

Genesis and Metaphysics

General

"The [Genesis creation narrative](#) is the [creation myth](#) of both [Judaism](#) and [Christianity](#). The narrative is made up of two stories, roughly equivalent to the first two chapters of the [Book of Genesis](#). In the first, [Elohim](#) (the Hebrew generic word for [God](#)) creates the heavens and the Earth in six days, then rests on, blesses and sanctifies the [seventh](#). In the second story, God, now referred to by the personal name [Yahweh](#), creates [Adam](#), the first man, from dust and places him in the [Garden of Eden](#), where he is given dominion over the animals. [Eve](#), the first woman, is created from Adam and as his companion." (Source [Wikipedia](#))

According to the story before creation was nothing.

1. In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.
2. And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness [was] upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters

(Source Genesis 1:1-2: [Wikipedia](#))

But this article is not about the creation myth of [Judaism](#) or [Christianity](#), it is a sampling of different sources, from [Sufi knowledge](#) to para-scientists as [Jean Gebser](#) and [Jean Emile Charon](#) into one, hopefully universal, cosmology. In order to tell this new/old creation myth, the author has taken a scientific standpoint from the perspective of a Creator, who consequently relates the Absolute Power behind this world in the role of a [Great Engineer](#). This, on the other hand, relates to one of the names of God, according to the [Islamic tradition](#), [al-Khaliq](#) [\[4\]](#), which means: "The Creator/ Creator of the Universe/ Maker/ True Originator/ Absolute Author" Source [Wikipedia](#))

Why the world exists? Adam/Man?

"I was a hidden treasure; I loved to be known. Hence I created the world so that I would be known"

(Source [Wikipedia](#)). This prominent sentence out of the [Hadith](#) of the Prophet Mohammed is widely used in different [Sufi cosmologies](#). These cosmologies have some parallels to the creation myth in the bible, but rather put it in a "scientific" language and talk about the stages of creation as a kind of genuine energies.

Seen from a perspective as God as Great Engineer and Creator, the sentence means obviously, that God wanted to create something which can reflect his spirit and acknowledge his Greatness with all facets. Consequently he needed to create a being that is able to understand his creation, but also some aspects of himself. It is said that you can't know God but you can get knowledge about his attributes, which are for instance collected in the Islamic tradition of the [Names of God](#).

So according to this, Adam or mankind could be 'the' reason for the creation. As it is also written in the Bible: God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, after Our likeness, to rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, and over all the earth itself and every creature that crawls upon it." (Genesis 1:27,26)

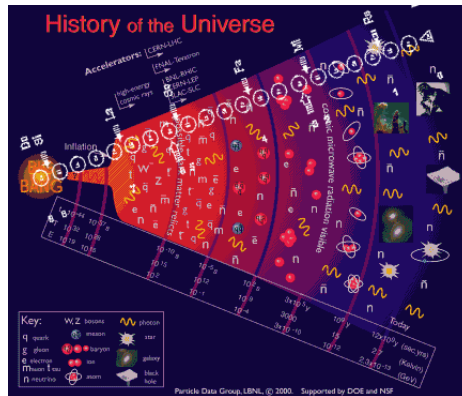
When Adam has been created after His image he must be or become a being, who is able to reflect the spirit of God. Of course there are many scholarly discussions about the nature of Adam, in this article we follow the interpretations which can be related to Neo-Sufism and particularly [Subud](#). According to [Pakh Subuh](#), the name Adam means first and he has been created before anything else.

"It is always said that Adam was the first man, who originated the human race. But, actually, the word 'Adam' does not apply to a physical human being. The real meaning of Adam is the origin, the beginning of the beginning. Adam was without physical substance, without any physical form. In that state, Adam can be seen as something primordial, something part of God Almighty. This is actually the meaning of the name, Adam. Adam did not yet have the form in which he is pictured as being like a human being. Adam was concealed within the Power of Almighty God. That is to say, Adam still existed in the Power of the One Almighty God. In this state, at this time, Adam was perfect in his life. He could live unconditionally. This means that he had no limiting physical body and none of the five senses. Yet this being, Adam, was able to experience the full extent of his seeing, his hearing, his tasting, smelling, his feeling and his knowing" [4].

In this light, from an engineering perspective, that makes sense. If an engineer wants to build a car he starts thinking about and designing first the car, and eventually later, other things as roads or gasoline stations. If the car would be an electric one, he doesn't need gasoline stations, but eventually charging stations. So the next question is how God created Adam out of nothing?

Arcs of Descent and Ascent

When it comes to more precise - related to the involved energies - descriptions about how the creation process took place, probably the first writings are from the great Andalusian Sufi scholar [Ibn al-Arabi](#). Later on, rooted in different creation myth the [Theosophist](#) developed concepts about the [seven rays](#), which are related to the cosmos, astrology, colors and so on. [Gurdjieff](#) did describe an even more detailed view of the cosmos as [ray of creation](#), which relates more to musical harmony and mathematics.



"The [Arcs of Descent and Ascent](#), an [ontological circle](#), are described in [Neoplatonism](#), as well as in [Islamic](#) and [Sufi cosmology](#), mainly inspired by the works of [Ibn al-Arabi](#). In the Arc of Descent ("qaws al-nuzuli"), from unity to diversity, God creates successively the Intellect (Supreme Pen), the Universal Soul (Guarded Tablet), Prime Matter, Nature, the Universal Body (including the imaginal world) and the Earth. The Arc of Ascent ("qaws al-su'ud") is the way back to the Presence of God, the process of spiritual perfection.[\[1\]](#)[\[2\]](#)

In [ahadith](#) attributed to [Ja'far al-Sadiq](#), the sixth Imam of [Shi'i Islam](#), the arc of descent is described as having seven stages. These stages have been commented on in [Shaykhism](#).[\[3\]](#)" (Source [Wikipedia](#))

[Ibn Arabi's](#) ontological circle seems to be more straightforward than Gurdjieff's complex theory. If one replaces the stages or qualities of Ibn Arabi with more universal terms as described in the [Life-Forces](#) article a simple graphic would look like this:

When the simple terms are used for the stages of creation, one can see the first stage is called the sphere of the messengers. "Muslims believe that the first prophet was also the first human being, [Adam](#) (آدم), created by [Allah](#)"[\[5\]](#). From this point of view it makes sense, because it has been mentioned [before](#), that Adam was the first of God's creation.

Genesis from a metaphysical viewpoint

From a more scientific viewpoint, or if God would be seen as the eternal Engineer, the models need eventually some adaptations. It has been mentioned that Adam was created first, created as a spiritual not a human being. Consequently the [Arc of Descent](#) is not yet the physical world, but relates to the [seven Heavens](#). So the creation of the physical way, known as [Big Bang](#) would happen then after the creations of all the heavens. If we would describe the process analogue to an engineering process in the 21st, the engineers would certainly use sophisticated computer software and simulations to create such a complex product as an universe. Those software tools that are used for this kind of engineering are called Computer Aided Engineering and Design, known as [CAE/CAD](#) tools. This tool is heavily used in the Automotive and Aerospace industries and allows the creation of virtual products long before the production begins. This virtual product can be tested with mathematical models and the handling can be analyzed with virtual reality in an environment, which is similar to the one the real product has to sustain.

Creation of heavens (Life -forces)

In this light the creation of the seven heavens is like creating a virtual world, which has more or less the same faculties of the physical universe, that starts to evolve after the [Big Bang](#). But the seven heavens are more than just a blueprint for the world, because they are completely woven into the fabric of the physical world. According to [Charon's theory](#), each electron contains a bridge to the dark matter, which he defines as the eternal world. So the pattern of matter, that e.g. is part of the earth, is constantly communicating with the other world and can store or receive information to or from the eternal world or heavens.

Beside the seven forces that form the universe there are two [auxiliary forces](#) involved, first the [holy spirit](#) and second the force or [sphere of the angels](#). According to [Pakh Subuh](#), these two forces are God's tools to communicate with his creation.

Creation of the physical universe (Earth)

It is at the moment of the [Big Bang](#) when time and space start to evolve. But, when before was neither time, nor space, how God could create the seven heavens each one after the other as in the [Genesis](#) described. For us humans this is almost impossible to understand, because our mind is attached to this world, what means without time and space a creation outside is unthinkable. Nevertheless, if one compares the seven days duration in the Genesis with the estimated 13.8 [billion](#) years since the Big Bang happened, the former didn't take more than a blink of an eye. However, as it is quoted in the holy scriptures and proved by physics by the fact, that the universe sooner or later will collapse, after the [Big Bang](#) the ascending path to the creator or to the origin did start.

But not before [evolution](#) has reached the stage, where man has become a new species on earth, Adam and Eve were finally sent to earth to begin a life as a human being, for the first time endowed with a real human soul. The human beings before Adam & Eve, even they had same intellectual capacities, can not be considered as human from a spiritual viewpoint, because they lack the ability to have a sense of God's Power. So they would have been something in between human and animal and couldn't sense their mortality in a way we can.

Human evolution

The human did start with Adam and Eve and is as well a part of the Genesis and the stories in the Bible. But seen from a more scientific viewpoint this story can be told in different too. In his monumental book "[The Ever-Present Origin](#)" the cultural philosopher [Jean Gebser](#) has described a different history of human evolution, which, in the context of this article, clarifies some details of human evolution. He tells us a story in which the human beings from the time of Adam down to the modern world have been dominated by different structures that follow each other. So the consciousness of man has been increased in each stage towards a more complete understanding of this world, but on the other with a weaker understanding of the origin, where we came from.

Putting his theory in the context of this creation process shows, that the [Cultural human evolution](#) in general goes backwards down to the material level and only the messengers of God and the Saints are able to ascend to the origin of the creation. [Jean Gebser](#) explains in his work '[The Ever-Present Origin](#)' how the 'cultural' human evolution took place from the age where higher forces were dominant until modern times, where it is the material life-force which dominates us. But because there is no real cultural progress or human evolution possible in this process, only the path of [Conscious Evolution](#) is possible, which has the potential to get mankind back to the origin. In Gebser's terms this stage is called the [integral structure](#). It does mean, that man is able to integrate all the life-force below the human level and become human beings with both, the full understanding of this world, but also of the hereafter or our origin.

Quotes

*"I died as mineral and became a plant,
I died as plant and rose to animal,
I died as animal and I was human,
Why should I fear? When was I less by dying?
Yet once more I shall die human,
To soar with angels blessed above.
And when I sacrifice my angel soul
shall become what no mind ever conceived.
As a human, I will die once more,
Reborn, I will with the angels soar.
And when I let my angel body go,
I shall be more than mortal mind can know."*

—Rumi Jalal ad'Din ([source](#))

References

1. [Hetherington, Norriss S. \(2014\), "Two Arcs of Existence". Encyclopedia of Cosmology \(Routledge Revivals\): Historical, Philosophical, and Scientific Foundations of Modern Cosmology. Taylor & Francis. ISBN 978-1-317-67765-9.](#)
2. [Moris, Zailan \(2013\). Revelation, Intellectual Intuition and Reason in the Philosophy of Mulla Sadra: An Analysis of the al-hikmah al-'arshiyyah. Taylor & Francis. p. 58. ISBN 978-1-136-85866-6.](#)
3. [Saiedi, Nader \(2000\). Logos and Civilization - Spirit, History, and Order in the Writings of Bahá'u'lláh. USA: University Press of Maryland and Association for Baha'i Studies. pp. 53–60. ISBN 1883053609.](#)
4. [Adam and his children, 1992, Starlight press pg. 3](#)
5. [Wikipedia Prophets and messengers in Islam](#)

See also

1. [Next article, Patterns of Human Evolution \(OSL Wiki\)](#)
2. [Psychic forces, Life-forces \(OSL Wiki\)](#)