

The background of the cover is a complex, abstract pattern of swirling lines in shades of blue and green. The lines radiate from a central point, creating a sense of depth and movement, reminiscent of a vortex or a nebula. The colors transition from dark blue and black at the edges to lighter, more vibrant blues and greens towards the center.

The Story of Creation in the Qur'an

– A Sufi Interpretation –

Shaykh Fadhlalla Haeri



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Book Description

“The Story of Creation in the Qur’an” is an exposition of the Qur’anic verses relating to the nature of physical phenomena, including the origins of the universe, the nature of light, matter, space and time, and the evolution of biological and sentient beings. In this book Shaykh Fadhlalla Haeri demonstrates that the verses in the Qur’an relating to the outer physical phenomena are not separate from inner phenomena and states, but in fact reflect them. The Qur’an gives us a unified view of existence drawing us from multiplicity to unity, in order to live appropriately from a unified foundation in a world of multiplicity. This is missing from other books, which only focus on matching outer phenomena to scientific discovery without inner reflection. The *“Story of Creation in the Qur’an”* relates outer patterns and symbols to inner experiences and metaphors bringing out the gnostic elements not just the prescriptive and phenomenal descriptions.

About Shaykh Fadhlalla Haeri

Acknowledged as a master of self-knowledge and a spiritual philosopher, Shaykh Fadhlalla Haeri's role as a teacher grew naturally out of his own quest for self-fulfillment.

He travelled extensively on a spiritual quest which led to his eventual rediscovery of the pure and original Islamic heritage of his birth, and the discovery of the truth that reconciles the past with the present, the East with the West, the worldly with the spiritual – a link between the ancient wisdom teachings and our present time.

A descendant of five generations of well-known and revered spiritual leaders, Shaykh Fadhlalla Haeri has taught students throughout the world for over 30 years.

He is a gifted exponent of how the self relates to the soul, humankind's link with the Divine, and how consciousness can be groomed to reflect our higher nature.

The unifying scope of his perspective emphasizes practical, actionable knowledge that leads to self-transformation, and provides a natural bridge between seemingly different Eastern and Western approaches to spirituality, as well as offering a common ground of higher knowledge for various religions, sects and secular outlooks.

He is a prolific author of more than thirty books relating to the universal principles of Islam, the Qur'an, and its core purpose of enlightenment.

Preface

Say: Journey in the land, then behold how He originated creation; then Allah causes the later growth to grow; Allah is powerful over everything. [29:20]

The Qur'an is a sacred source book, a guidance through the landscape of personal consciousness towards our origins in the everlasting abode of absolute pure consciousness.

"The Story of Creation in the Qur'an" is an exposition of the Qur'anic verses relating to the nature of physical phenomena, including the origins of the universe, the nature of light, matter, space and time, and the evolution of biological and sentient beings. In this book Shaykh Fadhlalla Haeri demonstrates that the verses in the Qur'an relating to the outer physical phenomena are not separate from inner phenomena and states, but in fact reflect them. The Qur'an gives us a unified view of existence drawing us from multiplicity to unity, in order to live appropriately from a unified foundation in a world of multiplicity. This is missing from other books, which only focus on matching outer phenomena to scientific discovery without inner reflection. *"The Story of Creation in the Qur'an"* relates outer patterns and symbols to inner experiences and metaphors bringing out the gnostic elements not just the prescriptive and phenomenal descriptions.

For Muslims, the gateway to spiritual knowledge is the Qur'an, which itself is the verbal expression of ultimate reality, the all-comprehensive speech of Allah. Accordingly the root meaning of the word Qur'an also means gathered or all-comprehensive. The Qur'an was thereby revealed to the all-comprehensive Adamic consciousness (heart) of the Prophet Muhammad (pbuh¹).

¹ pbuh: Peace be upon him – an invocation a Muslim makes when the name of the Prophet Muhammad is mentioned.

The Qur'an has also been referred to as the Book, the Light, the Balance, the Discrimination, the Guidance and, the Remembrance, among others. The Qur'an's power is due to its consistency regarding the Truth that all of creation is held by God's unique cosmic will and Oneness; and to its description of the patterns of creation, and the appropriate code of conduct by employing parables, historical stories and wise guidelines for personal and social wellbeing. The special language of the Qur'an bridges the gap between the unseen realm and the world of physical entities, logic and reason. It connects humanity with its essence in Divine Reality. Accordingly, Qur'anic science deals with the inimitability of the Qur'an, thereby all exegesis or commentary look at the historical context in which a verses is revealed, its grammar, eloquence, traditional pronunciation and the method in which it is read.

The Qur'an contains the blueprint of existence as well as the perfect manner of transaction with oneself, nature, society, and the Creator. The Qur'an is like a universal divine mirror that reflects whatever there is in the universe in a manner that can be understood and adhered to by any human being who seeks transformation and awakening to the everlasting source and essence that lies within the heart (consciousness). Much depends upon our intention; faith and a courteous approach to the sacred text are paramount for wherever we then look there are signs of the Creator, signs that we can only see due to His grace and generosity.

Furthermore, the Qur'an reveals patterns and maps of the universe, known and unknown. It shines the Truth upon what is in the heavens and on the earth, connecting the physical with unseen energies and realities; it draws similitudes, parables or metaphors to a web of patterns that connect based on the one field that pulsates throughout the universe. It establishes that human reason is an essential starting point that leads to subtler understanding, insight, and higher consciousness.

In addition, we often see in the Qur'an a recurrence of similar themes, which is like the emergence of a pattern in a mosaic, or threads in a tapestry, where the use of the same tile patterns complements another pattern and holds the total design together. We see a multifaceted panorama dealing with various aspects of existence in multi-dimensions of form and meanings

that take the reader to higher levels of consciousness towards a unified and integrated view of existence. This hierarchy of patterned style is also utilized by the author in this book in order to aid the reader in his journey of ascension.

The physical realm that is accessible to our senses and its scientific and technological extensions are forms that inevitably veil the intrinsic nature or essence of existence. Every form hides a meaning and contains the essence, the spirit that emanates from Allah. Thus, our earthly world can only ever be indicative of the subtler Reality that becomes evident in the hereafter, once all the veils have been extinguished.

Moreover, the Qur'an reveals the intricate connections in the fabric of reality and the levels of causality. In our daily lives, every event or experience we encounter presents a challenge from which we may grow in personal or spiritual wisdom. The universe is like a womb woven by space and time, containing countless interacting entities, each bounded by birth and death, and restricted by conditioned mental and cultural limitations. Discernment and discrimination come about whenever reason and causality take place within the confines of space and time, which in itself is a transient reality that floats in infinite timelessness. Humanity's earthly perch is a conditioned aspect of universal realities.

The Qur'an emphasizes the basic patterns that govern earthly physical realities and connects them to their heavenly root, to which all return. It illustrates the relativity of time and space so that we may see our earthly concerns in the proper perspective through the referral to timeless qualities. Through God-consciousness, all other misunderstandings stabilize appropriately.

All of the entities of existence, including stars and galaxies are described as being held together by Allah's will, up to an appointed time, after which they will disintegrate and return to the original singularity or 'no-thingness,' that originally gave rise to 'everything-ness'. The beginning of creation is described as a singular occurrence like a crack in the unseen. From an absolute singularity with infinite possibility emerged a spectrum of diverse and expanding entities, which will eventually return to the point of the original state of no-thingness.

Further, the Qur'an stipulates that creation always appears in pairs and as complementary opposites. Every entity in existence is balanced and rooted in its apparent opposite; every 'negative' is connected to a 'positive'. Allah's decrees do not change, but individual and societal destinies change according to the paths followed. Human beings are guided to Truth and Light according to the extent of their individual readiness and ability to be transformed. The One Source behind all actions and attributes can be realized only by transcending all dualities and causalities. To see the one essence at the root of every situation implies seeing total perfection in the moment. This happens when all 'otherness' fades away under the light of 'Oneness'.

Reality, therefore, is a reflection of the divine attributes, which are the names of Allah. He is the absolute Truth which manifests in infinitely myriad ways and to different extents in creation and human experience. Allah is the only truth, and every other entity is a minor reflection of this absolute state. "The Story of Creation in the Qur'an" emphasizes the way in which the Qur'an itself is a verbal revelation of truth through the reality of the perfected prophetic consciousness.

Faith and trust in the all-merciful God are required for proper understanding and absorption of the message of the Qur'anic revelation. This book of treasures will only impact upon those whose hearts are ready to be illumined. The light of the Qur'an is barred from the skeptics and those in denial of their own essence and of the One all comprehensive reality – Allah. "*The Story of Creation in the Qur'an*" brings the Book of Treasures one step closer to those whose hearts are ready to be illumined.

Dr. Adnan al-Adnani

Introduction

The Qur'an is the principal source book upon which Islam is based. The Qur'an describes the creation of heavens and earth and their development and progress over a period of time, giving graphic descriptions of the collapse of the earth, stars, and the whole of the universe as we know it – back to its origin of 'no-thingness'.

Furthermore, the Qur'an tells us about the metaphysical, universal and specific aspects of creation, giving special attention to human life, along with descriptions and prescriptions for wholesome living. The Noble Qur'an is full of signs, allegories, metaphors and historical events which illustrate the appropriate way of conduct that enhances natural stability, harmony, happiness, knowledge of God and His way. Thus it also describes the different stages and states which human beings go through before and after death. A considerable portion of the Qur'an is devoted to life after death and how to prepare for it in this life. Indeed, life on earth is considered a prelude to and preparation for what will be experienced after death.

The entire creation of the universe began by a mysterious instantaneous event which is often referred to as the Divine Command: "Be!" After several billion years life on earth began after a long period of cosmic rain which caused life to emerge from a 'dead' earth. Then came the rest of creation and the eventual rise of consciousness, awareness and, ultimately, the emergence of the Adamic being who is both heavenly and earthly in composition. Because of this potential of consciousness, human beings are held as stewards over the rest of creation by virtue of their mental capacity as well as their evolved soul or spirit at heart.

There are considerable similarities between the Qur'an's description of creation and the story from the Bible (Genesis 1, King James Version):

1² In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.

2 And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.

3 And God said, Let there be light: and there was light.

4 And God saw the light, that it was good: and God divided the light from the darkness.

5 And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And the evening and the morning were the first day.

6 And God said, Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters.

7 And God made the firmament, and divided the waters which were under the firmament from the waters which were above the firmament: and it was so.

8 And God called the firmament Heaven. And the evening and the morning were the second day....

9 And God said, Let the waters under the heaven be gathered together unto one place, and let the dry land appear: and it was so.

10 And God called the dry land Earth; and the gathering together of the waters called the Seas: and God saw that it was good.

11 And God said, Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb yielding seed, and the fruit tree yielding fruit after his kind, whose seed is in itself, upon the earth: and it was so...

² The numbers in this list are verse numbers from Genesis 1.

13 And the evening and the morning were the third day.

14 And God said, Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years...

29 And God said, Behold, I have given you every herb bearing seed, which is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree, in which is the fruit of a tree yielding seed; to you it shall be for meat.

30 And to every beast of the earth, and to every fowl of the air, and to everything that creepeth upon the earth, wherein there is life, I have given every green herb for meat: and it was so.

31 And God saw everything that he had made, and, behold, it was very good. And the evening and the morning were the sixth day.

Many of the stories told in the Qur'an have their equivalent in the Bible with some variation. The Arabs of Makkah often interacted with Christian and Jewish merchants and country folks. As a result many of the old Abrahamic ideas about creation were not unfamiliar to the Arabs. As time went by each of the ancient apostles tried to explain the story of creation to their peoples in language that could be understood at that time.

The metaphor of the rise and descent of Adam is described as God's will to create a worthy steward on earth who could know all the divine attributes and qualities of God and thus behave with compassion and grace (*khalifah*). The Adamic consciousness rose in 'Paradise', where everything was perfect and not subject to change or decay. Then Adam was made to 'descend' to earth in order to be exposed to the dynamic of life, dualities, numerous creations and transient realities. God graced Adam with a divine soul which knows Allah's desirable qualities and is the direct link to Him.

Human beings on earth are in a constant state of struggle; they are driven to understand the soul and the divine Presence that pervades the Universe. Man on earth is regarded as the '*Khalifah*', the steward or divine representative in relation to other creations. The Qur'an regards human

responsibility as being comprehensive regarding life on earth. It warns against egotistic tendencies, waste or injustices at all levels. Social life and communities are regarded as essential for human development and spiritual awakening. Dualities and multiplicities are seen as emanating from Oneness and returning to it. The enlightened human being regards a potential enemy as a friend. 'Otherness' is seen through the light of Oneness. This does not preclude common folk from judging or condemning other people and situations according to their values and actions.

The Qur'an mentions numerous other creations that exist in different realms, but only a few of them are known to us. These include Angels, Jinn and other entities and subtle forces that regulate the universe. The Qur'an also describes other creations as more powerful than what we experience on earth.

Life on earth is based on dualities and pluralities which can appear either in opposition or in complementarity. Human life and experiences are described as a sample of what is much richer in the hereafter. Lives are framed within specific periods of time and limited space. We experience perpetual challenges which can either lead to a better understanding of the unifying forces leading to unity or to confusion and disappointment. The path of Islam – living the Qur'an and the Prophetic way – gives guidelines to reconciliation with the world as is and the understanding of creation at large, as well as inner states of mind and heart. The enlightened person realizes that change and diversity are veils to ever-present constancy and Unity – Allah.

Human beings always seek wellbeing and happiness. That state is the result of a harmonious relationship between the changing self and the constant soul or spirit (*ruh*).³ The human quest is mostly to changes in time and space and is a mysterious presence.

The beginning of creation occurred like a crack in the unseen, or 'no-thingness,' giving rise to 'everything-ness'. From an intensely dense and absolute singularity emerged infinite diversity

³ See also Shaykh Fadhlalla Haeri's "The Sufi Map of the Self (ASK Course ONE)".

and expanding entities, which will eventually return to the point of original emergence or singularity. The Qur'an describes this process as: "The same way it began it will return". The universe is held together by divine power described as 'Light'.

The purpose and meaning of humanity is to perfect the knowledge of Allah's attributes and qualities by means of transformative worship. This knowledge, trust, and guiding light will lead to success, contentment in this life and the hereafter. The so-called 'descent of Adam to earth' is the driving force for the conscious and deliberate ascent back to the state of the eternal garden or Paradise (within the heart on earth, before the hereafter). The Qur'an gives detailed prescriptions for this process which is founded upon doing good (selfless service and transcendence of ego) and improving intention, attention and action. The light of Allah and His will permeates the whole universe, governs it and guides it to its destiny in ways that are discernible as well as unseen and unknowable.

The mysterious inception of creation of the universe occurs within the boundaries of space and time. Our universe, and maybe other universes, are defined by such parameters and limits. On earth we clearly experience the arrow of time which moves from the past to the future via the present. Whatever is born or created is on its way towards its end or death. Order and disorder mingle intimately in the ocean of energy fields and space. At the point of inception of creation there was perfect order in that absolute Oneness. Astronomers estimate that the earth and the solar system began about 4.5 billion years ago and we are now nearly half way towards their end. Every entity or energy moves between its original gathered state (Oneness) and subsequent dispersion and separation, after which it returns to its original state.

Progress in science and technology has enabled us to understand better the creational dynamics, boundaries and connectedness of systems, large and small. We are, however, reaching a point where a great deal of effort and resources yield less and less helpful information. We seem to be nearing the boundaries where the discernible and unknowable meet. This is where normal human intellect and consciousness need to yield to higher consciousness and the realm of spiritual insight and imagination.

In this book I have restricted myself to expounding upon verses in the Qur'an that describe different aspects of our universe and only occasionally do I refer to our modern day knowledge regarding astronomy and quantum mechanics. As a young scientist I had been amazed by Qur'anic revelations fusing limited consciousness with the supreme Reality. My respect, love and trust in the Qur'an had been my guiding principle towards a better understanding of life and especially that of human nature. This gift has been the driving force behind producing this book for the general reader. Each human being is a microcosm that reflects the macrocosm and this reality is the greatest gift for us humans. Our purpose in life is to realize and experience this great truth and gift.

Until a few decades ago science considered particles and fields to be distinct entities. Then came Quantum Theory and its unified view which brought an end to the dualism of matter and energy. The revolutionary idea that there is no separate or independent material reality brought about a considerable shift in our viewpoints in science, as well as in philosophy and religion. Empty space consists of particles and antiparticles being spontaneously created and annihilated. This mysterious suspension is the origin of everything that exists and that can exist. This 'nothing' of space is the womb of the universe. We human beings are within that womb and (mysteriously) contain that womb within us. The large space between the nucleus of the atom and an orbiting electron is considered as empty space and it is there that all 'virtual effects' take place. This is the foundation of our so-called real world; a virtual reality that's ever-changing and is based on inherent uncertainty. The Real is ever constant and is the source of all that is known and unknown. In Truth there is only the Real.

Timeline of Creation – According to present day scientific discoveries

Big Bang

13.7 billion years ago – Emergence of the universal and cosmic background radiation. Numerous thresholds where chemistry and physics both at the nuclear level and at the visible levels take place.

12 billion years ago – Stars and galaxies.

4.6 billion years ago – Solar system emerges.

3.8 billion years ago – Life on earth and increased level of oxygen.

600 million years ago – After millions of years of a sterile period, bacteria appear along tidal pools leading to multi-cellular organisms. Most prominent is the jelly fish which is without basic sensation and motor response.

500 million years ago – First vertebrates with forebrain, mid- and hindbrain appear.

400 million years ago – Sharks and amphibians appear.

300 million years ago – Reptiles and winged insects with traces of social organization appear.

300 million years ago – Pangaea is formed = Supercontinent.

250 million years ago – Mammals and dinosaurs appear.

200 million years ago – First birds (well-developed visual system) appear.

150 million years ago – First flowering plants appear.

100 million years ago – India breaks away from Antarctica.

60 million years ago – North America splits from Europe. Atlantic Ocean is born.

45 million years ago – India collides with Eurasia and Himalayas rise from the ocean.

25 million years ago – Grass and herbivores appear.

20 million years ago – Apes and Monkeys separate.

7 million years ago – Hominids and early bi-pedals appear, then Homo Habilis, Homo Erectus and others, such as Neanderthals.

7 million years ago – Chimpanzee and Hominids separate. Improved tools and empathy.

2 million years ago – Homo Habilis with double brain size appears.

500,000 years ago – Complex tools and increased brain size develop.

150,000 years ago – Homo Sapiens appear, with agricultural instruments, innovations in speech, skills and teaching (the earliest skeletal remains of modern humans are dated 160,000 years ago, or earlier, with a brain capacity three times that of early Hominids).

120,000 years ago – Evidence emerges of burial rituals (afterlife) and recognition of 'heavenly power'.

70,000 years ago – Migration out of Africa.

10,000 years ago – Agriculture.

6,000 years ago – Writing.

5,000 years ago – Civilizations.

600 years ago – Printing press.

200 years ago – Industrial Revolution.

50 years ago and today – Computers, Laptops and Cyberspace access.

Chapter One: Emergence of the Universe

- Mysterious Dawn
- All from 'No-thing'
- One Source – Singularity
- The Crack of Space-Time
- Light and Darkness
- Earth and Heavens in Six Stages
- Unseen Forces and Realities
- Seven Layers of Earth and Heavens
- Expansion and Diversity
- According to Measures
- The Divine Permeates All
- Relativity of Time
- Air, Water, Fire and Earth
- Signs, Symbols, Metaphors and Similitudes

Mysterious Dawn

There are two sides to the story of creation. One makes sense to our faculty of reason and intellect which science confirms and develops in greater detail. The other story belongs to the mystery of the unknown and the Qur'an addresses this part in some detail. Creation has emerged from non-existence and is suspended in a vast unseen state. The Qur'an states that all of existence occurred in an instant due to the word or command of Allah. The order was 'Be!' and so it was. The speed of creation was such that we can hardly imagine it, for it was much faster than light. Modern astronomers contended that the original blueprints and seeds of creation all occurred within a minute fraction of a second. Human attempts to understand this amazing event bring about some clarification but then lead to greater mysteries. Human reason and rational understanding is only a small part of what there is in creation. What is seen is only a small portion of the vast unseen. Even within the known world and physical rules there are exceptions.

The Qur'an divides human experiences into two zones. One is to do with witnessing experientially and the other is inspiration from the unseen. Islam connects the physical world with the spiritual or metaphysical domain, thus enabling the human being to be complete or wholesome. The believers are described as those who have faith and trust in the unseen and are at peace within their hearts. This total security is far greater than material and earthly security.

The human drive to discover what is not known is relentless and whatever we come to know is only a sample of what is the infinite unknown. The human journey starts from the 'fall' of Adam from the perfect heavenly abode into the earthly zone of all dualities and causal connectedness. It is through the evolvment of consciousness that we journey beyond physical and mental limitations to the source which encompasses all.

God is described as the 'Reality' that knows all other realities in heavens and earth, on land and in the oceans. Not even a leaf falls off a tree unless 'Reality' is aware of it. There is neither a germinating seed in the earth, nor any change in humidity or temperature unless it is according to prescribed patterns. Everything is within the grasp of this supreme 'Reality'.

God's words or commands (power and governance) are countless and ever continuous. Some of these laws and patterns are naturally repetitive and are predictable. Others change with or without discernible reason. The words of God can be imagined as bursts of energies or signals that bring about movement and change within creation.

Divine power or presence is described as enveloping the entire universe and that all of creation emanates from the unseen (metaphysical) and returns back to it. Human beings are encouraged to reflect upon this truth and connect with this Magnificence.

Qur'an References: [30:11] [57:1-3] [3:179] [6:59] [10:20] [11:49] [11:123] [59:22] [27:75] [2:245] [2:268] [13:39] [31:27] [13:12] [36:82]

All from 'No-Thing'

The seamless connectedness between the heavens and earth was split or 'cracked', producing space/time and the earthly state of human consciousness. The original, indistinguishable Oneness led to apparent outer dispersion, with different entities and creations manifesting. The Prophet was asked what was there before creation and he said 'blindness', implying that it was not discernible or not distinguishable. This also implies that it is a state of 'no-thing' from which everything emerges – a cosmic fog.

The word 'crack' is used in the Qur'an to describe the origin of creation (FTR⁴). Our universe was born from the dark womb of space and time from which countless entities and realities emerged. There may be other parallel universes in existence.

The emergence of space and time is the foundation in creation. Preexistence, which gave rise to creation and life in its diversity, must have contained the seeds or original patterns which lead to outer manifestations in our universe.

Understanding the origin of life and the human role and direction in creation is at the root of most religions and ideas about God. The human quest regarding the origin of life is amongst the oldest and most potent drives of humanity. Even young children ask how and why they were created and what the meaning of death is.

'No-thingness' is not the same as nothingness. It simply implies lack of material or physical definition or boundaries. It is back to this zone of 'no-thingness' that everything returns at the end of the cycle of creation. A few decades ago science considered particles and fields to be distinct entities. Then came Quantum Theory and its unified view which brought an end to the dualism of matter and energy. This revolutionary idea that there is no material reality brought about a considerable shift in our human understanding of the nature of creation. This mysterious Oneness in the origin of everything that exists and can exist brings about a new perspective to

⁴ [For an explanation of this, and other similar terms, see [Glossary](#)]

human perception and conduct. As noted earlier, all the 'virtual effects' take place in the so-called 'empty' space between the nucleus of the atom and an orbiting electron. This is the foundation of our so-called real world: a virtual reality that is ever changing and is based on inherent, experiential uncertainty suspended within an 'Absolute Certainty' or truth.

Qur'an References: [79:1-6] [113:1-3] [31:27] [16:77] [5:17] [15:21] [77:3]

One Source – Singularity

The Prophet taught that before creation there was only Allah and nothing else. This implies that in Truth there is none other than the One and whatever we experience is an overflow of grace from that Glorious One. All pluralities are sustained by the ever-present unity.

The Qur'an has numerous descriptions of different levels and states of consciousness in a worldly sense as well as what is described as the hereafter. Human beings as well as other creatures occur in existence as communities and nations on earth as well as in a metaphysical sense in the hereafter. Although each human individual is a separate entity, with a specific fingerprint and a point of birth and death, the essence within each living creature emanates from the universal divine Source. The Qur'an's message is essentially about unity, knowledge and the experience of Oneness in spirit.

Dispersion, separation, individual identity and discernible differences are natural in the physical world and outer experience. Pure consciousness is the source and origin of personal consciousness and the life which all human beings have access to through the soul is a unified field which connects the unseen to the seen and drives us towards inner security and contentment. This is how the cosmic web of Allah holds the universe.

All of the creation follows interlinked patterns which bring about dynamic interactions, cycles of change and connectedness in every aspect of life. These links, connections and interferences are all according to different levels and spheres. There are countless channels of varying degrees of strength and limitations that make 'a whole' out of a multitude of diverse entities and realities. Most old religious texts refer to the package of wholeness as a sacred book. The Qur'an is such a book.

Qur'an References: [67:24] [70:40-41] [114:1-6] [6:1] [10:34] [29:02] [3:09] [6:38] [3:103] [57:22]

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Islamic teachings of *Tawheed* (Unity) with insights into the human self: understanding the inner landscape is essential foundation for progress on the path of knowledge.

Decree and Destiny (Original and a Revised Version)

Shaykh Fadhlalla Haeri

A lucid exposition of the extensive body of Islamic thought on the issue of free will and determinism.

Happiness in Life and After Death – An Islamic Sufi View

Shaykh Fadhlalla Haeri

This book offers revelations and spiritual teachings that map a basic path towards wholesome living without forgetting death: cultivating a constant awareness of one's dual nature.

Leaves from a Sufi Journal

Shaykh Fadhlalla Haeri

A unique collection of articles presenting an outstanding introduction to the areas of Sufism and original Islamic teachings.

The Elements of Sufism

Shaykh Fadhlalla Haeri

Sufism is the heart of Islam. This introduction describes its origins, practices, historical background and its spread throughout the world.

The Journey of the Self

Shaykh Fadhlalla Haeri

After introducing the basic model of the self, there follows a simple yet complete outline of the self's emergence, development, sustenance, and growth toward its highest potential.

The Sufi Way to Self-Unfoldment

Shaykh Fadhlalla Haeri

Unfolding inner meanings of the Islamic ritual practices towards the intended ultimate purpose to live a life honorable and fearless, with no darkness, ignorance or abuse.

Witnessing Perfection

Shaykh Fadhlalla Haeri

Delves into the universal question of Deity and the purpose of life. Durable contentment is a result of 'perfected vision'.

Practices & Teachings of Islam

Calling Allah by His Most Beautiful Names

Shaykh Fadhlalla Haeri

Attributes or Qualities resonate from their Majestic and Beautiful Higher Realm into the heart of the active seeker, and through it back into the world.

Fasting in Islam

Shaykh Fadhlalla Haeri

This is a comprehensive guide to fasting in all its aspects, with a description of fasting in different faith traditions, its spiritual benefits, rules and regulations.

Prophetic Traditions in Islam: On the Authority of the Family of the Prophet

Shaykh Fadhlalla Haeri

Offers a comprehensive selection of Islamic teachings arranged according to topics dealing with belief and worship, moral, social and spiritual values.

The Wisdom (Hikam) of Ibn `Ata'Allah: Translation and Commentary

Translation & Commentary by Shaykh Fadhlalla Haeri

These aphorisms of Ibn `Ata'Allah, a Shadili Shaykh, reveal the breadth and depth of an enlightened being who reflects divine unity and inner transformation through worship.

The Inner Meanings of Worship in Islam: A Personal Selection of Guidance for the Wayfarer

Shaykh Fadhlalla Haeri

Here is guidance for those who journey along this path, from the Qur'an, the Prophet's traditions, narrations from the *Ahl al-Bayt*, and seminal works from among the *Ahl al-Tasawwuf* of all schools of thought.

The Lantern of The Path

Imam Ja'far Al-Sadiq (Translated By Shaykh Fadhlalla Haeri)

Each one of the ninety-nine chapter of this book is a threshold to the next, guiding the reader through the broad spectrum of ageless wisdom, like a lantern along the path of reality.

The Pilgrimage of Islam

Shaykh Fadhlalla Haeri

This is a specialized book on spiritual journeying, offering the sincere seeker keys to inner transformation.

The Sayings & Wisdom of Imam `Ali

Compiled By: Shaykh Fadhlalla Haeri

Translated By: Asadullah ad-Dhaakir Yate

A selection of this great man's sayings gathered together from authentic and reliable sources. They have been carefully translated into modern English.

Transformative Worship in Islam: Experiencing Perfection

Shaykh Fadhlalla Haeri with Muna H. Bilgrami

This book uniquely bridges the traditional practices and beliefs, culture and language of Islam with the transformative spiritual states described by the Sufis and Gnostics.

Talks & Courses

Ask Course ONE: The Sufi Map of the Self

Shaykh Fadhlalla Haeri

This workbook explores the entire cosmology of the self through time, and maps the evolution of the self from before birth through life, death and beyond.

Ask Course TWO: The Prophetic Way of Life

Shaykh Fadhlalla Haeri

This workbook explores how the code of ethics that govern religious practice and the Prophetic ways are in fact transformational tools to enlightened awakening.

Friday Discourses: Volume 1

Shaykh Fadhlalla Haeri

The Shaykh addresses many topics that influence Muslims at the core of what it means to be a Muslim in today's global village.

Songs of Iman on the Roads of Pakistan

Shaykh Fadhlalla Haeri

A series of talks given on the divergence between 'faith' and 'unbelief' during a tour of the country in 1982 which becomes a reflection of the condition occurring in the rest of the world today.

Poetry, Aphorisms & Inspirational

101 Helpful Illusions

Shaykh Fadhlalla Haeri

Everything in creation has a purpose relevant to ultimate spiritual Truth. This book highlights natural veils to be transcended by disciplined courage, wisdom and insight.

Beyond Windows

Shaykh Fadhlalla Haeri

Offering moving and profound insights of compassion and spirituality through these anthologies of connections between slave self and Eternal Lord.

Bursts of Silence

Shaykh Fadhlalla Haeri

Inspired aphorisms provide keys to doors of inner knowledge, as well as antidotes to distraction and confusion.

Pointers to Presence

Shaykh Fadhlalla Haeri

A collection of aphorisms providing insights into consciousness and are pointers to spiritual awakening.

Ripples of Light

Shaykh Fadhlalla Haeri

Inspired aphorisms which become remedies for hearts that seek the truth.

Sound Waves

Shaykh Fadhlalla Haeri

A collection of aphorisms that help us reflect and discover the intricate connection between self and soul.

Sublime Gems: Selected Teachings of Shaykh Abd al-Qadir al-Jilani

Shaykh Abd al-Qadir al-Jilani

A collection of extracted spiritual nourishment from Shaykh Abd al-Qadir al-Jilani's existing works.

Autobiography

Son of Karbala

Shaykh Fadhlalla Haeri

The atmosphere of an Iraq in transition is brought to life and used as a backdrop for the Shaykh's own personal quest for self-discovery and spiritual truth.

Health Sciences and Islamic History

Health Sciences in Early Islam – Volumes 1 & 2

Collected Papers By: Sami K. Hamarneh

Edited By: Munawar A. Anees

Foreword By: Shaykh Fadhlalla Haeri

Health Sciences in Early Islam is a pioneering study of Islamic medicine that opens up new chapters of knowledge in the history of the healing sciences. This two volume work covers the development of Islamic medicine between the 6th and 12th centuries A.D.