

Baha'i Tapestry 2018



Baha'i Prayer

Be generous in prosperity,
and thankful in adversity.

Be fair in judgment,
and guarded in thy speech.

Be a lamp unto those
who walk in darkness,
and a home to the stranger.

Be eyes to the blind,
and a guiding light
unto the feet of the erring.

Be a breath of life to
the body of humankind,
a dew to the soil
of the human heart,
and a fruit upon the tree of humility.



Essentially a mystical faith, and a new faith, (begun in the mid-1800's), the Baha'i teachings focus on the soul's relationship with the eternal, unknowable essence of God, and recommend daily prayer and meditation to everyone. In the center of our central motif is the Arabic symbol for "the Greatest Name of God". This symbol is frequently found in Baha'i Houses of Worship.

The number nine is significant: the number of perfection, completion and fulfillment. The Baha'i star is generally shown with 9 points. The center of the center motif is this 9-pointed star, with lacy swirls representing so much of the beauty and grace of the decorations on many of the Baha'i Houses of Worship (who have only one per continent).

Baha'is believe in peace, justice, love, altruism and unity. The Baha'i faith teaches the oneness of God, the unity of humanity and the essential harmony of religion. They promote the agreement of science and religion, the equality of the sexes, universal education for all, and the elimination of all prejudice and racism.

We carefully painted the cloth made into the people holding hands including every skin color of humanity. The 9 hearts linking the people are all of different colors and materials. Nature is represented in the flowers, leaves and wood making up the outer limits of the central star. We included other faiths in the beaded symbols in the river of Spirituality.

Birds are frequently used as Baha'i symbols: the balance between male and female, and between people's two powers, one in the material world, and one in the spiritual. How can a bird fly with only one wing?