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MARTYRDOM OF BÁB

On the morning of July 9, 1850 in [Tabriz](#), a 30-year-old [Persian](#) merchant known as the [Báb](#) was charged with [apostasy](#) and shot by order of the Prime Minister of the [Persian Empire](#).^[1] The events surrounding his execution have been the subject of controversy among researchers, and are regarded as miraculous by followers of the [Bahá'í Faith](#), who consider him to be a [Manifestation of God](#).^[2]

The Báb and one of his companions were suspended on a wall and a large firing squad prepared to shoot. When the smoke cleared after the first firing of bullets, the Báb was missing. Reports continue by stating that the Báb was found back in

his prison room finishing dictation to his secretary.^[3] Other sources, which include Persian and European reports, give a variety of accounts, some in agreement with the miracle-like Bahá'í story, and some indicating a less miraculous event. All agree that he survived the first firing squad, and was killed by the second.^[1]

For many years after his death, the remains of the Báb were secretly transferred from place to place until they were brought to their final resting place at the [Shrine of the Báb](#) in [Haifa](#) on the middle terrace of the [Bahá'í Gardens](#).^[4]

The anniversary of this event is commemorated by members of the [Bahá'í Faith](#) at

as he was being conducted to his cell, a young man, Anís (sometimes called Mulla Muhammad Ali), threw himself at the feet of the Báb, wanting to be killed with the Báb. He was immediately arrested and placed in the same cell as the Báb.^[3]

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noon on Rahmat 16 (Sharaf) (of the [Bahá'í Calendar](#) - i.e., July 9 or July 10). It is one of nine [Holy Days](#) when work is suspended.

EXECUTION ORDER

In 1850 a new prime-minister, [Amir Kabir](#),^[6] ordered the execution of the Báb; he was brought to Tabriz, where he would be killed by a [firing squad](#). The night before his execution,

On the morning of July 9, 1850, the Báb was taken to the [Tabriz courtyard](#) filled with nearly ten thousand people wishing to watch his execution. The Báb and Anís were suspended on a wall and the firing squad of 750 rifles prepared to shoot

