which have rained from this Cloud of divine mercy have been so abundant that none hath yet been able to estimate their number. A score of volumes are now available. How many still remain beyond our reach! How many have been plundered and have fallen into the hands of the enemy, the fate of which none knoweth.

Bahá'u'lláh, *The Kitáb-i-Íqán*, pp. 216-7

GOAL: TO UNDERSTAND THE STATION OF THE BÁB

TOPIC: THE ISLAMIC PROPHECIES PREDICTING THE COMING OF THE BÁB AND DESCRIBING HIS STATION

Prophecy

Wish for death, if ye are men of truth.

Qur'án 2:94

Proof

Consider these martyrs of unquestionable sincerity, to whose truthfulness testifieth the explicit text of the Book, and all of whom, as thou hast witnessed, have sacrificed their life, their substance, their wives, their children, their all, and ascended unto the loftiest chambers of Paradise. Is it fair to reject the testimony of these detached and exalted beings to the truth of this pre-eminent and glorious Revelation and to regard as acceptable the denunciations which have been uttered against this resplendent Light by this faithless people, who for gold have forsaken their faith, and who for the sake of leadership have repudiated Him Who is the First Leader of all mankind?

Bahá'u'lláh, *The Kitáb-i-Íqán*, p. 227

Prophecy

...It is related in the "Biharu'l-Anvar," the "Avalim," and the "Yanbu" of Sadiq, son of Muhammad, that he spoke these words: "Knowledge is twenty and seven letters. All that the Prophets have revealed are two letters thereof. No man thus far hath known more than these two letters. But when the Qá'im shall arise, He will cause the remaining twenty and five letters to be made manifest."

Bahá'u'lláh, *The Kitáb-i-Íqán*, p. 243

Explanation

Consider; He hath declared Knowledge to consist of twenty and seven letters, and regarded all the Prophets, from Adam even unto the "Seal," as Expounders of only two letters thereof and of having been sent down with these two letters. He also saith that the Qá'im will reveal all the remaining twenty and five letters. Behold from this utterance how great and lofty is His station!

Bahá'u'lláh, *The Kitáb-i-Íqán*, pp. 243-4

TOPIC: THE ISLAMIC PROPHECIES PREDICTING THE COMING OF THE BĀB AND DESCRIBING HIS STATION

Prophecies from Some of the World's Religions

- ABRAHAM** I am the Almighty God; walk before Me and be thou perfect... And I will establish my Covenant between Me and thee and thy seed after thee in their generations for an everlasting Covenant, to be a God unto thee, and to thy seed after thee.
Genesis 17:1, 7
- KRISHNA** Whenever spirituality decays and materialism is rampant, then...I Myself come forth. For the protection of the virtuous, for the destruction of evil-doers, and for establishing righteousness, I am born from age to age.
Bhagavad Gita IV 7, 8
- MOSES** Gather Me the people together, and I will make them hear My words, that they may learn to fear Me all the days that they shall live upon the earth, and that they may teach their children.
Deuteronomy 4:10
- ZOROASTER** When a thousand two hundred and some years have passed from the inception of the religion of the Arabian and the overthrow of the kingdom of Iran and the degradation of the followers of My religion, a descendant of the Iranian kings will be raised up as a Prophet.
Dinkird
- BUDDHA** I am not the first Buddha Who came upon the earth, nor shall I be the last. In due time another Buddha will rise in the world, a Holy One, a supremely enlightened One, endowed with wisdom and goodness...knowing the universe, an incomparable Leader of men, a Master of angels and mortals. He will reveal to you the same eternal Truths that I have taught you. He will preach His religion, glorious at the goal, in the spirit, in the letter. He will proclaim a religious life, wholly perfect and pure; such as I now proclaim.
Digha Nikaya 111:75-6
- CHRIST** I have yet many things to say unto you, but ye cannot bear them now. Howbeit when He, the Spirit of Truth, is come, He will guide you unto all truth; for He shall not speak of Himself; but whatsoever He shall hear, that shall He speak; and He will shew you things to come.
John 16:12-13
- MUHAMMAD** O children of Adam! There shall come to you Apostles from among yourselves, rehearsing My signs unto you; and whoso shall fear God and do good works, no fear shall come upon them, neither shall they be put to grief.
Qur'án 7:33
- THE BĀB** The purpose underlying this Revelation, as well as those that preceded it, has...been to announce the advent of the Faith of Him Whom God will make manifest. ...The process of the rise and setting of the Sun of Truth will thus indefinitely continue—a process that hath no beginning and will have no end.
Selections from the Writings of the Báb, p. 105
- BAHÁ'U'LLÁH** These sanctified Mirrors, these Day-Springs of ancient glory, are, one and all, the Exponents on earth of Him Who is the central Orb of the universe, its Essence and ultimate Purpose. From Him proceed their knowledge and power; from Him is derived their sovereignty.
Gleanings from the Writings of Bā' u'lláh, p. 47

The World's Divinely Revealed Religions compiled by Kay Zinky and Nancy Dickey, 1982

GOAL: TO UNDERSTAND THE STATION OF THE BĀB

**TOPIC: THE ISLAMIC PROPHECIES PREDICTING THE COMING
OF THE BĀB AND DESCRIBING HIS STATION**

LIST OF ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Stories & Articles:

Brilliant Star: “Prophets & Prophecies” Jan/Feb 85
The Covenant for Young People, p. 8
The Dawn-Breakers (Nabil’s Narrative), Introduction, pp. xxix-xxxii
Release the Sun, pp. 12, 219-220

Music:

Flight, “The World is Ready For a Change”
Music from the Bahá’i World Congress, “Expectation”
Special Times, “Who is the Child?”
The Magic Bird, “Behold”

Poetry:

The Witness of Pebbles, “Spendthrift”

List other favorite resources:

Historical Dictionary of Islam, Ludwig W. Adamec, Lanham, Md.: Scarecrow Press, 2001

If you find any additional resources, please notify the National Teacher Training Center, or submit your findings to the Educational Materials web site.