Halaqa: Wednesday, October 9, 2013

Topic: The Single Creator

We cannot disintegrate the parts of the universe. Rather, the **co-operation** amongst the parts of the universe (regardless of its size), the solidarity between everything (the earth and all the other planets work together) prove that the universe exists as a whole and is created as a whole in every part.

We cannot think of any being or anything in this universe existing independently

* Neither can the sun nor a single atom act independently
* Everything is inter-connected

We have to think of existence as one WHOLE

I cannot think of myself as having an independent existence from the solar system. I am interrelated and everything that affects me, right from the sun’s rays, to the air that is breathed, all needs to exists together as a whole.

When someone says: Your heart beats. I am going to explain how your heart beats.

The person should explain the beating of your heart with respect to the whole universe and how all the various parts in the universe, together, in solidarity and co-operation enable your heart to beat.

This relationship forms the unity of existence.

The

* co-operation
* solidarity
* mutual response
* and embracing one another…

form a unity of existence.

Regardless of how I explain the existence of the universe, that same explanation must be applicable to how I explain the existence of a single atom.

* This totally shatters our pre-conceived understanding that things are developing by itself

Existence is taking place within uniformity

* Coming into existence is forming its own unity with everything else
* We can see the unity of existence because everything happens as one whole
* A tiny seed is fitted with all the qualities sufficient to grow into a tree
* All the qualities of a human being is held within a single cell
* Nothing can be thought of independently
* Everything comes into existence as a whole

The fact that we can distinguish everything in creation so that there is no confusion, indicates the Maker’s:

* unity
* will
* choice
* volition

Although there is unity amongst creation, each single cell is different.

* This shows that the source, is a creation out of a conscious will.

Analogy: Look at your fingertips, the DNA in your saliva, etc

* Although we all have it (unity), we all have a unique combination (indication of choice)

Everything comes into existence instantly but all its parts are different from each other

* How is this possible?
* Whoever is making this possible, must have such a capacity
* Chance cannot have volition/will
* Volition brings the idea of consciousness/awareness
  + As a human being, I cannot think of any way to attribute the existence of the universe to something that has no consciousness
  + Rationally, I have to conclude that a conscious will is needed to create this universe

Although you are coming into existence at once, everything within you is different!

* This means that there has to be a conscious will that is creating you as you are.

When we say things are happening ‘by itself’ or ‘by chance’ we are not actually looking at the characteristics within things and how it is created all at once but with distinguishing qualities

Everything in this universe says that it cannot be happening by itself

* A conscious choice (volition) is demonstrating that I am different from others around me
* But because I have unity with everything in this universe, my source must know and decide how he wants me to be.

We all have voices but all our voices are different

* Everything is unique
* But at the same time, they all make one perfect whole
* This whole is the sign of unity of existence.

If the existence of the universe is referred to the particles themselves (existing by itself) , each particle will have to be both

* absolutely dominant over all other particles and (to ensure that I am unique, I have to make sure that no one else gets the same fingerprint as I do)
* absolutely subject to every other particle (because everything acts in accordance to one another)

for the particles to support each other in a way that we witness in this existence.

Can the bricks in a building be responsible for the construction of it?

If they were, the bricks must have the capacity to obey other bricks as well as to order other bricks.

Either a conscious Will brings the universe into being OR everything is happening by ‘itself’

Taking the second alternative: If there was no eternal power and everything is happening by ‘itself’, it would necessitate that each and everything controls its own action and everything around it (so that it does not impede on itself)

It makes no sense!

***Each unique part with its own dominant position, is working in perfect harmony with others.***

Conclusion: The universe is an indivisible whole and each aspect of the universe has its own personality.

The indivisibility of the wholeness is what makes the whole, whole.

We say things are happening by chance but the qualities in the universe prove that chance cannot be responsible for existence.

We have to explain the existence of an atom by chance in order to be able to convincingly explain that the universe is taking place by chance

* But we cannot demonstrate the coming into existence of an atom by chance!

How does order come into existence?

How do we as human beings come into existence?

How did the phenomenon of speech/sight/hearing come into existence?

* Chance makes no sense

The realms of beings in the universe are so interwoven they have made the universe into a totality, which is indivisible in respect of creation.

* We cannot explain the existence of universe by itself
* It has to be brought into existence
* Therefore, we can conclude that there must be a creator

Whoever gave existence to the whole universe, must be the one who gave existence to a particle, because we cannot separate the different parts of the universe

The worlds, species, and elements of the universe are so intertwined and interwoven that

* any cause that does not possess the universe as a whole

cannot have true disposal over any of its elements.

We have to explain everything in totality

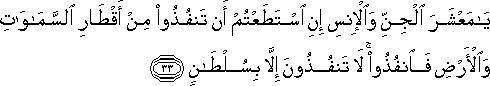
Example: A building exists in totality. We call this the building’s blueprint

* Whoever drew the blueprint, intentionally placed the position of light switches, walkways, floors, etc
* Everything is interwoven

We are not affecting anything

* Everything is being made to work in harmony
* You cannot think of your own being independently
* We can only be as we exist
* You cannot get yourself out of this universe, even if you wanted to

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http://allahsquran.com/read/images/spacer.gif

**Sahih International:** O company of jinn and mankind, if you are able to pass beyond the regions of the heavens and the earth, then pass. You will not pass except by authority [from Allah].

Each of the acts in the universe encompasses and embraces most beings and are a single act and by nature, are the same because everything is happening at once

- And the one who perform the acts must be the same

- And each of them pervades the whole universe and unites with the other acts in co-operation and assistance

- This makes the universe an indivisible whole.

* Analogy of the body/living beings

We need to be aware of the whole-ness in creation

- We have stop thinking of creation as separate just because scientists have compartmentalized the fields of science

Whatever is happening within myself, is happening with the rest of the universe

* We cannot attribute existence to chance

Chance cannot bring things into being as I observe.

* The concept of chance is a human construction
* No one within the universe can prove the sign of chance

Evolution is something said by a crazy person. Why should I bother thinking about it?

* Demonstrate to yourself if things can be happening by chance
* We are looking at the universe and observing their coming into existence

Things just don’t move.

- The existence of atom needs to be explained.

- The existence of movement needs to be explained.

The universe, in its totality, is coming into existence at every moment, within a perfect order.

* Either the existence itself is making itself exist OR
* Nothing is coming into existence until it is made to exist

Islamic way of explaining existence: Time and space are illusions ONLY the existence of being is reality.

* I am being given existence now
* Every moment can only be explained this way

Every moment is being changed and at every moment I am being given a new creation.

* My fingers when I was a child to my fingers now, are entirely different
* But change happened incrementally

For practical reasons, we end simplifying our explanations by neglecting the small differences and begin making approximations

Every moment is a new creation

* When I move my hand, I think it is just me moving by hand
* But from one instance to the next, it has been created
* There is no independent movement

*We observe it as though there was movement BUT in reality, this movement is a kind of speech from the Creator that reveals to me His qualities of creation (sustenance, provision, etc).*

* We can observe things changing from one state of being to another because He is creating each moment anew

We are conditioned to think of events simply as a sequence of events BUT no 2 moments in the universe are the same

*Mukaranah:* Two events next to each, existing independently

* We are not used to thinking of existing as such
* Rather, we are used to seeing existence as hooked up to a previous event

Is your hair growing OR is your hair being given existence at every moment in time?

We take existence for granted and then try to relate things to one another

* No one tells us that every moment is a new way of existence

The source must be Absolute, He cannot be limited BECAUSE everything that is created is created anew.

The Source of existence is totally different from the universe.

Our understanding of the creator should be such that it cannot be explained based on the qualities in the universe.

We cannot imagine the Source because He has a completely different nature of existence.