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### Research Article

# Evolution And Its Misinterpretation By The Scientific Community

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**Abstract.** Allah has created the heavens and the earth in stages as he declares in the Holy Quran. It is Allah Who creates, develops and sustains life, and ensures harmony and diversity in all things, living and non-living. The verses from the Quran make it obvious that the conditions required for God's ultimate creation to exist and survive are only possible if the universe contains matter, energy, water, and other entities as they are. The total measure of these entities cannot be altered, which means the total energy and matter in the universe is constant. These values are actually the result of the fine-tuned universe, where any deviation from it will lead to its instability and hence its extinction. This balance is maintained by the eternal and extremely intelligent being through His commands, and these commands, by observers, are conceived as laws of nature or scientific laws. This universe is solely meant for the trial of the ultimate creation, hence puzzling, brain-teasing, and other sorts of entangled phenomena in the observable universe are inevitable. This kind of nature is intentionally imparted to the universe by God to test mankind (God's ultimate creation). The definition of biological evolution in modern science is actually an illusion and hence a trial for humans, since God calls this universe by the word "Garoor," meaning illusion or unreal. In conclusion, the misinterpretation of evolution by the scientific community can be attributed to the lack of understanding of the true nature of human

existence and the purpose of life on Earth. By examining religious scriptures, we can see that humans are sent on Earth for minor and major trials by God, with minor trials such as evolutionary theory and other incomplete sciences being part of this category. It is evident that God initially formed the shape of a human from stagnant dark mud and then preserved it in a dry state. He did not breathe life into the mould until all the necessary conditions for human existence on Earth were ensured. After God infused life or spirit into the mould of Adam (AW), He taught Adam (AW) the names of things. Thus, it can be inferred that life on Earth was created by God in stages, and these stages are designed in a way that life and the species on Earth may appear to disbelievers as a result of natural selection or random evolution. However, as Muslims, it is important to remember that everything we observe in the universe is intended to test us by God, so it is best to avoid engaging in vague discussions on this matter. Know well that the life of this world is but an amusement and diversion, and adornment and boasting to one another, and competition in increase of wealth and children. This worldly life is no more than play and amusement. But the Hereafter is indeed the real life, if only they knew. (The Quran 29:64)

**Key words:** Evolution, Misinterpretation of Evolution, Concept of Evolution In Religion

## INTRODUCTION

Evolution in the modern scientific age is misleading either due to the existence of the universe as a result of fine-tuning or due to our misinterpretations of our observations. These are we humans attempting to define the evolution relative to our observations, since we are the living creatures of extreme ability among a huge pile of the species on the earth, so it is natural that our minds compel us to look for the source and purpose of our existence. We know that we humans have appeared in the universe much latter than the inhabitable earth and the solar system formed only 4.5 billion years ago while as age of the universe itself is estimated to be 13.7 billion years. If we could look back at the near big bang we will find that every entity in nature is actually for the stability and existence of the universe from its extreme quantum to macroscopic scale. Prior to the human appearance on the earth all the events and entities including non living and living (animal, plant and other kingdoms, and everything else) in the universe were brought into the existence to establish the stable and favorable conditions or environment for humans (The ultimate creation of the God).

## DISCUSSION

Every entity in the universe exists in such a precise measure that our minds are compelled to conclude that such a grand design cannot be the result of random interactions or random chances. The complexity of the universe is itself evidence that there must be a creator who can only create or guide such an errorless, complex, and extremely balanced universe. Discoveries in physics and cosmology in the last century strongly support the existence of God and the divine creation of the universe. About 14.7 billion years ago, the universe was condensed in a point of an infinite density without dimensions. The mass-energy of the initial universe had to be precise to form the universe as it is now. This is the fact that the Quran told us about fourteen centuries ago in many verses as mentioned below.

*“Verily, all things have We created in proportion and measure.(Surah-Al-Qamar54:49)”*

*“Are you a more difficult creation or is the heaven? Allah constructed it. He raised its ceiling and proportioned it. Surah Naziat 79:27-28”.*

*“He has created the heavens and the earth in just proportions, and has given you shape, and made your shapes beautiful: and to Him is the final Goal. Surah Taghabun 64:3”.*

*“He to whom belongs the dominion of the heavens and the earth: no son has He begotten, nor has He a partner in His dominion: it is He who created all things, and ordered them in due proportions. Surah Furqan 25:2”.*

*“And We send down water from the sky according to (due) measure, and We cause it to soak in the soil; and We certainly are able to drain it off (with ease). Surah Muminun 23:18”.*

*“And who sends down rain from the sky in measured amounts, and We revive thereby a dead land – thus will you be brought forth. Surah Zukhruf 43:11”*

*“Have they been created without a Creator? Or, are they their own creators? Or, have they created the heavens and the earth? The fact is that they lack faith.(At-tur 35-36).”*

*“And provides him (with what he needs) from where he does not even imagine. And whoever places his trust in Allah, He is sufficient for him. Surely Allah is to accomplish His purpose. Allah has set a measure for everything (65:3).”*

*•Verily! We have adorned the near heaven with the stars (for beauty) (37:6).*

*•who created the seven heavens, one above the other. You will not see any flaw in what the Lord of Mercy creates. Look again! Can you see any flaw?*

The verses from the Quran make it obvious that the conditions required for God’s ultimate creation to exist and survive are only possible if the universe contains matter, energy, water, and other entities as they are. The total measure of these entities cannot be altered, which means the total energy and matter in the universe is constant. These values are actually the result of the fine-tuned universe, where any deviation from it will lead to its instability and hence its extinction. This balance is maintained by the eternal and extremely intelligent being through His commands, and these commands, by observers, are conceived as laws of nature or scientific laws. This universe is solely meant for the trial of the ultimate creation, hence puzzling, brain-teasing, and other sorts of entangled phenomena in the observable universe are inevitable. This kind of nature is intentionally imparted to the universe by God to test mankind (God’s ultimate creation). The definition of biological evolution in modern science is actually an illusion and hence a trial for humans, since God calls this universe by the word "Garoor," meaning illusion or unreal.

Before Adam’s (AW) appearance on Earth, whatever existed was actually the result of finely-tuned events, and these events also included the emergence of the

living world, except for humans. Each of the events was necessary for the establishment of the stable base or favorable conditions for the introduction and survival of God's ultimate creation on Earth. Besides the rest of God's creation, the process involved in our creation is also a trial or test for us. Can we demystify the way our God created us? Yes, there is indirect evidence that God created us only when the universe was stable enough to host the life of humans. The universe has not been in the same state or stage as it is now. The state of the early universe was much different than it is now, and all the changes in the early universe or changes taking place now are intended for the survival and testing of God's ultimate creation, blessed with capabilities to observe and understand the universe to a certain limit.

When we claim something exists, such claims are based on some of our observations, and if there exists no observer, then the universe does not exist either. Probably we are the only creation of God on Earth given capabilities by Him to discover His laws through observations and experiments, and indeed we should have the quest to find the signs of God in His creation since God Himself invites us to do so.

Before Adam's (AW) appearance on the earth, the conditions on the earth wouldn't have been human life-supportive. It was the moment when conditions on the earth were made completely life-supportive for humans that Adam (AW) was sent to Earth. Hence, we can say that we are not descendants of any other species, and not even other species are descendants of any other species resulted by random mutations. Each and every species was created independently in a finely-tuned way in order to establish stable and favorable conditions to welcome God's ultimate creation for trial. Hence, we can say we humans are the ultimate creation of God.

It is much common when we intend to put something at any particular region, we first make sure that the conditions required for such a thing to survive are favorable. For this, we put the things in that region which make a stable base for the survival of our intended living object. If we place those different things one by one or at once, such that one thing supports the other to persist, and each thing seems to be a modified version of the previous one, it in no way means that the second thing has evolved from the first and so on by merely looking at their composition and genetics. It will give rise to an unanswerable question; if the living world evolved from non-living matter and energy, then where from the energy or matter in the first place originated? Here ends our ability to discover the laws anymore, because our ability is limited, and all the developments in science till now fail to explain it. Some may claim to explain it, but those are guesses at the unseen.

We know that the basic unit of the living world is the gene or DNA, since it is the principal unit of all living matter. Also, we know well that the principal unit of matter is the atom (which is itself composed of leptons and baryons) and different types of elements which exist as a result of different electronic configurations of the basic unit. If these different elements would have different basic units in place of different configurations of the basic unit, then it would not only be difficult but even impossible for scientists to discover all the elements known till now. We have discovered the atomic composition only a few decades back; even the principal law is the same for each different atom. Here, one could easily imagine how hard or even an

impossible task it would be to discover the different laws governing the existence of each different atom or element in our visible universe. If it would be so, then God would not have invited and encouraged His ultimate creation to look for the signs of His eternal and sublime existence in His creation, since it wouldn't be a possible task for human ability. If God has encouraged us to do research and discover His laws, then these laws must be discoverable for human capabilities.

Scientific research not only allows us to understand the creation of God but also acts as a trial for us because of the fine-tuned nature involved in the creation of the universe, which gives an illusion of its evolution.

Quran: *The heavens and the earth were joined together as one unit, before We clove them asunder" (21:30) Following this, Allah "turned to the sky, and it had been (as) smoke. He said to it and to the earth: 'Come together, willingly or unwillingly.*

The words "willingly" or "unwillingly" may conceal a mystery of the universe, but we should not worry because God has encouraged humans to look for His signs in His creation. Seeking signs of God in His creation is a form of research, and research leads to the discovery of laws, as well as the understanding and estimation of the infinite power of God. Prior to the words "willingly" or "unwillingly," God mentioned the heavens and the earth. We have galaxies, which are specific regions of space occupied by a finite number of planetary systems and other cosmic giants. If the entire universe is divided into seven parts in increasing vastness, then the visible or observable universe is just a small portion of the first part, and these seven parts are likely mentioned as "heavens" in the Holy Quran. God says in the Quran, *"He has adorned the nearest heaven by stars."* I believe this verse implies the distinct composition of the other six heavens compared to the lowest heaven.

Paradise is probably the parent universe where relative time dimensions do not exist. This suggests that before the big bang, there was only one universe where relative time didn't exist, and both earth and heavens existed together in one universe before the big bang. Adam and Eve (ASW) were also part of this universe, and their existence in the parent universe was independent of any other creation of God. However, they were expelled from the parent universe and sent to the universe resulting from the separation of earth or matter from the heavens (a universe not composed of matter or space dimensions).

I assume paradise is a universe where multiple dimensions exist without the existence of relative time. Multiple dimensions allow God's creation to observe and perform what would seem impossible for us in a three-dimensional universe. So, after the earth or matter was separated from the heavens, God created three dimensions similar to the parent universe and introduced one new dimension (relative time). This means three space dimensions and one additional dimension called time. This new time dimension was introduced by God for the limited lifespan of this universe, which is destined to perish. Hence, we can say time was associated with the three space dimensions because any entity associated with time undergoes changes and eventually perishes as determined by God. The parent universe, where the relative time dimension does not exist, is eternal or never dying.

The sky in the above verse probably implies an unorganized universe where everything was scattered randomly, then God ordered it and the earth to come

together willingly or unwillingly. Here, "willingly" or "unwillingly," in addition to implying consciousness in the universe, also suggests that the initial universe was tending to chaos or increasing entropy, which is also a law or order of God that the universe obeyed. The new order by God as mentioned above implies a period when entropy of the universe momentarily began to decrease in order to organize things. This verse may also refer to the second law of thermodynamics, which in physics is a law but in Islamic perspective, it is an order of God that the universe follows.

Singularity is a region where all the matter and energy was concentrated in a zero-dimensional point of infinite density, and this is the point where all physics laws that we have discovered till now cease to work, and all physics and mathematics are meaningful only for the moment  $t > 0$  of the big bang. We can conclude that the big bang is not the initial point or origin of the universe, but an intermediate point or bridge to form a new universe that we are part of. There is nothing for us on the other end of the big bang because we are designed or created to observe the time-governed universe. The time dimension was created by God and introduced into the universe (where heavens or space dimensions and earth or matter/energy were joined together) to bring changes to form the new universe governed by a different set of laws. God ordered space and the earth (matter) to come together willingly or unwillingly, possibly also implying that the set of laws or orders to govern this universe were different than before the big bang.

When we observe something new that does not conform to known physics and mathematical laws, it surprises us. We know that all the laws of physics cease to work at singularity, and it is a strange and undesirable fact. The laws of nature, in a broad sense, are orders of God. The words "willingly" or "unwillingly" may also refer to the consciousness in the universe. Space-time and matter (in the form of singularity) merged, marking the beginning of changes in the properties of the singularity because time is meant for change, and space allows change to occur. Hence, there was a separation event which involved the separation of heavens (space dimensions) from the earth (matter). After that, the organization of the sky (randomly scattered matter or energy) took place. The big bang happened instantaneously after the merging of time with singularity, and this time dimension is designed by God in such a way that it brings change not in a random direction but in a particular direction as decided by God. This implies that space-time also carries the information or guidance of how to bring about the change in entities. This change, although in a specific direction, is so entangled that we humans are often deceived by it. This nature is inevitable since this universe is intended by God to test His ultimate creation. Probably there will be a time dimension in paradise as well, but it can be locally handled by its residents, which means that changes or events in paradise will not be predetermined but will be specified by its residents according to their legit desires.

In precise language, we can say that events or changes of any kind in this universe are predetermined and occur in a predestined fashion, whereas events will be determined by residents of paradise according to their desires and can utilize the time dimension to bring about any changes as they wish. So, evolution in a broad sense can be perceived as the emergence of living or non-living matter in specific time and form as decreed by God.

The Quranic scripture repeatedly declares that at every step of creation intentional choices were made. Choices were not made by the blind operator of natural selection, but by God, the All-seeing, the All-knowing. But He hasn't simply created nature but he has also actively been involved in the selection of species, which ones go extinct and which ones survive. The creation and sustenance of all species depends on the Will of God. According to natural selection, however, humans are merely the outcome of trillions of evolutionary accidents created by random events in the evolution process. They have no specific purpose in the universe. Their existence is coincidental. This is a striking contrast to Quranic position that states that it was humanity that is the ultimate purpose of Creation. The Holy Quran disagrees that natural selection by itself brings about evolution. Allah states in the Holy Quran that Divine Will guides the change in the universe, not by accident. If nature had guided change, life was more likely to have degenerated than evolved. Haphazard mutation could have led to countless number of nonlife outcomes.

According to natural selection, all living things including humans have evolved out of one single cell. That one single cell eventually has evolved into human body with trillions of specialized cells that direct different functions of human body. What are the odds that one complex cell evolved into trillions of highly complicated specialized cells by chance? The chances are less than unlikely. The journey, from an incredibly complex single cell to trillions of unfathomable specialized cells, necessarily needs a guide, a designer. Without the guide, the cells were more likely to disorganize themselves. Scientists agree that the stage-by-stage progress of a single cell into highly specialized cells was more likely to be stalled or reversed if the journey had lacked a pre-designed map. Allah has created the heavens and the earth in stages as he declares in the Holy Quran. It is Allah Who creates, develops and sustains life, and ensures harmony and diversity in all things, living and non-living. All this cannot be realized through random choices of adaptation. Evolution as presented by the Holy Quran states that life advanced step by step from dust, water, clay and also from fermenting blackish mud, which subsequently turned into dry, ringing clay. One of the interesting features of natural selection is that accidental mutations generally lead to wonderful design. With the help of accidental mutations, a monkey without the power of logic or speech ends up as a human equipped with the capabilities of language and reasoning. Seemingly, natural selection always moves in the direction of progress. According to some critics of natural selection, calling such a progress accidental is like hoping that a monkey typing randomly on a keyboard would eventually produce a Shakespearean play.

Professor Edwin Conklin, an eminent biologist at Princeton University, argues that the probability of life originating from accident is comparable to the probability of the unabridged dictionary resulting from an explosion in a printing shop.<sup>1</sup> A British scientist, J.D. Bernal, believes that attributing origination of life to accident is even less plausible than Adam and Eve story<sup>2</sup>. In other words, the scientist is saying that biblical explanation of beginning of life is much more believable than the story of accidents.

Frank Allen, Professor of Biophysics at the University of Manitoba, discovered that for a single protein molecule, which supports and builds life, to be formed out of

chance would require 10 to the power of 248 years. This number is incredibly larger than 4.5 billion years, the scientifically measured age of the universe.<sup>3</sup> If a single protein molecule takes so much time, how much time is needed before that protein turns into human? Furthermore, modern science has discovered that once organic material is created from inorganic material, it is needed to exist in a dry state to prevent it from reverting back to its elementary form or to preserve it for a specified period. The Holy Quran, the advocate of Divine Will, explicitly talks about these recent scientific discoveries 1400 years ago. The Holy Quran states, “*with water did We create every living thing*”.(21:31)

*The Holy Quran further states, “And surely, we created man from dry ringing clay made from stagnant blackish mud”.*(15:27)

## CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the misinterpretation of evolution by the scientific community can be attributed to the lack of understanding of the true nature of human existence and the purpose of life on Earth. By examining religious scriptures, we can see that humans are sent on Earth for minor and major trials by God, with minor trials such as evolutionary theory and other incomplete sciences being part of this category.

Evolutionary theory, in particular, has been misinterpreted by the scientific community due to a lack of understanding of its limitations. While evolution is a powerful tool for understanding the development of species over time for well being of humans, it does not provide a complete explanation for the origin of life or the purpose of human existence. This misinterpretation can lead to a narrow view of human existence and a lack of appreciation for the spiritual and moral dimensions of life.

Religious scriptures, on the other hand, provide a broader perspective on human existence and the purpose of life on Earth. According to these scriptures, humans are sent on Earth for trial by God, with minor trials such as evolutionary theory and other incomplete theories seemingly contradicting religion being part of this category. These trials are meant to test our faith and our ability to discern truth from falsehood.

The major or ultimate trial, however, is the appearance of Dajal, who will claim to be God and deceive humanity with seemingly real probes, including the simulation of heaven and hell. Only those with firm faith in God and his divine book will pass this trial. This major trial is a test of our faith and our ability to discern truth from falsehood in the face of overwhelming evidence to the contrary.

Therefore, it is essential to consider the religious perspective when interpreting scientific theories such as evolution to gain a more comprehensive understanding of the purpose of life on Earth. By integrating the scientific and religious perspectives, we can gain a more complete understanding of human existence and the purpose of life on Earth. This integration can help us to develop a more balanced and holistic view of the world and our place in it.

It is evident that God initially formed the shape of a human from stagnant dark mud and then preserved it in a dry state. He did not breathe life into the mould until all the necessary conditions for human existence on Earth were ensured. After God



infused life or spirit into the mould of Adam (AW), He taught Adam (AW) the names of things. Thus, it can be inferred that life on Earth was created by God in stages, and these stages are designed in a way that life and the species on Earth may appear to disbelievers as a result of natural selection or random evolution. However, as Muslims, it is important to remember that everything we observe in the universe is intended to test us by God, so it is best to avoid engaging in vague discussions on this matter.

### **Worldly life is delusion**

*“Know well that the life of this world is but an amusement and diversion, and adornment and boasting to one another, and competition in increase of wealth and children like the example of a rain whose [resulting] plant growth pleases the tillers; then it dries and you see it turned yellow; then it becomes [scattered] debris. And in the Hereafter is severe punishment and forgiveness from Allah and approval. And what is the worldly life except the enjoyment of delusion” (The Quran 57:20)*

*Every soul will have a taste of death, and you will receive your recompense on the Day of Resurrection. Whoever is swayed from the Fire, and admitted to Paradise, has won. The life of this world is merely enjoyment of delusion( The Quran 3:185)*

*This worldly life is no more than play and amusement. But the Hereafter is indeed the real life, if only they knew.(The Quran 29:64)*

*O humanity! Indeed, Allah’s promise is true. So do not let the life of this world deceive you, nor let the Chief Deceiver deceive you about Allah.(The Quran 35:5)*

### **We are here for a purpose (trial) ;**

*You’re here for a reason. You’re not a coincidence. You were created for a purpose. So why don’t you believe? We have created you, so why do you not believe? (The Quran 56:57)*

### **God created everything on earth for Adam before sending him here:**

*It is He who created for you everything on earth, then turned to the heaven, and made them seven heavens. And He is aware of all things.(The Quran 2:28–29).*

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