

Modern Science As Revealed In The Qur'an And Traditions Of The Prophet

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**With the Compliments of
International Commission of Scientific
Signs in the Qur'an and the Sunnah
Women's Branch - Jeddah**



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Preface

What is meant by "scientific signs"?

Scientific signs are one of the kinds of signs in the Ever-Glorious Qur'an (Book of Allah) and the purified Sunnah (The teachings of prophet Mohammad (peace be upon him)), which include:

- Linguistic and rhetorical signs
- Historical signs
- Legislative signs
- Scientific signs

The scientific signs in the Qur'an and the Sunnah are the interpretation of their meanings from a scientific perspective. They highlight the proven scientific facts mentioned in the Qur'an and the Sunnah, which were unfeasible at the time of the Prophet (peace be upon him). Thus, it becomes crystal clear that the Prophet (peace be upon him) was truthful in conveying to the Muslims what Allah (Exalted and Glorified be He) revealed to him.

Introduction

In light of the multitude of scientific signs and enhanced by the diversity of these signs in the Qur'an and Sunnah* , the descriptive scientific facts in these two sources are distinguished with an absolute precision. When the Qur'anic text determines a scientific fact, it proves it with the utmost exactness, thus avoiding entering into lengthy details.

The Qur'an contains more than 1000 verses of a scientific nature that have been asserted to be compatible with definite facts reached by modern science. Some of these verses represent the scientific material of the book's subject; "The Miracle Signs in the Qur'an and Sunnah" which takes into consideration that the Qur'an was revealed 14 centuries ago. As for the Sunnah, it represents the sayings and acts of Prophet Mohammad (peace be upon him), and it contains scientific facts found within the purely-religious directions given by the Prophet.

We then ask the question: who taught this Prophet all these scientific facts, although he was illiterate, his society was a primitive one, and even all humanity at the time had no idea about any scientific fact?! The answer is God (Allah) himself, Glory Be to Him, who revealed the Noble Qur'an to the Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessing be upon him). He is the one who gave the Prophet all this wisdom, rich in definitive evidence supporting scientific facts.

To summarize, "The Miracle Signs in the Qur'an and Sunnah" deals with some of the miracle signs found in the Qur'an and Sunnah. These facts will never contradict what has been proved by modern science. The book also shows the great diversity in various scientific specializations, and with the utmost precision, describes scientific facts which-in fact-all bear witness that the Prophet Mohammad (peace be upon him) was connected with the divine revelation and had been taught by the Creator of the Earth and Heavens.

An Example of the Scientific Miracle in the Field of Agronomy

Storing Wheat in Its Spikes



قال تعالى ﴿يُوسُفُ أَيُّهَا الصَّادِقُ أَفْتِنَا فِي سَبْعِ بَقَرَاتٍ سِمَانٍ يَأْكُلُهُنَّ سَبْعٌ عِجَافٌ وَسَبْعِ سُنبُلَاتٍ خُضِرٍ وَأُخْرٍ
يَاسِبَاتٍ لَّعَلِّي أَرْجِعُ إِلَى النَّاسِ لَعَلَّهُمْ يَعْلَمُونَ . قَالَ تَزْرَعُونَ سَبْعَ سِنِينَ دَأَبًا فَمَا حَصَدْتُمْ فَذَرَوْهُ فِي سُنبُلِهِ إِلَّا
قَلِيلًا مِّمَّا تَأْكُلُونَ . ثُمَّ يَأْتِي مِنْ بَعْدِ ذَلِكَ سَبْعٌ شِدَادٌ يَأْكُلْنَ مَا قَدَّمْتُمْ لَهُنَّ إِلَّا قَلِيلًا مِّمَّا تُحْصِنُونَ . ثُمَّ يَأْتِي مِنْ
بَعْدِ ذَلِكَ عَامٌ فِيهِ يُغَاثُ النَّاسُ وَفِيهِ يَعَصِرُونَ ﴾ (سورة يوسف ٤٦ - ٤٩)

God (Allah), the Almighty, said:

(A man said, 'Joseph, O man of truth, explain to us the dream about seven fat cows eaten by seven that were lean, and seven green spikes of grain and others that were dry – that I may return to the people i.e., the king and his court; perhaps they will know about you.' Joseph said, 'You will plant for seven years consecutively; and what you harvest leave in its spikes, except a little from which you will eat. Then will come after that seven difficult years which will consume what you advanced for them, except a little from which you will store. Then will come after that a year in which the people will be given rain and in which they will press olives and grapes.') (12:46-49)

The Scientific Fact

Storing wheat and other grains in their spikes is a basic method for preserving them. Dr. Abdul Majid Balabid and his colleagues at Rabat University in Morocco conducted researches on wheat grains that were left in their spikes for two years and others that were left outside their spikes. Primary results showed that the grains stored in their spikes experienced no change and stayed 100% viable despite the fact that conditions of temperature and dampness in the storehouse were not altered. Scientists also found that the grains left in their spikes lost a considerable amount of water and became drier than those left outside their spikes. 20.3% of the weight of those left outside their spikes was found to be water. This affects their ability to grow after planting, simply because water makes them more vulnerable to mold and



diseases. The researchers then compared the growth rates between grains subjected to these two methods of storage. They found that those left in their spikes had a better growth rate. Then, they measured their protein and sugar levels. After one year of storage, the amounts in grains left outside their spikes decreased by 20%, falling to 32% after two years of storage. However, grains stored in their spikes had lost nothing.

The Scientific Miracle

There are two scientific observations made in these verses:

1) The method of storing grains in their spikes is the best way to preserve them. This was done by Prophet Joseph under Allah's instruction. It is historically proven that this technique was unknown before, particularly to the ancient Egyptians who used to remove grains from their spikes for storage.

2) The period which wheat grains are expected to be viable is fifteen years. This calculation was based on the fact that the people were commanded to grow grains during seven years of plenty for consumption during a seven year period of hardship, followed by an additional year (fifteen in all). And research proves that wheat grains maintain their ability to grow for up to fifteen years.



Examples of the Scientific Miracle in the Field of Geology

The Lowest Area on Earth

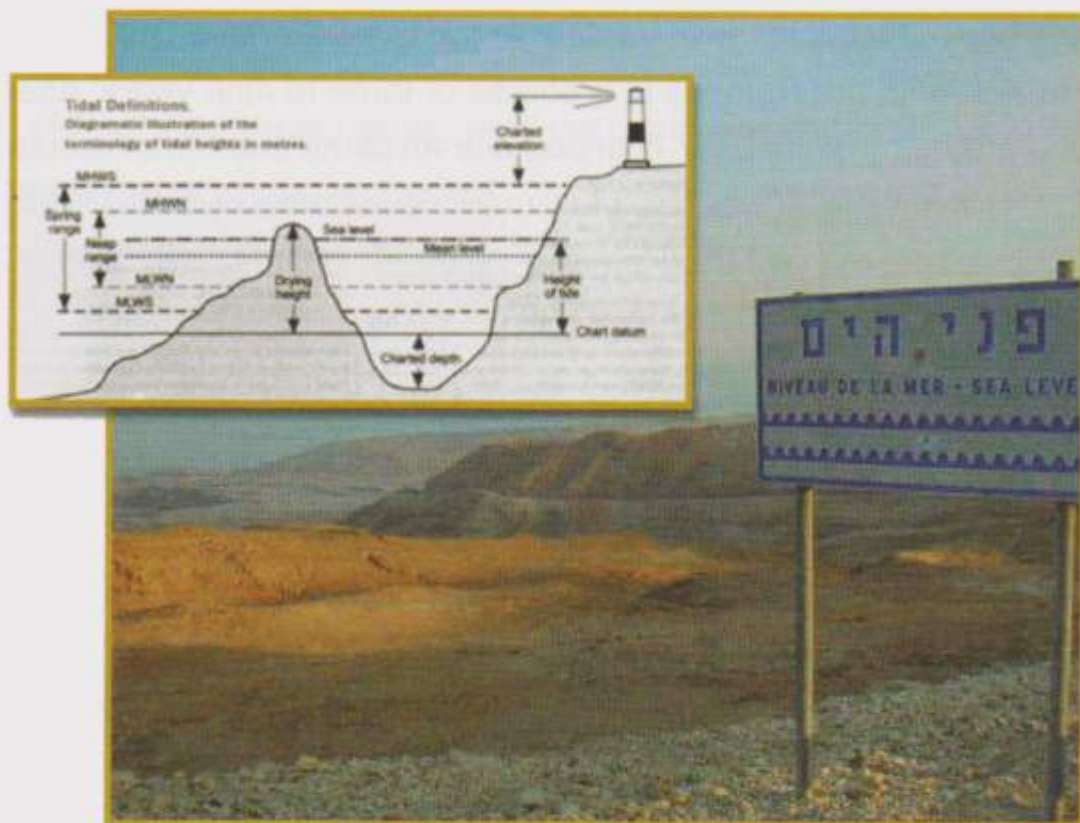


قال تعالى ﴿الم . غُلِبَتِ الرُّومُ . فِي أَدْنَى الْأَرْضِ وَهُمْ مِّنْ بَعْدِ عَلَيْهِمْ سَيَّغْلِبُونَ . فِي بَضْعِ
سِنِينَ لِلَّهِ الْأَمْرُ مِنْ قَبْلُ وَمِنْ بَعْدُ وَيَوْمَئِذٍ يَفْرَحُ الْمُؤْمِنُونَ . بِنَصْرِ اللَّهِ يَنْصُرُ مَن يَشَاءُ وَهُوَ الْعَزِيزُ
الرَّحِيمُ . وَعَدَ اللَّهُ لَا يُخْلِفُ اللَّهُ وَعْدَهُ وَلَكِنَّ أَكْثَرَ النَّاسِ لَا يَعْلَمُونَ﴾ (سورة الروم ١-٦)

Allah, the Almighty, says:

(Alif Lam Mim. The Romans have been defeated in the lowest land, and they, after their defeat, will be victorious within three to nine years. The decision of the matter, before and after (these events) is only with Allah, (before the defeat of the Romans by the Persians, and after, i.e. the defeat of the Persians by the Romans). And on that Day, the believers (i.e. Muslims) will rejoice (at the victory given by Allah to the Romans against the Persians). With the help of Allah, He helps whom He wills, and He is the Almighty, the Most Merciful. (It is) a Promise of Allah (i.e. Allah will give victory to the Romans against the Persians), and Allah fails not in His Promise, but most of men know not.) (30: 1-6)

The Scientific Fact



History books tell us about a battle between the Persian and the Byzantine empires – the latter signifies the eastern part of the Roman Empire - which was located in the area between Adhra'at and Basra, near the Dead Sea. The battle, which occurred in 619 A.D., ended with the victory of the Persians. The Romans received a severe blow in that battle and everyone at that time expected their kingdom to fall. Surprisingly, they were engaged in another battle in 627 A.D. in the area of Nineveh where they defeated the Persians and occupied many areas. Some months later, the Byzantines signed an agreement with the Persians according to which they returned all previously occupied areas.

Geographical atlases show that the lowest spot on the surface of the Earth is the area near the Dead Sea where the surface of the

Earth is as low as 395 meters below the sea level. Photos taken by satellites support this fact.



The Scientific Miracle

There are two miracles in these verses; 1) the Ever-Glorious Qur'an gave glad tidings of victory to the Romans in a course of three to nine years. After seven years, the prophecy of the Ever-Glorious Qur'an came true. This Roman victory coincided with the victory of the Muslims in the Battle of Badr. To the Arab disbelievers, the victory of the Romans seemed impossible and they started mocking the Muslims and ridiculing them about these Qura'nic words. When the prophecy came true, they were disappointed and humbled.

2) These Verses mentioned a geographical fact that was not known to anyone at that time. The verses said that the Romans had lost the battle in the lowest area of land which means that it is the nearest place to the Arabian Peninsula and is the lowest spot on Earth; it is 1,312 feet (around 400 meters) below the sea level. According to the Encyclopedia Britannica, satellites have recorded that it is indeed the lowest spot on Earth. Historical facts testify that the battle took place at the lowest spot on Earth; near to the Dead Sea. At that time, it was impossible for anyone to know this was the lowest area on earth. Does this not provide even more evidence that the Ever-Glorious Qur'an is the



word of Allah? Almighty Allah says: (And say [(O Muhammad) to these polytheists and pagans etc.]: All the praises and thanks be to Allah. He will show you His Ayat (signs, in yourselves, and in the universe or punishments, etc.), and you shall recognize them. And your Lord is not unaware of what you do.) (27: 93)

Mountains Are Stakes in Form and Function

قال تعالى ﴿وَالْجِبَالُ أَوْتَادًا﴾ (سورة النبأ ٧)

God (Allah), the Almighty, says: (And the mountains are as stakes.) (78: 7)



The Scientific Fact

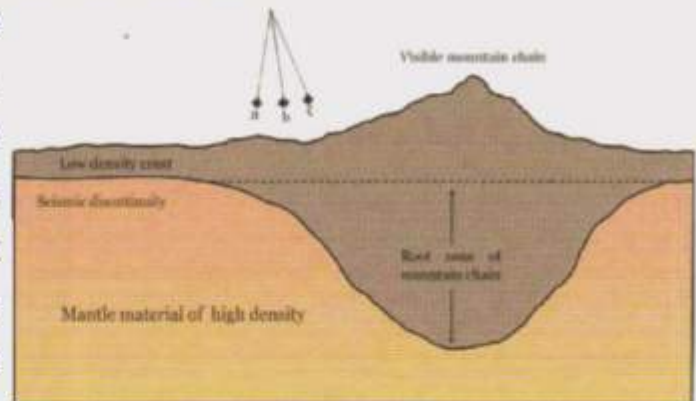
In former times, all that was known about mountains is that they are rocky masses protruding from the Earth. This definition was considered valid until 1735, when Pierre Bouguer pointed out that the gravitational pull registered for the Andes Mountains was considerably less than what would be expected if they were a load sitting on top of the Earth's crust. He suggested that there must be a larger subterranean mass of the same material in order to explain the inconsistency in measurement of gravity.

In the middle of the 19th century, George Everest noted contradictory results when measuring the gravity of the Himalaya Mountains in two different places. Nevertheless, Everest failed to explain this phenomenon and called it the "Mystery of India." However, George Airy stated in 1865 that all mountain chains on the Earth are floating blocks on a sea of magma (molten rock material beneath the Earth's crust) and that all such molten material is denser than the mountains themselves. As a result, the mountains must descend into this high density material to maintain their uprightness.

Geologists discovered the fact that the Earth's crust is made of adjacent patches called continental plates and that mighty mountains float on a sea

of molten material and higher density rocks below the surface. They also confirmed that mountains have roots that help them float upright and keep them fastened to the plates of the Earth. In 1948, the geologist Van Anglin stated in his book *Geomorphology* that it is now well understood that for each mountain there is a root below the crust of the earth.

The function of mountains on the earth is to stabilize the Earth's crust. This fact was proven by the principle of hydrostatic balance of the Earth as illustrated by the U.S. geologist Clarence E. Dutton in 1889. He stated that the protrusions of the Earth are anchored into the Earth



by roots proportional to their height. Moreover, after the existence of the continental plates was proven in 1969, it became clear that mountains are responsible for maintaining the equilibrium of all the Earth's plates.

The Scientific Miracle

These facts about mountains were not available until the middle of the 19th century, although the Qur'an authoritatively asserted that they are like stakes in terms of their form and function. Recently, the accurate image given in the above mentioned verse was confirmed. The stake has two parts: one above the Earth's surface and the other underground, and its function is to support whatever is tied to it. Similarly, a mountain has two parts: one above the Earth's crust and another, anchored in its interior which is proportional to its height. The function of mountains is to stabilize the plates of the Earth's crust and to prevent them from moving with the molten layer beneath; as it is written in the Holy Qur'an (16 : 15) "And He has set up on the earth mountains standing firm, lest it should shake with you; and rivers and roads; that ye may guide yourselves "

Thus, it is evident that the Qur'an is the word of Allah, Creator of the mountains and all things, who said: "Does He who created not know, while He is the Subtle, the Acquainted." (67:14)

Examples of the Scientific miracle in the Field of Oceanography

Properties of the Deep Seas



قال تعالى ﴿أَوْ كَظُلُمَاتٍ فِي بَحْرٍ لُّجِّيٍّ يَغْشَاهُ مَوْجٌ مِّنْ فَوْقِهِ مَوْجٌ مِّنْ فَوْقِهِ سَحَابٌ ظُلُمَاتٌ بَعْضُهَا فَوْقَ بَعْضٍ إِذَا أَخْرَجَ يَدَهُ لَمْ يَكْذِبْ رَاهَا وَمَنْ لَّمْ يَجْعَلِ اللَّهُ لَهُ نُورًا فَمَا لَهُ مِن نُّورٍ﴾ (سورة النور ٤٠)

God (Allah), the Almighty, said:

(Or they are like darkneses within an unfathomable sea which is covered by waves, upon which are waves, over which are clouds , darkneses, some of them upon others. When one puts out his hand therein, he can hardly see it. And he to whom Allah has not granted light – for him there is no light.)

(24:40)

The Scientific Fact

Satellite pictures show that, as a rule, oceans and deep seas are covered by thick cumulus clouds which block a large amount of sunlight. These clouds reflect most sunrays and prevent some of their light from reaching the Earth. The water reflects some of the remaining light that comes through to Earth and absorbs the rest. Levels of darkness begin in the water at a depth of 200 meters, and total darkness occurs below 1000 meters. The Secchi disk was the first piece of equipment used for measuring the depths



at which light penetrates in ocean waters. Scientists have observed fish at depths of 600-2700 meters having luminous organs which enable them to see in the dark and catch their prey.

At the end of the 19th century, using new photoelectric technology, marine scientists discovered vigorous waves in the ocean depths. They are formed between two masses of water that differ in density, temperature and current. Internal waves resemble surface waves. Because deep water has a higher density and lower temperature than the water above it,



waves form on top of it just as surface waves form where the water meets the air of the atmosphere.

The Scientific Miracle

Previous generations had numerous superstitions concerning deep seas and oceans as there was not much scientific information available about them. Although they knew that wind currents affect surface waves, they had no way to observe ocean depths or have knowledge about internal waves.

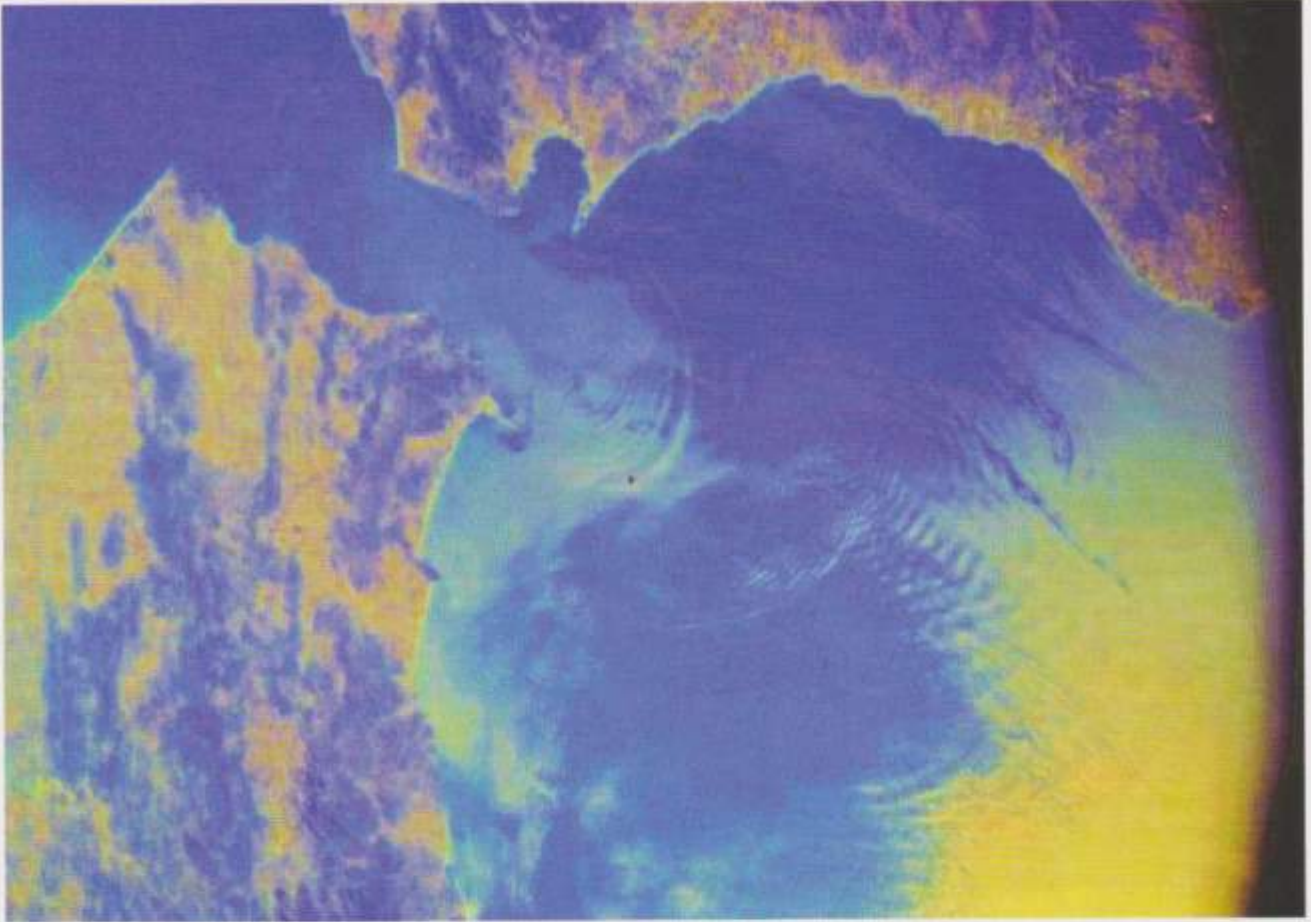
The Qur'an uses the expression "an unfathomable sea" and mentions that the darkness within it consists of layers. Commentators on the Qur'an in early times had previously explained that the layers of darkness mentioned in this verse are those of the clouds, the waves, and the depths of the sea.

Dense clouds that cover the seas reflect some of the sun's light and the surface of the sea also reflects some of it. Then the water absorbs the seven colors of the light spectrum, one after another, until there is no light at all – to the extent that one cannot see his own hand.

In addition, the words "waves, upon which are waves, over which are clouds" draw attention to the existence of waves other than those formed at the ocean's surface. The recent discovery by oceanographers of internal waves between the two dissimilar layers of water was alluded to in the Qur'an fourteen centuries ago. Prophet Muhammad could not possibly have been informed of such facts by anyone other than Allah, the Exalted Creator.



The Meeting of Two Seas



قال الله تعالى: ﴿مَرَجَ الْبَحْرَيْنِ يَلْتَقِيَانِ. بَيْنَهُمَا بَرْزَخٌ لَا يَبْغِيَانِ. فَبِأَيِّ آلَاءِ رَبِّكُمَا تُكَذِّبَانِ. يُخْرِجُ مِنْهُمَا اللُّؤْلُؤَ وَالْمَرْجَانَ﴾ (سورة الرحمن ١٩-٢٢)

God (Allah), the Almighty, said:

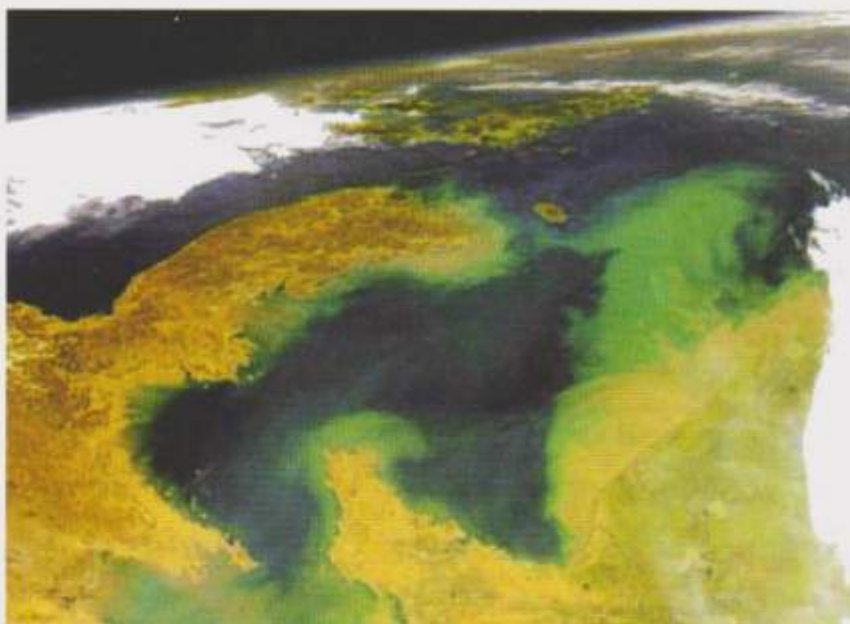
(He released the two seas, meeting [one another]. Between them is a barrier neither of them transgresses. So which of the favors of your Lord would you deny? From both of them emerge pearl and coral.)

(55:19-22)

The Scientific Fact

It was not until 1873 that seas were discovered to have waters of different natures. This property of the seas, that they come together yet, do not mingle with one another at all, has only very recently been discovered by oceanographers.

The two bodies of waters contain waters of varying characteristics including differences in temperature, density, salinity, marine life, and ability to absorb oxygen.

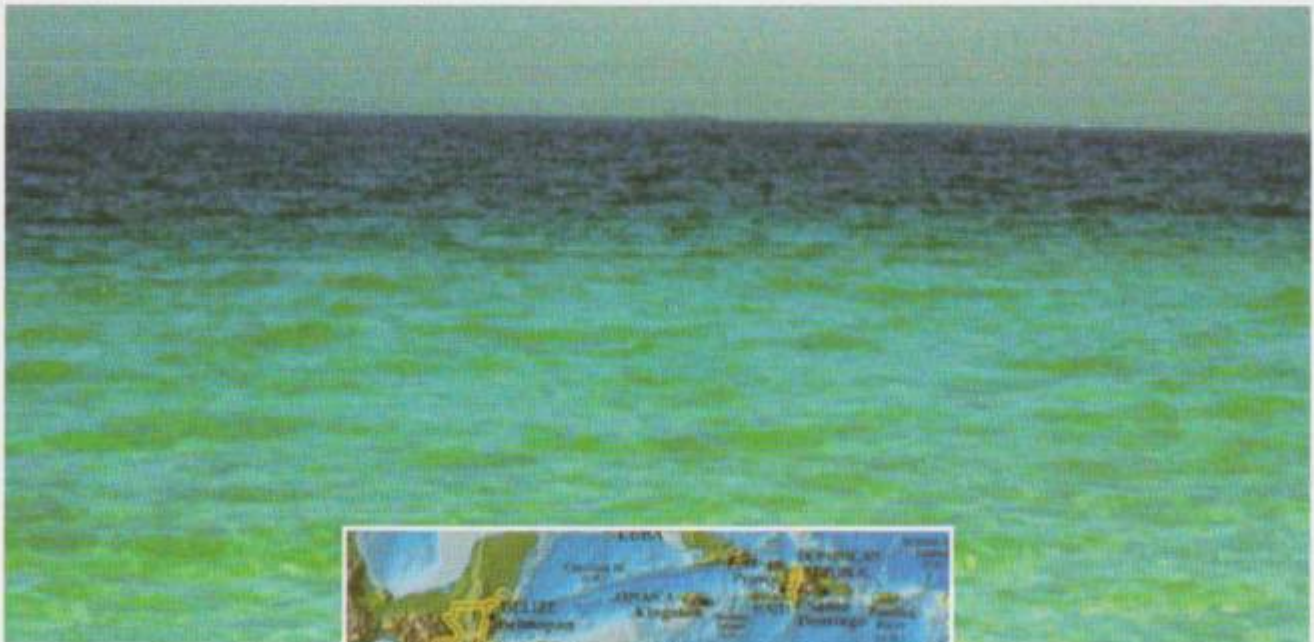


Sea water moves swiftly

and violently in a way that would logically make them mix and intermingle; however, each mass maintains its own characteristics and qualities. Tides currents, waves and hurricanes should all contribute to the mixing of sea waters. Yet, each kind of water retains its own qualities as if there is a barrier between them. Because of the physical force called "surface tension", the waters of neighboring seas do not mix. Caused by the difference in the density of their waters, surface tension prevents them from mingling with one another, just as if a thin wall was between them. Analysis of water masses of two adjacent seas showed that they were different in their physical and chemical properties, and in each of these masses there were different types of living species. This phenomenon was explained by the presence of the positively –and negatively- charged ions. The similarly charged ions repel each other in adjacent clusters. This results in the formation of an invisible vertical and horizontal barrier in adjacent clusters of water.

The Scientific Miracle

The most interesting thing is that, during a period when people had no knowledge of physics, surface tension, or oceanography, this was revealed in the Qur'an. Modern technology has verified these differences. Using advanced technology, scientists confirm the physical presence of this barrier while scholars previously explained it as a merely invisible barrier by the power of Allah. Yet the Qur'an stated this fact a long time ago, stressing that the waters of the two seas never transgress each other's boundaries. Thus, they will always maintain their own distinctive qualities as if there is a barrier between them. Also, the Qur'anic verse, when mentioning about the two neighboring seas that meet one another yet each maintains its own composition, it goes on to say that pearl and coral can be found in both. Coral and pearl can only be found in salty water; therefore, the verses indicate that oceans or seas which appear to be one mass of water actually contain waters of different qualities. This is further evidence that the Qur'an is the word of Allah.



Estuaries



قال تعالى ﴿وَهُوَ الَّذِي مَرَجَ الْبَحْرَيْنِ هَذَا عَذْبٌ فُرَاتٌ وَهَذَا مِلْحٌ أُجَاجٌ وَجَعَلَ بَيْنَهُمَا بَرْزَخًا
وَحِجْرًا مَّحْجُورًا﴾ (سورة الفرقان 53)

God (Allah), the Almighty, said:

(And it is He who has released simultaneously the two seas i.e., bodies of water, one fresh and sweet and one salty and bitter, and He placed between them a barrier and prohibiting partition.) (25:53)

The Scientific Fact

The first book on oceanography was written in the 18th century and contained very simple information. The worldwide voyage of the British ship, Challenger, between 1872 and 1876 marked the beginning of modern oceanography. Thereafter, many scientific voyages were launched to explore the oceans and seas. At the end of the 20th century, satellites and aerial photography further aided the research.

Modern studies of seas and rivers showed that water is divided into 3 types: river fresh waters, sea salty waters, and a combination of fresh and salty waters in the sub saline area which is an area separating the river from the sea, and the borders of which are moving depending on the ebb and flow tide. Researchers discovered that there is a unique area with characteristic differences from either the sea or the river. There appears to be some kind of barrier that separates both waters and enables each to maintain its own qualities.

This barrier-like border of water (estuary) located in the sub saline area:

- Keeps the special features of both waters of the sea and the river.
- Prevents the direct contact between them.
- Slows the mixing between the sea and river waters so that each retains its specific features.

Categorizing the three areas (river, sea and estuary) based on the living organisms within each of them, researchers discovered that certain creatures live only in the waters of the river mouth

and cannot live outside it. By the same token, creatures found in the other two bodies of water cannot live within the river mouth due to its own special characteristics.

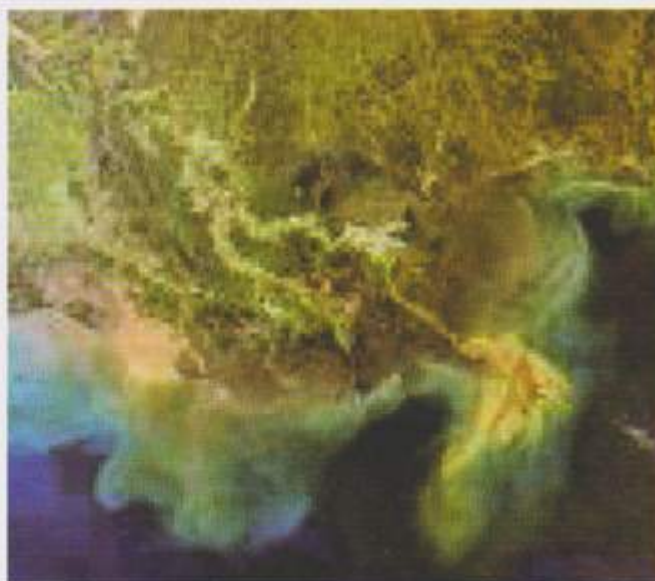


The Scientific Miracle

The Arabic word 'Hijr' in this Qur'anic verse means "a prohibiting partition", and also the word 'Hijr' means quarantine, where nobody can go in nor go out. This description is so similar to that specific area of water that halts any mix between the waters of the river and that of the sea.

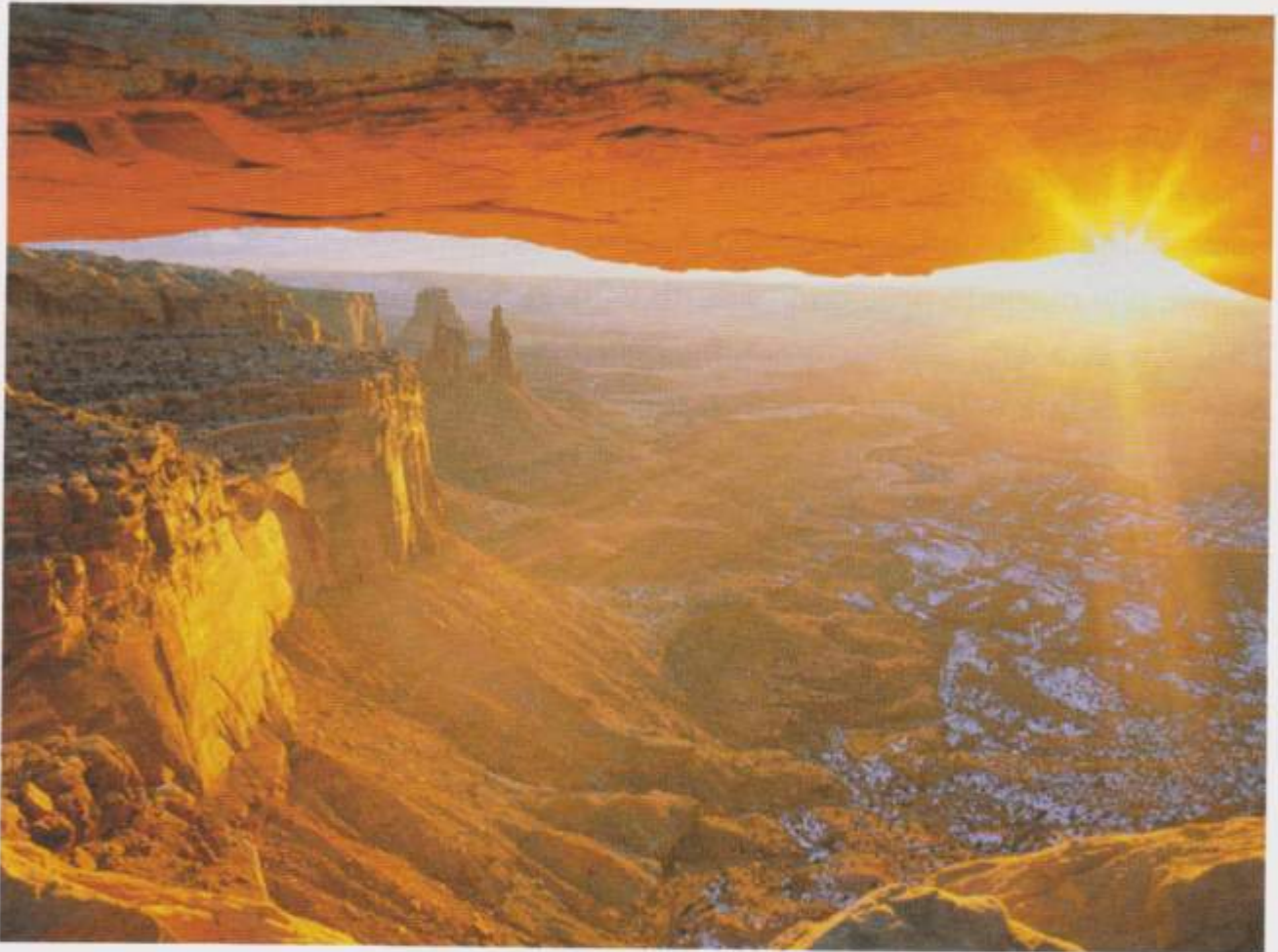
The history of oceanography shows that no accurate information about seas and rivers existed fourteen centuries ago. In spite of the constant movement of their waters, the Qur'an gave a full accurate account of estuary water and described its distinguishing characteristics, making it a barrier-like between the fresh river water

and the salty sea water. The barrier itself has specific features which are different from those of the sea and river: its saltiness, density, temperature and even the creatures living in it. These specific creatures even die if transferred to the other water.



Examples of the Scientific Miracle in the Field of Astronomy

The Sun is a Burning Lamp and the Moon a Reflected Light



قال تعالى ﴿تَبَارَكَ الَّذِي جَعَلَ فِي السَّمَاءِ بُرُوجًا وَجَعَلَ فِيهَا سِرَاجًا وَقَمَرًا مُنِيرًا﴾ (سورة الفرقان ٦١)

God (Allah), the Almighty, said:

(Blessed is He who has placed in the sky great stars and placed therein a burning lamp and luminous moon.) (25:61)

قال تعالى ﴿وَجَعَلَ الْقَمَرَ فِيهِنَّ نُورًا وَجَعَلَ الشَّمْسُ سِرَاجًا﴾ (سورة نوح ١٦)

"And made the moon therein a [reflected] light and made the sun a burning lamp." (71:16)

The Scientific Fact

The energy of the sun is generated by the burning of hydrogen, which is its main constituent. It is transformed into helium deep within, where there is very high density, pressure, and temperatures reaching $15,000,000^{\circ}\text{C}$. This is the result of a nuclear reaction and the fusion of four hydrogen atoms to make one helium atom. The leftover energy from this reaction is released in the form of electromagnetic energy divided into shortwave, infrared, and ultraviolet rays.

This means that the sun obtains its energy from within through a natural nuclear reaction under very high pressure, heat and density, like a mega atomic pile made to provide the earth with light, warmth and energy.

The sun is a star and a luminous celestial body, whereas the moon is a planet – a dark celestial body that reflects the light it receives from the sun, as do all the other natural satellites (i.e., moons) and planets.

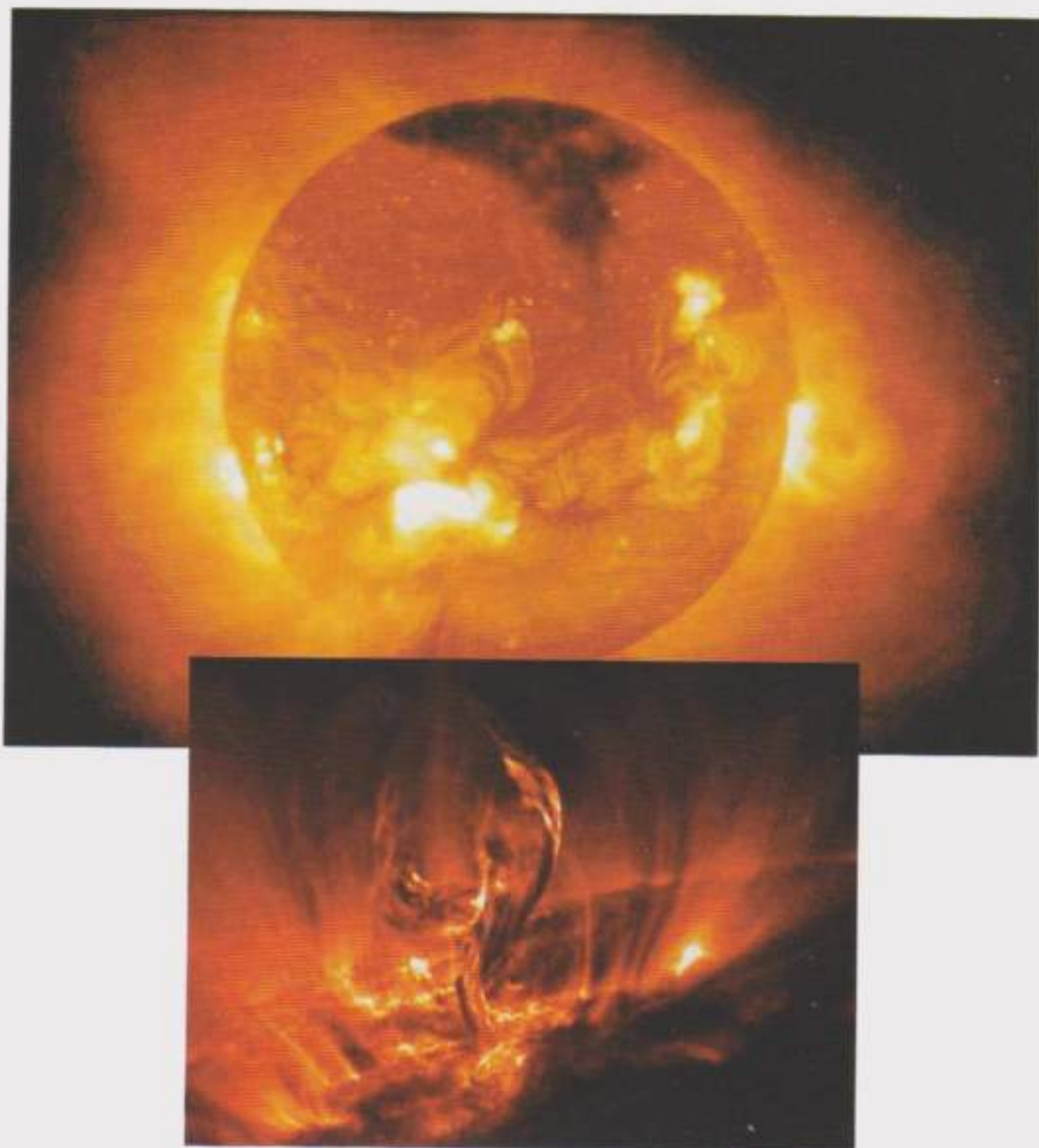


The Scientific Miracle

More than fourteen centuries ago, the Qur'an indicated the difference between stars and planets, exemplified in the difference between the sun and the moon. Modern astronomers only discovered this fact after the telescope was invented and after carrying out photometric and spectrogram research on stars and planets.

The sun is a mega atomic pile moving in space which provides light, heat and energy. It is like a burning lamp, whereas the moon is a planet that reflects the light of the sun to illuminate the Earth at night.

This fact was described in the two aforementioned verses fourteen centuries ago. So, who could have informed Prophet Muhammad of this except Allah, the Most High!



How the Sky Sends Things Back



قال تعالى ﴿وَالسَّمَاءِ ذَاتِ الرَّجْعِ﴾ (سورة الطارق 11)

God (Allah), the Almighty, said: (By the sky which sends back) (86:11)

The Scientific Fact

As known, the atmosphere surrounding the earth consists of many layers. Each layer serves an important purpose for the benefit of life. Research has revealed that these layers have the function of turning the materials or rays they are exposed to back into space or back down to the earth.

- 1) The atmosphere returns vaporized water to the Earth in the form of rain.
- 2) The atmosphere breaks up meteors or returns them to outer space.
- 3) The atmosphere returns the harmful rays that kill living creatures and repels them from the Earth.
- 4) The atmosphere returns short and medium radio waves back towards the Earth. It is like a mirror, reflecting rays and electromagnetic waves. It also returns television and wireless waves after being reflected through the ionosphere. This is how television and radio broadcasting works around the Earth.

5) The atmosphere returns heat; it works like a shield against the sun's heat during the day and prevents the heat of the Earth from escaping at night. If the balance of this system was upset, life on earth would be impossible due to the extreme heat by day and cold at night.

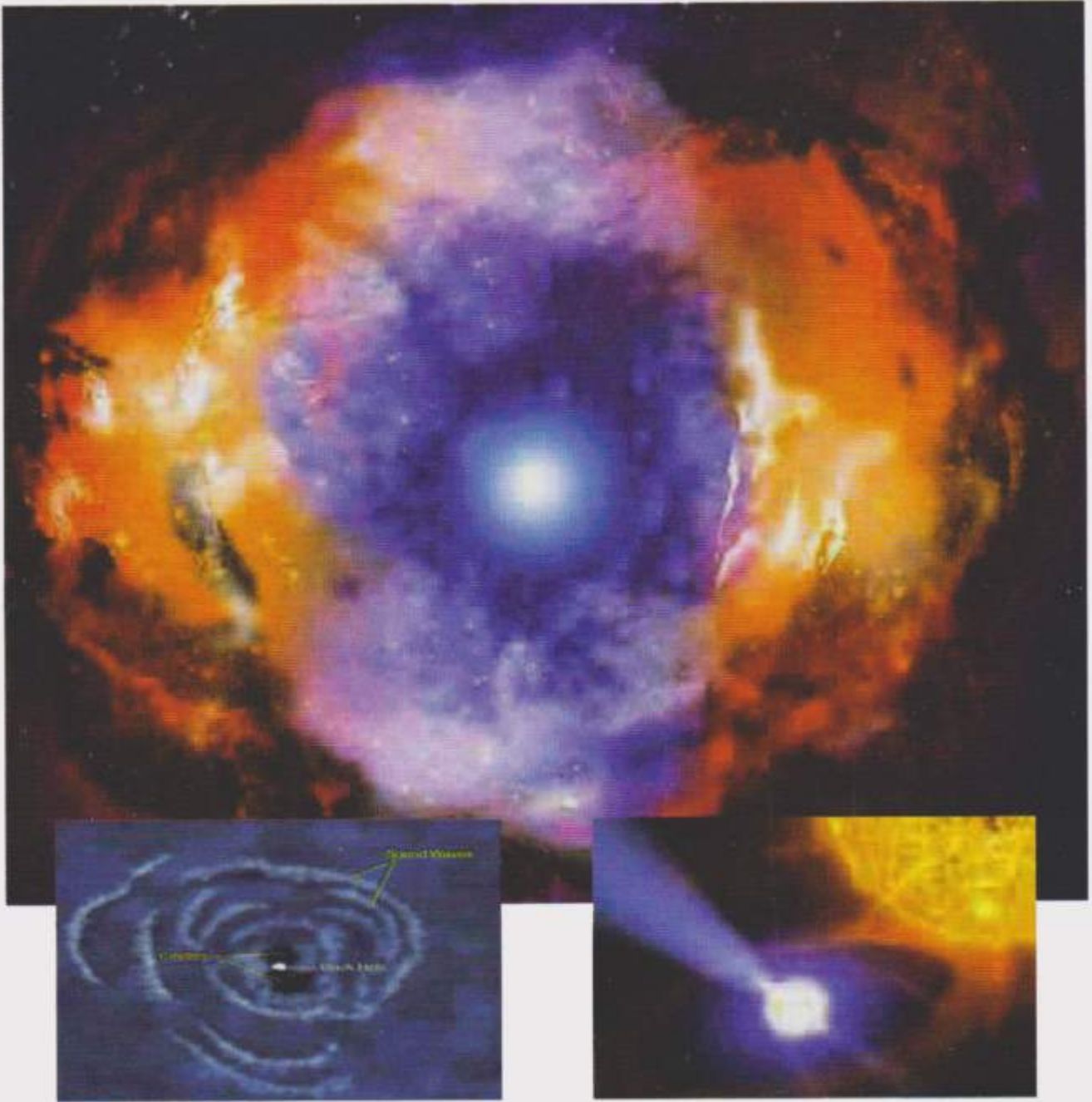


The Scientific Miracle

The Qur'anic verse indicated that a prominent characteristic of the sky is that it sends things back. Previously, people thought that this verse only referred to the return of water in the form of rain, but modern science has provided many additional meanings for the word "returns." Here, the "sky" refers to the atmosphere which surrounds the Earth, returning beneficial things to it while hindering harmful things from reaching it. Thus, many centuries ago the Qur'an used one word with numerous indications, most of which were not to be discovered until the modern era.



Stars that Retreat and Disappear



قال الله تعالى: ﴿ فَلَا أُقْسِمُ بِالْخُنَّسِ . الْجَوَارِ الْكُنَّسِ ﴾ (سورة التكويد ١٥-١٦)

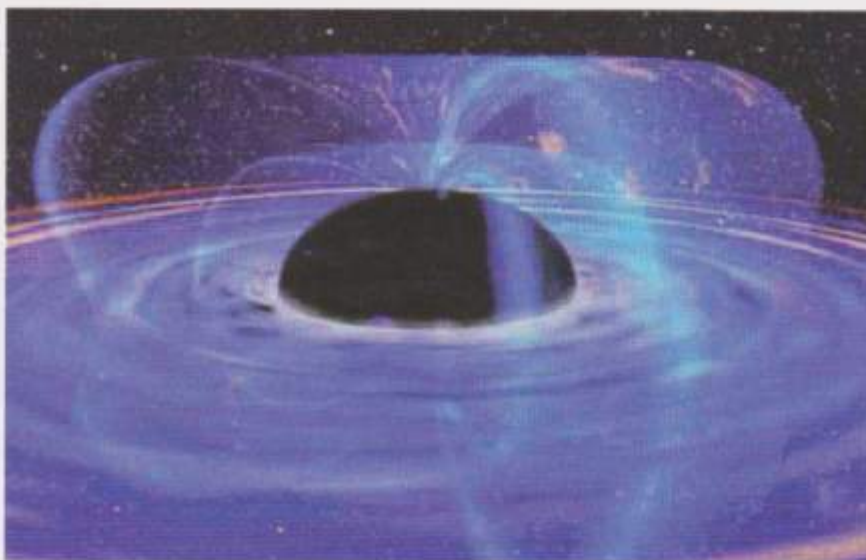
God (Allah), the Almighty, said:

(So I swear by the retreating stars – those that run their courses and disappear.) (81:15-16)

The Scientific Fact

In the late past century, astronomers discovered the presence of structures which are called: "The black holes". Calculations made by Karl Schwarzchild in 1916 and Robert Oppenheimer in 1934 proved their existence. Since 1971, more has been discovered about them, and scientists now believe that a black hole is in the middle of our galaxy (the Milky Way). They are of such great density and intense gravitational pull that anything that approaches them disappears so they are seen as black areas in space.

- They are considered an aging stage in the life of some huge stars.
- They orbit along their axis with magnificent speed.
- They have very high density (billions of tons per cubic centimeter).
- They have an unusual ability to sweep everything around them, such as gases, dust etc.
- They were called 'black' because they are completely dull and dusky (not seen), as light rays cannot escape from their gravity field.

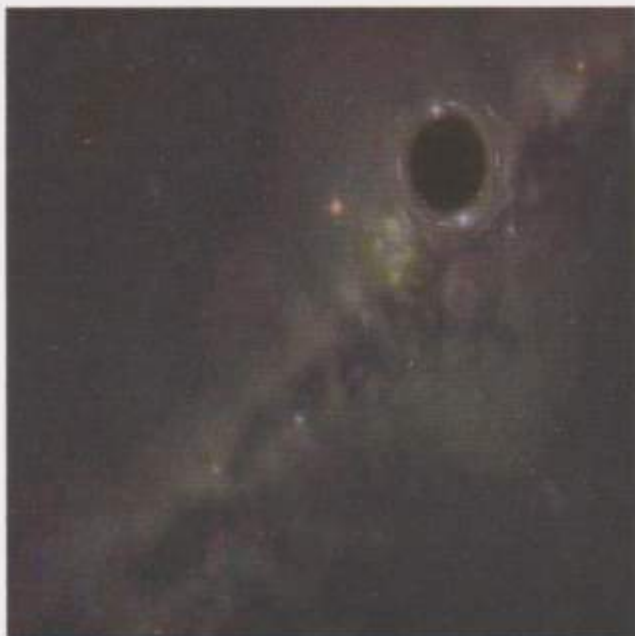


The Scientific Miracle

God (Allah) swears by a certain type of stars which has specific descriptions: The Arabic word "Alkhonnas" (retreats), means disappears secretly before being seen. The word "Aljawar" (runs in its orbit), means it runs in an orbital course. Their intense gravitational pull sweeps in everything around them, and so the Qur'an also alludes to the retreating stars as (sweepers) "Alkhonnas".



The importance of this confirmation lies in what is sworn by, the retreating stars, which are described in the above verses in a way resembling that of black holes. Black holes are stars that have run their courses in orbit and disappeared at the end of their lives. Their intense gravitational pull sweeps in everything around them, and so the Qur'an also alludes to the retreating stars as "sweepers" (Alkhonnas), which also conforms to the scientific description. This precise description stands as decisive evidence that the Qur'an is indeed the words of Allah, the Creator.



Constriction of the Chest in the Upper Atmosphere



قال تعالى ﴿فَمَنْ يُرِدِ اللَّهُ أَنْ يَهْدِيَهُ يَشْرَحْ صَدْرَهُ لِلْإِسْلَامِ وَمَنْ يُرِدْ أَنْ يُضِلَّهُ يَجْعَلْ صَدْرَهُ ضَيِّقًا حَرَجًا كَأَنَّمَا يَصَّعَّدُ فِي السَّمَاءِ ...﴾ (سورة الانعام 125)

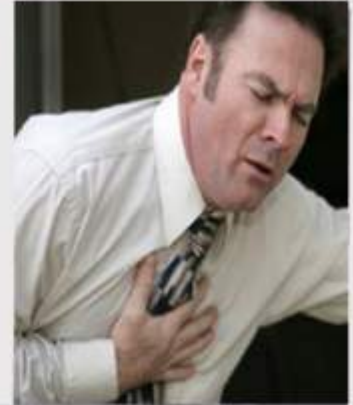
God (Allah), the Almighty, says:

(So whoever Allah wants to guide, He expands his breast to contain Islam; and whoever He wants to misguide, He makes his breast tight and constricted as though he were climbing into the sky.....) (6:125)

The Scientific Fact

The characteristics of the atmosphere were unknown until 1648, when Pascal confirmed that air pressure decreases the higher one goes above sea level. It was then discovered that air in the lower layers of the atmosphere where we live is of the greatest density. About 50% of the air mass is located between the surface of the earth and 20,000 feet above sea level, and 90% is located between the surface of the earth and 50,000 feet above sea level. Density of the earth's atmosphere decreases vertically until the air becomes extremely scarce in the upper layers of the atmosphere before it completely vanishes in space.

The respiratory system of a human being can still function with difficulty at altitudes of between 10,000 and 25,000 feet above sea level. However, if a person goes higher, the drastic decrease in air pressure and lack of oxygen causes severe constriction of the chest and dyspnea. The respiratory system finally fails completely, causing death.



The Scientific Miracle

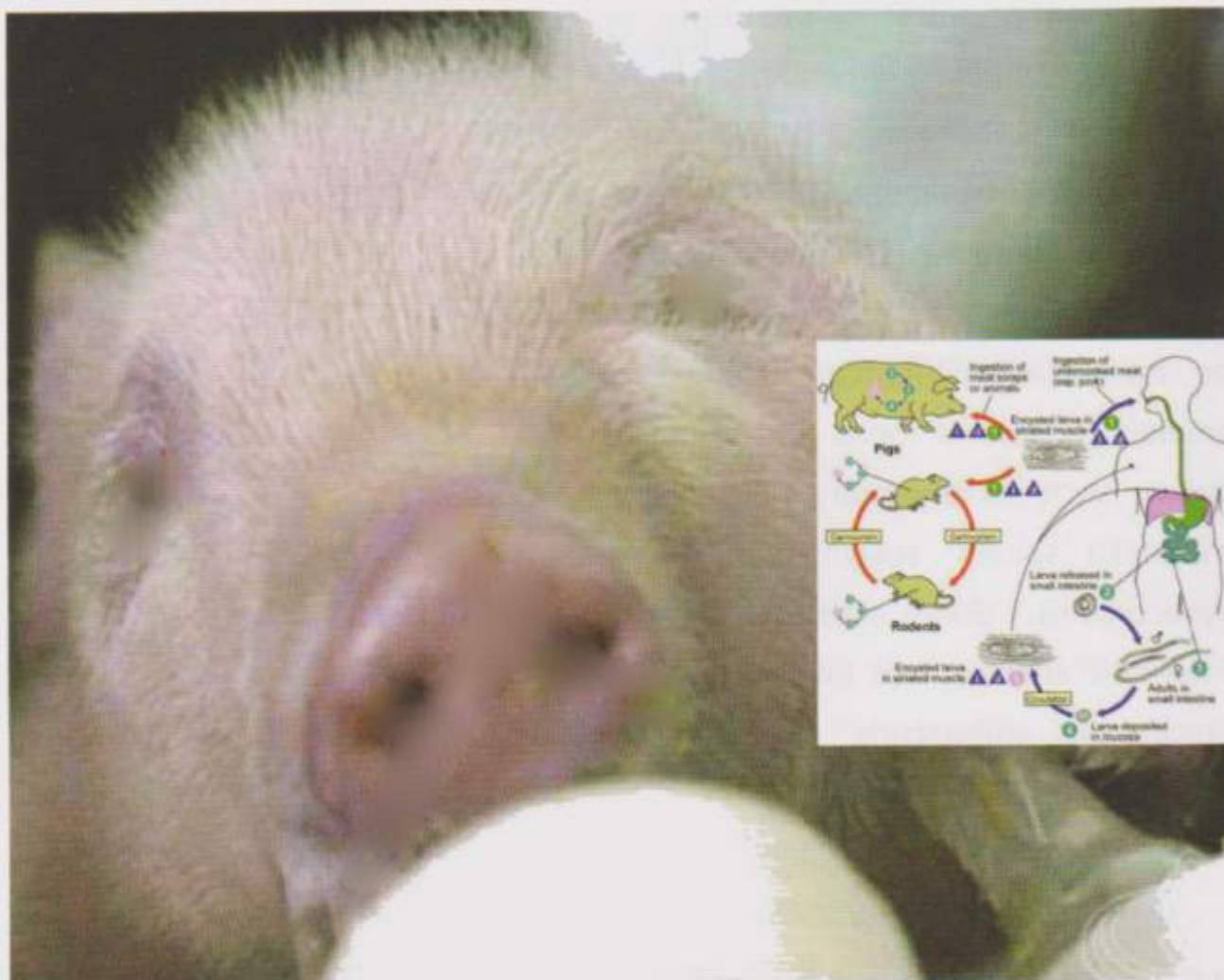
Variations in the density of the atmosphere and air pressure were unknown at the time the Qur'an was revealed. Thus, it was also unknown that oxygen decreases with altitude, which causes the respiratory system to work harder in order to supply the body with its required amount of oxygen.

The Qur'anic verse clearly indicates a fact that has only recently been discovered by modern science. It is also significant to note the precision of the word "climbing" used by Allah. It indicates a difficult ascent in which breathing can become painful. This is another indication that the words are truly from Allah, the all-Knowing and all-Aware.



Examples in the Field of Medical Sciences

The Prohibition of Pork



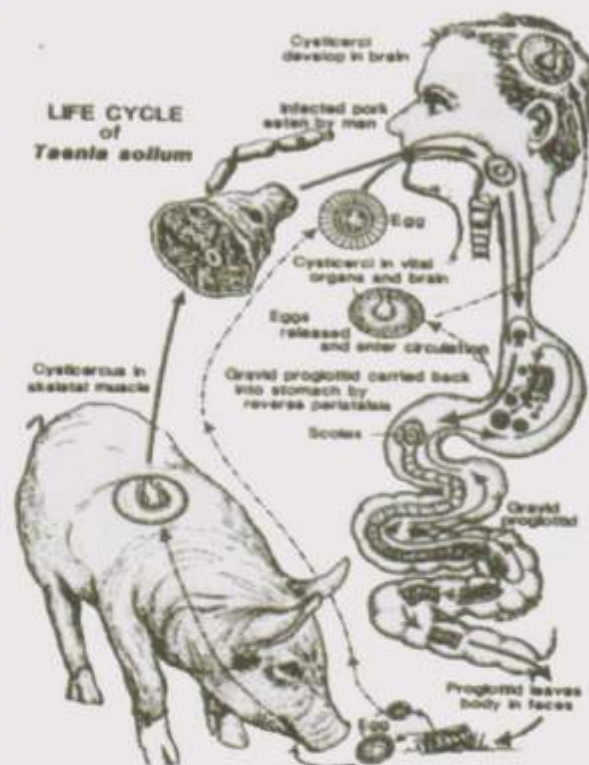
قال تعالى ﴿قُلْ لَا أَجِدُ فِي مَا أُوحِيَ إِلَيَّ مُحَرَّمًا عَلَى طَاعِمٍ يَطْعَمُهُ إِلَّا أَنْ يَكُونَ مَيْتَةً أَوْ دَمًا
مَسْفُوحًا أَوْ لَحْمَ خِنْزِيرٍ فَإِنَّهُ رِجْسٌ أَوْ فِسْقًا أُهِلَّ لِغَيْرِ اللَّهِ بِهِ فَمَنْ اضْطُرَّ غَيْرَ بَاغٍ وَلَا عَادٍ فَإِنَّ
رَبَّكَ غَفُورٌ رَحِيمٌ﴾ (سورة الانعام ١٤٥)

Allah, (God) said in the Qur'an :

(Say, 'I do not find within that which was revealed to me anything forbidden to one who would eat it unless it be a dead animal or blood spilled out or the flesh of swine – for indeed, it is impurity....') (6:145)

The Scientific Fact

With the development of the microscope, some of the wisdom behind this prohibition became clear. Among the things the Qur'an prohibited for consumption are: dead animals and blood, where bacteria thrive, as well as swine, whose bodies are breeding grounds for some deadly strains that cannot be eliminated by cooking or other means of purification. There are numerous parasites, bacteria and viruses in a pig's body which can be transfused to human beings and animals. Some of these are limited to swine, such as dysentery balantidium, trichinella spirals, solium taenia, and cysticercosis. Some others affect both men and animals, like influenza, buski fasciolopsis, and ascaris. Balantidial dysentery is known to spread among pig herders and their associates.



Contrary to claims that the meat can be made safe through modern techniques, it is evident that wherever swine is kept, disease erupts, even in highly advanced countries. The consumption of infected meat causes trichinellosis (also called trichinosis). The female roundworm deposits larvae in the walls of the pig's bowels which are then carried through the blood to muscles where they form cysts and remain. When this meat is eaten, the cysts are dissolved by stomach acid. The larvae then mature in human intestines and reproduce, entering the bloodstream from one to three weeks after ingestion.

Dysentery balantidium infects man in much the same way. This worm can grow to be seven meters long within human bowels and is the largest protozoan affecting man. It grows rapidly and damages the intestine.

Cysticercosis is an infection caused by the pork tapeworm, taenia solium. When man consumes meat containing its eggs, they hatch inside the stomach, penetrate the intestine, travel through the bloodstream and may form cysts in the muscles, brain or eyes. It can affect almost all the organs of the body.

Taeniasis and cysticercosis are very rare in Muslim countries where pork is forbidden, and taenia saginata (the beef tapeworm) is much less damaging and responds well to drugs. Pigs are unique in that they harbor almost all the diseases that can be transmitted from animal to man. This is unlike other animal species, where each of them transmits only one or two of these diseases.

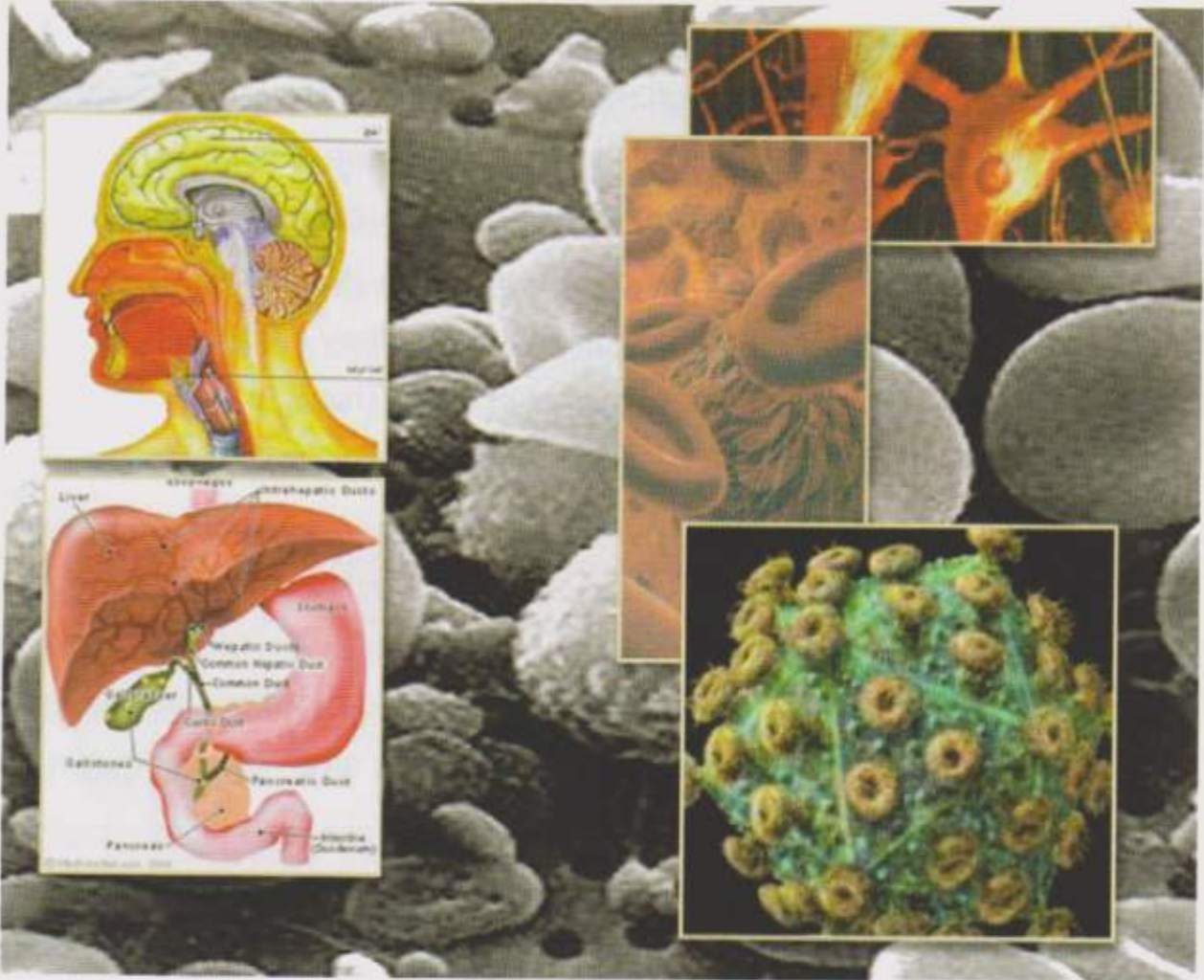
The Scientific Miracle

The prohibition of pig flesh, including fat, is mentioned in three places in the Qur'an, and it is described therein as impurity. It has always been known that swine are dirty animals, both in behavior and eating habits. Myths of the ancient Canaanites, Egyptians and Greeks state that it was swine that killed their gods, and the pig was shunned as being unclean. In their own scriptures, Jews and Christians were forbidden to consume pork; however, not all of them have adhered to the prohibition.

At the time the Qur'an was revealed, no one but Allah was aware of the many illnesses and disorders now attributed to swine by medical science, a number of which remain resistant even after prolonged exposure to extreme temperature and other modern methods of treatment.



A Distress Call within the Body



قال الرسول صلى الله عليه وسلم :
(مَثَلُ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ فِي تَوَادُّهِمْ وَتَرَاحُمِهِمْ وَتَعَاطُفِهِمْ مَثَلُ الْجَسَدِ إِذَا اشْتَكَى مِنْهُ عُضْوٌ
تَدَاعَى لَهُ سَائِرُ الْجَسَدِ بِالسَّهَرِ وَالْحُمَّى) (رواه البخاري ومسلم)

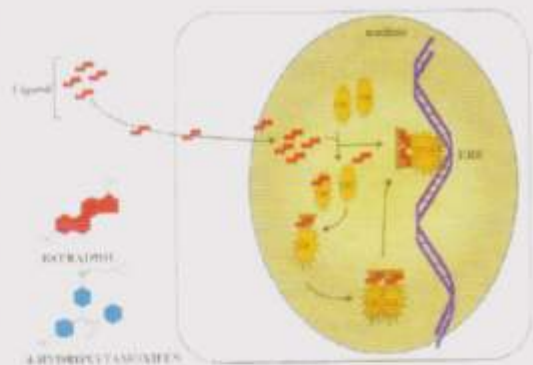
Prophet Muhammad, (peace be upon him) said :

(The example of the believers in their mutual affection and mercy is like a body. When one part of it complains, the whole body is affected with wakefulness and fever) (Narrated by Al-Bokhari and Moslim).

The Scientific Fact

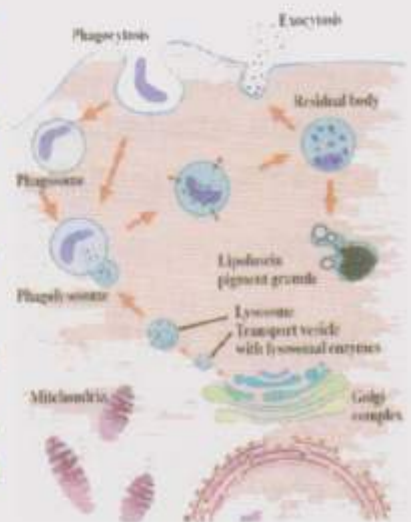
Intensive modern research reveals marvellous facts about the interaction between different parts of the human body when afflicted with injury or illness and has led to the discovery of strategies and functional responses of the body when a part of it suffers. These responses differ according to the nature of the distress.

Soon after the onset of an infection or injury, sensory centers contact the alert and control centers in the brain's hypothalamus. These in turn call upon the pituitary gland to secrete hormones that prompt the rest of the endocrine glands to secrete substances which prompt all body parts to aid the endangered one, so the rest of the body exerts utmost energy to save it. The heart, for example, starts beating faster to help blood circulate and reach the injured area. At the same time, blood vessels in the injured region contract, while other vessels in the body expand in order to send the required amounts of energy, oxygen, antibodies, hormones and amino acids to the injured part, helping it resist infection and heal quickly. The body also starts to break up stored fats and proteins in order to provide aid for the injured part. This rescue process subsides once the injury or disease is under control and the infected tissues and cells are cured.



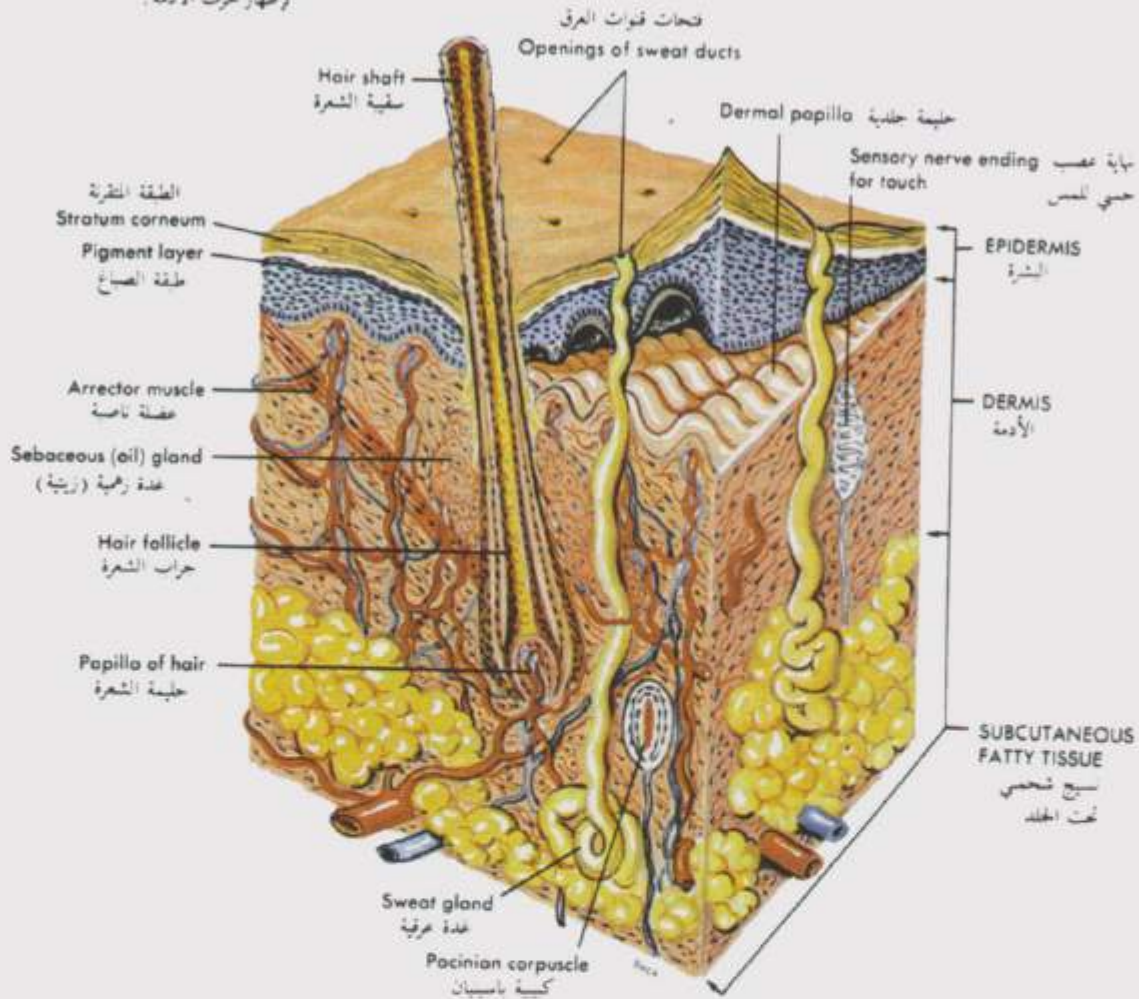
The Scientific Miracle

The Prophet's eloquent description of an ailing body part is completely accurate, and the linguistic, rhetorical, and scientific miracle is apparent. He was able to describe what actually happens within the human body without the aid of instruments. Just as all parts of the body call upon each other to save an injured one, likewise, Muslims are expected to support one another at times of need. It was Allah who sent His messenger with guidance and the religion of truth to manifest it over all religion, and who supported him with miracles and precise descriptions.



The Pain Feelings

شكل 3-1 منظر مجهرى للجلد في قطاع طولى. لقد أنبعت البشرة في أحد الأركان لإظهار حروف الأدمة.



قال تعالى ﴿إِنَّ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا بِآيَاتِنَا سَوْفَ نُصْلِيهِمْ نَارًا كُلَّمَا نَضِجَتْ جُلُودُهُمْ بَدَّلْنَاهُمْ جُلُودًا غَيْرَهَا لِيَذُوقُوا الْعَذَابَ إِنَّ اللَّهَ كَانَ عَزِيزًا حَكِيمًا﴾ (سورة النساء ٥٦)

Allah, the Almighty, says:

(Surely! Those who disbelieved in Our Ayat (proofs, evidences, verses, lessons, signs, revelations, etc.) We shall burn them in Fire. As often as their skins are roasted through, We shall change them for other skins that they may taste the punishment. Truly, Allah is Ever Most Powerful, AllWise.)

(4: 56)

قال تعالى ﴿..... كَمَنْ هُوَ خَالِدٌ فِي النَّارِ وَسُقُوا مَاءً حَمِيمًا فَقَطَّعَ أَمْعَاءُهُمْ﴾ (سورة محمد ١٥)

Referring to the dwellers of the Fire, Almighty Allah also says:

(... and be given, to drink, boiling water, so that it cuts up their intestines?)

(47: 15)

The Scientific Fact

Before the age of scientific discovery, it was commonly believed that the whole human body could feel pain. It was not until the role of nerve endings in the skin were discovered, that people learned about the existence of certain nerve endings which transmit feelings of pain to the brain. The skin is associated with sensitivity because it contains the majority of nerve endings.

According to Dr. Head's classification of the skin's sensitivity, there are two groups of feelings:

- A) Epicritic which senses light things, like a light touch or a slight change in temperature.
- B) Protopathic which feels pain and considerable change in temperature. Each of these categories uses certain nerve cells in addition to other receptors for sensing any environmental change. These receptors can be categorized into four kinds:



- 1) Exteroceptors which are concerned with the faculty of sense and touch and which contain meissners and merkels corpuscles.
- 2) Krause End Bulbes which are concerned with coldness.
- 3) Ruffini Cylinders which are concerned with heat.
- 4) Nerve Endings that can transmit any feeling of physical pain. The skin is considered the part of the body that is rich with such nerve endings that transmit heat and pain.

Anatomists have proved that people whose skin has been completely burnt cannot feel pain because their nerve endings are damaged. This is different from a person who has a second-degree burn, for he will experience severe pain as his nerve endings are not damaged, but are rather, uncovered.

Anatomists have also proved that the small intestines do not have any receptors. However, receptors can be found between the peritoneum and the outer layer of the intestines. This area contains a lot of small bodies known as pacini. The size of the peritoneum is 20,400 cubic centimeters, which makes it equal to the size of the outer layer of the skin. Also, the receptors of the intestines are similar to those in the skin.

The Scientific Miracle

- A) Almighty Allah explains to us in the first verse that the skin is the part of the body that will receive the punishment, i.e. there is a connection between the skin and the sensation of pain.

The verse also tells us that when the skin is burnt (i.e. in the Fire), man can no longer feel the pain of the punishment and so his burnt skin is replaced with new fresh skin where the

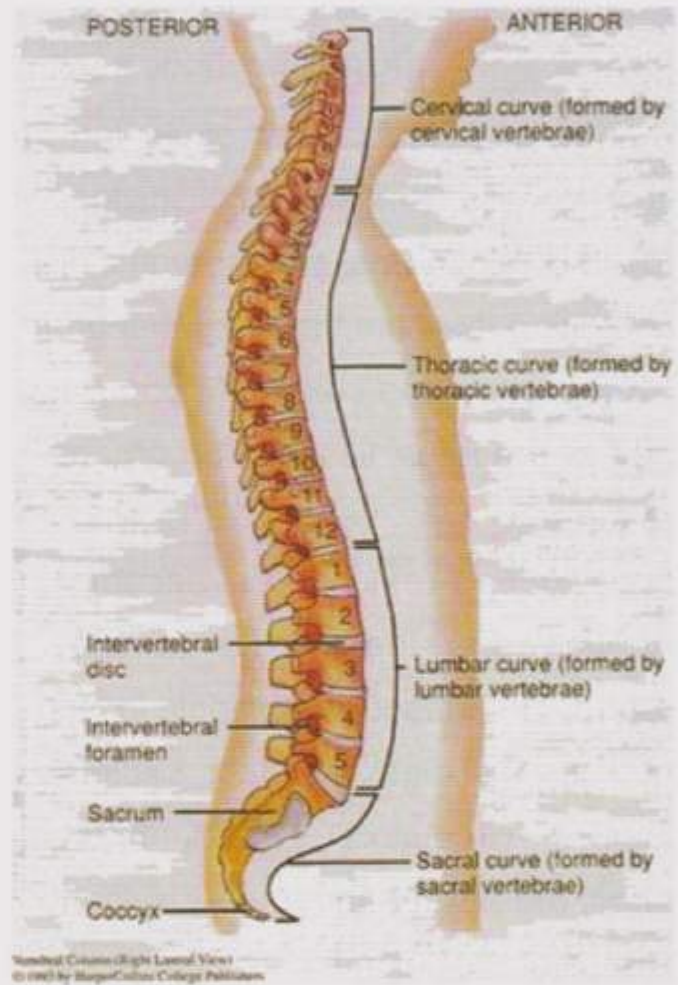
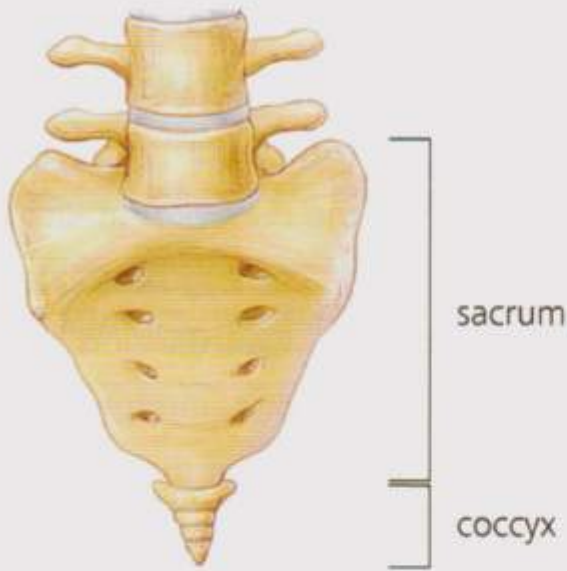


nerve endings are functioning properly and can transmit the feeling of pain. In this way, a disbeliever will suffer due to his denial of Allah's signs. Modern science has shown us that the majority of nerve endings are found in the skin. Prior to the invention of microscopes and the progress made in the field of anatomy, no human being could have any knowledge about this scientific fact related by the Ever-Glorious Qur'an fourteen centuries ago. This is a miracle and a great sign of Allah.

- B) The Qur'an threatens the disbelievers in the second verse that their intestines will be severed. The secret behind this threat has been solved only recently when scientists discovered that the intestines are not affected by heat. However, if they are severed, the boiling water will flow out to the place between the peritoneum and the outer layer of the intestines. This place contains a lot of nerve endings that transmit the feeling of pain to the brain and thus man will experience severe pain.

These facts show the miraculous scientific nature of the Ever-Glorious Qur'an which related these facts to mankind a long time before modern science was able to give any information about them.

The Primitive Streak



قال رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم

(كُلُّ ابْنِ آدَمَ يَأْكُلُهُ التُّرَابُ إِلَّا عَجَبَ الذَّنْبِ مِنْهُ خُلِقَ وَفِيهِ يُرَكَّبُ) رواه البخاري

The Prophet (peace be upon him) said:

(All of the son of Adam will be eaten by the earth except ajb adh-dhanb, the coccyx, for he was created from it and he will be reconstructed from it.)

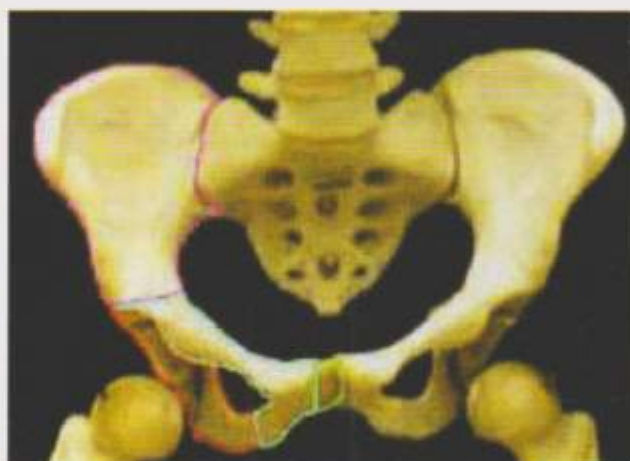
(Reported by Al-Bukhari)

The Scientific Fact

The coccyx (or tailbone) is a small triangular bone at the end of the spine and usually consists of four fused vertebrae. It is considered to be the container of the primitive streak that precedes the formation of the fetus. After the primitive streak disappears, only the small seed inside the coccyx remains. When a sperm fertilizes an ovule, fetus formation begins. The zygote divides into two cells, and each cell divides into another two. Cell division and growth continue until an embryonic disk is formed. On the fifteenth day after conception the primitive streak appears in the dorsal aspect of the embryo with a pointed end called the primitive node. From the primitive streak and node all the fetus' tissues and organs are formed.

The ectoderm (outer layer) becomes the skin and the central nervous system. The mesoderm (middle layer) becomes the digestive tract, skeletal muscles, circulatory system, heart, bones, the sexual and urinary system (except for the bladder), subcutaneous tissues, the lymphatic system, the spleen and the cortex. The endoderm (innermost layer) becomes digestive tract organs and linings (e.g., the liver and pancreas), the respiratory system, the bladder, the thyroid gland and ear canal.

This period extends from the beginning of the fourth week to the end of the eighth week. After the creation and formation of the fetus from the primitive streak and the primitive node, they become emaciated and settled in the last vertebrae of the sacrum (the coccyx), retaining their individual characteristics. Thus, the primitive streak and primitive node are preserved within the coccyx. German scientist Hans Spemann conducted experiments on the primitive streak and node and found that they organize the creation of the fetus. He



called them "the primary organizer" and was awarded the Nobel Prize in 1935 for his discovery. When Spemann crushed the primary organizer in amphibians, he found that the crushing did not affect it. He later conducted the experiment by boiling it with the same result.

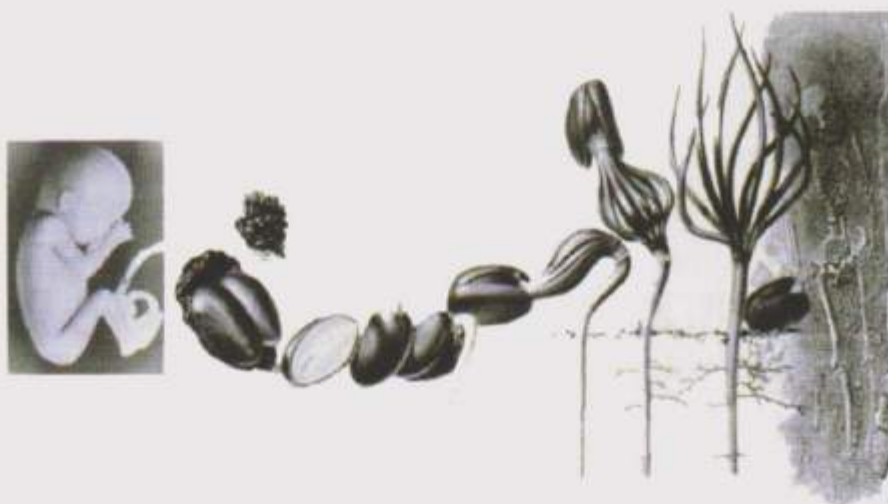
In 2002, Dr. Othman Al-Jilani and Shaikh Abdul-Majid Az-Zindani burned five coccyx bones until they became red and then turned black. They took the charcoaled pieces to a well-known laboratory for analysis and found that only muscle, tissue and bone marrow cells had been burned, while the coccyx bone cells were not affected.

The Scientific Miracle

The aforementioned hadith contains the following facts:

- 1) Human beings are created from the primitive streak and node.
- 2) These do not decay and cannot be destroyed.
- 3) On the Day of Judgement recreation will develop from them.

Prophet Muhammad's statements about the coccyx are among his scientific miracles. He declared that this tiny bone is the origin of human beings and contains the seed from which they will be resurrected on the Day of Judgment. He also mentioned that this seed does not decompose in the Earth after death.



Black Seed: A Cure for Every Disease

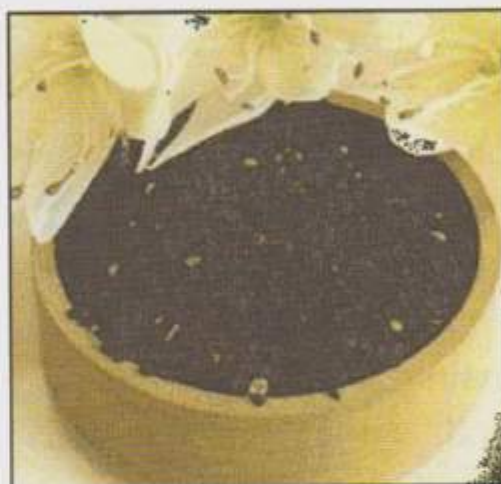


عَنْ رَسُولِ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ قَالَ: (مَا مِنْ دَاءٍ إِلَّا فِي الْحَبَّةِ السَّوْدَاءِ مِنْهُ شِفَاءٌ إِلَّا
السَّامُ) (والسَّامُ : الموت) رواه البخاري ومسلم.

The Prophet (peace be upon him) said,
(There is no disease but that in black seed is cure – except death.)
(Narrated by Al Boukhari and Mouslim)

The Scientific Fact

For more than two thousand years, black cumin seed has been used as a natural treatment in many Middle and Far Eastern countries. Black seeds contain 40% fixed oils and 1.4% volatile oils. They also contain around fifteen amino acids, proteins, calcium, iron, sodium and potassium. Among its most effective compositions are thymoquinone, dithymoquinone, thymohydroquinone and thymol. The role of black seed in increasing human immunity was not clear before 1986, when Dr. Ahmed El-Kadi and his colleagues started a series of research in the United States. Afterwards, many studies were launched in various countries. Dr. El-Kadi proved that the use of black seed strengthens immunity since the ratio of the T-assistance lymph cells increased by an average of 72% compared to the restraining cells. Also, there was considerable development in the activity of natural killer cells with an average of 74%. Modern research has supported the findings of El-Kadi, such as what was published by



Immunity Medical Journal in August, 1995, about the effect of black seed on the outer lymph cells and the activity of white blood multi-nucleus cells. In September, 2000, Immunity Medical Journal also published research on the effect of black seed oil in preventing cytomegalovirus on laboratory rats. Black seed oil has been tested as an anti-virus substance, and the immunity acquired during early stages of the disease was measured through determining the activity of natural killer cells and other methods.

In October, 1999, the European magazine, Cancer, published an article on the effect of thymoquinone on abdomen cancer in rats. Likewise, in May, 1998, Anticancer Research magazine published an article on the extracts of black seed as a treatment for cancer tumors. In April, 2000, the Ethanol medical magazine wrote about the toxicity and immunity effects of ethanol extracted from black seeds. And in February, 1995, Medicinal Plants magazine published an article on the effects of black seed stable oil and thymoquinone on white blood cells.

The Scientific Miracle

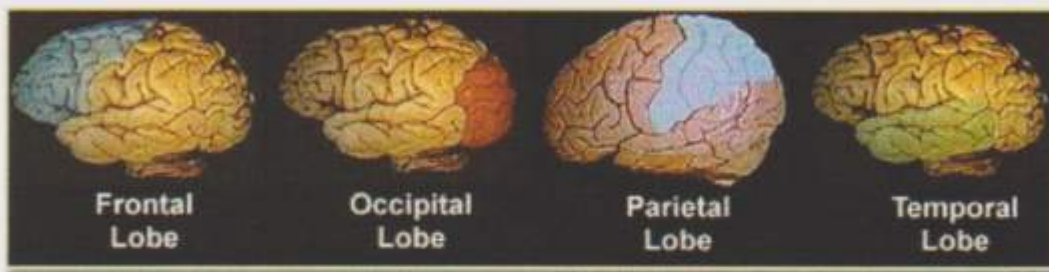
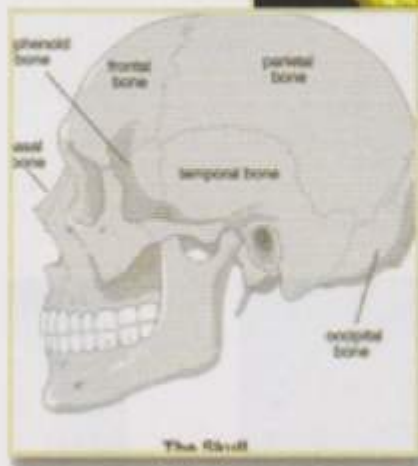
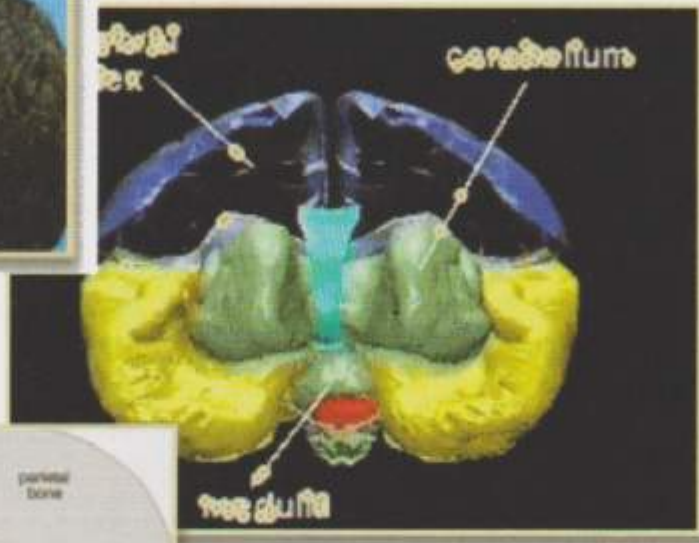
The Prophet told us that in black seed there is cure for every disease. Because the Arabic word shifaa' (cure) did not include a definite article, it means that it is not specific or complete. So it may be said that in black seed there is some cure for every disease. It has been scientifically proven that the immune system has the ability to combat diseases and produce cells that kill viruses. It can be concluded that the black seed contributes to the cure of every disease because it strengthens the immunity system which is instrumental in preventing and curing diseases and combating viruses.



Thus, a scientific fact mentioned by the Prophet has now become clear. No one could have known it, much less spoken about it, fourteen centuries ago other than a prophet. How true were the words of Allah when He said: (And he speaks not from his own inclination. It is not but a revelation revealed.) (53:3-4)



The Forelock



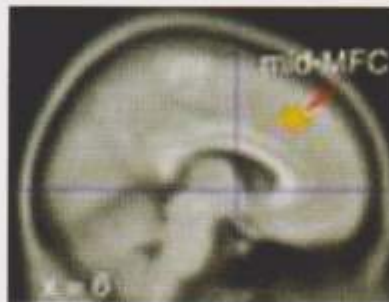
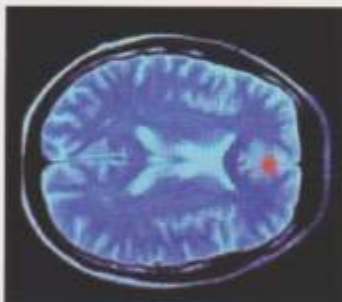
قال الله تعالى: (كَلَّا لَئِنْ لَمْ يَنْتَهِ لَنَسْفَعَنَّهُ بِالنَّاصِيَةِ . نَاصِيَةٍ كَاذِبَةٍ خَاطِئَةٍ) (سورة العلق ١٥-١٦)

God (Allah), the Almighty, said:

(No! If he does not desist, We will surely drag him by the forelock – a lying, sinning forelock.) (96:15-16)

The Scientific Fact

The human brain consists of four main lobes: the frontal, occipital, temporal, and parietal. Each lobe has its own special function; yet, they all work together and cooperate. The frontal lobe which lies inside the forehead directs and guides human behavior by controlling speech and actions via centers that compose words and control voluntary movements, speech and sight in the body. The presence of the part of the brain that is called the cortex in this lobe enables people to access and analyze information. It registers past information in the process of the selection of speech and actions and direction of behavior with the help of the perception center which is found in this lobe. The frontal lobe cortex can thus be considered as the part of the brain which is responsible for right and wrong, truthfulness and lying, i. e., directs behavior and human personality.



The Scientific Miracle

The word forelock is the section of hair that grows or falls over the forehead. It has been suggested that the addition of a lying, sinning forelock is connected to the noblest organ in the human body which lies behind the forehead. The secret behind the quoted verse was known only recently. The Qur'an mentioned the area of the forehead as lying and sinful. It is only fitting that this part of the body which monitors behavior will be held accountable for one's deeds.

Sexually Transmitted Diseases: A Byproduct of Promiscuity



قال رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم:
(لَمْ تَظْهَرْ الْفَاحِشَةُ فِي قَوْمٍ قَطَّ حَتَّى يُعْلَنُوا بِهَا إِلَّا فَشَا فِيهِمُ الطَّاعُونُ وَالْأَوْجَاعُ الَّتِي لَمْ تَكُنْ مَضَتْ فِي أَسْلَافِهِمُ الَّذِينَ مَضَوْا...) (رواه ابن ماجه) .

The Prophet (peace be upon him) said:

(Immorality will not become so widespread that it is publicized among a people except that they will be overtaken by plague and painful diseases that did not occur among their predecessors.) (Reported by Ibn Majah).

وقال أيضًا: (ولا فشي الزنى في قوم قط إلا أكثر فيهم الموت) (رواه مالك)

He also said:

(Whenever adultery and fornication become widespread among a people, death will spread among them.) (Reported by Malik)

The Scientific Fact

During the last two centuries microbiologists have shown that certain bacteria, microbes and viruses are transmitted only through illicit sexual activities such as intercourse with multiple partners, homosexuality and lesbianism. The more rampant such perversion has become, the more disease has appeared in society, as these strains are becoming more resistant to treatment. The human body is failing to combat them due to weakened immunity and the constant mutations of disease-causing organisms.

The Scientific Miracle

Prophet Muhammad mentioned that sexually transmitted diseases begin when prohibited sexual relationships spread throughout society and become accepted as normal. In many societies people openly consent to and propagate prostitution, fornication, adultery and homosexuality. In his book *Sexually Transmitted Diseases*, Dr. C.B. Schofield wrote that promiscuity has become the norm in society. People are no longer ashamed of sexual perversion, and the mass media has inculcated in the minds of people that young men and women have no reason to remain chaste.

Gay men and lesbian women now speak freely about their sexual orientation and have many of their own clubs, bars, parks and beaches. Thousands of publications and entertainment media encourage prostitution and homosexuality. Some churches have accepted homosexuality and conducted gay marriages. Many societies have established and defended gay rights.

As a result, the outbreak of many sexual diseases has overwhelmed societies around the world. Since its appearance in 1494, syphilis has taken the lives of millions of people and destroyed the future of many others. The virus causing this disease is still mutating. Gonorrhea is a common sexual disease that leaves millions of people infertile. And it is well known that AIDS destroys the immune system, often causing painful organ failure and eventual death.

These diseases are the result of mass diversion from the teachings of God, and this is exactly what the Prophet foretold. Is this not evidence that Muhammad was a Prophet of Allah?



Quarantine: A Prophetic Discovery



قال الرسول صلى الله عليه وسلم (إن الطاعون رجز على من كان قبلكم أو على بني إسرائيل فإذا كان بأرض فلا تخرجوا منها فراراً منه ، وإذا كان بأرض فلا تدخلوها) رواه البخاري ومسلم

Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) said:

(If you hear of an outbreak of plague in a land, do not enter it; but if plague breaks out in a place while you are in it, do not leave that place.)

(Reported by al-Bukhari and Muslim)

قال الرسول صلى الله عليه وسلم (..... ومن أقام فيه كان كالمرابط في سبيل الله، ومن فر منه كان كالفار من الزحف) رواه احمد

He also said:

(He who flees from plague is like one who flees from battle; and he who endures with patience will have the reward of a martyr.) (Reported by Ahmad)

Scientific Fact

Modern science has now exposed ways in which microorganisms multiply and the diseases they cause. Scientists affirm that healthy people exposed to a plague may carry the microbe even though they exhibit no apparent signs of illness. Therefore, they represent a health threat when they move about because they can transfer the disease to other places.

That is why a worldwide system of quarantine has been established in which all people in the area in which plague is found are prevented from leaving and visitors are prevented from entering. In the 15th century, plague hit Europe causing the death of a quarter of its citizens. However, it is known that plagues and contagious diseases were much less at that time in the Muslim world.

The Scientific Miracle

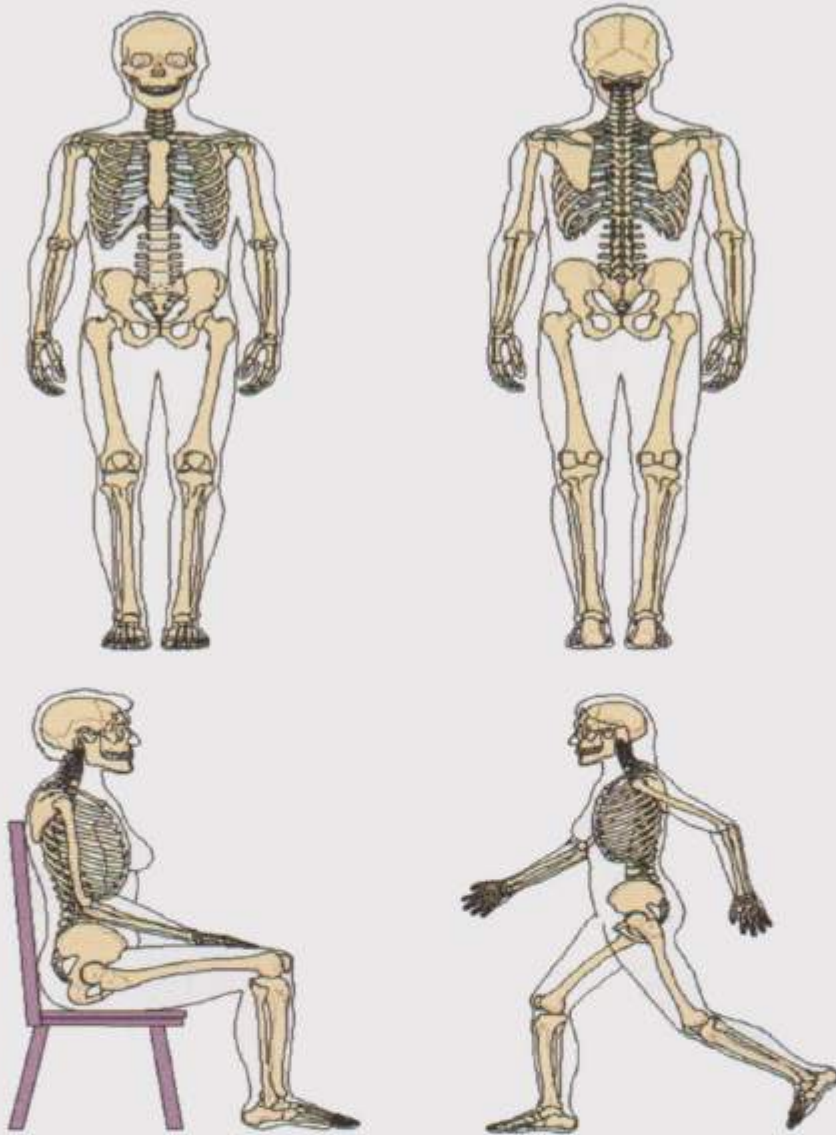
Before the time of the Prophet and even after, until Pasteur discovered the existence of microbes, people believed that diseases were caused by devils, demons or stars. They did not consider that diseases were related to a lack of cleanliness or certain habits, so they resorted to sorcery and magic as a "remedy."

The Prophet, however, established a quarantine system, now considered a fundamental principle of modern preventative medicine. To ensure that his order would be carried out, he had a wall built around the plague area and promised those who were patient and stayed within it the reward of martyrdom if they should die. Therefore, Muslims have complied with the Prophet's order, although others mocked them for doing so. But within the last 200 years, it was discovered that seemingly healthy people can also be carriers of disease.

Quarantine was inspired to Prophet Muhammad from none other than Allah, who said: (And say, 'All praise is due to Allah. He will show you His signs, and you will recognize them. And your Lord is not unaware of what you do.')

(An-Naml:93)

Anatomy of Body Joints



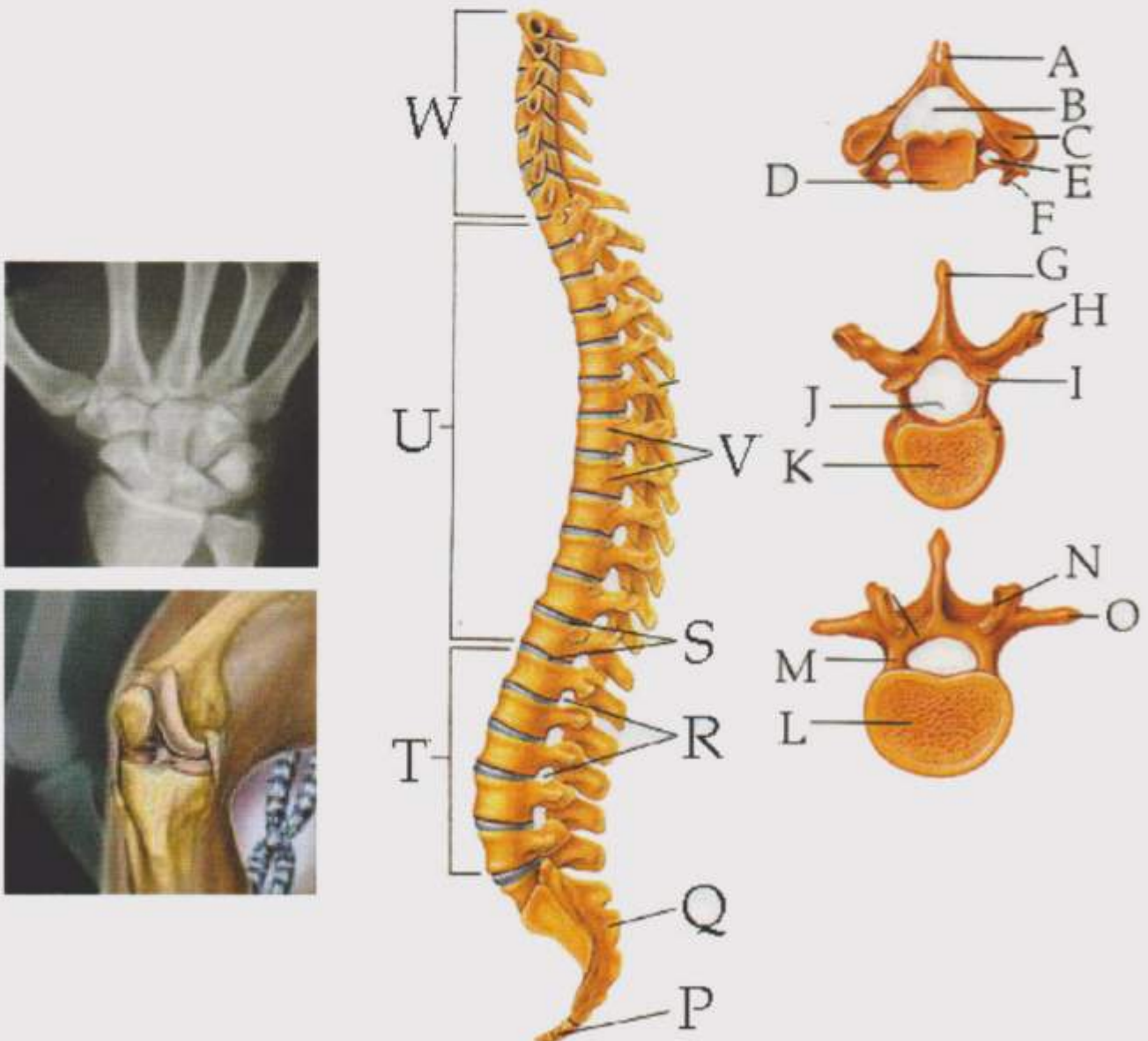
قال الرسول صلى الله عليه وسلم (في الإنسان ستون وثلاثمائة مفصل فعليه أن يتصدق عن كل مفصل منها صدقة ، قالوا فمن الذي يطيق ذلك يا رسول الله قال النخاعة في المسجد تدفنها أو الشيء تنحيه عن الطريق فإن لم تقدر فركعتا الضحى تجزئ عنك) مسند الامام احمد

It was also reported that the Prophet (peace be upon him) said, (Man has three hundred and sixty joints. He has to give charity for each joint. People asked, "O Prophet of Allah, who can afford that?" He said, "Then bury phlegm you find in the mosque or remove things from the path of people. If you are unable, it is sufficient for you to pray two units of dhuha [mid-morning] prayer.) (Narrated by Ahmad)

The Scientific Fact

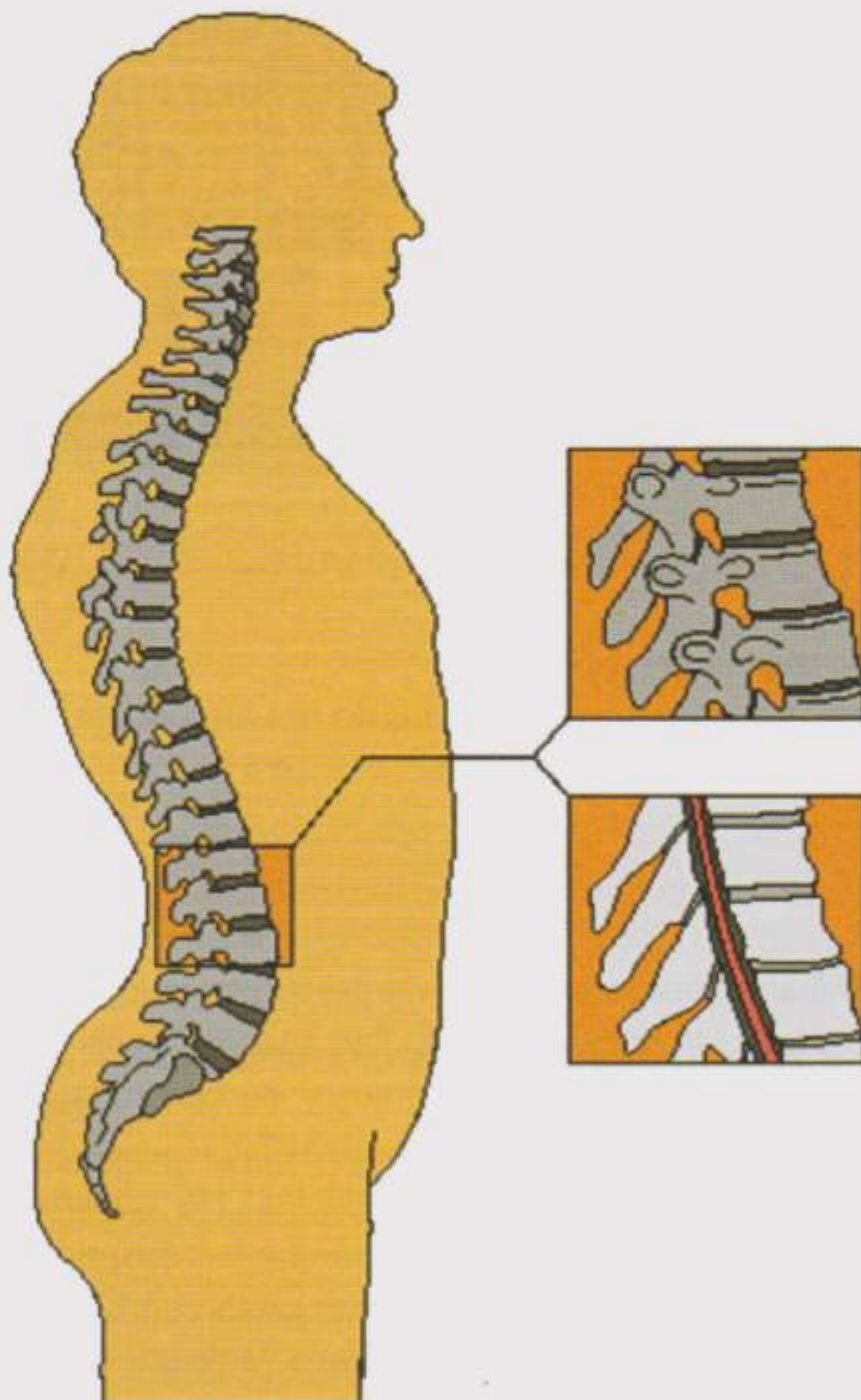
The joint is the meeting point of two bones, a bone and cartilage, or two cartilages in any part of the human body. Scientists enumerate the total number of joints in the body as follows:

1) In the skull:	86
2) In the throat:	6
3) In the thorax:	66
4) In the spine and pelvis:	76
5) In the upper limbs: $32 \times 2 =$	64
6) In the lower limbs: $31 \times 2 =$	62
The total number of joints comes to	360

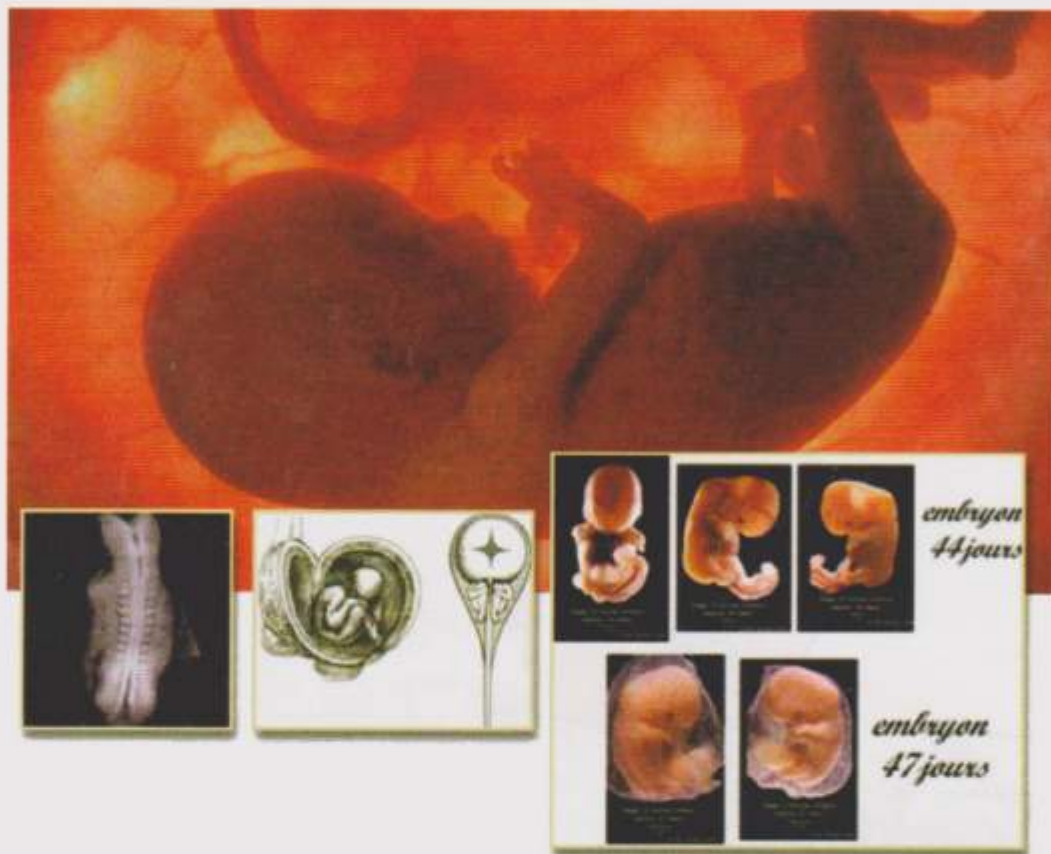


The Scientific Miracle

As most joints are too small to be observed with the naked eye, it was impossible for the Prophet to have known their number in the human body. The exact number of joints was discovered with recent developments in the fields of anatomy and histology. However, the Prophet accurately pinpointed their number fourteen centuries ago.



Embryonic Stages



قال الله تعالى: ﴿مَا لَكُمْ لَا تَرْجُونَ لِلَّهِ وَقَاراً. وَقَدْ خَلَقَكُمْ أَطْوَاراً﴾ (نوح ١٣-١٤)

God (Allah), the Almighty, said:

(What is the matter with you that you do not attribute to Allah due grandeur while He has created you in stages?) (71:13-14)

The Scientific Fact

In 1651, William Harvey was the first person to study the embryo of a hen using simple lens. In addition, he studied deer embryos. Due to the difficulty of following the early stages of pregnancy, he concluded that an embryo is no more than secretions of the womb. In 1672, Reinier de Graaf discovered what was later known as Graafian follicles. He observed the wombs of pregnant rabbits and concluded that an embryo is formed by secretions from the ovary. However, the very tiny tissues observed by Graaf were actually cavities in blastocysts. In 1675, Marcello Malpighi found embryos in the

eggs of hens. He thought the eggs were in no need of fertilization and assumed they contained a small organism that would grow without developmental stages.

Using a more advanced microscope, Hamm and Leeuwenhoek discovered human sperm in 1677. Yet, they failed to perceive its significant role in conception. They thought that a sperm contains a tiny human being that



grows in the womb without going through stages of development. In 1759, Wolff suggested that an embryo develops from primitive masses that do not have the form of a complete human being. In 1775, all such arguments and disputations came to an end. The experiments performed by Spallanzani on dogs confirmed the role of sperm and the process of impregnation.

In 1827, one hundred and fifty years after the discovery of sperm, von Baer observed an ovum in the ovary of a dog. In 1839, Schlieden and Schwann concluded that a human being is formed from organized living units that were given the name "cells." Subsequently, it was easy to understand that a human being begins as a cell which resulted from the union between a sperm and an ovum.

The Scientific Miracle

The Qur'anic text shows that a human embryo is not formed all at once without due development as was commonly believed from Aristotle's time until the 19th century. Rather, it goes through various stages of development. as God (Allah), the All-Mighty, said in the Holy Qur'an (23: 13-14): (... Then We place him as a sperm-drop in a firm lodging [i.e., the womb]. Then We made the sperm-drop into a clinging clot, and We made the clot into a lump [of flesh], and We made [from] the lump, bones, and We covered the bones with flesh; then We developed him into another creation. So blessed is Allah, the best of creators.)

In the past embryologists were unable to discern the development of embryos, while the Qur'an declared this fact early in the seventh century. It stands as a living evidence of the ability and all-encompassing knowledge of Allah.



Conclusion

This comprehensive study you just read of Allah's scientific miracles, clear signs, and inspiration as revealed in the Qur'an and Sunnah show that science and religion are compatible. In so doing, it is a convincing comparison to all humanity of the truth of Allah's religion, Islam, which the Qur'an and Sunna are its revelations.

Allah the Almighty, in His infinite wisdom and mercy, sent down the revelations of Qur'an in order to guide the people in life, and its scientific miracles are proof of its authenticity.

The conflict existing between science and religion, experienced by the West, does not exist in Islam. Allah's religion proves these scientific facts with certainty. Muslims (the people of Islam) believe that Allah is the source of the one true religion (the path of life) and therefore do not experience any conflict between science and religion.

Glory be to Allah, the One who sent all Prophets and Messengers with the truth. The last and final messenger, Prophet Mohammad (peace be upon him) revealed the proof for all of humanity. This proof is the miracle of the Noble Qur'an.

Allah, source of religion, revealed many verses in the Qur'an, and inspired Prophet Mohammad (peace and blessings be upon him) with multiple scientific facts, which were proven correct by modern scientists after 14 centuries of the revelation of Qur'an. These facts represent the core of the miracles and signs.

Such miracles and signs provide substantial evidence on the authenticity of Islam as the true religion (way of life). Moreover, these scientific facts which were revealed in the Qur'an can be a source of inspiration to researchers and scientists who may discover facts not known by humanity thus far. These essential revelations held within the Qur'an and Sunna can help humanity further develop a greater understanding of life and open up wider horizons of the world around us and among all humans.

Modern Science As Revealed In The Qur'an And Traditions

The International Commission Of Scientific Signs In The Qur'an And Sunnah



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