Relationship between Science and Religion

Aziz Javanpoor1*, Manizhe Teymouri2

1Assistant Professor, Tabriz Branch, Islamic Azad University, Tabriz, Iran
2PhD student in Industrial Management, Tabriz Science and Research Branch, Islamic Azad University, Tabriz, Iran

*Corresponding Author: Aziz Javanpoor

ABSTRACT: In contemporary world with increasingly and wondrous advancements in various sciences and with regard to indefinite abilities of science, there have been given more and more attention to science as can claim that a group have given the pure originality to “science” and consider this as the unique way for their salvation, and attention to ‘religion’ which have been sent by God for the welfare and happiness of people in this world has been neglected. The subject of this paper is investigation the relationship between science and religion with specific consideration to the qualities of Islam, thus this discussion begins with definition of science and religion and possible relations between science and religion is discussed with a curt glance and this discussion has been closed with providing anecdotal evidence in Islam about the relationship between science and religion.

Keywords: Science, Religion, Relationship between science and religion.

INTRODUCTION

As comes from the historical evidence, August Comte, the founder of the positivist school of has divided thought history into three periods: (1) the divine period, which he thought is the childhood of mankind, man in this period has divine thinking and believes in the God (gods), and attributes all things to God (gods). This thinking in Kent opinion, is due to the extreme ignorance of mankind in ancient and mythic era, (2) Philosophic period, or the period of metaphysics which is originated from Greece and Rom and continues to medieval. Mankind in this period has passed the childhood but yet has not achieved to maturation and therefore attributes all of the natural circumstances and affairs to the metaphysical factors, (3) The scientific period: this period is the period of the human maturation (modern era) because mankind achieves to scientific thinking and can explain all of the natural interactions and circumstances and affairs of universe sensibly with relying on science, namely advanced human in this era finds a scientific answer for all your questions with relying on the power of sciences (natural and social) and by relying on the sense and experience. Less than one century later, Count’s views on issues in the Vienna Circle have been regarded and the first theorists considered the proposition metaphysical as nonsense and meaningless, and evicted them from the circle of science and then evicted religion and revelation from the circle of science, because, according to scientific knowledge based on sense and empirical methods, any position cannot be placed on such matters, so that defined scientific circles, were very limited. At the same time, given the remarkable success, especially in the natural sciences, enthusiasm and attention to science was increased because this illusion was formed in the minds that man can discover all things which have role in the happiness and welfare, but very soon the limitations of experimental science, documented by sense, were emerged and human concluded that he/she cannot relied to empirical science merely, thus another movement began namely the idealism from science that is the science doesn’t follow certain beliefs and ideals, science is apart from values and describes the facts merely.

What is the religion: religion has different meanings, such as worship, submission, humility, obedience, sound, Judgment and Punishment, law, property, Islam, monotheism, piety, sentence and tradition, habit and dignity, anger and overcome transcendence, king, accounts, sin, custom and law (Jamal al Fadl & Alafryqy Ref, 1985) The word "religion" exists in the Quran 92 times in different forms, which often means unity, sentence, obedience, punishment and reward, audit, customary and religious law (Teflisi, 1992). There are various definitions of the term religion because religion is not of essential concepts to present a true definition of it.

Motahari with expressing three worldview namely scientific, philosophical and religious worldview in human’s interpretation of world, has considered the religion and faith as same, and began with worldview in regard to the content
and nature of religion. He considered worldview as a "recognition" and a deep insight about the interpretation of the world and believes all religions, creeds and schools and social philosophies are based on a worldview, as they determine norms and create responsibilities. Thus the worldview is regarded as intellectual foundation and a support for the school in general.

Theological worldview includes scientific and philosophical worldview in addition that also contains holiness (moral respect and dignity).

In this paper, the meaning of religion is a religious wisdom which is derived from the religious proposition, namely the teachings and truths of revelation which have come to us through Quran and tradition and include the worldview, ontology, beliefs, laws, ethics and so on.

What is the Science: Today the term "science" is used in different meanings and the lack of awareness about distinction between them often causes the error:
1. The primary meaning of science is knowing versus unknowing, in this sense, science is placed in contrast with ignorance. So in this sense, the science is a set of human’s findings about himself and the world around him, including the "conceptual science " and "propositional science" whether it is objective or subjective." Science" in this sense, means the absolute wisdom, knowledge and wisdom.
2. The word "science" in the second meaning, is regarded just to cognitions which resulted by a direct sensational experience. In this sense, the science is not placed against ignorance but against cognitions that do not use a sensory test. Thus, ethics, metaphysics, mysticism, and logic are placed out of science in the second sense and all are unscientific in this sense. Positivists have limited the reliable human science to empirical propositions and claimed no other awareness can exist without empirical awareness. In such a case, science, describes the fact that describes the "existences" partly (Soroush, 2006).
3. "Science" in epistemology is used synonymously with "knowledge". "Wisdom" is said that firstly should be comply with fact (true), and secondly, a reason must be given to comply with fact. Some times "science "means" certainty "in contrast with doubt and suspicion.

Science in this article is a set of wisdoms that man acquires through ordinary way of knowledge acquisition. The meaning of ordinary way is that all humans can use this ways and methods to acquire knowledge. Thus there are two ways for knowledge acquisition: 1- conventional universal way and 2- non-conventional way that is not universal like a revelation and inspiration that is dedicated to a selected group of people.

Various approaches in relationship between science and religion

At least three approaches have been realized in the western world to deal with this issue:
1. Conflict-oriented approach: This approach regards science and religion as incompatible and competing each, that is science and religion cannot accept the results of religion and religion in turn cannot be concomitant with the results of science and its ideas. Religious believers give priority to religion when finding such a conflict and scientism give priority to science. An example of this approach can be seen in dealing with the theory of evolution.
2. Differentiation oriented approach: science and religion in this view are two separate issues because their issues, methods, and ends are different, therefore there is not the possibility of any conflict between them as there is not assumed any contact and conflict between two parallel lines. Kant, Galileo, theist's proponent of existentialism, neo orthodox and positivists are fans of this solution.
3. Evolution oriented approach: This approach attempts to communicate between science and religion, consider them as complement, and to achieve such purpose consider theological claims as scientific hypotheses or consider religion and science in tacit of a hypothesis and integrate them in such a framework. Dynamic theology, George Schlesinger, Donald Mackay and many other contemporary philosophers have attempted in a way to explain this issue.

The Contrast between Science and Religion

The root cause of the thought about conflict of science and religion goes back to religious history of Europe, because, unfortunately, due to distortions in the Old Testament (Torah), some contents were incorporated that showed religion against science, this, in fact, led to the loss of science and prevented growth of knowledge talent of friends and it also led to the loss of religion because with making scholars and intellectuals as pessimistic to religion led to their defection from the religion and decreased the religion believers. This deviation, began when a false interpretation in the story (the forbidden tree), in which God in heaven prevented Adam from eating it, and interpreted it as science, and wrote: God commanded Adam: Eat from all trees of the garden, freely; but do not eat from the tree of good and evil, because when you eat of it, you shall die. Then further wrote: when Adam and Eve disobeyed God and ate of the tree God said: the man has become like one of us, knowing good and evil that, now, lest he stretch out his hand and eat from the tree of life and survive ever. They pretend with writing such things that God's mandate, religion, is contrary to human awareness and the forbidden tree is the tree of knowledge, and if someone wants to be aware must disobedience from commandments of God and the teachings of the prophets. These improper contents led some of the followers of scripture that had been achieved scientific findings in the field of natural sciences to stand against the church leaders and comment and introduced their findings against the distorted religious contents, and church leaders in turn and in defense of the holies disagreed with scholars and tortured them fiercely with forming inquisition tribunal in charge of
scientific theory. This cruel treatment, upset Western scholars and made them suspicious and wicked to religion, and took improper church works into religion account and it slowly led them to regard religion as anti-science and regard church leaders and religious leaders as dangerous enemies of science and scientists and arise to deal with it.

**Science and Religion in Islam**

There is a fundamental difference between the religion in Islam and in Christianity. On one hand there are many strict orders to knowledge acquisition and it represents the support of knowledge in Islam, and on the other hand Islamic scholars over the centuries with great efforts and leaving large scientific works in practice have shown that not only Islam is not opposed to science, but also instructs its followers to follow it anywhere in world and learn it. Interestingly, in the East, many of the famous Islamic scientists were engaged in scientific research and had freedom of act when in same time, European scientists were engage with the most difficult conditions of deprivation and oppression, and live under torture or were burned in fire by the authorities of the church in charge of scientific theories. Voltaire says: in the barbarism and ignorance era after the fall of the Roman Empire, Christians learned all science such as astronomy, chemistry, medicine, mathematics, and from Muslims and since the early centuries; they were forced to refer to Muslims to learn the ordinary sciences. The relationship between religion and science, from Islam perspective, is a correlation and true religion guides man to science and true science guides man to religion.

**Examples of traditional reasons of Pro-knowledge in Islam**

Say: Are those who know and those who do not know the same
God raises the degree of faithful and scholars among you
Among the God servants only scholars fear him
There are also some anecdotes from the Prophet or imams in the case of science, Prophet (PBUH) says: "seeking knowledge is obligatory on every Muslim whether man or woman (khaki Gharamaleki, 2010). Or states: "Invoke the science from Cradle to Grave (Hatjan, 2006) also states:" The best sciences is the useful one (Ian Barbvr, 2009). Imam Ali in virtuous traits, states: "virtuous listen to lucrative and beneficial science

**CONCLUSION**

Islam considers "science and religion" as two powerful wings to fly man toward his absolute perfection which indeed is acquisition the ethics in proximity and closeness to the Divine existence of God. In this regard Imam Ali says "science and religion are interconnected with each other ever, and they will be incendiary when they were separated. ",Islam as a comprehensive religion do not have any conflict with empirical and natural science as an instrument in the hands of humanity to a better life on earth. First, there are many advises in the Qur’an to educate and understand the nature and the natural aspects, and nature and the earth and the heavens are presented as a sign of power and divine creation, which should be recognized to realize the greatness of God's creation. Secondly, the Qur’an states that God made heaven and earth and what is between them in human occupation, It is clear that this occupation is potential and natural gifts can be captured truly only with the knowledge.

**REFERENCES**

Jamal al Fadl IH, Alafryqy Ref IA, Arab language. Qom: Alhvz·h Literature Publishing. 13:171-166
Soroush AK, 2006. Knowledge and value of research on the relationship between science and ethics, unwarranted:
The Fellowship Press, 2006, p. 13