

A PROBABLE METHOD OF DIVINE CREATION

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Creation based on *Ghayb-Shahadat* paradigm

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Through the Quran Allah informs us that the creation process is a mere pronouncing of the word “Be”. It is this revelation that holds the key to the process of creation.

“To Him is due the primal origin of the skies and the earth. When He decrees a matter, He says to it: ‘Be’, and it is.”
(Q. 2:117)

A quizzical but certainly more obvious indication of the mechanism of seemingly mystical process of creation from “nothing” is not the divine command “Be and it is” in the verse (Q. 2:117) mentioned above but the statement “He says to *it*”; i.e., Allah says “Be” to “the thing” He is going to create. Does that mean the thing that is going to be created by Allah is already there? Yes. That is what the verse indicates. It is there with Him in a form intangible to man. This virtual or intangible (*ghayb*) entity is supposed here as the divine software, the energy. Therefore when Allah wishes to create a thing He gives a command to the software concerned and its execution results in the creation of *shahadat* which is tangible or perceptible to human being in accordance with Allah’s instructions carried in it. It is this transformation of the intangible (*ghayb*) into *shahadat* through execution of Allah’s commands (program) that can be construed as the process of creation. Everything is *shahadat* to Allah.

“Allah is He, than Whom there is no other god;- Who knows (all things) both secret (*ghayb*) and open (*shahadat*); He, Most Gracious, Most Merciful.”
(Q. 59:22)

The dichotomy of *ghayb* and *shahadat* is relevant only in the human context. A form of energy can be considered tangible only if our senses can perceive that form. Thus the tangibility of energy is human software-dependent. Allah created human software in such a way that man perceives the world the way Allah wants him to perceive. That is to say, the *shahadat* or the tangible form for an animal would be quite different from that of human beings as it is determined by the software of the species. Since the production of the tangible from the intangible proceeds as directed by the program, the creation process may be aptly called “programmed evolution”. It can be stated that all things (whether created or not) exist with Allah in the form of programs (*ghayb* energy). When He wants to create a thing, He need say ‘Be’ to it, i.e., to the appropriate program (software), which upon execution results in the visible (*shahadat*) product (to man).

The Quranic statement “Be and it is” is roughly the human version of “getting things done at the click of a mouse”. When we click or press a key on the keyboard we

are actually activating a program for execution. For example, in the computer the print program is available. By clicking on “print” we are actuating that program. The computer executes the program to produce the printout (hard copy). The matter printed was there in the computer memory in an intangible form but it was transformed into a tangible (visible) product (hardcopy) through execution of the program. The divine message “He says to it: ‘Be’ and it is” can be further examined in the light of a possible future computer version. Human-computer interaction is a fast developing field wherein several kinds of interface between man and machine are studied. It also includes development of human voice recognition software that will enable us to orally give instructions to a computer (or a robot) for performing a desired task. In the foreseeable future (Allah willing) we will also be giving commands to our machines orally rather than through keyboards or with the help of a mouse. That is, when we orally command a voice-recognizing computer to print a message, the machine will identify the task to be performed and the appropriate program will be activated for execution. And the computer will execute the program to produce the printout. This is what the Quranic verses on the process of creation also convey. Some of the man-made robots already employ voice-operated software.

The program is Allah’s word (*kalimat, qawlu, amr*, etc.), which is the *ghayb* form of energy. The programs of the created and uncreated things are preserved with Allah. When Allah wants to create a thing, He need say “Be to it”. Very clearly the word “it” refers to the appropriate program for the intended task. Then the *ghayb* (invisible) software transforms itself into *shahadat* form of energy. The process of creation can be visualized thus.