

In the name of God, Most Gracious, Most Merciful

## **Submitters Perspective**

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## Not a Leaf Falls



A highlight of a recent trip east was getting to be in New England during the fall season. Ever since becoming a submitter, the autumn season has always filled me with awe. For about 6 weeks or so leaves are constantly changing color and ultimately dropping from their branches.

[6:59] With Him are the keys to all secrets; none knows them except He. He knows everything on land and in the sea. Not a leaf falls without His knowledge. Nor is there a grain in the depths of the soil. Nor is there anything wet or dry, that is not recorded in a profound record.

So, praise God I got to experience this. There were days when it was windy and I would observe uncountable massive amounts of leaves blowing and falling from where they resided for the last 6 months. And they don't fall straight down, the wind carries them. Sometimes a great distance before they hit the ground. Then there are times where there was no wind to speak of and

you see just one leaf gently making its descent to the ground.

The drive from Maine to Vermont was gorgeous. There was still a lot of color to behold in the changing leaves even though it was a little past peak foliage. So, the drive from Maine to Vermont through New Hampshire, was pretty much *trees*. Trees everywhere. And during that drive leaves were falling; all the time leaves were falling. And God knows every single one!

The gravity of 6:59 fills my mind with wonder. How can God know about all these leaves? I'm literally surrounded by trees and leaves and rocks. Pretty much nothing else. And not just the leaves that are still on the trees, and not just the leaves that are falling

almost constantly, there are all the leaves that have already fallen making the ground a kaleidoscope of color. Everywhere I looked in the woods there was a blanket of fallen leaves. How many? Only God knows their number.

[72:28] ... He has counted the numbers of all things.

So, I was wondering if there was a way to approximate how many leaves there are in the world. First we need to know how many trees there are on earth. Best I could come up with is about 3 trillion. But there are so many different types of trees. Over 60,000 species of trees on the planet. So, coming up with an average leaf count is pretty much impossible. But I kept digging.

I found that mature oaks and maples have approximately 200,000 leaves. But what about pine trees? All those needles. Have you ever walked through a pine forest? Thick beds of brown pine needles everywhere. No one seems to be interested in knowing how many pine needles there are on a pine tree. I did find a little article on a girl who had a homework assignment on calculating the number of needles on a 7 foot Christmas tree. They came up with

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about 50 million. Whether that's correct or not, only God knows.

I think we can say there are probably millions of pine needles on a full-grown pine tree. And there are about 120 species of pine trees.

So, for math's sake let's be conservative and say the average number of leaves on a tree is half a million. Times 3 trillion trees. That's one quintillion 500 quadrillion leaves on the planet. That number is only 19 digits.

But trees have been around for approximately 400 million years. So, multiply that number by 400 million and you get 600 septillion leaves. That's a 27-digit number. Now I realize this is very unscientific. Pines are evergreens. They don't drop all their needles every year. But they are constantly dropping needles and growing new ones. Many species of pines replace their needles every two to four years.

So, the point I'm trying to make here is how God tries to get us to comprehend what is incomprehensible through allegory and direct statements.

[6:103] No visions can encompass Him, but He encompasses all visions. He is the Compassionate, the Cognizant.

[16:18] If you count GOD's blessings, you cannot possibly encompass them. GOD is Forgiver, Most Merciful.

So, there are 3 trillion trees on the planet.

[31:27] If all the trees on earth were made into pens, and the ocean supplied the ink, augmented by seven more oceans, the words of GOD would not run out. GOD is Almighty, Most Wise.

Wow...Think of how many pens you could make from just one tree. I'm not even going to get into that math. But I did do some research on ink. There are many different types of pens out there. Based on my research your av-



erage ball point pen will write between 1 to 1.5 miles. A Japanese artist drew over 29,000 smiley faces with a standard ball point pen.

So, how much ink is in a pen? About a quarter of a milliliter (ml).

How many ml in a cup? 240ml. So that's about 1000 pens worth.

So that's about 16,000 pens for a gallon of ink.

How many gallons of water are on the earth? About 326 quintillion, 18 zeros.

That's over 5 septillion pens, 24 zeros.

Think about how many pens you've used in your life. How many times have you used a pen to the point where the ink ran out?

[18:109] Say, "If the ocean were ink for the words of my Lord, the ocean would run out, before the words of my Lord run out, even if we double the ink supply."

Double the ink supply you get over 10 septillion pens.

The words of God would not run out.

Back to 6:59 "... Nor is there a grain in the depths of the soil. ..." Well, how many grains of sand are there?

Science writer David Blatner, in his new book *Spectrums*, says a group of



researchers at the University of Hawaii, being well-versed in all things beachy, tried to calculate the number of grains of sand. They said, if you assume a grain of sand has an average size and you calculate how many grains are in a teaspoon and then multiply by all the beaches and deserts in the world, the Earth has roughly (and we're speaking *very* roughly here) 7.5 x 10<sup>18</sup> grains of sand, or seven quintillion, five hundred quadrillion grains.

How does that compare to the number of stars in the universe? Which do you think there are more of...grains of sand or stars? There about 200 billion trillion stars, or 200 sextillion, or 2 followed by 21 zeros.

So that's about 26,000 stars for every grain of sand on the planet.

[6:97] And He is the One who made the stars to guide you during the darkness, on land and on sea. We thus clarify the revelations for people who know.

The number of stars in the heavens is "an unbelievably large number," but check this out ... we find a similar number of molecules in 100 drops of water: about 1.67 sextillion water molecules or 5 sextillion atoms per drop.

[34:3] Those who disbelieve have said, "The Hour will never come to pass!" Say, "Absolutely—by my Lord—it will most certainly come to you. He is the Knower of the future. Not even the equivalent of an atom's weight is hidden from Him, be it in the heavens or the earth. Not even smaller than that, or larger (is hidden). All are in a profound record."

This profound record is truly profound. Besides 6:59 and 34:3 there are 4 other verses that mention profound record.

[10:61] You do not get into any situation, nor do you recite any Quran, nor do you do anything, without us being witnesses thereof as you do it. Not even an atom's weight is out of your Lord's control, be it in the heavens or the

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earth. Nor is there anything smaller than an atom, or larger, that is not recorded in a profound record.

[11:6] There is not a creature on earth whose provision is not guaranteed by GOD. And He knows its course and its final destiny. All are recorded in a profound record.

[27:75] There is nothing in the heavens and the earth that is hidden (from God); everything is in a profound record.

[36:12] We will certainly revive the dead, and we have recorded everything they have done in this life, as well as the consequences that continue after their death. Everything we have counted in a profound record.

And we have our own profound record. The Quran. And this miraculous mathematical code which is verifiable and perpetual.

All of these very non-precise numbers of things—how many leaves on the planet, grains of sand, stars in the universe—these numbers are huge and unfathomable. And then we have this book, the Quran. The scripture itself is less than 400 pages. But within this scripture there is this profound miracle.

With the numbers of stars, leaves, grains of sands, we're talking about numbers between 18 and 24 digits long. God has encoded this book, just numerically speaking, with numbers that are 235 to 612 digits long, ten of which are over 12 thousand digits long.

There are so many proofs in this book. The statistical probability of it being coincidence is zero. This book is from God, it's all we need for our salvation. So when you're out and about and you see leaves, or sand, or stars at night, let that be a reminder of the greatness of God. God knows the numbers of all those things. God created them; God created you. May He continue to guide us to be aware of His awesome power.

## Conference Report 2022

[3:200] O you who believe, you shall be steadfast, you shall persevere, you shall be united, you shall observe GOD, that you may succeed.

The 37<sup>th</sup> annual conference of the United Submitters International was held in Tucson, Arizona July 29-31, 2022. The khutba was delivered by brother Frank. He reminded us of the importance of family, especially our submitter family. Your relatives are important and God tells us to maintain amicable relations, especially with our parents. [17:23] Your Lord has decreed that you shall not worship except Him, and your parents shall be honored. As long as one or both of them live, you shall never say to them, "Uff" (the slightest gesture of annoyance), nor shall you shout at them; you shall treat them amicably.

But we need to always remember that the true family are the believers.

Subtitle: The Real Family [49:10] The believers are members of one family; you shall keep the peace within your family and reverence GOD, that you may attain mercy.

What a joy to once again see so many people that we have not been able to see for several years. By God's grace, we did hold a conference in 2021 in Chicago, and it was a great blessing. But because of the pandemic, many people were not able to attend. This year several of our friends from India made the journey as well as folks from the Bay Area, New Zealand and Canada. We had to make up for three years lack of hugs, and we did our best. It was such a gift.

The talks were enjoyable, as always, with many topics covered. There seemed to be a focus on appreciating God's creations. All of the speakers gave brilliant presentations. We enjoyed hearing from new submitters, old submitters, and

young submitters. It was enriching and thought-provoking. May God bless everyone who made the effort to strive by researching and presenting ideas for all of us to consider and enjoy.

We had a lovely meditation session to begin the conference and beautiful zikr each evening. It is a gift to us to be able to meditate on God's attributes and sing God's praises.

[15:98] You shall sing the praises of your Lord, and be with the prostrators.
[15:99] And worship your Lord, in order to attain certainty.

This was a wonderful peaceful gathering of Submitters. A time for soul growth, learning and sharing. It is such a blessing to be able to gather in the worship of God alone, to focus all of our attention on our practices and the nourishment of our souls. May God continue to bless these conferences and allow us to continue to spread His message of joy, love and peace in the coming years.

Too soon, Sunday noon came around and we had our last prayer of the conference. As is tradition we then welcomed over 80 submitters for our annual pizza/Eegee's party at the Mosque. It was fun to have everyone gather together and enjoy God's bounties.

For people who were able to stay a day longer, we had a picnic up on Mt. Lemmon, which is a beautiful, woodsy area just outside of Tucson. We enjoyed lunch, some hiking and the nice cool temperatures of the higher elevation. After our Noon prayer on the mountain, we came back down. It's a very pretty drive, going from the desert vegetation to the tall pines and back again, and it was especially lush and green this year. We thank God for all our rains this year and last.

Still unable to say goodbye, we arranged a pot luck feast at the Masjid for a final lovely get together. It's always such a wonderful feeling to join with other submitters and come together with the focus

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MASJID TUCSON United Submitters International

PO Box 43476 Tucson AZ 85733-3476 USA

Tel: (520) 323 7636

internet web site: www.masjidtucson.org

e-mail: info@masjidtucson.org (or: masjidtucson@gmail.com)

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on worshiping God alone. This sense of unity and purpose keeps us energized for the coming year.

Lydia and Nargis

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## Letter from a Colorado prisoner

As-Salaamu Alaykum, with the hope this missive finds you in health, happiness and abundant blessings. May God reward you for the honorable gift of Quran: The Final Testament that you have so generously provided me.

I am currently low on funds, but want to offer what I can at this present time. I would also like a year subscription to Submitters Perspective, so I will be including a money order for \$16.00. The remaining few dollars may cover the postage on an out-going Quran.

I must admit there is a lot to take in, a lot to consider. I have been a Muslim now for over ten years, in prison and in society. I actually paroled to a masjid in Denver in 2014, and was real involved in the community. I worked my way into establishing myself in the community, acquired residence, and all the things required for successful living, after serving close to nine years in prison.

I eventually found that I had begun to sacrifice "Islam" and the obligations we have as Muslims for a corporate job that provided financial security with a salary and a six-day work week. Unfortunately, I learned that money may pay for some happy experiences, but it's not the foundation of happiness. After about a year I had begun to self-medicate with alcohol; six months later I was in full blown relapse after the discharging of my parole. Today, I am serving a life sentence. Through all of this, I have never lost my love of Islam and have been truly blessed with new degrees of my spiritual evolution and understanding. Our true essence or instinct is Islam, strict monotheism. Islam is our "submission or surrender" that is supposed to be the path that establishes that original state, which is the only place we will experience peace. I now recognize that Islam is not about some endeavor to become a sincere Muslim: it's about "submission".

I have known of Rashad Khalifa now for some years and was afforded the opportunity to see some of his YouTube videos, at least one interview and some khutbahs he had given. His interview really impressed me—how he essentially kept the host on the ropes, so to speak. They can't refute Al-Quran, plain and simple.

I share all this because it's been a process for me, an evolution, and life experiences that have led me to this very point. It's still a lot to take in and consider when it comes to Rashad Khalifa, and all of his claims. However, his claims are being made with some very sound testimonies. The Messenger of the Covenant is evident in all three of my translations of Quran. I can't refute what the Quran clearly says, nor can I refute Br Rashad Khalifa's claim to such fulfillment. I mean, if all is true about Quran and the two verses of discrepancy, that there is what appears a classic reference to such a claim. Well, I must apply some degree of rationalism and in doing so it would seem to me that Br Rashad Khalifa has fulfilled this requirement of the "confirming messenger" mentioned in the covenant of the prophets.

I claim this with the current evidence I possess, material evidence, but I also profess this with a degree of intuitive insight.

I am interested in learning more about United Submitters International and the work you all are doing, as these many years remain a testament towards the foundation of truth in which the organization stands. I apologize for this lengthy correspondence, but I felt I needed to communicate all this, to share with you all, as you've already shared so much with me. God's blessings for your committed service.

God's protection,

Kelly