## SCIENCE AND RELIGION BOTH: QUESTS FOR TRUTH BEHIND THE VEIL OF NATURE.

# IS THE PARSI CONFLICT BETWEEN THE ORTHODOX AND NON - ORTHODOX WELL FOUNDED - SCIENTIFICALLY AND INTELLECTUALLY?

The Parsi Community is embroiled in heafed arguments about its own Religion. There are two groups at verbal war since 12 decades. The labels assigned to them are: (i) the "orthodox" or "traditional", and (ii) the "reformists" or "liberals". Both these words are so over -worked that they have lost their original purport. The orthodox is supposed to be too rigid and flexible; the reformists, too much libertines and licentious. Even these four words have changed their original implications, as the sexy pictures and contents in newspapers convey. A new nomenclature is imminent.

The first are those who have belief and faith in the spiritual traditions and Institutions of the Zarthoshti Din, like (i) Sudreh Kushti, (ii) Avesta - Manthra - Prayers, (iii) Atash - Kadeh, (iv) Kriyakaam, (v) Dokhma, (vi) Meher - Patet, (vii) Boonak Paasbaani. We baptise this class as "the Faithful"; and refer to the above seven traditions as "the seven maxims".

The other group has mixed and confused thinking about the spiritual Institutions, although they pretend to be intellectuals but without duly applying their intellect. They have some lurking faith here and there. Yet we do not baptise them as "faithless" or even "non-faithful" (much less "unfaithful"). We give them a euphemistic name: the "non-orthodox".

It is observed that the present day newspaper arguments thrown by these groups towards each other are "Ad Hominem" and "straw-man". Ad Hominem argument is where the attack is on **the person** who presents the argument and not on the argument itself like "oh! dont forget that you were called a liar in court". A straw man argument is one which distorts the adversary's position in order to make it easier to attack, like, "oh! you are a fundamentalist like those Jehadwallas".

There are many intellectually wise men and women in both the groups who do not take any interest in this kind of Jame - Wapiz mud slingings. But many of them wonder whether in the present so called age of science, those spiritual Institutions and traditions of our Din are tenable, believable and justifiable, and whether there can be any rationale in maintaining them and practising them.

Many amongst the Faithful class have lurking doubts that science and faith, after all, do not agree with each other. Some think that science has found many truths and mysteries of Nature, and our seven maxims appear to be either inconsistent with them or too much other - worldly or mystical or without any logic or intellectual satisfaction. Is there any scientific or logical reason for stitches of Sudreh and 72 threads of Kushti; or for 9 bells in Atash Baheraam; or for 301 nails in the consecration of Dokhma; or 13 vocational fires and the fire from a burning corpse of a Hindu or the 1128 'Pahaadia's and 'Yazashney's 'Vendidad's in the consecration of Atash Beheram? Is there any modern scientific reason for these figures: 9. 72. 301. 1128? What is the logical and scientific reason for this and for that? ---- There is no end to such questions.

Such questions presume that Science knows many truths of Nature; and it must be able to answer many, if not all, questions on Nature and its working. It is therefore a description of the Reality about universe in which we are.

That presumption was the Western human thinking of the 19th century. At the end of that century scientists thought "We know most of Nature and whatever little we do not know, we will learn soon and fill up the gaps." The text book is written out; a few foot-notes are left to be added.

The 19th century science developed in various branches. Physics was the science of matter; biology, of life; psychology i.e. the brain science, of the human thought, mind and consciousness. All of them developed Godlessness. Everything operated like a machine; no God was needed for the working of matter or life or mind. We the humans were having a march of progress: material progress, a life of physical ease and conviniences. Nothing spiritual or religious. Religion is a superstition of man's jungle - ancestors, a piece of primitive thinking.

The Western study of our Zarthoshti Religion was born into this atmosphere. The so called "reformists" - the non-orthodox were the product of this Ego - Structure of the 19th century science of Godlessness. One Dr. Dhalla of Karachi, who was sent to Columbia University to study our Religion, came back fully coloured with the then theories of Darwin and Spencer and a host of the philosophers of Godlessness. He even Perfecting wrote "Our World", and "Zoroastrian Theology" little realising that he was advocating Godlessness in the name of his own Religion.

As the 20th century arrived and ended, that Ego - structure of the so-called scientific thought has been mercilessly shatterred. The Ego dance of "we - know - all" - honeymoon

has ended. Every page of Dr. Dhalla's two books has gone pathetically wrong.

The quest for Truth with which science had started its journey has reached its end. All that it has done is to bring the whole of mankind at the end of its journey. Our final hour is approaching, says the U.K. Astronomer -Royal, Sir Martin Rees, and the great physicist Stephen Hawking.

Science is far far away from the basic question pertaining to Truth and Reality of our existence. The root **QUESTION** is: Who are we, the humans? Where are we? Why are we here? And where do we go? You can have ONE question in place of these four: Who am I and what am I doing here for a few decades and then disappear? Francis Collins, America's leading geneticist and head of the Human Genome Project (which is reported on 26-6-2000 to have cracked the amazing genetic code of a human cell), has in his 2006 book "The Language of God" (Free Press) has framed the big question thus:

"How did the universe get here?" "What is the meaning of life?" "What happens to us after we die?"

[Sorry for the diversion; but should not the presently hot controversy on Dokhma, be directed to the last question?]

Henry Margenau, Professor Emeritus of Physics and Natural Philosophy at Yale University, and a brilliant Indian, Roy Abraham Verghese, a journalist in India and USA and organiser of international conferences on science, religion and artificial intelligence, have co-edited a book, "Cosmos, Bios, Theos", (Open Court - 1992-3) containing the response of 60 leading scientists (including 24 Nobel prize winners) to 6 questions which are related to the aforesaid root QUESTION. They are about the relation between science and religion, the origins of universe, life, human beings, and the concept of God.

The responses show a variety of the thinking of great scientist - intellectuals on those questions. Some are die - hard athiests; some are openly and some hesitantly thiests; some show their doubts and perplexities. One thing is clear. Science can not and will not give a clear answer to the root Question. Its confusion is apparent. Its bewilderment is dominant.

This issue contains two articles on science. The first one on page 14 with the headline, "DO YOU KNOW THAT....." will give you an idea of the past glory and present plight of modern science. It will take you in the history of science from the time of Newton to the present dream of Theory of Everything (TOE) and the great future machine, the Large Hadron Collider (LHC), expected to operate somewhere between 2007 to 2009.

The second article with the head line "Can There Be a Mystical Science?" takes you beyond modern science into the realms of mystical sciences i.e. mysticisms. The theme

is that the intellect of a non-saintly human has a limit, a barrier, beyond which it is not permitted to fathom, unless he or she evolves on the spiritual Paths ordained by the Prophets, Avataars, Seers, Sages and Saints. However, there are enough materials available to non-saintly humans to have partial intellectual perspective of the regions beyond the ordinary thought and day to day consciousness.

The article will take you into the rising stages of spiritual thinking, leading to the actual expansion of the power and ability of five senses and consciousness. It will also give you an idea: what should be the attitude of the Parsi Faithful as well as non-orthodox factions towards modern science. And above all, how will llm-e-Khshnoom help you in your intellectual and spiritual journey on this road called LIFE. Remember each of the seven maxims of our Din has a rationale emanating from the mystical science, Ilm-e-Khshnoom.

#### DO YOU KNOW:

### THAT MODERN SCIENCE HAS FAILED IN ITS QUEST FOR TRUTH?

### THAT SCIENCE IS KNOCKING THE DOOR OF MYSTICISM BUT DENIED ENTRY?

### THAT THERE ARE SOME FANATIC SCIENTISTS TO WHOM GOD AND RELIGION ARE LIKE RED CLOTH TO A BULL?

### AND THAT THERE ARE SOME ASTUTE SCIENTISTS WHO REFUSE TO ACCEPT SCIENCE AS DEMI-GOD?

What is this modern Science? It is manifestly and primarily a quest for knowledge as to how the nature around us works. In other words it is a search for truth.

Somewhere in 1685-86, one Issac Newton (it is said) saw a very common event of an apple falling from a tree, pondered on it and arrived at his law of gravitation. He must have perhaps seen a ball rolling on the ground and arrived at his laws of motion. 28 days from the April-fool day of the year 1686, i.e. on 28-4-1686, he presented a learned treatise on these laws of "falling" and "rolling", to the Royal Society of London. The date is described as "one of the greatest dates in the history of mankind". The law of "falling" is known as the law of gravitation; and the laws of "rolling", the laws of motion.

A revolution in the human thinking was set in motion, particularly in the West. Two propositions started breeding. One was that the Nature around us operated on mechanical laws; and the other was that the human intellect was quite capable of understanding the laws, through its tools viz observation, experiment, logic and mathematics. Nature was a machine moving and working on certain set laws, which the humans can easily find out. Nothing in Nature was incomprehensible and mystical to the human mind. No God was needed to operate these "natural laws" or even to create the

universe. It is just there, like a machine moving on its own whims. Science is just an intellectual study of those whims.

But, then, Newton's laws dealt with just material bodies i.e. matter. What about life on earth, all these birds and fishes and mamals and insects? Thus asked those who believe in God, the Creator of everything. There arrived Darwin to give them a thumping reply. Life also operates as a machine. Different animals come into existence by a natural law of evolution called survival of the fittest and natural selection.

Godlessness then gathered momentum. By the end of the 19th century, science thought that it understood everything in nature. Religion was the superstition of the primitive jungle-man.

Gita, Gatha and Bible became the folk poetry or prose of shepherds and farmers, like Kishna (Gopal), Zoroaster (Vastraya), Jesus ('Lord is my shepherd').

This Pride of man that "I have understood everything", reached its climax in the last-but-one week of the year 1899. That was the Christmas week of 1899, the last one of the 19th century. At a meeting of the German, Physical Society in Berlin, a then not much known Professor of Physics from the University of Berlin, Max Planck, presented a paper, which was a signal that the maxim of the Holy

Bible: "Pride goeth before destruction and a haughty spirit before a fall", was materializing. Planck's theory was expressed in a small 3 letter equation E = hv. (You need not bother what it means).

About 15 years rolled by and another three letter equation cropped up :  $E = mc^2$ . (Dont bother here too). It was one Albert Einstein who brought it on the perplexing stage of modern science.

Planck's E = hv is the grand-father of what is known as Quantum Mechanics or Quantum Theory. Einstein's E = mc² is the banner of what is known as Theory of Relativity. Relativity deals with stars, galaxies, cluster of galaxies and beyond in the vast expanses of the universe. The Quantum Theory deals with the smallest particles molecules, atoms, eletrons, protons, neutrons and other unobservable sub atomic particles, (about 100 in number). Each of the two theories are amazingly accurate in their own areas. Each has come out with astounding technical tools and advances. Each behaves as if it is THE theory of **Truth** in Nature.

BUT (a very big 'but'), both the theories themselves proclaim that they cannot both be right; they are mutually incompatible; if one is THE truth in nature, the other cannot be so; the foundations of both are in "ferocious antagonism". Serious, fierce and earnest attempts are being made in the world of science by most astute and adroit scientists to evolve a theory which would bring the quantum and relativity nearer and would remove their conflict, but in vain. The "String" and "Super string" Theories are attempting to do so, but appear to be swinging between verity and doubt. Einstein himself tried to evolve his Unified Field Theory, during the last 15 years of his life, but in vain. Great Scientists are imagining that a "TOE" - Theory of Everything - will one day fall into their lap. But that remains - perhaps is bound to remain - a dream. A

Large Hadron Collider (LHC) is being built in Geneva Switzerland, which may go in operation between 2007 and 2009. A 27km long "collider" is built to know and understand what is there deep down in sub atomic particles, (the constituents of our material world, which are too small to be ever visible - billions billionth of a Centimeter.)

As the 20th century rolled out its decades, the pride of science that "we understood all nature and its laws", went on receiving severe hammerings. Today in the first decade of the 21st century, it becomes clearer and clearer that science has failed in its quest for Truth. It has failed to understand a speck of dust, a drop of water, a leaf of a tree, the feather of a peacock, the song of a bird, the jump of a monkey; the love of a mother for her offspring in the cruellest animal; the devotion for the humans towards their Prophets, Avataars, saints, seers and sages; the seat of altruism and moral law and love towards God, in the mind and heart of human, howsoever wicked he or she may be. No equation or theory shall ever be able to explain all this and much more, notwithstanding all technological advances like nuclear bombs and trip to the moon, televisions and computers. The fact that the technology of science works, does not at all indicate that science has reached the Truths of Nature. Those advances are based on incompatible theories, as quantum and relativity declare.

Please do not think that the above is just the voice of faith. Modern Science itself has awakened to the truth that it has failed in its quest for truth and there is now no scope for any progress towards finding out the truth. In 1996 John Horgan, the then senior science writer in the "Scientific American", wrote a book: "The End of Science" (Helix) with a subtitle, "Facing the Limits of Knowledge in the Twilight of the Scientific Age". His theme was that the method of science to search for truth by observation, experiment,

logic, mathematics is now exhausted and has come to an end, and science has now become guess work and congecture. Empirical (experimental) science has now become "ironic science". No direct verification or proof of its theories is now available. There is no way to prove that Universe began 15 billion years by a big bang; or that the matter is 10 dimensional string formation or even that elementary particles are the constitutents of matter. Just assumptions and speculations without convincing proof. "Science - especially pure science, the grand quest to understand the universe and our place in it-might be reaching a cul-de-sac, yielding 'no more great revelations or revolutions, but only incremental, diminishing returns'." (Cul-de-sac means end of the road, no further going.) That is how Horgan himself teresly described the theme of his book, in 2006, ten years after its publication, in an American Science Magazine, "Discover" (October 2006).

The book had generated a powerful controversy on both sides immediately on its publication. The book was referred to by a Nobel prize winner David Lee, a physicist, in his address while receiving the prize, naming the theme as "greatly exaggerated". Another Nobel scientist Phillip Anderson even named Horgan's theme as "Horganism". But Horgan reiterates his theme with greater gusto - in his 'Disover' article. "My goal, now as then", he writes, "is not to demean valuable ongoing research but to challenge excessive faith in scientific progress". They are making science like a religion.

#### **SCIENTISTS OR FANATICS?**

Some scientists do behave like religious fanatics, when the authority of mainstream science is challenged or even middly opposed. A classical example of such fanaticism is one Richard Dawkins, a professor of a novel subject viz. "Public Understanding of Science". He is obsessively fanatic on Darwin's theory of

evolution. Any criticism, howsoever sound, of that theory is like a red cloth to a bull for Dawkins. Here is an example. One Richard Milton a Science Journalist, design engineer and researcher in Geology, wrote a book in 1992: "Shattering the Myths of Darwinism". The other Richard (Dawkins) was furious. Milton writes in his preface to the second edition (1997) that Dawkins called his book "loony", "stupid", "drivel", and the author, "a harmless fruit cake" who "needs psychiatric help". In his review in "New statesman" Dawkins devoted two thirds of it to attacking the book's British publishers. Fourth Estate, for irresponsibility" in "daring" to publish it, and remainder in abusing the author. [Jame Jamshed and Afternoon Wapiz's paid performances can increase their maligning-each-other-vocabulary.)

Of course the Western Society, as it is nurtured, came out with praises for Milton's book. "Milton makes an absolutely devastating case..... against evolution with a calmness and confidence of a man who is justifiably sure of his facts and with the modest clarity of a debater who knows that his arguments hold water and need no rehtorical flourishes but only lucid exposition to prevail" - so says the Magazine, Floodgate. (Reverse lesson for Jame-Wapiz).

There is another startling example of Scientific fanaticism. In 1981 one Rupert Sheldrake wrote a book "A New Science of Life" presenting a novel theory of biological and physical reality, which was so much unorthodox and in variance with mainstream theories emanating from Darwinian evolution that there was a furore in the scientific world. It was not only branded as a "bad book" like Hitler's "Mein Kempf" by the standard and authentic magazine of Science "Nature" but was recommended by that magazine as "a book for burning". That was in spite of the fact that Sheldrake is a scientist very well trained and groomed in classical science, a former Research Fellow of the prestigious

"Royal Society", a scholar of Clare college, Cambridge and a Frank Knox Fellow at Harvard University.

Yet as late as in the 9th decade of the 20th century, (on 24th September 1981) to call his book as worth burning, and that too by the authoritative bench mark Magazine of Science 'Nature', is an indication that the human dogmatism has remained almost the same as in the times of Galileo and witch - burning! The thin difference is perhaps that the burning of only the book, and not its author, was recommended, and no writ Petition for directing the Executive to do so was filed before the Judiciary.

#### HOW DARE YOU FOOL OF A MYSTIC?

But I have an observation to make. This 20th century scientific wrath was perhaps partly due to the fact that Sheldrake had dedicated his book to the famous English Bendictin Monk Father Dom Bede Griffiths, (1906 - 1993) who spent 38 years of his saintly life in India, the last 23 years being in a most sacredly simple Ashram, Shantivanam, (Shantivanam was 200 km south of the Great Saint Raman Maharshi's abode in Arunachalam. Fr. Griffith's life is narrated in Parsi Pukar: 1998 - Vol. 3 - Issue nos 9 and 10 - Editor). How dare you name your book as containing our goddess Sciencedevi, and dedicate it to a monk of religion? In fact the book was written by Rupert Sheldrake during his 18 months stay in Shantivanam.

Yet and but, the western thinking is not that bad. The book touched the thinking and imagination of many scientists and non-scientists and there was equal furore on the behaviour and attitude of 'Nature' magazine. Professors and University stalwarts of science severely criticised the magazine. It was flooded with letters some of which the magazine had to publish. Alexi Comfort of UCLA Neuropsychiatric Institute, California wrote to 'Nature' whether it felt that "its virginity was in peril".

That is the present plight of modern science. Some Parsis who say that in the present scientific times, the Zarthoshti traditions, doctrines, beliefs, and rituals cannot survive, are just displaying their stark naked unawareness about the events which are happening in the realms of modern science. Where ignorance is bliss, it is stark folly to be wise. All attempts of modern science to understand nature and to arrive at God's Truth has not only miserably failed, but are doomed to fail from the start to the end. And Horgan's "The End of Science" has arrived, howsoever the mainstream scientists are trying to keep their cheeks red by slapping themselves (તમાચો મારીને ગાલને લાલ રાખવાની કોશીશ કરતા હોય.) Theirs is now termed as orthodox science, There are formidable astute scientists who do not hesitate to present their researches, which go opposite to mainstream. Here are the names of a few in addition to Rupert Sheldrake; David Bohm, Illya Prigogin, John wheeler, John Barrow, Fred Hoyle, Karl Pirbram. There are philosophers of science who doubt the ability of science to arrive at Truth. Here are a few names: Karl Popper, Imre Jakatos, Thomas Kuhn, Paul Feyerabend, Collin McQinn. Look at their fine aphorisms.

"In our infinite ignorance we are all equal." - Popper

"Scientists can never truly understand the real world or even each other." - Kuhn.

'Just because modern physics has spawned computers, nuclear power and CD players does not mean it is truer, in an absolute sense, than Aristotle's physics'. -Kuhn.

"Any description of reality is necessarily inadequate. ----- You think that this one-day fly, this little bit of nothing, a human being - according to today's cosmology - can figure it all out? - Feyeraband

(Contd. on page 28)

#### FAILURE OF MODERN SCIENCE (Contd. from page 17)

The Moral: Dont rely too much on modern science. It does not and cannot lead you to the ultimate Reality; you may be led away from it.

Paul Davis, a Professor of Mathematical Physics and Natural Philosophy at the University of Adelaid in Australia and an author of several excellent books on the path of science in quest for truth, has after a long and deep search in modern science concluded that it is not just possible to arrive at ultimate knowledge and explanation of the world we are in, through our science and reasoning. At the end of his book "The Mind of God" (Touchstone 1993), after reviewing the searches, researches revelations and disoveries of science, he says:

Maybe the mysticism provides "the only route beyond the limits to which science and philosophy can take us, the only possible path to the Ultimate."

This is an inescapable conclusion. Here does the science knock the door of myticism. The door refuses to open. Golden letters appear on it:

KNOW THYSELF, IF THOU DESIRETH TO KNOW THY WORLD, OF WHICH THOU ART A VITAL FRAGMENT.

DON'T KNOCK HERE.

KNOCK THE DOOR OF THY PROPHET.

HE SHALL GIVE THEE THE KEY OF FAITH.

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#### CAN THERE BE A MYSTICAL SCIENCE?

### THE EXISTENCE OF THE REGIONS WITH MORE THAN 3 DIMENSIONS OF LENGTH, BREADTH AND HEIGHT.

Four Steps to the Mystical Science: Tarikat, Maareyfat, Hakikat, Vaaheydaaniyat.

Have you ever wondered why are we here on this tiniest of the tiny globe, earth, ever revolving and rotating and going round and round, and up and down, like a screw, but without letting us know its fantastic dance?

Modern science informs us that the universe is mostly empty space dotted with numerous galaxies, each of which is a congregation of millions or billions of stars. Our earth is in a galaxy known as the Milky Way, which is about 100,000 light years in diameter. (One light year is equal to about 9.46 trillion (million million) km or 5.88 trillion miles).

What is this earth, our temporary abode, in this mind boggling vastness of the universe? Earth, an infinitesimal speck having just a negligible circumference of 24900 miles! And what are we, the humans, with a tailoring waistline of 40 to 50 inches?

BUT (oh! these "buts"!) in the middle of the last century, a novel theory cropped up. It is difficult to present a scientific theory in simple terms. However one simple sentence can be said to explain the theory, which has otherwise a scarry name: "Anthropic Principle". The sentence is: There is scientific evidence to show that Universe is tailor made for human kind. There are other ways to say this. The Universe we live in is just right for our life. Using the words of Sir Fred Hoyle (the pioneer of the Anthropic Principle), our universe seems to be "a put up job" in which many physical features of the universe and even of the laws of physics themselves seem to be fine tuned to allow our existence.

To give a crude example, the distance between the sun and earth and the temperature of the sun are so fine - tuned that if the Sun is a little further away, the earth would be frozen to death, and if a little nearer to earth all life on it would burn out. Science has found some "world constants", which work behind many observed phenomena. These are just some numerical figures, like 'G', the gravitational constant, or C the speed of light. Their values are:

 $G = 6.67 \times 10^{-8}$ ;

C = 1,86,000 miles for second

If G (which is a measure of the force of gravity) were a little weaker or a little stronger, the stars would not have existed; even if they had, the earth would not have existed; and even if the earth had, no life thereon would have been there.

This G is a magic figure. We, the humans, walk on the earth and dont fall down easily, because this G is tailor - made with our size - our length, breadth and height. Any creature much bigger than a human being inhabiting a planet of our earth's size, will simply break apart when it falls over. We the humans, are made up of cells: a cell is made up of assemblies of molecules; a molecule is a formation of atoms; an atom is made up of sub atomic particles. All these have such a fine balance amongst them, that we are able to stand, walk and run, and live our life as we do.

There are numerous such "coincidences" without even one of which the balance of our life and living would be upset; in fact we would not have come into existence at all!

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WHAT? Is this trillions and trillions of miles expansive universe ready-made and fine tuned to enable this 40 inches waisted humans to have a life to live and breed? Who is this tailor or fine tuning musician? God? Hey, dont bring Him here. Science tries to avoid Him as far as possible. But the FACT remains: trillions to 40 inches!

This is an example how science is led to God's Truth, but abruptly comes face to face with an impregnable wall. The reason is that it has assumed so far that the human mind, intellect and consciousness is capable of finding the Truth and Reality in Nature. That assumption is sorrowfully wrong. The tools of science are hopelessly inadequate, because its starting point is wrong. Human intellect has severe limitations. Our consciousness is rigidly contracted. It needs expansion to delve into the mysteries of Nature. How could we imagine that such a vast universe is tailor-made for us? Is it a series of coincidences? In 1989 John Gribbin, a prolific writer on science and Martin Rees (not then the Astronomer Royal) had written Cosmic Coincidences. (Bantam). Recently the well known Paul Davis has written "The Goldilocks Enigma" — "Why is the Universe Just Right for Life?" (Allen Lane - 2006). In the fairy tale Goldilocks had placed her hand unknowingly on the just right porridge ball, like we humans having been made to select the right bowl-the earth. The same John Gibbin in his review of Davis's Goldilocks says, "So where the first part of the book sums up what we know about space, time and the universe, the second part sums up what we dont know."

Why do we not know? All Religions, Prophets, Avataars, Mystics, and all the Mystical Sciences of the world proclaim that we do not know, because our consciousness is not ready to receive Nature's Mysteries and our intellect has no capacity to grasp and absorb them and that our consciousness requires to be expanded; and the only way to

do it is to tread the sacred Path of Dharma - Religion through our day to day life.

There is a mathematical way of having some idea about the limitation of the human intellect. Our vision, version and experience of the earth are based upon our three dimensional consciousness, whilst Nature is extended to numerous dimensions.

This requires a little elaboration and explanation. You are just now in a room reading this magazine. The room has three dimensions; length, breadth and height. You know and are conscious of these three dimensions. If the room is closed on all sides and you are locked up, there is no way you can come out; but that is what you think. There is a way out but you are not conscious of it; because we are creatures of only three dimensional consciousness. We have no idea whatsoever of a 4th dimension or 5th or 6th or 7th.

To understand this, imagine a creature who has only 2 dimensional consciousness. (We will call it "2-d-cr"). It knows only length and breadth. It has no idea whatsoever of height. Now imagine it builds a rectangular home. It will have no height, because in its world of just 2 dimensions, the bricks are flat having just a length and a breadth, and no height.

It is night. Mr. 2-d-cr locks firmly its rectangular home and goes to sleep peacefully.

It is now morning. There is light every where. Brother 2-d-cr gets up, looks around, "Hey WHAT is this?" he shouts in a feat of thorough astonishment. He finds himself **outside** his home. "HOW is this? Have I swam through the walls?"

No, brother 2-d-cr. What has happened is that a 3-d creature (probabily a Parsi mischevious boy) had come near your home and lifted you up from "above" i.e. through the dimension of "height" (with which you are blissfully unaware) and put you out of your what-you-thought-to-be your impenetrable home.

It was impenetrable, no doubt, but only in length and breadth. You and your great mind is not aware and conscious of "height" and that there can be such thing in nature.

The point is that we, the humans, are 3-d creatures, proudly conscious of the three dimensions: length, breadth and height. We can however be subjected to the same treatment by a 4-d-cr, if a fourth dimension exists in nature. Master 4-d-cr can enter into your heavily locked 3-dimensional home, lift you up and put you out in the street!

The Prophets, Avatars, Saints and spiritual Masters have taught us that the whole cosmos - all Creation - is extended to many more dimensions than just the three of our consciousness. They can be 4, 5, 6 --- n, where n may even tend to infinity.

All that, then, means this: there is a science beyond modern science, and that is the mystical science or Mysticism. The Scientists who bring it to us are the Prophets, Avataars and Spiritual Masters. Their source lies in the Mystical Regions of the Universe. The universe which is explored by modern science by means of its mind - tools is called the observable universe. The universe explored and experienced by the Mystical Science, is beyond the frontiers of modern science.

Every Religion is founded on its own Mysticm. Jews have their Kabbalah; Islam has Sufism; Christians have Gnosticism, Rosaerucians; Hindus have an amazing varieties of Myticisms like Vedanta, Tantra, Divine existences (Deyvi's and Devtaa's), Vaam Marg; Zarthoshti Din has Ilm-e-Khshnoom. Modern science of the 19th century pooh poohed all mysticisms as brain-storms of unitellectual people.

But after passing through the serious jolts in the 20th century, science, today, has arrived at the door of mysticism. (See page 28).

Common sense and logic have collapsed.

The mind - tool - methods of observation, experiment and mathematics have abruptly stopped. Today's science has become unverifiable guess works and conjectures. John Horgan named it a Ironic Science. Paul Davis says that Mystical Path is perhaps the only way to understand the ultimate knowledge of reality.

Ilm-e-Khshnoom, the Mysticism of our Din, teaches that the quest for God's Truth is also a "Science" but entirely different from modern science. The quest is not just observation and measurement of the physical world of just three dimensions. It is a PATH of life. We are here as a part of our soul's (Ruvaan's) journey towards the Infinite Light at the far end of the road. Earth is our temporary motel on our way, The PATH is our life itself. All Prophets and all Religions teach how to tread the way of life. Every moment of our life is a step on the Path. Every thought word and action is to be undergone through the method and the rules prescribed by one's own Religion.

As one treads on the Path, one expands the ambit of one's spiritual experience, intellect and consciousness towards higher dimensions. The five senses given to us are highly limited. They need the expansion in their respective abilities. What a Yogi or a mystic sees with his eyes and hears with his ears, you and I cannot do. All the spiritual Institutions of our Zarathoshti Din - Sudreh Kushti, Manthra, Atesh, Kriyakaam, Dokhma, Meher-Patet, Boonakpaasbaani - are meant to lead us on the Path towards 'He, Who Is.' And therefore each of these Institutions has a spiritual Mystical Science behind its operations and functions. Each is a Yoga, an exercise, a discipline to evolve ourselves on the sacred Path of Daadaar Ahurmazda.

Ilm-e-Khshnoom gives us an intellectual idea about the successive steps to reach the ultimate Truth : (i) Tarikat (ii) Maareyfat

(iii) Hakikat and (iv) Vaaheydaanyat. (તરીકત, મારેફત, હકીકત, વાહેદાન્યત).

Tarikat is the first stage. We see the world as we experience it with our five senses and our consciousness, when we are awake and not sleeping. We can thus observe the world around us and think on it, apply our logic and common sense to the phenomena around us, and arrive at some theories. That is the method of all modern physical sciences. But that method has failed. Science is stuck up against a wall, which is impenetrable. Common sense applies only to the limited world of our fivesense-experiences. As the modern science tried to penetrate the wall, ordinary common sense has collapsed. It has begun to get glimpses of some phenomena which defies our common sense. Its equations show that space is jampacked with invisible particles which have negative mass and negative energy, that is, they behave in a most uncommon-sense way, like, if you kick them towards east, they will run to the west! Some particles seem to know the mind of the scientist who is experimenting on them! All sub-atomic elementary particles behave like a particle and a wave at the same time. Human logic is faulty, any statement howsoever logical has an unprovable component. (Goddel's Theorem). The first step, Tarikat, has abruptly come to a halt.

The second step 'Maareyfat' consists of a higher level of reality, the cause above any event or phenomenon observable to our five senses. It means 'agency'. Yes, gravitation happens, but which is the agent who operates it? Science has not reached this stage. We know water is H<sub>2</sub>O, but which agency joined H<sub>2</sub> and O, and why water has some very very peculiar qualities which no other liquid has, we don't know. Which agency causes a child to cry when born? Which agency inspires such noble love as of a mother for her new-born even in the cruellest animal? We don't know.

The step Marefat has also a limit which it cannot penetrate. A third step is needed.

The third step is Hakikat.

'Hak' (some spell it 'Haq') means the Truth. Our observable world has many illusions. Sun is red at dawn and dusk, moon waxes and wanes every 15 days. But these actually do not happen; they are illusions. Rainbow appears, but does not exist.

Why such illusions? The stage of Hakikat which answers such questions is a higher spiritual level. Only the Ashavans and Yogis can reach this level. Here the Truth and Reality actually unfolds.

The fourth stage is "Vaheydaanyat". It means the end and the begining merged into one, a stage far far away from the comprehension of we, the mortals.

These 4 stages are the steps on he Path of our quest for God. Just imagine, how low on the ladder of Truth are our senses and science!

Religion is thus the Science of Mysticism. All Religions are. Life is therefore a journey called Religion, a sacred Path leading to God.

How formidable fools we are, when we ask: What is the scientific and logical 'proof' or reasoning for such and such an exercise of Religion - like say Sudreh Kushti, Manthra Prayers, Dokhma, Atesh, Kriyakaam? Where ignorance prevails, sprituality dries up.

Come to Ilm-e-Khshnoom, the Ashavan's divine gift to us.

Tread the Path of the Prophets, every moment of your life.

Remember, Saviours are coming.

- Candor.