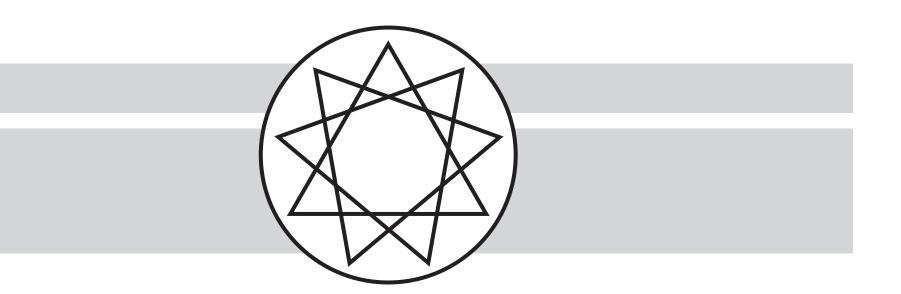
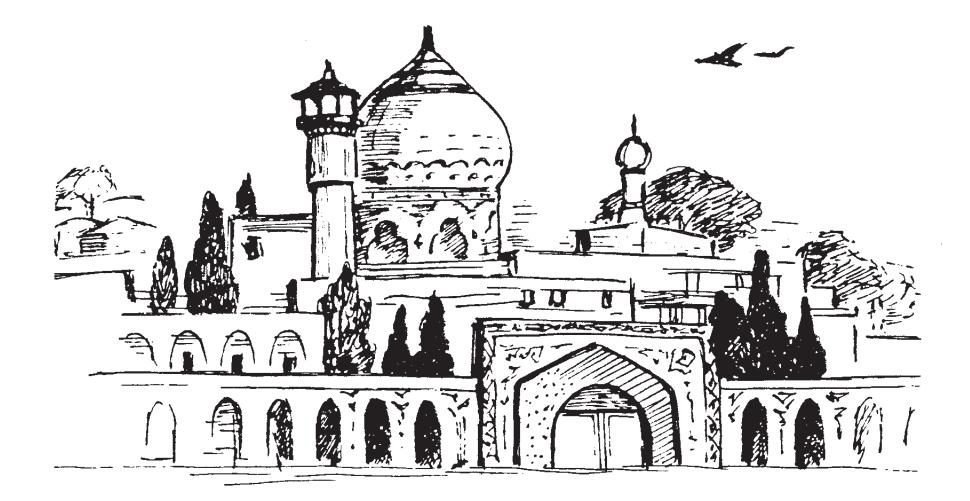
## **The Báb** The Herald of the New Day

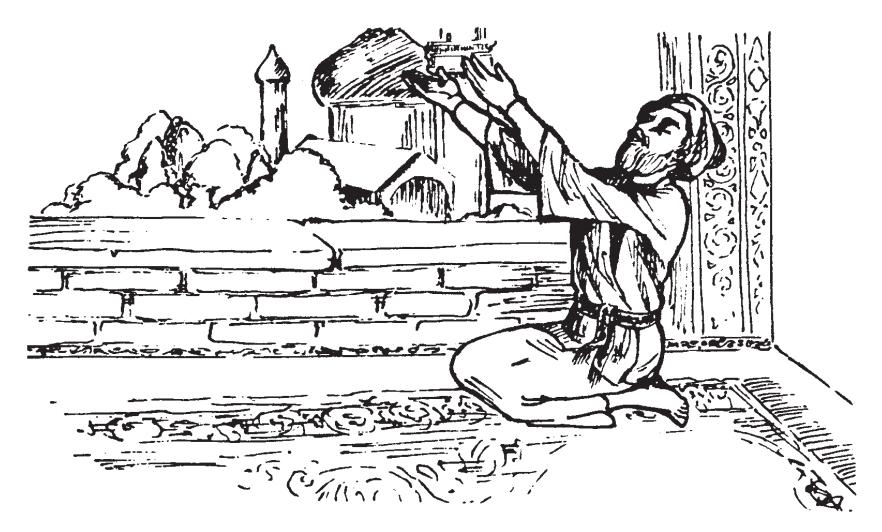




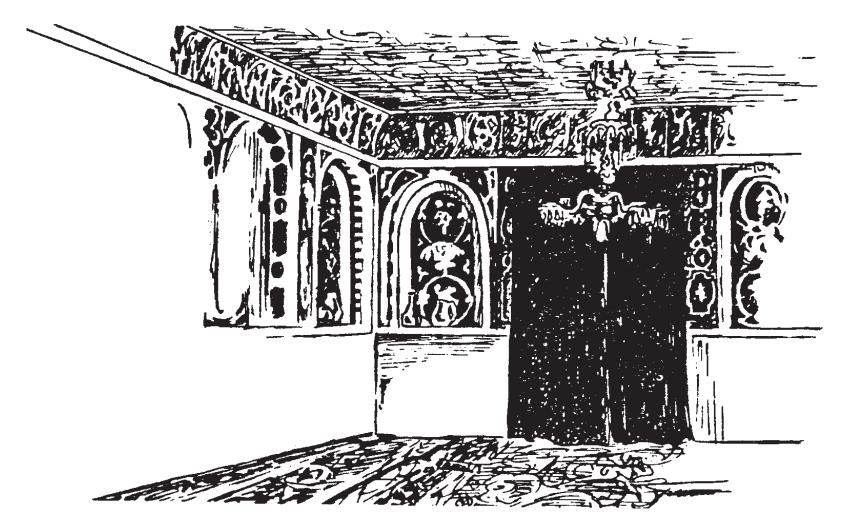
The Báb was born on 20 October 1819 in <u>Sh</u>íráz, a city in the southern part of Iran. He was still a child when His father passed away. He was raised by His uncle, who placed Him in school at an early age.



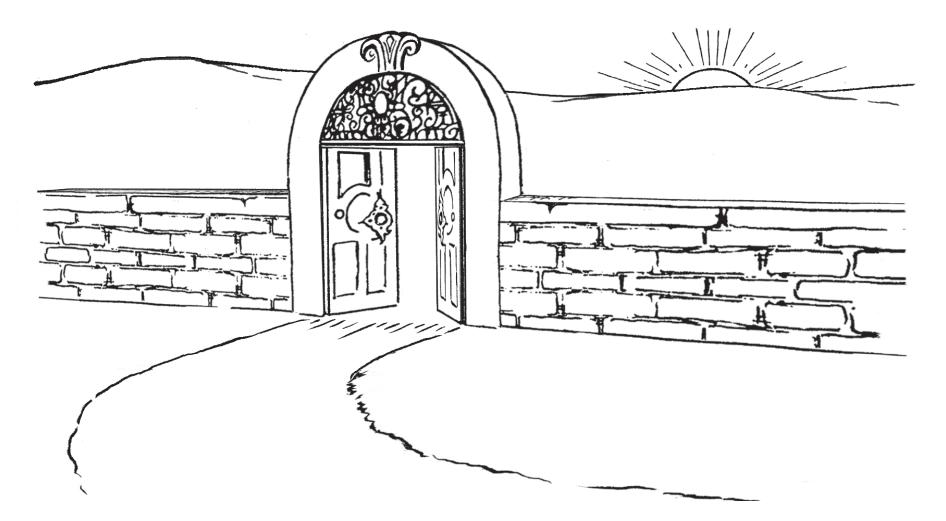
The Báb's teacher quickly recognized His great capacity and realized that he was incapable of teaching such an extraordinary child. The Báb was endowed by God with innate knowledge.



At that time the people of Iran were awaiting the coming of a new Messenger of God. They prayed that He would soon be made manifest, bringing with Him a period of peace and justice on earth. Many left their homes in search of the promised One.



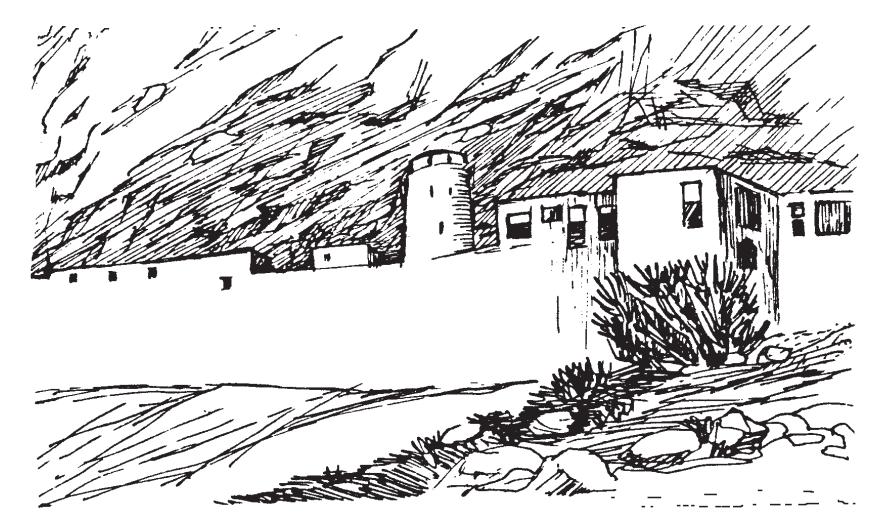
On the eve of 23 May 1844, a young man arrived in <u>Sh</u>íráz in search of the promised One. The Báb met him outside the gates of the city and invited him to His home to refresh himself after his long journey. There the Báb declared that He was the One Whose coming the people were so eagerly awaiting.



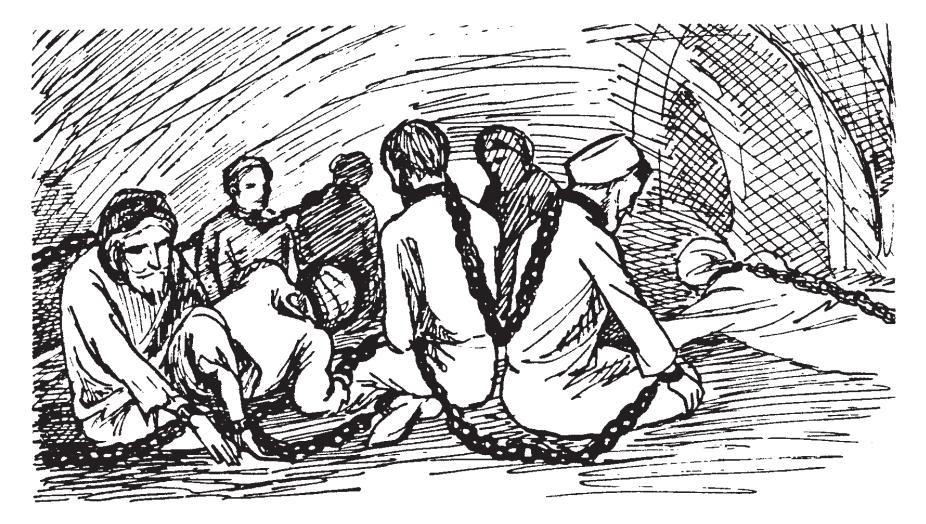
The word "báb" means "gate" or "door". The Báb announced that soon another Messenger of God would appear Who would unite all the peoples of the world in one family. The Báb was like a door leading humanity to a new and glorious future.



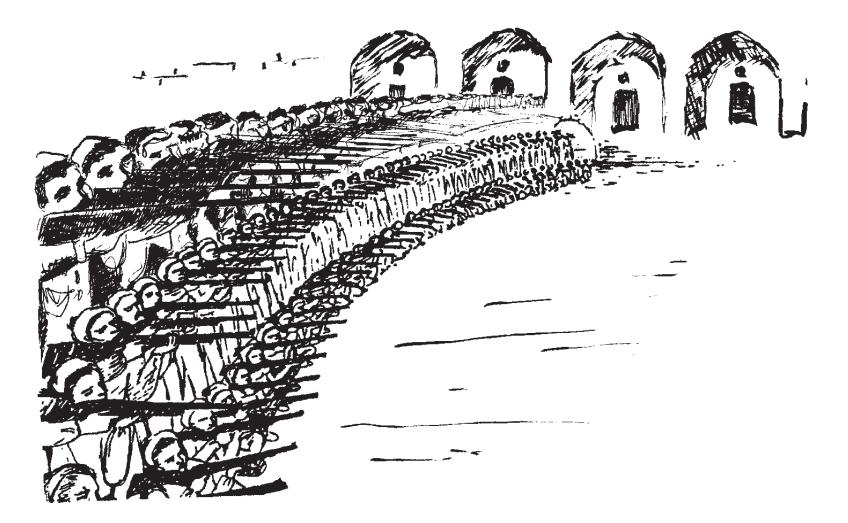
The number of the Báb's followers quickly grew. Throughout all of Iran, they began to spread the divine teachings He revealed.



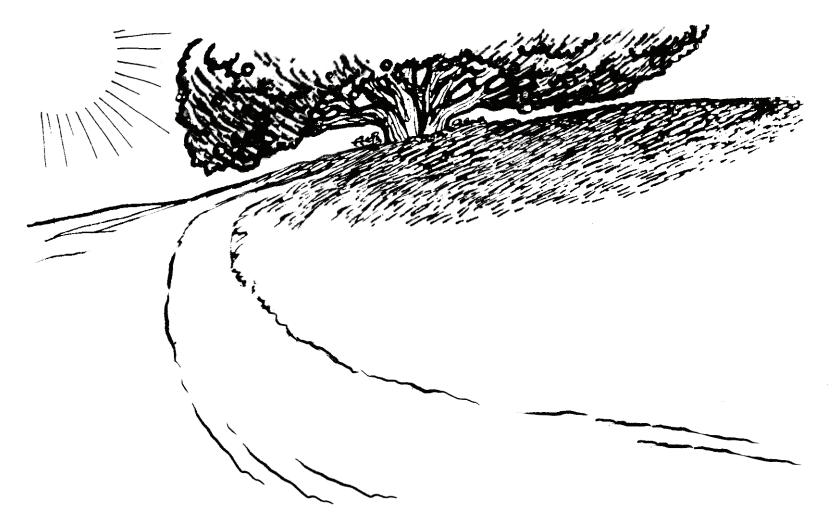
Soon the government authorities and the clergy, who were afraid of losing their power over the people, rose up against the new Faith of God. They imprisoned the Báb in a fortress in a remote part of the country, far away from His followers.



The Báb's followers suffered the most cruel persecution. They were attacked, beaten, and thrown into prison. Thousands were put to death, yet the Cause of God continued to spread.



In the year 1850 the Báb was martyred. At the order of the government, He was suspended in a courtyard together with one of His followers and shot by a regiment of soldiers. The Báb was only in the 31st year of His life.



The Báb gave His life to prepare the way for the coming of Bahá'u'lláh, "The Glory of God", the banner of Whose Faith was destined to be raised in every corner of the planet.

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