

Subject: Spiritual Human

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Three Basic Questions

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Since the early times humans have searched the answers to these three questions:

1. From where did I come before birth?
2. Where am I living presently?
3. Where will I go after death?

The first question leads the person to believe in the existence of a different world; a metaphysical world, existing beyond the present physical world. In Islam this world is the realm of unity called *wahdat* (*vahdet* in Turkish). "Vahdat-el-Vücûd" means the unity of all existing entities; both living and non-living. The Sufi who is most characterized in discussing this concept in deepest details is Muhiddin Ibnul-Arabi (1165 – 1240). Those who ponder upon such a metaphysical reality reach a humble state of mind, accepting that all existents are extensions and manifestations of God. This extension is un-dividable global unity called Ahad or Ehad. The same belief was claimed in the book entitled *Tao-Te-Ching*, written in the year 240 BC by the Chinese mystic Lao-Tzu.

Modern science has a similar approach to the existence of all matter and claims that a unified energy field exists. Einstein said: "*Concerning matter we have been all wrong. What we have called matter is energy, whose vibration has been so lowered as to be perceptible to the senses. There is no matter. The field is the sole governing agency of the particle*".

Einstein's theory of General Relativity deals with this curved energy field with the help of Tensorial mathematics. Tensors are mathematical objects analogous to but more general than vectors, represented by an array of components that are functions of the coordinates of a space. Thus, what we call "empty space" is an extended and curved energy field in its essence and all that exist in this universe are local concentrations of this energy.

The second question: "Where am I living presently?" can only be answered within the disciplines of modern positive sciences. In order to explain the present universe we need to accept that space and time exist. Einstein (1879 – 1955) claimed that space and time are not independent but form a manifold called "*spacetime*". Einstein said: "*Space by itself, and time by itself, are doomed to fade away into mere shadows, and only a kind of union of the two will preserve an independent reality.*"

We believe in the existence of a continuous and linear time and space, but in fact they are discontinuous and nonlinear. These two concepts are the offspring of our mind, which wants determinism and continuity. Newton's classical theory of physics deals with continuous, linear and independent space and time. Life becomes understandable and explainable when determinism and causality are accepted. When we encounter a phenomenon that we cannot explain with determinism and causality, we claim it to be an accident or a chance event. In fact, such phenomena are the result of the inherent structure of our universe, which is indeterminist and non-causal. The famous physicist Richard Feynman (1918 – 1988) said: "...the "paradox" is only a conflict between reality and your feeling of what reality ought to be".

Nature is full of Fractal structures. The term Fractal was first used by the mathematician Benoit Mandelbrot (1924 – 2010) in 1975. He showed that there exist fractional dimensions in nature. Thus again, we have to accept that depth, height and breadth are mere abstractions of our mind. The universe is an immense Fractal structure, which expands unpredictably and all that is, emerges in a self-similar and spontaneous manner. Thus continuity and discontinuity exist simultaneously in our universe and the result of this paradoxical relationship is that our existence is both predictable and also unpredictable. Modern physics managed to reconcile these contradictory concepts by showing that Entanglement is real.

Entanglement is a physical phenomenon that occurs when pairs or groups of particles interact in such a way that separate particles cannot be described independently, even when the particles are separated by large distances. Thus, the concept of local individuality merges with the concept of unity and non-locality. Entanglement is a phenomenon that correlates entities faster than the speed of light. Einstein could not admit faster-than-light interactions could exist and claimed that entanglement is a "spooky action at a distance". Entanglement tells us that we live in a universe that is both predictable and also unpredictable. This situation is known as the interrelationship of Chaos and Cosmos. Order and disorder exist simultaneously and transform into each other.

Regarding the answer to the third question: "Where will I go after death?" depends on the culture that we consider. According to the Hindu metaphysics; a living being reincarnate in a different physical body after biological life ends. But according to Christianity and Islam; the soul ends up in either heaven or hell. Thus we have no valid and single logical answer to this third question. On the other hand we have to accept that some spiritually advanced people have found the answer to this third question.