

THE EXISTENCE OF GOD

MAWLĀNĀ IMRAN PATEL



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Humanity's Timeless Question

The question of God's existence has been central to human thought throughout history. Every civilization, nation, and religion has attempted to answer it. While atheism and secular ideologies have gained ground in recent centuries, the overwhelming majority of human beings throughout history have believed in a Supreme Being who created and governs the universe. Islam provides a clear, rational, and spiritual framework for affirming and understanding the existence of God. At the same time, examining perspectives from other religions and philosophies deepens our appreciation of this universal search.

The Islamic View of God's Existence

Islam teaches that belief in God is innate in every human being. The Glorious Qur'ān says:

“So direct your face toward the religion, inclining to truth. [Adhere to] the fiṭrah of Allāh upon which He has created [all] people. No change should there be in the creation of Allāh.”

(The Glorious Qur'ān 30:30)

Fiṭrah refers to the natural disposition to recognize the

Creator. According to Islam, atheism is not humanity's default state, but a deviation caused by environmental influences, upbringing, or personal pride. The Glorious Qur'ān frequently calls people to reflect on the universe as evidence of God's existence:

“Indeed, in the creation of the heavens and the earth, and the alternation of the night and day are signs for those of understanding.”

(The Glorious Qur'ān 3:190)

Likewise, the design of human beings themselves is presented as proof:

“And in yourselves – then will you not see?”

(The Glorious Qur'ān 51:21)

The Glorious Qur'ān appeals to human reason by invoking the principle of cause and effect: everything that begins to exist must have a cause. Since the universe began to exist, it must have a cause — namely, a Creator, Al-Khāliq (The Creator). Islam does not merely argue that God exists, but describes Him with clarity. This concept is known as Tawḥīd (Monotheism). The basis of Tawḥīd is that God is

One (Aḥad), utterly unique (Ṣamad), and unlike His creation:

“There is nothing like unto Him, and He is the Hearing, the Seeing.”

(The Glorious Qur’ān 42:11)

He is All-Knowing, All-Powerful, Merciful, and Just. He is eternal and without beginning or end, as described in Sūrah al-Ikhlāṣ:

“Say, ‘He is Allāh, [who is] One, Allāh, the Eternal Refuge. He neither begets nor is born, Nor is there to Him any equivalent.’”

(The Glorious Qur’ān 112:1–4)

This precise understanding prevents confusion and misguidance, such as worshiping idols, natural forces, or multiple deities.

Other Religious Perspectives

The existence of God is not unique to Islam; it is echoed in various faith traditions.

- Judaism emphasizes the oneness of God with the declaration: “Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God,

the Lord is One.” (Deuteronomy 6:4). This Shema prayer closely resembles the Islamic testimony of faith, the Shahādah. Like Islam, Judaism rejects idol worship and stresses God's transcendence.

- Christianity affirms God's existence and His role as Creator, as stated in Genesis: “In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.” (Genesis 1:1). However, the doctrine of the Trinity — the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit — introduces theological complexity. From an Islamic perspective, this is seen as a departure from pure monotheism: “Do not say ‘Three.’ Desist – it is better for you. Indeed, Allāh is but one God.” (The Glorious Qur’ān 4:171)
- Hindu traditions recognize a Supreme Being called Brahman, the ultimate reality. However, Hinduism includes polytheistic elements, with numerous deities viewed as manifestations of Brahman. While the recognition of a Supreme God aligns to some degree with Tawhīd, the worship of many gods contradicts it from an Islamic standpoint.
- Classical Buddhism is often non-theistic, focusing on enlightenment and liberation from suffering

rather than a Creator. However, some later schools introduced beliefs in divine beings and cosmic Buddhas. Though Buddhism lacks a defined concept of God, its emphasis on morality and inner transformation reflects humanity's inherent search for meaning and transcendence.

The Philosophical Perspective

Philosophers have long contemplated God's existence. Aristotle proposed the idea of the “Unmoved Mover,” the ultimate cause of all motion. Thomas Aquinas developed his “Five Ways” to demonstrate God's existence, including arguments from causation and design. In more recent times, thinkers like William Lane Craig have defended the Kalam Cosmological Argument — derived from Islamic theology — which states that everything that begins to exist has a cause; since the universe began to exist, it must have a Creator.

Common Human Intuition

Across cultures and traditions, people observe signs pointing to a higher power. The order and precision of the universe, evident in natural laws and ecosystems, suggest intelligent design. Humans also

possess a moral compass — an inner sense of right and wrong — that often transcends social conditioning. Additionally, the universal yearning for purpose, expressed through worship and spiritual practice, highlights a natural orientation toward the Divine.

The Glorious Qur'ān captures this beautifully:

“We will show them Our signs in the horizons and within themselves until it becomes clear to them that this is the truth.”

(The Glorious Qur'ān 41:53)

Recognizing the One True God

The existence of God is affirmed by revelation, reason, and human nature. Islam provides the clearest and most uncompromising vision of God's oneness and perfection, calling all of humanity to worship Him alone. Although other religions and philosophies differ in their details, they nonetheless reflect glimpses of this truth — evidence that belief in God is deeply rooted in human nature, experience, and history. For the believer, God's existence is not an abstract idea but a living reality. He is the Creator, Sustainer, and Judge, and recognizing Him

is the first step toward true peace and success. As The Glorious Qur'ān states:

“So know that there is no deity except Allāh, and ask forgiveness for your sin...”

(The Glorious Qur'ān 47:19)

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