

الله

God

Or No God

Islamic Viewpoint vs.
Atheist Viewpoint

CREATION OF THE UNIVERSE

part 4

By Haya Muhammad Eid



الله اعلم
والله اعلم



CREATION OF THE UNIVERSE



The descriptions of creation in the Qur'an are primarily messages from God, rather than factual or historical accounts. They are intended to stimulate the readers or listeners into contemplating the order and magnificence of the universe and thinking about the Creator Who is behind it all. For example, **“Verily, in the creation of the heavens and the earth and in the alternation of night and day are signs for people who exercise their intellect.”** (Qur'an 3:190)

The descriptions of creation are interspersed with verses extolling God's Power, reproaching humankind's ingratitude, and prompting humans to inquisitively ponder over their own creation and this entire universe. For example, **“Do they not look at the camels, how they are created? At the sky, how it is raised? At the mountains, how they are rooted and fixed firm?”**

(Qur'an 22:46)



The Qur'an clearly states that the universe had a beginning, and that God caused that beginning; all that God needs to create anything is to say to it, "Be." "The Originator of the heavens and the earth. When He (God) decrees a matter, He only says to it, 'Be!' – and it is." (Qur'an 2:117)

Describing the creation of the heavens and the earth, the Qur'an states that the universe started as one entity, which was then unstitched or as science explains it – a single, infinitely dense point, which then exploded outwards (the Big Bang). "Have not the disbelievers seen that the heavens and the earth were Ratqan (joined together as one unit, a mass all sewn up), and then We Fataqnahuma (unstitched them, clove them asunder) and made from water every living thing?" (Qur'an 21:30)



Rataqa in Arabic means assembling and joining the pieces of fabric together, which is the opposite of Fataqa (unstitching): separating between two joined or sealed parts at the point of attachment. These two words are used to describe fabric. When a textile fabric is unstitched and its threads are unraveled, it is said, "Fataqa Al-Thawb (the stitching of the dress has come undone)." Accordingly, God's Saying: "...the heavens and the earth were Ratqan..." means they were one whole, interwoven, connected, and inseparable, without space between them, then "...We (God) Fataqnahuma (unstitched them; clove them asunder)." Furthermore, the verb "Fataqa" refers to gentle separation at a weak point.



Explosion is about chaos and destruction rather than creation. From the viewpoint of the Qur'an, everything, including 'the heavens and earth,' was interwoven and inseparable. Fataqa literally translates as 'unstitching,' which typically has to be done carefully. Here, it signifies an accurate and planned process, rather than a random one, which is consistent with the intelligently designed and organized universe that followed. When a tailor undoes the stitches on a piece of fabric, he does so with the utmost care, whereas an explosion disperses the matter in all directions without order or a system.



The Qur'an mentions that the universe, at one point in its origin, was a gaseous mass, from which began the formation of the heavens and the earth. **"Then He (God) turned to the heaven when it was smoke, and said to it and to the earth, 'Come (into being) willingly or unwillingly!' They said, 'We come willingly.'" (41:11)**

Smoke obviously corresponds to the nebular hypothesis put forward by modern science. It proposes that the sun, the earth, and the rest of the solar system formed from a nebula, or a cloud of gas and dust.



The Qur'an also establishes that the universe is not static but is constantly expanding and dynamic. **"With power did We (God) construct the heaven, and verily, We are steadily expanding it."** (51:47)

This means that, since the universe expands, at some specific time in the past the entire universe must have begun this expansion from a single point. In other words, the universe had to have a zero beginning, which implies a **Beginner**



In the 1920s, astronomer Edwin Hubble studied the movement of galaxies and observed that they were continually moving away from each other at an accelerating rate, directly proportional to the distance of the galaxy from the earth. His observation led to the most important astronomical discovery of the 20th century: the universe is expanding. It also provided for the foundation of the Big Bang theory, which requires the creation of the universe from nothing. (Since the parts of the universe are continually moving apart from each other, they must have been a single mass at one point in the past. By going back in time and reversing the process of cosmic expansion, all particles would converge until they shrink back to a point).



The Qur'an is a book of guidance and signs, not science. This guidance comes in different ways; knowledge about the universe and humankind is one of them, which will continue to unfold, over time, by God's Will. "We (God) will show them Our Signs in the universe and in their own selves, until it becomes manifest to them that this (the Qur'an) is the truth."

(Qur'an 41:53)



The Qur'an launches the call to “walk in the earth” to know how the creation started, in the verse stating: **“Say (O Muhammad), ‘Travel throughout the land and see how He originated the creation...’”** (Qur'an 29:20)

God's Statement in the previously mentioned verse clearly indicates that the secrets of the beginning of creation are stored inside the earth – in the rocks, fossils, meteorites, and the deep sea. These secrets and signs that point to the beginning of creation can only be known by walking in the earth and exploring nature.



GOD'S BOOK OF NATURE





ISLAM REGARDS

this universe as a vast book, replete with signs and wonders, which, like the Qur'an, must be explored to gain knowledge of God and His power. Abundant references to the cosmos, nature, and human creation come in the context of testifying to the unlimited power, knowledge, and wisdom of the Creator and to the divine origin of the Qur'an through amazing, recently discovered scientific facts, which were totally unknown 1,400 years ago.

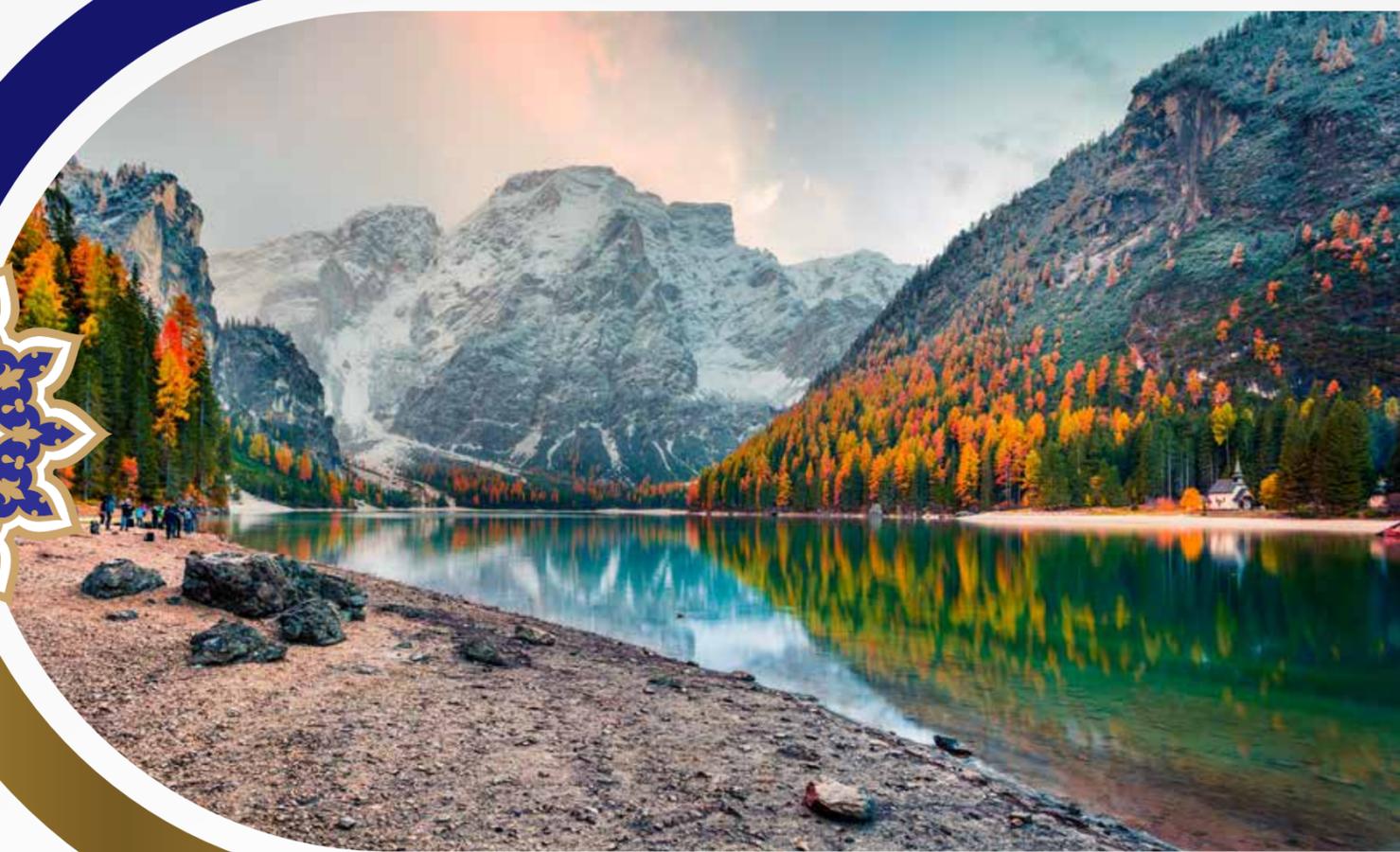


01

“No Indeed! If he does not stop, We will seize him by the forehead; his lying, sinful forehead.”

(Qur'an 96:15-16)

The Qur'an does not call this person a liar, but calls his forehead 'lying' and 'sinful,' and warns him to stop. Recent studies have found that the prefrontal cortex, located in the very front of the brain just behind the forehead, is associated with the ability to generate deception.



02

More than 1,400 years ago, verses 6-7 of Chapter Al-Naba' describes mountains as pegs: **“Have We not made the earth as a bed, and the mountains as pegs?”**

Verse 15 of Chapter Al-Nahl defines their main role as stabilizers of the earth: **“And He has set firm mountains in the earth so that it would not shake with you.”**



03

Verse 14 of Chapter Al-Mu'minun describes the stages of embryonic development 1400 years before modern science: "...then We (God) made the Nutfah (male sperm and female ovum) into an Alaqah (a leech-like clinging clot), then We made the Alaqah into a Mudghah (a chewed-like lump of flesh), then We made bones from that Mudghah, then We clothed the bones with flesh..."



REFLECTIONS

”

The cause of the universe must have been non-material, because if the cause was material/natural, it would be subject to the same laws of decay as the universe. So the cause of the universe's beginning must have been super-natural, i.e., non-material or spirit, a cause outside of space-matter-time. Such a cause would not be subject to the laws of decay and so would not have a beginning. That is, the cause had to be eternal spirit.

“

Creation Scientist Dr. Don Batten



**UNCAUSED
OR SELF-CAUSED
UNIVERSE**



■ For atheists, the universe and all that it contains is the product of mere chance, shaped by mindless, undirected processes of nature without plan, purpose, or meaning; and, ultimately, it does not point to the hand of a Creator.

■ The laws of physics, not the will of God, provide atheists with the real explanation as to how life on earth came into being. The Big Bang was the inevitable consequence of these laws, unaided by any external agency. Such reliance on physical laws unavoidably ascribe to them creative power, when actually, physical laws do not cause anything to happen. They are descriptive, not creative. Like all laws, they must have a lawmaker.



- **A scientific law, according to its definition, is unbreakable (i.e., without exceptions) or else it would not be a law. Yet, from the atheist view, right at its birth the universe broke a basic physical law: SOMETHING CANNOT COME OUT OF NOTHING, and life popped into existence, spontaneously, from nothing.**
- **Then the universe broke the well-established law of biogenesis: LIFE COMES ONLY FROM LIFE AND REPRODUCES AFTER ITS OWN KIND, which totally rules out spontaneous generation of life from non-living matter.**



■ Yet, since atheists operate on the assumption that there is no God, they believe, as evolution teaches, that non-living chemicals spontaneously evolved, over billions of years, into living cells.

01

Evolutionists maintain that life began when lightning and heat discharged into a primordial soup of chemicals, randomly transforming simple organic molecules into larger, more complex biological molecules and eventually into primitive cells. Cells then formed themselves into organisms, and organisms into complex, conscious, perceptive, and understanding beings who can move, feel, think, hear, see, and communicate . Over billions of years, they branched out into all current life forms, including human beings.



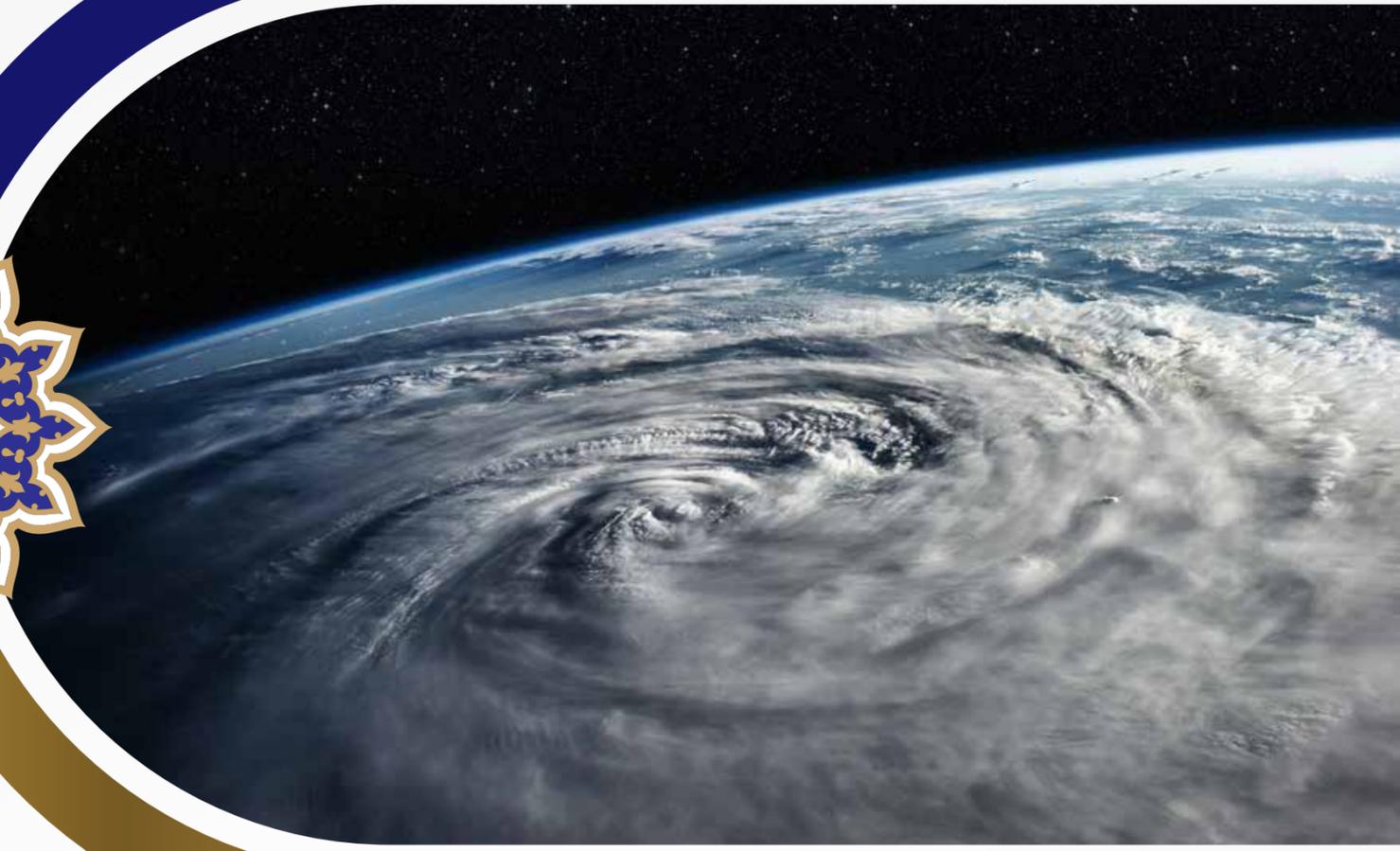
02 Before even the simplest of living cells can form, the organic compounds that make up a cell and carry out life processes must exist. Living organisms are primarily composed of 21 elements of varying percentages. Spontaneous chemical evolution of the one-celled organism means that 21 naturally occurring, scattered elements would have had to gather and interact at the appropriate time and place in a specific, precise sequence to form precise amounts of carbohydrates, lipids, proteins, and nucleic acids (**DNA and RNA**) — the four basic categories of molecules that make up the building blocks of life.



03 All information necessary to build and maintain a single cell, or a multicellular organism, is contained in its DNA molecules. Within its double helix structure, DNA carries an enormous set of genetic instructions for the formation and function of all living organisms. The very simplest life form has about **500,000** base pairs (letters) of coded information within its DNA, while a human genome has about **3,000,000,000** base pairs of DNA inside each body cell. If they were printed as letters in a book, they would fill more than **500,000** pages. That is about **1,000** thick books. DNA molecules can store information many millions of times more densely than existing technology for digital storage. One single gram of DNA could be enough to hold a trillion gigabytes of data for 2000 years.



04 To explain how life began, the origin of the information necessary to build the first cell must first be known. Science asserts that information is a non-material entity and cannot be created by matter. Information can only originate from an intelligent source through a process of conscious creative thought and not by chance, chaos, and mindless accidents. There is no room for gradual development in the structure of DNA [the DNA is highly complicated, organized, and accurate and must have been complete, perfect, and fully functioning from the very first instant of its existence, without involving a step-by-step formation or slow evolution over time].



05 Back in the time of Darwin, genes were not yet discovered. And so far, no theory has explained the origin of the first life — it takes DNA to make proteins, and it takes protein to make DNA. Obviously, neither could have arisen spontaneously by chance chemistry. **So how did the whole thing get started?**

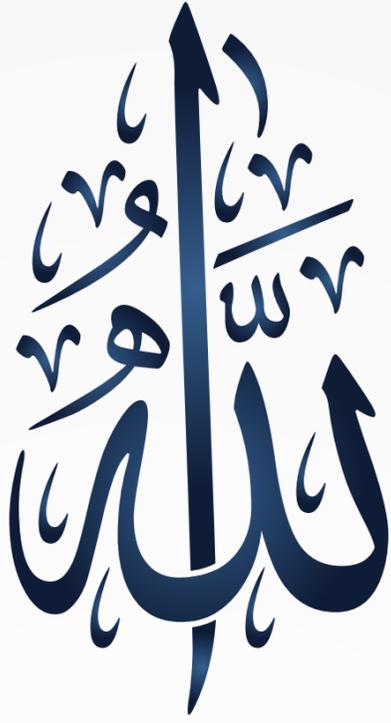


Approximately 8.7 million different species exist on earth, and over 5 billion species have gone extinct since the dawn of life.



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