

Your Question

Answered ????????

Question

Despite the fact that Islam teaches us that god is one why is that in a number of verses in the holy Quran Allah says : “We have created man,” “We have revealed the Quran”. In other words why does Allah use plural term while referring to himself??

Answer

In the first place whilst the plural term is used in some of verses of the holy Quran, there are also verses with a singular term used in reference to Allah. For example Allah says:

“AND I HAVE NOT CREATED THE JINN AND THE MEN EXCEPT THAT THEY WORSHIP ME”
(Sura Zariyat verse 56)

Secondly the plural term is normally refer to indicate more than one person but at times it is also used to display the greatness and honour of a person. And this style is used in many languages besides Arabic. For example a ruler of a country or a governor of a city says “We are ready to serve the people in every respect”.

Therefore it may be for the same reason that a plural term is used in some verses in the holy Quran in reference to Allah to indicate His greatness and glory.

Similarly, in our daily conversation, a speaker referring to himself may use a plural term to display his importance and authority. Others out of respect may use a plural term while referring to him. For example a student says to his teacher “Sir, I shall comply whatever thou shall tell me what to do”.

However, not to allow anyone to ever doubt to doubt the absolute oneness of god or to think of a possibility of god having a partner, we always use a singular term when addressing Allah in accordance with the teaching of the holy Quran. In our daily prayers we say :

“THEE WE DO WORSHIP AND THEE WE DO BESEECH FOR HELP”
(Sura Fateha verse 4)

that is we only worship you and we only seek help from you alone. In all the supplications and duas shown to us by our Prophets and our Imams we find that the singular term is used when addressing Allah. For example in dua-e-Kumail by Hazrat Ali a.s we say:

“OH ALLAH I Beseech thee by the mercy which encompasses all things
(translated from Khoda wa Iman- Darhahe Haq)