

Pessimism from the Scientific Worldview: Examining a Critique of Islam

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Abstract: Islamophobia is on the rise across the world. The alarming issue, however, is Islamophobic attitudes are noticed among Muslim youths within Muslim societies. One of the root causes to develop pessimistic attitudes towards world religions is scientific worldview. In the past, scientific worldview was a threat to Christian world of West. Recently, the trend seems to enter within Muslim lands. Some Muslim youths are vulnerable to the scientific worldview, especially youths who are lacking in Islamic education. This paper uses qualitative methodology. Library research has been adopted to understand the trend of pessimism deriving from the scientific worldview. The research finds that the deception of knowledge, e.g. Scientific Worldview, is not a new phenomenon rather this sort of phenomenon existed during medieval Islamic period among some Muslim intellectuals due to the influence of Greek philosophy. This study also suggests the possible Quranic remedy for Muslim youths to encounter pessimism of scientific worldview.

Keywords: Muslim Youth, Scientific Worldview, Pessimism, Nihilism, Cynicism, Scientism, New Atheism, Islamophobia, Muhammad Iqbal, Avijit Roy, Muktomona, Islamization of Knowledge, Richard Dawkins, Shoaib Ahmed Malik, Ibn Warraq, Sayyid Qutb, Evolution and Islam, Islamic Worldview, Imam Ghazali, The Quran, Existence of Allah.

1. Introduction

Imagine a Muslim youth (student) went to pray at central mosque of International Islamic University Malaysia. He has so many external problems to solve. He also has assignments to complete. He stood up alone to pray two Rakaat Solat. After praying very first Rakaat, suddenly he stops praying and looked blankly towards blue dome of UIA central mosque. He asked himself, "To whom am I praying? Allah does not exist" He left the mosque and went to IIUM Library. This consequence of predicament faced by this Muslim youth is distinguished as nihilism (extreme pessimism) from scientific worldview. How does Islam provide answer for this Muslim Youth? This research would examine this deep-rooted problem and look for solution from Quran.

Some Western scholars of science, like Richard Dawkins, Daniel Dennett, Lawrence Maxwell Krauss have tendency to engage exclusively with scientific worldview promoting New Atheism. As a result, Sceptic Muslim Youths are facing spiritual/existential crisis due to Modern Scientific literature (Science vs Religion debate). This phenomenon due to scientific worldview caused pessimism among Muslim youths. Professor Noor Mohammad Osmani from International Islamic University Malaysia presented on the topic, "Atheism in Bangladesh and its impact on youngsters" in March, 2023 in Fourth International Conference on Islamophobia (Examining the Cultural and Geopolitical Dimensions of Islamophobia in Muslim Majority Countries.). In the abstract, Osmani mentions, "Atheism, or disbelieve in the existence of God, the creator, is rising worldwide. A serious dislike towards Islam, or Islamophobia is rising not only in non-Islamic countries, but also in Muslim countries" [1]. His statement supposed to be reflective among Muslim community in Bangladesh according to Newtonian Law (every action there is reaction). Roy reported that a list of 84 freethinkers' bloggers had been extensively distributed; this was the hit list given by religious fundamentalist group for killing those freethinkers' bloggers [2]. As a result, some freethinkers bloggers were killed in Bangladesh in this recent decade and some freethinker bloggers had to seek asylum to different western or neighbouring countries. These bloggers are outside Muslim countries. Hence, it is easy for them now to spread atheism and Islamophobia Muslim youngsters. These bloggers within spread Islamophobia and atheism using different online platforms e.g. YouTube, Facebook, Instagram, or blogging in websites, and through other possible means; and surprisingly most of these freethinkers are from Muslim family background [3]. They started to ask questions against religious beliefs using reason and science and later they start promoting New Atheism among Bengali Speaking Muslim youths. They have free online library so that anyone can simply download and read freely [4]. Also, they have YouTube channels actively conducting panel discussion and debate among Bengali speaking people [5]. As a consequence, many Bengali Muslim youths are confused and have tendency to leave Islam and attack back Islamic teachings.

Hasan defined science and scientific worldview as followed, "Science: established scientific facts agreed upon by the majority of the current scientific community. Scientific worldview: interpreting scientific facts to mean that the entirety

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of life has no value or interest or usefulness except as understood by scientific facts." [6]

Hasan further clarified the definition with the examples of McGrath, Wilson and Danial Dennett. Three of these scientists accept theory of evolution as science as defined, however, McGrath take stance as theory of evolution is science and Christianity is also acceptable true religion. Wilson sees as theory of evolution is science however religion is also necessary in the context of society for Wilson. Then, Dennett prefers like since theory of evolution is science, we must not accept other things apart from science. Daniel Dennett is taking the position of scientific worldview. In fact, new atheism discredits and negates all other forms of worldviews using the scientific worldview. However, in reality scientific worldview also has no relation with science apart of accepting a trend of interpretation. Hence, McGrath, Wilson and Danial Dennett are following 3 different worldviews that has nothing to do with science. It is also important to note that science is subjective to change based on new empirical evidence.

Then, it is necessary to understand the definition of Pessimism. According to Encyclopaedia Britannica, "pessimism, an attitude of hopelessness toward life and toward existence, coupled with a vague general opinion that pain and evil predominate in the world. It is derived from the Latin pessimus ("worst"). Pessimism is the antithesis of optimism, an attitude of general hopefulness, coupled with the view that there is a balance of good and pleasure in the world." [7]

Now, it is crucial to establish link between scientific worldview and pessimism. From the definition the question may arise when it comes to scientific worldview, how hopelessness comes towards life and toward existence? To bridge this gap, Max Weber's concept of 'disenchantment' can play an important role. According to Weber himself in his speech "Science as a Vocation," the main meaning of Max Weber's concept of disenchantment is as a sociological condition (the exclusion of magic and myth [indicating all religions as dogmatic beliefs and no Truth lies within religions] from social life through processes of secularization and rationalism) [8]. This disenchantment due to scientific worldview causes pessimism when a Muslim youth comes to realization that there is perhaps no existence of Allah and there is nothing called after life. Hence, pessimism is an attitude or psychological state due to scientific worldview; and this attitude or psychological state has also relation with philosophical pessimism due to the socio-economic, religious, and political history of the West; Pessimism is a serious issue affecting among some Muslim youths.

Moreover, there is another concern related with pessimism (due to problem of evil and scientific worldview) coming from Muslim community in Bangladesh. Nasima Selim deliberates two cases and relates to delusional disorder developing within distorted religious environment in Bangladesh [9]. The First case: all of the family members (9 members) of Adam committed suicide since they developed thought that Muslim neighbours are hypocrites and later, they accused Prophet Muhammad (Peace be upon him) as false prophet. Second case, Nasima mentions about Aroj Ali Matubbar who is considered as first freethinker philosopher since 1971. Aroj Ali attacked Islam using logic and science [10]. He developed this tendency due to issue of his mother's funeral prayer that was refused by local Imam. Nasima also indicated Family of Adam never debated with people despite they got lot of criticisms from their neighbours; rather they just developed hatred towards Muslim community and kept among themselves (introvert type) until they all committed suicide except one; whereas Aroj Ali Matubbar studied for decade and attacked Islam using science and philosophy. He produced several numbers of books attacking Islam [11]. Hasan shows how Matubbar's first published book posed questions related Islamic teachings [12].

Moreover, there is another global phenomenon among Muslim youths due to science vs religion dilemma. Ibn Warraq mentioned few case studies in his book, Leaving Islam: Apostates Speak Out. In this book Ibn Warraq referring to a 17year Muslim Youth who left Islam due to science vs Religion dilemma:

My hermeneutic quest was preempted by a khutbah I heard that summer. When the imam made reference to the hadith that said the prophet Adam was sixty cubits tall, with no hint of suppressed amusement, a profane voice descended upon me: "This is all fucking absurd."... I never returned to that masjid or any masjid again. But indicative of why religion is so successful at persisting, despite my melancholy state, I still, incredibly, harbored hope that some heresy would save me from having to stare the universe straight in its nonface [13].

There are various cases like this in that book, but it is clear that pessimism do exist among Muslim youths across the world due to scientific worldview. Above mentioned all are three major contemporary circumstances in 21st century that are necessary to keep in cognizance to comprehend the problem among current Muslim Youths.

In those above circumstances, there is an urgency to examine the impact of the scientific worldview on the contemporary world with its pessimistic way of life. There is a need to know how contemporary science's purported monopoly on truth contributed to Muslim youths' severely negative outlook on life and their apparent lack of options for escape. We are bound to look into the intellectual tradition of Islam to examine how pessimism was addressed for these group of Muslim youths.

Apostacy is on the rise among Muslim generation as specified by Ibn Warraq [14]. The Pew Research centre (2018) found that 23% of Muslims born into the religion in America finally leave it mostly due to the science vs religion dilemma [15]. There are few scholars who argue that the development of modern science and its dependence on reason and observable experience have contributed to a sense of pessimism and disillusionment with contemporary life. Many Muslim youths feel lost and cut off from a sense of higher purpose because they think that science has eliminated the wonder and mystery of life. It is rather ambiguous how Islamic tradition offer solutions to pessimism deriving from scientific worldview. There is a need to provide a comprehensive critique of the scientific way of thinking and offer insights from Islamic intellectual tradition that may offer a way out of the scientific pessimism and

disillusionment that Muslim youths may feel in the modern world. The problem is that there is a gap in understanding pessimism deriving from the scientific worldview in light of Islam. Muslim scholars have dealt with Western ideologies in general, but they did not deal specifically with pessimism in regard to Scientific worldview. This lack of literature urges to look into the issue of scientific pessimism from Islamic point of view which has not been dealt yet.

2. Conceptual Understanding of Pessimism

As it is mentioned that the word pessimism came from Latin root word pessimus ("worst") [16]. It has been defined as negative outlook about the world. In this particular thesis, the term pessimism is used only for the peaceful purposes like the Dictator movie in Hollywood [17]. It is rather funny to hear that enriching Nuclear proliferation and saying that these weapons will be used for only peaceful purpose. Similarly, Pessimism in light of Scientific Worldview may seem ambiguous and funny, but in reality, scientific worldview does affect youth minds despite the positive and optimistic attitude towards it as Richard Dawkins tries to propagate [18]. That means scientific worldview is closely associated with this type of pessimism. The conceptual understanding of pessimism has to be comprehended in light of scientific worldview. This is not about eastern tradition that Gautama Buddha tried to overcome because of suffering in life. Also, it is not like Taoist type of pessimism that teaches how to live life with nature. Moreover, this pessimism is not associated with stoic teaching on how to live with disgusting society.

Indeed, the concept of pessimism due to scientific worldview is very clear due to enormous number of existing world literature. In 1889, Anton Chekhov, wrote a novella called A Dreary Story. In that work, Anton Chekhov lamented pessimism that particularly on the rise from scientific worldview through the character who was an old medical science professor at university:

Unfortunately, I am not a philosopher and not a theologian ...Just as twenty, thirty years ago, so now, on the threshold of death, I am interested in nothing but science. As I yield up my last breath I shall still believe that science is the most important, the most splendid, the most essential thing in the life of man; that it always has been and will be the highest manifestation of love, and that only by means of it will man conquer himself and nature...In the middle of my lecture tears suddenly rise in my throat, my eyes begin to smart, and I feel a passionate, hysterical desire to stretch out my hands before me and break into loud lamentation. I want to cry out in a loud voice that I, a famous man, have been sentenced by fate to the death penalty, that within some six months another man will be in control here in the lecturetheatre. I want to shriek that I am poisoned; new ideas such as I have not known before having poisoned the last days of my life and are still stinging my brain like mosquitoes. And at that moment my position seems to me so awful that I want all my listeners to be horrified, to leap up from their seats and to rush in panic terror, with desperate screams, to the exit. It is not easy to get through such moments [19].

This sort of intense pessimism was nowhere found in western or eastern philosophical or theological teaching before the advent of science. Not even slight chance of existence of Allah, immortality and afterlife. All philosophical and theological arguments completely vanished and no chance to place any argument.

3. Muktomona and Dr. Avijit Roy: New Atheism Movement in Bangladesh

Muktomona is an online platform for freethinkers and atheists in Bangladesh [20]. Bengali speaking Proponents of scientific worldview and guests' writers like professors and researchers from different universities across the world usually send and publish their writings. Usually, university students and youths read their writings. Most of the writings are full of antireligious and promoting scientific worldview. The website has an online library in which almost 27 books are freely available for readers. The books are written in Bengali by prominent secular professors and there are some translated works which attack Islam and other religions. As a consequence, most of its founders were killed by religious extremists in recent decade [21]. Dr. Avijit Roy was its [blogging site] founder, and he wrote few books attacking religious beliefs using scientific worldview. A critic and columnist, Avijit Roy (12 September 1972-26 February 2015) was of Bangladeshi American descent He struggled for press freedom and opposed the [22]. government's detention of atheist bloggers and press suppression. On September 12, 1972, Avijit Roy, the son of physics professor Ajoy Roy, was born. Roy completed his undergraduate studies at the Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology. The National University of Singapore awarded him master's and PhD degrees in biomedical engineering. Prior to becoming a writer and columnist and one of the creators of the Mukto-Mona site, Roy worked as an IT engineer. As a result of his activism, Roy, one of the moderators, got death threats. He opposed Islamism, censorship, and the arrest of atheist bloggers. Roy and his spouse went to the Ekushey Book Fair in Dhaka on February 26, 2015; however, at 8:30 p.m., the attackers forced them from their bicycle-drawn rickshaw and attacked them. Roy was killed by a hacksaw, and his widow suffered severe facial scarring.

As mentioned Avijt wrote and edited several books till he was killed. He wrote a book about the origin of life and evolution to negate religious explanation and promote scientific worldview. To understand pessimism of Muslim youths from scientific worldview in Bangladesh, one book of Avijit would briefly be discussed. Again, this is a worldwide phenomenon because popular science books of Richard Dawkins, Steven Hawking, Lawrence Krauss are easily found and translated into every corner of the world.

Let's think about the origin of life on our planet. There are many hypotheses for this. Avijit Roy states 5 types of hypotheses are major trend among theologians, philosophers and scientists [23].

- 1. Supernatural
- 2. Theory of Especial Creation
- 3. Theory of spontaneous generation

4. Extra-terrestrial species

5. Chemistry theory of origin of life or Abiogenesis

For Avijit, first two hypotheses do not fall into category with scientific experiment because these two assume that God has created this universe with certain purpose. However, there is no way for scientists to have empirical evidence. 7 days creation of earth and the earth is 1000 years old as for biblical statement. Scientists do not think there is truth in it. The fossil records and other evidence show an entirely different story. Science is strictly materialistic [24].

Theory of spontaneous generation was also very famous till the modern period. Avijit mentioned an interesting quotation in his footnote about Aristotle for this theory [25]. Aristotle found that typically fishes were born from eggs. However, sometimes in dry ponds where there is no water and after the rain when pond is full, there are different types of fishes are seen in that pond. Hence, for Aristotle, fish can be born without eggs spontaneously.

This theory of spontaneous generation is also wrong because the fact that there was no microscopic machine before modern period and Aristotle did not know that eggs existed and survived in the mud even in dry pond. This theory was not only famous for Aristotle rather many scientists till modern period had similar beliefs.

Then, the origin of life from extra-terrestrial was the 4th possibility. This theory was popular in the early 19th century. This theory says that origin of life was from our universe and later it came to our planet [26]. However, this theory was also impossible to prove experimentally by scientists because so exo-planets were found nearby from where it can come, and the temperature of asteroid is extremely high when it falls into planet. Hence, it is quite impossible for any life to survive when asteroids touched upon earth. Experimental Data did not support in favor of it as Avijit argued. The characteristics of Amino Acid in Asteroids got large different from Amino Acids available in our planet. For example, Amino Acids from asteroid are left-handed and right-handed. However, Amino Acids on our planet are mostly left-handed. Also, Amino Acid found on plants and animals has no similarity at all with the amino acid found in asteroid [27].

Lastly, Avijit discussed the most important and relevant theory for contemporary modern scientists. This is chemistry theory of origin of life or Abiogenesis [28]. This theory aligns and promote scientific worldview because this theory has most rationalistic approach which supports other prominent theories in popular science.

Before the discussion of this theory, it is necessary to give a hint about God or Goddamn particle. In CERN, Zurich, Switzerland when it was possible to produce God particle which would be helpful to understand how being came into existence out of nothing (Quantum Vacuum). Philosophically speaking, Darwin was not happy to discuss about being rather he was only concerned about becoming, "It is mere rubbish thinking at present of the origin of life; one might as well think about the origin of matter" [29]. It is not like Darwin is not interested rather it is extremely hard to find the answer of being scientifically. In fact, it needs collective hard work, effort and help of high technology for the answer. After the establishment of CERN, it took decades of experiments by scientists just to find the evidence of God particle. This evidence was so important to understand how quantum vacuum creates something out of nothing to understand the appearance of being. Hence, this materialistic being is no longer limited to theologians or philosophers, rather this is the matter of discussion in physics.

The empirical or experimental evidence can be blamed as epistemological bias, but for scientists, who understand the inherent contradiction between experimental evidence and theological/ philosophical works, may experience sense of pessimism, especially when they have other beliefs instead of scientific worldview. This sense of pessimism due to the scientific worldview appears due to clear understanding and empirical evidence. The closing eyes of a man in the jungle of Africa can still remind him inwardly that the lion that he just saw before he closed his eyes is running towards him to kill him. Despite his closing eyes after his witness of Lion is not removing the thought of lion inside his mind. The lion attacked and killed him literally. This is the inherent contradiction of a student or teacher who understands scientific worldview despite his belief in different worldviews.

Scientific worldview has been misused by politicians as witnessed in Soviet Russia or in China perhaps by Chairman Mao in 20th century, and it is still being misused perhaps, but empirical evidence from natural sciences will not get influenced by any power politics as claimed by Michel Foucault. That is the contention of proponents of scientific worldview like Richard Dawkins, Lawrence Krauss and others.

Phenomenology of Vedas, Ibn Arabi, Martin Heidegger and Morlu Ponte shows how we have evolved from mythical explanation toward more rationalistic explanation from being to becoming. Modern scientists are not interested or are not cowards like Darwin. The most thought-provoking question among scientists was after the Darwinian evolution was how non-living matters can turn into living? This was an attempt to build a bridge between physics, chemistry and biology. In other words, in the process of being and becoming from early universe, the first is appearance of matter(physics), then, chemistry (formations of complex structures in nature using matters), lastly, biology (from non-living complex structures to living complex structures that can copy, mutate and evolve).

Returning to the last theory, that is chemistry theory of origin of life or Abiogenesis. Avijit referred Alexandar I Oparin first showed how chemical evolution and organic evolution perform complete evolution [30]. Oparin book was translated into English in 1937, but another scientist, J.B.S Haldane, wrote similar book on the same topic during that period. Hence, both scientists were recognized and credited. Their theory is famous as Oparin-Haldane theory. The question is how Abiogenesis theory became more relevant in the scientific worldview. As mentioned, the previous 4 theories are lacking in scientific evidence compared to the last theory. For example, a man was murdered using AK-47 rifle in Sherlock Holme's detective novel, as a detective, Sherlock Holme will take the most scientific approach. First, he will not take into consideration that man was not murdered by angel or any mythical characters. Second, the man was not possible to be killed by any alien since no evidence of alien so far and Alien will never use manmade gun AK-47. The last approach was it was killed by any human. This is not enough. He needs to find any previous clue, if possible, e.g. who are people he communicated with recently. What are the issues he dealt with. If he had conflict with anyone recently. All these clues will help him to reach in more scientific and rationalistic decision which negates supernatural or ultranatural (aliens) approach to deal with the case. Similarly, since scientific worldview has epistemological bias already dealing with only experimental data, it will only stick to scientific methodology to explain natural phenomenology of our universe and origin of life.

There is no doubt that during the origin of universe and origin of life no witnesses were there, scientific worldview would still subscribe to its epistemology to comprehend origin of universe and origin of life. Simplicity to complexity. That's the slogan among the proponents of scientific worldview. When DNA and other complexity in nature exists, it is fascinating and thoughtprovoking to move on or bypass without giving credit to any intelligent designer. For example, Avijit described how scientists were confused about protein or nucleic acid (DNA/RNA) came first and when replication started? [31]. Hence, even though many scientists do not subscribe to any religious belief, they do get confused. Yet scientific worldview is not interested to subscribe any Intelligent designer or God of the Gap, rather they will look for naturalistic explanation in it. That's the rigidness and dogmatic belief of scientific worldview and New Atheism, new variant in 21st century, holds on that position. New Atheism has been differentiated from classical atheism because it comes from scientific worldview.

Avijit further explained, according to Oparin-Haldane, about the earth was not same like today 4.5 billion years ago. It was extremely hot in temperature and the atmosphere and earth was full of H, He, N, CH4, NH3, along with evaporated water and some other chemicals. The word 'Abiogenesis' refers to origin of living matter from unliving matter. There were two books written on this topic first book was the physical basis of life (1951) by J.D. Barnal and scientist received 2 times noble Harold Youre "Planets, their origin and development" [32]. Again, there was nobody when the early life began. How to prove it in scientific worldview? Like CERN's God particle's experiment via Large Hadron Collider, there was famous experiment in 1953 by Miller and Youre. In a laboratory, they created early earth like Atmosphere, in the first test, out of 20 Amino Acid found in our nature, 9 Amino Acid was found. There were numerous experiments after that and the result was always in favor of Miller and Youre's experiment [33]. There are numerous books on this topic for both sides, but the point is Avijit tried to show in his book how nature itself can create or produce living organism from none-living organism to support scientific worldview.

Now imagine an average Muslim youth who has lacking in Islamic education since he has graduated from English medium school with science background. He admitted in biochemistry. This is extremely hard for this student to accept blindly Islamic worldview when it is about his area of expertise. Because his area of expertise indicates different worldview than his Islamic worldview that was inherited from his parents and there was not sufficient explanations from teachers and scholars apart from having sophistry. However, it is also true that many students of engineering and medicine do not fall into this category since they are obsessed with complexity of design by intelligent designer. That's why there is a trend to stick to religious beliefs. Also, being expertise in certain engineering or medical science does not mean they will fully comprehend scientific worldview because scientific worldview is kind of holistic approach arising from Western knowledge. For instance, a person read Old Testament and New Testament and he reads the history of Western literature after Copernicus, then Galileo, Bruno, Newton, Francis Bacon, Darwin, Freud, Nietzsche and others till 21st century, only this sort of students fully grasp the inherent contradiction between religion and science. In fact, scientific worldview is a product for century of battle with Christianity. Scientists and writers used scientific worldview to fight against corruption done by Church.

Unfortunately, since 20th century secularism started to spread in Muslim countries. The collapse of Ottoman Khalifa and the rise of Mustafa Kamal Ataturk as modern leader were the first radical approach to implement secularism in Muslim countries. This needs to be noted that Harun Yahya was accused of being pseudo-writer against theory of evolution because like Karl Marx's works, Darwin's works were also presented as political agenda by western world for Harun Yahya [34]. However, this may be partially true, but the obvious contradiction is Darwinian theory destroyed the faith of Western world on Christianity. Martin Luthar or Puritan Beliefs are no longer trustworthy in western literature. That's why we have witnessed the suicide of famous writers in America and Europe during the modern period. Scientific enlightenment vehemently affected writers. Mainlander committed suicide in Germany. Ernest Hemingway committed suicide after winning the noble prize. Robert Frost, Alen Ginsberg and other famous writers depict the pessimistic modern life of humans without God. Huxley's 'The Brave New World' is the best utopian novel that portrayed a technological advanced world without God and religion. The emptiness was there. Western literature has already experienced from it, yet Muslim societies had least impact due to scientific worldview until recently. Ibn Warraq's first book was published before 2000, yet very few people knew about it unless there is blasphemous works like Taslima Nasreen and Salman Rushdi. The sentimental works only applicable when majority are unaware or dumb to comprehend deeper problem.

It may be true that the 21st century is not as pessimistic as the 20th century since we advanced to further disenchantment. However, with the rise of New Atheism, the Islamophobia is on the rise within Muslim community. One of the major root causes as this thesis argues is scientific worldview. Scientific worldview creates new sense of Pessimism among Muslim youths. Obviously, it is worldwide phenomenon now due to Hollywood culture as mentioned in early chapter, it is not still too late for Muslim academicians, leaders to be aware of the danger of scientific worldview. In the early century, the reason, secularism was used, was because not many people would understand the situation. With the rise of New Atheism as this is latest variant of scientific worldview, the necessity of understanding scientific worldview has become obvious for proponents of Islamization knowledge. In fact, New Atheism is such a dangerous movement, it can destroy entire moral and ethical institutions of upcoming young leaders who are aware of scientific worldview.

It is such easy and matter of fingertip to access these sorts of knowledge. Social media is full of speakers from popular sciences. They propagate science with these videos and at the same time they express their views on existence of God like there is no evidence for God. These contents are simply starting point for Muslim youths. As they delve into more literature, they come to learn all inherent problems and skepticism living with religions.

Interpretation of religious texts from various contemporary scholars and academicians can make more confusion because there are new interpretations of religious texts from feminist, LGBTQ+ nowadays. Very few youths do bother to filter social media contents because unregulated contents are there, and parents or teachers are not always with youths. Nobody cares if a student would watch religious, Porn, science, history content. This is a student's personal business what to watch or what not to watch. The current world of young students is not like the previous generation. AI has arrived in the picture and CHAT GPT's definition of LGBTO+ is in favor of scientific worldview. Again, in this instance Foucault must be taken into consideration because he showed how power controls knowledge [35]. It is like AI would control knowledge about how to think about Godless universe. Religious teaching is being stigmatized and marginalized day by day because those who control technology and science are not proponent of religions rather, they are proponent of scientific worldview. For example, Elon Musk is self-proclaimed optimistic atheist who is controlling twitter/X. What to post and what not to post controlled by the management. Let's say X announced that to speak on behalf of Palestine will be controlled. Or Facebook company announced so. There are numerous videos that are being controlled. That's how narratives are being changed.

Killings of Palestine by Israeli soldiers are facts [36], and the whole world has witnessed for it. Despite the fact, the world voice is being controlled. This is absolutely manipulation of truth. Similarly, scientific worldview has possibility to manipulate Muslim minds. Disenchantment was very slow process in the time of Nietzsche in the Christian world. Now disenchantment rampant in Europe. Similarly, is Disenchantment was very slow process in Muslim countries during the time of Muhammad Iqbal, but with the rise of Islamophobia within Muslim countries, it is hard to predict that disenchantment did not touch among Muslim countries.

In fact, sense of pessimism, which inherited among western writers in the past due to scientific worldview, may inherent upcoming Muslim writers as well if they really comprehend scientific worldview properly. Muslim scholars and writers must be more well versed on what they are talking about. The absurdity of works written by Muslim scholars on science and religion is visible. Nothing new in it. The copy and paste culture from early Christian scholars in the West are apparent. If a student is well versed with eastern and western literature, he may find disgusting and boring contents written by contemporary Muslim scholars. They may be famous among ignorant masses but to the students of knowledge, their works are nothing more than fabrication and repetition. New knowledge is not coming out at all. Therefore, the answers that skeptic Muslim youths really need are not there. It is sad that contemporary scholars themselves are not aware of what is going on because they themselves are ignorant of young generation.

4. Contemporary Relevancy of Studying Pessimism from Scientific Worldview

"I am a fool with a heart but no brains, and you are a fool with brains but no heart; and we're both unhappy, and we both suffer." [37]

"What you seek you shall never find.

For when the Gods made man,

They kept immortality to themselves." [38]

Why Human beings discover God through million years of their evolution? The answer from scientific worldview is human beings' longing for immortality. Human beings wish to live immortality. Freud propounded how dream works as wish fulfilment of our desires. Sexual passion is inside our unconscious minds. Aristotle describes as human beings as political being. Darwin describes human as animal being. Modern Philosophy and literature were full of pessimistic writings. Nietzsche's introduction of 'God is dead' made situation more depressing among intellectual community. Let's presume that a student brought a canvas to draw engineering stuffs with 2 other students at International Islamic University Malaysia. The teacher is standing there. Teacher asked whether they believe in God? Every student said yes for societal norm. The reality is 1st student is an atheist, 2nd student is an agnostic and 3rd student are a theist.

Science teacher is capable of reading their minds and he was, in fact, a nihilist. Teacher said, 'well, think that God is dead for all of you so none of you makes sense as I can read your minds. Forget about your belief now you draw picture of new morality individually however you want. Today no more engineering drawing". The science teacher left the class. Three students stood up and stared blankly at teacher's disappearance as if God has been disappearing from their life for the rest of their lives. Nietzsche finds all these 3 students are absurd. This is nihilism yet Nietzsche asked to challenge nihilism or embrace nihilism through his overman and last man concept as discussed in earlier chapter.

Nietzsche criticized scientism for its strictness like Imam Ghazali, but the nihilism that he developed in his work itself from scientific worldview. Pessimism from scientific worldview is very broad concept. When Nietzsche read Dostoevsky's works 'The Idiot', he sent letter to Dostoevsky praising him masterpiece. There is a one famous phrase of modern man crisis indicating pessimism of scientific worldview, "I swear to you, sir, that excessive consciousness is a disease-a genuine, absolute disease" [39]. Nietzsche's concept of Nihilism did arise from scientific worldview as happened with other writers during modern period. The discussion so far has been done in this thesis, all are meaningless and absurd. The defence of this thesis is meaningless. The PhD degree is meaningless. The entire literature on God topic of Professor Richard Dawkins, or Islamization agenda of Mumtaz Ali, Osman Bakar, Ziauddin Sardar, Ismail Razi Al Faruqi, Mawdudi, Sayyd Qutub, Hasan Al-Banna is full of absurdity and meaningless for Nietzsche because all these atheists, theists and agnostics are ignoring the fact that 'God is dead, or Allah is dead'. To relate this problem of nihilism for Nietzsche with scientific worldview, we can summarize what scientific worldview appeals to people. Earlier chapters, Darwinism was prioritized to understand scientific worldview. However, the reality is it is not evolution rather it is explaining the most possible and rational explanation of our universe without any divine intervention. Nietzsche asked same question for morality to give birth of new morality in the complete absence of God.

Similar case is being repeated in scientific worldview. All the explanations like a universe from nothing, evolution of species and humans are nothing but attempt to eradicate God from picture. Hence, disenchantment is happening and narratives in science are being monopolized by scientific worldview like other fields of knowledge.

Muhammad Iqbal was the first philosopher among Muslims who realized the problem. His solution was not appropriate though he tried to formulate answer for future Muslim youths following Nietzsche [40]. Muslims are second largest community in this planet today if pessimism from scientific worldview touches upon Muslim youths who would come to realize that there is no divinity, the sufferings they had in Palestine's was just lie and false illusion. The martyrdoms by the name of patience on Allah was just absurdity, the entire Muslim community is just with false illusion, then, the generation of future Muslim leaders would be just devastating, and new Hitler and Mustafa Kamal Atatürk will rise again in the picture.

Since 9/11 attack, every religion is under scrutiny. Their ideologies are seen as threat towards secular state. However, the realization that Nietzsche and Muhammad Iqbal were referring still in the process. Muhammad Iqbal rightly comprehended nihilistic philosophy that Nietzsche indicated. It is reflected in Iqbal's poetry. Muhammad Iqbal states:

I have no need of the ear of To-day,

I am the voice of the poet of To-morrow.

My own age does not understand my deep meanings,

My Joseph is not for this market.

I despair of my old companions,

My Sinai burns for sake of the Moses who is coming.

Their sea is silent, like dew,

. . .

But my dew is storm-ridden, like the ocean.

My song is of another world than theirs:

This bell calls other travellers to take the road.

No one hath told the secret which I will tell

Or threaded a pearl of thought like mine. [41]

The process of disenchantment is extremely complex like evolution theory of Darwin. The prediction can be argued but reflection of their warnings can be observed slightly. Despite due to AI, we are witnessing major historical mutation of human thought very fast. There is AI man and AI woman, and they can do and think and speak how human beings do. The more surprising things are coming perhaps in near future.

The romanticism is gone, and AI is leading the way. To catch up with technology, countries need to compete to improve their technology. Education curriculum is under consideration. Perhaps in 50 years times, human beings would witness that they never expected. No need to send Human beings on Mars perhaps rather few AI robots can send who can collect sample and data like human because they will be much more efficient than humans and no risk of losing human lives. There are enormous possibilities are out there due to the advent of AI and discernment of God would happen rapidly at the same time.

Contemporary relevancy of studying pessimism deriving from scientific worldview with regard to Islam is now vivid from previous chapters. The Muslim minds are being affected by scientific worldview that scholars and philosophers in the West have experienced already. There is no doubt that crisis of modern man happened in the west due to scientific worldview. What is important here is we need to look at our context in Muslim societies. Saman Rushdi and Taslima Nasreen are early examples of the products of Muslim societies. Then, Ibn Warraq and other ex-Muslim testimonies show the trend of scientific worldview is entering in Muslim land. In fact, it has entered already, and it is just we cannot recognize, or we just do not understand the problem. The books of popular sciences are being sold in libraries, and we have cinema halls in every shopping complex in major Muslim cities across the world. We have Netflix subscription as family package for everyone. We have games that are developed based on nihilistic philosophy as well. The attack of scientific worldview to destroy faith of Muslim minds are everywhere we just do not realize or we just simply ignore. Then, scientific enlightenment, AI technology and industrialisation in Muslim countries work as disenchantment. That means ideologically or materially we are attacked by both strategy at the same time. Where Muslim minds can hide themselves. We have jobs in multicultural environment where cultural dress is now allowed to wear. That means even the religious dress like Hijab put under the category of cultural dress and these dresses are discouraged to wear in some companies. The secular culture is promoted everywhere, and these are happening not in Western countries rater within Muslim territory.

A. Case Study of Ibn Warraq on Islamophobia among Muslim Youths due to the Scientific Worldview

The Cosmic Timeline for Evolutionary Universe.

Given that early context, Ibn Warraq's works play vital role to understand pessimism from the scientific worldview. Ibn Warraq was from Pakistan also. This is his penname. Original name is unknown. His two books are significant for this research. The first book name is 'Why am I not a Muslim'. In fact, this book is extension from Bartered Russel's 'Why am I not a Christian'. Russel attacked Christian religion to attack all the religious dogmas. However, Warraq's work got slightly different strategy. Ibn Warraq brought historical context of Islam and Western History of church and science. He reshaped and used for Muslim countries.

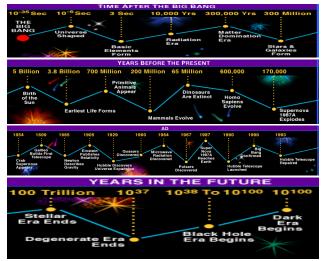


Fig. 1. Astrophysicists have deduced the age of the Universe (dated from the Big Bang) to be 13.7 BILLION YEARS! Source: <u>https://visav.phys.uvic.ca/~babul/AstroCourses/P303/BB-slide.htm</u>

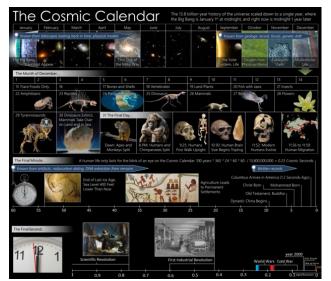


Fig. 2. A graphical view of the Cosmic Calendar, featuring the months of the year, days of December, the final minute, and the final second Source: <u>https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cosmic Calendar</u>

Second book was a case studies on Muslim youths who became atheist after encountering various problems with Islamic teaching. The researcher would argue that pessimism that Ibn Warraq portrays through his works also mostly associated with scientific worldview. Ibn Warraq's work was not blasphemous like Salman Rushdi perhaps, but his works are extremely important in academia to do research. Ibn Warraq for the first time wrote the deep-rooted problem with Muslim youths academically. Muhammad Iqbal was warning but he still did not expose directly and if the works of Parvez Hoodbhoy is considered. He was also like Muhammad Iqbal. He was criticizing Islamization of knowledge and irrationality of Muslim countries when it is about scientific enlightenment, but he was not as much serious as Ibn Warraq to discuss this pessimism due to scientific worldview.

When it is about Islam, new atheists (we call it as the latest variant of Scientific Worldview) attack Islam vehemently in their writings after 9/11. They were quite successful to prove that religions, namely Islam, are dangerous. Emilsen summarized the movement of New Atheism as such:

While it is clearly a mistake to think of the 'New Atheism' as a single movement and the 'New Atheists' having identical opinions, it is possible to identify two premises running throughout their writings: (i) that belief in God is irrational in an age of science; and (ii) that religion is dangerous, poisonous and evil ('religion poisons everything', says Christopher Hitchens and the world would be better off without it). For Harris, 'Words like "God" and "Allah" must go the way of "Apollo" and "Baal".'9 And for Richard Dawkins, the most zealous of the New Atheists, God of monotheistic religion is 'a petty, unjust, unforgiving control freak; a vindictive, bloodthirsty ethnic cleanser; a misogynistic, homophobic, racist, infanticidal, genocidal, filicidal, pestilential, megalomaniacal, sadomasochistic, capriciously malevolent bully'. [42]

This research only would emphasize Emilsen's first identification which is believing in God is irrational in the age of science. If this very reason is successfully injected in the minds of Muslim youths, Islamophobic people will be within Muslim country. Even if we know that Hitchen is wrong to claim that Islam is plagiarism version from 2 other Abrahamic religions [43], it would be meaningless to argue when first reason of Godlessness injected in youths' minds. Daniel Dennet tried to show pragmatic and practical aspects of having religion and God for survival in nature [44]. In other words, there is no truth in religion or in the discovery of God.

It is again essential to quote in detail that was hinted slightly in introduction from Warraq. Let's look again at the quotation of Ibn Warraq referring to a 17-year pessimistic Muslim Youth who left Islam due to scientific worldview:

Responding to a critic I referenced who said that Islam had not reconciled with the theory of evolution, I went into my trademark style of tirade:

It would be hilarious if this stupid 17 year old actually figured out that there are very interesting statements in the Qur'an which talk about Allah being able to create his creatures in whatever form Allah wishes (like dinosaurs, aliens, jinn, monerans, whatever). It would also be a very comical occasion if this same 17 year old figured out that Adam ('alai his salaam) and Eve might have just been the first two homo sapiens to have been given free will and human souls. Another fascinating event would be if this same 17 year old decided to be open to many different theories of evolution over the past few billion years rather than just blindly accepting natural selection as the only mechanism for it. My hermeneutic quest was preempted by a khutbah I heard that summer. When the imam made reference to the hadith that said the prophet Adam was sixty cubits tall, with no hint of suppressed amusement, a profane voice descended upon me: "This is all fucking absurd."... I never returned to that masjid or any masjid again. But indicative of why religion is so successful at persisting, despite my melancholy state, I still, incredibly, harbored hope that some heresy would save me from having to stare the universe straight in its nonface [45].

There is another Spanish Converted Muslim who accepted Islam and later quit Islam due to scientific worldview. Theory of evolution caused his skepticism like the above boy. Ibn Warraq states statement of that Spanish man:

I suppose it is a human condition to search for evidence for that in which you believe and to leave aside those facts that could question your beliefs. Now I have learned to value the scientific method of examining issues objectively. Now more than ever!... I began thinking about the theory of evolution, and when enough evidence had accumulated, I was forced to stop and reconsider. I thought that the book was serious, authoritative, and interesting. All of a sudden, I read:

First of all, let us consider and accept that Darwinism or neodarwinist theories are as widely accepted in the scientific world as Einstein's physics or DNA structure. This hypothesis has been so thoroughly proven to be true that to doubt its authenticity is like having doubts about light. And not only in those aspects dealing with the evolution of the species and, more specifically, the human being, but in those aspects which could be considered as more controversial. Let us just think about natural selection and the survival of the fittest and which takes us to genetic principles. Although Darwin did not have access to the later discoveries on genetic developments, in his theory we can find them implicitly.'

That was shocking for me because I liked that book, but Islam does not accept evolution [46].

There is another case from Morocco. The girl's name is Nadia who left Islam. Ibn Warraq also mentions her statement:

I left Islam for the simple fact that the religion is not logical, and I am by nature a very logical person. My parents were Moroccan immigrants to the United States... It did not take me long to fall in love and marry a young man of my age... He did not like me listening to love songs. And he almost fainted when I explained the theory of evolution to him. He began to preach to me about what Islam truly was... To my utter shock, I found out that it was I who didn't have a clue about Islam. Islam slowly transformed itself in front of my eyes from a benign, comforting faith to a demoralizing, vindictive cult. I kept trying to reassess my view. But the more I read the Koran, the more I realized that God could never have written those words [47].

The point needs to be noted that scientific worldview does cause pessimism to young Muslim minds. Muslim Academicians should take the issue seriously and there needs to produce more literature on this particular topic. There are thousands of literatures for and against theory of evolution among scientists and then there is scientific worldview, and they have debate on the topic. This is hard for youth Muslims to investigate all the matters but first impression from proponents of scientific worldview may make them confused and lead them to the path of apostacy.



Fig. 3. Marmoset monkey (small rat size) predicted as primitive for evolutionary development of Humans.



Fig. 4. Monkey with no tail. Perhaps Darwin uses this sort of characteristics for the assumption towards evolution of humans Source: Photos taken by Maruf on 4th May 2024 at Zoo Negara Malaysia

Is Ibn Warraq rightly pinpointing the pessimism of Muslim youths over Darwinsm issue? To understand Darwin's claim as an ordinary skeptic Muslim youth (put yourself at their shoes), lets go to Zoo Negara Malaysia. This is generally known that Darwin referred different types of monkeys as lower animals comparing with humans. There are over 10 types of monkeys in Zoo negara Malaysia e.g. Orang Utan, Gibbons etc. We know that Rat got approximately 60 % similarity with human genetic code [48] and when new vaccination is invented, researchers use rats or monkeys for experiment since they are considered to have common DNA traits with Humans. Surprisingly, out of 10 types of monkeys, the researcher [Maruf] noticed that there is rat size or a bit bigger than rat in Zoo Negara Malaysia. Their ear structure and hand structure are similar to human beings. Is that primitive stage of evolution for humans that Darwin presumed? Again, there is million years' time period and slow process of evolution of species and Darwinian theory to connect

the dot even though this is highly prediction. The question is can this Darwinism affect the mind of Muslim youths if they are unaware of scientific worldview? Or if they are too much fond to subscribe scientific worldview?

Also, it is claimed by evolutionists that we have unnecessary parts in human body like blind spot [49], trace of having tail [50], etc. Dawkin states while describing human eyes to support evolution and negate intelligent design, "The place where they dive through is called the 'blind spot'. Because, not surprisingly, it is blind. What a ridiculous arrangement! The famous German scientist Hermann von Helmholtz...once said that if a designer had presented him with the vertebrate eye, he would have sent it back." [51] This kind of defect is also identified as trace of evolution as mistake. However, both explanations can be considered as human explanations and predictions to support their stance.

This would definitely be thought provoking for an ordinary religious Muslim youth who reads ideas of Darwin vs Intelligent Design and investigates in nature by themselves. Apparently, it is ridiculous and stupid for majority of people still today, but for the youths who are aware of scientific worldview may find the pessimism due to inherent contradiction of science vs faith debate. Again, knowledge is deception now. Let's look at the above picture and it is rather stupid to think and relate with human and this monkey with no tail, yet if you again reconsider Darwin's concept of thousands of small mutations over millions of years, you would end up in pessimism thinking Darwin might be right because fossil records from million years are at your hand. It is impossible to simply bypass and ridicule in coming century because this inherent problem is associated with experimental data. At the past, due to lack of empirical data and ignorance of majority of people allowed to ridicule and laugh at scientist as Darwin himself faced of being bullied, but now those majority people are being ridiculed systematically and these majority people are seen as dumb and ignorant. The difference is at the past they did not realize that they were ignorant but now the majority people are forced to be aware that they are ignorant about evidence from scientific experiment. That's where proponents of scientific worldview snatch the ground.

5. Richard Dawkins' Evolutionary Perspective on Naturalism and Optimism

Richard Dawkins strictly coherent with Darwinism. He is optimistic in a sense that his major works are revolves around same message. For example, for any life to begin in any part of the universe, it must follow Darwinian evolution because it is the most probable way to explain life on earth and other exoplanets. Maybe the structure of DNA may vary due to chemical composition, but lives can only be survived through Darwinian means. Daneil Dennet was another strong proponent on naturalism and optimism.

This is strange prediction that Darwin did by reading the book of Charles Lyell who was a geologist. The idea Darwin got from Lyell's work that the earth is much older than biblical narratives [52]. Few insane ideas of scientists changed the way we think about our universe. Copernicus had observational data. Newton had another genius idea by discovering gravity by looking at falling apple from tree. Einstein went further than speed of light for her especial theory of relativity, and Darwin imagined different way challenging previous narrative. Till today hiss theory is under scrutiny. Even if evolution is true by transmutation. A person needs to live million years to observe the evolution if they want to experience by themselves. Yes, minor evolution may be seen in laboratory for the variants of viruses but to observe transformation of one animal to another animal, a scientist needs to live for millions of years. Weather the evolution theory is wrong or right, Darwin should be credited for his outstanding imaginative and highly predicative power challenging traditional narratives. That's where naturalism and optimism go hand in hand. Richard Dawkin is optimistic of science to remove ignorance that people know not today, yet he refused to provide credit or subscribe to any divine or metaphysical reality. That is his stance for scientific worldview. At the same time, the challenges from evolutionary biologists should be investigated thoroughly if truth lies with religious scriptures. Why should religious scholars be pessimistic when encountering with evolutionary biologists.

If Dawkin is wrong with naturalism and optimism, this is the duty of religious scholars to do research and bring the truth about it. There is no doubt that each time a person looks at trees and flowers, animals and beauty of human beings, the first thought comes about intelligent designer. Is the first thought being wrong just because of natural selection and survival of the fittest concept that Darwin tried to proponent? At this juncture, religious scholars should not be afraid to take challenge. By using force, if knowledge is deprived to learn may hinder the progress of human civilization. This civilization went so far when it allowed freedom of expression in educational institutions. The paper which was ignored by Einstein's professor turned into the best mind-blogging idea till today. Some ideas are really great but ignoring idea and not letting them challenge makes human progression static. Hence, it can be said that Richard Dawkin's evolutionary perspective is important.

Dawkin's evolutionary perspective on naturalism is remarkable because he simplifies Darwin for common readers, and he was so optimistic in his view that he even tried to refute existence of God through evolution. For example, Dawkin states that for God to appear as complex necessary being he has to start from simple procedure that evolution support. He was highly optimistic on naturalism to advocate Darwinian evolution of species.

6. Why is Abrahamic God Just Delusion for Dawkins?

Rechard Dawkins produced a book named 'The God Delusion'. He gave lecture on this topic after the publication. Also, he made a film which available in different YouTube channels. God is just a hypothesis for Dawkins. He classified in 7 sort of position on the existence of God for theist, agnostic and atheist [53]. 1. Strong theist,2. Very highly probability theist 3. Higher than 50 % but not high 4. Exactly 50 % Agnostic position completely 5. Lower than 50 % but leaning towards atheism 6. Very low probability, de Facto atheist 7.

Strong atheist. He put himself in 6th category. This 6th category is interesting to notice. He gave example of Bartered Russell for believing at China teapot revolving around earth in the space. His famous quotation on this point, "I am agnostic about fairies at the bottom of garden" [54]. In 2nd Chapter entitled 'The God Hypothesis', Dawkin started with a quote from Ralph Waldo Emerson, 'The religion of one age is the literary entertainment for the next" [55].

To deny Abrahamic God or Allah in the tune with Emerson, Dawkin states, "I have found it an amusing strategy, when asked whether I am an atheist, to point out that the questioner is also an atheist when considering Zeus, Apollo, Amon, Ra, Mithras, Baal, Thor, Wotan, the Golden Calf and the Flying Spaghetti Monster. I just go one God further" [56]. Dawkin's pessimism about existence of God starts from this point. He extended to refute NOMA (non-overlapping magistra) saying "What expertise can theologians bring to deep cosmological questions that scientists cannot?" [57]. Dawkins is always vocal at this point in his very works. He attacks religion using scientific worldview. He asked to embrace scientific worldview for every aspect of life. Dawkins calls for no religion at all across the world since there no truth in it apart from illusion.

In chapter 3, Dawkins refuted arguments for God's existence from Thomas Aquinas unmoved mover, the uncaused cause and famous cosmological argument, he used reductionist approach for those arguments "The atom provides a natural terminator to the Crumboblious Cutlets type of regress" [58]. All the subsequent arguments Dawkin covers in this chapter using scientific worldview.

Dawkin criticized creationist intricately when discussing 'the worship of Gap'. Science is acknowledgement of ignorance and scientists look for answers which can be understood rationally with scientific evidence. However, creationists have tendency to fill up that ignorance with supernatural explanation. Dawkin states, "Creationists eagerly seek a gap in present-day knowledge or understanding. If an apparent gap is found, it is assumed that God, by default, must fill it. What worries thoughtful theologians such as Bonhoeffer is that gaps shrink as science advance, and God is threatened with eventually nothing to do and nowhere to hide" [59]. This is disenchantment that Nietzsche and Max Weber was speaking earlier. In every sector, this sort of secularism is accelerating. Weather it is Muslim, Hindu, Christian country, this disenchantment of religious beliefs are more apparent everywhere across the globe.

7. Quranic Critique of Pessimism from Scientific Worldview

"Had the truth followed their desires, the heavens, the earth, and all those in them would have certainly been corrupted. In fact, we have brought them 'the means to' their glory, but they turn away from it." [60]

"Muhammad is not but a messenger. [Other] messengers have passed on before him. So, if he was to die or be killed, would you turn back on your heels [to unbelief]? And he who turns back on his heels will never harm Allāh at all; but Allāh will reward the grateful." [61]

These two ayahs from Quran have profound messages for

theists, agnostics and atheists for all the people in the world till humanity survives on this planet. The first message is whether a person is Muslim intellectual or atheist intellectual or agnostic intellectual, universe would follow its own way. The interpretations from all sides make no significant change in the course of universe. For example, nuclear fusion in the sun is the cleanest energy. It has been happening for billion years. When nuclear bomb was dropped in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, world came to learn about there is something called nuclear energy. The point is we know this knowledge in 20th century; however, universe is applying the nuclear fusion over Billions of years. Here the point is for Lawrence Krauss mentions always "Universe does not care anyone's existence". This is atheistic phrase negating divinity whereas Quran utters this phrase with theistic point of view. Choice is up to the people of the world which one they would choose.

Secondly, regarding the Muhammad (Peace be upon him) Quran is very clear about it. This is similar to the first verse but here is the point. How is the character of messenger in contemporary times? A messenger simply carries a letter and hands it over to the assigned person. He simply is ignorant about the message of the letter. Even if the messenger is asked to read the letter in case the person who receives the letter is unlettered. Messenger can be still ignorant about the real implication of the texts. People of Makka regardless of faith knew Muhammad (pbuh) was an unlettered man who could neither read nor write. The message about day of judgement is one of the great examples in Quran and Hadith. Neither the prophet nor the angel both knew not when it would occur. All the prophets went misleading if Allah did not guide them. The message of the Quran is clear cut. Nobody matters in this universe. Neither prophets nor the rest of Human beings in the course of sunnatullah.

The arguments from evolution to negate God or the arguments from Intelligent design both make no difference in the course of Sunnatullah. Weather Nuclear fusion in stars or evolution through millions of years that we discuss and argue today are nothing new. The universe is simply following the Sunnatullah for billions of years and they are bound to follow these laws that Allah has set up upon this universe.

Now the matter of imaan, Quran is very clear cut at the very second chapter without pausing any single hesitation to talk about imaan.

"This is the Book! There is no doubt about it—a guide for those mindful of Allah

who believe in the unseen, establish prayer, and donate from what We have provided for them." [62]

There is no teleological or cosmological or other arguments that philosophers and theologians and proponents of scientific worldview do usually. These verses of Quran provide clean message like the clean energy of nuclear fusion from the sun. The pessimism that scientific worldview provides to human beings, Quran simply negates with these two ayahs. First verse describes about the authenticity of Quran and then simply provides the assurance of guidance for people of the planet regarding the existence of Allah (God).

This explanation was just stubbornness like other believers

of religious texts. Again, we need to remember the very basic message of science. Science is the acknowledgement of ignorance. We know almost nothing about our universe despite having enormous amounts of information with the help of technology. Scientific worldview simply negates all transcendental reality due to lack of evidence and Old Testament; New Testament and Quran have no empirical evidence at all regarding existence of Abrahamic God, rather all these texts are full of contradictions. Adam and Eve story was just mythical story since evolution of species tells otherwise story. Again, to observe an evolution or transformation at his or her own aye at large scale a human needs million years. Which scientist was there to observe?

Let's look at those verses:

Allah said, "O Adam! Inform them of their names." Then when Adam did, Allah said, "Did I not tell you that I know the secrets of the heavens and the earth, and I know what you reveal and what you conceal?" [63]

You were not there 'O Prophet' on the western side of the mountain when We entrusted the Commandments to Moses, nor were you present 'in his time'. But We 'later' raised 'several' generations, and the ages took their toll on them.1 Nor were you living among the people of Midian, rehearsing Our revelations with them. But it is We Who have sent 'this revelation to you'. And you were not at the side of Mount Tûr when We called out 'to Moses'. But 'you have been sent' as a mercy from your Lord to warn a people to whom no warner has come before you, so perhaps they may be mindful. Also, so they would not say, if struck by an affliction for what their hands have done: "Our Lord! If only You had sent us a messenger, we would have followed Your revelations and become believers." [64]

The problem with Freudian [65] or Jungian analysis that the story of Adam and Eve were perhaps in collective consciousness as Dawkin also pronounced by indicating different flood stories in almost every corner of world [66]. Did Muhammad(pbuh) was psychopath or carry the message in his brain via DNA since he had trace of prophet Ibrahim? The Old Testament, New Testament and Quran have similarity in many instances. Dawkin always tried to bypass Quran perhaps thinking Quran is just modified version from Old and New Testament.

However, Quran itself harshly criticize Old and New Testament as being corrupted by Christian and Jews theologians. How could Muhammad being psychopath and criticize some particular message of Bible. Quran is against trinity and against the claim Jesus as son of God. Surprisingly the author seems so strategic, at the same time critical when describing the story of people of Cave who slept for several years in the cave when they were in doubt if afterlife is possible. The Quran states:

Some will say, "They were three, their dog was the fourth," while others will say, "They were five, their dog was the sixth," 'only' guessing blindly. And others will say, "They were seven and their dog was the eighth." Say, 'O Prophet,' "My Lord knows best their 'exact' number. Only a few people know as well." So do not argue about them except with sure knowledge, nor consult any of those 'who debate' about them.

Say, 'O Prophet,' "Allah knows best how long they stayed. With Him 'alone' is 'the knowledge of' the unseen of the heavens and the earth. How perfectly He hears and sees! They have no guardian besides Him, and He shares His command with none." [67]

Freudian and Jungian explanation of collective unconscious makes sense as evolutionary psychology supports some characteristics in DNA from our ancestors. But how come Muhammad(pbuh) is describing even and each of his wordings are not only eloquence in sentence structure rather sufficiently align with logical flows with rationalistic way. Even when the verses that are metaphysical, it follows coherent in logic. For example, when the Quran describes about angels:

All praise is for Allah, the Originator of the heavens and the earth, who made angels 'as His' messengers with wings—two, three, or four. He increases in creation whatever He wills. Surely Allah is Most Capable of everything [68].

Indeed, those who do not believe in the Hereafter label angels as female, although they have no knowledge 'in support' of this. They follow nothing but 'inherited' assumptions. And surely assumptions can in no way replace the truth [69].

The mythical creatures like Angels that proponents of scientific worldview tried to negate, Quran answers in simply nice way. How come it is possible to speak for a psychopath in such a rational and logical manner when they speak about mythical creature as real existence. The way the Quran challenges are astounding, and it says the people are speaking out of assumptions not the Quran. Similar pattern has been noticed when the Quran is refuting arguments of polytheists. The mythical Gods are being ridiculed but angels are being defended using logic and rationality. The Quran states:

O humanity! A lesson is set forth, so listen to it 'carefully': those 'idols' you invoke besides Allah can never create 'so much as' a fly, even if they 'all' were to come together for that. And if a fly were to snatch anything away from them, they cannot 'even' retrieve it from the fly. How powerless are those who invoke and those invoked! [70]

The question is now to what extend the Quran is unique? The Quran says,

"Say, 'O Prophet,' "If 'all' humans and jinn were to come together to produce the equivalent of this Quran, they could not produce its equal, no matter how they supported each other." [71]

There are so many literary master pieces in West and East. The famous are like Virgil, Dante, Shakespeare, Goethe, Rabindranath Tagore and so on. In addition, the works of science like Newton, Einstein, and others are also there. The philosopher works among Muslims and western scholars are also there. University professors are producing scientific works in every section till today. All are educated and intellectuals. They are super smart. AI has arrived and it can produce in future error free work by itself. Then, what uniqueness Quran has that was written over 1400 years ago by ignorant Arab man? That's ridiculous and simple question for the proponents of scientific worldview.

The researcher would argue that it is not about being literary masterpiece, or historical work or any other means, rather the glorious Quran is thought provoking and unique in one particular message that no philosopher, scientist or literary person dared to utter. The Quran speaks about transcendental reality with full of confidence. This is very uniqueness of the Quran, and it is quite relevant in the 21st century for spiritual crisis of modern people. When scientific worldview fails to answer about transcendental reality and people enter into pessimism looking at Old Testament, New Testament and Vedas due to enormous number of contradictions about metaphysical reality and material reality, Quran is still relevant to fill that void and gap for all level of people across the world. Be they scientist, philosopher, academician, general people, Quran provides highly optimistic hope about transcendental reality.

A sincere person will get content from it if he really drives his intension for goodness. The word 'Intellectual dishonesty' is used by proponents of scientific worldview towards the proponents of creationists as well as Intelligent designer. However, researcher argues that proponents of scientific worldview are intellectually dishonest when it is the message of the Quran. The Quran even warns prophet Muhammad (Peace be upon him) not to practice intellectual dishonesty when it is about revelation. The Quran states:

'Say, O Prophet,' "Should I seek a judge other than Allah while He is the One Who has revealed for you the Book 'with the truth' perfectly explained?" Those who were given the Scripture know that it has been revealed 'to you' from your Lord in truth. So do not be one of those who doubt....'O Prophet!' If you were to obey most of those on earth, they would lead you away from Allah's Way. They follow nothing but assumptions and do nothing but lie. [72]

Prophet himself was in doubt if he is deluded when he faced questions by the opponents of Muhammad (Peace be upon him),

"Your Lord 'O Prophet' has not abandoned you, nor has He become hateful 'of you'...Did He not find you unguided then guided you?" [73]

There was another occasion at the initial stage of revelation when Muhammad (pbuh) went few times on top of Mountain to commit suicide thinking he is deluded. He was returned by Angel Jibrail each time he went. It is mentioned in his biography,

"The Divine inspiration paused for a while and the Prophet...[pbuh] became so sad, as we have heard, that he intended several times to throw himself from the tops of high mountains, and every time he went up the top of a mountain in order to throw himself down, Gabriel would appear before him and say: "O Muhammad! You are indeed Allah's Messenger in truth." [74]

He was having existential crisis like Ibrahim (Peace be upon him) throwing himself into the fire. Indeed, this is the most extremist version of existential crisis when Allah is negated with delusion. The guidance is needed at this particular moment and hopefully it was not epilepsy along with prophet Ibrahim, Moses, Jesus and Muhammad (peace be upon them all) as proponents of scientific worldview claim.

Similar pattern we have witnessed among existential philosophers like Nietzsche, Dostoevsky, and Albert Camus in the absence of God due to scientific worldview. Nietzsche was referring to ultimate nihilism. Dostoevsky wrote literature portraying characters with intricate existential crisis in the absence of God. Lastly, Camus dealt with absurd hero in the absence of God and promote rebel against suicide by being absurd hero in the absence of God. He states in his notebooks, "I do not believe in God and I am not an atheist" [75]. This shows pessimism due to influence of scientific worldview among western writers. In fact, the cynical and pessimistic writings were produced extensively by other western writers and philosophers after Darwinian revolution in science.

Again, it is imperative here that Quran is emphasizing on metaphysical reality that scientific worldview completely negated. This affirmation brings a unique hope for the people of the 21st century. The accusation came that thousands of religions are out there which one is true? This is just to bypass Quranic reality and truth. Quran first affirm that there were rulings and prophets to different nations across the world and they were sent over centuries. Second, when message of one God comes, people have tendency to corrupt the teaching and move towards polytheism. The best example is Judaism and Christianity. An ordinary researcher can read and check these books following Quranic instruction.

That means having thousands of religions make no way to say that all religions are wrong. In contemporary times, if we claim all the leaders of Arabs are corrupted, therefore, Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) was also corrupted since he was an Arab. This would be intellectual dishonest and greatest injustice with prophet Muhammad (pbuh) as a person. The best intellectual leaders of Makka were against Muhammad(pbuh) when the new message came. They had no personal conflict with him last 40 years and suddenly they strike back. He was levelled as crazy sometimes (If he came today, he would be labelled as psychopath perhaps), yet he decided to spread the message. He was leading great wars, he prayed, he had wives and he dealt with various people. Until his death he was mixing up with people. If he had epilepsy, he must have distorted thoughts. Nothing was noticeable. Who Muhammad (pbuh) was, it may not be the business for the proponents of scientific worldview, but the Quranic message about transcendental reality is very clear. The root issue of scientific worldview is God has no possibility to exist as of Dawkin's claim at his controversial book 'The God Delusion". However, he will have no basis if we investigate considering Islamic epistemology.

In fact, Richard Dawkins and proponents of scientific worldview are highly deluded. What does the Quran tells about them,

"Or were they created by nothing, or are they 'their own' creators? Or did they create the heavens and the earth? In fact, they have no certainty." [76]

Or this following verse would be more effective for these proponents of scientific worldview,

"Then which of the favours of your Lord will ye deny?" [77]

Whatever trends Muslim societies and western are witnessing starting from New Atheism, New Age Movement, Post-modernism, various interpretations of religious texts across the world religions up to the point of global acceptance of Hollywood dating culture, all are just different variants of pessimism coming from scientific worldview. Like Jungian permanent architypes in people collective unconscious minds, scientific worldview works as permanent architypes in collective unconscious minds to formulate pessimism.

As for Muslim youths, prophetic advice needs to bear in mind that Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) delivered before he departed from this planet:

""O People! No Prophet or apostle will come after me and no new faith will be born. Reason well, therefore O People! and understand words that I convey to you. I leave behind me two things, the Quran and the Sunnah and if you follow these you will never go astray." "All those who listen to me shall pass on my words to others and those to others again; and may the last ones understand my words better than those who listen to me directly." "O Allah, be my witness, that I have conveyed your message to Your people."" [78]

The following Quranic revelation is also important for Muslim youths since it was revealed based on that above context. The Quran mentions,

"Today the disbelievers have given up all hope of 'undermining' your faith. So do not fear them; fear Me! Today I have perfected your faith for you, completed My favour upon you, and chosen Islam as your way." [79]

8. Shoaib Ahmed Malik on Islam and Evolution and Contemporary Trend in Muslim Academia

Shoaib Ahmed Malik a very recent book on the topic Islam and Evolution entitled "Islam and Evolution: Al-Ghazālī and the Modern Evolutionary Paradigm". The book uses Al-Ghazali's approach to deal with Islam and evolution, and he agrees with evolution but his position goes with 'Adamic exceptionalism [80]. In the letter to Editor to summarize his book, Malik states, "I was initially in the no exceptions camp but have since changed my stance to believing that Adamic exceptionalism is the best alignment one can maintain in light of the respective methodologies of science and al-Ghazālī's Ash'arite framework. Subsequently, this book has evolved as much as I have" [81]. Malik tried his best to deal with this sensitive topic in comprehensive way [despite there is strong refutations by proponents of scientific worldview], however, there is still nonsensical literature produced on this field by some Muslim academicians referring pseudo-scientist like Harun Yahya [82]. Pervez Hoodbhoy literally mocked at those sophist academicians in his book entitled, "Islam and Science: Religious Orthodoxy and the Battle for Rationality".

In fact, the usage of sophistry using Quranic misinterpretation is very rampant among the proponents of Islamization of knowledge as Hoodbhoy indicated time and again. This is worst and more disgusting approach to defend Islam. It backfires the Islamization agenda. Is it right to write an abnormal academic writing for the shake holding academic position?. The production of knowledge in Islamization is

absolutely garbage sometimes. When it is matter of dealing with evolutionary biology and Islam. Muslim Academicians should be more cautious about this sensitive topic because nowadays the major trend of apostacy and pessimism among Muslim youths not only come from evolution vs religion debate rather it is also coming due to not being able to engage properly by Muslim academicians. they really need to comprehend what they are talking about. This is major problem in Islamic Academia since the advent of Islamization agenda. It was rather funny to listen presentation like 'Islamization of robotic sex'. To whom to blame for these nonsensical works? The teachers of Islamization of knowledge or Students of Islamization of knowledge? Mastery of both fields are absolutely necessary to avoid this problem. Though Shohaib Malik's stance on Adamic exceptionalism is problematic to the proponents of scientific worldview, it is still relevant in academic discussion because his thought has been evolved along with all scientific literature of evolutionary sciences. To write on this topic, Muslim Academicians needs to be updated on current development of knowledge. In IT, for example, everyday new technology is introduced. Hence, Professors and students need to learn new technology at the same time. Muslim Academicians must adapt this mentality. This is not suitable to repeat same traditional argument under same framework. Ghazali's approach can be taken but it must fit with the current development of knowledge. Authority makes no sense in scientific literature. Being a son of prime minister means nothing to scientific literature. If the son of prime minister understands and explain however they wish to explain, it is fine to express his views, but it is up to that point. Scientific community would straightforward reject the views since there is no evidence for it. Peter Higgs gave his theory on Higgs field, and it took few decades to prove the point and finally he received his Nobel prize. Hence, even for scientists there is no excuse when it is about texting empirical evidence to understand if the theory passes the criteria of falsification test. Muslim academicians and educational institutions must bear in mind the point seriously when encountering the scientific worldview.

9. Conclusion

In conclusion, it is important to quote Sayyid Qutub to understand what exactly he uttered and how he dealt with pessimism of scientific worldview in comparison to Muhammad Iqbal. Sayyid Qutub (May Allah bless him for his firm stance for Allah till his very last breath) states:

Though we should not judge too harshly the course of Western thought forced upon it by the tyranny of the Church, we must be clear about its error in going to the other extreme of revolt against all fixed principles, permanent values, and absolute truths by embracing the notion of perpetual change and continual progress in a universe devoid of anything absolutely true or permanently valid. This position is not scientifically valid but is rather a violent reaction to the tyranny of the Church.

Darwin, who introduced the idea of evolution in the development of living beings, only touched the superficial aspects of life, without penetrating into its origin in the Will that brought life into being. Even if we suppose this theory to be correct, despite the axes that already are cutting at its very roots, all the supporting evidence merely indicates that evolution is following a path determined by a transcendent Will, without any role for randomness or chance. Evolution is one of the laws of motion operating in this universe, and, as we stated earlier, the natural laws governing motions within the universe are within fixed orbits around fixed axes.

In any case, neither "the scientific method" nor "factual truths" guided the thoughts of Darwin. He did not guide us toward the secret of life, nor did he give a scientific explanation for its appearance. He was trying his best to avoid any reference to God. A scientific mind would immediately recognize that the existence of life implies the existence of the One who invented it. And the direction of its development in harmony with its environment implies that its Originator had a Will and a plan, was aware of what He was doing, and was capable of translating His Will into the reality of existence. But Darwin could not acknowledge this, because he had revolted against the Church and was running away from the God of the Church. He therefore ascribed the evolution of life forms to "Nature," which, according to him, has limitless powers. He then tried to give the false impression that nothing, absolutely nothing, is fixed and permanent. All his research was confined, however, to the development of life forms after they had already emerged, and so in no case could have been applied universally to everything [83].

The above quotation shows how Sayyd Qutub's critique is relevant for contemporary context against the scientific worldview. Weather theory of evolution is correct or wrong, it should not be problem with the concept of Creator since it is created by Allah SWT, and he can create his universe however he wishes. What is problematic here that proponents of the scientific worldview snatched the idea of evolution and try to monopolize science by attacking religion. It was Christianity but the discourse has been monopolized and extended to Muslim community in 21st century.

The Scientific Worldview is the greatest deception in the field of knowledge now, especially for intellectual community as we have noticed that narratives of science are maintained by proponents of scientific worldview. In fact, this kind of deception was faced by early Muslim scholars also during medieval period. Shihadeh quotes:

Sayf al-Dın al-Azmidı (d. 631 / 1233), himself a theologian and philosopher, writes:

The fascination of the people of our time and the scholars of our age in studying the sciences of the ancients and in borrowing from old philosophers has increased, such that it led them away from studying Legal matters and religious issues. That passion may drive one of them to frequently display his recklessness, by omitting obligations and committing prohibited things, imagining that he is one of the firmly grounded philosophers and erudite virtuous men (although he is the most ignorant of men in what he claims and the furthest among them from knowing what it involves), and fooled by the bombastic words and strange-sounding names that he hears, such as 'hyle', 'element' (ust*uqus), 'element' ('uns*ur), 'matter', 'form', 'First Cause', 'Active Intellect', Socrates, Hippocrates, Plato, Aristotle, Pythagoras, Proclus, Alexander of Aphrodisias, etc.! The utmost of the most erudite among them is to have superficial knowledge of the words, instead of [knowing their] meanings. (Sayf al-Dın 'Alı ibn Muhammad al-Azmidı, Daqa'iq al-haqa'iq, Princeton, Garret Collection, MS 42B, fol. 1b.) [84]

The illusion (deception of knowledge) or pessimism that scientific worldview has created is a new variant among Muslim intellectual community like past decade. This deception is more subtle than medieval period and extremely dangerous for Muslim youths who have lacking in understanding Islam and modern knowledge. As a result, the scientific worldview may lead to nihilistic tendency among Muslim youths. Muslim academicians should take this topic seriously to avoid potential ideological threats to future Muslim youths. Mumtaz Ali argued that "modern Western science" [Scientific worldview] is founded on an incorrect understanding of life and the universe [85]. He is a supporter of bringing that truth-based science [Quranic teaching] back. Until recently, no one had challenged the assumptions made by truth-based science, which had descended into a state like to death. Mumtaz Ali aims to outline the distinctive qualities of truth-based science, which can serve as a substitute for contemporary Western science, which now dominates scientific pursuits worldwide. Thus, he characterizes the Islamization of contemporary Western philosophy and science.

Mumtaz Ali in his recent book entitled, Islamic Research: Theory, Methodology and Thesis Writing, further argued that Islamic research is not studying religion alone rather Islamic research addresses more than only what is commonly associated with religion and its practices [86]. Islamic study covers a wide range of topics and focuses on all facets of life and society, demonstrating its concern for the advancement of individuals as well as for society, culture, and civilization. Generally referred to as Islamic revealed knowledge, True, Authentic, and Universal Knowledge serves as the inspiration and driving force behind Islamic studies. The book makes the claim that Islamic research methodology represents a shift from a materialistic perspective on life and society to one that is spiritually oriented. To improve the quality of life and society, Islamic research is essential. It is essential to resolving today's pressing problems and is indispensable.

The researcher predicts that to be aware and to educate current Muslim intellectual community regarding the pessimism of scientific worldview is necessary for the wellbeing of Muslim Ummah. The very next step is to educate Muslim youths to encounter scientific worldview. If a student can make differentiate science and scientific worldview and he is taught about Islamic worldview, there is less chance to fall into error in future. Otherwise, the result is the blasphemy would arise not from youths from other religion rather blasphemy against Islam would happen by ex-Muslims. The attack from ex-Muslims youths against Islam is more vehement than other people of faiths because these ex-Muslims grew up within Musim environments. There are corruptions and hypocrisy going on within Muslim community. Like Abu Hamid Abu Sulayman, these Muslim youths would observe all the crisis within Muslim community. Then, there are obsessed with scientific worldview which attacks directly very fundamental beliefs of Islam e.g. existence of God, Angels, day after life, day of judgement.

Obviously doubt canon would grow up along with other frustrations. Now social media video content is unregulated, and everyone can speak their minds whatever they wish. The threat, therefore, is very huge. One viral video is enough to create doubt among billions of Muslim young minds. If the issue of pessimism from scientific worldview is not taken seriously and ignored like before by eliminating the knowledge, this would definitely damage the entire Muslim youths and by the time, the decision to teach and educate Muslim students, it would be too late. AI has in the picture now and the dissemination of knowledge happens very rapidly, Muslim intellectuals cannot catch the boat. If they miss the boat, they will miss their beloved Muslim youths. The production of cultural Muslim youth is rising now. The silent disenchantment is speeding up to some extent, the more technological development is on the rise. At last scientific worldview left no hope for existence of Allah and afterlife. Quran firmly stood up against the scientific worldview [87] as a hope for every single human being on this small planet. The rest is unknown and mystery for all of us. Globally, Muslim youth are abandoning Islam in unprecedented numbers. According to a Muslim scholar speaking in public, the percentage is 25% [88]. Right now, things are concerning. The Muslim community is about to experience a tsunami, as Bilal Philips warns. We want to conclude this research with some Quranic teaching for whole of humanity for existence of Quranic Allah. The Ever-Living Allah of Ibrahim and Muhammad (Peace be upon them) Says:

I do swear by the Day of Judgment!

And I do swear by the self-reproaching soul!

Do people think We cannot reassemble their bones?

Yes 'indeed'! We are 'most' capable of restoring 'even' their very fingertips.

Still people want to deny what is yet to come,

asking 'mockingly', "When is this Day of Judgment?"

On that day they will be driven to your Lord 'alone'.

This denier neither believed nor prayed,

but persisted in denial and turned away,

then went to their own people, walking boastfully.

Woe to you, and more woe!

Again, woe to you, and even more woe! [89]

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