

Chapter – 06

Universe as Islam looks

(کائنات اسلام کی نظر میں)

❖ *Introduction:*

Science is persistently engaged in determining the facts and other information as regards to the system of the Universe, but it never initiates in this research the subject of its Creator. Nevertheless, most of the scientists admit that there must be a Creator of this Universe and make a clean breast that He must be an Absolute Power and the Greater of all. He is the sole Entity who is virtually controlling the whole system. Scientists say that the existing balance of Universe is highly significant. They also say that in this system there must be the clear presence of “Spirit” which is unseen.

According to the Islamic point of view, the researchers who are busy in exploring this Universe and investigating the related things are known as Philosophers. They are of four types:

1. *Sufi Spiritualist* (صوفی): They come to know all about the things with their personal concentration of thoughts and spiritual power.
2. *Theological Scholar* (مذکلہ): Their researches are mainly based on their wisdom and logics.
3. *Theosophist* (اشرافی): These people come to any point through their personal efforts and willpower.
4. *Philosopher* (منشائی): They conclude anything through their researches and logics.

In this way, the Sufi Spiritualist is matched with the Theosophist, and the Theological Scholar is compared with the Philosopher. ----- The important thing is that Sufi Spiritualist and Theological Scholar see

and understand all about the things through the sayings of Messenger of God (نورنبوت). But, if any one of them speaks even a single word out of the context of Quran and Hadiths then they will be considered out of the Islamic limits. Thus, the Sufi Spiritualist will become Theosophist and the Theological Scholar will become Philosopher.

Who has created this Universe ---? This question has been considered by all religions of this world. Besides, the Creator Himself has given this information through His thousands of prophets (انبياء). There are four religions in which God has sent all these information in the form of Holy Books through His messengers (رسول). Out of these four religions, presently Islam, Christianity and Jewish religions are prominent. Islam believes in “Oneness of God” (توحید). Sikhism also believes that God is the Creator of this Universe. However, there are some religions who believe in many gods, like Hinduism and Buddhism.

❖ *The Creator of Universe:*

As mentioned in the previous chapters the scientific researches indicate that all the units or bodies, existing in this Universe, are built with “**matter**”. There must be a Creator of this as well. Moreover, as per first Laws of Motion, it is the property of **matter** that every object will remain at rest or in uniform motion in a straight line unless compelled to change its state by the action of an external force. Then the existing **activities** and its blessings prevail in this Universe must be having some extra-ordinary Entity who is controlling this Universe.

Religion of Islam, which is the latest and the Modern religion, says that the Creator of this Universe is Allah (SWT). He says in Quran:

وَلِلّٰهِ مُلْكُ السَّمَاوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ وَمَا بَيْنَهُمَا يَخْلُقُ مَا يَشَاءُ وَاللّٰهُ عَلٰى كُلِّ شَيْءٍ قَدِيرٌ

{And for Allah only is the kingship of the heavens and the earth and all that is between them He creates what He wills; and Allah is able to do all things. (05:17)}

In this Universe all the activities are going due to Him, and God is persistently taking care of. He says:

تَبَارَكَ اللّٰهُ رَبُّ الْعَالَمِينَ

{Allah is the most Auspicious, the Lord of Creation. (07:54)}

❖ *Universe as Islam looks:*

Allah (SWT) has created this Universe in phases. In this connection He says in Quran that:

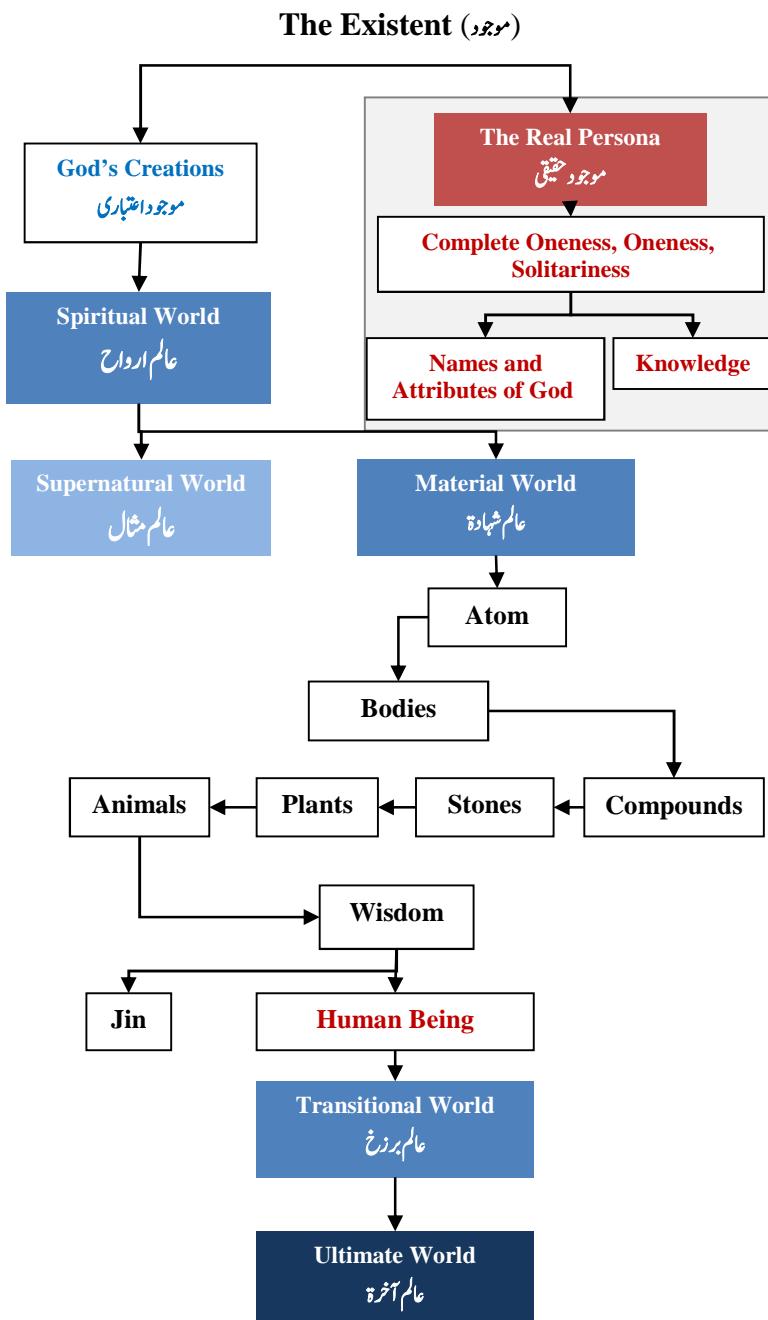
إِنَّ رَبَّكُمُ اللَّهُ الَّذِي خَلَقَ السَّمَاوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضَ فِي سِتَّةِ أَيَّامٍ
 ثُمَّ اسْتَوَى عَلَى الْعَرْشِ يُغْشِي اللَّيْلَ النَّهَارَ يَطْلُبُهُ حَيْثَا
 وَالشَّمْسُ وَالْقَمَرُ وَالْجُومُ مُسَخَّرَاتٍ بِإِمْرِهِ
 أَلَا لَهُ الْحَلْقُ وَالْأَمْرُ

{Indeed your Lord is Allah who created the heavens and the earth in six days, then in the manner befitting His Majesty, established Himself above the Throne; He covers the night with the day, which hastily follows it, and made the sun and the moon and the stars subjected to His command; No doubt! only He has the power to create and command. (07:54)}

In connection with the creation of heaven and earth the Elucidators of Quran and the Sufi Spiritualist present the following six phases of creation:

1. Knowledge of God (اعیان ثابتہ)
2. The effective light of Names of God -
God's Glories (حقائق اشیاء)
3. Saying “Be” (کن) by Allah (SWT) and then its occurrence (فیکون) -
Spiritual World (عالم ارواح)
4. Supernatural World (عالیٰ مثال)
5. Material World (عالیٰ شہادہ)
6. Human Being (بشر)

All these phases and other details as regards to the creation of Universe are summarized in a tree which is presented in the subsequent page.



A tree of the Universe

Sheikh Ibn Arabi (1165-1240AD) is the first Islamic intellectual and Sufi Spiritualist who has presented a complete philosophy on the subject of Reality of Allah (SWT) which is known as “**حقيقة الالٰى**”. He says that Reality of God is a logical and living truth, means the glory of God exists in everything and everywhere. For his philosophy Ibn Arabi gives the name “**Reality of Realities**” (**حقيقة الحقائق**). Be noted that “**Reality**” is always said against “**Metaphors**”. Commonly speaking, reality means “essence” and metaphor means “apparent”. For example:

- This Material World is a metaphor or an illusion, against which Supernatural World is a reality.
- The Supernatural World is a metaphor or an illusion, against which Spiritual World is a reality.
- The Spiritual World is a metaphor or an illusion, against which God’s Glories are a reality.
- The God’s Glories are metaphors or illusions, against which Knowledge of God is a reality.
- Knowledge of God is a metaphor or an illusion, against which The Real Persona is a reality.

Since, the Real Persona is the Creator, therefore He is solely the “**Reality of Realities**” and He is Allah (SWT). --- He is the Real Persona.

Persian Muslim scientist and Intellectual, Hakim Bu Ali Sina (Avicenna) is that person who determined a harmony between Science and Sufism. He says that spirit and body are two different entities. Spirit is not a kind of matter but it is a part of Human body and this body is useless without spirit. Spirit never obeys the body; rather it keeps its own awareness. Wisdom is its strength of intellect. Body deteriorates by the time whereas Spirit and Wisdom never change.

Avicenna (980-1037AD) also says that matter has its shape and every shape must be a matter. Therefore they are required and indispensable to each other. He gives different kinds of requirements like, materialistic requirement, apparent requirement, illustrative requirement, and final requirement. He says that there is one another requirement that pertains to motion. This requirement is much effective and gives motion to all the aforesaid requirements. This is called “**Reason for all the Requirements**” (**علت المثل**). Everything appears due to this final reason. This final reason is actually “**God**”.

