

الله

God

Or No God

Islamic Viewpoint vs.
Atheist Viewpoint

What, Exactly, Is Life

part 7

By Haya Muhammad Eid



الله اعلم
والله اعلم



**WHAT, EXACTLY,
IS LIFE?**

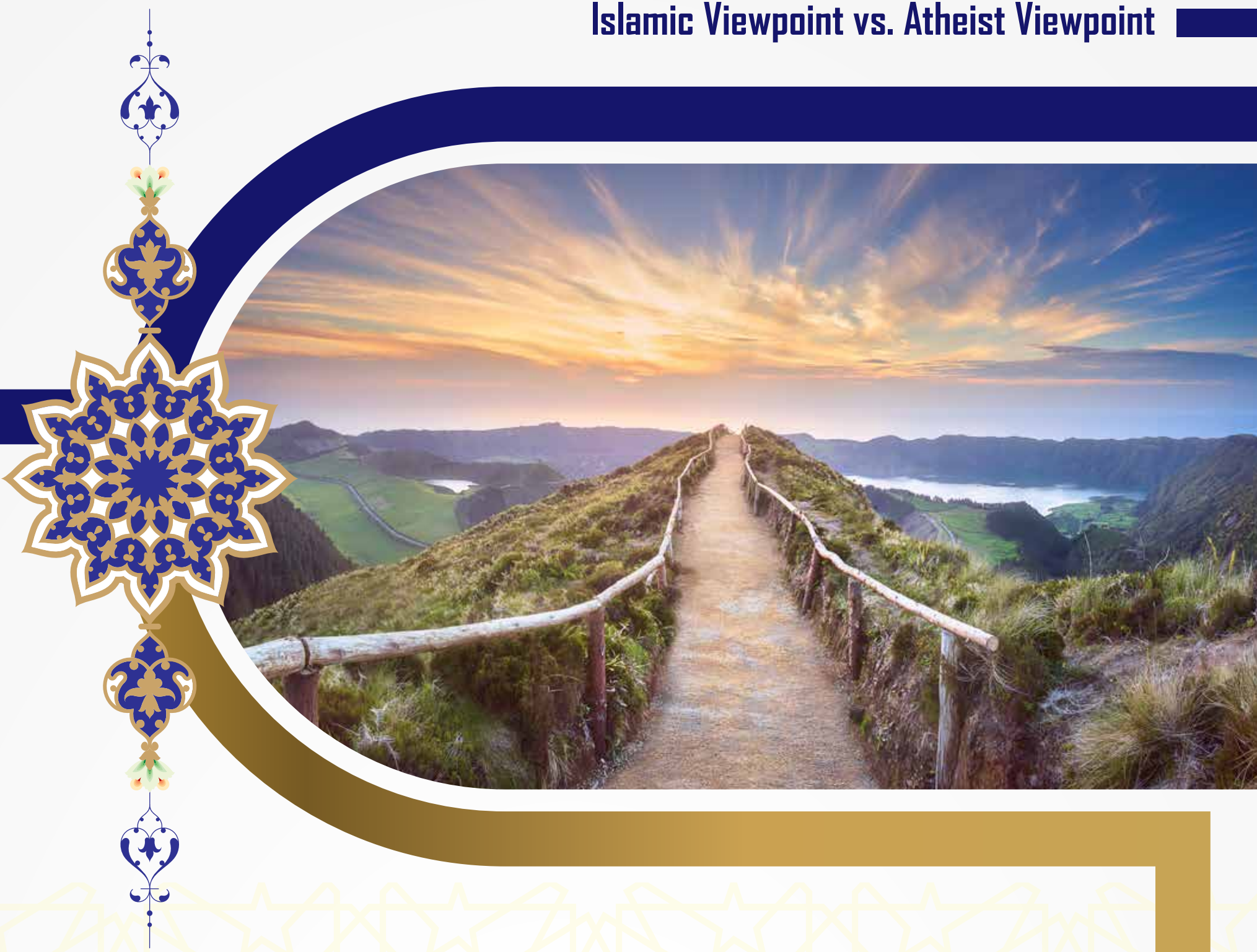
**THE IMMATERIAL
PART OF A LIVING BEING**



- **What is life? What is awareness? What is conscience*? Or, more to the point, what makes something alive and conscious? Science still has no answers for these questions.**

- **Life is a miracle – and a mystery. Science cannot penetrate further than its apparent characteristics and phenomena.**

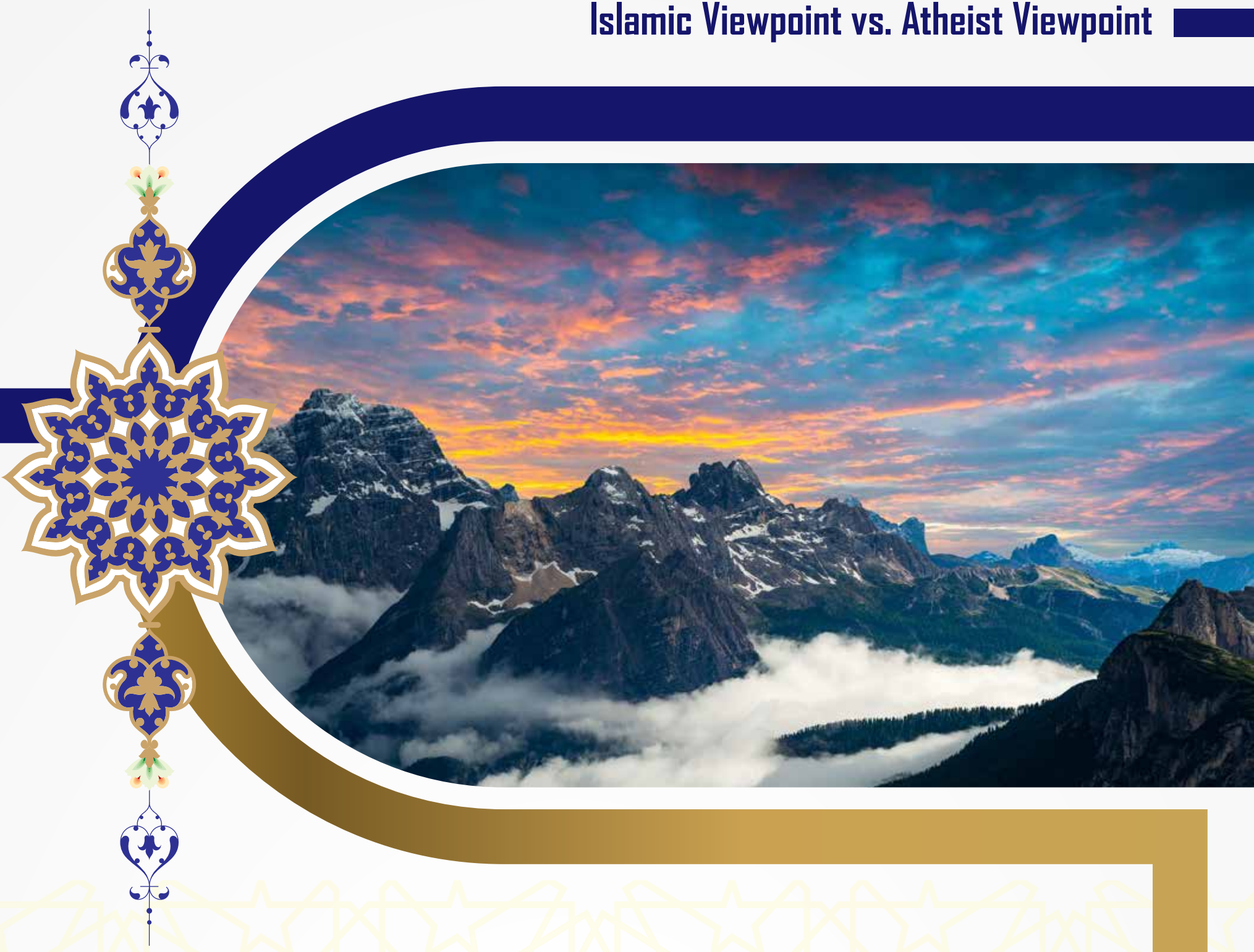
(I) The intuitive, inner sense of what is right and wrong, good and evil in conduct or motives, instilled by God in every human being, impelling them toward right action and calling them away from wrongdoing.



- **Life is not a tangible entity that can be touched or observed under a microscope. Rather, life is invisible; only its manifestations can be seen. The scope of science is limited to natural, physical realities. Science is only able to recognize life or its absence. It can only explain the biological processes that relate to life, list its characteristics, or describe its phenomena and mechanisms, but it cannot define life, or explain why something is alive, or how life is given to any organism.**



- **The most complex and outstanding organ on planet earth is the human brain. A human brain weighs only 1.5 kg and contains roughly 86 billion neurons. Cognition, movement, behavior, character traits, thoughts, emotions, decisions, and vital body functions originate in the brain. How does the brain make this happen? In other words, how does the brain make a person a human being? How does it determine who a person is as a human being? Do these activities which constitute life just rise from chemical and biological processes and complex firing of neurons across the brain? Is this sufficient explanation?**



- According to the Qur'an, life is created, given, and supplied by God. Life itself, or the essence of life, is inaccessible to human knowledge. God made it so and declared it so. It is a realm that belongs only to God as stated in the Qur'an: "They ask you about the Rouh (spirit or life in any being). Say: 'The Rouh is one of the things, the knowledge of which is only with my Lord. And of knowledge, you (humankind) have been granted but little.'" (Qur'an 17:85)



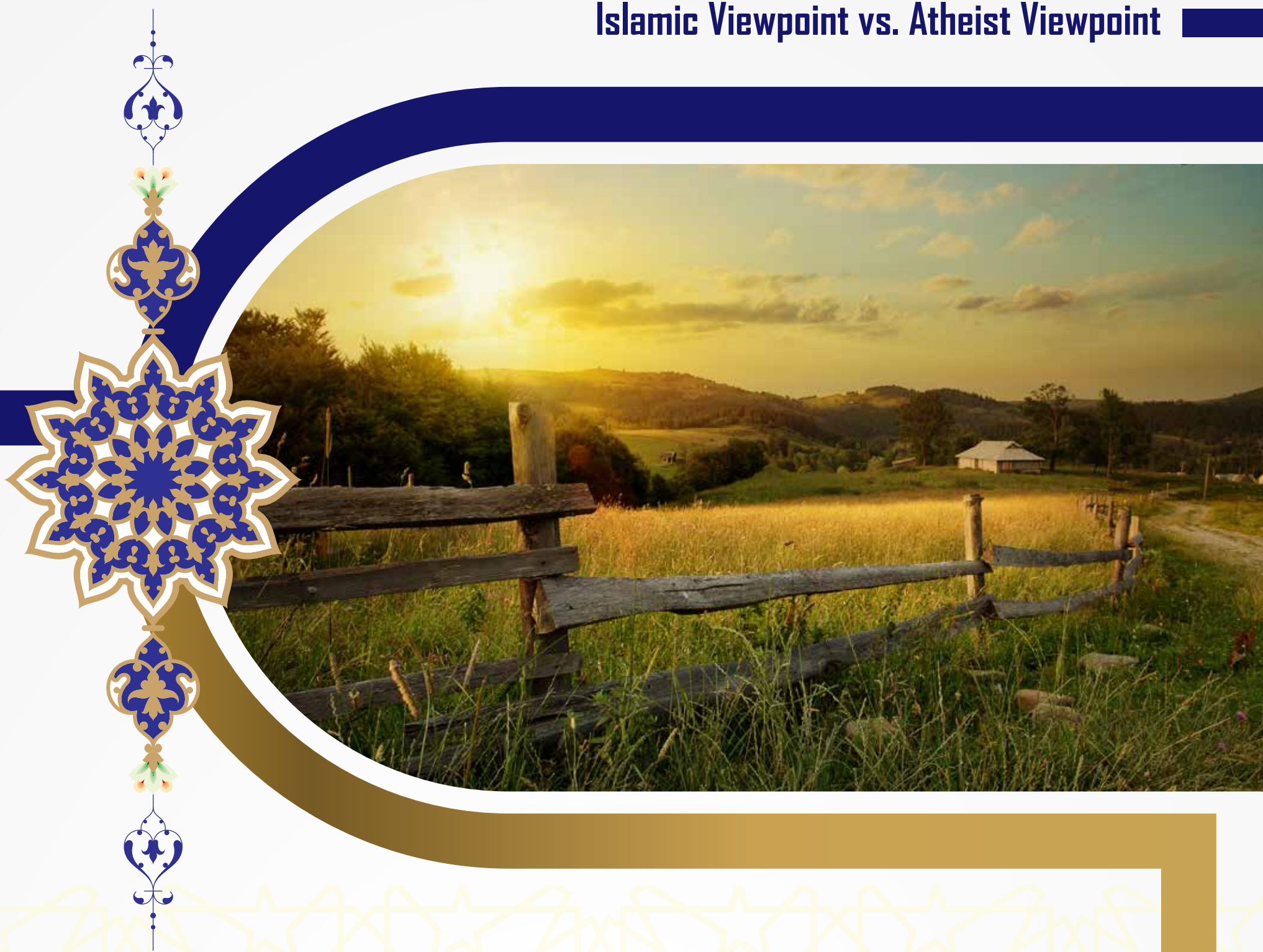
GOD'S POWER OF CREATION AND CREATIVITY



“When He decrees a matter, He only says to it: “Be! — and it is.”

(Qur’an 2:117)

God is the only One Who has the power of true creation out of nothing. When He wants something to exist, He simply says, "Be!" and it becomes immediately just as He wants it to be, without the need for causes and means.



Six major names and attributes of God as the Creator are stated in the Qur'an. Each of which provides a different aspect and insight into the divine power of creation and the composite process of creation, making it clear that every detail of creation was perfectly planned and performed directly by God, leaving nothing to chance or to someone or something else. These six divine names and attributes are:

01

Al-Mubdi' (the Beginner) – The One Who initially and originally creates out of nothing, just by His Will – with a single command: “Be!” – without the use of pre-existing matter.



02 **Al-Khaliq (the Creator, the Planner)** – The One Who determines and creates according to proper and accurate measures and proportions. God says, **“He has created everything and designed it in a perfect measure.”** (Qur’an 25:2)

03 **Al-Bari’ (the Originator, the Inventor)** – The One Who originates and materializes creation without a prior model.

04 **Al-Musawwir (the Fashioner, the Shaper, the Designer)** – The One Who fashions, Who gives everything its distinctive form and shape according to its assigned purpose.



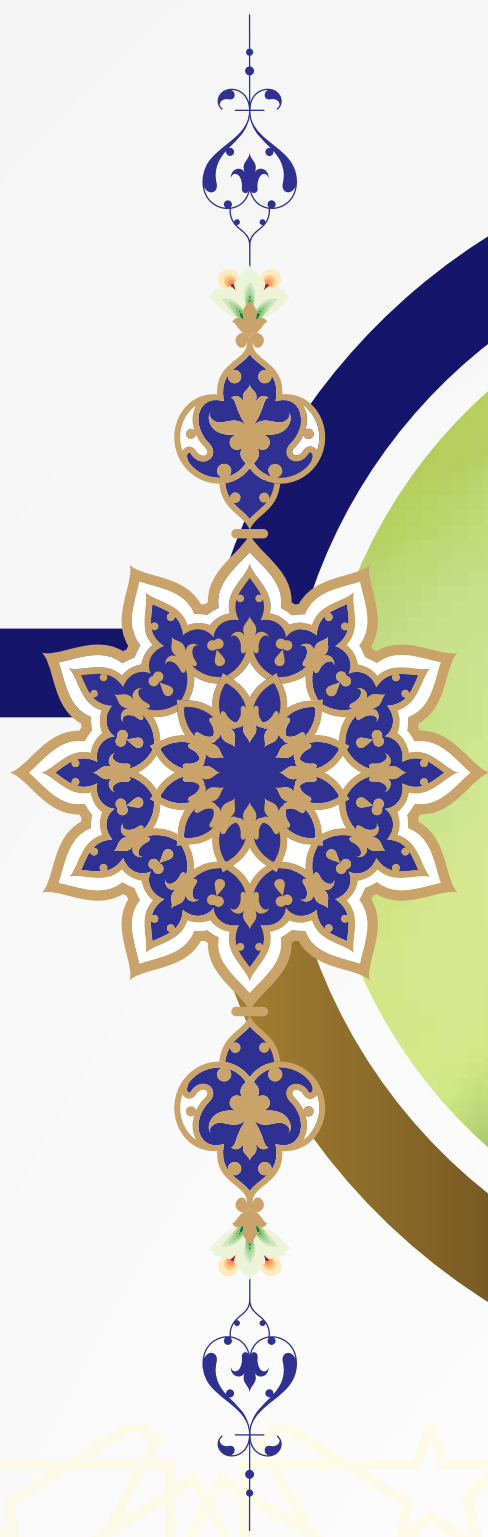
05 **Al-Fatir (the Bringer into existence) – The Creator of the universe and everything in it, giving every living thing its particular character, objective, and meaning.**

06 **Al-Badi` (The Incomparable, the Originator) – The One Who creates things out of nothing without the help of an instrument, or matter, or time, or place. He creates all His creatures bursting with variety and uniqueness, so one creature is not perfectly similar to another. This infinite variety in God's creation is a physical manifestation of God's absolute creative power.**



TO ANY GENERATION OF HUMANKIND SKEPTICAL ABOUT GOD

GOD'S CHALLENGE TO CREATE A FLY
OR TO GET BACK SOMETHING IT
TAKES



To humans, the fly is weak and despicable, but from the Creator's viewpoint, it is one of His inimitable creations that poses as a timeless sign and challenge, as described in the Qur'an:

“O humankind! A similitude has been coined, so listen to it carefully: Verily, those on whom you call besides God cannot create (even) a fly, even if they were to combine together for the purpose. Rather, if a fly snatches away a thing from them, they have no power to recover it from the fly. Weak indeed are (both) the seeker and the sought!” (Qur'an 22: 73)



01 The 360-degree all-round vision

The fly is a marvel of creation; its wings beat 500 times per second and, as a result, it has a glorious flying ability. Even more amazing are its eyes, each one of which has thousands of extraordinarily complex lenses. A fly has compound eyes on both sides of its head, each of which is divided into 4,000 sections, each of which, in turn, has a lens that perceives an image from a slightly different angle. When a fly looks at a flower, the full image appears separately in each of its 8,000 lenses. When these images reach the brain, they combine together like the components of a jigsaw puzzle. As a result, an image that is highly significant for the fly emerges. (How Come? Planet Earth, Kathy Wollard, Workman Publishing, New York, 1999)



02 Gravity-defying footwear

Flies have two soft, sticky pads on each foot, called pulvilli, covered with tiny hairs. These pads permit the fly to not only suspend itself upside down, but also to walk with ease on smooth, upright or upside-down surfaces. Each foot is also equipped with a pair of large counteracting claws to help pull the foot free.



03 **The Ferrari of the insect world**

To scientists, the 'housefly is the Ferrari of the insect world,' as it is can alter its course in less than one-hundredth of a second, 50 times quicker than the blink of an eye.

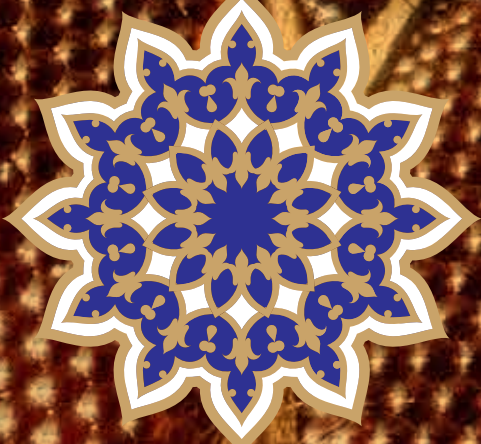
04 **Fastest visual response**

Flies have the fastest visual responses in the animal kingdom and can track movements up to five times faster than the human eye, making them near-impossible to swat.



05 **Anything a fly snatches away is, moments later, converted into something else**

Flies can only ingest liquids, but they can turn solid foods into liquid matter by spitting or vomiting on it. Acids in its vomit dissolve the food so the fly can suck it up. Even the world's most advanced laboratories and scientists working together could not bring it back to its original state.



FLIES CONTINUE TO ASTONISH



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“The brain of the fly performs a very sophisticated calculation, in a very short amount of time, to determine where the danger lies and exactly how to bank for the best escape, doing something different if the threat is to the side, straight ahead or behind.”

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“How can such a small brain generate so many remarkable behaviors? A fly with a brain the size of a salt grain has the behavioral repertoire nearly as complex as a much larger animal such as a mouse. That’s a super interesting problem from an engineering perspective.”

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UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON PROFESSOR
OF BIOLOGY, MICHAEL DICKINSON

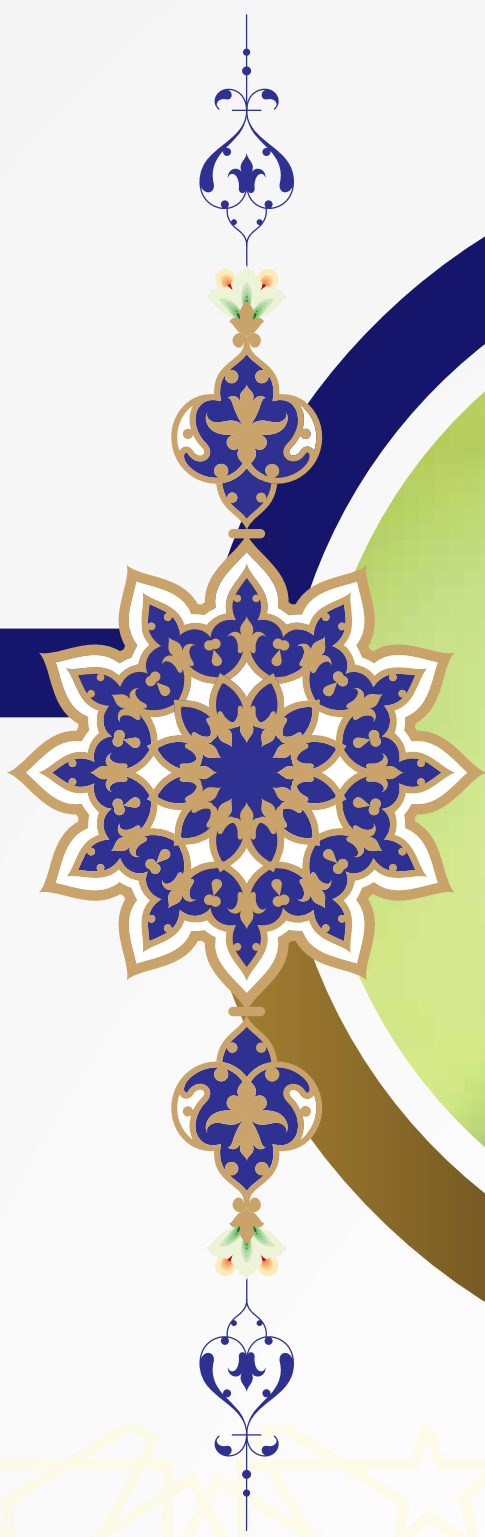


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“A thousandth of a gram of nerve cells packed into a cubic millimeter of space: that pretty much sums up the brain of a fly – on the surface, anyway. Yet it’s an amazing organ. In fractions of a second, it translates optical information into steering commands, enabling flies to perform aerial acrobatics.”

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NEUROBIOLOGIST ALEXANDER BORST



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“These flies normally flap their wings 200 times a second and, in almost a single wing beat, the animal can re-orient its body to generate a force away from the threatening stimulus and then continue to accelerate.”

“

FLORIAN MUIJRES.



FRUIT FLIES OUTDO FIGHTER JETS



Research shows fruit flies' mid-air maneuvers are 'faster than ever imagined', changing direction 50 times quicker than the blink of an eye

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“Insects are bewilderingly diverse with respect to flight morphology and behaviors, which in turn provides a real challenge to researchers wishing to understand how insects fly. In particular, the impressive flight maneuvers in flies, such as blowflies and fruit flies, have inspired scientists for many years. The ability of a fly to accelerate, make tight turns, rolls, and loops that allow the creature to land upside down on a ceiling is unparalleled in any other organisms, as well as any manmade aircraft. Everybody knows how difficult it is to swat a fly with bare hands—the fly's capacity for rapid take-off and accurate movement away from a perceived approaching threat is exquisite.”

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HOW INSECT FLIGHT STEERING MUSCLES
WORK – BIOLOGIST ANDERS HEDENSTROM
OF LUND UNIVERSITY



“See you not that God sends down water (rain) from the sky and causes it to flow as springs out of the earth, and afterward thereby produces crops of different colors; and afterward they dry and wither and you see them turn yellow; then He turns them into (scattered) debris. Verily, in this, is a reminder for people of understanding.”

(Qur'an 39:21)



**DEATH IS AS MUCH
A SIGN AS IS LIFE**

**EARTH GIVEN LIFE
AFTER ITS DEATH**



*Done with
Allah's Help
and Grace*

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God
~~Or No God~~
Islamic Viewpoint vs.
Atheist Viewpoint

By Haya Muhammad Eid



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