





Br No God

Islamic Viewpoint vs. Atheist Viewpoint /

Fascinating Complex Structures batt 5

By Haya Muhammad Eid



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FASCINATING COMPLEX STRUCTURES...THAT BAFFLED EVEN DARWIN

THE SIGHT OF A FEATHER IN A PEACOCK'S

TAIL, WHENEVER I GAZE AT IT, MAKES ME Sick

CHARLES DARWIN

THE EYE TO THIS DAY GIVES ME A COLD Shudder Charles Darwin





ISSUES ATHEISTS









01 How nothing created everything, and how life emerged from non-living matter?

02 How can "BLIND" forces create vision? Or "DEAF" forces create hearing? Or "RECKLESS" forces create creativity and wisdom? Or "INANIMATE" forces create sense and feelings?

03 What is the origin of the laws of physics, and why everything in the universe obeys these laws?



04 How can random, mindless processes produce codes, information, and language?

05 How can disinterested and unselfish actions such altruism, empathy, and compassion fit the evolutionary motto of 'Survival of the Fittest'?

How can a chance universe exhibit design and order, and why is the universe so finely tuned for life?



THE STAGGERING COMPLEXITY

OF A LIVING CELL



At the time of Darwin and his contemporaries, the cell appeared to be no more than a black spot under the simple light microscope, which was the first microscope to be used in the study of the cell. It consisted of a single, small, convex lens with 25-times magnification power.

Thus hampered by inadequate instruments for observing life under the microscope, Darwin concluded, upon viewing a cell, that it was a simple jelly-like substance – just a blob of protoplasm. He never imagined the incredible complexity and intricate information contained in a living cell. Genetic information became accessible and explorable only by means of the modern electron microscope, which can magnify an object up to two million times its original

size.



 Subsequent discoveries revealed that the cell was not a fluid-filled balloon, as Darwin had imagined, but an irreducibly complex structure* consisting of tiny, high-tech, biological machines. "To grasp in detail," said the German biologist Von Bertalanffy, "the physio-chemical organization of the simplest cell is far

beyond our capacity."

Microsoft founder Bill Gates recognized the limitations of computer language in contrast to the cell's ability to store and utilize living data, saying, "Human DNA is like a computer program but far, far more advanced than any we've ever created."



• Expressing his amazement at the complexity of the cell, molecular biologist Michael Denton said, "Molecular biology has shown that even the simplest of all living systems on the earth today, bacterial cells, are exceedingly complex objects. Although the tiniest bacterial cells are incredibly small, weighing less than

10-12 grams, each is in effect a veritable micro-miniaturized factory containing thousands of exquisitely designed pieces of intricate molecular machinery, made up altogether of 100 thousand million atoms, far more complicated than any machine built by man and absolutely without parallel in the non-living world."

*A single system which is composed of several well-matched, interacting parts that contribute to the basic function, and where the removal of any one of the parts causes the system to effectively cease functioning.

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KINESIN

THE CELL'S POSTAL SYSTEM



"Our Lord is He Who gave to everything its proper form and guided it to its proper function." (Qur'an 20:50)

The noble Qur'an makes a distinction between the creation of a thing and its sense of direction. This sense of direction is a mysterious dimension present in everything, directing it toward its proper God-assigned role.

The motor protein kinesin carries cellular cargo along roadways in cells, called microtubules. In a sense, it acts like a postman delivering parcels inside the cell.



SIGNS IN YOURSELVES

"ON THE EARTH ARE SIGNS FOR THOSE OF

ASSURED FAITH. AND IN YOURSELVES. CAN YOU NOT SEE?"

(QUR'AN 51:20-21)





The human body is composed of approximately 100 trillion cells divided into over 200 different types of specialized cells, such as skin cells, muscle cells, bone cells, brain cells and so on.

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Every human starts as one cell, unique in every way (each human is unique and unrepeatable). That one cell, a fertilized egg, turns into the trillions of cells that make up a complete human being.



As the first cell multiplies, it forms a mass of undifferentiated cells. As the embryo grows, the cells become differentiated. This means they specialize to form different organs with vastly different functions.

How can the cells in a human body start out exactly the same, then some of them decide to become brain cells, heart cells, or liver cells?



All cells in a person's body contain exactly the same genetic material (DNA) as the parent cell. How can a number of newly divided cells, each containing identical DNA, differentiate into different types of cells and therefore into different organs?

Each cell has the same number of genes (24,000). A skin cell turns on the genes that make it a skin cell, while a bone cell would leave these genes turned off. How do cells switch their genes on and off? And, more importantly, how do they 'know' which genes to switch on and which genes to switch off? How do cells decide which proteins to make, how much, when, and where?



THIS AMAZING FLOW OF FACTS ABOUT THE CELL LEADS US TO INEVITABLY ASK THE QUESTIONS:

WHO DESIGNED THE CELL? WHO TAUGHT IT EXACTLY WHAT TO DO?





"Mindless, blundering atoms have conspired to make, not just life, not just mind, but understanding. ... This (universe) can be no trivial detail, no minor by-product of

mindless, purposeless forces. We are truly meant to be here." – Physicist Paul Davies, The Mind of God





THE ROLE OF SCIENCE



Basically, science is about exploring and understanding the natural world through observation and experimentation. Diverse and infinite realities exist, both within and outside the reach of normal senses; and, it is through science that humans can learn about them

to enhance their well-being.

Science is not a fixed set of facts. It is an ever-changing flux; always open to new theories, explanations, and discoveries, which from time to time get changed, corrected, or disproven with up-to-date and more reliable theories replacing the old. The truth in science is never final.



Just because science can explain many various unknown issues does not mean that it can explain everything. There are matters of morality, meaning, and purpose that lie outside the scope of science.

Right and wrong do not come from physics, chemistry, or biology. Science does not instruct us how to treat one's neighbor as oneself, how to clothe the naked and feed the hungry, or why it is wrong to murder, steal, bear false witness, or hurt others? Science is totally silent about all these topics.



"I AM VERY ASTONISHED THAT THE SCIENTIFIC PICTURE OF THE REAL WORLD AROUND ME IS VERY DEFICIENT. IT GIVES US A LOT OF FACTUAL INFORMATION, PUTS ALL OUR EXPERIENCE IN A MAGNIFICENTLY CONSISTENT ORDER, BUT IT IS GHASTLY SILENT ABOUT ALL AND SUNDRY THAT IS REALLY NEAR TO OUR HEART, THAT REALLY MATTERS TO US. IT CANNOT TELL US

A WORD ABOUT RED AND BLUE, BITTER AND SWEET, PHYSICAL PAIN AND PHYSICAL DELIGHT; IT KNOWS NOTHING OF BEAUTIFUL AND UGLY, GOOD OR BAD, GOD AND ETERNITY."

NOBEL LAUREATE, QUANTUM PHYSICIST ERWIN SCHRÖDINGER



COLLABORATION RATHER

THAN CONFLICT



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In Islam, conflict between science and religion is inconceivable. Religion comes from God and so does the universe, with all its laws and phenomena. True religion and accurate science, therefore, cannot contradict each other because their source is one and the same — God. They are components of one mission: explaining truth; religion through divine revelation, and science through investigation and evidence.



02 Islam emerges from the very first revealed Qur'anic word, the command, "Read," as essentially a religion of knowledge in which growing in faith as well as understanding is what lifts up a human. The Qur'an

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specifically states: "God will exalt in degree those of you who believe, and those who have been given knowledge." (Qur'an 58:11)



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In the whole Qur'an, the only supplication for increase is: "Say, 'My Lord! Increase me in knowledge."" (20:119) Throughout the Book, humankind is urged over and over to observe and

reflect on creation. Thus, knowledge according to the purpose and essence of Islam is not only a matter of encouragement, but obligation. Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) said, "Seeking knowledge is a duty for every Muslim (man or woman)." (Sunan Ibn Majah)



04 Science and religion belong to two different but equally important realms of knowledge. They complement each other, and do not conflict because there is no overlap between the areas

> occupied by each. Since human beings are made up of both body and soul, they are both physical and spiritual beings. Science deals with the physical aspect of their world (the realm of facts, figures, and formulas), while religion deals with the spiritual aspect (the realm of beliefs, morals, manners, ideals, values, and meaning).



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Both science and religion teach humans many things about themselves and the universe in which they live, often in complementary and intersecting ways. Science adds to faith and faith adds to science.

They have important mutual interests and

important contributions to make to each other.



06 Within this framework, every new scientific discovery represents a step forward in human knowledge and another step forward in appreciation of God's amazing creation. The more

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humans learn about the mysteries of the universe and the human body, the more they become in awe of God.



"SCIENCE ITSELF DOES NOT CONTRADICT THE HYPOTHESIS OF GOD. RATHER, IT GIVES US A WINDOW ON A DYNAMIC AND CREATIVE UNIVERSE THAT EXPANDS OUR APPRECIATION OF THE DIVINE IN WAYS THAT COULD NOT HAVE

BEEN IMAGINED IN AGES PAST."

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KENNETH MILLER



SCIENTISTS' STANCE TOWARD

RELIGION



For most of history, up until the middle of the 19th century, science and religion were viewed as co-workers in the human quest for understanding, in which science served as an avenue to deeper faith in, and appreciation of, the Creator.

Science relied on the conviction that the universe was rational, orderly, and intelligible throughout – that it ran according to comprehensible and uniform laws that could be observed and discovered – precisely because it was designed and ordered by a rational Creator. Logically, if reality was ultimately chaotic and unintelligible, the universe would be incomprehensible, making science impossible.



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Almost all the scientists of that period believed that behind creation, there is a Creator. Galileo, Copernicus, Newton, Kepler, Pasteur, and nearly all of the founding fathers of science were men of faith who attributed their interest in science to their belief in God.

The thoughtfulness and complexity with which the universe was meticulously crafted, all the way down to the finest details, pointed these scientists not only to God, but hinted at what kind of God He must be. Sir Isaac Newton, the discoverer of the universal law of gravitation, said, "This most beautiful system of the sun, planets, and comets could only proceed from the counsel and dominion of an intelligent Being."



Because God is Perfect, His creations must be perfect and operate according to uniform rules. Trust that there were mathematical laws, rather than chaos, strongly motivated these scientists to find them.





Done with Allah's Help and Grace







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