

## **Shíráz : The Báb's Family**

The Báb's relatives and their descendants are known as *Afnán* [means twigs].

The Báb's only child, Ahmad died in infancy, and so the Afnán are not direct descendants of the Báb. The Báb's father who died when the Báb was young had been an only child. So, the Báb did not have any paternal uncles or aunts. His mother however had three brothers. Of these three maternal uncles, the middle uncle was the one closest to the Báb, as he was the one who took care of the Báb, after the death of the Báb's father. The middle uncle was also the first of the three uncles to recognize the station of the Báb. He was taught by Quddús in 1845, when Quddús came to Shíráz after completing the *hajj* with the Báb. The other two uncles, although caring for their sister and their Nephew, did not recognize the station of the Báb until several years after His martyrdom.

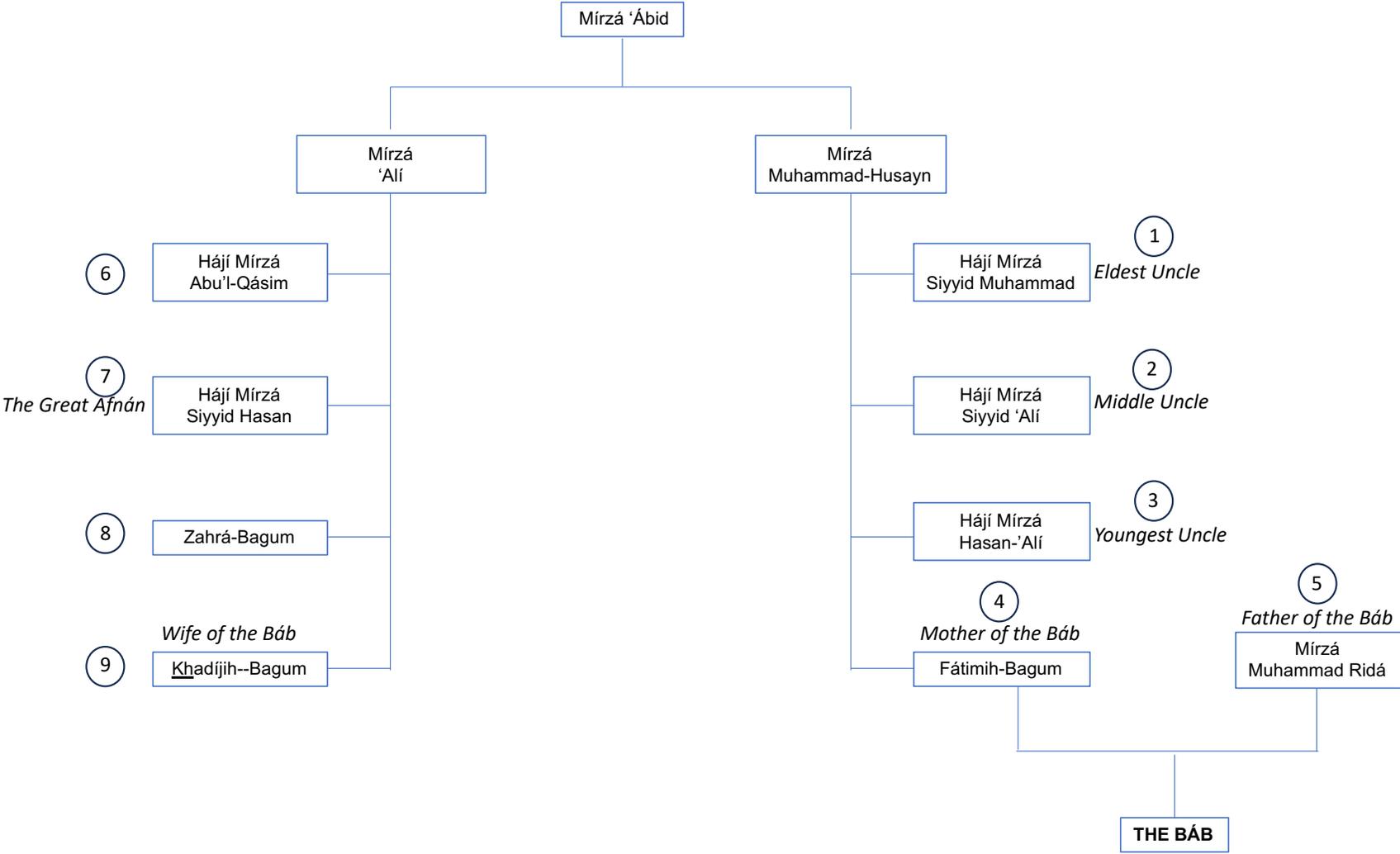
The Báb's wife was the Báb's mother's cousin, although age-wise she was young (she was three years younger than the Báb). The Báb's wife had two brothers and one sister. These two brothers were initially quite opposed to the Báb, but in time become ardent believers.

The chart below shows the Báb's Immediate Family: The First Generation of the Afnáns. A detailed lineage chart of the Báb's family can be found as a fold-out genealogy chart just after the Introduction section in the Dawn-Breakers. For a relatively in-depth English article on the Afnán family see: [The Afnán Family - Some Biographical Notes by Ahang Rabbani](#)

Note on the titles of the Báb's three maternal uncles: In the *Dawn-Breakers* genealogy chart (published 1932), the middle uncle Hájí Mírzá Siyyid 'Alí  is titled *Khál-i-'Azam*  [the Most Great Uncle], and the eldest uncle Hájí Mírzá Siyyid Muhammad  is titled *Khál-i-Asghar*  [the Young or Lesser Uncle] - the Arabic word *asghar* means smaller, lesser, younger or junior. Over the years however, it has become commonplace to use the title *Khál-i-Asghar* [the Young or Lesser Uncle] for the youngest uncle Hájí Mírzá Hasan-'Alí , and the eldest uncle to be titled *Khál-i-Akbar*  [the Great Uncle]. The title of the middle uncle as *Khál-i-'Azam*  [the Most Great Uncle], remains unchanged.

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# The Báb's Immediate Family: The First Generation of the Afnáns

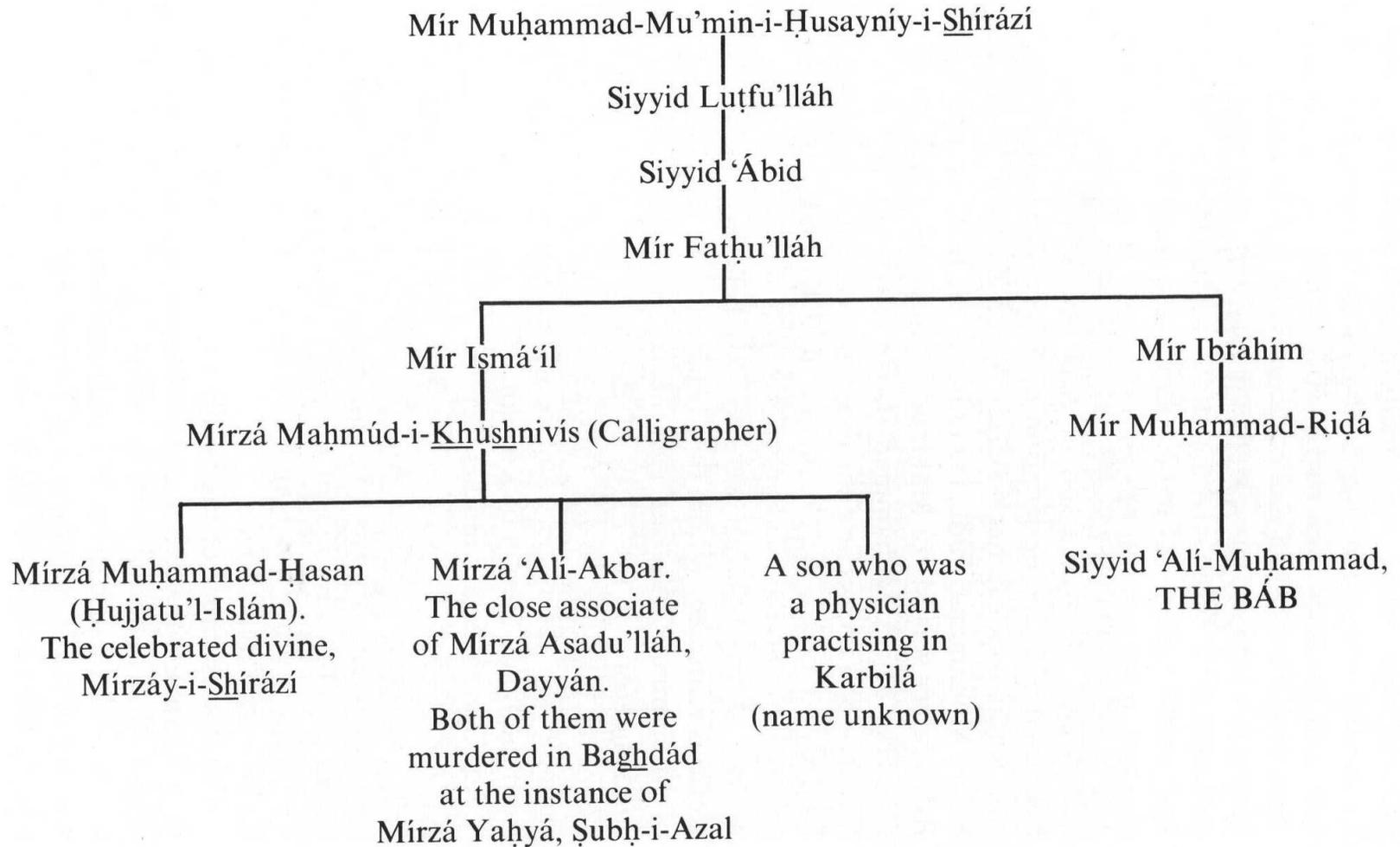


1. The Eldest Uncle - Hájí Mírzá Siyyid Muhammad : Titled *Khál-i-Akbar* [the Great Uncle]. He found it difficult to initially accept the claims of the Báb. At the instigation of Mírzá Áqá, he went to Baghád in 1862 to see Bahá'u'lláh, who revealed the Kitáb-i-Íqán in answer to his questions. He then became a firm believer first in the Báb and then eventually in Bahá'u'lláh. He had three sons and two daughters. One of his sons (Hájí Mírzá Muhammad Taqí) was the chief builder of the first House of Worship (in Ishqábád). See [Portrait: Hájí Mírzá Siyyid Muhammad](#).
2. The Middle Uncle - The Middle Uncle Hájí Mírzá Siyyid 'Alí : Titled *Khál-i-'Azam* [the Most Great Uncle]. He raised the Báb, was the first believer in Shíráz after the Letters of the Living (was taught by Quddús in June 1846), and eventually martyred - he was one of the Seven Martyrs of Tihrán (early 1850 - a few months before the martyrdom of the Báb). This was as prophesied by the Báb. Khál-i-'Azam had only one son, Mírzá Javád, who died in Jeddah at nineteen years of age, shortly after the martyrdom of the Báb. See [Portrait: Hájí Mírzá Siyyid 'Alí](#).
3. The Youngest Uncle - Hájí Mírzá Hasan-'Alí : Titled *Khál-i-Asghar* [the Young Uncle; (in Arabic, "asghar" means smaller, younger or junior)]. His residence was in Yazd. Similar to the eldest uncle, he found it difficult to initially accept the claims of the Báb but did so eventually. He became a believer in both the Báb and Bahá'u'lláh (sometime after 1868). He had four sons and one daughter. See [Portrait: Hájí Mírzá Hasan-'Alí](#).
4. Mother of the Báb - Fátimih-Bagum : She recognized the station of the Báb, some years after His Martyrdom (through the efforts of teachers sent by Bahá'u'lláh). See [Portrait: Fátimih-Bagum](#).
5. Father of the Báb - Mírzá Muhammad Ridá : He died while the Báb was a child. He did not have any siblings. [After His father's death, the Báb and His mother moved to the Middle Uncle's house, where He was raised by the middle uncle. The Báb lived with there until His marriage, after which He moved to His own house together with His wife and mother.] See [Portrait: Mírzá Muhammad Ridá](#).
6. 1<sup>st</sup> Brother of the Wife of the Báb - Hájí Mírzá Abu'l-Qásim : Known as *Saqqá-Khání*. His residence was Shíráz. He was initially hostile to the Báb, but eventually recognized the station of both the Báb and Bahá'u'lláh (about a year or so after his brother *Afnán-i-Kabír*). He had five sons and three daughters. One of his grandsons, Mírzá Hádí, married 'Abdu'l-Baha's eldest daughter, Díyá'íyyih, and their first-born was Shoghi Effendi. See [Portrait: Hájí Mírzá Abu'l-Qásim](#).
7. 2<sup>nd</sup> Brother of the Wife of the Báb - Hájí Mírzá Siyyid Hasan : Known as *Afnán-i-Kabír* (means the Great Afnán). His residence was Yazd. Like his brother, he also was initially hostile to the Báb, but eventually recognized the station of both the Báb and Bahá'u'lláh (this happened sometime after 1868; alongside the Youngest Uncle who was also in Yazd). He had six sons and five daughters. One of his sons, Mírzá Muhsin married one of 'Abdu'l-Baha's daughters, Tubà. See [Portrait: Hájí Mírzá Siyyid Hasan](#).
8. Sister of the Wife of the Báb - Zahrá-Bagum : She had two sons. Only one (Mírzá Áqá) survived. Mírzá Áqá recognized the station of the Báb at the age of thirteen, through his aunt (the wife of the Báb). He later led both his parents and other Afnán to

recognize the station of the Báb. Mírzá Áqá was the third Afnán to recognize the station of the Báb (the first being the Báb's wife and the second being the Báb's Middle Uncle - *Khál-i-'Azam*). See [Portrait: Zahrá-Bagum](#).

9. [The Wife of the Báb - Khadíjih—Bagum](#) : Although she was the cousin of the mother of the Báb, she was much younger than her. Khadíjih Bagum was even three years younger than the Báb. Their house was next door to the Báb's Middle Uncle's house, so she was neighbors with the Báb as He grew up. Consequent to their marriage, she and the Báb had a son, Ahmad, who died in infancy. See [Portrait: Khadíjih—Bagum](#).
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## The Paternal Genealogy of the Báb



Sources:

Genealogy of the Báb in *The Dawn-Breakers* (foldout after the Introduction)

Balyuzi, *Some Eminent Bahá'ís in the time of Bahá'u'lláh*, Chapter 17

Balyuzi, *Bahá'u'lláh - King of Glory*, Chapter 41

Balyuzi, *Khadíjeh Bagum*

Bahaipedia

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