

Scientific Topics- Scientific Topics from Sermons- Lesson(18): Orbits of Planets and Halley Comet

Praise be to Allah, the Lord of Creations, and Peace and blessings be upon our prophet Muhammad, the faithful and the honest.

Oh, Allah, we know nothing but what You teach us. You are the All-Knowing, the Wise. Oh Allah, teach us what is good for us, and benefit us from what You taught us, and increase our knowledge. Show us the righteous things as righteous and help us to do them, and show us the bad things as bad and help us to keep away from them.

O Allah our Lord, lead us out from the depths of darkness and illusion, unto the lights of erudition and knowledge, and from the muddy shallows of lusts unto the heavens of Your Vicinity.

Interpretation of these two ayat:



In His noble Quran Allah, Glory to Him, says,

“It is not for the Sun to overtake the Moon, nor does the night outstrip the day; and they all run: each in an orbit.”

[XXXVI; 40]

This Quranic ayah shows clearly enough that the Sun has its own orbit, and so does the Moon. It also shows that the Sun's orbit has nothing to do with that of the Moon and that they will not crash with each other, but rather run “each in an orbit”. This same notion is reiterated by Allah's Words,

“Verily, Allah grasps the heavens and the earth lest they should move away from their orbits.”

[XXXV; 41].

This denotes that it is Allah, All-Mighty, Who keeps not only the Sun and the Moon but also all heavenly objects in their own orbits. Even in interpretation of Allah's Words

“By the heaven of return”

[LXXXVI; 11]

Some interpreters hold that they provide the most accurate description of the heaven, for each and every heavenly object goes round its own orbit, which makes it go back to the same starting point over and over again. For example, the comet that people speak about and look forward to see every day, Halley, has been running in its own orbit, from which it never goes astray one single inch, ever since Allah, All-Mighty, created the heavens and the earth. It reaches a point that is 30,000,000 km's away from the Earth and has a tail 93 km's long. People are afraid that it may one day keep on its straight course coming directly to crash with the Earth; but Allah, All-Mighty, says,

“Verily, Allah grasps the heavens and the earth lest they should move away from their orbits.”

Can Halley Comet get out of its orbit?

This comet has been running in its own orbit for millions of years, and so have the earth and the Sun. Such is a marvelous Sign that bespeaks Allah's Infinite Divine Power and Might. Once again, we repeat Allah's Words:

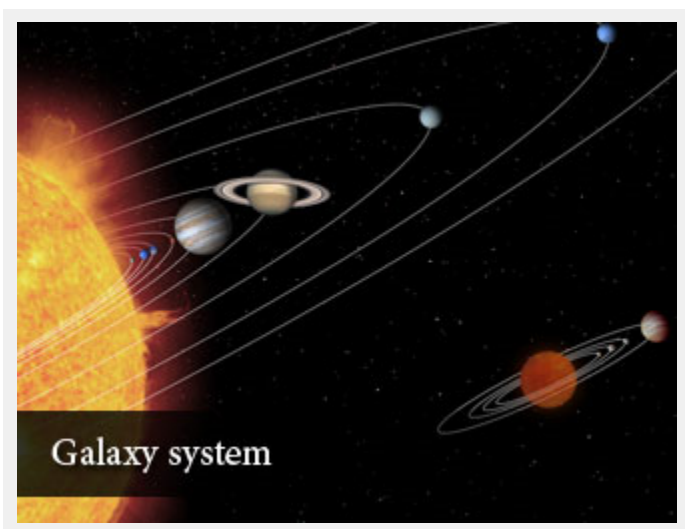
“It is not for the Sun to overtake the Moon, nor does the night outstrip the day; and they all run: each in an orbit.”

To wrap up, each and every heavenly object has its own orbit that never gets longer or shorter, faster or slower. Moreover, the Sun will never crash with the Moon; the Earth's axial rotation will also remain the same, and so will the length of the day on the Earth. In other words, calendars have been the same for thousands of years, and you are told that on a certain day, 17th April 3000 AD, for instance, the Sun is going to rise at 06,02 a.m. What does this mean?! Allah, All-Mighty, says,

“Nor does the night outstrip the day; and they all run: each in an orbit.”

In fact, the Earth's axial rotation is unchanged, and so is its movement round the Sun:

“They all run: each in an orbit”.



But what does the word “each” in the above Verse refer to?! The answer is: In fact, it refers to all things that Allah, All-Mighty, has created. The atom, for example, is made up of neutrons and electrons that keep whirling round themselves and in orbits, just like all galaxies of the universe. In other words, the system of atoms is the same as that of the galaxies; and everything that you see is made up of molecules, which are made up of atoms, which, in turn, are made up of nuclei and electrons, which have fixed speeds and orbits. Undoubtedly, this Quranic Verse does refer to the atom. Allah, All-Mighty, says,

“and they all”,

i.e. all the things that Allah has created

“run: each in an orbit”.

Atoms of rocks, stones, wood, water, glass, tables, ...etc: everything that you see is made up of molecules, atoms, nuclei, nucleons, protons, neutrons and electrons: and they all run: each in an orbit!

Translation : Khaled Al-Athmeh
Auditing :