

Scientific fact in the Holy Quran and the possibility of inclusion in the curricula

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Introduction

• The Holy Quran was revealed to Prophet Mohammad (May Peace and Blessings of Allah be upon Him) over fourteen hundred years ago, at a time when majority of the people in Arabia were illiterate and very few could read or write. Many superstitious and groundless believes were prevalent.

• One such belief was that the Earth was flat and mountains on the two ends were supporting the sky (Figure 1).

Scientific Facts

• Quran is scientifically more advanced than the present scientific knowledge, since many of the facts that have become clear now, with the use of advanced technology are already present in the Quran from over 1400 years. A closer vision of the Quran shows numerous facts. These provide information from the creation of the Universe to the prediction that it will come to an end. These facts are presented with perfect accuracy and serve to strengthen belief in the Great Creator.

• Broadly the facts can be grouped into Physical, Biological and Mathematical Facts. Some of the Physical facts are listed in Table 1 and for each fact, the Surah and the verse are presented in the adjoining column. Box 1 presents one such fact.

[Box 1 Cloud/Rain formation]

اقْرَأْ آيَاتِ الْقُرْآنِ
قَدْ جَاءَكَ آيَاتُنَا فَأَنْزَلْنَاهَا
مِنْ سَمَاءٍ مَرْبُوعَةٍ لِيَبْدَأَ
الْحَيَاتُ وَيَنْزِلَ مِنْهَا
الْمَاءُ فَسَاءَ مَا يَكْتُمُونَ

Do you not realize that God drives the clouds, then gathers them together, then piles them on each other, then you see the rain coming out of them? [24:43]



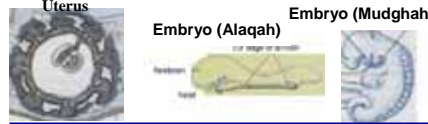
• A number of Biological facts are also present in the Quran. Some examples are presented in Table 2 and in Boxes 2 -4.

• In today's World there is a great need to spread the information present in the Quran in its true context. One way to do so is to include the original references i.e. the Quranic verses, to the various scientific facts in the curricula in our schools and colleges, in order for our younger generations to grow with this information and the greatness of the Holy Quran embedded in their hearts. This will certainly lead to strengthen their faith (EMAN) and belief in the Great Creator-our Allah.

[Box 2 Human Development]

أَفَرَأَيْتُمْ مَا كُنْتُمْ مَعْبُدُونَ ﴿١٢﴾ أَفَرَأَيْتُمْ مَا كُنْتُمْ مَعْبُدُونَ ﴿١٣﴾ ثُمَّ جَعَلْنَاهُ نُطْقَةً فِي قَرَارِ عَصَبٍ ﴿١٤﴾ ثُمَّ جَعَلْنَاهُ عَظْمًا مَلْطًا مُصَبَّغًا مَخْضًا ﴿١٥﴾ ثُمَّ جَعَلْنَاهُ عِظَامًا وَكُنُوسًا أَلْوَانًا ﴿١٦﴾ ثُمَّ جَعَلْنَاهُ نَجْدًا ﴿١٧﴾ ثُمَّ جَعَلْنَاهُ نَجْدًا ﴿١٨﴾ ثُمَّ جَعَلْنَاهُ نَجْدًا ﴿١٩﴾ ثُمَّ جَعَلْنَاهُ نَجْدًا ﴿٢٠﴾ ثُمَّ جَعَلْنَاهُ نَجْدًا ﴿٢١﴾ ثُمَّ جَعَلْنَاهُ نَجْدًا ﴿٢٢﴾ ثُمَّ جَعَلْنَاهُ نَجْدًا ﴿٢٣﴾ ثُمَّ جَعَلْنَاهُ نَجْدًا ﴿٢٤﴾ ثُمَّ جَعَلْنَاهُ نَجْدًا ﴿٢٥﴾ ثُمَّ جَعَلْنَاهُ نَجْدًا ﴿٢٦﴾ ثُمَّ جَعَلْنَاهُ نَجْدًا ﴿٢٧﴾ ثُمَّ جَعَلْنَاهُ نَجْدًا ﴿٢٨﴾ ثُمَّ جَعَلْنَاهُ نَجْدًا ﴿٢٩﴾ ثُمَّ جَعَلْنَاهُ نَجْدًا ﴿٣٠﴾

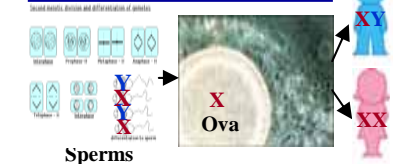
12. Man We did create from a quintessence (of clay); 13. Then We placed him (as a drop of) sperm in a place of rest firmly fixed (Uterus); 14. Then We made the sperm into a clot of congealed blood (Alaqah); then of that clot We made a (foetus) lump (Mudghah); then We made out of that lump bones and clothed the bones with flesh; then We developed out of it another creature: so blessed be Allah the Best to create! [23: 12-14]



[Box 3: Fathers role in babies sex Determination]

وَأَنْزَلْنَا إِلَيْكَ الْكِتَابَ وَالْحِكْمَةَ وَعَلَّمْنَاكَ مَا كُنْتَ عَالِمًا بِهِ

That He did create in pairs male and female. From a drop (of seed) when it is poured forth.



[Box 4: Pain receptors in skin]

إِنَّ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا أَعْيُنُهُمْ كُمُوتٌ مُظْلِمَةٌ ﴿١٠٠﴾ لَوْ كَانُوا يَعْلَمُونَ ﴿١٠١﴾ وَالَّذِينَ آمَنُوا وَعَمِلُوا الصَّالِحَاتِ كَانَتْ عُيُنُهُمْ كَنُورًا مُضِيًّا ﴿١٠٢﴾

Those who reject our signs. We shall soon cast into the fire; as often as their skins are roasted through. We shall change them for fresh skins, that they may taste the chastisement: for Allah is Exalted in Power, Wise (4:56).



Table 1: Physical facts in the Quran

Some Physical Facts	Sura/ Ayat
Creation of Universe	21:30
Star formation from gases	41:11
Order in Universe	79:28
Expanding Universe	51:47
Movement of sun	36:38
Orbits in space	21:33
Sky full of orbits	51:77
Egg-shaped earth	79:30
Coiling earth & day/light	24:44
Sun-a lamp; moon- reflect	3:27
Mountains have roots	78:7
Mountains stabilize earth	21:31
Movement of mountains	27:88
Inner waves & darkness	24:40
Sky as protected roof	21:32
Layers (7) of atmosphere	2:29
Iron sent down	57:25
Formation of clouds/rain	24:43
Importance of wind for rain	30:48
Proportion of rain	15:22
Lowest land on earth	30:1-3
Particles smaller than atom	34:3
Barriers between salt/sweet seas	25:53
Barriers between seas	55: 19
Wind carrying nutrients	15:22

Table 2: Biological facts in the Quran

Some Biological Fact	Sura/ Ayat
Origin from water	21:30
Creation from dust, clay	22:5
Human development stages	23:12-14
Three veils of darkness	39:6
Embryo partly formed	22:5
Fathers role in babies sex	53:46
Hearing before sight	67:23
Lying prefrontal lobe	96:15
Pain receptors in skin	4:56
Uniqueness of fingerprint	75:4
Difficult breathing at height	6:125
Signs in our own self	51:20
Milk formation	16:66
Importance of green leaves for seed formation	6:99
Importance of plants	16:10
Pairs of all living creature	51:49
Uniqueness of camels	88:17
Communities in animals and insects	6:38
Workers bees as females	16:68
Healing power of honey	16:69
Flimsiness of spider web	29:41
Things living on mosquitoes	2:26
Harm & benefit of alcohol	2:219

Reference:
The Holy Quran



Figure 1: The flat earth

• The revelations of Holy Quran started with the following Ayats (verses) and continued for the next 23 years, until the entire Quran was revealed:

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ
اقْرَأْ بِاسْمِ رَبِّكَ الَّذِي خَلَقَ ﴿١﴾ خَلَقَ الْإِنْسَانَ مِنْ عَلَقٍ ﴿٢﴾ اقْرَأْ وَرَبُّكَ
الْأَكْرَمُ ﴿٣﴾ الَّذِي عَلَّمَ بِالْقَلَمِ ﴿٤﴾ عَلَّمَ الْإِنْسَانَ مَا لَمْ يَعْلَمِ ﴿٥﴾

Proclaim! (or Read!) in the name of thy Lord and Cherisher Who create. Created man out of a (mere) lot of congealed blood: Proclaim! And thy Lord is most Bountiful. He Who taught (the use of) the Pen. Taught man that which he knew not. [96:1-5]

Many accurate descriptions of the natural phenomena are present in the Quran and corrected the earlier wrong believes, including about the shape of the earth.



And the earth, moreover, Hath He made egg shaped. [79:30]



"He created the skies and the earth for truth. He coils the night upon the day and He coils the day upon the night" (39:5)