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*All things arise and cease due to
interdependent causes and conditions*

~Δ~

Evolution and Creationism

By

Bing Escudero

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Summa Sophia
1175 Harrington Place NE #212
Renton WA 98056
U.S.A.

Phone (425) 227-6979

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Evolution and Creationism

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The conflict between evolution and creationism arises from the lack of clarification as to what is a fact in nature, a scientific theory, and a religious belief.

There is no question that evolution, like gravity, is a fact in nature. Species evolve, things fall. Just because the Darwinian theory, for example, is still imperfect in completely explaining evolution does not mean that evolution is not a fact or does not exist. Likewise, if the Newton's gravitation theory fails to completely explain gravity, it does not mean that no one will fall from a ladder.

Up to now, with all our scientific advancement, we still do not know what electricity is. Yes, we have some limited theories in physics. But that does not allow us to deny the fact of a fatal shock from a high voltage live wire. Neither will the belief that "God" created electricity make for a better protective insulation.

Thus the Darwinian theory is not the the fact of evolution. A theory is a way of looking based on an analysis of a set of facts as they relate to each other. A scientific theory is a statement of principles derived from the application of the scientific method: hypothesis, deduction, investigation or experimentation, and a formulative conclusion.

What Darwin and the others did was to gather more evidence about the fact of evolution. And to make sense out of the ever mounting facts of evolution, scientific theories are formulated, such as, Darwin's Natural Selection, Nageli's Orthogenesis, Lamark's Environmental Adaptation, De Vrie's Mutation of Species, and Sheldrake's Morphogenetic Field. All these scientific theories are an attempt to understand the fact of evolution. And there will be still more theories to come with the advances of biotechnology.

Likewise, the Newtonian, Einsteinian and Superstrings theories are also scientific attempts to explain the fact of gravity in nature.

Evolution is a process of gradual change that unfolds or develops in a certain direction. We know that everything around us changes or develops into something. It either becomes extant or extinct.

Yet no one theory ever completely explains the ramifications of a set of facts, or any event, for that matter. That is why the theories of science continue to also evolve. And so with our knowledge. Most likely, because Nature herself, including us, are also still evolving.

However, when the human mind does not know, it easily falls for a belief as a substitute for knowledge. And then the mind thinks it knows. Thus the need for awareness. A fact is an event in nature.

Knowledge is the result of verification. Belief is a poor product of concoction or consolation, that can escalate into superstition, intolerance, and the closure of the mind, leading to its blindness even in the face of truth.

If science may be defined as a history of discarded theories, religion may likewise be defined as a history of undiscarded beliefs.

The advancement of science, on which our knowledge depends, can be measured in terms of how swiftly established theories are superseded, modified or updated.

In our fast changing world, the mind becomes unstable unless it is able to cope with change or paradigm shifts. And perhaps it is religion that provides some measure of stability through its unchanging or crystallized beliefs. Alas, who can blame the human psyche for resorting to a belief in order to survive, by hanging on to some form of conceptual permanence in a world of change and uncertainty.

Creationism or the special creation doctrine is a religious belief chiefly based on the literal interpretation of Genesis, the first Book of the Christian Bible. Various forms of creationism are found in the other world religions which still need to be equally considered.

With due respect, creationism introduces a much greater unknown called "God" as the Creator. Then the mind can account for the rest of lesser unknowns in everything we do not know. In questions of origin, and if we do not know, then "God" must have done it, period. And that's the end of it.

Did God create creationism? (Although, we did.) But, well, creationism is whatever God creates. Does that include evolution? If so, then why would evolution not be true. Here we might just have reconciled Evolution and Creationism. Is this scientific? Of course not. Logical? Yes, without a doubt. Is this another religious belief? It sure can be. But it's not official. Why not? A big enough church has to sponsor it as a dogma, that's why.

If Adam and Eve were the first humans, who else was there to witness and to convey the fact to the rest of us? Who else was there to report that God said this, or God said that? The Serpent was. Yeah, would such a source be reliable? But it is written in an antique document, we can insist. So, Was the writer around when God said or did something? Wait. How about the different beliefs in the other world religions. Which one is true?

If the mind did not then know whether the Earth revolves around the Sun or not, could it know any better by sticking to a

belief that God made the Earth as the center of the universe. (It has happened in high places.) Or is it until belief is replaced by scientific study.

Religious beliefs ought to be well meaning. Could we remain as well meaning and, still subject all beliefs to investigative analysis and further study? Unfortunately, it is in ignorance that humans fight and kill each other, or feel holier-than-thou, or superior-than-thou, or saved-than-thou, depending on the beliefs we have been indoctrinated into.

It takes humility to understand the unknowns as objects without, or subjects within, and more that still lies beyond the human mind. Meanwhile, we learn to respect and appreciate the enriching diversities of our collective viewpoints, with honesty to ourselves regarding our own limited knowledge in our sincere search for truth.

Our knowledge of anything, or of any one thing, cannot go beyond the understanding of our own consciousness. The mind may think it knows all about an object or subject, but if the nature of the mind is not understood, how much more can we know of that to which the mind is applied as a tool of investigation. Beliefs tend to be more emotional even as we proceed to the deeper recesses of our own consciousness.

The pursuits of the mind have brought as science, philosophy, religion, and the arts. But where is that wisdom of wholeness, integrating these four fields of human endeavor? It is easy to point inwards. But will our successful methods of outside investigations apply equally well to our search within, confronting consciousness itself?

If there is indeed a Knower within each one of us, what is the nature of its consciousness? Is there anything beyond the mind? If it takes mind to understand matter, can mind be of an attenuated or finer form of matter for the mind to understand itself as an object?

Science searches for knowledge, formulating laws and theories. Religion searches for the good or that God, adopting dogmas and beliefs. Philosophy searches for wisdom, erecting precepts and concepts. And the Arts are searches for beauty, interpreting the order of the universe through its expressions. Yet all are a product of consciousness. It is the ultimate frontier.

Thus, in the investigation and resolution into the innermost depths of our own consciousness, reality awaits our own spiritual unfoldment. There, our highest speculations are resolved by experiential discoveries. Throughout the ages, all the spiritual adepts, known by many other names, designations or titles, conclusively concur--In that grand reality, the Knower, the Knowledge and the Known are a supreme singularity. ~ Δ ~