Empirical Evidence of Man’s Accountability towards God

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The Basic Premise of Religion

- This world has a Creator;
- He has created this world as a trial;
- He has sent man in this world for a specific period of time;
- At the conclusion of this period, this world will necessarily end and its earth and heavens shall be replaced by a new earth and new heavens; a new world will then come into being.
- All mankind shall be raised up there and shall be rewarded or punished on the basis of their beliefs and deeds.
Significance of this Reality

- Indefinite future of mankind depends on this reality.
- Religion requires us to accept this reality.
- Consequently, from the very first day of creation the Almighty has made arrangements that no one should be able to deny this reality on the basis of knowledge and intellect.
- This reality should remain so evident before people that those who deny it would not be able to present any excuse before the Almighty on the Day of Judgement.
Empirical Evidence for this Reality

- The Almighty appointed certain noble persons from mankind as prophets so that they could bear witness to the truth before the people on the basis of divine revelation.

- Some of these prophets were elevated to a special status. The objective was to prove the existence of God and the Hereafter before the people in the very manner scientific facts are proven through empirical evidence in a laboratory.

- The methodology adopted for presenting this empirical evidence was that these messengers communicated the truth to their people and then declared that they will set up a court of justice for their immediate audience on behalf of the Almighty.

- The reward and punishment on the basis of one’s faith and deeds which they have been informed of will take place for their immediate audience in this very world.

- For other people, Court in this world, will become an empirical evidence of Man’s accountability in hereafter.
Phases of Worldly Judgement

Phase I

Noah

Hud

Saleh

Abraham

Phase II

Abraham

Shuaib

Jesus

Lut

Moses

Jonah

Muhammad

Worldly Judgement demonstrated through Individual Prophets

Worldly Judgement demonstrated through Individual Prophets as well as selected nations

(Peace be upon all of them  عليهم الصلاة والسلام)
Worldly Judgment: Phase I

Worldly Judgement demonstrated through Individual Prophets
Methodology for Worldly Judgement

- Invitation to accept the truth
- Accepted by few and rejected by most
- Clarification of Message by arguments
- Final Sign, Itmam-e-Hujjat & Acquittal

Migration of Prophets & His Followers

- Prosperity to Believers
- Punishment to Disbelievers
Prophets & Nations

- Noah for *Northern Iraq*: 7000BC
- Hud for nation Áad: 5000BC
- Saleh for nation Thamud: 4000BC
- Lut for *Sodom*: 2500BC
- Abraham for *Babylon*: 2500BC
- Shuaib for *Madyan*: 1400BC
- Moses to *Egypt*: 1400BC
- Jonah for *Nineveh*: 700BC
- Jesus for *Israel*: 0 AD
- Muhammad to *Arab*: 600AD

(Peace be upon all of them \( \text{عليهم الصلاة والسلام} \))
To Tabuk

- Tabuk road from Madina, from Khyber turn towards West and reach Ula.
- Coastal highway from Jeddah to Yanbu to Wijh, from Wijh turn towards East and reach Ula.
- Madain Saleh is 20KM from Ula.
Location Map – Madain Saleh
Remember how you were made the heirs of ‘Ad and settled in the land, capable of building mansions in the valleys and carving out homes in the mountains. Therefore, remember the favors of Allah and do not spread mischief in the land." (Quran 7:78)

A Thamudic home at historical site of Madain Saleh, Saudi Arabia

For archaeological details visit www.perishednations.com
Madain Saleh

Interior of a Thamudic home

Door of a Thamudic home
Location Map – Madyan

- Coastal highway from Diba to Al-Bad’
- Tabuk to Haql road and before Haql, go towards South to Al-Bad’
- From Aqabah, cross the Jordan-Saudi border and come to Haql and take the highway to Al-Bad’
Location Map – Madyan

Historical site of Madyan is located inside the town of Al-Bad’
Thereupon an earthquake overtook them and they became lifeless bodies in their homes with their faces down. (Quran 7:91)
Location Map – Sodom

- Take the road towards Dead Sea Road from Amman. Move along with Dead Sea towards South.
- From Aqabah, move towards North to Dead Sea.
- Sodom and other cities of the nation of Prophet Lut were situated near the Southern part of Dead Sea.
Historical site of Sodom is situated near the salt lakes and Southern part of Dead Sea.
Sodom

The cursed valley of Sodom

For archaeological details visit http://wyattmuseum.com/cities-of-the-plain.htm

Saltish water of Dead Sea near Sodom
An overview of valley of Sodom

We let loose rain of brimstone and every one of them was killed; see what was the outcome for such criminals. (Quran 7:84)
When Our Judgement came to pass, We turned the cities upside down and rained down on them brimstones of baked clay, layer upon layer. (Quran 11:82)

Early the next morning, Abraham got up and went to the place where he stood before the Lord (for prayer). Abraham looked down into the valley toward the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah. He saw clouds of smoke rising from the land, like smoke from a furnace. (Bible, Genesis 19:27-28)
Worldly Judgment: Phase II

Worldly Judgement demonstrated through Individual Prophets as well as nations
God’s Plan regarding Abraham Progeny

The Almighty selected the progeny of Abraham. He made them the *symbol of His Reward and Punishment*. Whenever they did well, they were *rewarded in this world* and whenever they deviated from right path, they were *punished within this world*.

Objective of this arrangement was that the concept of Accountability in hereafter would *become an established and irrefutable fact* before all the people of the world to the extent that they are left with *no excuse to reject it*. God will reward or punish people in hereafter as He rewarded or punished the progeny of Abraham.

The account of this *worldly Judgement* is mentioned in detail in the Quran and in the Bible. Main theme of the Bible is the worldly judgement of Israelites and that of Quran is the worldly judgement of Ishmaelites.
Progeny of Prophet Abraham

Abraham

Ishmael
- Ishmaelite Race (Bani Ismael)
- Muhammad
  - Settled in Arabia
  - Rise 600 AD – 1500 AD

Isaac
- Jacob / Israel
- Israeliite Race (Bani Israel)
  - Joseph, Moses, David, Solomon, Eliah, Ezra, Jesus
  - Settled in Palestine
  - Rise 1400BC – 70AD
Worldly Judgment of Israelite Race

*Worldly Judgement demonstrated through Israelite Race*
(Period 1400BC – Now)
God’s Covenant with Israelites

Remember my laws and commands, and obey them. If you do these things:

- I will give you rains at the time they should come. The land will grow crops and the trees of the field will grow their fruit. Your threshing will continue until it is time to gather grapes. And your grape gathering will continue until it is time to plant. Then you will have plenty to eat.

- And you will live safely in your land. I will give peace to your country. You will lie down in peace. No one will come to make you afraid.

- I will keep harmful animals out of your country.

- And armies will not come through your country. You will chase your enemies and defeat them. You will kill them with your sword. Five of you will chase 100 men, and 100 of you will chase 10,000 men. You will defeat your enemies and kill them with your sword.
God’s Covenant with Israelites

If you refuse to obey my laws and commands, you have broken my agreement. If you do that:

- I will cause terrible things to happen to you.
- I will cause you to have disease and fever. They will destroy your eyes and take away your life.
- You will not have success when you plant your seed.
- And your enemies will eat your crops. I will be against you, so your enemies will defeat you. These enemies will hate you and rule over you. You will run away even when no one is chasing you.
- And I will also destroy the great cities that make you proud.
- If you still turn against me and refuse to obey me, I will beat you seven times harder!
- I will make your holy places empty.
- You will be taken to your enemy’s country. Your country will be empty.

(Leviticus Chapter 26)
History of Israelites: An Empirical Evidence

- 2000 BC: Settlement in Egypt
- 1500 BC: Era of Moses & Exodus
- 1000 BC: Era of David & Solomon
- 600 BC: Era of Ezra & Nehemiah
- 300 BC: Maccabean Movement
- 0 AD: First Diaspora
- 500 AD: Second Diaspora
- 2000 AD: Final Call by Jesus

Empirical Evidence for Man’s Accountability to God
Settlement of Israelites in Egypt

- Prophet Joseph became the Prime Minister in Egypt.
- He settled his brothers in Nile Delta.
- Due to preaching, a great number of Egyptians entered into their religion. In 400 years, their number grew to several hundred thousands.
- Local Egyptians initiated a Great revolt against the Hyksos kings, the patrons of Israelites, as a result of that Israelites were made slaves.
- Prophet Moses was sent to Pharaoh who rejected his call and was sunk in Red Sea.

(Peace be upon them, عليهما الصلوة والسلام)
Exodus & First Rise of Israelites

- Israelites crossed the Red Sea near present-day Suez and came to Sinai Peninsula.
- At Mount Sinai, Prophet Moses was given Torah.
- Israelites were kept in Sinai for 40 years. Their younger generation conquered present-day Jordan.
- Prophet Moses died at Mount Nebu in Jordan.
- His caliph, Joshua conquered the Palestine and established a God-oriented society.
- This God-oriented society flourished and a great kingdom was established in the areas of present-day Israel, Jordan, Lebanon and Syria.
- The great kingdom reached at its peak during the eras of Prophet David and Solomon.

(Peace be upon them, علىهم الصلوة والسلام)
First Fall of Israelites

- The Israelite Kingdom splitted into two parts i.e. Israel and Judah.
- King of Israel, Ahab married a polytheist princess Jezbel who propagated polytheistic beliefs in Baa’lbak. Kingdom of Judah also deviated from the right path. Israelites started adopting the polytheistic practices.
- Prophet Elijah and Elisha (*peace be upon them*) preached monotheism but the majority adopted polytheism.
- Kingdom of Israel was destroyed by Assyrians in 700BC.
- People of Kingdom of Judah also deviated from the right path. There were attacked and Jerusalem was destroyed by Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon in 587BC.
- Most of Israelites were made slaves and exiled to Babylon.

Photo Courtesy: [www.bible-history.com](http://www.bible-history.com)
Second Rise of Israelites

- Prophet Ezra (*peace be upon him*) established a revivalist movement in Israelites. Majority of them repented.
- Babylon was conquered by Iranians who had a soft corner for Israelites.
- Israelites were allowed to re-build the Jerusalem.
- Nehemiah (*peace be upon him*) re-established the God-oriented society, implemented the Divine Law and spread the Torah education.
- Moral character of Israelites was strengthened.
- Israelites got back their glory of past.
Second Fall of Israelites

- Israelite and Iranian empires were conquered by Alexander.
- Greeks introduced polytheism and moral degeneration in Israelites.
- Maccabee movement was a reaction to alien rule and polytheistic practices.
- Israelites established a state under Greek rule whose ruler killed Prophet John.
- A final call to Israelites was sent by God through Prophet Jesus but most of Israelites rejected his call and tried to kill him.
- Israelites were punished in form of Second Diaspora in 70AD, Jerusalem was destroyed and Israelites were made slaves and spread around the world by Roman King Titus.
- From that time, Israelites are punished many times by different rulers as a result of their arrogant behaviour against God.
Another chance for Israelites

Besides this, We forewarned the Israelites in their Holy Book that you will do mischief in the land twice through becoming arrogant transgressors and each time you will be punished.

When the promise for the first of the two fore warnings came to be fulfilled, We sent against you Our servants (the Assyrians) who gave you a terrible warfare: so they rampaged through your homes to carry out the punishment of which you were forewarned.

Then after this, We afforded you an opportunity to overpower them and helped you with wealth and sons and granted you more manpower. If you did good, it was to your own benefit; but if you did evil, it proved to be bad for your own selves.

Then, when the promise for your second forewarning came to be fulfilled, We sent another army (the Romans) to disfigure your faces and to enter your Temple as the former had entered it before, and they utterly destroyed all that they laid their hands on.

Now your Lord may again be merciful to you; but if you repeat the same behavior, We will repeat the punishment, and in the hereafter, We have made hell a prison for such unbelievers. (Quran 17:4-8)
Conclusions

From the Israelite history, we can conclude:

- The Israelite history is a sample of God’s Reward and Punishment. Whatever He did with Israelites, He will do with all of us in hereafter.
- The Messengers of God e.g. Moses, David, Solomon, Ezra, John, Jesus (peace be upon them) send to Israel were the real messengers of God because their prophecies became true.
Worldly Judgement of Ishmaelite Race

Worldly Judgement demonstrated through Ishmaelite Race

(Period 610AD – Now)
And struggle for the cause of God in a befitting manner. He has chosen you [for this responsibility], and laid on you no burdens in the observance of your faith. He has chosen for you the way of Abraham your father. He has named you Muslims earlier and in this [period of the last Prophet] as well. [He had chosen you] so that the Prophet may bear witness against you, and that you yourselves may bear witness [to God & the Day of Judgement] against other people of this world. (Quran 22:78)

God has promised those of you who professed belief and did good deeds that He would grant them political authority in the land the way He granted political authority to those who were before them and He would strongly establish their religion He chose for them, and replace their fear by peace. They will worship Me and serve none besides Me, and he who again rejects after this will indeed be among the disobedient. (Quran 24:55)
History of Ishmaelites: An Empirical Evidence

- Nation Development 2000BC to 600AD
- Call of God through Prophet Muhammad. Rejection of this Call by chiefs of Makkah & acceptance by chiefs of Madina 610AD
- God’s first punishment on rejecters at Badr battle in 624 AD
- God’s final punishment on rejecters after conquest of Arabia 631AD
- God’s Reward to Acceptors: Spread of Arab Caliphate to entire civilized world in 15-20 years 650AD
- God’s punishment: Civil wars in Umayyad Period due to their corruption 680-685 AD
- God’s Reward: Prosperity during eras of Umar Bin Abdul Aziz & Haroon Rashid 720AD & 780 AD
- God’s Punishment: Fall of Abbasid empire by Tatars 1258 AD
- God’s Punishment: Fall of Spain 1492 AD

Empirical Evidence for Man’s Accountability to God
(O believers!) In fact, it was not you who killed them, but it was God Who killed them;...He might pass the believers successfully through this excellent trial; ...

O unbelievers! You wanted a decision (for punishment); lo! The decision, in shape of the believers’ victory, has come to you.

Now if you desist, it will be better for you, and if you repeat your act of war against the believers, so shall We repeat the act of providing them assistance, and your forces, however large in number they may be, shall avail you nothing, for verily God is with the believers. (Quran 8:17-19)

Mosque Arish at Badr Town, Saudi Arabia

From here Prophet Muhammad commanded his army.
Final Punishment for the Rejecters

A declaration of immunity from God and His Messenger is hereby made to those of the pagans with whom you have made a treaty. (O unbelievers! “You have four months to go around in the land unmolested; but you should know that you cannot frustrate the will of God, and that God will humiliate the unbelievers.”

When the forbidden months are over, then fight the pagans wherever you find them, seize them, besiege them, and lie in ambush for them in every stratagem of war; but if they repent, establish prayer and pay Zakah, then let them go their way: surely Allah is Forgiving, Merciful. (Quran 9: 1-5)

Punishment for pagans of Arabia who rejected the call of Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him)

Only applicable to Prophet’s immediate audience
God’s Reward for the Acceptors of Prophet’s call

Islamic State in 622 AD

Islamic State in 631 AD

Photo Courtesy: www.mapsofwar.com
God’s Reward for the Acceptors of Prophet’s call

Islamic State in 651 AD

Islamic State in 720 AD

Empirical Evidence for Man’s Accountability to God
God’s Punishment for Ishmaelites

- Fall of Ummayads
  - At Muslim Spain
- Fall of Abbasids
  - By Tatars
Conclusions

From the Ishmaelite history, we can conclude:

- The Ishmaelite history is a sample of God’s Reward and Punishment. Whatever He did with Ishmaelite, He will do with all of us in hereafter.

- Prophet Muhammad (*peace be upon him*) is the true Messenger of God because his prophecies about the reward & punishment became true.
Thank You

May God Bless You