

## Dialogue with an Atheist - Vs.4.0

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Please note dialogue with Atheists is difficult, but, they are rare outside of University. Conversation is not easy because they are usually well-educated and often just being arrogant, maybe almost rude. Unfortunately they seem to have some underlying bitterness or anger against people who believe in God. Whatever their attitude we need to be **humble, polite** and **ignore their negative attitude**.

Apologies if these dialogue sheets are too simple or too complicated. Please note that for most undergraduates and post-graduates the information and language used here is really too simple.

Whether it is too simple or too complicated please could you adapt it to your own level of knowledge and understanding, as well as adapting it to your listener

KEY

M =Muslim

ATH= Atheist

**M:** Do you have any Beliefs? Do you believe in God or anything?

**ATH:** No, I don't think there is a God.

**The Atheist may then give lots of reasons why there can't be a God. Sometimes it's worth asking them why they believe there is no God. What WE need to do is concentrate on giving evidence that there is a God!**

**M:** Excuse me can I prove to you that there is a Creator?

[At University you should probably say "Do you mind if I give you some evidence for a Creator and you could tell me what you think?"]

**ATH:** That's impossible (or looks surprised).

**M:** There are really **Four Proofs** or **Pieces of Evidence** for the existence of a Creator.

### **The First Piece of Evidence for a Creator is The ‘Law of Cause and Effect’ or Causality (Cosmological Argument).**

Can we agree that everything that exists must do so either because:

- 1. It Always Existed**
- 2. It Had A Beginning**

**1. Always Existed** would mean it goes back infinitely [for ever] and that’s just not possible. Now we know that even the Universe had a Beginning.

- 2. It Had A Beginning**

If it had a Beginning it must have either:

- a) Created Itself
- b) Something caused it to come into being, this is Causality.

a) **‘Created itself’** would mean it would have to exist and not exist at the same time which is impossible.

b) **‘Something caused it’**. This means that there must be a cause for anything to come into being. The ultimate cause for everything is, we believe The Creator. You are probably wondering who made this Creator.

**ATH:** Yes..... Who made The Creator?

**M:** If you are asking this question then you are thinking about something called **Infinite Regress**. Which means the Creator was made by another Creator who would then need to be made by another Creator and so on. This cannot happen as there must be an ultimate cause for everything that is uncreated. Otherwise you would go on forever. Does that make sense?

Sorry can I ask you another question? Do you think that the Universe is finite or infinite? [Does it go on forever?]

**ATH:** I don’t know. Probably Finite. It can’t go on forever.

**M:** Yes it is Finite. Most scientists agree that The Universe is Finite and started with an initial “explosion” and it is still expanding – This is ‘The Big Bang Theory’.

**M:** Question is, was it just ‘matter’ that came into being, or even The Laws of The Universe?

**ATH:** I don't know.

**M:** Scientists agree that it wasn't just 'matter'; but it was even The Laws of The Universe, including **Time itself**, that came into being! Therefore, The Laws of The Universe are within this Finite Universe, where Space and Time are linked together – [called a Space-Time Continuum].

If The Creator is not within this Universe, He is not restricted by Space and Time. Therefore He does not have a beginning and therefore does not need a Creator. A Scientist would agree that anything outside this Universe, **if it exists**, is outside this Space-Time Continuum.

**M:** What I have said so far doesn't prove a Creator but using a 'Scientific argument' gives rise to the possibility for a Creator.

### **The Second Piece of Evidence for a Creator:**

#### **The Design and Fine Tuning of The Universe (*Teleological Argument*).**

The second piece of evidence for the existence of The Creator is the complexity and the Fine-Tuning in the design of the Universe. This shows 'intelligence' in the design. This intelligence would suggest an intelligent Designer.

The key words are '**Fine-Tuning**' – this means A Universe that is finely and accurately balanced.

The Fine-Tuning of the Universe would have to be due either to

- 1. Physical Necessity**
- 2. Chance**
- 3. Design**

#### **1. Physical Necessity**

It is not due to physical necessity because The Universe could be lots of other ways and it would still be 'A' Universe; but not as we see it today!

#### **2. Chance**

The probability of The Universe being like it is by chance is so, so small that you could count it as, almost impossible, and I'll explain why later (if you don't mind).

### 3. Design

This is the only real possibility left!

Therefore The Universe has been designed to be the way it is.

## Can I show you one example of the incredible Fine-Tuning of The Universe?

### Low Entropy Universe

Our Universe is a Low Entropy Universe. Entropy is the degree of randomness of the particles in the Universe. Therefore entropy is a measure of how the particles of the Universe are spread out. The question is what was the chance of our Universe being spread out and be of a Low Entropy as much as it is.

Professor Roger Penrose, Professor of Mathematics, at Oxford University has calculated the probability of this Low Entropy Universe. He has calculated that the probability of our Low-Entropy Universe by chance is:

**“10 to the power of 10 to the power of 123 to one!!!” --->**

[Professor Roger Penrose was awarded the [Wolf Prize](#) with [Stephen Hawking](#). Stephen Hawking is the famous Professor of Mathematics at Cambridge University (the one who uses a wheelchair) who discovered Hawking Radiation from Black Holes!]

### **The Third Piece of Evidence for a Creator:**

#### **The lives of certain Human Beings.**

There were some very good upright Human Beings who came with an **identical** message and claimed at some stage in their lives that Almighty God communicated with them in some way. For giving this message they were persecuted and sometimes killed. They gained no material or worldly benefit for giving this message. Their followers were also usually persecuted and sometimes killed and gained no worldly advantages from following this.

**Why did they do this?** There are three possibilities. They were either:

- 1) Dishonest but being Altruistic (wanted to help society)
- 2) Deluded or had some other Psychological problem
- 3) Honest and therefore true Prophets of Almighty God

### 1. Being Altruistic

Being altruistic means they were trying to help society but that they were lying. Their characters clearly showed that they would never ever lie. They also achieved no worldly benefit from their message.

### 2. Deluded or had some Psychological problems

Their characters clearly showed that they had no psychological problems. They were extremely honest, upright and unbelievably good.

### 3. True Prophets of Almighty God

Their characters showed that this was **the only possibility!**

There were many Messengers or Prophets. For example: Noah, Abraham, Moses, David, Solomon, Joseph, Jacob, Jesus and finally Muhammad (Peace be upon them).

To prove that they were sent by Almighty God, they all performed miracles. They claimed that they performed these miracles with a power that Almighty God had given them.

For example:

- **Moses** (PBUH) parted The Red Sea (with God's power) and the children of Israel escaped from The Pharaoh.
- **Jesus** (PBUH) brought the dead back to life, healed the leper and cured the person who was born blind; all with God's power.
- **Muhammad** (PBUH) was given a miracle as great as, if not greater than, the miracles given to the earlier Prophets. This miracle is present today and it is The Qur'an.

## **The Fourth Piece of Evidence for a Creator:**

### **The Miracle of The Qur'an**

This book is a miracle for a number of reasons. This book if genuine proves that,

- There is a Creator,
- That Muhammad (PHUH) was a true Prophet of Almighty God
- Therefore that Islam is true.

If I can explain why the Qur'an is a Miracle...

**You will now need to go through the reasons for the Qur'an being a miracle please see 'Dialogue with a Christian'**

M: Can you now agree The Qur'an is a powerful book?

ATH: **Yes it's affected a lot of people.**

M: So is it a Book beyond Human ability to produce?

ATH: **No I am sure we could do it.**

M: Sorry but we would need to produce a book with

- 1) Many scientific statements which will need to be 100% accurate for the next 1400 years.
- 2) It will have to affect a huge proportion of the World's population.
- 3) It will have to cause people to believe in many things that they have not seen.
- 4) It would need to be easy to memorise.
- 5) The Message would need to be consistent with all the previous Prophets of Almighty God.
- 6) It must be **A Linguistic (Language) Challenge.**
- 7) A powerful piece of literature.

M: Do you now agree that Qur'an must be from a supernatural source (not from humans).

ATH: **Possibly.**

M: Are you prepared to ask the Creator for guidance. Because The Qur'an tells us that belief depends on guidance and NOT only knowledge.

ATH: **May be.**

M: Can I show you the best way of asking?

ATH: **(Looks surprised).**

M: The best way is to place your head on the ground as The Prophets Abraham, Moses and Jesus did in the Bible, and as Prophet Muhammad (PBUT all) showed us.

M: There is no harm in asking God. It really is a Win-Win situation. If you ask and He doesn't exist there is no loss. However, if He does exist, then you really gained a great deal!

M: So if you are prepared to ask I'll give you some information. If you can ask God and come back to tell me if you get a response. If that's OK with you?

**This is the point at which I would normally stop and offer some literature etc.**

**But if they are still being arrogant then you can go on to the rest of this**

**ATH: No I am not really prepared to ask.**

M: Please don't be offended but, it really sounds as if you are quite arrogant.  
Are you an arrogant type of person?

**ATH: Yes I suppose I am quite arrogant.**

M: We were told that guidance is only for people with no arrogance and with a good heart.

I'll leave you with this message and you can think about it.

PBUH = Peace Be Upon Him

Da'wah Training – Fazal Rahman