

Arab Republic of Egypt

Ministry of Awqaf

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## **The Glorious Qur'an and its Approach in Developing the Universe**

All praise is due to Allah, the Lord of all worlds, Who says in His Ever Glorious Book, **"It was He who brought you into being from the earth and assigned you to develop it."** I bear witness that there is no god but Allah, and that Muhammad is His Servant and Messenger. May Allah's Peace and Blessings be upon him, his Household, Companions and upon those who follow their path to the Day of Judgment.

The Glorious Qur'an is the eternal miraculous Book of Allah. He who speak with it, say the truth, and he who pronounces a judgment according to it is a just. The learned people cannot grasp it completely. Its amazement does not diminish. It is that speech which the jinn did not hesitate to say when they heard it, **"We have heard a wondrous Qur'an, that gives guidance to the right path, and we have come to believe it, and We shall never set up partners with our Lord."** The Almighty Allah said, **"This Qur'an indeed shows the straightest way. It gives the faithful who do right the good news that they will have a great reward."** The Prophet (PBUH) said, "Allah has His own people among mankind." Some people said: "O Messenger of Allah, who are they?" He said: "The people of the Qur'an, the people of Allah and those who are closest to Him." The

Prophet (PBUH) also said, "The most superior among you are those who learn the Qur'an and teach it."

The Qur'an has paid great attention to the development of this universe. The Almighty Allah created man and subjugated every thing in the universe for man to advance and develop it. The Almighty Allah said, **"He has made ships useful to you, sailing the sea by His command, and the rivers too. He has made the sun and the moon useful to you, steady on their paths; He has made the night and day useful to you."** The Almighty Allah also said, **"He has subjected all that is in the heavens and the earth for your benefit, as a gift from Him. There truly are signs in this for those who reflect."** In another verse, The Almighty Allah said, **"It was He who spread out the earth for you and traced routes in it. He sent down water from the sky. With that water We bring forth every kind of plant."**

When contemplating the Glorious Qur'an, one finds it full of verses showing the importance of the construction and development of the universe, and the strict prohibition of causing corruption and destruction in any form. The Almighty Allah said, **"Those who believe and do good deeds there will be no fear, nor will they grieve."** In another verse, The Almighty Allah said, **"Those who are conscious of Allah and live righteously, there will be no fear, nor will they grieve."** The Almighty Allah also said, **"Do not seek to spread corruption in the land, for Allah**

**does not love those who do this.” Allah (Glory be to Him) also said, “There is [a kind of] man whose views on the life of this world may please you [Prophet], he even calls on Allah to witness what is in his heart, yet he is the bitterest of opponents. When he leaves, he sets out to spread corruption in the land, destroying crops and live-stock- Allah does not like corruption.”**

The approach of the Qur’an in the development of the universe is an approach that includes all forms of construction and reform. The Almighty Allah said, **“It is He who has made the earth manageable for you--travel its regions; eat His provision- and to Him you will be resurrected.”** Commenting on this verse, Ibn Kathir said, “Allah here reminds [people] of His graces: He has subjugated the earth for them, and He made it stable, paved for His creation, fixed it with the mountains, blessed it with wells, paths for people to walk easily, and made it suitable for planting. So, go through the earth and seek your provision and sustenance.”

The command to travel in land to develop it came in the Qur’an next to the command of worshiping Allah. Allah (Glory be to him) said, “Then when the prayer ends, disperse in the land and seek out Allah’s bounty. Remember Allah often, so that you may prosper.” Irak Ibn Malik (May Allah be pleased with him) -after performing the Jum’ah Prayer- used to stand at the door of the Mosque and say, “O Allah, I have answered Your call, performed the Prayer You obliged and walked in the land as You have

commanded. So, provide me from Your favour as You are the Best Provider.”

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All praise is due to Allah, Lord of the Worlds; may Allah’s Peace and Blessings be upon Prophet Muhammad (PBUH), his companions and followers.

The call of the Glorious Qur’an to the development of the universe requires efforts to cultivate the earth. In showing His graces upon humans, the Almighty Allah said, **“There is a sign for them in the lifeless earth: We give it life and We produce grain from it for them to eat. We have put gardens of date palms and grapes in the earth, and We have made springs of water gush out of it; so that they could eat its fruit. It was not their own hands that made all this. How can they not give thanks.”** Allah also said, **“Let man consider the food he eats. We pour down abundant water, and cause the soil to split open. We make grain grow, and vines, fresh vegetation, olive trees, date palms, luscious gardens, fruits, and fodder; all for you and your livestock to enjoy.”**

The Prophet (PBUH) also showed us the virtues of developing the universe through agriculture saying: **““If any Muslim plants something or sows seed from which man, bird, or beast eats, it counts as charity for him.”** In another Hadith, the Prophet (BUH) said, **“If the Day of Judgment**

comes while you have a shoot of a plant in your hands and it is possible to plant it before the Hour comes, you should plant it.” developing the universe requires mastery of the work, whether this work is industry, a profession, and job. It also requires observing the values and morals of when trading, selling, buying, and showing solidarity and mercy.

We ask Allah to protect Egypt and raise its flag high among all countries of the world!