

Why Believe in a Creator?

A Persistent Question

The fact of the matter is that there is yet another reason that led them to hold such belief, namely their ignorance and failure to interpret natural phenomena, but why? And what then?

Throughout history, man has always wondered about the meaning of existence and the reason for his/her own existence: Why are we here? Is it conceivable that we will be reduced to atoms that will decompose after death, and that is the end of us? And if so, what is the meaning of life? What reference shall we refer to distinguish right from wrong and good from evil? Why is honesty, for example, better than telling lies?

These and similar questions continued to perplex the human mind, which repeatedly resisted and eluded the relentless attempts to get rid of them, until Schopenhauer, a noted atheist philosopher, defined man as a “metaphysical animal”. This definition points out one of the most important characteristics of man, for he does not stop asking about the meaning of existence. His innate pure nature and the makeup of his mind incessantly urge him to look heavenwards and ask the questions, “Why? And then what?”

Rather than attempting to answer the question regarding the meaning and purpose of existence and how to face the truth, contemporary civilization, along with its advanced products and tools, unfortunately evades the question about the meaning of existence and endeavours instead to answer the question about how do we control existence with technology, weapons and power? Or how can we possibly enjoy it to the fullest extent possible with innovative, creative entertainment? The question, however, keeps persisting and springs up again whenever it finds an opportunity.

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Muslims' Concept of God

According to Muslims, the word 'God' refers to the Lord, the Creator, the Owner and the Disposer of all affairs. In its original linguistic sense in Arabic, it denotes the "Being" of worship to whom hearts, minds, and bodies turn through worship, love, submission, fear and hope.

According to Muslims, God has more than ninety-nine Names, which are the best names and carry the greatest connotations. In fact, they all stress and point to His perfect nature, might, kingdom and mercy, among other things.

- His life is perfect. It is not preceded by non-existence, nor will it ever be followed by death. 'The First' and 'the Last' are among His beautiful Names.
- He is the Creator of the entire universe and Created everything in it out of nothing, and He is its owner who disposes of all affairs according to the natural causes He Himself has set and which we can comprehend, study and discover, not only through miracles.
- He has perfected everything He has created, from the minutest microorganisms to the massive celestial bodies, of which He has taken good care to function properly.
- He is immeasurably compassionate to all His creation, and His mercy precedes His wrath. Part of His mercy is that He has sent messengers and books to guide people to the right path.
- He has created us in this world and has furnished us with the faculty of intellect, senses and the power of reason to test our actions, intentions, and attitudes through life incidents, with all the ease and hardship they involve in order to repay people according to their deeds on the Day of Judgement.
- He is the One and the Only. He has no equal whatsoever in His Being, attributes or strength and no one is worthy of worship except Him. He is free from all kinds of imperfections and far above having a wife, children or an equal.

The Qur'an talks a great deal about God, and His Names and Attributes, and the positive effects they have on people's lives. It also informs us that the human mind and heart will inevitably turn to Him and even feel His omniscient presence in moments of weakness and contemplation, no matter how stubborn he may be to avoid this.

Have you ever felt a deep yearning for divine closeness?

