

Let me begin by saying I am not preaching the faith of Islam, I am just trying to explain what it is. Knowing the facts and the history of all events is very important to the functioning of the democracy. Knowing what a faith is about, and believing in it are two different things.

And here is what I believe, based on my research:

Different religions and traditions are integral parts of the more general human experience since the beginning of human life on earth. Religions are principal components of cultures, and cultures evolve with time, and so do religions. It is not a coincidence that the major religions in the world appeared in a pre-science era. Religions are precursor of science.

In fact, the early priests of Mesopotamia and ancient Egypt who looked at heaven, studied the constellations, established calendars, determined when to plant and when to harvest, how to measure the crop and how to distribute it, how to keep records, etc., paved the way to the development of astronomy and mathematics.

It is the curiosity and the reflective nature of man, his inquisitive mind, and his need to live off the generosity of nature and to avoid its catastrophes, and his vivid imagination and dreams that led to the rise of religions and eventually to the development of science.

My personal anticipation is that in the long run science will be the only religion in the world. When one studies quantum physics and understands its profound implications, one realizes that science has a spirituality. A universal scientific spirituality which connects man to the universe. It is different from its predecessor, the religious spirituality of today.

I also believe that if there is to be peace on earth we must look at the broader picture, and realize that though different nations have different cultures and different systems of belief, they have more things in common than they do have differences.

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