

“We are in the cycle which began with Adam, and its universal Manifestation is Bahá'u'lláh” FWU, p 54

## THE MAJESTIC PROCESS: CYCLES, ERAS, AGES, EPOCHS and STAGES

The Bahá'í cycle – “...a cycle that must extend over a period of at least five hundred thousand years.” WOB, p 102

The Bahá'í Era- Beginning May 23, 1844 (GPB, p. xi) with the Dispensation of the Báb followed by the Dispensation of Bahá'u'lláh in 1853 which will last at least 1000 years (KA, p. 32, p.196) <sup>1</sup>

<b>The Heroic Age <sup>2</sup></b> (The Primitive, Apostolic Age)			<b>The Formative Age</b> (The Transitional, The Iron Age)											<b>The Golden Age</b>			
<b>First Epoch</b>	<b>Second Epoch</b>	<b>Third Epoch</b>	<b>First Epoch</b>	<b>Second Epoch</b>	<b>Third Epoch</b>	<b>Fourth Epoch</b>	<b>Fifth <sup>3</sup> Epoch</b>					<b>The Kingdom Of God on Earth</b>					
<b>The Evolution of `Abdu'l-Bahá's Divine Plan</b>																	
<b>First Epoch</b>			<b>Second Epoch</b>														
1st Stage	2nd Stage	3rd Stage	1st Stage <sup>5</sup>	2nd Stage <sup>5</sup>	3rd Stage <sup>5</sup>	4th Stage <sup>5</sup>	5th Stage <sup>5</sup>	6th Stage <sup>5</sup>	7th Stage <sup>5</sup>	8th Stage <sup>5</sup>	9th Stage <sup>5</sup>	10th Stage <sup>5</sup>	11th Stage <sup>5</sup>				
1st 7 year Plan	2nd 7 year Plan	10 year Plan	9 year Plan	5 year Plan	7 year Plan	6 year Plan	3 year Plan	4 year Plan	1 year Plan	5 <sup>4</sup> year Plan	5 <sup>4</sup> year Plan	5 <sup>4</sup> year Plan	5 <sup>4</sup> year Plan				
1844	1853	1892	1921	1937 1944	1946 1953	1953 1963	1964 1973	1974 1979	1979 1986	1986 1992	1993 1996	1996 2000	2001	2001 2006	2006 2011	2011 2016	2016 2021
Ministry of The Báb	Ministry of Bahá'u'lláh	Ministry of `Abdu'l-Bahá	Ministry of Shoghi Effendi	HoC 6		<b>Universal House of Justice</b>											

1. The Dispensation of the Báb: 1844 – 1853; The Dispensation of Bahá'u'lláh 1853 – to at least 1000 years
2. The Heroic Age terminates with the passing of `Abdu'l-Bahá (GPB, p. xiv). Also more particularly with the passing of the Greatest Holy Leaf in 1932 (WOB, p. 98)
3. Fifth Epoch of the Formative Age entered. (UHJ letter 16<sup>th</sup> January 2001)
4. The 5 Year Plan begins a series of four 5 Year Plans from 2001 – 2021, culminating in the centenary of the inception of the Formative Age. (UHJ letter Ridván 2001)
5. Those using this chart should be aware that the Universal House of Justice has not assigned numbers to its teaching plans. (E-mail 13 June 2006 from the Universal House of Justice Dept. of Sec.) The numbers provided are those used by the compiler of this chart for convenience of reference in study classes.
6. Ministry of the Hands of the Cause. 1957 - 1963