

An Evaluation on the Torah, the Bible, and the Quran

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Abstract

The world population has reached approximately 8 billion, and we witness tremendous chaos and indescribable complexity among people. Is the diversity of beliefs among humans a disorder? Why are not all people followers of the same religion? In our study, while evaluating the Torah, the Bible, and the Quran, we will also seek answers to the question of whether all humans can belong to the same religion. According to Islam, the Torah and the Bible are also considered divine revelations, sacred, and from God. During the translation of these holy books, some errors and intentional changes were made. According to some Hanafi scholars, the Torah and the Bible can only be handled by those who have performed ablution. According to the principle of "previous sharia" in Islamic jurisprudence, some rulings found in the Torah and the Bible also constitute sources for Islamic law.

Keywords: Torah, Bible, Quran, Islamic Law, religions

Introduction

Approximately 29% of the world population consists of followers of Eastern Asia and traditional religions, around 31% are Christians, about 24% are Muslims, and around 16% are non-religious individuals. Additionally, there is a specific number of Jewish population (approximately 14-15 million) not included in the percentages.

Adherents of divine religions acknowledge the previous scriptures and prophets. According to this, Muslims affirm both Jesus (Hz. İsa) and Moses (Hz. Musa) along with the Torah and the Bible

(İncil), but they believe that the original versions of these scriptures no longer exist and that the current ones have undergone changes. Christians affirm Moses and the Torah but do not accept Islam. Jews, on the other hand, reject both Islam and Christianity.

The Old Testament

The Bible, meaning "book" in Greek, consists of two parts: The Old Testament (Tevrat) and The New Testament (İncil). Jews trace their history back to Abraham and his son Isaac. The word "Israel" means "wrestles with God" and refers to Isaac's son, Jacob (Hz. Yakub) (Genesis, 32: 22-32).

After God entrusted Moses with the mission to liberate the Israelites from Pharaoh's slavery, Moses received the "Ten Commandments" from God on Mount Sinai, and together with other revelations, the Torah (Tevrat) was formed. It is believed that the Tanakh (Old Testament) was written by Jewish Prophets through divine inspiration. After the time of King Solomon, the Israelites split, with some being invaded by the Assyrians (722 BC) and others by the Babylonians (587 BC), leading to the destruction of their temple. Ezra, a significant figure in Jewish history, led the reconstruction of the temple in Jerusalem and revitalized Jewish traditions, laying the foundation for modern Judaism. However, following a Jewish uprising, the Second Temple (Solomon's Temple) was destroyed again by the Romans in 70 AD, and the Jewish population suffered a great massacre. For a long time, the Jews lived under Roman and Byzantine rule until the Islamic conquest of Jerusalem in 637 AD. As a result, the Jewish people lived in exile for approximately 2000 years until the establishment of the State of Israel in 1948.

According to Jewish belief, God instructed Ezra to take five scribes and write the Torah in a deserted place for 40 days, and the Torah was written in the Assyrian language. Various reforms were also made, including the prohibition of foreign marriages, calendar changes, and the revival of Jewish traditions.

In ancient times, some versions of the Zohar, a sacred book of Hicaz Jews, included descriptions such as the "Holy Father" and the "Holy Son" (Psalms, 2:7). Metatron (Enoch) is similar to the understanding of the son of God, Jesus, in Christianity, as both figures represent both human and divine aspects. While Hicaz Jews referred to "Enoch" as God's "chief assistant" and "son,"

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Christians have a more elaborate view of "Jesus" with additional attributes. However, contemporary Judaism does not have a belief in a father-son relationship or a trinity.

Jews accept that the Torah they possess is the one given by God to Moses, and they believe that the Tanakh (Old Testament) was written by Jewish prophets inspired by God, and these scriptures have never changed and cannot be altered. On the other hand, after the destruction and exile events caused by the Assyrians (722 BC), Babylonians (587 BC), and Romans (70 AD), it is claimed that the existence of the original Torah became highly unlikely. Finally, in the 1200s AD, Moses Maimonides prepared the final version of the Torah.

Deuteronomy, starting from verse 5, recounts the death of Moses and what happened after his death. "So Moses, the servant of the Lord, died there in the land of Moab, according to the word of the Lord. And He buried him in the valley in the land of Moab, opposite Beth-peor; but no one knows his burial place... Moses was a hundred and twenty years old when he died... And the sons of Israel wept for Moses in the plains of Moab for thirty days... Since then, there has not arisen in Israel a prophet like Moses, whom the Lord knew face to face."

Furthermore, in Deuteronomy, there are opinions suggesting that the addition of the "Promised Land" (Arz-1 Mevud) issue is a political addition due to subsequent amendments:

"...Moses went up from the plains of Moab to Mount Nebo, to the top of Pisgah, which is opposite Jericho. And the Lord showed him all the land... to Dan, all Naphtali, the land of Ephraim and Manasseh, all the land of Judah as far as the western sea, the Negev, and the Plain... that I swore to give to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. You shall not go over there." (Deuteronomy, 34:1-4)

In addition, we read in Genesis 15:18-21, Deuteronomy 11:24, and Joshua 1:4 phrases like "...from the Nile to the Euphrates, I will give you and your descendants." The interesting aspect is the warning, "You shall not go over there!"

In the original Torah, there are conflicting statements, unjust commands, and prohibitions, as seen in the following examples:

"...I will by no means clear the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children and on the grandchildren to the third and fourth generations." (Exodus, 34:7)

"Fathers shall not be put to death for their sons, nor shall sons be put to death for their fathers; everyone shall be put to death for his own sin." (Deuteronomy, 24:16)

In the Torah, prophets considered innocent are subject to severe accusations, as seen in the following examples:

"...Thus both the daughters of Lot were with child by their father." (Genesis, 19:36). The verses between Genesis 19:30 and 38 explain this situation.

"Aaron took the gold from them, and he fashioned it with an engraving tool and made it into a molten calf..." (Exodus, 32:4). The verses between Exodus 32:1 and 35 also describe this incident.

"David...saw a woman bathing on her roof...The woman was very beautiful...David sent messengers and took her...he lay with her...The woman conceived and sent word to David, saying, 'I am pregnant'... But the thing that David had done was evil in the sight of the Lord." These verses in the book describe how later, David arranged for the woman's husband to be sent to war and die so that he could marry her (II Samuel, 11:1-27).

"Solomon had 700 wives, princesses, and 300 concubines...His wives turned his heart away after other gods...He built a high place for Chemosh, the detestable idol of Moab, and for Molek, the detestable idol of the Ammonites." (I Kings, 11:1-43) The continuation portrays Solomon as someone who worships idols and dies as such.

These examples highlight the presence of contradictory statements and events in the original Torah.

Some topics in the Torah show inconsistencies in numbers, contradictions even within the same section, and human attributes attributed to God:

- Genesis 46:21 states that Benjamin had ten sons.
- I Chronicles 7:6 states that Benjamin had three sons.

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- I Chronicles 8:1-2 states that Benjamin had five sons.

In II Samuel 24:1, it is said, "The anger of the Lord burned against Israel, and he incited David against them, saying, 'Go and take a census of Israel and Judah.'"

However, in I Chronicles 21:1, it is said, "Satan rose up against Israel and incited David to take a census of Israel."

There are passages in the Torah, such as Ezekiel 20:25, where God is said to have given harmful advice and principles that the people could not live by.

In Numbers 15:32-36, it is mentioned that a person who gathered wood on the Sabbath was stoned to death at God's command.

Deuteronomy 13:12-16 commands the complete annihilation of a city and all its inhabitants, including children and animals, if there are wicked individuals among them.

The idea of God giving orders for wholesale slaughter without distinction is unthinkable.

In Exodus 20:5, God is described as a jealous God who punishes the sins of the fathers to the third and fourth generations of those who hate Him.

The idea of God being jealous and punishing future generations for the sins of their ancestors is hard to reconcile.

In Jeremiah 20:7 and Jeremiah 4:10, the prophet accuses God of deceiving him and the people of Jerusalem.

In Hosea 1:9, God declares that the people of Israel are not His people and He is not their God.

The portrayal of God with these negative moral attributes is hard to reconcile.

In Psalms 89:35, it is stated, "Once for all, I have sworn by my holiness— and I will not lie to David."

The idea of God taking an oath not to lie is difficult to comprehend.

In Genesis 32:25, it is mentioned that God struck Jacob's hip socket during a wrestling match.

The idea of God using deceitful tactics is hard to reconcile.

In Numbers 23:22, God is compared to a unicorn (a mythical one-horned creature) in terms of strength.

Comparing God's strength to that of a creature He created is hard to comprehend.

In Job 40:15-19, God speaks about creating a creature called "Behemoth" (a mythical water beast) alongside Job.

The idea of God creating a mythical creature like "Behemoth" instead of man is hard to reconcile.

In Exodus 31:17, it is mentioned that God rested on the seventh day after creating the world in six days.

The idea of God getting tired and needing rest is hard to comprehend.

"...They went up Mount Hor... There on the top of the mountain, Aaron died and was gathered to his people. After that, Moses and Eleazar came down from the mountain." (Numbers, 20:27-28)

"...The Israelites went from Moserah to Bene-jaakan. There Aaron died and was buried..." (Deuteronomy, 10:6)

There are two different places mentioned for the burial of Prophet Aaron.

"Do not stop me. Let my anger burn against them so that I may destroy them... But Moses sought the favor of the Lord his God. 'Lord,' he said, 'why should your anger burn against your people... Turn from your fierce anger; relent and do not bring disaster on your people.'... So the Lord relented and did not bring on his people the disaster he had threatened." (Exodus, 32:10-14)

Even a prophet cannot influence God's decisions.

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One of the most interesting contradictions is that about 356 years after his death, Moses is said to have listed the kings of Edom who were established after him by name: (Genesis, 36:31-43)

The Jewish people believe that if they obey the commandments of their God, they will live in abundance and prosperity, and they will prevail over other nations, which will be humiliated and despised. If they disobey the commandments of God, they believe they will be humiliated, despised, and deprived of their land. Moreover, they confess that they have disobeyed God's commandments:

- They rebelled against Moses (Numbers, 16:2-3).
- They worshiped the golden calf instead of God (Exodus, 32:1-6).
- They worshiped the idols of Baal and Asherah (1 Samuel, 7:3-4).
- They killed the prophets (1 Kings, 19:14).

The Old Testament contains many instances of the Israelites rebelling against the commandments of their God.

Additionally, they attribute the destruction of the "Kingdom of Israel" in the north by the Assyrians in 722 BC and the "Kingdom of Judah" in the south by the Babylonians in 587 BC to their disobedience to God's commands.

In the Abrahamic religions, the lineage of three prophets, Moses, Jesus, and Muhammad, traces back to Abraham. When going back through the generations, they are descendants of Abraham. In the Quran, the name of Abraham is mentioned 67 times, and he is described as a follower of the true religion: "Who is better in religion than one who submits himself to Allah while being a doer of good and follows the religion of Abraham, inclining toward truth? And Allah took Abraham as an intimate friend." (Quran, 4:125)

Similarly, in the Bible, Abraham is mentioned in many places: "This is the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah, the son of David, the son of Abraham." (Matthew, 1:1)

In the Torah, the story of Abraham is told from the beginning: "The angel of the Lord said to her (Hagar), 'I will increase your descendants so much that they will be too numerous to count.' The

angel of the Lord also said to her, 'You are now pregnant and you will give birth to a son. You shall name him Ishmael...' (Genesis, 16:7-12)

The New Testament

The birth of Jesus is celebrated on December 25th by Western Churches and on January 6th by Eastern Churches. When he was 12 years old, Jesus' mother, along with her husband Joseph, came to Jerusalem from their hometown of Nazareth. Information about Jesus' siblings is not clear.

At the age of 30, Jesus began his preaching in Galilee, Samaria, and Jerusalem. During his preaching, he selected 12 apostles, whose names are recorded in the Gospels with slight variations. Jesus' most prominent method of preaching was through performing miracles.

According to the Gospels, this new religion alarmed the Jews, and in AD 30, the highest Jewish court (Sanhedrin) sentenced Jesus to death, and he was crucified by the Roman governor Pontius Pilate. After his death, he rose again as God on the third day, appeared in various places for 40 days, ascended to heaven, and sat at the right hand of the Father. It is believed that he will come back to the world as a savior near the end of times.

The New Testament consists of the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, along with the Epistles. The Gospel of Mark was written between AD 70-80, Matthew and Luke between AD 80-90, and John between AD 90-100, approximately 35-40 years after Jesus' departure from the world. They were written in Greek, not in Aramaic, which was Jesus' native language.

In AD 325, under the orders of Emperor Constantine, Christian scholars (Council of Nicaea) rejected about 300 Gospels, and in AD 364 (Council of Laodicea) and AD 397 (Council of Carthage), they made additions and eliminations. The result was the approval of the current Gospels. About 1200 years later, some books were accepted and others removed (such as Esther), giving rise to the Protestant denomination.

The oldest surviving manuscripts of the New Testament are the Sinaiticus Codex written in Greek in AD 331 and kept at the British Museum, and the Vatican Codex, also written in Greek in AD

325 and kept at the Vatican Library. There is no Aramaic Gospel. It is almost certain that the four Gospel writers were not among the apostles. For instance, the Gospel of Luke is addressed to a person named Theophilus and written as a letter, and in this Gospel, we read the words of Luke, not Jesus. Furthermore, these four Gospels have many contradictory statements, despite being expected to support each other.

After Jesus' departure, the Apostle Paul, who is considered the architect of Christianity, emerged. Originally a Jew, Paul participated in anti-Jesus campaigns and supported persecution against Jesus' followers. However, he claimed that Jesus appeared to him in the sky while he was coming to Damascus to report Jesus' followers to Jewish authorities and commissioned him to spread his message to all nations (Acts 26:16-18). After recounting this incident, Paul made the belief that Jesus died on the cross, resurrected three days after his death, and that Jesus is "Lord" the central creed of Christianity. Consequently, Christianity embraces the belief system of the Trinity: Father, Son (Jesus), and Holy Spirit.

In Christianity, the Old Testament, Psalms, and the New Testament are all considered sacred and as revelations. Even today, Catholics regard the pronouncements of the Pope as definitive truths as if they were revelations. In these belief systems, namely the New Testament books, we can find various different and interesting statements: "...Worship the Lord your God and serve Him only." (Matthew 4:10) "...Go instead to my brothers and tell them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" (John 20:17) "At three in the afternoon Jesus cried out in a loud voice, 'Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?' (which means 'My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?')." (Mark 15:34)

In these three statements, Jesus is not making a claim of divinity; he explicitly says "Worship the Lord your God and serve Him only," and even in the midst of torture, he seeks refuge in God and prays to God.

"...Whoever receives me, receives the one who sent me." (Matthew 10:40) By saying that he was sent, Jesus implies that he was sent as a prophet and not in any other sense. In Matthew and Luke, it is written that Jesus was born and raised in Bethlehem during the time of King Herod from the Roman Empire and was crucified and killed during the time of Roman governor Pontius Pilate.

How can someone who is born, lives, and dies be God? (Time) is created later, so how can it exist before its creator?

Peter both refers to Jesus as the eternal and ancient Creator and says that he was born of Mary. How can someone create the universe before being born? Again, Peter first calls God (Rab) the creator of all visible and invisible things and then calls Jesus (Son of God) the creator of all things.

"...The Son can do nothing by himself..." (John 5:19) If Jesus is also God, why can't he do something by himself?

"Simon, Simon, Satan has asked to sift all of you as wheat. But I have prayed for you, Simon, that your faith may not fail..." (Luke 22:31-32) Jesus is praying, yet in all four Gospels, it is narrated that Simon Peter denied him. Jesus is both God, praying, and the opposite of the prayer is happening. There is a contradiction here. (Matthew 26:72; Mark 14:71; Luke 22:57; John 18:17-27)

"...When Jesus reached the fig tree, he found nothing on it except leaves, and he said to it, 'May you never bear fruit again!' Immediately the tree withered." (Matthew 21:18-19)

"...When Jesus reached it, he found nothing but leaves, because it was not the season for figs. Then he said to the tree, 'May no one ever eat fruit from you again.'" (Mark 11:13-14) Can God feel hunger? Can God curse a tree for not having fruit out of season? Can God eat fruit that may belong to someone else, even with permission?

"Jesus sent out the twelve with the following instructions: 'Do not go among the Gentiles or enter any town of the Samaritans.'" (Matthew 10:5) "...I was sent only to the lost sheep of Israel." (Matthew 15:24) "He said to them, 'Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation.'" (Mark 16:15) First, he says he was sent only to the Israelites, then he wants the message to be spread to all humanity. Throughout history, it is certain that each Prophet was sent not only to one nation but always to all of humanity.

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"If I testify about myself, my testimony is not true." (John 5:31) "...Even if I testify on my own behalf, my testimony is valid..." (John 8:14) These two contradictory statements are found in the same book.

In particular, accepting the following statement is not possible: "...For the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength." (1 Corinthians 1:25) Terms like foolishness and weakness cannot be used even as a simile or metaphor for God. God is free from all these human attributes.

Through Paul, a definition of Jesus is presented as someone who came to Earth as a human to save those who believe in him and is perceived as both Son and God. The main theme is that God sent Jesus to the world in the form of his essence, Jesus died on the cross as atonement for the sins of mankind, went to Hell after his death, and rose from the dead after three days and ascended to heaven. Thus, people are invited to believe in a divine trinity (Father-Son-Holy Spirit) that took place in the body of Jesus.

Christian theologians cannot provide a logical explanation for the issue of Jesus being both human and God. This has led to accusations of trying to establish an image that our religion is superior to all other religions by attributing divinity to Jesus.

Let's look at the prayer found in Matthew 6:9-13, which all Christians recite before meals and in Sunday Mass or individually:

1- Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. 2- Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. 3- Give us today our daily bread. 4- Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. 5- And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. (Amen!)

Surely, God's will prevails in everything, in every particle, in the whole universe. In the third prayer, we see that the person is praying not for themselves but to their God. In the fifth prayer, it seems like we are asking God to forgive us more than we forgive others, as if our mercy is greater than God's mercy.

Another fundamental doctrine is that people are born sinners and are saved from sin through baptism. If people confess their sins, Christian priests can forgive those sins. However, Jesus did

not absolve the sins of the disciples, and neither Jesus nor the disciples ever claimed such a thing. Clearly, this implies that God's authority is being used here.

In belief, another important rite is the Eucharist. In this rite, unleavened bread and wine are consumed, representing the body and blood of Jesus, and this is considered as a union with Jesus. Of course, all of these are matters of personal faith.

Similarly, the belief that Jesus suffered, died, went to hell, was resurrected on the third day, and sits at the right hand of God is a serious matter to consider how the death of an innocent person for the sins of the criminals can be in line with God's justice. Also, in a true religion, worship in front of visible objects, such as the Cross, statues of Jesus and Mary, is a highly criticized issue. In the first churches built in the Middle East (around AD 200), we do not come across Crosses and statues.

There are some minor differences in beliefs between Catholics and Orthodox Christians. Catholics believe that the Holy Spirit proceeds from both the Father and the Son, while Orthodox Christians believe it proceeds only from the Father. Catholics consider the Pope and Bishops infallible, while Orthodox Christians believe that they can err. There are also different practices in terms of using the local language in worship, celebrating Christmas and Easter, and the marriage of clergy.

Protestantism, the third major branch of Christianity, is based on the religious reform of German Christian theologian Martin Luther, who lived in the 16th century. The main separation began with issues such as forgiveness of sins, infallibility of the Pope, abuse of forgiveness of sins, and material gains in churches contrary to religion (October 1517). Luther also lifted the ban on marriage for clergy and married a nun himself.

Although the belief system of Christianity is as described above, the meanings of some verses in the Bible are quite different. "By myself, I can do nothing... For I have come down from heaven not to do my will but to do the will of him who sent me." (John 5:30) "...The works I do in my Father's name testify about me, but you do not believe because you are not my sheep." (John 5:36-37) These words clearly express that God sent him and he is not saying, "I am God myself."

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"Prophesy to us, Messiah. Who hit you?" (Matthew 26:68) "And they took offense at him. But Jesus said to them, 'A prophet is not without honor except in his own town and in his own home!'" (Matthew 13:57) "...Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one." (Mark 12:29) These verses clearly and explicitly explain that God is one, and Jesus is a Prophet.

Let's translate the text into English:

Let's conclude the topics of the Torah and the Bible with the prophecies about the coming figure in both the Torah and the Bible. "The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your fellow Israelites. You must listen to him." (Deuteronomy 18:15) If we ask who the fellow Israelites are, they are the two sons of Prophet Abraham, Isaac, and Ishmael. Ultimately, Arabs and Israelites are actually brotherly peoples.

"And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Comforter to help you and be with you forever." (John 14:16) (The Greek word "Paraklit" is "Ahmet" in Arabic) "But the Comforter, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things..." (John 14:26) "When the Comforter comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who goes out from the Father, he will testify about me." (John 15:26) "...When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come. He will glorify me because it is from me that he will receive what he will make known to you." (John 16:13-14)

Usually, every Prophet confirms the previous Scriptures and Prophets and gives glad tidings about the coming one. In the West, it is attempted to create a biased view of the Islamic religion by claiming that Prophet Muhammad wrote the Quran based on the previous scriptures.

Since the creator of all humans is the same God, when people and nations deviate from the religion sent to them, do not adhere to their original holy scriptures, and even change the verses due to reasons like race, war, politics, and material relationships, certainly, the Supreme Creator sends a new book and a new Prophet.

Since all the Prophets always confirm the previous Scriptures as true divine books and correct the rules and regulations that people have changed throughout history, they will undoubtedly deliver similar rules. Theft, gambling, adultery, and murder will be considered sins, and caring for the

poor, doing good, showing respect to parents, and performing religious duties will surely be considered virtuous in all of them. It is not a matter of copying from one another, but it is about repeating or completing.

The Quran

The Quran is an divine book revealed to Prophet Muhammad through Gabriel and its preservation is personally guaranteed by Allah (SWT). Additionally, the Quran was immediately written down (by Scribes) and continuously memorized (by Memorizers) during the Prophet's lifetime, making it the only book that has reached us in its original form to this day.

Another important point is that in the 604-page Quran, it is impossible to find any verses that contradict each other or contradict scientific facts. In fact, some features that science discovered in recent times have been mentioned in the Quran 1400 years ago. For example, the stages of the fetus in the womb (Az-Zumar, 6), the expansion of the universe (Adh-Dhariyat, 47), the definition of electricity (An-Nur, 35), etc.

The Almighty says, "This day I have perfected for you your religion and completed My favor upon you and have approved for you Islam as religion." (Al-Maidah, 3) "...We have not neglected in the Register a thing." (Al-An'am, 38) "...The Quran is not such as can be produced by other than Allah, on the contrary, it is a confirmation of (revelations) that went before it, and a fuller explanation of the Book - wherein there is no doubt - from the Lord of the worlds." (Yusuf, 111) "...It is not but a revelation revealed, taught to him by one intense in strength - one of soundness. And he rose to [his] true form while he was in the higher [part of the] horizon. Then he approached and descended and was at a distance of two bow lengths or nearer. And he revealed to His Servant what He revealed." (An-Najm, 3-4-5)

Prophet Muhammad was born on April 20, 571, in Mecca. His father's name was Abdullah, and his mother's name was Aminah. His other names were Ahmed, Mustafa, and Mahmud. Prophet Muhammad received his Prophethood at the age of 40 when he was meditating in the cave of Hira, and the first verses of the Quran were revealed to him. The first verse is significant for all people as it commands reading: "Read in the name of your Lord who created." (Al-Alaq, 1). The Prophetic

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mission of Prophet Muhammad lasted for 23 years, 13 years in Mecca and 10 years in Medina. The revelation of the Quran continued for a total of 22 years.

The fact that every verse in the Quran is a miracle can be understood from the existence of scientists who converted to Islam upon hearing even a single verse. The Quran does not describe history, geography, physics, or chemistry in detail; but sometimes it mentions a single verse related to these fields, and we can only understand what science and technology it refers to after reaching that level of knowledge.

Let's provide some examples from these verses: The first command of the Holy Quran is "READ!" (Al-'Alaq, 1)

Furthermore, in Surah Al-Mu'min, verse 58, it says, "And how little do you remember!" In Surah Az-Zumar, verse 9, it states, "...Can those who know be equal to those who do not know?" Thus, it can be seen that our Creator asks us to read, think, use our intellect, and strive for knowledge and wisdom.

The Quran makes scientific and fundamental explanations about various topics such as the creation and formation of the world, the sun, planets, human beings, and other living creatures. However, it does not provide specific formulas from physics, chemistry, or biology. The Quran is a guiding book.

"This is a Book which We have revealed to you, [O Muhammad], that you might bring mankind out of darkneses into the light by permission of their Lord - to the path of the Exalted in Might, the Praiseworthy." (Surah Ibrahim, 1)

The Holy Quran narrates the creation of everything, including the universe and all living beings, from nothingness to existence and explains the process until the Day of Judgment. "He is the Originator of the heavens and the earth..." (Surah Al-An'am, 101)

Today, scientists explain the initial formation of the universe with the Big Bang theory. The continuous expansion of the universe is also explained by this theory. In this respect, this theory also claims that the universe was created out of nothing. It was only in the 20th century when it

was stated that the universe is still expanding. However, the Quran mentioned this scientific fact 1400 years ago: "Then He directed Himself to the heaven while it was smoke..." (Surah Fussilat, 11). "...the heavens and the earth were joined together as one united piece, then We parted them..." (Surah Al-Anbiya, 30). "And the heaven We constructed with strength, and indeed, We are [its] expander." (Surah Adh-Dhariyat, 47)

The Quran also mentions that the stars and planets float in a specific orbit and rotate around their axes. "It is He who made the night for you to rest therein and the day, giving sight. Indeed, in that are signs for a people who listen." (Surah Al-Anbiya, 33). "...And they [are still] floating." (Surah Ya-Sin, 40). "And the sun runs [on course] toward its stopping point. That is the determination of the Exalted in Might, the Knowing." (Surah Ya-Sin, 38) The Arabic term "Tecri Limüstekarrin" also means "around its axis."

Ptolemy believed the Earth was fixed, and other planets revolved around it. Later, Copernicus and Galileo proposed the heliocentric model, where the Sun was fixed, and other planets revolved around it. It was only after the invention of telescopes that it was determined that neither the Earth nor the Sun is stationary. However, the Quran clearly explained the solar system almost a thousand years before them.

The Quran also informs about how the Earth is protected from cosmic objects and rays from space (such as magnetic field and ozone layer): "And We made the sky a protected ceiling, but they, from its signs, are turning away." (Surah Al-Anbiya, 32).

The Quran reveals another miracle, known as the Surface Tension Law in modern science, about how the seas do not mix with each other: "He released the two seas, meeting [side by side]; Between them is a barrier [so] neither of them transgresses." (Surah Ar-Rahman, 19-20)

The Quran describes the development of a child in the mother's womb occurring in three darkneses: "He creates you in the wombs of your mothers, creation after creation, within three darkneses. That is Allah, your Lord; to Him belongs dominion. There is no deity except Him, so how are you averted?" (Surah Az-Zumar, 6)

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The description of electricity is very clear in Surah An-Nur: "Allah is the light of the heavens and the earth. The example of His light is like a niche within which is a lamp, the lamp is within glass, the glass as if it were a pearly [white] star...[it is] fueled from a blessed olive tree, neither of the east nor of the west, whose oil would almost glow even if untouched by fire. Light upon light..." (Surah An-Nur, 35)

As one ascends towards the sky, the oxygen in the air decreases, and as the air pressure drops by one degree every 100 meters, the breathlessness also increases: "Whomever Allah wills to guide, He opens his breast to Islam; and whomever He wills to leave astray, He makes his breast tight and constricted as though he were climbing into the sky..." (Surah Al-An'am, 125)

Even a single verse from Surah Yasin clearly shows that the Holy Quran is the word of Allah: "And [I swear] by the moon when it follows it [the sun], and [I swear] by the day when it displays it, and [I swear] by the night when it covers it, and [I swear] by the sky and He who constructed it, and [I swear] by the earth and He who spread it, and [I swear] by the soul and He who proportioned it, and inspired it [with discernment of] its wickedness and its righteousness. He has succeeded who purifies it, and he has failed who instills it [with corruption]." (Surah Ash-Shams, 1-10)



The extraordinary aspect here is that there were no telescopes or observatories in those times. But 1400 years later, in this technological age, we have been able to observe the moon's unique shape as it revolves. This shows that the Quran is not a human creation but entirely the word of Allah.

Conclusion

The Quran provides remarkable insights and knowledge about various subjects, including scientific phenomena, which were beyond the understanding of people at the time of its revelation. It contains verses that describe natural phenomena and cosmic events with remarkable accuracy, reflecting the divine wisdom and knowledge of its Creator. As such, the Quran remains a source of guidance and inspiration for billions of Muslims worldwide.

References

The New Testament

The Old Testament

The Quran