What is the stance of Islam on the Evolution Theory?

Science provides convincing proofs of the concept of evolution from one common origin, which is mentioned in the Noble Qur’an.

{We created from water every living thing. Will they not then believe?} [111] Surat al-Anbiyā’: 30.

Allah Almighty has created the living beings and made them intelligent and naturally disposed to adapt with the surrounding environment. It is possible for them to evolve in terms of size, shape, or height. For example, the sheep in the cold countries have a certain shape and have a skin to protect them from cold, and their wool increases or decreases depending on the temperature. Whereas, in other countries they are different. Thus, the shapes and types vary according to the variation in the environment. This even applies to human beings, who vary in terms of color, qualities, language, and appearance. No human being identically resembles another; however, they all remain human beings and do not change into another type of animals. Allah Almighty said:

{And among His signs is the creation of the heavens and earth, and the diversity of your tongues and colors. Indeed, there are signs in this for those who have knowledge.} [112] Surat ar-Rūm: 22.

{Allah created every living creature from water. Some of them move on their bellies, and some walk on two legs and some walk on four. Allah creates what He wills. Allah is Most Capable of all things.} [113] Surat an-Nūr: 45.

The Evolution Theory, which is meant to deny the Creator's existence, suggests the idea of the common origin from which all the living beings, animals and plants emerged. It holds that such living beings evolved from one origin, which is a unicellular organism, and that the formation of the first cell was the result of the combination of the amino acids in water, which in turn formed the primary structure of the DNA that carries the creature's genetic traits. Through the combination of these amino acids, the primary structure of the first cell was formed. As a result of various environmental and external factors, these cells

multiplied and formed the first sperm, which developed into a clot then into a lump of flesh.

As we observe here, these phases are very much like the phases of man's creation in the mother's womb; however, the living beings stop growing and start being shaped according to the genetic traits that are carried by the DNA acid. For example, when the frogs' growth process is complete, they remain frogs, and the same applies to every living being as it completes its growth according to its genetic traits.

Even if we consider the genetic spurts and their effect on the genetic traits in the emergence of new living organisms, this does not refute the Creator's omnipotence and will. However, the atheists claim that all this happens randomly, whereas the theory itself confirms the fact that such development phases cannot possibly occur and proceed except through the intention and planning of someone who is all-aware and all-knowing. Consequently, it is possible to adopt the concept of the directed evolution, or the theistic evolution, that advocates the biological evolution and rejects the idea of randomness, and that there must be someone knowledgeable, wise, and capable behind the evolution. In other words, we may accept the notion of evolution, but we absolutely reject Darwinism. Stephen Gould, the well-known paleontologist and biologist, said: "Either half my colleagues are enormously stupid or else Darwinism is fully compatible with religious belief."

Questions and Answers about Islam
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