

CHAPTER III

HARUN YAHYA AND ZAKIR NAIK'S BIOGRAPHY AND

GENERAL DESCRIPTION IN EACH BOOKS :

Miracles Of The Qur'an And The Qur'an And Modern Science

A. Harun Yahya

1. Life

Adnan Oktar, who writes under the pen-name Harun Yahya, was born in Ankara in 1956. He studied art at Istanbul's Mimar Sinan University, and philosophy at Istanbul University. Since the 1980s, the author has published many books on political, faith-related and scientific issues. Harun Yahya¹ is well-known as the author of important works disclosing the imposture of evolutionists, their invalid claims, and the dark liaisons between Darwinism and such bloody ideologies as fascism and communism.²

Greatly appreciated all around the world, these works have been instrumental in helping many to return their faith in Allah and in many others, to gain a deeper insight into their faith. Harun Yahya's books appeal to all kind of reader, regardless of their age, race or nationality, for the focus one objective: to broaden the reader's perspective by encouraging him or her to think about a number of critical issues such as the existence of Allah and his unity, and to live by the values He prescribed for them.³

¹In 1991 he started working in the field of *Da'wah*, and founded the Islamic Research Foundation (IRF). Naik said in 2006, that he was inspired by Ahmed Deedat, an Islamic preacher, having met him in 1987. (Naik is sometimes referred to as "Deedat plus", a label given to him by Deedat himself).

²Harun Yahya, *The Qur'an Lead Way To Science*, (Turkey: Global Publishing, 2004), 5.

³Harun Yahya, *Atlas of Creation*.(turkey: Global Publishing, 2008), 3.

He has dedicated his life to telling of the existence and oneness of Almighty Allah, to disseminating the moral values of the Qur'an, to the intellectual defeat of materialist and atheist ideologies, to propagating the real Atatürk way and to defending the permanence of the state and the unity of the nation. Mr. Adnan Oktar lived in Ankara until he finished high school. His attachment to the morality of Islam grew stronger during his high school years. During this period, he read almost all the works of the Islamic scholars and had an in-depth knowledge about Islam. Again, during these years he decided to speak about the morality of Islam to all people and call them to the truth.

To continue his education, he entered Istanbul's Mimar Sinan University in 1979 coming in third from among thousands of candidates. Mr. Oktar, a talented artist since childhood who regards art as a manifestation of Allah's superior creation, painted surrealist pictures from time to time and gave away a large number of paintings as gifts to friends. In addition, Mr. Oktar numbers animals, plants and flowers among his spheres of interest, as well as horticulture, interior design, and décor.⁴

2. Activities

His pen-name is a composite of the *Harun* (Aaron) and *Yahya* (John), in memory of the esteemed Prophet who fought against their people's lack of faith.⁵ The Prophet's seal on the his books' covers is symbolic and is linked to

⁴<http://www.harunyahya.com/bilgi/about-the-author#title0>. Accessed at Thursday, April 07th 2016.

⁵Harun Yahya, *Atlas of creation*, 3.

the their contents. It represents the Qur'an (the final scripture) and the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him), last of the prophets. Under the guidance of the Qur'an and the *Sunnah* (teachings of the Prophet), the author makes it his purpose to disprove each fundamental tenet of godless ideologies and to have the "last word," so as to completely silence the objections raised against religion. He uses the seal of the final Prophet, who attained ultimate wisdom and moral perfection, as a sign of his intention to offer the last word.

All of Harun Yahya's works share one single goal: to convey the Qur'an's message, encourage readers to consider basic faith-related issues such as Allah's Existence and Unity and the hereafter; and to expose godless systems' feeble foundations and perverted ideologies.⁶

To that end, Adnan Oktar concentrated on proving the invalidity of this deception that for more than a century had turned people away from religious moral values. He realized that since Darwinism advanced itself in the name of science, the most effective means of revealing its true face was through science itself. Based on that viewpoint, he brought out a pamphlet entitled *The Theory of Evolution*, a summary of his wide-ranging research and study, and personally bore all the printing costs by selling property inherited from his family, and distributed the pamphlet free of charge to other university students.

Using an accessible and comprehensible style, this pamphlet demonstrated that evolution was a deception, with no scientific validity. Many people who read

⁶Harun Yahya, *The Glory of Heavens*, (Turkey: Vural Yayincilik, 2004), 4.

the pamphlet and spoke with Adnan Oktar came to agree that no living thing could come into being by chance, and that Almighty Allah created the universe and all living things in it.

His intellectual activities opposing materialism and atheism began to elicit reactions from wider circles. Certain groups, alarmed by Adnan Oktar's nationalist and religious activities, set up a major conspiracy against him. Their plot coincided with the publication of his work *Judaism and Freemasonry*, which provoked an enormous response.

In the summer of 1986, Adnan Oktar was arrested, with no rightful legal ground whatsoever, for having stated, "I am a member of the Turkish People, and of the Nation of Ibrahim," in an interview carried by a newspaper. Again under the influence of the circles mentioned above, deceitful reports, groundless information and slanders about him began appearing in various publications.

Adnan Oktar was first arrested and imprisoned. He was confined in a one-man cell for nine months. He was then chained by the foot to a bed in the Forensic Medicine Department for 40 days. He was then transferred to the Bakirkoy Mental Hospital on the grounds of being mentally unhealthy and placed under observation in ward 14A, poorly maintained, filthy, and used to house the most dangerous inmates. Ward 14A, which housed 300 mental patients, was in a stone building left over from the reign of Sultan Abdul Hamid and could be entered only by passing through a number of locked iron doors, since killings among

patients were viewed as nothing out of the ordinary. During Mr. Oktar's time there, seven murders were committed.⁷

3. Authorship

Under the pen-name Harun Yahya, the author has published many books on political and faith-related issues. An important body of his work deals with the materialistic world view and the impact of it in world history and politics. The pen-name is formed from the names 'Harun' Aaron and 'Yahya' John in the esteemed memory of the two Prophets who struggled against infidelity.⁸

His works include the 'Secret Hand' in Bosnia, the Holocaust Hoax, Behind the Scenes of Terrorism, Israel's Kurdish Card, A National Strategy for Turkey, Solution: The Morals of the Qur'an, Darwin's Antagonism Against the Turks, Articles 1, Articles 2, The Calamities Darwinism Caused Humanity, The Evolution Deceit, Perished Nations, The Prophet Musa, The Golden Age, Allah's Artistry in Colour, Glory is Everywhere, The Truth of the Life of This World, Confessions of Evolutionists, The Blunders of Evolutionists 1, The Blunders of Evolutionists 2, The Dark Magic of Darwinism, The Religion of Darwinism, The Qur'an Leads the Way to Science, The Real Origin of Life, The Consciousness of the Cell, The Creation of the Universe, Miracles of the Qur'an, The Design in Nature, Self-Sacrifice and Intelligent Behaviour Models in Animals, Eternity Has Already Begun, Children Darwin Was Lying!, The End of Darwinism, Deep Thinking, Timelessness and the Reality of Fate, Never Plead Ignorance, The

⁷About the author, harunYahya.com. the real link of Harun Yahya.

⁸Harun Yahya, *The Basic Concepts In the Qur'an*, (India: Goodword Press, 2000), 3.

Secrets of DNA, The Miracle of the Atom, The Miracle in the Cell, The Miracle of the Immune System, The Miracle in the Eye, The Creation Miracle in Plants, The Miracle in the Spider, The Miracle in the Ant, The Miracle in the Gnat, The Miracle in the Honeybee, The Miracle of Seed, The Miracle in the Termite, The Miracle of the Human Body, The Miracle of Man's Creation.⁹

Among his booklets are The Mystery of the Atom, The Collapse of the Theory of Evolution: The Fact of Creation, The Collapse of Materialism, The End of Materialism, The Blunders of Evolutionists 1, The Blunders of Evolutionists 2, The Microbiological Collapse of Evolution, The Fact of Creation, The Collapse of the Theory of Evolution in 20 Questions, The Biggest Deception in the History of Biology: Darwinism.¹⁰

The author's other works on Qur'anic topics include: Ever Thought About the Truth?, Devoted to Allah, Abandoning the Society of Ignorance, Paradise, The Theory of Evolution, The Moral Values of the Qur'an, Knowledge of the Qur'an, Qur'an Index, Emigrating for the Cause of Allah, The Character of Hypocrites in the Qur'an, The Secrets of the Hypocrite, The Names of Allah, Communicating the Message and Disputing in the Qur'an, The Basic Concepts in the Qur'an, Answers from the Qur'an, Death Resurrection Hell, The Struggle of the Messengers, The Avowed Enemy of Man: Satan, Idolatry, The Religion of the Ignorant, The Arrogance of Satan, Prayer in the Qur'an, The Importance of Conscience in the Qur'an, The Day of Resurrection, Never Forget, Disregarded Judgements of the Qur'an, Human Characters in the Society of Ignorance, The

⁹Harun Yahya, *The Basic Concepts In the Qur'an*, 4.

¹⁰Harun Yahya, *The Basic Concepts In the Qur'an*, 4.

Importance of Patience in the Qur'an, General Information from the Qur'an, Quick Grasp of Faith 1-2-3, The Crude Reasoning of Disbelief, The Mature Faith, Before You Regret, Our Messengers Say, The Mercy of Believers, The Fear of Allah, The Nightmare of Disbelief, Prophet Isa Will Come, Beauties Presented by the Qur'an for Life, Bouquet of the Beauties of Allah 1-2-3-4, The Iniquity Called "Mockery", The Secret of the Test, The True Wisdom According to the Qur'an, The Struggle with the Religion of Irreligion, The School of Yusuf, The Alliance of the Good, Slanders Spread Against Muslims Throughout History, The Importance of Following the Good Word, Why Do You Deceive Yourself?, Islam: The Religion of Ease, Enthusiasm and Vigor in the Qur'an, Seeing Good in Everything, How does the Unwise Interpret the Qur'an?, Some Secrets of the Qur'an, The Courage of Believers, Being Hopeful in the Qur'an.¹¹

B. Zakir Naik

1. Life

Zakir Naik (born October 18th 1965 in Mumbai, India) is an Indian Islamic preacher, who has been called an "authority on comparative religion", "perhaps the most influential Salafi ideologue in India", and "the world's leading Salafi evangelist". He is the founder and president of the Islamic Research Foundation (IRF), and founder of the "comparative religion" Peace TV channel, through which he reaches a reported 100 million viewers. Unlike many Islamic preachers, his lectures are colloquial, given in English, not Urdu or Arabic, and he wears a suit and tie rather than traditional garb.

¹¹Harun Yahya, *The Basic Concepts In the Qur'an*, 4.

Zakir Abdul-Karim Naik is a renowned public intellectual who has made his mission to teach the world about Islam. He hosts huge public events where he speaks on the subject, highlighting misconception and promoting understanding about the faith. Naik also challenges leaders in other faiths to public debates that are broadcast around the world on Peace TV-a satellite channel that he helped to found. He is also the founder of the Islamic Foundation, which runs United Islamic Aid. He was listed as one of the most powerful Indians in 2010.¹²

Before becoming a public speaker, he trained as a medical doctor. He has published booklet versions of lectures on Islam and comparative religion. Although he has publicly disclaimed sectarianism in Islam, he is regarded by some as an exponent of the *Salafi* ideology, and, by some, as a radical Islamic televangelist propagating *Wahhabism*.¹³

2. Activities

A medical doctor by professional training, Zakir Naik is renowned as a dynamic international orator on Islam and Comparative Religion. He is the President of Islamic Research Foundation, Mumbai, India. He is 49 years old. Zakir clarifies Islamic viewpoints and clears misconceptions about Islam, using the Qur'an, authentic Hadith and other religious Scriptures as a basis, in conjunction with reason, logic and scientific facts. He is popular for his critical analysis and convincing answers to challenging questions posed by audiences after his public talks.

¹²Abdallah Scheleifer, *The 500 Most Influential Muslims 2011*, (Jordan: The Royal Islamic, 2011), 94.

¹³Editorial Team, *Dzakir Naik Profile*, Pdf. Update 2015, 5.

In the last 20 years (by the year 2015) Zakir Naik has Alhamdulillah delivered over 2000 public talks in the USA, Canada, UK, Italy, France, Saudi Arabia, UAE, Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain, Oman, Egypt, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Botswana, Nigeria, Ghana, The Gambia, Morocco, Algeria, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Brunei, Thailand, Hong Kong, China, Guyana (South America), Trinidad, Mauritius, Sri Lanka, Maldives and many other countries, in addition to numerous public talks in India. In March 2012, his public talk in Kishanganj, Bihar, in India was attended by over one million people, being one of the largest gathering in the world for any religious lecture by a lone orator.

Amongst the billion plus population of India Zakir Naik was ranked No. 82 in 'The 100 Most Powerful Indians' list published by Indian Express in the year 2009 and ranked No. 89 in 2010. He was ranked No. 3 in the 'Top 10 Spiritual Gurus of India in 2009' and topped this list in 2010. He was ranked in the top 70 list of the '500 Most Influential Muslims in the World' issued annually by Georgetown University, USA, in the years 2011, 2012, 2013/14 and 2014/15.¹⁴

He has successfully participated in several symposia and dialogues with prominent personalities of other faiths. His public dialogue with William Campbell (of USA) on the topic, "The Qur'an and the Bible in the Light of Science" held in Chicago, USA, on 1st April 2000 was a resounding success. His interfaith Dialogue with prominent Hindu Guru Sri Sri Ravi Shankar on the topic, "The Concept of God in Hinduism and Islam in the Light of Sacred Scriptures"

¹⁴Editorial Team, *Dzakir Naik Profile*, 5. See to Abdallah Scheleifer, *The 500 Most Influential Muslims 2011*, (Jordan: The Royal Islamic, 2011), 94.

held at Palace Grounds, Bangalore, on 21st January 2006, was highly appreciated by people of both faiths.

Ahmed Deedat, the world famous orator on Islam and Comparative Religion, who had called Zakir “Deedat Plus” in 1994, presented a plaque in May 2000 with the engraving “Awarded to Zakir Naik for his achievement in the field of *Da’wah* and the study of Comparative Religion.” “Son what you have done in 4 years had taken me 40 years to accomplish, Alhamdulillah.”

The Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Salman bin Abdul Aziz Al-Saud presented the prestigious ‘King Faisal International Prize’ - 2015 for ‘Service to Islam’ to Zakir Naik on 1st March 2015 in Riyadh. This prize is the most Prestigious Prize in the Muslim world, similar to the Nobel Prize. The prize consisted of a certificate indicating Zakir’s achievements, a commemorative 24-carat 200-gram gold medal and Saudi Riyals 750,000 (US \$ 200,000). The entire prize money was donated by Dr Zakir Naik to the Waqf of Peace TV Network.¹⁵

3. Authorship

The authorship of Zakir Naik that are consist of books, articles, pamphlets, VCD and etc.

1. The Qur’an and Modern Science.
2. Islam and Hinduism.
3. Answer to non-Muslims common questions about Islam.¹⁶
4. Mereka bertanya Islam menjawab.
5. Keajaiban Al-Qur’an dalam telaah sains moder.¹⁷

¹⁵Editorial Team, *Dzakir Naik Profile*, P. 5.

¹⁶Zakir Naik, *Answer to non-Muslims common questions about Islam*, (India; Islamic Research Foundation, 2010), 12.

6. VCD; Islam and Christianity, terrorism not *Jihad*, Media and Muslim; pengaruh media dalam percaturan Globalisasi, the Prophet Muhammad in some Islamic book religion, rightful women in Islam, Why west world come back to Islam, and etc,¹⁸

C. General Description in each book :

A. Harun Yahya and his book "Miracles Of The Qur'an.

1. Background

Fourteen centuries ago, God sent down the Qur'an to mankind as a book of guidance. He called upon people to be guided to the truth by adhering to this book. From the day of its revelation to the day of judgement, this last divine book will remain the sole guide for humanity.

In his introduction Harun Yahya said that

“In the 7th century, when the Qur'an was revealed, Arab society had many superstitious and groundless beliefs where scientific issues were concerned. Lacking the technology to examine the universe and nature, these early Arabs believed in legends inherited from past generations. They supposed, for example, that mountains supported the sky above. They believed that the earth was flat and that there were high mountains at its both ends. It was thought that these mountains were pillars that kept the vault of heaven high above.

¹⁷ Author by Dr. Zakir Naik and Dr. Garry Miller.

¹⁸ M. Jazuli, *Materi dan Metode Dakwah dalam VCD "Persamaan-Persamaan antara Islam dan Kristen oleh Zakir Naik*, (Semarang, 2008), 37-38.

However all these superstitious beliefs of Arab society were eliminated with the Qur'an. In Sura Sad, verse 2, it was said: "God is He who raised up the heavens without any support..."(The Qur'an, 13:2). This verse invalidated the belief that the sky remains above because of the mountains. In many other subjects, important facts were revealed at a time when no one could have known them. The Qur'an, which was revealed at a time when people knew very little about astronomy, physics, or biology, contains key facts on a variety of subjects such as the creation of the universe, the creation of the human being, the structure of the atmosphere, and the delicate balances that make life on earth possible."¹⁹

So from this statement we knew that the background of this book is in order to understand the scientific miracle of the Qur'an, we must first take a look at the level of science at the time when this holy book was revealed. And he said too that The matchless style of the Qur'an and the superior wisdom in it are definite evidence that it is the word of God. In addition, the Qur'an has many miraculous attributes proving that it is a revelation from God. One of these attributes is the fact that a number of scientific truths that we have only been able to uncover by the technology of the 20th century were stated in the Qur'an 1,400 years ago.

Of course the Qur'an is not a book of science. However, many scientific facts that are expressed in an extremely concise and profound manner in its verses

¹⁹Harun Yahya, *Miracle of the Qur'an*. (Turkey: Vural Yanincilik, 2000), 11.

have only been discovered with the technology of the 20th century. These facts could not have been known at the time of the Qur'an's revelation, and this is still more proof that the Qur'an is the word of God.²⁰

2. Its Contents

In his book, Harun Yahya include all about scientific verses that consist of miracle of the Qur'an. Harun Yahya divided his book to some part. In part one on his book talking about the scientific miracles of the Qur'an. In this part he was given the scientific miracles like the coming of the universe into existence, the expansion of the universe, the splitting asunder of "the heavens and the earth", orbits, the returning sky, and etc. then in the part two he was given the title about the information given about the future in the Qur'an. And the contents consist of the introduction himself about it, the victory of Byzantium. And in the part three talking about the historical miracle of the Qur'an. In this contents consist of the word "*hamman*" in the Qur'an, titles of Egyptian rules in the Qur'an. And the conclusion about the Qur'an is the word of the God.

Then in this contents of this book, Harun Yahya give the last part related to the evolution misconception. In this part consist of many statements about it like The most significant of these is materialism, The Scientific Collapse of Darwinism, The Complex Structure of Life, Imaginary Mechanisms of Evolution.

²⁰Harun Yahya, *Miracle of the Qur'an*, 11-12.

B. Zakir Naik and his book “The Qur’an and Modern Science”

1. Background

Al-Qur’an, the main source of Islamic faith, is a book believed by Muslims, to be of completely Divine Origin. Muslims also believe that it contains guidance for all mankind. Since the message of the Qur’an is believed to be for all times, it should be relevant to every age. Does the Qur’an pass this test? And this is The background of this approach is begin of Zakir Naik intends to give an objective analysis of the Muslim belief regarding the Divine origin of the Qur’an, in the light of established scientific discoveries.²¹

Zakir Naik more says, there was a time in the history of world civilization , when ‘miracles’, or what was perceived to be a miracle, took precedence over human reason or logic. But how do we define the term ‘miracle’? A miracle is anything that takes place out of the normal source of life and for which humankind has no explanation. However, we must be careful before we accept something as a miracle.²²

2. Its Contents

This book contains interesting scientific facts from the verses of al-Qur’an and hadith of prophet Muhammad P.B.U.H. for example there is a fatwa it is interesting that the Moon split. It turns out that lately it was found that the miracle the Messenger of Allah was true existence. as was first denied by the unbelievers and the hypocrites of *quraisy*. whereas in the past they saw it firsthand that month

²¹Zakir Naik, *The Qur’an And Modern Science; Compatible or incompatible*, (India: Ahya Multi-Media, 2000), 5. See also in deliver of writer, Dani Ristanto, Zakir Naik, *Miracles of al-Qur’an and as-Sunnah*, (solo: Aqwam, 2015), Vii.

²²Zakir Naik, *The Qur’an And Modern Science*, 6.

really split. Drawing of it, this book covers a lot of aspect, amongst those and science in general.²³

Interestingly, this book contains many aspects, including astronomy, physics, geography, geology, oceanography, biology, Physiology, embryology, and science in public. Equipped with scientific facts accompanied by illustrations. some expert testimony also adds to the strength of the script, along with the evidence for the true good of the Qur'an and Hadith course.²⁴

V. ²³Dani Ristanto, Zakir Naik, *Miracles of al-Qur'an and as-Sunnah*, (solo: Aqwam, 2015),

²⁴Dani Ristanto, Zakir Naik, *Miracles of al-Qur'an and as-Sunnah*, vi.