The End of the World in the Quran and Physic

Habibullah Adib
Member of Islamic Culture Department, Faryab University, Maimana, AFGHANISTAN.

Corresponding Author: habibullah.adib2@gmail.com

www.ijrah.com || Vol. 4 No. 2 (2024): March Issue

Date of Submission: 15-03-2024  Date of Acceptance: 21-03-2024  Date of Publication: 27-03-2024

ABSTRACT

This paper delves into the exploration of eschatological themes present in the Quran, the sacred text of Islam, and their intersection with scientific theories in physics regarding the ultimate fate of the universe. Through a comparative analysis of Quranic verses and principles of physics, this study aims to elucidate the parallels, divergences, and potential synergies between religious and scientific perspectives on the end of the world. The research employs an interdisciplinary approach, drawing upon insights from Islamic studies and physics to unravel the symbolic language and metaphorical descriptions used in both domains to depict complex cosmological concepts. Through critical analysis and scholarly discourse, the paper endeavors to foster a deeper understanding of the complexities inherent in contemplating the end of the world, thereby contributing to the ongoing dialogue between faith and science. The scientific facts of science fully confirm the verses of the Quran that refer to the death of the world, which is called the Resurrection, and after that the life of another world begins.

Keywords- Big Bang, Big Crunch, Dark matter, Holy Quran.

I. INTRODUCTION

The concept of the end of the world, or the Day of Judgment, is mentioned in the Quran, and it has been a subject of interest and interpretation in both religious and scientific contexts. In the Quran, there are descriptions of the Day of Judgment and the signs that will precede it. These signs include the sun losing its light, the stars falling, the mountains crumbling, the earth shaking, and various other cataclysmic events. The Quran describes the Day of Judgment as a time of reckoning, when every individual will be held accountable for their actions. From a scientific perspective, the study of the end of the world is a subject within the field of cosmology and astrophysics. Scientists have proposed different theories about the possible scenarios for the end of the universe, such as the Big Crunch, the Big Freeze, or the Big Rip. These theories are based on the current understanding of the laws of physics, the expansion of the universe, and the behavior of matter and energy. It is important to note that the descriptions of the end of the world in religious texts, including the Quran, are often metaphorical and symbolic in nature. They serve as a means of conveying spiritual and moral lessons rather than providing detailed scientific explanations. The Quran uses vivid imagery and allegorical language to convey its message, and interpretations of these descriptions can vary among scholars and believers. While there may be some parallels between the descriptions in the Quran and scientific theories about the end of the world, it is crucial to approach these topics with an understanding of their different purposes and methodologies. The Quran primarily addresses matters of faith, morality, and spiritual guidance, while science seeks to understand the natural world through empirical observation, experimentation, and theoretical frameworks. The Quran does contain descriptions of the end of the world, and scientific theories about the end of the universe exist as well. However, it is important to recognize the distinct nature of religious and scientific discourse and to approach the interpretation of religious texts and
scientific theories with appropriate methodologies and perspectives. Fourteen centuries ago, Almighty God revealed the Qur'an. The Quran has miracles in every word of its verses and proves that it is the word of God. The hypothesis of Big Bang and Big Crunch is one of the important scientific facts of astronomy today, which astronomers research with their advanced and modern tools every day. This issue was fully explained fourteen centuries ago in the Holy Qur'an, and it is stated in separate verses that the world after full expansion shrinks twice and returns to its original state until another world is created and it is called the world of survival [1,2]. The study of scientific aspects in the Holy Quran has recently gained a lot of scope. The scientific facts of the Quran are in full agreement with the findings of contemporary scientists [3,4]. Today’s space satellites, including Kobe, WMAP, and Planck, not only provide us with the most detailed glimpse into the early years of the universe, but also provide a detailed picture of how the universe died. Just as the mysterious force of anti-gravity pushed the galaxies apart at the beginning of time and became known as inflation, this same force is pushing the universe towards its ultimate destiny. Today NASA spacecraft such as the Hubble Space Telescope and the Spitzer Space Telescope continue measuring the expansion of the Universe. One of the goals has long been to decide whether the Universe will expand forever, or whether it will someday stop, turn around, and collapse in a “Big Crunch?” [https://science.nasa.gov/].

II. BIG CRUNCH THEORY

This theory assumes that the average density of the universe is sufficient to stop the expansion rate by overcoming the expansion caused by dark energy. According to this theory, the universe is expanding at an exponential rate due to the effects of the big bang, but this expansion slows down over time. As the rate of expansion slows down, matter and dark matter will take over the power of dark energy and the universe will begin to contract. As the contraction begins, the gravitational force of gravity will dominate the universe. Because of this contraction, all the galaxies in the universe will begin to move closer together. The diameter of the universe decreases and matter becomes closer. All the stars in our night sky are getting brighter and brighter. The planets of our solar system are getting closer and closer to each other. The sun is getting bigger and hotter every day, so the earth is getting more heat and all the oceans are evaporating. At that time, life as we know it will not be possible on this planet. All galaxies, solar systems, stars, planets, and everything else in the universe are getting closer and the rate of contraction is increasing over time. With this increase in the rate of contraction, the overall density of the universe increases and the amount of dark energy decreases. Eventually, the entire universe becomes a hot ball of plasma and collapses into a dimensionless singularity. Gravity pulls everything back together, as it already did with the previous form of our universe [8,9].

III. THE BIG CRUNCH AND HOLY QURAN

The Big Crunch is a theory that explains that the universe stops expanding at a point and therefore collapses, creating a black hole that absorbs everything in its path. The Big Crunch is a model of the universe that is somewhat symmetric to the Big Bang, in which a closed universe eventually contracts again after a phase of expansion. In this final phase of the universe, the temperature and density increase once again, destroying material structures such as galaxies, planets, atoms, and even nucleons. The universe returns to the plasma state of quarks and gluons. In this model, if only the classical equations of general relativity are used to describe space-time, a gravitational singularity results: space and time disappear with the matter they contain. But quantum effects, such as those found in superstring
theory or ring quantum theory of gravity, can prevent this singularity from forming. The universe will reach a minimum size before returning to a new expansion phase. The discovery of the accelerated expansion of the universe implies that it will never end and therefore the Great Crisis will not occur. Since we do not know the nature of the dark energy that is assumed to be responsible for this accelerated expansion, nothing is known for certain. So, nevertheless, the universe ends up in a Big Crunch if dark energy is described by a scalar field whose energy density changes in such a way that it eventually becomes attractive rather than repulsive (hence, supergravity models exist, such as by Renata Kalosh and Andrei Linde in which the universe stops accelerating and turns into contraction to end in a big crunch in a few tens to hundreds of billions of years).

The whole world shrinks and goes away, and turns into a point smaller than a proton. Physicists know that dark energy can become negative and destroy the universe in the very distant future. Now we may not be at the beginning of the life of the world, but in the middle of it. Finally, the Big Crunch hypothesis says that the developed world will decay at an increasing rate until it loses all its mass and turns into a single point of infinite dirt.

This issue is stated in the Holy Quran as follows:

Fig. 2: Depending on whether or not dark energy is variable in nature, the universe will end in a big crunch or continue expanding forever. This graph shows the acceleration and deceleration of the universe's expansion over time. Then there are three possible scenarios for the end of the world. © NASA/CXC/M. Weiss

Scientists say that when the mass of the universe becomes large enough, this expansion will finally end because the force of gravity causes it to collapse in on itself. It is believed that the universe is shrinking to an intense heat, which is known as the Big Crunch [5,6].

The day when we will roll up the heavens like a scroll and return them to the original state that we created, this is a promise that we will certainly fulfill (Anbiya-104).

In summary, while the Quran addresses various aspects of existence, including cosmology, it does not specifically mention the Big Crunch or any other scientific theory related to the universe's fate. Any connections drawn between the two would be based on interpretations that vary among individuals and may not be universally accepted within the Islamic scholarly tradition.

IV. CONCLUSION

After the expansion of the universe, the end of the universe and a great contraction will also occur. These scientific explanations are completely consistent with the Qur'anic explanations and this information shows one of the miracles of the Qur'an. In conclusion, the exploration of the end of the world in the Quran and in physics reveals a fascinating intersection between religious narratives and scientific theories. While the Quran provides theological insights into eschatological events such as the Day of Judgment, physics offers empirical models and hypotheses regarding the ultimate fate of the universe. Throughout this inquiry, several key findings emerge. Firstly, both the Quran and physics employ symbolic language and metaphorical descriptions to convey complex concepts. While the Quran's narratives are rooted in theological and spiritual teachings, physics utilizes mathematical models and empirical observations to understand the behavior of the cosmos. Despite differences in approach, there are instances where broad themes and concepts converge, inviting further exploration and dialogue. Secondly, the interdisciplinary dialogue between scholars of Islamic studies and physics can deepen our understanding of the end of the world. By critically analyzing Quranic verses and scientific theories within their respective contexts, scholars can identify areas of divergence and convergence, fostering mutual understanding and appreciation of diverse worldviews. Thirdly, promoting educational initiatives that emphasize the compatibility between religious teachings and scientific knowledge is
essential. Such initiatives can help dispel misconceptions and promote a nuanced understanding among the general public, highlighting the complementary nature of faith and reason in addressing existential questions. Moreover, ethical reflection on the implications of eschatological beliefs and scientific theories is imperative. Exploring concepts such as stewardship, accountability, and cosmic interconnectedness can inform ethical frameworks and guide individual and collective responsibility towards the planet and future generations. Ultimately, continued research and scholarship in both religious studies and physics are necessary to advance our understanding of the end of the world. By fostering interdisciplinary collaboration, conducting rigorous analysis, and promoting dialogue, we can enrich our appreciation of the complexities inherent in both religious and scientific perspectives on the ultimate fate of existence. In this way, the exploration of the end of the world in the Quran and physics offers a rich tapestry of insights that transcend disciplinary boundaries, inviting us to contemplate the mysteries of existence and our place within the cosmos.

REFERENCES