

THE EARTH – HUMAN ROBOT TESTING PLANET

It is intended to present here some relevant data about the cosmic organization [1, 2, 3] to make the reader start thinking that the cosmos is nothing but infrastructure created by Allah for testing human robots. The planet Earth is the test centre. This Quranic revelation changes our perception of the universe *in toto*.

Research in astronomy picked up momentum only during the last century. For centuries, astronomers believed that our galaxy, the Milky Way, made up the entire universe. In 1924, the American astronomer, Edwin Hubble, demonstrated that ours was not the only galaxy; there were billions of galaxies spaced far between. A galaxy is a huge collection of millions of stars, dust and gas. The Milky Way is a spiral galaxy consisting of more than 100 billion stars. It is supposed to have come into existence ten to fifteen billion years ago. The earth is part of the solar system belonging to the Milky Way (Fig. 1). Solar system is situated on the outer edge of the Milky Way about 28000 light years from the galactic centre. It takes 225 million years to complete one revolution around the Milky Way. Our sun, located centrally in the solar system, is a medium-sized yellow star. It makes up 99.8 per cent of the mass of the solar system. Its diameter is 1,390,000 km. Following the recent de-recognition of the planet Pluto, there are now eight planets belonging to the solar system. These are Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune. Besides it also has at least three dwarf planets (Pluto is now treated as a dwarf planet), more than 130 planetary satellites, a large number of asteroids (rocky objects in space ranging from a few meters wide to several hundred kilometres) and comets, and the interplanetary medium.

The temperature at sun's surface is around 5800 K while at the core it may reach as high as 15,600,000 K. The sun is presently composed of 70% hydrogen and 28% helium and the rest 2% is made up of mainly metals. The nuclear fusion going on in the core converts hydrogen into helium and therefore, with time the composition of the sun changes with the depletion of hydrogen. This nuclear reaction generates immense energy. The sun's energy output is 386 billion billion megawatts per second for which 700,000,000 tons of hydrogen are converted to about 695,000,000 tons of helium. The energy is produced as gamma radiation which while travelling from the core towards the surface gets continuously absorbed and re-emitted in longer wavelength region so that by the time it reaches the surface it will be primarily visible light. This is how Allah created the sun to serve as the primary energy source for sustaining life on the earth, the human robot testing centre.

Earth is the fifth largest planet in the solar system which is situated third from the sun. Earth is supposed to have come into existence 4.5 to 4.6 billion years ago much later than the origin of the Milky Way. This assumption is not consistent with the Quran and has been discussed in chapter 6. The earth weighs 5.972×10^{21} metric tons and orbits around the sun at an average distance of 93.1 million miles at a speed of 67000 miles per hour (18.4 miles per second). It takes 365.2422 days to orbit the sun. This duration forms the basis for reckoning a year. While orbiting the sun it also rotates with a tilt of 23.5° on its axis at a speed of 1070 miles per hour (at the equator). It takes 24 hours to complete one full rotation (360°). This duration is reckoned as a day. The earth pulls every object towards its centre. This gravitational force prevents every object from being thrown out

into the space by its spin. Earth has a satellite, the Moon. The moon is at a distance of 384,000 km from the earth. A characteristic feature of the components of the universe be it a satellite, planet, star or galaxy, is their constant motion in their prescribed orbits. This is highlighted in the Quran at several places.

“It is He Who created the night and the day, and the sun and the moon; all (the celestial bodies) swim along, each in its rounded course.” (Q. 21:33)

It is the orbital motion of these components particularly earth, moon, and sun that is responsible for creating day and night, seasons, tides etc. All these have been designed so by the Creator for the benefit of man.

“And He has made subject to you the sun and the moon, both diligently pursuing their courses; and the night and the day has he (also) made subject to you.” (Q. 14:33)

“He has made subject to you the night and the day; the sun and the moon; and the stars are in subjection by His Command: verily in this are Signs for men who are wise.” (Q. 16:12)

“It is Allah Who made the night for you, that you may rest therein, and the days as that which helps (you) to see. Verily Allah is full of Grace and Bounty to men: yet most men give no thanks.” (Q. 40:61)

“We have made the night and the day as two (of Our) Signs: the Sign of the Night have We obscured, while the Sign of the Day We have made to enlighten you; that you may seek bounty from your Lord, and that you may know the number and count of the years: all things have We explained in detail.” (Q. 17:12)

Through these verses Allah describes the purposes of the components of the universe (Table 1). Allah has also provided sustenance and other resources on the earth for His test subjects enough to last the entire period of the test. Whatever there is on the earth, it is for us humans.

“...On the earth will be your dwelling place and your means of livelihood for a term.” (Q. 7:24)

“It is He Who has made the earth manageable for you, so traverse you through its tracts and enjoy of the sustenance which He furnishes: but to Him is the Resurrection.” (Q. 67:15)

“It is He Who created for you all things that are on the earth...” (Q. 2:29)

“It is We Who placed you with authority on the earth, and provided you therein with means for the fulfillment of your life: small are the thanks that you give.” (Q. 7:10)

“The (material) things which you are given are but the conveniences of this life and the glitter thereof; but that

which is with Allah is better and more enduring: will
you not then be wise?" (Q. 28:60)

The earth provides both renewable (e.g., water, solar energy, plants, animals, etc.) and non-renewable (e.g., minerals, petroleum, etc.) resources for human consumption. The earth is a giant storehouse of a wide variety of human requirements. The availability of natural resources as per the Quranic message (Q. 7:24) is guaranteed till the test is over; that is when the universe will end. It is also quite obvious that the availability of each resource is commensurate with the relative needs of humanity. This is discernible from the relative availabilities of resources that are required by human beings in huge amounts (e.g., water) and that required in small quantities (e.g., platinum, gold, etc.). Several mechanisms are also in operation to ensure their availabilities in sufficient quantities. Renewal through recycling and regeneration is adopted by the Creator to replenish the supply of high-demand resources. Water, plants, animals, etc. come under this category. Besides the sun, Allah has also provided other energy sources to suit our other purposes. Petroleum, coal and nuclear sources for energy generation, belong to this list. Studies of the relative availability of the resources *vis a vis* human needs will bring out clearly the natural scenario of the supply-demand equation. The outcome of such studies will certainly make people think and understand the purpose of Allah's creations in the light of the Quran. It will also enable us to discover the truth about the universe and redefine our priorities in our life.

Over two million biological species are catalogued and several million others are supposed to be inhabiting this planet. Of these, man alone has the natural tendency to exploit the non-renewable resources; the rest of the bioworld require only the renewable resources. This propensity is an instinct, a built-in character, i.e., microbioprogram-based. Another observation is the growth of human population. There is steady increase in human population with time. About 6.2 billion people live on the earth at present. The current rate of global population growth is about 50 million a year. The increase in human population is quite expected as the purpose of the universe is to evaluate as many human biomemomes as Allah wants. The Quran speaks at length about the facilities, amenities and infrastructure provided in the test centre – the planet earth. Some of these are:

a) Physical resources

“(It is He) Who has made the earth your couch, and the heavens your canopy; and sent down rain from the heavens; and brought forth therewith fruits for your sustenance; then set not up rivals to Allah when you know (the truth).” (Q. 2:22)

“And He has set up on the earth mountains standing firm, lest it should shake with you; and rivers and roads; that you may guide yourselves And marks and sign-posts; and by the stars (men) guide themselves.” (Q. 16:15-16)

“And the earth We have spread out (like a carpet); set thereon mountains firm and immovable; and produced therein all kinds of things in due balance. And We have provided therein means of subsistence,- for you and for

those for whose sustenance you are not responsible. And there is not a thing but its (sources and) treasures (inexhaustible) are with Us; but We only send down thereof in due and ascertainable measures.”

(Q. 15:19-21)

“And We send the fecundating winds, then cause the rain to descend from the sky, therewith providing you with water (in abundance), though you are not the guardians of its stores.”

(Q. 15:22)

“He set on the (earth), mountains standing firm, high above it, and bestowed blessings on the earth, and measure therein all things to give them nourishment in due proportion, in four Days, in accordance with (the needs of) those who seek (Sustenance).”

(Q. 41:10)

“See you not that Allah has made subject to you (men) all that is on the earth, and the ships that sail through the sea by His Command? He withholds the sky (rain) from falling on the earth except by His leave: for Allah is Most Kind and Most Merciful to man.”

(Q. 22:65)

“It is Allah Who made out of the things He created, some things to give you shade; of the hills He made some for your shelter; He made you garments to protect you from heat, and coats of mail to protect you from your (mutual) violence. Thus does He complete His favours on you, that you may bow to His Will (in Islam).”

(Q. 16:81)

“It is Allah Who has subjected the sea to you, that ships may sail through it by His command, that you may seek of his Bounty, and that you may be grateful.”

(Q. 45:12)

“It is Allah Who has created the heavens and the earth and sends down rain from the skies, and with it brings out fruits wherewith to feed you; it is He Who has made the ships subject to you, that they may sail through the sea by His command; and the rivers (also) hath He made subject to you.”

(Q. 14:32)

“We have honoured the sons of Adam; provided them with transport on land and sea; given them for sustenance things good and pure; and conferred on them special favours, above a great part of our creation.”

(Q. 17:70)

b) Plant resources

“It is He Who has spread out the earth for (His) creatures: Therein is fruit and date-palms, producing spathes (enclosing dates); Also corn, with (its) leaves

and stalk for fodder, and sweet-smelling plants. Then which of the favours of your Lord will you deny?"

(Q. 55:10-12)

"It is He who sends down rain from the sky: from it you drink, and out of it (grows) the vegetation on which you feed your cattle. With it He produces for you corn, olives, date-palms, grapes and every kind of fruit: verily in this is a sign for those who give thought."

(Q. 16:10-11)

"Then let man look at his food, (and how We provide it): For that We pour forth water in abundance, and We split the earth in fragments, and produce therein corn, and Grapes and nutritious plants, and Olives and Dates, and enclosed Gardens, dense with lofty trees, and fruits and fodder,- for use and convenience to you and your cattle."

(Q. 80:24-32)

c) Animal resources

"See they not that it is We Who have created for them - among the things which Our hands have fashioned - cattle, which are under their dominion?- And that We have subjected them to their (use)? Of them some do carry them and some they eat: And they have (other) profits from them (besides), and they get (milk) to drink. Will they not then be grateful?"

(Q. 36:71-73)

"It is Allah Who made your habitations homes of rest and quiet for you; and made for you, out of the skins of animals, (tents for) dwellings, which you find so light (and handy) when you travel and when you stop (in your travels); and out of their wool, and their soft fibres (between wool and hair), and their hair, rich stuff and articles of convenience (to serve you) for a time."

(Q. 16:80)

"It is Allah Who made cattle for you, that you may use some for riding and some for food; And there are (other) advantages in them for you (besides); that you may through them attain to any need (there may be) in your hearts; and on them and on ships you are carried."

(Q. 40:79-80)

"And cattle He has created for you (men): from them you derive warmth, and numerous benefits, and of their (meat) you eat."

(Q. 16:5)

"And (He has created) horses, mules, and donkeys, for you to ride and use for show; and He has created (other) things of which you have no knowledge."

(Q. 16:8)

d) Marine resources

“It is He Who has made the sea subject, that you may eat thereof flesh that is fresh and tender, and that you may extract there from ornaments to wear; and you see the ships therein that plough the waves, that you may seek (thus) of the bounty of Allah and that you may be grateful.”
(Q. 16:14)

Through these and many other verses, the Quran enumerates so many kinds of resources and natural mechanisms (e.g., rain, wind, sailing of ships, etc.) that are provided for the benefit of man during the test period on the earth. The messages are given in simple way so as to make the people of Prophet Muhammad’s time understand. People of modern era equipped with so much scientific knowledge can indeed further widen their observation of the universe and comprehend a lot more about the arrangements and organization of the human robot test centre.

It is significant to note that although there are millions of other species inhabiting the earth, the Quran does not mention about them as beneficiaries of the natural resources because they also form resources created for man. These organic beings are renewable resources sustained by Allah.

“There is no moving creature on earth but its sustenance depends on Allah. He knows the time and place of its definite abode and its temporary deposit: All is in a clear Record.”
(Q. 11:6)

A doubting Tom may question the contention that the resources are created for man. He may argue that like any other species, we are also utilizing the resources. This is hardly the truth. If they are created by Allah for the exclusive benefit of man, their nature, distribution and availability must correspond to the human needs and requirements. And we find this is true. The following discussion will clarify this point.

The total area of the earth is 510.072 million km² of which land is 148.94 million km² (29.2%) and water 361.132 million km² (70.8%) [4]. Natural resources may be either biotic (living) or abiotic (non-living) in origin. They are materials essential or useful to man. These include land, air, water, plants, animals, fish, birds, microorganisms, forests, wildlife, minerals, natural gas, petroleum, coal, etc. The list is so long. Natural resources are classified under renewable, flow, and non-renewable groups. Renewable resources are generally living beings like plants, animals, etc. Wind, tides, solar radiation, etc., are treated as flow renewable resources as they do not require regeneration. Non-renewable resources are finite and their supply is limited. Coal, petroleum, mineral deposits come under this category. The finite nature of the resources is well highlighted by the Quran (Q. 7:24 given above). We know it is a fact. For instance, the reserve of natural gas at the end of 2005 is estimated to be around 179,831,967 million m³ [5], that of oil is 1200700 million barrels [6] and that of coal is 909,064 million tons [7]. There are over 450 kinds of minerals provided by Allah on the earth and more than two million recorded species. All the biological organisms are not used directly by us. Many are required to sustain the habitability of the environment and resourcefulness of the human robot testing planet. Apart from being our food, the bioresources cater to our needs ranging from ornament to experimental material. Statistics show world’s annual wood production (timber-equivalent) is 3.4 billion m³, meat production is 220 million tons, and marine fish catch is 90 million tons [8] to mention only a few. All that is on the earth is created for man and

not one of them for any other organism. This truth is discernible from the observation that every other organism uses only renewable resources and not one of them depletes a resource. It is for man and man alone Allah created everything on this planet. It is impossible to estimate Allah's blessings and bounties given to man on the earth. But still we are ungrateful to Him. To quote the Creator:

“If you would count up the favours of Allah, never would you be able to number them: for Allah is Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful.” (Q. 16:18)

“And He gives you of all that you ask for. But if you count the favours of Allah, never will you be able to number them. Verily, man is given up to injustice and ingratitude.” (Q. 14:34)

Mere availability of the resources is not enough; we should also be given knowledge to exploit and utilize them.

“And He has subjected to you, as from Him, all that is in the skies and on the earth; behold, in that are signs indeed for those who reflect”. (Q. 45:13)

“Don't you see that God has made all that is on the earth subject to you (men)...?” (Q. 22:65)

“And He has subjected to you, as from Him, all that is in the heavens and on earth: Behold, in that are Signs indeed for those who reflect.” (Q. 45:13)

“Do you not see that Allah has subjected to your (use) all things in the heavens and on earth, and has made his bounties flow to you in exceeding measure, (both) seen and unseen? Yet there are among men those who dispute about Allah, without knowledge and without guidance, and without a Book to enlighten them!”

(Q. 31:20)

The Quranic statement that Allah has subjected all things in the skies and on the earth to man implies that they are so designed and created by Allah as to make them useful and amenable to human exploitation. Even taming of animals would have been impossible for us had not Allah designed them so. We develop our likes and dislikes as stipulated in our microbioprogram (Adam's *nafs*), which, in turn, determine our needs. Therefore, the kind of resources provided by Allah on the earth would match our needs and are adequate to meet our requirements qualitatively and quantitatively. Thus we find the raw materials (natural resources) provided on the earth are amenable to our exploitation and they yield products appropriate for our use. But to exploit them successfully we need the right kind of knowledge. Allah has also given us that knowledge (through biomimetic transmission) in the form of science and technology. If this knowledge were not available, nothing would have been possible. For instance, petroleum reserves on the planet would have remained untapped had Allah not given us the knowledge of its purpose, extraction and utilization. Here we find a common thread between abioprogram and our own software. The abioprogram confers properties to atoms and molecules to fulfill the needs of man which in turn are created by our microbioprogram. They are thus complementary to each other. We also find a similar relation in our knowledge of science and technology. The

secular knowledge also suits the situation. Science teaches us which resource is to be used for what purpose(s). For example, we have been taught by Allah to use petroleum as energy source for our automobiles. Its supply and its technology match this purpose. We cannot think of using petroleum for a purpose not earmarked by Allah or another resource as energy source for automobiles for the simple reason the knowledge required to develop that technology will not be available in Adam's *nafs* and we will never develop an unstipulated technology. Conversely if we do not find a suitable raw material in nature for developing a technology for our use, that will also create difficulties in our day-to-day life. For example, if raw material is not available for making spectacles, lives of people with defective eyesight will be nightmarish. One can think of any number of such situations. These are sufficient proof of anthropocentricity of the cosmos. Look at the animals. They also have many organs which we have. Take the case of eye itself. Their eye (like their tooth, ear and other organs) is unproblematic unlike ours. Allah created them that way. If they also have problems with their eyes what would have been their predicament? In this way if we look at the world holistically, it will be self-evident that natural resources are created for human use alone. This reality justifies the view that the conditions on the earth are fine-tuned for sustaining human life. The purpose of all creations ultimately converges to a single objective – human robot testing.

Man boasts he invented various technologies himself to exploit the natural resources to his advantage. Consider, for instance, the cell phone. We may say we designed it to suit our hand and ear. This is wholly untrue. Allah gave us its design. He gave us the required knowledge to make the cell phone compatible with our ear and hand designs. We cannot achieve anything our own unless Allah wills. Humanity now passes through a technology-driven era. Our mode of transport, communication or for that matter, every aspect of our life has radically changed. The planet has shrunk to a village. As of 2005, there are 1,263,367,600 main lines of telephones, 2,168,433,600 mobile phones, 1,018,057,389 internet users, 49,024 airports, 1,115,205 km railway, 32,345,165 km roadway, 671,886 km waterway, to list for a sample [4]. These global figures might have grown a lot more now. The amenities science and technology has brought are spectacular and hopefully with the development of humanoid robot in the near future (Allah willing), we will be experiencing a fully computerized living environment.

Allah's designs are all-embracing and comprehensive. He alone knows our ultimate potential, He alone knows the quality and quantity of knowledge we are entitled to get, and He alone knows how far science and technology will take us. Allah decided our physical and mental attributes which in turn decided our needs. Allah decided the kind of raw materials (natural resources) for meeting each of our needs. Allah alone knows how long the human robot testing will continue and the world will last. Allah alone knows the resource requirement of the test period. The purposes of each and every thing available on the earth are determined by Allah and not by man. In nutshell, man receives the appropriate knowledge from Allah and develops the technology which Allah wants him to develop from the raw materials Allah decided, and for the human purposes Allah determined. There is not even an iota of human decision in any of these.

A thought experiment about human habitability on another planet will confirm these conclusions. The other planets do not have the same resource profile as ours because they are not intended and hence not created by Allah for human inhabitation. In

several verses mentioned above, Allah specifies that the earth is created for human beings (Q. 7:24). Suppose a large number of people migrate to a planet say Mars, for permanent settlement; what will happen? They will return to the earth for sure before long. They will find either the resource availability is not commensurate with human requirements or they are unable to develop the needed technology with the kind of raw materials available there. They will not be even able to construct a house there. How can this happen? First, Mars is not created by Allah as home for human beings and hence the resources available there are qualitatively and quantitatively at variance with our needs. Secondly, knowledge to create technology for meeting human needs utilizing the resources on Mars is not available in Adam's *nafs*. No human being will be able to adapt to Martian conditions, find food and shelter and develop science and technology utilizing Martian materials. That is to say, we will not find a fuel resource for our automobile there nor will we be able to invent automobile technology to suit the resources available there. The reason is again the same - that knowledge is not given in Adam's *nafs*. What is implied by this discussion is that unless and until Allah gives us the appropriate resources and knowledge, we will not be able to find out any technology our own. Here again the anthropocentric design of the earth will become evident. It is thus quite clear that the present universe is created by Allah to establish the necessary infrastructure facility for Allah's human robot testing programme on the earth for a specific period.

References

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Table 1. Divine purpose of creation from Islamic perspective

Creation	Purpose
Physical universe	System to hold the earth
Planet earth	1) Venue of human robot testing 2) To provide sustenance and resources for human robots
<i>Homo sapiens</i>	Free-willed robot of Allah as His representative on the earth (the re-created earth – Heaven)
Organisms other than man	1) Overall sustainability of the planet 2) Resources for man
Human life on earth	Test of performance of human individuals in Allah's interests
The Quran and earlier scriptures	Divine guidance software to provide Allah's directions and guidance to humanity. The Quran is the last in the scripture series meant for the entire humanity till the end of the world
Prophets	Messengers selected from human beings to convey Allah's directions to people at different times of human test history
Science and technology	1) To teach man of the resources available on the earth and to enable him to utilize them 2) To provide knowledge of his own system and thereby enable him to carry out own repairs (medical) 3) To equip and empower man with knowledge for exploration of the universe and greater comprehension of Allah's signs 4) To comprehend the Quranic messages in a rational manner
Scientists	Human beings selected by Allah for transmission of scientific and technological knowledge
Death of human being	Termination of test life of human robots
End of the universe	Termination of divine human robot testing programme



Fig. 1. The position of the earth in our galaxy, the Milky Way.
Image: NASA, Galaxy M83, similar size and shape to the Milky Way.
(www.ecology.com/.../earth-at-a-glance-feature/ Accessed 27-1-07)