Introduction

The purpose of this proposal is to request that a codepoint be allocated in the UCS for the nine pointed star character, which is commonly used by members of the Bahá’í Faith.

In Baha’i Literature, different forms of stars were used that are not standardized from one publishing to another (examples below). The presence of the nine pointed star will help standardize across the different publications. Adding to that, for religions lacking a representation of their place of worship, it is suggested to use the Place of Worship emoji with the representing symbol of their faith, of which there are exactly none feasible at the moment.

In terms of Unicode, the Nine Pointed Star is one of the most common symbols of the Bahá’í Faith, specifically the most distinctive one other than maybe the Ringstone Symbol (which would be extremely less universally usable), and it would help provide a near complete lineup of religions of the world; currently, there are many religious symbols supported via the Unicode standard - including Jewish (Star of David), Christian, Muslim (Star and Crescent), Sikh, Buddhists, and Wiccan (five pointed star).

The nine pointed star will also introduce a popular star character to the list of available stars in Unicode.
Naming convention
NINE POINTED STAR is a widely accessible and commonly used term for the symbol provided. It follows the same naming standard as other available stars in the unicode (number of points - form of the star - color).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Symbol</th>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>⭐️</td>
<td>U+2734</td>
<td>Eight Pointed Black Star</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>⭐️</td>
<td>U+2735</td>
<td>Eight Pointed Pinwheel Star</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>⭐️</td>
<td>U+2736</td>
<td>Six Pointed Black Star</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>⭐️</td>
<td>U+2737</td>
<td>Eight Pointed Rectilinear Black Star</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>⭐️</td>
<td>U+2738</td>
<td>Heavy Eight Pointed Rectilinear Black Star</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>⭐️</td>
<td>U+2739</td>
<td>Twelve Pointed Black Star</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Figure 2: Current list of stars in Dingbats*

The regular compound nine pointed star, with Schlӓfli symbol of \{9/3\} or 3\{3\}, is the most common popular representation among Baha’is. However, the regular star version - the Schlӓfli symbol of \{9/4\} - is also acceptable, but not as popular.

*Figure 3: Snapshot from Wikipedia on nine-pointed star formation*  
(https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Enneagram_(geometry))
Other common usage of the star in Bahá’í context uses an outline and filled version, although this is not prescribed in any way. Table 1 provides more variation of stars.

In addition, while fonts can be introduced to provide a variety of options to the user, Baha’i organizations do not have a standard font library nor have sufficient resources to deploy specialized fonts. The need for variation of nine pointed star is better understood in the section of “Use of Nine Pointed Star”, as different contexts may demand a star format that is legible on paper, stone, leather or other surfaces. In addition, the significance of access to those symbols for Baha’is around the world, especially users who may not have access to exclusive fonts, ensures that no Baha’i individual is disenfranchised from representing their Faith in the best manner to them.

In terms of placement, the nine pointed star should ideally be added to the current lineup of religious symbols or stars. In practical terms this would for example imply receiving the same treatment as the other symbols with a religious meaning as to being rendered as an emoji in instant messaging context. This would also enable the rendering of a symbol for a Bahá’í House of Worship, of which there are a growing number in the world.

For the purpose of this proposal, I have recommended that the nine pointed star be placed in the Geometric Shapes Extended (https://www.unicode.org/charts/PDF/U1F780.pdf) block (1F7D0 - 1F7FF). Religious symbols have been placed in different blocks, including Miscellaneous Symbols (2600 - 26FF), Dingbats (2700 - 27BF), but no blocks were available.

Table 1: Proposed 9 Pointed Star Characters

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code Point</th>
<th>Glyph</th>
<th>Character Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1F7D9</td>
<td><img src="1F7D9.png" alt="Glyph" /></td>
<td>NINE POINTED STAR</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

History

The nine pointed star is also one of the most used symbols and shapes by the adherents of the members of The Bahá’í Faith. The Bahá’í Faith is a religion that was founded by its prophet Baha’u’llah in 1863. There are over 7 million Bahá’í adherents worldwide, and Bahá’í institutions are recognized by many governments in the world - including the United States.

---

1 Pew Research Center# states “The Bahá’í faith began in Persia (now Iran) in the 19th century. Bahá’ís are widely dispersed across many countries, with significant populations in India, the United States, Kenya and elsewhere.” Adherents.com# (2003) statistics are: 7 million Bahá’ís around the world, ranking as the 13th largest global religion.
Bahá’ís also participate in political administrations, such as the United Nations, providing insight and perspective towards achieving world unity through discourses that promote the betterment of mankind.

Given the growth of followers of the Bahá’í Faith year over year, and the prominence of the Bahá’í Faith around the world, the availability of the Bahá’í icon would be significant to practicing Bahá’ís around the world.

In a non-Baha’i context, the nine pointed star is a common mathematical shape that consists of three intersecting triangles. The nine pointed star is also called a Nonagram, Enneagram, or Star of Goliath. In pop-culture, the nine pointed star also represents the band Slipknot, where they use the regular compound 9 pointed star figure as a symbol.

Significance of Nine in the Baha’i Faith

Shoghi Effendi, Central Figure and the Guardian of the Baha’i Administration from 1921 until His passing in 1957, gave significant commentary to the significance of the number 9, which Bahá’ís represent as 9 pointed star. In a letter written on behalf of Shoghi Effendi, he clearly explains that there are three reason for the significance of the number nine:

First, regarding the significance of the number nine: Its importance as a symbol used so often in various connections by the believers lies in three facts: first, it symbolizes the nine great world religions of which we have any definite historical knowledge, including the Babi and Baha’i Revelations; second, it represents the number of perfection, being the highest single number; third, it is the numerical value of the word ‘Bahá’.

(Lights of Guidance, From a letter written on behalf of Shoghi Effendi to an individual believer, July 9, 1939)

Shoghi Effendi’s reference to the “numerical value of the word ‘Bahá’” in the quotation is based on the Abjad numeral system, a system based on Arabic, Hebrew and other semetic languages dating back to before the 8th Century. In this system, each letter of the alphabet represents a number, so the first letter of the Arabic alphabet, alif, is used to represent the number ‘1’; the second letter, bā’, is used to represent the number ‘2’, and so on.
This is clarified in another letter to a Baha’i believer by Shoghi Effendi:

_In the Semitic languages—both Arabic and Hebrew—every letter of the alphabet had a numerical value, so instead of using figures to denote numbers they used letters and compounds of letters. Thus every word had both a literal meaning and also a numerical value. This practice is no more in use but during the time of Baha’u’llah and the Bab it was quite in vogue among the educated classes, and we find it very much used in the Bayan. As the word Baha also stood for the number nine it could be used interchangeably with it._

(Lights of Guidance, From a letter written on behalf of the Guardian to an individual believer, February 19, 1932)

**Use of Nine pointed Star**

When searching for the term “Bahá’í”, the presence of the nine-pointed star cannot be disregarded. The symbol is used widely in different areas of life, including - but not limited to - literature, architecture, gravestones, signage, and websites (for example, [https://bahaiteachings.org/](https://bahaiteachings.org/) uses the nine pointed symbol in its logo). Additional references are provided at the end of this proposal.

**Nine pointed star bullet points in newsletter**

*Figure 5: Carta Noticiosa newsletter, National Baha’i Assembly of El Salvador, 11/2003*
Nine pointed star used in calendar to mark important Baha’i events

Figure 5: Kalendar 154 Badi, National Baha’i Assembly of Turkey, 1997 A.D.
c) “Aquel que es la Eterna Verdad, exaltada sea Su gloria, siempre ha amado la fidelidad. El bien sea sobre aquel que adorne su templo con su vestimenta y se honre con esta la mayor de las distinciones”.

“La honradez, la prudencia y la honestidad son, verdaderamente, los bellos adornos de Dios para Sus criaturas. Felices los que comprenden, y que el bien sea con los que adquieran tales virtudes”.

“Adherios siempre a la cuerda de la honradez y asios al borde del manto de la veracidad: así os lo pide Aquel que es el Verdadero, Aquel en quien confian. Dios es mi testigo, la honradez es una luz que brilla intensamente desde los cielos y conduce a la exaltación de la Causa de Dios, el Omnipotente, el Incomparable, el Todoalabado. Quien ha permanecido fiel a la Alianza ha sido firme en su adhesión a la honradez, mientras que los que lo han repudiado, están en grave error”. (LH, 24, 25 y 26)

Figure 6: Selección de los escritos de Bahá’u’lláh y el Báb para la reflexión y la profundización, revisado y aprobado por Asamblea Espiritual Nacional de los Bahá’ís de Bolivia
おお、あなたの大いなる神聖は私を守護しています。あなたの愛の胸の中で私を愛してください。祈りの冊子では、私を愛してくださる御祖父母方の名も書かれています。あなたが私を愛してくださることで、私の成長を促し、この愛の冊子に存在するあなたの愛の冊子で私を愛してくださる御祖父母方の名も書かれています。あなたが私を愛してくださることで、私の成長を促し、この愛の冊子に存在するあなたの愛の冊子で私を愛してくださる御祖父母方の名も書かれています。あなたが私を愛してくださることで、私の成長を促し、この愛の冊子に存在するあなたの愛の冊子で私を愛してくださる御祖父母方の名も書かれています。あなたが私を愛してくださることで、私の成長を促し、この愛の冊子に存在するあなたの愛の冊子で私を愛してくださる御祖父母方の名も書かれています。あなたが私を愛してくださることで、私の成長を促し、この愛の冊子に存在するあなたの愛の冊子で私を愛してくださる御祖父母方の名も書かれています。あなたが私を愛してくださることで、私の成長を促し、この愛の冊子に存在するあなたの愛の冊子で私を愛してくださる御祖父母方の名も書かれています。あなたが私を愛してくださることで、私の成長を促し、この愛の冊子に存在するあなたの愛の冊子で私を愛してくださる御祖父母方の名も書かれています。あなたが私を愛してくださることで、私の成長を促し、この愛の冊子に存在するあなたの愛の冊子で私を愛してくださる御祖父母方の名も書かれています。あなたが私を愛してくださることで、私の成長を促し、この愛の冊子に存在するあなたの愛の冊子で私を愛してくださる御祖父母方の名も書かれています。あなたが私を愛してくださることで、私の成長を促し、この愛の冊子

Figure 7: Baha'i inori no sho (バハイの祈り), p.213. Prayer book in Japanese

Figure 8: Baha'i inori no sho (バハイの祈り), p.213. Prayer book in Japanese
Nine pointed star used in map and map legends

Figure 9: Map - The early history of the Bahá’í Faith, Clayton Hamre
(https://www.reddit.com/r/bahai/comments/35myqw/map_the_early_history_of_the_bah%C3%A1%C3%A7faith_1650x1275/)

Figure 10: Zoomed image of the legend from Figure 9, highlighting the use of a 9 pointed star as an element inside the map legend.
Figure 12: Image of a physical, hardcopy Map of Haifa with Nine Pointed Star legends highlighting important Baha’i sites. Baha’i World Center, Haifa.
Nine pointed star used on gravestone markers

Figure 13: Example of tombstones in the U.S. with nine pointed stars

Nine pointed star used as signage for Baha'i Centers

Figure 14: Example of nine pointed stars as signage for Baha'i Centers in the U.S.

Nine pointed star added to logos to indicate Baha'i affiliation

Figure 15: Bahá'í Publishing Logo (US Trademark Office: Serial Number 72221623)
Nine Pointed Star in Bahá’í Literature

Currently, the governing institution of the Bahá’í Faith employs the five-pointed star and nine-pointed star in its Holy Writings and literature to define characters similar to a comma or period.

Currently, Baha’i institutions use the nine-pointed star in a graphical format at the end of each of their reports, guidance, or writings. Some examples can be viewed here (with screenshots below):

https://bahaiworld.bahai.org/library/is-economic-justice-possible/
https://bahaiworld.bahai.org/library/a-new-cycle-of-human-power/
https://bahaiworld.bahai.org/library/the-light-was-in-the-darkness/

---

**Conclusion**

The pursuit of racial justice and unity have been defining aspirations of the Bahá’í community of the United States since the earliest days of its establishment in the country. Indeed, for well over a century, it has dedicated itself to racial unity. During periods of racial turmoil, it has contributed its share to the healing of the nation’s racial wounds. ’Abdu’l-Bahá provided the example during his visit in 1912 and set in motion a race amity movement in 1921 for the Bahá’í community to build upon. Baha’is continued this work for decades with some fits and starts, but always moving forward under the inspired guidance of the Guardian of the Faith and then the Universal House of Justice.

---

This consecration of humanity’s creative pursuits would, as ’Abdu’l-Bahá foresaw it, in the centuries ahead give rise to “a new art, a new architecture, fused of all the beauty of the past, but new.” Despite all of its cultural ferment and experimentation, then, the early years of the twentieth century—with its “landscape of false confidence and deep despair, of scientific enlightenment and spiritual gloom,” a landscape on which the “luminous figure of ’Abdu’l-Bahá” appeared—might thus be seen merely as the first streaks of the dawn of a “new cycle of human power.”

*The author is grateful to Debra Bricker Balkan, Hari Ducherty, Dannah Edwards, Sky Glabush, Jan Jasion, Michael Karlberg, Arlette Manasseh, Anne Perry, and Nathan Rainsford for their assistance in the preparation of this essay.*

---

**Figure 16:** Screenshots from Baha’i World Center website that include nine pointed star in its inline text
Demand and the Need of Nine Pointed Stars

This proposal is an individual proposal not brought forward by any Bahá’í organization specifically. However, the governing Bahá’í body (Bahá’í World Center) has provided a lot of materials and supporting documents of available usage of the nine pointed stars. Additional materials are attached to this proposal’s appendix.

Historically, followers of the Bahá’í Faith were not able to place the nine pointed stars in Bahá’í literature due to the lack of nine pointed stars in printing and rotary presses of the time. Evidence of this can be seen in the figure below:

---

**Figure 17:** Side by side comparison of Al-Kitab al-Aqdas, the most Holy Book, Baha’u’llah.

The version on the left is the 1943 version published in Tehran, the version on the right is the 1899 version published in Russia. Due to lack of availability of nine pointed stars, members of the Bahá’í Faith utilized other available stars in the region (six pointed stars and eight pointed stars) in Bahá’í Literature.

With the presence of Unicode standards and symbols, members of the Baha’i Faith will have a common star standard for their literature and have an appropriate way to mark religious affairs like places of worship in line with the other already represented religions, as there is no existing symbol that could work for this appropriately so far.

**Unicode Properties**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code Point</th>
<th>Glyph</th>
<th>Character Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1F7D9</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="NINE POINTED STAR" /></td>
<td>NINE POINTED STAR</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1F7D9;NINE POINTED STAR;So;0;ON;;;;;N;;;;;
Maps with 9-pointed stars

Table of Contents
The early history of the Bahá’í Faith [1650x1275] ............................................................... 2
Places named by ‘Abdu’l-Bahá in the Tablets of the Divine Plan ....................................... 3
Acre/Haifa Area Map .................................................................................................................. 4
Maps of ‘Akká and Haifa .......................................................................................................... 5
Events – Duluth Baha’i ............................................................................................................ 7
A map showing activities of persecution of the Bahá’ís in Iran ............................................. 8
Bahá’í Centers in Boston ......................................................................................................... 9
An image of the Bahá’í star, with the symbols of the world’s major faiths represented within it. ...... 10
Bahá’í Sommerfest 2019 Map ................................................................................................. 11
Household devotional meetings light up the Midwest Region ............................................... 12
The Evolutionary Tree of Religion .......................................................................................... 13
The early history of the Bahá’í Faith [1650x1275]

Posted by u/Thomas_the_Slav 6 years ago

Map: The early history of the Bahá’í Faith [1650x1275]

i.imgur.com/kOxnouF ...

Map found at https://www.reddit.com/r/bahai/comments/35myqw/map_the_early_history_of_the_bah%C3%A1%C3%AD_faith_1650x1275/

More information about the map at https://bahai-library.com/slav_origins_bahai_faith
Places named by ‘Abdu'l-Bahá in the Tablets of the Divine Plan (Library has a physical copy)

Map found at https://bahai-library.com/map_places_named_tdp

Full size version at https://bahai-library.com/images/b/bw17_map1_places_named_abdulbaha_1977_full.jpg

Maps of ‘Akká and Haifa (library has physical copy)
Events – Duluth Baha’i

Map found at
https://www.pinterest.ca/pin/327566572867754376/
A map showing activities of persecution of the Bahá’ís in Iran

Map found at https://bahaipedia.org/Persecution
Bahá'í Centers in Boston

Map found at https://pluralism.org/bahai-in-boston
An image of the Bahá’í star, with the symbols of the world’s major faiths represented within it.

Map found at https://minorityrights.org/2013/04/10/a-pakistani-bahais-story/
Bahá'í Sommerfest 2019 Map

Map found at https://undergradresearch.northwestern.edu/2019/06/28/langenhain-bahai-sommerfest/
Household devotional meetings light up the Midwest Region

Map found at https://midwestbahai.org/devotions-points-of-light/
Title of blog post: Here's an awesome map of the evolution of world religions

9-Pointed Star with text.

Agenda Bahá’í 2007 163/164 EB : Bahá’í planner 2007 163/164 BE.
Celebração do tempo: 2009 ano internacional da astronomia.

---

Louvros da véspera do Buda

Quando nascestes, primeira entre os homens,
Destes sente passar sobre esta terra e desse mun:
- Fas aos supremo neste mun -
- Perante Vos, o Sabio, eu presta obediência.
- Em primeiro lugar Ele deceu do palácio Budista
- E entrou na sede de sua mãe em Rajagaha.
- No parque de Lumbalí a Rodenora narra:
- Perante o Mago Dó Rei dos reis eu presta obediência.
- Ele foi educado no palácio por cientistas e seus amigos e passou a aprender a brincar e a divertir-se na casa dos Sádhus.
- Em Dhamarassu Ele tomou Gāpā por mulher:
- Perante Aquelle que é senor por nestes três munidos eu presta obediência.

Mas noutros partas da cidade Ele via as quatro espécies de aflições
- E cortou os cabelos dionte do stupa de Vishnudharā,
- Só o de margem da na banchanas socou o paraíso.
- Perante Aquelle que é livre das estrelis e dos dois aborrecimentos eu presta obediência.
- Em Rajagaha a Rodenora realizou o Eça da Buda.
- Perante Aquelle em quem a Sabedoria Ómnicascenti desabrochou eu presta obediência.
- Em Varanasi Ele pôs em movimento a Roda do Dharma e na parque de Jeta realizou grandes infortes.
- Em Kushinara entrou em nérvas:
- Perante Aquelle cujo espírito é como o céu eu presta obediência.

Deste modo, pelo mérito destes breves louvor
- Das Aetas ao Brhaiva, Senhor do Brahma,
- Possuem as acções de todos os seres
- E igualam os do próprio Sagredo.

-Buddhism: its Polisies – Missões, Ritos e Tradições
- Foulton Editors, 2006
Declaração de fé: confirmação de declaração de fé.

Ao assinar este cartão, declaro minha crença em Bahá’u’lláh, o Promotor de Deus e Autor da Revelação Bahá’í. Também reconheço o Bahaí, a Scriba Prescogente e Bahá’u’lláh, o Centro da Sucessão, e o verdadeiro exemplo de vós Bahá’í e vós servidores de Seus Era Bernardino. Solicito meu registro na Comunidade Bahá’í, comprometendo-me a Bahá’í Faça estabelecer princípios e leis que se devem seguir. Instituições sagradas: em que deve obedecer.

Nome: ____________________________ D. de Nascimento: ______________
Endereço Residencial: ____________________________
Rua: ____________________________ Bairro: ____________ CEP: ____________
Tel: ____________________________ Endereço Comercial: ____________________________
E-mail: ____________________________ Cargo: ____________________________
Assinatura: ____________________________ Data: ____________

La Fe Bahá’í

El PRIMER TEMPLE BAHÁ’Í EN AMÉRICA LATINA, PANAMÁ, REPÚBLICA DE PANAMÁ

Los templos bahá’í están dedicados a:
- La unidad de Dios
- La Unidad de Todos los Profetas
- La Unidad del Otero Humano

Las puertas de estos templos están abiertas para la gente de todas las religiones, confesiones, nacionalidades y religiones.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ENERO</th>
<th>FEBRERO</th>
<th>MARZO</th>
<th>ABRIL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAYO</td>
<td>JUNIO</td>
<td>JULIO</td>
<td>AGOSTO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------</td>
<td>-------</td>
<td>-------</td>
<td>--------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEPTIEMBRE</td>
<td>OCTUBRE</td>
<td>NOVIEMBRE</td>
<td>DICIEMBRE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------</td>
<td>-------</td>
<td>-------</td>
<td>--------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

La Comunidad Bahá’í ofrece para toda la comunidad una serie de actividades inspiradas en los principios de unión, paz y armonía que caracterizan a su religión.
- Las Clases para Niños están vinculadas al desarrollo de conceptos espirituales dirigidos a niños de 3 a 13 años.
- Las Jornadas de Cultura ofrecen una serie de eventos en los cuales se estudia la historia de diversas culturas y se realizan encuentros marítimos y esportivos con los clubes Bahá’í de los vecinos.
- La reunión denominada la reunión para una mesa, permite la realización de actividades religiosas que la unidad de Dios y la armonía entre las personas.
- "La que el Señor de bondad como el hombre superior nos ha bendecido como el creador del mundo entero. Los poderes invisibles para la realización del mundo entero a la unidad de todos los hombres en una Comunidad superior, una Fe común."
Thompson-Nicola Bahá’í Summer School 2006, Clearwater Ski Lodge, Clearwater BC, theme, the transforming power- principles underlying the new world order of Bahá’u’lláh, Aug 4-7, 2006.
Examples of Nine Pointed Stars used in Newsletters

1. Carta Noticiosa newsletter

2. Bahá’í listy newsletter
3. Bahá’í World Centre newsletter

4. Österreichische Bahá’í Mitteilungen newsletter
5. **Bahá’í Alemi newsletter**

6. **Star of the West**
Examples of Nine Pointed Stars used in books


9. En alas de los versículos divinos : selección de los escritos de Bahá'u'lláh y el Báb para la reflexión y la profundización / preparado por Manoucher Shoaie ; revisado y aprobado por Asamblea Espiritual Nacional de los Bahá'ís de Bolivia.

10. Oraciones Bahá'ís : Selección de oraciones / reveladas por Bahá'u'lláh, El Báb y 'Abdu'l-Bahá.

Oh, the Places You'll Go!
(In other words, where in the world should you serve?)

The movement itself is a place, when undertaken for the sake of God, both change and a spiritual growth and in a life's change.

No way of construction of the truly pure way. We seek by other than a Greater Head.

With a true the power of understanding. With the change over, the journey.

Now that you've hopefully decided to offer a year of service, it's time to think about where you will serve. This chapter discusses the factors to consider:

- The current goals of the faith and goals of the plan, and how your particular talents and resources can meet them
- Your personal preferences
- Practical aspects, such as finances, health concerns, and your parents' opinions

12. *Bahai inori no sho, Prayer book in Japanese*

- 213 -