

## Scientific evidence in Islamic holy book Koran describes stages of human embryology

By ANAS BEN-MUSA  
The Battalion

Elements of science in the Islamic holy book, the Koran, enable everyone to relate to and reflect upon the existence of God, said a member of the board of directors of the Islamic Society of North America.



Badawi

Dr. Jamal Badawi, lectured on "The Authority of the Bible and the Koran in Light of Scientific Discoveries," Friday night at Texas A&M.

"I chose to try to look from a perspective that is relevant not only to Muslims and their Christian or Jewish brethren, but from a perspective that will be relevant to those who are agnostic, even atheist," Badawi said. "There is nothing perhaps more impressive in the Koran than the area of human embryology."

Badawi's lecture focused on verses 12-14 from Chapter (Sura) 23 in the Koran discussing embryologic findings. The verses use scientific references to explain how life is created, he said.

Badawi said the verse, Sura 23:12, which states "Man We (God) did create From a quintessence (of clay)," reveals an understanding of the chemical structure of humans.

"The human body is composed of the same elements as in clay — carbon, potassium, magnesium, iron and so on," Badawi said.

Sura 23:13 states "Then We placed him as (a drop of) sperm in a place of rest, firmly fixed."

Badawi said the Arabic word "nutfa" translates as "a drop of," signifying a minute amount of liquid or droplets. "It really shows (an understanding) that the human embryo is not created entirely of seminal fluid, but a minute amount of it (nutfa)," he said.

In addition, another verse in the Koran explains nutfa as a mixed fluid, he said. The verse says "a human being is created from a mixed drop."

Badawi said the findings attracted the attention of Dr. Keith Moore, professor of anatomy and associate dean basic sciences at the University of Toronto, Canada.

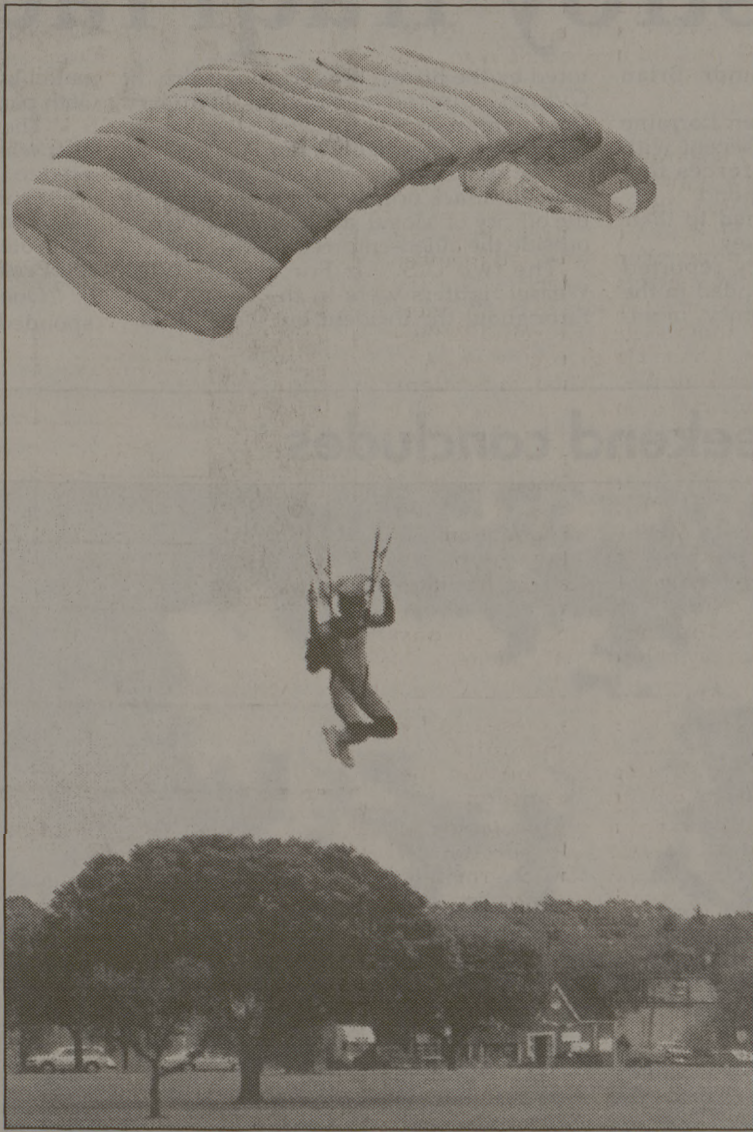
In Moore's article, "A Scientist's Interpretation of References to Embryology in the Koran," he wrote, "The zygote forms by the union of a mixture of the sperm and the ovum ('The mixed drop')."

A more meaningful interpretation of nutfa would be the zygote, because it divides to form a blastocyst which is implanted in the uterus ("a place of rest" — Sura 23:13), according to the Moore article.

"It was only until 1775, according to Dr. Moore, that both the ovum and sperm were

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## Look up in the sky . . .



CRAIG FOX/The Battalion

A member of Aggies over Texas makes a landing on the polo field Saturday as a part of Parents Weekend. Ten members made the dive in groups of five as parents and students watched.

## IRS opens doors to non-filers; hope to round up tax evaders

By JAMES BERNSSEN  
The Battalion

People who have not filed a tax return with the Internal Revenue Service in recent years may not only evade prosecution, but if the come forward, may even be entitled to a refund.

IRS spokesman Bob Branson said since the IRS opened its doors to non-filers last August, about one-third have received refunds.

The IRS is extending another chance to non-filers, and on May 11, all statewide offices will be staffed with extra personnel to allow non-filers a chance to get back into the system.

Most non-filers are not criminals, Branson said, but they stopped filing one year because of a death in their family or some similar upheaval. They then became afraid to draw attention to themselves, he said.

"Our purpose is to let people who dropped out of the system back in as painlessly as possible," he said. "If they start filing late returns and make an honest effort to file, we won't send them to jail."

There are about 1,700 non-filers in the Bryan-College Station area, Branson said.

Thomas Kinerd, a local Certified Public Accountant, said most non-filers have been out of the system for more than two years and may face late fees and interest payments.

"They are very stiff," Kinerd said. "They can total a maximum of 25 percent of the taxes due."

Also, Branson said, most taxpayers will still have to pay interest charges and penalties. The amount will vary depending on the circumstances of non-filing.

The IRS will work with individual non-filers to set up monthly payment plans if needed, he said.

Since October, about 570 people have come into IRS offices in Central and South Texas to take advantage of this policy.

"We're giving it another shot, hoping to lure non-filers in," Branson said. "The sooner we get them back into the system, the less likely they are to face prosecution."

Kinerd said only time will tell whether the IRS plan will work.

"The only thing they're changing is promising not to press criminal charges," Kinerd said. "That might convince people to get back into the system."

For more information, call 1-800-892-1040.

## Early voting ends April 28

The early voting period for the May 1 elections runs through April 28.

Students, who were registered for last fall's elections, can vote for U.S. Senate and local city council candidates in MSC

138. The hours for voting are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Students need to bring either their voter's registration card or their driver's license with them when they vote.

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### LIBERAL ARTS CAREER AWARENESS FAIR

Tuesday, April 20, 1993  
MSC FLAG ROOM  
10:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.  
... 3:00 - 4:00 P.M. ...

Randall Balthrop, E.D.S. recruiter will speak on

**"What You Can Do with a L.A. Degree in a Technical Field"**

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To be eligible you must be a Liberal Arts major and present to win.

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Houston Astros	Balfour	I.D.S.-Financial Planning
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City of Bryan/City of College Station	KCEN-TV	Child Placement Services
Tx. Parks & Wildlife	H.E.B.	M.D. Anderson Center
Tx. Rehabilitation Commission	K-Mart	Houston Chronicle
Brooks Fashions	Peace Corps	Attorney General's Office

. . .and many more!!!

### MATHEMATICS CONTEST

Annual Freshmen and Sophomore MATHEMATICS CONTEST

THURSDAY, APRIL 22, 1993  
7:30 P.M. - 9:30 P.M.

Room 317 Milner Hall

It is intended to award at least five prizes:

- \$150 for paper judged to be the best overall
- \$125 for second best
- \$100 for third best
- \$100 for best freshmen paper not among first three
- \$100 for best sophomore paper not among first three

Contest problems will cover topics up through Math 151 (Engineering Calculus I) for Freshmen, and through Math 251 (Engineering Calculus III) for Sophomore contestants.

For purposes of this contest, freshmen are first-year undergraduate students, and sophomores are second-year undergraduate students.

### Aggie Ring Orders

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DEADLINE: APRIL 21, 1993

**Procedure to order a ring:**

- You must come to the Ring Office no later than Wednesday, April 21, 1993 to complete the form for an audit of your transcript. (One-two days are required to process your audit.)
- After your transcript audit is approved, the entire ring price is paid in cash or by check no later than April 23, 1993.

**Undergraduate degree seeking students may place an order if:**

- 30 credit hours were completed in residence at A&M in the Fall of '92 or before if you were a transfer student. (Hours in progress are not completed.)
- 95 credit hours are completed/will be completed at the end of this semester. (Should you be including enrolled hours for the Spring '93 semester, only hours in progress at A&M may be counted.)
- A 2.00 cumulative grade point average at A&M is reflected on your transcript (after your most recent final grades).
- Your transcript does not have any blocks for past due fees, loans, parking tickets, etc.

**Graduate degree seeking students may place an order if:**

- You are a May '93 degree candidate. (Your order will be accepted contingent upon your May '93 degree being conferred.)
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