

**Bahá'í Era Year (Naw-Rúz - Naw-Rúz) – Gregorian Year**  
**Epochs, Ages, Stages & Plans (Riḍván to Riḍván)**  
 [Prepared by Anita Graves]

Bahá'í Era BE	Gregorian Year
<b>Primitive, Heroic or Apostolic Age</b>	
<b>First Epoch, Heroic Age</b> <b>Ministry of the Báb 1844-1853</b>	
BE 1	Declaration of the Báb 23 May 1844 – Naw-Rúz 1845
BE 2	1845
BE 3	1846
BE 4	1847
BE 5	1848
BE 6	1849
BE 7	1850
BE 8	1851
BE 9	1852
<b>Second Epoch, Heroic Age</b> <b>Ministry of Bahá'u'lláh 1853-1892</b>	
BE 10	1853
BE 11	1854
BE 12	1855
BE 13	1856
BE 14	1857
BE 15	1858
BE 16	1859
BE 17	1860
BE 18	1861
BE 19	1862
BE 20	1863
BE 21	1864
BE 22	1865
BE 23	1866
BE 24	1867

BE 25	1868
BE 26	1869
BE 27	1870
BE 28	1871
BE 29	1872
BE 30	1873
BE 31	1874
BE 32	1875
BE 33	1876
BE 34	1877
BE 35	1878
BE 36	1879
BE 37	1880
BE 38	1881
BE 39	1882
BE 40	1883
BE 41	1884
BE 42	1885
BE 43	1886
BE 44	1887
BE 45	1888
BE 46	1889
BE 47	1890
BE 48	1891
BE 49	1892
<b>Third Epoch, Heroic Age</b> <b>Ministry of 'Abdu'l-Bahá 1892-1921</b> <b>(or “more particularly” with the death of</b> <b>Bahíyyih Khánum in 1932)</b>	
BE 50	1893
BE 51	1894

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BE 52	1895
BE 53	1896
BE 54	1897
BE 55	1898
BE 56	1899
BE 57	1900
BE 58	1901
BE 59	1902
BE 60	1903
BE 61	1904
BE 62	1905
BE 63	1906
BE 64	1907
BE 65	1908
BE 66	1909
BE 67	1910
BE 68	1911
BE 69	1912
BE 70	1913
BE 71	1914
BE 72	1915
BE 73	1916
BE 74	1917
BE 75	1918
BE 76	1919
BE 77	1920
BE 78	1921
<b>Ministry - Guardianship of Shoghi Effendi</b>	
BE 79	1922

BE 80	1923
BE 81	1924
BE 82	1925
BE 83	1926
BE 84	1927
BE 85	1928
BE 86	1929
BE 87	1930
BE 88	1931
BE 89	1932
<b>End Third Epoch of the Heroic Age</b>	
<b>Formative Age or Iron Age<sup>1</sup></b>	
BE 90	1933
BE 91	1934
BE 92	1935
BE 93	1936
<b>Beginning of Epochs &amp; Stages of the Divine Plan<sup>2</sup></b>	
<b>First Stage, First Epoch 'Abdu'l-Bahá's Divine Plan</b>	
<b>First Seven Year Plan (1937-1944)<sup>3</sup></b>	
Year One – 1 <sup>st</sup> Seven Year Plan	
BE 94	1937
Year Two – 1 <sup>st</sup> Seven Year Plan	
BE 95	1938
Year Three – 1 <sup>st</sup> Seven Year Plan	
BE 96	1939

<sup>1</sup> First Epoch of the Formative or Iron Age lasted until 1944 (CF 5) or 1946 (MBW 19) and covers the period during which the Bahá'í administrative order was being set up by Shoghi Effendi [See *The Bahá'í World* 18:231-5 'Statement by the Research Department on the Epochs of the Formative Age']

<sup>2</sup> Set in motion by 'Abdu'l-Bahá's Tablets of the Divine Plan. Shoghi Effendi writes of a twenty-year delay in the implementation of this plan while the administrative institutions of the Bahá'í Faith were being established (CF 32). The First Epoch of the Divine Plan thus began in 1937.

<sup>3</sup>The First Stage of the First Epoch of the Divine Plan constituted the first American Seven Year Plan (1937-1944) and was marked by the spread of the Faith in Latin America.

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Year Four – 1 <sup>st</sup> Seven Year Plan	
BE 97	1940
Year Five – 1 <sup>st</sup> Seven Year Plan	
BE 98	1941
Year Six – 1 <sup>st</sup> Seven Year Plan	
BE 99	1942
Year Seven – 1 <sup>st</sup> Seven Year Plan	
BE 100	1943
<b>End of First Epoch Formative Age</b>	
<b>Second Epoch – Formative Age<sup>1</sup> Holy Year</b>	
BE 101	1944
<b>(Second Stage<sup>2</sup>, First Epoch, Evolution of 'Abdu'l-Bahá's Divine Plan)</b>	
<b>Second Seven Year Plan</b>	
Year One – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Seven Year Plan	
BE 102	1945
Year Two – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Seven Year Plan	
BE 103	1946
Year Three – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Seven Year Plan	
BE 104	1947
Year Four – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Seven Year Plan	
BE 105	1948
Year Five – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Seven Year Plan	
BE 106	1949
Year Six – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Seven Year Plan	
BE 107	1950
Year Seven – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Seven Year Plan	
BE 108	1951
BE 109	1952
<b>(Third Stage<sup>3</sup>, First Epoch, Evolution of 'Abdu'l-Bahá's Divine Plan)</b>	

<b>Ten Year World Crusade (1953-1963)</b>	
First Year – World Crusade	
BE 110	1953
Second Year – World Crusade	
BE 111	1954
Third Year – World Crusade	
BE 112	1955
Fourth Year – World Crusade	
BE 113	1956
Fifth Year – World Crusade	
BE 114	1957
Shoghi Effendi's Passing, 4 November 1957	
<b>Ministry of the Custodians, Hands of the Cause</b>	
Sixth Year – World Crusade	
BE 115	1958
Seventh Year – World Crusade	
BE 116	1959
Eighth Year – World Crusade	
BE 117	1960
Ninth Year – World Crusade	
BE 118	1961
Tenth Year – World Crusade	
BE 119	1962
<b>Universal House of Justice</b>	
<b>Third Epoch<sup>4</sup> – Formative Age</b>	
BE 120	1963
<b>(First Stage, Second Epoch<sup>5</sup>, Evolution of 'Abdu'l-Bahá's Divine Plan)</b>	
<b>First International Convention (Election of the first Universal House of Justice)</b>	
<b>Nine Year Plan (1964-1973)</b>	
First Year – Nine Year Plan	
BE 121	1964
Second Year – Nine Year Plan	
BE 122	1965
Third Year – Nine Year Plan	

<sup>1</sup> Second Epoch, which lasted until 1963, was marked by the global spread of the Bahá'í Faith.

<sup>2</sup> Second Stage, First Epoch of 'Abdu'l-Bahá's Divine Plan (1946-1953) was marked by activities spreading the Bahá'í Faith throughout Europe. (MBW 153; CF 62, 113-14; WG 25).

<sup>3</sup> The Ten Year Crusade (1953-63) marked the third stage of the First Epoch and took the Bahá'í Faith to most of the rest of the world.

<sup>4</sup> Third Epoch of Formative or Iron Age lasted until 1986, characterized by the emergence of the Bahá'í Faith from obscurity and the initiation of social and economic development plans. [See *Bahá'í World* 16:93]

<sup>5</sup> Second Epoch of the Divine Plan began in 1964, and includes successive stages, the first being the Nine Year Plan (1964-73).

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BE 123	1966
Fourth Year – Nine Year Plan	
BE 124	1967
Worldwide proclamation of the Faith began with six Intercontinental Conferences October 1967 Marked Centenary of Bahá'u'lláh's Proclamation to Kings & Rulers of the World, centered around His Revelation of the Súriy-i-Mulúk in Adrianople	
Fifth Year – Nine Year Plan	
Second International Convention	
BE 125	1968
Sixth Year – Nine Year Plan	
BE 126	1969
Seventh Year – Nine Year Plan	
BE 127	1970
Eighth Year – Nine Year Plan	
BE 128	1971
Ninth Year – Nine Year Plan	
BE 129	1972
<b>(No plan was announced in Riḍván Message 1973)</b>	
BE 130	1973
Third International Convention	
<b>Second Stage, Second Epoch<sup>1</sup> Evolution of 'Abdu'l-Bahá's Divine Plan</b>	
<b>Five Year Plan (1974-1979)</b>	
First Year – Five Year Plan	
BE 131	1974
Second Year – Five Year Plan	
BE 132	1975
Third Year – Five Year Plan	
BE 133	1976
Fourth Year – Five Year Plan	
BE 134	1977
Fifth Year – Five Year Plan	
BE 135	1978
<b>Third Stage, Second Epoch<sup>2</sup>, Evolution of Abdu'l-Bahá's Divine Plan</b>	
<b>Seven Year Plan (1979-1986)</b>	
First Year – Seven Year Plan	
BE 136	1979
Second Year – Seven Year Plan	

BE 137	1980
Third Year – Seven Year Plan	
BE 138	1981
Fourth Year – Seven Year Plan	
BE 139	1982
Fifth Year – Seven Year Plan	
BE 140	1983
Fifth International Convention	
Membership of International Teaching Centre increased to nine; newly instituted Five Year Terms for Counsellor Members International Teaching Centre to begin 23 May 1983 immediately following 5th International Bahá'í Convention <sup>3</sup>	
Sixth Year – Seven Year Plan	
BE 141	1984
Seventh Year – Seven Year Plan	
BE 142	1985
Seven Year Plan “set the seal” on Third Epoch, Formative Age <sup>4</sup>	
<b>Fourth Epoch<sup>5</sup>-Formative Age</b>	
<b>Fourth Stage, Second Epoch<sup>6</sup>, Evolution of 'Abdu'l-Bahá's Divine Plan</b>	
<b>Six Year Plan (1986-1991)</b>	
First Year – Six Year Plan	
BE 143	1986
Second Year – Six Year Plan	
BE 144	1987
Third Year – Six Year Plan	
BE 145	1988
Sixth International Convention	
Fourth Year – Six Year Plan	
BE 146	1989
<b>Two Year Subsidiary Plan 1990-1992<sup>7</sup></b>	

<sup>3</sup> “...We have decided to raise the number of resident members of the International Teaching Centre to nine...” We have...decided, as foreshadowed in previous announcements, to institute a five-year term for the Counsellor members of the International Teaching Centre. Each term will start on 23 May immediately following the International Baha'i Convention, and the current term will end on 23 May 1988. Should circumstances prevent the Universal House of Justice from making new appointments at the end of any five-year term, the Counsellors will remain in office until such time as new appointments can be made.” Message from the Universal House of Justice to the Followers of Bahá'u'lláh Throughout the World, 19 May 1983.

<sup>4</sup> Universal House of Justice, Riḍván 1986, BE 143.

<sup>5</sup> Fourth Epoch of the Formative Age is considered to have begun in 1986 and is to be marked by the national communities taking on the responsibility for their own development. [See *The Bahá'í World* 18:225-30]

<sup>6</sup> Fourth Stage, Second Epoch of Divine Plan was Six Year Plan (1986-1991).

<sup>1</sup> Second stage, Second Epoch of the Divine Plan was the Five Year Plan (1974-79)

<sup>2</sup> Third Stage, Second Epoch of Divine Plan was the Seven Year Plan (1979-1986)

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Fifth Year – Six Year Plan	
BE 147	1990
First Year Two Year Subsidiary Plan	
Sixth Year – Six Year Plan	
BE 148	1991
Second Year Two Year Subsidiary Plan	
<b>Fifth Stage, Second Epoch, Evolution of 'Abdu'l-Bahá's Divine Plan Holy Year</b>	
<b>BE 149</b>	<b>1992</b>
<b>Sixth Stage, Second Epoch, Evolution of 'Abdu'l-Bahá's Divine Plan Three Year Plan (1993-1995)</b>	
First Year - Three Year Plan	
BE 150	1993
Seventh International Convention	
Second Year - Three Year Plan	
BE 151	1994
Third Year - Three Year Plan	
BE 152	1995
<b>Seventh Stage, Second Epoch, Evolution of 'Abdu'l-Bahá's Divine Plan Four Year Plan (1996-1999):</b>	
First Year - Four Year Plan	
BE 153	1996
Second Year - Four Year Plan	
BE 154	1997
Third Year of the Four Year Plan	
BE 155	1998
Eighth International Convention	
Fourth Year of the Four Year Plan	
BE 156	1999
<b>Eighth Stage, Second Epoch, Evolution of 'Abdu'l-Bahá's Divine Plan Twelve Month (One Year) Plan (2000)</b>	
BE 157	2000
<b>Fifth Epoch, Formative Age<sup>1</sup></b>	
<b>Conference of the Counsellors January 2001 Opening of the International Teaching Centre</b>	
<b>Ninth Stage, Second Epoch, Evolution of 'Abdu'l-Bahá's Divine Plan</b>	

<b>First Five Year Plan (2001-2006)</b>	
First Year of the First Five Year Plan	
BE 158	2001
Second Year of the First Five Year Plan	
BE 159	2002
Third Year of the First Five Year Plan	
BE 160	2003
Ninth International Convention (not held due events) 23 May 2003-Universal House of Justice Appointment of ITC Counsellors for 5 year terms	
Fourth Year of the First Five Year Plan	
BE 161	2004
Fifth Year of the First Five Year Plan Conference of the Counsellors, December 2005	
BE 162	2005
<b>Second Five Year Plan</b>	
First Year of the Second Five Year Plan	
BE 163	2006
Second Year of the Second Five Year Plan	
BE 164	2007
Third Year of the Second Five Year Plan	
BE 165	2008
Tenth International Convention	
Fourth Year of the Second Five Year Plan	
BE 166	2009
Fifth Year of the Second Five Year Plan	
BE 167	2010
<b>Third Five Year Plan</b>	
First Year of the Third Five Year Plan	
BE 168	2011
Second Year of the Third Five Year Plan	
BE 169	2012
Third Year of the Third Five Year Plan	
BE 170	2013
Eleventh International Convention	
Fourth Year of the Third Five Year Plan	
BE 171	2014
Fifth Year of the Third Five Year Plan	
BE 172	2015
<b>Fourth Five Year Plan</b>	
First Year of the Fourth Five Year Plan	
BE 173	2016
Second Year of the Fourth Five Year Plan	
BE 174	2017

<sup>7</sup>The Universal House of Justice announced the Two Year Subsidiary Plan 1990-1992 to the Bahá'ís of the World in its message dated 8 February 1990 re East Europe and the Soviet Union [BW XX:195-224]

<sup>1</sup> The Universal House of Justice announced to the Bahá'ís of the World that the Faith now enters the Fifth Epoch of its Formative Age in its message dated 16 January 2001.

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Third Year of the Fourth Five Year Plan	
BE 175	2018
Twelfth International Convention	
Fourth Year of the Fourth Five Year Plan	
BE 176	2019
Fifth Year of the Fourth Five Year Plan	
BE 177	2020
<b>One Year Plan</b>	
<b>Third Epoch , Evolution of 'Abdu'l-Bahá's Divine Plan<sup>1</sup></b>	
BE 178	2021
BE 179	2022
BE 180	2023
Thirteenth International Convention	

<sup>75</sup> 'The Universal House of Justice announces "Third Epoch of the Master's Divine Plan has begun. Stage by stage, epoch after epoch shall His Plan unfold, until the light of the Kingdom illumines every heart." Ridvan message 2021.

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