Report

Human minds have evolved by adapting environmental changes in history. However, these cognitive adaptations have, as a by-product, made humans prone to the idea of supernatural events. Evolution throughout all these years has developed a sense of hypersensitivity in humans because failing to notice potentially dangerous agents in our ancestral environment was costlier than making false alarms and our mental systems evolved to be titled towards over perception. But the by-product of being adaptively tuned to overperceive an event is that humans are biased toward perceiving agents such as gods behind natural phenomena.

This hypersensitive mental system describes biases for overpercieving human-relevant purposes behind events and objects -adaptive because of the necessity of deciphering intentionality and the usefulness of understanding tools but leading in turn to a tendency to make attributions of divine purpose.

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## How the Theory of Evolution came into existence:

-CHARLES DARWIN

The belief that God had created mankind in his own image and likeness were shed by a most western scientist until the middle of the 19th century they thought all the creatures of the planet were conceived by a divine force that is until Charles Darwin arrived. Some researchers were already talking about the evolution of the species but the British naturalist was the first to explain with evidence how evolution might have occurred, by ‘natural selection’.

This theory radically changed biology offering newer explanations of the origin of the human being it also made him one of the made influential scientist and intellectuals in history. But to get there he had to make an extraordinary journey to perform hundreds of experiments and spend 20 years refining his ideas.

In 1831 Darwin was 22 years old and studying at the University of Cambridge when he was invited as a naturalist to a great expedition he boarded the ‘HMS BEAGLE’ and spent almost 5 years travelling several continents starting in South America from which he bought back dozens of life specimens, illustrations and fossils.

These fossils gave him one of the first clues about evolution, for example observing the remains of MILODON, a giant animal similar to the sloth he thought that these similarities were probably not a coincidence there had to be some kind of link.

When he stopped at the Galapagos islands darwin also observed this giant tortoise which lived in the nearby island with unique physical characteristics in each island. In the humid area where vegetation was abundant, the turtles had a short neck and domb shaped shell while some island with the drier environment they had this saddle-like shell and a longer neck but could he explain that difference.

Upon his return, Darwin spent time observing how animal breeders and guarders crossbred animals of species to create new varieties, for that creation to be successful the artificial selection made by man was key. Darwin realised that the natural world probably made the same kind of selection but he couldn’t explain how it happened until he read the work of Thomas Robert Malthus a British intellectual from the ancient century. In an essay on demography, Malthus said that as the population Europe was growing and at one point it will increase much more than the food supplies available and that would cause a fight for survival.

This was the idea how Darwin explained how evolution works, in nature, there is struggle for survival in which the strongest individual, not necessarily the survivor it is the one which first adapt to the environment lives.

If the living being has any trait that helps him to survive it will be more successful at reproduction, those which don’t adapt will die without descendence The creatures with the most success in reproducing pass their traits - their lineage and so on until these variations end up becoming anew species that was the differences the Galapagos tortoises were the product of evolution in a drier environment those with longer neck could reacht he bushes easily in order to get food while those who live in the humid environment could eat crops and protect themselves from predators thanks o their shorter and a dumb shaped shell.

Darwin said that all species including humans were not created independently but they descended from a common ancestor from then life on the planet began to diversify

Cultural evolutionary theorists have argued that, in a process roughly analogous to

genetic evolution, selective pressures made certain cultural beliefs more likely to survive and spread than others. As human group sizes increased, it became difficult

to track which members were cooperative contributors and which were defecting free riders, straining the mechanisms maintaining group cohesion. Beliefs in omniscient supernatural watchers capable of doling out punishments and rewards helped solve this problem by deterring free riding, giving groups adopting these beliefs an advantage over other groups.

That is where religion comes in. Beyond the myths and rituals, the temples and cathedrals, the dos and don'ts that have, for millennia, separated humanity into different and often competing camps of belief, religion is little more than a "language" made up of symbols and metaphors that allows believers to communicate, to one another and to themselves, the ineffable experience of faith. It's just that, though there has been one symbol that has stood out as a universal and supreme-one grand metaphor for God from which practically every other symbol and metaphor in nearly all the world's religions have been derived.

hINDU oRIGIN STORY

Most religions have a single creation story, Hinduism has many, this is because for Hindus there is no single creation but periodic cycles of creation. The universe we live in is one of the innumerable universes.

The story of our universe begins with a vast ocean and a serpent “Anant Shesh” floats on its surface, Vishnu is asleep in its coils.

A lotus sprouts from his navel, on top sits the four headed demigod Brahma, at first Brahma can’t tell who he is or what he should do, Vishnu encourages Brahma to create the world from the materials he has provided after eons of meditation Brahma hears a sound rising from the depths of the ocean, a humming that increases in volume, the sacred ohm.

Brahma splits the lotus into three parts, one becomes the heaven, another the sky, the third the earth. He creates grass, flowers, trees, birds, fish and other animals, the world fills with living breathing things. Regularly within the cycles of creation, Brahma wants to create more species to increase the population of the world. One time he produces two forms, a male and a female and the combine to give birth to sons another time he divided in two the female part became a cow and the male part a bull, they give birth to calves and then she became a mare and he became the horse and so the process continued to expand the living world.

What is man? “What is man that You take thought of him, And the son of man that You care for him?”. Throughout history mankind has adopted a distorted view on the nature and the character of God. In the words of Jean-Jacques Rousseau, “God created man in his own image. And man, being a gentleman, returned the favor.”

THE IMAGE OF GOD

A RESEARCH PAPER IDENTIFYING AND DETAILING

THE FORM, CONTENT AND FUNCTION OF

THE IMAGE OF GOD IN WHICH

MAN WAS MADE.

F16 TH201: BIBLICAL DOCTRINES

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Hinduism is an [Indian religion](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian_religion) and [dharma](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dharma), or way of life, widely practised in the [Indian subcontinent](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian_subcontinent) and [parts of Southeast Asia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hinduism_in_Indonesia). Hinduism has been called the oldest religion in the world,and some practitioners and scholars refer to it as [Sanātana Dharma](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/San%C4%81tan%C4%AB), "the eternal tradition", or the "eternal way", beyond human history. Scholars regard Hinduism as a fusion or synthesis of various Indian cultures and traditions, with diverse roots and no founder. This "Hindu synthesis" started to develop between 500 BCE and 300 CE, after the end of the [Vedic period](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vedic_period) (1500 to 500 BCE), and flourished in the [medieval period](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Medieval_India), with the [decline of Buddhism in India](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Decline_of_Buddhism_in_the_Indian_subcontinent).

Although Hinduism contains a broad range of philosophies, it is linked by shared concepts, recognisable rituals, [cosmology](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hindu_cosmology), [shared textual resources](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hindu_texts), and [pilgrimage to sacred sites](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hindu_pilgrimage_sites). [Hindu texts](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hindu_texts) are classified into [Śruti](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/%C5%9Aruti) ("heard") and [Smṛti](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Smriti) ("remembered"). These texts discuss theology, [philosophy](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hindu_philosophy), [mythology](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hindu_mythology), [Vedic](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vedas) [yajna](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yajna), [Yoga](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yoga), [agamic](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/%C4%80gama_(Hinduism)) [rituals](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ritual), and [temple building](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hindu_temple), among other topics.Major scriptures include the [Vedas](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vedas) and the [Upanishads](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Upanishads), the [Puranas](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Puranas), the [Mahabharata](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mahabharata), the [Ramayana](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ramayana), and the [Āgamas](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/%C4%80gama_(Hinduism)). Sources of authority and eternal truths in its texts play an important role, but there is also a strong Hindu tradition of questioning authority in order to deepen the understanding of these truths and to further develop the tradition.

Islam is an [Abrahamic](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Abrahamic_religions) [monotheistic](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Monotheism) [religion](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Religion) teaching that there is [only one](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tawhid) [God](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/God_in_Islam) ([Allah](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Allah)), and that [Muhammad](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Muhammad) is a [messenger](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Prophets_and_messengers_in_Islam) of God.It is the [world's second-largest religion](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Largest_religion) with over 1.8 billion followers or 24.1% of the world's population, known as [Muslims](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Muslims).Muslims make up a majority of the population in [49 countries](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Islam_by_country).Islam teaches that [God](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/God_in_Islam) is [merciful](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mercy#Islam), [all-powerful](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Omnipotence), and [unique](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tawhid), and has guided mankind through [prophets](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Prophets_and_messengers_in_Islam), [revealed scriptures](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Islamic_holy_books) and [natural signs](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ayah). The primary scriptures of Islam are the [Quran](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Quran), believed to be the [verbatim](https://en.wiktionary.org/wiki/verbatim) word of God, and the teachings and normative examples (called the [*sunnah*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sunnah), composed of accounts called [*hadith*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hadith)) of Muhammad ([c.](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Circa) 570 – 8 June 632 CE).

**Christianity** is an [Abrahamic](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Abrahamic_religions) [monotheistic](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Monotheism) [religion](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Religion) based on the [life](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Life_of_Jesus_in_the_New_Testament) and teachings of [Jesus of Nazareth](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jesus). Its adherents, known as [Christians](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Christians), believe that Jesus is the [Christ](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Christ_(title)), whose coming as the [messiah](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Messiah#Christianity) was [prophesied](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Old_Testament_messianic_prophecies_quoted_in_the_New_Testament) in the [Hebrew Bible](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hebrew_Bible), called the [Old Testament](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Old_Testament) in Christianity, and chronicled in the [New Testament](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New_Testament). It is the [world's largest religion](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Major_religious_groups) with about 2.4 billion followers.

Christianity remains [culturally diverse](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Christian_culture) in its [Western](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Western_Christianity) and [Eastern branches](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eastern_Christianity), as well as in its doctrines concerning [justification and the nature of salvation](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Justification_(theology)), ecclesiology, [ordination](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ordination), and [Christology](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Christology). Their [creeds](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Creed) generally hold in common Jesus as the [Son of God](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Son_of_God)—the [logos](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Logos_(Christianity)) [incarnated](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Incarnation_(Christianity))—who [ministered](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ministry_of_Jesus), [suffered](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Passion_of_Jesus), and [died on a cross](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Crucifixion_of_Jesus), but [rose from the dead](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Resurrection_of_Jesus) for the [salvation](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Salvation_in_Christianity) of mankind; as referred to as [the gospel](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_gospel), meaning the "good news", in the [Bible](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bible) ([scripture](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Scripture)). Describing Jesus' life and teachings are the four [canonical gospels](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gospel) of [Matthew](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gospel_of_Matthew), [Mark](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gospel_of_Mark), [Luke](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gospel_of_Luke) and [John](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gospel_of_John) with the Jewish Old Testament as the gospel's respected background.