Adam's Apple and Adam's Rib: Two Facets of a Single Sin

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ثُقَاحَةُ آدمَ وضلعُ آدمَ. وَجهان لصورةِ الإنسان

The act of depiction yields an image. An image is a product relatively easy to measure. The conscious eye can trace the lines of its drawing to grasp its keys, or nearly so. In contrast, the act of creation precedes the image. It conceals itself entirely behind the image. It has no tangible product for the naked eye to scan its chapters or penetrate its details. Only a listening ear, a contemplative mind, and a purified spirit can reach far into the womb of time to excavate but a fraction of what has been concealed for eons.

Always inspired by the verses of the Holy Quran, and often leaning on the findings of modern science, I present this research on the process of human formation. I will provide a brief overview of the history of human genesis, starting from its contemporary state, holding the timeline to trace back to its origin. Subsequently, I will offer a purely personal scientific approach to the story of creation. Finally, I will conclude with findings that may be as difficult to accept as they are currently unpopular. But my solace lies in having striven.

"We created you, then We shaped you." (Quran 80:18)

There is no doubt that the act of creation passed through long evolutionary stages. What holds true for humans, holds true for all of God's creatures. But my concern in this article is specifically humankind. Through a careful reading of the holy verse, we find a clear statement from God Almighty regarding the act of forming humans into their current state. Two sequential actions in time; the first is Creation (Khalq)

and the second is Shaping/Fashioning (Tasweer), which brought forth humans as we see them now, male and female.

As for the second action ("We shaped you"), it gave the observable image of humans; the image of man and the image of woman as perceived by the eyes. The woman, with the gentleness of her countenance and the beauty of her face. And the man, with his stature and build; see Figure (1).

As for the first action ("We created you"), it necessarily precedes the image. It is the act of creation from nothingness. It is the act of primordial essence and functional specification. It is the act of drafting the regulating blueprints for the future product; the human. And let the competitors compete in elucidating this; in elucidating the act of Creation.





Figure (1): The Image of Contemporary Humans

However, the two images above do not reveal the truth of the apparent anatomical core difference between the sexes; male and female. Therefore, and out of respect for public modesty, I will adopt the following two representations for man and woman; see Figure (2).



The Apparent Pattern of Woman

Consider the circle as a reference to the anatomical correspondences between the



The Apparent Pattern of Man

Consider the circle as a reference to the anatomical commonalities between the sexes.

sexes. The intersection of the two lines beneath it signifies the female genital organs, i.e., the private part of woman. The arrowhead then signifies the male genital organs, i.e., the private part of man.

Figure (2): The Apparent Pattern of Man and Woman

"But when they tasted from the tree, their private parts became apparent to them, and they began to cover themselves with the leaves of Paradise." (Quran 7:22)

"...their private parts became apparent to them" is a statement beyond doubt that Adam's consumption of the fruit of that tree was the basis for the appearance of genital organs for both of them; for Adam and for Eve. Emphasizing the importance of this aspect in the process of shaping humans, the Creator followed it with a second, decisive image. For He, Glorified and Exalted, said, "and they began to cover themselves with the leaves of Paradise." Here is the confirmation of the confirmed: the point of separation between the abstract value of Adam and Eve and the human Adam and Eve, between the imageless Adam and Eve and the imaged Adam and Eve, was at this sin—the sin of Adam consuming the fruit of the forbidden tree. For what is a man without visible sexual attributes to signify identity, and consequently, function? And what is a woman without explicit sexual declarations to perfect her allure and consequently her function in generating life?

"We did not create the heavens and the earth and everything between them playfully." (Quran 21:16)

The process of creation has a purpose and a function. So too was the creation of Adam and Eve for a functional purpose. To achieve the purpose, providing the tools was essential. And since survival is fundamental and the core of functional priorities, it was therefore necessary to provide the tools to ensure this survival. And since nothing is more effective than the sexual instinct as a guarantee and perpetuator of the species' survival, the means of sexual connection between the sexes, Adam and Eve, became the eternal and unfailing means and tool.

Consequently, Adam's eating of the fruit of this tree, the apple, established the role and function for the process of creating Adam and Eve. And subsequently, it established the justifications for the material existence of both. Thus, the apple, in its metaphorical meaning, marks the dividing line between two successive stages; an unobserved stage, the stage of Creation, and a subsequent observed stage, the stage of Shaping; see Figure (3).



Figure (3): Adam's Apple

Scholars have differed on the nature of that tree,
but a near-consensus leans towards the apple tree. The apple was, and still is,
a symbol of that original sin, the basis of our material existence as humans.

It is the apple that announced the image of humans after they were previously an unobserved,
abstract value. It is the apple that gave Adam and Eve their role and function.

And thus, the justifications for their material existence. It is also the apple that expelled our
parents Adam and Eve from a placeless place where instinct has no address (Paradise),
to a place where instinct resides (the worldly life).

Ultimately, it is the apple that drew the dividing line between two stages in human genesis;
a prior stage, the stage of Creation, and a later stage, the stage of Shaping.

The Stage Before the Apple... Is the Stage Before the Image

Before, the human was an abstract value, residing in the will of the Creator. After, the human became an existential, readable value, residing in the abode of instinct. Tossed by insatiable, endless dualities; security and fear, hunger and satiety, strength and weakness, health and sickness, and the rest of those pairings.

The image is the visible, visual expression of the specific genetic endowment of each of us. It is the picture of difference, and also the picture of particularity. The immense diversity in our human genes necessitated this immense diversity in external form, i.e., in the image. If our genes were identical, our forms would be identical. Then,

the importance of the image would cease due to the absence of meaning, i.e., the absence of function. For what is the meaning of billions of identical images?

Similarly, what is the meaning of the image of a man or a woman without the sexual tools necessary for function? The effacement of male genitalia entails the annulment of man's role and function. Cancelling the role logically nullifies the purpose of creation and consequently the justifications for material existence. As a result, the absence of male genital organs necessarily implies no image. Likewise, if Eve were stripped of her sexual tools, her brilliance would diminish, the fire of her enchantment would fade, and consequently her role and function in generating life would be cancelled. The caller is gone and the call is silent; can an answer then be expected?

There is no absurdity when we are before a Creator and a creation. The Creator endowed things with their function and facilitated for them the act for which they were tasked. In this sense, the image is a function. Do not forget as you read these words that the article here concerns the first man, Adam, and the first woman, Eve. See Figure (4).



Representation of Woman without female sexual expressions

(Note the symmetry between the sexes)

With the absence of apparent sexual tools, their internal, concealed consequences are absent. Then, only the anatomical commonalities between the sexes remain. At that point, the eye finds nothing to observe. Thus, the existence of the image becomes equal to its non-existence. That is, the image has no value due to the absence of meaning.



Representation of Man without male sexual expression

(Note the symmetry between the sexes)

With the absence of sexual tools outwardly, their internal attachments are inevitably absent, along with all hormonal and psychological tributaries. What remains are only the anatomical correspondences between the sexes. At this point, differences between the sexes cannot be determined by sight due to their non-existence in reality. The absence of difference robs the image of its meaning.

Figure (4): Before Adam partook of the fruit of that tree, the human was an abstract, absolute value, residing in the will of the Creator. After, the human became a material existence, of flesh and blood, possessed by his weakness... by his instinct.

"Fear your Lord, who created you from a single soul." (Quran 4:1)

Among many other verses pointing to the single origin of both sexes, male and female. So Adam and Eve are from one single self, this is a clear statement; see Figure (5). Interpretations and narratives have differed on the modality of the event, yet one of them has become popular among people and found support in the sayings of the prophets as well as in some holy books. I mean the creation of Eve from Adam's rib.



Figure (5): The Single Soul (Self), the Origin of both sexes; Adam and Eve

"He is God, the Creator, the Evolver, the Bestower of Forms." (Quran 59:24)

In the beginning was the act of Creation. And for Creation there is a function that we humans do not know. And after Creation came the Image, an observed body perceived by the senses. Between Creation and Shaping lies a story of miracle and wonder, as old as time itself.

From the moment the idea of the human condensed in the will of the Creator, matter mobilized to realize it. A long gestation where the elements of matter harmonized to achieve the first self in the formation of humans. Then, the one self gave two distinct selves... male and female. The difference in role and function necessitated the image, the image of man and the image of woman, after it had long been folded within Creation.

From the first genesis to the completion of the image, I summarize the chronological sequence of the act of human formation, as I read it implicitly in the verses of the Holy Quran, in the following table; see Figure (6).

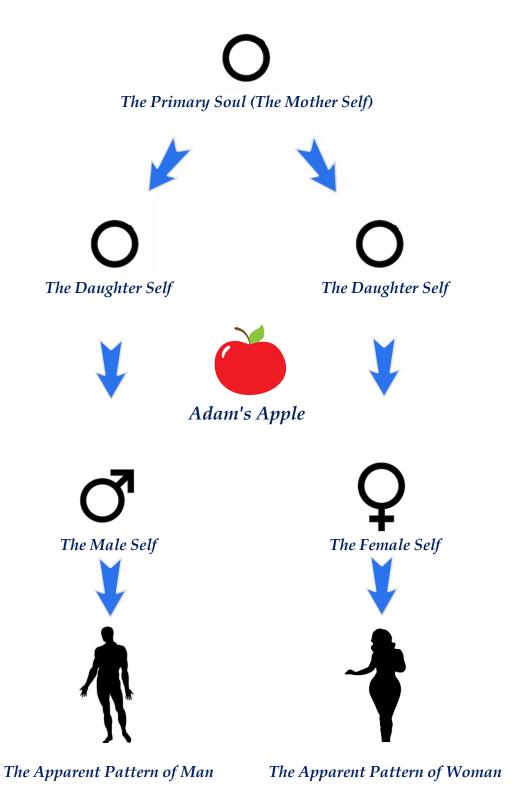


Figure (6): A schematic diagram of the entire process of human formation, respecting the chronological sequence.

The Creation of Eve from Adam's Rib

In a previous article titled "Eve was created from Adam's rib: A masterpiece of philosophical allusion and scientific metaphor," I studied the scientific possibility of such a creation. I married the extremes of imagination with the outputs of modern science. I filled valleys and built bridges to connect what was broken in the chain of scientific research. I explained how a single mother cell can give two genetically different cells; one male and the other female. A magnificent wonder of creation, its key is a rib torn from the chromosome of the first and joined to the nucleus of the second. The result, as I saw it, is a viable construct worthy of presentation; see Figure (7).

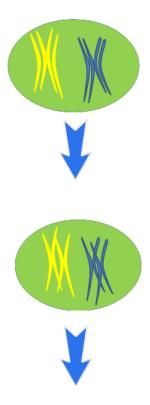


The male and female originated from a single cell, the Primary Mother Cell (Master Stem Cell). This cell contained within its nucleus the blueprint of the future human. It contained the precursors of what would later be called the sex chromosomes in males and females. These precursor sex chromosomes in the nucleus were necessarily pXX (which, incidentally, were not yet true sex chromosomes).

The pXX chromosomes of the Primary Mother Cell do not resemble the female sex chromosomes XX except in one X. The second X chromosome is different, and we will detail that later. To distinguish the Primary Mother Cell's pXX from the female sex chromosomes XX, we prefix them with p for precursor.

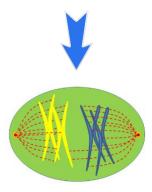
(pXX = precursor of both sexual chromosomes XX and XY)





Asexual Reproduction (Mitosis) of the Primary Mother Cell:

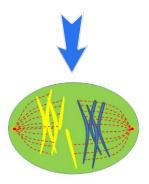
During its asexual reproduction, the genetic material of the Master Stem Cell (represented here by the precursor sex chromosomes pXX) duplicates in preparation for its equal division between the two daughter cells.



Asexual Reproduction (Mitosis) of the Mother Cell:

The polar bodies and the mitotic spindles form.

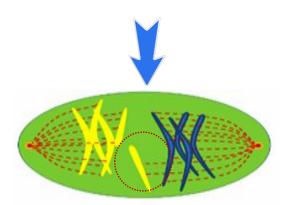
The microtubules constituting the spindle apparatus attach to the chromosomes, preparing to pull them in opposite directions. An event occurred where some microtubules from the spindle in one daughter cell attached to the (not yet sexual) X chromosome of the other daughter cell.



Asexual Reproduction (Mitosis) of the Primary Mother Cell:

During the Anaphase and Telophase stages, under the influence of the contracting spindle microtubules, a "rib" is separated from the X chromosome (from this moment, we can describe it as the male sex chromosome Y) of one daughter cell, in favor of the (not yet sexual) X chromosome of the other daughter cell. (The image above has been magnified to show the "rib" in question).

Asexual Reproduction (Mitosis) of the Primary Mother Cell: During the Anaphase and Telophase stages, under the influence of the contracting spindle microtubules, a "rib" is separated from the X chromosome (from this moment, we can describe it as the male sex chromosome Y) of one daughter cell, in favor of the (not yet sexual) X chromosome of the other daughter cell.



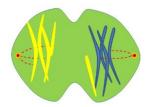
The "Rib" during its migration:

A "rib" (inside the red circle) was torn from the X chromosome of one of the daughter cells. It was forcibly joined to the X chromosome of the second daughter cell.

(The image above has been magnified to show the "rib" in question)

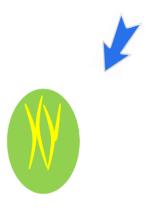


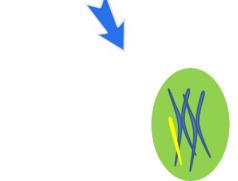
(Return to normal scale)



Asexual Reproduction (Mitosis) of the Primary Mother Cell:

Under the influence of the contracting spindle apparatus, the displaced "rib" continues its migration, gradually joining one of the two X chromosomes of the **recipient** daughter cell.





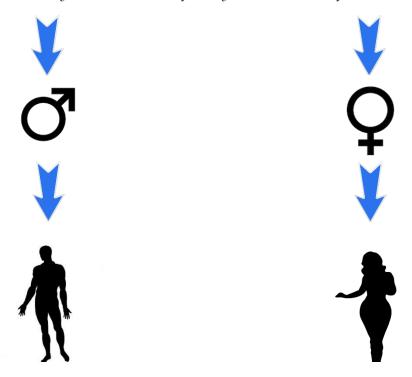
The daughter cell that lost its "rib" becomes a male cell, distinguished by the sex chromosome pair XY, whereas it was pXX: (XY = pXX - the stolen "rib").

The male sex chromosome is
the X chromosome after one of its
"ribs" was removed, becoming
the Y chromosome.
As for the
accompanying X chromosome, I do
not believe it is sexual; it is merely a
carrier for the male sex chromosome,
nothing more.

The daughter cell containing the stolen "rib" becomes a female cell, distinguished by the sex *chromosome pair XX*, whereas* it was pXX: $(XX^* = pXX + the stolen$ "rib"). Here, and only here, can we speak of a female sex chromosome in the Eve cell. The female sex chromosome is the X chromosome after the stolen "rib" joined it, becoming the giant X chromosome. Its symbol from now on will *be* X* (*where* * *denotes the* added "rib"). As for the second (smaller) X chromosome, I do not believe it is sexual; it is

Important Note:

The giant X sex chromosome (X^*) will subsequently give rise to a Barr Body in the nucleus of every somatic cell in females.



As for the sons, they have continued to this very day striving to reclaim what was stolen from their father Adam in the darkness of that primeval night.

The first woman, Eve, shone with joy for what she received, and deposited it dearly within the essence of her daughters throughout the ages.

Figure (7): The Creation of Eve from Adam's Rib

The Resultant Vision

There, on the distant horizon, at the point of separation between heaven and earth, between the invisible and the visible, between the absolute and the constrained, between the abstract and the embodied, between allusion and explicit statement,

between Creation and Shaping, an apple looms. And behind the apple, a rib hides. The first is ascribed to Adam, and the second is also ascribed to Adam.

Adam's apple and Adam's rib, two masterpieces of philosophical allusion and scientific metaphor. The first is an act of temptation and seduction, the second is a singular, sudden mutation. The first is an act of creation and the second is an act of creation as well. The first is a craving for the imagination, the second is a stimulus for thought. The first pertains to sight, the second to insight.

The apple is the prelude to the image, and the rib is the foundation of the image. Without the apple, there would be no body... the salt of instinct. Without the rib, there would be no Eve... the destination of instinct. The apple and the rib are two facets of the human image. The apple is the rib, just as the rib is the apple, no difference between them. You think they are two, but the sin is one and the essence is one.

To view a presentation detailing the dialectical relationship	between Adam's apple
and Adam's rib, click on this link:	

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- <u>This Woman Can Equally Give Birth to Male Children & to Female Children</u>

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Rib, Eve Was