



In the name of God, Most Gracious, Most Merciful

# Submitters Perspective

Monthly Bulletin of International  
Community of Submitters

www.masjiduntucson.org



Published by Masjid Tucson  
Zul Qada 1432

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## WATER

### Part of God's perfect design

Scientists looking for life elsewhere, first look for the presence of water. In the Quran, God tells us He made all living things from water (21:30). Humans have known for a while that water makes up about two-thirds of their bodies. So why else is water important? Every day as we go about our lives, we use water in a number of ways. We drink it (16:10), cook food with it, use it to perform ablution (5:6) before we pray, water plants, clean our dishes, and in many more activities. Water sustains our life directly and indirectly. And God is the One who placed it on our planet as part of His perfect design. Praise be to God.

God ALONE Worthy of Worship

[27:60-61] *Who is the One who created the heavens and the earth? Who is the One who sends down to you from the sky water, whereby we produce gardens full of beauty—you could not possibly manufacture its trees? Is it another god with GOD? Indeed, they are people who have deviated. Who is the One who made the earth habitable, caused rivers to run through it,*

*placed on it mountains, and created a barrier between the two waters? Is it another god with GOD? Indeed, most of them do not know.*

#### Water: Key to Life

So why is liquid water essential to life as we know it? "Liquid" water may sound redundant, but scientists insist on using the qualifier, for ice or steam is not good enough. The biochemical reactions that sustain life need a fluid in order to operate. In a liquid, molecules can dissolve and chemical reactions occur. Liquids effectively convey vital substances like metabolites and nutrients from one place to another in an organism. And water, which dissolves just about anything, is the best liquid for the job.

[21:30] *Do the unbelievers not realize that the heaven and the earth used to be one solid mass that we exploded into existence? And from water we made all living things. Would they believe?*

Water plays another key role in the biochemistry of life: folding enzymes. Enzymes are proteins that catalyze

chemical reactions, making them occur much faster than they otherwise would. To do their job, enzymes must take on a specific three-dimensional structure. It is water molecules that facilitate this. Whether it's for animals or plants, water allows the growth and development of life on the planet.

[41:39] *Among His proofs is that you see the land still, then, as soon as we shower it with water, it vibrates with life. Surely, the One who revived it can revive the dead. He is Omnipotent.*

[24:45] *And GOD created every living creature from water. Some of them walk on their bellies, some walk on two legs, and some walk on four. GOD creates whatever He wills. GOD is Omnipotent.*

#### Water: anomaly compared to other Liquids on Earth

Water's ability to successfully further the processes of life has a lot to do with how unique a fluid it is. For example, while other substances take on both solid and liquid forms, few do so under the conditions of temperature

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and pressure that prevail on our planet's surface. In fact, water is one of only three naturally occurring inorganic liquids on earth. It is also the only substance that is found on Earth in all three physical states: solid, liquid, and gas.

*[24:43] Do you not realize that GOD drives the clouds, then gathers them together, then piles them on each other, then you see the rain coming out of them? He sends down from the sky loads of snow to cover whomever He wills, while diverting it from whomever He wills. The brightness of the snow almost blinds the eyes.*

Without this design, the water cycle that most living things rely on would not exist. No other substance exhibits this transformation cycle, and yet we often take it for granted. In the Quran, God tells us about this water cycle in 24:43, 25:53 and similar verses. If not for the evaporation and condensation, we would not have fresh water to drink.

*[25:53] He is the One who merges the two seas; one is fresh and palatable, while the other is salty and undrinkable. And He separated them with a formidable, inviolable barrier (evaporation).*

*[30:48 - 50] GOD is the One who sends the winds, to stir up clouds, to be spread throughout the sky in accordance with His will. He then piles the clouds up, then you see the rain coming down therefrom. When it falls on whomever He chooses from among His servants, they rejoice. Before it fell on them, they had resorted to despair. You shall appreciate GOD's continuous mercy, and how He revives the land that has been dead. He will just as certainly resurrect the dead. He is Omnipotent.*

Water's wide liquid range and high heat capacity mean that temperatures on the Earth's surface, which is more

than two-thirds water, can undergo extreme variations—between night and day, say, or between seasons—without its water freezing or boiling away, events that would cause a lot of hardship in life as we know it. By God's design, the oceans serve as a powerful moderating influence on the world's climate.

*[51:48] And we made the earth habitable; a perfect design*

#### Overwhelming Signs of God

*[2:164] In the creation of the heavens and the earth, the alternation of night and day, the ships that roam the ocean for the benefit of the people, the water that GOD sends down from the sky to revive dead land and to spread in it all kinds of creatures, the manipulation of the winds, and the clouds that are placed between the sky and the earth, there are sufficient proofs for people who understand.*

*[15:19 - 23] As for the earth, we constructed it, and placed on it stabilizers (mountains), and we grew on it a perfect balance of everything. We made it habitable for you, \* and for creatures you do not provide for. There is nothing that we do not own infinite amounts thereof. But we send it down in precise measure. And we send the winds as pollinators, and cause water to come down from the sky for you to drink. Otherwise, you could not keep it palatable. It is we who control life and death, and we are the ultimate inheritors.*

*\*15:20 When we send astronauts into space, we provide them with precisely measured quantities of food, water, and oxygen. God created the spaceship Earth with billions of astronauts who work and reproduce; He supplied them with a self-supporting system that generates oxygen, fresh water, and a great variety of delicious foods and drinks.*

#### Appreciation

Water is essential for life. No one on planet Earth can survive without it. It is a prerequisite for human health and

well-being as well as for the preservation of the environment. For many people in developed nations, it is easy to take water for granted. Our "issues" with water are whether it is hot or cold enough in the shower. Or if we have ice to cool our drink. For many others, this is the least of their problems. From the United Nations website we learn: "Four of every ten people in the world do not have access to even a simple pit latrine; and nearly two in ten have no source of safe drinking water. Every year millions of people, most of them children, die from diseases associated with inadequate water supply, sanitation, and hygiene." According to the World Health Organization, each and every day some 3,900 children die because of dirty water or poor hygiene; and it is the major cause of death among children worldwide, after respiratory diseases.

It is likely to get more serious: "...observers have estimated that by 2025 more than half of the world population will be facing water-based vulnerability." So we must take every opportunity to appreciate God's blessings upon us, including that of fresh and clean water. We can also help others in need of water with charity, seeking God's pleasure.

*[16:10] He sends down from the sky water for your drink, and to grow trees for your benefit.*

*[23:18-19] We send down from the sky water, in exact measure, then we store it in the ground. Certainly, we can let it escape. With it, we produce for you orchards of date palms, grapes, all kinds of fruits, and various foods.*

*[30:48-50] GOD is the One who sends the winds, to stir up clouds, to be spread throughout the sky in accordance with His will. He then piles the clouds up, then you see the rain coming down therefrom. When it*

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*falls on whomever He chooses from among His servants, they rejoice. Before it fell on them, they had resorted to despair. You shall appreciate GOD's continuous mercy, and how He revives the land that has been dead. He will just as certainly resurrect the dead. He is Omnipotent.*

Faiz C.

Reference:

<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/origins/essential.html>

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## A reader's comments

Asalaamu alaikum

... I just wanted to let you know that your website has been a blessing in my life. It was hard facing all the EXTREME OPPOSITION, coming from relatives. My parents and brother and sisters have all been very UNDERSTANDING and I have shared the information I have learned from your website with them and they listened with open hearts and open minds.

I gotta tell ya, that whole thing about the world ending in 2280AD, really spooked me. But it spooked in a way that was NOT that I didn't believe it, but that I just was amazed at actually seeing a real date. I mean as far as we all knew the world could've ended tomorrow or at any second. The guessing kind of wore off, and we just didn't really think about it. I used to hear stories when I was overseas, that there will be an all out war between the Muslims and Jews, and that buildings getting taller and taller were signs, and kids becoming more violent was a sign etc.

Of course, whatever people in the Middle East told me about the religion I

believed because I thought that surely they read the Quran and since they were much much more fluent in Arabic than I was, they must understand more of what the Quran says.

Now I try to tell my grandmother who strongly believes in Hadith, much of what I have learned from your website. It's hard considering that she has been taught Hadith ALL her life. I remember times I would eat with my left hand and she would immediately chastise me for it. She was never harsh about it, but she would tell me that what I was doing was Haraam. But I would always, due to my argumentative/defiant nature, tell her that what she was saying was total nonsense and go right on ahead with what I was doing.

This was before I ever saw your website, and this was a time when I USED to believe some of the Hadith I was taught. So, it was just amazing that I happened to "CLICK" on your website out of the blue and for no apparent reason (or so I thought), and found the information that made my heart feel SOOO much more content. As I had said before in my other E-mails, the information on the THE AGE OF 40, made my spirits SOAR. I am not speaking in terms of my self, but I just couldn't understand how a 25 year old, who was taught Christianity all his life and then suddenly died, would go straight to hell. Thank you for clarifying the Quran for me. I truly appreciate it.

I don't really have my questions formed yet, but I hope to get a response from one of you guys and then I will ask away, hope you don't mind, cause I am just ready to explode with my questions, I promise to only ask a couple at a time and not bombard you. Thanks Again!!

Peace and GOD bless!

A.

## THE REMARKABLE CAMEL



*Why do they not reflect on the camels and how they are created? [88:17]*

Of all the animals mentioned in the scriptures—dogs, horses, birds, locusts, etc.—why did God pick the camel as the one we should reflect on? Because its creation is its own miracle. The camel is not always seen as a beautiful animal. But it is absolutely perfect for what it needs to do and where it needs to survive. This is a gift from God. Without camels, no one could travel in the deserts, so huge sections of the world would be not just difficult to live on, but completely unlivable.

All of the camel is practical for his survival and for his service to man. A camel's feet, although hoofed, have large pads that spread out in the soft sand to keep the animal from sinking in. His face is designed as protection from sun and sand. The thick eyebrows, heavy eyelids and thick lashes all keep out sand, and there's even a third eyelid that can close in heavy storms. The slit nostrils have special muscles which can close them against blowing sand. The ears have thick hair inside as well as outside to prevent dirt and sand from getting down inside the ear, and possibly causing infection.

A camel's hump is a lump of fat. This is used as a source of energy when food is scarce. The hump may actually shrink when no food is available, but the camel can live off it for many days. And it will reform perfectly when food is again available. Because food is so scarce, the camel must be able to eat anything (even the tents). The lining of the mouth is very tough so that the camel can bite and chew

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ISSN 1089-053X

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thorny cactus plants without harm to the mouth.

Most incredible is how the camel deals with heat and lack of water. First of all, camels have a low metabolic rate, so energy is used slowly. The body temperature has a wide range of normal. It may start the day at 94 and hit 105 in the heat of the afternoon. (Our normal temperature is 98 and at 101, we're sick). The camel is one of few animals that can sweat. The coarse body hair, which acts as a protection against the direct sun, also allows the camel this ability to sweat. Sweating is a more efficient cooling system than panting and less precious fluid is lost. Additionally, in its incredibly efficient way, the camel doesn't sweat until its body temperature is near the top of its range.

No other creature can process water in the same way. It does not lose water from blood, only from the tissue. Thus the blood stays properly thin enough to circulate and remove body heat. The camel will only drink when needed and only replace what's lost. If he lost 5 gallons over the last two days, he will drink 5 gallons and walk away. He may not drink at all in winter. And the camel can quickly replace all water lost — 25 gallons in a very short time. Other animals drinking too fast can die from water intoxication.

So camels are truly remarkable animals. When we reflect on their creation, as God instructs us to do, we

can't help but marvel at the ways God made them fit perfectly into their niche. May God help each of us to fit our own niche as well.

*Lydia K. (reprinted from Dec 94 SP)*

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