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ATHEISM ITS REALITY AND HOW TO CONFRONT IT

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Abstract :

Praise be to God, and May blessings and peace be upon the Messenger of God and his family, companions and those who follow him. Afterwards:

The emergence of atheism in the beginning was not a separate phenomenon that came on its own, but was a reaction to the situation of European societies in the middle Ages, where popes and priests used to dominate people on the pretext that they derive their authority directly from God. The matter continued until "Darwin" appeared with his theory of the evolution and emergence of species according to the mechanism of natural selection. At that time, the beliefs of atheism began to take root among some, and voices appeared calling for the death of God, as the famous German philosopher Nietzsche said. However, with the beginning of the twentieth century and the escalation of the movement of discoveries and scientific research, man began to submit to the clear fact that he is still only at the beginning. Whenever scientists discover something new, it appears to them that they are still ahead of them. Since that time and until now, people, especially scientists, have been divided between those who are becoming more and more envious of science, and that there is no longer a need for a god for this universe, and others who have called for intelligent or great design, and that this universe was created from a miraculous force capable of everything.

Reasons for choosing this topic:

1 - Atheists have spread in this age through Internet sites and Facebook, and some of the owners of religions have turned to atheism, so a pause is necessary to confront this danger.

2 - That many Muslim believers (especially in the West) feel their intellectual and cultural weakness. In addition, this makes them weaken facing the attacks of atheists, and they do not dare to discuss with them except in rarely.

3- That many Muslim youth are exposed to this atheistic thought, directly or indirectly, in their own countries or in the countries of the West to which they go for higher studies or as residents.

Atheists exist in every era and in every place. Moreover, their times are different and not similar. What was appropriate in responding to the suspicions of early atheists may not be suitable in responding to their contemporary examples. Therefore, there are several questions answered by this research.

- 1- What is the concept of atheism and its divisions? 2- What is the history of the atheist phenomenon? 3- What are the causes of atheism in the present age? 4- What are the effects of atheism on the life of nations and societies?

Research importance:

Contemporary atheism has become an epidemic phenomenon in all human societies and human groups, and it is a heavy and dangerous phenomenon. Therefore, the importance of the study stems from the importance of confronting the phenomenon of wide spreading atheism now in the world. Atheism has spread on the earth everywhere. Aberration took hold in the minds of many Muslims. Moreover, it has become necessary for our scholars to rise. They need to sharpen their motives and authorship, and to think, then to stand up to the overwhelming trend of atheism and secularism, that trend that fell upon our Islamic nation from all sides, carried away many from the weakness of heart to the means and resources of destruction, torment, suffering and humiliation.

Definition of atheism in Arabic language:

In the book (لسان العرب): "Atheism: inclination to intent. (For example) lean towards him with his tongue. Inclination or tendency. Allah Almighty said,

لِسَانُ الَّذِي يُلْحِدُونَ إِلَيْهِ أَعْجَمِي وَهَذَا لِسَانٌ عَرَبِيٌّ مُبِينٌ.

The tongue of him they wickedly point to is notably foreign, while this is Arabic, pure and clear.

Al-Farra' said, "It was read (يُلْحِدُونَ) and whoever recited it (يُلْحِدُونَ) he meant the meaning to lean towards him, and (وَيُلْحِدُونَ) means they raise objection to him." The origin of atheism: inclination and abstinence from something.

Atheism in the term with meanings:

Among them: Atheism in religion, which is to challenge or depart from it. Al-Tabari said, (Atheism in religion is adamancy and stubbornness by turning away from it or abandoning it). Among them is disbelief in Allah and going out from among the people of faith and right way, the emergence of denial of resurrection, heaven and hell, and the dedication of all life to the world only.

Sections of atheism:

Atheism divides into two parts, old atheism and modern atheism. What is the reality about each of them and what is the difference between them?

Atheism in the sense of denying the existence of Allah Almighty in the first place was not a widespread phenomenon in the ancient time. Rather, polytheism with Allah Almighty was common under various arguments; with their acknowledgment of the existence of Allah Almighty and that, he is the Creator and the manager. Moreover, Allah Almighty has proven this in his book, so he said about their approval of Allah's creation of the universe.

وَلَيْنِ سَأَلْتَهُمْ مَنْ خَلَقَ السَّمَاوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضَ وَسَخَّرَ الشَّمْسَ وَالْقَمَرَ لِيُقُولَنَّ اللَّهُ فَإِنِّي يُوَفِّقُونَ.

If you ask them 'O Prophet' who created the heavens and the earth and subjected the sun and the moon 'for your benefit', they will certainly say, "Allah!" How can they then be deluded 'from the truth? As for modern material atheism, it is based on the denial of the existence of Allah in the first place. Its followers claimed that they reached him through science and physical research, and through experience and study. Moreover, they claimed that religion does not lead to Him.

Images of atheism:

The first: Atheism by saying:

It is one of the forms of atheism by saying what we find of the audacity of atheism, whether they are writers or literati, to ridicule and mock the religion of Allah Almighty. So many people mock the commandments and rulings of the religion. Some of them deny the existence of Allah Almighty and even fight those who call for mere belief in the existence of Allah. Judging their position as disbelief is an easy matter for all Muslims because their explicit denial of religion is necessarily known. However, the most dangerous situation of them is the group that claims to be a believer in Allah out of theoretical faith only and denies the interference of religion in the affairs of life and calls for the separation of religion from the world.

The second: Atheism in action:

Among its categories are;

- 1- Setting equals with Allah: It was narrated on the authority of Ibn Abi Hatim with his chain of transmission to Ibn Abbas. He said in the words of Allah Almighty: { فَلَا تَجْعَلُوا لِلَّهِ أَندَادًا } { So do not knowingly set up equals to Allah } [Al-Baqarah: 22]:
- 2- Claim the authority to dispose of the universe: The disposition of the universe is specific to Allah, glory be to Him, and each word in which the action is attributed to a creature is not without three states.

First: is that the attribution is based on the meaning of influencing the action without God.

Second: to be on the meaning of influencing God's reverence and authorization.

Third: it means reporting on a habit that God has made without self-influence.

3- Attribution of Knowledge of unseen to creature:

Verses and hadiths about the singling out Allah alone with knowledge of the unseen, and they are many. The Almighty said { وَعِنْدَهُ مَفَاتِحُ الْغَيْبِ لَا يَعْلَمُهَا إِلَّا هُوَ } { With Him are the keys of the unseen—no one knows them except Him.

4- The denial of oneness of Allah Almighty:

This is what the secularists and naturalists believe, they say, there is no god for this existence! Moreover, life created itself, nature brought rivers and winds, and brought forth the fruits, and overall everything they attribute to nature, so that you find some Muslims who say, from the goodness of nature! What nature do they claim? Faugh! (Enough with) to them and what they claim.

History of ancient and contemporary atheism:

"In the ages of Greece characterized by the wide scientific movement and absolute philosophies whose freedom did not know the limits, the saying of denying the Creator the Almighty was hardly heard among philosophers, thinkers, politicians and rulers. Nevertheless, it does not mean that there were no philosophers and thinkers in those early ages, who had embraced the doctrine of atheism, and they declared the denial of the existence of the Allah, may He be glorified and exalted. However, at the dawn and prime time of Greek philosophy were thinkers, who embraced the doctrine of atheism and denied the existence of Allah, And at the head of these atheists was the Greek philosopher (Democritus), the founder of the atomic doctrine, whose reign dates back to about eight hundred years BC. Atheism also appeared in the Roman era at the hands of the Roman philosopher (Titus Lucretius Carus), who tried in the early last century BC to revive the Greek doctrine (Democritus). He repeated his claims, and claimed that the soul and the mind are a purely material product, and then he denied that there is a creator of this universe. Atheism has become in the era of the Industrial Revolution a science, a method of civilization and a philosophy that preaches it, and it is no longer an individual behavior, not even a casual group behavior. Europe has not only embraced Christianity heartily and formally, but it has embraced mentally, intellectually and organizationally what the Greco-Roman paganism and the philosophical thought revolving around in this axis.

The Noble Qur'an's position on denying the creator and responding to them

Atheists deny the existence of the creator of the universe, and claim that matter is the only objective reality and fact that contains everything. Undoubtedly, the Holy Qur'an is a scientific miracle, in which there are clear, obvious and bright verses about the mighty creator of this universe, Allah may He be glorified and exalted. "Islam is not against of science. Rather, the great advantage of Islam is that it has made the brain and thinking a judge when we argue in the matter of doubt and certainty, whether between us and ourselves, or between us and other atheists. From the Qur'anic verses, it ends by saying, { أَفَلَا تَعْقِلُونَ } { why do you not think? }. Moreover, the Almighty says, { لَعَلَّكُمْ تَعْقِلُونَ } { May you be think }. Then in Islam, there is no such faith, which contradicts intellect and reason, nor do myths conflict with science, and Islam does not contradict in any way the scientific facts that have reached the rank of certainty, and definitively deciphering its authenticity. In addition, in the Noble Qur'an there are many evidences for the existence of Allah and his oneness, including the following:

1- Evidence of creation and invention:

What every sane person knows by witness and mental necessity of the existence of creatures after nothingness is conclusive evidence of the existence of the Creator and his unification. That is because of the creature's neediness towards the Creator.

2- Evidence of Providence: Whatever exists as aspects of caring for creatures in general, and human in particular, are conclusive proofs of the existence of the Creator, of his perfection and his unification.

3 - Evidence for miracles: The verses about the prophets and afterwards miracles about assistance of the messengers and their followers and honoring them against the law of nature, and the acceptance to their pray, is a definite sensory and intellectual proof of the existence of the Creator, his unification and the truthfulness of his messengers.

Ruling of atheism in Islamic law:

Either an atheist is originally still follow the polytheism and do not enter into any religion at all. The meaning of his atheism is that he sets equals for Allah as his partner, as he says, I Associate with Allah: by saying this, he made a partner for him in his dominance. Allah Almighty said in the story on Luqman: **يَا بُنَيَّ لَا تُشْرِكْ بِاللَّهِ إِنَّ الشِّرْكَ لَظُلْمٌ عَظِيمٌ** {O son, do not associate with Allah. Polytheism is a great injustice}. This is the meaning in general. Atheism is also called the infidelity and disbelief of all denominations other than Islam. Polytheism is more specific than disbelief at all in general, so any kind of polytheism is infidelity and not vice versa. Moreover, atheism may be practiced by the dhimmi, meaning that he challenges the religion publicly, thereby violating his covenant. The liability contract requires acceptance and commitment of the provisions of Islam among the rights of human beings in transactions and the fine in case of destroying or ruining something, as well as what they think is forbidden in Islam, such as fornication and theft. As for worship, as it is known, we leave them and what they follow in religion. Moreover, the atheist may be a Muslim, he denies the righteous religion by his inclination and tendency, and he enters into what is not from the right path. As he said, he committed atheism in religion and turned away any departed from it.

It is stated in Ibn Abidin's footnote: "An atheist is someone who has turned from the righteous law to a side of disbelief. Whoever committed atheism in the religion means turned away and departed from it. Moreover, it is not required (from him) to acknowledge the prophet hood of our Prophet Muhammad, may Allah's prayers and peace be upon him, nor the existence of the Almighty Allah the creator of the universe, nor the concealment and secretion of disbelief. The atheist is the comprehensive group of disbelief, which is more common.

Ideological reasons and the lack of religious monitoring, controlling and sanction:

1- The European Church:

The European Church was sometimes an indirect reason and at other times, a direct reason of spreading atheism, heresy and unbelief in the existence of Allah Almighty. This was because the monks and priests who were in charge of this church have introduced many myths and superstitions into their religion, and made them religious beliefs, such as elevating Jesus, peace be upon him, from the status of humanity to divinity and the emergence of the idea of crucifixion.

2- Loss of religious affairs monitoring, control, and inclination to criminality.

Since atheism does not educate the conscience, and man does not afraid of Almighty Allah, the most powerful and capable who watches his actions and deeds on this planet earth, the atheist grows up with a hard-hearted and insensitive. He has lost the consciousness that would deter him from injustice and command him to be kind and merciful. On the contrary. Atheism teaches its followers that they found such a coincidence and no creator created them, or that they created themselves and that they are earthly animals like all other animals.

3- Suspicions made by atheists:

This is very important. Confronting the suspicions raised about the faith is the duty of scholars and preachers in the first place, for they are the bearers of the religion banner

who advocate it and defend its values and its Sharia. If they leave this task, then who would do it for others?

Social reasons:

Growing up in a home that does not know the etiquette of Islam and is not guided by its guidance. The young growing person does not hear guidance of his religion. He does not learn to love his religion. Perhaps he may mix with an atheist, who is stronger and more skilled in argument from him and a brilliant sharp tongue that turns him brilliantly to atheism. He may read books on atheism in which the poison has been inserted with flowery decorated words, taking the flowery words in combining them with their deviant meanings. Among the new developments in this era is the openness of the two parts of the satellite world - channels and the Internet - and the desires and suspicions that are broadcasted through them, each of which takes its share of our youth, with no immunization and fortification campaign against its effects.. The Grand Imam, Prof. Dr. Ahmed Al-Tayeb, says; Atheism is now systematic, and the West includes institutions involved in spreading atheism, and large companies pouring money into spreading this ideology and publishing advertisements on means of transportation and across the Internet. He added, 'Some young people follow the idea of atheism just a short-lived fashion, but it is what we should be aware of it more because of overnight and intentional atheism led by people from distorted cultures.

The implications of atheism:

Contemporary atheism has left its deep negative effects evident in societies, human behavior, on nation's moral values, and social order. Atheism is an attack on religion because atheism is not a development, but rather a repetition of the disbelief of lower graded people of ignorant first centuries. For thousands of years, the Aad tribe from took a stand against its messenger, as if all that is said in this era was summarized in the words of cunning and clever advocates of atheism. "As mentioned in Quran,

أَيَعِدْكُمْ أَنْكُمْ إِذَا مِتُّمْ وَكُنْتُمْ تُرَابًا وَعِظَامًا أَنْكُمْ مُخْرَجُونَ (35) هَٰذِهِاتِ هَيَّاهُتِ لِمَا تُوْعَدُونَ (36) إِنَّ هِيَ إِلَّا حَيَاتُنَا الدُّنْيَا نَمُوتُ وَنَحْيَا وَمَا نَحْنُ بِمَبْعُوثِينَ (37) إِنَّ هُوَ إِلَّا رَجُلٌ افْتَرَىٰ عَلَى اللَّهِ كَذِبًا وَمَا نَحْنُ لَهُ بِمُؤْمِنِينَ (38)

Does he promise you that when you have died and become dust and bones that you will be brought forth [once more]? (36) How far, how far, is that which you are promised. (37) Life is not but our worldly life - we die and live, but we will not be resurrected. (38) He is not but a man who has invented a lie about Allah, and we will not believe him. (39)" The demand of Sharia from human are five: to protect their religion, to protect them themselves, to protect their minds and thoughts, to protect their family, race, to protect their property.

Atheism is self-assault:

Many atheists end up committing suicide, after the atheism became strong and seized and hold the power in Russia and elsewhere, and pointed their cannons and rifles to the chest of all those who refused to enter their religion, so they debilitated the land and brought their people into atheism, willingly and by fear.

Atheism effect on the mind in the deification of the mind:

The approach atheists have made by the enormous scientific discoveries, Allah enabled them to have such temptation for them and the establishment of an argument against them in the light of the verse,

سَنُرِيهِمْ آيَاتِنَا فِي الْآفَاقِ وَفِي أَنْفُسِهِمْ حَتَّىٰ يَتَبَيَّنَ لَهُمْ أَنَّهُ الْحَقُّ أَوَلَمْ يَكْفِ بِرَبِّكَ أَنَّهُ عَلَىٰ كُلِّ شَيْءٍ شَهِيدٌ.

We will show them our signs in the universe and within themselves until it becomes clear to them that this 'Quran' is the truth. Is it not enough that your Lord is a Witness over all things?

The effects of atheism on the individual, family and society:

Anxiety and psychological conflict. Within each of us, there is instinct that insists on human and urges home, and questions stammer in his chest: Why were we created? Who created us? Where are we going? Among its effects: selfishness and individualism: the inevitable result of psychological anxiety was the tendency of man towards individualism and selfishness, and the tendency of man to serve his own

interests and not to think about others, and the tendency to criminality. Because atheism does not educate the conscience, and man does not get afraid of the Almighty Allah the powerful and capable of everything who monitors his actions and deeds on this earth, the atheist grows up with a hard-hearted and insensitive.

Ways to confront atheism in Islamic law:

The role of the individual and the family in facing and confronting atheism. First: Introducing Islam and explaining its rulings and constituents: The greatest fundamentals of Islam is to act according to its commandments, as Islam will not exist except in order to know its rulings and establishing its laws and rituals, and accordingly, whoever neglects or disrupts the work of Islamic law has neglected Islam and disrupted it.s

The role of advocacy institutions in facing atheism:

1 - The call for monotheism:

2 - Attention to moral education:

The role of the state in confronting atheism (by enacting deterrent legislation and laws). Islamic governments should not stand idly by while they see the effects of intellectual colonialism and atheism ruining the minds and hearts of the citizens, so they must stand firmly, for Allah controls through the ruler what is not be controlled by the Qur'an.

The results of the research: -

- 1- Atheism is the denial of the existence of Allah, and the saying that the universe existed without a Creator or that the eternal substance is eternal, which is the Creator and the creatures at the same time.
- 2- There is no specific philosophical school, which brings together all the atheists. Some atheists are those who fall under the banner of the materialist or natural school, and many atheists lean towards secularism.
- 3- The effects of atheism on the lives of nations and societies include anxiety, psychological conflict, selfishness, individualism, and loss of consciousness and conscience.
- 4- Among the proposed strategies to confront the atheist phenomenon in the present era is the call for monotheism, the concern for faith and moral education, and the confrontation of the suspicions of atheism.

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