

# The Al Islam eGazette

Friday, May 2nd, 2008

www.alislam.org

## REVELATION AND REASON



*Cave of Hira where the first few verses of the Holy Quran were revealed*

Anyone who has had an epiphany moment, a sudden yet luminous intuition from ‘nowhere’ or has experienced a true dream has partaken from a portion of ‘revelation’. Most atheist philosophers generally do not address revelation, when building a case for their philosophy. In this sense they shut the possibility to themselves and to their readers. They want to crib, cabin and confine reality into a paradigm where ‘revelation’ is a taboo. In this background Emeritus Professor of physics and astronomy at the University of Hawaii, Prof Victor J. Stenger has devoted a chapter to ‘revelation’ in his book *God: the Failed Hypothesis*.

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Despite his completely atheistic perspective, we can be thankful to him for reintroducing the subject of revelation in the scientific circles. He writes:

**“We can reasonably expect that some revealed wisdom should be amenable to empirical verification. This is especially true for statements about the observable world and physical events. We should be able to find remarkable examples where specific information about the world, which was unknown to science at the time of the revelation, would later be confirmed by observation. We should also be able to find numerous cases of successful predictions of future events that have no plausible alternate explanation.”**

He reviews the prophecies in the Bible, draws some hurried conclusions and generalizes them:

**“Suppose, however, that instead of simple homilies someone undergoing an epiphany gains new knowledge that she could not have possibly obtained by purely physical means. For example, imagine that someone in the twentieth century had a vision that foresaw that on December 26, 2004, a tsunami in the Indian Ocean would kill tens of thousands of people. If that had happened, we would take seriously the notion that some power beyond the material world does indeed exist. In short, the validity of an otherworldly component to a religious experience is readily verifiable.**

Despite many stories, however, no such report has stood up under scientific scrutiny. The prophecies of mystics have been either too vague to constitute a reasonable test, or downright failures. Just consider how many times throughout history that the end of the world has been proclaimed, with specific dates

usually given. The world is still here.

Reported religious experiences are wholly unremarkable despite **the cosmic proportions of the claim.”** (Victor J Stenger. *God: The Failed Hypothesis*. Prometheus Books, 2007. Page 172.)

His last claim here that these experiences are unremarkable may apply to the Bible in some sense but not to the Holy Quran. Stenger draws examples from the Bible only, does not examine the Holy Quran and unfortunately extends his conclusions to both the Bible and the Quran. A little research would have lead Professor Stenger to the books by His Holiness Mirza Tahir Ahmad and Dr. Maurice Bucaille, on the subject of the Holy Quran and science. The full text of these books *Revelation, Rationality, Knowledge and Truth* and *the Bible the Quran and science* is available online. At any rate we can show appreciation of him for at least opening the subject in scientific circles.

In this eGazette we will examine a few prophecies from the Holy Quran and the Bible and provide links to some others.

### **PROPHECY ABOUT BYZANTINES**

**“The Byzantines have been defeated in the land nearby, and they, after their defeat, will emerge victorious, within three to nine years. And to Allah belongs the command before and after. And that will be the day when the believers will rejoice, with the succor from Allah. He helps whomsoever He pleases; and He is the Mighty the Merciful.”** (The Holy Quran 30:3-6)

In order to fully appreciate the significance of these verses it is necessary to cast a cursory glance over the political conditions that prevailed in the two great Empires, the Persian and the

Roman Empires, at the time of the advent of the Holy Prophet of Islam. They were at war with each other. The first round had gone in favour of the Persians whose tide of conquest began in 602 A.D, when in order to avenge the death of Maurice, his patron and benefactor, at the hands of Phocas, Chosroes II started the war with Rome. For twenty years the Roman Empire was overrun by Persian armies as it had never been before. The Persian armies plundered Syria and Asia Minor and in 608 A.D. advanced to Chalcedon. Damascus was taken in 613. The surrounding country on which no Persian had ever set foot since the founding of the Empire was utterly and completely laid waste. In June 614 Jerusalem was also captured. Christianity had been humbled in the dust. According to Gibbon, when the grandson of Nushirvan, Chosroes II took over Jerusalem, in 614, the sepulcher of Christ and the stately churches of Helena and Constantine were consumed or at least damaged by the flames, the devout offerings of 300 years were looted in one day. The true cross was transplanted to Persia and 90,000 Christians put to sword.

The flood of Persian conquest, however, did not stop with the capture of Jerusalem. Egypt was next conquered, Asia Minor again overrun, and the Persian armies were knocking at the very gates of Constantinople. The Romans could offer but little resistance as they were torn by internal dissensions. The humiliation of Heraclius was so complete that “Chosroes wanted to see him brought in chains to the foot of his throne and was not prepared to give him peace till he had abjured his crucified god and embraced the worship of the sun.”

<http://books.google.com/books?id=RhwQAAAAAYAAJ>

This state of affairs very much grieved the Muslims as they had **much in common with the Romans who were the “People of the Book.” But the Quraish of Makkah who, like the Persians, were idolaters, feigned to see in this discomfiture of Christian armies a happy augury for the over-throw and destruction of Islam.** It was shortly after this complete debacle of Roman forces that in 616 AD; came the revelation to the Holy Prophet which forms the subject-matter of the verse under comment and the two preceding verses. The verses possessed a twofold significance. They foretold, in circumstances then quite in-conceivable, that the whole position would be completely reversed within the short space of three to nine years and the erstwhile victorious Persian armies would suffer a crushing defeat at the hands of the utterly defeated, prostrated and humbled Romans.

The prophecy was fulfilled in circumstances beyond human calculation or comprehension. About the extreme improbability of fulfillment of the prophecy in the circumstances then prevailing the following observation of Edward **Gibbon, in *Rise, Decline & Fall of the Roman Empire* may be read with interest:**

**“In the midst of the Persian triumphs he (the Holy Prophet) ventured to foretell that before many years should elapse victory would return to the banners of the Romans. At the time when this prediction is said to have been delivered, no prophecy could be more distant from its accomplishment. Since the first twelve years of Heraclius announced the approaching dissolution of the Empire.”**

<http://books.google.com/books?id=Lf8FAAAAQAAJ&pg=PA395>

After licking his wounds for several years, Heraclius was at last able to take the field **against the Persians in 622, the year of the Holy Prophet's Hijrat to Medina. In 624 he advanced into northern Media, where he destroyed the great fire temple of Gandzak (Gazaca) and thus avenged the destruction of Jerusalem.**

In 627 Heraclius defeated the Persian army at Nineveh and advanced towards Ctesiphon. Chosroes fled from his favorite residence Dastgerd (near Baghdad), and after dragging on an inglorious existence was murdered by his own son, Siroes, on 19th February, 628, A.D. In the words of Encyclopedia Britannica,

**“Meanwhile Heraclius returned in triumph to Constantinople, in 629 the Cross was given back to him and Egypt evacuated, while the Persian Empire, from the apparent greatness which it had reached ten years ago, sank into hopeless anarchy.”**

<http://books.google.com/books?id=VBIRzxLzFLwC&pg=PA272>

The verses clearly prophesied that the Persian victory would prove only short-lived and in a few years the defeat of the Romans will turn into victory.

The circumstances when Christianity was humbled in the dust and Persian armies were knocking at the very gates of Constantinople and Heraclius had in vain sued for peace, a person in the circumstances of the Holy Prophet could forecast that within the short space of only three to nine years the victors would become vanquished and the forces of Chosroes would receive a crushing defeat at the hands of the same Heraclius who only a few years back had very humbly but unsuccessfully sued for peace and the proud and mighty Persians would lie prostrate and exhausted, the forecast must indeed be considered to have proceeded from a superhuman source.

**There was a Part II of the prophecy that was even more impressive, that was the portion of the verses, ‘And that will be the day when the believers will rejoice, with the succor from Allah.’** The implication of this prophecy, in the words of His Holiness Mirza Tahir Ahmad, in relation to the fate of the believers was all too obvious. When shortly after this revelation the Muslims lost their homes and

### Updates at [www.ThePersecution.org](http://www.ThePersecution.org)

#### **Indonesia—Request of Prayers**

The month of April has seen a rise of persecution in Indonesia, which has resulted in the horrible act of burning of the Ahmadiyya Muslim mosque in Parakan Salak region, in Sukabumi district of West Java on April 28th by the *Jamiatul Mubaligh Communication Forum*.

Ahmadiyya Muslim Community was established in Indonesia in 1926 and it is estimated that there are 200,000 members. The constitution of Indonesia **guarantees citizens' rights, including freedom of religion.** Contrary to that some anti-Ahmadiyya forces are demanding to ban Ahmadiyya. The news reports indicate that in 2002, external influence started to penetrate Indonesia. Many Mullahs highly critical of Ahmadiyya Muslim Community from UK and Pakistan visited different parts of Indonesia for false and poisonous propaganda against the peaceful Ahmadiyya Muslim Community. Some of these seminars were sponsored by the Embassy of Saudi Arabia.

For latest updates visit [www.thepersecution.org](http://www.thepersecution.org) website and please remember Indonesia in your prayers.

### **Al Islam eGazette**

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property to the idolaters of Mecca, like the Romans had done to the sun or idol worshippers of Persia, the consensus among the companions was that soon after the Romans' victory, the Muslims would also regain their territory—Mecca. This understanding was unanimous among all the companions of the Holy Prophet<sup>saw</sup>. The only difference was regarding the period in which the prophecy would be fulfilled. This controversy stemmed from the expression *'bid'ai Sineen'* (بِضْعِ سِنِينَ) Literally, it means a period extending from three to nine years. First it was the Romans who regained their lost territory within the prescribed limit and then it was the turn of the Muslims to return to Mecca in glory before the end of the eighth year.

### **SEXES IN THE FLOWERS**

There is mention of presence of sexes in flowers and fruits in the Holy Quran. Scientifically the discovery had to wait the invention of microscope. This fact of botany is not mentioned once but several times. In the seventh century the sexes in plants were not known. The ultimate reality in flowers and fruits could have been completely asexual and could have had more than two sexes 3, 4, 5, 6 or even more. So it was not an un-risky prediction that could just statistically come true. The other consideration is that the Prophet Muhammad<sup>saw</sup> did not have to go there as it did not help his case with the Arabs of the time.

**“And of everything have We created pairs that you may reflect.”** (Holy Quran 51:50)

**“And Allah it is Who spread out the earth and made therein mountains and rivers, and of fruits of every kind He made therein two sexes. ....** Therein, Indeed, are Signs for a people **who reflect.”** (Holy Quran 13:4)

**“Holy is Allah Who created all things in pairs, of what the earth grows and of themselves, and of what they know not.”** (Holy Quran 36:37)

The Arabic word here is *Zauj* that means spouse so a pair or two sexes and not multiple sexes. To read the complete context of the above verse:

**“The dead earth is a Sign for the disbelievers. We revive it and We bring forth there from grain, of which they eat. We have made in it gardens of date-palms and vines, and We have caused springs to gush forth in the earth, that they may eat of the fruits thereof. It was not their hands that made them. Will they not then be grateful? Holy is He Who created all things in pairs, of that which the earth grows, and of themselves, and of that which they know not.”** (Holy Quran 36:34-37)

### **SPACE TRAVEL**

In the words of Prof. Stenger:

**“It could have been different. The scriptures might have contained revelations that, while incomprehensible to people at the time of the revelation, may have still been recorded as mysterious, esoteric knowledge. That knowledge then might have become less esoteric as science and the other knowledge arts, such as history, developed higher levels of sophistication.**

For example, suppose the New Testament somewhere contained **the following passage: ‘Before two millennia shall pass since the birth of our Lord, a man will stand on another world within the firmament and he will smite a tiny orb with his staff such that it will fly from sight.’ Obviously no mere mortal in Jesus' day could have anticipated that in two thousand years men would walk on the**

**moon.”** (Victor J Stenger. God: The Failed Hypothesis. Prometheus Books, 2007. Page 176)

The wish of the Professor had come true, not in the New Testament but in the Holy Quran and he did not know this!

**“O company of jinn and men! if you have power to break through the confines of the heavens and the earth, then break through them. But you cannot break through save with authority.”** (The Holy Quran 55:34)

This is what Dr Maurice Bucaille had to say, in his book, *the Bible the Quran and science* on the subject of space travel:

**“From this point of view, three verses of the Quran should command our full attention. One expresses, without any trace of ambiguity, what man should and will achieve in this field. In the other two, God refers for the sake of the unbelievers in Makkah to the surprise they would have if they were able to raise themselves up to the Heavens; He alludes to a hypothesis which will not be realized for the latter.**

....

There can be no doubt that this verse (55:34) indicates the possibility men will one day achieve what we today call (perhaps rather improperly) 'the conquest of space'. One must note that the text of the Quran predicts not only penetration through the regions of the Heavens, but also the Earth, i.e. the exploration of **its depths.”**

The word 'if' expresses in English a condition that is dependant upon a possibility and either an achievable or an unachievable hypothesis. Arabic is a language which is able to introduce a nuance into the condition which is much more explicit. There is

one word to express the possibility (*ida*), another for the achievable hypothesis (*in*) and a third for the unachievable hypothesis expressed by the word (*lau*). The verse in question has it as an



achievable hypothesis expressed by the word (*in*). The Quran therefore suggests the material possibility of a concrete realization.

**His Holiness Mirza Tahir Ahmad says about this verse, “We humbly suggest that a more appropriate translation in this context should have been 'Except with the help of most powerful deductive logic'. This means that although physically unable to transcend the boundaries of the universe, man would still be able to reach the**

limits of the universe as far as the extension of his knowledge is concerned. We have the following reasons to support this inference:

The translation '*Save with authority*' can in fact create the opposite impression to what the Quran actually intends to convey which is a categorical denial of the possibility of physical conquest of space by man to its outer limits. Authority is not the only meaning of the word *Al-Sultan*. It can be simultaneously translated as a mighty monarch, a powerful argument or strong deductive logic. Hence it may signify that man will still be able to reach across the boundaries of the universe through powerful **logical deduction.**” In this sense this verse can be considered to be in line with the discovery of the fact that our universe comprises of more than 100 billion galaxies, other than our galaxy the Milky Way.

Dr Maurice Bucaille concludes:

**“Here again, it is difficult not to be impressed, when comparing the text of the Quran to the data of modern science, by statements that simply cannot be ascribed to the thought of a man who lived more than fourteen centuries ago.”**

### **EXTRATERRESTERIAL LIFE**

To review the Quranic prophecy of humans meeting extraterrestrial Life read the chapter *The Quran and Extraterrestrial Life* of the book *Revelation, Rationality, Knowledge and Truth*, go to the link:

[http://www.alislam.org/library/books/revelation/part\\_4\\_section\\_7.html](http://www.alislam.org/library/books/revelation/part_4_section_7.html)



When the mankind does see the fulfillment of this prophecy our prayer would be that they have the wisdom to believe in the God of the Holy Quran rather than in NASA or the aliens!

### **TRUTH CANNOT CONTRADICT TRUTH**

Scriptures are the word of God and nature is the work of God. In the words of His Holiness Mirza Tahir Ahmad, “Knowledge is the most essential prerequisite of creation, be it Divine or human, great or little. Without an in-depth knowledge of what is intended to be created, no creative objective can be achieved. Hence no one knows the intricacies and complexities of creation like the Creator Himself and this is why Omniscience is a prerogative of God. A perfect all-embracing knowledge of things is termed Omniscience with reference to God to the exclusion of all others.

If it is the same Omniscient, Omnipresent God who authored the Quran, then all Quranic revelations with reference to the past, the present and the future must invariably be affirmed by verified facts when they come to light. It is exactly this that the following

exercise is all about. With the help of incontrovertible facts, we **strongly hope to prove the case in point.**" (Revelation, Rationality, Knowledge and Truth)

Pope John Paul II has expressed the same fact in the words, **"truth cannot contradict truth."** He visited the question of evolution in 1996 in a message to the Pontifical Academy of Sciences. **"Evolution,"** he said, is **"an essential subject which deeply interests the Church."** He recognized that science and Scripture sometimes have **"apparent contradictions,"** but said that when this is the case, a **"solution"** must be found because **"truth cannot contradict truth."**

<http://www.law.umkc.edu/faculty/projects/ftrials/conlaw/vaticanview.html>

Pope is right in expressing this truism. This gives us a way to evaluate the scripture in light of reason and science. It rhymes with the words of Stenger when he says, **"We can reasonably expect that some revealed wisdom should be amenable to empirical verification. This is especially true for statements about the observable world and physical events."** But the truism expressed by Pope John Paul II does not solve the problems that the Bible and Christianity face in relation to the theory of evolution. These issues are examined in an article Religion and science: Original sin that can be reviewed on:

<http://www.muslimsunrise.com>

It is only for the, divinely revealed, historically preserved and scientifically accurate Quran that the compliment can be extended, **'Truth Cannot Contradict Truth'!** The Holy Quran says about itself that had it been from anyone other than Allah they would surely have found therein much contradiction (4:83) It is only the precisely recorded and properly understood words



of All Knowing God that are free of contradictions and **misinformation and are fully in keeping with His 'works' which are studied in science (30:31).** No matter how hard we may try, the cliché **'Truth Cannot Contradict Truth' does not apply to the Bible.**

The Holy Quran states that life evolved in water. The Holy Quran combines the mention of this fact in the verse where Big Bang is also mentioned, a subtle hint to the fact that the process of evolution of life started in distant past. The scientists believe that this process started more than 3 billion years ago.

**"Do not the disbelievers realize that the heavens and the earth were a closed up mass, then We split them asunder? And We made from water every living thing. Will they not then believe?"** (The Holy Quran 21:31)

At places in the Holy Quran Allah states that He created man from dry ringing clay, but to link the human creation with the process of evolution of life, the Holy Quran has stated, **"And Allah it is Who has created man from water,** and has made for him kindred by

descent and kindred by marriage; and your Lord is All-**Powerful.**” (The Holy Quran 25:55)

### **LIMITATIONS OF BIBLE**

One of the most glaring fallacies of the Bible that Prof. Stenger points out is from the story of Genesis that earth is created on the first day and four days later God creates the sun, moon and stars. (God: The failed Hypothesis, page 174) Several other fallacies can be cited in the chapter of Genesis, as Bible did not enjoy the process of Divine protection that was accorded to the Holy Quran. For example the Bible states, **“Then God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it, because in it He rested from all His work which God had created and made.”** (Genesis 2:3) The Holy Quran corrects this limitation by stating, **“Allah created the heavens and the earth in a period of six eras and this creation tired him not.”** (The Holy Quran 46:34)

In the words of Professor Victor Stenger:

**“We have no risky prediction anywhere in the scriptures that has come true. Of course, preachers have disingenuously told their flocks that many biblical prophecies have been fulfilled.**

In *Evidence That Demands a Verdict*, written three decades ago, Josh McDowell of the Campus Crusade for Christ claimed that an intellectual basis exists for faith in Jesus Christ as the Son of God. **McDowell lists sixty-one Old Testament prophecies that he claims precisely foretold the coming of Jesus Christ as the Messiah?**

For example, consider Prophecy 1 (all these are exact quotations):

### PROPHECY

I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her seed; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel (Gen. 3:15 Revised Standard Version).

### FULFILLMENT

But when the time had fully come, God sent forth his Son, born of a woman, born under the law (Gal. 4:4, Revised Standard Version).

I am not sure what the prediction is here; that Jesus was to be born **of a woman?**” (God: The failed Hypothesis, page 176-177)

**Stenger goes onto examine another prophecy; “Furthermore, Jesus was never the ruler of Israel. This aspect of the prophecy actually failed. And, he was never called “Immanuel” either, as the prophecy in Isaiah 7:14 foretold.**

Perhaps one of the most important prophecies of the New Testament stands out like a sore thumb for its repeated appearance in the Gospels and gross failure to be fulfilled. In Matthew 16:28, 23:36, 24:34; Mark 9:1, 13:30; and Luke 9:27, Jesus tells his followers that he will return and establish his kingdom within a **generation, before the listeners die. We are still waiting.”**

About resurrection of Jesus Christ this is what Stenger has to say:

**“Lack of evidence from outside of scripture surrounds the most important tale of the New Testament-Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection. Christian literature is filled with claims that these events were foretold. But again we have nothing outside of the Gospels that rules out what is the more plausible account: the authors of the Gospels formulated the life and death of Jesus to conform to their conception of the Messiah of the Old Testament.**

Many people say they believe because of the many eyewitnesses who said they saw Jesus walking after he was supposed to be dead. However, that testimony is only recorded in the Bible, second hand, and years after the fact. Eyewitness testimony recorded on the spot would still be open to question two thousand years after the fact. Eyewitness testimony recorded decades later is hardly extraordinary evidence.

Furthermore, eyewitness testimony recorded on the spot today is notoriously unreliable. In a recent decade, sixty-nine convicts were released from prison, seven on death row, based on DNA evidence. In most cases, these people were convicted primarily on the basis of eyewitness testimony.

Now, as with the Christmas story, we might easily imagine that independent evidence could have been found. Matthew describes **what happened at the death of Jesus: ‘And behold, the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom; and the earth shook, and the rocks were split; the tombs we opened and many of the bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised, and coming out of the tombs after his resurrection they went into the holy city and appeared to many’ (Matt. 27:51-54, Revised Standard Version)**. Again, we have no record of these phenomenal events outside scripture. If they really happened as described, Philo, Josephus, or one of the many historians of the **time would very likely have mentioned them.**” (God: The failed Hypothesis, page 179)

Stenger goes onto examining some other prophecies mentioned by McDowell. For example this is what he has to say about the Prophecy number 14 and 32,

**“McDowell often repeats himself. In Prophecies 14 and 32 he regards the statements in Luke 2: 11, Mathew 22:43-45, Hebrews 1:3, Mark 16:19, and Acts 2:34-35 in which Jesus sits down on the right hand of God as a fulfillment of: "The Lord says to my lord: 'Sit at my right hand, till I make your enemies your footstool'" (Ps. 110:1, Revised Standard Version)**. McDowell certainly views biblical prophecy as something different than simple scientific prediction. I would not be too far off base to note that **Jesus sitting on God’s right hand has not been verified scientifically.**” Here Stenger is being over zealous as these verses have a metaphorical meaning implying success for the mission of Jesus Christ and that certainly came true.

**However, Stenger is more factual in stating, “Each of the prophecies listed by McDowell is confirmed in no other place except in the Bible. We have no independent evidence that events actually took place as described—especially the ones happening in heaven. Before making the extraordinary claim that something supernatural occurred, simple common sense tells us that we must rule out the ordinary, far more plausible account that the events are fictional, written so as to conform to biblical prophecies.”**

Some of the other limitations of Bible in the light of science can be reviewed in the book, *the Bible the Quran and science*:

<http://www.islam-guide.com/bqs/>

### **COSMOLOGY AND ASTRONOMY IN THE HOLY QURAN**

His Holiness Mirza Tahir Ahmad:

[http://www.alislam.org/library/books/revelation/part\\_4\\_section\\_5.html](http://www.alislam.org/library/books/revelation/part_4_section_5.html)

Dr. Maurice Bucaille:

<http://www.islam-guide.com/bqs/17astronomy.htm>

**“And the heaven We built with our own powers and indeed We go on expanding it.”** (The Holy Quran 51:48)

Review an article, Al Wassay and The Expanding Universe:

<http://www.alislam.org/allah/>

### **STATE OF ISRAEL**

**“And after him (Pharaoh) We said to the Children of Israel, Dwell ye in the promised land; and when the time of the promise of the Latter Days comes, We shall bring you together out of various peoples.”** (The Holy Quran 17:105)

Jews had two major set backs in their history in the Promised Land. They suffered terribly at the hands of King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon, when they were carried away into captivity, and then a second time at the hands of the Emperor Titus of Rome. On both these occasions the Jews were driven away from their native land and were scattered all over the world. The destruction of Jerusalem in AD 70, by the Romans tolled the bell for the death of the Jewish state. From then on the Jews were scattered throughout the world moving on from country to country. It is this state of ultimate diaspora to which the above verse refers when it declares that one day the Jews will be gathered from all over the world and once again they will be assembled in the Holy Land. It is a covenant of God which shall be fulfilled. We have already seen the fulfillment of this promise on such a wide scale as has never been witnessed by man before. In the present verse a promise has been held out to them that they will be gathered in the Holy Land at the time of the fulfillment of "the promise of the latter days." Never in the history of the Jewish people after any diaspora were they

brought back from all the countries of the world as it happened in the recent past after the creation of the state of Israel.

### **MONOTHEISM AND PHYSICS**

Sometimes a question is raised that these co-relation between science and revelation is in retrospect and not prospectively. To allay this criticism let us review the following developments.

The monotheism of Torah was limited only for the Israelites. Monotheism of Christians had the blemish of Trinity. The only scripture that has taught unadulterated and pure form of Monotheism is the Holy Quran. The teachings of Monotheism have inspired science especially physics in the last 50 years.

Dr. Abdus Salam, the co-recipient with Steven Weinberg and Sheldon Lee Glashow of the 1979 Nobel Prize for Physics for their work in formulating the electroweak theory, which explains the unity of the weak nuclear force and electromagnetism, had inspiration of his work from his belief in Unity of God. It is stated in the book, *Ideals and Realities*, **“To a Muslim mystic, Allah is to be sought in eternal beauty. And for Salam, beauty comes through finding new, subtle, yet simplifying patterns in the natural world. Anything that threatens to confuse the issue seems to him ugly, filling him with an utmost physical revulsion and driving him to clean it away, much as one would remove mud from a shrine.”** The physicists are now working on a string theory that will unite all forms of matter and energy into one. The string theory can be **considered to be an extension of Dr. Salam’s work to other forces of nature.**

If there had been in the heavens and the earth other gods besides Allah, then there would have been chaos in the Universe. This is

the fundamental nature of multiple egos and entities, with contradicting visions, struggling with each other. It is easy for unprejudiced who has not been indoctrinated with the concept of Trinity, to see that our Universe speaks of one Creator, call him Allah or by whatever name but there cannot be three creators of this universe. (The Holy Quran: 31:12 & 23:118)

### **ESSENCE OF ISLAM—REVELATION AND PSYCHIC PHENOMENA**

This series sets out, in the words of the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup>, His Holiness Mirza Ghulam Ahmad, a summary of his exposition of four outstanding topics: ISLAM; ALLAH, THE EXALTED; THE HOLY PROPHET<sup>saw</sup> and THE HOLY QURAN. The original compilation, in Urdu, from which these extracts have been translated into English, was collated with great care and diligence by Syed Daud Ahmad. The English rendering is by the late Sir Muhammad Zafrulla Khan, and is quoted from *The Essence of Islam*. This can be read in the December 2007 Review of Religions at the following link: <http://www.alislam.org/ror/>

### **AL ALEEM: THE BESTOWER OF TRUE DREAMS**

This article examines the neurological basis of dreaming and describes the role that dreams and other intuitions have played in the secular affairs including science. Review this article from a link on the following page: <http://www.alislam.org/allah/>

### **FRIDAY SERMON**

Friday Sermon delivered on January 18, 2008, by Khalifatul-Masih V, His Holiness Mirza Masroor Ahmad covers in part the

topic of Islam and science, and can be reviewed or listened to at the following link: <http://www.alislam.org/archives/>

### **CONCLUSION**

**“And the non-believers say, ‘These are fables of the ancient; and he (Muhammad) has got them written down and they are read out to him morning and evening.’ Say, ‘Allah, Who knows every secret of the heavens and the earth, has revealed it. Indeed, He is the Most Forgiving, Merciful.’”** (The Holy Quran 25:6-7)

In the words of His Holiness Mirza Tahir Ahmad:

**“The desert of Arabia lay trapped in the middle as a wasteland of darkness and ignorance. Would it not be extraordinary for a person born there in AD 600, to so vividly talk of the vastness of the universe and the secrets it contains, secrets which are only now beginning to emerge like the twinkling of dimly lit stars seen through the hazy light of dusk. It is incredible for such a person to speak of things unknown to the greatest scholars of his time anywhere in the world, and yet be proved right under the scrutiny of the scientific examination of the twentieth century. How right he must have been when he declared that whatever knowledge he transmitted to the world was not of his own making, but came from a Supreme, All-Knowing Eternal source of Absolute Wisdom!”** (Revelation, Rationality, Knowledge and Truth, page 286)

And again:

**“The Quran further stipulates that there can be no contradiction within the scriptural universe which is the Word of God (4:83, 21:23). Both the Word of God which is revealed truth and the Work of God which is material universe, must be in perfect unison with**

each other. Thus Divine revelation can never be at odds with the laws of nature, both sharing the same Fountainhead of Eternal Wisdom. This categorical denial of contradiction is yet another way of endorsing the inviolable principle of **rationality.**” (Revelation, Rationality, Knowledge and Truth, page 300)

In the words of Dr. Maurice Bucaille:

**“In the West, Jews, Christians and Atheists are unanimous in** stating (without a scrap of evidence however) that Muhammad wrote the Quran or had it written as an imitation of the Bible. It is claimed that stories of religious history in the Quran resume Biblical stories. This attitude is as thoughtless as saying that Jesus Himself duped His contemporaries by drawing inspiration from the Old Testament during His preachings: the whole of Matthew's Gospel is based on this continuation of the Old Testament, as we have indeed seen already. What expert in exegesis would dream of depriving Jesus of his status as God's envoy for this reason? This is nevertheless the way that Muhammad is judged more often than not in the West: "all he did Was to copy the Bible". It is a summary judgment that does not take account of the fact that the Quran and the Bible provide different versions of a single event. People prefer not to talk about the difference in the descriptions. They are pronounced to be the same and thus scientific knowledge need not be brought **in.**”

He concludes after empirical verification of the revealed wisdom of the Holy Quran:

**“The above observation makes the hypothesis advanced by those** who see Muhammad as the author of the Quran quite untenable. How could a man, from being illiterate, become the most

important author, in terms of literary merit, in the whole of Arabic literature? How could he then pronounce truths of a scientific nature that no other human being could possibly have developed at the time, and all this without once making the slightest error in his **pronouncements on the subject?**”

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