

MODERN SCIENCE AND ISLAM

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Allah ﷻ says in the Holy Qur'an in the 41st Sura, *Ha-Meem Sajda* or *Fussilat* [Explained in Detail] in Verse 53

سُرِّيهِمْ آيَاتِنَا فِي الْأَفَاقِ وَفِي أَنْفُسِهِمْ حَتَّىٰ يَتَبَيَّنَ لَهُمْ أَنَّهُ الْحَقُّ أَوَلَمْ
يَكْفِ بِرَبِّكَ أَنَّهُ عَلَىٰ كُلِّ شَيْءٍ شَهِيدٌ

I will show to mankind my signs in the universe and in
the persons of human beings in the later ages until
mankind comes to realise that the Holy Qur'an is the
truth from God. Is it not enough that thy Lord doth
witness all things?

ARABS WERE ILLITERATE

The Holy Prophet Muhammad ﷺ did not go to any school. Arabia did not even have a Primary school run by Arabs. The Arabs were proud to be illiterate. They claimed they were born to wield swords and to wield the pen was the job of the merchant class. His uncle and grandfather, who were both uneducated, brought up the Prophet ﷺ. There was no contact with scholars of the time. Yet, the message that he delivered i.e. the Holy Qur'an remains relevant and scientifically correct for all ages. The question is where he got all the wisdom? Was he a genius?

COSMIC STUDY

When he was born, the **Greco-Roman civilization** had its **influence** in the Arabian Peninsula. The cosmogony of Greco-Romans is that the **earth is flat and the sky is in the form of a canopy**, studded with lamps. This is a myth. On the other side of Arabia, there is **Iran and India**, the two great seats of culture and civilization. Both held the **same view**. **China** had the **same view**. The Holy Prophet ﷺ did not come to teach Physical Science or Astronomy. But you will find in the Qur'an, references to different Natural Phenomena to different scientific problems. In these references you will find the Qur'an absolutely modern, anti classical and hostile to the ancient thoughts of Mankind in that age.

In connection with Cosmogony, Allah ﷻ says in the Holy Qur'an in the 36th Sura, *Ya-Seen* in Verse 40:

وَكُلٌّ فِي فَلَكٍ يَسْبَحُونَ

"All these the earth and heavenly bodies (all of them are planets) and they are all the time in motion in their orbits (or on their axis) they are spheres floating"

(Ansari)

"Each (Just) swims along (Its own) orbit (According to law)"

Read any commentary or the Qur'an even 1100 years ago and refer also to the 21st Sura. *Anbiya* [The Prophets] Verse 33:

وَهُوَ الَّذِي خَلَقَ اللَّيْلَ وَالنَّهَارَ وَالشَّمْسَ وَالْقَمَرَ كُلٌّ فِي

فَلَكَ يَسْبَحُونَ

He created the night and day; the sun and moon (all the celestial bodies) swim along, each in its own orbit.

How did the Prophet ﷺ know this? No observatory or laboratory was available to him. Allāh ﷻ says in the Holy Qur'an in the 41st Sura, *Ha-Meem Sajda* or *Fussilat* [Detail] in Verse 53

سَنُرِيهِمْ آيَاتِنَا فِي الْأَفَاقِ وَفِي أَنْفُسِهِمْ حَتَّىٰ يَتَبَيَّنَ لَهُمْ أَنَّهُ الْحَقُّ أَوَلَمْ

يَكْفِ بِرَبِّكَ أَنَّهُ عَلَىٰ كُلِّ شَيْءٍ شَهِيدٌ

I will show to mankind my signs in the universe and in the persons of human beings in the later ages until mankind comes to realise that the Qur'an is the truth from God.

In essence this verse is telling us that, whilst other Prophets were given miracles that were shown during their time, the Holy Prophet ﷺ has been given miracles that he showed in his own time and miracles that were to unfold unto the day of judgment.

THE SUN MOVES

In modern history of Astronomy, unto Kepler, nobody knew that the sun moves. Until recently students of science were thought that, "the earth moves and the sun is stationary." Then science found, very recently, out the sun is

moving constantly in a **Horizontal** line. Allah ﷻ says in the Holy Qur'an in the 36th Sura, *Ya-seen* in Verse 38

وَالشَّمْسُ تَجْرِي لِمُسْتَقَرٍّ لَهَا ذَلِكَ تَقْدِيرُ الْعَزِيزِ الْعَلِيمِ

"The sun Moves [horizontally] towards its goal"

NOTE: The Arabic word for horizontal movement is *Tajri*. This word is used to describe the sailing of the ships in many places in the Holy Qur'an, e.g. in the 2nd Sura, *al-Baqarah* [The Heifer], in Verse 164:

وَالْفُلْكِ الَّتِي تَجْرِي فِي الْبَحْرِ

In the horizontal sailing of the ships through the ocean

Ships sail horizontally; hence the word *تَجْرِي Tajri* is utilized.

PAIRS IN HUMANS, PLANTS AND OTHER CREATION, The Holy Qur'an also speaks of pairs in Humans, Plants and other creation, which they did not know at the time. Allah ﷻ says in the Holy Qur'an in the 36th Sura, *Ya-seen* in Verse 36

سُبْحَانَ الَّذِي خَلَقَ الْأَزْوَاجَ كُلَّهَا مِمَّا تُنْبِتُ الْأَرْضُ وَمِمَّنْ
أَنْفُسِهِمْ وَمِمَّا لَا يَعْلَمُونَ

Glorious is Allah who had created pairs in plant life and among human beings and in that which mankind does not know.

In the field of Botany, Male and female principle in plant life was discovered by a French Botanist towards the end of the 19th century and was established by an Indian Botanist, "Bose" in 1921. How did the Holy Prophet ﷺ know this?

PRINCIPLE OF PARITY

Modern physics also, has the "Principle of Parity" The Atom is the Fundamental particle of all matter. In 1925 modern physics said that an atom is composed of a pair, male and female i.e. electron and proton. The Neutron is known as the "Marriage Officer", as a joke in scientific circles.

Another fact was that electrical current was unknown in those days. Today we know that the male is positive and the female is negative in electricity.

EMBRYOLOGY

Dr. Keith L. Moore is a Professor of Anatomy and Cell Biology, University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada. He is a world-renowned scientist and a distinguished researcher in the fields of anatomy and embryology; he has published more than 150 research articles, chapters and books in this field. A **Muslim scholar, Abdul-Majeed Azzindani** contacted Dr. Moore. He was asked to participate in a **three-year study** of around twenty-five verses of the Qur'ān and the sayings of the Holy Prophet ﷺ which speak about **embryology**, and to determine their **correspondence to modern scientific discoveries**.

The Qur'ān and the Sunnah of the Holy Prophet ﷺ provide a very **detailed description of the microscopic development** of the human embryo from a mere sperm drop up to the stage of a completely formed human being. It is well known that microscopes were not developed until the sixteenth century AD, and even at that were very crude in design.

Zacharias Janssen is credited with having invented the **compound microscope** in about 1590. With it, remarkable scientific discoveries were made in the 17th and 18th centuries. The Dutch naturalist **Anthony van Leeuwenhoek** produced **lenses** powerful enough to prove that many tiny creatures are not spontaneously generated but come from eggs.

Before this period, theories on human reproduction ran rampant. Some scientist believed that the menstrual blood developed into the fetus

Later on, a new theory was developed wherein the sperm drop was popularly believed to contain a completely developed miniature human (homunculus) which later grew to the size of a baby. The **science of embryology** as we know it today **did not discover** many of the **detailed aspects** of human development which are taken for granted today until only about **thirty years ago, or 1973** to be precise.

Now we must ask the **question:** where did the Holy Prophet Muhammad ﷺ get such detailed knowledge of the **microscopic development of the human embryo** in the 6th century AD without a microscope, technical training, a laboratory of any kind, or even the ability to write his own name? The only logical conclusion is that it came from exactly where he claimed it did. From the one who created mankind, God Almighty! Prof. Moore has since given

numerous lectures on the topic of embryology in the Holy Qur'ān. He is quoted in one of these lectures as saying:

“It is clear to me that these statements must have come to Muhammad ﷺ from God, or Allah, because most of this knowledge was not discovered until many centuries later. This proves to me that Muhammad must have been a messenger of God, or Allah.”

EXPOUNDING ISLAM

Islam in every dimension is unique, and the Qur'ān has to be expounded spiritually, practically and scientifically, as knowledge unfolds.

Point out these to Non-Muslims and bring them to Islam. Modern Tabligh should be undertaken with qualified missionaries. Modern civilization emphasizes only on Physical and no spiritual harmony exists. Defective thought in Islam today emphasizes only the spiritual and all other avenues are neglected. Pray, Allah guides us to understand the Qur'ān and spread the message.

IRSHAD SOOFI Updated and adapted FROM A LECTURE BY MOULANA FAZLUR RAHMAN ANSARI ﷺ