

Allah SWT says in the Surah Yasmin, Ayah 40

40) لَا الشَّمْسُ يَنْبَغِي لَهَا أَنْ تُدْرِكَ الْقَمَرَ وَلَا اللَّيْلُ سَابِقُ النَّهَارِ وَكُلٌّ فِي فَلَكٍ يَسْبَحُونَ

It is not allowable for the sun to reach the moon, nor does the night overtake the day, but each, in an orbit, is swimming.

What is meant by this Ayah?

What was the purpose of using the verb (يسبحون) swimming, when the verb swimming is usually used in the context of water conditions, and there is no water conditions here?

AssalamuAlaikum,

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It is not allowable for the sun to reach the moon, nor does the night overtake the day, but each, in an orbit, is swimming.

What is meant by this Ayah.

Allah SWT has created the universe with extreme details and made each object in it it's unique characteristics.

It is not allowable for the sun to reach the moon. Each of the stars and the planets swims in it's own orbit around a larger object/star. The speed of rotation of each star/planet directly related to the force of attraction created by the larger object and it is also directly related to the masses of both the star/planet and the larger object.

The moon rotates at a speed of 2,288 miles over hour around earth. Earth rotates around the sun by a speed of 67,000 miles per hour. It takes the moon 29 to 30 days to make one full rotation around earth. It takes one full year (365 days) for earth to make one rotation around the sun. The moon is also rotating with earth around the sun. The moon is 239,000 miles from earth. Earth is 96 Million miles from earth. With these multiple degrees of freedom, it would be impossible for the moon to reach earth.

The concept of day and night is created by the rotation of earth around its on vertical axis once every 24 hours. The side of earth facing the sun constitutes daylight due to sun light facing it, and that is what makes the day. The opposite side of earth would be dark due it not facing sunlight, as a result, the night is created for that side of earth. This rotation of earth continues which helps in counting the days in the month and the year. Allah SWT says in Surah Yassin ayah 37 وَآيَةٌ لَهُمُ اللَّيْلُ نَسْلَخُ مِنْهُ النَّهَارَ فَإِذَا هُمْ مُظْلَمُونَ. And a sign for them is the night. We remove from it [the light of] day, so they are [left] in darkness. Science shows that the universe was dark when it was created. There is no light without sun. And Allah knows best.

The word (يسبحون) coming in Plural, meaning three or more. In this context, Allah SWT is not just talking about the sun and the moon, otherwise he would have said (يسبحان) rather he said (يسبحون) which means the moon, the sun, earth and stars. The verb (يسبح) applies when an object is moving in a medium that is less dense than the moving object in a certain controlled speed. Also means floating in a medium/fluid/air that is less dense than the moving object.