

LONG COURSE



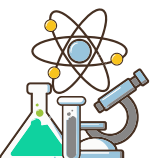
AL HIDAAYAH
الهداية

The Guidance for Humanity

Based on the Glorious Qur'an and Authentic Hadith

STUDY GUIDE




Islam & SCIENCE
Part 1

BY DR ZAGHLOUL AL NAJJAR

From the series:
ISLAM AND SCIENCE

COURSE OUTLINE



■ Course Topics

1. Miracle of the Qur'an
2. Areas of guidance covered in the Qur'an
3. Significance of cosmic verses in the Qur'an
4. Cosmic facts in the Sunnah of the Prophet (pbuh)
5. 'The Universe' in the Qur'an
6. Qur'anic verses relating to the universe
7. Dimensions of creation
8. Qur'anic verses that describe the process of the creation, annihilation, and re-creation of the universe.
9. Qur'anic verses relating to the planet Earth
10. 'The Water' in the Qur'an
11. 'Water cycle' in the Qur'an

■ Course Objectives

1. To understand the miracle and significance of the Qur'an
2. To know, understand, and help others understand the verses related to scientific signs in the Qur'an
3. To realise the divine origin of the Qur'an and the proof for prophethood of Muhammad (pbuh)

COURSE OUTLINE



■ Question & Answer Bucket

■ Transcripts

■ Assessment

Multiple Choice Questions

Match the Columns

True or False

■ Course Duration

Video – 2 hours 20 min

Study Guide – 45 min

Assessment – 10 min

Total Duration – 3 hours 15 min

Lesson 1

SCIENTIFIC NOTIONS IN THE **GLORIOUS** **QUR'AN**





1

Miracle of the QUR'AN

The Qur'an, the last and final revelation to Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) is the only form of divine guidance that has been kept within the hands of man for more than 14 centuries in exactly the same language of revelation, the Arabic language, word to word and letter to letter.

Allah (swt) Himself has taken the responsibility to preserve it in its entirety, and the mere preservation of the Glorious Qur'an for that long span of time is one of its most prominent miracles.





2

Areas of guidance covered **IN THE QUR'AN**

Man cannot live peacefully on the surface of the planet without divine guidance, and at the same time, divine guidance can never be tailored by man.

The Qur'an is a book of guidance to man in areas that cannot be clearly addressed by man, such as the area of faith, acts of worship, the moral code, and the code of transactions with others.

i

The area of faith

In this area, we are asked to believe in Allah (swt), our Creator and the Creator of the universe. Though we cannot see Allah (swt), we can see the wonders of His creation and we are asked to believe in Him and to believe in His supremacy above all His creation. The basic rule in Islam is that you must exalt Allah (swt) above all His creation.



We are asked to believe in His angels even though we cannot see them, and unless the Qur'an wouldn't have mentioned that Allah (swt) has created a certain creation called angels, we could have never found any proof to prove or disprove the existence of angels. Similarly, we are asked to believe in the Jinn even though we cannot see them.

We are asked to believe in the resurrection after the death, in accountability, in judgment, in eternity in the life to come. We have no material or physical evidence to prove or disprove the reality of these facts. Unless Allah has given us the guidance in these areas, man could never ever be on a true faith.





ii

The acts of worship

Worship by definition is obedience, and there can never be any obedience without the divine guidance. You cannot innovate a set of acts of worship for yourself and assume that these would be accepted by Allah (swt), because worship by definition means submission in obedience, and unless we receive that guidance from our Creator, our worship can never be accepted whether we have done it properly or not.





iii

The moral code

We know that all forms of divine guidance invite for a high level of morality, for the excellence of morality. Yet, although man is a moral being by creation, he cannot establish for himself or herself a moral code that can be absolutely correct and unbiased. If we leave the moral code to man to tailor, he can either make it too tight to be impossible, or too lax, to be useless.

iv

The code of transactions with others

Due to the human selfishness, greed, aspiration for the better and the fear of the future, human relationship without divine guidance will entail lots of injustices.





3

Significance of **COSMIC VERSES IN THE QUR'AN**

If we read the Glorious Qur'an, we can see very clearly that amidst the main message of the Qur'an, which is faith, acts of worship, the moral code, and the code of transactions with others, we can find about many things of the cosmos we are living in: talking about the earth, the moon, the sun, the solar system, the planets, the constellations, the totality of the universe.

One would wonder, why should a book that is basically a form of divine guidance to man include more than 1000 cosmic verses. What's the reason behind that?





Allah knew in His eternal knowledge that the time will come when man develops in the area of science and technology as he developed in other areas before, and he will become conceited with his scientific and technological achievements that whenever you ask him to believe in Allah (swt), His messengers, His angels, His books, he will ask for the scientific evidence. It is because of this reason, that Allah (swt) in His glory has infilled the Qur'an with many scientific notions that do not come to man as pieces of scientific information but come in the context of testifying to the might, knowledge, and wisdom of the Creator. To testify to the fact that as much as Allah (swt) has created, he can annihilate what He has created and can resurrect everything again.





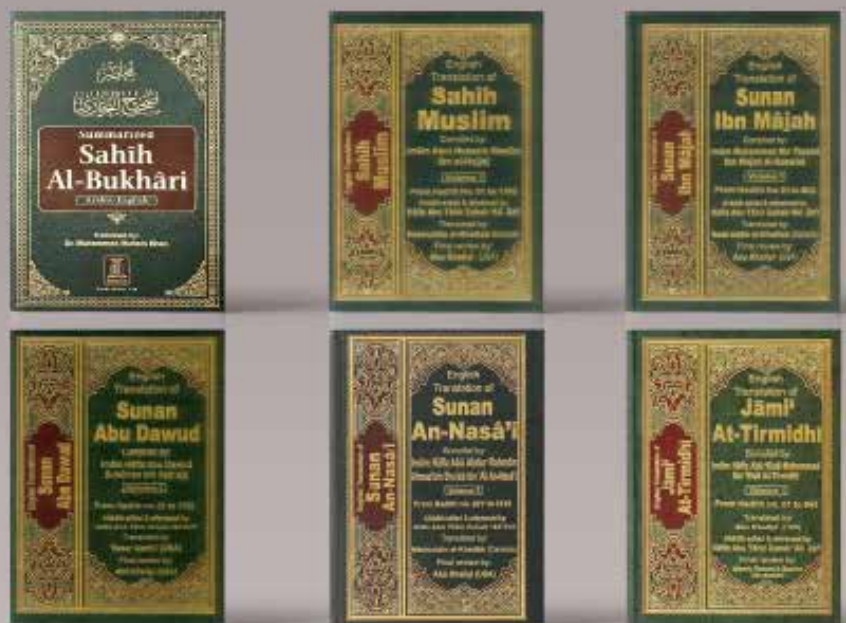
It also testifies to the fact that the Qur'an cannot be the work of man. For a book revealed more than 14 centuries ago, to an unlettered prophet, in an unlettered society, to come up with many of the scientific facts that were only disclosed to man a few decades ago, proves the scientific miracle of the Glorious Qur'an. And because of this we can understand why the Qur'an, a book of divine guidance to man contains so many verses about scientific miracles.

Within this great message of the Qur'an, we find more than 1000 cosmic verses, and this scientific address is the most suitable language to the people of our time.



Lesson 2

SCIENTIFIC NOTIONS IN THE SUNNAH





3

Cosmic facts in the **SUNNAH OF THE PROPHET (PBUH)**

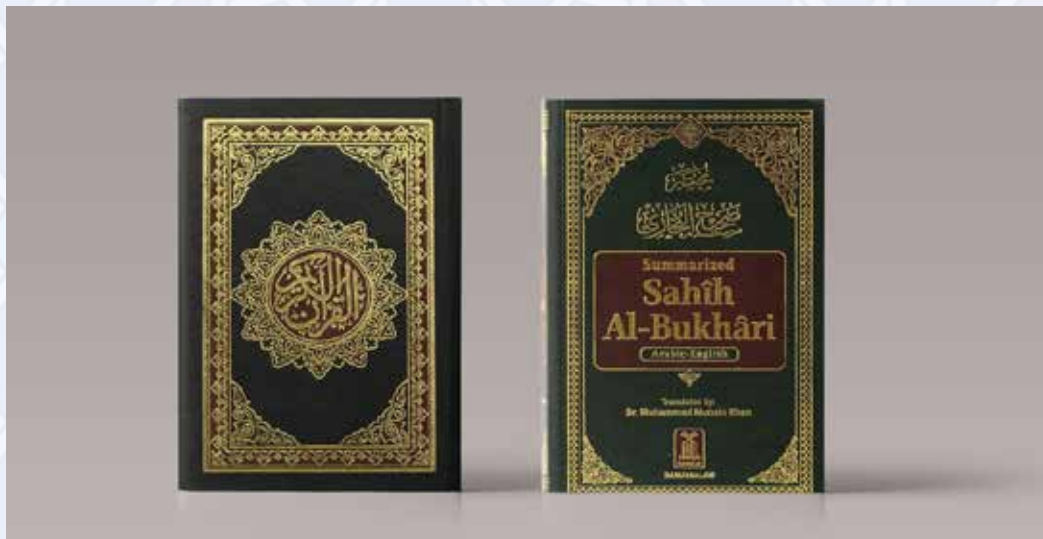
Sunnah is the tradition of Prophet Muhammad (pbuh).



The Prophet (pbuh) said:

“I was given the Qur’an and the like of it with it.”

The Sunnah of the Prophet (pbuh) is a part of the divine revelation. As a Muslim, we have to believe in both, the Qur’an and the Sunnah, which are the basic foundations and the main sources of divine guidance to man from Allah (swt).





Though the Sunnah of the Prophet (pbuh) is mainly concerned with the religion and its four basic foundations – faith, acts of worship, the moral code, and the code of transactions with others, we also find in the Sunnah many scientific notions that can testify to the might, knowledge and will of the Creator. It can also testify to the Prophethood of Muhammad (pbuh) and can be an address to the people of our time.





FOR EXAMPLE:



The Prophet (pbuh) said:

“The first landmass placed on earth is the location of the House (the Ka’bah) and the earth was expanded from it.”

*Shu’ab Al Eemaan – Hadith 3698

Many scholars of Hadith found the meaning of this Hadith to be very strange, but it only very recently proved to be a scientific reality.

It is something very strange for an unlettered Prophet (pbuh), in an unlettered society to spell out such a scientific fact that never came to the knowledge of man until the last few decades of the 20th century.

The Ka’bah was standing on a piece of volcanic island, an oceanic island surrounded by water. Recent scientific discoveries tell us that our earth in one of the earliest phases was completely covered by water, there was no landmass.

***NB: Shaikh Albani classified this Hadith as weak**



Then Allah (swt) caused the axial part of that ocean to be rifted by deep rifts, and then volcanicity would take place to build up what we call an oceanic ridge. And it was this very first peak of that oceanic ridge that was living above the water level that constituted an oceanic Island. And it was upon this very first part of landmass that Allah (swt) sent his angels to build the Ka'bah on.





What science tells us today that the whole landmass grew from a single volcanic vent, or a series of volcanic vents in one oceanic Island. And through the volcanic activity of this volcanic island, the whole landmass was built in the form of a single continent (mother continent or Pangaea), and this continent was split by Allah (swt) into the seven main continents of our time.

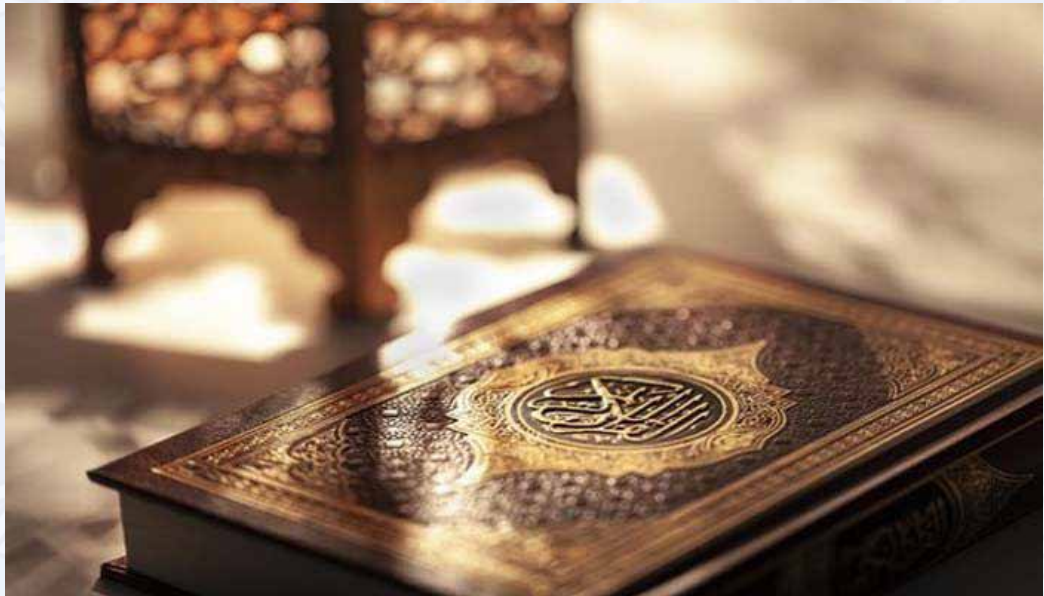


For the Prophet (pbuh) to emphasize this scientific fact that only came to human knowledge in the last few decades of the 20th century is nothing more than proof about his prophethood and that his traditions were also a part of Divine revelation.



“Nor does he speak from his own inclination; it is not but a revelation revealed; taught to him by the one intense in strength.”

Al Qur'an 53:3-5



Lesson 3

THE UNIVERSE





5

'The Universe' IN THE QUR'AN

The notion of the universe in the Glorious Qur'an has always been used as a testimony for the reality of the Creator, for the fact that this vast, immense, and orderly universe must have a Creator because this orderly universe cannot be the product of an accident or chance. It cannot produce itself by itself because this is absolute nonsense. Also, it is not an eternal universe, although in the materialistic civilization of our time this notion has always been repeated.





Recently science has discovered that this universe had a beginning, calculated estimated around 13.7 billion years. For a fact, whatever had a beginning must have an end.

The Qur'an emphasizes the fact that man must know his Creator through pondering over the creation of the universe, and many verses in the Qur'an enhance men to do so.



“Verily in the creation of the heavens and the earth and the alternation of day and night are signs for those who can reason; Those who remember Allah (swt), standing, sitting, and reclining on their own sides, and give a thought to the creation of the heavens and the earth. Our Lord, you would not create this in vain. All Glory be to you, save us from the Hellfire.”

Al Qur'an 3:190–191





6

Qur'anic verses relating TO THE UNIVERSE

i

Creation of the seven heavens
and the earths



“It is Allah who has created seven heavens and
of the earth, the like of them.”

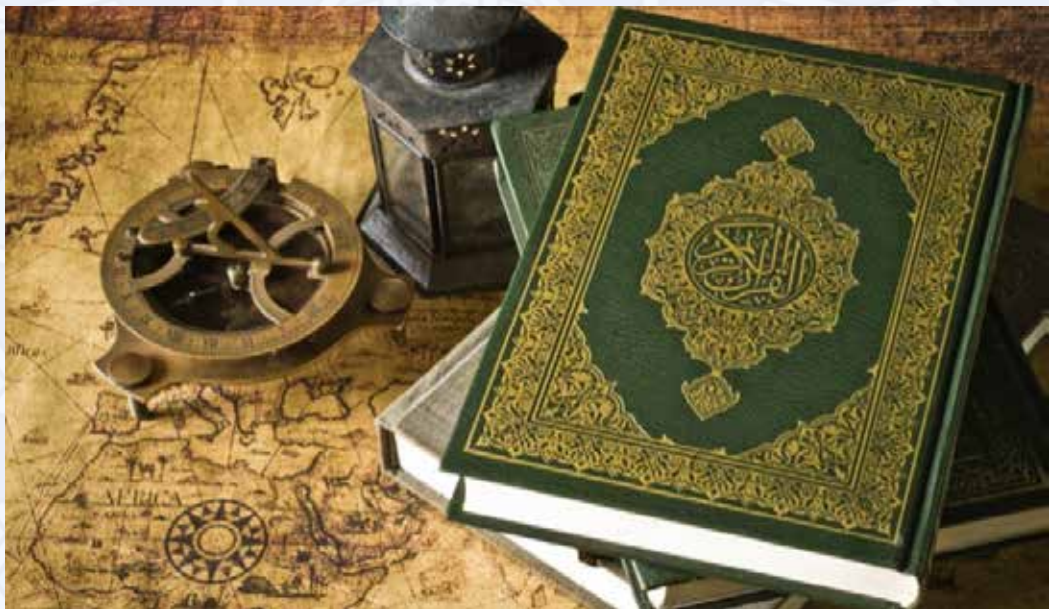
Al Qur'an 65:12





Many a time people wonder, where are these seven heavens and the earths. Of course, we cannot go beyond a small part of the first heaven, so unless Allah (swt) has told us that He has created seven heavens, there was no way in front of man. Whatever technological achievements he can realize to get out of the first heaven, but man could have never known this.

Thus, when Allah (swt) mentions this seven heavens and earths in the Qur'an, man ponders upon what are the seven earths?





Many commentators in the past had given various explanations in the past, but as science and technological advancements progressed, these explanations were also turned down.



The Prophet (pbuh) said:

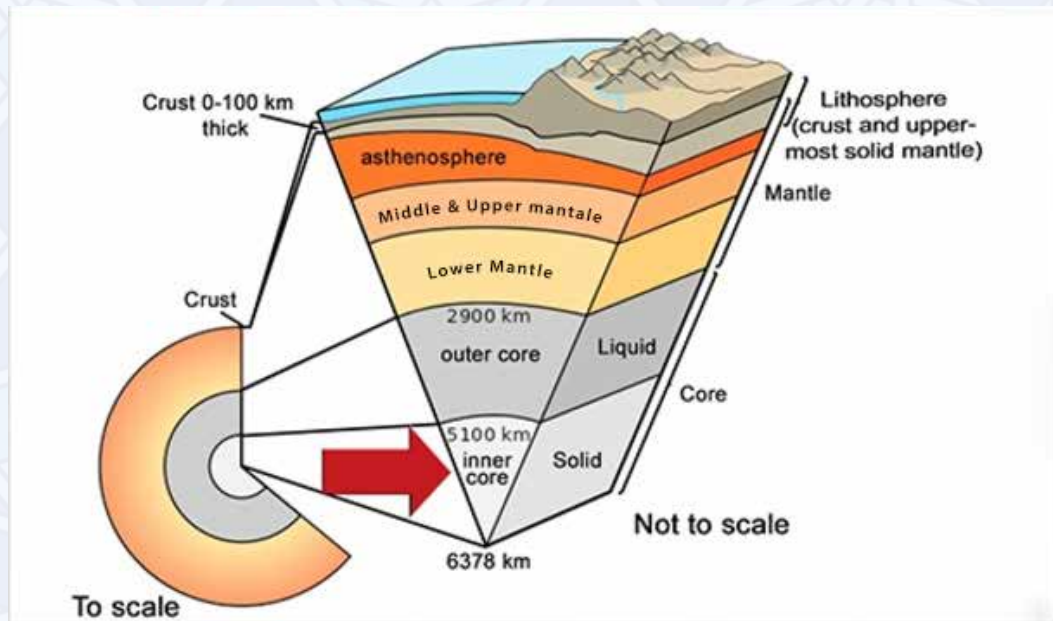
“Whoever will snatch illegally a palm length of this earth will be surrounded by seven likes from the seven earths.”



The Prophet (pbuh) said:

“Whoever will snatch illegally a palm length of this earth, he would be surrounded by the equal length from seven earths, or he will be thrown down to the seventh earth.”

This indicates that the seven earths are within our earth, and modern geophysical discoveries have proved that we have seven earths within our earth.



01

WE HAVE A SOLID INNER CORE THAT WAS MAINLY COMPOSED OF IRON AND NICKEL

02

A MOLTEN OUTER CORE THAT HAS GOT A SIMILAR COMPOSITION

03

THE LOWER MANTLE

04

THE MIDDLE MANTLE

05

THE UPPER MANTLE

06

THE ZONE OF WEAKNESS (ASTHENOSPHERE)

07

THE ALPHA ROCKY COVER



We now realize that our seven earths are within our earth, and that at the beginning, Allah (swt) had created only one earth and the one heaven, and then he differentiated the earth into seven earths and differentiated the heavens into seven heavens, and the Ka'bah is at the central point of the first earth.

These are very recent discoveries, and nobody at the time of Prophet (pbuh) would have known this. This is a unique notion in the Qur'an and Sunnah that cannot be reached by any man, and we have a system that testifies to the greatness of that universe, and the orderly arrangement of that universe.





Positioning of the stars



**“Then I swear by the positioning of the stars;
And Indeed, it is a great oath if you know.”**

Al Qur'an 56: 75-76

This is a very important scientific notion that comes in context of testifying to the might, will and knowledge of Allah (swt).

The stars are one of the greatest creations of Allah (swt) in the entire universe. They are magnificent, gigantic nuclear furnaces, where Allah creates for us all forms of elements (light elements like hydrogen to fuse together to produce helium, and light gases like helium, to fuse together to give lithium and so on) by a process called nuclear fusion. In this gigantic nuclear thermos, which is a star, Allah creates for us all the needed elements that life depends upon.



One would wonder that if the stars are so important then why would Allah (swt) take such a great oath by the positioning of stars instead of the stars themselves?

The answer to that is that only very recently, we came to realize that the distances of stars from the earth is so great that the humans on earth can never see the stars.



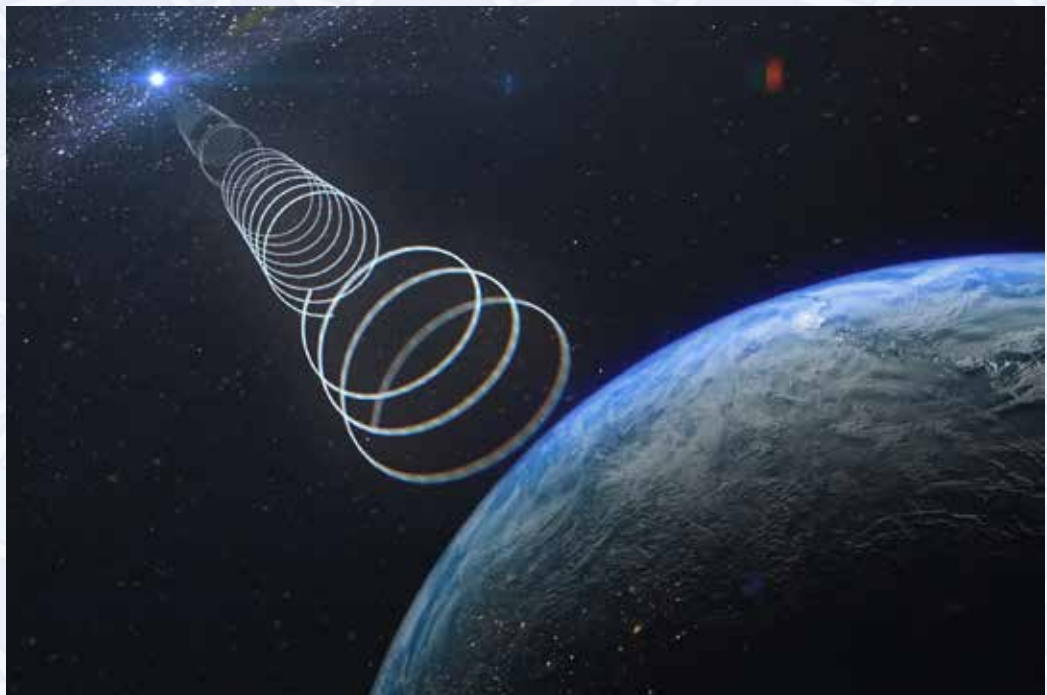
Take for example the sun, it is the nearest star to us, and the light emanating from the sun takes 8.3 seconds to reach the earth. At this time, the sun is still moving and by the time the emanated light reaches the earth, it would have moved several 1000's of kilometres away from the position from which this light had originally emanated.



When this is the case with the sun, though it is the nearest star to us, what would be the case with the other stars that are much further away.



Astronomers tell us today that some of these stars have actually died away and disappeared, and yet we can see the light that was emanated from such stars every night, and every night from a different position. So, from the surface of our earth men can never see stars, we can only see positions through which stars have migrated



This discovery came to our notice very late in the 20th century. Who would have told Muhammad (pbuh) this if he has written the Qur'an, as many of the anti-Islamic scholars claim?

Lesson 4

CREATION OF **THE UNIVERSE**





7

Dimensions OF CREATION

This lesson is mainly directed to a very critical and delicate problem to man, the problem of creation.

**CREATION CAN BE DIVIDED
INTO THREE DIMENSIONS –**

A THE CREATION OF THE UNIVERSE

B THE CREATION OF LIFE

C THE CREATION OF MAN



“I did not make them witness the creation of the heavens and earth, nor the creation of themselves, and I would not have taken the misguiders as assistants.”

Al Qur'an 18:51



The creation of the heavens and earth, the creation of life, and the creation of man has not been witnessed by any one of us. Thus, entering any of these areas without divine guidance is like entering a dark tunnel.

On the other hand, the Qur'an asks us to look into the creation.



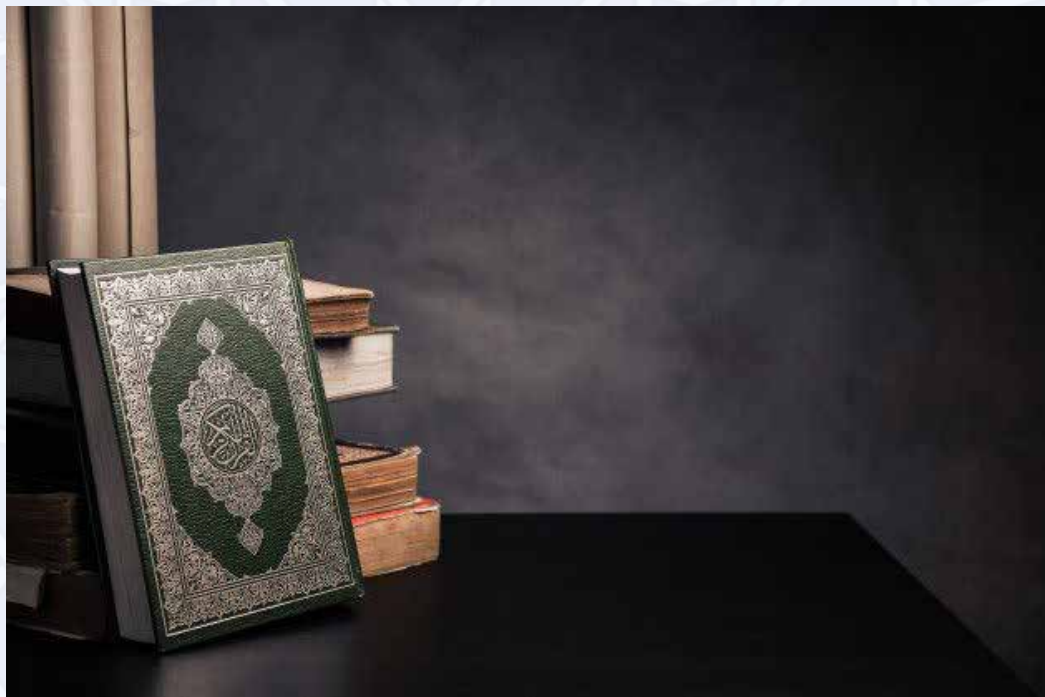
“Say, (O Muhammad), travel through the earth and observe how He (Allah) began creation.”

Al Qur'an 29:20





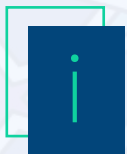
If we combine these two verses together, and other Qur'anic verses which are alike, we can see clearly that despite the fact that none of us have witnessed the process of creation, with its three dimensions, yet Allah (swt) through His mercy has left in the universe many signs that can help men to reach a rational conclusion about the process of creation, but if we enter that area negating the Creator, we will never reach anywhere.





8

Qur'anic verses that describe the process of the **CREATION, ANNIHILATION, AND RE-CREATION OF THE UNIVERSE**



**“And the heaven We constructed with great
might. And indeed, We will keep expanding it.”**

Al Qur'an 51:47

No man had ever dreamt of the fact that we are living in a steadily expanding universe. It was at the beginning of the 20th century, when the process of manufacturing telescopes had slightly developed, scientists were amazed at the fact that stars are drifting away from us, and towards the first third of the 20th century, astronomers came to realize the fact that it is the galaxies that are drifting away from each other. It was towards the middle of the 20th century, that scientists came to realize that we are living in a steadily expanding universe.



“Have not the unbelievers seen that the heavens and the earth were a joined entity, and then We broke them asunder. And We have made from water every living thing. Then will they not believe.”

Al Qur'an 21:30

The fact that men discovered the expanding nature of the universe, made astronomers say that if we go against time, this vast, immense orderly universe will coalesce into a singularity, into a single point that so minute that it cannot be seen, and so dense that it cannot be measured. At this point, all the laws of physics and quantum physics stops to react, and it comes to nothingness.





Allah (swt) has created this vast, immense, and orderly universe out of nothingness which the scientists today call as 'The theory of the Big Bang'.

We as Muslims support this theory not because scientists have reached a conclusion in it, but because of this Qur'anic notion.



"Then He directed Himself to the heaven while it was smoke and said to it and the earth, 'come into being willingly or unwillingly.' They said, 'we have come in willing obedience.'"

Al Qur'an 41:11

This cosmic smoke has been recently photographed by the Hubble telescope, as astronomers refer to it as a cloud of dust, a cloud of minute particles.





“The day when We will fold the heaven like the folding of a sheet for the records. As we began the first creation, We will repeat it. A promise binding upon Us. Indeed, We will do it.”

Al Qur'an 21:104

Will the universe keep expanding all the time to no end? We noticed that the temperature of the universe is dropping, it started by billions of degrees centigrade, and the temperature of the universe wherever we look is a constant temperature of minus three degrees absolute. This proves that the temperature is decreasing, and if the temperature is decreasing, the outward push of the universe is also decreasing. And if that outward push will be less than gravity, then gravity will cause the universe to collapse. This is called ‘The Big Crunch’.

We as Muslims support the Big Crunch theory not because astronomers have reached a final say in it, but because there is a Qur’anic verse that points to it.



“On the day the earth will be replaced by another earth, and the heavens (as well), and they (all creatures) will come out before Allah. The One, the Prevailing.”

Al Qur'an 41:11

The fact that the Big Crunch will be followed by a second Big Bang, that changes everything to smoke, and from that smoke Allah (swt) will create an Earth different from ours.

It must be a much bigger earth to accommodate us, the billions of human beings that preceded us, and the billions that will come after us until the end of this world.

Thus, in five verses the Glorious Qur'an, a book revealed to an unlettered Prophet, in an unlettered society more than 14 centuries ago, confronting scientists, has decided, and settled one of the most critical areas that can never ever be settled by man.

Lesson 5

PLANET IN THE **GLORIOUS** **QUR'AN**





9

Qur'anic verses relating TO THE PLANET EARTH

The earth is mentioned in the Glorious Qur'an more than 150 times and every single of these verses is a scientific miracle by itself.

The below few verses from Qur'an will prove to us that every scientific notion in the Qur'an is so precise that it can testify to the people of our time, in this era of science and technology that the Qur'an cannot be the work of man.



“And on the earth are signs for the certain in faith.”

Al Qur'an 51:20

What are these signs? If we meditate about the earth, we can realize that we are living on a ball of rock, with a mass of 6000 million million million tonnes suspended in the space. Who could govern it and preserve it in its orbit other than Allah (swt).



We see enough signs that can testify to the fact that this is the work of the Creator, and that nobody has any power other than Allah (swt) to be capable of such a gigantic task.

If the earth goes slightly closer to the sun, due to its excess mass, the energy from the sun could have burnt everything on the surface of that planet, it could have evaporated water and destroyed the atmosphere.



If the earth was slightly further away from the sun, the amount of energy reaching the earth from the sun would not be enough to sustain life. Everything would freeze and life would be annihilated in no time.



If the earth would be slightly larger than its volume, it could have attracted more atmosphere and the pressure of the atmosphere could stop the development of any form of life bigger than a rat.



If the earth was slightly smaller, it could not have attracted enough atmosphere to sustain life.

Thus, everything in our planet can clearly testify to the fact that it is the creation of a Great Creator, who has done everything in precise measures.



“And after that He expanded the earth; He extracted from it its water and its pasture.”

Al Qur'an 79: 30-31



These verses talk about the successive stages in the creation of the universe. Allah (swt) explains about the expansion of the earth through volcanic activity, and through this process of volcanic activity, Allah (swt) has caused the earth's water and its pasture to gush out from within the earth.



It is very recently towards the end of the 20th century, after an intensive study of volcanic activity on earth, it was proved that the most abundant gas that comes out from volcanic vents and fissures is water vapor which condenses into water. We came to realize that the earth is the richest planet we know of in water quantity, and this water has gushed out from within the earth through the process of volcanic activity.





The second most abundant gas that comes out from volcanic vents and fissures after water vapor is carbon dioxide. The percentage of carbon dioxide in our atmosphere is something very minute, around 0.003%, and from this minute percentage of carbon dioxide Allah (swt) made the elementary element from which all food on the surface of our planet is generated. Allah (swt) has given green plants the capacity to take water from the ground or through watering, use carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and analyse that water by the solar energy into its elementary components.

The fact that all the water of our planet was gushed out from within the earth and all the food chain on the surface of our planet are actually produced from that minute percentage of carbon dioxide, which Allah has gushed out also from within the volcanic vents and volcanic fissures is a scientific fact, that was not reached until the end of the 20th century and for the Qur'an to spell it out that plainly, is a living testimony that the Qur'an cannot be the work of man.



The Prophet (pbuh) said:

“Verily this Qur'an, its miracles can never come to an end. The more you look into it, the more you can see something new in it.”

Lesson 6

WATER IN THE **GLORIOUS QUR'AN**





10

'The Water' IN THE QUR'AN

The Glorious Qur'an a book revealed more than 14 centuries ago, speaks about water in 63 different verses and every single one of these verses is a scientific fact that can testify to the fact that the Qur'an is the Divine Word and cannot be the work of any man.

In the previous lesson we came to know that our planet earth has been bestowed by a great quantity of water, that is estimated around 1.4 billion cubic kilometres of water. Allah has bestowed that great amount of water on our planet to make it suitable for life.





Scientists have wondered since the early days of scientific knowledge that where did this great quantity of water come from?

Many theories have been put forward, but towards the end of the 20th century, the conclusion reached was that this great quantity of water on Earth gushed out from within the earth itself.

We have two different cycles for water on the surface of our planet.

i

THE FIRST CYCLE IS THE EMANATION OF WATER VAPOUR FROM WITHIN VOLCANIC VENTS AND VOLCANIC FISSURES. THE CONDENSATION OF THIS WATER VAPOUR IN THE UPPER LAYERS OF THE ATMOSPHERE, OR WITH THE WEATHERING ZONE OF THE ATMOSPHERE, AND COMING DOWN AS RAIN. THIS RAIN WOULD RUN ON THE SURFACE OF OUR PLANET, BREAK ROCKS INTO SOIL, IRRIGATE PLANTS AND OTHER VEGETATIONS, IRRIGATE ELEMENTS AND HUMANS AND BE STORED GRADUALLY INTO THE ATMOSPHERE, AS WELL AS IN THE SOIL IN THE GROUND, AND THEN FLOWS TO DEPRESSED AREAS TO CONSTITUTE SEAS AND OCEANS.



ii

THE TERM EARTH OR WORD EARTH COMES IN THE QUR'AN WITH THREE DIFFERENT MEANINGS.

A

IF IT COMES IN COMPARISON WITH THE MOON, THE SUN, THE CONSTELLATIONS, THE FIRMAMENT, IT MEANS THE TOTAL PLANET.

B

IF IT COMES WITHOUT COMPARISON, IT MAY MEAN THE CONTINENTAL MASSES ON WHICH WE LIVE, THE LANDMASS OR THE SOIL SECTION, THAT'S COVERING THE ROCKY LAYER OF THE CONTINENTAL MASS.

C

IF SEEN IN THE CONTEXT OF THE VERSE:



“And after that He expanded the earth.”

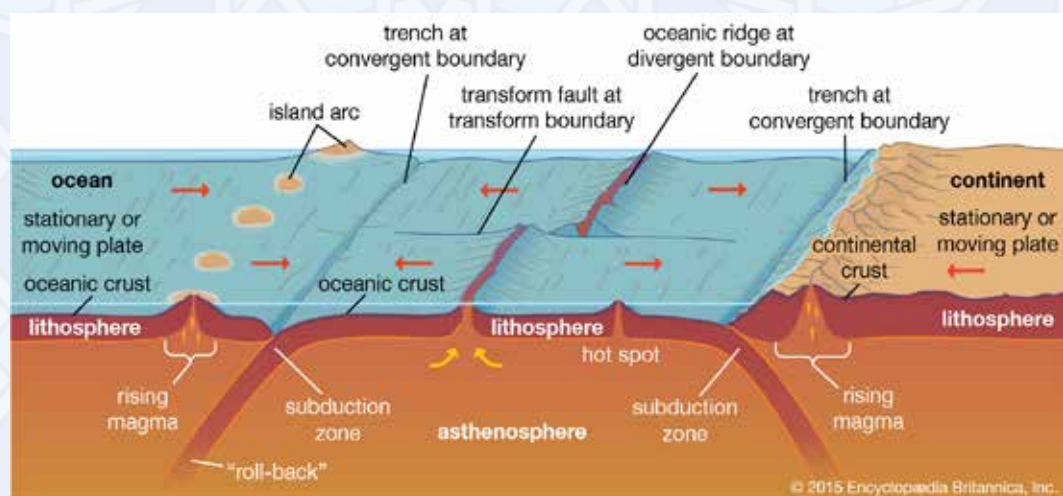
Al Qur'an 79:30

The Term 'earth' here means landmass.



And this has been scientifically proven that the earth started by an inundating ocean, and through the divine plan, this ocean was rifted at its axial path by deep rifts systems so deep that it penetrated the outer rocky cover of the earth reaching the zone of weakness where we find rocks in a semi molten state, and this magma started to eject from within that rift system to constitute a mid-oceanic Ridge at the axial path of that primordial ocean.

Through this process of expansion, Allah has caused the water vapour to gush out from within the volcanic fence and the volcanic fissures, explaining the origin of water on the surface of our planet, a fact that was only disclosed to man in the latest decades of the 20th century.





11

'Water cycle' IN THE QUR'AN

After emphasizing the fact that all water on the surface of earth was gushed out from within the earth, the Qur'an also speaks about the water cycle around the earth.

This cycle is so precise that it can testify to the wisdom of the Creator, to the fact that this cycle cannot be accidental, but it needs very careful planning.



"And have you seen the water that you drink; Is it you who brought it down from the clouds, or is it We who bring it down; If We willed, We could make it bitter, so why are you not grateful."

Al Qur'an 56:68-70



The Qur'an speaks in numerous verses about the sending of water from the heavens/ clouds. In the above verses, Allah (swt) is addressing the unbelievers by informing them about the favours and His mercy upon mankind that sends down water from the clouds for the humans to drink.

If He (swt) willed, He could have caused that water to come down as salty or so that we cannot drink. Thus, drinking a sip of fresh water is a great mercy from Allah (swt), and it deserves the thanks of human beings.





If the chemical composition of the atmosphere would be slightly different, would be more in nitrogen oxide or more in carbon dioxide, the water coming down from rain, would have been more salty and more acidic, and bitter and unportable. That's why Allah (swt) is directing our attention to the great process of running the water cycle, or what is known as the hydrological cycle around the Earth.





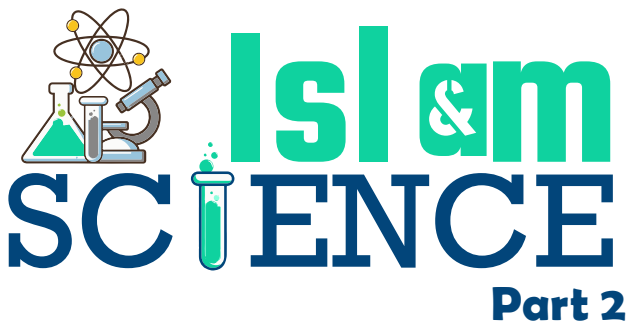
This cycle alone is enough testimony to every sane person, every rational person that the water cycle cannot be the work of anybody other than Allah (swt), and therefore in many Qur'anic verses, the Qur'an enhances man to think about this water cycle as a testimony to the careful planning in the creation of the universe, careful planning in providing every means of sustaining life to living beings on earth.

If water remained stagnant on earth, it would have rotten in no time because every single cubic meter or cubic centimetre of water, we have billions of living beings that live and die. Unless Allah has caused that cycle to go around the earth, life would virtually have been impossible, because all the water on the surface of our planet would have rotten in no time.



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From the series:
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COURSE OUTLINE



■ Course Topics

1. The existence of oceanic currents
2. Existence of life deep within the ocean depths
3. The truth about oceans burning
4. Solving the issues of mankind
5. The similitude of mountains as pegs
6. Mountains – the stabilizers for Earth
7. Ka'bah – the center of Earth
8. Physical signs testifying the blessings of Makkah
9. Man's primary sources of knowledge
10. The description of earthquakes in the Qur'an
11. The miracle of chlorophyll
12. The health benefits of olives
13. The plants as a source of energy

■ Course Objectives

1. Learn and understand about the various scientific miracles mentioned in the Qur'an
2. Learn about the primary sources of knowledge for man

COURSE OUTLINE



■ Question & Answer Bucket

■ Transcripts

■ Assessment

Multiple Choice Questions
Match the Columns
True or False

■ Course Duration

Video	–	2 hours 20 min
Study Guide	–	45 min
Assessment	–	10 min
Total Duration	–	3 hours 15 min

Lesson 7

Seas and Oceans

in the Qur'an and Sunnah





12

THE EXISTENCE of oceanic currents



“Or (the Unbelievers' state) is like the depths of darkness in a vast deep ocean, overwhelmed with billow topped by billow, topped by (dark) clouds: depths of darkness, one above another: if a man stretches out his hands, he can hardly see it! for any to whom Allah gives not light, there is no light!”

Al Qur'an 24:40



The above verse describes the evil deeds of unbelievers using the similitude of layers of darkness at the bottom of the oceans, which is quite unique because it is one of the greatest scientific discoveries of man many years after the Qur'an was revealed.



Mankind has recently (towards the latest decades of the 20th century) discovered that the bottoms of the vast deep oceans are submerged in absolute darkness because of the inability of the sun rays to reach so deep into them.

The Qur'an explains that it is layers of darkness topped by layers, that is layers of waves topped by other waves, topped by clouds, and if one was to stretch out their hands in this darkness, they would not be able to see it.



Until 1950, none of the scientists or oceanographers believed in the possibility of the existence of currents within the water body. They believed that we have surface currents, surface waves, and further divided them into wind driven currents and tidal currents. It was only after the middle part of the 20th century, that oceanographers began to realise about the existence of oceanic currents (currents within the water body).



They further discovered that the light coming from the sun, 49% of its rays are reflected by the clouds. The remaining 51%, most of it is used up in the evaporation of the water for the enhancement of the water cycle, and only 10% of the rays penetrate the water body. Of this 10% too, according to different wavelengths, the rays (red being the shortest – absorbed at ten meters) are absorbed by the waves of the waterbody accordingly, and only 1% of the rays penetrate past the 100 meters level, and once we reach the oceanic currents, nothing can penetrate past them at all, leading to complete darkness.





13

EXISTENCE OF LIFE deep within the ocean depths



Further, the verse ending with ‘For any to whom Allah gives not light, there is no light,’ is not only a metaphoric expression explaining that anybody living on the surface of the planet can never be guided without receiving the divine guidance because man is in need of revealed knowledge as much as he needs the acquired knowledge, but also the explanation for another scientific wonder.



Oceanographers and scientists had always claimed that life is impossible at the greatest depths of seas and oceans because of the absolute darkness and water pressure deep under for any living being to withstand, but in recent times after the development of submarines and venturing down in the oceans, they were surprised to find a flourishing life much greater in size than the life in the upper 100 meters of the oceans.



After multiple researches and experiments, they found that each animal living in that darkness had a certain chemical compound and hormone in it that when the two mixed, the animal was able to illuminate itself and light up its way.

So, the verse 'For any to whom Allah gives not light, there is no light' though mentioned in a metaphoric way, is an absolute perfect explanation for the scientific wonders mentioned hundreds of years before mankind discovered it.

Lesson 8

The Sea

set on a Blaze





14

THE TRUTH about oceans burning



“And [by] the sea filled [with fire].”

Al Qur'an 52:6



Allah (swt) is far above his creation in status and does not need to swear an oath to them, but His swearing an oath for certain things is a way of directing our attention to the importance of the matter by which the oath is given.



Since water and fire are incompatible (water quenches the fire and fire evaporates water), the Arabs were unable to understand the scientific meaning (how water and fire coexist without one annihilating the other?) behind this verse due to their lack of knowledge about such matters.

They tried to understand the verse in the context and knowledge available to them.

Rather than understanding the word 'Masjoor' as something heated, they understood its alternate meaning as 'filled with water and restrained from further encroachment over land', with an explanation that Allah (swt) has stored a great quantity of that water on the two poles of the earth and on top of the peaks of mountains, so that there exists enough space for life to exist, plants, animals and humans.





However, recently when scientists began diving to the bottoms of the seas and oceans, they were surprised to know that all oceans are physically set on a blaze. Since the thickness of the crust under the seas and oceans is very thin (ranging between five to eight kilometres), and most oceans lie their axile part on deep rifts (depth of rifts ranging between 65 kilometres to 150 kilometres). When this crust is penetrated by deep falls, the troughs penetrate the outer rocky cover of the earth reaching the zone of weakness where rocks are in a semi molten stage at temperatures more than 1000 degrees centigrade causing magma and lava to gush out in millions of tons to infill these troughs and creating a mid-oceanic region. When the magma and lava make contact with the water, it causes the water to evaporate. The vapours come out to find a cold zone of water and condenses coming back to quench that magma a little bit, so that the new magma can come out and the cycle goes on making all the oceans of the time to be physically set on a blaze.





Water at the depths of the oceans has very low temperatures, and therefore Allah (swt) created volcanic activity at the bottoms of oceans and seas, to warm this water for life at these great depths of seas and oceans, which is why we usually find life binding around these volcanic events.





15

SOLVING THE issues of mankind



The differences between Muslims and non-Muslims are mainly concentrated around two issues:

i

They do not believe that the Qur'an is revealed by God

ii

They do not believe in the prophethood of Muhammad (pbuh)



If we are able to solve these two issues using the language that people understand (currently being the scientific language due to the age of science and technology), many of the problems of the world we live in today could be solved.



Let alone diving to the bottoms of the seas and oceans, the Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) never rode the sea in his lifetime. Who other than Allah (swt) could have informed him about such scientific miracles in the Qur'an long before humanity discovered them?

The only divine guidance in the hands of man today is the Qur'an and the Sunnah (traditions of Prophet Muhammad (pbuh)), making it an obligation on every Muslim capable of carrying that message to others to convey it to them in the only language they can understand.



“Invite (all) to the Way of thy Lord with wisdom and beautiful preaching; and argue with them in ways that are best and most gracious: for your Lord knows best, who have strayed from His Path, and who receive guidance.”

Al Qur'an 16:125

Lesson 9

Mountains

in the Qur'an and Sunnah





16

THE SIMILITUDE of mountains as pegs



“Have We not made the earth as a
wide expanse,
And the mountains as pegs?”

Al Qur'an 78:6-7



Geology has proved that initially the Earth started with a very rugged topography, after which Allah (swt) through His knowledge, wisdom, and might created wind, running water, gravity, plants and animals to level the earth's topography to become accessible and suited to man. This process took place billions of years before the creation of man, and when man was created, they found the earth as an easily accessible expanse.



Allah (swt) addresses the unbelievers by showing His might, knowledge and wisdom that He made the earth which had a very rugged topography into an easily accessible level expanse proving that the universe is in need of a Creator and Sustainer for it.

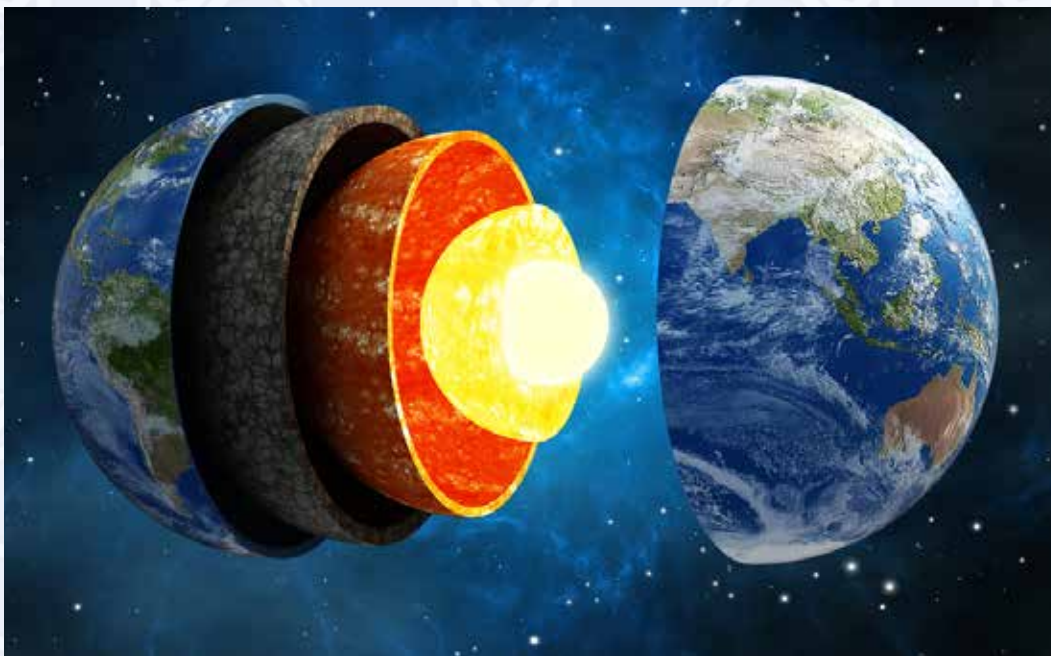
Further, the second verse describing the mountains as pegs is another proof of the Qur'an's scientific miracles.

Recent geological discoveries have proved that mountains are similar to pegs, wherein the greater part of a mountain is deeply buried in the ground, and only a small part of it (around 1/10th of that length) is exposed above the ground surface to simulate the function of holding down and stabilising the Earth exactly like that of a peg or the picket that holds the sides of a tent firmly to the ground.





When the Earth was initially created, there was a single continent known as Pangea, or the mother continent which was later split into plates. The outer rocky layer of the Earth and the oceanic bottom split into plates that are floating on top of a semi molten layer called the zone of weakness or Asthenosphere.



As the Earth rotates around its own axis, these plates glide towards and away from each other, but since this movement was very fast at the beginning of the creation, it would not allow any soil to accumulate, any plant or grow, or any elemental exist, making life virtually impossible during the early stages of creation.

It was only when Allah (swt) created the mountains, it helped link the content and mass with the ocean bottom, bringing this motion to a big halt and making the Earth suitable for life.



However, up until the year 1990, all available sources of knowledge and reference would describe the mountains as surface protrusions only. Nobody knew anything about the fact that these mountains actually had a much greater part of them buried deeply in the ground.

Only towards the last few decades of the 20th century, did mankind realise that mountains are deeply buried in the ground, and the so-called mountain roots are actually 10 to 15 times the length of the mountain's elevations above sea level.



17

MOUNTAINS – the stabilizers for Earth



“And He has set up on the earth mountains standing firm, lest it should shake with you; and rivers and roads; that you may guide yourselves.”

Al Qur'an 16:15



Allah (swt) describes the mountains as stabilizers for the Earth, to prevent it from shaking swiftly and preventing the existence of life due to instability.



We know that the breakage of the Continental masses and the oceanic floor into a large number of plates and their movement of drifting from each other before the creation of mountains was much faster than the rate of movement today, only after the creation of mountains as stabilizers life flourished.



So, Allah (swt) is showing His bounties upon man by civilizing the continental masses of mountains and using them as a means of dropping rain, which runs down cutting channels in them, and levels the ground making deltas and planes, so that the earth would be easily accessible to man.

Lesson 10

Makkah

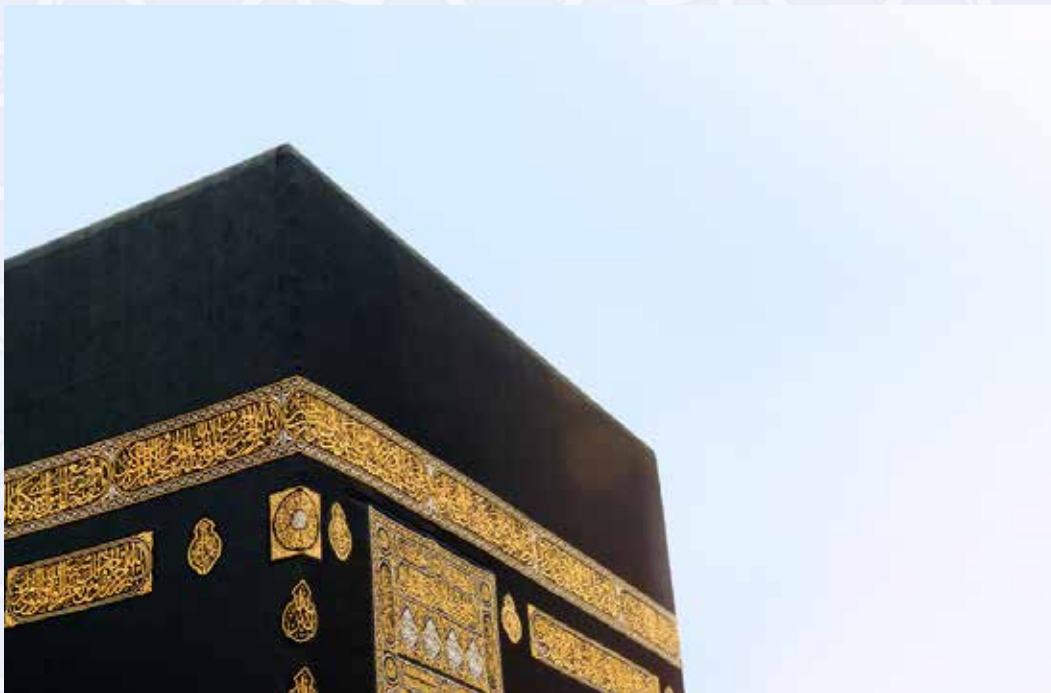
The Holy City





18

KA'BAH – the center of Earth



The Prophet (pbuh) said that the Ka'bah was a prominence above water, and from that prominence all the landmass was created through volcanic activity.

Modern science has recently proved what we knew through the Qur'an and the Sunnah of Muhammad (pbuh) long back, that all the continental masses were actually created from a single volcanic island and that Makkah was the oldest piece of land mass created by Allah (swt).



“The first House (of worship) appointed for men was that at Bakka: Full of blessing and of guidance for all kinds of beings.”

Al Qur'an 3:96



The Arabic word ‘Bakka’ mentioned in the above verse is another name for Makkah.

Further, the Qur'an explains that the Ka'bah wasn't built by man, but rather built by angels at the moment of creation of this universe, several hundreds of billions of years before the creation of man, and the very first creation that circumambulated the Ka'bah were the angels.



Also, if we draw a circle circumambulating the Ka'bah, it encompasses every single landmass on the planet, both physically and materially proving the centrality of the Ka'bah with respect to the landmasses.





19

PHYSICAL SIGNS

testifying the blessings of Makkah



“In it are Signs Manifest; (for example), the Station of Abraham; whoever enters it attains security; Pilgrimage thereto is a duty men owe to Allah,- those who can afford the journey; but if any deny faith, Allah stands not in need of any of His creatures.”

Al Qur'an 3:97



Further, the Qur'an mentions about the physical signs therein that can testify for the blessings of Makkah. Among the signs that are mentioned are:

i

Maqaam Ibraheem – The piece of stone that has the imprints of Ibrahim's (pbuh) feet when he stood upon it while raising the foundations of the Ka'bah.

ii

Hajr Al Aswad – The Black stone, which the Prophet (pbuh) described as a stone from Jannah (Paradise).





Among some of the other physical signs in Makkah that can testify to the holiness of that place to any sane person are:

i

The well of Zamzam – Generally for water to be stored in such huge quantity in the rocks, they must be highly porous and permeable. But, water has been flowing from the well of Zamzam for more than 4000 years, and comes from highly impervious and impermeable igneous and metamorphic rocks that do not have any porosity.





ii

The four corners of the Ka'bah – All the four corners of the Ka'bah are in the four principal directions, the true east, the true west, true north and the true south. Also, the longitude of the Ka'bah is the only longitude that points to the exact north (the magnetic north and the geographic north coinciding with each other), and this is a unique case that cannot be applied to any other spot on the surface of our planet.

Lesson 11

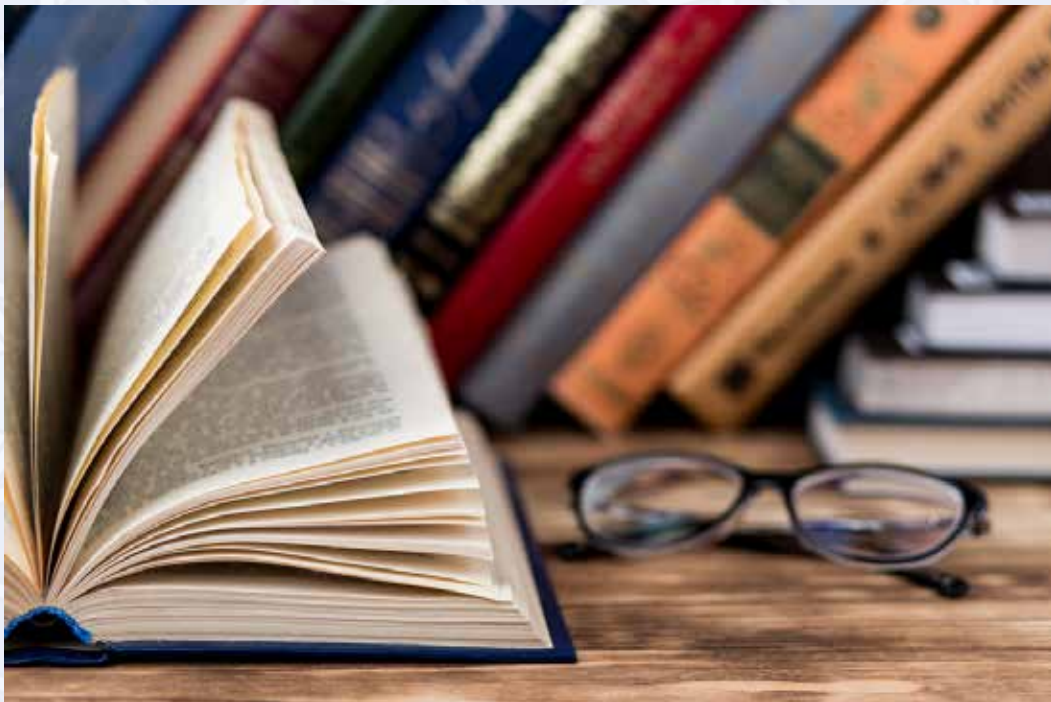
Earthquake

In the Qur'an and Sunnah





20 MAN'S PRIMARY sources of knowledge



Any knowledge that man gains is acquired from either of the two sources –

i

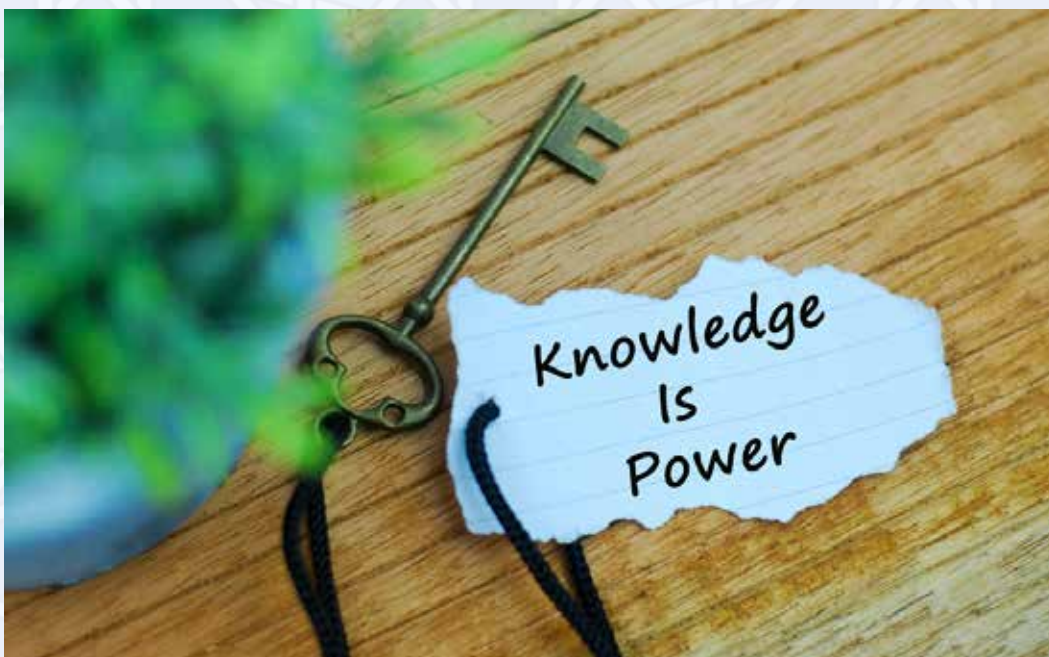
Revealed knowledge – Divine knowledge from God in areas that cannot be clearly addressed by the man.

ii

Acquired knowledge – Knowledge acquired by man through experimenting and learning.



And both these sources of knowledge must be integrated for the betterment of life, because acquired knowledge can help man to be a good vicegerent on earth, and the revealed knowledge helps him understand his/her true message in this world.



Also, the scientific notions mentioned in the Qur'an and the Sunnah did not come as pieces of scientific information for mankind, but rather in the context of testifying to the might, knowledge, and wisdom of the Creator. It testifies to the fact that as He created everything out of nothingness, He is capable of annihilating everything to nothingness, and resurrecting it back again.



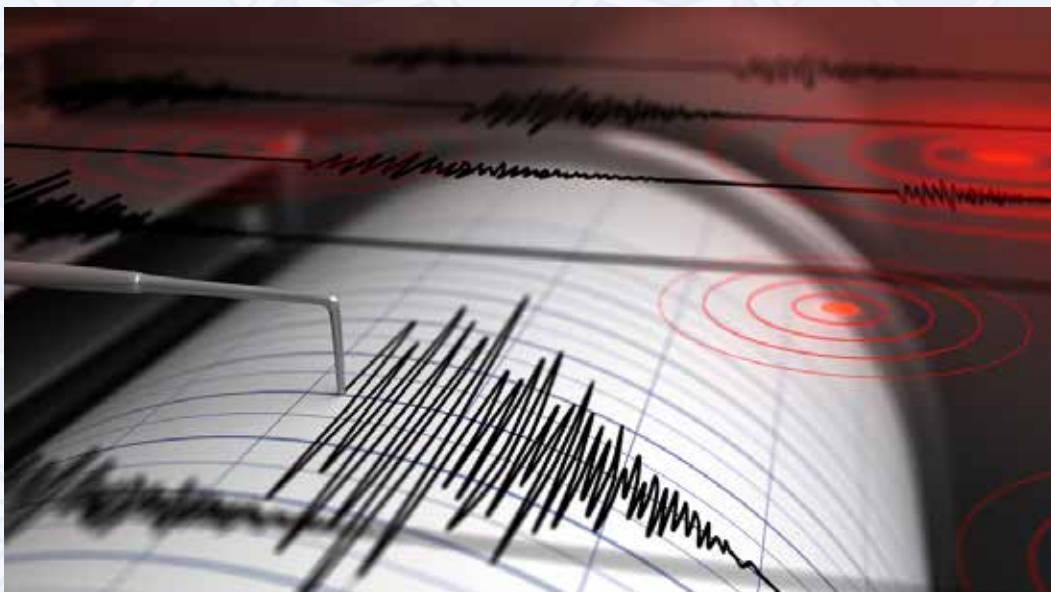
21

THE DESCRIPTION of earthquakes in the Qur'an



“Those before them did also plot (against Allah's Way): but Allah took their structures from their foundations, and the roof fell down on them from above; and the Wrath seized them from directions they did not perceive.”

Al Qur'an 16:26



Adhering to the Islamic outlook, the Qur'an tells us that most of the natural catastrophes and disasters are the net product of man's misbehaviour.



Allah (swt) can instruct these natural disasters to strike anywhere, at any time, and at a certain people as a punishment for ill-doers, and a test for the righteous, also to serve as a good reminder to those who can be saved after the disaster.



The Prophet (pbuh) was asked:

“Shall we be destroyed while there are people who are Salih (righteous) amongst us?” The Messenger of Allah (pbuh), said, “Yes, if there is much wickedness.”





“Do then those who devise evil (plots) feel secure that Allah will not cause the earth to swallow them up, or that the Wrath will not seize them from directions they little perceive?

Or that He may not call them to account in the midst of their goings to and fro, without a chance of their frustrating Him?

Or that He may not call them to account by a process of slow wastage - for your Lord is indeed full of kindness and mercy.”

Al Qur'an 16:45-47



Though man may claim that he/she understands the mechanism of how an earthquake or volcanic eruption takes place, but we fail to realise that we have no say in their occurrence. Allah (swt) can impose His punishment on the evildoers anytime He wishes, and no one can stand in His way. Yet, people never seem to learn their lesson until a disaster/punishment strikes them.



Adhering to the Islamic outlook, the Qur'an tells us that most of the natural catastrophes and disasters are the net product of man's misbehaviour.



“Those before them did also plot (against Allah's Way): but Allah took their structures from their foundations, and the roof fell down on them from above; and the Wrath seized them from directions they did not perceive.”

Al Qur'an 16:26



The above verse is the best example of how an earthquake occurs. The seismic waves strike upon all the foundations of the structure causing it to weaken and collapse.



Finally, the notion of earthquakes in the Qur'an is mentioned in two contexts;

i

The earthquakes that occur in this world, causing destruction in the world.

ii

The earthquakes preceding the day of judgement, the discussion and description of which is beyond human imagination.

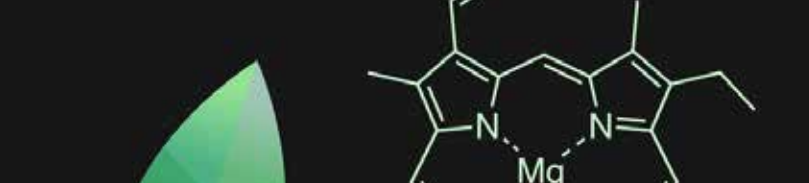
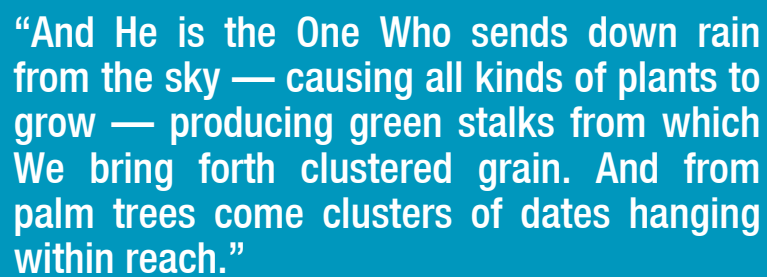


Lesson 12

Plants

in the Glorious Qur'an





The image shows a green leaf on the left and the chemical structure of chlorophyll *a* on the right. The structure features a central magnesium atom (Mg) coordinated by four nitrogen atoms in a porphyrin-like ring. Various side chains are attached, including a long phytol chain (RO) and a vinyl group.

ISLAM AND SCIENCE - PART 2



This solar energy is then utilised to analyse carbon dioxide and water to their initial components (i.e. carbon, hydrogen, and oxygen), from which the carbon and hydrogen are retained and oxygen is released for the breathing of humans and animals. Further, it combines the carbon atom with the hydrogen atoms using solar energy to form chemical bonds that can produce a long chain of carbohydrates, including many kinds of sugars, starch, and cellulosic material.



23 THE HEALTH benefits of Olives



“Also a tree springing out of Mount Sinai, which produces oil, and relish for those who use it for food.”

Al Qur'an 23:20



The above verse points toward the origins of the olive tree (Mount Sinai), its importance and its health benefits (that olive oil is the only oil with this quality proving to be a very important oil for human beings because it reduces the bad cholesterol and enriches the good cholesterol in the human body).



“By the Fig and the Olive, And the Mount of Sinai.”

Al Qur'an 95:1-2



Further, in another verse of the Qur'an, Allah (swt) swears an oath by the olives and figs, directing our attention to their importance.

The enzyme 'fincin', responsible for the safety and healthy nature of the human body is not found in any other fruit except the fig fruit.



24 THE PLANTS as a source of energy



“The same Who produces for you fire out of the green tree, when behold! you kindle therewith (your own fires!)”

Al Qur'an 36:80



Allah addresses the unbelievers who negate the resurrection after death, accountability for their actions, and eternity in life to come to look at the green tree, a living entity out of which He has created an energy source for humans.



Early commentators explained that if one uses two branches of certain trees (Al Markh Wal 'lfaar) and strikes them together, a spark can be generated, and from that a fire. Further on, it was explained that even dry wood or the dry ash of the tree as a source of energy.

Recently, it was also discovered that torrential currents carry plants and deposit them along the shorelines, causing them to be buried down under for many years and getting converted into coal deposits. Also, if the heat and pressure are increased on the coal, it changes into gas or can be gasified to get cold gas.



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