

Foreword

Says Qur'an:

Allah affirms that there is no god but He; and so do the angels, and those with knowledge, He is established in justice. (3: 19)

Such is the claim of the **Qur'an**. So when we come across the atheistic people or those who seriously believe in the Theory of Evolution and deny the existence of any Creator of this Universe and its paraphernalia we attribute it to their lack of knowledge either inherent or acquired.

Again, says **Qur'an**:

"Your God is one God." (16: 7),

"Allah-there is no deity but He, Living the Eternal." (2: 257)

This is the assertion of the last Book of Allah revealed to Muhammad (S). But for an explanation of the verses of the **Qur'an** we must refer either to Muhammad (S) himself to whom it was revealed or to those about whom he did direct us to refer to.

Said Muhammad (S): I am the City of knowledge and 'Ali is the gate of it.

After 'Ali (A) we have a chain of his children and grand children towards whom we must look for inspiration and guidance in all our affairs.

Now in an age when people have either denied the very existence of One God or have lost faith in His attributes such as Omnipotence, Omniscience etc., we present a conversation that took place in the 2nd century of Islamic era between Hazrat Imam Ja'far al-As-Sadiq {A}, the sixth in the series of the twelve Imams of the House of Muhammad (S), and a philosopher-cum-physician from India who was a staunch votary of atheism.

Needless to say that the intellectual caliber of the Imam was highest in that age as he had his knowledge from Allah. What needs our close attention is the fact that nearly 1200 years ago the mind of

a man like us could argue so forcefully that not many intellectual giants that survived during this long period could have attained that standard.

However the counter arguments of the Imam (A) convinced the atheist about the Existence of Allah, His Oneness and other attributes so much so that he embraced Islam.

How true it is:

An Imam excels all other persons both in knowledge and piety. The intellectual caliber of an Imam shall always remain the highest irrespective of the age in which he survives. The reason being simple that he is deputed by Allah to guide the people, and Allah can not depute a person with lesser knowledge to guide those superior in knowledge.

With this book in hand the Muslims in particular and the other non atheistic people in general can help eradicate atheism from the surface of the globe.

To achieve our goal we need not use force. We can do it peacefully with the help of our *'aql* (reason) and achieve splendid success.

Regarding *'aql* suffice it to quote an anecdote. This relates to our common ancestor–Hazrat Adam (A).

An Anecdote

The Last Messenger of Allah, Muhammad (S) about whom says *Qur'an*:

“And we sent thee to mankind at large, to announce and threaten. But most of the people understand not.” (34: 29)

passed on *'ilm* (knowledge) to his Vicegerent 'Ali who relates:

Jibrael–al–Ameen (Gabriel, the Trustworthy) called on Adam and said to him:

“Allah had commanded me that I leave it to your discretion to pick and choose one thing out of the three and leave the remaining two.”

Adam (A) asked: “O Jibrael ! What are those things?”

Jibrael said: “These are *'aql* (Reason), *haya* (Modesty) and *deen* (Faith).

Adam (A) expressed: “I pick and choose *'aql* (Reason).” Jibrael said to the other two (*haya* and *deen*):

“Both of you go back.”

The two (*haya* and *deen*) replied: “Allah has ordained us to adhere to *'aql* wherever it may be.”

Jibrael, saying: "Well you know your position best," rose back to the firmament.

Is it not representative of the distinctive personal character of Adam (and Eve too)? We can certainly say that it scuttles the theory of a Godless universe. And it does retard the theory of the 'evolution' of man from a 'larva' for a sensible person?

The people of the world today are almost in the grip of a 'Godless cult' and there is an imminent danger of mankind at large due to the serious challenge of atheism.

Let the Muslims in particular and non-Muslims in general turn to Islam as presented by Muhammad and Ahlul Bayt 'alaihim us Salaam' and live in peace here and gain salvation in the hereafter.

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14.H, Rizvia Colony

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3rd Shaban, 1383

10th December, 1963

Source URL:

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