



Religion In Life Program

Bahá'í Faith



Published for the Community by Scouts Canada

Religion in Life Program

Membership in Scouts Canada is open to all girls and boys who wish to make the promise, regardless of race, colour or creed. The purpose of the Scouts program is to assist girls and boys in character development by encouraging them to be responsible citizens of their country. An important part of the program is to assist in the spiritual growth of each girl or boy in their own religious community. Scouts Canada upholds the principle that specific religious instruction is the responsibility of parents and religious authorities.

The Emblem

Although, there is no official Bahá'í symbol, the nine pointed star is often used as a symbol of our Faith. Nine is the highest numerical digit and as such, symbolized comprehensiveness, culmination and perfection.

Requirements

The requirements for the Religion in Life program differ in each faith and denomination and are prepared nationally by the Churches or religious bodies to suit their particular needs.

Instruction

It is the responsibility of the group/section committee and leadership team to arrange for instruction of candidates with the candidate's own spiritual leader or appointee.

Presentation

Presentation of the emblem is made by the candidate's spiritual advisor and can form an impressive part of a regular Scout meeting, a church service, or a special evening for parents/guardians.

Stages

The Religion in Life program is in five progressive stages, colour-coded and adapted to the age groups concerned.

Stage 1 - Grey Border (about 7–8–9)

Stage 2 - Green Border (about 10–11–12)

Stage 3 - Blue Border (about 13–14–15)

Stage 4 - Red Border (15+)

Stage 5 - Tan Border (adults)

Candidates may start at any stage appropriate to their age and capabilities. Only one emblem - the latest stage earned is worn.

Where Obtainable

The emblem may be obtained from provincial offices or through regular badge channels.

Where Worn

See Scouts Canada *By-Law, Policies and Procedures*.

National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'í of Canada

Policy: The examiner for the award should be appointed by the local Spiritual Assembly or Group although Bahá'ís may undertake this responsibility. No one is eligible for the next stage until the preceding stages have been passed, but one may proceed from one stage to the next when ready, regardless of age.

Basic Requirements: Since the Bahá'í Faith accepts all religions, boys and girls of any religion may study and be tested for their knowledge of the Bahá'í Faith.

The Promise: The object of this study is to help young people understand God's promise to mankind as found in the teachings of Bahá'u'lláh and His World Order. Love of service to God involves daily prayer as well as obedience to the Queen and the governments of the land. Work done in the spirit of service is worship. Bahá'ís labour to promote the well-being and best interests of all humanity regardless of race, colour, or creed.

Requirements

Stage 1

History

Name the four principal figures of the Bahá'í Faith. Explain the English meaning of the titles: the Bab,

Bahá'u'lláh, and `Abdu'l-Bahá.

Name the country of origin of the Faith.

Principles

Know at least two of the Twelve Principles and give a simple explanation of those chosen.

Laws

Know at least one obligatory Law and when it is observed.

Prayer

Know at least the Noon-Day Prayer, and the "Remover of Difficulties" prayer.

Covenant

Explain what the word "Covenant" means.

Administration

Know what a Local Spiritual Assembly is (how many persons and how chosen).

All Religions

Explain simply what is meant by the term "Manifestation of God".

Name one other Manifestation of God, apart from Bahá'u'lláh and the Bab, and tell when and where He lived.

Stage 2

History

Give the Station of the four principal figures of Bahá'í Faith.

Give the date of the year of the Declaration of the Bab, and to whom He first declared Himself.

Give the date of the year of the Declaration of Bahá'u'lláh, and where this took place.

Principles

Know and explain five of the Twelve Principles.

Laws

Know at least two obligatory Laws and when they are observed.

Prayer

Know by heart the Healing Prayer, and one other not learned in Stage 1.

Covenant

Explain what the Covenant of Bahá'u'lláh is.

Administration

Name the three levels of Assembly in Bahá'í Administration.

Explain what the Nineteen-Day Feast is.

All Religions

Explain why mankind needs a Manifestation of God, and name three Manifestations

Stage 3

History

Explain the relationship of the Stations of the four principal figures of the Bahá'í Faith to each other.

Give the calendar dates of the Declaration of the Bab and Bahá'u'lláh.

Name the city where Mulla Husayn met the Bab and the city where the Bab was martyred.

Give the day and the year of His martyrdom.

Principles

Know and explain simply eight of the Twelve Principles.

Laws

Know at least three obligatory Laws and when they are observed.

Prayer

Know by heart the Prayer for Canada and one other not learned in Stage 2.

Covenant

Who is the Centre of the Covenant of Bahá'u'lláh? In which of the Writings is this fact found?

Administration

From where does the Universal House of Justice get its authority?

All Religions

Name five Manifestations and some of the countries to which Their teachings spread.

Stage 4

History

Give a short account of the life of Bahá'u'lláh,

including some knowledge of His family background, early childhood, and the events of His life in exile.

Principles

Know and explain the basic meaning of the Twelve Principles.

Laws

Know at least four obligatory Laws and why they must be obeyed.

Prayer

Know by heart the Tablet of Ahmad and one other prayer not learned in prior stages.

Covenant

Explain how the Covenant provides protection for the Bahá'í Faith.

Administration

Explain the method of election for the three levels of Assemblies in Bahá'í

Tell briefly the function of each.

Explain what is meant by the term "Hand of the Cause" and tell what their functions are.

Give a brief explanation of the Continental Boards of Counsellors and Auxiliary Board Members.

All Religions

Name six Manifestations, the religions They founded and why it was necessary to have more than One.

Explain why Bahá'u'lláh is known as "The Promised One of All Ages'.

Stage 5

History

The history of the Faith involves ages and epochs. Give a brief account of those stages which this Faith has passed through so far and explain its ultimate goal.

Principles

The Twelve Principles cover some, but not all, of Bahá'u'lláh's social teachings. Name five others and explain their importance.

Laws

The Most Holy book sets forth the laws and ordinances of Bahá'u'lláh's Dispensation. Show how it is more than a "mere code of laws". Explain what benefits will be gained by humanity from the observance of God's commands.

Prayer

Bahá'u'lláh has set forth the law of prayer. What exactly is it, and what guidelines has He given concerning its observance? What is the wisdom of prayer?

Covenant

There are two forms of Covenant mentioned in Bahá'í literature - describe each. What is meant by firmness in the Covenant? Tell what is unique about Bahá'u'lláh's Covenant.

Administration

Describe the role of Shoghi Effendi in the development of the Bahá'í administrative order.

All Religions

Explain how all the great world religions have a common foundation.

What did Bahá'u'lláh mean by 'the Cause of God'? Describe His vision of the future of religion and its implication to human society.



It starts with Scouts.

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