A Concordal Review of Scientific Way of Preaching of Quran and its Contemporary Significance

- * Saddagat Hussain
- ** Dr. Amjad Hayat

ABSTRACT

From the earliest days of Islam, companions of the Holy Prophet used to interpret the Holy verses in a scientific manner. The people were preached according to the scientific resources available at that time.

Currently, with the advancement of scientific knowledge, people seem to be persuaded to teach with modern learning techniques. These educated minds want to know the importance and truth of the Qur'an in a logical and scientific way. The question arises about the usefulness of scientific commentary and its social effects on the present world. The new generation, influenced by secular ideas and trapped in a whirlpool of human and modern problems, seeks solutions in a scientific commentary. These educated modern people are very much influenced and inspired by scientific interpretation and seek guidance. Therefore, many commentators of Islam have adopted scientific interpretations and there have been positive effects. The main objective of this article is to present a comprehensive overview of the scientific method of preaching the Qur'an and its contemporary significance.

KEYWORDS:

Efficacy, Legitimacy, Scientific Discoveries, Spirituality

Introduction

The scientific style of the Qur'an is appealing to the call with religion because it is simple, common sense, brief, and concise. Scientific commentaries, which provide answers to all logical and scientific issues, have become very interesting and appealing to even the most casual reader, and are regarded as the richest source of all knowledges. In light of this significance, I chose the title of my study, Significance of Scientific Commentary on the Quran in the Present.

Qur'anic verses that draw the mind's attention to natural facts or simply contain statements about scientific subjects have been interpreted scientifically since the beginning of the evolutionary journey of the

^{*} Ph.D. Scholar, Department of Islamic Studies National University of Modern Languages (NUML), Islamabad.

^{**} Assistant Professor, Department of Islamic Studies National University of Modern Languages (NUML), Islamabad.

interpretation of scientific phenomena. The trend of interpreting and explaining the verses of the Qur'an based on scientific knowledge is not new, but it has forerunners.

The Importance of Quranic Scientific Commentary in the Present

At present days Scientific Commentary is very popular in public for the understanding of Quran due to its so many qualities. It has affected a lot of new generation. In present times, the preaching of Islam is very Significant, and Islam Can be preached and represented in an impressive way. Moreover, the Scientific Commentary of Quran has earned a prominent place in this era. It also has created a harmony for the preaching of Islam. And it's a reality too, that Islam is the only religion of this era, because its principles and revealments are quite true. Quran is self-sufficient in providing solution of all human problems and it guides for our every need as well:

ونَزَّلْنَا عَلَيْكَ الْكِتٰبَ تِبْيَانًا لِّكُلِّ شَيْءٍ
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"And we have revealed this book on you, so that it explains everything to you."

Anwar bin Akhter writes in his book "The witness of human" that:

"At a time, Europe was in the complete darkness regarding the knowledge and at the same time the Islamic Spain was rich in the knowledge and large-scale chemical experiments were performed there. This all-mental revolution was due to the Islam and Quran." ²

Scientific Commentary (سائنسی تفسیر) in Chronological Order

In 1st century of migration, Hazrat Ibn-e-Abbas (RA) guided about the known scientific facts of nature in the context of Scientific Commentary of Quran.

Anwar bin Akhter says;

The trend of Scientific Commentary of Quranic verses is not new. This trend has been noted somewhat in the early people of Islam. They also link the Qur'anic knowledge with the scientific theories of that time". ³

Imam Ghazali is the 1st person in 5th century of migration, who has presented the Scientific commentary in detail.⁴

Muhammad Hussain Zahbi considered Imam Ghazali as the very 1st among the pioneers for scientific commentary.

Imam Ghazali wrote very first in "Ahya-Al-Uloom" and then in "Jawahir-Ul-Quran on the Scientific Commentary.⁵ In 7th century of

migration, the Scientific Knowledge was only taken for the better understanding of the Holy Quran.

The author of "Mafateeh-Ul-Ghaib" has written a lot for understanding of Quran in the Commentary of verses related to nature and universe. Since then, the opposition to Scientific Commentary was also started.⁶

Anyhow, here is a list, from 5th century to 10th century of migration of those religious scholars, who has worked on Scientific commentary:

- Abu-Ul-Fazal Al-Mursi (425H) Abu Hamad, Imam Ghazali (505 H)
- Imam Fakhar-Ud-Din Zarkashi (764H) Imam Jalal-Ul-Din Sayuti (911H)⁷

In 13th century of migration, Ibrahim Faseeh-Al-Baghdadi wrote a magazine titled "The New Dimensions in some verses" (آيات الاخبار)" and this magazine is a bridge between the ancients and the later. In the same period, Abdul Rehman Kokabi wrote: Tbai-Al-Istabdad wa Masare-ul-Istab'had. 8

In 19th century, Allama Tantavi⁹ wrote "Al-Jawahir Fi Tafseer Ul-Quran in 26 Volumes and he wrote everything, he considered Science.¹⁰ But most of it was not included in science. Anyhow, these books gave a new turn in the trend of Scientific Commentary. This was really the challenging period. When Orientalists have compiled their objections and doubts about Quran.

The Facts of Raising the sky without Pillars and its Scientific Significance.

In this universe, there are so many things, about which ancient people know nothing. But their information was very faulty and incomplete as compared to the discoveries later on.

Originally Quran was not a scientific book and it was a difficulty for Quran that if it starts new revealment all of a sudden about the universe and nature then many queries may rise among people, which was not the aim and goal of Quran. Anyhow, this is the miracle of Quran that it has talked about scientific development very early in the words. Which were not strange even for the people of ancient times and it covers fully the revealments afterward. Quran is the first book on the surface of this earth, which has invited man to study and observe the nature and things between the Earth and Sky after glamorous revealments.

"Say travel through the earth and see how Allah did originate creation."

Ancient people have the information about the natural phenomena of those verses, for which Allah gives some hints, but new information and discoveries made it more meaningful. Allah says in Quran.

Allah is He who raised the heavens without any pillars that you can see".

Apparent meanings of these words were exactly according to the observation of the man of ancient times, because he observed that above his head a universe is present in form of sun, moon, stars and galaxies but nowhere seems any support or pillar and today's man, who is equipped with latest scientific knowledge has a complete significance and information of it, because the latest observation tells us that all astronomical bodies are sustained in an unlimited space without any assistance, but a pillar which is not visible, is sustaining them all, that is called gravitational force.

According to science, the Sky has not a domical material existence, as we are thinking. But it is merely a result of blue-colored Scattered rays form the sun in the space. And rest universal space is naturally dark as night. It has been revealed during vacant space travels that the day brightness is due to entrance of sun rays in the cover of earth's astrosphere and then this atmospherically cover adopts the shape of domical crust.¹³

Quranic Significance Sun & Stars

When Quran explains any matter about the universe, then its scientific aspect has so many miracles in it that proves and certifies the holy book's thoughtfulness and its revelation of almighty Allah.

The scientific interpretation of Quran is very clear and comprehensive as it has been told about sun and Stars.

"And each, in an orbit, is swimming."

In ancient times a man used to observe the movement of astronomical bodies, but the words "يسبحون" (Swimming) not amazed him. But now latest scientific information has made the interpretation of this verse much more meaningful. Now the interpretation by the word swimming is the best suitable interpretation of astronomical bodies movement in such expanded and subtitle space. This is a non-controversial scientific fact, and no change is possible in it. This reality is a miracle of Quran. Which is a proof of its undeniable eloquence. This is much more important to disclose it, so that the faith of the believers on almighty Allah strengthen

more. This also proves that Quran is the highest and the best example of interpreting scientific facts.

Quranic Meaning of Night and Day:

Quran tells us that day and right are following each other. And none tries to get ahead from the other and it never happened that night came before ending the day. Allah says in Sura-e-Al'Araf.:

"He throws the veil of night over the day, swiftly they follow one another."

These words describe the apparent happening of day and night for the man of old times. But there is a very good indication that the earth is moving in an axial direction which is a main reason of changing of day and night according to the latest experiments. This was told by a Russian spaceman, who travelled into the space. He also told that he saw the earth in a shape that it has been covered by rapid succession of darkeners in front of sun due to its axial movement. Such types of revealments are often found in the Quran. According to Quran the rising times and places of sun are different. It does not appear at the same place at the same time. If such happened, then there was a day ever in the world. It also not sets in opposite direction, and if it happened then the whole world would stay up all night. This only happened If the earth would stationery. Latest known facts by modern Scientific research are quite true and same as Quran has told us about.

Scientific Facts of Plants Pairs and Quranic Teachings:

Quran has its specific mode of appeal that inspires and invites the human mind to think and meditate upon this universe. There is no doubt that the Qur'an is not a scientific book, but a door of guidance that awakens human beings. The Quranic inspiration did what no other book can do.

The Qur'an presents philosophy and allows the whole world to think about it. Due to which knowledge has reached from special people to common people. It is the result of this intellectual freedom that today, through scientific knowledge, man has uncovered the mysteries of the universe. Today, modern researchers have discovered about 1.2 million animals and plants with the latest information about them, and this biological research is ongoing. ¹⁶

Allah says in sura-e-Shu'ara:

"Have they not seen to earth that how beautifully we have created nice things in pairs."

Allah say in sura-Dhariyaat:

And of everything we have created pairs, so that you may receive instruction."

Quran has called the pairs as "Honorable Spouses".

Different Concept of word" Spouse" (نوج)

The word spous is used in three meanings in Arabic language.

- 1. Opposite things, like, day and night, daskness and whiteness, happiness and sadness richness and poverty etc.
- 2. For same things, like, pair of shoes, similarly, the polytheists of every period and times are spouse to each other.
- 3. For masculine and feminine, for example. Husband is a spouse to his wife. ¹⁹

Syed Qutab Shaheed Says:

"From word "Kareem" Almighty Allah emphasizes upon this that his creations must be viewed with the utmost attention, importance and reverence. Its true and real meanings are noble and gentle husband and wife or a masculine and feminine. Now the gentleness in plants means that a flower on a plant does not accept other type of pollens. Walnut flower only accepts walnut pollens."²⁰

Whereas in cross pollination different careers such as birds honey bees, insects and airs transferre pollens from one to another flowers. No one has seen apricot on apple plant and so on. This is the nobleness and gentleness of plants Kingdom that is why it has said. "Do the people not think on earth?". ²¹

Matching pairs in plants:

According to modern scientific research there are 0.25 million kinds of plants. It was disclosed just 200 years ago that in all flower plants some are masculine, there are yellow-coloured grains, which are called pollen.²²

Although Honey bees and other birds transfer bees' pollens. But the major source is the air. Allah syas in sura-e-Hijar:

"And we have sent the fertilizing winds."

At time it was thought that "الواقح" means that air carries the clouds containing rain water but now it has been known through modern scientific research that pollein grains transferr too by air. By which flowers get fertilized. As a result, crops and fruits grow. So, plant system is also programised by winds. 24

Modern Scientific Explanation of Pairs

Modern research tells us that this paring system is also found in non-living things. The negative and positive charge in electricity and the existence of protons and electrons in a smallest particle of atom is known to all. Magnet has negative and positive poles. So, this masculine and feminine is a system of Allah and their mixing gave existence to a third thing whose characteristics are totally different form the both, in some cases. This is called chemistry. Human knowledge is limited but divine knowledge is a complete knowledge in which Allah has informed all that Allah has created Pairs for everything. It is the significance of Quran that a man got so many lessons from Quran and we come to know that complete and sole power belongs to almighty Allah. ²⁵

Till the mid of 19th century, no any expert of biology and plants knew this Pair system in plants, and that they are taking part for their growth just like animals. In 1975 the Pair system in plants was discovered and it was declared as a latest disclosure. But this was commendable because it has been explained centuries before in Quran and now science has admitted this venality too. This is a special characteristic of Quran that it has drawn the modern scientific mind to its venality.

Ghulam Jillani Barq writes in the context of "The Significance of Pair" 'Once I told my Friend (Indian professor) that Quran clearly speaks about the pair system (masculine and feminine) in plants. The Indian professor who led his whole life in plants studies was stunned and shocked and said that this is completely new theory and how an old book like quran can speak about pairs system. I presented him the English translation of quranic verse then he said that now I will admit & accept the truthfulness of Quran and now no thought in my mind can stop me from the praise of last prophet and His book".²⁶

This is a reality that Scientific Commentary is very helpful to bring modern logical mind towards the religion. This is also due to co-relation between modern scientific facts and Quranic revealments. As plants experts found pair system in plants after their centuries research and declared it as a new theory which was disclosed by Quran and last prophet 1400 years ago. 27

Duration of Pants Life

The role that the Quran has played in awakening human consciousness will not be matched by any other book in the world to

come. Quran has directed us to observe every natural process on earth minutely. The Quran has uncovered the hidden. Venalities of the complexities of the cosmic system. As Allah Says in sura-e-Haj:

وَتَرَى الْاَرْضَ هَامِدَةً فَإِذَآ اَنْزَلْنَا عَلَيْهَا الْمَآءَاهُ تَزَّتُ وَرَبَتُ وَ اَنْبَتَتُ مِنُ كُلِّ زَوْجٍ بَهِيْجٍ
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"And (you) see, that earth is dry, when we make upon it raining then it gets fresh and gives out flowers. There grows up various worth seeing things."

Plants life period is very short. If we think upon it then we will see a deep co-relation between plants and human file. The process of plants growth to its end is just like the birth to death process of human life. ²⁹

Same system is with human body. Its re-raising has decided when every human will raise from his buried place. Plant's life is few months where as human life is generally 70 to 80 years.³⁰

It is a great significance of Quran that it has established a relation among all living things by this above mentioned all living things verse. This is a great proof of Quranic truth as sacred book of Allah.

The research made just 200 year ago has clearly been mentioned in Quran 1400 years ago. And this is the scientific authenticity of Quran that no scientist can object any quranic principle or concept. It shows a strong link and relation between Quran and science.

Scientific Revealment of Human Creation and Significance of Ouranic Realities

The mysteries, which have been uncovered by scientists are actually guided and explained in Quran.

According to Doctor Keth Mor, 31 regarding Sura-e-Muminoon:

"Then We turned the sperm-drop into a clot, then We turned the clot into a fetus-lump, then We turned the fetus-lump into bones, then We clothed the bones with flesh; thereafter We developed it into another creature. So, glorious is Allah, the Best of the creators".

And a following verse of Sura-e-Zumar:

"He created you from a single person, then (once this person was created,) He made his match from him, and sent down for you eight pairs of the cattle. He creates you in the wombs of your mothers, creation after creation, in three layers of darkness."

Doctor Kethmor Says that when he studied these two verses, and made a comparison between modern research and these two verses. He was astonished to khow that Quran explained these realities 1400 years ago, when there was no concept of microscope and discretion system. But the information is quite true according to the reality, which has been firstly discovered by west in 1940. Dr. Keth Mor mentioned it in his article in following words.

The 1300 years old Koran contains presages so accurate about embryonic development that Muslims can reasonably believe them to be revelations from God." ³⁴

More over he Says. That it is impossible to describe more accurately the stages of human creation, as described in Quran. ³⁵

Similarly, professor Dr. Fazal Kareem also writes in reference of significance of Scientific Commentary. ³⁶

These are so many other revealments in Quran about which modern science couldn't understand them yet. Science will take time to discover them. Quran has described different stages of human embryo's growth at that time, when science was completely silent about it.

Similarly, todays surgical knowledge is still not on that stage, where Quran has mentioned three darkness in mother's overy. Although science is certifying Quranic verses about universe has been certified in every period, whereas Scientific theories are changing. But Quranic teachings are never be ignored or challenged. ³⁷

That is why many of the Scientists have accepted Islam after verifying Quranic teachings and revealment.

Flesh Cover on Bones:

"Then We turned the sperm-drop into a clot, then We turned the clot into a fetus-lump, then We turned the fetus-lump into bones, then We clothed the bones with flesh; thereafter We developed it into another creature. So, glorious is Allah, the Best of the creators".

Some time earlier, genes expert were thinking that in mothers overy, the process of bones and flesh takes place at the same time, which was against the Quranic description. But this was the research of that time when microscope was not invented. All this information was based on observation because it took abortion, then just blood clots seem to come out. So, it was thought that initial stage of human embryo's birth is blood clot.

It was said on the basis of above observation that this Quranic verse is controversial to science. But now it has proved that embryo body formation is just like as explained in Quran, that first of all skeleton of back bone is formed in the blood clot.

Dr. Israr Ahmed writes it this context:

"According to modern scientific information, fertilized ovum is embedded alongwith the wall of ovary at initial stage whereas on next stage, this fertilized ovum bulges out and hangs with that wall just like a leech". ³⁹

The scientific significance of Quran is more explained by reference text of Anwar bin Akhter. He writes in his book "Scientific revealment of Quran". Famous genes expert, Dr. Keth Mor of Canada explained it in his book The Developing Human: "in 7th week the skeleton starts to expand, and bones gain their clear shape at the end of 7th week and in the 8th week flesh clots gather around the bones." ⁴⁰

It's very strange, that this research result was explained in Quran very clearly 1425 years earlier. Modern embryological discoveries are exactly according to the Quran. This is a clear sign and logic of Quran from almighty Allah:

"This revelation of the Book – in which there is no doubt - is from the Lord of the worlds."

Scientific Significance of Water from Quran

It is phraseology of Quran that it describes according to the thinking and ideas of human beings. So, Quran inspires and invites them to mediate and think upon the universe. If we think on water then it will become clear that everything is based on water. And existence of living things is dependent on water. As Allah said in Quran:

"And We created from water every living thing"

Due to this importance of water Allah has laid down a system of its distribution and disposal. As Allah says in Sura-e- Hijar:

"Then sent down water from the sky and gave it to you to drink"

Abdul Hameed Sawati writes in the commentary of above verse:

"the water System which is called today as aster cycle by science. This great system of water cycle is of the miracles of Almighty Allah. The rain form ocean vapours by air and water storage system on high mountains in the form of Glaciers and then though streams and rivers, this water flows to plain areas. Whole world is dependent on this water cycle system dsigned by Allah as one can store water for few days but can't managed it for years. Medical science tells us that blood circulation in human body is necessary for life. In this blood 80% is water and rest 20% contains other food particles. So water is a great blessing of Allah. 44

Without water there will be no life on this earth. Allah has inspired and invited at two places in Quran about water:

"He is the One who joined the two seas, so as this is sweet, very sweet, and this is bitter, very bitter, and made between them a buffer and an insurmountable barrier"

"He let forth the two seas to meet together, while there is a barrier between them; they do not encroach upon one another."

These above-mentioned signs were known to ancient people, that when two of the rivers flows alongwith each other but they do not mix to each other.

For example. Changam (Bangladesh) to Burma, two rivers flow altogether, but their water seems to flow separately. There flows a streak between them, which shows their separation. One side of the water is sweet and on other side water is saltish. Similarly, some rivers flow on the bank of oceans. There comes ocean water in it but this ocean water does not mix with that sweet water. Here lies a streak or strip continuously between those. This has been observed since ancient times but this all happened under some natural law.⁴⁷

The Latest Research and the Significance of Water Mixing

It has been observed that there is a law of surface tension in diluted liquids. This law separates both the waters. Both flows in their own limit. At present it has been greatly benefited by this law. Allah syas in sura-e-Rahman:

"while there is a barrier between them; they do not encroach upon one another."

These above words of the verse are the best description of this whole phenomena, which is not controversial to ancient observation and it also has complete control over the latest research. Here (برزخ) means a surface tension, which plays a role of barrier between two waters.

The Scientific Reason for not Getting Mixed the Water of two Rivers

If you fill up a glass of water up to its edges, the water will raise up a little bit in a spherical shape. Here a question arises, that how water has stayed up in a semi-circular shape?

Its answer is, there is nothing at upper surface except molecules. In diluted liquids molecules at such upper surface are attracted inwards enclosed it. This type of layer stops water somewhat above form the edges of glass. This layer might so strong that if some needle is placed on it, then the needle will not sink rather it floats on surface. It is known as surface tension. That is why the water and petrole do not mix with each other. This is that barrier which does not allow to mix the sweet and saltish water together. ⁴⁹

These are the concise scientific and interpreting signs of holy Quran by which revealment of the universe came to us. These revealments are a truthfulness of Quran too. Dr. Hafiz Haqani Mian Qadri says about some newspapers that on 22 Nov 1984, it is published in the city newspaper in Canada. The headline of the newspaper was. "Ancient holy book 1300 years Ahead of its time". ⁵⁰ Similarly, in 10 Dec 1982, there was another headline of Times of India from new Dehli:

"Koran Scores over modern Science." 51

Jack VI Cousteau (famous oceanographer) has discovered that chemically and biologically Mediterranean Ocean and Atlantis Ocean are different from each other. They confirm this reality after a research near Jabl-e-Tariq firth within the ocean that on the banks near Morocco and Spain there are blowing sweet water springs unexpectedly. Although these springs are in the ocean these huge springs advance to each other at the angle of 45° in the shape of cogs of a comb. But in this process, both

of the oceans, Mediterranean and Atlantic do not mix each other. After knowing this reality, when Cousteau saw above verses, he was too much astonished, and he admitted the significance of Quran and became a Muslim. 52

Godhoodness and truthfulness of the holy Quran has been certified in every period whereas scientific theories of old scientists have been rejected by the new scientists with the passage of time but Quranic teachings has never been denied or rejected so for. For 1400 year ago to date, hundred thousand scientists have been embraced Islam after studying and researching Quran-e-Pak, which is an authenticity stamp on the venality of the religion of Islam.

Conclusion and Research Results

- 1. The way in which scientific commentary presents the solution of contemporary problems in the light of Holy Quran is it's a distinguishing feature. New generation was flurried by secular ideas and fell into the modern problems. This has been solved by scientific commentary of Qur'an in a beautiful way.
- 2. In view of the significance of scientific commentary, many commentators adopted this trend to invite and inspire the new generation towards religion, which has a profound effect.
- 3. The Quran has its special way of invitation that invites the human heart and mind to reflect on the observation of this universe the compatibility of Quranic words with modern scientific research is based on the assumption that this research has been succeeded to trace out the relevant event. And in the same way, mankind has acquired the necessary material to interpret the Quranic semiotic words to the material universe.
- 4. The significance of the Quran's Scientific invitation can also be guessed form the fact that for any human being, whether he is a biologist, a botanist or a meteorologist, there is no room for objection. The differences of the universe that have known through the eloquent scientific and interpretive semiotic of the Quran prove the authenticity of the call made by the Holy Quran.
- 5. There are many facts which have been revealed by Quran. The modern Science has not yet been able to understand them, but the Quran has revealed these facts and mysteries to man. Whereas science will take some time to discover them.
- 6. The most important benefit of researching scientific verses is the acquisition of God realization. That is, as a result of researching the system of God, the eternal attributes of almighty Allah, His oneness, power, eternal knowledge, wisdom and expediency,

- creativity, mercy and his strange planning etc. are fully observed, which is the destination of unity of evidence and after reaching this destination, there is no opportunity for a man to go astray intellectually.
- 7. The scientific interpretation of the Quran in modern times has created such harmony in the call to religion, that Islam is the only religion of modern times. And its stated principles and discoveries are quite true.
- 8. Quran is the real source of all knowledges, whether material or spiritual, scientific or non scientific. This call of the Quran also makes it clear that there is no contradiction between the science of religion and the science of nature, because both have a same source and that is the Quran.

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