

What is the Creator's wisdom behind natural catastrophes?

The Creator has laid down nature's laws and rules that regulate it. On the outbreak of any corruption or ecological disorder, it protects itself by itself and maintains this balance with the aim of achieving reformation on earth and ensuring that life will proceed in a better way, and only what is beneficial to people and life will stay and survive. When catastrophes occur on earth and cause damages to mankind, like diseases, volcanoes, earthquakes, and floods, these are the times when the names and attributes of Allah become evident, for instance, the All-Powerful, the Healer, and the All-Preserver which are manifest in His healing the sick and preserving the survivors. Other names also become evident during such catastrophes like His name the Just, which is manifest in His punishing the oppressor and the sinner, the All-Wise, which is manifest in afflicting and testing the non-sinner to recompense him with goodness for his patience and with torment for his impatience. This way man gets to know the greatness of his Lord through such afflictions exactly as he gets to know His beauty through His favors. If man only recognizes the attributes of the divine beauty, then he does not truly know Allah Almighty.

The existence of disasters, evil, and pain was the reason behind the atheism of many of the contemporary materialist philosophers like "Antony Flew". Before his death, he acknowledged the existence of God and wrote a book called "There is a God", despite his being the head of atheism during the second half of the twentieth century. Acknowledging the existence of God, he said:

"The existence of evil and pain in people's life does not negate the existence of God; rather, it drives us to reconsider the divine attributes." Antony Flew believed that such catastrophes have multiple positive effects as they stimulate man's physical abilities to invent whatever would grant him safety. They also stimulate his best psychological qualities and drive him to help others. Because of evil and pain, the human civilizations were built throughout history. He said: "No matter how many theses are written to explain this aporia, the religious explanation will remain the most acceptable and the most compatible with the

nature of life." [308] Quoted from "Khurāfat al-Ilhād" by Dr. 'Amr Sharīf, edition 2014 AD.

In reality, we sometimes take the hands of our little children and lovingly lead them to the operation room to have their abdomens slit, while being fully confident of the doctor's wisdom, his love for the child, and his keenness on saving him.

Questions and Answers about Islam

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