Basic Dialogue With A Non-Believer

M=Muslim NM=Non-Muslim

- M: Can I tell you a bit about Islam?
- NM: Yes → (If he/she agrees then follow the argument below)
 NM: No → (Then you will need to try some other way of starting Eg.relating it to some 'natural' event such as 'The Tsunami' or other disaster
- It'll only take a couple of minutes.
 In Islam, the most important thing is the creator of the universe.
 But before I continue, can I ask. Do you believe in a Creator?
- **NM**: No \rightarrow [Go through 'Dialogue with an Atheist'.]
- **NM**: Yes \rightarrow [Follow the argument below]
- **M**: We believe this creator has the following characteristics.
 - He sees everything
 - He hears everything
 - He knows everything
 - He has no beginning
 - He has no end
 - He is neither male nor female
 - There is nothing like Him
 - He is absolute perfection
 - Nothing happens except that He knows it, a leaf doesn't fall from a tree anywhere in the universe except that He knows it
 - He is perfect in His beauty, His love, and His majesty.
- **M**: Do you agree with these? Sorry, I forgot to ask your name?
- NM: John
- **M**: John, do you think that He made us for a reason?
- **NM**: Yes \rightarrow [Follow the argument below]
- **M**: What do you think that is? [Invariably, they don't know]
- NM: No →
- **M**: For example, if you made something John, and someone asked you why did you make it; you'd have to have a reason wouldn't you?

The same way we believe our creator has made us for a reason.

Do you know what the reason is? \rightarrow [Most people don't know.]

To tell us the reason our creator chose certain human beings to give us the message.

Some of these people were:

- Abraham (PBUH)
- Moses (PBUH)
- Noah (PBUH)
- Jesus (PBUH)
- And Muhammad (PBUH)

You must have heard of some of these names. As they brought a message from God they were The Messengers of God.

We believe these 'Messengers of God' all came with the same information: 'Good News' and a 'Warning'; not good news and bad news!

To prove that they were sent by God, He gave them miracles.

For example:

Jesus (PBUH) brought the dead back to life, cured the leper and healed the blind, all with Gods permission.

After Jesus (PBUH); Almighty God, out of his love and mercy sent another messenger. His name was Muhammad (PBUH).

Muhammad was also given a miracle to prove that he was indeed chosen and sent by God. The miracle given to The Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) is a book called the Qur'an.

This book is a miracle for a number of reasons: Did you know it was a miracle?

Some of the reasons it is a miracle are [you can use as many of these as you like]:

1.Scientific facts:

It contains **scientific facts** for example:

- Embryology (Qur'an 23:12-14)
- The Big Bang Theory ("don't the unbelievers see that the heavens and earth were joined together as one united piece then We parted them?" (21:30))
- Expanding universe
- Construction of mountains

- Pain receptors for burning in the skin
- The position of the stars
- The water cycle

- Also , It does not contain a single statement that **contradicts** established scientific facts

2.Muhammad was unlettered:

The book was given to a **man who could not read or write** (*How do we know that? Because it says so in the Qur'an and his enemies never called him a liar*).

3.lt has remained unchanged:

The book has remained **unchanged for 1400 years**- see for yourself in the British Library. "*It is We who have sent down the Dhikr and surely We will preserve it*" (*The* Qur'an 15:9)

4.Easy to memorise:

The book is **easy to memorise** millions of people have done so all over the world even though it's about the size of a paperback. "...made easy to remember" (44:58).

5. Does not contain a single contradiction:

There are no contradictions in the Qur'an, even though it was revealed over a period of 23 years. "Don't they ponder over the Qur'an, had it been from anyone besides Allah, they would surely have found therein many contradictions" (4:82)

6. Contains a challenge:

God says that if all of mankind and jinn-kind (i.e. spirits) got together they couldn't produce a book like it. In another part of the Qur'an, God says that they couldn't even produce one Surah like it. The shortest Surah is only three sentences. Therefore, God is telling us that, nobody can produce three sentences that are like the Qur'an. This challenge has stood for 1400 years! "Produce One Sura like it" (The Qur'an 10:38)

7. Changes people

The words in the Qur'an have the great **effect of changing people's lives**.

8. Unique style

It is written in the Arabic language. Its **style is unique** and cannot be copied

9. Largest and fastest growing religion

It has produced the largest religion **1.6 billion followers** and it has produced the **fastest growing religion**.

M: Would you agree the Qur'an is indeed a miracle?

NM: Yes it does seem quite amazing \rightarrow

M: If you accept that the Quran is a miracle then you are accepting that Muhammad was a true Prophet of Almighty God. Would you agree with that?

NM: Yes he probably was a Prophet.

M] Are you sure he was a Prophet?

NM] I don't know much about him.

M] Let me tell you a little about him. [*Give a brief outline of his life*]

NM] Yes I can see he was a prophet.

M] If you accept he is a prophet you should say so in a certain way. By doing so it is guaranteed that you will be going to heaven.

NM] What do you mean?

M] By acknowledging the oneness of God and accepting the Prophet Muhammad as a Prophet of Almighty God you are promised the Good News of heaven.

NM] I have always believed in one God.

M] Please just repeat after me: "I bear witness that there is nothing worthy of worship except Almighty God and I bear witness that Muhammad is His servant and Messenger".

NM]: No \rightarrow [Then we need to give more evidence for example you could talk about:

Economic system, Political system, Legal system, Etc......]

M: Can I show you the Qur'an?

[Maybe say to them that 'why don't you choose a page in The Quran and I'll pray and ask Almighty God to guide **us** through your choice of that page in the Qur'an. If they agree then you can show them the Qur'an. Usually, I've found that the verse which is selected is very relevant to them and they are surprised!]

- M: Do you accept Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) as a messenger?
- NM: Yes →
- **M**: Then really you are a Muslim.
- NM: No →
- **M**: Can I show you the Qur'an?

[Maybe say to them that why don't you choose a page and I'll pray and ask Almighty God to guide us through your choice of the page in the Qur'an. If they agree then you can show them the Qur'an. Usually, I've found that the verse that is selected is very relevant to them and they are surprised!]

Would you agree the Qur'an is indeed a miracle?

- NM: Yes →
- **M**: Then you are really a Muslim and you should say some words.
- **NM**: No \rightarrow [Then we need to give more evidence for example you could talk about: Economic system, Political system, Legal system, Etc......]

Notes: Please note our dialogue should lead towards firstly the existence of God then secondly the Qur'an being a proof of the truth of the message of Islam

Fazal Rahman - Da'wah Training Workshop.