

The Creation of the Earth and the Heavens

“Indeed, your Lord is Allah, Who created the Heavens and the Earth in six days”[i].

Fifty thousand years after the creation of the Lohe Mahfouz, Allah (swt) created the Heavens and the Earth in **six days (or periods)**. These days could refer to six Earthly days or to a different time period, which could be equivalent to 1,000 years or even 50,000 years.

According to the Quran, *“Say: Do you indeed disbelieve in Him Who **created the Earth in two days...** He placed on the earth firmly set **mountains, standing high,** showered His blessings upon it and determined its **sustenance totaling four days...** Then He rose over the heaven when it was smoke... He completed the heaven as **seven heavens in two days...** And We adorned the nearest heaven with **lamps** (stars, for beauty) and for protection...”[ii].*

“Have not those who disbelieve known that the heavens and the Earth were joined together as one united piece, then We parted them and We have made from water every living thing... And We have made the heaven a roof, safe and well-guarded”[iii].

The above verses indicate that Allah (swt) created the Earth and heavens, and then parted the two, so that the wind would blow, the rain would fall, the springs and rivers would flow, the crops and fruits would grow and the animals would be fed. It also points to what Allah (swt) has created in the heavens, such as the fixed and the moving celestial bodies, the shining stars and the illuminated heavenly bodies.

Seven Earths and Seven Heavens

The Earth that we are on is one of seven Earths that Allah created; it is also the highest one. Each Earth is separated from the other. In the seventh Earth there is a place called Sijjin, where the souls of the wrongdoers go after their death. Hellfire (Jahannam) is under the seventh Earth.

After Allah created the Earth, He created the seven heavens. Each heaven is a solid body that is held up without any pillars. The heavens are separated from each other. From one heaven to the other is a distance of five hundred years and every heaven has a gate. The first heaven is very far away from the Earth. Paradise exists above the seventh heaven.

The Jews say that creation began on a Sunday, while the Christians believe that creation began on a Saturday. As Muslims, we believe that Allah (swt) began the creation on a Saturday.

The Prophet Mohammad (saw) said:
*“Allah created the **earth on Saturday**, and over it He created the **mountains on Sunday**. He created the **trees on Monday**, He created **things entailing labour on Tuesday**, He created **light on Wednesday**, He scattered the **animals in it on Thursday**, and He created **Adam (as) on Friday**, the last of creation in the last hour of Friday, between Asr and nightfall”[iv].*

| Creation Schedule | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| Saturday | Earth |
| Sunday | Mountains |
| Monday | Trees |
| Tuesday | Things entailing Labour |
| Wednesday | Light, Angels |
| Thursday | Animals, Jinn |
| Friday | Adam (as) |

Some scholars have also stated that the **angels were created on Wednesday**. Allah (swt) created them from light.

*“Praise be to Allah, Who created (out of nothing) the heavens and the earth, Who made the **angels messengers with wings** - two, or three, or four (pairs) adds to Creation as He pleases: for Allah has power over all things.”[v].*

Scholars further indicate that Allah (swt) created **the jinn on Thursday**.

*“And the **jinn** We created before from scorching fire.”[vi].*

Scholars add that humans were not created on the very next day (Friday), but many years after the jinn, who were a race like humans who lived on the Earth. Corruption and injustice among them increased and eventually Allah (swt) sent his angels to battle the Jinns. Just a few of them survived, and were expelled to far islands or to the mountains.

In this manner Allah (swt) completed the creation process after which he rose over his Throne. He was not tired and did not need a day of rest.

[i] Surah Al Araf 7:54

[ii] Surah Al Fussilat 41:9-12

[iii] Surah Al Ambiya 21:30-32

[iv] Sahih Muslim 7054

[v] Surah Al Fatir 35:1

[vi] Surah Al Hijr 15:27

The Creations of The Heavens and The Earth Comprehension Questions

1. How much time did it take for Allah (swt) to create the Heavens and the Earth?

2. What are the things that Allah created on the Earth?

3. What are the things that Allah created in the sky?

4. Which day did Allah (swt) start the creation process?

5. Can you explain the schedule of Creation?

Lesson Plan: The Creation of the Earth and the Heavens

Objective: Students will understand the Islamic perspective on the creation of the Earth and the heavens. They will explore the timeline of creation and gain knowledge about the various elements created by Allah (swt) during the process.

Duration: 1 hour

Materials Needed: Whiteboard or flip chart, Markers, Printouts of relevant Quranic verses and Hadiths, Visual aids (pictures or diagrams of the Earth and heavens), Printouts of the article and comprehension questions, Craft supplies for hands-on activities (optional)

Introduction (10 minutes):

- Begin by asking students what they know about the creation of the Earth and the heavens.
- Share the Quranic verse: “Indeed, your Lord is Allah, Who created the Heavens and the Earth in six days” (Surah Al Araf 7:54).
- Explain that today's lesson will explore the details of this creation process according to Islamic beliefs.

Main Content (30 minutes):

- Present the timeline of creation according to Islamic teachings, incorporating Quranic verses and Hadiths:
 - o Creation of the Earth, including mountains, blessings, sustenance, and separation from the heavens.
 - o Creation of the heavens, including the separation of the heavens and the adornment of stars.
- Description of the seven Earths and seven heavens, along with their significance in Islamic cosmology.
- Discuss the significance of each creation and its role in sustaining life on Earth and in the heavens.
- Explain the Islamic perspective on the timeline of creation, starting from Saturday and concluding with the creation of Adam (as) on Friday.

Hands-on Activity (15 minutes):

- Divide students into small groups.
- Provide each group with visual aids and ask them to create a timeline of creation on large sheets of paper or cardboard.
- Encourage students to use markers, stickers, or other craft supplies to illustrate each stage of creation.
- After completion, have each group present their timeline to the class, explaining the significance of each stage.

Comprehension Questions (10 minutes):

- Distribute the printout of the article and the comprehension questions to the students.
- Allow students time to read and then individually answer the questions.
- Review the answers as a class, encouraging discussion and clarification.

Conclusion (5 minutes):

- Summarize the key points covered in the lesson, emphasizing the importance of understanding the Islamic perspective on creation.
- Reiterate the significance of recognizing Allah's power and wisdom in creating the Earth and the heavens.
- Encourage students to reflect on how this knowledge deepens their appreciation for the world around them.

Assessment: Evaluate students' understanding through their participation in discussions, hands-on activities, and their responses to comprehension questions.

Extension:

- Invite students to research and present on related topics, such as the scientific evidence supporting or aligning with Islamic beliefs about creation.
- Organize a guided nature walk or stargazing activity where students can observe elements of creation discussed in the lesson and reflect on their significance.
- Encourage students to write creative stories or poems inspired by the Islamic concept of creation, incorporating elements discussed in the lesson.