

# Comparative Analysis of Evolution: Islam and Science

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**Abstract:** The concept of the creator and controller of the universe is the prime belief of a Muslim. The Muslims believe in the theory of creationism, and the supreme creator, “Allah”. In contrast, the theory of evolution by Charles Darwin creates controversy about creation of all living forms; especially the human evolution making the view that it’s via the natural selection and by chance that organisms evolve during the course of time to making their survival possible, and there is chance and no the creator involved in changes that animal adapts to survive. The concept of evolution is similar to that of spontaneous generation that life could form from non-living matter, which was proved to be impossible scientifically. The claim of missing links, transition forms of animals, and human DNA being similar to that of monkeys and Apes proves that we, humans; have evolved from the lineage of apes contradicts with Islam. This article is an effort to summarize the concept of evolution and its contradictions, along with the comparison of Islamic point of view with the scientific theory, along with scientific evidences proving its liability.

**Keywords:** Islam, Evolution, Darwin theory of evolution, Comparison.

## Introduction

The Holy Qur’an, the book of authority in Islam, says that it’s an obligation for people to study and observe the creation of Allah. By doing so, one gets

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to know the truth via discovering the “Nature of Allah”. The Holy Quran claims to originate from the one who originated everything. To follow the Qur'an in actual, means; reading the Qur'an critically and to try it and to objectively analyze it.

"أَفَلَا يَتَذَكَّرُونَ الْقُرْآنَ وَلَوْ كَانَ مِنْ عِنْدِ غَيْرِ اللَّهِ لَوَجَدُوا فِيهِ اخْتِلَافًا كَثِيرًا"

“Do they not consider the Qur'an (with care)? Had it been from other Than Allah, they would surely have found therein much discrepancy”<sup>1</sup>

If the knowledge, true knowledge of the Holy Qur'an is not verified by proven findings of the modern science, the Holy Qur'an would fail in its claim of being the revelation of the originator that is Allah Almighty, and it would be rejected as objectivity demands.

The article written is a sincere effort to relate the modern science findings with the Qur'anic information and to prove that Qur'an contains nothing less than true, authentic and accurate knowledge.

In the current article the topic contains the comparison on what Islam says on evolution and how much of it is proven by science, not only showing the positive side the article points out to where science is misleading us, the misconceptions and also prove them via the knowledge of Qur'an. The main objectives of the discussion are:

1. Does the theory of evolution, theory of natural selection as the mechanism of evolution confirms the teaching of Islam?
2. Is a Muslim allowed to have faith or believe in the human evolutionary process? If not then how can the discoveries of the fossil exhibiting the several evolving stages of the “to-day man” (i.e., fossils of up-right, bi-pedal, tool using apes to the finest form of larger brains) can be explained?
3. To know about what Islamic teachings have to say about the idea.
4. To know whether evolution is true or false.

In order to do so, we look for sources that are authentic and correct, given by the religion of course, that are the “Qur'an” and “Sunnah”. The first thing about the creation of man that is obtained from the Holy Qur'an is

the creation of Adam and the Eve. A few of the verses have been shared below:

"يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ إِنَّا خَلَقْنَاكُمْ مِنْ ذَكَرٍ وَأُنْثَىٰ وَجَعَلْنَاكُمْ شُعُوبًا وَقَبَائِلَ لِتَعَارَفُوا إِنَّ أَكْرَمَكُمْ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ أَتْقَاكُمْ إِنَّ اللَّهَ عَلِيمٌ خَبِيرٌ"

“ O mankind! We created you from a single (pair) of a male and a female, and made you into nations and tribes, that ye may know each other (not that ye may despise (each other)). Verily the most honored of you in the sight of Allah is (he who is) the most righteous of you. And Allah has full knowledge and is well acquainted (with all things)”<sup>2</sup>

Human beings are the children of Adam and Adam was created from earth. Allah says:

It is clearly stated in the Holy Qur’an that Adam was created directly, without any parents at the will of Allah. Eve was created from Adam without the agency of parents as stated in the Qur’an.

"يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ اتَّقُوا رَبَّكُمُ الَّذِي خَلَقَكُمْ مِنْ نَفْسٍ وَاحِدَةٍ وَخَلَقَ مِنْهَا زَوْجَهَا وَبَثَّ مِنْهُمَا رِجَالًا كَثِيرًا وَنِسَاءً وَاتَّقُوا اللَّهَ الَّذِي تَسَاءَلُونَ بِهِ وَالْأَرْحَامَ إِنَّ اللَّهَ كَانَ عَلَيْكُمْ رَقِيبًا"

“O mankind! reverence your Guardian-Lord, who created you from a single person, created, of like nature, His mate, and from them twain scattered (like seeds) countless men and women;- reverence Allah, through whom ye demand your mutual (rights), and (reverence) the wombs (That bore you): for Allah ever watches over you”<sup>3</sup>

Islam being a monotheistic religion along with other religions practicing monotheism is strongly against the concept of the Darwinism. The whole effort that is being carried out on how life evolved and how the universe came into being but no one takes pain in touching the broader question that is By whom this Universe was created?

When Darwin published his article, “Origin of Species” he experienced a thunderous and strong opposition by religious as well as other groups. The opposition was based on two points which are:

1. He asserted with convincing proofs that the universe was not made in the mentioned biblical period of six days rather it was a very long period with many stages between the first state and the current stage present.
2. He denied the presence and the need of a supreme being that is Allah Almighty in the making and creation of the universe.

Opposition by both the Jews and the Christians of the 19<sup>th</sup> century was observed towards the concept and reached its climax during the century.

The first point of Darwin can be corrected by giving a few verses from the Holy Qur'an that show that Allah Almighty created life and evolved it through several stages. The Qur'an states the skies and the earth were created in "ayyaams". The word "ayyaam" means days or periods. The word ayyaam is used in context of "periods" when we talk of creation. The concept of ayyaam and the concept of relativity of time are well explained using the following verses of the Holy Qur'an:

"يُدَبِّرُ الْأَمْرَ مِنَ السَّمَاءِ إِلَى الْأَرْضِ ثُمَّ يَعْرُجُ إِلَيْهِ فِي يَوْمٍ كَانَ مِقْدَارُهُ أَلْفَ سَنَةٍ مِمَّا تَعُدُّونَ"

"He rules (all) affairs from the heavens to the earth: in the end will (all affairs) go up to Him, on a Day, the space whereof will be (as) a thousand years of your reckoning" <sup>4</sup>

"تَعْرُجُ الْمَلَائِكَةُ وَالرُّوحُ إِلَيْهِ فِي يَوْمٍ كَانَ مِقْدَارُهُ خَمْسِينَ أَلْفَ سَنَةٍ"

"The angels and the spirit ascend unto him in a Day the measure whereof is (as) fifty thousand years" <sup>5</sup>

"فَاصْبِرْ صَبْرًا جَمِيلًا"

"Therefore do thou hold Patience, a Patience of beautiful (contentment)" <sup>6</sup>

"إِنَّهُمْ يَرَوْنَهُ بَعِيدًا"

"They see the (Day) indeed as a far-off (event)" <sup>7</sup>

"وَنَرَاهُ قَرِيبًا"

“But We see it (quite) near”<sup>8</sup>

"يَوْمَ تَكُونُ السَّمَاءُ كَالْمُهْلِ"

“The Day, that the sky will be like molten brass”<sup>9</sup>

"وَتَكُونُ الْجِبَالُ كَالْعِهْنِ"

“And the mountains will be like wool”<sup>10</sup>

So from the verses discussed above it is clear that a heavenly day is not equal to an earthly day. So we can confidently say that Islam does not have any conflict against the theory of gradual change. The acceptance of the fact “gradual creation” doesn’t mean that Islam endorses the hypothesis of “evolution.” The discussion can be linked with scientific evidences to proof the word.

## **SCIENCE AND THE SCIENTIFIC EVOLUTION**

### **1. Science and its Basic Knowledge – An Introduction**

The word “science” comes from a Latin “scientia” meaning knowledge. Science is a knowledge defined according to the English Dictionaries as “the systematic observation of natural phenomena and their workings.” According to Webster’s New Colligate Dictionary, the definition of science is “knowledge attained through study or practice,” or “knowledge covering general truths of the operation of general laws especially as obtained and tested through scientific method and concerned with the physical world”.

### **2. Science –A logical and Evidence Based Knowledge**

Science refers to a system that uses observation and experimentation to describe and explain natural phenomena. It is a logical and evidence based

knowledge. It is a collection of knowledge obtained from logical inferences or observations that attempt to comprehend nature using deductive experimentation. The process by which the knowledge of science is obtained is called as scientific method. **(Fig. 1)** The steps involved in the scientific method are:

5. Observations/ inference (using the five senses)
6. Hypothesis
7. Experimentation
8. Theory
9. Law or principle

One of the most important steps involved in the scientific method is “Testing of Hypothesis” by repeating the experimentation for confirmation of the result deduced. Although the scientific method is inherent to science, yet it is inadequate in determining what science is. The scientific method can be applied to disciplines like physics and chemistry, but when it comes to the disciplines like psychology, paleontology and archeology etc., it is difficult to use scientific method as it becomes less applicable due to difficulty in repeating experiments. A hypothesis leads to a theory if the hypothesis repeatedly gives the same results. Methods of logical thinking are acquired by scientists to understand the world and it operates. These methods are:

1. Inductive reasoning
2. Deductive reasoning

**Inductive Reasoning:** In inductive reasoning, a general conclusion is drawn from a number of observations.

**Deductive Reasoning:** From a general assumption specific results are predicted.

### **3. Science and Origin of Life**

#### **1. Evolution –A science of gradual change**

In science, the concept of life revolves around the specific term “gradual change.” This “evolution” has a complete account during the timeline of history. The era of evolutionary thinking can be divided into 3 eras, they are divided as:

1. Pre-Darwinism
2. Era of Darwinism
3. Era of Neo-Darwinism

#### **4. Theories of Change In Different Era:**

##### **A. Pre-Darwinism Theories Of Change:**

- I. Empedocles:** described that organism changes over time.
- II. Aristotle:** gave concept that organisms change with the effect of time.
- III. Georges-Louis Buffon:** studied comparative anatomy and had observations related variation in vestigial structures, due to which he was convinced that change that occurred must have occurred during the history of life.
- IV. Jean –Baptiste Lamarck:** the French zoologists had important contribution in the field of zoology for his significant work on the animal classification. He also believed that the preexisting species were derived from species earlier than those present today and that species are not constant. He elaborated his concept in a theory called as

“Theory of inheritance”. According to the theory of inheritance organisms were believed to have the ability to develop new organs or to modify the existing organs, under change in the environmental conditions. This theory was widely accepted in the 1800s as Lamarck explained his concept using the example of giraffe. He quoted that the ancestral giraffe has short necks, unlike those present today. The straining to reach higher branches for eating leaves resulted in higher shoulders and longer necks. These modifications were passed on to the next generation as well.

He also explained another example, the example of organs. It was Lamarck's belief that organs that had use, become highly developed while disuse of organs resulted in its degeneration. The evolution of vertebrate eyes can be explained in this manner. Although he was criticized for the concept in those days rather than for the mechanism he explained. Today, he is criticized for defending a mechanism of inheritance and a concept related to the evolutionary change that he lacked in giving the supportive evidence. The change to be passed on to the next generation should be based on genetic changes in the germ cells or in the genetic materials. The changes in the giraffe could not be passed on to the next generation as the changes were not originated at genetic level. He is today remembered for promoting the idea of evolutionary change.

- V. **Charles Darwin:** was the grandson of Erasmus Darwin, the famous author of the book “Zoonomia”, who was also a thinker and a supporter that change do occur in the structure/ organisms over time.
- VI. **Alfred Russel Wallace:** was an explorer that led an expedition to Malay Archipelago, he also was a person impressed with evolutionary change. He synthesized a theory on evolutionary change and sent his



paper to Charles Darwin for criticism. Darwin observed the similarities between his and Wallace theory, and he summarized his idea and both of the theories were published in 1859 in the Journal of Proceedings of the Linnean society. (Fig. 2)

## **SCIENTIFIC PERSPECTIVE OF EVOLUTION**

### **1. Charles Darwin – Early Life**

He was born on February 12, 1809. He was not intrigued by medication as he couldn't bear seeing agony, dissimilar to his dad and granddad; who were physicians. at the age of 16 he entered therapeutic school in Edinburgh, Scotland, where he delighted in the organization of entrenched researchers. Because of his non-intrigue conduct his dad proposed him to prepare for pastorate in the Church of England. He moved on from Christ College in 1831. He was additionally baffled from the preparation.

### **2. Voyage of the HMS Beagle**

One of his Cambridge guides, a botanist named John S. Hens low, assigned Darwin for the administration of a naturalist on a mapping campaign of the world. Darwin was keen on bugs and made significant commitments to bug scientific classification amid his stay at the Cambridge. In this way, he was authorized as a naturalist on the HMS Beagle which cruised on 27 December 1831, for a 5 year voyage. This was a brilliant open door for Darwin to investigate the tropical rain backwoods, fossil beds, the volcanic pinnacles of South America and the coral a toll of the shoreline of Ecuador. Darwin saw the thoughts of developmental change through perceptions made on the creature and vegetation of these islands. At the point when the campaign finished, Darwin was just 27 years of age. He spent whatever is left of his life,

looking at the examples from the endeavor, perusing noticed that were taken amid the adventure and mentioned critical objective facts alongside his various distributions that he arranged. Be that as it may, among the majority of the distributions his most critical production was "Cause of Species" by methods for normal choice, which was distributed in 1858 that upset science.

### **3. Development of Darwin's Ideas of Evolution**

The improvement of the hypothesis of development was a careful procedure. Before heading off to the voyage Darwin was off the view that the earth and its occupants were made 6000 years prior and had not changed since. After the endeavor, his perceptions proposed that progressions do happen. He understood that 6000 years were insufficient for the adjustment in the differences of present day species in the event that they stimulate through slow change. When his reasoning on the matter adjusted to thoughts of progress, it took him 20 years to consider lastly archive the system by which the change happened. Darwin passed on without knowing the hereditary rule that bolster his hypothesis.

#### **B. Ideas Shaping Darwin's Thinking**

##### **1. Theory of Geological Change by James Hutton And Book "Principles of Geology" by Charles Lyell**

Darwin began his voyage by reading the book written by Charles Lyell "Principles of Geology" which further shaped his ideas regarding the belief that earth is not 6000 years old, some of the most significant ideas that were planted in Darwin's mind after reading the book were:

1. The earth could be much older than 6000 years
2. If the face of the earth changed gradually over time due to the forces like wind, rain, rivers, volcanoes and geological uplift, could not living forms also change during time?

## **2. Fossil Evidence**

Darwin amid his visit to South America did a bit of burrowing at the riverbeds of the pampas of Argentina. He found the fossil stays of a wiped out creature called toxodon, which was hippopotamus like, alongside it he discovered some stallion like creature remains called as "thoantherium". Both of the fossils were obviously not the same as whatever other creature living in that area. Darwin likewise discovered fossils of armadillos and monster sloths. With the exception of the size these fossils seemed to be like those living in the district. The fossil remains were prevalently accepted to be the remaining parts of the died creatures that passed on in the cataclysmic occasion, for example, Noah's surge. However, Darwin considered the remaining parts of the creatures of the South America as confirmation to bolster his view that change occurs in living structures and that the species piece of the earth has changed and that others end up plainly terminated yet not before giving new living things offering ascend to new species.

## **3. Galapagos Island**

Darwin halted at the Galapagos Island, named after the tortoises that occupied them, the legislative head of the island indicated out Darwin that the states of the shells contrasted from the shells of tortoises from the distinctive parts of the Albemarle Island. Darwin likewise watched the distinctions himself; the tortoises from drier districts had longer necks than those from the wetter areas.

## **4. The Journey Home**

Darwin observed that the plant and animals of the islands showed characteristics that were greatly similar and showed connection between the kinds.

## **5. Proposing the Hypothesis**

The hypothesis developed from the study by Charles Darwin was “Species separately arose from a common ancestor”.

## **6. Development of the Theory of Natural Selection**

In 1844, Charles Darwin had formulated his theory of natural selection but had not yet published his theory. The summary of the theory was constructed on the following:

- a. Theory for Resources**
- b. Variations**
- c. Struggle for Existence**
- d. Adaptive Traits**

### **a. Theory for Resources**

It was highlighted by Darwin that all the organisms of the world have greater potential to reproduce than it is realized. He gave the examples of several organisms as, an oyster releases 100,000 eggs with each spawning, a female robin may lay 4 eggs per season while a sea star produces a million eggs each season. He predicted that if it is assumed or happens that all the eggs get fertilized to adults, with equal ratio of male and female offspring out of which all the females have the potential to produce the same ratio of offspring as that of their parents, this will lead to unimaginable resources problem within a few years.

### **b. Variations**

The inherited variations all arise from random mutation. It is seldom that the individuals are alike. These genetic variations can be helpful for an individual. In some cases it can be harmful or can be neutral as well. These can be passed on to the offspring.

**c. Struggle for Existence**

As resources are limited, existence becomes a struggle. More offspring are produced than the resources could support hence; many individuals die. It was explained by Darwin that the individuals that die are those that have less likely variations for a successful survival.

**d. Adaptive Traits**

Adaptive traits are maintained in the next subsequent generations. While organisms with mal-adaptive traits are less likely to reproduce hence are eliminated from the population eventually.

With the help of this theory, Darwin explained how the finches and the tortoises of the Galapagos Islands changed over time. He also explained how some of the animals became extinct. It was the ill-adaptive traits that a group of animals faced, when exposed to a new environment. He also stated that factors like food shortages, climatic changes and environmental stressors could lead to extinction.<sup>11</sup>

**Russell Wallace and the Publication of “Origin of Species”**

Russel Wallace composed a paper on "transformative change", from the field work that he directed in Malaysia; this gave Charles the drive to distribute his discoveries as an article which was named as "Source of Species". The day the book was discharged, 1250 duplicates were sold. Despite the fact that the speculations demonstrated likenesses, however there were a few contrasts also.

It was Wallace's conviction that each transformative change or adjustment was a result of the choice; henceforth it must be versatile for the life form. While, it was conviction of Charles, that regular choice may not clarify the majority of the progressions brought about by advancement. He didn't demand to the "versatile" point which was shared by Wallace. Wallace thoughts assisted Charles Darwin with publishing his hypothesis.

## ***HUMAN SUCCESSION AND EVOLUTION***

### **1. ISLAMIC PERSPECTIVE OF EVOLUTION**

#### **a. Creation of the Universe and The Creator-Allah Almighty:**

Creation and the creator” are two most important terms used in the understanding the religious concept of any religion, we being the Muslims have our faith that there is only one creator and the universe is the handiwork of the creator also known as its “creation”.

The creator in the religion Islam is only one that is Allah Almighty. Not only it is our faith or believe but the book of Allah “The Holy Qur’an” also states at various places in the Surah about how Allah almighty created the universe, the earth, the heavens and the complete life form not just of one time or era but all that is present today and also of those in the past and the future. As mentioned in the Qur’an and Sunnah at various occasions the verses are taken as example to elaborate the point of view:

"بَدِيعَ السَّمَاوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ أَنَّى يَكُونُ لَهُ وَلَدٌ وَلَمْ تَكُنْ لَهُ صَاحِبَةٌ وَخَلَقَ كُلَّ شَيْءٍ وَهُوَ بِكُلِّ شَيْءٍ عَلِيمٌ "

“To Him is due the primal origin of the heavens and the earth: How can He have a son when He hath no consort? He created all things, and He hath full knowledge of all things” <sup>12</sup>

"إِنَّ رَبَّكُمُ اللَّهُ .....الخ"

“Your Guardian-Lord is Allah, Who created the heavens and the earth in six days, and is firmly established on the throne (of authority): He draweth the night as a veil o'er the day, each seeking the other in rapid succession: He created the sun, the moon, and the

stars, (all) governed by laws under His command. Is it not His to create and to govern? Blessed be Allah, the Cherisher and Sustainer of the worlds”<sup>13</sup>

"هُوَ الَّذِي جَعَلَ.....الخ"

“It is He Who made the sun to be a shining glory and the moon to be a light (of beauty), and measured out stages for her; that ye might know the number of years and the count (of time). Nowise did Allah create this but in truth and righteousness. (Thus) doth He explain His Signs in detail, for those who understand” 14

"الَّذِي خَلَقَ السَّمَاوَاتِ .....الخ"

“ He, Who created the heavens and the earth and all that is between, in six days, and is firmly established on the Throne (of Authority): Allah Most Gracious: ask thou, then, about Him of any acquainted (with such things)”<sup>15</sup>

خَلَقَ اللَّهُ السَّمَاوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضَ بِالْحَقِّ إِنَّ فِي ذَلِكَ لَآيَةً لِّلْمُؤْمِنِينَ

“Allah created the heavens and the earth in true (proportions): verily in that is a Sign for those who believe”<sup>16</sup>

"خَلَقَ السَّمَاوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضَ بِالْحَقِّ يُكَوِّرُ اللَّيْلَ عَلَى النَّهَارِ وَيُكَوِّرُ النَّهَارَ عَلَى اللَّيْلِ وَسَخَّرَ الشَّمْسَ وَالْقَمَرَ كُلٌّ يَجْرِي لِأَجَلٍ مُّسَمًّى أَلَا هُوَ الْعَزِيزُ الْغَفَّارُ "

“ He created the heavens and the earth in true (proportions): He makes the Night overlap the Day, and the Day overlap the Night: He has subjected the sun and the moon (to His law): Each one follows a course for a time appointed. Is not He the Exalted in Power - He Who forgives again and again”<sup>17</sup>

"وَلَقَدْ خَلَقْنَا السَّمَاوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضَ وَمَا بَيْنَهُمَا فِي سِتَّةِ أَيَّامٍ وَمَا مَسَّنَا مِنْ لُغُوبٍ"

"We created the heavens and the earth and all between them in Six Days, nor did any sense of weariness touch us" <sup>18</sup>

"اللَّهُ الَّذِي..... الخ "

"Allah is He Who created seven Firmaments and of the earth a similar number. Through the midst of them (all) descends His Command: that ye may know that Allah has power over all things, and that Allah comprehends all things in (His) Knowledge"<sup>19</sup>

"ثُمَّ اسْتَوَى ..... الخ "

"Moreover He comprehended in His design the sky, and it had been (as) smoke: He said to it and to the earth: "Come ye together, willingly or unwillingly." They said: "We do come (together), in willing obedience."<sup>20</sup>

"اللَّهُ الَّذِي خَلَقَ السَّمَاوَاتِ ..... الخ "

"It is Allah Who has created the heavens and the earth, and all between them, in six Days, and is firmly established on the Throne (of Authority): ye have none, besides Him, to protect or intercede (for you): will ye not then receive admonition"<sup>21</sup>

All of the verses clearly comprehend the nature of the creator and defines its incomparable creation. It is not just in these verses that Allah has stated about being the sole creator but verses like;

"هُوَ الَّذِي خَلَقَ السَّمَاوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضَ فِي سِتَّةِ أَيَّامٍ ثُمَّ اسْتَوَى عَلَى الْعَرْشِ يَعْلَمُ مَا يَلْجُ فِي الْأَرْضِ وَمَا يَخْرُجُ مِنْهَا وَمَا يَنْزِلُ مِنَ السَّمَاءِ وَمَا يَعْرُجُ فِيهَا وَهُوَ مَعَكُمْ أَيْنَ مَا كُنْتُمْ وَاللَّهُ بِمَا تَعْمَلُونَ بَصِيرٌ "

He it is Who created the heavens and the earth in Six Days, and is moreover firmly established on the Throne (of Authority). He knows what enters



within the earth and what comes forth out of it, what comes down from heaven and what mounts up to it. And He is with you wheresoever ye may be. And Allah sees well all that ye do”<sup>22</sup>

"مَا خَلَقْنَا السَّمَاوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضَ وَمَا بَيْنَهُمَا إِلَّا بِالْحَقِّ وَأَجَلٍ مُّسَمًّى وَالَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا عَمَّا أُنذِرُوا مُّعْرِضُونَ"

“We created not the heavens and the earth and all between them but for just ends, and for a Term Appointed: But those who reject Faith turn away from that whereof they are warned”<sup>23</sup>

"مَا خَلَقْنَاهُمَا إِلَّا بِالْحَقِّ وَلَكِنَّ أَكْثَرَهُمْ لَا يَعْلَمُونَ"

“We created them not except for just ends: but most of them do not understand”<sup>24</sup>

Same as many others relate the same thing which brings us that the creation was phenomena taken place at the will of Allah Almighty.

**b. A Flawless Operative System Established Universally and Provided by Allah and the Origin of Life :**

The Holy Qur’an makes us realize that there was a process in the creation of man involving the evolution of life during its formation and the preparatory stages preceding it. Following verses are taken under consideration during the discussion:

"الَّذِي خَلَقَ الْمَوْتَ وَالْحَيَاةَ لِيَبْلُوَكُمْ أَيُّكُمْ أَحْسَنُ عَمَلًا وَهُوَ الْعَزِيزُ الْغَفُورُ"

“He Who created Death and Life, that He may try which of you is best in deed: and He is the Exalted in Might, Oft-Forgiving”<sup>25</sup>

"الَّذِي خَلَقَ سَبْعَ سَمَاوَاتٍ طِبَاقًا مَا تَرَى فِي خَلْقِ الرَّحْمَنِ مِنْ تَفَافُوتٍ فَارْجِعِ الْبَصَرَ هَلْ تَرَى مِنْ فُطُورٍ"

“ He Who created the seven heavens one above another: No want of proportion wilt thou see in the Creation of (Allah) Most Gracious. So turn thy vision again: seest thou any flaw”<sup>26</sup>

"ثُمَّ ارْجِعِ الْبَصَرَ كَرَّتَيْنِ يَنْقَلِبْ إِلَيْكَ الْبَصَرُ خَاسِئًا وَهُوَ حَسِيرٌ"

“Again turn thy vision a second time: (thy) vision will come back to thee dull and discomfited, in a state worn out”<sup>27</sup>

The Same Who has created seven heavens in stages (Tibaqan). No incongruity can you see in the creation of the Gracious God. Then look again: Do you see any flaw?

The verse discussed above, explains 2 fundamental facts,

1. Complete absence of contradiction that the universe is created by Allah Almighty
2. Step by step or stage by stage development of all that has been created.

At the end of the verse Allah Almighty asks the man to explore the universe and to find any flaw as quoted in the verse He (Allah Almighty) questions from man in the words “Do you find any flaw?”

The word Rabb means someone who continues to evolve something from a lower to a higher stage. The attribute of Allah “Al-Rabb” is often translated as “the provident”. It can also be used to indicate that Allah Almighty is the PROVIDENT for all the subsequent stages of development of His creation. It can be deduced clearly that the Holy Qur’an speaks of step by step stages that are well provided for and are progressive hence rejecting the concept of spontaneous generation. Spontaneous generation is rejected by the Holy Qur’an as it violates the dignity of Allah.

### **c. Role of Clay in Demonstrating Life’s Origin**

Although a lot of studies and experimentations has been carried out to unravel the mysteries of the origin of life and creation of organisms billions of years ago which would be discussed later in the article, but at the moment we will confine ourselves to the Qur’anic concept. A few observations made by the Holy Qur’an have been gathered to discuss two points majorly; one is that Qur’an provided the knowledge of the “unknown” to the realm of known in the time when the studies, knowledge and equipment along with man itself were not sufficient enough make such deductions. Secondly, that the Qur’anic knowledge can guide and assist the specialists to look in the right direction in order to get the correct knowledge. The Holy Qur’an mentions dry, dust or wet clay repeatedly as the stages through which life passed in ancient times. Some examples are:

"إِنَّ مَثَلَ عِيسَىٰ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ كَمَثَلِ آدَمَ خَلَقَهُ مِنْ تُرَابٍ ثُمَّ قَالَ لَهُ كُنْ فَيَكُونُ"

“The similitude of Jesus before Allah is as that of Adam; He created him from dust, then said to him: "Be". And he was”<sup>28</sup>

The use of word “clay” has been mentioned in Surah Al-Rehman referred in as follows:

"وَخَلَقَ الْجَانَّ مِنْ مَّارِجٍ مِنْ نَارٍ"

“ And He created Jinns from fire free of smoke”<sup>29</sup> The use of dry ringing clay like broken pieces of pottery, describe the quality of clay. In Surah Al-Hijir, clay is mentioned three times with man being created from dry ringing clay, that is form out of the fermenting mud.

Thus we can say, that the Holy Qur'an envisions life as having being advanced step by step starting from dust, from water , moist clay, from fermented mud into dry ringing clay. According to Quran, creation was a progressive process has many steps of change.

#### **d. The Ancient Organisms on Earth-The Jinn**

For start we will discuss the most important creative ancient phenomena which existed prior to the “biotic evolution” that has already been mentioned in the Holy Quran, the term used for the organisms involved as reference for that age are termed as “the jinn”.

The term jinn here do not talk about the superstitious genie that is related to the fantasy rather is considered a term for organisms that were created out of fire, that was a blazing fire or a blast that had no smoke also called as the “Samum”. A verse of the Quran shows the similar statement:<sup>30</sup>

Focusing on the verses that give reference for the Jinn we hereby can apply the information that the jinn are minute organisms that draw the energy from hot blazes of lightening directly i.e. Samum (or cosmic radiations).

Many scientists have corroborated the idea that the organisms that ever existed in the age of prebiotic evolution must have utilized or drawn energy from the heat. They can be considered as some kind of bacterial organisms. Earlier the bacteria that were classified were either prokaryotes or eukaryotes. There was no other group and thus they were known as the ancestors or ancient organisms.

It was considered as at first, that these were the only two ancient forms of bacteria to others called as ancestors of life. However Woese published the findings of his research in Scientific American, in June 1981, claiming the “archaebacteria”, could be considered rightly as the earliest form of organisms. It was informed to the scientific community that the archaebacteria were the third distinct line that preceded all the other forms of life, and are indeed the most ancient ancestors of life. The scientists along with Woese continued to pour strong evidences into the discovery according to Woese:

“Although a few biologists still dispute our interpretation, the idea that the archaebacteria represent a separate group at the highest level is becoming gradually accepted.”<sup>31</sup>

This implies that the methanogens are as old as or older than any other bacterial group. According to the definition of archaebacteria by Hutchinson Dictionary of Science:

“The Archaebacteria are related to the earliest life forms which appeared about 4 billion years ago, where there was little oxygen in the earth’s atmosphere.”<sup>32</sup>

Scientists although unanimously describe the bacteria as possessing the ability of drawing their energy from heat, but many of them do not focus on that they have been originally created directly from cosmic rays and blasts of lightening other than scientist like Dickerson.

Dickerson agrees with the Holy Qur'an in observation of ancient organisms,

“would have lived on the energy of lightening and ultraviolet radiation.”<sup>33</sup>

#### e. Survival by Accident or Design

In the Holy Qur'an a well-defined, well protected and an efficiently chalked out, protected is mentioned not only for the species but at individual level as well from the threat of extinction at every step of their life. In addition to that, it protects the man from the many impending dangers, associated with its survival. A few of the verses from the Holy Qur'an have been selected to elaborate the point.

#### f. Natural Selection and Survival of the Fittest

"عَالِمُ الْغَيْبِ وَالشَّهَادَةِ الْكَبِيرُ الْمُتَعَالِ"

“He knoweth the unseen and that which is open: He is the Great, the Most High”<sup>34</sup>

"سَوَاءٌ مِنْكُمْ.....الْخ"

“It is the same (to Him) whether any of you conceal his speech or declare it openly; whether he lie hid by night or walk forth freely by day”<sup>35</sup>

"أَلَهُ مَعَقَّبَاتٌ مِنْ بَيْنِ يَدَيْهِ وَمِنْ خَلْفِهِ يَحْفَظُونَهُ مِنْ أَمْرِ اللَّهِ إِنَّ اللَّهَ لَا يُغَيِّرُ مَا بِقَوْمٍ حَتَّىٰ يُغَيِّرُوا مَا بِأَنْفُسِهِمْ وَإِذَا أَرَادَ اللَّهُ بِقَوْمٍ سُوءًا فَلَا مَرَدَّ لَهُ وَمَا لَهُمْ مِنْ دُونِهِ مِنْ وَالٍ"

“For each (such person) there are (angels) in succession, before and behind him: They guard him by command of Allah. Allah does not change a people's lot unless they change what is in their hearts. But when (once) Allah willeth a people's punishment, there can be no turning it back, nor will they find, besides Him, any to protect”<sup>36</sup>

"هُوَ الَّذِي يُرِيكُمْ الْبَرْقَ خَوْفًا وَطَمَعًا وَيُنشِئُ السَّحَابَ الثِّقَالَ"

“It is He Who doth show you the lightning, by way both of fear and of hope: It is He Who doth raise up the clouds, heavy with (fertilizing) rain”<sup>37</sup>

This clearly states that nothing in this universe is left on chance rather it is the command of Allah Almighty that everything in the world functions at its will.

## **Islamic refutation and scientific evidences supporting that no evolution occurred**

### **1. Neo-Darwinism Assert Evolution Taking Place Due to Mutations**

Neo-Darwinism assert evolution taking place due to mutations, while Hermann Joseph Muller showed that mutations don't show constructive traits but result in gene destruction; Result was impaired traits not better traits. No experiment has produced good traits but only destroyed traits an issue written in “Discover” in September 1994 with the title “survival of the mutable” by Sarah Richardson covers the same perspective.

It is true that hominoids existed before humans, It begins with Australopithecus (1-5 million years old) followed by several succession forms to Neanderthal man, but there is no evidence that one evolved from the other. The existence was not by chance rather it was determined, hence one species disappears and the other succeeds it. There is no scientific evidence found that claims that the humans evolved from the lineage of great apes. Even the DNA of both the humans and the apes is not similar. It is very clearly stated in the Holy Qur'an:

"وَرَبُّكَ الْغَنِيُّ ذُو الرَّحْمَةِ إِنْ يَشَاءُ يُدْهِبْكُمْ وَيَسْتَخْلِفْ مِنْ بَعْدِكُمْ مَا يَشَاءُ كَمَا أَنْشَأَكُمْ مِنْ ذُرِّيَةِ قَوْمٍ  
آخَرِينَ"

“ Thy Lord is self-sufficient, full of Mercy: if it were His will, He could destroy you, and in your place appoint whom He will as your successors, even as He raised you up from the posterity of other people”<sup>38</sup>

"نَحْنُ خَلَقْنَاهُمْ وَشَدَدْنَا أَسْرَهُمْ وَإِذَا شِئْنَا بَدَّلْنَا أَمْثَلَهُمْ تَبْدِيلًا"

“ It is We Who created them, and We have made their joints strong; but, when We will, We can substitute the like of them by a complete change”<sup>39</sup>

The above mentioned four waves of the human beings represent the stages that they were successors of their ancestral line as mentioned by Allah in the verse below :

"وَقَدْ خَلَقْنَاكُمْ أَطْوَارًا"

“Seeing that it is He that has created you in diverse stages”<sup>40</sup>

"لَقَدْ خَلَقْنَا الْإِنْسَانَ فِي أَحْسَنِ تَقْوِيمٍ"

“We have indeed created man in the best of moulds”<sup>41</sup>

According to the evolutionary theory at least ten intermediate links should exist. It is illogical to think that none of the transition forms existed in the fossil record.

### **Evolutionists Pointed to Organs which they Termed as Useless in the Human Body as Evidence of Remains Form a Lower Evolutionary Form**

It has been claimed that the organs become useless or lose its functionality in the human body if they are used less, e.g. the thymus gland and the appendix. The use of appendix is thought to be lost when humans started hunting and diverted from vegetarian to meat eating, omnivores. But modern science still has studies and evidences that prove that none of the



body organs is useless and where its functionality is majorly in the body or has minor fiction it still is of high value for the body.

## **2. Evolutionist Suggest that the Purpose of Evolution is to Reach Perfection**

Evolutionist suggest that the purpose of the evolution is to reach perfection , while perfection to be achieved on mere random chance without the involvement of any intelligence is impossible. The creator known as “God” or “Allah” has to be brought into picture it would be foolishness to think that perfection could be achieved without him. <sup>42</sup>

## **3. Survival of the Fittest**

The Holy Quran repeatedly states that in every step of creation the selector was not a blind operator of natural selection but it was the hand of Allah Almighty the all-seeing and the All-knowing. <sup>43</sup>

Similarly in the Quran, it is stated:<sup>44</sup>

"أَفَرَأَيْتُمْ مَا تُمْنُونَ"

“Do ye then see? The (human Seed) that ye throw out” <sup>45</sup>

"أَأَنْتُمْ تَخْلُقُونَهُ أَمْ نَحْنُ الْخَالِقُونَ"

“Is it ye who create it, or are We the Creators” <sup>46</sup>

## **Conclusion**

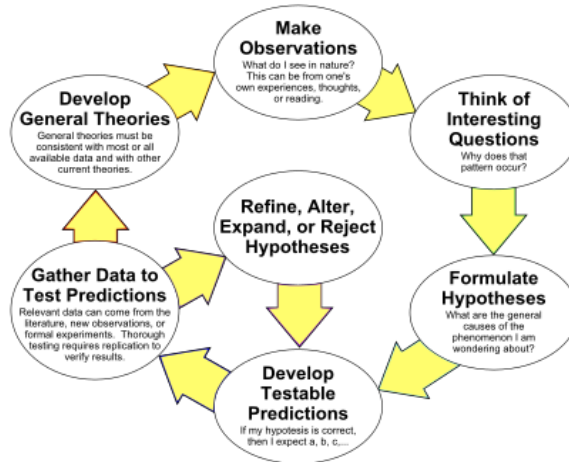
Hence it would not be wrong to say that, the theory of evolution does not goes with the evidences given by Islam and clearly show a difference, as the theory of evolution talks about the origin of life from cells and atoms but does not explain how and who created the cell and the atoms, as they are not created by just a mere chance, yes! The presence of the creator responsible for the existence of even a sand particle, has completely been

eliminated by Darwin, scientific evidences discussed in the article have also thrown light on the defects of the theory. Scientific evidences like mutations cannot be constructive; organs cannot be useless where their use is less or more. The element of chance as proposed by Darwin cannot fully explain the mechanism and way the process takes place. The evolutionists claim, that the purpose of evolution is to achieve perfection, while perfection to be achieved on mere random chance without involvement of any supreme body with intelligence as Allah Subhana Tallah, is impossible.

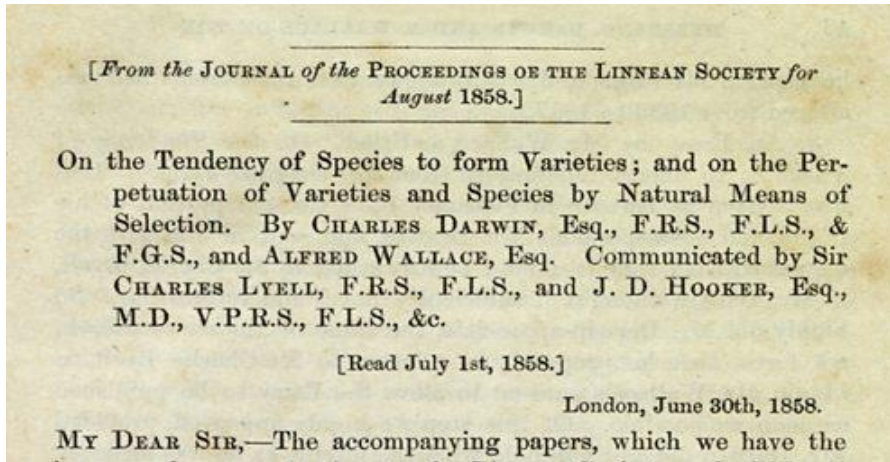
Charles Darwin himself once confessed about the theory he proposed about evolution to have ambiguity, we can also say that the theory of evolution is just a variation of the early science concept known as the spontaneous generation, in which it was believed that life formed from non-living things, through experimentations it was proved wrong by a group of scientists that were against the concept and believed in biogenesis; that life was formed from the living things. It was proved that the concept of spontaneous generation is wrong scientifically. The second law of thermodynamics also states that all systems left on their own would eventually move from order to chaos. It is more than 1500 years, since the theory was given and no transitional forms have been found yet. Darwin himself said that the absence of transitional forms would prove his theory as false. The law of probability also confirms that the theory is incorrect. The odds of life coming through by chance are 1 in 10 to the 40,000<sup>th</sup> power. This is impossible. Darwin on his death bed expressed his remorse as:

“How I wished I had not expressed my theory of evolution as I have done.”<sup>47</sup>

### The Scientific Method as an Ongoing Process



(Fig. 1) : the scientific method as a cyclic process. (Theodore Garland, 2016).



(Fig. 2) ([www.bbc.uk.com](http://www.bbc.uk.com))

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## Rarely seen frilled shark known as the living fossil sighted in Australia

The frilled shark was caught on a fishing trawler in waters near Lakes Entrance in the Gippsland region in southeastern Australia



A frilled shark was found off the coast of Australia. Photo: SETFIA.ORG.AU

By Agency

8:52PM GMT 20 Jan 2015

The rarely sighted frilled shark - whose ancestry dates back 80 million years and is known as the living fossil - has turned up in waters off southeastern Victoria, **Australia**.

It was caught on a fishing trawler in waters near Lakes Entrance in the state's Gippsland region.

Simon Boag from the South East Trawl Fishing Association said it was the first time a frilled shark has been sighted in living local memory.

"We couldn't find a fisherman who had ever seen one before," he told local reporters.

"It does look 80 million years old. It looks prehistoric, it looks like it's from another time!"

Related Articles

He said fishermen were left scratching their heads at the sight of the two-metre-

(Fig. 3 (The Telegraph, Jan 2015))

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